

FALKLAND ISLANDS MEMORIAL CHAPEL NEWSLETTER

2011

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



The sun shone brilliantly on so many Friends of the Chapel who joined us at our Annual Service in June 2010.

Our 10th Anniversary Year service on 13th June was truly memorable in many ways. The congregation was over 500. We welcomed several benefactors who contributed significantly to the building costs; we were joined by members of the original building team; many Friends of the Chapel attended as did an ever growing number of veterans and reunion groups. The HMS Hermes Standard was dedicated but central to the occasion, as ever, were the bereaved families 18 of whom received the Elizabeth Cross in recognition of their fallen loved one. Sir Hew and Lady Pike were our principal guests and we listened to the Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Reading, preach a moving sermon.

The scene had been set the previous Friday by a beautifully delivered Floral Masterclass demonstration organised by the Chapel Flower Guild and evidenced by the magnificent altar floral tribute for us all to enjoy. You can see a full report on page six.

As always the orchestration of our special day with old friends and new was super

due in no small measure to the Headmaster, College Team and pupils who care so deeply for the Chapel throughout the year. They demonstrate a constant appreciation of its presence in their midst by using it to great effect for their own services, choral society events and as a facility for outside charities.

News of Trustees includes welcoming a new Trustee, Commander Andrew Gordon-Lennox. He is an OP and Falklands veteran having been the First Lieutenant of HMS Ardent in 1982. Also in the news have been AVM Andy Pulford, promoted to Air Marshal and Colonel Alastair Bruce appointed OBE in April; our congratulations to both of them.

This year's Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving will take place on Sunday June 12th at 12.00hrs and we will welcome First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope GCB OBE ADC and Lady Stanhope as Principal Guests and Colonel Chris Keeble DSO as our Preacher.

Rear Admiral Jeremy Sanders,
CB OBE
Chairman of the Trustees



The monument in Stanley is one of a collection of stunning photographs donated by Norman Clarke digitally displayed in the Chapel Memorial Room.

Dates For Your Diary

Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel

Sunday June 12th

Annual Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving at
12.00hrs followed by refreshments in Drake Hall

Falkland Families Association

Saturday April 16th

Reunion Service and AGM in the Guards
Chapel at Wellington Barracks

Saturday 11th June

Service at St Paul's Cathedral

Details for both occasions from FFA Secretary (see Contacts page 3)

10TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL SERVICE - 2010

ANNUAL SERVICE ON SUNDAY JUNE 13TH 2010



There was hardly a spare seat at the Falklands Chapel June Service at Pangbourne which celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the Chapel's opening. About two hundred bereaved family members were joined by more than 380 SAMA veterans and veteran reunion groups and associations in remembering those who lost their lives in 1982.

Within the usual Service format was the poignant presentation of Elizabeth Cross Medals & Scrolls to eighteen families by appropriate Commanding Officers or their representatives. The first 5 crosses were presented by Lt General Sir Hew Pike CO of 3 Para in 1982 to Mrs Sara Jones for Lt Colonel H Jones VC OBE CO of 2 Para, Miss Melanie Jane McKay for Sergeant Ian McKay VC 3 Para, Mr David Tarbard for Sapper Wayne Tarbard 9 Para Squadron Royal Engineers, Mr Richard Jones for Private CE Jones 3 Para, and Mrs Ann Townsend & Mr David Grose for Private Neil Grose 3 Para.

The next two crosses were presented by Brigadier Johnny Rickett CO of 1st Battalion Welsh Guards in 1982 to Mr Ray Poole for Guardsman Gareth Wyn Poole 1st Battalion Welsh Guards and Mrs Diane Sumnall for Lance Corporal Frank Ward 1st Battalion Welsh Guards.

Captain David Hart-Dyke CO HMS Coventry in 1982 presented the Elizabeth Cross to Mrs Iris Hall for Weapons Engineering Mechanic 1st Class Ian Peter Hall RN HMS Coventry, Mrs Rosalind Balfour for Lt Cdr David Balfour RN HMS Sheffield & Mrs Anne Woodhead for Lt Cdr John S Woodhead DSC RN HMS Sheffield.

