

**SHACKLETON SCHOLARSHIP FUND
PRESS RELEASE
2011 AWARDS**

The Shackleton Scholarship Fund is a pragmatic, flexible way of commemorating the Shackletons' (Sir Earnest and Lord) achievements, stimulating human endeavour, initiative and research.

There are two types of scholarship:

Academic for graduates to visit the South Atlantic for research into the natural or social sciences, in such diverse subjects as place names, the English language spoken in the Falkland Islands, Falklands society, fresh water fish, willows, grasses, geology, tree-growing, and many other topics. Several have produced research papers and compiled information for books.

Quality of Life Awards provide funding to people whose visits to the Falkland Islands, or from the Falkland Islands to other parts of the world, benefit the region and enhance the quality of life of the Islanders. These have included top class sports coaches in swimming, golf, fly fishing, shooting, shearing and horsemanship; musicians and artists. The Fund benefits both the scholars and the Falkland Islands by creating wider knowledge and promoting new skills and activities.

Applications are considered yearly in April with the London Committee making recommendations to the Stanley Committee regarding Academic applications. The Stanley Committee make the decisions on the Quality of Life scholars.

Academic Scholars

One historian, two scientists.

This year's academic Shackleton Scholars are a historian, Max Hull, a biologist, Teresa Darbyshire and a geologist Dominik Weiss.

Max Hull is studying for a doctorate (incidentally supervised by a former Shackleton Scholar, Professor Klaus Dodds) and has as his subject the Falkland Islands from 1965 up to the 1982 Conflict. He has visited the Islands before – in 1984 as a student he worked for a few months at the Post Office in Stanley.

Teresa Darbyshire is working with the Department of Biodiversity and Systematic Biology at the National Museum Wales in Cardiff. She is an expert on Polychaeta – marine bristleworms that make up a large proportion of species on and in the sea-bed. She has undertaken numerous surveys in the Irish Sea (she is a qualified diver) and will work with the Shallow Marine Surveys Group in the Islands.

Dr Dominik Weiss is a scientist from Basle in Switzerland who is senior lecturer for environmental geochemistry at Imperial College London. He plans to use peat cores from the Falklands to trace and date deposits of natural mineral dust, volcanic material and other dust of possible human origin embedded in the peat.

Quality of Life Scholars

A drummer, a horticulturalist, and a sculptor

Noam Lederman is an extremely talented drummer and composer and well as author, teacher and examiner. He is the author of the new Rockschool (set up in 1991 to bring pop and rock into mainstream education) drums syllabus and assisted on the bass and guitar syllabus. Noam's visit will permit his sponsor, local musician Pete King, to have his teaching methods quality assured. Noam will also undertake workshops and perform publically with local music students and musicians.

Cynthia Williams, who currently works as the lead horticulturalist at Stanley Nurseries in the Falkland Islands, will visit the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew to receive further specialist training in the development and maintenance of a native plant collection. The visit will enable her to broaden the range of species held, propagation and management of these species some of which have never been grown in cultivation. Training will also cover invasive species issues. The application was sponsored jointly by Falklands Conservation and local business Stanley Growers – a great collaboration between an NGO and the private sector.

Anthony Smith is a British sculptor, photographer and naturalist from Cambridge, who recently sailed around the world, re-tracing Darwin's Voyage of the Beagle. In a busy programme, supported by teachers at FICS, Anthony will teach sculpture classes both within the school and to the public, give talks on the process of creating bronze sculptures, and redraw the scenes that were sketched by the Beagle artist when the ship was in the Falklands.

Sally Ellis - Honorary Secretary (Stanley)
Andrew Moffat – Honorary Secretary (London)
Shackleton Scholarship Fund
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