



# Falkland Islands NEWSLETTER

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## BRITISH GOVERNMENT NEGLECTS FALKLANDS FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

### AN ECONOMIC FISHING ZONE

In this issue we are reprinting an article by our Editor, Major Ronnie Spafford, who is a journalist by profession. He has been investigating the interest which the world's fishing fleets are showing in the seas around the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.

His enquiries have taken him to one of the best known and most successful of the British trawler owners and international fish merchants, J. Marr & Sons Ltd.

Six of J. Marr & Sons' trawlers accompanied the Task Force with naval crews as minesweepers and escort vessels. After the liberation the next that Mr. Marr heard of his trawlers was a telephone call from the Ministry of Defence saying that his ships were in Gibraltar and what did he want done with them.

It is a great pity that the Navy did not keep them in the Falkland Islands because Mr. Marr with a little encouragement would have no doubt been happy to see them equipped to work in the seas surrounding the Islands, an area in which he and other trawler owners have always been interested. Perhaps one of them could have become a

fishery protection vessel guarding the 200 mile Economic Fishing Zone, which ought long since to have been declared round the Islands. But this is not the British way. Civil Servants do not work closely enough with industry and commerce, the Armed Forces have no modern tradition of assisting in the development of remote areas, the Treasury is not prepared to move fast enough to take advantage of opportunities as they arise to benefit Britain.

We are assured by the Falkland Islands Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office that every possible effort is being made by Her Majesty's Government to lead to the declaration of a 200 mile EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE, but no reason for the failure to declare one has yet been given.

The fact is that the word "bonanza" is being used by practical fishermen from three continents about the fishery products within the 200 mile Exclusive Fishing Zone. As Simon Lister of the Falkland Islands Foundation has pointed out, control is essential in the interests of conservation. Meanwhile fortunes are being made at the expense of the long term benefit of the Falkland Islands and Britain in the absence of a well managed sea fishery.

### RETIREMENT OF SIR JOHN BARLOW, Bart.

Sir John Barlow has been Chairman of the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee, with one short break, since its formation in 1968.

Sir John was born on the 15th June 1898 and was the second baronet. He was a Member of Parliament from 1945 to 1950 and from 1951 to 1966. He was a Director of the Falk-

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Memorial to Nurse Barbara Chick

land Islands Company for some years, until the Company was taken over in 1972, and visited the Islands in that capacity. His wide knowledge and experience of overseas trading, developed from the family business in rubber plantations and merchant banking, enabled him to contribute much to the Company and the Colony.



Sir John Barlow

Sir John has been described as one of the last of the Knights of the Shires, men who stood for and entered Parliament not for what they could get out of it, but out of a sense of duty and with the idea of serving their country. No better Chairman could have been found for the Falkland Islands Emergency Committee, as it was first called. A consummate Parliamentarian, with friends in all Parties in the House of Commons, and with that influence in the corridors of power which is achieved only by common recognition of complete integrity, he found friends everywhere and of all parties from the right to the extreme left in Parliament who stood prepared to support the objectives of the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee.

These objectives were to support the Falkland Islands in deciding their own future for themselves without being subjected to pressure direct or indirect from any quarter. For more than a decade Sir John Barlow guided the enthusiastic and diverse members of the Committee through the political moves which were required to enable the people of the Falkland Islands to assert what was in essence no more than the right which had been accorded to all colonial peoples, that is the right of self determination under the United Nations Charter.

Sir John Barlow gave unstintingly of his time during the crisis years of 1968 and 1969 when the Committee, following disclosure by unofficial members of Executive Council of plans to transfer sovereignty to Argentina, were instrumental in getting Government pledges on the future of the Islands. The original pledge was that there would be no transfer of sovereignty against the interests of the Islanders but this was amended to 'against the wishes and interests of the Islanders' following strong representations by the Committee.

Over the succeeding years he built up in the membership of the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee a Parliamentary lobby which showed itself in the Saturday debate following the invasion. Every Parliamentary Party then proved itself to be deeply informed on the history and background of the dispute and the events which had brought about the invasion.

The people of the Falkland Islands owe to Sir John Barlow a debt which they can never repay, except perhaps by holding true to the faith which their forefathers showed when they first pioneered this distant land.

## BRITISH GOVERNMENT NEGLECT OF FALKLAND FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

The following article by our Editor, who is at present in Australia, was published in WORLD FISHING on 14th October. It is reproduced here by courtesy of and with the permission of WORLD FISHING, the circulation of which is world-wide in the fishing industry. We have reason to believe that none of the facts which it contains are known to those whose responsibility it is to advise the British Government. It is likely to rouse far more interest in the foreign countries, in particular the Eastern block countries, than those Departments of Her Majesty's Government whose task it is to assist in the development of the economy of the Falkland Islands and to keep Ministers and the public informed of the commercial advantages to Britain to be obtained from developing the resources of the Islands.

## A FISHING INDUSTRY GOING TO WASTE

By Major R. N. Spafford

Perhaps one of the most remarkable and costly failures of the British Government is their omission to have declared a 200-mile fishing limit around the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies. Their failure to do so is almost certainly costing the Falkland Islanders a healthy income of larger proportions than that gained from sheep farming, the Islands staple economy. Further, because there is still only, at present, a British claim to a three-mile territorial sea around the islands, at least six foreign nations have been for some years, and still are now, overfishing as hard as they can before any restrictions or control are imposed. The situation is remarkable because everyone with any interest in the area has been telling successive British Governments about this situation for some years, and yet the British government remains tight lipped and apparently inactive.

## SQUID

The White Fish Authority Report of 1979\* estimated the annual fishing potential around the Falkland Islands and Dependencies at £108M. However this was for fin fish only, and all thoughts had been directed towards the potential of *Notothenia rossii* (Antarctic cod), *Merluccius hubbsii* (Patagonian hake) and *Micromesistius australis* (Blue whiting), the latter being so heavily parasitised that it was unsuitable for marketing except as fish meal.

