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FRIENDS OF FAIR ISLE NEWSLETTER

Edited by

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Now we are in mid-season, it is time to inform all 'Friends' of the season so far. The excellent run of spring migrants has now ended and we anticipate the autumn's birds. The seabirds are still breeding and the next newsletter should contain a report on their success, although signs so far are not promising!

Within these pages is a summary of the spring migration and a roundup of Observatory and island events since the last newsletter back in November.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the newsletter and hopefully we will see most of you in the near future.

For those of you who have yet to pay your subscription for this year, please do so as soon as possible to ensure you remain on our database of members.

Your continued support is much valued and greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Deryk and Hollie
(Warden and Administrator)

Staff news

After a problematic season with staff illness last year, we were looking forward to an uncomplicated start to the 2003 season. However, despite securing a full team of domestic staff, fate was yet again

to deal us a poor hand with the news that our General Assistant had broken her arm just three days before she was due to arrive! By now we were already into mid May and the Observatory was rapidly filling up with guests, so a hurried advert in the Shetland Times for a stand-in General Assistant brought Becky Tonge onto the island. Becky proved to be just what the doctor ordered and eventually stayed on for 6 weeks, helping us through an extremely busy May and June. Becky was replaced in early July by Sue Hutchison (Assistant Cook and then Cook in 2001) who will be seeing us through to the end of the season. Other familiar faces in the kitchen include Lois Smallwood (Cook) and Becki Rosser (General Assistant). Finally, the position of Assistant Cook has been filled by Rosalind Seeley who is experiencing her first season on the isle. Finding ornithological staff was not a problem (although there seem to be less and less suitably qualified and experienced people to choose from each year) with Torcuil Grant (a past volunteer at the Obs) joining us as Assistant Warden and Rebecca Nason filling the post of Seabird Officer. Alan Bull returned once again as Ranger and this summers indispensable child-minders were Debbie Hard followed by Ruth Cleeves.

Ornithology

Spring migration

The winter months on Fair Isle are often quiet for birds and winter 2003 was no exception – with the highlights of January being a Taiga Bean Goose (from 2002) remaining all month, a Waxwing (19th – 20th), two Long-eared Owls (20th – 27th) and six Mealy Redpolls (20th). More unusual though was the Puffin in North Haven on 23rd! A small fall on 20th included 50 Blackbirds, 90 Fieldfare, 60 Redwing, 25 Song Thrushes, three Woodcock, 165 Turnstone, two Knot and a Kestrel – not bad!

February was much quieter, but started off with the first Gannets seen back on territory (1st), a Dunnock on 5th and two Canada Geese on Easter Lother Water on

the 10th. The two Long-eared Owls remained until 25th with Glaucous Gulls (an adult and second-winter) and a single Iceland Gull noted. Waders started trickling through from the 9th with small numbers of Oystercatchers, Curlew, Lapwing and Ringed Plover seen. Passerine migrants were represented by single Pied Wagtail and Rook on the 20th and Black Redstart and two early Stonechats on the 24th (the latter increasing to seven birds the following day!).

March started exceptionally well with a Common Buzzard, Iceland Gull and the two Canada Geese (from February) re-appearing on the 1st. An influx of migrants on the 2nd included a Hawfinch at the Observatory, two Glaucous Gulls, two Rook, Kestrel, Long-eared Owl, four Mistle Thrushes and 48 Wood Pigeons! However, the highlights were a Red Kite seen by a lucky islander over Pund and a pale-bellied Brent Goose near Utral! Another star bird arrived on the 3rd, this being a Woodlark at Barkland – only the second record in the last ten years! The 6th produced another good spring migrant with a Coot found (then later trapped) on Field Pond. Skylarks increased to 425 birds with new birds including four Stonechats and two Reed Buntings. A quiet spell followed as the weather turned summery. The Woodlark and Brent Goose remained until the 12th, departing in the good weather, a day when Skylarks again increased (to 625 birds!) and six Stonechats were noted. Goldcrest and Chiffchaff were year-ticks on the 16th followed by a Siskin on the Observatory peanut feeder (19th). Three Whooper Swans were on Golden Water (22nd) and while most of Britain eagerly awaits the first Cuckoo of the year, Fair Isle anticipates the first Bonxie – arriving over Bunness on the 22nd. More birds soon followed on the 29th as 'proper' census started, with a Canada Goose on Lerness causing much debate as to which race it belonged to! The first Wheatear arrived on the 30th and the first Puffins (following the winter bird) were ashore on the 4th April. A few early Crossbills were also seen on this day with the first Brambling of the year. The 8th was notable for a passage of

