

**STRONSAY LIMPET** 

Funded by the Stronsay Development Trust ISSUE 200 - February 2022



Published on the last Thursday of the month

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SWRI meeting	Tue 22 Feb
Tombs of the Isles project	Wed 23 Feb/Thu 24 Feb
Stronsay Stitchers	Thu 24 Feb
Limpet deadline March edition	Sun 27 Mar
Library van visit	Mon 28 Feb, 25 Apr, 20 Jun, 15 Aug, 10 Oct, 28 Nov
Stronsay Stitchers	Thu 31 Mar
Screen Machine visit	Sat/Sun/Mon 2/3/4 Apr
Spring Craft Fair	Sat 14 May
Special collection	Mon 16 May, 25 Jul
Christmas Craft Fair	Sat 3 Dec

# **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 <u>https://stronsaylimpet.co.uk/RosterGPandNurse.html</u>

# SOLVED!

# THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING RECYCLING SKIP

Stronsay residents will be relieved to learn that the missing recycling skip has been found safely tucked away in its new home at the end of the pier.

# **ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND**

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

The next edition of the <u>Limpet</u> will be published on <u>Thu 31 Mar 2022</u>. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on <u>Sun 27 Mar 2022</u>, contact details are on the back page. The Limpet's website address is <u>http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u>

#### **200 EDITIONS!**

This is the 200th edition of the Stronsay Limpet, the island's monthly newsletter created by Yvonne & Heather back in 2005. They used a standard desk jet printer to print the first few editions and they delivered them by hand to every household on Stronsay. However, thanks to generous support from various folk including the late Dr George McKay they acquired two laser printers (one for colour and the other for black & white) which could print on both sides of the paper, and distribution was through the good offices of Olivebank, Ebenezer Stores and what was then the Post Office at Fagerheim.

The Limpet grew in size from 3 or 4 single-sided sheets to 10 or more double-sided sheets and its production began to take up more and more of the two ladies' spare time. I volunteered to take over the task because being retired I had spare time, I had a back-ground in computing and I didn't want to see the end of such an excellent idea. Soon the two large laser printers were installed in a spare bedroom at Claremont, and I began to edit and print the monthly newsletter. The Stronsay Development Trust kindly provided funds for the purchase of paper, ink and postage stamps and within a few years more than 200 copies of the Limpet were being printed each month, 40 of which were for postal subscribers. These postal copies were handled by my late wife, Maureen, who placed each printed copy in an envelope together with a covering letter then affixed a postage stamp and a return address label; Maureen was mightily relieved to discover that the envelopes were self-sealing and that the stamps were self-sticking!

When the laser printers eventually failed the task of printing was passed to the Orcadian printshop with the SDT picking up the bill for that. All that I then had to was to collate the information that was sent to me, squeeze it into an even number of pages and email it to the Orcadian printshop. Jim Holland delivered the printed copies to Claremont where I just counted them out and handed them over to the Olivebank & Ebenezer Stores together with a distribution list, plus one copy to the waiting room at Geramount surgery.

With effect from this January 2022 a very small number of printed copies of the Limpet will be produced by the SDT for distribution to those households that do not have a computer or access to the internet.

The Limpet has its own <u>website</u> through which anyone can access all back numbers of the Limpet and there is an email distribution list which is used to disseminate timely local information to folk who do not have access to the Stronsay page on Facebook.

My thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Limpet, my job now is to put the items into the Limpet's "house style" where possible, ensure that there are an even number of pages, and keep all the handy information on the back page up-to-date. I am always pleased to receive articles for publication in the Limpet, the format isn't all that important, they can even be hand-written. The only rule is that the article should have some relevance to Stronsay in particular or to Orkney in general. Maybe recent arrivals on the island could share their first impressions of island life, and those folk born & bred on Stronsay could write about life on Stronsay in the mid 20th century?

Bruce Fletcher BSc FIAP

## **A POEM FOR THE 200th EDITION OF THE LIMPET**

By Christine Richings

Looking back at familiar faces Stories of old and new Locked in time forever A memory or two

Bird report's, charity walks Lifeboat meals and Olivebank deals

> Wanted, Sale's Goodbye's, hello's History, seafaring tales

Dance classes, a tasty recipe or two Birthday's, Valentines Seasonal greetings just for you

Achievements, quizzes, summer fun Treasure hunts, north isle sports 200 issues long may it run

On line and read far and wide Reminding folk of island life Phone numbers you may need The Stronsay limpet is a great read

With thanks to each and everyone Who have been involved since issue one.

#### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY "LIMPET"

By Ellie

What does it mean to each of us? Different things I'm sure. But this I know without a doubt, It would be sorely missed if it were no more. The "Limpet" in its sincerity, A man-made treasure For purpose or pleasure, Dates and information Important to us all. A family brought closer; Stories short, long or tall; Times and dates: Long ago thoughts Brought to mind for each of us In memories of sorts. The Limpet in its wisdom Grounding us in care, A paper and a comfort For each of us to share. Two hundred editions. A legend I would say. Long live our Limpet Thanks to Bruce quietly working away. A newspaper of such difference For the Stronsay folk to peruse, Or people who share our interests Welcoming our news. All that is needed to know To keep you in the loop. Happy anniversary-two hundred, What a scoop!

# **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 <u>ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot</u>. 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 <u>ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot</u> 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 <u>ORK.stronsay@nhs.scot</u>) 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

# **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.

Stronsay Surgery

# STRONSAY 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 Stronsay 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 Stronsay 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, Stronsay Surgery

# **IMPORTANCE OF VITAMIN D**

#### From Geramount 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!)



*NOTE: email address should read* **enquiries.orca@uhi.ac.uk** 

#### STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: Ian Cooper Vice Chair: Shirley Whiteman

#### SCREEN MACHINE A VISIT TO STRONSAY

Plans are being made to bring the Screen Machine to Stronsay.

Regional Screen Scotland works to enable more people in more places to share great screen experiences. They do this by providing nationwide programmes of support and development, and operating the Screen Machine mobile cinema in the Highlands and Islands. Screen Machine is an 80-seat state-of-the-art mobile cinema, now in its 21st year of service.

It is anticipated the Screen Machine will arrive on Saturday 2 April and depart on Tuesday 5 April 2022, allowing approximately five screenings across the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Details of the films to be screened are not yet known but will be announced in due course.

Get the popcorn ready and be prepared to be entertained.

Colin McAlpine Stronsay Island Link Officer 9 February 2022

## **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.

#### STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: Ian Cooper Vice Chair: Shirley Whiteman

WANTED

The Screen Machine is making a much welcome return visit to Stronsay.

VOLUNTEER USHERS are required to support the Screen Machine during its visit and at the moment the schedule looks like this:

Saturday 2 April - 2.30pm (tbc), 5.30 & 8.30pm Sunday 3 April - 2.30pm, 5.30 & 8.30pm Monday 4 April - 2.30pm (tbc), 5.30 & 8.30pm

One usher per screening is required. Here's what ushering involves -

- Be present at the Screen Machine 30 minutes before the start of each screening.
- Ensure that all audience members entering the cinema have a valid ticket and meet the appropriate age requirements for that screening unless instructed otherwise by the driver/operator/projectionist Operator
- Be present in the auditorium for the entire duration of all film screenings.
- Ensure that audience members behave in a responsible manner and do not disturb other cinemagoers. Any persistent misbehaviour or dangerous/unlawful activity, any incidents of actual assault, any incidents involving smoke/fire, any incidents of mechanical or structural failure must be reported to the Operator immediately.
- Ensure that all cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars and pipes are extinguished prior to entry.
- Ensure that alcoholic beverages are not consumed in the auditorium.
- Sit in an area close to the main entry/exit to assist patrons with the door and to ensure its closure after opening.
- Remain in the auditorium until all patrons have left at the end of the screening.
- Assist the Operator to bag litter after each screening.
- Follow emergency procedures as directed by the Operator, typically directing the audience to both emergency exits during any emergency situation/evacuation. However, the Operator will take all final decisions in the event of an emergency.
- Follow Health and Safety guidance

If you are interested in this rare opportunity, please contact Colin McAlpine for further details, t: 616446 e: stronsaycc@gmail.com

#### 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

The Seven Principles of Public Life, otherwise known as the Nolan Principles (after Lord Nolan, the founding chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life) are: 1) Selflessness, 2) Integrity, 3) Objectivity, 4) Accountability, 5) Openness, 6) Honesty, 7) Leadership. They apply to anyone who works as a public office holder, including local authority councillors. At the beginning of this year, the Orkney & Shetland Valuation Joint Board (VJB) was presented with a second, even more damning audit from Deloitte, this time highlighting unlawful behaviour, and condemning the competence and effectiveness of its leadership and lack of scrutiny and challenge by the Board. For a 2<sup>nd</sup> time, the reasons I resigned from the VJB in August 2020 (*Letter*, issue 91) have been vindicated. As per the rubric of Principle 7, I was "willing to challenge poor behaviour", but my challenge went unheeded by other members. To have remained on the VJB thereafter would have prejudiced my integrity (Principle 2). As I said to *The Orcadian* and *The Shetland Times*, lessons could have been learnt 2 years ago, had members respected my concerns and conducted themselves and the affairs of the VJB in accordance with the Nolan Principles.