One benefit of the 1982 Falkland Islands War was the discovery by a Polish fishing fleet, driven from their familiar fishing grounds around the Falklands, of large stocks of squid off South Georgia. No one had previously considered fishing for squid and no investigation had been made. Two types of squid are found off the Falkland Islands and Dependencies: *lolligo patagonia* and *illecabrosus*.

This is a highly desirable commodity in certain countries, currently selling at around £400 per ton.

The chief markets for squids are in Europe for 100,000 tons/year (Spain 40,000 tons, Italy 30,000 tons) and in the Far East, principally Japan.

On 31st July, whilst I was visiting a fishing company in Hull, I was told that they had, that day, purchased from the Russian 25,000 tons of Falklands squid tube, which is about 50% of the squid, representing some £10M. They said that this was not abnormal.

J. Marr and Sons Ltd., who trade in fish on a world-wide commodity basis, exchanging bulk fish stocks between countries, and who are constantly monitoring the world market, conservatively estimated that the annual squid potential within 200 miles of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies at 250,000 tons a year, or some £100M.

If this is true, this now dramatically doubles the fishing potential around the Falkland Islands and Dependencies

from £108M to a conservative figure of £200M per year, and makes for a financial operation which it would be scandalous for the British Government to allow the Falkland Islanders to miss.

### FISHING POLICY

The Falkland Islanders themselves are already fully employed with the sheep farming industry, have no traditional interest in fishing, have no desire to catch any fish themselves, neither do they eat a great deal of fish.

British fishing fleets are not organised to catch fish 8,000 miles from home, nor, it seems, with recently increased costs and present wage levels would it be economic for ships with British crews to do so. However the fishing fleets of such countries as Russia, Poland, East Germany, Spain, Japan and Taiwan are organised for a distant operation with crews spending exceptionally long periods at sea, and, because of lower wage levels, they still find it economic. Furthermore they are actually doing it now successfully and as hard as they can. Indeed, Simon Lister, Secretary of a conservation society, the Falkland Islands Foundation, has produced statistics to show that over-fishing by these foreign fleets around South Georgia since 1969 are already, and increasingly, seriously depleting the fin fish stocks there. These have been made from assessments of catches by type of fin fish over successive years and show a marked decline, though equally it could be argued that this is because of a change to squid fishing, for which figures have not been included. However, in a letter to *The Times*, published on 29th June this year, he reported a conversation he had with a Polish skipper in January "who thought we had completely lost our senses but was determined to profit from the bonanza whilst it lasts".

Just a glance at the revenue from harbour dues received from foreign trawlers by the Harbour Master at Port Stanley over successive years reveals the escalating fishing interest.

1974/75	£1,561
1975/76	£1,756
1976/77	£1,940
1977/78	£4,683
1978/79	£20,331
1979/80	£80,005
1980/81	£89,896
1981/82	£44,507
1982/83	£163,910
1983/84	£261,324

(Figures for March 1984 not included).

Current thought is that the Falklands fishing industry should be one based on licensing these foreign countries, and indeed any other ones such as Chile or even Argentina, to catch fish within a 200-mile limit at a rate and in such quantity only, that the fish stocks are adequately conserved, and the industry preserved in a viable economic form for the foreseeable future. This makes sense not only for the future of the Falkland Islanders, but also for the future prospects of the fishing fleets themselves.

### SURVEILLANCE, POLICING AND RESEARCH

Clearly the first step in organising the Falkland Islands fishing industry is to declare a 200-mile limit. The next stage is to employ a system of Surveillance and Policing. Although some testing of fish stocks in the area have been usefully carried out over the last ten years, no really detailed research over a period has been carried out using a proper research vessel, and no one has yet researched at all into Falkland squid, which has now assumed such importance. It would take time and a vessel employed solely on this task would be expensive.

J. Marr and Sons, who now own and are presently refitting the Fish Research Vessel *G. A. Reay*, confidently

believe that the necessary surveillance and control could be exercised by such a vessel at the same time as she was used to carry out detailed research over a continuing period, operating together with a particular mark of Dornier aeroplane that they have in mind. This vessel has the capability of sailing to the Falklands without refuelling, and would carry on board a complete module for the maintenance and repair of the plane, as well as all the long term spares needed and a special workshop facility. Thus they see the boat and the plane as a complete team both for operation and maintenance.

The *G. A. Reay*, gross tonnage 998.92, built in 1968, is an Ice Class 3 Research Vessel, fitted out with adequate dry and wet laboratories and with very comprehensive navigation and detection equipment. She has a service speed of 14.5 knots and an endurance of over 40 days. The *G. A. Reay*, previously operated by the Torry Research Station of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was mentioned in Lord Shackleton's Falkland Islands Economic Study of 1982, as being a vessel of suitable size and suitably equipped for such a task.

J. Marr and Sons say that the *G. A. Reay*, or a similar vessel, could be adequately fitted out to operate around the Falkland Islands and Dependencies at a cost of less than £5,000 per day, or under £2M a year. The plane would cost a further £1M a year, making a total cost for Surveillance, Policing and Research of £3M a year.

### LICENSING AND PENALTIES

The precise license fees would have to be calculated on the Total Allowable Catch, and this cannot be accurately determined until more detailed and extensive research has been carried out.

J. Marr and Sons suggest a license fee of 5%, paid in advance, which, if their conservatively estimated annual Total Allowable Catch of £200M per year proves to be correct, would produce a revenue to the Falkland Islands of £10M, which makes the industry very profitable.

The Russians and Poles, lacking Western currency, like to pay their license fees in fish, and, if such a firm as Marr were controlling the operation for the Falkland Islands Government, there would be no problem: Marr would sell the fish within their normal business operation and hand over the cash to the Falkland Islands Treasury.

