



# STRONSAY LIMPET

FUNDED BY STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST  
ISSUE 29 OCTOBER



## LETTERS TO THE LIMPET

Today sees the launch of our new letter's page, so we thought it deserved front page cover, in fact we have ended up with more than one page, we hope that you will be pleased with the content. Don't forget that anyone can contribute to the page, in fact the more letters we get the better. As we said previously any topic can be covered so come on air your views. Lets make this addition to the limpet as interesting as possible.

### LETTER TO LOCAL MSP L.McArthur

#### STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST N.H.S. PRE-CONSULTATION

**The following is the text of a letter written by the Trust to NHS Orkney, Liam McArthur and Alistair Carmichael. Following on from this is the reply which the Trust has received from Liam McArthur.**

The recent NHS Orkney pre-consultation meeting in Stronsay was attended by three members of Stronsay Development Trust and our Local Development Officer. To the Health Service's credit, the feeling that came across at that meeting was very much of satisfaction with most aspects of our current health service. The one aspect, of course, which tended to be the main focus of the meeting and is of great concern to all our inhabitants is the threat to our resident GP service. On this topic, we believe there were many wider and far-reaching issues for the community which were not really addressed at this meeting and we would like to put forward the following points for your attention. *"We need to recognise that our smaller islands are a distinctive and highly valuable asset, and these communities need investment to secure their future"* (Orkney 2020: Our Vision)

Several years ago due to budgetary cutbacks Orkney Islands Council's Education Department seriously considered withdrawing the provision of Upper Secondary education at Stronsay School. After strong representations from the whole community, the Council came to recognize that the retention of Secondary education at our Junior High School was an essential link in enabling confidence in our island's future and helping maintain a viable community on Stronsay. They have since funded our school accordingly and have been rewarded by an increase in our school roll. Similarly Loganair have substantially reduced the air fares to island residents to help support the community and Orkney Ferries are currently putting plans in place for an enhanced service with bigger and faster ferries that will help give the island an efficient and reliable transport link to enable quick and easy access to Orkney mainland and beyond and to support the island's future development aspirations. We have been granted 'Initiative at the edge' status and have also been well supported by HIE Orkney and Orkney Islands Council in working towards a stable economy. It is through this background of on-going commitment to our community that we have come to believe that a sustainable future for Stronsay can become a reality.

*"Survival is about maintaining fragile communities as places where people can live and work"* (Orkney 2020: Our Vision)

With this aim very much in mind, Stronsay Development Trust has put great importance on gathering the views of islanders on the future of our island and to this end sent out a wide-ranging questionnaire and survey to every adult on the island in late 2006. As was expected, the importance of a resident GP figured highly in the responses, both from a personal point of view and from the wider aspect of how this affects the whole viability of the island.

One important aspect of this viability is the necessity of encouraging and welcoming new blood to the island. Almost 60% of our residents have moved to Stronsay from outside Orkney and we believe that to have a realistic chance of maintaining our population at or near its current number we are dependent on this inward migration continuing. While it may well be possible to maintain some form of health cover on the island with no GP in residence, the undoubted effect on potential immigrants would be that they would not seriously consider a move to an isolated area with no GP cover. Likewise many of the current residents would have to reappraise their situation and it would seem that those nearing retirement or recently retired could well find the balance tipping in favour of retirement away from Stronsay as, to many, life on an island with no resident GP is simply not an option. This combination of factors could have a potentially devastating effect on the future of our island and its economy, with a falling and ageing population having serious knock-on effects on many of the other services necessary for a flourishing community.

Although we appreciate that, in the current financial climate, it may be difficult to justify island GPs on purely financial grounds, we believe it is essential that these wider aspects of the effects of withdrawing our GP must be taken into account when assessing Stronsay's future. Living with the *threat* of losing our doctor in the near future could potentially be as damaging to our island as actually losing this cover and we strongly urge you as a priority to ensure that a medium to long term healthcare plan is put in place so that the community can look and move ahead with confidence. Of course it is only to be expected that the island's inhabitants *want* a resident doctor but much more importantly the island community *needs* one. We believe our future is in your hands. We would therefore ask you earnestly to consider giving the same level of commitment to our island as has been shown by many other stakeholders in helping to maintain Stronsay as a viable and flourishing community.

