



Falkland Islands NEWSLETTER

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A Future Full of Hope

Taking up the positive theme of Falklands Chief Executive, Andrew Gurr, we look beyond the trauma of Argentine aggression at the many blessings of the Falklands, and a future full of hope.

Islanders share a pristine environment with prolific wildlife. Their children grow up in peaceful surroundings, with a natural charm, free from the fear and stress of crowded communities elsewhere. They enjoy superb education, all free, paid for by the Falklands Government - to degree level and beyond in Britain. The economy is booming with full employment. Industries, old and new, prosper... lucrative fishing; improved agriculture and a wide farm ownership, benefiting from an improved wool price; high-tech hydroponic horticulture with a burgeoning harvest of vegetables and salads; new housing and roads; a new secondary school, hospital and airport; successful tourism,

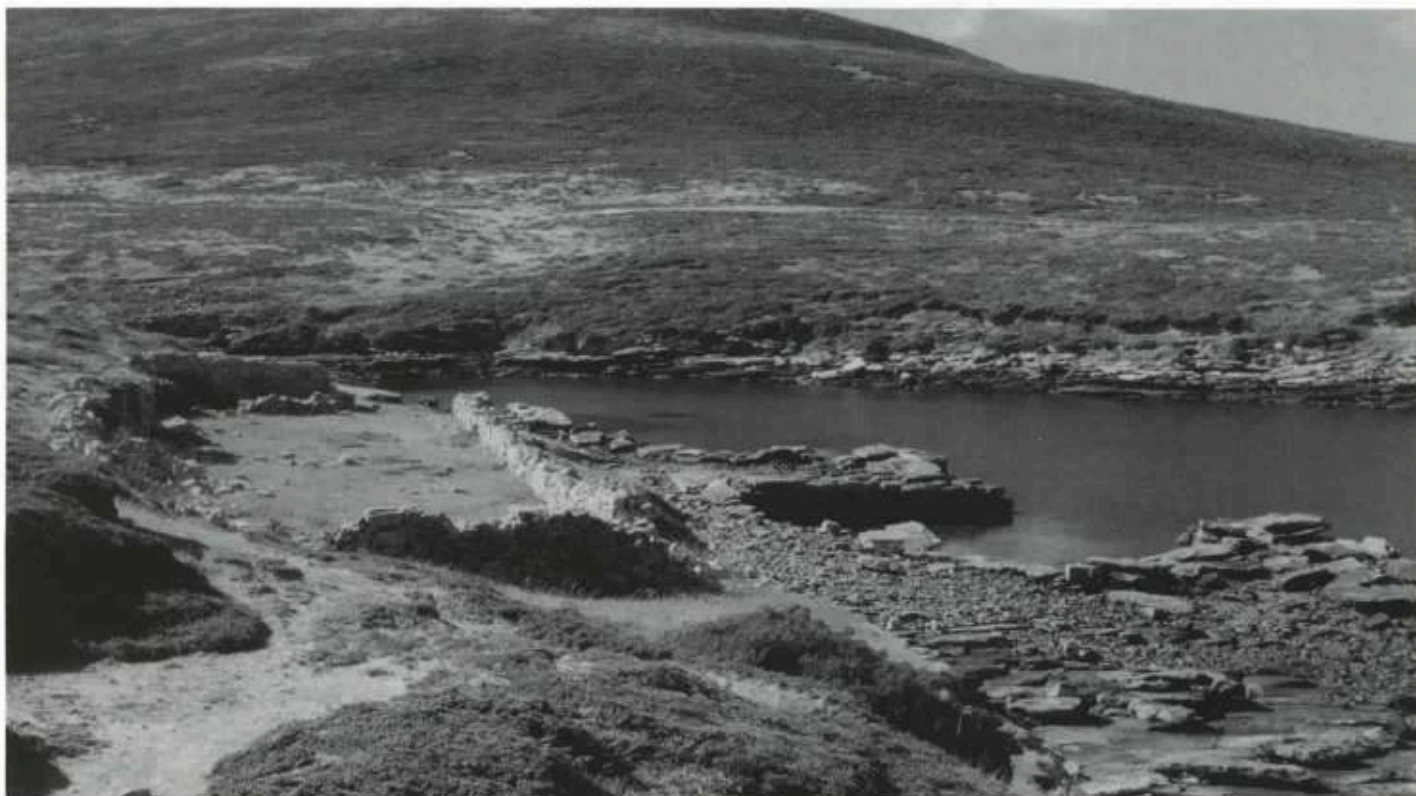
and now the prospect of a new oil industry.

The Falklands have much to be proud of. Islanders can justifiably say: "We are an example to the world. Don't let Argentina spoil it". A nation bedevilled by military repression, inefficiency, corruption and bureaucracy, Argentina has failed to convert its vast natural resources into a similar success, and owes even its newborn democracy to British defeat of its reckless 1982 invasion.

All the more reason to respect Falklands democracy, and the right of its population to self-determination. Instead, harassment continues. Argentina annually petitions the discredited United Nations "De-colonisation" Committee to deliver the Falklands into Argentine colonial bondage. Its politicians offer bribes and make threats.

It is time for the people of Argentina to examine their consciences over the way their country is behaving.

Port Egmont Revisited



The Ruins of the Warehouse and Dock, Port Egmont, Britain's First Settlement in the Falklands, Founded in 1765

Photo: P.J. Pepper

Lincoln's Inn Reception

Summer started this year just in time for the Falklands Reception at Lincoln's Inn. Once again old friends and new met - as usual, from all walks of life.

This year, Andrew Gurr, the Falklands Chief Executive gave the keynote address. This looked back with pride at what been achieved during and since the war. More importantly perhaps, it looked forward with the confidence that now characterises the Falklands, despite Argentina's continuing campaign. This speech is re-produced on page 4.

That fine speech was not alone. Sir Rex Hunt used the Reception to launch the Shackleton Scholarship Appeal. A resume of this is opposite.

The band of the Coldstream Guards ended the Reception in traditional style....



Harold Briley, Councillor Bill Luxton, Mrs. Briley, Bill Hunter-Christie and Heather Briley



Dr. Phil Richards of the British Geological Survey, and Islanders Stephen Luxton and Emma Edwards, both newly graduated as geologists.



Lewis Clifton and John Treasham
All photographs on this page by P.J. Pepper



Brian Paul, Annabelle Spencer of the Falklands Agency in Wells and Chief Executive Andrew Gurr



The Great Hall with the Reception in progress



The Band of the Coldstream Guards beats retreat

Falklands Supporters Honoured

The *Newsletter* offers its congratulations to two Falklands supporters honoured in the Birthday Honours list.

Michael Shersby MP, Chairman of the Falklands Parliamentary Group and a supporter of the Falklands for many years, becomes a knight bachelor for political service.

Sarah Jones, widow of Colonel Jones VC, becomes a CBE for her work with bereaved service families.

The Shackleton Scholarship Fund

Regular readers will have seen Harold Briley's article about the Shackleton Scholarship Fund in the last issue, and those of you who were able to be present heard me talk about it at the Lincoln's Inn reception on 15th June.

The fund-raising committee in the Falkland Islands, chaired by the Governor, Mr. David Tatham, has made an excellent start, with over £20,000 already donated by local companies and individuals. The Falkland Islands Government has generously offered to match donations from the general public pound for pound (up to £100,000), so this is worth over £40,000 to the Fund. In addition, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has donated £20,000 which will also be matched by the Falkland Islands Government.

As Chairman of the fund-raising committee in the United Kingdom, I should like to appeal to all readers of the Newsletter to contribute to the Fund, which I believe is not only an imaginative way of commemorating the lives of two great men, but also will prove of inestimable value in furthering the main objective of the Falkland Islands Association, which is to assist the people of the Falkland Islands to decide their own future for themselves.

Don't forget that any amount you are able to give, no matter how small, will be doubled by the Falkland Islands Government. Every donation will be gratefully acknowledged by me. All the members of my committee are volunteers. We are not employing professional fund-raisers. Administrative expenditure will be kept to a minimum. To save costs, donation forms and reply envelopes are being sent with this Newsletter to members of the Falkland Islands Association.

If any non-member would like to contribute, cheques made payable to "UKFIT (Shackleton Scholarship Fund)" may be sent to the U.K. Falkland Islands Trust, 2 Greycoat Place, London SW1P 1SD or a donation form will be sent to you on request.

