



# STRONSAY LIMPET

FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST  
ISSUE 32 JANUARY



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## THE WRIGLEY SISTER'S VISIT TO STRONSAY

On Sunday 30th December Rothiesholm was crowded with at least eight people enjoying the sunshine. Visions of Blackpool in the 1950's came to mind before everybody went abroad to find the sun. It was an invigorating day and worth delaying lunch to enjoy the weather. The same could not be said of Thursday 3rd January. The first real snow of winter had fallen further South with the usual chaos to the road systems. The railways were not working either which added to the general feeling of misery. The ferries between Aberdeen and Shetland were cancelled or rerouted but our trusty ferry arrived on time in the evening. On board were two sisters who would brighten our evening if we braved the weather to go and see them in the Kirk hall. The Wrigley Sisters had arrived!

By some miracle of heating engineering the hall was warm, when not standing on the lino on the stage (so one of the sisters reported to us during the evening). Heaters all around the hall were working really well, so the atmosphere was warm both physically and emotionally.

We were treated to the fun of jigs and reels and items such as the Stronsay waltz (with a little fiddled variations). With closed eyes we enjoyed the poignancy of the Orca composition as a further privilege of attending the evening.

The fact that there was five minutes difference in age between the two sisters when one enjoyed her own room and the other her own womb, together with other stories concerning the background to the composition of the songs ensured that the evening was not without humour.

We looked forward to a workshop in the afternoon of Friday 5th January where musicians of all abilities (and none) were able to share in the sister's expertise. We are blessed with an embarrassment of talent in the younger generation on the island. (I can say that and include everybody who came!)



Picture by Hazel Shearer

The sister's enthusiasm was infectious and I was certainly encouraged to try to start strumming again after twenty years or so break. Thanks to all mums, dads, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters who made transport of people and instruments possible for a truly enjoyable afternoon. Thank you to Jennifer George who took on much of the organisation. Finally thank you to the Wrigley sister's for taking the time to visit our island.

David Bowen

## THE LIMPETS VISITOR.

The limpets woke to the usual sound as they thought of mermaids singing as they combed their hair in the first rays of early morning sunshine. They stretched and opened their eyes to an empty beach not a mermaid in sight so where was the singing coming from also now and again a tapping sounded out in tune. It was decided not to wake Great granny and Grandad limpet for their advise but that uncle Percy limpet being next oldest would go and investigate. He took his stick and made his way along the rocks to a high point where he could see a large coloured ball bobbing up and down and being pushed further and further into the shore by the tide. The song was one he did not recognize at all there was a humming and a tapping and a sound like someone singing holding their nose some of the words sung were about a Kangaroo, a long dusty road and hot sun, well uncle Percy had not heard a song like this not in Orkney he was curious and called out hello who's there. Good day to you came the reply do you think you could find a way of pushing me back out to sea as I am sailing round the world in this old ball and I seem to have run aground. A flap in the ball opened and out popped a small mouse his whiskers twinkled in the sun light he had a funny looking hat on with corks dangling around it. Would you care to step aboard I will show you around. The mouse had everything he needed for the voyage plenty of cheese a warm cosy bed of sheep's wool and a bottle containing rain water he had collected. He told tales of how he had always wanted to see the world and had set sail many weeks before going where ever the tide had taken him. He had had an awful scare when dolphins had played a game tossing him high up out of the sea and of stormy seas when he felt like he was on a roller coaster ride. I am very pleased to meet you he said I will have a quick nap then do you think you could get me back out to sea. Uncle Percy knew just the friend that could help and soon had arranged this he told all the limpets to come and wave farewell as a seal pushed the ball back out to sea. They watched until they could no longer see the ball or hear the song of the Kangaroo.

BY CHRISTINE RICHINGS.

### QUIZ

1. What do coin collectors call the head side of a coin?
2. Which mountain was the home of the Greek gods?
3. Which six-letter word means the opposite of transparent?
4. Which sport involves the use of a map and a compass?
5. What name is given to the study of birds?
6. What name is given to the piece of music that opens an opera?
7. Which animal has a name that, in Malay, literally means 'old man of the woods'?
8. Which animal is the only marsupial native to the Americas?
9. What is the last letter of the Greek alphabet?
10. Which four-letter word is the name of a kiln in which hops are dried?

