

STRONSAY LIMPET

FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

ISSUE 99 - September 2013

Published on the last Thursday of the month



THE BASSHAM'S ARE GOING HOME.....

Rodger and Marlene, and Emily, are feeling quite sad to leave so many friends behind after being on Stronsay/Eday for three months. It has been a wonderful time for us, engaging with the church and community, and exploring the beautiful scenery of Orkney. It has been a marvellous period of sunshine and rain, long warm days and fresh breezes, with only a hint of the storms which we know you have during the Winter season. We have enjoyed walking on the beaches, seeing the dramatic scenery of cliffs and rocky outcrops, and being enthralled by the marvellous archaeological sites on Stronsay and Eday. On the mainland: the stunning sights at Skara Brae, the Ring of Brodgar and the mysterious wonder of Maeshowe.

The Orkney community has special qualities we appreciated: many friendly waves as we traveled by bikes or walked; frequent offers of rides to get us where we needed to go; and the busy harvest period as farmers harvested silage, bales of hay, and grain needed for the long winter months. And what delightful crops from the greenhouses at the Manse and the Community garden.

We have enjoyed the experience of worship with you in the Kirks of Stronsay, Eday and Kirkwall; times of fellowship at film nights and Bible study, over meals and coffee with many of you, and talking about our lives over the visits in your homes. The times of celebration: involving the Lifeboat, at the wedding we attended, parties and birthdays, are all memories we will treasure!

Our daughters Jane and Ann were also glad to have the opportunity to share with us and you in Orkney. It has been a great time for all of us—thank you!

We have many photos to remind us of this precious time, which will help us share this experience with others when we get home in October, after travelling back through the USA and Canada.

Please keep in touch if you wish—by email at marrod@picknowl.com.au, or by mail at PO Box 3, Middleton SA 5213, Australia.

FLU IMMUNISATION

Like last year everyone over 67 years old, all pregnant women and all those with chronic illness will be invited. Extra for this year is an invitation to all 2 year old and 3 year olds. All children can now have the immunisation by nose spray, avoiding a needle. Supplies have not yet reached Stronsay but notices will go up in the shops as soon as we can start the annual protection programme.

The next edition of the [*Limpet*](#) will be published on Thu 31 Oct. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on Sun 27 Oct. Contact details on back page



FUEL POVERTY GRANT APPLICATION FORM
STRONSAY COMMUNITY FUND

**PLEASE NOTE THAT APPLICATION FORMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE
POST OFFICE.**

Please read this document so you know what it is for and who it is for!!

SDT objective

To relieve poverty particularly among the residents of the Community.

Scottish Fuel Poverty Statement.

*The definition of fuel poverty in Scotland is:

‘A household is in fuel poverty if, in order to maintain a satisfactory heating regime, it would be required to spend more than 10% of its income (including Housing Benefit or Income Support for Mortgage Interest) on all household fuel use.’

The Stronsay Development Trust has approved a proposal to help relieve poverty by providing financial assistance towards home electricity costs.

Grant of £150 subject to annual review

Paid directly to the domestic electricity provider via the account or key card.

Grants not available for businesses, second homes or holiday lets.

Applicants must be the bill payer and must be eligible to be SDT members.

One application per bill payer

The domestic electricity bill payer will sign the application form to confirm they are in fuel poverty*. No means testing will be carried out by the Trust to confirm this is the case as the Trust believes that by signing the declaration applicants take on the responsibility to be truthful.

**ALL APPLICATIONS WILL NEED TO BE SUBMITTED BY POST BY 5PM ON
THE 31st OCTOBER 2013 TO:**

SDT , UNIT 1, WOODS YARD ,STRONSAY, ORKNEY. KW17 2AR.

(Application form on reverse of this page)



Date received
Reference number
Board minute date

STRONSAY COMMUNITY FUND
FUEL POVERTY GRANT

In confidence
One grant per applicant

Subject to board approval and annual review, £150 will be paid directly to the applicant's domestic electricity provider.

Name of applicant (bill payer).....

Address.....

.....

Electricity provider.....

I have enclosed a copy of my last domestic electricity bill/statement.

Declaration:

I confirm that in order to maintain a satisfactory heating regime, I am required to spend more than 10% of my income (including Housing benefit or income support for mortgage interest) on all household fuel use.

I am eligible to be a member of Stronsay Development Trust

Signed by applicantDate.....

PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION BY 31/10/13 TO:
SDT, UNIT 1, WOODS YARD, STRONSAY.KW17 2AR

SEX AMONG THE BUMBLEBEES

Quite a few people have responded to my bumblebee piece last month and we're hoping, over the following months, to work to provide more food and, where necessary, shelter for our bumble population.

