



## **TIMETABLES**

[Loganair - interisland timetable 16 February to 24 October](#)

[Orkney Ferries - winter timetable 29 September 2025 to 2 May 2026](#)

[Orkney Ferries - summer timetable 3 May to 27 September](#)

[OIC - school holidays 2025-2026](#)

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2026**

Bank visit	Thu 9 Apr
Mobile library van visit	Mon 20 Apr
Stronsay Stitches	Thu 30 Apr
Orkney Ferries summer timetable starts	Sun 3 May
Spring Craft Fair	Sat 16 May
North Isles Sports Day followed by a dance	Sat 20 Jun
Stronsay's Massive Weekend!	14/15/16 Aug
Craft Fair	Sun 16 Aug
Deal or No Deal	Sat 19 Sep
Bingo	Sat 3 Oct
Bonfire night & quiz	Sat 7 Nov
Christmas Craft Fair	Sat 21 Nov
Christmas tree lighting	Sat 28 Nov
Hogmanay Dance	Thu 31 Dec

## **SCAA FUNDRAISER!**



Sheena Cooper is going to attempt 100 miles in May to raise money for SCAA. To support her go to this link <https://www.justgiving.com/page/sheena-cooper-3>

## **BANK VISITS**

Bank visits are due on 9 April, 23 April, 7 May and 28 May

The next edition of the Limpet will be published on Thu 30 Apr 2026, the deadline is 7pm on that date. Contact details for the Limpet are on the back page of every edition.

## **THANK YOU**

To all my friends on Stronsay, I want to say a HUGE big thank you to you all for the kindness and support you have shown to Bill and to me. It has been very much appreciated. Thank you for welcoming me 8 years ago and THANK YOU for giving Bill a lovely Farewell Service.

If you are ever in the North Wales area give me a call.

Kindest regards to you all,

Brenda Parry.



## **CALLING ALL STRONSAY ARCHAEOLOGY ENTHUSIASTS!**

Dr Ben Elliott will be returning to Stronsay in April with a group of UHI archaeology students to continue the Stronsay Fieldwalking Survey. The collection of archaeological finds from ploughed field surfaces is a technique that allows for new sites to be discovered, and long-term patterns in human settlement mapped. Field walking on Stronsay was originally started by Naomi Woodward in 2007, and led directly the discovery of Mesolithic activity at Links House; the earliest human settlement site in Orkney.

If you would like to be involved in the survey, it will be taking place on April 10th 11th and 12th, and volunteers would be very welcome. There is no prior knowledge of archaeology required, and you can choose between either helping out with the recovery of the finds themselves, or the washing and recording of artefacts back at the Stronsay Development Trust's poly tunnel.

If this is of interest, email Ben at [benjamin.elliott@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:benjamin.elliott@uhi.ac.uk), and he will circulate full details of where you'll need to be and when closer to the time.

*(See YouTube video "Links House, Stronsay: Finding the Mesolithic in Orkney"*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzaDVHnHnIs>*)*





# There are **TWO** vacancies on Stronsay Community Council



Your community needs you!

Anyone 16 and over may stand for election, providing they are on the Electoral Register for Stronsay



For further information on the role of a community councillor, please contact the Community Councils Team at Orkney Islands Council on [communitycouncils@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:communitycouncils@orkney.gov.uk) or phone 873535 ext 2264

## **STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

As from 27 October 2025, the following have been confirmed as members of Stronsay Community Council: -

Maya BAR-TOR	Bennicuml, Stronsay, KW17 2AJ email: <a href="mailto:mayabartor@gmail.com">mayabartor@gmail.com</a>
Shane HOURSTON	Housebay Cottage, Stronsay, KW17 2AJ tel: 07593965600 email: <a href="mailto:s.hourston@yahoo.co.uk">s.hourston@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Louise McQUAID Chair	Bayview, Stronsay, KW17 2AR tel: 616376 email: <a href="mailto:louisemcquaidcc@gmail.com">louisemcquaidcc@gmail.com</a>
James SEATON	Thorfinn, Stronsay, KW17 2AS tel: 07470111871 email: <a href="mailto:safehandsno_1@hotmail.com">safehandsno_1@hotmail.com</a>
Damian STOUT Vice Chair	Linksness, Stronsay, KW17 2AT tel: 616258 email: <a href="mailto:damiienstout@btinternet.com">damiienstout@btinternet.com</a>

The role of a Community Councillor is to ensure that they work for the best interests of the whole community and remain representative of, and accountable to, the represented community.

If you have a community related issue that you wish to bring to the attention of the Community Council, please contact any of the above members, or the Clerk, tel: 616446  
email: [stronsaycc@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaycc@gmail.com)

Colin McAlpine  
Island Link Officer/Clerk  
27 October 2025

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## **GP ROSTER**

The roster for the island's GP is regularly updated online at  
<https://stronsaylimpet.co.uk/RosterGPandNurse.html>

## **STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

There are currently two vacancies on Stronsay Community Council. Any individual aged 16 and over may stand for election for the Community Council representing their home address, providing they are on the Electoral Register.

This is a great opportunity to make a difference to the community you live and work in, to help distribute Council funding locally, and to shape the way that Council services are provided.

To discuss further, please contact the Democratic Services Team, Orkney Islands Council on 01856 873535 extension 2264 or email [communitycouncils@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:communitycouncils@orkney.gov.uk)

A public meeting will be held to fill the vacancy at a date to be confirmed.

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### **ROAD SAFETY ON STRONSAY!**

Even though daylight hours are now lengthening and we are in British Summer Time, would pedestrians please avoid wearing dark clothing and opt for high visibility or brightly coloured clothing.

Regardless of the time of day, would drivers **please** go slow and wide when passing pedestrians.

The verges are not suitable to be stood upon as they have been dug up for fibre and/or trampled by livestock.

Remember, twenty is plenty!

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### **STRONSAY AND THE GREAT SCOTTISH TAPESTRY**

[The Great Scottish Tapestry](#) spent two weeks on Stronsay in 2013. At the time the Stronsay Stitchers described the event in an article in the Stronsay Limpet. To read the article and see the many accompanying photographs of local folk putting in a few stitches go to page 6 of the March 2013 edition of the Limpet:

<https://stronsaylimpet.co.uk/ISSUE93Mar2013.pdf>.

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### **STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE SDT!**

The Stronsay Development Trust now produces a **monthly newsletter** to keep everyone informed about our projects, events, and community news.

A copy of the newsletter will be sent out from **The Limpet** at the end of each month. You can also **download a copy** from [stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com](http://stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com).

If you'd prefer a printed or emailed copy, please **contact the office** on **01857 616410** or email [admin@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com](mailto:admin@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com).

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**Records of a Bygone Age**  
**Stronsay's Side Schools**  
**Part 10 – The end of an Era**

Last month's article ended with the appointment in September 1935 of Miss Frances Drever as teacher at the North School, moving into the Schoolhouse with her sister Lily as her housekeeper.

A school photo from around the time of her appointment shows most of the pupils who would have been at the school at that time, the majority of whom seem to be none too excited about having their photo taken!



