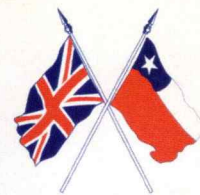


CHILEAN NEWS



Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - Georgina Roberts

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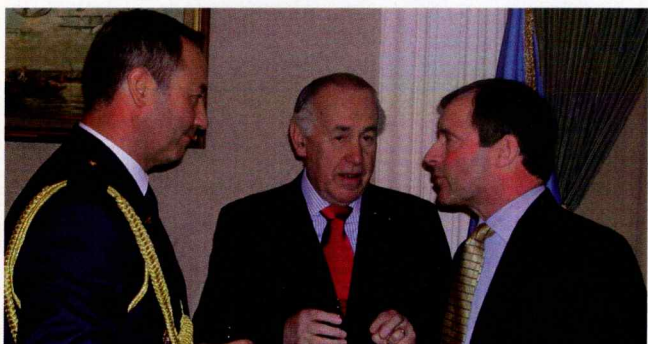
ARMED FORCES CELEBRATIONS

Chilean Air Force Day

A reception was offered by the Air Attaché to the Embassy of Chile, Group Captain and Mrs Peña on 19th March at the RAF Club, 128 Piccadilly, London W1. (Continued on page 2, column 1.)



From left to right: Rear-Admiral José M. Romero, Mrs M. Angélica Romero, Mr Eduardo Peña, Mrs Ana María Peña and Air Force Attaché, Group Captain Eduardo Peña.



From left to right: Group Captain Eduardo Peña, H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno and Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torpy.



From left to right: Mrs Andrea Concha, Mrs Gloria Moreno and Mrs Aline Geiger



Mrs Adriana Salas, Colonel Jorge Salas, Mr David Pearson and Mr Cristián Santa María.

Chilean Navy Day

The annual wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of Admiral Lord Cochrane by H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno and the head of the Chilean Naval Mission, Rear-Admiral José M. Romero, took place at Westminster Abbey on 22nd May. It was followed by a reception at the Institute of Directors, 116 Pall Mall, London SW1. (Continued on page 2, column 1.)



Mrs Ximena Sievers, Captain Harald Sievers, Mrs M. Angélica Romero, Naval Attaché Rear-Admiral José M. Romero, Mrs Gabriela Sarratea and Vice-Admiral Mariano Sarratea.



From left to right: The Mayoress of Richmond, Cllr Helen Lee-Parsons, the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Louise Hyams, Lord Ballyedmond and Baroness Hooper.



Captain the Hon. Michael Cochrane and Mrs Janet Cochrane with their children, Edward and Katherine.



From left to right: Mr Gonzalo Cuadra, Ms Lisa Hylton, Countess Dundonald and Mr George Silva-Rozzi.

Chilean Air Force Day *continued from page 1*

In his speech Group Captain Peña explained that the occasion marked the 78th anniversary of the creation of the Chilean Air Force and among those who contributed to its formation was Captain Victor Huston, a former Royal Air Force officer who, while serving in Chile in November 1918, wrote to the Chief of the Engineer Department, then a branch of the military aviation: "The air service in Chile must be a single branch dependent only on the Ministry of War and Navy." At the same time, Lieutenant Arturo Merino, a Chilean Army Artillery officer began to spread the idea of an independent force, stressing the need for changes in the structure of defence policy. The greatest accomplishment of Lt. Merino, now promoted to Air Commodore, was the formation of the Chilean Air Force on 21st March 1930.

His legacy and that of Captain Huston is with now ever present and able to interact with the globalised world in which we live.



From left to right: Deputy Air Attaché of the Federal Republic of Germany, Lt. Col. Carsten Reitsch, Defence Attaché of the Republic of Croatia, Colonel Zeljko Samaržija, Ms Rosita Rodríguez and Wing Commander Spike Clark MBA RAF.



From left to right: Mr Juan Monroy, Mr Rogelio Bugueño and Mr Osvaldo Ahumada.

Chilean Navy Day *continued from page 1*

Rear-Admiral Romero proposed a toast to the Chilean Navy and thanked all those present for joining in the celebration.



From left to right: Mr Jacques Arnold, Mr Richard Sainsbury and the Earl of Dundonald.



From left to right: Mr Marcelo Gutiérrez, Mrs Catherine Gutiérrez, Mrs Verónica Jaques and Mr Alex Jaques.



From left to right: Mrs María Guadalupe Pineda-Rossier, Mrs Ximena Quipildor and Defence Attaché of the Republic of Bolivia, Captain Ronald Quipildor.

OFFICIAL VISIT OF H.E. MICHELLE BACHELET, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE

President Bachelet started a full diary of events on 3rd April 2008 on her first visit to the United Kingdom. It began with a private audience with H.M. The Queen, followed by lunch offered in her honour by the Lord Mayor of London with many British and Chilean businessmen attending.

