

## WATERSON 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.*

**George WATERSON** arrived in Stanley 19 November 1907 on board the *Oriana* from Liverpool. He departed Stanley for Fox Bay on board the *Gwendolin* 26 November 1907.

On 6 January 1908 George Waterson wrote from Fox Bay enclosing 10/6 to square his FIC account and requesting that 500 Egyptian cigarettes to be sent to him by the next opportunity. [FIC/ES/LOC/03#26]

George Waterson departed Stanley 21 October 1909 for Punta Arenas on the *Oravia*. There is no record of his return but he departed Stanley 19 November 1909 for Fox Bay on the *Hattie L M*. G Waterson departed Stanley for the West 18 July 1910 on the *Hattie L M*.

### MEMBERS OF THE OVER-SEAS CLUB



George Waterson, England, Handyman; Duncan Shaw, Hebrides, Cutterman; Arthur F Cobb, Falkland Islands, Sheep Farmer; Henry Newing, Falkland Islands, Shepherd.  
- Bleaker Island, Falkland Islands, 1911 [Bleaker Is website]

**George WATERSON** started work for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd as an overseer at Darwin 13 May 1911 on a five year contract for a monthly wage of £12-10-0 (annual salary £150). From 13 May 1912 his monthly wage increased to £16-13-4 (annual salary £200). George finished work 6 May 1913 taking a cash order for £73-3-6. George departed for Liverpool on the *Orcoma* 11 May 1913 and arrived back from Liverpool on the *Oronsa* 14 October 1913. He recommenced work for the FIC in Lafonia 14 October 1913.

In July 1914 George was appointed the secretary or the Darwin Harbour Miniature Rifle Club. [FIC/FC/MIS/1#1]

George, an overseer, was married to **Mabel Eva Flora BROOKFIELD** 28 October 1915 at Darwin Church by C McDonald Hobley, Chaplain. The witnesses were Fred H Weiss, Vi Lellman and R Greenshields. George's father was recorded as William Thomas Waterson, medical practitioner, and Mabel's father was recorded as George Brookfield, deceased registrar.

**Mabel Eva Flora BROOKFIELD:**

Mabel arrived in Stanley 20 August 1913 on the RMS *Orissa* from Liverpool. Mabel commenced work as a district nurse 20 August 1913 on an annual salary of £60-0-0 with free quarters and rations provided. Mabel, the acting nurse matron and district nurse at King Edward Memorial Hospital tendered her resignation in June 1915, effective October 1915. On her resignation Governor Young requested that although her contract wasn't due to expire until 20 August 1916 that she did not have to refund the cost of her passage out due to her hard work and valuable service. This was agreed by the Secretary of State. [200/15; 299/15]

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relations present at the Service, which was fully Choral. The Bride, who was dressed in white satin, and carried a pretty bouquet, was accompanied by her father who gave her away. Miss Jane Biggs was Bridesmaid, and wore a pretty dress of pink silk, together with a picture hat. The Bridegroom was attended by Mr. B. Biggs, who acted as Best Man. The Service was conducted by the Rev. C. McDonald Hobley, who gave an address at the close. After the Register was signed the happy couple left the Church to the strains of the Wedding March, played by Miss L. Rowlands, and the Cathedral bells rang out a merry peal. The Reception took place at the First and Last Hotel, where the splendid Cake, made by Mr. J. F. Summers, was on view, and duly sampled. There were a large number of wedding presents both from friends and relations in England, Stanley and the Camp. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Hannaford every joy and happiness in their future life, which we trust will be long and prosperous.

**Marriage at Darwin.**  
of  
**Mr. G. Waterson &**  
**Miss Brookfield.**

From all sides, North, East, South and West, the riders had been coming in to Darwin Settlement for the past few days: some, apparently in case they would miss the great event, made sure by arriving a fortnight before in the *Falkland*; as though one almost feared that either through incapacity or sheer bad luck Mr. Hobley might not arrive after all, a calvanade of eight set out to meet his party at Black Rock, and the crowd came in great style. Darwin was all excitement, Goose Green just as bad! and at last the fatal Oct: 28th arrived! The cutter brought in large bundles of tussac, with which Mrs and Miss Allan, Mrs. Wace, Mrs Moir and other ladies proceeded to decorate the Church. Messrs Roy Felton, D. Pitaluga, and R. Greenshields after many struggles, managed to erect the Bell over the porch, though serious fears were expressed or rather whispered (they dare not "express" them when Mr. R.S.F. was about) that the old