Licensing regulations could also include other conditions; for example if there was a requirement for fish meal as a fertiliser to improve the soil of the Islands, then a condition could be made that the first licenses would be issued to those vessels carrying on board a fish meal plant. Once a licensing system has been established, there may be all sorts of other side benefits to the Islands which could be made conditional.

It would be desirable to include other penalties as well as fines in a case of regulation infringements. The withdrawal of a license, even for a temporary period, is a very serious penalty for a Russian or Polish ship, for this means the recall of the vessel to the Eastern Block, and the skipper would almost certainly never appear in the area again.

### SIMPLE ECONOMICS

Assuming that J. Marr and Sons estimates are correct, the simple economics of the fishing industry are as follows:

	<i>per year</i>
License Fees (5% of T.A.C.)	£10M
less Cost of Surveillance, Policing and Research	£3M
Profit to the Falkland Islands	£7M

\* *Fisheries Opportunities in the South West Atlantic, White Fish Authority Industrial Development Unit, ODA, 1979.*

It is relevant to note that the present income to the Colony from sheep farming is £3.5M per year, and the addition of £7M would mean that so many of the desired projects in developing the Islands could be achieved out of the Falkland Islanders own pockets.

Furthermore there could be all sorts of other side benefits to the Falkland Islands. Examples might be:

- Charges to seamen for medical and hospital treatment.
- Sale of electrical spares for navigation and detection equipment.
- Sale of replacement fishing gear.
- Bunkering facilities.
- Sale of tourist goods, clothes, liquor, etc. and so on.

#### URGENT ACTION REQUIRED

It is hard to understand why the British Government have been so dilatory over a declaration of a 200-mile fishing limit, and one can only surmise that they had been holding it as some sort of trump card in possible negotiations with Argentina. The latest attempt at talks have now failed with little prospect of any further attempt being made for some years to come, so it would seem that any obstacle has now finally been removed. Certainly not to have declared the limit two years after fighting a costly war to regain the Islands, must make other nations wonder if Britain now doubts its sovereignty claim. But until a 200-mile limit has been declared, all other efforts towards establishing a fishing industry are pointless. Meanwhile we have to sit back and watch, while countries of the Eastern Block take freely that which rightly belongs to the Falkland Islanders, and then, sell it back to the West.

Perhaps the Polish skipper was correct and the British Government has taken leave of its senses, for unless action is taken urgently, the rape of the Falklands seas will continue, and, very soon, there will be no fish left to catch, and a profitable industry will have been lost.



Mr. Alastair Cameron

We welcome the appointment of Mr. Alastair Cameron as Falkland Islands Government Representative in London, and have pleasure in publishing this interview with Mr. Robert Elgood, a member of our Committee.

#### INTERVIEW BETWEEN ROBERT ELGOOD AND ALASTAIR CAMERON — 9th October, 1984

- Q: How do you see the role of your office?
- A: *Primarily that of representing Falkland Islands Government views on all matters that affect their interests; to the British Government, politicians, the media and people of this country. The Office also has a responsibility to provide up-to-date information on the Falkland Islands and to deal with enquiries from the press, commercial interests and individuals.*
- We also, of course, have a responsibility to keep Falkland Islands Government informed of any developments in Britain affecting the Islands.*
- Q: You are in fact, I believe, a civil servant. To what extent do you feel free to engage in political activities?
- A: *I think that is a fairly complex question. Obviously in representing Falkland Islands Government views we must involve MP's and political parties — I think that might be defined as political activity.*
- Q: But in terms of actually going out and influencing MP's your hands aren't tied?
- A: *I wouldn't say so, no. The briefing of MP's is one of our responsibilities. One of the difficulties is establishing priorities and obviously we tend to have to deal first with things as they come in. MP's occasionally approach the Office for information and I find these contacts very useful. We could pursue a more aggressive policy of going out and talking to them, finding out which MP's are interested, and possibly more time could be usefully be spent on that, but it is also a question of time available and how much energy one can devote to a certain aspect and what expense; in other words, what other aspects might suffer.*
- Q: What changes would you like to see in the structure of the Office, now that you've actually spent a little time in it?
- A: *I think that the team here is very good. Probably every government department would like to have more funds available and more staff. However, I think that work does tend to expand to fill the time allocated to it. The most important thing from my point of view is that the Office should be as effective as possible within our limited budget. FIG funds are limited and they have to be very carefully allocated. I don't feel that at the moment I would be justified in saying that it is essential that we have more money for any particular project, but ultimately I would like to see it expand, and with the increasing activity of the Development Corporation and the progress being made in the Islands I would like to think that we might be able to afford to do more work in promoting development and attracting investment in future.*
- Q: But you don't feel at the moment that any of your work is suffering through lack of staff?
- A: *I feel that if I had more staff we could do more in certain areas, however we would have to ensure that this would be effective and productive. I would naturally like to devote more time to some aspects that particularly interest me. However, I feel that at the moment the financial constraints are a good discipline in deciding on a system of priorities.*
- Q: What are the major matters currently occupying your attention?
- A: *Most recently it has been the recruitment of travelling teachers, which has taken up more time than anticipated. This was our first attempt at advertising for specific posts in the Falkland Islands. The response*

was greater than we had imagined it would be and we've learnt a lot from the experience. I think that in future we can recruit more economically, both in terms of time spent on handling enquiries and interviews; and money spent on advertising.

Q: How would you like to see the future?

A: *That's a difficult question. I find an immense amount of variety in the work, which is to me one of the attractions of the job. The small size of our organisation means that I am involved in all areas. It is difficult to see exactly how the job will develop but the prospects are certainly very interesting.*

Q: What about the future of the Islands?

A: *I think that there are two aspects to that. One is economic and the other is political.*

*Economically I think that the Islands have a very promising future. If, with the expenditure of development funds, we can create conditions attractive to investment and attractive to immigrants I have no doubt that economically the Islands will be viable within their own terms.*

Q: "Within their own terms" is a little vague.

