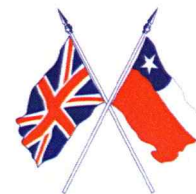


# CHILEAN NEWS



Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - Georgina Roberts

www.anglochileansociety.org

68th Year No. 380

London, March 2012

37-41 Old Queen Street London SW1H

## CHILEAN MINISTER OF MINING CONFERENCE

On the morning of Tuesday, 4th October 2011, the Chilean Minister of Mining, Mr Hernán de Solminihac, held a conference on the present state of, and future prospects for, the mining industry in Chile. The conference was attended by many small, medium and large Mining Companies, as well as the Industry Press.

The event was co-hosted by the Society and Bloomberg, a leading media organisation, at their UK headquarters in Finsbury Square in the City of London.

After an introduction by Mr George Silva-Rozzi of the Society, Mr Solminihac took to the rostrum, explaining that he had only been the minister responsible for mining for two and a half months, having previously been Minister for Public Works.

Mining has always been a major industry in Chile since the days of the "Salitre" in the nineteenth century. Presently, mining makes up 20% of Chilean industry, employing over 200,000 people. Currently accounting for nearly 60% of the country's exports, it comprising 22% of the national budget.

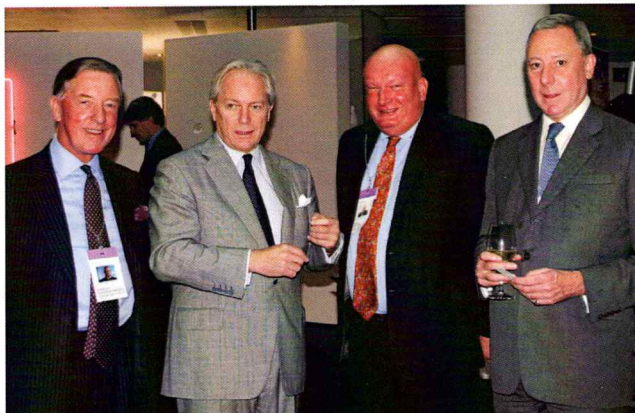
With such vast reserves of mineral wealth, Chile has 24% of the world's known copper reserves, and is a leading producer of lithium and iodine as well as having substantial gold and silver deposits; it is not surprising that the government is planning to invest \$57 billion over the next decade in the mining industry with 63% going to private companies, the remaining destined for Codelco, the state-owned utility.

This increase in mining activity raises three major problems: Water, Energy and Personnel. The principal area of copper mining was the north, in the Atacama Desert, where water, a resource vital to the extraction of copper ore, was

*Continued on page 2*



The Minister of Mining, Mr Hernán de Solminihac with Mr Tim Coulter of Bloomberg's (left) during question time



From left to right: Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, the Ambassador of Chile, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, Mr David Mathew and Mr William Lamarque.



From left to right: Mr Jaime Rojas (Codelco), Mr Juan Carlos Avenaño (Codelco), Mr Gonzalo Cuadra (MD Codelco Services Ltd) and Mr Andrés MacLean (President - Comisión Chilena del Cobre).



From left to right: Mr Cristián López, Mr Cristóbal Pollman and Mr Andrew Drysdale.



Ms Clare Wood and Mr Philip Holder, both of Antofagasta plc, with Mr Robert Hart.

extremely scarce. Consideration is being given to using sea water, either naturally or desalinated. The minister was unable to comment on the expansion of electric energy, also vital to the extraction of the ore, but stated that the problem was being evaluated by the government, seeking solutions. Finally, with the personnel required to implement the government's planned expansion expected to rise from the current 200,000 to over 265,000, plans were in place to transfer workers from other industries in the short term, while a programme of increased university education to produce future technicians is to be instigated.

The minister also pointed out that Chile has a stable economy, as well as healthy reserves. The restoration of infrastructure within 10 months after the devastating 2010 earthquake showed that the government was able to respond quickly and responsibly to events. In response to a question from the floor, the minister was able to assure the audience that this same government has reacted to the Chilean mining disaster at the San José mine, not only in the immediate aftermath, by channelling all the resources necessary to rescue the trapped miners, but also by introducing legislation that had significantly reduced the number of fatal accidents in the mining industry in the succeeding 12 months. He also reiterated President Piñera's statement that Chile will become a developed country by the end of this decade.

In conclusion, Mr Solminihac invited those present to visit Chile and see for themselves the opportunities available for investment. The country has trade agreements world-wide and actively encourages foreign input to complement its own huge investment in the future of the mining industry in Chile.

The conference was followed by a Chilean wine reception.

---

## ADMIRAL COCHRANE – THE REAL MASTER AND COMMANDER

---

Lord Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald (1775-1860), is a revered figure in Chilean history, and his name is known to every schoolchild in the country. However, in his homeland of Scotland, indeed, in Britain, he is almost completely ignored, despite being buried in the central nave of Westminster Abbey and providing the model for such fictional naval heroes as Horatio Hornblower



*Portrait of the young Thomas Cochrane.*

and Jack Aubrey. Such was his skill and daring during the Napoleonic wars that the French dubbed him the "Sea Wolf". While serving as Vice-Admiral (and Commander) of the Chilean Navy, he successfully captured the Spanish Frigate "Esmeralda", the most powerful ship in South America at the time, from its mooring in the heavily fortified Peruvian port of Callao.

