



# STRONSAY LIMPET

FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST  
ISSUE 12 APRIL 2006



## PHILLIP HENRY HOLLAND 1932 - 2006

Phil Holland achieved a distinction bestowed on few incomers despite his relatively short (in Island terms) residence on the island. He rapidly established a rapport with the farming community he joined and over the course of the next twenty-eight years came to be regarded as “one of our own” a status normally achieved only after two or three generations. This was due in no small part to his outgoing personality, his gentle, friendly nature, his love of the island and his enthusiasm for his chosen profession.

Phillip Holland was born into a farming family at Ashmore Brook Farm in Ashmore, Lichfield. He was the youngest of nine children and weighed in at four and a half pounds. Intensive Baby care consisted of liberal applications of goose fat to maintain body heat.



He attended school until he was fourteen before starting work on his father's dairy and arable farm at the princely wage of ten shillings (fifty pence) per week. His accompanying the local vet on his rounds furthered his keen interest in animals. His apprenticeship was served during the Second World War and ploughing was by horse drawn plough. There were four Italian prisoners of war working on the farm who brewed the best coffee he had ever tasted and taught him how to trap and cook hedgehogs.

His outgoing personality led to his becoming involved with the local Young Farmers Association and developing a lifelong interest in dancing – both Ballroom and Traditional. He also developed a good singing voice but, despite his love of music, he never learned to play an instrument.



He married Ann Hampton in 1956 and had three children Jane, Jackie and Jim. Unfortunately the marriage ended in divorce and Phil met and married Mary with whom he also had three children Gaynor, Tracey and Michael. They moved to Stronsay in 1978 when they bought the Grind. Rumour has it that although his offer was not the best it was accepted because the owners felt that he was the right person for Stronsay – a decision that was to be truly vindicated. Starting a new life on a smallholding Phil was prepared to turn his hand to any available work including farm work at Housebay, in the local fish factory and on the Islands roads, He and Mary spent the next nine years at the Grind before moving to Kirbister which he worked until 2001 when his son Michael took over.

Phil became deeply involved in the social life of Stronsay and together with Ingram Shearer sang at various functions. They also started to teach the local children traditional dancing, a venture which has paid massive dividends as witnessed by the skill and enthusiasm of the young people of the community on the dance floor.

Retirement never figured highly in Phil's plans and even on the morning when he was admitted to hospital for the last time he was disappointed that he had no opportunity to see to his animals. He is survived by his wife Mary, six children, twenty eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren all of whom contributed to what Phil described as the happiest years of his life spent on the island. He will be sadly missed in the community but the sorrow is tempered by the joy he brought to all he met and his popularity was underlined by the attendance at his funeral service.

**BIRTHDAYS &  
ANNIVERSARIES &  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LOUISE HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
ON 25th APRIL  
LOTS OF LOVE  
STEVE, YVONNE, CRAIG, JODY,  
X X X X

**A SPECIAL NIECE**  
SHANNON 11 ON MAY 9th  
ALL OUR LOVE  
UNCLE STEVE, AUNTIE VON  
CRAIG, JODY, JUNO, HERA, SMOKIE,  
PRECIOUS & DILLIGAF  
X X X X X X X X X

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHANNON**  
ON 9th MAY  
MUCH LOVE FROM  
PEACE AND WALTER  
XX

**TABLE TOP SALE**  
SUNDAY 21st MAY FROM 12 pm  
Till 4pm  
AT THE HALL  
IN AID OF BLIDE TRUST  
£5 A TABLE TO BOOK PHONE  
ELLEN 616443  
Tables to be set up 1 hour before start  
-----  
LAST SALE RAISED £30  
FOR BLIDE TRUST

A VERY ENJOYABLE evening  
was held on 1st April to bring to an end this  
winters dancing sessions.

