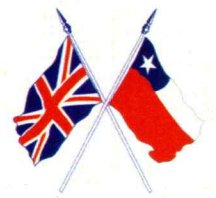


CHILEAN NEWS



Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - Georgina Roberts

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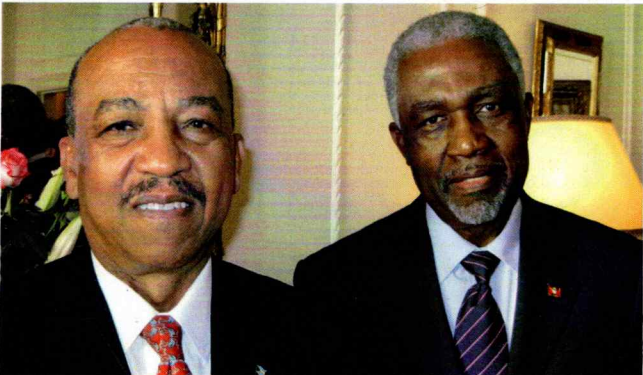
37-41 Old Queen Street London SW1H

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

A reception was offered on 16th September 2010 on the occasion of Chile's National Day. (cont. on Page 2).



From left to right: Viscount Montgomery, H.E. Señora Beatriz Souviron, Ambassadors of Bolivia, and her husband, Señor Denis Angulo.



From left to right: H.E. Mr Paul Farquharson Q.P.M., High Commissioner for the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and H.E. Dr Carl Roberts, High Commissioner for Antigua and Barbuda.



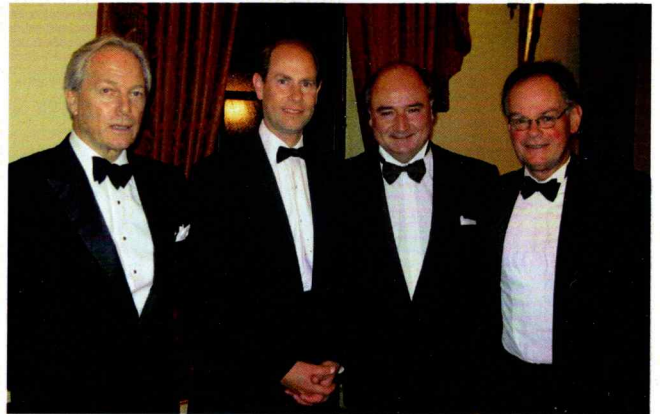
Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, Lord Ballyedmond, Mrs Angélica Bulnes and the actor Mr David Soul.



Mr Mark Flewitt, Rear-Admiral Jorge Chandía, Mrs Valentina Carmona and Mr Eduardo Carmona.

Anglo-Chilean Society Dinner.

The Dieciocho Dinner took place on Tuesday, 21st September 2010 to celebrate the Bicentenary of the Independence of Chile at the Vintners' Hall in the presence of HRH The Earl of Wessex and the Ambassador of Chile. (cont. on Page 2).



From left to right: H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, HRH The Earl of Wessex, Mr Pedro Pfeffer and Mr Richard Wilkinson, CVO.



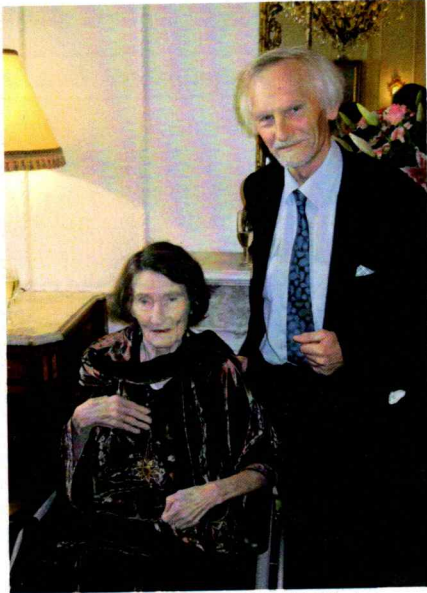
Mrs Lynne Cox, Mr Michael Cox in his robes of office as Warden of the Vintners' Guild and Mr Alasdair Grant.



From left to right: H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, Mr Horacio Meléndez, HRH The Earl of Wessex and Mr Brian Murtargh.

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

cont. from Page 1



Mrs Patricia Vincent and Mr John Barker.



From left to right: The Mayor of Richmond, Cllr David Marlow, Mrs Alexandra White and Mr Cristián León.



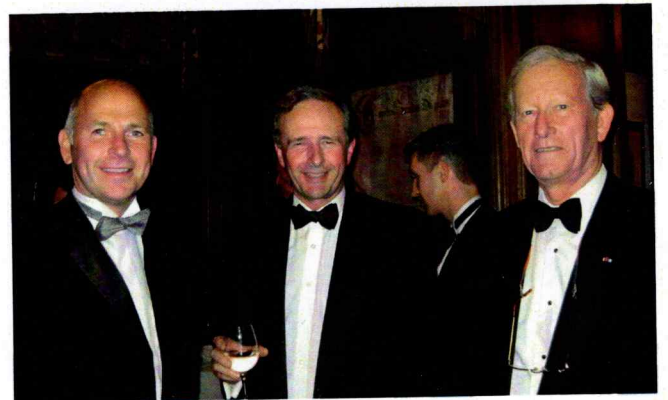
Mr Anthony Westmedge, OBE, Mr Luis Blanco, Ms Margaret Towley and Ms Marilyn Potter.

Anglo-Chilean Society Dinner.

