



Falkland Islands

Newsletter

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Five New Faces in LegCo



Dr. Richard Davis, Mike Summers, Richard Cockwell, Dr Andrea Clausen and Janet Robertson

Only three members of the previous LegCo line up have retained their seats in the 2005 General Election. Representing Stanley, new candidates Andrea Clausen, Janet Robertson and Richard Davies join Richard Cockwell and Mike Summers, both having served on the previous legislative council. Camp constituents voted for Mike Rendel and Richard Stevens to join Ian Hansen.

The turn out for this election was slightly higher than the last General Election with 69% of possible Stanley voters actually casting their votes (68.7% in 2001). Camp turn out was 86% for this General Election. Higher again than 2001 at 82.2%.



Ian Hansen



Mike Rendell



Richard Stevens

Richard Davies gained the highest number of votes in Stanley. He said that he had been hopeful of being elected, "but not confident". He explained, "It's difficult to gauge public opinion but I put a lot of effort into individuals and canvassing because I think that as a Councillor it is important to put the views of the Falkland Islands across."

Reacting to the result, Mike Summers - who has served on council since 1996 - said, "It's an interesting mix of old hands and new faces. It'll be interesting to see how the team shapes up over the next four years."

Beginning his third term on LegCo, Richard Cockwell echoed that sentiment: "It's a very interesting result. It's a new team of people to work with and I look forward to it".

He added, "I am sure all the elected councillors will take the Islands forward as they should be."

Janet Robertson said she was pleased with the result and admitted she had not really known what to expect. "I'm pleased with the candidates that were successful and look forward to working with them over the next four years."

Andrea Clausen said she was "absolutely thrilled" to be elected. She thanked those voters who supported her and

Five New Faces in LegCo

Continued from page 1

promised, "I will do everything in my ability to serve them."

Ian Hansen polled the highest number of votes in the Camp. Reacting to the news from his farm at Main Point (West Falkland), Mr Hansen - who was elected at the 2003 by-election - said he really thought he would struggle for third place but added, "I am delighted to be back on council and look forward to the next four years."

I am very happy with the Camp result and there is a good mix and match for Stanley."

Speaking from his farm on Bleaker Island, Mike Rendell said he had been nervous about the count. He commented, "I would just like to thank everyone in the Camp for their support and confidence in voting for me."

I hope that us Camp councillors can form a really good

team and keep the momentum going."

He said he plans to tour the Camp. "...to talk to as many people as I can as soon as possible - there is a lot to do."

Richard Stevens, who served a term on Legislative Council in the 1990s said he was surprised to a degree, adding that he was delighted to be given a second chance.

He hoped he could live up to the expectations of people living in Camp, whether they voted for him or not. He was very happy with his fellow Camp councillors saying he was sure he could work with them, but added that, as farmers dependent on sheep, he and Ian Hansen may have a different perspective on some Camp issues to that of Mike Rendell. Mr Stevens added that he was glad there was some continuity with the previous council. At Port Sussex, while the vote count took place Richard said he was looking forward to a celebratory drink with his family while considering the four years ahead.

General Election - *how the voters made their mark.*

Stanley

John Birmingham - 240
Jan Cheek - 275
Andrea Clausen - 466
Richard Cockwell - 302
Richard Davies - 546
Mike Forrest - 261
John Fowler - 276

Stanley

Eric Goss - 276
Kevin Ormond - 110
Phillip Middleton - 179
Janet Robertson - 299
Mike Summers - 477
(4 votes spoilt)

Camp

Roger Edwards - 91
Ian Hansen - 188
Philip Miller - 86
Mike Rendell - 139
Richard Stevens - 121
(no spoilt votes)

Falklands team meets Lord Triesman at Labour Party Conference



Cllr. Jan Cheek, Lord Triesman, Sukey Cameron and Cllr. Roger Edwards

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minister Lord Triesman spent time on the Falklands stand during the Labour Party Conference. Lord Triesman met with Falkland Islands Government's UK Representative Sukey Cameron and Cllrs Jan Cheek and Roger Edwards.

Ms Cameron said 'We were well received and spent time updating old friends and making new ones. It was also a good opportunity to meet a number of the new MP's who came in at the last election.'

The Falklands team also attended the Conservative Party Conference.

Points from H.E, The Governor's Annual Address

Speaking on 24th May, His Excellency the Governor made a much shorter annual address, omitting the traditional department-by-department reports but which were available in written form by application to the Government Secretary.

After paying tribute to the public servants and bidding farewell to some who have left during the year the Governor welcomed the new Commander British Forces, Commodore Iain Moncrieff and his wife, Marion, who will arrive at the end of May 2005. He underlined the continuing gratitude of the Falkland Islanders to the British Forces South Atlantic Islands in ensuring the security of the Islands.

'Councillors were faced with some tough decisions'

He said that last year he had anticipated the failure of the illex squid fishery and the deterioration in relations with Argentina, which would make for a challenging period for the Islands and so it had proved. The consequent reduction in Government income because of the failure of the fishery meant that once again Councillors were faced with some tough decisions. The contrasting success of the first loligo squid season this year has provided some compensation but cannot make up for the continued failure of the illex. We may therefore have to face a long term reduction in Government expenditure and this year's budget round will require further steps towards a lower level of expenditure in the medium to long term.

Regarding minerals development both on and offshore, he said that, unless and until a commercial resource is found - whether gold on shore or hydrocarbons offshore - the prospects remain by definition speculative. There is no case yet for counting our chickens. That said, the companies have been much encouraged by the

survey work they have undertaken so far. Exploratory onshore drilling for gold is already underway. Following some positive results from their seismic work, Desire Petroleum are hoping to bring down a rig early next year to drill exploratory wells to the north of the Islands. Falklands Oil and Gas Limited will be undertaking a substantial further tranche of seismic work in their blocks to the south and southeast of the Falklands to define further the prospects in that area, with a view to drilling in due course. A commercial discovery of offshore hydrocarbons could have exciting and far-reaching consequences for the Islands and it is not too early to be thinking through some of the implications.

