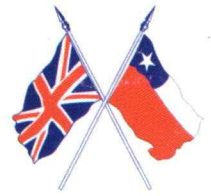


# CHILEAN NEWS



Bulletin of the Anglo-Chilean Society

Editor - Georgina Roberts

www.anglochileansociety.org

61st Year No. 367

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## ARMED FORCES CELEBRATIONS

### Chilean Air Force Day

A reception was given by the Air Attaché to the Embassy of Chile and Mrs. Hugo Tilly on 21st March at the RAF Club, 128 Piccadilly, London W1. (continued on page 2, 1st column)



From left to right: Air Force Attaché Group Captain (A) Hugo Tilly, Mrs. Priscilla Tilly, Group Captain (I) Felipe Fernández, Miss Catalina Fernández and Group Captain (AD) Patricio Díaz.



From left to right: Commander Jorge Agüero, Mrs. Lorena Agüero, Group Captain (AD) Patricio Díaz and Mr. J. Antonio Dotor.



From left to right: Mr. Patricio Damm, Mr. Claudio Ojeda, Captain Carlos Novoa and Mr. Hernán Bascuñán.



From left to right: Mrs. M. Angélica Damm, Mrs. Verónica Béjares, Mrs. Priscilla Tilly and Mrs. M. Angélica Fernández.

### Chilean Navy Day

The annual wreath-laying ceremony at the tomb of Admiral Lord Cochrane by H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and the head of the Chilean Naval Mission, Captain Charles Le May, took place at Westminster Abbey on 20th May. It was followed by a reception at One Great George St. Conference Centre. (continued on page 2, column 1)



At the Abbey:- Mrs. Alejandra Novoa, Captain Carlos Novoa, Mrs. Vicky Le May and the head of the Naval Mission, Captain Charles Le May.



At the reception:- From left to right: The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Alan West, Countess Dundonald, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and Captain Carlos Novoa.



From left to right: Rear-Admiral Jacques Launay, Captain the Honourable Michael Cochrane, Lord Rathcaven and Mrs. Janet Cochrane.



From left to right: Mr. Isauro Torres, Mrs. M. Isabel Torres, Mrs. M. Angélica Fernández, Mrs. Valentina Carmona and Mr. Eduardo Carmona.

### Chilean Air Force Day (continued from page 1)

In his speech Group Captain Tilly explained that the occasion marked the 75th anniversary of the Chilean Air Force as an autonomous branch of the Armed Forces.

He emphasised its importance in securing national airspace and uniting a long and diverse country, as well as providing rapid relief during natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods.

The Air Force has also given Chileans a different perspective of their country through the medium of aerial photography, of which many examples were on display throughout the salon.

He praised the work and dedication of all the men and women, past and present, who served in the Air Force. He also recognised the invaluable support provided by their families during the strenuous times of long duty hours. On a personal note, the Group Captain thanked his wife on the occasion of their 26th wedding anniversary which coincided with the celebration.

Group Captain Tilly proposed a toast to all Air Forces, and the Chilean Air Force in particular.

### Chilean Navy Day (continued from page 1)

In his address, Captain Le May paid homage to the outstanding qualities of leadership, courage and honour of two great seamen, Lord Cochrane and Commander Arturo Prat. Admiral Cochrane arrived in Chile in 1818 and under his command the newly created Chilean Navy won control of the sea in the southern Pacific Ocean.

Then, sixty years later, Commander Prat repeated this achievement during the Pacific War when he boarded the superior Peruvian warship "Húascar". Prat and 149 of his officers and men were killed, and their vessel, the wooden frigate "Esmeralda", was sunk.

Captain Le May went on to praise the Peruvian Rear-Admiral Grau, another great sailor and captain of the Húascar, for the great chivalry and respect he showed to the Chilean sailors.

The Earl of Dundonald finished the proceedings with a short speech on behalf of the Cochrane family.

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### MODERN LANDSCAPE ARTISTS

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A private preview of the exhibition of María Luisa Hernández and Toby Wilkinson on 9th March drew a capacity crowd to the Osborne Studio Gallery in London.

María Luisa, a Chilean artist with a Master Degree in Fine Art, has exhibited in Santiago, New York and Europe both in solo and selected group exhibitions. Her oils on linen, such as "Fire", were much admired by the public.

Toby, an English artist who trained at Central St. Martin's College of Art in London, works in oil or acrylic paint on canvas or board.

Chilean wine, courtesy of Viña Morandé, was served during the reception.



From left to right: Mr. Toby Wilkinson, María Luisa Hernández and H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández.



Mr. Isauro Torres, Mr. Patrick Sherriff and Ms. Claudia Munro-Kerr.



From left to right: Mrs. M. Angélica Damm, Mrs. M. Angélica Fernández and Ms. Claudia Iglesias.

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### AT THE MOVIES

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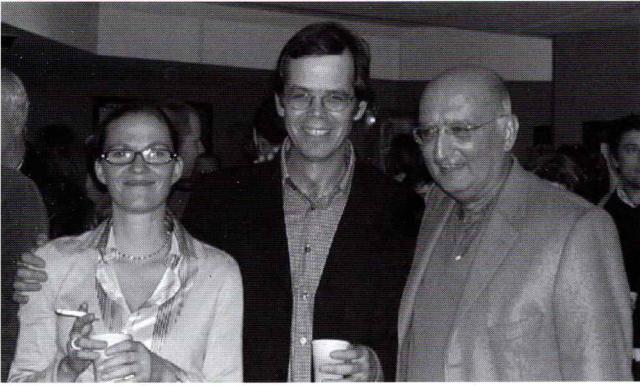
#### "Machuca"

The UK benefit première of the award-winning Chilean film "Machuca" was held on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> April at the Chelsea Cinema in London. The winner of sixteen international awards had its première at the Cannes Film Festival in 2004 and was Chile's nomination for Best Foreign Language Picture for the Oscar awards this year.

