



Falkland Islands

Newsletter

Published by the Falkland Islands Association

Sunshine - But The Same Old Cloud

Taking over as Chairman of the Association from Sir Rex Hunt, I am cheered to see plenty of good news in this Newsletter. The Governor's Wedding makes an excellent front cover and I know all members of the Association will wish Howard Pearce and his wife Caroline many years of happiness together. Just as we congratulate all the couples whose weddings feature on the inside pages – they have faith in their future and in the future of their country!

There is plenty of other good news. Stanley's welcome for the stranded passengers of the Amsterdam is a heart-warming story and will have won the Islands 500 friends for life. The response to the Tsunami appeal is equally striking: Islanders have always reacted generously to distress abroad and this global calamity called forth an outstandingly open hearted response. Good economic news too: the prospecting for gold on shore and

continuing oil exploration offshore are both encouraging.

The visit by Canadian MPs was clearly a great success – I was very struck by their reaction to the campaign of pressure and obstruction coming from Buenos Aires and centred on preventing charter flights from Chile to the Islands. The Canadians were astonished that a state that aspires to be a democracy should behave in such a way towards its neighbours. HMG have been creditably robust in the face of un-neighbourly policies from Argentina. And there is no prospect that the tough line Argentine policies will be any more successful than Di Tella's so-called charm offensive. Islanders will continue to stand firm in the face of this harassment. And they will continue to have our steadfast support.

David

Tatham



HE Governor Howard Pearce leaves Stanley Cathedral with his bride Caroline

Photo: Kevin Clapp

Leadership Change for Falklands Association

Sir Rex Hunt plans to move with Lady Hunt to be near his daughter and grandchildren in Yorkshire.

Distinguished Diplomat Takes Over

David Tatham has several close links with the Falkland Islands. He was a popular Governor between 1992 and 1995 and a former head of the Foreign Office Falkland Islands Department in London. He continues his contacts as a trustee and Executive Committee member of the Falkland Islands Trust, Chairman of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund, a founder member of the South Georgia Association, and editor of a future Dictionary of Falklands Biography.

He told the meeting he was very conscious he was joining an Association that is working well, and paid tribute to Mr Ted Clapp, who, as Treasurer, is running the administration virtually single-handedly.

Mr Clapp was re-elected Honorary Treasurer, and Mr Pitaluga Vice-Chairman. The Executive Committee was also re-elected – Mr David Ainslie, Air Commodore Peter Johnson, OBE, Mr Maurice Jones, Mr Peter Lapsley, (Membership Secretary), Mr Geoff Moir DFC, Mr Ron Lewis-Smith (formerly BAS scientist), and the Honourable Alexandra Shackleton.

Sir Rex Hunt announced the resignation of the Newsletter Editors, Peter Pepper and Harold Briley, and praised them for producing a magazine of “such high standard” for the past twelve years. The Association has appealed for volunteers to take over as editors. It is also seeking a replacement as Executive Secretary for Mr Andrew Knapp, who has also resigned, and was thanked for his work.

Sir Rex appealed for more people to join the Association whose membership has increased to 1,057 during a year which has seen intensified harassment of Islanders by the Government in Buenos Aires. Sir Rex Hunt said, “The British Government has reacted strongly..... Meetings between Councillors and your Committee members have indicated that Islanders are pleased with the strong line on sovereignty taken by the FCO. Councillors say that Minister Bill Rammell keeps them well informed. They are also pleased with the blunt warning given to Argentina by the Governor and the outgoing British Ambassador to Argentina. The Ambassador Designate, Dr John Hughes, spent a week in the Falkland Islands before taking up his post in November”.

Sir Rex Hunt Pledges Continuing

Support

Sir Rex pledged that the Association will continue to work closely with the Falkland Islands Government Office in London and Councillors in the Islands in upholding the Falkland Islanders’ right to self-determination. He quoted from former Prime

Minister Margaret Thatcher in the House of Commons after the 1982 invasion: “They are few in number, but they have the right to live in peace, to choose their own way of life and to determine their own allegiance”.

Baroness Thatcher, who is Patron of the Association, was recently visited by Sir Rex Hunt, Falklands Councillor Norma Edwards, and the Falklands Govern-

ment London Representative, Miss Sukey Cameron. Baroness Thatcher sent her warm regards to all Falkland Islanders and their supporters.

Other points in the annual report included the drop in fishing revenue from depleted squid stocks; a flourishing Falklands tourist industry despite Argentina’s ban on charter flights, with between 30,000 and 40,000 tourists visiting each year, mainly from cruise ships, and a new Tourism Director, Mrs Connie Stevens. He congratulated Governor Howard Pearce on his marriage to Miss Caroline Thomee in Stanley Cathedral, wishing them a long and happy future. He also congratulated Falklands Conservation on its successful 25th anniversary year and paid tribute to its retiring Stanley Director, Becky Ingham.

Sir Rex commended the Falkland Islands Defence Force on its 150 years of voluntary service since its foundation in 1854 during the Crimean War. There was praise for honorary member Annabelle Spencer who continues to hold the annual Falkland Islands Exhibition in Croydon, now in its 16th year; and for Executive Committee member, Geoff Moir, who gave 45 illustrated talks on the Falklands during the year, at the age of 84.

Sir Rex expressed regret at the deaths of three of “the best known and most formidable Falklands characters”, Association Vice Presidents Adrian Monk and Velma Malcolm, and former Falklands Treasurer Harold Rowlands; and veteran supporters, Gordon Pickering and Quentin Keynes, whose deaths resulted in donations to the Association totalling £2,675.

His report thanked Sukey Cameron for her support and for arranging meetings with Falklands Councillors. HWB



Sir Rex Hunt and Miss Sukey Cameron lay wreaths at the Cenotaph.



The Rev Peter Millam conducts the service.



Mrs Merle Christie with Miss Kerri-Anne Ross, winner of the Bill Hunter-Christie prize for the most outstanding Falklands student this year.

A major change in the leadership of the Falkland Islands Association has brought renewed pledges of support for Falkland Islands' self-determination and determined resistance to Argentina's persistent sovereignty claim.

Mr. David Tatham

Sir Rex Hunt, CMG, famous as Governor of the Falkland Islands during the 1982 Argentine invasion and subsequent liberation, has been succeeded as Chairman of the Association by another former Governor, Mr David Tatham, CMG. Leading the tributes to Sir Rex Hunt's leadership during the 1982 war and ever since, Mr Tatham declared: "Rex is not just a hard act but an impossible act to follow. I will do my best".

In a key passage, re-affirming rejection of the Argentine threat, Mr Tatham declared: "I am committed as we all are to

the future of the Falkland Islands, to the right of their people to determine that future and to the need to fend off pressures from outside and to make sure that Government and public opinion of this country are fully behind the Islands and the Islanders".

His election was unanimously endorsed at the Association's annual general meeting in London (on Saturday 11 December) following the annual ceremony of tribute to British servicemen who died in battles linked to the Falkland Islands in two World Wars and the 1982 Conflict.

In his final report as chairman, Sir Rex Hunt echoed the strong stance by the British Government in resisting Argentina's sovereignty claim. Sir Rex, who is 78, was

unanimously elected a Vice-President, amid eloquent tributes to him by Vice-Chairman, Mr Saul Pitaluga, and the Reverend Peter Millam.



Mr. David Tatham and Sir Rex Hunt

Photos: H.Briley

Battle Day in Stanley

On the 90th anniversary of the naval action off the Falklands, December 8th 1914, Battle Day was celebrated in brilliant weather. Governor Pearce, CBFAI Air Commodore Richard Lacey, and Lieutenant Commander Keith Creates, who was on HMS Antrim in 1982, Mr. Bob Fiddes laid wreaths. The central band of the RAF played the National Anthem. The ceremony was followed by a fly-past by three RAF Tornados.



Governor Pearce lays his wreath, and (Left) inspects the Royal Navy detachment.

Below Left: Governor Pearce and his wife Caroline inspect the Sea Cadets accompanied by Governor's Cadet, Terri-Sue Clifford.

Below: Governor Pearce chats to members of the Scout Troop. Photos: Penguin News



PM's Christmas Message

I'm delighted to have this chance again to talk to you and to send my best wishes to everyone living and working on the Islands for the New Year.

This has been another busy and challenging year for the Falklands.

Your community faced some tough financial decisions following the disappointing Squid fishery this year. But the flagging of new vessels on the Falklands register demonstrates that there is still plenty of confidence in the future of your fishing industry.

At the same time, your efforts to continue diversifying your economy are deservedly reaping rewards. Your agricultural sector gets stronger while oil exploration projects also hold out the prospect of positive benefits for the economy.

It was also a year in which your far-sightedness in protecting your wonderful natural environment has paid dividends.

These natural wonders are, of course, a major factor in the success of tourism on the Islands. And the important work done by your government and Falkland Conservation to protect the future of marine wildlife, including such threatened species as the albatross, has highlighted global concern over this key environmental issue.

I hope your tourism industry will also benefit from your



successful hosting of the regional meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Assembly in February.

This not only demonstrated the importance you place here on parliamentary democracy but also enabled representatives of many countries to enjoy your generous hospitality and see for themselves the unique charm of these Islands.

This meeting was just one of the ways in which the Islands continued to reach out to the wider world. You must be very proud of the personal bests recorded by Edward Freer, Dion Robertson and Hannah Arthur-Almond in the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bendigo.

The completion this year of the memorial to the Argentine war dead at Darwin is another sign of the Islands' confidence in the future and a welcome symbol of reconciliation.

We will continue to discuss with Argentina issues of mutual concern and benefit to your community, building on recent meetings over shared fish stocks, the continental shelf and de-mining.

But let me assure you that there is no lessening in our commitment to your security, sovereignty or right to self-determination. We have no doubts about our sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and their surrounding

maritime areas.

And this position will not change, unless you, the Islanders, decide otherwise.

Let me finish as I began by sending my warmest wishes to you and your families for Christmas and the New Year.