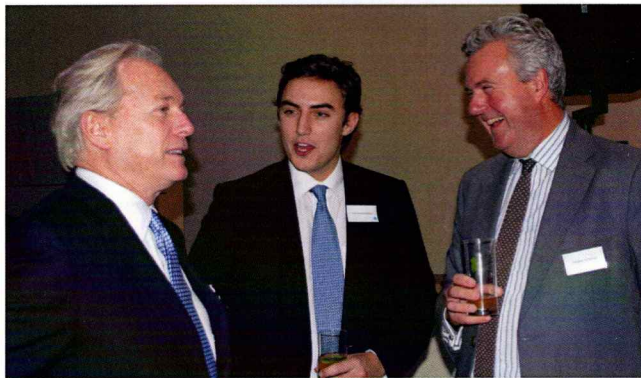
On 6th October 2011, the National Museum of Scotland

opened an exhibition to tell the story of one of Scotland's great naval heroes. In the presence of HRH The Princess Royal, the chairman of the Board of Trustees, Sir Angus Grossart, welcomed the invited guests to the opening. Amongst those present were several members of the Cochrane family, including the 15th Earl of Dundonald. Also present were the Chilean Ambassador, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, and the head of the Chilean Naval Mission in London, Captain Roland McIntyre. Indeed, Sir Angus noted the Scottish connection not only in Captain McIntyre's surname, but also that Señor Muller's mother's maiden name was Sproat – another ancient Scottish name.

After the reception, guests were invited to tour the exhibition, housed in several rooms on the third floor of the Museum. This was well laid out tracing Cochrane's rise and fall in the Royal Navy, and his exploits in Chile, Brazil and Greece, with several paintings and original artefacts on display.



*From left to right: Dr Gordon Rintoul (Director of National Museums Scotland), HRH The Princess Royal and Sir Angus Grossart.*



*From left to right: The Ambassador of Chile, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, Lord Archie Cochrane and Lord Douglas Dundonald.*



*Lord Charles Bruce, Mr Levemore Mazibuko, Dr Henrietta Lidchi of National Museum of Scotland, Mrs Georgina Roberts and Mr Michael Gondwe. (Messrs Mazibuko and Gondwe are from the Museums of Malawi, Blantyre, Malawi, and were researching another son of Scotland, Dr David Livingstone.)*

---

## NEW HEAD FOR THE CHILEAN NAVAL MISSION

---

The new Naval Attaché at the Embassy of Chile is Captain Ronald McIntyre.

Captain McIntyre graduated from the Chilean Naval Academy in 1982 and is a specialist in Gunnery and Missile Weapon Systems.



*Captain Ronald McIntyre.*

He has served on several of the ships of the Chilean Navy, including the training ship "Esmeralda". In 2007 he was appointed the Commanding Officer of the "M" Type Frigate "Almirante Riveros".

His posts ashore have included Head of the Surface Ship Division in the Navy Training Centre, Head of the Planning Division of the Navy General Staff in 2009, and Executive Assistant to the Commander-in-Chief of the Navy. He has also completed training courses in the UK at HMS "Dryad" and Basic Operational Sea Training with Flag Officer Sea Training in Plymouth.

In 2008 he was promoted to Captain.

Captain McIntyre is married to Carolina and they have five children.

---

## "UNBOUND": FRANCISCA PRIETO'S FIRST SOLO EXHIBITION IN LONDON

---

On Wednesday, 19th October 2011, a capacity crowd, spilling out onto the street, attended the private viewing of the new and original works by this Chilean artist at the Jaggedart Gallery, 28A Devonshire Street, London W1.

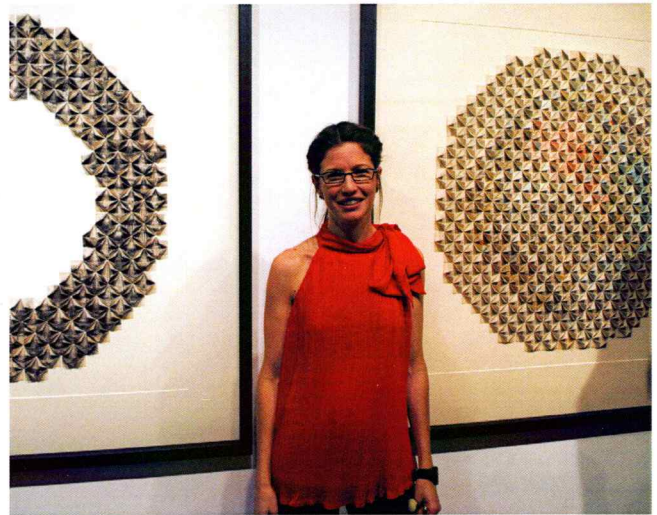
Following the success of her commission for Sebastian+Barque in New York (Chilean News, October 2010), Francisca exhibited a set of her unique works of art to London, where they received a very enthusiastic reception.

In a method originally created using old music scores, this exhibition takes torn or damaged rare old illustrated books, catalogues, journals, encyclopaedias and maps which, once unbound, are used to create new works. Sourcing forgotten materials and using modular structures and typographical elements, she creates a hidden narrative. While the intricate and painstaking folding and assembling of the paper material is obvious from close up, the true effect is best viewed from a distance.

