



TIMETABLES

[Loganair - interisland timetable 17 Feb 2025 - 25 Oct 2025](#)

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

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025

5 minute Freehand Drawings art workshop (details inside)	Wed 1 Oct
SWRI meeting	Tue 7 Oct
Coffee at Cleat	Sat 11 Oct
Harvest Thanksgiving in the kirk	Sun 19 Oct
Mobile library van visit	Mon 20 Oct
OIC Special Collection	Mon 27 Oct
Stronsay Stitchers	Thu 30 Oct
Harvest Home	Sat 1 Nov
Bonfire Night followed by Quiz	Fri 7 Nov
Christmas Craft Fair	Sat 22 Nov
Christmas Tree Lighting & peedie concert	Sat 29 Nov
OIC Special Collection	Mon 1 Dec
Mobile library van visit	Mon 15 Dec
Hogmanay Dance	Wed 31 Dec

VOLUNTARY ACTION ORKNEY - STRONSAY

<http://vaorkney.org.uk/search?submit=1&q=stronsay>

KIRK SERVICES

<https://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/stronsaykirk/calendar.asp?set=list>

NEXT NORTHERN ISLES FERRY SERVICES CONTRACT

Have your say on the next Northern Isles Ferry Services contract:

<https://bit.ly/4lENGwj>.

Transport Scotland is running a public consultation to gather views on how the Northern Isles Ferry Services could be improved in the next contract commencing in 2028. The consultation is open until 13 October.

The next edition of the Limpet will be published on **Fri 31 Oct 2025**, the deadline is 7pm on that date. Contact details for the Limpet are on the back page of every edition.

COFFEE AT CLEAT **TO RAISE MONEY FOR MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF**

Saturday 11th October from 2pm - 4pm and 6pm - 8pm
Coffee, tea, juice, cakes, sales table and a raffle
All welcome!



100 MILES IN OCTOBER 2025 **FOR SCOTLAND'S CHARITY AIR AMBULANCE**

From Sheena Cooper

The last challenge we did to raise money for SCAA was a skydive, this is a bit less exciting, 100 miles in October, mostly just to motivate myself but if anyone wants to donate to the charity that would be great too!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sheena1757952050149>

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>



Changes to Surgery opening hours!

Just a quick update on Surgery reception opening hours.

These changes will be taking effect starting on 15th September

Appointments are to be booked during these times.

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

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.

GP & COMMUNITY NURSE ROSTER

The rosters for the island's GP & community nurse are regularly updated online at
<https://stronsaylimpet.co.uk/RosterGPandNurse.html>

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

On the back page of every edition of the Limpet there is a list of useful telephone numbers including the emergency numbers for reporting problems with water or electricity.

Contact Details – 01857 616410

Development Officer	Shani Hall	Shani@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com
Assistant Officer	Aimee Stout	Aimee@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com
Assistant Officer	Steph Rome	Stephanie@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com
Admin/Finance	Vicki Holland	Vicki@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9am-11am

May be subject to change depending on online meetings and other SDT commitments, please check our Facebook page for updates

Bike hire must be booked in advance – please contact the office for bookings

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



Rooms for hire from only £2 per hour plus hydro charge.
Adult supervision (over 18) must be present during hire.



III ✨ Craftship Enterprise Site - Progress Update

Following our previous updates, we're pleased to confirm that Stronsay Development Trust has been successful in its Stage 1 application to the Scottish Land Fund for the potential community purchase of the Craftship Enterprise site.

We will now work with a consultant to prepare a full feasibility study and business case in support of a Stage 2 funding application, which we aim to submit in early spring. The main focus of this will be to speak to the community to build on the ideas and requests shared through previous consultations for what this building could do for the community.

We're thinking about developing the site as an enterprise and wellbeing centre - a flexible space that could offer short-term desk hire and professional workspaces to support remote workers and attract employers. It could also provide appropriate facilities for visiting practitioners, such as hairdressers, therapists, and other wellbeing professionals. The aim would be to bring together community use, enterprise, and wellbeing services in one accessible location.

We'll be at the Trust table at the Craft Fair on 22nd November—please stop by to share your ideas! Got something in mind sooner? Get in touch with Shani, we'd love to hear from you!

Y♥ Wellbeing Project - Looking Ahead

Thank you to everyone who met with the wellbeing consultant from VAO during their recent visit to provide feedback on the wellbeing project over the last 5-6 years. The VAO Island Wellbeing Project formally ends this September, and we want to reassure the community:

All existing wellbeing-supported groups will continue to meet as normal. All previously arranged funded events will still go ahead, such as the arts and crafts and wildlife events.

Looking ahead, we're working with other North Isles to explore a collaborative wellbeing project for 2026, with funding hopes through the National Lottery or similar.



Stronsay Development Trust



Community Bus & Recycling Services - Staffing Update

We're growing our team! The Board has confirmed at their most recent meeting in early September:

- A Community Bus Driver is being recruited to coordinate, develop and run services.
- The Recycling Officer role has also closed for applications. Interviews will take place soon and we will update via the normal channels.



Carbon Neutral Islands & Climate Action Plan

Thanks again to everyone who gave feedback at the Massive Weekend on our Carbon Neutral Islands work and Climate Action Plan. Your input is helping us shape meaningful action locally.

We are now reaching out to the aquaculture and farming community, and the CDO will be in touch with some of you soon to gather further support and insight.



Stronsay Island Place Plan - Final Steps

📁 The Stronsay Local Place Plan is now nearing completion, and undergoing final checks before being submitted to the Community Council, Community Association and Development Trust Board, and our three local councillors, ahead of registration with OIC.

🗣️ This plan reflects your voices from surveys, events, and consultations and sets a shared vision for housing, wellbeing, climate resilience, enterprise and more. More on this and an action plan from what you said in the coming weeks.



Stronsay Development Trust



Island Careers Roadshow - Youth Feedback

A big thank you to the children at Stronsay School who visited our SDT stand during the Island Careers Roadshow.

♥ We hope our youth-friendly job descriptions sparked ideas for the future! Your feedback on what matters most to you has been added to the final Place Plan, helping shape a future that reflects young people's voices.



Outdoor Activities Throughout Winter

📌 SDT has funded monthly outdoor activities for adults and young people throughout the winter, delivered by the OIC Outdoor Education team. Dates will be shared on Facebook and in The Limpet.



Free E-Bike Use for Residents

Remember, Stronsay residents can borrow our E-Bikes for free, whether for fitness, eco-travel, or just trying one out.