Tony Blair

MPs Voice their Support

MPs Vera Baird, Alan Campbell and Dari Taylor and Welsh Assembly Member Alun Cairns visited the Falklands for a week in November. They saw Pebble Island, Mount Pleasant, Goose Green, Fitzroy and, of course, Stanley.

At a news conference all four spoke in glowing terms about their visit, praising the "warm" hospitality of the Islanders and the "magnificent" wildlife.

Economic Siege

In reference to Argentina's campaign, Alun Campbell commented "If you're not under a situation of military siege, then there's certainly a feeling of being under one of economic siege".

He recommended "parking" those issues which are not open to negotiation, such as sovereignty, while keeping the door open on those issues that will be of mutual importance, like environmental matters and issues around tourism and fishing".

Argentina "Damaging International Relationships"

Before leaving for the Falklands, the MPs spoke to Foreign Office Minister Bill Ramell about the current Argentine ban on charter flights to the Falklands. As a result of this Dari Taylor said: Argentina's actions were "damaging international relationships". She went on to say that "There is a serious determination



Visiting MPs Vera Baird, Alan Campbell and Dari Taylor and Welsh Assembly Member Alun Cairns.

Photo: Penguin News

(from Argentina) to undermine your economic development and that challenge has to be met head on".

Vera Baird MP, said that Islanders are "anxious to be good neighbours to Argentina and anxious the Argentina should be good neighbours back", but she acknowledged the difficulties of being dependent on Argentina's goodwill and advised Islanders to look for future trade opportunities elsewhere.

Canadian Parliamentarians Visit

“It’s time to break the silence on Argentine bullying”

Visiting Canadian Senator the Hon. Consiglio Di Nino described Argentina as a “bully”. Part of a delegation of four Canadian politicians in the Falklands for a week in January, he commented: “Like any other bully, Argentina will push you as far as you will let it. Generally when you stand up to a bully they will back off”.

Mr. Di Nino said the four politicians would be tabling a report on their visit in both Houses of the Canadian Parliament. He said “I intend to suggest that there are opportunities here that Canada can benefit from, which means that the Falkland Islands would benefit too”. He added: “The more economic strength and success you achieve, the easier the problem of Argentina will become”.

He said he was intrigued by the offshore exploration for oil. “We in Canada, of course, are quite well versed with oil and gas - offshore, onshore, whatever, also the mineral exploration onshore”. He added, “Fisheries are an area, in my opinion, that presents incredible opportunities - once again ditto Canada”.

He concluded “what I am taking back is that in some way 1982 was a turning point for the Falkland Islands in that it focused world attention but also it focused the attention of the Islanders to things they were probably not looking at before”.

“The battlefield has given way to economic warfare”

The Hon. Mrs. Sarmite Bulte said that Canada is well positioned to champion Falkland Islanders’ right to self-determination. She added: “The battlefield has given way to economic warfare and isolation by other Latin-American countries and we must concur that if it were any other country that was subject to these economic sanctions, the rest of the world would not stay silent. It is time for us to break that silence”.

Praise for Falklands Education

The Hon. John Maloney was struck by the facilities offered in Stanley, and how these were also delivered in Camp - particularly education. He said: “We visited both your primary and secondary schools and, quite frankly, I think my colleagues will agree with me, they are equal to, if not better than the schools in our communities. Certainly, your teacher to student ratio is incredible”. He urged Islanders to consider Canada for further education possibilities.

Landmines and Hospitality

The Hon. Mrs. Elizabeth Hubley addressed the issue of landmines, removal of which is now controlled by the 1997 Ottawa Treaty. She first saw these at Gypsy Cove. “It was breathtakingly beautiful. Sam (Mrs. Bulte) and I were just delighted with the penguins there, but we were stopped dead in our tracks by the realisation that this was, indeed, a mined area. That was the first time I had been that close to a mined area”. She also saw mined areas near Goose Green.

Mrs. Hubley added that she felt fortunate to have visited the Falklands and her expectations had been far exceeded by the hospitality she had received from Islanders.

Result of CPA Conferences

The visit by the Canadians is the result of attendances by Falklands Councillors at Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conferences over a number of years. It shows all too clearly how valuable such attendances have been.



The visiting Canadians pay their respects at the 1982 War Memorial.

Photo: Richard Cockwell

Red Ensign Conference

The Red Ensign Group Conference between the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and those UK Overseas Territories which maintain ship registers takes place annually in one of the territories concerned. This was the first in the Falklands. Delegates from Bermuda, Anguilla, Turks and Caicos Islands, Monserrat, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, South Georgia, the Isle of Man, Gibraltar, Jersey, and Guernsey all attended.

Chief Executive of the MCA, Captain Stephen Bligh, said the main aim was to promote discussions among the people who make up the flag group on: “... relevant legislation and maritime safety”.

One important issue for the Falklands was the certification of officers for Falklands flag vessels. These often have Spanish officers. In addition to their Spanish competency certificates, they require a certificate of equivalent competency issued by the flag state of the vessel. Up to now these have been issued by the MCA in Southampton. The Falklands enquired whether these could be issued locally. Subject to a satisfactory regime for validity checking, this was agreed to.

Another issue was whether Chilean maritime training and administration could be audited so their certificates, which are currently not recognised by the MCA, could be accepted. This would allow Chilean officers to be employed. The MCA agreed that subject to satisfactory audit that “may be possible”.

The conference ended with a reception at the Malvina House Hotel.



The Red Ensign Conference Delegates at the opening ceremony in Stanley.

Photo: Penguin News

Gold

“We know we’ll find gold in the Falklands”; So said Falkland Island Holdings (FIH) Chairman, Mr. David Hudd, last year after the flotation of Falkland Gold and Minerals, of which he is Deputy Chairman, and in which FIH owns a 14 per cent stake.

The public offering of shares in the company raised £10m to pay for a drilling programme to determine if economic deposits of gold exist on the Falklands. Traces of placer gold (eroded sediments containing gold) have been known in Falklands streams for decades. Some was even included in Governor Pearce’s wedding ring.

Last year an aerial magnetic survey was carried out to identify likely sites. Now a small drilling rig is beginning work to drill some 23 magnetic anomalies, which might indicate mineralisation underground.

Derek Reeves, the operations manager of Falkland Gold and Minerals, who has worked in the Islands for several years, said: “We know we’ll find gold and quartz veins but we don’t know how wide they are.”



Mr. David Hudd, Deputy Chairman both of Falkland Gold and Minerals and Falklands Oil and Gas.

Oil

Desire to Drill

Desire Petroleum has recently finished interpreting the three-dimensional seismic work they carried out recently in blocks C and D north of the Falklands. They have also just finished (March 10) raising £24.4 million on the AIM market and are looking into the possibilities of drilling three wells. This depends on rig availability, but they hope to be drilling by the end of the year. They now have a collaborative “farm-in” agreement with Rockhopper Exploration, licensee of blocks PL023 and PL 024 to the north of the Falklands.

Falklands Oil and Gas

Mr. Hudd (Photo left) is also Deputy Chairman of Falklands Oil and Gas Ltd (FOGL), in which FIH owns 28% of the shares. Last September he oversaw the flotation of this, raising £7 million to pay for seismic surveys. FOGL has interests in several large concessions around the Falklands.

They are currently carrying out seismic exploration using the Calgary based company Geophysical Service Incorporated and their seismic ship the GSI Admiral (Above).



Work in Argentina

There is interest in oil just on the other side of the political divide too. Argentine company REPSOL-YPF is carrying out seismic prospecting in an area of 2,400 square kilometres in Argentine waters in two adjacent blocks very close to the area set aside for joint exploitation to the south-west of the Falklands in the 1995 Oil Accord.

REPSOL-YPF is working in block CAA 40 in partnership with Pan American Energy and in block CAA 46 in partnership with Pan American Energy and Total.

FIH Gosport Connection

Falkland Islands Holdings (FIH) has taken over the Portsmouth Harbour Ferry Company (PHFC) which runs the Gosport to Portsmouth ferry.

After negotiation, the takeover was recommended by the PHFC board to its shareholders, with FIH paying approximately 7 million pounds. The deal took place on December 9th, last year.

Falklands Gardens

The ferry leaves on the Gosport side from the jetty below what are now known as Falklands Gardens in honour of the 1982 Task Force that liberated the Falklands.



The Portsmouth Harbour ferry approaching the dock on the Gosport side - and Falklands Gardens.

40,000 Tourists This Season!

The Falklands has attracted some 40,000 visitors this 2004/5 season. Some 77 cruise liners will have visited Stanley by the time the last ship comes in on April 16th. Other ships have visited Carcass, West Point, New Island and Saunders.

Customer feedback surveys suggest that visiting the Falklands was a major motive for tourists to have chosen the cruises they did. Many visitors have indicated that their brief cruise liner visit has merely whetted their appetite for a more extensive future visit to the Islands.



Destinations

The Falklands was again represented at the Daily Telegraph tourist exhibition Destinations at Earls Court in London from February 3rd to 6th. The Falklands had a larger stand than before (Photo right), close to the entrance, with a 52” plasma screen scrolling through some 200 spectacular Falklands images.



The stand was manned by Manager of Falklands Tourism, Connie Stevens, and Melissa McKinley from FIGO. They reported very considerable interest - and some ignorance of the ease with which tourists could reach the Falklands. A hundred enquiries were passed on to appropriate tour agents.

Hospitality for Stranded Passengers

A cruise visit to Stanley, on February 2nd, led almost a thousand passengers - equivalent to half Stanley's population - to be stranded for a night after high winds prevented them from taking tenders back to their cruise ship, the Amsterdam, moored in Port William, the outer harbour.

500 in Private Homes

Stanley residents, officials and businesses rallied round as they did after the liberation in 1982 to accommodate the Army. Their hospitality became the talking point of the holiday for many visitors - with a thank you letter from one family in Penguin News. Despite the overwhelming numbers, everyone was fed and given somewhere to lay their head. More than half (500) were welcomed into private homes. Some others were accommodated at the Parish Hall or the Upland Goose Hotel. Most others slept on mattresses on the floor of the Falkland Islands Defence Force drill hall, where Major Biggs' team looked after them.

