

Climate

The recorded meteorological observations from Lerwick Observatory for 1977 are as follows:

Temperature (degrees C)

	1977 monthly mean		1941 - 70 monthly mean		Extreme daily values (1921-1977)	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max. (Year)	Min. (Year)
Jan	+ 4.2	+ 1.2	+ 4.7	+ 1.3	+11.7 ('32, '50)	- 8.9 ('52, '59)
Feb	+ 4.3	+ 0.9	+ 4.7	+ 0.9	+11.7 ('45)	- 7.2 ('47, '55)
Mar	+ 6.5	+ 3.0	+ 5.8	+ 1.8	+13.3 ('61)	- 8.3 ('47)
Apr	+ 6.6	+ 1.9	+ 7.9	+ 2.9	+16.1 ('42)	- 5.7 ('68)
May	+ 9.8	+ 4.6	+10.1	+ 5.1	+19.4 ('54)	- 2.8 ('23)
Jun	+11.3	+ 6.7	+12.5	+ 7.6	+23.3 ('58)	- 0.6 ('24, '29, '31, '51)
Jul	+13.5	+ 9.0	+14.0	+ 9.3	+22.8 ('26, '58)	+ 3.3 ('21)
Aug	+14.0	+ 9.1	+14.1	+ 9.6	+20.6 ('38, '47)	+ 1.7 ('21)
Sep	+11.4	+ 7.3	+12.6	+ 8.5	+19.4 ('53)	- 0.6 ('54)
Oct	+10.5	+ 7.8	+10.2	+ 6.7	+17.2 ('55)	- 3.3 ('48)
Nov	+ 6.5	+ 3.3	+ 7.3	+ 4.4	+13.9 ('46)	- 5.7 ('62)
Dec	+ 6.8	+ 4.0	+ 5.6	+ 2.4	+12.2 ('48)	- 8.3 ('61)
Year	+ 8.7	+ 4.9	+ 9.1	+ 5.0		

Number of days in 1977 with:

	Snow or Sleet	Thick Fog	Air Frost	Thunder	Gales
Jan	15 (15.0)	0 (1.8)	13 (11.0)	2 (0.3)	5 (8.5)
Feb	11 (13.0)	0 (2.0)	10 (12.0)	0 (0.7)	0 (5.7)
Mar	5 (12.0)	1 (2.6)	5 (8.8)	0 (0.3)	4 (7.4)
Apr	15 (6.9)	0 (5.0)	8 (5.7)	0 (0.1)	1 (2.2)
May	2 (2.5)	3 (6.3)	1 (1.0)	0 (0.1)	0 (1.5)
Jun	0 (0+)	3 (7.7)	0 (0.1)	0 (0.3)	0 (1.3)
Jul	0 (0.0)	5 (6.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.3)	0 (0.6)
Aug	0 (0.0)	5 (6.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.3)	1 (0.5)
Sep	0 (0+)	2 (6.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.2)	5 (2.5)
Oct	0 (1.1)	7 (3.6)	0 (0.6)	0 (0.3)	3 (5.5)
Nov	7 (7.0)	0 (0.7)	3 (4.9)	0 (0.7)	6 (5.0)
Dec	8 (13.0)	0 (1.6)	2 (8.8)	1 (0.3)	8 (7.8)
Totals	63 (70.5)	26 (51.1)	42 (52.9)	3 (3.9)	33 (48.5)

Figures in brackets are 1956 - 1970 monthly mean totals.

Days of snow or sleet: Snow or sleet observed at any time of day.

Air Frost: Minimum air temperature less than 0.0 deg.C.

Thunder: Thunder heard at any time of day.

Gales: Mean wind speed greater than or equal to 34 knots for at least 10 mins.

Thick Fog: Visibility less than 200 metres at any time of day.

MONTHLY TOTALS

	Sunshine (hours)		Rainfall (mm)	
	1977 totals	Extreme daily totals	1977 totals	Extreme daily fall
Jan	36.2 (25)	6.6 ('39)	121.9 (128)	42.2 ('49)
Feb	64.9 (54)	9.8 ('40)	66.4 (105)	46.5 ('51)
Mar	73.6 (86)	11.6 ('64)	114.5 (93)	46.7 ('52)
Apr	158.7 (137)	14.8 ('26)	93.2 (69)	37.1 ('40)
May	196.8 (157)	16.2 ('40, '57)	46.4 (64)	49.8 ('66)
Jun	112.6 (152)	17.4 ('34)	55.1 (67)	31.8 ('54)
Jul	102.5 (131)	16.6 ('35)	50.0 (68)	94.0 ('35)
Aug	180.6 (116)	15.1 ('28)	68.6 (75)	46.9 ('48)
Sep	109.8 (99)	13.0 ('24)	121.4 (109)	50.8 ('54)
Oct	37.1 (62)	10.1 ('37)	115.7 (123)	33.8 ('28)
Nov	29.9 (33)	6.8 ('61, '67)	148.1 (129)	71.4 ('48)
Dec	12.9 (15)	5.1 ('57)	146.9 (142)	45.2 ('51)

Figures in brackets are 1941 - 1970 averages.

Extreme daily totals are over the years 1921 - 1977.

