



STRONSAY LIMPET

FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST
ISSUE 18 OCTOBER 2006



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL MACMILLAN FUNDRAISER FOR SHEENA & JULIA

On Friday 29th September, Sheena Cooper and Julia Wild held their annual coffee morning at 'Sunnyside' to raise much needed funds for the MacMillan Cancer Unit in Kirkwall. They did their first fundraising for the Cancer Unit approximately six years ago by completing a 20 mile walk around Stronsay and managed then to raise in the region of £1000.

Later that year they decided to hold their first coffee morning, this event raised a further £100.

Since then they have held a coffee morning on a yearly basis which continued to raise money and has increased by approximately £100 per year since then.

In 2005 they raised £622.61p.



All money raised in Orkney stays in Orkney. It is spent on a variety of things that help to make life more comfortable for patients and families alike.

Julia works in the Kirkwall MacMillan Unit and see's and understands the everyday needs of the unit. Living areas are provided for patients and families, these areas have been made as comfortable as possible. A new conservatory has been erected also new bedding and curtains have been purchased along with flat screen televisions with integrated free view. These have all been purchased out of the fund that all money raised goes into.

Everyone knows of someone who's life is touched by cancer, and so the cause is close to most peoples hearts.

At the Coffee Morning / Evening there were sales tables , raffles and refreshments. It was a very enjoyable event to attend. During the morning session 24 people attended and the evening was even busier.

Lots of donations were sent by people who couldn't attend for one reason or another.

The fundraiser has always been held at 'Sunnyside' and since leaving Stronsay Julia has always returned to join Sheena for the event.

Money has continued to come in and the total raised at the time of printing is

£701

Over £2,100 has been raised between 2000 and 2006 making a total to date of over £2800

Thankfully Cancer sufferers have a good support system throughout Orkney. We need to ensure this continues and it will as long as people like Sheena and Julia have anything to do with it.

WELL DONE SHEENA AND JULIA

**DON'T FORGET TO ALTER YOUR CLOCKS ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 29th
BACK 1 HOUR**

A REQUEST FROM DR BUCHAN

I am grateful to Heather and Yvonne for allowing me to use the Limpet to let you know of my plans.

For two days in November, soon after I finish my spell on Stronsay, I am going on a GP refresher course. There will be twelve doctors on the course to be held in a hotel in Keswick, Cumbria. As part of our training in communication skills each of us has been asked to bring a video recording of two consultations. We will study the recordings together and decide what was well done and what could be improved.

I need to video some consultations so that I can select two for the course. I cannot do this unless you give written permission for me to do so.

If you come to see me while I am at Geramount I will give you a form that asks you to sign to say that you agree to me recording us. This will be a record only of our conversation. No examination will be taped.

If you do not want to sign the form you do not have to. There will be no reward for signing but no penalty for not signing. Even if you have signed you can ask me to turn off the camera should you find yourself saying things you would rather not have recorded.

There should be no difference from normal. I have been through this exercise before and, surprisingly, you soon forget all about the presence of the camera.

All the doctors who will see the tape are bound by strict rules of confidentiality. It must help that none of them is likely to know you. I am the only one likely to be embarrassed but I knew that when I signed up for the course.

If you choose to help, thank you. If not, no problem."

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

KIRK NEWS

Give Thanks! Harvest Thanksgiving Service Sunday 29th October 11 a.m. in the church. The whole community is invited to join in giving thanks to God for another harvest safely in and for all the many ways our lives have been filled with good things this year. This will be a special service for the whole family, children and adults alike, with both old and new harvest hymns and different ways of expressing our thankfulness. When you come, you are encouraged to bring along something that represents what you are especially thankful for this year—could be a photo of a new grandchild, a flower, a favourite toy, a prize vegetable, a stone from off the beach, a creel—use your imagination (cattle and sheep, tractors, trailers, boats or combine harvesters are probably best kept outside!)... Come along and see the kirk decorated in celebration of the abundance of the season!