Mike Erdman  
Chair

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**STRONSAY WAR MEMORIAL**

Following Bill Miller's "Roll of Honour Stronsay War Memorial" in the September issue (page 4 issue 28) the following records, gleaned from the extensive Orkney Archives, may interest our readers. Archive references numbers are given

A War Memorial Committee was established which issued subscription lists to all 7 electoral districts in Stronsay (DI/76/6-13). Questions were raised about who should appear on memorials. There is a letter to Robert Mitchell (Stronsay Parish Clerk from Whitehall) from G Moncreiff dated 28 Feb 1919 as follows:-

*"I have your letter of 25<sup>th</sup> inst. re the names of Thomas and James Drever. My committee has decided that all boys BORN in this Island whether at home or abroad -when called up for service with the Colours and who were killed or died as a result of the war, should have their names on our memorials. Also anyone in this Island when called up and not a NATIVE of the Island is NOT to be included. I understand Thomas and James Drever were born and lived for some time in this Island, and would according to the Decision of my committee be included on our War Memorial. In a matter of this kind I think it would be better if Committees knew what each other were doing then there would be no overlapping and no name would be missed".*

Lists of those intended to be on the memorial were published in the Orcadian and Orkney Herald. E Stevenson wrote (14 April 1920 DI/76/17) that he wanted his son's full name ("*James William Balfour Stevenson or James William B Stevenson*" but this did not occur) and also "*the names put in the order as they died*" (he thought his son was the 3<sup>rd</sup>. and Dennison of Fingeo the 4<sup>th</sup> - Bill's list shows them 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Stevenson did not note the first James Shearer (death 13/8/1915) but knew of James William Shearer of Feastown (death 25 Sept 1915).

Continued on page 4



The Scottish  
Parliament

Liam McArthur MSP  
Member of the Scottish Parliament for Orkney

LMcA/BMF

12 October 2007

Mike Erdman, Esq  
Chair  
Stronsay Development Trust  
Ebenezer  
STRONSAY  
Orkney KW17 2AR

Dear Mr Erdman

Thank you for your letter of 22 September outlining the concerns of those living on Stronsay about future health service provision on the island, concerns you have raised with NHS Orkney as part of the pre-consultation process.

As you will be aware, this is an issue of serious concern to many people in most of the inner and outer isles of Orkney. Indeed, it was an issue raised by a number of your fellow island residents during a surgery Alistair Carmichael and I held on Stronsay during the summer.

I have already had meetings with NHS Orkney and have written to the Health Minister, Shona Robison highlighting the concerns that have been raised with me. As you may be aware, the current funding settlement for Orkney under the so-called Arbutnott Formula underestimates the real level of health need in the islands. I believe this is something that must be addressed by Ministers as a matter of urgency. It is an issue I have raised during a recent parliamentary debate and in correspondence with Ministers, and I intend continuing to make representations in this regard.

During my two meetings with NHS Orkney over the course of the last two months, I have reiterated the need for meaningful consultation with the public to take place ahead of any decisions being taken. Again, I will use your letter as an opportunity to reinforce this point.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me. I will contact you again once I have received a response from the Minister and NHS Orkney. In the meantime, if there are additional points you wish to raise at any point, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Yours sincerely

Liam McArthur MSP

Letters continued

### STRONSAY WAR MEMORIAL

Large sums of money were collected and expenses included the purchase of 480 cakes at 3d each 17 July 1919 (DI/76/22). There was a public election to find the favoured site from several suggested. On 23 Aug 1920 James Johnston, from Orphir House, Orphir wrote (DI/76/15) "*Colonel Balfour will grant a site for your War Memorial, mid way between the School boundary dyke and the Drill Cottage dyke and 9 or 10 feet off the public road. I don't think the ground is occupied or let to any one, otherwise the tenants consent would also require to be got.*" 9 days later "in reply to our letter of 25 ulto. Colonel Balfour writes to me that he will charge no rent of any kind for the site for the monument".

All appeared fine. The archives are full with material and labour invoices. Then disaster struck. The War Memorial funds by 18<sup>th</sup> May 1921 (DI/76/21) stood at £298 2s 3d, and they had been earning interest with Farrows Bank. This bank had been established as an Industrial and Provident Society less than 20 years earlier. Unbeknown to the Committee many of the Bank's investments were dubious and the values over inflated in the audited accounts. The bank suspended payment on 20 December 1920 and by 1 December 1921 a final dividend of 3/- in the £ (that is a repayment of 15%) was made. (DI/76/21) Another subscription had to be made.

The United Free Church Minister (DI/76/18) Rev. Alex. Skene wrote a note 21 June 1924 stating "*I do not think our Kirk Session should be a custodian*"; there was a cost to maintain the memorial. The War Memorial Committee kept minutes and remained in operation until after WW2 when other names were added (as on Bill Miller's list).

In 1931 The Imperial War Graves Commission (now Commonwealth WGC) stated in the local North of Scotland register of "The War Graves of the British Empire" p.51 details of the 2 war graves in the Chruyard of Lady at Bay namely

1. Drever. Pte. J. 138857. 35<sup>th</sup> Coy. RAMC. Died of Influenza. 27 June 1918 age 29. Son of Thomas and Agnes Pottinger Drever of Shapinsay.

