

FAIR ISLE TIMES

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Malcolm's Head

Yesterday was a beautiful day and we strode up Malcolm's Head. We started at the old stile outside the shop. Then we tramped past North and South Raeva. I walked backwards up Malcolm's Head. We ate lunch and it was yummy and next we set off down.



We stopped at some beaches on the way and we found a flip-flop which was covered with goose barnacles and a mussel. We squelched across the field and trudged up the road. I tried to catch a rabbit and failed! It was an exciting day.

By Luca (9)



A Sushi Feast

Sushi is rice and fish that is sometimes wrapped in seaweed. **Nigiri** does not have seaweed in it and **Maki** does. The rice had to be mashed because it did not stick. I really liked the salmon with the rice. Unfortunately I could not use the chopsticks!

By Luca (P5)



Sushi is a Japanese food and sushi is very yummy. We wore Happi Coats. Chopsticks are hard to use but I persevered!

By Ander (P2)

Viking Community Fund

Apprenticeship support fund for small businesses

Grants of up to £15,000 available to small businesses (15 employees or less) who are looking to employ an apprentice under the age of 25.

The fund is open now and closes on the 31st of May 2025. Decisions will be advised late July / early August 2025.

Link and contact information in description.

More thoughts on place names of Fair Isle



South Raeva on the left with the Hole o Raeva, and North Raeva on the right

I spent a lot of time at Shirva with Nanny and Daddad - Annie and Stewart Thomson, Neil's lovely parents, especially when the bairns were peerie.

On many occasions we would go *wast tae da banx* for a walk wi Nanny, including going up on Raeva, north and south. Nanny spoke about *Roond Raeva* for North Raeva, which I think is physically self-explanatory but she called Sooth Raeva, *Saata Raeva* or *Salt(water) Raeva*. The origin of the name wasn't anything Nanny had experienced herself, but reflected occasions in the past when sea water from the Hole o' Raeva was brought home for boiling tatties! It could be a story told by her mother, from her grandfather who came from Shirva and perhaps pre-dates the collapse of the arch connecting the two Raevas.

Pat, Lower Stoneybrek

ISLE NOTICES

- **Oral History sessions** – The next oral history session will take place on Friday 31st January at 3pm in the committee room at the hall. The subject will be agriculture, crops and self-sufficiency and everyone is welcome. Coffee and cake will be provided!

Rachel, Barkland

- **Chapel** – this Sunday at 11am, all very welcome to join in a songs of praise worship, with congregation members choosing some of their favourite hymns.
- **New pier team visit** – Advance notice that the contractors for the works at the North Haven are due in to visit the Isle w/c Monday 3rd February. An open morning will be held on Wednesday 5th at the Hall for community members to find out more about the upcoming works. More info to follow.
Eileen

An Evening in the Long Hall – upcoming talks, free to join for all interested in history



If you read the *Saga of the Earls Orkney* (*Orkneyinga Saga*) you quickly learn that the folk of Orkney and Shetland liked nothing better in winter than sitting around, enjoying each other's company and telling good yarns. In an attempt at imitation the Ragna's Islands team invite you to join them for an evening in the long hall.

So why not settle down with a home bake, a mug of tea or in true saga style a glass of homebrew, and listen to winter talks. These will be informal gatherings with short presentations lasting around 20 to 30 minutes on some of the subjects we are currently pondering.