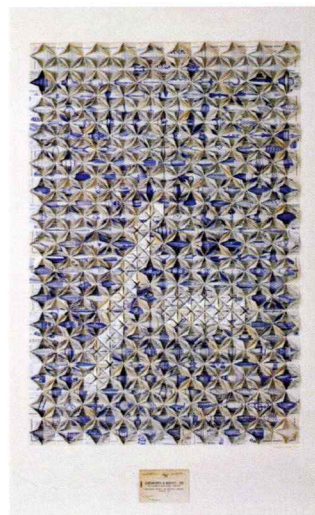
Two examples of her work are "Between Folds/Blue Catalogue" and "Between Folds/The Lady's Newspaper". In "Between Folds/Blue Catalogue" the sign for 'shilling' emerges from the intense cobalt blue page. Francisca has reconstructed a rare copy of Crowden & Keeves, Ltd. Brush and Hardware Manufacturers and Merchants Catalogue from 1935.

Furniture and hardware, distinct to its era, emerge from each individual structure.

Intrigued by the contents of a newspaper written for ladies and published 100 years before she was born, Francisca worked on a pictorial interpretation of the period. This piece gives an impression of women's interest through a selection of ads that interlay with the main subject of the newspaper: fashion. There are hundreds of details of morning costumes, carriage toilette, toilette de visite, and many other female interests of the time.



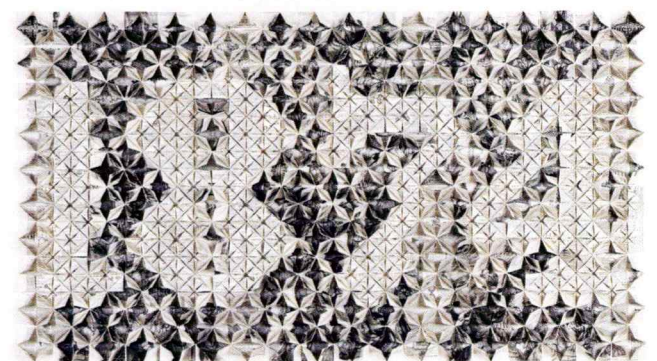
*The artist between two of her works.*



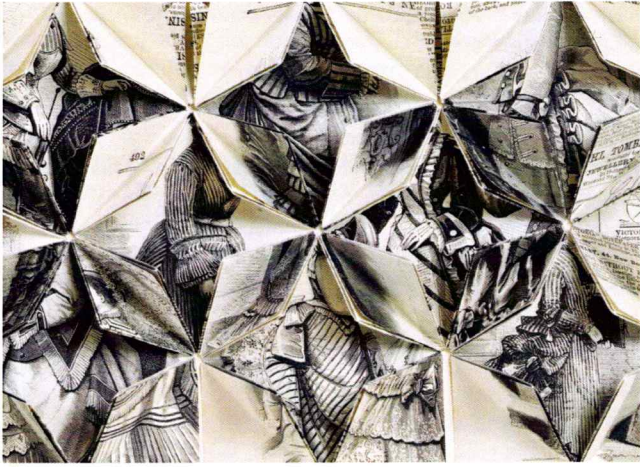
*Blue Catalogue*



*Detail of "Blue Catalogue"*



*"The Lady's Newspaper"*



Detail of "The Lady's Newspaper".

## THE FENIX'S ARRIVAL IN LONDON

One of the defining moments of the 21st Century must be the rescue of the 33 miners trapped over 700 metres below the Atacama Desert in the San José copper mine in Copiapó.

The icon of that rescue, the Fénix (Phoenix) capsule, became familiar around the world, and a copy of the Fénix 2, constructed, as was the original, by ASMAR (Astilleros y Maestranzas de la Armada) in the Chilean Naval shipyards, is on display in London until May 2012.



Fénix 2 in the Science Museum.

On 2nd November 2011, at the request of the Chilean Director General of the Maritime Territory and Merchant Navy, the Chilean representation to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), headed by the Chilean Ambassador, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, unveiled the Fénix in the forecourt of the IMO headquarters at 4, Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR. Witness to the unveiling were the Secretary General of IMO and guests, the Mayor of Lambeth, Chilean Embassy staff and Armed Forces Attachés, as well as representatives of various organisations that assisted in the rescue, such as Antofagasta plc and CODELCO. Naturally, due to its prominent location, many curious public also took the opportunity to stop and admire the capsule.

Interest in this new technological rescue device was such that no less than the Science Museum in South Kensington expressed a desire to exhibit it in their Wellcome Wing. Agreement was reached between the Museum and the Chilean representation to OMI and, on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012, the capsule

was put on display to the general public. On this occasion, the press launch was followed by a speech by the Naval Attaché to the Chilean Embassy, Captain Ronald McIntyre, on how the capsule had been designed. In reply, the Contemporary Science Manager of the Museum, Katrina Nilsson, said: "We're honoured to display the Chilean rescue capsule at the Science Museum - it is an icon of the unprecedented rescue mission of the 33 miners. I'm sure we can all remember the moment when the first miner was pulled to the surface after being trapped for almost ten weeks. By showing the capsule at the museum, we hope to draw attention to the technical and engineering challenges that the rescue team tackled during this extraordinary operation."



From left to right: Mr Efsthimios Mitropoulos (Secretary General of IMO until December 2011), Chilean Naval Attaché, Captain Ronald McIntyre, Captain Felipe Gracia, former Head of the Chilean Naval delegation to the IMO in London, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller and Councillor Christiana Valcarcel, the Mayor of Lambeth.



Captain Ronald McIntyre, Sra. Claudia Bobadilla, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, Captain Felipe Gracia and Captain Juan Andrés de la Maza.

