



Clockwise from left: Dancing the night away; Sarah Stannard, John Woolacott, Mike Jervois, Mike and Heather Cowdry-Brown; Lucy Charnock, Jordan Knight, Molly Jaffray, Connie Fowmes, Evelina Mezennaja, and Kyle Bishop-Newman; Dolly Le Chey and Darnell Christie; Albert and Kerry Dann, Pete and Anya Bull, Atty and Matthew Eccles; the CFL table who are long-time sponsors of the Conservation Ball.

Conservation Ball 2024

POSSIBLY the most popular event in the Falklands social calendar, the Conservation Ball took place on Saturday evening.

It is Falklands Conservation's main fund-raising event, and includes a live auction of some superb items including local artwork and an Antarctic Cruise.

The evening began with a champagne reception with canapes. There then followed a two course meal. Food was provided by The Malvina House Hotel.

The highlight of the evening had been a closely guarded secret for some weeks, as FC had secured special guest Miss Dolly Le Chey as auctioneer.

Under her gentle encouragement, bids rose for several key items, including original paintings by Ben Cockwell (£450) and Stuart Walker (£1500). For the second year running Lorraine Kelly, who visited the Falklands a few years ago, donated a dress, which this year was modelled with elegance by Darnell

Christie. The lot also included a tour of the ITV studios and was sold for £300.

Government House donated afternoon tea for 8 people which was sold for £710. The Antarctic Cruise donated by Oceanwide went for £11,500 and the Baja California Cruise from Lindblad Expeditions went for £3000. A total of £22,060 was raised over the 31 lots.

CEO of Falklands Conservation, Esther Bertram thanked supporters as well as many others for their restorative efforts over the years including work undertaken to re-plant native tussac grass around the islands and the removal of invasive species like rats and spear thistles – introduced species which have been known to disrupt the natural balance of native ecosystems in the Falklands.

References to the ongoing work on New Island were also reflected on, as FC progresses with its New Island Restoration Programme in partnership with Falkland Islands

Government & RSPB – the largest restoration attempt of its kind in Falklands history.

“At FC, our vision is to bring back damaged ecosystems and that is why we are working on our biggest restoration challenge yet on New Island”, said Mrs Bertram.

“Unfortunately, we are witnessing large amounts of soil erosion, equating to nine football pitches every year (on New Island). Introduced invasive species like mice, rats and rabbits are also having a harmful effect as they prey on decomposers and eat plant seeds, expediting the erosion that is taking place.”

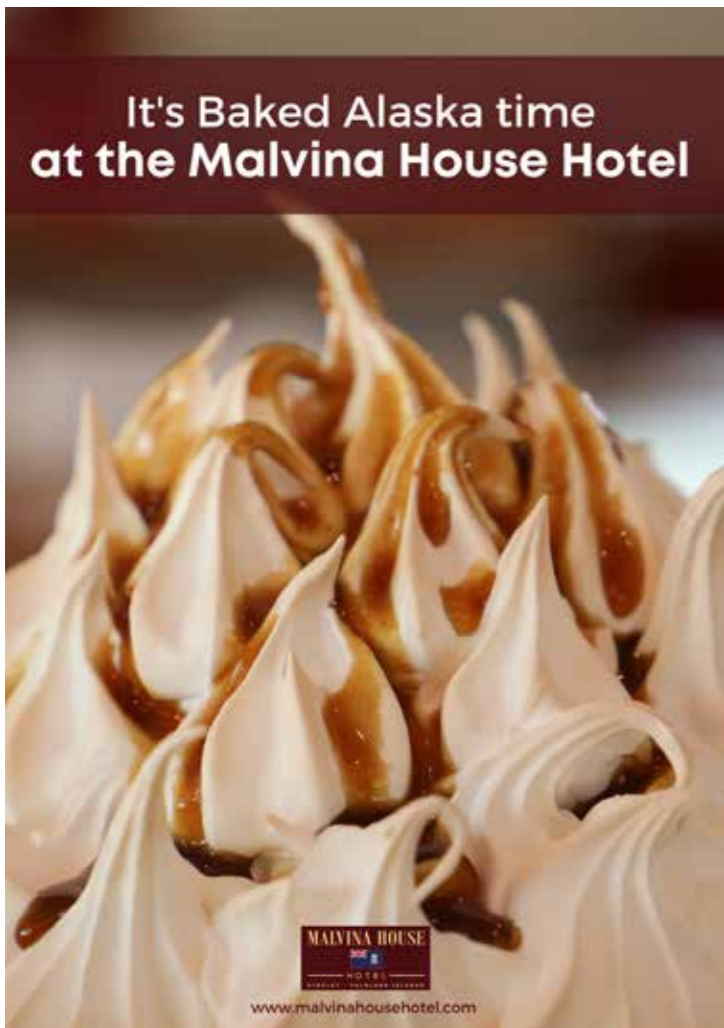
Falklands Conservation would like to thank all of their auction donors, raffle donors and sponsors for this event including primary sponsors Consolidated Fisheries Ltd (since 2004), as well as FIDC, SAAS, RBC, eLink and RSK.

Falklands Conservation sends a big thank you to all its volunteers, supporting businesses, staff and

supporters who helped make the event as great as it was. It would not have been possible without you. Thank you.

Auction Donors: Government House, Glenn Welch, David Higgins, Steve Massam, Adrian Love, Just Wool Textiles, Vicky Chater, Tim Carr/David Spivack, Bonnie Greenland, Eileen Davies, Leigh-Anne Wolfaardt, Marianna Kajut, Helen McShane/Helen's Handicrafts, Marcy Bonner, Carli-Anne Goss, Sally Ogley, Sarah Brennan, Margot Chuquimamani Quispe, Andy Pollard, Ben Cockwell, Lorraine Kelly, Neve Stanworth, Alice Clarke, Stuart Walker, Oceanwide Expeditions, Lindblad Expeditions.

Raffle Donors: Hurtigruten Expeditions, South Atlantic Detection Dogs, Sullivan Shipping, New Island, Workboat Services, BFSAI, Pebble Island Lodge, The Waterfront, Bleaker Island, Falklands Outdoors, FIGAS, Hairy Daisy, The Narrows, Kelper Stores, FITB, Falkland Islands Distillers, Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands, Malvina House Hotel, Newen Breadshop, Pro-Install Home Interiors, Groovy's, Stanley Growers, Shorty's Diner & Motel, Mitie



Above: Live music was provided by The Blue Lights Band. Above right: Elliot Vincent, Dolly Le Chey and CEO of Falklands Conservation Esther Bertram



COMMUNITY VIEWS SURVEY

The Falkland Island Government (FIG) is asking for your views on equality and discrimination issues in the Islands. The findings from this survey will help to inform FIG's work which aims to modernise national equalities law, policies, and further protect the community from discriminatory practices and behaviours.

Take part in the survey to share your views. The survey will run from:

04 September - 30 October 2024

<https://www.falklands.gov.fk/policy/consultations>

Paper copies can be collected from the Post Office or Christie Community Library, and completed surveys can be submitted in the drop box provided at either location.

For more information, contact Danielle Humphries, Equalities Policy Advisor (FIG): equalities@sec.gov.fk