The Canning Lecture

President Bachelet was invited to give the 2008 Canning Lecture at Lancaster House, St. James's, London SW1, to an audience of businessmen, financiers, politicians and academics.

President Bachelet was welcomed by Dr. Kim Howells, Minister for Trade and Industry, who congratulated her on becoming the first democratically elected female president in Latin America, a great achievement in a distinguished political career.

Introducing Her Excellency, Lord Brennan, chairman of Canning House, explained that the lecture is given every year by a President of a Latin American country, and this year the organisation felt very honoured to have it delivered by the President of Chile.

Before commencing her address, President Bachelet was awarded an honorary Doctorate from the University of Essex. It was then that Her Excellency, resplendent in the red and black cap and gown of the university, delivered a talk on the problems facing Chile and Latin America in the modern economic climate and the effects of globalisation on trade, growth, etc.

The lecture was followed by a reception, although the President was unable to attend as she had to rush to the next appointment in her very hectic programme.



Lord Brennan introducing President Bachelet at Lancaster House.



President Bachelet delivering the lecture.

At Westminster Abbey

President Bachelet laid wreaths at the tombs of the Unknown Soldier and Admiral Lord Cochrane. In attendance were H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno, Rear-Admiral José M. Romero, officers of the Chilean Naval Mission and members of the Cochrane family.



President Bachelet laying a wreath at the tomb of Lord Cochrane.

At the Hilton Hotel on Park Lane

Prominent and well-known members of the Chilean community living in the United Kingdom attended a breakfast meeting on 4th April in the Coronation Suite of the Hilton Hotel, London SW1, to meet their President.

The Consul of Chile, Mrs Andrea Concha, had the honour of welcoming President Bachelet to this important gathering. In her speech, Mrs Concha praised her 7,000 fellow countrymen who, although forming one of the smallest Latin American communities in the U.K. were nevertheless members of one with a certain prestige, sense of adaptability and a desire to succeed. We have had the opportunity to know them, she said, through their work with the Consulate which promotes an open door policy where all are welcome and assured of equal service.

Mr Francisco Gómez, President of Casa Chile, took the floor to thank Her Excellency for all that has been done in relation with human rights, principally the importance given to bringing to justice those guilty of violating such rights.

The President's speech brought the proceedings to a close.



From left to right: Mr Cristián Faúndez and the Consul, Mrs Andrea Concha, welcoming Mr Francisco Gómez.



From left to right: Mr Alex Geiger, Mr Sergio Villagrán and Mr Roberto Ebert.



From left to right: Mr Juan Eduardo Henríquez, Mr Luis Blanco and Mr Rodrigo Rojo.



President Bachelet receiving a copy of the Chilean News from Mrs Georgina Roberts.



President Bachelet addressing the Chilean community watched by H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno and the Chilean Foreign Minister, Mr Alejandro Foxley.

At the London School of Economics

One of the highlights of President Bachelet's visit was the master class given on Friday, 4th April, to a packed audience at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Her Excellency, who was introduced by Dr Francisco Panizza, Chair of the LSE, mentioned in a preface to the talk "Freedom from Fear: An Agenda for the Democratic Transformation in Latin America" that there was currently a record number of around 80 Chilean students at the LSE who, on their return to Chile, will undoubtedly contribute to the prosperity and success of the country.

Moving on to the subject of the lecture, President Bachelet said that Latin America has changed dramatically over the last 15 years, with democratically elected governments replacing the undemocratic rule, military interventions and coup d'etats previously commonplace in most of the countries. However, these institutions are still fragile and need to be strengthened to survive. Continuing poverty, unfilled political promises and the apathy of the younger people constitute some of the more serious threats, and these need to be addressed. Referring to Chile in particular, the President cited the benefits brought to the country by government action in fighting poverty and promoting education for all up to and including university level.

Crime and corruption were two factors that needed resolving as the public see little difference between having to stay at home at night due to dictatorial curfew or due to



Her Excellency delivering the lecture watched by Dr Francisco Panizza.

the risk of violent crime by organised criminals. Universal suffrage was also important so as to include women and indigenous peoples in the process of government, etc.

The lecture finished with a question and answer session on subjects that ranged from corruption to the recently-introduced Santiago bus service.



President Bachelet taking questions from the floor.

INTERNATIONAL SPRING FAIR

The 49th International Social Service (ISS) Spring Fair was held on 13th and 14th May at Kensington Town Hall, London W8. It is the time of year when the different embassies in London combine efforts in aid of the International Social Service charity.