## CHILEAN MINISTER COUNSELLOR AT THE LSE

On Tuesday, 15th November 2011, the London School of Economics hosted a discussion on "State violence and the Responsibility to Protect: the role of the International Community".

In his introduction, the chairman, Professor Chetan Bhatt, explained the background to the discussion. In September 2005, 191 Heads of State and Government, gathered at the United Nations General Assembly, and formally undertook the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This was a landmark agreement which was welcomed by most as a

contribution to prevent future mass atrocities. For others, the agreement was controversial for a variety of reasons. There are a range of criticisms of the processes by which it could be implemented, either within the United Nations framework or outside it, that could lead to possible military intervention by States largely in their national interests rather than protecting Human Rights as such.

Professor Chetan Bhatt of the LSE introduced the three distinguished speakers. First was Professor Sir Adam Roberts, KCMG, President of the British Academy and Emeritus Professor of International Relations, Oxford University. Professor Roberts had been a lecturer in International Relations at the LSE from 1968 to 1981.

The second speaker was Mr Ignacio Llanos, a diplomat who has worked for the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1987 and was a member of the Chilean team at the 2005 United Nations Assembly that produced the document which consecrated the notion of Responsibility to Protect. He has been a Counsellor of the Embassy of Chile in the United Kingdom since February 2010. It was Mr Llanos who first suggested holding the event to the LSE.

The last speaker was Doctor Chaloka Beyani, a Senior Lecturer in Law at LSE and UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons.

This panel was to consider what was originally agreed at the 2005 Assembly and examine its implementation at international level in such crises as Libya, which is seen as a test case for what has become known as R2P (Responsibility to Protect).

Sir Alan Roberts reviewed the historical precedents leading to the agreement, going back several centuries, pointing out that not all had been successful or obtained the original idea of the particular intervention. His conclusion was that, while we should not reject the Responsibility to Protect, the application of it is still fraught with difficulties.

He was followed by Ignacio Llanos, who described what was agreed at the United Nations General Assembly meeting of 2005. The agreement represents one of the most important achievements in International Law over the last few decades. Member States are responsible for the protection of their populations (whether indigenous or foreign), and the International Community, as the United Nations, has the responsibility to take timely and decisive action should any state be unable or unwilling to provide such protection. He highlighted two controversial issues: the exercising of the Right to Protect with authority of the Security Council, which, in fact, has no legal basis, and the failure to limit the power of veto in cases of Right to Protect. In conclusion, he said the agreement has the potential to fulfil the promise of a world free from the threat of mass atrocities and makes a significant change in the approach to protection of Human Rights.

The final speaker was Doctor Chaloka Beyani, who had been involved in the preparatory work for the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty. He considered the effect of implementation of Right to Protect in relation with Libya and Ivory Coast. He was of the opinion that either the wording or interpretation of the Agreement had led to it being regarded as a right rather than an obligation. He also believed it favoured intervention over other means of

enforcing the Rights. He noted that the General Assembly, although formally accepting the principle of the Agreement, there were differences over its interpretation.



*Mr Ignacio Llanos at the podium.*



*The panel answering questions: Professor Chetan Bhatt (chairman), Dr Chaloka Beyani, Mr Ignacio Llanos and Professor Sir Adam Roberts, KCMG.*

---

## THE ALAN MACDONALD ENDOWMENT FUND LAUNCH

---

Alan Macdonald was a member of the Society, and served several years on the Executive Committee before his untimely death in February 2010. In his memory, the family decided to endow the Society with a gift of £130,000, the proceeds of which are to be used to assist deserving Chileans in all fields of the Arts, both in the United Kingdom and Chile.

To mark the launch of the endowment, a reception was held in Canning House, Belgrave Square, London SW1 on 17th November 2011. The event was hosted by the Anglo-Chilean Society, and guests of honour were his elderly mother, Joan, together with his brother, John, who was accompanied by his wife, Karen. Members of the ACS, including H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, joined with friends of Alan to honour his memory and take part in a raffle of several of his possessions. There were also several bottles from Alan's cellar, which helped enliven the proceedings.

In a welcome speech, John Macdonald explained that when Alan resigned from the HSBC Bank he seemed to be searching for a new direction in his life. He spent several months working and travelling in Chile with Raleigh International and, on his return, was a different person, being much more affectionate. He joined the Anglo-Chilean Society and the endowment was intended to continue the dedication

he had towards Society. In conclusion, Mr Macdonald acknowledged the help he had received from members of the Executive Committee, both in setting up the endowment and the organising of the event.

The Ambassador then proposed a toast to the Macdonald family. It was followed by drinks, empanaditas and sandwiches.



*The Ambassador of Chile, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, with Mrs Joan Macdonald.*



*From left to right: Señora Claudia Bobadilla, Mrs Joan Macdonald and Mrs Joanna Benton.*



*From left to right: Mrs Henny Subercaseaux, Mrs María Elvira Berhó and Mrs Alicia Rickus.*



*Mr Clive Orton, Mr John Macdonald and Mrs Karen Macdonald.*



*From left to right: Mr Denis James, Ms Danielle Haeber and Mr Denis Doble.*



*From left to right: Mr Gonzalo Cuadra, Mr Patricio Díaz, Mr Robin Kent and Mr David Pearson.*



*Mr James Dummer and Mr John Macdonald with the framed photograph of Alan presented to Mrs Joan Macdonald by the Society.*

---

## PATRICIA VINCENT REMEMBRANCE LUNCH

by John Barker

---

Following Pat's death in Arica last May, old friends of hers, Clair and Tim Beardson, kindly hosted a lunch in her memory in one of the spacious greenhouses at their estate in Oxfordshire. This was held on a sunny day in September and attended by some 17 of Pat's family and friends. Clair and Tim live for most of the year in Hong Kong and from there Clair in 2007 travelled to Wuhan, China, in support of Pat who made a speech at the 3rd World Botanical Gardens Congress, referring to the importance of research into plant life particularly in an era of apparent climate change.