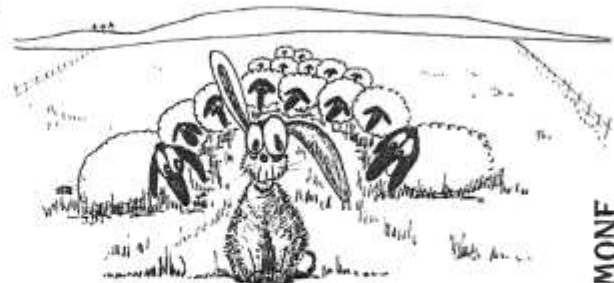
Thanks must go to Gaynor Smith, who has will-  
ingly played for us over this past many years, ably  
assisted at different times by Dr Jon Buchan,  
Michael Cooper, Michael Smith, James Smith,  
Michael Holland and Tracy Holland. Tribute must  
go to Phil Holland, who started with us and whose  
energy and enthusiasm for dancing lives on  
through our young dancers.

He is greatly missed by us all.

Ingram & Doris Shearer

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY LOUISE**  
ON APRIL 25th  
LOVE AND BEST WISHES  
FROM PEACE & WALTER  
XX

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**



SIMONE

**"FEELING PRETTY CONFIDENT, EH?  
WELL EASTER'S OVER, PAL!"**

## LOCAL BUSINESSES

### 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. 616282

### GOING AWAY?

Do you need someone to look after your animals at your house?  
I have 8 years experience with all kinds of animals.

Contact Beth Erdman  
616339

### SPARKY

For all your electrical & Plumbing needs  
Contact John at 11 Whitehall  
Tel: 616466

### STRONSAY FISHMART

Cafe, Hostel & Interpretation centre.  
Hostel open all year round. Hot meals, light snacks, home bakes, teas, coffees refreshments.

Thursday 12pm - 2pm  
Friday 5pm - 7pm  
Saturday 12pm - 2pm & 5pm - 7pm  
Sunday 12pm - 7pm  
Special occasions catered for by arrangement Tel 616386

### INSTANT PHOTO'S

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 616420

Unit 9/10

Orkney Auction Mart  
Kirkwall, Orkney  
KW15 1RE  
Tel 01856 871700

### **HAMISH MACLEAN FARM PRODUCTS**

Mobile 07710526153



Sycamore Cottage  
Tankerness  
Orkney  
KW17 2QU  
Tel/Fax 01856 861214

<p><b>MINERALS AND PROTEINS</b> Orkney natural protein Orkney finisher Orkney general purpose Orkney pre-calver Orkney bulling mineral Orkney universal hi-spec Orkney dairy mineral Orkney sheep mineral Superfeeds for ewes and finishing lambs</p>	<p><b>MEDICINAL</b> *Tribex fluke drench Ovispec wormer S &amp; C Supaverm fluke and worm *Cattle pour on - various *Crovect Dectomax Spot On Selenium and cobalt drench A, D &amp; E injection De-horning paste</p>	<p><b>TRACTOR SPARES &amp; WORKSHOP</b> New/secondhand tractor spares inc: mudguards, wheels and tyres WD-40 - light bulbs - gloves - grease - hand cleaner - welding rods - goggles and masks *Paint including farm oxide Anti fraeze - batteries - cutting discs - pressure washers - torches - hammers - pen-knives - Easy Start - trailer boards etc.</p>
<p><b>FEED</b> Ewe rolls Calf nuts Young stock mix Calf creep mix Lamb creep mix Tup mix Bull mix Hen food</p>	<p><b>HORSES</b> Pasture mix and nuts (D&amp;H) Hi Fi - Alpha A Budget pasture mix and nuts Shavings and garlic powder Mineral licks Feed buckets Haynets etc.</p>	<p><b>VARIOUS</b> Rat bait - cattle clippers - Colostrum - oilskins - calving machines - scour capsules - boiler suits - ear tags - Formalin - boots (all kinds) - milk (calf and lamb) - hypochloride; spades, forks and shovels - troughs - coal bunkers - observation systems - dustbins - drinking bowls - seat covers - weed killer</p>
<p><b>BOLUS ETC</b> Coppasure - cow and calf Copinox - ewe and calf Tracesure - calf and cow Tracesure - lamb and ewe</p>	<p><b>PET FOOD</b> Dog and cat - bags of complete feed or tins Rabbit food Peanuts Bird seed Cat litter</p>	<p><b>JANITORIAL AND HOME</b> Washing powder and fabric conditioner, toilet rolls, J-cloths, bleach, dishwasher tablets, floor cleaner, drain cleaner, washing up-liquids, traffic film remover, blue rolls and much, much more</p>