I was delighted to be invited to deliver the Immortal Memory at Sanday Community Association's Burns' Supper. I made a reasonable case (I believe), on the grounds that Robert Burns' father often spelt his surname "Burness", that he possibly had a distant family connexion with Sanday (although I conceded that there is also a Burness in Westray), noting also that his wife shared her maiden surname with that of Sanday's radical Free Kirk minister (and Orkney County Councillor), the Reverend Matthew Armour (1820-1903). One hundred and eighteen people attended the event, with great participation and a really good atmosphere. A much needed tonic for the island. I could not resist ending my talk with William McGonagall's tribute to the Bard, and in true McGonagallesque style I say: *Robert Burns, poet sublime, may he be remember'd for a very long time*.

#### According to folklore:

If Candlemas Day be dry and fair, half the winter's to come and mair. If Candlemas Day be wet and dull, half o' winter's gane at Yule.

Well, Candlemas Day (2<sup>nd</sup> February) was rather mixed this year, being fairly dry and fair in the morning but turning wet and dull later on. So that has left us in a Schrödinger state as far as forecasting how much of this winter remains. We've been hit by a few storms, and there may be more to come. If anyone in Council property is experiencing water ingress or damp (or worse) which is not being attended to, do please let me know.

At a meeting of the Board of Orkney Ferries Ltd, we were informed that at the beginning of 2023 it will become a legal requirement for all passengers to be booked on the ferries. Therefore, it was agreed that, given the urgency, it would be wiser to devote time and resources to getting the necessary new booking system (with text messaging capability) up and running, rather than diverting effort into trying to implement a provisional text messaging service in the interim. Instructions on alternative notification services can be found on the Orkney Ferries website under the "Orkney Ferries News" tab. *(continued on next page)*  Whereas I support Council Leader, James Stockan's "open letter" to the First Minister, it disappoints me that he did not distribute it more widely. I am not convinced that many people in influential positions are avid readers of *The Orcadian* ! The letter addresses 3 areas of unfairness in the way Orkney is treated in the Scottish Government's "Fairer Scotland":

- 1) Lower per-head funding for Orkney compared to other island authorities (referred to in my *Letter* last October, issue 105);
- 2) Ferries need I say more?
- 3) Digital connectivity despite R100 ("reaching 100%"), Orkney is being left with the lowest level of coverage in Scotland.

The full open letter can be found on the OIC website at: <u>https://www.orkney.gov.uk/</u> <u>News?postid=5083</u>

I can also report that the Highlands & Islands Leaders' Group is calling on the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy to end the legacy electricity distribution charges that consumers in this region are saddled with. It is a supreme irony that, while we are net exporters of "green" energy to the rest of the UK, we pay the most per kWh for our power.

At a meeting of the Orkney College Management Council, we received an excellent College Housing Report by student reps Duncan Foxley & Francesca Meneghetti. Unlike many councillors, they fully appreciate the need for student accommodation if further and higher education are to thrive in Orkney. I've helped them understand the (often insurmountable) challenges Outer Isles students encounter when they want to attend courses at Orkney College and have nowhere to stay overnight in the town. If re-elected in May, I shall be working hard to overcome the stifling attitude towards Orkney College that is endemic at OIC.

Other meetings I have attended "virtually" this month include: a seminar on tourism infrastructure; Education, Leisure & Housing Committee; a budget seminar; and Monitoring & Audit Committee. The community council meetings I have "been at" are those of Sanday (in person), North Ronaldsay, Westray, Shapinsay (reported in *The Orcadian*), Papay, and Eday.

Many of you will have stayed at the Kirkwall Red Cross Hostel for medical-related reasons overnight or longer term. Currently, the Hostel is temporarily closed and is under review. Losing this facility would be a big blow for folk in the Isles, therefore, I urge everyone to leave messages of support at: <u>https://www.redcross.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/complaints-and-comments</u>

Although the pandemic restrictions have eased considerably, Covid-19 has not gone way. There have been recent spikes in infection rates in Orkney. So please take care everyone.



Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson, West Manse, Sanday <u>stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk</u> You can download *Letter from School Place* from <u>lfsp.pbworks.com</u>

# **RECENT BIRD SIGHTINGS**

'Bird of the Month' as February draws to an end was a 'first winter' Glaucous Gull at the Hill o' Roo on the 7th, having just had a bath on the Blan Loch on the other side of the road. (See photo – broken feather protruding in the tail area). Large gulls often follow this procedure but never bathe on the loch in large numbers.

A female Chaffinch is still visiting the garden here at Castle and the over-wintering Robin gives a burst of song occasionally. The tame Blackbird reared at Greenfield is still thriving here and has – unlike a few House Sparrows – avoided the marauding Sparrow-hawk which visits the area regularly. Several birds of prey have been seen on and off – 2 or 3 Merlins and at least 3 Hen Harriers, including at least one – black, white, and grey, adult male.

