



The Four Corners

The quarterly Alumni Association newsletter

Issue 49: December 2019

[EDITORIAL](#) | [NEWS IN BRIEF](#) | [PEOPLE](#)

EDITORIAL

Message from Jim Drummond

I see that the American Psychological Association recommends coping with the stress of uncertainty by, amongst other things, 'limiting exposure to news, avoiding dwelling on things you can't control and reflecting on past successes.'

I left for a month in India in early November, thereby avoiding the election campaign, secure in the knowledge that Andrew Mitchell had assured the alumni assembled in the River Room at the House of Lords for the summer party, courtesy of Michael Jay, that he had "looked Boris in the eye and secured a commitment to the 0.7 % GNI target and an independent DFID". The 0.7 target seems secure but there is plenty of media speculation about DFID. There are on line petition options for those of us who want them.

With all of the uncertainties of the last 6 months, including the need to second staff for "no deal" Brexit planning, it is no surprise that contacts with DFID have been a bit limited, but several of us had a useful session with the team reviewing DFID's operating model. And Matthew Rycroft told us at the AGM that he was keen to work with the alumni. So I am sure there will be opportunities, but there is quite a lot of dust to settle.

The last 6 months have seen a number of changes in the leadership of the Association. Simon Ray stood down as Chair at the AGM after 6 valiant years, John Stuppel resigned as Secretary after 5 years holding us together, and Marc Taylor, John's predecessor and editor of the Four Corners, is still helping with the newsletter but not as editor. I took over from Marc in India in 1988 after which he went to the Department of Health, so his service to the DFID alumni is well beyond the call of duty. Many thanks to all of them and they are all keen to stay involved.

I am delighted that Pam Jenkins is taking over from John as Secretary as soon as DFID processes allow – the Secretary receives a small honorarium that originates in DFID and has access to DFID systems. Pam worked in India, Zimbabwe and Ghana as well as East Kilbride and London over a long career, so many of you will know her. I am sure she will do a great job. As will Pauline Hayes who will chair the Association for the next 6 months, while we look for a long-term replacement, preferably someone who has recently left DFID and is in touch with current staff and issues.

Pam consulted the membership about Four Corners – see her note below – and we have tried to include more news about people and less that enthusiasts can already find on other websites. I hope you like it. Please give us feedback via Pam (pamjenkins@outlook.com). And please volunteer articles for future issues. Most people leave DFID to do interesting things. Tell us about them! And please do tell Pam if you are changing your email address.

Finally, it was great to see so many of you at the Christmas Party on 9 December – see photos below. The committee joins me in wishing you and yours a healthy and fulfilling 2020.

Finally, finally please do consider whether you have the time and interest to join the committee. The Association can be more than it is, but only with more volunteers!

Jim Drummond, Acting Chair

Secretary of State and Ministers

Following the General Election on 12 December, Alok Sharma, MP for Reading West, was reappointed International Development Secretary. (His predecessor, Rory Stewart MP, was an unsuccessful candidate for the Conservative Party leadership.)

Dr Andrew Murrison MP was reappointed Minister of State at the FCO and DFID for the Middle East and North Africa. Andrew Stephenson MP was also reappointed Minister of State at the FCO and DFID.

Replacing Harriett Baldwin MP at DFID, the Rt Hon Zac Goldsmith MP was appointed Minister of State at DFID and at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on 10 September 2019. Having been defeated in the general election, he is to continue in the House of Lords as Minister of State at DEFRA and DFID.

Baroness Sugg continues as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State.

News from DFID can be found [here](#).

DFID people: present and past

Lindy Cameron (originally from Derry/Londonderry), Director General for Programmes, until last summer has moved to the Northern Ireland Office as DG. Her place was taken temporarily by **George Turkington**, who has recently retired, and long term now by **Moazzam Malik**, just back from four years as ambassador to Indonesia, and previously Director for many things in DFID. **David Hallam**, DFID Director for the Middle East has moved to DEFRA to lead on agricultural trade issues post Brexit.

