



Valparaíso, May 06, 2026

**Dear Madam Chairman,
The Anglo-Chilean Society
LONDON**

We are writing to you, on behalf of the Board of the *Corporación Cementerio de Disidentes de Valparaíso*, to inform you of the efforts we are undertaking to restore and preserve this emblematic historic monument.

As you may be aware, the Dissidents Cemetery —also known as Valparaíso’s Protestant Pantheon—was founded in 1825 by a group of British immigrants to bury the remains of Christian citizens who, not belonging to the Catholic Church, could not be interred in public cemeteries. This site is a unique testament to the cultural and religious diversity that has enriched the history of Valparaíso and of our country. In recognition of its significance, the cemetery was declared a National Historic Monument in 2005 and belongs to Valparaíso’s historic quarter, contributing to UNESCO’s designation of the city as a World Heritage Site.

Over the past two centuries, our Cemetery has become the final resting place of individuals who have had significant influence on Chile’s political, economic, and cultural development. Its heritage, historical, cultural, aesthetic, and religious value is beyond question, and it represents a vital place of remembrance for the nation as a whole. At present, it contains approximately 1,400 family burial plots, largely belonging to European immigrants and their descendants, and stands as a tangible expression of Chile’s valuable historic foreign immigration—particularly British, North American, German, and Swiss, among others.

Since 1936, the Cemetery has been administered by the *Corporación Cementerio de Disidentes* (Protestant Pantheon), a private non-profit organisation which, for decades, has worked to ensure that the site is maintained at the level of conservation and respect it deserves. However, due to its limited surface area and its two centuries of operation, the cemetery has a very restricted capacity to accommodate new burials. This has confined its main funding to the contributions made by members of the corporation and their descendants for the upkeep of existing family graves. Over the years and across generations, contact with many of those descendants has been lost. Thus, during 2025, only 40 families made the annual contributions for the maintenance of their ancestors’ graves, niches, and burial vaults.

As a private institution, the Cemetery receives no public funding. The limited income available to the Corporation is insufficient to continue its proper upkeep without using long-standing investments that will eventually run out, placing its preservation—and the community’s access to this important legacy—at serious risk.

Accordingly, while we continue to pursue a range of initiatives to secure the funding the Cemetery requires, we have decided to reach out to the descendants and relatives of those interred there. Our intention is to invite them to contact the Corporation, to identify their ancestors buried in the Cemetery, and to request their annual contribution towards the upkeep of these graves. Such support will be essential to ensure the continuity of this monument and to enable future generations to understand and appreciate its historical significance.

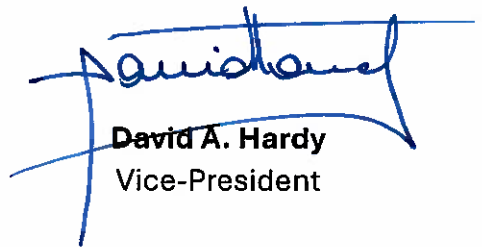
To this end, we would be most grateful for the valuable cooperation of your Society in **circulating this letter among your members and associates, via your website, newsletters, social media, or other channels.** In doing so, we hope to reach as many individuals as possible who may be connected to those buried in the Dissidents Cemetery. We would be grateful if interested persons would contact our Administrator, Mr Juan José Caro Vásquez, at disidentesvalparaiso@gmail.com, or any of the undersigned Directors at directoriodisidentes@gmail.com.

We thank you in advance for your support and, should it be of interest, we would be pleased to provide further information regarding our history and projects, or to respond to any queries you may have.

Yours faithfully,



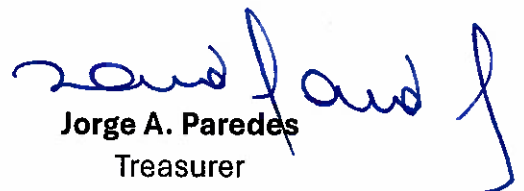
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