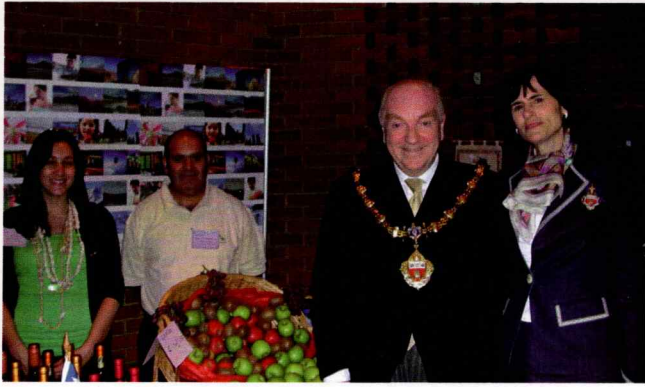
The Chilean stand, apart from its usual attractive cascade of fruit, courtesy of the Asociación de Exportadores de Fruta de Chile (ASOEX), and an impressive variety of wines, courtesy of the Chilean Wine Importers in the UK, had a novelty addition, traditional mapuche textiles made by the women weavers from the Bío-Bío region of Chile.



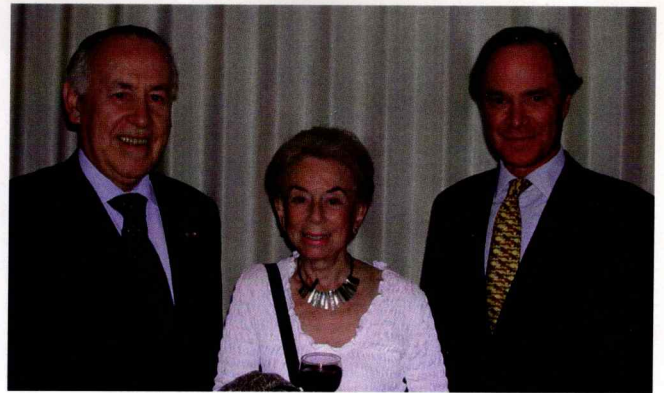
From left to right: Mr Doug Lewis, chairman of ISS, Mrs Elizabeth Young MBE and Sir Anthony Figgis KCVO CMG.



From left to right: H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno, Sra de Moreno, Mr Alex Geiger, Mrs María Elvira Berhó and Mr Paulo Marqués.



The Mayor of Kensington, Cllr Andrew Dalton and Mrs Mayoress Dalton at the Chilean stand.



From left to right: H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno, Mrs Aileen Hay and Mr Iain Hardy.



From left to right: Mr Alex Geiger, Group Captain Eduardo Peña, Sra de Moreno, Mr. Rodrigo Rojo and H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno.



Ms Alzira Asalama, Mr Christopher Priebe, Dr Eva Loyola and Mr Cristián León.

THE SIR LESLIE BOWES LECTURE

The 2008 Sir Leslie Bowes Lecture was held on 21st May at Canning House.

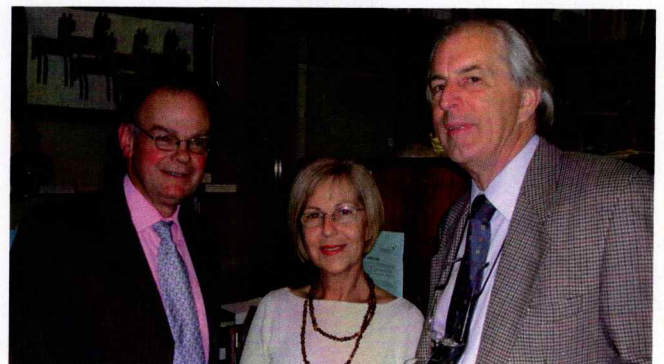
This year's subject, "The British Colony in Valparaíso", was delivered by Mr Iain Hardy, the British Honorary Consul in that city. Mr Hardy, whose family connections with Valparaíso date back to the nineteenth century when his great-grandfather went out to work there, showed an encyclopaedic knowledge of the British influence on the city.

Mr Hardy took us from the early days when Valparaíso was gaining importance as the first port of call on the west coast of South America for sailing ships rounding Cape Horn, through the bustling days of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century up to the gradual decline of the last few decades. He told us of the many families and businesses who retained their language, customs and religion even though thousands of miles away from the "motherland". Valparaíso proved a magnet for all sorts of occupations from Great Britain: soldiers, sailors, financiers, businessmen, doctors and religious leaders were among the many who arrived and settled there.

Today, the British colony still exists, but, as the importance of Valparaíso was gradually overtaken by Santiago, so people and families moved to the capital, reducing its size.

Mr Hardy's lecture was illustrated by slides of people and places, past and present. He had even brought his mother all the way from Chile to operate the slide computer!

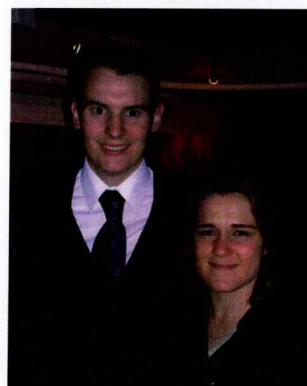
The lecture concluded with wine and canapés.