Outside DFID, **Mark Mallalieu**, latterly head of DFID Afghanistan, is now the Recorder of Rare Bird species for Sussex. **Sharon White**, former Director for Policy, is the new chair of the John Lewis Partnership. **Chris Whitty**, former Chief Scientific Adviser, is the new Chief Medical Adviser for England. **Owen Barder** has left CGD and taken over as CEO of Precision Agriculture for

Welcome and Farewell

We are very pleased to welcome 23 new members to the Association over the last 6 months:

Vivien Mazur
Steven Hillier
Shelly Bhasin
Debra Roscoe
Hazel Todd
Katharina Hanifnia
Robert Towers
Caroline Hoy
Naeem Manzoor
Josh Dolman
Becky Telford
Chikondi Maleta
Anna Carla Nascimento
David Carter
David Dallinson
Phil Evans
Anirnddha Bhaduri
Kieran Holmes
Martin Eason
Akaco Ekirapa
Nick Duggin
Ben LeRoith
Alan Trescow

But very sadly we lost Graham Sharpe, Russell Banks and recently Paddy Orchard. Our condolences to their families and friends. Members have shared fond memories of them by email.

Development based in Boston. **Valerie Amos** is leaving SOAS to be Master of University College Oxford.

Three former DFID staff members stood in the 2019 General Election – **Laura Gordon** (Sheffield Hallam – Nick Clegg’s old seat); **Alistair Fernie** (Oxford East); **Brian Mathew** (Wiltshire North). And one former SPAD – **Simon Bishop** (Folkestone and Hythe). While there were some impressive increases in the Lib Dems vote share, and Laura came close, sadly none was elected.

The Four Corners: Response to Consultation

Thank you to those who responded to my request for feedback on Four Corners. You voted strongly for more articles about DFID people, both current and past, as this information is not easily accessible elsewhere. You asked for the newsletter to be shorter and for links to policy updates, rather than full text. You expressed appreciation to the past Chair Simon Ray for his interesting editorials and also for Marc Taylor, who has been Editor for the past few years.

We are reviewing whether to continue with the D Groups database or just use our WIX Alumni Association website, which seems easier to use, and simply email Four Corners to the membership. We will make a decision on this in January. For the moment we are intending to continue with a quarterly publication, but some members have suggested just posting news and articles on the website as they become available.

We have tried to address your comments and suggestions in this edition of Four Corners; please let us know what you think, by emailing me as the incoming Secretary (pamjjenkins@outlook.com). Please also send in your contributions to future editions, so that we can make the newsletter something that the membership wants to read. Draft pieces or suggestions from Staff Appointed in Country are particularly welcome. *Pam Jenkins*

News - links to 'interesting' international development sites

We have traditionally reprinted some development-related articles in the Four Corners. The feedback suggests that most of you can find what you want on the web, but some links to interesting articles would be helpful. So here are 11 that may (or may not) be of interest:

For those following the debate on the future of DFID, try this:

Abolishing DFID would see UK 'turn its back on poorest', charities warn Johnson | **Civil Service World**

<https://www.civilserviceworld.com/articles/news/abolishing-dfid-would-see-uk-turn-its-back-poorest-charities-warn-johnson>

The Centre for Global Development (President: Masood Ahmed, formerly DFID) Commitment to Development Index 2018. This measures wealthy countries' commitment to development across a full

range of government policies.

<https://www.cgdev.org/topics/commitment-development-index>

The 2019 Social Progress Index which goes beyond GDP and measures health care, infrastructure, civil liberties etc (led by Mike Green, formerly DFID)
<https://socialprogress.blog/2019/09/18/announcing-the-2019-social-progress-index/>

ICAI (led by Tamsyn Barton, formerly DFID): The use of UK Aid to Enhance Mutual Prosperity

<https://icai.independent.gov.uk/mutual-prosperity-information-note/>

Portland Index on Soft Power, which places the UK second behind France.

