



Registered in England as a Charity Number 282786



1999/2000 Annual Report



2000 Review and Report

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Foreword | 3 |
| Introduction | 5 |
| Current Activities (to November 2000) | 6 |
| Shelter Belts | 6 |
| The Alexandra Wood Project | 7 |
| Links with Southern Chile | 7 |
| Cereals | 7 |
| Composting | 7 |
| Tussac Grass | 7 |
| Specialist Advice | 8 |
| Civic Projects | 8 |
| Publications | 8 |
| Future Activities | 9 |
| Soil & Land Use Survey | 9 |
| Johnny Rooks | 9 |
| Personalities | 9 |
| Secretarial | 10 |
| Sustaining a Secure Future | 10 |
| Meeting Between UKFIT and the outgoing General Manager FIDC | 11 |
| Future Strategy | 11 |
| The Visit by Our Royal Patron | 14 |
| Financial Affairs | 15 |
| Report of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund's London Management Committee | 16 |
| Royal Visit | 16 |
| Scholarships | 16 |
| Academic Scholars | 16 |
| Quality Of Life Scholars | 16 |
| Finance | 16 |
| Administration | 17 |
| Looking Forward | 17 |
| Annex A United Kingdom Falkland Islands Trust Personnel | 18 |
| Shackleton Scholarship Fund London Management Committee | 18 |
| Annex B Financial Year 1999/2000 Budget | 19 |
| Annex C Captain Paddy Vincent CBE RN - Haul Down Report | 20 |
| Annex D Robin Lee - a Tribute by Jim McAdam | 22 |

The UKFIT website is www.fidc.org.fk/ukfit/home.htm

Photographs by Dr Jim McAdam & Harold Briley

Foreword

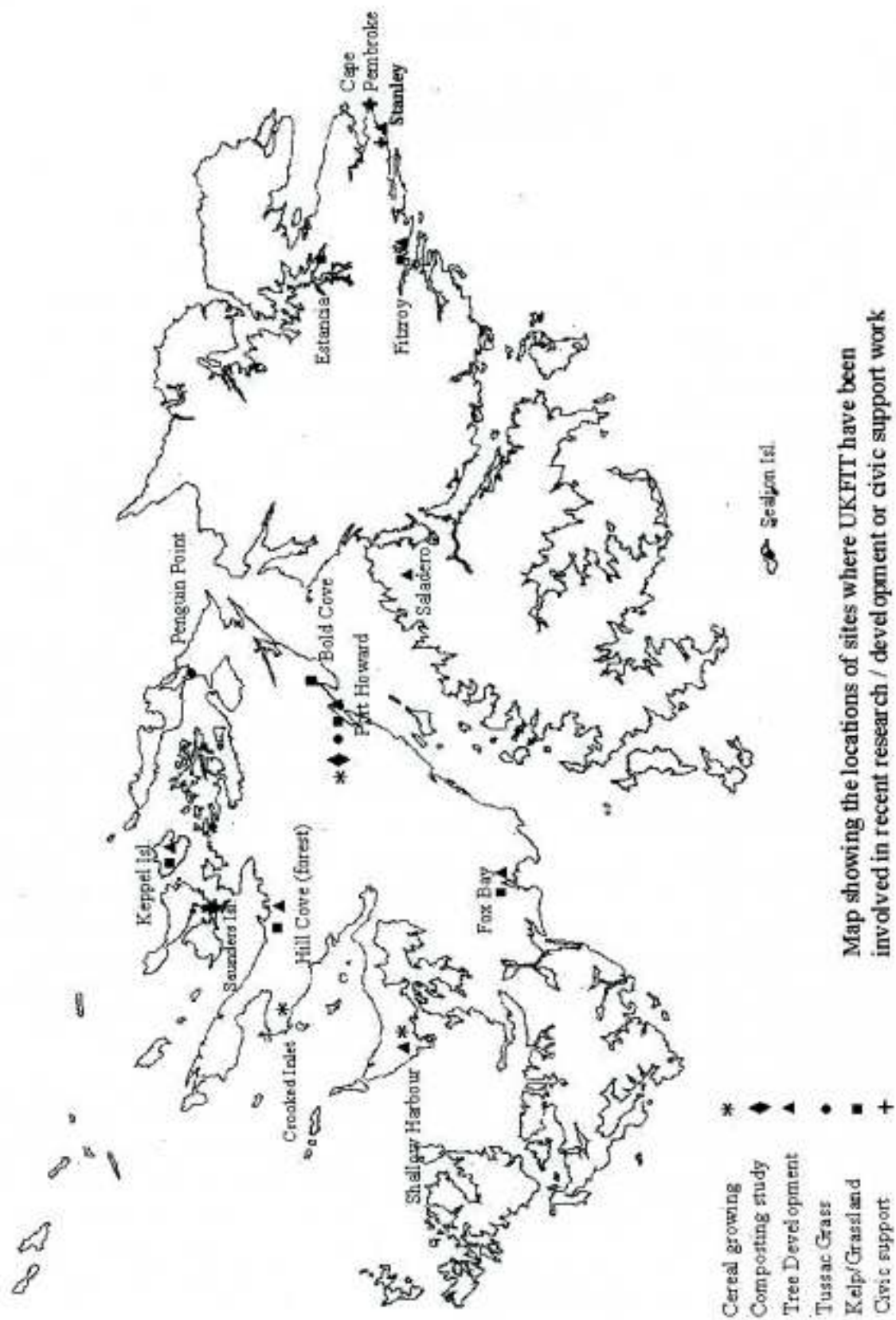
I am delighted to provide the foreword to this annual report of the UK Falkland Islands Trust. Over the years the UKFIT has played an increasingly important role in providing initiatives which have supplemented the normal activities of FIG Departments and in many cases have led to project development which has been to the benefit of all the population of the Falklands. One of the Trust's key roles in the Islands has been the network of contacts provided to those involved in Government, business and society by its Trustees and Consultants.