Mrs Sara Jones, in her capacity as Chairman of the Falkland Families Association, presented the medal to Mrs Yvonne Robinson for Weapons Engineering Artificer Ian R Williams RN HMS Coventry. The next six crosses were presented by Admiral Sir Michael Layard Senior Naval Officer SS Atlantic Conveyor in 1982 to Mrs Kate McCabe for Captain Ian North DSC, MN Master SS Atlantic Conveyor, Mrs Sally Eyton-Jones for Lt Cdr John Eyton-Jones RN, 801 Naval Air Squadron, Mr Alfred and Mrs Rose Anslow for Adrian J Anslow Air Engineering Mechanic (Radio) 1st Class RN 845 Naval Air Squadron, Mr Donald and Mrs Marian Pryce for Leading Air Engineering Mechanic 1st Class RN DL Pryce 845 Naval Air Squadron and Mrs Joan Marsden for Naval Airman Brian Marsden RN HMS Invincible and Mrs Diana Batt for Lt Cdr Gordon WJ Batt DSC RN.

The last medal was presented by Major General Julian Thompson

Royal Marines Commander 3 Commando Brigade in 1982 to Mrs Elaine Howieson for Corporal K Evans 45 Commando Royal Marines. After the Service the families gathered at the Cairn for souvenir photographs of each presentation which were framed & sent to them later.

The Bishop of Reading, The Rt. Reverend Stephen Cottrell blessed the HMS Hermes Association Standard at a brief altar ceremony during the Service, witnessed by a large group of veterans of HMS Hermes seated in the front row of the gallery.

At the buffet lunch in Drake Hall after the Service Chairman of the Chapel Trustees Rear Admiral Jeremy Sanders welcomed the many families & veterans and paid tribute to the large group of Chapel Friends present and some of the original benefactors & facilitators who had joined the gathering for the 10th Anniversary celebration. He also expressed appreciation of the eight Standard Bearers from HMS Invincible Association, HMS Glamorgan, HMS Vincent, HMS Antrim, RBL Dorking, Merchant Navy Association Taunton, HMS Hermes and new Standard Bearer Steve Kay for SAMA'82 and congratulated SAMA veteran Keith 'Paddy' Burton whose moving rendition of the Lament on his bagpipes have become an intrinsic part of this memorable annual service.

Left - HMS Hermes Association members with their newly blessed Standard

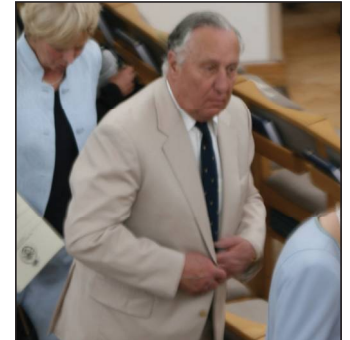


Photo provided by Steve Jary

Benefactor Freddie Forsyth



Angela Perry with Chapel Architect Crispin Wride & his wife Chris



Photo provided by Steve Jary

Trustee Sir Iain Mackay-Dick with benefactor Sir James Cayzer



Paul and Carole Neill 9 Para, HMS Sir Galahad



The magnificent Standard Bearers

10TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL SERVICE - 2010

Photos provided by Don Somner



Jeremy Sanders thanked Reverend Brian Cunningham for his care of the Chapel and presented him with a gift of a crystal engraved obelisk from the Trustees.