<https://softpower30.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/The-Soft-Power-30-Report-2019-1.pdf>

And for Brexit watchers – the **UK Trade Policy Observatory** (directed by Alan Winters, formerly DFID) – which provides evidence based policy advice on the UK's future trade options.

<https://blogs.sussex.ac.uk/uktpo/>

NAO report on DFID (November 2019) and the Effectiveness of UK International Development (June 2019)

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/departmental-overview-department-for-international-development>

Financing the SDGs – UN roadmap for financing the Sustainable Development Goals

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/UN-SG-Roadmap-Financing-the-SDGs-July-2019.pdf>

Moving away from Aid – ODI study of four middle income countries.

<https://www.odi.org/publications/11486-moving-away-aid-lessons-country-studies>

For anyone who wants a regular diet of **DFID news from Parliament**, this one is good

<https://www.parliament.co.uk/dept/DepartmentforInternationalDevelopment>

Finally for those who want a small amount of good news on **climate change** – the gap in the ozone layer is the smallest since records began – NASA

<https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2019/2019-ozone-hole-is-the-smallest-on-record-since-its-discovery>

U is for Uzbekistan

Which is one of the two double land-locked countries in the world? Yes, you guessed correctly!

Which capital city was flattened by an earthquake in 1966? Yes, Tashkent.

In which country did a massive cotton irrigation scheme (with 40,000 miles of canals losing 90% of their water to evaporation) destroy the Aral Sea? Yes you're right.

**And where in London can you buy tasty Uzbek plov (a typical Central Asian rice and lamb dish)?
Rupert Street, Soho.**

I used to have dealings with Uzbekistan when I was UK Director on the Board of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). But I had never visited the classic tourist sites on the Silk Road. I did so recently. It brought back memories.

Uzbekistan became an independent country in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Until his death in 2016, President Karimov maintained tight control over the country's economy, politics and security. Dialogue with the EBRD, whose mandate was to support countries committed to and applying the principles of pluralism and multi-party democracy, was understandably strained. State control over the all aspects of the economy, including the banks and the cotton sector, made it difficult for the EBRD to find opportunities for investment and the promotion of the private sector.

And there were significant concerns about the country's human rights record and the treatment of Islamic opposition, especially after the 9/11 attacks and the War on Terror. Craig Murray's book, *Murder in Samarkand*, tells the story.

There was hope that hosting the EBRD's annual meeting in Tashkent in 2003 would help nudge forward reforms. It didn't. Criticisms about the position on human rights in the country expressed by Clare Short and EBRD President Jean Lemierre on live TV at the opening ceremony

led to a freezing of relations that lasted some time.

In my first official visit to the country, our hosts reminded us that democracy takes a long time to develop; the British had been working on it for 800 years so far. Problems in the West of poverty, homelessness and inadequate social care did not exist in Uzbekistan. The concept of a bank that did not simply invest in line with state directions was a new one. We asked to meet representatives of independent civil society; we saw only Government sponsored NGOs.

We wanted to understand better the reported closure of the border with Kazakhstan which was disrupting local markets and trade - but denied by the authorities. We planned a non-scheduled pre-breakfast visit to the border, unaccompanied by our minders to check it out. Some chance! When we arrived at the border post all the traffic was stopped while they gave a proud demonstration of their border procedures and security checks. Unfortunately their sniffer dog failed repeatedly to locate drugs planted in a random car. The driver, crossing the border for his daily business, was not amused. Nor were the many people stuck in the massive queue created. We were not popular.

Since President Karimov's death in 2016 the country has been opening up significantly. We were part of the burgeoning tourist industry. Uzbekistan is rightly proud of its rich history. In the fourteenth century its national hero Timur (Christopher Marlowe's Tamerlane) built an empire stretching to India. His grandson Ulug

Beg was an astronomer whose record of the movement of the stars was a standard reference in fifteenth century Europe.

