



## **THE LIMPET APPROACHES ITS 200TH**

The February Limpet will be the 200<sup>th</sup> edition of Stronsay's own peedie newsletter – quite an achievement! A great number of folk have contributed to its pages over the years with stories, memories, reports, photos and poetry but sadly this seems to have tailed off recently. To mark the 200<sup>th</sup> edition, it would be great to see a few more folk put pen to paper and submit something for inclusion to make this landmark edition something special. I'm sure Bruce would relish the challenge of getting it all fitted in!

Ian Cooper (*Ed: Not 'arf!*)

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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Peedie library	Wed 2 Feb
One man show "Just for the record"	Sun 6 Feb
Stronsay Stitches	Thu 24 Feb
Spring Craft Fair	Sat 14 May
Christmas Craft Fair	Sat 3 Dec

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## **GP & COMMUNITY NURSE ROSTER**

The latest available roster for the Doctor and the Community Nurse can now be found on the Stronsay Limpet's website at <https://stronsaylimpet.co.uk/RosterGPandNurse.html>

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## **ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND**

No Royal Bank of Scotland visits until further notice. There are 2 dedicated tel numbers:  
0800 051 4177 for anybody in isolation and 0800 046 6734 for all NHS staff  
Both lines are open 8-8

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## **ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IN THE LIMPET**

The editor is always pleased to receive articles for publication in the Limpet, the format isn't all that important, they can even be hand-written. However, if you are considering submitting an article for publication, please ensure that it has some relevance to Stronsay in particular or to Orkney in general.

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The next edition of the [Limpet](http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk) will be published on **Thu 24 Feb 2022**. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on **Sun 20 Feb 2022**, contact details are on the back page. The Limpet's website address is <http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk>

## **COVID VACCINATIONS**

We are nearing the end of vaccinating our over 18's population. If you have previously declined but would now like to have the vaccine, or have been giving the matter further consideration and decided you would now like to be vaccinated, can you please contact the surgery to let us know, so we can order vaccines in as appropriate. We are trying to achieve a high percentage of vaccinated residents so we can have a good level of immunity within our island community.

Stromsay Surgery

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## **STROMSAY SURGERY—USE OF 616321**

This is a reminder that the surgery telephone number is only manned Monday to Friday between the hours of 9-12 and 1.30-4.30pm. Between 12.00 and 1.30pm, when Katrina is at lunch, there is an answerphone service and calls won't be put through to Balfour so please avoid phoning at lunchtime. If it is an urgent matter, please dial 01856 888000 and ask them to page the Stromsay GP (or nurse if more appropriate). Outside these hours the calls are automatically transferred through to Balfour Hospital switchboard.

Could we kindly ask that if you need to speak with the Stromsay nurse, you call the surgery number on 01857 616321. Katrina will put you into the nurse telephone slot to be called when they are free. The nurse's new phone is such that we are unable to stop the message being left by the person from being overheard.

Thank you,  
Stromsay Surgery

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## **IMPORTANCE OF VITAMIN D**

### ***From Geramont Surgery***

You may know that vitamin D is important in supporting bone and muscle health. A small amount can be absorbed from our diet, but most of it comes from sunlight. Not so much in Scotland though – although 15-20 minutes of sunlight daily (equivalent of both arms from a t-shirt sleeve down) is enough to top up your stores, we only get the right 'type' of sunlight from April to September, mostly from 11am-3pm.

The Chief Medical Officer in Scotland advises that we should all consider taking a daily 10 microgram (400 units) vitamin D supplement, especially during the winter months (beginning of October to end of March inclusive): these can be bought over the counter in the chemist or a supermarket, or online - some places have 3 for 2 offers. Please do use them! (and don't forget to use sunblock once you've had your 20 minutes - sadly we can still burn even this far north!)

# **ORCADES PRACTICE—STRONSAY BRANCH**

In an emergency phone 01856 888000

## **LATEST NEWS**

The doctors' morning surgery has returned to being by appointment, while the afternoon will still be open for 'on the day' calls for urgent needs. Both will initially be phone calls, with an invitation to attend the surgery if an examination is needed. In an emergency you will of course be fitted in straight away.

If you require an appointment please phone 616321 as usual or email [ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot). When you book your appointment Katrina will give you a time for your initial call; the doctor will call as close to that time as possible, and hopefully within about 30 minutes. This will hopefully make your day easier to plan. Please help us by bringing just one problem, so that we can help you by sticking as close as possible to time.

If you are travelling abroad and need evidence of your vaccination status, you can now use the link below to obtain it. Please be patient as records are updated, and please don't request your record if you don't need it! Thank you

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/covid19status>.

## **REQUESTING REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS**

- No more paper requests to be handed in.
- Please phone 616321 or email [ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot) to order.
- Check one week later to see if they have arrived.
- Time slots will be given for collection.

## **UP-TO-DATE CONTACT DETAILS**

Please can we ask you to contact the surgery (phone 616321 or email [ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot](mailto:ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot)) if you have any changes to make to the information we hold. It really helps us if we have your up to date information should we need to contact you.

For example

- *Name*
- *Address*
- *Telephone number (landline)*
- *Mobile number*
- *Email address*

Thank you, Dr Rosalind Fisher and Dr Alison Lievesley

January 2022

Hello from Cape Town to all our friends. We think of you often and wish you all well.

As most of you know, I left my job at Stronsay School at the end of last term to take up the post of Head Teacher and Education Advisor at St. Mary's School, Tristan da Cunha. Having been refused a career break by OIC due to various local and national policies, I decided to 'bite the bullet', hand in my notice and head off to the most remote school on the planet to work for the British Government. Despite the fact that the job offer is for one year initially, the opportunity for promotion to a post I have worked hard for, and the chance to explore a place that we would never otherwise have visited, was too great to refuse.

We spent a lovely Christmas and New Year with our families before leaving the UK for South Africa on 7<sup>th</sup> January. We landed at Cape Town International Airport stifled by rigger boots, woolly hats, scarves, gloves and winter coats to the wonderment of our driver Julian, who greeted us warmly in his shorts. We hurriedly justified our appearances by explaining that it was snowing when we started our journey in York thirty-six hours earlier.

