

## SIMPSON 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.*

**1. William SIMPSON** was born circa 1850 (*not in the Falkland Islands*).

William, age 23, left Southampton on board the Royal Mail Steamer *Boyne* 10 March 1873 under contract to the Falkland Islands Company Limited with eight others (*these contracts normally bound the shepherds and their families for five years in exchange for the cost of their passage*). There is no record of the “Boyne” coming into the Falkland Islands so they probably changed ship in Montevideo and William would have arrived on either the “Scotia” which came for the “Oxford’s” cargo on the 5 June 1873 or the “Black Hawk” which arrived with mail and passengers on the 21 June 1873.

William is likely to have gone straight to Darwin to live and work as Darwin and Lafonia was a large area farmed by the Falkland Islands Company Limited.

William was a witness at the wedding of **James CAMPBELL** and **Elizabeth FELL** 19 April 1877 at Darwin.

William arrived in London on board the *Vicar of Bray* 13 June 1880. [FIC/C1; 562]

William was married to **Jessie GRANT?** (*not in the Falkland Islands*).

William was re-engaged by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd and he and his wife were passengers on board the *Theben* leaving England October 1880. His brother-in-law, Charles GRANT, age 21 and a shepherd, was engaged in December 1880 but did not come out. [FIC/C1; 573; 577; 579]

According to the Falkland Islands Company Ltd list “Distribution of Shepherds June 1882” William was working at Bluff Creek with W Patterson. In July 1885 William was still at Bluff Creek but the other shepherd living there was J Wilson.

Mrs Simpson and her niece were passengers on board the *Hornet* leaving Stanley for internal ports 14 May 1896. William, Jessie and Fanny arrived from Liverpool 2 October 1901 on board the *Orissa*.

William, age 62 and a shepherd from Scotland, died 18 February 1911 at Horn Hill, North Arm and was buried in Darwin cemetery. At the time of his death William was a shepherd on £6 per month and his final pay was £9.12.0. In his Will dated 1 February 1893 he left all of his estate, real and personal, to his wife Jessie. He was living at Darwin Harbour at the time. At the time of his death he was living at Horn Hill, Lafonia and his estate amounted to £60.2.4d.

There is also no record of any children born to William or his wife. A Mrs Simpson left the Falkland Islands 21 March 1911 on RMS *Orcoma* bound for Liverpool so this may have been Jessie.

## 2. FANNY MARIA GRANT SIMPSON

Mrs Simpson and her niece were passengers on board the *Hornet* leaving Stanley for internal ports 14 May 1896. William, Jessie and Fanny arrived from Liverpool 2 October 1901 on board the *Orissa*.

**Fanny Maria Grant SIMPSON**, a spinster from Scotland, was married to **John FELL**, shepherd, 30 July 1903 at Horn Hill, Lafonia, by Special Licence by C K Blount MA Assistant Colonial Chaplain. The witnesses were Duncan Fell and Elspet Coutts. John's father was recorded as William Fell, sheep farmer and Fanny's father was recorded as James Grant Simpson, coachman. Fanny is referred to as the "niece of William Simpson". [Account of wedding FI Magazine Sep 1903]

On 20 July 1910 John, his wife Fanny and their three children arrived in Stanley from Bleaker Island. On 7 December 1910 John purchased Primrose Villa on Philomel Street from George Hurst for the sum of £600. [Reg Vol V, pg 391]

Fanny, John and their four children left the Falkland Islands 7 July 1914 on board RMS "Oronsa" for Liverpool to visit Britain and stay for medical treatment for Fanny. The visit was prolonged due to World War I and they decided to stay in Scotland. On 20 December 1920 John sold Primrose Villa to Mary C Hardy for £700 through his attorney George I Turner. [Reg Vol VIII, pg 14]

John, age 75 and a retired shepherd living at the Toll House, Mosstodloch, died 30 April 1939 outside the Speymouth Parish Church in Scotland. [FI News Weekly 27 Jul 1939]

## FIRST GENERATION:

### Children of Fanny (2) and John FELL:

1. **William James Duncan FELL** born 31 August 1904 at Horn Hill and baptised 12 October 1905 on Bleaker Island by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as manager, sheep farm. Left the Falkland Islands 7 July 1914 on board RMS "Oronsa" for Liverpool.
2. **John Bleaker FELL** born 11 May 1908 in Stanley and baptised 28 May 1908 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as farmer. Left the Falkland Islands 7 July 1914 on board RMS "Oronsa" for Liverpool.
3. **Ivy Dorothy Isabella Grant FELL** born 4 February 1910 and baptised 18 April 1910 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as sheep farmer. Left the Falkland Islands 7 July 1914 on board RMS "Oronsa" for Liverpool. Ivy died 15 April 1996 in the UK. Some of Ivy Fell's ashes were sent back to the Falkland Islands by her daughter Elaine Buchan in the care of Joan Spruce (a local) who scattered some of them in November in the King Edward Memorial Hospital garden made by Ground Force and the remainder in March at Pebbly Beach, Bleaker Island.
4. **Daisy Malvina FELL** born 18 January 1914 in Stanley and baptised 8 February 1914 by the Tabernacle. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Left the Falkland Islands 7 July 1914 on board RMS "Oronsa" for Liverpool.