



Falkland Islands NEWSLETTER

Published by the Falkland Islands Association No.48 August 1991

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Over many years, but especially since 1982, it seems to Falkland Islanders that experts in almost every conceivable subject have visited the Islands and tended their advice; no doubt much of it has been good advice but, sometimes, not such good advice has been given and there is a list of failed projects which is often quoted, starting with that at Ajax Bay shortly after the Second World War. Visiting experts are now treated with caution and their advice often with scepticism. In despair some Falkland Islanders are heard to say, "Please do not tell us what to do or how to run our country!"

MUCH MORE RESEARCH NEEDED

During the Falkland Islands Association Seminar held at Cambridge last April the recurrent note coming through on every subject under discussion was of an urgent need for much more research.

Andrew How, not only with worldwide fishing experience, but now with several years experience of deepsea fishing round the Falklands, stated his opinion that "many of the basic assumptions on which the effort related concept is founded are extremely tenuous." He indicated the need for research into both squid and fin fish over a much wider zone of the South Atlantic area and for more research on basic oceanography, commenting on how little is known about the basic biology of the area.

Oil geologist David Macdonald and geophysicist Edward King focussing on the lack of knowledge about the area,

stressed the need for a land geological survey as well as off-shore. Dr Macdonald expanding on this said "If they (the Falkland Islanders) want something that could yield some dividends quite quickly then a land geological survey is a good first step." He stated that the value of onshore geology lies in what it tells you about the geological history of the region, and that this is a very cheap way of finding this out. Furthermore he said that the cost of a land geological survey is 'chicken feed' compared to the cost of any oil well.

In agriculture where there has been considerable research already, Dr Jim McAdam, outlining the need for further research in the future, concluded his talk by saying "It is only by supporting a sound research base that these goals of sustainability and diversification within an environmentally sound framework can be achieved."

The problem with research is that to be of real value it has to be long term and continuous. It can also be expensive, and to the cash hungry business man this can be irritating and difficult to justify.

The Falkland Islanders have come a long way since 1982 and achieved a great deal. Furthermore, it is not for us to criticise them or tell them what to do. We do, however, hope that they will read the transcripts of the Cambridge Seminar and if some of the advice on research is followed, maybe they will be providing some of the experts for other developing countries in the future. RNS

INSIDE CONTENTS

The Secretary of State Replies
Lincoln's Inn Reception
Port Louis: Part 1.
Men of the West: Cecil Bertrand
Bricks for the Cathedral
Homeward Round the Horn
Obituaries: Algernon Asprey
Sybil Hatchman
To the Uttermost Part of the World
Merger of the Foundation and Trust
Book Review
A Philatelic Holiday to the Falklands
Letters



VICE-PRESIDENT SIR EDWIN ARROWSMITH IS GREETED BY FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE SUKEY CAMERON AT LINCOLN'S INN RECEPTION - REPORT PAGE 5.

(Photo: Sophie Hill)

THE SECRETARY OF STATE REPLIES

As most Falkland Islanders are aware, Sir Bernard Braine MP has been a stalwart supporter of the Falkland Islanders, consistently over a number of years and continues to watch vigilantly over their affairs. He took up the subject of the front page editorial of our last issue of *Falkland Islands Newsletter* with the Foreign Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd MP.

From The Rt. Hon. Sir Bernard Braine, DL, MP.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

18 June 1991

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP
The Secretary of State
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2AH

Dear Douglas

I was disturbed to read the views and anxieties of the Falkland Island Government set out on the front page of their official journal.

For the past four decades our country has either granted full independence to its former colonies or has encouraged their legislatures to assume greater responsibilities. As we all know, full independence is not feasible in the Falklands, but clearly there is a case for giving the Islanders more control over their own affairs.

I do not particularly wish to put down a PQ at this stage, but would like to know if thought is really being given to the next step in the Colony's constitution as a mark of our concern for their well-being. I would be glad to have your reassurance on this score. If you felt that a PQ on the subject could be tabled I will gladly oblige.

Yours ever

Bernard.

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP, The Secretary of State replied:

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH
1 July 1991

Dear Bernard,

Thank you for your letter of 18 June about an article in the May issue of the *Falkland Islands Newsletter*, a publication which conveys the views of the Falkland Islands Association (FIA), not the Falkland Islands Government.

The article does not make clear what arrangements for the Argentine Next of Kin visit were "overruled" by the Foreign Office. As long ago as 1983, the Falkland Islands Councillors agreed, unanimously, that they would allow a visit by the next of kin of those members of the Argentine armed forces who had lost their lives during the 1982 Conflict. It was agreed then that the visit would be by sea, since a visit by air would have involved disembarkation at Port Stanley and travelling through the town to the cemetery near Darwin.

Arrangements did not progress until after the restoration of diplomatic relations last year. Then, during our discussions with the Argentines it became clear that the sea option would be a far more complex and costly operation, given the scarcity of suitable ships available. An air visit using the RAF airfield at Mount Pleasant (which had not been constructed when the Falkland Islands Councillors first approved the idea of the visit) was much cheaper and quicker. Moreover, we could arrange for the visit to take place in one day making it more convenient for the older Argentine visitors; rather than having to embark and disembark from small boats they would be able to travel to the cemetery in the relative comfort of helicopters. RAF Mount Pleasant's location mid-way between Port Stanley and Darwin also ensured that the next of kin did not have to travel through Port Stanley.

At our request the Governor discussed the proposal for a visit by air with a number of Councillors who, while accepting that

THE SECRETARY OF STATE (continued)

it could take place were against the idea of the aircraft used being Argentine and operated by Argentines. The option of a neutral aircraft and a neutral crew was then considered carefully by the International Commission of the Red Cross (who were to supervise the visit) and ourselves, but there were insuperable practical difficulties. In the event, the Argentine aircraft and its crew operated during the visit entirely under ICRC control and markings. I am glad to say that all sides agreed that the visit went very well.

As a general principle we want the Falkland Islanders to have as much control over their own affairs as possible, consistent with the good government of the Islands and subject to the Government's responsibility for the foreign policy and defence of all our Dependent Territories. It is our view and that of the Governor that it would be hard to give the Islanders much more self-government than they now exercise.

Thank you for your offer to table a Question but I see no need for that at present. We do not have plans to revise the 1985 Constitution nor am I aware of any pressure for us to do so from the Islands. Nonetheless we are always ready to consider carefully any proposals for changing the Constitution which have the support of the Councillors.

Yours ever

Douglas.

CALLING THE FALKLANDS

On 13th June, members of the Joint Executive Committee met with Miss Julia Bicknell, the new Producer of the BBC radio programme *Calling The Falklands* and Mr David Thomas, Deputy Head of the Department at Bush House, London, from where the BBC operates its overseas service.

Unfortunately Producers of *Calling The Falklands* change about every six months and often Producers new to the programme do not know what Falkland Islanders will listen to on the programme.

The Committee were able to pass on some current Falklands feeling that they have no interest at all in hearing about internal Argentine affairs, but they do wish to hear about any Argentine external matters which might affect the Falklands.

We were also able to pass on that Islanders are not interested in video reviews, but would like to hear more details about Falklands activities in Britain, such as the Lincoln's Inn Reception, Battle Day in London and Reunions at Ham,



JULIA BICKNELL, PRODUCER OF 'CALLING THE FALKLANDS'

Southampton and New Zealand. It was agreed that the Association should maintain closer contact with the BBC.

BATTLE DAY

We shall commemorate Battle Day with a wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, on the morning of Saturday 7th December at 11 am.

All members of the Association, the Falkland Islands Committee, Falkland Islanders, their friends and supporters are invited and encouraged to attend. Those wishing to do so

should assemble at the Whitehall end of King Charles Street, London SW1 from 10.30 am.

The Association's Annual General Meeting will take place after the wreath laying ceremony, followed by a buffet luncheon, as notified on the back page and the booking form.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: AGENDA

The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Falkland Islands Association to be held in London on Saturday 7th December, 1991 at 12 midday is as follows:

- 1. Apologies for absence
- 2. Annual Report
- 3. Financial Report
- 4. Election of Auditors
- 5. Election of Officers
- 6. Election of Executive Committee.

SO WHAT IS AFIFI?

A few facts about the 'Association of the Falkland Islands Fishing Industry' (AFIFI) of which we believe people should be aware.