Both the UK and Falkland Islands fund-raising committees are acting under the auspices of the UK Falkland Islands Trust, a registered charity. All funds raised will be administered as a separate trust fund of the charity with the object of increasing knowledge of the Falkland Islands and the rest of the South Atlantic region in the United Kingdom and to improve life down there by promoting academic and



Sir Rex Hunt launching the Shackleton Appeal

Photo: Lewis Photos Ltd

other charitable exchanges.

It gives me great pleasure to report that her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra has graciously accepted the Trustees' invitation to become patron of the UK Falkland Islands Trust.

Sir Rex Hunt

Appeal Success in the Falklands

The Shackleton Appeal got off to a good start in the Falklands; by June 14th donations already exceeded £16,000. Contributions have already come from companies Fortuna, Hanswell Marine (Bob Fiddes), ANAMER, Argos, Eurofishing, Goodwin Offshore, Gordon Forbes, Kelvin International Services. Personal donations have come from Juanita Brock, Sally and Jerome Poncet. FIODA raised £350 from their pantomime Cinderella, the Girl Guides raised £435 from their gourmet dinner. The dinner/cabaret at the Town Hall raised nearly £2000.

Another Burglary at Greycoat Place

Over the weekend of the 10th and 11th of June, there was another burglary of the Association offices at Greycoat Place. Again documents were the target, and no pieces of office equipment or other saleable property were stolen. In view of the very similar burglary last January, the Association is forced to the conclusion that it is now the object of an intelligence gathering operation.

Since the burglary last January, a sophisticated burglar alarm has been operating in the Association office. The fact that this was successfully circumvented suggests the thief, or perhaps one should say spy, possessed a considerable degree of sophistication, and was not an ordinary criminal.

No confidential documents are kept in the files at Greycoat Place, but many files were disturbed and may have been photographed. The Association lost three small files,

which had exciting titles, but contained nothing whatsoever of significance. One of these entitled: "The Falkland Islands Agency" illustrates this point. This might have been thought to have contained security information. But, as any Association member will tell you this is the Falklands shop in Wells. In fact, it contained prices and other information on the Falklands sweaters and other goods that they sell there. In short, the thieves got nothing of value.

Repercussions

The Times reported this burglary on June 19th, which brought it to the attention of the Argentine press. Subsequently, *Clarín* asked Mr. Hugo Anzorreguy, head of the Argentine intelligence service, SIDE, if they had anything to do with the robbery. Mr. Anzorreguy denied this.

Chief Executive's Speech at Lincoln's Inn

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my very real privilege to welcome you all here this evening - we are in particularly historic surroundings remembering an historic event. We are celebrating a victory! It is a valid and worthwhile thing to do just that. Far from being chest-beating jingoists - tonight we are reminded of the principles for which we fought. We are reminded too of the heroism and professionalism of those who carried out the fighting, and, probably most important of all, we remember our responsibility to those principles and those people who only 13 years ago performed with such tenacity, bravery and sacrifice, in the name of freedom.

I have only been in the Islands for the last nine months, but I consider it a great honour to bring to this gathering tonight the Islanders' salute to the memory of June the 14th 1982, when the 74-day occupation was brought to an end and when Britain rightfully reclaimed our beautiful islands that had been inhabited peaceably since 1833. Our gratitude is immense, our memory is fresh, and our absolute determination to remain British as solid as ever.

It is also particularly appropriate to pay tribute to the considerable amount of work done in the UK by all our friends and supporters: individuals too numerous to mention and the Falkland Islands Association, Falklands Conservation, the Falkland Islands Trust and particularly the Falkland Islands Government Office. Since 1982 the Islands have not been sitting on another's laurels - we have used the victory as a catalyst for change; as a launch pad for a Falkland Islands that can hold its head high in economic, social and cultural terms in the modern world. And it is my happy task tonight to be able to report on substantial and, some may say, amazing progress in virtually all fields of endeavour within the Islands.

In agriculture we now have very clear plans for the improvement of wool husbandry and production, reaping the benefits of subdivision and of farming as against ranching. We have in place a National Stud Flock, which will ensure that the micron content of our wool will diminish in future years to produce an even finer product. The world wool market has recovered strongly this year and we owe a significant debt of gratitude to Jeff Banks and the Clothes Show team for the inspirational creation of the "Falklander" sweater, which we will be launching in December. The superb quality of the wool, the appealing design and hand crafting give us confidence that demand will far exceed supply and provide us with a niche export market.

We have strongly emerging plans for forestry, a substantial increase in cattle and the farming of other animals in the Islands for economic benefit. Within the next 12 months we shall be building an abattoir near Stanley which will give us the ability to market all our meat products not only to the military at Mount Pleasant, but to the wider world. It is to be hoped that gourmets in the UK will at last be able to savour the unique delights of Falkland Islands' mutton as well as the luscious tenderness and taste of our organic beef.

In the world of fishing, ours continues to be acknowledged as one of the most professionally managed fisheries in the world. Our fish is sold widely in world markets as far afield as Japan, Korea, Spain and Chile. We have been much encouraged by the discovery of new commercial species and

as fish stocks throughout the world decline, our own loligo squid enjoyed an amazingly buoyant season this year. The major volume squid, the *Illex*, was not so plentiful, and a second poor season makes us keen to ensure that Argentina follows our lead in being serious about the conservation of this species. However, I am glad to report that longlining for toothfish and continuing good catches of Hoki and Blue Whiting have helped towards another satisfactory performance in this year's fishing season.

Any consideration of the economy of the Islands would be incomplete without the mention of hydrocarbons. There has been a great deal of misunderstanding as oil companies position themselves to respond to our first licensing round, which will begin this year. The round will open with presentations giving details of geological structures and the tranches on offer.

These presentations will be held both in London and Houston during the northern autumn. The round itself will last less than 12 months and thus we anticipate being able to award licences during the northern summer of 1996, enabling the start of serious exploration throughout the austral summer of 1996/97. We believe we have the infrastructure in place to accommodate anticipated activity and we are confident that the ever developing technology of offshore oil explorers is more than able to cope with our weather and depth of water; they are, after all, essentially similar to conditions in the North Sea.

The Falkland Islands is a place where growing confidence is a reality. There is a genuine "feel-good" factor 8000 miles away in the South Atlantic - possibly the pundits and politicians could look to us to see how it has happened. This year we celebrate 150 years of representative government; we have a near perfect democracy where most Islanders are fully informed of internal political situations and are more than capable of ensuring their input into discussions. We also have a young and burgeoning private sector, our Chamber of Commerce in Stanley having over 70 members.

Time forbids me to extol the virtues of the pure air and our surprisingly sun-drenched islands, and I will conclude by emphasising two particular points - the FIRST is to do with our protection of our unique environment. There is no equivocation whatsoever on this point - we regard our natural environment as far more important than any exploitation of oil, or any other resource.

Our natural surroundings will be with us long after oil has run out and we are the stewards of that future world. Our wildlife and whole ecosystem is incredible, it is unique, and the Falkland Islands Government is spending a great deal of money to ensure that relevant baseline surveys and monitoring activities are in place well before they will be needed to prevent or protect against any aberration in the exploration programme. Our professionalism and concern in this area should never be doubted. We are well aware of the ability of the environmental lobby to frighten anyone who will listen, but we are equally aware that we control the situation. We love our environment and we are not about to degrade it in the interests of Mammon.

The second point is even more sensitive; for me, the loneliest and most desolate place in the whole of the Falklands is the Argentine cemetery at Darwin. There are

buried 232 Argentinians, most of them very young, and above most graves lies the heart rending notice: "An Argentine soldier known unto God". One is always moved by visiting the British Military Cemetery at San Carlos, and remembering as we do tonight our brave servicemen who so clearly laid down their lives for us. But for what did those young Argentinians who rest at Darwin, lay down their lives?

I like to think that the Falklands conflict had a direct impact upon the whole future of that great country of Argentina. That our victory and the sacrifice of those young soldiers was the catalyst that brought about a genuine democracy in Buenos Aires.

We congratulate President Menem on his recent re-election, because we believe heartily both in democracy and in each country's right to self-determination. We desire normal relations and a secure peace as must be considered appropriate between neighbouring democracies.

Argentina still carries a weight of unjustified cultural baggage with regard to our Islands, as was so colourfully illustrated by Dr. Di Tella's activities in London last week; but as we approach the 21st century, the doctrine of self-determination must be considered paramount. The clear and unequivocal views of the Islanders have recently been proved by an independent and Argentinian inspired MORI survey, and President Menem must realise that we (and I speak for 96% of those interviewed) do not want to become Argentinian, either in name or reality; not now, not in the year 2000 and not in the year 3000.