Though the film is not autobiographical, it is a very personal account of the friendship between two 11-year-old boys from completely different social backgrounds during the country's political chaos in 1973. Andrés Wood, the director, who was only eight years old at that time, was inspired by his own recollection of school memories and of the headmaster who dreamt of narrowing the huge gap of a deeply divided country.

Andrés Wood was available to answer many of the questions asked by the audience after the screening.

A complementary glass of Chilean wine was offered.



*The film producers Ms. Stefanie Michelis, Mr. Andrés Wood (who also directed) and Mr. Mamoun Hassam.*

### **“El Húsar de la Muerte” at the London Film Festival**

The screening of the oldest surviving Chilean silent film will take place on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October at the National Film Theatre. The film tells the adventures of Manuel Rodríguez, hero of the Chilean War of Independence. Its première was a huge box-office success in Chile some eighty years ago.

This showing will be accompanied by live music specifically composed by the well known Chilean composer, Horacio Salinas, ex-director of the group Inti-Illimani.

The project of bringing the film to Europe has been financed by the Instituto Cervantes with assistance from the Universidad de Chile and the Anglo-Chilean Society.

### **PRESENTATION OF DECORATIONS AT THE EMBASSY**

At a private ceremony held in the presence of H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and embassy staff, the Decoration “Orden Bernardo O’Higgins” – degree “Gran Oficial” was bestowed on Mr. Miguel Caicedo, telephonist at the embassy, for his thirty years’ service to Chile. Mr. Caicedo, a Colombian citizen, started work with the Chilean Air Force Mission in London in 1972 before moving to the embassy where he is still employed. The last time that this honour was awarded to an embassy employee was to the Spanish citizen, Mr. Francisco Lourido, in 2002.

The same decoration was also awarded to Mr. Cristián Faúndez for his twenty years’ service to the Chilean Consulate in London.



*From left to right: Mr. Cristián Faúndez, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and Mr. Miguel Caicedo.*

### **INTERNATIONAL SPRING FAIR**

The usual huge crowd thronged the annual International Spring Fair in the Kensington Town Hall, London W8, on 10th and 11th May, and was once more treated to an enormous variety of food, drink, arts and crafts exhibited on the stalls representing the many different embassies in London.

The Chilean stand presented an attractive display of baskets of fruit, courtesy of the Asociación de Exportadores de Fruta de Chile (ASOEX) as well as a very impressive selection of some of Chile’s finest wines. These were donated by the various UK agents for such Chilean vineyards as Amayna, Antu Ninquén, Augustinos, Cantaluna, Carta Vieja, Casa Lapostolle, Casa Rivas, Casablanca, Chilcas, Cono Sur, De Martino, Echeverría, Pérez Cruz, Santa Emiliana, South, Tabalí, Terra Nova, Torres San Medin, Valdivieso, VEO, Veramonte and Villard.



*Mrs. Elizabeth Young MBE, the Chilean Ambassador and Sra. de Fernández and Sir Anthony Figgis, KCVO, CMG, HM Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps.*



*From left to right: Mrs. Vicky Le May, Mrs. M. Angélica Fernández and Mrs. M. Angélica Damm.*



*Mrs. M. Angélica Damm welcoming the Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, Councillor Warwick Lightfoot, to the Chilean stand.*

### **CHILEAN WINE PRESENTATION**

This was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at Canning House with a panel of experts from the wine industry. Alasdair Grant, organiser of the event, welcomed those present explaining that the idea was to show the changes in the last fifteen years of production.

In the mid-1980’s, he explained, Chilean wine was mostly associated with historical companies such as Santa

Rita, Concha y Toro and Undurraga. Although Concha y Toro dominates the market there is a whole range of new wineries in areas away from the outskirts of Santiago, as far south as the Maule Valley and as far north as the Limarí Valley.

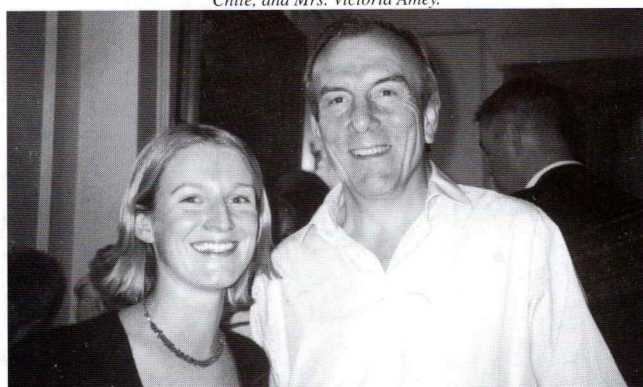
The visual presentation made it possible for the audience to admire some of the world's most beautiful vineyards which are today producing top-end wines in Chile.

The participation of the panellists began with a talk by Michael Cox, head of Wines of Chile UK. His family has been involved with the UK wine trade since 1810 and, since he took charge in 2003, Wines of Chile UK has won the Drinks Business Award for Best Trade Campaign and the exports of wine from Chile to UK have risen by over 25%. A presentation by representatives of two relatively new wineries which fit very well into the new Chile category followed: Mark Hughes of Buckingham Vintners, representative of Viña Tabalí, established with the aim of producing premium wines from the Limarí Valley in northern Chile and Hans Leibrant, export manager of Viña MontGras in the heart of the Colchagua Valley.

