

STRONSAY LIMPET

FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

ISSUE 140 - February 2017

Published on the last Thursday of the month



PRINTED COPIES OF THE LIMPET

Printed copies of the Limpet are distributed from Olivebank and from Ebenezer Stores in accordance with lists that were drawn up some time ago.

These lists will be discarded on 1st April 2017 and new lists will be created. If you still want to receive a printed copy of the Limpet then fill in a simple form stating the name of your house and whether you want to collect your printed copy of the Limpet from Olivebank or from Ebenezer Stores. Return the completed form to Olivebank or to Ebenezer Stores. If you don't submit a form you won't get a printed copy of the Limpet.

The form is available right now at the back of this edition of the Limpet (page 37/38) as well as on the Limpet website, the Limpet Facebook page and the Stronsay Facebook page. The form will also be printed in the March edition of the Limpet.

CONTACTING THE LIMPET

Please use the Limpet's email address if you want the Limpet to publicise an event. Don't use a Facebook message because the Limpet's editor does not always see them. Contact details are on the back page of every Limpet.

28 MARCH 2017—NEW ONE POUND COIN

The new 12-sided one pound coin comes into use on 28 March 2017. The old one pound coin will cease to be legal tender after 16 October 2017.

For more information see webpage <http://www.thenewpoundcoin.com>.

STRONSAY HOTEL

CLOSED ON MONDAY **AND** TUESDAY DURING REFIT TIMETABLE

FISHMART CAFE

CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY DURING REFIT TIMETABLE

The next edition of the *Limpet* will be published on **Thu 30 March**. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by 7pm on **Sun 26 March**. Contact details are on the back page. The Limpet's website address is <http://www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk>

BIRD NEWS

This Month's featured area - Airy Farm and Cottage

This month the spotlight is on Airy Farm where there are two excellent gardens with trees and hedges etc, and plenty of shelter in the small paddocks around the farm buildings! Not surprisingly there have been a number of amazing sightings in the area, particularly during migration, including no less than 7 species which have been recorded nowhere else on Stronsay. Two of these were new to the UK. Most of the garden birds have been shared equally between Airy and Airy Cottage, with Doris and Ingram (Shearer) - now at Airy Cottage - swapping houses with son Norman and daughter-in-law Hazel and girls in 2005. All have come across some amazing sightings.

Birdwatching for ourselves began there with a bang, with a Greenish Warbler and a Two-barred Greenish Warbler in September '88 - our first full Autumn on the island! With 3 different Bluethroats in the roadside ditch that Autumn, and Icterine Warbler and Barred Warbler among the bushes, our expectations had become reality. We knew that we had come to the right island!

The arrival of rare species depends very much on the wind direction during migration, and the years 1992-95 were excellent in this respect. A male Sardinian Warbler discovered near the cottage in late October 1992, a Yellow-breasted Bunting discovered feeding in the road in September 1993 and a Little Ringed Plover feeding in the bottom of the freshly dug – but still empty - slurry lagoon in October that year.

In 1994 – along with several semi-rarities such as Wryneck, Crossbill and 2 Rosefinches, two more rarities from Asia were recorded - a Dusky Warbler in the small paddock behind the cottage, and a Pechora Pipit in the potato patch just a few yards away. In 1995 a Water Pipit was found in the road outside the cottage, and perhaps the most exciting find of all during the last 30 years - an Oriental Skylark - was found in the Airy Road on 22nd October 1999! This was the one and only time we had run out of film for the camera, having used it up the previous day photographing Bullfinches!

The first ten years of the 21st Century brought several sightings of Waxwings and a few Great Grey Shrikes to the area and an amazing find by Hazel in May 2005 was a Red-rumped Swallow on the washing-line at Airy Cottage. With the foliage in both gardens increasing, Yellow-browed Warblers are now almost annual in Autumn, both Hawfinch and Great Spotted Woodpecker have been recorded, and several species of warbler, whilst in the farmyard area Grey Wagtails have been recorded on a few occasions. Both Spotted and Pied Flycatchers may be recorded in both gardens during migration.

An amazing find in September 2011 was a Coal Tit in the top of one of the Sycamore Trees – discovered by visitor Steve Ricks - the first island record! In 'easterly' Autumns the Sycamores are invaluable for small warblers and Goldcrests, and there have been multiple sightings of Yellow-browed Warblers during Autumn in both 2015 and 2016. In Autumn 2015 Hazel came across a Tree Creeper – a great rarity here on Stronsay - just a few yards from the back door at Airy, and the value of the Sycamores was demonstrated again in Autumn 2016, when 3 Greenish Warblers were present in the Airy garden on 23rd August. Amazing that three of this rare species should find the same garden on the same day!

(Continued on next page)

Being on the east side of the island and with most unusual species arriving from Europe in easterly winds, Airy is perfectly placed for the ‘migrant-hunter’. The Two-barred Greenish Warbler of 1988 (recently declared a separate species) and the Oriental Skylark of 1999 were both new species for the UK, whilst the Sardinian Warbler of 1992; Pechora Pipit and Dusky Warbler of 1994; Water Pipit of 1995; Red-rumped Swallow of 2005, and Coal Tit of 2011 remain the only sightings of those species here on Stronsay - with one small caveat - the Coal Tit at Airy was almost certainly the same bird as that seen by Kath and Norman at Dale three days later!

There is one unanswered question regarding birds seen at Airy – ‘Why are so many of the island sightings of Swifts recorded there – almost all in July?’. Any ideas?