- WHO ARE MEMBERS OF AFIFI? -

Any company that is involved in the fishing industry in any way at all and which is 'majority beneficially owned and controlled by Falkland Islands residents' is eligible for membership of this group. Current members are as follows:-

Beauchene (FI) Fishing and Trading Company
Goodwin Offshore
Meredith Fishing Company
S.F.S. Navagantes
Stanley Trawlers

Fortuna
JBG Falklands
Polar
South Atlantic Marine Services
Stevedore and Fisheries Services

- WHY FORM THIS ASSOCIATION? -

We believe that local people have a right to be involved in the commercial exploitation of the rich resource in our waters. We believe that any commercial enterprise that is majority owned and controlled in the Falkland Islands and involved in the fishing industry should not only have the right to be involved but should also be given preferential treatment by our elected government, whether this be in the allocation of licences (which for most companies is the first step towards a viable commercial arrangement), diving repairs, cold storage, agency work, or in the wider areas of reefering, marketing and distribution of fish on the international market.

This belief is born out of the need for local companies to unite and form a political lobby group that will put pressure on the FIG to listen to our points of view. There is nothing surprising or unusual about this, and many of our suggestions to our Government are ones that elsewhere in the world would be accepted as standard. Being a colony should not change this principle. Here we are attempting to build a local industry from scratch and where guidelines are required by the FIG we aim to put our suggestions forward as strongly as possible, such guidelines as to how companies should proceed and as to what ventures are and as to what ventures are acceptable are vital if the local economy is to benefit from the fishing grounds on our doorstep.

Many people have a jaded view of fishing companies and there is no doubt that mistakes made here have cost each of you far too much in terms of wasted taxpayers' money. None of the members of AFIFI has ever wasted a penny of taxpayers' money. Many AFIFI members are people who gave up careers and steady but secure jobs to enter the highly risky world of fishing. You may believe that you personally have not received any benefit from the fishing industry and that local companies only have their own interests at heart. What shopkeeper shares his profits with you? Whatever your opinion of fishing companies you have to remember this - if our local companies do not survive the only source of revenue to the Islands will be the collection of licence fees by FIG. There will be no building-up of local expertise and the foreign fleets will quite happily pay a fee, fish and return home, we will see little benefit apart from some capital expenditure out of licence fees by FIG when it can afford it.

Hate it or love it, our Island economy needs your help and support in whatever area of your work. AFIFI members believe in private industry and look only for your support.

THE ANNUAL RECEPTION AT LINCOLN'S INN

It was an unusually rainy evening for the annual Falkland Islands Reception at Lincoln's Inn held on the 18th June, perhaps only indicative of the general summer weather in Britain this year.



Left to Right: MAJOR GENERAL CARLIER, FALKLAND ISLANDER MR TOM BLAKE, PRESIDENT SIR REX HUNT.

The warmth of the reception inside the Great Hall perhaps made up for the bleakness outside. It was good to see the great band of loyal and faithful supporters present, the peers including Lords Shackleton, Buxton, Strathcona, Renton, Ullswater and Baroness Young, former Governors still taking a leading role, Sir Rex Hunt and Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, and former Commander British Forces, Air Vice Marshal Crwys-Williams, Major Generals Carlier and Stevenson and Lieutenant General Sir David Thorne were there too as well as many active supporters of the Falkland Islands Association and United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee.

Falkland Islanders attending included Councillor and Mrs Bill Luxton, Mr and Mrs John Barton, Mr Bernard Peck,



Left to Right: VICE-CHAIRMAN ROBERT ELGOOD, MR & MRS DONALD CAMERON, HETTY ELGOOD

Mr Tony Alazia, Mr Tom Blake, Miss Diane Cheek, Miss Cyndi Watts and, from New Zealand visiting the Northern Hemisphere for the first time, Ken and Zena Mills who were there with their son Derek with his wife Wendy. The band of the Royal Marines Beat Retreat on the lawns outside the Great Hall in their usual superb style, in spite of the pouring rain, which only made some of the less intrepid spectators without umbrellas huddle under the gutters for protection.

However the unseasonable English weather was unable to dampen Falkland Islands spirits and it was a great and memorable occasion as always.

Photos by Miss Sophie Hill

MEETING WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM FALKLAND ISLANDS PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

Members of the Joint Executive Committee of the Falkland Islands Association had a meeting with the Falkland Islands Parliamentary Group on 17th July in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association rooms in Westminster Hall.

Chaired by Michael Sheersby MP and Secretary Sir

Russell Johnston MP, among matters discussed were progress on Oil Legislation, HMS *Endurance*, the Argentine British Conference, the effects of the EEC on the Falkland Islands community.

Among those present were Lord Shackleton who was celebrating his 80th Birthday that day.

HERITAGE YEAR 1992 -DIARIES

The Heritage Year 1992 Committee in Stanley are producing A5 size 'week to a page' diaries for 1992. There will be a colour photo depicting a wide variety of scenes around the Falklands, for each week. Ring-bound and with a laminated cover bearing the Heritage Year logo on the front, as designed by John Smith, the diaries will include a calendar of events page together with historic dates and Falkland public

holidays.

The diaries are due to be ready by the end of August and are expected to be priced between £5 and £7.50.

The Association plan to order stock dependent on demand. If you would like one or more, please let the Falkland Islands Association Office know as soon as possible, so that they know how many to order.

CAMP EDUCATION CHRISTMAS CARDS

Designed by Falkland Islands children in Camp, these packs of 6 cards (3 designs) are available from the Association Office in London at £1 + p. & p. Wording on the cards is "Seasons Greetings".

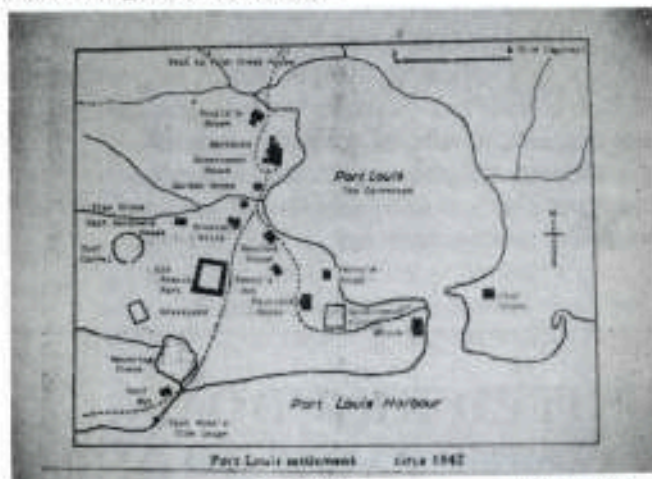
PORT LOUIS

by Major R. N. Spafford

In previous years a visit to Port Louis meant a day's hard cross-country bone shaking drive by Landrover. Now that the new road from Stanley to Port Louis has been completed, it is just an easy afternoon's drive by car there and back with plenty of time to walk around the old historic settlement. It is a fascinating place to visit.

Part 1. At First Sight: Origins, An Old House, the First Government House and Two Cannons

Port Louis lies at the end of Berkeley Sound. It was first settled in 1764 by Antoine Louis de Bougainville who sailed from St.Malo with an expedition in the frigate *Eagle* and sloop *Sphinx*, predating the first British settlement at Port Egmont on Saunders Islands by just a few months. In March 1767 the settlement became Puerto de la Soledad under Spanish occupation but reverted to Port Louis in 1833 when Captain Onslow in the ship *HMS Clio* removed the illegal settlement which the newly independent South American state the United Provinces of the Rio de la Plata was seeking to establish there



It was the seat of British Government of the Falkland Islands until 1844 when the move to the newly built Stanley, the present capital, was made; indeed the first Civil Governor, Lt. Richard Clement Moody R.E., had started to lay out a town around Port Louis which he called Anson when he was ordered to move the settlement by the British Government. Port Louis is now a sheep farm owned by a company chiefly involving the Robson family.

As one might expect, the present farm, as well as most of the historic remains lie grouped around the old carenage. This is a natural roughly circular harbour which the sea from Berkeley Sound fills through a narrow entrance and allows to dry out at low tide, thus creating a perfect place to beach a sailing ship for careening (bottom scraping).

AN OLD HOUSE

Dominating the scene is a long white two storied stone house with the usual red painted corrugated iron roof. This is the Farm Manager's house, but it is remarkable, not only because of its tall chimneys similar to those in Pioneer Row and Drury Street in Stanley, and because it is a strangely narrow building with foot thick walls, but because it has what appear to be narrow lancet windows marked in red brick down the south side.



THE FARM MANAGER'S HOUSE FROM THE SOUTH SIDE

Sometimes people take it that the building was a stronghold or even Government House. However, this is clearly not the case and indeed it is not even included on the 1842 plan of the settlement. We must conclude, therefore, that it is just a decorative old Falklands house built in the mid-nineteenth century.