The guests were invited to ask questions and then to a wine tasting.



*Mr. Julian Amey, Mr. Howard Drake, the newly appointed British Ambassador to Chile, and Mrs. Victoria Amey.*



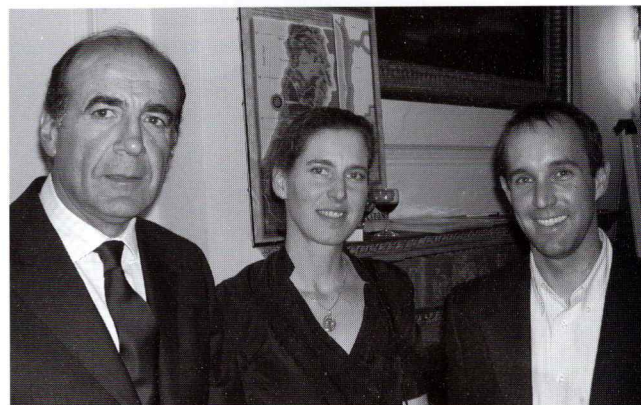
*Ms. Emily Taylor, Saffron PR, and Mr. Michael Cox, Director of Wines of Chile.*



*From left to right: Mr. Jonathan Cook, Mr. Richard Westoby and Mr. Alasdair Grant.*



*Ms. Francisca Erlwein (Viña Tabalí) and Mr. Mark Hughes (Buckingham Vintners).*



*From left to right: Mr. Ricardo Massu, Mrs. Alejandra Massu and Mr. Hans Leibrant (Viña MontGras).*

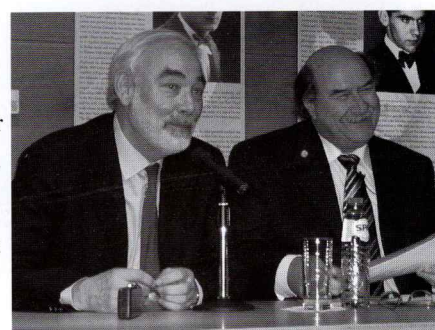
## ANTONIO SKARMETA AND HIS ANTIHEROES

A knowledgeable audience which included H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and officials of the Embassy of Chile attended a talk entitled "An Epic of Antiheroes" given by the internationally acclaimed Chilean author Antonio Skármeta on 24th May at the Instituto Cervantes, 102 Eaton Square, London SW1.

He began his presentation by explaining that in his literature the heroes did not perform extraordinary deeds to achieve their objectives. Quite the opposite, his characters do not set themselves impossible goals or targets; they do not even dream of achieving any great success. Their major aspiration is to have an ordinary life where they seek the values of love, friendship and brotherhood: they are human beings with very modest expectations of life.

His first book of short stories "El Entusiasmo" was published in 1967. Two years later "Desnudo en el Tejado" obtained the prize Casa de la Américas. The novel "La Boda del Poeta" was published in 1999, followed by "La Chica del Trombón" in 2001. His latest novel, "El Baile de la Victoria", was awarded the Premio Planeta 2003, the most prestigious Spanish literary award.

However, the book that launched his international career was "Ardiente Paciencia", the story of the friendship between a postman and Neruda, Chile's Nobel Literary Prize winner. In 1994, the film adaptation, "Il Postino", had its première at the Venice Film Festival and received five Oscar nominations.



*From left to right: Sr. Juan Pedro Aparicio, Director of Instituto Cervantes, and Antonio Skármeta.*

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT OF ANTONIO SKÁRMETA**

A reception in honour of the distinguished writer Antonio Skármeta was offered by H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández on Tuesday, 24th May at his residence in 92 Eaton Place, London SW1.



*From left to right: H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, Mr. Antonio Skármeta, the guest of honour, and Mr. Guillermo Echeverría.*



*From left to right: Mrs. Georgina Roberts, Mrs. M. Isabel Torres, Mr. Michael Radford, the film director, and Miss Luciana Brett.*



*From left to right: Mr. Marcial Echenique, Mrs. M. Luisa Echenique and Mr. Julian Amey.*



*From left to right: Mr. Isauro Torres, Mr. Patricio Damm and H.E. the Ambassador of Ecuador, Sr. Eduardo Cabezas.*



*From left to right: Miss Anna Wise, Mrs. Verónica Rocha and Ms. Carmen Castillo.*

**CHILEAN WINE ASSOCIATION IN THE UK**

The official launch of the Chilean Wine Association took place at a black-tie dinner on Thursday, 26th May in the House of Lords. The idea for such an organisation was conceived by H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, a wine connoisseur, as well as a member of the International Academy of Wine, and Lord Naseby, who was very impressed by the quality of the national product during a recent visit to Chile's wine regions.

It is the first undertaking of its kind outside Chile and the aim is to promote knowledge, culture and circulation of Chilean wine in the United Kingdom.



*From left to right: Mr. Michael Cox, head of Wines of Chile UK, H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández and Lord Naseby, chairman of the Chilean Wine Association in the UK.*



*From left to right: The Commercial Attaché, Mr. Luis Montero, Ms. Ola Kaminska, Mr. Jocelyn Morris, Ms. Adele Timmy and Mr. Richard Gordon.*



*Ms. Susie Barrie, Mr. Peter Richards, Mrs. Lynne Cox and Mr. Michael Cox.*

*Primo Isabel Skármeta*



From left to right: Mr. Nicolás Ibáñez, Lady Naseby, Ms. Ana María Domínguez and Lord Naseby.

