

HE FAIRLEAD

FRASER POWER
SQUADRON NEWS

DECEMBER 1984

Vol. 10

No. 6



WISHING YOU PEACE, HAPPINESS
AND THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

George Schurman

NOVEMBER SOCIAL

Following a short business meeting the 60 people present witnessed the pledging of Fraser's newest member Monty Klein. The ceremony was officiated by Dist. Lieut. Cdr. Albert Harskamp. Dist. Lieut. Cdr. Harskamp and his wife Marie were our special guests for the evening.

Guest speaker Paul Vatcher representing the Gulf of Georgia Powerboat Navigation Association, spoke on predicted log racing or more correctly, predicted cruiser navigation. Mr. Vatcher described the contest as a sea going version of a car rally as speed is not the object and encouraged those interested to keep in mind the G. of G. P.N. will be holding a seminar for new participants in March, followed by a contest with new people invited to participate. This is a good opportunity for those who do not own boats to participate in an "on the water" activity, as three crew members; skipper, navigator and observer are mandatory on each vessel.

Philip Hobler, a Professor of Archeology at S.F.U. gave a very interesting slide presentation detailing his research on prehistoric archeology of the West Coast. The excellent slides gave emphasis of man's encroachment on the environment. In all areas of our coast, archeological sites are vanishing because of construction, hence the importance of sites such as the Pender Island dig. Twenty-five volunteers and S.F.U. students worked the Pender Isl. dig last summer. Prof. Hobler encourages visitors to the site and welcomes volunteers to help with the work. Boaters who missed a visit to the dig last season can plan a trip next season as Prof. Hobler will be continuing the research for two more seasons.

by Linda Nixon.

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FOR SALE

Great Christmas gift - great motor
Sheakespeare electric trolling motor, new - used only 20 minutes.
Cost \$235. Asking \$125. Call Larry at 277-9919

WANTED

Controls for twin engines, also teleflex steering etc. for C.B.
Reasonable - Call Ron at 273-4282



IN MEMORIAM

Lloyd Donald, an active member of Fraser who recently transferred to Royal City Squadron, passed away suddenly on Nov. 30 th. Our sympathy is extended to his family.

THE WIND TUNNEL OF THE EARTH (CONT'D) 2.

This small town with its neat rows of frame houses, nearly all with red corrugated iron roofs, adequate hospital, imposing Governor's House and several inviting pubs is hardly what one would expect to find just off the coast of Patagonia. A derelict Russian five masted iron hulled barque is moored close to the main jetty and several sad sailing ship hulks scattered around the sheltered harbour now used as floating wool warehouses are testament to the savagery of the ocean. Scattered in coves throughout the island parts of ages old wrecks of whalers and sealers may be found and their life-boats are still used by the sheep-farm settlements.

There are virtually no roads outside of Stanley, just well worn tracks leading from one sheep station to the next and where distances are not measured in kilometres or miles but in the number of hours it takes to ride by horseback. Life out in the "camp", derived from "el campo" in Spanish, will vary depending on the size of the settlement but there are three constants: the year-round care of the sheep, the howling wind and the inter-island high-frequency radio. The radio is the camp lifeline and each settlement has a transceiver with which to keep in touch with Port Stanley and other farms, passing information on the weather to the Canadian built Beaver float-plane pilots, passenger lists, medical diagnosis and advice, and the exchange of plain old gossip.

As may be expected, the omnipresent wind precludes the growth of trees although there have been some attempts in the past to plant fir and other hardy varieties as windbreaks but invariably they remain stunted. Gorse there is in abundance, however, introduced from Scotland and grown prodigiously around outlying shepherd's houses and the farm settlements. It provides a welcome splash of colour and its density a refuge from the marauding westerly gales.