The remains of Government House, where Governor Moody first lived, lies just to the north of the Farm Manager's house and form at least part of one wall of the horse paddock. Another of the walls of the horse paddock enclosed a Roman Catholic chapel and an entrance way can be seen now blocked up with whitish coloured stones.



REMAINS OF THE FIRST GOVERNMENT HOUSE

CANNONS

Close by here in the grass still lies one of the old cannons. Whether it is of French, Spanish or British origin is as yet undiscovered.

A second larger cannon, again of unknown origin but this one dug in, muzzle well down into the ground, can be seen on the western arm of the entrance to the carenage. Probably we shall never now know whether these heavy old cannons still lie

PORT LOUIS (continued)



THE CANNON BY THE MANAGER'S HOUSE

near their emplacements or whether they have been removed from the old French fort, Fort St. Louis. Built from earth and peat sods and where there are reputed to have been emplacements for fourteen cannons, this can be explored on the south-westerly side of the settlement dominating both the harbour and the carenage. Perhaps the cannons came from the well defined defence works, not marked on the plan, which clearly dominated the southern side of the eastern arm of the entrance to the carenage.



THE CANNON NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAREEN

(To be continued in the next issue of *Falkland Islands Newsletter*)

(Photos by the author)

ON TOUR 91

The latest project exclusive to The House of Falkland is a 100% pure Falkland Islands wool cloth. Produced and designed by Brian Paul and Annabelle Spencer of the Falkland Islands Agency, Wells, Somerset. This unique material will be on display and available at the 4th annual major Falkland Islands Exhibition at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon, Surrey,

from 26th August to 7th September, 1991.

You are invited to visit the exhibition which will be open each day from 10.30am to 7pm (Closed Sundays). Admission is Free. Displays include Stamps, Art, Photographs, Engraving, Spinning, and Natural History. Fleeces, wool for knitting and knitwear will be exhibited and offered for sale.

FALKLANDS COUNCILLORS CONDEMN WHALING

During the annual budget session of Legislative Council on 1st June, 1991, four of the eight councillors strongly condemned the slaughter of whales and gave warning of their intention to do something about the continued threat.

Councillor The Hon. Mrs Norma Edwards, recalling that the Falklands was one of the first places in the world to start asking for a ban on whaling, felt that the Falkland Islands Government should publicly condemn the unnecessary practice. Councillor The Hon. William Luxton said that the methods used by the whaling industry are obscene and asked

that the Falkland Islands Government declares itself totally and unequivocally against the killing of whales. While Councillor The Hon. Gerard Robson added his support and wished to be associated with these comments, Councillor The Hon. Gavin Short suggested that it may be necessary to deny Falklands fishing licences to whaling nations in the future. He said, "If the Japanese in the coming years start hunting the southern Minke whale, I believe we should use the only tool at our disposal to register our protest: and that is fishing licences."

FALKLANDS DONATIONS TO THE SERVICES

The people of the Falkland Islands have shown their admiration for the part played by British Forces in the liberation of Kuwait with a donation to the Gulf Trust, a fund for service personnel of £5,000. In addition, the Falkland Islands branch of the Red Cross Society has donated £1,000, and a dance in the Stanley Town Hall held in aid of the Gulf trust raised £1,055.

In addition to the Gulf trust donation the Legislative Council has also voted an annual donation of £5,000 to the Service Benevolent Fund, administered by the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association (SSAFA).

A NEW BOOK AND A NEW HOLIDAY

Libby Weir-Breen, partner in Island Holidays, who are corporate members of the Association, has written to say that her partner has recently published his second book, *Migrations - Travels of a Naturalist* which includes two chapters on the Falklands. She says that it is a super read with gorgeous photos. Island Holidays have just introduced a new 17 days holiday to the Falklands, departing Britain on 3rd February. This is to be a wildlife painting and drawing holiday with John Busby

Falkland Islands Development Corporation

Development Update

A FARM FOR NATIONAL STUD FLOCK

A recent survey of Falkland wool incomes showed that the average micron of Falkland wool is 28; this average can be improved upon genetically by the introduction of superior sheep into the Falkland flocks, thus considerably increasing total wool revenue to the Islands.

It has therefore been agreed that a National Stud Flock be established with the objective of achieving significant improvements in wool quality from the national flock.

The farm to house the National Stud Flock is to be set up at Swan Inlet which lies between Mount Pleasant Airport and Goose Green. The area of land is some 8,000 acres, on which a flock of stud ewes will run in order to produce quality breeding stock for sale to farmers throughout the Islands.

Approximately five hundred ewes and twenty-five rams of the Polworth breed will be imported to the Falklands from Tasmania in January 1992. These animals will form the nucleus of the National Stud Flock, which will in time expand to 1,500 animals including young stock. In addition a flock of commercial sheep could be run.

The facilities of the farm will be utilised to the full by the running of training courses for farmers and members of the general public, and by being a base for much of the Department of Agriculture's future research and experimental programme.

BUSINESS LEGAL AID SCHEME

The Falkland Islands Development Corporation is pleased to announce the introduction of a Business Legal Aid Scheme which will operate from 1st July, 1991 to 30th June, 1992. The aim of the scheme is to encourage existing and potential business people in the Falkland Islands to consult law practitioners upon legal matters in respect of the proper establishment and operation of their business enterprises, and to provide financial assistance towards legal fees incurred.

To become eligible for assistance under the scheme, businesses must be locally incorporated and resident companies, limited partnerships or sole traders. If a business is an incorporated company the equity of the company and that of any related holding company must be held 100% by residents of the Falkland Islands.

Assistance will only be given for Solicitors chargeable hours. Disbursements and statutory fees are excluded. Legal practitioners will advise their clients of the scheme, who will then be referred to FIDC who will determine business and legal matters eligibility for assistance.

Further information on this scheme is available from the Corporation offices in Stanley.

Falkland Islands Development Corporation

Development Update

VOCATIONAL AND GENERAL TRAINING SCHEMES

Several applications to FIDC for assistance with training in the United Kingdom have been approved in recent months.

Two officers from Coastal Shipping Ltd., Captain Stephen Clifton and Mr Trevor Betts are at present attending courses at Lowestoft College. Captain Clifton is undergoing courses to obtain the Merchant Navy Class 4 Certificate of Competency and the Merchant Navy Class 4 Command and Endorsement (Ltd.), he is also taking a course in Electronic Navigation Systems. Mr Betts is attending the Merchant Navy Class 4 certificate of Competency course and also a short course on Fire Fighting. On successful completion of these courses both men's qualifications will comply with the Department of Transport requirements for work around the Falklands.

Martin Smith, a mechanic from FIC Ltd has attended two courses at Landrover Ltd., covering Engine Tuning and Diagnostics and Body Fitments. He also attended a course at Finning Ltd (Caterpillar plant) which includes system operation, vehicle electrics, excavator hydraulics, and testing and adjustment of articulated dump trucks.

Michelle Jones, who runs her own hairdressing business in Stanley, is undergoing an extensive six week course in hairdressing during her leave in England. In 1986 she attended the FIDC sponsored hairdressing course held in the Islands and since then has operated a very successful business from her home. It is felt that this course will improve her skills and enable her to learn new techniques.

Eddie and Ann Chandler from Port Howard, who own and run South Atlantic Knitwear, a cottage industry which produces knitwear using yarn from Falkland Mill, will be attending a specially tailored course at the Scottish College of Textiles in July. The fourteen day course will cover yarn selection, garment specification, machine set-up and operation, use of pattern drums, selective knitting, machine technology and garment assembly in various forms.

Leona Vidal, who works for *Penguin News* will be seconded to a Sheffield based weekly paper for a year beginning in September. While working for the paper she will also attend courses in Law, Shorthand, Newspaper practice, Interviewing Techniques, News Photography and dark Room Techniques.

Cherie Alazia is to attend a two year full time BTEC Higher National Diploma in Business Studies at the Cardiff Institute of Higher Education. In particular the course emphasises expertise in communication, information technology and problem solving.

MEN OF THE WEST: CECIL BERTRAND

by Charles R. Wood FRGS

To a traveller, certain places in the world remain precious in memory, but it is the people who make them memorable. The West Falklands, like anywhere else, produced its 'larger than life' personalities.

One man who stood out during my time in the Falklands was a legend in his own lifetime. Cecil Bertrand was over sixty at the time and yet very active; rich in the folk lore of the Islands and a marvellous person to spend time with. He was a gentle giant of a man, with twinkling blue eyes and a voice so deep it made the ground reverberate: 'whispering quietly' was something that completely eluded him!