The Hospital was inundated with calls from passengers who had not brought vital medication ashore - some of whom didn't even know what drugs they should be taking.

Meanwhile, in the offices of the agents, the Falkland Islands Company, Deputy Governor Harriet Hall manned the phones to coordinate matters. Governor Pearce later thanked all involved "... for responding so generously and rapidly to this unexpected situation".

Captain Thanks Governor

Captain Harris of the Amsterdam has written to Governor Pearce expressing his "Heartfelt gratitude". He went on:

"Following your example, your community opened their homes and hearts to our passengers and crew.... I have heard many stories from our guests of the warm hospitality and generous nature of many Falklanders who reached out to help.... I am certain that many will remember the experience for years to come with great fondness and gratitude"



The stranded passengers prepare to bed down for the night at the FIDF Hall. *Photo: Penguin News*

Contingency Plan

Now a contingency plan has been drawn up. The main problem before had been that no one was quite sure who was in charge - the ship's agents, or the Government. Also passengers had inadequate information on such matters as suitable clothing to wear on shore, and were ill-equipped. It has now been decided that it is a problem for the ship's agents, but lists have been drawn up of those who can offer accommodation in emergency.

The military runs an annual exercise to practise the drill for a ship being wrecked on the Falklands, but this is not applicable for the much less drastic emergency of a stranding.

25th Anniversary of Liberation

£150,000 Budget

A committee has been established by Legislative Council with representatives from Government House and British Forces South Atlantic to plan the 25th anniversary commemorations in 2007 of the liberation from Argentine occupation. It is chaired by Ex-Councillor Lewis Clifton, and has a budget of £150,000.

Preparations In Britain

Discussing the subject in the House with MPs Lindsay Hoyle and Nigel Evans, Under-Secretary of State for Defence, Mr. Ivor Caplin MP (Photo right), stated that the Ministry is holding "preliminary discussions" with SAMA-82 on the subject of the 25th Anniversary of the Falklands War.



He went on to say: "When those ideas have been developed further and agreed with the veterans I will make an appropriate announcement to the House. It will be the 25th anniversary of the conflict, so we must ensure that the families of those who died will be able to visit the Falklands. We must act sufficiently early because of the logistics of putting such a project together, and I look forward to my honourable friend taking those people out there".

Tsunami Appeal Succeeds

Nearly 30 thousand pounds has been raised by the Falklands for Tsunami victims - an astonishing amount from so small a community.

£26,424 was raised by individual and corporate donations and by fund-raising events. Another £2,000 was donated from Falklands Red Cross funds. Another £1,372 was raised by the Scouts in their separate fund raising activities. These add up to a total of ££29,797, which has been sent to the Disasters Emergency Committee in the UK.

This represents nearly 10 pounds for every man, woman and child in the Islands.

Aid for Grenada

The Falklands also sent £5,000 in disaster relief to Grenada, hit by hurricane Ivan. British Commissioner, Vic Wallis, handed a cheque for this to Education Minister Michael Pierre on February 8th.



Stanley Arms managers, Terry and Odette Bonner, and Tsunami Appeal organiser, Keith Biles, at their fund raising music evening. Raffle prizes and contributions came from many different people and businesses and the Tsunami fund gained another 735 pounds. *Photo: Penguin News*

Sea Cadets Fundraising

The RAF Central Band did not only play at the Battle Day ceremony while in the Falklands in December.

Below they are seen playing at a dinner to raise funds for a new roof for the Sea Cadets' hut.



Tots Toddle for Playground

In a sponsored "toddle", Stanley children wearing fancy dress, including two who were little more than babies, raised £60 towards the costs of a special playground for toddlers at St Mary's Walk.

The prizes for best fancy dress went to Chloe Bonner as a fairy and Christie Joe as a bumble bee. Rebecca Harris and Carly East won the prizes for most money collected.

Organiser, Leeann Harris, said the playground fund was progressing "very well". She thanked the Standard Chartered Bank and Sodexo for their donations.



A "Place" of Their Own

Falklands teenagers have been given a place of their own - appropriately named "The Place", on Ross Road.

Opened by Community School art teacher Mrs Simpson, it will be run by a committee of teenagers. It will be available for all young people's activities, and they will be responsible for looking after it.



Above: Dion Robertson, Cameron Reeves, Dana Morrison and Erica Berntsen pose for the camera at The Place.

Astronomy Club

The Community School (FICS) Astronomy Club has held its first camping trip. Twelve schoolchildren from the club were taken out to Cape Pembroke by five adults: Miss Taylor, Mr. Clifford, Mr. Dent, Mr. Freer and Miss. Halmshaw.

Everyone visited the top of the lighthouse there, signed the visitors book, held talks on astronomy and did some star gazing - until the clouds rolled in.

The club camped out overnight, and the excursion was judged a great success.



Watch Group Kitted Out

Fifty members of the Falklands Conservation Watch Group were delighted to receive a fleece jacket and pocket sized pair of binoculars each. The gifts were paid for by a sponsored swim and a generous donation from the Standard Chartered Bank.

Standard Bank Manager Nick Hutton said he had been struck by the fact that Falklands Conservation owned only two pairs of binoculars. Watch Group organiser, Sarah Clement said the children "... have shown such commitment and dedication working towards the protection of wildlife and the environment.... They throw themselves into fund-raising to help with many different projects and this is one of the reasons why it is such a pleasure to be able to present them with their own fleeces".

Standard Chartered's Generosity

Sarah Clement went on to say: "The present members also now have their own set of binoculars and this is due to the huge generosity of Standard Chartered Bank who are the main sponsors of the Watch Group".

Above Left: Watch Group children pose for the Penguin News camera wearing their new fleece jackets.

Left: Watch Group members cleaning up the beach by Elephant Corner on Sea Lion Island.



Sports Association Christmas Meeting

Right: Spectators watch the events.

Below: Maurice Davis on *Dashing Dancer*, Owen Summers on *Mentor*, and Tim Bonner on *Nikoli* in the Penguin News Trophy.

Below Right: Governor's Cup winner Elaine Turner poses on *Capizana*.



Bendigo Youth Games

Young Islanders Dion Robertson, Hannah Arthur-Almond, Edward Freer, and Roxanne Morrison all competed in the Eleventh Commonwealth Youth Games at Bendigo, Australia in December.

Steve Dent managed the team and commented: "There's no silverware to bring home but a fantastic run of smashed personal bests and very happy young athletes".

All the Falklands competitors exceeded their personal bests and swimming coach Pam Freer said "They have exceeded all of our expectations by taking so much off their times" ... All this just goes to show how a little bit of competition can stretch them and inspire them to do better".

The contribution such trips make to the good image of the Falklands overseas was illustrated when two Australians wrote to Penguin News describing the young competitors as "fantastic" and saying "It was a pleasure to get to know them during their stay and an even bigger pleasure being adopted supporters and waving the flag".

Right: Roxanne Morrison warms up before the 400 metres race.

Below: Edward Freer waits for the starter's gun.



New Year Raft Race

More fun than sport, the New Year Raft Race was won by Henry and David Fyfe in Blue Streak. Second was Red Drum (Left). Other competitors had other priorities. Right is one entry that sacrificed speed for good cheer.



The Falklands Veterans Foundation

In 1982, Argentina seized the Falkland Islands, overwhelming a tiny garrison of British Royal Marines.

The ensuing months saw the dispatch of the largest British task force since the Second World War. Against considerable odds they took back the Falklands - a decisive moment in Falkland and British history.

Fifteen years on, veterans of the Falklands held a reunion in Gosport organised largely by one man, Derek Cole, who was on HMS Intrepid in 1982.

In 2002, Derek also organised a 20th anniversary event. It lasted two days and Lady Thatcher and Sir Rex Hunt attended as well as some 2,000 veterans. It was a huge success and a credit to the hard work of Derek and a loyal band of helpers. One was Colin Waite who built a web site to promote the reunion.

Derek and Colin became great friends and discussed what more could be done for veterans and their families. They decided to set up a charity focusing on this. After much thought, they named it the Falklands Veterans Foundation, or FVF for short. Its aims are to support veterans and their families and to work closely with all other charities and organisations concerned with the welfare of Falklands War veterans.



Veterans march through Gosport as part of the 2002 anniversary ceremonies.

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A Registered Charity

Setting it up as a Registered Charity took months. On November 6th, 2002, it was done - Charity number 11094950. The trustees are Simon Weston OBE, Jim Davidson OBE and Mike Osman. Derek became Chief Executive. The FVF is also a Registered Charity in the Falklands.

The Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Mrs Mary Fagin JP, opened the FVF office in Gosport on November 7th, 2003. This is on the ground floor of the Gosport Conservative Association, the FVF's landlord - and the FVF thanks them for their support.

The hardest part for any charity is to be recognised, and to raise funds for its goals. This was easier for the FVF thanks to Derek's own expertise and business, Clubline Promotions, and through the help and support of people such as Les and Lynn Heyhoe. They and many other loyal helpers have worked tirelessly to raise funds for the FVF.

The list of events has been growing steadily since the FVF started. The most recent was last January - the "Elle J Charity Ball" in Gosport. This was another huge success. 150 guests attended in joint support of the Royal Haslar Hospital Breast Care Unit and the FVF. Both received £1,000.

The shining light for the FVF has been those dedicated people who still make up the British Armed Forces, who have dug deep into their pockets for this cause over the last two years - along with the general public, many of whom still remember the sacrifice made by the troops in 1982.

A Veterans House in Stanley

The charity's web site, www.fvf.org.uk, has information about the FVF and all fund raising events. The main target for 2005 is raising the money to build a house in Stanley on land about to be leased to the FVF by the Falkland Islands Government (See facing page). This will be used by visiting veterans



FVF Office Opening: TV personality (Ex-Royal Navy) and Vice-Chairman and Trustee of the FVF, Mike Osman, with the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Mrs Mary Fagin JP, at the opening ceremony. They are holding up the commemorative plaque.