The whole community is also invited to contribute produce, bread or homebakes for the Thanksgiving Boxes which will be distributed to the "over-eighties" in the island. The church hall will be opened all day (from 10-4:30) on Saturday, 28th October, to receive your gifts for others.

LOCAL BUSINESSES & ADVERTS³

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

OLIVEBANK

THE PRICE OF COAL IS DUE TO RISE CONSIDERABLY IN NOVEMBER BUY NOW TO GET IT AT THE OLD PRICE ALSO TURKEYS FOR CHRISTMAS NEED TO BE ORDERED SHORTLY.TEL. 616255

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

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 AGAIN ON MONDAY 6th NOVEMBER AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO COME OUT ON A SATURDAY AS WELL IF ENOUGH PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED PHONE VICKY 07903773659

SPARKY

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

WHITE KNIGHT ELECTRICAL

Now resident on Stronsay

**Fully qualified (16th edition) Electrician for
Installation, Test and Inspection**

DAVE - always on call

Telephone: (01857) 616230

Mobile: 07740104329

FOR SALE

TATTIES

Colleen, Cara, Navan, Kerrs Pink, Rooster, and Robinta.

WILL DELIVER

PHONE MIDGARTH 616322

FOR SALE

RAYBURN ROYAL

OIL FIRED CENTRAL HEATING
COOKER. RIGHT HAND OVEN AND
FLUE £250

CONTACT WILMA 616345

PRIVATE ADVERTS, SALES

OR GREETINGS UP TO 25 WORDS £1,
25 WORD ADVERT WITH PHOTO £2, 25
TO 50 WORDS £2 AND SO ON. LOST
AND FOUND FREE

CHARITY FUND RAISING ADVERTS
FREE

TO BE PLACED BY 8th NOVEMBER
TEL YVONNE 616375 OR HEATHER
616453. EMAIL hfazak@btinternet.com

Letters to Lower Leaquoy.

SWRI
 OCTOBER 25th 7.30pm
 PATCHWORK AND QUILTING
 DEMONSTRATION BY
 EUNICE AND JENNIFER
 OPEN TO ALL SUPPER SERVED
 ENTRANCE 50p

**DO YOU EVER GET A
 CHRISTMAS CARD FROM SOMEONE
 YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN TO SEND
 ONE TO. THE ANSWER IS PLACE
 YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS IN
 COLOUR TO EVERYONE HERE IT
 ONLY COST A POUND FOR A BOX
 THIS SIZE**

RNLI HALLOWEEN
 OCTOBER 31st 7.30pm
 Fancy Dress
 Neepie Lanterns, Dooking for apples
 Raffles Quizzes, Tombola
 and Sales Table
 Hall Open Between 2 & 4pm for donations

BONFIRE NIGHT
 SATURDAY 4th NOVEMBER 7pm
 FIREWORK DISPLAY FOLLOWED BY
 DANCE & SUPPER OF
 MINCE, CLAPSHOT & HAGGIS
 GUY COMPETITION
 CATEGORIES ADULT, PRIMARY AND
 SECONDARY
 ENTRANCE ADULTS £2
 CHILDREN £1.

