

## STROMNESS DEBATING SOCIETY DEBATE THEMES 1953-2012

09/11/1953: The popular press is a menace. 4/12/1953: There's no place like home. 1/10/1954: At the present time the USA is as great a menace to world peace as Russia. 13/12/1954: The use of scientific power has brought the world more harm than good. 2/12/1955: Heredity has a greater effect on character than environment. 13/02/1956: In this country we are too fond of sport. 12/11/1956: Gambling is a major evil in this country. 13/03/1957: The present rate of Isles depopulation need not be deplored. 13/10/1957: The idea of progress is a delusion. 23/02/1959: World Government is the only hope for the world. 27/11/1959: This country is a democracy in theory but not in fact. 22/02/1960: The National Health Service is in an unhealthy state. 28/03/1960: World communism is inevitable. 26/09/1960: Stromness wants nothing. 28/11/1960: Christopher Columbus went too far. 23/01/1961: We get the culture we deserve. 22/01/1962: Britain should adopt planned immigration. 26/03/1962: There is no teenage problem. (09/1962: This country is strangled by tradition. 22/10/1962: This country should enter the space race. 16/03/1964: The CND march led nowhere. 26/10/1964: The United Nations should be wound up as a failure. 22/02/1965: Mankind has outgrown the need for God. 18/10/1965: This country is too lenient towards its criminals. 28/02/1966: Old Stromness is not worth preserving. 27/11/1967: There is a case for belief in spiritualism. 26/02/1968: Future business development in Stromness will be the crumbs from the tables of Kirkwall tycoons. 28/10/1968: Modern man never says what he means. 24/11/1969: Orkney's future depends on farming the sea, not the land. 23/02/1970: There is no political choice. 25/01/1971: This should be the last Burns supper. 24/09/1973: The profit motive and social justice are incompatible. 28/01/1974: War is necessary. 27/10/1975: Social reform can only be achieved through violence. 25/10/1976: In the event of separation Orkney should align itself with Shetland and Westminster. 26/02/1979: A picture is worth ten thousand words. 25/02/1980: The St Magnus Festival is a sham. 29/09/1980: Communism cannot wear a human face. 03/11/1980: Education is wasted on the young. 28/09/1981: The silicon chip is the Devil's invention. 26/10/1981: The resources of Orkney are in competent hands. 30/11/1981: Love should be the only marriage bond. 25/01/1982: It is better to be mad than bad. 22/02/1982; The bomb is our safeguard. 01/11/1982: No economic theory is worth its social cost. 29/11/1982: The present Pope is our best hope. 19/12/1983: Technologically-induced unemployment is a blessing in disguise 27/02/1984: The Orkney farmer is the greatest threat to the Orcadian environment. 25/02/1985: Feminism has gone too far. 25/11/1985: The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.

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24/02/1986: Strike action remains an effective weapon in industrial disputes. 27/10/1986: Religious enthusiasm is more dangerous than apathy. 27/02/1989: Every woman should have charge of her own body. 18/12/1989: 1990 should be postponed. 29/10/1990: The re-unification of Germany is a mistake. 17/12/1990: There is no better motive than the profit motive. 25/02/1991: Violence has no place in entertainment. 25/11/1991: The dissolution of the Soviet republic will lead to something worse. 16/12/1991: It is time that Santa Claus was retired. 10/02/1992: Families should be limited to two children. 24/02/1992: Tourism is destroying the character of Orkney. 22/11/1993: The new world order is governed by the media. 13/12/1993: Public personalities should have impeccable private lives. 23/01/1995: The experiment of democracy has failed. 23/10/1995: Political correctness is the greatest enemy to freedom of speech. 27/11/1995: Orkney's sea transport services should be totally controlled by the people of Orkney. 26/02/1996: A basic standard of living is more important than a basic minimum wage. 25/11/1996: TV has not improved British democracy. 23/02/1998: Pressure and stress are helpful rather than harmful. 4/12/1998: Orcadians should have more freedom to build what and where they wish. 25/01/1999: International tourism is a force for good in the world. 13/12/1999: The millennium is no cause for celebration. 24/01/2000: The democratic aspirations of the Scots are not satisfied with a parliament in Edinburgh. 27/11/2000: In medical matters judges should not be able to overrule parents. 31/01/2001: The future of agriculture in Orkney lies in organic farming. 26/11/2001: Fish farming has been an undeserved whipping boy by the environmentalists. 28/10/2002: A biblical promise is an insufficient basis for statehood in the Middle East. 25/01/2003: Due to media involvement it is now impossible to ensure a fair trial. 25/10/2004: Modern society is unhealthily obsessed with health. 13/12/2004: Modern children are losing valuable life skills by being over-protected. 28/02/2005: The development of wind power must be of benefit to Orkney. 24/10/2005: A tunnel under the Pentland Firth would, on, balance, disadvantage Orkney. 28/11/2005: Terrorism is never justified. 12/12/2005: The environmental lobby is unduly pessimistic. 30/01/2006: Attempting to preserve a local dialect is a waste of effort. 27/02/2006: The time has come to re-visit the whole concept of human rights. 27/11/2006: Britain needs nuclear power. 11/12/2006: There is no longer a distinctively Orcadian way of life. 22/01/2007: The present British monarch should be the last. 26/11/2007: Assisted suicide should be legalised. 10/12/2007: Mankind has gained more from the arts than from the sciences. 28/01/2008: Multiculturalism cannot succeed. 25/02/2008: The internet is a poisoned chalice. 27/10/2008: Sport divides more than it unites. 08/12/2008: Your parents muck you up. 26/01/2009: Alcohol causes more grief than joy. 23/11/2009: Archaeology will be Orkney's ruin. 22/02/2010: Homo sapiens is not a viable species. 24/01/2011: Professional sports-people are bad role models. 28/11/2011: The Stromness-Scrabster route is an unnecessary luxury. 12/12/2011: Facebook is a force for good. 27/02/2012: The Olympic Games are a waste of money.

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