Wind Speed (knots)

	Monthly mean		Max. hourly mean speed		Highest Gust	
	1977	1941-1970	1977	1921-77	1977	1921-77
Jan	14.5	(17.0)	37	{ 64 010° '53 } { 64 220° '61 }	57	{ 95 220° '61 }
Feb	12.9	(15.9)	30	{ 56 220° '57 }	45	{ 83 280° '43 } { 83 220° '57 }
Mar	15.3	(16.1)	41	{ 53 240° '67 }	61	{ 77 240° '67 }
Apr	14.9	(14.2)	37	{ 55 250° '57 }	59	{ 78 250° '57 }
May	10.2	(12.4)	27	{ 43 230° '58 }	39	{ 65 240° '56 }
Jun	11.2	(11.9)	24	{ 42 260° '55 }	37	{ 61 260° '55 }
Jul	9.7	(11.3)	23	{ 40 030° '40 }	34	{ 61 290° '64 }
Aug	10.9	(10.9)	37	{ 49 240° '23 }	53	{ 69 240° '23 }
Sep	15.2	(13.1)	40	{ 58 270° '63 }	59	{ 87 270° '63 }
Oct	14.3	(15.1)	40	{ 58 230° '65 }	57	{ 82 230° '65 }
Nov	14.5	(15.4)	39	{ 51 220° '38 } { 51 240° '73 }	61	{ 80 280° '36 } { 80 220° '38 }
Dec	18.4	(16.8)	35	{ 58 240° '36 }	60	{ 90 220° '56 }

(Lerwick Observatory: 60° 08' N, 01° 11' W, 82m above sea level)

Population

The population of Shetland at the time of the 1971 census was 17,327. Since 1971 there has been no accurate assessment of the population, but an estimate can be obtained from the registrations under the National Health Scheme. In December 1976, the population was estimated as 19,526 persons, and the increase up to December 1977 is as follows:

In-migrants	1413
Out-migrants	583
Migration balance	+830
Births	316
Deaths	248
Natural Increase	+68
Total Increase	+898

Population Estimate December 1976	19,526
Population Estimate December 1977	20,427
Percentage Increase	+4.61%

Population of Shetland by Area (June of each year)

	1931	1951	1961	1971	1974	1977
Unst	1341	1112	1151	1127	1038	1048
Yell	1883	1483	1152	1143	1168	1186
Fetlar	217	161	127	88	94	101
Whalsay	900	859	764	870	963	1003
Skerries	110	127	108	100	98	82
Mavis Grind - North	1343	1054	816	696	694	734
Delting	958	863	701	674	1180	1329
Nesting	822	563	434	380		
Tresta - Bridge of Walls	1552	1225	957	873	938	1010
West of Bridge of Walls	884	687	561	483	539	550
Foula	118	75	54	33	31	39
Papa Stour	100	68	55	24	30	37
Whiteness/Weisdale/Gott/ Tingwall	1140	1604	1603	1671	782	894
Scalloway					1024	1076
Trondra	91	54	20	17	24	44
Burra	767	648	653	565	672	776
Lerwick	4221	*5538	5908	6127	6214	6636
Bressay	452	335	269	251	275	292
Quarff/Gulberwick	1518	*426	385	171	199	237
Sandwick/Cunningsburgh	1507	1376	1172	1120	1025	1179
Bigton Junction - South	1089	1021	858	848	1264	1525
Fair Isle	108	73	64	65	79	80
TOTAL POPULATION	21421	19352	17812	17327	18331	19858

*Boundary Change

Figures in Cols. 1 to 4: Population Census

Figures in Cols. 5 and 6: Shetland Health Board (estimates)

Fisheries

Fish landed in Shetland by UK vessels, 1977:

	White Fish		Herring	
	Tonnes	£	Tonnes	£
Jan	761.55	174508	602.89	83393
Feb	1054.14	280007	1697.62	251074
Mar	1546.19	348458	—	—
Apr	814.51	239381	—	—
May	1384.02	383850	—	—
Jun	1264.68	408515	—	—
Jul	1256.12	404723	23.60	7848
Aug	1172.30	301318	85.76	30566
Sep	1228.44	338429	—	—
Oct	1258.72	376084	7.85	2151
Nov	983.11	333648	—	—
Dec	574.18	182537	—	—
Totals	13297.96	3,771,458	2417.72	375,032
1976	13456.77	2,587,548	4009.79	461,243
1975	10489.19	1,408,868	4314.25	313,244

Industrial Landings:

	Norway Pout		Sand Eels	
	Tonnes	£	Tonnes	£
Jan	1152.91	46521	—	—
Feb	678.21	27369	—	—
Mar	106.58	4300	889.86	35122
Apr	—	—	3093.66	121792
May	—	—	2957.21	116410
Jun	0.06	5	4729.91	186198
Jul	13.92	548	4899.29	192876
Aug	23.37	805	3062.11	108627
Sep	—	—	1602.46	40767
Oct	581.43	20027	525.70	12930
Nov	869.33	29942	—	—
Dec	678.82	23382	—	—
Totals	4104.63	152,899	21760.20	814,722
1976	11282.88	349,424	18548.24	515,398
1975	14131.67	233,066	13069.83	171,235

Other fish landed:

		Tonnes	£
Mackerel	1977	2062.88	139,073
	1976	775.04	38,623
	1975	266.11	5,569
Sprats	1977	2426.38	132,525
	1976	973.86	64,895
	1975	258.83	15,751
Shellfish	1977	590.75	199,705
	1976	588.08	202,339
	1975	602.29	174,347

TOTAL (all species):

1977	46660.52 tonnes	value £5,585,414
1976	49634.66 tonnes	value £4,219,470
1975	43131.19 tonnes	value £2,322,080

Included in the 1977 white fish total:

cod	653.53 tonnes	value £ 217,366
haddock	6342.20 tonnes	value £1,938,452
whiting	5568.58 tonnes	value £1,435,460

Of the white fish total, 100.94 tonnes (0.76%) failed to make the withdrawal price and were processed as fish meal and oil. 2348.79 tonnes of sprats were processed likewise; the remaining 77.59 tonnes realised a value of £23,576 and were frozen as white bait.

