



Falkland Islands Newsletter

Published by the Falkland Islands Association

Their Today for Our Tomorrow

The twentieth anniversary of the liberation of the Falklands has been marked by many events in Britain and the Islands. They have rightly focused on the sacrifice of the 255 men who died, some buried in the land they liberated; some lying in the stricken warships which became their graves. Their bodies lie in the cold soil and sea of the South Atlantic. But their memory lives on in the warm hearts of the Islanders, who will welcome the veterans into their homes for the November pilgrimage.

Islanders have repeatedly demonstrated their deep gratitude – by word and deed. They have bestowed upon the Armed Forces the Freedom of the Falklands. The most poignant 1945 war epitaph says: "For your Tomorrow, We gave our Today". The Islanders have not wasted their tomorrows. They have kept faith with the dead by fulfilling the solemn pledge they made twenty years ago to build a better future to demonstrate that the loss of British lives and the war to restore their freedom were not in vain. Islanders have cherished, not

squandered, that precious legacy of liberty those dead heroes bequeathed to them. They have built a prosperous democracy. Contrast that with what would have happened under Argentine occupation. General Galtieri's cruel regime would have been strengthened, continuing to subject Argentines to torture and death, as Galtieri's recent arrest for human rights crimes reminds us. Economically, the Islands would have been part of an Argentina now in abysmal despair and turmoil. Despite this appalling record, Argentina still has the crass impertinence to continue campaigning for sovereignty over the Islands.

Politicians in Britain must also keep faith with the dead. They too must abide by their repeated solemn pledges to defend the Islanders' right to self-determination. The betrayal of Gibraltar for European Union expediency is a stark warning which delights Argentine nationalists and encourages their campaign for the Falklands. Britain must never surrender sovereignty against the will of the Islanders.



HE Governor Donald Lamont lays a wreath at the RFA Sir Galahad Memorial at Fitzroy

Photo: Ministry of Defence

Ten New Oil Exploration Licences Issued

Ten offshore licences covering an area of 58,000 sq km have been awarded to a consortium of three oil companies, led by Hardman Resources of Australia and including Falkland Islands Holdings and Global Petroleum, also of Australia.

The award is the first to be made to the South and South-East of the Falklands, and the first since 1996, when a number of licences were issued in the North Falklands Basin.

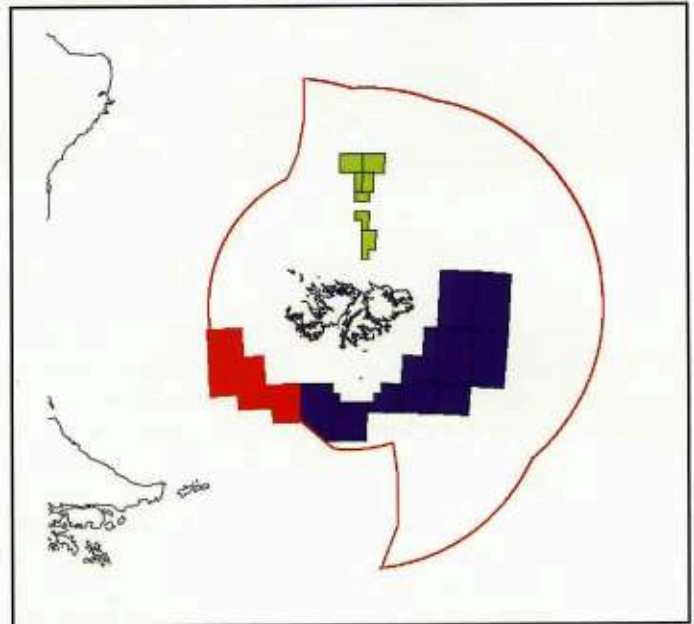
All the Patagonian continental shelf is petroliferous, and has been exploited since the 1930s on the Argentine coast. These new licences are in the same sedimentary basin and only a hundred kilometres from where ExxonMobil, the US oil group, struck oil in Argentine waters in 1981 but then lost interest when the area became a war zone in 1982.

Drilling in 1998

Out of six holes drilled in the North Falklands Basin in 1998 by Royal Dutch/Shell, Amerada Hess and LASMO, running oil was hit in one hole, oil shows in four and only one hole was completely dry. Moreover two source rocks were identified which one company considered the second best it had seen anywhere in the world. But results then did not justify further investment when the price of oil was only about 11 dollars a barrel. The price is now about \$25.

Southern Falklands waters attracted less interest in the past as the water is around 500 metres in depth. However, the technology has moved on in the last few years and production is now obtained by Petrobras off the Brazilian coast in one kilometre of water and in the Gulf of Mexico at this depth too.

The consortium will carry out an initial seismic study of the licence area, and more of these will follow over a three year period. Some work was done in this area in the 1970s and more in 1993. A decision about whether to drill would have to be made before five years or the licence will lapse.



Above, The Falklands Oil Blocks: In green are the 1996 licences in the North Falklands Basin. To the South-West in red is the joint area with Argentina, so far unexploited. To the South and South-East are the new licences just issued in blue.

Courtesy: British Geological Survey

David Hudd, chairman of Falkland Islands Holdings, the parent company of the Falkland Islands Company, and one of the consortium partners says: "Oil would help compliment the squid fishing that is the mainstay of the Falklands economy and even relatively modest finds would be good news for our company and the Islands".

Gibraltar - Argentina "Celebrates"

News of Foreign Secretary Jack Straw's announcement that Britain would be prepared to agree to shared sovereignty with Spain over Gibraltar caused immediate interest in Argentina. Argentine newspaper *Clarín* reported the next day that the Argentine Foreign Ministry was "celebrating".

"The Double-Standard Flies over Perejil"

That same day, armed Moroccan police occupied Perejil Island, a Spanish possession just 200 yards off the Moroccan coast, in a display of brinkmanship that clearly owed rather more to Mr. Straw's announcement over Gibraltar than the Moroccan King's wedding, as some papers naively speculated.

After a crisis that saw Spanish ships reinforcing its enclaves, Ceuta and Melilla on the Moroccan coast, powerful Spanish forces evicted the Moroccans on July 17th. The case attracted massive press attention in Britain, with *The Times* editorial saying the "Double Standard Flies Over Perejil" and the *Daily Telegraph* saying "The Biter Bit"

Spain has steadfastly refused to negotiate over Moroccan claims to sovereignty over Ceuta and Melilla, citing self-determination of the people as its reason. Spain, however, would deny that same right to the people of Gibraltar. Foreign Secretary Jack Straw has again reaffirmed the right of the people of Gibraltar to decide its future for itself. In July, when he announced the British Government's willingness to share sovereignty over Gibraltar, he also restated that it was the people of Gibraltar who would make the final decision. The



British Government has, however, since then said that it will not recognise the result of a referendum planned by the Gibraltar government which fiercely opposes the government's proposal.

This puts Gibraltar now into much the same position as the Falklands were in 1968, when the notorious "Memorandum of Understanding" came within a few days of being signed. This finally came to nothing, because Harold Wilson's Labour cabinet insisted on Islander consent being either included in the Memorandum or specifically linked to it (see Newsletter # 80 pages 20 & 21), a condition Argentina would not accept.

The Wilson Government was much more supportive of Gibraltar then. It was under pressure from Spain, as it is now. So in 1969, when Gibraltar was getting its new constitution, the Wilson Government put a guarantee into the preamble. This says that Britain "will never enter into arrangements under which the people of Gibraltar would pass under the sovereignty of another state against their freely and democratically expressed wishes". It would appear that that pledge is at risk now.

Britain Firm on Falklands Self-Determination

Below is the text of Prime Minister Tony Blair's message to Islanders on the 20th anniversary of the liberation.

I welcome this opportunity to speak to the people of the Falkland Islands on the 20th anniversary of the end of the Falklands conflict.

This is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made in 1982 to restore your right to determine your own future. I join you in paying tribute to the courage of British forces. Twenty years on they are showing similar courage around the world – in Afghanistan, in Sierra Leone, in the Balkans. As we remember the heroism of twenty years ago and of today, our thoughts must not be only with the servicemen and women directly involved, but also with their families. Your decision to grant the freedom of the Falkland Islands to members of the Armed Forces serving there is a fitting tribute to those who fought in 1982, and to those who still serve far from home to ensure your security and to defend the causes of freedom and justice around the world today.

This is also a time to remember the Argentine victims of the conflict. The approval by your government of a memorial to the Argentine dead is an impressive gesture of reconciliation. I know that Argentine next of kin are sympathetically received when they visit the Falklands.

