



Fair Isle Times

VOLUME 46 ISSUE 13

PUBLISHED SINCE 1978

21st APRIL 2023

The Easter Holidays

In the holidays we went to Lerwick for 5 days. We played at some parks and went swimming at Clickimin. I also had some swimming lessons with Sally. We went out for dinner for Dad's birthday too. When we got back, we had an Easter egg hunt in the garden with Freyja, Grace and Brodie.

On Saturday, Mum and I went to see the new lambs at Burkle and Shirva. Freyja and Grace have five caddies. I fed Pascal some milk and I got to hold the smallest one called Pedro. He was tiny and cute. I took Freyja over to Schoolton to see Sweetie (the sheep with one eye) who had twin lambs.

Later on we went to North Haven. The tide was out really far and it was sunny. I went in the sea and also dug some holes and filled them with seaweed. I found an enormous piece of seaweed called Poor Man's Weather Glass (Nick was at the beach and told us what it was called - thank you). I used a small rock to rub algae off a medium-sized rock.

This week my Granny and Grandpa are coming to Fair Isle! I will show them about the island!

Harris (8)



The Easter Holidays

The school holidays were lots of fun though they went very fast! Grace came in with no delays, which was great! Here are some of my highlights.

We played lots of games, some of which I won. We played Risk which I am quite good at (I won that); it was lots of fun! We also played Dominion, Monopoly and two games of Wing Span though I only won Dominion.

Another of one of my favourite things we did was go to the beach. The first time we went to North Haven so Grace could go swimming though it was so cold she had to come out. We then headed home and had some hot chocolate! The second time was a lot warmer and we had the sense not to go swimming! We went down to south harbour and because the tide was out,

we managed to get to a secret beach to get some limpets. I had already been with Dad but Grace was away so we went with her and found a nice place to have lunch. We sat in the sun it was very hot!

Another big part of the holidays was... lambing! As I am writing this we only have nine to go! We also have five cadies (lambs that can't be looked after by their Mum). They are called Pascal, Pedro, Luna, Diego and Ashly (because she has a black leg). My Easter Holidays were great!

Freyja (10)

Luca in Argentina

How do you get to Argentina if you don't live there? Of course, I would choose a plane, well not A plane but 2 planes, no, just planes! In fact, if I had kept on going I would have reached 11 planes! Sadly we got ill when we were in Edinburgh. We were surprised because the first 2 planes we got (Fair Isle to Edinburgh) were not late! After that, everything went wrong with flying! The big flight to Rio de Janeiro couldn't land because there was thunder and lightning so we went to Sao Paulo instead, to refuel then take off again. But thank goodness we didn't stay in the air too long, our next flight had already gone as we were late. It was 7am for our body clocks and we hadn't slept yet! The good bit was we got to a fancy hotel and went straight to bed zzzzzzz. Next day, we woke up and we found a swimming pool right at the top of the building dah dah!! It was really hot. Then we went to Sao Paulo, and then to Rosario which is in Argentina. Then we went all the way to Alcorta, where Daddy comes from. We fell fast asleep again as it was late zzzzzzz. The next day - wooooo hooooo!!! We arrived in Argentina, phew we weren't too tired for my birthday! There was a bouncy castle and a semi-inflatable football pitch with a basketball hoop. They had to drag me out of the football pitch to blow out the candles on my birthday cake! I got to have football training for the first time. My team was called Black and White (Blanco y Negro in Spanish). We got to play against a real team and we won 6-0! I got to play more than half a match, but I didn't score any goals, but we won 6-0 so it doesn't really matter! My favourite food in Argentina

was spaghetti with lemon juice on top. I liked milanesas (thin beef fried in breadcrumbs) too. I like everything except mosquitos and wasps! Bye-bye, I will see you next time in Argentina if you come too.

Luca (8)



Da few weeks dat ir awa...

