



# SHETLAND HAMEFARIN 2010

## FLAVOUR OF SHETLAND

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### Shetland in Stats

- In 2008, 56,352 visitors were reported to have travelled to Shetland.
- Shetland in the spring and summer months is a haven for birdwatchers from all over the world. Among the rare species that cameras and binoculars will be trained on are the Red-necked Phalarope (90% of the UK population breed in Shetland) and the Great Skua, of which there are 6,800 pairs in Shetland, 71% of the UK population.



Lerwick's historic Victoria pier took on a festival atmosphere at the end of June as the annual Flavour of Shetland event was staged.

Four days of wonderful music, gourmet food and distinctive crafts, accompanied by a beverage or two, also saw the very best of the Shetland summer. A capacity crowd of locals and visitors relaxed and took in the sights and sounds while temperatures climbed and clouds stayed away. Local craft stalls sold textiles, jewellery, cards and sweets.

The music provided was of the highest calibre; from old hands Hom Bru to young turks The Revellers, and the likes of Sheila Henderson, Fullsceilidh Spelemannslagg and Kolliforbolli in between, the musicians soundtracked yet another successful showcase of Shetland culture, and one that will be repeated next year as visitors from across the globe arrive for the Shetland Hamefarin 2010.

Originally conceived in 2005, Flavour of Shetland started life as an accompaniment to the NatWest Island Games which were held in Shetland that year. With a huge number of athletes and officials travelling to Shetland for the Games, it was decided that a dedicated event should be staged which be both a showcase for Shetland music, food and crafts but would also serve as a social focal point.

Since the success of the Island Games, Flavour of Shetland has been the centrepiece of the Johnsmas Foy, Shetland's themed summer festival. The festival is held in the last two weeks of June, with events of all kinds held in different parts of Shetland.

The overall format of Flavour of Shetland has remained the same throughout. Local craft and food suppliers are invited to take up stall sites which are set up around the perimeter of the Victoria Pier. The varied selection of food and

crafts on offer is always a highlight of the event. Cooking and craft demonstrations are also a big draw. Activities are laid on for children in a dedicated children's tent. The main attraction is the entertainment tent, which features a well-stocked bar and is where the musicians perform through the day and night.

The event is also tied in to the annual Shetland-Bergen yacht race, and the arrival of Scandinavian sailors gives the event an international feel which will be replicated when Hamefarers arrive for next year's celebrations.





**SHETLAND  
HAMEFARIN 2010**

**MONDAY 14  
JUNE –**

**SUNDAY 27 JUNE**

**2010**

## SHETLAND MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES



The Shetland Museum and Archives building at Hay's Dock, Lerwick (Photo: [www.phatsheep.co.uk](http://www.phatsheep.co.uk))

One of the main venues for activities during the Shetland Hamefarin 2010 will be the Shetland Museum and Archives, located on the historic Hay's Dock in Lerwick.

The new Museum and Archives building was opened on 31 May 2007 by Queen Sonja of Norway and the Duke and Duchess of Rothesay (aka Prince Charles and Camilla), highlighting Shetland's historic links with Scandinavia and the UK.

The displays tell Shetland's story from its geological beginnings to the present day and the comprehensive archive collection features records from Shetland's past and present, including newspapers and maps.

Also on site is a renovated boat shed, hosting traditional boat building and repair, a gallery hosting temporary exhibitions and a popular café restaurant.

### Hamefarin Exhibition

As part of the celebrations planned for the Shetland Hamefarin 2010, Shetland Museum and Archives is planning a special exhibition based around those who left their home on the isles for a new life elsewhere.

The exhibition will focus on those who emigrated from Shetland as far back as the 16th century, right up to more modern emigrants, and the Museum is looking for artefacts such as photos, paintings and documents to

tell their story. Of particular interest are depictions of islanders in their new lives—at home, at work, with their families, etc.

The Museum and Archives have chosen to exhibit items from first-generation Shetlanders, i.e. those who were born in Shetland and later emigrated. These can be from recent emigrants or items which have been handed down through many generations.