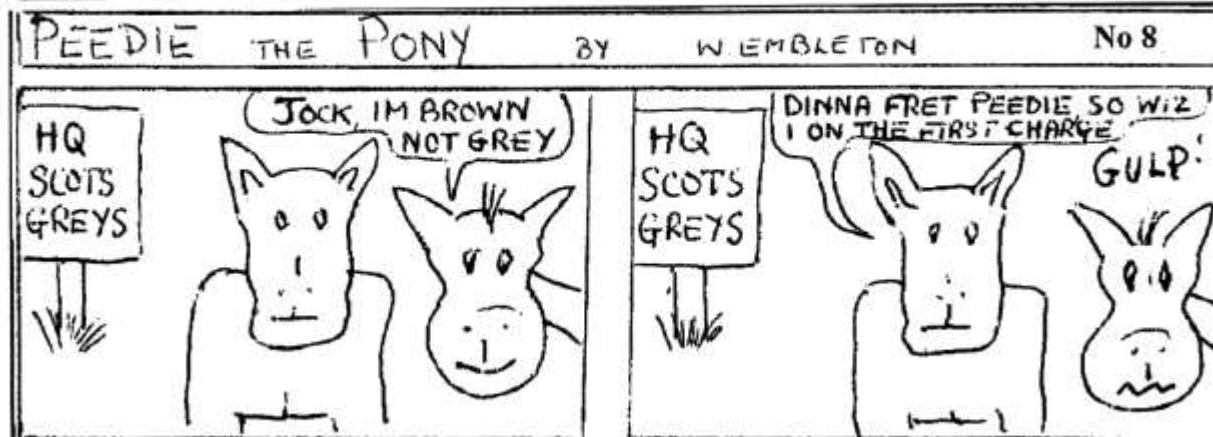
**GALA TREASURE HUNT
 SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER
 STARTS FROM HALL CAR PARK
 at 1pm
 EACH CAR WILL BE TIMED IN & OUT
 £5 per CAR
 CASH PRIZE TO WINNER**

**HARVEST HOME DINNER &
 DANCE NOVEMBER 11th**
 MEAL & DANCE 8pm START
 ADULTS £5 CHILDREN £3
 DANCE ONLY
 ADULTS £3 & CHILDREN £1
 MUSIC BY DON & Co
 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT BOTH
 SHOPS

**BINGO
 NIGHT**
 Tuesday 14th November 7:00pm
 At the Fish Mart
**PRIZE MONEY!
 & Raffle**
 £1 entry fee
 All proceeds in aid of Our Lady of the Angels Stronsay,
 Reg. Scottish charity NO.SCO36257

LEARN TO DANCE
 WITH DORIS AND INGRAM
 SATURDAY 28th AT 7.30PM
 AT THE HALL
 ADULTS £1
 CHILDREN 50p

CITIZENS ADVICE
 WILL BE AT THE HALL MONDAY 6th NOVEMBER BETWEEN 10am & 12pm



GROUPS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

STRONSAY COMPANIONS

FOR MORE INFO
PHONE JEANO 616307

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

AT THE HALL 8-10PM
ALL OVER 10's WELCOME COME
ALONG AND HAVE SOME FUN
PARENTS CAN YOU ENSURE THAT
CHILDREN ARE PICKED UP BEFORE
10pm

MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP

EVERY THURSDAY AT 9.30am-11.00am
IN THE HALL
ALSO TABLE TOP SALE
IN NOVEMBER DATE TO BE
ARRANGED
£5 a TABLE TO BOOK 616406

★ STRONSAY FISHMART ★
Cafe, Hostel & Interpretation centre.
Hot meals, light snacks, home bakes,
teas, coffees

OPENING HOURS

Thurs; 12pm- 2pm
Friday; 5pm-7pm
Saturday; 5pm-7pm
Sunday; 2pm-2pm
5pm-7pm

Special occasions catered for by
arrangement Tel 616386



STRONSAY FISH MART CAFÉ

Sunday Roasts

NOW AVAILABLE

Roast Lamb or Roast
Chicken with

Tatties, peas, carrots, York-
shire pudding & gravy.

£6.95

Starting 15th Oct.

Bookings Advisable.
01857 616386

STRONSAY SINGERS

ALL WELCOME
BRIAN CROWE 616464

LIBRARY

NEXT VISIT 24th OCTOBER
WHITEHALL 9am - 11am
SCHOOL 11.30-14.00
GORRIES 14.30-16.45
SCHOOL 18.30-20.00

SWIM POOL OPENINGS

TUE PRIVATE HIRE 7.00pm
(Booked in advance, 616331)
PUBLIC 7.40-8.20pm ADULT 8.20-9.00pm
WED PUBLIC 7.00-7.40pm
PUBLIC 7.40-8.20pm
ADULT LANE 8.20-9.00pm
THURS SWIM CLUB (for more info on
this contact SHEENA 616306)
POOL PHONE NUMBER 616288
LIFEGUARD TRAINING FIRST
TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PAGE FOR YOUNGSTERS

Linda Spendley has been kind enough to let us print this poem about 'Blue' the dog. She has also written a book called 'Pete the Pony' which, with her kind permission, we will be serialising over the next few months.