ANSWERS BELOW

8. Opossum 9. Omega 10. Oast  
1. Obverse 2. Olympus 3. Opaque 4. Orientating 5. Ornithology 6. Overture 7. Orang-utan

### SANTA FLOAT

On Saturday 22nd December Santa made his way through the village on the games club Santa float. The float was beautifully decorated with flashing lights and tinsel and accompanied by Christmas music. A good crowd had gathered in the village and Santa gave out sweets to the children as he traveled along on his sledge. Once again the games club children had decided to donate any money collected to Macmillan cancer relief. The total came to £122.18, thank you to you all! Santa then made his way to the hotel where Allen and Carol had prepared hot dog rolls, crisps and sweets for everyone, this helped warm everyone up ready for the community carol singing led by Gaynor and Mike.

A raffle for a signed Aberdeen football top and ball was held by the hotel (drawn on Hogmanay at the hall) which took in the fantastic sum of £ 215 for Macmillan cancer relief, once again thanks to everyone!! Thanks also to Jim Holland for his yard and trailer, Steve n Yvonne for the decorating, William n Lauren for assistance, Ingram for being 'Rudolph!', the hotel for their hospitality, Gaynor n Mike, Santa and everyone who came along and supported our float!

Sheena Cooper, on behalf of Stronsay games club



**Friday 25th January 2008**  
**Stronsay Community Centre**  
**5 pm until 7.30 pm**

**S up**

**O ur**

**S oup**

**S ample**

**O ur**

**S andwiches**

The R.N.L.I. is holding a Nationwide **S O S** on Friday 25th January 2008 which will be repeated annually the object of which is to raise as much money as possible through activities with an **S O S** theme. The Stronsay Branch has decided that this year they will serve up soup and sandwiches in the Community Centre at £3 per head for adults and £2 for children. Please come along and dine with us to support this worthwhile cause. This will save Mum having to make the evening meal. There will also be raffles and quizzes etc and there will be a special raffle of a football and shirt signed by all the Aberdeen Football team All proceeds go towards training and equipping the brave men and women who man our lifeboats.

The anchor chain was stowed away in its original position, the deck washed clean of displaced mud and life returned to normal. North out of the bay they sailed keeping the harbour entrance open until they were offshore sufficiently to clear the unmarked reef of Collie rocks to the north east of the harbour then due east towards the fishing grounds. Even in the darkness there was a shadowy visibility. Far to the east Troup Head pointed its finger out into the sea. At its western base the seven white neon lights of Crovie were visible - Crovie now inhabited only by holidaymaker's and in comers, where he had spent most of his childhood holidays staying with his grandparents. Nearer at hand the orange glare of the sodium lights lit up Macduff, Banff and Whitehills. Soon the lights of Gardenstown would appear from the shelter of the looming mass of Mhor Head. Otherwise the land was dark, a silhouette against the faint luminosity of the sky. Astern the wake from the propeller showed green and white in the rays from the stern light as they sailed steadily towards the fishing grounds parallel to the coast now one mile distant. Normal routine had been re-established. The cook had come up to the wheelhouse to relieve the skipper and he and the two other crew members went down into the tiny cabin for a mug of tea. At this hour of the morning talk was sporadic. A few feet away, enclosed in its own space the three cylinder diesel thundered on smoothly making conversation difficult. Soon the skipper returned to the wheel and the cook came down for his tea. On a small boat such as this all were with the exception of the skipper, deckhands, their other roles of secondary importance. All were able to handle the fishing gear, attend to the catch, make running repairs while the business of fishing proceeded. As mate his was the overall responsibility of seeing to the smooth successful flow of work on deck, he it was who would be at the receiving end of the skippers wrath if anything hindered operations. In the meantime there was still about an hour to catch up with some extra sleep.