A few Fieldfares and Redwings (more of the former) were present until mid-month but most seem to have moved on. 'Where to?' is the question! Oystercatcher numbers have been building up in the last two weeks and Shelduck have arrived in good numbers – 21 on the Bu Loch earlier today (20th). Duck numbers have risen too, with 120 birds of mixed species (mainly Teal, Wigeon and Mallard) also on 20th. A few Pintail have also been recorded at Matpow where they bred in former years and a few Whooper swans have been seen at several sites, whilst at the other end of the spectrum Ravens have been recorded in larger than average numbers recently. Sad to say, Curlew and Golden Plover numbers have dropped since the New Year coinciding with a noticeable – and worrying increase in the numbers of Greylag Geese which are beginning to 'pair up' throughout the island.



The 1st winter Glaucous Gull 'drying out' on the Hill o' Roo. Note the white outer-wing feathers.



An adult Glaucous Gull about to 'bathe' at the Blan Loch several years ago. Note the all white plumage.

#### Records of a Bygone Age Souvenirs - The Pirate John Gow's boat tiller? Part 2

In last month's 'Limpet' we left John Gow and 9 of his shipmates languishing in a London jail awaiting their fate. The story goes on.....

On 11<sup>th</sup> June 1725, sentence was carried out at Execution Dock at Wapping where Gow and his shipmates were hung. In a bizarre twist to this tale, it appears that Gow was slow to die and, after four minutes, one of his executioners grabbed Gow's legs and pulled in an effort to hasten his end. At this point the rope broke and Gow fell to the ground, still alive and quite sensible, whereupon he had to again climb the ladder to the scaffold to be hung for a second time!

James Fea was, quite rightly, rewarded well for his efforts, receiving £1,000 from the Government for his capture of the pirates, an additional £300 for the salvage of the Revenge and her cargo and a further £400 from the grateful Merchants of London. With this fame and resulting windfall also came unpopularity, due in some part to jealousy but thought in the main to be due to his active support for the Jacobites and their cause. A number of court cases were brought against James Fea, all of which had to be defended at his own expense and which saw his fortune almost completely disappear. Some years later, due to his active support of the Jacobite Prince Charles Edward Stewart, Fea was forced into hiding and his house of Sound on Shapinsay burnt to the ground.



<section-header>AN A C C C O U N T Of THE A conduct and Proceedings of the late John Goge aliae Switch, Canasa of the late John Goge aliae Switch, Canasa of the late B A A A C C O C A Commond so MURTHER and PIRACY MURTHER

The Odin Stone, sadly long gone.

The title page of Defoe's 'Pirate Gow'

That could well have been the end of the story, with John Gow and his failed efforts as a pirate fading into obscurity, but this wasn't to be; Daniel Defoe came to hear of Gow's tale and took a great interest in it, publishing a book, 'The Pirate Gow', loosely based on Gow's exploits. This book was published in late 1725, the year of Gow's execution, and it was to help keep Gow's name and exploits alive.

Almost 100 years later, it was again Gow who inspired a book, this time the novel 'The Pirate' by Sir Walter Scott. This book was set in Orkney and Shetland and the main character in this book, Captain Cleveland, was loosely based on Gow and his activities. Published in 1822, 'The Pirate' was in its turn the inspiration for another book, again almost 100 years later!

(continued on next page)

In 1912 Allan Fea, a historian with Orkney connections, was to look at the fictional character of 'Captain Cleveland' and go on to tell the true story of Gow, along with some of the history of the Fea family, in his book 'The Real Captain Cleveland'. Paying little attention to Defoe's 'The Pirate Gow' and basing the title of his book on Sir Walter's fictional and fanciful account of Captain Cleveland, Allan Fea relied on historical research and records of the time to put together the story of the real John Gow's exploits, capture and death.

This at last moves me on to my own tentative connection to John Gow! When my parents bought the farm of Midgarth from the Tait family in 1948, one of the items left in the farmhouse was an intricately carved oak tiller just over a metre long (a tiller being the lever fitted to the top of the rudder on a small boat and used for steering) which, so local folklore maintained, was off the longboat belonging to John Gow the pirate's sailing ship the Revenge and possibly brought to Stronsay as a souvenir by James Fea or one of his servants or relations. It has survived the years well, despite being involved in a dispute some years ago between a school friend and me which resulted in it being snapped in halves! Fortunately, it was easily repaired.



The oak tiller, reputedly from Pirate Gow's longboat

Many years ago it was sent in to the Stromness Museum to be displayed as part of an exhibition about John Gow and, while there, generated some interest with Bryce Wilson, the curator at the time. Due to the carving of a dog's head (possibly a greyhound's) on the end of the tiller, he thought it may well have belonged to HMS Greyhound and been left behind by the ship's crew or acquired by one of the islanders when the pirates were taken to London – probably a more likely but much less exciting story. We shall likely never know for sure!

