



FALKLAND ISLANDS MEMORIAL CHAPEL NEWSLETTER

2012



Norman Clark Photography

The February 2011 HMS Glamorgan Association Memorial Dedication Ceremony took place at Hookers Point, Falkland Islands - the spot from which the missile was fired to hit the ship on June 12th 1982.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

As we approach the 30th Anniversary the Falklands War stands out in stark contrast to all the wars in which our servicemen and women have been deployed since. Ours was one of 100 days of intensity and heavy loss of life - from invasion to restoration of sovereignty - but, at least it had a conclusion. In a way what has happened since has highlighted the intrinsic need and importance of memorial and it is no less now than in 1982. Our annual Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving on Sunday June 12th with over 500 of you in attendance provided ongoing evidence that we must ensure that all who were lost - then and now - must be properly remembered forever.

Helping us to do that were our Guests of Honour Second Sea Lord Vice Admiral Charles Montgomery accompanied by his wife Adrienne and daughter Phillipa. Our guest preacher Falklands veteran Colonel Chris Keeble delivered a powerful

address soon after the moving presentation of three further Elizabeth Crosses by veterans Sir Hew Pike and Major General Malcolm Hunt. The families of Private Mark Dodsworth 3 Para, and Marines Stephen McAndrews, and Keith Phillips, 40 and 45 Commando Royal Marines respectively were the recipients (see page 3). For the Dodsworths June 12th marked the day when their son Mark was killed on Mount Longdon - for the contingent of 20 from HMS Glamorgan within the congregation - it was the day when an Exocet missile attack killed 13 of their company. For everyone it was a day of poignant remembrance.

At the luncheon reception following the Service we were delighted to have an early view in model form of the SAMA Falklands Memorial which is being constructed at the National Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire. (see page 2)

During lunch we said goodbye to Reverend Brian Cunningham who after 12 years as Chaplain takes up a post at Oundle. In his place we welcome Reverend Neil Jeffers who joins us from Christ Church, Lowestoft, where he was assistant curate.

In this issue we have invited several guest contributors to document some of their memories of 1982 and tell us how they have been led, through their experiences, to the support of others. We also feature some of the organisations which have worked throughout the past 30 years to help families and veterans come to terms with their experiences.

We shall be having our 30th Anniversary Service of Remembrance on Sunday June 17th at 12.00hrs and, as always, look forward to welcoming more and more families and veterans to our congregation.

**Rear Admiral Jeremy Sanders,
CB OBE**

Chairman of the Trustees

Dates For Your Diary

Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel

Sunday June 17th
30th Anniversary Service of Remembrance & Thanks giving at 12.00hrs followed by refreshments in Drake Hall

Friday 5th October
Floral demonstration by Mr Bob Harris. Tickets £8.
For Information:
sadieclare@gmail.com
after 1st June
(see page 2 for details)

Falkland Families Association

Saturday April 21st
Annual Reunion Service and AGM in the Guards Chapel at Wellington Barracks

Saturday 16th June
Service at St Paul's Cathedral

Details for both occasions from FFA Secretary (see Contacts page 2).

SAMA'82 REMEMBERS



The SAMA82 Falklands War Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas will be dedicated at a ceremony planned for 20th May 2012. The Memorial commemorates the 30th Anniversary of the landings on the Falkland Islands and has been constructed with the help of several organisations and individuals including the Falklands Families Association.

The design for the Memorial reflects the Falklands' landscape and is based on the memorial and cemetery at 'Blue Beach' San Carlos, where the landings took place.

Whilst many Falklands veterans and their families have visited the San Carlos Memorial the

majority have not. By creating a similar atmosphere in the NMA, SAMA hope that veterans and their families will feel it is somewhere else in the UK where they can connect with the Falklands and feel at peace.

The Memorial comprises of a curved stone wall constructed in rough Cotswold stone with a rock from the Falkland Islands placed in front of the Wall. Two benches with Granite seating on Cotswold supports are placed on either side and the area enclosed by the Wall, Rock and Benches is paved defining the Memorial space.

Engraved Granite plaques will be mounted on the Wall, Rock and paving.

