

NOVEMBER 2022

*In Flanders fields
the poppies blow*

**BSU
Spring Croquet
Tournament**

**Literature Matters
Salman Rushdie**


**Meet our Columnists
Jorge Stanham**

**British Schools
School's Birthday and
Senior Interhouse**

*Between the crosses,
row on row...*

www.britsoc.org.uy

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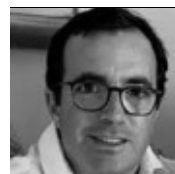
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BSU CONTACT NEWSLETTER



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Montevideo, Uruguay



This month's cover features our esteemed collaborator Juan Pablo Rodríguez's rendition of Remembrance Poppies. The poppy is the enduring symbol of remembrance of the First World War. It is strongly linked with Armistice Day (11 November). The Remembrance Day symbolism of the

poppy started with a poem written by a World War I a brigade surgeon who was struck by the sight of the red flowers growing on a ravaged battlefield. For a full history of the symbol see the British Culture article in this issue of Contact.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Remember you can pay your 2022 membership fees easily from the comfort of your own home using your credit or debit card through [MercadoPago](#).

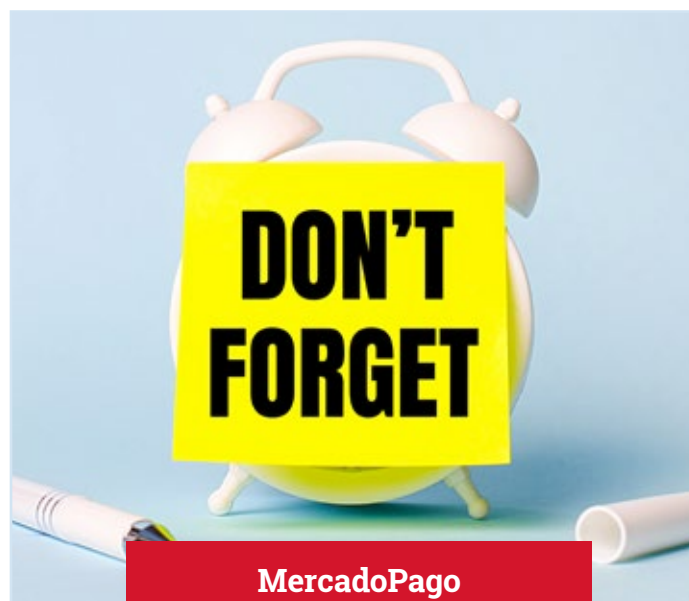
We have also implemented **recurring payments** so you no longer have to remember to pay your fees. You do not need to have a MercadoPago user, by clicking [HERE](#) you can choose to enter your details as "Invitado", you are 3 clicks away of never having to remember to pay again! This recurring payment is very easy to cancel if you wish to do so in the future.

You may also pay by transfer or a direct deposit to the account of British Society in Uruguay at **Banque Heritage (account number 62582-03)**. Please email your transfer/ deposit slip to our Treasurer.

If you forgot to pay any previous annual fees please email our Treasurer at treasurer@britsoc.org.uy to learn about ways to pay past dues.

If you wish to become a member first fill in [this form](#).

Once this is done, your membership will be updated.



**MercadoPago
Annual Fee 2022 - \$700**

**MercadoPago Recurring
Payments - \$650**



Dear Reader,

October came and went like a breeze; with so much going on in so many places it was difficult to keep up with all the events!

The Society could finally hold its Croquet tournament and it was a blast, with Richard Empson and Gustavo Farolini as the new crowned champions. We also went to Conchillas to enjoy their Tea-Table Spread competition (delicious!), participated in an intercultural event at UCUDAL and enjoyed the 9th South American Gathering of Scottish pipers, drummers and dancers.

November will be busy too. The Society is sponsoring a field-trip to San Jorge in Durazno for their Encuentro Británico Oriental. If you are interested in joining us for a weekend of cultural activities and festivities, there is more information about the trip in this newsletter. Also in November we're holding a Xmas Craft-Tea at the British Hospital Auditorium, and the St. Andrew's Society is hosting their annual Senior Caledonian Ball. And, lest we forget, Friday 11th November is Remembrance Day, and the British Cemetery is holding their traditional solemn ceremony in their blooming gardens.

You'll find plenty of information and pictures of all that happened in October and will be happening in November in this issue of Contact, as well as some great articles by our regular columnists.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments on this issue at editor@britsoc.org.uy

Enjoy your read!

Victoria Stanham Newsletter Editor

Birthdays

in November

1. Bertha Jackson Casamayou
1. Erik John Wells Ensink
4. Julio César Guridi Crescenti
5. Jean Jacques Bragard Cooper
5. Christian Farnes Volpi
6. Adam Taylor Gardner
8. Jorge Carlos Stanham Piñeyro
9. Mark Fairless Hill
10. Jorge Agustín Capurro Hyland
11. Martín Sosa Lucas-Calcraft
11. Verónica Stighetti Dee
11. Elena Drever Algorta
12. Megan Alicia Berry
12. Patricia Elizabeth Cole Morrison
13. Josefina Grezzi Reda
14. Victoria Cooper de Arteaga
15. Anthony Andrew Rial Peacock
18. Roberto Jorge Linn Coyle
18. Víctor Francisco Ganón Garayalde
18. Fernando Bonilla Delfino



19. Janet Mary Campbell Cobham
19. Tim Crocker
21. Ivan Zimler Miles
21. Martin Henderson Wells Gibson
21. Juliana Sosa Rippe
22. John Michael Beare Caraballo
23. Ian Richard Duddy
23. James Malcom Bell Gebbie
24. Nadine Willans Tozer
25. Juan Sebastián Salvo Davies
26. Ricardo Héctor Medina Ramella
26. Alejandro Alberto Sosa Lucas-Calcraft
27. Karen Ingrid Schandy Sicco

New Members

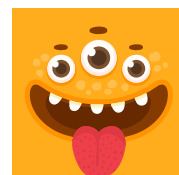
Ira Sonsoles Baison Montiel
Daniel Fabra Isaac
Juan Pablo Milessi Sancoff
Kirsten Sigrid Schandy Sicco



For news from across the pond visit www.abcc.org.ar



Dear Math, I don't want to solve your problems. I have my own.



2022



List your events in our calendar:

We invite all sister societies to send us dates of your upcoming events to editor@britsoc.org.uy.

NOVEMBER

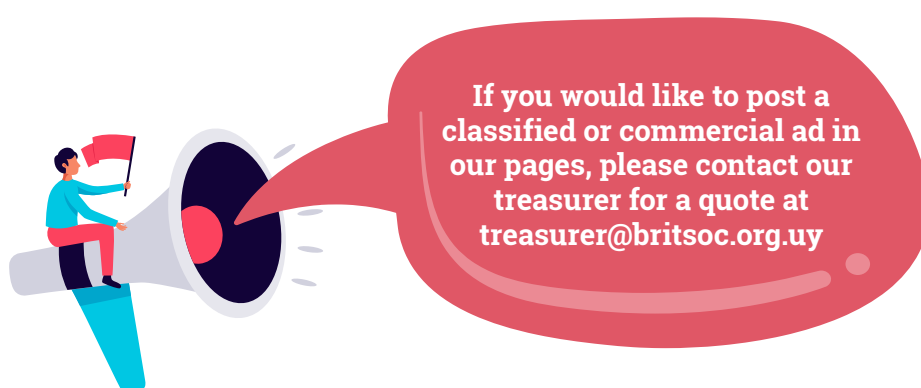
MONDAY 9: Almuerzo con Adolfo Garcé, Doctor en Ciencia Política: La política uruguaya, después de las elecciones en Brasil. 12:15 at Parva Domus, Bvar Artigas 136 Esq. Parva Domus. secretaria@cub.com.uy - www.cub.com.uy

FRIDAY 11: Remembrance Day Service, 10:30 at British Cemetery

SATURDAY 19 and SUNDAY 20: Encuentro Británico Oriental San Jorge Durazno

WEDNESDAY 23: BSU Xmas Craft-Tea, 14:30 at Auditorium A, British Hospital Policlinic, 3rd Floor.

SATURDAY 26: The St. Andrew's Society Senior Caledonian Ball.



EVERY FRIDAY FROM 8PM

SOCIAL DARTS IN PUNTA DEL ESTE

at Ariscona, corner of Virazón and La Salina.

Contact: Jonathan Lamb uozinglesa@gmail.com



Field Trip to San Jorge

for the Encuentro Británico-Oriental
19th to 20th November, 2022

Saturday 19th November, 2022

14:00 departure from the British Embassy, Marco Bruto 1073 to Villa del Carmen, Durazno.