Since your freedom was restored, you have been determined to shape your own economic and political future. The Islands are a vibrant, forward-looking community with a well-managed economy. Your system of government is growing into a mature democracy, linked in partnership with the United Kingdom. Yet you face tough decisions, crucial to the future of the Islands. How to sustain a viable economy outside Stanley? How to encourage the opening up of the Islands to more tourists, without damaging your local environment? I am confident that you will take the right decisions.

It's a time too to reflect on our relationship with



Argentina. In 1999, it was another tough choice which led Falkland Islands Legislative Councillors to start a dialogue with the Argentine Government. The Joint Statement of 14th

July that year was an important development in the relationship between the Falklands and your South Atlantic neighbours. Three years on our relations with Argentina are in good shape. Our forces serve together on peacekeeping missions around the world. We share many common concerns and interests. And we are committed to working with Argentina in addressing its serious economic difficulties. It is to everyone's benefit for Argentina to be a stable, prosperous democracy, willing and able to play a full role in the international community. And we will support Argentina's efforts to achieve those goals.

We will also continue to develop our practical dialogue with Argentina on South Atlantic issues. The South Atlantic Fisheries Commission, which is vital in ensuring the conservation of fish stocks, is one example of the benefits to all sides of co-operation. As neighbours, Argentina and the Falkland Islands have a shared interest in ensuring that other resources, such as hydrocarbons, are managed in a responsible way. And the participation of the Falkland Islands Government is crucial if we are to co-operate successfully.

In all our dealings with Argentina, however, we are absolutely clear that the sovereignty, security and right of self-determination of the Falkland Islands and its people are not open to negotiation or compromise. The Islands will be British for as long as you wish them to remain so. It is this commitment which should allow you to co-operate with your neighbours in a climate of confidence and trust.

So I join you in commemorating the liberation of the Falklands in 1982. And I recognise your achievement in making the Falkland Islands of today a self-confident and vibrant community. There can be no better memorial to those who fought for your rights in 1982.

Tony Blair

Re-Assurance from three British Ministers

"Different situation to Gibraltar"

Britain's announcement that it is willing to share sovereignty of Gibraltar with Spain caused jubilant reaction in Argentina and dismay in the Falklands whose Councillors expressed their concern in a letter to Foreign Secretary Jack Straw.

Speaking in a routine public meeting, Councillor Norma Edwards said a reassuring reply from him described the Falklands situation as entirely different from Gibraltar. But Councillor Mike Summers stressed the danger "that the very concept of self-determination is involved".

The former Menem Government in Argentina proposed shared sovereignty of the Falklands as a stepping stone to full Argentine sovereignty, for which they inserted a demand in their 1994 Constitution. The Argentine lobby in Britain is known to regard concessions over Gibraltar as a precedent for the Falklands.



Armed Forces Minister Adam Ingram MP (pictured), visiting the Falklands for the 20th anniversary of the war, said: **"These Islands shall remain British for as long as the Islanders wish them to".**

In his formal speech to mark the anniversary, he said: **"You may build your future confident that the British commitment to sovereignty, to self-determination, and to your security, is solid and enduring".** He saluted **"all those who have helped make the Falklands the place it is twenty years on. I praise your hard work and wish you ever greater success in the future".** He ended his speech with a toast to **"A secure and prosperous future for the Falkland Islands".**

On a previous visit, Defence Secretary Geoffrey Hoon MP, declared: "The United Kingdom and the current Government remain totally committed to the Islanders' right to self determination".

San Carlos Remembered

"So he passed over and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side". These poignant words are written on the tombstone of Private F F Slough of 2-Para, whose body lies in the cemetery at San Carlos, East Falklands.

In the early hours of the 21st May 1982, he with other members of his Regiment, waded ashore. By daybreak they had established a bridge-head – a significant British military advance in the liberation of the Islands. He was just 19, and tragically was to die on June 14, just a few hours before Argentine troops laid down their arms, so ending the Falklands War and 10 weeks of Argentine occupation.

More than two hundred people gathered at San Carlos to pay their respects "For those who died in the events leading to the initial landings at Blue Beach, San Carlos and the Battle for Goose Green". In San Carlos Bay, which became known simply as 'bomb alley', as a result of the constant attacks by Argentine aircraft, two Royal Navy ships sat at anchor. Close-by a bobbing red buoy significantly marks the place where H.M.S. Antelope lies on the bottom of the sea – a victim of an Argentine air attack.

At precisely 11 o'clock on May 21st, Military Chaplain, Squadron Leader, the Reverend Ken Wilson, RAF, began the commemoration service saying: "We are gathered here today to remember before God those who gave their lives at sea, on land or in the air in the Falklands Conflict; but especially all those involved in the actions between the Landing Operations at Blue Beach San Carlos and the battle for Goose Green, together with the death of Captain John Hamilton at Port Howard ... they died in the cause of justice, freedom and peace".

While a lone piper played a lament, Governor Donald Lamont laid a wreath bearing the inscription, "From His Excellency the Governor on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen and all the people of the Falkland Islands".

The Commander British Forces Falkland Islands, Commodore Richard Ibbotson, laid a wreath on behalf of the Chief of the Defence Staff and all ranks of the three Services.

Islanders' Tributes

Many civilians took the opportunity to remember the British Forces who landed at San Carlos and liberated the Islands. Doreen and Gerald Dixon, who lived at the settlement in 1982, wrote: "To all those who laid down their lives for us". Eric and Shirley Goss, who were imprisoned at Goose Green, laid a wreath saying: "We remember all who gave the supreme sacrifice for our freedom".

On a still, sunny but chill winter's day and as the waves gently lapped on the small sand beach where 5,000 British troops came ashore twenty years ago, the priest offered the Act of Remembrance. "We remember before God and commend to his safe keeping those who died for their country in these Islands, those whom we knew and whose memory we treasure; and all who have died in the service of mankind".



Above: The Military Chaplain, the Squadron Leader the Reverend Ken Wilson conducts the service. Above photos by Patrick Watts, photo below by the Ministry of Defence

A number of soldiers who landed on the Falklands twenty years ago were present. Captain David Abols, a member of the Parachute Regiment who came ashore at Blue Beach 20 years ago, recalled "the intense cold as we walked through water up to our waist in order to get ashore... I was surprised that we landed unopposed... I kept wondering where the Argentines were".

David Abols, then a 24 year old Corporal, was awarded the DCM for his actions during the battle for Darwin and Goose Green.

Patrick Watts





HMS Sheffield

On a lonely shore of beautiful Sea Lion Island stands the monument to the 20 men lost with HMS Sheffield. Islanders remember them with a service each year on Remembrance Day.

This year there was a special service on the date of her sinking. Commander British Forces Falkland Islands, Commodore R.J.Ibbotson, DSC, and Commander S.Pearson of HMS Newcastle laid wreaths at the monument. *Photos MoD*



HMS Coventry

The monument to HMS Coventry is on Pebble Island looking out to where she was sunk while serving as an anti-aircraft picket protecting the landing site at San Carlos. The Islanders on Pebble, Diane Betts, Arina Berntsen and Raymond Evans, joined military mourners for the special commemoration service (below).