🚲👤 Interested? Contact the team to book yours!



Stronsay Sports & Water Sports Club - Get Involved

We're looking into setting up a Stronsay Sports and Water Sports Club to:
Support youth and adult participation
Enable safe, insured use of kit like the kayaks
Get ready to host the North Isles Sports in 2026!



Stronsay Development Trust

Membership

We are a membership organisation as well as a registered charity and limited company, and our members are at the heart of everything we do. The more members we have, the stronger our voice becomes and the better our chances of securing external grant funding to support projects for the community. If you'd like to find out more about our work, or are interested in becoming a member, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Vicki@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com

Hotel Update

Interviews will be closing on 5th October, and Lizzie and Duncan will be leaving us on 14th October. They've both been such a valued part of the team, and we know many of you will join us in wishing them well for the future.

Once interviews are complete, we'll be in a position to confirm our new opening hours, and we'll share those details with you as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support during this period of change.

Contacts

The SDT Volunteer Board are: Naomi Bremner (Chair), Kevin Kent (Vice Chair), Dianne Riley-Moore (Treasurer), Mike Holland, Elsie Dennison, James Seaton, Ian Stevenson, Andrew Fraser, Carrie Stout and Molly-May Allen and Marion Miller.

Padlet noticeboard: <https://tinyurl.com/2ntnzk3n>

Email contact details:

Vicki: vicki@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

Shani: shani@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

Steph: stephanie@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

Aimee: aimee@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

Board: office@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

Or message: [Facebook.com/StronsayDevelopmentTrust](https://www.facebook.com/StronsayDevelopmentTrust)



The Stronsay Development Trust Community Grant 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.

ENTERTAINMENT GRANT

**Funding of up to £500
per event.**
Available to help groups host
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

SUPPORTING PLACE PLAN INITIATIVES

**Funding of up to £15,000 is available,
to fund a maximum of 60%
of the total cost.**

Available to Stronsay residents to
support local projects that align with
the goals and priorities set out in the
Place Plan, empowering groups of
residents, organisations and community
groups to develop sustainable
initiatives that reflect the shared vision
of our island's future

YOUNG PERSONS TRAVEL EXPENSES GRANT

**Funding of up to £200
per person per year.**
Available for Stronsay residents under the
age of 22 and in full time education to
assist with travel expenses to the
mainland to attend organised events.

SUCCESS STORIES

Education &
Training
Millie Dennison
awarded support
towards driving
lessons

Entertainment
Stronsay Drama
Group
awarded support
towards a
Mr Whippy
machine

Place Plan
initiatives
The Stronsay
Heritage Committee
awarded support
towards printing
costs

Place plan initiatives
Community
Association
Grant towards a
container for the hall
generator

Education &
Training
Ryan Bliss Davis
awarded support
towards driving
lessons

To apply, visit the Stronsay Development Trust Padlet page
or email Vicki@StronsayDevelopmentTrust.com

All applications will be treated in confidence and decisions will be made jointly by the Stronsay Development Trust Trustees
Details of grants awarded will only be advertised with the recipients' permission



STRONSAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE...

THE CARDBOARD RECYCLING FACILITY IS NOW OPEN!



Three large green bins are located
outside UNIT 2



RECYCLING GUIDELINES

- ✓ ALL CARDBOARD IS DRY
- ✓ ALL CARDBOARD IS FLATTENED
- ✓ ALL TAPE IS REMOVED



HAVE A LARGE DELIVERY OF CARDBOARD?

Staff can arrange access to Unit 2
for bigger drop-offs.

Please contact us in advance at:

ECO@STRONSAYDEVELOPMENTTRUST.COM

If the bins are full please contact eco@Stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com.

Please do NOT leave cardboard outside of the unit other than in
the bins provided.

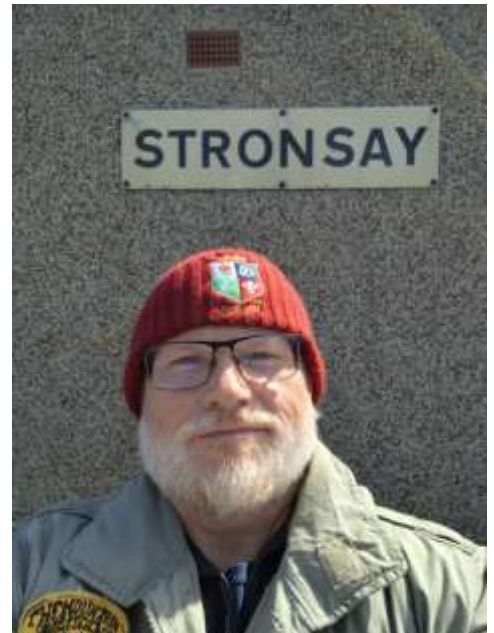
**Thank you for helping us keep Stronsay
clean and green!**

A MESSAGE FROM JAKARTA (INDONESIA)

After a stunningly beautiful summer in Stronsay, Terry, Lydia, and I (Lyndsy) are back in Jakarta. For those we haven't met, Terry and I bought the Police House in late spring, hoping it will be our permanent home.

We both work at an international school in Indonesia: Terry teaches P.E. and coaches rugby, and I am a counsellor. Lydia is in her final year of secondary school. Although we enjoy our work, we dream of the day we can live in Stronsay full-time. The island's peaceful pace and the community's warmth feel like the home we've always wanted.

Jakarta is a world away—tropical, hot, and humid, with a population of over 10 million. A peaceful day is a rare gift here. We often find ourselves missing quiet walks on the beach and traffic-free trips to the Fish Mart Cafe or the shop. We also miss those of you whom we were able to meet. From afar, we'll be following the Stronsay Facebook groups to get a glimpse into your lives and the life we eagerly anticipate fully immersing ourselves in as soon as possible.



STRONSAY SWRI MEETING

Tuesday 7th October
In the community centre
At 7.30 pm
Cooking demo by Gaynor
Open to all ladies and girls aged 11 and over
Supper and raffle
Competition (members only) 4 tattie scones

UHI ARCHAEOLOGY INSTITUTE

STRONSAY SECTION

Three new surveys, carried out as part of the [*From Peat Spade to Tangle Trade*](#) industrial heritage project, have been added to a new [Stronsay section](#).

They are the [Grice Ness](#) kelp pits/dykes, [Meikle Mill](#) and the [Point of Cumley](#) fish-offal processing plant.



