



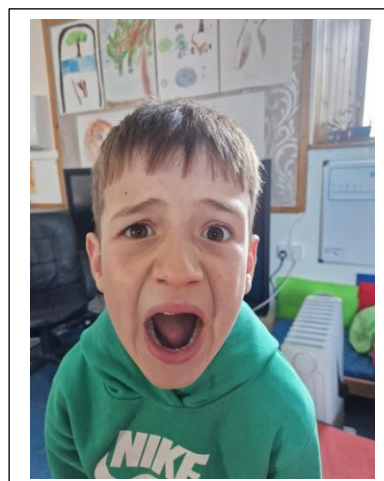
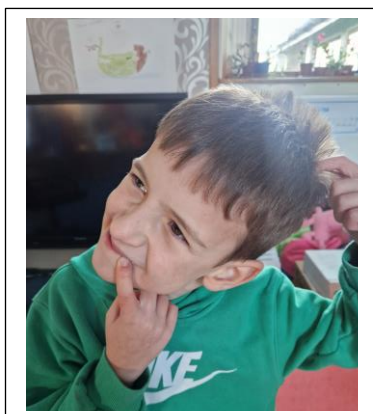
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My Creepy Story

One dark windy night, when the full moon was out, I was finding it hard to sleep in my bedroom at home. Luca was sleeping. Then I saw the door open fast and heard something. It sounded like something floating. I ran out of my bedroom so fast and ran to Mum's bedroom. I told her what I had heard and she came out of bed so I could show her. There was nothing there. Mum went back to bed. I heard scratching footsteps and was feeling worried so I went downstairs and there was nothing there. I went into the kitchen to get a midnight snack but there was no food left in the house! I felt a cold breeze in the house so I went to sit on the sofa with a blanket but there was a Christmas Tree in the way! I peeked past the Christmas Tree and I saw five ghost sheep dogs partying in the sitting room. I was very confused. The dogs were white but not clear white and they had glowing green and brown eyes. I felt scared. My heart started to beat really fast. I tried to hide behind the Christmas Tree but it was too late! One of the dogs had seen me! The dog told the other dogs and they all started to run through the Christmas Tree to get me. I ran back into my bedroom and put the cover over my head, so the dogs couldn't find me! In the morning I went downstairs and told mum all about it but she did not believe me. All the food was back and the Christmas Tree was gone. Suddenly I saw a golden coin on the floor in the middle of the sitting room. I picked up the golden coin and looked at it. I noticed there was a dog head on it. It made me feel confused and I started to shiver. Then I noticed a note on the floor and it said 'Thank you for letting us use your house, from the Ghost Dogs'. I showed it to mum and she said 'What was that from?' and I told her about the Ghost Dogs again. This time she did believe me.



Ander 31.10.24

Creepy Feelings

It was a dark September day at dusk. I had decided to go up to the playground. Just as I got to the playground, the shed door swung open. I was surprised it was open because it was usually kept shut.

Suddenly I heard some squeaking – was it a mouse? Was it a squeaky car going by? Or my shoes moving against each other? Then I realised that the sound was actually the corroded bolts of the playground equipment turning around in their fixings and they heavily fell out. Then all the big screws started turning and dropped out.

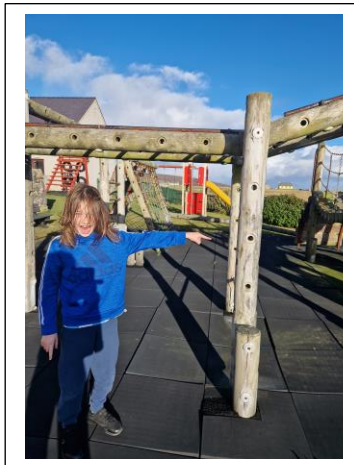
Unexpectedly a cloud came over the last shimmer of sunlight. It felt bitter and dark. I was alarmed. CRASSSSHHHH

The whole playground fell down!

I had a creepy feeling that something was following me, so I didn't want to go to any other houses in case they fell down because I was being followed.

So I decided to go up to the houses by the mast on Ward Hill, because nobody lives there and if the same thing happened, nobody would get squashed. When I got there, the rocks started flying out of the other buildings and the buildings smashed to the ground.

One of the rocks jumped towards me and hit me on the head. I jumped up and thought 'Where am I? I'm not up Ward Hill certainly'. My eyes came back into focus and I realised I had been sleep walking and I had hit my head on the door. It was just a scary dream after all.



