

CHILEAN NEWS

Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - John Naylor

47th Year No. 344

London, March 1993

12 Devonshire Street, London W1

HOUSE OF LORDS

A reception was held in the House of Lords on July 24th. Sponsored by Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, it was one of our most successful and widely attended functions, aided by a most delightful summer evening out on the Terraces.

Drinks were preceded by a tour of both Houses of Parliament from which one was able to appreciate the historical background to our modern political structures.

The House of Lords has generally met at Westminster since the fourteenth century. In 1834 the old Palace of Westminster was destroyed by fire and was then completely rebuilt to the design of Sir Charles Barry between 1840 and 1860. It has been used continuously by the House of Lords since 1847, except between 1941 and 1951 when the Lords gave it up to the Commons whose own Chamber had been destroyed by enemy action.

At its southern end, facing the Stranger's Gallery, is the Throne and it is from here that the Queen delivers her speech at the Opening of Parliament. In front of the Throne is the Woolsack which is stuffed with wool from the countries of the Commonwealth, and on which the Lord Chancellor sits as Speaker of the House of Lords. These and many other features of historical and current interest were pointed out to members by the guides with practiced enthusiasm.

THE LATIN AMERICAN FIESTA

By Georgina Roberts

On a beautiful September day, Battersea Park was the location for the third Fiesta in aid of the underprivileged children of Latin America.

The Anglo-Chilean Society stated that this year the Chilean stand would be bigger and better than ever and that is exactly what the 10,000 visitors to the Latin American Fiesta saw. In fact, the Chilean stand, housed in five pagodas, three of which were generously funded by Chile Copper Ltd., was the biggest of the Fiesta. According to the majority it was also the most colourful and elegant stand in the Fiesta.

The queues for the "empanadas", "pastel de choclo" and delicious



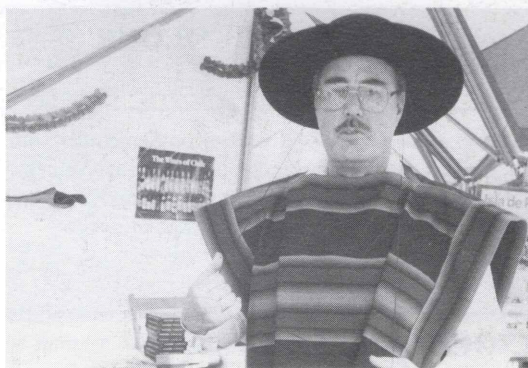
H.E. The Ambassador of Chile and Mrs Jacqueline Riesco who gave enormous support to the Fiesta.



Carmen Pearson, seen here selling Chilean cards and cassettes plus the society's key rings



From left to right: Alicia Cofré, Jean-Pablo Goni, Maria Antonieta Awad and Master Philip Schneider. In the background: Lindsey O'Callaghan



Michael Roberts who supervised the bar



From left to right: Maria Antonieta Awad, Maria Cleta Schneider and "la chinita" Paulette Roberts



Henriette Sabercaseaux and Ximena Pascal enjoying the good life

“tortas de mil hojas” were endless, not allowing the servers any respite. The Naval Mission was well represented in this stall by Luz-Patricia Berardi, Alicia Cofré and Captain Manuel Cofré.

The Bar, well stocked with wine and pisco-sour, was another favourite with the crowds who were served by Chris Hopewell, Michael Ogilvie-Davis, Geoffrey Larsson and Roy Schneider, among others.

The artisan handicraft which I bought in Chile and was flown to England courtesy of The Chilean Air Force (FACH), was a complete sell out, while the clothing stall with its beautiful embroidered girl’s dresses kept Marcela Holtheuer and Maria Paz Barros on their toes. As always, Peter and Angélica Shaw were the first to arrive and the last to leave. Apart from Peter’s usual duty of dealing with the money and Angélica’s of taking photographs for this publication, they willingly turned their hands to setting up and taking down the stands.

Once again the highlight of the Chilean stand was the national costume worn by everybody who worked in the stand. The elegance of the ladies and the striking colours of the “ponchos” worn by the “huasos” were very much admired by the public.

It was one of those occasions when members of the Society, both British and Chilean, gave their time and effort for a common cause: the children of Latin America.

LUIS GUZMAN WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION

This was held at the Ozten Zeki Gallery on September 14th. Luis Guzman, Chilean painter of watercolours has enjoyed much success in two of his London exhibitions, held at Canning House and at the Ozten Zeki Gallery, where he sold all his paintings. The evening concluded with a glass of Chilean wine.

DIECIOCHO CELEBRATIONS

The Army Day reception was held at the Embassy on September 16th. This was followed by a reception at the Ambassador’s residence on September 18th.

DIECIOCHO LUNCH

By John Hickman

We celebrated the “Dieciocho” this year with a luncheon held at the Kensington Roof Garden on Tuesday, September 22nd. Lots of older members who remembered these splendid gardens as one of the pleasantest features of any expedition to Derry and Toms’ department store (and others who knew them subsequently when it was Regines’ Night Club) were much intrigued to return to this old haunt. Even those who did not know the venue before seemed to enjoy it on this occasion. The weather could have been better but it stayed dry enough for most of us to look around the gardens before

and after the lunch.