Meadow Pipits (136 counted) and year-ticks which included three Linnets, Sand Martin and Ring Ouzel. The 9th produced more year-ticks with a Green Sandpiper and Grey Wagtail, while Meadow Pipits increased to 252 birds! A phone-call from North Ronaldsay on the 10th had us scurrying up Malcolm's Head to witness the arrival of a fantastic White-tailed Eagle! It was close enough for us to see it panting as it arrived (almost touching the waves), but it soon circled high again and headed for Shetland (where it came in off the sea at Sumburgh Head). Year-ticks over the following few days included Willow Warbler (14th), Blackcap and Sanderling (15th), Swallow and Whimbrel (16th) and Arctic Skua (17th). The 15th produced the first large arrival of Wheatears of the spring, with 144 logged, increasing to 171 the following day. A Common Sandpiper in Steensi Geo on 19th was nice, but not as nice as the adult male Marsh Harrier in Gilsetter on 20th. The 23rd produced no less than five year-ticks with Jackdaw, Redstart, Sedge Warbler, Whitethroat and Garden Warbler. Fieldfares numbered 750 and other 'numbers' included 50 Brambling, four Black Redstarts and a few Chiffchaffs of the grey, Scandinavian race *abietinus*. Fifteen Ring Ouzels on 24th was an excellent count and Tree Pipit was added to the ever-increasing year-list. Shetland and Fair Isle's earliest ever Spotted Crake was seen briefly in Gilsetter on 25th, remaining until the following day, when a Wryneck was trapped after lunch and a Short-toed Lark was seen after dinner! A phone-call after breakfast on the 28th had us rushing down to Lower Stoneybrek to see an unusually showy Corncrake walking around the garden! This bird was possibly a returning chick or adult from last year's breeders, although no further sightings or sounds emerged from Boini Mire.

May started well with a Pied Flycatcher at Kirki Geo on the 1st and a Coot nearby on the 2nd. The 4th saw a Common Nightingale in Hjukni Geo and other year-ticks included Spotted Flycatcher (3) and Wood Warbler followed on the 5th by Goldfinch and Lesser Whitethroat. A roosting Long-eared Owl outside

Stackhoull had shoppers reaching for their binoculars and a small 'fall' included 70 Swallows, 27 Wood Pigeons, 23 Tree Pipits, 12 Willow Warblers, 11 Reed Buntings, seven Chiffchaffs, six Whinchats, five each of Collared Dove, Sedge Warbler and Blackcap, four each of Redstart, Black Redstart and Whitethroat and a single Wood Warbler. What a day! A female Peregrine on the 6th kept most birds on their toes, but had departed the following day allowing the year's first Quail to be found along with the first returning Arctic Terns. A Little Bunting on the 9th was a good spring find. A Reed Warbler trapped in the Plantation and a Pomarine Skua past Bunness were year-ticks on the 10th followed by Barnacle Goose, Yellow Wagtail and two Tree Sparrows on the 11th. A Manx Shearwater from the Good Shepherd IV on the 13th was nice, but not as nice as a Nightjar seen at Wester Lothar - another excellent spring find, but sadly it did not hang around to be admired. A very early sea-watch on the 15th produced another Pomarine Skua past Bunness and a Common Buzzard flew over there after lunch. However, nothing could prepare us for the event on the 16th. Following the lunar eclipse, a strange warbler was trapped in the Vaadal by Glen Tyler, an ex Assistant Warden. He brought it to the Obs, knocked on Alan's door (at 05:15!) and in the ringing room a few minutes later it was identified as only Europe's fifth (but Shetland's fourth) THICK-BILLED WARBLER! Amazing! Two planes and a boat came in that day, with about 30 twitchers who all left thoroughly contented. Unfortunately, the weather closed in that night - frustrating many more would-be Thick-billed listers on the Saturday. However it was only seen very briefly by Rebecca on this day, but not after. It was the first spring record of a species which breeds in Southern Siberia and Mongolia! A Red-throated Pipit, two Bluethroats and a Red-backed Shrike on the 16th were also nice but completely eclipsed! A foggy morning on the 18th soon cleared and a census produced four Red-backed Shrikes, a Dotterel, a Great Northern Diver and two Swifts. May 19th saw a change to normality following the euphoria of the

