

STRONSAY LIMPET

FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

ISSUE 15 JULY 2006



STRONSAY GALA, 8th JULY 2006

Firstly, we hope that everyone enjoyed the Gala on Saturday. Thankfully the weather held out for the duration of the Gala.

We had the South Ronaldsay Ploughing Children and they were liked by everyone present. The children looked wonderful in full costume. It was something not to be missed.



The Stromness Pipe Band did us proud and they themselves enjoyed the event. They have already requested to be booked again next year.



The coastguard display was informative and was also enjoyed by anyone who called to visit it.





All competition entrants were of a high standard. We will publish the list of winners at a later date. Personally speaking I enjoyed the men's baking section most of all because I had a taste of the winning cake.

It was a splendid day and we wish to give a big thank you to everyone who helped to make it a success.

K.D.Campbell-Scott-Howells (Stronsay Gala Committee)

The pet show went off alright with all the animals and their owners escaping without any arguments.

The Gala day was rounded off by a dance which was well supported. The Band Don & Co played for the evening with Dr Jon Buchan who is here on Stronsay at the moment.

Independent and free one-to-one counselling, for substance misuse and/or related lifestyle issues – i.e. anger, stress, low self-esteem, gambling, etc – is now available in Stronsay. All our counsellors have received specialist counselling training, and we are a COSCA Recognised Counselling & Counselling Skills Organisation.

If you feel that we may be of some help, telephone us at 01856 874738 to arrange an appointment on Stronsay.

SURGERY HOURS

Monday-Saturday Open Surgery

9.30-10.30

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday

4pm - 5.pm by appointment

Repeat Prescription collection times Monday-Friday 10am-12pm and 1.30 - 4.30pm

NANA'S SNIPPET'S FROM THE PAST

Kelp Making

I often think that visitors walking around the Stronsay shores must wonder what the circular hollows above the beach could have been in days gone by. So I will try to explain why they are there. In the 19th century kelp making was a big industry in Orkney and the North of Scotland, first the seaweed tangles had to be gathered from the sea shore and laid up on raised stones to be dried thoroughly. This was usually done in the winter when a rough sea had driven the tangles ashore, then in early summer the hollows were lined with stones along the edge with a row of raised stones in the middle for a vent. The dried seaweed was then placed on the stones and set alight, as it was important to get the tangles burning fiercely. It took a long while to get a substantial amount of white ash which went into a hot sticky hard mess and left to cool down before it could be moved. Once it was cold it was then broken into clumps and put in sacks and weighed so everyone knew how much they had earned. As was usual in those days the hard worker got the least, but it was extra money much needed as wages were not high for farm workers etc. The kelp was shipped I think ending down in England being used in soap, glass, iodine etc. This industry went on till round about 1928-1930. The building down on the shore at Housebay was called the kelp store so that meant the kelp made around Housebay shores was stored there. Meaning the owner of Housebay got a share in the selling. This would have been the same all over the island wherever the tangles came ashore. My mother was known to have been very good at keeping her fire going, burning the tangles and my sister often spoke about all the young ones enjoying helping to carry the dry sea weed and running through the kelp reek (smoke).



The photo on the left is of Donald Peace (my Father-in-law) burning for kelp in Auskerry helped by his grandson Eddie Peace. When there, they stayed in the old hoose. Pictured right. Eddie always enjoyed helping his grandad and taking sips out of the condensed milk they had in their

NANA PEACE



The kelp industry was at its peak between 1780 -1830 employing 3,000 people

LOCAL BUSINESSES & ADVERTS

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

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

SPARKY

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

REDHOUSE PLANTS

AVAILABLE NOW
PERENNIALS AND SHRUBS
ORDERS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN FOR
BEDDING PLANTS. COME AND CHAT
TO GIL OR LINDSAY OR PHONE 616377

STRONSAY ARTWORKS

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

NEW MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

WILL BE HERE WEDNESDAY 2nd AUG & THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH. IF ENOUGH INTEREST IS SHOWN I AM PREPARED TO COME OUT ON A SATURDAY AS WELL PHONE VICKY 07903773659

