

## STEEL FAMILY (1)

*NB: The following is prepared from Falkland Islands Registers and files – there may be other family born outside the Falklands. Unless stated otherwise, all dated births, deaths and marriages occurred in the Falklands and all numbered graves are in Stanley Cemetery. Various spellings of names are recorded as written at the time.*

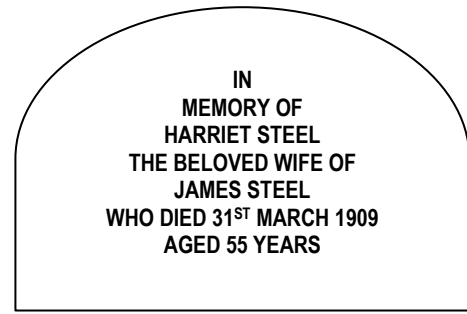
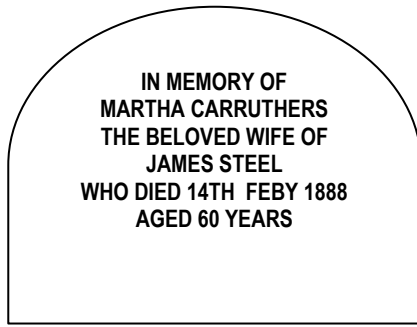
### Children of John and ? STEEL:

1. **James Currie STEELE** born ? (*not in Falkland Islands*). James was married to (1) **Martha CARRUTHERS** (*not in the Falkland Islands*). James, a married stonemason with 2 children and an infant was engaged by the Falkland Islands Company Limited in London July 1874. His wages to be £80 a year plus rations. The FIC had wanted to employ an unmarried man but had no luck for a number of months and James' wife was agreeable to her husband being absent for months in Camp when building. James, age 31, Martha, age 38, Jane, age 8, William, age 4, and Robert, age 9 months, left Southampton on board the RMS *Neva* 25 July 1874 bound for Montevideo. Then proceeded per *Black Hawk* to Stanley. [FIC/C1; 474] Martha, age 59 and Scottish, died 14 February 1888 at Darwin from cancer and was buried 18 February 1888 in Darwin Cemetery. When James finished work for the FIC 9 March 1889 he was on a monthly wage of £7-10-0. He returned to work for them 18 October 1889. James went home for the winter and meant to bring a wife back with him. The Colonial Manager of FIC reported that "*The Company has not a better servant...his only fault is a partiality for whisky.*" [FIC/D12, pg 4]

James, a widower and mason, was married to (2) **Harriet Ridgway COISH**, of England, 24 February 1890 in the house of George Chaplin, Stanley, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Baptist Church by George A Harris, Baptist minister. The witnesses were Mary Ann Watson and George Chaplin. James' father was recorded as John Steel, mason, and Harriet's father was recorded as John Coish, labourer. Harriet had arrived in Stanley 19 February 1890 on the *Osiris*. Harriet, age 55 and from England, died 31 March 1909 from phthisis at Darwin Harbour and was buried in Darwin Cemetery next to Martha.



**Graves of Martha and Harriet, side by side in Darwin Cemetery**



*IN LOVING MEMORY of Harriet, the dearly fond wife of James Steel who fell asleep, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1909.*

*A light is from our household gone,  
The voice we loved is still,  
A place is vacant at our hearth,  
The world can never fill.  
Never will she be forgotten,  
Never will her memory fade,  
Sweetest thoughts will ever linger,  
Round the grave where she is laid.*  
**FIM Apr 1910**

When James finished working for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd 30 July 1910 his monthly salary was £8-0-0. James and his daughter Alice departed for Liverpool 9 August 1910 on board the *Orcoma*.