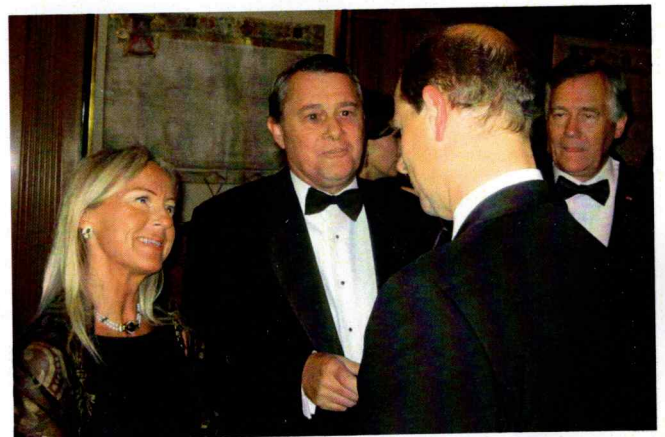
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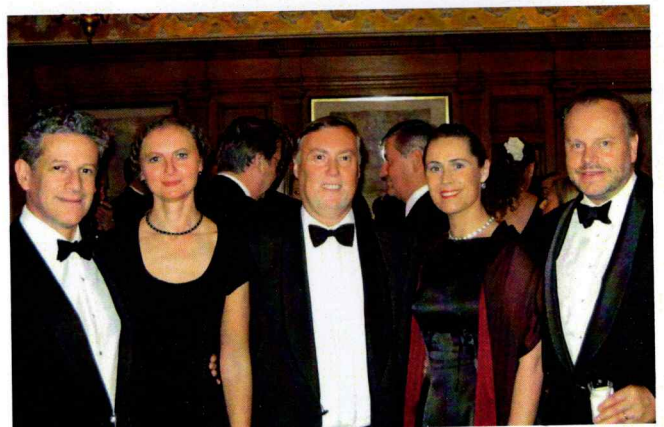
Mrs Marcela Vargas, Captain Oscar Vargas, Señora Claudia Bobadilla, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, Mrs María Angélica Chandía and Rear-Admiral Jorge Chandía.



From left to right: Mr Neil Owen, Mr Michael Wentworth-Stanley and Mr Desmond O'Connor.



Mrs Ingrid Lydon and Mr Peter Lydon with HRH The Earl of Wessex and Mr Anthony Westmedge, OBE.



From left to right: Mr Gonzalo Cuadra, Mrs Isabel Cuadra, Mr George Silva-Rozzi, Mrs Karina Gibbons and Mr Alejandro Gibbons.



HRH The Earl of Wessex meeting Group Captain Claudio Ibacache, watched by Mr Jorge Carvajal and Mrs Janery Ibacache.

In his speech, Mr Richard Wilkinson, CVO, chairman of the Anglo-Chilean Society, said:

"We are particularly honoured that as our special guest tonight we have HRH The Earl of Wessex. His Royal Highness has visited Chile. He seems to have liked the country, for he agreed to lend his support to two of the most important institutions that keep alive and renew the links between the UK and Chile. He is Patron of the recently founded British-Chilean University, whose President Pedro Pfeffer is with us tonight. And he is an Honorary Member of the "catorce", the British and Commonwealth Fire Company of Santiago. Representatives of the Fire Company are also with us tonight, resplendent in their fine red uniforms.

We are also delighted to welcome here tonight the newly arrived Chilean Ambassador, Tomás Müller, and Mrs Claudia Bobadilla. This is their first social engagement in this country since landing at Heathrow yesterday, and it is fitting that it should be to celebrate Chilean independence alongside the Anglo-Chilean Society.

Before I invite the Ambassador and His Royal Highness to speak, I must say a few words of thanks to some of those who have made this evening such a success.

First of all I should like to thank the Vintners' Company, and in particular Michael Cox of Wines of Chile, who earlier was wearing his robes as Warden, and who reserved this beautiful location for us. I should also like to thank Anthony Westnedge, also a Vintner and a long-standing supporter of the Anglo-Chilean Society. He it was who first encouraged me to consider this Hall for our Bicentenary dinner.

I must also thank Antofagasta plc for their generous sponsorship of this event. The Head of their London office, Desmond O'Connor, tells me that Antofagasta is the oldest continuously listed company on the London Stock Exchange - since 1888.

I should also like to thank Julio Bouchon for providing on very favourable terms the delicious wines we have enjoyed tonight, and our very own Alasdair Grant for negotiating this.

These events do not happen spontaneously. They call for a lot of hard work from the members of my Committee, and on this occasion I should like to pay particular tribute to our Honorary Secretary Michael Roberts. He has worked tirelessly on the guest list and on other administrative matters too numerous to mention. Our Society could not function without him."

Grupo Sras. Chilenas in London

The Group of the Chilean Ladies in London celebrated their country's national day with a pisco/wine reception followed by a very Chilean lunch of "empanadas", "pastel de choclo" and "torta mil hojas". It was hosted by Mrs Karina Gibbons and Mrs Georgina Roberts. Guests from Chile, visiting the country, were the designers, Luz Meléndez, and Francisca Rioseco, as well as Inés Monje de Jolly from France.

Casa Chilena.

They had their celebration on Sunday, 26th September at the "Fiesta Bar", London SW2. Dinner was served between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. and the dancing went on until after midnight.

Señor Francisco Gómez addressed his fellow countrymen and handed Consul Alejandro Gibbons a book with the texts of support to be sent to the trapped miners in Copiapó.

The proceeds from their Dieciocho Raffle went to the earthquake victims.

A VERY CHILEAN ENCOUNTER

President Sebastián Piñera arrived in London on 16th October 2010 on his first official visit to Europe and only a day after welcoming the 33 miners to safety at Camp Hope in Copiapó, Chile.