He and his wife, Kitty, owned and farmed Carcass Island; it was a joy to see the love they both felt for their island and what care and attention they paid to the resident population of Falklands wildlife.

HARD TIMES

Cecil was a first class seaman and knew every creek and tide, as well as all the vagaries of the weather in and around the Islands. He put this knowledge to good use in sailing his ketch, the *Foam*, around the various islands groups.

Cecil learned his seamanship with Jason Hansen on the sailing vessel *Golden Fleece* in short voyages around the Islands. Hard times were to come for the Falklands in the great depression of the 1930s and, like many Islanders, Cecil went sealing during the winter months. He joined the steam drifter HMCS *Afterglow*. They were hard days, and he told me that they only had one decent pair of trousers between the crew. Unfortunately, these trousers had a rip in the seat and, on the inevitable invitations ashore to visit friends, they had to take turns going ashore, wearing the only 'decent' pair of trousers. Cecil said, "Mind you, we had to stand with our backs to the wall so that no one could see the tear!"

GRIM HUMOUR

Sealing for sea lions and elephant seal was a cruel, cold and dangerous occupation. On these trips the men herded the sea lions into large corrals built on the fore-shore, driving the seals in with long leather whips and then shooting them as they entered the corral. But the scene did have its touch of grim humour. Cecil talked to me about a very unpopular foreman on one seal drive, who more than once felt the end of a leather whip on the back of his neck, removing an inch of skin - accidentally.

He also related the story of an acquaintance who wanted to clean his pipe out. The man wrenched a thick whisker from the nose of a 'dead' sea lion; the offended animal circumscribed an arc in the air and tore after the now fast moving gentleman who, needless to say, left his pipe and seal's whisker behind.

LAST COMMERCIAL SAILING SCHOONER

In the summer months, along with many Islanders, Cecil joined Salvesen's Whaling Company, hunting for whale in the cold waters of the South Atlantic, until the outbreak of the Second World War stopped the industry from operating. During the War, Cecil served in the Mercantile Marine



CECIL BERTRAND IN THE KITCHEN ON CARCASS ISLAND

aboard the RMS *Fitzroy*.

The end of the War led to a partnership with Peter Anderson and Clem. Harrison. They bought the 48ft. sailing schooner *Porvenir* with Cecil as Master. The vessel traded round the Islands and was the last commercial sailing schooner to work the Falkland Islands. Many and varied were the stories Cecil related of the adventures of this vessel and her crew. It was said that you could hear the 'thwack' of her mainsail for miles around when she changed tack coming up the Byron Sound.

SUPERB SEAMAN

Later in life, Cecil became a 'poacher turned gamekeeper', putting great value on the conservation of animals. Both he and Kitty were ahead of their time, for this was long before concern for conservation and preservation of wildlife became a world debate. So concerned were they that cats were banned from Carcass island in order to protect the wild birds that lived there in abundance.

One summer I made a memorable trip round Jason Islands with Cecil and Kitty. I remember it was a sparkling summer's day and, en route, we sailed frighteningly close to offshore reefs and isolated rocks, Cecil calmly puffing on his cigarette, steering the ship with a sure hand and pointing out the various species of wildlife as we sailed along.

It was not only an educational trip for me, but a confirmation of the respect people had for Cecil's ability as a superb seaman which he never flaunted: he just got on with the job in a calm and practical way.

Such was his enthusiasm for ships and the sea that the other two men on the island were caught up in it. Jim Peck had a ketch called the *Overseas* under repair on the beach. Jim's dream was to sail round the Falklands on her completion with,

CECIL BERTRAND (continued)



CECIL BERTRAND'S GRAVE IN STANLEY CEMETERY
(photo: R. N. Spafford)

as he put it, "a pile of ham sandwiches and a barrel of beer". Wally McBeth had just completed a kit-built rowing dinghy. On its launch, Cecil was asked to test it. Wally sat in the centre, oars poised. Cecil, being such a large man, lowered himself

gingerly into the stern seat. I heard Kitty exclaim "Oh no!", as the stern went almost completely under. The little boat made a stately journey of twenty yards, down by the stern, before returning to shore to be pronounced seaworthy!

Despite the hard life that Cecil had, he was a kind, thoughtful man, a complete 'frontiersman', independent, gentle, senses tuned to all that nature had to offer and content with what life had gifted to him. Perhaps it is a measure of his stature that an outsider like me can focus on his qualities over twenty years later.

Cecil Bertrand was born on 20th February, 1909 and died on 9th December, 1985.

The inscription on his headstone in Stanley Cemetery includes the following poem:

Do'ye mind the day when we squared away
An' ran her east by south
When she trampled down the big horn seas
With a roaring bone in her mouth
When the best hands twirled her bucking wheel
An' dared not look behind
At the growling greyback in her wake
D'ye mind old pal, d'ye mind?

The author is indebted to Mrs Kitty Bertrand for factual information so kindly provided by her.

BRICKS FOR THE CATHEDRAL

by Major General Carlier OBE

Bricks to replace those in Christ Church Cathedral, which have been badly defaced and to build a wall in front of the Cathedral, have been donated to the Cathedral Appeal. This generous gift from the Matthews Brick Company came as a result of the interest in the appeal from one of the Matthews family who had visited the Falkland Islands and had come to love all that she saw.

Miss Teresa Matthews made her initial contact with Canon Gerry Murphy and then carried out all her negotiations with the United Kingdom Appeal Committee. Teresa Matthews loved to travel and the opportunity to spend a few days in Germany to discuss arrangements for the Appeal were very attractive to her. She arrived in Bonn clutching her hand luggage of three hand made bricks neatly banded together by a metal tape. What the German customs official said does not bear repeating! But as a result of this visit the bricks for Christ Church Cathedral and the wall were soon carefully

manufactured, packed and despatched to Stanley by courtesy of Hogg Robinson for use in the restoration work.

This is one practical way in which the Cathedral Appeal has been able to carry out the repairs necessary before the Centenary in 1992. It also demonstrates the affection and good will that those who have visited the South Atlantic have for the Islands and the Falkland Islanders.

On 7th February this year Teresa Matthews died following an illness lasting some months. Her visit to Bonn was one of the last overseas visits she made, but she gained much pleasure in being able to help the Islanders in this way and was absolutely delighted to hear that the bricks had arrived safely shortly before her death. We are extremely grateful for her initiative in making this gift possible and our sympathy is extended to Sally Reynolds, her sister, and all the Matthews family for the loss of such an engaging person.

TRANSCRIPTS OF THE SEMINAR

A book comprising the text of the talks and discussion at the Falkland Islands Association Seminar on 13th and 14th April, 1991, is due for publication in September, price £10 + 50p. postage. Copies will be obtainable from the Falkland Islands Association Office, 2 Greycoat Place, Westminster SW1P 1SD and can be ordered now.

HOMeward ROUND THE HORN

Next October there will be a rare chance to sail round Cape Horn in a square rigged ship. After the Horn, the two brigantines making the voyage together will put in to Port Stanley in November, where they expect to stay for at least two weeks.

The two ships, both rigged as brigantines will depart from Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia on 5th October. They will then put in to Auckland, New Zealand, before rounding Cape Horn and calling at Port Stanley, Falkland Islands. They expect to stay at least two weeks in the Falklands, maybe three weeks if time permits. Their route will then be to Montevideo, Uruguay, then across the Atlantic via Tristan da Cunha, St. Helena, Ascension and the Azores.

They will join the Tall Ships at Lisbon for the Columbus Quincentenary voyage beginning on 23rd April, 1992 via Cadiz, the Canary Islands and Puerto Rico to New York, which concludes with a parade of sail on the Hudson River, Boston. The two ships will then sail to Liverpool in August 1992.

THE SHIPS

The ships, both square rigged brigantines, are the 125 tonnes GRT *Søren Larsen* and the 150 tonnes GRT *Eye of the Wind*.



S.T.V. SØREN LARSEN

The wooden hulled *Søren Larsen*, built in 1949 at Nykøbing, Denmark, traded throughout Scandinavia, Britain and Northern Europe, and Iceland, carrying general cargo such as timber, wheat and beans. After a fire, she was purchased by

her present owners, Tony and Colin Davis, and taken back to Colchester, where she was restored and rigged as a 19th century brigantine. Since 1979 she achieved fame in the BBC television series *The Onedin Line*, and took part in the *French Lieutenant's Woman* and *In Search of the Marie Celeste*. In 1982 she starred in the BBC television series *Shackleton*, playing the part of three ships, *Endurance*, *Discovery* and *Nimrod*.

