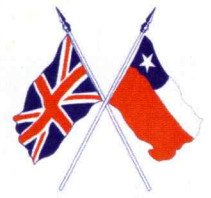


CHILEAN NEWS



Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - Georgina Roberts

www.anglochileansociety.org

66th Year No. 377

London, October 2010

37-41 Old Queen Street London SW1H

ARMED FORCES CELEBRATION

Chilean Air Force Day.

Regrettably, the reception to mark the 80th anniversary of the Chilean Air Force had to be cancelled due to the earthquake that hit Chile on 27th February 2010.

Chilean Navy Day.

The annual wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of Admiral Lord Cochrane by the Chargé d' Affaires, Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, and the Head of the Chilean Naval Mission, Rear-Admiral Jorge Chandía, took place at Westminster Abbey on 19th May. It was followed by a reception at the Institute of Civil Engineers at One Great George Street.

In his speech, Admiral Chandía paid tribute to Lord Thomas Alexander Cochrane and Commander Arturo Prat "two distinguished sailors who during their lives had an influence on the defence and freedom of Chile" and also for the support shown to the country following the devastation caused by the earthquake on 27th February 2010. "Despite the massive shock suffered by our nation, the bond of friendship between our navies and our people remains unshakeable."



Mrs Marcela Vargas, Assistant Naval Attaché Captain Oscar Vargas, Mrs M. Angélica Chandía and Rear-Admiral Jorge Chandía.



Mr Jorge Carvajal, Mr John Briggs, The Earl of Dundonald and Mrs Eugenie Carvajal.



Baroness Hooper, Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Duncan Sandys, Mrs Janery Ibacache and Air Force Attaché Group Captain Claudio Ibacache.



Commodore the Honourable Michael Cochrane, Mrs Janet Cochrane, Commodore Jake Moores and Rear-Admiral Philip Jones.



Ms M. Angolein Campaine, Ms Alexandra Shackelton, Flag Lieutenant Craig Hastings and Captain Will Martin RAN.



Lieutenant Nicholas Wulf next to his proud mother, Mrs Mary Anne Le May and Mr Ignacio Llanos.



Military Attaché Colonel Ramiro Reyes, Mrs Marcela Reyes and Mr Felipe Saéz.

ART EXHIBITION

The preview of the Modern and Contemporary Latin American Art Show took place on 3rd June at the Earl's Court Exhibition Centre and included the participation of three avant-garde Chilean artists.

"Platos Rotos" by Livia Marin was quite a revelation. Her work explores the afterlife of objects. As she said: "I am interested in everyday objects in that they play an integral part of our lives...I am interested in them as far as they reflect something of the people that use them, aspects lost in the exclusive, ideal object."

"Fine Spinning", the art work of Catalina Mena consists of objects hanging from the ceiling by fine cotton thread. Cups, jars or plates are lifted in space as if they were spirits demanding to be recovered, while at the same time they show the absence/presence of the table and actors. The title "Free Spinning" is meant to refer to the manufacture of objects, as well as to the delicate suspension of them and, metaphorical speaking, of our fragility as a quality belonging to the human being.

Fernando Casampere's sculptures have been extensively shown in Latin America, North America and Europe. His work is represented in public collections including the Victoria and Albert Museum.



Mr Jorge Carvajal and Mr Ignacio Llanos of the Chilean Embassy with the Custodian of Brunson Projects and the artist Livia Marin.



"Platos Rotos", the artist's work.



Catalina Mena with her work "Fine Spinning".

"Ancestral Cavern" by Fernando Casampere.



Fernando Casampere with "Venice Landscape".

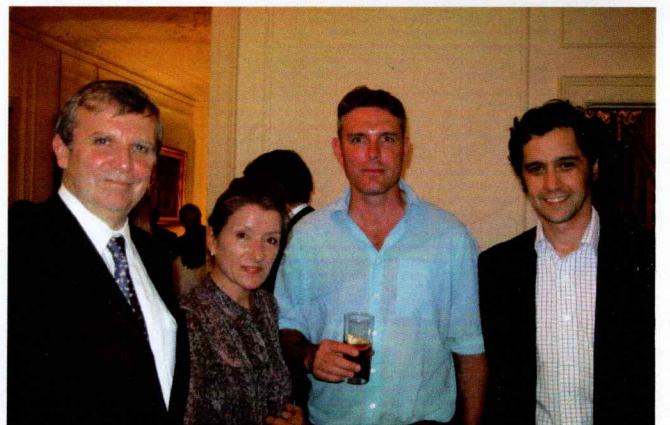
PISCO TASTING AT THE RESIDENCE

The event, to raise funds in aid of the victims of the earthquake that hit Chile this year, was held on 8th June 2010 by kind permission of the Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Mr Rodrigo Espinosa.

