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JANE CAMERON NATIONAL ARCHIVES

NEWSLETTER



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WELCOME

Welcome to the second issue of the Jane Cameron National Archives newsletter for 2024!

In this publication there is a brief service update highlighting some of the achievements of the past six months, the new items that have been added to the archives, and those records that we have digitised and made available on our website since January.

This content compliments our bi-monthly updates, which provide more frequent and detailed updates about what the service is up to and records that have been digitised to the website. Whereas some of the content may be replicated here we hope it provides a brief overview of our activities and some of the key highlights since the last newsletter.

The main feature of this publication remains our 'Falklands On Record' section, showcasing specific items and snippets from local history as recorded in the Archives. We hope that you enjoy reading and please contact us if you have any feedback or want to arrange an appointment to research or view any records.



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Service Update-September 2024

The service has continued to receive a steady volume of research requests and appointments. Though we tend to see the highest figures from overseas researchers we have been pleased to see the number of local people and organisations rise and in total, we received 50 more queries during this financial year compared to last.

In addition to the newsletter and bi-monthly update, in the last six months we have launched and published content on our social media channels: Facebook and Twitter at @JCNArchives. This has been another positive step in how we engage with our audiences and highlight our collections. As you will read in this issue, it has also enabled us to get involved in wider professional campaigns such as #Archive30 in April 2024.

We have been pleased to have had a young volunteer who has contributed to our service activities, assisting the team with outreach events and helping us to make content available online. With other projects such as collaborating and supporting J&ACMT History prize, it is pleasing to get the next generation involved.

The team have been cataloguing and working behind the scenes to make further records available on the JCNA website. You can see which files we have made available in the section about our Online Collections.

We have been pleased to progress the redevelopment of our website and continue to support needs of our researchers both in the local community and further afield. Work is almost complete and regular users will be pleased to find the addition of a search bar and new home page to highlight some of our popular online items.

Coming up, we are looking forward to engaging with the local community further, from our collaboration with local schools to #ExploreYourArchivesWeek, which will run from Thursday 21 November to Saturday 30 November 2024.

Research Statistics for January - June 2024:

Local Organisations or People: 56 Government Departments: 25 Overseas Researchers: 74

Total: 155

Research Appointments: 15



Online Collection

The website and our online collections are one of the most popular services that the Archives facilitates and updates frequently. It offers researchers anywhere in the world the opportunity to access, and download, our digitised records without having to visit the archives physically or make an appointment.

Between January and June 2024, we have continued to add to our existing online collections and complete series of records. The files series digitised and uploaded to our website include:

- Agriculture Sheep
- Agriculture Noah's Ark Photos
- Agriculture General
- Agriculture Grasslands & Pastures
- Agriculture Stanley Common
- Agriculture Livestock (General, Sundry, horses and Dogs)
- Agriculture Forestry
- Agriculture Crop and Fodder

All of the above can be accessed at: https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections/agriculture/general

- Communications Land and Transport
 - https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections/communications/land-and-general
- Mail General
 - https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections/mail-stamps-and-telecommunications/mail-service
- Dependencies Mail & Stamps
 - https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections/dependencies/general/miscellaneous
- FIC Ltd Photographic Collection
 - https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections/falkland-islands-company-ltd-collection/photographs

The JCNA website is being redeveloped in 2024 as part of a rolling upgrade to FIG department websites. This work focuses on reformatting and modernising the appearance of the current site to condense the web menus and adding in additional features like a search option.

Links to existing material on the site have not changed with this upgrade but if users experience any difficulties locating information, please contact us directly.

You can access our online collections, along with copyright guidance, at: https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections

Physical Collection

The Archives continue to be fortunate in being gifted documents by individuals and organisations to expand our archival collections and add to the history we preserve and make accessible. In total the JCNA have accessioned records from 14 donors since January 2024.

Among these have been transfer from government offices, transcripts and audio of Children's Stories and Kenneth the Kelp Goose radio broadcasts, and further records relating to Noah's Ark completing our already detailed history of this event. We have also received a small collection of books through FIMA Friends which have been added to our Reading Room Library. These books are accessible to any researchers who visit in person.

These records will be part of the ongoing cataloguing work that is undertaken by the service but a few have already been processed.

In March 2024, we received a photographic album containing images of Darwin at the turn of the twentieth century. This album had been gifted to Jennings family in 1903 from a thankful guest and visitor. The album has been digitised and uploaded to the website at:

https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/jdownloads/People/Culture%20%20Photograph%20Albums%20and%20Collections/PC-073.%20Evans-Jennings%20Collection.pdf

As part of our 'Falklands on Record' we reproduce some of the images from the 1903 album, as used in our #Archive30 campaign.

If you are interested or considering donating any records please contact us to discuss further.

Outreach & Engagement

The Archives have been taking part in a few outreach activities to help promote the service and advocate for the Archives. This is important work to raise the profile of the service both locally and internationally and support the accessibility of the records through engaging with people and encouraging them to get involved.

Visits to the Archives

The JCNA have hosted several group visits since January including:

Public Diplomacy Regional Students Competition Winners 2024 - Tuesday 16 January 2024

We hosted the student winners of the Falkland Islands Government Public Diplomacy's Regional Student Competition programme, giving them a brief tour of the facility and showed them a few highlights from our collection including our photographic collection.

Bjorn Gillsäter Visit & Presentation – March 2024

In March 2024, Bjorn Gillsäter arrived in the Islands following on from his family's visit in 1968/69, when his father Swedish photographer, Sven Gillsäter, filmed a documentary about human and animal life in the Islands. His father, over his short time in the Islands, took may photographs of Stanley, Camp and the way of life of the Islands. These photos were showcased in a special exhibition in London in 2005 and the framed photographs were sent to our Archives. As part of this most recent trip, we were very pleased to complete the official documentation with Bjorn for the 26 photographs already in our care and receive further digital copies of additional images, which we plan to use with permission in any future work.



Past Finders Visit - Saturday 25 May 2024

The JCNA collaborated with the Museum's Past Finders group as they developed their research skills and produced a written project based on archival material we hold on St Mary's Church and the shipwreck the *Guvernoren*. The group enjoyed their tour and visit to the Archives, and our student volunteer did a good job helping staff supervise the youngsters.



Outreach & Engagement (cont.)

April's #Archive30 Campaign

For the month of April 2024, we took part in #Archive30 – a social media campaign run by the UK Archives & Records Association's section for Scotland. The campaign had a hashtag and theme for each of the 30 days of April. We had a good number of people engaging with our posts and reacting to the images we shared. Here are a few of them for the various themes!



Outreach & Engagement (cont.)