His Excellency, the man of the moment, arrived at the Crystal Palace Suite of the Park Lane Hilton Hotel where Consul Alejandro Gibbons, organiser of the encounter, welcomed the President and Señora de Piñera, as well as ministers and special guests.

The proceedings started with the Chilean national anthem sung by the soprano Natalia Contreras and joined by all those present.

Mrs Georgina Roberts took the floor on behalf of the Chileans resident in the UK, and in her capacity as President of the Chilean Ladies in London, a group that for 25 years has worked continuously in aid of the children and elderly in Chile. She finished by presenting President Piñera with the October 2010 issue of the Chilean News, the official bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society.

The highlight of the evening was when, to the delight and great excitement of everybody, the President showed the wrinkled piece of paper written in red ink "**Estamos bien en el refugio. Los 33**", the message from the trapped miners that had been broadcast around the world in the press and on television.



Children presenting gifts to the President and his wife: Florencia Gracia, Grace Gibbons and Daniel Gibbons watched By Consul Alejandro Gibbons.



Mrs Georgina Roberts delivering her address. From left to right: Ministro de Economía, Juan Fontaine, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Alfredo Moreno, H.E. Señor Sebastián Piñera, Señora Cecilia de Piñera, and H.E. Señor Tomás Müller.



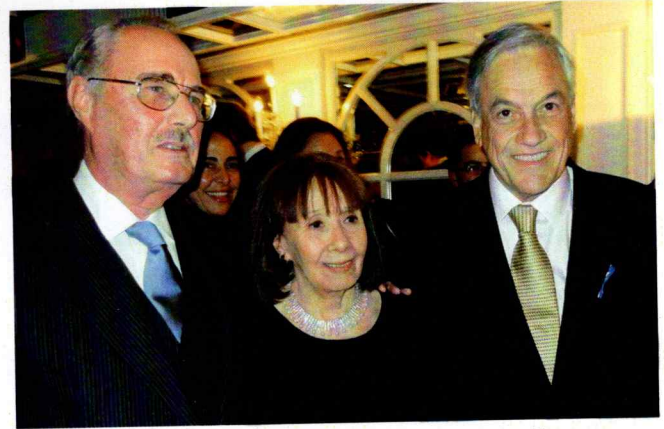
The Chilean flag signed by all 33 of the miners being held up by, from left to right: Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Alfredo Moreno, H.E. Señor Sebastián Piñera, Señora de Piñera, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, Señora Claudia Bobadilla and Senator José Antonio Coloma.



Prof. Marcial Echenique, Presidente Renovación Nacional, Señor Carlos Larrain, Mrs María Luisa Echenique, Mr Marcial Antonio Echenique and Mrs María Teresa Echenique.



Mrs Henny Subercaseaux, Mr Claudio Durán, Mrs Carmen Pearson, Mr David Pearson and Mr Pablo Santa María.



From left to right: Mr Michael Roberts, Mrs Georgina Roberts and H.E. Señor Sebastián Piñera.

THE PAPAL VISIT

Around 4000 children from Catholic schools all over the country were invited on 17th September 2010 to St Mary's University College in Twickenham to meet Pope Benedict XVI.

Felipe Vargas, age 7, a Chilean attending Meadlands Primary School in Ham, Richmond, Surrey, could hardly believe that he was one of the four chosen to represent his school.

Young Felipe is the son of the former Chilean Assistant Naval Attaché, Captain Oscar Vargas and Señora Marcela de Vargas.



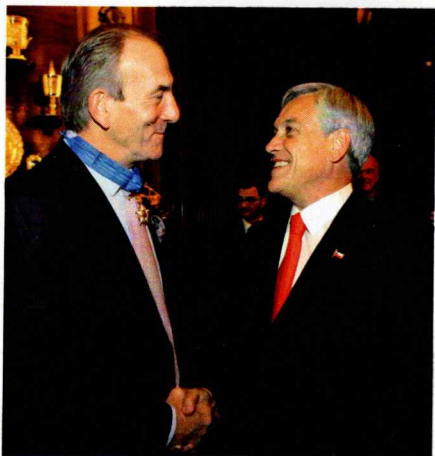
Felipe, top left, with his three school friends.

PRESENTATION OF DECORATION

Michael Cox, European Director of Wines of Chile, was made a Commander of the Order of Merit of Chile. This is the highest honour that can be bestowed on non-Chileans and is awarded to foreigners who have achieved distinction to the benefit of the country.

It was presented by H.E. Señor Tomás Müller in the presence of the President of Chile, Señor Sebastián Piñera.

In his acceptance speech Michael Cox said:
 "I have an excellent team and the unwavering support of the Chilean wineries and ProChile. It is great for the on-going success of Chilean Wine in the UK to be recognised in this way and confirms the pleasure and pride that I derive from working with the Chilean wine trade and in helping it make even more progress."



Mr Michael Cox being congratulated by H.E. Señor Sebastián Piñera, President of Chile.



Medal of Commander of the Order of Merit of Chile.

THE SIR LESLIE BOWES LECTURE

Members packed the ground floor meeting-room of the Chilean Embassy, courtesy of the Ambassador of Chile, to hear the Society's Vice-President, Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, deliver the 2010 Sir Leslie Bowes Lecture.

Introducing Viscount Montgomery, the chairman, Mr Richard Wilkinson, paid tribute to his energy, moral courage and generosity.

In an amusing and informal talk, Lord Montgomery recounted anecdotes from his three years in Chile in the late 1950s.

