

NEWSLETTER

RECYCLING NEWS

Hi everyone, my name is Neil McLay, and I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new **Recycling and Sustainability Officer** for the Stronsay Development Trust. I'm looking forward to continuing the fantastic work done by Laura, Viv, and the SDT team - and exploring new opportunities to reduce our community's carbon footprint.

There are already so many wonderful ways the people of Stronsay *reduce, reuse and recycle*, and my aim is to build on those strong foundations.

If you have any questions or suggestions about how we can improve our recycling and sustainability efforts, please don't hesitate to get in touch:

Email: neil@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

Phone: 01857 616410

Visit: Pop by the Recycling Centre for information or to drop off your cardboard.

Working hours:

- Monday - 9:00 - 14:00
- Tuesday - 9:00 - 14:00*
- Wednesday - 9:00 - 14:00
- Thursday - 9:00 - 14:00*

**Times subject to change due to Community Transport commitments.*



🔥 New Reusable Log Sacks

We're introducing smaller, reusable net sacks containing 10 logs each - a more manageable option if, like me, your back isn't what it once was! Logs are still available by the box (30).

Prices:

- Box of 30 logs - £7
- Net sack of 10 logs - £2.50 or 3 for £7

🚫 Tetra Pak® Recycling

Please note that we're unable to recycle Tetra Pak® cartons or similar drinks packaging in our cardboard briquette machine. The cartons are typically made up of 70% paperboard, 25% plastic and 5% aluminium.

As of March 2025, Orkney Islands Council no longer accepts Tetra Pak® for recycling due to "the high costs incurred."

Briquette Machine Update

Over the past two weeks, our briquette machine has produced **359** logs while using **107 kWh** of electricity. In that time, we've sold **18 boxes of logs**, producing **£114** in income.

I'll continue working hard to make sure there are always empty bins available for you to drop off cardboard.



CINEMA NIGHTS SUCCESS!

A big thank you to everyone who came along to our recent film nights. We had a brilliant turnout for both Disney's Mufasa and Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy; and it was lovely to see so many people coming together to enjoy a good film.



The Church Hall was filled with laughter, snacks, and plenty of community spirit across both evenings. From families enjoying the heartwarming story of Mufasa to friends sharing laughs and tears with Bridget Jones, it was wonderful to see everyone having such a good time. Thank you once again to everyone who joined in and helped make both nights such a success!

COMMUNITY BUS RE-LAUNCH

Launching Tuesday 4th November!

Running **Tuesday** and **Thursday mornings**, timed in with the morning Ro-Ro ferry until 12 noon and collection from evening Ro-Ro ferry, our new Stronsay Community Bus will make getting around easier - linking with:

Ro-Ro Ferry Services (including return ferry)

Blood Clinic and appointments at the surgery

Shopping Trips

Social Outings to the Fishmart and Hotel

Our main driver, Neil, and relief driver, Kate, can't wait to see you aboard!

The services use our electric vehicle - so every journey helps reduce Stronsay's carbon footprint too.

Fares:

- £1 each way
- 50p each way for concessions and young folk



Booking Community Transport

Download the free **MooveFlexi** app (available from Monday 3rd November from iOS or Android for **24/7** booking access, **live vehicle tracking**, and **journey updates**).

You can book your journey both ways — simply select your outbound and return trips, and the driver will collect you at your pre-booked times.

☎ Prefer to phone? Call 07904 578120 (Mon-Fri, 9am-12 noon).

Moove
FLEXI



THE CRAFTSHIP (OLD CHAPEL) – HAVE YOUR SAY!

We're working hard on our Stage 2 funding application, aiming to secure 80% of the building's valuation.

The Community Development Officer will present proposals for rental and right-to-buy options to the SDT Board this month — and then it's over to you!

Join us at the Stronsay Christmas Craft Fair – Saturday, 22 November!

Visit our Craftship Consultation Room to see the ideas, chat with consultant Davie Campbell, Shani (Development Officer), and Neil, who'll also be there to discuss recycling and transport plans.

And of course — explore the amazing local crafters and their festive creations while you're there!

Current ideas for the Craftship include:

Wellbeing Room – for visiting therapists, hairdressers, and wellbeing practitioners.

Enterprise Zone – professional workspaces for home-based workers, with meeting and conference facilities.

Visitor & Sustainability Hub – potential hub to help reduce Stronsay's carbon footprint.

Gallery & Activity Space – a creative area for local artists to display, and small wellbeing sessions.

We'd love ideas and thoughts on this.



POWERING UP - ENERGY PROJECTS

We've submitted two CARES Funding applications - one for SDT and another to support the Stronsay Community Association with solar panels and battery storage at Woods Yard and the Hall.

While planning delays might mean a short wait for the next funding round, both applications have been developed with expert help from the CARES funding officers and our Community Energy Scotland ECOP team.



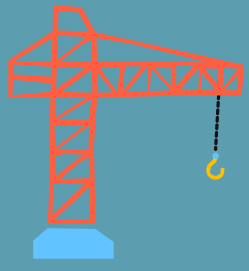
TEA AND TECH SESSIONS

Great news — our Cellnex Grant has been approved!

This funding will support Tea & Tech sessions, helping residents get online, access digital services, and learn how to use tablets, laptops, and apps — including the new community transport booking system.