Upcoming Events for your Calendar

The JCNA have the following events scheduled in our calendar for the rest of 2024:



The JC National Archives: Taking the Past Into the Future FIMA Friends Presentation by JCNA – Thursday 10 October 2024 at 19:00 UK / 15:00 FI time

The Friends of the Falkland Islands Museum and Archives group are launching a programme of online talks over the northern autumn and winter months, drawing on the great knowledge and experience of FIMA members, friends and colleagues in many fields linked to the Falklands.

The talks will be hosted on Zoom, lasting 30 to 40 minutes and be followed by time for questions and answers.

The inaugural talk will be given by Chloe Anderson-Wheatley of the JCNA team, who will talk about her work to improve physical and online access to the archives and how the service plans to increase local appreciation and enjoyment of the fascinating historical material. Expect to see a selection of the Archives most interesting and valuable records.

To join us on Thursday 10 October 2024 at 19:00 UK / 15:00 FI time join with the Zoom Meeting details:

Thttps://us06web.zoom.us/j/85953353740?pwd=waS4f0ebgsOx9QtnKkcMQkucb7Qg9r.1

Meeting ID: 859 5335 3740 Passcode: 515397

The links for the two other scheduled talks (see below) will be promoted on our social media channels:

- Stanley's Museum: Great Achievements & Grand Plans by Andrea Barlow, Director of FIM&NT Thursday 24 October at 19:00 UK / 15:00 FI time
- Discovering the Secrets of the Graf Spee by Richard Holme Monday 4 November at 19:00 UK / 15:00 FI time



Heritage and Culture Statement - on behalf of Gilbert House

A Culture & Heritage Statement is being developed as part of the 2022-2026 Islands Plan, with the Political Support & Outreach Officer for Legislative Assembly promoting and facilitating the discussions. The Statement will outline the significant aspects of Falklands culture and heritage, providing a foundation for its preservation and growth. It aims to highlight both contemporary and historic elements of the Falklands' way of life, including tangible aspects like buildings and documents, and intangible ones such as traditions, skills, and practices passed down through generations. The Statement is not meant to be a definitive or exhaustive list but rather an evolving framework to identify, support, and protect what is important to the community.

A digital survey has been launched by Gilbert House to gain further feedback from the community. This inclusive approach ensures that the Culture & Heritage Statement reflects the broad views of the Falklands' diverse population and can serve as a guiding document for the future.

You can access the online survey here: https://forms.gle/Hnw2zsBAwq6S79nD7

Outreach & Engagement (cont.)



Explore Your Archives Week - Thursday 21 November to Saturday 30 November 2024

This focused week in November is a campaign led by the UK Archives & Records Association, aiming to celebrate archives, records and the people who use and love them. As part of this #ExploreYourArchivesWeek the JCNA will be hosting a few activities during the week, to open up the archives more and encourage locals to get an insight into what the service does.

We will also be engaging with the daily themes for that week via our Facebook and Twitter accounts @JCNArchives



Keep an eye on our social media channels and listen out for further information from local media in November as we advertise our planned activities!

Falklands On Record: Snippets from the Archives

FIC Ltd Photographs - by Diana Aldridge

The JCNA contain a lot of remarkable and interesting collections that provide snapshots into life, history and culture of the Islands over the years. One of the largest collections we hold is from the Falkland Islands Company Limited, which include over 3,000 photographs. These photographs reflect the wideranging activities of the FIC Ltd and the impact the Company has had on the Islands. Equally, they show life in Camp and detail the development of infrastructure and industry across the Islands with some highlights including the construction of the largest shearing shed, Darwin Boarding School, and the construction of Bodie Creek Bridge as well as the Bridge at Fitzroy. Photographs of the development of the Camber is also well documented both in photographs and maps/plans.

There are 16 FIC Ltd photographic albums in total within the collection and combined there is a total number of 3,136 photographs. These 16 albums include specific subjects on: Shipping, Camp developments, the building and launch of the RMS Darwin in 1956, Dale watercolours, and Island Construction Limited. The latter is the more recent work of the FIC and Island Construction Limited, which focused on resurfacing, or even surfacing for the first-time, roads in Stanley. It also shows the employees themselves undertaking this work.

There are a lot of other photographs held at the Archives and the team are working to make these available, subject to copyright restrictions, on the JCNA website. Currently in addition to the FIC Photos we have albums from individual and families that equally show the development of the Islands and many familiar faces!













National Archives

#BusinessArchives

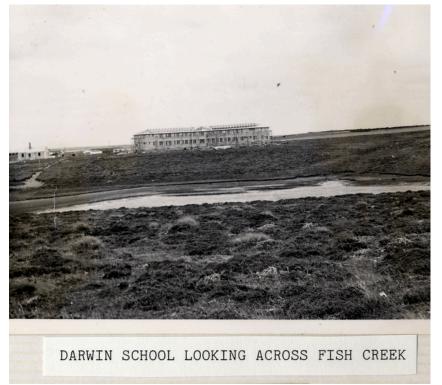






FIC LTD PHOTOGRAPHS USED IN #ARCHIVE30 CAMPAIGN

FIC LTD Photographs (cont.)



TOP LEFT: FC/007/0042.

DARWIN BOARDING
SCHOOL. LOOKING ACROSS
FISH CREEK WITH
SCAFFOLDING AROUND THE
BUILDING

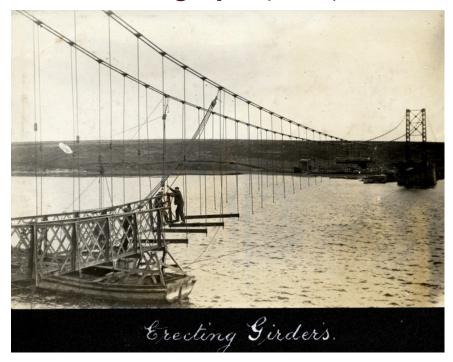
CENTRE LEFT: FC/002/0042.
GOOSE GREEN WOOLSHED FRAMING OF SHEARING SHEDS

BOTTOM LEFT: FC/015/0046.
CAMBER DOCK IN OPERATION.
WAREHOUSES IN BACKGROUND.





FIC LTD Photographs (cont.)



LEFT: FC/002/0027.
BODIE BRIDGE
BUILDING ERECTING GIRDERS

BOTTOM: P/FIM/18/47. NOVEMBER 1925

Bodie Creek Bridge.

Probably the most imposing novelty at present existing in the Falkland Islands is the Suspension Eridge recently erected over Bodie Creek in Lafonia

Under the heading of 'The Bridge that Found Itself' a Rudyard Kipling might describe its daily growth from the preliminary excavations to the last lick of paint. He would have much to say about the unrehearsed aquatic sports of some of the workers. The foreman's dive down the face of the cliff and his subsequent comments would make thrilling copy. And there would be some slight reference to the battle of crockery, said to have taken place on a memorable occasion.