ASSOCIATIONS & CONTACTS FALKLAND FAMILIES ASSOCIATION (FFA)

Falkland Families Association (FFA)

Chairman: Mrs Sara Jones CBE

Secretary: Cindy Strickland, 12 Lyndon Avenue, Hatch End, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 4QG Tel: 01494 725666

SAMA '82

President: Lieutenant General Sir James Dutton KCB CBE

Chairman: Mike Bowles MBE

Secretary: Mrs Jane Adams, SAMA'82, Unit 25 Torfaen Business Centre, Panteg Way, New Inn, Pontypool, Gwent NP4 0LS
Tel: 01495 741592 or Email: secretary@sama82.org.uk

SAMA'82 AGM & Reunion: Saturday 19th May
at the Tillington Hall Hotel, Stafford.

Sunday 20th May - Falklands Memorial Dedication
at the National Memorial Arboretum

Merchant Navy Association (MNA)

National Chairman: Captain JMR Sail MNM MNI

National Secretary: Tim Brant MNM

Address: 9 Saxon Way, Caistor, Market Rasen LN7 6SG Tel: 01472 851130

Email: t.brant@virgin.net **Web:** www.mna.org.uk

HMS GLAMORGAN REMEMBERS

Following the SAMA pilgrimage to the Falkland Islands in 2007 a number of HMS Glamorgan Falklands Association members suggested the Association approach the Falkland Islands Government and SAMA Falkland Islands (FI) to investigate whether a permanent GLAMORGAN memorial to those buried at sea could be installed near Stanley.

This was welcomed and a granite stone was commissioned, quarried and engraved in North Wales in early 2010 and then shipped to the Falklands that June.



In early February 2011 a team of 36 GLAMORGANs including two of the surviving sisters of Cook Brian Easton who died onboard set off via Ascension Island or Chile for a week of commemorative events.

The first event saw Captain Mike Barrow (pictured), former Chapel Trust Chairman and the Commanding Officer in 1982, plant a cross at a new tree dedicated to David McCann in the Memorial Wood in Stanley. David died in 1982 soon after the ship's return to the UK and the Association has always included him amongst the fallen.

Crosses were also planted at the other 13 GLAMORGAN trees in the Memorial Wood with a break by Kelvin McCallum's tree for a tot of rum from a bottle that Kelvin bought in Gibraltar before sailing south. As was widely reported in the UK media, Kelvin's mother asked the team to have a tot in his memory during the visit.



FLORAL MAJESTY IN THE CHAPEL

Following the popularity of previous Flower Guild events FG Chairman Sadie Clare has invited Mr Bob Harris, a NAFAS National Demonstrator and lay preacher, to mount a floral art demonstration. The event to be held on Friday 5th October will have the theme: 'Majesty – an evening of flowers in a majestic Chapel.' – a title chosen by Mr Harris following a visit to the Chapel with Mrs Clare. Further information will be available after June 1st and tickets will be £8. Info: sadieclare@gmail.com

THREE MORE FAMILIES RECEIVE THEIR MEDALS



The Annual Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving on Sunday June 12th 2011 included the presentation of Elizabeth Crosses to three more families. In a moving ceremony Lieutenant General Sir Hew Pike presented Bryan and Carole , the parents of Pte. Mark Dodsworth 3 Para with their medal immediately followed by Major General Malcolm Hunt with medals for Mrs Dawn & Miss Sarah Chafer for Marine Stephen McAndrews (40 Commando RM) and Mrs Ellen Phillips mother of Marine Keith Phillips (45 Commando RM). After the service, families received their scrolls from trustees Major General Jeff Mason and Air Marshal Andy Pulford in the foyer (see below).

The Elizabeth Cross was instituted by Her Majesty The Queen as a mark of recognition for those killed in conflict to be awarded to their next of kin. Many families have now received their medals but the Medal Office still have a number not yet applied for. It is up to NOK to apply for their medals and for those unsure of the process help is available. Please contact the Secretary on 01295 738123.

The Elizabeth Cross - Picture by courtesy of the MOD Medal Office.