The food and the service were as good as the “ambiente” and many people commented favourably on the improvement as compared with lunches held in the City previously. Some 90 members and their guests attended this year which was a somewhat smaller number than the Committee had hoped. Some members with jobs to think about may have been deterred by having to make a longer journey in the middle of their working day; but probably the main reason for the lower turn-out was the fact that it came very shortly after the big Anglo-Latin American Fiesta at Battersea Park and just before the Albert Hall Concert. Too many functions packed into one month may have stretched peoples’ enthusiasm and pockets too far? The guest of honour and principal speaker was Sir Alexander Graham, Lord Mayor of London in 1991 during the official visit to Britain of President Aylwin. Sir Alexander was briefly introduced by the Chairman, and spoke enthusiastically about the role of the City and its financial institutions in promoting invisible exports to foreign markets. He himself had visited Chile for this purpose which he said had been one of the highlights of his year of office. Sir Alexander also referred to the highly topical subjects of Britain’s current economic situation and the future of relations with our European partners, the Treaty of Maastricht and related matters. He was loudly applauded for an interesting and amusing speech.

Replying to the toast of the Anglo-Chilean Society, his Excellency Sr. German Riesco, as Ambassador and President of the Society, gave a very positive and satisfactory account of the excellent situation of the Chilean economy after two and a half years of the Aylwin Presidency. Chile is now enjoying a prolonged period of economic growth with a successful and respected democratic government which is regarded by many as a model for Latin America and other parts of the world.

ALBERT HALL

A kaleidoscope of Latin American music, poetry and dance, organized by ALAF, was held at the Albert Hall on October 12th with groups of artists from all over Latin America in celebration of 500 years of Euro-Latin American history.

SIR LESLIE BOWES MEMORIAL LECTURE

This took place at Canning House on October 22nd, and Professor Victor Bulmer-Thomas, Director, Institute of Latin American Studies, University of London, was introduced by our Chairman Mr. John Hickman. His subject was “Europe and Latin America: towards the year 2000”.

Professor Bulmer-Thomas explored the decline in the relative importance of trade between the European Community and Latin America since 1970. He went into the subject in some detail and explained the trends in trade patterns. He then answered questions from the audience.

H.E. Sr. German Riesco then gave a summing up of the situation. A vote of thanks was proposed by Sir Michael Simpson-Olebar, Director General of Canning House.

A CRUISE WITH A DIFFERENCE

By Georgina Roberts

The library at Canning House was the location of a capacity crowd on November 12th which included Sra. Jacqueline de Riesco and representatives of travel agencies in London.

The occasion was a talk by Michael and Georgina Roberts who invited everyone to accompany them on a cruise which started in Puerto Montt and reached its climax with the spectacular San Rafael Glacier.

With the aid of colour slides and video plus commentaries in English and Spanish, those present were treated to a feast of extraordinary natural beauty.

The evening ended with an exhibition of photographs from Punta Arenas to Antarctica by Sr. Livacic. A glass of wine was served before everybody went back into the cold of the night.

THE MAPUCHE PEOPLE

An illustrated talk entitled "A Story of Survival; The Mapuche People" was given by Jorge Salgado and Vicente Mariqueo at Canning House on November 17th. The Mapuche people have lived in the Central Southern Zone of Chile for thousands of years and the talk illustrated the Mapuche's struggle to maintain their self-identity, social structure and economy through the centuries. There was a selection of arts and crafts on display and a glass of wine was served after the talk.

RECEPTION AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

This took place on November 18th and was the occasion for the presentation of decorations by the Ambassador on behalf of the Government of Chile

The Ambassador gave the following address:

The President of Chile, Senor Patricio Aylwin, has conferred upon me the great honour of presenting the decoration "ORDEN AL MERITO DE CHILE", degree "GRAN OFFICIAL", to two distinguished British subjects; John Hickman and Leopold de Rothschild. During his stay as British Ambassador to Chile from 1982 to 1987, John Hickman strengthened the links between our two nations and helped significantly, with his advice and support, the efforts of the Chilean people to restore democracy in our country. At present, as Chairman of the Anglo Chilean Society and member of the board or consultant to several private sector firms with investments in Chile, he continues encouraging our bilateral relations.

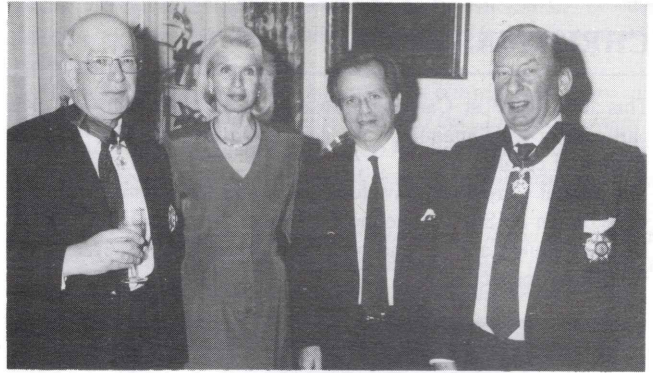
The well known banker and prestigious patron of the arts, Leopold de Rothschild, has been responsible for the deep involvement of the Rothschild family group in the development of Chile, thus successfully promoting the increasing British presence in the dynamic Chilean economy.

Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to invest these two very good friends of ours with the highest national order of my country, as a sign of deep appreciation for their noble contribution to the historic relationship between the United Kingdom and Chile, which goes back to the beginning of our Independence movement. It was here, in London, that the Liberator of Chile, General Bernardo O' Higgins, got together with many other Latin American patriots and dreamed, for the first time, of the emancipation of the Spanish American Colonies.

Admiral Lord Cochrane, the tenth Earl of Dundonald, who became the first Sea Lord of the newly born Chilean Navy and fought bravely to obtain for us the control of the South Pacific, as well as many other people from these shores who followed later, contributed enormously to the establishment and development of Chile as a modern and stable democratic country.

For 150 years our nation and the United Kingdom walked together, indeed, along the path of freedom and democracy, and now that Chile has retaken her historic commitment to political plurality, these links have been further strengthened.

In the international field, we observe with satisfaction the increasing importance that Britain has lately been giving to her relations with Latin America, especially in the economic and commercial areas in which John Hickman and Leopold de Rothschild have played such important roles.



Mr Leopold de Rothschild, Sra Jacqueline Riesco, H.E Sr German Riesco and Mr John Hickman

John and Leo, you have given much of your time, your talent and your enthusiasm to the promotion of a better Anglo-Chilean relationship. I do thank you for your achievements, and your special love for Chile.

In brief speeches Mr. John Hickman and Mr. Leopold de Rothschild both expressed their appreciation of the honour conferred on them.

CASA DE MIRANDA MUSEUM

The Ambassador of Chile, H.E. Sr. German Riesco presented a portrait of the Liberator of Chile, General Bernardo O'Higgins, to H.E. the Ambassador of Venezuela Sr. Ignacio Arcaya on November 27th as a donation to the Casa de Miranda Museum in London

In the course of his address H.E. Senor German Riesco said that probably the most significant experience of the young Bernardo during his education in England was his encounter and friendship with General Francisco de Miranda in London. The great Venezuelan leader inspired him with the ideals of freedom and emancipation that he would pursue throughout his life.



At the summer party- Mrs Rosemarie Summers, Mr and Mrs Robin Lloyd and Mrs Evelyn Hutchinson



Mrs Linda Ogilvie-Davis, Mrs Heather Chapman, Mr Michael Ogilvie-Davis, Mrs Valerie Buxton, Mr Tom Harrington and Mr Dick Chapman at the summer party

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This took place at Canning House on December 10th and was particularly well attended. A new departure this year was the singing of carols.

The annual Christmas draw took place and the winning numbers were drawn by Sra. Jacqueline de Riesco. The first prize went to Dr. Lucy Guest and second and third prizes to John Isaacs and C.H. Hurst respectively.



Mr Hernan Saez and Doctora Miriam Salas



Miss Eliana Herrera, Mrs Valerie Buxton & Miss Patricia Roach



Mrs Peggy Hart, Mrs Jane Carp and Lady Dora Pink



*Mr Christopher Hopewell, Mr Michael Cannon
& Mrs Betty Blair*

FUTURE EVENTS

21st April - Annual General Meeting and Spring cocktail party.

9th July - The annual Society's golf meeting at Bramley Golf Club, hosted by the Anglo Brazilian Society.

15th July - There will be a Summer Reception at the Royal Geographical Society.

THE BRITISH INFLUENCE IN CHILE

By John Naylor

In order to trace this it is necessary to consider what occurred in the following periods:

- (1) The Colonial period 1535 to 1810.
- (2) The Independence period 1810 to 1826.
- (3) The early trading period 1826 to 1850.
- (4) The period of commercial expansion 1850 to 1883.
- (5) Modern times 1883 to date.

British associations during the colonial period were largely maritime and concern the great English navigators, all of whom made important contributions to the hydrographic and cartographic exploration of Chile's coastline.

The most famous of these is Sir Francis Drake, and the story of his voyage around the world is so remarkable that it deserves to be told in some detail.

He was born near Tavistock, Devonshire, about 1545 and went to sea at an early age. He gradually built up a reputation as a daring seaman, and was commissioned by Queen Elizabeth for an expedition to the South Seas in 1577. In effect he became a legalized pirate with the Queen's blessing, and a founding member of the Royal Navy.

The fleet with which he sailed consisted of five small vessels manned by 160 men. His first sight of the Pacific was from a tree top in the Isthmus of Panama, and from that moment he resolved to make that vast ocean the scene of his future exploits.