Alejandro Aguirre, whose family has been in the pisco business for three generations and who founded ABA Pisco at the end of the nineties, was going to give a presentation on pisco in Chile but at the last minute an illness prevented him from travelling.

It was up to Glen Hooper, a travelling mixologist who previously lived for a year in Chile and who has been working with ProChile to promote pisco in the UK, to show both the traditional and novel ways of enjoying pisco.

The Society thanks Messrs Aguirre and Hooper for donating their time, the pisco and other ingredients.



Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, Mrs Angela Wilkinson, Mr Alasdair Grant and Mr Cristián López.



From left to right: Mr José Ruíz-Cano, Mrs Encarnación Ruíz-Cano, Mrs Isabel Cuadra and Mr Gonzalo Cuadra.



Mrs Susana Pérez de Herasti, Ms Angela Hoyes, Mr Richard Vaughn and Mr Alasdair Grant.



From left to right: Mr Robert Willans, Mrs Catherine Maybury, Mr Russell Maybury, Mrs Cristina Willans and Mr Mark Forrester.



From left to right: Mr Julian Amey, Mrs Victoria Amey and Mr Richard Wilkinson.



Mr Christopher Priebe, Ms Eva Loyola, Mr Cristián León and Ms Bhumika Amlani.



Mr Glen Hooper (far right) watching his assistant preparing a champagne cocktail.

THE GROUP OF CHILEAN LADIES IN LONDON SHOW THEIR SOLIDARITY

An afternoon tea was held on Thursday, 1st July 2010 at the Embassy of Chile to raise funds for the victims of the earthquake.

Tickets for the affair were quickly sold out. On offer was an abundance of the best in Chilean pastry-making. Of course, the mandatory raffle had to be part of the programme and attracted favourable comments about the many attractive prizes.

A scroll acknowledging their support and generosity was given to all present.

The organisers wish to thank the Embassy of Chile and the Anglo-Chilean Society for sponsoring the event, as well as the invaluable assistance of the Consul, Mr Alejandro Gibbons.



A general view of the event.



From left to right: Mrs Alejandra Sáez, Ms Marcela Holtheuer, Ms M. Elvira Berhó and Mrs Carla Meibergen.



The pièce de resistance: a three-tier cake with the Chilean coat of arms on top and a garland of "copihues".



Mrs Mónica Volpin, one of the charming hostesses.



From left to right: Mrs Nina Grose Hodge, Mrs Heather Bouche and Mrs Henriette Subercaseaux.



From left to right: Mrs Blanca Irrarrazabal, Mrs Melissa Maclean, Mrs María Isabel Infante, Mrs Tatiana Spichiger and Mrs Alejandra Bustamante.

ASADO IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Another summer, another Asado and a very successful one too! On Saturday, 17th July one hundred and twenty members of the Society made their way to Ascott House, Wing, Buckinghamshire, to have a Chilean barbecue at the impressive Victorian Cricket Pavilion by courtesy of Sir Evelyn de Rothschild.

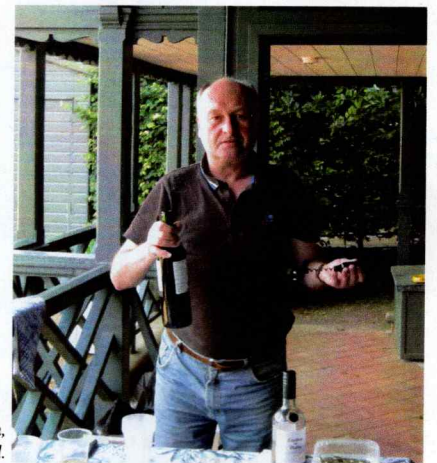
The ever-popular pisco sour, "empanadas" and "choripan" were followed by mouth-watering South American steaks washed down with Chilean wine.

After all this food, some found it necessary to stretch their legs and went for a walk around the grounds, while others enjoyed playing football and volleyball.

The afternoon finished with the customary raffle, which was very well supported.



The cooks: Mario Benavente, Luis Castillo and Peter West.



Our ever-genial barman, Chris Hopewell.



Mrs Peggy Hart, Mr David Bouche, Mr John Laurie, Mrs Christine Laurie, Mrs Henriette Subercaseaux and Mrs Heather Bouche.