The Rt Rev. Stephen Cottrell with Sir Philip Wroughton and benefactor Sir John Madejski



AVM Barry and Mrs Newton and Lord & Lady Iliffe



Dorothy Gough and Piper Keith 'Paddy' Burton



Joanne, William and Jack remembering Adrian Anslow RN FAA



Falklands Veteran Dee Wright with her Harley Davidson



David and Virginia Willis, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Gurkha Regiment



Anne and Giles Currie with 'Croft'



HMS Hermes Association gifted the Chapel with £150 cheque and an HMS Broadsword painting



Captain Chris Craig, HMS Alacrity, with his wife Daphne and Janet Bootherstone



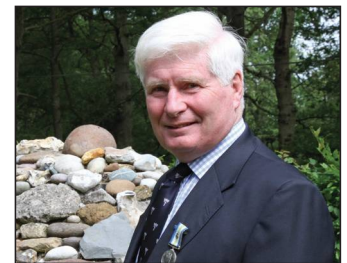
SAMA'82 Standard Bearer Steve Kay



Members of HMS Invincible Association



Gladys Easton, Tom and Alan Watt and Hugh Upward HMS Glamorgan



Dr Morgan O'Connell



Members of HMS Hermes Association presented Mrs Kate McCabe with a portrait of her late husband Captain Ian H North DSC

FALKLAND ISLANDS MEMORIAL CHAPEL ASSOCIATIONS & CONTACTS

Falkland Families Association (FFA)

Chairman: Mrs Sara Jones CBE

Secretary: Mrs Cynthia Middlewick, 20 Newlands Close, Keymer, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8BQ

SAMA '82

President: Major General Malcolm Hunt CBE

Chairman: Mike Bowles MBE

Secretary: Jane Adams, SAMA'82, PO Box 82, Blackwood, NP12 OYE.

Tel: 01495 227577 or Email: secretary@sama82.org.uk

SAMA'82 AGM: Friday 25th - Monday 28th March 2011 at the Britannia Hotel, Coventry.

Merchant Navy Association (MNA)

National Secretary Tim Brant

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

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

THE ELIZABETH CROSS



Ray, Barbara and Adrienne Poole
with Brigadier Johnny Rickett



Richard and Pamela Jones & family
with Sir Hew Pike



Anna and Sally Eyton-Jones with Sir
Michael Layard



Yvonne Robinson and family with
Sara Jones



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



Ann Townsend and David Grose remembering son Neil with family members
and Sir Hew Pike



Sir Michael Layard, Marian and Don Pryce with daughters Terry Lucas and
Jackie Pryce

The Chapel Trustees were honoured to enable eighteen Elizabeth Cross presentations to families in the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel on 13th June 2010. Presentors included the Commanding Officers of their appropriate units in as many cases as possible and the ceremony was integrated within the order of Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving. It made the occasion even more meaningful than usual.

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. Most families should have received their medals by now but if there are any out there who have not been contacted we may be able to help. Please contact the Secretary on 01295 738123.



David Tarbard with daughters
Maxine & Kirsty and Sir Hew Pike



Joanna, Diana and Andrew Batt
with Sir Michael Layard



Mrs Ros Balfour and friends, with
Captain David Hart-Dyke

THE ELIZABETH CROSS

Photos provided by Don Sommer



The Anslow Family with Sir Michael Layard



Major General Julian Thompson with Elaine Howieson and her family



The Marsden Family with Sir Michael Layard



Captain David Hart-Dyke and Mrs Anne Woodhead



Mrs Kate McCabe with her husband David, daughter Sophie and Mrs Barbara North



Brigadier Johnny Rickett with Diane Sumnall, Jan Johnson and Gary Sturge



Freda and Melanie McKay, Sir Hew Pike and Mrs Jeanne Bennett



PRAYER FOR THE YEAR BY REVEREND BRIAN CUNNINGHAM

2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the Authorized Version of the Bible (sometimes called the King James' version). In that time it is estimated that somewhere between 2.5 and 6 billion copies have been sold around the world, making it one of Britain's most influential and enduring products in the English-speaking world.

O Lord, you have given us your word for a light to shine upon our path;

grant us so to meditate on that word, and to follow its teaching,

that we may find in it the light that shines more and more until the perfect day;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Saint Jerome)



Alison and Stephen Mundy-Gill, Mrs Iris Hall, Susan and Ashley Culley, Captain David Hart-Dyke



Mrs Sara Jones with her family and Sir Hew Pike

MAGICAL FLORISTRY!