One may wonder, with no trees, no coal, no oil supply, how do the islanders heat their homes, cook their food, which incidentally is usually lamb and potatoes? Well, nature has solved that problem easily, providing a wealth of peat bogs all over the Falklands. But peat means drudgery. From the back-breaking cutting in the bog with a spade, the rickling so that it may dry in the wind, hauling and stacking the hardened blocks to ultimately cleaning out the voluminous ashes. Imagine dumping a large container of soft powdery peat ash outside when it is blowing a gale! Some consolation; the heat generated by dried peat is strong, even and imparts an agreeable aroma to the home. It is said to have also a medicinal value when one basks in warmth of the glowing embers.

Although there are no animals native to the Falklands, if the herds of sea-lions, sea elephants and the smaller fur seal are excluded there are myriads of birds. Some of the outer islands are the breeding grounds for that other wanderer of the seas, the albatross.

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TRAINING DEPT. NEWS

Training Officer, Bruce Owen has arranged for the registration of students wishing to take the Accelerated Boating Course on January 7, 1985. This Monday night registration will be held at 1930 hours in both Ladner and Richmond at:

Delta Secondary School - 4615 51 st. (at 45 Ave.) Ladner
with Garry Russell instructing.

Hugh McRoberts Jr. Secondary School
8980 Williams Road (at Garden City Rd.) Richmond
with Ted Dubberley instructing.

The cost will be \$65.00 for one person or \$110.00 for a couple. The navigation instrument kit will be \$22.00 per kit extra; this is cheaper than buying the same equipment in town. Repeaters who have the current course notes and charts will be charged \$20.00. Further information may be obtained from:

A.T.O., Ladner - Randy Lutman	946-2701
A.T.O., Richmond - Daphne Williams	274-1085
T.O. - Bruce Owen	943-4691

Norvan Squadron will hold a Marine Electronics Course at the Pacific Marine Training Institute on Monday evenings. Registration will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1985 at the Balmoral Secondary School. The Norvan Training Officer is Ralph Murray, phone 987-5087.

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PREDICTED LOG CONTEST

Fraser is considering the sponsoring of a predicted log contest to be held in late February 1985. The proposed contest will be run in accordance with the rules of the G. of G. Power Boat Navigators Assoc. of B.C. This is a new name for the long established organization dealing with predicted log racing. Marg Dash has been nominated as Commodore of this organization for the coming season. If you are interested in participating in this test of navigational skill, please call Marg at 685-8820 before Jan. 6, 1985, Fraser's next executive meeting. Unless some interest is shown, Fraser will not likely offer to sponsor the event. Remember, speed is of no importance and there is no danger involved - it is strictly a matter of estimating the time it will take to run from check point to check point along the designated route. Immediately after the start, the boat's crew must not refer to any time piece; the official observer times the arrival at the check points. The boat's crew must rely on their tachometer(s) to indicate the speed. The rpm's may be adjusted slightly at any time to compensate for wind and other variable conditions. The lowest percentage of total error to total time to run the course, multiplied by a handicap for cruising speed wins the event. The handicap compensates for the apparent advantage of a boat using a high cruising speed.



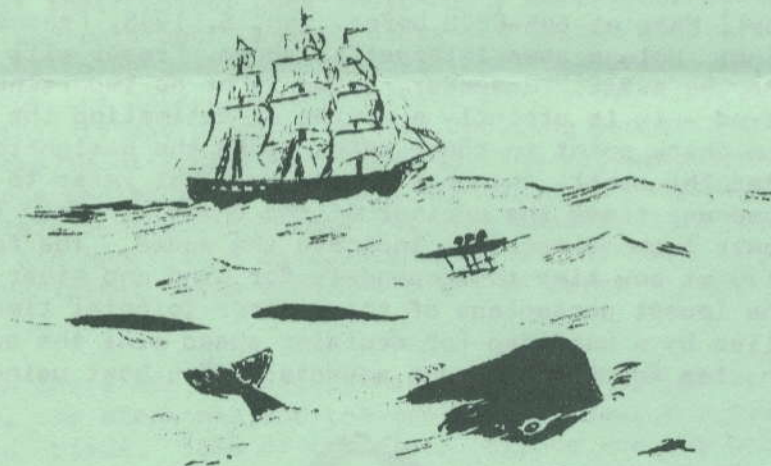
THE WIND TUNNEL OF THE EARTH (CONT'D) 3.