At the lunch straw hats were produced to counter the more local 'Greenhouse' effect, scrumptious food and delectable wine was served and reminiscences about Pat and her involvement with the Andean Project in Chile were shared. The group repaired to the house for coffee and to view a display of photographs and one of the many videos Pat had produced about the work of the project.

Those attending were most grateful to the Beardsons for their generous gesture.

---

## HONOURING CHILEAN MINERS

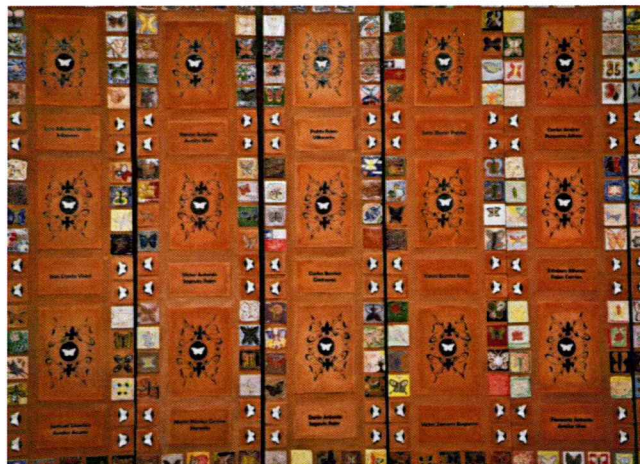
---

The students at the New Horizons Center for Learning, a school for those with learning disabilities in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, were so inspired by the fight for survival of the Chilean miners of the San José mine in Copiapó, that, together with children from other schools in Las Vegas, they created a 44x8 foot (13.5x2.4 m) mural as a symbol of the miners' endurance.

The project started right after the rescue when, Mr Larry Rush, the school's art teacher, told the pupils of the story of a white butterfly that some of the miners believe may have saved their lives. It happened that they had stopped to admire the butterfly when the mine collapsed before them. Had it not been for this hesitation, they would have been crushed under the rubble.

One of Mr Rush's students was inspired by the story to carve a butterfly for the miners. This idea took off until a total of 374 tiles were created by children at four different venues, mostly depicting butterflies. Apart from the New Horizons Center for Learning, whose students face various learning challenges from autism to ADHD, thirty pupils of the Eva Wolfe Elementary School in North Las Vegas, 102 students of the University Baptist Academy, and the North Las Vegas Silver Mesa Community Center all contributed. The mural consists of 11 screens. Each screen bears the names of three of the miners and is composed of 34 tiles each. The number of tiles is significant since, on their release, the 33 miners said that God was always with them.

The Canadian singer-songwriter Elequen has written a song for the miners entitled "Little White Butterfly" and Mr Rush is hoping that the mural, together with this song, will eventually find their way to Chile. To this end, he has been working with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC, and the Chilean Honorary Consul to contact the miners and locate a place in Chile that could house the mural.



View of the screens.



Examples of the children's work on the tiles.

---

## MILITARY PROMOTION

---

At a ceremony held on 30th November 2011 and presided over by the Commander-in-Chief of the Chilean Army, General Juan Miguel Fuente-Alba, former Military Attaché to the Embassy in London, Brigadier-General Bosco Pesse, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General. He will take up the post of Commanding Officer of the Army Education and Doctrine Division.

The Anglo-Chilean Society offers him its warmest congratulations.



From left to right: Lieutenant-General Bosco Pesse receiving his baton from the Commander-in-Chief of the Chilean Army, General Juan Miguel Fuente-Alba.

---

## WELCOME TO THE NEW AIR ATTACHÉ

---

Group Captain Rafael Carrère took up the post of Air Attaché to the Embassy of Chile in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, and Air Attaché Concurrent to the Kingdoms of Sweden and the Royal Netherlands on 25 June 2011.



*Group Captain Rafael Carrère.*

Group Captain Carrère was born in Santiago in 1962 and entered the Chilean Air Force Academy in 1981, qualifying as a Fighter Pilot after receiving his commission in 1984.

He has over 6,600 flying hours in a wide variety of aircraft from the single-engined trainer T-34 to the Boeing B-767.

Apart from operational duties, the Group Captain served four years at the Air Force Academy as a Flight Instructor, at the Air War College as Military Instructor and subsequently as Deputy Commander, obtaining an MA (C) in Military History and Strategic Studies. Before arriving in the UK, he was Chief of Air Operation Division at the Air Combat Command.

At the invitation of H.M. Government, he attended the Advanced Command and Staff Course at the Joint Services Command and Staff College Shrivenham over the period 2003-2004.

Group Captain Carrère is accompanied by his wife, Lorena, and their three children.

---

## THE CHRISTMAS DINNER

---

In a departure from the traditional casual Christmas Party, the Society this year held a formal dinner at the Rector's House of Imperial College, London, at 170 Queen's Gate, SW7, in the shadow of the Albert Hall.