In the past much of the Trust's valuable research and idea generation has been passed on to Government Departments who have, where appropriate, taken these forward to a development stage.

Speaking as a representative of the wider business community, I am keen to see a more direct involvement of the Trust with business in the Islands as well as with Government. It is in the whole area of linking commerce and business with Government Departments through project development that the Trust can play a key role.

I look forward to the gradual expansion of the Trusts good work and commend this annual report to you.

*Hamish Wylie
President, Chamber of Commerce, Stanley*



Map showing the locations of sites where UKFIT have been involved in recent research / development or civic support work

UNITED KINGDOM FALKLAND ISLANDS TRUST (UKFIT)

Incorporating

SHACKLETON SCHOLARSHIP FUND (SSF)

Patron - HRH Princess Alexandra

Development, Activities and Achievements 2000

Introduction

The Trust's twentieth year has been rather special. It has been marked principally by a most successful 5-day visit in February to the Falkland Islands by our Royal Patron, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra. During her stay the Princess was clearly captivated by the beauty of the Islands, the remarkable wildlife and the friendly people who responded so warmly to her obvious keen interest in everything she saw and everyone she met. The visit has sparked renewed interest in Trust activities and re-invigorated the Trustees in their efforts to benefit the Islands through their consultancy and sponsorship activities. More information about the Princess's visit is given later.

2000 is also marked by being the last year in office for our Chairman, Captain Paddy Vincent, CBE RN, who will hand over the reins to Air Commodore Peter Johnson, presently Vice Chairman, at the Trust meeting in January 2001. His 4 years in office has brought considerable recognition to the Trust and he will leave an organisation that has benefited immeasurably from his warmth, infectious enthusiasm, dedication to the Islands and enormous efforts on behalf of the Islands. His crowning achievement, in addition to ensuring a firm place for the Trust in the Islanders' hearts & minds, was of course the success of Princess Alexandra's visit, due in large measure to his personal initiatives and meticulous preparation. Trustees and the many people both in the UK and in the Falkland Islands who know Paddy will join in thanking him for his contribution over the past 4 years and wish him well in his future ventures. The last word, however, has been left to Paddy who has his say about Trust activities later in this Report.

2000 also saw the departure of David Stickland, who has retired after over 15 years as one of our two agricultural consultants. His contribution to the work of the Trust focused principally on promoting the marketing of organic agricultural products, particularly wool, initially at a time when the word organic was very much out of vogue. He has seen, therefore, his pioneering work bear fruit as the Islands move close to becoming the first country in the world able to guarantee that all its agricultural products are farmed using sustainable organic methods. More on David later.

Sadly, 2000 was also marked by the untimely death of one of our best-loved Trustees, Robin Lee. Robin died in Carlisle three months after Princess Alexandra's visit from complications following heart surgery. He was only 51.

An outstanding man of his time as a businessman, farmer and legislator, he was also a valued Trustee who contributed much to agricultural development, in particular around his beloved Port Howard. He will be sadly missed. His good friend and colleague, our consultant Dr Jim McAdam, provides a tribute to Robin later in this Report.

Current Activities (to November 2000)

Shelter Belts

Exploratory research in this area by the Trust between 1989 and 1994 led to the Department of Agriculture (DoA) in the Falklands undertaking an ambitious shelterbelt programme. The programme has resulted in the planting of five major shelterbelts. They are growing well and yield information that will be valuable in extending the programme to other farms. The programme benefits from the activities of the UK Falklands Islands Tree Advisory Group (FITAG) consisting of specialists who draw on a wide range of contacts and personal experience to advise the programme. The Facilitator of the Group, and one of its key members, is our consultant, Dr Jim McAdam, of Queen's University Belfast and Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland.

During August 2000, an ambitious shelterbelt planting took place on Keppel Island. Led by Dr McAdam and ably supported by Tony and Susan Hirtle, a team of four planted some 2500 trees in just over a week. The aims of the exercise were to:

- Establish small pockets of shelter between the tiny settlement on Keppel and the lakes to the northwest which would allow further plantings at a later date
- Create 'baffle' shelter belts up either side of the valleys leading down to the settlement and gardens
- Establish a small hardwood collection around the lakes and settlement gardens on a trial basis
- Establish a small tree nursery

Some eleven different species were sown in fourteen individual locations containing between 100 and 200 trees. All the aims of the exercise were achieved and it is hoped that a follow up visit to assess the trees can be arranged for early 2001.

A coloured guidebook - 'Guidelines for Shelterbelt Planting in the Falkland Islands' - prepared by Dr McAdam and Dr Alan Low, ex Forestry Commission and consultant to DoA, was produced by UKFIT and DoA during the year. The booklet is designed to provide guidance to landowners and farmers on establishing shelterbelts in the camp area of the Falklands. However, it may also assist many other people who wish to grow trees, even if only around their homes and in their gardens. It is essentially a practical guide, summarising the best available knowledge on tree planting and shelterbelt establishment, and also contains contacts and useful addresses supporting the products and materials mentioned in the text. Copies are available in the Islands or from Dr McAdam via the Trust's Administration Secretary.