The Dodsworth Family



Mrs Ellen Phillips with Sons Colin and Mark



Sarah and Dawn Chafer

PRAYER FOR THE YEAR BY REVEREND NEIL JEFFERS

New Chaplain to the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel, The Rev'd Neil Jeffers , was born and raised near Canterbury, and has come to Pangbourne from four years at Christ Church Lowestoft, the most easterly church in the British Isles! Neil's parish in Lowestoft was one deeply connected with the maritime community; Christ Church was founded in the 1860s as a mission chapel to fishermen, before becoming a parish church. The parish was also the headquarters of the Royal Naval Patrol Service during the Second World War, known as HMS Europa, and the church has maintained links with the veterans of that service ever since. Neil's prayer:



O Lord,
 Length of days does not profit me
 except the days are passed in your presence,
 in your service, to your glory.
 Give me a grace that precedes, follows, guides,
 sustains, sanctifies, aids every hour,
 that I may not be one moment apart from You,
 but may rely on your Spirit
 to supply every thought,
 speak in every word,
 direct every step,
 prosper every work,
 build up every mote of faith,
 and give me a desire
 to show forth your praise;
 testify your love,
 advance your kingdom.
 Amen.

LAST CALL FOR SUNDAY 17TH JUNE!

Many of our family and veteran readers have already reserved their places at our Service on Sunday 17th June but , if you have 'slipped through the net' please contact the Secretary and return the enclosed reply slip as soon as possible. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. As always the Service begins at 12.00 hrs and will be followed by a buffet and refreshments in Drake Hall. Families: if you have already sent in a reply slip you need not send another! Veterans : even if you have reserved please confirm your reservation by returning a reply slip and mark it 'already reserved'. Tickets will be issued this year.

The Trustees would like to hear from any members of families would like to attend but who have been unable due to hardship or inability to travel distances unaccompanied. In special circumstances it may be possible for the Trustees to give a measure of assistance to those who have been regularly unable to attend as long as funds are available for this purpose. In this case a letter of application should be sent via the Secretary and will be treated with the utmost confidence.

CONTACT FIMCT

Mrs Angela Perry, Secretary to the Trustees,
 Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel Trust, Wroxton Mill,
 Wroxton, Banbury, Oxon OX15 6EZ
 Tel: 01295 738123 Email: angelaEAP@aol.com

30TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

ANNUAL SERVICE ON SUNDAY JUNE 12TH 2011 - IT RAINED!



Never before has it rained on our Annual Day of Remembrance and Thanksgiving but the rain did nothing to dampen spirits or deter attendance! Families, veterans, Friends and supporters of the Chapel flocked to join the annual throng to remember those brave servicemen who gave their lives 29 years ago in 1982.

This year's Guest of Honour – Second Sea Lord Vice Admiral Charles Montgomery with his wife Adrienne and daughter Phillipa – represented the Navy and preacher Colonel Chris Keeble was a special choice in that he had been second in Command of the 2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment to Colonel 'H' Jones when he lost his life on 28th May during the battle for Goose Green at Ajax Bay. Colonel Keeble's address was predictably powerful and uplifting following the presentation of Elizabeth Crosses to three more families during the Service. Veterans' reunion groups included a large contingent of HMS Glamorgan, Falkland Families Association members, Paul Sinclair's group of Royal Engineers, members of HMS Aldenham, HMS Hermes, HMS Invincible and members of Merchant Navy & RFA Associations. SAMA82 members attended in their hundreds and, as always, it was good to see so many representative Standard Bearers. The marvellous College choir and organist were joined for the first time by the Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas whose trumpeter played the Last Post followed by 'resident' Piper Keith 'Paddy' Burton's haunting Lament.

Drake Hall was positively buzzing with activity following the Service while guests enjoyed an excellent buffet with suitable refreshment. In his 'parish notices' to the assembled crowd, Chapel Chairman Jeremy Sanders paid tribute to the consistently excellent College organisation of the day and expressed everyone's thanks to Reverend Brian Cunningham for his care and attention to Chapel matters over 12 years wishing him well in his new post. He also thanked SAMA's Chairman Mike Bowles and colleague Robin Smith for organising the display model of the Falklands Memorial for everyone to see (see page 2).