17:30 arrival to Villa del Carmen - Lodging: Cabañas Viñas del Carmen

6:00 p.m. Snack

20:30 Dinner at Cabañas Viñas del Carmen.

Sunday 20th November, 2022

08:00 departure to San Jorge, Durazno.

09:00 Approximate arrival time to San Jorge
Morning Activities:

- Parade with Pipers Launching the Encuentro Británico Oriental
- Guided tour by architect Cecilia Fajian. We will visit the Mill, Estancia San Jorge, the doctors' house, the Church and the Cemetery.

13:00 Lunch of typical Uruguayan food: roasted lamb, homemade cakes.

17:00 British-style tea by the British Embassy and British Society in Uruguay.

Estancia
San Jorge



Molino
de los Ingleses



Church

All-inclusive Cost

The final price of the ticket will be set according to the number of participants.

Want to join us?

Contact: events@britsoc.org.uy to reserve your place.



23rd November, 14:30 to 17:00
at Policlínico British Hospital 3rd floor

Ticket: \$300

includes Christmas Crafts for you to create and Tea.

WEAR SOMETHING CHRISTMASY

Make your reservation before Friday 18th

40 places available

RSVP: VP@britsoc.org.uy 099123906

Reservations by Friday 18th Nov.

Courtesy of



TEA
PLEASE

BY FREDAUY

CROQUET TOURNAMENT



SPRING TOURNAMENT 2022

dermaglós



On Saturday 15th October The British Society's Spring Croquet Tournament took place at the Yacht Club Montevideo with a great number of players. The winning team this year was the duo of Gustavo Farolini and Richard Empson. Congrats to our crowned kings of croquet!



Johanna Hambrook, Joaquín Salhón, Andrea Davies, Sonsoles Baison



Gustavo Farolini, Richard Empson



Trevor Durnfor, Victor Pereyra, Danny Pereyra

CROQUET TOURNAMENT



Ignacio Medina, Gonzalo Preve , Daniel Bonelli



Daniel Bonelli, Mariana Forteza y María José Marfetán



María José Marfetán, Bruno Toledo , Mariana Forteza



Gonzalo Preve, Daniel Bonelli, Marco Li Calzi, Mauricio Suárez



Rodrigo Cámara, Sebastián Farolini



Juan Manuel Barros y Bruno Toledo



Walter Albanell, Diego Preve, Andrea Davies



Universidad Católica del Uruguay and British Culture.

Every year, the Universidad Católica del Uruguay allocates a week to activities that foster the humanistic sense, personal identity, purpose, entrepreneurial spirit, and world outlook of their students, and thus strengthen the profile of UCU graduates.

This year, the British Society in Uruguay was invited to participate in the activity called “The world is your classroom”. We were asked to present UK culture through one, or several, of its expressions (gastronomy, dance, music, literature, painting, etc.), so that students may have an intercultural experience right here in Montevideo. On this occasion, Prof. Alvaro Cuenca, writer and historian, gave a lecture on “England and the Purple Land.”.

The whole event took place on the week of 3 to 7 October. On Wednesday 5th October from 15:30 to 17:00 hours, Prof. Álvaro Cuenca gave his lecture to great acclaim.

On account of the success of this first collaboration, the possibility of deepening institutional links with UCUDAL and projecting new spaces for mutually beneficial exchanges was left open.

We will keep you informed.





Flower Show

Last Thursday we went to the Flower Show at the airport. Many thanks to The Garden Clubs of Uruguay for the invitation to such a lovely and colourful event!



Front row seats for us!

Pipe Band Gathering

What a magnificent show we saw this Saturday at The British Schools. The 9th South American Pipe Band Gathering organised by Scottish

Dance Uruguay was amazing. Many thanks to them for rolling out the red carpet for us and congratulations on such a wonderful event!!



Kenn met his friend George Stewart who was looking very smart!



At midday we had a delicious picnic in the Pavilion





Ministerial Visit

Minister for the Armed Forces and Veterans, James Heappey, visited Uruguay from 6-8 October. He had various meetings, including with Minister of Defence Javier García, Military Chiefs, the Uruguayan Antarctic Institute and the Peacekeeping School, which were a great opportunity to strengthen collaboration

and links between the two countries. The Minister also welcomed HMS PROTECTOR to Montevideo port on 8 October. He gave an interview with El Pais, where he talked about Ukraine and the bilateral relationship, among other topics.



HMS PROTECTOR

The crew of the British Icebreaker has carried out various activities in Uruguay while HMS Protector was in Port undergoing maintenance before heading to the Antarctic this summer. From school visits to providing maintenance itself to ADES search and rescue boats donated by the UK, they had a busy programme sharing their research activities in the South Atlantic, reaching different public groups and stakeholders. Captain Marylla Ingham Royal Navy shared her experience as the first HMS Protector female Captain, at a leadership forum held at the Ambassador's Residence.





Trade Dialogue

Spencer Mahony, Deputy Trade Commissioner for Latin America and the Caribbean, opened the first bilateral trade dialogue with Uruguay on 11 October. This was the first high-level forum since the Uruguayan government visit to London last May, in which both countries continued

to move forward on a range of trade promotion and market access issues. He also participated in the launch of scalp-cooling technology that prevents hair-loss for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, developed by British company Paxman.



Heritage Day

Over 1,200 visitors enjoyed guided tours of the Residence during Heritage Day, on 1st October. Guests were able to see a special exhibition honouring the memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,

a sample table promoting Conchillas National Tea Table Contest and classic Mini cars. They were able to enjoy British food and listen to live British music by the Embassy's band.

'SANAMOS APRENDIENDO', WHEN LEARNING HELPS HEALING

'Sanamos Aprendiendo' at The Anglo School

We are proud to share with this community that our school is sponsoring the programme **'Sanamos Aprendiendo'**, one of the projects of the *Fundación Humaniza Josefina*, a foundation that we have supported since its beginnings and which we hold close to our hearts.

This project is of immense emotional value to our educational community, given the bond and affection that unites us to the beloved family of Josefina Ruiz, our 5th year primary school student from The Anglo School Carrasco, who underwent cancer treatment for more than a year and a half and, sadly, is no longer with us today.

'Today Josefina is no longer with us, but the path travelled and her footprint is the driving force to give life to this project' said her parents after creating the *Fundación Humaniza Josefina* in 2018. Because of what Josefina meant to us, the Anglo could not miss the opportunity to support this valuable project.



'Sanamos Aprendiendo' – the project

Each year, 150 Uruguayan children and adolescents start cancer treatments that force them to interrupt their studies for prolonged periods of time. The survival

expectancy in Uruguay is around 80%, so after overcoming this harsh treatment, 8 out of 10 of these children must also face the loss of learning time. This takes an emotional toll on children, as it separates them from their peer group, sometimes for three or more years.

Sanamos Aprendiendo is a program that solves this problem by ensuring that hospitalised children do not miss school days. An interdisciplinary team of experts (doctors, psychologists, specialised teachers) work with the child and their family to create a learning environment for school-age children who are undergoing prolonged medical treatments that prevent them from attending school. The project provides these children with lessons either at the hospital or at their home so that they do not get left behind once they are able to go back to school.

Sanamos Aprendiendo was declared of educational interest by the National Administration of Public Education (ANEP) and the Ministry of Education and Culture and is currently functioning at the Pereira Rossell Hospital.



'SANAMOS APRENDIENDO', WHEN LEARNING HELPS HEALING

Josefina's experience: the inspiration for Sanamos Aprendiendo

'Josefina didn't want to spend her time drawing, all she wanted to do was to study, knowing that at some point she was going to be cured and that she was going to continue with her classmates and her studies without having missed anything'. This is how Florencia Krall recalls the time of her daughter's hospitalization, diagnosed with a rare type of cancer.

As a mother, the only thing that worried her was that her 10-year-old daughter could be cured; It was her father who realized that Josefina could not spend all day in bed thinking about her illness. This view was shared by The Anglo School, which did everything possible for Josefina to continue with her studies. Displaying commitment and love towards Josefina, her teachers worked with her while she was in hospital and at home, thus enabling Josefina to join her classmates and not feel left behind when she was able to attend school.

On Josefina's passing, her parents founded *Humaniza Josefina*, and later on the project **Sanamos Aprendiendo**. 'All the projects that at the time gave Josefina the strength to fight are the ones that give us strength today to move forward. And this idea of maintaining the educational link was one of the things that is most identified with humanising the hospitalisation process because we felt a before and an after for her. That is what we want to transmit to all these children, that strength' states Florencia.