Photos:



‘Two-barred Greenish Warbler Sept. 1988’



‘Sardinian Warbler Oct. 1992’

(Continued on next page)



*‘The Red-rumped Swallow of May 2005 was first seen by Hazel
in the Airy Cottage garden’*



‘Woodcock among leaf-litter in the Airy Garden’



‘Coal Tit in the Airy Garden, Sept 2011’

(Continued on next page)



'Greenish Warbler in one of the Sycamore trees, August 2016'



'Preening Robin and pink bales in the Corn-yard at Airy. September 2016'

Recent Stronsay sightings:

There have been plenty of signs of Spring since late January with several Shelduck on the Bu Loch and up to 9 Goldeneye there. Merlin, Peregrine, Sparrowhawk, and Hen Harrier have all been seen this year and (the now tail-less) Pied wagtail has been present in Whitehall Village for several weeks. Two Stonechats were near Grind on 25th January. A first-winter Glaucous Gull was seen briefly near Sandybank on 8th February (see photo) but Bird of the Month once again was Blue Tit – one seen by Jane just outside the window at Huip on 10th Feb. Two were seen together by Lucas and Elaine at Tullimentan in January following the single at Huip earlier that month, it is possible that a total of four birds have been recorded this year. That would be amazing, as Blue Tit is such a major rarity here on Stronsay. There was just a single sighting of Woodcock in this period – one seen at Dale by Norman Kent.

A 2nd Winter Glaucous Gull was seen at the Bu Loch on the glorious warm sunny day of 15th February – a much whiter bird than the one seen at Sandybank on 8th. A very bold Merlin has been seen by many residents recently – mainly in the Roadside/South School area, always perched on a roadside fence-stab, and - for a change - generally 'staying put' as vehicles pass by. Also in mid-month a Common Buzzard was seen on a fence-post near the Meikle Water by Kevin Kent and family.

(Continued on next page)

A Slavonian Grebe changing into summer plumage was close inshore among floating sea-weed in Whitehall Village on 18th Feb (see photo).



'Glaucous Gull near Sandybank 8th February'



'Merlin by the roadside at Boondatoon. Merlins always appear rather 'dark', lacking the gingery tones of a Kestrel'

(Continued on next page)



*'Kestrel by the roadside for comparison (2015).
Adult males have blue-grey tails and heads'*



*'Slavonian Grebe opposite Seaview 18th February.
(See photo of bird in 'winter plumage' in September 2016 issue)'*

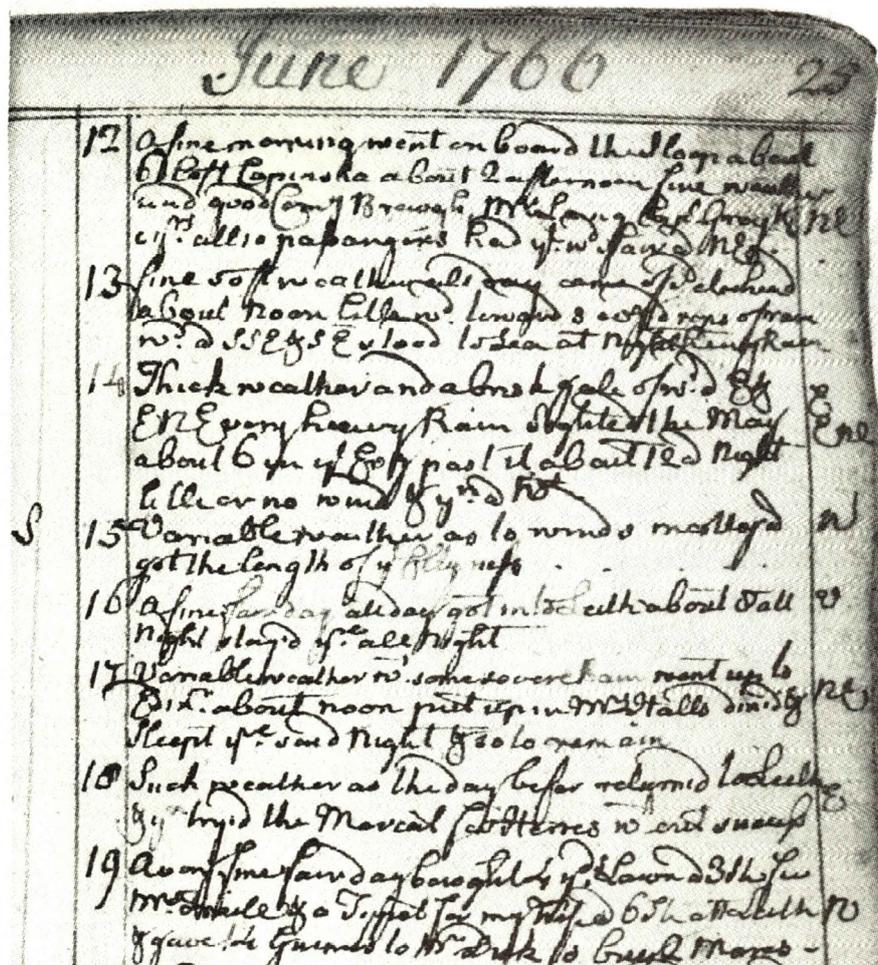
Thanks for all the calls.
John & Sue Holloway

There are a few copies of the 2016 years Bird Report still available if anyone is interested - £5 inc front cover illustration

SPINNING A YARN – SOURCES IN LOCAL HISTORY

When Jill called in Olivebank one Saturday morning after walking the dogs on Rothiesholm Beach, Maurice noted my absence to which Jill said “He’s off spinning” to which came the reply, with a twinkle in his eye “Now I can spin a good yarn”. I have absolutely no doubt of that! As my day progressed and we blethered away and fleece was span into wool, a fellow spinner, Christine from Cliffdale said “you really must read Patrick Fea’s diary”. That evening I went onto www.abebooks.co.uk, a favourite site of mine, which has probably absorbed far too many of my pennies over the years, but a great source of second hand books from booksellers worldwide. Within days it was here, and what a book!