2. Robertson, Gnr. Alexander. 368116. 93<sup>rd</sup> Bty. RGA. 21 Oct 1918. Age 23. Son of James and Annie Robertson of Clent, Stronsay.

In the chapel, that I attended as a child in the 1950s, behind the pulpit and facing us stood the War Memorial plaque. Two pews ahead us every week, alone, a small elderly lady whose 3 sons were on the plaque. I will never forget her annual tears of remembrance.

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT



SIMONE

"KYE HAVE BEEN JUMPING OVER IT BUT WE'VE BEEN WALKING ON IT FOR AS LONG AS WE CAN REMEMBER."

L.Martini-Brown (12.10.07)

#### FOR SALE

Low moisture content popcorn treated barley  
Barley straw bales plastic coated, sold by weight  
Phone The Bu on 616216

#### FREE

Medium size plastic dog bed,  
Just come along & collect it  
Lower Leaquoy

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE LIMPET CALENDAR IN THE POST OFFICE AND BOTH SHOPS**



**STRONSAY HOTEL**  
**26th October 2007**  
**"Wear It Pink!"**  
**Fundraiser for breast cancer re-**  
**search**  
**General Knowledge quiz**  
**Quiz starts 9pm**  
**Entry £1.00 per person**  
**Max. of 5 in each team**  
**Raffle**  
**If you can't make it on the night,**  
**why not**  
**make a cash donation or give a**  
**raffle prize?**  
**Please show your support for this**  
**very worthy cause.**  
**Pat Wilcox**

**GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DANIEL CARTER**  
**WOULD LIKE TO SAY A BIG THANK**  
**YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SENT CARDS**  
**AND PRESENTS AFTER HIS**  
**OPERATION.**  
**THANK YOU TO Dr McKAY TOO**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**MAURICE WILLIAMSON**  
**40 YEARS IN BUSINESS AT**  
**OLIVEBANK ON 6th NOVEMBER 2007**  
**(LOOKING FORWARD TO THE**  
**CELEBRATIONS!)**  
**ANNE MAREE AND PAT.**

**Jimmy & Fiona Stout would like to say**  
**thank you to Bill & Breda for the party they**  
**held for Jimmy on his 80th Birthday.**  
**As usual the catering was to Breda's high**  
**standard & everybody enjoyed an extremely**  
**pleasant afternoon.**

**Happy Birthday Ang!**  
**25th October**  
**Love Pat X**

**HAPPY 16th BIRTHDAY CASSY**  
**HAVE A GREAT DAY LOTS OF LOVE**  
**UNCLE STEVE, AUNTIE YVONNE,**  
**CRAIG & JODY**  
**XXXX**

 **HALLOWE'EN PARTY**   
**Fancy Dress / Bring & Buy Sale**

**Wednesday, 31st October, 7.30 pm**  
**In the Community Centre**  
**LOTS OF COMPETITIONS**

**NAIL IN BALE** **RAFFLES** **MYSTERY PARCEL**

**Quizzes** **Doosan for apples**

**NEEPLY**  **LANTERNS**

**HALLOWE'EN CAKE** **MIXED TOMBOLA**  
**fancy dress - under fives, six to eights,**  
**nines and over, and best group**

**GIFTS REQUIRED FOR RAFFLES, TOMBOLA**  
**AND GAMES AND QUIZZES. THANK YOU!**  
**ALL PROCEEDS TO**

**THE ROYAL CANAL LIFEBOAT FOUNDATION**  
**HALL OPEN FROM 2PM - 4 PM FOR SALES GOODS ETC.**  
**W. Miller, Secretary.**



| 2007                  | International Surface Mail   |
|-----------------------|--|
| Monday<br>1 October   | All non-European destinations (except USA, Canada, Middle East, Far East and South Africa) |
| Monday<br>15 October  | Middle East and Far East (except Hong Kong and Singapore)                                  |
| Monday<br>29 October  | USA, Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore and South Africa   |
| Friday<br>16 November | Eastern Europe, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Malta and Iceland                                  |
| Friday<br>30 November | Western Europe* (please see overleaf)  |