Chairman Jeremy with Vice Admiral Charles Montgomery, his wife Adrienne, daughter Phillipa & Jane Sanders



Freda McKay with Granddaughter Melanie



Mark Waller & Sue Hughes SS Canberra



Jim & Christine Loveday with friends from HMS Hermes



Two little 'sweeties'



Commodore David Squire strikes the Sir Galahad Bell



Rose & Alf Anslow - parents of Adrian RN Fleet Air Arm



Paul & Paulena Fennelow

30TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



Members of HMS Glamorgan Association



Ann & George Townsend and Family remember Neil Grose, 3 para.



Jim & Denise Spiers, George & Marie Birkett with Mick and Jenny Derbyshire HMS Invincible



The Royal Engineers Reunion Group



Kevin & Shirley Smith & David & Pamela Le Rougetel HMS Intrepid



The Band of the Gurkhas



Terry Titford, John Marsden & Alan Yates HMS Aldenham Association



Keith & Dorothy with Sarah & Dawn Chafer and Major General Malcolm Hunt



Rev. Brian Cunningham, Colonel Chris Keeble & Father Nick Gosnell



Diane Sumnall & Maureen Harries with Colin & Ernest Duffey



Sukey & Howard Pullen with Mike & Ros Bowles



Dave & Julie Basnett with Ian & June Cox HMS Antrim Association



Piper Keith 'Paddy' Burton

HONOUR THE FALLEN - HELP THOSE LEFT BEHIND

Sara Jones CBE is the President of the Falkland Families Association and a Trustee of the Chapel Trust



When we formed the Falkland Families Association we never thought we would still be together in 2012. The Government sponsored pilgrimage to the Islands in April 1983 fostered firm friendships and thus the Association was formed to maintain and strengthen existing friendships both between relatives and friends of those who died in the Falklands campaign and between those relatives and friends and the Falkland Islands.

After a tentative beginning Des Keoghane took over as our Chairman and with his enthusiasm, determination and excellent contacts we flourished. He arranged our annual Service and reunion at the Guards Chapel, meetings and pilgrimages to the Islands in 1986 and 1990 – all hugely successful – enabling many of us to get to know the Islands and Islanders better, as well as helping us to understand why it was so important they remained British. It was understandable that some families felt bitter at the loss of a loved one but the journey down south helped to soothe troubled hearts. Des remained at our head for many years.

We have always been blessed with a wonderful and enthusiastic committee and have the support of Sukey Cameron representing the Falkland Islands' Government. Inevitably our Association gets smaller as we lose members but we welcome veterans and supporters among us. I believe that we still have a valuable role to play. The bond between members is that of a shared experience and loss, and friendships forged over the years. The Chapel has become a place of peace and reflection for us and a fitting tribute to those we have lost.

The Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel was built to ensure that all those who were killed in 1982 are for ever properly remembered and to provide a place of peace, remembrance and sanctuary where families and veterans can come together or apart to pay tribute to those who were lost. Part of its ongoing role has been to work closely with organisations like the Falkland Families Association and SAMA'82 and to welcome reunion groups and associations through its doors.

On these pages we have a collection of perspectives from people who were involved in or affected by the events of 1982 and from organisations who are committed to helping those who are still trying to come to terms with what they encountered thirty years ago.

Sukey Cameron, MBE - Representative, Falkland Islands Government

The Falklands Now

The Liberation of the Islands by Her Majesty's Armed Forces did more than just to free us from the invading Argentine Forces. It set us on the road to economic development and thus, ensured our future.

It is well known that during the 1970's the Islands were in economic decline and the future looked very bleak indeed. Following the Liberation, with initial development and reconstruction funding from the UK, we were looking at a much brighter future. When the fishery zone was declared in 1986, the Falkland Islands Government was able to charge fishing fleets for licence fees and, that much welcome income, gave us the economic independence we required in order to develop the Islands as they are today.

We were able to invest in land reform, communications – including construction of 800 kms of roads - health care and education. More recently investment in a wind farm, just outside Stanley, has proved its worth by producing up to 40% of the energy requirement of our capital.



The population has grown, the estimate is over 3,000 now – the highest ever. The young graduates we sponsor through university in the UK are returning to the Islands and making their futures there. Tourism numbers continue to grow with over 67,000 visitors from cruise ships estimated for this year!