Ian Tait, Curator of Collections at the Museum, said: "Emigration is a vital part of Shetland's story which has had little research and never been highlighted in an exhibition before. We've had a great response already, with lots of fascinating pictures, artefacts and stories, and we still have room for more. We are not looking for portrait photos, but would prefer

pictures that show emigrants in their new life. This could be at work, outside their home, on a ship, or just sightseeing. The objects we seek can be anything from the emigrant's life - household utensils, personal effects, or work implements for example."

In addition, the Museum and Archives is also looking for photos of Shetland places names in foreign countries.

So, if you are a Shetland emigrant, or a descendant of one, or if you have images, artefacts or documents related to Shetland emigrants that may be suitable for the exhibition please contact [Helen Whitham](mailto:Helen.Whitham@shetlandmuseumandarchives.org.uk) at the Shetland Museum and Archives on +44 (0) 1595 69 5057 or at [info@shetlandmuseumandarchives.org.uk](mailto:info@shetlandmuseumandarchives.org.uk).



Jim Williamson on a farm in Saskatchewan, Canada. Jim was originally from Whiteness and emigrated to Canada in 1929



## TRIBUTE TO BOBBY TULLOCH

By the time you read this newsletter, the commencement of the Shetland Hamefarin 2010 will be less than a year away.

As the event approaches, community groups and organisations are working hard to put together programmes of events to entertain and inform the Hamefarers they are looking forward to seeing.

One event which is taking shape is a tribute to one of Shetland's best-loved figures: the naturalist, writer and photographer Bobby Tulloch.

Born in Aywick, Yell in 1929, Bobby parlayed his lifelong love of the natural environment into a career which saw him gain great renown and home and abroad.

Bobby was already a keen photographer, and the representative of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, when, in accompanying a party of tourists through Fetlar in 1967, he noticed something strange about the behaviour of one of the Snowy Owls they had spotted.

Investigating, Bobby found a clutch of eggs, the first time this species had been recorded breeding in Britain. The resulting publicity put Fetlar, the Snowy Owl and Bobby into the limelight.

Bobby was soon presenting his slides at venues as auspicious as the Royal Albert Hall in London



Bobby Tulloch at work

and became popular as a guest lecturer and tour leader.

Travelling far and wide, from Spitzbergen in the frozen north to sunnier climes in the Seychelles, his own abode in Mid Yell became a popular location for visiting naturalists.

The author of several books, including the celebrated and autobiographical *Bobby Tulloch's Shetland*, Bobby also wrote for various publications and appeared on television. In 1994 he was made a Member of the British Empire in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for his efforts on behalf of wildlife conservation.

Sadly, Bobby passed away on 21 May 1996, at the age of 67.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Bobby's birth, and the Old Haa Trust is planning a range of events during 7-14 June in commemoration, which will form the basis for an event

during the Hamefarin celebrations.

A Russian cruise ship will be calling at Burravoe, Yell, on 9 June—on board will be Hugh Miles who filmed *Track of the Wild Otter*, featuring Bobby, for the BBC, and John Busby who illustrated Bobby and Hugh Miles' books.

The Old Haa Museum will be hosting photographic exhibitions of Bobby's work, and local halls will show BBC natural history films featuring Bobby—*Land of the Simmer Dim*; *Bobby Tulloch, Naturalist* and *Track of the Wild Otter*.

Also to be organised is a commemoration of Bobby's skills as a songwriter and musician, with a Bobby Tulloch Tribute Concert and the re-release of his CDs.

The Trust intend to repeat this programme for the Hamefarin fortnight, so that Hamefarers can join in the commemorations and find out for themselves a bit about Bobby's wonderful life and works.



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## SHETLAND'S SUMMER EVENTS

Britain's most northerly festival kicks off in July. **Unstfest** runs from 9 July to 19 July 2009, and features craft demonstrations, guided walks, Viking markets and, of course, the best of Shetland food, drink and music.

For a full list of events and lots more information visit [www.unstfest.org](http://www.unstfest.org).