A: *Within the limits of the resources available and of the population.*

Q: Does that mean that they don't in fact make a profit?

A: *No. They have made a profit in the past. I have every faith that they will make a profit in the future.*

*Politically I think that the situation is more difficult to define. Obviously a stable political climate is very important for proper economic development. I feel that although we have a present commitment from Britain, much will depend upon what happens over the next few years. I am optimistic that Britain will continue to support the Islands and that the costs of our defence will be reduced and justified by the economic development, so that we will cease to be a burden on the British taxpayer.*

Q: Finally is there any word of advice or anything you would like to say to the Falkland Islands' friends in this country?

*We have very much appreciated the tremendous support we have had in the past and it is important to us that this continues in the future. Although we have a very firm commitment from Britain at present, I do think that it is important that our friends remain active in promoting our interests. Certainly I think that without the support of the Committee and the Association in the past things might be very different now.*

Q: Thank you very much for giving me your time and your comments.

## 'CALLING THE FALKLANDS'

By Major R. N. Spafford

One of the most familiar tunes heard in the Falkland Islands is 'Oranges and Lemons', which is part of the signature tune 'London Bridge', introducing the BBC External Service programme 'Calling the Falklands', beamed directly to the Islands twice a week from the United Kingdom. The programme is now forty years old this year, and so it has become a Falklands institution.

However, although most Falkland Islands supporters will be aware of the programme, only those who have been to the Islands will have actually heard it. In July I went along to Bush House, just along from the Strand in London, and I turned the tables on them: instead of their staff interview-

ing me, I interviewed the present Producer, Lesley Wingrove, for the *Falkland Islands Newsletter*.

Up until 1982, the programme *Calling the Falklands* was a once weekly almost exclusively record request programme, interspersed with messages of good wishes from friends and relatives in the United Kingdom. From time to time there were interviews with influential people in and around London, who had something to say about the rather remote Falklands, and, in recent years, there was always a report from the annual Lincoln's Inn Reception.



Calling the Falklands

## A ROCK FOR THE ISLANDERS

The programme came very much into its own and assumed great importance in maintaining morale immediately after the Argentine invasion on 2nd April, 1982, when, from Sunday 4th April, broadcasts were increased firstly to three transmissions a week and then to daily transmissions. Peter King, who had retired from BBC service was persuaded back into action, and he presented about five of the subsequent programmes each week. His especially appealing voice and sympathetic manner gave great comfort to the occupied Islanders, so that he became almost a local folk hero. The programme content naturally became much more concerned with current political and military events and, being part of the BBC External Services, it was easy to use BBC staff resident in other countries world wide, for example, Chile, to report news and opinion regarding the Falklands, which gave a wider spectrum. 'Calling the Falklands' was like a rock for the Islanders to cling to; essentially something British and familiar, broadcast directly from London, especially for the besieged Islanders, assuring them that they were not forgotten and to hang on.

## LOCAL RADIO AT A LONG DISTANCE

'Calling the Falklands' is now broadcast for 30 minutes twice weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10-30 p.m., U.K. time, which with the present five hour difference between Stanley and London, means that it is received at 5-30 p.m. on both days in the Islands, or, more correctly at 5-30 p.m. in Stanley, but 4-30 p.m. in Camp, since there is, by tradition, a local hour difference between Stanley and the Camp, in the summer.

The transmission is made on the four frequencies 11.82, 12.04, 15.39 and 9.915 megahertz in the 19, 25 and 31 metre bands and is beamed in a very narrow arc at the Falkland Islands from a transmitter in the extreme south-west of England, which is the reason why it is difficult to pick up the programme in the United Kingdom.

The Tuesday programme is written and presented by Peter King and that on Friday by Kathleen Cheesmond.

who is a familiar voice on 'Calling the Falklands'. Both have visited the Falkland Islands and know almost everyone by name. Kathleen Cheesmond said it is rather like Local Radio at a long distance.

#### EVERYTHING BEING SAID ABOUT THE FALKLANDS

I asked Lesley Wingrove about the programme content and, as the BBC External Services are funded by a grant-in-aid from the Treasury, do they seek to influence what is broadcast? I was very quickly corrected about any thought that 'Calling the Falklands' might be used for propaganda purposes. The broadcast, which is described as a Current Affairs based Magazine Programme, adheres strictly to the BBC Charter, without any outside pressure at all, and it has neither a pro British Government nor a pro Falkland Islands Government bias. It reflects everything that is being said about the Falkland Islands worldwide, and this may include equally what is being said, not only in Stanley and in London, but also in the United Nations or, even, in Argentina.

The Falkland Islands already receive the BBC World Service News broadcasts, so world news is not covered, unless there is some special angle concerning the Falkland Islands. 'Calling the Falklands' is specifically aimed at the Islanders, the British troops in the Islands not being considered at all — they have their own programmes from the British Forces Broadcasting Service. Record requests occupy less of the programme content these days, as there is very much more of interest to report.

#### TOO LITTLE COMMENT FROM ISLANDERS

Answering my questions about 'feedback' from the Islands and contact with the Falkland Islands organisations in Great Britain, Lesley Wingrove said that, unfortunately, too little comment comes from the Islanders. The names of Sally Blake, Tim Miller, Wallace Hirtle and Graham Bound, Editor of *Penguin News*, were mentioned, but they wished that more Islanders would write or call in, when visiting London. Liaison is maintained with the Falkland Islands Government Office on a weekly basis, when the Government Office will often suggest a possible person to be interviewed, but these days there is very little contact with the Association Office, although they do receive the *Falkland Islands Newsletter*.

Perhaps the message which came over to me most clearly, is one for the Falkland Islanders. Please write in expressing your views to your programme 'Calling the Falklands'. If you are in London, please call in at Bush House, 'Calling the Falklands' would love to see you.

