



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufon Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 1

November 1983

FALKLANDS IMMIGRATION POSITIVE

Since the restoration of British administration in June 1982, 35 Falkland Islanders have left to settle elsewhere and 57 had returned by October 1983, a net "gain" of 22. In September, there were 224 visitors to the Islands, excluding MoD and contractors' personnel. Monthly figures are compiled by the Chief Police Officer (ships) and the RAF Police (air travellers). A small number of UK citizens have also made new lives in the Islands, although accommodation remains a problem for other intending immigrants.

COUNCILLORS ACTIVE AT UN AND CPA: OAS WANTS TALKS

Falkland Island Legislative Councillors have been lobbying delegates to the UN General Assembly in New York and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) meeting in Nairobi. John Cheek (West Stanley) and Tony Blake (Camp), who spoke to the UN "decolonisation" committee during the summer, returned to New York in early November to address the plenary session debate on a motion requiring the governments of Argentina and Great Britain "to resume negotiations in order to find as soon as possible, a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands." The subsequent vote, little changed since last year, was 87 for, 9 against and 54 abstentions. The Foreign Office regarded the vote as a defeat for the Argentine. Last year the vote was 90 for, 12 against and 52 abstentions. In a separate move, the Organisation of American States expressed concern about the lack of progress in a resumption of talks between Britain and Argentina, but eight Commonwealth Caribbean countries abstained because the resolution did not mention the Islanders' right of self-determination.

Meanwhile, Tim Blake (West) travelled to Nairobi for the CPA's annual conference which began in the Kenyan capital on October 22 and ended on November 5. Mr. Blake spoke during the "World Security" debate, stressing the vulnerability of smaller states and the inability of the United Nations to provide real security guarantees.

FISHING VESSELS GATHER AGAIN: LEGCO WANTS 200 MILE-LIMIT

Fishing vessels from many nations have resumed activity in waters around the Falkland Islands. Before the 1982 conflict, many trawlers, from Poland in particular, were fishing in the area. Now, we understand, between 90 and 120 vessels from Eastern Europe, Japan, West Germany, Italy and Spain are fishing for squid, hake and blue whiting. The Falkland Islands Government is appointing two fisheries inspectors to join trawlers in the Taiyo consortium, which is conducting a two-year survey.

The Falkland Islands have no effective fisheries zone but pressure is growing for a declaration of a limit to match that of their South American neighbours. The British Government is currently considering the proposal. The revenue from licences, coupled with the conservation measures and self-policing by the licence-holders are seen as a practical and non-controversial way forward.

Waters around the Falkland Islands and the Dependencies are regarded by scientists as the largest remaining resource in the world, but already stocks of certain species are declining. The Taiyo consortium reports that Antarctic cod stocks are considerably down since their last survey five years ago. The Falkland Islands Legislative Council strengthened its call for a 200-mile limit during a meeting on November 22.

COI REISSUES FALKLAND FACT SHEET

The Central Office of Information has reissued its comprehensive fact sheet "The Falkland Islands and Dependencies", which is now dated September 1983. French and Spanish versions are in preparation. (01-928 2345)

US OFFICE FOR FALKLAND ISLANDS STAMPS

To cope with the worldwide demand for Falkland Islands stamps, the Crown Agents have set up offices in the US and Britain. Details from: Falkland Islands Philatelic Bureau, PO Box 123, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1ER.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTED

Mr. David Taylor, an executive of Booker McConnell plc, has been appointed as Chief Executive to the Falkland Islands Government for a three-year term, a post recommended by Lord Shackleton, author of two economic reports on the Falkland Islands. Mr. Taylor will be responsible to Sir Rex Hunt, the Civil Commissioner. He will head the Development Corporation and local administration.

SATELLITE LINK FOR ISLANDS

A new £2M communications project has been completed in the Falkland Islands by Cable and Wireless to handle telephone and telex, computer data and television signals. A large dish antenna in Stanley can bounce signals off Intelsat 5, a satellite 22,300 miles above the South Atlantic.

INSHORE FISHERIES ADVISER SOUGHT

The appointment of a part-time fisheries adviser to help with negotiations leading to a commercial inshore fisheries operation has been agreed by Exco, the Executive Council.

FOX BAY WOOLLEN MILL: MORE DETAILS NEEDED

The Overseas Development Association has asked for additional information about the proposed Fox Bay woollen mill. Island Councils are hoping for an early decision.

SAVINGS BANK HANDS OVER TO STANDARD CHARTERED

Standard Chartered Bank plc, Britain's largest individual international bank opens its branch in Stanley on 1 December. The branch is under the management of Mr. Archie Mitchell and is the Falkland Islands's first commercial bank. Standard Chartered Bank has been appointed banker to the Falkland Islands Government and has also taken over the functions of the former Government savings bank. It offers a full range of banking services and is linked by telex with the worldwide network of the Standard Chartered group.

ARGENTINA VOTES AGAINST THE PERONISTS

Elections at the end of October in Argentina produced a victory for the Radical party under Raul Alfonsin (56). The Peronists under the current leadership of Italo Luder did less well than expected and lost several key provincial governorships. Spokesmen for the Radical party have said that Argentina will seek a peaceful settlement of the Falklands dispute based on Argentine sovereignty.

In reply to a question from Dr. David Owen MP, the SDP leader, in the House of Commons on November 1, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said of the Argentine elections:

"We are always pleased when a country returns to democracy. There can be no question about that. I hope, now that that country has returned to democratic ways, it will be prepared to consider better economic and commercial relations between itself and Britain. As to sovereignty, the Falkland Islands are a British sovereignty and although the Rt. Hon Gentleman said that that should not be the touchstone, the House has always regarded the touchstone for the Falkland Islands as the wishes of the Islanders. They, too, have a right to self-determination and have made clear their view that they should remain British."

COMMITTEE ON SUBDIVISION OF SAN CARLOS FORMED

Exco has set up a sub-committee to advise on subdivision of the farm.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#02

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 2

December 1983

MESSAGES EXCHANGED BETWEEN LONDON AND BUENOS AIRES Mrs Thatcher sent a message welcoming Senor Raul Alfonsin to the Argentine presidency on December 10. The message, accompanied by a memorandum setting out her views said: "On the occasion of your inauguration, I wanted to let you know that, although we have many differences, we can all take pleasure in the restoration of democracy to Argentina, believing it will bring freedom and justice to all your people. Today brings new hope to your country." In his reply Sr. Alfonsin said: "I recognise there were differences between us. But in the words of the English proverb, "where there's a will there's a way"".

Monsieur Pierre Mauroy, the French Prime Minister, told the Buenos Aires newspaper CLARIN (December 9) that France had never recognised British sovereignty over the Falklands. "We are disposed to press for initiatives leading to a resolution of the dispute by peaceful means", he said. Portugal's Prime Minister offered to act as intermediary in any talks.

LEGCO NOTES The Legislative Council motion on November 22 calling for a fisheries protection zone was reported in Issue 1 of FALKLAND FOCUS. This was the text: "That this House request Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to take note and the earliest action to implement a Fisheries Protection Zone of 200 miles around the Falkland Islands or such lesser distance to this median line where Falkland waters impinge on other Exclusive Economic Zones to control the unlimited fishing at present taking place and prevent further damage to fish stocks in these waters. Also to provide revenue which will guarantee a balanced budget in the future and provide funds for the further development of these Islands."

Sir Rex Hunt's address: The Civil Commissioner's address, as chairman of Legco, included the following comments (the full text is available from the FIG London office): "As Hon Members know, the right of self-determination is enshrined in the UN Charter. It is this right that the Argentines refuse to recognise for the people living in the Falkland Islands. They say that they will look after the Islanders' interests; but they decide what those interests are. We have no such double standards in this House. We welcome the return of democratic government to Argentina. At long last the people of this trouble-torn country have exercised the right to be governed by leaders of their own choosing. All we ask is that Falkland Islanders be allowed to do the same."

Cost of Brewster Houses: In a written reply to a question by Cllr John Cheek the Chief Secretary gave the following breakdown of the cost of the fifty-four "Brewster" houses in Stanley:

£ .455M	plant
1.989M	cost of housing (Sweden) and contents (UK)
648M	erection
350M	management fee
<u>£ 3.442M</u>	

The total project estimate is £7.2M, including £1.6M for shipping etc, £1.2M for local costs and new services and £600,000 for variation orders, claims and contingencies, some of which will be to Brewsters account.

CHIEF SECRETARY

- 3 JAN 1984

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Rehabilitation funds: The Chief Secretary gave details of how the £15M British Government rehabilitation money was being spent in a written reply to Mr Terry Peck:

Housing (Brewsters)	£7.2	M
3 aircraft for FIG Air Service (FIGAS)	.85	M
Stanley road repairs	2.5	M
Public Works Department plant etc	2.0	M
PWD expenditure on repairs etc to power, water, FIGAS facilities	1.0	M
Initial supplies of fuel and building materials	.4	M
Materials supplied by MoD in Port Stanley	.1	M
Government department inventory replacement claims	.6	M
Miscellaneous surveys, repairs etc	.35	M
	<hr/>	
	£15.00	M

USA CLEARS ARMS SALES TO ARGENTINA US President Ronald Reagan lifted on December 8 a 1978 arms embargo on Argentina imposed by his predecessor because of human rights transgressions. A State Department spokesman said: "No arms transfers are contemplated that would increase the prospects of renewed conflict either in the Falklands/Malvinas or the Beagle Channel areas." In the House of Commons on December 9, Mr. Ray Whitney (Under Secretary of State, FCO) said: "We have been glad to note the public assurance by the US Defence Secretary that the US Administration will exercise caution about the resumption of major new supplies to Argentina and will not supply weapons which could be used to attempt a new invasion of the Falkland Islands."

The Daily Telegraph reported on December 9 that Argentina was experimenting to produce nuclear weapons, based on a new capacity to make enriched uranium.

BATTLE DAY CEREMONIES IN STANLEY AND LONDON Falkland Islands "Battle Day" - the national day commemorating the naval battle of the Falkland Islands in 1914 - was marked by wreath-laying ceremonies in Stanley and London. On December 8, after a service in Stanley Cathedral and wreath-laying at the Battle Memorial, the Services held an Open Day with displays, exhibitions and sports. A reception and dance were held later in the Town Hall. In London, a ceremony took place on December 10 at the Cenotaph. Wreaths were laid by Mr. Adrian Monk OBE, FIG Representative; Captain Nicholas Barker CBE RN, former commander of HMS Endurance; and Mr. E.W. Hunter Christie, chairman of the Falkland Islands Association, which arranged the ceremony.

LORDS DEBATE FALKLANDS On December 6, the House of Lords debated Lord Buxton's motion "calling for attention to the importance of the Falkland Islands and other British islands in the South Atlantic; and in particular to the need to review the progress of economic and social development in the Falkland Islands following the Argentine aggression of 1982." Among the speakers during the 4½ hour debate were Lords Shackleton, Cledwyn, Gladwyn, Stewart, Kimberley, Kennet, Mottistone, Annan, Montgomery, Thurso, Morris, Bishopston and Lady Vickers. Lady Young replied for the Government. Subjects covered included land reform, the strategic value of the Islands, the possibility of a fisheries zone, constitutional reform, the Antarctic and relations with the incoming Argentine Government.

FALKLANDS PLAY DEBATED AT ROYAL COURT THEATRE The controversial play "Falklands Sound" which is hostile to the conflict and which received Arts Council subsidies for its run at Plymouth, has returned to the Royal Court Theatre, London. To publicise the play, a debate was held after its second performance on December 14. The speakers were Tam Dalyell MP, Simon Winchester, Anthony Buck MP and Peregrine Worsthorne. Mr. Adrian Monk was allowed to speak for six minutes on behalf of the Islanders.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 3

January 1984

NO TALKS ON SOVEREIGNTY SAYS LADY YOUNG Baroness Young (Minister of State FCO) left the Falklands on January 17 after a week's visit. At a press conference she said: "The British government is not going to negotiate the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands. We would like to see better bilateral relations with Argentina because we can see in a number of areas where there could be a way forward, for example in economic development or commercial development, but we are not going to negotiate sovereignty." Questioned about the possibility of an exclusive fisheries zone, Lady Young said: "As a government we understand the concern of the Falkland Islanders about this. I've had it put to me very clearly both in Stanley and in Camp that the Falkland Islanders would like to see a two-hundred mile fishing limit. They know that there are concerns that the stock of fish could run out within a given period of time. The government are mindful of these points; we are actively considering it. It is a rather more complicated situation than many people realise and that is why it has taken longer to reach a decision than some people might have thought. But I would like to assure you that it is being actively considered at the highest level." During her visit, Lady Young undertook 55 separate visits and engagements, including meetings with the joint councils.

DEFENCE SECRETARY FLIES DIRECT TO UK Mr. Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, also visited the Falkland Islands to see the British forces there for himself. He said of his three-day visit: "I was immensely impressed with the dedication, ingenuity and personal commitment of the British armed forces." Mr. Heseltine travelled around the Islands, visiting various units. The forces' role is described in the latest newsletter of the King's Own Border Regiment, which was deployed there from July-December 1983: "Since the end of the conflict in 1982, Argentina has steadfastly refused to acknowledge an end to hostilities. As a result the British Forces in the Falkland Islands have to maintain a high state of readiness and alertness. By our presence we deterred but we had to have the ability to deflect and defeat any Argentinian invasion or incursion." Following Mr. Heseltine's visit and an apparent reduction in tension between Britain and Argentina, some scaling-down of the British forces was expected. The 1,200 Royal Engineers' deployment will end in April, The Times reported on January 26.

After his visit - where he overlapped briefly with Lady Young - Mr. Heseltine flew back to RAF Brize Norton non-stop in a record-breaking 17 hour flight. During the 8,000 mile trip, the Nimrod aircraft refuelled three times in mid-air.

NEW FALKLAND STAMPS FEATURE INSECTS AND SPIDERS Islands artist Ian Strange has designed the new set of definitives issued on January 3. Among the series of 15, ranging in value from 1p to £3.00, are illustrations of the Green Spider, Brocade Moth, Black Beetle, Southern Painted Lady and Queen of the Falklands Fritillary. The stamps are printed by Questa.

FALKLANDS CONFLICT WAS "BOON TO NATO" - LUNS Dr. Joseph Luns, who hands over to Lord Carrington as NATO secretary general shortly says that the Falklands conflict was a boon to NATO. In "Jane's Defence Weekly" he says: "If in Moscow the impression had become so certain that never, whatever the provocation or circumstances, never would you use force to redress blatant injustice, it would be very bad for West Berlin."

CONSULTANCIES Two consultancy teams have recently arrived in Stanley: Peat Marwick Mitchell, who are FIG's auditors, are carrying out a twelve week assignment to improve the efficiency of the Treasury and to consider the possibility of computerisation. Rendel Palmer & Tritton (consulting engineers) are undertaking a study on the feasibility of improving port facilities. Both have been engaged by the Overseas Development Administration under British aid arrangements.

NEW POST OFFICE AT MOUNT PLEASANT For the first time in 75 years a new Post Office is to be opened in the Falkland Islands, at the new airport. The opening in March is to be commemorated by the issue of a special cover. With an initial staff of two, it will be connected to Stanley by radio link with FIGAS, which began operation to the site on December 19, when a dirt strip was commissioned at East Cove, 5 miles from the airport site. An improved strip is expected to be completed at the airport site itself in the near future.

NO HURRY ON FALKLANDS INITIATIVES SAYS LABOUR LEADER Mr. Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, told listeners to the BBC's "Calling the Falklands" programme on January 31 that his party will be urging the government "to take very serious note of the initiatives being offered by the Alfonsin Government and that they are prepared to make a response without setting any close time limits". He said: "I don't think there's a hurry about this as far as the Argentinians or as far as the British Government is concerned," but commented that the "Fortress Falklands" policy is over the long-term unsustainable.

SELECT COMMITTEE TO REEXAMINE FALKLANDS The Foreign Affairs Select Committee's earlier report on the Falkland Islands was not completed because of the general election. It will now be re-examining the oral and written evidence submitted to the previous committee in their inquiry into British foreign policy in relation to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies and adjacent South American States. The Falkland Islands Government London Representative, Mr. Adrian Monk, will be presenting a memorandum on February 15 and appearing before the committee chaired by Sir Anthony Kershaw MC MP. Its members are (Conservative) Ivan Lawrence QC MP, Jim Lester MP, Mark Robinson MP, Rt. Hon Norman St. John Stevas MP, Rt. Hon Peter Thomas QC MP, Bowen Wells MP and (Labour) Dennis Canavan MP, Ian Mikardo MP, Nigel Spearing MP and Michael Welsh MP.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE FORCE REEQUIPPED During the war almost all the FIDF arms and equipment were lost. Since then the Force has been reequipped with generous assistance from the MoD. The present strength is about 100 with 35 members in Stanley. FIDF holds regular drill nights as well as taking part in training exercises with the British forces. Operational roles include the protection of key points in Stanley, observation and reconnaissance and assisting British forces with their local knowledge.

VISIT OF TOURIST SHIPS Between mid-November and mid-January, MV Lindblad Explorer visited Stanley three times and MV World Discoverer twice. Each ship carries around 100 passengers. As well as spending a day in Stanley they also visited New Island, Carcass Island and West Point before sailing for South Georgia and Antarctica.

WILDLIFE LINK WITH BRITAIN Sir Peter Scott and Sir Rex Hunt are to be trustees of a new charity linking Falklands wildlife with a Cotswolds bird sanctuary. The Birdland and Jason Island Foundation is being set up by Mr. Richard Hill of Bourton on the Water, son of Mr. Len Hill, the "Penguin Millionaire".

DICK BAKER CBE Dick Baker, who was Chief Secretary of the Falkland Islands from 1979 to 1983 and on occasions Acting Governor/Civil Commissioner, was awarded the CBE in the New Year's Honours.

REPORTS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY FIG Reports on Stanley's electrical power (by the Crown Agents), on Salmon Ranching (by the University of Stirling Institute of Aquaculture) and on Tree Planting (by Dr. A.J. Low of the Forestry Commission) are all under consideration by FIG.



Falkland FOCUS

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office

29 Tufon Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 4

February 1984

BRITISH/ARGENTINE LINKS DESIRABLE, SAYS ADRIAN MONK In the light of current speculation about UK/Argentine relations, Mr. Adrian Monk, Falkland Islands Government Representative in London, reinforced his evidence* to the Foreign Affairs Select Committee - in which he urged a resumption of diplomatic and trade links between Britain and Argentina - in a letter to The Times published on February 24. He stressed that the Islands should not be a pawn in any talks.

Sir,

Whilst it is desirable that there be improved diplomatic and commercial relations between Great Britain and Argentina, it is too early to talk of opening links between the Falkland Islands and Argentina and we feel strongly that the Falkland Islands should not be used as a pawn in any bilateral negotiations.

We would welcome the opportunity of re-establishing communications and trading links with Chile and Uruguay. It is important, of course, that the Falkland Islands Government is as far as possible kept continuously advised of all developments in this area.

When the Falkland Islands have had a period of peaceful reconstruction and development the Government and people will be able more clearly to assess their position and decide how they wish their political future to develop; in other words, exercise their right of self-determination.

Mr. Monk appeared before the Select Committee on February 15. It is examining 'progress towards the restoration of diplomatic and commercial relations between the United Kingdom and Argentina since June 1982' and 'the future constitutional and economic development of the Falkland Islands' in the light of developments since Britain's general election, and that of Argentina, during 1983.

The British Government recently put some specific ideas to the Argentine through Switzerland for the development of more normal bilateral relations, Mr. Ray Whitney (FCO) told MPs in a written answer on February 22, but "we will not, however, enter into talks about the transfer of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands to Argentina" he said.

*copies of the Falkland Islands Government's memorandum are available from the London office.

EURO-MPS FOCUS ON FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION Two British members of the European Parliament have been visiting the Falkland Islands during February and have concentrated their attention on the region's natural resources.

Mr. Bob Battersby (Humberside, EDG), formerly a European Commission official responsible for fisheries, returned to London on February 11 after an active visit which included discussions with some of the Eastern bloc fishermen currently working around the Falkland Islands three-mile limit. His experience will help to shape attitudes towards the declaration of an exclusive fisheries zone, policing and revenue. Further south, his colleague, Stanley Johnson (Hampshire & Isle of Wight, EDG) was spending some time aboard the British Antarctic Survey ship JOHN BISCOE and identified Russian trawlers taking advantage of the 'free-for-all' in the southern oceans. "I counted at least 11 Soviet trawlers in an area within a 10-mile radius" he told Daily Telegraph reporter Adrian Berry. Mr. Johnson is a conservationist whose campaign to outlaw seal-harvesting led to an EEC ban on seal imports. He estimates that 250,000 tonnes of fish are being taken from Falkland waters each year.

AMMUNITION CLEARANCE CONTINUES More than 18 months after the Falklands conflict, men of the Explosive Ordnance Demolition detachment, Royal Engineers 33 Engineer Regiment (EOD) are still discovering Argentine weapons and ammunition at a rate of about 1,000 items a day. So far, nearly two and a half million items of ammunition have been found. The bulk of it is small arms ammunition, but there have also been 12,000 shells, nearly 5,000 grenades and rockets, 21,000 mortar rounds and 2,700 mines. In all, the EOD units have cleared about 35,000 acres of battlefield debris, but huge tracts of land around Stanley are still known to contain mines.

ANTARCTIC TREATY NATIONS CONSIDER MINERALS REGIME While environmentalists call for a "world park" to be declared in Antarctica's 5.4 million square miles, the 16 nations with effective decision-making powers are working towards the adoption of a minerals regime and are stepping up their hydrocarbon research programmes. The consultative parties under the Antarctic Treaty, which elapses in 1991, are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, United States, with Poland, West Germany, Brazil and India. They will meet in Tokyo in May.

JUNTA MEMBERS ARRESTED The supreme council of the Argentine armed forces, a six-man court, has arrested the three leading members of the junta which ordered the invasion of the Falkland Islands. General Leopoldo Galtieri, Admiral Jorge Anaya and Brigadier Lamí Dozo are being court-martialled for their role in the 1982 conflict and also on separate charges of authorising widespread abuse of human rights.

ISLANDS POLL SHOWS FIRM OPINIONS A public opinion poll carried out by the Daily Express and published on February 27 shows that Islanders' opinions are as strongly held as ever. The survey was sent to 1200 electors, and 425 were returned. Even allowing that those with the strongest opinions would tend to participate, the results are striking:

What would you do if:

	<u>The Falklands were under Argentine rule?</u>	<u>The Falklands were under Argentine sovereignty but British administration?</u>
Leave	93 %	80
Wait & see how things worked out	5	16
Undecided	1	2
Stay on	1	2

How would you like Mrs Thatcher to act now the government in Buenos Aires seeks a peaceful solution? (some respondents chose more than one option)

Negotiate all the issues with Argentina	4
Restore economic links with the mainland but keep sovereignty	58
Give up sovereignty but retain British administration	1
Take the issue to the UN	3
Refuse to negotiate at all	36

How do you find the presence of the British troops?

Reassuring	91
A nuisance that has to be lived with	6
A nuisance to be removed forthwith	1
Undecided	2

How does the presence of a civilian government in Buenos Aires affect the likelihood of a peaceful solution to the Falklands crisis?

More likely	31
Less likely	4
Unchanged	65

FUNDING FOR FOX BAY WOOL PROJECT APPROVED The ODA has given approval for the expenditure of £130,000 on a woollen mill to be built at Fox Bay East. The project has been devised by Richard and Griselda Cockwell, who studied the woollen business on a course in Galashiels recently. It forms part of the development programme now being administered by Mr. David Taylor, Chief Executive, who visits London in March.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 5

March 1984

CONSERVATIVE MPs URGE COMMERCIAL AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS Over 30 Conservative back-benchers, including several parliamentary private secretaries, have signed a House of Commons motion stating that "This House, recalling the Prime Minister's admirable message to President Alfonsin on his election, believes that it is in the immediate interests of the United Kingdom, the Falkland Islands and the Argentine that there should be improved diplomatic and commercial relations between the United Kingdom and the Argentine; and, whilst grateful for the help given by the protecting powers, believes at this stage there should be direct talks between diplomats from the United Kingdom and Argentina." Subsequent to this, Mr. Geoffrey Finsberg MP tabled an amendment to the motion which added that an "essential prerequisite" must be Argentina's declaration of an end to hostilities.

BOW GROUP AUTHOR SUGGESTS 5 ALTERNATIVES FOR THE FALKLAND ISLANDS Michael Stephen, secretary of the Bow Group's Foreign Affairs committee has published a memorandum setting out five alternative and controversial solutions to the future of the Falkland Islands. The options in "The Possible Way Forward" included one of trusteeship, run by seven nominated trustees from Britain, Argentina and elsewhere and the abandonment by the two countries of all claims of sovereignty. Ray Whitney MP, Under Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, in reply to a written question about the document, reiterated that Britain has no intention of renouncing its sovereignty.

BELGRANO ENQUIRY Cecil Parkinson MP, a member of the War Cabinet during the Falklands conflict, has defended the decision to sink the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano. This followed a renewed call from Tam Dalyell MP at the Scottish Labour Party Conference for an enquiry into the sinking. Mr. Parkinson said that the cruiser was within six hours sailing of the Royal Navy carriers and that, had Britain lost one of them, "the whole mission would have been totally aborted."

NEW JOB FOR SIR JEREMY MOORE Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore, who commanded the land forces during the conflict, and who was forced to retire from the Royal Marines due to the lack of a job senior enough, has found temporary employment. He has been appointed specialist adviser to the House of Commons Select Committee on Defence. The committee is currently investigating the performance of weapons used in the South Atlantic during the conflict.

£1 MILLION IN CIRCULATION IN THE FALKLANDS Mr. Harold Rowlands, the Falkland Islands Commissioner of Currency, has said that there is currently £1 million in circulation in the Falkland Islands. This compares with the normal circulation figure of around £300,000.

TROOPS WELCOME IN THE ISLANDS In a letter to the Daily Telegraph, Mrs Betty Miller, a fourth generation islander from Stanley, has welcomed British servicemen's presence in the Falkland Islands. She writes: "We kelpers do not resent the British servicemen among us...on the contrary we welcome them...they have given us a security we have not felt since attempts were made to "sell us out" in 1968...we can develop without any close association with Argentina once we have the new strategic airport, a 200-mile fishing limit and exploratory zone around these islands and dependencies, a wool mill and so on."

SOUTH GEORGIA MAGISTRATE APPOINTED Major John Rhind of the Royal Scots has been appointed magistrate on South Georgia. He will also act as customs officer harbour master, immigration officer and post master. One of his duties will be to deal with Russian and Polish trawlers' water supplies.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE VISITS UK TO PURSUE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS Mr. David Taylor, who was appointed to the post of Chief Executive to the Falkland Islands Government in 1983 has been visiting the UK during March. He has had numerous meetings with officials from Government departments responsible for various aspects of Falkland affairs, as well as with organisations interested in development projects. On March 21, Mr. Taylor appeared as a witness before the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, who are preparing a report on the Falkland Islands.

Among projects which are currently being discussed are:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>State of Play</u>
Stanley power supply	£3.0m - £3.5m	New generators
Stanley water supply	£3.0m	Renewal
Harbour facilities (Jetty)	£7.0m	Consultants visited FI in January following initial work in London. Report awaited in April
School hostel	£0.5m	Stanley House purchased for permanent school hostel.
Telecommunications	£1.0m	Feasibility study from consultants awaited
Mount Pleasant Road	£1.3m - £1.5m	New road to be constructed by PSA
Land Transfer	£1.0m	Three farms purchased. Further purchases likely under aid programme.
Manpower	£3.5m	Continuing commitment
Expansion of Agricultural Research & Development Centre	£2.3m - £2.6m	ODA Projects Committee considered and approved, mid January
Wool Mill project (Fox Bay East)	£0.13m	Finance approved
Salmon Ranching (pilot scheme)	£0.5m	Consultants report under consideration by FIG/ODA
Inshore fishing	£0.79m	Negotiations in hand with British company for a pilot scheme
Offshore fishing	£0.2m	Survey to establish basis for an E.F.Z. regime in final stage of consideration
Advance factory project	£0.127m	Factory buildings ordered
New Housing	£1.5m	Survey of most cost effective building methods being undertaken
Camp track improvement	£2.0m	Plans to be discussed
Treasury		Consultants (FIG Auditors) have completed interim report on treasury systems and accounting/control mechanisms for FIDC

A series of reports on other matters, such as tree planting, the environmental impact of the new airport and agricultural development have been completed and are being studied. Local initiative projects, such as the Stanley Dairy, are also being fostered. The Bakery is in production. Further consideration is being given to sheepmeat, hides and skins export potential.



Falkland FOCUS

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 6

April 1984

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OPENS FOR BUSINESS The Falkland Islands Development Corporation ordinance has now been approved by the Foreign Secretary. The Legislative Council will constitute the Board at its next meeting and the FIDC will then become fully operational. Its chief executive Mr David Taylor has been in post for some months and visited London during March to pursue various projects.

SIR REX HUNT WILL STAY ON Sir Rex Hunt CMG, is to stay for an extra year as Civil Commissioner for the Falkland Islands, the Foreign Office announced on April 3.

FARM SUBDIVISION CONTINUES The total number of farms in the Falkland Islands had increased from 38 in 1978 to 47 in 1983, following subdivision of larger units after purchase and resale by the Falkland Islands Government. During 1984 the number of farms with between 1,000 to 5,000 sheep will increase by 15 new units to a total of 35. These farms are family units and most will not employ hired hands.

NEW "FLEXIPOINT" AROUSES WORLDWIDE INTEREST The "flexiport" was handed over from the contractors ITM (offshore) Limited to the Military Commissioner at its site between Stanley and the airport on April 26.

It provides jetty and port handling facilities for all cargo ships including roll-on/roll-off ferries (within a draught of 5.8 metres) and also provides some 9,000 square metres of storage space for the land-based garrison.

The installation is based on six x 3,000 square metre standard North Sea oil rig support barges. The barges are linked together and moored to dolphins and joined to the shore by a 200-metre causeway. The causeway allows two way movement of vehicles of up to 30 tons laden weight. A pontoon enables ramp operation by roll-on/roll-off shipping.

The project will pay for itself within three years because it replaces three store ships hitherto anchored in the harbour to hold the stores for the garrison. The availability of a deep water quayside means that ships can be unloaded direct, so reducing turn-around time. More ships can be handled concurrently by a very much reduced military port labour force.

ITM (offshore) Limited are a Middlesborough firm with extensive experience in North Sea Oil support operations. The work was completed within the five month time limit specified by the MOD and to a specified cost of £23 million. ITM's achievement has generated considerable interest across the world in the production of similar facilities. The flexiport concept has at least as many civil applications as it has military.

HOSPITAL FIRE TRAGEDY INQUIRY OPENS ON MAY 24 The inquiry into the tragic fire at the Stanley hospital in which eight people died will open on May 24. The team will consist of the Attorney-General of the Islands; Councillor Tony Blake representing Council; the Commander of the British forces in the Falkland Islands, and one other Islander yet to be named.

Mr Jack Hayward, the former Bristol businessman who sponsored the return of the GREAT BRITAIN to his native city, has offered £1 million towards the reconstruction. A hospital planner has arrived in the Islands to advise on the new building, and the British Government has said that a new hospital will be provided.

A "splendid effort" by the Brewster team under local manager Dave Whitley has converted the accommodation block into a temporary civilian hospital and an army field surgical unit is in place.

ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER PROPOSES SMALL STEPS Senor Dante Caputo, the Argentine foreign minister has said that Argentina is proposing a policy of "small steps" towards a dialogue with Britain over the Falklands. However Argentina is still "extremely firm on the essential claim of sovereignty". He blamed the UK for lack of progress and stressed the need for the removal of the exclusion zone, a halt to the building of a strategic airport, and the establishment of "non-nuclear" guarantee.

The reaction of Whitehall was that sovereignty of the Falklands would never be discussed with Argentina by Mrs Thatcher's Government.

Meanwhile, Sir Anthony Parsons, Britain's UN Ambassador during the Falklands conflict told the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee that Argentina must declare an end to the war before any consideration could be given to normalising relations.

BELGRANO ISSUE FINALLY LAID TO REST The Argentine admiral responsible for the deployment of the BELGRANO has admitted that the warship had been engaged in an aggressive pincer movement when it was sunk by the Royal Navy. BBC's "Panorama" programme on April 16 also revealed that on the day prior to the BELGRANO sinking, an Argentine Super Etendard fighter armed with EXOCET missiles failed in its mission to sink a British warship.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION TOLD OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS A well attended meeting in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's rooms at Westminster on April 3 heard of progress in the Falkland Islands from Mr David Taylor, chief executive. Also present were Mr Adrian Monk and Mr Gerald Cheek. MPs and Peers from all parties were present.

OPINION POLL SHOWS CONTINUED SUPPORT A National Opinion Poll, conducted for the Mail on Sunday two years after the task force sailed, shows little weakening in the British conviction that we were right to remove the Argentines from the Islands. The right to self-determination was strongly backed in the survey.

Having won back the Islands the Government should not negotiate at all with Argentina about who should own them.

All 29% Conservative 36, Labour 27

The only way to ensure lasting peace is if Britain negotiates with Argentina about ownership of the Islands.

All 67% Conservative 62, Labour 71, don't know 4

Then the NOP asked those who think Britain should negotiate about sovereignty which option was the best.

Putting the Islands under UN control : 32%

Joint arrangement between Britain and Argentina : 54%

The idea that the Falkland Islanders should have final veto on any deal struck between Argentina and Britain:

Should have veto : 70%

Not a good idea : 25%

Asked whether the decision to send the task force was correct or not.

Yes All 69% Conservative 90% Labour 52%

No All 23% Conservative 7% Labour 37% don't know 8%

Should Britain send more ships and troops to the Falkland Islands tomorrow if Argentina launched a large scale military attack.

Yes All 70% Conservative 84, Labour 57

No All 24% Conservative 10, Labour 38 don't know 6%

NOP represents a quota sample of 1,052 adults in 53 constituencies over GB on April 6 1984.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 7

Covering May 1984

ADRIAN MONK, LONDON REPRESENTATIVE, TO RETIRE IN JUNE Mr. Adrian Monk, FIG Representative in London since January 1983, is to retire at the end of June. During his term of office, Mr. Monk has established the Government Office in London and has handled the varied demands placed upon it. He had left the Falkland Islands with his wife Norah after the 1982 Conflict to retire to Wales. However, he undertook to launch the FIG's London Office during a very sensitive period, characterised by post-war euphoria and hope which needed to be tempered by a sound grasp of reality.

FIG have appointed Mr. Alastair Cameron, from the Secretariat in Stanley, to take over as Acting Representative until a permanent successor is appointed.

COMECON FISHING VESSELS DOMINATE FALKLAND WATERS At the beginning of May 48 fishing vessels were active within the 150 mile protection zone around the Falkland Islands. Their countries of origin were: Poland 22, German Democratic Republic 8, Japan 7, USSR 4, Taiwan 3, Federal Republic of Germany 2 and Spain 2.

The Falkland Islands Foundation has called for an urgent effort to conserve fish stocks in the area.

LAND PURCHASE ARRANGEMENTS CLARIFIED BY LADY YOUNG In answer to a Parliamentary question from Lord Beswick, Foreign Office Minister Lady Young explained that all successful applicants for land purchased from the FIG were entitled to a government loan. Nineteen would-be purchasers had been unsuccessful.

In the case of sub-divided land currently being offered for private sale, three would-be purchasers have been offered an FIG loan in principle and three others have been refused. Lady Young explained that in considering applicants for loans, the FIG's selection committee paid due regard to the applicants' experience, capability, potential as farmers and the extent of their working capital.

GENERAL MANAGER FIDC APPOINTED Mr. Simon Armstrong from the Highlands and Islands Development Board has been appointed General Manager of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation in Stanley. He will be taking up his post in July.

UNVEILING OF WAR MEMORIAL IN STANLEY The preparations for the unveiling of the Memorial to the British servicemen who died during the Falklands Conflict will culminate in a ceremony to mark the second anniversary of the Liberation on 14th June.

The cost of the Memorial was raised entirely by local donations. The project has suffered delays due to shipping problems and a fire on board the vessel which carried the stone blocks, on which the names of those who died were engraved, these were damaged and replacements had to be made.

TAM DALYELL MP SUSPENDED FROM HOUSE Mr. Tam Dalyell MP (Linlithgow, Labour) was suspended from the House of Commons on 2nd May for five days after being asked ten times by the Speaker to withdraw an allegation that the Prime Minister

had lied over the sinking of the Belgrano during the Falklands War.

MILITARY STOCKS RAN LOW DURING THE FALKLANDS CONFLICT MOD witnesses have said that the Army, Navy and Air Force all ran short of critical equipment during the six week Falklands Campaign, they were appearing before the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee. The Committee was hearing evidence from Ministry of Defence witnesses led by Sir Clive Whitmore, Permanent Secretary. He said that the unpredictable nature of the Falklands had made planning more difficult, but he admitted that some items, such as fire control equipment, had run short. Over all, however, Sir Clive maintained that British defence stocks policy was roughly right.

FALKLANDS GARRISON TO EAT LOCAL MUTTON The garrison of British Forces in the Falkland Islands will in future share the Islanders' diet. A local butcher, Mr. Laurie Butler, has invested heavily in up-grading his slaughterhouse to meet EEC regulations. According to a report in The Guardian on 18th May a contract with the military covers the slaughter of 2,500 sheep a year, about half the garrison's requirement. There has been for some time a move to involve local suppliers in victualling the garrison. Mr. Adrian Monk, FIG Representative in London, has had meetings with the MOD in support of these initiatives.

LYBIA SAID TO HAVE SUPPLIED ARMS TO ARGENTINA According to a report in The Sunday Times on 13th May Lybia's Colonel Gadaffi secretly shipped arms worth more than £70m, including 120 Soviet-made Sam-7 missiles, to Argentina during the Falklands Conflict. The arms were shipped in six special flights by Boeing 707's of Aerolineas Argentinas. Besides the Sam-7 missiles, Argentina received 20 Magic-Matra air-to-air missiles for use with her Mirage jets, AC-2 missiles, mortars, infra-red equipment and a long list of other munitions.

DICK BAKER OBE Former Chief Secretary of the Falkland Islands, Mr. Dick Baker, has been appointed Governor of St. Helena and will take up his post in July. Mr. Baker served in the Falklands from March 1979 to August 1983.

BREWSTER HOUSES USE DETAILED BY MINISTER The Minister of Overseas Development has given a break-down of the occupancy of the 28 completed Brewster houses in a written reply: 12 are occupied by expatriate employees of the Falkland Islands Government, 10 are occupied by Islanders (8 of whom are FIG employees) 2 are occupied by military personnel (1 colonel and 1 MOD civilian) 2 house Civil Commissioner's staff and 2 provide temporary accommodation for the housing contractor.

SIR GALAHAD TRAGEDY TO BE BASIS FOR BBC-TV PLAY The bombing of the British assault ships Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram during the Falklands War are to be recreated in a BBC-TV Play. It will follow the fortunes of four young Welsh Guards and their families during the 1982 Conflict.

A BBC spokesman said: "It is a king of a Family at War drama which shows the events leading up to the tragedy. It will certainly be moving."

SUBDIVISION OF PACKE'S FARM IS NOW COMPLETED The final 2 sections in the Fox Bay East area were awarded to Mr. N. Knight, presently Manager of FIC farm Fox Bay West, and the other to Mr. R. Marsh.

SOME CRITICISM OVER SPENDING OF THE £15m REHABILITATION MONEY Councillors have recently expressed serious criticisms about the way the £15m Rehabilitation money was spent both with regards to the quality of work and also the small amount achieved. Councillors are also worried about the slowness of development and some think that there should be a full enquiry into this.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 8

Covering June 1984

BRITISH POLITICIANS VISIT ARGENTINA Three British politicians visited Argentina between 25-30 June as guests of a Senate committee. George Foulkes MP (Lab.) and Cyril Townsend MP (Con.), who did not rejoin the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee after the 1983 General Election, were accompanied by the SDP's foreign affairs spokesman in the House of Lords, Lord Kennet.

All three belong to the South Atlantic Council, a British group set up to work towards "fruitful negotiations" over the Falkland Islands. Apart from nine MPs, the Council includes a number of academics and churchmen as well as representatives of the following organisations:-

Babcock Power Limited
Grindlays Bank
GKN International
Kelloggs (Great Britain)

Leslie and Godwin Reinsurance Ltd.
Lloyds Bank International
Pilkington Brothers
Sea Containers Limited

Mr. Townsend opened an adjournment debate in the House of Commons on June 6, which was concluded by the junior Foreign Office minister Ray Whitney MP with the statement:

"However, while we continue to stand by the Falkland Islanders, we look forward to re-establishing normal relationships with a democratic Argentina and to returning to the friendship which for so many generations we have enjoyed with that country."

SPAIN AND ARGENTINA MAKE JOINT DECLARATION President Alfonsin of Argentina and the Spanish prime minister Gonzalez signed a Joint Declaration in Madrid on June 13 supporting each others' claims to the Falkland Islands and Gibraltar.

President Alfonsin stopped short of a formal declaration of an end to hostilities in the South Atlantic, but the document declared:

"Spain and Argentina, which are the victims of an anachronistic colonial situation, support their respective claims over the Malvinas Islands and Gibraltar to restore the integrity of their national territories through peaceful means in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations."

CIVIL COMMISSIONER IN LONDON FOR ROUTINE TALKS Sir Rex Hunt CMG, the Civil Commissioner, visited London from 2-8 June for talks with the Foreign Office covering a wide range of internal matters relating to the Falkland Islands as well as international aspects.

FALKLAND CROWN MEMENTOES FOR SERVICEMEN Three Falkland Island women have organised the buying of 777 Crowns - one for each of the British servicemen wounded in the 1982 Falklands conflict. The special coins were minted to commemorate the liberation of the Islands and were handed to the Ministry of Defence for distribution. Mrs. Betty Ford, Mrs. Joan Middleton and Mrs. Daisy McKay from Stanley had spent a year raising the £2,000 to buy the coins.

FRANCIS PYM DOES NOT RULE OUT TALKS Former foreign secretary Mr. Francis Pym MP told the Foreign Affairs Select Committee on June 11 that Britain could discuss Falklands sovereignty with Argentina:

"It is not as though we have never been prepared to discuss this. On the contrary, there was a stage when the British government was willing and tried to take the matter to international law but the Argentines refused."

His successor Sir Geoffrey Howe MP told the House of Commons on June 27 that the British government was ready for official talks with the Argentine government on the normalisation of relations, but such talks cannot include the discussion of sovereignty over the Falklands. He said it would be difficult to restore diplomatic links without a formal renunciation of hostilities by the Argentines.

The Foreign Affairs committee is hoping to publish its report on the Falkland Islands this summer.

LIBERATION MONUMENT UNVEILED On June 14, the second anniversary of the Argentine surrender in the Islands, the Hon. Harold Rowlands OBE, Falkland Islands Government Financial Secretary, formally unveiled the Liberation Monument in Stanley. Mr. Rowlands, a Falkland Islander, was the senior member of the local administration during the war, after the expulsion of the Governor and the Chief Secretary by the Argentinian invaders.

The ceremony was preceded by an interdenominational service at Christchurch Cathedral, attended by members of the civilian and military communities, and two representatives of the Falkland Families Association. Wreaths were laid by the civil and military commissioners and other representatives and individuals.

ANNUAL RECEPTION AT LINCOLN'S INN The annual reception organised by the Falkland Islands Association at Lincolns Inn was held on June 14, Liberation Day. Some 200 guests were received by Sir John Barlow, Mr. Bill Hunter Christie and Mr. Adrian Monk, for the Falkland Islands government. The Scots Guards, whose heroic actions during the Falklands conflict centered on Mount Tumbledown, beat retreat.

PEBBLE ISLAND PROJECT LAUNCHED A new venture designed to benefit the economy of the Falkland Islands and provide funds for the research and development of agriculture has been announced. It will depend on the sale of souvenirs.

SIR REX HUNT CAUTIOUS ON FISHERIES REVENUE Sir Rex Hunt, Civil Commissioner, has cautioned Falkland Islands councillors against high expectations of increased revenue from licensing offshore fishing. He was speaking on June 27 at the introduction of the Islands' new Budget.

FALKLAND CONNECTIONS WITH EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT The recent European parliament elections have returned two Conservative members with adjoining Northern constituencies, both of whom have close connections with Falkland Islands affairs. Mr. Edward McMillan-Scott, a public affairs adviser to the Falkland Islands government's London office holds the York constituency which includes Stanley's twin town, Whitby, and Mr. Bob Battersby, who is preparing a report on Falkland fisheries following a visit to the Islands earlier this year, represents Humber-side.

NEW MILITARY COMMISSIONER TAKES UP POST The new Military Commissioner for the Falkland Islands Major General Peter de la Billiere MC (and Bar) DSO CBE has taken up his post as Commander British Forces Falkland Islands in succession to Major General Keith Spacie OBE. He is married with three children. His family will accompany him.



UK/31/5

P/FFO/1#09

Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 9

Covering July 1984

BERNE TALKS ON UK/ARGENTINE RELATIONS FAIL Talks in the Swiss capital between British and Argentine officials collapsed after 13 hours on July 19. It had been hoped that the discussions, under Swiss chairmanship, would lead to a restoration of relations between Britain and Argentina.

On the agenda were discussions on a comprehensive restoration of commercial relations; the lifting of discriminatory measures; the return of the Argentine dead from the Falkland Islands (or a properly organised visit to the graves by close relatives under the auspices of the International Red Cross); gradual restoration of cultural, scientific and sporting contacts, and an enlargement of the consular and commercial departments of the British interests section of the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires.

Although the talks did not depend on any change in the two governments' positions on the Falkland Islands, they broke down over a form of words covering Argentina's claim to sovereignty. It had been agreed that the Argentines would raise the topic and that Britain would respond by saying that she was not prepared to discuss the matter. This was apparently not done, although there was initial confusion in Buenos Aires while the Swiss chairman attempted to keep the talks going.

The position of the Falkland Islands Government has consistently been that it did not wish the issue of Falklands sovereignty to become a pawn in the restoration of links between Britain and Argentina, but that the normalisation of relations between Britain and Argentina and a lessening of tension would be welcome.

The Argentine Foreign Minister visited the United Nations secretary-general, Senor Perez de Cuellar, following the breakdown. The Falkland Islands dispute is likely to be debated again by the General Assembly this autumn.

REFERENDUM ON BEAGLE CHANNEL PACT President Alfonsin has declared a national referendum in Argentina on the outcome of discussions with Chile over the Beagle Channel.

HOSPITAL FIRE INQUIRY PUBLISHED The official inquiry into the fire at the King Edward Memorial Hospital on April 10 1984 in which eight people died and the hospital was destroyed, was published on July 12. The inquiry was chaired by Mr David Calcutt QC, with Mrs Janet Cheek, Captain Martin Bird RN and Mr Eric Goss MBE.

The principal conclusions were that: "the probability is that the immediate cause of the fire was an accidental internal source of fire, brought about by the inadvertent act of a patient, a member of the staff or an intruder."

The inquiry pointed to a number of safety measures which should have been taken but said: "There is no evidence that lack of action in any of these areas contributed to the tragedy."

The Falkland Islands Government has begun to implement recommendations in the Report. Already more than £120,000 has been voted for improvements for the town's fire brigade.

* Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the fire at the King Edward Memorial Hospital, Stanley on 10 April 1984.

BRITAIN HELPS LAUNCH FALKLANDS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY Economic development in the Falkland Islands received a boost on July 13 when Mr Timothy Raison MP, Minister for Overseas Development, authorised an initial allocation of £4 million from the British aid programme to the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC). This will enable the FIDC to start day to day operations. The main emphasis of the Corporation will be on promoting commercial enterprises.

The establishment of the FIDC is in line with recommendations in the Shackleton Report, published in 1982. The £4 million will be drawn from a total £31 million already allocated by Britain for the islands' long-term development and will cover the corporation's costs for two and a half years.

Priority will be given to helping small businesses and farmers who will be given both financial and technical backing. Some of the initiatives expected to be taken with FIDC assistance include: a study of the feasibility of establishing salmon ranching; the development of inshore fisheries; improvements to small farms; the construction of a wool mill and the building of workshops and factories.