In 1955 he was working for Shell and was initially sent to Argentina. Shortly after, he was posted to Chile and got his first taste of South American instability. The day he travelled from Buenos Aires to Mendoza, to join the Transandino train to Santiago, was the day Juan Perón made his first attempted coup. In Mendoza, Lord Montgomery and the other passengers were holed up in a hotel for 3 days, with no service staff and armed bands roaming the streets, before finally crossing the Andes.

He was named Shell Branch Manager for northern Chile, an area stretching over 1000kms from Copiapó to Arica, and based in Antofagasta. Fellow expats in Santiago, very familiar with such places as Viña del Mar and the Central Valley, were aghast that anyone would go to work in the north. Where was Antofagasta exactly?

However, David Montgomery thoroughly enjoyed his posting, having a fascination for deserts. His transport, a 1945 Ford, led to his meeting Andrónico Luksic, who, at that

time, had the Ford Motor Car franchise in Antofagasta and maintained the vehicle. He travelled throughout the north on the dirt roads, the only paved highway being between Antofagasta and Calama. Sharing these tracks with large lorries meant that every so often one disappeared into a thick cloud of dust. Also the poor road conditions meant having the constant worry of breaking down in the desert, where the temperatures could reach -10°C at night, so he always carried an overcoat and emergency rations.

In those days, Antofagasta was very different from what it is today. Water was very scarce and each household had two oil drums on the roof which were filled when the water was turned on for a couple of hours at night. Also, the local generating station frequently suffered from shortage of fuel, resulting in power cuts. However, David was in the fortunate position of living in a house between the generating station and the hospital, so, frequently, the only lights in Antofagasta were the hospital and David Montgomery's house!

After 1½ years there, he was transferred back to Santiago. Those were the days when Chile suffered from rampant inflation, so there was no possibility of saving money. Plus there were multiple exchange rates.

From his house near the Prince of Wales Club, David enjoyed the more civilised life of the capital, where one could go skiing in the mountains in the morning and swim in the sea in the afternoon. He enjoyed holidays in Algarrobo, on the coast, where on one occasion his neighbour was one Salvador Allende, who in those days was considered somewhat of a ne'er-do-well bohemian and bon-vivant, although Lord Montgomery found him good company.

He was asked to look after several VIPs while in Santiago, including the ballerina Beryl Grey, Peter Townsend, following his break-up with Princess Margaret, and Lady Jellicoe, widow of Lord Jellicoe, First Sea Lord during the First World War, who came to visit her husband's former flagship, now part of the Chilean Navy. The most important visitor was his own father, the First Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, who paid an official visit to Chile during a tour of the Americas as Deputy Supreme Commander of NATO forces in Europe. An unexpected perk from this visit was the installation of a telephone in the Montgomery household. This scarce luxury was considered a security necessity as the illustrious visitor was staying with his son.

After a short question and answer session, the lecture finished with the chairman thanking Lord Montgomery for sharing his experiences with the members.

The evening finished with wine and sandwiches.



From left to right: Mr Richard Wilkinson, CVO, with Viscount Montgomery

EASTER ISLAND EXHIBITION

A private view and wine reception was held on Tuesday, 9th November 2010 at Canning House under the auspices of the Embassy of Chile.

The exhibition was the result of years of work and research by Dr Ian Conrich, founder and Director of the Centre for New Zealand Studies, Birkbeck, University of London, and a specialist on Easter Island. It gave taste of what is to come in 2011/12 with full exhibitions at Captain Cook's Birthplace Museum, Marton, Middlesborough, The Kon-Tiki Museum, Oslo, Norway, and on Easter Island. As seen in the photo below, in the entrance hall of Canning House stood two huge Moai statues, 10 feet tall and sculpted from styrofoam. These are the work of Mr Jamie Wilson, of the Cheeky Tiki Company. A further two statues were in the Library, location of the exhibition.

It focused on the Moai, not only on the history of the culture that produced these iconic figures, but also on the many bizarre examples where the figures have been used in such diverse objects as films, adverts, cartoons, album covers, toys and board games, computer games, novels, comic books and fruit machines, even being considered as aliens from outer space!



From left to right: Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, Baroness Hooper and Mr Robert B Evans.



From left to right: Mr Gonzalo Cuadra, Mrs Isabel Cuadra and Mr Alejandro Gibbons.



From left to right: Mr Julian Amey, Mrs Victoria Amey and Mr Cristián León.



From left to right: Mr Wilfrid Hockfield, Mrs María Eliana Robinson and Mr Eric Robinson.



The impressive Moai statues in the entrance hall of Canning House welcoming the guests.



From bottom to top: Dr Ian Conrich (University of Essex), Mr Martyn Harris (Birkbeck, University of London) and Dr Roy Smith (Nottingham Trent University).



From left to right: Mr Roy Schneider, Mrs María Cleta Schneider, Mrs Carmen Gloria Heap and Mr Peter Heap.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE CHILEAN MINERS

This was held on Friday, 12th November 2010 at Westminster Cathedral in thanksgiving for the rescue of the 33 miners trapped underground for 69 days.

The service was conducted by the Most Reverend Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, who stated: "We are here this afternoon to thank God for the graces, the strength, the endurance he gave to all in this crisis."

Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, Minister Counsellor of the Chilean Embassy, offered the first reading from the prophet Isaiah. He was followed by Mr Alejandro Gibbons, the Chilean Consul, with a reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

In his homily, Archbishop Nichols said: "Chile showed itself to be a nation willing to work together yet also willing to seek the best technical advice from all over the world. This was a genuinely corporate effort and during it the San José mine near Copiapó, that tiny place in the desert, became the centre of world attention. The families of the miners who gathered there in great love and solidarity, came under intense scrutiny, which is truly uncomfortable. But the sense that the whole nation was behind them must have been a great encouragement to them all.