#### NEWS FROM THE ISLANDS

##### RESIGNATION OF TERRY PECK

Following Councillor Terry Peck's decision to leave the Islands, nominations have been invited for a November by-election to fill the post of 'All Stanley' Representative on Legislative Council. Three likely nominees are Terry Betts, Harold Bennett and Phil Middleton. With the new member installed, that council will then elect one of its members to the seat left by Mr. Peck on Executive Council.

##### FIC FITZROY PLOTS

All 51 of the 50 acre plots at Fitzroy, about 12 miles from Stanley, have now been sold by the Falkland Islands Company, more than half of them to Islanders. As 'Penguin News' reports, the plots sell to Islanders for £500 and to intending immigrants for £1,000 — and there is a waiting list.

##### MRS. DAVID BARTON

Sadly, Coll Barton of Teal Inlet died on 9th October after

an illness. The Association offer their sympathy to her family. Leif, her daughter, worked for several years in the London Falkland Islands Office before returning to live in Stanley.

#### DAIRY

In August the F.I. Development Corporation officially approved the Ashworth/Ferguson plan for a new dairy at Mullet Creek. Adjoining 1,200 acres of common land, 50 acres have been rotovated by Malcolm Ashworth and await seeding in January with a seed mixture recommended by Tom Davies of the Grasslands Trials Unit. With good growth beginning in September 1986, Stanley could expect fresh pasturised milk at 25p a pint in 1986/87.

With his existing herd Mr. Ashworth continues to keep Stanley Hospital supplied with fresh milk.

#### GOATS

The British Toggenburg Billy and three nannies sent out last year on the Noah's Ark seem very happy with their new Stanley families, and the nanny with Mrs. Mercer is producing three pints of milk a day — not bad for a start. All the nannies kidded in April producing three sets of twins — all together three Billies and three Nannies. On the advice of vet Neil Pullan the billies were budded and the three nanny kids were adopted by Islanders, two staying in Stanley and one going to Bluff Cove.

#### MP'S VISIT

Nine London MP's are expected soon on a visit organised by the Ministry of Defence to meet Service Personnel and Islanders.

#### SAN CARLOS SUBDIVISIONS

Six Falkland Islanders have now bought the seven sections of San Carlos Farm on East Falkland from U.K. owner Colin Smith for a total sum of about £500,000.

#### OIL

A prospecting licence has been issued to an American company by Harry Camm who owns Douglas Station. If the geologists' results prove satisfactory, drilling may start in April.

#### CLEAR WATER FOR STANLEY

A new reservoir and filtration plant are being built in West Stanley by 40 Royal Engineers led by Colonel Sanderson who this week described the work on John Smith's News Magazine Radio Programme.

Completion date is January 1985, when all the pressure testing and careful backfilling is done. Stanley's water — newly filtered, cleaned and pumped to the reservoir — will actually double its present capacity to 1,000 gallons per day.

Describing Stanley water as quite clean and soft but with a high stain content from the peat, Colonel Sanderson admitted that several chemicals would need to be used in the filtration process.

Asked about the continuing availability of the plant once the military had moved camp to Mount Pleasant, Colonel Sanderson reassured listeners that, once installed, the plant belonged to the inhabitants of Stanley.

#### UN DEBATE

Councillors Tim Blake and John Cheek visit New York later this month to attend the UN Debate on the Falkland Islands.

#### TELEGRAM

The local F.I. Committee sent a telegram of sympathy to Mrs. Thatcher following the Brighton Bomb disaster.

## SWEEPSTAKE

A sweepstake organised by local Committee Chairman, Mr. Joe King, in May has so far raised £1,000 to help maintain the Association's London Office — a marvellous effort.

## MEMORIAL TO NURSE BARBARA CHICK

A plaque in memory of Falkland Islands nurse Barbara Chick, who died in the fire at the King Edward Memorial Hospital in Stanley on 10th April, was unveiled at Shirehampton Health Centre, Bristol, on 5th September.

Barbara, whose family live in Shirehampton, had previously worked at hospitals in the Bristol area and at Pucklechurch Remand Centre.

The short ceremony was attended by more than 50 people, including Bristol's Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Fred Apperley, who suggested the plaque during his office as Lord Mayor, and local Member of Parliament, Mr. Michael Stearn.

Before the unveiling Mr. Dick Mellor, Chairman of Southmead Health Authority, said of Barbara Chick, "Her whole life was one of caring for others. In that disastrous fire her reactions automatically were for the patients first." A letter was read out from Falkland Islands Acting Civil Commissioner, Mr. David Taylor.

The plaque, which is at the front entrance to the Health Centre, was unveiled by Barbara's parents, Mr. John Chick and his wife Marian. It reads:

*In Memory of Nurse Barbara Chick, S.E.N.  
A resident of Shirehampton, who  
gave her life on 10th April 1984  
trying to rescue patients  
trapped by a fire at the  
King Edward VII Memorial Hospital  
Port Stanley  
Falkland Islands*

At the ceremony, the Falkland Islands Government was represented by Mr. Alastair Cameron and Falkland Islanders present included Mr. Patrick Watts and Mrs. Nidge Buckett. The Falkland Islands Association was represented by Major R. N. Spafford.

## CORRESPONDENCE

From Sir John Biggs-Davison MP, a member of the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee, with reference to the paragraph "Strong Minority View" in the editorial on page one of the last Newsletter, No. 20.

## STANDING BY THE FALKLANDS

Sir: We know of "Munich" before a war. It is strange to hear advocacy of a "Munich" after a victory.

The "underlying shift in British opinion" alleged in Jimmy Burns's article in your issue of 11 August appears to me more like a reversion by the same elements in Whitehall, Westminster and the City of London to the old fudging of the unfudgable question of the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands and their dependencies.