SDT staff will run the sessions with plenty of friendly guidance and hands-on help.

Everyone's welcome — come along, have a cuppa, and build your tech confidence!



HERITAGE PROJECTS

The Heritage Group, working with consultant Davie Campbell, are developing plans for a larger heritage space.

This project, alongside the opportunity of purchasing the Mill for the Community, could deliver a lot in terms of future heritage value for the island and visitors.

We'd love to hear more of your ideas about how to preserve and celebrate Stronsay's story.



Stronsay Youth Vision Project

Building on our Place Plan work, the SDT Board has approved funding for a youth-led design project!

The Community Development Officer, Headteacher, and Stronsay Junior High pupils are working with consultant Charlotte Savage to co-design better spaces and activities for young people around about the school, including the Play Park.

This exciting collaboration will shape a vibrant future for Stronsay's youth — and create a lasting legacy of youth engagement on the island.



MAKE & MEND WORKSHOPS AND WARM HUB EVENTS

Other news!

We've received funding from the Crisis Fund to support upcoming Make & Mend workshops and Warm Hub events this winter.

These sessions will offer a friendly, welcoming space to socialise, stay warm, and learn new skills, helping to boost wellbeing and connection across the community.

Shani, Steph and Neil will be working together to get these workshops up and running — so keep an eye out for updates in next month's newsletter as plans take shape!



WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

The Trust staff and consultants warmly invite you to share your thoughts on all our current and future projects — from Youth and Housing to Transport and Heritage.

We're guided by your feedback through the Place Plan, and it's vital that the community helps shape how larger funding should be prioritised to best meet Stronsay's needs.

Pop along to our room at the Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 22 November, chat with the team, and help shape Stronsay's future.

Community Grants Scheme

Designed to support local communities, its aim is to empower individuals, groups, and organisations to carry out projects that benefit the island's development, sustainability, and well-being

EDUCATION & TRAINING GRANT

Funding of up to £1000, to fund a maximum of 50% of the course fees.

Available for Stronsay residents to assist with course fees for any kind of training or educational course.



SUPPORTING PLACE PLAN INITIATIVES

Funding of up to £15,000 is available, Applications from groups that can bring match funding to the table, whether through in-kind contributions, fundraising, or other sources.

However, we will also look favourably on projects that strongly align with our objectives and the aspirations set out in the Place Plan – particularly those that help reduce isolation, support participation for all, and address the impacts of poverty on the island



YOUNG PERSONS TRAVEL EXPENSES GRANT

Funding of up to £500 per event.

Available to help groups host one off events on Stronsay, the funding can be used to cover expenses such as travel and accommodation for visiting performers, freight for equipment, decorations, catering or venue hire



ENTERTAINMENT GRANT

Funding of up to £500 per event.

Available to help groups host one off events on Stronsay, the funding can be used to cover expenses such as travel and accommodation for visiting performers, freight for equipment, decorations, catering or venue hire



To apply either
Scan the QR code above for the online form
Visit the Stronsay Development Trust Padlet page and download a copy
call 01857 616410 for a postal copy
or email Vicki@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com

All applications will be treated in confidence
Details of grants awarded will only be advertised with the recipients' permission

Community Grants Scheme

To date, a total of

£7821.20

has been granted to the community
from the Stronsay Development Trust
scheme



Education & Training

Ryan Bliss Davis

awarded support towards driving lessons.
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PASS!



**Education &
Training**

Millie Dennsion

awarded support
towards driving
lessons



Entertainment

Stronsay Drama Group

awarded support
towards a community
Mr Whippy
machine



Entertainment

**Halloween Fund
raiser for the
RNLI**

Grant towards
Hall hire and
refreshments
for the event



**Place Plan
initiatives**

**The Stronsay
Heritage
Committee**

awarded support
towards printing
costs



**Place plan
initiatives**

Stronsay School

Grant funding
towards LEGO
therapy sessions
and a craft club for
the kids



**Place plan
initiatives**

**Stronsay
Community
Association**

Grant towards a
container for the
hall generator



Place Plan Initiatives

**North Isles Dance
Academy**

Support towards the
cost of travel and
accommodation so
Dance classes can be
provided for Stronsay
Children



Entertainment

Parish Cup Darts

Grant towards
feeding the
visiting Stenness
Team



Why Join

- Shape community decisions
- Have your say on projects
- Help unlock funding

Members

We have over 25% of the eligible population already signed up as members.

Associate

Don't live here permanently but have an interest in how the Island is shaped?
No Problem, become and associate member

Your Voice, Your Community, Your Trust.

Did you know .. the more people who join our Development Trust, the stronger our case is when applying for funding? Funders want to see that our community is united and represented.

Associate



How to Join

Ready to apply?

Joining is free and easy!

Find the application form using one of the options below:

Scan the QR code

Download from our Padlet page

Email:
[Vicki@
StronsayDevelopmentTrust
.com](mailto:Vicki@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com)

Contact the office for a postal copy 01857 616410

Full Membership



Stay Up to Date with the Stronsay Development Trust!

The Stronsay Development Trust monthly newsletters can be found on our Padlet page — just search *Padlet Stronsay Development Trust* or follow the link at the top of our Facebook page.

For more information, please contact the office on 01857 616410 or email Stephanie@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com