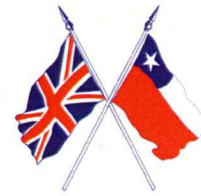


CHILEAN NEWS



Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - Georgina Roberts

www.anglochileansociety.org

71st Year No. 386

London, April 2015

37-41 Old Queen Street London SW1H 9JA

PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

On 18th November 2014, His Excellency Sr. Rodrigo Drago was received in audience by The Queen at Buckingham Palace, where he presented Her Majesty with his Letters of Credence as Ambassador of Chile to the Court of St James's. Sra. Edith Gallardo de Drago was also received by Her Majesty.

The Ambassador was accompanied by senior officials of the Embassy and Attachés of the various military missions.

Following the ceremony, the Ambassador held a reception at the Residence, attended by the Vice-Marshall, Ms Anna Clunes, diplomats, Embassy staff and friends.

In a brief welcome speech, Sr. Drago expressed his delight at sharing this special moment with the assembled company. Her Majesty had received him very cordially, remembering her own visit to Chile 46 years previously. She also spoke briefly with the other members of the ceremonial party. He went on to point out the importance of visits by the Royal Family in cementing bilateral relations between the two countries. These relations are of long standing with such commercial and artistic connections as John North the "Nitrate King" and Pablo Neruda, who was the first Latin American poet to receive an honorary doctorate from Oxford University. He was honoured to be named Ambassador to the United Kingdom and hoped to continue with the further development of bilateral cooperation. The Ambassador finished by proposing a toast to Her Majesty, The Queen.



Military Attaché Colonel Patricio Torres and Vice-Marshall Ms Anna Clunes.



H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago and Sra. Edith de Drago.



From left to right: Military Attaché Colonel Patricio Torres, Naval Attaché Captain Daniel Aguirre, H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago, Air Attaché Group Captain Sergio Figueroa and Assistant Naval Attaché Captain Jaime León.



From left to right: Sra. Carolina de López-Febregat, the Uruguayan Ambassador, H.E. Sr. Fernando López-Fabregat and Baroness Hooper.



Captain Jaime León, Mrs Georgina Roberts and Mrs Marcela León.

Presentation of Credentials (continued)



Mrs Agnes Aguirre, Chilean Chargé d'Affaires Mr Mathias Franke and Mr John Rickus.



From left to right: Ms Margarita Zurita of the Panamenian Embassy, Chilean Consul Mr Sebastián Lorenzini and Bolivian Consul Ms Lenny Vidal.

CHILEAN AIR FORCE DAY

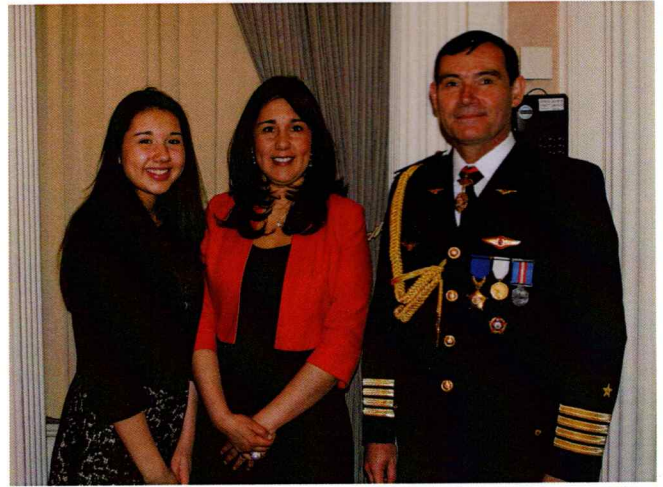
The Air Attaché to the Embassy of Chile, Group Captain Sergio Figueroa, celebrated the occasion at the Royal Air Force Club, 128 Piccadilly, London W1.

In his discourse to the assembled company, the Group Captain thanked everyone for coming, especially the Chilean Ambassador, H.E. Sr. Rolando Drago and Sra. Edith Gallardo de Drago, as well as Air Vice-Marshal Richard Knighton of the Royal Air Force.

He also made mention of three key figures in the formation of the Chilean Air Force. RAF officers Captain Victor Huston and Major Frank Scott, who actively participated in the military training of Chilean aviators in 1918 and 1920. The third was the Chilean, Commodore Arturo Merino, who formed the Chilean Air Force as a separate entity in 1930 (amongst his other achievements, he contributed to the formation of the Chilean National Airline, the Civil Aeronautical Club and the Civil Aviation Authority).