'Sanamos Aprendiendo' in action

We believe it is important to involve our students so that they feel part of the project and the fundraising process, taking an active role and thus giving it meaning. The project is led by our Secondary students, especially those in Form 3, who were Josefina's classmates.

We organised a contest to create a logo that represented the project, to be printed on T-shirts, which would later be sold to raise funds for **Sanamos Aprendiendo**. This logo was chosen for its originality, creativity, and the message that the image transmits

We are pleased to say that we have sold over 500 t-shirts and on Fridays we all proudly wear our t-shirt to school.

We feel honoured to be part of this invaluable project which has such a positive impact on hospitalised children and their families.

Gerardo Valazza, our General Manager, tells us more information about the project and how to participate, please click [here](#). If you would like to contribute, please send a message to nfernandez@anglo.edu.uy



TEACHER TRAINING COURSES AT THE ANGLO



ANGLO DIPLOMA IN TEFL

(2-year course)

ANGLO CERTIFICATE IN TEFL

(1-year course)

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A CAREER IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ANGLO DIPLOMA IN TEFL
OR ANGLO CERTIFICATE IN TEFL?**

Listen and talk to Anglo Diploma in TEFL (TTC) & Anglo Certificate in TEFL (ACT) trainees and tutors.

We'll tell you about the requirements for the course, what it is like, what the work prospects for Anglo teacher trainees are and we'll answer all your questions!

TTC: Monday 5th December - 6:00 pm

ACT: Monday 5th December- 7:30 pm

Online talks via Zoom

With the international validation of NILE
(Norwich Institute for Language Education, UK)



Remembrance Day

Lest we forget

Friday, 11th of November 2022
10:30 am British Cemetery

Dear readers,

The year has gone by remarkably fast and Remembrance Day is just round the corner. Friday 11th of November, at 10:30 we shall be commencing our traditional solemn ceremony in our blooming gardens. With the presence of dignitaries from the UK, USA, France, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the European Union and Germany, we shall be paying our respects to the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country in armed conflicts since WW1 for the achievement of Peace and our responsibility for maintaining it. "The last Post" will be played at 11 o'clock and a minute of silence will be held. The event is open to public.

Saturday 1st of October was Heritage Day, this year dedicated to China Zorrilla, "uniting shores of life and history". The weather was kind and the attendance wonderful. Architect Eduardo Montemuiño guided the tours where actors made different personalities from our history, come to life, for the day. Scottish bagpipes by Patricia Izuibejeres marked the end of each tour. We have many photos of the event uploaded in our web site, if you are interested.

Lastly, Thursday 13th of October we held our AGM in the Britannia Hall. With the welcome presence of British Ambassador Faye O'Conner OBE and a small assembly present, the Year Results were presented and explained, authorities renewed and we ended with nibbles and a very positive and interesting conversation on the results and new ideas to consider.



British Schools Birthday

Once again, we rejoiced in celebrating the School's birthday as is our tradition. After two years of pandemic, where massive celebrations were put on hold, we got together to mark the School's 114th birthday.

The day began with a Whole School Assembly where Mr Rosevear and three students: Bautista Martínez, Sofía Civetta and Federico Armas delivered speeches referring to the origins of the School and the House system which is part of the essence of our School.

Mr Rosevear began by welcoming the students and mentioning that the House system came from the British public (private) boarding schools. Students, called boarders, lived at school in real houses, each nominally under the charge of a Housemaster. Generally, there were more boys' schools than girls, although that evened up over time, and most are now mixed.

Houses were named after either former Heads, saints, renowned Britons, maybe famous former students or characters from fiction or ancient history.

Later, Bautista took the stage and shared some interesting (and revealing) facts: he actually mentioned that the date we consider to be the School's birthday— October 8th—is actually not the real founding date, which is May 5th!

He also revealed more about the history of his house, Princes and Cuff. The men's house takes its name from one of the School's first headmasters, Mr. Arthur J. Cuff, who came from Buenos Aires in 1913, and was key in promoting sports at School. He was also a decisive figure in the founding of the Old Boys' Club.





Sofía Civetta then mentioned some facts about her house, Queens and Jones. The first to be named were the boys' houses, after three headmasters: Jones, Cuff and Blount. These were the first three headmasters to welcome boarders from Britain in their own homes, which is why we remember them. An interesting fact is that, initially, Jones was assigned two colours: red and blue. It later changed to only blue, and this is the colour that the Queens house adopted when it was created.

The girls' houses were created in 1930, several years after the boys'. The first Captain of Queens was called Jean Mackay Dick. She was actually the one who suggested the names for the three girls' houses: Kings, Queens and Princes, the same ones we use to this day. But at the beginning, no one belonged to any house. So, to divide the girls between the houses, each Captain took turns choosing girls from every generation to be part of their house.

Federico Armas closed the students' speeches by telling some of his own experiences in his house, Blount, mentioning that he carried this colour through his whole journey through the School. One surprising fact about the history of Blount/Kings is that the red colour that is usually visualized as representative of Kings and Blount wasn't the original. In its origin in 1926, Blount was given the blue and white colours.

Later, with a Gymnasium full of red, green and blue colours, the School Song was sung and the Interhouse sports began with Alfonso Mañé and Manuela Bodega carrying the torch to light as in the style of the Olympics. While the Senior School hosted its Interhouse, Junior students brought cakes and Happy Birthday was sung in many classes.





Senior Interhouse

On a splendid day with clear skies and warm weather we celebrated another School birthday with several events, one of which was the Senior School Interhouse.

From the oldest to the youngest, the joy and happiness of the students was clearly reflected in their faces. Apart from the highly technical athletic events, everyone was invited to take part in a cooperative competition in the 100-metre race for teachers, who were very committed throughout the day. The golden brooch of the morning was the final of the Tug of War for 4YL, whose students bid farewell to the P.E. curricular subject.

In the afternoon, House coloured T-shirts filled each and every one of the fields, giving a colourful display typical of this flowery springtime. The bands closed the party with a technical level of sounds and voices worthy of a professional competition.

It was an intense and pleasant day.







Lunch Invitation

Wednesday 9th November at 12:15 PM



Doctor of Political Science

Adolfo Garcé

Uruguayan politics after the elections in Brazil

Parva Domus, Punta Carretas

Bvar Artigas 136, Esq. Parva Domus

Those in need of a special menu (celiac, diabetic, vegetarian, etc.)
please notify the Club Secretary in advance to attend to your requirement.

More Information



www.cub.com.uy

GAME NIGHT



Upcoming Events at Christ Church

In the next few weeks, Christ Church will host or sponsor a variety of interesting opportunities for different people:

An Interreligious Dialogue event on behalf of Children, a Child Safety Seminar about protocols at Christ Church, a family Game Night, a Paseo down the Rambla, the first week of Advent, and the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday December 6th at 7:30pm.

You can find details on the calendar on our website. You are always welcome!

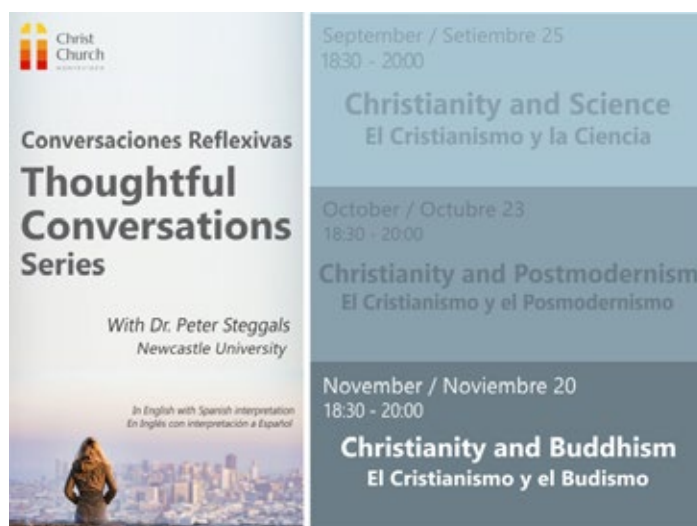
Warm regards,

Pastor John Hamilton



Emotionally Healthy Spirituality

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE SPIRITUAL MATURITY IF WE ARE EMOTIONALLY IMMATURE





NOVEMBER 26TH

venue:

FANTASY GARDEN

Av. Bolivia 2356, esq. Verona, Carrasco

OPEN DOORS at 21:30 hrs.

GRAND MARCH at 22 hrs.

Free Drinks, 3-Course Dinner,
Disco Music, Pipe Bands Shows,
Scottish Dancers Shows

You don't need a dance partner
nor an Eightsome.