Ian Cooper February 2022

# 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  $\pounds 10$  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

# HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

Send an email to <u>editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u> or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page

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

# **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.

# 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, Scottish Borders)

# **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

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# FOR SALE, WANTED, THANK YOU, etc

# **BUILDING PLOTS FOR SALE**

2 Building plots, Whitehall Village, Stronsay, Orkney

 $\pm 35$ K 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

For further information about the sites please contact

- Sharon at Orkney Property Centre, Kirkwall on 01856 877866 or
- Dianne & Paul on 07785111126 or
- email <u>drileymoore@hotmail.com</u>

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









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Hello Stronsay Business Owners,

I will be updating the business information (local services/arts and crafts) on the Visit Stronsay website next week, so if you could take a look at what is listed for your business on the website www.visitstronsay.com and send me any updates (new photo, different opening hours, etc.) by **28 February**, that would be much appreciated.

Please use webmaster@visitstronsay.com to contact me.

If I don't hear from you by Monday, 28 February, I'll just assume that everything is fine and leave things as they are—so, no need to contact me if there are no changes.

If your business is not listed on the site and you would like for it to be, please send (via the email address above) one photo and basic information about how visitors can find and contact you.

Thank you all in advance! Jennifer



<u>Local</u> 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



# Stronsay Development Trust need

# Part Time staff

As the Trust takes forward the community ownership of the Hotel and moves on to the next stage of community management we want to have as little disruption as possible. To this end we are looking for staff to take on a number of roles as soon as we take ownership until the management committee are in a position to offer permanent positions

# We are looking for Chef Bar Staff Cleaner Kitchen staff

Our goal is to support the community to continue to serve the Hotel, bar and restaurant patrons as we transition into new territory. We hope to have completed on the over the coming weeks and have little to no closure at that time, if you are interested in any of the roles or want more information please get in touch to express interest and discuss the application process.

> Please call 01857 616410, email <u>stronsayhotel@gmail.com</u> or <u>cdostronsay@gmail.com</u> or drop into the office at woods yard for a chat.

<u>Local</u> 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



## **STRONSAY HOTEL**

Phone 01857 616213, email 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, <u>Bar open 5pm to 11pm (last orders 10:30pm)</u>. Takeaway 5pm to 7pm
- Sat, <u>Bar open 5pm to 11pm (last orders 10:30pm)</u>. 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
	£5.50 £6.50
Battered haddock +chips	
Breaded wholetail scampi + chips	
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 $60p$	

Local business adverts are free!

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# **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

# **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 <u>williams778@btinernet.com</u>

# HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

Send an email to <u>editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u> or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*.

# **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.

Local business adverts are free!

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# Marion Miller Jewellery

Unique Jewellery inspired by the sea and shore. Designed and handmade on the island of Stronsay, Orkney www.marionmillerjewellery.com Tel 07919550943 E-mail marionmillerjewellery@gmail.com

<u>Local</u> 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

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Traditionally hand-crafted in Stronsay—soaps, solid shampoo bars, conditioner bars and balms. Hand-spun and hand-dyed yarns from Orkney fleeces, woven throws, wallhangings and more. Orkney Star Island Soap, Isles View, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AG. Tel: (+44) 01857 616 281 Email: info@orkneystarislandsoap.co.uk Web: http://www.orkneystarislandsoap.co.uk Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/orkney.star.island.soap



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

# 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 <u>stronsaymarkets@gmail.com</u> and 1 can add you to the regular list of available produce

See Stronsay Markets on YouTube https://youtu.be/8e6sz\_Z2eQU

<u>Local</u> 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

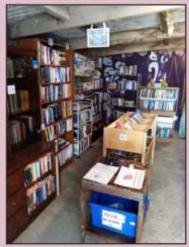
# The Book Nook

# Orcadía, 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

# **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

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# 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

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









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 <u>buy</u> on Facebook @orkneywyrdweaver Email – thewyrdweaver@btinternet.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

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- 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 <u>oldmanse.kildary@btinternet.com</u> Web <u>www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk</u>

<u>Local</u> 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



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.

# HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

Send an email to <u>editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u> 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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# **STRONSAY FIRE BRIGADE**

On Saturday 19 February 2022 Stronsay Fire brigade presented Ian Cooper with a gift of a fire axe in recognition of the 40+ years service that he gave to the island. Enjoy your retirement Ian!





### **DEVELOPMENT UPDATES**

#### **Stronsay Defib Appeal**

The Appeal has been a fantastic opportunity for the community to raise funds to support three public accessible defibrillators (AED) on the Island. The response has been amazing, and the initial target has been surpassed, and we are happy to say that the defibrillators (AED) have now been ordered. Work is beginning on the refurbishment of the telephone kiosks and several AED training sessions for the community are being organized, we ask that anyone wanting to attend please register your interest now with the Trust, we hope to make training and awareness open to everyone but spaces on these initial sessions will be limited.