From left to right: Mr Richard Wilkinson, Mrs Angela Moon and Mr Bryan Moon.



From left to right: Mr Rhys Jones, Ms Geraldine Eves and Mr Paul Todd.



Sir Leslie Bowes' great-grandchildren: Mr Robert Somner and Ms Carolyn Bowes.

**THE CHILEAN NAVY WELCOMES FF06
ALMIRANTE CONDELL**

The Commissioning and Handover Ceremony of the former HMS Marlborough as FF06 Almirante Condell took place on 28th May 2008 at HM Royal Naval Base in Portsmouth.

Rear-Admiral Carlos Condell, of Scottish extraction, was born in Valparaíso, Chile, in 1843. He joined the navy at the age of 15 and was part of a select group later called "the class of the heroes" for their participation during the War of the Pacific.

He fought in the Papudo engagement during Chile's war against Spain in 1865 for which he was promoted to Second Lieutenant. This was followed by his participation in the battle of Abtao in the Schooner Covadonga. It was as Captain of this small vessel that he found fame and honour during the War of the Pacific against Perú and Bolivia. He was raised to the rank of Commander and took command of the Huáscar, the Peruvian vessel that had been captured in the Battle of Angamos.

At the end of his distinguished career he was appointed Minister of War and Navy, followed by Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet.

The FF06 Almirante Condell was formally accepted by the head of the Chilean Naval Mission in London, Rear-Admiral José M. Romero, in the presence of H.E. Señor Rafael Moreno, Commander-in-Chief of the Chilean Navy, Admiral Rodolfo Codina, and the Commanding Officer of Frigate Condell, Captain Jorge Cruz.

The ceremony was followed by the customary excellent reception.



From left to right: Admiral Rodolfo Codina, Commander (R) Phil Ingham, Mrs Naomi Ingham, Mrs Gloria Codina and Captain Harald Sievers.



The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Jonathan Band and Mr Alan Garwood (MoD).



Rear-Admiral José M. Romero with Mrs M. Angélica Romero and Diputada M. Angélica Cristi.



H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno, Mr Domingo Valenzuela and Senador Sergio Romero.



Captain Jorge Cruz receiving a painting of Frigate Condell leaving Portsmouth from Mr Nigel Billingham on behalf of B. A. Systems.



Lord and Lady Black with Mr Alan Macdonald.



From left to right: Group Captain Eduardo Peña, Ms Marcia González and Colonel Jorge Salas.

CHILEAN AIR FORCE INVOLVED IN UNUSUAL RESCUE OPERATION

by Georgina Roberts
(Photos courtesy and copyright of Monkey World)

Viewers of Channel 5 had a televisual treat this summer. "Monkey Life" showed impressive film footage of the largest and most challenging primates rescue operation in the world. Eighty-eight capuchin monkeys were evacuated from a medical laboratory of Universidad Católica in Chile to be sent to the United Kingdom.

After twenty years, the monkey experiments came to an end and the university decided to retire the monkeys. Pressure from anti-vivisectionists, who thought such experiments were unnecessary, inappropriate and immoral, campaigned against the university and the situation reached boiling point when the lives of the researchers came under threat. The laboratory decided to close down and rehouse their eighty-eight monkeys into a more natural environment. Capuchins can live for around 40 years and the laboratory's monkeys varied from 2 to 23 years old; they had had no access to their natural habitat and had never seen daylight, except when taken out for medical experiments. Chile's plea for help was answered by Monkey World, a wildlife park near Wool, Dorset, England, and the creation of the late Jim Cronin, an American campaigner to save primates from exploitation and maltreatment. Regrettably, Jim died last year before the rescue operation could be put into action. However, his wife, Dr Alison Cronin MBE, a biological anthropologist, and now the Director of the centre for abused primates, carried on his work and organised the evacuation with amazing results.

Last January Dr Cronin, with a team from Monkey World, flew out to Santiago, Chile, to personally supervise the evacuation of all eight-eight capuchins, a mammoth operation by any standards.

Though the living condition of the monkeys in Chile was very basic, they had been well looked after by a very caring group and the rescue team found their physical condition better than they expected.

The rescue operation involved preparing individual travelling cages for the monkeys, transferring them from their laboratory home and then loading them onto a Chilean Air Force Hercules aircraft, this last task taking twenty-five people five hours to complete. Then, after a two-day journey, the plane arrived at Bournemouth Airport, extraordinary permission granted by the British Government, and completed the final lap to Monkey World.

The release of the animals was planned to perfection by Dr Cronin and her team with the help of the Chilean Air Force so that the eight-eight primates could leave a life in captivity and join the natural world.