The Alexandra Wood Project

At Port Howard, West Falkland, Ron Reeves and the late Robin Lee had initiated a series of trials involving a range of tree species, ground preparation and propagation techniques. The area planted by both Ron and Shackleton Scholarship Fund scholar, Malcolm Dawson, continues to flourish and is particularly notable for the wide range of Willows growing there. Trees grown from seed collected in Southern Chile are now planted in the area. The woodland is a shop front for the Trust's tree activities and is being developed as a quiet recreational area where visitors can relax and see some of the Trust's activities at first hand. It was in the busy kitchen of the International Tourist and Fishing Lodge at Port Howard, run by Robin and Hattie Lee, during the visit by HRH Princess Alexandra that the idea of naming the wood after her was suggested. In her foreword to the Souvenir Booklet the Princess says: 'It gives me particular pleasure that the Trust's wood at Port Howard is now named after me and I will watch its development with special interest.'

Links with Southern Chile

The Trust has built up links with the University of Magellanes, Punta Arenas, and the Chilean Forestry R&D organisation (INFOR). Both these organisations have individuals and programmes that can contribute to rural development (including forestry) in the Falklands. Trees of a range of species have been sent to the Islands and seed has been collected from a range of locations across Tierra del Fuego for subsequent trials on growth and nutrition in the Falklands, Northern Ireland and Chile as part of an ambitious research programme involving Rodrigo Olave of INFOR and Dr McAdam.

Cereals

In the wake of more positive news on the Abattoir development and the impact that shelterbelts can make to a diversified rural economy, the Trust has continued to provide advice and support on cereal production. Cereals will be required to fatten the increased numbers of cattle which it is hoped will become a part of rural life once the new abattoir comes on line next year. Seed has been distributed to three farms on West Falkland (Crooked Inlet, Shallow Harbour and Port Howard) to experiment with different varieties. These will be planted this season.

Composting

The Trust continues to provide advice on the use of kelp seaweed as a sustainable, organic fertiliser, or as an 'emulsifying agent'. In addition, the Trust has helped set up a composting trial at Port Howard which makes use of sheep carcasses, kelp and peat as recommended in a previous Trust-commissioned report by Mickey Pery of ECOSCI Ltd. It is hoped that the product will be used to assist in cereal production.

Tussac Grass

Work has commenced on a new Tussac grass programme that will form a central focus to the Trust's activities over the next few years. The programme is based on the assumption that enough information is available currently to establish Tussac grass, and that what is needed now is a strategy for the sustainable management of Tussac. The long-term aim of the programme is

to provide stands of Tussac for economic gain to support enhanced, quality meat production within the Islands. This aim also embraces the conservation and protection of existing and new stands of Tussac. There is also a recognition within the programme that many, previously healthy, stands of Tussac appear to be showing declining vigour and that their renovation may lie in the application of an appropriate fertiliser, particularly an organic one.

Key areas of the programme are:

- to investigate novel and practical techniques for establishment and to determine the fertility requirements for sustainable use of healthy, productive stands of Tussac, and
- to provide sound advice on how to utilise Tussac for economic gain while sustaining and protecting stands to retain and ensure their conservation value.

Seeds have been collected in the Islands and sown in Alaska and Northern Ireland (by Stoney Wright, United States Department of Agriculture and Queen's University Belfast) with a view to expanding commercial production in the Islands and understanding sustainability of the crop.

Specialist Advice

The Trust is providing advice and support to the FIDC and DoA on a pilot survey of aerial photography to identify natural resources. In addition, at the request of the Falkland Islands Chief Executive, Dr Michael Blanch, the Trust initiated a study on the co-ordination and retrieval of the results of the many scientific studies and research projects conducted in the Islands by many diverse UK and International individuals and organisations over the years. The Trust is now assisting in setting up a computer database to handle this information.

Civic Projects

During the year, the Trust continued to support a number of small civic projects in the Islands. They included a contribution to the refurbishment of historic ship's names outlined on a hill overlooking Stanley; continued support for the Community School's agricultural and computer projects; support to the Cubs for maintenance and enhancement of the 1982 Memorial Wood; and a contribution towards the purchase of camping equipment and wildflower booklets for children on expedition.

Publications

During the year, 3 articles were published in Wool Press, the DoA monthly magazine to farmers on:

- Machinery selection for cereal farming in the Falkland Islands 114 (May 1999)
- Phosphate in Falkland Islands soils and plants 130 (Sep 2000)
- Some further ideas on tree species for the Falkland Islands 112 (March 2000)

Future Activities

Soil & Land Use Survey

The DoA is actively promoting the commission of a project to complete a soil map and land use survey of the Falkland Islands. It is expected that the project will cost in the region of £200K to £300K. Naturally a project of this magnitude is not to be undertaken lightly and the Falkland Islands Government is in the process of considering the project in the light of other pressing needs upon its limited financial resources. However, the Trust feels strongly that this work would provide a highly valuable tool to those engaged in land use planning and is likely to provide 'seed corn' funding to the project should the decision be taken to go ahead. It is understood that at least Phase 1 of the project has been approved.

Johnny Rooks

The Trust may become involved in a consultancy role to the Falkland's Environment and Planning Department for a project to assess damage by Striated Caracara on sheep flocks. These large, very intelligent and aggressive birds (known locally as Johnny Rooks) are a protected species within the South Atlantic area but can inflict heavy damage on sheep, especially to newborn lambs.

Personalities

Captain Paddy Vincent RN, Chairman, visited the Islands during late October and early November 1999 in company with Dr McAdam. Their visit significantly raised interest in UKFIT activities within the Islands and laid the ground for the very successful visit by HRH Princess Alexandra in February 2000. Paddy will step down as Chairman in January 2001 to be replaced by Air Commodore Peter Johnson, former Commander British Forces Falkland Islands and currently Vice Chairman. His 'haul down' report, as befits a distinguished ex-sailor, is at Annex C.