Come and join us in the fun!

For information & Tickets,
or to join our dance classes, call:

María Helena 098 469 926

Juan Francisco 099 686 068

Verónica 094 164 255

or email us at:

contact.st.andrews.uruguay@gmail.com



BOOKING DEADLINE: November 10th

WE WILL HAVE DANCE REHERSALS ON:

Wednesdays: 2 - 9 - 16 and 23 November from 20 to 22 pm

at : E.A.A.L. Trochón, Canelones 2150

Saturdays: from 15 to 17 pm

5 - 19 November at: Britannia Hall, Rivera 3868

12 November at: Circulo Alpinista de Montevideo, Mateo Vidal 3228

The dances are:

The Eightsome Reel
The Dashing White Sergeant
Duke of Perth
The Reel of the Royal Scots
Cumberland Reel
Circassian Big Circle (version Isle of Barra)

The Nurseryman
The Highland Rambler
The Gay Gordons
Dunnet Head
Orcadian Strip the Willow

Please **CONFIRM** your interest to attend the rehearsals to 098 469 926

**AND REMEMBER TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE BALL
BEFORE NOVEMBER 10TH**

FAMILY DAY AT DICKENS INSTITUTE

On Saturday 15th October the Dickens Community celebrated, as year after year, Family Day. This celebration is looked forward to by Dickens youngsters and families, as well as the Dickens Staff.

This year the first part took place at the UDE, whose Directors very kindly offered their premises as we were simply too many for the planned activities! These were extremely enjoyable involving children, parents, teachers and clowns! Nothing shows the general enjoyment had by all better than pictures.



At lunchtime, everyone was invited to cross the road, where the Dickens and Staff were waiting in the lovely Dickens garden with frankfurters and popcorn as well as some delicacies brought by parents!

There were raffles of different prizes, but the most coveted were T-shirts of Uruguay!

Our thanks to everyone who helped Dickens Family Day to be a great success and make so many children and their families so happy.



IGCSE EXAMINATIONS

This has been a very busy month for IGCSE students in Uruguay. So many students, so many subjects, so much studying and yet, the true feeling these students have is that they have chosen the right path for their future.

All the very best to all the IGCSE students and may the future show them they have chosen the path that will help them achieve their dreams.



Official examination centre for Cambridge Assessment International Education



**Cambridge Assessment
International Education**

Cambridge Associate

**Outstanding Cambridge Learner
Awards Ceremony 2022**





Such Sweet Sorrow

A family friend died when I was six years old. It was my first encounter with death, and I panicked. The idea that our friend was gone and would never return was frightening. I wasn't ready for my first funeral. I was unsure how I was supposed to feel and what to do with unfamiliar emotions in public. Fortunately, my parents sympathized, and I was able to stay at home.

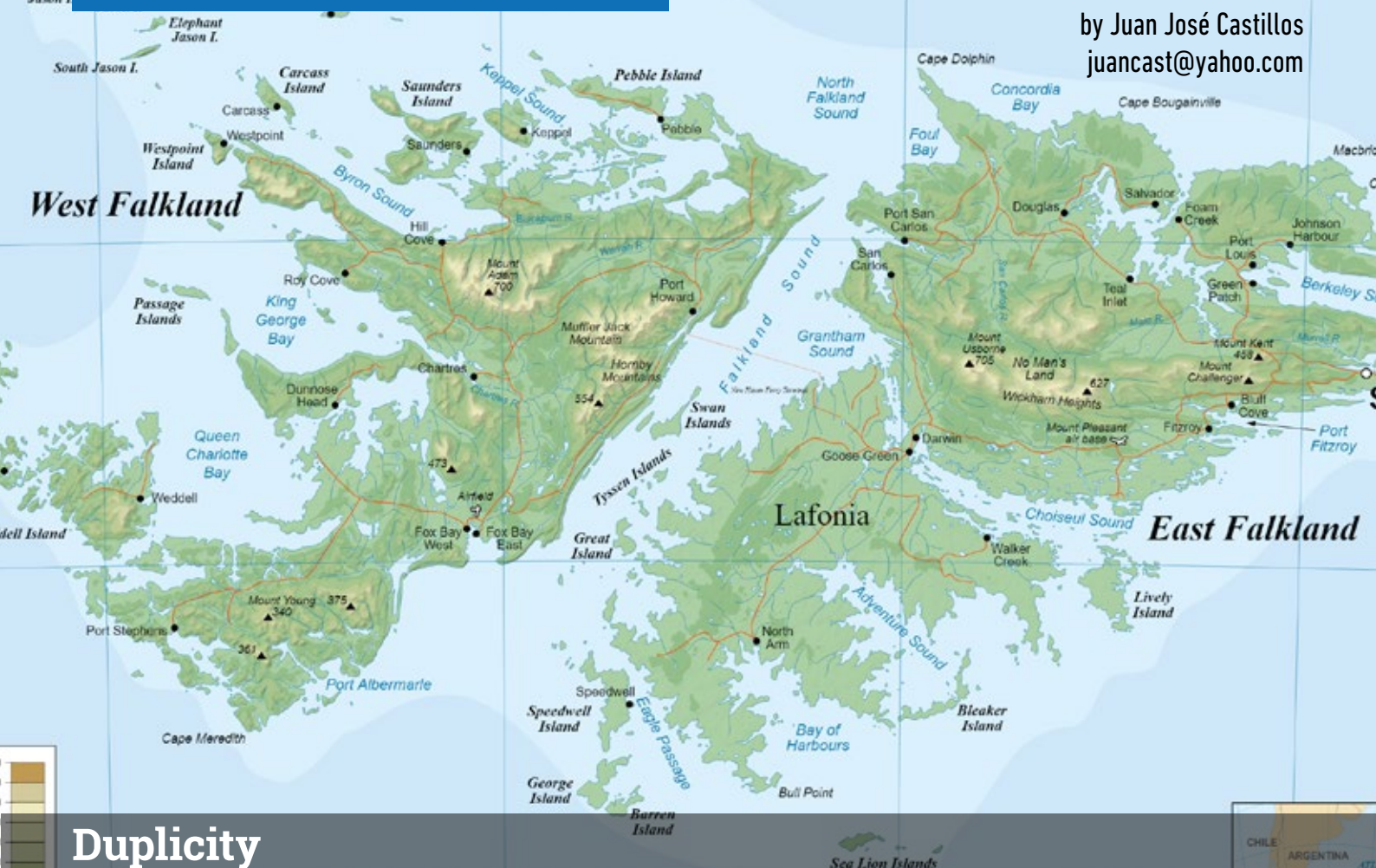
My next funeral was for George VI in 1952, when the British community in Montevideo bid farewell to a much-loved king and welcomed his daughter, our new queen. That death caused me none of the earlier panic or pain. It was so far away and was wrapped in the sort of pomp and pageantry that the British do so well, a welcome distraction. It was also a snapshot of the medieval times we were reading about in history class at the time, which was most illuminating. That was the dawning of the Age of Elizabeth II that has just now, in September 2022, come to an end. I am ambivalent about the monarchy as a system of government and question the role of the extended royal family that populates that system. But Queen Elizabeth was in a class of her own.

Her accession to the throne was never a foregone conclusion. Her uncle, Edward VIII, was first in the line of succession, and when George V died the crown automatically came to him, as the oldest son. He was never actually crowned, though, because he was in love with an American socialite, Mrs Wallis Simpson. At that time, the Church of England forbade marriage to a divorcée if the previous spouse was still living. As head of the Church, then, Edward, whose real name was David, could not marry the woman he loved and still be king. A constitutional crisis loomed. Edward eventually abdicated after about ten months on the job, and went into exile with Mrs Simpson, now the Duchess of Windsor. They proceeded to enjoy a flamboyant lifestyle as members of the international smart set, living in France on a pension from the crown and income from select

commercial ventures. Fade to black.

Following the abdication, the crown passed to David's younger brother, Bertie, who became George VI in 1936. Elizabeth, his oldest child, became the heir presumptive. She was ten at the time. The unexpected burden of the crown weighed heavily on the new king, drastically rearranging his life and taking a toll on his health. When he died, fifteen years later, the crown passed to his daughter. Destiny, working in mysterious ways, managed to place the crown on the most competent head in the family, where it then sat for seventy years. Despite not having been in the immediate line of succession, she was truly born for the role. On her 21st birthday, she publicly announced: "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong." Her life turned out to be long, and after her coronation in 1953, she devoted all of it to her duty as queen, becoming a symbol of steadfast devotion to an ideal that is at the heart of British identity.