Weight and Value of Catch by method:

	Tonnes	£
Seine Net	4243.10	1,150,025
Industrial Trawl	26394.10	1,121,743
Light Trawl	8417.85	2,433,773
Pair Trawl (White Fish)	111.76	33,809
Purse Seine	4770.45	510,797
Single Boat Pelagic Trawl (Sprats)	975.98	43,682
Two Boat Pelagic Trawl (Sprats)	920.28	60,484
Two Boat Pelagic Trawl (Herring)	160.55	22,213
Small and Hand Lines (Mackerel)	75.70	9,183
Shellfish	590.75	199,705

Landings at Shetland by Foreign vessels:

503.53 tonnes value £31,105

Of this total, 63.50 tonnes, value £12,622, were for consumer purposes.

Landings at Scottish Ports by Shetland vessels:

7519.72 tonnes value £1,221,142

Landings elsewhere by Shetland vessels:

245.21 tonnes value £12,566

Number of fishing vessels in Shetland:

1977	134 vessels	(71 1st class; 63 2nd class)
1975	142 vessels	(74 1st class; 68 2nd class)
1973	144 vessels	(74 1st class; 70 2nd class)
1971	136 vessels	(66 1st class; 70 2nd class)

Distribution of vessels by district, 1977:

District	1st Class	2nd class	Total	1976
Whalsay	21	10	31	31
Burra	18	8	26	26
Scalloway	11	3	14	13
Lerwick	11	1	12	13
Yell	3	6	9	9
Unst	1	4	5	6
Skerries	2	2	4	4
Other	4	29	33	35

1st class — over 15 tons

2nd class — under 15 tons

Fish Processing

11 firms are engaged in fish processing in Shetland with 15 separate factories. There are 11 white fish processing lines, 3 herring lines, 3 meal plants, 2 shellfish processing lines and one crab cannery.

Statistics for the industry are not easily established, but turnover is estimated to exceed £10,000,000 in 1977.

Employment in the Shetland Fishing Industry:

	Catching	Processing	Ancillary	Total
1977	649	718	247	1614
1976	652	833	225	1710
1975	653	877	227	1757
1974	685	945	230	1860
1973	664	980	218	1862
1972	671	1007	196	1874
1971	636	967	178	1781

Due to the conversion change from cwts. to tonnes, the 1975 weights are subject to slight change in the DAFS statistical tables.

1 tonne: 19.685 cwt. (approx.)

Agriculture

Statistics for holdings having more than 40 standard man days of agricultural activity.
(Acreage given to nearest unit.)

	1975	1976	1977	
tillage	2237	2406	2250	acres
grassland and crops	16533	16843	16109	acres
rough grazing including common grazing ..	307531	309347	303244	acres
woodland	68	62	79	acres
roads, buildings, etc.	594	683	833	acres
number of holdings	1078	1113 +93	979 +93	
	(+93 common grazings)			
total area rented	73894	72713	69197	acres
total area owned	64659	66877	64031	acres
total area rented/owned				
excluding common grazings	139553	139591	133228	acres
grass (other than rough grazing)	14294	14438	13857	acres
barley	22	56	37	acres
oats	1362	1279	1180	acres
turnips and swedes for stock feeding	241	251	220	acres
kale and cabbage	117	118	116	acres
potatoes	324	452	448	acres
rape	138	66	68	acres
other crops	22	15	9	acres
beef cows and heifers	2731	2556	2446	
dairy cows and heifers	684	668	667	
total cattle	7157	6828	6504	
total sheep	234108	240399	237130	
pigs	4	11	27	
poultry	8257	7642	6749	
ponies, registered and unregistered	c.1000	c.1000	c.1000	
Land improvement:				
Reclamation	50.50	53.75	90	acres
Regeneration	208.75	295.73	260	acres
Drainage	1303	767.75	1653	chains
Grant aided capital investment:				
New silos	12	8	1	
Fanks and dippers	4	4	10	
New Byres	5	4	2	
G.P. Sheds	6	6	12	
Slatted Courts	—	2	2	
New Croft Houses	—	—	14	

During 1977 625.21 acres of Scattald were apportioned following 22 applications.
(1976: 445.43 acres — 12 applications).

	1971	1974	1977
Number of dairy units	23	22	22
Milk production	317550	365000	345350 gals.
Number of sheep slaughtered	8417	13576	12505
Number of cattle slaughtered	485	322	115
*Number of sheep carried by P&O Ferries	—	39886	51422
*Number of cattle carried by P&O Ferries	—	2480	2463
*Number of ponies carried by P&O Ferries	—	592	574
Number of full-time farm staff	84	78	53
Number of full-time occupiers	124	138	146
Wives/husbands of occupiers			
(full and part-time)	252	308	304

(*Figures courtesy of P&O Ferries, Aberdeen. These include a small proportion of animals in transit from Aberdeen to Shetland).

Knitwear

The Size of the Industry

The Knitwear Industry in Shetland currently consists of 29 known separate business entities. The size of the operation varies from small businesses with a turnover of less than £5,000 per annum to substantial concerns with turnover in excess of £100,000 per annum. The total value of the products from the industry is estimated at approximately £2 million per annum.

Employment

It is estimated that over 1,000 people are employed in the knitwear industry in all capacities, varying from the person who is in full-time employment in a factory to the part-time home knitter who sells her product over the counter to the knitwear merchants. It has proved impossible to obtain totally accurate estimates of the number of knitters involved.

There has been considerable loss of workers from the knitwear industry to the higher paid employment temporarily available because of oil-related developments. It is estimated that at the peak of knitwear productivity in 1973 over 450 people were employed on a full-time basis in the knitwear industry. Currently, there are probably less than 200 people fully employed in the industry.