In addition we see no logical reason why our geographical position should expose us to incessant bribes and threats and the offensive charm of the charm offensive. We look forward to the day when Argentina will quietly but



Chief Executive, Mr. Andrew Gurr

Photo: Lewis Photos Ltd.

sincerely, revoke her claim to the Islands as no more than a hangover from a time of insecurity and immaturity.

Last month, a writer called Ken Lukowiak visited the Islands. He had fought with 2 Para at Goose Green and subsequently written a book "The Soldier's Song". During his visit he placed a wreath on the memorial in front of the Secretariat in Stanley, and having seen the progress made since the conflict, he wrote on that wreath in tribute to his fallen colleagues: "IT WASN'T FOR NOTHING". We in the Falkland Islands Government will see that it wasn't.

A.M.Gurr.

Support from Labour Party

Speaking from Edinburgh to Penguin News, Mr. Andrew Gurr was very enthusiastic about the friendly reception he had received from senior members of the Labour Party. Mr. Gurr spent two hours with Shadow Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, and on the following day met Tony Lloyd, MP, recently appointed Labour Party spokesman on Latin America. Mr. Lloyd, who had come from a breakfast meeting with Mr. Cook, during which the Falklands was discussed, was able to assure Mr. Gurr that the Labour Party would continue to follow the same policy towards the Falklands as the Conservatives. Mr. Gurr said the Labour Party's support appeared to be solid and unequivocal. These statements, he said, were consistent with earlier reports in the Argentine press on the meeting in London of Argentine Foreign Minister, Guido di Tella and Robin Cook, at which Mr. Lloyd was present.

Falklands attends CPA

Councillors Norma Edwards and Wendy Teggart attended the June meetings of the Mediterranean region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Westminster and Belfast. Norma Edwards spoke on straddling fish stocks, while Wendy Teggart took part in panel discussions on a variety of subjects.

Councillor Wendy Teggart will attend the annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Association meeting in Sri Lanka in October.

Fishing

The Falklands closed the Illex fishery on Friday 19th May, six weeks earlier than planned, because of low stocks. The catch was less than 70,000 tons. This is similar to the catch last year, but much less than the long term average catch of 150,000 tons. Refunds will be made to Falklands licence holders. Income is higher than expected at £11million.

Argentina closed its squid fishery, according to the *bolletin oficial*, in Buenos Aires on June 5th.

Loligo squid, which lies entirely within Falklands waters, is providing a bumper catch. Blue Whiting and Hoki and longlining for Patagonian Toothfish all continue to do well.

Small Island Games

The Small Island Games are being held in Gibraltar from 15th to the 27th of July. Clay pigeon shooter, Saul Pitaluga, leads the Falklands team. Nina Aldridge and Antoinette Bendyshe will be running the half-marathon.

These will be covered in the next *Newsletter*.

Shooting

A Falklands team will take part in the Imperial Meet at Bisley this July. Islanders will shoot in the Junior Overseas, the McKinnon and the Kolapore rifle competitions at Bisley from the 20th to the 22nd of July.

The results will be covered in the next *Newsletter*.

Falklands News

Tax Appeals Tribunal.

A sign of the times. The Falklands has set up a tax tribunal to arbitrate cases where tax payers and the Revenue cannot agree.

Foreign Driving Licences OK in Falklands.

Foreign driving licences will in future be valid for one year in the Falklands. So, short term visitors will no longer have to take out a Falklands driving licence.

MPA Road

The Council has voted £3.5 million to tarmac the entire length of the Mount Pleasant Airport road. It would have cost £6 million to fill in all the dangerous ditches. This could not be afforded. These will, however, be filled in at particularly dangerous spots. Since it was built, seven people have lost their lives in accidents on the MPA road, and more than a hundred have been injured.

Open University

Open University courses will be available to people in the Falklands from next academic year. Some 200 courses will be on offer, including art, science, technology, and management. Post-graduate degrees (Masters) courses will also be offered, as well as others specially designed for professionals in education, computing, management and manufacturing techniques. 360 credit points are necessary to graduate with a bachelors degree. Normal speed is 60 credits per year. There are no entry qualifications for undergraduate courses. The Falkland Islands Government will pay the fees.

Large Flock, Large Distance

In April, Arthur Turner, assisted by Sam Sinclair and others, drove 7,000 sheep from North Arm in Lafonia to Rincon Grande in the North of East Falkland, a distance of over a hundred miles. Photo page 11.

Iron-a-thon.

The Day Centre at the King Edward Memorial Hospital was taken over by 8 ladies at 2pm on Saturday, April 4th. Armed with ironing boards they worked all afternoon in aid of the Cancer Support and Awareness Trust. Having invited Stanley residents to inundate them with ironing, that is exactly what happened. The rate was 60 pence per pound of clothing, although one lady insisted on paying £50 for 50 pounds weight of ironing. By 6pm £172 had been raised for 213 pounds of clothing ironed. The idea came from Anne Reid. Pippa Mag spelled the ironers as they tired. Alison Hughes, the Trust treasurer, did the weighing.

Seismic Station for the Falklands

Drilling began last April on the eastern brow of Mount Kent of two 9 inches wide 100 metre holes. Doing the work are Dave Dobbs and Paul Gardiner, both New Zealanders, assisted by Paul Bonner, who towed the equipment up by bulldozer and is supplying water. As the rock is crystalline basalt one meter per day is all that can be achieved.

These holes will eventually contain two seismic recorders for earthquakes studies, part of a world wide programme. Tapes from these will be sent to the Scripps Institute in San Diego each week.

The work is being carried out by the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Scientists, which is a New Zealand Government body under contract to Combined Universities of USA. Other stations are being set up on Saint Helena, Ascension and the Galapagos Islands. Another will be put in Antarctica in January next year.

New Bank.

The new Standard Chartered Bank in Stanley was opened by the Governor in May. There are now six tellers positions, an enquiry desk, and a special room for businessmen handling large sums of cash. Photo page 11.

VE Day

The Falklands celebrated VE Day on May 8th, with a service at Government House. 150 volunteers left the Islands during WW2. 24 lost their lives. The Falklands also bought 10 Spitfires by public subscription. Photos page 10.

Isla Guafo Lost

The fishing vessel *Isla Guafo* was lost by fire on June 7th. No injuries were sustained by the 37 man crew, who took to the life-rafts without panic and were picked up within 40 minutes by Sea King helicopters from MPA. The rescue was coordinated by John Clark at the Fisheries Department. The fisheries protection vessel, *Cordella*, HMS *Marlborough* and the tug *Typhoon* all went to the scene.

The *Isla Guafo* was a Chilean registered longliner, under charter to Consolidated Fisheries, a Falklands fishing consortium. Owner, Carlos Romero and Captain Augusto Olavarria, and the officers and crew, have sent formal thanks to all those involved for their efficient rescue. Even the ship's pet dogs, Conchita and Cornetta, were saved.

On June 21st, Penguin News reported the ship still adrift some 300 miles from the Falklands. Plans were in hand then to reboard it and sink it in deep water.

National Stud Flock

Saladero at Brenton Loch has been confirmed as the home for the National Stud Flock. Paragon House may be used for a caretaker.

Moto Cross

Team racing, novice racing, tag and drag racing all took place on the Two Sisters track on Sunday May 21st.

Industrial Society Courses

Some 100 civil servants and a few businessmen attended one or more of 8 Industrial Society courses run by Katrina Mann and Peter Rose from the 11th to 31st of May in Stanley. Amongst these were: managing performance, effective meetings, project management, assertiveness, negotiating, time and stress.

Iceberg

Iceberg A25, about the size of Oxfordshire, is now aground south of the Falklands, and may be there for ten years or more. James Ross Island, off the Antarctic peninsular, where the iceberg broke away, is now circum-navigable for the first time since Antarctic exploration began last century.

"The Licensing Round Will Go Ahead"

Dr. Martin talks to the Newsletter

Appointed last June as Administrator to the oil licensing team, Dr. John Martin brings a wealth of experience to the task. This includes 27 years with BP, from which he retired as General Manager of Exploration, and 9 years as Managing Director of Clyde Petroleum. He holds a visiting chair of Geology at University College, London. With that experience, he is no stranger to challenges either geological or political.