A Dog Called Blue

I'll tell you the tale of a big dog called Blue,
When he was a puppy he chewed up my shoe.

He chewed up my sofa, he chewed my
armchairs,
He chewed at the carpet that went up the
stairs.

He chewed up the car if he got shut inside,
He chewed even more when we went for a
ride.

He chewed at his lead when we went for a
walk,
He chewed at the phone while I tried hard to
talk.



I was outside one day, just for minutes, not
hours,
He chewed my new slippers, and even my
flowers.

My flowers were the last straw, for him, not
for me.

The look on his face was a picture to see.

The carpet was tasty, and so was the wood,
But the flavour of flowers was not quite so
good.

Now Blue is a grown-up, a puppy no more.
He doesn't chew carpets or gnaw at the door.

I think of those flowers with a smile on my
face,

So glad there was something not
quite to Blue's taste.

The numbers on the right can be found in the grid, running up, down, backwards, forwards or diagonally. Good Luck

5	9	2	2	6	4	6	9	8	0	3	2	6	3	5	3	8	9
8	9	3	2	6	4	8	3	2	8	6	1	2	3	1	1	0	0
4	3	2	1	6	9	8	0	3	2	8	6	0	9	3	2	7	6
6	1	4	7	2	3	0	9	5	4	3	4	0	0	9	8	4	4
6	5	8	5	9	5	6	9	0	4	7	2	5	3	2	8	2	1
2	1	2	2	5	4	6	7	9	8	6	4	2	1	0	0	8	9
4	5	7	8	0	3	4	6	7	8	2	1	7	1	3	2	9	7
3	5	7	6	3	2	8	7	9	9	5	7	3	4	2	8	0	5
4	6	7	9	0	8	7	5	3	2	1	2	1	5	5	5	6	7
4	5	7	6	9	0	0	2	1	1	6	4	5	2	8	5	9	3
4	3	7	8	9	2	6	7	0	0	1	6	2	3	2	8	6	2
8	4	5	2	0	0	0	1	2	4	7	6	8	9	0	0	0	3

- 11309
- 12123
- 13054
- 17528
- 20055
- 26700
- 41975
- 42664
- 48277
- 52000
- 54340
- 57604
- 61840
- 62258
- 64698
- 74289
- 76799
- 76900
- 82345
- 82712
- 85580
- 90003
- 90293
- 98525

Hi Guys
Hope you like the new page.
It is for our younger readers.
If you would like to have anything (a story, poem, or a picture) included Please let us know.
What sort of thing would you like to see on your page?
We are open to ideas, so come on lets have them!