2. **John STEEL** born ? (*not in Falkland Islands*). John, a labourer and brother of James Steel the mason, was a passenger on the *Black Hawk* leaving England 7 December 1877 and arrived in Stanley 24 February 1878. John was disappointed as he was unable to marry at the last moment. FIC promised to send out his sweetheart if possible and made immediate arrangements but her mother made her wait due to her age. [FIC/C1; desp 521: D18; 145] John, a stonemason living in Stanley, was married to **Jane BOWIE**, widow living in Stanley, 18 July 1880 in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church after Banns by Lowther E Brandon MA Colonial Chaplain. The witnesses were R Yates and S J Pinazo. John's father was recorded as John Steel, stonemason, and Jane's father was recorded as Alexander McKay, farmer. Jane was the mother of **John McKAY** who came to the Falkland Islands with his family in 1894. [FIC/D9; 192] John, an alleged lunatic, was sent to the Bexley Asylum, England in 1911. Jane, age 75, died 6 August 1926 and was buried 10 August 1926 in Grave J942.





## FIRST GENERATION:

### Children of James (1) and Martha STEEL:

1. **Jane Ann STEEL** born in 1866 in Dumfries, Scotland and came to the Falkland Islands with her family in 1874. Jane, a minor living at Darwin, was married to **Peter McPHERSON**, Scottish shepherd living at Ceritos 6 August 1886 at Church at Darwin according to the rites and ceremonies of Presbyterian Church after Banns by William Hill Philip Minister. The witnesses were Thomas Robbie and Margaret McIntosh. Peter's father was recorded as John McPherson, dairyman, and Jane's father was recorded as James Steel, mason. Peter, age 63, died 29 March 1925 in Stanley and was buried in Grave K920. Jane, age 70, died Friday 24 July 1936 in Stanley and was buried Monday 27 July 1936 in Grave K1096. [Obituary Penguin 28 July 1936]



2. **William Glass STEEL** born circa 1871 in Dumfries, Scotland and came to the Falkland Islands with his family in 1874. William departed 28 June 1891 for Punta Arenas. William lived in Chile for about nineteen years, returning just before World War I. William, age 73, died 5 May 1944 in KEMH and was buried in Grave O1272. [Obituary FI Weekly News 11 May 1944]
3. **Robert STEEL** born circa 1874 (*not in Falkland Islands*) and came to the Falkland Islands with his family in 1874. Robert, age 73 and a labourer, died 20 April 1947 at San Carlos from heart failure caused through partial suffocation from the smoke of a self-ignited fire in his bedroom and was buried at Port San Carlos in Grave 19.

### Children of James (1) and Harriet STEEL:

- a. **Alice Teage STEEL** born 11 January 1891 at Darwin Harbour and baptised 1 February 1891 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as mason & builder. Alice and her father departed for Liverpool 9 August 1910 on board the *Orcoma*. Alice arrived back 7 February 1911 on board the *Orcoma*. Alice was married to **Lewis GRANT**, labourer, 19 May 1911 at Tabernacle, Stanley by Governor's Special Licence by Robert Johnson, Nonconformist Minister. The witnesses were John Coish Steel and Mary Jessie McLeod. Lewis' father was recorded as William Grant, deceased, and Alice's father was recorded as James Steel, mason. Alice, age 56, and Lewis, age 61 and a labourer, went overseas in 1947 and lived with their daughter Jean in Sidmouth Street, Hull. Lewis was born in Elgin, Scotland. Alice died in Surrey in 1963.

- b. **Infant STEEL** born ? *(there is an infant's grave next to Martha but all that is recorded is Infant STEEL – no record of whose child)*



- c. **John Coish STEEL** born 14 March 1894 at Darwin. His father's occupation was recorded as mason. John, a shepherd, was married to **Adelaide Idina Dagmar CLASEN** 28 March 1920 at Christ Church Cathedral by Special Licence by J Stanley Smith, Clerk in Holy Orders. The witnesses were U H Clasen, H J Jennings and Isabella Short. John's father was recorded as James Steel, mason, and Adelaide's father was recorded as Ulrich Clasen, barber. John and Adelaide travelled to Punta Arenas in 1920 by the *Orcoma*. Adelaide and two children arrived from Punta Arenas 7 January 1928 returning to Punta Arenas 9 April 1928. In 1944 John was still living in Chile.