It was that which led Buenos Aires to believe that Britain was prepared under some formula or other to abandon its territory and people. Uncertainty of British resolution has

led to big as well as little "unnecessary wars" — Churchill's phrase. General Galtieri has been quoted as saying that there would have been no invasion if it had been certain that the British would strike back.

The would-be betrayers of the sacrifice made by our fighting men — a colour sergeant of Marines said that if the islands were worth fighting for they were worth keeping — exaggerate the cost which will fall sharply when the new airfield is in full service. Against the expense of a garrison should be set the value of a superb training area for the three services.

Argentina is unlikely to attack again — unless we weaken. France with its better claim to the Channel Isles and perhaps no worse claim to "Les Malouines" never returned after the Battle of Jersey of 1781.

You may see in Port Stanley memorials to two decisive naval battles of two world wars. If there were to a third, Panama would be vulnerable. So the Falklands must be kept in reliable hands. President Alfonsin is not for ever.

That said, let us hope (as I have said and hoped for two decades inside and outside Parliament) that one day the Argentinian flag will fly alongside those of other nations over a sovereign base that Britain could provide for the long-needed "SATO" or Southern hemisphere system of security. NATO ends at the Tropic of Cancer.

(Sir) John Biggs-Davison MP  
House of Commons  
London SW1

Sir John Biggs-Davison's letter, which we reproduce here, first appeared in the letter column of the TABLET.

From Mr. Patrick Watts

The recent tribute to Adrian Monk, written by Lynda Glennie, in the last edition of the Newsletter was well written and worthy of the ex Falklands councillor and farm manager. However, I was rather surprised by the credit given to the Falkland Islands Company concerning the selling of farm-land in the Islands.

The 'initiative' taken by FIC to sell Green Patch to the Falkland Islands government, following the publication of the Shackleton report in 1977, was little more than a 'gesture' by the large land owners. The Managing director of the FIC Mr. David Britton has publicly stated that the Company have no plans to offer any more of their vast acreage to Islanders, while Bertrand & Felton, Packe Bros. and San Carlos Sheep Farming Co. Ltd. have all responded to Lord Shackleton's recommendations. Like many Islanders I would like to see the FIC show a little more enthusiasm in this direction. Share-farming which the Company are now promoting has already totally disillusioned one excellent Falklands farmer, and others; are reported to be equally unhappy with their unfair contracts.

Contrary to comments in the Association Newsletter, the FIC really can't be granted too many accolades for their recent performances regarding their land policy in the Falklands.

Patrick J. Watts  
Carnoustie,  
Angus.

## A SCOTTISH SOLDIER

by Alan Joyce

*On the afternoon of Friday 1st June, 1984, in wild country beside Loch Shin, a cairn dedication service was held. The cairn was built by former Lieutenant Alastair Bruce, Scots Guards, in memory of his orderly, Guardsman James Reynolds DCM, killed in action on Mount Tumbledown on 14th June, 1982.*



*Memorial Cairn to Guardsman James Reynolds, DCM*

It was a cool afternoon with mist over the mountains, such as one often gets at the end of a long heat wave in this part of Scotland. Ben Hee was obscured, while the vast long expanse of Loch Shin was steely grey in colour. Birch trees on the loch shore and beside the burn running down to the loch were in full leaf. All was silent except for a lone curlew.

Down a rough track came a group of laughing chattering schoolgirls. They fell strangely silent as they walked across the heather and lined up on either side of a simple stone cairn whose cement work was barely a year old. Their eyes fell on the board beside the cairn: *Guardsman J. B. C. Reynolds DCM . . . . . in a confused situation took command . . . . . silenced snipers himself . . . . . aided his wounded colleague . . . . . killed by enemy mortar fire . . . . .* So they took in the story of a very young and gallant soldier.

One young lassie gave out the order of service and hymn sheets carefully held together inside brightly coloured Falkland Islands folders. Some adults appeared down the same track and then two clergymen who were also given service sheets by a diminutive lassie in a kilt.

Soon a small congregation was gathered in front of the cairn, lairds, Lord, keepers and shepherds' wives and children, all brought together and humbled by the serene solemnity of the truly beautiful setting high above Loch Shin, in that wild country that stretches mile after mile to the Atlantic. In the distance the strains of pipe music could be heard and, very soon, a pipe band came into view, kilts swinging, pipes playing. They swung off the track and across the rough moorland to the cairn.

### THE FALKLANDS CARD

The hymn *Amazing Grace* accompanied by a lassie on the pipes, played with great feeling, opened the service. A reading, a prayer and a short address were followed by the dedication prayer. Then from among the congregation stepped two kilted lassies bearing a lovely wreath from which hung a card. It was no ordinary card. Carefully and meticulously drawn, it was at the end of an incredible 8,000 mile journey: Airbridge by Hercules then jet, then train, finally by hand to its destination, this cairn. The penguin

emblem of the Falkland Islands schools stood out clear and simple amongst the flowers of the wreath.

The wreath was placed carefully on the cairn, and, as the lassies stepped back and bowed their heads for the minute's silence, so the breeze opened and held open this much travelled card for all to read: *In memory of Guardsman Jim Reynolds DCM. Killed in Action on 14th June, 1982 from Staff and Pupils of Stanley Senior School.*

After the minute's silence, during which the lonely call of the curlew was heard far above on the hill, the lone piper played the lament. Choir and congregation accompanied by a trumpet and drums, sang the National Anthem.

### CRAGS OF TUMBLEDOWN

A Simple, touching and truly moving service came to an end. No cathedral could have bettered the setting, no congregation, clerics and music bettered the devotions and solemnity of the occasion.

The choir fell in behind the pipe band and, to the strains of the *Crag of Tumbledown* those children marched away across the hill, carrying with them the memory of an occasion that will be with them for the rest of their lives.