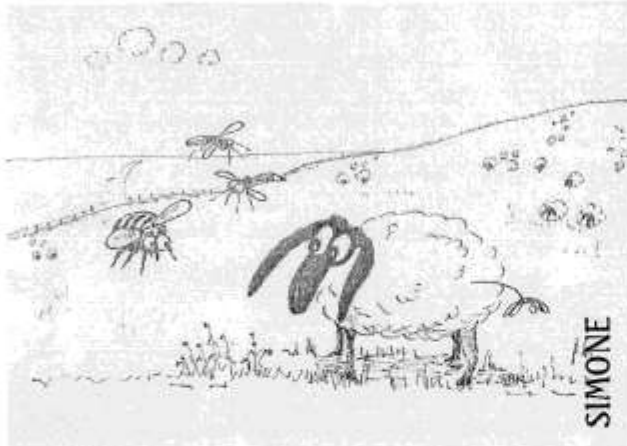
He had now been at sea for almost two years. He was, to all intents and purposes, a fully fledged fisherman, fully capable of carrying out the full range of duties expected of him, but still to some extent a novice in the lore and experience needed to transform him into an experienced seaman. That would only come as a result of many years hard won knowledge, if at all. The ability to look out over the surface of the surrounding sea and to visualise not only a flat, lifeless plain but a living, moving, restless entity ruled by its own mysterious cycles, its currents, tides, depths and seasons. To some this ability was granted, to many it remained an impenetrable mystery. Whether he would ever join the favoured few was a secret for the future and one which he did not spend much time contemplating. Autumn had come and gone and already they were well into December. The annual migration of lemon soles, plaice, haddock and cod was well established and they could now look forward to enjoying a few weeks of good catches and high earnings before the shoals, slowly moving west along the edge of the Southern Trench, gradually declined and disappeared over the next six to eight weeks. Now they had established their early winter routine, sailing at midnight on Sunday night to fish in the still, frigid darkness of early winter, the strong, blustery winds of autumn stilled by the arrival of the winter frosts. Over the last few years his father, the skipper, had built up a well deserved reputation for exploiting to the full the lucrative shoals of soles and plaice as they passed on their mysterious, unseen migration route. This was based on working a specific area of ground, some ten or fifteen miles from home and, unusual for the seine net, mainly in the dark. Here they would spend most of their nights through December if the weather was reasonably kind before fishing the deeper water on the edge of the Trench for the few short hours of winter daylight. In this venture of night fishing they were left almost in solitary possession except for one other, older boat from their home port. Over the years a rivalry, sometimes friendly, sometimes barbed, had grown up between the skippers and their crews. This could wax and wane, dictated mainly by the relative degree of success of their efforts but always in a spirit of camaraderie and mutual respect.

On this particular Monday morning they had lost the race for first haul on the grounds which had been rested over the weekend and their rival, the Replenish, was there before them. There ahead of them as they passed the looming bulk of Troup Head, black against the brighter, starlit night sky, was the dim working lights of their rival. At this time in the early nineteen sixties equipment and lighting were minimal. Far in the future lay the days of fluorescent lit decks, close circuit T.V., to monitor the working decks, satellite controlled navigational positioning and a wheel house resembling the flight deck of a Jumbo jet. Indeed it was only in the past year that their rival had installed a radio transmitter. Whether their rival being ahead of them made any major difference or not was debatable in terms of catch at the end of the day but it certainly resulted in being forced into second position for choice of areas to work for the rest of the night and, let it be whispered, a loss of face. The working day passed, its success or failure now buried deep in the mists of time and finally it was time to go home. Westward they sailed towards their home port to land their catch, wearily drag themselves home at the end of a sixteen hour day, wash, tidy up, eat and drop thankfully in to bed before starting all over again the next morning.

On getting up the next morning he thought his father was rather withdrawn. "Ah well", he said "we winna hae the Replenish tae worry aboot ony mair". "Fit dae ye mean by that?" he asked.

"Oh, efter ye went tae bed last night we heard the news that Jim Lyon (the skipper of the Replenish) dropped down dead on his way home from the harbour last night" came the reply.

To be continued

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"WE DON'T SEE IT. WE DON'T HEAR IT. WE DON'T SPEAK IT."

DORIS & NAINES KITCHEN**OATCAKES**

12oz OATMEAL
 ¼ TEASPOON BAKING SODA
 ¼ TEASPOON SALT
 6 TEASPOONS MELTED LARD

PUT ALL INGREDIENTS INTO A BOWL AND MIX TO A PLIABLE DOUGH WITH WARM WATER. ROLL OUT THINLY AND CUT INTO PIECES. COOK IN A MODERATE OVEN FOR 20 MINS

STRONSAY BIRD REPORT

John & Sue Holloway

Three species of American wader have been seen during the last month, including the amazing sight of two together - Semi-palmated Sandpiper and Long-billed Dowitcher - by the Matpow Loch on 18th September, and a Baird's Sandpiper on the beach off the Reserve on 23rd. Frustratingly all three birds were only present for a short time.