\* Denotes items on special offer. This is just a sample of our stock please come and look around. General public, trade customers all welcome 9-5 Monday - Friday

## LOCAL BUSINESSES

### REDHOUSE PLANTS

AVAILABLE NOW  
PERENIALS AND SHRUBS  
ORDERA NOW BEING TAKEN FOR  
BEDDING PLANTS AND VEGETABLE  
PLANTS. COME AND CHAT TO GIL OR  
LINDSAY OR PHONE 616377

### OLIVEBANK

YOUR ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL  
YOUR FENCING NEEDS  
STABS, BARBED PLAIN AND SHIRE  
WIRE AVAILABLE  
TELEPHONE  
MAURICE WILLIAMSON 616255

### ADVERTS

**PRIVATE ADVERTS UP TO 25  
WORDS £1**

**25 WORD ADVERT WITH PHOTO £2  
25-50 WORDS £2 AND SO ON**

**Lost & Found free**

**To be placed by (date) 3rd MAY**

**Tel:- Yvonne 616375**

**e-mail hfazak@btinternet.com**

**Letter:- Lower Leaquoy**

### BORDER COLLIE PUPS

FREE TO GOOD HOMES  
CAN BE SEEN WITH PARENTS  
READY AFTER MAY 25th  
PHONE SUE 616439

### FOR SALE

PARKER KNOLL LOUNGE UNITS  
2 GLASS CABINETS AND TV/VIDEO  
CORNER UNIT  
£200 OR WILL SPLIT  
PLEASE PHONE NAINÉ ON 616340  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

### LIBRARY

NEXT VISIT 9th MAY  
WHITEHALL 9am - 11am  
SCHOOL 11.30-14.00  
GORRIES 14.30-16.45  
SCHOOL 18.30-20.00

### ADVICE FOR MICE

BE WARY OF THE SNEAKY CAT  
THAT LIES IN WAIT  
AND LISTENS FOR A LITTLE SQUEAK  
SO HE CAN GO SNAP, SNAP.

BE WARY OF THE PIECE OF CHEESE  
THAT'S SET UPON A SPRINGER  
OR YOU COULD FIND YOURSELF INSIDE  
A VERY NASTY PINGER.

WHAT'S WORSE CATS SNAPS OR TRAPS  
I'D STAY AWAY FROM BOTH MY CHAPS

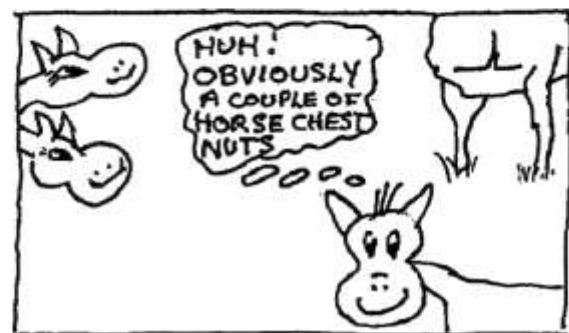
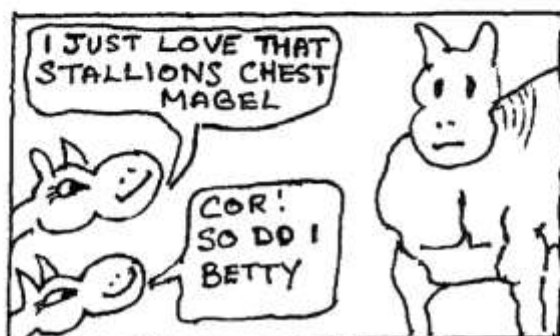
**NANA IS HAVING A BREAK  
THIS MONTH SHE HAS ASKED US  
TO PRINT A POEM THAT YOU  
MIGHT LIKE**

**POEM BY LEAH SHEARER AGED 8**

PEEDIE THE PONY

BY W.E.