EXCITING OPPORTUNITY ON STRONSAY!

The beautifully refurbished Stronsay Hotel is now looking for enthusiastic people to take on the lease and run this much-loved island hub.

We're seeking someone who can:

- 🍴 Serve quality food (sit-in & takeaway)
- 🎲 Create a lively social space with quizzes, darts & events
- 💡 Bring fresh ideas to grow the business

This is a unique chance to operate a friendly hotel and bar at the heart of a stunning island community.

📧 To find out more and request an application form, email:
treasurer@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

🕒 Closing date: 5th October 2025

👉 Could this be your next adventure? Come join us in Stronsay and help shape the future of this special community!

Exciting opportunity on the island of Stronsay

Situated in the picturesque village of Whitehall, Stronsay Hotel was refurbished in 2023 and now community owned it is at the heart of our island community.

We are looking for an enthusiastic person(s) to manage this important island business on a lease basis, and ensure a warm welcome to visitors and locals alike.

We are looking for people who can:

- Serve quality food on a regular basis (sit in and take away)
- Create a lively social space with darts, quizzes and other popular events.
- Develop new ideas to grow the business

You would have the opportunity to operate a friendly hotel and bar on a beautiful Island.

If you have the experience, energy and ideas to manage this essential community establishment, we would love to hear from you.

To find out more and receive an application please email:

treasurer@stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com

Closing date for applications 5th of October 2025



Photo credits: Colin Kelday & Marion Miller

<https://www.stronsaydevelopmenttrust.com/> Closing date: 5th October 2025

BROADBAND ON STRONSAY

Full fibre broadband (FTTP = "Fibre To The Premises") is now available on Stronsay. Openreach are installing the fibre network but to connect yourself to the fibre network you need to register with one of the approved providers. If you are interested then:

1. Go to <https://www.openreach.com/broadband-network/fibre-availability>.
2. Enter your post code.
3. Select your address from the list provided.
4. Click on "*Check availability*" and then either:
 - a. Click on "*Learn more*" then click on "*Register my interest*" or
 - b. Click on "*Register interest*" and follow the instructions.

STRONSAY HOUSES PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

As part of a project I'm working on I'm hoping over the next few months to take a photo of every house on the island. The photo would be taken from a discreet distance and wouldn't interfere with anyone's privacy but if you would prefer not to have a current photo of your house included in this project please let me know.

As part of the same project I'm hoping to find past photos of as many local houses as possible and hope some of the 'Limpet' readers may be able to help. These photos don't necessarily have to be particularly large, old or clear, and even photos of folk with the house in the background would be appreciated, as would any of the small black and white snaps that were common at one time. If you have any such photos please let me know as I would love to have a copy of them. If I could borrow the photo just long enough to make a copy before returning the original to you that would be great. I would take great care of it and would also supply a 7" x 5" or 8" x 6" copy of the original for you to add to your own photo collection if you wish.

If you do have any such photos you're willing to let me copy please let me know by email at ian.cooper56@gmail.com, phone 01857 616322 or drop in past Steenysheed anytime.

Thanks in advance,
Ian Cooper

ART WORKSHOPS FOR BEGINNERS!

Workshop is held in the Community Hall and last from 1:30pm to 4:30pm.

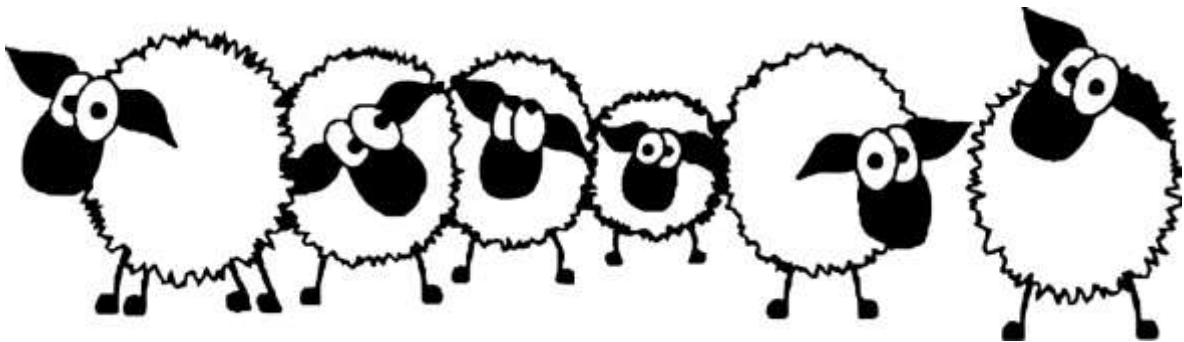
Five Minute Freehand Drawing (Wed 1 Oct)

How many 3D objects pass before your eyes as you make your way through your alert daily life? 10,000? 50,000? Any single one of those myriad objects could be worth contemplating for just a few minutes, to focus on and appreciate simplicity, the end result being a little pencil sketch that would fit in the palm of your hand.

Join our experienced art teacher Christopher Andrew Maier in this 3 hour workshop to “Stop and smell the roses”, looking closely at the simple things in life. Bring your key ring and something small that is meaningful to you! Timed music is added to the mix for fun. Ready? Set? Go!

3 hours with supplies provided, including a take home project consisting of nine matted individual sketches, proving that you are able to slow down, for once in your life.

Stronsay Stitches



Thursday 30th October 2025

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 stitchy things. You can bring any projects you're working on such as crochet, needlework, knitting, rug hooking etc.

Everyone welcome.

The Islands Small Grant Scheme is 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.

ENTERTAINMENT GRANT

Funding of up to £500 per event.

Available to help groups host 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.

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.

YOUNG PERSONS TRAVEL EXPENSES GRANT

Funding of up to £200 per person per year.

Available for Stronsay residents under the age of 22 and in full time education to assist with travel expenses to the mainland to attend organised events.

SUPPORT PLACE PLAN INITIATIVES

Funding of up to £15,000 is available, to fund a maximum of 60% of the total cost.

Available to Stronsay residents to support local projects that align with the goals and priorities set out in the recent Place Plan, empowering groups of residents, organisations and community groups to develop sustainable initiatives that reflect the shared vision of our island's future.