Autumn migration is now upon us with many migrants visiting the island gardens. These have included Blackcaps, Goldcrests, Robins, Chaffinches and in the last few days many Redwings and Song Thrushes - none of which breed on Stronsay. 2 Ring Ouzels have been seen and a flock of 15 Siskins posed perfectly for the evening class on 26th Sept, thanks to careful manoeuvring of the mini-bus by Sheila Williamson.

Seven or eight Yellow-browed Warblers have been seen in the first half of October - most in areas of tall weeds. These tiny migrants from Asia can be infuriatingly difficult to relocate, unlike the rather similar but much commoner Goldcrest. Two other very rare species of Asian warbler have been recorded in October - first a Dusky Warbler at Sunnybank on 4th followed by a Radde's Warbler in the Lower Millfield garden on Friday 13th - the same date as the first island record back in 1988!

Long-tailed Ducks have begun to arrive back in Mill Bay for the winter and the recently released Pheasants have bred successfully, with birds recorded from many areas. A few Snow Buntings have been seen - a species well worth looking for just above the shoreline.

Many Red Admirals have been seen in the last few days and there have been several sightings of Humming-bird Hawk Moth in the Sunnybank/Dale/Comelybank area in mid-month (perhaps the same individual?). Margaret Crowe reported a bat flying around Scoulter's on 12th October.

**HELP HAVE YOU GOT
 ANY ORIGINAL RECIPES
 YOU COULD SHARE. GOOD-
 IES FOR CHRISTMAS OR
 EVERYDAY FOOD CONTACT
 HEATHER or YVONNE**



H2Orkney Conference Report From September 7th

The day started with a great number of people arriving on the ferry from all over Europe. The people from Eday arriving by private charter. On arriving at the community centre everyone realised that Tony Marmont had already landed with his helicopter on the playing field.

83 people in total attended the event ranging from school children to OAPs. Various agencies from across Orkney were also well represented. The day started with local LDO William Caithness welcoming everyone and then handing over to A Carmichael to officially open the conference and chair the first two presentations. The first speaker Tom Stevenson an Orcadian set the scene and was met with some testing questions from the audience there was then a short interval for tea and coffee resuming with Maria Hidur Maack explaining what Iceland have done and would like to do, her presentation was a mixture of very serious and some more light hearted material. We then broke for lunch, which I think I speak on behalf of everyone present was absolutely breathtaking and for this we must sincerely thank the Stronsay Hotel.

The afternoon session then resumed with Prof Tony Marmont from Beacon Energy describing how he has incorporated hydrogen technology in and around his home then Dave McGrath from siGEN who had provided the hydrogen BBQ the fuel cell and the ghost car raised some issues regarding funding packages. Dave then made a hasty retreat outside to start cooking the sausages and burgers provided by M A Williamson, on the BBQ this is the first hydrogen BBQ in the UK quite amazing to think it actually happened on Stronsay. At this point there were also some tours of the Island, to the Rothiesholm sand and the Vat o Kirbuster with everyone who went returning revived by the Stronsay air.

There was then a small change to the program with a show of some slides of the 'Utsira' project in Norway shown by Iain Russell from Norsk Hydro. Through out the day the message from all of the speakers was 'just go and do it' at this point we then had the man who has 'just gone and done it' Sandy Macaulay from the PURE project in Unst his talk to round off the day was very entertaining and even included a short video clip of his band in Shetland performing powered completely by hydrogen, he then stated that they had appeared in 'Time' magazine I think it must have been because of the hydrogen power!!(I will leave it up to the individual to judge the musical prowess)

