

Falklands Symphony

After months of fundraising, Shirley Adams-Leach, music teacher at the Community School, welcomed composers Craig Vear and Dr. Jonathan Eato to the Islands to work with her students to create an exciting new composition, *The Falklands Suite*. A CD will be produced of the composition.



Students with composers Craig Vear and Dr. Jonathan Eato

Oil & Minerals: New Activity

Falklands Gold and Minerals Ltd commenced drilling for minerals at the end of February. It is exploring a target thought to be an epithermal gold anomaly. A sample treatment and project facility has been established at Goose Green to support the exploration programme.

The seismic vessel GSI Admiral has begun the second phase of a 2D seismic survey in an area to the north east of the Islands, licensed to Falkland Islands Oil and Gas Ltd. In total, over £50 million has been raised to explore for minerals onshore and hydrocarbons around the Falkland Islands. Desire Petroleum PLC has also announced its intention to drill three wells in the North Falkland basin, about 100 miles north of the Islands, in the coming year.

Top Travel Exhibition

The Falkland Islands Tourist Board was at 'Destinations 2005' in February with its largest ever stand. World renowned professional wildlife photographer Andy Rouse, a recent visitor to the Islands, was on the stand and unveiled his striking new images of the Falklands.

New Visitor Attractions

Cartmell Cottage, one of the first residential properties built in Stanley in 1849, has been restored by The Falkland Islands Museum & National Trust. Each room reflects a different era to illustrate how domestic life has changed since the mid 1800s. In February *Country Life* magazine featured the cottage's remarkable transformation.

Lonely Planet Guide

After years of featuring in the guides to South America, Argentina and Chile, Lonely Planet has brought out a guide devoted to the Falkland Islands and South Georgia. The guide costs £18.99.

Fisheries: Variable Results

Despite modest catches of Loligo squid in 2004, good prices resulted in a reasonable outcome for Falkland Islands joint venture companies.

It could be another difficult year for the Illex squid fishery. The 2005 season has only recently opened in Falklands zones but the results from a joint survey indicate a low biomass and it is likely that the season will be closed early to conserve the fishery. The survey involved scientists from Argentina and the Falklands working on an Argentine research vessel throughout February.

Governor's Wedding

On 21 October 2004, His Excellency the Governor Howard Pearce CVO, married his Dutch fiancée Caroline Thomée in Christ Church Cathedral, Stanley. This is the first time that a Falklands Governor has married in the Islands and the couple celebrated with the local community. Children were given the day off school and the wedding service was relayed on loudspeakers outside the Cathedral. Local residents together with friends and family, who had travelled to the Falklands, enjoyed a reception at the Town Hall.

Diary Dates....

Photographic Exhibition

David Osborn Photographic Exhibition at Falkland House, London, 15 March - 30 June 2005

Annual Reception

Annual Reception at Lincoln's Inn, London, 8 June 2005

Royal Show

Royal Show, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, 3 - 6 July 2005



H.E. The Governor and Mrs Pearce

For further information on the Falkland Islands please visit:

www.falklandislands.com

www.falklands.gov.fk



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