Magnificently decorated madrassas, mausolea, mosques and minarets built along the Silk Road, especially in Samarkand and Bukhara, await the admiration of tourists. Carpets and suzani (Uzbek embroidery) are hard to resist.

There is much to see, the food is good and the people friendly. I recommend a visit.

Simon Ray



Winter party, Rubens Hotel

This year's party was held on 9 December.



Frankie Bush with Kathy Marshall and Janet Grimshaw



Geoff Williams and Loraine Histed

CHRISTMAS QUIZ (set by Isobel Doig)

No prizes, just for fun.

Answers on page 10

1. Officially created as a separate region in 1999, Nunavut is a territory of which country?
2. Assuming it is not played on a double or triple-letter score space, how many points is the word "scrabble" worth in the game of Scrabble?
3. Hodges and Peacock are the surnames of which so-called "rockney" musicians in a duo formed in the 1970s in North London?
4. With a total of 39, which country topped the medals table at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang?
5. Turf Moor is the home ground of which English Premier League Football Club?
6. Which Boxing Great was born with the name of Walker Smith Jr in Ailey, Georgia, USA in 1921?
7. Annatto is a vegetable dye added to some British Cheeses to produce which colour?
8. What, in a culinary context, is a London Particular?
9. In 1928 the Muslim politician Ahmed Bey Zogu was crowned Zog 1, King of which European Country?
10. The Lincolnshire explorer and mapmaker Matthew Flinders was the first man to circumnavigate which continental landmass?

PEOPLE

Making a Difference – The British Aid Guest House Association (BAGHA)

Geoff Williams

NB Terms and spellings are as in 1978

In October 1978 just two of five visiting members of an ODA could squeeze into the one serviceable hotel in Dacca because the Asian under-20s footballers had filled it.

The annual programme of \$US 100m+ pledged two years earlier by PM Jim Callaghan was heavy on advisory inputs, with 30 advisers already in place, 50 expected by February 1979 and a total of 100 by early 1980. All would need housing supplied and administered by the British High Commission Administration section. What was available was allocated first to Diplomatic Service (DS) arrivals while Aid personnel lodged in the Intercontinental, often with their young families.

Additionally, there were almost no recreational facilities. A small BHC Club had been declared by its committee to be full to bursting because of the influx of Technical Cooperation Officers (TCOs), and the membership had been restricted to members of the Diplomatic Service and 20 existing TCOs, the rest frozen out for the foreseeable future. Cinemas did not show



Geoff Williams (right) with the future Governor of Montserrat Adrian Davis

American or British movies, and the one black-and-white TV channel broadcast one English-language programme per day. Aid personnel thus depended on donors' clubs which could only be used by invitation.

Something radical was required. The visiting Head of SE Asia Department, possibly inspired by having to sleep on a chaise longue next to a noisy boiler room, got an assurance that the BHC would be supportive of an ODA-funded independent venture and include it on the Diplomatic Establishment, a vital protection against casual interference from local authorities. As Head of the Aid Section I was instructed to acquire a property as a p that could provide short-stay accommodation for visitors and also offer club facilities to long-term resident aid personnel.

Eamoinn Taylor from the Bangladesh desk in London returned from his leave-relief posting in Kathmandu via Dacca, and was able to give the boss a first-hand assurance on the suitability of the chosen property. Leasing was authorised within a few days of Eamoinn's return.

The property was adapted to provide five short-stay bedrooms upstairs, a bar and snooker room downstairs, and films supplied by the British Forces Entertainment Organisation were shown once a week in another room. A sizeable garden with a large pool, plus a somewhat squeezed badminton court were the outside facilities. Panic over the provision of a filter for the pool, for which we did not have the money, was overcome by the inventiveness of a road consultant, Bill Hodgkinson, designing an appropriate-technology facility using a variety of sands and stones for the actual filtration. Alcoholic drinks came in the form of voluntary contributions by all with a "Pass Book" to the Government Duty-free Warehouse. Duty-paid drinks could also be purchased at one authorised outlet. There were occasional alarms about supplies running low, but never an actual drought.