The first project he considered was to have his ships dismantled and carried across the Isthmus to the shores of the Pacific. Obviously this was not feasible, not because of the labour involved, but because the Spaniards were using that route to carry their plundered gold and silver on muleback on what was known as the "Camino Real". The alternative route to the Pacific lay through the Straits of Magellan. In August 1578 they entered the Straits and emerged into the Pacific on September 6. By this time, due to a missed rendezvous and other mishaps, the fleet was reduced to just the "Golden Hind". This was the ship, not much bigger than a Thames barge, with which Drake continued his voyage along the coasts of Chile and Peru, seizing Spanish treasure ships and raiding shore settlements. The Viceroy in Lima commissioned an expedition to pursue him to the Straits of Magellan, assuming that he would return by that route. Drake however sailed northwards along the shores of America as far as 48 degrees north latitude in an unsuccessful endeavour to discover a passage into the Atlantic, eventually returning to England via the Cape of Good Hope.

This voyage around the world, the first to be accomplished by any Englishman, took about two years and ten months, and for sheer resource and daring this exploit is unsurpassed. Such is Drake's reputation that to this day mothers living in the coastal towns of Chile and Peru threaten their unruly children with a visitation from "El Drago". I have heard them do this.

Thomas Cavendish, the second circumnavigator of the globe, seeking to emulate Drake's voyage, sailed from Plymouth on July 21, 1586. Passing through the Straits of Magellan he sailed on to harry the coasts of Chile and Peru and returned laden with spoil to England.

William Dampier, 1652 to 1715, English navigator and hydrographer, was another adventurer to the South Seas. He did not achieve much success as a buccaneer but he did have a genius for observation of scientific phenomena, and his accounts of his voyages are famous. His knowledge of natural history, though not scientific, was surprisingly accurate.

Alexander Selkirk comes into the story here. He was sailing master of one of two vessels commanded by Dampier. They put in to the Juan Fernandez Islands and Selkirk was marooned there and rescued four years and ten months later. His adventures, as recounted by Daniel Defoe, have given us the immortal story of Robinson Crusoe. An excerpt of the account which Selkirk himself gave of his life as a castaway was as follows:

He had with him his cloaths and Bedding, with a Firelock, some Powder, Bullets and Tobacco, a Hatchet, a Knife, a Kettle, a Bible, some practical pieces, and his mathematical instruments and Books. He diverted and provided for himself as well as he could, but, for the first eight months, he had much ado to bear up against Melancholy and the Terror of being left alone in such a desolate Place.

He built two huts with Pimiento Trees, covered them with long grass, and lined them with the Skins of Goats, which he killed with his Gun as he wanted, so long as the Powder lasted, which was but a Pound; and that being near spent, he got Fire by rubbing two sticks of Pimiento wood together upon his knee. In the lesser Hut at some distance from the other, he dressed his Victuals, and in the larger he slept, and employed himself in Reading, Singing Psalms, and Praying; so that he said he was a better Christian while in this Solitude, or than, he was afraid, he should ever be again.

At first he never ate anything till Hunger constrained him, partly for Grief and partly for Want of Bread and Salt, nor did he go to Bed till he could watch no longer; the Pimiento wood, which burnt very clear, served him both for Firing and Candle, and refreshed him with its fragrant smell.

He might have had Fish enough, but could not eat them for Want of Salt, because they occasioned a Loosness, except Crawfish which are there as large as our Lobsters, and very good; these he sometimes boiled, and at other times broiled, as he did his Goats Flesh, of which he made very good Broth, for they are not so rank as ours; he kept an Account of Five Hundred that he killed while there, and caught as many more, which he marked on the Ear and let go.

When his Powder failed, he took them by Speed of foot, for his way of Living and continual Exercise of Walking and Running cleared him of all gross Humours, so that he ran with wonderful Swiftness through the Woods and up to the Rocks and Hills, as we perceived when we employed him to catch Goats for us. We had a Bull-dog, which we sent with several of our nimblest runners, to help him in catching Goats, but he distanced and tired both the Dog and the Men, caught the Goats and brought them back to us on his Back. He came at last to relish his Meat well enough without Salt or Bread, and, in the Season, had plenty of good Turnips which had been sowed there by Captain Dampier's Men, and have now overspread some Acres of Ground. He had enough of good Cabbage from the Cabbage Trees, and seasoned his Meat with the fruit of the Pimiento Trees, which is the same as the Jamaica Pepper and smells deliciously. He found there also a black Pepper called Malagita, which was very good to expel Wind, and against Griping of the Guts. He soon wore out all his Shoes and Cloaths by running through the Woods; and, at last, being forced to shift without them, his Feet became so hard, that he ran everywhere without Annoyance, and it was some Time before he could wear Shoes, after we found him; not being used to any so long his Feet swelled, when he came first to wear them again.

After he had conquered his Melancholy, he diverted himself sometimes by cutting his name on the Trees, and the Time of his being left and Continuance there. He was at first pestered with Cats and Rats, that had bred in great Numbers from some of each species which had got ashore from the ships that put in there to wood and water. The rats gnawed his Feet and Cloaths while asleep, which obliged him

to cherish the Cats with his Goat's flesh; by which many of them became so tame that they would lie about in Hundreds and soon delivered him from the Rats.

He likewise tamed some Kids and, to divert himself, would now and then sing and dance with his Cats; so that by the Care of Providence, and Vigour of his Youth, being now about thirty years old, he came at last to conquer all the Inconveniences of his solitude, and to be very easy.

When his Cloaths wore out, he made himself a Coat and Cap of Goat skins, which he stitched together with little Thongs of the same, that he cut with his Knife. He had no other Needle but a Nail and when his Knife was wore to the Back, he made others, as well as he could, of some Iron Hoops that were left ashore, which he beat thin and ground upon Stones. Having some Linen Cloth by him, he sewed himself some Shirts with a Nail, and stitched them with the Worsted of his old Stockings, which he pulled out on Purpose. He had his last shirt on when we found him in the Island...

This is interesting because it is a first hand account of what it was like to be cast away, and there must have been many seamen who suffered this fate either as a result of being marooned or of surviving the frequent shipwrecks which occurred during the South Sea voyages. One wonders how many of them were quite as ingenious as Selkirk.

Commodore George Anson, later Lord Anson, 1697 to 1762, commanded a squadron which was sent to attack the Spanish possessions in South America in 1740. He had a rough passage around Cape Horn and by the time he reached the island of Juan Fernandez in June 1740 his six ships had been reduced to three. In the absence of any effective Spanish force on the coast he was able to harass the enemy and capture the town of Paita in Peru. He reached England in June 15, 1744. Anson is better known for his voyage around the world which he achieved against daunting odds.

Admiral the Hon John Byron, grandfather of the poet, accompanied Anson on his voyage of discovery around the world, and carried out hydrographic work in the Magellan Straits and on the coast of Chile.

Towards the end of the colonial period British people of a different sort were beginning to arrive. Two prominent instances serve to illustrate this.

Ambrosio O'Higgins, father of Bernardo O'Higgins, arrived in Chile in 1761 and was engaged in commercial ventures in Chile and Peru until one of the periodic uprisings of the Indians gave him a chance to show his formidable military and administrative gifts. He soon achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Spanish forces, subsequently rising to the post of Captain General of Chile in 1788 and finally became Viceroy in Lima.

Juan Mackenna went to Peru and served under Viceroy O'Higgins about the year 1800, and was appointed Governor of Valparaiso in 1811. The Mackenna family is represented in Chile today.

There must have been many from the British Isles who did not attain such eminence, and who arrived in Chile in the Spanish service as soldiers and civil servants, as well as seamen who either stayed or were left behind.

The story of the early English navigators is not complete without the inclusion of Captain Robert Fitzroy. He entered the navy in 1819 and in 1828 was promoted to the command of the "Beagle" which was employed on the survey of the coasts of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. She returned to England in 1830 and Fitzroy was then reappointed the following year to continue the survey. The "Beagle" sailed from Plymouth in December 1831, carrying Charles Darwin as naturalist and scientific observer, and returned to England in October 1836.

In the course of his circumnavigation Fitzroy surveyed the Straits of Magellan and the Chilean coast in 1832. This was after independence had been declared, and he was therefore able to carry out his hydrographic work without having to divert his energies in harassing Spanish shipping as his predecessors had done. The charts he produced are in use to this day and were referred to in recent border disputes between Argentina and Chile.

The partnership with Darwin was a successful one, and the two men appear to have got on well. While Fitzroy was cruising around on

his hydrographic work Darwin would take off overland on his specimen collecting and observations accompanied by the artist, Martens. A series of rendezvous at selected ports would then be arranged from Tierra del Fuego to the Atacama desert.

There were contacts with early English missionaries, traders and mine owners. Mining was even then beginning to be an important part of Chile's economy. But reputations linger. Darwin recalls in his writings that he had spoken with Chileans who would have shunned Englishmen like the plague so deeply engrained were their impressions of the atrocious actions of the early buccaneers. He tells of having dinner with an old lady in Coquimbo who remarked how wonderfully strange it was that she should live to dine in the same room with an Englishman, for she remembered as a girl that on two occasions at the mere cry of "Los Ingleses!" every soul, carrying what valuables they could, had taken to the mountains! Things have not changed much down the centuries. There has been a resurgence of the buccaneers of old, and we now call them football hooligans and lager louts.

This is an introduction to a series of articles on the British heritage which will appear in subsequent issues of "Chilean News".

TO OUR YOUNGER MEMBERS a long sea voyage would undoubtedly appear tedious.

To the older members it holds nostalgic memories of a relaxing way of travel which has been replaced by the aeroplane. The following article appeared in *The Graphic* of November 15th, 1930.

THROUGH MAGELLAN STRAITS

A pleasant voyage in the track of the navigators of old.