On this particular day the weather was good, the sea flat calm and the coast and landmarks easily visible some eight or ten miles distant. Fishing had proceeded uninterrupted and they were now into the last haul of the day, indeed of the week, as it was Friday. They had returned to pick up their dhan and started in to the final tow when the strain on one of the warps indicated that they had fouled one of the dreaded obstructions of the Graveyard. The winch was stopped, the engine power increased to full but with no success. Whatever they had inadvertently circled was not going to be so easily cleared. There was nothing further to do but to stop the propeller, open the towing roller, throw the warps clear and allow the boat to turn around, replace the warps in the roller and sail back over the obstructed gear, retrieving the warps as quickly as possible. Usually when this was done, as soon as the boat was directly over the snag and the warp heaved tight on the winch, the warp quickly cleared the obstruction on the sea bed. Occasionally, however, things did not work out quite so well and it was possible to remain firmly anchored to a snag - or a "fastener" as it was normally called - for a considerable time. At other times the snag could only be cleared by putting so much strain on the gear that the warp finally broke allowing the gear to be retrieved by the free side. One problem with this was that the boat was lying directly above the obstruction at a distance of only a few hundred feet, tugging and pulling at an unknown and, obviously unseen object. Usually the object was a rock but not always. They had earlier that summer been on such an obstruction some distance further offshore and eventually after breaking the obstructed warp, still had difficulty retrieving their gear. About a year or so later one of the bigger boats fouled the same obstruction and managed to dislodge it and bring it to the surface. Imagine, then, the horror of seeing a World War Two mine, complete with its moorings hanging from the bridle of the trawl. Were such an object to explode from its rough handling some two hundred feet below a small wooden fishing boat there would be little evidence left of the event. On this occasion most of the warps were retrieved until they were obviously lying directly above the net. The weight on the gear was enormous, the warps snapping and banging on the barrels of the winch as they slowly tried to recover their gear. The warps now led straight down from the towing roller in almost a right angled bend into the sea. At this point the new fangled Decca began to show some of its potential. From the cross bearings on the machine it became obvious that, despite the strain, the boat was slowly moving ahead although this was not evident from the landmarks they normally used. The winch was slowly started and the long task of easing the object, now obviously stuck in the net, to the surface, began. One of his uncles stood aft by the towing roller, unfortunately as it later proved, on the wrong side trying to gauge the strain on the warps. Suddenly, with no warning, the steel bolt by which the roller was fixed into the rail broke under the strain. In the blink of an eye the warps shot forward catching his uncle and, fortunately, throwing him into the air to land in the sea. The warps continued forward until they were brought to a halt by the steel shooting bolt standing upright in the rail amidships, around which the warps ran out when the gear was being paid out. With the sudden transfer of weight from aft to amidships the boat suddenly listed well down on her starboard side, fortunately settling at a list often to fifteen degrees. Of his uncle there was initially no sign. Then, a few seconds later, he broke the surface close alongside the boat, his oilskins full of air around his chest and shoulders acting as an inflatable lifejacket. When he had been thrown overboard he had obviously entered the water feet first and been dragged straight down by holding on to the securing rope of the head of the roller. Immediately he let go of this he shot to the surface where he was grabbed and rapidly manhandled back on deck. To this day the mechanics of why he was projected into the air instead of being trapped and cut in half by the weight of the gear remains unclear. Now, although they were still in big trouble, being fixed to a massive underwater obstacle and no longer able to heave it home because of the position of the immovable warps, at least they had escaped without loss of life or serious injury. At least they now had time to take stock of their position.

## NANA'S SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST

### Looking Back to 1935 in Stronsay

Looking back to 1935 brings back memories to us older generation of the splendid summers when the herring fishing was booming in Stronsay. No lovelier sight was ever seen than the herring drifters coming in with their catch of herring on a calm sea in the mornings. Then/ the horse-drawn lorries going to the different curing stations where the gutter girls stood at the farlings dressed in their oilskin aprons, ready to start the days work No grumblers there believe me and to walk past them would be to hear "singing while you work" the gutting knives flashing in time to the music.

When I was about ten years old a trip to the village from the South end was a bigger thrill than a trip to a big city would be to the present day child. Later, working in the village as a teenager the dances every Saturday and Monday night was enjoyment never to be forgotten. Two of the Fiddler family from Rose Cottage provided music with piano and violin. No amplifiers in those days but the old cinema rang from end to end with everyone in festive mood.

There were three ice-cream shops and a chip shop doing brisk trade all the time. Most of us "oldies" remember Mr Fugasia going his rounds with his ice-cream barrow proclaiming his wares to be the best in the world and no summer was complete without him.

On Sunday nights a visit to Sister Wray's hut (Now Helmsley) to join in the hymn singing was the highlight of the week. With a small harmonium providing the lead it really was magnificent harmony. Sister Wray will always be remembered for her words "You must be cruel to be kind". This was when she had held a poisoned finger in a bowl of very hot water but she always got good results.

At the close of the fishing season the fisher folk always sang as the boat left the Stronsay pier and to hear the song "We're no awa tae bide awa " always brings back fond memories.

Stronsay Fish Mart in the fishing time was really a busy place, with the salesmen busy selling the herring to the curing stations. This is only looking back just over seventy years and to look even further back to the days of the sailing boats no doubt would be to recall an even busier village.