This year we look forward to welcoming veterans and families to the Islands so that they can see for themselves the results of the sacrifices made in 1982. To mark the anniversary, a special publication is being produced by the Falklands Islands to show the Islands today. I believe that the title of that publication says it all "The legacy of your sacrifice is our success today".



Commodore Andrew Cameron



Combat Stress is the UK's leading military charity specialising in the treatment and support of Veterans suffering from mental health problems as a result of Serving their country. Right now we are working with over 4,800 mentally-wounded Veterans aged between 20 and 101 – many of who suffered in silence for many years before seeking our help.

The understanding and treatment of Service-related mental ill-health has developed over the last three decades. But the issue of the shame and stigma that prevents so many from acknowledging their problems and seeking help for them, is as strong today as it was in 1982.

Even now, 30 years after the Falklands conflict, our former fighting men and women continue to suffer. We are currently treating and supporting around 500 Veterans of the Falklands. Every day, many of them relive the horror that they witnessed in 1982. We are here for them and many like them.

Contact Details: Combat Stress Tel: 01372 587 000 24-hour Helpline: 0800 138 1619 Web: www.combatstress.org.uk

Ann Townsend, Mother of Neil Grose 3 Para.

On June 14th 1982, A white flag flew over Stanley, Hours earlier we had been informed our son had been KIA, in one of the last battles for the Falklands, Our lives changed forever that day. At times the pain is as raw now as it was then. Many personal difficulties lay ahead. Neil's Falklands Medal arrived by post in a jiffy bag and the property returned to us was not his. Little support was offered to us after the funeral and memorial services. So much for "you will always be part of the regiment family".

We were overwhelmed with grief and at that time did not consider joining any of the groups that were being set up, so for years remained uninformed other than what we read in newspapers and books, with occasional contact, from Neil's former army colleagues.

Now almost 30 years on. I am a member of the FFA and a Trustee of SAMA82 and value the annual service at the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel at Pangbourne. In 2007 we attended the 25th Commemorations' in London and that same year I was fortunate enough to be selected to visit the Falkland Islands, where I walked in Neil's footsteps on Mount Longdon, a moving and unforgettable visit.

On our return I became involved with others in setting up the Veterans Outreach Support (Portsmouth) which has been extremely successful. Over the years there have been many highs and lows, and I hope that some of the events we experienced will have helped towards overall improvement in the care and support offered to bereaved families who suffer today just as we did in 1982.

We are very proud of Neil, his memory will never die, he went into the Army a boy and became a man on Mount Longdon, his 18th birthday. RIP.



Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh OBE TD DL, Chief Executive, The Not Forgotten Association

Those who fought in the Falklands and who were wounded or who suffered subsequently are very much beneficiaries of The Not Forgotten Association – a unique tri-service charity. Founded in 1920 by an American soprano who was a big hit in London, the ideals that she laid down have, in many ways, changed little; i.e. to provide entertainment, leisure and recreation for the serving wounded and the ex-service community with disabilities. Over the last few years those who have attended our events both in the UK and abroad, tend to be the younger generation or those who served in more recent campaigns including the Falklands. The huge scientific break-throughs and the world famous care in places like Headley Court mean that beneficiaries from all three services who currently suffer as a consequence can take part in our events which offer a challenge, comradeship or both. The Not Forgotten Association is a niche market service provider and is delighted to work alongside other service charities to look after the serving and ex-service communities.



On this the 30th Anniversary of the Falkland War it is our pleasure to acknowledge the contribution and sacrifice made by those of all three services and we believe that The Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel is a most excellent focus for ongoing remembrance.

Contact: Not Forgotten Association, 4th Floor, 2 Grosvenor Gardens,
London SW1W 0DH T: 0207 730 2400 E: info@nfassociation.org.uk

Commodore Barry Bryant CVO RN, talks about Seafarers UK



Back in 1982, as the Task Force returned, King George's Fund for Sailors was celebrating 65 years of service to the whole UK maritime community. Formed in 1917 to bring some order to the huge national outpouring of support for the victims of the WW1 U-boat offensive, it was only natural to serve both RN and MN seafarers, and that work continued through WWII and the constant toll that the sea exacts from a maritime nation, even in peacetime. Our job has always been to ensure that our funds are used to best effect via the many front-line seafaring charities, and each year some £2.5 million is shared with about 70 organisations, many of which count Falklands veterans in their number. Thirty years on, now badged as Seafarers UK, we work extremely closely with major colleagues like the British Legion and Combat Stress to ensure that all our people get the best possible support.