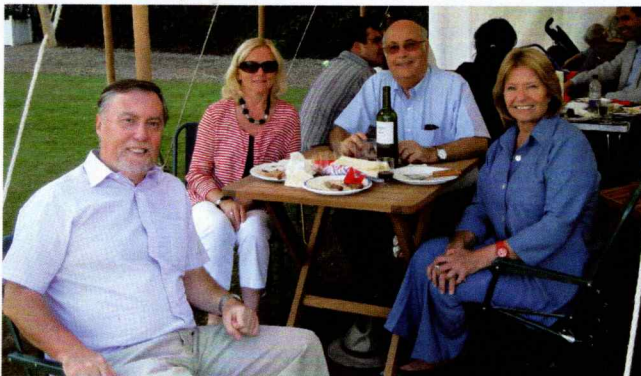
From left to right: Mr David Pearson, Mr Roy Schneider and Mr Francisco Goñi.



From left to right: Mrs Victoria Amey, Mr Julian Amey, Mr Mike Richardson and Mrs Julia Richardson.



From left to right: Ms Marta Crunelli, Mr Richard Wilkinson, Mr Wilf Wilkinson, Ms Angela Wilkinson and Ms Eleanor Wilkinson.



Mr George Silva-Rozzi, Mrs Luise Silva-Rozzi, Mr Pablo Castro and Mrs Maria Ines Brahm.



Max McInnes "bending it like Beckham".

MANY THANKS TO MANUDEN

Demonstrations of solidarity with the victims of the devastating earthquake that hit Chile in February of this year have come from all around the world, and a small community set in the English countryside was no exception.

Manuden, a picture-postcard village in Essex, was first recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086. Its one main street, simply called The Street, winds around the church, which dates from the 12th century and is lined with medieval buildings, some of which lean alarmingly towards the road.

On passing the imposing Manuden Hall, is the modern part, a road of 20th century houses. Manuden is now a commuter village, although it still has two working farms.

It was to this charming and peaceful location that we drove two hours along the M25 on Sunday, 25th July to attend a concert given by the Manuden Singers. This annual event is held in the open air (unless it rains, when it moves to the church!) and this year, thanks to the efforts of Peter and Carmen Gloria Heap, the proceeds were to go to the relief of the victims of the Chilean earthquake.

On 27th February 2010, they were in Santiago visiting her parents and staying on the 15th floor of a skyscraper. As she says: "It was one of the most terrifying experiences of my life... It lasted over three minutes and was like being in a cocktail shaker." Seeing the devastation brought by the earthquake prompted them to request the aid of the other villagers as soon as they were back in the UK.

After a refreshing tea in the Heaps' garden (which boasts an example of the Chilean Araucaria Araucana (Monkey Puzzle Tree) we proceeded a few houses down to Wilford House where the concert was to be held. It seemed as if the whole population had turned up, all with their chairs or rugs and picnic hampers – for this occasion had been entitled "A Village Glyndebourne". The Manuden Singers is a choir formed by local residents. It has almost thirty members, Peter being one of them, and is directed by Mr Ian Priest.

The first half of the programme consisted of some sea songs, an aria from Mozart's "Figaro" and ended with excerpts for "Trial by Jury" by Gilbert and Sullivan. An unscheduled appearance by the Paraguayan harpist, Mr Cristóbal Pederson, added a suitable Latin touch with "Yo vendo unos ojos negros", "Cascada" and "Abril en Portugal". The interval saw the opening of many hampers, bottles of wine and the popping of champagne corks before proceeding with the second half. More songs from the choir, a piano interlude, a rendition of "Granada" and finishing with more Gilbert and Sullivan, this time selections from "Ruddigore".

In a short speech, Peter Heap thanked all those present for their generous support. He also thanked the Chilean Consul, Mr Alejandro Gibbons, who had brought his family to the concert and Michael and Georgina Roberts who represented the Anglo-Chilean Society.



Manuden in all its Tudor splendour.



Mr Cristóbal Pederson.



The Manuden Singers in full flow



Some of the audience enjoying the concert.

ROTARY CLUB OF CHELWOOD BRIDGE IN SOMERSET ANSWERS THE APPEAL OF ROTARY CLUB IN VALPARAISO

Chelwood Bridge Rotarians Hugo Pike and Ernie Mackenna travelled to Chile in June 2010 to inspect the devastation caused by the earthquake and learn how Water-Survival Boxes (WSB) were being delivered to the regions most affected.