It was a glorious day in June and I felt it was time to



Young male capuchin in a typical laboratory cage.

make my way to Monkey World to see for myself the "monos chilenos". It is a sanctuary for over 250 monkeys and apes from all over the world, situated in beautiful Dorset, a gem of a wildlife park where the monkeys reign supreme. They are quite an attraction and it is a joy to see them up to all sorts of mischief to the delight of children and adults alike. Among them, the capuchins, the most intelligent of all the South American primates, live in three specially constructed areas, which have substantial buildings and, most important, huge areas of open space which allow the monkeys to run free and indulge in their favourite pastime – playing with each other and hunting insects. Quite a difference from their previous existence; so much so that when they first arrived some of them could not be coaxed out of their travelling cages for two days.

The park itself provides enjoyment for young and old with play areas containing swings, slides and climbing frames, cafeteria, as well as picnic tables when it is time to rest. In fact, the ideal place for the family to have a great day out.



Individual travelling cages that transported the capuchins to the UK.



Dr Alison Cronin surrounded by members of the Chilean Air Force and the Monkey World rescue team in front of the Hercules aircraft.



Enjoying life in the natural world.

ASADO IN WINCHESTER, HANTS.

The 10th Asado of the Society, organised in association with the British Chilean Chamber of Commerce, took place at the cricket pavillion of Winchester College, courtesy of the Warden and Fellows of the College, on Saturday, 12th July 2008.

The traditional "chori-pan" and "empanadas" were followed by juicy South American beef steaks, as well as chicken, served with the ever popular "pebre" and a variety of salads.

A well-stocked bar with pisco sour and fine Chilean wines plus beers and soft drinks made the picnic complete.

It was the perfect occasion to encounter friends and to make new ones. What a delight was to see the children and grandchildren of the members. The Society of the future, no doubt?

The raffle was drawn by H.E. Sr. Rafael Moreno. All profits will go to the charity work of the Society,



Haut cuisine South American style! Peter West, Mario Benavente and Luis Castillo hard at work.



Tending the bar were Chris Hopewell and Roger Clark.



Mrs Angela Moon joining H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno and his family for lunch.



Baroness Hooper, Ms Angela Hooper, Mr Richard Wilkinson, Mrs Rosario Kling and Viscount Montgomery.



From left to right: Mr George Silva-Rozzi, Mrs Louise Silva-Rozzi, Miss Javiera Aninat, Mrs Tricia Watson, Mr John Watson and Mr David Pearson.



Three generations of the Santa Cruz family: Mrs Clarissa Hollinger-Pott, Baroness Verónica van Lawick, Mrs Barbara Santa Cruz and Tristram van Lawick.



Isabel Cuadra and daughters María Inés and Beatriz sharing the table with Michael Gubbins and daughter Sophie.



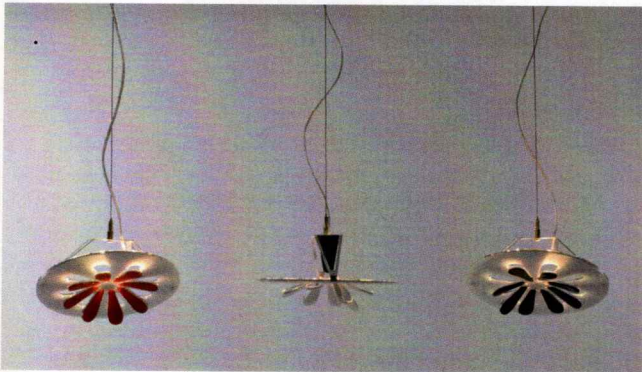
The Guiloff family enjoying the barbeque: Dr Robert Guiloff and Dr Heather Angus-Leppan with their children, Kate, Vivien, Angélica and David.

FRANCISCA'S LIGHTS SHINE IN NEW YORK CITY

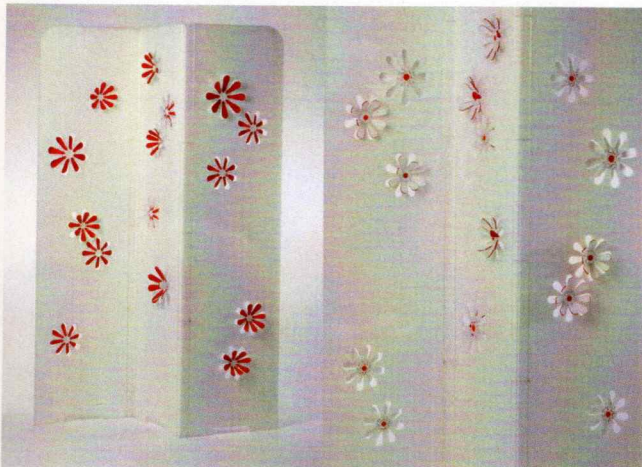
Francisca Prieto, the talented Chilean graphic designer whose first steps into a unique art form took her to exhibit at Salone Satellite in Milan, Italy, in 2006 and at Earl's Court last year, was one of five exceptional artists chosen to present an original "bright idea" for a group launch exhibition organised by Craft Central (Chilean News, March 2008). The Bright Ideas Exhibition resulted in her creating the Blossom Light, a new pendant light to complement the Blossom Screen that, in August this year, made quite an impact in the 20th International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF) at the Jacob K Javits Convention Centre, New York City, where she was a member of a group of 50 British companies and independent designers exhibiting. Ms Prieto received glowing reviews in The Sunday Times Home Magazine (17th August 2008) and The Sunday Times Style Magazine (24 August 2008).