Below: FVF Office Opening: Lt. Col David Norris, OBE, CO of the Army Training Regiment at Winchester; Cmdr. Elizabeth Spencer of HMS Sultan, in Gosport; Mr. Doug Willams, FVF supporter and sponsor; WO David Simpson, Mess President of the Senior Ranks Mess in Sultan, who has provided magnificent support and permitted FVF fund raising events in the mess; Falklands veteran WO Cliff Williams of the Royal Marines, FVF supporter and Royal Marine activity coordinator; on the right is FVF co-founder Derek Cole.



and their families. It's a monumental task. The FVF hopes this will allow many more veterans to lay to rest the ghosts which still haunt them.

Colin Waite told the Newsletter: "As with all veterans our thoughts are always with those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, and with the people of the Falkland Islands".

Freedom of Gosport For Falklands Veterans

Veterans of the Falklands War will be honoured with the Freedom of the Borough of Gosport, the town on the western side of Portsmouth harbour, where so many of the 1982 Falklands Task Force ships were based.

Gosport Takes The Lead

Gosport has led other towns in Britain in honouring veterans of the war, and this is the highest honour it can bestow. It will be formally granted in a ceremony on August 24th, which is also the last day of the town's 800th anniversary year.

The gardens above the cross-harbour ferry terminal have been renamed Falklands Gardens and redesigned to commemorate the war. Amongst other monuments a bust of Admiral Lord Fieldhouse of Gosport, who had overall command of the Task Force, now stands there.

Councillor Peter Edgar, Chairman of the Civic Commemorative Board, said: "We were the first town to recognise the role that the troops played in the conflict. The gardens at the ferry have almost become a shrine for the veterans and their families. I think it is a tribute to Gosport

Council that over the years councillors have decided that the Falklands will not be forgotten".

"The Borough Council fully supports the excellent work done by the FVF for those who took part in the campaign. The Veterans House in Stanley is an excellent concept which warrants our full support, it provides practical help to veterans and their families".



Fundraising for the FVF - and its principal project the Veterans House (Plan above): The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, Councillor Jason Fazakarley accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs Sally Beard, making a contribution to the FVF at the Portsmouth Beer Festival in August last year. On the left in the picture is Festival Director Shep Wooley, and on the right is FVF co-founder Derek Cole. FVF fund raiser Les Heyhoe organised this event.

The FVF welcomes enquiries and support from all those who share its aims. It may be contacted at:

The Falklands Veterans Foundation, 167 Stoke Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 1SE.

Tel: 02392 511582.

Website www.fvf.org.uk.

Information at info@fvf.org.uk

Veterans in Stanley

Inspired by the success of the SAMA pilgrimage in 2002, three more veterans - all helicopter pilots in 1982 - visited the Falklands in January. They organised their trip with the assistance of Hugh Dowdall who works for Falklands fishing company Argos Ltd. in the UK.

They were Ron Crawford of the Royal Marines (846 Naval Air Squadron - and Naval Party 8901 in 1977); Will Scott (3 Commando Brigade Air Squadron) and Paul Moran (655 Air Corps Squadron).

Will Scott said that the three had gained "an immense amount" from their return trip. He explained: "None of us have been here since the end of hostilities in June 1982. The place has changed so much and it is gratifying to see how it has developed and come on since then".

The three veterans were hosted in Stanley by Ian and Sheila Stewart and Drew Irvine. Argos kindly lent them a vehicle. Will Scott commented "The hospitality of our hosts and the local people in general has been fantastic".

The veterans visited all the major sites of the war, particularly moving was the site where their comrade pilot Lt. Nunn, DFC, was killed. As this edition of the Newsletter was being prepared, Bill Belcher, who was in Lt. Nunn's helicopter when



Ron Crawford, Will Scott, Hugh Dowdall and Paul Moran in Stanley.

Photo: Penguin News

it was shot down, was preparing to visit the Falklands. He was thrown clear in the crash, but severely injured.

"We can't believe it is the same place"

Summing up his visit, Will Scott commented "We can't believe it is the same place. There was such chaos and destruction all around us then and now it is a place of beauty, peace and tranquillity lived in by lovely people who we didn't really ever get to know before".

Governor's Wedding

HE Governor Howard Pearce married his bride Caroline Thomee at Christ Church Cathedral, Stanley on October 21st last year. It was a brilliant day and the service was carried live on local radio. Pictures were carried on the Internet. He is the first governor to marry in the Falklands.

Falklands Gold Ring

Another first was that the Governor's wedding ring contained Falklands gold. The bride looked radiant in a felted dress of Falklands wool. Best man was Robert Napier, Chief Executive of the World Wildlife Fund, and a friend of the groom. The happy couple were cheered as they left the Cathedral with a guard of honour from the Falkland Islands Defence Force (FIDF). They then went for party with the Acorns, the senior citizens club, and finally hosted a two hour reception at the Town Hall, to which everyone was invited.

The day before the wedding, Governor Pearce and his bride-to-be visited the Town Hall where pupils and staff from the Infant Junior School had prepared scenes from Caroline's native Holland to make her feel at home. Below are a selection of photos of this visit and the wedding itself:



Above & Below: Governor Howard Pearce and his bride-to-be Carolina Thomee visit the Town Hall the day before their wedding to see the displays of Dutch scenes prepared by staff and pupils of the Infant Junior School. *Photos: Katrina Stephenson*



Governor Pearce greets a wellwisher outside the Cathedral. *Photos: Kevin Clapp*



Photo: Katrina Stephenson



Above and Right: Governor Pearce and his bride by the famous red London taxi which took them to and from their wedding.



More Falklands Weddings



Christopher Lee and Dr. Rebecca Edwards marry at Hill Cove with some 200 guests. At either side of the bride and groom are the bride's parents Councillors Roger and Norma Edwards. Rebecca is the first Islander to qualify as a doctor.



Above: Corina Goss and Nigel Bishop marry in January. Although only Nigel is wearing his FIDF uniform, Corina is an FIDF member too.

Left: Christopher Gilbert and Sharon Lewis marry at the Malvina House Hotel in front of 200 friends and guests on January 22nd.



Colin Summers and Joanne Coupland married in the UK last year. But their marriage was also blessed at Christ Church Cathedral in January and a reception held at the Malvina House.



Pilots Tom Chater and Jane McGill marry at New Island on October 29th. They flew back for a meal at the Malvina House Hotel and party at the FIDF Hall.



Craig Paice and Corrinne Park marry on New Year's Eve at Christ Church Cathedral. Craig's parents travelled from New Zealand for the wedding. *Photo: J. Bellhouse*



Nikki Summers and Edgar Morrison were married by Rodney Lee on the lawn of the Port Howard Lodge on December 19th. Champagne followed and a reception at the Port Howard Social Club. *Photo: S.Pole-Evans*



Governor Howard Pearce poses with many Falklands Training Award Winners outside Government House.



King Edward VII Memorial Hospital takes delivery of new old island.



FIDF marksmen pose for the Penguin News camera after coming second out of 28 teams to the Queen's Lancashire Regiment in the "March & Shoot" competition in January. From left to right they are Cpl. Tom Blake, Pt. Claudio Ross, Pt. Daniel Biggs and Pt. Ben Pointing.



Aladdin. The Mount Pleasant Amateur Dramatic Society advertise their January production.



Councillors Norma Edwards and Stephen Luxton, Armed Forces Minister Adam Ingram MP and London Representative Miss Sukey Cameron at the Labour Party Conference.

Gus Campbell Photography



The Governor's XI poses for the Penguin News alongside the Commander of British Forces FI cricket XI.

More to all same



Delivery of the shell of its new isolation ward. The isolation ward will become an elderly care ward.



India Clarke receives a gift from Father Christmas. To tour the more distant settlements Father Christmas exchanged his sleigh and reindeer at Mount Pleasant Airport for a 78 Squadron helicopter. Photo: MPC Photographic Centre



space. The roof being lifted from the SEAFISH Chandlery for the new construction of an upstairs office. It was replaced the day. All photos by Penguin News except where shown.



American kayakers, Barry Haas and John Buhrman, setting off from Stanley - to circumnavigate the Falklands!



vs camera after winning back the Ashes from in January.



The Kelper Celtics pose for the camera after defeating the All Saints.

Ten Years of Achievement Shackleton Fund Celebrates

Lady Thatcher was guest of honour at a reception in FIGO in London on February 1st, to celebrate ten years of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund. She joined Scholars, donors to the Fund, members of the London Committee and other friends of the Falklands in admiring an exhibition of photographs arranged with the help of the Fund by Bjorn Gillsater, son of the well known Swedish photographer Sven Gillsater, who had visited the Islands in 1968-9.

In a speech of welcome the Chairman of the London Committee of the Fund, David Tatham, recalled the respect and affection which everyone shared for Sir Ernest Shackleton and his son Lord Shackleton and the decision in 1995 to commemorate their achievements by establishing a scholarship fund. There had been an overwhelming response both in the Islands in Britain and the total raised amounted to about £300,000, yielding about £15,000 a year. Over the past ten years the Fund had spent over £110,000 awarding 66 scholarships.

Volcanoes to tooth fish – moto-cross to painters

Academic scholars had covered a wide range of subjects – from lichens to place-names; from volcanoes to tooth-fish - and contributed a great deal to the study of the Falklands environment. What was novel in the Shackleton Scholarship Fund was the category of Quality of Life awards. These were scholarships given to performers, artists, sportsmen and women who visited the Islands to enrich the quality of life of their people. Drummers, jazz groups, a golf coach, a moto-cross instructor, plenty of painters, a horse tamer, a cook – the variety was dazzling. All had brought their skills to the Islands to instruct or delight.