Søren Larsen offers guest accommodation for thirty-two in two and four berth cabins.



S.T.V. EYE OF THE WIND

(Photo: Barry Stevens Chatswood)

The iron hulled *Eye of the Wind*, originally called *Friedrich*, was German built in 1911 as a topsail schooner for the South American hide trade. Sold to Sweden in 1923 and renamed *Merry*, she traded under the Swedish flag in the Baltic and North Sea for almost fifty years. After a fire she was restored at Faversham, Kent, rigged as a brigantine and named the *Eye of the Wind*.

Her first voyage after restoration was a circumnavigation of the globe completed in 1978 when she became the flagship

HOMeward ROUND THE HORN (continued)

of Operation Drake, a two-year round the world scientific expedition for four hundred young people, under the patronage of H.R.H. Prince Charles.

Eye of the Wind has appeared in several films including *Blue Lagoon*, *Savage Islands*, *Taipan* and *Desperate Fortune*. She has accommodation for sixteen guests in eight two berth cabins.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Patron of the scientific programme is the Governor General of New Zealand, Dame Catherine Tizard MBE, a marine biologist.

A programme of oceanographic, atmospheric and biotic research has been arranged in association with universities, government agencies and international research organisations. The expedition is also acting as a mobile meteorological station, supplying six-hourly meteorological observations to the world's weather centres.

The oceanographic research will include research into ocean current and transport systems, pleuston and neuston sampling, iceberg dissolution, limacina sampling, and research into the carbon dioxide 'sink' mechanism of the Southern Hemisphere oceans.

Atmospheric research will include sampling of air and zooplankton as part of the University of Lund, Sweden, ten-year programme, air measurements for baseline mercury

levels and reduced sulphur gasses, observations of Aurora Australis, research into aerosol chemistry, chlorinated hydrocarbon content, and soot carbon content of air, and a programme of sun photometry to measure aerosol optical depth for analysis of upper atmosphere transport conditions.

The biotic research includes measuring U.V. radiation effects on plankton with reference to ozone depletion, a study of epiphytic biotic communities on drifting kelp, a study of migration of Right and Humpback whales, and a study of sea birds.

A programme of geological research has also been suggested for the Falkland Islands, Tristan da Cunha, St Helena and Ascension.

MODERN FACILITIES

No doubt the voyages will be tough going, but not as tough or as dangerous as the old days. Both ships have hot and cold showers, electric light, radar, satellite navigators, deep freeze and refrigeration and gas cookers where superb meals are created by the chefs and their assistants. Even sail boards, snorkelling equipment and scuba diving facilities are available for all guests.

Great interest is currently being generated in producing a philatelic record of the project in conjunction with the Falklands, Tristan, St. Helena and Ascension.

Those interested in taking part in this epic voyage should write to *Homeward round the Horn* at either Hythe Quay, Colchester, Essex CO2 8JB, England, Tel. 0206-768229/68500, or PO Box 32247, Devonport, Auckland, New Zealand, Tel. 09-459-044 or 90 Ferris Street, Annandale, New South Wales 2038, Tel. 02-560-4035.

OBITUARIES

ALGERNON ASPREY

We regret to report the death in May of Algernon Asprey aged 79.

Algernon will always be remembered by Falkland Islanders as the artist who went out to the Islands in 1985 to pay a tribute by painting in water colours remarkable and beautiful pictures of many of the settlements.

Educated at Charterhouse, followed by four years at the Regent Street Polytechnic School of Art, Algernon went to work for the family firm Asprey & Co. at their Bond Street premises as an artist and designer.

He served in the Scots Guards during the Second World War attaining the rank of Captain. Returning to Asprey's, he made a speciality of decorating royal palaces. He decorated the Royal Palace in Kathmandu for the King of Nepal, the Royal Palace in Baghdad for King Faisal of Iraq and five palaces for King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, including the Al Hamrah in Jeddah and the Al Nasstria in Riyadh. He also designed *objets* such as an Alaskan jade gold and diamond paper weight commissioned by BP as gift for the Queen and a leather box for King Hussein of Jordan.

He was Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company from 1977 to 1978 and Chairman of the Guards' Club from 1960 to

1965.

We are fortunate that his watercolours of the Falklands were reproduced for all to possess in a book published by Anthony Nelson entitled *Unspoilt Beauty of the Falkland Islands*. Although he only came to know them at the end of his life, Algernon Asprey was a great supporter of the Falkland Islanders and a member of the Falkland Islands Association, invariably present at all Falklands functions. He will be sadly missed.

MRS SYBIL HATCHMAN

John Hatchman has written to say that his mother Mrs Sybil Hatchman, aged 85, died on 23rd June at Battle Hospital, Reading, Berks.

Born at Port San Carlos on 7th April, 1906, Sybil was the eldest daughter of Bob Skilling.

After her mother died she was brought up by Emily Bernstein, known in the Falklands at the time as Ivan Bernstein, mother of the late Ellen, Nat and Bernie.

She met her husband, who worked on the ships steaming between Montevideo and Port Stanley, and they were married at Christ Church Cathedral.

The family left the Falkland Islands in 1937.

TO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE WORLD

There stands gracefully on the waterfront of Stanley Harbour, Falkland Islands, the world's most southerly Anglican cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, consecrated on 21st February, 1892, by a pioneer missionary, Bishop Stirling, first Bishop of the Diocese of the Falkland Islands which in those days included the whole of South America with the exception of British Guiana. Indeed Bishop Daniel Ivor Evans still had the same vast geographical area under his jurisdiction as Bishop of the Falkland Islands when he died in office undertaking a journey in southern Chile in 1963.

THE PATAGONIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

To understand how the Bishopric and Diocese of the Falkland Islands came into being, we must plunge with the Patagonian Missionary Society (renamed the South American Missionary Society in 1868) into the wilds of Tierra del Fuego, for it was the needs of the missionary work in the far south of the South American continent which resulted in the appointment of the first bishop.

Captain Allen Gardiner's tragic martyrdom by starvation took place in 1851 in Spanish Harbour, Tierra del Fuego, when a supply ship failed to reach his party. A second tragedy occurred in 1859 when the whole mission party, with one exception, was massacred by the native Indians at Woolaia, Naverin Island. It seemed as though the Mission was blotted out. However almost as a forlorn hope, the Reverend Waite Hockin Stirling went out and by his gallant conduct, living alone for six months among the Indians, 'God's Lonely Sentinel', as he once described himself, restored confidence and rebuilt the Mission.

BISHOP STIRLING OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

Meanwhile Keppel Island, one of the outlying islands of West Falkland, had been utilised by the Mission as a station where Indian boys from Tierra del Fuego might be taught and trained. Thus an early link between the Falklands and the Indian missionary work in the far south was established.

The Mission developed under the Reverend T. Bridge's able guidance and when the need of a responsible authority on the spot was recognised, it was natural and appropriate that the Revd. W. H. Stirling should be consecrated as first Bishop of the Falkland Islands.

This took place on 21st December, 1869, in Westminster Abbey and the Consular Chaplaincies on the whole continent of South America, originally seven in number, were placed under the jurisdiction of the new Bishop. Hence the Diocese of the Falkland Islands was originally a distinct missionary diocese whose actual, not nominal, centre was the Falkland Islands, whose the chief work, the noble work initiated by the Patagonian Missionary Society, was evangelisation of the aboriginal Indians, and whose first Bishop was himself an exceptionally brave and capable pioneer missionary.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

It was on 14th January, 1872, in the Exchange Building, built as a corn exchange but a 'white elephant' from the start, as corn could not be grown in sufficient quantity in the inclement climate, and turned into a school room at one end

and a church at the other, that the Colonial Chaplain, the Reverend Charles Bull, with all due solemnity and pomp "assigned" to Bishop Stirling "this throne and Episcopal Chair". The surroundings hardly resembled a cathedral and yet Holy Trinity became the mother church of a vast diocese.

A fund was started in 1882 to build a proper church and a site was chosen. However events overtook the little community in Stanley in 1886 when a disastrous peat slip stove in the south wall of Holy Trinity Church. Beyond repair, the whole building had to be pulled down and the Government gave the site, together with the rubble that could be salvaged, to the church authorities for the building of a new cathedral. Apart from the continuity of worship on the same site, there is no doubt that the Cathedral is situated in one of the most pleasant spots in Stanley.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

A design by Sir Arthur Bloomfield was chosen which was not too expensive to execute. Even so by the time the Cathedral was completed the cost was little short of £10,000. Among the earliest subscribers were Queen Victoria, the City of Canterbury and Canterbury Cathedral. The very first subscription received was one of three sovereigns from a merchant captain whose ship had foundered off Cape Horn and with his crew he had been rescued and brought into Stanley.

