

FAIR ISLE TIMES

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Our Argentina Adventure!

It was a long way to Argentina. When we got there it was dark. My favourite part was the football because I scored three goals. We stayed at Nona's house. It was so hot that we got our paddling pool out. There was a colourful parrot next door which lived across the road and said rude words in Spanish. Another part of the holiday I enjoyed was when I had the biggest ice-cream of my life. It was bigger than my head! It was brilliant to relax and spend time with my Nona. We pretended it was my birthday and we had a big party where there was a bouncy castle. Thank you mum and dad for taking me on such a fantastic holiday.

(Ander, 7)



This was one of the best holidays of my life. We were happy and excited but be warned, if you don't like long flights don't read this bit because we went on fifteen flights. Actually, I am going to skip the long flight of doom. Before we got on the long flight (which was very boring) we stopped in Cardross to have a joint birthday party with Harris (my cousin).

The Argentina Bit!

When we arrived in Ushuaia it was a very decorative airport and when we were outside I thought, "Why are we in a place colder than Fair Isle?" It was very mountainous. We went for a scenic walk in a National Park in a forest. There was a lot of fungi. When we got to Alcora where dad's mum lives it was hotter than Fair Isle. The highlight of the holiday was playing football. Playing at the camp was enjoyable and there was a variety of sports, like hockey.

Now for my next highlight. Can you imagine 85,000 Argentinians in a football stadium? Probably not. Me and my dad went to watch River Plate vs Talleres. The stadium was massive and very atmospheric. When we scored, the whole place pretty much erupted.



Thanks mummy and daddy for taking us on such a brilliant holiday!
(Luca, 10)

I would just like to say a massive thank you to all those who have made me feel so welcome since I arrived. Special thanks to Hollie and Deryk for lending me a bed and to those who helped transport and unload my worldly possessions last week. It is wonderful to finally be here and the boys are keeping me right on all things Fair Isle.
Jonathan.

Spring has sprung! In the month or so that the Fair Isle Times team has been on holiday there have been some welcome changes in the isle. We have welcomed two new households – new Principal Teacher Jonathan who has settled in well at the school the past 2 weeks, coming all the way from another beautiful island, Jura. We hope you love this new island adventure, Jonathan!

It is also wonderful to see the lights back on in Brecks, formerly the house of our much-missed Kenny (and Sue!). We are delighted to welcome Khalid, soon to be joined permanently by wife Alice and little one Khalicee. Khalid has taken up a position in our highly valued ferry crew, working alongside Ian, Steven and Deryk on the Good Shepherd. Khalid brings with him a wealth of experience working on ships all over the world, so he will surely cope with the Sumburgh Roost!

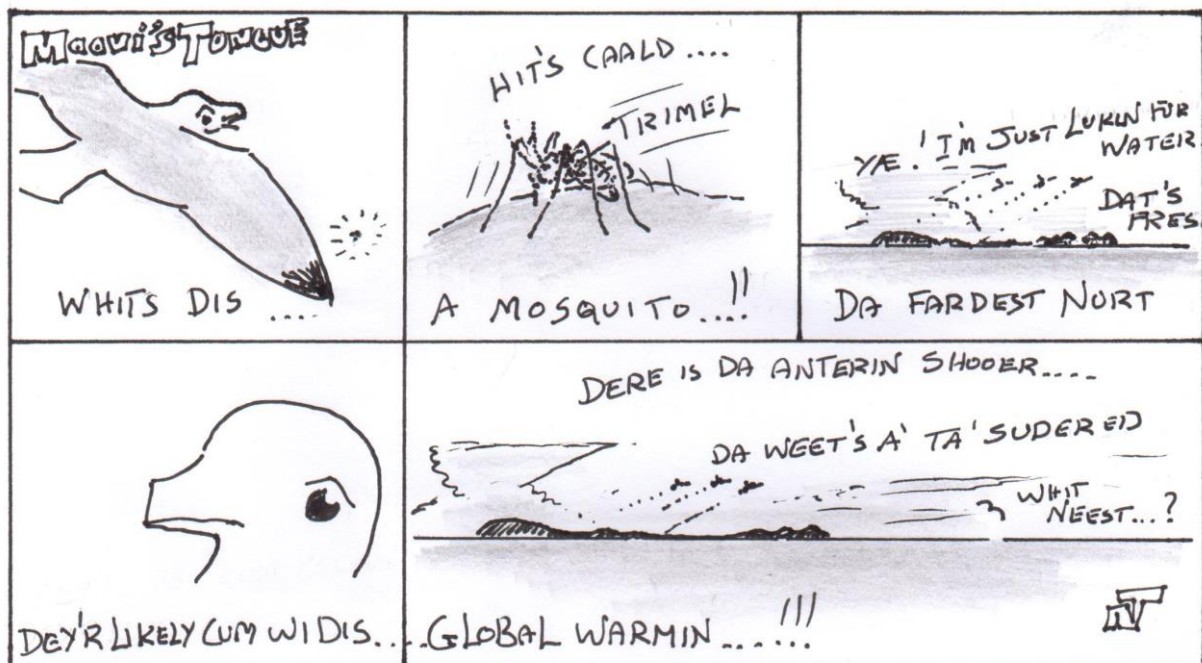
Finally, the Bird Observatory is opening shortly to the first guests after 6 years absence. The rebuild has been a long and difficult process for many reasons but it is super to see the Obs back up and running and we wish Jonnie and Alex, all the seasonal team and the directors, all the very best for this season.