The WSB is produced by Worldwaterworks Ltd., a Registered Charity sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chelwood Bridge in Somerset. Mr Hugo Pike is the chairman of Worldwaterworks Ltd. The overriding purpose of the water-survival box is to protect survivors from water borne disease. It can include water purification tablets, a container to collect water, mugs, cooking pots and simple stove, bowls for eating, spoons and anti-septic spray. The exact contents depend on the location and type of disaster.

The Chelwood Bridge Rotary Club has dispatched four hundred boxes by air to Chile. The first consignment of 200 boxes was distributed by the Rotary Clubs of Valparaíso and Talca, in conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of the various affected locations, in the towns of Chillán Viejo and San Clemente, both in the heart of the region devastated by the earthquake. A second consignment arrived in April and was distributed by the Rotary Club of Valparaíso to those most in need.



Water-survival boxes arriving in Santiago watched by Rotarian Jorge Vega Díaz of the Rotary Club of Valparaíso. (Photo courtesy of Mr Hugo Pike of Worldwaterworks Ltd.)



A young mother in Talca receiving a box on behalf of her family, with Rotarian León Torres of the Valparaíso Club. (Photo courtesy of Mr Hugo Pike of Worldwaterworks Ltd.)

“RHYTHMS FESTIVAL” TO CELEBRATE THE BICENTENARY

This was organised on Saturday, 14th August by Discovering Latin America with the proceeds going to support a project destined to improve the life of women working in sweatshops in Honduras.

It was a day of music and dance, a fiesta to celebrate 200 years of independence of the countries participating: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Perú and Venezuela.

Chile was represented by the dance ensemble “Grupo del Sur” directed by Claudio Vera and who on several occasions has appeared in the pages of this bulletin. They performed a variety of traditional dances from South America, as well as the most representative pieces of Chilean folklore



“Grupo del Sur” taking the floor for a “cueca”.



The dancers taking their bow.

O’HIGGINS DAY

On Friday, 20th August the beautiful borough of Richmond-on-Thames in Surrey celebrated the birthday of one of its most distinguished residents, General Bernardo O’Higgins, the Liberator of Chile.

The annual wreath-laying ceremony at O’Higgins Square was performed in the presence of the Chargé d’Affaires, Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, Mayor of Richmond, Cllr David Marlow, members of the Diplomatic Corps, representatives of the Armed Forces and special guests.

On this, the Bicentenary Year of the independence of Chile, the ceremony included the presentation to Richmond Council of a replica of a bronze sculpted by Luise Simson entitled “El Abrazo de Maipú”. The Battle of Maipú (1818) was a victory for the Argentine General José de San Martín, directing the Chilean troops over the Spanish Royalist forces which resulted in the territory of Chile gaining its independence from Spain. O’Higgins saluted San Martín on the battlefield in the famous “Abrazo”.



The bust of the Liberator in O’Higgins Square.



From left to right: Mr Cristián Faúndez, Lieutenant Colonel Héctor Gaete, Assistant Naval Attaché, Captain Oscar Vargas, Chargé d’Affaires Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, Mayor of Richmond Cllr David Marlow, Lance Sergeant Jonathon Hammond, Band of the Welsh Guards, Mayoress Mrs Jane Marlow, Mr Osvaldo Ahumada and Dr Juan Antipán-Lara.



The Chargé d’Affaires presenting the Mayor with the bronze.



Captain Luis Templefort, Assistant Naval Attaché Captain Oscar Vargas, Mrs Marcela Vargas and Lieutenant-Commander Javier Mardones.



From left to right: The Naval & Defence Attaché to the Brazilian Embassy, Captain Suad Kouri, the Military Attaché to the Brazilian Embassy, Francisco Djalma, Lieutenant Eze Ezenwa of the Ministry of Defence and Assistant Naval Attaché to the Chilean Embassy, Captain Oscar Vargas.

JOSÉ ANTONIO ESCOBAR AT THE BOLÍVAR HALL

A guitar recital organised by the Iberian and Latin American Music Society (ILAMS) was held on 25th August by the acclaimed Chilean classical guitarist, José Antonio Escobar, one of the finest in the world today.

He was born in Santiago, Chile, where he is presently Professor at the Universidad Mayor. He travels around the world giving concerts and teaching masterclasses, and on this occasion he was in London in response to an invitation by ILAMS.



José Antonio Escobar about to perform.