Shetland Knitwear

Over 400,000 garments are produced per annum. These include the classic Fair Isle yoked and allover Fair Isle knitted jumpers or "gansies"; lace knitted scarves, stoles, and shawls; cardigans, mittens, gloves, hats and scarves in Fair Isle patterns; and modern plain and striped knitted patterns. Garments with Fair Isle knitting in them account for more than 50% of the current production.

Markets

About 30% of the garments made are directly exported throughout the world from Shetland. Of the remaining garments, which go to the UK market, many sold to London retailers and wholesalers are exported.

Oil

OFFSHORE

(a) The Exploration Phase:

The exploration phase for oil and gas offshore Shetland was initiated in June 1970, by the Department of Energy, when the first Licence blocks were allocated to interested companies.

Exploration activity began in earnest in 1971, and is expected to continue well into the 1980's. In 1971, supply and helicopter services were established in Shetland to support offshore activities, and in July of that year, the first of many major oil strikes occurred when the Brent field was discovered.

(b) The Development Phase:

This began in 1975 with the laying of the main Ninian and Brent Pipeline systems, and the floatout of the first of the production platforms (one for the Beryl field, one for the Brent field).

The main Ninian Pipeline was completed in May 1976, and the main Brent Pipeline in June 1976.

1977 OFFSHORE HIGHLIGHTS

Month	Field	Occurrence
March	Brent	Work commenced on laying 279 mile long FLAGS (Far North Liquid and Gas System) subsea pipeline from St. Fergus, Aberdeenshire, to the Brent Field, using the third generation laybarge Semac 1.
	Thistle	Installation of SALM (Single Anchor Leg Mooring) on Thistle, after four day tow out from Bergen.
April	Thistle	Piling was completed on the A platform after 200 days. The 450 bed accommodation vessel Gulnare was taken on for a one year contract. (300 bed Bedford Dolphin had acted as accommodation vessel since July 1976). 42 Modules totalling 22,000 short tons lifted in 56 operations from April 18th to May 25th using DLB Sea Troll.
May	Heather	Platform jacket was floated out from Ardersier, and emplaced.
	Ninian	Southern platform was floated out from Nigg Bay. Barges Ocean Builder and DB22 were used for emplacement of modules, piling, etc.
June	Brent	Production, which had begun in November 1976, was suspended on Brent 'B' platform, at request of the Department of Energy, pending installation of gas reinjection facilities. Due to restart summer 1978.

June	Dunlin	'A' concrete platform towed from Sjtörd in Norway, emplaced on Field. Production startup expected summer 1978.
	Heather	Jacket damaged when piling was dropped. Module installation programme and field production startup delayed.
July	Brent	'C' platform towed from Ardyne Point to Sjtörd, Norway, to be completed with deck from Holland for emplacement on Field in 1978.
	Cormorant	'A' platform towed from Ardyne Point to Sjtörd, Norway, for completion with deck from France. Platform emplacement on Field due 1978.
August	206/8-1	BP drilled this well from May till end July, and on 1st August announced the first significant find of oil West of Shetland. 25'API oil flowed from the discovery well at an aggregate of 2920 barrels per day from 2 intervals, each through 1 inch chokes.
	Brent	'A' platform gas compression modules and flare boom installation was completed.
	Heather	DB22 and Ocean Builder barges released from the Heather Field.
	Ninian	Borgland Dolphin, Aker H3 support vessel, was contracted for the Ninian hookup.
October	Brent	Work stopped on the FLAGS for the winter, with 175 miles (63%) of the pipeline having been laid.
	Heather	The semi-submersible Treasure Hunter was contracted as an accommodation platform for 300 men. The derrick barge Odin was also brought in to be used for module lifts.
November	Brent	Production began from the 'D' platform at the end of November.
	Ninian	The steel deck of the Ninian central platform was mated to the main concrete structure in the Sound of Raasay.
December	Ninian	Module installation for the Ninian central platform began, using the derrick barge Odin.

1977 DEVELOPMENT POSITION IN SHETLAND WATERS

1. No. of Named Oilfields with Development Plans Announced: 10.

Ninian, Brent, Thistle, Cormorant, Dunlin, Heather, Murchison, Beryl, Frigg, Statfjord. (Frigg and Statfjord are mostly serviced out of Aberdeen and Norway).

2. No. of Fixed Platforms Installed: 10.

Brent 3, Thistle 1, Frigg 3, Beryl 1, Dunlin 1, Heather 1.

3. No. of Development Wells Required on Fields with Plans Announced:

430 (excluding Frigg and Statfjord).

4. No. of Named Fields with no Development Plans Announced: 6

Tern, Lyall, Alwyn, Hutton*, Magnus*, North Cormorant*.

*Plans are expected to be announced in 1978.

5. No. of Un-named Finds of Interest: 7

206/7-1; 206/8-1; 206/9-2; 210/15-2; 211/18-13; 211/19-6; 211/22-1

6. Total No. of Operating Companies with Licence Block Interests Around Shetland: 35

ONSHORE

Onshore facilities fall into the following categories:

1. An oil terminal for the storage, treatment, and exporting of oil and associated gas from the Brent and Ninian Pipeline systems.
2. Oil Service Bases.
3. Air Services.