Following a champagne reception, members and friends of the Society sat down to a traditional English Christmas dinner of roast turkey with all the trimmings. Toasts were proposed to the Queen by the Consul, Patricio Díaz, and to the President of Chile by the chairman of the Anglo-Chilean Society, Mr John Rickus.

The guest speaker for the evening was Mr John Amedick, a Canadian mining engineer who took part in the rescue of the Chilean miners trapped in the San José mine in Copiapó. In a slide presentation, Mr Amedick explained the huge problems facing the rescue teams. On hearing of the tragedy, the Chilean government decided that they would do everything possible to rescue them and called upon all national and international resources to achieve this goal. Due to a massive 700,000 tonne rock shift in the upper part of the mine which was still unstable, the only alternative was to drill probe holes down to the deepest part of the mine. Incredibly, one probe located the miners and led to the drilling of a much larger hole and the winching to safety of all the miners with the now famous Fénix capsule.

At the end of the evening, all the diners agreed that the event was a great success.



*Dr Heather Angus-Leppan, Mrs Julieta Brown, Mrs Carmen Gloria Heap and Mr Malcolm Brown.*



*From left to right: Lady Duff Gordon, Mr Thomas Kelly and Mrs Rose Harding.*



*Mr Paul Shillibeer, Mrs Jennifer Shillibeer, Mr Geoffrey Larsson and Mrs Helbecia Larsson.*



*Mr John Rickus inviting Mrs Cristina Willans to draw the ticket for the Raffle.*





*From left to right: Mr Alasdair Grant, Ms Gayle Young, Mrs Georgina Roberts and Dr Roberto Guiloff.*



*In animated conversation: Mr John Amedick, Mr Eric Robinson, Mr Roger Rumbly and Mr Robert Willans.*

## NEW MILITARY ATTACHÉ TO THE EMBASSY IN LONDON

With the return to Chile of Colonel Ramiro Reyes, a new Military Attaché has been appointed to the Embassy. Colonel Claudio Cubillos has assumed the post of Military Attaché to the Embassy of Chile in the United Kingdom with additional responsibility of Military Attaché Concurrent in the Netherlands and Portugal and Defence Attaché concurrent in Croatia.



*Colonel Claudio Cubillos.*

Colonel Cubillos entered the Chilean Army Military School in 1978. He started his career as an Infantry Platoon Commander in 1982 in Punta Arenas. He has since served in the Infantry in Rancagua, La Serena, Copiapó and, finally, as Commander of the 21 Infantry Regiment "Coquimbo", again in La Serena.

The Colonel has also been Chief of Studies in the Military Intelligence School, Staff Officer in the Army Force Support Command in Santiago and, prior to his posting to the United Kingdom, Director of the Army's Infantry School in San Bernardo.

He has studied at the Chilean Army War College and at the National Defence University in the USA.

Colonel Cubillos is accompanied by his wife Valentina, and their three children.

## WILLIAM EDMUNDSON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Mr William Edmundson is a historian, specialising in South America. Among his many publications are two books on the British influence in Chile: "A History of the British Presence in Chile" (2009) and "The Nitrate King: a biography of 'Colonel' John Thomas North" (2011), both of which were recently reviewed in the Chilean News. As an employee of the British Council, he has lived in Colombia, Mexico, Cuba, Chile and Brazil, which explains his fascination with the Continent.

On 17th February 2012, Mr Edmundson, who now lives in Brazil, gave a talk on his book about Colonel John Thomas at the Senate House of the University College of London in the presence of the Ambassador of Chile, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller. Such was the public interest that the University changed the venue to a larger auditorium. Nor were the public disappointed. In a stimulating talk, Mr Edmundson took a visual romp through the life of John Thomas North from his birth in Holbeck, near Leeds, and his years as a mechanical engineer, charting his rise to become one of the richest men of his generation, making his fortune initially in the Nitrate Industry in Chile and finally ending up with other enterprises on four continents.

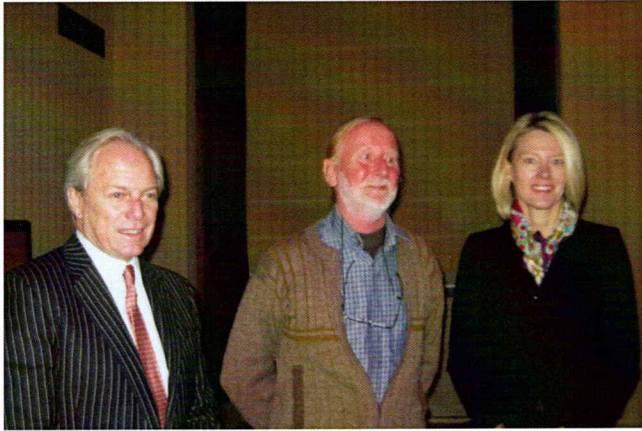
He was very famous in his day, some would say infamous, and was known world-wide from Canada to New Zealand as Colonel John North and "The Nitrate King". He obtained the military rank when he became the Honorary Colonel of the 2nd Tower Hamlets Engineer Volunteer Corps. In Britain he was the target of cartoons, satire and Music Hall songs, although today he is largely forgotten. In Chile, however, the cartoons were of a very different nature, depicting North as a thief, and his name has been largely taboo since the 1880's to this day.

At the end of the talk there was a reception with wine generously donated by the Embassy of Chile.

"The Nitrate King. A Biography of 'Colonel' John Thomas North" is available in bookshops and through the internet at such sites as Amazon.