## LUIS ORLANDINI AT ST. MARTIN-IN THE FIELDS

For more than 700 years it has been a place for meditation and for the last 50 years it has been the setting for musical soirees.

On 30th May, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, continuing with its lunchtime concert series, was the venue for a solo concert by Luis Orlandini, the acclaimed Chilean guitarist. A capacity crowd that included H.E. Sr. Mariano Fernández, embassy representatives and fellow nationals, enjoyed a varied programme of famous Latin American composers.



The guitarist Luis Orlandini

## SINGER OF THE YEAR

The final heat for a place in the finals of the BBC Singer of the World took place in St. David's Hall, Cardiff, on 17th June 2005.

This year the 800 entrants were whittled down to the final 20 in the semi-finals, held over five days. In the last of the semi-finals Lee Bisset, a soprano from Scotland, sang arias from Mozart, Massenet and Janacek, followed by Kostas Smoriginas, a bass-baritone representing Lithuania, with arias by Mozart, Verdi and Rachmaninoff. The Korean soprano Hayoung Lee warmed up with Massenet and Ulmann before giving a bravura performance of "Sempre Libera" from Verdi's *La Traviata* which brought the house down and seemed to assure her of a place in the final. However, it was Luis Olivares Sandoval, the 29-year-old Chilean tenor who began his career in the Teatro Municipal in his native Santiago, who was the surprise winner of the evening. Obviously overwhelmed by his victory, there were tears in his eyes as he received the bowl donated by Welsh Royal Crystal.

The final of the competition took place on Sunday, 19th June 2005. The five finalists competing for the coveted "Cardiff Singer of the World" title, with the promise of a glittering operatic career, plus a £10,000 cheque, were from England, U.S.A., Italy, New Zealand and Chile. Once again, Luis Olivares Sandoval was the last contestant to take to the

stage, first with a sublime rendition of "Una furtiva lágrima" by Donizetti, followed by arias from Gounod's "Faust" and Verdi's "Rigoletto".

After a long and difficult deliberation by the jury, in a result that was the closest in the competition's history, they chose the American soprano Nicole Cabell, who had performed arias by Tippett, Mozart and Berlioz. There was, in fact, only one vote between her and the Chilean tenor! These are singers with world-class voices who can look forward to astonishing careers, was the opinion of one judge, while another believed that there was one tenor who could go back to Santiago feeling victorious with the result.

## TWO INDOMITABLE LADIES

It was a sunny day in June and the occasion for a double celebration. St. Teresa's Home, 42 Roland Gardens, London SW7, an establishment run by the Sisters Hospitallers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, had achieved 79 years of caring for the elderly, and its most senior resident, Sra. Otilia de Briones, from Limache (V Region), Chile, was 104 years old!

The last time her name occupied these pages was for her centenary celebration, when she received the congratulatory message sent by His Holiness the Pope, the late John Paul II (Chilean News – October 2001).

After the usual Sunday Mass, the ladies and guests met in the drawing-room for the cutting of the birthday cake while everybody joined in singing "Happy Birthday" and looked forward to a repetition next year.

Another June celebration took place across the Irish Sea. Although a youngster by comparison, Mrs. Jennifer Saunders, a resident of "Glenindare", a residential home for the elderly in Dublin, celebrated her 90th birthday. She had a surprise birthday party in the home of one of her relatives and the guests included nineteen second and third cousins, some of whom she had not seen for quite a long time. There was a buffet supper and a wonderful birthday cake, the largest one she had ever seen... with 90 candles on it! She was back at "Glenindare" by midnight and it took her over a week to write the thank-you cards.

"Jennie", a life member of the Society, carries Chile deep in her heart. She arrived in Punta Arenas in 1946 with her husband, George, who was the manager of Estancia Cerro Castillo and where they lived for sixteen years, during the golden era of Patagonia.

Both ladies received the congratulations of the Group of Chilean Ladies in London.



Sra. Briones with her daughter, Mrs. Gaby Gadelius, and her chocolate birthday cake.

## O'HIGGINS BIRTHDAY

The heavy rain on a cool summer day could not dampen the spirits of those who gathered at O'Higgins Square in Richmond, Surrey, on 22nd August to honour General Bernardo O'Higgins, the Liberator of Chile.

The national anthems of Great Britain and Chile, played by members of the band of the Grenadier Guards, were followed with speeches by Mr. Isauro Torres, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of Chile, and Mr. Robin Jowit OBE, Mayor of Richmond. The ceremony ended with the laying of wreaths on behalf of the Association of Retired Members of the Chilean Armed Forces, Instituto O'Higginiano and the Chilean Embassy.

A vin d'honneur was served at the Pitcher and Piano Bar.



*Paying homage to O'Higgins: from left to right: Group Captain (A) Hugo Tilly, Captain Charles Le May, Mr. Isauro Torres and Colonel Sergio Béjares.*



*The band of the Grenadier Guards at O'Higgins Square.*



*At the vin d'honneur:- from left to right: Mrs. Marianne Rodríguez, the Mayor of Richmond, Mr. Robin Jowit OBE, Cllr. Clare Head and Mrs. Daphne Jowit.*



*The Military Attaché, Colonel Sergio Béjares, in the company of Captain Christopher Hartley and Captain Robert Harper of the Grenadier Guards.*



*From left to right: Mrs. Alejandra Novoa, Mrs. Priscilla Tilly, Mrs. Verónica Béjares and Mrs. M. Isabel Torres.*



*From left to right: The Argentinian Military Attaché, Colonel Abel Raúl Catuzzi, Peruvian Naval Attaché, Rear-Admiral Iván Carrillo, Mrs. Vicky Le May and Chilean Naval Attaché, Captain Charles Le May.*

## A FISHY TALE

*by Dr. Tom Johnson-Smith*

Sun block, broad brimmed hat, dollars, euros..... Euros? But I was going to Chile. What a journey! Train, tube (which broke down at Acton Town) and an initial flight to Madrid. Those Euros came in handy – great coffee at Madrid airport. Then non-stop to Santiago, Chile.... 13 hours.