WHITE KNIGHT ELECTRICAL

Now resident on Stronsay
Fully qualified (16th edition) Electrician for Installation, Test and Inspection

<u>DAVE - always on call</u> Telephone: (01857) 616230 Mobile: 07740104329

GALA

TENT, TRAMPOLINE AND BBQ WILL
BE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
BBQ £5 TRAMPOLINE £15 AND
MARQUEE £25
FOR 3 DAYS HIRE
TEL. CORA 616463

FOR SALE

Stainless Steel Sink With double drainer Offers phone Sue 616217

FOR SALE

Patio doors approx 74" wide.Also 2 x double glazed top opening windows white upvc 32" wide x 63" high & 42" wide x 67" high. Open to offers.

Tel.Yvonne .616375

WANTED

Any information or Photo's of the Old Manse Contact Yvonne 616375

HOT FUDGE SAUCE

2oz Butter 2oz Soft Brown Sugar 2 tbsp Syrup 7oz Condensed Milk

DORIS AND NAINE'S KITCHEN

Put butter sugar and syrup in pan and heat gently until sugar has dissolved. Add condensed milk and cook 2-3 minutes stirring all the time as it easily burns. Serve hot or cold with ice cream.

USEFUL NUMBERS

| DOCTORS | 616321/308 | B&B CLESTRAIN | 616340 |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------|
| NURSES | 616453/232 | B&B AIRY | 616372 |
| HYDRO | 0800300999 | CAMPING BARN | 616314 |
| BALFOUR HOSPITAL | 01856888000 | COMPANIONS | 616307 |
| DENTIST KING STREET | 01856875348 | GALA | 616463/339 |
| VET - FLETT & CARMICHAEL | 01856872859 | REGISTRAR | 616239 |
| VET - NORHTVET | 01856873403 | FISHMART | 616386 |
| KIRK | 616311 | HALL BOOKINGS | 616446 |
| STRONSAY HOTEL | 616213 | POST OFFICE | 616217 |
| MAURICE'S | 616255 | SPECIAL CONSTABLE | 616216 |
| EBENEZER STORES | 616339 | STRONSAY LIMPET | 616375/453 |

USEFUL INFO AND DATES

POST OFFICE TIMES- MON & THURS 9am-4pm TUE, WED, FRI & SAT 9am-1pm RE PLACEMENT BIN BAGS TEL: 01856 873535
SUNDAY SERVICE AT THE KIRK SUNDAY 11am
OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIER HEAD. - DAILY MASSES 7am SUNDAY 9am
NEXT SPECIAL RUBBISH COLLECTION 12th October CHARGES NOW APPLY
UP TO 3 ITEMS FREE 4-6 ITEMS £20 7-FULL PICK UP LOAD £45

QUIZ Answers start with the Letter A

- 1. What is the middle name of the inventor Thomas Edison?
- 2. What ten letter word is the name given to the long staff used by mountain climbers?
- 3. What flavour is ouzo, the national drink of Greece?
- 4. What name is given to the fear of heights?
- 5. What name was given to the outpost held by Texan fighters for 13 days against the Mexican army in 1836?
- 6. Which film featured a spacecraft called 'Nostramo'?
- 7. In the Bible, who was married to Sarah and Keturah?
- 8. What is the collective name for a group of frogs?
- Who won football's World Cup in 1978?
- 10. In which country is the Pushtu language spoken?

ANSWERS NEXT ISSUE

June answers. 1. Aquarius 2. Atom 3. Alsatian 4. Allah 5. Abstain 6 Adultery 7. Antidote 8. Aswan 9. Andalucia 10. Apollo

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.