I took this photo in my garden the other day and I think these bumbles are mating. I've never managed to see it before let alone photograph it. It was spotted by my friend Kathy who's visiting at the moment and here we are! This month all the new queens and the males are hatched and flying. It's a very important time for them as they are founding next year's population. The new queens will eventually hibernate pregnant and have to eat a great deal at the moment to get them through the winter.



(continued on next page)

I thought that people might like a web reference to the bumblebee conservation trust and also a reference to a list of food plants for our bees; bumblebeeconservation.org and then if you click onto beekind you'll find an excellent list of plants, many of which will grow here. We're intending to supplement this list with information about bee friendly plants which various Stronsay gardeners including me are already growing, and we also intend to supply young plants at cost price at appropriate times of the year.

Finally I just want to re-iterate that this completely informal group is open to all forever. More news will follow in due course.

The only current things to add for this edition are that the male and little worker bumblebees are dying, and the queens, in due course, will be digging a hole in the ground to hibernate.

We are growing *Salix Hookeriana*, supplied by Mike and Enid. This is a type of bee food willow that flowers here. The willows are currently in the greenhouse, and will be ready for distribution to interested parties next May/June.

Leonora

LATEST BIRD SIGHTINGS

As regards wading birds around the island's lochs it could be said that August 'Went out with a whimper', but in complete contrast September certainly 'Came in with a huge bang' with hundreds of Snipe recorded from all over the island in the first ten days or so, including 13 in Ian and Cindy's garden at Harbour View; and others in the gardens at Millbank, Ossen etc. etc.! There are probably several thousand on the island at present and most will stay throughout the Winter, our climate being perfect for the species. With relatively no frosts the birds are able to probe deep into the soil with their exceptionally long bills. Jack Snipe are occasionally recorded between September and March, a smaller species with a bill only half the length of common Snipe, and a habit of quickly dropping back into cover when flushed.



Snipe at the Matpow Loch

(Continued on next page)

Wading birds are not necessarily restricted to damp areas around lochs and along the sea-shore here. Golden Plover and Curlew spend most of their time outside the breeding-season in the fields of short-cropped grass, and a recent visit to the empty slurry lagoon at Airy in early September by visitor Steve Ricks illustrated the value of these small areas, when 4 species of wader were found feeding there - Green Sandpiper, Redshank, Snipe and two Ringed Plover. These empty lagoons are also a great attraction to insectivorous migrants during Autumn migration, providing not only the insect life but also welcome cover from the elements!

With virtually no winds from the East so far this month, small migrants have been noticable by their absence but on the positive side there have been regular sightings of Hen Harriers, Sparrowhawk, Peregrine and the occasional Merlin. Our hopes were raised on 8th September when a few small migrants did arrive from the continent - 2 Siskins at Castle; Spotted Flycatcher at Odiness; Pied Flycatcher at Airy; and typical brief views of a Redstart at Feastown but very little else was seen during this period.

(Continued on next page)



Merlin - perhaps last month's injured bird?

It was a long wait for the next migrant - a Great Spotted Woodpecker seen by Kate Work near Southbank on 18th (one was recorded on Sanday around this time) followed



by a Snow Bunting in the road near Airy next day.

Snow Bunting by the roadside near Airy

(Continued on next page)

Ducks are now arriving from the North in big numbers - mainly Teal and Wigeon - and a flock of 55 Red-breasted Merganser in Mill Bay on 19th (first seen by Dennis and Wendy at Linkshouse) were seen later that day bathing and preening by the Mill Stream. A few Sandwich Terns are still lingering around the shoreline whilst the Arctic Terns have moved off South and taken most of the skuas with them! The poor terns endure a life-time of harassment from the marauding Arctic Skuas, while the Great Skuas (Bonxies) will tackle anything from a gull to a Gannet. We have even seen Great Skuas killing - and eating - Eider Duck and Heron. All part of nature but it is always pleasing to see the prey escape, such as the fully-grown Mute Swan cygnet a few years ago, which survived many attempts by a Bonxie to kill it, just off-shore in Whitehall Village. The swan managed to avoid the Bonxie by swaying its long neck to avoid each dive, the Bonxie eventually giving up and flying off. The cygnet's parents cowered on the rocks watching the whole event and made no effort to protect their off-spring.

Many Swallows have now left the island but a few still linger - generally around the bigger farms - and as usual a few young fledged as late as early September. This is a critical time for the species as a cold spell of weather can cause whole broods to fail due to the lack of insects, and recently, Billy at Bennicuml was disappointed to discover dead chicks in a nest he had been watching nearby.