#### **Children of John (2) and Jane STEEL:**

1. **Alexander John STEEL** born 12 December 1879 in Stanley to John Steel, mason and Jane Bowie and baptised 21 December 1879 by Holy Trinity Church. Alexander, age 67 and a caretaker, died in his home Saturday 8 March 1947 and was buried Tuesday 11 March 1947 in Grave 1338. He was caretaker of the Secretariat building until getting sick. Alexander was a resident of Stanley his whole lifetime. [Obituary FI Weekly News 13 Mar 1947]
2. **Mitchell STEEL** born 13 April 1882 in Stanley and baptised 11 July 1882 by Holy Trinity Church. His father's occupation was recorded as stone mason. Mitchell, age 49, travelled to the UK, Norway and Holland on business in 1930.
3. **Beatrice STEEL** born 12 September 1885 in Stanley and baptised 27 September 1885 by Holy Trinity Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as mason. Beatrice was married to **William ATKINS**, widower & chief constable, 30 August 1910 at the Registrar's Office, Stanley by G Hurst, Registrar General. The witnesses were M Craigie Halkett and Isabella Atkins. William's father was recorded as Richard Atkins, deceased pensioner, and Beatrice's father was recorded as John Steel, mason. William and Beatrice went to the UK by whaler in 1920.

## SECOND GENERATION:

### Children of Jane (1) (1) and Peter McPHERSON:

1. **John McPHERSON** born 25 May 1887 at High Hill and baptised 24 September 1887 by the Darwin Church. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. John, age 64 and a shepherd, died 19 February 1952 and was buried 22 February 1952 in Grave 1476.
2. **Martha McPHERSON** born 7 February 1889 at High Hill and baptised 20 March 1889 by the Darwin Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Martha was married to **William BURNS**, shepherd, 26 June 1914 at North Arm, East Falkland Islands by Robert Johnson, Minister of Religion. The witnesses were Robert Peter MacPherson and Jane Burns. William's father was recorded as Thomas Thompson Burns, shepherd, and Martha's father was recorded as Peter MacPherson, shepherd. William, age 76 and a shepherd, died 15 October 1966 in Stanley and was buried 18 October 1966 in Grave T2065. Martha, age 89 and a widow, died 20 June 1978 in Stanley and was buried 22 June 1978 in Grave T2066.
3. **Helen Braid McPHERSON** born 13 February 1891 at High Hill and baptised 17 October 1891 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Helen was married to **William Dulio PAULONI**, horse tamer, 6 August 1909 at the house of Mr A M McCall, North Arm, Lafonia by Special Licence by C N Foley, JP & Registrar of Marriages. The witnesses were Martha MacPherson and John MacPherson. William's father was recorded as Roberto Pauloni, miner, and Helen's father was recorded as Peter MacPherson, shepherd. William, age 69, died 24 August 1946 and was buried in Grave M1328. Helen, age 68 and a widow, died 18 June 1959 in Stanley and was buried next to William 20 June 1959 in Grave M1634.
4. **Robert Peter McPHERSON** born 31 March 1896 at High Hill and baptised 3 June 1896 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. Robert, a gardener, was married to **Stella Maud ETHERIDGE** 25 July 1924 at Christ Church Cathedral by J Stanley Smith, Clerk in Holy Orders. The witnesses were William Thomas McPherson and Ethel May Martin. Robert's father was recorded as Peter McPherson, stockman. Robert and Stella emigrated to Punta Arenas, Chile in 1928. Stella went to the UK on vacation in 1931. Robert, age 53 and a market gardener from Stanley and Punta Arenas, died 30 May 1949 from hypostatic pneumonia and a heart block, and was buried 1 June 1949 in Grave Q1405.
5. **William Thomas "Willie" McPHERSON** born 7 July 1903 at Arrow Harbour and baptised 18 August 1903 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd. William was injured about 10.30am on Tuesday 14 June 1932 in the quarry from the explosion of a charge of gelignite. He was operated in the hospital but William, a labourer age 28 years & 11 months, died 14 June 1932 from heart failure, shock and injury caused by explosion. William was buried Friday 17 June 1932 in Grave K1033. [Penguin 15, 16, 17, 20, 25 Jun 1932]

**Children of Alice STEEL (1) (a):**

1. **Boy STEEL** born 5 November 1910 in England. He was left with Mrs Ellen Clarke in England when Alice left January 1911 for the Falkland Islands. On 18 July 1916 he was living with Mrs Clarke at 79 Catherine St, Reading, Berkshire, England. She wrote to the Falkland Islands Company asking for money as Lewis and Alice had not paid any maintenance for the child for quite some time.