The foundation stone was laid amid much rejoicing on 6th March, 1890, and, although work was still to proceed on the completion of the vestry, and the tower remained unfinished, the Consecration of the Cathedral took place on Sunday 21st February, 1892, being the most convenient date after the Bishop's return from a tour of West Falkland before his departure to the mainland.

Although the Diocese of the Falkland Islands no longer exists (there are now six Anglican dioceses in the Southern Cone Province of the Americas with a further six dioceses in the Province of Brazil), Christ Church Cathedral, Stanley, Falkland Islands, will for ever be the Mother Church of Anglicanism in South America, the 'Westminster Abbey' of the Falklands as well as the Parish Church of Stanley. Sadly, but proudly, because of the military history of the South Atlantic over the years, it has also become a national and international shrine hosting memorial services, commemorating the fallen in many battles.

A PILGRIMAGE

As a prelude to the Centenary celebrations in February 1992, the Cathedral has been much restored at a cost of £600,000, and a special Centenary Thanksgiving Service is to be held in the Falklands Islands on Saturday 22nd February.

For a privileged few (no more than nine) there will be the opportunity to be present at that Thanksgiving Service, to trace some of Bishop Stirling's footsteps, to visit Keppel Island and other islands in the Falklands cluster, to pay homage at the graves of early pioneer missionaries and Fuegian Indians, to participate in continuing Christian worship in a part of the world once described as 'the uttermost part of the earth', to visit famous war memorials, and to see the Falklands and its glorious wildlife at its late summer best in a leisurely twelve

UTTERMOST PART OF THE WORLD (Continued)

day excursion from 17th to 29th February, 1992.

The Pilgrimage will be jointly hosted by Falkland Islander the Reverend Peter Millam, Senior Chaplain of Christ

Church Cathedral 1966 - 1970, and Major Ronnie Spafford, Chairman of the Falkland Islands Association.

MERGER OF FALKLAND ISLANDS FOUNDATION AND FALKLAND ISLANDS TRUST

The Falkland Islands Foundation and a similar organisation based in the Islands called the Falkland Islands Trust*, have merged to form a single organisation called Falklands Conservation.

Launched at a press conference in London on 1st August, the aim of this new body, as the name suggests, is to promote the conservation of wildlife, wrecks and places of historic interest in the Falkland Islands.

In addition to its local importance, the natural and historic heritage of the Falklands is significant beyond the Islands' shores. For instance, the albatross and penguin colonies are among the largest in the world and the Islands' collection of wrecks is quite exceptional. The very rapid pace of economic and social change in the Falklands over the past ten years has brought new pressure to bear on this rich heritage, and the role of Falklands Conservation is to assist the Falkland Islands Government and Islanders to safeguard it in perpetuity.

TO INCREASE LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

The decision to merge was taken in January following meetings in Stanley between the Trust's committee, chaired by Mr David Eynon, and the Chairman of the Foundation, Dr Colin Phipps.

A key aim of Falklands Conservation is to increase substantially direct local involvement in conservation work in the Islands. As part of this process Falklands Conservation plan to employ a Falklands Secretary in Stanley to work with Kate Thompson, the Executive Secretary based in Britain. This arrangement, made feasible by the advent of modern telecommunications in the Islands, will enable Falklands

Conservation to make the most of opportunities for fund raising and access to expertise in the United Kingdom and elsewhere, while also ensuring that it does not lose touch with events and changing priorities on the ground.

Falkland Islands Government have granted Falklands Conservation 50% core funds for its first year of operation, with the remainder being sought from sources outside the Islands.

MANY PROJECTS

Among many projects which Falkland Islands Conservation intend to advance during the first five years of its operation are a sea-bird monitoring programme, the sea lion research project, reported in the May issue of *Falkland Islands Newsletter*, a survey of tussac islands, the production of conservation education materials, archaeological surveys of historic sites and the stabilisation of hulks in Stanley Harbour. Falklands Conservation also manage a number of nature reserves and will produce a newsletter for members and other interested in conservation in the Falklands. Another important role of Falklands Conservation is as a source of informed advice on conservation matter for Falkland Islands Government and other bodies.

Those wishing to know more about Falklands Conservation should write to Dr Kate Thompson at 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5BT (tel. 031-556-6226).

* not to be confused with the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Trust which continues under this name.

BOOK REVIEW

FALKLAND ISLANDS INTERLUDE by Tom Beaty, published by Anthony Nelson Ltd., PO Box 9, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 1BY. 14.5 X 21 cm soft cover, 50 pages divided into ten chapters, 12 black & white photos of Camp life. No index or acknowledgements are appropriate. ISBN 0 904614 44 1 £4.95.

Newly wed Tom Beaty went out to the Falklands with his wife, Ada, in 1939 at the age of 24, as Stock Inspector, following Durham University where he achieved a First Class

Honours Degree in Agriculture.

In 1944 he accepted the post of Farm Manager of Port Stephens, then newly purchased by the Falkland Islands Company. Tom and Ada stayed until returning to Britain in 1953 because of their children's education.

Autobiographical, this well written and easy to read short book is a valuable contribution to Falkland Islands history, describing life of a now bygone age in a class ridden, feudal and dependent but often caring society. Tom Beaty writes about it convincingly, sometimes in a humorous way. RNS.

AN APOLOGY: We apologise to Commander Michael Ranken, Captain Nick Barker, Mr Michael Frenchman and Mr Robert Elgood for the captions being reversed on page 10 of the last issue of *Falkland Islands Newsletter*. We thought that we had taken adequate precautions to prevent this, but, unfortunately, gremlins got in at our printers

A PHILATELIC HOLIDAY TO THE FALKLANDS

by Philip Vine

A party of four collectors of Falkland Islands' stamps led by Major R. N. Spafford assembled at RAF Brize Norton on 24th January, 1991, at the start of a philatelic tour of the Islands. Security was high and, in addition to usual airport checks, all passengers in the departure lounge were instructed to sit in silence with their hand luggage, already x-rayed, in front of them on the floor while a sniffer dog searched for explosives. The dog, aptly named 'Boss', was attracted to and gravely suspicious of Ronnie's large bag of oranges.

As the RAF's fleet of TriStars was busily engaged with the Gulf War, we were carried via Ascension Island in a Boeing 767 chartered from Britannia Airways. Owing to weight restrictions the aircraft was barely half-full, but the closely packed seating, no doubt designed for maximum occupancy on package tours to the Mediterranean and elsewhere, was barely tolerable on a 7,000 mile flight. However, this was compensated for, at least in part, by the availability of alcoholic refreshments and 'in flight entertainment'.

A TREASURE HOUSE

The tour had a philatelic, but not all pervasive, flavour. The primary objective was served by visiting Stanley Post Office where we met Jim Stephenson and Phyllis Stewart, the Postmaster and the Manager of the Philatelic Bureau respectively. The former produced from his inner sanctum a treasure house of memorabilia which could form a sound basis for a small postal museum, and the latter was besieged by Geoffrey Barber, one of our number, whose demands on the postal services throughout the Islands reached fever pitch.

Other philatelic visits included the Government Printing Office to meet Tony Pettersson who printed in our presence a commemorative cover for the tour; the studio of Ian Strange who has designed many stamps, in particular those reflecting the natural history of the Falklands; the military and civilian post offices at Mount Pleasant; and the 'new' post office in Fox Bay East which occupies a corner of the store, the former one attached to the wireless station and immortalised by Charlie Maddocks having been closed and incorporated in the house.

PHILATELIC THEME

A particular pleasure was a meeting of the Falkland Islands Philatelic Study group at a small reception at the Malvina House Hotel, our base in Stanley, which was attended by a good number of indigenous collectors who had previously only been names to me. They were, however, well known to Ronnie and to Brian Duck, who had accompanied him on a previous tour.

The philatelic theme was continued, at least ostensibly, by visits to places or activities featured on Falklands' stamps, ranging from Government House and the 1914 Battle Memorial depicted on the 1s. and 2s.6d. stamps of the 1933 Centenary issue and Christ Church Cathedral on the 6d. value of the 1969 Bishop Stirling set to newer activities. For instance, a mine disposal demonstration was excitingly put on



Left to Right: RONNIE SPAFFORD, PHILIP VINE, BRIAN DUCK, GEOFF. BARBER

(Photo: R. N. Spafford)

by Captain Moody RE and men of the bomb disposal unit, at Yorke Bay, as illustrated on the 24p. 1987 Royal Engineers issue. Although apparently not related, by a happy coincidence the first civil Governor of the Falkland Islands was Captain Richard Moody RE, who was formally installed at Port Louis in 1842. Tim Miller entertained us at his home after showing us round the Hydroponic Garden where many varieties of vegetables are grown for the shipping trade, sale to the military and for local consumption, the enterprise being the subject of the 24p value of the 1988 Tercentenary of Lloyds issue.