For the second month running we have come across an unusual bird on the 'deadline day' for our Limpet Piece! Just a few hours ago we came across a Barred Warbler at Lower Millfield - a sign that more continental migrants are on the way. Barred Warblers breed no closer than Eastern Europe, are the biggest warbler species we see in the UK, but unfortunately spend much of their time feeding in dense cover - Rosa Rugosa hedges etc - so can be very frustrating to the observer.

Thanks for all the calls and messages, John Holloway

All photos Hayden Holloway

CHURCH ORGAN FUNDRAISING – WE'RE THERE!!

As you may know and as has been previously reported in the 'Limpet', the Church has been busy fund raising to try to raise enough money to purchase a new organ for the Church. Well, I'm delighted to report that we should now have enough money to buy a good quality electronic church organ that should fill the Church with music for many years to come.

We must say a huge 'Thank you' to the Stronsay Development Trust's 'Stronsay Community Fund' for their very generous donation of £4,400 to the organ fund which was, very fittingly, announced at the recent 'Stronsay Fest' concert in the Church. This has simply made the difference overnight from us looking at years of fund-raising before we could afford a suitable organ to being able to go out and purchase it tomorrow!

As importantly, we must also say a huge 'Thank you' to the host of folks and groups who have helped us reach our target. We've had many generous individual donations and also donations from two funeral services, we've had folk selling quizzes, the collection at the 'Stronsay Fest' concert in the Church went to the organ fund as did some of the proceeds from the raffle at the dance, and the bric-a-brac table in the porch at the Village shop also raised an amazing amount of money. Well done everyone!

Bruce has been advising us about the type of organ to look for and I hope we will be placing an order very soon. We'll keep you updated on progress and hope we will have the organ delivered and installed in time for Christmas.

Ian Cooper

COMMUNITY FUND GRANT APPLICATION UPDATES

At the board meeting held on Wednesday 19th June the following grants were awarded:

- £1,200 to the Stronsay Development Trust to provide a Tender Training Course for local residents, to better equip them for submitting tenders for building projects on or off island.
- £5,500 to the Tourism Group to enable them to stage the Stronsay Fest.

A number of other applications have been approved and are awaiting final paperwork before being announced.

LETTER FROM SCHOOL PLACE

The council recess already seems like a distant memory. I spent most of it at home, taking advantage of the good weather to tackle all those outdoor jobs left undone on account of my council duties. However, I did manage to take up an invitation to the Eday Gala, where my children enjoyed the sandcastle building competition (winning best overall) and entered their home-made go-cart in the cart race. At the Sanday Show our Muscovies won the 1st, 2nd & 3rd duck prizes, our geese took all the goose prizes (again), and my 10-year-old, 4' 5" daughter made a good effort showing a 14.2 hh mare.

At the last full council meeting before the recess I tabled my first amendment — to refer a decision on joint headships back to the Education, Leisure & Housing (ELH) Committee. And at the Marine Spatial Plan event I brought up the lack of local jurisdiction over the seas between the North Isles. (I hope we might find a way of gaining some control through a North Isles landscape partnership scheme or “Our Islands – Our Future”.) Before the recess was over, I was back in the council chamber for the air and ferry services consultative committee meetings and a meeting of the Orkney & Shetland Valuation Joint Board.

A good piece of news that came out during the recess is that, after extensive lobbying, OIC has been granted additional Discretionary Payment Funding to help ameliorate the impact of the “bedroom tax” on council tenants in Orkney.

Since the “new term” started at School Place, I have attended meetings of Stronsay and Sanday parent councils, Papay and Shapinsay community councils, the Licensing Board, the Licensing Sub-Committee, and the Constitutional Reform Working Group. After the conclusion of a meeting of the Orkney College Management Council, Prof. Jane Downes gave an encouraging presentation on the development of an archaeology institute based at the college. I was less encouraged by the proposals, presented at the ELH meeting, for a “home schooling” solution for Flotta, and I voiced my concerns that this could ultimately set a precedent for cut-price education on North Ronaldsay, Papay and Eday.

The success of the Orkney team at the 2013 Island Games in Bermuda was celebrated at an evening reception in the council chamber, and it was interesting to speak to the participants about their experiences. Maybe territories like Bermuda could provide a constitutional model for Orkney.

We continue to live under the cloud of the ongoing ferry dispute. As reported in “The Orcadian”, I wrote directly to the leaders of the three unions concerned detailing the disruption their dispute is causing to our lives and livelihoods and requesting the unions to call off their action during balloting. Two of the leaders replied, but neither was willing to consider it. Bob Crow never wrote back.

(continued on next page)

The Development & Infrastructure Committee (of which I am not a member) has considered the principle of OIC establishing its own onshore wind farm development. At last notice is being taken of my past proposal of an Orkney energy company!