"Then there was a third factor which helped these men and this nation to work together so remarkably. It is more difficult to see, in some ways impossible to see, yet it was evident to the whole work. As one of the miners said: "There were not 33 of us in the mine. There were 34, for the Lord was with us""

At the end of the service the Chilean Ambassador, H.E. Señor Tomás Müller, thanked the UK for its support and offers of assistance during the rescue.

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Members and guests of the Society gathered for another Christmas celebration on Monday, 13th December at Canning House.

A pisco and wine reception was followed by a Chilean supper, and a jolly time was had by all.

As is customary, the highlight of the evening was the Raffle with the top prize of 2 nights in Mas de la Serra, Spain, going to Ms Vivian Robles. Other lucky prizewinners were Mr Alan Douglas, Mr Ignacio Llanos, Mr Eric Robinson, Miss Eva Loth, Mr Angus Pelham Burn, Mr Manuel Condesa and Mr Christopher Hopewell.



From left to right: Ms Kristina Bluhm, Mr Ignacio Llanos and Ms Eva Loyola.



Mr Alan Douglas, Mr David Pearson, Mrs Clare Durán and Mr Claudio Durán.



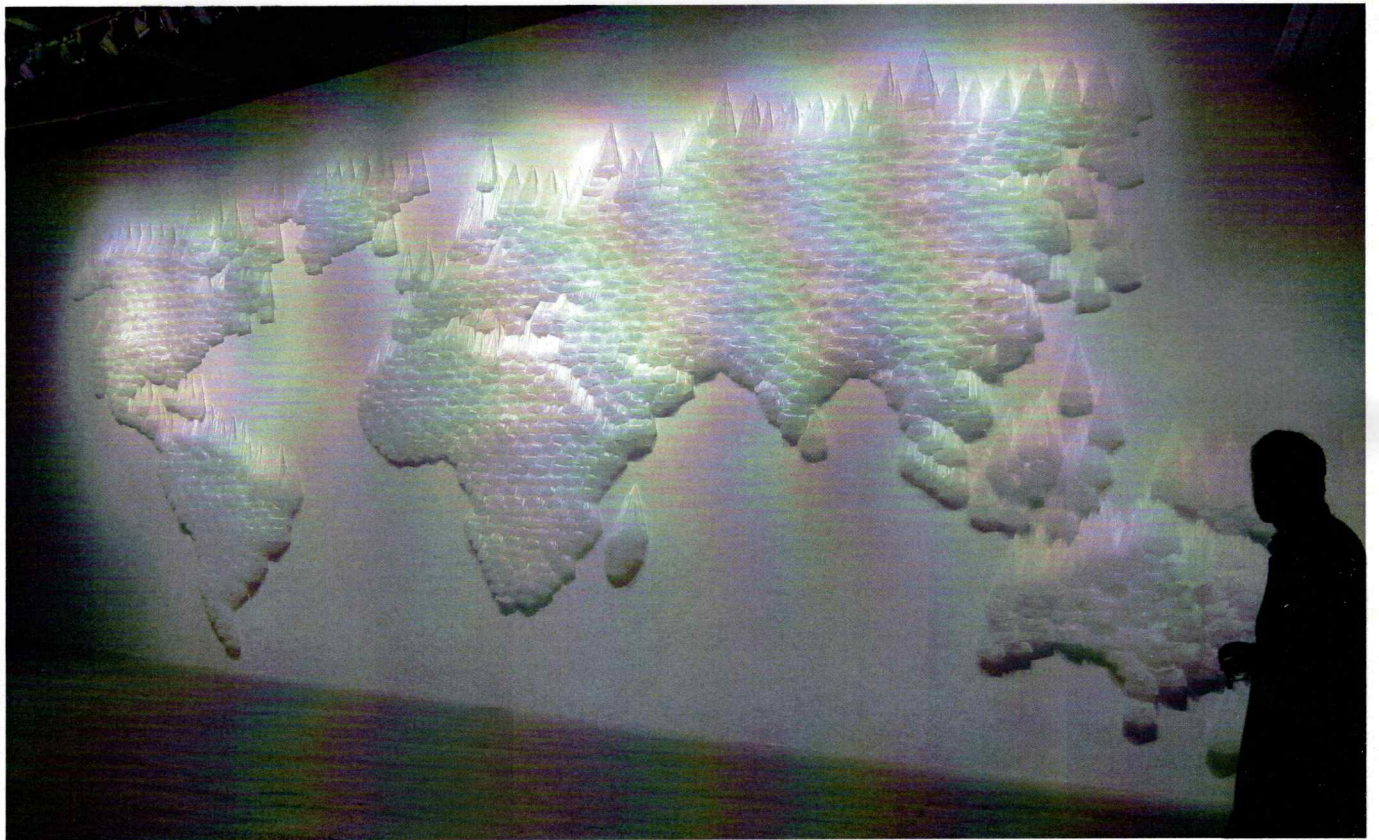
From left to right: Mr John Rickus, Mr Christopher Heap and Mr George Silva-Rozzi.



From left to right: Mr Eric Robinson, Mrs María Eliana Robinson, Mrs Esther Alvarez & Mr Gonzalo Alvarez.



From left to right: Mrs Joanna Douglas, Mrs Luciana de Iglesias, Ms Paula Riobo, Mrs Claudia Dempster, Mr Alan Douglas and Mrs Peggy Hart.



"Map" by Catalina Bauer.

CHILEAN CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION

A reception and private viewing of the exciting work of twelve Chilean artists from the collection of Juan Yarur was held on the 13th January 2011 at the Phillips de Pury Galleries, London SW1.