The foreword is written by Alexander Fenton, who wrote “The Northern Isles”, he describes the diary as a genuinely first-hand account of life on an Orkney island in the second half of the 18th century. Sandy, as he was affectionately known was a founder of the Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group of which I had the pleasure and privilege to be chairman for five years prior to coming to Stronsay. It was Sandy who had encouraged Bill Hewison, one time of the Orcadian, to transcribe the diaries from the original handwritten text and what a joy they are to read.



They cover the period 1766 to 1796 and give a daily record of his work in the main at Stove on Eday but also the many family properties on Stronsay, particularly Whitehall and Airie where he was born.

(Continued on next page)

The entries are all written in the language of the time and in Orkney dialect making them fascinating reading. Many of the words used I was familiar with from my work in the Highlands, like bent, bear, boll, cottar, simmons, stook, and treenails. But others like: cassie – a basket, cast – digging peats, flakkie – straw mat, helping – repairing, inning – leading crops from field to barn, and ware – seaweed were new to me. Bill Hewson has also kept faith with the originals, using Patrick Fea’s spelling and turn of phrase. Each day of the year has an entry usually beginning with the weather conditions. Many of these are simply: “*a fine day, a very good day, a gale of wind, small rain, severe sheurs*”; but occasionally there are some wee gems like: “*a cold surley day, a fine soft day, and thick weather*”.

There is considerable detail of farming practice in the 18th century before the later “improvements” in agriculture and the eventual transformation by mechanisation. Patrick Fea’s account of the length of time to prepare a field for sowing oats or bere was unremitting toil compared with today’s one man and his tractor. Ploughing was done by a horse drawn plough with a single stilt, cutting one furrow at a time and he often records “*4 Plgs in a sheid (field)*”. Then there would be delfing (hand digging areas the plough could not reach, then melling (breaking up the clods with a large wooden mallet) followed by muckering (spreading rotten ware, seaweed, and ploughing it in). Entry for March 11: “*A fine day all day had 8 men brakeing up Ware attClettiegoe all the morning & 12 Horses muckering Do Ware upon the SandaySheed& done wt it.*”

March/April time he lists the amount of ‘Ots’ sown and later in May the ‘Bear’ sown. Throughout the diaries are accounts of crop yields and dues to workers and cottars as well as a number of more personal accounts.

The winter months were full of barnwork, drying bear and oats in the kilns, cleaning and winnowing it ready for the mill, and selecting seed for springtime sowing. The kilns were fired by peat which the farm workers ‘cast’ before transporting them to Stove, often by boat.

Alongside this men would be set to plait straw for caisies to carry the grain to the mill and make rope simmons to secure the stacks and thatch the farm buildings.

The most used and effective forms of transport were his boats, even travelling on the same island it was often easier to go by boat and Patrick had several, including what he referred to as his big boat. He writes of often sailing to Kirkwall and occasionally Shetland and to Leith for Edinburgh. Whilst he never writes of harvesting the sea by fishing he was quick to move and gather salvage from wrecks often with great gain. But occasionally he missed out. On January 31st 1772, he heard of “*a large wreck of a ship on shoar the Spurness Holmes most all the boat of Eda onboard him ere I knew therof*”

There are also plenty of entries relating to socialising, visiting his ‘Cussins’ and having tea. Folk staying at Stove and he and his family staying with others. There is also one delightful entry where he tells of paying for his daughter to have dancing lessons.

There are plenty of figures too, crop yields, receipts and payments in bear and oats to workers, tradesmen and tenants. A real cornucopia of island farming life in the late 18th century.

So thank you Christine for your recommendation, a well spun yarn!

STEPHEN CLACKSON'S LETTER FROM SCHOOL PLACE

The special Policy & Resources Committee meeting to set the OIC budget and council tax has now taken place. The bad news is that we've had to increase council tax by the full, permitted 3%. (I did invite comments about this possibility in the December 2016 issue of my "Letter", but received none.) The good news is that, as a result of a deal struck by the Green Party (although surely they could have struck harder!) to enable the minority SNP Government to get its budget through, we are better off by £914,000 than originally expected. This gave a group of us, acting collectively, the scope to push through amendments to ameliorate some of the austerity of the recommended OIC budget, for example Russ Madge's 1% uplift in our funding for the voluntary sector, and you may have heard the *Radio Orkney* clip of me defending free musical instrument hire, which will now remain in place for this financial year. (I called for a recorded vote, and you can hear who voted how at: <https://soundcloud.com/orkney-islands-council/policy-and-resources-committee-9-february-2017-part-3>) I hope this sort of collaborative alliance will be a standard feature of the next council. (Please note that our budget is still not finally set until ratified by the full council at the special general meeting on the 22nd February.)

More bad news: Following James Stockan's impassioned speech in the chamber on fair ferry funding, we have been informed we will not be getting any additional help from Government Scotland this year. Given the money they pump into ferry transport networks elsewhere in Scotland, this is blatant discrimination against the Northern Isles. Orkney and Shetland are the only councils that are expected to shoulder the financial burden of running their own ferry services. We have done the research (you will remember the transport study engagement events in the Isles last summer), we have made the case, and now we have been kicked in the teeth—despite Govt. Scotland's alleged commitment to supporting island economies. As a consequence, in my opinion, we have no choice but to harden our resolve. All of us who travel on Orkney Ferries know how dire the situation is becoming. Government Scotland refuses to treat us fairly in line with the rest of Scotland, so maybe it's time we weren't Scotland anymore. Can we raise 58,000 florins (Rhenish) out of next year's OIC budget? (Discuss)

In spite of all this, a piece of good news for Isles folk is that we have agreed not to raise Orkney Ferries' fares this year.

We have now held the last meeting of the Education, Leisure & Housing Committee (with me as vice-chair) before the local government elections. Unfortunately, it coincided with a meeting of the Highlands & Islands Skills Academy Leadership Board, which would have been good for me to have been at. Clashing of meetings is not uncommon, and often it is difficult to decide which one should take priority. (Maybe future development of quantum mechanics will enable us to be in two places at once, but for the time being that privilege is reserved for atomic particles and photons.)