So the blessing of the Church had been put on a piece of Scottish history and a memorial to an outstanding Scottish soldier.

### TO GIVE AND NOT TO COUNT THE COST

As we all drove home to the far corners of this wonderful county, we had taken into our hearts the memory of the valour of a young man, orphaned in life, but in death, cherished, admired and loved by us all.

As the haunting refrains of the pipe music kept going through our heads, so did the Minister's prayer.

*Teach us good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost: to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do Thy Will, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.*

### FALKLAND ISLANDS STAMPS SELL FOR £29,173

On 25th September in London, Christie's Robson Lowe sold at auction a fine collection of stamps of the Falkland Islands, offered as 114 lots.

A charming map of the islands (225 x 155mm.) dated 1775, realised £60. Examples of the earliest postal markings, the Franks, used between 1869 and 1876 sold for £140 and a copy of the first issue (1878-79) 4d., used on 1883 envelope to Glasgow, made £3,600. An 1891 envelope with a 4d. stamp and a 1d. bisected to provide a 2½d. (foreign postage) + 2d. (registration) rate, realised £2,750.

A very fine mint set of the 1933 Centenary issue made £1,600 and a piece of newspaper wrapper addressed to Uruquay and bearing a King George V 2½d., bisected and used in 1923 in South Georgia realised £1,200. In February 1928, the current 2d. stamp was surcharged 2½d. to meet a temporary shortage of that value in South Georgia. An unused block of four of these sold for £2,100, while a used block realised £2,600 and a single copy used on envelope fetched £850.

Not only was the auction room crowded with bidders and agents acting for collectors, but the B.B.C. recorded part of the sale to put on their overseas service to the Falkland Islands.

The total realisation of the Falkland Island section was £29,173.



## BRITISH TWO MAN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION 1984 — 86

Two men, Robert Swan and Roger Mear, set off from the United Kingdom in September this year on an expedition in the footsteps of Captain R. F. Scott to the South Pole and back.

Approved by The Royal Geographical Society, and under the patronage of Sir Peter Scott and Lord Shackleton, the intention of the expedition "is to retrace Captain Robert Scott's footsteps to the South Pole and restore the feelings of adventure, isolation and commitment that have been lost through the employment of the paraphernalia of modern times. Without recourse to depots, dogs, air support or outside assistance of any kind, two men alone, will manhaul the 883 mile journey to the Pole."

Robert Swan aged 28, the Expedition Leader, who was educated at Sedburgh School and Durham University, was a member of British Antarctic Survey at Rothera Base from 1980 to 1981.

Roger Mear aged 34 was also a member of British Antarctic Survey on Grahamland and is recognised as one of Britain's most experienced mountaineers with 14 years experience on five continents. Among his achievements is a winter ascent of the notorious Eiger North Face and the first winter ascent of Mt. McKinley's Cassin Ridge.

The two men plan to set off walking from Cape Evans in October 1985 and to be picked up again in January 1986.

The expedition ship, under the command of Master Mariner John Tolson, who has served in the *Bransfield* and, latterly, as Chief Officer of the *John Biscoe*, is a former 322.2 tons G.R.T. Icelandic trawler, built in 1958 by Cochranes of Yorkshire.

Her scheduled itinerary is as follows:

1984	Sept. 1st	depart St. Katherine's Dock, Tower Bridge, London
	Sept. 3rd	arrive Cardiff
	Sept. 4th	depart Cardiff
	Oct. 4th	arrive Cape Town
	Oct. 16th	depart Cape Town
	Nov. 17th	arrive Melbourne
	Nov. 21st	depart Melbourne
	Nov. 24th	arrive Sydney
	Dec. 15th	depart Sydney
	Dec. 23rd	arrive Lyttelton
1985	Jan 5th	depart Lyttelton
	Jan. 26th	arrive Cape Evans
	Feb. 9th	depart Cape Evans
	Mar. 2nd	arrive Lyttelton
1986	Jan. 4th	depart Lyttelton for Cape Evans

An interesting coincidence is that also in 1985 a French expedition, led by Bertrand Dubois, is planning to repeat Amundsen's route to the South Pole from the Bay of Whales. Using the means employed and perfected by the Norwegian, they will drive dogs and establish depots on the 1610 mile return journey. In 1911, Amundsen beat Scott to the South Pole by 34 days.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS RECEPTION 1985

This will be held at Lincoln's Inn on June 14th, the third anniversary of the Argentine surrender in 1982. We are delighted to announce that the Falkland Islands Government Office in London are taking over responsibility for this Reception, which will in future be their Official Annual Reception.

Members of the Falkland Islands Association will be welcome as usual, and application forms for tickets will be

sent out with the May edition of the Newsletter. It is hoped that the Band of the Royal Marines will beat Retreat.

## BATTLE DAY

The Executive Committee of the Falkland Islands Association have decided to discontinue the wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph in December. Before there was an official Falkland Islands Government Representative in this country the Association organised the Annual Battle Day ceremony at the Cenotaph as a means of bringing Falkland Islanders in Britain and their supporters together and of keeping the Falkland Islands before the attention of the public.

Now that there is an official Falkland Islands Government presence in London, the Committee of the Association feel that the commemoration of what has in the past been Falkland Islands national day should be a matter for the Falkland Islands Government.

As will seen from the note above, the Falkland Islands Government has decided to concentrate on the Reception at Lincoln's Inn, which will in future be held on or as near as possible to the anniversary of the liberation of Stanley.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It has been decided to hold the first Annual General Meeting of the Association (which has succeeded the FALKLAND ISLANDS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION) on Saturday 15th June, the day following the Annual Reception.

## HOSPITALITY

If any members living in London or the Home Counties can offer hospitality to members travelling some distance to attend the Reception, thus enabling them to stay in London for the Annual General Meeting, would they kindly inform the Honorary Secretary.