1. THE OIL TERMINAL

The terminal is situated on an 800 acre site at Sullom Voe (31 miles north of Lerwick). Construction of facilities for a throughput of 1.39 million barrels of oil per day began in February 1975, and is expected to be completed by the end of 1980. The facilities include the following features:

- (a) **Surface crude storage tanks:** 15 of these are being constructed. Dimensions/capacity: 90,000 cubic metres; diameter: 76 metres; height: 22 metres (with floating roofs).
- (b) **Ballast water storage tanks:** 3 tanks of 60,000 cubic metres capacity will be built (a fourth may also be added); diameter: 62 metres; height: 22 metres.
- (c) **Power Station:** Of 150 megawatt capacity, incorporating 6 x 25 megawatt gas turbines.
- (d) **Process steam boilers:** 7 in total, consisting of: 2 x 75 tonne/hour units; 5 x 110 tonne/hour waste heat boilers.
- (e) **Harbour facilities:** 1 Construction jetty – used for the transportation of materials for the site development. There will be probably a total of 4 tanker loading jetties – 3 purely for the loading of crude oil, the fourth for the loading of oil or liquefied petroleum gas.

The first oil is expected to enter the Sullom Voe Terminal at the end of the third quarter of 1978, but the planned throughput of 1.39 million barrels per day is not expected until 1980. Until the pipelines are operational, oil produced offshore will be transported by tankers loading it from mooring buoys situated at the oilfields.

The Brent, Thistle, Dunlin, Cormorant, North Cormorant and Murchison Fields will be linked into the Brent pipeline system to Sullom Voe. The total length of subsea pipeline laid to incorporate these links is expected to be about 175 miles. An option still exists for the Hutton Field to be linked into the Brent system, should this field be developed.

The Ninian and Heather fields have been linked into the 105 mile long Ninian pipeline system to Sullom Voe.

Construction villages are being provided for the large majority of the 4000 workers estimated as being needed to complete the Oil Terminal. The first village at Firth was completed in 1976, and houses nearly 1100 men. The second village, at Toft, is nearing completion, and will house about 1900 men. The first section of Toft was completed in June 1977, when the first residents of this village moved in. Toft village is expected to be complete by May 1978.

2. OIL SERVICE BASES

Five Service Bases are operational in Shetland at the present time, 4 in Lerwick Harbour and one in Sandwick, 17 miles south of Lerwick.

Base	Area in Acres	Berths Available
Shell	10	2
BP	2½	2
Norscot	40	9
Ocean Inchcape Ltd. (O.I.L.)		As required through Lerwick Harbour Trust*
Hudsons Offshore, Sandwick	10	2

There is also berthage for one supply boat at Scalloway, where facilities at Blackness Pier are expected to be developed further.

*A new purpose built base is currently being constructed on a 10 acre site at the Point of Scotland in Lerwick Harbour, for Ocean Inchcape Ltd., and is expected to be complete by the summer of 1978. There will be 3 supply berths available.

Oil service vessels visiting Shetland:

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Lerwick	151	328	838	1581	1679	1724
Sandwick	—	34	110	99	114	53
Scalloway	32	1	16	7	16	40

3. AIR SERVICES

All air services continued to expand in 1977 (see Transport statistics)

Helicopters based in Shetland serviced vessels concerned with the continuing exploration and development of resources offshore Shetland. For example, on an irregular basis, rigs requiring service drilled 43 exploration wells north of 60°North; fixed platforms on the Beryl, Frigg, Brent, Thistle, Dunlin and Heather, and other vessels on these fields, required regular servicing. As the production phase progresses, still greater expansion is envisaged.

A booklet is available from the Research and Development Department, Shetland Islands Council, which explains the oil-related developments in greater detail.



Building in which named office is situated
 Central Lerwick; scale 1/2500
 Based on the Ordnance Survey Map HU 4740.

Tourism

Estimated income from tourism (1977): £1.75 to £2 million.

Accommodation capacity available to Shetland Tourist Organisation by bed spaces:

Type of Accommodation:

	1976	1977	1978
Lerwick Hotels	149	149	149
Country Hotels	292	286	268
Lerwick B&B	206	152	152
Country B&B	154	186	158
Self catering, Cottages, etc.	169	287	279
Caravans	106	188	175
Hostels	76	94	94
TOTAL	1152	1342	1275

Average occupancy level in Lerwick/Scalloway B&B premises for July and August: 93.5%

Information Centre Activity:

	Enquiry letters	Visitors	Advance Postal	
			Bookings	Local Bookings
Jan	829	241	21	16
Feb	834	244	47	14
Mar	738	255	49	25
Apr	466	287	36	29
May	396	465	40	29
Jun	399	1475	43	89
Jul	255	1636	26	136
Aug	208	1527	13	94
Sep	222	609	—	69
Oct	152	317	—	44
Nov	105	172	—	18
Dec	173	78	—	6
Totals	4777	7306	275	569

Number of P&O Mini Cruise passengers: 3904 (see Transport statistics)

Number of Cruise Liner visitors: 2152

Visitors to places of interest during 1977:

Jarlshof	6342
Mousa	887
Noss	914
Muness Castle	2550
Agricultural Museum	860

Transport

INTERNAL TRANSPORT (PUBLIC)

Location	Type of Transport	Type of Service	Surface Type and Dimensions of Airstrip
Unst	Air	S	Bituminous (610 x 23m)
	SIC Vehicle Ferry	S	
Yell	SIC Vehicle Ferry	S	
Fetlar	Air	S	Soft Gravel (457 x 18m)
	SIC Vehicle Ferry	S	
Skerries	Air	C	Grass (381 x 18m)
	SIC Ferry	S	
Whalsay	Air	S	Rolled Gravel (firm) (457 x 18m)
	SIC Vehicle Ferry	S	
Bressay	SIC Vehicle Ferry	S	
Tingwall	Air	S	Bituminous (740 x 18m)
Fair Isle	Air	S	Rolled Gravel (firm) (457 x 18m)
	Ferry Boat (P)	S	
Papa Stour	Ferry Boat (P)	S&C	
Vaila	Ferry Boat (P)	C	
Foula	Air	C	Soft Gravel (457 x 18m)
	Ferry Boat (P)	S	
Burra & Trondra	Bridge link to Mainland		
Muckle Roe	Bridge link to Mainland		

P - Privately Owned S - Scheduled C - Charter

All internal scheduled air services operated by Loganair Ltd.