Cape Town is as exciting and vibrant as any capital city, made more so by the feeling of real and tangible racial integration. This is evident in the food, the shops, the interaction of its people and the overall feeling of equality and inclusion whatever the colour of your skin or your creed. In many respects, it feels more respectful and inclusive than our own capital city. We only spent a week out and about before required to quarantine, so no doubt there is an element of 'rose tinted spectacles' about our experiences, but nevertheless, our first impressions were very positive.



V & A Waterfront



Statue of Nelson Mandela at the Town Hall, where he gave his first public speech following his release from prison

We have met some inspiring people, not least the Consul General of the Republic of Zimbabwe, currently here on holiday with her children, a shuttle bus driver who witnessed first-hand Nelson Mandela's 'long walk to freedom', a tour guide who spent years locked in Robben Island prison with Mandela when they were political prisoners together, and the doctor (taking a break from working on Covid wards in Durban) who told us of the dedicated work of his father, Professor Abdool Karim, South Africa's top coronavirus advisor.

Prior to our 10 days of quarantine, we visited some of Cape Town's most famous landmarks: we took a cable car up Table Mountain; we drank wine at the Groot Constantia vineyard; we soaked up the sun at Camp's Bay; we shopped 'til we dropped at the V & A Waterfront and Canal Walk; we ate in many different restaurants at half the price we would have paid in the UK; we walked in the footsteps of Nelson Mandela and controversial former president Jacob Zuma at Robben Island prison.



Cable car descending Table Mountain



Table Mountain from Groot Constantia

The last ten days have been uneventful to say the least. We have been stuck in a hotel room, overlooking the swimming pool, with views of the 2,195ft Lion's Head mountain. We were most concerned about the regular occurrence of terrifying explosions and wondered if the city was under siege, until we realised that the explosions happened at the same time every day. Google informed us that the Noon Gun has been fired on Signal Hill almost every day since 1806. Now, we listen out for it as it signals to us that we are another 24 hours nearer to our release date. However, we have been adequately entertained by the Fawlty Towers style room service whilst incapacitated; in fact, it has become the highlight of our day. It doesn't matter what we order, it is a complete lottery as to what is actually served.

This morning the doctor visited to conduct PCR tests which, if negative, will secure our release to our boat, the Lance, tomorrow and onwards to Tristan da Cunha.

Donna and Dominic, St. Catherine's.



Stronsay to Cape Town via Flamborough, East Ayton, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Flamborough (again), East Ayton (again), York and London Heathrow Airport (plus Driffield, Scarborough, Bridlington and Burton Fleming in between!)

## **FROM DANIEL McNEIL**

Hello everyone, me and Charlotte are currently walking around the entire UK coastline for the armed forces charity SSAFA. This challenge should take us roughly 3 years to complete. We're currently on Stronsay hiding away for the winter and will resume in March when the weather will be better. I injured my right ankle on Hoy meaning we had to stop through Christmas, the ankle isn't 100% so the rest will be so helpful in the recovery. Stronsay is one of the most beautiful islands I have come across on my journey so far and the people on the island have been so kind to us and our charity. We'd just like to thank everyone who has helped us on our journey so far especially Bill, Margaret of old school house and Christopher, Kathlyn and Paul.

## **COULD YOU BE AN ISLAND AMBASSADOR?**

This email was received by the secretary of the Visit Stronsay Group and is being disseminated via the Stronsay Limpet. If you are interested please contact James Elsmoor [james@islandinnovation.co](mailto:james@islandinnovation.co) CEO of [www.islandinnovation.co](http://www.islandinnovation.co).

I am reaching out to send you some info on our Island Ambassador Program, which is now open for applications until the end of the month. I had noted that so far we did not receive any applications from Stronsay and we hope that this would be a good opportunity for 2022.

Last year we had over 300 ambassadors from a wide range and backgrounds (from students to CEOs to government officials) who were able to connect our work at Island Innovation with their activities locally on their island. It's an opportunity open to anyone of any age who wishes to represent their island as part of a global network. The Ambassador program aims to integrate and combine networking, sustainability, diversity, entertainment, and knowledge. The program forms an active network of engaged leaders with the purpose of positively impacting people, communities and environments around them.

I was wondering if you know of anyone who is a good candidate that you might be able to encourage to join? More information is available here: <https://islandinnovation.co/island-ambassador-program/>

Don't hesitate to reach out or connect me if you have any questions. We would really appreciate your help finding some local participants.

Cheers,

James Elsmoor



## **RECENT BIRD SIGHTINGS**

The best of the year so far was in fact a 'mammal sighting' on 1<sup>st</sup> January - an Otter at Bomasty, loping across the sandy beach from the roadside and into the sea as we drove past in the car, The only previous sighting we know of in the area was spotted by Joyce Maples from the car over thirty years ago!

There have been a scattering of interesting sightings since the turn of the year, including 2-3 Greenfinches. 30 or so Fieldfares and a dozen or so Redwings have overwintered and one Song Thrush. Norman and Hazel had amazingly close views of a male Hen Harrier with 'prey' by the roadside near Airy and Donald Omond reported an Iceland Gull by the Blan Loch near MT Pleasant.

8 Shelduck have already taken up residence on the Bu Loch, and 6 Great Northern Divers have been seen in Mill Bay.



*Female Red-breasted Merganser between the piers.  
Regularly seen in Whitehall Village during winter.*

*(continued on next page)*



*A Brambling and a Redpoll – both photographed in the tiny garden at Park Cottage in late Autumn.*

**Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place (actually from West Manse)  
Keeping the folk of the North Isles ward informed — with Orkney's only  
councillor newsletter**



2022 is the year of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, something never celebrated in this country before. There will be a public holiday from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June, so we all have a few months to prepare for it. Here in Sanday, the 2012 Diamond Jubilee was celebrated with the lighting of a beacon and a "fun day" event. The Parent Council presented each child on the island with a commemorative medal (see photograph above), with a few extra to sell, and the Community Council had Jubilee mugs made.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1881, the 16-year-old Henrietta Manley (my 1<sup>st</sup> cousin twice removed) did not appear in the census with the rest of her family—she was an inmate of a smallpox hospital. Smallpox vaccinations were compulsory at this time and provided free-of-charge. (They continued until 1971, and I have a small smallpox vaccination scar on my upper left arm.) Various anti-vaccination leagues sprung up soon after compulsion was introduced, so anti-vaxxers are nothing new! I don't know whether the Manleys were of this persuasion and this is the reason Henrietta succumbed, but I believe we should all be grateful for the worldwide vaccination programme which led to the eradication of this horrific disease, and that we should learn from history.

