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Coming Events

► Saturday 9th August

- St. Andrew's Society Ceilidh, 22:00 hrs. at the Pony Prado.

► Friday 29th August

- Encuentros a la Puesta del Sol, 18:30 hrs. at the British Cemetery.

President's Words

Dear readers,

This month started on a very sad note with the passing of Gerry Fairless. She has been a pillar to this community, and a helping hand throughout several British Institutions over the years. Her loss will be deeply felt. Our most heartfelt condolences go to her family and friends.

I would like to thank Jack Springings for taking on the task of writing an appropriate obituary for this Newsletter, and to her family, for letting us know of the arrangements well in time, in order to let our Community be widely informed, and able, to pay our last respects to such a generous lady.

Our committee is very concerned in being able to inform, with sufficient time, of services of the kind, so, in cases like these, please call me directly, so we can send out a general mailing to all. And on a happier note, please let us know also of marriages and births within our community, so we can also announce these

pleasant events in our newsletter.

Our last Lecture Supper saw us receive Rosita Schandy into our group of lecturers, with her talk on "The Language of Nature", which we enjoyed very much. Special thanks go to her for a wonderful evening, to our cooks, most of which have been on the team for four years now, and are still helping with the best of spirits. So many thanks to Margaret Mc Connell, Marcela Dutra, Maureen Pereira, Mirita Pool, Virginia Brown, Susan Mc Connell, Sally Ann Cooper, Carolyn Cooper, Sarah Cowley, Angela Bell and Geoffrey Deakin, for all the help, and delicious cooking!

I hope you enjoy your reading!

Madeleine

"Success is stumbling from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm". Winston Churchill

SWCH News

A lot of events took place at the Home this month. We watched the World Cup football matches and cheered and shouted to the Uruguayan goals!

Vivian's 93rd birthday was celebrated with a lovely gathering, where four generations were brought together. There were around fifteen people present, and everyone enjoyed each other's company and some good food!



British Embassy News

Follow us on Facebook
and keep in the loop!

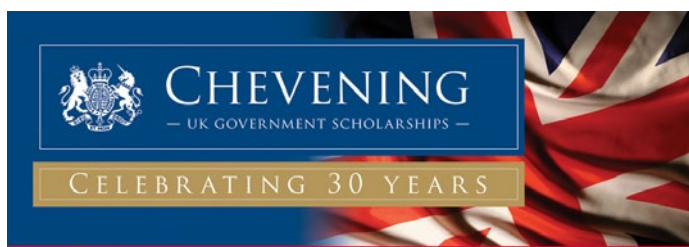
Applications For Chevening Scholarships Now Open

Do you have the potential to be a future leader and a desire to study in the UK, or know anyone who does? Now is the time to apply to the Chevening scholarships scheme for 2015-16. More details, including areas covered, in www.chevening.org/uruguay. This year, thanks to the tripling of funds by the British government and an expansion of the agreement with the Uruguayan Agency for Research and Innovation ANII, there will be more scholarships available for bright Uruguayans to study for a Masters degree at any UK university.



Was Your Family Involved In The First World War?

The National History Museum is interested in hearing anecdotes and stories from Uruguayans whose British family members were involved in the War in any way for their exhibition 'Testigos de la Gran Guerra' that will open in November. They are also looking for relevant personal belongings or any items they could use as exhibits. If you think you can help please contact museohistorico@mhn.gub.uy or the [Embassy](#).



First World War Commemorations

The UK has launched a series of global events to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. In Montevideo, Ambassador Ben Lyster-Binns gave a keynote speech at the opening of an exhibition at the Parliament's library on 28 July. Representatives of the British Council were also part of the opening panel at a lecture event held at the Museo Zorrilla on July 30th.



New Consular Agent In Colonia

Uruguay receives approximately 20,000 British nationals per year. Some 6,000 of these arrive on cruise ships and the rest arrive through different entry points of the country, the majority being through Colonia. For this reason we have appointed Herman Ernst as our new Consular Agent in that city, who is an initial point of contact for any British national requiring urgent assistance. Welcome to the team, Herman!