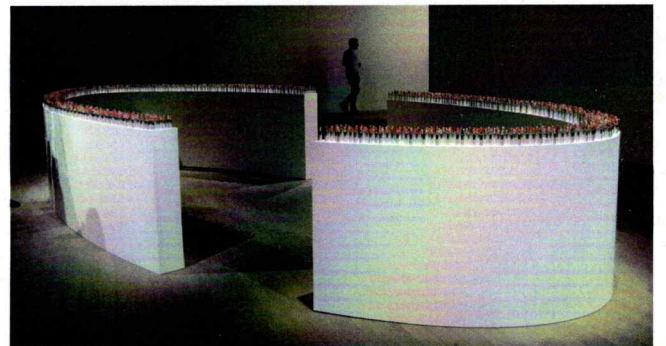
The occasion turned out to be an artistic event of such high quality that some of the exhibits produced gasps of admiration from the very appreciative crowd.

"Map" by Catalina Bauer, a work of enormous dimensions using 1322 small plastic bags of water to create a map of the world.

"Fictions of a Use II" by Livia Marin. Here 2000 individually moulded lipsticks are mounted on a pedestal. The work was inspired by the observation that each woman wears her lipstick in a unique way, thus creating a tension between mass production and individualism.

"Smiling Desperately I" by Magdalena Atria, made from toothpicks and modelling clay. In an environment that is already over-saturated with visual referents, the artist sets herself the challenge of finding a new way of looking at the familiar.

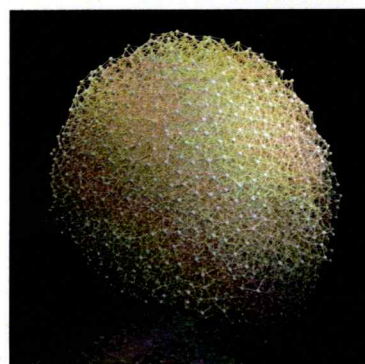
"Blue Pond" by Malu Stewart is constructed from pipe cleaners on wood. Following her return to Chile from London where she studied at the Slade School of Fine Art in the mid-90s, Stewart attempted to find a link between unorthodox, everyday materials and the formal lessons inherited by European modernism, in this instance, a homage to Monet.



"Fictions of a Use II" by Livia Marin.



Detail of "Fictions of a Use II", showing moulding of lipsticks.



"Smiling Desperately I" by Magdalena Atria.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Thursday, 17th February, the Society's Annual General Meeting was held, courtesy of the Ambassador of Chile, in the ground floor meeting-room of the Embassy at 37-41 Old Queen Street, London SW1P 9JA.

Members gathered to approve the Annual Report of the Trustees for 2010 which included the Statement of Financial Activities.

In his opening remarks the chairman, Mr Richard Wilkinson, described the Society's events during the previous year, as well as listing the various donations given by the Society. He went on to explain that, having served in the post for 5 years, he was obliged by the Constitution to stand down. He felt it an honour to have served the Society as chairman and thanked the other members of the Committee for the great support they had given him throughout.

Regrettably, Mr Jonathan Cook, a long-standing Committee member, has decided to stand down due to other commitments.

Unanimous approval was given to the election of the new chairman, Mr John Rickus, as well as two new members to the Executive Committee, Ms Carolina Arriagada and Mrs Magdalena Jones.

In closing the meeting, the new chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Wilkinson, which was unanimously agreed.

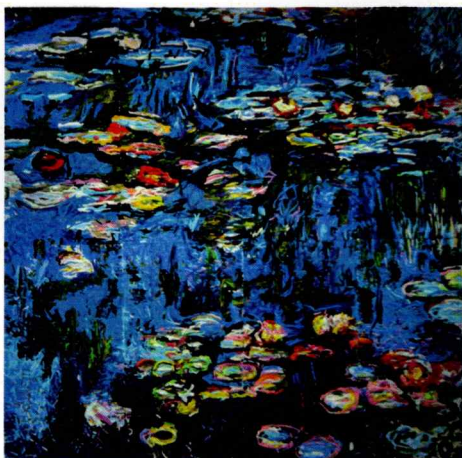
There followed a short talk by Miss Emily Maule who spent a year in Chile, sponsored by Project Trust. After the talk, members enjoyed a glass (or two!) of wine and sandwiches.

Miss Maule thanked the Society for contributing to Project Trust, an organisation that enables students to spend their gap year in various parts of the world, teaching English.

Emily taught at a school in CholChol, Temuco, following a tradition of 10 years of Project Trust volunteers working in this town. This is a new school, the previous one having burnt down in 2004, and they set aside a spare room for the teaching of English. Emily's class consisted of over 50 six-year-olds of varying educational abilities. Rather than stick to classroom lessons, there were other activities such as visiting local farms and making erupting volcanoes out of papier-mâché, very appropriate for that part of the world.

Although she had learnt Spanish at school, she was rather daunted at the prospect of having to speak Spanish all the time – especially Chilean Spanish, which was very different from what she had been taught. However, her pupils were a great help and so was living in the girls' boarding house, where she had contact with girls of all ages. She even ran a local youth group with her co-workers after school hours.

During the long summer school holidays, she travelled extensively in Chile and Argentina, which was fascinating for her as she was preparing to study for a degree in Geography. She even managed to fit in two weeks working for the charity "Un Techo para Chile", which provides housing for poor people.



"Blue Pond" by Malu Stewart.



Ms Cecilia Brunson, curator of the exhibition, with Mr Juan Yarur, owner of the collection.



Ms Doris Herman, Mr Adam Feinstein and Mrs Loreto Herman.



Mr Rodrigo Espinosa, Mrs Valentina Carmona, Mr Eduardo Carmona and Mr Rolando Stein.