The journey was not to end there. I was met by a well organised, bilingual rep who directed me to my connecting flight down to Puerto Montt. On arrival, another equally helpful rep drove me to neighbouring Puerto Varas where, after more than 20 hours of travel, I checked into the Hotel Cabañas del Lago. From January in England to a brand new lakeside hotel on the edge of an old frontier town enjoying a mid summer heatwave.

Puerto Varas is a charming town founded by German settlers in the 19th century. I needed a walk and opted to eat, not at the hotel but at a pasta restaurant in town. A first and favourable introduction to Chilean cooking.

The next day was the final leg of my journey. A short flight south to Chaitén and then, in a four wheel drive on a dirt road which soon meandered along the shores of Lago Yelcho.

At the far end we parked and loaded my luggage into the boat for the short trip to Isla Monita, a 250 acre island at the south east corner of this magnificent lake.

The platitudes which I had read with a degree of scepticism in the tour operators brochure were in fact true. 'An unrivalled setting in matchless scenery'... A fair description. The snow capped peaks rose out of the lake, their lower slopes covered by the dense temperate rainforest. This one bay of the 26 mile long lake was to be home for the holiday.

The lodge at Isla Monita is owned by a syndicate headed by Englishman Chris Brown - a veritable renaissance man who has lived and worked in Chile for over 25 years. It was run for the season by a charming American couple whose expertise and wisdom belied their age. Gemütlichkeit prevails at the lodge. (Ed. Warmth and happiness, for you non-german speakers!)

I was in Chile for the fishing - that is to say fly-fishing for trout. New Zealand aside, Chile has the most interesting, challenging and rewarding trout fishing in the world. The variety and beauty of the venues were to spoil me. The overwhelming majority of fish I caught were taken on the dry fly - the most exciting technique. The pristine waters and their majestic proportions are truly awe-inspiring. Fishing beyond compare amid mountains and glaciers at times under the watchful gaze of a distant condor. There is nothing in Europe that can come close. Needless to say, without the expertise of the superb American guides, I would not have been anything like as successful. Furthermore, their rivercraft and attention to safety were greatly appreciated as we tackled four foot waves on the lake one day, and on the next drifted down a river which dwarfed Scotland's mighty Tay.

Nothing was too much trouble for the Chilean staff at the lodge. Great food and excellent Chilean wine was the norm. The asado (barbecue) on the last night made me realise what a delicacy pork can be.

After dinner, staring up at the Southern Cross, I realised I had seen but one small corner of this young country. It left me with more than a sneaking feeling that I had merely scratched the surface of this enchanting land.

(See Isla Monita advertisement on back page.)



*The one that didn't get away being held by John Hudgens, one of the American guides.*

## BOOK REVIEW

**The Audacious Admiral Cochrane by Brian Vale**  
Reviewed by Alan Macdonald

Although admirably short and attractively presented with racy chapter headings, this book belies first impressions and reads like an academic thesis - an originally researched and

painstakingly documented one - rather than a conventional biography. Subtitled 'the true life of a naval legend', it is more of a post-mortem dissection of what the author believes to be an undeserved reputation. Cochrane does not spring to life on these pages. Brian Vale chooses to wait until a misleadingly named epilogue (which could stand in its own right as an obituary of sorts) before attempting a comprehensive character analysis of the Scottish nobleman and (inter alia) liberator of Chile, Peru, Brazil and Greece. He achieves the brevity - at a little over half the length of several recent Cochrane biographies - possibly as a consequence of not gaining access to the Dundonald family papers, enjoyed notably by Ian Grimble, and certainly by providing us with relatively perfunctory descriptions of his naval engagements. (These actions are most vividly recounted in Cochrane's own and other contemporary accounts and in the novels of Marryat, Henty, Forester and O'Brien.) When, exceptionally, he does try to inject some colour into his narrative with rare descriptions of the sea ('glittering blue waters') or mountains ('brown and tree-less except for splashes of green') the effect can be incongruous. The author never really finds his sea legs, ignoring some simple naval usage, while dropping in out of the blue the obscurest of words ('scantlings') for a part of a ship. And he interrupts his flow with lists of names, ranks and types of ship and some out-of-sequence facts. Longer notes would have been helpful to accommodate these and explain them to the general reader. Vale uncovers new material in support of his case that Cochrane was not just audacious (admitting him to be a brave leader and a fine tactician), but avaricious (and fixated on prize money), duplicitous (to the extent of criminality), a poor and inflexible strategist, self-regarding and vainglorious, impulsive and opinionated, insubordinate and quarrelsome (which is indisputable), an uninspiring (and not very progressive) politician and an incompetent inventor. He persuasively takes the side of some of Cochrane's rivals, critics and targets (viz. Admiral Lord Keith and General José de San Martín). Mainly, however, the myths he exposes are fairly inconsequential - his first and last naval ranks, his nickname 'the sea wolf' and his plan to rescue Napoleon and crown him emperor of South America. Ultimately, Vale's biggest contribution to the study of history may be in creating the need for yet another biography which will incorporate his findings and interpretations into a more balanced account of the exploits and impact of this larger than life naval legend.