During the visit, the appointment of Natalie Smith as administrator to Falkland Islands based Trustees was confirmed and she is now well established in the role. The Trust benefits greatly both from her local administrative efforts, in particular in dealing with the local bank account, and from the use of Tim Miller's Internet facilities, which have greatly improved communications between UK and the Islands.

Dr McAdam visited the Islands, and also spent some time in Chile, during August and September 2000. His visit was both highly practical in moving forward various Trust activities outlined earlier and extremely helpful in keeping the profile of the Trust high in the Islands.

As mentioned in the introduction, due mainly to health problems David Stickland resigned as consultant to the Trust in January 2000 after over 14 years of service to the organisation. David provided the Trust with advice on agricultural marketing in the areas of horticulture, development and sales. Under his guidance the Trust worked vigorously in promoting the marketing of organic products: wool, meat, and vegetables. Until recently this work went largely unrewarded but at long last the favourable environmental

conditions in the Islands have been recognised, the demand for organic products has blossomed and the Falkland Islands Government now plans to set up an Organic Certification Body by the end of 2000. Responding to the recommendations of a study by Marketing Principals International Ltd of North Berwick called 'Branding the Falklands', within three years the Islands could be exporting organically attested wool, organic shellfish and a variety of meats. David must feel very satisfied that at long last his patient efforts over so many years have been recognised. His work on behalf of the Islands will be greatly missed and we wish him well in the future

As reported in last year's Review, due to pressure of work Councillor Lewis Clifton resigned from the Falkland Islands sub-committee on 26 April 1999. It was also announced in the summer that Mr Ian Cox, FIDC Representative in London, whom the Trust has worked with closely over the past few years, had tendered his resignation. The Trust would like to offer thanks and much appreciation for the support provided by Ian in both the Trust's project activities and in the publicity opportunities provided by the FIDC website.

As we go to press, it has been announced that Sam Allanson-Bailey has started work at the Falkland Islands Government Office (FIGO) in London as Customer Services and Marketing Manager. The Trust has benefited greatly from the support provided by Miss Sukey Cameron and her staff at FIGO and we look forward very much to working with Miss Allanson-Bailey in an area that the Trust has taken a good deal of interest in over the years.

At Annex D, Jim McAdam provides a tribute to our much-missed Falkland Islands Trustee Robin Lee who, as mentioned earlier, died on 8 May 2000.

Secretarial

Mrs Doris Dodson, Administration Secretary to the Trust, continues to provide sterling service. This year she has helped take the Trust into the new Millennium by computerising her book keeping and secretarial work and by coming to grips with the Internet revolution, hugely improving communication between Trustees in the process. As ever, the Trustees are in her debt for the effort she makes on our behalf.

Sustaining a Secure Future

On 12 July 2000 the Falkland Islands Government hosted a forum in London - Sustaining a Secure Future - on economic initiatives within the Islands. Over 145 delegates, including senior figures from the Islands, investors, journalists and business representatives from the Falklands and the UK came together to discuss the future economic diversification of the Islands in the areas of oil and mineral exploration and exploitation, commercial fishing, tourism and agriculture. The Trust was well represented at the Forum and gained valuable insights into current FIG thinking. Particularly valuable was a workshop session on diversification in agriculture attended by the Vice President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Dr McAdam from the Trust, with Councillor Richard Cockwell in the Chair and Bob Reid, Falklands Director of Agriculture, providing expert advice.

Meeting Between UKFIT and the outgoing General Manager FIDC

Following on from the Forum in July, on 13 September 2000 Trustees met with Hugh Normand, outgoing General Manager FIDC, at the Falkland Government Office in London. The meeting proved extremely valuable in gaining his views on the way the Trust should develop future activities. He confirmed that the key advantage that the Trust brings to the table is the plethora of influential and expert contacts available to Trustees both in London and elsewhere in the UK, and the ease by which these contacts can be exploited both formally and informally compared with the Islands. However, he considered that whilst the Trust provided a valuable service to the Islands in agricultural and land issues, it might now seek to contribute in wider areas. He suggested that tourism, infrastructure and fisheries, both external and internal, are areas where the Trust might be able to contribute valuable expertise and assistance in the future.

Coupled with discussions at the Forum, the meeting gave Trustees much food for thought on future activities. Mr Normand, who has now settled in Helensburg near Glasgow, concluded by offering his assistance to the Trust if required. He was warmly thanked by the Chairman and given our best wishes for the future.

Future Strategy

It is now 20 years since the Trust was founded and began work on an ad hoc basis under the founder Chairman, Major General Nigel Gribbon, now Vice President, joined later by Lord Strathcona as President, reacting to the very many and clear needs of the Falkland Islands economy at that time. Since then a focused programme of project work, largely connected with agriculture and forestry has been developed and implemented. However, both the economic and political situations are now very different from 1980. The Islands are now economically independent of the UK in all but defence, the wool industry has declined, the fisheries industry has leapt to the fore and oil may be around the corner. Moreover, Councillors are now much more willing and able to determine their own destiny. Thus mindful of these fundamental changes and reacting to initiatives within the Islands outlined at the London Forum in July, the Vice-President prepared a paper on future strategy for the Trust meeting in October 2000.

In summing up his paper, the Vice President recommended that the present agricultural and smaller civic projects should be continued while the Trust considered widening its activities in the years ahead to such possible areas as fisheries, tourism, industrial matters and transportation. At the meeting Trustees also considered a paper by Dr McAdam in which he saw the overarching mission for the Trust as encouraging the development of a vibrant rural community in the Falkland Islands, closely integrated with those providing infrastructure and support in Stanley. In turn, Sir Rex Hunt emphasised that the Trust should be guided by the Islanders who, in the past, have plainly been grateful for the Trust's important role in agriculture.