On her return to England, Emily started her University studies at Girton College, Cambridge, although she admitted she found it rather difficult to adjust to the discipline of hard study.

Last year, the Society assisted her to visit Temuco, Chile, to research her dissertation on “Access to Higher Education in Chile”, by studying the difference between rural and urban education in that area.

On completing her degree, Emily is going to work with Teach First, an educational charity that puts high-grade graduates into low grade schools for up to two years. This way, she can repay society for providing her with a superior education.



From left to right: Mrs Carmen Pearson, Mr Cristián León and Miss Emily Maule.



From left to right: The outgoing chairman, Mr Richard Wilkinson, CVO, Viscount Montgomery and the incoming chairman, Mr John Rickus.



From left to right: Mr Gonzalo Cuadra, Baroness Hooper and Mr David Pearson.



From left to right: Mr George Silva-Rozzi, Mr Claudio Durán and Mr Alasdair Grant.

A CULINARY GAP YEAR

The Society, through Project Trust, supported Ed Bligh in spending his gap year in Chile helping to teach English to the pupils in deprived areas. Ed was in Chile for the February 2010 earthquake (his Chilean friends later told him to warn them if he ever goes back, so they could prepare their houses for another one!)

He found teaching a rewarding, if frustrating and tiring job, but learning to teach and doing it free of pressure, interacting with children and young people in a completely new way was life-changing. It taught him so much – to be confident in the face of peril, to be modest and patient, to lead by example – that he might never have learned through the normal education system. Plus, he is now nearly fluent in Chilean-Spanish

Apart from teaching children of all ages, some even older than himself, Ed had the opportunity to visit Chile from north to south, even getting to Easter Island, as well as visiting Argentina and Perú.

However, one thing that appears to have gripped Ed’s imagination was learning a whole branch of culinary knowledge from a different culture. As he tells us he now chops tomatoes like a Chilean and he has picked up their extreme obsession with peeling *everything*. He writes that Chilean cooking is different from the British in many ways. If he had been told before he went out there that he would have to live a year without curry and naan bread, beans on toast, gravy-slathered Yorkshire puddings and chocolate digestives dipped in tea with fresh milk, he probably wouldn’t have left home! Now he finds himself facing the possibility of living the rest of his life without such staples as avocado smeared on fresh bread rolls every day, “*sopaipillas*” with “*pebre*” (chilli dip), *mate*, copious amounts of meat, *merkén* (a Mapuche dried chilli powder), “*completos*” (Chilean hot dogs) and the legendary South American *asado* (barbecue).

However, there were some things that Ed didn’t get accustomed to being without: milk chocolate bars, fresh milk and decent coffee being the main ones.

He became so enamoured of Chilean food that he compiled a list of recipes, including such traditional dishes as “*pebre*”, “*cazuela de vaca*”, “*pastel de choclo*”, “*sopaipilla*” and, of course, “*empanadas*”.

Ed is now back in England studying General Engineering at Durham University.

NEWS FROM THE 14TH COMPANÍA DE BOMBEROS

The British Fire Company Foundation and British Airways work together to train Chilean firemen in the United Kingdom.

contributed by Mr Donald Filshill

The British Fire Company Foundation was formed to provide financial and other support to the British and Commonwealth Fire and Rescue Company (the 14th) in Santiago, a volunteer service organized in 1958 by the local community and serving the capital city of Chile. All fire and rescue services in Chile are manned by volunteers, a tradition that has been in place for over 160 years. The 14th attends over 70 calls each month and is one of 22 companies in the Santiago Metropolitan area.

In view of the many challenges that need to be faced in this vibrant city and the need to keep abreast of the best working practices, the Foundation and the Director and Captain of the 14th Company agreed to institute a programme of further training for selected volunteers in the United Kingdom. Contact was made with the prestigious Fire Service College in Moreton-in-Marsh and the London Fire Brigade with the intention of acquiring both advanced theoretical and practical firefighting and rescue work knowledge. Their responses were very positive and their cooperation since has been outstanding.

The cost of this programme is not insignificant and we approached British Airways in Santiago to seek assistance with the passages to London. They agreed to help us with two initial volunteers. Without the help of British Airways it would have been impossible to meet our goal.

After careful selection and interviewing we were able to send two experienced volunteers with a sound track record and potential to the United Kingdom - Sebastian Mocarquer in September 2009 and Cristobal Mena in April 2010. Both completed an initial intensive one week training course in Incident Command at the Fire Service College followed by one week practical training with the London Fire Brigade. On their return they were required to divulge their experiences not only with their colleagues in the 14th but also apply their acquired working updates with the senior officers of the Santiago Fire Brigade, i.e. a benefit to a very wide audience.

Since their return both Mocarquer and Mena have been important figures in the local Brigade having both been directly involved in major rescue work not only in Santiago but also assisting in operations in Concepción, following the massive earthquake in February 2010 in southern Chile, and travelling to both Haiti and lately Bolivia on similar missions at the request of the Senior Commander of the Santiago Fire Brigade.

Mocarquer was also highlighted in late 2010 as one of 100 outstanding young Chilean leaders – see below – and continues as a senior support and training officer to the Santiago Brigade.

The successful outcome of the Foundation and British Airways is an incentive to carry on this work and our intention is to continue sending two volunteers each year for further specialized training. Only in this way can we aspire for the British inspired 14th to provide a service of excellence to the city of Santiago and to thus carry the name of Great Britain with continuing pride.



Capitán de Bomberos Sebastián Mocarquer.

DONATIONS

The Society donated over £12,000 during the year 2010. Apart from £3,000 to the Ambassador's Fund for the restoration of damage caused by the disastrous earthquake of 27th February 2010, there were donations of:

£500 to the CholChol Foundation in Temuco, Chile, (in memory of Mr Alan Macdonald, a Committee member who died on 25th February 2010).