In closing his welcome speech, Group Captain Figueroa had great pleasure in inviting the Ambassador to present Flight Sergeant Jaime Rivera with the Armed Forces Military Merit Medal. Flight Sergeant Rivera is currently Administrative Secretary to the Air Attaché's office in London. He has served in the Chilean Air Force with dedication, professionalism, selfless collaboration and exemplary conduct above and beyond the call of duty for 30 years.

Among those congratulating him on his decoration was his wife, Alejandra.



Miss Paulina Figueroa, Mrs Marcela Figueroa and Group Captain Sergio Figueroa.



From left to right: H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago, Sra. Edith de Drago and Mr Cristián León.



From left to right: H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago, Group Captain Sergio Figueroa and Air Vice-Marshal Richard Knighton.



From left to right: Chilean Chargé d'Affaires Mr Mathias Franke and Chilean Naval Attaché Captain Ronald Baasch.



From left to right: Lieutenant Commander Alejandro Piñeyro, Mr Felipe González and Mr Maximiliano Valdés.



From left to right: Flight Sargeant Jaime Rivera, Mrs Alejandra Rivera and Mr José Olivares.

CHILEAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Society celebrated the 114th anniversary of Chilean Independence on Tuesday, 23rd September 2014 with a dinner held at The Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, Mayfair, London, in the presence of the Chilean Ambassador, H.E. Sr. Rolando Drago.



Presentation of Armed Forces Military Merit Medal: Group Captain Sergio Figueroa, Flight Sargeant Jaime Rivera and H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago.



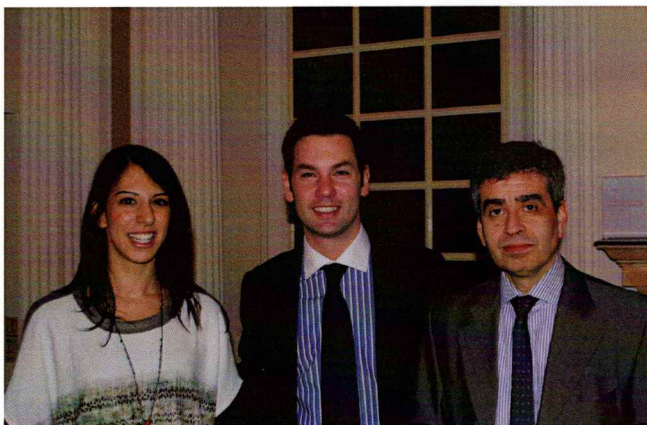
From left to right: Mr Omar Miranda, Mrs Susanna Miranda, Mrs Teresita Torres, Coronel Patricio Torres, Sra. Edith de Drago, H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago, Dame Marcela Contreras, Mr John Rickus, Mrs Alicia Rickus and Dr Charles Clarke.



From left to right: Mrs Georgina Roberts, Chilean Military Attaché Colonel Germán Schell and Mrs Andrea Schell.



From left to right: Mr Rodrigo Hernández, Mr Gonzalo Cuadra, Mrs Valentina Carmona, Mr Eduardo Carmona, Mr Alasdair Grant, Miss Gayle Young, Mr Desmond O'Connor, Mrs Isabel Cuadra and Mr Cristián López.



Ms Mariella Michaelides, Chilean Consul Mr Sebastián Lorenzini and Mr Cristián Santa-María.



From left to right: Consul Mr Sebastián Lorenzini, Mr José Olivares and Military Attaché Colonel Patricio Torres..



From left to right: H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago and Mr Eduardo Carmona.



From left to right: Mr John Rickus, Minister of Mining Mrs Aurora Williams and Mr Gonzalo Cuadra.



From left to right: Mrs Magdalena Jones, Mrs Isabel Cuadra and Ms Jessica Bain.



From left to right: Mr Cristián López, Mr Jorge Batarce, of the Cámara Chileno Británica de Comercio and H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago.



Mr Cristián León, Mr Mario Kustrin, Mrs Anna Volpin and Mr Mike Volpin.

CHILEAN MINISTER OF MINING SYMPOSIUM

The Society finished last year's activities with the visit of Mrs Aurora Williams, the Chilean Minister of Mining, at a symposium for Society members, representative of several mining companies, politicians and the press.