Liberation Service at Goose Green

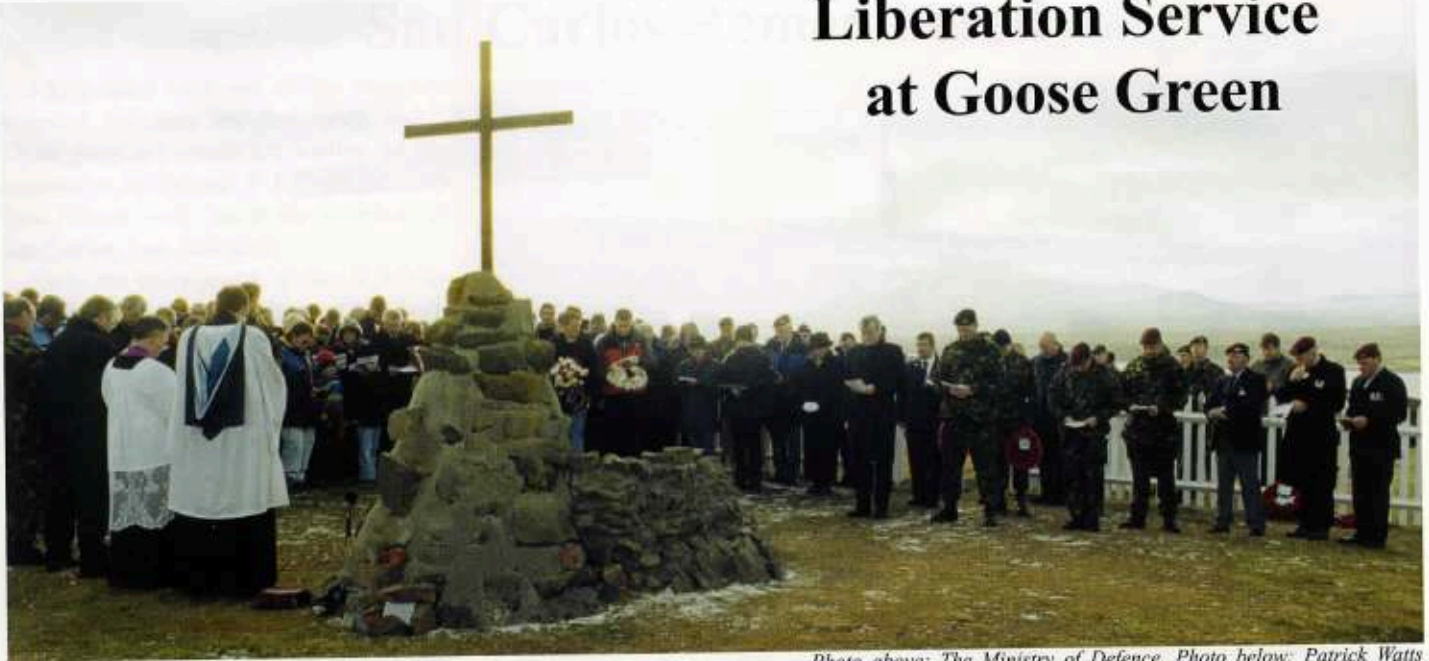


Photo above: The Ministry of Defence. Photo below: Patrick Watts

Goose Green Memorial

Above: Old comrades, Falkland Islanders, members of the Falklands Garrison and Governor Lamont at the service at the crest of Darwin Hill, where the main action of the Battle of Goose Green took place. This led to the liberation of the settlement and release of more than a hundred Islanders imprisoned in the Social Club there for weeks.

After the service, everyone gathered by the monument (photo right).



Lt. Nicholas Taylor - A Brave Pilot

Every year on Remembrance Sunday, the people of Darwin and Goose Green pay their respects, not just at the Goose Green Battle Memorial (above), but also to the first man to lay down his life at Goose Green - Lt. Nicholas Taylor, who was shot down in his Harrier during a British air attack on Goose Green airfield.

This year a service (below) was held on the anniversary of his death, with local children (right) laying flowers in his memory.



Photos: Ministry of Defence



Fitzroy Commemoration



Above: Commander British Forces Falkland Islands, Commodore R.J.Ibbotson, DSC, lays a wreath for the Armed Forces at the Sir Galahad Memorial at Fitzroy. Left: Governor Lamont stands to attention as the wreath is laid at the Welsh Guards monument at Fitzroy.

Below: Captain Robin Green pays his respects. He was Captain of the RFA Sir Tristram which was bombed with the Sir Galahad in 1982.



Above: The reception in Fitzroy Social Club after the commemoration service.

Photo above: Penguin News, Photo right: P.Watts



The service at the Welsh Guards Memorial at Fitzroy, seen from a distance.

Photo: Ministry of Defence

Minister Leads Liberation Tribute

The climax of the 20th Anniversary Commemorations was the ceremony at the Liberation Monument in Stanley on June 14th, the date the Argentines surrendered to General Jeremy Moore. Islanders, veterans from 1982 and contingents from all of the Armed Forces and the FIDF took part.



Left: Armed Forces Minister, Adam Ingram, pays his respects to the fallen at the Liberation Monument in Stanley. Above: Governor Donald Lamont and Commander of British Forces Falklands Islands, Commodore Ibbotson, taking part in the service. Photos: The Ministry of Defence and Penguin News



Above: The standard of the Royal British Legion is lowered at the Commemoration Service. Photo: Kevin Clapp

Left: The Commemoration Service at the Liberation Monument in Stanley.

Photo: MoD

Right: Wreathlayers; Captain Dennis Scott-Masson, CBE, (In wheelchair) Captain of the Canberra in 1982. In the middle, Brigadier D.P. de C. Morgan, OBE Commander of the 1/7 Duke of Edinburgh's Gurkha Rifles. On the right: Brigadier Roddy McDonald, OBE, of the Royal Engineers, who was mentioned in dispatches in 1982.

Photo: MoD



Above: Islanders, including Mr. Terry Peck, Mr. Les Biggs, Miss Sian Davies, Mr. Vernon Steen, Mr. Gerald Cheek, and Mr. "Taff" Davies, taking part in the Memorial Service at the Liberation Monument in Stanley and ready to lay their wreaths. *Photo: Kevin Clapp*



Above Right: Mr. Gerald Cheek lays the wreath for the Falkland Islands Association. *Photo: Kevin Clapp*

Below: The Royal Air Force contingent at the Commemoration Service, with Islanders in front and behind, well wrapped up against the cold. *Photo: MoD*



Above: Governor Lamont inspects the Parachute Regt. contingent at the Memorial Service.

Below: The parade passing the saluting base, opposite Victory Green with the Falkland Islands Defence Force on the right. *Photo: Penguin News*



Falklands War Anniversary Tributes

Margaret Thatcher at anniversary events



The twentieth anniversary of the Falklands War has been commemorated in the Falkland Islands and Britain with a series of events which focused on gratitude to the armed forces, especially remembering the 255 British servicemen who died liberating the Falklands.

In a unique gesture, the Freedom of the Falklands has been bestowed on the Armed Forces in a ceremony performed by the Governor, Mr. Donald Lamont, on June 14th, exactly 20 years after the Argentine surrender. Islanders look forward to thanking personally about 200 South Atlantic Medal Association veterans visiting the Islands in November.

Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was the central figure in the ceremonies in Britain, which included a Families Association service in Saint Paul's Cathedral in London.

Baroness Thatcher, aged 76, frail after a stroke earlier this year, nevertheless demonstrated the remarkable stamina and determination which earned her the nickname "the Iron Lady". Though forbidden on medical advice to make public speeches, she did pay tribute to the Task Force as guest of honour on the liner Queen Elizabeth II, used as a troopship in 1982. She also enjoyed speaking to many 1982 veterans at a service and parade at Gosport where the veterans had held a reunion the day before. During the service, in Falklands Gardens, Baroness Thatcher laid a single white rose at the memorial, followed by local children who laid 255 flowers, one for each of the British servicemen killed in the war.

She wrote in the programme for the service: "This memorial reminds us of those who fought heroically so that others might regain their freedom, and also reminds us of those who sadly did not return. Though we gather here today to mark their achievements, we do not need physical monuments. In our hearts we shall never forget them". The Royal Marines Band led the parade through the streets of Gosport.

Lincoln's Inn - Islanders "forever grateful" to forces

Next day Baroness Thatcher was warmly welcomed at the annual Falklands Government reception (at Lincoln's Inn in London) along with several hundred Falklands supporters.

Tribute was paid to her by the Falkland Islands Government Representative, Miss Sukey Cameron, who spoke of the Islanders' admiration for the courage and determination of those who sent the Task Force.

In her address, Miss Cameron strongly reaffirmed the

Above Left: Falklands veteran, Prince Andrew, after the service at Pangbourne. Above: the scene in the Memorial Chapel after the service. Below: Conservative Leader Mr. Iain Duncan Smith at Pangbourne. His old regiment, the Scots Guards, fought at Tumbledown. In the background is Falklands veteran, Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Squire.



Islanders' wish to remain British. She said the anniversary ceremonies in both the Falklands and Britain recall "the sacrifices made by so many to restore our freedom". She declared: "We will remain forever grateful to those who fought for that freedom and those who made the ultimate sacrifice".

"Freedom hard won, easily lost"

In an oblique reference to Argentina's persistent claim to sovereignty and British determination to resist, Miss Cameron said: "Freedom is hard won and easily lost. There are still those who would take it from us. With your help and support we will remain British, as we wish, and continue along the path of peace and progress". As a British Overseas Territory, she said, the Falklands' rights to self-determination, security and citizenship are guaranteed.

Describing the great advances since 1982 in education, social services, and the economy, she said young Islanders, having attained qualifications in the UK, return to the Islands confident about the future. Visitors remark about the Islanders vibrancy and self-confidence. "We face the future with confidence", she said, "ever mindful of those who gave us that future".