The corporation will carry out its own pilot studies and acquire fixed assets for lease or sale, and will be responsible for financial assistance including the sub-division of farms.

A governing body, under the chairmanship of the Islands' Civil Commissioner Sir Rex Hunt will give overall policy guidance to the FIDC.

Executive Vice-Chairman of the FIDC is Mr David Taylor, who is also Chief Executive of the Falkland Islands Government. He took up post in autumn 1983. The General Manager is Mr Simon Armstrong (previously with the Highlands and Islands Development Board). The board includes Mr Harold Rowlands (FIG Financial Secretary), Mr Terry Betts, Mr Stuart Wallace, Mr Neil Watson, Cllr. Terry Peck and Mr Michael Gaiger (Attorney General).

SALE OF LIBERATION COINS The South Atlantic Fund has received £19,132 from Spink and Co raised from the sale of Liberation Crowns. A similar sum has been donated to the Falkland Islands Appeal and FIG has also received proceeds from this popular issue.

OIL LICENSE ISSUED FOR ONSHORE EXPLORATION The FIG has issued a four-year prospecting license to the independent British company Firstland Oil and Gas Plc. Work will concentrate on areas on Douglas Station, East Falkland and initial geological surveys will start by the end of this year.

MAST OF HMS EXETER DONATED TO STANLEY MUSEUM On July 16 a section of the timber mast of HMS EXETER, which fought in the Battle of the River Plate in December 1939, and repaired to Port Stanley following the historic engagement, was presented to the Stanley Museum by the city of Exeter. The hand-over was performed by Captain George Tullis RN who commands the present HMS EXETER. She saw active service during the Falklands conflict and has subsequently been on patrol within the protection zone.

CONSCRIPT MISERY HIGHLIGHTED IN FALKLAND FILM The first full-length Argentine film to show a fictional treatment of the Falklands war has opened in Buenos Aires with its makers unsure how the public will react, the Sunday Telegraph reported on July 29.

A story of the experiences of a group of young conscripts who fought in the Falklands with minimal training, the film takes a jaundiced view of the military dictatorship that started the war.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 10

August/September 1984

POLITICAL PARTIES REVIEW FALKLANDS POLICY The Falkland Islands have been a subject of debate at the three Party Conferences in September, with specific reference, among other issues, to the costs of maintaining "Fortress Falklands." The Social Democratic Party stated that the views of the Falkland Islanders should be "given the fullest consideration but could not be paramount" and that Britain should be opening discussions with the Argentinians with the objective of abandoning the "Fortress Falklands" policy. The SDP put forward three alternative suggestions for sovereignty over the Falklands: To be vested initially either in the UN under the provisions of trusteeship; or under the auspices of the organisation of American States; or under satisfactory arrangements for joint sovereignty.

The Liberal Party voted in its final resolution on Defence and Disarmament, to increase conventional defence expenditure at the expense of, among other items, a "Fortress Falklands" policy. (An emergency motion on the Falkland Islands was not debated).

The Scottish National Party approved a resolution deploring the vast expenditure of money at the risk of further war and loss of life arising from British policies in the Falklands. The SNP suggested that the Falklands, the United Kingdom and Argentina be asked to accept the placing of the Islands and other British dependencies in the South Atlantic under the protection of the United Nations.

The Labour Party Conference features a number of resolutions referring to the "grotesque" cost of maintaining the Falklands garrison and calling on the Government to initiate new talks with a view to arriving at a just and permanent solution.

The Conservative Conference is to be held from 9-12 October. Of the motions tabled, one specifically urges HMG to resist all pressures to relinquish British sovereignty to the Falkland Islands and the dependencies; however, no debate is planned.

RESHUFFLE AT FCO Timothy Renton MP (Mid Sussex) was appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Foreign Office on September 11. He replaces Raymond Whitney MP who has moved to the Department of Health and Social Security. Mr Renton's brief will be identical to Mr Whitney's and will include the Falkland Islands.

BELGRANO ROUND-UP In answer to suggestions that there had been operational confusion or error in communications concerning the Belgrano, Mrs Thatcher said: "The decision was right and necessary in the interest of safeguarding British lives."

Mr Heseltine will be examined by the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee about the Belgrano incident. He is due to appear before the Committee when Members of Parliament return after the summer recess at the end of October.

ALASTAIR CAMERON APPOINTED FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE Mr Alastair Cameron, 32, a Falkland Islander, educated in Britain, has been appointed FIG Representative in London with effect from 1 October 1984. Mr Cameron has been Acting Representative since Mr Adrian Monk's retirement in June 1984 and was previously employed as Assistant Secretary by FIG in Stanley.

FERRANTI CONTRACT AWARDED A contract has been awarded to Ferranti Computer Systems Limited by the Ministry of Defence to supply an Air Defence Ground Environment System for use by the Royal Air Force in the Falkland Islands. It was developed with the assistance of the RAF.

ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT COMPLETED A 50,000 page report has been submitted to President Raul Alfonsin by Mr Ernesto Sabato concerning Argentina's record under military government. Information concerning the huge number of missing persons is included in the report. An extract will be made public, accusing officers of violating human rights in a bloody campaign against leftist guerrillas and political opponents during the military rule of Argentina from 1976-1983. It is said the report proves 280 secret detention centres were in operation, using torture. It also indicates the military were responsible for the death of almost 9,000 missing people. Human Rights organisations put this figure at nearer 30,000.

AIRPORT COSTS RISE The cost of the new airport being built for the long haul jets has risen by £35 million to £250 million. The Ministry of Defence, in announcing the rise, said that part of the extra money could help pay for concentrating the garrison of 3,000 men near the airport at Mount Pleasant, East Falkland.

HOLIDAYS IN THE FALKLANDS The Falkland Islands Development Corporation has announced plans to promote and develop a tourist industry in the Falklands. It is believed that the new international airport at Mount Pleasant would encourage tourism, and the promotion - mainly aimed at Europe and the United States - will emphasise wild-life resources and outdoor activities such as ornithological tours and trout fishing holidays.

US WARSHIPS BARRED BY PROTESTORS Five United States Warships, engaged in naval manoeuvres were prevented from mooring at Puerto Madryn, Argentina on September 12, by 2,000 demonstrators. They were protesting U.S. support for Britain in the Falklands conflict.

THE STANLEY SCHOOL HOSTEL EXPANDS The main contractors for the new airfield in the Falklands, Laing Mowlem ARC Joint Venture, have won a £825,000 contract to build boarding and kitchen facilities for the Stanley School Hostel. There will be two dormitory blocks, one for girls and one for boys, with a supervisor's flat in each, which will be built in the grounds of Stanley House. The house itself currently accomodates pupils, but is to be converted into a dining and recreation area, with a new kitchen extension. Falkland Island-born Mr Gerald Dixon, DIP ARCH, RIBA, DITP, is to be the architect. It is hoped this project will be completed by March 1985.

UNITED NATIONS: COMMITTEE OF 24 (DECOLONISATION COMMITTEE) MEET On 20 August Falkland Island Councillors Mr A T Blake and Mr L G Blake, OBE, addressed the Committee of 24 as petitioners on behalf of the Falkland Islanders. Councillor Tony Blake spoke of the right of self determination of the people of the Falkland Islands, a principle endorsed by the United Nations and recognised in international law. Mr L G Blake spoke on the economic and constitutional development of the Falklands since 1982.

A resolution, sponsored by Cuba, Venezuela and Chile, urging the governments of Great Britain and Argentina to resume negotiations to find a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute, was adopted by the Committee. Twenty countries voted in favour, Australia, Trinidad and Tobago, Fiji and Sweden abstained and Sierra Leone, which had abstained in 1983, did not take part in the vote.

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY On 25 September, President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, in a speech to the General Assembly, reiterated his government's determination that any talks on improving Anglo/Argentine bilateral relations would have to include discussions on sovereignty of the Falklands. He also made it clear that the only acceptable Argentine 'solution' to the dispute was one involving an eventual transfer of sovereignty to Argentina.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, in addressing the Assembly on 26 September said that the way forward to improving relations between Britain and Argentina was "by tackling practical sources where real progress is possible to the benefit of both sides."

At a subsequent press conference, on being asked whether the agreement with China on the future of Hong Kong pointed the way to a solution for Britain's other disputed territories, Sir Geoffrey replied: "In the Falklands and Gibraltar we have no doubt whatsoever about our sovereignty. It does not depend upon a lease."



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 11

October 1984

UNITED NATIONS SUCCESS FOR BRITAIN

Argentina, in spite of intensive lobbying in recent weeks, failed to gain a significant increase in the support for its United Nations General Assembly motion calling for renewed negotiations between Britain and Argentina over the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

There were 89 votes in favour of the resolution which was two more than last year. As in 1983 9 countries voted against the resolution and 54 abstained, including all Britain's EEC partners, whose solidarity Argentina had lobbied hard to break.

The result of the vote is significant as it is clear that the new democratic regime in Argentina has failed to achieve a swing of world opinion in support of its claim.

Councillors John Cheek and Tim Blake addressed the 4th Committee on behalf of the Islanders. Mr Blake spoke on the economic development of the Islands and Mr Cheek concentrated on the political issues, in particular, self determination. He said that Islanders wished to maintain their links with Britain.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State, said that Britain would stand by its commitment to the Islanders and not negotiate sovereignty over their heads and against their wishes.

ALFONSIN APPEALS TO EUROPE FOR AID

President Alfonsin asked the European Parliament for financial help from the EEC in an address on October 24. Britain indicated that this would be impossible until an end to hostilities over the Falklands is declared.

Mr Alfonsin did not mention the Islands in his speech although he made clear his thoughts that peaceful international relations could be settled diplomatically - as in negotiations with Chile over sovereignty of the Beagle Channel. He said that as Latin America needs technology and investment and the EEC seeks raw materials there is the makings of a deal. He also said that as the European Parliament had been created from a lasting compromise, why could it not extend beyond Europe? He stated that if his country's new democracy was to work international help would be needed to rebuild the economy.

President Alfonsin - whose brother is Argentine ambassador in Brussels - visited other European capitals during his tour. During his visit to Rome, President Alfonsin reportedly said:

"The issue of sovereignty (over the Falkland Islands) cannot be a matter for discussion". He rejected the suggestion that the issue could be brought before the International Court of Justice.

MP'S VISIT FALKLAND ISLANDS

On 28 October an all party group of nine MP's, headed by Rt. Hon. Julian Amery MP, departed from the UK on a six-day MoD sponsored visit to the Falkland Islands, during which they will meet service personnel and Islanders.

BEAGLE CHANNEL DISPUTE MOVES ON

Argentina and Chile, with mediation from the Vatican, have reached agreement to end the dispute over the islands in the Beagle Channel. The islands' sovereignty remains with Chile. The final touches to the proposed treaty are still under discussion. It is reported that Argentina is guaranteed rights to the waters between the continents of South America and Antarctica.

Chile and Argentina met in the Vatican to sign a protocol agreeing to the text of a treaty resolving the dispute. However, Chile alleged that shore based Argentine artillery had recently fired shells on two occasions into the water near a naval base.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CALL FOR FISHERIES VENTURE

A motion calling on the EEC to undertake an exploratory fisheries venture in the waters surrounding Member States' dependent territories in the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean has been tabled by Mr Robert Battersby MEP and Mr James Provan MEP - both Conservatives. The motion suggests an investigation into the "opportunities for the controlled exploration of marine stocks" in the South Atlantic waters.

BRITISH AIRWAYS TO FLY TO FALKLAND ISLANDS

British Airways is expected to operate twice-weekly scheduled cargo and passenger services between London and the Falkland Islands when the new airport opens next year. Passengers and supplies will be flown the 8,000 miles from RAF Brize Norton via Ascension Island to the new Mount Pleasant airport.

PONTING COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

Mr Clive Ponting was committed for trial at the Old Bailey on 11 October for sending secret documents to Mr Tam Dalyell MP about Government plans to withhold information about the sinking of the General Belgrano from parliament. Crown Counsel at Bow Street Magistrates Court claimed it was not a breach of security but a breach of the confidence expected of a Government employee. Mr Ponting said he would plead not guilty. The conflict between the different political parties over the Belgrano continues.

CIVILIAN PRISON FOR JUNTA CHIEF

An Argentine Court has ordered the former president General Jorge Videla and a member of his former ruling Military Junta be transferred to a civilian prison pending trial on charges of human rights violations.

ARGENTINE CLAIMS FALKLAND ISLANDS WILL BE THEIRS BEFORE 1989

Senor Raul Galvan, Under Secretary for the Interior, said Argentina will regain control of the Falkland Islands from Britain 'before 1989' - when the present Government's office is due to end. He said regaining the Falklands was the next aim of the Government.

STANLEY POWER STATION

Work on the extension of Stanley's power station is well under way and progressing on schedule. The two new diesel generators will boost the plant's capacity from 1.2 to 3.8 megawatts and the project should be completed before the onset of the next Southern winter. The £2.9 million cost of the project is being met from development funds administered by the ODA.

APPOINTMENT TO COALITE GROUP PLC

Rt. Hon. Eric Varley, former Labour MP for Chesterfield, has been appointed Chairman of Coalite Group Plc from October 1 1984. Retiring Chairman Mr Ted Needham remains as Chairman of the Falkland Islands Company.

SOUTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

Issue 8 of Falkland Focus listed firms in connection with a report on the South Atlantic Council. We have been asked to point out that all members of the Council are there in a private capacity. This is the case whether their firms happen to contribute to South Atlantic Council Funds or not.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLO

Issue 12

November/December 1984

MRS THATCHER'S CHRISTMAS BROADCAST REAFFIRMS DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, made it clear that there is no doubt about Britain's legal claim to the Falkland Islands. In a special Christmas broadcast to the Islands she said that the British people have been there for many generations, "often before families that went to the Argentine." "People who come and see you come from a democracy. Democracy is about the right of self-determination." She said the Argentines, who now have a democracy, should know that the same right should be extended to the Falkland Islanders. "It is the wishes of the Falkland Islanders that are paramount and so it will continue to be."

Mr Dante Caputo, the Argentine Foreign Minister, reacted strongly to the broadcast. He said that "sooner or later" Argentina would recover the Islands. He also said that his country would continue waging a diplomatic battle to have its claim over the Falklands recognised.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPORT

A report from the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee considered that the prospects for an early settlement of the sovereignty dispute are remote. However, in its main conclusions and recommendations, the report stated that "the invasion and war have greatly reinforced the moral and political force of HM Government's commitment to protect the interests and rights of the population of the Falklands." It also said that in view of the cost of the present policy to the UK, "some kind of accommodation with Argentina is not only inevitable" "but also desirable if the Falklands are to have any prospect of long-term economic prosperity and political stability." Nevertheless, the report accepted "the wisdom of the general approach now being adopted by HMG", and considered that HMG's opposition to talks with Argentina on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands and dependencies is "no doubt prudent."

GRIMSBY TRAWLER ARRIVES IN FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Coastal Pioneer, which will be carrying out a three-year survey into inshore fishing, arrived in the Falkland Islands on 25 November. It will operate in the coastal waters of the Islands, fishing for crab, scallops and crayfish.

The 18 metres trawler is the first commercial fishing vessel to be based in the Falklands. It will operate from the settlement at Fox Bay East. It is hoped to export the fish to profitable markets in Europe or the United States.

HAROLD BENNETT ELECTED IN BY-ELECTION

Mr Harold Bennett OBE JP has been elected as Councillor for the Stanley area in a by-election. He retired as Senior Magistrate and is now aged 65. He has been in Government service since 1932, where he served in the Treasury, Post Office and Secretariat.

RESIGNATION OF ARGENTINE MILITARY TRIBUNAL

It was reported that all ten members of the Armed Forces Supreme Council, Argentina's highest military court, resigned in apparent reaction to criticism of their handling of the courts martial of former junta members accused of human rights violations and military officers accused of criminal conduct during the Falklands war. The letters of resignation were handed to Defence Minister Mr Raul Borrás, who it was said had not listened to their complaints about press criticism. Mr Alfonsín's administration said that it clears the way for a new court for the trials while human rights groups said that the move showed the failure of Mr Alfonsín's policy of allowing the military to conduct its own trials.

NEXT OF KIN TO RETURN TO ISLANDS

The Falkland Islands Families Association, formed during the 1983 visit to the Islands by the next of kin of those who died during the conflict, is planning another trip to the Islands in 1986. It estimates that 80-100 members will be going and is currently raising additional funds to meet costs. Approximately £12,000 has so far been collected, £4,000 of which was raised in the Falkland Islands.

MR DAVID JOY RETURNS TO LONDON

Mr David Joy, Britain's diplomatic representative in Buenos Aires, has been posted back to London. He was working from the Swiss Embassy successfully heading the British Interests Section. He now returns to take up the job of head of the Central American Department at the Foreign Office. Mr Colum Sharkey has replaced Mr Joy as head of the British Interests Section in Buenos Aires. He was formerly Ambassador in Honduras.

NEW HOSPITAL PLAN APPROVED

An outline design for a new shared civilian/military hospital has been approved by the Falkland Islands Government. The new hospital, designed by Mr Brian Hitchcox of the DHSS, will incorporate the Churchill Wing, which survived the fire at the King Edward Memorial Hospital, as an outpatient and community health centre. The new wing will provide intensive care and operating theatres. The preliminary estimate of the cost for the hospital is £6.4 M. In addition there will be separate sheltered accommodation for the elderly and housing for senior medical and nursing staff.

SOUTH ATLANTIC CAMPAIGN MEMORIAL TO BE ERECTED

A South Atlantic campaign memorial bearing the names of all those who lost their lives, is to be erected in the crypt of St Paul's cathedral close to other military memorials. The memorial will be unveiled this summer by HM the Queen during a commemorative service in the cathedral. The next of kin of those who died will be invited.

Those who lost their lives during the conflict in the Falklands are commemorated by a memorial in Stanley unveiled on June 14 last year.

TWO-WAY TELEVISION BROADCAST SUCCESS

A live two-way television broadcast between London and Stanley on Christmas day attracted a huge audience in Britain and the Republic of Ireland. Hosted by Noel Edmunds in the Post Office Tower, the programme included link-ups between servicemen in the Islands and their families in Britain. This was the first live television link-up using the cable and wireless earth station opened in 1983.

We should like to take this opportunity of wishing our readers a happy, prosperous and peaceful 1985



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 13

January 1985

DRAFT CONSTITUTION APPROVED

The Falkland Islands Legislative Council has approved a new draft constitution for the Islands. In a public meeting of the Legislative Council on 15th January, Island Councillors welcomed the inclusion within the preamble to the Constitution of the specific reference to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the United Nations in 1966, which enshrines the right of self determination.

The other main changes are:

- the increase in the number of elected members of Legislative Council from six to eight, of which the two official members, the Chief Executive and Financial Secretary, would cease to have voting powers.
- the number of elected members on Executive Council would increase from two to three.
- the provision for two unofficial nominated members on Executive Council would be withdrawn and the official members, Chief Executive and Financial Secretary, would cease to have a vote.
- the title of Military Commissioner would lapse on the departure of the present Military Commissioner. His successor would be designated Commander British Forces Falkland Islands and would continue to exercise advisory powers in respect of defence and security and to sit, but not vote, at meetings of Executive Council.

Legislative Council also approved the draft of a separate Constitution for the Falkland Islands Dependencies. The main changes are that they would in future be known as South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. Instead of being administered by the Civil Commissioner in Council, the Civil Commissioner would become Commissioner for these territories and would be obliged to consult Executive Council on matters affecting the Falkland Islands. Although the constitution will be made law through an Order in Council (thus avoiding a parliamentary vote), it is unlikely that Parliament will not debate the issue.

DR DAVID OWEN QUESTIONS NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION

In answer to a letter from Dr David Owen, Leader of the Social Democratic Party, in which he questioned proposals for the constitutions for the Falkland Islands and for the Falkland Island Dependencies, Mrs Thatcher referred to the provisions regarding self-determination contained in the opening paragraphs of the preamble to the Human Rights Chapter of the Constitution for the Falkland Islands and said in her written reply, that these "would not impose on Her Majesty's Government any obligations, whether legal or political, over and above those which already bind the United Kingdom as a party to the covenant". She added, "They do not give a right of a veto to the Islanders nor do they derogate from the sovereignty of Parliament". Concluding, she said, "The draft Constitution for the Falkland Islands underlines our commitment to safeguard the right of the Islanders to live under a government of their own choosing in a climate of security and economic well being".

NEW CIVIL COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCED

Mr Gordon Jewkes CMG, has been appointed to succeed Sir Rex Hunt CMG, HM Civil Commissioner of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies, when he retires in September. Mr Jewkes is currently HM Consul General in Chicago.

Sir Rex, known for his strong defence of the Islanders' cause, will have spent a total of 5½ years in the Falklands, having had his tour of duty extended twice.

VISIT OF LORD TREFGARNE

Lord Trefgarne, the Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, visited the Falkland Islands from the 7th to 11th January and made an extensive tour of defence facilities in the Islands. During his visit he reassured Islanders that the military would continue to provide travel facilities for civilians after the Mount Pleasant Airport opens in May. Some concern had been expressed over interim travel arrangements until the airport opens for civilian flights on its completion in 1986.

STATEMENT BY ARGENTINE PRESIDENT

The President of Argentina, Mr Raoul Alfonsin, said in New Delhi, following a Conference of the Group of Six (Argentina, India, Greece, Tanzania, Mexico and Sweden) that Argentina would not try to take the Falkland Islands from Britain by force.

ISLAND ROAD NETWORK

Executive Council in Stanley has approved plans for the construction of the first stage of a proposed network of all weather tracks to link north camp settlements in East Falkland with the Stanley to Darwin Road. The 9.2 mile crushed stone track will link Estancia with the Stanley-Mount Pleasant Road. The Falkland Islands Government have provisionally allocated the sum of £2 million towards an extension of the road network. It is hoped that it will be possible to initiate an early start to this project.

ARGENTINA UNDERTAKES A REARMAMENT PROGRAMME

The University of Bradford's School of Peace Studies - which has concentrated on the Falklands War and subsequent developments - has issued a report which claims that Argentina is engaged in a massive build-up of arms. Not only is it aiming to re-arm but to improve its forces generally. The report concludes that Argentina would be better equipped now to win a conflict with Britain than it was in 1982. This report has been criticised in Argentina as being an attempt to justify HMG's military expenditure in the South Atlantic.

WELCOME FOR FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY EMPLOYEE SHARE SCHEME

There has been a good response to the Falkland Islands Company's employee share scheme. Mr Eric Varley, Chairman, wrote to all FIC employees inviting them to participate in a savings-related share option scheme at a rate of £10 to £100 a month.

After five years, the savers will then have the option to buy Coalite shares at the set price of 206 pence each. The present market price is 228 pence - the highest value the shares have ever reached. If, after five years, the price of the shares has fallen below 206 pence, then contributors can simply withdraw their savings plus the accrued interest.

TOURIST TRIPS TO THE FALKLANDS AND THE ANTARCTIC

Society Expeditions, the operators of the cruise ship LINDBLAD EXPLORER, are planning to extend their operations around the Falklands and the Antarctic next summer. Swiss born Cruise Director, Werner Zender, told PENGUIN NEWS that his company is planning to work out itineraries both for the LINDBLAD and the newly acquired DISCOVERER for next season.

"We have a total of nine Antarctic cruises next year", he said. "Five or six of them will call at the Falkland Islands." He said that the future development of tourism around the Islands would be given a boost by the completion of the Mount Pleasant Airport. By using the Falklands airport as a gateway to the Antarctic rather than Punta Arenas, there would apparently be a saving of four days sailing on each tour. The time saving would also open up the possibility of Society Expeditions organising shorter trips for people who cannot spare the time for the tours as they stand at present.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 14

Covering February 1985

GOVERNMENT RESPONDS TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The British Government has criticised the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee for casting doubt on Britain's legal claim to the Falkland Islands and underlined more firmly than ever its refusal to countenance discussions with Argentina over sovereignty. It also rejected criticism that the Falkland Islands Government and Development Corporation had been slow to act on rehabilitation and land reform, stressing its "full confidence" in their activities.

In its response to the committee, the Government stated: "The Government regret the committee's reluctance to reach a categorical conclusion on the legal validity of Britain's title to the islands. The Government's position has been made clear on numerous occasions. The islands are British territory."

Fifth report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 1983-34: Falkland Islands: Observations by Her Majesty's Government.

FALKLANDS DISCUSSED AT US SEMINARS

The Falkland Islands Government Representative in London, Mr Alastair Cameron, attended, as an observer, two seminars on the Falklands dispute in the United States from February 14-21. The two seminars were organised by Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland. The first was largely academic but the second was attended by politicians from Britain and Argentina. Discussions centred on the normalisation of bilateral relations.

SPANIARDS SEEK EEC FISHING DEAL OVER FALKLANDS

Spanish fishing interest are seeking a special deal with Britain to allow deep-sea Spanish trawlers to fish on a long-term basis off the Falkland Islands and South Georgia.

The Spanish proposal is reported to involve the UK establishing a 200-mile limit around the Islands and South Georgia, within which access and quotas of stock would be regulated. The fish would be processed in the Falklands.

Vessels from these countries are reported to be fishing in waters around the Falklands:-

Bulgaria	Panama
Denmark	Philippines
East Germany	Poland
Finland	Spain
Italy	Sweden
Japan	Taiwan
Korea	USSR
Liberia	West Germany
Norway	

The European Commission has pointed out in a letter to Mr James Provan, the Scottish MEP who has strongly promoted EEC fishing in the Falklands, that the Common Fisheries Policy would not cover the Falkland Islands and Dependencies although they are covered by Article 131 of the Treaty of Rome - whose purpose is to "promote the economic and social development of the territories and to establish close economic relations between them and the Community as a whole".

However the Community would have to take an interest in any contractual arrangement between the Falkland Islands and EEC flag vessels if a 200 mile limit were declared, as it does with the Faroes and Greenland.

FALKLANDS INSHORE FISHING SHOWS PROMISE

The Falkland Islands Development Corporation inshore fisheries survey has already produced promising early results. Samples of Hair Crab have been sent to the UK for testing and found to be of a commercially attractive quality. The survey, by the Grimsby firm of Fortoser Ltd, is now in its fourth month, and although it will be some time before an accurate picture of the possibilities of this resource can be drawn up, initial results give grounds for optimism. It is hoped that the valuable

Centolla Crab will be found in commercially viable numbers and interest has also been expressed in Falklands mussels and clams.

BELGRANO: PONTING ACQUITTED; DEBATE IN COMMONS

Mr Clive Ponting, a former MoD civil servant, was acquitted at the Central Criminal Court on February 11 of breaching the Official Secrets Act by leaking documents about the sinking of the Belgrano to Labour MP Tam Dalyell. The outcome brought renewed pressure for the repeal of Section 2 of the Act.

In a House of Commons debate on February 18, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, told the Commons how Mr Ponting had given Ministers conflicting advice. A Labour motion, critical of Ministers' handling of the affair, was defeated by 350 votes to 202.

FALKLANDS LIGHTHOUSE TO BE RESTORED

The Cape Pembroke lighthouse on the Falkland Islands which was damaged in the Argentine invasion is to be refitted to automatic status. A team of experts from the Trinity House Engineers Department has recently returned from a visit to the Falklands where a survey was carried out to establish the technical requirements. A spokesman for Trinity House said its refitting to automatic status will be completed during the 1985/86 financial year. The lighthouse was originally built in 1856 and operated by the Board of Trade. It was handed over to Trinity House in 1984.

£30M ARGENTINE ARMS BOUNTY FOR RAF

It is reported that anti-aircraft guns, complete with radar and control equipment, used by the Argentinians to shoot down British aircraft during the Falklands war, are to be used to form a new RAF air defence unit in April, which is to be based at RAF Waddington.

The guns and ancillary equipment, which have been undergoing tests by the Ministry of Defence, have been valued at £30m. They were captured along with various other kinds of equipment, most of which will be given to different army regiments for use in training.

FALKLANDS WAR LEADER TO BECOME CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

It was announced on February 6 that Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, who ran the Falklands operation, will take over from Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall as Chief of the Defence Staff on November 1. The Admiral will be succeeded as First Sea Lord by Admiral Sir William Staveley.

His appointment was one of twelve command and staff changes within the Ministry of Defence.

PAINTING OF FALKLANDS WAR UNVEILED

The Duke of Kent unveiled a new painting of the Falklands war commissioned by the Army and Navy Club last week. The artist, David Cobb, went to the Falkland Islands almost immediately after the Argentine surrender with a series of military commissions. He will be returning later this year to undertake more paintings. The picture gives an aerial view of San Carlos Water and shows the landings with the fighting in the air, at sea and on land.

BOOK ON FALKLANDS WAR PUBLISHED

The Ministry of Defence authorised the publication of a new book about the war by Major General Julian Thompson, formerly commander of the Land forces on the Islands.

The book is called 'No Picnic' and is published by Leo Cooper at £12.95.

TELEVISION SERVICE FOR FALKLANDS GARRISON

The Minister for the Armed Forces announced that a TV service would be provided for British troops stationed in the Falkland Islands. The TV service will cover some 90% of the garrison and consist of video tapes of current popular BBC and ITV programmes, to be recorded by the Service Sound and Vision Corporation and shown to the Falklands within a matter of a few days of their original broadcast. It is planned to bring the service into operation in mid-1986.

NEW STANLEY SCHOOL HOSTEL OPENS

The first of two accommodation blocks, built to house boarders attending Stanley Senior School, was completed on 10th February. Despite delays to the start of the project, caused by last summer's dock strike in the UK, the bulk of the work was finished on target by the contractors; Laing-Mowlem-Amey Roadstone and Wysepian.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 15

covering March 1985

HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATE ON THE FALKLANDS

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, opening the debate in the House of Commons on the Foreign Affairs Committee Report on the Falkland Islands, stated the Government's determination to fulfil its commitments to the Falkland Islanders and to promote better relations with Argentina. The question of sovereignty of the Islands was discussed by all sides, with special reference to the Maryland Conference by George Foulkes MP.

Mr Tim Renton, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, concluding the debate, spoke of the Islander's wishes and reiterated the Government's stand not to discuss sovereignty over the Falkland Islands.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT VOTE ON FALKLAND FISHING

The European Parliament has backed an amendment to a resolution on fisheries as relevant to Spain and Portugal's accession to the EEC which "notes the fisheries potential of the Falklands which is an overseas territory of the Community and calls on the UK Government to declare a two hundred mile fishery zone around the Islands".

In a letter to Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr James Provan, MEP who tabled the resolution, called on the British Government to take urgent action to protect the fisheries around the Falklands.

As stated during the House of Commons debate on the Falklands, the Government have decided to explore possible ways in which to establish a multilaterally based conservation and management regime for fisheries in the waters around the Falkland Islands.

PRESIDENT ALFONSIN SPEAKS TO AMERICAN CONGRESS

The President of Argentina, Mr Raoul Alfonsin, spoke to the American Congress at a joint meeting of Senators and members of the House of Representatives. As reported in the Daily Telegraph, Mr Alfonsin, on speaking of the Falklands dispute and putting his country's case to the Congress, "was met with stony silence".

COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES FALKLAND ISLANDS APPOINTED

Air Commodore 'Kip' Kemball CBE, ADC, has been appointed to be Commander British Forces Falkland Islands in the rank of Air Vice-Marshal. He succeeds Major General de la Billiere CBE, DSO, MC, and will be taking up the appointment in August 1985.

LOW CRIME RATE IN THE FALKLANDS

In answer to a parliamentary question, Mr Tim Renton said in the House of Commons that crime in the Falklands had remained low despite the pressure of more than 2000 'unaccompanied' construction workers building the new airfield.

In the past year, there had been 14 convictions for violence and four for drug offences.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS CONSTITUTION

The Falkland Islands Constitution Order 1985 and the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands Order 1985, both orders in Council have now been laid before Parliament under the British Settlements Act 1887. These Orders are not subject to parliamentary proceedings and come into operation on 18 April 1985.

CHANGE FROM TITLE OF 'CIVIL COMMISSIONER' TO 'GOVERNOR'

The Government has approved a change in the Falklands constitution, to revert to the normal title of 'Governor' as opposed to Civil Commissioner. This was requested by Falkland Islands Councillors.

It is intended that a General Election under a new Constitution will be held in September before Sir Rex Hunt retires from the Islands.

PRINCE ANDREW TO OPEN FALKLANDS AIRPORT

Prince Andrew, who is currently in the South Atlantic on duty aboard HMS Brazen, is to open the new airport at Mount Pleasant. Official confirmation has been given by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CHATHAM HOUSE TALKS ON EUROPEAN-LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS

As reported in the press (Guardian 28.3, Times 29.3) talks on European-Latin American relations were held at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London. Discussion centered on the Anglo-Argentine dispute over the Falklands.

Those present included Lord Shackleton, Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the Social Democratic Party, Argentine academics and a former Argentine foreign minister, as well as a number of UK Members of Parliament.

After the meeting, the Argentinians issued a statement calling for further discussion with Britain on sovereignty.

GLACIER BRITONS SAVED FROM BRABANT ISLAND

Lt-Cdr Waghorn, a member of the British Joint Services expedition on Brabant Island for adventure training and scientific work for the British Antarctic Survey was rescued from a glacier after being trapped for five days with a broken thigh. He was evacuated to Port Stanley.

The HMS Endurance, the ice-Patrol Ship, helped in the rescue.

STAMP ISSUE FOR BRITISH ANTARCTIC TERRITORY

A new stamp issue for the British Antarctic Territory has been released. The stamps depict scenes of the British Graham Land expedition 1934-37. It was the last pre-war expedition and was led by John Rymill, an Australian. They made important discoveries of fossils and also carried out scientific work in zoology, ornithology, glacierology, meteorology and tidal observations.



UK/31/4F

Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#16

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 16

covering April - May 1985

MOUNT PLEASANT AIRPORT IS OPENED

HRH Prince Andrew opened the new Falkland Islands airport at Mount Pleasant on 12 May. The 8,500 ft runway is to form part of a greater airfield complex which will include a further cross runway, aircraft hangars and all base and port-associated facilities, expected to be finally completed in 1987. The opening ceremony was attended by Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, Ian Gow, Minister for Housing & Construction, and Tim Renton, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, as well as by a number of UK parliamentarians and businessmen.

LABOUR PARTY PLEDGE

Following his visit to the Falkland Islands to attend the opening of the Mount Pleasant airport, George Foulkes MP, an Opposition front-bench spokesman on Foreign Affairs, said in an interview on Breakfast Television on 16 May 1985:

"I give this pledge on behalf of the Labour Party: we would never sell out the Falklanders. We want to find a solution which allows Fortress Falklands to be phased down; which allows us to have peace with Argentina; and to get back onto diplomatic relations with Argentina but we want to protect the interests of the Falklanders and respect their wishes."

NEW HOSTEL AND HOSPITAL IN STANLEY

The new school hostel in Stanley, providing accommodation for 48 boys and 36 girls from the outlying 'camp' settlements and farms in the Islands attending the secondary school in Port Stanley, was opened by Prince Andrew, on 11 May.

The Prince also unveiled a plaque at the site of the new Falklands hospital to be built in Port Stanley to replace the King Edward Memorial Hospital destroyed by fire in 1984. This new hospital will serve the needs of both the civil and military communities.

FALKLAND ISLANDS MILL OPENS

One of the first private ventures supported by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation, the mill at Fox Bay East in West Falkland, has now been commissioned. The new wool mill will spin yarn from the local wool clip, all of which is at present exported to Britain. The yarn will produce machine and hand knitted garments, which will be for sale through local as well as overseas outlets.

MARKET GARDEN PROJECT

Plans to establish a commercial market garden near Stanley to supply fresh produce to the islanders, garrison and visiting ships are progressing. A suitable site is currently being sought. The venture would be operated locally, jointly with the Falkland Islands Development Corporation. Using a heated greenhouse and the nutrient film method of crop production, it is expected the unit will be able to maintain a year round supply of lettuce and other salad vegetables.

FISHERIES UPDATE

Mr Tim Renton, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, is reported to have said during his recent visit to the Falkland Islands that the establishment of a 200 mile exclusive fishing zone around the Falklands to preserve rapidly depleting stocks was a high priority in the future development of the Islands.

Indeed, the month of May saw 200 fishing vessels in the 150 mile protection zone from countries ranging from the Soviet Union, Poland, Bulgaria, Japan and Taiwan. The total catch has been estimated at £200 million a year.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS CONSTITUTION NOW IN FORCE

The Falkland Islands Constitution Order 1985 and the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands Order 1985 came into effect on 18 April 1985.

The Falkland Islands General Election - now under the new Constitution - is to be held on 3 October 1985. The main electoral changes include an increase in the number of elected members of Legislative Council from six to eight, of which the two official members, the Chief Executive and Financial Secretary would cease to have voting powers and the number of elected members on Executive Council will increase from two to three.

Following the General Election, Sir Rex Hunt will be retiring and will be replaced as Governor by Mr Gordon Jewkes, who recently visited the Islands on a ten-day familiarisation visit.

FALKLAND ISLANDS NATURE RESERVE

The Falkland Islands Foundation, created in 1979 to promote and support the conservation of wildlife, wrecks and places of historic interest in the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies, has been given nine small islands in West Falkland by the Royal Society for Nature Conservation. The islands, bought by the RSNL in the 1970's and established as nature reserves, are inhabited by a number of rare species of birds and support breeding colonies of sea lions, elephant seals and fur seals.

UK/31/5

P/FFO/1#17



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 17

covering June 1985

LEGCO'S FINAL MEETING DISCUSSES FISHING, LAND REFORM AND BUDGETS

The Falkland Islands Legislative Council, at its final meeting before the October 3 general election, has paid tribute to Sir Rex Hunt, who retires this summer after a tumultuous period of office as Governor, and to his wife. Councillors also paid tribute to the retiring Military Commissioner, General Peter de la Billiere, who completes his tour of duty in the Falkland Islands shortly.

At the meeting on June 26 the annual internal £5.3m budget for the Falkland Islands was presented by Financial Secretary Mr Harold Rowlands. Seeking a balanced budget, a 10 per cent rise in import duties was announced, increasing excise duties by 36 pence on a bottle of spirits and 3 pence on a packet of cigarettes. Road tax is to be increased by 50 per cent. Also proposed were a 15 per cent increase in harbour dues (to raise £75,000) and a rise in electricity charges.

Councillors expressed their concern at lack of progress on the establishment of a Falkland Islands' fishing zone. Councillor Tony Blake complained that the delay could mean that fish stocks would be exhausted by the time a zone was declared.

During the meeting the question of land reform was discussed and councillors raised the possibility of compulsory purchase if no further land became available for sale and subdivision. Chief Executive Mr David Taylor said that this should be examined if insufficient land came forward on a "willing buyer, willing seller" basis.

Pay increases of 5 per cent for Falkland Islands Government employees were announced.

FALKLANDS MEMORIAL SERVICE IN ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

A service was held in St Paul's Cathedral on June 14 for the Dedication of the South Atlantic Campaign Memorial on the third anniversary of the Argentine surrender in the Falkland Islands.

HM The Queen unveiled a memorial in the Cathedral crypt to the 255 men who died serving in the campaign. Among those attending the service was HRH Prince Andrew who laid a wreath on behalf of the Falkland Islanders.

FALKLAND FISHERIES : ACTION ON SEVERAL FRONTS

Fishing by foreign vessels in Falkland Islands waters continues to be a source of debate from all political parties in Westminster as well as receiving much media coverage.

Foreign Office Minister Mr Tim Renton MP stated in the House of Commons on June 20 that the British Government is "working actively for the establishment of a multilaterally-based fisheries conservation and management regime around the Falkland Islands". The Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC) is investigating the feasibility of providing shore-based facilities for fishing vessels.

Meanwhile, the Falkland Islands Government is concentrating on inshore fishing within the existing three-mile limit. Current surveys are promising for species such as crab and the FIDC may commission a commercial venture using a second British vessel later this year.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT IN PREPARATION

FIDC is preparing its first annual report for publication in early August. The Corporation has invested in development schemes covering various sectors including fisheries, tourism, agriculture and other commercial activities.

BALL HELD IN AID OF THE UK FALKLAND ISLANDS TRUST

The annual Black and White Ball, a society charity event, was held this year on June 5 at the Cafe Royal in aid of the UK Falkland Islands Trust which exists to improve educational and social conditions in the Falklands.

Some 300 people attended the ball, a large-scale and successful event, which was hosted by Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, President of the Trust. The Band of the Royal Marines, who enjoyed the Freedom of Stanley, staged a marching display at midnight.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 18

Covering July 1985

BRITAIN LIFTS TRADE RESTRICTIONS The British Government announced in Parliament on 8 July 1985 that they had decided to lift the ban on the import of goods exported from Argentina that had been imposed on 7 April 1982. In making the announcement, Mr Tim Renton, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said that the Government's twin objectives of their policy were "to fulfil (their) commitments to the Falkland Islanders and to restore more normal relations between Britain and Argentina". He added that the question of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands was not for discussion.

The Argentine Government has not reciprocated directly but has offered in return a formal end to hostilities over the Falkland Islands on condition that Britain resumes talks within sixty days, with sovereignty over the Islands on the agenda.

FRANCE REJECTS ARGENTINE PLEA ON FALKLANDS Mr Dante Caputo, the Argentine Foreign Minister, visited France earlier this month for talks with French officials. According to press reports, Mr Caputo failed to secure French support for Argentina's stand at the UN. The French Foreign Minister reiterated France's commitment to European solidarity and support for a diplomatic solution to the Falkland Islands question.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE REPORTS ON BELGRANO The House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs has concluded its enquiry into the events surrounding the weekend of 1-2 May 1982 and the alleged effect of the sinking of the Belgrano upon the "Peruvian peace initiative".

Labour Members on the Committee rejected the report, alleging Government obstruction in the course of its enquiry to conceal the "hasty and unjustifiable" decision to sink the Argentine cruiser during the Falklands conflict.

The possibility of a link between the Peruvian peace proposals and the sinking of the Belgrano was strongly rejected by Francis Pym, then Foreign Secretary, in the House of Commons during Business Questions. He affirmed to the House that the Government was genuinely attempting to resolve the dispute in a peaceful way. He explained that the Peruvian peace plans were developed in the four or five days after the Belgrano was sunk, and had been, on May 2, in an "extremely early, tentative stage". The dissenting view of Labour Members is recorded as an amendment taking the form of a "minority report" in the accompanying Minutes of Proceedings. (Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee of Session 1984-85 (HCII)).

GREATER PURCHASE OF LAND BY THE GOVERNMENT ALLOWED The Falklands Islands Council has changed its laws to allow greater purchase of land by the Government. This should make more available for farming by Islanders or immigrants.

The bill amends the existing land ordinance to widen the meaning of "public purpose" to "any purpose intended to result in a benefit or advantage to the community". This could allow the Government to purchase land by compulsory means for the purpose of sub-division.

FALKLAND ISLANDS BUDGET AGREED FOR 1985-86 The Falkland Islands Budget for the year 1985-86 has now been agreed by the Falkland Islands Councils and amounts to £6,679,640 in expenditure.

Aviation	£470,750
Post and Telecommunications	£527,020
Medical and Dental	£400,090
Education and Training	£485,290
Customs and Harbour	£124,320
Public Works	£2,319,460
Fox Bay Village	£26,560
Agriculture	£56,630
Justice	£59,040
Military	£47,050
Police and Prisons	£81,850
Secretariat, Treasury and Central Store	£380,470
Pensions and Gratuities	£92,610
Social Welfare	£146,600
Civil Commissioner	£74,180
Legislature	£25,810
Falkland Islands Government Office	£84,240
Agricultural Research Centre	£66,520
Transfer to Development Fund	£100,000
Income Tax Refunds	£20,000
	TOTAL ORDINARY EXPENDITURE
	£5,588,490
DEVELOPMENT :	Expenditure to be met from Local Funds
	£616,150
	Expenditure to be met from UK Aid
	£475,000
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
	£6,679,640

MINISTER VISITS THE FALKLAND ISLANDS Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces at the Ministry of Defence has been to the Falkland Islands on a five-day visit. Mr Stanley last visited the Falkland Islands fifteen months ago. On the visit plans were made for a tour of military installations, a visit of the airport at Mount Pleasant, and meetings with members of Executive and Legislative Council.

RAF PHANTOMS INTERCEPT AN ARGENTINE PLANE Two RAF Phantoms intercepted an Argentine Navy maritime reconnaissance aircraft west of the Falkland Islands. The plane was approached when it was outside the 150-mile exclusion zone around the Falklands. Argentine officials said the plane had been on a mission to detect foreign fishing trawlers violating Argentina's 200-mile territorial waters limit.

FALKLANDS ISLANDS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PLANS GO AHEAD The Falklands Islands Development Corporation is going ahead with plans to establish a modest tourist industry. The holidays will focus on the Islands' rich wildlife and will offer lodging in ten-roomed mini-hotels.

The construction of the first of the chain is hoped to be started by the end of the year, and be ready for opening in the 1986/87 season. It is estimated the tourist industry will attract one thousand visitors a year and contribute an annual £500,000 to the Islands' economy.

AIRFARES TO FALKLANDS ANNOUNCED An agreement has been reached on airfares to the Falklands which will allow travellers booking at least twenty-eight days in advance to pay an "advance purchase fare" of £625 single compared with the full rate of £975 single. Falkland residents and individuals who are judged to be travelling in the national interest are eligible for a single fare of £525.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 19

covering August and September 1985

ARGENTINE CALL FOR FISHING ZONE: Britain should unilaterally impose and enforce a fisheries protection zone around the Falklands, Argentine Senator Escorihuela said, according to press reports. Mr Escorihuela, Vice-President of the Senate Commission on natural resources and environment, said that vast overfishing by foreign ships was now taking place within the 150 mile protection zone. According to his information, the Spanish fleet alone was now taking as much fish in one year as had been caught over the previous fifteen years. Conservation groups in Argentina, including the largest one, the Fundacion Vida Silvestre (Wildlife Foundation), have also been protesting against the uncontrolled fishing in the area.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, in his speech to the UN on 25 September said that Britain had held informal talks with the Food and Agricultural Organisation on the possibility of establishing a multi-national conservation regime. He said in the Assembly "We are ready to give our support to the FAO's constructive initiative and hope that the Argentines will be equally prepared to work with the FAO".

CONSORTIUM FORMS TO SERVICE TRAWLER FLEETS: Five British companies have formed a consortium with the aim of providing a comprehensive range of shore based services and facilities for the multi-nation trawler fleets currently working in the Falkland Island waters.

The group has expressed its optimism in the project and has considered the commercial potentialities of the Falkland Islands venture on the basis of the requirements of the 200 to 300 foreign vessels expected to fish the waters without restriction next season.

ARGENTINA QUESTIONS BRITAIN'S EMBARGO LIFTING: At the meeting of the United Nations Decolonisation Committee (Committee of 24) in early August, the Argentine representative questioned Britain's motives for lifting the trade embargo on Argentina, holding firm on Argentina's stand not to enter into dialogue with Britain if sovereignty was not included in discussions. Britain argued its obligations to respect the Falkland Islanders' wishes and showed the Committee a film illustrating Islanders' opinions and way of life.

The Committee was addressed by Falkland Islands Councillor John Cheek who explained the Islanders' views and their wishes for the future.

However, the Decolonisation Committee approved by 20-0 with four abstentions the resolution, sponsored by Chile, Cuba and Venezuela, urging resumed negotiations and criticizing British 'militarization' of the Islands.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: The Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC) in its first annual report (available from the Falkland Islands Government Office) sets out its current and planned development schemes for the Falkland Islands.

The projects include fishing and sheep farming schemes, service industries, hotel construction, and general tourism development.

LABOUR LEADER MEETS ARGENTINE PRESIDENT: Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour leader, together with Mr Dennis Healey, Shadow Foreign Secretary met with President Alfonsin and his Foreign Minister in France. Mr Kinnock said that the next Labour Government would be prepared to open discussions with Argentina about the Falkland Islands. A communique issued after the talks was phrased in similar terms to many joint Anglo-Argentine government statements by previous governments before the invasion. It spoke of the "importance for the inhabitants of effectively guaranteeing the preservation of their customs, their ways of life and traditions". Mr Kinnock reportedly stressed that there could be no satisfactory solution on the Falkland Islands without the approval of the Islanders.