*North School pupils from around 1935. Names are:*

*Back Row: Jim Reid, Andrew Reid, Robert Shearer, Violet Seatter, Violet Williamson, Peter Chalmers. Front Row: Jim Shearer, Jackie Stevenson, Steven Coleman, Morris Pottinger, David Pottinger, Violet Fotheringhame.*

Miss Drever appeared to record only the bare minimum in the school log book and there is little specific to be found about school activities in that log book for the next 10 years, This was almost certainly due more to the record keeper than to a lack of school activity, with the only items of any note to be found being discussions or events affecting all the island schools.

One of those was an item considered by the Orkney Education Committee and recorded in the Orkney Herald in December 1944 regarding the provision of school meals, the possibility of having to provide transport for some pupils, and the future of the Central School:

*(continued on next page)*

- 'In Stronsay there are three schools and a side school, staffed by six teachers in all. The total roll is about 110. The Central School, an unsatisfactory building, which prior to the war, was under consideration for reconstruction, is at the top of the island, with no adequate water supply. A considerable number of the island pupils have over two miles to walk to the school. If the new Education Bill becomes law, such pupils, if under the age of eight, will require conveyance. If a school kitchen were erected at the present Central School, meals would require to be conveyed to the other three schools. The sub-committee felt that the question of a kitchen and school meals should be deferred, pending a decision by the Education Committee as to future policy in regard to the provision of Stronsay's educational facilities. If all the island pupils attended one school, one, if not two, fewer teachers would suffice. The school might be erected in the vicinity of Whitehall Village, where an adequate water supply would be available, and the expense of conveying pupils to and from school would be offset by the saving in not having to convey meals to the other three schools.

In the opinion of the sub-committee several, if not most, of the Orkney schools are already so congested with equipment and fittings that there would be no adequate facilities for serving tables or crockery cupboards. In very few would there be any convenience at all for installation of sinks and draining boards, and the heating of water for washing up.

It was accordingly decided to recommend that the Department should be requested to arrange with the War or other Service Departments, to the end that wooden sectional huts, of which there are many in Orkney, might be transferred to the Ministry of Works, and made available for the school meal service, so as to provide at each school, where necessary, suitable hutting accommodation (as a temporary measure at least) for dining room and scullery purposes'

The hopes for a new school in the vicinity of Whitehall Village never materialised and it was to be a further 13 years before school meals became a reality.



*Pupils at the North School in 1937*

*Back row: Violet Seatter, Morris Pottinger, Jim Reid, Jackie Marshall, Jim Stout, Andrew Reid, Violet Fotheringhame. Middle row: John Stout, David Pottinger, Hecky Marshall, Sylvia Chalmers, John Young. Front row: Fiona Reid, Isobel Pottinger, Patricia Shearer, Norna Pottinger, John Reid*

*(continued on next page)*

Epidemics continued to sweep the island on occasion, with an outbreak of mumps affecting most of the pupils early in 1945 and, with this only recently past, the schools were all shut for 2 weeks in April due to an outbreak of measles.

On a much happier note, schools were again shut on 8th and 9th May 1945 as Victory in Europe Days and closed once more on 15th and 16th August as Victory over Japan Days.

Two of the last pupils to attend the North School shared some of their memories of the school, with Mary Scollay (nee Shearer) recalling the day she came to school to find an extra seven pupils in the schoolroom. A Newlands family had come to Stronsay on the steamer the day before, camping at the Ayre of the Myres, and had sent all their children to school with no prior warning!

She also recalls that all the pupils took a 'piece' to school for their lunch. There was a No 7 stove in the corner, always with a kettle on top, and with the kettle being boiled at lunchtime so that they all got hot cocoa to have with their piece. The stove didn't really put out very much heat and during the winter months it was very cold in the classroom. There were small toilets, one for the boys and one for the lasses, with 2 buckets in each. If it was a poor day the lasses all used to shelter in the toilet so there wasn't much privacy if you needed to go! She also recalls the day the school photos were taken; they didn't like it very much as they were all told they had to look their best and stay perfectly still until the photo was taken.

Another ex-pupil, Austin Horne, was born at Clestrain and went to school for a time from there before he and his family moved to the Village to run the grocer's shop and butcher shop at Bayview. He remembers well a heavy snowfall in 1947, where the pupils still had to make their way to school through snow knee-deep in places. Another event which was firmly rooted in Austin's memory he recalls as:

*'I remember at one point the teacher, Miss Drever, was off for some reason so Mrs Ramage, the minister's wife came to teach us. She was very soft on discipline so a few of us older boys took advantage of this and played up quite a bit; nothing serious, just talking in class (sinful in those days) and generally being showy-off before the girls! We all had to be called out in front of the class one at the time to receive the 'strap'. She was rubbish at strapping, so we misbehaved even more. At one point I caught the strap as it was being administered and pulled it out of her hands and threw it up to the other end of the room. I didn't dare tell my mum! However the next day the minister, Rev George Ramage, replaced his wife and he was not a happy man. He absolutely scared the pants off us so our 'fun' ended abruptly. We deserved it for sure!'*

Austin Horne then goes on to reminisce about the buildings and the equipment they had during his time at the North School:

*'Heating in that huge room was a coal burning fire situated in the south west corner just in front of the first row of desks. Lots of 'gansies' were the order of the day. The desks were doubles and we used slate pencils (apparently made of some lead mixture without a wooden covering.) We used them to write on our slates; actually it was more of a scratching process than writing as we know it today.'*

*(continued on next page)*

*There were also inkwells for the use of slightly older children to write in their copy-books with the aid of very primitive pens by dipping them in the inkwell and hopefully managing to make good imitations of the lines we had to copy. It was very easy to blot your copy-book, in more ways than one! Been there done that! We all had to take a 'piece' with us for lunch, or dinner as it was called back then. My dad, who was born in Runtha' and also went to the North School, used to say that we were lucky because all he had was a handful o' oatmeal but he had to bring it back home with him after school! I could have gone home for lunch but preferred to stay and play with my mates. Just a personal note here, there was a sign post just outside the playground, probably a school signpost, and we would hold on to the pole with one hand and run round as fast as we could. Apparently I was good at it because my mates called me 'pirlie postie' which stuck with me throughout my young life on the Island. It was my by-name, as it was called by most folk. People like Duffer (David) Reid, Sydney Swanney and lots of others always called me Postie every time I visited the island later in life! Anyway, while we spent a few valuable seconds gulping down our pieces the teacher retired to her peedie cottage for her piece. Supervision, you must be joking. Kids in those days were always let loose to enjoy the freedom of whatever space they felt like, the island was a safe place. We did have sanitation - we called it the lavyies, one lot for the boys and a separate lot for the girls. Ours consisted of a wall to pee up against and a couple of sit-down 'facilities' to do other business in. Basically they were a longish box with two holes cut in the long lid with buckets underneath. You could have a conversation with your pal while you both used the facilities. Trying to see who could pee the highest up the wall was part of our fun times! We didn't know anything about the girls ablution block, as at that stage of our young lives girls were of no interest to us other than to kick a ball at or some other silly stunt. On the whole my time at the North School was a reasonably happy time. I guess there were about 20 odd kids there at that time, I do have a school photo still and can still remember all the kids on it.'*

When Austin left school he went off to Wireless College in Aberdeen before going on to make a new life for himself 'sooth' but still retained his boyhood memories of Stronsay, returning regularly on holiday to rekindle memories and friendships. Here is his summary of those young and carefree days:

*'I enjoyed my young life up to the age of 15, when I left to go to college, very much and look back and realised how lucky I was to have spent those years with such a great community. We were so free to roam and play. In those days nearly all the sheds and buildings, abandoned, after the fishing industry in Stronsay came to an end, were our adventure playgrounds. Health and safety wouldn't allow such freedom today!'*

As the population of the island fell and with a corresponding fall in the number of children to attend school there was enough capacity at the Central School for the North End pupils to attend there and the decision was taken to close the North School in 1949. Miss Drever was just one year short of reaching retirement at that time so it was agreed to keep the school open for another year, by which time Miss Drever would be in receipt of her pension. The school closed its doors for the final time in December 1950, with Miss Drever and her sister moving to Kirkwall where Miss Drever lived to the ripe old age of 101.