As a result of the book being spotted by an American Documentary Company, Flight 33, Mr Edmundson was invited to be the Historian Presenter for an episode of the series "Forgotten Planet" about the Nitrate Industry in Northern Chile. The programme, filmed in 3D, has been shown on the Discovery Channel.

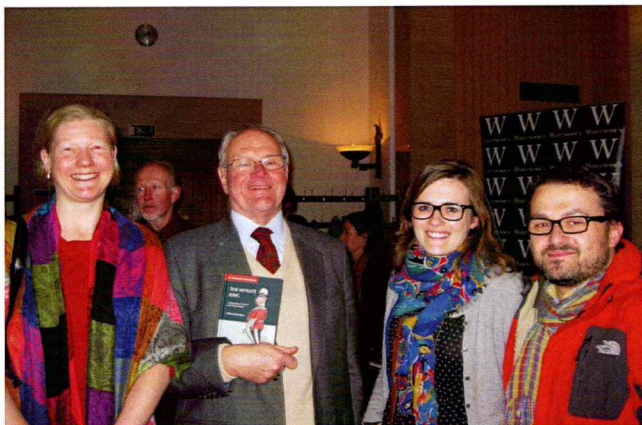
"The Nitrate King" has been nominated by the Publishers, Palgrave-MacMillan, for the PROSE Award of 2011 – the American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence.



*The Ambassador of Chile, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, Mr William Edmundson and Señora Claudia Bobadilla.*



*From left to right: Mr Glenn Benson, Mr Cristián León, Mr Rodrigo Espinosa and Mr David Pearson.*



*Ms Imogene Firmstone, Mr Gordon Baker, Ms Laura St. Quinton and Mr Edin Manzić.*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Thursday, 16th February 2012, the Society's Annual General Meeting was held in the ground floor Reception room of the Embassy at 37-41 Old Queen Street, London SW1P 9JA.

In his opening remarks, the chairman, Mr John Rickus, welcomed the members, and thanked the Ambassador for allowing the Society to use the Embassy for the meeting. The several events held during the year were all well attended and all produced a profit. New innovations, which it is hoped to repeat this year, were the Chilean Minister of Mining Conference and the formal Christmas Dinner, while the perennial favourites of the Dieciocho celebration and Asado attracted capacity crowds.

Members of the Executive Committee were re-elected with the exception of Mrs Iberia Torres-West who resigned

earlier in the year due to other commitments. Mrs Mónica Volpin was voted on to the Committee.

The members also approved the Society's accounts for 2011.

The meeting closed with a convivial glass of wine and sandwiches.



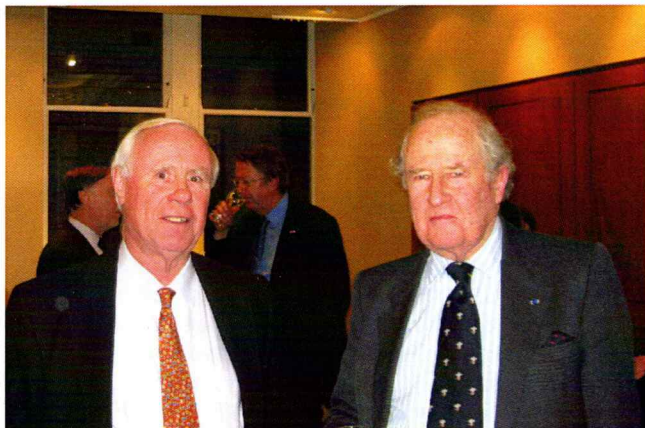
*From left to right: Mr John Rickus, Dr Antipán-Lara, Mr Michael Roberts and Mr Robert Hart.*



*From left to right: Mr César Guerra-Reyes, Mrs Magdalena Jones, Mrs Henriette Subercaseaux and Mr Cristóbal Pollman.*



*Mrs Carmen Pearson and Mr Denis Doble.*



From left to right: Mr Paul Todd and Mr John Armstrong.

---

## IN MEMORIAM OF ALAN MACDONALD

---

by John Macdonald

### Goodbye Now My Brother

Trapped you were in your sinecure  
 Mounted like a specimen in dutiful assumption  
 Almost bear-like in stature and defiance  
 Blank until you owned incredulous night

We believed in one another, but hiddenly  
 Between each other, our secret from ourselves  
 There was a specified iota of respect  
 Birthed in our heritage of neglect

Both of us became blank slates  
 Beneath the burden of ruptured love  
 Both knew the dark withdrawals of affection  
 And those hollow stares of disjunction

We both played; I was the Midshipman  
 You were the Lieutenant  
 Our play was the play of the sea  
 Our ships were cardboard boxes and a fallen tree

We shared a room of bunks and green linoleum  
 You named all your pets the same  
 And later you would not name your cat  
 For you the honesty of abstraction reigned

And as we grew, we adapted and shone  
 You shone with the coldness of intellect  
 And yes, you lit many minds with your wit  
 It was abstruse and strangely lifting  
 I have found the memory of your humour  
 And shared its special nomenclature  
 I have discovered you once more within its resonances  
 And re-established our connectedness again

You led and I followed a set direction  
 Which you plainly enunciated for me  
 The early books were tough, the later tender  
 As my mind expanded and flowered

But finally before the flowers could fade  
 I rose out of my own imagination  
 And decided to fly and pollinate  
 I became free of you as I came of age