Thick-billed Warbler and a beautiful day produced a scattering of common migrants, four Red-backed Shrikes, a Wryneck and two Goldfinches. A Quail singing at Lower Stoneybrek on 20th was followed by a typical spring rarity on 21st - a female Subalpine Warbler at the Sheep Cru. It had moved down to Schoolton the following day. The 23rd was another nice day, with good weather and plenty to see. The best was a smart male Rustic Bunting at Aesterhoull and a Bar-tailed Godwit at the Haa. Counts included 40 Swallows, 16 House Martins, four Swifts, three Red-backed Shrikes and a Common Rosefinch. We didn't have to wait long for another rarity as a Thrush Nightingale touched down at the Havens on the 25th. As most Obs staff listened to the football in the afternoon a Long-tailed Skua drifted past Bunness and an Icterine Warbler was found in the Obs garden. Another 'fall' on the 26th consisted mainly of *hirundines* with 51 Swallows and 12 House Martins passing through. Two Red-backed Shrikes remained faithful to their chosen spots as did the Thrush Nightingale which remained in the Havens. The star bird of the 28th was a Pectoral Sandpiper on Easter Lothar Water. This was only the eighteenth record on Fair Isle, and the third in spring, of this American wader. Supporting cast included two Dotterel, two Common Rosefinches, a female Bluethroat and a very late Woodcock! The following day dawned with a drab male Rustic Bunting found outside the Obs, then seen later in the Gully and then eventually settling at Setter! Two Red-throated Divers flying over the island were presumably heading straight for Shetland, but birds that settled included a Cuckoo in the Raevas, a Grey Wagtail and a very smart Wood Warbler in the Havens! A quiet few days followed, despite a southeasterly winds, with the highlights being a Dotterel, Common Rosefinch, Red-backed Shrike and Bluethroat on the 30th and another Icterine Warbler on the 31st. June started with a year-tick in the form of a ring-tail Hen Harrier seen flying toward Shetland. However, more unusual for this time of year was the thunder storm that passed through which severely hampered attempts at census. Our second Subalpine

Warbler of the year appeared in the Lower Leogh roses on the 3rd but had disappeared the following day! The 5th produced another rarity – and not a 'classic' spring migrant to Fair Isle! This time it was a stunning Lesser Grey Shrike found at the Kirk – the first record on the isle since 1993! Other arrivals included seven Garden Warblers, three Blackcaps, 14 Spotted Flycatchers, Pied Flycatcher and two Red-backed Shrikes. The female Subalpine Warbler from the 3rd re-appeared at Midway the following day, but the 7th again saw a trickle of late migrants with a Merlin, 11 Collared Doves, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, 10 House Martins, Robin, Blackbird, two Lesser Whitethroats, Whitethroat, Willow Warbler and 15 Spotted Flycatchers. However, birds of the day were a female Red-breasted Flycatcher in South Naaversgill, a male Red-backed Shrike in the south and a Quail, which was found dead at Burkle. In a spring with a few surprise finds, the 9th continued the theme when Deryk stumbled upon a singing, male White-throated Sparrow at Schoolton! This American sparrow was the third Fair Isle record following birds in 1966 and 1978. Unfortunately it only stayed around for a few hours and could not be re-found after flying towards Midway. Four Common Crossbills on 11th were a further hint at a possible irruption (?) whilst a Short-eared Owl was an added bonus. A late Ring Ouzel was spotted on 12th, along with a Common Redstart whilst better fare on 13th included an Osprey, a Quail and a Common Rosefinch.