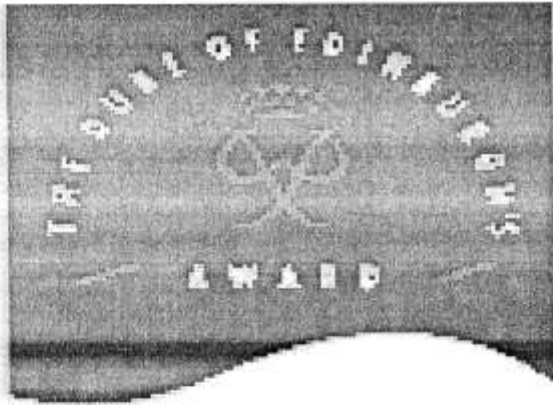
Through out the day the Orkney Amateur Radio Club had been operating a radio station powered by the hydrogen fuel cell, they operated for a staggering 31 hours non stop managing to make 1806 contacts with 65 different countries the furthest being New Zealand at 10, 960 miles away well and truly putting Stronsay on the map.

Mike Erdman chair of the trust thanked everyone for their help, sponsorship etc and he reinforced the issue 'just go and do it'. The evening was then rounded off with some lively music from the Stronsay band with various visitors joining in at different times on various instruments.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed in any way to making this event possible and such a great success exceeding all expectations.

William Caithness LDO

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.



Take part in the
Duke of Edinburgh's Award On
Stronsay!

Age 14-25

The award is a programme of activities for you to do in your spare time - it's adapted to you personally and can be done anywhere.

Basically, it involves achieving a task in the following areas:

Service- Be a local hero

- help the community, the environment or even train to save a life.

Skills- Do something different, whether you fancy yourself a fine artist or a trapeze artist, there's something for you.

Physical Recreation- Virtually any sports, dance or fitness activity counts.

Expedition- Go on an expedition and find yourself. Train, plan and complete an adventurous journey in the countryside on foot, horseback, boat or cycle.

The award is a great way to brighten up your C.V. - many employers regard the award as an extra qualification.

It certainly won't wipe out your studying or social life.

It's fun, challenging and different.

If you're interested and would like to know more contact Stephanie on 616337 by the end of October.

BIRTHDAYS

ANGELA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THE
25th OCTOBER LOVE AND BEST WISHES
FROM ANNE-MAREE, NEIL, CHRISTINE &
DANIEL
XXXX

MICHAEL COOPER

40 ON OCTOBER 23rd

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BEST WISHES
FROM STEVE, YVONNE & Co. XX

MAURICE

BEST WISHES ON YOUR **60th**
ON OCTOBER 18th FROM ALL THE STAFF
AT OLIVEBANK
XX

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NORMAN 40 ON 26th OCTOBER
LOVE FROM HAZEL, LEAH & MOLLY
XXX

HAPPY BIRTHDAY **LEAH**
9 ON THE 26TH OCTOBER LOVE FROM
MUM, DAD & MOLLY
XXX

PAT

LOVE AND BEST WISHES ON YOUR
50th ON OCTOBER 26th
FROM ANNE-MAREE, NEIL,
CHRISTINE & DANIEL XXXX

GRANNY
HAPPY BIRTHDAY ON 25th OCTOBER
LOVE FROM LEAH & MOLLY
XX

**LESS THAN 10 WEEKS TO
CHRISTMAS!!!!!!**

ASTRONOTES by D.Proudman**Merry Dancers and Shooting Stars**

Well past the equinox nights are much darker and on clear nights the sky is spectacular and on Stronsay we are very lucky to have relatively little light pollution. Most people in Britain can not see what we can. Computer users can find a light map of Britain from space at: www.dark-skies.org

The Merry Dancers or Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights are often seen as a glow in the north. Electrically charged particles from the Sun are deflected by the Earth's magnetic field towards the poles and as they enter the upper atmosphere the interaction produces light rather like a fluorescent lamp. When there is increased activity on the Sun the energy and number of particles ejected increases and if they reach Earth the display can fill the sky with searchlight beams, dancing curtains and bomb bursts, often coloured. The Aurorae have maxima and minima over about 11 years. The last minimum has passed so we can look forward to increased intensity and frequency for several years.

