



Fair Isle Times

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FIPS Fundraising Coffee Morning!



Last week was Children in Need week, so we decided to host a coffee morning for the isle on Friday 17th November. We decided to raise money for two charities: **Children in Need** and **UNICEF**. We are learning about children's rights this year. Through no fault of their own, children's rights are not always met around the world. This might be because of war, natural disasters or poverty. The situation in Gaza/Israel is devastating. UNICEF is one of many charities helping to bring aid to people who need food, water and medical supplies. We are proud that we can do something to help.

For the coffee morning, we designed games such as: guess how many sweets in the jar, guess Pudsey's birthday, an IRN BRU coin slide and an amazing raffle! Lots of people in the community gave us raffle items. Staff and parents made mouth-watering cakes and we made some tasty shortbread in school. The day before the coffee morning, we walked to the shop to buy all the ingredients plus some prizes, some raffle items and sweets for the jar. Later on, we made up the mixture and baked it in the oven. It was delicious!

On Friday morning, we set up the hall with UNICEF posters and pictures of Pudsey, along with all the tables and chairs needed. We got to wear our fantastic Children in Need T-shirts which were special because... we got to colour them in which was fun, although we don't know what will happen to them when we wash them!

As it was Triona's birthday, the whole hall sang happy birthday to her and she had a little cake with a candle to blow out. She turned 79.

Ander won the coin slide (again as he won this at the Harvest festival one). Neil got the closest answer for the number of sweets in a jar (96 when there were 94). Andrew won 'guess Pudsey's birthday' and got a box of chocolates. Many people won raffle prizes. Eileen and Amy got huge boxes of school veg. Luca won the Fair Isle knitted hat. Gillian won the Shetland tea towel (that she put in!) and Dave and Elizabeth seemed to have very good luck! Some BT workmen came along too which was nice of them and one of the workmen won the Terry's Mint Chocolate Orange - he kindly gave it to the school kids to share between them... yum yum!

People bought many raffle tickets and gave generous donations on the door. Thank you to Ross Thomson for his amazing donation from afar. In the end, we raised an incredible £600 that we split between the charities! What an amazing community!

By Freyja, Luca and Harris



Da week dat's awa

There was a groan when I opened Hollie's message. Somehow being the senior wifie on the Isle I thought my writing days were over, never having been one of my favourite pastimes, probably going back to my school days when I managed to fail my higher English! Anyway, our editors do a splendid job each week so it's only right we all do our bit.

Friday was Children In Need day. This started in 1980 when celebrities along with the BBC hosted their first show. Since then millions of pounds have been raised throughout the country each year. The school invited us to the hall for coffee & homebakes, organised a raffle & along with some games raised the wonderful total of £500 which is to be split with UNICEF. War is causing so much suffering among children, to watch the news is heart-breaking so every little helps. We're very fortunate here so maybe we should have another fund raising morning again later in the winter. As most people will know by now it was my birthday, well-advertised when I was given a Pudsey cake with a candle and everyone in the hall sang *happy birthday*. The celebrations seem to continue through the day, Quoy was busy with folk, a lot of phone calls & messages from family & friends. Felt as though it should have been my biggy birthday but that has yet to come.

Saturday was a quieter day, decided it was time I did some shopping having heard about the lovely Christmas goodies in the shop. 'Buy local' is the slogan and that's what I did. Now need to decide who gets what.

Had a lovely afternoon with Josie, we've not met up for ages, you would hardly believe we both live on the same Isle.

In the evening I tried out my birthday neck reading light, what a difference when finishing dark colours. Not tried it at the machine yet, at the moment when setting up dark stitches I use a head torch on dull days.

The second semi-final of the Champion of Champions snooker tonight, Mark Allen missing nothing so the Scottish favourite John Higgins is out.

A bit of a dreich morning on Sunday, but not so cold. Usually I'm on chapel heating duty but with two of our tyres needing pumped every second day, Stewart took a turn. Think our poor car's days are nearing an end. Good hymns at the chapel, few in numbers but the singing good & Rachel playing some lovely music.

Sunday is my TV day, even more so today with the final of the snooker, with Mark Allen just flying - poor Judd Trump didn't stand a chance. I did think it would be a much closer final. Planet Earth, Countryfile, Antique Roadshow and some finishing - that's my usual Sunday evening.

Monday started wet & windy, thank goodness for hens otherwise there are many days in the winter I wouldn't leave the house. They are fed in their house, lay their eggs in a nice dry nest but for some strange reason they live in an igloo type shelter they've made in the long grass. At the moment there are eggs each morning so they're coming to no harm but should we get hard frost & snow it'll be frozen chicken unless I move them.

That's my *port wine* colour yarn phase finished, also the last of the stock knitting at the moment.

This winter has seen many new colour schemes mainly because of our lack of basic colours, a good opportunity for playing with all the different odd colours which seem to gather on the shelf. Still waiting for some of our Mill order which was placed in August. Now some of the odd bits of cones are going to create Christmas presents for the family.