Centrepeace for 13th June

Next came a stunning 'tribute to the albatross' for which he constructed a stylised arrangement using an old Strelizia leaf for the head, willow pieces for the wings Formium leaves for the tail and green Beech for the body bulk. This basis was then enhanced with a mixture of Solomon's Seal and variegated Horse Radish leaves embellished with a confection of palest pinky cream roses and brown anthurium florets for balance. A stunning effect!

He then moved on to providing a stunning interpretation of the Chapel's Memorial Window in gorgeous hues of blues & purples – delphiniums, hydrangeas, aliums and abutilon – interspersed with silver leaved 'Lamb's Ears' or Stachys.

Sunrise & Sunset were the chosen themes for the next two displays; the former had a basis of coconut leaves 'snaked' onto a wooden frame and filled with foliage of golden privet or euonymus and Mexican orangeblossom in which he placed yellow gerbera and rose flowerheads; Sunset had an amazing canoe shaped basis across which John constructed a swathe of copper beech branches studded with orange datura, gerberas & roses. You could almost see the sun going down.

Last, but not least he unveiled a centrepiece of garden flowers to remain in the Chapel for the 13th June Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving. A prize draw of all the other arrangements raised a wonderful £1,000 for the Chapel Trust.

At the conclusion of his animated presentation John gave several useful tips including how to stop rose heads (and other flowers with wooded stems) wilting in a display: immerse cut stem in boiling water to one inch for 10 seconds to get rid of any airlock – as a result you will have no wilting roses! Something we've all wanted to know....

International floral art designer John Chennell provided onlookers with a fascinating and imaginative demonstration of his skills at a flower arranging Masterclass in the Chapel on June 11th. His repertoire of seven floral displays ranged from the traditional to the extraordinary, all linked to the Chapel or the Falkland Islands in some way. John started by demonstrating a traditional display crafted from garden foliage such as philadelphus, sennecio, Solomons Seal, Ivy, & Grasses studded with pale pink roses and Lizianthus.



Sadie Clare – organiser & Flower Guild Chairman with John Chennell



Albatross



Sunrise



Sunset



Memorial Window

VROOM...VROOOM...PATRIOTS UK VISIT CHAPEL



A group of fifty Falklands Veteran bikers from Patriots UK and organised by SAMA'82's Denzil Connick visited the Chapel in June



BEST LETTER OF THE YEAR!

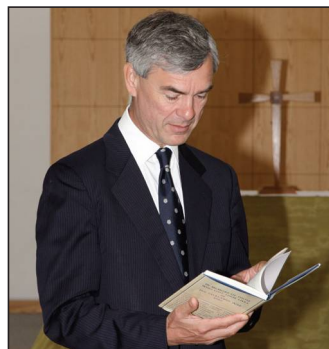
We receive some truly wonderful letters from you all and every one is cherished and appreciated. We had to share extracts of this one with you from Gareth Jones – brother of Private Craig Jones 3 Para – which touched us all so much. The Jones family were with us last June to receive their Elizabeth Cross:

'I am writing to express my sincere thanks to the Trustees for building the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel. I have only recently read 'Just To See His Name' about the Herculean effort needed to create it of which I was previously unaware. Having read about the immense effort and ingenuity of the Trustees to make the Chapel come to fruition I felt the need to tell you how much your work means to those of us who lost family in the Falklands War. I visit the Chapel regularly to spend time remembering my brother. It's always an emotional but comforting visit and I cherish the time that I spend there. It is the most beautiful and fitting memorial I have ever been into. Thank you again for creating it.....'

Gareth also tells us that he is taking part in a series of sponsored runs to raise the money for a Seat to remember his brother Craig. We wish him the very best of luck!