Francisca Prieto with the Blossom Light.



The Blossom Wall Light.



Francisca's Blossom Screen.

O'HIGGINS BIRTHDAY

With the Chilean flag flying on top of the tower of St. Magdalene Church, the Borough of Richmond celebrated the 230th anniversary of the birth of General Bernardo O'Higgins, Chile's national hero.

The ceremony of the laying of wreaths was held at the bust of the Liberator in O'Higgins Square on Wednesday, 20th August 2008.

In his speech, H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno said how delighted he was to be in Richmond once again, honouring a tradition that began ten years ago and with the hope that it will continue for many more years to come.

He admitted that much has been said and written about Bernardo O'Higgins, in particular his legacy to Chile, Latin America and Europe, as well as his long relationship with Great Britain during the formative years he spent living in Richmond.

He took the opportunity to remember Lady Maria Callcott, a British travel writer and author of Children's books who met O'Higgins in Richmond, Surrey, and, in one of those extraordinary coincidences of life, met him again in Chile in 1822. Maria Graham, as she was then, was a naval officer's widow who lived and travelled in Chile for a year, resulting in her book "Journal of a Residence in Chile" (1824) where she described famous leaders such as O'Higgins, Lord Thomas Cochrane and José de San Martín.

His Excellency invited those present to the forthcoming ceremony of the unveiling of a plaque in honour of Lady Callcott at the Kensal Green Cemetery, London W10.

The Mayoress, Cllr Helen Lee-Parsons, replied on behalf of the Borough of Richmond.

A vin d'honneur was served on the terrace by the River Thames.



The Chilean flag flying over the centre of Richmond.



*Laying a wreath at the bust of the Liberator.
From left to right: Captain Harald Stevers, Colonel Jorge Salas, H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno and Group Captain Eduardo Peña.*

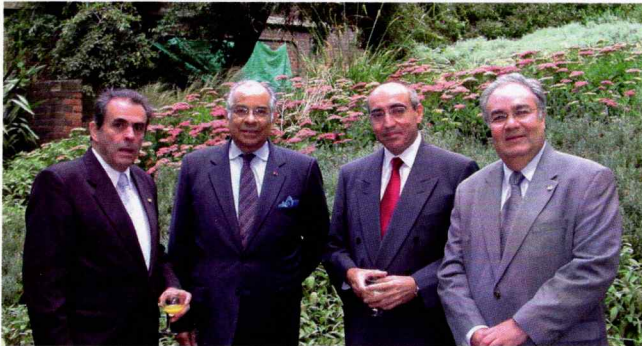
IN HONOUR OF LADY CALLCOTT



From left to right: Colonel Jorge Salas, the Mayoress of Richmond, Cllr Helen Lee-Parsons, H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno, the Ambassador of El Salvador, Señor Vladimiro Villalta, Group Captain Eduardo Peña and Captain Harald Sievers.



Three ex-Mayors of Richmond: Mr Marc Cranfield-Adams, Mr Bill Treble and Ms Barbara Westmorland.



From left to right: H.E. the Ambassador of Guatemala, Señor Alfonso Matta, H.E. the Ambassador of El Salvador, Señor Vladimir P. Villalta, H.E. the Ambassador of Cuba, Señor René Mujica and H.E. the Ambassador of Honduras, Señor Iván Romero.



Mr Jorge Carvajal, Chilean Consul Mrs Andrea Concha, Mr Nelson Torres and Mr Felipe Sáez.



Defence Attaché to the Bolivian Embassy, Captain Ronald Quipildor, TN Juan Carlos Cuevas and CC José Angel Carrasco.

The unveiling of a plaque at the tomb of Lady Callcott (1785-1842) was held on Thursday, 4th September 2008 at the Kensal Green Cemetery, London W10, one of the most famous graveyards in the country that has been, since 1833, the last resting place of many prominent people. Among them are H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex and Princess Sofia (children of H.R.H. George III), Marigold Frances Churchill (infant daughter of Sir Winston Churchill), fourteen holders of the Victoria Cross, Lady Byron, wife of the poet, William Thackeray, the novelist and journalist, Lady Wilde, mother of Oscar Wilde, the Brunel family, Sir Terence Rattigan, the playwright, and many others.