John Smith, curator of Stanley Museum and designer of the 1982 Shipwrecks and 1982 Mailships stamps, made us welcome at the museum where we saw, inter alia, a stuffed warrah, which is extinct, resembling a cross between a dog and a fox and depicted on the 25p. Charles Darwin stamp of 1982; also the ornate ceremonial top-hat of General Menendez, the Argentine Military Commander, who occupied the building as his residence following the 1982 invasion. John Smith was our well-informed guide on a water-borne tour of the many shipwrecks in and adjoining Stanley Harbour, including Sparrow Cove whence the S.S. *Great Britain* was towed to Bristol for restoration in 1970. Likewise, our most enjoyable days were reflected in the 1976 Sheep Farming stamps and the numerous wildlife issues.

KINDNESS AND HOSPITALITY

My abiding memory of the Falklands is the personal kindness and generous hospitality we received from everyone we met both in Stanley and the Camp. The Governor and Mrs Fullerton got us off to a flying start by entertaining us at Government House on our first evening, which concluded with the latter taking us on a comprehensive tour of what is not only the seat of Government but their home.

Similarly we were welcomed by the Dean of the Cathedral and Mrs Murphy at the Deanery, and we responded by attending evensong at the Cathedral on a Sunday.

Excursions from Stanley with Francoise de la Bernardie included Fitzroy and the memorials to those who died in *Sir Galahad* and *Sir Tristram* in 1982. Dave Clark, a latter day

PHILATELIC HOLIDAY (continued)

Jehu, drove us to Volunteer point to see the burgeoning colony of King penguins, the most evocative of all the Islands' wildlife. Sad is the collector who does not possess a 1933 Centenary 5s. stamp featuring this splendid bird. On our return journey we stopped at Port Louis, the original capital, for tea with Sue Morrison.

THE OUTER ISLANDS

Travel between the settlements in Camp was by air in an eight seater Britten-Norman Islanders of the Falkland Islands Government Air Service featured on the 5p aircraft stamp of 1983, and during our stay we made six internal flights landing on grass airstrips or, in the case of Keppel Island, on the beach. Highlights included Sea Lion Island where we were introduced to Falklands' wild life by David Gray, Pebble Island where that larger than life character John Reid spent two days showing us virtually all aspects of the Islands' fauna and Keppel Island where James, son of Tom McGhie, took us to the albatross colony.

It was at Keppel that we again met Victoria Poland of Falkland Islands Tourism, London, who was accompanying two journalists, Doreen Taylor and Anne Hills. Other visitors whom we met in the Camp were Margaret Hunt, wife of the Commander British Forces, and two of her friends from England; also a party of twitchers whose leader, unhappily, had missed the plane from Britain and only caught them up some

three or four days later.

LAKE SULIVAN FARM WAS SPECIAL

Our visit to Fox Bay West was very special as we were the first tourists to stay in the shearers' cottage on Lake Sullivan Farm, some 32,000 acres supporting about 8,000 sheep, and to be entertained by Roger and Norma Edwards in their home, where we really had our feet under the table. A superb dinner that evening included roast Upland Geese specially shot by the former and cooked by the latter on her peat stove with rich orange sauce.

At Port Howard we were looked after by Robin Lee, an enthusiastic collector of items, large and small, from the 1982 War. It was here that we visited the shearing shed at the height of the season, the Chandlers' knitting workshop which produces fine sweaters (I had to telephone England to ascertain the size of my wife's bust!), and Bold Cove, the presumed place of the first recorded landing on mainland Falkland Islands by Captain John Strong of the *Welfare* in 1690. While there we visited Robin and Heather Smith at Harps Farm.

The tour for us was an unqualified success, and we were brought back to earth with a bump when we landed at RAF Brize Norton on 9th February to be greeted by snow and disrupted road and rail services.



Intercon has a long history of caring for English-speaking people overseas. In 1823 an enterprising merchant, Samuel Cadner, brought together a group of friends to provide schools, churches, teachers and clergy for British settlers in Newfoundland. Similar projects were soon being undertaken in other continents.

Intercon has moved with a changing world. Today we serve English-speaking people of many nationalities who are studying, working, on holiday or in retirement abroad, by means of

- Permanent chaplaincies in centres with substantial English-speaking populations, including the **Falkland Islands**
- Seasonal chaplaincies in holiday resorts and on campsites
- Chaplains to senior citizens on holidays arranged by major tour operators
- Link & Learn, a postal Sunday School for children

This work is financed essentially from voluntary sources, and we rely heavily upon the generosity of individuals.

INTERCONTINENTAL CHURCH SOCIETY
175 TOWER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON SE1 2AQ
phone 071-407 4588

A free information pack and/or a Directory of English-Speaking Churches Abroad (£2.00, inc. post) are available on request.

SERVING ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE ABROAD

The Reverend Peter Millam and Major Ronnie Spafford invite you to

come with them

on the

**unique visit for Pilgrims
and Philatelists to the
FALKLAND ISLANDS**

for the *100th Anniversary of the Consecration of
Christ Church Cathedral.*

Feb 17 to Mar 1, 1992

Write for details to
Major R. N. Spafford,
29, Queens Road,
Weston-Super-Mare BS23 2LH

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Falkland Islands Association or of the Editorial Committee

THE ARGENTINE CEMETERY

From Mr Simon Arthur

Sir, It was no surprise to read in the Newsletter that Argentine Newspapers were calling for more visits to the Argentine Cemetery after their first one last March. Anyone who thought this would not happen, is quite naive.

Having spent a lot of time in Argentina recently, I saw the debate about these graves from their side. From this it was clear that most of the actual relatives always wanted the repatriation of the bodies. The newspaper *Clarín* actually believed that this was going to be part of the settlement in February 1990. It was the military and the politicians who wanted to leave them where they were, in order to use them to get access again to the Falklands - which is known to be their top priority now.

It is one thing to allow access to cemeteries when a war is over, and the problems settled, as in post war Europe. But it quite different when the problem is still there, and graves are being used as part of an ongoing struggle. It just goes to show that if you give the Argentines an inch they will take a mile.

SIMON ARTHUR,
Address Supplied

ARGENTINE NEXT OF KIN VISIT

*From Mr Des Keoghane,
Chairman of the Falkland Families Association,*

Sir, I was very sad to read the account of the visit by the Argentine relatives to the Falkland Islands.

I have had the privilege and pleasure of visiting the Falklands on six different

occasions, and I hope that I have made many friends there. Without fail I have found the Islanders to be the friendliest, warmest, sympathetic and most understanding people in the world and I consider it an honour to know so many of them.

How sad it is to read that no one on the Islands were prepared to meet any of the families from the Argentine and that the visit is classed as a 'one off'. Of course I was not in the Islands during the 1982 War, and I can understand how the Islanders must feel towards the Argentine Government of 1982, but the people who came to visit the graves are just that: people. It is governments that make war. Personally, I will never forgive those members of the Argentine Government who made the decision to invade the Falklands, resulting in the deaths of some 1500 men on both sides. I do, however, have a great deal of sympathy and understanding for the families of the Argentine servicemen who died carrying out the orders of their Government. Of course, I know what it means to have someone killed in the 1982 War; my son, Kevin, died on the RFA *Sir Galahad*. I also know what it means to be able to stand at the place where he died, and to stand over the place where he lies buried. It generates a marvellous feeling of peace and togetherness and I was very moved that the same opportunity has ben given to the Argentine families. On two occasions I have taken our relatives to visit the Argentine cemetery at Darwin; it was no surprise to me to see our families placing flowers on graves and some of them openly

weeping.

To read that Argentine mothers were placing name plates on unidentified graves in the hope that it was their loved one who was lying there was particularly moving. I suppose that we are luckier in that all our dead were accounted for and we know where they are lying.

I realise that my views may well upset some of my friends in the Falklands, but I write as a father who lost a much loved and admired son in the 1982 conflict and not with any sort of political view.

I am fully aware that the Argentine Government have been asked to take the bodies back to their own country so that they will be near their families. Unfortunately I believe that this is being judged as a political consideration and who knows when and if this will happen. In the meantime may I ask all those who are concerned to think of Mothers Fathers, Widows and children, and not what is deemed politically right, and that while those bodies are lying in the Falkland Islands, to allow future visits would be marvellously understanding and humane.