A group of Argentine Congressmen is planning to visit Britain in early 1986 for meetings with British Parliamentarians.

OPENING OF POWER STATION EXTENSION: The £2.2m extension to the Stanley Power Station was officially opened by the Civil Commissioner Sir Rex Hunt on 7 August. The new distribution system will cost a further £1.1m. Work on this is expected to commence in October. On its completion Stanley will then have a modern electrical system adequate for the foreseeable needs of the town.

Both the Civil Commissioner and the Deputy Director of Public Works paid tribute to those involved in the preparation, organisation and construction of the project who had performed a Herculean task since 1982, working all hours and in every type of weather to keep the Stanley electricity supply going.

WORK OF THE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAMS: Over three years since the end of the fighting in the Falkland Islands the work of the Royal Engineers EOD detachment continues. To date some 195 square kilometres, principally in the battlefield areas around Stanley, have been searched, and many minefields have been precisely located and fenced off. This work has resulted in the discovery and disposal of approximately 1,400 cluster bomblets, 2.5 million rounds of ammunition, 4,000 grenades, 95 unexploded bombs, 300 missiles and 5,000 rockets. 1,400 booby traps have also been disposed of.

Unless a reliable method of detection can be developed, it is unlikely that minefield clearance can be safely undertaken.

BRITISH AND ARGENTINE CHURCHES: The World Council of Churches held their annual Central Committee meeting in Buenos Aires at the beginning of August. Representatives of British and Argentine churches attending the meeting issued a joint document in which they stated that commercial relations between Britain and Argentina should be restored and the creation of a fishing pact should be explored. The document also said that any solution to the Falkland Islands question would have to have an agreement on sovereignty.

FALKLANDS MEMORIAL IN CORNWALL: A former quarry worker and now a full-time stone collector, Edward Prynn, has obtained two one-ton blocks of stone from the quarry opened for the building of the Falkland Islands Mount, Pleasant Airport.

The stone, transported from the Falkland Islands in a Government chartered ship, will form part of Mr Prynn's "stone ring" in his garden in Cornwall.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#20

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLO

ISSUE 20

covering October 1985

SIR REX HUNT DEPARTS. Sir Rex Hunt CMG retired after nearly six years as Governor of the Falkland Islands on 13th October. At a reception in Stanley Town Hall he told the 500 Islanders present that he would continue to defend their rights wherever possible. "Any British government of whatever colour, that gives up any bit of real estate in the South Atlantic for the next 50 years, until we know what is exploitable in the Antarctic, will be blamed, and rightfully, by future British generations for being irresponsible and short-sighted", he said.

NEW GOVERNOR ARRIVES. Mr. Gordon Wesley Jewkes CMG, the new Governor of the Falkland Islands and Commissioner for South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, arrived in the Falklands on 15th October. When taking the Oath of Office he stated that his appointment as Governor of the Islands meant no change in Britain's policy: "The partnership between the permanent civilian population and other communities will be represented here for as long as may be necessary."

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS. At the General Election of 3rd October a 78% turnout of voters in Stanley elected the following members to Legislative Council: John Cheek, Mrs. Norma Edwards, Charles Keenleyside and Lewis Clifton.

The four members for Camp constituency were returned unopposed: Tim Blake, Tony Blake, Robin Lee and Tim Miller.

LEGCO RESPONDS TO LABOUR AND LIBERAL STATEMENTS. Following meetings of both Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, and David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, with President Alfonsin of Argentina, the newly elected Legislative Council issued a statement with reference to the statements made by Mr. Kinnock and Mr. Steel:

"Their statements gave no thought to the wishes, interests or rights of the Falkland Islanders. The wishes of the Islanders are to remain British, and our interests lie in a British way of life under a British flag.

Our rights are to live under a democratic government of our own choosing, as laid down in our new constitution, which was supported by the British Parliament.

Although both men went out of their way to accommodate the Argentine stance, neither made any attempt to discover the Falkland Islanders' viewpoint, and yet they are both prepared to make statements on the Islanders' 'interests'. We find nothing in their statements which we consider would be acting in our interests.

We are shocked that such statements can be issued so soon after British lives were lost fighting to liberate British territory, free British subjects and restore their right to self determination."

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY ADDRESSES THE UNITED NATIONS. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, speaking to the United Nations Assembly said that the United Kingdom had taken unilateral steps to normalize its relations with Argentina and that it would continue to look for ways to improve those relations, while maintaining its firm commitments to the people of the Falkland Islands. He added that Argentina, by insisting that Britain commit itself to sovereignty negotiations before bilateral relations could be discussed, had blocked progress.

Affirming support for the Antarctic Treaty, Sir Geoffrey said an attempt to apply a common heritage regime to that Continent would risk destabilizing the region and could jeopardize scientific collaboration there.

ISLAND COUNCILLORS TO ATTEND UN. Councillors John Cheek and Lewis Clifton will be attending the 4th Committee of the United Nations General Assembly for a debate on the Falkland Islands scheduled to take place on 26th November.

DEFENCE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. Although the number of Her Majesty's forces in the South Atlantic had been reduced steadily over the past year, the garrison is being maintained at the minimum size necessary to defend the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. This was stated to the House of Commons on their return from the Summer Recess by Mr. John Stanley, Minister for the Armed Forces.

Mr. Stanley also affirmed that the garrison did not represent any threat to the mainland and was only maintained to carry out Britain's defence obligations to Falkland Islanders, concluding that these defence dispositions showed Britain's determination to provide a continuing free way of life for the Falkland Islanders.

SIR TRISTRAM SAILS AGAIN. The Royal Fleet Auxillary ship "Sir Tristram" has been rebuilt and is back in service more than three years after being severely damaged during the Falklands Conflict. Her commander is Captain Robin Green who also commanded her in the Falklands and who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

ORGANIC FARMING TRIAL IN FALKLAND ISLANDS. The United Kingdom Falkland Islands Trust's project on organic farming in the Falkland Islands is progressing well. The farming trial using kelp extracts as fertiliser has indicated that kelp is almost as effective as imported fertilisers. If the results of the second year are successful, the trial may lead to the construction of a plant for the processing of kelp, which grows abundantly in the waters around the Islands.

FALKLAND TOURISM AT ABTA CONVENTION. The 35th annual convention of the Association of British Travel Agents, held in Sorrento from 27th to 31st October, was attended by a representative of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation promoting Falkland Islands Tourism.

The FIDC plan to have its first tourists in the 1986/87 season (November to March) on completion of the first of its lodge-style mini hotels which are to be built in some of the main wildlife areas around the Islands.

WC/31/5



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tuffon Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 21

covering November 1985

UN RESOLUTION ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

An Argentine resolution on the Falkland Islands was put before the Fourth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. The resolution requested both Governments to "...initiate negotiations with a view to finding the means to resolve peacefully and definitely the pending problems between both countries, including all aspects on the future of the Falkland Islands". Britain put forward two amendments to the Argentine motion to re-affirm the right of the Falkland Islanders to self-determination in accordance with the UN Charter, to thereby guarantee that right prior to the commencement of any possible future negotiations between Argentina and Great Britain.

The resolution was approved by 107 votes, with 41 abstentions. The 4 voting against were Britain, Belize, Oman and the Solomon Islands. Both British amendments were defeated. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, expressed regret and disappointment at the voting results and re-affirmed the Government's commitment to uphold the Falkland Islanders' right to self-determination while continuing to restore normal relations with Argentina.

Falkland Islands Councillors, John Cheek and Lewis Clifton, representing the Falkland Islanders at the UN debate, were deeply appreciative of the enormous British efforts on Falkland Islanders behalf but stated that the resolution's acceptance by previously friendly countries to the Falklands cause would be viewed upon with considerable anger and concern by Falkland Islanders.

Whilst in Britain, the Councillors had meetings with officials from the Foreign Office and the Overseas Development Administration. They also attended a meeting of the UK Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Falkland Islands Group and had discussions with British Parliamentarians.

UK GOVERNMENT RESTATES ITS POSITION

On the opening of Parliament, the Queen's Speech restated the Government's honouring of the undertakings given to the people of the Falkland Islands, whilst continuing to seek more normal relations with Argentina.

In the debate following the address, parliamentarians from both Houses welcomed the Government's intentions. Many expressed concern however about the fishing in Falkland Islands waters still under discussion.

AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES

Britain and Argentina publicly agreed on the need for a joint international effort to conserve fishing stocks around the Falkland Islands. Officials from both countries attending the meeting of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) endorsed a proposal that the FAO should conduct a feasibility study of the Falkland Islands waters. This study would eventually lead to the setting up of a mechanism for the water's multi-national supervision involving both Britain and Argentina.

Mrs Thatcher confirmed the UK Government's support for the FAO initiative and speaking for the Government in the House of Lords, Lady Young said that the Government wishes to devise a scheme which is in the long-term interests of the Falkland Islanders. She said that it must be workable in practice, conserve and manage stocks effectively and allow the Islands to benefit financially and that it must also clearly be a regime that respects UK sovereignty of the Islands.

FALKLAND FISHERIES REPORT

A report on the fisheries around the Falklands by Dr John Beddington, Marine Resources Assessment Group of Imperial College, London, was commissioned by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation to provide an objective assessment of the Falklands Fishery.

The estimated total value of the catch from a 200 mile Falklands zone during the first nine months of 1985 was £187 million. The three most important species are hake, blue whiting and squid; which the report shows to be either already fully exploited or over exploited. In the case of squid, which has a high commercial value, the concern arises if there should be a significant increase on the present levels of fishing, currently being indicated for 1986.

The report has been placed in the House of Commons Library.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON NEW HOSPITAL IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

Work has started on rebuilding the hospital in Stanley which was destroyed by fire last year. The new hospital will be a shared civilian and military hospital and will comprise an acute care wing, a civilian health centre and administrative facilities as well as sheltered housing for the elderly and staff accommodation.

The contractors for the project are Fairclough-Miller Joint Venture and consultants Building Design Partnership. Scheduled for completion in January 1987, the project's overall costs will be £11.3 million to which contributions have been made by Mr Jack Hayward (£1 million) and the States of Guernsey (£100,000) with the remaining costs to be shared by the Overseas Development Administration and the Ministry of Defence.

FUTURE OF THE BRITISH GARRISON IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Government must decide what level of garrison is to be kept in the Falkland Islands on completion of the Mount Pleasant Airport. General de la Billiere, until June Commander of the military forces in the Falkland Islands, put forward a number of options that Britain could be confronted with, emphasising however the strategic importance of the airport at Mount Pleasant.

The question of the future of force levels is also being considered by Admiral Sir John (Sandy) Woodward, now Deputy Chief of Defence Staff, who has stressed the need to remain alert, noting that no shift in Argentina had been detected in 1982.

ANTARCTIC SURVEY SHIP RESCUED FROM PACK ICE

The British Antarctic Survey ship, the RRS John Biscoe, was freed from the west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula where she had been trapped in pack ice for two days.

The John Biscoe was on her way to Rothera Base further down the Antarctic Peninsula to land a summer party of scientists to conduct research which includes surveying for minerals. An increasing number of foreign ships are surveying the Antarctic as the 1992 review date approaches for the Antarctic Treaty which protects the area from international oil and other exploitation.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#22

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 22

covering December 1985 - January 1986

DECLINE IN FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENCE COSTS The Government's White Paper (Cmnd 9702) sets out the Government's expenditure plans for 1986-87 to 1988-89. The provision for Falklands costs included in the defence budget is £442m in 1986-87, reduced to £192m in 1988-89. This represents a drop from 2.39% of the U.K. defence budget in the current financial year to 0.01% in 1988-89. The cost of replacing stores and equipment lost during the 1982 campaign and the additional cost of the Falklands garrison are reduced markedly. The following table shows the annual provision for Falklands costs:

Falklands Provision

1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
£624m	£684m	£552m	£442	£292m	£192m

INCREASED FISHING IN FALKLAND WATERS Following renewed parliamentary and press calls to act to prevent further depletion of the Falklands fisheries, Government Ministers have stated that Britain is pursuing negotiations for multilateral-based fisheries and conservation and management arrangements based on the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation technical studies of the South-West Atlantic fishing.

The 1986 fishing season has now begun and it seems unlikely that an effective agreement will be reached before the stocks of whiting, hake and squid are further depleted.

The number of foreign fishing vessels in the waters around the Falkland Islands is known to have increased substantially in the past two years. Foreign Office figures show an increase from 60 ships at the peak period in 1984 to more than 100 at the same period in 1985.

INSHORE FISHERIES PROJECT At the end of November the M.V. "Coastal Pioneer", owned by Fortoser Ltd., of Grimsby, completed the first year of the inshore fisheries survey. During this period work has principally been directed towards research into the stocks of red crab (*Paralomis Granulosa*), which have been found in quantity around the Islands and contain good quality white meat. Whilst initial reports from the project's processing associates, J. Van Smirren Ltd., of Boston, Lincolnshire, have been encouraging, the size of the crab is critical and more research is being done into the level of sustainable yield of this species.

The "Coastal Pioneer" is now also engaged in trawling for white fish. Good quantities of Ray are believed to exist, for which there is a potential U.K. market.

To assist in further assessing the commercial viability of inshore fishery, a pilot processing plant is being established in Stanley. This will both supply the local market and allow for export to enable a thorough commercial assessment of the products to be made.

JACQUES COUSTEAU VISITS FALKLANDS During January M. Jacques Cousteau, the distinguished French oceanographer and film maker, spent some three weeks in the Islands aboard his revolutionary wind powered ship "Alcyone". The purpose of the visit was to film the Falklands' wrecks and wildlife, part of a series of films dealing with man's relationship with the sea.

M. Cousteau expressed grave concern over the potential damage to the wildlife of the Islands as a result of uncontrolled fishing in Falkland waters.

JERSEY GIFT In 1982 the States of Jersey gave £5m to HMG "towards the expenses incurred in the recovery and rehabilitation of the Falkland Islands". The Falkland Islands Government have proposed that this generous gift should be associated with a new housing project and with the extension and renovation of the Stanley water supply. The new housing development will be named the Jersey Estate and a plaque, to be mounted on the water treatment plant, will further record the Falkland Islanders' appreciation of Jersey's generosity.

HOLIDAY TOURS TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS Escorted 20 day tours to the Falkland Islands are advertised by Twickers World in the 1986-87 season for about £2,500. The groups will fly direct to the Falkland Islands and will stay in the newly built or converted tourist lodges in some of the key wildlife areas in the Islands. The visits will centre around the important bird nesting colonies and other wildlife unique to the Islands.

KNIGHTHOOD FOR "UNION" JACK HAYWARD Jack Hayward OBE, Chairman of Grand Bahama Development Corporation who gave £1m towards the cost of sheltered housing for the elderly in the Falklands and contributed towards the cost of returning the SS "Great Britain" to Bristol from the Falklands in 1970, was knighted in the New Year's Honours List.

BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT FALKLAND ISLANDS A delegation of MPs and Peers visited the Falkland Islands for a nine day tour in early December.

The all-party delegation, led by John Stokes MP (Con), consisted of nine Parliamentarians in total: Lord Pender (Con), Lord Boston of Faversham QC (Lab), Lord Tordoff (Lib), Gordon Bagier (Lab), Frank Cook (Lab), James Couchman (Con), Robert Key (Con) and Roger Sims (Con).

RAF TAKES OVER FALKLAND ISLANDS FLIGHTS In December the RAF took over the Falkland Islands flights previously run by British Airways under a six month contract. The route, via Ascension Island, is operated by Tristars three times a week from RAF Brize Norton.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 23

covering February 1986

BARONESS YOUNG PETITIONED ON FISHING

During a five day visit to the Falkland Islands (23-28 February) Lady Young, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was presented with a petition by Islanders concerned at the current over-fishing in the waters around the Falklands. The petition, sponsored by Councillors Edwards and Keenleyside and signed by over 1,000 residents, read:

"We, the undersigned residents of the Falkland Islands, wish our views to be known to the British Prime Minister and her Government regarding the fishing by numerous nations in our waters. We consider the present uncontrolled fishing a certain disaster to our wildlife and fish stocks. A multilateral fishing zone we believe is not the answer and would be of little advantage to our economic development due to the lengthy negotiations which will be necessary to bring this into being. We therefore urge the British Government to effect a unilateral fishing zone around our Islands without delay."

At a public meeting in Stanley, Lady Young expressed sympathy with Islanders' concerns but stated that the British Government remained convinced that a multilateral approach offered the best prospects for a successful solution to the problem.

In replying to a question on fishing in the House of Commons, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Tim Eggar MP, stated: "We are co-operating fully with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, which is conducting a technical study of the south west Atlantic fishery. We expect that this will lead to discussion and agreement on multilateral fisheries conservation and management arrangements. Pending action on the study we have urged all those countries with fishing fleets active in the area to exercise restraint. There has been a generally helpful response."

According to a report in the Falkland Islands Times there were 130 vessels fishing within the 150 mile radius Falkland Islands Protection Zone on 3 February.

TRANSHIPMENT FEES ANNOUNCED

The Falkland Islands Government has announced that with effect from 15 March it intends to impose a fee on vessels transshipping or exporting fish from the Islands' territorial waters.

During the 'high season' (15 February - 15 June) a fee of £1,500

will be charged on each vessel transshipping or exporting fish. This figure is estimated to be not more than 1% of the value of the catches being transhipped (principally the 'illex' species of squid). During the remainder of the year the fee will be £150 per transshipment.

It is estimated that this could result in revenue of some £700,000 a year, in addition to the harbour dues, currently estimated at £650,000 a year. These fees will be levied under the existing fisheries legislation.

ARGENTINE DELEGATION VISITS BRITAIN

A delegation of four Argentine Parliamentarians:- Senator Adolfo Gass, Senator Julio Ameodo, Deputy Frederico Storani and Deputy Jose Bordon, visited Britain for meetings with various parties. Junior Foreign Office Minister, Mr. Tim Eggar MP, offered to meet the delegation. The offer was refused by the Argentines who claimed that there would be no point in a meeting when Britain had made it quite clear that the question of sovereignty was not for discussion. However, Alastair Cameron, the Falkland Islands Government Representative in London, did meet with the Argentinian delegation, and took the opportunity to stress that Islanders remain adamantly opposed to any discussion of a change in sovereign status and see no validity whatsoever in the Argentine claim.

At a subsequent press conference Deputy Storani reportedly said: "We are prepared totally to respect an autonomous government for the Islanders' way of life, religion, education system and police and would respect their private property." However, on his return to Argentina he claimed to have been misinterpreted on the question of autonomy, stating: "Since our provinces are autonomous I stated that the inhabitants of the Falklands would gain autonomy."

FARM PURCHASED FOR SUBDIVISION

On 24 February the Falkland Islands Development Corporation announced that it had reached agreement with the Falkland Islands Company to purchase the Company's Fox Bay West farm on West Falkland. On the same day the Minister of State for Overseas Development, The Rt.Hon. Timothy Raison MP, announced in the House of Commons that he had agreed to the allocation of £550,743 from the £31 million 1982 Falkland Islands Development Aid Grant, to enable the Falkland Islands Development Corporation to buy this property. The farm will be subdivided and sold to local buyers.

This is the culmination of negotiations between the Development Corporation and the Falkland Islands Company and is in accordance with the Falkland Islands Government's stated policy of land transfer on a willing-seller, willing-buyer basis. It is expected that the process of planning the subdivisions will take some months and that they will be advertised for sale later in the year.

Since 1979, when the policy of subdivision was first implemented, four large properties have been subdivided and 27 new farms established.



UK/31/15

P/FFO/1#24

Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QJ. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLO

Issue 24

covering March 1986

Next of kin to return to Falklands Fifty-six members of the Falkland Islands Families Association will be visiting the Islands from 7 April to 15 April.

The Association was formed during the MoD-organised visit to the Islands in April 1983, by next of kin of those killed during the Falklands War.

During their visit they will be staying with local families and visiting the graves and memorials of those killed during the conflict, and will hold a number of memorial services.

The cost of the visit is being met partly from funds raised by the Association both in the UK (£22,000) and in the Falkland Islands (£10,000).

FALKLAND ISLANDS FISHING:

"Her Majesty's Government want a multilateral fishing regime" The British Government's current position on demands for a 200-mile fishing zone around the Falkland Islands was restated in a Parliamentary written answer of Thursday 20 March, in reply to a question tabled by Lord Hylton. Lord Hylton asked Her Majesty's Government "how they reconcile their attitude that sovereignty over the Falkland Islands is non-negotiable, with their refusal to establish a 200-mile economic and fishery zone". Baroness Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, replied that "... it is plain commonsense that conservation within a 200-mile economic and fishery zone around the Falklands Islands can best be achieved by co-operation among all those with an interest in orderly fishing in that region... We want an effective multilateral regime, entirely without prejudice to our position on sovereignty. We shall, of course, continue to stand firmly by our commitments to the Falkland Islanders".

British trawler company to increase fishing fleet within 150-mile Falkland Islands Protection Zone A British trawler company, J Marr & Son from Hull, has chartered ten Japanese vessels and crew to fish within Falkland waters.

Marr had four deep-sea freezer trawlers requisitioned during the 1982 Conflict as part of the Task Force and after the ceasefire offered to remain to survey the fishing potential but the suggestion was not taken up by the Foreign Office.

Over-fishing puts penguins at risk Reports from Stanley claim that thousands of penguins in the Falkland Islands are dying through starvation, due to the chronic overfishing of squid - the penguins' main diet - by more than 200 foreign fishing vessels.

Crab processing plant under construction in Stanley. A survey being carried out for the Falkland Islands Government on inshore crab fishing around the Falkland Islands, has had promising results. A small plant for the processing of crab is now under construction in Stanley. It will soon be possible for sizeable quantities of semi-processed crab to be sent to the UK for further processing and sale in the buoyant market in Europe and North America.

House of Commons Defence Committee visit Falkland Islands Members of the Defence Select Committee arrived for a three-day visit to the Falkland Islands on 25 March. Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore, who commanded British Land Forces during the liberation of the Falkland Islands in 1982, accompanied the delegation as special adviser. During their visit, they were briefed by the Governor and the Commander of the British Forces on the current situation and also met civilians and military personnel of all ranks. The MPs visited ships, military units and installations as well as the new Mount Pleasant Airport, in which they had expressed particular interest.

British Council of Churches visit the Falkland Islands A visit was made recently by a British Council of Churches delegation in order to listen to the views of the Falkland Islanders and to explain the work of the BCC in its discussions with Argentine Church leaders and politicians. Mrs Jean Mayland, a member of the delegation, said "One thing was made startlingly clear: one hundred per cent of the people we met want to remain British".

Construction Achievement Award 1986 for Airport Construction News magazine awarded its 1986 achievement prize to the Property Services Agency - as managing agents - and the Laing-Mowlem-ARC construction consortium which built Mount Pleasant Airport. The building of the £400 million airport in barely 18 months was described as "one of the most spectacular feats of civil engineering".

£2 Coin to be Issued A new Falkland Islands coin with a face value of £2 is to be issued later this year to commemorate the Commonwealth Games which will be held in Edinburgh during July and August. The coins will be struck in silver and sold in proof and uncirculated condition. The Falkland Islands will be sending a team of two marksmen to participate in the full-bore rifle competition at the Games.

"Uganda" to be broken up According to Press reports, the schools cruise ship Uganda, which became a hospital vessel in the Falklands War, looks to be on course for a sad end in the breakers' yard. The 17,000-ton vessel, formerly owned by P & O, took children all over the world until she was commandeered by the Ministry of Defence in 1982 as a haven for injured soldiers and marines. After the war the 35-year old liner became a troopship, ferrying soldiers between Ascension Island and the Falklands until May last year. P & O, who failed to find a buyer at the £1 million asking price, have now sold SS Uganda to Taiwanese scrap merchants for £530,000.



Falkland

Focus

WC/31/6
P/FFO/1#25

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 25

covering April 1986

FALKLANDS BY-ELECTION At a by-election in the Camp constituency, caused by the resignation of Mr Tim Miller from the Legislative Council, Mr Eric Goss - Farm Manager of North Arm, East Falkland - was elected taking more than one third of the total vote. Four candidates stood for the seat.

POLL ON SOVEREIGNTY A Marplan poll, commissioned by the UK Falkland Islands Committee asking what kind of sovereignty was wanted by Falkland Islanders was sent to all 1,033 electors. It was answered by 960 people (89%) of whom 94.5% said they wanted to remain British. Three people stated they would like Argentinian sovereignty and nine people supported a leaseback agreement.

VISIT OF FALKLAND FAMILIES ASSOCIATION 57 members of the Falkland Families Association, relatives of the British servicemen killed in action during the 1982 Falklands conflict, have just completed a second visit to the Falkland Islands. At the end of their visit they were presented with a cheque for £8,000 by the Islanders to help towards the cost of another visit which they hope to make within the next three years.

NEW WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN STANLEY Speaking during his visit to the Falklands earlier this month, Mr Timothy Raison MP (Minister for Overseas Development) announced that the British Government has agreed to provide £3.137 million (part of the total of £31m earmarked after the Falklands conflict for the Islands' development) for an improved water supply system in Stanley. The project is designed to meet the town's needs until the year 2000. The first phase of improvements has already been completed, with the Royal Engineers having laid an emergency water main.

The second phase, devoted to extraction, pumpage treatment, sewerage and other works, supervised and engineered by the Crown Agents, is due to be completed by May 1988.

During his four-day visit to the Islands, Mr Raison had discussions with local councillors and members of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation and visited a number of development projects both in Stanley and in Camp.

POST-MORTEM OF FALKLAND PENGUINS The Falkland Islands Foundation has arranged for an investigation to be carried out into the cause of the recent deaths amongst the rockhopper penguins of the Islands. Post-mortems, being carried out on a number of birds by scientists at the Ministry of Agriculture Veterinary Research Institute in Norwich, have not yet been completed, but according to the Foundation, the birds appear to have suffered from undernourishment. However the possibility of a virus infection has not yet been ruled out.

The isolation of many of the penguin colonies in the Islands have made accurate estimates on the extent of the problem difficult to obtain, but the number of deaths does not appear to have been as high as originally feared.

VISIT OF UN SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ARGENTINA The Peruvian Secretary-General of the United Nations, Senor Javier Perez de Cuellar visited Buenos Aires in early April for discussions with the Argentine Government. He said the main purpose of his visit was to help Argentina and Britain "start negotiations on the Falklands". In May, Senor Perez de Cuellar visits Britain to meet the Prime Minister.

Adolfo Gass, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said Argentina was willing to discuss the Falklands within the framework of a UN resolution last year calling for negotiations on "all aspects" of the future of the Falkland Islands.

PARLIAMENTARIANS' MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF ARGENTINE CONGRESS During a meeting of the Inter Parliamentary Union in Mexico earlier this month, eight British parliamentarians met with eight members of the Argentine Congress.

Mr David Crouch MP (Con, Canterbury) leader of the British Delegation, claimed that the possibility of ceasing hostilities and restoring diplomatic relations between the two countries had been brought nearer. Speaking to reporters he said: "We cannot discuss sovereignty at this stage because we have a policy of not recognising the Argentine claim to sovereignty over the Islands".

According to reports in the Argentine press, the British Delegation supported the view that the Islanders' right to self-determination should be respected whilst the Argentinians opposed this on the grounds that the Islanders were British citizens.

LEVEL OF FALKLAND ISLANDS GARRISON Mr George Younger MP, Defence Secretary, has said that the garrison level in the Falkland Islands could well be "not more than 1,000 troops in all" in the future. This number could defend the Islands for a short period while reinforcements arrive. With an estimated 4,000 troops in the Islands currently, this reduction would cut defence costs substantially.

NO RESETTLEMENT SCHEME FOR ISLANDERS In answer to a Parliamentary Question tabled by Mr Dale Campbell-Savours MP (Lab, Workington), Sir Geoffrey Howe stated that there is no resettlement scheme for compensation should any Islanders wish to leave the Islands. However, Sir Geoffrey reiterated the results of the recent opinion survey in that "the overwhelming majority of the Islanders wish to remain in the Islands under British Sovereignty".



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#26

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufon Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON-

Issue 26

covering May 1986

LEGCO REACTS TO LABOUR'S FALKLANDS POLICY The Falkland Islands Government Office in London has circulated a motion passed unanimously by the elected Legislative Council in Stanley on 28 May to all members of the Parliamentary Labour Party for their return to Westminster after the Whitsun Recess. The Motion reads:

"That this House rejects as totally unacceptable the proposals for adoption by the Labour Party made by Mr George Foulkes MP in his broadcast on 'Calling the Falklands' on 20th May 1986, emphasises their total unacceptability to the vast majority of Falkland Islanders and draws the Labour Party's attention to the results of the recent Marplan poll of opinion in the Islands which indicated that 94.5% of Falkland Islanders wish to continue to enjoy British sovereignty and moves that this Motion be circulated to all Members of the UK Parliamentary Labour Party".

The Motion follows a broadcast made by Mr George Foulkes MP (Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley), a Labour Foreign Affairs spokesman in which he was commenting on press reports concerning his Party's future policy towards the Falkland Islands.

A year ago, on 16 May 1985, in an interview on BBC Television Mr George Foulkes said:

"I give this pledge on behalf of the Labour Party: we would never sell out the Falklanders. We want to find a solution which allows Fortress Falklands to be phased down; which allows us to have peace with Argentina; and to get back onto diplomatic relations with Argentina. But we want to protect the interests of the Falklanders and respect their wishes."

ARGENTINA ATTACKS FISHING VESSELS An Argentine gunboat sank a Taiwanese fishing vessel and killed at least one crew member a few miles outside the 150-mile British protection zone around the Falkland Islands on 28 May. The Foreign Office has protested.

Earlier in the day it had fired on another Taiwanese boat and chased two others which fled into the safety of the protection zone.

The Chian Der 3 was sunk after its captain had defied orders to proceed to Argentina, while offering to move to other fishing grounds. After the ship steamed to the east and was hit by Argentine cannon fire, it sent Mayday signals and reported fires on board.

These are the most recent in a series of incidents in which Argentina has sought to exercise control over vessels in international waters around the Falkland Islands.

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL VISITS BRITAIN The UN Secretary-General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, visited Britain earlier this month to have talks with Sir Geoffrey Howe, (Foreign Secretary) and Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Prime Minister). Amongst other issues he discussed ways to encourage negotiations between Britain and Argentina. Mrs Thatcher told Mr Perez de Cuellar that Britain is not prepared to shift its position on sovereignty of the Falkland Islands although it is keen to reestablish relations between Britain and Argentina. During his recent meeting with Argentine leaders in Buenos Aires he had found "real interest in reaching a solution to the Falklands dispute". The Argentine position remains that a solution must involve the transfer of sovereignty.

ARGENTINA EASES TRADE RESTRICTIONS The Argentinian Government appears to be gradually easing its restrictions on trade with Britain, almost a year after Britain lifted trade sanctions against Argentina. No official announcement has been made but it is reported that the Argentinian authorities are giving favourable consideration to requests for imports from and exports to Great Britain. However, Government sources in Buenos Aires have reportedly stressed that this gradual change does not reflect any alteration in Argentina's policy towards the Falklands, but is in response to Argentinian commercial needs and an attempt to make Argentina appear more flexible internationally.

ARGENTINE DELEGATION IN LONDON A former Argentine Ambassador to Washington, Mr Arnaldo Musich and an ex-Foreign Minister, Mr Oscar Camilion were among a delegation of five members of the Centre for South Atlantic Studies in Buenos Aires who met MPs and other interested parties in London earlier this month to discuss relations between Britain and Argentina.

MOUNT PLEASANT AIRPORT FULLY OPERATIONAL Following an estimated £303 million to build and a further £10 million for navigational aids, the Mount Pleasant Airport has now become fully operational. Phantom aircraft of 23 Squadron and the Rapier missile system are now defending the Islands from the recently completed international airport. It will be used by both RAF and civil aircraft. RAF Tri-star flights carrying passengers and freight have cut flying time between the UK and the Falkland Islands to some 16 hours. It is planned that with the Islands' improved accessibility, the garrison level will be substantially reduced.

CHICAGO EXHIBIT FOR FALKLAND ISLANDS' STAMPS Mr Lewis Clifton, Manager of the Philatelic Bureau in Stanley, and two members of his staff represented the Falkland Islands at the AMERIPEX 86 International Stamp Exhibition in Chicago in May. It is the first occasion that the Falkland Islands Philatelic Bureau have taken part in such an event. The initiative reflects the high degree of international interest in Falkland Islands' stamps.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#27

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLO

Issue 27

Covering June 1986

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALKLANDS LIBERATION The fourth anniversary of the liberation of the Falkland Islands was commemorated in both the Falkland Islands and London on 14 June 1986.

In the Falkland Islands, services were held with wreath-laying ceremonies at the Liberation Memorial in Stanley and at the cemetery at San Carlos.

In London, members of the Falkland Families Association were present at a short service at the Task Force Memorial in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral. Flowers were laid by families and by the Falkland Islands Government Representative on behalf of the people of the Falkland Islands and by the Chairman of the Falklands Association on behalf of their members.

PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT FALKLANDS An all party group of MPs and Peers visited the islands from 23 to 28 June. They met members of both the civilian and military communities. Those who took part were: Carol Mather MP (Con) David Crouch MP (Con) Neville Trotter MP (Con) Martin Brandon-Bravo MP (Con) Viscount Mersey (Con) Colin Shepherd MP (Con) Mark Hughes MP (Lab) Frank Haynes (Lab) Allan McKay MP (Lab) and Lord Harwick (Lab).

SDP POLICY ON FUTURE OF FALKLANDS ISLANDS In the Alliance Defence Policy Paper (published in June), it was stated that: "we believe it is essential for the British Government to open discussions with the Argentinian Government to reach a stable settlement in the South Atlantic that would allow Britain to abandon the heavy cost of maintaining Fortress Falklands. The discussions should explore the possibility of joint sovereignty of the Falklands, or the vesting of sovereignty in a UN trusteeship agreement on the security of the Falklands being underwritten by the Organisation of American States".

In a recent interview with an Argentinian paper it was reported that Dr. David Owen MP, leader of the SDP, said that he supported a negotiated settlement with Argentina based on a change in the sovereignty of the Falklands. He favoured a UN trusteeship in which neither Government would win or lose. Argentina's view that it would only accept the transfer of sovereignty was unrealistic and would not be achieved. He rejected the Argentine idea of an open agenda and blamed the FCO for having encouraged the illusion of a transfer of the sovereignty (pre-1982) where there was no parliamentary support for it. He said that the Labour Party would not be able to implement its current policy on the Falklands because of adverse public reaction.

EFFORTS TO FIND MINES ABANDONED The Ministry of Defence has now abandoned its efforts to clean the estimated 13,500 mines left by the Argentinians following the Falklands war. To date there has been an approximate expenditure of £6m to develop a means of detecting the mines - made up almost entirely of plastic. Some 195 square kilometres, principally in the battlefield areas around Stanley, have been searched, and many minefields have been precisely located and fenced off.

However the Government has now decided that because another £20m may be needed to find a safe and effective means of detecting the mines in the Falklands, the present research programme will cease. The Rt Hon George Younger MP, Secretary of State for Defence replying to a parliamentary question stated that "there is no serious danger to the Islanders outside these fenced off areas and their safety will thus remain carefully protected."

LEGCO MOTION RAISED IN HOUSE Further to the circulation of the motion passed unanimously by the Falkland Islands Legislative Council to all Members of the Parliamentary Labour Party, the Rt Hon Sir Bernard Braine MP (Con) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to publish the resolution. Mr Tim Eggar MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, replied that the motion had already been publicised and that "we have made clear on numerous occasions the commitment to defend the right to the Falkland Islanders to live under British rule. Their wish to do so has never been in doubt".

LEGCO CONDEMNS SINKING The following was issued by the Falkland Islands Legislative Council following the sinking of a Taiwanese fishing vessel by an Argentine gunboat last month.

"This House wishes to express in the strongest terms its condemnation of the action taken by the Argentine Democratic Republic in sinking an unarmed fishing vessel with the consequent loss of life and injury to the vessel's crew. This regime which professes that it is its intention to settle disputes by peaceful means has shown how shallow these intentions are.

We would commend Her Majesty's Forces for their efforts to assist the injured with immediate medical attention and support whole heartedly the British Government's rejection of this attempt by Argentina to pursue by force their sovereignty claim over the waters in question".

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Buenos Aires also protested strongly to the Argentine Government.

AWARD FOR FALKLANDS POLICEMAN In the Queen's Birthday Honours list it was announced that Sergeant Anton Livermore of the Falkland Islands Police Force had received the Colonial Police and Fire Services Medal.

Sergeant Livermore has served with the Police Force for eight years and during the Falklands War was the only member of the Police Force in Stanley.

NEW COMMANDER OF THE BRITISH FORCES FALKLAND ISLANDS The Ministry of Defence has announced that Captain Christopher Layman DSO LVO Royal Navy is to succeed Air Vice-Marshal 'Kip' Kemball as Commander of the British Forces Falkland Islands in August. Captain Layman will be taking over the post in the rank of Rear Admiral.

Captain Layman was Commander of HMS Argonaut during the Falklands War and since then he has been Commander of HMS Cleopatra, Naval Director of the Joint Maritime Operational Training Staff and in December 1984 he was appointed Commanding Officer of the aircraft carrier HMS Invincible.



Falkland FOCUS

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 28

Covering July 1986

FISHERIES : AGREEMENTS AND DISAGREEMENTS In answer to questions in the House of Lords on 29 July, Baroness Young, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, confirmed that Argentina had initialed a bilateral fisheries agreement with the Soviet Union. She rejected suggestions that the British Government had been inactive over the issue of fishing: "I think it is unfair and untrue to say that we have done nothing, because we are still waiting for the FAO study, which I think will be valuable and will tell us what is happening as opposed to what people assume is happening." She stated that the FAO study was expected in the autumn, going on to say "Preliminary indications are that while one of the main species of squid has come under heavy pressure, the other squid species and the main species of fin fish appear to be holding up well."

According to reports in the Argentine press the Argentine-Soviet agreement will allow eighteen Russian trawlers to fish within the 150 mile Falkland Islands Protection Zone during the next twelve months and take 180 thousand tons of fish. 10% of the vessels' crews will be Argentinian.

It is also understood that Argentina has been seeking a similar agreement with Japan.

FIDC ANNUAL REPORT On 17 July the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC) launched its 1985 Annual Report and Accounts.

During 1985 financial assistance was approved for 86 individuals and companies. The total investment in projects approved reached £1,264,592, and in addition £1,795,930 was invested in tangible assets or wholly owned subsidiaries.

There are four main sectors of development. In agriculture, as well as giving grant assistance to farmers, the FIDC is involved in the continuing programme of farm subdivision and increased local land ownership. It is also assisting with the establishment of a market garden in Stanley and the re-establishment of the Stanley Dairy. In fisheries it has continued both the offshore fisheries survey and the inshore fisheries project, which has now progressed to the establishment of a pilot processing plant for crabmeat, the produce of which will be exported to the United Kingdom for market testing. In tourism the FIDC is involved with the establishment of three tourist lodges which should be opened before the end of 1986. In the industrial and service sector the FIDC has assisted a wide variety of businesses. It has also created an Enterprise Grant Scheme and a Training Scheme.

Copies of the FIDC 1985 Annual Report and Accounts are available from the Falkland Islands Government Office, 29 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3QL.

FALKLANDS TO RECEIVE EEC ECONOMIC AID The Falkland Islands are to receive EEC development funds under an aid programme for overseas territories for member states which came into operation earlier this month. In answer to a Question in the House of Commons, Mr. Timothy Raison MP (Minister of State for Overseas Development), stated that:

"... the EEC has recently approved the allocation of 364,000 ecu (European Currency Unit) (about £233,000) for an extension to Stanley Senior School. This Project will use up the balance of the allocation to the Falkland Islands under the Fourth and Fifth European Development Funds... The Falkland Islands will also benefit from a share of the 12.04m ecu (approximately £7.7m) being made available to U.K. dependant territories under the Sixth European Development fund for commitment over the next five years."

PENGUIN DEATHS Russian claims that recent penguin deaths in the South West Atlantic were due to radioactive contamination from nuclear weapons aboard British ships sunk during the 1982 Conflict were rejected by the Argentinian National Atomic Energy Commission. Experts at the University of Patagonia said that the deaths of penguins in a colony near Puerto Deseado were due to starvation.

Further examinations carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Veterinary Investigative Centre on dead rockhopper penguins from the Falkland Islands indicate that a disease of seabirds known as 'puffinosis', together with high concentration of lead in some specimens may have contributed to the malnutrition and starvation shown by these birds. It is hoped that it will be possible to carry out further investigations during the forthcoming breeding season.

WEDDING PRESENTS FROM FALKLAND ISLANDS The Duke and Duchess of York have received an antique map of the Falkland Islands dated 1779 as a wedding present from the Government and people of the Falkland Islands. The Duchess of York was given a handknitted pullover made from wool spun at the Falkland Mill. The cream coloured pullover took over one hundred hours to knit. The Mill, opened by Prince Andrew when he was serving in the South Atlantic last year, is the first local wool mill. It has managed to build up a thriving local market among the garrison and contractors and is about to start exporting its jumpers and yarn to the United Kingdom.

FALKLAND ISLANDERS AT COMMONWEALTH GAMES A two-man team from the Falkland Islands are competing at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh in the full-bore rifle contest. Margaret Butler, a 19 year old bank clerk from Stanley, represented the Falkland Islands at the Games' Opening Ceremony.

MINISTER VISITS FALKLANDS Mr. John Stanley MP, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, commenced a short visit to the Falkland Islands on 22 July. Whilst in the Islands he made a tour of the military installations.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said that Mr. Stanley took a special interest in the Islands and that this was just a routine visit.

Mr. Stanley has visited the Islands on four previous occasions.



Falkland FOCUS

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

covering August/September 1986

Issue 29

FALKLAND ISLANDS SEAFOODS SHIPMENTS BEGINS The first container of Falkland Islands crab was recently delivered to the processing firm J van Smirren of Boston, Lincolnshire, who with Fortoser Ltd comprise Falkland Islands Seafoods Ltd, a commercial fishing enterprise. A second container left on 23 September.

One ton of crab is being caught each week and the standard remains high and is most adequate for what is an experimental stage of the agreement between Fortoser and FIDC which ended on 30 September. Following an assessment of the fisheries research, it is expected that the future of inshore fishing in the Falkland Islands will be decided.

FALKLAND ISLAND FARMS-NEW MOVES Mr Timothy Raison MP, former Minister for Overseas Development (since replaced by Mr Chris Patten MP) approved an allocation of £750,000 from the 1982 Falkland Islands development grant to enable the Falkland Islands Government to purchase Port Howard Farm in West Falkland.

The farm is to be purchased from the present owners, J L Waldron Ltd, and sold to a new company formed by the existing farm employees. They will now be able to buy their homes from the new company as will farm tradesmen their businesses.

The sub-division of Fox Bay West on West Falkland has now been completed. The farm was bought by the FIDC for £550,000 from the Falklands Islands Company out of the £31m development grant. Twelve applicants were interviewed for the six sections of Fox Bay West. The FIDC has stated that there is enough demand to warrant more sub-divisions.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT AT INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS Mr Tony Blake, a Falkland Islands Councillor, attended the UN Decolonization Committee during August which urged Argentina and Britain to resume negotiations to find a quick, peaceful solution to their sovereignty dispute over the Falkland Islands. Britain is not a member of the 24-nation Decolonization Committee and, in a departure from past practice, did not exercise its right to take part in the discussion. The resolution that: "The way to put an end to the special and colonial situation in the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) is the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the dispute over sovereignty", was sponsored by Chile, Cuba and Venezuela and resulted in a vote of 20 in favour and none against, with six abstentions.

Councillor Charles Keenleyside visited the UK in September to attend the Small Countries Conference in Jersey and the 32nd Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in London.

ARGENTINIAN OPPOSITION TO BRITISH TRADE LINKS Further to a motion submitted by a senator from President Alfonsin's ruling Radical Party, the Argentinian Senate has voted for a resolution urging the President not to authorise the resumption of bilateral trade until Britain agrees to talks on the Falkland Islands as urged by the United Nations. The ban on British imports was imposed by General Galtieri's regime during the Falklands war. However, senior trade officials said recently that imports from Britain had returned to normal since the Argentine Government had relaxed official curbs last April.

FURTHER FISHING EXPEDITIONS TO FALKLAND ISLANDS J Marr & Son has announced plans to expand its joint venture operation with Japanese fishing companies in Falkland waters following the success of its experimental squid fishing during 1986.

According to a Press report, Dutch trawler owners are planning to send a number of factory trawlers to fish in Falkland waters. This would be the first Dutch fishing involvement in the South Atlantic.

ARGENTINE-SOVIET FISHING AGREEMENT DECRIED Britain has issued a formal statement that the recent Soviet/Argentinian fishing agreement would have no basis in international law. According to Press reports, the agreement allows Soviet vessels to fish within 200 miles of the Argentine coast line which includes waters within the Falkland Islands Protection Zone.

In Argentina, trawler owners and fishermen's unions have opposed agreements between Argentina and the Eastern bloc on the basis that they are harmful to the domestic fishing industry, and are likely to result in overfishing of stocks.

BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIANS TO VISIT BUENOS AIRES It has been announced that a British delegation made up of David Crouch, MP (Con, Chairman of the British InterParliamentary Union); Michael McGuire MP, Lab; Geoffrey Rippon MP, Con; George Foulkes MP, Lab; Donald Anderson MP, Lab; Andrew Faulds MP, Lab; Michael Marshall MP, Con; Sir John Page MP, Con; and Lord Montgomery, Con; will be attending the 76th Conference of the InterParliamentary Union on 5-11th October.

FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT REVENUE RISES Estimated Falkland Islands Government revenue for 1986/87 is £7,325,000 - a three-fold increase since 1980/81. Major sources of revenue are taxation, (expected to raise some £2m); as well as harbour dues and transhipment fees which are expected to raise at least £1.25m. Government expenditure for 1986/87 is estimated at £6,822,000.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#30

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 30

Covering October 1986

FISHING ZONE A 150-mile unilateral fishing zone around the Falkland Islands has been announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary. The conservation and management zone will be established on 1 February 1987 and will be policed by two fisheries protection vessels and a surveillance aircraft. The Falkland Islands Government will be supervising the zone and issuing licenses, the revenue from which is expected to more than cover the cost of the operation.

"This is a very welcome decision which will give us direct control over one of our major resources. Such a zone will allow proper measures to be introduced for the effective conservation of the fishery, which will play an important part in the continuing economic development of the Falkland Islands" said Mr Alastair Cameron, Falkland Islands Government Representative.

The Falkland Islands Government have been calling for a zone since the 1970's when the importance of the fishery in offshore waters around the Falklands began to emerge with the steadily increasing fishing activity, principally of the eastern bloc fleets. Lord Shackleton in his "Falkland Islands Economic Study" 1976 stated: "we recommend that in order to secure the future economic benefits from the offshore fisheries of the Falklands, the United Kingdom should adopt for the Falklands the regime now accepted as normal worldwide, namely, a fisheries limit of 200 miles."

FALKLAND ISLANDS TOURISM The first brochure produced by Falkland Islands Tourism Ltd called "Holidays in the Falkland Islands" was launched in London on 29 October 1986. The full colour brochure gives details of the unique wildlife and other aspects of the Islands. (Copies are available at £1.00 from Falkland Islands Tourism Information Service, 12a Coney Street, York YO1 1NA.)

Falkland Islands Tourism will also be participating in the World Travel Market at Olympia, London, in November. With Mount Pleasant International Airport now fully operational, six tour operators are offering holidays to the Islands for the coming season.

NEW FALKLAND ISLANDS EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS ELECTED On 8 October 1986 the Legislative Council elected three of its members - Charles Keenleyside, Tim Blake and Tony Blake - to serve for one year on the Executive Council.

CENSUS The Falkland Islands Government has announced that a census will be held on 16 November to give information on numbers and distribution of residents which is urgently required for planning purposes.