'refusal to discuss cooperation'

He said that there is little which is positive in terms of relations with Argentina. The South Atlantic Fisheries Commission continues to meet periodically to discuss the management of the southwest Atlantic fisheries but the quality of the cooperation received from the Argentine side has been disappointing. Their refusal to discuss cooperation on a high seas fisheries agreement for the region on terms which the UK and Falkland Islands Governments could accept has been particularly regrettable, despite there clearly being a mutual interest in improving the quality of regional fisheries management. On the issue of charter flights, there has been no movement, and there is currently no sign that the Argentines are prepared to discuss it on terms that would be acceptable to the Falkland Islanders.

More positive was the visit to the Islands in March by representatives of the Argentine Families Commission to see the new memorial at Darwin. They went out of their way to include in their visit the cemetery at San Carlos and the Liberation Monument in Stanley, to pay tribute to the Britons who died in the 1982 Conflict. They were visibly moved by the way in which they were received in the Islands.

Meanwhile the commitment of the UK Government to Falkland Islanders' right to self-determination remains as strong as it has ever been. The Argentine Government has no excuse for misunderstanding: Falkland Islanders wish to remain British and there is no prospect of their changing their mind on this point in the foreseeable future.

The white paper 'Partnership for Progress and Prosperity', published by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1999 contains the most authoritative recent statement of the UK Government's position on this subject. Describing the relationship as a 'new partnership', it bases it on four fundamental principles: self determination, mutual obligations and responsibilities, freedom for the territories to run their own affairs to the greatest degree possible, a firm commitment from the UK to help the territories to develop economically and to assist them in emergencies. The partnership works well and, for most of the time, smoothly.

The white paper invited the Overseas Territories to consider whether they wished to propose changes to their constitutions to keep them in tune with modern requirements, including those of more open, transparent and accountable government. Councillors have been considering a range of proposals, which will be finalised so that following the general election in November, they will be ready for consideration by the incoming set of Councillors and, thereafter, for discussion with the UK Government.



His Excellency the Governor Howard Pearce CVO

Sukey Cameron's spe

Baroness Thatcher, Ministers, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen: Welcome again to our Annual Reception. I am delighted that so many of you are able to join us; it certainly demonstrates the strength of support in Britain for the Falkland Islands.

'I particularly welcome our MP supporters and congratulate them on surviving the hustings! It was a good election for us. We lost none of our friends and even gained some new ones! We have our General Election in November, but without political parties, Paxman or Peter Snow, (two high-profile television journalists), I doubt it will be quite so exciting. But it will be no less important to us for all that.

'If there has been one abiding theme in the Falkland Islands over the last year, it has been that of 'reaching out', whether in a political, social or sporting context. In addition to the annual visit by UK MPs, we welcomed a lively group of Canadian parliamentarians and we also hosted the Red Ensign Conference. As always, all our visitors have enjoyed our famous hospitality.

'We have also been well represented overseas. Our Councillors - two of whom I am pleased to say are with us this evening - have attended a number of conferences. Representatives of our commercial sector have taken part in international exhibitions and our sportsmen and women will compete soon at the Island Games in the Shetlands.

'We have also reached out to the devastated countries following the natural disasters that touched us all. We raised more than £28,000 for the Tsunami Disaster Appeal and the Government contributed the whole of its Disaster Relief Budget to Grenada in the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan.

OPTIMISM ON OIL AND PRECIOUS MINERALS SEARCH

'At home, our Councillors have just completed the Budget round. The early closure of one of the squid fisheries cast a shadow over our calculations. But we are used to tightening our belts, and no essential services or investments in the future of the Islands are affected. And, as one door closes ' only temporarily we hope ' another opens. Interest in offshore oil exploration continues to grow. Whilst there are no plans for a new Klondike - yet! - onshore drilling for minerals and precious metals has started in Lafonia. We are not holding our breath, but we are certainly optimistic!

'Sadly there is not such positive news regarding our relations with Argentina. Its Government continues to exert economic and political pressure but our commitment to remain part of the UK 'family' is undiminished and, if anything, strengthened by such pressure.

'Although the South Atlantic Fisheries Commission continues to meet periodically, the quality of cooperation we have received from the Argentine side has been disappointing.



Baroness Thatcher, David Tatham and Cllr John Birmingham enjoying the Falkland Islands Annual Reception at Lincolns Inn.

Reception at Lincoln's Inn



Falkland Island students Samantha Brownlee, Caris Stevens and Roxanne King

'Last month the Argentine Government complained to the European Commission over the fact that the Falkland Islands are included as a 'British Overseas Territory' in the proposed Constitution. They are 32 years too late! The provision in the Constitution does no more than repeat the terms of the Treaty which brought the UK into the European Community in 1973.

'On a positive note, we were able to welcome representatives of the Argentine Families Commission in March, enabling them to visit the new Memorial at Darwin which was completed last year.

NO CONCESSION ON SOVEREIGNTY

'Rather than indulge in petty politics with Argentina, we are content to make our case to the international community and let the facts speak for themselves. At the United Nations Decolonisation Committee meeting last June, our Councillors stressed that there could be no negotiation over sovereignty because that implied a willingness to concede whereas there is nothing to concede, a point echoed over and over again by the British Government. However the Councillors also reiterated our continuing commitment to cooperating with Argentina in agreed areas of mutual interest and, in particular, the protection of the region's environment and fish stocks. Councillors will be putting our case in New York once again in a few days time at this year's meeting.

'As many of you know, this Reception was inaugurated by the Falkland Islands Association over thirty years ago. Traditionally the Association Chairman reads out the annual message from Her

Majesty the Queen at these events. For many years that task was carried out by Sir Rex Hunt. However, Sir Rex retired as Chairman in December and he and Lady Hunt have moved to County Durham.

'Unfortunately, they cannot be with us, for the happy reason that their daughter is getting married on Saturday; but we are extremely grateful for all he did for the Islands, both as Governor and as Chairman of the Association over so many years. I'm sure we would all like to wish him and Mavis a long and happy retirement.

'We are, however, delighted that the new Chairman of the Association, David Tatham, is able to join us this evening. David is also a former Governor of the Islands and Chairman of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund which this year celebrates its tenth Anniversary. In sponsoring visits by academic and quality of life scholars, it has not only helped them to become recognised in their own fields but also created a whole generation of ambassadors for the Falkland Islands. I cannot think of a better way of commemorating the lives of Sir Ernest and Lord Eddie Shackleton, the Antarctic explorer and his son, who championed Falklands post-war development.