We had a very successful “Our Islands – Our Future” conference. Speakers included academics, politicians and representatives from Faeroe and Åland (island groups which already enjoy a high degree of autonomy). It is now time to engage the public in the debate, and push for changes being initiated in advance of the independence referendum and which are not dependent on its outcome.

Stephen

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson

West Manse, Sanday

stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

ORKNEY FERRIES—WINTER TIMETABLE

(Copied from Orkney Ferries website <http://www.orkneyferries.co.uk>)



Stronsay

Effective from 24 September 2013 until 3 May 2014



Sailings subject to alteration during Christmas and New Year Period.

This timetable will not operate during the refit period which will commence on 5th January until 8th March 2014.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Kirkwall dep		0700A	0700B		0700B		0700B
Stronsay arr		0835	0835		0835		0835
Stronsay dep		0850A	0900B	0730B	0850B	0730B	0850B
Sanday arr		↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	0925
Sanday dep		↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	0935B
Eday arr		0925	↓	0805	0925	0805	0955
Eday dep		0940A	↓	0820B	0940B	0820B	1010B
Kirkwall arr		1055	1035	0935	1055	0935	1125
Kirkwall dep				0950♦			
Stronsay arr				1125			
Stronsay dep				1135♦			
Kirkwall arr				1310			
Kirkwall dep	1600A	1500	1600	1500	1600	1600	1520A
Eday arr	↓	1615	↓	1615	1715	1715	1635
Eday dep	↓	1630	↓	1630	1730	1730	1645A
Stronsay arr	1735	1705	1735	1705	1805	1805	1720
Stronsay dep	1745A	1715		1715		1815	1730A
Sanday arr	↓	↓		↓		↓	1805
Sanday dep	↓	↓		↓		↓	1815A
Kirkwall arr	1920	1850		1850		1950	1940

A - Vehicles must be booked before 1430hrs on Saturday.

B - Vehicles must be booked before 1600hrs the day before sailing.

All other vehicle bookings must be made at least one hour before the departure from Kirkwall.

- ❖ Sailings marked ♦ will only operate until 10th October 2013.
- ❖ Vehicle check-in times **20 minutes** before departure.
- ❖ Passenger check-in times **10 minutes** before departure.
- ❖ **No Show Charges** – All cancellations must be made not less than 24 hours before the intended date of travel or full charges will apply.
- ❖ For conditions of carriage of passengers and cargo see notices exhibited in Company's vessels, offices and premises.

For full fares please enquire at Ferry Services Offices.

BLOW AWAY GARDENING TIPS SEPTEMBER 2013

Suddenly it stopped being summer with very strong winds and no more admiring the sunset outside at 9pm. Around the house I have a veg patch which I covered in fleece; the broccoli, cauliflower, neaps and carrots did well in the warmer microclimate and no damage from caterpillars: last year cabbage white attack was devastating. The problems I have had are

1. The broccoli matured very fast and went from edible florets to flowers far too rapidly
2. Everything grew large under cover pushing up the fleece until eventually when the winds came, the whole lot blew off. I think this happened last year to the black polythene

It is the time of year when the last of the summer vegetables are going to be eaten or go moldy in situ. The early potatoes (Cassablanca) in pots produced slightly more tubers than I sowed but they did not scape well. In the greenhouse, tomatoes have been OK, cucumber fair and overall early salads have been good. Sadly later sowings of lettuce and spinach have been patchy and poor - perhaps it was down to loss of concentration with watering.

This year I have grown Anchoca for the first time; I am sure the catalogue suggested something interesting and guaranteed to please. For those, like me, who are inexperienced in the land of anchoca, the fruits are spiky, small, green and taste of rather dull cucumber with the added surprise of having bitter seeds throughout. The plant is very vigorous and happily will steal light from anything half decent that was planning on sharing space on the same planet. I will look up some recipes and may find that it really is a must-have vegetable.

So last dash to put in some late seeds, even got some peas to grow a few inches. Soon it will be time to get the seed catalogues out again and start to dream about all the fantastic crops that will grow for me in 2014.