GROUPS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

STRONSAY COMPANIONS

HAS FINISHED FOR THE SUMMER

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 FINISHED FOR THE SUMMER

WOMENS GUILD KIRK PICNIC

SATURDAY 15th JULY 4pm
IN CHURCH GROUNDS. OPEN TO ALL
GAMES AND FOOD SUPLIED
PLEASE COME ALONG AND HAVE A
FUN AFTERNOON

SWRI

RESUMES AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER FOR MORE INFO CONTACT 616468

MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP

FINISHED FOR THE SUMMER

TABLE TOP SALE

Is th August
FROM 12 pm Till 4pm
AT THE FISHMART
IN AID OF BLIDE TRUST
£5 A TABLE TO BOOK PHONE
VAL 07760373662
Tables to be set up 1 hour before start
LAST SALE RAISED £30
FOR BLIDE TRUST

LIBRARY

NEXT VISIT 1st AUGUST WHITEHALL 9am - 11am SCHOOL 11.30-14.00 GORRIES 14.30-16.45

STRONSAY SINGERS

FINISHED FOR SUMMER BRIAN CROWE 616464

SWIM CLUB & OCTOPUSH

FINISHED FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

New reduced rate £5 per hour for room up to £15 max plus £5 for DISCO equipment. A DJ from the Hall list must be used.

Now available to hire.

Badminton £2 per hour + hydro

Table tennis £2 per hour + Hydro

Snooker £2 per hour + Hydro

All equipment provided

Adult supervision (over 18) must be present
During hire. Any damage must be paid for to
book

CONTACT COLIN ON 446

STRONSAY FISHMART

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

Refreshments.

SUMMER OPENINGS

MON: 11:30 - 14:00 & 16:00 - 18:00

TUES: CLOSED

WED: 12:00 - 14:00 & 16:00 - 19:00

THURS:12:00 - 14:00 & 16:00 -19:00

FRI: 12:00 - 14:00 & 16:00 -19:00

SAT: 12:00 - 14:00 & 16:00 -19:00

SUN: 10:30 - 19:00

Special occasions catered for by arrangement Tel 616386

Enjoyable evening at the Kirk

On Monday the 19th June Some of Stronsay's school pupils were fortunate to be able to play with some of the Scottish Philharmonic Orchestra during a recent visit to Stronsay, during the St Magnus festival celebrations. Although quite nervous they all played very well and were asked to repeat the performance by the visiting musicians.



Here are some thoughts from the participating children. Avril: first time I was very nervous but enjoyed playing the second time. Tilly: nervous at the start then found it quit fun. Alison: I was so nervous I was shivering in my boots, but then it was ok. Jacqui: We did fine we did Stronsay proud. Lauren: Nervous but when we played it a second time it was awesome. Keith: Fine and proud that he did it. Juliette: Bit nervous but really enjoyed it. Alice: Nervous but glad she did it, and enjoyed it. Jody: Enjoyed playing and would love to do it again.

The concert was well attended and enjoyed by everyone.

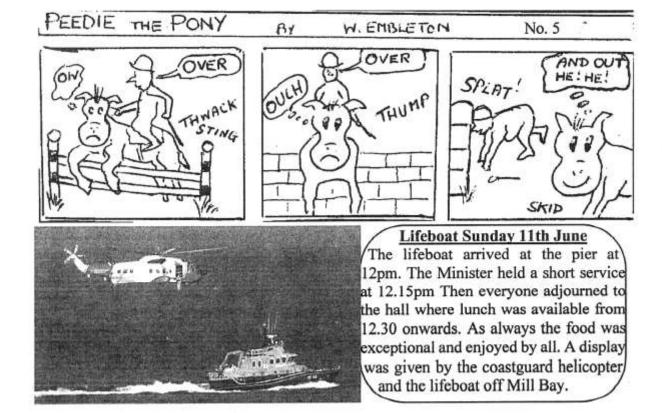
STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Please note that with immediate effect the following charges will apply for the use of the Stronsay Slaughterhouse:

Cow £20

Pig £15

Sheep £5



Part two

"I Must Down To The Sea Again" by Dr George McKay

No longer the placatory indulgence to his parents of a nice safe shore based job - he was determined to follow the family tradition of fishing. How could an awkward, inarticulate adolescent explain this to his hurt, bewildered parents as all their dreams of a secure future for their only son suddenly crumbled to dust? Thus began a period of fraught, tense relationships within the home as his parents tried every method to encourage him at his studies. In vain did his parents cajole, threaten, bribe. At school, no longer a favourite among his teachers, rather a thorn in their flesh, he made the deliberate decision to do poorly, if necessary to fail exams by giving deliberately wrong answers, in the certain knowledge that any degree of academic excellence would be used as a lever to force him to continue in further education. At times it seemed that the whole world conspired against him. He expected no support from his teachers - what else would anyone expect from a group of people who had gone to school at age five, gone straight to university and then returned to teach in school? What had they ever seen of life? Far in the future was the development of children's rights, "Child psychology, haud y'ere tongue It was dee as y'ere bidden when I was young."