(Continued on next page)

At its last meeting, the Development & Infrastructure Committee (of which I am not a member) approved 20 mph zones around Isles' schools. This is something, with the support of parent councils and community councils (particularly Sanday's and Stronsay's), I'd been working to get onto the agenda. This is a very pleasing result, which will improve safety for our children.

Other meetings I have attended this month include those of: the Empowering Communities Member/Officer Working Group, Licensing Sub-Committee, Orkney College Management Council, House Build Programme Board, and the Monitoring & Audit Committee meeting which made the front page of *The Orcadian* (16th February).

This month I have also been to Stronsay for a community council meeting and to North Ronaldsay (as vice-chair of Education, Leisure & Housing) for a meeting about the future of its school and (as ward councillor) to hold a surgery. (A follow-up meeting in North Ronaldsay is planned.) In March I shall be attending community council meetings in Sanday, Shapinsay and Westray, and in April in Eday, Papay and Rousay. I shall also be going along to various parent council meetings.

Now OIC's "ActiveLife" card has been launched, it is becoming apparent that the associated repricing can dis-benefit certain residents of the Isles. I have arranged to have a meeting with the relevant officers about this. In the meantime, if you are one of those being dis-benefitted, or you know people who are, please get in touch with me with details.

Miscellaneous thoughts (on which I welcome comments):

- Given the "ActiveLife" card experience, I think that with every new council initiative we need to build in a "probationary period" during which any unintended consequences can come to light and be ironed out. (Sorry about the mixed metaphors.)

- In the reports presented to committees, a standard section is "Policy Aspects" detailing the ways the recommendations support a selection of the values and priorities of our council plan. In the next council I would like that to be replaced with a full evaluation of their impact on all of our values and priorities, so that potential policy infringements cannot "slip through the net".

- In the *Our Islands Our Future* campaign, we have been calling for a commitment to "island proofing" to be incorporated into Scottish Government legislation. In a council where 71% of the councillors represent only people who can travel to Kirkwall by road, "island proofing" desperately needs to be an integral part of OIC's own policy-making process, too.

- I also feel it is time to impose some restraint on the relentless centralisation of Orkney and the continuing expansion of its capital by placing a "green-belt" around Kirkwall. In the next council plan I want a commitment by OIC to strengthen and invest in Orkney's periphery. What use is a wheel with a hub but no rim? Extending this metaphor, we also need strong spokes—these being our communications and transport links (which brings us back to the 2nd paragraph of this "Letter").

(Continued on next page)

As announced in *The Orcadian* (16th February), I am now uploading “Letter from School Place” (including some back issues) onto clackson4northisles.pbworks.com to make it available to ward constituents without easy access to a printed copy. I shall also be using this site as an online platform for my re-election campaign.



Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson
West Manse, Sanday

stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme Update.

Hello,

The North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme (NILPS) is an ongoing programme which is being coordinated by a steering group led by Orkney Islands Council. The LP Scheme is one of the main grant programmes offered by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). NILPS was originally conceived as an idea back in 2014 after the success of the Landscape Partnership Scheme based around the Scapa Flow area between 2009-2012 (<http://www.scapaflow.co>). Consultation events were held on the North Isles towards the end of the year with their findings used as a basis for submitting the NILPS round 1 application.

The steering group found out that the round 1 application had been successful towards the end of 2015 and were given permission to commence the round 2 (development) stage. This stage started back in April. The main work since then has involved various studies being undertaken by consultants. These have focussed on the North Isles' Historic Environment, Heritage Trails, Landscape and Seascape, Tourism, and Biodiversity. The studies are a requirement of the HLF process and will help identify the unique elements of the North Isles to demonstrate the area's eligibility for receiving a LP Scheme grant.

The studies will also help develop the initial project ideas identified back in 2014 and help inform potential projects to include in the round 2 application. The application will be submitted to the HLF towards the end of August 2017. We anticipate a decision being made around November/December 2017. If approved, NILPS would look to commence in early 2018 and run until 2022.

The studies will involve the identification of provisional walking and cycling trail for each island. Thanks to all of you who provided feedback to our consultant during the process. Further discussion around the proposed trails will be taking place soon as we look to incorporate a key trail for each of the populated North Isles into the scheme.

A Landscape and Seascape Study will involve a survey of the landscape and seascape of each island, outlining recommendations in response to the threats and opportunities posed in Isles distinct characteristics.

A Visitor and Marketing Study is also underway. As well as identifying priority projects for delivery in the North Isles during NILPS, the study will identify priority themes and produce a marketing strategy. The study will involve engagement with local tourism stakeholders and groups on the North Isles as well as collecting information on people's trips to the North Isles. People living on the North Isles are welcome to participate in the survey. Please follow this link to complete it - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/visitorkneynorthisles>

(Continued on next page)

Finally, a Biodiversity Study is also commencing. The study is being led by Nature Watch Orkney and will identify the wildlife and natural places that give each island its unique identity, and show how these form the character of the North Isles and its marine area. This will involve collating all the existing data about the species and habitats that occur in the North Isles. Also, a questionnaire asking for opinions about the most important wildlife features on your island has been produced. Please follow this link - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GNYBKQ2> If anyone would like to put forward suggestions, please contact Tim Dean and Anne Bignall via naturewatchorkney@hotmail.com

I do realise that the various processes involved in the HLF process have led to periods of activity and then inactivity. Unfortunately this is unavoidable as our application goes through the HLF system of review and assessment. I also note that your community has recently been inundated with people from out with your islands carrying out various studies, and that this will continue until the end of the year. I can only thank you for your patience and reiterate that these studies are an essential requirement of our ongoing HLF bid. The studies will also allow us to produce a strong application to the HLF, which will be submitted in August 2017. The studies will, once complete, be made available to the local communities. It is hoped that the various studies will provide information of interest and benefit to local groups.