Unhappily no one of that famous noveltists calibre and amazing knowledge of technical terms is available. Consequently and under the circumstances this account must be confined to the narration of a few bare facts. Work was commenced on 14th October 1924, and the foundations and concrete anchors were ready for the erection of the bridge by 10th April, 1925. This part of the work was completed on 10th July, 1925.

The bridge, supplied by Messrs David Rowell & Co., Westminster, England, is of steel and has a clear span of 400 feet with an 8 feet clear roadway. It is suspended by 4 - 2 inch diameter steel cables, carried over two 40 feet towers, the bases of which are 7 feet above high water. On the Findlay Creek side is a 100 feet wooden extension and a 50 feet masonry causeway.

Mr. C.P. Peters, A. M. I. Mech: E., was the Engineer in charge, with Mr. E. Crawford as Foreman of works. The average number of navvies employed was only fourteen.

Since 10th July a smaller gang has been engaged on the approach roads and the painting of the bridge.

Considering the bleakness of the locality, the unforseen difficulties encountered, and the weather vagaries, the work has been finished in remarkably quick time and appears to be entirely satisfactory. Mr. Peters and all those who worked under him are heartily to be congratulated on their achievement.

A fine series of photographs, illustrating the various stages of the work, has been made by Mr. Peters, & it is a matter for regret that they cannot be reproduced in the Magazine.

More on Bodie Creek Bridge in the next issue...

Local News in the Falkland Islands Magazine & Church Paper

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There are also signs of activity in house erection in Stanley. Some of the buildings are new: others are changing sites. But this activity must continue for some time before the housing problem can be solved satisfactorily. However a step in the right direction has been made, and quite possibly other people are already contemplating the investment of their savings in this manner.



ABOVE: P/FIM/18/34. October 1924

P/FIM/16/36. January 1915.

A large Iceberg was seen off Danson Harbour about the beginning of November. It was thought at first to be aground but it drifted away. The height was stated to be between 300-400 feet, and the berg consisted of two large peaks joined together. Apparently this is the first time for years that such a monster has been seen in that direction.

NOTICE

Can any person inform J. Butler at Roy Cove, who the Person was that has taken his Horse-Gear out of a bag at Fox Bay East, addressed to Pte G: Stokes, Stanley? Any person giving the information, will get a reward.

Hoping this will catch the notice of the hawk-eyed individual that has

taken it.

110 011

ABOVE: P-FIM/16/43. August 1915 BELOW: P/FIM/18/35. November 1924

Local Notes.

Training for the Christmas Horse Races began in Stanley as early as the month of September under somewhat startling conditions. A certain jockey discovered by accident that the local motor lorry can combine business with pleasure by carting shingle and acting as pace-maker at one and the same time.

Funnily enough, it was the motor that did not spare the lash, and the machine tyred before the horse.

Under the circumstances the police refrained from issuing a summons for for furious riding within the precincts of the City.

P/FIT/1/01 - September 1973

Vegetable Gardening Notes for September: (p.3/14)

These notes will be a mixture of wisdom from an old hand at gardening in the Falklands, and mistakes to avoid from a new hand!

By now the garden should be dug and manured (if not then set to quickly. You should check over your vegetables stored from last year - particularly remove shoots from potatoes and throw out potatoes that have gone bad. Shallots should have been sown by now.

Lettuce seedlings can now be hardened off outdoors – best in cold frame first. Over wintered cauliflower and cabbage may be removed from cold frame and planted out. If you have a warm sheltered spot then pickling onions and leeks may go in. If weather at the end of the month is not too cold then sow some early turnips.

The old timer says 'no lime after the 20th September'. Our advice to new-comers to supplying all of your own vegetables is don't try too many varieties in your first year. Get your seeds for the following and not much else (if the shops sell out its not too late by airmail – and worth the expense).

N/FAR/ZIS/1/04. Diary of Willian DUNCAN - Beaver Island. 1878

Read all the diaries here: https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections/agriculture/farm-records-non-government/miscellaneous

You can read more about DUNCAN family here: https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/online-collections/people/early-settlers/19th-and-early-20th-century-families/d-to-i

Collebruahry 1878 Beaver Doland Twee of was fulking who the Totatoes & Cleaned May Gum afternoon I Watched the Cabbages X Onesday Telhustry Inthe X a Gole of O tuhned in the Ewes James & George Chought 6 Bags of Peat ! an Ose a Read one afternoon for Beef & was Whelling Mrs. a cott sloes & Gulling who some of them X Herdnesday Gelin O Turned in the Ewes Solemoon James & George Choung Dogs of Lest a Gale of wind attennoon with Hail & Sheet Dog I det up one dot Black O Made Time Stips of a Saddle Nough Dandlery Night Hail & a Gale of Unit X Thursday Debanding 14 th X bamp, White this Morning Flail Equallo With a Gale of Wind O Sut a Shaft in May Hommel. & Buled who the Cabbages & turned in the Ewes & James Was at them also he blought bome File Wood & lut Some Battons on the Doghouse Hoil bqualls all Day X Thirday February 15th X Still a Gale of Wind James & & Reginge Was tulning in the Ewes & Just up I Soot Stack & one Small stack like bis Good Whole in Split Logun & Port a hondel How X Saturday Geblushy 16th x a fine Morning & & George 8, Was at the Ewes & at Sphit Lagun & found a Ful seal Harten & Me Gingor & Edwin Butter there also live theyed to ing the Fish ashore but it was Mo use I found a hice Level of Board & & & Brought & Bags of Seats James & 8 Was Kround the Brokery & Filled & Gees 4 Robbits 1 Snipse a repy fine Day X

Transcription of the Diary Entry

Date	Diary Entry - Beaver Island William Duncan
Monday 11 February 1878	A Gale of Wind. James was at the ewes. I was furring up the potatoes. I cleaned my gun. Afternoon I Watered the Cabbages
Tuesday 12 February 1878	A Gale of Wind All Day. I turned in the Ewes. James and George brought 6 Bags of Peat. We killed an Ox a Read one afternoon for Beef I was Whelling Manner to the Potatoes and furring up some of them
Wednesday 13 February 1878	Rain. Morning I turned in the Ewes Forenoon James and George brought 6 Bags of Peat A Gale of wind afternoon With Hail & Sleet Squalls I put up one Peat Stack & Made Five Steps of a Ladder. A rough Squally Night Hail & a Gale of Wind
Thursday 14 February 1878	Camp White this Morning Hail Squalls With a Gale of Wind I Put a Haft in my Hammer & fured up the Cabbages I turned in the Ewes & James was at them also he brought some Fire Wood I put some Battons on the doghouse Hail squalls all Day
Friday 15 February 1878	Still a Gale of Wind James & I & George Was turning in the Ewes I Put up 1 Peat Stack & one Small stack We brought Down 4 Bags of Peat Rain at Night John Harsten found a Dead Whale in the Split Lagoon I Put a handel in my Garden How
Saturday 16 February 1878	A fine Morning I & George was at the Ewes & at Split Lagoon I found a Fur Seal J Harsten & McGrigor & Edwin Rutter there also We tried to bring the fish ashore but it was no use I found a nice piece of Board J & G Brought 2 Bags of Peat James & I Wes Round the Rookery & I Killed 5 Gees[e] 4 Rabbits 1 Snipe A very fine day