She gave an update on the future of the mining investment portfolio for the period 2014-2023, which involves investing US\$105 billion, the largest amount in Chilean history.

Mr James Wilson, Mining Correspondent of the Financial Times, acted as moderator.

The Anglo-Chilean Society thanks Anglo-American, Antofagasta plc and Rio Tinto plc for their sponsorship of this event.

DWELLINGS

“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services...” (from Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.)

During February and March of this year, the internationally acclaimed Chilean photographer, Carlos Reyes-Manzo, mounted an exhibition of his photos of dwellings. This took place at the Peltz Gallery, Birkbeck School of Arts in Gordon Square, London WC1. Some 50 photographs explored the human condition in relation to the places and spaces where people find shelter, protection, comfort and belonging. Mr Reyes-Manzo is an alumnus of Birkbeck College and was Ben Pimlott writer-in-residence for 2014.

A private viewing was held on 25 February 2015 in the presence of the Ambassador of Chile, H.E. Sr. Rolando Drago.



Professor Reyes-Manzo welcoming guests at the private viewing, watched by H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago.



Professor Reyes-Manzo with several of his photographs in the exhibition.

CHANGES AT THE TOP FOR THE CHILEAN NAVAL MISSION

We welcome the replacements of the former head of the Naval Mission, Captain Daniel Aguirre, and his second-in-command, Captain Jaime León, having both returned to Chile.

Captain Ronald Baasch.

Captain Baasch was born in Viña del Mar in 1965 and studied at the German School in Valparaíso prior to entering the Chilean Naval Academy in 1982. He graduated as a Midshipman in December 1986.

He has attended a number of courses, including Artillery and Missiles, Aerial Control and the Staff course at the Chilean Naval War College. Further courses included Surface Welfare Officer in the Joint Forces Staff College in the United States. He also studied to be Military Professor of International Rights During Armed Conflict.

More than half of his naval career to date has been spent at sea, six years of which he held as ship's commander. His last command was the "Almirante Williams" in 2013.

Ashore, he served as Foreign Liaison Officer to the US



Navy, in Norfolk, Virginia, as well as Assistant Director of the Chilean Naval War College.

Captain Baasch is married to Marianne and has two sons, Ronald and Robert.

Captain Juan Zuñiga.

After graduating from the Chilean Naval Academy in 1989, Captain Zuñiga completed studies in the Chilean Submarine School "Almirante Allard" before serving as watch leader on submarines "Simpson", "Hyatt" and "Thomson".



He spent three years in Madrid, Spain, from 2003 as part of the Scorpene Project, and was appointed Executive Officer of the submarine "Carrera".

Commander of the Chilean Submarine Force Headquarters, Talcahuano, from 2009, he became Commanding Officer of the submarine "Thomson" from 2010 to 2012.

Before taking up the post of Assistant Naval Attaché with the Chilean Embassy in London, he was head of the Submarine Training Centre in Talcahuano from 2013 to 2014, being promoted Captain in January 2014.

Captain Zuñiga is accompanied by his wife, Alejandra, and daughters Ignacia and Francisca.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, 18th March 2015, in the ground floor reception room of the Chilean Embassy.

A respectable turnout of 28 members enjoyed a pleasant evening. After the formalities, wine and finger food were served, while everyone renewed acquaintances and exchanged gossip.

H.E. the Ambassador, Señor Rolando Drago sent his apologies, as he regrettably was unable to attend due to prior commitments.

The chairman, Mr John Rickus, started the proceedings mentioning the most untimely death of Lord Ballyedmond in a disastrous helicopter accident. He had been a Vice-President of the Society for many years and had been a great friend of Chile. The meeting was honoured with the presence of Mr Edward Haughey, Lord Ballyedmond's son. Mr Michael Cannon, who many may remember was the Society's secretary for several years, was invited to give a brief eulogy.

Tribute was also paid to Mr George Silva-Rozzi, who was the instigator of the annual Chilean Minister of Mining Symposium. He died of cancer.

We are pleased to welcome a new member of the Executive Committee, Mr Omar Miranda. His details will

shortly be available on the Society's website as a Committee member.

In response to a question from Baroness Hooper about Chilean events happening during this year which are not specifically Society events, Cristián León advised of two.