I am now slowly starting to get around some of the islands (as time allows). A big thank you to those I have visited so far for your time. I do intend to try and arrange more visits in the future but as time moves rapidly on during this phase it is proving more difficult (August 2017 submission is getting closer and a lot of work to do behind the scenes!) However, if anyone has any queries regarding the ongoing development phase or about NILPS in general, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I will be only too happy to assist.

Best regards,
Alister.

Alister Brown, Development Officer – North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme
Development and Marine Planning, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall KW15 1NY
T: 01856 873535 ext. 2814 (Kirkwall) / 01856 873535 ext. 3041 (Stromness)
E: alister.brown@orkney.gov.uk

The NILPS Development Phase is being supported by the following organisations



STRONSAY LIMPET—CAPTION COMPETITION

PHOTOGRAPH FOR JANUARY’S COMPETITION



January’s winners were George and Betty Winslow of Monikie (visitors staying with John & Sue Holloway) whose caption was:

- *Rome – and quick – it’s the real Da Vinci code!*

Other entries were:

- *OIC officials deny ‘passing the buck’ over failed solar panel scheme*
- *Father Michael says ‘No thanks’ – he’s already got one!*
- *If you hang onto it any longer it will be next stop Eday for all of us!*
- *No – take it – it’s yours. Papa Stronsay has won the Postcode Lottery competition!*
- *Vice President Mike Pence caught attempting to hide nuclear button from Donald Trump*
- *Taking Holy Orders*
- *Mid-channel hand-over of ‘Quick-Brexit’ papers*

Now try your hand at the this month’s photograph on the next page.

STRONSAY LIMPET—CAPTION COMPETITION
PHOTOGRAPH FOR FEBRUARY'S COMPETITION



What do you think is happened here? Answers to the editor please by 7pm on Sunday 26 March. The editor's contact details are on the back page of every Limpet.

STRONSAY - THREE BAYS

By Hugh Neville

Saddest to leave, though sweetest to recall,
Those three strange bays in Stronsay, and with all
I grasp the primal vision of the child
That Adam knew the night before the Fall.

First, Cumley, tiny horseshoe, rock embraced
Known both in sun, where I have lain and lazed
As also in South-Easters shrill and wild
When seals bob in the water, puppy-faced.

Second, the bay of Houseby, dark and sour
Where busy redshanks forage, hour on hour
Among the piles of black, half-rotted weed
Whilst far and white, Auskerry's lighthouse tower.

And third, the bay of Holland, gleaming strand
Of shell-becluttered, printless sand.
Within the dunes, a myriad rabbits breed.
Before the waves, behind the throbbing land.

Best loved when summer shimmers to an end,
The copper-burnished barley soon must bend
Before the combine's all-devouring jaws.
The busy tractor's beat and ocean blend

A restless wind springs up again to drive
Eddies of sand, that sting as vipers live.
Above, a small red plane in clouds of gauze
Like a contented bee drones home to hive.

This poem was kindly supplied by Roger Neville-Smith, one of our island's GPs. It comes from "*A Tribute To Orkney - forty poems upon the Orcadian scene*" by Hugh Neville, Roger's father who lived in Rendall, mainland Orkney in the 70s and early 80s after retiring from being a psychiatrist and becoming a self-taught locum GP - you cannot do that now! He loved his time on the various islands including Stronsay and wrote poems about them. "*Stronsay - three bays*" was written during one of his trips here.

OLD FEMALES OR FELINES!

By Ellie from Newfield

Well, she's getting on a bit,
Not as young you see.

Happens to us all
Eventually.

Confused as often a not
As nothing seems the same,
Unsteady on her feet,
It's a shame.

She sleeps a lot these days
Rather like myself,
Stamina being important
As of course is good health.

Being a cat isn't easy
Especially one who is old;
With the mice just taking the mick,
Getting brave, fearless and bold.

The fireside is so welcoming,
"couch potato" she'll say
Nestling down next to me.

Memories of "back in the day",
Just dreaming of those captures.

Mice twice as big as rats,
I'm a legend in this household,
Thank heavens for us cats.

Retirement didn't come easy,
There's life in the old girl yet.
What did she say was for dinner?

I forget.

Of course she'll never replace me,
No kitten could step into my paws.

I've owned her all my life,
Nine of them, of course!

©Helene Harrison

SALES, WANTS, GREETINGS, THANKS

THANK YOU

Thankyou Stronsay, the Vat o Kirbuster was the most beautiful setting for our family gathering to say goodbye to Keith Dennison. As Roy commented on the day "no church in the world could have been more perfect". The location was stunning, the weather was almost surreal and the people who accommodated, helped feed and "water" us, transport us, looked after our every comfort, and joined in our memories or helped provide music were all just amazing xxx

From my heart I THANK YOU.

Jacqui Dennison

THANK YOU

The final total from the Blue Door for our swimming pool is £2707.53! Thank you all

WANTED!

If you have any large old shirts that you no longer use (missing buttons not a problem) then Stronsay Junior High School would really appreciate them for use as painting shirts. Thank you

ODD JOBS

Odd jobs, gardening, window cleaning

No job too small

Call Tony on 616357

(Please note—this is NOT Tony Withers)

WORK WANTED

Anything considered! Please contact James Hannant (age 21) on 616454

Local sales, wants, etc are free!

