



## CAN I REALLY SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS IN THE UK?

**Video transcript: Waiting for the aurora**

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

Well sadly the conditions aren't quite right. I'm not sure the solar activity was intense enough to extend the aurora down to us when the skies were clear.

I've returned to Inverness to meet a local Highlander who's had more luck than me spotting the Northern Lights. Barry Stewart is a keen photographer who was surprised by an amazing display when he was in Wick.

*BARRY STEWART:*

Hi.

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

Hello Barry.

*BARRY STEWART:*

Hi Carol.

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

It's very nice to meet you.

*BARRY STEWART:*

Pleased to meet you too.

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

I'm looking forward to this.

Barry you're local to these parts and you've not just seen the Northern lights, you've actually filmed them. How did that come about?

*BARRY STEWART:*

Well I'm a very keen photographer of the night sky. And this particular night, I just went out with my camera to take a star time lapse and I did see a faint glow low on the horizon. And it turned out green on my camera – so I thought... wow, this is amazing – an unpredicted aurora!

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

I'd love to see what you've filmed. I don't suppose I could have a wee look?

*BARRY STEWART:*

Of course – I'd love to show you.

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

I've never seen the Northern Lights, you know, so this will be a real treat.

Crumbs, it's incredible. Look at the different colours – we've got orange, pink, yellow, green, blue... and they get deeper. That is amazing.

*BARRY STEWART:*

Yeah, just an explosion of colours really. It's fantastic.

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

How did you feel when you saw that?

*BARRY STEWART:*

It was spectacular, it was really active. It just exploded really because it started off really slow.

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

Unbelievably, this has almost stunned me into silence.

*BARRY STEWART:*

Really?

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

Oh, I wish we'd seen it.

*BARRY STEWART:*

Always a next time.

*CAROL KIRKWOOD:*

Very true.

What Barry saw was the weather from space lighting up our night skies. Right here in the UK!