The Geology

On this he is cautious. All geologists are - or should be. Despite the favourable seismic results, no one can be sure if there is oil, and if there is, how much, until wells are drilled. This could be several years away, says Dr. Martin. In short, Dr. Martin wants the industry to go ahead and prove if there is the oil that many suspect. To achieve this, "the licensing round will go ahead", he says.

He says that oil will require shore bases in the Falklands, but that new technology means that production facilities may well be all offshore, and the Falklands will be able to influence the level of onshore activity. Islanders shouldn't worry about this, he says, even if there is no cooperation from Argentina and everything is done from the Falklands. The modern oilman is nothing like his traditional stereotype. Nor will there be a fleet of rigs. Companies are likely to share the same contract drilling ships.

The Politics

Argentina, he says, has much to gain, if it cooperates. The mainland coast would then get much of the supply activity, which could be worth a great deal. As matters stand, Argentine companies can hold up to 49% of the shares in



Dr. A.J. Martin

Photo: Lewis Photos

any consortia too - and are guaranteed no impediments. But, although it would be helpful, he has never considered that Falklands' oil exploitation needs a deal with Argentina - despite a hostile journalist giving the opposite impression recently. It's just that a peaceful environment is better than a conflictive one.

Those companies that participate in this licensing round will take part in the creaming phase of unexplored basins and they are all well aware of this. Dr. Martin sees Dr. Di Tella's threats of legal action in the US as spoiling tactics which companies will assess as part of the exploration risk.

The May Ball

The 1995 May Ball was held in traditional style in Stanley Town Hall. Ingrid Newman, was chosen as the May Queen from 12 finalists (below right), and received her bouquet from the Governor (right). The May Princess was Tanya Jaffray. The ladies chose Jan Clark as Prince Charming, with Alan Bonner as runner up.



March of the Mods. May Queen Ingrid Newman is on the right. All photos here by Penguin News



Port Egmont Revisited

By Nigel Shorrocks

In January of this year my family and I were lucky to spend a week taking a holiday on Saunders Island. As well as enjoying the peace and quiet of the island and its excellent wildlife I had another motive for the trip. That was to visit and photograph one of the most important sites of early European settlement in the Falkland Islands, the very first British settlement of Port Egmont, situated about a mile and a half north east of the present farm settlement.

As the History teacher at the Falkland Islands Community School in Stanley I wanted a photographic record of the site for use with year nine pupils when studying the history of the Falkland Islands. My task was made easier because I had with me a copy of 'An Archeological Survey of Port Egmont, Falkland Islands' by Dr. Robert Philpott of Liverpool Museum who conducted an intense survey of the remains in 1992.

Yet archeological remains, whilst fascinating in themselves, do not tell a complete story; for example they do not answer the crucial question, why was such a settlement constructed in the first place? The answer to this is to be found in the history of the voyage of Commodore Anson and a squadron of British ships into the Pacific from 1740-44 during the war of Jenkins Ear. This expedition, although successful in that Anson captured huge quantities of gold and silver from the Spanish off the coasts of South America and the Philippines, was a disaster in terms of the number of men lost through disease particularly scurvy. Only 145 men of the 1029 who sailed into the Pacific with Anson returned.

Anson knew that any future attempts to project British sea power into the Pacific on a permanent basis were likely to suffer similar losses unless a solution could be found. The solution, of course, was to find a secure base at the bottom of South America where ships' crews suffering from scurvy could re-supply with fresh vegetables, water and meat before attempting the next leg of the voyage around the Horn and on to Juan Fernandez Island in the Pacific. Anson knew of the uninhabited Falkland Islands and to this end recommended that the Islands be surveyed with a view to setting up such a way station.

European rivalries intervened in the form of the Seven Years War of 1756-63 and Anson, who rose to command the Royal Navy, never lived to see such an expedition dispatched, dying in 1762. However, at the end of the Seven Years War the Royal Navy had more time and ships to send



Above: the dock, seen over the corner of the warehouse
Below: the outer warf, with the author in the foreground.



on charting expeditions and voyages of discovery. As a result a small British Squadron consisting of HMS Dolphin (frigate), HMS Tamar (sloop), and the storeship Florida was prepared supposedly for a journey to the Far East, but in fact to survey the Falkland Islands with a view to establishing a settlement. The Commander of the squadron was Commodore John Byron who had sailed on Anson's voyage. The squadron sighted the Islands on January 12th 1765, and on the 15th entered a large sheltered anchorage between two islands and the mainland of West Falkland. Byron named it Port Egmont after the First Lord of the Admiralty.

Byron recorded '... I think it one of the finest harbours in the world.. In every part of Port Egmont there is fresh water in the greatest plenty, and geese, ducks, snipe and other birds so numerous that our people grew tired of them...'

On the 23rd, Byron went ashore on Saunders Island, named after Admiral Sir Charles Saunders and raised the Union Flag claiming the Islands for King George. The surgeon of the Tamar planted a vegetable garden and then the squadron left to continue their world voyage. At the Straights of Magellan Byron sent his storeship Florida back to Britain with his report recommending settlement.

When the Admiralty received the report they issued secret orders to send a second expedition to the Islands under the command of Captain John McBride. With the frigate Jason, the bomb vessel Carcass and the storeship Experiment he was to construct a settlement and garrison it with marines and sailors. A prefabricated wooden blockhouse some 10 metres tall was to be erected as part of the defences.



The warehouse and dock, Port Egmont



Left: The view over the ruins of the governor's house towards the ruins of the 19th century house (Above).

McBride was also to chart the Islands and look for signs of occupation by other nations and report back. McBride arrived on January 8th, 1766 and commenced construction of the settlement. Unlike Byron, he was less than impressed with the Islands yet still found time to add a little humour in his reports to the Admiralty: 'I likewise put a table spoonful of Elixir of Vitriol in their water every day.... I thought it time to discontinue the Elixir of Vitriol since my arrival here; when they (the crew) could get a fox (Warrah) down there was no necessity of a better stomach. Every person who comes this way should be well provided with guns and dogs, as his dinner in a great measure depends on it.'

McBride did discover the French at Port Louis in December 1767 but took no hostile action. He was in time replaced by Captain Hunt as commander of the settlement.

In 1769 the Spanish who had taken over the French settlement at Port Louis discovered the British at Port Egmont and became alarmed at the extent to which it had developed. The Governor of Buenos Aires sent an expedition of five ships and 1,500 soldiers and sailors to expel the British in June 1770.

The British Governor, Captain Farmer was heavily outnumbered having only one sloop, the other having been wrecked off Patagonia. Furthermore the settlement had not been prepared sufficiently for a vigorous defence and after a token resistance Farmer surrendered under protest and the British were expelled.

In September 1771 the British returned to Port Egmont to resume their occupation after the Spanish backed down under threat of war. The garrison however was to be much reduced, consisting of only 75 sailors and marines and a small shallop named the *Penguin*. Life at the settlement continued until 1774 when, no doubt due to the worsening situation in Britain's North American Colonies, the garrison was withdrawn. Lieutenant Clayton, the garrison commander left a plaque upon the blockhouse door claiming the Islands for Britain.



British grave at Port Egmont

Photos by Nigel Shorrocks and Peter Pepper

The Spanish fearful that the British would return despoiled the settlement in 1780, unroofing the buildings and probably dismantling the wooden blockhouse and using the timber for their own settlement. In a group of islands with no trees it is difficult to believe they would do otherwise. Despite this, Port Egmont continued to be used by American and British sealers. The Spanish explorer Malaspina found them there in 1790, and one building in particular at the site appears to be of 19th century construction.

The lead plaque on the blockhouse door was taken to Buenos Aires by the Spanish where it was recaptured by the British when they took the city in 1806. It was sent back to Britain with other booty and subsequently, and rather irritatingly, it disappeared.

Despite Spanish despoilation and the ravages of weather and time the remains at Port Egmont are still very impressive, consisting of buildings built of stone and peat. An impressive number of areas that were probably gardens give testimony to the amount of work that was expended to improve the lot of the garrison and any visiting vessels. Similarly, the mole in the harbour and the boat dock and warehouse give witness to the ingenuity of the men of the Royal Navy. Some of the stones used in constructing the waterfront must weigh over two tons.

Another little known fact is that despite being a military settlement there were women and children present and it is interesting to speculate whether any child was born there during this first relatively brief period of British occupation.

