

FAIR ISLE TIMES

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School News: Expeditions and Top Trumps Card

Last week, Nick Riddiford invited us on a classic Fair Isle expedition to investigate some potential new insect discoveries. We had great fun, as Ander and Luca are about to explain. We thought a good way of explaining the insects we learnt about would be through the medium of Top Trumps (a classic game).

We hope you enjoy looking at our creations.

Luca writes:

On a glorious Friday afternoon, we marched up to the Sprittery Hole to try and catch some insects. Led by Nick, we were joined by Carla and took with us a couple of nets, trays and small pots. Sprittery Hole is found just north of the air strip.

A big thank you to Nick for inviting us on an exciting expedition.





Whilst Luca and Ander have been busy writing and typing up our trip findings, Khalicee has been busy in the phonics area learning some exciting new sounds. She is doing brilliantly with her start to reading and we are super proud of her.



Fact file:

The Back Swimmer is a pain in the backside. The reason is that it will happily kill Water Boatman.

When we went, we found no Back Swimmers (yay for Water boatmen). But they did not live here in the past. Because of climate change they move north.

Name: Back swimmer

Aggressiveness: 33

Speed: 20

Size: 14.5-15mm

Fair Isle Strength: 35

Defences: 50

Created
by
Ander



Fact file:

This insect, found in very few places in Europe, only survives by hiding in vegetation at the side of Sprittery Hole (let's hope it doesn't eat its own habitat).

Corixa Iberica is found in roughly 25 locations from Portugal to Shetland. If you were looking for Corixa Iberica on Fair Isle, I would recommend Golden Water, Rippack, Ultra Quarry Pools and Sprittery Hole.

Name: Water Boatman
(Corixa Iberica)

Aggressiveness: 12

Speed: 20

Size: 13-14mm

Fair Isle Strength: 30

Defences: 64

Created by
Luca

ISLE NOTICES

- **No Chapel** this week, back next Sunday for Harvest
- **Catholic Mass** Fr Ambrose will be visiting the isle between 23rd-25th September and he'll be saying Mass at 1630hrs on Wednesday 24th in the Chapel. All are welcome.
- **Fitness and yoga** – Thanks to Alice at Brecks for starting fitness classes at the Hall! Classes detailed below – some timings may change, so if you are interested, let Eileen know to be added to the WhatsApp group for last minute changes:

Monday 4.30pm - Circuits (look up circuit training exercises if you want to know more - varied quick exercises at different stations set up in the Hall)

Wednesday 5.00pm - HIIT & Strength (High Intensity Interval Training and work with weights)

Friday 5.00pm - Yoga

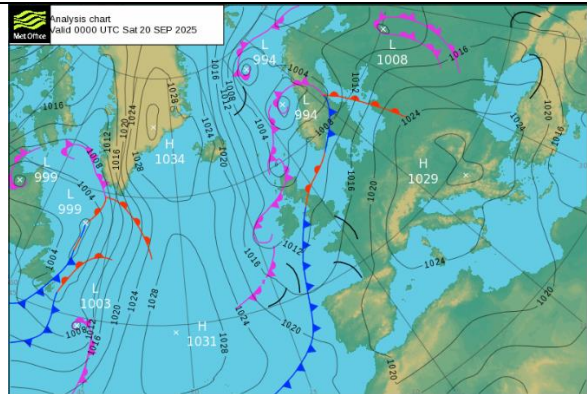
Harvest – will be next weekend, **Sunday 28th September 3.30pm-5.30pm**. Please take any home produce to the Chapel at 2pm on Saturday 27th and all other raffle prizes etc to the Hall on Sunday afternoon. Thank you! We'd love to see some lovely arts and crafts for prizes for the raffle from you talented folk ☺ Eileen



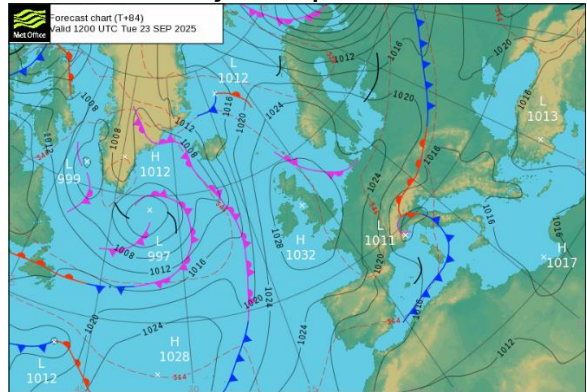
Fair Isle on BBC Radio 4 – You can hear various Fair Isle folk on this week's edition of Open Country on BBC Radio 4, with Martha Kearney. Martha visited the isle earlier in the summer and was very fortunate to see only blue skies and sunshine!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m002jfc9>

FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



Analysis Chart 0000 UTC
Saturday 20th September 2025



Forecast Chart 1200 UTC
Tuesday 23rd September 2025

GENERAL SITUATION Saturday 20th September 2025

With low pressure over the Norwegian Sea a showery north-westerly airflow covers the Northern Isles. This will turn more northerly and strengthen a little through Sunday before backing north-westerly overnight. During Monday the brisk north-westerly will ease and back south-westerly as pressure builds across the British Isles. From mid-week high pressure over the UK is expected to drift east with warmer southerly winds strengthening over northern Scotland as fronts attempt to approach from the west. As low pressure deepens over the near-Atlantic the end of the week may be wet and windy – perhaps stormy across the South and West of the UK.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND Cooler with temperatures 10° or 11° possibly 12° by day and 6° overnight.

SATURDAY 20th: Bright or sunny spells but also some showers. Feeling chilly in a F5-6 NW wind. Clear spells and showers, some heavy, possibly with hail. A chilly night with NW winds increasing F6-7. **Sea State:** Mostly rough at NW 3 metre.

SUNDAY 21st: Sunny spells and showers some heavy with hail at first. Feeling rather cold in a F6-7 NW wind. **Sea State:** Rough or very rough at NNW 4 to 5 metre.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK Temperature 11° to 13° by day, 9° or 10° overnight. Milder later.

MONDAY 22nd: Cool and cloudy with showers and a fresh NW wind occasionally strong at first moderating later. **Sea State:** Rought at NNW 3 to 4 metre.

TUESDAY 23rd: Cloudy, mainly dry with a moderate or fresh NE'y breeze. **Sea State:** Moderate at NW 2 metre.

WEDNESDAY 24th – SUNDAY 28th: Mostly dry though generally cloudy on Wednesday and feeling milder again with a moderate E'y breeze. Mild S winds strengthening through the second half of the week with patchy rain later. **Sea State Wednesday:** Mostly moderate at WNW 2 metre.

Dave Wheeler