The equipment is very easy to use, and should you need to call 999 the ambulance service operator will normally stay on the telephone to assist you. The modern AED equipment is also designed to talk to you or show you and tell you what to do. You cannot make a mistake when using an AED – just follow the instructions being given. However, training is desirable, particularly to create confidence in the community, learn CPR, and to understand the processes. Training in correct CPR technique is also invaluable.

Fundraising remains open with the need for continued maintenance and replacement parts etc. in the future. Additionally, as the fundraising has been so successful, we are looking at a fourth location to fully support the whole island with equal access and will update you as that progresses.

#### **Stronsay Hotel**

After the successful funding award from the Scottish Land Fund the Trust are close to completing on the purchase of the Hotel and looking at then next phase of community ownership and management.

There are still temporary positions available that will bring potential long-term opportunities as we move into the new community management, these positions include kitchen, bar and cleaning, if you are interested or want to know more please get in touch with the Trust office.

We hope to be able to announce the completion of sale and next steps shortly and plan for a full community consultation at the upcoming Trust AGM. *(continued on next page)* 

#### **Stronsay Health Matters**

With the Successful funding award from the Healthy Islands Fund the Trust will be purchasing equipment to support sports, sea sports and fitness provision on the Island. This phase of the Project which supports our Islands wellbeing project will have a focus on accessibility.

Physical and financial challenges should not be a barrier to access the current or future provisions here in our community and we hope to look at ways of overcoming some of these challenges.

We will be establishing a sub committee to oversee the ongoing development of the Stronsay Health matters project and ask that anyone interested get in touch to discuss opportunities to be involved.

We have several sporting activities coming up including the North Isles sports as well as the Island Games coming to Orkney in 2025 and will look to these for inspiration to run activities including football, netball, hockey, archery, boules and more. We are also lucky to have a number of opportunities to access fitness classes and the Healthy Living center and we hope to work with individuals, local authority and businesses to expand the current provision and support the growing needs of our residents.

#### **Community Greenhouse**

A well-used and enjoyed community asset that has been supporting home grown produce for a number of years is hoping to expand and refurbish over the coming months and will provide a number of opportunities for new plot holders to grow and explore growing options as well as community composting. The recent weather along with the age, wear and tear has had an impact on the current greenhouse and we will be looking at repairing the main door and frame and at the same time making the site more physically accessible to all.

Plots will be available from April in the current greenhouse, and anyone interested in taking on a plot is asked to get in touch to register interest and find out more. We are also hoping to make additional outdoor allotments available and are looking for anyone that may be interested to get in touch to discuss.

#### **Wellbeing Project**

The Wellbeing project continues to support both individuals and groups across the Island and with the current funded period coming to an end in March 2022 we are optimistic that funding will again be granted and will update as soon as possible.

We hope to begin and continue a number of group activities and community clubs as part of the Stronsay Health Matters project including but not limited to football, cycling, running and walking, anyone interested in joining or finding out more are encouraged to contact the wellbeing coordinator through the Trust office.

(concluded on next page)

Additionally, we are looking at a number of initiatives to support services to the Island including chiropody and are grateful for the work that Yvonne Weaver has been doing to support this and hope to be able to announce more on this in the near future

As always we welcome any ideas, suggestions and feedback on any existing project or future projects

#### Contact us

In person at the office:	Unit 1, Woods Yard
By Phone:	01857 616410
Email:	<u>cdostronsay@gmail.com</u> <u>sdtwellbeing@gmail.com</u>
Facebook:	<u>Stronsay Waste matters</u> <u>Stronsay Island Wellbeing</u> <u>Stronsay Community Greenhouse</u>





# **Competition:** Visit Stronsay in the Wintertime

Deadline Tomorrow 21 February (11.59 pm)

First Prize: £50 cash Second Prize: £25 cash

Send your entries – maximum 5 photos, 1 page story – to: webmaster@visitstronsay.com

## **FOOD INSECURITY IN ORKNEY**

We are currently leading a piece of work identifying the actions needed to reduce food insecurity in Orkney. As part of this, we have two community events at the start of March - open to everybody - whether you have experienced food insecurity or not.

Really important the community are involved throughout so please do sign-up if you have ideas and experiences to share:- <u>www.vaorkney.org.uk/food</u>. *Harry Johnson, VAO Orkney* 



# FLOCK HEALTH CLUB

A HEALTHY FLOCK IS A PRODUCTIVE FLOCK

# THE AIMS OF THE HEALTH CLUB ARE:

- To provide advice to members regarding their flock health.
- To gather data to benchmark the flock and identify problem areas.
- To increase flock productivity by planning preventative treatments through the year to reduce losses.
- To create a community of like-minded sheep farmers, for mutual advice and support.