For me the most poignant memory of my visit to Port Egmont came on my penultimate day there when after an hour of quite exhausting search I located the graveyard further up the Northern slope of the valley around which the settlement was situated. The graves are only marked with rough uncut headstones with no inscriptions, but the view down the valley to the settlement and the waters of Port Egmont is superb. My only sadness standing there was the anonymity of the individuals interred there. However, some stories do have a happy ending; since returning to Stanley I have found their names in the October 1921 edition of the Falkland Islands Magazine and Church Paper and they are as follows:

- Mr. Thomas Harwood, July 20th 1766, HMS Jason.
- Mr. John Coulson, November 29th 1766, HMS Jason
- Andrew Ennis, Master-at-Arms, December 26th 1766, HMS Jason
- Mr. Robert Dyer, Purser, April 15th 1769, HMS Swiftsure.
- Pte William Stedfall, 1769/70, HMS Favourite/Swift.

Perhaps a plaque engraved with the names of these men will one day be erected to commemorate them.

The Falklands in Photos



The White Ensign leaves Government House after the VE Day Service

Photo: Penguin News



VE Day - Falklands Veterans watch the ceremony at Government House.

Photo: Penguin News



VE Day service on the lawn of Government House.

Photo: Penguin News



The Queen's Birthday celebrations.

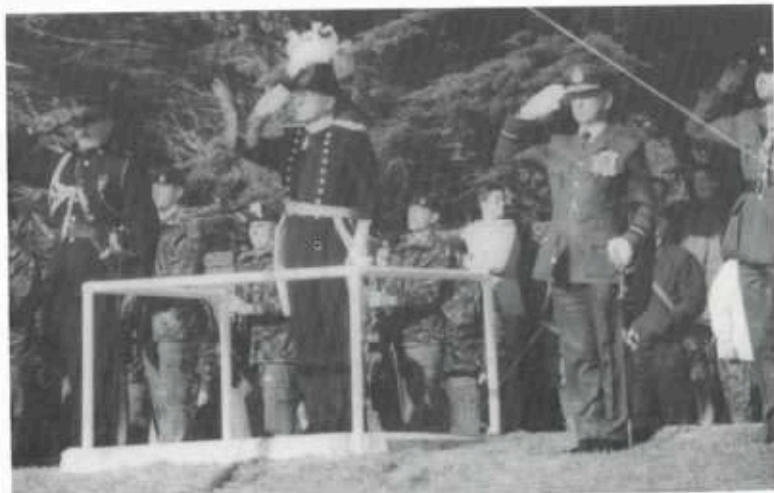
Left: Sea Cadets on parade having trouble with the breeze.

Below Left: The Governor taking the Salute at the March Past.

All Photos: Penguin News



The RAF band leading the march past on the Queen's Birthday





Newly weds, Lenny Ford and Alison Alazia. Young Jordan Phillips presents a lucky key. *Photo: Penguin News*



The New Standard Chartered Bank Building, Ross Road, Stanley. *Photo: Penguin News*



Schoolgirl Swimming Champion, Tanzi Jacobsen, Community School Swimming Pool. *Photo: Penguin News*



7,000 sheep en route from North Arm to Rincon Grande a journey of more than 100 miles. *Photo: Robin Lee*



A Landrover being lifted onboard the Tamar F.I. at Port Howard for the ferry run to Port San Carlos



Competitors wait their turn in the novelty competition, Community School Swimming Pool. *Photo: Penguin News*



The Bay of San Carlos, site of the British landing in 1982. Fanning Head is in the distance. The San Carlos settlement, site of the British cemetery and the planned satellite museum, is just visible on the right.



Blue Beach Lodge - San Carlos



Earth moving equipment working on the new road from Port Howard to Chartres



Shandwick's team on Sea Lion Island. L to R: Marcus Smith, Juliet Carey, Jacaranda Germing and Charles Skeeles. Shandwick is the new public relations consultant for the Falklands. *Photo: Shandwick*



Earth moving of a different type - Robin Lee cutting peat. *Photo: M.M.Brisley*



Right: Inside the hydroponic farm, Stanley. The covered plastic troughs for the nutritional solutions are at floor level, the cords rising from them are for the plants to climb as they grow. *Photo: P.J.Pepper*

Di Tella Steps up the Pressure

With the election over, Argentine Foreign Minister, Dr. Di Tella returned to the offensive over the Falklands - and particularly its oil development plans. He visited Britain at the beginning of June, and made a massive propaganda effort. Truth was the most obvious casualty.

FALKLANDS OIL

In his press breakfast, on June 7th, Di Tella spoke briefly about the oil discussions. He said these had reached their final and most difficult phase, and gave them only a fifty-fifty chance of success. He said Argentina had a legal team ready to act against any company involved in unilateral action by the Falklands.

FISHING - BRITAIN IRRESPONSIBLE

Di Tella said Argentina wished to preserve the common fish stock and was not interested in "predatory fishing". He said the Falklands opened their season too early, and then had to close it early. He accused Britain of an irresponsible attitude to fish conservation. It turned out that he wasn't referring to squid, which is a problem at the moment, and which some 140 Argentine boats are fishing, but Blue Whiting. Argentina has just four boats fishing for this.

Di Tella said Argentina was "exasperated" by the lack of response to its "cooperation in this field" - the *Newsletter* assumes this is yet another veiled threat to fish the common squid stocks so as to undermine Falklands fishing income, unless Argentina gets something else. Readers will be aware of past threats to do this unless Argentina gets access, communications and the right to trade in the Falklands.

MONEY FOR SOVEREIGNTY

Di Tella re-stated his offer of money to the Islanders. No figures or other details were mentioned, but on the BBC Radio Today he said £500,000 per family was about right.

Di Tella's regular offers of money are insulting, and not wanted - although they do recognise that Islanders will be the ones that will choose the future of the Falklands. Interestingly, the bribe seems to have gone down recently. Earlier offers were higher. Perhaps this shows how insincere

these offers are. Such money would be repaid many times over if Argentina could get control of Falklands oil.

The idea of paying the Islanders infuriates the average Argentine. It infuriates Islanders too. Councillor Sharon Halford commented: "He is treating us like prostitutes".

ACCESS

Di Tella excoriated the Islanders for refusing to allow Argentines to disembark in the Falklands from visiting cruise ships. But he was evasive when questioned as to whether he would allow Argentines to have their passports stamped if they were allowed to land. The *Newsletter* assumes he would have to allow this, but he told Argentine reporters later that he wants another communications agreement.

NO BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD ACT AGAINST THE ISLANDERS' WILL

Di Tella did say something, however, that we all like to hear. At his press breakfast and again on BBC "Calling the Falklands" he said Argentina knew "that no British Government would take a decision over the heads of the Islanders".

ISLANDER VISIT MISREPRESENTED

Perhaps Di Tella's most unhelpful comment was when he claimed that the recent Islander lecture tour to Argentina was official, since it had been approved by the Council - and that it was a sign of increasing Islander sympathy towards Argentina. He was later persuaded to correct this by referring to the trip as unofficial on "Calling the Falklands".

Di Tella's misrepresentation of this tour is particularly mischievous. It was a courageous act of faith, with great potential for good. It was strictly private - and was not approved by the Council, which knew about it, but took no position on it.

The two Islanders who made this tour repeatedly emphasised that there could be no normal relations between the Falklands and Argentina until it drops its claim. They did not sympathise with Argentina at all. Their act of faith is now sullied by Di Tella's attempt to use it against the Islanders. How typical of Argentina to do this.

President Menem Presses for the Falklands

Twice on the night of his election victory, President Menem repeated that the "Malvinas" would be his major foreign policy objective for his new term in office.

Then, on June 10th, *The Times* quoted President Menem saying how he thought this might be done: "It is a matter of us being able to put our feet on Malvinas soil as soon as possible" he said. "The step that would suit us best would be to share the administration, under both flags". The Foreign Office quickly rebutted this saying: "Our stand is well known; the sovereignty of the Falklands is not negotiable. There should be no doubt about that".

Although *The Times* referred to this as floating the idea, there has been a hint of it before. In *Clarín*, on Feb 10th, President Menem was reported to have discussed a three flag government for the Falklands: Argentina, the UN and Britain. He said then "anything that means that Argentines can set foot in the Malvinas is good".

Editor's Note:

The new Argentine constitution binds Argentina to get complete sovereignty over the Falklands. Thus no two or three flag government could be anything more than a stepping stone to demands for a one flag government - Argentina's flag. President Menem is well aware of this. It was he who put the claim into the constitution when it was being changed last year to allow his re-election. The Argentine constitution did not even mention the Falklands before then.

Year 2000 Again

More recently, in *La Prensa*, on June 28th, President Menem said he would continue to fight for sovereignty. He said: "We are in permanent dialogue with Great Britain and we are working out deals to reach the objective that we proposed, that is before the year 2000"

Falkland Islands Development Corporation

Development Update

Stanley Growers Limited

The past year has seen major changes at Stanley Growers.

A new 1,275 square metre (1/3 acre) greenhouse was built during the winter and came into use in October 1994. This unit is being used for all year round NFT lettuce production with some summer strawberry cropping due to start in late 1995.

Construction was carried out entirely by a local workforce with only the hydroponic system itself being commissioned by a UK engineer. The programme was not helped by the major component supplier going into receivership in mid-supply!

Improved ventilation controls and heating system allow five types of lettuce to be grown, the standard Green Butterhead, Iceberg, Lollo Rosso, Red Oak-Leaf and Endive - the latter two are of particular interest to the cruise ship market.

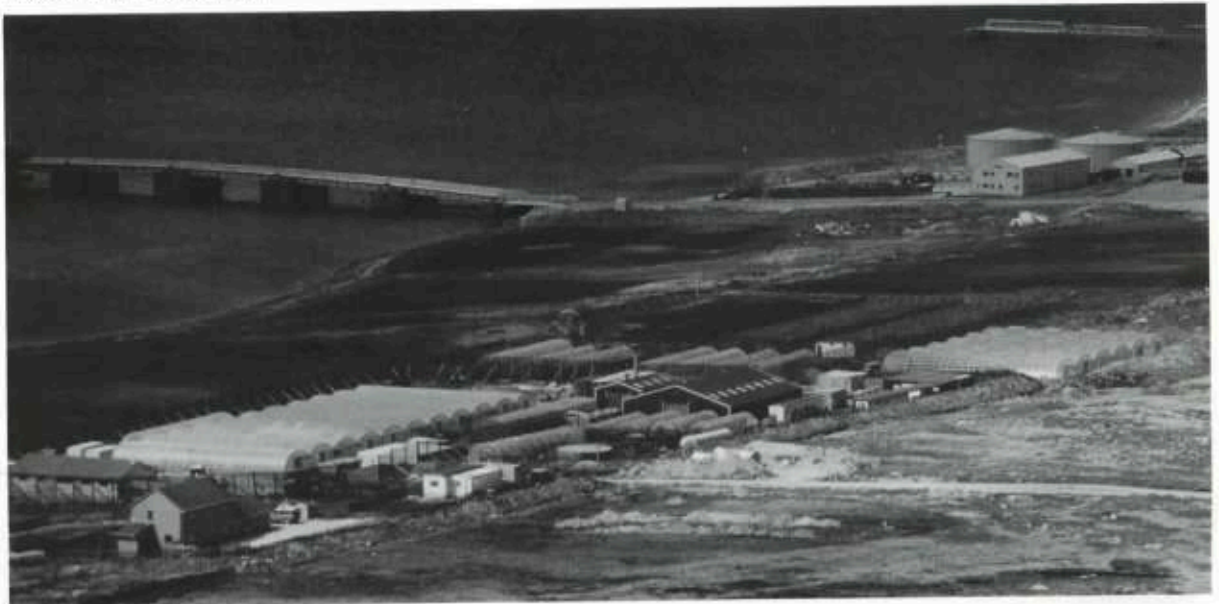
Cropping of lettuce from the old greenhouse ceased in December and an increased area of peppers and aubergines planted up to meet a major increase in demand.

The carbon dioxide enrichment system was put into full use this season and has significantly increased yields.

New over-wrapping and shrink-seal wrapping machinery is now in use to improve product presentation and the cool store unit allows Stanley Growers to hold produce at times of peak harvest.

In total Stanley Growers now have 0.85 acres of heated greenhouses for NFT system cropping, 0.2 acres polythene tunnels and 20 acres of arable farming, growing a total of 22 crop varieties in season.

Salad crops are now exported by air to Ascension Island each week and also regularly sent by air to Rothera Base in British Antarctic Territory so Falklands fresh produce is eaten from the Equator to Antarctica!



Stanley Growers Complex, Stanley. The original 11 bay greenhouse is on the left and the new 6 bay greenhouse on the extreme right. Beyond the two central buildings with pitched roofs is the 7 bay Polytunnel, which is used for radishes and spring onions and for propagating cauliflowers and cabbages. The causeway to the FIPASS, the floating dock complex, is seen on the top left and Stanley Services fuel depot at the top right.

Photo: Tim Miller

Falkland Islands Development Corporation

Development Update

Tourism Up-date

Land-based visitor numbers increased by some 49% over the 1993/94 season with 115 people travelling to the islands with tour groups and a further 80 individual visitors undertaking tours arranged by Stanley Services Ltd. This is an excellent result after four poor years; bookings for next season look good and the industry prognosis is for substantial growth.

Individual civilian/military visitor numbers booked through the MPA travel office increased by 69% from 992 in 93/94 to 1,683 in 94/95.

A total of 25 cruise vessel visits were made to the Islands during 1994/95; 10 passenger exchanges took place. The total number of passengers was 5,650, a marginal increase on the previous year.

Various tourist related projects are under development.

San Carlos Settlement

- Formation of a satellite museum based primarily upon the landings, which will include a model of the whole San Carlos area illustrating ships, anti aircraft and troop positions. This will be supported with a display by Falklands Conservation.
- Restoration of the Rapier site at Lookout Point with a shadow board to show vessel disposition on a certain date.

Ajax Bay

- Primary objective to prolong the life of the "trench art" in the old abattoir building (it is hoped to carry out repairs to the roof and cover the art with varnish);
- Supply of a generator to enable tours to be carried out in electric light;
- EOD to supply and install a 500lb parachute bomb within the operating theatre;
- Provision of information boards.

Stanley Airport

FIDC has commissioned Jamie Peck to paint a large scale wall map for mounting in the departure lounge of Stanley Airport. Pictures of wild life and lodges will be superimposed on the map and it will be supported by information and photographs.



The old abattoir in Ajax Bay which was used as a field hospital in the 1982 war and contains the "trench art" referred to above.

The Times Gets It Wrong

At the beginning of Dr. Di Tella's recent visit, on June 6th, *The Times* published an editorial "Thirteen Years On" highly critical of what it implied was a refusal by the Falklands Government to allow Argentine relatives to visit the graves of Argentine casualties in the Falklands. This editorial had the sub-title "**Argentines should be allowed to mourn their Falklands dead**". Its final sentences read:

"What it (*the Argentine Government*) finds harder is the refusal to allow visits to the graves of the 232 Argentine soldiers killed in the war. Since 1982 there has been only one brief visit of 450 people there in 1991. The Falklanders, who have been given the power to authorise all visits, are holding out against any more. This could be used to re-ignite nationalist feeling, the last thing President Menem wants now. The Falklanders should soften their hearts."

Falklands Chief Executive, Mr. Andrew Gurr, faxed a rebuttal of this to *The Times* the same day. But, it was not published until June 11th, allowing the erroneous editorial to go unchallenged throughout Di Tella's visit. We re-publish this rebuttal here, to show how ill-informed *The Times* was.

Mr. Andrew Gurr's letter to *The Times*

Sir,

Contrary to the implication of your leading article of June 6th, "Thirteen Years On", no request has been received from the Argentine Government for a further visit to the graves of the 232 soldiers buried in the Darwin military cemetery.

If one were received it would be considered in a sympathetic light. We are too conscious of the suffering of the British families whose loved ones were killed in achieving our liberation to wish to add to the pain of anyone bereaved by the 1982 conflict.

You mention a visit by the relations of those killed in the Learjet which crashed on Pebble Island on June 7th, 1982. The remains, which were discovered in January 1994, were buried with full military honours on Pebble Island last April. When they were discovered the Argentine authorities were asked whether they wished to arrange a visit by their families to the grave on Pebble Island.

No response was received and the matter appeared to lapse, until in April this year the Argentine Government brought up the question of a visit by families again. We have offered two dates in October for a visit to Pebble Island (which would include a visit to Darwin cemetery) and now await the Argentine response.

We have all along made it clear that the remains of any of the Argentine dead may be returned to Argentina at any time - as many of their families would clearly prefer. It is the Argentine Government which insists on their dead being left in the Islands - to make a political point.