N/FAR/HIL/9/1. Hill Cove Farm Diary - Tim Blake. 1978

Date	Diary Entry – Hill Cove Farm Diary Tim Blake
Saturday 11 February 1978	Fine [weather] Drafting: The flock was brought in from Daveys Paddock first thing and drafting started at 9.30. All through by 4.30pm.
Monday 13 February 1978	Fine and sunny, some rain and fog in the evening Beaver – called mid-day with a Sports Writer from 'Sports Illustrated' of Time Magazine [note at bottom] Taken to Paloma in the rover to see the penguins Shearing – from 9.00. Assorted sheep. Killing lambs. Mutton, scrogs before breakfast M.V. Forrest – arrived 6.00pm with gas oil and a few stores
Tuesday 14 February 1978	Fine and sunny. M.V. Forrest – left 5.00am Shearing – from 9.45. Assorted sheep, stud Ewes. Killing rams etc before breakfast Beaver – dropped mail lunchtime. However the mail bag caught in the struts and fell off when the plane banked over the sea to come in again. The Pilot (Dave Emsley) landed, picked it up and brought it into the harbour. miraculously the letters were undamaged as the mail bag was a fairly new one Sports Writer from 'Sports Illustrated' of Time Magazine to John's Rincon to fish and meet Derek Clarke who drove him on to Douglas. He caught nothing.
Wednesday 15 February 1978	Very fine and calm. Beaver – called p.m. to pick up school children Shearing – all day
Thursday 16 February 1978	Exceptionally fine after a very hard frost Shearing – all day
Friday 17 February 1978	Fine Shearing – all day
Saturday 18 February 1978	Fair with sunny periods Rover to Cape – Mrs Cameron and daughter Sukey drove out to the Cape via Smylies House and Elephant Beach Picked large number of coast currants from bushes at Cape House which had not been trimmed for some time

Memorial to His Late Majesty King George V. Playing Field for Children. St Mary's Walk Playing Field - by Diana Aldridge

His Majesty King George V died on 20 January 1936. There was a Government Notice on 22 June 1936 for general information, that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint the following members to serve on a Committee to consider the establishment of a permanent memorial to the memory of His Majesty King George V in the form of a playing field for children, to advise on a site for the purpose and on the means for acquiring and developing such a site:

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary (Chairman)
The Honourable G Roberts JP
The Honourable A R Hoare MBE JP
The Honourable LWH Young JP
The Honourable NK Camerson JP
The Honourable VAH Biggs
Mr WF McWhan
Mr W McAtasney
Mr J McGill
Mr A Newing JP (Hon. Treasurer)
Mr A I Fleuret (Hon. Secretary)

The Committee then looked at suitable sites for the playground. On 25 February 1937 they discussed the plot of land on the corner of John Street and Villiers St which belonged to the FIC Ltd. The FIC Ltd acknowledged on the 7 December 1937 that they were not prepared to sell that piece of land.

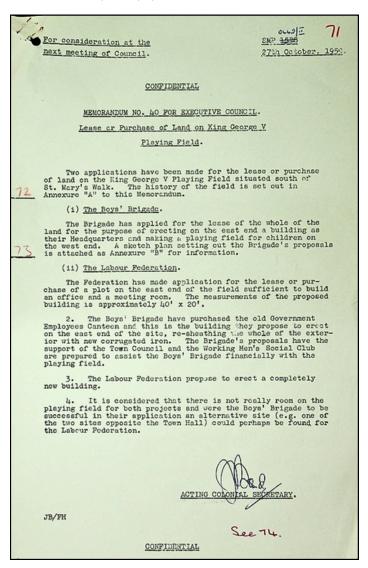
There was an appeal for funds and further proceeds were raised through activities, concerts, boxing tournament, play, dance, and donations. There were also subscriptions paid by farms. The subscriptions from the farm were initiated through the Chairman of the Sheep Owners Association.

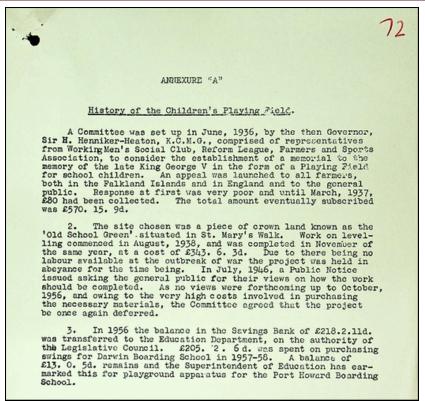
His Excellency the Governor met with members of the Children's Playing Fields Committee on 21 July 1938. His Excellency stated that the purpose for which he wished to meet the Committee was to discuss the most suitable site for the Playing Field. Due to the FIC being unwilling to dispose of the plot of land on John Street and Villiers Street, the Governor suggested the site of the Old School Green. The Committee agreed unanimously and requested that the work of putting the field into order should proceeded as early as possible with the funds at its disposal.

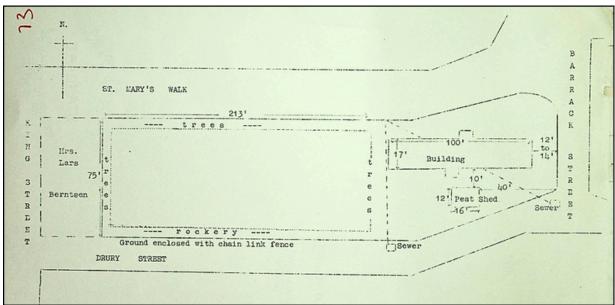
The Committee was set up in June 1936 by then Governor, Sir H. Henniker-Heaton K.C.M.G. compromised of representatives from Working Men's Social Club, Reform League, Farmers and Sports Association, to consider the establishment of a memorial to the memory of the late King George V in the form of a playing field for school children. An appeal was launched to all farmers, both in the Falkland Islands and in England and to the general public. Response at first was very poor until March 1937, £80 had been collected. The total amount subscribed was £570.15. 9.

In 1956 the balance in the Savings Bank of £218. 2. 11d. was transferred to the Education Department on the authority of the Legislative Council. £142. 17. 10d. was spent on purchasing swings for Darwin Boarding School in 1957-59. There was, in 1958, still a balance of £25. -. 5d. Which the Superintendent of Education proposed to spend on apparatus for the Port Howard Boarding School.

BOTTOM: CUL/YOU/1/05.