Nº 2



# GROUPS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

## STRONSAY COMPANIONS

Not sure what to do on Monday afternoons why not come to the companions in the hall from 2- 4pm. Anyone age 50 & over are welcome.. **LUNCH CLUB.** In the hall at 1.00pm anyone age 50 & over are welcome and under no obligation to stay to the companions. Price is £3.00 . Names in by the Friday before each lunch club, contact Jeano on 616307 or Wilma on 616261.

## CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING ON BU LINKS

STARTS AT 1pm , every 1st & 3rd Sunday  
£6 to shoot 25 rounds  
For more info phone Mike on 616345

## FRIDAY NIGHT GAMES CLUB CHILDREN AGE 10 AND OVER

£1 ENTRY PLENTY TO DO  
COME AND HAVE SOME FUN THIS  
FRIDAY 8pm - 10pm  
TEL: YVONNE 264 or SHEENA 306

## OPEN NIGHT, GUILD MEETING

FRIDAY, 20th APRIL  
7.30pm IN THE CHURCH HALL  
DAFFODIL TEA RAISING FUNDS  
FOR  
'DARE TO CARE'

## SALE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR NORWAY TRIP

6 th MAY 7.30  
AT THE HALL  
DONATIONS TAKEN BETWEEN 2 & 4  
ON DAY OF SALE  
PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT US

## STRONSAY SINGERS

MEET EVERY MONDAY FROM  
19.30-21.30 IN THE HALL  
BRIAN CROWE 616464

## MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP

THURSDAY'S at the HALL  
ALL WELCOME from Birth to School Age  
9.30 - 11 am

## OCTOPUSH

(FOR EXISTING MEMBERS ONLY)  
CONTACT JOHN 253 FOR DATES

## 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  
Coming soon table tennis £2 per hour + Hydro  
Adult supervision (over 18) must be present  
During hire. Any damage must be paid for to book  
CONTACT COLIN ON 446

## SWRI MEETING

26th APRIL AT 7.30pm  
QUIZ & RAFFLE FOR MEMBERS  
IN THE HALL  
FEEL FREE TO COME ALONG

## QUIZ NIGHT AT THE HALL

22nd APRIL 7.30 START  
COME ALONG AND HAVE SOME FUN  
FOLLOWED BY A MUSIC NIGHT  
BRING AN INSTRUMENT OR JUST COME ALONG FOR A GREAT NIGHT

**SURGERY HOURS**

Monday-Saturday Open Surgery 9.30-10.30  
 Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday 4pm - 5pm by appointment  
 Repeat Prescription collection times Monday-Friday 10am-12pm and 1.30 - 4.30pm

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

<b>DOCTORS</b>	<b>616321/308</b>	<b>B&amp;B CLESTRAN</b>	<b>616340</b>
<b>NURSES</b>	<b>616453/232</b>	<b>B&amp;B AIRY</b>	<b>616372</b>
<b>HYDRO</b>	<b>61633/375</b>	<b>CAMPING BARN</b>	<b>616314</b>
<b>BALFOUR HOSPITAL</b>	<b>01856888000</b>	<b>COMPANIONS</b>	<b>616307</b>
<b>DENTIST KING STREET</b>	<b>01856875348</b>	<b>GALA</b>	<b>616463/339</b>
<b>VET - FLETT &amp; CARMICHAEL</b>	<b>01856872859</b>	<b>REGISTRAR</b>	<b>616239</b>
<b>VET - NORHTVET</b>	<b>01856873403</b>	<b>FISHMART</b>	<b>616386</b>
<b>KIRK</b>	<b>616311</b>	<b>HALL BOOKINGS</b>	<b>616446</b>
<b>STRONSAY HOTEL</b>	<b>616213</b>	<b>POST OFFICE</b>	<b>616217</b>
<b>MAURICE'S</b>	<b>616255</b>	<b>SPECIAL CONSTABLE</b>	<b>616216</b>
<b>EBENEZER STORES</b>	<b>616339</b>	<b>STRONSAY LIMPET</b>	<b>616375/453</b>

**USEFUL INFO AND DATES**

**POST OFFICE TIMES- MON & THURS 9am-4pm TUE, WED, FRI & SAT 9am-1pm**  
**NEXT SPECIAL RUBBISH COLLECTION MAY** (date will be in a later issue nearer the time)  
**REPLACEMENT BIN BAGS TEL: 01856 873535**  
**SUNDAY SERVICE AT THE KIRK SUNDAY 11am**  
**OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIER HEAD. - DAILY MASSES 7am SUNDAY 9am**