Emma Jane McAdam and shelterbelt trees planted at Fitzroy in 1990 - now doing well



Establishing a small tree nursery from seed on Keppel Island - Brian Alexander from Greenmount Agricultural College, Northern Ireland



Falkland Islands Trustee Tim Miller inspecting imported trees from Chile destined for trials on growth and nutrition



Dr Jim McAdam and the late Robin Lee check on a Tussac Grass trial

The Vice Chairman, Air Commodore Johnson, has been given the task of developing and taking forward the future role of the Trust. Taking together the views outlined above and guided by discussions at the London Forum and at the meeting with Hugh Normand, a small working party led by the Vice Chairman will examine all these aspects in greater depth, in the course of which budget proposals for the year 2001/2 will be developed.

The Visit by Our Royal Patron

As mentioned in the introduction, HRH Princess Alexandra, the Patron of the UK Falkland Island Trust, visited the Islands from 1st to 5th February 2000.

She was clearly captivated by the beauty of the place, the wildlife and the people, and took great interest in the many aspects of their lives that she had a brief glimpse of in her crowded programme. Over and over again, the timetable slipped as her enthusiasm took over. On one particularly busy day she missed lunch and munched a banana instead.

There was no pomp and ceremony and the people in turn were captivated by her. She mingled with many of the Islands' 2,400 population and met some of the servicemen and women in the garrison, who organised a display of their work in the hangar at Mount Pleasant. She also met the crew of the guardship HMS Dumbarton Castle and had lunch aboard.

The main purpose of her five-day visit was to see for herself the work of the United Kingdom Falkland Islands Trust as well as that of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund. Guided by the two Falkland Islands Trustees, Tim Miller and Robin Lee, the Princess toured several Trust projects in Stanley, Fitzroy and at Port Howard Farm on West Falkland where, as reported earlier, she was delighted to have the UKFIT tree plantation named after her. She was also delighted with the gift of a Falklands sweater from Eddie and Ann Chandler at their knitwear centre. She met residents of West Falkland in the Social Club, and stayed overnight in the Tourist Lodge. At Fitzroy Farm, managed by Ron Binnie, she was shown around tree and legume plantations, and briefed by the Director of Agriculture, Bob Reid, and other experts. In Stanley, she toured the hydroponic garden and the field irrigation trial, funded by the UKFIT, the Falkland Islands Development Corporation and Stanley Growers.

At the Memorial Wood in Stanley, whose trees individually commemorate every serviceman who died in the 1982 conflict, she was joined by several next-of-kin, including Mrs Freda McKay, mother of Sergeant McKay awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross, Mrs Ann Reid, and Mr and Mrs Carlyle. She met some of the Cub Scouts, led by Mrs Jan Miller, who tend the trees and plant daffodils in the wood with help from UKFIT.

Princess Alexandra also paid homage at the 1982 Liberation Monument, laid a wreath, and was introduced by Terry Peck to members of the South Atlantic Medal Association and representatives of youth organisations. In the now blissfully peaceful setting of San Carlos, where the Task Force landed in 1982, she laid a wreath at the memorial and looked at each grave, escorted by Mrs Sheila McPhee who keeps this beautiful burial place in immaculate condition. She was flown by helicopter over the Welsh Guards memorial at Fitzroy Cove, where the troop landing craft Sir Galahad was bombed and set ablaze.

Scores of children, many of them waving flags, lined her route when she visited Stanley Community School. She also toured Stanley Hospital, including the day centre and sheltered housing complex for older people. She was fascinated by the Museum and met the people who run the Seamen's Lighthouse Centre. The wildlife on Sea Lion Island was a highlight, with Jenny Luxton as her guide, bringing her close to seals basking in the sun and a raucous welcome from thousands of penguins, in what was near perfect weather throughout. A series of official dinners and receptions completed her programme. She was presented by the Islands Councillors with a book, "The Falkland Islands" by Mandy Shepherd, and a commemorative stamp and first day cover was issued by the Philatelic Bureau.

Princess Alexandra is doubly appreciated for her support and Royal patronage for the Falklands Fund set up to help Falklands civilians who suffered loss as a result of the 1982 invasion. This visit by the Princess, cousin of the Queen, was the latest of several by Royal visitors, including Prince Charles and Princess Anne, Prince Andrew as a Royal Navy Task Force pilot in 1982 and later to open Mount Pleasant Airport military complex, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Kent.

The visit has been commemorated in an attractive Souvenir Booklet, copies of which can be purchased from the Trust's Administration Secretary, Mrs Doris Dodson. Contact her on 0207 582 6380 for further details. Profits from the sale will go to UKFIT and the Shackleton Scholarship Fund.

Trustees would like to thank Mr Tom Swales, Operations Director of HR Services, for his kind assistance in arranging the shipment of copies of the Princess Alexandra Souvenir Booklet to the Falkland Islands on the 'Guyane' in September.

Financial Affairs

The formal accounts for the financial year 1999/2000 have been audited (copies are available from the Administration Secretary) and a summary of the Core Fund is given below.

In April 2000, net assets in the Core Fund stood at £88,665. This compares with a similar figure in 1999 reflecting the relatively low rate of growth this year in underlying investments. The Shackleton Scholarship Fund stood at £376,853 and again this is a figure almost exactly similar to last years.

In the Fund operating budget, the policy adopted by Trustees some years ago remained unaltered; that is to cover administrative expenses and other central overheads out of income from the Fund, with the costs of projects in the Islands being funded principally by grants from FIDC.