At the time it seemed that the battle would never end. However, in the end, his father relented and offered him a place as a crew member, even though this meant dismissing an existing crew member who had been on the boat since her commissioning three years earlier. It was a joyous occasion, but tinged somewhat with guilt, when he packed his loathed text books in the saddle bag of his bicycle and returned them to their relevant departments, glad to see the back of his teachers as no doubt they were to see the back of him although, it must be admitted, one of them at least shook hands with him and wished him well. At last he was ready to start to learn all that he desired, the skills of the last of the hunters - the commercial fishermen. For the first week or two there was nothing to do as the boat underwent her annual refit. Time then to meet his friends who were in a similar limbo as several of them waited to start on their new career. Soon the time passed, the fishing gear was brought aboard and stowed, fuel and water taken on and all made ready for the start of a new season.

On the night before sailing he experienced a sense of extreme loneliness. His mother had been admitted to hospital in Aberdeen for an operation and the house was being looked after by his grandparents. In bed that night sleep was elusive. Doubts started to fill his mind. Would he be able to cope in bad weather? Had he the stamina needed to last out the gruelling hours of work on the open deck? Mixed with all this were the dreams of great hauls offish, the thrill of the hunt, the excitement of the unknown. At last it was time to get out of bed in the pre-dawn darkness of a May morning to start his working life. Behind him the school years, interesting in their own way, but

preparing him not in the least for what lay ahead.

His thoughts that morning as he walked with his father to the harbour are now long hidden in the mists of time. Only one thing remains for certain in his mind - it was the local holiday Monday, the May holiday. Now he was no longer a supermimary who could do more or less as he pleased, now he had his own specific tasks to carry out. Strange as it may seem the first job allocated to a new crew member was that of cook. Fortunately on an inshore seiner cooking was not something regarded as highly important - enough to be able to boil the kettle on the coal fired stove in the small cabin, make tea and wash up afterwards. However it was a different proposition on a bigger boat where the crew might be away from home for up to a week. Here also tradition was to some extent followed and the feeding of a hungry crew trusted to the untrained efforts of a young, frequently sea sick boy straight from school. Horror stories of this type of arrangement abounded in the industry and it must say something for the kind, paternal nature of most of the crews that this was taken in their stride. His first task this morning was to light the stove. This was achieved by use of a diesel soaked rag on which was piled some dry kindling. The main result of this appeared to be some small flames and copious clouds of acrid white smoke as the stove slowly started to dry out with the heat of the fire, filling the tiny cabin with nauseating furnes. The kettle was filled with fresh water and set on top of the stove allowing him to beat a hasty retreat to the deck to help with the stowing of mooring ropes and fenders ready for sea. Down the dock they sailed, past the fish market, out into the right angled bend to take them into the entrance channel to the harbour. Out, with the channel wide open behind them, the lighthouse on the pier head flashing its white message of safety and the red leading lights safely in line until they had cleared the hidden reef of rocks to the east of the harbour. Now their course was altered to steer for the fishing grounds ten miles distant to the east. Back down in the cabin the stove, which in the next few years would figure as public enemy number one in his mind, reluctantly came to life, still showing its defiance by emitting a small belch of smoke every time the boat rolled lazily to the gentle swell. Half an hour later the kettle was finally boiling, the large enamel teapot filled with tea and boiling water and he went up to the wheelhouse to relieve his father at the wheel.

STRONSAY BIRD REPORT John & Sue Holloway

The local Swallows have been very successful this year and a pair of Sedge Warblers nested opposite Springwell once again. Many recently hatched waders are still to be seen along the roadsides - a pair of Curlew successfully rearing their young in the Greenfield drive. 2 or 3 Chiffchaffs have over summered and a Fieldfare has been seen several times throughout June.