Following the death of His Majesty George VI on 6 February 1952, the fund for George V was replaced with one for George VI. There is then a letter from C. Campell to a Mr Young, C/O FIC Company Ltd, London on 13 July 1953 which states he has enclosed six copies of a Public Notice issued appealing for support for a King George VI Memorial Fund. He asks if Mr Young would be so kind "as to give them a fair wind at any Sheep Owners Meeting you may have or at any Falkland Islands Reunion". The second paragraph of the letter says: "We are hoping to be a little more efficient than in the case of the King George V Fund which dragged on indefinitely without its principal object being achieved".

It doesn't look like the park was ever finished and therefore do not know if it was ever known as the Playing Field for Children in the Memory of the late King George the V (or even for George VII!). However, the proposed site does today have the intended play park, though it is now known as St Mary's Playpark.

References:

CUL/YOU/1/04. Memorial to His Late Majesty King George V. CUL/YOU/1/05. Memorial to His Late Majesty King George V: playing field for children. CUL/YOU/1/10. King George VI Memorial Fund.

Town Hall Public Library & Museum

The Town Hall was originally designed and intended for recreational and amusement purposes, with increasing requirement to facilitate rooms for Government offices. It opened in 1917 with dedicated space for the Public Library and Museum. Building work had commenced in 1915 and the finished space also provided offices for the Treasury, Court House, Legal Office, Auditor/Headmaster's Office, Munitions Office, Post Office, and the Public Works Department.

Prior to the Town Hall being built, a Lending Library had been established in the Vestry of the Christ Church Cathedral, before the arrival of Governor Allardyce and his wife, Constance, who advocated and instigated dedicated space for both the library and the museum. At the request of Governor Allardyce, the old Infant School was set aside for the purpose of accommodating both services, with the Public Library opening on 31 May 1909 and the Museum opening on 9 November 1909. There was huge amount of support for developing these institutions, with many residents becoming subscribers, and by March 1909 the Library had 1,500 books. In this early period the Museum was known as 'Allardyce Museum' in honour of Governor and Mrs Allardyce, whilst the Library was 'Josephine Brandon Library', in honour of Mrs Brandon who helped start the lending library, creating a catalogue of books and who was passionate about the service in the community.

On the 25 March 1919 under provision of Public Library & Museum Ordinance 1918, the Governor appointed the Library and Museum Committee who were responsible for the care and management of the library and museum. The five Committee members were:

Colonial Secretary (Chair)

M Craige-Halkett

Miss Alice Felton

James Houston J.P.

Rev Dean Stanley Smith

Following the setup of the Committee, the Colonial Secretary wrote to convey thanks on behalf of the Governor to Mr Hoare, the Government Schoolmaster, who along with his wife and staff from the school had conducted and supported the service of the old library since August 1915.

The official opening of the Stanley Public Library & Museum was Friday 2 May 1919.

The Stanley Library and Museum will be opened on 2nd. May. His Excellency the Governor has appointed Miss Alice Felton to be Librarian and Museum Attendant.

The Library and Museum, in their new and more comfortable quarters, are being largely patronised, and will probably be more so after the arrival of a large parcel of books expected shortly from England. The times of opening are as follows:—
PUBLIC LIBRARY Sunday, Wednesday and

-0-

Saturday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday and Friday

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesday 11a.m. to 1p.m. Museum Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

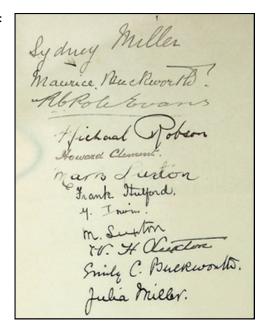
BOTTOM LEFT: P/FIM/17/29. FALKLAND ISLANDS MAGAZINE MAY 1919

TOP RIGHT: P/FIM/17/31. FALKLAND ISLANDS MAGAZINE JULY 1919.

The price for the subscriptions to the library at the time was five shillings to borrow or take out one book. Library users then had a loan period of two weeks and if the reading material was not returned, individuals would be fined 2d. a day for each day every book or magazine until it was returned. This formed part of the Rules of the Public Library and Museum.

Interestingly at this point the rules did not include information on Camp residents. In a letter directed from Sydney Miller and R.C. Pole-Evans, supported by 10 other residents, in August 1919 they requested that the Governor and the Committee consider setting up a lending library at the Fox Bay. This was not considered possible by the Committee, who were not willing to remove the provision that books could be taken out from library for long periods.

BOTTOM RIGHT:
CUL/LIB/1/8.
FORMATION OF
A LENDING
LIBRARY AT FOX
BAY, WEST
FALKLAND SIGNATURE
LIST.



This issue, it seems, was resolved by 1921 when the Falkland Islands Lending Library booklet displays the rules. These rules not only provided yearly subscription of 8 shillings for borrowing two books or one periodical, but offered Camp Managers a parcel of 8 books for the use of himself and the Camp Settlement at 10 shillings a year. Books could be returned within 1 month, and for East Falkland residents it was 3 months and for West Falkland or Islands residents it was 9 months. By 1922, the Governor approved an increase to the annual grant to the Public Library, on the condition that arrangements were made to supply books from the present stocks to form a nucleus of a library on West Falklands.

The Falkland Islands Lending Library booklet was part of an attempt to provide users with an indication of the books available. The full catalogue list was too big to have been printed locally but a small booklet was produced outlining books that are in the possession of the library including fiction, biographical, history books, and children books.

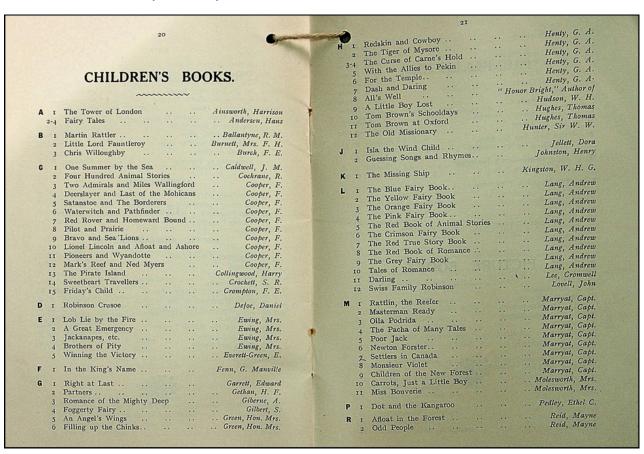
The West Falklands Lending Library was then formed on 12 August 1922, after a meeting of West Falkland Managers at Fox Bay. It was agreed to open a library on the West Falkland with 140 books supplied by the Committee of the Public Library in Stanley.