Our latest Orkney Ferries Board meeting was the first to be held with our new ferries manager, Helen Inkster. I asked Helen if she would be happy to attend some Isles community council meetings at the beginning of the year, and she has agreed to do this. On 20<sup>th</sup> December, Orkney Ferries announced: "Following a review of Orkney Ferries fares structure, the 38% discount introduced in June will be extended to all vehicles up to and including 5.5m in length, from 1 January 2022. Also, as a result of the review, discount booklets for vehicle over 5.5m in length will be reintroduced (offering a 25% discount for booklets of 10 tickets, and a 30% discount for booklets of 20 tickets). The discount for hauliers remains in place." Some folk may not yet be aware that the OF text messaging service has had to be discontinued. I am striving to get it, or something like it, reinstated.

*(continued on next page)*

We had a seminar reviewing our local transport strategy. Yet again, I brought up our need for an integrated transport system, with an OIC-run bus service so we don't get this nonsense of buses diverted onto school runs in the afternoon just at the time islanders have to travel to Kirkwall Airport to catch their inter-island flights. I also highlighted the lack of left-luggage facilities.

An urgent meeting was called with NHS Orkney about providing adequate medical cover for North Ronaldsay and Eday over the festive period. At my suggestion, OIC requested military assistance, but it was declined, which left both islands at risk.

At a Special Policy & Resources Committee meeting, "windfall" Covid-19 funding of £8¼ million was announced, and officials proposed allocations to 17 "recovery projects" (including £1 million for "Kirkwall Town Centre Regeneration"). At the ratifying Special General meeting, I lodged an amendment to add our island swimming pools to this list of "recovery projects". This was seconded by Cllr Magnus Thomson (there is a pool in his ward at North Walls), but the proposal was shot down by the Council Leader (who just days before had told me he would welcome such interventions!). The only other vote my amendment received was from Cllr Steve Sankey. Unforgivably, I received **zero** backing from my two fellow North Isles councillors! I am grateful to Magnus and Steve for their support, and for the supportive e-mails I have received since from members of the public. I am sorry I was unable to deliver the Christmas present our pools so desperately need.

Other meetings I've attended ("virtually") since my last *Letter* include an Integration Joint Board development session; a Vscene meeting with the Westray School head teacher candidate; Sanday Community Council; North Ronaldsay Community Council; a North Isles catch-up; confidential meetings of members and the Chief Executive; a meeting about Stronsay playpark equipment; Papay Community Council's discussion on the winter ferry timetable; Inter-Island Air Services and Ferry Services Consultative Forums; "Orkney Matters" meetings with community members from Eday, Stronsay, Sanday, Westray, Papay, Rousay, and Shapinsay; and a seminar on our Inter-Island Transport Study outline business case.

Returning to the Botswana theme at the end of the 104<sup>th</sup> issue of my *Letter*, I recently watched a film ("A United Kingdom") on DVD about Seretse Khama and his struggles in the late 1940s, against both his own tribe (of which he was kgosi) and the arrogant, obstructive officials at the British Commonwealth Office, to marry his white, English fiancée. Anyway, they did marry, and later, after a smooth transition to independence, he was elected Botswana's first president, and he guided his country wisely to the peace and prosperity it enjoys today. A remarkable man and an inspiring leader who should be better known internationally. Having read more about him, he certainly inspires me.

Enjoy a good start to 2022,



Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson,

West Manse, Sanday

[stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk)

Image removed



for copyright  
reasons

You can download *Letter from School Place* from [lfsp.pbworks.com](http://lfsp.pbworks.com)

**Records of a Bygone Age**  
**Souvenirs - The Pirate John Gow's boat tiller?**  
**Part 1**

John Gow was born in Wick in 1698 then, the following year, moved with his parents, prosperous businessman William Gow and his wife Margaret Calder, to Stromness where he was educated before sailing 'before the mast' for a number of years. As an Orcadian who had spent his early life on or near the sea in Stromness, he quickly acquired all the nautical skills needed to sail and navigate a ship. He achieved notoriety in the early 1700s when he and a number of his shipmates mutinied and took over the 'George Gally', sometime known as the 'Caroline', an English merchantman of some 200 tons and carrying 18 guns, which they renamed the 'Revenge'.

During the mutiny, which took place near the Canary Islands, the Captain and three of his officers were all murdered and thrown overboard, after which the mutineers appointed John Gow as their leader. Gow's fame as a pirate has grown over the years, with a number of books being written based on his story, but it appears that his short career as a pirate was actually less than successful!

After taking over the ship and being appointed her captain, Gow and the Revenge spent some time sailing along the coast of North Africa and Spain, often being within sight of the coast there, looking for ships to plunder. Their first prize was a small sloop, the Delight, bound from Newfoundland to Cadiz with a cargo of fish. With little worth taking, the Revenge topped up her stores from the vessel and then sent her to the bottom. Nine days later, Gow captured a Scottish ship, the Sarah, only to find it too was carrying a cargo of fish, this time bound for Genoa.



*The 'Revenge' would have been something similar to this ship.*

*(Continued on next page)!*

A few days later, hoping for a more valuable cargo, the Revenge gave chase to a French ship, following her day and night for three days until eventually losing her in a bank of fog. Gow's next prize was an American ship, the Bachelor, with a cargo of timber, again of little use to the pirates but, as their provisions were again running low, they were glad to avail themselves of some of the American ship's stores. On 27<sup>th</sup> December 1724, Gow made his most valuable capture when they caught and boarded a French ship, the Lewis Joseph, carrying a cargo of wine and fruit, some of which they took aboard the Revenge along with anything else of value they found.