All too soon the steady beat of the engine slowed then speeded up again - a signal that they had reached the fishing grounds and would start to work in a few minutes time. On went the thigh length rubber boots - always worn a size too big the better to get rid of them if you ended up in the sea. On went the long oilskin frock and because there was a slight wind an oilskin souwester. Then up on deck to prepare the gear. First the net was loosened from its lashings - secured against the possibility of bad weather. The cod-end -the end of the bag where eventually the fish would end up- was tied and closed with a special slip knot which had to open at the first pull. This done the bag of netting was pulled forward ready to be thrown overboard as the net was shot. The bridles- one at either end of the net- were attached to the tickler chains-an eight to ten foot length of medium weight chain-as they would be fishing mainly for flat fish in the pre-dawn haul. The chains were then attached to the ends of the fishing warps-one from the starboard side one from the port- by shackles. In the meantime the first end of the fishing warp had been made fast to the dahn buoy - a sixteen foot long bamboo cane with a flag at its upper end, a small light fixed below the flag to see it in the dark, a special buoy with a channel through its centre - blown up to keep it securely attached to the pole and a metal cylinder of five or six pounds bolted to its bottom end so that the dhan would stand upright in the water with the flag some ten feet above the surface. An extra buoy was added about twelve metres along the warp to supply extra buoyancy in the tide. In the wheelhouse the skipper was positioning the boat for the start of shooting the gear. To one side of him the echo sounder traced out a graph of the seabed giving the depth and to the experienced the type of bottom-mud sand or rock - below. In front of the skipper was the latest technological advance - Decca navigator - a system developed during wartime but now available for commercial use. Unfortunately although extremely accurate during daylight hours, its accuracy was rather erratic around daybreak as a result of atmospheric interference. In addition to this, three or four miles to the southeast were the lights of Rosehearty - a small fishing village. Knowledge gained over the years had shown that a certain light in the village disappeared from sight - probably hidden behind one of the houses -and re-appeared at useful positions in the shooting of the gear in this area. At a word from the skipper the dhan was heaved overboard followed by the buoy and as the boat sailed on at full speed the warp leant from its coil round a heavy steel bolt standing upright in the rail and into the sea.

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by LINDA SPENDLEY PETE THE PONY GOES MISSING

November was always a quiet month. Daylight was short, and mostly, the ponies only had to work at the weekends. They were dressed up in their warm winter rugs, and turned out in the field.

Sometimes, they were taken in at night, but usually, they just gathered under the trees, and had a lovely lazy time. Mr Jones didn't like to take them in, because that meant he had to feed them, and he was really too mean to do that. If they weren't earning any money, he didn't like to spend anything on them if he didn't have to.

One day, he was very late getting home from town, and although the weather was dreadful, he really couldn't be bothered to get the ponies in. He'd had a tiring day, and anyway, they were all wearing their expensive warm rugs.

Later, Mr Jones was dozing in front of a big log fire. There was a bang. Mr Jones woke up, startled. He listened, but heard nothing. Even the wind had stopped blowing. He was just on the points of dozing off again, when, BANG. There it was again.

'Oh no,' thought Mr Jones to himself, I'd forgotten. It's Bonfire night. Should have fetched the ponies in, but it's too late now. At least it's dry outside, they'll just have to be alright.'

Anyone else would have taken a torch and gone to check. Not Mr Jones. He was far too keen on his home comforts to worry about ponies that weren't even earning their keep at the moment. What were a few bangs, anyway?

The next morning, Mr Jones didn't wake up until eight o'clock. He jumped out of bed, threw on some clothes and rushed outside. He'd just remembered that Tom, the blacksmith, was due at nine o'clock. He would have to get the ponies in quickly, or he would have to pay Tom for just standing around!

He collected a head collar, rope, and a bucket of pony nuts. As long as he was leading one pony, all the rest would follow the feed bucket. Once he had them shut in the stable yard, he would soon get them sorted out.

When he got to the field gate, he gazed in horror at the sight that met his eyes. A large section of the fence was lying flat, and although there were ponies in the field, several of them had torn rugs, and at least two of them had slight cuts on their legs. Oh dear! He really should have had them safe in their stables on Bonfire night.

There was no time to worry about it now. The ponies had to be in their stables before Tom arrived. Mr Jones caught the first available pony, opened the gate wide and led the ponies into the stable yard.