Surprise of the month was a Long-tailed Rosefinch found at the Sheep Cru on 15th, which had pulses quickening, until it was seen to have only one foot and bore a yellow plastic ring on the other! Still it was a nice wee bird – which remained until 21st. Another Quail was discovered at Kenaby on 16th whilst eight Common Scoters at North Light were a year tick – as was the Marsh Warbler at Schoolton! Daily census was then abandoned as seabird work became the (all consuming) top priority, however the occasional notable bird was still found.....a Green Sandpiper on 21st was followed next day by another (or the same) Quail, singing at

Barkland and a Common Rosefinch trapped in the Plantation, the latter remaining until 5th July. A Glaucous Gull on 24th was followed on 29th by its smaller cousin, an Iceland Gull and the same day produced the first south-bound waders – a flock of 25 Curlews (probably failed breeders from Mainland Shetland).

As a warm June gave way to a balmy July, returning waders continued to trickle through and juvenile Black-headed and Common Gulls began to appear in the cut silage meadows. A Reed Warbler on 5th was only the third of the year whilst a Black-tailed Godwit the following day was a year tick! A Sandwich Tern seen flying over the airstrip on 9th was a typical mid-summer record whilst a female Blackbird on 10th was the first thrush sighting for several weeks. A Woodcock on 11th was an unusual July sighting but an Icterine Warbler trapped a week later was more exciting – and a sign that the autumn was not far away.....

OTHER NEWS

So far, 2003 has proved to be a busy year, with the usual array of island events and activities as well as a good number of visitors to keep us all busy. Here is a selection of the best!

'Across the Waters' CD Launch

Fair Isle's very own band, Fridarey, launched its first CD, to coincide with the 2003 Shetland Folk Festival. Fridarey is the old Norse name for Fair Isle and this family based unit have been singing together on the isle for years. The band consist of Stewart Thomson (Quoy), Neil Thimson (Lower Stoneybrek), Anne Sinclair (Busta), Lise Sinclair (Kenaby) and Eileen Thomson (Lower Stoneybrek). The CD follows on from the tape the band produced a number of years ago. The tight harmonic, largely accapella vocals, occasionally mixed with brilliant acoustic guitar, Lise's piano and Stewarts accordion, make for a fantastically varied and at times deeply moving, musical sound. The CD is for sale by Mail Order

from the Bird Observatory for £13.00 plus postage.

Papa Westray Visit

On 5th May five Papa Westray children, and two children from Eday in Orkney, set sail on The Swan, along with three of their teachers. Their trip was planned to take them to Fair Isle for one day and then onto mainland Shetland for a further few days. However the weather was not on their side and they ended up having to remain in the North Haven on Fair Isle for the whole of their short school trip. They certainly made the most of it however and were shown around the island, invited to watch craftsmen at work, taken on guided birdwatching walks, participated in the school dancing lessons, taken up the south lighthouse and were guests of honour at a special 'sports afternoon' put on for them at the hall on their last day.

Poetry and Music Evening

Raman Mundair, the Shetland Arts Trust Writer in Residence, visited Fair Isle for a few days and on the evening of Wednesday 28th May, recited some of her thought provoking poetry to a full house at the Bird Observatory. Raman was born in India, grew up in Manchester and Leicestershire and now lives in Shetland. Islanders also contributed by reciting some of their favourite poems. Raman also visited the school during her visit and inspired the Fair Isle children in poetry writing and reading.

Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham Concert

Following swiftly on from the dose of culture in the form of poetry recital, came the eagerly anticipated concert by the world famous Shetland Fiddler, Aly Bain and his counterpart, Phil Cunningham. Despite the pressure of a gruelling tour schedule the music was first class and the natural rapport between the two men provided the audience with plenty of laughs. This thoroughly entertaining duo were ably supported by the Alan Clarke

Dance Band, who also provided the music for the dance that followed.

Visit by Global Classroom

As part of a Shetland wide tour, ten young international students and two teachers from the Anderson High School, visited Fair Isle for two days from 12th June. Almost 100 students from all over the world took part in the two-week long Shetland tour, with small groups visiting different islands during that time. The students stayed at the Observatory and after a guided seabird walk and slideshow were given a whistle stop tour of the island by islanders.

Lord Stackhoull's Garden Party

Along with all other island residents, the Bird Observatory staff were invited to the social event of the year on 29th June. Fiona and Robert Mitchell, were celebrating 10 years living (and working!) at Stackhoull Stores and hosted a garden party to mark the occasion. They erected a marquee in the garden and all the islanders turned out in suitable attire (including a variety of fancy headwear). In true Fair Isle tradition, the beautiful weather turned to rain just as the first bottles of Champagne were being finished but a swift retreat into the house ensured the party continued well into the evening.