On 6<sup>th</sup> January 1725, Gow and his crew overtook and captured an English ship, the Triumvirate of Bristol, but found to their dismay that she too was carrying a cargo of fish! This proved to be Gow's last act of piracy on the high seas, bringing to an end his brief and fairly undistinguished career as a pirate. After this last act of piracy, believing he was being hunted by naval ships, he decided to head north to his native Stromness.

After reaching his home port, he was greeted amicably by friends and residents in Stromness but soon news of his exploits reached the town and Gow, along with his ship and shipmates were forced to flee. Before leaving, the pirates went to the house of Robert Honeyman, the High Sheriff of Orkney, and plundered it. Mr Honeyman was away at the time but his wife and daughter managed to conceal most of their valuables from the robbers, meaning that once again they had to abandon their target with little to show for their efforts!

Captain Gow headed northward once more and, on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1725, while negotiating the narrow channel of Calfsound between Eday and the small uninhabited island of the Calf of Eday, he mistook the wind and ran his ship aground on the of the Calf of Eday.

At that time the laird, James Fea VI of Clestrain, was staying on his wife's estate at Carrick House on the Calfsound shore. Coincidentally, John Gow had been a fellow pupil at school with James and Gow sent a small party ashore in their remaining small boat to ask for assistance. Gow's reputation had preceded him and Fea, along with a small party of armed men, succeeded in seizing this party and the ships boat.



*Carrick House in Eday, on the shores of Calfsound*

*(Continued on next page)*

When James Fea first became aware of the stranded ‘Revenge’ and the nature of her crew, he had dispatched his brother John over to Stronsay and Sanday to muster reinforcements, which were to include his cousin James Fea of Whitehall, William Scollay from Odiness and his uncle Jerome Dennison from Warsetter in Sanday. They quickly responded to the rallying call and made their way across the sea to Eday, offering their assistance to James Fea and his band of helpers. By some skilful tactics and imaginative trickery, James then proceeded to capture in instalments the whole pirate crew with no loss of life on either side. In Carrick House to this day there is a stain to be seen on the floor of one of the rooms, reputedly caused by the blood of Captain Gow!

After informing the authorities of his capture of John Gow, Gow’s fellow pirates and his ship, James Fea awaited their response and this was soon to arrive in the form of HMS Weazel, an 8-gun naval sloop, which anchored in Linga Sound, before her captain made his way to Eday where he helped refloat the Revenge but, when she was afloat, he then tried to commandeer her, much to James Fea’s displeasure!

A naval frigate, the 20-gun HMS Greyhound, then arrived on the scene and her captain was able to reconcile Fea and the Weazel’s captain, with the Greyhound, the Weazel and the Revenge all heading southward in convoy to bring the pirates to London for trial.

On 26<sup>th</sup> May, the trial of Gow and his shipmates began but was delayed by Gow’s refusal to plead. After the application of thumbscrews, then being ‘pressed’ (stretched out on the floor and heavy weight placed on his body) for several days, Gow unsurprisingly agreed to plead guilty to his crimes of piracy! He and nine of his shipmates were quickly convicted and sentenced to hang.



*A depiction of John Gow*



*The ‘art’ of pressing a confession!*

The second part of this story will be in next month’s ‘Limpet’

Ian Cooper  
January 2021

## FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

**Steve, Sheena, Sarah, Andy and Gaynor would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the local Christmas Card Delivery Service. A total of £304.45 has been raised for resources to support clubs for the Stronsay Children**

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### **VAN AVAILABLE FOR CHARITY WORK**

The Pomona Prefect logo peedie red van is available for charity work on the island if anyone needs a man and a van and wants to help the island reach the target. Saturdays service and cost for this is suggested as £10 per hour min donation for half hour units. All to the Stronsay Defib fund. No live animals, persons transported or dirty, sloppy stuff carried. Limited load and not a taxi service. This is a temporary thing to raise money and not a challenge to any services on the island. Call Don and Julie for all taxi work and Jim Holland for freight!

Also, if anyone needs their car karcher jet washed and vaccuming and then can do at Ellerslie as you pass for a donation to same Defib Fund. Cost is £10 per basic body wash and wheels rinsed and boot/inside vacced. Limited to cars. No monster trucks, panel vans, lorries or camper vans sorry.

This charity service will be hopefully available until there are enough defib machines in position with the people trained to cover us all 24/7. Availability is limited to Saturdays.

Any questions and to book give me a call.

Nicandro J. Porcelli, Ellerslie. Telephone or text to - 07732 276046

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### **HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET***

Send an email to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk) or write to *The Limpet*, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page

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Items on this page are free!

The cutoff date for adverts to be included in the next edition of the *Limpet* is on the front page  
Contact details for the *Limpet* are on the back page

## FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

### **CHIROPODIST?**

I am looking into getting a chiropodist out to Stronsay. Could you let me know if you would be interested by phoning me on 616 375.

Thanks. Yvonne

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### **HELLO TO STRONSAY!**

I'm looking for the possibility to either buy a traditional stone built bungalow - with or without outbuildings

**OR**

To rent somewhere to live until a property becomes available. I'm not too picky a caravan, small house, room (with access to kitchen and bathroom) or may even consider a boot! Hey joke, unfortunately wouldn't fit into a boot! Maybe long or short term, would be grateful if someone on the great island of Stronsay could please possibly help!

Look forward to hearing from anyone, who may have any of the above - (or may know someone who might).

Contact Paul on mobile 07802 426992 or email [pauwat1@gmail.com](mailto:pauwat1@gmail.com).

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### **WANTED**

Hi there, I just wondered if rental property with land is available on the island at all? Looking for a place on the islands for myself my five year old daughter and our animals. We are looking at properties to buy too but should we be able to rent that would speed up our progress. I work from home so can live anywhere but a rural place with plenty of space and some land around it is what we are looking for. I am registered with agents but there seems very little available.

Many thanks.