As was expected, his fans ignored the bad weather conditions and waited patiently under their umbrellas to gain access to the auditorium. Nor were they disappointed. The speed and dexterity when playing those chords had the audience spellbound. The repertoire included works by J. S. Bach, Luis Milán, Augustín Barrios and Heitor Villa-Lobos. Before ending the concert with Astor Piazzolla's "Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas", he paid honour to the trapped miners in Copiapó, Chile, by dedicating the recital to them. As an encore, José Antonio played a piece by the young Chilean composer, Javier Contreras who wrote "Ariadne" for his 8-month-old daughter.

The capacity audience included H.E. Dr Samuel Moncada, the Ambassador of Venezuela, and representatives of diplomatic missions in London.



From left to right: H.E. the Ambassador of Paraguay to Portugal, Señor Luis Fretes, the Chilean Chargé d'Affaires, Señor Rodrigo Espinosa, H.E. the Ambassador of Paraguay, Señor Miguel Solano, and Counsellor to the Embassy of Chile, Señor Ignacio Llanos.

HELP ACROSS THE OCEAN

The British Embassy in Santiago has assisted in the rebuilding of the Robinson Crusoe School situated on one of the three islands that form the Juan Fernández Archipelago, approximately 400 miles to the west of Valparaíso. The original school on the island was destroyed by the tsunami following the 27th February earthquake.

Among the contributions to finance the project, the embassy received £700 from the Society and £500 raised by the children of the Sunday School at All Saints Church, near Swansea.

The latest news from Juan Fernández could not be more promising. The modular school is installed and functioning, though on government property owned by the Forestry Service. A more suitable location is being sought.



One of the two modular blocks.



Pupils in their new environment.

A RECENT ADDITION TO THE EMBASSY IN LONDON

Mr Ignacio Llanos is the new Counsellor to the Embassy of Chile.

He received his Law Degree from Universidad Católica in 1986 and has a Doctorate in International Law from the University of Geneva. In 1996 he became Visiting Researcher at the Law School of Harvard University.



Mr Ignacio Llanos.

He entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987. Between 1990 and 1994 he served in the Permanent Mission of Chile at the United Nations in Geneva, and from 1997 to 1999 and 2004 to 2008 in the Permanent Mission of Chile at

the United Nations in New York. During his time in New York he was a member of the Chilean representation on the UN Security Council.

He served in the Chilean Embassy in the Netherlands during 2000 and 2001. In 2008 he was Vice-President of the United Nations Social Development Commission and, before being posted to the United Kingdom, he was in charge of the United Nations Multilateral Policy Directorate.

In the Chilean Embassy in London he is responsible for British foreign policy issues and European Union affairs, Parliamentary matters, human rights and advising on requests for assistance from Chilean citizens.

BELLS RETURNED TO CHILE

The Sunday School at All Saints Church, Oystermouth, near Swansea, raised £500 for the Chilean earthquake victims.

The connection between All Saints Church and Chile is the three smoke-blackened bells that stood in the porch of the church, having had to be removed from the belfry for safety reasons.

In 1863, one of the worst disasters in Chilean history occurred in Santiago, when the Jesuit Church of the Compañía burnt down, killing around 2,500 people. The church held an annual service on 8th December for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The interior of the building was lit by hundreds of lamps – the outstanding feature of the festival – and decorated with bunting and gauze hangings. The lamps were fuelled by either paraffin or hydrogen gas. On this year, one of the lamps set fire to a huge statue of Mary, covered in garlands of paper, resulting in a fire which spread so quickly that the congregation of 3,000 people, mainly women and children, had no chance to escape through the only exit that was open. Around 500 made it to safety, but all the rest perished. Following the fire, the public demanded that the remains of the church be demolished and the ground left as a memorial park. The bells, of Spanish origin, were shipped to Swansea to be melted down.

However, they were presented to All Saints by Mr Graham Vivian, a local businessman with connections in the Chilean Copper ore trade, to replace the original medieval bells. Apparently, Mr Vivian was unaware of the macabre history of the bells, which hung in the Norman belfry for almost 100 years, until being removed to the porch.

This year the Parochial Church Council decided to return them to Santiago as a memorial to those who died in the fire. The bells are being transported by the Royal Navy, and were due to arrive in Chile in September.



The bells in the church porch. (Photo courtesy of Mr Tony Roberts, All Saints Church).



Church Warden Basil Taviner says goodbye to the bells. (Photo courtesy of Mr Tony Roberts, All Saints Church).