Montevideo Players News



THE MONTEVIDEO PLAYERS SOCIETY



Montevideo Players Present
a Tongue in Cheek Production:

A PLAN OF ACTION



Tuesday 12/Aug
Wednesday 13/Aug
Thursday 14/Aug
18.30 hrs



Neil Fairless Centre - Acevedo Diaz 2324

**Bookings: Call 099 087 776 or
mail montevideoplayers@gmail.com**



Silver River Lodge News

All our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month from March through to November at the William G. Best Masonic Temple, located at calle Canelones 1429, Montevideo.

For further information please contact at us at secretarysrl876@gmail.com or call Mr. Martin Macadam at 096 001995.

This month's answers about Freemasonry are:

Question: What are the secrets of Freemasonry?

Answer: The secrets in Freemasonry are the traditional modes of recognition which are not used indiscriminately, but solely as a test of membership, e.g. when visiting a Lodge where you are not known.

Question: What happens at a lodge meeting?

Answer: The meeting is in two parts. As in any association there is a certain amount of administrative procedure - minutes of last meeting, proposing and balloting for new members, discussing and voting on financial matters, election of officers, news and correspondence. Then there are the ceremonies for admitting new Masons and the annual installation of the Master and appointment of officers.

The three ceremonies for admitting a new Mason are in two parts - a slight dramatic instruction in the principles and lessons taught in the Craft followed by a lecture in which the candidate's various duties are spelled out.

British Cemetery News



THE BRITISH CEMETERY SOCIETY

Encuentros a la puesta del Sol CICLO 2014 Plan Julio - Octubre

25 de Julio - 18,30 h

Proponemos reconocer la vida y las obras de la escultora alemana **Carla WITTE** por la artista plástica Mariví Ugolinio, especialista en la homenajeadora y que descansa en el Cementerio Británico. Esta creadora expresionista emigró a Uruguay entre las 2 guerras mundiales.

El sábado 26 a las 16 h. Se realizará un Sendero de la Historia "*Por las Huellas del Arte*" recorriendo sepulcros con 12 esculturas destacadas. Se realizará lanzamiento de campaña financiera pro-monumento recordatorio.

29 de Agosto - 18,30 h

En el Cementerio Británico disponemos de 4 obras del afamado escultor suizo **LOUIS WETHLI** Para conocer más este autor invitamos a la investigadora **PISC. Graciela Blanco** de Argentina, especialista en simbología. Su charla nos introducirá en la obra del escultor y su historia.

El sábado 30 de agosto a las 16 h. invitamos a un Sendero especial por 12 simbologías, guiados por Pisc. G. Blanco.

Día del Patrimonio 2014 - 4 y 5 de octubre- Tema: EL ESPACIO PÚBLICO, ARQUITECTURA Y PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA

AL SERVICIO DE LA COMUNIDAD - El Cementerio Británico será parte de las actividades. El *Cementerio Británico es el Lugar de la Memoria*, del rito intangible y de la custodia de elementos artísticos que califican una época y un sentir. Conectamos pasado y presente como parte de la vida de la ciudad y su gente. El patrimonio y sus historias al servicio de la comunidad. Además de un espacio social que constituye un pulmón verde en el barrio del Buceo. Al cumplirse los 100 años del nacimiento de **Armonía Somers** estamos preparando una exposición y charla sobre esta destacada escritora nacional.

Realizaremos visitas guiadas y actividades en la capilla a publicar en próximos comunicados.

Los *Encuentros a la puesta del Sol* proponen descubrir y valorar el contenido patrimonial de nuestro cementerio. *El espacio de reunión es la Capilla del cementerio.*