Luca 01.11.24

ISLE NOTICES

Remembrance Sunday – there will be a service of Remembrance at the Chapel this Sunday, please arrive in plenty of time so that the minute's silence can be observed at 11am sharp. The service will be a short one, after which we will head to the graveyard to gather and remember at the War Memorial. All very welcome to join.

Children in Need fundraiser – Fair Isle Primary School will be hosting a fundraising coffee morning for BBC Children in Need next Friday, 15th November at 10.30am, all very welcome to join and please bring cash donations if possible. Thank you

Good Shepherd – the boat is hoping to be back to the isle from refit in the coming week, Ian will update the voicemail when a day and time is confirmed.

We start the final term of the year with news from one of our regular visitors here in the Fair Isle: entrepreneur, relief deckhand, isle man, goalkeeper and more importantly, editor's brother, Ross Thomson

This is more like two months that's away, rather than just a week.

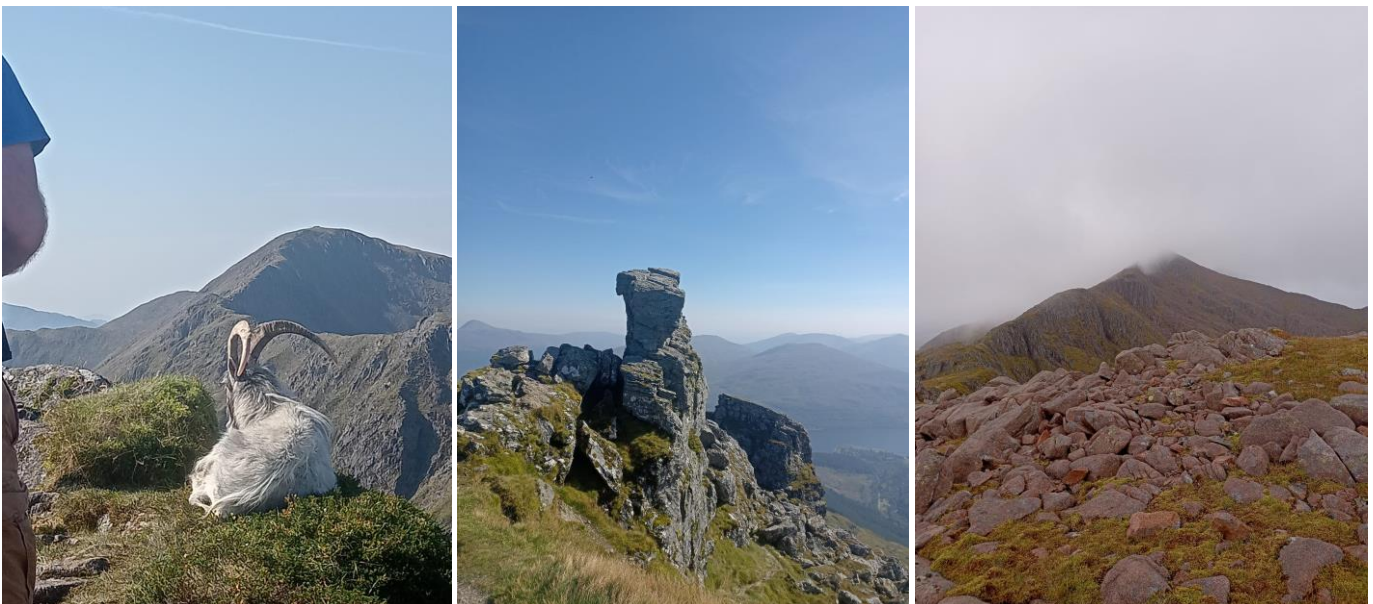
It starts in early September and I am in London for meetings. My work currently takes me to most cities in the UK which is fine, but some cities are more interesting than others. I love visiting London – it really is a fascinating collection of towns all squeezed together. I remember visiting as a child when we would visit Mum's side of the family, so a trip to the capital always brings back great memories.

Then I head to Bournemouth to meet up with a pal and his family who are on holiday on the south coast. The trip is timed to coordinate with the air show which, as anyone who knows me (and Dad) will understand, is a big draw! This is my first visit to Bournemouth and it is very pleasant on a warm, late-summer's day.