I'm not going to lie. I absolutely took it for granted that this would have been the easiest most straight forward *week dat's awa* ever:

Monday – fleish

Tuesday – BBQ

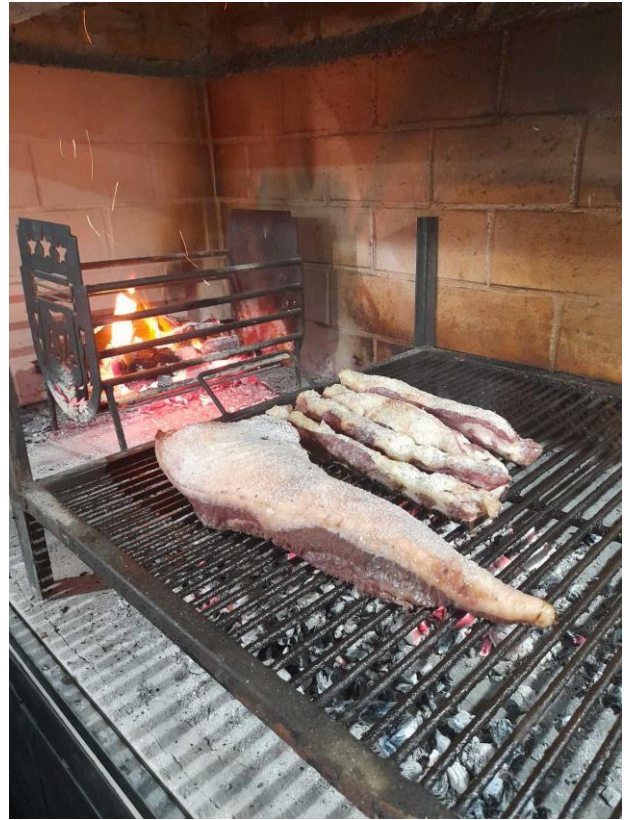
Wednesday – meat

Thursday – beef

Friday – giblets

Saturday – pork

Sunday - whatever would have been available at the hospital after eating all that...



But no, the universe cannot make it that simple for you...

You have already had a taster with Luca's piece above so please forgive repetition or deviation, this is not just a minute of storytelling.

We left Fair Isle with high hopes for the big journey: Edinburgh to spend some quality days with Tía Laura, then Paris > Rio > Rosario... in that bittersweet 30 hour journey. Little did we know that a tiny spew bug decided to set up camp in Ander that then spread the goodness to the rest of us (actually not me because I am strong) and this led to the unwanted decision of delaying the big journey by two days while we waited patiently in a tiny flat to get better. We were well just in time for the delayed departure and went for it, this time with a slight change in the route, via Amsterdam instead of Paris. Still, even less we knew that some tiny but numerous groups of water droplets crammed together (commonly known as clouds) would be showing off their might, simply creating electricity out of seemingly nothing. In short, there was a thunderstorm in Rio, which got us diverted to Sao Paulo to refuel so then we could get back to Rio but the 3 hour connection time we had vanished. We had to reclaim our luggage and make our way to the Airline desk to understand what the options were, mind you this was midnight in Rio and 4am here.

The above, my friends, is the end of the drama, so keep reading, the ending is happy. I made my way to the desk and in a surprisingly organized fashion, the staff had already arranged vouchers and directions ready for us to get a cab, hotel, cab back and flights the following day - all sorted. So we got in a taxi, drove for about 45 mins, passed by the "Sambodromo", where carnival takes place and got to the hotel, checked in and straight to bed. It was about 1:45am.

Right before falling asleep, I arranged with Tia Laura (*tia is auntie in Spanish, so my sister Laura is tia to our boys*) to meet for breakfast at 9 so set my alarm for 8. The alarm went and to my surprise I saw a number of messages from tía at 5:30, 6:25 and a missed call (my phone was on silent so I missed all of this) along the lines of "I'm ready, meet you guys there". I then asked why she was up that early if we had arranged for 9am. After a short exchange, it turned out that tía's phone was still on Europe time and not just that, she only realized that she had had breakfast at 6 in the morning during our discussion!!! Anyway, we went for breakfast, and it was just perfect - a big buffet full of fruit, yogurts, cold cuts, cheese, warm stuff, drinks... you name it. Then we headed to the rooftop as the hotel had a swimming pool, which suited the

36°C. Shame we lost yet another day but this day was very well spent and enjoyed. Had some lunch at the hotel and then we made our way to the airport to finally travel all as planned.

In the weeks prior to this trip, there were some rumours that Rocky Balboa was doing some training here in Fair Isle - it was me, I was trying to get myself into some sort of shape so as not to be too embarrassed in the several football games to be played at home. It was all sorted - the crowds went mental when I set foot on the fresh, silky green of the pitch. Not going to go into much detail of the match, other than 40 minutes into the game I pulled my hamstring and that was that.