*(continued on next page)*



*This photo of the North School pupils is thought to have been taken around 1948 and would have been some of the last pupils to have been taught by Miss Drever. Names are:*

*Back row: Pat Horne, Margaret Stout, Margaret Miller. Middle row: Austin Horne, David Reid, Ian Scott, Ronnie Reid, Allie Chalmers. Front row: John Chalmers, Kathleen Stout, Mary Shearer, Bernard Miller.*

Miss Drever's last pupils moved to the Central School on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1951, these final nine being: John and Alexander (Ali) Chalmers, Yearnasetter; Ronald Reid, Red House; Bernard Miller, Verdun; Erling Fiddler, Fagerheim; Charlie Devin, Northcliffe; Patricia Horne, Bayview; Mary Shearer, Cedar Lea and Kathleen Stout, Whitehall Farm.

The school and schoolhouse were advertised for sale in 1953, with my uncle and aunt Dave and Nan Fotheringham buying it. My Auntie Nan was a Shetlander and when they bought it they named the schoolhouse 'Holmsgarth', after a part of Shetland where Lerwick is built and also because it fitted in well with my Uncle Dave for its view of Linga Holm and of Midgarth where his sister Grace (my mother) lived. Uncle Dave was a joiner and the old school building was an ideal store and workshop for him.

*(continued on next page)*



*The school building as it is today, showing the large 'combine harvester-size' door which was made in the gable end of the building.*

When Dave, Nan and their young daughter Mhairi moved to Kirkwall in 1959 my parents bought the house and school for the princely sum of £650. My uncle Dave had previously taken out a garage door in the end of the school building, enabling it to be used as a store for implements and fertiliser, with the schoolhouse being used for a time to house farm workers at Midgarth. When it was no longer needed for farm workers, Holmsgarth had a succession of tenants while the school building continued in use as a machinery store. Arna and I bought it, as part of the farm of Midgarth, in 1978, continuing to use the school building as a store and enlarging the end door to allow access to store a combine harvester. The farm was sold in 2017, with Holmsgarth later being renovated and also offered for sale, along with the old school building. The buildings were bought in December 2020 by a couple from Central Scotland who moved to Stronsay that same month and have made the old schoolhouse their family home.

Ian Cooper  
March 2026

# Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

*An epistle of sanity in an increasingly insane world.*

We have set our council tax increase for the financial year 2026/27. The rise will be 6%. Council tax generates 9% of OIC's income (11% if you take out the ferry funding). We agreed to draw on our reserves up to £20,000,000, which will cover 13% of council expenditure. Our rationale is to try to maintain services and quality of life rather than make cuts. And although our council tax level approximates to the Scottish average, we continue to strive to be an above-average local authority.

You have probably noticed that the part-time, light-controlled 20mph speed limit signage around Isles schools has been removed. This was necessary for safety reasons owing to significant defects having been identified with the supporting poles. In order to maintain road safety, a road traffic regulation order was issued in *The Orcadian* of 5<sup>th</sup> March to temporarily implement permanent 20mph speed limits in these areas. As I made clear from the very start of my campaign for Isles children to be afforded the same road safety standards around their schools as children elsewhere, I prefer permanent limits (as in the left-hand photo) over part-time ones (as in the right-hand photo), so I hope these will be retained in the long-term.



Permanent 20mph speed limit outside an English village school in 2015



Part-time 20mph speed limit outside an Orkney island school in 2024

At this juncture, I would like to take the opportunity to quash the fake news that has been circulating in the Isles that agricultural vehicles are not permitted to drive through permanent 20mph zones. This is completely untrue. The only restriction applying to agricultural vehicles in 20mph zones is that their speed must not exceed 20mph, the same restriction that applies to any other vehicle. I request the originator of this rumour please to desist from spreading misinformation which only serves to undermine safety for everyone on our island roads.

Meetings I have attended in Kirkwall this month include: a budget-setting consolidation seminar, the Policy & Resources Committee meeting where we actually set the budget, and the General Meeting at which we ratified our decision; pre-meeting and meeting of the Orkney & Shetland Valuation Joint Board; a joint transport meeting with members of North Ronaldsay and Papay community councils about Phase 2 of our Ferry Replacement Programme; and a public sector reform briefing session.

In the Isles, I participated in person at the meeting of Sanday Community Council.

I was invited to Shapinsay's "Community Get-Involved Day" at which residents and guests worked on the island's Local Place Plan and contributed through workshops their ideas on social life, community, regeneration, local economy, housing, future sustainability, community facilities, and recreation. These workshops gave me the opportunity to learn more about the needs and aspirations of the islanders and to proffer some of the knowledge and experience I have of other island communities in the North Isles ward. There were stands set up in the school hall for drop-in sessions, and Shapinsay Community Council kindly allowed me a corner of their table for one of my own (see the photograph on the right), where I was able to converse with ward constituents on matters concerning them, pass on my contact details, hand out "MyOrkney" cards, and distribute copies of my *Letter from School Place*.

*Stephen*

**Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson**  
Member for the North Isles Ward,  
Depute Convener Orkney & Shetland VJB

West Mainse, Sanday  
[stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk)

*Letter from School Place* is also  
available on-line at [clackson.info](http://clackson.info)

Photo credits: Stephen Clackson, Charles Hay



# STRONSAY MEN'S SHED – NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!



The Stronsay Men's Shed meets every Saturday at 10.30am in the Mission Hall, Lower Whitehall. We're a small but lively group who enjoy getting together to share a cuppa, swap stories, play games, and work on small projects – with plenty of tea, biscuits and bacon rolls to keep us going!

The Men's Shed movement began in Australia and is now thriving across Scotland. It's all about creating a welcoming place where men can come together, enjoy companionship, learn new skills, and support each other. As the Scottish Men's Sheds Association say:

*“Sheds are for all men – a place to be yourself, to learn, to share, to laugh, and to belong.”*

Stronsay Men's Shed has its own aims and purpose, shaped by members, with a small informal committee to help things run smoothly. We're not about red tape – we're about friendship, community, and having a space where men of all ages (18+) and backgrounds can meet.

Recent projects have included making a puppet theatre for the school children, which was a great success, and we're now working to improve the Mission Hall with plans for a workshop, kitchen and more activity spaces.

We welcome donations to help keep things going, but most of all we welcome **new members**. Whether you fancy lending a hand with a project, just want to enjoy some company, or have ideas for how the Shed could grow, you'll be warmly welcomed.

So why not pop along one Saturday and see what it's all about? You'll find friendship, fun, and a good brew waiting for you!

Contact Roger Neville-Smith 07773 889 334

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61558772842680>



# **GERAMOUNT SURGERY**

Changes to Surgery opening hours!