Consultas y actualizaciones por: encuentros@cementeriobritanico.com.uy



Cementerio Británico de Montevideo - Av. F. Rivera 3868 tel. 2622 3071

www.cementeriobritanico.com.uy

DECLARADA DE INTERÉS CULTURAL POR EL MINISTERIO DE EDUCACIÓN Y CULTURA
MINISTERIO DE TURISMO Y DEPORTE, INTENDENCIA DE MONTEVIDEO Y OFICINA DE UNESCO PARA EL URUGUAY
APOYAN COMISIÓN DEL PATRIMONIO CULTURAL DE LA NACIÓN Y DIRECCIÓN DE CULTURA - BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL - MEC - MINISTERIO DE TURISMO Y DEPORTE
PAISAJISTA Y VIVERO VIRGINIA CROTTI - CONSTRUCTOR ROBERTO GULPIO - RED URUGUAYA DE CEMENTERIOS Y SITIOS PATRIMONIALES -
RED IBEROAMERICANA DE VALORACIÓN Y GESTIÓN DE CEMENTERIOS PATRIMONIALES - MONTEVIDEO CAPITAL IBEROAMERICANA DE LA CULTURA
Auspician ASOCIACIÓN DE INTERPRETES-GUÍAS Y GUÍAS DEL URUGUAY (A.I.G.U.) - ASOCIACIÓN DE GUÍAS DE MONTEVIDEO - AGTM





Chevening Scholar Experience

by Laura Silva
Chevening Scholar 2013-14

Laura Silva has just returned to Uruguay after successfully completing her Master's degree in Oxford.

Around this time last year I received an acceptance letter by Oxford University to study Diplomacy. I could not express my happiness in words. I had the possibility to study in the United Kingdom, one of the meccas of diplomacy and even more, I was going to do it in a world class University like Oxford.

The experience was overwhelming from the start: a fairy tale city, where writers like Tolkien and Lewis Carroll found their inspiration, a cosmopolitan place where people from all over the world share their experience and knowledge and teachers whose wisdom and lessons I will never forget.

I have to admit the amount of reading and studying will always be in my memory too. Writing essays every week, assisting to class, preparing myself for seminars about a wide variety of subjects, presenting Uruguay in the most interesting way possible and meeting professionals during our visits through the UK and Europe was intense and demanding but it was worth it.

At first, the hardest part seemed the coordination of all these academic activities with the incredible number of social events Chevening and Oxford have to offer. Chevening Secretariat really works hard to create a lasting network between us Cheveners. It goes beyond professional contacts and becomes a constitutive part of our personal life.

The college, in my case beautiful Trinity, also contributed to the crowded agenda of bops, dinners and balls. Living in a building of more than 500 years generates a unique atmosphere, where every day seems a film location.

Finally, my classmates. I would rather say my multicultural family from 16 different countries. They were my inspiration and source of laughter every day and I am sure we will meet again, hopefully in Oxford.

I congratulate this year Uruguayan Cheveners and invite other students to apply in the future. The opportunity will certainly be one of the best experiences of your life.



CHEVENING
— UK GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS —

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS



St. Andrew's Society News



Grand Ceilidh - Scottish Night
Saturday 9 August 2014
10pm - 2am at Polo Prado
(Atilio Pelossi 001, Montevideo)

*Informal pipe band shows and
Scottish dancing evening*

Whether you know how to Scottish dance or don't have the first idea,
come and join us for an evening of entertainment, fun,
culture and above all having a good time with a Scottish twist.

The pipe bands will do their thing and the dancers show you how it's done
so come on down to the Polo Prado where we'll be waiting for you!

For tickets please contact:
Michael Warren: 091 048 937 or 2902 6541
Raquel Stewart: 099 157 615 or 2480 1453
Tickets: \$U 150 per person

Free Scottish dancing classes:

Saturday 26 July from 4-6pm - Colegio Juan XXIII, Mercedes 1769

Saturday 2 August from 4-6pm - The British Schools, Máximo Tajes

As we promised last month, the dates for Scottish dancing practice are:

August 2nd at The British Schools Junior Hall
August 16th at The British Schools Junior Hall
August 23rd at Instituto Juan XXIII
August 30th at The British Schools Junior Hall

September 6th at The British Schools Junior Hall
September 13th at Instituto Juan XXIII
September 20th at The British Schools Junior Hall
September 27th - To be determined

Things To Keep In Mind

You subscriptions can be paid at:

- Our events to our treasurer
- The Anglo Institute of Carrasco, Centro or Pocitos
- Lucas Calcraft (Av. Italia 6890 esq. Miami)

AGED BETWEEN 18 & 30?
INTERESTED IN A UK ADVENTURE?



A TOP UK TV COMPANY IS LOOKING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE PART IN AN EXCITING NEW TV SERIES!

The series will invite 5 people to Great Britain for the adventure of a lifetime!

You will spend 4 weeks travelling around, enjoying all that the UK has to offer.