The club was officially opened by the High Commissioner, Stephen Miles, on 27 February 1979 and it is fair to say it was an instant success. So much so that when the BHC Club ran into difficulties with its pool, just as a squadron of visiting schoolchildren was scheduled to arrive for a long summer hols, the BHCC was inspired to suggest a system of reciprocal membership with

BAGHA. It was rapidly approved.

In BAGHA's first year the savings on hotel expenses met our initial outlay for the rent and running expenses. At a difficult time for working up and implementing aid projects in Bangladesh, this administrative project had become our most successful. It went from strength to strength, and, upon the expiry of the initial lease in mid-Gulshan, the BAGHA moved to a larger building and grounds at the North end of Gulshan, where there more rooms for accommodation, a library and areas suitable for meetings, plus – the Golden Fleece – both squash and tennis courts.

By the late 90s a number of small commercial hotels close to BHC had been established by Bangladesh entrepreneurs, and senior members of DFIDB were uncomfortable at depriving them of business. So BAGHA closed its accommodation. The logic is easy to follow, but the very real benefit of interchange of information/ideas between those staying in BAGHA had been sacrificed.

Over time different High Commissioners have taken different attitudes on the club being part of the Diplomatic Establishment; Bangladeshi officials have regularly queried its status. BAGHA, however, has survived, and now in its third location back in mid-Gulshan is reported to be an independent going concern, and very much the gathering place for visiting Brits, including thirsty England cricketers.

We will put a longer version of this article on the website

Where are they now?

Life after DFID - Tendayi Nyangoni

I'm a New Zealand based consultant providing specialist inputs to programmes, projects and organisational transformation initiatives. Before migrating 'Down-Under' I worked for DFID in the Central Africa office in Harare as the Institutional Development (ID) Programme Development Officer. DFID's work on eradicating global poverty and helping developing countries build strong institutions is crucial. Positively changing lives and ensuring



sustainability resonate with my values.

In January 2000 my family and I moved to Perth Western Australia, where my wife Auxilia was doing post graduate studies. It was sad leaving DFID and Zimbabwe, but being an optimist, I viewed this as an opportunity to try something different in life. In fact I contemplated joining a musical band and be 'a man of leisure' whilst looking after the children.

Unfortunately those were only dreams. I had to find work and support the family. Initially I had to pick up a couple of odd-jobs stacking shelves before landing a project manager role with the Western Australian Department of Justice.

In 2002 we emigrated to Wellington New Zealand where I worked in a number of advisory and management roles in the public sector. In 2007 we moved to Auckland where I have worked with regional District Health Boards in different roles. To this day I continue to provide consultancy inputs to their transformation programmes, and Auxilia helps to run the Auckland Health Board.

I'm currently engaged as the Change and Contract Management Consultant for Auckland District Health Board. The experience gained working at DFID is invaluable. Not only did I gain significant skills, I made everlasting friendships in DFID. I learnt a lot of technical skills, professionalism, political savviness and the importance of continuous personal development. DFID exposed me to working in multicultural environments. It supported my professional and academic development, including putting me through training courses (e.g. project management at the UK Civil Service College) which helped my career significantly after I left DFID. It also partly paid for my post graduate studies (MSc Development Management). I hope that in future I will be able to contribute my skills and experience to development work again.

Tendayi is too modest to mention that he was a formidable rugby player in his day, though not as beastly as his cousin who made a fine mess of the England front row in the recent World Cup Final. Jim D

Life after DFID, the story so far: Martin Dinham

I retired from DFID in 2010, the year I was 60. The actual day was Friday May 7th, coincidentally the day after the general election which eventually led to the UK's first coalition government since the 1970s. I say coincidentally as I wouldn't want it to be thought that my departure was any kind of political act. I had been psychologically programmed to depart at 60 for many years and was not to be deflected when the goalposts moved and crinklies were enabled to outstay their welcome indefinitely.