Just a quick update on Surgery reception opening hours.

These changes will be taking effect starting on 15<sup>th</sup> September

Appointments are to be booked during these times.

<b>Stronsay Surgery – Tel 01857 616321</b>	
	<b>Morning</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:00am – 13:00</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9:00am – 13:00</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00am – 13:00</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9:00am – 13:00</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9:00am – 13:00</b>

TO URGENTLY CONTACT THE DOCTOR OUTWITH RECEPTION TIMES,

PLEASE CALL THE BALFOUR HOSPITAL ON

**01856 888 000**

AND THEY WILL CONTACT THE DOCTOR FOR YOU.

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## **STRONSAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

<https://www.vaorkney.org.uk/directory/stronsay-community-association>

Why not hire the Stronsay Community hall? We have a kitchen and fully licensed bar, with two large halls and a small meeting room; perfect for weddings, parties, games, meetings and much more!

- Disco equipment
- Table tennis
- Badminton
- Air hockey
- Pool Table



For more information & bookings contact Anne-Maree Carter email [annemaree.carter@btinternet.com](mailto:annemaree.carter@btinternet.com)

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

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

Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/hallcommittee>

## Analogue to Digital Conversion of the UK Telephony Network by January 2027

### Overview

By January 2027, all residents and businesses in the UK connected to the Public Switched Telephony Network (PSTN) managed by BT Group via Openreach will need to adapt their use of landlines. This change marks a significant transition from analogue to digital lines, as the existing telephone exchanges, many of which rely on outdated equipment from the 1980s, will be decommissioned.

### Key Changes

- **Digital Transition:** Users will need to connect their landlines through a router, similar to how broadband services are used today.
- **Provider Impact:** Not all telephone service providers are affected. Companies like SKY and TalkTalk operate their own equipment and may not be part of this transition. However, some customers using these services might still be on lines originally from BT, so checking with providers is essential.

**Special Services:** If you rely on devices like intruder alarms or telecare systems, it's crucial to consult your device provider to ensure compatibility with the new setup.

### Importance of the Change

- **Router Requirement:** If you don't already have a compatible router, one will be provided by your supplier. The switchover date will be communicated by your telephone company, and on that day, traditional sockets will cease to function.

**Potential Service Disruption:** Failing to adapt to the new system could result in losing access to your telephone service.

### Notification Process

**Individual Timelines:** The switchover will occur at different times for different users. While the infrastructure has largely been upgraded, notifications will be sent individually by each telephony provider, potentially at varying times until the January 2027 deadline.

### What You Can Do Now

- **Device Audit:** Evaluate all devices connected to your telephone sockets and verify with suppliers if they will function through a router.

**Business Considerations:** Businesses should similarly assess their equipment to ensure compatibility with the new digital setup.

### Be Cautious

Beware of potential scams targeting vulnerable individuals. If you receive any communication requesting payment or claiming urgent action is needed, verify its authenticity by contacting your telephone company directly using the number provided on your bill.

### Additional Resources

For more information about the transition, visit:

[Openreach All-IP Programme](#)

[Ofcom's Guide on Upgrading Landlines to Digital](#)

This change represents a significant evolution in telephony services, aiming to enhance efficiency and reliability across the UK.

# The Digital Phone Switchover



**ORKNEY**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

## What you need to know

### What is the digital phone switchover?

The UK's telephone network is changing. Between now and January 2027 most telephone providers will be moving their customers from old analogue landlines over to new upgraded landline services using digital technology. This means services that rely on the old landline system such as home phones, telecare and health devices will need to be compatible.



### How will it affect me/what do I need to do?

The good news is – your landline isn't going anywhere and for most consumers and businesses, this change will be straightforward. In fact, many customers are already making the switch when they upgrade to fibre broadband.

Your telecoms provider (for example, Vodafone or BT) **should contact you before the switchover** to check in and discuss what you need to do to make sure any reliant services you may have aren't affected. However, we're encouraging everyone to know what to expect.

The change may be as simple as plugging your phone into a broadband router rather than the phone socket on the wall, or you may be given a new router to do this.

Please note that your provider will move you to a digital service before January 2027. If you care for a vulnerable person, please keep an eye out for correspondence notifying of a switch over date.

**If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your telecoms provider directly.**



**Do you or someone you know depend on their landline and/or use a telecare device connected to a phone line?**

**If yes, then please contact the Telecare Team at Orkney Islands Council.**

**Tel: 01856 873 535. Extension 2635**

# The Digital Phone Switchover



**ORKNEY**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

## What you need to know

### Other Devices

If you have other devices connected to your phone line that you may have purchased, such as alarm systems, you might need to upgrade your device to make sure it is compatible.

If you are unsure about how a device in your home or business might be affected, it is recommended you contact the equipment supplier or device manufacturer to find out whether it will remain functional on a digital phone line.

**People who use health monitoring or telecare devices should check if the switchover will affect how they work.**

### Key Points To Remember

If you have any queries or have no means of making emergency calls **you need to contact your communications provider.**

If you have a telecare alarm please contact the telecare team at Orkney Islands Council: 01856 873 535 Extension: 2635

Check with the appropriate equipment manufacturers if you have any other devices supported by your existing telephone line (such as intruder alarms) to check it will work digitally.

Most telecare alarm providers will have upgrade plans, if your phone line has or is due to be upgraded by your communication provider let them know.

### In a Power Outage

Digital landlines cannot carry an electrical power connection, so in the event of a power cut they will not work. If you have a mobile phone this can still be used, but if you've no other means of calling the emergency services your telecoms provider will offer a solution to allow calls to be made to emergency services.

**You should tell your telecoms provider now if you have no other way of making emergency calls.**

### Scams

There have been incidents reported of scammers contacting vulnerable users in relation to digital migration. Communication providers or telecare services will never call you to ask for money.

Contact is usually by letter and charges are only applied to normal invoices. If you are in any doubt as to the authenticity of a caller, just hang up and call your communications or telecare provider to report the incident, using a trusted phone number, such as the one on the bill.



27<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## **People across Scotland are being asked to help inform future plans by sharing their experiences of flooding.**

People across Scotland are being invited to share their experiences of local flooding issues to help inform how flood risk is managed in their communities, as work continues on Scotland's next Flood Risk Management Plans.

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency's (SEPA) public consultation, launched on Wednesday 21st January, focuses on finding out about local flooding concerns in areas identified as having the highest flood risk. The feedback will help inform Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP) covering 2028 to 2034, which will set out how Scotland reduces the impacts of flooding and builds resilience for the future.

Flooding is already affecting communities across Scotland, and climate change is increasing the likelihood of heavier rainfall and more frequent storms. SEPA's most recent National Flood Risk Assessment (2025) shows that around 400,000 homes, businesses and vital services, around one in eight across Scotland, are currently in areas at medium risk of flooding. This number is projected to rise to around 634,000 by 2100 as the climate continues to change.

The FRMP consultation builds on work carried out in 2024, when Potentially Vulnerable Areas were reviewed, and consulted on, to identify where highest flood risk is most likely now and in the future. These areas help focus attention and investment where flooding is most widespread or complex, and where partnership working is essential to reduce impacts.