Information about solar activity and e-mail warnings of likely Aurora (a free service) can be got by going to the web site run from Leicester University:

www.dcs.lancs.ac.uk/iono/aurorawatch/cgi-bin/subscribe

Shooting Stars or meteors are bright trails of light generated when small particles, about sand grain size, enter the upper atmosphere at great speed and are vaporised. Sporadic meteors can be seen at any time and are unpredictable but there are meteor showers which are predictable. They result from clouds of debris left behind by comets orbiting the Sun which Earth passes through at the same time each year on its journey round the Sun. Each shower seems to radiate from a point in the constellation of stars in the Earth's direction of travel. The shower is named after the constellation and the point is the radiant. It is the same effect as driving into snowfall when the flakes seem to rush at and past you from a distant point in front.

For another free e-mail service giving news of astronomical events including aurorae, meteor showers, e.g. recent discovery of a new comet -go to: <http://spaceweather.com>

Meteor Showers**October 7 -Full Moon**

October 21, 22 -Orionids Meteor Shower . The Orionids is an average shower producing about 20 meteors per hour at their peak. The shower will peak on the 21st, but some meteors can be seen from October 15 -29. This is a great year for the Orionids. The new moon means the darkest possible sky. Those in dark locations will be able to see even the faintest meteors. Best viewing will be to the east after midnight.

October 22 -New Moon**November 5 -Full Moon**

November 17 -Leonid Meteor Shower . The Leonids is one of the better meteor showers to observe, producing an average of 40 meteors per hour at their peak. The shower itself has a cyclic peak year every 33 years where hundreds of meteors can be seen each hour. The last spectacular showers occurred in 2001. The shower peaks this year on November 17, but you can see some meteors from November 13 - 20. The nearly-new moon should not be a problem this year for the Leonids. Even the faintest meteors should be visible this year. Look for the shower radiating from the constellation Leo after midnight.

December 5 -Full Moon

December 14 -Geminids Meteor Shower . Considered by many to be the best meteor shower in the heavens, the Geminids are known for producing up to 60 multicoloured meteors per hour at their peak. The peak night this year is December 14. Some meteors should be visible from December 6 - 19. The first quarter moon should set shortly after midnight, leaving a dark sky for observing even the faintest meteors. The radiant point for this shower will be in the constellation of Gemini. Best viewing is usually to the east after midnight.

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

USEFUL NUMBERS

DOCTORS	616321/308	B&B CLESTRAIN	616340
NURSES	616453/232	B&B AIRY	616372
HYDRO	0800300999	LIBRARY	01856873166
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 IN 2007 DATES NEXT MONTH

UP TO 3 ITEMS FREE 4-6 ITEMS £20 7-FULL PICK UP LOAD £45

QUIZ**Answers start with the Letter B**

1. What is the national sport of Malaysia?
2. Who captained England to win a 1998 Rugby Union grand slam?
3. What breed of dog is Disney's Pluto?
4. What is the name of the shrew-like marsupial, native to Australia?
5. What was the surname of the central family in the drama series Upstairs Downstairs?
6. Which fluid is secreted by the liver and stored in the gall bladder?
7. What was the official designation of the American Second World War bomber the Flying Fortress?
8. What is the more common name for the Tower of London's Yeoman of the Guard?
9. Which singing voice comes between a tenor and a bass?
10. What plant is often known as the butterfly bush?

ANSWERS BELOW

September answers. 1. Bantamweight 2. Bigamy 3. Beethoven 4. Brussels 5. Bamboo
6 Baywatch 7. Billingsgate 8. Buck 9. Boer 10. Botany

1. Badminton 2. Bill Beaumont 3. Bloodhound 4. Bandicoot 5. Bellamy 6. Bile 7. B-17
8. Beebeaters 9. Bartitone 10. Buddleia

OCTOBER ANSWERS