All applications will be treated in confidence and decisions will be made jointly by the Stronsay Development Trust Trustees

STRONSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

As from 19 May 2025, the following have been confirmed as members of Stronsay Community Council: -

Maya BAR-TOR	Bennicuml, Stronsay, KW17 2AJ Email; mayabartor@gmail.com
Dominic BLYTH	St. Catherines, Stronsay, KW17 2AN tel: 616242 email: saniman@live.co.uk
Shane HOURSTON	Housebay Cottage, Stronsay, KW17 2AJ tel: 07593965600 email: s.hourston@yahoo.co.uk
Louise McQUAID	Bayview, Stronsay, KW17 2AR Chair tel: 616376 email: louisemcquaidecc@gmail.com
James SEATON	Thorfinn, Stronsay, KW17 2AS tel: 07470111871 email: safehandsno_1@hotmail.com
Damian STOUT	Linksness, Stronsay, KW17 2AT Vice Chair tel: 616258 email: damiienstout@btinternet.com
Shirley WHITEMAN	St. John's Cottage, Stronsay, KW17 2AT tel: 616438

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

Colin McAlpine
Island Link Officer/Clerk
19 May 2025

(The following item is supplied for your information):

Hello from Neighbourhood Watch Scotland (NWS)

The team at NWS are reaching out to ask for your assistance in cascading community information.

As you may already be aware landlines are changing, and the UK's telephone network is going digital. By January 2027, the old analogue network will be completely switched off and replaced by new digital landlines which will work using broadband. This change affects all industry providers and their customers. It is important that we help support members of our communities, especially the more vulnerable, to ensure that they are not adversely impacted by the switch off deadline as best we can.

There are two key campaigns that we wish to draw your attention to:

‘National Telecare’ campaign: This campaign relates to customers that use a telecare device such as personal alarms, pendant alarms, lifeline devices and home care monitoring systems. It is important that they take action to ensure that their equipment is compatible with the new digital technology. While many modern telecare systems are designed to work with both traditional and digital landlines, older models may require upgrades or replacements. Users should be encouraged to make contact with their landline provider for support as soon as possible. Further information is available at:

<https://digitalphoneswitchover.com/?msclkid=c376cdc8940b1ff75bc4a55ce5cbbd6b>

BT Connected-Together campaign: This initiative encourages friends, family, colleagues, neighbours to support vulnerable members of the community through the switch. This involves helping them to understand why it is happening, and how to prepare. The BT guide and the BT website can be accessed here:

<https://www.bt.com/about/all-ip/connected-together>

Anyone who needs extra support to make the switch to Digital Voice, should register for this using the BT webform available on the [website](#). An engineer will then be made available to assist them with transition.

We respectfully ask that you spread the word far and wide, and where possible use your networks to disseminate the key messages through your own streams including WhatsApp, social media, workplace Intranets / external websites etc. We also have additional information on our website:

<https://neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/communities/connected-together>

Thank you in anticipation for your support, by working together we can achieve so much more.

Best wishes from the NWS Engagement Team

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland SCIO - Charity Number: SC036510

c/o Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, 21 Claylands Road, Newbridge, Edinburgh, EH28 8LF

Tel: 01786 463732

info@neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk

Records of a Bygone Age
Outward Bound to Australia –
Hopes for a new life: Part 1

These articles always have a Stronsay connection and the link to Stronsay in this story is there, although it's going to take me a peedie while to get to it!

The story begins in Eday in 1854, where 24 year old James Miller was helping his father, also James, on the little croft of Linkertaing in Eday's North End, supplementing their diet and income with fishing as time, tides and weather allowed. Just a few hundred yard to the north lived his 21 year old sweetheart Rebecca Meil, who was staying at the tiny croft of Burnside with her elderly grandparents James and Rebecca Craigie.

They were wed in Eday on 7th November 1854 and, rather than endure the harsh realities of island life at that time, the newlyweds had chosen to take a bold step. Looking for something better than the life that awaited them in their home island they had heard glowing reports of the opportunities available to young, hard-working families in Australia. With this in mind, James and Rebecca had agreed to take advantage of the emigrant's assisted passage scheme available at the time which, they believed, would carry them half way around the world to enable them to carve out a new life for themselves there.

Just a few short weeks later they said their tearful goodbyes to their friends and family in Eday and made what was apparently quite a rough crossing to Kirkwall aboard the little sailing ship *Content*. From there they gained passage on the regular weekly service from Kirkwall to the Edinburgh port of Leith on board the clipper *Paragon*, departing from Kirkwall on 13th December 1854 and not arriving in Leith until the 16th.

James and Rebecca then spent a few days in Edinburgh, lodging with a lady from Shapinsay and meeting up with other Orcadians round about, of which there were quite a few.

Here James takes up the story in his letter (transcript below) written to Rebecca's parents Stewart and Janet Meil:



*The first page of James Miller's neatly written letter from
Leith written to Rebecca's parents.*

(continued on next page)

"Leith,
22nd December 1854
Dear parents

We now write to you this to let you know that we have arrived safe at our port and in good spirits. We left Kirkwall on Wednesday with the Paragon at 8 o' clock P.M. and had a fine passage for Leith which we reached about 9 o' clock on Saturday morning but it was between 2 and 3 in the evening before we could get into the docks when we got ashore. We passed the Buchanness lighthouse about 10 P.M. on Thursday and had a fine day. On Friday it was almost entirely calm for a while until in the evening when we got a breeze from the North east and yet it was a very strong storm from the West at Leith on Friday. The people have said that it was the strongest storm that had been for a long time.

The whole of the female passengers were sick unless Margaret Peace and Mrs Liddle. Rebecca was sick and threw a little on Thursday morning but it was soon over. I was also sick too myself so you will not admire at her being sick. She was better on Friday and on Saturday morning she said that she was as well as if she had been at home the whole time. We had but an awkward passage with the Content and Rebecca was very sick and so was all the passengers that had not been well accustomed with the sea before but her aunt will have given you all the details of it before now. However she says she was never so ill in the Paragon as she was in the Content and her reaching was of much shorter duration and I think if she keeps her health she will soon stand the sea as well as I will do myself if not better.

We have but seen little of the town yet or yet will I think for while we are looking at one place another draws our attention and it would take us a long time to view all the piers and docks and ships. The steam train is running here also every minute.

The town here also as far as I have ever seen is very beautiful, the streets is far wider than in Kirkwall and the houses is much higher and much more beautiful. Kirkwall when compared with it is nothing and there is nothing to be seen in it. The men-of-war is now coming home from the Baltic and there was a large steamer that came this morning.