**Children of Alice (1) (a) and Lewis GRANT:**

1. **Reginald Lewis "Buller" GRANT** born 8 July 1912 and baptised 19 April 1914 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as labourer. Reginald departed for South Georgia 13 October 1934 per *Lafonia*; returning 13 April 1935. He was engaged in the whaling industry. Reginald departed for South Georgia in the early hours of the morning 30 October 1937 per *Lafonia*. He left for South Georgia again 29 October 1938 on the *Lafonia*.
2. **Ethel GRANT** born 20 November 1914 at Darwin and baptised 27 April 1924 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as labourer. Ethel, age 19, died 29 May 1934 in Stanley from pulmonary tuberculosis and was buried 31 May 1934 in Grave K1063.
3. **Lennard John "Len" GRANT** born 1 August 1917 and baptised 23 October 1917 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as labourer. Leonard, a foreman on the ss *San Castro*, was married to **Milly BIGGS** 29 August 1942 at the Nonconformist Church (Tabernacle), Stanley by Walter Forrest McWhan, Minister of Religion. The witnesses were N Harper and E Hirtle. Leonard's father was recorded as Lewis Grant, labourer, and Milly's father was recorded as Albert Biggs, labourer. Lennard, age 84 and a pensioner, died 6 April 2002 and is buried in Grave V3348. Milly, age 92, died 25 October 2010 and is buried in Grave V3349.
4. **Alice Lenora "Bubbles" GRANT** born 20 April 1920 and baptised 19 April 1924 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as labourer. Alice, age 4, died 21 April 1924 from heart disease and anaemia and was buried 23 April 1924 in Grave K899.
5. **Jean GRANT** born 9 August 1924 Villiers Street, Stanley and baptised 10 September 1924 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as labourer. Jean was married to **James "Jim" LEWIS**, a seaman, 18 October 1941 at the Nonconformist Church (Tabernacle), Stanley by Special Licence by Ernest John Brain, Minister of Religion. The witnesses were Donald Macdonald and Marjorie Grant. James' father was recorded as John Sydenham Lewis, seaman, and Jean's father was recorded as Lewis Grant, labourer. In 1943 Jean travelled to Hull, England. Jean and Jim returned to the Falklands circa 1985. Jean, age 83, died in Stanley 14 July 2008 and was buried 18 July 2008 in Grave W 3477. [Obituary PN 1 Aug 2008] James, age 91, died in Stanley 15 October 2012 and was buried 31 October 2012 in Grave W 3478.
6. **Margery Joan GRANT** born 9 August 1927 (*no record of her birth in the Falkland Islands*) and baptised 12 January 1930 by Christ Church Cathedral. Her father's occupation was recorded as navy and the family were living in Stanley at the time of her baptism. Marjorie, age 16, went to Montevideo for medical treatment 18 April 1943 per ss *Fitzroy*. She returned from Montevideo 26 August 1943 on the ss *Fitzroy*. Marjorie departed for Montevideo again 28 June 1945 on the ss *Fitzroy*. Circa 1947 Marjorie's address was care of Lewis, 2 The Cedars, Sidmouth Street, Newland Avenue, Hull. [FIC/EF/]

**Children of John (1) (c) and Adelaide STEEL:**

1. **James Douglas Rudd STEEL** born 15 December 1923 and baptised 13 January 1924 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as shepherd.

**Children of Beatrice (2) (3) and William ATKINS:**

1. **Ivan Maurice Garth ATKINS** born 12 October 1911 in Stanley and baptised 20 December 1911 by Christ Church Cathedral. His father's occupation was recorded as chief constable.

**DESCENDANTS OF JAMES AND HARRIET STILL IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS**