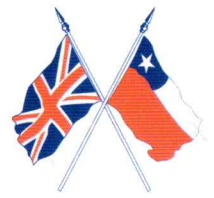


CHILEAN NEWS



Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - Georgina Roberts

www.anglochileansociety.org

62nd Year No. 369

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12 Devonshire Street London W1

ARMED FORCES CELEBRATIONS

Chilean Air Force Day

A reception was given by the Air Attaché to the Embassy of Chile and Mrs. Hugo Tilly on 21st March at the RAF Club, on the occasion of the 76th anniversary of that institution. Group Captain (A) Tilly was unable to attend due to the death of his mother.



From left to right: Colonel Johan du Plessis, Brigadier General Ruediger Heeg, Ms. Priscilla Tilly, Mrs. Priscilla Tilly and Mr. Patricio Damm.



From left to right: Wing Commander Alastair Hawes, MoD, Colonel Carlos Mariano Saini, Argentinian Defence Attaché, and Colonel Bosco Pesse, Chilean Military Attaché.



Mr. Gonzalo Cuadra, Mrs. Henny Subercaseaux and Mr. Cristián León.



Sergeant Patricio Chávez, Squadron Leader Graham MacRury, RAF, and Group Captain (I) Felipe Fernández.

Chilean Navy Day

The annual wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of Admiral Lord Cochrane by the outgoing Ambassador, Sr. Mariano Fernández and the head of the Chilean Naval Mission, Captain Charles Le May, took place at Westminster Abbey on 19th May. It was followed by a reception at the Institute of Directors, 121 Pall Mall, London SW1.



From left to right: H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, Sra. de Fernández, the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Jonathon Band, Mrs. Vicky Le May and Captain Charles Le May.



From left to right: Captain the Honourable Michael Cochrane, Canon Jane Hedges and Rear-Admiral J. Trewby, RN.



Captain Jorge Cruz in the company of Mrs. Vicky Le May and the Countess Dundonald.



Assistant Naval Attaché Captain Carlos Novoa and Mrs. Alejandra Novoa.

JOSÉ ANTONIO ESCOBAR AT THE RESIDENCE

A concert by the internationally renowned Chilean guitarist José Antonio Escobar was held on 13th March, at 92 Eaton Place, London SW1.

The programme included works by great Chilean composers such as Horacio Salinas, Violeta Parra, Víctor Jara and Javier González, who have been inspired by the wealth of folklore music and dance.

On this occasion, in a brilliant display of technique, he performed the world première of "Sonata Homage to Violeta Parra", especially dedicated to him by Juan Antonio Sánchez.

To the strains of "La Consentida", a "real cueca" as the artist called it, the evening came to a close.

The concert, in aid of the Fundación de Orquestas Infantiles y Juveniles de Chile and sponsored by Enap Sipetrol, was followed by a reception of Chilean food and wine.



From left to right: Mr. Patrick Fagan, Ms. Marcela Contreras, Mr. Claudio Aldana, Mrs. Lorena Aldana and H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández.



From left to right: Mr. Alasdair Grant, Mrs. Pola de Kadt, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and Mr. Emanuel de Kadt.



From left to right: Mrs. Claudia Iglesias, Mr. Anthony Dempster, Mrs. Alejandra Massu, Ms. Merylyn Potter and Mr. Jesús Mora del Río.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held on Thursday, 23rd March at 12 Devonshire

St. London W1, in the presence of the Deputy Head of Mission, Mr. Isauro Torres, representing the ambassador.

The meeting started with a vote of thanks for the excellent work of our editor, Georgina Roberts.

Julian Amey stood down as chairman and his replacement, Mr. Richard Wilkinson, took the chair.

Dick Wilkinson had been Her Majesty's Ambassador to Chile between 2003 and 2005. After reading Classics at Cambridge and Oriental Languages in Paris, followed by a brief academic career, Dick entered the Diplomatic Service in 1972. Between appointments at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London, he served in Madrid, Ankara, Mexico City and Paris before becoming successively, Ambassador to Venezuela in 1997, Director for the Americas at the FCO and then Ambassador to Chile.

Other changes to the Executive Committee were the resignations of Mr. Gordon Baker and Mr. Sam Bell. New members were Mrs. Marika Brennan, Mr. Emanuel de Kadt, Mrs. Magdalena Jones and Mr. George Silva-Rozzi. With the resignation of Mr. Mariano Machain as secretary, Mr. Michael Roberts took over the position on a part-time basis.

The treasurer was pleased to report that the Society was in good financial health. Donations during the year included Fundación de Orquestas Infantiles y Juveniles de Chile.

Wine and snacks were served when the meeting formally closed.



From left to right: Mr. Dick Wilkinson, Mr. Emanuel de Kadt, Mr. Denzil Dunnett and Mr. Julian Amey.



From left to right: Mr. Cristián León, Mr. Peter de Bruyne and Mr. David Pearson.



Mr. Robert Hart with Mrs. Peggy Hart (not related).

MICHIO NISHIHARA-TORO AT THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

The third of the concerts offered by this outstanding Chilean pianist was held on 5th May, at the Purcell Room. The programme, which included pieces by Bach/Busoni, Brahms, Beethoven, Scriabin and Sir Malcolm Arnold, kept the audience enthralled and asking for more, particularly the rendition of the works by Chopin that resulted in an explosion of applause. It was a bravura performance and in the words of Sr. Mariano Fernández, the departing ambassador, "A concert which in a way symbolises the melting pot that is my country: a Chilean pianist with Japanese ancestors, playing the music of European composers to pay tribute to the first woman elected president in a South American country."

Chilean wine and snacks were served during the interval.

The event was organised by the Latin American & Caribbean Cultural Society in association with the Embassy of Chile.



H.E. the Ambassador of Turkey and Mrs. Alptuna, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and Ms. Rie Yoshitake.



From left to right: Mr. Isauro Torres, Mr. George Silva-Rozzi, Mrs. Luise Silva-Rozzi and Group Captain (A) Hugo Tilly.



Michio Nishihara-Toro in performance.

INTERNATIONAL SPRING FAIR

The 47th International Social Service Spring Fair was held in the Kensington Town Hall, London W8, on 9th and 10th May in the presence of Princess Alexandra, Royal Patron, ISS (UK).

Once again the great variety of food, drink, arts and crafts made the exhibitors, that is to say the many embassies in London, proud. The Chilean stand presented its usual attractive display of baskets of fruit together with quite an array of Chile's finest wines such as: Santa Rita, Casa Lapostolle, Don Osvaldo, Cremaschi, Moonstone, Terra Nova Carmenière, Torres Santa Digna, De Martino, Carta Vieja, Yali, Cousiño Macul, Viña La Rosa, Adobe y Novas, Cono Sur and Casas del Bosque.



Princess Alejandra, Royal Patron of the International Social Services (UK), visiting the Chilean stand.



From left to right: Mr. Isauro Torres, Mr. Patricio Damm, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, Mrs. M. Angélica Damm and Mrs. Patricia Pesse.

AMBASSADOR DECLARED A FREEMAN OF THE CITY OF LONDON

In a ceremony whose origins date back to medieval times, the outgoing Chilean Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, Sr. Mariano Fernández, was awarded the Freedom of the City of London. This is a very significant tribute to Sr. Fernández, as the Freedom is very rarely bestowed on foreigners, and he joins a company that includes Mr. Nelson Mandela, Mr. Rupert Murdoch and Mr. Alan Greenspan.

"Freedom of the City of London" is normally awarded to a member of one of the City's Livery Companies, and, as befits a renowned wine connoisseur, Sr. Fernández is a member of the Worshipful Company of Distillers.

Legend has it that the Freedom allows the holder to drive sheep through the City of London. However, and more appropriately for the Worshipful Company of Distillers, if a Freeman is caught inebriated in the City, the police will put him in a taxi and send him home, rather than charge him with drunk and disorderly behaviour – not, of course, that such behaviour could ever be levelled at the former ambassador!

The Freedom was presented during a luncheon at the Guildhall given by the City Remembrancer, Mr. Paul Double, assisted by Mr. Murray Craig, from the Chamberlain's Court and members of the Worshipful Company of Distillers, including Mr. David Grant, father of Alasdair Grant who is a member of the Society. Evidence of the close ties between Chile and the United Kingdom was given to Sr. Fernández, with a display of the menus from state banquets offered to Presidents Eduardo Frei Moltava, Patricio Aylwin and Eduardo Frei Ruiz.



From left to right: Anthony S Westnedge OBE (Member of the Court of the Worshipful Company of Distillers (WCD)), Derek Plant (Middle Warden of the WCD), Paul Double (City Remembrancer - Corporation of the City of London), H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, David Grant (Master of the WCD), Charles Maxwell (Renter Warden of the WCD), Murray Craig (Clerk to the Chamberlain's Office at the Guildhall).

RECOGNITION OF 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

On 11th May, María Elvira Berho was decorated by H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández for 30 years service as Private Secretary to the Chilean Ambassadors in London.

María Elvira first arrived in London in 1975 to continue her English studies, and promptly fell in love with the city, and one resident in particular, who later became her husband. She started work in the Chilean Consulate and, with the appointment of an ambassador in 1980, she was transferred as secretary to H.E. Sr. Miguel Schweitzer. When he returned to Chile in 1983 to become Minister of the Exterior, María Elvira went with him to join his Secretariat. However, the pull of London was irresistible, and in 1984 she was back working as Private Secretary of the then Ambassador, H.E. Sr. Orrego Vicuña.



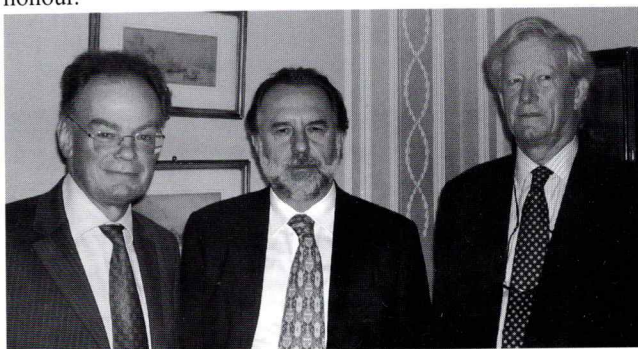
Mrs. María Elvira Berho with H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández.

AT THE CAVALRY AND GUARDS CLUB IN PICCADILLY

A farewell lunch was offered by the Society's Executive Committee in association with the British Chilean Chamber of Commerce (BCCC) on 17th May, on the occasion of the departure of H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and Sra. de Fernández.

Speeches were given by Mr. Richard Wilkinson and Mr. Desmond O'Conor and gifts consisting of a book "London

Interiors from Country Life" from the Society, and a print of Westminster Abbey from BCCC were presented to the guest of honour.



From left to right: Mr. Richard Wilkinson, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, the guest of honour, and Mr. Desmond O'Conor.



From left to right: Mr. Luis Montero, Sra. de Fernández and Mr. George Silva-Rozzi.



From left to right (seated): Mrs. Marika Brennan, Mr. Alasdair Grant, Sra. de Fernández, Mr. Richard Wilkinson, Mrs. Georgina Roberts, Ms. Claudia Munro Kerr; (Standing) Mr. Isauro Torres, Mr. Philip Adeane, Mr. Robert Hart, Mr. Robert Charlton, Mr. George Silva-Rozzi, Mrs. Magdalena Jones, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, Mr. Alan Macdonald, Mr. Desmond O'Conor, Mrs. Carmen Pearson, Mr. Luis Montero, Mrs. Henny Subercaseaux, Mr. Jonathan Cook, Mr. Emanuel de Kad, Mrs. María Angélica Damm, Mr. Cristián León and Mr. Michael Roberts.

FAREWELL RECEPTION AT THE RESIDENCE

This was held on Monday, 22nd May to say good-bye to the departing Ambassador, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and Sra. de Fernández.

Their support of the Society as well as their unstinting efforts to present Chile in the best possible light were unsurpassed. They will be greatly missed.



From left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Marcial Echenique with H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández.



From left to right: Mrs. Georgina Roberts, Mrs. María Angélica de Fernández and Mrs. María Isabel Torres.



From left to right: Mr. Anthony Westnedge, OBE, Mr. David Grant, Mrs. Laragh Grant and Mr. Richard Wilkinson.



From left to right: Lord Lamont, Mrs. Henny Subercaseaux and Mr. Julian Amey.



From left to right: Mrs. Georgina Roberts, Mrs. Sarita Dequin and Mrs. Mónica Robb.

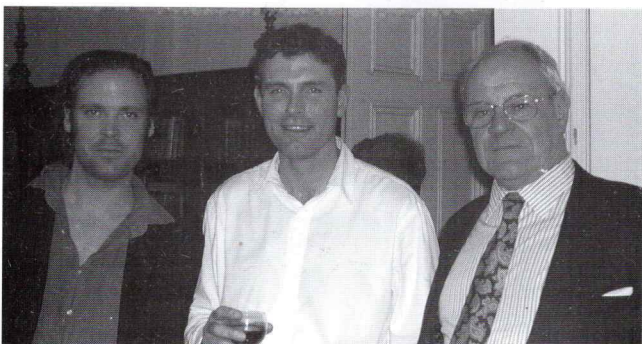


From left to right: Mrs. Isabel Cuadra, Mr. Gonzalo Cuadra and Mrs. Patricia Pesse.

SCREENING OF "FLAVOURS OF CHILE" AND WINE RECEPTION

On Tuesday, 23rd May members and friends of the Society gathered together at Canning House for an evening of Chilean food and wine. It began with the screening of several excerpts from Alasdair Grant's latest TV series "Flavours of Chile", a stunningly visual documentary that took the viewer from the barren desert in the north to the glaciers of Patagonia in the south. This was followed by a wine tasting from the featured wineries as well as all the smoked salmon you could eat!

"Flavours of Chile" was shown on the Travel Channel in July. For those members who do not have Sky TV, it is now available on DVD, contact www@travelchannel.co.uk.



From left to right: Mr. Charles Oatley, Mr. Alasdair Grant and Mr. Gordon Baker.

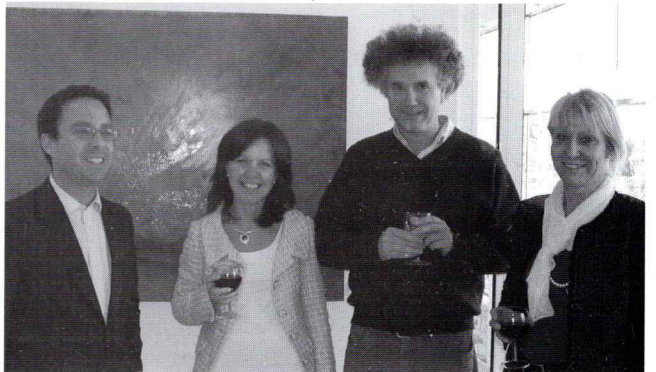
CONTEMPORARY ART AT RIVERSIDE QUARTER

A private preview of the exhibition of María Luisa Hernández and Sharyn Wortman on 31st May attracted a huge crowd to the beautiful setting at the FEHU Art Gallery in Putney, overlooking the Thames.

María Luisa, a Chilean painter, has exhibited previously in London with her much admired oils on canvas, notably "Fire". Sharyn, an Australian artist with a love for the abstract, reminded one of the Impressionists, especially her work "Wandsworth Park".



From left to right: Ms. Ana María Hernández, Mr. Cristián León and Ms. Sharyn Wortman.



From left to right: Mr. Hernán Bascuñán, Mrs. Magdalena Jones, Mr. Ignacio Valdés and Mrs. Shirley Timmins.

