

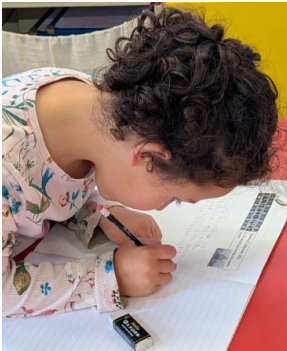
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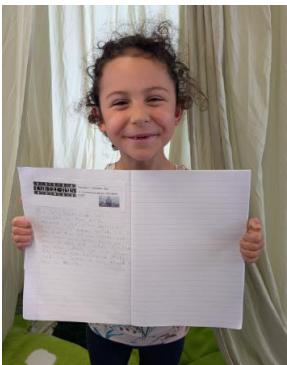
18th SEPTEMBER 2026

Fair Isle Primary School News



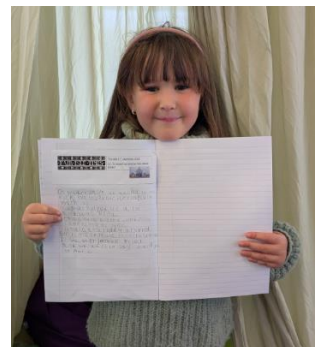
The Kirk Time Capsule Project – Part Two

This week's school news is brought to you by our two youngest primary pupils, Hetty and Khalicee. They have both been working so hard with their writing that we thought you'd like to see it, especially as it is all about the second part of the Kirk Time Capsule Project.

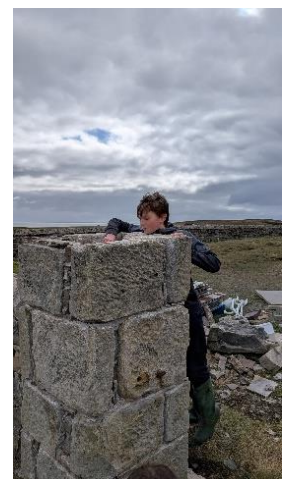


On Wednesday, we walked to the Kirk. We took our time capsule with us. Magnus helped us a lot and was kind to us. Marie and the community came along as well. Brodie and Teddy dropped our time capsule into the stone. It was an enjoyable project and we want to say thank you to Marie.

By Hettie and Khalicee (6)



A big thank you to Marie, Magnus and the island community for involving us in the project. It really was a lovely morning, And if you're wondering where the boys are... don't worry, they will be returning next week with some epic (and slightly spooky) newspaper articles about a lighthouse incident from the year 1900.



Dis Week Dat's Awa – A Fair Isle Catch-Up from Nedder Taft

For those readers who *don't* already know us (though with only fifty folk on the island, I'd be surprised if you haven't already been roped into a conversation with one of us at some point), we are the new arrivals at Nedder Taft: Katy, Josh, Teddy and Hetty. We moved here in mid-July from the North-East of England, armed with nothing but BBC documentaries, Instagram stalking, and a slightly reckless belief that this tiny island in the North Atlantic was exactly where we were meant to be.

We had never seen the house. We had never visited the island. We had certainly never attempted to relocate our entire lives — children, cats, dogs,— across land, sea, and questionable ferry crossings. But in the space of two months we quit our jobs, sold our house, packed up our worldly possessions, and set off on what felt like the longest journey ever undertaken by two adults who still can't agree on what is 'too many' tools to bring.

And somehow... it worked. We arrived. We exhaled. And Fair Isle welcomed us in.

Throwing Ourselves In (Sometimes Literally)

Since landing on the island, we've made it our mission to say "yes" to everything. This has resulted in us shearing hill sheep, rounding up lambs for market, and discovering that Teddy — previously known for selective hearing — has reinvented himself as a sheepdog. He takes his role extremely seriously, even if his technique is more "enthusiastic chaos" than "Border Collie precision".

Family time has taken on a whole new meaning here. Walking the children to school each morning feels like a privilege rather than a logistical battle. After drop-off, I've taken to doing a morning dog-walk loop along the sea — the kind of start to the day that makes you forget what stress even feels like.