The Gillsater Portfolio

The latest Quality of Life scholar, Mr. Bjorn Gillsater, also spoke, thanking the Fund for their help in arranging the exhibition of his father Sven Gillsater's photographs of life and people in Camp and Stanley. He recalled his parents' visit to the Islands in 1968-9. Sven Gillsater had died in 2001, but his widow Harriet and their family were happily present. The photographs now featured in a website www.gillsaterphoto.com, and the framed pictures themselves would soon be on their way to the Islands to form part of the collection of Stanley's splendid museum.

The Reception was hosted by Miss Sukey Cameron, who kindly arranged the function. Others present included the Hon



Lady Thatcher signs the visitors book.



Bjorn Gillsater with Lady Thatcher. On the opposite page is Bjorn as a baby in the Falklands in the 1960s.



The Hon Alexandra Shackleton, Lady Hooper and Mr. David Tatham.

Photos: Melissa McKinley

Alexandra Shackleton, daughter of Lord Shackleton, Air Commodore Peter Johnson, Lady Hooper, Mr Eddie Colgate and, among Scholars, Dr Klaus Dodds and Mr Alasdair Pinkerton. Graham Bound was there for BBC Calling the Falklands and Peter Pepper for this Newsletter.

Sven Gillsater's photographs are available for sale. See his website www.gillsaterphoto.com.



Shackleton Scholar Dr. Klaus Dodds, Lady Thatcher, and FIG Representative Miss Sukey Cameron.

An Astonishing Time Capsule

Below are just a sample of Sven Gillsater's fantastic photos from the period 1968 to 69. Bjorn as a baby is below, and Governor Cosmo Haskard is identifiable below that, but the Newsletter cannot identify others. Older Islanders will recognise the efforts being made to fend off the "Memorandum of Understanding" then.



Father Peter Norris

St. Mary's Church has a new Parish Priest - Father Peter Norris (Photo Right). He will be in the Falklands for two years - or maybe more, depending on circumstances.

Father Peter served 18 years in the Royal Navy Medical Branch, including 5 years in the Submarine Service, and two, from 1979 to 1980 on HMS Hermes. Other ships that he served on were the nuclear submarines HMS Churchill and HMS Courageous, which is now a museum in Plymouth. His last ship was HMS Cleopatra a Leander Class Frigate hunting submarines in the North Sea.

Father Peter's wife sadly died in 1985 and so he retired from the Royal Navy to look after their three children.

Nimitz Association

Whilst working on Hermes as the Dental Petty Officer, he visited Norfolk, Virginia, where they worked with the US Navy, and were treated very generously by the American people, especially by the crew of the USS Nimitz.

Many years later back in the UK, he came across the USS Nimitz website and sent an e-mail of thanks for their previous friendship, and was invited to join the USS Nimitz Association. He joined as an associate member and attended a reunion in 2001 in Norfolk, spending the day at sea onboard the Nimitz. The following year the reunion was in Las Vegas where Father Peter was told that the previous chaplain of the USS Nimitz Association had had to resign. He was invited to take up the post, and accepted. This duty is carried out mainly on the Internet where the Nimitz Association has a website: www.mrozekassoc.com/nimitz/home.asp. One of the pages is the Chaplains Corner where prayers can be requested. You can find articles written by him there. To show that Fr. Peter is British, a small Union Jack is placed alongside his name. Father Peter Norris recently became a life member of the Nimitz Association.

Vocation for the Priesthood

Once Fr. Peter's children had grown up and were able to look after themselves, he decided that he would try his vocation for the priesthood and so he joined the Capuchin Franciscan Order, where he spent seven years. However, as it came near to the time to make his final vows, it was decided that he would fit better in the diocesan priesthood.

So Fr. Peter left the Capuchins and joined the Diocese of Southwark, where in January 2001 he was ordained Deacon. In June 2001 he was ordained Priest by Bishop Hine, the new Auxiliary Bishop in Kent. Interestingly, as a young priest thirty years earlier, Bishop Hine had been the priest who officiated at Peter's wedding.

Fr. Peter served as Assistant Priest in Gravesend Parish, Kent and then transferred to Thornton Heath Parish, Croydon.

After about two and a half years there he was given permission to apply for and accept the post of Parish Priest of St. Mary's Church, Stanley by Archbishop Kevin McDonald, of the Southwark Diocese, for which he is grateful.

Peter states that as soon as he saw there was a need for a priest in Stanley, he knew instinctively that it was the position for him.



Betty Miller



Mrs Betty Miller, from one of the Falklands best-known families, has died in Stanley, aged 92. A passionate Falklands patriot, she is shown above sceptically reading a message from Argentina's former Foreign Minister, the late Dr. Di Tella.

She and her late husband, Syd, farmed Roy Cove for 36 years. She was known for her hospitality and excellent cooking. She was a good rider and keen on fishing. She and Syd retired to Stanley, where she ran Home Industries, selling Falklands wool and woollen goods. She was a great supporter of the Cathedral.

She is survived by three of her four sons. Nigel, a master-mariner, was captain of the Darwin, and is now based in Norfolk. Sam runs a small market garden at Moody Brook, and is involved in tourism. Tim was injured in a Harrier attack on Dunnose Head in 1982, and now runs Stanley's remarkable hydroponic market garden. One son, Alan, sadly died, but his son Phillip farms at Cape Dolphin and was a councillor recently.

Betty Miller (formerly Betty Fenton) was a great-great-granddaughter of Sergeant Major Henry Felton of the lifeguards, who was in charge of the military pensioners sent by the British Government to the Falklands in 1849.

MBE for Lorraine McGill

Lorraine McGill was awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours for her 22 years of work running the hostel for children from Camp attending school in Stanley.

Lorraine hopes to travel to Buckingham Palace to receive her award. She said: "I enjoyed my job and did the best I possibly could. I certainly didn't expect something like this".



Croydon Exhibition

The 16th annual Falklands Exhibition was held at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon last September - with Annabelle Spencer continuing the work she did with her late partner Brian Paul. She still runs the Falklands Agency in Wells, selling all sorts of Falklands products, particularly woollen garments.



Above: Annabelle Spencer, centre, with Rona Carswell (of Carswell Creations) left and Corinne Wong right.

UKFIT

The United Kingdom Falkland Islands Trust is now in its twenty fourth year. We continue to provide specialist research and assistance to the Falklands rural economy. Principally, we act through our distinguished consultant, Dr Jim McAdam of the Northern Ireland Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Queen's University.

The Trust has actively promoted the potential of the Falklands at many key national and international events and worked on a wide variety of rural development projects, many of which have then been taken on by the Falkland Islands Government. These include:

- Research on kelp harvesting as liquid fertiliser
- Help with the establishment of an aquaculture industry
- Research on soil improvement
- Vegetable growing trials
- Work on the concept of both organic development and the marketing of organic products
- The selection and provenance of tree species
- The development of tussac as a source of animal feed and erosion inhibitor
- Research on calcareous base materials
- Research on grains and grasses
- Consultancy on aerial mapping
- Developing a science database for the Islands
- Work on several civic projects including Memorial

Wood,



UKFIT Chairman Air Commodore Peter Johnson, HRH Princess Alexandra and Dr. Jim Mc Adam.

Alexandra Wood at Port Howard, and school projects.

Most recently, the Trust has investigated the potential for commercial paeony production in the Islands. Our Royal Patron, HRH Princess Alexandra, enjoyed a successful visit to the Islands in 2000 and remains highly supportive of our work.

Despite the success of our work, the future of the Trust is not secure. From 2000 to 2003 poor performance in the investment world reduced both the capital

and income from our small trust fund. Additionally, and most importantly, funding from the Falkland Islands Government has decreased because of difficulties with the fisheries. In 2004, funding from FIDC was cut to half previous annual grants and it is likely that little or no income will be forthcoming this year.

Such a dramatic decrease in income will have a big impact on our ability to continue our work, needed more than ever now that the Islands are facing a decline in income from the fisheries industry. Please do therefore consider helping to regenerate and rejuvenate the Islands rural economy by making a donation to the Trust. Please send your cheque made out to the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Trust to:

Mr Brian Hill – Hon. Treasurer UKFIT

11 Greenacres, Steyning, West Sussex, BN44 3QA

Your donation will be acknowledged in UKFIT publicity – see our web site at www.ukfit.org.uk – and in our Annual Report, copies of which can be obtained by e-mailing the Chairman, Peter Johnson, at petej3@aol.com.

Very many thanks

Peter Johnson

All Change at Falklands Conservation

Henry Robinson has succeeded Robin Woods as Chairman of Falklands Conservation. He is Director of Wilkinson & Gaviller Ltd, which started supplying the Falklands around 1985.

Appointed a Trustee of Falklands Conservation two years ago, he first visited the Islands in 1990 and fell in love with the place, the people and the wildlife.

He says: 'I am neither a twitcher nor a scientist, but have had a lifelong interest in birds and wildlife generally. I visit the Islands roughly every 2 years and have travelled extensively on West and East Falkland as well as to Pebble, Carcass and Sea Lion Islands. I am lucky to count many Islanders as friends.... Most importantly, I feel passionate about everything that Falklands Conservation stands for and is trying to do.'

Robin Woods, author of several books on Falklands' natural history, will continue as a Trustee and lend his expert support to Falklands Conservation's fieldwork and research.

Gordon Liddle continues as Chairman of the Falkland Islands Committee, which guides Falklands Conservation operations locally.

Grant Munro (Photo Right) has been appointed Director of Falklands Conservation from 1st April 2005. He takes over from Becky Ingham, who has led Falklands Conservation through an excit-

ing 5-year period of rapid expansion of its activities in the South Atlantic. Becky is leaving to return to the UK.

Originally from Scotland, where he trained as a forester,

Grant made his home in the Islands 14 years ago. He has worked as a sea-going observer for the Department of Fisheries, as a shipping agent, and as the General Manager of Consolidated Fisheries, a local fishing company.

He has worked with Falklands Conservation recently. This has included investigating technologies to reduce fisheries discharge - and thus the attractiveness of fishing boats to seabirds; a review of the Falklands environmental baseline study, and currently, as Project Leader of the Albatross and Petrel Conservation Programme, which Oliver Yates will now be taking over.