The cinema was at the back of the present Stronsay Hotel. It was first built to show pictures and later turned into a dance hall. The musicians in 1935 were Mrs Beenie Chalmers of Northcliffe on piano and her brother Carl Fiddler of Rose Cottage on violin. The Master of Ceremonies was the late Danny Peace of Samsons.

Small motor boats ran between Papa Stronsay and Stronsay ferrying people across and I have seen them leaving Stronsay after a dance and you would still hear them singing when they reached Papa.

Dunera was a Church of Scotland Rest Hut and there was an English Church beside Glenfield. That church blew away in the 1951 hurricane. There was also a gut factory where the herring guts were made into fish meal. This was situated in the field at the South end of the Ayre of the Myres and you can still see the concrete foundations in Hunton's field.

Usually through the summer we got a visit from the Kirkwall City Pipe Band and they marched up and down the village playing, usually followed by a crowd of bairns. Twice I can remember the Kirkwall Brass Band playing in the cinema and twice I remember a circus visiting but that was further back in 1917 and 1918. There were no wild animals, just ponies, monkeys and dogs but it was a great thrill seeing a girl in green tights and a frilly skirt standing on a pony's back while it galloped around the ring. I tried that later myself

I can remember at least six of the Stronsay women gutting the herring at that time and they worked on More's Beach/ which was on the left side of the road as you go from the village through the Council houses. There were three in a crew two to gut and one to pack the herring in the barrels



The drifters came into both piers on a Saturday night and the village was a very busy place. The coal hulks lay out near Huip where the old sunken barge is now and the drifters went alongside them to get "coaled up". The coal hulks were manned mainly by locals and the late Jeemie Moodie of Daisybank used to work there, needless to say there were plenty of tricks played on each other and once when the summer was finished Jeemie could not get his trunk to move. Some joker had nailed it to the floor!

Usually Hunton and Whitehall supplied the four-wheeled horse-drawn lorries to cart the herring to the curing stations but lots of other farmers from up the island also supplied carts.

Large stock boats came from Russia and Germany for the salted herring and it was a busy time when they were loading. It could be quite dangerous for bairns to be on the roads as usually the horses were running with the carts.

The old Stronsay Hotel was a lovely house with nine bedrooms a big public bar and a smaller lounge bar. There was also a large hall at the back which had a bar. All this was needed on a Saturday night. Sadly the hotel was burnt to the ground in August 1939.

I have seen the dyke in front of the village entirely filled up with men sitting there discussing the weeks fishing. On a Sunday afternoon they all set out and walked up past Sandybank along to the Mill Road

and then back along the Mill Sand to the village. They were all dressed in black knitted jerseys and dark trousers. The jerseys were usually done in intricate patterns.

I remember several shops in the village. There was Swanneys (Now Hillside) baker and grocer, W.P. Drever (Now Cardinham House) grocer Norman Burr, (Bayview) butcher and grocer, Maggie Marcus (Shamrock Lea) grocer and haberdashery, Peter Twatt (Ebenezer) grocer, Jock Stout (Bakehouse) baker, T.D. Miller (shop at head of ferry pier) butcher, grocer and baker James Chalmers (Minerva) butcher and grocer and Lizzie Gumming (Orcadia) a grocer. Up the island there were shops at Ellerslie, Boondatoon, Dale Holin and the Grind. In the summer there were also three ice-cream shops and a chip shop.

I hope this has given you a little insight into the hive of activity which took place in Stronsay in the herring fishing days. Would it no' be right grand if we could see it again as it was just for one day.

NANA PEACE

### QUIZ

1. With what animals did Hannibal cross the Alps?
2. Which mythical animal was the symbol of ancient Wessex, Wales & China?
3. Which ancient people mummified their cats?
4. Which rodent is blamed for having spread the black death throughout Europe?
5. Which hopping animal astonished Captain Cook and his crew when they saw them?
6. Which country adopted the Bald Eagle as its national symbol?
7. One of the treasures in Tutankhamun's tomb shows the Egyptian king hunting large flightless birds in the desert. What birds were they?
8. In the Middle Ages, what kind of animals were only kings allowed to hunt?
9. What kind of animals did the cavalry ride into war?
10. What sort of dog was used by Captain Scott on his ill fated polar expedition?