Back at the croft, we've been working tirelessly on the house. Every evening we fall into bed absolutely shattered, but there's something deeply satisfying about seeing physical progress each day. It's a far cry from our old lives, where the only thing that changed daily was the number on a spreadsheet. (Don't worry — I've still managed to bring spreadsheets to Fair Isle. Much to Josh's delight... not.)

Socialising, Shed Parties & Other Island Traditions

We've also been swept up in island social life — a hen do, a stag do (special shout-out to the Parnaby babysitters), a wedding where we threw ourselves into the ceilidh dancing with questionable grace, World Cup matches, and of course our new favourite pastime: shed parties.

Teddy has become a fully fledged Fair Isle boy. He's been lobster catching with our creels, mushroom hunting, and joining the Rotolo boys for any excuse to make a fire or hammer 1,000 nails into something. If there's mischief, mud, or tools involved, he's there.

Hetty has found her own best friend in Khalicee and has taken on the croft animals with gusto. She has named multiple lambs — including the tiny green-spotted one on the road north, "Sprinkles", who she promised Raven she would always look out for. This week she also welcomed ten hens to the croft. She has spent hours preparing their barn, making them "picnics", and generally ensuring they are the most pampered poultry on Fair Isle. We are hoping this results in exceptionally tasty eggs.

Josh's contribution to this article is to insist that everyone knows he made a *brilliant* door for the chicken house. He would like this noted officially. He has also been enjoying time with his gang of island pals — painting, concreting, and achieving the apparently legendary feat of reversing the trailer down the pier. He has also found a new penchant for rum and ginger beer (thanks Khalid) and has fallen victim to Steven Wilson's tequila at the Houll shed party. He says this is also important to note.

History, Heritage & Sourdough Obsessions

For me, one of the biggest joys of moving here has been diving into the island's history. It is vast, rich, and beautifully preserved. I want to thank Anne and Stewart for patiently answering my endless questions and showing me around the museum. I am endlessly fascinated by the women who produced Fair Isle knitwear — creating intricate, world-renowned designs in turf-roofed houses with no electricity or running water. Their skill, resilience and artistry are extraordinary, and I'm excited to be involved with the museum in the future.

This new lifestyle has also given me time to bake and cook — a lot. Thanks to Pat and her sourdough starter, I've ventured into bread-making, which has quickly become an obsession. There is something very grounding about kneading dough while the wind howls outside, watching the waves crash on the skerries.

Looking Back — And Forward

So, “Dis Week Dat’s Awa” is really “Dis Summer Dat’s Awa”. A whirlwind of change, graft, laughter, learning, and settling into a community that has welcomed us so warmly. Fair Isle already feels like home — the kind of home you don't just live in, but belong to.

We're excited for everything still to come: more crofting, more baking, more shed parties, more island history, and hopefully fewer trailer-related achievements Josh insists on commemorating.

From all of us at Nedder Taft — thank you for having us. We're here for the long haul.

Katy, Nedder Taft

Business Opportunity: Stackhoull House & Shop

Stackhoull House and Shop (tied) is currently seeking new owners.

Due to requirements related to the Post Office and licensing, a formal employment process will be followed.

Key Details:

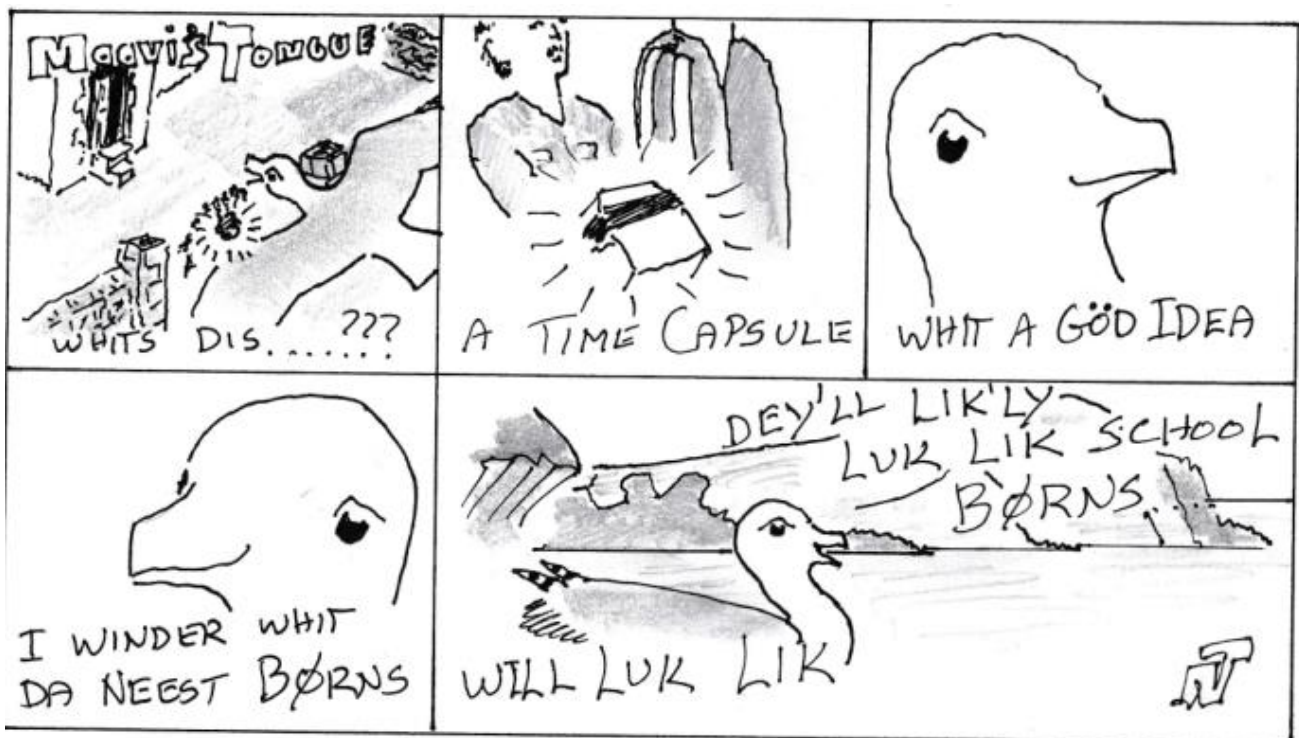
- Property Lease: Managed through the National Trust for Scotland.
- Stock & Fittings: A separate negotiation will be made with the present owners, Robert and Fiona Mitchell, for the shop outfitting and stock.
- Application Deadline: 1st October 2026

How to Apply: Interested parties should email their expression of interest to angusmurray@nts.org.uk

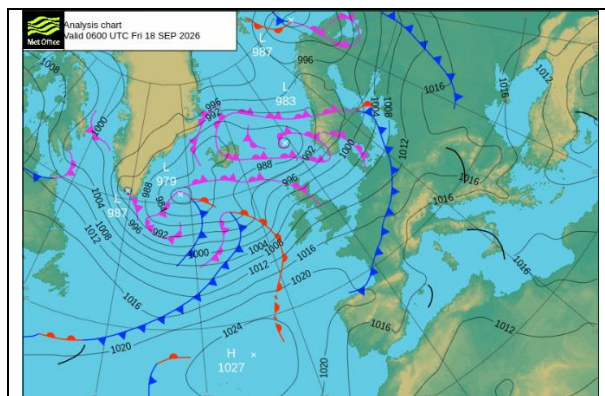
Angus N Murray | Operations Manager | Canna, Fair Isle and Shetland
Tel: 07484086809 email: angusmurray@nts.org.uk