For the financial year ending on 5 April 2000, total resources expended amounted to £31,660, falling just within the budget of £31,800. This was broadly similar to expenditure in the previous accounting period although some funds accruing from 98/99 were spent in 99/00 on final payments towards the EcoSci Study. Office costs were a little higher than the year before, reflecting extra spent on publicity for Trust activities - a better and bigger Review and Activity Report - and on office costs - computer/Internet facilities for the Trust's Administration Secretary.

The Budget out turn for 99/00 is given at Annex B. Further details of the Trust's accounts for both the Core Fund and the Shackleton Scholarship Fund are available on application to the Administration Secretary.

Report of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund's London Management Committee for the Year Ended 5 April 2000

Royal Visit

In February 2000, HRH Princess Alexandra, the Patron of the Falkland Islands Trust and the Shackleton Scholarship Fund visited the Falkland Islands. During a very successful visit the Princess met a former Shackleton scholar, Mrs Lyn Blake, and members of the Stanley Committee of the Fund. Mr Harold Briley, a member of the London Committee, was present in the Islands during the Royal tour. He provided reports for the newsletter of the Falkland Islands Association and worldwide in the BBC World Service programme 'From Our Own Correspondent'. Since his return, Mr Briley has completed a souvenir booklet on the Royal Visit, the profits from which will be in part devoted to the Shackleton Scholarship Fund (see 'The Visit by our Royal Patron' above)

Scholarships

The sum of £15,826 was spent on scholarships in the year ended 5 April 2000, bringing the total amount awarded since the foundation of the Shackleton Scholarship Fund in 1995 to £54,958, of which £32,130 went to academic scholars and £22,828 to quality of life scholars.

Academic Scholars

Dr Robert McDowall, a fresh-water biologist from New Zealand, spent three weeks in the Islands during November collecting fresh-water fish. Dr McDowall prepared a report for the National Geographic Society. (£3,000).

Dr Kery Dalby, a botanist, studied lichens in the Falkland Islands during December and January. (£2,000).

Mr Malcolm Dawson, an agriculturalist from Northern Ireland, visited the Islands during November and December to establish willows on three sites and presented a report on the potential for willow cultivation. (£2,300).

Dr Klaus Dodds studied social and economic change on the Islands since the conflict during a visit in December. (£2,000).

Mr Ian Hart received a grant to complete a book on the Compania Argentina di Pesca, the company which initiated shore-based whaling in South Georgia. (£2,000).

Mr Robert Burton received a grant to collect material on the history of South Georgia in Scandinavia. (£1,000).

Quality Of Life Scholars

Quality of life scholars included Mr Len Yule, (£1,449), the "horse whisperer" who visited the Islands during February and Mrs Claire Dalby an artist (and wife of the academic scholar Dr Dalby) who has exhibited Falklands landscapes in London since her return to the UK in January (£2,058).

Finance

Donations received during this financial year amounted to £2,774 of which £1,628 was raised at a lecture given by Dr Robert Headland at the Royal Geographical Society on 12 May 1999.

Administrative costs were kept to £1,268, which includes half the cost of Mr Briley's air fare to the Islands to cover the Royal visit (the other half was contributed by the Falkland Islands Association). Auditor's fees were £588. Bank interest amounted to £483 and income from investments was £16,662. The accumulated fund on 5 April 2000 was £376,853.

Administration

Mrs Jenny Cox has retired from the post of Honorary Secretary and is succeeded by Mrs Penelope Hill. The Committee wish to thank Mrs Cox for her devoted work in the establishment of the Fund and the first five years of its activity.

It is intended to open a web site solely devoted to the Shackleton Scholarship Fund and providing for donations and applications. The address will be announced shortly.

Costs have been kept to a minimum once more and the Committee thank all those volunteers and sponsors whose support has made this possible. In particular they welcome the appointment of Mrs Lynda Lamont as liaison officer for scholars in Stanley.

Finally, the London Management Committee would like to thank the Trustees of the UK Falkland Islands Trust, the staff of the Falkland Islands Government Office in London and HE Governor Lamont, Dr Andrea Clausen the Hon. Secretary and all the members of the Stanley Committee for their continuing support.

Looking Forward

Funds have been earmarked for eight academic scholars in the present and next financial years. Plans are in hand for visits by five quality of life scholars. The Committee welcomes enthusiastically the exhibition "Shackleton: the Antarctic and Endurance" which opened at Dulwich College on 31 October and is due to close on 24 February. The Shackleton Scholarship Fund stands to share any profits made by the Exhibition.

ANNEX A

UNITED KINGDOM FALKLAND ISLANDS TRUST PERSONNEL

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Patron | Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra |
| Trustees | Rt Hon Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal - President Major General N S' G Gribbon OBE - Vice President Captain P M C Vincent CBE RN - Chairman Mr D G Ainslie - Honorary Secretary Mr J C Dodwell - Honorary Treasurer Air Commodore P G Johnson OBE - Vice Chairman Mr D Tatham CMG - Honorary Chairman Shackleton Scholarship Fund Sir Rex Hunt CMG - Honorary Treasurer Shackleton Scholarship Fund Mr T J D Miller Cllr D L Clifton - resigned 26 April 1999 Mr R Lee- died 8 May 2000 |

Principal Officers

Administration Secretary Mrs D Dodson

Project Consultants Mr David Stickland - resigned January 2000
Dr Jim McAdam - Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development for Northern Ireland and Queens University
Belfast

Charity Number 282786

Auditors DEKM, 5 Trinity Terrace, London Road, Derby DE1 2QS

SHACKLETON SCHOLARSHIP FUND LONDON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mr D Tatham CMG - Managing Trustee