They Eday People are all well that came now and seem to be as brisk as can be expected. We and Robert are lodging with one Mrs Shearer belonging to Shapinsay that came here from Kirkwall about three years ago. She seems to be a very kind woman. James Drever is lodging with James Marcus from Faray and the Marcus people are away for David Hourston. We will be going to Glasgow on Monday or Tuesday. We are both in good health at present. Rebecca says she was never better in her life. Thank God for it and trusting this will find you the same we must now conclude.

(continued on next page)

Dry up your tears and comfort yourselves as well as you can. I have written to my Father and I am going to write to her uncle and aunt and I will write you again either at Glasgow or Birkenhead. Give our best respect to all our uncles, aunt in the south end and to all our cousins and all other enquiring friends.

We are yours affectionately,
James and Rebecca Miller"

After a train journey to Glasgow, the couple boarded the steamship *Princess Royal* bound for Liverpool. The ship was apparently badly overcrowded and the 12 hour passage rough but James and Rebecca arrived safely in Liverpool, where they immediately boarded another steamer to take them the short trip south across the Mersey to Birkenhead. Here they were housed in a depot together with other intending passengers awaiting the clipper ship to take them to their new life in Australia and here again James tells the story in a letter (transcript below) to Rebecca's parents:



Birkenhead Depot Dec 1876
Dear parents
We now take this opportunity
of writing you as it likely will be the
last we will have for some time. We
had a fine passage with the *Princess* as I
told you before and Captain Fergus and
all the *Princess* men were very kind to
us and left our chest until they were
when they were taken up and put on
the good train of *Edinburgh and Glasgow*
and sent for Glasgow so you see they
saved us from the trouble and expense
of storing and we did much better than
if we had gone with the steamer. *Thurs*
Thurs was very kind to us and told us
every way to do for the best and saved us
a good deal of expense for. As *Thurs* one
would not be able to do it for they
will charge you when they have no right
to do it and did it. But we were in-
structed before how to do. We left *Edin*
on Wednesday for Glasgow with the
Caladonian Railway which is one
shilling for each person and is allow-
ed to take so you see we could not take
our luggage with us. I think there was

James Miller's letter to Rebecca's parents, this time sent from Birkenhead.

(continued on next page)

"Birkenhead Depot

December 1854

Dear Parents,

We now take this opportunity of writing you as it likely will be the last we have for some time. We had a fine passage with the Paragon as I told you before and Captain Fergus and all the Paragon men were very kind to us and kept our chests until Wednesday when they were taken out and put upon the goods train of Edinburgh and Glasgow and sent for Glasgow so you see they saved us from the trouble and expense of storing and we did much better than if we had gone with the steamer. James Marcus was very kind to us and told us every way to do for the best and saved us a good deal of expense for I do as someone would need to keep his eyes open for they will charge you when they have no right to do it and did it but we were instructed before how to do. We left Leith on Wednesday for Glasgow with the Caledonian Railway which is one shilling for each person and is allowed 56lbs. so you see we could not take our luggage with us. I think there was about three hundred passengers along with us on the train. We were in George Drever's house in Glasgow and he is doing fine and both him and his wife were very kind to us and sought out lodgings for us and we all got our tea when we came and he was for us to stop for our supper too. Some of us also got our breakfast in the morning and he was dissatisfied that we all did not come.

We left Glasgow on Thursday evening for Liverpool with the steamer Princess Royal about 6 o' clock and we reached Liverpool about 6 o' clock in the evening and soon as we could bring up at the pier the steamer was alongside of us to take us to the Depot and I am sure that we all made her very welcome for there was so many passengers that there was not room for them all to stand in the steerage much less for them to sit. There was a great number of them that had to remain on the deck continually. There was a number of them Irish sailors as I supposed most of whom were drunk and as wicked and profane as could be. There was one woman with a child of a few weeks old so intoxicated that she could not take proper care of it and it was damaged among the crowd so that it died before we came to Greenock so she went out there. The most of the passengers were sick also. Rebecca was rather sick too but I was astonished that she was not worse for she stood it better than I did. There were many of the passengers worse off than we were and few if any better. Robert left us on Monday for Glasgow to go to Birkenhead but he could get no chance on the ship with us. The Emigrant Officer told him he could do nothing for him and sent him to the owner to see if he would give him a chance to work out his passage but he told him they were full of men.

(continued on next page)

He went to the whole of the Australian ships to see if he could get a chance to work out his passage but there was none. There was one who offered £12 and work too but it would not without the full freight which is £16. On Saturday there was one to sail on Sunday with 3 empty berths and the agent told him he thought he might get for £14 so he came to me on Saturday evening to see what I thought about it so I told him I thought it was better than to go to see. So he gathered all that he could together and went to Liverpool to see about it. He was in such a hurry that I had no time to ask him either the ships or the captain's name and perhaps he may not have time to write home.

We are to sail on Monday or Tuesday. She is a first class clipper and very sharp and said to run 17 knots and made her last voyage to Australia in 70 days and there is £1000 wagered on her that she will make this voyage in ten weeks. We have great cause to be thankful to providence for the prosperity we have had as yet and he is as able to preserve us to the end.

There has been one birth in the Depot since we came. We wrote 3 letters in Leith one to my father, one to you and one to S Sutherland. We are both in as good health as we can be and all the rest of the Eday people are the same. John Marcus is not very well but I think it is owing to the change.

Give our best respects to all our cousins and uncles and aunt.

We are yours affectionately

James and Rebecca Miller

P.S. The woman that had the child that died on the steamer came to Liverpool where she was taken ill."

Part 2 will be in next month's Limpet

Ian Cooper

September 2025

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

On the back page of every edition of the Limpet there is a list of useful telephone numbers including the emergency numbers for reporting problems with water or electricity.

Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

A report from your "shortlisted" councillor.



The Union Flag flies at half-mast over the Council Offices on the day of the funeral of HRH The Duchess of Kent.

A drawback of living in Orkney is a lack of integrated transport. The timetables for different modes of transport seldom match up conveniently—and sometimes very inconveniently. At the autumn Internal Transport Forum meeting, my suggestion to try out using artificial intelligence (AI) to design our timetables was not met with any enthusiasm from the Council's transport officers or from the chairman of the Forum. Considering the publication in June of the UK Department of Transport's *Transport Artificial Intelligence Action Plan*, I was somewhat surprised and disappointed, as AI would be ideally suited to weighing up parameters such as community wishes, speed of vessels, and crew working-time restrictions, and coming up with the optimum solution. I hope we will reconsider giving AI a go.