NEW GOVERNOR VISITS CHAPEL

Before leaving for the Islands in October the new Governor designate of the Falkland Islands – Nigel Haywood CVO - paid a visit to the Chapel and met up with College Headmaster Thomas Garnier and Bursar Ron Obbard. His tour of the Chapel included signing the Visitors Book and viewing the refurbished Memorial side-room complete with new ash furniture, an updated SAMA Garden of Remembrance and two digital photo-frames containing a diary of photos of many of the floral arrangements and tributes from the Flower Guild Festivals over the years and a catalogue of photographs taken by Falkland Islander Norman Clarke which were previously on display at the Imperial War Museum (see front page). The originals of the latter were donated to the Chapel by Mr Clarke whose Falklands '82 Trust shared the funding of the refurbishment programme with the Honorable Company of Master Mariners. In addition the Governor was able to enjoy the now complete model ships' display featuring the Falklands Flotilla donated in 2009 by Brigadier Robin McGarel-Groves.



New Governor of the Falkland Islands Nigel Haywood dips into a copy of 'Just To See His Name' by Anthony Hudson



Admiring the bronze albatross with Thomas Garnier



Nigel Haywood studies the interactive digital photoframes in the Memorial Room

SEATS 'IN MEMORY'...

A fantastic nineteen Seats were sponsored 'In Memoriam' during the Chapel's 10th Anniversary Year; among the sponsors were mothers, widows, families, regimental associations, organisations and charitable trusts who all considered the sponsorship of a Seat an excellent way of marking the memory of a loved one at the same time as showing support for the Chapel Trust by contributing valuable funding. Each Seat sponsored bears a plaque with an appropriate message inscribed and a full list of these is held within the Donor Register in the Chapel's Memorial Room. Full details of how to sponsor a Seat are contained within the leaflet in this newsletter package

WHAT YOU TOLD US...



OUR MISTAKE!

In last year's newsletter we were incorrect when we told you that the 'Church Flowers' book by Judith Blacklock featured a floral tribute done at a Chapel Masterclass....it was, in fact arranged by Diane Gill at the 2007 Flower Festival for Mrs Diana Batt in memory of her husband Lt Cdr Gordon WJ Batt, DSC, RN who died in the Falklands War. This gives us an excellent excuse to publish this stunning floral tribute.

OXFORDSHIRE VETERANS NB.....

We have been told that the Banbury Household Division Association, formed in 2009 to meet the needs of serving & former Household Division members, can welcome new members in North Oxon, South Warwickshire and South Northants. Those wishing to join should contact: Kieron Mallon, Wykham Park Farm Cottages, Wykham Lane, Banbury OX16 9UP. Tel/Fax 01295 269177

SAMA82 PLAN MEMORIAL AT THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM

The SAMA(82) Trustees are planning to go ahead with the construction of a Falklands War Memorial at the Association site, dedicated in 2007, in the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas. The memorial will be built by firm of stonemasons who have built a number of outstanding military memorials in the NMA. The dedication ceremony is planned for May 2012 and fundraising will begin imminently.

It is intended that the Memorial will reflect the Falklands landscape, be distinctive amongst other memorials of marble and fine stone, and create a sense of being within the memorial rather than looking in from the outside.

This will be achieved by reflecting the style and materials used in the San Carlos Cemetery, with which many veterans are familiar.

FREEMASONS SERVICE



A dozen members of the Goring Gap Lodge of Freemasons no 8359 gathered for a special Service with their wives and partners in November to celebrate the blessing of their recently sponsored Seat. Mr John Butt (centre) who donated the Seat said that the Service had been beautifully constructed by Rev. Brian Cunningham and had been a memorable occasion.

BOOK REVIEW



by Robin Brodhurst,
Head of History,
Pangbourne College

WHITE SHIP - RED CROSSES

A nursing memoir of the Falklands War
Melrose Press £13.99 - Nicci Pugh

Over the past twenty eight years we have had every book imaginable about the fighting of the Falklands War. Now at last here comes one from a very different point of view. Nicci Pugh was one of the senior nurses on board the Hospital Ship Uganda, and she has written a fascinating account of what happened on board. Uganda was a P & O cruise ship specializing in school tours in the Mediterranean. Within a week in April 1982 she was converted into a hospital ship in Gibraltar with 90 tons of stores flown out from UK and was scrubbed from top to bottom to make her clean - a lesson modern hospitals could well learn!