This inconvenience, though annoying, was no impediment to our holiday whatsoever. I ate like a pig, spent quality time with my mum, met all of my pals, family, pets, street dogs etc, and even visited my old school. It was absolutely lovely, and all of this in 25°C which makes it even more enjoyable.

It had to come to an end as things do but nice new memories are now with us forever.

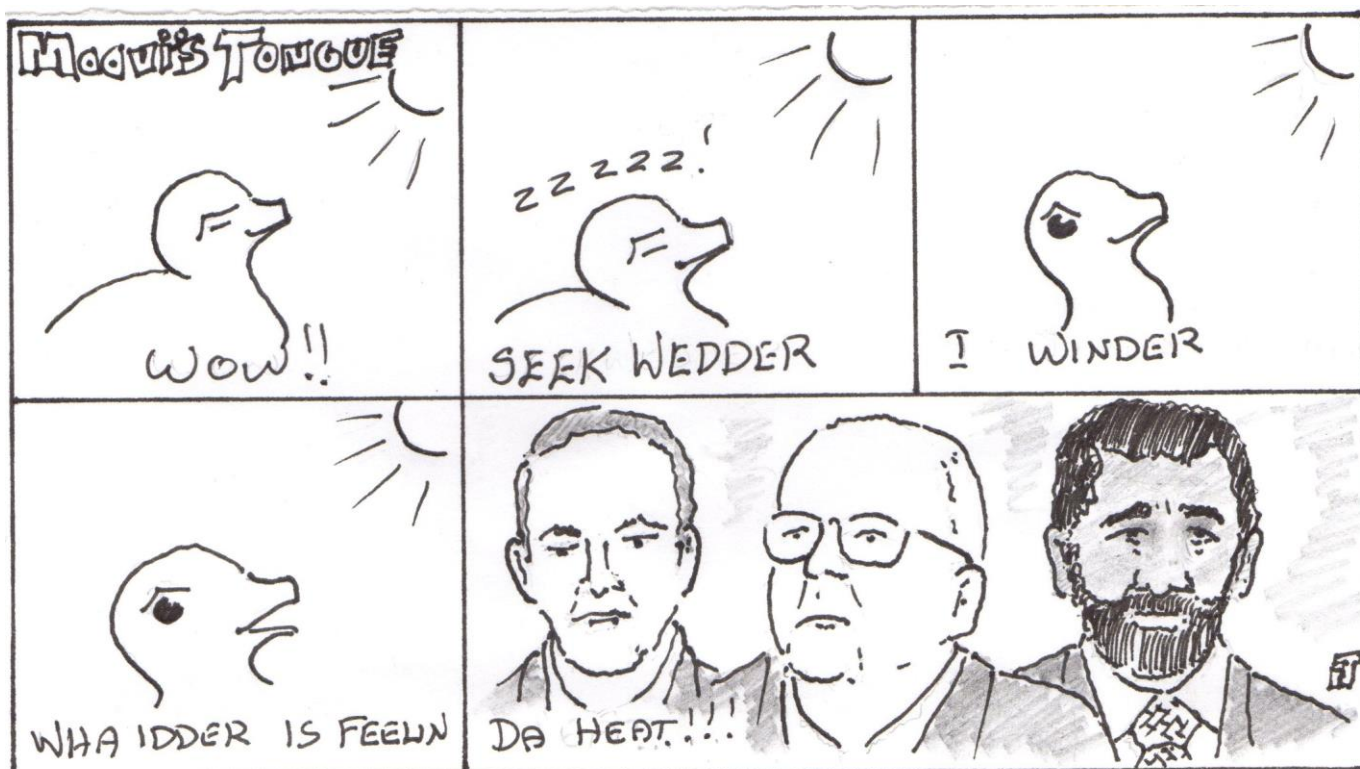
Guillermo

The Fair Isle Development Company is pleased to report that Jack Whitwell has been appointed as Fair Isle Development Manager. This is a 3 year post funded by HIE and NTS. Jack is from Orkney and has already visited the Isle twice in the last few weeks and has met a number of islanders. We hope that he will get to meet the rest of the community on his next visit. We are looking forward to working with Jack and moving forward with our development priorities.