The Falkland Islands are well known for the extensive gentoo penguin rookeries. These birds are so tame one can walk among them without disturbing them in the least. The noise of the gentoo and the smell of the rookery can assume powerful proportions. Jackass penguins burrow in the soft earth to make their nests, usually on the tussock grass islets, while the rock hopper prefers a more craggy base. There are only a few king penguins in residence and their cousins, the grand emperor penguin remain in distant seclusion of Antarctic, some seven hundred miles to the south.

The military garrison now outnumbers the islanders at least two to one. The peace of the last one hundred and fifty years was completely shattered by the rockets, bombs and deaths of the war. The unmapped Argentine minefields and unexploded munitions will pose a nightmarish threat to man and beast alike for many years to come. The British-Argentine dispute appears almost insoluble for the foreseeable future, as the Falkland Islanders, otherwise known as "kelpers", adamantly refuse to become Argentines, to the secret rage and indignation of the U. K. Foreign and Commonwealth Office bureaucrats. With an inflation rate on the mainland fast approaching 1000% per annum, let alone the erratic behaviors in Buenos Aires over the years, one can hardly blame them.

The itinerant yachtsman, however, is still able to savour with nostalgia the atmosphere of the sailing-ship era in and around Port Stanley, although the sail-makers, riggers and chandlers have long departed. The weather-battered hulls of once magnificent, proud, full-rigged merchantmen, sealers and whalers are evidence enough of the treachery of close-by Cabo do Hornos and the gigantic storm-tossed seas of the Southern Ocean.

Michael Hannah
British Columbia 1984



COMING EVENTS

- DECEMBER 1984 - There will be NO SOCIAL EVENING as the Christmas Party held on Dec. 8 replaced the usual program.
- JAN. 19 & 20, 1985 - Weekend packages comprising transportation and overnight accommodation to take in the Seattle Boat Show on either weekend.
- JAN. 26 & 27, 1985
- JAN. 25, 1985 - Fraser's regular monthly social evening featuring Constable Stu McLea of the R.C.M.P.'s Marine Operations who will tell us about the problems of enforcing marine law.
- FEB. 22, 1985 - Fraser's Annual Auction. Now is the time to start thinking about allowing someone else to enjoy any of your surplus boating treasures. Maybe some of your Christmas presents would be better in other hands, as Murphy also works for Santa!
- MARCH 22, 1985 - Fraser's regular monthly social evening. Our own Garry Russell will inform us about cruising on England's Norfolk Broads.
- APRIL 26, 1985 - This will be our Annual General Meeting when our present commander and his crew get fired, so we will have Don Watts, with his trunk full of spectacular training aids, show us the hazards of fire and how it is propagated.

All of Fraser's social evenings will be held at the Delta Town and Country Inn. See your last Fairlead for directions to the Inn.

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RANDY'S MOCHA TRUFFLES

6 oz. chocolate chips	1½ c. powdered sugar
2/3 cup butter or margarine, soft	1 Tb. rum
1 egg yolk	1 tsp. instant coffee (dry)
chocolate sprinkles	

Melt chocolate chips over hot water. Remove and cool briefly. Cream butter, egg yolk and sugar together. Add rum, coffee and chocolate chips. Mix well. Chill in frig. for 1 to 2 hours, or till can form in balls. Roll in 1" balls and then in chocolate sprinkles. Place in chocolate papers to serve.

Thanks to Randy Lutman.



**SEASONS GREETINGS FROM YOUR
FAIRLEAD COMMITTEE**

We hope that you have enjoyed Fraser's newsletter which can only be a success if you contribute to it. Original experiences, tips, recipes and member's activities are all welcome. If you submit excerpts from any magazines or books please note the name of the publication and the date of the issue so we can write for permission to use them.

Ho Helms.

Linda Nixon

Victor E. Rome



John Moran

Freda Moran

Alare Ramon

Diane Grabber