As long as the Argentine sovereignty claim remains, our relations can never be normal. But that has not stopped us and will not stop us sympathising with those Argentines who have suffered directly from their Government's actions in 1982.

Yours faithfully
ANDREW GURR, June 6th.

Bodies "Bajo Bandera"

Following Mr. Gurr's letter, Argentine Ambassador Rogelio Pflirter wrote to the *The Times*, on June 12th, not challenging the truth of what Mr. Gurr had said, but making it quite clear that the Argentine government wanted unrestricted access to the Islands again for the relatives of the Argentine dead in the Falklands.

Confirmation of all this, if any were needed, is to be found in the June '94 *Newsletter*. We reported then that the relatives of the dead would make a visit to the graves on Pebble Island - although this subsequently didn't take place. We also reported the Argentine Government announcement that the relatives of the deceased "were disposed to agree that the bodies of the Argentine servicemen be buried in the Islands". These bodies, by Argentine law, belong to the state, not the relatives, as they died "bajo bandera" or under the flag. So the Government can dictate that they remain in the Falklands, where they can be used to press for access at the expense of the feelings of the bereaved relatives.

Repatriation

But, we also reported in the June '94 *Newsletter* that Alicia Brigada de Lotufo, widow of Major Lotufo, one of the dead airmen, had publicly contradicted the Argentine Defence Ministry in *Clarín*. She said she had not been consulted by any official, and wanted the body of her husband back for burial in "Argentine territory". She told *Clarín* that this was mainly for family but also political reasons, and wasn't influenced by the difficulty she might have visiting the grave in the Falklands. She was probably unaware that a visit had even been offered then.

Most of the Argentine dead are from poor families, who couldn't afford to go to the Falklands independently, even if they were allowed in. Others just want their loved ones near them. The solution is to repatriate them. There's an obvious place for them too - the Malvinas cemetery at Pilar. This has an empty grave for every Argentine casualty in the war - including those lost on the General Belgrano. It is just 35 miles outside Buenos Aires and has a direct bus service. Church services are held there every Sunday - in a replica of St Mary's Catholic Church in Stanley.

Readers may like to know that on the eve of the re-establishment of diplomatic relations in 1990, *Clarín* said that this would lead to the repatriation of the bodies.



The Malvinas Cemetery at Pilar

Photo: P.J. Pepper

Confession is Contagious

Suing the Argentine Navy last March for forcing him into crime, Capitan de Corbeta, Adolfo Scilingo told Argentine newspaper *Pagina 12* and TV show *Hora Clave* that he was on board two flights in 1977 which dumped people the military considered subversives into the sea. He said most had to be helped on board, as they were so weak because of torture and imprisonment, and that these were then drugged, stripped and thrown out one by one while unconscious. Scilingo was head of transportation at the notorious Naval School of Mechanics in Buenos Aires, and said this disposed of 15 to 20 alleged subversives this way every Wednesday for some two years! Scilingo said other murder victims were cremated in the school grounds. He also witnessed torture, which he said was routine.

TESTIMONY CONFIRMED

Scilingo's testimony added horrific detail to that given by Pernias and Rolon, two officers known to have been involved in the crimes of the dirty war, whom the Argentine government had been trying to promote. These had to give evidence to the Senate when their promotions were challenged - and, despite government pressure, refused. Scilingo said these were no more guilty than many others and alleged that all the Navy hierarchy were involved, and that participation was considered like a communion in the struggle against the subversives!

CHURCH ROLE

Scilingo said the orders came from senior officers, who joined some of the flights to give moral support, and that naval chaplains gave counselling to those involved, using scriptural references to separating "wheat from chaff". He said the Church was consulted on whether throwing drugged people out of aircraft was a Christian way of disposing of them. Apparently, the Church authorities consulted thought it was. Scilingo himself commented that it wasn't really worse than putting conscious people in front of a firing squad.

Scilingo's own role in the crimes was minimal - he wasn't even known as a perpetrator before. In any case, he can't be prosecuted, because of *Punto Final* and *Obediencia Debida*, two laws which prevent trials now for crimes committed during the "dirty war". But, neither provides immunity against civil damages, so Scilingo can be sued himself and can sue others. He said his motive was not financial, but to expose what happened during the dirty war.

SCILINGO UNRELIABLE?

In an effort to discredit Scilingo's testimony, President Menem promptly called Scilingo an "unreliable crook"¹. In 1991, he had been given a suspended prison sentence and fined \$100 for a minor fraud (buying something with a cheque drawn on a closed account). He had been expelled from the Navy for this, but only in February this year - by when it was known that he was writing a book about his

1. Adolfo Scilingo was not the only person to have been called a crook then. Last February, ex-dictator General Juan Carlos Onganía was given 15 days house arrest by a military court for calling President Carlos Menem corrupt. This was possible only because the President is head of the Armed Forces and so Onganía's comments were technically insubordination.

experiences (*El Vuelo - The Flight*). The press speculated that Scilingo might have been acting in revenge for this. He had also bought a car that turned out to be stolen, but the press said he had bought this innocently, and the accusation was just designed to smear him. Since then he has been accused of yet more frauds, all so far unproved.

The smears were of no avail. Another serviceman, Victor Ibanez, promptly stepped forward to confirm Scilingo's testimony.

CHURCH SINNED?

The Argentine Navy was said to have been traumatised by these revelations, and Church involvement in the murders and the choice of the method provoked much comment too. *Clarín* reported Bishop Joaquin Piña saying: "To ask forgiveness for "the attitude of complicity" of some priests during the dictatorship should not produce shame. It is the least that can be done". Bishop Laguna, an outspoken critic of Britain during the Falklands War, said: "If any member of the Church supported those things, he committed a most grave sin against the most clear Catholic doctrines".

PRESIDENT MENEM CHANGES SIDES

President Menem had spent most of his first term of office appeasing the Argentine military. He had amnestied men who had committed these crimes, supported the promotion of others who were still serving, and even described the "Dirty War" as justified. But, on April 4th, with the election approaching, he finally jumped on board the band-wagon and admitted to personal knowledge of what the military did from his time as a prisoner on a naval ship in the River Plate. Talking to *Pagina 12*, Menem said: "**At night, we could see rows of prisoners, with hoods covering their faces, being brought on board. Next we heard horrific screams from the galleys below, that were used as torture chambers**". He added: "**bodies were regularly flushed down the river**". He went on to urge everyone to confess their crimes rather than have these revealed piecemeal.

ARGENTINE FORCES CONFESS ALL!

Prompted by President Menem, the Argentine forces finally admitted their murders. General Martin Balsa, head of the Armed Forces, casually admitted Argentina had "used extra-legal measures" during the struggle against terrorism. Then General Paulik "confessed" on behalf of the Air Force. Finally, Admiral Pico did the same for the Navy - the chief culprit. The Church is likely to make its confession in secret.

NOTHING CHANGES

Perhaps you thought it was all over. Not a bit of it. This month, the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo protested at consideration of yet another promotion for Captain Alfredo Astiz, the not very gallant defender of South Georgia, who was more successful in murdering Swedish teenager Dagmar Hagelin and Leonie Duquet and Alice Dumon, the two French nuns who were thrown out of his helicopter.

French Ambassador, Renaud Vignal, described his possible promotion as "shocking" and enquired "if being a murderer is a moral condition for promotion in the Argentine Navy". President Menem replied: "I would never have referred in that way to a decision of the French Government"

Obituaries

Viscount Thurso

Lord Thurso was a Vice President of The Friends of the Falkland Islands, the members organisation which in the early 1970s was formed to support the work of the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee and which grew into the Falkland Islands Association. When the Association was formed and the Falkland Islands Office was established, Lord Thurso accepted the Vice Presidency of the Association. At his own request to his party he represented the Liberal Party in our councils.

Lord Thurso came of a Caithness family with a long tradition of improvement of acid peat soil over hard rock (mainly sandstone) with clay pockets. The climate and conditions in much of Caithness are very comparable with Lafonia.

His family, the Sinclairs, had produced fertile and productive farmland by deep ploughing to mix the underlying clay with peat and sand, where available. Land improvement in Caithness was his lifetime occupation and discussion with him produced suggestions for the use of the northern variety of barley, known as "beer", as a feed crop and the introduction of root crops, and particularly fodder radish, as a means of increasing the sheep carrying capacity of land in the Falklands.