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES



STRONSAY FISH MART

Phone 616401

**Closed Wednesdays (during refit timetable)
Open 11am to 3pm six days a week**

Sunday 26th February

- Soup of the day with home made bread
- Roast lamb, mint jelly/sauce, vegetables and potatoes
- Sweet and sour crispy chicken bites with rice
- sticky toffee pudding with cream / ice-cream

Sunday 5th March

- Soup of the day with homemade loaf
- Chicken in gravy, oatmeal stuffing, vegetables and potatoes
- Vegetable Ragu and tagliatelle
- Lemon meringue pie with cream / ice-cream

Sunday 12th March

- Soup of the day with homemade loaf
- Roast pork and apple sauce, vegetables and potatoes
- Battered haddock, chips and peas
- Trifle with cream / ice-cream

Sunday 19th March

- Soup of the day with homemade loaf
- Beef olives, vegetables and potatoes
- Battered chicken goujons, sweet chilli/BBQ sauce or dip with chips
- Apple pie with cream / ice-cream

Sunday 26th March

- Soup of the day with homemade loaf
- Chicken and leek pie, vegetables and potatoes
- Homemade (Pattie supper)
- Chocolate brownie with cream / ice-cream

Local business adverts are free!

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

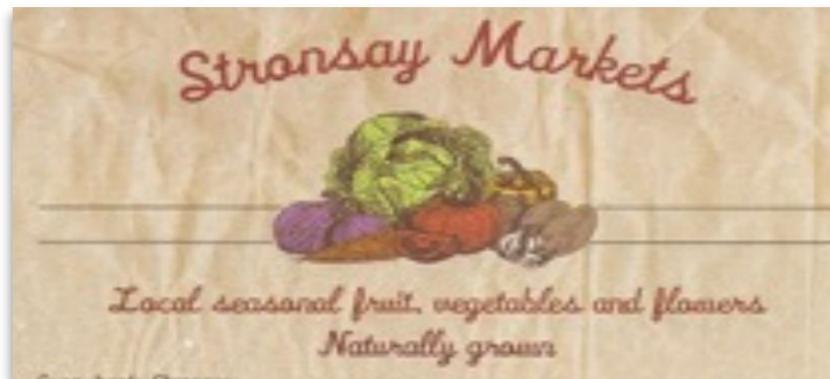
handmade  with love

Airy Fairy

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



Hazel Shearer, Airy, Stronsay, Orkney, KW172AG • Phone 01857 616231
hazel.airyfairy@gmail.com • www.airyfairyonline.co.uk



*New business, a mini market garden, set up in late 2015 at
Sunnybank, Stronsay*

*Currently supplying mixed salad leaves, some winter vegetables and
bedding plants. There will be more as the season progresses.*

I will supply a list each week with availability

*Please look at my Face book page "Stronsay Markets" or
send me an email "stronsaymarkets@gmail.com and I will put you
on my mailing list*

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

JOHN DUNNE GARDEN SERVICES

- * General Garden Maintenance
- * Window Cleaning and Guttering Services

- * Reasonable rates
- * Quick and professional

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Tel: 616247

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

Telephone : 01862 842357

Website : www.oldmansebandbkildary.co.uk

Local business adverts are free!

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

STRONSAY HOTEL—TAKEAWAY MENU

Phone 01857 616213

Five days a week (Wednesday- Sunday) 5pm to 9pm

NOTE—closed Monday AND Tuesday during refit timetable

Homemade lasagne + chips	£5.95
Homemade sausagemeat pie + chips	£5.95
Homemade chicken curry + rice or chips	£5.95
Homemade chicken masala curry + rice or chips	£6.50
Homemade chicken & veg pie + chips	£6.50
Breaded haddock + chips	£5.50
Breaded wholetail scampi + chips	£6.50
2 sausages + chips	£3.00
2 fish fingers + chips	£2.80
“Stronsay Beast Burger” + fries	£4.50
“Stronsay Cheese Beast Burger” + fries	£5.00
Portion of chips	£1.30
Half portion of chips	£0.80
Portion of cheesy chips	£2.10
Half portion of cheesy chips	£1.10
Portion of onion rings	£1.20

5pm to 9pm

Local business adverts are free!

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

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 874723

<http://www.jennystoneart.com>

Email jenny@jennystoneart.com

**PATRICK
McGRATH
LTD**

**Gas Safe Registered Engineer
Plumber**

Services include:

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

Call Patrick on **07933 488283**
Email: patrickmcgrathltd@gmail.com



DRIVING TUITION

Patient and friendly learner driver tuition with Richard. Including Pass Plus for passed drivers. To book lessons call 616268 or 07789104861. Or message my Facebook page 'Drive 2 Stay Alive'. Lesson times are very flexible to suit you, and lessons start and finish at your chosen address.

Local business adverts are free!

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

“NEIL’S ON WHEELS”

- All mechanical work undertaken.



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

MOBILE: 07723 304 260

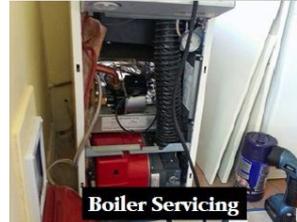
HOME: 01857 616454

Ebenezer Oil Heating Services

Oftec trained engineer



Oil Tank Installation



Boiler Servicing

Oil boiler servicing,
repair and replacement



Boiler Installation

A serviced boiler
is an efficient boiler
and will save you money

& Commissioning

Tel 01857 616339
ebenezer@stronsay.org

Freshly hand-crafted soaps from Simone’s soap kitchen on the beautiful island of Stronsay.



“Treat yourself to a bar of pure island magic”

Simone Kirk, Isles View, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AG, Tel: 01857 616281

Website & online shop: www.orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk

Email: Info@orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk • Facebook / Twitter / Pinterest

Soaps available all year round in Stronsay at: Ebenezer Stores, Post Office, Olive Bank, Craftship Enterprise. A visit to the soap kitchen during your visit to Stronsay may be possible but please phone before you set out.

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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BINGO NIGHT

SATURDAY 18TH MARCH 2017

AT 7.30PM

IN THE HALL

RAFFLE SUPPER BAR OPEN

100CLUB DRAW

GAMES ETC IN MAIN HALL FOR YOUNGSTERS

EVERYONE WELCOME



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

The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

YOUR ISLAND YOUR CHOICE EVENT HELD ON 15th FEB

There was a good turnout to the event. Each applicant was given 3 minutes to outline their proposed project to the audience. Voting then took place. Each person could vote for up to 3 projects.