£1,200 to Surmaule, which works amongst victims of the earthquake in the Maule Region.

£1,250 to the fund set up by the British Embassy in Santiago to rebuild the school on Robinson Crusoe Island in the Juan Fernández Archipelago.

£1,000 to "Un Techo Para Chile", a charity that builds houses for the homeless.

£2,800 to the Hogar Padre Correa, a Christian Charity looking after aged people.

£1,200 to Project Trust to enable gap-year students to spend a year in Chile teaching English in poor schools.

£650 to the "Fundación Niño y Cáncer".

£650 to the "Niño Discapacitado – Colegio Especial Armonía".

The Group of Chilean Ladies in London, apart from a donation of £1,900 to the Ambassador's Fund for the restoration of damage caused by the earthquake, also donated:

£400 worth of medicines to the Hogar San Ricardo in Batico, a home for mentally handicapped youths.

£500 to Voluntariado de CONIN in Los Angeles, an area most affected by the earthquake. The donation was a portable generator so that future emergencies requiring the evacuation of their young children will at least be assured of electric power.

OBITUARIES

Carmen Lamarca de Troup, a long standing member of the Anglo-Chilean Society, died on 7th January 2011.

A requiem mass was offered at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, Mayfair. Readings were offered by her grand-daughters Saskia and Cosima Lumley and tributes were paid by Professor Marcial Echenique, OBE, and by her husband, Professor Emeritus Malcolm Troup.

She was repatriated to Santiago, Chile, and interred in the family mausoleum.

In loving memory

by Saskia Lumley, 17 year old grand-daughter, St Mary's School, Ascot.

A woman who lived to love, as she always used to tell me; 'the most important thing in life is not how much you did, but how much you loved.' Carmen Lamarca was an inspiration not only to the countless friends and family that surrounded her, but also to those who were lucky enough to meet her. Her elegance, natural charm and warm smile touched the lives of many. Her strong faith left a great impression on those who knew her.

Her interest in all that others had to say, up to the smallest detail, combined with her deep thoughtfulness, made her, to me, wiser and more understanding than any philosopher on the virtues of life. Though she was always busy and devoted to my grandfather Malcolm's music career, she always had time for all those who sought her company, imparting her wise and helpful words yet never failing to recognise and appreciate every little thing one did for her. Life for her was a gift, she embraced everything that came her way, be it opportunities or sufferings, the latter which she stoically and gracefully endured, with such poise through life until the very end. Her zest for living and keen interest combined with her unmatched generous spirit should be a lesson to us all, for she was a woman who truly did live life to the full. Her actions always good, her enthusiasm always lively and her smile always kind; she captured and will stay in the hearts of all those who truly knew her, as a woman whose infinite love left an immense impression in this world and inspired in me an overflowing affection for her that will last forever."

Sheila Baker

We regret to announce the death of Mrs Sheila Baker on Thursday, 27th January 2011.

A private family cremation was held on Tuesday 15th February followed by a Thanksgiving Service at St. Alfege's Parish Church in Greenwich, London SW10.

The Anglo-Chilean Society was represented by Michael and Georgina Roberts.

An Outstanding Life

Sheila fell in love with Chile when her husband, Gordon Baker, was Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy in Santiago from 1986-1990.

Their time in Chile coincided with the historic end of the Pinochet era and the restoration of democratic government. Sheila proudly recalled touring polling stations as a volunteer Embassy election observer to watch Chileans queuing long hours to vote in the country's first democratic elections in 18 years. Most of the members of the incoming Lagos Cabinet came to the couple's farewell party.

Sheila and Gordon joined the Anglo-Chilean Society shortly after returning to the UK from Chile in 1990 and were regular attenders at the Society's events until they left on Gordon's posting as High Commissioner to Belize in 1995. They re-joined after Gordon retired from the FCO from Barbados in 2001 and remained active supporters until Sheila's worsening health prevented them from doing so.

After joining HM Diplomatic Service in 1964, Sheila served in British Embassies in Brazil, Senegal, Laos and Venezuela before returning to work in the FCO in 1976

where she met Gordon. They were married in 1978. Shortly afterwards Sheila accompanied Gordon on posting to the British Embassy in Brasilia. On returning to the UK in 1982 they both worked in the FCO. Sheila was one of a team working around the clock in the FCO Emergency Unit during the Falklands War.

Sheila had a wide range of interests. She was a passionate lover of cats and Chilean wines, a keen opera, theatre and concert-goer, an avid collector of antiques, pictures, books, designer glass and Japanese netsuke carvings and an accomplished cook and hostess. After settling back in the UK in 2001, she was also a tireless fund-raiser for local charities in the Blackheath area where the couple lived.

She never recovered from complications following a knee replacement operation last September and died in hospital on 27 January.

NEW MEMBERS

Ms Jessica Duncan.
Miss Tamara Holland-Martin.
Mr & Mrs Keith Lobley.
Mr Alfonso Molinari.
Mr Eduardo Muñoz.
Mr & Mrs Stephen Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

26th April 2011 – Performance of "Weak Edward" at the Rose Theatre, London.

9th June 2011 – Comparative Wine Tasting at "Bacchanalia", London.

31st July 2011 – Asado at Epsom College, Surrey.

20th September 2011 – Dieciocho Reception. The date is tentative and the location will be advised nearer the event.

4th October 2011 – Conference with the Chilean Minister of Mining at the Bloomberg Centre. This is a morning event at 10:30 a.m.

Week commencing 6th December 2011 – A Christmas event. Details will be advised nearer the time.