In the days of sail a voyage to Chile was something not to be undertaken for pleasure. There was no Panama Canal, the Straits of Magellan were difficult to navigate, and it meant a fight against the elements to pass the Cape of Storms in the teeth of the usual icy gales and flying spume. Many a ship of those days, after weeks of ceaseless but unavailing effort, turned her heels to Cape Horn and eventually reached the Pacific Coast of South America by sailing around the world on an easterly course!

Today all is different - size of ship, power and ocean route. There is no more pleasant and interesting voyage than that to the west coast of South America in the luxurious surroundings of such a vessel as the 15,000 ton liner "Orduña".

Whether the choice of route is by way of the Panama Canal or the longer passage through the wonderful Straits of Magellan will depend upon time and inclination. Should pleasure be the object, however, there can be no doubt that a voyage out to Chile by way of the Straits and home through the Canal offers an ideal opportunity to see much of the South America of today.

Outward bound from Liverpool the way lies southwards to La Rochelle Pallice; then to Coruna, Santander and Vigo, in Spain; and so across the South Atlantic in the track of the navigators of old, to the inimitable bay of Rio de Janeiro. During the English winter, when the principal portion of South America south of the Equator is enjoying its delightful summer, this voyage through the trades and doldrums may be considered ideal. The heat is seldom oppressive, owing to the fresh north east breezes which usually begin soon after the Canary Islands have disappeared into the azure haze astern.

Then comes the lonely little island of Fernando Noronha, a few days in the sparkling wind flecked waters of the south east trades, and the bay of Rio de Janeiro is entered. From the capital of Brazil, which is generally admitted to be one of the most picturesque tropical cities in the world, the way lies southwards to Montevideo, the seaside capital of Uruguay, and then to the Falkland Islands.

At Port Stanley, the little capital of this southern most dependency of the British Empire, much of interest concerning whaling, exploring seals, penguins, sea lions, sea elephants and other queer things of the farthest south can be learned in the little museum which also possesses relics of the famous naval victory.

A three days steam across the indigo ocean in which icebergs and whales may frequently be seen the wonderful Straits of Magellan are entered. Here is the Chile of which the world knows far too little. The snow-capped Andes come down to the sea, forming the stark end of the great American continent. In the midst of this wild region of fjord, mountain, glacier and sombre forest stands isolated Magallanes, the southernmost town in the world.

After leaving the magnificent scenery in the Straits the temperature rises rapidly, changing from 40 degrees Fahrenheit to 65 degrees within forty eight hours. Then comes the blue Pacific sparkling in the brilliant sunshine. Calls are made at Corral, the port of the beautiful city of Valdivia, at Talcahuano, the principal naval base of Chile, Valparaiso and the island of Juan Fernandez.

The homeward voyage from Chile is made by way of the ports of the Chilean nitrate fields to Callao for Lima, the Panama Canal, Jamaica, Cuba, the Azores, and back to the white cliffs of England.

CHILEAN EXPORTS

From an article in the *Star of Toronto*.

Just twelve years ago a new breed of farmers in Chile obtained kiwi fruit seeds from New Zealand. Today they surpass New Zealand in world-wide exports. Chile is now about to undertake similar steps towards the production of clementines with seeds from Morocco and cranberries from the United States.

In 1991 Chile increased its fruit and vegetable exports to Canada by 65%, and 182,000 cases of Chilean produce were imported.

Fruit and vegetable growers took business into their own hands in the post-Allende era without Government subsidies and starting from a position way behind the international pack. They took on the big exporters in Southern hemisphere fruit production - New Zealand, Australia and South Africa and have today surpassed them in various produce exports.

A similar story can be told about the salmon industry. In the early 1980's salmon farmers used Canadian salmon roe to start a fish farm industry. Last year Chile harvested 24,000 tonnes of premium grade farm-raised salmon, pulling ahead of Canada's 22,100 tonnes.

Chile has the advantage of unpolluted glacial water and cheap labour and salmon is raised in the foothills of the Andes. In Toronto fresh Chilean salmon is available daily in the principal fish markets.

CHILE'S FLORA AND FAUNA

Anne, Countess of Rosse, mother of the Earl of Snowdon, died on July 3rd aged 90 and her obituary was published in *The Times* of July 11th. Gardening was one of her many vocations and it is of interest to note that she was an authority on Chilean flora and fauna. In the mid 1960's she and Lady Clarke of Borde Hill helped the Anglo Chilean Society to organise an exhibition of Chilean plants and flowers in the gardens of Belgrave Square, an event opened by the Duchess of Westminster. Another adviser on the show was Lord Rothschild, and these distinguished people supplied a large number of the exhibits.

HAROLD BLAKEMORE PRIZE

The following appeal is contained in a letter from David E. Stansfield, President of the Society for Latin American Studies

I am writing to friends and colleagues of the late Professor Harold Blakemore about the Society for Latin American Studies' decision to establish an annual essay prize in his honour.