Roger

STRONSAY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

On Monday 9th September 2013, Craig and Julia from STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, not Steamed Tatties Earn Money as we guessed!) came all the way up to Stronsay from Dundee to teach us 'How to make the perfect poo'. You will need:

- fork/spoon
- bowl
- funnel
- sealable bag
- very long thin plastic bag tied at one end
- sieve
- porridge oats/weetabix
- milk/orange juice
- banana
- vinegar
- gravy browning

Method:

- Put breakfast food into bowl. (The bowl represents your mouth.)
- Add drinks and vinegar. (Vinegar represents saliva.)
- Mash up mixture using fork (=your teeth) and place it in the bag (=your stomach).
- Seal bag and mash up further (=stomach acid).
- Carefully pour mixture into the long tube through the funnel (=small intestine).
- Add gravy browning while pouring (=bile).
- Mash up a bit more to get rid of lumps.
- Sieve back into the bowl to get rid of water using spoon (=large intestine).
- Dispose of mixture (=Go to the toilet)!

We found out about peristalsis (muscles squeezing food down your oesophagus to your stomach) and that digestion takes about 12 hours. Your poo is very important because it can tell you about your health! Craig and Julia, if you're reading this, thank you very much. We had a great afternoon!

Upper Primary

Stronsay JH School

FROM THE MANSE STUDY....

We have visited many chapels, cathedrals and kirks while we have been in the UK. There have been some moments of inspiration, even awe in a number of them. One of the most beautiful things is the light which emerges from the stained glass windows, and the warmth from the glow of candles set on an altar or an area set aside for the prayers of people.

I came upon a reflection about candles, which I have altered a little:

*lighting a candle is a prayer—a sign of love we have for those we remember in prayer—for family and friends, for the sad, sick or suffering, for those we think of often with joy.....

*lighting a candle is a parable—while burning itself, it give light to others. God calls us to give ourselves to others in love.

*lighting a candle is a symbol of hope and love, of light and warmth: the world needs them

*lighting a candle is an act of faith—seeking God's light in my life to guide me through difficulties and in decisions I need to make. A flame to warm my heart, and show me the way to Christ who is the light of the world.

Let God's light shine in your life! You never know who may need it!

Blessings,

Rodger Bassham



Rev Rodger Bassham



Marlene, Emily & Rodger

(Another photograph on next page)



On Sunday 22 Sept Rev David Bowen presented a farewell gift of an engraved Quaich (cup of friendship) to Rev Rodger Bassham & family on behalf of the Stronsay kirk

IT'S LIKE RIDING A BIKE

By Jenny Stone

It's an old saying, isn't it. Or, it's been around since the bicycle was invented anyway. You learn a new skill, one that takes time and patience and, once you've mastered it you never lose it.

What isn't mentioned so often is the process by which you learn how to stay on the bloody thing. Traditionally, you are given a tricycle when you are three years old or so, followed by the two-wheeled version once you've got the hang of being on moving wheels at all. By the time you are five or six you're away, whizzing down vale and up-hill, and the skill comes so naturally you don't think about it at all.

This late developer has forty plus years of not having a clue how to balance, along with a lifelong belief that I am incapable of such a thing. I had settled into a comfortable decision that this is the way things will be. So, when a friend comes along to challenge my assumptions on this matter, I simply agreed that I could overcome it, thinking 'yeah, someday never'. This is until the same friend comes with the handsome gift of a beautiful bicycle, just the right height, bright deep purple and in perfect working condition. 'Oh, lovely; thank you so much!' says I, in that high falsetto that only comes with false gratitude. Inwardly, the thought was, 'OH S**T'. I would HAVE to have a go. There were no excuses not to.

I don't do pain, or risk, unless I have no choice in the matter. I am a total freck when it comes to these unavoidable aspects of living. I prefer the comfort of my armchair, complete with coffee/wine/cigs. I knew that in order to learn how to ride a bicycle I was going to have to face the inevitable falling-landing-hurting routine. I don't like being taken out of my comfort zone. That this would be good for confidence not to mention help transport issues was beside the point.

So begins the reluctant and wobbly chain of events (Chain. As in, what goes around the wheels. Gerrit? Oh dear...)

The idea is, if I put my left foot on the pedal and coast downhill I can stop at any time by putting my right foot down. The plan is, it'll help me get a sense of balance without the risk of falling. I don't dare use the brakes because I'm afraid I'll go arse over tea-kettle. Which is what I actually did do, but that's later on.

It was on one of these excursions that I met the The Sheep. It is a beautiful sunny evening, not much traffic about, beginning to get some confidence. That is, until a car comes along and I do the stopping thing. This involves putting my right foot onto the road, scraping it repeatedly while the momentum of the bicycle slows down, until I thump it on the ground, bike at a crazy angle until I can hold still whilst the vehicle passes. Reactions from passersby are mostly polite indifference (I am happily ignorant of what they're thinking). Once, though, a doctor stopped and asked me if I was ok! Having to explain made my face more red than it was already...