If you've never been to the UK & interested in this exciting opportunity,
PLEASE EMAIL:
UK@WALLTOWALL.CO.UK



Anglo News

by Alex Scarfe
Imperial War Museum London



100 Years On

100 years have passed since the world stood on the brink of witnessing one of history's most cataclysmic events. It was supposed to be remembered as the "war to end all wars" but today we stand hand in hand commemorating, remembering, lamenting.

Britain today reflects upon the Great War on a multitude of levels. The scale and diversity of interpretation bares witness to a number of different events all across the country, each lending credence to the fact that almost everyone in the UK has an ancestor directly affected by the war.

Britain's participation

The cultural and heritage sector sees the Imperial War Museum in London stand at the forefront of the centenary commemorations. The newly refurbished site opens its doors on July 19th with a number of First World War galleries and exhibitions. With an array of artefacts, the public have the rare opportunity to handle genuine pieces of the Great War's history, from German and Prussian battle helmets to artillery shells and soldiers' bibles.

Correspondingly the academic world has invested time in the commemorations. An international conference, Perspectives on the 'Great1 War, takes place at Queen Mary's University of London, with a number of speakers including Professor Christopher Clark, of Cambridge University; Professor Jay Winter, of Yale University; and the German military historian, Professor Michael Epkenhans respectively.

In lieu of the more commonplace royal obligations, the 4th of August observes a number of royal duties

which coincide with the day Britain declared war on Germany. Queen Elizabeth will be present at a service of commemoration at Crathie Parish Church, near Balmoral Castle in Scotland. Prince Charles will also take part in a national service of commemoration for the Commonwealth in Glasgow, followed by a wreath laying in George Square. The entirety of the cathedral service will be screened live.

Prince Harry will be attending the "Step Short" commemorative event in Folkestone. The Channel port was a major departure point for British troops leaving for the Western Front. The Prince will then join his brother, Prince William, in Belgium for the ceremony at St. Symphorien.

On a state level, the moat of the Tower of London will be filled with 800,000 ceramic poppies for a commemorative art installation called 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red'. The poppies are going to be displayed until Armistice Day 2014, and will be available to buy in aid of service charities. Similarly People are being invited to join the "collective moment of reflection" by turning off their lights from 10pm.

Uruguay and World War One

The breadth of the conflict of course can be documented all over the world. At the outbreak of war, Uruguay declared its neutrality. It was only after the United States declared war in April 1917, that President Feliciano Viera rescinded Uruguayan neutrality. The Congress bequeathed him the authority to withdraw diplomatic relations with Germany, leading to the seizure of eight German ships in Montevideo harbour.

Anglo News

In March 1918, the German submarine N-214 held up the steamship “Infanta Isabel” in transit from Uruguay to France, resulting in an inquiry addressed to Germany. The Uruguayan government proposed that if Germany considered herself at war with Uruguay, she would follow suit.

How we remember

People and institutions all over the world will have their own approaches to interpretation. The fundamental question is how does one deal with an event of such a magnitude, of loss of life and of such significance with humility and decorum. Conflict, apart from being commonplace in the pages of our past, presents something of a challenge. The inevitability, the necessitation of coming to terms with a truth, that we, as man, are capable of truly unspeakable things. Alas, our ability to self-reflect, to learn and to absorb into our global collective conscience becomes important, but above all else, it becomes our responsibility.

Who we remember

Having trained with the 102nd Infantry Regiment, Sergeant Stubby became one of the most decorated characters throughout the Great War. After being smuggled to the front lines in France, he was almost immediately exposed to mustard gas. This familiarity resulted in his aptitude to warn the 102nd regiment of impending attacks on a number of occasions, proving to be an essential survival tool. Similar exploits included his ability to locate wounded soldiers on the battlefield and most significantly the incident when he succeeded to spot and apprehend a German spy, earning him the rank of Sergeant. During his 18 months of active service, Sergeant Stubby participated in 17 battles and survived an array of different wounds. Returning home after the war, he became a national icon, receiving awards and leading parades all over the country until his death in 1926.



Sergeant Stubby was a pit-bull mix who outranked his owner Private J. Robert Conroy.