➤ Thursday 30th January 6:30 pm

Corinna Rayner: *In a flat place... slope and hills names in the islands*

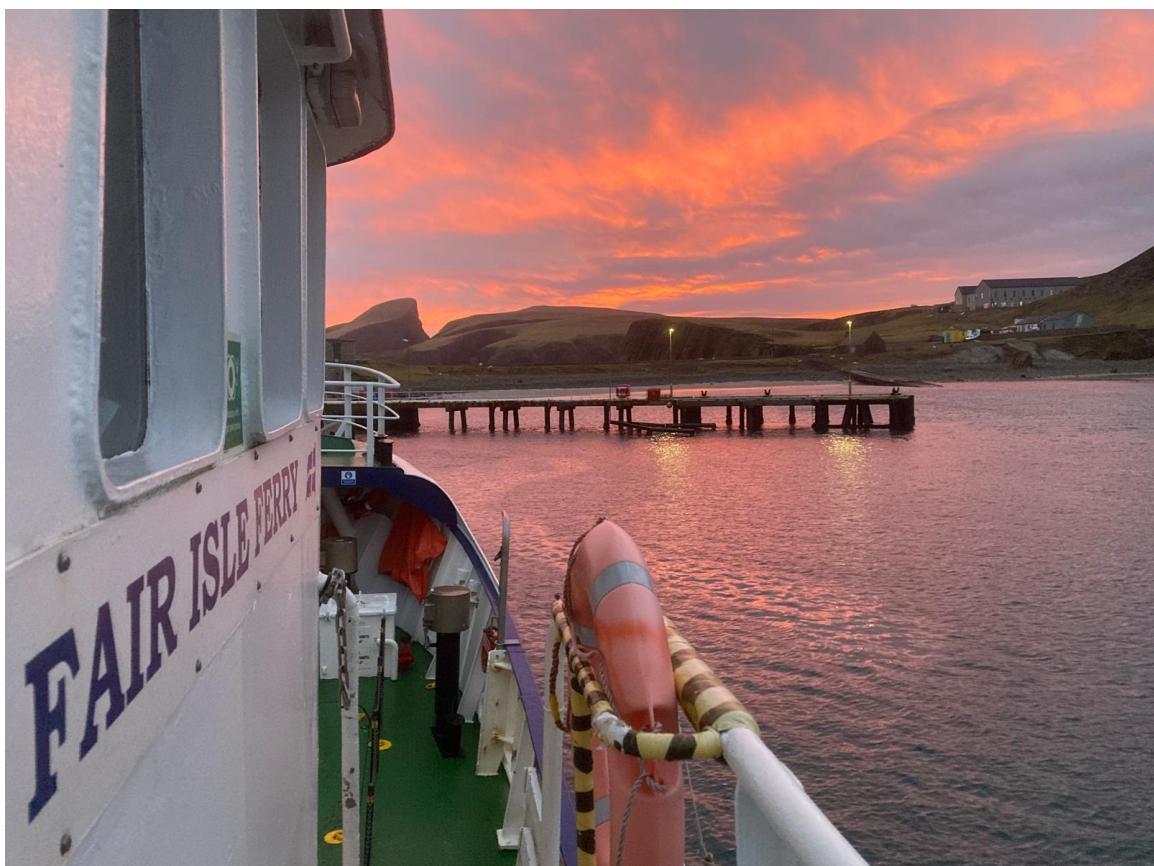
➤ Thursday 6th February 6:30 pm

Judith Jesch: *Fair Isle, a curious name...*

➤ Thursday 13th February 6:30 pm

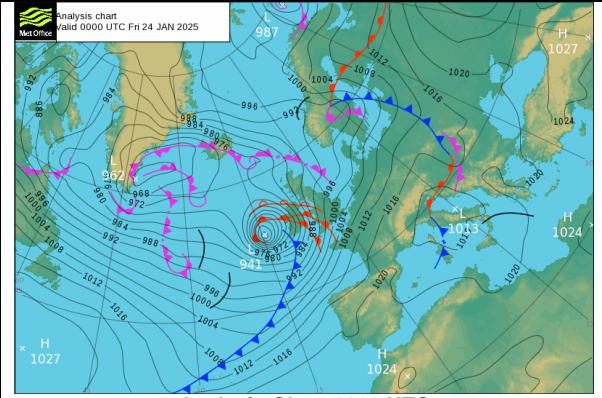
Matthew Blake: *Bird place-names: flights of fancy in North Ronaldsay, Papay and Fair Isle*

To receive the meeting link, please email matthew.blake@nottingham.ac.uk to book your free spot.

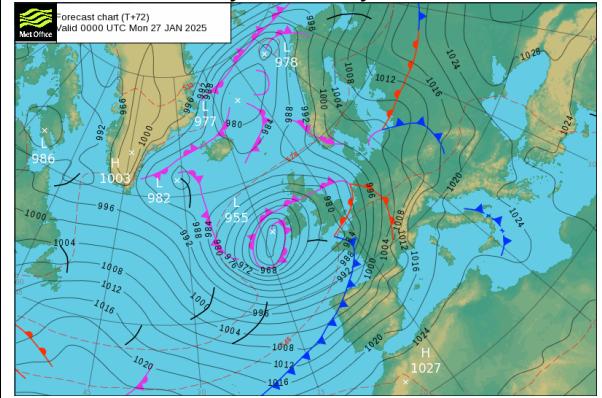


Thanks to Good Shepherd Skipper, Ian, for this beautiful sunset image from the Shepherd on Tuesday

FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



Analysis Chart 0000 UTC
Friday 24th January 2025



Forecast Chart 0000 UTC
Monday 27th January 2025

GENERAL SITUATION Friday 24th January 2025

Storm Éowyn, close to Ireland is expected to track north just west of Shetland tonight veering the very strong east-southeast westerly severe gale force. This then easing south-westerly through the weekend as the now-filling depression continues northwards. A south-easterly airflow freshens Sunday night as another Atlantic depression approaches. Forecast to track east over central parts of the UK this puts Northern Scotland in a fresh northerly for Tuesday and Wednesday before becoming a mild fresh to strong south-westerly later in the week as yet another Atlantic depression develops.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND Temperatures on today 6°, 4° or 5° tonight. Saturday and Sunday cooler at 5° or 6° and 3° or 4° overnight.

FRIDAY 24th: Cloudy with rain heavy at times and ESE winds increasing gale F8 to severe gale F9 with gusts to 60mph. Rain dying out as gales moderate and veer S F6 during the evening then W gale F8 to severe gale F9 with gusts 65-70mph in blustery showers overnight. **Sea State:** Very rough at 5 metre SE.

SATURDAY 25th: Cloudy with showers, gale F8 to severe gale F9 WSW winds moderating F7 to gale F8. **Sea State:** Very rough at 6 to 7 metre W.

SUNDAY 26th: Cloudy, brighter and mainly dry with F6 SW winds backing S F5. **Sea State:** Mostly rough at 3 metre SW.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK Temperatures around 7° by day, 3° to 5°overnight. **MONDAY 27th:** Cloudy mainly dry at first then patchy rain or drizzle. A fresh E wind backing NE. **Sea State:** Rough at 3 to 4 metre SE. **TUESDAY 28th:** Cloudy with fresh E or NE winds turning N. **Sea State:** In the east moderate or rough at 2 to 3 metre SE but N west of Shetland. **WEDNESDAY 29th – SUNDAY 2nd:** Cooler, mainly dry and cloudy on Wednesday with fresh N winds becoming light variable. Thursday cloudy but mainly dry with light winds freshening S bringing overnight rain. Showers dying out Friday but probably cloudy with fresh SW winds. Strengthening SW winds with rain for the weekend and chance of gales. **Sea State Wednesday:** Mostly moderate at 2 metre NW.

This morning we had an ESE gale F8 gusting 56kn (65mph). Highest gst so far is The Cairnwell with 106mph. Lower level stations and Wales is seeing the strongest gusts Aberdaron 93mph Capel Curig 88mph. Lots of other English stations 70-80mph gusts. Our turn comes later as the storm moves north past the Northern Isles!

Dave Wheeler