BLACKCURRANT	MOCHA
CHOCOLATE	ORANGE
COFFEE	PRUNE
CRAB	RASPBERRY
CUCUMBER	SALMON
HAZELNUT	SMOKED TROUT
LEMON	STRAWBERRY
LIME	VANILLA

B	M	R	A	B	R	A	W	B	E	R	C
L	E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C	B	M
A	N	A	L	L	I	N	A	V	A	O	R
C	U	O	M	K	O	S	M	O	C	H	A
K	R	E	S	O	E	C	R	A	B	C	S
C	P	N	M	K	M	A	L	A	H	O	P
U	R	O	O	I	N	O	M	E	L	F	B
R	E	M	K	G	L	T	B	E	R	F	E
R	B	L	E	C	U	C	U	M	B	E	R
A	M	A	D	R	A	B	C	O	C	E	R
N	W	S	T	R	A	W	B	E	R	R	Y
T	U	N	L	E	Z	A	H	C	U	T	R



**STRONSAY SWIMMING POOL**  
**THE POOL WILL BE OPEN FROM 23rd JANUARY**  
**UNTIL THE EASTER HOLIDAYS**

**WEDNESDAY 18.20 - 19.00 PRIVATE HIRE**

PHONE 616331 TO BOOK



19.00 - 19.40 PUBLIC SESSION

19.40 - 20.20 PUBLIC SESSION

20.20 - 21.00 ADULT



**THURSDAY 19.00 - 21.00 SWIM CLUB**

WHY NOT TAKE TIME OUT FOR A RELAXING SWIM  
 UNFORTUNATELY NUMBERS AT THE POOL HAVE  
 DROPPED SO IF YOU WANT TO KEEP IT OPEN IN THE  
 EVENING PLEASE COME ALONG AND USE IT



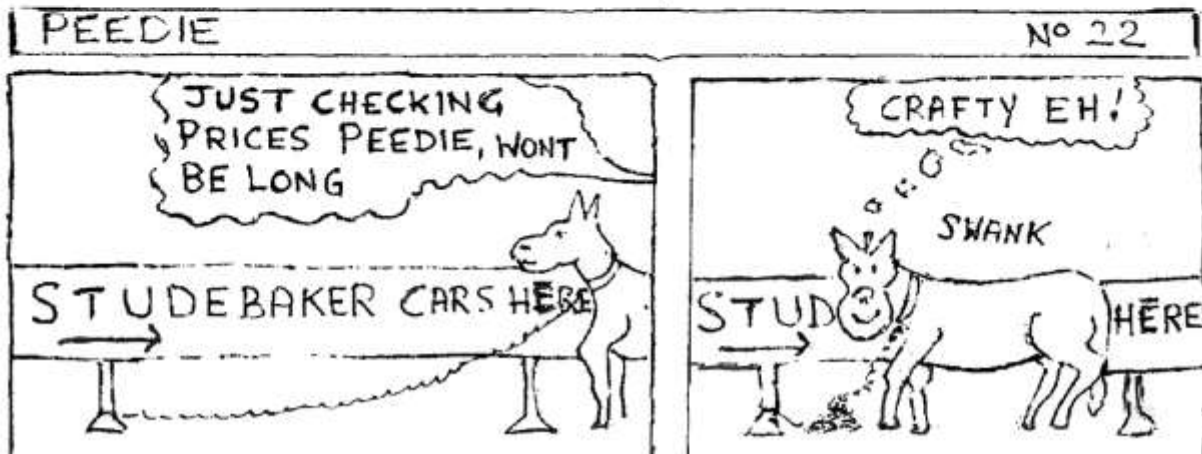
**Avon calling!!!!!! lots of bargains and special offers always available,**  
**get a book from Sheena, 616306**

**Stronsay Community Council**

Clerk: Pat Wilcox Shamrock Lea Stronsay      Tel: 616353

Need to dispose of a scrap vehicle?