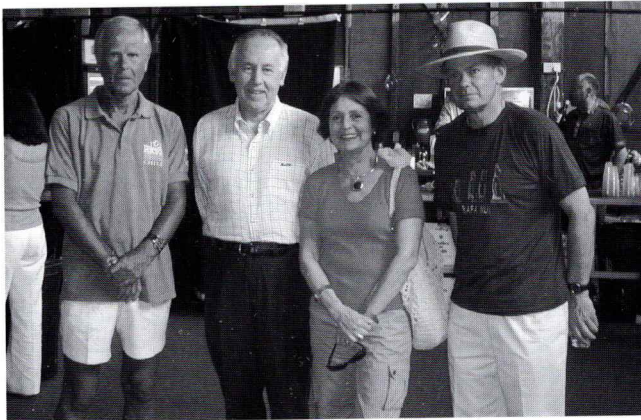
ASADO IN HAMPSHIRE

The ninth Asado of the Society, organised in association with the British Chilean Chamber of Commerce, took place on Sunday, 2nd July and was graced by the presence of H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno, the new Chilean Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, and Sra. de Moreno.

The "chori-pan" and "empanadas" were followed by the traditional Chilean barbecue served with a variety of salads and well washed down with an excellent pisco sour and fine Chilean wines. The strawberries and cream as well as ice-cream proved to be a popular choice.

The day's activities had something for everybody: some tennis, a "piñata" for the children and the excitement of the raffle draw. Music was provided by "Latin Touch", a superb seven-piece band.

The organisers gratefully acknowledge the generous sponsorship of Anglo-American, Antofagasta plc, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, British American Tobacco, CMPC (Paper and Cardboard Manufacturing Company), Codelco and Río Tinto. Also to ProChile for providing the pisco. Without their support the event would not have been possible this year.



From left to right: Mr. Alan Macdonald, H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno, Sra. de Moreno and Mr. Richard Wilkinson.



From left to right: Mrs. Luíse Silva-Rozzi, Mr. George Silva-Rozzi, Mr. Paul West, Mrs. Iberia Torres-West and Mr. Peter Heap.



From left to right: Mr. Gordon Baker, Mrs. Victoria Amey, Mr. Julian Amey, Baroness Hooper, Mrs. Sheila Baker, Ms. Angela Hooper and Lord Lea of Cromwell.

ON THE OCCASION OF PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

On Tuesday, 11th July His Excellency Sr. Rafael Moreno was received in audience by H.M. the Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from Chile to the Court of St. James's.

Sra. de Moreno was also received by Her Majesty.

A reception followed at the Ambassador's Residence.



H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno, Sra. de Moreno and Ms. Jackie Barson, MBE, the Deputy Head of Protocol.



From left to right: H.E. the Ambassador of El Salvador, Sr. Vladimiro Villalta, Lord Montgomery of Alamein, Archbishop Faustino Sainz, Baroness Hooper and H.E. the Ambassador of Colombia, Sr. Alfonso López-Caballero.



From left to right: The Deputy Mayor of Westminster, Mr. Michael Brahams, the Mayor of Richmond, Mr. Bill Treble, Colonel Bosco Pesse, Captain Charles Le May, Group Captain Hugo Tilly and Captain Carlos Novoa.



From left to right: Mrs. Patricia Pesse, Mrs. Priscilla Tilly, Mrs. Vicky Le May and Mrs. Rita Phillips.

H.E. SR. RAFAEL MORENO

We are pleased to introduce the new Chilean Ambassador and President of the Society, Sr. Rafael Moreno.

Born in Santiago in 1936, the incoming ambassador graduated as an Agricultural Scientist from the Universidad Católica in Santiago in 1958 and two years later completed his Master's in Agricultural Economics at the University of Illinois, U.S.A.

In the academic field he was professor of Economics at the Universidad Católica in Valparaíso (1961-1964) and of Agrarian Economy at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago (1970-1971). He was also professor of Rural Development at the Universidad Católica (1970-1978) and of Economics at the Universidad de Chile (1973-1974) in Santiago. In 1984 he was appointed Professor at the Gregorian University in Rome and in 1996 he became President of the Instituto de Educación Rural.

His professional experience includes the Corporation for the Agrarian Reform (1964-1970) where he served as Executive Vice-President, as well as a Consultant to the World Bank and the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture.

From 1978 to 1986 he was Director of Human Resources, Institutions and Agrarian Reform for FAO in Rome. In 1986 he became Assistant Director-General of that organisation, until 1989, when he was named Assistant Director-General of FAO for Latin-America and the Caribbean.

Sr. Rafael Moreno is the author of a number of publications and articles on economic, rural and agricultural subjects. He is also responsible for a number of laws relating to the farming industry and the Agrarian Reform.

During his distinguished career he has received many decorations, including the Peruvian Medal for Agricultural Achievements, the Grand Cross of Brazil and the Chilean Senate National Decoration.

The culmination of an intensely active life in politics was his election as the Christian Democratic Senator for the VI Region from 1997 to 2006.

Sr. Moreno is accompanied by his wife of 36 years, Gloria Orb. They have two sons and five grandchildren.

ART AND HANDICRAFT IN HERTFORDSHIRE

On a beautiful summer day two Chilean artists, members of the Society, joined a group of exhibitors on Harpenden Green in aid of Cancer UK.

There was something for everybody ranging from ceramics and painting on silk to cards and wooden handicraft.

Carmen Pearson is an Art Restorer who graduated from the London School of Picture and Frame Restoration in Richmond, Surrey, and the Open College of Arts. She specialises in oil paintings, watercolours and gilded antiques.

Carmen-Gloria Heap, an Art graduate from Universidad de Chile who excels in still life, made an impression with

her paintings of peeled oranges, apples in a wicker basket, sunflowers and beautiful terracota pots.



Carmen Pearson demonstrating her expertise.



Carmen-Gloria Heap with some of her paintings.

BAROQUE OPERA IN CHILE

by Michael Roberts

The Society recently welcomed a new member whose connection with Chile is somewhat out of the ordinary.

Mr. Jack Edwards is an Opera Director, living in Essex. More precisely, he is the Artistic and Stage Director for Opera Restor'd, a world-renowned organisation dedicated to presenting Renaissance and Baroque operas.

Mr. Edwards first went to Chile in January, 1979 at the invitation of the late Sara Vial, founder of the dance workshop, Taller de Danzas Antiguas. In his then capacity as a choreographer, he was invited to give courses in antique dance at the Instituto Cultural de Providencia, the finale of which was a massive performance held on the lawns of the Instituto.

Within three months, Mr. Edwards was again invited to Santiago by the Universidad Católica, this time wearing another of his professional hats, that of designer. He designed the costumes for the University's production of Hamlet.

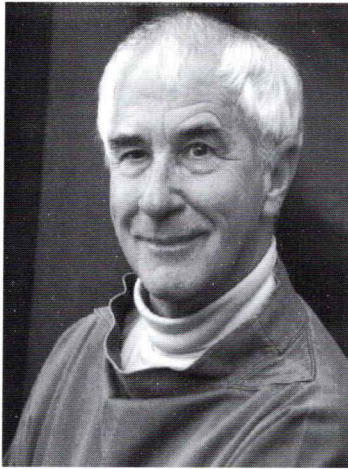
During both these visits, Mr. Edwards found time to utilise his original training as an actor to present a programme of music and poetry at the Instituto Británico.

Sara Vial was again instrumental in bringing Mr. Edwards back to Chile in 1980, when he directed a full-length programme on "Dance from the Middle Ages and Renaissance to the Baroque" for the TV channel Canal 7, a programme which won the Latin-American Cultural Prize. With the support of the British Council, he also visited Concepción and Valparaíso, as well as Santiago, giving workshops on Shakespeare.

However, it was at the turn of the century that he made probably his greatest impact on the Chilean cultural scene. Contracted to direct a baroque opera, he worked with Sylvia Soubllette, Director of the Instituto de Música de Santiago, whose professional credentials include studying in Paris under Messiaen and Milhaud. In what must have been a first for Chile (possibly South America), he directed and designed the relatively obscure opera "Dafne", by Antonio Caldara (1719), not only in Santiago, but also on tour. Such must have been the success of this opera, that he returned the following year to direct Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas" (1684), again touring

the country, and taking it to Buenos Aires for a performance in aid of the United Nations. In 2003, Mr. Edwards again returned to Chile, this time to design the "Coronation of Poppaea" (1642) by Monteverdi.

Mr. Edwards relates that the death of his dear friend, Sara Vial, seems to have brought his work in Chile to a stop. We hope that this is purely temporary, and that he will soon return to foment further interest in baroque music in Chile.



Mr. Jack Edwards.

NEW AIR ATTACHÉ AT THE EMBASSY

Group Captain Christian Gómez was born in Doñihue, Chile, on 7 September 1957. He entered the Air Force Academy in 1975 and, following his training as a cadet, he was commissioned in 1978. In pilot training he qualified as a Fighter Pilot and served tours as an operational pilot in Hawker Hunter aircraft and later as A Qualified Weapon Instructor at the Fighter Weapon School, flying the A-36.

Having specialised in flight safety, he has served as Flight Safety Officer at Squadron and Base levels during his operational tours. He also held the position of Commander of the Air Force Academy Cadet Training Squadron.

After finishing his Staff Course at the Air War Academy he qualified as Instructor and attended the Air Command and Staff Course at the USAF Air University in Maxwell, USA.

Upon his return to Chile he became Deputy Commander at the Air War Academy and later Commander of the Air Reconnaissance Squadron.

He assumed the post of Chief of Planning at the Civil Aviation Authority in 2004 and remained in this job until the end June 2006.

Throughout his career Group Captain Gómez has accumulated over 2,700 flying hours, mainly in aircraft such as Hawker Hunter, A-36, A-37 and LJ-35A.

He now takes over the position of Air Attaché to the Embassy of Chile in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and as Air Attaché Concurrent to the Kingdoms of Sweden and the Netherlands.

He is married to Vania and they have three daughters. His interests include reading, singing and antiques hunting.



Group Captain Christian Gómez.

O'HIGGINS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

At the Sala Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins Riquelme

The Instituto O'Higiniano, in association with the Chilean Military Mission in the United Kingdom, presented the talk "Bernardo Riquelme en Inglaterra" on Thursday, 24th August in the presence of H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno, the Consul General Patricio Damm, Mr. Isaura Torres, Deputy Head of Mission, and special guests.

Colonel Bosco Pesse, the Military Attaché, was in the chair and started the proceedings by thanking everyone for attending. He gave a brief introduction to the subject before introducing the guest speaker, Sergio Rioja, a Chilean historian and Professor at Middlesex University.

Two hundred and twenty-eight years have passed since O'Higgins' birth in Chillán and little is known of his early life except that he was the natural son of Ambrose O'Higgins, an Irish officer in the service of Spain. He was initially known by his mother's name of Riquelme but later adopted that of his father.

His initial education in Chile and Perú was followed by Cádiz, Spain. He was then sent to England to continue his studies, where he would stay from 1795 to 1799.

At the age of 17, Bernardo lived and studied at Mr. Eele's Catholic School in Richmond, Surrey. The building is still there, a beautiful Georgian mansion known as Clarence House.

In London he used to meet with San Martín and Francisco de Miranda. They, together with Bolívar, dreamt of the idea of independence from Spain; they yearned for an independent Latin America.

A well-informed audience had a chance to ask questions and exchange ideas with the speaker.

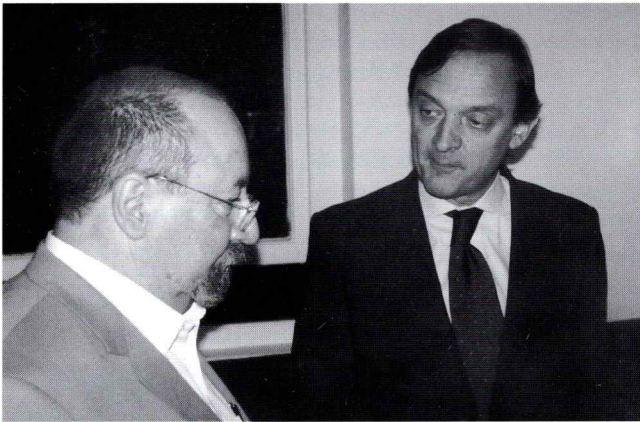
The event closed with wine and snacks.



From left to right: Colonel Bosco Pesse, Prof. Sergio Rioja, Mr. Jaime Aguilera and Mr. Cristián Faúndez.



From left to right: Sra. Gloria de Moreno, H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno, Mr. Patricio Damm and Colonel Bosco Pesse.



Prof. Sergio Rioja and Mr. Isauro Torres.

At O'Higgins Square

On a cool summer day in August the beautiful borough of Richmond in Surrey was all decked out to celebrate the birth of one of its most famous residents, General Bernardo O'Higgins, the Liberator of Chile.

A picturesque terrace with abundant foliage on the banks of the Thames provided a magnificent natural setting for the performances of the Chilean Military School Band and Evendart Folk Dance Group. They had just returned from appearing at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

The National Anthems of Great Britain and Chile were followed by the speeches of H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno and the Mayor of the Borough of Richmond, Bill Treble.

The annual wreath-laying at the bust of the Liberator was performed by representatives of Casa Chile, the Association of Retired Members of the Chilean Armed Forces, the Instituto O'Higiniano, the Richmond Council and the Embassy of Chile.

In his speech the Chilean Ambassador said:

"We are gathered here once again, in Richmond, to honour the memory of whom we acknowledge as the founding father of the Chilean nation, and the source for inspiration and an active participant in Latin America's struggle for freedom, don Bernardo O'Higgins.

It was here, in this former rural town of Surrey, where the future key figure of the heroic deeds for the independence of Chile broadened his intellectual horizons and began to elaborate the ideals of national freedom, keeping in mind the interests of those who made up the just-beginning Chilean homeland.

It is obvious to us today that personal experiences that take place at an early age shape the personality of human beings and these experiences are expressed with amazing clarity as they mature with the ideals and aspirations of those individuals.

Bernardo O'Higgins arrived at this location in order to be educated in England. However, during his stay in these surroundings he met other people who shared in his ideals of independence and freedom, and together they began to create a project that sought to achieve the independence from the Spanish crown for those territories beyond the great Atlantic Ocean.

Today, we believe that the phenomenon of globalisation was firstly expressed almost 200 years ago in the Latin American

countries since their processes of independence took place almost at the same time and the free spirit bloomed in the hearts and minds of important figures, such as Francisco de Miranda, Simón Bolívar, José de San Martín, Artigas, and many other heroes that gave birth to a new reality in the so called "New World".

Bernardo O'Higgins forged his young spirit in these surroundings, he became familiar with this culture, he learned the language and, above all, he appreciated the character and discipline of the people that lived here. This became quite evident when, as Supreme Director of Chile, he decided to liberate Peru and sent a Chilean commissioner to England in order to hire an outstanding naval officer to organise the Chilean Navy and help in the process of consolidating the independence of the countries located in the Southern cone of Latin America. The appointed officer was Admiral Alexander Cochrane, the founder of the first naval squadron of Chile.

You must agree with me that nobody invites a person to undertake such a huge task if one does not rely on the skills and background of who has been chosen. Therefore, when O'Higgins made that decision he was making use of the lessons he learned in this country.

For us Chileans, being here in Richmond means going back to the roots of our national hero. And in this opportunity there is an extra touch of solemnity since the band of the Chilean Army joins us today with their instruments and the smart uniforms of the Military School of Chile, which was founded by O'Higgins and named after him. Our band, as well as the folklore group that is present, have delighted us with a lovely presentation and they have just participated in the famous International Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Today they are also here with us to honour the memory of the founder of the Chilean republic.

As we commemorate the 228th anniversary of his birth, we want to thank the authorities of this borough, represented by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Richmond as well as other distinguished members of the Council. Last but not least, we wish to express our gratitude to everyone who is here with us this morning. We are proud to share with you the opportunity of celebrating, one more time, the independence and freedom of our Latin American republics".

Mayor Bill Treble replied on behalf of the Borough of Richmond.



At the wreath-laying. From left to right: Group Captain Christian Gómez, Captain Charles Le May, H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno and Colonel Bosco Pesse.

The Lord Mayor of Richmond, Bill Treble, getting into the Chilean spirit, dancing the "cueca".



H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno and Sra. de Moreno with two members of the Evendart Dance Troup in a patriotic display of "flags".

150 YEARS OF WINEMAKING

In the tranquil surroundings of the Chelsea Physic Garden in central London, the Cousiño-Macul Winery chose to announce their celebration of 150 years of winemaking by the Cousiño family with the launch of a new wine. The head of the family, Mr. Carlos Cousiño, presented "Lota" to a selected group of connoisseurs, wine dealers, and your editor (!), in a wine-tasting organised by Pol Roger Ltd. A truly remarkable Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot mix, it was received with plaudits from all who attended the tasting. But why the name "Lota"?

In an introductory illustrated talk the eminent expert on gardens, Mr. Charles Chessire, explained how Matías Cousiño had originally bought land in Lota, 500km south of Santiago, at the beginning of the 19th century and started mining coal. The proceeds of this allowed the family to establish their first wine estate in Santiago in 1856. Luis and Isidora Cousiño travelled to France in 1863 and purchased pre-phylloxera vines of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Sauvignon and Semillon grapes. After the death of Luis, Isidora founded a winery in Macul in 1870, thus establishing the famous brand name Cousiño-Macul. In 1996, Cousiño-Macul bought 600 acres in Buin, and hired an enthusiastic young enologist, Matías Rivera, to design and develop the vineyard.

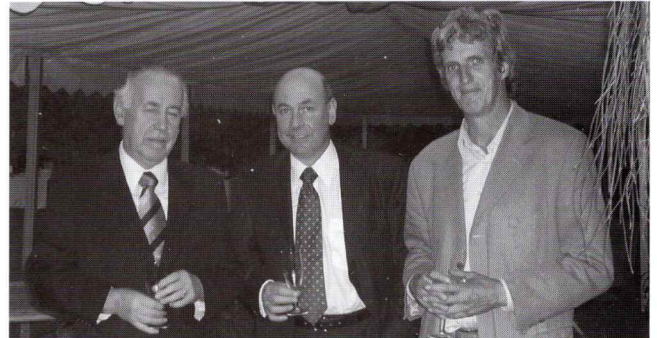
And so, in 2006, after 10 years of selecting, growing and mixing wines from both Macul and Buin, Lota was "born". As Matías said in his speech in the Chelsea Physic Garden, he has six children – five with his wife and one called



From left to right: Mr. Matías Rivera, the winemaker, and Mr. Carlos Cousiño, head of the Cousiño family.

– Lota! In describing the wine, Matías said: Lota is a red wine that expresses the best of both estates maintaining the essence of the wine production philosophy of Cousiño-Macul, with a perfect balance and harmony between all its components. It has a pure, clean, intense, elegant and complex nose, with layer of aromas where black and red fruits stand out. Matured by 13 months in French oak barrels, it developed a great balance and good concentration. In the mouth it feels very delicate, friendly and with a great personality."

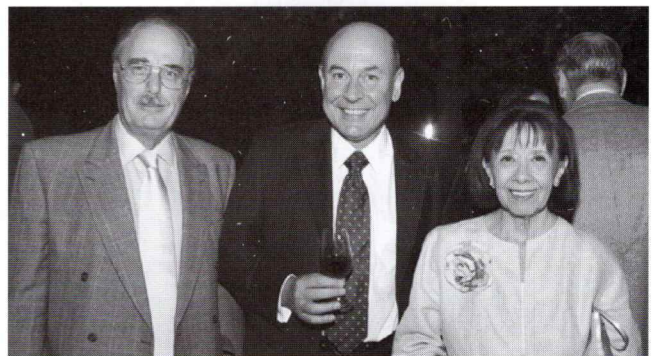
For more details on this superb wine, we suggest contacting Pol Roger Ltd, Shelton House, 4 Coningsby St, Hereford, Herefordshire HR1 2DY, Tel: 01432 262800.



From left to right: H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno, Mr. Carlos Cousiño and Mr. Charles Chessire.



From left to right: Mr. Michael Broadbent (Master of Wine), Mrs. Daphne Broadbent, Mr. Stuart Edwards and Ms. Rie Yoshitake.



At the celebration: Michael and Georgina Roberts with Mr. Carlos Cousiño.

NEW PRESS ATTACHÉ TO THE EMBASSY IN LONDON

Ms. Odette Magnet has been appointed as Press Attaché to the Embassy of Chile in London. She received a degree in journalism from the Universidad Católica in Santiago and writes for such magazines as "Latina Style", "Vanidades", "Cosas", and "Istmos". She served as the human rights and national affairs reporter for "Hoy" magazine from 1977 to 1987. "Hoy" was recognised as the most important publication of the opposition to the military dictatorship both in Chile and worldwide.

When democracy returned to Chile in 1990, Ms. Magnet was appointed by the then President Patricio Aylwin as Chief of the Foreign Press Office and later as Press Advisor for the Ministry of Justice. She continued her professional career as a freelance journalist for several Chilean publications (the

newspapers "La Epoca" and "La Nación", as well as the magazines "Apsi", "Los Tiempos" and "Caras") covering national affairs and conducting political interviews.

Magnet also assisted in the production of several documentaries, such as "The Miracle of the Andes", based on the plane crash involving Uruguayan rugby players who survived more than two months in the Andes. Also, she was the co-producer of the documentary "Carlos Cardoen", the Chilean entrepreneur known mostly for his production of cluster bombs.

In 1995, Ms. Magnet was appointed as Press Attaché to the Embassy of Chile in Washington, D.C (by the then President Eduardo Frei) and she served in this capacity until 2000.