ANSWERS BELOW

1. Elephants 2. Dragon 3. Egyptians 4. The Black Rat 5. Kangaroo 6 United States of America 7. Ostriches 8. Deer 9. Horses 10. Husky



**PAGES 9-11 ARE MISSING FROM THE ORIGINAL  
DOCUMENTS**

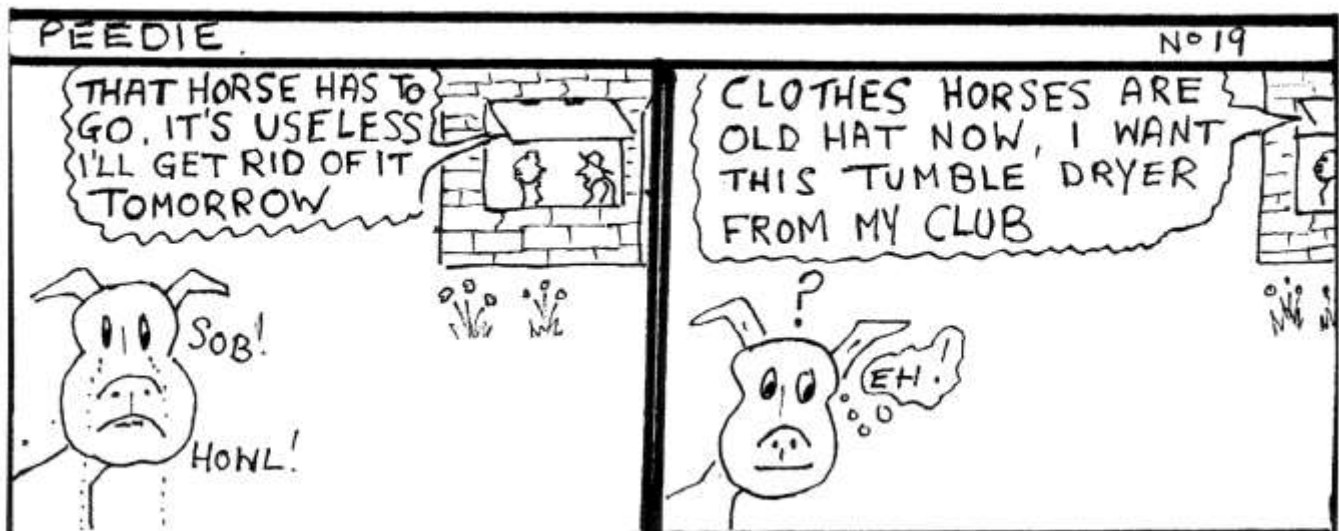
The highlight of the autumn migration so far was the record number of Yellow-browed Warblers on the island in late September and early October. At least 21 were seen - almost exclusively in sycamore trees - with two together on three occasions. These tiny warblers - very close in size, shape and colour to the Goldcrest (but lacking the yellow crown-stripe), breed no closer than western Russia and (typically) arrived on Stronsay during a spell of light SE winds. One was seen in the single large tree at Rosebank in what is a very isolated area of suitable habitat for this 'woodland' species.

Three Barred Warblers - another uncommon species of warbler, this species breeding no closer than eastern Europe - have also been seen on the island: the first on The Reserve where it spent the best part of a week eating the apples on one of the trees in the Castle garden; the second at Sunnybank, where it shared a sycamore tree briefly with a Yellow-browed Warbler, a Lesser Whitethroat, and two Goldcrests on 28th September, and we were alerted to the third individual which was discovered resting in the fuchsia hedge in the Hotel garden by Carol Cooke on 18th October. This last bird was seen again on 21st. A Turtle Dove was in the Southbank garden on 18th when a Puffin was also seen - close inshore in Mill Bay.

A few Greenfinches and Reed Buntings have been seen recently - the latter feeding mainly in the oat-patch on The reserve - but there have been only small numbers of Redwings and Fieldfares so far this autumn. Jack Snipe have been seen on a few occasions and a Grey Wagtail was seen briefly by Ross Goodwin on 12th October.

The most amazing sighting of the autumn so far was a juvenile Sea Eagle seen soaring high over the Meikle Water by Sue Holloway on 25th September as it drifted slowly south. Given the date and direction of flight, this bird probably originated from Scandinavia rather than from the introduced stock in Western Scotland.

Thanks to all who have 'phoned in their sightings





**PETE THE PONY SAVES THE DAY** part 3 by **LINDA SPENDLEY**

Janet watched in horror, as first one, then another, and eventually, all the ponies cantered off after Pete. Now, she was behind them, with the other supervisors, not knowing quite what to do. To give chase would make the ponies go faster. She would have to get past them.

She left the other supervisors to follow, then turned Shady into the trees that edged the bridle path. She set off at a canter, but the ponies were getting away. She pushed Shady into a reckless gallop, knowing she had to stop this foolishness. She could hear the shrieks of some children, who had obviously lost control of their ponies.

Janet's idea was to get ahead of the ponies, and back onto the bridle path, in the hope of stopping what was now a headlong gallop. If she didn't stop them, the ponies would reach the road, which could lead to disaster.

Shady drew level with the slower ponies. Janet caught a glimpse of them through the trees. She was happy to see all the ponies still had a rider, and some of them were finally slowing down, partly due to their rider's efforts, but mainly due to tiredness. She kept going; knowing that the other supervisors weren't far behind.