Now she is gone. Her passing brought me none of the emotional turmoil of my first experience with dying. I have attended many funerals since then and have learned that life and death are one. But her departure marks the end of an era. Elizabeth Alexandra Mary was born about six weeks before Marilyn Monroe; she was contemporary with rock & roll, my generation's soundtrack, having been crowned just months before Rock Around the Clock was recorded. My sadness at her loss is therefore intertwined with a sense of fond nostalgia for her time, which is also my time. Such was the impact of her presence for seventy of my seventy-seven years that, like all my departed loved ones, she remains present in my mind and will no doubt continue to do so until my last funeral.



Duplicity

Argentina has for a long time claimed that the Falklands should be under their sovereignty, mainly because they belong to their continental block, and that Britain had no right to populate the Falklands with their people with the intent of invoking a right to control the islands. The islanders have even had a referendum in which an overwhelming majority voted to remain British. To the Argentinians this is not valid, and they accuse Britain of having a colonialist attitude.

The attempt in 1982 by the Argentinian military to seize the islands by force failed miserably, with many casualties on both sides. The Argentinians had probably thought the British government would accept the fait accompli and renounce their claim over the islands: a huge miscalculation on their part. Nevertheless, Argentina continues to insist on their demand that the Falklands be considered under its sovereignty, hoping that some future British government may ignore the wishes of its inhabitants and yield to its claim.

It is interesting to notice how some governments twist facts and evidence whenever it suits them but simultaneously invoke the counterarguments when these seem to have a better chance of success. The colonialist card, which has become a winning proposition whenever the dark past of many current or previously powerful nations is denounced, is often used to gain credibility.

Martín García, an island very near the coast of Colonia in Uruguay which Argentina occupied and whose inhabitants have always been Argentinians, used to have a population of several thousand people which today, for a number of reasons, has dwindled to just a couple hundreds.

The dispute over such an island between Uruguay and Argentine was settled in the second half of last century by an agreement in which it would be under Argentinian sovereignty. However, a new island created in the last few decades by sedimentary deposits from the River Plate and which has grown enormously in size to match the size of Martín García, Timoteo Domínguez, was accepted by both sides as being Uruguayan, since the soil over which both islands stand, was also declared to be Uruguayan.

So, we have here the duplicity by Argentina to claim the island of Martín García as theirs, since it has been populated by them for a long time, in spite of belonging to Uruguay by its very nature and being very close to Colonia, but at the same time disputing the possession of the Falklands, invoking similar reasons but in reverse to their position elsewhere. We have here a self-serving contradictory policy that defies belief.



Edward, aged 9

by Alvaro Cuenca
acuena66@gmail.com



Arazatí Station, Maragato Line

King's Cross was the usual railway station in London that connected England with Scotland. As from 1863 the Northern traveller arriving to London would then take the Metropolitan Line subway to their final destination in the capital. The first underground railway system in the world had been built, befittingly, in the capital of the British Empire during the reign of Queen Victoria. The Scot Buxton (Buck) Johnston, who came from a hard Abolitionist family on his mother's side, did not debark at Arazatí Station after a long and harsh Atlantic crossing in 1866, but his name would be forever connected to the metropolis subway system through his second Uruguayan born son, Edward.

Latin America was not the most popular destination for the Scottish diaspora of the XIX Century as it was seen as a hostile environment. It was not only the distances, the swamps and the dangerous natives, but the huge cultural difference of an enormous continent that had been under Iberian domination for three hundred years. Why would a Middle class Scot end up on the fringes of semi-civilised Uruguay?

'Buxton was an enigma, an erratically brilliant, original and highly eccentric person'. Always at odds with his rigorous father, he left Rugby school prematurely, bought a commission in the Dragoon Guards and travelled to India. His military life came to an abrupt end due to an illness that nearly cost his life. He recovered in England and in 1866 his restlessness brought him to Uruguay. He arrived and bought Arazatí, a farm in San José. *'The place was remote. Buxton is said to have had a scheme for making soap from wild horses. Whatever he actually did it seems probable that he lost a good deal of money over it'.* Two years later Buxton married Alice Douglas, daughter of other Scottish settlers of Córdoba, Argentina. Alice was as pious as Buxton's family at home, which made for a difficult relationship. It was in this strange and unappealing household that Edward Johnston was born in 1872.

When the Johnston's finally settled in England in 1875, Edward had crossed the Atlantic two times already and

the castle-type house that Buxton had designed and built in Arazatí would be the only permanent home he would eventually have. The family lived near London during Edward's childhood, with little pure air and less space to roam freely. His only known recollection of his early life in Uruguay show some happy memories: *'I don't know when my heart has been so glad, since the days when I ran or toddled, brain free and joyous, when I rolled in the green grass and thought red and white clover lovely flowers and so filled my hands with sweet bundles of them. When I caught grass-hoppers and, witless of cruelty, put them in my pockets with hard little green apples, small potatoes and carrots and string'.*

Edward's mother became chronically ill after their return to England and he was raised by his aunt Maggie, and educated at home. After a short spell on medical studies at the University of Edinburgh he was introduced to the study of manuscripts at the Central School of Arts and Crafts. He found his calling in this profession and taught at the Royal College of Art. In 1913 he was commissioned to create the typeface of the London underground, his most remembered accomplishment. Edward Johnston died in 1944, already regarded in life as the father of modern calligraphy.

The relationship of Edward Johnston with Uruguay was very short and just by chance and had no influence on his famous professional career; but his family left a mark that still survives in the San Jose coast of the River Plate. Arazatí, the farmhouse that Buxton Johnston built still stands, and was property of the Voulminot family until it passed onto the hands of a Peruvian agriculture company. The peculiar staircase to the second floor on the exterior is mute proof of Buxton's architectural limitations: He forgot to put it on the first floor plan.

Quotes from Priscilla Johnston's biography of his father Edward Johnston.



8th Edition Tea-Table Spread Competition

On Saturday 22nd October, as part of the celebrations marking 135 years since the foundation of Conchillas, the 8th edition of their Tea-Table Spread competition: “This is the way we have tea in Conchillas”, was held at Casa Evans, a house founded in 1910 by the British.

The event was a resounding success. In honour of Queen Elizabeth II, a new category was introduced this year for returning participants, and there was an amateur category for those competing for the first time. There were in total 28 beautifully set tea tables with delectable scones with marmalade and cakes. Among the cakes you could find options to satisfy all palates, including Welsh Cake, Carrot Cake, Chocolate Biscuit Cake (the Queen’s favourite) and Victoria Sponge. There were also personalized cakes and cakes covered with edible flowers.

Germán Villar, who became known to all as “The Piper”, opened and closed the celebration. The Judges were sommelier and tea blender Monica Devoto, headmistress of the The Hospitality and Gastronomy Institute Luciana Andión and professor Gladys Meyer. The winning prizes were presented by representatives of the British Embassy and from Colonia’s departmental government.

Conchilla’s Tea-Table Spread Competition is an event sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism and one we at BSU will continue to support. So be sure to join us next year!



Piper Germán Villar



Mario & Lucia Leal - Museo Remember



Sara Telechea, Elizabeth Silva, Silvia Batista, Andrea Davies, Christine Ann Sarkis, Ana Inés García, Carmen Álvarez, Piper Germán Villar, Isabel Piñeyro, Mercedes Besada

Healthcare The Day After

October 2022 marked the 60th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Since that historic standoff, the world has gone through times of nuclear deterrence-and-avoidance of an all-wipe-out-war, successive arms reduction treaties and the fall of the Soviet Union and its puppet regimes in Eastern Europe. Real-socialism as an option is obsolete, in spite of the efforts of North Korea, Cuba, Venezuela and their allies, to prove otherwise. Four decades of economic boom in China, where the ruling Communist Party demonstrated that capitalism is the way to prosperity, made that country the second economic world power, behind the USA and above Japan.

I arrived in London for the first time in late November 1983. On the 30th, the film 'The Day After' was aired on TV across the UK, Europe and other countries. (The film is free to view on YouTube.) Mikhail Gorbachev wasn't yet the leader of the Soviet Union and Chernobyl, glasnost and perestroika hadn't been born, and the prospect of nuclear war was hovering above the world. Good Mikhail and Ronald Reagan gave us four decades during which we lived in what seemed to be a nuclear fallout-free world – until now. A century to the decade when Mein Kampf was written by Hitler and Mussolini consolidated his power in Italy, we're again surrounded by similar demons, in Europe, Russia and the Americas.

