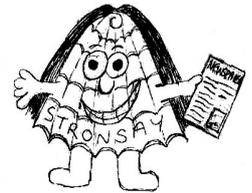


# STRONSAY LIMPET

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*Published on the last Thursday of the month*



Presents

## "THE ISLE OF EGG"

**Stronsay Community Hall 3rd of September at 7.30 pm**

An ecological fable inspired by the true story of Eigg, a beautiful, self-sustainable island off the west coast of Scotland. Through interactive storytelling, live music, eco gadgets and humorous characters, Eco Drama brings to life an uplifting story about climate change, positive thinking and the power of community spirit.

Join our characters on a magical journey on an island where the future has already started! Egg has hydro cars; boats run on candle wax and its very own solar and wind powered electricity, not to mention some crazy bicycle creations!

Our island of Egg is a place where dreams come true...

*"...it had the kids in the audience shouting for more and the adults in gales of laughter... it should be taken on a national tour of every school..."*

*- Rob Gibson, MSP, John o' Groat journal, 8th May 2009*

Free popcorn and a soft drink for kids and adults alike!



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The next edition of The Limpet will be published on Thu 30 Sep. Items for inclusion in that edition should be submitted by Sat 25 Sep. Contact details on back page

## **BASKING SHARKS IN ODINESS BAY**

On two occasions recently while fishing with handlines for mackerel in Odiness Bay, I have seen two basking sharks at very close range. The first occasion was on Sunday 15th August while fishing with Breda and Elizabeth Ritchie, nee Maxwell, and the second was on the following day while fishing with Errol and Kath Croy who were here on holiday from New Zealand. On both days we saw two sharks fishing separately in the bay, the largest one being close in to the rocks near the Vat O'Kirbuster. The largest one would have been 14 to 15 feet long and on each occasion, they were just cruising along on the surface, mouths wide open, filtering the plankton as they went. We were able to sail to within a few feet of them each time before they veered away from the boat. Breda took several photographs at close range, and in the one, you can see the tip of the nose about the size of a tennis ball. They have two fins, one about half way along the back, and the other, the tail fin.

Bill Miller, Glenmanna, Stronsay.



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## **STRONSAY GP—UPDATE**

From Karen Crichton

NHS Orkney Interim Community Health Partnership General Manager

Dr Roger Neville-Smith took over as principle GP for the Stronsay Surgery on Monday 9th August 2010 at 9am. He will be joined by his wife and job-share partner, Dr Rosalind Neville-Smith, in a few months. Roger will cover the principle GP role full time until Rosalind and their children arrive.

NHS Orkney are pleased to confirm that they have been able to appoint a GP Remote and Rural Fellow, Dr Tom Littlefair, who will cover the 17 weeks per year GP role for Stronsay.

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## **STRONSAY'S NEW GP**

I have just arrived in Stronsay and as I write this have survived and enjoyed my first week. I am pleased to be working with Linda and Katrina who have been a huge help as I learn how everything works. I have been a GP for a long time and have previously worked in North Yorkshire in a busy suburban practice. There will be some changes for me but I enjoy challenges. My wife Rosalind, who will work a job-share with me and the children will join me in November. We are all looking forward to living in Stronsay and meeting everyone.

Roger Neville-Smith  
Geramount  
Stronsay

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## **A STRANGE MOTH**

Jenny Stone saw this strange moth clinging, upright, to one of the grasses in her lawn a while back. The moth was lemony-white in colour and was a good two inches long with brilliant red-orange legs.



## **UPDATE ON ART PROJECT**

### **GUIDED WALK WITH BILL MILLER**

On June 3rd Bill Miller took us all on our second guided walk around the village; this time taking us through the Lower Station and right up to the old lifeboat station. The past was once again brought to life for us as we stopped at many houses along the way.

Bill described the history of each of the buildings, including Minerva, Ryburn, Rose Cottage, Orcadia, and of course the lifeboat station as it once was. He not only gave us a picture of what these buildings once were (Minerva, for example, was a busy shop at one time) but also the places where fish packing and processing buildings stood that are now just empty fields. Along with photographs to show us how it once was, Bill gave us backgrounds on the people who built and owned these houses, and stories of how their lives were; ranging from family tragedies due to losses at sea to fun rivalries between neighbours.

It was an enjoyable and interesting afternoon out, made all the more so with some summer sunshine; the young folk gained much fresh material for their art project. Many thanks Bill, for his time, and the photographs which have been essential for us to work and gain ideas from.

Thanks also to Helen, for keeping the Fishmart open to provide us with refreshments when we returned from the walk.