As Janet galloped on, she was getting more and more concerned. She knew the road wasn't far. She was just catching up with the leading bunch of ponies when she heard it. There was a high-pitched scream, followed by a series of shrieks, then, eventually, silence.

By the time Janet reached the scene, her heart was in her mouth. She didn't know what to expect. Nothing could have prepared her for what she found. Pete was calmly grazing a grassy bank, while Jessica sat on the ground, fuming.

"Beastly pony," she raged at Janet. "He stopped dead. I'm going to see that my daddy has him shot. He's dangerous."

Hearing this, the children whose ponies had kept up with Pete leapt to his defence.

"How dare you," shouted Laura, one of Pete's loyal fans. "It's your fault. I bet it's your fault your own pony's lame, if that's the way you treat him."

"So what?" shrieked Jessica. "He's my pony, I do what I like. My daddy paid for me to ride this nag, so I did what I wanted. My daddy'll make Mr Jones have him shot. He will. I'll make him."

**LITTLE LIMPET. By  
Christine Richings.**

CLINGING TO THE ROCKS WITH ALL  
YOUR MIGHT  
LITTLE LIMPET HOLD ON TIGHT,  
WAVES A CRASHING ALL AROUND  
TRY TO PUSH YOU TO THE GROUND,  
TIDE COMES IN AND TIDE GOES OUT  
WIND BLOWS STRONG TO DRY YOU  
OUT,  
BIRDS WALK PAST TO LOOK FOR TEA  
PASS ME BY AND DON'T PICK ME.



- |            |           |            |
|------------|-----------|------------|
| CASKET     | STACKER   | TASKER     |
| GASKET     | STAKES    | TRACKERS   |
| ICE-SKATE  | STEAKS    | UNDERTAKES |
| OVERTAKES  | STREAKER  | WEAKEST    |
| PACKETS    | TACKINESS |            |
| SKATEBOARD |           |            |

# LOCAL BUSINESSES & ADVERTS

## INSTANT PHOTO'S

Passport, visa, travel pass, driving licence, gun licence, etc.  
Personalised birthday, Christmas & get well cards with your own special message or photograph. Business /Invitation cards. You name it! Tell me what you want & I'll supply it.  
call  
Bill Miller 616420

## SPARKY

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

## Stronsay Fish Mart Summer Opening Hours

★ CAFÉ, HOSTEL ★  
&  
INTERPRETATION CENTRE

THURSDAY 12:00 ~ 14:00  
FRIDAY 17:00 ~ 19:00  
SATURDAY 17:00 ~ 19:00  
SUNDAY 12.00 ~ 14.00

&

17.00 ~ 19.00



## PAUL WILLIAMS, PLASTERER

Specialising in rendering, harling & internal plastering (skimming) Walls & ceilings. Also tiling & laminate floors. All building works undertaken, plumbing and electrics also.  
Contact Paul at Fernside 616443

## SWRI

14th November at the Community Centre  
Business Night, Special Competition is a Gateau., Also Buffet Night Hostesses are the Committee

## 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

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  
16th NOVEMBER  
YVONNE, AT KNUGDALE HEATHER  
616453. EMAIL hfazak@btinternet.com  
Letters to Lower Leaquoy.

## WHITE KNIGHT ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Stronsay & Eday  
Fully qualified Electrician (16th Edition)  
For all your electrical installations /test & inspection. Plumbing and Electrical / Mechanical Machinery.  
Maintenance & repair work also undertaken  
DAVE  
01857 616230 Mobile 07740104329

## STRONSAY FISH MART CAFÉ

**Sunday Roasts**  
**NOW AVAILABLE**  
Roast Lamb , Roast Chicken  
or Beef with tatties, peas,  
carrots, Yorkshire pudding &  
gravy. £6.95  
Bookings Advisable.  
01857 616386



# GROUPS, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

## LIBRARY

NEXT VISIT TUESDAY  
6th NOVEMBER Check shops for times  
and places

## STRONSAY SINGERS

MONDAY'S 7.30pm at the HALL

## FRIDAY NIGHT GAMES

### CLUB

FRIDAY NIGHT 8.00 TILL 10.00  
ENTRANCE £1  
COME ALONG FOR A FUN FILLED  
NIGHT AIR HOCKEY TABLE,  
POOL TABLE, PLAY STATION 2,  
NINTENDO WII & LARGE SCREEN TV  
SING STAR, SNOOKER, JUICE, CRISPS  
AND SWEETS AVAILABLE  
**YOUNGSTERS SHOULD BE PICKED**  
**UP BY 10pm AT THE LATEST**

## THE VARIETY CONCERT IN THE COMMUNITY HALL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27th  
AT **7.30pm** (NOT 8pm)

Please come along to support the efforts of  
your "**LOCAL TALENT**" performing in a  
fun filled evening of play's, music, singing &  
gags.