Anna Holland ([annacholland@icloud.com](mailto:annacholland@icloud.com), Scottish Borders)

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### **WANTED**

Shorefront piece of land/barn/small house, must be secluded. For Ross-shire crofting couple looking to relocate. We need 2+ acres as we have livestock but would be very happy with just a field that we would look to get planning permission on. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Cash waiting.

Please contact Malcolm and June Purvis on 01445 731681 or email [purvis193@gmail.com](mailto:purvis193@gmail.com)

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# FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

## BUILDING PLOTS FOR SALE

2 Building plots, Whitehall Village, Stronsay, Orkney

£35K each. Planning in principle for 2/3 bed bungalow plus 2 parking spaces. Electricity and water supplies are on site.

The plots are behind the village street making a secluded location but within easy walking distance of the shop, ferry, cafe and hotel.

The tried and tested practice on the Orkney isles for building is to buy a house kit and either have it erected by the supplier or our island contractor Castlehill Construction (who can also do the ground works)

For information about Stronsay, our lifestyle, its good school and other facilities please visit [www.visitstronsay.com](http://www.visitstronsay.com)

For further information about the sites please contact

- Sharon at Orkney Property Centre, Kirkwall on 01856 877866 or
- Dianne & Paul on 07785111126 or
- email [drileymoore@hotmail.com](mailto:drileymoore@hotmail.com)

Planning ref: 18/038/PIP on Orkney Islands Council planning web site



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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### **REDHOUSE PLANTS MARKET GARDEN**



Seasonal vegetables available daily. Bedding, perennial and vegetable plants.

Local honey in season according to availability.

Open 09.00-17.00 Mon-Sat.

Redhouse, Lower Whitehall, Stronsay. Tel: (01857) 616 377

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## **BUILDING WORK**

Building work carried out by time-served tradesman

No job too small!

Please note changed telephone number

Phone Paul Williams on 616222 or email [williams778@btinternet.com](mailto:williams778@btinternet.com)

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## **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

On the back page of every edition of the *Limpet* there is a list of useful telephone numbers including the emergency numbers for reporting problems with water or electricity.

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Local business adverts are free!

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES



# Marion Miller Jewellery

Unique Jewellery inspired by the sea and shore.  
Designed and handmade on the island of Stronsay, Orkney

[www.marionmillerjewellery.com](http://www.marionmillerjewellery.com)

Tel 07919550943 E-mail [marionmillerjewellery@gmail.com](mailto:marionmillerjewellery@gmail.com)



Local business adverts are free!

The cutoff date for adverts to be included in the next edition of the *Limpet* is on the front page  
Contact details for the *Limpet* are on the back page

## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



Traditionally hand-crafted in Stronsay—soaps, solid shampoo bars, conditioner bars and balms. Hand-spun and hand-dyed yarns from Orkney fleeces, woven throws, wall-hangings and more.

Orkney Star Island Soap, Isles View, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AG.

Tel: (+44) 01857 616 281

Email: [info@orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk](mailto:info@orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk)

Web: <http://www.orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/orkney.star.island.soap>

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**PATRICK  
McGRATH  
LTD**

**Gas Safe Registered Engineer  
Plumber**

Services include:

- Installation, servicing, maintenance of all domestic gas appliances
- Landlords gas safety checks
- Bathroom fitting
- Bathroom supply
- General heatings
- All other types of domestic, commercial, industrial plumbing works
- Isles work welcome

Call Patrick on **07933 488283**  
Email: [patrickmcgrathltd@gmail.com](mailto:patrickmcgrathltd@gmail.com)

**PLUMBING  
& HEATING**

**gas safe**

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### Roger at Stronsay Photographic

Available for:

Portraits - groups and individuals

ID photographs - printing on site

Tuition

Special commissions

Cozy studio with professional lighting

Home visits



Contact via Stronsay Photographic Facebook page and Facebook or tel 616228

Special offers also on Stronsay Facebook page

### Roger at Stronsay Markets



Local seasonal soft fruit and vegetables

Grown naturally without artificial fertilisers, pesticides or weed killer

Cropped same day (usually)

Check out Facebook "Stronsay Markets"

Contact me on [stronsaymarkets@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaymarkets@gmail.com) and I can add you to the regular list of available produce

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See Stronsay Markets on Youtube [https://youtu.be/8e6sz\\_Z2eQU](https://youtu.be/8e6sz_Z2eQU)

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES

# The Book Nook

## Orcadia, Stronsay

It's a library! Borrow a book!

It's a book exchange! Swap a book!

It's a shop! Buy a book with a donation!



Over  
1000



fiction books!

### Opening Hours

Thursday to Tuesday 9am to 4pm

Wednesday 12 noon to 4pm

Open other times on request

Vicki 07873 982648

[facebook.com/TheBookNookatStronsay](https://facebook.com/TheBookNookatStronsay)



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

On the back page of every edition of the *Limpet* there is a list of useful telephone numbers including the emergency numbers for reporting problems with water or electricity.

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### **STRONSAY HOTEL**

Phone 01857 616213, email [cjdbuk@gmail.com](mailto:cjdbuk@gmail.com)

### **STRONSAY HOTEL AND THE VIRUS**

In these challenging times we have changed the hours that we are open. We will still provide a Takeaway service and we can deliver if required. Ordering can be done via phone or email.

- Mon, Bar closed
- Tues, Bar closed
- Wed, Bar closed
- Thurs, Bar closed Takeaway 5pm.to 7pm
- Fri, **Bar open** 5pm to 11pm (last orders 10:30pm). Takeaway 5pm to 7pm
- Sat, **Bar open** 5pm to 11pm (last orders 10:30pm). Takeaway 5pm to 7pm
- Sun, Bar closed Takeaway 5pm to 7pm

We know this is very drastic but it is a drastic time, hopefully it will not last too long.

