

You need skills, and a strong stick, to survive in the Neolithic age

—4—

Caveman cuisine is making a comeback

A Scottish tour company takes the idea of traditional dining to the extreme

THERE'S A KNACK TO HARVESTING a limpet from a tide pool. You need a flat stone that's heavy enough to dislodge the shellfish from its rock, and you need good aim: Misfiring means the limpet hunkers down for the day; enough errors and you'll go hungry.

This is the harsh reality of life on Papa Westray, a tiny island in the Orkney archipelago off northern Scotland—or at least this was the reality 5,000 years ago, during the Neolithic age.

Five Senses, a Scottish outfit offering tours that are part survivalist course, part spiritual awakening, recently beefed up its Wayfinder excursions with courses in primitive living, which proffer skills such as finding food in unlikely places and lighting a fire sans matches.

"Fire was everything for the Neolithic village," says co-owner Malcom Handoll, as he works a bow, shell and stick over a bed of dried seaweed. "It takes only three hours to die of hypothermia, so the hearth had to be maintained."

On soggy days like today, the hearth cannot be maintained, so Handoll provides a lesson in how to eat the limpets raw.

Eking out the meat with a sharpened stick is fine, but eating it less so. The texture is slimy, the flavor redolent of salted rubber. "In our modern world we've lost appreciation for this sort of thing," he says. After a bite, it's easy to imagine a cave wall nearby daubed with images of prehistoric diners quietly gagging around an unlit fire. —JOHN SCOTT LEWINSKI allfivesenses.com



—5—

You can dive with a Kraken

British Virgin Islands artists pair a war relic with a sea monster

How do you honor a WWII Pearl Harbor vessel, the *Kodiak Queen*, if she's beyond repair? The non-profit Unite BVI decided to top her with an 80-foot-long steel Kraken built by artists Aydika James and Mike Cline, and sink her last month in 56 feet of water. The goal, according to James, was to create an artificial reef "transforming her into a symbol of peace, regeneration and of course play!" Divers and fish will reap the benefits as the structure evolves into a habitat for a coral reef food chain, including the vulnerable Goliath grouper. Tentacle attack selfie-ops included.

—6—

MONTREAL STILL ADDS UP

On its 375th anniversary, a numerical dip into the French-speaking city's history



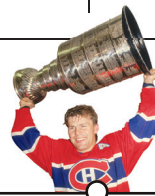
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Céline Dion's age when she performed for Pope John Paul II in 1984



25,758 lbs

Weight of Notre-Dame Basilica's heaviest bell in the west tower



24

Stanley Cups won by Montreal Canadiens



740

Calories in a typical order of poutine