The Governor appointed the Wireless Operator, J Mercer, as the Honorary Librarian and the members of the West Falkland Lending Library Committee were listed as:

Howard Clement, Roy Cove Sydney Miller, Hill Cove W.H. Luxton, Chartes J. Robertson, Port Stephens

For both the library and the museum, this new dedicated space prompted donations for both services. From 1919, this included:

- Books donated by Christ Church Cathedral
- Transfer of pictures of Antarctica Explorers from Governor Allardyce (to be provided once museum set up)
- · Various bird skins mounted
- Whaling gun and shells (described from the donor as 'Will doubtless find interesting for the Museum or Government House. I might add the shells are evidently loaded and maybe dangerous but they are at least fifty years old'
- Piece of Plating from lower deck of H.M.S Exeter (damaged by a 11-inch shell fired by German Armoured Ship in action on 13 December 1939

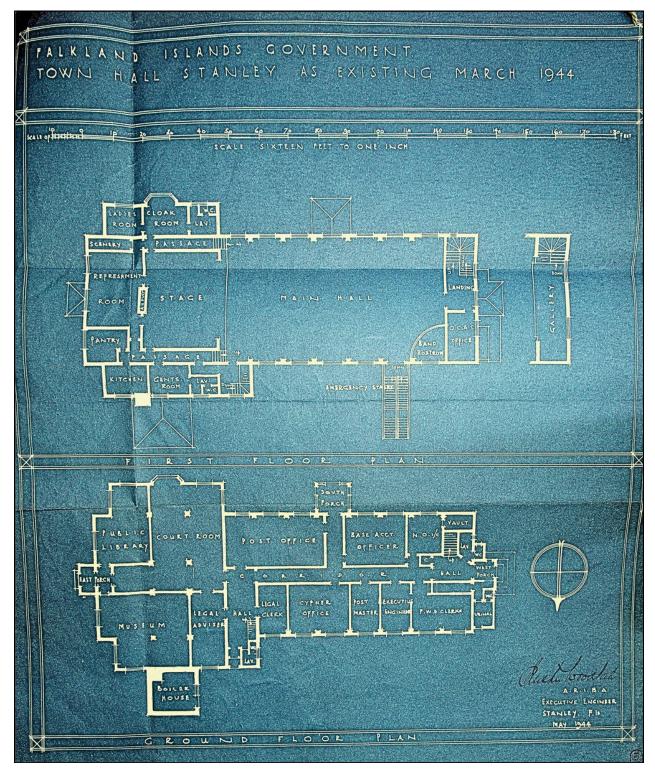


Other interesting points during the first 10 years in the Library & Museum in the Town Hall included:

In 1921 the care of the museum specimens was transferred from Arthur George Bennett, who had prepared museum displays and performed taxidermy services, to the Government Naturalist, Mr Hamilton.

Surplus periodicals were sold by Public Auction in 1928.

In 1929, the Governor considered the charge of one shilling to visitors outside the Islands and encouraged the periodical visits by pupils from the Government school.



ABOVE: BUS/TOW/2/14. PLAN OF TOWN HALL STANLEY AS EXISTING MARCH 1944

Town Hall Fire 1944

In the early evening of 16 April 1944 at 6pm, a fire broke out in the Town Hall, spreading quickly across the East and South-East of the building. The inquiry into the fire deemed it an accident, probably caused by the cloth at the South side of stage catching fire with an unextinguished match or cigarette dropped by a member of the military concert party. The fire destroyed the entire collection of the Public Library and Museum.

No insurance payment was initially made in regard to the contents lost from both the Library and Museum however, in October 1944, £300 of the insurance money for the Town Hall was allocated to Library, to be paid upon purchase of books by the Stanley Town Council.

A temporary Library was set up in June 1944 at the Kelvin Store, situated at the South East corner of crossing between John Street and Dean Street. The store was vacant at the time and already contained a suitable number of shelves for books. Correspondence regarding this matter a year later in 1945 show that the reality of this solution was not favourable, as books were arranged in double rows on shelves, and the building was too cold. Despite proposals for using a Nissen hut, it was decided to keep with this location.



ABOVE: KELVIN STORE

Almost straight away a Town Hall Reconstruction Committee was set up and plans for the new Town Hall drawn up, which included space for the Library and Museum.

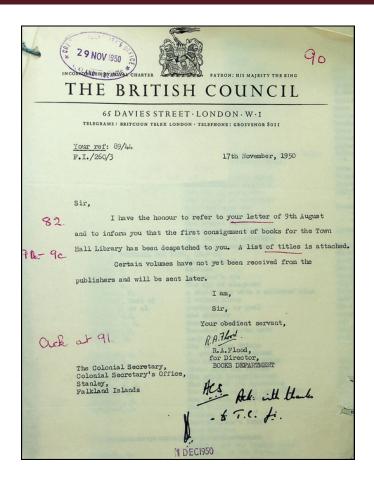
The British Council provided financial support and grants to equip the Library and reading room and in purchasing new books. In the years leading up to the new building, the British Council sent several consignments of books from Britain to the Falkland Islands. The Stanley Town Council worked to re-establish the Museum and Library.

Proposals for the new library and Museum were included in the 'Explore Your Archives' campaign section...

The Town Hall, as we know it today, was officially opened on Empire Day, 20 May, in 1950. It was funded through grant provided by the Colonial Development & Welfare Fund.

It has been 80 years since the 1944 the old Town Hall burnt down. You can access the history of the building on the JCNA website at:

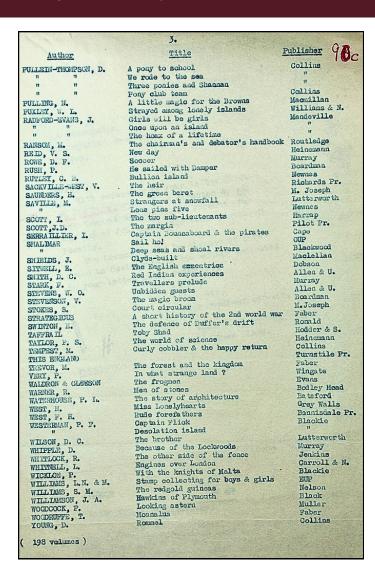
https://www.nationalarchives.gov.fk/jdownloads/Buildings%20and%20Land/Stanley/Town%20Hall.pdf