A census is usually held every ten years; the last one being in December 1980 when the population was shown as 1,813. Since then it is believed that the population has increased.

ARGENTINE VOTE ON FALKLAND ISLANDS PASSED BY IPU An amendment on the Falkland Islands under an umbrella resolution on decolonization was passed at the 76th Inter-Parliamentary Union meeting in Buenos Aires in early October. The text proposed by the Argentinians "strongly reaffirmed the rights of the Argentine Republic to obtain restitution" of the Falklands Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. It also required Argentina and Britain to renew negotiations and "condemned and demanded the dismantlement of the United Kingdom's military bases" and the "cessation of all military activity in those territories."

CHURCH APPOINTMENTS Father Anthony Agreiter has been appointed Prefect Apostolic at St Mary's Church, Stanley following the death a year ago of Monsignor Daniel Spraggon. He will arrive in the Falkland Islands at the beginning of December. Father Agreiter is currently Secretary General to the Mill Hill Fathers, in London.

It has also been announced that Canon Gerry Murphy is to be the next Rector of Christ Church Cathedral in Stanley; it is hoped he will arrive in the Falklands in March 1987. He succeeds Rev Harry Bagnell OBE who has returned to England. Canon Murphy is currently the Rector of Sandringham and a domestic chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen.

FALKLAND MEMORIAL One cwt of earth from the Goose Green battlefield on the Falkland Islands has been used as part of a miniature garden of remembrance for this year's Remembrance Day Poppy Appeal at the Royal British Legions Headquarters in Pall Mall.

PENGUIN DEATHS The Falkland Islands Government has allocated £2,700 towards the cost of an investigation into the recent penguin deaths in the Falkland Islands. It is hoped that Dr Keymer, a Ministry of Agriculture vet who has already carried out several autopsies, will visit the Islands for one month in early January 1987 to carry out further investigations. It has been estimated that 3,000 rock hopper penguins have been found dead on New Island, West Falkland.

ARGENTINE FUNERAL IN FALKLAND ISLANDS Following the discovery by British servicemen of the body of an Argentine officer in his crashed Pucara jet fighter on a remote mountain top in East Falkland, Britain granted permission for the father, Mr Isias Gimenez and his daughter to attend the funeral. They were the first Argentinians to visit the Islands since the Argentine troops were expelled in 1982.

CRUISE SHIPS TO CALL AT FALKLANDS The S.S. "Rotterdam" from the Holland America flag line will call at Stanley at the end of January 1987 as part of a 108-day around-the-world cruise. The S.S. "Rotterdam" carries 1,000 passengers and she last visited the Falklands on her maiden voyage in January 1960.

The "Society Explorer" which carries 100 passengers will call twice at Stanley as part of her programme of cruises to the Antarctic in November and December 1986; she will also call in at various other destinations around the Islands.



Falkland

FOCUS

FIGO/31/ P/FFO/1#31

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

ISSUE 31

Covering November 1986

VOTE AT THE UNITED NATIONS

The UN General Assembly adopted an Argentine resolution calling on Britain and Argentina to negotiate on "all aspects" of the Falklands Islands dispute, which would include the sovereignty issue.

A total of 116 countries voted in favour of the resolution, nine more votes in Argentina's favour than those on a similar resolution last year.

In reaction to the vote, Sir Edward du Cann MP (Con, Taunton) tabled an Early Day Motion regretting "that not one EEC representative was willing to support the United Kingdom in the face of the motion presented by Argentina to the UN on Tuesday 25 November but offers its gratitude to nations as diverse as Oman, Belize and Sri Lanka which voted against the hostile motion".

FALKLANDS CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ZONE - LEGISLATION PASSED

Following last month's announcement by the British Government of a 150-mile unilateral fishing zone around the Falkland Islands, the Falkland Islands Government has now passed legislation on the implementation of such a zone. Successful applicants for fishing licences will be informed by mid-December. The level of licence fee will vary according to the area and period of fishing and type of and size of fishing vessel employed. Licences will, as a rule, be issued for the complete period February - June and/or July - December 1987.

COMPROMISE RESOLUTION REACHED AT OAS

The annual meeting of the Organisation of American States (OAS) was held in Guatemala earlier this month. A compromise resolution urging Britain and Argentina to resume negotiations over sovereignty and to refrain from further actions which could upset "the already delicate existing situation", was unanimously carried by the 31 members including the United States of America.

At an extraordinary meeting requested by Argentina, the member states passed an additional resolution expressing "strong concern over this new element of tension" resulting from Britain's imposition of a 150-mile fisheries conservation and management zone.

FALKLANDS DEFENCE COSTS TO HALVE BY 1988

In reply to a parliamentary question tabled by George Foulkes MP (Lab, Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley) about estimates for the total costs of the Falklands garrison, Rt Hon John Stanley MP (Minister of State for the Armed Forces) replied that:

"It is estimated that the total defence costs of the Falklands in 1985-1986 including the replacement of equipment lost during the campaign is £572 million of which £397 million is the additional cost of establishing and maintaining the garrison. For 1986-1987 and 1987-1988 the planned provision for the Falklands amounts to £435 million and £257 million respectively of which £234 million and £140 million relate to the garrison."

NEW EDITOR FOR PENGUIN NEWS

Miss Belinda Caminada, 24, has been appointed as editor for "Penguin News", a local Falkland Islands newspaper. She left London in late November to take up her post.

The other local newspaper, the "Falkland Islands Times" is published monthly in Stanley and the London based Falkland Islands Association publishes a quarterly "Falkland Islands Newsletter".

STANLEY TO HAVE FRESH MILK AGAIN

Mr Malcolm Ashworth, a Yorkshireman who emigrated to the Falkland Islands 15 years ago, has imported 30 Ayreshire cows from Britain to replace a dairy herd destroyed during the Falklands War and thereby forcing Stanley's population to use imported UHT and powdered milk. The cows are in calf and should begin producing milk early in the New Year.

TV SERVICE IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

Rt Hon John Stanley MP, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, has announced a new television service for the Falkland Islands garrison. In replying to a Parliamentary Question from Mr Cyril Townsend MP (Bexleyheath), he said:

"I am glad to say that the new taped television service will open on 4 December and will be run by the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (SSVC) from their new broadcasting complex at Mount Pleasant in the Falklands. SSVC will be transmitting for four hours each day a blend of taped current BBC and ITV programmes. The new service will be a welcome addition to the existing radio broadcasting service we already provide for members of the Armed Forces serving in the Falkland Islands, especially as it will be in time for Christmas."

STANLEY RUNWAY STRIPPED

British Army engineers have arrived in the Falkland Islands to recover 9,000 sheets of aluminium which were laid at Stanley Airport in August 1982 to enable RAF Phantom Fighter aircraft to operate from the runway.

RAF operations have now moved to Mount Pleasant Airport. Stanley Airport will continue to be used by the Falkland Islands Government Air Service.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 32

Covering December 1986

FALKLAND ISLANDS CONSERVATION ZONE

Applications for licences have been made by most of the fleets active in the fishing over previous years as well as from other countries. The licences are being allocated by the Falkland Islands Government.

The number of vessels being licensed takes account of conservation requirements with the cost of licences varying according to the size of the vessel and method of fishing, period and area to be fished as well as target species.

Two vessels have been chartered by the Falkland Islands Government from J Marr & Son of Hull; the "GA Reay" and the "Seisella" (both built in 1969). The boats are being renamed the "Falklands Right" and "Falklands Desire" after the Falklands motto "Desire the Right". The vessels are to be used for policing the fishing zone and for gathering information on the fishery.

During a parliamentary exchange in the House of Commons, attention was drawn to the fact that the imposition of the FICZ, should enable the Falkland Islands to become more independent of support from Britain.

REDUCTION OF FALKLANDS COSTS THROUGH AIRFIELD

Mr John Stanley MP, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said during question time in the Commons that in the last financial year (1985/86), the additional cost of the defence budget of the Falklands garrison was estimated to have been £397 million.

The planned provision for 1986/87 amounted to £234 million and that for 1987-1988 was £140 million. Although force levels in the Falkland Islands, now and in the future, reflected the continuing need for a military presence sufficient to deter aggression and to defend the Islands against attack, it was clear that the airfield gave a much greater ability to reinforce the Falkland Islands garrison and enabled the Government to take a more flexible view of garrison levels.

CONTINUED UK GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO FALKLANDS

Tim Eggar MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, in answer to a parliamentary question on 4 December 1986, re-stated the Government's commitment to defend the Falkland Islanders' right to self determination. Continued efforts to seek more normal relations were being made but proposals put forward by Argentina were all conditional on discussion of sovereignty which the British Government was not prepared to negotiate.

The Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher, in her Christmas radio broadcast on BBC "Calling the Falkland Islands", reiterated the Government's commitment to maintaining the democratic rights of the Islanders to determine their own future and confirmed that sovereignty would not be negotiated.

NEW YEARS HONOURS

In the New Years Honours which were announced on 31 December 1986, Canon Gerry Murphy, who is presently Rector of Sandringham and who will be going to the Falkland Islands in March 1987 as the Rector of Christ Church Cathedral in Stanley, received an LVO.

Tom Davies, former team leader of the Agricultural Research Centre in the Falkland Islands, was awarded an OBE for his services to agriculture in the Falklands Islands.

Oliver Whitehead, former Chairman of Laing-Mowlem-Amey Roadstone consortium which built the Mount Pleasant Airport in 18 months, was awarded a CBE.

NEW RFA "SIR GALAHAD" LAUNCHED

The new Royal Fleet Auxiliary warship "Sir Galahad" was launched on 13 December at Swan Hunter's Wallsend Shipyard on the Tyne. She was built to replace her predecessor lost in the Falkland Islands in 1982. She is nearly twice the tonnage (8,500 tonnes), with more steel in place of aluminium, than the previous "Sir Galahad". Captain Philip Roberts, who was awarded the DSO for his gallantry when in command of the previous "Sir Galahad", will also command the new ship which is to have an all British crew of 52 Royal Fleet Auxiliary Officers and men, compared with 68 in the previous ship.

BATTLE DAY

The Battle of the Falklands, which took place on 8 December 1914, was commemorated with ceremonies both in the Islands and in London.

At a ceremony at the Cenotaph on 6 December wreaths were laid by Mr. Alastair Cameron the Falkland Islands Government Representative, Sir Rex Hunt CMG, Mr. Eric Ogden the Chairman of the Falklands Islands Association and Mr. Des Keoghane the Chairman of the Falkland Islands Families Association.

In the Islands Battle Day is a public holiday and a wreath was laid at the 1914 Battle Monument by the His Excellency the Governor.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Sir Rex Hunt CMG was appointed President of the Falkland Islands Association at their Annual General Meeting on 6 December. This position has previously been unfilled.

At a Trustees meeting of the Falkland Islands Foundation Mr. Roger Wilson was appointed Secretary, he replaces Mr. Simon Lyster who has been appointed a Trustee of the Foundation.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#33

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL - Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue No 33

Covering January 1987

FALKLAND ISLANDS CONSERVATION ZONE - FISHING LICENCES ISSUED

Vessels from the following countries have been allocated licences to fish in the Falkland Islands Conservation Zone for the season 1 February to 30 June 1987:

Chile	2	Poland	40
France	1	South Korea	25
Greece	1	Spain	36
Italy	6	Taiwan	30
Japan	71	United Kingdom	3

STANLEY BY-ELECTION

Mr Terry Betts, who is the Chairman of the General Employees Union and works for the Falkland Islands Company, won the by-election held in Stanley on 20 January 1987. The seat became vacant as a result of the resignation in November of Mrs Norma Edwards who has now moved from Stanley to live at Fox Bay West.

FALKLAND ISLANDS POPULATION INCREASES

According to the provisional results of the Falkland Islands Government census taken in November 1986, the population has risen by nearly 6% - due to immigration and Islanders returning from Britain - since the last census taken in 1980. The total population is now 1,919 of which 1,239 live in Stanley and 648 in Camp; 32 residents were overseas at the time of the census. There are 1,014 males compared with 905 females. These figures do not, of course, include contractors presently working in the Islands and servicemen.

DEFENCE SECRETARY VISITS THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

Earlier this month, George Younger MP, Secretary of State for Defence, spent a week in the Falkland Islands - his first visit there since taking office in early 1986. He assured the Islanders that plans to reduce the garrison would not damage Britain's ability to defend the Islands. Now that the Mount Pleasant Airport complex has been completed, further defence economies can be achieved he said.

It is estimated that the costs of maintaining the defence of the Falkland Islands will be further reduced from £257 million in 1988 to £124 million in 1989/1990. In the 1987 Public Expenditure White Paper, the estimated defence expenditure for the Falkland Islands represents 1.3% of the total defence budget which will be reduced to 0.6% in 1988/89.

GARRISON MOVING

The headquarters of the British Forces Falkland Islands are being moved from Stanley to Mount Pleasant. Mount Pleasant is now the most important point of defence and, with the new airport, reinforcements can be brought directly from Britain within 18 hours.

Most of the British forces on the Islands will be transferred to the new complex; only some members of the Royal Engineers Bomb Disposal Unit and a few military staff will remain in the capital.

Before the 1982 Conflict, the forty-strong Royal Marines Garrison was stationed at Moody Brook two miles outside Stanley; the barracks there were largely destroyed during the fighting.

PERMANENT SECRETARY AT ODA VISITS FALKLAND ISLANDS

Sir Crispin Tickell KCVO MVO, Permanent Secretary at the Overseas Development Administration and who will be taking over as UK Permanent Representative at the United Nations in June, visited the Falkland Islands earlier this month. During his stay he met with Government officials and Councillors in Stanley and visited a number of development projects in the Islands.

VISITS TO INSPECT PENGUINS DEATHS

Following an invitation from the Falkland Islands Foundation, two British scientists Dr Ian Keymer and Dr David Horsley, are to investigate the death of thousands of penguins. The Foundation is a UK-based organisation concerned with conservation of the Falkland Islands flora, fauna and heritage.

Dr Ian Keymer, a retired Minister of Agriculture veterinary officer, has examined a number of dead penguins flown to Britain from the Falklands Islands. All the birds examined showed evidence of malnutrition, and it is suspected that many of them may have been affected by a sea-bird disease known as puffinosis. It is hoped that future investigations will determine the nature of the problem.

FOREIGN SEAMEN RESCUED BY RAF

In early January, an RAF Sea King Helicopter made a 1,200-mile round trip to winch a critically ill Russian engineer from the deck of a Soviet research trawler off the Falkland Islands. The Russian, suffering from a collapsed lung and other ailments, was taken for immediate treatment on an RFA tanker and later transferred to the British Military Hospital in Stanley.

Later, a second RAF Sea King helicopter rescued a South Korean sailor with suspected malaria, from his reefer enroute from Cameroon to Berkeley Sound, East Falkland, to load fish. He was also taken to the British Military Hospital, Stanley, for treatment.

ARTIST PAINTS FALKLAND ISLANDS SCENES

Algernon Asprey, the landscape watercolourist, has spent five weeks in the Falkland Islands sketching scenes which will then be completed in England in preparation for an exhibition of his works in London next Autumn.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufon Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue No 34

covering February/March 1987

FALKLAND ISLANDS FISHING ZONE OPERATIONAL

The Falkland Islands 150-mile conservation and management zone was officially imposed on 1 February. A total of 215 vessels have been allocated fishing licences for the season 1 February to 30 June 1987.

The policing of the zone is carried out by two fisheries patrol vessels and a surveillance aircraft. Between 1 February and 12 March, officers from the fisheries patrol vessels had routinely boarded and inspected 74 fishing boats.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTED

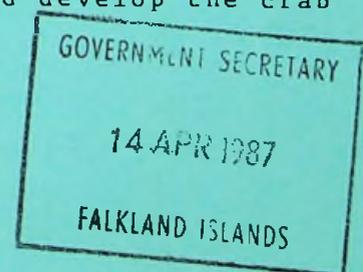
Mr Brian Cummings has been appointed Chief Executive designate to the Falkland Islands Government and Executive Vice-Chairman designate of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation. He will succeed the Islands' first Chief Executive, Mr David Taylor, who shortly completes his three year contract.

Mr Cummings is being employed under technical cooperation arrangements through the British aid programme and will be responsible to the Governor for running the administration as well as supervising a range of development projects financed from the £31 million development grant provided by the British Government in 1983.

Mr Cummings is a civil servant and has spent the last 20 years in a variety of posts in Northern Ireland, including Principal Private Secretary to the last two Prime Ministers and a lengthy spell in the Department of Environment. Most recently he has served as an Assistant Secretary in the Department of Agriculture. He is married with three children, and will take up his duties in April.

JOINT VENTURE TO INVEST IN CRAB FISHERY

SWB Fisheries Ltd, a joint venture company between Witte Boyd (Holdings) Ltd of Hull and Falklands-based Stanley Fisheries Ltd, has announced that it intends to invest in and develop the crab fishery in the inshore waters of the Islands.



This development is a natural extension of the recently completed inshore fisheries research and development programme undertaken by Fortosier Ltd - also of Hull - on behalf of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation.

SWB Fisheries intends to operate two purpose-built crab fishing vessels. Whilst the initial emphasis of the operation will be on crab processing, it is planned to expand into processing of other species, including squid, in the near future.

RECTOR OF CHRIST CHURCH INSTALLED

On 15 March Canon Gerry Murphy LVO was installed as Rector of Christ Church Cathedral, Stanley, by the Right Reverend Ronald Gordon, Bishop at Lambeth and Bishop to the Forces. The Falkland Islands are part of the See of Canterbury.

Canon Murphy succeeds the Reverend Harry Bagnall OBE, who last year moved to a parish in Humberside, having served in the Falklands for six years.

US AIRCRAFT AT MOUNT PLEASANT

A civilian American Boeing 747 arrived at Mount Pleasant Airport on 13 March carrying 100 replacement crew members for the exploratory drilling ship SEDCO BP 471 which is engaged in a scientific research programme in the Weddell Sea. The ship had called at the Falkland Islands to carry out the crew change and to reprovision.

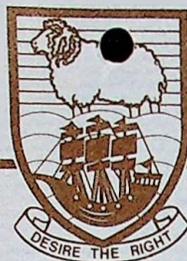
The jumbo jet, belonging to Tower Air Inc., is the first non-British aircraft to have used Mount Pleasant.

NEW SET OF POSTAGE STAMPS RELEASED

The Falkland Islands Post Office marked the Royal Engineers Bicentenary of Royal Warrant in February by releasing a set of four postage stamps and a first day cover.

The four stamp artworks were specifically designed to show the continuing presence of the Royal Engineers and show various aspects of their work in the Falkland Islands.

The Falkland Islands have enjoyed a long association with the Royal Engineers since 1842 when Lt Richard Moody RE became Lieutenant Governor of the Falkland Islands. Governor Moody was responsible for transferring the seat of Government from Port Louis to Port Stanley.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, L. SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 35

October 1987

GOVERNMENT SECRETARY

24 NOV 1987

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Falkland Islands Government Representative Appointed

Lewis Clifton, a third generation Islander, is the new Falkland Islands Government representative in London. He has succeeded Alastair Cameron who left the post at the end of September.

Mr Clifton, formerly the manager of the Falkland Islands Philatelic Bureau and a Councillor in the Islands, brings with him a wealth of political and community experience.

Stints representing the Islands at the United Nations General Assembly in November 1985 and 1986 have well qualified him for his recent election as the Falkland Islands Legislative representative to the Parliamentary conference in Kuala Lumpur in August 1987.

"The London appointment is a great challenge, not least of all because the Falklands today have the potential to become a viable economic entity," said Mr Clifton.

"It's going to be quite a change from being a Councillor. I won't have a major input on Falklands policy but am rather here to promote the policies - those of fisheries, immigration, and development, for example - now being decided," he said.

Mr Clifton said he expects to fly to the Islands for meetings four times a year.

"I want to keep in touch with what's going on at base - the day-to-day runnings of the Islands, FIDC developments, and the people," he explained.

Mr Clifton's taste for government work was nurtured during his five-year spell working for the British Antarctic Survey. His position allowed him to travel to two of the four stations of the British Antarctic Territory and to South Georgia.

Educated in Stanley Infant, Junior and Senior Schools, Mr Clifton was a member of the Falkland Islands Police Force from April 1977 to August 1978.

Crab - The Speciality Returns to the Islands

Crab is back on the menu in Stanley.

The return of the delicacy is thanks to Falkland Seafoods Ltd. This company, a wholly owned subsidiary of SWB Fisheries Ltd, itself a joint venture between Stanley Fisheries Ltd (a wholly owned subsidiary of FIDC) and Witte Boyd Holdings Ltd, recently embarked on a commercial operation to catch and process Falklands crab.

The operation got fully underway at the end of August when the crabber "Laura J" arrived with its three-strong crew from Devon.

The fishermen, all highly experienced in the crab fishing industry, net the crabs and take them live to the new Islands-based processing factory in the Beaver Hanger at Stanley.

The long-term plan is to train local Islanders in the crab industry. "We are always on the lookout for local Islanders to crew with us," said "Laura J" Skipper Brian Whitehead.

Conversely, the meat extraction process is largely undertaken by Islanders under the supervision of Devon-born Brian Harvey.

Ten Islanders are employed both on a full- and part-time basis in the sophisticated cooking and freezing process.

"So far everything is going very well and we hope it will continue to do so on an even larger scale," said Harvey.

Hill Cove Subdivisions

Continuing the Falkland Islands Government's strategy of subdividing large settlements, FIDC has completed the subdivision of the Hill Cove settlement.

The settlement has been divided into eight parts. Seven have been allocated as follows: Teal River East to Frazer and Christine McKay; Crooked Inlet to Richy and Bella McKay; Mount Donald to Neil and Penni Ford; Hill Cove to Tim and Sally Blake; West Lagoon to Peter and Charlene Nightingale; Shallow Bay to Paul and Davina Peck; and Main Point to Ian and Susie Hansen. The allocations were made after the candidates were interviewed.

The remaining section - Teal River West - was not allocated and will be re-advertised.

Museum Set to Open

After being in storage for five years, Falkland Islands artefacts and historical paraphernalia will be on show to the general public and tourists this summer.

Britannia House, formerly the home of the Commander of the British Forces, is currently being transformed into the Falkland Islands Museum. The transformation - overall planning and construction work - has been made possible partly by the support of the Standing Finance Committee and the dedicated members of the Museum Committee.

The museum exhibits were housed in the Falkland Islands Company until the outbreak of war in 1982. It was dismantled during the occupation when all spare rooms were snapped up.

"We've been looking for another museum since 1982 and haven't looked at our exhibits for five years. There is going to be a tremendous amount of work," said John Smith, formerly a trustee of the museum, who has been appointed museum curator.

After the main exhibition has been set up, memorabilia from the conflict will be gathered and housed in a special exhibit in one of the buildings outside the main house.

Mr Smith is presently the sole person working full-time on the museum. But he's backed to the hilt by the Museum Committee: Shirley Hirtle, Mike Rendell, Lewis Clifton, and Joan Spruce.

Census Reveals Population Increase

The 1986 census, which was recently published, reveals that the Falkland Islands population was 1,916 - an increase of 103 over the 1980 census figure.

Analysis of the 1980 and 1986 census tables reveals considerable population movements during that six-year period, both from and into the Islands, and between Camp (the parts of the Falkland Islands outside Stanley) and Stanley. In 1986, 653 persons were living in Camp compared with 763 in 1980. On Census Day 1986, 1,232 were living in Stanley compared with 1,050 in 1980.

The figures compiled for the ownership of vehicles, videos, freezers, fridges and television sets represent a considerable degree of material prosperity.

Self-reliance is also shown by the number of households which grow at least some of their own vegetables and keep their poultry in Stanley as well as in Camp.

Falkland Islands Government Buys FIPASS

The Falkland Islands Government has agreed to purchase the Falkland Islands Port and Storage System (FIPASS) from the Ministry of Defence for £2.6 million subject to contract.

The floating dock facility, which was constructed in 1983 and is located, will become a major resource in the development of the fisheries on the Islands.



Falkland Focus

GOVERNMENT SECRETARY

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

FALKLAND ISLANDS

November/December 1987

Issue 36

1988 Falkland fishing licences allocated

The Falkland Islands Government received over 500 applications for licences for the 1988 first fishing season but, for conservation reasons, the number available has been limited to under 200.

Companies have been informed of allocations and had until 4 December to confirm their acceptance. Details of allocations are commercially confidential at this stage.

The 1988 first season is: 1 January, for Finfish; 1 February, for Loligo; 1 March, for Illex. The season will end on 30 June.

Falklands Islands Councillors at United Nations

On 17 November 1987, Falkland Islands Councillors Terry Betts and John Cheek addressed the 4th Committee of the United Nations.

In the opening address to the Committee, Councillor Betts highlighted the efforts to restore the Falkland Islands' infrastructure following the Argentine invasion in 1982 and the variety of development projects currently underway.

Mr Betts emphasised two key areas of activity: the continuing policy of transferring land from absentee owners to Falkland Islanders; and the dramatic expansion of the economy due to the licence revenue from offshore fisheries.

In 1980, absentee landowners possessed 86 per cent of the land. Today, this is down to 42.5 per cent and the Government is actively maintaining its policy for the further encouragement of land transfer and the provision of assistance to farmers in the form of improvement grants, training, and research and development.

The introduction of the 150-mile Falkland Islands Interim Conservation and Management Zone has proved highly successful resulting in major earnings for the Islands. Mr Betts pointed to an

increasing involvement in the fisheries by Islands-based interests. Islanders have received licences and ships are being bought and chartered by the Islands' joint venture partners. The Government has also agreed to purchase a port facility which may form the nucleus of a service operation for the fishing fleets providing onshore facilities for cold storage and bunkering.

Councillor Cheek's address concentrated on the essential reason for the Councillors' appearance before the Committee - the Islanders' unchanging demand for the right to self-determination.

"There can be no dispute that we have been in the Falklands for more than a century and a half," he said. "During the past years we have developed our own political awareness and have demanded and received from the British Government the right to increase participation in our own government.

"Currently the people of the Falklands do not wish to change their form of government, but, if at some time in the future they do, they know that the British people would put no obstacle in their way.

"It is not the United Kingdom, our administering power, therefore, that would deny us the right to self-determination. Instead, it is our neighbour, Argentina, which denies us that right, which, in the United Nations is termed 'the inalienable right' of self-determination."

Mr Cheek went on to refute Argentina's claim to ownership of the Falklands and its continuing assertion that the Islands were being exploited both for their military and economic value by the UK Government.

In concluding his address, Councillor Cheek assured Committee members that they would be advised immediately if Islanders felt that they were being exploited by the administering power.

"We are happy with our current constitutional status and with our economic progress," he said. "We only ask that we, as with many non-self-governing peoples before us, be granted the right to decide our own future - the right to self-determination."

FIGAS flying full service

The Falkland Islands Government Air Service (FIGAS) is back in the air flying a full passenger, mail and freight ferrying service.

FIGAS took to the skies again on 19 November when the Falkland Islands Government lifted the restrictions imposed as a result of the aircraft accident at Brookfield Farm on 24 June. Following that accident FIGAS flying was restricted to the carriage of mail and freight.

The new Islander, piloted by Nick Scott from the Isle of Wight, landed at Stanley Airport on 19 November. This replacement aircraft brings the FIGAS fleet back up to three.

Battle Day opening for new hospital

The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital was officially opened on Battle Day, 8 December, by Timothy Eggar MP.

Mr Eggar, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, visited the Islands between 4-9 December.

Visitors who accepted the Falkland Islands Government's invitation to the ceremony included Sir Jack Hayward, who donated £1 million to the project, and Sir Charles and Lady Frossard from Guernsey. Mr and Mrs Chick, whose daughter was one of eight people who died in fire which destroyed the old hospital on 10 April 1984, were also invited.

A set of Falkland Islands commemorative postage stamps has been designed to mark the hospital's opening.

Housing developments

The first consignment of building materials for the new £2.6 million housing complex "Fishing Village" has been delivered to the Islands.

The project, which will include 26 houses, was funded by the Housing Corporation Ltd, a company formed by the consortium of Stanley Fisheries Limited's joint venture partners.

Fourteen two-bedroom, nine three-bedroom and three large dormitory units are scheduled to be complete by June 1988.

The building contract has been awarded to Fairclough Millar, the company that constructed the Stanley by-pass and the new hospital. The MacAdam Design Partnership are the project's architects.

New press for Islands

The Penguin News, the Falkland Islands' sole newspaper, will take on a new sophisticated look.

Executive Council agreed to recommend the purchase of £26,000 worth of printing equipment to upgrade the newspaper. The purchase includes: £10,800 for typesetting and origination; £10,000 for printing; £3,800 for binding and finishing.

The contract has been awarded to Eccles Highland Printers, a small Scottish printing house.

When the machinery is up and running The Penguin News will be reported and edited by staff supplied by Eccles Highland Printers.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 37

January / February 1988

1988 squid and finfish licence allocations finalised

The Falkland Islands Government has finalised squid and finfish licence allocations for 1988.

Offers were made to the various successful applicants conditional upon deposits being paid and various details of vessels agreed.

Out of the 180 squid licences offered only two have not been taken up. These two licences have been re-allocated.

One hundred and forty three licences have been issued in respect of the ILLEX species and 40 licences for LOLIGO.

The number of licences issued for the first season is significantly down from 1987 due to the necessity of adopting strong conservation measures. This is of particular importance in the southern areas where the fishing effort for the LOLIGO species has been considerably reduced.

Seventy four finfish licences were offered.

Falklands gets it right

The Falklands Right, a new second fisheries patrol vessel, will arrive in the Islands about the end of January to join the Falklands Desire to patrol and carry out resource assessment work in the Falkland Islands Conservation Zone.

The new vessel will replace the GA Reay which has returned to Hull for refitting and will soon resume research work in the Northern Hemisphere.

She left Hull for the Islands on 4 January 1988 carrying the first Falklands' qualified deck hands: Andrew Newman and Hermann Morrison, who have recently passed their Efficient Deck Hand (EDH) examinations at the National Sea Training College, Gravesend. The lads, both 16, were sponsored by J Marr (Shipping) Ltd and will complete a further nine months sea training on the vessel, before they are fully qualified.

An ex-West German survey ship previously called the RV Lancella, the Falklands Right is

one of the most sophisticated research and patrol vessels in the world.

Conservation report commissioned

Ian Strange, noted wildlife and conservation expert, has been commissioned by the Falkland Islands Government to write a report on conservation in the Falkland Islands.

The report will assist the local government decide short- and long-term conservation policies for the environment and wildlife.

To date, the Islands have very limited laws on conservation - the most significant being a litter law, introduced in 1986.

Falkland Islands tourism flourishing

Preliminary estimates indicate that the number of package holidays to the Falkland Islands in 1988 will exceed last season's by more than 100 per cent.

Twelve groups have booked two-week holidays to the Islands this year compared with five groups last year.

Cruise ship visits have also increased: four luxury vessels are expected to call at Stanley and the West Islands on 15 occasions in 1988.

A similar enthusiasm in travelling to the Islands was reported by The Falkland Islands Tourism Information Service (FITIS), whose staff manned a stand promoting the Islands at the World Travel Market in London in December.

The World Travel Market is an annual event staged at Olympia, directed primarily at the travel trade, to promote travel to the various destinations represented. This was the second year FITIS took a stand at the exhibition.

The FITIS stand promoted the Islands as a resort for wildlife, philatelic and battlefield enthusiasts.

Income Tax Amendment Bills 1987

Falkland Islanders will pay less tax in 1988.

The Income Tax Amendment Bill, which was approved by Legislative Council in November, brings Falklands tax levels in line with those in Britain.

Under the bill, income tax will be levied on chargeable income (the balance of income remaining after deductions) at the following rates:

Personal Income Tax Rates

The first £10,000 of chargeable income - 25% (UK 27%)

The next £5,000 of chargeable income - 30% (UK 30%)

The next £10,000 of chargeable income - 40% (UK 45%)

The remainder - 50% (UK 50-60%)

Company Tax Rate

On chargeable income which is not transferred to reserves - 45%

On chargeable income which is transferred to reserves - 35%

In UK, corporate tax is charged at 35% *only*.

New shops planned in Stanley

The Falkland Islands Development Corporation has been given the Islands' Social Club site on Dean Street.

Preliminary development plans include a few small shops similar to Reflections. The building may include the Islands' first butcher's shop, a tourist office and flats.

Hospital employs workers from St Helena

Six St Helenians are being employed in The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, Stanley's new hospital.

The St Helenians are undertaking nursing and domestic duties. Their employment is part of a short-term contract between St Helena and the Falkland Islands.

It is hoped that these positions will be filled in the long-term by immigrant families.

Telecommunications development plan

The Falkland Islands Government in conjunction with Cable and Wireless plc has embarked on a telecommunications system development plan for the Islands.

The purpose of the plan is to modernise the Falklands telecommunications system to bring it in line with internationally accepted standards. The immediate aim is to ensure that telephones in every home include an international direct-dialling facility. It is expected that the new Stanley system will be operational by January 1989.

Housing contract awarded

The Falkland Islands Government has awarded a £3.4 million contract for the construction of a major housing project in Stanley.

The contract, awarded to the Laing-Mowlem-ARC Joint Venture Company, is for the construction of a housing estate adjacent to the area known as "The German Camp" now more recently referred to as the Jersey Estate site.

It is the first such venture since the 1982 conflict and represents the first phase of a major housing drive by the government.

The contract is for the construction of 30 housing units of various types between one and four bedrooms. The scheme will include all services, roads, footpaths, and street lights.

Falkland Islands Association elections

Michael Summers has been elected the new chairman of the Falkland Islands Association (FIA).

Mr Summers, the project finance and business development manager for the engineering consultants Humphreys & Glasgow Ltd, is the first Falkland Islander to be elected chairman of the association.

Other elections include: Major R N Spafford - Vice Chairman and Editor of FIA Newsletter; Mrs M Christie - Honourable Secretary; and Major General A Mills - Honourable Treasurer.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufon Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3OL Telephone: 01 222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 38

GOVERNMENT SECRETARY

16 MAY 1988

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Falkland Islands long-term economic development study

Since the declaration of the Falklands Interim Conservation and Management Zone in 1986, the Islands' economy has changed radically: in 1987 the GNP was £30.7 million - more than triple the 1986 figure of £9.89 million.

Recognising the implications of receiving a potential annual yield of over £15 million from fishing licences, the Falkland Islands Development Corporation commissioned Peter Prynne, a director of the consultancy Environmental Resources Limited (ERL), to produce a study identifying a range of development strategies and their long-term economic and social implications. His interim findings - the Falkland Islands Long-Term Economic Development Study - were published in November 1987.

The three development options outlined in the interim report are based on the following approaches:

- Option I - Continued high levels of investment in on-shore fisheries development - high growth.
- Option II - Investment emphasis on non-fishery sectors (agriculture, tourism etc). While maintaining fisheries as an off-shore enclave - medium/high growth.
- Option III - Investment emphasis on infrastructure and social expenditure through Government with the surplus invested in international financial markets to provide and secure funds - medium growth.

Following consultations with the Islanders, the report favours a combination of Options II and III. Whilst it suggests that it would be sensible to reinvest some money into a Falklands fishing fleet, it does not advocate any immediate substantial investment in on-shore facilities until the potential profitability of such investments can be more reliably assessed.



March 1988

The Interim Report proposes a range of specific policies:

- The abandonment, at least temporarily, of the system of collecting Joint Venture premiums.
- An increase in fishing licence rates so as to allow all revenues from the fisheries to accrue to the Falkland Islands Government.
- The use of these revenues to fund:
 - * an investment programme in agriculture and other non-fishing industries.
 - * a house building programme at a rate of 40 units a year.
 - * infrastructure development at a rate of £5-7 million a year.
 - * accumulation of a financial reserve fund which could provide supplementary income in the future or a source of investment capital.
 - * improvements in social welfare provision.
 - * rapid training and longer term vocational training programmes for Islanders.
 - * increased educational spending.
 - * steady rather than rapid investment in fisheries support from funds already invested in Stanley Fisheries Limited.

The consultants returned to the Islands in January 1988 to gauge reaction to their Interim Report and their final study is likely to be considered by the Government in May.

Second trawler for Falklands fishery

Hill Cove, the British-built refrigerated stern trawler which is said to be one of the most advanced factory trawlers in the world, set sail for the Islands in February.

The vessel, equipped to process, glaze, wrap and carton up to 40 tonnes of catch per day, will trawl for squid (Ioligo and illex), hake, hoki and blue whiting for international markets.

Andrew How, general manager of Marr (Falklands) Ltd, said: "Hill Cove is a Falkland Islands ship specifically equipped to conduct a year-round operation on the particular species found in the Falklands Fishery. We see her as a forerunner of a fleet of specifically designed multi-purpose fishing vessels to be based permanently in the Falkland Islands."

Lewis Clifton, Falkland Islands Government Representative, commented: "We are looking to develop a fully independent fishing industry in the Falklands. We are very pleased that British shipowners and shipyards are winning tenders for conversion and management of Falklands' vessels. This will complement the other joint ventures we have established with British fishing companies."

Falklands crab - a European speciality?

The European palate will be tested for Falklands crab in March.

The delicacy is already a popular item on any Stanley menu - thanks to Falkland Seafoods Ltd. This company, a wholly owned subsidiary of SWB Fisheries Ltd, itself a joint venture between Stanley Fisheries Ltd (a wholly owned subsidiary of FIDC) and Witte Boyd Holdings Ltd, recently embarked on a commercial operation to catch and process Falklands crab.

The operation got fully underway at the end of August 1987 when the crabber Laura Jay arrived in the Islands with its three-strong crew from Devon.

Part of the Laura Jay's catch - a full 20-foot frozen container of whole cooked crab and 2 tons of crabmeat - on board the Asifi is on its way to Norfolk for processing before being marketed in Europe, particularly France, in March.

"We are looking to gauge the speciality in quality outlets and have already approached relevant supermarket chains," said Alan Johnson, joint managing director of Witte Boyd Holdings which owns 49 per cent of SWB Fishing.

"Preliminary sampling reports have been encouraging," he said

Penguin mortality - starvation diagnosed

Starvation was the primary cause of the unprecedented number of dead rockhopper penguins found in the Falkland Islands during the 1985-6 breeding season.

That's the conclusion reached by Dr Ian F Keymer whose report - *An Investigation of Rockhopper Penguin Mortality in the Falklands during the 1985-6 Breeding Season* - was published in January 1988. The report was founded by World Wildlife Fund - UK and Falkland Islands Government.

Tests performed on the dead penguins indicate that the natural shortage of krill (a major source of food for rockhopper penguins) during the breeding moult was the most probable reason for the deaths, according to the report.

Dr Keymer emphasises that rockhopper penguins are most susceptible to starvation during the breeding month.

He adds that the krill shortage was a possible result of disruption of the food chain caused by the rising water temperatures in the Pacific in 1982-3.

News update

- Rory MacLeod has been appointed editor of the *Penguin News*. The *Penguin News* was recently bought by Seamount Ltd, the joint venture formed by Seaboard Offshore Ltd and Stanley Fisheries Ltd. Until his appointment, Mr MacLeod worked for D C Thomson in Dundee.
- *Desire The Right*, the Falklands' second political party, has been launched. Headed by Robin Pitaluga and Brook Hardcastle, it is the first party to be launched in the Islands in 30 years.
- Captain J Boyes has been appointed chief pilot of the Falkland Islands Government Air Service (FIGAS). He is the first officer to be recruited under purely Falkland Islands Government contract terms. Pilots in the past were recruited under Overseas Development Administration (ODA) contract terms.
- Councillors have approved the allocation of up to £1.5 million to fund Stanley's first swimming pool.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#39

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON



Issue 39

FALKLAND ISLANDS

July 1988

Fishing licence awards, second season (1988)

The application process for the award of fishing licences for the second season - more commonly referred to as the "low" season - commenced during Easter.

As expected, there was considerable over-subscription for the two main licence types - all areas, all species (type X) and finfish, all areas (type Y). The Polish and Spanish fleets registered the main interest in the west area finfish licences (type Z) where large stocks of Blue Whiting can be found. This species is heavily parasitised, but produces a high quality fishmeal.

The table below sets out the various types of licence awards offered on a country basis. Some minor reallocations have now been effected. The season runs from 1 July to 31 December 1988.

Flag	Type X	Type Y	Type Z
Spain	15	32	27
Portugal	1	1	-
UK	8	8	-
Korea	-	4	-
Japan	4	5	1
Italy	3	-	-
Greece	2	-	-
Poland	3	-	30
Norway	-	1	-
Totals	36	51	58

Resignation of Chief Executive

The resignation of Mr Brian Cummings as Chief Executive was announced on 20 May 1988 in a statement released from Government House. The statement advised that negotiations were being effected with Booker Agriculture PLC to secure the services of Mr David Taylor to return to the Islands as interim Chief Executive until a permanent successor to Mr Cummings is recruited.

Mr Taylor, who was Chief Executive to the Falkland Islands Government from 1983 to 1987, will also serve as Executive Vice Chairman to the Falkland Islands Development Corporation and Chairman of Stanley Fisheries Limited. It is expected that Mr Taylor will assume office in early September for a three-month period.

Alastair Cameron

Alastair Cameron, the FIGO Representative in London for the 3-year period prior to September 1987, returned to the Falkland Islands in April 1988 to assume the position of Deputy Secretary in the FIG Secretariat. His immediate responsibilities are connected with fisheries as defined under the Fisheries Ordinance. Other specific duties include being FIG Information Officer.

Falkland Islands Government Air Service (FIGAS)

The recommendations originating from the reports connected with the crash of an Islander aircraft in mid-year 1987 at Brookfield Farm have resulted in the creation of the new establishment of General Manager FIGAS. Mr Peter Milner was appointed to this new position in May 1988 which follows through recent policy to recruit contract officers on Falkland Islands Government terms.

FIG Financial Secretary

Mr Harold T Rowlands will be retiring from the position of Financial Secretary during late 1988. He has held the post for 18 years and delivered his final budget to the Legislature on 23 May.

Arrangements are being effected to recruit a successor from the United Kingdom and it is hoped an appointment will be made in October 1988. Mr Rowlands was awarded the CBE in the recent Birthday Honours.

Posts & Telecomms

Mr W A (Bill) Etheridge retired from the position of Superintendent: Posts and Telecommunications on 30 June. Mr Etheridge has not enjoyed good health in recent years. His position, which also included the Postmaster for the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and British Antarctic Territory, has been awarded to Mr James Stephenson.

Mr W H (Bill) Roberts, Communications Officer of the Posts and Telecommunications Department retired in May. Recruitment of a replacement is not being pursued at this time because of a contract being negotiated with Cable & Wireless for an improved modern communications network throughout the Islands.

Convention for the protection of the ozone layer

The Falkland Islands Government has confirmed to Her Majesty's Government that the Falkland Islands wish the Montreal Protocol to be ratified in relation to the Falkland Islands. In this regard the Falkland Islands will be obliged to report all halons and chlorofluorocarbons imported into the Islands.

Scientific study outside the FICZ

In May 1988, Executive Council approved a scientific study of fish stocks bordering the Falkland Islands Interim Conservation Zone (FICZ). The commission has been awarded to the Renewable Resources Assessment Group (RRAG) of Imperial College, London, and will be led by Dr John Beddington. RRAG will study fishing stocks straddling the FICZ and will assess the impact of fish stocks within the FICZ. The Falkland Islands Government is funding the study.

Hydroponic garden

The hydroponic market garden, which came on stream in late 1987, has enjoyed a successful first growing season. Produce originating from the garden has been purchased not only by Islanders, but also by visiting fishing fleets and the Ministry of Defence. Estimated yields for the last growing season were: tomatoes - 33 tonnes; cucumbers - 10 tonnes; peppers and aubergines - 5 tonnes; lettuce - many thousands.

Purchase of Douglas Station

The Falkland Islands Government, through its development advisor, the Falkland Islands Development Corporation, has purchased Douglas Station Farm from Mr Harry Cam. The purchase price was £310,000.

The 94,000 acre farm (supporting some 21,000 sheep) is situated on East Falkland, near the entrance to Salvador Waters, with its southern boundary extending to the Wickham Heights mountain range. The farm has been divided into four sections and the new section holders should take over their farms on 1 October 1988.

Agricultural Training/Farmers' Week

Mr Eric Oram, an instructor with the Agricultural Training Board in Scotland, is currently on a two-month secondment in the Islands. Farmers throughout the Islands will have an opportunity to attend a series of practical courses focusing on welding, tractor maintenance, workshop practice, and farm first aid.

For the first time, Farmers' Week (11-15 July 1988) was organised by the farmers themselves. The meetings covered such topics as wool marketing, sheep breeding, camp communications, the Falkland Islands Fishery, and grant schemes.



Falkland Focus

P/FFO/1#40

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufon Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 40

October 1988

Falkland Islands Councillors at the United Nations

On 11 August 1988, Falkland Islands Councillors Tim Blake and Robin Lee addressed the Committee of 24 at the United Nations.

Councillor Blake opened his address with an explanation of the Falkland Islands' written constitution which guarantees internal self-government for Islanders with freedom of speech and universal suffrage. Britain remains the administering power with responsibility for foreign affairs and defence.

Mr Blake went on to highlight significant changes to the Islands' economy since 1982 and the benefits of major revenues resulting from the granting of licences to fish in the recently-introduced 150-mile Falkland Islands Interim Conservation and Management Zone (FICZ).

"The surplus revenue from fishing, with the revenue from agriculture, has enabled us to speed up our development programme," he said. "We have a building programme which will increase our housing pool by 30% over the next two years. To match this, we are renewing the water supply and almost doubling the capacity to supply electricity."

Mr Blake pointed out that the declaration of the FICZ had produced spin-offs for other countries in the area. The international fishing fleets were using facilities in Chile and Uruguay and there would soon be a ferry link between the Islands and various mainland ports. "We welcome such links which have been established over a number of years," he said.

In concluding his address, Councillor Blake, whilst endorsing the United Kingdom's initiative in seeking co-operation with Argentina in the conservation of the fish stocks, reaffirmed the Islanders' continuing wish to retain their current status.

"It is our mission here as elected members of the legislature to point out that the future of the Falkland Islands is for us, the Falkland Islanders, to decide. We do not wish to become either a part of Great Britain or a part of Argentina. We wish to develop our economy as we see fit in co-

operation, if this is possible, with our neighbours. But unless it could be shown to the satisfaction of all Islanders that a change in our protecting power would be to our benefit, then we would not seek such a change of status. It should be recognised we made the Islands what they are today and we would wish that they should continue to be under our control with the government of our choice. It would seem to me that the resolution before the Committee seeks in no way to give us such freedom but to make us more dependent on a different government."

Councillor Robin Lee echoed his colleague's demand for Islanders to have the right of self-determination. Mr Lee, whose family have lived in the Islands since the 1870s, focused on the Government's on-going policy of encouraging the transfer of the land from absentee owners to the local farming community.

"Increased revenue from fishing licences is being used to help more and more Islanders purchase their own land," he said. "Over 90% of West Falkland is now owned by Islanders and agricultural grants are continuing to improve. We are also developing a woollen mill that will continue to produce high quality garments for export. The demand for these products is already much higher than supply."

Mr Lee also noted the increasing success of the Islands' tourism industry and reinforced his colleague's rejection of Argentina's claim that Mount Pleasant Airport was purely a military facility. The maintenance of the airport provided a vital external air link which not only benefitted the tourism industry, but also Islanders and contract personnel from overseas.

Budget 88/89

The Falkland Islands Budget for 1988/89 is the largest on record.

The Appropriation Bill provides for total expenditure of £28.6 million, with revenue estimated at £34.5 million.

The Local Development Fund provides for an increased commitment by the Falkland Islands

Government (FIG) to promote and finance its own development projects following a significant reduction on the funding previously provided by the Overseas Development Administration (ODA).

Specific expenditure includes: £300,000 for continuing the policy of farm subdivision and subsequent transfer to Islanders (one farm per year); £400,000 for housing loans (purchase and build); £2.6 million for telecoms refurbishment; £2.0 million for the on-going housing construction project (£10.1 million total cost, terminating in 1992/93); £700,000 for the development of the Islands' electrical generation supply (to meet the demands of growth in commerce and infrastructure); £450,000 for new construction equipment; and £900,000 for Stanley's first swimming pool. The operating budget for the fishery (with estimated revenues of £25.4 million in 1988/89) will be £6.5 million.

