

SAUNDERS 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. Various spellings of names are recorded as written at the time.

1. **William SAUNDERS** was born circa 1855 at Burntisland, Fife, Scotland to Peter Saunders & Ann Saunders née Sharp.

William was engaged as a shepherd by the Falkland Islands Company Limited through Fleming of Dundee, Scotland. He was a passenger on the German Schooner *Luxor*, leaving London December 1880, along with Alexander MUNRO and Robert GRIGOR. William brought his sheep dog with him. [FIC/C1; desp 577, par 33]

William was on the FIC wage books 31 December 1880 as a shepherd at Darwin Harbour on a monthly wage of £4-11-8. [FIC/E5]

In June 1882 William was living in Hope Cottage with J RUDD. [FIC/E4] William sent £28 to his father in October 1882. [FIC/C1; desp 619, par 7]

William worked for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd in the Lafonia area from 27 January 1881 to 4 February 1886. [FIC/IW3; 255, 474; FIC/IW4: 123]

William was married to **Margery Duncan MACDONALD** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). William died in Inverness in 1930. Marjory died in Inverness in 1940.

Further information at: <http://www.patbrit.org/bil/supp/c0216.htm>

2. **Thomas SAUNDERS** was born 11 November 1858 in Kinghorn, Fife, Scotland to Peter Saunders & Ann Saunders née Sharp.

Thomas was engaged 6 August 1878 as a shepherd by the Falkland Islands Company Limited through Fleming of Dundee, Scotland. He was a passenger on the RMS *Elbe*, leaving London August 1878, along with Stewart MIDDLETON & family, Thomas CORMACK, Angus CAMERON and James NICHOLL. They transferred to the 113 ton schooner *Black Hawk* in Montevideo, Uruguay and arrived in Stanley 8 days later on 15 September 1878. [FIC/C1; desp 527, par 11; D18, 193]

On 10 August 1880 Frederick Cobb requested that £24-0-0 be paid from Thomas Saunders to Peter Saunders, North Market Street, Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire. [FIC/E4]

Thomas was on the FIC wage books 31 December 1880 as a shepherd at Darwin Harbour on a monthly wage of £4-11-8. [FIC/E5]

In June 1882 Thomas was living at Dos Lomas. [FIC/E4]

Thomas finished working for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd in the Lafonia area 11 October 1883.

Thomas, age 34 & Scottish, was married to **Anna Maria SCOTT**, age 25 & English, 15 June 1893 in Punta Arenas. The witnesses were John Hamilton, John Molesworth and Bevil.

Thomas' parents were recorded as Peter Saunders & Ann Sharp and Anna's parents were recorded as Charles Scott and Harriet Sophie Brockwell.

With John Hamilton he founded the Estancia Otway, the basis of his prosperity. Well known for his part in the famous arreo of 1886-88, driving several thousand sheep and horses from Buenos Aires province down to Magallanes. Kept a diary of the journey. Prominent figure in Punta Arenas, where he was a benefactor to the Anglican church and school, and a founder member of the fire brigade and the British Association. He died in England in 1928, but his body was brought back to Punta Arenas and he was buried at Estancia Otway, his first ranch.

<http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/scotsinargpat/malvineros.htm>

Thomas, age 70, died 30 June 1928 In London and was buried on Otway Station 21 October 1928. His headstone reads: "*In loving memory of my dear husband/Thomas Saunders/Pioneer/Born November 11th 1858/Passed on June 30th 1928/Aged 70 years*". He also has a memorial plaque at St James Church, Punta Arenas, Chile. Anna died in Chile in 1957.

Further information at: <http://www.patbrit.org/bil/supp/m0117.htm>

NEXT GENERATION (*none born in the Falkland Islands*)

Children of William (1) and Margery SAUNDERS:

1. **William Eugene Archibald SAUNDERS** born 26 July 1897 at Rincon de las Morros, Argentine Republic and baptised 10 September 1897 by J Williams of the Straits Chaplaincy. His father's occupation was recorded as farmer. William, age 28 & an Estancia manager living in Tierra del Fuego, was married to **Kathleen Mary HUNTLEY**, age 26 living in Punta Arenas, 10 November 1925 by Alexander Colwn, British Chaplain, in the church of St James, Punta Arenas. The witnesses were Thomas Saunders & Hilda U Parfitt. William's father was recorded as William Saunders, retired, and Kathleen's father was recorded as John Arthur Huntley, wholesale business. Kathleen died on Easter Island 30 July 1947 and was buried there.
2. **Kathleen Mabel Frances SAUNDERS** born 7 August 1898 at Rincon de las Morros and baptised 18 December 1899 by J Williams of the Straits Chaplaincy. Her father's occupation was recorded as farmer. Kathleen died in Inverness in 1968.
3. **Thomas Peter SAUNDERS** born 1 July 1899 at Rincon de las Morros and baptised 18 December 1899 by J Williams of the Straits Chaplaincy. His father's occupation was recorded as farmer.
4. **Annie Ethel Marjory SAUNDERS** born 24 February 1904 at Rincon de los Morros and baptised 15 March 1904 in Punta Arenas by the Bishop of the Falkland Islands. Her father's occupation was recorded as farmer.
5. **George Duncan SAUNDERS** born 23 January 1906 at Rincon de los Morros and baptised 6 March 1906 by Edwin C Aspinall. His father's occupation was recorded as farmer and his godparents were recorded as Jessie Cameron McBean, Duncan George McDonald and George R Cameron. George attended Trent College, Nottingham, England. George joined the REME in 1939. George was married to **Jennie HEYHURST** in 1942 in Darlington, County Durham, England. George died off the coast of Brazil in 1972. Jennie returned to Darlington and died in 2006.
6. **Marjorie Isobel SAUNDERS** born 22 July 1911 in Punta Arenas and baptised 12 November 1911 by J Stanley Smith of St James' Church, Punta Arenas. Her father's occupation was recorded as farmer.
7. **Ruby Xtina SAUNDERS** born October 1912 at Rincon and baptised 11 May 1913 by J C Caley. Her father's occupation was recorded as sheep farmer.
8. **Hilda Florence SAUNDERS** born circa 1917 in Kingston, Surrey, England

Children of Thomas (2) and Annie SAUNDERS:

1. **Ethel May SAUNDERS** born 18 March 1894 on Otway Station and baptised 23 May 1896 by J Williams. Her father's occupation was recorded as farmer. Ethel was married to **Leif ARENTSEN** in 1919 in London. Ethel died in Oxford in 1948.
2. **Edith Helen SAUNDERS** born 1 May 1896 on Otway Station and baptised 23 May 1896 by J Williams. Her father's occupation was recorded as farmer.
3. **Annie Hilda SAUNDERS** born 21 October 1898 on Otway Station and baptised 22 April 1900 by J Williams of the Straits Chaplaincy. Her father's occupation was recorded as farmer. Annie died in Vancouver, Canada.
4. **Thomas Charles Cedric "Jack" SAUNDERS** born 6 November 1903 on Otway Station and baptised 21 January 1904 by Edwin C Aspinall of St James' church, Punta Arenas. His father's occupation was recorded as estanciero and his godparents were recorded as Muriel Cronin, Henry Parker Townsend and Thomas Saunders. Thomas died in Santiago in 1952.
5. **Leslie Cowan "Jim" SAUNDERS** born circa 1909 in New Malden, Surrey, England. Leslie was married to **Olga SORENSON** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Leslie died in 1982 in London, Ontario, Canada.