Pangbourne Commemoration Service



Falklands veteran Prince Andrew leaves the Memorial Chapel at Pangbourne, escorted by Captain Michael Barrow, Chairman of the Chapel Trustees and Captain of HMS Glamorgan in 1982 and the Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, Phillip Wroughton. Below: The Lord Lieutenant takes the salute as Pangbourne cadets march past. Photos: H.Briley & T.Clapp



Duke of York remembers

Sir Rex Hunt then read out a reply from the Queen to a message of loyal greetings.

"Please convey my warm thanks to Falkland Islanders and their friends attending the annual reception at Lincoln's Inn for their kind and loyal message of greetings sent on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the liberation of the Islands. I much appreciate and warmly reciprocate their good wishes on this memorable occasion. Elizabeth R".

The Duke of York, who fought in the war as a Navy helicopter pilot, was the principal guest at a service of remembrance at the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel at Pangbourne in Berkshire. Also taking part were Captain Michael Barrow, DSO, who commanded the warship HMS Glamorgan in 1982, the Reverend Angus Smith, chaplain to the 1st Battalion Scots Guards in 1982, and the Reverend David Cooper, former chaplain to the 2nd Battalion the Parachute Regiment.

Prayers for Falklands War sufferers

Among the prayers was that of the South Atlantic Medal Association giving thanks for freedom, saying: "We remember with gratitude and humility those of our number who paid that freedom's price".

The congregation included Task Force Commander, Admiral Sir John Woodward and Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Squire, who led Harrier raids on the Argentine forces in 1982. There were fly-pasts by RAF aircraft at Pangbourne and by a Sea Harrier at Gosport.

The anniversary has been comprehensively covered in the media. In a letter to the newspapers, Sukey Cameron described the Falklands of today as "self-governing, dynamic, and full of confidence..." Her letter added: "The bravery of those who defended our shores will never be forgotten, and we hope that such terrible events and loss of life are never experienced again... The British Government has pledged its support and tells us sovereignty is not negotiable". **HWB**

Veterans' Reunion

Falklands Veterans met again at HMS Sultan, Gosport, to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the War. Organised by Derek Cole of SAMA-82, the reunion took place on June 15th, the day before the Commemoration Service at Falklands Gardens, Gosport (See over page).

Jim Davidson, who is well known for his support for British Forces, compèred the entertainment, and the Kenny Jones Band and the group Lot 69, helped provide this - all without charging for their services.

The Parachute Regiment display team, the Red Devils, made a parachute descent into the reunion, and the event was attended by the late Mayor of Gosport, Councillor Geoff Bartlett, Sir Rex Hunt and Miss Sukey Cameron.



Reunion organiser, Derek Cole and his wife Karen. Their hard work ensured the success of the event.



Gordon Monks, Communications Signaman on the ammunition ship, RFA Resource, in 1982, buying a lottery ticket from Lynne Hayhoe. Proceeds of the lottery are going towards the veterans' pilgrimage in November.



Mrs Michelle Tyler with baby Cerys on her knee, daughter April and Steve (Bonnie) Tyler who was cook on HMS Conqueror in 1982.



Football supporters Paddy Gallagher and Pete Loftus from HMS Argonaut in 1982 marking another defeat for Argentina - this time in the World Cup.



Martin Scott, helicopter aircrewman with Prince Andrew's 820 Helicopter Squadron, Sharron his partner, and SAMA co-founder Denzil Connick.



Chris Andrew, of 3-Para, and Steve Taylor and Mick Campbell of 2-Para, all veterans of 1982.



Paul Young of HMS Hermes, Bill Stevens of 40-Commando and Graham Jones of HQ Sigs 3-Commando.

QE-II Tribute

Although frail after two small strokes, Baroness Thatcher disobeyed doctor's orders on June 14th to speak on board the liner Queen Elizabeth II in Southampton. She did so both in the Captain's cabin, where she unveiled a plaque recording the great ship's role as a troopship in 1982, and again at a Falklands Commemoration lunch on board.

The reunion was packed. Sir Rex and Lady Hunt were there; so was veteran Simon Weston, Des and Sarah Keoghane from the Falklands Families Association and many others.

Photo Right. Sir Rex, Baroness Thatcher, Captain Paul Wright and Lady Hunt.



Sir Rex Hunt reunited with 1982 RAF pilot

Sir Rex Hunt has been reunited for the first time for 20 years with the RAF Hercules pilot who flew him back to the Islands after the Argentine surrender in 1982. He is Squadron Leader Harry Burgoyne who was awarded the Air Force Cross for his service during the Falklands War and was stationed there again in 2001 (photo right).

The RAF arranged the reunion for the 20th anniversary. Twenty years ago they got to know each other well on the 13-hour flight from Ascension Island to the Falklands. The reunion flight was much shorter and less tense – only between two RAF Hercules bases, Lyneham in Wiltshire and Brize Norton in Oxfordshire, where Sir Rex Hunt's marathon 1982 flight began to resume British administration of the Falklands.

Sir Rex is an ex-RAF Spitfire pilot as well as a seasoned Hercules passenger, having been evacuated in this aircraft from Saigon as one of the last diplomats to leave South Vietnam

before its fall in 1975. Sir Rex said: "It was wonderful to see Harry again. It brought all the memories flooding back. I remember my 1982 flight very well. Thirteen hours in a Hercules is a long time, but Harry was a charming host".



Photo: Marc Harris DCCS Photography

Gosport Reunion Contd.



Above: Jim Davidson, the entertainer, who is well known for his support for Britain's Armed Forces. He compered the entertainment, giving his time free, as did all the other entertainers.



Old friends from HMS Antrim in 1982. Among the above are: Seaman Radar, Andy "Trigger" Rodgers (with Union Jack Shirt). To the right of him are Gunner Kev Johnson (Army), AB Sonar Nobby Clark, Chief GI Bomber Wells and PO Les Adams. In the front row is "Spike" Hughes, Lt. Pete Dearling and his son Stephen.

Commemoration Service Gosport



The Commemoration Service taking place in Falklands Gardens, Gosport, overlooking Portsmouth Harbour.



Falklands Pledge Fulfilled

Sir Rex (photographed above) praised Falkland Islanders for fulfilling their post war pledge to build a better future, to ensure the war had been worthwhile and that British lives had not been lost in vain. "Today", he said, "That pledge has been fulfilled. They are now a prosperous, vibrant community with a bright future".

He praised the late Admiral Fieldhouse for his conduct of the campaign and said: "We remember with everlasting gratitude all the members of the Task Force who put their lives at risk to win back the Islanders' democratic right to self-determination".

Sir Rex recalled Lady Thatcher's memorable words, "Today again the Union Jack flies in Stanley and may it ever fly there" and added: "It is our duty to continue to ensure that it does".

Geoffrey Bartlett - Tragic Death

The Mayor of Gosport, Councillor Geoffrey Bartlett, who played a major part in the Commemoration Service and other celebrations at Gosport, died the following night of a heart attack. Geoffrey Bartlett was an officer on Admiral Fieldhouse's staff during the Falklands War and was widely respected in Gosport and elsewhere.

Sir Rex Hunt has written to his widow to express the Association's condolences.



Falklands veterans on parade at the service, with SAMA-82 co-founder Denzil Connick on the right.



Baroness Thatcher rises to lay a flower escorted by the late Mayor Geoffrey Bartlett and Sir Rex Hunt.



Left: Relatives who lost loved ones in the war lay flowers at the memorial in Falklands Gardens, overlooking the harbour from where many of the ships sailed in 1982. Above: Local schoolchildren lay more flowers until there was one for every British life lost.



Above: The parade passes the saluting base where Baroness Thatcher, the late Mayor Geoffrey Bartlett and Captain Betteridge, Commander of HMS Sultan took the salute. HMS Sultan is the naval training establishment at Gosport that had hosted the veterans reunion the day before (see page 12 & 13).

All Photos: PPepper



Above: Baroness Thatcher talks to veterans after the parade through Gosport High Street. Right: Surrounded by veterans and others, Baroness Thatcher shares a joke with the late Mayor Geoffrey Bartlett.



20th Anniversary Li



Miss Sukey Cameron, Falklands Government Representative in London, escorts Baroness Thatcher at the Reunion. Above Right: Baroness Thatcher greets Mrs Mary Chapelin in her wheelchair.



