

PITCAIRN ISLAND AS A PORT OF CALL

HERB FORD's incredible record of all the ships that have called at Pitcairn Island has at last reached its second edition. The book is prefaced as follows:

"What you hold in your hands is a maritime history of Pitcairn Island, home of the mutineers of H.M.S. *Bounty*, told through the arrivals, departures, and sometimes dramatic events that have accompanied the thousands of ships that have called at the tiny, isolated South Pacific isle from 1790 through 2010."

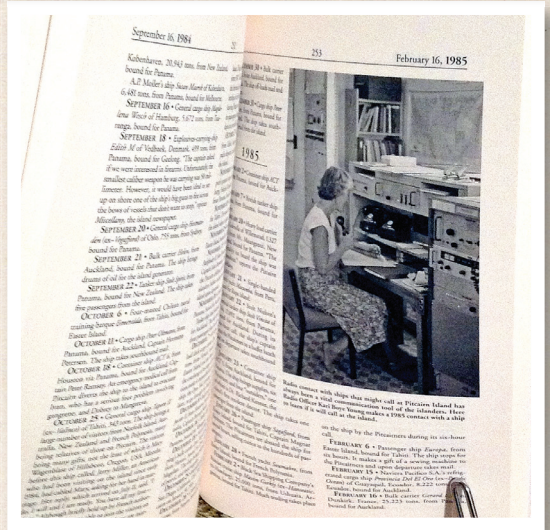
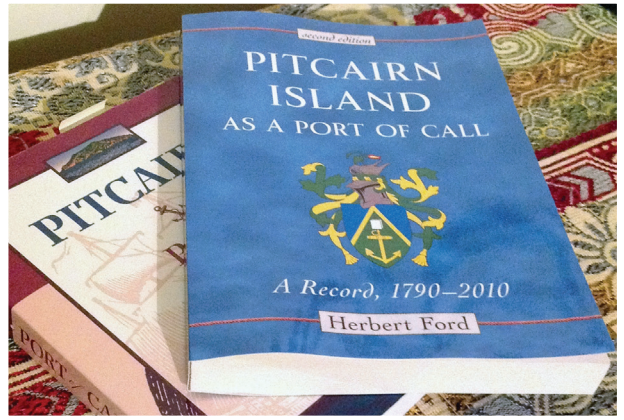
I cannot recommend this book highly enough to anyone researching Pitcairn's history, or indeed anyone with an interest in Pitcairn. As proof of this, my own comments are printed on the back cover:

"[The first edition is] the most used reference book in my library. It is full of interesting facts, stories and recollections, which, together, build up a picture of Pitcairn all the way back to the day of its most famous caller, the *Bounty*, in 1790."

The second edition is in the same format as the first, listing all the shipping calls in chronological order, and with interesting photographs scattered through the pages (like the one of Kari Young in 1985, shown here on the right), but the added bonus this time is a fantastic 37 page index.

Perhaps the only downside is the price which is recommended at £64.50! I have found it online at £54.43 including delivery from www.bookdepository.co.uk

I bought my copy from the author as he has a special arrangement with his publisher to sell the book at a lower price. If Herb still has copies then you can save £20 on the list price even when including the postage cost from the USA to the UK. You can contact Herb at the Pitcairn Islands Study Center on this email address: hford@puc.edu



Brief edited extract: "1875, January 23 • Balfour, Williamson and Company's iron ship Cornwallis of Liverpool, 1,214 tons, from San Francisco, bound for Liverpool, James Hammond, Master. The ship is wrecked on the north side of Pitcairn and is quickly broken up. ... That night the Pitcairners, in attempting to get alongside the wreck, damaged three of their boats ... During the effort to save the ship's boats, George Tornlyn Young, the 12-year-old son of Moses Young, is swept off the rocks by a large wave and drowned."
Editor's note: Please read the query on our inside front cover.