ISLE NOTICES

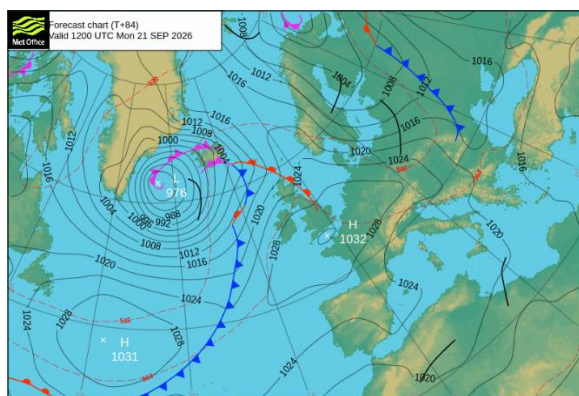
- **Chapel** this Sunday at 11am – with Susannah
- **Harvest 2026** – we plan to hold the Harvest festival on **Sunday 27th September at 3.30pm-5.30pm** in the Hall. Please take any home produce and crafts for display to the Chapel at 2pm on Saturday 26th and all other raffle prizes etc to the Hall on Sunday afternoon - thank you in advance! We'd love to see some lovely arts and crafts for prizes for the raffle from you talented folk ☺ Get in touch if you have prizes and/or produce to donate and if you would like to help with the Sunday teas. As usual we will donate half of the funds raised to the Goodwill Children's Village in India, with the other half going to a different good cause – any suggestions to Eileen please. The Fair Isle folk and visitors frequently raise hundreds of pounds for charity on this special and fun day. Any questions please get in touch with me. Thanks, Eileen
- **Cleaning post** – The Fair Isle fire station is looking for a new cleaner (1 hour a week) starting from November! Anyone interested can contact Maebh on 07442 113026
- **Remaining Hall subscriptions** - A thank you to all those who have paid their annual hall subscription and a reminder to those who are still to pay - £40 per household or £20 per person. This is a valuable contribution towards the running costs of our community hall. Please pay directly to Fair Isle Community Hall (Acc 60180316 SC 82-66-08) or pay cash directly to me. Thank you, Pat – Chair – Fair Isle Hall



FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



**Analysis Chart 0600 UTC
Friday 18th September 2026**



**Forecast Chart 1200 UTC
Monday 21st September 2026**

GENERAL SITUATION Friday 18th September 2026

With an anticyclone southwest of the British Isles and a belt of low pressure from southern Greenland east across Iceland and into the southern Norwegian Sea a strong westerly airflow covers most of the UK. This tends north-westerly during the weekend as high pressure drifts back towards the UK and low pressure moves north along the Norwegian coast. Early next week the airflow backs south-westerly ahead of fronts driven east by a deep depression tracking northeast over Iceland. A small low runs quickly northeast across Scotland midweek with a decaying ridge of high pressure following quickly east on Thursday. The week ends with a sequence of fronts driven east by Atlantic low centres running quickly northeast past the British Isles.

OUTLOOK FOR TODAY AND THE WEEKEND

Temperatures 12° or 13° by day, 9° or 10° overnight.

FRIDAY 18th: Rather cloudy with showers merging into a longer spell of rain later as F6 W winds back F4 SW. Some showers overnight with fresh W winds. **Sea State:** Rough or very rough at W 4 to 5 metre. East of Shetland moderate or rough at SW 2 to 3 metre.

SATURDAY 19th: Cloudy with blustery showers and F6-7 SW winds, perhaps gale F8 for a time in the afternoon. Further showers overnight as F5-6 winds veer W.

Sea State: Rough at WSW 3 to 4 metre. East of Shetland moderate or rough at SW 2 to 3 metre.

SUNDAY 20th: Blustery showers and F5-6 NW winds. Showers less frequent overnight as winds gradually ease. **Sea State:** Rough or very rough at W 4 to 5 metre. East of Shetland rough at W 2 to 3 metre.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK

Temperatures 12° or 13° by day, 10° or 11° overnight.

MONDAY 21st: Cloudy with mist and drizzle with moderate or fresh SW winds.

Sea State: Moderate or rough at W 2 to 3 metre.

TUESDAY 22nd: A cloudy day with rain or showers and fresh SW winds.

Sea State: Moderate at W 2 metre.

WEDNESDAY 23rd – SUNDAY 27th: Wednesday rather cloudy with patchy rain or showers and moderate W winds. A dry start Thursday before strengthening S winds bring more rain and strong winds. Rain clears to showers on Friday as strong to gale S winds veer SW. **Sea State Wednesday:** Moderate or rough at W 2 to 3 metre.

Dave Wheeler