bell was going to tumble down; at length everything was finished. For a few days previously Mrs. Moir, Mrs. Ryan and the others had been hard at it cooking for the great spread that was to be tackled in the evening everyone helped to put the finishing touches to the Supper Table, and everyone lent things, especially Mrs Moir; "We want some more tea-spoons" Go to Mrs. Moir. Breakfast plates? Oh yes Mrs Moir will lend some; Carving knife? Ditto, Glasses, ditto!! In fact, after every house had done more than its share in lending everything and anything every deficiency was apparently made up at the wonderful house of Mrs. Moirs! How she did it all, goodness only knows. Everyone was getting terribly excited! On a visit to the Bridegroom, one found him in the last throes of bachelor bliss, "My, I can't find, Where on earth is the ring!" and so on.

We were all disappointed that Miss Pearle Allan was not feeling well enough to take her customary place at the organ, and Darwin Church seemed strange without her at her post, but we were extremely lucky to have Mrs. Roy Felton present, who came to the rescue and played with her customary grace and charm. The Church quickly filled to overflowing, and Mrs. Felton played the Bridal March from Lohengrin until the Bridal party arrived. Mr. R. Greenshields officiated as best man, and Mr. Weiss gave away the Bride, who was dressed in white silk and wore the customary orange blossom wreath: she carried an exquisite bouquet which had been made made by Mrs. Weiss. Miss Violet Lellmann made a charming bridesmaid, and was dressed in pale blue silk and wore a large picture hat. The actual wedding was especially unique in that it was the first wedding in the Colony to have taken place in the Camp after the publication of Banns: the kindness of H.E. the Governor in granting a Licence for Weddings at the Darwin Church, making this possible. The Service was fully Choral, and the Rev. C. McDonald Hobley gave an address at the conclusion. After the signing of the register, the happy couple proceeded down the Church and were photographed at the porch by Dr. Wace. Then preparations were made for the Supper, which was done full justice to by all present. There were a good number

of toasts which were drunk with great enthusiasm, and the cake, made by Mr. J. F. Summers, was duly sampled.

In the evening, to the tunes of the Pipes, the Dance commenced, and was kept up till about 4.30 a.m. The following night, a second one was held, and on Saturday, the Hon. W. A. Harling gave a third, which was greatly enjoyed. Then were almost 200 guests, including nearly all from North Arm, Walker Creek and Darwin. Visitors also came from Stanley, Fitzroy, Salvador etc etc, thus showing the high esteem in which the happy couple were held. Then were a very large number of wedding presents, amongst which were cheques for over £40 from the Settlement people of Darwin and Goose Green, and nearly £40 from Walker Creek, North Arm etc etc. We wish Mr. and Mrs. G. Waterson a long and happy life together, and trust they may look back upon October 28th. 1915 with the happiest of memories.

**FIM December 1915**

On 4 August 1917 George sent £1-10-0 from Darwin to James Houston, FIC, Stanley for the renewal of his fire insurance policy. [FIC/ES/LOC/04#24]

George resigned his commission as second lieutenant in the Falkland Islands Volunteer Force, with effect from 14 August 1919, owing to his approaching departure from the Colony.

George departed for Punta Arenas on the *Kenuta* 27 September 1919. Mabel departed for Punta Arenas with her two sons 14 November 1919 on the *Junin*.



G Waterson arrived from Punta Arenas on the *Antartico* 2 January 1920 and departed for Punta Arenas on the *Orcoma* 1 April 1920.

At the time of their son Harold's death in 1943 George and Mabel were living in Hinckley, Leicestershire, England.

**FIRST GENERATION:**

**Children of George and Mabel WATERSON:**

1. **Bertram George WATERSON** born 25 September 1916 at Darwin and baptised 9 November 1916 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as farm overseer. Bertram departed for Punta Arenas with his mother and brother 14 November 1919 on the *Junin*. Bertram, age 25 and a trooper in the Royal Armoured Corps of the 7<sup>th</sup> Queen's Own Hussars, service no 319571, died 4 May 1942 and is listed on the Rangoon Memorial. [www.cwgc.org]
2. **Harold Brookfield WATERSON** born 28 May 1918 at Darwin and baptised 1 May 1919 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as farm overseer. Harold departed for Punta Arenas with his mother and brother 14 November 1919 on the *Junin*. Harold, age 24 and a flying officer in the Royal Air Force, service no 48007, died 29 April 1943, and was buried in Karachi War Cemetery, grave 3D8. [www.cwgc.org]