(Continued on next page)

This sheep, standing in the field next to the road just looks at me. I look back at him. He doesn't shift his gaze an inch. I wish I could describe to you what I saw in his face. The only way I can put it is a look of sarcastic disgust. If he was human I would say he was a cross between James Bond, eyebrow raised, with wots-his-name from 'One Foot In The Grave'. If he could talk human he would have said, 'I don't beleeeeeeve it!'

I know it was only a sheep, but, I felt so embarrassed already that the opinion of a so-called 'dumb creature' mattered. (So, I've lost the plot. Did that ages ago, so no loss there...)

A friend suggested I bribe him with a fiver to keep quiet. Well and good, I thought. But the sheep, sensible creature he was, didn't accept this piece of paper that these stupid humans decided was valuable. It wasn't even edible, for goodness sake.

Fed up at last, inspiration followed.

'Listen up', says I to this creature. His expression remained wide-eyed incredulous. He was, after all, suffering the puzzlement of being at the receiving end of MHD (Mad Human's Disease). I continued, 'I have an empty freezer and a liking for mutton. Do I need to say any more?'

This seemed to do the trick because I never saw him again after that conversation. Two days later, thrown on success, literally, I landed head first in the ditch near the end of the road. That sheep was nowhere in sight, and neither were any humans. I saw stars for a bit and my head thumped awhile, but I didn't care because nobody saw it.

(Why is it that when we fall or hurt ourselves it's not the injury that matters but whether or not we are publicly humiliated? No doubt there's some scientific answer about fear of showing weakness or something. Like so many human actions, it makes no sense)

So, the sheep has probably filled someone else's freezer, and will be gracing a Sunday dinner plate complete with mint sauce and all the doings. He got his revenge on both fronts, if he's cared to know it.

The landing on my head incident has put me off, and this lovely bike is in the shed gathering cobwebs. Trouble is, I was getting good at my mad hirplings on it, and beginning to enjoy it before that happened.

Oh b*gger. Here I go again.....

All I know is, if I ever do master this vehicle that old adage about the never forgotten skill had better be right. Because it's going to take a bloody long time before I get to grips with it!

MUM!

By Ellie from Newfield

It's a scary thought, I think, how invaluable is "SHE",
The mother of the children,
The anchor of the family.
Just an ordinary woman
With no concealed magic powers.
Always on an eight-day week
Of compulsory, irregular hours.
Does she ever wonder
Just where her strength comes from?
For how many times does she hear it,
That little word - "mum".
All the days of her life
Her children will turn to her,
That consistent anchor
When their problems occur.
Scary, wouldn't you say
This mothers role in life?
To always keep a vigil
For their offspring in their strife.
How few are a woman's days
When she feels herself care-free
For in the laws of nature
Children are drawn to her knee.
Was it that God created mothers,
Installing that comforting knee
So that children would all find comfort.
Since the beginning of history,
Almost before she can turn around
She's a mother raising a child.
Unselfish in all things
On whom all things are piled.
The weakest of the sexes
Drawing strength it seems from within.
Who stands and fights her corner
And takes life on the chin.
Just a regular woman
As normal as they come
That multi-tasking marvel,
Also known as "mum".

©Helene Harrison

GREETINGS, PRIVATE SALES & WANTS

THANK YOU

I would really like to thank Jacqui Dennison and the tourism group for all their hard work, Lauren and her Mum for hosting the craft sales and for running the Fishmart so well, Simone for her organisation of the craft 'pop up' shops and last but by no means least, Brian Crowe for his explanation of cricket rules - after a lifetime of confusion its perfectly clear to me now!

Julia

HAIRDRESSING

Emma will be hairdressing at Airy on Fri 4th and Sat 5th October,
Please ring Hazel on 616231 to make an appointment.
Please also bring your own towels, thank you.

WANTED

If anybody is available for general building work, some outdoor, some indoor, please contact Ruth, at Oddie, on x295. Competent general all rounder or several people with different skills.

RENTAL ACCOMMODATION WANTED

I am looking for properties to rent on Stronsay for possible visitors to the isle who aim to stay for six months or longer. All offers gratefully received and duly considered.

Kindly contact me at 616 206 or by e-mail: fnicholas@runbox.com.

Thank you!

Father Nicholas, St Columba's House

Private adverts (for sale, wanted, birthday greetings etc)

"Thank you" notices are FREE.

Up to 25 words - £1.00. 25 word advert with photo - £1.50. 25 to 50 words - £1.50 and so on.

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

STRONSAY HOTEL

The Stronsay Hotel is offering take away meals from 5pm daily (earlier if required). This menu is also available to eat in at the hotel (for a small extra charge) with the addition of some fine Orkney beef steaks, Rump or Sirloin the choice is yours.