I attended an update on our Ferry Replacement Programme. Residents of the four larger outer North Isles are having the chance at public meetings to view the plans for some of the proposed new ferries and make comments. Having come this far, I pray our hopes won't end up being dashed upon the rocks of excuses for not taking the project further.

At the meeting of the Education, Leisure & Housing Committee, we were presented with the Care Inspectorate's report on their inspection in May of the Papdale Halls of Residence. There has been an improvement since their last report, when they found that a few of the young people staying there had said they'd experienced bullying by other young people (see [Issue 145 of my Letter](#)). This time they reported that "Almost all young people felt safe ...". If any of my ward constituents, pupils, parents, and others, have concerns about bullying of any kind at any of our council-run institutions, please get in touch with me. We were also presented with the Care Inspectorate's report on their inspection of Westray JHS Nursery in April, and I was pleased to be able to congratulate the headmistress on their three "very good" grades. I got another chance to congratulate everyone concerned, when I attended Westray School's Parent Council meeting, which also gave me the opportunity to be shown first-hand some of the maintenance and repair issues around the school and to report back on them.

Although confidentiality prevents my giving details, at the meeting of the UHI Orkney Stakeholder Group (formerly Orkney College Management Council), I gained further convincing evidence of the potential our college has, if allowed, to help fulfil my vision for tertiary education in Orkney that I outlined in a letter to *The Orcadian* back on 15th March 2018. (You can link to the letter here: <https://clackson.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Orcadian-15-March-2018-p39-scaled.jpeg>.) I hope one day the resistance shall be overcome and this vision will be realised, as, apart from all the other obvious benefits, it could contribute greatly to Orkney's economy and sustainability. A starting point would be for OIC (which owns the college) to invest in providing suitable student accommodation.

Other meetings I have attended since my last [Letter](#) include a meeting of the Monitoring & Audit Committee, a seminar on food security in Orkney given by Prof Tim Lang (who authored a report on food security for the National Preparedness Commission)—this gave us food for thought, and a seminar on our Regional Marine Plan and Fish Farming Spatial Guidance.

Finally, as you may have seen in the media, I have been shortlisted for the LGIU's *Community Champion* award (LGIU stands for Local Government Information Unit). Orkney is represented twice, as my colleague Cllr John Ross Scott has been shortlisted for the *Lifetime Legend* award. I don't need to know who nominated me; they'll know who they are, and I am very grateful to them for the recognition. The award ceremony will take place at the City Chambers in Glasgow on 5th November.

Stephen

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson

Member for the North Isles Ward,
Depute Convener Orkney & Shetland VJB

West Manse, Sanday
stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk

Letter from School Place is also
available on-line at clackson.info

Photo credits: Stephen Clackson & John Ross Scott



RADIO TELESWITCH SERVICE (RTS)

BEING PHASED OUT STARTING ON 30TH OF JUNE 2025

This will affect households that use an older electricity meter for heating their home and for hot water, with some types of electricity meter needing changed. As part of this partnership, NWS is helping to raise awareness of this issue in Scotland.

What is the Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS)?

RTS is a radio-based system introduced in the 1980s which enabled older electricity meters to switch between peak and off-peak rates. RTS is used for some traditional multi-rate meters and was designed to support those who use electricity for their heating and hot water. This may include those who use electric storage systems, panel heaters or immersion heaters in water tanks – some of which typically charge up overnight.

RTS is now reaching the end of its natural operational life. This means that the equipment that produces the radio signal cannot be adequately maintained anymore. The Radio Teleswitch Service is due to be closed (its signal will begin to be phased out from 30 June 2025). If your electricity meter relies on this service, it will need to be upgraded before the signal is switched off.

How to find out if you have an RTS meter?

If you are not sure whether you have an RTS meter, there are a few things you can look out for:

- There may be a separate switch box near your meter with a radio Teleswitch label on it.
- Your property is heated using electricity or storage heaters.
- There is no gas supply to your area, this includes households in rural areas and high-rise flats.
- You get cheaper energy at different times of day. Your tariff might be Economy 7, Economy 10, or Total Heat Total Control.

What happens if I do not upgrade my RTS meter?

If you decide not to upgrade, the heating and/or hot water provisions in your home or business could be affected.- Your heating and hot water may not work correctly. You may find that your heating and/or hot water is left continually switched on or off; or the charging-up happens at the wrong time of day.

Your bills could increase. Your electricity supplier will not be able to confirm how much electricity you have used during peak or off-peak times, which means your electricity costs could be much higher than before.

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

ISLAND LINK OFFICE

Commencing Wednesday 19th 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

Colin McAlpine
Stronsay Island Link Officer/Clerk
12 February 2025

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

“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.

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

Phone: 01856 888084 (Public Health Department)



Right Care Right Place

If you think you need to
attend A&E, but it is not life
or limb threatening call
NHS 24 on 111

To check your symptoms visit:
nhsinform.scot



NHS Inform

- Check your symptoms
- Find local services and opening times
- Health advice to help you stay well



NHS 24 Online App

A handy app to help you check your symptoms and find your nearest service



Pharmacist

- Coughs, colds, and sore throats
- Aches, pains and UTIs
- Diarrhoea or constipation
- Help if you run out of your repeat prescription



Mental Wellbeing

- Help for mental wellbeing. nhsinform.scot/mind-to-mind
- Breathing Space: 0800 83 85 87
- For urgent mental healthcare call NHS 24 on 111



Optometrist

- Red and/or sticky eye
- Blurred or reduced vision
- Flashes and floaters



Dentist

- Injury to mouth or teeth
- Swelling in mouth
- Toothache and general dental advice



GP Practice

A range of clinicians, including doctors and nurses, to help you with both physical and mental health issues



Minor Injuries

- Cuts and minor burns
- Sprains and strains
- Suspected broken bones and fractures

call NHS 24 on 111



NHS 24

When your GP and pharmacy are closed, and you are too ill to wait call NHS 24 on 111



999 or A&E

For emergencies including:

- Suspected heart attack or stroke
- Severe breathing difficulties
- Severe bleeding

Isles residents concessionary travel scheme



Are you?

- Age 65 +
- Disabled
(must meet disabled person criteria)

You may be entitled to 24 free ferry journeys per year

Who do I contact for further information?

Transportation Service
Marine Services and Transportation
Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration
Orkney Islands Council
School Place
KIRKWALL
KW15 1NY

Tel: (01856) 873535

E-mail: ferryvouchers@orkney.gov.uk

Web: www.orkney.gov.uk



Who do I contact for further information?