**QUIZ**

1. What sort of building derives its name from the Greek for 'seat'?
2. Which musical instrument is the largest member of the tuba family?
3. In the ranking of the aristocracy, what comes between a Baron and an Earl?
4. Which Andrew Lloyd Webber musical is performed on roller skates?
5. In which European country did Punch and Judy originate?
6. Which Brazilian dance became popular throughout Europe in 1989?
7. In the E.M.Forster novel *A Room with a View*, which city provided the view?
8. Which fashion designer created 'The New Look' in the 1950's?
9. What is made from a mixture of linseed oil and powdered chalk?
10. What is the capital of Norway?

ANSWERS NEXT ISSUE

**March answers.** 1. Joan of Arc 2. The Sorbonne, the common name for the University of Paris 3. The Moulin Rouge 4. The Palace of Versailles 5. Bonnie Tyler 6 Laurent Blanc 7.Marseilles 8. Tricolour 9. Vichy France 10. The Pyrenees

The Stronsay Development Trust is supported in its activities by Orkney Enterprise, Orkney Islands Council, Communities Scotland, The Crofters Commission and Orkney Community Planning Partnership.

**THE GREAT TRAIN JOURNEY** by Dr George Mackay

Part three

On across the Forth Bridge, shorter in length than the Tay but, even to a child, of much more impressive design and finally into Waverly station in Edinburgh. Half a century certainly dims the recollection. Did the train have a buffet car? If it did he certainly cannot recollect seeing it. He does, however, vaguely remember newspaper vendors and stalls selling mugs of tea - real or imagined - at this distance in time who knows? On then through the night, the lights shaded in an effort to catch a few hours sleep. A definite memory of a fairly well dressed, worried looking man, wandering the corridor. Who or what was he? No one knew, but he was soon singled out as someone worth the watching, possibly a fugitive from justice. There is a vague memory of being roused from sleep and unceremoniously bundled out on to the cold platform, possibly in Newcastle with the instruction that they had to change trains then, without apology, bundled back into the same compartment to continue their journey. Did this happen or was it all part of his imagination? Who knows? One definite memory of looking for a piper from the carriage window while stopped in the station in York as a news vendor walked the platform shouting "Morning Piper". On, on, on would the journey never end? Till at last their little group parted company with the main line express in either Grantham or Peterborough to await the arrival of the local train to take them along the north Norfolk coast to Great Yarmouth. One definite memory here, a heart stopping moment, when thundering down the line came a "Mallard" class steam engine, beautifully streamlined, blue painted, the absolute apogee of steam engine technology.

Now they had been traveling for about eighteen hours. They were tired, grubby and desperate for the end of their journey. The small local train was in no hurry however. They stopped at every small station on the line, names now forgotten, except that all seemed to end in -ham. On through endless orchards with massive pigs lying below the trees munching on windfall apples until at last, in mid morning they finally pulled in to the station at Great Yarmouth.

From this point on his memory is a blank. How did they find accommodation? How did they get there from the station? Alas all is now hidden in the mists of time. No memory of their arrival remains, not even first impressions of this new town. Find accommodation they did, and good accommodation at that. From memory it seems to have been quite a modern, detached house standing close to a road junction.

However, he was now very tired, homesick and decidedly grouchy. He missed his pals, he missed his cat, he found that one of the bars of his chair had something sticky on it and from then on the house became known as "Sticky Chairs" Oh, the pleasures of youth. Despite total amnesia of this period he was obviously enrolled in a local school. This came as something of a revelation to him. Although he was backward in the things which appeared to be most important here, sport, music, drama, he was light years ahead in basic education. Any exercises he was set were completed in record time allowing him more time to read. His teacher was male. The first time, except for his local headmaster, that he had encountered this strange species. However, he was a kind, gentle man different in every way from the sarcastic, nasty little music master - could this have been the start of his total dislike of this particular species? On Monday morning they were loaded in a double decker bus and transported across the town to a well equipped sports ground and lecture hall for football - it still did not fire him with any enthusiasm for the sport. Why could they not each be given a ball to kick instead of having to share one between twenty two? His life long aversion to the sport is obviously deep seated. Their tenancy at "Sticky Chairs" appears to have been short lived - the reason unclear - but there is a feeling that the landlord may not have been the owner of the property. They found other accommodation in a house in a row of brick terraces close to the beach and here they remained for the rest of their stay.