CANNING HOUSE NEW DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes DL has been appointed as Director-General of Canning House with effect from May 10th 2010. Since leaving the House of Commons in 1997 he has had a career in business serving on the Boards of FTSE250 UK plc's and of Private Companies with operations in Latin America and further afield. He has established diplomatic, political and cultural links throughout a region through which he has travelled extensively. He was for 10 years Chief Executive of the London Playing Fields Foundation, a charity with a Royal Charter, and was also Founder Chairman of the Countryside Alliance.

Dr Goodson-Wickes is qualified as a Physician and as a Barrister and built up his own Corporate Occupational Medicine practices in London in the 1980s. He was MP for Wimbledon 1987-1997 during which time he served as PPS in the Departments of the Environment, the Treasury and the Department of Transport. He was Founder Chairman of the All-Party Anglo-Colombian Group and Treasurer of the Anglo-Mexican Group. Having previously served as Medical Officer to The Life Guards, he was the first MP in uniform since WW2, when he re-enlisted as a Lieutenant Colonel for the first Gulf War and served in the advance from Saudi Arabia through Iraq to the liberation of Kuwait. Whilst Chief Executive of the London Playing Fields Foundation, he transformed its fortunes and expanded the social activities of a charity working in deprived areas of Greater London, where he is a Deputy Lieutenant.

Mr Hugh Elliott, Chairman of CH, on announcing the appointment, said: "I am delighted to welcome Dr Goodson-Wickes as our new Director-General. He brings both a wealth of experience and a real passion for the region. I am confident that his leadership will help take Canning House to a new level, at a time when Latin America is emerging onto the world stage as a heavyweight global player".

Dr Goodson-Wickes said "I have the greatest pleasure in taking up this new role. Canning House is an organisation which I have admired and supported for many years. I believe that, in spite of Canning House's proud record, there is still a widespread lack of recognition of the politico-economic importance of the Latin American region and of its great potential in the 21st Century. I aim to redress this by devoting all my energy, enthusiasm and experience to build on Canning House's reputation, to raise its profile and vigorously to promote relationships between the UK, Latin America and Iberia. To plagiarise George Canning himself, - "I wish to help call the new Canning House into existence""

FUNDACIÓN CHOL-CHOL STILL STANDING IN THE ARAUCANIA REGION

A donation sent by the Anglo-Chilean Society in memory of the late Alan Macdonald, a keen supporter of Chol-Chol Foundation, has made it possible for them to repair the traditional Meeting House, damaged by the devastating earthquake in February this year.

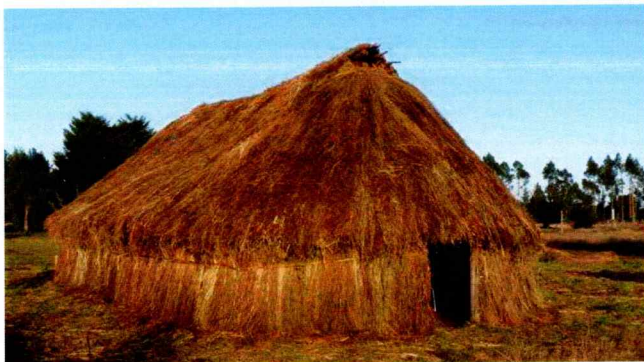


The damaged "ruka".

The house or "ruka" is a large structure with walls and a roof of dried grass. Its restoration ensures the preservation of the Mapuche culture as it is used as a meeting point for artisans in this region of Chile, where they share and teach their traditional skills to Chileans and foreigners alike.



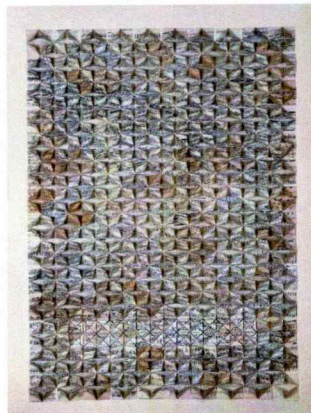
Repairing the roof.



The restored "ruka".