Phone 616213

TAKE AWAY MENU

Homemade lasagne plus chips	£4.95
Homemade sausagemeat pie plus chips	£4.95
Homemade chicken curry plus rice or chips .	£4.95
Homemade chicken pie plus chips	£5.50
Breaded haddock plus chips	£5.50
Breaded wholetail scampi plus chips	£6.50
2 sausages plus chips	£2.40
2 fish fingers plus chips	£2.40
Portion of chips	£1.20
Portion of cheesy chips	£2.00
Portion of onion rings (8)	£1.00

INSTANT PHOTOS

Passport, visa, travel pass, driving licence,
gun licence, etc.

Personalised birthday, Christmas & get well
cards with your own special message or
photograph.

Business/Invitation cards.

You name it! Tell me what you want & I'll
supply it.

Call Bill Miller on 616420

Business adverts

Up to 25 words - £1.50. 25 word advert with photo - £3. 25 to 50 words - £3 and so on.
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

RAM

GROUND DRILLING

Create your own private water supply

FOR WELL WATER BOREHOLES

GROUND SOURCE BOREHOLES

FOUNDATION PILE DRILLING

Max diameter drilled 12 inch

Max depth drilled 300 foot

Please get in touch for a
free no obligation quote

Tel: 01856 821367

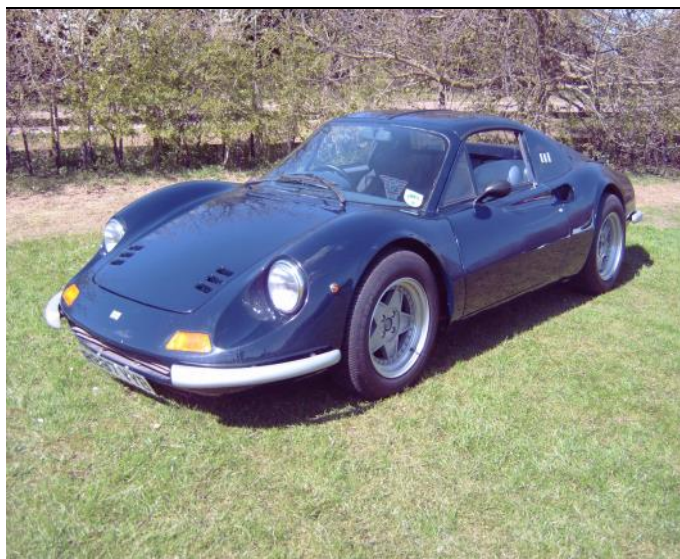
Mob: 07900 440971

Email: ramdrilling@btinternet.com

Business adverts

Up to 25 words - £1.50. 25 word advert with photo - £3. 25 to 50 words - £3 and so on.
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LOCAL BUSINESSES



“NEIL’S ON WHEELS”

All mechanical work undertaken, welding specialist,

MOT prep work, home start, towing service, no call out fee.

MOBILE: 07723 304 260

HOME: 01857 616454

ORKNEY STAR ISLAND SOAP



Real soap made by hand in Stronsay. Lovely as gifts, souvenirs, or all year round. This year’s new collection now available plus all your favourites. The new soaps are: Stronsay Goats’ Milk & Bere, Goats’ Milk & Marigold Petals, Green Wave & Kelp, Stronsay Sunset, The Beach, Wild Island Flowers and Dry Stone Wall. They are on sale at Olive Bank and the Post Office in Stronsay. Also available in mainland Orkney shops and online via my website at www.orkneystarislandsoap.co.uk.

Tel: 01857 616281.

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.

Phone 01856 870075

<http://www.jennystoneart.com>

Email jennystone001@btinternet.com

Business adverts

Up to 25 words - £1.50. 25 word advert with photo - £3. 25 to 50 words - £3 and so on.
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Stronsay Community

Play-park

Action Group

Community projects need community!

If you're a parent, a grandparent or
someone who cares how our public areas affect our community...

WE NEED YOU!!

Were you part of the original group that fixed ward park?

Do your children go to Stronsay school?

Are you a teacher that takes its class to the play park?

Do you watch the Christmas lights turn on or go to any event at the communi-
ty centre that looks into the park?

We **need** everyone who cares about their community to get involved, show
your support or just give some ideas!

All welcome to an informal meeting.

Wed 9th Oct 7pm at the school!

Please contact Marion Miller at Blinkbonny.

616354

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

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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

STRONSAY'S SILVER DARLINGS

Stronsay's Silver Darlings are very happy to announce the launch of our new-look website with up-to-date information including our recent performances, news, photos and video clips (coming soon).

www.stronsayssilverdarlings.co.uk

STRONSAY STITCHERS

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 31st October from 7 - 9.30pm in the Kirk Hall.

