

British Antarctic Survey Archives Service

Deaths of FIDS/BAS Staff in Service outside Antarctica

7 July 2016 Joanna Rae, BAS Archives Service

With index of names (appendix 1)

See also list of those who died in service in the Antarctic.

Chronological List

1952

Charles J Skilling, 17 April 1952

Member of Royal Navy hydrographic party, a Falkland Islander, recruited locally as a stoker mechanic. Taken ill aboard MV John Biscoe during tour of bases by FI Governor and died whilst ship *en route* to Stanley.

Commemorative place name: Skilling Island, off Coronation Island, South Orkney Islands. (Skilling had been employed by FIDS as general assistant, Base H, Signy Island, 1949-50.) (Source: Colonial Office Report 1952, voyage report AD3/1/AS\179/1/6/A(1), item 21)

1962

Neil Henriksen, 2 December 1962, Stanley

Crew member, RRS John Biscoe. Taken ill aboard, transferred to hospital in Stanley, but died soon after. (Source: Medical report 12 Feb 1963 on AD3/1/AS/160/2/2(1))

1968

Kenneth James Portwine, 10 Oct 1968

Cook, Argentine Islands Base, winter 1968. Became ill on base and evacuated to Buenos Aires but died later in hospital. (Source: Reports AD6/2F/1968/H1-H2)

1986

Ann Beryl Lake, 21 Feb 1986

Data processor, Finance Section, 1976-86

1987

Gerrard Francis Snow, 8 Apr 1987

Messenger, 1983-87

1989

Dyfrig Jones, 6 Aug 1989

Space plasma physicist, 1979-89

1990

Jean Pyle, 15 May 1990

Personal secretary to Head of Geophysics Division, 1989-90

1993

John Peter Donnelly, 7 Jan 1993

Engineer, RRS Bransfield 1981-88, RRS John Biscoe 1988-91, RRS James Clark Ross 1991-93
Donnelly Island (Ryder Bay, Adelaide Island) named in his memory 1993

1994

Simon Mark Blurton, 30 Aug 1994

Technical officer, Building Services Section, 1990-94

Commemorative bench in the link to BAS Cambridge Science Building 3

1995

Peggy Ruddell, 17 May 1995

Clerical officer, Establishments Section, 1989-95

Commemorative tree in BAS Cambridge East Meadow (Southern Beech)

1996

Andreas Bombosch, 8 Apr 1996

Glaciologist, 1994-96

Commemorative tree and plaque in BAS Cambridge Memorial Orchard

1998

Peter Alexander Prince, 25 Feb 1998

Bird biologist, 1971-98

1999

Martin Guy White, 3 Jul 1999

Marine ecologist, 1965-99

2001

Geoffrey Cooper Cripps, 1 Mar 2001

Organic chemist, 1984-2001

2002

David Donaldson Wynn-Williams, 24 Mar 2002

Microbiologist, 1974-2002

2004

Matthew James Clark, 13 Dec 2003

ICT engineer 1987-1991. Head of marine engineering, 2002-03

2005

Nicholas ?, 8 Feb 2005

Jarvis cleaning team.

2010

Susan Jane Foord, 8 May 2010

Ice core laboratory technician, 1999-2010

2016

Ruth E Driver Breen, 19 Mar 2016

Research and Development Support Team, 2015-16

Andrew Michael Tait, 30 May 2016

Mechanical engineer, 1991-2016. Head of the mechanical engineering group.

Appendix 1 – Alphabetical List of FIDS/BAS Staff Who Died in Service Outside Antarctica

Blurton, Simon M
Bombosch, Andreas
Clark, Matthew J
Cripps, Geoffrey C
Donnelly, John P
Driver Breen, Ruth E
Foord, Susan J
Henricksen Neil
Jones, Dyfrig
Lake, Ann B
Pyle, Jean
Prince, Peter A
Portwine, Kenneth J
Ruddell, Peggy
Skilling, Charles J
Snow, Gerrard F
Tait, Andrew M
White, Martin G
Wynn-Williams, David D
?, Nicholas

Amongst Those Who Died Shortly after Leaving FIDS/BAS employment

Samuel Bonner, 1946
Simon Herniman, Arctic Station Relief Manager & Field Assistant, 2009
David Holmes, Electronics engineer, 2013
Dudley Mark Knott, Electronics technician, Jul 1997
Jeremy Smith, Glaciologist, Aug 1959