Islander Debbie Ford, Sam Allanson-Bailey, and Islander Jenny Smith all of whom work at the Falklands Government office in London



Canon Murphy, former Rector of Christ Church, Colonel "H" Jones and Mr. Des Keoghane, who



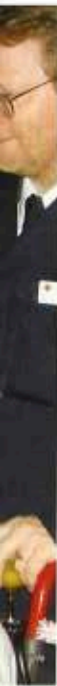
Islander Karen Clapp and Mr. Alan Penrith, both of the Foreign Office. Top photo by Lewis Photos, others by PPepper



Falkland Islands Association Vice-Chairman Saul Pitaluga and his wife Caroline.

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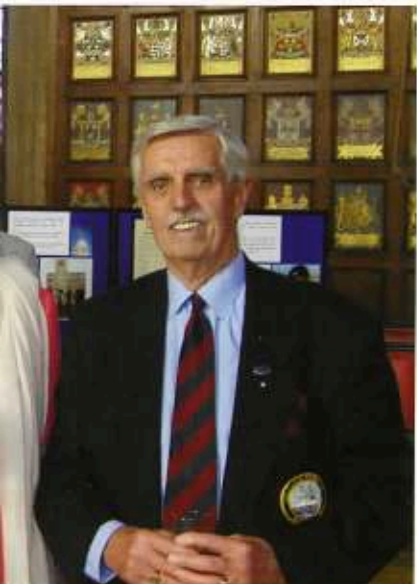
Lincoln's Inn Reception



Mr. James Brewster and Lord Hurd, President of the Falkland Islands Association. Mr. Brewster's prefabricated wooden houses have been widely used in Stanley and elsewhere in the Falklands.



Former Governor of the Falklands, Sir Cosmo and Lady Haskard. Sir Cosmo was the champion of the Falklands during the dangerous years 1967/68 when the government was preparing the infamous "Memorandum of Understanding" in an effort to give the Falklands away.



Cathedral, Mrs Sara Jones widow of lost his son on the Sir Galahad.



Jenny Smith, Miranda and Richard McKee and Robert and Diane Hall, daughter of Mr. Gerald Cheek, Association Chairman in the Falklands.



Above: Former Governor David Tatham, Mr. John Dew, Head of the FCO Americas Section, and Mr. Robin Wood, Chairman of Falklands Conservation. Above Right: The Hon Alexandra Shackleton and Dr. Phil Richards of the British Geological Survey.





Above: May Queen, Rebecca Ross and Prince Charming, Sean Moffatt.

May Ball Pictures



Above: May Princess, Roxanne Morrison, who is also well known as an athlete.

Below Runner up for the title of Prince Charming, Kyle Biggs. Below Right: Rachel Goodwin, a delightful competitor.



Infant/Junior School pupils with a cheque for the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Care for Children Fund. Together with the Community School they raised £2,200.



Liz Roberts winning the "Stars in their Eyes" Competition. This event raised £1,416.98 for the SAMA pilgrimage in November. *Photos by Penguin News*



Above: Nora Smith receiving her prize from Deputy Governor Russ Jarvis. Above right: Keith Alazia winner of the mens contest.

Governor's Cup Darts

Photo: Kevin Clapp



The Falklands in Photos



Mid-Winter Madness - Islanders, Servicemen, and many others take part in the annual charity swim at Surf Bay. This sponsored event raised funds for the Falkland Islands Overseas Games Association and the Seamen's Mission. Below Left: Louise McGregor Edwards, dressed as a nun, and Amelia Clarke watch the, rather chilly, fun.



Below Left: The "Jelly Tots" fancy dress ball in full swing. Above right: Caitlin Burston dressed as Florence Nightingale Imogen Goss came as a Governor. Below right are Stephanie Taylor and Leslie Stewart.

Photos: Penguin News



Winners - Again - in TES Newsday Competition

For the fourth time, Falklands youngsters have won the international prize in the Times Educational Supplement Newsday Competition.

The competition involves producing a newspaper in one day from start to finish. Falklands students from the Community School in Stanley did this on March 14th.

Front page stories included the failure of the Lockerbie bomber's appeal and the arrival of more Reindeer in the Falklands from South Georgia on the Poncet family yacht Golden Fleece.

Other news in the interior of the paper included a local car crash story; an account of the latest financial disaster from Argentina; and coverage of a visiting Chinese provincial delegation.

Features included some accounts from people who had experienced the Falklands War, and of two soldiers who had fought in it.



Above: Representing the Falkland Islands Community School team at the prize giving at the Houses of Parliament are: T.J.Ellick (16), Kim Finlayson (16), Caris Stevens (15), and Shaun Jaffray (15). Presenting the prizes is Channel Four Newsreader, Krishnan Guru-Murthy.

Left: After the ceremony, the Falklands prize winners pose outside with the Houses of Parliament in the background.



“Pearls of the Seven Seas” - at the FCO



The Falklands were represented at the London String of Pearls Golden Jubilee Festival.

This began with a reception at the impressive FCO buildings on July 1st, to introduce the “Pearls of the Seven Seas” Exhibition the next day. Minister Baroness Amos attended, and a dozen other British Overseas Territories were represented too. The Falklands stand was manned by Sam Allanson-Bailey (on the left in the photo, on the right is visitor, Janet Hawks). Islander Graham Bound gave a lecture on the Falklands as a holiday destination.

Royal Commonwealth Society

The display went on to The Royal Commonwealth Society at the end of July. Promotional literature was distributed and the video “Falkland Islands Journeys 1” shown.

Falklands Shooters at Bisley - Imperial Meet

The Falklands were again represented at the Imperial Meet at Bisley. They came 8th in the Junior Overseas, 9th in the Junior Mackinnon and 10th in the Junior Kolapore, as always competing against teams from countries that had more shooters than the Falklands have people.

Left: Ken Aldridge gets up from the 600 yard firing point after shooting in the Junior Kolapore.

Right: The Falklands team: Ken Aldridge, Derek Petterson, Gareth Goodwin and Ron Betts.



JUNIOR KOLAPORE 2002

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Commonwealth Games

A series of personal bests and new National records confirmed that the Commonwealth Games of 2002 was the most successful ever for the Falklands. Medals were not expected and 37 of the 72 entering countries went home without any.

Rifle Shooting

The two Falklands full-bore rifle shooters achieved a best ever placing in the Pairs event, with a combined score of 560.41. This was a massive 22 points better than the previous Falklands record set in Victoria in 1994. Both Derek Petterson and Gareth Goodwin individually scored 280, beating Stan Smith's 1986 best of 278. The team finished ahead of much bigger countries such as Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Isle of Man and Malawi.

In the Individual event, Gareth Goodwin got the highest ever scores for the Falklands in all three stages of the competition. His final total of 390.39 smashed Ken Aldridge's 1994 record by 16 points, and Gareth's final placing of 24th, just 14 points behind the gold medallist, was by far the highest ever placing for a Falklands competitor in this event. He finished ahead of more experienced shooters from Kenya, Canada,

Guyana, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Bermuda, Barbados & Samoa. Gareth was the unchallenged winner of the Falklands 'Performance of Merit' medal.

In the 25m Centre Fire pistol event, Graham Didlick got excellent scores, finishing with 530, beating his previous best by 21 points, and coming a most creditable 23rd overall.

Clay Pigeon

Clay Pigeon shooter Saul Pitaluga maintained his high level of competitiveness for the Falklands. In the Men's Trap - Singles event, he recorded scores of 21, 19, 21, 20 & 24 to finish with 105, which gave him an impressive 23rd placing in a field of 37. Another personal best.

In short, to quote Colin McEachern the Scottish shooter, lawyer, coach and Shooting Team Manager: "The Falklands shooters performed magnificently, and all you can ever ask for is to achieve personal bests and this they did and more, by breaking Falklands records". Falklands Shooting Team Manager Ken Aldridge saw his individual record broken by Gareth



Above: Rifle shooters, Derek Petterson, Rifle Team Manager Ken Aldridge, and Gareth Goodwin at Bisley.

Below Left: Team manager, Patrick Watts, with Governor Donald Lamont and his wife Lynda at Manchester.



Goodwin, and was delighted by his team's performance. He praised their commitment throughout the ten days of competition.

The two badminton players, Douglas Clarke and Christopher Eynon, predictably found the going tough, and lost in the first round of the singles and doubles events. However, just their appearance attracted much interest in the media. One local radio station followed their fortunes on a daily basis.