Mr Barry Smith, Chairman of the Friends of the Kensal Green opened the proceedings by saying:

“It is a pleasure to welcome you all to Kensal Green Cemetery to remember and celebrate the life of Maria Graham, later Maria, Lady Callcott.

“The word surprise is not one often associated with cemeteries but, being unaware of the life of Maria, I was surprised to receive an e-mail from Chile some time ago, asking for a photograph of the grave of Maria Graham. I now know that the e-mail came from the respected Chilean diplomat and historian Señor José Miguel Barros.

In replying I happened to mention that it was a pity that the grave was in such poor condition. Señor Barros replied that I should wait to hear from “friends of his” in London”. A few days later I received a call from the Chilean Embassy and the result is what brings us here today.

“We are very grateful to you Your Excellency, and your colleagues, for all the help and encouragement you have given to ensure that Maria Graham, and the period she spent in Chile and elsewhere in South America are not forgotten. We are also grateful to Ms Regina Akel, Maria’s biographer, for her friendship and kindness.

“It therefore gives me great pleasure to ask His Excellency, the Chilean Ambassador, Señor Rafael Moreno, to unveil the plaque his country has so kindly provided and to share his thoughts with us on this occasion.”

In his speech, the Chilean Ambassador explained that the unveiling of a plaque on Lady Callcott’s grave was really the idea of Señor José Miguel Barros, a former Chilean diplomat and historian who translated Lady Callcott’s book “Journal of a Residence in Chile”, published in Chile last year.

H.E. Señor Rafael Moreno said that he was standing in that cemetery to pay tribute to a remarkable Scottish woman who was a friend of Chile.

During her childhood and teenage years she did not see much of her father, a distinguished naval officer who, in 1808, was made head of the naval works at the British East India Company Dockyard in Bombay. She was 23 years old when she accompanied him on the long voyage and it was there that she met, fell in love with and married a Scottish naval officer, Thomas Graham. In 1821 Maria and her husband, now a Captain in command of HMS Doris, sailed for South America to protect British mercantile interests in the region.

During a stop-over in Río de Janeiro, they picked up an abandoned child who would become Vicente Pérez Rosales, the well-known Chilean writer. However, shortly after rounding Cape Horn, Thomas Graham died of a fever. The newly widowed Maria landed in Valparaíso, Chile, where she lived for a year while travelling extensively throughout the country.

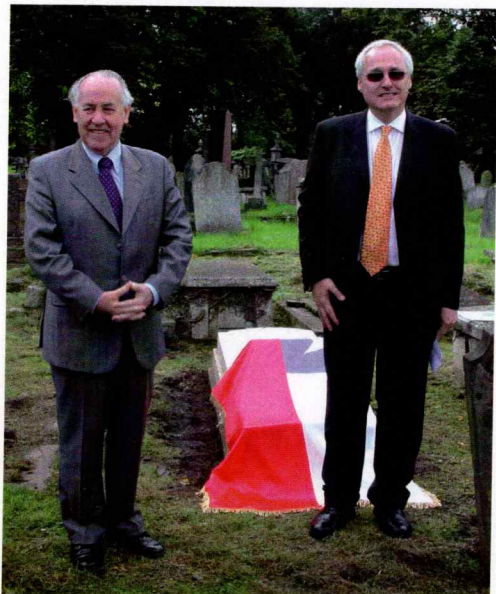
In the resulting "Journal of a Residence in Chile", published in England in 1824, she provided one of the few first-hand accounts in English of the independence movement in South America, having met many of the major historical figures involved. In the book, she wrote in detail about the 1822 earthquake, one of the worst in Chile's history, that would start a heated debate in the Geological Society in London. One of her observations was that large portions of land had risen from the sea, supporting the theory of Charles Lyell in his book "The Principles of Geology" that mountains were formed by volcanoes and earthquakes. Four years later, the President of the Geological Society, George Bellas Greenough, attacked Byell's theories, and ridiculed Maria Graham's observations. She published a crushing reply to Greenough and was later backed by none other than Charles Darwin, who had observed the same phenomenon during Chile's earthquake in 1835, while aboard the Beagle.

On her journey back to England, she stayed a short while in Brazil and later published "Journal of a Voyage to Brazil".

Back in London, Maria met and married the Royal Academy painter Sir Augustus Callcott in 1827, thus becoming Lady Callcott. She died of tuberculosis at the age of 57 and her husband followed her two years later. They are buried together in the grave being honoured on this occasion.

In closing, the Ambassador said that although all this had happened a long time ago, he had told the story to those present because Great Britain and Chile should feel proud to have Lady Callcott in their shared history. "Our presence here today is further evidence of the strong bond between our two countries," he concluded.