While the votes were counted tea and biscuits were enjoyed and then the results were announced. The results were :

Seating at the Vat of Kirbuster	28 votes	Full funding	£620
Stronsay Library	26 votes	Full funding	£670
Games club	21 votes	Full funding	£200
Seating at War Memorial	17 votes	Full funding	£570
Community singing group	8 votes	Part funding	£240
Total awarded			£2,300

Thanks to the Community Hall Association for the use of the hall, to Kevin Kent and Alison Fraser for counting the votes, to Ruth and David Bowen for the tea and biscuits, and to Colin McAlpine, Bruce Fletcher & VAO for help with photocopying and promotions.

Mark Boler

BAG THE BRUCK **(Beach Cleaning Event)**

SATURDAY 22nd – SUNDAY 30th APRIL 2017

This year's event is scheduled to take place throughout Orkney during the above dates.

Any group or individual wishing to take part should contact bagthebruck@gmail.com for health and safety information and a supply of bags and gloves.

Community council sponsorship is available for this event and any groups/individuals wishing to apply for sponsorship must notify the Island Link Officer in writing by Monday 20th March 2017.

Colin McAlpine,
Island Link Officer,
Stronsay Community Council,
The Hill,
Stronsay,
KW17 2AT

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

The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

PROMOTING STRONSAY PROJECT

Promoting Stronsay Steering Group
Ignition's Visit to Stronsay February 8th-10th

"I just wanted to send a note of thanks for your time and hospitality and showing us around your wonderful island," says Joe McAspurn, Director of Ignition Marketing.

In February Joe (Director), Pam (Account Director) and Neen (Tourism Consultant) from Ignition Marketing came out to Stronsay for a couple of days to meet up with the Steering Group, see the island and its facilities, and speak with as many folk as possible to really try to get a "feel" for the island. We'd like to apologize to anyone who would have liked to have met with them and could not be included, but time was very short to fit in as much as possible and we hope you will understand. We would like to thank everyone who *was* involved in any way that helped make this visit such a success.

A quick recap: the project's aim is to promote Stronsay to help attract visitors and encourage families to move here. How we propose to improve promotion and visibility of Stronsay: by creating a Stronsay community website, publishing a new Stronsay visitor booklet and engaging a marketing company who will help us create a memorable and easily identifiable Stronsay identity which we can then use for all our promotional material.

For the website creation we have obtained the services of Orcadia Design, for the visitor booklet we are working with The Orcadian and for our island brand and image we are working with Ignition Marketing.

Promoting Stronsay Project - Stronsay Community Council, Stronsay Development Trust, Stronsay Community Association, Steering Group –

(See photographs on next page)

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

The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS



Joe & Neen with Simone outside Olivebank



Joe, Neen & Pam meet Stronsay folk at the Fish Mart

Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!
The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman: Ian Cooper, Midgarth, Stronsay, KW17 2AT. Tel: 616322

Clerk: Colin McAlpine, The Hill, Stronsay, KW17 2AT. Tel: 616446

OFFERS INVITED

Offers are invited for surplus goods from the Fish Mart.

Items have been sorted into lots and can be viewed at The Lodge between 2 and 3pm on SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2017.

Lots include:

A large hot water cylinder, a ground source heat pump, a small wooden bench, various items of crockery, cutlery and kitchen utensils including pots and pans, an ironing board, a large chest freezer, electric kettles and toasters, emulsion paint, soft chairs and plastic metal framed chairs etc....

(Please note the chairs can be sold separately. Just indicate the number of chairs required and the amount being offered per chair).

All goods are sold as seen.

Closing date for offers, which should clearly show the lot number and the amount being offered, should reach the Clerk in a sealed envelope marked “ FISH MART SURPLUS GOODS” by:-

NOON on MONDAY 13TH MARCH 2017

Lots will be awarded to the highest offer, paid for in full and removed from The Lodge by noon on Saturday 25th March 2017.

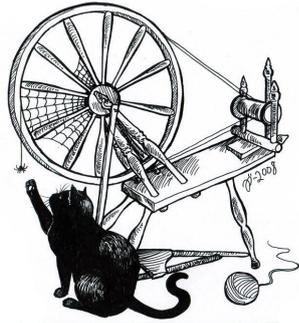
Colin McAlpine,
Clerk to Stronsay Community Council,
The Hill,
Stronsay,

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

The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS



Stronsay Spinners

Learn the basics or get back to spinning in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

Saturday 11th March in the Church Hall. From 11am to 3pm. Lunch: please bring your own. Refreshments will be available. £2.00/person.

All levels very welcome, from beginners to more experienced.

Bring your own wheel, equipment & something to spin if possible.

If not, we have a spare wheel, a few drop spindles & plenty of fleece. If you'd just like to come for a "taster" that would be great.

Simone.



STRONSAY STITCHERS

Thursday 23rd February

**From 7pm-9.30pm, Church Hall, refreshments,
£2.00/person**

Announcements by charities, local groups, clubs and organisations are FREE!
The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

STRONSAY HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE **supervised sessions**

Changes to supervised session times.

From Monday 11th April 2016

All Supervised Sessions will run from 4.30 pm to 6.30.pm

MONDAY	4:30—6:30
TUESDAY	Buddy system
WEDNESDAY	4:30—6:30
THURSDAY	4:30—6:30
FRIDAY	4:30—6:30
SATURDAY & SUNDAY	Buddy system by request

The gym can be accessed throughout the day if you have a 'buddy' to go with.

A code is required, please speak to one of the team if you have any questions

Inductions by appointment only

Andy - 616277 or Julie - 616335

Gym during supervised sessions - 616449

FIBROMYALGIA

Do you suffer from fibromyalgia? There is a local Facebook group just for you.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/463333273823206>.