Harold will be remembered as a fine historian of Chile, but he also did more than most to create a mutually supportive community of Latin Americanists within the UK. He was one of the founders of

this Society and played a long and distinguished role in its affairs. He served in a variety of offices in the Society, including the Chairmanship, and throughout was a determined defender of the cause of Latin American Studies in academic, government and business circles. It seems appropriate therefore that the Society should sponsor a tangible and continuing testimony to his contribution.

Given Harold's commitment to the encouragement of young scholars it also seems right that we point the prize in the direction of post-graduate students working within the UK.

In order to do this the Society has allocated £500.00 to initiate the prize fund. It has already received a similar amount in donations from members of the Society in response to an appeal in the last issue of the Society's journal, the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*. The monetary value of the prize will be the interest accruing from the lump sum deposited in a high interest bearing account.

If you have already joined us in this venture, please accept my thanks for your contribution and my apologies for this letter.

If you wish to help please send a cheque, made payable to the "Harold Blakemore Prize", to the Society's Treasurer, David Fox, Department of Geography, University of Manchester, Manchester, M13 9PL.

RESTORATION OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN VALPARAISO

By Miss Mary W. Theedam

In March of this year I spent five weeks in Chile. This was by way of a nostalgic trip because I was born in Valparaiso and had not been back for 58 years! While there I visited St. Paul's Church in Valparaiso because my grandfather, Robert John Craig Christie, had designed the organ and my mother was married there.

As I walked up Cerro Concepcion my first impression was one of horror at the tumble-down state of the Church. However, after walking round the outside it was evident that something was being done to restore it, since the outer railings were being replaced. I was able to find the Curator and when he heard who I was, he delightedly let me into the Church. The immediate impact of the interior was one of childhood memories flooding back - no obvious changes had occurred, except for the natural deterioration over the years. While looking at the memorial tablets, and the font, the carved chancel screen and, of course, the organ, the Curator contacted Mrs. Oenone Gray who is now heading the restoration committee in the absence of Rev. Mac Farmborough who retired to England.

Since communicating with Mrs. Gray I have learned that much needs to be done, not only in the building itself, but also the organ the gem of the Church.

To give an idea of the cost involved, one section of the railings amounts to 100,000 pesos or £164 as they are made of oak and the existing concrete pillars have to be chipped to insert the new rails. Additionally, several coats of varnish and anti termite solution are required - an expensive and lengthy job.

I wonder if you feel as I do, that it would be a marvellous gesture to collect donations from those of us who no longer visit Chile, but would like to help with the restoration to what was THE Anglican Church in Valparaiso. This appeal goes out to those of us who have fond recollections of the Church on the Hill, or to those whose parents were involved with St. Paul's. If you wish to subscribe to this worthy cause, please send your contribution to:

Miss M. W. Theedam
28 Blackthorns
Lindfield
West Sussex RH16 2AY

In due course you will be sent an official receipt and your name will be included in the list of subscribers. Cheques should be made out to "St. Paul's Church Restoration Fund Valparaiso".

We have on file a copy of the authority vested in Miss Theedam by the Restoration Committee to collect donations.

SOUTHERN PLACES - an agency for finding lodgings with Chilean families in Santiago, has placed several young British students. Mrs. Eliana Bradbury now has 25 families willing to accommodate British students who wish to learn Spanish, meet Chileans, teach a few hours a week, and discover a new country. The scheme is particularly aimed at GAP students, and members are asked to publicise this opportunity. For an application form send a self addressed envelope to the Anglo Chilean Society.

OBITUARIES

VICE ADMIRAL CHARLES A. LE MAY DELANO

Charlie Le May, as he was known to his friends, died on 28th September.

He had a brilliant naval career. Born in Valparaiso in 1923, he was first in his class in each of his five years at the Naval Academy, and achieved similar results in subsequent courses he took, both at home and abroad. He was held in high esteem by the officers and men of each ship in which he served, and received the recognition and respect of his superiors. These attributes led to important overseas assignments, principally on the Chilean Naval Mission in London. He was appointed Rear Admiral in 1974 and Vice Admiral in 1978, the year of his retirement. Among the posts he held in civilian life was as Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines.

He was married to Monica Vizcaya and they had four children, two girls and two boys, the elder of whom has followed in his father's footsteps in the Navy.

The Society expresses their sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

CAPTAIN "JOCK" WHITE

Captain "Jock" White, a much respected Naval Attache for the west coast of South America and based in Chile, has died at the age of 81. He joined the navy as a cadet at Dartmouth in 1923 and had a distinguished career. He spent the entire war at sea in destroyers and took part in many engagements, including the sinking of the German battlecruiser "Scharnhorst" in 1943, and was awarded the DSC.

We extend our sympathy to his wife Marguerite Elise, a member of the Society, whom he married in 1949, and their two sons and two daughters.

MRS. MARIA ISABEL SCARFE

We regret to announce that Mrs. Maria Isabel Scarfe, a member of the Society for very many years, died at Cosham, Portsmouth in December last after a long and distressing illness.