As a Hospital Ship, Uganda could not receive military information and had to stay within a designated Red Cross Box. They therefore had to rely on the BBC World Service for news of what was happening. This sense of isolation permeates the book. Most famously, she was not told where any minefields had been laid (military information) and so managed to steam clear through one when entering Port Stanley at the end of the fighting! Uganda was in a bubble of its own, and the staff on board fought their battles in the operating theatre,

burns unit, ICU and wards rather than on Mount Tumbledown or at Goose Green. But the battles were there nonetheless. As a simple example all of the beds sent out had wheels on them and tended to move with the ships motion - not ideal. Supplies of blood were likely to be a problem as it has a shelf life of 35 days, and so most supplies had to come from within the Task Force. However, donors need 48 hours to recover from giving blood, and once the troops had landed donor sessions would be impossible. 415 pints were taken before troops landed and Uganda used 298 - one patient receiving over 50. The fact is that all of these battles were won and only three, of the 730 admitted, died, a remarkable record, matched only by Commander Rick Jolly's ADS at Ajax Bay. Incidentally, 150 of those 730 were Argentinean and they were dealt with just the same as anybody else.



However, the book is more than just a story of how Uganda was operated. Throughout, Nicci Pugh has used the testimony of nurses, crew and patients to make the story more personal. Whether it is the recollections of the

RN Pathologist, Mark Trasler, or a fellow nurse, Maggie Freer, illustrating how they overcame problems, or the memories of a patient, they are vivid and moving. Amongst the best are those of Denzil Connick, whose memories start with being wounded on Mount Longdon, and who has vivid recollection of his time on board. Throughout there are pictures, usually taken by the author herself, even if (to nit pick) some are repeated.

The last part of the book tells the story of Uganda after she was returned to P & O and was later sold for scrap, and then the story of how Nicci Pugh became involved with SAMA82, organizing a

reunion on board P & O's Aurora in April 2008 for all those who had served on board Uganda as staff, crew or patient. She has written a most moving book which rounds off our knowledge of the Falklands War. The professionalism and superb competence of our fighting troops was more than matched by that of their nursing and medical staff, and this book shows it to the full.



The author Nicci Pugh talks about the inspiration for her book



Major General Julian Thompson makes his address at the launch of 'White Ship - Red Crosses' on board HMS Warrior in Portsmouth's Naval Dockyard in April last year.

JOIN US ON SUNDAY 12TH JUNE 2011! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Please join the Trustees on Sunday 12th June 2011 for our special Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving in the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel at Pangbourne. The Service begins at 12.00 hrs and, as usual, will be followed by a buffet and refreshments in Drake Hall. You will find a reply slip with this newsletter - please complete and return it in the envelope provided so that we estimate catering numbers. This year we shall be joined by Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope GCB OBE ADC and Lady Stanhope as our Guests of Honour. Our preacher will be Colonel Chris Keeble DSO.

This year we hope to be joined again by many of the Friends who regularly help to maintain the Chapel in good order and some of the Major Benefactors who helped make the Chapel possible at the outset.

The Trustees would like to hear from any members of families who 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 before the end of April and will be treated with the utmost confidence.

The Trustees remain truly grateful to everyone who is able to give on a regular or one off basis and particularly so to the Royal British Legion and Seafarers' UK who help us fund this newsletter, the annual service and time to spend on our growing pastoral care remit.

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: angelaep@aol.com

You can now see the Chapel in 3D on our website – www.falklands-chapel.org.uk

This is all due to Lucy Hamblin-Rooke, a previous student at Pangbourne, who tested the new technology on the Chapel and donated her work to the website.