'I end, as always, by paying tribute to all those who continue to uphold our right to self determination: the armed forces that have protected us in war and peace, governments and politicians, whose support strengthens our resolve and people like you, whose unswerving loyalty sustains our beliefs.

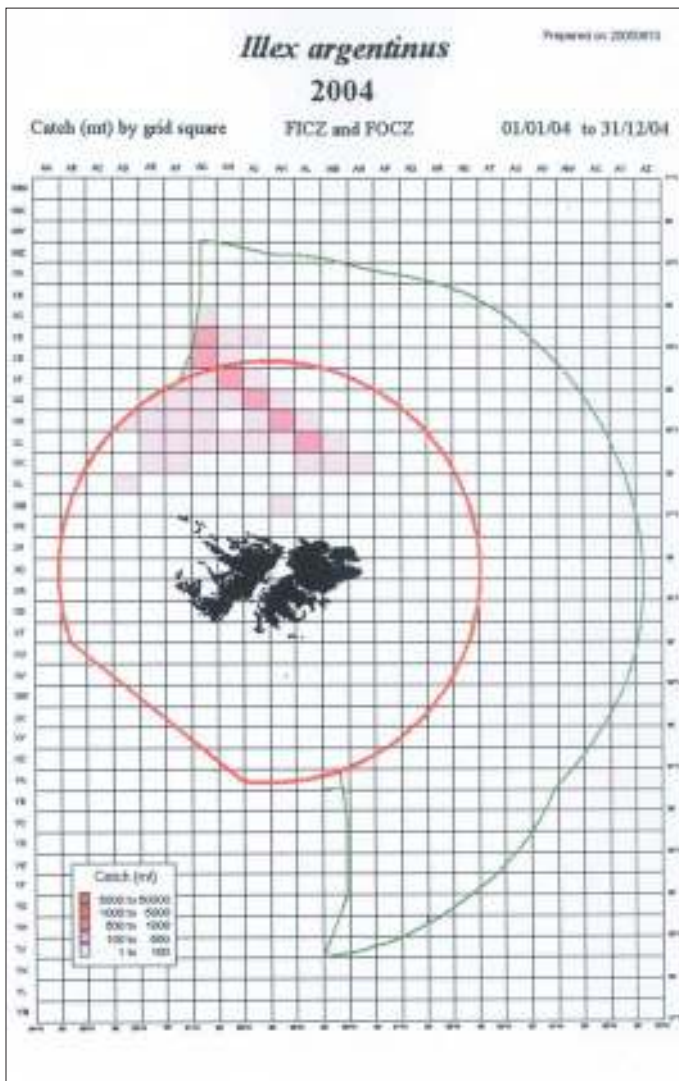
'We thank you all.'

The Highs and Low

Since its introduction in 1987, the Falkland Islands' fishery has generally been highly successful, however, there have been some difficult seasons. Short-lived squid species are noted for their volatility, so fluctuations in abundance and catch are not surprising. Looking back over almost 20 years, squid stocks have been remarkably robust for much of the period. However, there has been a marked deterioration in the health of *Illex* squid stocks in recent years, with almost a complete failure of the fishery in Falkland Islands' conservation zones.

Decline of *Illex* Squid

Catches of *Illex* in Falkland zones have typically been of the order of 100000 - 150000 tonnes. Three of the last four years have seen poor catches in Falklands' zones; 2002; 13411 tonnes, 2004; 1709 tonnes, 2005; 7935 tonnes. By way of comparison the total catch by the fleet in 2004, has been exceeded by a sin-



Caption-*Illex*

gle vessel in better years. Elsewhere in the Southwest Atlantic catches have also been low, although the situation has not been as serious as that prevailing in the Falklands. Catches were poor in Argentina in 2004, and catches have been well below average on the high seas. It appears to be the Southern Patagonian stock of *Illex* which has failed. Some other *Illex* stocks seem reasonably abundant and these have maintained catches in Argentina in 2002 and 2005. Unfortunately, it is only the Southern Patagonian or winter spawning stock of *Illex* which occurs in Falklands' zones.

The reasons for the decline in the main *Illex* stock are unclear. In part it may be due to unfavourable oceanography. However, it is also likely that excess fishing effort has been a factor. *Illex* are caught in Falklands' zones, the Argentine zone and on the High Seas. An early indication of how the *Illex* season is likely to turn out is obtained through an annual pre-recruit survey which takes place in February. This is a joint UK-Argentine survey using an Argentine vessel with Fisheries Department and Argentine scientists involved. The survey provides an estimate of the number of *Illex* 'recruiting' to the fishery. In both 2004 and 2005 the survey results gave low estimates of recruitment. This was borne out by the results of the commercial fishery, and the *Illex* fishery closed early in both Argentine and Falklands' zones in 2004 and 2005. There is a procedure for exchanging data and deciding whether an early closure is appropriate.

Additional Conservation Measures Required

Whilst early closures have been implemented in Argentina and the Falkland Islands to conserve *Illex* resources, the fishery on the high seas has continued. If the *Illex* stock is to recover for the long term it is likely that additional conservation measures will need to be implemented both within 200 mile fishery zones and beyond on the high seas. The most obvious way to achieve this would be through instigating a regional fisheries management arrangement for the Southwest Atlantic. The high seas issue has been discussed frequently in the South Atlantic Fisheries Commission. Unfortunately, despite UK and Falkland Islands attempts to make progress on the issue, this has not proved possible.