However, I was a little unsure about how the third age was going to roll itself out. Would it settle down into the comforting warmth of Heartbeat repeats on ITV Encore or something less highbrow?

Perhaps fortuitously a series of road trips intervened. Five so far. We started big and bold in the summer of 2010. The first to the north: big car, 10 weeks, thousands of miles, the Arctic, Scandinavia, Russia, the Baltic States, and a diligent blog which kept its niche readership (thank you to the three of you who may be reading this) in a prolonged state of tranquillity. The second in 2012 to the south: Spain, France, Italy, the Balkans - 8 weeks this time - same car, slightly fewer miles, but equally mesmerising blog.

By the third trip in 2015 we had downsized to 6 weeks in a Hyundai but had moved continents. We were shooting the breeze – or at least it was whistling through our teeth – Stateside. San Francisco, the National Parks, Seattle, Chicago Omaha, Boise - no B road was too tiny. We ate waffle and pie. And still we blogged.

By 2017, we were down to 3 weeks, closer to home, circumnavigating the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, driving a Honda Jazz: with the blog traded in for post-it notes. This year, it was just the two weeks from tip to toe of Ireland, along the Wild Atlantic Way. By 2021, we will be down to a Saturday afternoon around Tesco's car park.

I wouldn't want anyone to think that the past 9 years have been nothing but joy-riding, although for any tyro retirees I couldn't recommend road

tripping more highly. It is a wonderful way to cement your relationship with your life partner (and I mean that in a very positive, non-Mafiosi way), while seeing wonderful things and putting our own national calamities in perspective.

But there has also been the volunteering bit – and not just karaoke sessions at the Dog and Duck. I have been blessed that three brilliant organisations agreed to have me on their Boards: Sightsavers, Frontline AIDS and BBC Media Action. All three charities are doing amazing work, immeasurably improving the quality of life of people right across Africa, Asia and beyond, and often in the harshest and most dangerous of environments. It is a privilege to be a trustee of organisations such as these and I have learned immeasurably from the experience.

My time on the Board of all three charities has now come to a natural end and I am currently resting between assignments as I contemplate my next incarnation. One brick in the wall is already in place as our first grandchild, Poppy, has just arrived and is already asking me to recite passages from past travel blogs (oh no she isn't).

Apart from that, will it be jazz piano lessons, underwater basket weaving or dusting down that painting-by-numbers book my children kindly gave me for my birthday? Heartbeat is starting to look good.



Martin in Mozambique, visiting an eye clinic supported by Sightsavers. The gentleman in the foreground had just had his bandages removed after an eye operation and discovered he could see again for the first time in 22 years. An amazing moment to witness.

Life after DFID – Mark Mallalieu

Just before my retirement in 2015 I had the privilege of heading DFID Afghanistan for two years. The only downside that I anticipated in the job was the inability to study birds, which had been a therapeutic side line during all my other overseas postings. However, I discovered that Kabul was an oasis for birds flying between India and their breeding grounds in west Asia and eastern Europe, and so was able to study this activity using mist nets in the British Embassy compound to catch and ring the migrants. Mist nets require considerable skill to use safely and there may be unexpected challenges, though I am probably the only bird ringer to ask Gurkha guards not to use them for hanging up washing! If you would like to read more about these studies, I published a paper that can be accessed here:

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/264327#page/58/mode/1up>

Soon after leaving DFID I spent two weeks as part of a team helping the Forest Department of Himachal Pradesh in India to set up a bird observatory, hoping to use this experience to plan a trip back to Kabul to work with Afghan university students, some of whom I had introduced to bird ringing during my previous time there. Unfortunately, the security situation in Afghanistan has meant that I have been unable to pursue this plan. Instead, and after a brief flirtation with consultancy work that took me back to South Sudan, I have set my sights much closer to home and am working with the Sussex



Ornithological Society (SOS). As County Recorder, I help to assess records of rare birds, a task which can require a surprising amount of diplomacy, especially if the record is considered to be a case of mistaken identity. I fear that I upset one elderly lady when I explained that the tits nesting in her Burgess Hill garden were not Crested Tits (confined to ancient Scottish pine forests), but Blue Tits, one of which sported a Mohican hairstyle.

