

Field Trip Report

Falkland Islands

I arrived in the Falkland Islands on 26 October, and left on 9 November 2013. During my stay, I worked at the **Jane Cameron National Archive** for 9 days, looking at local newspapers, pamphlets and publications from the early 1960s until the mid-1980s. The *Falkland Islands Monthly Review*, the *Falkland Islands Times* and the *Penguin News* were particularly useful for the purposes of my research.

I also carried out research at the **Falkland Islands Museum and National Trust**, where I discovered an excellent photographic, sound and documentary archive.

Furthermore, I conducted a total of 13 **interviews** with members of the community as well as with the Governor of the Islands. However, informal personal conversations with Falkland Islanders and expatriate residents were sometimes just as insightful as the formal interviews.

I also went on a **Battlefield Tour**, which was extremely helpful in getting a better perspective on geographic, military and personal aspects of the 1982 conflict. The visits to Goose Green, Darwin and San Carlos were particularly interesting, as well the obligatory visit to the tour guide's own farm in the Estancia settlement, where I had the chance to interview him and his wife. As an Argentine, it was particularly moving to visit the cemetery in Darwin.

Shortly after my arrival I was **interviewed on local radio** (Falkland Islands Radio Service), which provoked a few – mostly friendly and favourable – comments from the public. This was an extremely helpful way of becoming known in Stanley. Subsequently, Falkland Islands TV also contacted me for a longer **television interview**.

I was very fortunate to be in the Islands for the first televised Legislative Assembly election, at which 8 full-time MLAs were elected. I attended a pre-

election public meeting with the candidates, and I went to the Town Hall again on the night when the results were announced. I was interviewed by FITV again that day.

Argentina

At the end of the two weeks, I travelled to Buenos Aires, where I conducted research in a wide range of places, such as the **National Library** (where I looked at newspapers), the **National Archives** (miscellaneous files, mostly media), the **Library of Congress** (published journals), the **Library of the Argentine Council for International Relations** (CARI) and the **Argentine-British Community Council**. The visits to the latter were particularly useful, as they put me in contact with several key members of the Anglo-Argentine community, some of whom I managed to meet for an interview. I have also made contact with several other people (including war veterans), whom I intend to talk to over the next few months. I also interviewed the Minister in charge of the **Dirección General de Malvinas e Islas del Atlántico Sur** at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Overall, the field trip was a resounding success. I am very grateful to the Shackleton Scholarship Fund for their financial assistance, and also for the extremely useful advice I received before and during my visit to the Falklands.

I hope to submit my thesis by September 2015 and I intend to publish it as a book by the end of 2016.