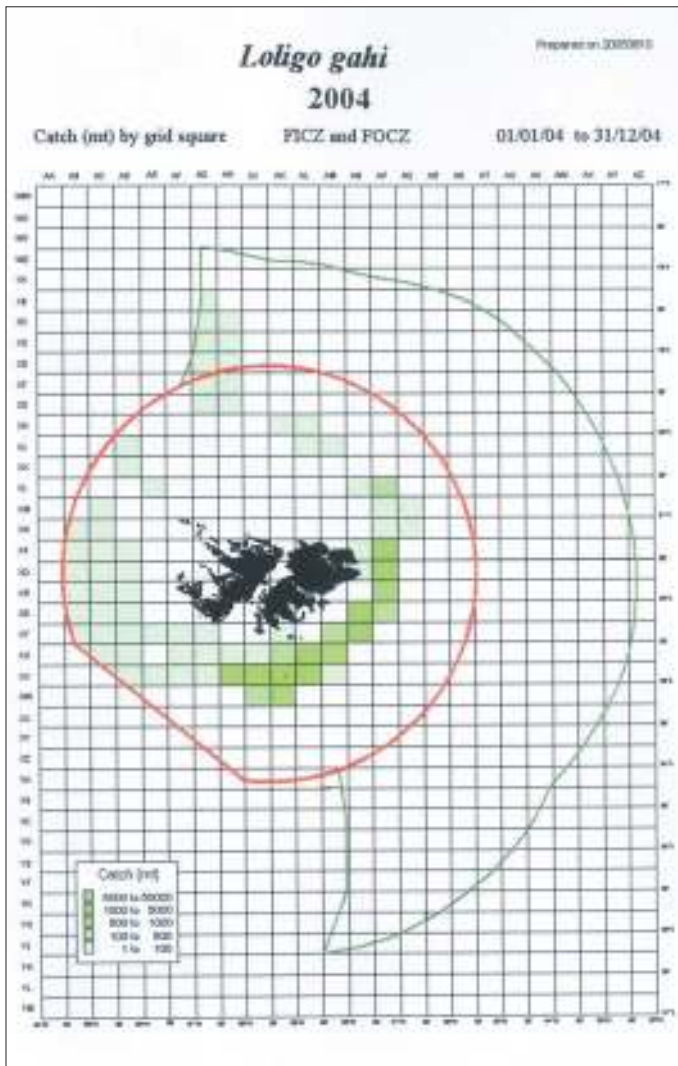
The *Illex* fishery has been worth £8 - 12 million in terms of license fees in normal years. In recent years this has reduced as a result of *Illex* license fees being refunded (90% in 2004, 60% in 2005). The poor performance of the fishery has resulted in difficulties for some of the companies involved in the fishery and a number have dropped out of the fishery.

Loligo Squid Stock in Reasonable Shape

Loligo squid have traditionally been the 'poor relation' to *Illex* in terms of volume and value. That has changed with the low catches of *Illex* and Loligo is rapidly becoming the No. 1 squid. The value of Loligo has held up quite well in recent years, and despite fluctuations in catch it has proved to be a profitable fishery. The Loligo catch in Falklands' zones can have a first sale value of £50 - 70 million. Whilst there has been something of a downward trend in catches, recent stock assessments

s of Squid Fisheries

by John Barton, Director of Fishing



Dr John Barton
Director of Fisheries Falkland Islands Government

Caption-Loligo

have shown the resource to be in reasonable shape.

The entire Loligo catch is taken by Falkland Islands joint venture companies, and mostly by trawlers registered in Stanley. As a result, in addition to license fees of around £4.6 million, there is a significant and growing stream of tax revenue from companies involved in that and other fisheries.

More of the Fisheries Wealth to Remain in the Falklands

One of the big challenges is to seek to ensure that more of the profits and economic activity generated by the fishery remain in the Falklands. To date this has been achieved through a succession of Fisheries Policy or Licensing Policy Statements. A much more significant change is now underway through the introduction of Property Rights in the fishery. The current system of short to medium term licenses, will be replaced by Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ). The owners of these quotas or rights, which must be owned by Falkland Islands companies and residents, are entitled to a share of the Total Allowable Effort in

specific fisheries for a period of up to 25 years. This new system should start in July 2006.

It is anticipated that the long-term security of the new system, together with the flexibility of being able to trade ITQs will revitalize the local fisheries sector. It should create a more rational economic climate for Falklands' companies to develop. This should result in more of the fisheries wealth remaining in the Falklands, which is likely to be increasingly significant in a 'no or low' Illex scenario.

The new Fisheries Policy was approved by Executive Council in 2003. The new Fisheries (Conservation and Management) Ordinance was passed by Legislative Council in August 2005. This is the first major revision and re-statement of fisheries law since the current Ordinance was passed in 1986, to coincide with the creation of the Falklands' Interim Conservation and Management Zone. Apart from introducing a property rights system, the new Fisheries Law modernises fisheries legislation taking account of a number of international developments on fisheries, which have occurred in the intervening years. The strong conservation provisions of existing legislation are maintained and strengthened in the new Law.

Plenty of Areas for Optimism

In the not too distant future it will be the 20th Anniversary of the declaration of the FICZ and the introduction of the fisheries regime. Whilst the outlook for Illex squid is rather gloomy there are still plenty of areas for optimism, including Loligo squid and other fisheries. The new Fisheries Law represents one of the most significant changes in the life of what is still a relatively young fishery.

Honorary Membership of The Association for Joe Bossano

The Falkland Islands Association Committee offered honorary membership of the Association Mr Joe Bossano, the Leader of the Opposition in Gibraltar. In reply Mr Bossano replied saying that he is delighted to accept and feels immensely honoured that our Committee has decided to offer this. He writes that he has been a 100% committed defender of the Falklands and its people and feels that the Gibraltarians probably understand the Falkland Islanders' position better than anyone else. He goes on to write that at the UN the reaction to our respective claims for the right to self-determination first emerged in 1965 and were identical in respect of both territories so the parallels have been there for 40 years.

At a United Nations Seminar held in St. Vincent last May, the representative of Argentina asked the Seminar to include as one of its recommendations that the doctrine of the United Nations was that the question of the Falklands was one of territorial integrity and that self determination did not apply because the people there were indistinguishable from the occupying power that had transplanted them.