Sir Rex Hunt CMG

Mrs R Cox - Hon Secretary (replaced by Mrs Penelope Hill)

The Hon Alexandra Shackleton

Mr H Briley OBE

Mr D C Thomas CMG

Miss S Cameron - FIG Representative

Captain P M C Vincent CBE RN - Chairman UKFIT

ANNEX B**FINANCIAL YEAR 1999/2000 Budget Out-Turn From 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000**

| Serial & Item | Annual Budget | Expenditure | Balance | Accrual |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| UK Core Expenses | | | | |
| 1. Admin Secretary | 2,500 | 2,500 | | |
| 2. Office Costs | 900 | 1,399 | -499 | |
| 2a. Laing & Cruickshank Management Fee | | 294 | -294 | |
| 3. Audit | 800 | 623 | 177 | |
| 4. PR | 1,000 | 1,222 | -222 | |
| 5. Sub-Committee | 800 | 650 | 150 | |
| 6. Total | 6,000 | 6,688 | -688 | -688 |
| Agriculture & Forestry | | | | |
| 7. Kelp Project-Seaweed Tackifier | 1,600 | 600 | 1,000 | |
| 8. Tree Species & Development | 2,000 | 2,233 | -233 | |
| 9. Tussac Grass & Erosion | 2,500 | 2,050 | 450 | |
| 10. Technical Analysis of Material | 2,400 | 2,400 | | |
| 11. Aerial Mapping | 2,000 | 1,994 | 6 | |
| 12. Science Dissemination Project | 500 | 100 | 400 | |
| 13. Consultancy & Travel | 7,500 | 8,712 | -1,212 | |
| 14. Total | 18,500 | 18,089 | - 411 | 411 |
| Agriculture Marketing including Organic | | | | |
| 15. Carcass & Kelp Project (EcoSci recommendation) | 1,000 | 1,000 | | |
| 16. Other farm developments (Contingency for other follow-up to EcoSci report & development of tackifier) | 2,000 | 1,834 | 166 | |
| 17. Cereal growing promotion | 700 | 700 | | |
| 18. Consultancy & Travel | 2,800 | 2,759 | 41 | |
| 19. Total | 6,500 | 6,293 | 207 | 207 |
| Education & Civic | | | | |
| 20. Development of Scientific Recording | 300 | 300 | | |
| 21. Contingency for other local Projects | 500 | 290 | 210 | |
| 22. Total | 800 | 590 | 210 | 210 |
| 23. Grand Total | 31,800 | 31,600 | 140 | 140 |

ANNEX C

Captain Paddy Vincent CBE RN - Haul Down Report

I was privileged to take on the Chairmanship in January 1997, and even in these four years there have been significant changes in the Falklands, which have impacted on the work of the Trust. We have accordingly needed to keep in very close touch with the authorities in the Islands to ensure that the assistance that we seek to give them has kept up with their changing activities and needs.

In particular, the Trust's focus on agriculture has been expanded and adjusted as we have gone along to ensure that we have complemented rather than duplicated the increased research and trials activity put in hand by the DoA with their increased in-house expertise. At the same time we have been at pains to ensure that all the successful work put in by the Trust in tree cultivation, grain and other crop development and in organic advice and awareness has been maintained and enhanced as the results of our own trials and research have advanced. We have been particularly encouraged in the last few years to see the development of shelterbelt plantations which have been put down by the DoA in the vicinity of working farms, behind which the Trust's research over the years has played an important part.

Over the past two years we have also introduced further major projects in addition to our on-going activities. Last year we commissioned a major study on composting in the Islands. We anticipate that this will form a valuable source document for the authorities in the Islands over the years ahead, covering as it does the composting of sheep carcasses and other farm waste, domestic composting with particular reference to Stanley, and in due course the composting of waste from the abattoir. In addition to the agricultural and commercial applications, such composting can bring significant environmental benefits for a 'clean green' Falklands.

At the request of the Falkland Islands Chief Executive, we have also undertaken a study on the co-ordination and recording of the results of the many scientific studies and research projects which have been, and still are being, conducted in the Islands by many diverse UK and International individuals and organisations. The study indicated the pressing need for a consolidated computer data base to gather together all these projects and to make their results readily accessible to all. The Trust continues to advise on setting up this data base.

This year we have introduced a major new study into the conservation, growth and usage of Tussac grass, which forms a valuable potential addition to feed crops, with the increasing development of cattle breeding on the Islands. This study is pulling together a number of previous studies and research projects, carried out by the Trust and others, and is drawing upon the experience of Tussac studies elsewhere in the world.

In all of this the Trust's two consultants, Dr Jim McAdam and Mr David Stickland have played a vital role, and we have been grateful for their ready contribution at what can only be considered a less than generous retainer.

We have also continued to support a number of small civic projects in the Islands. These have included the cleaning and refurbishment of the historic ship's names outlined in stone on the Camber, the continued support for the Community School's agricultural and computer projects, the provision of wildflower booklets for camp children on expeditions, a contribution towards the purchase of camping equipment for camp children accommodated in Stanley House and another towards the cost of refurbishing the decorative 'ship' lamp standards at the western end of Ross Road in Stanley.

We and the people of the Falklands have been greatly privileged and encouraged by the keen interest in the work of the Trust which has been taken by our Royal Patron, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, and most especially that she found time to visit the Falklands during the year to see something of the Islands and of the Trust's activities at first hand. We have marked this enormously helpful and happy event in the history of the Trust by the production of a souvenir booklet covering Her Royal Highnesses activities during the visit.