Fortunate indeed that they were so close to the beach. Food was included in their accommodation and they found the English style potatoes totally inedible. These were massive things, each weighing almost half a pound, put whole into a pan of water and slowly boiled for hours on end. By the end of this time they had the consistency and flavour of soggy blotting paper

**The Highlands and Islands Fire and Rescue Service** is currently operating a scheme in Stronsay offering free Home Fire Safety Advice visits, the logic being that it is much better to prevent a fire in the first place than to have to come to put one out! We hope by these visits to help raise your awareness of fire safety and to help make your home a safer place in which to live. The visit simply entails an inspection of your house looking for fire hazards (we would only be going where you are happy for us to go!), checking you have enough smoke detectors and that they are correctly sited and giving advice on fire safety and what to do in the event of having a fire. We will also check that your smoke detectors are working correctly and supply and fit new ones free of charge if you need them. This inspection would be carried out by two members of the local Fire Service at your convenience.

If you would like your local Firefighters to carry out a visit or would like more details please contact Ian on 616322, William on 616220 or Harald on 616233 and we will gladly give you more information or arrange a suitable time to come along to see you.

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### **ORCADES comes to Stronsay!**

The Orkney Cardiovascular Disease Study or ORCADES is a large research project which aims to understand the causes of diseases like stroke, heart disease, diabetes and obesity. A person's risk of getting these diseases depends on their lifestyle (such as whether they smoke, how much exercise they take) and also on their genes, that is whether it runs in their family. If we could understand better the effect of genes then we could eventually develop new ways of diagnosing illness and new ways of preventing and treating disease, this is the ultimate aim of the study. The first step is to unravel to what degree inheritance and lifestyle contribute to the risk of disease.

The people of the North Isles have been chosen as the stability of the population allows large families to be traced, and when studying inheritance large families are a great help. There is also less variation in diet and physical activity than in cities, at least in the past when the majority of people worked in agriculture and fishing.

The study is run by a large team led by Jim Wilson, who is an Orcadian and is a researcher at the University of Edinburgh and the Medical Research Council. There are two full time and two part time research nurses who will be carrying out the clinics in Stronsay, which will take place in a specially modified vehicle which will be parked at the surgery in May and June, before heading to Sanday in July.

After giving informed consent, volunteers will get a number of different risk factors measured - first a blood sample is taken in the morning after an overnight fast. This is used to measure blood sugar and fats and is also the source of DNA for the genetic analysis. Volunteers return for a second clinic in which a number of measurements are made, including blood pressure, and newer tests of hardening of the arteries, and a photograph of the back of the eye to see the small blood vessels. If they wish, participants and their GP get some of the readily understood results returned to them as a cardiovascular health check or MOT, along with an explanation of their meaning.



In Edinburgh the DNA of all participants will be analysed to try to understand which patterns of DNA are inherited by people with, say high cholesterol, but not by people with low cholesterol. This is how we find genes influencing these risk factors.

Last summer about 200 people in Westray took part in the study and this summer it is the turn of Stronsay, Sanday and Shapinsay. Over 300 people with North Isles blood living on the Mainland of Orkney have also taken part in the study, but we are aiming for over 1000 people overall.

The project is funded by the Scottish Executive Health Department and has approval from the NHS Orkney ethics committee. Volunteers must be over 16. All information will be kept in strictest confidence and samples and data stored anonymously so that no names are associated with health information.

It is not often that the chance comes along to be part of a study which will help improve the health of future generations while checking your own health, so if you are interested and have at least one grandparent from the North Isles you can volunteer either by emailing [orkney@ed.ac.uk](mailto:orkney@ed.ac.uk) or by phoning 0131 651 1643.

Stop press: There will be a health information evening on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June run by the ORCADES team and open to all in Stronsay.