Ms. Magnet has also served as translator for the World Bank and the IDB, among other international agencies, as well as consultant for the United Nations' World Food Program and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). She was also Press Attaché to the Chilean Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, DC, and for a year she was the speechwriter of the OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Another special gathering took place on a beautiful summer day at St. Teresa Residential Care Home, 42 Roland Gardens, London SW3. Sra. Otilia Briones Figueroa, a native of Limache, Chile, reached the most respectable age of 105. Back in 2001 she had put her town of birth on the map, when she received a congratulatory message from His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, on her 100th birthday.

This year the St. Teresa Home not only celebrated a milestone in the life of its oldest resident but also the 125th anniversary of the foundation of the Sisters Hospitallers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



Sister Tomasa presenting the strawberry birthday cake to Sra. Briones.



Sra. Briones at her favourite restaurant, with another birthday cake!

DONATIONS

This year the Society donated £1000 to the 14th Santiago Fire Company (La Bomba Inglesa) of Providencia, Santiago. This Company, which is entirely voluntary, as are all Fire Companies in Chile, has connections with the British

Community in Chile, and the donation will help towards the construction of their new headquarters.

For the third year running, the Hogar San Ricardo in Batuco was the beneficiary of more than £500 worth of medicines to help with the 160 mentally deficient youngsters they take care of, courtesy of the Group of Chilean Ladies in London.

The Group of Chilean Ladies in London made a contribution of two hospital beds and five motorised surgical mattresses to the Hogar de Ancianos "Padre Antonio Ronchi" that provides shelter for 43 destitute elderly men in Coyhaique (XI Region).

ANGLO-LATINAMERICAN GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Anglo-Chilean Society was the host of this year's tournament which took place at the West Surrey Golf Club, Eton, Surrey, on Thursday, 2nd June. Mr. Patricio Damm, the Consul General, presented the prizes on behalf of the Chilean Ambassador.

The results of the competition were as follows:

The best score of the day and winner of the Ambassador's Cup was Mrs. Susan McArthur of the Anglo-Peruvian Society.

The Argentine Rose Bowl was won by Robin Gilderdale and the Jangada Trophy (Brazil) was won by Mr. David Thomas.

The winner of the Punta Arenas Cup was Mr. Sandy Hay of the Anglo-Chilean Society, and the LanChile trophy went to Mr. Duncan McArthur from the Anglo-Peruvian Society.

Mrs. Janice Peters, from the Anglo-Argentine Society won the Ladies Prize.

BIRTH

Oh Boy!

On 19th September, at the St. Mary's Hospital in Paddington, to Cristián and Francisca (née Prieto) López, a son, Teodoro.

OBITUARY

by Georgina Roberts

Jennie Saunders, a long-standing member of the Society, passed away peacefully on 16th August. She had been unwell for a while and in hospital for a few weeks. She was 91.

We corresponded for twenty years on subjects as diverse as events in our daily lives and everything in relation with Chile, a country she loved as much as her beloved Ireland.

She arrived in Punta Arenas in 1946 to live on a sheep farm. Her husband, George, was the manager of one of the huge "estancias" during the golden age of Patagonia, where the Saunders lived for sixteen years.

On my first trip to Patagonia in 1995, I visited Cerro Castillo with my friend Jennie in mind. Previously, I had called on her at the residential home for the elderly in Dublin when she asked me to visit her once-beautiful home (which today is a guest house) of which she had such fond memories. Even today, the name Saunders carries some weight in the region and is spoken with respect and reverence. On mentioning Jennie I was received as an honoured guest by the Mayor of Cerro Castillo. In response to this gesture, and in her honour, writing materials were donated to the local school by the Group of Chilean Ladies in London whose charitable work Jennie had long admired and contributed to.

Jennie carried Chile deep in her heart and never lost contact with the Society. She was special and I will greatly miss her.

WEDDING

The wedding took place between Mr. David McInnes and Miss Paulette Roberts, daughter of Michael and Georgina Roberts, on Saturday, 5th August at St. Peter's Church, Chantilly, France, followed by a reception at Château d'Ermenonville.

The bride, a philosophy graduate, is a Senior Researcher at the Audit Commission. The groom is a Partner of Ince & Co., the International Law firm in the City of London.

The honeymoon was spent in Paris, Thailand and Malaysia.



The newlyweds arriving at the chateau.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Jack Edwards
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Gamblen
Mr. Trevor Keohane
Ms. Marion Khamis
Ms. Andrea Kirchgaessner
Mr. Christopher Mutlow
Ms. Yvonne Pines

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Sir Leslie Bowes Lecture: This will be held at Canning House, 2 Belgrave Square, London, on 30th October. The subject is "The Temperate Araucaria Forests of Southern Chile" and will be given by Peter Bennet, Antonio Lara and Martin Gardner.

The Andean Project is planning a reception at Canning House on 27th November.

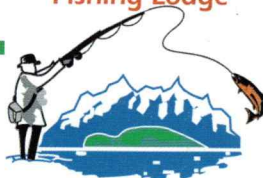
Christmas party: This year's celebration is scheduled for 12th December at Canning House.

Wine Event 2007: This will take place in Canning House on 15th May. It will be hosted by Peter Richards, author of "Wines of Chile".

Readers who wish to purchase any of the photographs appearing in this issue should contact the Editor, Chilean News, telephone 020-8398-9448. Prices start at £1.50 for a standard 6 in. by 4 in. print.



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