- Here's what to do: 1 Request the relevant form from the Community Council Clerk
2. Complete the form and pass it with your payment to haulier when vehicle is collected from you.
  3. Your payment will be refunded to you by OIC on their receipt of relevant signed paperwork from the haulier. cost of a single journey for car Stronsay/ Kirkwall (currently £15.05)



## GROUPS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

### FRIDAY NIGHT GAMES CLUB

FRIDAY NIGHT 8.00 TILL 10.00

ENTRANCE £1

COME ALONG FOR A FUN FILLED NIGHT, AIR HOCKEY TABLE, POOL TABLE, PLAY STATION 2, NINTENDO WII & SING STAR, SNOOKER, JUICE, CRISPS AND SWEETS AVAILABLE

**YOUNGSTERS SHOULD BE PICKED UP BY 10pm AT THE LATEST**

### MOTHER & TODDLER

Meets every Thursday 9.30 until 11am

All pre school children welcome

For more information phone

Sarah 616406

### LIBRARY - REFIT TIMETABLE

NEXT VISIT MONDAY 11th FEBRUARY

Check shops for times and places

### COMPANIONS

Monday 11th February, 2pm at the Hall  
all welcome Contact Jean 616307

### VALENTINE MESSAGES

THE LIMPET WILL BE OUT AGAIN FOR THE 13th FEBRUARY IF YOU WANT TO PLACE A GREETING COULD YOU PLEASE LET US HAVE IT FOR 7th FEB IF WE GET ENOUGH WE WILL PRINT THE PAGE IN COLOUR AND DECORATE IT SO SHOW THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE THAT YOU CARE AND WE WILL DO THE REST  
£1 PER AD

### COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

New reduced rate £5 per hour for room up to £15 max plus £5 for DISCO equipment.

A DJ from the Hall list must be used.

Now available to hire.

Badminton £2 per hour + hydro

Table tennis £2 per hour + Hydro

Snooker £2 per hour + Hydro

All equipment provided

Adult supervision (over 18) must be present

During hire. Any damage must be paid for

to book. Please note that any groups or

individuals hiring the Hall require their own

Public Liability

Please claim your lost property from the

Hall as if unclaimed it will be sent to

charity

CONTACT COLIN ON 446

### STRONSAY SINGERS

Meet at the Hall every

Monday 7.30

For more information tel: 616464

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT



SIMONE

"WE TOLD YOU THE IDEA WAS FLAWED. UNLESS THAT WIFE'S A VERY SLOW KNITTER, SOMEONE'S GOING TO HAVE AN AWFULLY COLD WINTER!"

# LOCAL BUSINESSES & ADVERTS

**Stronsay**  
**Fish Mart Winter**  
 ★ **Opening Hours** ★  
**CAFÉ, HOSTEL &**  
**INTERPRETATION CENTRE**

THURSDAY 12:00 ~ 14:00

FRIDAY 17:00 ~ 19:00

SATURDAY 17:00 ~ 19:00

SUNDAY 12.00 ~ 14.00

& 17.00 ~ 19.00

TEL 616386



**STRONSAY ARTWORKS**

Original paintings of Stronsay Landscape;  
 Limited edition prints, greetings cards and  
 postcards which are available for sale at local  
 shops, Post Office,  
 Hotel, B&B's and the Fishmart.  
 Commissions taken. Tel. Jenny 616282

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For all your electrical & Plumbing needs  
 Contact John at 11 Whitehall  
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**WASHING MACHINE**  
**(WORKING)**  
**PHONE YVONNE 616375**

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Personalised birthday, Christmas & get well  
 cards with your own special message or pho-  
 tograph. Business /Invitation cards. You name  
 it! Tell me what you want & I'll supply it.

call

Bill Miller 616420

PRIVATE ADVERTS, SALES  
 OR GREETINGS UP TO 25 WORDS £1,  
 25 WORD ADVERT WITH PHOTO £2, 25  
 TO 50 WORDS £2 AND SO ON.

LOST AND FOUND FREE  
 CHARITY FUND RAISING ADVERTS  
 FREE TO BE PLACED BY

16th NOVEMBER

YVONNE, AT KNUGDALE HEATHER  
 616453. EMAIL hfazak@btinternet.com

Letters to Lower Leaquoy.