A Black-throated Diver has been seen in Mill Bay several times (may still be present) and on 26th June was joined by a Great Northern Diver, 'Bird of the Summer' so far has been a Marsh Harrier found by times near Northbank throughout June Kath and Norman Kent and seen later by Eoin Stevenson at the Bu. (has also been spotted near the Kirk on 2nd July. It was taken into care at the 10thJuly)

An early sign of autumn is the sighting of returning waders - a Greenshank flew over the Reserve on July

8

'first-summer' Glaucous Gull whish had been seen several was found by Jim and Geira Cooper on Reserve where it is recovering well on a varied diet of scraps.

7th - and now is the time to look out for Golden Plover and Bar-tailed Godwits in the freshly cut/cleared silage fields. Another species to look out for mid -summer is Rosy Starling - a rarity from SE Europe which may be found among the roving Starling flocks.

One interesting sighting was of a Reed Bunting at Lower Leaguey on 9th June.

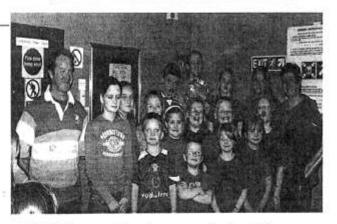
Ghost Moths may be seen around this time - the White males doing their eerie dance low among the short grass/weeds. Painted Lady butterflies have been quite numerous and once again Red Admirals are regularly seen in the island gardens

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



"YOU CAN'T BEAT THE GALA. IT'S **EVEN** BETTER THAN WIMBLEDON!"

LONGHOPE GALA



Well done to all who swam in the Gala. You all worked very hard and it was a well enjoyed day. Thanks must go to Sheena and Paul for all their hard work and encouragement.

STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

UPDATE - July 2006

Following the appointment of five new directors and of four new officers in November last year, and of William Caithness as our Local Development Officer, the new Board is working well and making good progress.

Sub-Groups: In May, the Board decided to re-form itself into a number of broad sub-groups dealing with a range of island issues, rather than continue with the former arrangement of directors leading only specific projects. The sub-groups, together with the directors accountable for them, are:

- 1 Our Community: Hazel Shearer and Julie Andrew
- 2 Housing, Transport & Services: Colin McAlpine, Don Peace & Steve Weaver
- 3 Renewables, Recycling & the Environment: Eoin Stevenson & Norman Shearer
- 4 Heritage: Brian Crowe & Mike Erdman
- 5 Amenities: Sue Fairbrother & Yvonne Weaver
- 6 Economic Development: Ian Cooper & Juliet Durrant

Under these broad headings fall a number of existing projects. New projects, as they occur, will be allocated to one of the groups for action, and it is hoped that members of the community will be involved in the individual project groups. If you have any comments or questions about any of the areas above, please to not hesitate to speak to the relevant director/s or to William Caithness.

Island Survey: Over the life of the Trust, many of the community's ideas and suggestions have been actioned, or are the subjects of ongoing projects. These include:

- 1 The publication of "Harvesting the Wind", our first Development Plan
- 2 Hosting a visit by Ross Finnie, Scottish Rural Affairs Minister
- 2 The appointment of a Local Development Officer
- 3 The launch and ongoing success of the Limpet
- 4 The provision of a recreation area in Whitehall: planning is complete and funding is currently being sought
- 1 Feasibility studies into hydrogen production and use, and the farming of abalone
- 2 Courses in dry-stone dyking, powerboat handling, and computer usage. A course in Food Hygiene is in the planning stages
- Surveys into the restoration of the SS Athenia Lifeboat and of the building of a slipway at Whitehall
- 4 Providing an air hockey table for the Youth Club
- 5 Providing Octopush equipment for the Swimming Club
- 6 A £1000 contribution towards the ground source heat pump at the Fishmart
- 7 New entertainment opportunities such as the Magic Show and the Christmas Concert
- 8 An island skills survey, planned for later in the summer
- 9 The Trust website, now up and running and regularly updated
- 10 A housing survey planned for Autumn/Winter 2006
- 11 Applying for charitable status
- 12 Carrying out an island census

In addition, the Board have undertaken a number of courses in the interests of Trust development, including Board procedures, financial management, and making successful funding applications. The LDO, likewise, has attended a number of events to increase his skills and knowledge in supporting the work of the Trust.