I recently received via WhatsApp (as I suspect many of my readers have) a short video on what would happen if a state-of-the-art nuclear bomb hit an urban centre (<https://youtu.be/dxJHecyYBno>). The effects on structures and living beings, both in time and in distance from the epicentre, are aptly described, although I couldn't verify if the stated source was valid. Until the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1963, which prohibited all tests unless done underground, many Pacific islands and desolated places in America and Russia were used to find out how destructive these weapons were. (France didn't sign the treaty and continued to put its Mururoa atoll under nuclear fire about 180 times until 1996.)

What has this to do with medicine and healthcare? What is the reason Finland and Sweden are stocking massive amounts of iodine tablets? Recall that these two countries are in the interface between Russia and NATO. What should we expect in the southern hemisphere, where the fallout may

be delayed for weeks, but sooner or later we'll be breathing, drinking and eating radioactive air, water and food? Medicine and healthcare don't exist in a vacuum. They both depend on infrastructure, communications, supplies and trained personnel, plus a central authority which distributes resources depending on needs and priorities. In a sense, our governments and health ministries responded to the COVID-19 pandemic in ways which may have been a small-scale drill of what can happen in a northern hemisphere all-out nuclear war. Potassium iodide (KI) tablets are provided to saturate our thyroid glands with non-radioactive iodine, blocking radioactive 131-Iodine originating in a nuclear blast from causing future thyroid problems, especially in younger people, and pregnant women and their fetuses. Iodine does not help beyond that.

Wartime medicine like what's happening in parts of Ukraine and during the London blitz and the blanket-bombing of Germany in WW2, won't be possible in areas hit by nuclear blasts short of a certain radius: very little if anything will be left in place. Few and overwhelmed trained healthcare personnel will do little more than triage victims and focus on those salvageable. The main problems, as seen in the 1983 film, have to do with the broken fabric of society, where competition between tribal and what's-left-of governmental rebuilding of the power structure, determine the use of progressively limited resources.

Down here, south of the Equator, we may have some time to plan ahead. Healthcare will feel the effect from broken supply chains and lack of critical resources. South America may receive reverse migration from northern hemisphere countries, further straining our already stretched-out economies. Our commodities can become a target for powerful nations and our countries may be invaded or controlled by different means.

Nuclear warhead-rattling is at present a daily theme in mainstream international news media. The use of 'tactical' as opposed to 'strategic' nuclear weapons by Russia cannot be used to downplay the risk: the 1983 film depicts the escalation from limited use of tactical to full-scale launching of strategic ballistic missiles.

Healthcare in a nuclear scenario is a nightmare. Let's hope we learn from 1962, Mikhail and Ronald.

Oldest English Record about Uruguay, the Mystery before the “War of Jenkins’ Ear”.

Going forward in the ancestral relationship between the United Kingdom and Uruguay, we have to move on until the year 1715 to find the oldest English records about our natural territory.

It was written by a naval physician whose work deserves to be specially remarked: William Toller was the onboard surgeon of the merchant sloop HMS Warwick which had sailed along the coast of Rocha and Montevideo from May to June in 1715.

His manuscript entitled “*The History of a voyage to river of Plate and Buenos Aires, from England*” has the value of being the first known scientific description of the flora and fauna of Uruguay.

It is not clear enough how his diary finally ended in Spain. It is possible that the merchant ship Warwick was intercepted and raided by the Spanish coastguard ships making port in Montevideo, during a time in which Spain was deeply concerned about foreign ships that avoided what was called the “Asiento” regime.

The Asiento was a document included in some peace agreements that approved the trading to Spanish colonies. In 1713 Spain granted Great Britain a thirty-years' Asiento quota of one merchant ship at a time.

However, this agreement came to an end in 1739 with the incident known as “Jenkins’ Ear” in which a Spanish Captain cut off the ear of Robert Jenkins, Commander of the HMS Rebecca merchant ship. From that moment on Britain resigned to its rights on the Asiento and unleashed a naval warfare against Spain into the West Indies colonies. The Asiento war lasted until 1748 and was better known as the “War of Jenkins’ Ear”.

In the case of Dr. Toller and the HMS Warwick, they belonged to the South Sea Company which was indeed covered by the Asiento contract. In this case, the question remains to whether the captain of the Warwick had the

correct document or not, and the reason why the personal diary of the ship's surgeon Dr. Toller ended in Spain.

Here are some interesting travel notes that show what a sailor and surgeon of that time wrote:

Feb 17 th. At 4 this afternoon we (...) [departed] from Plymouth in His Mayesty Ship Warwick Capt. Henrry Partington Commanding the ship being fitted for the Service of the S. Sea Comp. a 4th Rate [ship] now carrying only 32 Guns & 150 men of service (...) route to Buenos Aires.

May 23th. The surest marks for the River of Plate is to run in the Lat: of 35 15 'untill you came into 80 fa: [fathoms] (...) in the same Lat: easy ground youl be within 20 Leags of the Isle de Lupus [Lobos] (...) sight of the Mo [mouth] of Maldonado, & Island (...) wherby you are sure Land fall for your further directions.

June 21st. This morning at 7 we course to the Isle of Flores (...) Flores its self is 3 Rocky most above & some under water joyning them. On it are many Lobos, birds & e. The land is Low from C. Blanco to Mo Vidio, being a sandy plain Coast that it makes a semicircular Bay the character in the center. The best part is called the Bay of Mo Video.



"Sort of fish, flowers and trees of Castillos and Mo Vidio"



Paiva Institute

Hello! How are you all? We want to continue telling you about the things we do at our home at Paiva. Today we will be telling you about our farm-work.

Within this area, we learn about agriculture, animal breeding, cattle raising, feedlots, how to handle bovines, and maintenance of the relevant equipment and grounds such as the “bretes” and “mangas”. We are given a general overview of all related aspects of farm-work so we may be able to later choose what we want to do when we grow older, whether it will be herding, breeding or fattening cattle or if we would rather do carpentry work or electrical maintenance jobs.

In the afternoon we form teams. One team checks on the animals, ensuring the cattle are in good condition and looking for animals that need to be cured, vaccinated, castrated, marked, or changed to another pen. Another team cleans and tidies up the dairy, the stables, and the



warehouses where we keep our tools and machinery. And yet another team is in charge of doing ground maintenance work, such as building and repairing fences, fertilizing feeding plots, and the like.

Farm-work is without a doubt the training area that we all enjoy the most.





Pork Loin Braised In An Orange, Ginger And Mustard Sauce

Upon my arrival in Uruguay many years ago my dear mother in law prepared me a special dish of pork chops with apple sauce as her way of making me feel less homesick. Alas, I was looking forward to a meal with juicy, tender, Uruguayan steak.

However, I did enjoy my pork chops as in those days even though pork was rather expensive, it was still locally produced and a quality product. Nowadays it is very difficult to find home produced pork in Uruguay as the vast majority is imported frozen from Brazil. The quality is not the same as home produced pork, which, when it can be found is fresh, and if you are lucky, produced from a rare breed which can be succulent, flavoursome and have crackling to die for, due to slow growth farming.

The main advantage of the imported pork which can be purchased in most main supermarkets is its price. It can be ridiculously cheap and, if well prepared with a tasty sauce, is a valuable option for everyday eating.

The recipe today is for a pork loin, unfortunately lean and without any fat. It is important to cook it in the oven, within a sauce and not to overcook it.

Ingredients – 4 Portions

- 1 kg pork loin
- Freshly ground black pepper corns
- Paprika
- Oregano
- Thyme
- 1 teasp grated fresh ginger
- 1 teasp finely chopped garlic
- 4 tablespoons olive oil, or any oil of your choice
- 1 leek cut into 1-cm cubes
- ½ finely chopped red onion
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger
- Juice of 4 oranges
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Zest of 2 oranges and half a lemon
- 150 ml chicken stock or water and half a stock cube
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- Corn flour for thickening

Method

Mix together the pepper, paprika, oregano, thyme, ginger and garlic with 2 tbsp of olive oil. Season the whole pork loin with this mixture and leave in the fridge for a few hours or overnight for the flavours to be absorbed.

Seal the pork in the remaining 2 tbsp of oil until nicely browned. Remove from pan adding more oil if necessary; lightly fry the leeks and onion before adding the ginger and stirring in for 10 seconds more. Add the orange and lemon juice, zest, chicken stock and brown sugar. Bring to the boil.

Place the pork loin in a Dutch oven or braising tray or pan and add the flavoured liquid. It should half cover the pork, so it is important that the size of your chosen pan is the correct one to just accommodate the meat. Cover the pork with a lid or tin foil or baking paper and place in a preheated oven at 180°C for approximately one hour. Halfway through cooking turn the pork over. The pork is ready when it reaches an internal temperature of 63°C.