'The Audacious Admiral Cochrane' is published by Conway Maritime Press, The Chrysalis Building, Bramley Road, London W10 6SP. 2004. 240 p, maps, photos, notes, bibliog., index.

£17.99 Hardback. (ISBN 0-85177-986-7).

## Fully Empowered

Souvenir Press has reissued a collection of thirty-six of Pablo Neruda's poems under the title "Fully Empowered". The collection originally appeared in Spanish, entitled "Plenos Poderes", published in 1962 in Argentina by Editorial Losada. The Souvenir Press edition is a bi-lingual version, with translations by Alastair Reid, some of which have been revised for this 2005 printing.

"Fully Empowered" is published by Souvenir Press Ltd., (E&A) Ltd., 42 Great Russell Street, London WC1B3PD.  
£12.99 Paperback. (ISBN 0-28563-725-8).



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## TRAVELBAG

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### Chilehaus

by Georgina Roberts

On a recent trip to Germany to visit my daughter in Hamburg, a “hop-on, hop-off” bus tour introduced me to the Chile House, a feature of all sightseeing tours of the city and a favourite spot for tourists.

This is the finest of Hamburg’s traditional warehouse or *Kontorhäuser*. It was designed and built by the architect Fritz Höger between 1922-1924 for the merchant and shipowner Henry B. Sloman who had made his fortune in the saltpetre trade with Chile, hence the name “Chilehaus”.

It is a perfect example of expressionist architecture, built of clinker brick, with a sharp point at one end, reminding the viewer of a ship’s prow. The arching sides of the building and the overhanging front symbolise a ship, presumably one that brought the raw materials from Chile. The enormous edifice with 30,000 square meters of floor space spans a road, the *Fishertwiete*. Originally, the plans found little favour with the owner, who thought the monumental structure with its 2,800 identical windows was too boring. It was necessary to drive piles 16m into the unstable ground – the river Elbe is close by – to support the building, as well as special waterproof sealing for the cellars.

The Chilehaus is constructed of 4.8 million bricks and was a symbol of the German economic recovery after the First World War. The elegant façade, the gothic-style arcades and the intricate ceramic décor in the entrance hall all combine to make this one of Hamburg’s most impressive buildings.

*(Portions of this article are courtesy of wcities Inc.)*

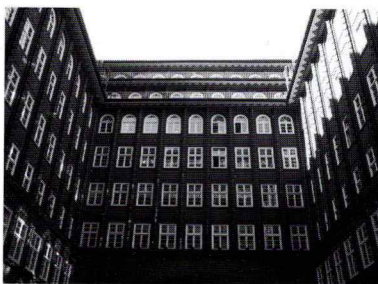
### Christmas Greetings from Chile

by Helen Bridge.

Last year I flew out of Heathrow Airport along with fifteen other Project Trust volunteers who were destined to go on various projects in Chile. After enduring a fourteen hour flight



*The Chilean coat of arms over the entrance to Chile House.*



*Some of the 2,800 identical windows.*



*A view of the “prow” of the building.*

we arrived in Santiago. The group spent two days together in the capital, getting to know one another and exploring the area in the warm summer sun. The following day I waved goodbye to the others as they left for their various projects and started to prepare myself for the nine hour bus journey (along with my fellow Project Trust Volunteer Rachel whom I am to spend the rest of my visit with) to the village of Chol Chol (IX Region).

On arrival we were given a warm welcome and shown to our little wooden house. It is very cosy, clean and bright but lacks any heating system. As it is a typical British winter in this region minus any snow, we have had to layer up on clothing especially at night time. The next day we were introduced to the teachers and children of the school we have been assigned to. Everyone is very friendly, they have made us so welcome and the national dance was performed for us on arrival. The children are very noisy and lively, but to keep control I have taught them the rhyme “Heads Shoulders Knees and Toes” which seems to have worked a treat when getting some order back into the classroom.

We have accepted many invitations to the homes of many people in our leisure time and when we are not preparing lessons. The Bishop of Temuco and his family invited us to stay. (Temuco is the nearest town to Chol Chol). We attended church with them on Sunday. The service was two hours long but I did recognise some of the hymns. We have stayed with some of the teachers in their homes including a Mapuche family and also teachers from the University in Santiago. We have been able to help the teachers improve their English skills by giving them lessons after school. We have also helped some of the students from the University who are studying English.

(Project Trust is an educational charity founded on the island of Coll in the Hebrides in 1967. It has sent over four thousand 17-19 year old school leavers abroad on various projects all over the world. The Society donated £200 to two volunteers.)

### Royal British Legion Santiago Garden Party boosts Poppy funds.

*Contributed by Mr. Christopher Hopewell, from Legion, the Royal British Legion Magazine.*

Members of the Santiago Branch of the Royal British Legion in Chile commemorated Remembrance Day in November with a garden party held at the British Ambassador’s Residence. The event was attended by 200 people, including local residents and dignitaries, and guests from Anglo-Chilean families. All funds raised from the evening went to the Poppy Appeal. Everyone who attended agreed that the event was a great success, and the branch members hope it will become an annual affair.

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## DONATIONS

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The Society’s charity choices for 2005 were:

£486 towards “El Húsar de la Muerte” (The Hussar of Death), the oldest surviving Chilean silent film, to assist in the production of a new 35mm copy to promote the film around Europe before finally being donated to the British Film Insitute Archive.