I am worried and saddened by the ongoing and escalating troubles in both the Middle East and Ukraine. It is so hard to see how these tensions will not continue to rumble on for a considerable time, causing more and more hurt and destruction.

After a while in the sunny south, I head north to Oban. Alan Wilson of Houll (who many of you will know) and John Mouat from Braefield (who some of you will know) and I set off to the mountains each year to bag (what a horrible phrase) some munros. We have been making this a yearly trip for the last few years - I think since Covid times. This year we are based in Oban which is a lovely town.

After sampling some fine seafood and arguably too much whisky, we set off up to Glen Coe to take on the Aonach Eagach ridge.



We were blessed with a gorgeous day for the walk. I did this same walk some 15 years ago and it is as stunning as I remember. The weather was incredibly warm which was beautiful but was energy-sapping come the end of the day. We end the walk with a couple of swift pints in the ale house at the bottom of the mountain, which restores and replenishes our health and wellbeing, unluckily for Alan, he was driving.

The next mission was to Ben Cruachan, not such a nice day this time. Interestingly, this was one of Scotland's first hydroelectric schemes, taking water from Loch Awe, pumping it up to the loch in the mountain before dropping it back down.

Then I begin my journey further north still, heading home to my favourite place of all - the isle. I was delayed in Shetland due to high winds, so I went for a walk around the old Anderson High School and the site of the Janet Courtney Hostel. It was really quite eerie. Most of the buildings have now been knocked down and there was not a soul around. Only the original listed buildings of the Anderson High School, Janet Courtney Hostel and Bruce Hostel

remain. This was such a hive of activity for so long, it was sad to see it abandoned. I loved my years at school and more so at the hostel. I have so many happy memories, especially of plenty of nonsense we got up to.



A year or so ago, I got my 'Sea Safety' certificate so that I can crew on the boat when home. This time we were very busy shipping the isle lambs to market, among other things. Thankfully, I enjoy the boat - sea sickness doesn't concern me. I had a really lovely time at home, although I think I spent more time with the crew than with my family on shore, good thing they are not a bad bunch. Maybe some time in the future I will work on a new Good Shepherd?



I leave the isle with Dad as we are heading to Winchester to see Uncle Jim for a few days of planes and fun, coinciding with both Dad and Jim's birthday. We are delayed en route, but it turns out that there is a joint birthday party at Braefield for Helen and Louise Mouat, who are both celebrating significant birthdays. Dad, along with Anne and Stewart spent many weekend at Braefield (the Mouat family home in Clumlie, at the Ness) when they were young as the owners of the house, Johnie and Mary, were friends of Nanny in the war. The friendship has continued down the generations which is very special. We had great fun catching up with lots of people neither of us had seen for many moons.

We got down to the mainland the following day, where Dad catches up with my lot (kids and grandkids) and then stays over in Cardross with Inness' family for a few days too. Then on to Hampshire for our boy's trip.



I always enjoy visiting Winchester, it is a beautiful small city with fabulous history and good pubs and places to eat. A great time was had by all.

I was visited by Fair Isle's own Steven Wilson before he heads to the Far East on holiday. We sample some fine Manchester hospitality before his 14 hour flight to warmer climes.



I am not far behind Steven, however I travel south to Tenerife for a long weekend to catch up with some pals who are there with their families. I made the mistake of booking All Inclusive, forgetting I never sit in one place for long. It was a very enjoyable few days in the sun.

As soon as I am back in Glasgow, I head back to Shetland for a birthday football tournament in Lerwick. I am delighted that Guillermo has been drafted in to play for an opposing team (he didn't score against me phew! *Editor – yeah, but his team beat yours 4-0 in the semi-final!!*). The added bonus was that my sister and the boys came out for the weekend too. On the Friday we met up with ex isle ones for a lovely Chinese meal, great to catch up with my cousins, aunty and uncle and dear friends.

Saturday was the day of the football tournament which was very well attended. I should point out that while Guillermo's team put my team out on the way to the final, they didn't win. But it really was great fun. (*Editor: you can see a group photo of all the teams in last week's Shetland Times, Ross was the one who looked like he was wearing a Captain America costume*). This was followed by a night out on the town – another great chance to catch up with many Shetland pals.

Sunday was a little slow, but we had a great curry in the evening accompanied by the boat crew who had just arrived in Shetland with the Shepherd for refit, and also Gillian and Tom and the kids. It was so lovely to see them too.