*(continued on next page)*

## ART PROJECT SESSIONS

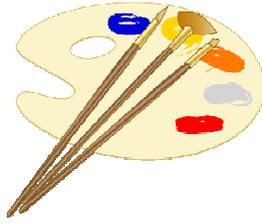
We have started by using the photographs Bill gave us, and working from them to gain ideas for how we want to portray Stronsay's past. These sessions at the moment are a means for generating ideas; sketches, if you will, for exploration at a later time. We are looking at ways of imagining how a scene, in a black and white photograph, might have been in colour, as well as using different media ranging from oil pastels to paint and having some fun with shells, stones, fishing net, cloth, wool etc ( thankyou to Wendy and Viv for the contribution of the latter ).



Having explored Stronsay's fishing heritage, we are now engaged in research into other aspects of the island's past, such as farming and social life. A huge subject, and many thanks in advance to those who are contributing with their knowledge in these areas. More on this in next month's *Limpet*.

Thankyou, Jenny (616 475)

## **UPDATE ON ART PROJECT SESSIONS**



Most Art Project sessions will now be on a regular weekly basis.

They will be on every Saturday afternoon  
from 3pm until 4:30pm at the Community Centre.

All are welcome

If there are any changes to dates and times, due to other events taking place, you will be informed a week beforehand.

(Contact Jenny: 616 475)



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## **GREEN ISLAND WORKSHOP WEEKEND**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**A last minute reminder for donations please.**

If you have any left-over bits and pieces of:

- odd yarns
- scraps of material
- hessian
- buttons
- feathers
- leather
- plastic bags
- used foil
- 2 litre plastic bottles

that you would be happy to part with, would you please hand them in at our collection points which are at the Post Office and all of our shops.

Thank you for you support. Simone & Eunice.

# SUMMER BONFIRE AND BARBECUE EVENING ON PAPA STRONSAY

Every summer the community of the Sons of the Most Holy Redeemer (F.SS.R) organise a bonfire evening and barbecue on Papa Stronsay to which all the residents of Stronsay and their friends are invited.

This year, this was held on the evening of the 15th August, the feast of the 'Assumption of Our Blessed Lady', which also was a very special day for Brother Martin Mary F.SS.R who earlier that day in the monastery chapel, had taken his final vows.

The trip to Papa Stronsay was scheduled for 6.30p.m. from the Stronsay main pier, with transport provided by SS St Alphonsus under its erstwhile captain, Fr Anthony Mary F.SS.R. with passengers numbering about 50, including many children.

The grand lighting of the bonfire was at about 7.15p.m. with Brother Martin's father having the 'honour' of principal fire-lighter. As the flames were taking hold, and from a suitably discreet distance, Fr Michael Mary F.SS.R administered the traditional blessing.



*Fr Michael Mary F.SS.R. blessing the fire - at a sensible distance!*

The bonfire itself comprised basically old, discarded wooden pallets, and was about 20 feet tall and a decidedly compact 10.feet square. I am 'reliably informed' that the principal architect and also builder was Brother Nicodemus F.SS.R, with perhaps some 'advice' and 'assistance' from fellow confreres! It was ingeniously constructed in true Meccano, or should I say Lego style, with an intriguing wooden bird-house (unoccupied!) near the top, surmounted by a large and mysterious, but rather tatty unidentifiable flag, and on the side at ground level a cunningly marked opening indicated by a blue cloth, through which the 'torchman' thrust the flaming spill!

Everything went according to plan, not necessarily always the case on these occasions, with the bonfire lighting first time and providing a fine spectacle to all on Papa Stronsay and also those across the water on Stronsay, with glowing embers and sparks lighting the skyline for many hours.

The buffet meal was lavish with a wide choice of tasty food, fresh-cooked sausages and other barbecued delicacies, choice of salads with ingredients grown in the monastic greenhouse, individual carrot and cheese dishes in garlic, prepared by Sister Onufria, a Basilian Sister, a visitor to Stronsay from the Ukraine, and other delights too numerous to mention. Two large trays of home-made scones were provided by a generous donor from Stronsay. The liquid refreshment ranged from tea, coffee and lemonade, through to wine and longer alcoholic beverages. I enjoyed a glass of draught Guinness which was just right for the occasion. Fr Michael and Fr Anthony and all the Brothers were hospitality itself, cooking and serving the food and drink, and meeting and talking with everybody.

Many visitors explored the monastery greenhouse, where flowers, vegetables and fruit, including peaches, grapes and soft fruit, proliferate. There is currently an excess of courgettes, and Val Lucas, one of the guests, was given one of the biggest courgettes that I have ever seen. It weighed approximately 5lb and was about 2 feet in length! Proof of the pudding is in the eating, and although I did not eat it, I was able to photograph Val staggering under its weight on her way home!



*Val Lucas with the biggest courgette (aspidestra?) in the world!*

It was a truly memorable and enjoyable evening, and although our family party left at about 10p.m. in the small boat, there were still many enjoying the balmy summer's night on Papa Stronsay with much merriment and song around the glowing embers.

I understand it was past midnight before the ferry made its final trip to Stronsay and back.

Brian Crowe, Scoulters, Stronsay