Dear madam.

May I use the pages of your excellent news letter to thank the people of Stronsay for making us so welcome on our recent visit, especially Carol at the hotel for a really comfortable stay. My wife's father Ernie Stout, son of Jock Stout the baker, left Stronsay at the age of 16 to join the Royal Flying Corps just before it became the RAF. After the war he settled in Easter Ross and married a local girl and went on to have 6 of a family, 2 boys and 4 girls one of whom is my wife Sylvia. Ernie told me a few stories of when he was a boy on the island, and here's a couple to keep your readers amused. Ernie's father Jock bought an old Russian sailing ship called the "Riga" to use as a coal hulk for supplying coal to the fishing industry. When they were stripping the hull in preparation for the coal it was discovered that the ship's last cargo was coconuts, as they found a fair quantity behind the double skins in the ship's holds. Jock got young Ernie to load up a wheelbarrow and distribute some of the coconuts around the village, as you can imagine they were quite a rarity. When Ernie was dishing out the nuts he eventually came to the hotel where a fellow by the name of Charlie Calmers was painting the hotel windows. Charlie took one of the nuts, scraped the hair off and proceeded to paint on the legend, "This nut was found onboard the Russian sailing ship "Riga", mentioning the date and Stronsay hotel. The nut remained in the hotel for years till the owners moved to Golspie and took the nut with them and displayed it in the bar of their new hotel in Golspie. About 12 years ago Ernie visited the hotel in Golspie and there he met the son of the couple who previously owned the hotel (both sadly passed on). Ernie started to tell the yam about the coconut, when the fellow stopped him in his tracks and produced this wizened leathery object from behind the bar, and yes you've guessed it! it was. the coconut and the writing was still legible. Ernie inherited the nut and passed it on to ourselves, we had a wood and glass display case made to house it along with the story. When Ernie passed away 5 years ago we gave the coconut to young Ernie who lives in Falkirk, now hopefully after we tell him about our visit and your fine peedie museum, maybe the nut will find it's way home to the island. Another story Ernie regaled me with was when as a youngster some of the scuttled German battle fleet were being salvaged, a local worthy had somehow acquired some musical instruments and hidden them on the beach, obviously waiting the right moment to move them. However though, Ernie and his chum found them and liberated a Tuba or a Trumpet from the stashed hoard. They had great fun all day, but when night came panic set in! what were they going to do with this instrument?? and what would his dad do if he found out?? They decided to hide the instrument in the sand insulation on top of the oven roof in the bakehouse. Ernie often used to wonder if it was still there, and who knows, maybe it still is!! wouldn't that be a catch for your peedie museum. That's all for now and i hope your readers enjoy reading this stories as much as i did listening to them. Every success to your publication,

Regards, Sylvia and Mike Sutherland.      Ross-shire.

# **WHITE KNIGHT ELECTRICAL**

**Now resident on Stronsay  
Fully qualified (16<sup>th</sup> edition) Electrician for  
Installation, Test and Inspection**

***DAVE - always on call***

**Telephone: (01857) 616230**

**Mobile: 07740104329**

**SS Athenia lifeboat** ---- the result of the recent vote was as follows:-

those preferring that the lifeboat be restored as a lifeboat - 10  
those preferring that it be restored as a houseboat/lifeboat -- 25 votes

Many thanks to those who voted. The Development Trust are currently awaiting the result of a marine survey report on the lifeboat, and once this is to hand, which we hope will be quite soon, we will have some idea of the work needed and the costs involved. We hope that within the next 2/3 months we will be in a position to actively seek funding for this project. We will keep you advised of developments. Thanks again, Brian Crowe

**WELL WE HAVE NOW FINISHED THE LAST PAGE OF THE  
APRIL LIMPET. IT IS OFFICIALLY 1 YEAR OLD TODAY  
WE HOPE YOU ARE ALL STILL ENJOYING IT AND PLEASE  
FEEL FREE TO GIVE CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS. IF  
ENOUGH PEOPLE WANT US TO CHANGE SOMETHING WE  
WILL OTHERWISE WE WILL PUDDLE ALONG IN BLISSFUL  
IGNORANCE. SO GET BACK TO US**