Included within the estimates is the provision for an increase in established posts from 273 to 300 persons, eight posts alone having been identified with the Fisheries Department. The termination of funding of the Agricultural Research Centre (ARC) by ODA determines FIG assumption of initial funding for the 88/89 financial year of £422,340, representing an increase of £360,000 over the previous financial year. Included in that figure is an allowance for the transfer of six scientific posts. In addition, a substantial salary rise for civil servants was approved, representing an approximate 20% increase across the board.

Within the budget, there were provisions for the increase of Old Age Pension benefits which were raised to £51 per week for a married couple and £37 for a single pensioner. There were also slight increases in family allowances.

Fisheries policy for 1989

In August 1988, the Executive Council of FIG agreed the future policy to be adopted for the 1989 allocation of fishing licences in the FICZ.

FIG decided that:

- (i) the Government's management of the fishery will continue to be based on measures considered necessary to ensure the conservation of the resource;
- (ii) the principal aim of the Government's licensing policy for the coming season will be by and large to continue the established pattern of licensing, both in terms of the

nationalities and commercial interests involved, but to allow for an increase in local involvement;

- (iii) the means by which licence applications are submitted will, in itself, have no effect on the overall number of licences allocated to vessels of a particular country or associations within a country;
- (iv) FIG, in particular when allocating licences to Far Eastern vessels, will give preference to those applications received through existing partnerships or new partnerships with Falkland Islands companies. The choice of such a partner should be a matter of commercial judgement on the part of the vessel owners concerned;
- (v) FIG will continue to allocate licences to European Community and other vessels directly through their fishing companies or associations, although applications for such licences through Falkland Islands companies will be considered.

It is anticipated that Fisheries Regulations, the Schedule of Licence Fees and licence applications for the first season of 1989 will be published in mid September, and that the closing date for licence applications will be in mid October. FIG should be in a position to announce the allocation of licences by mid November.

Fisheries Development Fund

The Executive Council has approved in principle the establishment of a Fisheries Development Fund.

The main aim of the fund would be to provide, subject to conditions yet to be defined, financial assistance to commercial fisheries enterprises resident in the Falkland Islands which would be likely to contribute to the economic development of the Falkland Islands.

The fund would be administered by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC) on behalf of FIG with Executive Council retaining overall control and decision-making authority over the fund.

Executive Council will be making a proposal to Legislative Council for the voting of money for the fund once the exact income to be derived from fishing licences for the 1989 season is known.

New telephone system

A £5.4 million digital telecommunications network spanning the entire Falkland Islands is to be installed by Cable and Wireless and ready for service by early 1990.

The cost of the new system will be shared by FIG and Cable and Wireless, which currently provides the Islands' international services. Cable and Wireless will operate the new domestic network under a 22-year licence.

The new system will completely replace the existing analog network, providing all telephone customers in the Islands with international direct dialling and enhanced features such as conference calling and call diversion through a new System X digital exchange. Telex, facsimile and high-speed data services will also become available, while the digital network will provide for easy access to the Falkland Islands from the rest of the world.

Falkland Islands Governor Gordon Jewkes said: "I am delighted at this development which, following renewal of the electrical and water-works, will complete a thorough overhaul of much of the Islands' basic infrastructure."

Purchase of Port San Carlos Farm/subdivision of Douglas Station

FIG, through its development advisor, FIDC, have reached an agreement with Port San Carlos Ltd to purchase Port San Carlos Farm.

Situated along the estuary of the San Carlos river, the farm extends northwards to Cape Dolphin on East Falkland. It has an area of approximately 100,000 acres supporting some 30,000 sheep.

The farm is being bought with a view to subsequent on-sale which is expected to take place during 1989 with the new owners taking possession at the end of September.

Douglas Station, the most recently subdivided farm (see Falkland Focus: July 1988) has been split into four sections. The successful applicants for the four new farms were: Lorenzo - Mr Michael Clarke; Home Flock - Mr Keith Whitney; New House - Mr Christopher May; Bombilla - Mr Carl Jonson.

New Governor appointed

The next Governor of the Falkland Islands, to succeed his Excellency The Governor, Mr Gordon Jewkes CMG, will be Mr William Hugh Fullerton.

A career member of the Diplomatic Service, Mr Fullerton was previously Ambassador to Somalia with earlier postings in the Middle East, Jamaica, Turkey and Pakistan. Prior to joining the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1965 he worked with Shell International. He is married, with one daughter.

Mr Jewkes and his wife, Joyce, plan to leave the Islands in mid-October for a new posting in New York. He will succeed Sir James Mellon KCMG as Consul General in New York and Director General of Trade and Investment, USA. Mr and Mrs Fullerton will arrive in the Islands in early November.

Expatriate contracts

With the termination of funding of new posts or replacements by ODA, FIG has now assumed responsibility for contract recruitment and has appointed the Crown Agents as consultants/advisors. Vacancies have been filled in the ARC, Medical Department and Education Departments. Posts currently being advertised include Financial Secretary and a pilot for FIG's Air Service.

Sport Aid '88

Snow showers and a strong south-westerly wind proved no deterrent to Islanders participating in the worldwide Sport Aid appeal, staged on 11 September.

Islanders of all ages ran circuits of Stanley's racecourse with FIDC, FIG Fisheries Department and Stanley Fisheries staff joining forces to haul a Land Rover the length of the course, assisted by the crew of the fisheries protection vessel, 'Falklands Desire'.

Special thanks goes to all those who sponsored the runners whose efforts resulted in the raising of substantial funds for the appeal.



Falkland Focus

A monthly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
29 Tufton Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3QL. Telephone: 01-222 2542 Telex: 8950476 FIGLON

Issue 41

FALKLAND ISLANDS
December 1988

Fishing licence awards, first season: 1989

A total of 589 applications were received for fishing licences for the first season: 1989 - an increase over the 560 applications received last year.

The table below sets out the various types of squid fishing licences offered on a country basis. The *Illex* and *Loligo* fishing seasons run from 15 March - 30 June and 1 February - 30 June respectively.

Flag	Type B (<i>Illex</i> squid)	Type C (<i>Loligo</i> squid)
Spain	2	21
Poland	23	3
Taiwan	23	-
Korea	23	-
Japan	61	1
Portugal	-	4
Italy	-	5
UK	-	5
Greece	-	2
Netherlands	-	1
Chile	-	1
Totals	132	43

The overall number of Type B licences offered is determined by the fishing effort of the vessels involved and is a reduction from the 143 licences allocated in 1988. This is due both to an increase in the efficiency of the vessels applying for licences and the need to comply with recommended conservation targets.

The Falkland Islands Government (FIG) has attempted to obtain agreement from the Far Eastern fishing fleets to delay the start of their fishing outside the 150-mile conservation and management zone. The Japanese, Korean and Taiwanese fleets have indicated that they are prepared to do this. To the extent that this proves effective as a conservation measure, it may be possible for FIG to make a further offer of a limited number of *Illex* licences in late February 1989.

The allocation of Type C licences represents a slight increase over last season. This is due to a decrease in the average size of trawlers to be licensed. It is considered that the low level of *Loligo* catches in 1988 reflects the small stock in that year, but the causes of this are uncertain.

26 of those vessels being offered Type B and C licences also requested Type A Finfish licences for a number of months. These requests have been granted. 11 applicants from Spain, Portugal and Poland have been offered Type A licences only.

A direct comparison with the number of Type A licences granted last year is difficult, because in the first 1988 season a substantial amount of effort was directed onto Finfish by vessels holding all species licences. In 1989 there will be no such licences. The total level of effort permitted on Finfish this year represents an effective reduction to achieve the recommended conservation target.

United Nations Fourth Committee

On 11 November 1988, the General Assembly of the United Nations (the Fourth Committee) conducted its annual debate on the future of the Falkland Islands and, specifically, the call for Britain and Argentina to begin talks on the issue of sovereignty.

In their addresses to the General Assembly, Legislative Councillors Charles Keenleyside and John Cheek reinforced the unanimous demand from Islanders for the right to self-determination.

Mr Keenleyside outlined the extensive benefits to the economy produced by fishing licence revenues. John Cheek focused on the increased political maturity of Falkland Islanders and refuted Argentine claims that Britain was exploiting the Islands as a military base.

"The current British garrison is in place solely to counter any future threats," he said. "The protection provided by Britain is welcomed by all Falkland Islanders and we wish to place on record in this Committee our thanks to both the

British Government and people for carrying out in full their United Nations obligations as our administering power."

The subsequent vote by the General Assembly on the call to resume Anglo-Argentine talks, which would include the question of sovereignty, produced the usual result.

However, in addition to the UK, four countries supported the view that talks covering sovereignty issues would not be appropriate: Belize; Oman; Sri Lanka; Solomon Islands.

Party Conferences

For the first time, Falkland Islanders were represented at the Conservative and Labour Party Conferences.

Lewis Clifton, the Falkland Islands Government Representative in Britain, and his team took an exhibition stand to both Blackpool and Brighton. The stand was designed to explain the fishery and its impact on economic development, together with general aspects of Island life.

Among those who met Lewis Clifton at Blackpool were Neil Kinnock, Roy Hattersley and Brian Gould. At the Conservative Conference, Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson and other cabinet ministers all visited the stand.

"The exercise was well worthwhile", said Lewis Clifton. "We were able to renew many friendships at Brighton and I am sure that our presence at Blackpool was useful in establishing more positive attitudes among Labour politicians."

Future development strategy

"Falkland Islands Development Strategy", a major investigation of possible economic development policies for the Islands, has been published. The Report's author, Mr Peter Prynne of Environmental Resources Limited (ERL), returned to the Islands in October to present his recommendations to Councillors, senior Government officials and members of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC).

During the preparation of the Report, ERL consultants worked closely with local residents, FIDC and Government officers and members of the business community in order to formulate a development strategy which accurately reflected the aspirations of all parties.

The Report's recommendations are for investment across a broad front so as to ensure continuing benefits from the recently established fishery whilst maximising the earnings potential from the traditional agricultural base.

Executive Council will, in due course, issue a statement focusing on its response to the Report's findings and recommendations.

FIDC Review 1988

In late October a joint Overseas Development Administration (ODA)/FIG team undertook a comprehensive review of the activities of FIDC.

The ODA was represented by Mr Ron White, Deputy Head of the South Atlantic and Gibraltar Department; Mr Timothy Foy, an Economic Advisor; and Mr Eric Gill, a Financial Advisor. The FIG representatives were Mr Barrie Collins, a partner of Peat Marwick McLintock; the Acting Governor, Mr David Taylor, who acted as Chairman; and Councillor Charles Keenleyside.

The team spent considerable time canvassing the local population's views on the workings of the Corporation and its subsidiaries. Their full report, now being produced, will consider the progress of the Corporation, together with a series of recommendations for implementation by FIDC.

Stanley - the way forward

McAdam Design, a Northern Ireland-based firm of architectural and civil engineering consultants, recently unveiled their new proposed town plan for Stanley. The Plan, commissioned by FIG, has been drawn up to provide some form of development strategy on which to base future planning decisions for the town.

A senior representative of the firm, Mr John Crothers, visited the Islands to present the Plan to Legislative Councillors in November. The Plan has since been made available to the public through an exhibition in the Town Hall.

Whilst it was clearly impossible to canvass every resident, McAdam Design spent considerable time listening to the views of the local community. The architects then set about the task of drawing up the town plan based on the general consensus. "The starting point for the Plan came from the ideas of the local people who actually live in Stanley and was not based on the way those from outside the Islands would like to see the town", said Mr Crothers.

The provision of new public open spaces has been given considerable attention in the proposed Plan. It is suggested that open space be developed in the East end of the town to provide extra space when required, plus recreational amenities. Additional open space is planned for the West end of Stanley around the racecourse area which is to be extended as a public park.

West Falkland hydro-electric scheme

Plans are now underway to install the Islands' first hydro-electric power system at Port Howard in West Falkland. The decision was made following a feasibility study (commissioned by FIDC) by energy consultants IT Power.

Port Howard is West Falkland's largest settlement. The 200,000 acre sheep farm is now a centre for tourism and the need to establish a reliable, 24-hour electricity supply has become essential, not only for the settlement's tourist lodge, but also to meet the demand from the increasing use of domestic and industrial electrical appliances.

With the present diesel generator working at full capacity, IT Power considered a hydro-electric scheme to be the most cost effective additional energy source. The scheme will be capable of producing electricity at significantly lower unit costs than if the diesel generating capacity were to be increased.

Although hydro-electricity will not eliminate the need for diesel generation, it will ensure a major reduction in diesel operating hours and running costs.

Sealion goes solar

The Falkland Islands enjoy, on average, more hours of sunshine than the South of England. In an attempt to harness this renewable energy source, FIDC is installing a solar energy system for the tourist lodge on Sealion Island.

The introduction of this new, pollution-free solar energy system will avoid the need for burning peat through the tourist season. This is necessary to heat the water in the lodge, but makes the building uncomfortably warm during the summer months.

The solar regime of the Islands in the summer season is well-suited for the use of solar energy. The lodge will also benefit from the small solar contribution during the winter months which will help keep the building dry and prevent frozen pipes.

The new system will be monitored so that information can be collected to assess the viability of similar schemes at other settlements.

TV for Stanley

A transmitter has been installed on Sapper Hill outside Stanley to enable the town's residents to pick up taped television programmes transmitted from Mount Pleasant Airport (MPA) 35 miles away. The provision of these programmes is the responsibility of the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (SSVC) who produce television tapes for use by military personnel stationed abroad.

The tapes, containing a variety of popular television and news programmes, are recorded in the UK and flown out twice weekly to the Islands by RAF Tristar. The local SSVC station transmits the taped programmes from MPA, providing some four hours viewing each evening for both civilian and military populations.

Stanley residents, who were previously heavily reliant on imported videos, have greatly welcomed the new television service.

Senior appointment at FIDC

Gordon Ewing (42), former Finance and Administration Manager at Ross Harper & Murphy, solicitors, was recently appointed as FIDC's new Financial Controller.

A fully qualified accountant, Mr Ewing will assist the Corporation in broadening the scope of its finance department, particularly in the areas of financial and management accounting advice. As well as being charged with responsibility for the day-to-day running of the finance sector of the Corporation, he will be available to provide sound advice on the provision of assistance to the various development projects undertaken by FIDC.

Mr Ewing is no stranger to overseas postings having lived and worked in Central Africa as Financial Director for Caterpillar, the international earthmoving specialists.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542. Telex: 8950476

Issue 42

October 1991

Message From Sukey Cameron, Falkland Islands Government Representative in London

We are happy to announce the return of Falkland Focus which looks at the issues affecting the Falkland Islands both there and in the UK.

Falkland Focus is back after a three year break during which time, much has happened including the consolidation of the Falkland Islands' financial independence. The new Focus will be published quarterly.

FIG Represented at Party Conferences

For the fourth year in succession the Falkland Islands Government has a stand at the Labour and Conservative Party Conferences in Brighton and Blackpool in order to promote economic developments, including a recent infrastructure improvement programme, island life and conservation issues in the South Atlantic.

Two councillors, Gerard Robson and Norma Edwards travelled over especially to attend the conferences together with the Falkland Islands Government Representative in London.

Fisheries Talks

Talks were held in London in September between the Falkland Islands Government and the various fishing companies who fish for the illex squid around the Falkland Islands. The Falkland Islands Government delegation was led by the Chief Executive - Ronald Sampson with the Director of Fisheries - John Barton and Councillor Ron Binnie. The talks were to discuss Voluntary Restraint Agreements in order to protect the stocks of illex squid.

For conservation of the species it is necessary that fishing outside the Falkland Islands Conservation Zone is controlled and with these agreements it is possible to meet the target figures in order for the stock to survive.

During the visit the delegation took time to travel to Vigo, Spain to attend the World Fishing Exhibition and meet with the Spanish fishing companies.

Heritage Year 1992

Next year has been designated Heritage Year in the Falkland Islands as it not only marks the 10th anniversary of the Conflict but also the 100th anniversary of the Falkland Islands Volunteer Defence Forces, 100th anniversary of Consecration of Christ Church Cathedral and the 400th anniversary of the first sighting of the Islands by Captain John Davies.

Many events have been or are in the process of being planned to take place both in the Islands and in UK. These include the visit by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Islands in February.

HMS Endurance

There has been recent widespread speculation that HMS Endurance is to be withdrawn from service because of anxieties over her structural integrity. This has caused concern in the Falklands as it was the decision to withdraw her in 1981 which was a major factor in Argentina's decision to invade.

The Falkland Islands Government now understands that the MoD is to ensure a continued presence by the Royal Navy by sending another vessel to the South Atlantic. Although MoD officials have concluded that the Endurance is unfit for

another season it is understood that the Polar Circle, a survey ship with ice-breaking capabilities, is under active consideration.

New Swimming Pool gifted to Garrison

The people of the Falkland Islands have paid tribute to the military personnel serving on the Islands by donating a swimming pool to those based at Mount Pleasant. Costing the Falkland Islands Government £921,500, the swimming pool is an important addition to the main sports complex at Mount Pleasant and will be used primarily by military but also the civilian personnel based there.

The Falkland Islands Government will make further annual contributions of £126,000 towards maintenance costs for the first five years.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, His Excellency, the Governor, Mr William Fullerton CMG said "The presence of the Garrison is a guarantee of freedom and self-determination for the Falkland Islanders. The Islanders are very grateful to the Garrison for its support. The provision of a swimming pool at Mount Pleasant is a public acknowledgement of their appreciation."

Illegal Fishing

Spanish fishing vessel, the *Fragana*, has been found fishing illegally in the Falklands Outer Conservation Zone (FOCZ) and its master and owner fined a total of £100,300.

The Falklands Fisheries Department strictly controls the area with two ships and two aircraft. Controlling the zone costs the Falkland Islands Government over £5m a year in research and patrolling.

National Stud Flock

The Falkland Islands Government has agreed that a national stud flock should be established in the Falkland Islands with the objective of achieving significant improvements in the quality of wool produced in the Islands.

500 ewes and 25 Polwarth rams will be purchased from Tasmania and an aircraft will be chartered to transport the sheep to the Falkland Islands in December. The national stud flock will be managed by Falkland Landholdings Ltd and will use an area of land totalling some 8,000 acres on East Falkland. It is also hoped that the facilities of the farm will be used for training purposes for farmers and as a base for the Department of Agriculture's future research and experimental programmes. The scheme will cost the Falkland Islands Government approximately a quarter of a million pounds.

New Canon Licensed

The licensing of the Reverend Canon Stephen Palmer as Rector of the Parish of the Falkland Islands and Priest in charge of Christ Church Cathedral, Stanley, took place at a service in the Lambeth Palace Chapel by the Archbishop of Canterbury on Tuesday, 17th September. Canon Palmer will travel to the Islands in October to take up his new appointment. He replaces Canon Gerry Murphy who has been Rector since 1985.

Census 1991

A census of the civilian population of the Falkland Islands held on 5th March 1991 has shown an eleven percent increase in the population since the last census held in the Islands in 1986. The total population of the Falkland Islands now is 2,121 as opposed to 1,916 in 1986. The comparative figures of Stanley and Camp are shown below:

	1986	1991
Stanley	1,245	1,643
Camp	671	478
Total:	1,916	2,121

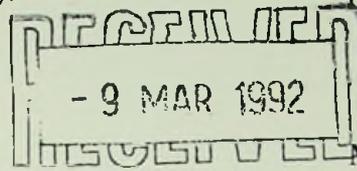
This is the highest recorded population since the census of 1962. The reason for the decline of the Camp population is due to the sub-division of several more large farms since 1986.



A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542. Telex: 8950476

Issue 43

February 1992



Heritage Year Begins

Mineral Surveys

A stunning firework display in Stanley at the stroke of midnight on 31 December 1991 set the scene for beginning of Heritage Year 1992. The occasion was also marked by the Prime Minister, during his annual Christmas message to the Falkland Islands on the BBC World Service programme, "Calling the Falklands".

In it he said: "I am sorry I cannot join the many well wishers who will visit the Falklands during your Heritage Year; I should have loved to do so but getting away from Downing Street even as far as Chequers is quite an achievement these days. I shall be with you in spirit and keeping in touch with developments".

Archbishop Joins Celebrations

21 February saw the 100th anniversary of the Consecration of Christ Church Cathedral. To celebrate this the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Carey visited the Falkland Islands from 22-26 February.

The Cathedral has recently been restored following a successful appeal, of which the Duchess of York was the Patron. The appeal raised £315,000 in the Islands and in the UK.

Other events

The other anniversaries that are being marked with celebrations during Heritage Year are the 10th anniversary of the Liberation; the 100th anniversary of the Volunteer Defence Force; and the 400th anniversary of the first sighting of the Islands by Captain John Davis.

The Falkland Islands Legislative Council passed a Bill on 22 November which will permit licensed surveys of the Falkland Islands Continental Shelf.

Bids will be actively sought from industry to carry out a comprehensive survey of the designated areas of the Falkland Islands Continental Shelf.

Councillor Gerard Robson and Chief Executive Ronald Sampson visited the UK in January to discuss the consultancy arrangements with exploration companies.

The British Geographical Survey (part of the National Environment Research Centre) have been selected to act as consultants to FIG in this matter, subject to contract terms currently under negotiation.

The High Level Group of British and Argentine Officials has met in Buenos Aires to explore the scope for cooperation should mineral extraction prove commercially viable. These have been the first formal discussions between the two Governments on developing the mineral resources beneath the South Atlantic.

Polar Circle Bought

23 January brought good news with the MoD announcement that the Government will purchase HMS Polar Circle. Lord Arran, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, said that the Polar Circle will be the long-term replacement for HMS Endurance as the Antarctic ice patrol vessel.

In his announcement to the House of Lords, he added that the Polar Circle had undergone an extensive assessment of its operational performance in the Antarctic. She had proved a worthy and capable successor to HMS Endurance and will be modified to install further communications and hydrographic equipment and to improve her helicopter facility.

A decision on the future name of the Polar Circle will be taken when she returns to the UK in the Spring.

Tax Reforms

Major changes have been made to the Falklands tax system in order to encourage businesses and new investment in the Islands. The maximum effective tax rate for companies has been cut from 45% to 32.5% and can be as low as 25% for profits retained in the Islands. Capital allowances are generous also with 100% on plant and 50% on most commercial buildings in the year of expenditure.

There is at present no tax on capital gains. 150% allowance is now given for vocational training costs and no Falkland tax will be charged on bank deposit interest earned in the Falklands.

The rates of personal tax have also been cut to a maximum of 25% and personal reliefs increased particularly for pensioners.

MPs visit

On 5-12 December, the Islands were visited by five MPs (Simon Coombs, Barry Field, Ron Leighton, Jerry Wiggin and Dr John Reid). An account of the trip, written by Jerry Wiggin was published in *House* magazine, which is published specifically for members of both Houses of Parliament.

YMCA Opens in Stanley

The first YMCA hostel in the Falkland

Islands was opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury on 26 February during his visit to the Islands to mark Heritage Year. It is the first member of the English National Council of YMCAs outside the UK.

The self-financing hostel will provide semi-permanent accommodation for 20 young people between the ages of 16 and 23. The buildings and £40,000 start-up costs were provided by the Falkland Islands Government.

TV Service Extended

A year-long project to extend television coverage to Camp has begun. Currently taped television programmes are transmitted to Stanley from Mount Pleasant by the Services Sound and Vision Corporation.

The Falkland Islands Government are funding the £250,000 project.

New Year Honours

For her 40th anniversary Honours List, Her Majesty the Queen bestowed an MBE on Ian Strange who lives in the Islands. He is a well known conservation expert and acts as advisor to the FIG on conservation matters. He has had several books published about the Islands and is an accomplished wildlife artist; many of his drawings have been used in Falkland Island stamp issues.

Margaret Thatcher Day

Councillor Gerard Robson, with Chief Executive Ronald Sampson and UK Representative Sukey Cameron presented Mrs Thatcher with a large bouquet of flowers in honour of the first Margaret Thatcher Day on 10 January in the Falkland Islands.

Mrs. Thatcher announced that she and Sir Denis had accepted Governor Fullerton's invitation to visit the Islands in June to join the Liberation Day celebrations.



A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542. Telex: 8950476

Issue 44

May 1992

Falklands Delegation to the EC

During May, the first Falkland Islands delegation to visit the institutions of the European Community and the Council of Europe met MEPs, and officials in order to develop closer links.

The delegation consisted of Chief Executive Ronald Sampson, Councillor Terry Peck, Mike Summers (the General Manager of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation) and UK Representative Sukey Cameron.

This was the first of a series of meetings which will provide an on-going dialogue across a broad range of issues.

Reception for the Secretary of State for Defence

On Monday 18 May the new Secretary of State for Defence, the Rt Hon Malcolm Rifkind MP, was the speaker at a Falkland House press reception which included journalists from the *Daily Telegraph*, *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *The European*, Independent Television News, BBC Radio News and *Calling the Falklands*.

Speaking at the reception, Mr Rifkind reiterated the Government policy to maintain pressure on Argentina to drop its false territorial claim to the Falklands Islands.

Recalling why the Task Force was sent, in spite of the small Falkland Islands population, Mr Rifkind said that the issues of principle are the same for 5 people as they are for 5 million.

He said that he looked back with pride at the achievement of the armed forces and the

way the people of the Falkland Islands lived through with great stoicism and fortitude, but also with sadness for the servicemen who gave their lives for freedom.

Responding to an invitation to visit the Islands, from Chief Executive Ronald Sampson, Mr Rifkind said that Parliamentary time allowing he would like to visit the Islands, never having been there before.

Message from the UK Representative, Sukey Cameron

"Since the last *Falkland Focus* in February, the Conservative Government has been returned to power. The continuity of policy will avoid any period of uncertainty for the Islands.

"The next five years will be an opportunity to get to know politicians from all parties to work towards a political consensus. It would be a great achievement if all parties would commit themselves to maintaining the right of the Falkland Islanders to determine their own future."

Heritage Year Celebrations

Two of the Islands' four anniversaries in 1992 will fall in June. The tenth anniversary of the Liberation from Argentine occupation is on 14 June, and the 100th anniversary of the Falkland Islands Volunteer Defence Force the day before on 13 June.

To mark these anniversaries a party of VIPs will be visiting the Islands and attending the celebrations.

The distinguished visitors will include Sir Denis and Mrs Thatcher, the Chief of Defence Staff, Task Force commanders, former commanders of the British Forces Falkland Islands, Unit commanders and representatives from the Falklands' Families Association, amongst others.

Liberation Day: 14 June

Liberation Day will be marked with a number of formal ceremonies and social events.

The ceremonies will be a Thanksgiving at Christ Church Cathedral; the laying of wreaths at the Liberation Memorial; and an Act of Remembrance at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at San Carlos.

Social events include several receptions and a dinner at the Town Hall.

Falkland Islands Defence Force

To mark their 100th anniversary new Colours will be presented to the Falkland Islands Defence Force.

HMS "Endurance"

On 14 May 1992 it was announced by the Ministry of Defence that the ice patrol ship HMS "Polar Circle" would be renamed the HMS "Endurance" -- its predecessor as the Royal Navy's presence in the South Atlantic.

RRS "James Clark Ross"

The Royal Research Ship "James Clark Ross" visited the Islands during its maiden voyage. The ship is one of the most sophisticated marine research platforms afloat, capable of examining movements in the Earth's crust; the relationship between the ocean and global warming; and the balance of the marine ecosystem. It is owned by the British Antarctic Survey, part of the British Natural Environment Research Council.

Correction: Issue 43 of *Falkland Focus* mentioned "The British Geographical Survey (part of the National Environment Research Centre)", this should have read "The British Geological Survey (part of the Natural Environment Research Council)".

Houston Oil Technology Conference

A high level delegation from the Falkland Islands attended the international Houston Oil Technology Conference in April in Texas, USA.

The conference provides a forum for the leading experts on deep-sea oil extraction to meet and discuss the latest technological methods.

Attending the conference was a positive step in introducing the Falkland Islands to the international petrochemical community -- to which the Islands may make a valuable contribution once the seismic surveys in their territorial waters have been completed.

The delegation consisted of Chief Executive Ronald Sampson, Councillor Gerard Robson, Councillor Kevin Kilmartin and Kathleen Clarke (FIG Establishments Secretary).

No Nuclear Dumping

Recent rumours circulating in the press and European Parliament suggested that two islands in the Falklands would become nuclear dumping sites. But Falklands law prohibits the importation of any type of waste products.

Commenting on the rumours, Executive Councillor, Terry Peck said:

"There is no way that any owner will get planning permission for a nuclear waste dump or any other type of waste dump. The Falklands Islands Government has in the past turned down such applications in recognition of its responsibilities to conserve the wildlife and sea ecology of the South West Atlantic."

The rumours are thought to have originated in a Buenos Aires evening newspaper.

The two islands, George and Barren, have been put up for sale by their owners, Anglo-United Plc, who cannot determine their future use.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW 1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542.

Issue 47

Malcolm Rifkind Reassures Islanders

The Secretary of State for Defence, Malcolm Rifkind, visited the Falklands from 21 to 24 March. Mr Rifkind spent time at key military and civilian centres, and was able to give his assurance that there is no political threat to the defence of the Falklands. During a press conference at RAF Mt Pleasant, he stressed that defence of the Islands has the same priority as the defence of Britain itself.

The Minister made it clear that, as a proportion of overall defence spending, the cost of defending the Falklands is not high. The UK's annual defence budget is between £23 and £24 billion, whilst just £50 to £60 million is spent in the Falklands.

During meetings with Mr Rifkind, FI Government officials stressed that, while the relationship between the two communities is very good, they would like to see the military stimulating the local economy by buying more goods and services. The apparently irrational measure of importing lamb from New Zealand via Britain when it can be supplied locally, was pointed out. As a result of these discussions, a joint military and civilian working group has been established to study ways in which more use can be made of supplies and services available locally.

Tristan Garel-Jones Urges Co-operation

Foreign Office Minister Tristan Garel-Jones visited the Islands from 11 to 13 February, travelling by RAF aircraft via Uruguay. While in Montevideo, Mr Garel-Jones met President Lacalle, who expressed his enthusiasm for a resumption of the links between his country and the Falklands.

Although Mr Garel-Jones' visit was principally one of familiarisation, he did have a particular message for Islanders. In the light of developing competition over fisheries with Argentina and its impact on the economy, he suggested that Islanders consider whether they wish to maintain a policy of total isolation from that country. The Minister said that it is up to Islanders whether they



April 1993

follow this path and compete, or develop links on a technical level which could lead to co-operation in the exploitation of fish and, possibly, oil.

Stressing that there could be no discussions about sovereignty, Mr Garel-Jones expressed his view that it is possible and desirable to talk to the Argentines about matters of mutual interest. Initial public reaction in Stanley was predominantly against co-operation. But on 26 March a meeting of Executive Council, at which all Councillors were present, accepted that the British Government could inform Argentina that the FI Government would be prepared to work for co-ordinated management of fisheries during the coming year.

Modest Improvement in Economic Outlook

The Falklands' economic outlook suddenly assumed a very bleak aspect in late 1992, when the Argentine Government began to compete directly in the sale of squid fishing licences to foreign fleets. The viability of the fishery, which had hitherto been carefully controlled to ensure conservation of stocks, was placed under threat and remains endangered.

The short-term economic effects have, however, not been as severe as had been feared. Demand for Falklands licences (the sale of which is by far the greatest source of revenue for the Government) was reduced radically, but there was a late resurgence of interest from oriental fleets. Budgeted revenue for the 1992/93 financial year has been reduced by some £3 million, representing a serious loss, but a considerably better outcome than had been anticipated.

Cuts in Government operating and capital expenditure have been necessary. Several public works programmes will now not go ahead, and a number of overseas contract posts have been discontinued. Local redundancies have, however, been avoided. With the long-term outlook still giving cause for concern, Government departments have exercised extreme economy in the preparation of budgets for the financial year commencing 1 July 1993.

Islands Welcome European Community Development Aid.

During a visit in March, the EC Counsellor for DG XIV (Dependent Territories), Yves Roland-Gosselin, announced that up to £1.2 million from the EC fund known as STABEX will be made available for agricultural development. In particular, funds will be used to develop an abattoir capable of meeting stringent EC standards. The European Investment Bank agreed some time ago to provide a £2 million loan to partially fund the new fuel facilities in Stanley.

Argentina Opens Charm Offensive

The Argentine Foreign Minister, Dr Guido di Tella, visited Britain in March. Although ostensibly a private visit, Dr di Tella met with British Parliamentarians and Falkland Islanders resident in Britain. There was no meeting with official Falklands representatives.

During a press conference, Dr di Tella clearly reiterated that Argentina's Falklands ambitions remain unchanged, but said he hoped the perceived benefits of co-operation might lead Falkland Islanders to change their minds.

The Minister also expressed his views on the BBC World Service programme, "Calling the Falklands", and Councillors in Stanley replied with a statement communicated to the Argentine press. "We have no desire to be integrated into Argentina whatsoever", they said, "but if Argentina were to drop its claim to sovereignty, contact and co-operation between the Islands and Argentina would become possible without the underlying suspicion that they could be used as a cover for another Argentine occupation and eventual absorption".

Foreign Office Issues "Letter of Comfort" to Oil Companies.

In March the Foreign and Commonwealth Office moved to reassure oil companies that their investment in Falklands seismic survey data could lead to opportunities to exploit any deposits which may be found.

In a "letter of comfort" dated 17 March, the FCO advised that both the British and Falklands Governments expected to invite competitive bidding for the rights to conduct further exploration and drilling, leading to possible exploitation in particular areas around the Islands.

While a more specific statement may be sought, it is hoped that the oil exploration companies will now give serious consideration to the potential of an area which has been described as "one of the major new exploration

provinces of the world".

Major Private Sector Investment in Fuel Supply Business

The opening on 29 March of the new Stanley Services Ltd fuels depot, offices and service station marked the largest ever private sector investment in Falklands infrastructure.

Built by Gordon Forbes (Falklands) Ltd, the new installations provide greatly improved tankage, facilities for supply to maritime customers, and a modern retail point for local clients.

The development cost £4.2 million, with no contribution from government funds. A significant proportion of the finance is being provided under a European Investment Bank Loan.

The FI Government owns 45% of Stanley Services Ltd, and the remaining shares are divided between two British companies, Hogg Robinson PLC and S & JD Robertson Ltd. The company recently reported significant profits and paid its first dividend.

Education - Annual Report Demonstrates Progress

The Director of Education's report for 1992 shows that the Government's commitment to education is yielding good results.

The major development in education during the year was the completion of the Community School, but, it is also significant that the number of students pursuing their education beyond the minimum compulsory level continued to grow in 1992. Thirteen recent school-leavers are following undergraduate courses in the United Kingdom. More students than in any previous year qualified to study for 'A' levels in Britain, and will join the eight young Islanders already studying at Peter Symonds College, Winchester.

Memorial to Lord Fieldhouse

A memorial to Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fieldhouse GCB GBE, was unveiled in Gosport on 22 February. Lord Fieldhouse, who died in February 1991, was Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet at the time of the Falklands War.

The Memorial, a 1 1/2 times life size bust, was funded by public subscription. The Falkland Islands Government contributed to the appeal and the London Representative, Sukey Cameron, attended the unveiling.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
 Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542. Telex: 8950476
 Issue 45 October 1992

Message from the UK Representative, Sukey Cameron - *Falklands 2000*

"In marking the four major anniversaries in 1992, the Falkland Islands have celebrated the past and are looking forward to a prosperous future. The Falklands will build on the economic self sufficiency achieved over the last decade and prepare for the next decade with even stronger determination and broader vision. Falklands 2000 will see further culmination of our aim to remain British and recognition of our right to self determination."

Seismic Surveys

Companies wishing to conduct geophysical surveys in the Falklands Designated Area surrounding the Islands are invited by the FIG to compete for licences through a competitive tender which closes on 16 October.

It is planned for surveying to start in January 1993 once licences have been granted -- expected in November. The Falkland Islands Government will be advised on technical aspects of the applications by the British Geological Survey.

Argentine-British Conference

For the first time, the Falkland Islands representatives attended the annual Argentine-British Conference which was this year held in Cambridge on 18-20 September.

The conference addressed a wide range of issues affecting developments in Argentina and the United Kingdom and further strengthening their bilateral relations. The Falklands delegation emphasised that there could be no development in the relationship between the Falklands and Argentina until the latter dropped its claim to the Islands.

The Islands were represented by Cllrs Terry Peck and Norma Edwards together with Representative Sukey Cameron.

Argentine Duplicity

A cat and mouse game of diplomacy was enacted at the UN this summer when Argentina went back on its word not to send a representative to the UN Committee of 24 talks where a resolution had been put forward on the Falkland/Argentine issue.

Following discussions with the Foreign Office, agreement was reached that neither the Falklands nor Argentina would send representatives to this Committee on Decolonisation. However, despite written assurances, Argentina reneged on its agreement and sent its *charge d'affaires* who claimed that Argentina would take the Islands by diplomatic means.

The Decolonisation Committee subsequently resolved to support "the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the dispute over sovereignty [of the Falklands]."

In a statement issued after the event, Falkland Islands Councillors said, "In deceiving the Foreign Office like this, Argentina has hardly established a basis for mutual trust.

"As far as the sovereignty of the Falklands is concerned, there is no dispute: the Islanders are unanimous in our desire to remain British -- there is nothing left to settle.

"In recent years, we have been told that Argentina wishes goodwill between the two countries but this has done little to convince us."

Community School opened by Satellite

The £12 million FIG-funded Falkland Islands Community School was opened on 17 August by Lord Shackleton, in the UK,



and his daughter The Hon Mrs Alexandra Bergel, in the Islands.

The school, the largest FIG project on the Islands, will provide community facilities including computers, library and a sports complex for the community.

Lord Shackleton was prevented by ill health from visiting the Islands with the delegation of VIPs visiting the Islands to mark the 400th Anniversary of the First Sighting by Captain John Davis.

Chile and the Argentines

In another attempt to gain publicity points for its claims to the Islands, it has emerged recently that Argentina may be able to secure Chilean support for its bid for the Falklands' sovereignty.

The two countries have been negotiating a controversial treaty to divide the glacier region at their mutual border. Argentine President Carlos Menem has claimed that once a border agreement is ratified, Chile may support Argentine claims to the Falklands. Horse trading such as this is a dangerous exercise.

The 400th Anniversary of the First Sighting of the Islands by Captain John Davis

The celebrations to mark the 400th Anniversary of the Islands were kicked off in London by former Special Envoy to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Terry Waite, with MPs Michael Morris and Michael Shersby. Together they cut an anniversary cake and released 400 anniversary balloons before travelling to the Islands as part of a VIP group to celebrate the Anniversary there.

New Falkland Islands Governor

On 8 August, Mr David Tatham was sworn in as the new Governor of the Islands succeeding Mr William Fullerton who departed on 21 July. Mr Tatham was formerly the UK Ambassador to Beirut and Head of the Falkland Islands Department of the Foreign Office in 1987-90.

Mr Tatham said, in his inaugural speech, that before taking up the appointment he had discussed the Islands with Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. "He asked me to assure you that the position of Her Majesty's Government has not changed and will not change. The sovereignty of the Falkland Islands is not for negotiation," Mr Tatham said.

When leaving the Islands, after three and a half years as Governor, Mr Fullerton said that "Islanders should run this country as much as possible, while the valuable contribution of expatriates is recognised."

New Deputy Representative in London

Falkland Islander Graham Bound has been appointed Deputy Representative in London for the Falkland Islands Government. As Director of the Falkland Islands Tourist Board in Stanley, Graham has been a regular visitor to London, promoting the Islands' sustainable tourism industry.

Donation to Lord Fieldhouse Memorial

The Falkland Islands Government was privileged to pledge £1,000 towards the appeal to commemorate Lord Fieldhouse of Gosport with a statue overlooking Portsmouth Harbour.

As Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, he was Commander in Chief of the Fleet during the 1982 Conflict.

Tribute to Sir Robert Muldoon

Sir Robert Muldoon, Prime Minister of New Zealand in 1975-84, whose kind and generous support in 1982 helped to crystallise world opinion against the enemy invasion, died in August.

Led by Sir Robert, New Zealand was among the first to offer its help to eject the Argentine invasion forces and willingly loaned a frigate, the HMSNZ Canterbury, to the British forces.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542.

Issue 46

January 1993

Fishery Crisis

Argentina's decision to compete directly with the Falklands by offering cut-price licences for less restricted fishing has resulted in a serious financial crisis in the Falklands. There are also grave fears for the conservation of fish stocks.

Argentina originally planned to issue over one hundred licences to fish for the valuable illex squid, but following urgent negotiations in London and Buenos Aires during December 1992, agreed to limit the number to forty five. However fishery experts still believe that the illex stocks are threatened by the development, and international interest in Falklands licences has been reduced radically.

A loss of at least £10 million to government revenue is now anticipated during the current financial year. Vital infrastructural work has been suspended and extraordinary measures are being taken to reduce operational costs. It is also feared that there will be a serious impact on the private sector.

Since the introduction of the Falkland Islands Interim Conservation Zone in 1987, the fishery of the region has been carefully controlled to avoid stock depletion. This policy has involved reductions in the number of licences being issued by the FI Government and, on occasions, the early closure of the main season.

Argentina's management regime promises to be less responsible. Despite severely limited resources with which to police their waters, the licences issued will allow fishing for periods twice as long as those authorised by the Falklands. As the illex squid has a life cycle of only one year, excessive fishing could wipe out the stock in one season.

A common and strongly held belief in the Islands is that Argentina has embarked on a campaign of

economic pressure against the Falklands. Conservation is likely to be the main casualty unless coordinated management of the common stock can be achieved.

Foreign Secretary visits Argentina.

The Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, visited Buenos Aires from 5 to 8 January. This was the first official visit to Argentina by a member of the Cabinet since 1982.

During his time in Buenos Aires, Mr Hurd met with the Argentine President Carlos Menem and the Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella. Bilateral trade was discussed, as were two important Falklands related issues; oil exploration and fishing. In accordance with British policy, sovereignty was not discussed. But Mr Hurd did publically voice the British Government's position on the issue. Speaking to the BBC World Service, he said, "our view is very clear; that the Islands are British, that the Islanders wish to remain British, and we have no doubt about the strength of our position".

President Menem, however, reaffirmed Argentine ambitions to control the Falklands. Interviewed during the visit he said, "before the year 2000, perhaps, we will be there as a result of our growing diplomatic activity, setting foot on the 'Malvinas' without any kind of conflict".

Oil Exploration commences

The UK and FI Governments announced on the 11th December that contracts for seabed seismic exploration around the Falklands had been awarded. Spectrum Energy and Information Technology Ltd and GECO-PRAKLA will operate in areas to the north and south of the Islands respectively. Work

started with the arrival of GECO-PRAKLA's research ship "Akademik Shatskiy" in Stanley on 15 January.

Scientists employed by the British Geological Survey, FIG's consultants, have mapped the existence of large sedimentary basins within the area. They described it as "one of the major new exploration provinces of the world".

Tristan Garel-Jones to visit Falklands

The Foreign Office Minister with responsibility for the Falklands, Tristan Garel-Jones, is to visit the Islands in February. It is anticipated that councillors and officials will welcome the opportunity to discuss a number of topics, especially the prospects for oil exploitation and their concern for the future of fishing in the area.

New Year's Honours

The Falklands' Attorney General, David Lang QC, was awarded a CBE in the New Year's Honours List. Our congratulations are extended to him, and also to two other people with Falklands connections. David Taylor, former Chief Executive in Stanley, and current Governor of Montserrat, received a CBE. Des Keoghane, Chairman of the Falklands Families Association was awarded the MBE.

Official visit by Gibraltar's Chief Minister

Gibraltar's Chief Minister, the Honourable Joe Bossano, visited the Falklands from 19 to 27 January.

Mr Bossano and his wife were invited by the FI Government following the visit by the Chief Executive and Councillor Binnie to Gibraltar in September 1992. Mr Bossano met with councillors and officials for informal talks about the similar challenges faced by the two territories and possible areas of cooperation.

Battle Day: London

The 1992 anniversary of the Battle of the Falklands in 1914, was observed a little earlier than usual, on Saturday the 5th December.

The ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, which

was organised by the FI Association, was led by HRH The Duke of York. Following the Duke, wreaths were laid by Minister of State at the Foreign Office Tristan Garel-Jones, members of the FI Association and representatives of other Falklands organisations.

CPA Delegation

The Falklands welcomed two visiting British Members of Parliament in November 1992. Dr Liam Fox MP (Conservative) and David Young MP (Labour) were travelling as members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. This was the first CPA visit since 1981, although other parliamentarians have visited by invitation of the FI and British Governments.

Visit to Atlantic Canada

A Falklands delegation conducted a two-week briefing tour of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia during October 1992. Councillors Terry Peck and Kevin Kilmartin were accompanied by Chief Executive, Ronnie Sampson and Government Economist Richard Wagner (himself a Canadian). The similarities between the maritime provinces and the Islands led to the study tour.

The group were advised about the Canadian provinces' offshore industries, and also examined social aspects of the areas. Much was discovered that can be put into a Falklands perspective.

QE2 calls at Stanley

Cunard's flag ship "Queen Elizabeth II" received a warm welcome in Stanley on the 22nd January. The QE2 was not a newcomer to the area, but her previous visit to the Falklands waters could hardly be called a pleasure cruise. On that occasion in 1982, the vessel was a troop ship with the task force.

During this happier visit many of the 900 passengers toured the town and its environs with the FI Tourist Board accredited guides, while the Government Air Service took others on sight-seeing flights. The Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Handicrafts organised a special exhibition of their work, and a significant number of visitors left with souvenirs made from quality Falklands wool.



A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542.

Issue 48

July 1993

Islanders Host Friends At Lincoln's Inn

The nineteenth Annual Reception, jointly hosted by the Falkland Islands Government and the FI Association, took place in the Great Hall at Lincoln's Inn on 8 June. Some 260 friends of the Falklands attended, including members of both Houses of Parliament. Prominent among these were Lord Shackleton, The Speaker of the House of Commons, Betty Boothroyd MP, Nicholas Winterton MP, Sir Jerry Wiggan MP, Martin O'Neill MP, David Hanson MP, Andrew McKinley MP and Willie Ross MP.

Sir Rex Hunt, as Chairman of the Association, read a greeting from HM The Queen and proposed a loyal toast. Following this, the Falklands Government London Representative, Sukey Cameron, addressed the guests. She looked back briefly on the events of the preceding year, but, more significantly perhaps, the Representative spoke of the future, referring in particular to the off-shore seismic surveys now approaching completion and the encouraging early results. She mentioned improving relations with the European Community and the special relationship with fellow dependent territory, Gibraltar. Summing up, Miss Cameron expressed the Falklands ongoing commitment to "drive forward as a dynamic, thriving community".

Freedom Of Stanley Awarded To Bill Hunter-Christie

Bill Hunter-Christie has been associated with the UK Falkland Islands Committee and the Falkland Islands Association since 1968. He continues to serve on the Joint Executive Committee. Mr Hunter-Christie was one of the first to recognise the need for increased awareness within Britain of the political threat facing Falkland Islanders. The considerable influence of this pressure group is widely recognised, and has even received somewhat reluctant admiration from the Argentines.

Mr Hunter-Christie's invaluable role has now been officially recognised. In a message read at the Annual Reception, HE The Governor, David Tatham CMG, declared that the Legislative Council had unanimously

agreed that the Freedom of Stanley should be conferred on Mr Hunter-Christie. Mr Tatham's proclamation also recognised the valuable assistance of Mr Hunter-Christie's wife, Merle, who continues to work as Honorary Secretary of the Association.

It is hoped that Mr Hunter-Christie will be able to visit the Falklands to receive his honour in person.

United Nations Debate The Falklands

Legislative Councillors Terry Peck and Bill Luxton were present at the United Nations in New York on 14 July and spoke during a debate by the UN Committee of Twenty-Four on Decolonisation. The motion, which effectively urges a return to discussions over Falklands sovereignty, is being opposed by Britain and the Falklands. The elected Falklands representatives appealed for the right of Falkland Islanders to determine their own future. Self-determination is a fundamental principle of the UN.