Grant is keen to emphasize that community involvement

will continue to be a priority, also the development of eco-tourism and work with the fishing industry to combat the mortality of albatross. He hopes to build on Islander awareness of the Islands' very special environment and ensure that future developments in the Islands proceed in a manner sensitive to its protection. He looks forward to the challenges which lie ahead and "to working with my colleagues, Falkland Islands people, and conservationists who care for these Islands both in the UK and across the world".



Gordon Liddle and Henry Robinson



Ascension Island

Judith Faulkner gives us a glimpse of what we all miss as we just see Ascension Island from the airport and then hurry on down to the Falklands.

Described by a naval officer in the 1850's as 'one of the strangest places in the world', Ascension is looked on by many as just the 'stopping off' point when travelling to and from the Falklands. It has no indigenous population, there are approximately 1100 residents, mostly from St Helena, but the UK and US garrisons employ about 350. Its volcanic lava and cinder cone landscape looks uninviting from the waiting area, but, the island is very welcoming and full of surprises, not the least the lush vegetation of its highest point, Green Mountain, at about 2817 ft.

A water catchment area takes advantage of the rain here.



Driving up its treacherous bends to the old farm is an unforgettable experience but the views from the top render it well worthwhile. It is covered with lush vegetation and the small farm (Right) near the peak which used to produce vegetables and pork has now been abandoned.



Hospital to Residency

The Residency (Below), the home of the Administrator, is some way up the mountain. It is an attractive building completed in 1867 as the Mountain Hospital or Sanatorium to house fever patients arriving by ship. The majority of ships arriving with fever on board were despatched to Comfortless Cove and aban-



Georgetown seen from the hill above

doned. This was originally called Sydney Cove. Its name was changed to Comfort Cove when it became the quarantine base, after which for reasons which became obvious, it was known as Comfortless Cove. Residents would take food and water part of the way to the cove and it was collected after a pistol shot had alerted them.

Bonetta Cemetery

The Bonetta cemetery, named after HMS Bonetta which called there in 1838, contains graves of the crews of various ships which arrived in the 1800's. It is a strangely peaceful and rather beautiful place.



Beaches with No People

The climate on Ascension is sub-tropical with average temperatures at sea level of 68-88°F. The beaches are clean, sandy with clear blue water and no people! Just the giant green turtles which arrive between January and May to lay their eggs.

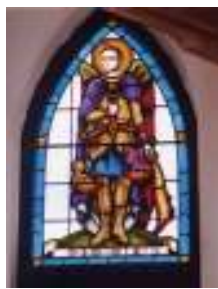


Clarence Bay Long Beach

St. Mary's Church

St. Mary's Church, Georgetown and the main graveyard were consecrated on Ascension Day, 9th May 1861 by the first Bishop of St Helena.

The church has two beautiful stained glass windows commemorating the Falklands conflict, one shows "Virgin Mary and Child" the other "Saint Michael".



One of the most attractive buildings in Georgetown is the Ascension Island Government Office (Above). This was previously the Islander Hostel and used by the Eastern Telegraph Company (now Cable and Wireless) and the Navy before that. Cable and Wireless have been on Ascension since 1898 and as well as providing communications operate the "Ariane" satellite tracking station for the European Space Agency.



People can telephone and see the BBC relay station by appointment too. This provided invaluable information to Falkland Islanders (and Argentines) during the 1982 war. The Americans have had a communications base at Cat Hill here since 1957. Out of hotel hours, people can eat at its canteen. The RAF have their base at Traveller's Hill.



There is no public transport on the island and one tiny petrol station (Above) which is only open for a few hours a day.

Two Boats Village

Two Boats village, one of the five settlements on Ascension is about three miles inland and situated at 600ft. It is a residential area and has the island's only school. Flowering trees and shrubs particularly the colourful bougainvillea abound in this temperate climate (Bottom). Here two young children, although many miles away from the Houses of Parliament, are collecting "pennies for the guy!"



Flights are, of course, available from Brize Norton and the Royal Mail Ship St.Helena sails from Cardiff. Bookings for either are made through Andrew Weir Shipping (020 7816 4803) who will also arrange entry permits as the Administrator's permission to visit is required.

The Georgetown Obsidian Hotel provides very good accommodation and as there is no public transport system or taxis a hire car is essential and can be arranged through the Ascension Island Tourist Office for £20 per day. The Ascension Island Tourist Office website www.ascension-island.gov.ac gives full details.

Judith Faulkner

Stamps and the History of the Falklands

The stamp issuing policy of the Islands has, generally, tried to cover all aspects of life in the Falklands. It is possible through stamps to trace some of the main events in their history from the first sighting to the present day. The following covers the period from 1592 to 1700.

Discovery of the Islands
 Captain John Davis made the first documented sighting of the Falkland Islands in 1592 when he observed the group from his ship *Desire*.

Four hundred years later, in 1992, four stamps commemorated this event. The 29p shows Captain John Davis (Above Right) and the 68p *Desire* sighting the Falklands (Right).

The first documented landing was made in 1690 from the English ship *Welfare* commanded by John Strong. Viscount Falkland was a shareholder in this voyage.

In 1764, a settlement was established by Louis-Antoine de Bougainville. He knew the Islands as "Les Malouines". He sailed from St. Malo to East Falkland where he built a fort "St. Louis". The first stamp to portray Port Louis was the 2d value of the 1933 set "Centenary of British Administration" (Below).



The 25p stamp of a set issued 7 January 1981 showing early settlements also shows Port Louis. It is also seen on a 'Royal Marine' issue of 8 December 1998 where the 30p value shows an officer against a background of Port Louis in 1833 (Below Left). The set of eleven stamps produced to celebrate 150 years of British administration (3 January, 1983) included a 1p value depicting the raising of the flag in 1833 (Below).



Around the same time as the French established themselves at Port Louis, the Admiralty sent Captain John Byron to the Falklands with orders to find a suitable base. He is remembered on a set of 'Early Cartographers' issued in 1985 the 22p bearing a portrait of Byron with his ships HMS *Dolphin* and HMS *Tamar* (Above). He took possession of Saunders Island in the name of King George III and named the settlement and harbour "Port Egmont" after the Earl of Egmont, First Lord of the Admiralty.



This is also commemorated with an 'Early Settlement' stamp, the 11p which shows 'Port Egmont' (Below) and from the 'Royal Marines' issue; the 17p value portrays a 'Marine at Port Egmont 1766' (Below).



Finally, On 27 January 1990 the Post Office commemorated John Strong's original landing with a special "Tercentenary of the 1st British landing on the Falkland Islands" handstamp which was used on just that one day at Stanley, Fox Bay and Mount Pleasant Post Offices.

Judith Faulkner



First Day Cover - Tercentenary of First Landing

Argentina Antics in Antarctica

“Year of Argentine Antarctica”

In Argentina, 2004 was “The Year of Argentine Antarctica”. It celebrated what Argentina claimed was 100 years of its presence in Antarctica. Various ceremonies marked this - and furthered Argentina’s sovereignty claim. It also marked the opening of the Seat for the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat in Buenos Aires, which it had campaigned so ruthlessly to obtain.

Provincial Legislature Meets in Antarctica

One particular absurdity took place on October 29th last year, the 35th anniversary of the founding of Marambio, Argentina’s main base in Antarctica. The legislature of the Province of Tierra Del Fuego (TDF) held a parliamentary session there! This was to suggest that a sector of Antarctica is part, not just of Argentina, but the Province of TDF itself! Councillor Abel Sberna said of the meeting “connected all of TDF, because we must not forget that Antarctica is part of this Province”. The flag was raised, the national anthem sung and a tribute paid to the teachers of Provincial School Number 38. Argentina likes families at Marambio to pretend that it is a normal part of TDF, with its school part of the provincial school system. The airbridge by Hercules from TDF capital Ushuaia to Marambio is even called the “Sovereignty Patrol”.

Antartida Argentina

By law all territories claimed by Argentina must appear on all Argentine maps as Argentina. So even the backs of Argentine passports show Argentine Antarctica. This was incorporated into the new Province of Tierra del Fuego in 1990. The original law (23.775) included the Falklands, South Georgia, etc, too. But part of the boundary clause was vetoed and returned to Congress, and then conveniently forgotten in order to fudge the claim to the Falklands: See Newsletter 55 in June 1993.

Despite this TDF behaves as if these British territories are part of it, and the TDF Constitution claims the “South Atlantic Islands” and Antarctica in Articulo 1 of the provincial constitution. This can be seen at: www.intertournet.com.ar/argentina/constitucion_tdfuego.htm.

Congressional Committee Meets at Marambio

On November 12th, the Argentine Congressional Committee for Foreign Affairs also met at Marambio. Clarin opened its report saying this was: “As a gesture of support for the sovereignty effort”. As well as 25 Congressman, Vice Foreign Minister Jorge Taiana was there. Ambito Financiero said he “had dedicated himself to defending national sovereignty”:

Regional Integration - a New Idea

Argentine Brigadier General Jorge Leal, now 83, was there too. A pioneer of Argentine polar exploration, he now supports the idea that Antarctica is the joint property of South America. This avoids conflict with Chile and other South American countries. He has said that Argentina can’t defend “its rights” alone - and that the peninsular of Antarctica is the continuation of the Andes - and so belongs to South America by virtue of Papal Bull Intercaetera of 1493 issued by Pope Alexander VI. This is a new idea, clearly intended to exclude non-South American countries from Antarctica.

Erroneous History - Britain First

Argentina has taken liberties with history and geography. Its 100 years date from February 22nd 1904 when it acted on the request made by British Minister in Buenos Aires, William Haggard, on behalf of Dr. Bruce leader of the 1903 Scottish National Antarctic Expedition. This was that Argentina should continue the expedition’s meteorological observations at the expedition base on Laurie Island. This is in the South Orkney Islands, hundreds of miles from the mainland of Antarctica!