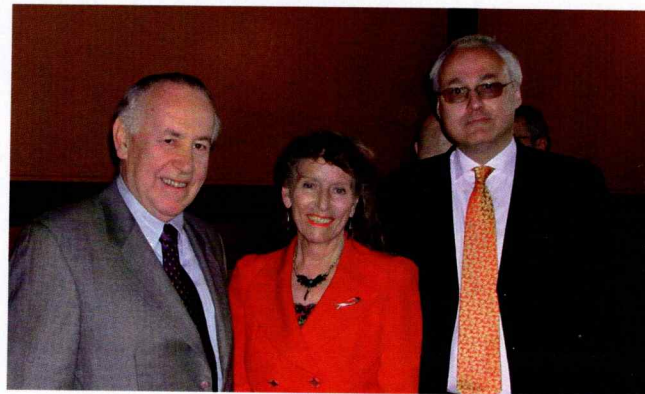
A reception was hosted by the Embassy of Chile at the Dissenters Chapel during which Dr Jennifer Freeman presented H.E. Señor Rafael Moreno with a book about the history of the burial grounds on behalf of the Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery.



H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno and Mr Barry Smith in front of the grave of Lady Callcott.



Floral tributes from the Embassy of Chile and The Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery.



H.E. Sr Rafael Moreno, Dr Jennifer Freeman and Mr Barry Smith.



The Mayoress of Richmond, Cllr. Helen Lee-Parsons with Mr Alex Geiger, Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Chile.

EMILY'S YEAR IN CHILE

Members may recall that in October 2007 we reported on a donation of £100 to Project Trust in support of their sponsorship of Emily Maule, from Fetcham, Surrey who was to spend a year in Chile working for a school in Chol-Chol.

By now, Emily is back in England and studying for her Geography degree at Girton College, Cambridge. However, during the year she spent in Chile, she kept us informed of her activities via newsletters and her website. And what an exciting year it was!

Emily arrived in Chile in late August 2007 and, after a few days in Santiago, travelled nine hours by bus to Chol-Chol, which must have been something of a culture shock— although she probably didn't notice much difference in the weather, swapping the wettest summer in the UK for the winter rains of southern Chile.

The object of her trip was to assist in teaching English to the pupils of the Colegio Anglicano William Wilson, a mixed boarding-school in Chol-Chol. She and Clare, another student sponsored by Project Trust, shared a small house in the school and took their meals with the pupils. Although Emily admitted she did find parts of the teaching very challenging, and not without its frustrations, she still applied herself to the task with gusto, making many friends among the pupils, whose ages ranged from very small (pre-kinder) to teenagers. What did surprise her was the lack of routine; apparently she never had the same time-table two weeks running! Also, there seemed to be at least one day a week which was a national holiday, local holiday, or a day off for some other event.

However, there were other activities apart from teaching, such as decorating the school and visiting pupils, who sometimes lived far away in the country. She and Clare even started a Youth Club.

One "extra-curricular" activity during the school summer holidays was to work with "Un Techo para Chile" in Valparaíso, constructing small wooden houses for the poor of the shanty towns.

But it wasn't all work. Emily took full advantage of her time in Chile to see as much of the country as possible. During the school holidays, she managed to travel around southern Chile by land and sea, from Temuco and the Volcán Villarica to Puerto Montt, Puerto Natales, Parque Torres del Paine and Punta Arenas. She even crossed the Andes on two occasions to Argentina, where she visited Bariloche and then on to see the glaciers. She went as far south as Ushuaia, getting her passport stamped to prove she had been to "El fin del mundo" (the end of the earth). For a Geography undergraduate, this proved a fascinating experience.

Reading her blog, one can only wonder at her energy and stamina. Just glancing through her monthly and quarterly reports leaves one exhausted! Her year in Chile obviously affected her deeply and, as she wrote after a tearful goodbye to Chol-Chol, "I have a year of wonderful, special memories which will always be in my heart." And of the whole trip? "I am truly thankful for the amazing opportunity I had to see Chile, what an absolutely beautiful country it is, rich in people, culture and nature. What a blessing!"



Emily with some of her pupils.



Clare and Emily in front of the "ruca" (a hut) with some of the children in traditional clothes.



Emily and friends on top of Volcán Villarica.

BIRTHS

A son and heir.

On 25th April 2008, at the Portland Hospital, London W1, to David and Paulette (née Roberts) McInnes, a son, Maximillian Oliver. A first grandchild for Michael and Georgina Roberts.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr and Mrs Alex Jaques
 Mr David Lamping
 Ms Jennipher Marshall-Johnson
 Mr and Mrs Bruce Noble
 Ms Carol Styles

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ALAF (Anglo Latin American Fiesta).

To be held at Kensington Town Hall on Saturday, 18th October between 12:00 mid-day and 6:30 p.m.

Annual Christmas Dinner.

To be held at Canning House on 15th January 2009. Details will be mailed to members nearer the date.