Refreshments will be provided in the interval  
Entrance Fee to be taken at the door.

Adults £3  
Children £1

## HARVEST HOME

Saturday November 4th  
8pm at the Community Centre  
Guest Speaker MSP Liam McArthur  
Dance & Meal Adults £5  
School age children £3  
Dance only tickets at the door, Adults £3  
Children £1  
Music by Don & Co  
Raffles

**MOTHER & TODDLER** Meets every  
Thursday 9.30 until 11am  
All pre school children welcome  
For more information phone  
Sarah 616406

## COMPANIONS

Monday 2pm all welcome

## SWIM CLUB

**EVERY THURSDAY**  
**PLEASE COME ALONG AND TRAIN**  
**FOR THE STRONSAY SWIM GALA IN**  
**DECEMBER**  
**PHONE SHEENA 616306**  
**FOR DETAILS**

## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

Now available to hire.

Badminton £2 per hour + hydro

Table tennis £2 per hour + Hydro

Snooker £2 per hour + Hydro

All equipment provided

Adult supervision (over 18) must be present  
During hire. Any damage must be paid for  
to book. Please note that any groups or  
individuals hiring the Hall require their  
own Public Liability

Please claim your lost property from the  
Hall as if unclaimed it will be sent to  
charity

CONTACT COLIN ON 446

## BONFIRE PARTY

Saturday November 10th  
7pm at the Hall  
Bonfire & Fireworks, Guy Competition  
Prize for best Guy  
Supper, Mince, Haggis & Clapshot  
Followed by Music, Darts & Euchre  
Adults £2 Children 50p

**SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE LIMPET**

12 MONTHLY @ £9,00 WHICH INCLUDES POSTAGE AND PACKING FOR FRIEND OR FAMILY LIVING AWAY. WHY NOT SEND A SUBSCRIPTION TO A FRIEND OR RELATIVE FOR A BIRTHDAY PRESENT.

IF YOUR GROUP OR ORGANIZATION IS HAVING AN EVENT OR THERE IS ANYTHING GOING ON WHY NOT TELL US SO WE CAN TELL STRONSAY. NO EVENT IS TOO SMALL OR INSIGNIFICANT, WE ARE TRYING TO GIVE OUT LOCAL INFORMATION BUT CANNOT DO IT UNLESS **YOU TELL US. HAVE YOU GOT A STORY OR A POEM OR OLD PHOTO'S OF STRONSAY TO SHARE, DON'T BE SHY.** IF SO PLEEEASE CONTACT YVONNE, KNUGDALE OR HEATHER 453 OR EMAIL US ON hfazak@btinternet.com OR BY LETTER TO LOWER LEAQUOY.

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

|                                     |                    |                              |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>DOCTORS</b>                      | <b>616321/308</b>  | <b>B&amp;B AIRY</b>          | <b>616372</b>      |
| <b>NURSES</b>                       | <b>616453/232</b>  | <b>LIBRARY</b>               | <b>01856873166</b> |
| <b>HYDRO</b>                        | <b>0800300999</b>  | <b>COMPANIONS</b>            | <b>616307</b>      |
| <b>BALFOUR HOSPITAL</b>             | <b>01856888000</b> | <b>GALA</b>                  | <b>616463/339</b>  |
| <b>DENTIST KING STREET</b>          | <b>01856875348</b> | <b>REGISTRAR</b>             | <b>616239</b>      |
| <b>VET - FLETT &amp; CARMICHAEL</b> | <b>01856872859</b> | <b>FISHMART</b>              | <b>616386</b>      |
| <b>VET - NORTHVET</b>               | <b>01856873403</b> | <b>HALL BOOKINGS</b>         | <b>616446</b>      |
| <b>KIRK</b>                         | <b>616311</b>      | <b>POST OFFICE</b>           | <b>616217</b>      |
| <b>STRONSAY HOTEL</b>               | <b>616213</b>      | <b>SPECIAL CONSTABLE</b>     | <b>616216</b>      |
| <b>MAURICE'S</b>                    | <b>616255</b>      | <b>STRONSAY LIMPET</b>       | <b>616375/453</b>  |
| <b>EBENEZER STORES</b>              | <b>616339</b>      | <b>DENTIST GT WESTERN RD</b> | <b>01856879683</b> |

**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 FEBUARY 14th UP TO 5 ITEMS  
£11.75 6 ITEMS TO FULL PICK UP LOAD £54.64**

**LORRY LOAD £108.69 ????????????????**

**Next issue out NOVEMBER 21st All adverts & events by 16th**

**A COPY OF THE LIMPET CALENDAR WILL BE IN THE  
SHOPS & POST OFFICE FOR PERUSAL**

**WE WILL BE PRINTING TO ORDER**

**CALENDARS WILL COST £5**

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