The current consultation marks the next step in that process, focusing on gathering local insight to ensure future plans reflect lived experience. Running until 22nd April, it asks communities to share their main flooding concerns and highlight projects, initiatives or actions already helping to manage flood risk.

The aim is to help develop Flood Risk Management Plans that support resilient, well-informed communities, recognising the role of individuals, organisations and partnerships alongside national agencies and local authorities in adapting to a changing climate.

*(concluded on next page)*

Eleanor Cooper, SEPA’s Head of Environment Forecasting and Warning, said:  
*“Flood risk in Scotland is increasing as our climate changes, and many communities are already experiencing the effects. The National Flood Risk Assessment published last year shows why it’s so important to plan ahead and work together to reduce the impacts of flooding. This consultation is about listening to communities and learning from local experience. By sharing concerns, experience and knowledge, people can help inform our understanding of flood risk in their area and support the development of flood risk management planning.”*

The consultation is part of a two-stage process. A second, more detailed consultation will begin from December 2026, when further information on flood risk, objectives and proposed actions will be published in partnership with local authorities. The final Flood Risk Management Plans are due to be published in December 2027.

You can find out more and take part in the consultation [Flood Risk Management Phase 1 Consultation](#).

## STRONSAY KIRK

Details of services at Stronsay's kirk for the next four months are now available on the kirk's website <https://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/stronsaykirk/calendar.asp?set=list>.

Contact Kirk Secretary: [elsie.dennison@live.co.uk](mailto:elsie.dennison@live.co.uk)

Stronsay kirk’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1553904828107651>

**Are you ready for a job like no other?**

**We are recruiting now!**

**POLICE SCOTLAND**  
 POLEAS ALBA

**Police Scotland is currently recruiting Police Officers and Special Constables in Orkney.**

<p><b>Police Officer</b></p> <p>Are you looking for a job with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitive salary and benefits</li> <li>• Personal and career development</li> <li>• Employee assistance and wellbeing support</li> <li>• Quality training</li> </ul>	<p><b>Special Constables</b></p> <p>A volunteer role where you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help prevent crime</li> <li>• Receive quality training</li> <li>• Support your local community</li> <li>• Bring valuable skills and experience</li> </ul>
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**Recruitment Event**

If you've ever considered a career in policing and want to find out more, now is your chance.

We're hosting a bespoke online recruitment event for residents of Orkney, designed to give you a real insight into life as a Police Officer or Special Constable on Orkney. You will also have the opportunity to hear from the Orkney Drugs Dog charity where Special Constables can gain employment as dog handlers in Orkney.

<http://orkneydrugsdog.co.uk>

There will be plenty of time to ask questions and plan for taking the next step towards a job like no other.

**Thursday, 26 March, 2026 between 18:30 and 20:00.**



**Scan the QR code to sign up now.**

**POLICE SCOTLAND**  
 POLEAS ALBA

## **VAN AVAILABLE FOR CHARITY WORK**

The Pomona Prefect logo peedie red van is available for charity work on the island if anyone needs a man and a van and wants to help the island reach the target. Saturdays service and cost for this is suggested as £10 per hour min donation for half hour units. All to the Stronsay Defib fund. No live animals, persons transported or dirty, sloppy stuff carried. Limited load and not a taxi service. This is a temporary thing to raise money and not a challenge to any services on the island. Call Mick for all taxi work and Sinclair Haulage for freight!

Also, if anyone needs their car karcher jet washed and vaccuming and then can do at Ellerslie as you pass for a donation to same Defib Fund. Cost is £10 per basic body wash and wheels rinsed and boot/inside vacced. Limited to cars. No monster trucks, panel vans, lorries or camper vans sorry.

This charity service will be hopefully available until there are enough defib machines in position with the people trained to cover us all 24/7. Availability is limited to Saturdays.

Any questions and to book give me a call.

Nicandro J. Porcelli, Ellerslie. Telephone or text to - 07732 276046

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## **ISLAND LINK OFFICE**

Commencing Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025 the Stronsay Island Link Office, located in the Fish Mart, will be open every Wednesday between 10am and noon.

A range of services are available, including the collection of black bin bags, photocopying at 10p a copy, collect a form for Stronsay Community Council financial assistance, or a form for the scrap car scheme (still open for applications), raise issues or concerns that Stronsay Community Council may be able to address and even contact officers at OIC.

I look forward to seeing you, but if you are not able to call into the office I can be telephoned on 616446 or by email to [stronsaycc@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaycc@gmail.com)

Colin McAlpine  
Stronsay Island Link Officer/Clerk  
12 February 2025

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If you see something in the Limpet that is inaccurate or no longer valid  
please drop a line to "*The Editor, Claremont KW17 2AR*"  
or email [editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk)

## **“IMPROVING THE CANCER JOURNEY” (ICJ) SERVICE** **NHS ORKNEY**

If you or someone you know has been affected by cancer, *Improving the Cancer Journey* is here to help. *Improving the Cancer Journey*, in partnership with Macmillan, is a dedicated service to support anyone affected by cancer with their non-clinical needs. This could be the person with the cancer diagnosis, or it could be someone affected by that diagnosis, such as family or carers.

When someone is diagnosed with cancer, they often describe feeling like they're in a maze. It can be difficult to know what services are out there and where to access them. The *Improving the Cancer Journey* service is here to support with this, and help people to access the services that can support with their non-clinical concerns.

Non-clinical concerns may include:

- Supporting someone to access local teams that can help with money or housing worries and benefits
- Addressing caring or work responsibilities
- Connecting with those that can support with addressing physical concerns
- Accessing complimentary therapies
- Helping with emotional concerns, connecting with wellbeing support and services
- Accessing information to answer questions or concerns about cancer and treatment

When someone affected by cancer accesses the ICJ service, they will be offered a Holistic Needs Assessment, which is a simple check-list style questionnaire that helps to understand what means most to the person. The key areas addressed within a Holistic Needs Assessment are financial, practical, physical, emotional and spiritual.

Based on this assessment and meaningful conversations with an ICJ Link Worker, a support plan will be created to ensure the person affected by cancer is offered all the support they need.

Patients can be referred into the service through a self-referral form or via a professional referral. Both referral forms, alongside further information, can be found on the ICJ page of the NHS Orkney website - [Improving the Cancer Journey \(ICJ\) | NHS Orkney](#).

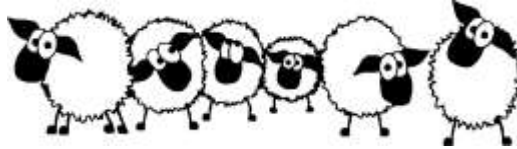
The referral forms can be filled in online and sent to the ICJ email address – [ork.icj@nhs.scot](mailto:ork.icj@nhs.scot).

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the ICJ service, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are happy to support in any way we can.

Email: [ork.icj@nhs.scot](mailto:ork.icj@nhs.scot)

Phone: 01856 888084 (Public Health Department)

## STRONSAY STITCHERS



**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**7.00pm-9.00-pm, Church Hall, £2.00/person, refreshments**

We are an informal group who meet once a month to do our own stichy things. You can bring any projects you're working on such as crochet, needlework, knitting, rug hooking etc. Everyone welcome.