Housing Changes

At the time of writing there are many housing changes about to take place on the Isle. The Lighthouse flats have now been completed and Clare Scott has moved into one of these, with her three children, from Taft. The new house, 'Breks' was completed at the end of last year and David Royle has now settled in well to his new home on the east side of the island. June and Stanley Ross-Smith (Patrick's parents), moved temporarily into the empty house at Nedertaft and are currently house-sitting at Burkle whilst accommodation is finalised for them. So with three empty houses (Nedertaft, Taft

and the Lighthouse flat) the isle anticipates the possible 're-shuffle' of some current residents and the move to the isle of new families.

Changes in Health and Education

Just as this Newsletter was being put together, it was announced that Fair Isle will be saying farewell to not only Katherine Morrison, the resident Nurse (who leaves mid July) but also to Jessie McCaffrey, the headteacher at the school, who, along with her husband Dennis will be moving on to pastures new in August. It goes without saying that the isle wish them well in their new ventures.

New Shuttle Bus Service

As many of you will be aware, travelling to Fair Isle can at times be complicated and expensive. However, there is now a bus service linking Tingwall airport and Lerwick Bus Station, which will go some way to alleviating these issues. For just £1 per person, the service provides a bus link to every scheduled plane out of Fair Isle and takes passengers to Lerwick, where they can wait for the Northlink ferry departure or catch another bus to Sumburgh. The service is also available for passengers going out from Lerwick to Tingwall but this needs to be booked at least 24 hours in advance (Tel: 01595 744886 to book or for more details)

Thank you

We would like to thank all those people who responded to our appeal for bird bags in the last Newsletter. The response was fantastic and we now have enough bags to see us through the next few seasons.

Peak Autumn Migration Vacancies
The Observatory still has vacancies for September 2003. In particular we have some space left for the **peak week of 13th to 20th September**,

which in the last five years has seen rarities such as **Great Snipe, Citrine Wagtail, Olive-Backed Pipit, Red-Throated Pipit, Isabelline Wheatear, Lanceolated Warbler, River Warbler, Arctic Warbler.** Other scarcities during this week include: Quail, Corncrake, Wryneck, Richard's Pipit, Bluethroat, Melodious Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Golden Oriole, Common Rosefinch, Ortolan Bunting, Little Bunting, Black-headed Bunting. If you are interested in this or any other dates during 2003, please call Hollie at the Observatory.

October Half Price Offer!

Following on from last year, we are again offering **HALF PRICE** accommodation during the months of October. The offer runs from 11th to 24th October inclusive. This means that you can stay on a full board basis from just **£15 per night!** Contact Hollie for more details.

FIBO Shop, Mail Order Price List

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a mail order price list for some of the items we sell in the FIBO shop. Why not take the opportunity to order via the post? Its never too soon to start the Christmas shopping!! We will do our very best to meet your order in full, but please include a telephone number, so that if the specific item you want is out of stock, we can contact you to offer you an alternative. Please complete the order form and send with your cheque for the total of the goods plus postage, made out to Fair Isle Bird Observatory, to us here on Fair Isle.

And Finally!

Thank you, once again, for your continued support and please remember to renew your subscription to FIBO (due on 1st April each year) or why not change to a Banker's Order? If you would like more information on any aspect of FIBO, please contact Hollie at the Observatory.

FAIR ISLE BIRD OBSERVATORY TRUST
SHOP GOODS PRICE LIST AND ORDER FORM, 2003

CLOTHING: ADULTS

Fair Isle Bird Observatory SWEATSHIRT: £15.00 (pp £1.50)

Good Quality sweatshirts, with printed FIBO logo and lettering on breast pocket area.

(Please note these items do NOT have a breast pocket).

Available in a range of colours: Black, Navy, Bottle green, Burgundy, Mid grey

Available in a range of sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, XX-Large

Fair Isle Bird Observatory T-SHIRT: £10.00 (pp £1.00)

100% cotton quality T-shirts, with printed FIBO logo and lettering in breast pocket area.

(please note – these items do NOT have a breast pocket).

