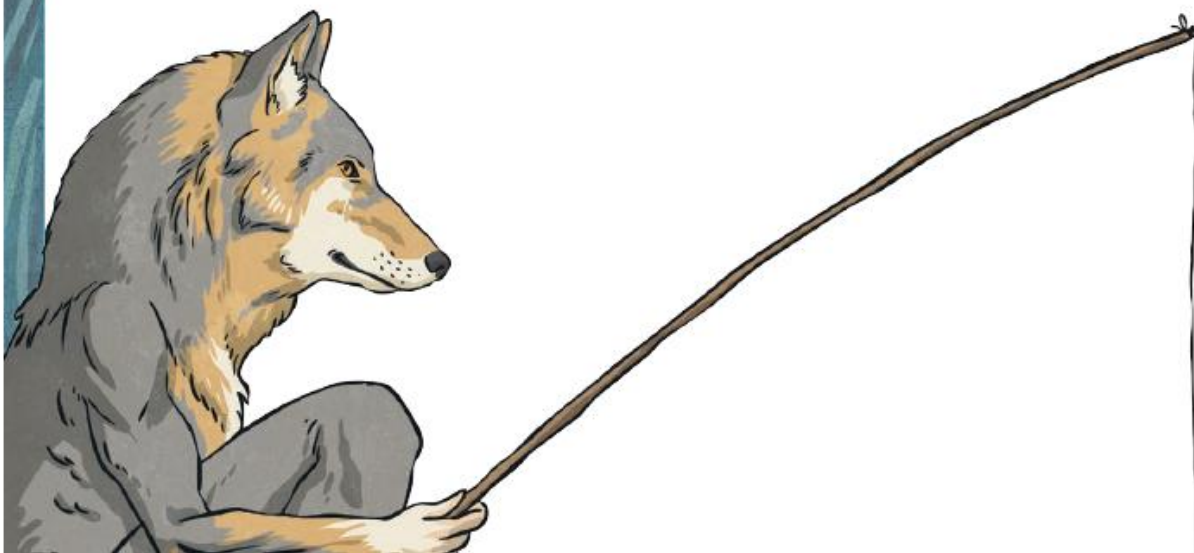


The Wulver

The wulver was a kind of werewolf told about in stories from the Shetland Islands.

The wulver was not an evil or aggressive creature if it was left alone. It was said to have the body of a man with a wolf's head and was covered in short brown hair. It did not change its shape from human to wolf like other mythical werewolves. It would live in a cave on a hill. The wulver liked fishing and would sit fishing for hours on a flat rock (known as the Wulver's Stane).

Wulvers were known to be very helpful. If someone was lost, a wulver would lead them to the nearest town or village. Families that were poor or had someone who was sick might find that the wulver had left some fish on their windowsill. If someone was about to die in the house, the wulver would sit sadly outside. Wulvers were similar to the Irish werewolf, the falodh, that was said to look after children and guard the wounded.



Ghillie Dhu

The Ghillie Dhu was a male fairy. There are many Scottish fairy stories and the Ghillie Dhu is probably one of the most well known.

The Ghillie Dhu was said to live in the forests of the North West Highlands of Scotland. He was described as being little or wee at only one metre tall. He had black hair and dark brown eyes. His skin changed from green to brown to green with the seasons. His clothes were woven leaves and moss. The Ghillie Dhu didn't eat meat but preferred berries and nuts from the forest. He was thought to be the protector of the trees.

The Ghillie Dhu was said to be shy, sometimes wild but kind to children. He was not so kind to adults who lost their way in the dark Scottish forests at night! Stories said that if you offended a Ghillie Dhu, he would crush you in his long leafy arms or he might kidnap you and drag you off to fairy land to be a prisoner there.



Redcap

Redcaps, also known as powries or dunters, were known as evil, murdering dwarves or goblins. Stories about them come from the Scottish Borders.

Redcaps were said to look like short old men, with wrinkled faces, red eyes and pointed teeth. They also had long messy hair and beards. They wore caps, stained red with the blood of their victims. They carried heavy iron spears and they were thought to be very fast runners, even though they wore iron boots. Stories said you could never outrun a redcap!

Redcaps were thought to have lived in old, ruined castles and watch towers on the border between Scotland and England. These ruins were usually where evil events had taken place or battles had been fought or where lots of blood had been shed in the past. Redcaps were thought to murder anyone who accidentally wandered into their homes.