### **TAKE AWAY MENU**

Homemade lasagne + chips . . . . .	£5.95
Homemade chicken curry + rice or chips . .	£5.95
Homemade chicken & bacon pie + chips . .	£6.50
Breaded haddock + chips. . . . .	£5.50
Battered haddock +chips . . . . .	£6.50
Breaded wholetail scampi + chips . . . . .	£6.50
2 sausages + chips . . . . .	£3.00
2 fish fingers + chips . . . . .	£2.80
“Stronsay beast burger” + fries . . . . .	£4.50
“Stronsay cheese beast burger + fries . . . .	£5.00
Portion of chips . . . . .	£1.30
Half portion of chips . . . . .	£0.80
Portion of cheesey chips . . . . .	£2.10
Half portion of cheesey chips . . . . .	£1.10
Portion of onion rings . . . . .	£1.20
Half cheesey chips = minus 20p	
Cheesey chips = add 80p	
Half chips = minus 60p	
Half rice = minus 60p	

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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***

### ***Holmsgarth Crafts***



***Book Pillows, Table Runners  
Napkins, Face Masks,  
Scrunchies,  
Tote Bags,  
Pencil Cases and More  
Made To Order***



Contact Margaret McAnally - [Holmsgarth Crafts](#) | [Facebook](#)

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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***



An award-winning skincare company with a purpose; to help create a healthier, greener more empowered world.

FREE Catalogue available for pick-up or drop off.

Please be in touch with Sarah Powers Richings at 01857 616495 or follow me on Instagram: @sarahmarie.tropic or on Facebook: Tropic with Sarah Marie

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES

handmade with love

# Airy Fairy





- ★ Handmade Quilts, cushions & clothes ★
- ★ Beautiful, bespoke & personalised gifts ★
- ★ Handmade especially for you ★
- ★ Makower fabrics in stock £10 per metre ★
- ★ Studio visits welcome by appointment ★



Hazel Shearer, Airy, Stronsay, Orkney, KW172AG • Phone 01857 616231  
[hazel.airyfairy@gmail.com](mailto:hazel.airyfairy@gmail.com) • [www.airyfairyonline.co.uk](http://www.airyfairyonline.co.uk)

# The Wyrð Weaver

Handcrafted Textiles and Primitive Folk Art









Come and visit Eunice's studio at...  
 Newbigging, Stronsay, Orkney KW17 2AN

**Open Daily**  
 Phone - 01857 616230

Find and buy on Facebook @orkneywyrðweaver  
 Email - thewyrðweaver@btinternet.com



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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### **“NEIL’S ON WHEELS”**



- All mechanical work undertaken.
- Tyres
- ECU/ABS/airbag diagnostic testing
- Welding specialist
- MOT prep work
- Home start
- Towing service

MOBILE: 07723 304 260

### **The Old Manse Bed and Breakfast Logie Easter, Kildary IV18 0NZ**



Dating back to the 1780s set in a large woodland garden just off the A9 and six miles from Invergordon, the Old  
Ensuite Double and twin rooms

Tel 01862 842357

Email [oldmanse.kildary@btinternet.com](mailto:oldmanse.kildary@btinternet.com)

Web [www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk](http://www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk)

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



**We are a brand new local company, we decided to take the plunge after many years of working for others, to set up our own business. Craig has many years experience in general building work, labouring, ground work ect. I am a time served joiner. We have all our own equipment so no need for the extra cost of hiring from elsewhere.**

**We can do all types of ground work, pipe laying, guttering and roofing. Replacement windows and doors, finishings, concrete and general work. All types of work considered, no job too small, all work finished to a high standard. Full public liability insurance, safe, reliable and trustworthy.  
Reasonable prices.**

**Contact Craig or Christine for more information.**

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## **HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET***

Send an email to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk) or write to *The Limpet*, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

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### **MOBILE LIBRARY VAN VISITS IN 2022**

28 February, 25 April, 20 June, 15 August, 10 October, 28 November

For further information go to web page <https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/mobile-library>,  
email [library@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:library@orkney.gov.uk) or telephone 01856 873166.

Winter	Council Houses	8.45	-	9.45
	School	10	-	12
	Kirk	12.45	-	3
	Fish mart	3.15	-	4.45
Summer/Refit	Council Houses	9.25	-	10
	School	10.15	-	12
	Kirk	12.45	-	3
	Fish mart	3.15	-	5.30

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### **PEEDIE LIBRARY - WEDNESDAY 2 FEBRUARY**

*From the Peedie Librarian*

We will open on Wednesday 2nd February from 2:30pm to 4pm in the church hall. There are hundreds of books to choose from, both fiction and non-fiction, and you can borrow as many as you like. Also table-top games, giant dominos, Jenga and Connect 4 to play while you enjoy a biscuit with a cup of tea or coffee.

See you there!

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### **STRONSAY STITCHERS**

An informal group which meets monthly to do our own stitchy projects.

Thursday 24th February, 7.00pm-9.30pm, Church Hall, £2/person.

Please bring own refreshments.

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## GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

A MULTIMEDIA ONE MAN SHOW

**JUST FOR THE RECORD**  
with  
CHRISTOPHER ANDREW MAIER  
as  
**ELDRIDGE REEVES JOHNSON**  
*The Machinist who perfected The Gramophone*

Join me for my  
**155th birthday party**  
at the  
**STRONSAY COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
+ Donations benefit STRONSAY DEFIBRILLATOR FUND +



7pm Sunday  
6 February, 2022  
Suitable for ages 10 to 155

PS: If you have seen  
the old gramophone in the  
STRONSAY HERITAGE CENTRE  
and wondered who invented it,  
**this one's for you!**

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***



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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

*The following item from Stronsay Community Council was received too late for inclusion in the December edition of the Limpet.*

### **STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Chair: Ian Cooper    Vice Chair: Shirley Whiteman

Stronsay Community Council would like to share information received from the newly appointed Ferry Services Manager on the work that is currently going on, behind the scenes, so all are aware of the progress being made to improve the services. The Ferry Services Manager has written:

#### **Office Closure**

The closure of the Kirkwall Office in November as a result of staff being tracked and traced was a difficult period for everyone. This was also a very difficult time for the staff and company who faced heavy criticism as a result. All HSE protocols were in place to prevent all staff being affected but it highlighted the failings within Orkney Ferries IT systems and the urgent need for improvements to be made.