In fact, Argentina’s first base in Antarctica proper was on Melchior Island, founded on March 31st 1947. This was more than three years after Britain put its first base in Antarctica - Base “A” of the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey at Port Lockroy, founded on February 11th, 1944. Nevertheless, Peron made February 22nd into the day Argentina celebrated its claim to Antarctica.

Britain’s Claim First - No Argentine Protest

The Argentine claim to Antarctica is decades after the British one too. John Biscoe first claimed Graham Land for Britain in 1832. Then by Royal Letters Patent dated 21st July 1908 Britain consolidated its claims in the area as the Falkland Islands Dependencies. These letters patent specifically include the South Orkneys, and were acknowledged by Argentina without the slightest protest! Britain’s claim was specified more precisely 1917 - again with no protest from Argentina.

Antarctic Treaty Seat

For years Britain refused consent for Argentina to have the seat for the 1959 Antarctic Treaty Secretariat saying that no country claiming territory there was suitable.

Argentina had been particularly aggressive over its claim. One silly practice was to fly pregnant women to Marambio to proclaim the babies Argentine by virtue of their place of birth. Argentina even used violence once, at Hope Bay in 1952, firing a machine-gun over the heads of men of the British Antarctic Survey going to the old British base there. This was founded in 1945, long before the Argentine base at Hope Bay. Argentine “Frontier Signs” were first seen nearby in 1979 too. Place names have been hispanized. Graham Land is now Tierra de San Martin (after Argentine liberator Jose de San Martin). Seymour

Island has become Marambio Island. Streets were renamed in Argentina to celebrate its claim. A well known example (Left) is outside the port of Buenos Aires, where new arrivals would see it

Argentina Brainwashing Itself Over Antarctica

President of the TDF legislature in Marambio in October, Juan Rodriguez, said: “.. It’s as if all the citizens and population of Argentina are permeated with the subject of Antarctica”. In short, Argentina is brainwashing itself again, just as it did over the Beagle Channel islands and is still doing over the Falklands.

In 2001, Britain lifted its objection to the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat being in Argentina. It was really a goodwill gesture. Argentina was known to want it to boost its geostrategical position. But now the Argentine press claims it was recognition by Britain and the world of its 100 years in Antarctica! It is now proceeding with the gradual absorption of it what it claims is Antartida Argentina.

Simon Arthur



Map of Argentina on the back of an Argentine passport showing “Argentine Antarctica” included.



The Beagle Channel Dispute

Chile and Argentina celebrate the 20th anniversary of the settlement - after Argentina lost two arbitrations and tried to start a war.

Argentina it had revived its claim for its lost territory around Antofagasta - or at least a sovereign corridor to the Pacific - several years earlier. This served as a diversion from domestic problems. But negotiations had failed and Bolivia and Chile had broken off diplomatic relations.

Argentina then repeated its tactics of a hundred years earlier. In December of 1978 it suddenly raised the subject to a crisis level. It rapidly moved troops south, raising the temperature of the rhetoric as it did so. Peru, Bolivia's old ally, began to exercise its troops. The world looked on in disbelief, and the Chileans were taken by surprise. Once again they had a threat on two widely separated fronts. The Americans were preoccupied with the Iranian revolution and turned down a request from Chile for observers. Notes flew at the OEA and UN. To no avail. Clarin reported recently that some Argentine units actually crossed into Chile on December 22nd. On Christmas Eve 1978, there is evidence that Argentine troops opened fire for a couple of hours in the Richmond Pass (between Lennox and New Island). Christmas Eve is "Noche Buena", the holiest night in the year in the Christian calendar in Argentina and Chile. The Argentine junta had been prepared to start a war then that would have raged all along the Andes - over a relatively minor matter, that it had lost an arbitration over. This shows how crazy and belligerent they were.

The Same Propaganda as in 1982

The rhetoric was much the same as in 1982 too. General Menendez, brother of the General Menendez who was "Governor of the Falklands" during the Argentine occupation, solemnly announced that the negotiation efforts were coming to an end - which implied the use of force if Argentina didn't get what it wanted. He said how "peace was the hope of all civilised men - especially Argentines". Typically he also declared that Argentina's rights to dominate the South Atlantic were "unrenounceable".

Luckily, frantic Vatican efforts got it all stopped. The Pope sent Cardinal Antonio Samore to keep the peace. He arrived in Argentina on December 26th and his shuttle diplomacy finally stopped Argentina's aggression. Both sides then agreed to respect a Vatican mediation.

Argentina Rejects Vatican Arbitration Too

In 1980, this Vatican mediation went against Argentina yet again. Amazingly, in January 1981, Argentina broke its word again, and rejected this too! It spent 1981 and the beginning of 1982 sabre-rattling, posturing and buying more weapons (which it later used against Britain). In January 1982, the cruiser General Belgrano was sent to violate Chilean waters around Herschel and Deceit Islands. The Gurruchaga and four smaller ships did the same in the Beagle Channel itself in March 1982. Argentine newspapers then are full of this, and Chilean, Vatican and US complaints about it. They also report the Junta's confrontation with its trade union movement, and the incidents in South



The Beagle Channel and the disputed islands, Picton, Lennox and New (Nueva) Island. Picton was named after the British General killed at Waterloo. The three islands appear very much an extension of the Chilean island of Navarino.

Georgia, which lead to the Falklands War.

But Chile was well armed by then, and ready. There was no Bolivian threat to its northern territory to divide its forces either. So attacking Chile guaranteed war - as well as Vatican condemnation (See Note). The Falklands were a much easier target. The Junta didn't expect to have to fight there at all.

Chile sympathised with Britain in the '82 war, as it feared an attack in the Beagle Channel, if the Argentines won. Some Chilean historians, such as Ricardo Krebs, backed Britain too for historical reasons. But they didn't all do this. In April 1982, General Agustin Toro Davila, Rector of Santiago University, said that Patagonia was Chilean in 1833, so the Falklands were too!

Argentina Mends Fences with Chile

After losing the war in 1982, Argentina had to mend its fences with Chile, perhaps in order to concentrate on the Falklands. So it accepted a Papal settlement, largely organised by Cardinal Samore, in September 1982. This gave all three islands to Chile. There were a few concessions for Argentina - particularly over waters adjacent to the islands. The Argentine army and the Peronists opposed this bitterly, but Raul Alfonsin was president by then.

Alfonsin Pushes Settlement Through

Swallowing his 1977 opinion, Alfonsin pushed the agreement through in 1984 with a referendum throughout Argentina. That confirmed the settlement with a vote of 84% in favour. Only in the Territory of Tierra del Fuego, which the Islands would have belonged to if they had been Argentine, was this referendum defeated.

It was defeat in the Falklands that forced Argentina to abandon its claim to the Beagle Channel Islands. But it is not abandoning its claims to the Falklands. Now it cites their proximity to the Patagonian coast as one reason why they should be Argentine. So it's worth knowing how Patagonia became Argentine.

It's worth remembering too how similar its tactics were over the Beagle and the Falklands, just three and a bit years later. Many of the Argentine generals involved were the same men! Much of the rhetoric was the same too.

Bolivia's Claim Continues Strained Relations with Chile

In 1992, Bolivia got limited access to the Pacific via extraterritorial rights on the railway through the territory of its old ally, Peru, to the port of Puerto Ilo.

But this hasn't solved the problem. Bolivia still claims its lost territory - or at least a sovereign corridor to the Pacific. It is a major issue at the moment. Chile quite understandably will not budge.

Simon Arthur



"Argentina will not yield". La Razon's report of the rejection by Argentina of the Queen's arbitration in 1977. Some naval sabre rattling is reported too.

Last year, amidst all their current disputes and difficulties, Chile and Argentina had something to celebrate - The 20th anniversary of the settlement of the Beagle Channel Dispute in 1984. This and the Antofagasta Dispute had a major bearing on the Falklands War.

Both these arose long after Britain re-occupied the Falklands, in 1833. Chile was expanding north and south then along the narrow strip between the Andes and the Pacific - and into Patagonia. In 1843, Chile annexed the Straights of Magellan (perhaps to pre-empt the French). In 1874, Chile put a tiny garrison near the mouth of the Santa Cruz river, directly opposite the Falklands. In the north, in the 1860s and 70s, Chileans mined the nitrates in the Atacama desert, and created the city of Antofagasta. They had permission for this, and regular abuse, from a corrupt Bolivia, to which the area belonged.

Devonshire Incident

In 1878, Bolivian abuse of Chilean mining companies in Antofagasta became intolerable, and laid the seeds of war. The same year, in Patagonia, the Chileans at Santa Cruz arrested an American ship, the Devonshire. It had been loading guano, with a permit from Argentina, but not from Chile. This drew attention to Chilean settlement in Patagonia - and gave Argentina a chance to stop it. Taking advantage of the developing crisis around Antofagasta, Argentina sent a task force south to drive the Chileans out of Patagonia. Chile also sent forces, and a clash appeared inevitable. But for Chile, the risk of war with Bolivia, at the same time, and much closer to home, was too great. She could not afford to divide her forces and take on two enemies at once. With great public lamentation, she abandoned her claim to Patagonia, and withdrew her tiny garrison from Santa Cruz just before the Argentine task force arrived. This was just as well. Bolivia declared war in 1879, followed by its ally Peru - and the War of the Pacific started. Argentina then occupied Patagonia and it has been Argentine ever since.

Chile won the War of the Pacific in 1883. Antofagasta and the Atacama desert became Chilean, and Bolivia became landlocked.

Over Patagonia, Chile and Argentina signed a series of treaties. The first, in 1881, had kept Argentina out of the war. This formalised in 1883. There was another in 1893.

Note: Cardinal Aramburu, Archbishop of Buenos Aires, even led a peace march over the Beagle Channel Dispute in early 1982. Shamefully, he later used his Easter homily to bless Argentina's attack on the Falklands!