For the Falklands, the Games provided an excellent opportunity to remind half-a-billion people world-wide, who watched the Opening Ceremony, that this small Overseas Territory of Britain is proud to play its part within the Common-

wealth. It reminded the world that, 20 years on from the War, the Islands are British, and provided ample opportunities for good publicity. Interviews were given to BBC Radio 5, BBC World Service, Sydney Talks Radio and various British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand newspapers, while Falklands competitors appeared several times on BBC television. It is not just a sporting occasion for the Falklands, but a public relations exercise as well.

It was good to have, for the first time, the President of the Falkland Islands Overseas Games Association (FIOGA) Governor Lamont and his wife Lynda at the opening ceremony and reception and visiting the team at the Games Village.

The next objective is to send a team to the Island Games in Guernsey next year, and perhaps to the Commonwealth Youth Championships in Australia in 2004. And it is only four years away to the next Commonwealth Games in Melbourne!

Finally the team, officials, and all members of FIOGA express their thanks to - the major sponsors, the Falkland Islands Company, Cable & Wireless, Morrisons and Osbornes in the UK - to the many people within the Islands who contributed: through the mid-winter swim, donations and raffles and to Councillors who continue to offer financial and moral support.

Patrick Watts



Above: Saul Pitaluga, about to go onto the Bisley skeet range with his shotgun.

Ascension Island Campaign for Democracy

Britain has promised Ascension Island residents democratic control over their own affairs in place of colonial-type administration. It was responding to inhabitants' complaints that they are denied basic democratic rights.

Most of the 850 inhabitants come from Saint Helena. Though British citizens, they have no vote and no property rights, even those born there or resident for many years. Recently this has been aggravated by the imposition of income tax, property tax, and a tax on alcohol and tobacco that has doubled prices. They want self-determination.

The Islanders, who receive no subsidy from Britain, have formed action committees, threatened legal action under the European Convention on Human Rights, and sent a petition to the Foreign Office, with 300 signatures. This declares:

"We the undersigned deplore the introduction of taxation without representation on Ascension and the failure of the Ascension Island Government and the British Government to consult adequately and take into account the views of the people of Ascension. We call upon the Ascension Island Government and the British Government to introduce democratic representation without delay".

Ascension Island Services personnel services director,

Lawson Henry, is quoted as saying: "We love Britain and being British. Power should be in the hands of the people, but the officials are terrified of losing control. Everything we try to do is undermined by the Government and FCO. If we dislike who is governing us, we want to be able to kick them out".

Minister promises democratic representation

They are critical of the Governor of Saint Helena, David Hallamby, who oversees administration of Ascension from 800 miles away, with no air link. He plans to introduce an elected council with the right to advise him but not to make decisions. He is quoted as favouring a gradual approach to gain experience leading to more responsibilities.

Minister for Overseas Territories, Baroness Amos, has told Parliament that views on options for democratic representation are being canvassed. "We want to see democratic representation in place quickly", she says. Ministers concede that the constitutional situation for Ascension Island and its links with Saint Helena are basically untenable.

Ascension Island has been occupied by the British since 1815 when a military garrison was stationed there to prevent Napoleon escaping from exile on Saint Helena.

Nicholas Winterton Knighthood

Falkland Islands supporter and Chairman of the All Party Falkland Islands Group at Westminster, Nicholas Winterton, MP for Macclesfield, was made a knight in the Birthday Honours.



OBE For Lewis Clifton

Lewis Clifton has been awarded the OBE in the Queen's birthday honours for services to the Falklands. He has been Falkland Islands Government Representative in London, a Councillor, and chaired the 2002 Committee organising the 20th Anniversary Commemoration programme, that has just taken place.



Monsignor McPartland Takes Over

Monsignor Michael McPartland is to take over as Roman Catholic priest at St Mary's Church, Stanley. He is 62, was a sergeant in the Army, and will have pastoral responsibility for Ascension, St Helena and Tristan de Cunha too. He replaces Monsignor Agreiter who sadly had to retire because of cancer and is currently having treatment in Innsbruck, Austria.

Richard marries Jemma

Former Falklands Governor, Richard Ralph, now Ambassador to Romania, has married his partner, Jemma Marlor, whom he met in the Falklands, where she was working as a legal secretary in a solicitor's office.

His wedding was attended by Romania's Prime Minister, Adrian Nastase, and Princess Margarita, daughter of Romania's former king.



Falklands backs Home Base

The Falklands Government (FIG) has made its first annual donation of £1,000 to Home Base, a UK charity that helps ex-servicemen facing homelessness. This follows an initial donation of £5,000 last year. 25% of those living rough in Britain have served in the Armed Forces.

Nadia Al Khudhairy (Photographed right with Miss Sukey Cameron), Project Manager of Home Base, comments: "The funds generously donated by the Falkland Islands Government have enabled Home Base to increase the number of individuals they are able to assist from nine to twenty one. It is hoped within the next 12 months funds donated will enable us to increase this number to thirty two."



FIG Representative Sukey Cameron commented: "Supporting this and other charities related to the British military is an important and constructive way for us to demonstrate the continued gratitude and respect we have for the British Forces."

Other military charities benefiting from FIG contributions include: The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund; Royal Naval Benevolent Fund for Officers; Royal Naval Benevolent Fund and The Army Benevolent Fund. Other donations have been made to Royal Marines Memorial, SSAFFA and South Atlantic Medal Association (SAMA-82).

Home Base is based at Bishop Creighton House, Lillie Road, London, and can be reached on Tel: 0958-729638.

Falklands at Royal Show

Enormous interest was received at the Falklands' stand at the Royal Agricultural Show at Stoneleigh, and much information - especially agricultural - was distributed.

Islanders were interviewed on Farming Today and featured in the Coventry Evening Telegraph. Among the visitors were Princess Anne, MPs Michael Meacher and Jim Paice, and Falklands vet in 1982, Steve Whitley.



L to R: Director of Agriculture, Dr. Peter Johnston, farmers Mr. Justin Knight, Mr. Leon Marsh, Mr. Keith Knight and Mr. Ian Hansen, Chairman of the Falklands Rural Business Association.

Left: Princess Anne visits. On the left are Mr. Alan Hansen and Miss Sukey Cameron. On the right is Lord De Ramsay President of the Royal Agricultural Show.

Falklands organic lamb for UK

It is predicted that British housewives will be able to buy Falklands organic lamb in United Kingdom food shops as early as next year. The project, reported in the British press, is to export around 30,000 young lambs and 70,000 mutton next year.

Falkland Islands Chief Executive, Dr Michael Blanch, is reported as saying that the £1.5 million new Stanley abattoir is expected to receive European Union approval this year.

He said: "We have had great success marketing organic, pesticide-free potatoes, cabbage and salad vegetables to the Ministry of Defence (for the Falklands garrison) and to cruise ships in the past five years. We intend to market the lamb to the UK in the same way - as 'clean and green'".

More Reindeer

The Poncet family are now farming reindeer at their home on Beaver Island, having imported 16 reindeer in March from South Georgia on board their yacht, the *Golden Fleece*.

Reindeer are good to eat, have fine skins, and their antlers, which weigh up to 5 kilos, fetch large sums of money in New Zealand where they are also farmed. These are used throughout Asia for traditional medicines and aphrodisiacs.

The Poncet family reindeer are from a different, and biologically isolated and distinct, herd on South Georgia from those imported last year by the Agriculture Department.

Mandy Shepherd Exhibition

Fourteen paintings of the Falklands by artist Mandy Shepherd went on show this month at the Falklands Government Office in London. All are for sale, with a percentage going to Falklands Conservation. Four were sold during the opening reception!

Major-General Malcolm Hunt, a trustee of Falklands Conservation, who took part in the Falklands War and was later CO of British Forces in the Falklands, gave the address. Other guests included former Managing Director of the Falkland Islands Company, Mr. Frank Mitchell, FCO Head of Overseas Territories, Mr. Huckle and Head of Polar Regions, Dr. Mike Richardson, who is shown with Mandy in the photograph opposite. Others included Mr. Drake and Mr. Jones of the Falklands desk and Islanders, Anna-Lisa Johnson and Erling Kenny.

Mandy's exhibition runs until October 14th. Replacing it will be an exhibition of photographs by Ian Strange and his daughter Georgina.

Fishing Vessel Disasters

The Korean longliner *Han Dong 11* sank in the early hours of June 19th off Mengeary Point. Her first distress message was received just before midnight saying that the ship was taking on water in the engine room. The launches *Frank Wild* and *Speedwell*, the tanker *Zalgiris*, *HMS Newcastle*, the RFA *Grey Rover*, and several jiggers all went to the stricken vessel's aid. The *Beagle* followed with a fire team.