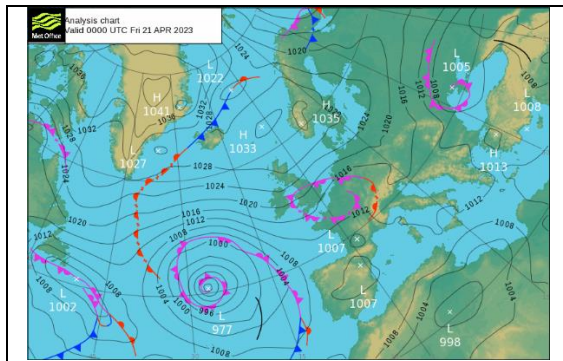
The Development Company Directors

Chapel – Sunday at 11am – all welcome to join

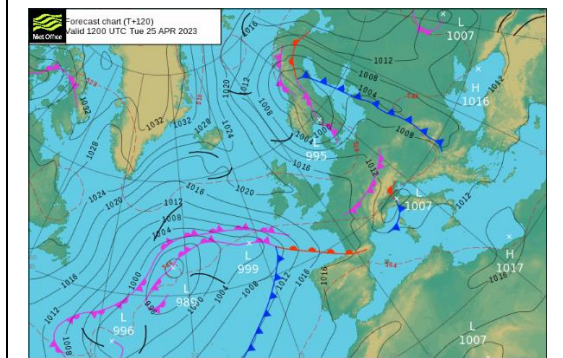
Voar Redd Up – The school will be taking part in Shetland’s Voar Redd Up on Wednesday morning, so cheer them on if you see them! Also, if anyone else fancies, it is a great opportunity to have a clean-up of rubbish in the verges, ditches and beaches, take a bin bag with you on your walks this week!



FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



Analysis Chart 0000 UTC
Friday 21st April 2023



Forecast Chart 1200 UTC
Tuesday 25th April 2023

GENERAL SITUATION

Friday 21st April 2023

As the anticyclone north of Shetland declines eastwards Atlantic low pressure will push northeast across the south of the UK on Saturday with a depression forming over the North Sea by late Sunday. In the process a strengthening easterly airflow will back north-easterly to northerly followed by a showery cold northerly on Monday. A strong north-westerly airflow will ease Tuesday and Wednesday and showers die out as pressure builds from the northwest bringing a settled, albeit cool few days. The following weekend is likely to end with unsettled conditions and a strengthening south-easterly airflow as the next Atlantic depression drives fronts towards northwest Scotland.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND

Today and Saturday temperatures around 8° Celsius by day, 5° overnight. Sunday a cooler 6° down to 3° overnight.

FRIDAY 21st: Perhaps some sunshine around the middle of the day but low cloud, mist or fog will linger around the Northern Isles all day with fog extensive later. A F3 NE breeze. Remaining dry though misty or foggy overnight.

Sea State: Slight with a 1 metre E'ly wind swell.

SATURDAY 22nd: Early low cloud, mist or fog clearing with sunny spells for a time before cloud increases during the afternoon with chance of a few showers. A F4-5 NE wind steadily freshening F5-6. A cloudy and windy night with a F7 NE wind and the chance of a shower.

Sea State: Mostly moderate becoming rough with a 2 metre NE'ly wind swell building 3 to 4 metre NNE'ly.

SUNDAY 23rd: Turning colder with some increasingly wintry showers and F7 to gale F8 NNE winds.

Sea State: Rough to very rough with a 4 to 5 metre NNE'ly wind swell.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK

The week starting cool with temperatures 5° or 6° Celsius by day, 4° overnight. Milder later.

MONDAY 24th: Sunny spells and some wintry showers, a strong N wind easing.

Sea State: Becoming generally rough with a 3 metre N'ly wind swell.

TUESDAY 25th: Cloudy and cool with fewer showers and a fresh NNW breeze.

Sea State: Easing moderate to rough with a 2 to 3 metre N'ly wind swell.

WEDNESDAY 26th – SUNDAY 30th: Wednesday and Thursday mainly dry and bright with mostly moderate N to NE winds. Freshening SE winds on Friday followed by an unsettled but milder weekend.

Sea State Wednesday: Mostly moderate with a 2 metre N'ly wind swell.

Dave Wheeler