'a right to self-determination'

In his speech in reply Mr Bossano totally rebutted 'this utter rubbish from the delegate from Argentina.' He continued, 'the Seminar is being asked by the delegate from Argentina to do no less than to alter the Charter of the UN, which says that the principle of Self Determination applies to every single non-self Governing territory on the list on which we are. Indeed, it also makes clear that that is the case in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence, which says that all peoples have a right to self-determination and by virtue of that right they freely determine the political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development. The distinguished representative from Argentina comes here today and says to us. 'Ladies and gentlemen I just want to propose a minor amendment in which we shall say, interpret the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to colonial Countries and People, to say, that one of the colonial countries, the Falkland Islands, which he chooses to call the Malvinas and I don't, and its inhabitants, who have only been there since 1833, just round the corner, are not entitled to it.' So we are amending this Declaration to read, except the people of the Falkland Islands, because in this case they are indistinguishable from the Occupying Power. **What I would like to know is which was the Occupying**

Power that provided the honourable gentleman with his genetic code because he does not look like an Aztec or Inca to me' What we have in South America, in Argentina where he comes from, are the people of the occupying power eventually rebelling against their mother country, Spain, and decolonizing. By his criteria they would not be entitled to that right. As if that would not be enough, the honourable member presents himself before this Seminar and produces self-serving arguments by deliberately selectively quoting from the UN established documents list. The UN has never said that the people of Gibraltar or the people of the Falkland Islands don't have the right to self determination because there is somebody that wants the place in which they live and they have been living there in the case of the Falkland Islands only since 1833 and in the case of Gibraltar only since 1704. That is utter and complete nonsense.'

'We are here, Mr Chairman, and let the distinguished delegate from Argentina understand this, that we are here to promote and to protect the interests of the peoples that are still colonies who aspire to what has been achieved by the struggles of those that preceded us when they fought for freedom and liberation from colonial rule.'

'And now, Mr Chairman, now that I have got that off my chest, I will continue with what I intended to say.'

The Next Governor Appointed

The next Governor of the Falkland Islands will be Alan Huckle, who is currently the Governor of Anguilla in the Caribbean, where the main economic interests include fishing and tourism. Alan Huckle and his wife, Helen, have two children both in their twenties.

Mr Huckle visited the Falkland Islands four years ago when he was head of the Overseas Territories Department at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Former postings have included Manila, New York and Vienna and he has worked in the East Africa Department of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office as well as a spell on loan to the Northern Ireland Office.

Mr Huckle will take up his post of Governor of the Falkland Islands in the autumn of 2006.

New Commander British Forces

A new Commander of the British Forces South Atlantic has arrived and has taken over from Air Commodore Richard Lacey at Mount Pleasant. He is Commodore Ian Moncrieff RN.

Commodore Moncrieff RN, was a previous Captain of HMS Endurance from June 2001 to June 2003 when he visited the Falkland Islands and Antarctica. He is based in Southsea and he and his wife have two teenage sons, Andrew and James.

Baby Girl for His Excellency The Governor and Mrs Pearce

The Governor of the Falkland Islands, Mr Howard Pearce and his wife Caroline have announced the arrival of a baby daughter.

Suzanna Pearce was born in the Netherlands on Monday 26th September weighing about 7.5 lbs.

Governor Pearce goes supersonic

Governor Howard Pearce was given a flight in RAF F3 Tornado fighter jet by 1435 squadron who are currently stationed at Mount Pleasant.

Squadron Leader Hoskison first briefed Mr Pearce on all aspects of the Tornado before taking him on an hour long tour of the islands. As well as passing by Government House, the governor was subjected to aerobatics, supersonic speeds and huge G-force.



Stamps and the History of the Falklands

Stanley. The first Governor was Richard Clement Moody, who arrived in the Islands aboard the Hebe in 1842 and was instructed by Lord John Russell to investigate the possible suitability of the Port William area as a site for a new town. Captain James Clark Ross was instructed to carry out the surveying and in 1843 it was concluded that Port William would make a good anchorage and the shores suitable for a settlement.

The new capital was named 'Stanley' after the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Stanley. Edward Smith-Stanley was born at Knowsley Park, Lancashire on 29th March 1797; he also died there on 23rd October 1869 having become the 14th Earl of Derby. He was educated at Eton and Oxford and elected to Parliament in 1820. He served three terms as Prime Minister and still holds the record as the longest serving leader of the Conservative Party (22 years).

Richard Moody as well as James Clark Ross and Lord Stanley were commemorated by the stamps issued in 1994 to mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of Stanley and an early view of Stanley can be seen on the January 1981 issue of 'Early Settlements'.

Richard Clement Moody, who is depicted on the anniversary set was born in Barbados on 18th February 1813. He studied at the Royal Military Academy Woolwich, where he learned his trade as an Engineer becoming a 2nd lieutenant in November 1830. He designed Government House (although he never lived there), which is shown on various stamps including the 1933 Centenary set and the 1983 stamps to commemorate 150 years of British Administration. It was also used as background to a stamp commemorating the visit to the Islands in January 1996 of Princess Anne. Moody left the Islands in 1848 and was to become the founder of British Columbia, Canada. He died on 31st March 1887 while staying at the Royal Bath Hotel on a visit from his retirement home in Lyme Regis. His grave can be seen in the cemetery of St.Peter's Church in Bournemouth,

By Judith Faulkner



Recent events in the Falk



Members of Falkland Islands Defence Force at Bisley



Stanley Football Team



Small Island Games 2005 - Falklands Team



Members of Falkland Islands Defence Force



Aide-de-camp to HE Derek Clarke, His Excellency the Governor Howard Pearce and Members of the Armed Forces during Liberation Day Parade



His Excellency the Governor of the Falkland Islands

Falkland Islands



Dart player Gary Hewitt with silverware



Falkland Islander Arlette Bedford and Sgt. Martin Bloomfield



h their rigid raider craft



Graham Bound and Nadia celebrate their Wedding



Suzie Clarke and Steve Lapham



Sharon Marsh and Kenneth Jaffray celebrate their denim wedding in Stanley



Shirley and Alan Ross with Megan and Richard Short



inspects members of Reference Force



Karen Steen and Paul Brickle



Tracey Peck and Steve Pearce enjoy their wedding ceremony at The Falklands Brasserie

Freedom of Gosport f

Over 150 veterans of the Falklands War returned to Gosport on August 24th 2005 to receive the Freedom of Gosport.

Gosport, on the western side of Portsmouth Harbour, from where many task force ships sailed in 1982 to liberate the Falklands. This time, the veterans were there for a much happier occasion - to receive the Freedom of Gosport from the Mayor of Gosport, Councillor Graham Burgess. The entire Council of Gosport, the Royal British Legion, the Gurkhas and many veterans families and other supporters took part. The 17 Port and Maritime Regiment of the Royal Logistics Corps formed the Guard of Honour. Although the weather was poor, this did not dampen the spirits of this historic occasion.