Half the crew had taken to the liferafts by half-past midnight and the launches which got to the scene first took off all remaining crew members together with their basic belongings. The *Frank Wild* stood by the stricken vessel until she sank at 3.52 am.

Jigger burns

Taiwanese jigger *Tunggal Jaya 18* (Photo right) came close to the same fate. On July 5th it was reported to be on fire in Berkeley Sound. The crew abandoned ship and reached the *Saronic Breeze* anchored close by. The fire burned itself out, leaving the ship a write-off, but still afloat. Its fate is yet to be determined.



H. Jones - Hero or Hothead? Above all Courageous

"H. Jones VC: The Life and Death of an Unusual Hero", by John Wilsey, published by Hutchinson, Random House, 20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2SA. Hardback, price £18.99 ISBN 0 09 179 355 6. E-mail: www.randomhouse.co.uk

A new book about 2-Para commanding officer, Lt Col. H. Jones VC, killed at Goose Green in the 1982 Falklands War, defends him against criticisms of reckless impetuosity and foolhardiness leading to his death. He was awarded the Commonwealth's highest medal for valour, the Victoria Cross.

The book, by his friend and fellow officer, retired General Sir John Wilsey, says the criticisms, written and on television, were deeply hurtful to his friends and family.

The book says Col H, as he was known, was "opinionated, stubborn and impatient.... But his virtues were noble and strong: courage, honour, loyalty and devotion to true friend and cause alike". Facing the supreme challenge, "his intense commitment and profound sense of duty was likely to demand and secure the ultimate sacrifice".



Goose Green - crucial turning point

Failure to seize Darwin and Goose Green in the first land battle of the campaign would have resulted in humiliating British defeat in the war as a whole. Colonel H, sensing a critical, decisive moment had been reached, "rose to meet his destiny and his death", setting off on his doomed charge, firing his sub-machine gun, until he was shot. But his sheer determination and the diversionary effect shifted the balance. Soon afterwards the Argentine defence collapsed.

The book says that before Goose Green, Task Force Commander, Admiral Fieldhouse in London, gave the Army the impression that rather than lose more ships, he was ready to lift the troops off the beaches unless progress was made.

It quotes a fellow Paratrooper Colonel Hew Pike as saying the defeat of a much larger force at Goose Green gave the British "moral ascendancy" and the knowledge they could beat the Argentines.

Uruguay in Economic Difficulties

Uruguay has been severely affected by the economic crisis in Argentina. Many businesses have been forced to close or lay off workers. Many Argentines had bank accounts in Montevideo to keep their money beyond the reach of the Argentine Government and to evade taxes. Fears that the Uruguayan banking system might follow Argentina's led to the withdrawal of many of these and a financial crisis that has required a 1.5 Billion dollar IMF loan and the temporary application of banking restrictions similar to those in Argentina to avoid a default. Shops have been sacked by the unemployed, although on a much smaller scale than in Argentina.

Brazil

Brazil has also suffered severely from the Argentine crisis. Its currency has dropped sharply, and was only saved from collapse by huge IMF loans. Its situation is made worse by an approaching election in which left-wing candidates are way ahead in the opinion polls.

The Chief of the General Staff, Field Marshal Lord Bramall, said: "If Goose Green had been lost, the whole campaign would have been lost". And the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, said Colonel H. Jones' sacrifice, matchless heroism and leadership gave renewed faith and demonstrated British resolve to reclaim the Islands.

His Victoria Cross citation said "this devastating display of courage had a shattering effect on the enemy and completely undermined their will to fight ... This was an action of the utmost gallantry by a commanding officer whose dashing leadership and courage throughout the battle were an inspiration to all about him".

Sadly, some of the early Falklands history quoted is inaccurate, and at first the book is a pedestrian passage through the routine and minutiae of army regimental life. But the pace quickens in the Falklands phase, giving fascinating fresh insight into

H. Jones's complex character and the motivating influences which impelled his distinguished army career and his sudden death in battle. His less tempestuous characteristics are reflected in many letters he exchanged with his wife, Sara, unfolding what was and remains a heatwarming love story of a devoted, supportive and remarkable couple.

Sara Jones is a much admired and respected figure in charities such as the Falkland Families' Association, the South Atlantic Fund and the Poppy Day appeal. Their two sons became officers in their father's original regiment, the Devon and Dorsets.

Colonel H. is buried with several other British soldiers in the Falklands at San Carlos.

Harold Briley

Argentina - the Crisis Continues

Chaos has continued virtually unabated in Argentina. The peso has fluctuated - at one time reaching nearly 4 to the dollar. Prices and unemployment continue to soar. A severe crime wave is sweeping the country, and kidnappings, with the victims often chosen at random on the streets, are common. Argentina continues to plead for more IMF loans. Banking restrictions still prevent people withdrawing their own money.

Violence has continued too, and the police killed two more demonstrators during a protest march in Buenos Aires in July. Soon after this President Duhalde announced "early" elections - with primaries this November, elections in March next year, and the new president taking office on May 25th!

Menem Bribed to Condone Terrorism?

The Radicales have little chance in these coming elections, because of the inept recent government of De La Rúa. So the Peronists are likely to remain in power. But President Duhalde is standing down. So the main campaign is among other Peronists, for his job. Former president Carlos Menem is a serious contender - despite revelations that he has a huge Swiss bank account that he denied having before, his imprisonment last year during investigation of illegal arms sales to Ecuador and Croatia, and allegations that he accepted a ten million dollar bribe for agreeing not to accuse Iran of ordering the bombing of the Jewish Club in Buenos Aires in 1994. This was carried out by police for money - killing 85 people!

Galtieri Arrested - Justice at last?

General Leopoldo Galtieri has at long last been arrested for human rights crimes in 1980. Though previously sentenced to 12 years detention for incompetence in his conduct of the Falklands War, he was never charged with human rights crimes. He was freed from his comfortable military prison in 1989 only half-way through his sentence under a general amnesty, as were two other members of his junta also sentenced for mismanagement of the Falklands War; Admiral Jorge Anaya and the Air Force Chief, Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo.

Newsletter Co-Editor Harold Briley was a journalist in Buenos Aires during the regimes, not only of General Galtieri, but also Generals Viola and Videla. All three carried out a campaign of repression, kidnapping, torture and murder. Here, he describes the atmosphere of fear and uncertainty that prevailed.

Dirty War

It was the bloodiest period in Argentina's recent history, a vicious campaign against their own people - it was called the "Dirty War". It lasted from Videla's 1976 coup until the Falklands War. British victory restored democracy and civilian rule.

Ever since 1976, relatives of the missing, the desaparecidos, have demonstrated in Buenos Aires' main square, the Plaza de Mayo, demanding to know what happened to them and calling for punishment of the military torturers and murderers. The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, as they became known, still gather every Thursday, sadly, courageously and patiently. At long last their patience may bring results, but there is scepticism that the guilty will be let off as so often in the past.



Demonstrations were banned by laws which human rights campaigners defied. We were photographed by the secret police and sometimes roughly dispersed or arrested. The women always wear white headscarves (photo above), with the names of the missing and the date they disappeared; sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, grandchildren - Argentina's great legion of the lost. They gave a new dimension to Latin American state terror, more sinister and harrowing because of the total lack of trace of the victims, the uncertainty whether they were dead or alive, and the feeling of helplessness of their families. Relatives exhausted all means of inquiry, turned down by the military, the police and the courts. The answer was always the same; there is no record.

The disappeared came from all ranks of society and all ages. Many were social or medical workers, trade unionists or journalists. Some had foreign nationality; Italian, Spanish, French, Swedish, but this was no protection. They included two elderly French nuns and a Swedish teenager killed by Alfredo Astiz, who later commanded the Argentine forces on South Georgia.

Innocent people were taken from their homes in the dead



An ageing General Galtieri photographed earlier this year.
Photo courtesy Jan Freeman

of night, or in the street, often bundled into sinister black Ford Falcon cars with no number plates, never to be seen again.

It is now known that many were sent to concentration camps in the Argentine interior. Others went to torture centres, the most notorious of which was the Navy Mechanics School. Many were secretly buried in mass graves. Others were dropped from planes over the Atlantic, with their heads and hands cut off to prevent identification if ever washed ashore. When I and another foreign journalist planned to visit a beach where bodies were reported, we got anonymous warnings from the kidnap squads threatening us with the same fate. I repeatedly received death threats because of my BBC broadcasts about the dirty war.