I had a surprise phone call from Margaret, the nurse. She tells me she has been booked to fly each Monday since Fliss left and today is only the second time the weather has allowed a day return. She is also frozen – from a combination of the cold surgery and her not wearing enough clothes!

We have a quick visit to Burkle for Hollie's birthday before dark. I love hearing about Fyn's Antarctic trip. We so enjoyed his *week dat's awa* last week, the photos are wonderful and his description really brought it to life. I didn't like the hole in the roof of the container allowing the melting snow drip on his bed though!

Tuesday saw a better morning: the boat's away, washing out, hens fed and Stewart is north sorting the door of the yellow hut. Much of my morning was spent sewing on labels, mostly on hats and snoods, thankfully headbands and wrist warmers only get a card, sewing labels takes longer than you would think.

With the forecast so poor at the end of the week, there is no Emma, the nurse, today. She's in the hospital at the weekend and can't risk being stuck here. This, I suspect, will be the ongoing pattern until our new nurse arrives in February.

Stewart is off to the boat to collect our birthday and Christmas present from Ewen - a very heavy bag full of beef, with half going to Tommy. Delivery to Haa takes a while, a bit of a party, four men and big drams!

Wednesday already, not long until Christmas! I've vastly reduced my vegetable garden this year. Having lost the poly-tunnel last winter, the space it took is now for root crops. Other veg which can cope with less soil are at the house, instead of flowers. This morning I had a pail of parsnips heading for the deep freeze. First par boiled then tossed in a flour and cheese mix, so easy for roasting at a later date.

The rest of the morning was spent sewing on more labels and deciding on Christmas knitting. A yellow infinity scarf knitted this afternoon. Thinking about Eileen's comment on how much slower it was knitting with more than two colours with so many weave ins to do. Don't think she'd like my yellow swatch, the large pattern has nineteen ends to weave in! Finished the scarf while watching Shetland. Hope this series doesn't put people off visiting Shetland!

Good news to hear of a cease fire and exchange of some hostages. Only four days but let's hope this might be the beginning of a peace settlement.

Thursday starts wild, too windy for me! I've now decided if the wind is too strong for the windmills, it's too strong for me on the Quoy brae. Stewart doesn't seem to mind so he feed the hens before going north for a drive. He's now fixing the car door after it got carried out of his hand by the wind.

Ribs for a jumper now knitted on my faithful fifty four year old Passap knitting machine. Like the old Knitmaster machines if looked after they will last for years. Looks as though the rest of my day

will be spent slowly typing the *week dat's awa* before starting a jumper on the Knitmaster. Glad to be inside when I hear the hailstones rattling on the window.

Triona at Quoy

NOTICES

Invitation to attend Community Council Scheme Review drop-in

Invite reminder for the Community Council Scheme Review drop-ins, the meeting for Islands With Small Populations is on Teams on 29/11/23 7pm – 8.30pm Please email Michael Duncan ideally by Monday 27th if you would like to join. Email: Michael.duncan@shetland.gov.uk. More info below:

Please note Shetland Islands Council will be holding a number of drop-in events as part of its Phase one consultation on the Community Council Scheme Review. Members of the public are welcome to attend any of these events.

Council officers will be in attendance to listen to your views and feedback about the proposed boundaries options and to discuss queries about the review.

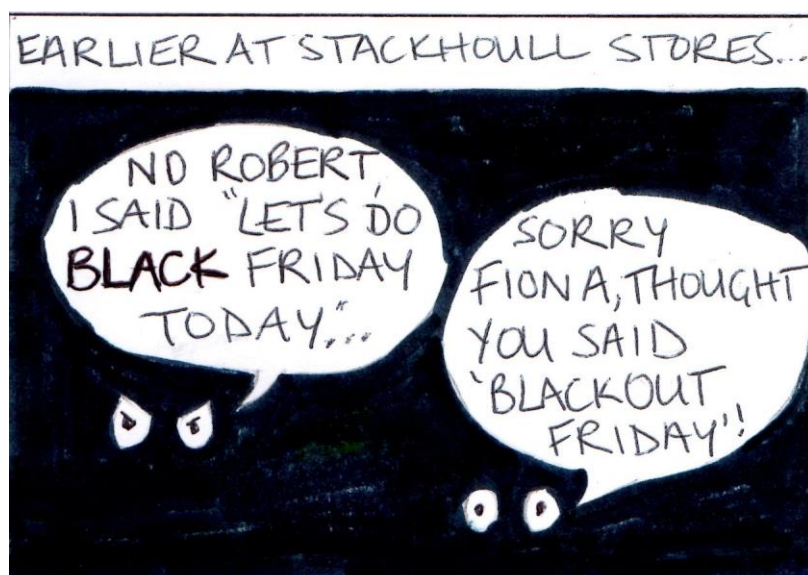
Chapel – this Sunday at 11am, Susannah leading the service, all very welcome to join.