Then there are the emails and phone calls from people who have 'definitely' just seen an eagle. These are of course always Buzzards. Well, almost always: last winter a photograph I received showed a White-tailed Eagle flying over the Downs north of Chichester. There was also a message recently about a Corncrake (an extremely elusive and scarce species that winters in Africa and breeds in tiny numbers in grassy fields in the Hebrides), found in the Grand Hotel in Brighton. Clearly nonsense – except that the bird was photographed, taken into care and safely released in suitable habitat.

More seriously, since joining the SOS and also chairing its Scientific Committee, I have helped to move the society to a more proactive role in reviewing and often challenging local housing and other plans. We rarely seek to stop developments, but rather to steer plans towards the least environmentally damaging solutions and lobby for mitigation measures. One of the great recent conservation successes in Sussex has been the rewilding of a large tract of poor farming land at the Knepp Estate, attracting lots of breeding Nightingales and endangered Turtle Doves, as well as being one of the best places in Britain to see the Purple Emperor butterfly. Knepp is well worth a visit and you may see White Storks there as the Estate owners are attempting to reintroduce them – although one bird has very sensibly moved to Africa for the winter. Field work remains my passion and I spend many hours studying Sussex birds, especially the curious Honey-buzzard that feeds on wasp larvae. I give talks to local natural history groups on this and other topics. If you live in Sussex and are interested in finding out more about my work and that of the SOS, do get in touch via mallalieu@gmail.com.

Chairperson of the DFID Alumni Association

We are grateful to Simon Ray for chairing the association since 2013. Simon resigned at the Annual General Meeting on 17 June.

Could you take on this leadership role? Please contact Pauline Hayes or Jim Drummond.

Editor of the Four Corners

The Four Corners first appeared in October 2007. Marc Taylor stood down in June 2018 after editing it since 2013.

No one has yet come forward to take over as editor. This edition has been produced by a small team. Please go on sending in your contributions to keep the newsletter relevant to alumni around the world.

Contributions to Pam Jenkins or another member of the DFID Alumni Committee.

Committee members

John Burton (Treasurer)
Isobel Doig *re-elected 17 June 2019*
Jim Drummond
Janet Grimshaw
Pauline Hayes *elected 17 June 2019*
Pam Jenkins (new Secretary)
Jan Ketelaar
Kathy Marshall
Simon Ray resigned as Chair 17 June 2019 and has left the committee
John Stuppel (Secretary, resigned)
Marc Taylor *resigned as Editor 17 June 2019*

Answers to the Quiz:-

1. Canada; 2. 14; 3. Chas and Dave; 4. Norway; 5. Burnley FC; 6. Sugar Ray Robinson; 7. Orange; 8. Pea and Ham Soup, 9. Albania; 10. Australia

Committee meeting and 2020 AGM

The Alumni Association Committee will meet on 22 January 2020.

Dates for the 2020 AGM will be advised later, but once again it is likely to be in June/July.

Members can find previous editions of this newsletter at dgroups.org and on the DFID Alumni Association web site.

The Four Corners has appeared quarterly since 2007. Members of the DFID Alumni Association can download any of the previous editions – and other documents - from the DFID Alumni [Library on dgroups](https://dgroups.org).

Dgroups (at <https://dgroups.org>) hosts a private on-line resource for our members. Members can request a password, or ask for a new password, [here](#).

Editions of The Four Corners since December 2013 are available for anyone - member or not - to download from the Association's web site at www.dfid-alumni.org

CONTACT

This newsletter is produced by DFID's Alumni Secretariat. For any queries, please contact:
Editorial Group: Pauline Hayes, Pam Jenkins or Jim Drummond
Secretary: John Stuppel / Pam Jenkins
Email: alumni@dfid.gov.uk