FRANCISCA'S LATEST SUCCESS

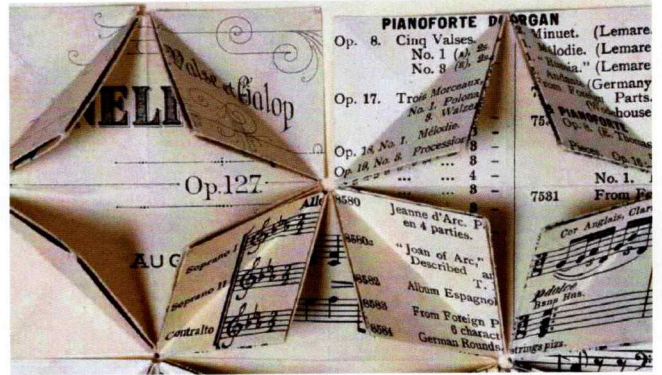
Francisca Prieto, the Chilean artist working in London and featured in previous issues of the Chilean News, was commissioned by Sebastian+Barque, the New York Chelsea design gallery, to create an original artwork for an antique frame. The frame is from one of the oldest and most respected picture framers in the world, The House of Heydenryk.



"Underscore".

She created a work titled "Underscore", one of her latest series of works "Between Folds/Sheet Music" where sheet music of operas and ballets, piano and trumpet scores, are folded to produce strikingly original works of art.

Francisca is currently exhibiting in New York.



Detail of "Underscore".

ANCHORS AWAY

The Yachting Monthly published in its June 2010 edition two articles that the Chilean News would like to share with its readers.

One was the earthquake and tsunami appeal made by Rear-Admiral Jorge Chandía, Chilean Naval Attaché and Head of the Chilean Naval Mission in London, to help raise money for the naval families most affected. Rear-Admiral Chandía wrote: "More than 100 naval families were left homeless and are currently enduring severe conditions. Vast support is urgently required to help our fellow mariners regain their livelihood and we hope your prestigious publication can reach out to your wide audience for donations."

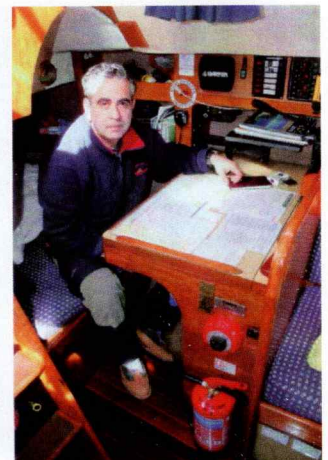
The other one featured an interesting article about a "used boat test" on the Sigma 33 yacht, as sailed by Pablo Santa María, who works in the International Maritime Organisation office in London. He is the skipper-owner of the Sigma 3300D "Sigmalion" and on Friday afternoons he changes the daily routine of office work in London in search of the pure fresh air of the South Coast.

His interest in sailing started when he learned the art with veteran yachtsman Tim Kinross on the Isle of Wight. Before buying "Sigmalion", he crewed in the Solent for two British Admirals, Sir John Coward and Sir Alan West.

Pablo has made solo voyages along the South Coast to Plymouth and back. With a crew, he has cruised the Channel Islands.



The yacht "Sigmalion" under sail.



Pablo Santa María at the chart table.

A MAN OF MANY FACETS

Mauricio Contreras is a Chilean who came to Britain in the mid-seventies and for whom the recent earthquake produced such an impact, having been born in the small town of Coelemu, 50 kilometres north of the epicentre, a region with strong family connections.

In this country he started work for Baker Perkins, the food processing company. As a speaker of six languages, he has specialised in the export business and is now Managing Director of a printing equipment company.

But if there is something Mauricio is passionate about, it is golf. Being well travelled because of his work, he has had the opportunity to play the sport in 27 countries! He has served on the Knaresborough Golf Club General Committee the best part of a decade and this year was inaugurated as the club captain – most probably the first and only Chilean to captain a British Golf Club. The club in Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, is 90 years old and considered as one of the top courses in the country.

During his term in office, Mr Contreras is finding time to raise money and awareness for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance and for Prostate Cancer.



The captain's first swing.



Mauricio Contreras with the club professional.

CHRISTINE'S GAP YEAR IN CHILE

By now, Christine Armour has completed a year in Chile as a volunteer for the gap year charity, Project Trust. She has been working as an English language assistant for children between 4 and 18 years old in a school in Maipú, Santiago. The classes of up to 40 children are mainly verbal classes. On any one day she could go from teaching chants and songs to 5-year-olds to having conversational classes in English about music and films with the 17 to 18-year-olds, almost as old as Christine herself. With her fellow-worker, she started up an "English after-school club" for the 9 to 11 age group who were keen to learn the language through team games and puzzles.

The long Chilean summer holidays offered her the chance to travel the length of the country, starting with San Pedro de Atacama in the north. It was from this town, high up in the driest region of the world, that she visited the Valley of the

Moon and the famous El Tatio geysers in the freezing early morning. Down to the south of Chile and Christine was struck by the natural beauty of the region. As she said: "That was a five day trek amongst the most beautiful scenery I have ever seen."