From 3 July to 11 July Shetland hosts the **2009 Nature Festival**. The festival covers all aspects of

Shetland's unique natural heritage, from wildflowers and seabirds to geology and the Shetland weather. Also featured are guided walks, family days out and evening lectures.

This year's festival will be opened by writer and television presenter Simon King on Friday 3 July with an insight into his forthcoming BBC series *Shetland Diaries* with *Simon King*.

For more information visit [www.shetlandnaturefestival.co.uk](http://www.shetlandnaturefestival.co.uk).

The **Shetland Pony Festival 2009** takes place in Shetland from 15 to 23 August. This event will feature the first time the Shetland Pony Stud Book Society Breed Show has been hosted in Shetland.

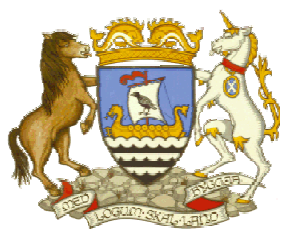
The festival will also feature a Shetland Pony Seminar, and a supper and dance.

Visit [www.shetlandponybreeders.com](http://www.shetlandponybreeders.com) to find out more.

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The following is the schedule of events as it stands at the moment. More details will be available soon, and any changes will be updated on [www.shetlandhamefarin.com](http://www.shetlandhamefarin.com) and in the newsletter. All venues are to be confirmed, and details are subject to change.

#### Sunday 13th June

Arrive in Shetland.

#### Monday 14th June

Hamefarers will be welcomed to Shetland with a special function.

#### Tuesday 15th-Friday 18th June

Hamefarers will be able to take part in bus trips and events in various parts of Shetland.

#### Wednesday 16th June

Tammy Anderson Tribute Concert at the Clickimin Centre in Lerwick.

#### Friday 18th-Monday 21st

Flavour of Shetland: a Shetland showcase event celebrating the best of local crafts, culture, music

and food and drink.

#### Friday 18th-Sunday 20th June

Skeld Festival of the Sea—celebration of Skeld's historical links with the fishing industry. Live entertainment, barbecue, refreshments, displays and much more.

#### Monday 21st-Thursday 24th June

More local trips and events as hamefarers can sample plenty more sights, sounds and tastes of Shetland.

#### Friday 25th June

Hamefarin Dance at the Clickimin Centre in Lerwick.

#### Saturday 26th June

Final Fling at the Clickimin Centre in Lerwick. This will include a Viking parade, culminating in the burning of a galley on Clickimin Loch.

#### Sunday 27th June

Depart Shetland.



The crowd enjoys the weather at Flavour of Shetland

## TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION NEWS

The Hamefarin Committee have reserved a number of berths on the Northlink ferries for the Aberdeen-Lerwick sailings on 11-13 June 2010, and for the Lerwick-Aberdeen sailings on 27-29 June 2010.

Northlink Ferries Ltd have kindly granted a **30% honorary islander discount** to all those travelling to Shetland for the Hamefarin.

This discount applies to the cost of passage and cars however does not apply to the cost of booking cabins.

To make sponsorship reservations with NorthLink, please call the reservations line on **+44 (0) 845 6000 449** and quote the following code:

**N10VST-01.** This will enable Hamefarers to access the specially discounted fare of Honorary Islander rates of 30% discount on passenger and vehicle fares.

Please note, all passengers aged 16 years and over travelling with NorthLink must be in possession of photographic ID at check-in. Examples of acceptable ID include: NorthLink ID card with verified colour picture on reverse, photo driving licence, passport and national identity card.

Please see [www.northlinkferries.co.uk](http://www.northlinkferries.co.uk) for further information.

Local travel agency John

Leask & Son are acting as official accommodation agents for the Shetland Hamefarin 2010. They will be dealing with all bookings and enquiries relating to accommodation for the event, and will also help to arrange travel to and within Shetland. Travel arrangements made through John Leask & Son may be subject to a small booking fee.

Details of accommodation providers are available at [www.shetlandhamefarin.com/accommodation.php](http://www.shetlandhamefarin.com/accommodation.php).

**We would strongly recommend that Hamefarers book their accommodation well in advance.**