**Due to relocation**

**WHITE KNIGHT**

**ELECTRICAL SERVICES**

**IS NO LONGER TRADING ON**  
**STRONSAY**

**UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
**(for repairs under warranty only**  
**tel: 07740104329)**

**STRONSAY**  
**FISH MART CAFÉ**

**Sunday Roasts**

**NOW AVAILABLE**

Roast Lamb , Roast Chicken  
 or Beef with tatties, peas,  
 carrots, Yorkshire pudding &  
 gravy. £6.95

Bookings Advisable.

01857 616386

**SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE LIMPET**

12 MONTHLY @ £9,00 WHICH INCLUDES POSTAGE AND PACKING FOR FRIEND OR FAMILY LIVING AWAY. WHY NOT SEND A SUBSCRIPTION TO A FRIEND OR RELATIVE FOR A BIRTHDAY PRESENT.

IF YOUR GROUP OR ORGANIZATION IS HAVING AN EVENT OR THERE IS ANYTHING GOING ON WHY NOT TELL US SO WE CAN TELL STRONSAY. NO EVENT IS TOO SMALL OR INSIGNIFICANT, WE ARE TRYING TO GIVE OUT LOCAL INFORMATION BUT CANNOT DO IT UNLESS **YOU TELL US. HAVE YOU GOT A STORY OR A POEM OR OLD PHOTO'S OF STRONSAY TO SHARE, DON'T BE SHY.** IF SO PLEEEASE CONTACT YVONNE, 375 OR HEATHER 453 OR EMAIL US ON hfazak@btinternet.com OR BY LETTER TO LOWER LEAQUOY.

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

<b>DOCTORS</b>	<b>616321/308</b>	<b>B&amp;B AIRY</b>	<b>616372</b>
<b>NURSES</b>	<b>616453/232</b>	<b>LIBRARY</b>	<b>01856873166</b>
<b>HYDRO</b>	<b>0800300999</b>	<b>COMPANIONS</b>	<b>616307</b>
<b>BALFOUR HOSPITAL</b>	<b>01856888000</b>	<b>GALA</b>	<b>616463/339</b>
<b>DENTIST KING STREET</b>	<b>01856875348</b>	<b>REGISTRAR</b>	<b>616239</b>
<b>VET - FLETT &amp; CARMICHAEL</b>	<b>01856872859</b>	<b>FISHMART</b>	<b>616386</b>
<b>VET - NORTHVET</b>	<b>01856873403</b>	<b>HALL BOOKINGS</b>	<b>616446</b>
<b>KIRK</b>	<b>616311</b>	<b>POST OFFICE</b>	<b>616217</b>
<b>STRONSAY HOTEL</b>	<b>616213</b>	<b>SPECIAL CONSTABLE</b>	<b>616216</b>
<b>MAURICE'S</b>	<b>616255</b>	<b>STRONSAY LIMPET</b>	<b>616375/453</b>
<b>EBENEZER STORES</b>	<b>616339</b>	<b>DENTIST GT WESTERN RD</b>	<b>01856879683</b>

**USEFUL INFO AND DATES**

**POST OFFICE TIMES- MON & THURS 9am-4pm**

**TUE, WED, FRI & SAT 9am-1pm**

**RE PLACEMENT BIN BAGS TEL: 01856 873535**

**SUNDAY SERVICE AT THE KIRK SUNDAY 11am**

**OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIER HEAD. - DAILY MASSES 7am SUNDAY 9am**

**NEXT SPECIAL RUBBISH COLLECTION FEBRUARY 14th**

**UP TO 5 ITEMS £11.75 6 ITEMS TO FULL PICK UP**

**LOAD £54.64 LORRY LOAD £108.69 ??????????????????**

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS PURCHASED OUR CALENDAR  
WE HAVE SOLD IN THE REGION OF 200!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
WHICH WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY GIVE US THE CHANCE OF UPGRADING  
OUR PRINTER AFTER PRINTING COSTS HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT  
MANY THANKS AGAIN.**

**Next issue out FEBRUARY 13th 2008 All adverts & events by 7th**

The Stronsay Development Trust, A Scottish Charity SC038888 .

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

Supported in its activities by HIE Orkney, Orkney Islands Council,

Communities Scotland, The Crofters Commission and

Orkney Community Planning Partnership.