The ceremony began with a service conducted by the Rev. Peter Sutton, Chaplain to the Mayor in Falkland Gardens, overlooking the harbour. Fallen comrades were remembered in the prayers.

The mayor, Councillor Graham Burgess, presented the Freedom scroll to the Falklands Veterans Foundation (FVF), which is based in Gosport. He declared the Freedom to be for all veterans. He praised the FVF for its eminent services to the Borough, and to the Falkland s veterans and their families. He remembered and acknowledged all those who took part in the campaign and especially their families, who, he said, had made "tremendous sacrifices in a war that that was a fight for freedom against tyranny".

Mr Derek Cole, Chief Executive and Co-Founder of the FVF, and a Petty Officer on HMS Intrepid during the war, accepted this - again on behalf of all veterans. Mr Colin Waite, the other co-founder of the FVF delivered the acceptance speech.

The ceremony ended with a blessing, the General Salute, and the National Anthem. Spectators applauded as the Veterans, British Legion and Guard of Honour then all marched through Gosport High Street. They were led by two Scottish pipers from the Rose and Thistle band, and the band of the Brigade of Gurkhas.

The salute was taken by the Mayor, accompanied on the dais by Rear Admiral Jeremy Larken, DSO, Captain of HMS Fearless in the War and Lady Fieldhouse, widow of Lord Fieldhouse of Gosport, Commander-in-Chief during 1982.

The organisers of this event wish to thank the Falkland Islands Company and the Horace Moore Charitable Trust for their support.



Captain Martin Reed, Chairman of Sama 82, Mr John Phillips DSC, Colonel Mike Bowles MBE-17 Port & Maritime Troop, Mrs Denise Reed



Mr Derek Cole, Co-founder of FVF accepting the Freedom of Gosport scroll from the Mayor of Gosport, Councillor Graham Burgess.

or Falklands Veterans



Veterans march past the dais where mayor Graham Burgess takes the salute accompanied by Rear Admiral Jeremy Larken, DSO and Lady Fieldhouse, widow of Lord Fieldhouse of Gosport, who was Commander-in-Chief during 1982.



Left-Right: David Atkinson, of HMS Sheffield, Rev. Peter Sutton, Kaz Lewaiski of the Royal Engineers and Keith Pullan of the RFA Sir Lancelot

Falklands Veterans Foundation - National Lottery Disappointment

It is with disappointment that the FVF report that The National Lottery has turned down their application for funds to build the Veterans House in Stanley.

However, following on from a recent visit to the Falkland Islands, Co-Founder of the FVF, Derek Cole received positive feedback from people in the Islands with regards to this

project. A single story dwelling which will accommodate up to six persons at any one time is now being considered. The FVF hope to raise £200,00.00 to enable this plan to move forward. For more information please call the Falkland Veterans Foundation on 01329 317285.

Falkland Famil

A REPORT FROM SARA JONES CBE DL



Members of the newly founded Falkland Families Association during their visit to the Falkland Islands during 1983

It is difficult to believe that it is 22 years since the Falkland Families Association was formed in 1983 when the families of those who died in the Falklands were returning from their pilgrimage to the Islands. They were the families who had not had the bodies of their loved ones brought home for burial, or whose loved ones were buried at sea. On the return journey on the Cunard Countess, the ship that had taken us south from Montevideo, there was a strong feeling that we all wanted to remain in touch. Firm friendships had been forged because we had a common bond of the experience of loss and so the idea was mooted that we should form an association. I am not sure we were entirely sure what form this Association would take, but after a year Des Keoghane took over as our Chairman. His son had been in the Welsh Guards and died on the Sir Galahad. His enthusiasm and commitment made us the successful organisation we are today. He remained as Chairman until 1977 and is now our President.

Des led two very successful visits to the Islands in 1986 and 1990 when 50 or 60 members were able to spend time getting to know the Islands and the Islanders and visiting the places that were important to them personally. Generous families on the Islands hosted us and I know this has led to individuals returning under their own auspices for holidays.

For our first visit we raised money to give grants to our families as we felt that people would find it difficult to raise the money for the expensive fares if several family members were travelling. We still have a small fund to help those who have not been to the Islands before. The money came from a large raffle and many kind donations from firms and the public at large. The first prize in the raffle was a ticket to New York on Concord and return on the QE2. The prize was drawn on a television breakfast show.

Each year in April we have a Service at the Guards Chapel in Wellington Barracks followed by a Reunion and our Annual General Meeting. On the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Falkland's War we were honoured to have His Royal Highness Prince Charles with us, and on two occasions Lady Thatcher has attended our Service. We also have a short Service at St.Pauls in June and lay flowers at the Memorial in the Crypt. This is a particularly personal and moving occasion.

'...as the years go by, the amount of family members dwindles'

Sadly as the years go by, the amount of family members dwindles. So many of the Service personnel who died were single so much of our membership were, initially, parents.

Families Association

We still have a very faithful membership and a significant number of Associate members. We are always delighted to welcome new members and if anyone reading this would like to join please contact our Secretary Cynthia Middlewick at 20, Newlands Close, Keymer, Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8BQ.

25th Anniversary of the conflict

As Chairman an excellent and hardworking committee supports me and we are grateful to Sukey Cameron for her involvement and for giving us a place to meet in London. At present we are looking towards the 25th Anniversary of the conflict in 2007, which we hope we will be able to mark with a mixture of remembrance and celebration of the wonderful victory of 1982.



Sara Jones CBE DL and HRH Prince of Wales at Falkland Families Association meeting



Sara Jones CBE DL, Des Keoghane and HRH Prince of Wales

Book Review:

THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE FALKLANDS CAMPAIGN

by Sir Lawrence Freedman

VOL. 1:

The Origins of the Falklands War

(253 pages)

VOL. II:

War and Diplomacy

(849 pages)

Published by Routledge

Cost: £90

OFFICIAL HISTORY

The first volume of Professor Freedman's mammoth work was published for review on 28 June, 2005. It was received with some apprehension, particularly from Falkland Islanders, who know only too well how the Argentines seize upon the slightest revelation to strengthen their spurious claim to the Falkland Islands. Peter Pepper, who has spent the last six years researching the dispute, has pointed out to Professor Freedman a few historical errors in the first chapter, such as 'peaceful, undisputed occupation by five Argentine governors' and the claim that there was an Argentine governor resident in the Islands in 1825. He was told by Professor Freedman that a softback edition was to be produced and changes would be made where necessary.