Isle Quarterly Meeting - a reminder of the upcoming FICA meeting on Wednesday 6th December 2023, 7.30pm, in the Hall Committee Room. Any items for the Agenda to Eileen or David P by Monday 27th November please. We're looking to combine this meeting with the FIDC AGM (we'll circulate details with the Agenda soon) and there'll be mince pies.

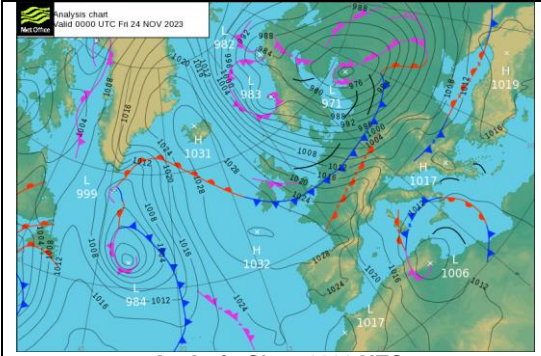
David at Shirva

Christmas Fair Isle Times – we will be sending out the festive edition of the Fair Isle Times in 3 weeks times (yes really!) so please get your thinking caps on for interesting festive items to include! Recipes, stories, pictures, games, messages, anything you like! Please send to Eileen and Hollie thank you!

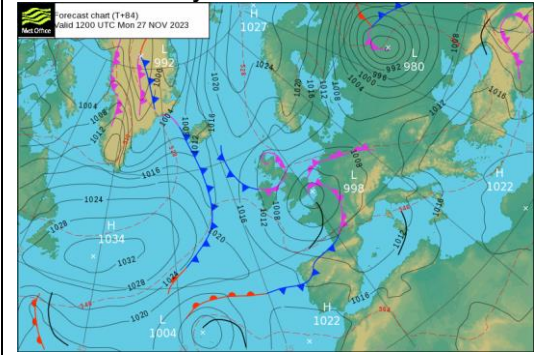
HUGE THANKS to Robert, Deryk and all who helped to fix our electricity system on Friday during the outage. We have forgotten what life used to be like here with intermittent electricity – so good the power system has been in recent years. Thank you for keeping our homes warm and bright and we hope you have a well-deserved, restful weekend!



FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



Analysis Chart 0000 UTC
Friday 24th November 2023



Forecast Chart 1200 UTC
Monday 27th November 2023

GENERAL SITUATION

Friday 24th November 2023

The strong north-westerly airflow will ease slowly tonight as a ridge of high pressure squeezes in from the west before declining southeast during Saturday. A small low slipping southeast between Shetland and the Norwegian coast temporarily freshens a showery north-westerly airflow on Sunday. High pressure forecast to develop over the Norwegian Sea brings a lighter, drier north-easterly for the first half of next week. By mid-week low pressure is expected to be situated to the west and across the south of the British Isles bringing an unsettled east to northeasterly airflow across the Northern Isles.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND

Temperatures around 5° Celsius Friday 1° tonight. A less cold weekend 6° by day 4° overnight.

FRIDAY 24th: Cold with F6-7 NW winds, gale F8 at first, and heavy wintry showers with possibility of early deposits of wet snow in places. NW gales slowly easing. Clear spells and fewer showers overnight with risk of icy patches as winds continue to ease. **Sea State:** In the west and through the Fair Isle Channel very rough or high with a 7 or 8 metre NW'ly wind swell. Rough or very rough east of Shetland with a 5 to 7 metre N wind swell. **SATURDAY 25th:** Any remaining showers dying out then a dry day with sunny spells and winds continuing to ease. A cloudier night. **Sea State:** Rough with a 4 metre N'ly wind swell. **SUNDAY 26th:** A cloudy day with chance of rain or showers. Freshening N winds easing NE. **Sea State:** Mostly moderate with a 2 metre N'ly wind swell.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK

Temperatures 5° to 7° Celsius by day 2° to 4° overnight. A touch colder later.

MONDAY 27th: A brighter mainly dry day with an easing NE breeze. **Sea State:** Mostly moderate with a 2 metre NE'ly wind swell. **TUESDAY 28th:** Perhaps a frosty start then a mainly dry, bright day with light NE wind. **Sea State:** Moderate with a 2 metre NE'ly wind swell. **WEDNESDAY 29th – SUNDAY 3rd:** Wednesday chance of an early frost followed by a mainly dry, bright day with little wind. Thursday and Friday colder with freshening E winds and showers, wintry over the hills. Similar for the weekend as winds back NE. **Sea State Wednesday:** Slight to moderate with a 1 or 2 metre NE'ly wind swell.

THURSDAY 23rd: Gale F8 0557. Gust 66kn (76mph) 0707 Highest in the UK apart from Cairngorm (1245m) 112mph. Gale ceased 0748, recommenced 0758. F9 0845 vis 900m in a heavy shower of rain, snow and hail - F8 0857 - F7 1144. **FRIDAY 24th:** 56kn gust (66mph) at 0300 again highest in UK apart from Cairngorm 73mph. However we did not quite manage a gale today.

Dave Wheeler