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## STRONSAY CRAFT FAIRS 2026

Spring—Saturday 16 May  
Massive Weekend Craft Sale—Sunday 16 August  
Christmas— Saturday 21 November

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## MOBILE LIBRARY VAN VISITS 2026

20 Apr, 15 Jun, 10 Aug, 5 Oct, 30 Nov

For further information go to web page <https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Mobile-Calendar-2026-Accessible-Version.pdf> or send an email to [library@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:library@orkney.gov.uk) or telephone 01856 873166.

Winter	Council Houses	8.45	-	9.45
	School	10	-	12
	Kirk	12.45	-	3
	Fish mart	3.15	-	4.45
Summer/Refit	Council Houses	9.25	-	10
	School	10.15	-	12
	Kirk	12.45	-	3
	Fish mart	3.15	-	5.30

## **ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - LIFEGUARD TRAINING**

Stronsay folk, this is a plea for anyone who can swim with a moderate fitness level to help the pool ! We would like to invite you to become a Royal Life Saving Society pool lifeguard.

The qualification is a nationally recognised award and anyone over 16 years of age can apply!

We require at least four candidates to be able to run the course.

This is a great opportunity for younger folk to add to their qualifications and makes a big difference when applying for university or employment.

Anyone interested please contact Andy or Chris at the pool or via Facebook/Messenger.

Thank you

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## **SWIMMING POOL - OPENING TIMES**

<https://tinyurl.com/stronsaypool>

Charges - Adults £3, Children £1.50, Private Hires £15.

To book a private hire phone Elsie on 616238.

<b>Monday</b>	Adult lane	6:30-7:10:00	Public session 7:10– 7:50
<b>Thursday</b>	Private hire	6:30-7:10	Public session 7:10-7:50
<b>Saturday</b>	Private hire	2:00-2:40	Public session 2:40-3:20

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## **SWIMMING POOL—OVERSEERS WANTED!**

Always looking for reliable overseers for the swimming pool, please! Previous volunteers welcome. Involves taking payment, handing out bands, helping with evacuation procedures etc. Contact Mairi Dennison via Facebook messenger or tel 616331. We politely request that parents/guardians whose children use the pool regularly take a turn at overseeing, in particular.

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## **HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE**

<https://tinyurl.com/stronsayhlc>

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## **ORKNEY FERRIES = DRAFT TIMETABLES**

Draft winter 2026-27 ferry timetables are now available online:

[DRAFT Inter Island Ferry Timetables – Winter 2026/27](#)

## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### **DONNA BLYTH EDUCATION SERVICES**

BA Hons, MEd, PGCE, SQH, CPT3A, CELTA

Email: [donnablyth@outlook.com](mailto:donnablyth@outlook.com) Tel: 01857 616242 / 07852 805780



Online tuition in English Language, English Literature, RE, EAL and Literacy for learners of all abilities from age 7 – adult including A level, GCSE and SQA National Certificates.

Prices – £25.00 per hour for 1:1 tuition; £45.00 per hour for groups of 2 or more depending on requirements (max 3)

11+ Tuition in English, Maths, Verbal Reasoning and Non-verbal Reasoning. £25.00 per hour individual students only as lessons are school-specific.

Tuition in clarinet performance and music theory up to grade 5. £15 per 30min lesson for 1:1 tuition

GTCS, DBS and PVG Scheme registered.

Valid, current Safeguarding and Prevent certification (updated 12.08.25)

References available.

All enquiries and services provided are treated in confidence as far as possible and according to current KCSIE legislation 2024

### **\*\*\*Reviews\*\*\***

*“Just wanted to share that S.... got into Hampton. He is absolutely thrilled and we are so pleased that the hard work paid off. Thank you for all your help and support.”* (Parent of 11+ student)

*“I am really pleased with my RE GCSE result. I got a 7 which is an A overall. Thank you so much for all of your help as without it this would have not been possible.”* (Y11 RE student)

*“L... has to know that she is capable of reaching the target, and I think you play a huge role in that because she really enjoys the sessions with you and what you say really sticks in her head.”* (Parent of Y6 student)

*“The skills that my daughter has acquired, and the clear and significant increase in her confidence and pride in her reading and writing skills, has been worth every penny.”* (Parent of GCSE English Language student)

*“V... loved his .... sessions and said that he was in awe of how knowledgeable you were! Thank you so much.”* (Independent tutoring company on behalf of GCSE English Literature student)

*“N... got an 8 in both English Literature and Language and would like to thank you for the immense help”* (Independent tutoring company on behalf of GCSE English student)

*“Donna is a remarkably warm, kind and empathetic tutor. We have both really enjoyed every interaction that we have had with her.”* (Parent of GCSE student)

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Local business adverts are free!

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# LOCAL BUSINESSES



World Poetry Day – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March by Donna Blyth

My Y7 students have been working on Cinquains for World Poetry Day. I thought that many of their poems were good enough to share. What do you think?

Boxing  
Fun, technical  
Punching, sparring, dodging,  
Timing right, skills tested.... it's a  
KNOCKOUT!

Nature  
Peaceful and wild  
Flowing, rustling, swishing  
Drifting clouds, flowers blossoming  
Endless

Fighting  
Useless and tense  
Attacking and raiding  
Endless killing, quite destructive  
Power

Ocean  
Gorgeous, unique.  
Floating, swimming, finding  
Magical aquatic wildlife.  
Endless

Nature  
So magical  
Earth, water, sun and life  
Give so much joy, so wonderful.  
Happy

Screen time  
TikTok, Snapchat,  
WhatsApp, Youtube, Facebook.  
Toxic, fun, entertaining, fake...  
Too much

War zone  
Fighting, bombing,  
Trying hard to survive  
There is no food, water or help.  
Sadness

Rosie  
Adorable  
Fills all my heart with joy  
Makes me whole that amazing dog  
Love her

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## **SCAA - SCOTTISH CHARITY AIR AMBULANCE**

Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance responds, on average, to two time-critical emergency call outs every single day. We are a national charity and receive no statutory government funding, so rely 100% on donations from the public to fuel our life-saving flights across Scotland.

**Sheena Cooper is going to attempt 100 miles in May to raise money for SCAA. To support her go to this link:**

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/sheena-cooper-3>



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## **CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (CAB) VISITS**

We're pleased to confirm that Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) will be returning to Stronsay Development Trust, Unit 1, Woodyard for their regular outreach support sessions.

If you'd like confidential advice or support with things such as benefits, money worries, housing, employment, consumer issues or energy costs, these sessions are a great opportunity to speak to an adviser locally.

Upcoming Outreach Dates:

- Wednesday 20 May
- Wednesday 19 August

Appointments will take place at Stronsay Development Trust – Unit 1, Woods Yard. Please pop these dates in your diary.

Once CAB provide their official posters and booking details, we'll share them here so you can arrange an appointment.

These visits are a really valuable service for our island community, so please help spread the word by sharing this post.

Any queries please do contact me at [Shani@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com](mailto:Shani@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com)

## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***

### SINCLAIR HAULAGE LIMITED

Contact Details   

General Enquiries: [info@sinclairhaulage.com](mailto:info@sinclairhaulage.com)

Accounts Enquiries: [accounts@sinclairhaulage.com](mailto:accounts@sinclairhaulage.com)

Livestock Bookings: [livestock@sinclairhaulage.com](mailto:livestock@sinclairhaulage.com)

Phone: 01857 600 404

Postal Address: Sinclair Haulage Ltd  
New Haulage Shed  
How Farm  
SANDAY KW17 2BJ

Office Opening Times: Mon – Fri  
09:00 – 17:00

Livestock bookings should be made by emailing [livestock@sinclairhaulage.com](mailto:livestock@sinclairhaulage.com) or calling 01857 600404.