Medical Column

by Dr. Jorge Stanham, MBE
jorgestanham@yahoo.com

Old Age Is Not A Disease

It is widely known that older persons, especially those in their late 70's and beyond, need more care, including medical care, medications, special diets, adequate clothing and footwear and more visits to the doctor and eventually more frequent and longer hospital admissions. In our medicalised culture, we tend to assume that old age equates with progressive illnesses, in number, frequency and severity. More encounters with physicians and other health personnel, repeated laboratory tests, longer and longer medication lists and a progressive burden on the person's and immediate kins' resources is accepted as a component of ageing. Again, due to our medicalised culture, we tend to assume that the natural processes of increasing age is identical with a succession and a sum of diseases and other conditions, for which a 'cure' or at least a 'treatment' must be available.

It's certainly true that old age, through the passage of time, makes wear-and-tear of our time-limited body more evident. Even more so, many 'lifestyle' challenges like having been sedentary or overweight, eating junk or fat and salt-laden diets, using tobacco or abusing booze, for many years, will show their toll, giving a rusty hue to what should have been our shiny golden years.

However, underlying the evident medically diagnosable and treatable diseases, old age per se should be considered part of our life cycle and not a disease in itself. Our culture believes health to be associated with productivity, youth, beauty and independent mobility. As we age, we tend to drift gradually, or at times abruptly, for example the day we retire, from the paradigm of what constitutes the ideal human being, or at least what gives most meaning to our existence. As we become unfit for what is considered productive work, we become a 'burden' for the 'active' population. Our culture also falls victim of the culture of the medically fixable problem, fuelled by not only the pharmaceutical industry promising wonder drugs to delay the ailments of old age, but also to fads which have to do with unproven diets, exotic supplements and the magical specialist who overprescribes unnecessary tests, too many pills and treatments not based on hard evidence.

This is not to say that identifiable medical problems

go best undiagnosed or untreated when identified, but that we must at some point demedicalise our approach and accept at face value that a significantly greater proportion of our loved ones' and our own lifetime will take place being old. In future decades, we may eventually approach an age well above 100, as programmed cellular death ('apoptosis') is estimated to happen at a limit of 120 years... unless we create a genetically modified immortal Frankenstein zombie – a not so unreal fear!

In the end, living with more and more ageing and dependent persons within our societies will make us shift from a curing towards a more caring mentality. Improvement in housing, food, water supply and waste disposal, coupled with better medical care targeted on improving the quality of life, will in itself prolong life. Productivity as narrowly defined nowadays won't be possible in a world where caring for others will progressively be the norm for the majority. Caring for others can be produced, marketed and sold as a commodity (just look at TV ads!); it can be provided by local, provincial, state and national taxation through organizations, as in the UK and continental Europe; but it can also be given ('gift') selflessly to those who depend on us in many ways and need our support and companionship.

It is the older generation (now at or beyond their 80's) who have grown in the culture where it is shameful to depend on the younger population, to a great extent because they have dramatically outlived their own elders by maybe a decade or more. Debility, frailty and dependency carry a stigma in our present productivity-commoditised view of life, contributing to their labelling as a costly burden. The intermediate generation (those in their 40' through 50's) will be the agents of change to modify the present paradigm. Caring for the old, the weak and the needy, will influence work-life balance, recreation, promote solidarity and generosity. It's important that we imagine ourselves in the future by looking directly at our elderly now, so as to be creative enough to design ways of caring that are based on alternative ways of producing, providing and giving that care. It will and should become a sobering experience for our present medically-centred approach to ageing.

Geoff the Chef's Corner

by Geoffrey Deakin
gde@boskejo.com

Stuffed Squash

Ingredients for 4 servings:

- 1 medium or 2 small squashes (Calabazín)
- 400 gr. ground beef (lean if your wish)
- 100 gr. Venere black rice (or Brown rice... Or just regular white rice)
- 1 medium size onion
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 red pepper
- Grated lean cheese (optional)
- Olive oil
- Chopped garlic
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 175°C (350°F).
2. Cut the squash in half and cook in preheated oven for approximately 40min.
3. When done, allow to cool for a while until you can very carefully remove the pulp, leaving a 1 cm thick outer shell (do not throw away the pulp).
4. At the same time cook the rice and set aside.
5. Chop the onion and pepper and sauté (fry) with garlic in a pan with water and a dash of olive oil.
6. When the onion is transparent add the minced meat.
7. Season and cook the meat.
8. Add tomato paste, squash pulp and the rice to the meat.
9. Cook for a few minutes more.
10. Place the filling into the squash, sprinkle with the grated lean cheese (optional) and bake at medium heat a few minutes more.