Following the debate, the Islanders travelled to Washington, where they met with academics and State Department officials.

Major Falkland Islands Representation At Island Games

Thirty-four sportsmen and women from the Falklands travelled to the UK to participate in the 4th Island Games. This represented the largest group of Falklands athletes ever sent to an overseas sporting event. Held on the Isle of Wight from 3 to 10 July, the Games were open to athletes from island communities the world over. The Falklands team competed in six sports: running, netball, shooting, golf, badminton and triathlon.

Competition against such large communities as Iceland and the Channel Islands was tough, and Team Manager Patrick Watts had cautioned not to expect the team to win

medals. He hoped, however, that the athletes would improve on personal times while taking a message of goodwill and friendship to participants from many other parts of the world. However, to the delight of many Falklands supporters gathered on the Island two runners, Tracy Porter and Donna Williams, won bronze medals in the half marathon and Graham Didlick achieved a fourth prize in pistol shooting.

Judging by the welcome the team received, there was no shortage of goodwill on the Isle of Wight. Barry Field MP extended a warm greeting to the team on behalf of his island constituency following the official opening by HRH The Princess Royal.

The Isle of Wight Council For The Arts organised an international craft exhibition to coincide with the Games. The Falklands were represented with woven and knitted items, paintings, prints and photographs.

Students Obtain Excellent Degrees

Two Falklands students have graduated with honours from British Universities. Both Cyndi Watts and Andrea Gray gained 2.1 degrees.

Cyndi read history at Reading University and is now going on to study education. Ultimately, she intends to return to the Falklands as a teacher. Andrea graduated from Bangor University with a degree in oceanography and has expressed a desire to resume studying for a doctorate. She too plans to return to the Falklands.

Dial A Minister

The BBC World Service's twice-weekly programme "Calling the Falklands", made history on 18 June, when the Argentine Foreign Minister, Guido Di Tella, visited the London studios to answer direct questions via satellite from the Islands.

Three Islanders spoke to Dr Di Tella, with conversations revolving around sovereignty and fisheries. On the former subject and in reply to a question from Jennifer Jones in Stanley, the Minister said that a change to Argentine rule would have little or no effect on the way of life, but added "we want our rights, our sovereignty rights, to be recognised."

From the Islands, Sam Miller reminded the Minister that "we know of nothing else but democracy and what it means, and the right of self-determination". The Minister replied "self-determination is an adequate principle but for other situations, not for this particular situation". Questioned by Stuart Wallace, the Minister agreed about

the importance of establishing a protocol to control the exploitation of fish stocks which straddle both countries' economic zones.

On 29 June, "Calling the Falklands" presented Islanders with an opportunity to discuss their interests with David Heathcoat-Amory MP, the recently-appointed Minister at the Foreign Office with responsibility for the Falklands. On this occasion a larger number of people phoned the BBC.

In reply to Kitty Bertrand, the Minister gave his assurance that membership of the EC would not limit Britain's Falklands policy: "If we want to act alone in foreign policy, we can do it", he said.

The Minister assured Brian Hewitt of Goose Green that his government's position on sovereignty, and indeed the whole issue, is not for negotiation saying: "We want to talk about lots of other things with the countries of Latin America, including Argentina. There is no reason why we should not have good relations and trade with them in other respects, but on the sovereignty issue we agree that self-determination is supreme".

Budget Deficit Avoided But Caution Marks New Financial Year

The FI Government's 1992/93 financial year ended on 30 June and the new budget agreed by Legislative Councillors in May has come into effect.

In the wake of the economic crisis precipitated by Argentina's entry into the fishing licence market, revenue projections were reduced by almost 25% over the previous year. FIG hopes to accrue some £31 million in 1993/94 compared to approximately £40 million in 1992/93. Expenditure is anticipated to be around £28.5 million, leaving a modest surplus of approximately £2.5 million at the end of the financial year. This surplus will be transferred to reserves, which currently stand at £52 million.

With such a drop in revenue, capital expenditure has been reduced, but important infrastructural projects, especially the rural roads programme, will continue.

Despite the economic down-turn, careful housekeeping has meant that, financially, the Falklands' Government remains almost wholly independent of the United Kingdom. The British Government does, however, fund the Islands' defence; expenditure which amounts to around £64 million per annum, or approximately half of one per cent of the total British defence budget.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542.

Issue 49

September 1993

Democracy At Work

Residents of the Falklands will go to the polls on 14 October 1993 to elect eight new members of the Legislative Council. The successful candidates will then elect, from among their own number, three councillors to sit on the Executive Council.

The Islands are divided into two constituencies, Stanley and the rural areas, known locally as "Camp", where 918 and 325 people respectively are entitled to vote. On 21 September, the deadline for nominations, it was announced that there were 17 candidates for Stanley, and 8 for Camp. The large number of citizens with political ambitions is evidence of the Islanders' strong desire to take an active role in their own government.

There are no political parties in the Falklands, and all candidates are independent. Campaigns, however, are lively, with both local radio and newspapers allocating time and space fairly. The sovereignty dispute with Argentina will be a fundamental concern, and all candidates will address the issue. However opinion will probably only differ in the degree to which candidates are prepared to discuss with the Argentines practical matters of mutual concern.

With a small and widely dispersed population, some unconventional methods are employed to ensure that all on the electoral role are given the opportunity to vote. One or more government aircraft will be adapted to carry a ballot box around isolated settlements and provide a private booth in which to vote. Four-wheel-drive vehicles will take ballot boxes to farms on East Falkland.

The Falklands Government Sponsors Major Conference On The Future Of Dependent Territories.

The future constitutional role and status of dependent territories will be discussed at a major conference, "Progress Through Partnership", co-sponsored by the Falkland Islands Government and the Gibraltar Government, which will be held in London this Autumn. Although focussing on the close ties which exist between

dependent territories and their sovereign countries, there will also be an examination of the political and economic challenges and opportunities facing the territories. The keynote address will be given by the Foreign Secretary, The Right Hon. Douglas Hurd MP, and a member of the Falkland Islands Council will speak on the "pros and cons of dependency; how a successful relationship is managed to enhance the advantages for both sides".

The conference was initiated by territories which believe that in-depth discussion of the issues is long overdue. It has the support of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and all other UK dependent territories have expressed interest in attending.

Other speakers at the conference will include Lord Young, Chairman of Cable and Wireless Plc; the Hon. Joe Bossano, Chief Minister of Gibraltar; The Hon. John Swan, Premier of Bermuda, and The Hon. Thomas Jefferson, Member of the Executive Council of the Cayman Islands. Speakers have also been invited from the French Government, the Netherlands Antilles and Reunion, a French dependent territory.

The one-day conference will be held on Wednesday 24 November 1993 at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, and will be chaired by John Simpson, BBC TV Foreign Affairs Editor. Delegates will include representatives from business and finance, import and export organisations, industrial development agencies, aid agencies, travel and tourism, diplomats, civil servants, economists and academics, as well as dependent territories governments.

Sukey Cameron, the Falkland Islands Government London Representative said, "the dependent territories supporting this unique collaboration intend it to be a landmark in economic and political development. We each have our own priorities for discussion but there is also a clear range of common concerns which we shall bring forward for discussion at this important international event."

Anyone wishing to attend the conference should contact The Dependent Territories Conference, Priory House, 8 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4PG. Tel: 071-498 3719.

FI Development Corporation: A Busy First Six Months Of 1993

The FI Development Corporation's report to Executive Council for the six months of 1993 detailed considerable activity in widely differing areas of business and industry.

In the traditional sector of sheep farming, the Corporation organised trials in the UK for quality yarn spun in the Islands; experimented with the local processing of cashmere from a recently-introduced flock of cashmere goats, and arranged the shipment of frozen lamb to the UK for assessment as an export product.

The report detailed the purchase and introduction to service of a new coastal supply and passenger vessel, the MV "Tamar". The vessel had been purchased, converted and delivered to Stanley at substantially below the estimated cost.

The Corporation's involvement within retailing continued, with the provision of loan assistance for the establishment of a retail complex in the centre of Stanley. According to the report, this "should provide adequate retail and wholesale space for Falklands businesses for some time to come".

In the tourism sector a significant growth in the number of cruise ship visits was noted. In an important development, cruise companies are expected to exchange passengers, using chartered airliners flying into Mount Pleasant, on thirteen occasions during the coming southern summer.

Research had been conducted into the viability of a squid drying plant, as part of the policy to increase revenue from fishing.

The Development Corporation is fully funded by the FI Government, and its budget for the current financial year is £1.25m.

Meet Falkland Islanders At The Party Conferences

For the sixth year in succession, the Falkland Islands Government will have a major presence at the Conservative and Labour Party Conferences in September and October. As in previous years, FIG will

have stands with display panels illustrating aspects of the Islands development, infrastructure, and natural beauty.

Party members and other delegates will have the opportunity to meet FI Government staff and Legislative Councillor The Hon. Mrs Norma Edwards. The representatives will be talking about every aspect of the Islands with conference-goers, but will be particularly keen to discuss potential for the development of a hydro-carbon industry.

Falklands "Move" From Caribbean To The Mediterranean

The story is not all that it seems, but in a sense the Falklands have moved. As an active member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the Islands have, for administrative reasons, been part of the organisation's Caribbean region. However, Falklands legislators have more frequent business with their counterparts in Britain, and developing links with the European Community and Gibraltar made a transfer to the Mediterranean region desirable. The issue was raised by Councillor Kevin Kilmartin at the recent CPA Conference in Cyprus, and the transfer readily approved.

Search For Off-Shore Oil Continues

The initial seismic survey of the sea bed to the north and south of the Falklands is approaching completion. GECO PRAKLA, which commenced its extensive seismic work in January this year, has completed its task and is now assessing the data. Spectrum, the second company involved in the survey, began its work later, and subsequently postponed further seismic soundings because of operational difficulties. It is still anticipated that the survey will be completed before the end of 1993, and the Falkland Islands Government's consultants, British Geological Survey, will present a report with recommendations for future action to the Government early in 1994.

Academic Success

We are pleased to report that Jeremy Smith, son of Ileen and John Smith of Stanley, has been awarded a degree in geography and cartography by the Oxford Brookes University. Jeremy, who achieved a 2:1, previously worked for the Public Works Department in Stanley and the British Antarctic Survey. His three-year course was funded by the FI Government.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542.

Issue 50

December 1993

Oil in the Falklands?

The international press took unprecedented interest in the possibility of Falklands oil during December. While some newspapers exaggerated the likelihood of oil being discovered, the coverage has raised the profile of an increasingly important issue.

The seismic surveys are now approaching completion and analysis of the data by the Falklands Islands Government's consultants is underway. Early indications are encouraging, and it is intended that detailed data will be made commercially available during 1994. The FI Government intends to invite bids for further exploration in the area from the middle of 1994, and expect to allocate exploration licences about a year later.

In the meantime, the inhabitants of the Falklands are being encouraged to consider matters which are fundamental to the establishment of an industry. A consultation paper, which was distributed to all households, raises such key issues as wildlife and habitat conservation; the establishment of shore bases; the possibility of cooperation with Argentina; improved communications with South America, and possible tax regimes.

Fishing: Short Term Agreement Reached but Fears Remain.

Negotiations with the Argentine Government over exploitation of the fish stocks which straddle Argentine and Falklands economic zones were conducted in Buenos Aires during October. The Falklands Government had hoped it would be possible to establish a long-term agreement which would help to conserve fish stocks, but Argentina would not look further ahead than the coming season.

Nevertheless, the outcome for the Islands economy in the short-term was acceptable. Projected Government revenue from the industry during the 1993/94 financial year is estimated at £15 million; considerably less than has been earned in previous years, but better than anticipated in some pessimistic scenarios.

The Argentine Government are now free to permit a catch of up to 220,000 metric tones of *Illex* squid south of 45° S by a maximum of 80 foreign ships. This is a great increase over the level of their fishing in 1993. For its part, the Falklands Government is committed to a licensing effort not exceeding that of the 1993 season. This can be expected to result in a catch of 150,000 metric tones.

Argentine licences are priced at significantly less than the market value, which suggests that the Government is more interested in attracting foreign vessels and money away from the Falklands than establishing a viable and sustainable industry.

The opening of the Falklands Outer Conservation Zone, a band ranging from 70 to 130 miles beyond the 150 mile economic zone, has been in the Falklands favour. This area, previously unfished, is of great interest to the fleets, and has resulted in a marked improvement in licences sales.

The Fisheries Department in Stanley remains concerned about conservation, particularly of the valuable *Illex* squid stocks. Monitoring and control continue in the Islands, and the Falklands have been limiting the fishing effort for this species. However the effort and catch in the Argentine zone has increased rapidly over recent years, without any detailed scientific assessment by Argentina to justify such increases. A long-term agreement with a view to conservation remains essential.

Falklands Sponsor A Successful Conference

The Dependent Territories Conference, sponsored jointly by the governments of the Falkland Islands and Gibraltar, took place at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre on 24 November 1993. Some 150 delegates attended the event, which had as its theme "Progress Through Partnership". Delegates represented the United Kingdom, France, the Falklands, Gibraltar, the Cayman Islands, Norfolk Island, St Helena, the Turks and Caicos, Montserrat and the British Virgin Islands.

Best Wishes For 1994 From Falkland House
The staff at Falkland House take this opportunity to extend
best wishes for 1994 to the Islands' many friends and supporters.

The Conference was chaired by the BBC Foreign Affairs Editor, John Simpson, who reminded the audience that the remaining vestiges of European empires have occasionally proved their importance to the sovereign powers. Mr Simpson expressed his hope that the conference would stimulate thought in the territories about ways in which dependency can be turned to their advantage.

The keynote speech was given by the British Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, who emphasised that no British colonies retain that status against their will. He said that independence is no longer the only option for such territories, and that, where possible, the relationship between Britain and its dependencies should be one of equal partners.

The Falklands representative, Councillor Norma Edwards, used the case of the Islands to illustrate the potential benefits to both sides of the dependency relationship. Mrs Edwards reported that the Falklands have reached economic self-sufficiency, and talked of the prospects for hydrocarbons which could benefit both the Islands and Britain.

Other topics considered by speakers from both parent countries and dependencies were the constitutional status of dependent territories; political stability and economic growth; tourism; and fiscal regimes to promote growth.

Apart from the practical benefits of shared knowledge, the conference undoubtedly showcased the variety of issues facing dependent territories. The Falklands' Governor, David Tatham CMG, stressed the value of this: "the tone of the conference was a constructive one. It raised British public consciousness of dependent territories and their problems, which is the first step on the road to resolving them".

Elections Bring New Faces to Council

Falkland Islanders went to the polls on 14 October to elect new Legislative Councillors. Eighty-eight per cent of the electorate turned out to choose eight new representatives for the two constituencies, Stanley and the "camp" (or rural areas). An unprecedented twenty-five candidates stood for election; a figure which illustrates the growing interest among Islanders in administering their own affairs.

The successful candidates were (for Stanley) Charles Keenleyside, John Cheek, Wendy Teggart, Sharon Halford, and (for camp) Bill Luxton, Eric Goss, Norma Edwards, and Richard Stevens. Only two councillors, Bill Luxton and Norma Edwards had served on the previous council. Messrs Goss, Luxton and Keenleyside

were also appointed to serve for a year on the Executive Council.

The Argentine sovereignty claim was not a major issue in the election, as all candidates agreed that the topic is not for discussion. There was however, some variety of opinion about the extent to which practical issues of mutual interest, such as oil and fisheries, should be discussed with Argentina.

Tourist Board Supports Nature Conservation In U.K.

The Falklands Tourist Board has been pleased to support the Royal Society for Nature Conservation's annual raffle, by donating a free wildlife holiday in the Falklands. The holiday, which topped a list of impressive prizes and helped to raise funds throughout Britain, was won by Adam Lang of Perthshire.

Those who cannot wait to win a free holiday before visiting the Islands will be interested to know that a new game fishing tour operator is offering the destination. Go Fishing Canada has established a subsidiary, Go Fishing Falklands, and launched an attractive new brochure. Those interested in a fishing or wildlife holiday with GFF should contact Maggi Smit at the Swan Centre, Fishers Lane, London, W4 1RX (Telephone 081-742 3700).

"Unflinching Support" From Minister

The Foreign Office Minister with responsibility for the Falklands and Latin America has pledged his government's "resolute and unflinching support". David Heathcoat-Amory renewed the British commitment when visiting the Falklands in early November. According to Penguin News, the minister added that Britain and Argentina have "two irreconcilable positions" over the Falklands, but expressed the hope that Argentina would understand that the Falklands are neighbours. He pointed out that Argentina wanted to be considered a first world nation, and to achieve this they would have to play by the rules and respect self-determination.

Islanders Send Help To Croatia

Thanks to the efforts of Falklands Police Constable Su Howes-Mitchell, lorry-loads of crucial aid went to the multi-ethnic refugees in Croatia. PC Howes-Mitchell worked for months to organise the relief, and found that Islanders were not lacking in compassion. £11,000 was raised to fill specially marked Falklands trucks with the supplies. Su Howes-Mitchell's efforts were rewarded when she was given the opportunity to travel to Croatia in the convoy organised by Walsall police.



A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542.

Issue 51

Islanders Welcome Douglas Hurd

The Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, visited the Falklands from 8 to 10 April. It was the first visit by a serving Foreign Secretary, and although officially described as a routine "pastoral" visit, it is significant that the Minister had given such personal attention to a distant responsibility.

This was the latest of a series of ministerial familiarisation visits which confirm that the Islands remain an important issue in Whitehall. The Secretary of State for Defence, Malcolm Rifkind, spent several days in the Islands in March 1993. Two Foreign Office Ministers of State, Tristan Garel-Jones and David Heathcoat-Amory visited in the same year.

Mr Hurd followed a hectic schedule of meetings and briefings, which included a well attended public meeting in Stanley. This gave the Minister an opportunity to speak frankly to Islanders. There were reassurances that sovereignty is not a topic for discussion with the Argentines. "We know our view is right because it rests on the wishes of the Islanders", said Mr Hurd. On defence, he referred to recent cabinet deliberations, saying: "it was common ground among ministers that the defence of the Falklands was a commitment ... as much as the commitment to defend the British Isles".

Aware of the local and industrial interest in a possible oil industry, Mr Hurd reminded his audience that exploration is still at an early stage, but confirmed "we will go down this road step by step, in consultation with the Council here".

Mr Hurd, who was accompanied by his wife, found time to see something of the Falklands wildlife. He spent the night on Sea Lion Island, where he admired the sealions themselves, elephant seals, penguins and a variety of other birds. They then went on by RAF helicopter to Goose Green and Darwin. Here the Hurd's visited the site of the 1982 battle, and Mrs Hurd laid a posy on the memorial to Colonel H Jones VC. They were treated to lunch by the community, and farmers from all over the camp (the countryside) were flown in to meet the Foreign Secretary.

For residents and those interested in the opportunities that the Islands may offer, Mr Hurd's visit provided timely reassurance.

Oil Impact Study Commissioned

The British firm Environmental Resources Management has been commissioned to study the likely impact of an oil industry based in the Falklands. This will lead to a strategy intended

to minimise environmental and social impact.

In a further preparatory move, a delegation of Falklands officials will be attending an oil - related management training programme in Newfoundland during late April and early May.

Entrepreneurs Anticipate Oil Business

A delegation from the Falklands Chamber of Commerce visited Britain during April. The group of businessmen were researching business opportunities which may exist when the search for petroleum moves into its next phase. The programme of visits concentrated on Scotland's North Sea industry and was largely organised by Chartered Accountants Pannell Kerr Forster.

Asked whether the Falklands business community could expect to play a significant part in the supply of services and infrastructure, the group leader, David Hall, was optimistic. "There is certainly the infrastructure there at the moment to deal with the initial stages of exploratory drilling, and the framework is there for further development of local infrastructure", he said.

Argentine Air Force Re-Arms

Following several years of discussion, the United States agreed in January to sell 36 Skyhawk fighter-bombers to the Argentine Air Force. The campaign to obtain the aircraft, which will replace those lost during the war in 1982, was closely watched by the British and Falkland governments because of Argentina's avowed intention to purchase the 'planes complete with very sophisticated combat radar. Had the Americans granted this request, then the Skyhawks could have represented a threat to Falklands defences. However, despite claims by the Argentine Foreign and Defence Ministers that their campaign had been entirely successful, it seems that the high-tech equipment is not to be installed.

Argentine - British Conference

The Argentine - British Conference takes place every second year to assess and assist the process of normalisation in relations. The latest meeting took place in Mendoza, Argentina in early April, and was attended by politicians, academics and other interested parties from both sides. The Falklands were not represented by government officials or councillors, but Islanders Lewis Clifton, Anna King and Stuart Wallace, did attend privately. Robert Elgood of the Falkland Islands Association accompanied the party.

April 94

The conference did not concentrate solely on the Falklands issue, but the topic was recognised as an important influence on all aspects of bi-lateral relations. Falklands participants have indicated that the discussions took place in a friendly atmosphere, which was conducive to greater mutual understanding.

Argentine Dead Interred On Pebble Island

The remains of two Argentine servicemen were found earlier this year among the wreckage of their crashed aircraft on Pebble Island. They had died when their Learjet reconnaissance aircraft was shot down in 1982. The remains were buried with full military honours near the crash site on 16 April. The coffins, draped with Argentine flags, were escorted by British servicemen. Saluting volleys were fired following a Catholic burial ceremony. Families of the dead men will be invited to visit the graves later this year.

Memorial Contribution To The Airborne Forces

The Falklands' strong association with the Parachute Regiment was forged in battle at Goose Green and on Mt Longden. In recognition of this, the Falklands Government is pleased to be making a contribution to the Airborne Forces Appeal. The Appeal has special significance this year, when a Paratroop Engineer squadron is serving in the Islands.

Chilean Parliamentary Visit Strengthens Links

A party of five Chilean parliamentarians visited the Falklands in January as guests of the Government. The visit was part of the continuing policy of improving relations with the Islands' near neighbour.

According to Penguin News, the MPs expressed their admiration for the democratic system and the way the Islands handle the budget. They saw opportunities for cooperation in many areas, including fisheries, oil, and tourism.

The Education Department is planning to introduce exchange visits for Falklands and Chilean students. The visiting parliamentarians expressed their enthusiasm for the scheme, which will promote greater mutual understanding and knowledge of each others languages. The exchanges could commence during the 1994/95 southern summer.

Stanley Is Hub For Antarctic Air Service

The British Antarctic Survey's seasonal air support of bases on the Antarctic Peninsula began operating from Stanley Airport in January. Using an adapted Dash 7 aeroplane, BAS pilots made numerous round trips with personnel and supplies before returning to the United Kingdom at the end of the southern summer.

Happy 150th Birthday, Stanley!

No, a Falkland Islander hasn't broken the record for longevity, but Stanley, the capital town, is due to celebrate this auspicious anniversary during 1994. There is no precise record of the town's founding, but the settlers and government are known to

have moved to the site from Port Louis in 1844. The anniversary will be celebrated with a number of events next southern summer.

Falklands In Berlin

The Falkland Islands Tourist Board attended the World's premier tourism fair in March. The Berlin International Travel Exchange is a magnet for the industry and public alike. Graham Bound of the Government's London Office manned a stand shared with a German partner, and made useful contacts with specialist tour operators and journalists. It is hoped that the work will result in greater awareness of the Falklands and a gradually increasing number of visitors from the European Community.

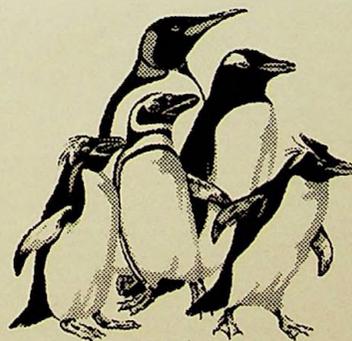
Commonwealth Games

Falklands sportsmen and women are gearing up for the Commonwealth Games in August this year. If all goes well, a team of six will fly to Victoria in Canada to compete in athletics and shooting.

Penguins are Appealing !

Falkland Conservation, a voluntary body dedicated to the conservation of the Islands natural habitat and wildlife, launched the Penguin Appeal on 28 April. Speaking to the press from the Penguin enclosure at London Zoo, the TV personality and conservationist Bill Oddie, spoke of the urgent need to raise sufficient money for Falkland Conservation to continue its vital programme of field work, studies and education. With the development of new industries around the Islands this work has never been more important.

If you received this issue of Falkland Focus in the post, you will also have received a leaflet describing the Appeal. It contains full details of how you can help. Information is also available from Penguin Appeal, PO Box 2040, London, W12 0ZJ.



D**E****N****G****U****I****N**
A **P** **P** **E** **A** **L**



A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 071-222 2542.

Issue 52

September 1994

Falklands / Ascension Trade Link

During the months of March and April, Stanley Growers Ltd. (SGL) have supplied their fresh produce to Ascension Island. The experiment was deemed a huge success with an average of 130 kilos of lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, radishes, spring onions, cabbage and cauliflower being exported each week. The Royal Air Force ensured that the produce arrived on practically the same day that it was picked. Stanley Growers and NAAFI on Ascension Island will recommence business in November. It is believed that the produce on arrival in Ascension was of exceptional quality and equalled that which had previously been received from the UK.

“As well as a new market for Falklands produce, the air freight charges represent additional income for the Ministry of Defence” said Mr Tim Miller (Manager of SGL). He says that this year his deliveries to Mount Pleasant Airport (MPA) will increase and that Stanley Growers will be supplying the base with fresh vegetables on a weekly basis. Mr Miller added “this will be at a higher volume than in earlier years”. A word of thanks is due to air cargo staff at MPA for all their hard work and for arranging the speedy transport for the produce to be enjoyed in optimum condition.

Lincoln's Inn Reception

The annual reception, jointly hosted by the FIG London Office and the Falkland Islands Association, was held on 14 June. Many friends of the Islands attended. His Royal Highness, Prince Michael of Kent was presented with a Cheque for £52,000 on behalf of the Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmans' Families Association (SSAFA). The money was raised by a surcharge from the sale of a special stamp issue commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Liberation of the Falkland Islands. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Douglas Hurd and Mrs Hurd also attended.

Oil update

The draft oil legislation has now been published in the Falkland Islands Official Gazette. Both the Bill and supporting Model Clause Regulations will be considered at the sitting of the Legislature Scheduled for late October 1994. Once enacted, the legislation will provide for the offer of specific blocks within the Continental Shelf for further exploration and subsequent exploitation, should reserves of a significant volume be found. A fiscal regime is currently being drafted. Further developments in the field are expected over the duration of the next year.

New Minister for Falkland Affairs

During the recent reshuffle of the British Government, Mr David Heathcoat - Amory MP, former minister of state of the FCO, was appointed Paymaster - General. Mr David Davis MP succeeded him as Minister of State with responsibility for the Islands. The Falkland Islands Government welcome Mr Davis and look forward to working with him.

He's address to European Atlantic Group

His Excellency the Governor, Mr David Tatham CMG, gave a talk to the European Atlantic Group following a lunch on 17 July 1994. The lunch which took place at the St Ermins Hotel, was attended by the Argentine Ambassador to London in addition to a large number of the members of the group.

Closing of the "Gap"

The area of high seas of about 547 square miles to the north west of the Falklands Islands Conservation Zone but within 200 miles of Falklands shorelines was closed by the Falkland Government on 1 September. The closing of the "Gap" was considered essential by FIG to dissuade poachers from using the area as a safe haven from patrol vessels. The "Gap" is known to be an excellent fishing area, rich in Illex squid (which provides for about 60 percent of the FIG's annual revenue).

Newfoundland Visit

A visit to Newfoundland, Canada in April and May enabled a group from the Falklands to meet representatives from the Faroe Islands in a three way intensive oil related training programme with representatives of the industry in Newfoundland. The course was arranged and run by Community Resource Services Ltd. The group were able to discuss at length the similarities between the three Island groups in oil development and to witness at first hand, the problems that had been encountered by the Newfoundland Government and private sector. As both the Falklands and Faroes are at the early stages of hydrocarbons development, the experience was found of exceptional value.

New Faces

The last six months have seen a number of changes in personalities associated with the Falkland Islands.

Mr Andrew Gurr has replaced Mr Ronnie Sampson as Chief Executive of the Falkland Islands Government, on a three year contract. Mr Gurr, who previously held the position of Chief Executive of the North and Mid Cheshire Training and Enterprise Council, was appointed and took up Post on 2 September 1994.

Air Commodore Peter Johnson OBE, RAF assumed command of the British Forces Falkland Islands on 15 June 1994 succeeding Major General Iain Mackay-Dick MBE who has taken up the post of General Officer Commanding London District. Air Commodore Johnson was formerly on the Senior Directing Staff (AIR) at the Joint Service Defence College.

Mr Ian Dempster succeeded Mr Ian Cox as Assistant General Manager of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation in Stanley. Following a short leave on the conclusion of his contract, Mr Cox has been appointed to the newly created post of as Commercial Representative to the London Office under the auspices of the Development Corporation. Mr Cox is expected to take up post in early October.

Miss Sukey Cameron is to leave FIGO at the end of 1994 after serving four and a half years as Representative. Sukey is to be Succeeded by Mr Anton Livermore CPM who is currently acting as deputy following the departure of Mr Graham Bound in June.

ERM report

The report commissioned by the Government on the future development strategies for a possible Falklands Oil Industry has now been published by Environmental Resources Management (ERM). It is largely the work of Mr Peter Pryn who previously conducted an internal transport study for the Islands. The report has been widely circulated, both in the Islands and overseas and is currently being considered by interested parties.

Councillors at work

It is now a tradition that the elected representatives of the Falklands Legislative Council visit the United Kingdom from April to October each year. This year has been no exception with visits coinciding with the United Nations meetings of the Committee of 24 (The Decolonisation Committee) in New York which was attended by Councillor's Luxton and Mrs Teggart. Councillor Luxton also attended the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) conference in Denver, Colorado. Councillor Edwards attended the oil related course in Newfoundland and is due to attend this year's Labour and Conservative Party annual conferences, accompanied by Councillor Stevens. During the time spent in the UK, Councillors take the opportunity of meeting with Members of Parliament, Ministers, Officials and the media.

Commonwealth Games

Once again, for the fourth time, the Falkland Islands have sent a team to participate in the Commonwealth Games. This year they were held in Victoria, Canada. Clay pigeon and full bore rifle shooting accompanied the marathon as the events entered. Personal bests were achieved by the participants and the coverage of the team by the British and Canadian media was excellent.

MP'S Visit

Mr Edward Garnier MP (Conservative) and Mr Micheal O'Brian MP (Labour) visited the islands from 9-16 September as part of the Parliamentary Armed Forces Scheme. They met the Governor and visited Stanley during their time in the Islands.

Lord Shackleton

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Lord Shackleton on 22 September. Looked upon as the "Father of Development" in the Falkland Islands, he was team leader of the economic survey, whose report was published in 1976 (commonly known as the "Shackleton Report"). He was requested by HMG to reconvene his team in 1982, following the Falklands' War, to update his report. These reports have been used as the blue print for development of the Islands. He was a staunch supporter and great friend who will be sadly missed. As a mark of respect, flags in Stanley and at the Falkland House in London flew at half mast.

Baroness Vickers

We were saddened to hear that Baroness Vickers had died on 24 May 1994. She fought hard to achieve full British Nationality for all Falkland Islanders in 1983 and always stood up for Islanders' rights, for which all Falkland Islanders will be ever grateful.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 0171-222 2542

January 1995

Issue 53

ExCo Elections

The annual election of Executive Councillors took place on 25 October. The three Legislative Councillors who were elected by their peers to serve for the forthcoming year are Councillor Norma Edwards, Councillor Sharon Halford and Councillor Wendy Teggart.

Offshore Minerals Bill Passed

The Legislative Council passed the Minerals Bill at their meeting on 27 October. The Bill was enacted on 9 December and will prepare the way towards an oil licensing round which is scheduled to be opened mid 1995.

An Oil Management Team has been formed by the Falklands Islands Government to meet regularly in order to plan the development of hydrocarbon exploration around the Islands.

By Election

The resignation of Stanley Councillor Charles Keenleyside resulted in a by election being held on 15 December. Six candidates stood for the seat which was won by Mr. John Birmingham. This is the first time that Mr Birmingham has served on Council although he previously stood in the general election in 1993.

Visit by Members of Parliament

The Falkland Islands Government sponsored a visit to the Islands in November by a group of four Members of Parliament. Peter Atkinson (Con. Hexham), Peter Luff (Con. Worcester), Jimmy Hood (Lab. Clydesdale) and Eddie O'Hara (Lab. Knowsley South) spent three days in the Islands and were able to see all aspects of the Islands during that time.

Dependent Territories Association

A press release issued on 24 November formally announced the formation of the Dependent Territories Association. The Association provides a forum for discussion and cooperation between the U.K.'s dependant territories. The idea for its formation followed the success of the Dependant Territories Conference "Progress through partnership" which was held in November 1993 and was co-sponsored by the governments of the Falklands Islands and Gibraltar. The members of the Association are Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, St. Helena and Turks and Caicos. Bermuda has observer status.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Seminar

Fourteen representatives from the Mediterranean Region of the CPA visited the Falkland Islands from 16 to 26 January for their regional seminar. The group included delegates from Gibraltar, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Malta, St. Helena and the United Kingdom. The party followed a busy programme which comprised seven formal sessions, social events and visits to areas outside Stanley.

Commercial Representative Appointed

Mr. Ian Cox has been appointed by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC) to be the Commercial Representative at the Falklands Government Office in London. Mr. Cox was previously the Assistant General Manager of FIDC in Stanley and is responsible for the promotion and marketing of Falkland Islands products particularly tourism, wool, fish and meat.

Stanley Celebrates 150 years

The 150th Anniversary of the Founding of Stanley by Lt. Col. Richard Moody of the Royal Engineers, the first Governor of the Islands, was commemorated at the beginning of December by several special events including the raising of a replica of the Colony's first flag at Government House by an eighth generation descendant of one of the original settlers. Special guests for the celebrations included Lt. Gen. Sir John Stibbon of the Royal Engineers, and Lady Stibbon, Mr Charly Lowndes of Services Sound and Vision Corporation, a direct descendant of Lt. Col Moody, and the Commonwealth medal winning marathon runner, Dr. Ron Hill, who took part in the marathon from Port Louis (the original settlement) to Stanley.

Mori Poll Embarrassment for Dr Di Tella

Argentina's efforts to undermine the loyalty of Falkland Islanders are becoming ever more extreme, as was demonstrated last November, when a thinly veiled front for the Argentine Foreign Ministry commissioned a Mori Poll of Falkland Islanders.

The polling team arrived unannounced in the Islands, and immediately began putting a politically-weighted questionnaire to a random selection of residents. While some questions were of a fairly innocuous nature, covering travel habits and attitudes towards Argentines compared to other nationalities, other questions were clearly designed to seed the idea of a hypothetical cash offer in return for sovereignty, and gauge reaction to it. In this respect, the poll was most mischievous, but almost 60% said that they would take no financial reward, even though the hypothetical scenario involved an agreement to change sovereignty as a precursor to an offer.

As a political exercise for the Argentines, the exercise was a failure, but, ironically, Mori's accurate analysis of the results reinforced the Islanders' message of staunch loyalty and independent thinking. Dr. Di Tella, the Argentine Foreign Minister, could not have been happy, for example, to learn that 82% of those questioned said they were satisfied with the performance of the Governor, or that 62% were satisfied with the work of their elected Executive Council.

The Chief Executive, Andrew Gurr, analysed the poll in some detail. Suspicions of an Argentine involvement had quickly been confirmed, he said, but the exercise had been futile for them; serving only to underline Islanders opposition to any interference from Argentina.



Falkland Focus

A quarterly digest compiled by the Falkland Islands Government, London Office
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH. Telephone: 0171-222 2542

Issue 54

June 1995

House of Commons Debate

The Falklands were the subject of an Adjournment Debate which took place in the House of Commons in February. Proposed by Sir Andrew Bowden (C), the debate focused upon all aspects of Falklands economic activity including the fishery and hydrocarbons exploration. The management of the fishery received particular praise. There was general support from the House for the current policy of non-negotiation with the Argentines over the sovereignty of the Islands; MPs from all sides called on Argentina to drop the sovereignty claim. The debate also marked an important shift in the stance of the Labour party which gave a broad acknowledgement of the Islanders' right to self-determination.

Appointments

There have been three appointments at the Falkland Islands Government Office in London. Miss Sukey Cameron will be continuing her role as Falkland Islands Government Representative and Mr Chris Pickard has been appointed General Manager. Mr Pickard brings a range of administrative and commercial experience to the office, having previously worked for such organisations as Ford and Whitbread.

In addition Mr John Martin, formerly of BP, has been appointed as Administrator for the forthcoming oil licensing round.

PR Agency Appointed

The Falkland Islands Government has commissioned a firm of international PR consultants to devise and implement a communications programme which will seek primarily to target the UK public with a series of positive messages about the Falklands, thereby building up a level of support for and commitment to them in the future. A team of representatives from the agency, Shadwick, has visited the Islands to gain first-hand experience of the important issues and to meet as many of the residents as possible. Whilst there the team held a public meeting both to explain the functions of public relations and to outline some of the areas upon which they will be concentrating, in the light of recent statements being made in Argentina.

VE Day Commemoration

The Falkland Islands commemorated Victory in Europe Day 1945 during a remembrance service on the lawn of Government House on 6th May 1995. During the Second World War more than 150 Islanders joined His Majesty's Forces and of these 24 did not return. Many of those who remained in the Islands during the War served with the Falklands Defence Force, as well as a number of voluntary organisations such as the Red Cross.

Additionally, ten Spitfires were purchased for the RAF with monies raised in the Islands. During the service, which included readings by the Governor and other members of the local community, King George VI's Christmas message of 1939 was played as well as Winston Churchill's VE Day message of 1945.

The Clothes Show visits the Falklands

In February of this year, a team from BBC's "The Clothes Show" led by the programme's presenter, fashion designer Jeff Banks, visited the Falkland Islands to help with the creation of a sweater indigenous to the Islands, to be called the "Falklander". The new design will be the Falkland Islands' equivalent of the Guernsey, Fair Isle or Aran Jumper and will be unique to the Islands. Copyright of the "Falklander" will reside in the Falklands and all manufacturing will be undertaken there. A team from the Islands will exhibit the "Falklander" at "The Clothes Show Live" at the NEC Birmingham in December, with the product launch planned for late summer 1996.

Flag Handover - Wednesday 21st June 1995

On Wednesday 21st June 1995, on the occasion of the World Ship Trust's annual lunch aboard HMS Wellington, The Honourable Company of Master Mariners will present to John Smith MBE, Curator of the Falkland Islands Museum, the flag of the German supply vessel MERA. The MERA was the only ship to survive of Von Spee's Squadron in the South Atlantic at the time of the Battle of the Falklands on December 8th 1914. The Flag will be presented by the Master of the Honourable Company of Masters Mariners, Captain John Gray.

Petition at the UN

The Falkland Islands are to be discussed at the United Nations Committee of 24 on 13th July when Councillors Edwards and Goss will be present to put the Falklands' case.

The Councillors will be urging the Committee of 24 to agree that the long and internationally established right to self-determination should be recognised for a small, strongly effective democratic country like the Falklands.

Shackleton Scholarship Fund

A fund has been launched to commemorate the life and achievements of Lord Shackleton, who died in September 1994, and his father Sir Ernest Shackleton, who died in South Georgia in 1922. Many recent developments in the Falklands can be traced back to recommendations contained in Lord Shackleton's reports of 1976 and 1982. The aim of the Fund will be to provide a perpetual flow of income of as much as £20,000 a year which will be devoted to increasing knowledge of the the South Atlantic Region, particularly the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, by providing scholarships for Islanders to travel and study abroad and for others to study in the region, and to enhance the quality of life in the Falkland Islands.



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Issue 55

October 1995

UK-Argentina Agreement

The Foreign Ministers of the UK and Argentina signed a Joint Declaration in New York on 27 September 1995 concerning co-operation over the oil exploration and exploitation in the South West Atlantic. Falkland Islands Councillors had been fully consulted by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office during the negotiating process. The Declaration explicitly states that the agreement does not affect the sovereignty positions of the two countries regarding the Falklands.

Oil Launch

The Falkland Islands Government will be introducing the Oil Round in London on 3 October and in Houston, USA on 11 October. These seminars will be given by the Chief Executive, Andrew Gurr and the Oil Licensing Administrator, John Martin, together with Councillors Cheek and Luxton. The British Geological Survey will also attend on behalf of FIG.

Councillors Attend Overseas Meetings

The Regional CPA Conference was held in Belfast during June. This was attended by Councillors Norma Edwards and Wendy Teggart.

Councillors Norma Edwards and Bill Luxton took part in the UN Committee of 24 - Mid Term review held in Trinidad during July 1995. This enabled Falkland Islands Councillors to lobby different countries and gain their support.

Councillors Norma Edwards and Eric Goss

participated in the UN Committee of 24 which was held in New York 10 - 13 July 1995. There was a feeling that people were becoming more supportive of the Falkland Islands' stance and it is hoped this support will continue.

The Argentine-British Conference was attended by Councillors Sharon Halford and Richard Stevens.

Annual Reception

The Falkland Islands Government Representative, Sukey Cameron and Chairman of the Falkland Islands Association, Sir Rex Hunt welcomed over 300 guests at the Annual Reception held at Lincoln's Inn on 15 June 1995. The Chief Executive, Andrew Gurr, in his speech looked forward to the Oil Licensing Round and stressed the importance that the Government attaches to the protection of the Falklands environment.

Island Games - Gibraltar

The Falkland Islands sent a team of three competitors to the Island Games which were held in Gibraltar 15 - 22 July 1995. Saul Pitaluga competed in the Clay Pigeon Trap Shooting and Nina Aldridge and Antoinette Bendyshe ran in the Half Marathon.

The Falkland Islands Commemorates VE and VJ Day

The 8 May 1995 (VE Day) was designated as a Public Holiday and was celebrated in Stanley by various social events for all ages. Three Falkland

Islands World War II veterans, along with three serving members of the Falkland Islands Defence Force, took part in the VJ Day celebrations in London. In the Falkland Islands, parties were held for all school children who also received a special commemorative First Day Cover signed by His Excellency the Governor, David Tatham CMG.

Falkland Islands Government – Upgrade of Computers

The Falkland Islands Government accepted a tender from Fraser Associates Ltd. for the supply of Apricot computers, ancillary equipment and software. The total cost of the upgrade was in the region of £0.3m. A significant number of the 170 new computers have been allocated for education purposes.

Falkland Islands Welcomes New Commander British Forces

Commodore Alexander (Sandy) Backus OBE arrived in the Falkland Islands to take command of the Military Garrison at Mount Pleasant.

Commodore Backus joined the Royal Navy in 1966. He was awarded the OBE in 1989. He is accompanied in the Falklands by his wife, Margaret.

“Falklander” Sweater Production

The “Falklander” project is aiming to produce 250 “Classic” sweaters and the “Falklander” Collection for the Clothes Show Live which is to be held at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham during December 1995. 8,500 squares are needed for the 250 “Classic” sweaters. The garments are being assembled at the “Falklander” workshop which opened in June 1995.

FIG Stand at Party Conferences

The Falkland Islands will be represented once again at the Labour and Conservative Party Conferences in October. The stand will have as its main themes the OIL LICENSING ROUND and CONSERVATION. Two Councillors, Mrs Sharon Halford and Richard Stevens will be present along with the Falkland Islands Government Representative, Sukey Cameron.



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Issue 56

December 1995

Oil Launch

The Falkland Islands Oil Licensing Round which enables international petroleum companies to bid for licences to explore the waters around the Islands, was launched on October 3 in London. At the launch presentation the Falkland Islands Government set out the terms of the licensing offer to more than 35 leading oil companies. The offer invites licence applications to be submitted by early July 1996 and it is expected that licences will be awarded during September 1996.

Two tranche areas are being offered for licensing. These areas are separate from the Special Area of cooperation which has been agreed by the UK and Argentina for which the two countries will coordinate exploration and exploitation at a later date.

A second launch was held in Houston, a week later, to present the licensing offer to American-based companies.

Washington Visit

Following the Houston launch, Andrew Gurr, Chief Executive of the Falkland Islands Government, and Councillor John Cheek, travelled to Washington to attend a series of meetings with selected State and Congress officials in order to raise the profile of the Islands in the light of the Oil Licensing Round. They also gave a briefing to selected oil sector media in order to follow up on the interest generated in the US by the Houston launch.

Air-Link

An additional air service is planned to be up and

running between the Falkland Islands and Chile before Christmas. Every Thursday and Saturday an AEROVIAS DAP Boeing 727, capable of carrying 116 passengers, will fly to Mount Pleasant Airport from Santiago via Punta Arenas. Flight times are scheduled to link with Wednesday and Sunday international flights into Santiago. It is expected that the additional service will offer a considerable commercial boost towards the developing tourism and business links.

Falklands Environmental Baseline Survey

Brown & Root Environmental, together with Imperial College Consultants, have been commissioned to undertake environmental baseline survey work as part of the environmental programme being implemented following the launch of the Falklands' Oil Licensing Round.

The survey includes a desk study to collate information already known on the Falklands' environment; a survey of the shallow marine environment (conducted primarily by diving), and the creation of a Geographic Information System to record and display data collected on the environment. Surveys of the shoreline in the area of the dive sites will also be undertaken. It is anticipated that most of the fieldwork will be carried out prior to the closing of the oil licensing round in mid 1996.

Governor designate of the Falkland Islands

Mr Richard Ralph CVO has been appointed to succeed Mr David Tatham CMG as HM Governor of the Falkland Islands. Mr Tatham will leave the Islands on 13 December and Mr Ralph is due to take up his post in early January 1996. Mr Ralph was until recently Ambassador to Riga, Latvia.

The launch of the "Falklander" at Clothes Show Live

The *Falklander* classic collection, a unique new knitwear range, was launched at The Clothes Show Live 1995 (1-6 December at the NEC). Created by Jeff Banks, fashion designer and presenter of BBC's The Clothes Show, the range is a collection of jumpers indigenous to the Falkland Islands, which comprises eight different designs across a range of colours.

The new design is the Falkland Islands' generic equivalent of the Guernsey, Fair Isle or Aran jumper and the concept of the *Falklander* has been introduced to Falkland Islands knitters as a national design that tells a story.

The *Falklander* was born in February of this year, when The Clothes Show team challenged the Falkland Islanders to knit and produce 32 sweaters in the space of one week. They flew to the Islands to film the launch of this new classic and to look into how it would affect the Islands' woollen industry. Since then a workshop has been established in Stanley, the design refined, strict quality control introduced and one hundred pieces produced for sale at the Clothes Show Live in Birmingham. The *Falklander* was received enthusiastically at the Show and several were sold. The UK retail launch of the *Falklander* is scheduled for Autumn 1996.

Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber which was formed in 1992 out of the Association of Businesses, has just welcomed three new members, which brings the total membership number to 67.

The Chamber has had regular business meetings with visitors to the Islands and it is expected that Chamber members from Byron Marine Limited and South Atlantic Marine Services will provide support for the baseline survey.

The initial trial of a courier service to and from the Islands in association with DHL International Worldwide Express has proved a success and will be in place before the end of December.

Argentine next of kin visit

Twelve relatives of five members of the Argentine Air Force, killed during the Falklands conflict in 1982, when their aircraft crashed on Pebble Island, West Falkland, visited the Islands from 31 October to 1 November. They visited the memorial and war graves at the crash site. With the agreement of the Argentine and Falkland Islands Governments, the site was consecrated as a war grave and a funeral with military honours was held on 16 April 1994. As a humanitarian gesture, Councillors agreed to the next of kin arriving by air on a charter flight from Rio Gallegos in Argentina and staying overnight at Pebble Island Lodge. In addition to Pebble Island, the relatives also visited the Argentine war cemetery at Darwin on East Falkland.

Executive Council Elections

Elections to ExCo took place at the end of October 1995. Councillors John Cheek, Wendy Teggart and Richard Stevens were duly elected and will now serve a year-long term in office. Councillor Teggart was in fact re-elected; her colleagues replace Councillors Norma Edwards and Sharon Halford.