CHEF PHILLIP'S CORNER

Remove the pork from the sauce and cover in a warm place to rest while the sauce is being reduced. Remove the sauce from the braising pot to a pan and over a direct heat reduce the liquid to concentrate the flavour. Take care that the sauce doesn't stick to the bottom of the pan but it really does require a strong heat to speed up the reducing process. Frequently taste the sauce until it has a strong concentrated flavour and is not salty.

To finish, add the sauce to a blender or liquidiser and check the consistency. If it requires further thickening, add cubes of cold butter to the sauce while mixing so the butter is incorporated into the sauce to help thicken it. Alternatively, return the liquidised sauce to the saucepan and add corn flour mixed with stock or water and bring back to the boil.

To serve, slice the pork, pour the sauce over the top. Delicious with glazed sweet potatoes and a glass of dry white wine.

Different options

- The oregano and thyme can be changed for sage leaves
- When adding the onions and garlic, add a little bit of finely chopped chili pepper to make your pork a little spicier
- Honey instead of brown sugar
- Balsamic vinegar instead of lemon juice
- Any mustard can be used if you do not have Dijon mustard. Just make sure it is not too hot. If no mustard is used, the orange-ginger sauce will still be delicious
- Using a slow cooker is another option for preparing this dish. Use a low setting (87°C) and cook for 3 ½ hours. Slow cooking is more forgiving than traditional roasting or braising as the cooking time is not so exact and overcooking slightly will not leave the meat dry and hard

Notes

- Be careful with any addition of salt to this dish, especially if you are using stock cubes. Since the sauce will be reduced to concentrate its flavour. If necessary, add salt to the sauce once it is finished
- Finely grate the zest of the orange and lemon (the zest is the outer coloured part of the peel) taking care not to grate the white pith which is bitter and unpleasant
- If the pork loin is overcooked it becomes dry and tough. When sliced it should be still juicy inside and release a clear liquid showing it is not too dry
- If you thicken a sauce with cubes of cold butter, it must not be boiled again or the butter will split and form a fatty layer on the surface of the liquid
- If you prefer, do not liquidise the sauce, so you can see the small pieces of leek as in the photo.

If you wish to have the meal prepared before your guests arrive, you can slice the pork and pour the sauce over it in an oven-proof serving tray and cover with tin foil. Reheat in the oven taking care that the sauce does not boil and the meat overheat and toughen.

The same recipe could be utilized to cook a piece of pork shoulder (bondiola) instead of pork loin, or whole chicken legs or breasts. Take into account the different cooking time depending on the size and shape of the meat.

LAMB CHOPS

How We Got A Flat

I took my wife and children

To rent a little flat.

The owner said 'Twelve children?

I can't be having that.'

So back we went to hunting

And we found one in the search:

But this time while I viewed it,

I left them at a church.

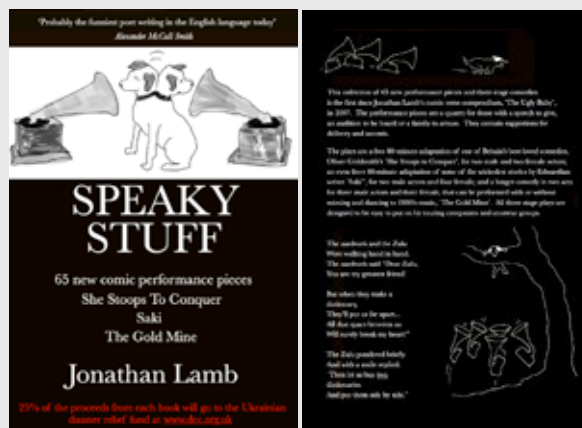
The owner said, 'You've children?'

'We had twelve', I said, 'But now


They're in the graveyard with their Mum...'

The truth is best, somehow.

by Jonathan Lamb
vozinglesa@gmail.com



From Jonathan Lamb's new book of performance material, *Speaky Stuff*, published in June 2022 with a quarter of the cover price (\$1000 or a twenty-pound note) going to the Ukrainian disaster relief fund at www.dec.org.uk. To order copies, write to vozinglesa@gmail.com.



Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Child*

Salman Rushdie -Sir Salman, knighted for his services to literature in 2007 -was born in 1947, the year of India's independence. In 1981 he published his most renowned novel, *Midnight's Children*, Booker Prize winner, and then winner of the Booker of Bookers, twice. Rushdie's protagonist, Saleem Sinai is born at the stroke of midnight on August 15, 1947, the very moment of India's independence. Reflecting on his novel recently, Rushdie wrote:

"When I started to think about the work that would grow into *Midnight's Children*, I looked again at the great Russian novels of the 19th century, *Crime and Punishment*, *Anna Karenina*...I also had in mind *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. But I was also thinking about another kind of capaciousness, the immense epics of India, and the fabulist traditions of the *Thousand and One Nights*. I was thinking of India's oral narrative traditions, too, which were a form of storytelling in which digression was almost the basic principle. And, because it was to be a novel of Bombay, it had to be rooted in the movies as well, movies of the kind now called "Bollywood", in which calamities such as babies exchanged at birth and given to the wrong mothers were everyday occurrences.

I wanted to write a novel in which memory and politics, love and hate would mingle on every page".

Midnight's Children opens:

"I was born in the city of Bombay...once upon a time. No, that won't do, there's no getting away from the date. I was born on August 15th, 1947. And the time? ...it's important to be precise... On the stroke of midnight, as a matter of fact.... oh spell it out: at the precise instance of India's arrival at independence, I tumbled forth."

Greeted by fireworks displays, cheering crowds, and Prime Minister Nehru himself, Saleem grows up to learn the ominous consequences of this coincidence. His life is inseparable, at times indistinguishable, from the history of his country. Perhaps most remarkable are the telepathic powers linking him with India's 1,000 other "midnight's children," all born in that initial hour and endowed with

magical gifts. Together with the other children born at midnight, Saleem feels that he is "handcuffed to history", but only he, born with a huge nose, and an uncanny sense of smell, can sniff out danger, even more than Shiva or Parvati-the witch, also born at midnight and who are also part of the historical events which follow independence: partition, Mrs Gandhi's State of Emergency - never referred to by her name but totally recognisable as the sinister white-and-black haired Widow- to the Independence Day of the ending, when Saleem is 31.

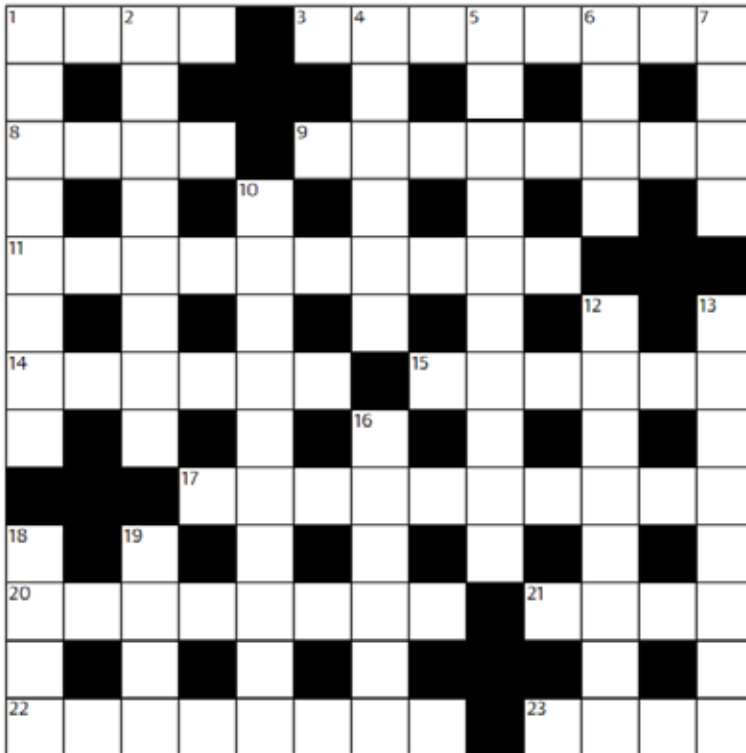
Rushdie again: "For all its surrealist elements *Midnight's Children* is a history novel, looking for an answer to the great question history asks us: what is the relationship between society and the individual, between the macrocosm and the microcosm? Do we make history, or does it make (or unmake) us? Are we the masters or victims of our times?" The ending of *Midnight's Children* is bleak:

"It is the privilege and the curse of midnight's children to be both masters and victims of their times, to forsake privacy and be sucked into the annihilating whirlpool of the multitudes and be unable to live or die in peace".