On the Monday I headed back down to the mainland, where I write this from Manchester, my new second home. It's certainly all go!

See you all at Christmas or maybe before.

Ross Thomson (46 and a half)

Stoneybrek, Houll, Glasgow and now Manchester.



BBC
**CHILDREN
IN NEED**

WE'RE RAISING MONEY

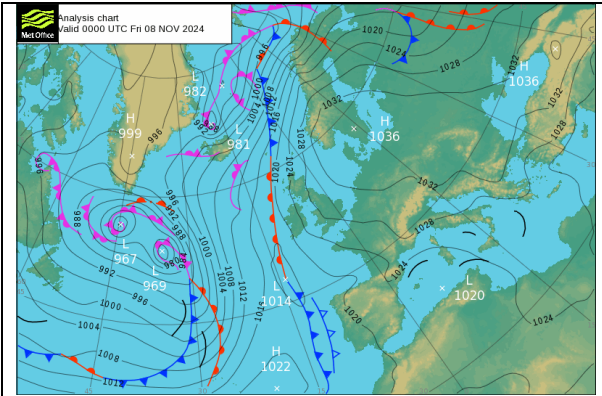
WHAT
Coffee Morning

WHEN & WHERE
Fair Isle Hall
Friday 15th November
10.30am

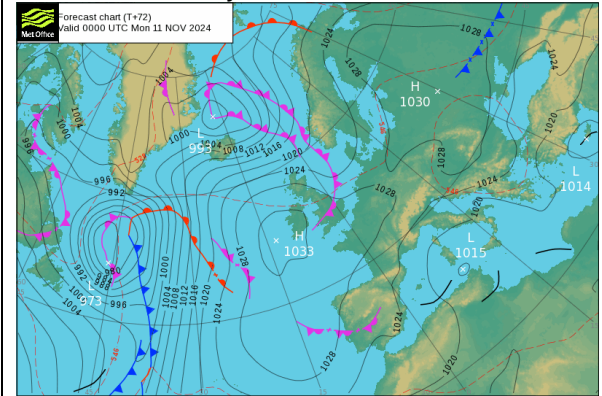
CONTACT
Hollie 01595 760254

**MAKE
LIFE
Lighter**
FOR
CHILDREN

FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



**Analysis Chart 0000 UTC
Friday 8th November 2024**



**Forecast Chart 0000 UTC
Monday 11th November 2024**

GENERAL SITUATION Friday 8th November 2024

Though high pressure is well to the east it still maintains a ridge back across the British Isle. Shetland, on its north-west flank lies in a mild southerly airflow. This persists through the weekend before a south-westerly strengthens on Monday ahead of fronts driven east by a depression near Iceland. As this moves away a small anticyclone is forecast to develop southwest of the UK resulting in a strong, although mild north-westerly as the air originates over southern Europe. The high expands to cover much of the British Isles by midweek then decline southwest allowing an a depression near Iceland to drive fronts to push towards Shetland late next week.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND Mild with 10° or 11° by day, around 8° overnight.

FRIDAY 8th: Any early hill fog lifting but staying rather cloudy with small risk of some drizzle. F5 S winds. Cloudy and breezy overnight. **Sea State:** Moderate or rough at 2 to 3 metre SW. East of Shetland moderate at 2 metre WNW.

SATURDAY 9th: Cloudy with chance of a little drizzle, SSE winds freshening F5-6. **Sea State:** Mostly moderate at 2 metre SSW.

SUNDAY 10rd: Cloudy with patchy rain, F6 SSW winds. **Sea State:** Moderate or rough at 2 to 3 metre S.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK Staying mild at 11° or 12° by day, 7° or 8° overnight. **MONDAY 11th:** Mainly dry, cloudy at first sunny spells developing by afternoon. Fresh to strong WNW winds. **Sea State:** Very rough west of Shetland and Fair Isle Channel at 5m W. Mostly moderate to the east 2 metre W. **TUESDAY 12th:** Some drizzle patches otherwise mostly dry though overcast. Fresh WSW winds. **Sea State:** : Mostly moderate at 2 metre NW.

WEDNESDAY 13th – SUNDAY 17th: Wednesday dry though rather cloudy with light winds. Chance of rain overnight and early Thursday SE winds. Then mainly dry before strengthening S or SW winds bring rain or showers for the weekend. **Sea State Wednesday:** Moderate at 2 metre S.

Dave Wheeler