Although several months have passed since the earthquake of February, the first question she is asked by anyone she meets is "How was the quake for you?" At the time, Christine was attending a party in the mountains with a group of friends, so she didn't immediately realise the extent of the disaster. It was only when communications were gradually restored (initially no electricity for radio and television) that she realised the enormity of the damage in the south, especially those people who lived in adobe-built houses, most of which had collapsed. Fortunately, the family who was Christine's host during her time in Santiago suffered only a broken glass, but she was most impressed by the reaction of the people who offered help by sending food and clothing, as well as volunteering to go to the stricken area to help with clearing up and rebuilding.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

From Los Angeles, Chile, 12th May 2010.

To The Group of the Chilean Ladies in London.

It is with great pleasure I received the news of your £500 donation. I feel very proud of the work that you are doing there and the support you have offered us after the earthquake. With your donation we will buy an electric generator as a safeguard for our disabled children against further emergencies.

(Signed)

Paola Anacarola Saavedra

President

Voluntariado de CONIN (Corporación para la Nutrición Infantil).

From Batuco, Chile, 31st May 2010.

Dear Mrs Roberts

As always it is a pleasure to have news of your group. Here the cold and respiratory diseases have commenced again so your assistance has come as a most welcome gift. The truth is we were hoping and you turned that into a reality. We have already sent the laboratory the order for the medicines which you have contributed with much love and affection to our children and young men.

Please give our thanks to all the members of the Group of Chilean Ladies in London.

Padre Nelson Jerez
Hogar San Ricardo
Batuco, Chile

OBITUARY

Angela Marie Hooper

A Memorial Service to give thanks for the life of Angela Hooper CBE DL, who died at the age of 72 after a long battle against cancer, was held on 27th May at Westminster Cathedral. The Cathedral was not only her parish church in London but also where her parents were married.

We, the members of the Society used to see her for many years accompanying her sister Gloria to our social events. A kind and friendly person who put her life at the service of others, the people of Westminster in particular. Her 25 years of work at the Conservative Central Office was rewarded with a CBE and since 1985 she served as a Westminster City Councillor, as a Lord Mayor and Chairman of Planning and Development.



The late Angela Hooper

She was a trustee of numerous charities, voluntary organisations and of the Westminster Archdiocese. Members of the Diplomatic Corps, the most representative figures of the City of Westminster and the institutions she supported, filled the nave of the Cathedral to honour such a distinguished citizen.

The Embassy of Chile was represented by the Chargé d'Affaires, Mr Rodrigo Espinosa and the Anglo-Chilean Society by Michael and Georgina Roberts.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Baroness Hooper and her family.

Señora Edda Meyer

Señora Edda Meyer, mother of Mrs Marcela Vargas, wife of the Assistant Naval Attaché, Captain Oscar Vargas, died on 2nd September 2010 in Santiago, Chile.

The Society extends its condolences to Mrs Vargas and family.

Señor Hugo Reyes

Señor Hugo Reyes, father of the Military Attaché, Colonel Ramiro Reyes, on the 16th August 2010 in Santiago, Chile. Our thoughts are with Colonel Reyes and family at this time of great loss.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr & Mrs Gonzalo Alvarez
Mr & Mrs John Carr
Mr & Mrs Del Río
Mr & Mrs Ken Haddow
Mr Niall Irving
Mr & Mrs Anthony Knight
Mr Simon Ludlan & Ms Sophie Sorrondegui
Ms Carla Meibergen
Ms Elia Pinaud
Mr Andrew Wallace
Mr & Mrs Mark Watkins
Miss Isabel Watkins
Miss Camilla Watkins

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

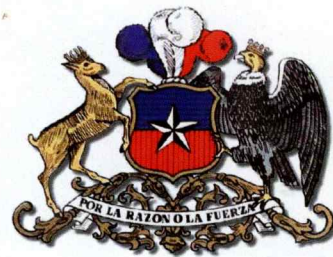
1st November 2010 – The Sir Leslie Bowes Lecture, given by Viscount Montgomery on his time in Chile during the 50s and 60s, at the Chilean Embassy.

16th November 2010 – ALAF Fiesta at Kensington Town Hall.

9th December 2010 – ALAF Christmas Concert at Farm Street Church

13th December 2010 – The Society's Christmas Party at Canning House.

IN CELEBRATION



Bicentenary of Independence

¡VIVA CHILE!