For more information: - phone 01856 873403 - email info@northvet.co.uk - speak to our vets GREAT VALUE! Annual membership: £180 (or £15/month)

#### WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- 2 x vet visits per year - health plan visit & pre-lambing visit
- Free participation to members' only events
- Discount on Faecal Egg Counts (10%)
- Discount on fees (10%)
- Flock- tailored parasite control plan



# **STRONSAY STITCHERS**



An informal group which meets monthly to do our own stitchy projects. Thursday 24th February & Thursday 31st March 7.00pm-9.30pm, Church Hall, £2/person. Please bring own refreshments.

# **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 <u>https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/mobile-library</u>, email <u>library@orkney.gov.uk</u> or telephone 01856 873166.

Winter	Council Houses	8.45	-	9.45
	School	10	+	12
	Kirk	12.45	4	3
	Fish mart	3.15	π.	4.45
Sur	Council Houses	9.25	-	10
nme	School	10.15	-	12
Summer/Refit	Kirk	12.45	-	3
	Fish mart	3.15		5.30

#### DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE



# ISLES SPECIAL COLLECTION ROTAS

The dates for the reintroduction of restricted isles special collections up to 30 September 2022 are detailed below.

If you wish to have domestic bulky items uplifted you can apply online via the Councils Website, see link <a href="https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/Special-Refuse-Collections.htm">https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/Special-Refuse-Collections.htm</a>, if you do not have internet access then please contact Customer Services on telephone number 873535 to book. Bookings must be placed as soon as possible and up to <u>2 working days prior</u> to the week commencing collection date, any special collection bookings received after 5pm on the Wednesday prior to the week commencing collection date will not be processed and will be held over until the next available collection date.

Please note that payment for collection is required on application and prior to collection. Only items that are on the request form will be collected by the contractor.

Special collections from commercial premises can be arranged by contacting Development and Infrastructure on telephone number 873535 extension 2725.

Eday

Week Commencing: 2 May 2022 and 1 August 2022

Graemsay

Week Commencing: 23 May 2022 and 12 September 2022

Hoy and Flotta

Week Commencing: 18 April 2022, 4 July 2022 and 5 September 2022

#### North Ronaldsay

Week Commencing: 13 June 2022 and 22 August 2022

#### Papa Westray

Week Commencing: 6 June 2022 and 15 August 2022

#### Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre

Week Commencing: 9 May 2022 and 8 August 2022

#### Sanday

Week Commencing: 23 May 2022 and 22 August 2022

#### Shapinsay

Week commencing: 16 May 2022 and 22 August 2022

#### Stronsay

Week Commencing: 16 May 2022 and 25 July 2022

#### Westray

Week Commencing: 09 May 2022, 11 July 2022 and 19 September 2022

For further information on refuse and recycling services please refer to the Council's website www.orkney.gov.uk





# 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

# **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 <u>stronsay.hlc@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk</u>.
- 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

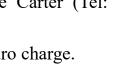
# **STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

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: <u>annemaree.carter@btinternet.com</u>)

Rooms for hire from only £2 per hour plus hydro charge. Adult supervision (over 18) must be present during hire. Find us on Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/hallcommittee</u>



# CROSSROADS ORKNEY

and

Young at Heart Permories Café

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



# **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 <u>andyrose85@btinternet.com</u> 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.

# HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Ebenezer Stores <u>stronsaystores@gmail.com</u> Olivebank <u>m.williamson1@btconnect.com</u> Stronsay Hotel <u>cjdbuk@gmail.com</u>

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

For telephone numbers see the back page of this edition.

# 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

# GOLGOTHA MONASTERY, PAPA STRONSAY DAILY STREAMING BROADCAST

There is a daily streaming broadcast from Golgotha Monastery, Papa Stronsay. <u>http://www.papastronsay.com/live</u>

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.

# **STRONSAY KIRK**

Weekly service at 11am. Minister—Rev David Locke, phone 616284. Stronsay kirk's website: <u>http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/stronsaykirk</u> Stronsay kirk's Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/1553904828107651</u>

# HOW TO CONTACT THE LIMPET

Send an email to <u>editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk</u> or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 The Manse, Stronsay KW17 2AF <u>DLocke@churchofscotland.org.uk</u> 01857 616284

#### **KIRK CORNER**





Hello again everyone.

Hope you have survived all the stormy weather? I suppose compared to some parts we have had it not too bad - ferries cancelled, groceries and work delayed, outings not achieved; but rarely life threatening? We feel for those who had it worse than us whether in Stronsay or elsewhere and help where we can. The storms of life come and are horrible when we are in them, and at

times we have to hang in there but also seek to get and share help.