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

The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

KIRKWALL MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS TO STRONSAY

Next visit - Monday 20 March 2017.

Orkney Digital Library <https://orkney.overdrive.com>

For full details visit the library's website
<http://www.orkneylibrary.org.uk/html/mobiles.htm>

COMMUNITY LEARNING

TEXTILES INFORMATION AND DEMONSTRATION CLASS

An information and demonstration class will be held at the school on **Monday, 6th March, from 2-3 pm**. Eunice Bourn-Fernley has been invited to lead the first textiles course, which will be Basic Patchwork Skills. Participants will be introduced to the basic skills and tools used for patchwork and will hear more about the four-week course, which will follow in April. This first session is open to anyone of any skill level and there is no need to let us know ahead of time--just come along if you are interested. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to phone the school office (616246).

STRONSAY DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

.The group's next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st March 3-4.30pm in the carpet room of the Community Hall.

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

The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

STRONSAY SWIMMING POOL TIMETABLE

Updated July 2016

Monday

Public session 6.30-7.10

Adult lane 7.10-7.50

Thursday

7-7.40 Private Hire (pre-booked)

7.40-8.20 Private Hire (available for booking)

Saturday

Private hire 2-2.40

Public session 2.40-3.20

Swim club

Wednesday Beginners and developers 3.30-4.10

Thursday A and B squad 3.30-4.30

To enquire about Private Hires, phone Elsie on 616238.

To enquire about Swim Club, phone Sarah on 616406 or Andy 616277

POOL CHARGES

Public Sessions

Adults (16 and over) £2.40

Children £1.20

Private Hires

40 minute session - £15

60 minute session - £20

Swim Club

Children will be offered 10 week blocks which can be paid up front (non-refundable)

40 minute sessions - £16 block booking; £2 per session

60 minute sessions - £20 block booking; £2.50 per session

Men only and Women only Sessions (16 and over)

Block booking of 10 sessions over a 12 week period (non-refundable)

£24 block booking

£3 per session

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

The cutoff date for items 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

GROUPS, CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

KIRK NEWS

With the new sound equipment in the Church it is now possible to record the services. If you are unable to get along to church each Sunday and would like to get a copy of the service week by week please phone Elsie on 616238. Services at 11am unless otherwise stated. A crèche is available for children aged 9 and under

- February 26th – June Freeth
- March 5th – Mike or Viv
- March 12th – Rob Kiff or David
- March 19th – June Freeth
- March 26th – June Freeth
- April 2nd – Rob Kiff
- April 9th – (Palm Sunday) David
- April 16th – (Easter Sunday) David
- April 23rd – June Freeth
- April 30th – Mike or Viv

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 pool all at £3 per hour plus hydro. All equipment provided.

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

For details and booking contact Colin on 616446.

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

The cutoff date for items 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

USEFUL INFORMATION

POST OFFICE OPENING TIMES, etc

Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri	08:30—12:00
Sat	09:00—12:00
Sun	Closed
Post collection times	07:30, Monday to Saturday
Bank day	Tuesday
Replacement bin bags..	Contact Island Link Officer in the Fishmart
Sunday service at the Kirk . . .	11 am (see http://tinyurl.com/pj7xtg5)
Our Lady's chapel, pier head	Mass 11.20am (weekdays), 10.30am (Sundays & Holy Days)
Next Special Collection	27 February 2017
Rubbish collection	Tuesday (bags out ready by 9am)

Doctor	616321	Balfour hospital	01856 888000
Nurses	616480	Electricity	
Medical emergency	01856 888000	problems	0800 300 999
Stronsay registrar	616239	emergency	105
Hall bookings	616446	Water problems	0845 601 8855
Post Office	616278	Highland Fuels	0800 224 224
Companions	616261	Kirkwall Library	01856 873166
Kirk	616311	Kirkwall Police	101
Stronsay Hotel	616213	Vets:	
Olivebank	616255	Flett & Carmichael .	01856 872859
Ebenezer stores	616339	Northvet	01856 873403
Neil's on Wheels	616454	Dentists:	
Taxi	616335	Orkney Dental	01856 872030
Airy Fairy	616231	King Street	01856 875348
Castle Bird Reserve	616363	Earls Palace	01856 872958
Craftship Enterprise	616249	Golgotha monastery.	616210
Star Island Soap	616281	Email contact@the-sons.org	
Driving tuition	616268		

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

JIM HOLLAND HAULAGE—DELIVERIES

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

HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET*

Send an email to editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk (preferred method); phone Bruce Fletcher on 616297 (after 10am & before 8pm, please!); or write to *The Limpet, Claremont, Stronsay, KW17 2AR*. Details of the deadline for the next edition are on the front page



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

REQUEST FOR A PRINTED COPY **OF THE LIMPET**

The existing Limpet distribution lists will be scrapped on 1st April 2017 and new distribution lists will be created.

If you really need a printed copy of the Limpet every month please complete this form and hand it in at either Olivebank, Ebenezer Stores or Claremont on or before 1 April 2017.

**PLEASE RESERVE ONE COPY OF THE LIMPET EVERY
MONTH FOR
HOUSE NAME (or number)**

I WILL COLLECT THE PRINTED COPY FROM

OLIVEBANK

EBENEZER STORES

(delete whichever is not applicable)

**REQUEST FOR A PRINTED COPY
OF THE LIMPET**

***PLEASE
FILL IN THE FORM OVERLEAF
AND RETURN IT TO
EITHER
OLIVEBANK,
EBENEZER STORES
OR
CLAREMONT
ON OR BEFORE 1 APRIL 2017***

***EXISTING DISTRIBUTION LISTS WILL BE SCRAPPED
WITH EFFECT FROM 1 APRIL 2017 AND NEW DISTRI-
BUTION LISTS WILL BE CREATED***