Bus Services also operate from:

Lerwick to:	Sumburgh; Sumburgh Airport Sandwick Brae - Hillswick/North Roe Weisdale - Skeld; Weisdale - Walls Voe - Toft for Yell; Unst/Fetlar Laxo for Whalsay Scalloway; Burra
Yell:	Ulsta - Gutcher - Cullivoe Ulsta - Mid Yell - Westsandwick
Unst:	Belmont - Saxa Vord/Baltasound

Present schedule of County Highways:

Principal Roads	123.89 miles
Other Class I Roads	16.68 miles
Class II Roads	100.45 miles
Class III Roads	104.42 miles
Unclassified Roads	180.90 miles

TOTAL 526.34 miles

SHIPPING IN LERWICK HARBOUR

	1971	1974	1976	1977
General	316	439	470	442
H.M. Ships	41	18	33	61
Coal	12	9	13	12
Oil	51	74	99	125
Oil Rig Tenders	79	838	1679	1724
Other Vessels	436	477	723	870
British Fishing	1440	901	893	727
Foreign Fishing	1580	1275	1357	742
Total All Shipping	3955	4031	5267	4703
Net Registered Tonnage	624233	823276	1442672	1612515

Foreign Fishing Vessels:

Country	1971	1974	1976	1977
Denmark	374	314	416	261
Faroe	242	220	203	156
Finland	6	1	7	—
France	16	8	11	23
Germany	3	7	4	3
Iceland	215	232	86	7
Ireland	—	—	—	3
Netherlands	12	4	13	5
Norway	551	397	524	247
Poland	1	39	37	14
Spain	—	—	—	5
Sweden	100	26	43	10
USSR	60	27	13	8
TOTAL	1580	1275	1357	742

Total tonnage handled, Lerwick Harbour (tonnes):

	1971	1974	1976	1977
General Cargo Imports	45760	109049	147762	173702
General Cargo Exports	44191	35098	31997	38349
Oil Related Imports	—	47967	161454	189186
Oil Related Exports	—	52814	317884	184070
TOTAL	94951	244928	659097	585307

INTERNAL FERRIES

Shetland Islands Council Vehicle Ferry Traffic

Island	1975		1976		1977	
	No. of Veh.	No. of Pass.	No. of Veh.	No. of Pass.	No. of Veh.	No. of Pass.
Yell	28284	52195	33333	62626	35670	68963
Unst/Fetlar	16618	30760	16920	33460	17300	30733
Bressay	—	—	14817	71615	13877	71991
Whalsay	—	—	10117	23110	14876	26777
Skerries	—	—	—	—	—	430

1976 Whalsay figures are from 8/2/76.

EXTERNAL FERRIES

P&O Ferries

1977	Passenger Journeys	Accompanied Motor Vehicle Journeys
Jan	1380	160
Feb	653	77
Mar	1502	189
Apr	3184	246
May	4156	425
Jun	6487	738
Jul	8163	1030
Aug	8031	1060
Sep	4767	450
Oct	4103	381
Nov	1458	210
Dec	1468	198
TOTAL	45352	5164
1974	29465	—
1971	22693	—

LIFE BOAT

Number of launchings and lives saved by Lerwick and Aith RNLI:

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
No. of launchings ..	9	9	10	6	10	14
No. of lives saved ..	1	13	11	—	6	8

SUMBURGH AIRPORT TRAFFIC

1977	Passengers	Aircraft Movements	Freight (kgs.)	Helicopter Movements
Jan	21471	1995	117477	1004
Feb	20116	1973	142506	1001
Mar	23601	2380	169802	1174
Apr	22967	2579	121367	1055
May	30474	3442	132441	1538
Jun	35501	3434	164107	1561
Jul	36466	3794	149107	1566
Aug	42475	3868	173133	1651
Sep	45488	4588	183845	2464
Oct	37912	3311	131533	1623
Nov	46492	3941	181232	2080
Dec	41407	3448	148842	1779
TOTAL	404370	38753	1815392	18496
1976	250778	25694	1574338	12664
1975	186319	22224	1101007	9577
1974	158253	16996	931327	7273
1971	46994	3895	440000	—

Of the 404370 passengers using Sumburgh Airport in 1977, 81952 (20.3%) travelled by scheduled external air services, and 2186 (0.5%) travelled by scheduled internal air services.

Rating and Valuation

Rate per pound

	Non-Domestic		Domestic		Water	Total Rateable Value (Town & County)
	Town	County	Town	County		
1970/71	30/4	25/- to 28/-*	27/-	21/8 to 24/8	4/-	162,233
1971/72	81p	77 to 96p	70p	66 to 85p	14p	235,641
1972/73	67p	57 to 81p	55p	45 to 69p	15p	243,699
1973/74	67p	57 to 62p	52p	42 to 47p	16p	266,857
1974/75	77p	67 to 72p	60p	50 to 55p	16p	281,102
1975/76		99p		78p	18p	396,476
1976/77		140p		113p	20p	463,641
1977/78		161p		130p	25p	584,996
1978/79		45p		42p	10p	5,165,000**

* Before amalgamation, rate per pound varied from district to district; highest and lowest values for each year are given here.