Maria, who in earlier times had many friends in Anglo Chilean circles was born in Santiago in 1906, her father being the well known Professor at the Conservatorio Nacional de Musica, Santiago, Roberto Duncker Lavalle. She was married in 1930 to Charles Victor Scarfe from Wales, who went out to Chile after World War 1 to join the Anglo South American Bank, Punta Arenas Branch, where, after a few years he was transferred to Santiago where they stayed until retirement in England. Maria was widowed in 1956, and stayed in this country to be with her three children. She was an attractive personality, with a passion for her "Patria" and good music. She is survived by her two daughters, Mary Brown and Carmen Hanly, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

The Society regrets to report the deaths of
Mrs. W. G. Ford-Robertson and Mr. Garnett Jack Ellis.

GUILLERMO SANTA CRUZ

By Ester de Toro

Guillermo Santa Cruz died last September. He was a life member of the Society and for many years a member of the Executive

Committee and later of the General Committee. He retired from the International Maritime Organization after many years of service and moved to the country. During his active life he always attended the functions of the Society, and when I arrived in England my first contact with it was through his kind invitation to a "Dieciocho" lunch.

I had not known Guillermo in Chile, but I was soon to discover his immense hospitality and that of his wife Barbara. To be asked for Sunday lunch at their home in Weybridge was a very special occasion, or you could call at any time and be sure of a warm welcome and a meal. He had a little flagpost on which he hoisted naval signal flags denoting "Welcome on Board." He never lost his interest in the navy and he knew whole generations of Chilean naval officers or their relatives, an amazing memory for names. Cooking was his special hobby and he made the best "chupe de locos" and empanadas I have ever tasted.

We extend our sympathy to Barbara and to his daughters Veronica and Jeanette.

VICTOR SANTA CRUZ

An obituary of the late Victor Santa Cruz, Chilean Ambassador to the Court of St. James from 1959 to 1970, will be published in our next edition.

MRS. GLADYS HULSE, Honorary British Consul at Arica and a Director of the Instituto Chileno Británico de Cultura there for many years has been awarded the MBE in the New Years Honours. Many members will remember Gladys's husband, Joe Hulse, who preceded her as Honorary Consul at Arica and who was also awarded the MBE for his services to British interests in Northern Chile before his untimely death. How many husbands and wives have such a splendid record of joint service to their country as Gladys and Joe?

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Patricio A. Bas
Mr. Peter Bennett,
Miss Felicity Ann Croft,
Mr. Ernesto Davey,
Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Fernandez,
Mr. and Mrs. John Finnigan,
Mrs. Marny Gribbin,
Mr. Patricio Herrera and Dra. Miriam Salas de Herrera,
Mr. and Mrs. Robin Holland-Martin
Miss Patricia Howard,
Miss Alison Jackson,
Mr. John Jenkins,
Ms. Catherine Kenrick,
Miss Victoria Kropacsy,
Mrs. Loreto McNaught-Davis
Mr. Osvaldo Oyarzun
Mrs. Patricia Prelier
Miss Mary Pollastri
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Skilton,
Mr. Henry Stanton,
Mr. and Mrs. Nigel A. S. Strang,
Miss Nicola Tanner
Miss Ximena Terre,
Mrs. Mary W. Theedham,
Mr. and Mrs. Peter West,
Mrs. and Mrs. Barry Weston,
Mrs. and Mrs. Robert Willans,
Miss Veronica Anne Currie,
Mr. Kenneth J. Burns,
Mr. Charles H. Fellows-Smith,
Ms. Lucia Vera Aldunce
Mr. Alan Watkiss,
Mrs. & Mrs. Julian Bienkowski,

Mr. Alastair Grant,
Miss Paulette Roberts,
Ms. Isabel Noguera,
Mr. Leonard Levy
Mr. Rupert Thorp.

NEWS FROM SANTIAGO

Activities were overshadowed by the death of the Executive President Admiral Charlie La May, and his obituary appears elsewhere in this issue. Until somebody else is found to fill this vacancy the Sociedad is being run by the Executive Committee. A number of lunch meetings were held with invited guest speakers.

The annual sword ceremony was held at the Ambassador's residence on 22nd December, and Ambassador Neilson and his wife invited members and guests to a cocktail party. The winning cadets expressed their appreciation of the awards.

They were:

Army: Alférez Luis Valentín Ferrada Walker

Navy: Guardiamarina Christian Widow Lira

Air Force: Alférez Milton Zablah Ruz

Carabineros: Sub-Teniente Pablo Javier Capetillo Contreras.

An impromptu speech was delivered by the army cadet in which he spoke of British influence in the development of the modern Chilean army, and his personal blood ties with Great Britain.

The first event of the New Year was a lunch during which the winner of the essay competition, Carlos Bay-Schmith of St. John's school, Concepcion, received the first prize of a return ticket to London donated by British Airways. The runners-up was a joint effort by two girls from the Colegio Inglés George Chaytor in Temuco and they received a copy of The Complete Works of Shakespeare, donated by the Anglo Chilean Society. There were 41 entries.



A familiar view to Viñamarinos