## REUNION WELL ATTENDED

An enormous turn out of Falkland Islanders and their friends underlined the success of the Annual Reunion held at Ham Hall, near Richmond, Surrey, on Saturday 25th August. It was a gloriously sunny afternoon, and the two crowded buses, which came up from Southampton with Islanders resident in that area, swelled the Hall almost to capacity.

Pots of tea and plates of sandwiches and cakes were quickly demolished and refilled again many times, and a licensed bar operated from 5-30 p.m. with queues forming immediately.

Peter King recorded interviews for "Calling the Falklands" and there was a brisk trade in Falkland Islands Association souvenirs. It was a very happy occasion of renewing many old friendships and making new ones; indeed, a very good party.

The Reunion will be repeated next year on Saturday 24th August.

## OIL LICENCE ISSUED FOR ONSHORE EXPLORATION

The Falkland Islands government has issued a four-year prospecting licence to the independent British Company Firstland Oil and Gas p.l.c. Work will concentrate on areas at Douglas Station, East Falkland, and initial geological surveys will start by the end of this year.

Source: *Falkland Focus*

## THANK YOU

The Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Membership Secretary would like to express their profound thanks to the four volunteers who looked after the office for six weeks this summer enabling them to spend the summer holidays with their families.

## AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ASSOCIATION

If you would like to support the right of the people of the Falkland Islands to decide their own future for themselves and to help them develop the Islands in accordance with their wishes, and you do not already belong to the Falkland Islands Association, you are invited to write for an application form to our Honorary Membership Secretary:

Mrs. Joan Martin, at 2 Greycoat Place, London SW1.

Annual Subscriptions:

Individual Members ..... £10

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## OFFER TO MEMBERS

We shall be delighted to present an illustrated map (as listed in next column) to any member who introduces another applicant for membership.

## RELEASE OF COPYRIGHTS

The Editorial Committee release all copyrights on editorial content of the Falkland Islands Newsletter, except on pictures, cartoons and where indicated. Other publications are invited to quote freely. However, we do ask that quotations are made in context and we should appreciate an acknowledgement of the Falkland Islands Newsletter, as the source quoted.

## THE 1985 FALKLANDS CALENDAR

Penna Press of St. Albans, Herefordshire, have again produced a very attractive Falkland Islands Calendar, showing Falklands wild life and views from colour photographs taken by well known Falkland's artist Tony Chater.

This Calendar for 1985 is, however, something special because, besides the charming photos of local wild life which we come to expect, it will serve as an historic document.

The month of May, for example, shows all three Coastels and the Flexiport backgrounded by Stanley and the now famous battle torn hills beyond. Laura Butler, who took over the butchery in 1983, is featured delivering meat in Stanley on the June page. July bears a very beautiful photo of the last rosy glow of a sunset reflected from the settlement buildings at Fox Bay East, where the famous Post Office is situated and the first woollen mill has now just been established. September features an unusual aerial photograph of Government House, but perhaps most interesting in this photo is the inclusion of the Cable and Wireless 'Earth Station' dominated by the 11 metre dish, which now makes it possible for Falkland Islanders to telephone around the world by satellite.

Apart from providing a year round conversation piece, many will want to preserve a copy as a pictorial record of the present changes taking place in the Falkland Islands.

The 9½" x 11" spiral bound Calendar for 1985 is available now from Penna Press Ltd., 132 Beechwood Avenue, At. Albans, Herts. AL1 4YD for £2.35 (inclusive U.K. postage and V.A.T.).

R.N.S.

## ADVERTISING

The present circulation of the Newsletter is 2,500 copies. It is distributed to members of the Association, to all Members of the House of Commons, Members of the House of Lords, all British Members of the European Parliament, and to the Press, Radio and Television. Many copies circulate in the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, other Commonwealth Countries and countries abroad. 300 copies are distributed in the Falkland Islands. Advertising rates are as follows:

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## SHOP EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS

The following articles are available from the Falkland Islands Association office, 2 Greycoat Place, S.W.1. Please enclose cost of postage and packing (additional).

Navy blue head squares, Falkland Islands crest, £5.

Navy blue ties, Falkland Islands crest, £4.

Tea cloths, map of Falkland Islands, £2.

Dusters, map of Falkland Islands, 75p.

Overseas Survey Map of Falkland Islands, £2.00.

Illustrated Map of Falkland Islands, in colour, £1.75.

Green plastic Car Stickers "Remember the Falkland Islands They're British" 75p.

Plastic stick-on Badges, Falkland Islands Crest, 10p.

Lapel Badges, Falkland Islands Crest, £1.20.

Key Rings, Falkland Islands Crest, £1.50.

Carrier Bags, Penguin motif, "Happiness is knowing he's British", 10p.

White T Shirt, Penguin motif, sizes S, M, L, XL, £4.

Navy T Shirt, Penguin motif, childrens sizes only,

26 ins., 28 ins., 30 ins., £3.50

Souvenir Hats, Penguin motif, Falkland Islands, £1.50

Desk Flags, £1.20.

*Notelet:* The Cathedral at Stanley, drawn by Mary Waudby, 10p

Long Play 33½ r.p.m. record by Rock Bernsten:

'Kelpers After All', songs of a Falkland Islander, £4.95 plus 50p P & P.

Key Fobs, F.I.A., 35p.

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## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

"THE FALKLANDS STORY 1592—1982" by Mary Cawkell, £2 incl. P & P from the Association, £1.75 from book shops. A concise and accurate account of the history of the Falkland Islands and the events leading up to the invasion.

"FALKLAND ISLANDS BIRDS", by Robin W. Woods, £8.75. Very useful pocket size bird spotting book for Falklands visitors. Beautiful photos.

## HISTORY FACT SHEET.

An accurate four page history of the Falkland Islands & the Dependencies. No charge sac please.

# The Falkland Islands Association

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See review elsewhere in this issue

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