I apologise to any of my friends in the Falklands who may be upset by my views, but I know that a great number of our members feel exactly the same way.

DES KEOGHANE,
6 Penrose Court,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts HP2 6NP

OLDEST LIVING FALKLAND ISLANDER

From Mrs Rose Pilgrim

Sir, Having recently received your book *The Way Forward*, I wondered if you would be interested to know about my

mother.

She was born on West Falkland at Port Stephens and we, the family, are wondering if she could possibly be the oldest living Falkland Islander. She is 96 and her sister is 92. Her maiden name was Meirhofer and her father worked in the cookhouse, cooking for the shepherds. Her brother, George, used to work on the boats that went round the Islands.

We have heard many interesting stories of her life, like how they used to live and travel by horseback without a saddle.

She left the Falklands at the age of 17 because her mother was in bad health, but brother George stayed until about 1948, then went to live in New Zealand. Unfortunately he has since died.

If you do find my letter interesting enough to answer, I know my mother would be really thrilled and excited.

MRS ROSE PILGRIM,
10 Highfield Road,
Bourne End,
Bucks SL8 5BG
NEW CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

From Mr John Hatchman

Sir, Dr Roger Diggle has now been appointed Chief Medical Officer in the Falklands and I would like to wish him every success.

During his stay as a doctor in Newbury, Berks, he made many friends. He is a first class doctor sadly missed in Newbury, but a first class gain by the people in the Falklands
JOHN HATCHMAN,
28 Aintree Claose,
Greenham,
Newbury, Berks.

The Falkland Islands Association

An Association supported by the subscription of members and voluntary contributions.

2 Greycourt Place, Westminster, London SW1P 1SD

Telephone 071-222-0028 Telex 22487 INNLOW FAX 071-222-2541

President: Sir Rex Hunt CMG
 Vice Presidents: The Right Honourable the Viscount Thurso of Ulbster JP Sir Edwin Arrowsmith KCMG. Sir Cosmo Haskard KCMG MBE.
 Sir Jack Hayward OBE. Major General Alan Mills. Mr C. E. Needham CBE. Admiral of the Fleet Sir William Staveley GCB, Councillor R E Walker.
 Chairman: Major R. N. Spafford
 Vice Chairman: Mr R. Elgood
 Hon. Secretary: Mrs M Christie
 Hon. Treasurer: Mr E. C. J. Clapp
 Editor of Newsletter: Major R N Spafford

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I would like to support the right of the people of the Falkland Islands to decide their own future for themselves and to help them to develop their Islands in accordance with their wishes.

I/We wish to join the Falkland Islands Association.

- Individual Members (Annual subscription £15)
- Associate Members (Pensioners & Students) (Annual subscription £5)
- Corporate Members/Companies and Trading Organisations (Minimum Annual subscription £50)

All subscribers will receive the quarterly Newsletter.

Donations to support the work of the Falkland Islands Association are welcome.

I enclose cheque/P.O./Bankers Order

Full Name

Profession

Address
.
.

Connection with Falkland
Islands, if any

Telephone Number

Signature

Cheques should be made out to the Falkland Islands Association, but it would be appreciated if overseas members would pay by Sterling Bankers Draft to avoid incurring bank foreign currency surcharge.

BANKERS ORDER

Date 19 ..

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 the credit of : THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ASSOCIATION Account No. 24223999 the sum of pounds on receipt of the order and thereafter annually on the anniversary thereof until notice the sum of pounds

Signature

Name (Capitals)

Customer's Account No.

Address
.
.

Date

Please return to: The Falkland Islands Association, 2 Greycourt Place, London SW1P 1SD.

ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Falkland Islands Association will take place on Saturday 7th December, 1991 at 12 midday at the London Scottish Headquarters, which is at 95, Horseferry Road, London SW1. This is close to the junction with Greycoat Place.

Following the Meeting a buffet luncheon will be available at a charge of £10 per head. Those wishing to attend the buffet luncheon are asked to complete the proforma circulated with this issue of the *Newsletter* for themselves and any guests they wish to bring along and send it, together with the required cash to the Falkland Islands Association by 25th November

ADVERTISING

The present circulation of the *Newsletter* is 4,000 copies. It is distributed to Members of the Association, to all Members of the House of Commons, Members of the House of Lords, all British Members of the European Parliament, and to the Press, Radio and Television. Many copies circulate in the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, other Commonwealth Countries and countries abroad. 800 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 4 insertions by negotiation.

A special concession is offered to members of the Association living in the Falklands who own small shops and businesses to advertise in the *Newsletter* at half the above rates.

RELEASE OF COPYRIGHTS

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

PUBLICATION METHOD

The text of this issue of *Falklands Islands Newsletter* was set by the Editor in Times and Helvetica using a Zenith computer and Xerox Ventura Publisher software. The master pages were produced by Polygon of Chippenham, Wilts and final production, including photo insertion, was by Michael Sessions & Colleagues of York.



**Falkland Islands
NEWSLETTER**

Published by the Falkland Islands Association
2 Greycoat Place, London SW1P 1SD
Telephone: 071-222-0028
ISSN 0262-9399

Publications Committee:
Mr E.W. Hunter Christie (Chairman)
Mrs M. Christie
Mr M. Dodds
Mr R. Elgood
Mr F.G. Mitchell
Major R.N. Spafford (Editor)

FOR SALE

The following articles are available from the Falkland Islands Association office, 2 Greycoat Place, London SW1. Please enclose cost of postage and packing (additional). Please would overseas purchasers pay by Sterling Bankers Draft to avoid incurring bank foreign currency surcharge.

- Ties, Falkland Islands crest, navy blue, £5
- Desk flags, £2.50
- Blazer Badges, Falkland Islands crest, £10
- Tea Cloths, Map of the Falkland Islands, £2.50
- Dusters, Map of the Falkland Islands, £1
- Ordnance Survey Map of Falkland Islands, £3
- Reproduction of 1770 Map of Falkland Islands, 12"x9", £2
- Illustrated Map of the Falkland Islands in colour, £3
- Car Stickers, green plastic, "Remember the Falkland Islands - They're British", £1
- Plastic stick-on Badges, Falkland Islands Crest, 75p
- Lapel Badges, Falkland Islands Crest, £1
- Key Rings, Falkland Islands Crest, £3
- Eraser, Falkland Islands Association, 25p
- Bookmark 'Stanley, Falkland Islands' various colours, £1.
- Sticker: 'I Love Sunny Falkland Islands', £1
- 4 Assorted Penguin Notelets & Envelopes £1.50p
- Packs of 10 blank notecards by Audrey Barry:**
- 5 X 2 designs Elephant Bay and Settlement, Pebble Is. pack £3
- 5 X 2 designs Stanley View and Penguins, Pebble Is. pack £3
- Coloured picture postcards by Steve Whitley:** The Race Track Stanley, Upland Geese, Night Heron, Blackbrowed Albatrosses courting, all at 12p each.
- Coloured picture postcards by Tony Chater:** Port Stanley, Port Howard, Mount Pleasant Airport, Mr Fred Coutts driving lambs, Grytviken, FIGAS, Gentoo Penguin, Settlement Rookery, Rockhopper Penguins, King Penguins, all at 20p each
- Steve Whitley's greeting cards:** Christchurch Cathedral in winter, Winter Scene Pebble Is., Gentoo & King Penguins Volunteer Lagoon, Bull Elephant Seal Sea Lion Is. at 52p each. Settlement & Harbour Port Howard, Sunset Stanley Harbour, Jackass & Gentoo Penguins Pebble Island, King Penguins Volunteer Pt., Rockhopper Penguins Pebble Is., Christchurch Cathedral, *The Plym* and *Lady Elizabeth* Stanley Harbour, Corriedale sheep, all at 35p each.

Algernon Asprey prints approx. 24" X 20" at £3 each.

THE FALKLANDS STORY 1592-1982 by Mary Cawkell, £1. A concise and accurate account of the history of the Falkland Islands and the events leading up to the invasion.

GUIDE TO BIRDS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, by Robin W. Woods. £14.95 + p. & p.

A LIFE OF OUR CHOICE, by Sydney Miller CBE £6 +p & p.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, by Paul Morrison (145 colour photos) £14.95 + p.& p.

OLD FALKLAND PHOTOS, by Shane Wolsey £5.95 +p & p

TASTE OF THE FALKLANDS (Cathedral Appeal) £2.50+p & p

THE POSTIES WENT TO WAR, by Major Ian Winfield £5.95 + p & p.