Serving:

You have a choice... You can either spoon out portions of the filling, making sure to get a generous amount of squash into the spoonful or use small size squashes and place directly on each plate. Served in hearty portions followed by steamed vegies, the squash is a perfect cold-weather main course.

Storing:

It's really best to eat this as soon as it's ready. However, if you've got leftovers, you can scoop them out of the squash, mix them up, cover, and chill them; reheat them the next day.

This recipe was Cuca's kind contribution to Geoff the Chef's Corner. My special thanks...

Quindim de laiá

Quindim is a popular Brazilian baked dessert made from sugar, eggs and coconut. It is dense, intensely sweet and very addictive!



The original recipe makes for a 22 cm pie or pudding pan.

Ingredients:

- 400 grams white sugar
- 500 grams shredded coconut (it can be the dehydrated kind)
- 400 ml coconut milk
- 1 tablespoon butter, softened
- 12 egg yolks
- 3 egg whites



Geoff the Chef's Corner

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 175°C (350°F)
2. Mix the shredded coconut with the coconut milk in a bowl and let it rest for 1 hour before cooking
3. Hand mix the sugar, coconut, and butter in a bowl. Stir in the egg yolks and the egg white; beating by hand until well combined.
4. Pour the mixture into a pie plate or pudding pan previously coated with butter and sugar on the bottom.
5. Place the pie plate in a large roasting pan. Pour enough boiling water into the bottom of the roasting pan to reach about half-way up the side of the pie plate.
6. Bake in the preheated oven until golden brown on top, about 30 minutes.
7. Allow to cool completely before turning out onto a serving dish.
8. Refrigerate until serving.

By the way, my Mom doesn't use the roasting pan with water and cooks the Quindim directly in the oven. Just

plain lazy or maybe it's because she lived most of her life in Brazil.

Love you Mom and thanks for the recipe!

Tip O' The Day

Defrost Meat on Aluminum Trays

The fastest way to defrost meat is under a cold running tap. But if you want to save water and speed things up a bit, place your meat on an aluminum sheet tray or skillet. Aluminum is a great conductor of heat and will draw energy from the surrounding environment into your frozen meat much faster than a wooden cutting board or wood or stone countertop.

You can cut defrosting times down by about 30 percent this way. It also works on soups, stews, and anything frozen flat.

And remember, love and cook with wild abandon!

Obituaries

Gerry Fairless

Gerry Fairless passed away on July 3rd 2014. A tireless worker, she actively participated in many of the Community's organizations such as The Hospital Guild, The BWA, and The Book Club, but where she really dedicated much time, love and effort was with The Montevideo Players Society.

Together with her husband Colin and a handful of other drama enthusiasts, she founded what has become the oldest Independent Theatre group in Uruguay and now also the longest-lived English-speaking amateur dramatics club in South America.

With the Players, Gerry not only acted brilliantly, her Lady Bracknell in Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" will remain memorable, but also contributed generously with the running of the Society, having chaired the Committee on a number of occasions.

Her remarkable cheeriness, determined courage and gentle understanding will be sorely missed.

Hugh Burr Rugeroni

Hugh Rugeroni died on January 3rd 2014 at the age of 75. He is survived by his daughter Samantha, grandson Zachery, niece Diana and nephew Michael, along with all of the loving members of "The West End".

He was a successful businessman in the Yacht field in Harrison Township for at least three decades, being involved in local sail tournaments and a founding member of the Sail Club. He was known as a sailing person who was going to live the life the way he wanted and who would graciously accept any advice given to him about curtailing his capacity for many pints, cigarette smoking, or to tidy up his house, and then proceed to precisely ignore all of them.

A celebration took place on the 12th of January at Bentley's Roadhouse in Harrison Township where Hugh was a daily patron. His call sign when deciding to return home after several pints of beer, he would declare in a loud voice that he had an "elegant sufficiency" and therefore was time to exit the establishment. He will be greatly missed.