From that point our connection was kept secret  
 And our respect for each other lay deep within  
 It lay in the lustrous knowledge of early conflict  
 It lay in our unshared experiences of harm

But now I grieve for you my brother  
 Grieve for the conversations never held  
 Grieve for the warmth we never entered  
 Grieve for the lack of any farewell

I grieve that you fell among strangers  
 With people that knew you so little  
 I grieve that your friends were left without you  
 With their knowing of you so unsettled  
 But I am heartened by the legacy of meaning  
 That you have enabled us to find  
 To grant so many people gladness  
 In transforming knowledge in their lives

I am heartened that your name in blazoned  
 To the foreign land you served so ably  
 I am joyful that your name is laden  
 In a sea of meaning and enjoyment

Your legacy will paint a thousand pictures  
 In the minds of men and women far and wide  
 And our connectedness will light the night-time  
 For a hundred, hundred, thousand years

Goodbye now my brother and goodnight  
 These are surely not phrases you would have liked  
 But you still might have found amusement in a certain line  
 And utilised your wit to play with it

Goodbye my brother who could not share feelings  
 Farewell and make your journey through the night  
 I know your spirit is still playing  
 And in the heavens you will find the light!

---

## SPANISH: CHILEAN STYLE

---

(From "How to Survive in the Chilean Jungle" by John Brennan and Alvaro Taboada.)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| El que guarda siempre tiene            | - To save for a rainy day                                |
| El que no llora no mama                | - If one does not ask for something, one will not get it |
| En boca cerrada no entran moscas       | - To keep one's lips sealed                              |
| En la puerta del horno se quema el pan | - To fail at something at the last moment                |
| Estar al pie del cañón                 | - To be ready to spring into action                      |
| Estar donde las papas queman           | - To be where the action is                              |
| Estar con el alma en un hilo           | - To be overly nervous or anxious about something        |
| Estar con la yegua echada              | - To be beat, to be too tired to do something            |

---

## OBITUARIES

---

### Lady Dora Elizabeth Pink

We regret to announce the death of Lady Dora Pink on 14th December 2011 at the age of 92.

The sister of the 8th Marquess of Ely, she was married to Sir Ivor Pink, KCMG, who was Her Majesty's Ambassador to Chile from 1958 to 1961. They thoroughly enjoyed their time in Chile and she always regretted never having returned for a holiday.

Following her husband's death in 1966, Lady Pink settled in London and joined the Anglo-Chilean Society. She became chairman of the Ladies Committee, created to raise funds for the Society, and for more than 15 years she helped to organise the "Get Together" tea parties, as well as other social functions.

At the Executive Committee Meeting of 9th November 1988, and in fitting tribute to her dedication towards the Society, the then chairman, Mr John Heath, presented Lady Pink with a crystal vase in recognition of her efforts on behalf of the Anglo-Chilean Society.

Her funeral took place on Thursday, 5th January 2012 at St. Luke's Church, Sydney Street, London SW3

We extend our condolences to her much loved daughter, Celia Elizabeth, on her sad loss.

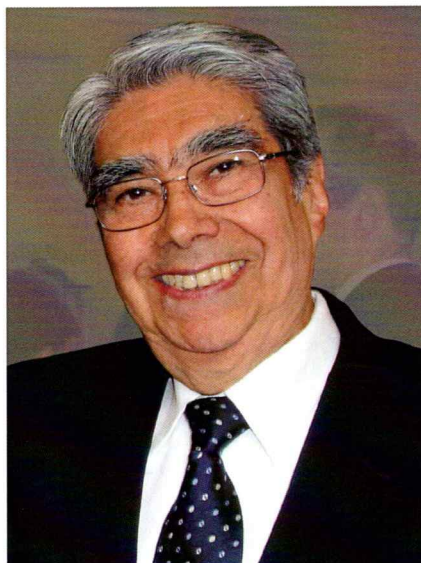
### Señor Gabriel Villalón

It is with great sadness that we report the death on 13th January 2012 of one of our members, Gabriel Villalón, after a short illness.

Gabriel was born in Valparaíso, Chile, and attended the Mackay School in Viña del Mar, but spent most of his professional life working overseas as an international sales strategist



*Lady Dora Pink.*



*Señor Gabriel Villalón*

and held managerial and directorship positions in various countries.

Approximately 25 years ago Gabriel and his wife, Patricia Valenzuela, moved to the UK and settled in Cheshire. Gabriel became involved with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce through his rôle as Sales and Marketing Manager for the weighing division of Avery Weigh-Tronix and became Chair of the International Trade Committee. In this capacity, he participated in several Trade Missions to Chile and was a catalyst in establishing a long term relationship between Metro de Santiago and Railweight in the north of England.

Gabriel joined the Anglo-Chilean Society in 2006 and was also one of the founder members of the Cofradía del Vino Chileno.

Our condolences go to his wife, Patricia.

---

## NEW MEMBERS

---

Ms Valerie Buxton  
Mr Mark Colcannon & Ms Kirby  
Mr and Mrs Paul Cox  
Mr & Mrs Thomas Kelly  
Mr Cristóbal Pollman  
Mr Brian Semmens

---

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

---

April 2012 – Talk on Juan Fernández Islands and the Robinson Crusoe School. (Provisional, date and location to be advised).

21 June 2012 - Wine Tasting (location to be advised).

14 July 2012 – Asado at Epsom College.

25 September 2012 – Dieciocho Dinner at House of Lords.

16 October 2012 – Chilean Minister of Mining Conference at Bloomberg's in London.