The book is an impressive, well-written account full of detail and discussion of the many military actions, the difficulties and dangers faced by front-line combatants, individual heroism and setbacks, the complex political and military decisions facing the Governments and commanders, and the historical background stretching back several centuries. It is illustrated with maps, but sadly no pictures.

Much of the material is familiar, having previously been revealed and analysed in contemporaneous media and, later, official reports and more than 200 books. But this is the first comprehensive history of the Falklands Campaign, brought together under the expert eye of a distinguished military historian, with unprecedented access to secret intelligence documents, which show that there are still revelations to come to light.

BEFORE 1982

Professor Freedman points out that economic and social development and the population before 1982 had been declining. I arrived in Stanley in February, 1980 and soon learnt that foreign fishing fleets were making big catches in Falkland waters. However, whenever I pressed the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) to declare a Fishing Zone, I was told that it was 'far too provocative'. After Galtieri's folly, they could no longer make that excuse. We managed to extend the 3 mile limit to 12 miles, but that was not enough. At a meeting with our new Foreign Secretary, Francis Pym, a few days before I returned to Stanley, I raised the subject again and said I hoped that he would declare a Falkland Islands Protection Zone (FIPZ) before lifting the Total Exclusion Zone (TEZ). He dismissed my hope in three words: 'Far too difficult'.

Councillors of the Falkland Islands Government (FIG) were convinced that they could manage a fishing zone at far less cost than the Ministry of Defence (MOD) had cal-



Sir Rex and Lady Hunt in Stanley after
The Falklands War

culated. I continued to press the FCO to declare a 150 mile zone, but to no avail. It was not until 1987 that a FIPZ was finally declared. In the first year, 215 licences were issued to fishing vessels from Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Poland, Spain, Italy, Britain, Greece and France, in descending order of numbers. In two years, the FIG's revenue jumped up from £6 million to £22 million.

THE FALSE DEAD HAND

In November 1980, Nicholas Ridley, the FCO Minister in charge of the Falkland Islands, brought a simple message for the Islanders:- the 'dead hand' of the sovereignty dispute was stagnating the Islands economy. It was therefore in the Islanders' interest to resolve the dispute. He suggested three possible solutions: condominium, sovereignty freeze or leaseback. He favoured the leaseback, but gave the Islanders time to decide for themselves. After two months of public debate, the Councillors passed the following resolution:

'While this House does not like any of the ideas put forward by Mr Ridley for a possible settlement of the sovereignty dispute with Argentina, it agrees that HMG should hold further talks with the Argentines at which this House should be represented and at which the British delegation should seek an agreement to freeze the dispute over sovereignty for a specified period of time'.

That was the end of Mr Ridley's leaseback proposal. Subsequent history has shown that it was not 'the dead

hand' of the sovereignty dispute that stagnated the Islands' economy, but the 'dead hand' of Whitehall, where there were too many Cassandras and much talk of the Suez debacle of 1956. Falkland Islanders were regarded as ignorant sheep farmers who could not understand why leaseback made good sense, but they were well aware of what the FCO was up to, and they were determined to remain loyal to the Crown, to live on British territory and to own their own land. As one of their Councillors said, 'I have the freehold of my land, why hand it over to Argentina and take it back as leasehold' I shall never trust the Argentines!'

THE ARGENTINE INVASION

The majority of Islanders expressed their determination to stay on the islands and carry on with their normal lives, regardless of the Argentine occupation. Others went a stage further and did whatever they could to sabotage the enemy.

Despite the general opinion in Whitehall that, once taken, we could not retake the Falkland Islands without air superiority, we had the utmost faith in the British Armed Forces and believed that Margaret Thatcher would never allow Galtieri to get away with such a flagrant, unprovoked military invasion, the like of which had not occurred since Hitler sent his troops into Poland in 1939.

Max Hastings defines the 1982 South Atlantic War as 'a short, romantic, old-fashioned campaign in which the logistics and politics presented more formidable challenges than the Argentine armed forces.' I rather doubt that

Falkland Islanders would call it 'romantic', but there is no doubt that the winners of the conflict were the British and that our victory erased the humiliating memory of Suez and did wonders for the prestige of the armed forces.

FALKLAND ISLANDERS

On the last page of the second volume, Professor Freedman writes: 'It is perhaps of scant comfort to readers who have reached the end, to learn that there are areas I still wish that I could have covered in greater detail'. I wish that he could have devoted more pages to the Falkland Islanders who risked their own lives to help the Task Force, but I accept that it would have been too difficult to cover in detail all that they did and it would have been unfair not to have covered all of them.

By Sir Rex Hunt

With thanks to Harold Briley, who contributed to this review for the Falkland Islands Association's Newsletter.

Harold Briley was the BBC Latin America Correspondent and later World Service Defence Correspondent, with first-hand knowledge of Argentina, the Falkland Islands and British military affairs. He was personally thanked by the Falkland Islands Government and people for his reporting, by the Chief of Defence Staff, and by the Governor, Sir Rex Hunt, for boosting Islander morale with his broadcasts during the Argentine invasion and occupation. The Argentines also acknowledged the quality of BBC broadcasts.

HMS Protector Association

By Bill Bartlett, Treasurer and Reunion Organiser

Those readers who remember that grand old warship HMS Protector that served with great distinction in the Falkland Islands and Antarctica from 1955 to 1968 will be interested to know that an HMS Protector Association was formed in June 1999. The aim is to reunite all men who served on the ship and BAS members who had contact with the ship have also been able to join the Association as a 'Friend of the Ship'.

The Protector Association recently discovered that the ship had been adopted during World War II by what is now Kingswood Borough Council and on a beautiful summer's day, Tuesday 7th June, the Association members enjoyed a memorable visit to Bristol. To re-establish those ties of 63 years ago, the HMS Protector Association made a presentation to the Council of a second ship's crest together with a large collage picture depicting the ship in Antarctica and another special picture showing HMS Protector leaving Port Stanley for the last time in 1968 upon de-commissioning.