Firstly, Chilean Day in September, when a group of around 200 Chilean businessmen, under the auspices of the Chilean Minister of Economy, will be held in London. Specifically, Wines of Chile will be taking space in Spitalfields Market for a wine tasting and general meeting. So any interested members who know of business people looking for contacts in Chile, are invited to call the Chilean Embassy on 020 7233 2535."

Secondly, the Chilean Training Vessel "Esmeralda" will be making a most welcome return to the Port of London during the month of August, and is proposing a special visit for members of the Society.

Details of both these events will be sent to members in due course.



From left to right: Mr Cristián León, Mrs Susanna Miranda and Mr Robin Holland-Martin.



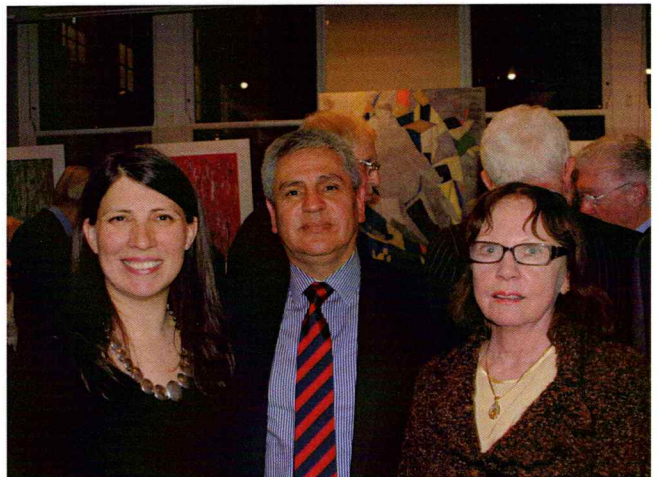
From left to right: Mrs Henriette Subercaseaux, Mrs María Eliana Robinson and Mrs Georgina Roberts.



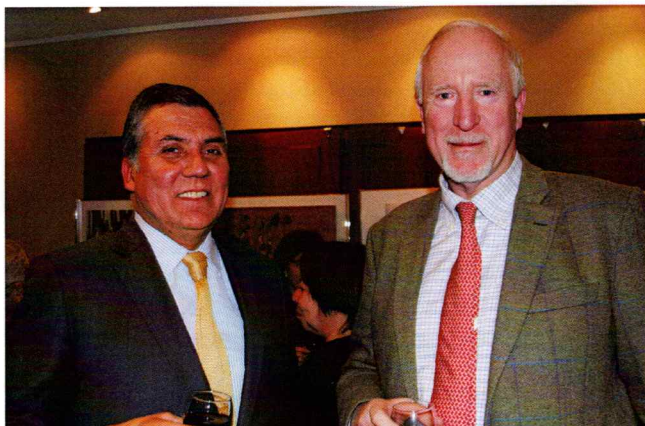
From left to right: Mr Michael Cannon, Baroness Hooper and Mr Edward Haughey.



From left to right: Mr John Rickus, Mr Robin Kent and Mr Eric Robinson.



From left to right: Ms Carolina Arriagada, Mr Claudio Durán and Mrs Carmen Pearson.



From left to right: Mr Omar Miranda and Mr Thomas Kelly.

NEW MILITARY ATTACHÉ

Colonel Patricio Torres, the former Military Attaché to the Chilean Embassy has been replaced by Colonel Germán Schell, a distinguished officer with 30 years service in the Chilean Army.

Colonel Schell graduated from the Military Academy in 1985 and rose steadily through the ranks to become Colonel in 2011.



*Military Attaché
Colonel Germán Schell*

During this time he has acquired several undergraduate and graduate Degrees in Military Science including “Planning and Strategic Management”, “Engineering Techniques”, “Military History and Strategy” and “Tactics and Operations”. He has also received an impressive array of medals and awards, including the President of the Republic medal (Gentleman degree), and three Armed Forces Military Star medals, (Military Star, Military Merit Star and Great Military Merit Star). Foreign awards include the United Nations Medal for his work as a Military Observer with UNTSO in the Middle East and medals from Brazil, Colombia, Perú and Spain.

His career has mainly been in Chile including, interestingly enough, participation in an Instruction Cruise on the Chilean Navy’s Training ship “Esmeralda”. His last post prior to the United Kingdom was on the Army General Staff in Army Operations Management.