Please note that we **DO NOT** use Gmail email addresses (e.g. [sinclairhaulage@gmail.com](mailto:sinclairhaulage@gmail.com)). Please only use the above email addresses.

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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***

### **SINCLAIR HAULAGE LTD**

Now introducing Skip Bags!

Due to difficulties getting skips out to the isles, we are now offering a skip bag service.

Having a clear out or renovating a property? Simply order and pay for your bag (telling us what you're planning to fill it with), we deliver, you fill it and we take it away and dispose of the waste.

All shipping and waste disposal costs included in the price.



### **SKIP BAGS**

Skip Bags can now be ordered from Sinclair Haulage. Simply order and pay for your bag, stating the type of waste. We deliver, you fill (within 6 months), we take away and dispose of the contents.

<b>BAG 1</b> <b>Inert Waste</b> <b>£125 per bag</b> (ex VAT)	Non-hazardous landfill material (example: glass, concrete, bricks and mortar, tiles, slates, fibreglass wool, clay and stones). Please note: plastics, plaster, plasterboard and timber are not permitted.
<b>BAG 2</b> <b>General Waste</b> <b>£360 per bag</b> (ex VAT)	Mainly combustible mixed municipal wastes which cannot be landfilled at Bossack. This category includes soiled paper and cardboard, carpets, furniture, small mixed plastics, scrap timber.
<b>BAG 3</b> <b>Mixed Waste</b> <b>£560 per bag</b> (ex VAT)	Non-inert material that requires removal of contaminants before landfill.

Each bag measures 850mm x 850mm x 870mm and can hold 1 tonne.

To order:

Email [info@sinclairhaulage.com](mailto:info@sinclairhaulage.com)

Or call **01857 600404**

Local business adverts are free!

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## ***LOCAL BUSINESSES***



### **Livestock Bookings**

To ensure Livestock Bookings are not missed and that we can plan vehicle and ferry space, bookings must be made as far in advance as possible by either emailing:

[livestock@sinclairhaulage.com](mailto:livestock@sinclairhaulage.com)

OR calling:

[01857 600404](tel:01857600404)

Please **DO NOT** message via text, Facebook, WhatsApp etc and please do not use any other email address.

Once booking has been received, you will be given a booking reference. We will then be in touch to confirm collection day/time etc.

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**FISHMART  
CAFE**

# Opening Hours

**From Monday 2nd February**

Monday	9am - 2pm
Tuesday	CLOSED
Wednesday	9am - 2pm
Thursday	9am - 2pm
Friday	9am - 7pm
Saturday	9am - 3pm
Sunday	11am - 2.30pm

Find us on socials @Fishmartcafe  
call- +44 7598 439058



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# The Stronsay Hotel

## "Spring Bar Opening Hours"

	<u>Lunchtime</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Monday	12 noon - 2:30pm .....	5:00pm - usually 10:30pm
Tuesday	12 noon - 2:30pm .....	5:00pm - usually 10:30pm
Wednesday	12 noon - 2:30pm .....	5:00pm - usually 10:30pm
Thursday	12 noon - 2:30pm .....	5:00pm - usually 10:30pm
Friday	12 noon - 2:30pm .....	5:00pm - usually 1:00am
Saturday	12 noon - 2:30pm .....	5:00pm - usually 1:00am
Sunday	12 noon - usually 10:30pm	

### FOOD SERVED DAILY



Lunchtime: 12:00pm - 2:30pm

Evening: 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Sunday: 12 noon - 6:30pm



~ Takeaway Service Available ~

Contact: 01856 700152

Email: [thestransayhotel@hotmail.com](mailto:thestransayhotel@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.thestransayhotel.co.uk](http://www.thestransayhotel.co.uk)

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES



Happy  
Feet  
Foot & Ear  
Care 

happyfeetorkney@outlook.com

I am a fully qualified Foot Health Practitioner and a certified ear care provider, offering expert services with the convenience of home visits at competitive rates. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Shirley for a foot or ear care appointment via email or at 07767714634 to have the best foot and ear care.

Happy Feet Foot and Ear Care

07767714634

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](http://www.airyfairyonline.co.uk)

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



**Tel: 01857 616 469    Mob: 07741 778 750**

**We are a brand new local company, we decided to take the plunge after many years of working for others, to set up our own business. Craig has many years experience in general building work, labouring, ground work ect. I am a time served joiner. We have all our own equipment so no need for the extra cost of hiring from elsewhere.**

**We can do all types of ground work, pipe laying, guttering and roofing. Replacement windows and doors, finishings, concrete and general work. All types of work considered, no job too small, all work finished to a high standard. Full public liability insurance, safe, reliable and trustworthy.**

**Reasonable prices.**

**Contact Craig or Christine for more information.**

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**



### **REDHOUSE PLANTS MARKET GARDEN**

Seasonal vegetables available daily. Bedding, perennial and vegetable plants.

Local honey in season according to availability.

Open 09.00-17.00 Mon-Sat.

Redhouse, Lower Whitehall, Stronsay. Tel: (01857) 616 377

**Cooke**  
SCOTLAND

### Fresh Salmon From Stronsay to the World

Cooke Scotland has nurtured and raised delicious salmon on Orkney for over ten years.

Since 2019, we have called Stronsay home where we proudly produce one of Scotland's finest quality foods, with one of the lowest carbon footprints of any farmed livestock.

There are so many varied careers within the Scottish salmon sector - a thriving industry with oceans of opportunity.

Find out more about joining the team by visiting our website.

**An Ocean of Opportunity Awaits.**

Start Your Career with Cooke Today

[cookescotland.com/careers](http://cookescotland.com/careers)

Local business adverts are free!

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### *Holmsgarth Crafts*



*Seasonal Gifts,  
Memory bears,  
Stronsay book bags, and much more  
Many items can be personalised  
Made To Order*



Contact Margaret McAnally - [Holmsgarth Crafts | Facebook](#)  
07432614089



Traditionally hand-crafted in Stronsay—soaps, solid shampoo bars, conditioner bars and balms. Hand-spun and hand-dyed yarns from Orkney fleeces, woven throws, wall-hangings and more.

Orkney Star Island Soap, Isles View, Stronsay, Orkney, KW17 2AG.