In the evening the members visited the S.S. Great Britain, which every crew of Protector had witnessed as a rotting hulk in Sparrow Cove, Falkland Islands. It had always been the members' wish to have a reunion and dinner on board Brunel's great steamship and this wish came true at last with an excellent and most informative guided tour of the ship by the ship's steward, followed by a most enjoyable dinner. After dinner a talk was given by the Association's Padre, the Rev'd Peter Millam, himself



HMS Protector leaving Stanley Harbour in 1968

a Falkland Islander by descent. Peter described with the aid of photographs he had taken, his part in the rescue of S.S. Great Britain in 1970, just as his tour of duty in the Falkland Islands was coming to an end. If you are in Bristol we thoroughly recommend you make a point of visiting the S.S. Great Britain and see the wonderful restoration work that has been carried out on this great and historic ship, which played no small part in the maritime history of the Falkland Islands.

Recently passed on

We regret to report the deaths of four people who will be well known to some members of the Falkland Islands Association:

The Rev Dr Ewan Corlett OBE. The distinguished Naval Architect who initiated the rescue of the S.S. Great Britain first by a letter published in The Times on 7th November 1967, then by surveying the wreck at Sparrow Cove in 1969 when he established the feasibility of salvage and finally by interesting the millionaire Sir Jack Hayward in being one of the prime financial backers of the project, died aged 82 on 8th August 2005. His formal obituary was published in The Times on 19th August and in Penguin News on 26th August.

Dr Bruce Marsden. When Dr Bruce Marsden retired from G.P. practice in 1981, his life long ambition was to work in the Falkland Islands on a one year ODA contract as a doctor at KEMH, but in March 1982 he had embarked as Medical Officer on the Uganda, which became the Task Force hospital ship. After the War he enjoyed three postings to the Falkland Islands, spending two happy years working at KEMH including Senior Medical Officer following the hospital fire in 1984. From childhood, Bruce was a keen and became a well-known Falklands philatelist being a most active member of the Falkland Islands Philatelic Study Group until his death on 17th August aged 83. An obituary was published in Penguin News on 2nd September.

A (Mike) Peake. Most members will have known Mike Peake for his artistic talents. For years he provided the beautiful oil paintings, which illustrated bimonthly the Stanley Services annual calendar. Mike's work should be well known to philatelists too as he designed the popular 1979 set of Falkland Islands stamps commemorating the Centenary of their UPU Membership. Mike Peake died in September aged 66. His obituary was published in Penguin News on 23rd September.

Bob Stewart. After various jobs, shepherd, Filtration Plant operator, Chief Fire Officer, Government House chauffeur, plumber, Bob started the Falkland Islands Stanley Bus Service, having started off with a 12 seater minibus progressing to coaches purchased from Mount Pleasant. However ill health, which continued for thirteen years, forced him to sell this and with his very supportive wife Celia ran Stewart's Bed & Breakfast. Those who were lucky enough to have stayed at Stewart's B & B at Scotia House, were always enthusiastic with praise for the standard of service provided at a reasonable cost. Aged 65, Bob Stewart died on 10th September. For his full obituary see Penguin News of 30th September.

Letters to the Editor

FALKLAND ISLANDS DOCTORS

From: Zena Mills, Papatoetoe, New Zealand

As a 74 year-old Falkland Islander currently living in New Zealand, I would like to correct the statement in the last issue of Falkland Islands Newsletter that 'Rebecca Edwards is the first Islander to qualify as a doctor'. I do this with the greatest respect to Rebecca and to her mother, Norma, whom my husband Ken and I passed for her Country Dancing Badge in Stanley Girls' Life Brigade in the late 1950s.

My nephew, Dr Brian Goss, was, I believe, the first Falkland Islander to qualify as a doctor. He was born in Stanley to my brother Barry Goss and Hannah Goss, nee Hansen. He was brought up in South Georgia where his father worked for the Falkland Islands Government until Barry's ill health caused him to move to the U.K. when Brian was about six. Brian qualified from the London Medical College in 1972 and worked in the Falklands for three months as a locum in 1985. I enclose a photo of Brian Goss and his four children,

Yours sincerely, Zena Mills.



Dr. Brian Goss and Children

Shackleton Scholarships

The Shackleton Scholarship Fund was set up in 1995 in memory of Lord Shackleton and his father, the explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, and provides financial assistance with the cost of bringing academic and 'quality of life' scholars to the Falkland Islands, to carry out research or to share skills with local residents. Since its conception, the Fund has raised more than £400,000 and awarded from its income some 50 scholarships.

The academic scholarships have included work in a range of fields, from stone runs to spiders, pilot whales and volcanic ash, while the 'quality of life scholarships' have embraced everything from handbells to horse whisperers and Hank Wangford and the

Lost Cowboys, a music composition and a photographic exhibition to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Fund.

So if anybody in the Falkland Islands would like to propose an idea for future funding, become a Shackleton Scholar or find out more, then please contact one of the committee members: HE The Governor (Chairman), Helga Burroughs (Hon Secretary), Leif Pollard (Hon Treasurer), Phyl Rendell, Jan Cheek, Annie Gisby, John Birmingham, John Barton or the Civil Military Liaison Officer, or visit our web site: www.shackletonfund.com.

Applicants in the UK should write to the Hon Secretary, c/o FIGO, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH.

The Falkland Islands Association

Patron: The Rt.Hon. the Baroness Thatcher, LG, OM, FRS.
President: The Rt. Hon. the Lord Hurd, CH, CBE.
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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

The Falkland Islands Association wishes all members a very happy and properous New Year

The Falkland Islands Association Newsletter Committee would like to express their thanks to all those that contributed and provided photographs for this issue.

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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Competitors of the inaugural Standard Chartered Bank marathon ready for off



Standard Chartered Bank Manager passes cheque to men's open winner Hugh Marsden



Mid-winter swimmers enjoy their annual dip in the sea.



Dr Beccy Edwards and Christopher Lee join Mellissa McKinley and Sukey Cameron on the Falkland Islands stand at the Royal Show.



May Queen Miss Frances Douse and May Princess Miss Ros Elsby