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	Title	ublisher O. al
Author	11025	GILL
CRAY, B.	Dare-devil conquest	Collins
GREAVES, C.	Join our Christmas club	Allen & U.
GROOM, P.	David Farlow takes the air	W. Laurie
CUNTHER, J.	Death, be not proud	H. Hamilton
m o	Death, be not proud Behind Europe's curtain	THE REAL PROPERTY.
HALDANE, C.	Truth will out	Weidenfeld & N.
HALMOND, R.	Cocos gold	Collins
HARDY, A. C. (Ed.)	The wonderful story of the sea	Odhams
HARROWER, N. D.	The risky quest	Harrap
HENREY, R. Mrs.	A journey to Vienna	Dent
HERBERT, A. P.	Independent member	Methuen
HEYERDAHL, T.	The Kon-tiki expedition	Allen & U.
HINGLEY F. H.	Command of the sea	Christophers
HINSLEY, F. H. HODGES, C. W. HOLLOWOOD, B.	Columbus sails	Bell
HOLLOWOOD B.	The hawksmoor scandals	Harrap Pilot Pr.
HOME-GALL, E. R.	Victor Gaunt, master-spy	OUP
HOPE, S.	The secret of the Astrea	Hogar th
HOPKINSON, T.	Down the long slide	Werner Laurie
HORSLEY. T.	Jamie	Methuen
HUCHES, J. S. HUCHES, R. (Intro.)	Kings of the Cocos	
HUCHES . R. (Intro.)	The venturesome woyages of Cpt. Voss	Newmes
HOUGHPON, G. W.	Between the red lines	OUP
HOURTHANE, U.	Buttons and Mac adventure again	Longmans
HYAMS, E.	Not in our stars	Mothuen
ISHERWOOD, C.	The condor and the cows	Falcon
JAMES, D.	That frozen land	Harrap
JAMES, H. C.	Gold is where you find it	Macmillan
JAMESON, S.	The moment of truth	Murray
JARVIS, C. S.	Scattered shots	Harrap
JEFFRIES, C.	Partners for progress	Lutterworth
JOHNS, W. E.	Worrals goes afoot	Bell
KASNER & NEWMAN	MA theme tios & the imagina tion	Cassell
KENNEDY, M.	The feast	Brookhampton
KNOWLES, G.	The islanders secret cave	Longmans
LANG, A.	Blue fairy book	Port Plant
ALCH SERVICE SERVICES		Odhams
LEYLAND, E.	The adventure canibus	Longmans
ILOYD, C.	The may and the slave trade	Cresset Pr.
COSCH, STA	The voyages of Capt. Cook	Putnam
LOCKHART, R. H. B.	The marines were there First aid hints for the horse owner	
LYON, W. E.	First and mints for the more of	A STATE OF THE STA
MACAULAY. R.	The world my wilderness	Hammond
MACDONALD, B. MACDONALD, W. C.	Mrs. Piggle-wiggle's magic Thunderbird	Hodder & S.
MACDONALD, W. C.		Macmillan
MACKEN, W.	I am alone Down channel	Hart-Davis
MCMULLEN, R. T.	Juliet overseas	OUP
MALLORY, C.	The mystery of the blue brethren	Blackie
MARSDEN, M.	The shadow and the peak	Hodder & S.
MASON, R.	The similar and the pour	Lehmann
MERLE, R.	Week-end at Zuydcoots Boot and shoe repairs	Pitman
MERRYFIELD, E.		Nicholson & W.
MILLS, F.	Twenty years Adventures afloat	Black
MILLER, J. D.	A history of the English people	Longmans
MITCHELL & LEYS	Love in a cold climate	H. Hamilton
MITFORD. N.	1050	The same of the sa
MODEL AVIATION	Sepremort trade and travel	Allen & U.
MORRIS, R. W.	Transport, trade and travel The desolate Antarctic	Lutterworth
MOUNTEVANS	The desorate Attack	Harrap
MOSS, S.	The hour of flight	
MOSS, W. S.	Ill met by moonlight	Hodder & S.
NEVILLE, R.	Survey by starlight The loot runners	Lehmann
NEWBY, P. H.	Come adventuring with me	Latimer He.
NEWMAN, B.	Cloud island	Nelson
WORLE V.		

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	BOOKS FOR FALKLAND ISLANDS & B. 6	TO STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA
Author	Title	Publisher
ATKINSON, M. E.	The house on the moor	John Lane
BALCHIN, N.	The small back room	Collins H.Hamilton
BALDWIN, M.	I leap over the wall	H. Jenkins
BARCLAY, V.	They found an elephant The land of the Leal	Collins
BARKE, J.	Dusty's windmill	Dent
BATES I. M.	The Londoner's river	Muller
BARKE, J. BARNE, K. BATES, L. M. BEARDMORE, G.	The isle of apes	Macdonald
HELL, N.	I am legion	Eyre & S. Faber
BELL, V.	The dodo	Allen & U.
BENNETT, A. S.	Tide time Little Miss Pink at the Great House	Harrap
BENNETT, R.	Little Miss Pink's school	The Control of the Co
BLACKBURN, B.	Noble lord	Home & van Thal
BLYTON, E.	Chuff the chimney sweep	Pitkin Lutterworth
and Britaness II	Those dreadful children	Macmillan
HOREN SA	The sea of adventure The valley of adventure	H .
100, 3 4	Dear old snow man	Brockhampton Pr.
The state of the s	Oh! What a lovely time	Executive.
and the same of th	The secret seven	(SE .
The state of the s	The castle of adventure	Macmillan
	The island of adventure	Brockhampton Pr.
	Hurrah for Mary Mouse	Marshall
BOOK OF FOOTBALL FOR I	Ocean redhead	Lutterworth
BRIGGS, P.	Matilda	Brookhampton Pr.
BROOME, D.	The mind's eye	Barker
BROPHY, J. BRYANT, A.	The age of elegance	Collins
CAMPBRILL, P.	A short trot with a cultured mind	Falcon Pr.
CAMPBELL, P. CARDIGAN, Earl of	I walked alone	Routledge Phoenix Ho.
CAREY. J. et al	Pootball is my goal	Constable
CARTER, G.G. CHANCE, J. N. CHEESMAN, E.	Red charger Bunst the bold	OUP
CHANCE, J. N.	Marconed in Du-bu cave	Bell
CHEYNEY, P.	Lady, behave	Collins
onsinst, r.	One of those things	Control Sile
CHRISTIE, A.	A murder is announced	Harrap
CLEWES, D.	The blossom on the bough	Bodley Head
CLEWES, H.	Green grow the rushes The grand peregrination	Faber
COLLIS, H.	The sea and its mysteries	Bell
CONNELL, J.	The return of Long Lohn Silver	Longmans
CRESWELL. J.	Sea warfare, 1939-1945	Second Techniques
CRESWELL, J. CROMPTON, R.	Just William	Newnes
Section 12 and 1	Just William William again Just William's luck	Daniel & S.
g1301, i.	More William	designation.
***************************************		27.3864
"		Enthalson & S.
CURTISS, U.	water out of the darkness	Evans
DARLING, F. F.	Sandy the red deer	OUP
DAWLISH, P.	Dauntless and the Mary Baines	Cape
DE WIART, C.	Happy odyssey A vaquero of the brush country	Hammond
DOBIE, J. F.	Powder and shot	Jenkins
DUFF, D. V.	Green hell	Pan Books
DUGUID, J. EDEN, A.	Days for decision	Faber
ETHERTON & BARLOW	Tempestuous isle	Lutterworth
FELSER-PAINE, H.E.	Cut-throat charter	Black Latimer
FORD, F. M.	Christmas fairy book	OUP
FRENCH, F. G.	Common errors in English 60 years of Fleet Street	W. H. Allen
FYFE, H. CER, H. L. GIBBONS, S.	The twins on holiday	Brookhampton Pr.
CER, H. L.	Conference at Cold Comfort farm	Longmans
GIBBONS, S.	A young man with ideas	Davies
GLADWIN, A.	The talking mirror	Ward Look
GLEMSER, B.	High moon	Cresset Pr.
GLEMSER, B. GOLDING, H.	Robbie and Dobbie	Ward Look
GRANT, E.	Memoirs of a highland lady	Murray
GRANVILLE, W.	Sea slang	Winohester

CUL/LIB/2/3. TOWN HALL FIRE - DOCUMENTS RELATING TO BRITISH COUNCIL.