Available in a range of colours: Navy, Bottle green, Burgundy, Grey, Black, Olive

Available in a range of sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, XX-Large

Fair Isle Bird Observatory Baseball Caps: £ 6.00 (pp £0.50)

100% cotton adjustable baseball cap with embroidered logo and wording:

One size only (adjustable)

Available in Navy blue, Black, Green, Royal blue and Burgundy

Fair Isle Bird Observatory Fleece Hats: £ 8.00 (pp £0.50)

Fleece material hat with embroidered logo and wording.

Available in Small/Medium: Black and Navy only

Available in Medium/Large: Black, Navy, Bottle Green

CLOTHING: CHILDREN

Sweatshirts: Same design as adults £ 10.00 (pp £1.00)

T-shirts: Same design as adults £ 8.00 (pp £0.80)

Sweatshirts and T-shirts are available in children's sizes from 3-4 years up to 11-13 years in a variety of colours. Due to the limited space available we only keep a small amount in stock, so please contact the Observatory directly by phone or e-mail to discuss the availability of any item.

Fair Isle Bird Observatory Mugs: £ 5.00 (pp £1.00)

White earthenware mugs with the FIBO logo and wording in a circular design on both sides of the mug.

White mug, with Black logo and Green lettering.

White mug, with Black logo and Blue lettering.

Fair Isle Bird Observatory Keyrings: £ 2.00 (pp £0.20)

Oblong plastic keyring with black logo and wording on both sides.

Fair Isle Bird Observatory pens: £ .90 (pp £0.20)

Blue 'press top' biro with FIBO wording and address

Fair Isle Bird Observatory Car Stickers: £ 0.60 (pp £0.20)

Grey car sticker with black logo and lettering in circular design.

Fair Isle Bird Observatory Reports:

Back issues (prior to 1997) are available at the special price of **£1 per copy**.

Please contact the Observatory to discuss availability.

In Stock:

FIBO Report 1997:	£ 4.00 (pp £1.00)
FIBO Report 1998:	£ 4.00 (pp £1.00)
FIBO Report 1999:	£ 4.00 (pp £1.00)
FIBO Report 2000:	£ 5.00 (pp £1.00)
FIBO Report 2001:	£ 5.00 (pp £1.00)
FIBO Report 2002: (NEW)	£ 6.50 (pp £1.00)

Books: In Stock

The Birds of Fair Isle, by J N Dymond: **£ 2.00** (pp £1.50)
 A history of ornithological observations from 1905 – 1990. 147 pages including tables and vignettes.

Printed update to *Birds of Fair Isle* (including 2002): **£ 1.00** (pp £0.20)

Fair Isle an Island Saga, by Valerie Thom: **£ 12.50** (pp £2.00)
 The story of Fair Isle from Viking times to present day (1989). Hardback, 147 pages including photos. The only book of its kind about Fair Isle

Guardian Spirit of the East Bank, by Moss Taylor **£ 35.00** (pp £5.00)
 A celebration of the Life of Richard Richardson, hardback, 232 pages including beautiful illustrations and photos.

Where to Watch Birds in Shetland, by Hugh Harrop **£ 6.00** (pp £1.00)
 Comprehensive guide to birdwatching in Shetland (including a section on Fair Isle). 62 pages.

Misc:

Fridarey CD, 'Across the Waters': Newly recorded. **£ 13.00** (pp £0.70)
 Music and songs by the Thomson family on Fair Isle. A beautiful mix of folk, Shetland and other vocals mingled with brilliant acoustic guitar, piano, flute, accordion and fiddle.

Puffin Calendar 2004: Delightful photos of puffins in all poses, with plenty of space for each days information. **£ 6.00** (pp £1.00)

POSTAGE AND PACKING: The list above details the price of each item (in bold) followed by the cost of postage and packing for that item (pp). This is the cost of postage within the UK. For orders outwith the UK, please e-mail, write or telephone with your order and you will be given a quote for the postage.

PAYMENT METHODS: Please complete the attached order form, taking care to write the size/colour of any item if relevant and a second choice of colour if out of stock. Please total up the cost of each item and the total postage and send with a cheque payable to 'Fair Isle Bird Observatory'. Alternatively fill in the Visa or Mastercard details and sign the form.

Please allow **28 days for delivery**. In the event of any item being out of stock, your second choice will be sent if appropriate, or you will be contacted to see if you wish to order an alternative item.