"Saving Argentina from anarchy"

The generals attempted to justify their actions as necessary to save the country from anarchy and terror. The military closed ranks in a conspiracy of silence. They said it was no use mourning the missing. They had gone forever. The regime even brought in a law to allow legal presumption of death, without any information or corpse.

These were the same people who invaded the Falklands and promised the Islanders that their human rights would be protected! Some promise! Some hope!

The generals always insisted that a condition of any reconciliation should be that those responsible should not be brought to trial and punished. Military mutinies and pressure forced the civilian government of President Alfonsín to stop further prosecutions and to allow the defence that they were only acting under orders - the same excuse as the Nazis at Nuremberg. The murderers thought they had escaped.

The legality of such decisions is now challenged by the courts. The latest arrests of General Galtieri and others mean they cannot be so sure they will go unpunished. **HWB**

"Argentines a bunch of thieves"

Speaking on American TV, President Batlle of Uruguay said: "Argentines are a bunch of thieves" from the first to the last - and that President Duhalde was powerless. This caused great offence in Argentina and President Batlle promptly had to make amends, by visiting Buenos Aires for a tearful televised apology embracing, and towering over, President Duhalde.



The Falklands then appeared to be dragged into the affair. No sooner had President Batlle made these tactless remarks than Uruguay initiated a motion at the Organisation of American States calling for negotiations over the Falklands - as if to ingratiate itself with Argentina. Argentine newspaper *Clarín* reported the Uruguayan Foreign Minister making a point of telling the Argentine Government what it had done.

Ironically, *Clarín* did an immediate telephone poll of Argentines and announced that a majority 46% of Argentines agreed with President Batlle. 44% of Argentines disagreed.

LEGCO Backs Biographies

A Project by Former Governor David Tatham

The Legislative Council of the Falkland Islands has voted £600 for a website to help launch a new project to compile a biographical dictionary of the Islands and of South Georgia. The volume will include biographies of everyone of interest or significance starting with the discovery of the Falklands by John Davis in 1592 and closing in 1981, just before the conflict.



"So far we have 350 names," said the editor David Tatham, "but we hope for plenty more suggestions from the Islands and for volunteers to research and write up the articles once the website is ready in the autumn. The full project will probably take around five years to complete."

Suggestions and offers of help or information should be sent to: Mr. David Tatham at Wisteria Cottage, South Parade, Ledbury, HR8 2HA. E-mail: d_tatham@hotmail.com.

Book Review - The Falkland Islands Journal 2001, Vol. 7 (part 5) published by Dr Jim McAdam, at Stanley, Falkland Islands. 162 pages including Foreword and Contents. 30 black and white photos, 4 maps. ISSN 0256 - 1824. Available at £9 from F.G.Mitchell, 2 Egliston Mews, Putney, London, SW15 1AP, post paid with the UK.

The 2001 issue of The Falkland Islands Journal has continued the innovation of the 2000 issue by having a colourful cover featuring a ship: this time the *Lady Elizabeth* in an apparently rough and windy sea with a background of a typical Falklands landscape.

From the five winning projects of the Alistair Cameron history Prizes and the fourteen other excellent articles by a wide variety of distinguished writers, the following stand out for me as the most valuable and striking contributions:

A Survey of the Number, Size and Distribution of Islands in the Falklands Archipelago by Robin Woods, which lists all 780 islands, of which 449 are named, by size and location.

The West Falkland versus East Falkland Quiz (1970) compiled by then Governor Sir Cosmo Haskard, which includes the answers.

The Globe Store, by 14 year-old Roxanne King.

Words of the Falkland Islands, by Bernadette Hince, which records the existence and meanings of a number of names and words which Falkland Islanders take for granted like smoko and palenkey, balsam bog and stone run, but which are unique to the Islands and may become lost under the increasing influence of television and the Internet.

The Cumulative Index to Volume Seven of the Journal, by Thomas G. Reid, Jr.

Together with the other fascinating articles included, the Journal becomes compulsive reading for all those with a keen interest in the Falklands and the Islanders. **R.N.Spafford**

Commemoration Service Video

A video of the Falklands Commemoration Service at Gosport, filmed by Andrew Saul, brother-in-law of the late Mayor Geoffrey Barlett, is available from SAMA-82, PO Box 82, Blackwood, Gwent, NP 12 OYE. Price £10 including P&P.

Brilliant Book - Review



Harriers landing during the Falklands War. Photo: MOD

Falklands Air War by Chris Hobson and Andrew Noble published by Midland Publishing, 4 Watling Drive, Hinckley, LE10 3EY. Hardback, 208 pages, with many colour and black and white plates. ISBN 1 85780 12. £24.99.

A really excellent account of the air war in the Falklands, by Chris Hobson - very detailed and readable, and with much previously unpublished material. It covers the Argentine side in more detail than I have ever seen before. Although concentrating on the air war, it covers all aspects of the war extremely well too.

The photographs are particularly good, such as the one above, and Falklands War enthusiasts will see pictures that they could not have dreamed of seeing before - not just of the aircraft involved, but the ships, scenes of the land war and the Falklands today too. The book ends with a detailed account of the aircraft involved and what happened to many of them afterwards.

Sadly, the first chapter on the background to the war, has several errors in its treatment of early Falklands history. But this is only two pages out of more than two hundred.

This book is a must for anyone interested in the detail of the Falklands War. **P.J.P.**

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The Falkland Islands Association brings together those who support the continuing freedom of the people of the Falkland Islands. Its Constitution states that its objectives are:

“To assist the people of the Falkland Islands to decide their own future for themselves without being subjected to pressure direct or indirect from any quarter”

The Association is independent, but maintains close links with many other Falklands organisations. It is a major source of information about the Falklands. It publishes a newsletter, which all members receive, covering political and social events in the Islands, wildlife, tourism, philately, and many other subjects. It welcomes interest in the Falklands **and invites all those who share its aims to become members.**

Membership Application

I/We 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 their islands in accordance with their wishes.

I/We wish to join the Falkland Islands Association. (Individual members annual subscription £15, Pensioners and Students £5, Corporate members minimum £50, Corporate Sponsorship £500).

Name

Address

Connection with the Falklands, if any

Signature

Date Telephone

Please return to: Falkland Islands Association, Douglas House, 16 - 18 Douglas St, London, SW1P 4PB. Applicants who do not wish to cut this form from a Newsletter are invited to use a xerox of it. Members are requested not to use this form for membership renewals.

BANKERS ORDER

To Bank
 Branch
 at

Please pay to National Westminster Bank Plc, Piccadilly Circus Branch, 19 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1V 7RL, Bank Code 56 00 29 for credit to: THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ASSOCIATION, Account No. 24223999, the sum of pounds on receipt of this order and thereafter annually on the anniversary thereof.

Name

Address

Account #..... Date

Signature

Dates For Your Diary

Falklands Exhibition, Croydon
 25th November to 7th December

Battle Day & AGM
 Saturday 7th December

ADVERTISING

The present circulation of the Newsletter is 4,500 copies. It is distributed to Members of the Association, all Members of the House of Commons, the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly, 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, and other Commonwealth and foreign countries. 700 copies are distributed in the Falkland Islands. Advertising rates are as follows:

- Full Page £250
- Half Page £125
- Quarter Page £65
- Eighth Page £35
- Short Insertions £3 per line

Discounts for four insertions by negotiation. A special concession is offered to Association members living in the Falklands, who own small shops and businesses, to advertise in the Newsletter at half the above rates.

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The Editorial Committee release all copyrights on the content of the *Falkland Islands Newsletter*, except on pictures, cartoons and maps. Other publications are invited to quote freely. However, we ask that quotations are made in context and the *Falkland Islands Newsletter* acknowledged as the source.



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- Mr. H.Briley, O.B.E. (Co-Editor).
- Mrs. M.Christie.
- Mr. Saul Pitaluga.
- Mr. P.J.Pepper (Co-Editor).



Relatives of the fallen in 1982 lay flowers at the Falklands Memorial at Gosport in memory of their loved ones. Baroness Thatcher laid the first, and local school children laid more flowers until there was one for every life lost. In the background are Gosport Councillors.

Photos: P.J. Pepper



Falklands War veterans parade through Gosport High Street after the Commemoration Service at Falklands Gardens. On the saluting base are Baroness Thatcher, the late Mayor of Gosport, Geoffrey Bartlett, and Captain Betteridge, CO of HMS Sultan, the naval shore establishment at Gosport, where the veterans reunion took place the day before.