We were thinking in church today about how Moses was called by God to go and help free the enslaved people of Israel from their captivity in Egypt, and ultimately lead people through the Red Sea to freedom. the service began with Louis Armstrong singing and playing the old African American spiritual, "Go down Moses", a song that inspired slaves of old in America. that God would help *them* 

When Israel was in Egypt's land,..Let my people go, oppressed so hard they could not stand, Let my people go. The Lord told Moses what to do, let my people go, to lead the Hebrew children through ..Let my people go.

*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land, tell old Pharaoh: Let my people go* The song encapsulates how God is a God who hears people's cries, cares and calls people to help set others free. It does not need amazing faith or ability to do something in the storms of life. Moses had some faith but lots of doubts and weakness just like us. Yet God encouraged, challenged and helped Moses to go, speak up and act to help others; as He can us today. The God of old still is the God of today who can challenge, encourage and help ordinary people with their own mixture of faith and doubts, move forward through troubles, and help others: especially when we work together and seek God's help. I feel for the people of Ukraine and the storm they face from Russia and Mr Putin. It is scary what might happen for Ukraine and the repercussions for world peace. World War 2 reminds us there are times we must speak up and act for the sake of peace of others, but I pray that the time for war is not now. Moses reminds us that sometimes God helps people escape conflict, but it needs people to speak up : Let my people go. I will keep praying for the people of Ukraine and that common sense will prevail. *(concluded on next page)* 

Ultimately God sent his son Jesus to be on the side of the oppressed and outcast, on the side of ordinary people with some faith and lots of uncertainties and doubts. Friends once brought a paralysed man to Jesus who healed him both spiritually and physically, and we saw how in Jesus, God wants to set people free of more than just physical chains. That help is still available : Jesus comes to help us set people free of all that drags us down. If you would like to explore your questions, doubts, uncertainties with others, a cross-Orkney online chat group is being established by Rev Julia Meason of Kirkwall East church, to read through the bible Gospel of Luke and chat with others about it weekly online by zoom. It will be on either a Monday or Thursday evenings at 8pm during the weeks of Lent before Easter, starting after 2nd March. If you are interested in joining with a few more from Stronsay in this group, please let me know. Its not meant to be for experts, just ordinary folk chatting in an online group, where you can be as silent as you want and ask any question you like.

May God's Peace be with you and others

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

# **USEFUL INFORMATION POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES etc**

Monday to Saturday	8:30am—5:00pm
Sunday	Closed
Post collection times	07:30, Monday to Saturday
Special collection.	16 May 2022and 25 July 2022
Island Link Officer	Fishmart office 10 to 12 on Tue, Thu & Sat. Phone 616475
SDT Office	Wood's Yard 10am - 11am Mon-Fri. Phone 616410
Sunday service at the Kirk	Weekly service at 11am
Our Lady's Chapel, pier head	Mass: Sun & holidays 11am, Tue 8am, other days 11.20am
Weekly rubbish collection	Tuesday (bags out by <b>8am</b> but <u><i>not</i></u> on the night before!)
Recycling skips nearly full?	Send email to at <u>recycling@orkney.gov.uk</u>

#### **EMERGENCY!** POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE or COASTGUARD - dial 999

Airy Fairy 616231
1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m j 1 m
Castle Bird Reserve 616363
Companions Club 616352
Craftship Enterprise 616249
Doctor 616321
Ebenezer stores 616339
Electrician (Dave) 616230
or 07917 191 797
Fish Mart 616401
Hairdresser 616337
Hall bookings 616263 or
Email: <u>annemaree.carter@btinternet.com</u>
Highland Fuels 01856 873766
Island Link Officer 616475
Kirk secretary 616238
Limpet editor 616297
Medical emergency 616321
Neil's on Wheels 07723 304 260
Manse 616284
Nurses
Olivebank 616255
OIC out of hours 01856 873535
Post Office 616499
Red House Plants 616377
Registrar 616239
School 616246
Scottish Fuels 01856 873105

Silver Darlings 616412
Star Island Soap 616281
SDT office
Stronsay Band
Stronsay Hotel 616213
Taxi 616335
Stranded seals, etc 616207/206/498
Balfour hospital (24/7)01856 888000
Electricity
general enquiries 0800 048 3516
lines open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
problems $(24/7)$ 0800 300 999
power cut $(24/7)$ 105
Water problems (24/7) 0800 0778 778
Highland Fuels 01856 873766
Kirkwall Library 01856 873166
Kirkwall Police (24/7) 101
Vets:
Flett & Carmichael . 01856 872859
Northvet 01856 873403
Dentists:
Orkney Dental 01856 872030
King Štreet 01856 888258
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