** Estimate.

Revaluations: 15 May, 1971
1 April, 1978

Finance

REVENUE AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES: 1977/78

for period 1st April, 1977, to 31st March, 1978:

EXPENDITURE:	(Net) Revenue £	Revised Capital £
Development	74,920	164,000
Planning	103,840	—
Highways	1,102,160	1,967,000
Lighting	38,360	—
Ferries	276,990	42,000
Piers & Harbours	—	105,000
Other Transport (inc. Airstrips)	91,080	9,000
Ports & Harbours	100,000 Cr.	13,967,000
Water	89,400	3,123,000
Sewerage	179,250	343,000
Education	3,494,675	2,256,000
Social Work	476,140	403,000
Housing	392,210	3,005,000
Leisure & Recreation	176,190	275,000
Environmental Health Services	402,560	46,000
Miscellaneous Services	425,024	198,000
Contingencies	125,000	—
Total	7,347,799	25,903,000

INCOME:

Government General Grants	6,505,009
Electricity Contribution	40,000
Charged to rates	844,730
Balances brought forward	41,940 Debit
Total	7,347,799

Capital expenses are financed initially by borrowing which is repaid over a period of years.

Finance

REVENUE AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES: 1978/79

for period 1st April, 1978, to 31st March, 1979:

EXPENDITURE:	(Net) Revenue £	Estimated Capital £
Development	112,250	75,000
Planning	72,560	155,000
Highways	1,481,280	2,294,000
Lighting	40,180	—
Ferries	274,360	42,000
Piers & Harbours	—	576,000
Other Transport (inc. Airstrips)	91,020	10,000
Ports & Harbours	100,000 Cr.	13,754,000
Water	147,520	1,566,000
Sewerage	153,530	544,000
Education	4,278,160	2,397,000
Social Work	657,460	61,000
Housing	441,460	3,615,000
Leisure & Recreation	249,860	70,000
Protective Services	451,410	60,000
Miscellaneous Services	501,222	55,000
Contingencies	28,440	—
Total	8,880,712	25,274,000

INCOME:	
Government General Grants	5,187,109
Electricity Contribution	25,000
Charged to rates	3,384,330
Balance brought forward	284,273
Total	8,880,712

Capital expenses are financed initially by borrowing which is repaid over a period of years.

Housing

NEW HOUSES 1977:

Shetland Islands Council:	Under Construction	Completed
Lerwick	38	52
Mid Yell	10	—
Whalsay	—	24
North Roe	7	—
Nesting	23	—
Walls	12	—
Aith	19	—
Scalloway	16	—
Burra	13	—
Bressay	13	—
Cunningsburgh	—	11
Virkie	—	7
Special Scheme:		
Firth	57	43
TOTAL	208	137

Scottish Airports Housing Association:

Hestingott, Virkie	—	24
Private Housing	186	96
TOTAL ALL SECTORS	394	257

Comparison with previous years:

Year	Under Construction	Completed
1970	76	29
1974	362	106
1975	564	296
1976	518	471
1977	394	257

Improvement in housing conditions within Shetland:

Date	Number of Houses		Total
	Tolerable	Not Tolerable	
31.12.74	4908	1539	6447
31.12.75	5269	1445	6704
31.12.76	5775	1397	7172
31.12.77	6056	1342	7398

Number of houses closed as "not tolerable":	31
Number of houses improved to "tolerable standard":	24
Additional new houses:	257

Education

Primary School Rolls as at:

	Jan. 1971	Dec. 1974	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978
Baltasound Junior High	103	92	111	121
Mid Yell Junior High	56	74	73	73
Brae Junior High	44	65	89	130
Symbister House Junior High	125	145	134	148
Aith Junior High	67	74	66	63
Scalloway Junior High	120	135	135	137
Sandwick Junior High	44	75	80	84
Haroldswick Primary	38	35	33	32
Uyeasound Primary	21	30	27	20
Cullivoe Primary	21	20	23	25
Burravoe Primary	38	27	34	39
Fetlar Primary	14	4	7	8
North Roe Primary	17	17	17	21
Firth Primary	16	—	—	—
Ollaberry Primary	18	14	19	23
Urafirth Primary	26	26	35	45
Olnafirth Primary	19	32	29	41
Lunnasting Primary	20	20	22	28
South Nesting Primary	16	17	18	25
Skerries Primary	16	13	13	10
Sandness Primary	6	4	9	12
Foula Primary	4	8	4	4
Papa Stour Primary	—	1	—	5
Happyhansel Primary	43	39	37	44
Gruting Primary	12	9	10	11
Skeld Primary	13	25	35	36
Whiteness Primary	31	37	70	79
Burra Primary	16	—	—	—
Hamnavoe Primary	64	57	90	95
Gott Primary	41	40	54	50
Cunningsburgh Primary	56	68	86	85
Dunrossness Primary	123	137	173	188
Fair Isle Primary	3	12	12	14
Quarff Primary	17	22	20	23
Bressay Primary	24	36	32	33
Lerwick: Bells Brae Primary	722	748	817	571
Lerwick: Sound Primary	—	—	—	263
TOTALS	2014	2158	2414	2586

Secondary School Rolls as at:

	Jan. 1971	Dec. 1974	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978
Anderson High School (Comprehensive)	571	736	809	816
Baltasound Junior High	36	44	61	73
Mid Yell Junior High	43	62	60	53
Brae Junior High	47	60	81	93
Symbister House Junior High	36	51	59	58
Aith Junior High	35	70	77	77
Scalloway Junior High	72	118	132	135
Sandwick Junior High	55	86	110	127
Skerries	2	6	6	8
TOTALS	897	1233	1395	1440

Electricity

Number of Consumers Connected by area:

	Dec. 1970	Dec. 1972	Dec. 1974	Dec. 1976	Dec. 1977
Burra/Trondra	255	262	283	330	343
Bressay	108	111	116	133	137
Unst	305	325	336	412	428
Whalsay	238	264	280	305	336
Yell	398	412	439	460	469
Lerwick	2768	2864	3007	3208	3261
Scalloway	399	419	452	468	460
South Mainland	937	969	1092	1210	1279
West Mainland	901	923	989	1090	1115
North Mainland	740	799	853	1013	1192
TOTAL	7049	7348	7847	8629	9012

Breakdown into Categories:

Domestic	5390	6160	6607	7338	7691
Farms	40	41	43	44	44
Public Lighting	5	10	11	11	22
Shops	210	217	223	220	220
Offices	64	66	68	69	70
Public Buildings	26	31	30	30	31
Hotels & Boarding Houses	19	19	20	22	22
H.M. Forces	3	4	4	4	4
Other Commercial & Public	622	727	768	818	837
Water, Gas & Drainage	5	9	9	9	10
Factories & Workshops	125	64	64	64	64
TOTAL	7049	7348	7847	8629	9012

Telecommunications

Number of telephone connections as at 31st December each year:

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Unst	143	154	166	170	170	184	202
Yell	174	179	196	204	213	235	256
Fetlar	21	25	27	27	29	30	36
Northmavine	129	129	134	142	151	174	185
Delting	147	160	167	190	232	290	469
Walls & Sandness	129	135	139	149	156	162	174
Sandsting & Aithsting	175	184	187	201	205	220	227
Nesting & Lunnasting	81	83	88	94	105	107	119
Whalsay	194	207	225	235	233	267	275
Skerries	23	24	25	29	28	30	30
Tingwall	335	352	388	414	455	513	553
Bressay	56	59	62	62	67	78	86
Burra	132	143	149	156	167	193	201
Dunrossness	405	452	513	567	584	696	800
Lerwick	1275	1428	1546	1698	1796	2045	2280
TOTALS	3419	3714	4012	4338	4591	5224	5893

Prior to 1940: All communication outwith the Islands was by telegraph cable.

1940: Shetland Islands connected telephonically with mainland of Scotland for the use of H.M. Services. Members of public only allowed to make calls on matters of extreme urgency.

1945: Trunk calls to mainland allowed.

1975: Automatic telephone exchange provided in Lerwick.

1975: Subscriber Trunk Dialling (STD) introduced throughout Shetland.

1977: International Direct Dialling (IDD) provided for all exchanges served by the Telephone Switching Centre at Lerwick.

(The 7 exchanges served by the Mid Yell switching centre — Baltasound, Burravoe, Fetlar, Gutcher, Mid Yell, Uyeasound and Westsandwick are programmed to obtain IDD facilities in 1978).

	Telephones in Lerwick	Telephones in rest of Shetland	Total telephones in Shetland
1940	277	96	373
1950	492	393	885
1960	703	897	1600

Number of Television Licences:

	Dec. 1970	Dec. 1975	Dec. 1976	Dec. 1977
Mono	4574	5356	5399	3348
Colour	—	—	64	2508
TOTALS	4574	5356	5463	5856

Unemployment

Unemployment percentage at June each year:

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Shetland	4.1	3.8	3.7	2.2	2.2	2.9	3.5	4.0
Orkney	4.2	3.9	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.4	3.4	4.8
Western Isles	15.3	18.0	17.8	12.9	11.9	14.0	14.5	14.0
Grampian	3.0	3.7	3.6	2.4	1.8	2.3	3.3	4.3
Strathclyde	4.5	6.7	7.2	5.2	4.5	5.6	7.9	9.8
Scotland	3.8	5.5	6.0	4.3	3.6	4.7	6.7	8.6

Fire Service

Number of fires attended

	1970	1972	1974	1976	1977
Chimney fires	22	26	13	21	32
Special Services	3	11	2	13	7
(pumping out boats, properties, etc.)					
Road traffic accidents, etc.)					
Property and small fires	11	18	49	48	39
False alarm, good intent	1	3	1	4	13
False alarm, malicious	1	1	2	1	4
TOTAL	38	59	67	87	95

1973: Volunteer fire units established in some country areas.

Crime

	1972	1974	1976	1977
Number of Crimes and Offences	578	1303	1374	3103
Class 1				
Crimes against the person	17	13	16	24
Class 2				
Crimes against property with violence	25	28	43	43
Class 3				
Crimes against property without violence	97	206	177	188
Class 4				
Malicious injury to property	3	13	32	36
Class 5				
Forgery and currency crimes	—	—	—	—
Class 6				
Others not included in above	4	13	11	31
Class 7				
Miscellaneous	432	1030	1095	2781
(Road Traffic, Litter Act, etc.)				

Electoral Statistics

General Election results in the Orkney and Shetland parliamentary constituency:

OCTOBER 1974

Rt. Hon. Jo Grimond (LIB.)	9877
Howie Firth (S.N.P.)	3025
Raymond Fraser (CON.)	2495
Jonathan Wills (LAB.)	2175
Lib. maj.	6852

Total electorate: 26,362 (Shetland 13,311; Orkney 13,051)

FEBRUARY 1974

Rt. Hon. Jo Grimond (LIB.)	11491
John Firth (CON.)	4186
Jonathan Wills (LAB.)	2865
Lib. maj.	7305

Total electorate: 26,022 (Shetland 13,083; Orkney 12,939)

JUNE 1970

Rt. Hon. Jo Grimond (LIB.)	7856
John Firth (CON.)	5364
Bill Reid (LAB.)	3552
Lib. maj.	2492

Total electorate: 25,679 (Shetland 12,675; Orkney 13,004)

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SIC Departments of Construction, Design and Technical Services, Education, Finance, Protective Services and Housing, and Assessor's Office.