New Town Hall (Post 1944)

Following the fire and destruction of the old Town Hall, a revised Public Library & Museum Ordinance 1944 was approved and replaced the Ordinance from 1918. This redacted the specific lines naming the physical location of the Museum and Library as the Town Hall, and updating the serving times of Committee members.

The library was included in the plans for the new Town Hall and eventually opened. In addition to the books provided by the British Council, local individuals also donated and gifted the Public Library a variety of books to build their collection. The Stanley Town Council also acted on behalf of the Library to purchase books from Britain and book sellers across the world.

There continued to be provision for readers in Camp with books regularly sent out from Town Library to Camp. As a snapshot, in late 1961, 42 books had been borrowed and sent to Camp residents, 12 of which

went to West Falkland, 6 to Dr Cunningham, 3 to Port Howard, and 668 magazines. In addition to this in November 1962, an individual in Britain donated a large set of books, working with the FIC for two 'tea-chests' containing books to be transported to the Islands.

One set would be sent to Darwin School and then any books not taken were to be passed to Goose Green Library. The second would be divided further amongst Port Howard School, Managers of Port Stephens, Hill Cove, Port San Carlos, Teal Inlet, and Green Patch.

For the museum, there were more challenges to the continuation of their service. Despite being allocated a room West to the Public Library in the Hall, no action was taken to actively use the room as a museum. Instead it was used as a parcel sorting room for a number of years. Museum items were temporary placed in the Secretariat Conference Room and surrounding passages in 1964.

Willoughby Harry (Tommy) Thompson, the Colonial Secretary who had a strong passion for the history and heritage of the Islands, was anxious to keep the museum's collection together and was not supportive of its temporary location in the Secretariat. In 1969 before he completed his term and left the Islands, he organised for the collection and exhibits to be moved to the old Spinners and Weavers' room in the north side of the Gymnasium (the old bank).

At that point in time, those wishing to have access to the records in the Museum had to request key from the Police Station and there continued to be a risk of fire.

The museum was later moved and housed in the FIC Offices, before opening in the Britannia House building, along Holdfast Road, in 1987. On 4 April 2014 the Britannia House Museum was closed to the public and for the fibal time in that location, as staff begun preparations for its final move to its current location at the Old Dockyard.

In early September 2024, the Museum celebrated the 10th anniversary of their current location at Historic Dockvard.

In the 2018 edition of the Falkland Islands Journal you can find a brief history of the Museum.

The Library was moved from the Town Hall to its new location within the Falklands Islands Community School when it opened in 1992. The Post Office within the Town Hall was then upgraded and extended to take up the old premises of the Library in the Hall.

With the completion of the building of the Falkland College in 2020, the Public Library moved from FICS. In November 2021, a plaque was unveiled officially naming it the Christie Community Library in memory of the Mr William and Mrs Merle Christie, commemorating their lives and service to the Falklands.

The full catalogue series [CUL/LIB/1&2] will be digitised and uploaded to the JCNA website in the forthcoming months. There are further documents on this matter to be processed and these will be made open to researchers once work is complete.

You can find out more about Madge Biggs and other individuals mentioned in this article on The Dictionary of the Falklands Biography: https://falklandsbiographies.org/home

References:

BUS/TOW/2/14 Town Hall fire. Coroner's inquiry

CUL/LIB/1/01 Library and museum committee

CUL/LIB/1/03 Conveys Governor's thanks to Mr A R Hoare, Govt Schoolmaster, for services to old Public Library

CUL/LIB/1/04 Rules, Public Library and Museum

CUL/LIB/1/05 Library and Museum to be opened to public on 2 May 1919

CUL/LIB/1/06 Transfer of pictures of Antarctic Explorer to Museum or Library

CUL/LIB/1/07 Specimen of Princess Mary's Christmas (1914) gift to HM Forces, sent to Falkland Museum

CUL/LIB/1/08 Formation of a lending library at Fox Bay, West Falkland

CUL/LIB/1/09 Presentation of books to Public Library by Select Vestry, Christ Church Cathedral

CUL/LIB/1/12 Dressing and mounting of 63 bird skins for the Public Museum, Port Stanley

CUL/LIB/1/13 Submits manuscript of Library catalogue for printing

CUL/LIB/1/15 Appointment of a committee of five persons by the Governor for the care and management of the Library and Museum

CUL/LIB/1/16 Museum: care of specimens placed in charge of Government Naturalist

CUL/LIB/1/17 Grant to Library and Museum 1922

CUL/LIB/1/18 Library and Museum Committee (Section 3 Ord No 4 of 1918)

CUL/LIB/1/19 Museum: whaling gun and shells presented to

CUL/LIB/1/20 Grant to Library and Museum 1924

CUL/LIB/1/21 Notifies forwarding of parcel of bird skins for mounting

CUL/LIB/1/22 Appointment of Library and Museum Committee 1925

CUL/LIB/1/23 Annual grant to funds of Public Library and Museum for the year 1925, 1926

CUL/LIB/1/24 Miscellaneous matters in connection with public Library and Museum

CUL/LIB/1/25 Suggested scheme for schoolchildren to pay periodical visits to Museum

CUL/LIB/2/01 Piece of damaged plating from HMS Exeter presented to the Colony for exhibition in the Museum at Stanley

CUL/LIB/2/02 The Library and Museum ordinance 1944

CUL/LIB/2/03 Town Hall Fire: Public Library

CUL/LIB/2/04 Appointment of Library and Museum Committee

CUL/LIB/2/06 Stanley Town Council: Library

CUL/LIB/2/07 Camp library scheme

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- Queries about our website or online collection
- Advice on information management and storage of records
- Discussion with potential donors about transferring records to the Jane Cameron National Archives

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The opening times are as follows:

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Wednesday: Closed

Saturday: 1pm – 4pm (on request)

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