A donation of £1678 to the Coaniquem Charity which provides rehabilitation for children suffering from burns. The charity is the brainchild of junior doctors and medical staff at the Roberto del Río Hospital in Santiago. It is estimated that more than 10,000 children get burned each year in Chile, of which one-third need medical attention. In 1998 it started a programme of international aid by offering rehabilitation, prevention and training to seven countries of the Cono Sur,

which in 2003 was extended to the rest of the continent.

The donation will buy:

- Two Dynamometers
- Four Goniometers
- One Sewing Machine (for the preparation of individually fitted bandages, etc.)
- Two medical books on Physical Medicine – Rehabilitation Principles & Practices
- One portable oxygen cylinder
- One medical scales

The Group of Chileans Ladies in London donated:

1. Audio-visual equipment to the Centro de Capacitación y Rehabilitación Dr. Carlos Urrutia in Quillota (V Region), consisting of a 29" Philips television, a DVD and VHS player, a Philips mini HiFi component system for CD and radio and a microphone. The Centre looks after forty-one mentally retarded young people from deprived backgrounds.
2. For the second year running, medicines worth £400 to the Hogar San Ricardo (Obra Don Guanella) in Batico, a rural district 25kms. from the centre of Santiago, where children and young men with severe mental deficiency are taken care of.
3. A remittance of thirty books to a rural school in Ranchillos, VII Region of Maule, with the idea of starting a small library.



*Mrs. Angélica Gamblen donating audio-visual equipment to the rehabilitation centre in Quillota on behalf of the Group of Chilean Ladies in London.*



*Hogar San Ricardo (Obra Don Guanella) – Father Nelson Jerez Silva receiving a donation of medicines from Mrs. Carmen Gloria Heap, on behalf of the Group of Chilean Ladies in London.*



*Pupils of the Mariano Egaña School with their new books.*



*Avid readers enjoying their windfall.*

## LATIN-AMERICAN SOCIETIES GOLF TOURNAMENT

This took place on Friday, 3rd June at the West Surrey Golf Club with the Anglo-Brazilian Society hosting the event.

The results of the competition were as follows:

The best score of the day and winner of the Ambassador's Cup was Mr. David Thomas of the Anglo-Brazilian Society.

The Argentine Rose Bowl was won by Mr. David Bouch and the Jangada Trophy was won by Mr. John Armstrong of the Anglo-Brazilian Society.

The winner of the Punta Arenas Cup was Mr. Sandy Hay and the Lan Chile Trophy went to Mrs. Olivia Sharkey of the Anglo-Uruguayan Society.

The Colum Sharkey Memorial Trophy was won by Mrs. Susan McArthur of the Anglo-Peruvian Society.

The 2006 competition will be hosted by the Anglo-Chilean Society.

## BIRTHS

On 3rd May 2005, to Julian and Nicola Hart, twin boys, Samuel and Tristan, grandsons of Robert Hart, the Society's Treasurer, and Mrs Judith Hart.

## WEDDINGS

On Saturday, 20 August 2005 Eleanor Hart, younger daughter of our Treasurer, Robert Hart, married David Ouston at the village church in Wing, Buckinghamshire. Eleanor attended the Grange School in Santiago from 1979 to 1982 and has since returned to Chile as a Raleigh International voluntary administrator. The couple now live in Chiswick.



*David and Eleanor Ouston with Mr. & Mrs. Hart*

## OBITUARIES

### James Blair

*(extracted from Memories of James Blair 1914-2005 by Mrs. Juliet Cheetham)*

Mr. James Blair died on 1st February 2005. He had a remarkably full life. Born in 1914, he attended Wellington School, along with his elder brother, Neville. By 1932 he was an articled clerk with a London firm of accountants and in 1934 joined the Black Watch Territorial battalion as an officer. In 1935 he was recruited by Shell to work in Venezuela, and so escaped what, to him, was the boring world of accountancy.

With the imminent prospect of war in 1939, James returned to Britain to enlist in the army. On 23rd December of that year he married Elizabeth Loly, whom he had previously met before leaving for Venezuela. Serving in France with the British Expeditionary Force, he finally escaped from Cherbourg two months after Dunkirk. There then followed a two and a half year spell in Gibraltar, a period at the Staff College and, finally, a posting in North Africa with the Belgian army, where his linguistic abilities were invaluable. As a result, he was awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre, the Order of Leopold of the Belgians and the Legion d'Honneur.

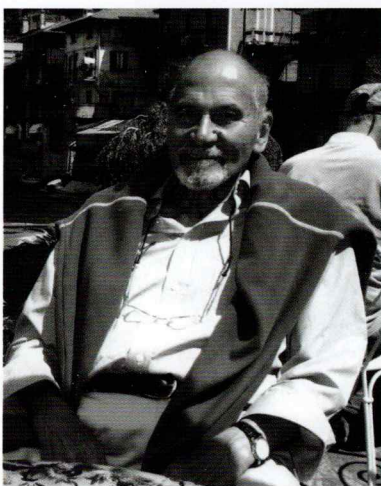
After the war, James returned to Shell, enjoying a successful career in South America and Europe, with postings to Venezuela, Trinidad, Colombia, Holland and London. Although his greatest love was always Scotland, he had a great affection for South America. On leaving Shell, he was appointed chairman of the Antofagasta-Bolivia Railway, a position he held until he was 75.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years and two sons, Hew and Ian.

### Edmund Swinglehurst

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Edmund Swinglehurst in June 2005.

He was born in Valparaíso, Chile, in 1917, where his grandfather, Henry Edward Swinglehurst, had a large iron and metal works. The Swinglehurst family had connections with Chile since 1850 when Henry Swinglehurst of Milnthorpe, Kendal, had spent some years in the mining region around the port of Copiapó.