Website: www.seafarers-uk.org

Lt General Sir John Kiszely



Thirty years on, memories fade as 'we that are left grow old', but an abiding memory for

me – and, I guess, for most if not all of us who were privileged to command British troops in the Falklands – is one of pride in those we commanded. They didn't half do us proud – and the nation as well. It makes it all the more important that, in return, we honour the names of those who did not come back, and look after their families and those people who came back, but need help.

The Royal British Legion is just one of many charities who work to provide this support, alongside others such as SSAFA, Combat Stress and the individual Service benevolent funds, and by making grants to Falklands-specific organisations such as SAMA 82, the Falklands Veterans Foundation, and the Chapel. We all do our best to help, and those of us who were 'down there' have a particularly personal interest. Whether our best – individually and collectively is good enough, history will judge. But it's a question constantly worth asking.

Lt Gen Sir John Kiszely KCB MC
National President,
The Royal British Legion

Services provided by the RBL
can be found at <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/can-we-help>

Mike Bowles, Veteran and Chairman of SAMA 82



In 1982 I was commanding a Squadron from the Army's Port Regiment at Marchwood. A British Rail ferry, St Edmund, plucked from the Harwich – Hook of Holland route, was our carrier to travel south. Some of the Squadron had already deployed in small detachments on board Sir Lancelot class landing ships as well as various merchant ships. Events were such that I never got ashore until after the surrender at

which point I took my Squadron HQ straight into Port Stanley. Then, having convened the troops, I proceeded to organise and operate a port through which all the stores needed to construct and maintain a Garrison in the Islands could be moved. To this day a port unit (now a Troop) from Marchwood is based in the Islands.

I joined SAMA when it was formed in 1997 by my colleague Rick Jolly. Having just returned from 15 months on a tour of duty in the Islands with my family I was well motivated in all things Falklands! Over 15 years the Association has grown and maintained a close relationship with the Falklands Families Association. SAMA exists today to support Veterans and provide advice and help with welfare needs. I am encouraged by the number of new and recent applications for membership indicating a healthy future for the organisation. We approach the 30th anniversary with anticipation and look forward to dedicating our new memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas on 20 May 2012.

Dr Hugh Milroy, Chief Executive of Veterans Aid



As Chief Executive of Veterans Aid (VA), the frontline charity dealing with homelessness and crisis among Veterans, I often get asked to tell people about our work. I could tell you that we take about 2,000 calls for help a year from all over the country, get Veterans off the streets, transform lives of struggling Veterans on a daily basis, provide over 20,000 nights of accommodation each year... but it's really much easier to express what we do in the words of one of our graduates:

"My name is Ian. I served aboard H.M.S. Hydra and S.S Uganda in 1982 during the Falklands Campaign, something which I am proud and fiercely protective of. Today I am a volunteer with Veterans Aid. I left the Royal Navy in 1987 and have led a full but disjointed life. Homelessness and alcoholism were part of that life, but neither of them were caused by my time in the Armed Forces.

"I first came into contact with VA, miserable and lonely, having slept rough for seven months. I was treated with care, dignity and understanding; taken off the streets, housed and set on the path of rebuilding my life. Even in my darkest days of abuse and after attempting to take my own life, I was never criticised or judged by anyone at VA. The dedication and encouragement of all the staff enabled me to spend seven months in treatment for my addiction and even today, after all this time, the charity continues to be a critical part of my ongoing recovery.

"I have witnessed first-hand the hard work of VA staff, daily rebuilding Veterans' lives with compassion and professionalism. There is no doubt that VA is the reason that I am alive today. I owe them a huge debt of gratitude... volunteering at VA, on this unique "fighting ship", is a privilege."

What more can I say!

Tel: 020 7828 2468 Fax: 020 7630 6784 www.veterans-aid.net



by Robin Brodhurst,
Head of History,
Pangbourne College

So far we have had every conceivable sort of book about the Falklands War: military from both sides, naval, diplomatic, official, medical, personal, logistical, cartoon. Now we have an account of the Merchant Navy's contribution, and the title says all that you need to know about it. About 70% of all ships involved in the war were crewed by Merchant Navy personnel. 52 ships from 33 companies were taken over by the government. In the official phrase these were "ships taken up from trade". They were either requisitioned or chartered by the government.