We wish compliments of the season to all our readers.



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Issue 57

April 1996

New Governor

Mr Richard Ralph CVO was formally sworn in as Governor of the Falkland Islands at a ceremony on 8 January and took the opportunity to praise the traditions and cultural heritage of the Islands at the same time underlining Britain's unstinting commitment to them. He later took the salute at a parade on Victory Green.

The former Governor, Mr David Tatham CMG, is taking up an appointment as British High Commissioner in Sri Lanka and has also been made the High Commissioner (non-resident) to the Maldives.

Princess Royal Visit

HRH Princess Anne visited the Falklands in late January and was welcomed by the Governor, Richard Ralph and the Chief Executive of the Falkland Islands Government, Andrew Gurr. During her stay she met local people at settlements on both East and West Falkland and laid wreaths at the San Carlos cemetery and the Liberation Monument in Stanley.

She was presented with a *Falklander* sweater – as designed by Jeff Banks of The Clothes Show – and was able to meet some 300 Islanders at a reception in Stanley. On the final day of her tour she attended a meeting at the Stanley Racecourse where she presented a winning jockey with the Princess Royal Plate which had been specially commissioned to mark her visit to the Falklands.

Director of Oil appointed

The Falkland Islands Government has announced the appointment of Mrs Phyllis Rendell as the

new Director of Oil. Hitherto the Director of Education. Mrs Rendell has been an ever present member of the Oil Management Team and has represented the Islands at both the High Level Group and the Joint Hydrocarbons Commission. Her appointment has been approved by the Governor.

Constitution

Legislative Council in the Falkland Islands has voted for a series of changes to the Constitution which will result in eleven members rather than eight, and five members rather than three for Executive Council. There will also be a seven year residency requirement before newcomers to the Falklands can apply for the right to vote. These proposed amendments have been put to the Secretary of State for approval.

New appointment at FIDC

Mike Summers, who received the OBE from HM the Queen in February, has left the post of General Manager, Falkland Islands Development Corporation, after seven years to pursue other business interests.

His successor, who takes up his post in April, will be Hugh Normand whose career has encompassed Allied Lyons and Fortune Engineering, as well as a period as an Independent Business Development Manager. Most recently, he has been working in Business Development at Dunbartonshire Enterprise.

MPs Visit

There have been two successful visits to the Islands this year by Members of Parliament. The

Falkland Islands Government sponsored a visit of four Members of Parliament: Henry Bellingham (C), Charles Goodson-Wickes (C), Robert G Hughes (C) and Bill Etherington (L). The visit from 19 February to 25 February followed a packed programme in order for the Members to see as much of the Islands and meet as many Islanders as possible.

Four members of the Defence Committee visited the Islands from 4 March to 9 March, led by the Chairman of the Committee, Michael Colvin MP (C) with members Neville Trotter (C), Frank Cook (L) and John McWilliam (L). Their visit was centred on the military garrison in the Islands.

“The Future for the Falkland Islands”

A 20 page full colour brochure written by the Councillors and entitled “The Future for the Falkland Islands” has been produced. Its purpose is to provide accurate and up-to-date information on the Islands’ history, constitution and economic development and to put forward a set of policy recommendations for the future. It is being distributed to a wide range of audiences including Parliament, the media, education establishments and US contacts and is also being translated into Spanish for dissemination in Latin America.

Shackleton Scholarship Fund makes Jeff Rich visit possible

Jeff Rich, the “Status Quo” drummer, visited the Islands recently to conduct a drum Masterclass. His trip was funded by the Shackleton Scholarship Fund which provides grants to facilitate educational and cultural visits to the Islands. The drum Masterclass, aimed at schoolchildren, was

held at the Community School in Stanley though there was a further class for the wider community and Jeff Rich later took the opportunity to join the local “Fighting Pig Band” who played for a dance at the Town Hall.

Oil Newsletter

Following the successful launch of the Falkland Islands Oil Licensing Round in October, an Oil Newsletter was produced covering such areas as the fiscal structuring of the licensing offer, the communications infrastructure of the Islands and the role of the British Geological Survey. Its purpose was to continue the process of supplying information to all interested parties including those oil companies who attended the launch, the media, relevant MPs, and the US contacts generated by the Houston launch and the subsequent visit to Washington by the Chief Executive, Andrew Gurr and Councillor Cheek. A second Newsletter is planned shortly.



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Issue 58

July 1996

Annual Reception 1996

Sukey Cameron, the Falkland Islands Government Representative and Sir Rex Hunt, Chairman of the Falkland Islands Association welcomed over 350 guests to the Annual Reception held at Lincoln's Inn on 13 June 1996.

In her speech, Sukey Cameron reviewed the year's key events, covering the arrival of the new Governor, the successful launch of the Oil Licensing Round and the visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal.

She also condemned the "offensive and most unwelcome" rhetoric that has come from Argentina in the recent past and stated categorically that "any Argentine who seriously believes that there is the faintest hope of gaining sovereignty over the Falklands, by the year 2000 or at any other time, obviously lacks any understanding of the issues involved and the depth of feeling of both Islanders and the British public."

New Air Link

A new air link to the Falkland Islands has recently been announced by British Airways and Chilean airline Aerovias DAP. DAP have begun operating a flight from Santiago to Mount Pleasant and British Airways are now offering through tickets from Heathrow to the Falkland Islands.

Departing from Heathrow at 2215 on Tuesdays, the plane will arrive in Santiago at 0950 on Wednesdays. The connecting flight will leave Santiago at 1300 and arrive in Mount Pleasant on Wednesdays at 1815.

On the return journey, planes will depart from Mount Pleasant on Thursdays at 1530 and arrive in Santiago at 2100. Following an overnight stay in Santiago, the connecting flight will depart at 1155 on Fridays and arrive in Heathrow at 0850 on Saturdays.

Fares start at £1340 return Apex although a reduced rate of £940 return will be available for Falkland Islands residents.

Oil News

The annual convention of the Association of American Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) took place in San Diego in May. The event was attended by over 5,500 delegates and the Falkland Islands Government stand attracted a great deal of interest. Representatives for the Falkland Islands included the Chief Executive Andrew Gurr, Councillor Bill Luxton, the Oil Licensing Round Administrator John Martin, the Falkland Islands Government Junior Geologist Emma Edwards and Nigel Fannin and Phil Richards of the British Geological Survey.

A second Oil Newsletter has been produced and distributed by the Falkland Islands Government. It highlights the success of the launch last October and also addresses environmental concerns, stressing the efforts made by the Falkland Islands Government to ensure that the environment is protected.

The environmental baseline survey commissioned by the Government is also featured and the Newsletter answers important environmental questions as well as providing a timetable of activities concerning the issue of licenses.

Committee of 24

An Argentine-backed petition will once again be put to the Committee of 24 (Decolonisation Committee) at the United Nations. The petition calling for the sovereignty issue to be resolved makes no mention of the right of self-determination of the Islanders.

Councillor Norma Edwards has attended a seminar of the Committee of 24 in Papua New Guinea and put the Islanders' case. Councillors Goss and Stevens will travel to New York to speak against the petition to the UN.

PR and Tourism Videos

Two videos are currently being produced on behalf of the Falkland Islands Government and the Falkland Islands Development Corporation. The tourism video focuses particularly on the wildlife and the unique beauty of the Islands whilst the PR video gives an insight into contemporary Falklands' life through the eyes of those who live and work in the Islands, touching on issues such as government, employment and recreation.

The videos have been designed to TV programme length and will be supplied to television stations for possible broadcast.

Dunblane Fund

A collection amongst the residents of the Falkland Islands, both military and civilian, succeeded in raising £4,490 for the families of victims of the Dunblane tragedy. The Governor, Richard Ralph, will present the collection to a trustee of the Dunblane Fund at a ceremony to be arranged in London. It is likely that this will take place at the time of the Governor's next visit to the United Kingdom.

Motocross

Falklands Motocross riders tackled a 2-day Enduro race through the forests of Llandrindod Wells on 20th and 21st June. The 2-day event calls for a gruelling 150 miles motocross on each day with 10 check points thrown in along the way. The team of four, all riding Japanese-made Suzukis, not only competed on behalf of the Falkland Islands team but also in the individual events.

The Shackleton Fund Committee recently agreed to fund the air fares for David Goddard, an experienced Motocross rider, to visit the Falklands to set up a new Motocross route and coach Falkland riders.



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Issue 59

September 1996

Councillor John Cheek

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Councillor John Cheek in Stanley on 3 September.

John Cheek was born in the Falkland Islands and worked for British Antarctic Survey and Cable & Wireless, before establishing the first local Falkland Islands fishing company in 1987. He served as a member of the Legislative Council from 1981 to 1989 and was elected again in 1993. He represented the Islands at the United Nations on twelve occasions.

In 1982 he was on a training course in the UK when the Argentines invaded the Islands and did much during that time to put the Islands case to politicians, diplomats and the media.

He is survived by his wife Jan and their two daughters.

Oil Licence Tenders

Six consortia were interviewed by the Falkland Islands Government in London during August regarding their tenders for licences to explore for hydrocarbons in Falklands waters. The tendering process has now been completed and a report, approved by Executive Council, has been passed to the Foreign Secretary. It is anticipated that an announcement of the successful bidders will be made towards the end of October.

New Appointments

Several senior appointments have been made to the Falkland Islands Government recently. The new Director of Agriculture will be Mr. Bob Reid from Tasmania. He first visited the Islands in the early 1960's as a VSO teacher and is currently working for the Department of Primary Industry & Fisheries in Tasmania. Dr. David Langridge has been appointed Director of Education, Dr. Langridge has previously been Headmaster of Ramsey Abbey School in Cambridgeshire. Mr. David Higgins has been appointed Headteacher of the Falkland Islands Community School in Stanley. Mr. Higgins has recently been Headteacher of Glaisdale School in Nottingham.

Census Published

A census undertaken in April 1996 has been published by the Falkland Islands Government. The results show a slight increase in population figures to 2,221 (2,210 in 1991). The population of Stanley has increased to 1,638 (1,557 in 1991). The highest population on record was 2,392 in 1931.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Councillor Sharon Halford and Clerk of Councils, Claudette Anderson, represented the Islands at the Annual CPA Conference in Kuala Lumpur. Amongst the papers

discussed was one put forward by the Dependent Territories Association entitled "Constitutional and Parliamentary Development in Small Countries".

Party Conferences

The Falkland Islands Government will once again be taking exhibition stands at the Labour and Conservative Party Conferences. This year the Falkland Islands Government Representative, Sukey Cameron, will be joined by Councillors John Birmingham and Wendy Teggart. Information on the stands will cover all aspects of the Islands, especially environmental issues, hydrocarbon exploration and diplomatic relations.

Chamber of Commerce

At the beginning of November, the Falkland Islands Chamber of Commerce will be sending a delegation to Chile to increase the business links between the two countries. A delegation from the Magallanes Chamber of Commerce, Punta Arenas, Chile, visited the Islands in May.

In November a twenty member delegation from the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce will be visiting the Islands. This visit will be concerned primarily with business connected to the oil industry.

The Chamber continues to grow and now has some seventy members.

Falkland Students get good results

A number of Falkland Islands students were awarded degrees recently and there was a

good pass rate for GCSEs and A Levels. Twenty six 'A' levels were gained in sixteen subjects by students at Peter Symonds School in Winchester. The Falkland Islands Government has recently instigated a Graduate Management Trainee scheme in the Islands.

This year a record number of students from GAP Activity Projects will be working their year between school and university in the Islands. A total of thirteen students will be working in the agricultural, fisheries, and development sectors.

Civil Service Review

The Falklands Civil Service has undertaken a major review of pay and pension conditions. The second phase of this review, undertaken by Hay Management Consultants, has recently been completed and the report will shortly be put before Council. It is anticipated that the outcome of the review will be a far more modern salary structure including improved pension rights and equity throughout the Civil Service.



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Issue No. 60

December 1996

Oil licence awards

Following the closure of the Oil Licensing Round in July, the Falkland Islands Government announced on 28 October the award of seven licences to explore for oil in Falklands waters. All the bids received were for the area north of the Islands. Four consortia, representing thirteen international companies, were successful in their applications. Seismic survey work on the allocated blocks will start in the New Year.

Elections

A by-election was held on 17 October to fill the seat on Legislative Council left by the late John Cheek. There were three candidates for the seat which was won by Mike Summers, who polled 67.6% of the votes. He was, until recently, the General Manager of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation.

The annual elections for the Executive Council were held on 30 October and Councillors Norma Edwards, Sharon Halford and Mike Summers were elected to serve for the forthcoming

year. There will be a general election in October 1997.

Labour Foreign Affairs Visit

Tony Lloyd MP, the shadow spokesman with responsibility for the Islands, visited the Falklands from 27 to 30 November. He undertook a very busy programme which enabled him to meet Councillors and administrators, visit Government Departments and to see as much of the Islands as possible. He took the opportunity to lay a wreath at the 1982 Liberation Monument.

Chamber of Commerce

Nineteen members of the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce visited the Islands from 14 to 20 November. The trade mission was led by their Chief Executive, Derek Marnoch. The delegates met with members of the Falkland Islands Chamber of Commerce and explored business opportunities in the Islands. They also discussed such issues as the Falklands' legal system, company law and the formation of joint ventures.

Anniversaries

The Royal Falkland Islands Police Force commemorated their 150th Anniversary in November. His Excellency the Governor presented medals to all the current officers in the Force. The Force was started in 1846 with four officers seconded from the Royal Irish Constabulary. There are now thirty officers and support staff in the Force.

The Camp Education Department celebrated their centenary in October. Established in 1896 to bring education out to all the children on the farms, however remote. Since then education for children in Camp has continued without a break but the system has been through many changes. It continues today as a vital part of the education system, with telephone and computers backing up the work of the travelling teachers.

Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for 1997 from Falkland House



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Issue No: 61

March 1997

Visit to Falkland Islands by Michael Portillo

The Secretary of State for Defence made a brief visit to the Islands in January. During his visit he laid wreaths at both the 1982 memorial and the British Forces cemetery at San Carlos. Also on the agenda were meetings with the Falkland Islands Legislative Council and a speech on British defence policy. He also reported on his recent visit to Chile. On his last day in the Islands Mr Portillo visited several units of the garrison, Goose Green and Sea Lion Island.

Oil Update

The Operating companies from the successful consortia recently visited the Islands to hold working meetings with representatives of the Falkland Islands Government. They also met with local businesses and public meetings were held around the Islands. Most of the licensee's have completed seismic surveys and will now process the data which has been gathered. The first exploration drilling is expected to commence in 1998.

Special Area Declaration

On 17 February His Excellency the Governor, Mr Richard Ralph, signed a Proclamation which will allow for the issuing of licences and the regulating of oil development activities in the whole of the Area of Special Co-operation. The area, established in an agreement with Argentina in 1995 is due to open for licences later this year.

New Commander of British Forces in the Islands

Brigadier Iain Campbell arrived in the Islands during December. Brigadier Campbell was commissioned into the Royal Regiment of Artillery in 1973. His service has included tours in the United Kingdom and Germany.

Next of Kin Visit

Two Argentine next-of-kin visits, 30 relatives in all, have recently taken place in the Islands. During the two day visits relatives visited the Argentine cemetery at Darwin where mass was conducted by a Roman Catholic priest who travelled to the Islands with the relatives

Unveiling of Lord Shackleton's Banner

On 13 February at a ceremony in the Cathedral, a plaque for the newly hung Garter Banner of the late Lord Shackleton was unveiled by his daughter, the Hon Mrs Alexandra Bergel. Those present at the ceremony included His Excellency the Governor and the Captain and Officers of HMS Endurance. The Banner was brought to the Islands by HMS Endurance in 1995.

Falkland Islands Photographic Exhibition

On 26 February, a reception attended by journalists and MP's saw over 40 photographs of the Falkland Islands on display at the Atrium in London. The photographs in the display were chosen from an annual exhibition held in the Falkland Islands. They reflect different aspects both of the Falklands natural environment and the lives of its people. This display is currently on view at Falkland House.

CPA meeting in Cyprus

Cllr Sharon Halford attended the 28th British Islands and Mediterranean Regional Conference from 2 - 8 March. Among the agenda items discussed was the development of the Dependent Territories, in particular, scope for the reform of their constitutional status following the handover of Hong Kong.

The Dependent Territories Association, which was co-founded by the Governments of Gibraltar and the Falkland Islands, is planning to hold a second conference in February 1998. The first Dependent Territories conference was held in November 1993.



Falkland Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Number: 62

September 1997

General Election in Falkland Islands.

The Falkland Islands Legislative Council was dissolved on 1 September. The General Election will take place on 9 October. The Falkland Islands Constitution has recently been amended and the constituency will now be voting for five council members for Stanley and three council members to represent Camp. Applications for prospective Councillors closed on 17 September. The constituency in Stanley have nine candidates to choose from and residents in Camp have five.

Falkland Islands at Island Games.

28 June - 4 July 1997 saw the VIII Islands Games take place in Jersey. The Falkland Islands competed in several track events, half marathon, swimming, golf and shooting. Chris and Timmy McCallum, competing in the full-bore rifle events, picked up two bronze medals and one silver medal. Pistol shooters, David Peck and Graham Didlick won two bronze medals and one silver in the team events. Graham Didlick picked up a bronze in an individual pistol shooting event. Many other Falkland Islands sportsmen and women broke their personal best records at the Games.

United Nations.

Councillors Sharon Halford and William Luxton addressed the de-

colonisation Committee (Committee of 24) on 16 June. They presented the case for the recognition of Islanders right to self determination and received strong support from Fiji and Sierra Leone.

In May the Falkland Islands Government Representative in London, Sukey Cameron attended a seminar of the Committee in Antigua.

South Atlantic Medal Association.

On 2 April the South Atlantic Medal Association (SAMA 82) was launched at Falkland House, London. The South Atlantic Medal was awarded by Her Majesty's Government to all those who took part in the fight for liberation of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia in 1982. The main focus of SAMA 82 is to maintain and promote a sense of comradeship amongst all veterans of the South Atlantic campaign, as well as re-establishing and strengthening links with Falkland Islanders. The Falkland Islands Government agreed to fund the cost of Islanders membership to the Association. SAMA 82 will build and develop contact with other organisations involved in the welfare of the armed forces.

Falkland Islands Students Success.

Students from the Falkland Islands Community School in Stanley won first

prize in the "International Newspaper Day" competition which was sponsored by the Times Educational Supplement. Three representatives of the team were invited to London to collect their prize in an awards ceremony held at the House of Commons in June.

Falkland Islands Annual Reception.

On 11 June over 360 guests attended the Falkland Islands Government Annual Reception which took place at Lincoln's Inn, London. At Lincoln's Inn Sukey Cameron, Representative of the Falkland Islands Government in London, highlighted some of the principal events to have taken place in the Islands over the last 12 months.

Falkland Families Association.

The AGM took place on 26 April at Wellington Barracks, London. Des Keoghane MBE has, after 13 years, retired as Chairman. Mrs Sara Jones CBE, was elected Chairman, Mrs D Keoghane Vice-Chairman and Des Keoghane was invited to become President of the Association, which he accepted.

Task Force Reunion.

On 14 June several thousand Task Force members attended a reunion which was held in Gosport. Entertainment included the Falklands rock band 'The Fighting Pigs' and popular Forces comedian Jim Davidson. On 15 June a memorial service took place at Falkland Gardens, Gosport. Baroness Thatcher gave a speech to mark the 15th anniversary of the end of the Falklands Conflict. Baroness Thatcher told veterans and others attending the ceremony "We remember and salute all those who fought there and each and every one of

those who died that freedom might live in the Falkland Islands".

Live Television in the Falkland Islands.

Television viewers island wide were able to view live the annual Liberation Day parade and wreath laying ceremony which took place on 14 June. Councillors recently approved the funding of a live satellite link which will bring programmes direct from the UK on a time delay mechanism. This service will commence towards the end of the year.

Import/Export Statistics Released.

Figures for 1996 have recently been released by the Collector of Customs. The statistics show that the value of imports has risen by some £5 million from 1995 to £21,674,643 with £658,653 representing imports from Chile.

However, the value of wool exports from the Islands has dropped by nearly £1 million due to the low wool sales at present. The total weight of wool exported was 2,324.870 kilograms at a value of £3,504,252. In 1995 3,415.699 kilograms was exported at a value of £4,234.266.

New General Manager.

Former Councillor, Wendy Teggart has been appointed General Manager at the Falkland Islands Government Office in London. Wendy previously worked as Personal Assistant to Hugh Normand, General Manager Of Falkland Islands Development Corporation in Stanley.



Falklands Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Number: 63

December 1997

Falkland Islands Elections

The Falkland Islands went to the polls on October 9 to elect the new Legislative Council, the 'parliament' of the Islands. Fourteen candidates stood for the eight seats; five from the Camp (countryside) constituency and nine from Stanley. Elections are held every four years.

Three new Councillors were voted on to the Council: Jan Cheek, Lewis Clifton and Richard Cockwell and five Councillors were re-elected: John Birmingham, Norma Edwards, Sharon Halford, Bill Luxton and Mike Summers. The Councillors are not affiliated to political parties.

Councillors Lewis Clifton, Richard Cockwell and Sharon Halford were also elected by their peers to sit on the Executive Council which is elected annually.

New Falkland Islands Council Presents United Front On Argentina

The unanimous message from the new Falkland Islands Legislative Council is clear: no political contact with Argentina until its claim to sovereignty over the Islands is dropped. Argentine passport holders will also continue to be refused entry to the Islands apart from bona fide relatives visiting the graves of next of kin.

"Argentina will continue to press for concessions but we must stand firm because we believe in our right to our Islands," says new Councillor Jan Cheek.

Following the announcement of President Menem's visit to the UK in 1998, the Legislative Council issued a statement welcoming the continuing improvement to trade and commercial relations between the UK and Argentina, but noting the British Government's reassurances about the non negotiable stance on sovereignty and its continuing commitment to the Falkland Islanders and their future.

Parliamentary Visit To The Falklands

A Parliamentary delegation visited the Falklands in November for a week long fact-finding mission. The visiting delegation were Colin Breed, Liberal Democrat, South-East Cornwall; Frank Doran, Labour, Aberdeen Central; Dr John Marek, Labour, Wrexham; Jim Paice, Conservative, South East Cambridgeshire; Sydney Rapson, Labour, Portsmouth North and Conservative peer, the Earl of Northesk.

The group toured government departments including fisheries, oil and agriculture, visited the military base and met the newly elected Falkland Islands Councillors. The delegation pledged their support to the sovereignty of the Islands and promised to contribute informed debate in Westminster.

Oil Update

In September, the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC), in conjunction with the Islands' Chamber of Commerce, attended the Offshore Europe Exhibition in Aberdeen to promote business

opportunities for companies, should oil be found in Falklands waters.

Stanley-CSM, a joint venture company registered in the Falklands between Stanley Services and CSM, an Aberdeen company specialising in the oil logistics industry, has been appointed by FOSA (Falklands Offshore Sharing Agreement) as the on-shore logistic contractor for the forthcoming oil exploration activity, which is likely to commence in the second quarter of next year.

Oil Company Amerada Hess has signed a three year contract for the drilling rig, Borgny Dolphin, owned by Norwegian based Dolphin Drilling Limited.

Warm Welcome at Party Conferences

The Falkland Islands Government Representative, Sukey Cameron, attended the Conservative and Labour Party Conference with Councillor Norma Edwards and the Councillors' Research Assistant, Jenny Luxton, in October. The FIG stand was well visited, at both conferences, and Falklands literature was enthusiastically received by delegates.

Lady Thatcher visited the FIG stand, at the Conservative Conference in Blackpool, and expressed her continued support for the Islands.

Land Mines

The Falkland Islands has welcomed the Labour Government's commitment to rid the world of land mines and its resolve to support the Ottawa process on anti-personnel mines. Argentine forces laid large numbers of mines during the 1982 Conflict and although over 4,000 have been cleared around 26,000 still remain. Sukey Cameron said, "the very presence of the land mines is a grim reminder of the 1982 Conflict. We fully support efforts to secure international agreement on discontinuing their use."

Discover The Falkland Islands Website, www.falklands.gov.fk

The website covers all aspects of the Islands - its history and people, Government, politics, economy, wildlife, tourism and landscape.

Bernard Gallacher Coaches Falkland Islands Golfers

Former Europe Ryder Cup Captain, Bernard Gallacher, visited the Islands in November, in a trip sponsored by the Shackleton Scholarship Fund, to run a series of golf clinics for the Islands growing number of golfers.

Chairman of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund, Sir Rex Hunt, former Governor of the Islands, said "there is an incredible enthusiasm for golf in the Islands but no low handicappers to teach the basic rudiments of the game and when I mentioned this to Bernard he immediately volunteered his services free."

The Isle of Man's top swimming coach, Steve Cooil, was also a recipient of the Fund, and ran training courses for young Falkland swimmers during a visit in October.

The Fund supports academic scholarships as well as 'quality of life' visits to the Islands.

**SEASONS GREETINGS
AND BEST WISHES
FOR 1998 FROM THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS
GOVERNMENT**



Falklands Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Number: 63

December 1997

Falkland Islands Elections

The Falkland Islands went to the polls on October 9 to elect the new Legislative Council, the 'parliament' of the Islands. Fourteen candidates stood for the eight seats; five from the Camp (countryside) constituency and nine from Stanley. Elections are held every four years.

Three new Councillors were voted on to the Council: Jan Cheek, Lewis Clifton and Richard Cockwell and five Councillors were re-elected: John Birmingham, Norma Edwards, Sharon Halford, Bill Luxton and Mike Summers. The Councillors are not affiliated to political parties.

Councillors Lewis Clifton, Richard Cockwell and Sharon Halford were also elected by their peers to sit on the Executive Council which is elected annually.

New Falkland Islands Council Presents United Front On Argentina

The unanimous message from the new Falkland Islands Legislative Council is clear: no political contact with Argentina until its claim to sovereignty over the Islands is dropped. Argentine passport holders will also continue to be refused entry to the Islands apart from bona fide relatives visiting the graves of next of kin.

"Argentina will continue to press for concessions but we must stand firm because we believe in our right to our Islands," says new Councillor Jan Cheek.

Following the announcement of President Menem's visit to the UK in 1998, the Legislative Council issued a statement welcoming the continuing improvement to trade and commercial relations between the UK and Argentina, but noting the British Government's reassurances about the non negotiable stance on sovereignty and its continuing commitment to the Falkland Islanders and their future.

Parliamentary Visit To The Falklands

A Parliamentary delegation visited the Falklands in November for a week long fact-finding mission. The visiting delegation were Colin Breed, Liberal Democrat, South-East Cornwall; Frank Doran, Labour, Aberdeen Central; Dr John Marek, Labour, Wrexham; Jim Paice, Conservative, South East Cambridgeshire; Sydney Rapson, Labour, Portsmouth North and Conservative peer, the Earl of Northesk.

The group toured government departments including fisheries, oil and agriculture, visited the military base and met the newly elected Falkland Islands Councillors. The delegation pledged their support to the sovereignty of the Islands and promised to contribute informed debate in Westminster.

Oil Update

In September, the Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC), in conjunction with the Islands' Chamber of Commerce, attended the Offshore Europe Exhibition in Aberdeen to promote business

opportunities for companies, should oil be found in Falklands waters.

Stanley-CSM, a joint venture company registered in the Falklands between Stanley Services and CSM, an Aberdeen company specialising in the oil logistics industry, has been appointed by FOSA (Falklands Offshore Sharing Agreement) as the on-shore logistic contractor for the forthcoming oil exploration activity, which is likely to commence in the second quarter of next year.

Oil Company Amerada Hess has signed a three year contract for the drilling rig, Borgny Dolphin, owned by Norwegian based Dolphin Drilling Limited.

Warm Welcome at Party Conferences

The Falkland Islands Government Representative, Sukey Cameron, attended the Conservative and Labour Party Conference with Councillor Norma Edwards and the Councillors' Research Assistant, Jenny Luxton, in October. The FIG stand was well visited, at both conferences, and Falklands literature was enthusiastically received by delegates.

Lady Thatcher visited the FIG stand, at the Conservative Conference in Blackpool, and expressed her continued support for the Islands.

Land Mines

The Falkland Islands has welcomed the Labour Government's commitment to rid the world of land mines and its resolve to support the Ottawa process on anti-personnel mines. Argentine forces laid large numbers of mines during the 1982 Conflict and although over 4,000 have been cleared around 26,000 still remain. Sukey Cameron said, "the very presence of the land mines is a grim reminder of the 1982 Conflict. We fully support efforts to secure international agreement on discontinuing their use."

Discover The Falkland Islands Website, www.falklands.gov.fk

The website covers all aspects of the Islands - its history and people, Government, politics, economy, wildlife, tourism and landscape.

Bernard Gallacher Coaches Falkland Islands Golfers

Former Europe Ryder Cup Captain, Bernard Gallacher, visited the Islands in November, in a trip sponsored by the Shackleton Scholarship Fund, to run a series of golf clinics for the Islands growing number of golfers.

Chairman of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund, Sir Rex Hunt, former Governor of the Islands, said "there is an incredible enthusiasm for golf in the Islands but no low handicappers to teach the basic rudiments of the game and when I mentioned this to Bernard he immediately volunteered his services free."

The Isle of Man's top swimming coach, Steve Cooil, was also a recipient of the Fund, and ran training courses for young Falkland swimmers during a visit in October.

The Fund supports academic scholarships as well as 'quality of life' visits to the Islands.

**SEASONS GREETINGS
AND BEST WISHES
FOR 1998 FROM THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS
GOVERNMENT**



Falklands Focus

A news update from the Falkland Islands Government

Number: 64

April 1998

Dependent Territories Conference, London

Councillors Norma Edwards and Mike Summers attended the Dependent Territories Conference held at the QEII Conference Centre on 4 February. The conference, organised by the Dependent Territories Association, of which the Falkland Islands Government is a founder member, was attended by more than 150 delegates.

Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook MP, gave the keynote address to the conference. He set out his vision for a "successful, modern relationship" between Britain and its territories, including a change in name to UK Overseas Territories and the creation of a single department within the Foreign Office to handle their affairs. Baroness Symons, who also spoke at the conference, will be given overall ministerial responsibility for the territories.

Mr Cook said the new relationship would be based on self-determination, self-government, Britain's responsibilities to the territories and theirs to the UK, and a commitment to help economically and to deal with emergencies.

Mike Summers outlined the Falklands' path to economic self-sufficiency in a speech to the conference on the economic challenges faced within the Dependent Territories.

Councillors Edwards and Summers gave interviews to a wide range of media during their visit to London

Democracy in its Purest Form

Falkland Islands Government Representative in London, Sukey Cameron, spoke at a South Atlantic Council Conference, on 3 February, on democracy in the Islands. She spoke of the Islanders' strong interest in politics, and told delegates that the Falklands' democratic system enjoys a "precision and clarity that is often lacking in larger democracies."

Miss Cameron defined the principle of self-determination, as enshrined in the Falkland Islands Constitution, and reiterated that until the Argentine Government recognised this fundamental right, political contact between them was impossible. She said that the Islanders do, however, hope that the improving relations between the UK and Argentina will lead "to a greater understanding and acceptance of our position by Argentina."

FIG Takes Action to Avert Fish Revenue Crisis

The Falkland Islands Government has reached an interim agreement with Korean fishing companies on the sale of fish licences as the Koreans come to terms with the effects of the Far East economic crisis. In the past, Korean companies have accounted for 40% of the Islands' revenues from fish licences. Since 1986, the Islands' conservation zone has generated an annual income of up to £20m, making it the mainstay of the Islands economy.

Oil Update

The drilling rig, the "Borgny Dolphin" under contract to Amerada Hess, left Aberdeen in February and is expected to reach Falkland waters by late April. The rig is fitted to full North Sea standards and has been upgraded for work in the Falklands. The oil companies expect the exploratory drilling phase to last 15 months.

The Falkland Islands Exploration & Production Environmental Forum, chaired by independent expert Professor Alasdair McIntyre, of Aberdeen University, met in Stanley on 26 March. The Forum brings together local stakeholders, environmental pressure groups, FIG officials and the oil industry's environmental experts.

Training Initiative for Falklands Young

Following a Coopers & Lybrand's report for the FIG on the Islands' future economic development, Middlesex University Business School Centre for Economic Development has won a contract from the Government to review the provision of vocational training for the Islands' 16-24 year olds. Concepts from the UK, such as Lifetime Learning and National Vocational Qualifications, will be examined and tailored to suit the Islands' needs.

Falkland Islands Photographic Exhibition

Over the past three months, a Falkland Islands photographic exhibition, featuring pictures taken by Islanders, has visited the towns of Portsmouth, Plymouth and Whitby (twinned with Stanley since 1982). The exhibition, organised by FIG, gives a fascinating insight into life today in the Islands as well as showing their natural beauty. The exhibition was well-received by the general public, and has been favourably reported in the local media.

Falkland Islands - A Popular Destination

The Falkland Islands Tourist Board's stand proved a popular spot at Destinations 98, the UK's largest travel exhibition, with over 2000 people visiting the stand during the four days of the show.

New Internet Cafe on Islands

A cybercafe, the Hard Disc Cafe, opened in Stanley in March, and is already proving a big draw for Islanders from school children to senior citizens. The cafe has three networked computers for customers to surf the net or play a wide range of computer games.

Education, Education, Education

GCSE results, published in February, revealed another successful year for Falklands' students. The 26 students taking GCSEs achieved strong grades, with half of all grades a C or above. At least eight students will be continuing their education overseas.

Diary Dates

• Annual Reception

The Falkland Islands Government's Annual Reception, held in conjunction with the Falkland Islands Association, will be held at Lincoln's Inn, in London, on Wednesday 10 June.

• Agricultural Shows

The Falkland Islands Government will be exhibiting at three Shows this summer:-

- Three Counties, Malvern, Worcestershire, June 16 - 18
- Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh, June 25 - 28
- Royal Agricultural Show, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, July 6 - 9

• James Peck Art Exhibition

An exhibition of Islander James Peck's paintings will be on display at the Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London, from 26 June - 20 September.



Falklands Focus

NEWS FROM THE FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

ISSUE 65

JUNE/JULY 1998

The Search for Oil

April 27 1998 was an important day in Falklands history, when drilling for oil began for the first time. After a ten week tow from the North Sea, a distance of almost 8000 miles, the *Borgny Dolphin* rig, under licence to US oil company Amerada Hess, sank the first well.

The *Borgny Dolphin* will be operating for 15 months in five different areas of Falkland waters, approximately 150 miles north of the Islands. The rig is chartered to four international oil consortia, headed by Amerada Hess, LASMO, Shell and IPC. Although early indications of oil are encouraging, the likelihood of oil being produced on a commercial basis is not high - as low as a one in ten chance. The Islands may have to wait until the turn of the century before finding out.

Commenting on the latest news, Councillor John Birmingham, Chairman of the Government's Mineral Resources Committee, said: "Islanders are not getting carried away with stories about an oil bonanza. Admittedly the prospect of oil is the



Borgny Dolphin drilling for oil

biggest news the Islands have had for many years, but it is far too early to even think of oil money as there is still lots of work to be done."



Statement of Principles & Policies

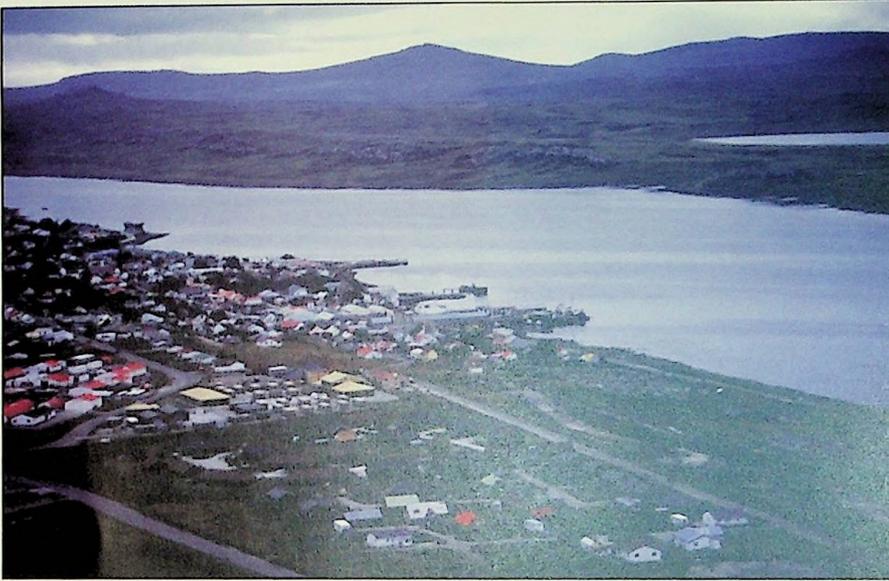
The Falkland Islands Government is pursuing a policy of controlled and measured oil exploration to diversify the Islands' economy and ensure its long-term financial security, whilst at the same time protecting the Islands' natural environment and minimising the impact on the Islands' way of life.

Oil & the Environment

The Government has established a stringent environmental protection regime, including the commissioning of a wide range of environmental studies. It is also using independent experts, with extensive knowledge of the Islands, for additional advice on oil-related matters including the Falkland Islands Environmental & Production Forum and Falklands Conservation.

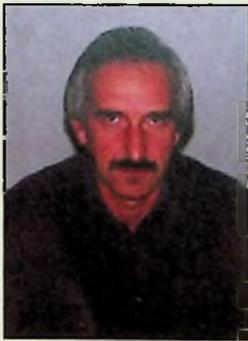
Falklands Revived-

The Islands' Political and Economic Regeneration



Aerial view of Stanley

The Falkland Islands are experiencing a tidal-wave of attention from around the world. Hype about oil discovery, the Dependent Territories Review, and the visit by President Menem of Argentina to the UK later in the year, will all serve to heighten interest in the Islands. Mike Summers, a Falkland Islands Councillor, sets out the Falklands path to self-sufficiency and its hopes for the future.



Councillor Mike Summers MBE

politically and economically transformed. We have a modern constitution, a democratic system in place of the old colonial administration and an electorate which is politically aware.

Economically, we are self sufficient apart from defence costs - and we intend to meet these costs as and

when we are able to do so from oil, or other, revenues. The majority of our income comes from the sale of fishing licences, supported by agriculture, eco-tourism and taxation. We have full employment, with education, health and other community services free of charge.

Political Rights

The political and economic independence that the Falklands have gained over the past few years gives us a genuine sense of worth and achievement and we see no reason to change our strong wish to be allowed to determine our own political allegiance which is to Britain.

Successive British governments have recognised and supported that right, which is clearly recognised by the United Nations. Self-determination is the right of all peoples.

The British Link

The Falklands have been continuously inhabited by families of principally British descent for 165 years and, until the Argentine invasion in 1982, had been a peaceful and largely self sufficient farming community. It was, however, unmistakably colonial and the Islands were in economic decline following years of neglect and lack of investment.

Changing Fortunes

The 1982 war was a tragic loss of young life and left an indelible mark on all our lives. But it was a catalyst for change, and 15 years on the Falklands have been

The Argentine claim to sovereignty over the Falklands does not have any basis in modern constitutional thinking.

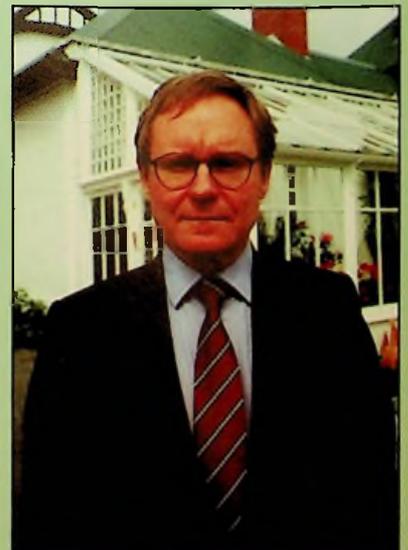
A foreign power governing a people of different culture and way of life, against their will, is unwelcome colonialism.

The colonial era, when the UK's Overseas Territories were simply told what to do, is long past. We are building our futures in our own way, at our own pace, and are happy with our constitutional relationship with the UK. It is to Britain's credit that we are able to determine our own future.



FALKLANDS GOVERNMENT

Falkland Islanders enjoy internal self government under the 1985 Constitution. Eight Legislative Councillors are elected every four years; and each year three of these are elected by their peers to the Executive Council. The Governor, senior officials and the Commander British Forces Falkland Islands also sit, ex officio, on both Councils. Only elected Councillors have the right to vote.



His Excellency The Governor, Richard Ralph CVO

Falklands Profile

Bob Reid, Director of Agriculture



Bob Reid was born in Falkirk, Scotland, but grew up in North East England, and then spent much of his adult life in Australia. He worked first as a cowboy then continued his education at the James Cook University of North Queensland. He worked for Australia's National Research Organisation (CSIRO) where he concentrated on improving the grazing lands of the tropical north. Pasture improvement and the introduction of new plant species became his area of specialisation. He has collected plants in over thirty countries and spent three years working in Italy for the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI). In 1996 he joined the Falkland Islands Department of Agriculture after heading up Tasmania's Pasture Plant Improvement Programme for six years.

Future Farming Challenges

"The Department of Agriculture has entered a new and exciting phase in both the research it is carrying out and the range of services it provides to the Falkland Islands community.

From reliance on wool to support the agricultural industry, there has been the realisation and the commitment from the Government and community at large that the future of the Islands lies in diversification to ensure the long-term sustainability of its agricultural base. At the Department we have taken up this challenge and many new initiatives are now

in advanced stages of development. Our pasture improvement programme, combined with legume technology and innovative establishment techniques, will have a real and long-lasting effect on the pasture landscape of the Islands. Furthermore, new initiatives in beef farming, a planned abattoir and our commitment to shelterbelt establishment will provide other diversification options.

Farmers in the Falklands have undergone fundamental changes in the past two decades, most notably the subdivision of large land-holdings which, since 1982, has led to a nation of smaller, owner-occupied farms. At the Department we are confident that we are equipping Falkland agriculture to compete efficiently in the future."

Bob Reid, Director of Agriculture

Diversification

Since the collapse of the global wool market in 1990 the Falkland Islands Department of Agriculture has been developing new initiatives to diversify the Islands agricultural base, including:

Pasture Improvement Programme

- i Researching legumes suitable for local climate and soil conditions
- ii Investigating grasses and plants not indigenous to the Islands
- iii Developing locally produced cultivars from seeds and vegetative material

Beef Farming

The beef industry development programme focuses on four areas: the national beef herd; pasture development; transport; and technical support for farmers.

Planned Abattoir

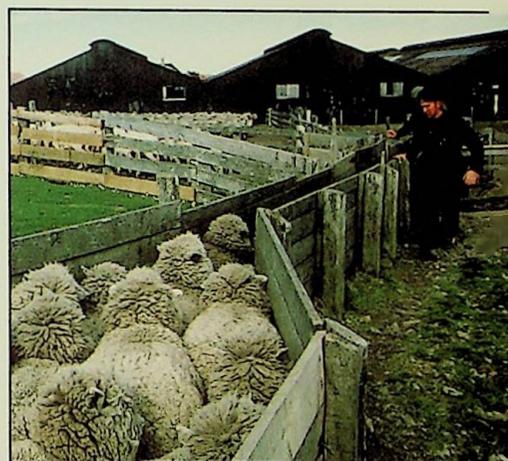
When the new abattoir becomes operational, its daily operation will be directly supervised by the Veterinary Service to comply with relevant EU Directives.

Shelterbelt Development

The Department has established a series of shelter-belts composed of Alaskan Lodgepole Pine and the already successful *Macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) to provide effective, practical shelter for both livestock and crops.

Sheep Nutrition Programme

- i Investigating native plants in sheep diets
- ii Trace element deficiencies
- iii Supplementary feeding



AGRICULTURAL FACTS

- Agriculture industry based on the production and export of wool.
- On average, 625,000 sheep shorn every year producing over 2.27m kg of wool.
- Falklands wool is among the finest in the world, at 23 - 27 microns.
- The wool is chemical free and naturally white.
- Predominant sheep breed is Corriedale.
- Average size of farm: 33,215 acres, 6,300 sheep, 50 cattle.
- 23% of the population live in 'camp', the term for countryside.
- The Islands have a disease-free status.

Government Action Against Human Rights Abuse

The Falkland Islands Government has acted to stamp out human rights violations in its waters, sentencing the captain of a Korean fishing ship to four months in prison (suspended) for ill-treatment of crew members. The crew members had suffered injuries consistent with beatings with an iron bar.

The Government was able to prove that the abuse took place in Falkland waters as seven crew members - a mix of Chinese and Indonesians - had jumped overboard shortly after the ship had departed from Stanley, having picked up her Illex fishing licence but not stopped for the required annual inspection.

The Falkland Islands would like to see a change in international law to make prosecution in international waters easier. Councillor Norma Edwards said, "we do not have the power to prosecute in any respect any offence committed outside our territorial sea, even if it is committed in our fishing waters or on a ship licensed to fish here...I believe we should seek the amendment of the International Law of the Sea to enable port states to take action against foreign vessels guilty of human rights abuses."

The Government is now seeking to prohibit individuals found guilty of such offences from working in Falkland waters and is consulting with fishermen's and fishworkers' unions and representatives to explore further protection for crews. Foreign Office Minister, Tony Lloyd MP, was also asked, during his recent visit to the Islands, to put UK Government pressure on Korea to closely monitor the treatment of fishermen.

The Falklands Government believes that the prosecution sends a strong signal to owners and captains who recruit cheap labour from South-East Asian countries and physically abuse them.



Falklands FACT FILE



POPULATION: 2,221 of which 96% are British. 70% are under the age of 50 years.

HISTORY: First sighted by Captain John Strong, an Englishman, in 1690.

SIZE: The Islands cover an area nearly the size of Wales.

CLIMATE: The Islands experience more hours of sunlight than the south of England and the winters tend not to be as severe.

GOVERNMENT: The Falkland Islands are self governing except for areas of foreign affairs and defence.

ECONOMY: The Falklands are economically self-sufficient and are one of the most dynamic of the UK's Overseas Territories. The economy is largely based on the sale of fishing licences. Investment income, agriculture and services, including tourism, are other principle contributors to the economy. Potential off-shore oil reserves may provide an additional source of income.

DEFENCE: The Falklands are financially independent from Britain apart from defence which takes up less than half of one per cent per annum of Britain's overall defence budget, about £70 million a year.

TOURISM: Tourists visit the Islands to discover the abundant wildlife, world class fishing and to experience one of the few untouched environments left in the world.

For further information on any aspect of the Falkland Islands please contact:



Falkland Islands Government Office,
Falkland House,
14 Broadway,
London SW1H 0BH
Tel: 0171 222 2542
Fax: 0171 222 2375
E-mail: rep@figo.u-net.com



Falklands Focus

NEWS FROM THE FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

ISSUE 66

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1998

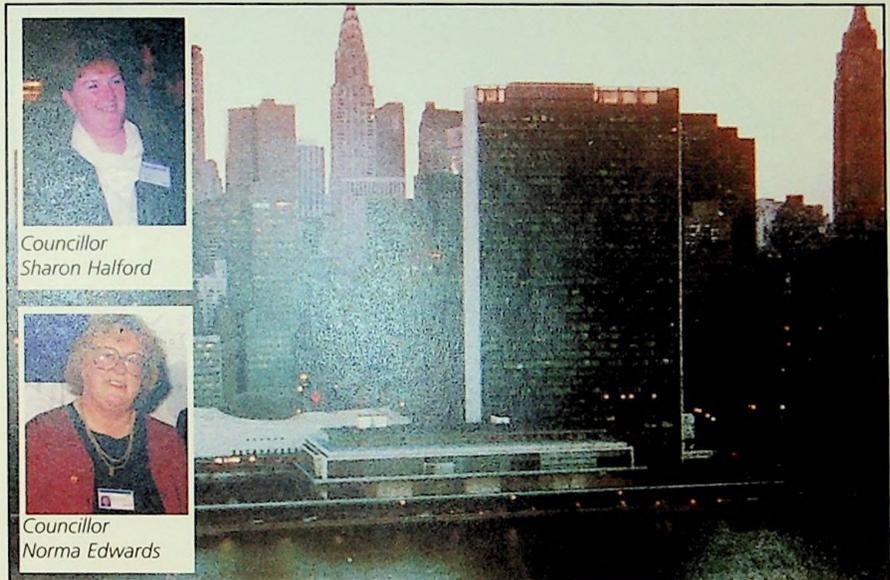
The Right to Self-Determination - United Nations Hears the Falkland Islands Case

Falkland Islands Councillors, Sharon Halford and Norma Edwards, travelled to New York in July to address the United Nations Decolonisation Committee. The two Councillors re-asserted the Islanders' right to self-determination in the face of the continuing Argentine claim to the Islands sovereignty which is now enshrined in its Constitution.

