

## PEARSON FAMILY

*NB: The following is prepared from Falkland Islands Registers and files – there may be other family born outside the Falklands. Unless stated otherwise, all dated births, deaths and marriages occurred in the Falklands and all numbered graves are in Stanley Cemetery. Any variations which may occur in the spellings of names are recorded as written in the records at the time.*

**William Alexander PEARSON** was born 29 November 1868 in Motherwell, Scotland.

William, age 27 and a labourer, was married to (1) **Elizabeth HOSEA**, age 23, 17 June 1895 in the house of John King, Stanley by Governor's Licence according to the rites and ceremonies of the Baptists.. Elizabeth was the daughter of Alexander HOSEA, a missionary.

Elizabeth and her daughter left for England on board the ss "Herodot" 28 May 1897. Elizabeth died in 1898, age 27, in Braidwood, Lanarkshire [FIM June 1897; May 1898]

William, a widower & blacksmith from Scotland, was married to (2) **Rose PORTER** 17 March 1903 at Stanley in the house of Mrs Porter by Special Licence by C K Blount MA Assistant Colonial Chaplain. The witnesses were George Porter and Lizzie Porter. William's father was recorded as Robert Pearson, labourer, and Rose's father was recorded as Joseph Thomas Porter, carpenter.

William, age 60, died 5 September 1928 and was buried 7 September 1928 in Grave K984.

Rose emigrated to the UK in 1958.

## FIRST GENERATION:

### Children of William and Elizabeth:

1. **Vera Janetta Munro PEARSON** born 10 May 1896 and baptised 15 June 1896 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Vera left for England with her mother on board the ss *Herodot* 28 May 1897.

### Children of William and Rose PEARSON:

1. **Alexander "Alex" PEARSON** born 12 March 1904 at Spring Point and baptised 2 March 1905 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Alexander, age 19, died at 4:15am, 15 November 1923 from a heart failure after an epileptic fit in the Cottage Home where he was an inmate; he had suffered from epilepsy from childhood. Alex, was buried 17 November 1923 in Grave K894.
2. **Robert PEARSON** born 5 May 1905 in Stanley and baptised 31 May 1905 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as blacksmith. Robert, a labourer, was married to **Ellen Elizabeth SMITH** 5 July 1934 at Port Howard by Registrar's Licence by R C Pole-Evans, JP. The witnesses were Charles Porter and John C Smith. Robert's father was recorded as William Alexander Pearson, blacksmith, and Ellen's father was recorded as John Crook Smith, labourer. Both possibly left the Falkland Islands in 1976.
3. **George PEARSON** born 3 July 1906 on Dyke Island and baptised 28 October 1906 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as blacksmith. George, a lorry driver, was married to **Marigold Daphne ATKINS**, a domestic 5 April 1932 at Christ Church Cathedral by Special Licence by Harold E Lumsdale, Dean of Christ Church. The witnesses were Leslie Hardy and Rose Pearson. George's father was recorded as William Alexander Pearson, deceased blacksmith. Marigold and George went to the UK in 1962.
4. **Elizabeth PEARSON** born 6 February 1909 at Stanley. Her father's occupation was recorded as blacksmith. Elizabeth went to live in Punta Arenas, Chile in 1928. Returned to the Falkland Islands. Elizabeth was married to **Dennis Eugene WHEATLEY**, mason, 22 May 1929 at Christ Church Cathedral by Special Licence by S E E Aylward, Clerk in Holy Orders. The witnesses were Mathew Robson and Isabella Adelaide Pearson. Dennis' father was recorded as Robert William Wheatley, bricklayer, and Elizabeth's father was recorded as Alexander Pearson, blacksmith. Dennis was born 2 February 1905 in Stroud, Gloucestershire, England. Elizabeth and Dennis went to the UK in 1931.
5. **Isabella "Bella" PEARSON** born 19 July 1914 in Stanley and baptised **Isabella Adelaide PEARSON** 20 September 1914 by the Tabernacle. Her father's occupation was recorded as blacksmith. Isabella, age 64, died in Stanley 19 May 1979 and was buried 23 May 1979 in Grave U1943.
6. **Mabel Regina PEARSON** born 13 March 1916 at the Murrell and baptised 12 February 1917 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as blacksmith. Mabel, age 10, died Sunday 12 December 1926 in an accidental fire and was buried 14 December 1926 in Grave K958.

7. **William Errick PEARSON** born 16 October 1917 at Teal Inlet and baptised **William Elreck PEARSON** 31 January 1918 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as farm hand.
8. **John PEARSON** born January 1921 at Teal Inlet and baptised 26 January 1921 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. John, age 5, died Sunday 12 December 1926 in an accidental fire and was buried 14 December 1926 in Grave K958.
9. **Heather Rose PEARSON** born 19 November 1922 and baptised 7 December 1922 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Heather, age 4, died Sunday 12 December 1926 in an accidental fire and was buried 14 December 1926 in Grave K958.

Mabel, John and Heather all died when their house at 11 Drury Street burnt down 12 December 1926. Isabella, who worked at the office of the Colonial Surgeon, sounded the alarm at about 6:45am when she woke him up saying that the house was on fire. The parents were outside by this time. The son, William, had left the house earlier as he had gone to his work as an errand boy. The upper storey of the house collapsed at 7:20am. Mabel, John and Heather were all found in their beds dead from asphyxiation. The three children were placed in one coffin and buried together two days later. The house was completely gutted and had to be demolished. [File [625/26] dated 13 December 1926] Another house was later built on the same piece of land and still stands there today.



The inscription on the gravestone reads:

**IN  
LOVING MEMORY OF  
OUR DEAR CHILDREN  
MABEL, JOHN & HEATHER  
PEARSON  
AGED 10, 6 AND 4 YEARS  
WHO LOST THEIR LIVES  
THROUGH FIRE  
ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 1926  
"SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN  
TO COME UNTO ME  
AND FORBID THEM NOT  
FOR SUCH IS THE KINGDOM  
OF HEAVEN"**