Over the period of my chairmanship our increasingly close links with His Excellency the Governor, Councillors, the Chief Executive, the Department of Agriculture, the Falkland Islands Development Corporation, the Department of Public Works and other Government Departments has been of inestimable value and I have been very grateful to them all for their ready and helpful co-operation and their generous support and encouragement. We have also much appreciated the ready help given to us by many individuals, farmers and others in the Islands.

For my own part I have been extremely grateful for the support given to me by our President, Vice President and the Trustees. All are busy men with many other demands upon their time and it is good to know that their voluntary activities on behalf of the Trust do not go unnoticed in the Falklands.

I have been especially grateful for the contribution made by Tim Miller, our Trustee resident in the Islands, and the support given by Natalie Smith who was herself given training in the UK by the Trust some years ago.

We were all devastated by the death of Robin Lee, our other Falkland Islands Trustee, during the year. He made an enormous and highly successful contribution to the activities of the Trust from the very outset, which we miss greatly. We plan some enhancements to the Alexandra Wood at Port Howard in his memory, but his real memorial lies in the many vibrant and successful projects in the Islands with which he was associated.

On laying down the Chairmanship, I am glad to have had the opportunity to plough something back into the Islands of my birth and I am greatly encouraged by the many assurances that I have received about the value which is attached to the Trust. Provided that we continue to keep closely abreast of developments in the Islands, I am sure that it has a vigorous and useful role to play for the benefit of the Falklands under its new leadership in the future.

Paddy Vincent

ANNEX D

Robin Lee - a Tribute by Jim McAdam

Robin Lee, aged 51, died peacefully in hospital in Carlisle from complications after heart surgery.

Robin Lee was a member of an old established Falklands family, which has long been involved in running one of the best and biggest sheep farms in the Islands at the picturesque settlement of Port Howard on West Falkland, with his brother, Rodney Lee. Robin also established and ran, with his wife Hattie, the popular Port Howard tourist lodge where in February this year they were host to Princess Alexandra on her visit to the Falkland Islands as Patron of the UK Falkland Islands Trust.

Despite needing medical treatment for his heart condition, he and his brother conducted the Princess around the settlement and farm, where they were instrumental in having an experimental wood of several thousand trees named after the Princess. Only a few days later, Robin made the long flight to the United Kingdom for an operation on his heart, expressing his pleasure with Princess Alexandra's visit. She herself was delighted with her stay at such a tranquil spot. A spokesman for her at Buckingham Palace said the Princess was greatly saddened at the news.

Much of Robin's ideals and vision epitomised the Falkland Islands. He often spoke fondly and with great humour of the 'old days' in the camp, which he was proud to have been a part of. Yet he was also a man of great vision and never tired in promoting new ideas, always moving forward with the times and grasping any chance to promote his beloved Port Howard and West Falkland.

He was a man who exhibited true dignity and humanity in all his actions. This earned him widespread respect throughout the Islands and much further afield. He was elected to the Legislative Council as representative of the 'camp' community in 1985 in the challenging aftermath of the Argentine invasion. During the invasion, many Argentine troops were based at Port Howard and Robin's courage and leadership at that time earned great respect and is still widely recognised by friend and foe alike to this day. Captain John Hamilton, SAS, was killed in a heroic action near Port Howard. Robin Lee ensured his dignified burial and his grave is lovingly tended at the settlement, where Robin has been laid to rest.

Robin retained many friendships with men of the Task Force, especially Admiral Kit Layman, who survived intense bombing of his warship HMS Argonaut. He went on to become Commander British Forces in the Falklands and, as a keen angler and friend of the Islands, is a regular visitor and helper at Port Howard Lodge.

Kit writes: "I knew Robin as Councillor, landowner, fisherman, naturalist, kind host, lifeboat captain, debogging expert and good friend. He was a man of great good humour, and he would talk easily and entertainingly about every subject under the sun. He was an expert fisherman, but deceptively modest about it. With his many friends in Britain and the Falkland Islands I will miss him greatly."

Robin had a lifelong experience of farming, a thorough practical knowledge of all the skills that go with a self-sufficient lifestyle and a sound theoretical background from his agricultural studies in New Zealand. He was a valued Trustee of the UK Falkland Islands Trust where he brought his expert knowledge of agriculture to bear and the needs of those in the camp to the fore.

Robin was an enthusiastic, skilful fisherman whose knowledge of local rivers was keenly sought after. The tranquillity of the camp at the riverside and the company of good friends were always a source of delight. One of Robin's greatest pleasures was to explore the waters around the Falklands in the West Swan, the ex RNLI vessel he had bought in 1998. He and his wife, Hattie, had enjoyed some recent memorable trips around West Falkland and his competence and skill as a boatman was widely recognised. As with all things he did in life, Robin entered into this quietly, without fuss or ceremony, soon attained a high level of competence and earned huge respect from everyone he met.

He appreciated the value of people, was always perceptive to their needs and had that rare ability to mix with any company and be respected by everyone. He had the great gift of humility and commanded respect and friendship of all from farm worker to Royalty. This contributed greatly to the success of the Lodge; it had the stamp of his own personality imparted to it and the combined enthusiasm and hard work by Hattie and him have made Port Howard a key tourist venue on the Islands.

During his last few months he was devotedly cared for by Hattie and her family and the peace and quiet of the Cumbrian Countryside, the visits of close friends and the constant contact of his friends and family in the Falklands and elsewhere, were a source of comfort to him. Robin leaves his wife Hattie, whom he had only recently married, and three children, Myles, Christopher and Samantha from his first marriage. The loss to his family and friends and to the whole community in the Falklands is inestimable.

Jim McAdam