Ronnie Sampson, formerly Chief Executive in the Falklands and now Chief Executive of the port of Scrabster represented the Association at the funeral.

E.W.H.C.

FALKLANDS EXPERIENCE

come with me
to see the
FALKLAND ISLANDS
and meet
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ISLANDERS

15th to 28th January, 1996

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

Richard Goold-Adams CBE

It was with great regret that we heard that Richard Goold-Adams, the first Chairman of the S.S. Great Britain Project had died on March 23rd, 1995.

It is not surprising that from the beginning Richard had many close contacts first with the members of the Falkland Islands Committee and more recently with the Falkland Islands Association. It was at the Falkland Islands Company offices, then at 120 Pall Mall, that in April 1968 Goold-Adams first met Dr. Ewan Corlett, whose letter to the Times in 1967 was the catalyst that started the salvage of the old ship, then the property of the Falkland Islands Company. Indeed, the newly formed S.S. Great Britain Project used the Falkland Islands Company, of which Frank Mitchell was then Company Secretary, as their first mailing address and it was to there that the public's first donations were sent.

The Falkland Islands Emergency Committee was being formed then, with Frank Mitchell and Bill Hunter-Christie as joint Secretaries, also using the Company as its first office address, so it was inevitable that there should be contact, close at times, between two organisations both focused on the Falkland Islands, but yet with entirely different aims.

While the S.S. Great Britain was brought back to Bristol for restoration in 1970, the Emergency Committee, now renamed the UK Falkland Islands Committee grew in stature, and started to hold the annual Reception at Lincoln's Inn to which important and influential people were invited. At the July 1977 Reception we were honoured to have Lord Louis Mountbatten as our VIP guest and I well remember being button-holed by Richard Goold-Adams who asked to be introduced to Lord Louis. This we were pleased to arrange, and the very next day Lord Louis went down to visit the ship in her dock in Bristol, which resulted in further important promotion for the Project. In return for this service, at a time when the Falkland Islands Committee was getting desperate for financial backing, I asked Richard Goold-Adams for an introduction to Jack Hayward, whose generous funding had enabled the salvage of the S.S. Great Britain. This was our first contact with Jack Hayward who was later so generous to the Falkland Islands Association, as well as the Islands themselves, and is now one of the Vice-Presidents of the Falkland Islands Association.

Apart from the S.S. Great Britain Project, Richard Goold-Adams will be remembered as the deputy to the first Editor-in-Chief of ITN, as one of the four founding members of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, of which he became chairman of the council, and as a member of the council of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House).
R.N.S.

Teaberry Express

Teaberry Express is an independent and unsubsidised newspaper, based in Stanley.

Teaberry Express costs £70 in the UK, including airmail. Would be readers should write to Miss Juanita Brock, Flat 5, 1 Jeremy Moore Ave. East, Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I want to apologise for being so long in saying thank you for all your news about the Falklands and the Islanders. I have been ill. I am 73 years old, and my eyesight is not too good. I do hope and pray that the Falklands will always stay British. It would be a sad day if Argentina should rule. Please God don't let that happen

Yours Lily Barron

Miles Apart

New & secondhand books on South Atlantic islands

We can supply by mail order most in print books on Ascension, Falklands, St Helena, South Georgia and Tristan. We also have maps, postcards, videos, secondhand books and beautifully illustrated National Geographics. **SEND FOR OUR FREE LIST** which has 400 items about these islands and the South Atlantic.

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		£
Robert Armstrong	<i>Darwin's Desolate Islands</i>	25.00
Robert Barnes	<i>Postal Services of the Falklands</i>	8.00
Tom Beaty	<i>Falkland Islands Interlude</i>	5.50
Julian Fisher	<i>Walks/Climbs in the Falklands</i>	4.25
T Davies & J McAdam	<i>Wildflowers of the Falklands</i>	4.25
Dorothy Evans	<i>Schooling in the S. Atlantic</i>	17.95
M E Greenway	<i>The Geology of the Falklands</i>	12.50
Robert Headland	<i>The Island of South Georgia</i>	22.50
H & F Heyburn	<i>Postcards of the Falklands</i>	14.00
C Layman & J Cameron	<i>The Falklands and the Dwarf</i>	26.50
Tim Simpson	<i>Cooking the Falklands Way</i>	11.50
John Smith	<i>Those Were The Days</i>	4.25
E. Southby-Tailour	<i>Falkland Island Shores</i>	14.95
Angela Wigglesworth	<i>Falklands People</i>	15.50
Shane Wolsey	<i>Old Falkland Photos</i>	7.00
	<i>Falkland Islands Journals (recent years)</i>	5.50/6.50

Ian & Alison Mathieson 5, Harraton House Exning Newmarket Suffolk CB8 7HF, UK Tel: 0638-577627	Laurence & Melitta Carter 6025 Cheshire Drive Bethesda Maryland 20814 USA Tel: 301-571-8942
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Correction

In our last *Newsletter*, the advertisement/article on the Falklands Agency in Wells stated that this was the only source of Falklands wool in Britain.

It has been drawn to our attention that this is not correct. Falklands Mills of Fox Bay has been selling Falklands wool for three and half years now through its outlet:

Focus Knitting,
4 Elm Court,
Crystal Drive,
Sandwell Business Park,
Smethwick,
West Midlands B66 1RD

Tel: 0121-552-5053 Fax: 0121-544-9699

The *Newsletter* apologises to Falklands Mills and Focus Knitting for this error.

Croydon Exhibition

Readers are reminded that the Croydon Exhibition organised by Brian Paul and Annabelle Spencer of the Falklands Agency in Wells, and assisted by Geoffrey Moir, will take place from the 25th September to the 7th October at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon (but not on Sunday, Oct 1st).

The exhibition will be open from 10am to 10pm and includes a Falklands philatelic display by Geoffrey Moir, Falklands Films, Books, Spinning Demonstrations and Falklands Knitwear.

Admission is free.

Falklands Education Success

Our congratulations go out to the following Islanders who have all just got honours degrees: Tom Blake who gets a 2:1 in Marketing from Stirling; Emma Edwards who gets a 2:1 in Geology from Queen's, Belfast; and Stephen Luxton who gets a 2:2 in Geology from Durham.

Students for Peter Symmonds

Last year, 15 students qualified for further education in Britain. This year, 13 students qualify.

Altogether, thirty students sat GCSE in the Falklands this year. Every full-time student achieved at least three passes. Twenty-six got five or more. Six students achieved 8 or more passes at grade A to C. Four students got starred passes (outstanding) at grade A: Dion Poncet and Katie Diggle in Biology, Rachel Fowler in Geography, Alastair Summers in Agriculture. Dion Poncet got 6 A grades!

Newsletter News

Plans to convert the *Newsletter* to a colour magazine with more advertisements have been postponed.

It was felt that the present circulation was inadequate to justify this, and that the *Newsletter* might lose the ability to cover fast moving political events. Our thanks go out to all those who contributed ideas and comment to the debate.

Members who pay by cheque annually are reminded that the Association's preferred means of payment is a bankers order.

BANKERS ORDER

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Branch

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

Account Number

Name

Address

.....

Signature Date

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



The Cairn in Bold Cove, West Falkland, marking the spot where Captain John Strong made the first recorded landing in the Falklands in 1690.

The Falkland Islands Association

President: The Rt. Hon. the Lord Braine of Wheatley.

Vice Presidents: General Sir Peter de la Billiere KCB, KBE, DSO, MC, MSC, DL, The Hon. L.Buxton, Sir Cosmo Haskard KCMG, MBE, Sir Jack Hayward OBE, Mr. A.Monk OBE, Mr. C.E.Needham CBE, Major R.N.Spafford, Admiral of the Fleet Sir William Staveley GCB, Councillor R.E.Walker.

Chairman: Sir Rex Hunt CMG.

Vice Chairman: Mr. R.Elgood.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. M.Christie.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E.C.J.Clapp.

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 quarterly 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 and Trading Organisations, minimum £50, Corporate Sponsorship £500)

I/We enclose cheque/P.O. for.....
(made payable to the Falkland Islands Association)

Full Name

Address

Occupation.....Telephone Number

Connection with the Falklands, if any

Signature Date

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

Dates For Your Diary

Saturday, 26th August,
Falkland Islanders Reunion, Ham

25th September to 7th October
Falklands Exhibition, Fairfield Halls, Croydon.

Saturday, 2nd December
Battle Day and AGM, Whitehall

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, and other Commonwealth and foreign Countries. 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.

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