

Roy & Connie's Sundays Nostalgic Travels ~



Some like to travel and visit new places and some do not, I had a Whittlesey friend (RIP) who furthest travels took him as far as Skegness (maybe Leamington Spa).

Connie and I have travelled extensively, not to break any records but to witness other places, and have been fortunate to have seen places long before 'cheap travel' came about.

In 1991, I/we decided to embark on our Motorcycle (BMW KRS1000) to the Orkney Islands, No SatNav or Mobile Phone or Digital Camera.

I think it was around June, we broke the journey in Perth and stopped at John O' Groats (2nd time) onto Thurso/Scrabster for one of the worst sea crossings I've ever encountered.

Arriving in Stromness (another story), we'd had good weather (except the crossing).

Exploring the town and its history I met many local people who were interested in 'me' and my travels.

We spent about 6 days on Orkney and visited many/most of the neolithic sites. One of my bucket lists (I've had many and a few to go) was to visit the Island of Hoy and see 'The Old Man' – I met a wonderful 90 year old lady who lived in a croft (summer only) in a small settlement of Radwick (another story).

We took our back packs, and hiked the couple of miles over to the view point, this iconic place is where soldiers practiced landings for the Norwegian campaign during WW2 (abseiling etc).

There were some 'climbers' on the Old Man, we sat and waited for the 'picture' of the ferry passing in the background, had our snack, (took our rubbish back with us – no bin there).

On returning to the RSPB car park, the little old 90 year lady had made us a pot of tea. when I asked her where her fridge was to keep the milk, she showed me a small stream at the rear of the croft, several plastic bags filled with perishable food in the stream kept good for a week she told me.

Once a week she received her pre-ordered groceries from a local travelling shop. She returned to Stromness for the winter.

After our 6 days, we began the long journey back. Have I visited Shetland – yes but not on a Motorbike or Car.....