Transportation Service
Marine Services and Transportation
Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration
Orkney Islands Council
School Place
KIRKWALL
KW15 1NY

Tel: (01856) 873535

E-mail: ferryvouchers@orkney.gov.uk

Web: www.orkney.gov.uk

The concessionary card holder is the only person permitted to use the Ferry Services Concessionary SmartCard. It is not transferable. Allowing someone else to use the card to access free travel is fraud and your entitlement to free concessionary trips on board Orkney Ferries may be withdrawn.

For full terms and conditions please visit:
www.orkney.gov.uk/transport.

Please note that your personal details will not be used for any purpose other than for the local concessionary travel scheme operated by Orkney Islands Council and Orkney Ferries Ltd.

A large print black and white version of this leaflet is available on request from Orkney Islands Council.

TRANSPORT LINKS



ISLES RESIDENTS CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL SCHEME



www.orkney.gov.uk/transport

www.orkney.gov.uk/transport



**ORKNEY ISLANDS COUNCIL
Marine Services
& Transportation**

R100 BROADBAND EVALUATION



The Scottish Government is assessing the success of **R100**, a government funded programme which is **extending access to faster broadband across Scotland**.

To inform this, we are surveying households and organisations who:

- Are **scheduled to receive faster broadband access**
- Have been **provided with faster broadband access** and have taken up the connection
- Have **been provided with faster broadband access** but have not taken up the connection



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



Stantec

To determine if your property is impacted by the programme, and complete a survey, please go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/R100Evaluation> or scan the QR code below:



The deadline for all responses is 3 March 2025

Please email R100Evaluation@stantec.com if you have any further questions.

Survey = <https://tinyurl.com/R100Evaluation>

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.

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.

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.



MORE INFORMATION ON THIS LINK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/public-switch-telephone-network-pstn>

Quit Your Way Orkney Stop Smoking Service



Quit Your Way Orkney is your free, friendly, local NHS stop smoking service.

Support from Quit Your Way Orkney includes:

- Help to develop a personal 12-week quit plan
- Support to develop plans to change your habits and control cravings
- Regular contact with a specialist stop smoking advisor
- Encouragement and advice on maintaining your quit
- Advice on correctly using stop smoking medications
- Free access to a range of stop smoking medication
- Telephone or video call appointments (using NHS Near Me)

Get started today

Phone: 01856 888084 or 0800 0356344 (Freephone number)
Email: ork.quityourway@nhs.scot
Online: scan the QR code below



You can also visit your local **community pharmacy** or **GP Practice** for free stop smoking support

Have you been supported by Quit Your Way Orkney before?

If you have used our service before and returned to smoking we will support you again, without judgement, to quit your way.



Let's talk about smoking Stopping smoking saves money



The savings below are based on a 20 a day smoker quitting in 2023



Get support to quit and save from Quit Your Way Orkney:

Email: ork.quityourway@nhs.scot
Phone: 01856 888084 or 0800 0356344 (Freephone)
Online: scan the QR code using your phone camera



You can also visit your local **community pharmacy** or **GP Practice** for free stop smoking support

BAYVIEW TRANSPORT LTD

Summer Timetable effective from Tuesday 22 April

South

8:35 Russland
8:37 Sunnyside
8:38 Blinkbonny
8:42 Odiness junction
8:44 Vat

North

8:28 Thorfinn
8:30 Dunera
8:31 Council Houses
8:37 Airport



Orkney Ferries

Advice on travelling with dogs

The welfare and safety of our passengers and crew is important, and we ask that you read the below information before you travel with your dog. These points apply to both foot and vehicle passengers travelling with dogs. We would like to make journeys as safe and comfortable as possible for all our passengers. Please take due care and show consideration for everyone on board.

Travelling in a vehicle

Ferries can be unfamiliar places for dogs. Space is often limited and can be noisy. When travelling with a vehicle it is recommended that, where possible they remain inside the vehicle for the duration of the journey.

Behaviour on board

- Always use designated dog areas (please note that dogs are not permitted on the Nordic Sea unless they are in a pet carrier).
- Dogs must be kept on leads and under control whilst on board.
- Dogs must be kept off seats and clear of emergency exits.
- Dogs must not be left unattended in passenger areas.
- If your dog is unsociable or nervous when in an unfamiliar or busy environment, we strongly advise that owners fit a muzzle.
- Where it is deemed that a dog presents a risk to passengers or crew, we will request that for any future travel the pet either remains in a vehicle or is muzzled/contained within a pet carrier provided by the dog owner. A failure to comply with such a request will result in a refusal of travel on our vessels and services.
- Please note that if any damage is made to a vessel or premises, you will be liable for any losses, costs, or expenses incurred.
- We know that most pet owners are responsible and always clear up after their dogs. We request that this is also the case when travelling on board.
- Assistance dogs are permitted to all passenger areas (please see our assistance dog policy for further information – this is available on our website FAQs).



Service 4D Kirkwall Airport

New trial service commencing Monday 24 March 2025
(until 31 March 2026 initially)

Kirkwall Travel Centre		1515	1545
Palace Road		1518	1548
New Scapa Road Balfour Hospital		1521	1551
Kirkwall Airport	arr	1528	1558
Kirkwall Airport	dep	1530	1600
New Scapa Road Balfour Hospital		1536	1606
Pickaquooy Road		1537	1607
Kirkwall Travel Centre		1540	1610

Booking is recommended due to limited capacity

Call/Text/WhatsApp:

07438 268 883

by 10am on the day of travel

Or contact: 01856 870340 or 871515

Please state which time and where you will be boarding the bus.

Departs from Stance 4 – Kirkwall Travel Centre

- Service 4D will operate Monday - Thursday afternoon during term-time* to fill the existing timetable gap on the half hourly Service 4 (operated by Stagecoach on behalf of Orkney Islands Council).
- The service 4D will be operated using a **wheelchair** accessible vehicle.
- National Entitlement Card and Young Scot card holders can **travel free** of charge on this service.

Operated by Orkney Travel on behalf of Orkney Disability Forum. Funded by Orkney Islands Council. Continuation of this trial will be subject to demand and budget availability.

*Term dates can be found at www.orkney.gov.uk/schools



For online timetable information please visit:

www.orkney.gov.uk/transport

SAVE OUR SCREEN MACHINE!

Without urgent investment, the Screen Machine mobile cinema service will end.