Tel: (+44) 01857 616 281

Email: [info@orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk](mailto:info@orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk)

Web: <http://www.orkneystarlandsoap.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/orkney.star.island.soap>

***LOCAL BUSINESSES***



Taxi  
Community bus  
Island tours  
Mobile mechanic

Contact Mick

07508884024

01857 616 376

[www.bayviewtransport.com](http://www.bayviewtransport.com)

[bayviewtransportlimited@gmail.com](mailto:bayviewtransportlimited@gmail.com)

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<https://www.bayviewtransport.com>

## **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

### Roger at Stronsay Photographic

Available for  
Portraits - groups and individuals  
ID photographs - printing on site  
Tuition  
Special commissions

Cozy studio with professional lighting  
Home visits



Contact via Stronsay Photographic Facebook page and Facebook or tel 616228  
Special offers also on Stronsay Facebook page

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See Stronsay Markets on YouTube [https://youtu.be/8e6sz\\_Z2eQU](https://youtu.be/8e6sz_Z2eQU)

### Roger at Stronsay Markets



Local seasonal soft fruit and vegetables  
Grown naturally without artificial fertilisers, pesticides or weed killer  
Cropped same day (usually)  
Check out Facebook "Stronsay Markets"  
Contact me on [stronsaymarkets@gmail.com](mailto:stronsaymarkets@gmail.com) and I can add you to the regular list of  
available produce

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## LOCAL BUSINESSES

**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](mailto:patrickmcgrathltd@gmail.com)



## Ebenezer Oil Heating



Oil boiler servicing, repair and replacement

Oil tank inspection and installation

Why not let me check out your heating system, I can advise upgrades to make your heating more efficient & cheaper to run

10 year parts and labour guarantee on all new Grant Vortex boilers

All my work is covered by the OFTEC Competent Persons Scheme

**Why would you use anybody else?**

Tel 01857 616207 Mob 07500682867 Email [ebenezer@stronsay.org](mailto:ebenezer@stronsay.org)

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



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  
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## **STRONSAY KIRK**

Details of services at Stronsay's kirk for the next four months are now available on the kirk's website <https://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/stronsaykirk/calendar.asp?set=list>.

Contact Kirk Secretary:  
[elsie.dennison@live.co.uk](mailto:elsie.dennison@live.co.uk)

Stronsay kirk's Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1553904828107651>

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### **HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS:**

Ebenezer Stores <a href="mailto:stronsaystores@gmail.com">stronsaystores@gmail.com</a>	616339
Olivebank <a href="mailto:m.williamson1@btconnect.com">m.williamson1@btconnect.com</a>	616255
Fishmart café <a href="mailto:fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com">fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com</a>	616401
Hotel & pub <a href="mailto:thestransayhotel@hotmail.com">thestransayhotel@hotmail.com</a>	01856 700152
Red House plants	616377

Contact details for all OIC Councillors:

<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/your-council/councillors-and-meetings/councillors>

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### **OUR LADY'S CHAPEL, PIERHEAD** **OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASSES**

Our Lady's Chapel on the pier is open for public Masses with the permission of the Bishop of Aberdeen.

Mass times are as follows:-

Sunday & holidays: 11am. Tuesday: 8.00am. All other days: 11.20am

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### **STRONSAY ON YOUTUBE**

- [Bicycle tour of Stronsay in August 2022 \(poor audio quality\)](#)
  - [59° North](#)
  - [Links House, Stronsay: Finding the Mesolithic in Orkney](#)
  - [Stronsay, Orkney](#)
  - [The mystery of the Stronsay Monster](#)
  - [Orkney—living and working](#)
  - [1930's stone crushing machine in action on Stronsay](#)
  - [Stronsay harbour \(taken from inside the harbour\)](#)
  - [Five reasons to visit Stronsay](#)
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### **STRONSAY CHESS CLUB**

Meets from 12 to 2pm every Friday in the Fishmart Café  
Chess sets provided

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Post Office opening hours . . .	Monday to Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm. Sunday closed all day
Post collection times . . . . .	Ebenezer post box 7:30am, Monday to Saturday
Bank (RBS) . . . . .	Thursday 9:30am to 3pm phone 616262
OIC Special collection. . . . .	11 May and 3 August
Stromsay Island Link Office. .	Wed 10am-noon, tel 616446, email <a href="mailto:stromsaycc@gmail.com">stromsaycc@gmail.com</a>
SDT Office . . . . .	Wood's Yard 10am - 11am Mon-Fri. Phone 616410
Sunday service at the Kirk . .	Every week at 11am, see website <a href="https://tinyurl.com/strkirk">https://tinyurl.com/strkirk</a>
Our Lady's Chapel, pier head	Mass: Sun & holidays 11am, Tue 8am, other days 11.20am
Next mobile library van visit .	Mon 20 Apr 2026. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/orkmoblib">https://tinyurl.com/orkmoblib</a>
<a href="#">Weekly rubbish collection</a> . . . .	Every Thursday, bags to be out before 8am but NOT night before
Recycling skips nearly full? . .	Send email to <a href="mailto:recycling@orkney.gov.uk">recycling@orkney.gov.uk</a>
Forward scam emails to . . . . .	<a href="mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk">report@phishing.gov.uk</a>
Stromsay's Facebook page . . . .	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/476168409207488">https://www.facebook.com/groups/476168409207488</a>

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

### *Stromsay phone numbers usually begin with 01857*

Airy Fairy . . . . .	616231	Silver Darlings . . . . .	616412
Bank ( <i>Thursday only</i> ) . .	616262	Sinclair Haulage . . . . .	600404
Community council . . . .	616446	Star Island Soap . . . . .	616281
Companions Club . . . . .	616438	Stranded seals, etc . . . . .	616207/206/498
Craftship Enterprise . . . .	0778 511 1126	Stromsay Band . . . . .	616345
Doctor . . . . .	616321	Stromsay Pub & Hotel . . .	01856 700152
Ebenezer Stores . . . . .	616339	Stromsay school . . . . .	616246
Ebenezer Oil Heating . . .	616207	Stromsay taxi, school . . .	616376 <i>or</i>
	<i>or</i> 07500 682 867	transport, mechanic	07508 884 024
Fish Mart . . . . .	616401	diagnostics & repairs	
Golgotha monastery. . . .	616210	<b>Stromsay surgery . . . . .</b>	616321
	<i>or</i> <a href="mailto:contact@the-sons.org">contact@the-sons.org</a>	<b>Balfour hospital (24/7)</b> . .	01856 888000
Hall bookings . . . . .	616263	<b>Water problems (24/7)</b> .	0800 0778 778
	<i>or</i> <a href="mailto:annemaree.carter@btinternet.com">annemaree.carter@btinternet.com</a>	<b>Electricity:</b>	
Highland Fuels . . . . .	01856 873766	general enquiries	0800 048 3516
Island Link Officer . . . .	616475		<i>(lines open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm)</i>
Kirk secretary . . . . .	616238	problems (24/7) . . .	0800 300 999
Limpet editor . . . . .	616297	power cut (24/7) . . .	105
Medical emergency . . . .	616321	<b>Police (non urgent) (24/7)</b>	101
Neil's on Wheels . . . . .	07723 304 260	<b>Kirkwall Library . . . . .</b>	01856 873166
Manse . . . . .	616284	<b>Dentists:</b>	
Nurses . . . . .	616321	Daisybank Clinic . .	01856 870547
Olivebank . . . . .	616255	Com Dental Service	01856 888258
OIC out of hours . . . . .	01856 873535	Orkney Dental . . . .	01856 872030
Post Office . . . . .	616499	<b>Vets:</b>	
Red House Plants . . . . .	616377	Flett & Carmichael .	01856 872859
Scottish Fuels . . . . .	01856 873105	Northvet . . . . .	01856 873403
SDT office . . . . .	616410 or email		
	<a href="mailto:Office@StromsayDevelopmentTrust.com">Office@StromsayDevelopmentTrust.com</a>		

## **HOW TO CONTACT THE [LIMPET](#)**

Send an email to [editor@stromsaylimpet.co.uk](mailto:editor@stromsaylimpet.co.uk) or write to "Claremont, KW17 2AR".