Colonel Schell is married to Andrea Patricia Rojas, and they have three sons.

NEW CARABINERO POST FOR THE EMBASSY

A new official has been posted to the Embassy of Chile in London. Colonel Enrique Bassaletti of the Carabineros of Chile took up the post of Liaison Police Officer on 13 March 2015. For those members unfamiliar with the Carabineros, they are the civilian police force in Chile.



Colonel Enrique Bassaletti

Colonel Bassaletti, who was born in Santiago, joined the Carabineros as a cadet in 1987, and has served in Antofagasta, Santiago and Talcahuano, specialising in Traffic, both vehicle accidents and traffic management, being a graduate engineer in transit and transportation.

He is responsible for the security of the Embassy, a role formerly administered from the Chilean Embassy in Paris.

The Colonel is married with four children.

AN EVENING WITH NANCY SAN MARTIN

Deep in the heart of the University of London’s Senate House on Malet Street, lies the Senate Room.

This formal and impressive wood-panelled room, was enlivened on 9th March 2015 by the music of Nancy San Martín, Mapuche musician, composer and researcher into her heritage.

Nancy San Martín is certainly no folksy troubadour. This erudite lady is the founder of Chile’s first Intercultural School and a lecturer at the Universidad Católica on Cultural Education. Her aim is both to maintain Mapuche culture and spread knowledge of it through education.

As she explained, the Mapuche Indians have been largely misrepresented by history, as a warlike people who (successfully) opposed the Spanish invasion of Patagonia. In truth, Mapuche culture is based on co-existence with nature. They live off the land, leaving as little a footprint on their surroundings as possible. As an example, she explained that cutting down a tree could only be justified by planting two more to replace it, and that careful preservation on water resources was a priority.

However, the evening was not just a political polemic. Details of Mapuche culture were interjected between songs of Mapuche origin. Starting with a song in Mapuche about the hero, Caupolicán, the recital demonstrated Nancy San Martín’s vocal and guitar-playing abilities. She was accompanied by a trio playing a variety of percussion instruments native to Patagonia.

To followers of early native music worldwide, the first song would have had a familiar feel. This was a wailing-type song, to the accompaniment of drum and animal-horn, with a basic pan pipe, in celebration of a hero figure. Later songs had Nancy accompanying herself on the guitar, while her trio backed her up.

This was clearly more than just a guitar concert. She is an ambassador for her people.



From left to right: H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Sr. Rolando Drago, Ms Ana María Muñoz, Mrs Nancy San Martín, Mr Cristián León, Miss Aneken Engelken and Mrs Carmen Gloria García.



Mrs Nancy San Martín (centre) in full voice accompanied by Ms Ana María Muñoz (right) and Miss Aneken Engelken (left).

WEDDING

The wedding of Mr Alasdair Grant and Miss Gayle Young took place on Saturday, 28th March 2015 at the groom's mountain resort Hotel Mas de la Serra, Spain.

The Society wishes the newlyweds a life of love and happiness.



OBITUARY

Mr George Silva-Rozzi, for many years an active member of the Executive Committee of the Society, died at the end of November after a long illness.

He was instrumental in the organisation of the Society's annual Chilean Minister of Mining Symposiums.

We offer our condolences to his devoted wife, Luise.



Mrs Sara Dequin

Mrs Joan Clemow has advised us of the death of her mother, Mrs Sara Dequin,

Mrs Dequin, who died just before her 99th birthday, had been a life member of the Society for 60 years. Born in Valparaíso, she left Chile in her teens but remained fiercely proud of her roots, retaining dual nationality after her marriage in 1946, until the time of her death.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr Edward Kirk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Rotary Ramble. Sunday, 10th May 2015 in Epsom, Surrey

Wine Tasting. Thursday, 14th May 2015 at 2 More Place London SE1 2RR.

Asado. Saturday, 18th July 2015 in Banstead, Surrey.

Dieciocho Reception. Wednesday, 16th September 2015 at Bakers Hall, London.

Dates and locations for the Anglo-Chilean Society Talk, the Chilean Minister of Mining Symposium and the Christmas event have yet to be decided.

Members will receive details of all these events, directions and application forms well before the time.

ERRATUM

We must apologise for an error in the November 2014 issue of the Chilean News. Mr Desmond O'Conor was misnamed as Mr Donald O'Conor.