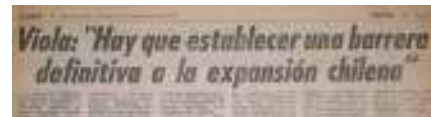


"The Chilean attitude violates our rights" Clarin's headline December 21st 1978. But Chile had won the arbitration. So it was Argentina's attitude that was really violating Chilean rights.



Menendez: "All efforts at negotiation are becoming exhausted", Clarin, December 22nd, 1978.

Three years later, his brother, as "Governor of the Falklands", was saying much the same.



Clarín December 24th General Viola "A Definite Barrier Must Be Established to Chilean Expansionism".

Of course it was Argentine expansionism that was the real problem.



"We maintain an unrenounceable right in the South Atlantic", Clarin December 30th 1978. General Luciano Benjamin Menendez. Again his brother used much the same rhetoric in the Falklands three years later.

The **"Message of Peace"** President Videla is sending to the Pope was only possible because the Vatican had managed to stop him from attacking Chile a few days earlier.



December 28th, 1978: "Cardinal Samore begins his negotiation today in Chile" - to stop Argentina starting a war. Eleven new generals are announced too. One was Antonio Bussi, who Islanders met in 1982.

In 1898, another Treaty kept Argentina and Chile from a war over disputed territory just north of the Straits of Magellan. Argentine President Julio Roca actually met the Chilean President in Punta Arenas to handle the negotiations. But war threatened again in 1991. So the bones of contention were referred to Britain's King Edward VII for arbitration. In 1902, his decisions were incorporated into yet another treaty. This left an absurd border, but an agreed one - or so everyone thought.

But the Beagle channel Islands, Picton, Lennox and New Island were never properly defined in any of the treaties. Basically these gave Tierra del Fuego east of the mouth of the Straits of Magellan and north of the Beagle channel to Argentina - without defining unequivocally where the channel was. Many people had assumed this ran north of the disputed islands at its eastern end. But, if it went, through them, or between them and the Chile's Navarino Island, then these and other islands further south and considerable territorial waters in the Atlantic belonged to Argentina not Chile. In the sixties and seventies this became important, because of oil and fishing rights in the area, and because the effective border between the overlapping claims of these countries in Antarctica was an extension of their Patagonian border. Chilean possession of the Islands could also obstruct access from the Argentine naval base at Ushuaia to the Atlantic. The Argentines were strongly opposed too to the idea that Chile should have any waters - or say - in the Atlantic. So, in 1971, both countries referred the dispute to the British crown for arbitration. Argentina was a military dictatorship then with General Lanusse as President.

The Queen's arbitration of 1977 - Chile Wins

The Queen referred the dispute to a panel of ex-judges from, and chosen by, the World Court. Only two were British, Ian Brownlie and Robert Jennings. Both countries agreed to each judge, and to respect their decision. In 1977, the Palace of Westminster announced a unanimous decision in Chile's favour. All three Islands belonged to Chile.

Argentina Rejects the Result

Argentina led by General Videla rejected the result! It was not only the Argentine military that wanted this either. Raul Alfonsín was among many prominent Argentines who called for it to be rejected too.

Bolivia was a military dictatorship then too. With encouragement from Ar-

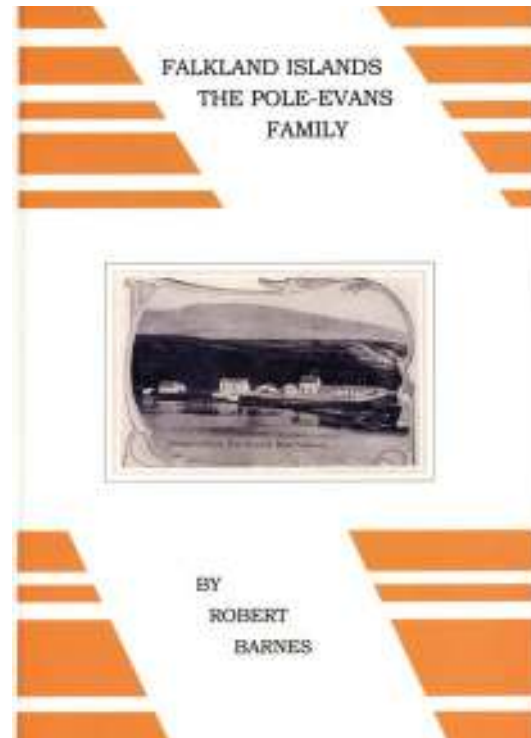
Book Review: FALKLAND ISLANDS: THE POLE-EVANS FAMILY by ROBERT BARNES. Hardback 54 pages, with many colour and black and white illustrations. Privately published. Available from the Falkland Islands Government Office, Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London, SW1H 0BH. Alternatively, from the Falkland Islands Company West Store, Stanley. Price £15

The growth of sub-division of sheep farms in the Falkland Islands of recent years has resulted in the loss of family names such as Bonner, Cameron, Holmstead, Blake and Waldron whose histories go back to the 19th Century, and without whom there would not be today the independent British territory as we know it.

It would be unfortunate if the histories of these families, respective farms, who met and overcame major obstacles, are not recorded. Therefore, we should be grateful to Robert Barnes for researching and bringing to light the background to one of the farms, Port Howard, and, in particular, to one family, the Pole-Evans, who contributed so much to that farm over a long period.

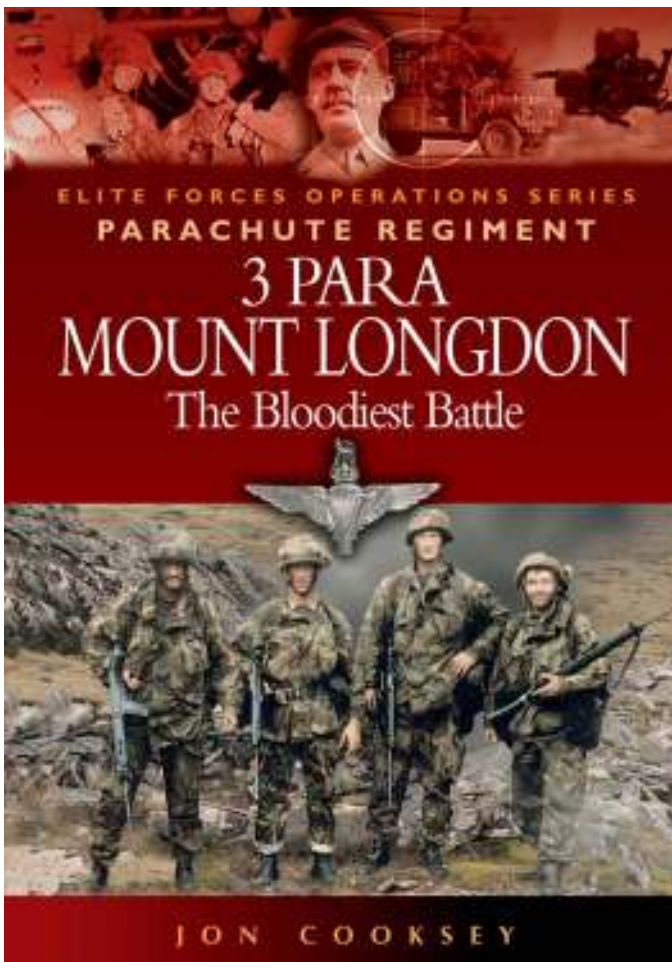
Robert has over 50 years interest in the Falkland Islands, and has been forthcoming with three books successfully received, all devoted to aspects of the postal history of the Falkland Islands and the Dependencies. This time he ventures into a non-philatelic subject, although one can see readily how the social history discreetly interlocks with the other.

It is hoped that the book will receive the degree of support that it merits. Very well presented and generously illustrated in colour with hardback covering. Frank Mitchell



Book Review: 3 PARA MOUNT LONGDON The Bloodiest Battle by JON COOKSEY.

Softback 109 Pages with many good illustrations, some in colour. ISBN 1-84415-115-8. Published by Pen and Sword Books Ltd., 47 Church Street, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S70 2AS. E-mail: enquiries@pen-and-sword.co.uk. Price:£12.99.



The poignant scene where Cpl. 'Doc' Murdoch and Pt. Stewart 'Geordie' Laing fell on Mount Longdon.

This is the first detailed account I have seen of the role of 3-PARA during the Falklands War, particularly the heretofore largely neglected Battle of Mount Longdon. Written in a popular style, it is easy to read.

The author includes several good contributions from people directly involved in the war itself. One is from Islander Terry Peck who was extremely valuable to 3-PARA. Sadly, one contributor, who dealt with the early history of the Falklands, made some serious historical errors. But this is of little importance. The book is about Mount Longdon. As such it is good. It covers this in a detail found nowhere else. There is even an interesting contribution from an Anglo-Argentine who was on the receiving end of 3-PARA's attack. He gives details of some of the Argentine dispositions. There is also a certain amount of sensible comment and criticism of the British tactics involved - which go towards explaining why it was the bloodiest battle of the war.

Last, but not least, there is a good account of the psychological aftermath of the war on those who took part in it - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, etc. The therapeutic effect of the SAMA-82 pilgrimage is evident here. A good read. PJP

The Falkland Islands Association

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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

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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

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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.

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Dates For Your Diary

Annual Falklands Reception, Lincoln's Inn
 Wednesday 8th June

Freedom of Gosport for Falklands Veterans
 Wednesday 24th August

Battle Day & AGM
 Saturday 10th December

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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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Falkland Islands

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Editorial Committee:
 Mr. David Tatham, CMG (Chairman).
 Mr. D.G.Ainslie.
 Mrs. M.Christie.
 Mrs. Judith Faulkner.
 Mr. Saul Pitaluga.



The Shackleton Anniversary Reunion, and Gillsater Photo Exhibition in February. Left to Right: Mr. Bjorn Gillsater, The Hon Alexandra Shackleton, Lady Thatcher and Mr. David Tatham.

Photo: Melissa McKinley



Successful Community School music pupils with their certificates from the Associated Boards of the Royal Schools of Music. Music teacher, Mrs. Shirley Adams-Leach said she was, "...very proud of all their achievements."