In her speech Councillor Edwards said: "Falkland Islanders are a self-governing and economically self-sufficient people who choose to retain links with the UK in a new relationship as one of its Overseas Territories." Councillor Halford pointed out that a fundamental principle of the United Nations is the right of all peoples to determine their own political future. "Why then is it necessary for us to petition here each year for that right?" she asked. Both Councillors stressed that acceptance of the Argentine claim to govern the Islands would be tantamount to colonisation.

The concept of self-determination is set out in the UN Charter and enshrined in the Falkland Islands Constitution. In a recent House of Commons statement the British Foreign Minister, Mr Tony Lloyd, stated that the Government "remains fully committed to protecting the right of the Falkland Islanders to determine their own future."

Despite this unequivocal stance it is expected that President Menem of Argentina will use his visit in late October to raise, yet again, his country's claim to sovereignty of the Islands. The British Government has clearly stated that the issue will not be discussed during the visit.



Councillor
Sharon Halford

Councillor
Norma Edwards

Falkland Islands Councillors Sharon Halford and Norma Edwards addressed the United Nations Decolonisation Committee in July.

As far as the Islanders are concerned the issue is simply not negotiable. The Islands have been a British territory for over 165 years during which period they have developed a strong identity, a mature economic base and democratic political institutions. The Argentine claim lacks both historical and legal substance and has no moral validity. The idea that a "solution" has to be found to a "problem" is a myth entirely of the Argentine making. It disregards the views of the Falkland Islanders and therefore flies in the

face of democracy and self-determination.

As Councillors Halford and Edwards stated at the United Nations, the Falkland Islands Government welcomes the improvement in UK-Argentine diplomatic and trade relations. It hopes that the forthcoming visit of the Argentine President to the UK will serve to further improve relations between the two countries and lead to greater understanding and acceptance of the Falkland Islands' position by Argentina and a renunciation of its spurious claim to the Islands.



Students Become BBC News Editors For A Day

Four budding journalists from the Falkland Islands Community School, who were part of an 18 strong production team that won the International Section of the Times Educational Supplement 1998 Newspaper Day Competition, were invited to guest-edit the BBC Childrens' News Programme, "Newsround", for a day. As editors they chose the stories, decided the running order, assisted with editing and presented live slots during the show. Two of the students also appeared live on the satellite weekend version of Newsround, "The Week on Newsround".

(From left to right) Pippa Lang, Mark Gilbert, Chris Rogers (Newsround presenter), Sian Davies and Bonnie Curtis.

Oil Update... Oil Update...

The Exploration Phase

The search for oil, which started in April this year is now about half way through the exploration phase which is expected to last until the first quarter of 1999. Amerada Hess, LASMO International Ltd and Shell have drilled wells in the North Falkland Basin, 100 miles north of the Islands. Shell's well reached a total depth of 4,525 metres after 57 days of drilling. This is one of the deepest offshore wells ever drilled in the South Atlantic. Amerada Hess and Shell have both announced that traces of hydrocarbon were found but not in commercial quantities.

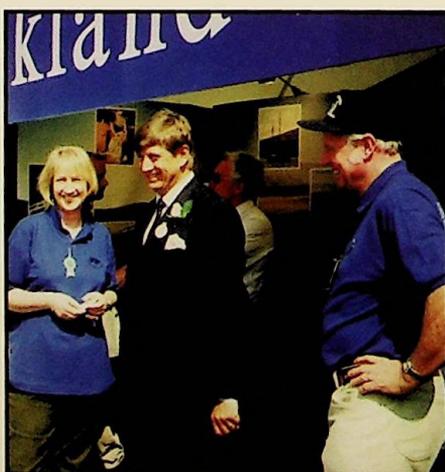
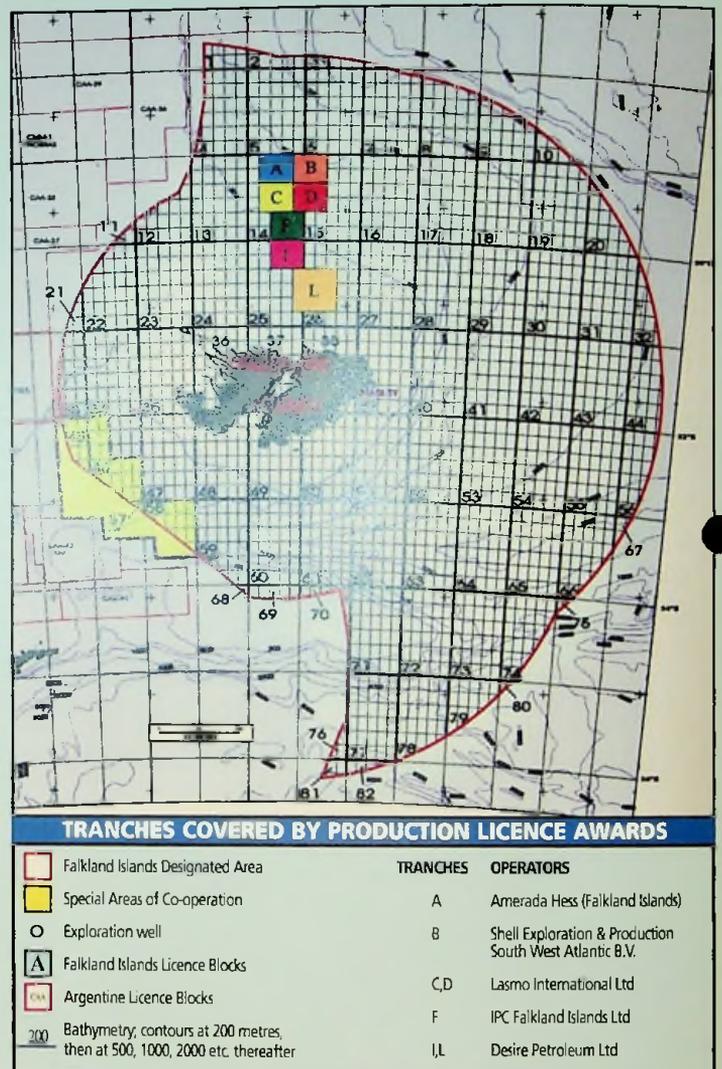
During September the rig, Borgny Dolphin, is operating for IPC in Tranche F (see map). On completion, Amerada Hess and Shell will drill second wells in their licensed areas. Analysis of the data from the wells drilled so far is expected to take some months to complete.

Special Co-operation Area (SCA)

Director of Mineral Resources, Phyllis Rendell and Attorney General, David Lang attended the fifth meeting of the Joint Commission in Buenos Aires at the end of July, together with representatives from the Foreign Office, to discuss oil exploration in the Special Co-operation Area. At the meeting strong concern was expressed about the proposed Argentine Hydrocarbons Bill which will attempt to levy penalty charges on companies involved in the Falklands' oil exploration.

Offshore Northern Seas Exhibition

Representatives from the Falklands attended the Offshore Northern Seas Exhibition, in Stavanger, Norway, from the 25 - 28 August, to promote the Islands' planned oil industry. Hugh Normand, General Manager of the Falkland Islands Development Corporation, said: "Our presence at Stavanger gave us the opportunity to update the oil industry on the rapid rate of progress being made in the Islands and the services and support we can offer to inward investors."

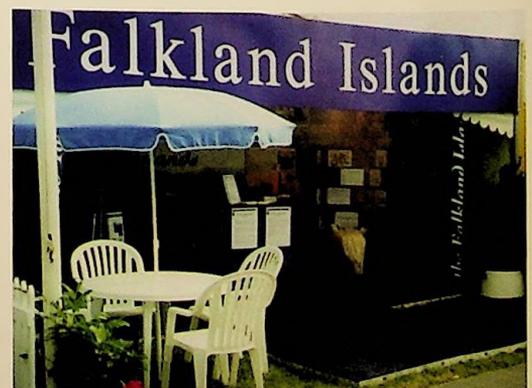


Sukey Cameron, Falkland Islands UK Representative, Peter Stovold, Honorary Show Director and Bob Reid, Director of Agriculture at the Royal Show Stoneleigh.

Falkland Islands Exhibited at the County Shows

The Falkland Islands Government exhibited at three County Shows this summer to update the UK population on developments in the Islands. The stand generated significant interest from visitors including HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, during his visit to the Royal Show in Stoneleigh, where he met the Falkland Islands UK Government Representative, Sukey Cameron, and the Director of Agriculture, Bob Reid.

The media also focused on the Islands' attendance and Sukey Cameron and Bob Reid were interviewed on local TV and radio stations.



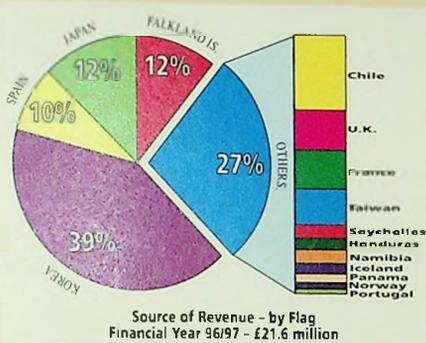
The Falkland Islands Stand at the Royal Show.

Focus on Fisheries

Established in 1986, the Conservation Zone to protect fish stocks around the Islands generates an annual income of up to £20 million through the sale of fishing licences. The regime is regarded by conservationists as a model of its type with over £5 million spent each year on fisheries research and protection. The fishery is unusual as it is based on two species of squid, *Illex argentinus* and *Loligo gahi*. The two species comprise a large proportion of the total catch and they are particularly susceptible to variations in currents and ocean temperatures. The policy is always to conserve stocks and in some years the fishery has been closed early in order to protect the species.

and enforcement relies on two BN2 Defender aircraft, operated by the Falkland Islands Government Air Service and two ocean-going patrol vessels. The 1998 season saw an upsurge in poaching by Taiwanese vessels, forcing the Falkland Islands Government to consider arming one of its fishery protection vessels.

Licence Purchasers



Korean companies, in recent years, have accounted for 40 per cent of the Islands' revenues from fish licences. However, the Far East economic crisis impelled the Falkland Islands Government, this year, to modify licence terms and conditions to facilitate the sale of licences.

South Atlantic Fisheries Commission

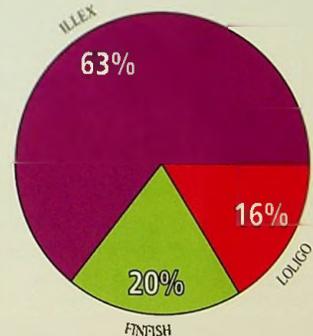
The South Atlantic Fisheries Commission, involving Britain and Argentina, meets regularly to explore ways of improving conservation of migratory species, such as *Illex* and Blue Whiting, which are found in both Argentine and Falklands' waters. A representative of the Falkland Islands Government attends these meetings.

Development of the Fisheries Sector

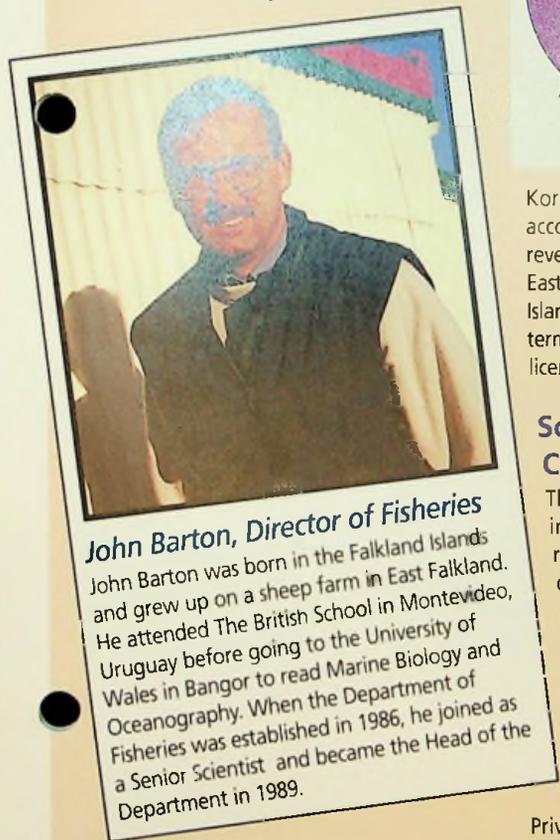
Private sector involvement of Falkland business is on the increase and there are now 17 large ocean-going fishing vessels registered in the Falklands with significant local ownership. The potential exists for this to expand further into marketing, support services and processing. A number of Falkland companies operate in South Georgia and other fisheries.

Fishing Facts

- Sale of fishing licences amounts to around £20 million per annum although this recently fell to £17 million (1997/98) as a result of Far Eastern financial problems
- The total cost to FIG of managing and protecting the fishery is over £5 million per annum
- Each year around 220,000 metric tonnes of fish and squid are taken
- Falklands squid fisheries are of global significance. The two species of squid found are:
 - *Illex argentinus*. Fished principally by specialised squid jigging vessels from the Far East, it accounts for some 45% of the total catch
 - *Loligo gahi*. Fished mainly by trawlers registered in the Falklands, it accounts for some 27% of the total catch
- **Finfish species:** Blue Whiting, Hake, Toothfish



- During the first 10 years of the fishery (1987 - 1996):
 - £245m was collected in licence revenue
 - Fishery Protection Vessels steamed approximately 825,000 nautical miles
 - Fishery Observers measured 1,197,664 squid



John Barton, Director of Fisheries

John Barton was born in the Falkland Islands and grew up on a sheep farm in East Falkland. He attended The British School in Montevideo, Uruguay before going to the University of Wales in Bangor to read Marine Biology and Oceanography. When the Department of Fisheries was established in 1986, he joined as a Senior Scientist and became the Head of the Department in 1989.

Main Species

The major markets for the squid are Europe and the Far East. The *Loligo* exists wholly in Falkland waters and is fished by Falkland Islands/European joint venture trawlers from February to October. The *Illex*, a migratory species, is fished by far Eastern jiggers and European trawlers from March to June.

Conservation

Conservation targets are achieved by limiting the number of vessels licensed to fish within the zone and, in the case of finfish, by specifying the minimum mesh size permitted for use. Catch data is collected on a daily basis and passed to Imperial College London which is contracted to undertake stock assessments and advise on fishery management. Surveillance



A fishing boat in the Falklands Conservation Zone.

British Business in the Falkland Islands

British companies continue to have a strong presence in the Islands, benefiting from their burgeoning economy.

Telecommunications: Cable & Wireless

Cable & Wireless has managed an operation in the Islands since 1974 providing all national and international telecommunications services. Cable &



Cable & Wireless earth station in Stanley.

Wireless employs around 40 staff, 90 per cent of whom are local residents. The company has installed a telephone service across the Islands and launched local access to the Internet in late 1997. Steve Baker, the company's General Manager in Stanley, says: "Next year we will be celebrating 25 years of service to the Falkland Islands. This has spanned a period when the economy of the country has changed dramatically from the pre-1982 wool and agricultural base to the healthy economy of today."

Solicitors: Ledingham Chalmers

Aberdeen-based Ledingham Chalmers celebrated ten years in the Falkland Islands in August this year. The company provides a full range of legal services to the commercial sector and general public, as well as having particular expertise in oil and the construction sector. Six UK solicitors have worked in the Islands, one of whom is married to an Islander.

Banking: Standard Chartered Bank

Standard Chartered Bank, which opened an office in Stanley in 1983, is the only bank in the Islands and has a staff of 16 people. It provides a comprehensive banking service to both personal and corporate residents in the Islands and through its worldwide network of branches can offer access to international trade and payment systems.

Accountancy: Consultancy Services Falklands Ltd

Consultancy Services which opened its doors in 1986 provides accounting, taxation and financial advisory services to the Falklands business community. It is owned by partners of Deloitte & Touche. Managing Director, Drew Irvine says: "The combination of our local knowledge, together with access to the international resources of Deloitte & Touche and close links to their Aberdeen office, makes us uniquely placed to serve both local business needs and the growing international needs of the fishing and oil sectors."

Accountancy: Wilkins Kennedy

Chartered Accountants Wilkins Kennedy based in London and the South-East have announced plans to open a permanent office in the Islands. Ian Sheekey, a partner, says: "With the growth of the local economy in recent times resulting from the healthy fishing industry and now the influx of new businesses from oil exploration, I consider this to be an ideal time to establish a permanent presence."

Couriers: DHL Worldwide Express

The Falkland Islands were added to DHL's global network in 1995 to provide a fast and reliable method of transportation to and from the Islands. Its representative in Stanley is the Falkland Islands Chamber of Commerce. Trevor Mitchell, DHL's Area General Manager, says: "Demand for the DHL service has grown steadily since 1995 and we are committed to supporting further growth to improve and expand our service to our customers in the Islands."

Falkland Islands NEWS IN BRIEF

Landmines

The British Parliament's commitment to the Ottawa Convention (the international ban on anti-personnel land mines) compels it to remove weapons on its territory within 10 years. An estimated 18,000 mines, laid by Argentina during the 1982 Conflict, remain in the Falkland Islands. All the mine fields are safely fenced-off and no civilian has ever been hurt. Argentina has offered to remove the mines, but no-one can guarantee 100 per cent clearance and the areas remain off limits. Until total clearance is possible the Falkland Islands Government believes that it could be futile, as well as dangerous, to attempt to clear the mine fields and re-open the areas.

LanChile Celebrates First Anniversary

It is a year since the first LanChile flight between Santiago and the Falklands. Since then a total of over 3000 passengers have used the weekly service, an average of 60 passengers per round trip.



Record Team Entering The Commonwealth Games

The Falkland Islands sent a ten strong team to the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 11 September - 21 September. The team consisted of two badminton players, seven shooters and one marathon runner. The team had two weeks to acclimatise to the humid conditions. The Falklands Islands has now been represented at every Commonwealth Games since 1982.

Islands' Students Come to the UK for Further Study

Following success in their GCSEs, ten students are continuing their education in the UK. Six students are commencing "A" level courses at either Peter Symonds School in Winchester or at Kings College Taunton; two students are attending Bicton Agricultural College in Devon; one student is studying for an International Baccalaureate at Atlantic College in South Wales and one student is studying Electrical Installation at Loughborough College.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Falkland Islands Government will be attending the following Party Conferences: Labour 27/9 - 2/10, Blackpool

Conservative 6/10 - 9/10, Bournemouth



For further information on any aspect of the Falkland Islands please contact:

Falkland Islands Government Office,
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH
Tel: 0171 222 2542 Fax: 0171 222 2375
E-mail: rep@figo.u-net.com



Falklands Focus

NEWS FROM THE FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

ISSUE 67

JUNE/JULY 1999

Falkland Islands Councillors in talks with Argentina



Minister of State Tony Lloyd MP (second from right) opens the British/Argentine talks.

Clockwise: Falkland Islands Councillors Bill Luxton, Jan Cheek, Norma Edwards and Sharon Halford.

Falkland Islands Councillors formed part of the British delegation, which met the Argentine Government in London on 26 and 27 May. The talks, initiated by the Falkland Islands Councillors, covered the

conservation and management of fisheries, hydrocarbon exploration and air-links to the Islands, following the suspension of flights from Chile in protest at the arrest of General Pinochet in

Britain. Sovereignty of the Islands was not discussed.

The Councillors, Jan Cheek, Norma Edwards, Sharon Halford and Bill Luxton, who represented the democratically elected Government of the Falkland Islands at the talks, said afterwards: "Our purpose was to discuss areas of mutual interest and concern. No decisions were taken, or agreements made and we shall be reporting back to our fellow Councillors and the people of the Falkland Islands."

A joint statement from the British and Argentine delegations said that the talks were held "in a friendly, open and constructive atmosphere building on the new spirit in the relationship." Both delegations agreed to continue to work together to "make progress over a range of South Atlantic issues of common interest".

The Councillors said: "We hope we can find ways of cooperating for our mutual benefit and learn to live alongside each other as friendly neighbours in an atmosphere of mutual respect."

Falklands Fishery Protection Vessel Fires On Taiwanese Poachers

For the first time since it was armed on 12 May, the Falkland Islands Fishery Protection Vessel Dorada had been in action against a Taiwanese vessel fishing illegally in Falkland waters. The incident happened on Saturday 15 May.

The Shan Fu 8 was repeatedly asked to stop by radio, flag and other internationally recognised signals before warning shots were fired across its bows. As it continued to flee northwards the Dorada was given permission to fire directly at it and shots were seen to hit the Shan Fu 8 causing some damage. However, the vessel continued northwards and as night fell the pursuit was discontinued.

The Falkland Islands Fisheries Department said: "Although the action did not result in the detention of the Shan Fu 8, the fact that the gun had been used to fire directly on the illegally fishing vessel should provide a useful deterrent for the future. The Falkland Islands Government is determined to enforce the law applicable to its Fisheries zone and ensure that conservation objectives are upheld."



Dorada, the Falkland Islands Fishery Protection Vessel, is now armed to combat the poaching problem.

Prince Charles Calls For a "Spirit of Mutual Understanding and Respect"



Picture courtesy of Norman Clark

Prince Charles on Sea Lion Island.

In a speech in Argentina, before travelling to the Falkland Islands, the Prince made reference to the legitimate rights of the

Falkland Islands' people saying: "My hope is that the people of modern, democratic Argentina, with their passionate

attachment to their national traditions, will in the future be able to live amicably alongside the people of another modern, if rather smaller democracy, lying a few hundred miles off your coast, a people just as passionately attached to their traditions, and be able to do so in a spirit of mutual understanding and respect, so that neither will again need to feel any fear from, or hostility towards, the other. Such an understanding can only reinforce our own friendships. Today so many old friendships are being rebuilt."

The Falkland Islands was the last stop for Prince Charles on his weeklong South American tour in March, following visits to Argentina and Uruguay. The Prince was based in Stanley, but travelled extensively all over the Islands to meet communities in Camp and visited 1982 memorials. The Prince's love of wildlife is well known and his visit to Sea Lion Island, where the Prince found himself surrounded by penguins and magnificent elephant seals, was considered by many to be the highlight of the trip.

On his last evening the Prince called the Islands a "remarkable and very precious asset" and said he was keen to bring Prince William and Prince Harry to the Islands, particularly as William was born "seven days after the Islands were liberated so it holds a very special place in my heart."

British MPs Visit the Falkland Islands

Three British MPs visited the Islands in February on a familiarisation trip, sponsored by the Falkland Islands Government. Ben Chapman MP, Lindsay Hoyle MP, from the Labour Party, and Paul Keetch MP, a Liberal Democrat, spent time in Stanley and Camp to gain an impression of life in the Islands.

At a press conference, Paul Keetch MP acknowledged the "Britishness" of the Islands, but felt that the Falkland Islands and Argentina should engage in "more dialogue". Lindsay Hoyle MP said he was concerned at what he called "unacceptable behaviour" on the part



L to R: Tim Miller, Manager Hydroponic Market Garden, Paul Keetch MP, Ben Chapman MP and Lindsay Hoyle MP.

Picture courtesy of Juliet Cameron

of the Argentine Government. "Not only do they need to drop the sovereignty claim" he said "but they should also withdraw the threat of sanctions against British companies who have been involved in contracts down here in the Falklands."

The MPs unanimously praised the quality of the education and the facilities at the Falkland Islands Community School, which "would be the envy of any local authority in the UK" and Ben Chapman MP noted the "Feel Good Factor" evident in the Islands.

Images of the Falkland Islands

An exhibition of photographs, "Images of the Falkland Islands", taken by local people and first exhibited in Stanley at the end of last year, has successfully visited three cities in the UK. The exhibition was held at the Birmingham Sea Life Centre, the SS Great Britain in Bristol and the Liverpool Maritime Museum during January to April this year.

Yee Ha! Cowboys Play in the Islands

Hank Wangford and the Lost Cowboys, the British Country and Western Band, wowed music lovers all over the Falklands on their recent tour which was sponsored by the Shackleton Scholarship Fund and the FIDC. The visit was timed so the Cowboys could play at Camp Sports, a time when Falkland Islanders traditionally relax and show off their horsemanship skills at the end of the shearing season. A film crew followed the Cowboys' adventures for a Video Diaries programme to be broadcast on BBC2 in late summer.

Focus on Education

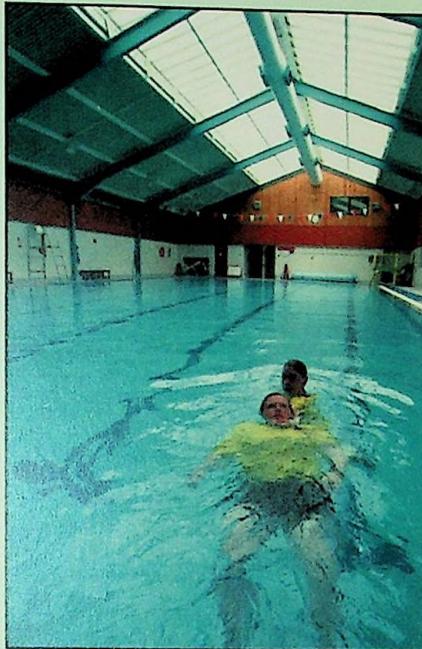
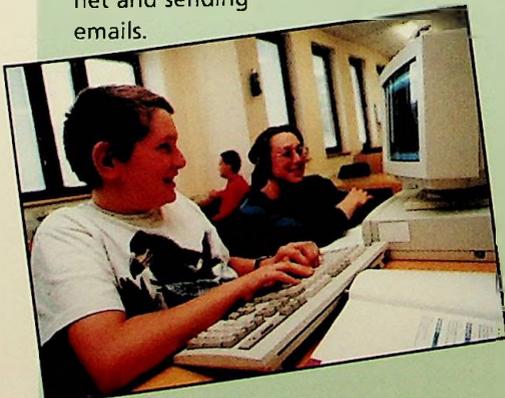
Education Facts

- The Falkland Islands Government is committed to providing high quality education in the pursuit of excellence.
- Education in the Islands is free and compulsory for the 376 children aged 5 - 16 years and free for 24 pre-school pupils each year.
- There are two schools in Stanley: an Infant/ Junior School and an 11-16 Community School, as well as two small settlement schools in outlying areas (5 pupils in one and 3 in the other).
- Infant/Junior age pupils living outside Stanley are taught by a combination of distance learning and travelling teachers.



Picture courtesy of Jack Kelly - The Express

- The schools broadly follow the UK National Curriculum.
- The schools are well equipped with IT equipment and the students are highly computer literate. The Community School students enjoy free use of the internet during the school day and are accustomed to surfing the net and sending emails.



- The Community School was opened in October 1992 and has excellent facilities including a 25 metre swimming pool, a fully equipped sports hall and two squash courts.
- After GCSEs, students are encouraged to go to the UK to continue their education on either academic or vocational courses, fully funded by the Falkland Islands Government.

Director of Education, Dr David Langridge

"Working in education in the Falkland Islands is a breath of fresh air", says Dr David Langridge, who has been Director of Education for just over two years. "The pupils are a joy to work with and the educational facilities would be the envy of most schools in the UK." Dr Langridge is a former geography teacher, university lecturer and, prior to his arrival he was Headteacher of a Cambridgeshire comprehensive for nineteen years.

GCSE Results Success

GCSE results in the Islands were well above the British national average last year. The 33 pupils attempted a total of 263 GCSEs (an average of 8 per pupil) in November 1998. At least 17 students are expected to go the UK this autumn to further their education.

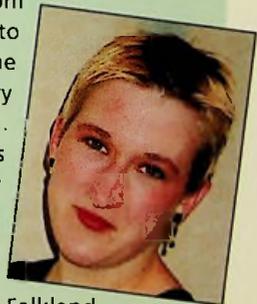
Falklands' Students in the UK Study to Return

There are 42 students in the UK, funded by the Falkland Islands Government, in Further and Higher Education. Almost without exception they plan to return and take their skills to the Islands. Two London-based students talk to Falklands Focus:

Rebecca Edwards is a third year medical student at University College London. She enjoys her life in London but misses the Islands and particularly the beautiful scenery in West Falkland, where her family live on a farm. She is planning to return there and practice as a GP, something she says that she "just wouldn't want to do in England."



Zoë Luxton, from Stanley, is studying to become a vet at the Royal Veterinary College in London. She has two years left to study after which she plans to work for the Department of Agriculture in the Falkland Islands. Her biggest reason for going home is that her, "social life in the Islands is more demanding than at college!"



** STOP PRESS ** TES Newspaper Day

Congratulations to the Community School who, for the third year running, has won the International Section in the TES (Times Educational Supplement) Newspaper Day competition. Three members of the winning team, Cara Ford, 14, Roxanne Crowie, 15, and William Normand, 15, collected their prize at a special presentation ceremony in the House of Commons.

Falkland Islands Welcomes New Governor

Picture courtesy of Norman Clark



Mr Donald Lamont has been appointed Governor to the Falkland Islands and Commissioner for South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. His most recent post was as Chief of Staff in Sarajavo and previously Ambassador to Uruguay. Mr Lamont has a long standing interest in the Islands, having worked in the Falkland Islands Department in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for three years from 1982. At his swearing-in ceremony in Stanley on May 12, Mr Lamont praised the development of the Islands saying, "The Falkland Islands are in short a success story" and re-affirmed the British Government's support of the Islands. Mr Lamont is married with two children.

GAP Students

Eight students have returned to the UK after working in the Falkland Islands for six months. The students, all 18, were chosen to go to the Falkland Islands by GAP Activity Projects, an educational charity which places over 1500 volunteers in projects around the world.

The students stayed on settlements on the Islands getting involved with all aspects of farm life, from lambing to shearing. Oliver Hoare worked on a farm at Walker Creek with another GAP student, Piers Hillier. Oliver said, "The hours were long and the work was hard, but it was fantastic".

A group of ten GAP students will travel to the Islands in October before starting University.

Surf the Falklands' website at www.falklands.gov.fk

The website has information on the Islands' history, society and its political and economic development. New to the website is information on the Philatelic Bureau, www.falklands.gov.fk/pb and there is also a dedicated tourism website, www.tourism.org.fk.

Diary Dates

County Shows

Visit the Falkland Islands stand at the following 1999 County Shows:-

- Royal Highland 24 – 27 June
- Royal Show 5 – 8 July

Falkland Islands

NEWS IN BRIEF

South American Airlink Suspended

The weekly LanChile flight from Santiago to the Falkland Islands ceased to operate at the end of March. As a result of General Pinochet's arrest in the UK, the Chilean Government advised LanChile that the airline should terminate its service to the Islands. The Chilean President has also signed a decree to prohibit flights to the Falklands that do not touch down in Argentina, a move that has been replicated by Uruguay. The Islands are still served by the RAF Tri-Star service from the UK.

£5000 Gift to Hurricane Mitch Victims

A £5000 gift from the Falkland Islands Government has been given to a water project run by Oxfam in Nicaragua. The project will give access to clean water for 7000 people affected by the floods.

Oil Update

Oil companies drilling in the North Falkland Basin found at least two hydrocarbon systems in the area and traces of oil in five out of the six wells drilled. This indicates that the conditions needed for the formation of hydrocarbons have existed at least twice during the geological history of the region. Geologists are optimistic that thicker sandstone reservoirs, containing exploitable quantities of hydrocarbons, may be located in future drilling programmes. For the next six months to a year the oil companies are evaluating the data found from the wells.



Kosovo Appeal Raised £21,200

Falkland Islanders have raised a staggering £21,200 for the plight of the Kosovan refugees. This represents £5 for every man, woman and child in the Islands. The money will be used to help provide blankets, clothing and food. The Chief Executive of the Falkland Islands Government Andrew Gurr said: "It is a wonderful gesture in response to the immense hardship being suffered by the Kosovar refugees."



For further information on any aspect of the Falkland Islands please contact:

Falkland Islands Government Office,
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH
Tel: 0171 222 2542 Fax: 0171 222 2375
E-mail: rep@figo.u-net.com

Picture courtesy of Norman Clark



Falklands Focus

NEWS FROM THE FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

ISSUE 68

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 1999

British/Argentine Agreement Sealed

Britain and Argentina signed an agreement on 14 July 1999 designed to build confidence and reduce tension between the Falkland Islands and Argentina.

Falkland Islands Councillors Sharon Halford and Mike Summers witnessed the Agreement on behalf of the Falkland Islands Government. It is significant that the Joint Statement records that the UK delegation included, "Members of the Falkland Islands Legislative Council," which may seem simply a reflection of reality, but it is the first time that Argentina has been prepared to acknowledge that reality.

The Agreement consists of the following measures:

- The Falkland Islands and Argentina will enhance co-operation on fisheries conservation and agree a co-ordinated programme to tackle poaching. Practical measures will be put in place by 9 October.
- The Argentine Government will review the Spanish place names for Falkland Islands locations, which were imposed under decree by General Galtieri. For example, Stanley is called Puerto Argentino in the Argentine media.
- Argentine citizens will be allowed entry into the Islands with an Argentine passport, ending the ban on access introduced after the 1982 Conflict. All visitors must comply with Falkland Islands Government entry requirements.
- A memorial for the Argentine servicemen who lost their lives in 1982 will be constructed in the Argentine cemetery in the Falkland Islands.

• As agreed in October 1998, the UK and Argentine Governments will continue to work together to evaluate the feasibility and cost of clearing landmines still present in the Falkland Islands.

• The weekly flight between Chile and the Falkland Islands, which was suspended in March by the Chilean Government following the arrest of General Pinochet in the UK, has been resumed. From 16 October the service will include two stops per month (one each way) in Rio Gallegos in Argentina.

The Agreement does not detract from the firm positions of the British and Falkland Islands Governments on sovereignty or the Islanders' right to self-determination.

Foreign Secretary Robin Cook commended the Islands Councillors for initiating the talks, the third in a series of recent meetings between Britain and Argentina. He said that it was an historic occasion as it was the first successful dialogue between the Foreign Ministers of Argentina and Britain, including members of the Islands Council, since the Conflict in 1982. "As a result of that new approach," he said, "we have been able to conclude an agreement on a package of measures

that will build confidence and reduce tension between the Falkland Islands and Argentina. Nothing here compromises either our position on sovereignty, or for that matter the position of the Government of Argentina."

The Falkland Islands Councillors said: "We believe we have secured what is in all circumstances a good deal for the Falkland Islands and for our part we intend to fulfil our obligations in good faith." The Councillors stressed that the future of the Islands depended on the effective conservation and management of the fisheries and this could not be achieved in isolation.

The Islands weekly newspaper, Penguin News, noted in its editorial on 16 July that the Agreement "appears reasonably palatable to most" recognising the importance of conserving fish stocks, as the fisheries provide the "economic backbone" of the Islands.

The first flight from Chile, with Argentine passport holders onboard, arrived on Saturday 7 August and included journalists, tourists and a veteran of the 1982 Conflict. Councillor Mike Summers OBE said: "Together with the Argentine Government, and its people who are now guests in our country, we are all under an obligation to build a new relationship of confidence and mutual trust between our nations."

Foreign Secretary Robin Cook
"It marks a change from an era of confrontation to a new chapter of dialogue and co-operation."

Fisheries Agreement Update

Falkland Islands Councillors welcomed the progress made at the South Atlantic Fisheries Commission in Madrid on 2 and 3 September. Measures to combat poaching were agreed and testing of the procedures is to start immediately so that they will be fully effective by 9 October.



The Argentine Foreign Minister Guido di Tella and Foreign Secretary Robin Cook signing the July 14 Agreement, witnessed by Falkland Islands Councillors Sharon Halford and Mike Summers (far right).

Falkland Islands Appoints New Chief Executive

Dr Michael Blanch, 52, has been appointed Chief Executive of the Falkland Islands Government and will take up the post in January 2000.

After gaining his PhD in 1975, Dr Blanch has held senior posts in borough and county councils across the United Kingdom and joins the Falkland Islands Government from Bromley Council where he has been Chief Executive since 1995.

Dr Blanch was a member of the UK Territorial Army for 26 years and received the Territorial Decoration. His hobbies include mountain biking, sailing, walking and entertaining. Dr Blanch is married with two sons, aged 17 and 20. His wife, Penny, who is a pharmacist, will be accompanying him.

Islands Councillors Speak at the United Nations

Falkland Islands Councillors, Jan Cheek and Sharon Halford, attended the United Nations Decolonisation Committee on 1 July 1999. The Councillors reiterated the Islanders right to self-determination, as an essential principle of the United Nations Charter and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Councillor Sharon Halford asked: "How long does one need to petition for a right that one is clearly entitled to?" She noted that the relationship between the Falkland Islands and Britain is a "partnership" within which the Islands "democratically elected government is wholly responsible for the internal management and running of the Islands."

Councillor Cheek called for the support of the Committee in "resisting attempts by Argentina to make the Falkland Islands its colony in the South Atlantic." "I believe," she continued, "that we have the right to freely determine our political status and that being so we choose to retain our association with the United Kingdom as an Overseas Territory".

Sporting Success for the Islands



The Falkland Islands has won its first gold medal at the NatWest Island Games in Gotland Sweden, held at the beginning of July. Policeman Graham Didlick won first place in the Whitworth class 4 black powder musket event. Five other members of the shooting team also achieved medals. Twenty four competitors represented the Islands in rifle shooting, athletics, swimming, clay target, black powder and pistol shooting, golf and badminton.

The Falkland Islands finished fifteenth in the medal table, one place behind Gibraltar. The host island Gotland won the most medals. The Islands Games began in 1985 and this year attracted almost 2,000 competitors from 22 islands worldwide.

Some of the Falklands team at Gotland.

Royal Visitors at the Royal Show

Sukey Cameron, the Falkland Islands Government UK Representative, welcomed HRH The Duke of York to the Falkland Islands stand at the Royal Show in Stoneleigh, Warwickshire on 7 July. The Duke chatted to Sukey and her team and was pleased to hear that the woollen mill that he had opened on the Islands in 1985 was doing well. HRH The Duke of Gloucester also visited the stand.

It is the second year that the Falkland Islands Government has had a presence at the Royal Show and the stand once again attracted positive interest from visitors. "The shows provide a great opportunity to inform the UK public about the many exciting developments in the Islands and also to dispel many of the myths that surround us," said Sukey.

The Falkland Islands Government was also represented at the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh in June.



HRH The Duke of York with Sukey Cameron, Falkland Islands UK Representative, Ian Cox, Falkland Islands Development Board and far right, Doug Cartridge, Falkland Islands Department of Agriculture.



Focus on Tourism



The Falkland Islands are a beautiful group of islands with outstanding wildlife, a temperate climate and friendly welcoming people. They are an ideal place for an exciting and unusual holiday.

Over 20,000 tourists visit the Islands annually, the vast majority arriving on cruise ships in the summer months (November to March).

Conservation

The increased tourist interest has been met with simultaneous conservation measures to protect and preserve the unique environment. Current work includes a survey of native plants, a penguin monitoring programme and a survey of seabirds at sea. The Falkland Islands Tourist Board is also sponsoring a six-month Tourism Impact survey.

An Oasis of Wildlife

The Falkland Islands are home to an array of magnificent wildlife who enjoy the unspoilt surroundings and environment of the Islands. The animals have nothing to fear and so can appear almost tame.

During the Islands temperate summer months the sheltered coves and shores become a maternity ward for giant elephant seals, southern sea lions and the huge black browed albatross. There are around two million penguins on the Islands.

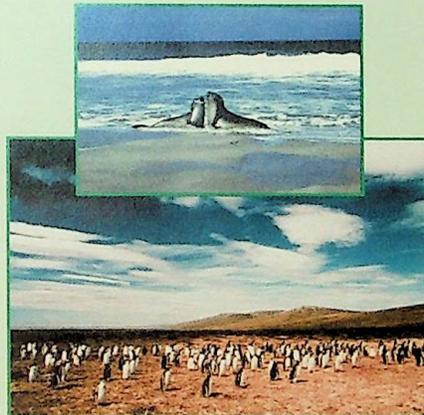
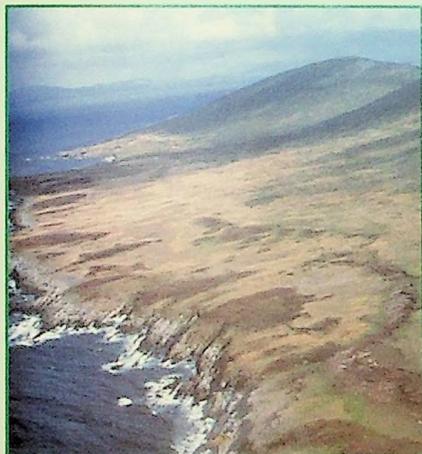
Among the sights to see are the fascinating museum, which tells the Islands story from the arrival of the first settlers from Britain in 1833, and the 100 year old Cathedral. Visitors can also follow a maritime history trail around Stanley harbour. Stanley also has pleasant shops to browse in and a selection of restaurants and pubs.

The 1982 Battlesites

The battlefields of Goose Green, Mounts Tumbledown and Longdon, and Wireless Ridge are accessible from Stanley and day tours can be arranged. Visitors may also wish to pay their respects to the fallen of both sides in cemeteries at San Carlos and Darwin.

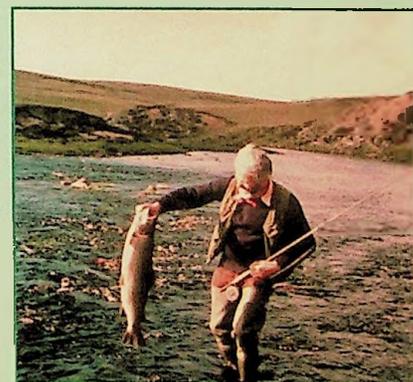
Fishing In the Falkland Islands

Although somewhat spate dependent, the rivers of the Falklands can offer world-class fly-fishing. Trout were introduced to the Islands over forty years ago. They migrate to the oceans every year and return in the spring. Falkland mullet, in the shallower sea pools, are also an exciting catch. A Scottish visitor holds the record for landing a twenty-two pound trout on the San Carlos River.



The Capital - Stanley

An hour's drive from Mount Pleasant airport is the Islands capital, Stanley. With a population of 1700 residents, Stanley is a pleasant, lively place with a picturesque harbour front.



The best time for fishing is springtime (Sept/Oct) or autumn (March/April).

Information Box

When to visit: Summer is from November to February.

How to get there: The RAF has a regular service from Brize Norton, Oxfordshire with civilian places available. The 18-hour journey is broken by a short re-fuelling stop at Ascension Island. The flight costs approx. £1414 (APEX) return. Contact the travel co-ordinator at the Falkland Islands Government office on 0171 222 2542 for more information.

LanChile operates a weekly flight (Saturday) from Santiago to the Islands via Punta Arenas in Chile. From 16 October there will be monthly stops in Rio Gallegos in Argentina. Flights can be booked through travel agents.

Accommodation: There is a good range of accommodation from comfortable hotels in Stanley to cosy B&Bs and tourist lodges in Camp. Some farms also welcome paying guests.

Getting Around: Getting to most places of interest is by road or plane; nine-seater Islander aircraft are run by FIGAS, the Government air service.

Shopping: Falklands wool is world-renowned for its softness and organic quality and shops sell jumpers, hats, gloves etc as well as other locally produced souvenirs.

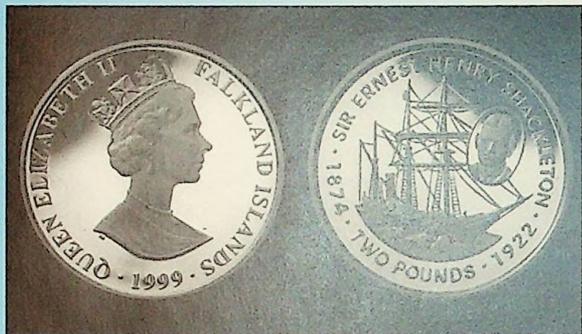
Contact the Falkland Islands Tourist Board, Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London, SW1H 0BH.
 T: 0171 222 2542 F: 0171 222 2375 email: rep@figo.u-net.com or manager@tourism.org.fk
 website:  www.tourism.org.fk

Falkland Islands

NEWS IN BRIEF

Commemorative Coin for Sir Ernest Shackleton

The Falkland Islands Treasury has produced a legal tender coin to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the birth of the famous explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton. Sukey Cameron, the Falkland Islands UK Representative, and the Honourable Alexandra Shackleton, granddaughter of the late Sir Ernest, attended the formal first striking of the coin on 26 August at the Pobjoy Mint in Surrey.



To purchase a coin in the UK please contact John Smith at Pobjoy Mint T: 01737 818181.

Falkland Islands Students Achieve A Level Success

Eight students from the Islands are going on to higher education having achieved impressive A Level results. The students have secured places at Universities and Colleges in the UK and will be funded by the Falkland Islands Government.

Director of Education, Dr David Langridge said: "Many of our students have worked very hard and their success is well deserved."

Several students spoke to Falklands Focus about their forthcoming courses starting this autumn:

- Samantha Payne has a place at Southampton University to study Fashion Design.
"After my course I would like to return to the Islands and try and open a fashion business."
- Matias Short is going to study Fine Arts at Cardiff University.
"In the long term I am planning to go back to the Islands and possibly teach art in the Community School."
- Kelly Moffat is going to Leeds Metropolitan University to study physiotherapy.
"After I qualify I am going to see the world and then gain some experience in Britain before returning to the Islands."

Prince Charles Joins Falklands Conservation

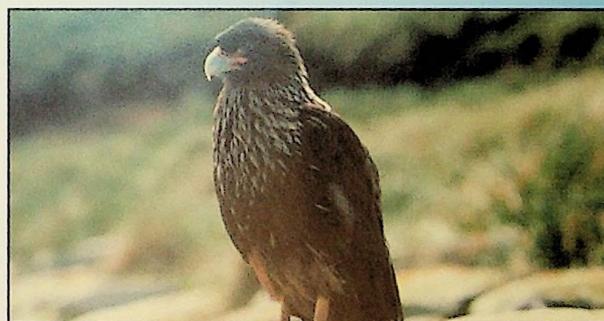
Following his recent visit to the Falkland Islands, HRH Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to become an honorary member of Falklands Conservation. HRH The Duke of York is the patron of the charity, which was established in 1979 by the late Sir Peter Scott.

To encourage more young people to take an active role in the protection of the Islands environment, Falklands Conservation has set up a junior branch called Wildlife Watch. One of its first initiatives has been to tackle the problem of declining Tussac Grass in the Islands, an essential habitat for the Islands wildlife. On East Falkland it is estimated that the grass has declined from over 50 km to just a few hundred hectares in the last 100 years.

Falklands Conservation has nearly 500 members, with over 300 in the United Kingdom and abroad and more than 150 local members. For more information on Falklands Conservation and how to join, please contact Ann Brown on 0181 343 0831.

Falklands Conservation Website:

 www.falklands-nature.demon.co.uk



Falklands Conservation has recently completed a two year survey of the rare Striated Caracara, which are only found in the Falkland Islands and South America.

New Minister for the Falkland Islands

John Battle MP has replaced Tony Lloyd MP as Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, with responsibility for the Falklands. Mr Battle was previously Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Industry.

Baroness Scotland has replaced Baroness Symons and will take over the responsibility for the Overseas Territories. Baroness Symons replaces Lord Gilbert at the Ministry of Defence.

Diary Dates

The Falkland Islands Government will have a stand at:

- The Labour Party Conference in Bournemouth, 26 September – 1 October
- The Conservative Party Conference in Blackpool, 4 – 7 October



For further information on any aspect of the Falkland Islands please contact:

Falkland Islands Government Office,
Falkland House, 14 Broadway, London SW1H 0BH
Tel: 0171 222 2542 Fax: 0171 222 2375
E-mail: rep@figo.u-net.com
Website:  www.falklands.gov.fk