£2 per person towards heating/light.

Everyone welcome.

Important Question: would folk like to increase our sessions to twice a month and if so, when? Please feel very welcome to join us on Thursday to join in this topic or phone, or Facebook Simone if you would like to share your thoughts on this.

GOT CRAFTY

This is a new Facebook Page created for all crafty folk in Stronsay. You don't have to be making or selling to enjoy it - if you like the page then you're crafty! It's a place to share photos of peoples' work, explain how/what they create, what inspires them, news, tips etc..

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Stronsay-got-Crafty/683003165061846?ref=hl>

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GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

CHURCH QUIZZES

A big thank you to everyone who helped to sell quizzes and also to everyone who bought them, a total of £467 was made. The winners were Mrs Slater, Quoybanks Crescent, Kirkwall and Mrs Hulton, Links, Westray who each won £10.

HALL EVENTS

- **Saturday 28th Sept** Stronsay Community Association “Bring and Buy” sale at 7:30pm. Have a clear out and get rid of some clutter-then come to the sale n buy some more! Also bring along your favourite board games n have an evening with your friends, bar facilities available.
- **Saturday 2nd November** - Bonfire Night. Bonfire and fireworks display at 7pm prompt
- **Saturday 7th December** - Christmas tree lighting at 7pm
- **Tuesday 31st December**—Hogmanay Dance 10-12

Note: under-16's must be accompanied by an adult (18 or over) who is responsible for them.

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (continued)

MOBILE LIBRARY

Next visit:

MONDAY 7 October

Council Houses: 9:15—10

Stronsay School: 10—12

Stronsay Kirk: 12:30—3

Fishmart: 3:15—5:30

Mobile library schedule http://www.orkneylibrary.org.uk/html/mobile2_timetable.htm

Kirkwall library contacts - 01856 873166 or general.enquiries@orkneylibrary.org.uk

Kirkwall library website - <http://www.orkneylibrary.org.uk>

Kirkwall library online book catalogue - <http://212.219.208.10/TalisPrism>

Check new library opening times

www.orkneylibrary.org.uk/html/opening.htm#NewHours

FRIDAY NIGHT GAMES CLUB

Ages 10 or over only

Friday night 8pm until 10pm

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

STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

Special event coming up? Why not hire the disco equipment with rotating glitter globe and pulsating coloured lights for only £5 plus room and hydro charge? A DJ from the Hall list must be used.

Also available for hire: badminton, table tennis and snooker all at £2 per hour plus hydro. All equipment provided.

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

For details and booking contact Colin on 616446.

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USEFUL INFORMATION

POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Monday	8:30—12
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	9—12 and 1—3
Saturday	8:30—12 and 1—3

Post collection times 07:30, Monday to Saturday
Replacement bin bags. Telephone OIC (Technical Services) on 01856 873535
Sunday service at the Kirk 11 am
Our Lady's chapel, pier head Daily Masses at 7:30 am and every Sunday at 9 am
Next Special Collection ?
Rubbish collection Tuesday (bags out ready by 9am)

Doctor	616321	Balfour hospital	01856 888000
Nurses	616480	Hydro	0800 300 999
Medical emergency	01856 888000	All water enquiries	0845 601 8855
Registrar	616239	Kirkwall Library	01856 873166
Hall bookings	616446	Kirkwall Police	01856 872241
Post Office	616278	Vets:	
Companions	616261	Flett & Carmichael . . .	01856 872859
Kirk	616311	Northvet	01856 873403
Stronsay Hotel	616213	Dentists:	
Olivebank	616255	Great Western Rd	01856 879683
Ebenezer stores	616339	King Street	01856 875348
Neil's on Wheels	616454	Earls Palace	01856 872958
Taxi	616335	Golgotha monastery. . .	616210
Castle Bird Reserve	616363	Email contact@the-sons.org	

JIM HOLLAND HAULAGE—DELIVERIES

Catalogue deliveries made on Tuesday and Friday only.
Large items will be delivered on Saturday.

HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET*

Send an email to stronsaylimpet@btinternet.com, phone Bruce Fletcher on 616297 (after 10:30 & before 21:00, please!) or write to *The Limpet*, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO *THE LIMPET*

You can send a subscription to a friend or relative for a birthday present?

12 editions for £20.00 including P&P

Please make cheques—UK banks only—payable to “Stronsay Development Trust”.
UK only. Non-UK subscriptions, please ask for a quote. Contact Bruce, details above

The Stronsay Development Trust, a Scottish Charity SC038888

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

Supported in its activities by HIE Orkney, Orkney Islands Council, and
Orkney Community Planning Partnership