*Mr. Swinglehurst at Lake Como, Italy.*

After an early childhood in Valparaíso, Edmund was taken to England to complete his education at Blundells School in Tiverton, Devon. School over and already wanting to be an artist, Edmund refused to go to University and chose instead to take a job with a large insurance company in the City of London. The intention was that he would be groomed to manage a part of the company's large business in South America (following, in fact, in the steps of an uncle). However, a few years of insurance work in the City proved

quite enough for Edmund and, at 22, he changed direction again, and returned to Chile in early 1939 to take up a teaching post. From 1941 to 1944 he was headmaster of St. Peter's School in Valparaíso.

Throughout this period, and during several years of working in Buenos Aires during the Perón period, when he did publicity and public relations work for E. R. Squibb, the large American pharmaceuticals company, Edmund's greatest interest was in painting. He began painting in Chile with the English painter John Duguid, who had studied at the Bauhaus with Paul Klee and Vasily Kandinsky. Much of Edmund's leisure time was spent in the company of artists and with the members of a Russian ballet company, marooned in Chile because of the War. It was the business of painting ballet scenery and backdrops that fired his interest in mural painting.

In 1950, Edmund left South America for Europe. He continued his studies in Paris at the Beaux Arts, where he studied mural painting, at La Grande Chaumiere and in the studios of Andre Lhote and Fernand Leger. He also received much sound advice from Joaquín Peinado, an artist of the Spanish School in Paris, and Henri Matisse.

From 1953, he spent his winters painting and drawing in England and his summers first taking Thomas Cook clients by train to Spain - he always intended to write a comic novel called Porthou Express, but never got round to it - and then working as Thomas Cook's representative on Lake Como, Italy. In 1963 he joined the public relations department of Thomas Cook in London, becoming Group Public Relations Manager and Company Archivist during a career with Cook's that gave him two retirement parties, one at age 65 and one at 75.

Edmund was very proud of the fact that he held two successful exhibitions of his work at Canning House, in 2000 and 2002. Most of the oils, water-colours and drawings shown concentrated on the scenery and lives of people in the countries he had lived and worked in, with particular emphasis on Chile and Argentina.

Running in parallel with his painting, there was also much writing, which resulted in the publication of several books

Mr Derek Tibbets, recalled in his funeral address, how one day they got lost around the Tate Modern and they asked a woman if she knew the way. As she was going in that direction she offered to lead them there. When asked where they were from Mr. Tibbets said: "He comes from Marlow and I come from Chalfont St. Peter." Later, Edmund said: "You shouldn't have said that. I always say I come from Chile."

Edmund was married three times. He is survived by his wife, Janice, three sons and a daughter.

*(This obituary was contributed by Mrs. Janice Swinglehurst.)*

### Andrónico Luksic

The Society regrets to announce the death of one of its permanent Vice-Presidents and benefactor, Mr. Andrónico Luksic Abaroa, on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2005 in Santiago, Chile.

The deceased was the head of one of the most important economic group of companies in the country and only a year ago, due to ill health, had to resign as president of Antofagasta Holdings plc to be succeeded by his youngest son.

The son of a Croatian immigrant and his wife, a member of

a northern Chilean-Bolivian family, the businessman was born in Antofagasta (II Region) in 1926, where he attended the San Luis School, before studying law at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago.

At 23, he returned to Antofagasta. His uncle sold Ford vehicles and Andrónico started to sell spare parts for these cars, soon acquiring a stake in the Ford concession. In 1954 he bought his first mine, Portezuelo, from some French speculators, and then resold it to a Japanese company for US\$500,000. He continued to trade in copper, fishing and banking and, in the 60's transferred his centre of operations from Antofagasta to Santiago.

The 80's marked the growth of the Luksic Group and the entry of his sons into the family business. In the 90's he consolidated the various different organisations into two holding companies: Quiñeco and Antofagasta Minerals. The first company encompassed the financial and industrial businesses such as Madeco, CCT, Telsur, Habitaria and Banco de Chile, while the second included the mines, Antofagasta Water and FCAB (The Antofagasta-Bolivia Railway).

Andrónico Luksic never forgot his beloved Antofagasta where he is remembered as a generous and kind man. He remained an "antofagastino" at heart and kept going back to his place of birth to spend the summer holidays with his family and friends.

His death occurred the same day that two of his children were attending the inauguration of one of his last philanthropic projects, the Antofagasta Cyber Cultural and Educational Train: two ancient railway carriages from 1904 & 1906 that have been remodelled as mobile classrooms to advance the education of the underprivileged.

He is survived by his second wife, Iris, three sons and two daughters.

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## NEW MEMBERS

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Mr. & Mrs. Peter Barlow  
Ms. Marina Barlow  
Ms. Marika Brennan  
Miss Bryony Collins  
Ms. Veronica Currie  
Mr. Anthony Dempster & Ms. Claudia Iglesias  
Mr. Oliver Finch  
Mr. John Ince  
Mr. Gabriel Villalón & Ms. Patricia Valenzuela

Corporate member: TASP

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## FUTURE EVENTS

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ALAF Christmas Fair on Saturday, 15th October at the Kensington Town Hall, Hornton St., London W8.

The Sir Leslie Bowes Lecture 2005 by Tom Hudson held jointly by the Anglo-Chilean and Anglo-Argentine Societies on Monday, 24 October at Canning House.

The Christmas Party on Monday, 12th December at Canning House.

*Readers who wish to purchase any of the photographs appearing in this issue should contact the Editor, Chilean News, telephone 020-8398-9448. Prices start at £1.50 for a standard 6 in. by 4 in. print.*

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