The Stronsay Survey 2006

Although there are a number of past achievements and of ongoing projects, we believe that now is the time to go back to the community (some of whom will be relatively new to the island) to canvass views, seek new ideas, and establish your priorities in the medium to long term. To this end, we held a public meeting to inform you about a broad-ranging survey, including the skills survey mentioned above. We are very much hoping that everyone will make time to give some thought to how they see the future for our young folk and, indeed, for the future of the island. We need a true reflection of the hopes, needs and desires of our community in order to plan how the Trust can best help to achieve your goals.

Island Census: The Trust recently carried out a census which showed a population of 354 (170 males and 184 females). In addition there are 27 who are resident on, or whose home base is, Papa Stronsay. Some of the interesting statistics (as at April 2006) of those resident on Stronsay are as follows:

- 1 197 (55.6%) were born outside of Orkney
- 2 There are 144 occupied houses, including 42 one-person households. There are an additional 30 habitable houses currently unoccupied of which 8 are holiday homes and 2 being actively advertised for sale
- 3 Farms: 50 years ago, we had 70 farms, and 25 years ago we had 46. The latter employed 60 full-time and 10 part-time workers. Currently, we have 23 farms with 31 full-time and 6 part-time workers.
- 4 Age profile: of particular interest to our future is a comparison of our island's age profile with those most recently available of Orkney and Scotland:

| Age Group | Stronsay 2006 (%) | Orkney 2001 (%) | Scotland 2001 (%) |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 0-4 | 3.4 | 5.1 | 5.5 |
| 5-19 | 25.5 | 19.2 | 18.7 |
| 20-44 | 20.3 | 31.4 | 35.5 |
| 45-64 | 31.9 | 27.5 | 24.5 |
| 65-84 | 16.4 | 14.6 | 14.2 |
| 85+ | 2.5 | 2.1 | 1.8 |

While those of 19 or under is higher than average, those of 20-44 is very much lower

1 There are 31 people working full-time for an employer, of whom only 4 will reach retirement age in the next 10 years. In that same period, over 70 of our young people will enter the job market.

The statistics raise some interesting questions – for example, looking at job opportunities on the island for our young folk, we have to ask ourselves "How many of them are going to be able to remain on the island?". To help answer some of these questions, we need your contribution and we hope that this, as reported above, will come through the Stronsay Survey 2006.

Charitable Status: Following much discussion and taking extensive advice, the Board decided to recommend to members that the Trust applies for charitable status. At the EGM on 5 July, members supported this view and also voted to make some necessary changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Community Wind Turbine

At the public meeting following the EGM, presentations were made on the possibility of a community wind turbine. A number of options for funding were explained, together with potential benefits including the generation of income for community benefit. After questions from the floor, taken by William Caithness and Sam Harcus, from Westray, attendees voted unanimously in favour of the Trust pursuing, in principle, the possibility of installing a community wind turbine. We would like to thank everyone who attended this meeting, and the EGM, for their time and valuable contributions.

Finally, some very exciting news of a forthcoming event. As you know, Orkney holds a Science Festival each year which attracts high profile speakers and very senior level guests, and gets a great deal of publicity. This year, the Trust has been approached to host one-two days of the Festival on 6-7 September, and we have accepted the invitation with enthusiasm. Details are few at the moment, but we will let you know as and when we have more information.

As you can see, there is a lot going on! We will continue to keep you as informed as we can

meantime, we welcome your comments and, if you have the time, your attendance at Board
Meetings to hear more.

Mike Erdman Chair

The Board/Contact Numbers

Julie Andrew/616335 Brian Crowe/616464 Mike Erdman (Chair)/616339 Colin McAlpine/616446 Sinclair Scott (Nominated, OIC) Chair)/616231 Hazel Shearer/616231 Steve Weaver/616375 Ian Cooper/616322 Juliet Durrant (Secretary)/616247 Sue Fairbrother (Treasurer)/616217 Don Peace/616335 Norman Shearer (Vice

Eoin Stevenson/616216 Yvonne Weaver/616375

Local Development Officer: William Caithness/616469

Clerk: Nigel Durrant/616247