Please donate to our fundraising campaign to secure its future at:

www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/save-our-screen-machine

YouTube video <https://youtu.be/fpUuDlnHS-o>

[Frequently asked questions](#)

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.

MOBILE LIBRARY VAN VISITS 2025

20 October, 15 December

For further information go to web page <https://orkneylibrary.org.uk/mobile-library>, send an email to 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

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.

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

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.

HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE

<https://tinyurl.com/stronsayhlc>

LOCAL BUSINESSES



FISHMART CAFE

MENU



BREAKFAST

Bacon Roll	£3.00
Scrambled egg on toast	£3.50
Scrambled egg & bacon with toast	£4.00
Breakfast Pastry	£3.00
please see hoit counter for available pastries	

MEAL DEALS

Kids Lunch plate	£5.50
Includes a sandwich with any filling, a snack (see options available) and any soft drink.	
Panini Meal	£8.50
Includes a panini with any filling, a side salad and bag of crisps and any drink.	
Sandwich meal	£6.00
Includes a sandwich with any filling, a bag of crisps and any drink.	

AFTER SCHOOL SPECIALS

Served Wednesdays & Thursdays 3.30pm-6pm

Kids Chicken Strips & Chips	£6.00
4 chicken strips served with chips and a side of beans or peas	
Kids Sausage & Chips	£6.00
2 sausages served with chips and a side of beans or peas.	
Chicken Strips & Chips	£8.00
6 chicken strips served with chips and a side of beans or peas.	
Sausage & Chips	£8.00
4 sausages served with chips and a side of beans or peas.	

SOMETHING SAVOURY

Cheese scones	£3.00
Fresh baked cheese scones with butter.	
Soup and a Roll	£5.00
Soup of the day with a roll and butter.	
Soup and a Sandwich	£7.50
Soup of the day with a sandwich or toasted sandwich, with a choice of fillings including- tuna, cheese, chicken, ham and tomato.	
Soup and a Panini	£8.50
Soup of the day with a toasted panini with a choice of fillings including- tuna, cheese, bree and cranberry, ham, tomato, and chicken pesto.	
Toasted Panini	£6.00
Toasted panini with a choice of fillings including- Tuna, Cheese, Bree and Cranberry, Ham, Onion, Tomato and Chicken Pesto. Includes a side salad. and homemade colslaw.	
Sandwich/Toasted Sandwich	£4.00
Sandwich or toasted sandwich with a side of crisps, a choice of bread including white, brown and seed. With fillings including- tuna, cheese, ham, onion, tomato, chicken, pesto.	
Baked Tattie	£8.50
Fresh baked Tattie with a side salad and a choice of 2 fillings including- Tuna, Cheese, Beans, and Chill.	
Savoury Pastries	£3.00
Selection of savoury Pastries, please see what's available in the cafe while stocks last	
<u>SWEET TREATS</u>	
Cake Slice	£2.50
Cheesecake	£3.00
Cookies	£1.50
Cupcakes	£1.50
We offer a variety of special sweet treats daily, please see counter for details.	



Local business adverts are free!

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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

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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

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LOCAL BUSINESSES

DONNA BLYTH EDUCATION SERVICES

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

Email: 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 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

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

bayviewtransportlimited@gmail.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

See Stronsay Markets on YouTube 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 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



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

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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



Marion Miller Jewellery
Unique Jewellery inspired by the sea and shore.
Designed and handmade on the island of Stronsay, Orkney
www.marionmillerjewellery.com
Tel: 0799550943 E-mail: marionmillerjewellery@gmail.com

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SINCLAIR HAULAGE LIMITED

Contact Details



General Enquiries: info@sinclairhaulage.com

Accounts Enquiries: accounts@sinclairhaulage.com

Livestock Bookings: 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 or calling 01857 600404.

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

KEEPING WARM

These knitting patterns are from the 1940s so they may not be high fashion but they will keep you warm!

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/articles/1940s-knitting-patterns>

STRONSAY KIRK

Details of services at Stronsay's kirk for the next few weeks 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

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

HANDY EMAIL ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS:

Ebenezer Stores	stronsaystores@gmail.com	616339
Olivebank	m.williamson1@btconnect.com	616255
Fishmart café	fishmartcafehostel@gmail.com	616401
Hotel & pub	stronsayhotel@gmail.com	616407
Red House plants		616377

Contact details for all OIC Councillors:

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

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

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](#)
-

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 (closed 12-1 lunch), phone 616262
 OIC Special collection. Mon 27 Oct 2025, Mon 1 Dec 2025, Mon 9 Feb 2026
 Stronsay Island Link Office. . . Wed 10am-noon, tel 616446, email stronsaycc@gmail.com
 SDT Office Wood's Yard 10am - 11am Mon-Fri. Phone 616410
 Sunday service at the Kirk . . Every week at 11am, see website <https://tinyurl.com/strkirk>
 Our Lady's Chapel, pier head Mass: Sun & holidays 11am, Tue 8am, other days 11.20am
 Next mobile library van visit . <https://tinyurl.com/orkmoblib>
[Weekly rubbish collection](#) . . . Thursday, bags out by **8am**.
 Recycling skips nearly full? . . Send email to recycling@orkney.gov.uk
 Forward scam emails to report@phishing.gov.uk
 Stronsay's Facebook page . . . <https://www.facebook.com/groups/476168409207488>

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

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	Stronsay Band	616345
Doctor	616321	Stronsay Pub & Hotel . . .	616407
Ebenezer Stores	616339	Stronsay school	616246
Ebenezer Oil Heating . . .	616207	Stronsay 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		
	<i>or</i> contact@the-sons.org	Balfour hospital (24/7). . .	01856 888000
Hall bookings	616263	Water problems (24/7) . .	0800 0778 778
	<i>or</i> annemaree.carter@btinternet.com	Electricity	
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	Police (non urgent) (24/7)	101
Neil's on Wheels	07723 304 260	Kirkwall Library	01856 873166
Manse	616284	Dentists:	
Nurses	616321	Daisybank Clinic . .	01856 870547
Olivebank	616255	Deyanov Dental . . .	01856 877118
OIC out of hours	01856 873535	Com Dental Service	01856 888258
Post Office	616499	Orkney Dental	01856 872030
Red House Plants	616377	Vets:	
Scottish Fuels	01856 873105	Flett & Carmichael .	01856 872859
SDT office	616410	Northvet	01856 873403

HOW TO CONTACT THE *LIMPET*

Send an email to editor@stronsaylimpet.co.uk or write to “Claremont, KW17 2AR”.