In the last two weeks we have had new hardware delivered and with the invaluable help and support of RM computing and OIC IT department we are now able to provide all of our clerical and admin staff the option to work from home. This development has been tested successfully by staff over the last week. These changes now provide us with redundancy to take calls and operate phone and bookings systems from out with the office hugely reducing the likelihood of a reoccurrence of this nature again.

#### **Online Booking System**

This takes me to the topic of an online booking system, this item is very much at the top of everyone's priority list. We are currently drawing up a technical specification for an entirely new reservation system and part of this will be an online booking system. These things do take time and negotiation but we are working with both HITRANS and Development and Infrastructure within OIC to make progress with this over the coming weeks. In the meantime, we have just received a "test" version of an online system which will be tested in house over the Christmas and New Year period. Once any issues have been ironed out we will put this system live for our customers in the interim.

#### **Text Messaging Service**

Due to the cessation of the service from the provider Orkney Ferries text messaging service, for disrupted or cancelled sailings, will cease on 31st December 2021. Twitter, Facebook and Orkney Ferries website will continue to be updated.

*(continued on next page)*

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

All passengers who have booked in advance will continue to get a call to let them know of any disruption to the sailing they are booked on. I can only apologise for this change but I hope that the new reservation system will have the facility to reinstate these types of communications.

### **Disruptions**

Covid has already disrupted many festive plans and has the potential to disrupt services over the winter as well. The health and safety of our shoreside staff, crew and customers is paramount. We understand your frustrations and concerns, but please be assured the teams onboard and ashore are doing all they can to keep things moving. Your patience with us if disruptions happens is greatly appreciated.

### **Office Hours**

A lot has changed behind the scenes in Orkney Ferries in the last few months, We have a new Senior Administration Assistant, new Ferry Services Manager and two new Clerical team members with another post currently advertised. All of these changes mean time is needed to get everyone up to speed on all aspects of the service. In order for us to provide training and make further improvements to the service we require one hour per week for training. The office will be closed each week between 1400-1500 on a Wednesday from January for the next few months. I realise this is an inconvenience for our customers but necessary to ensure we positively develop the service.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Kind Regards  
Helen Inkster  
Ferry Services Manager

*(Paul Riley, the Stronsay Community Council Transport Representative, can be contacted by telephone: 616416 or email: [pauljriley46@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pauljriley46@hotmail.co.uk) if there are transport issues you wish to bring to the Community Council's attention.)*

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## GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS



Stronsay S.W.R.I.



Are delighted to  
announce they are meeting again

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January

At 7.30pm in the hall

Beetles and a  
Burns night supper of mince,  
haggis and clapsnot

Hostess- Committee

Competition -4 pieces of tablet

All ladies and girls aged 11 and over very  
welcome! Please stick to Covid guidelines,  
sanitise your hands, socially distance and  
wear a face covering while moving about.

Scoged

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**Tuesdays 9:15 -11:00**  
**@ The Community Hall**

**All pre-school children welcome**  
**£1 per child, 50p per adult**

**Snack and drink for children**  
**Tea and coffee for adults**

**Drop in at any time or stay for the full session**

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

### **STRONSAY CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR 2021**

On behalf of Stronsay's craft folk I would like to offer a well earned thank you to Stronsay Community Association for hosting the Stronsay Christmas Craft Fair 2021. We would also like to thank everyone who came along to support this event and to buy locally; it is very much appreciated. Finally, I would like to give thanks that we continue to have a thriving crafting community in Stronsay.

Simone



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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

### **STRONSAY HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE**

After the recent changes to the Scottish Government COVID-19 guidance Orkney Islands Council have reviewed the procedures for the Healthy Living Centre. The following procedures now apply:

- 5 people can use the gym at any one time.
- The previous buddy system has still to be reinstated as the gym needs to be fully cleaned after each use.
- The opening hours are as follows:
  - Monday 18.00 - 18.45
  - Tuesday 18.00 - 18.45
  - Wednesday 11.00 - 11.45 and 17.30 - 18.15
  - Thursday 17.30 - 18.15
  - Friday 11.00 - 11.45 and 17.30 - 18.15
  - Saturday 10.00 - 10.45
- Booking need to be made 24 hours in advance either through the council website or by emailing [stronsay.hlc@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk](mailto:stronsay.hlc@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk).
- Memberships can still be purchased or patrons can pay as they go.

There may be a little flexibility around opening times but these need to fit around the availability of Andy and Bill. Any further updates will be communicated through the Limpet and the Stronsay FaceBook page.

Thank you for all your support.  
Bill Hodgson

---

### **STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Why not hire the Stronsay Community hall? We have a kitchen and fully licensed bar, with two large halls and a small meeting room; perfect for weddings, parties, games, meetings and much more!

- Disco equipment
- Table tennis
- Badminton
- Air hockey
- Pool Table



For more information & bookings contact Anne-Maree Carter (Tel: 616263 or Email: [annemaree.carter@btinternet.com](mailto:annemaree.carter@btinternet.com))

Rooms for hire from only £2 per hour plus hydro charge.

**Adult supervision (over 18) must be present during hire.**

Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/hallcommittee>

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## CROSSROADS ORKNEY

and



We would like to help ease the loneliness and difficulty of lockdown for Dementia sufferers and their carers at home. We have a variety of puzzles, crafts and activities which we can post or deliver. All free of charge. If you know someone who could benefit from this or wish more information please call Crossroads 870500 or Lorna Reid 781329



**CORRA**  
FOUNDATION  
voice • power • change

Community Wellbeing Fund  
[info@corra.org.uk](mailto:info@corra.org.uk)  
T 01253 444 4007  
W [www.corra.org.uk](http://www.corra.org.uk) [Facebook](#)

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

### **LIFEGUARDS WANTED**

Stronsay swimming pool is looking for enthusiastic, reliable and conscientious people to become part of the pool team.

We will train you using the national standard RLSS National Pool Lifeguard Qualification and in return all we ask is you help us keep our small pool open and sustainable.

The ability to swim and a degree of fitness is required before you start your journey into 'lifeguard life.'

Any interested parties should contact Andy Rose by email [andyrose85@btinternet.com](mailto:andyrose85@btinternet.com) phone 01857616277 or mobile 07769689310.