John Johnson-Allen has divided his book along straightforward lines. Each chapter looks at a different type of ship, ranging from the liners (Canberra and Uganda), the container ships, and the tankers,

down to repair ships and tugs. Also included are the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and the Royal Maritime Auxiliary ships. Each chapter has a range of personal stories which graphically describe the part played by the ship, the trials, the celebrations, the ups and downs of the war. All are of great interest in providing detailed and highly personal accounts of what the



war was like for those at the bottom of the pile. How did an engineer feel, a cook? What were the experiences of senior officers and junior officers? All are covered with a vivid collection of personal experiences, the basic stuff of history. While the Argentineans were the enemy, more of a threat was the weather and the conditions on board: the shortage of fresh food,

the cramped conditions for extra crews, the length of time away from home with irregular mail or contact. While service personnel might expect these, civilians do not. It is a tribute to them that morale remained as high as it did.

In his introduction the author asks the question whether it would be possible thirty years later to expect the same response from the Merchant Navy. He believes that today the ships are probably available, but not necessarily at the short notice of 1982, while he does not believe that the crews would be available due to there no longer being a requirement for British ships having a British crew. This book therefore is a tribute to a lost age, and a superb example of source based history. It takes its place in the Chapel Library alongside the best books on the war.

CRAIG ISLAND

Craig Jones was just 20 years old when he was one of the last British servicemen to be killed in action on June 13th - just before the conclusion of the Falklands War. Some years later his parents Richard and Pamela Jones visited the Islands on a SAMA Pilgrimage and were deeply moved by the warmth, friendliness and immense gratitude afforded by the Islanders. As a result the couple were gifted a six acre parcel of land by local farmers, the Phillips family of Hope Farm Cottage, who had helped carry supplies to the Parachute Regiment during their attack on Mount Longdon. The land was known as Little Rabbit Island which, poignantly, lies near Teal Inlet where Craig and his fallen comrades were laid to rest in a temporary grave prior to eventual repatriation. Interestingly, Richard Jones tells us, the Falklands war was the first time that the Government agreed to repatriate the fallen to these shores from far flung battlefields. Permission has now been granted by the Falkland Islands Government for Pam and Richard to legally own and rename the small island as Craig Island - a lasting tribute to their young son. The island, only accessible by boat,

is inhabited by 'blue rabbits' and various species of ground nesting birds. Dolphins and sea lions are regular visitors to its surrounding waters and it will be maintained as a wildlife haven by the Falkland Islands Environmental Services.



Private Craig Everard Jones, 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment was repatriated and laid to rest with his colleagues in Falklands Corner in the Military Cemetery at Aldershot

CHAPEL FORECOURT - A NEW LOOK

Many of you have kindly sponsored Seats in the Chapel in memory of someone you loved or admired; the number of Seats sponsored since our 10th Anniversary now totals thirty one and well over one hundred were sponsored previously. The Chapel forecourt is in the process of being refurbished and will feature two stone benches and six elliptical bollards which mimic the shape of the Chapel; this is both an aesthetic enhancement and also designed to prevent vehicular access which has badly damaged the forecourt paving, now replaced. Now there is an unusual and different way to remember someone by contributing to these enhancements and full details are contained within the enclosed leaflet.

GOLFERS RAISE £3,000 FOR THE CHAPEL

Eighteen teams competed in the fourth summer Falklands Shield Golf Tournament raising £3,000 and brought the total raised from this bi-annual event to £18,000 +. First time winners were Trueline Products of Kidderminster, manufacturers of building products, who will keep the Falklands Shield - pictured with boss Steve Maresfor two years until the next tournament. Chairman Jeremy Sanders travelled from Devon to Wroxton Mill in October to present a plethora of golf related prizes and bottles to nine teams

and individuals. Second and third prizes went to Bill Aspinall's 'New Boyhos' and the Union Jack Club respectively.



Chairman Jeremy with Trueline team members Ian, Steve and Terry