Fair Isle has enjoyed one of the best lambing seasons in memory with lots of sunshine and calm weather, making for very happy lambs and crofters alike. The hill lambs (pure Shetland breed) come in wonderful colours; these ones were spotted today *atween da grinds* (*between the gates* – the section between the cattle grid at Setter and the cru by the plantation) and at Vaasetter. Eileen, Houll

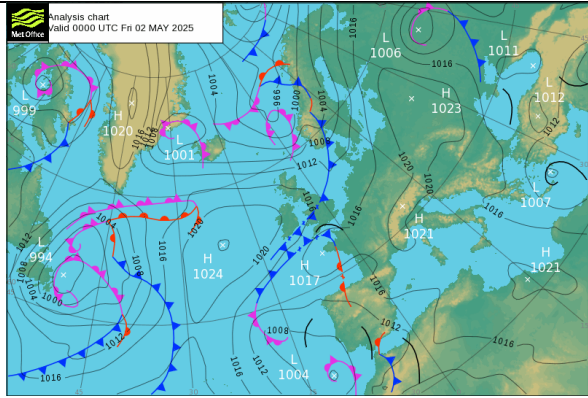


ISLE NOTICES

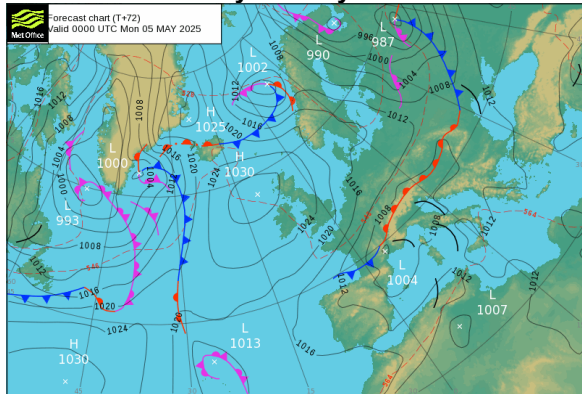
- Second hand gas cooker, stainless finish, 500mm wide , good condition and boils a kettle wonderfully etc. Contact Ian 07554 444 819
- Chapel – all welcome to join at the Chapel on Sunday at 11am
- A reminder that Airtask are now operating out of Sumburgh for the coming month while Tingwall is under resurfacing works
- The next cruise ship due to visit the isle is the Silver Endeavour, due on Monday afternoon. This is the same ship which had a successful visit on Friday, now returning for the start of a new trip. Thanks to Alex and Marie for the photos below of Silver Endeavour moored off Meones.



FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



Analysis Chart 0000 UTC
Friday 2nd May 2025



Forecast Chart 0000 UTC
Monday 5th May 2025

GENERAL SITUATION Friday 2nd May 2025

With an anticyclone having drifted west into the near Atlantic a cool, cloudy west to north-westerly airflow covers northern Scotland. This veers northerly during the weekend as the high drifts north towards Iceland before sinking south early next week when the airflow tends westerly. As high pressure is forecast to remain slow moving to the west or southwest of the British Isles a cloudy westerly airflow is expected to persist across the north of Scotland through most of next week, perhaps backing south-west later.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND

Temperatures 8° or 9° by day 6° or 7° overnight.

FRIDAY 2nd: Bright start with a few showers then clouding over with greater chance of showers. Feeling cooler in the F4-5 W later F5 winds. Cloudy with showers more frequent and heavier overnight NNW winds strengthening F6 possibly F7. **Sea State:** Mostly rough at 3 to 4 metre W. 2 metre inshore east of Shetland.

SATURDAY 3rd: Cloudy start with frequent and perhaps heavy showers. Becoming drier and brighter later as chilly in F6-7 N winds begin to moderate. **Sea State:** Mostly rough at 3 to 4 metre NW. 2 metre N inshore east of Shetland.

SUNDAY 4th: A few brighter spells but generally cloudy with likelihood of further scattered showers. F5 N winds occasionally F6 at first. **Sea State:** Moderate or rough at 2 to 3 metre NNW.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK 9° or 10° by day, 6° to 8° overnight. **MONDAY 5th:** A brighter drier day then cloudy with drizzle later. Fresh NW winds.

Sea State: Slight to moderate at 1 to 2 metre NNW.

TUESDAY 6th: Cloudy start with patchy rain or drizzle, brighter later. Moderate NW winds occasionally fresh. **Sea State:** Slight to moderate at 1 to 2 metre NNW.

WEDNESDAY 7th – SUNDAY 11th: Rather cloudy though mostly dry with fresh W or NW winds. **Sea State Wednesday:** Mostly slight at 1 metre NNW.

April 2025: Dry, warm and sunny with just enough rain to ensure ample spring grass.

Rainfall: With 15.4mm rainfall this is the second driest April on Fair Isle since records began in 1974 with April 1974 the driest at just 1.0mm and April 1980, with 18.4mm relegated to third driest.

Temperature: A mean daily temperature of 8.1° April 2025 makes this the second warmest April to that of 2011's 8.2°. Highest temperature this April was 12.9°, making it the second 'hottest' April day in ten decades to the 13.5° of April 2007.

Sunshine: Provisionally this looks like the UK's sunniest April on record. Not so for Fair Isle (and probably much of northern Scotland). Despite a number of overcast days at 162.4h April 2025 sunshine for Fair Isle is above the 1974-2000 average of 147.4hr. However, as April is often a sunny month - with a tendency over recent decades to become increasingly so - April 2025 is well down the sunshine table at 21st position!

Dave Wheeler