### **OVERSEERS WANTED**

Looking for reliable overseers for the swimming pool reopening please! Previous volunteers welcome. Involves taking payment, handing out bands, helping with evacuation procedures etc. Contact Mairi Dennison via Facebook messenger or tel 616331.

### **POOL OPENING**

Watch out for opening times in the New Year (Covid restrictions dependent)!

Charges - £15 for a 40-minute session or £20 for a 60 minute session

Maximum number in the pool - 12

To book, phone Elsie on 616238 or 0780 355 2441.

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

### **HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

Ebenezer Stores [stronsaystores@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaystores@gmail.com)

Olivebank [m.williamson1@btconnect.com](mailto:m.williamson1@btconnect.com)

Stronsay Hotel [cjdbuk@gmail.com](mailto:cjdbuk@gmail.com)

Fishmart café [fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com](mailto:fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com) (re-opens 3rd Feb 2022)

For telephone numbers see the back page of this edition.

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### **OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIERHEAD** **NOW OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASSES**

Our Lady's Chapel on the pier is now open for public Masses  
with the permission of the Bishop of Aberdeen.

Mass times are as follows:-

- Sunday & holidays: 11am
- Tuesday: 8.00am
- All other days: 11.20am

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### **GOLGOTHA MONASTERY, PAPA STRONSAY** **DAILY STREAMING BROADCAST**

There is a daily streaming broadcast from Golgotha Monastery, Papa Stronsay.

<http://www.papastronsay.com/live>

The broadcast runs from 4pm – 7pm (the times shown are approximate):

- 4pm Short talk by one of the priests.
- 4:30pm Recitation of the Rosary.
- 5pm Mass.
- 6pm Further prayers and office of the day.

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### **STRONSAY KIRK**

Weekly service at 11am.

Minister—Rev David Locke, phone 616284.

Stronsay kirk's website:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/stronsaykirk>

Stronsay kirk's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1553904828107651>

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### **HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET***

Send an email to [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk) or write to *The Limpet*, Claremont,  
Stronsay, KW17 2AR.

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## **GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS**

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022  
The Manse, Stronsay KW17 2AF **KIRK CORNER**  
[DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk)  
01857 616284



Hello again everyone. This is our first winter here and so far so good. Wild winds and cold, but the days are already getting longer, and through whatever happens, so many nice caring people around-who it's always good to bump into.

It's good to share! Our church services until near Easter will be held in the church hall, where it has perhaps a cosier atmosphere in winter days. Today and next Sunday we will join in with live services from churches in Kirkwall – we have managed to get some sort of internet in the church hall, so will be streaming in 2 services live from Kirkwall as an experiment to see what the possibilities are in the future for joint services with other islands. Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January will be a service from the Cathedral and will be followed by chatting over tea and coffee together.

It's good to share together, not least people of different ages. My son has for example been enjoying his first weeks at Stronsay nursery, and getting so much from being there by joining in with other children in ways he could not do previously under covid regulations. Likewise I do not know all the answers about parenting, so I am always glad to meet with others, to share help and ideas. I still have not found the perfect book to turn me into an expert parent! But my wife and I have been working through a book called *Babies and Toddlers; Nurturing your child's spiritual life* (whatever your background). It has been helpful in passing on tips and opening up our thoughts. In one chapter it talks about how church can help give any family a sense of belonging and a place to share. In particular it says church can be a place of great benefit to our children, for church is a place to :

- be loved, and to extend love to others
- be seen just as you are, without needing to pretend
- be needed, using what you are good at to help others
- meet with God at your own pace, and grow in your knowledge and experience of God
- meet with other imperfect people of all ages who are on their own journeys with God
- ask questions, wrestle with spiritual ideas, be prayed for and receive help.

*(continued on next page)*

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

It's good to share whatever our age or background. Some years ago I was a minister in a church in a poor multi-ethnic part of Glasgow and two young women who had been horribly and abusively trafficked from Africa to the UK, managed to escape with the help of various churches, and were welcomed at our church by the older folk especially and there they settled and felt secure. I had the great privilege of baptising their babies born from horrific circumstances and see all their faces showing such joy in being welcomed, accepted and loved by God and his people.

God wants to bless children and share His love with others. I am working on producing leaflets to remind folk that all are welcome in our church including of course children, who can be especially helped to know the security of Jesus' love, when parents present them for 'Christening' or 'baptism', or simply share in a service of 'blessing' when we say a prayer for a child. If anyone is interested in exploring that even if you have never been to church, please let me know.

We are keen to explore more generally how best the church can help the community in the future. For example, we want to explore with others on the island what folk would like to do to mark the Queen's Jubilee in June- suggestions are a community planting of a tree and/or a beacon being lit to coincide with others around the country. Any thoughts?

May the blessings of sharing together be with you

*David* Rev David I W Locke. *MA M.Sc., BD*

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**Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!**

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## ***GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS***

### **Christmas lights at the Kirk (With thanks to Cooke Aquaculture)**

We hope you all had a good Christmas and enjoyed seeing all the Christmas lights brightening up our island. After such a long period when everyone's lives have been affected to a greater or lesser extent by COVID and the resultant restrictions, we felt it would be great as a Church to try to do our own bit with something to brighten up people's lives here in Stronsay and to show some light and colour through the dark winter days and nights.

As a new venture for the Church here, we thought we would try to help with lighting up the middle of the island with a display of Christmas lights and also have something a bit different at the Carols by Candlelight service, consisting of some more lights and 'Christingle' kits for folk to make and take home with them.

We asked Cooke Aquaculture if they could help with funding for this and were really delighted when they told us they were happy to give financial support toward it. I hope you, like us, felt that the display was great and we would like to pass on our thanks for the help in fixing up the lights and decorations and also say a huge thank you to Cooke Aquaculture for their generous donation which made this possible.

The Stronsay Church congregation



*Photos courtesy of Roger Neville-Smith and David Locke*

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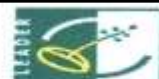
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Company Number SC271553  
A Scottish Charity, Charity Number SC038888  
Registered Office: Unit 1 Woods Yard, Stronsay, Orkney KW17 2AR