Back In Time

by Tony Beckwith
tony@tonybeckwith.com

Back To Belgrano

The phone rang and the words I heard turned me to stone: "...your Uncle David passed away suddenly in Guatemala..." The following morning I was on a plane heading south, staring out of the window into the past.

My Uncle David was my idol when I was a boy. He was my mother's brother and she too thought he hung the moon. When we visited family in Buenos Aires, the best part for me was seeing my uncle. He was tall, dapper, and dashing, with a ready smile; a warm, gentle man who seemed to be exactly who I wanted to be. When he occasionally came through Montevideo on a business trip and stopped overnight at our house, my excitement knew no bounds.

David Evans was an advertising man. He was among the group of talented young people who entered the workforce in Buenos Aires in the 1940s, just in time to be employed by an early wave of American companies and their ad agencies that were opening branches in Latin America. He was a natural in the agency culture, where his creativity served him well and where good relationships with clients were highly prized. He was also an athlete, playing rugby in his youth and eventually captaining Argentina's national team. In about 1939 he played for the San Isidro Club where he recalled that "one of my fellow players was Ernesto Guevara, who later on became better known as Che Guevara."

On the way to the memorial service in Guatemala City, my aunt asked me if I'd say a few words. "Something to do with his life in Buenos Aires," she said. "Nobody here knew him back then." All I could think of on the spur of the moment was that in Argentina, as in Uruguay, there is a tango for almost every occasion, and they tend to be a vicarious way to express the feelings of joy and grief that overwhelm us all at one time or another. So I stood before the congregation and recited the words of one of the saddest tangos of all, *Adios muchachos*¹, which translate loosely as: "Goodbye my lifelong friends, beloved gang from those good old days. It's my time to slip away and leave you all behind. Goodbye boys, I know that no one cheats destiny. No more parties for me, my wasted body can't take it anymore." The words welled up in my throat and almost choked me, and I don't know how I managed to finish without breaking down.

After the service the family huddled together at my cousin's home. My uncle had been cremated, and his children wanted to scatter his ashes in a few special places. One of those places was Buenos Aires: they wanted to send part of him home. As it happened, I was going there later in the year, so I returned to Texas carrying a zip lock bag full of greyish-white powder. I felt extremely nervous going through customs, but that was nothing compared to how I felt as I surreptitiously carried the same bag of ashes through the airport in Buenos Aires a few months later.

In one of those serendipitous twists of fate that make you wonder about things, my uncle's daughter arrived in BA on business the very next day, and she joined Lillian and me on the last leg of this odyssey. We took the train at Retiro station and travelled out to Coghlan, the suburb where my grandparents lived and where David grew up. The smell of the carriage, the hypnotic lurching of the train, and the rhythmic clatter of the wheels were so familiar, even after so many years, that I was soon awash in memories of my childhood. When we stood on the pavement facing the old family house at Tronador 2725 the memories bubbled up into flashbacks that flooded my brain. But the house was obviously inhabited and we agreed that the current residents probably wouldn't appreciate having someone's ashes scattered on their garden. So we went back to the railway, to a level crossing near the station from which David had come and gone so many times and finally left for good. We stood in silence on the rails and scattered half the contents of the bag.

Then we took the train (*clackety-clack, clackety-clack*) to Belgrano and walked a few blocks through the quiet residential neighbourhood to the Belgrano Athletic Club. David started playing rugby there, where he was known to all as "Taffy," and went on to become a sports legend in his own right. It was a sunny day, and we walked around the field—now surrounded by apartment buildings where once there was wide open sky—and sat in the stands, listening for the roar of the crowd on a distant afternoon. Then, as the shadows lengthened, the rest of the ashes fluttered to the ground under the goal post, and my Uncle David was finally home.

¹ (1927) Lyrics by César Felipe Veldani, music by Julio César Sanders, immortalized by Carlos Gardel.



Future Events

► Saturday 4th October

- St. Andrew's Society Caledonian Ball.

► Saturday 6th December

- WDA Bazaar, 14:00 hrs. at Lafone Hall.



The Far Side

by Gary Larson



Link Of The Month

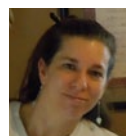
The fastest hands!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Dv0odjyprE>



The Society At A Glance

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