And in a way, this ending is mirrored in Rushdie's life story. After his 1988 novel, *The Satanic Verses*, Rushdie became the subject of several assassination attempts, including a fatwa calling for his death issued by the leader of Iran. On 12 August 2022, a man repeatedly stabbed Rushdie when he was about to deliver a lecture, in Chautauqua, New York. On 23 October, reports said Rushdie had lost sight in one eye and the use of one hand but survived the murder attempt.

The magical realism of *Midnight's Children* is also present in his 2019 novel *Quichotte*, a powerful satire of our time. Cervantes' knight-errant is Ismail Smile travelling across America with a son, Sancho. Ismail hopes to win the heart of TV star, Salma, a fellow Indian-American he's never met, sending her love letters signed "Quichotte", believing "love will find a way" of bringing them together.

Do read!



Print this page and start playing!
Solution in our next Contact issue.

October solution:

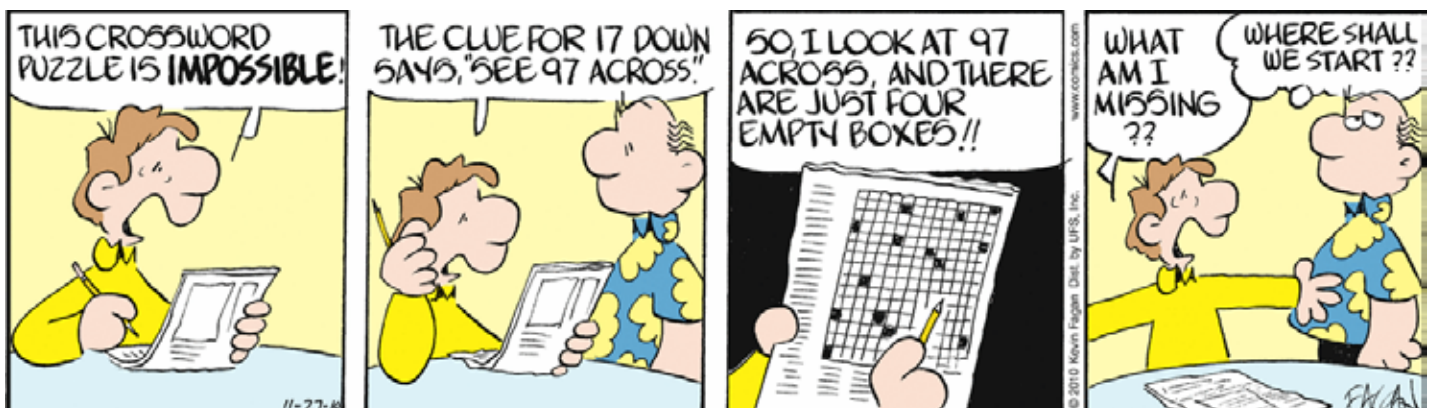


Across

- 1 Ado (4)
- 3 Overshadowed (8)
- 8 Rove (4)
- 9 Series of military operations (8)
- 11 Meal in tray (anag) — relating to nourishment (10)
- 14 Lugubrious (6)
- 15 Bedlam (anag) (6)
- 17 Pizza topped with mozzarella, tomato and basil (10)
- 20 Hostile — unfavourable (8)
- 21 Hindu spring festival in honour of Krishna (4)
- 22 Coiled fossil shell — met Naomi (anag) (8)
- 23 Fingered — matted material (4)

Down

- 1 Personal guns (8)
- 2 Man of La Mancha, say (8)
- 4 Talkative (6)
- 5 Simultaneously (2,8)
- 6 Peel (4)
- 7 All over (4)
- 10 Jane Austen novel (10)
- 12 It will eat anything (8)
- 13 Impractical person (8)
- 16 Horrified (6)
- 18 ___ Simone, US singer, d. 2003 (4)
- 19 Resistant to pressure (4)



Drabble by Kevin Fagan - <https://www.gocomics.com/>

NOVEMBER DATES IN BRITISH CULTURE



5th November: Guy Fawkes Night

On November 5, 1605, Guy Fawkes and a group of radical English Catholics tried to assassinate King James I by blowing up Parliament's House of Lords. The plot went awry and all of the conspirators were executed. Soon after, Britons began to celebrate Fawkes' demise and the survival of their king by burning effigies, lighting bonfires and setting off fireworks—a tradition which has continued to this day.



11th November: Remembrance Day

#RemembranceDay, also known as #PoppyDay due to the symbol of the remembrance poppy, is a day observed in Commonwealth member states. Countries such as Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom observe Remembrance Day on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.



14th November: HM King Charles III Birthday

King Charles III, the oldest son of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, is king of the United Kingdom. He ascended to the throne after the death of his mother Queen Elizabeth II on September 8, 2022. At 73, he is the oldest person ever to assume the British throne.



20th November: Royal Wedding

On Nov. 20, 1947, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip tied the knot, marking the beginning of what would become the longest royal marriage in history. Spanning the entirety of the late monarch's 70-year reign and then some, the couple's union was one built on love and acceptance.



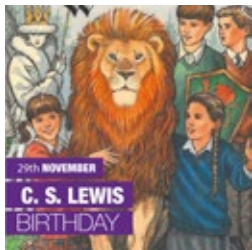
20th November: FIFA World Cup Begins

The #2022FIFAWorldCup, the 22nd running of the FIFA World Cup competition (the quadrennial international men's football championship contested by the senior national teams of the member associations of FIFA) starts on this day in Qatar and will run to 18 December 2022.



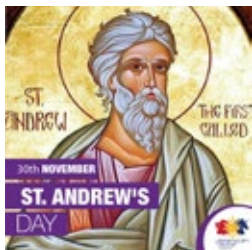
26th November: Alice in Wonderland is Published 1865

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (commonly Alice in Wonderland) is an 1865 English novel by Lewis Carroll. It details the story of a young girl named Alice who falls through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world of anthropomorphic creatures. It is seen as an example of the literary nonsense genre and is now one of the best-known works of Victorian literature; its narrative, structure, characters and imagery have had widespread influence on popular culture and literature, especially in the fantasy genre.



29th November: C.S. Lewis Birthday

This day marks the birth anniversary of British author C. S. Lewis, famous for his bestselling book in the fiction genre-#TheChroniclesOfNarnia. His work has been translated into 30 languages and has sold millions of copies all over the world. Although Lewis is mostly known for his fictional work, he was popular as a poet, academic and a Christian apologist, much before he set about writing his books.



30th November: St. Andrew's Day

Saint Andrew's Day (Scots: Saunt Andra's Day, Scottish Gaelic: Là Naomh Anndrais) is Scotland's official national day. Saint Andrew is the patron saint of many places including: Cyprus, Scotland, Greece (City of Patras), Romania, Russia, Ukraine, the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, San Andrés Island (Colombia), Saint Andrew (Barbados) and Tenerife (Spain).

The WWI Origins of the Poppy as a Remembrance Symbol

From 1914 to 1918, World War I took a greater human toll than any previous conflict, with some 8.5 million soldiers dead of battlefield injuries or disease. The Great War, as it was then known, also ravaged the landscape of Western Europe, where most of the fiercest fighting took place. Across northern France and Flanders (northern Belgium), the brutal clashes between Allied and Central Powers soldiers tore up fields and forests, tearing up trees and plants and wreaking havoc on the soil beneath.

But in the warm early spring of 1915, bright red flowers began peeking through the battle-scarred land: *Papaver rhoeas*, known variously as the Flanders poppy, corn poppy, red poppy and corn rose. The brilliantly colored flower is actually classified as a weed, which makes sense given its tenacious nature.

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a Canadian who served as a brigade surgeon for an Allied artillery unit, spotted a cluster of poppies that spring, shortly after the Second Battle of Ypres. McCrae tended to the wounded and got a firsthand look at the carnage of that clash, in which the Germans unleashed lethal chlorine gas for the first time in the war. Some 87,000 Allied soldiers were killed, wounded or went missing in the battle (as well as 37,000 on the German side).

Struck by the sight of bright red blooms on broken ground, McCrae wrote a poem, "In Flanders Field," in which he channeled the voice of the fallen soldiers buried under those hardy poppies. Published in *Punch* magazine in late 1915, the poem would be used at countless memorial ceremonies, and became one of the most famous works of art to emerge from the Great War. Its fame had spread far and wide by the time McCrae himself died, from pneumonia and meningitis, in January 1918.

A Frenchwoman named Anna Guérin had championed the symbolic power of the red poppy from the beginning. Guérin organized French women, children and veterans to make

and sell artificial poppies as a way to fund the restoration of war-torn France. Guérin brought her campaign to England, where in November 1921 the newly founded (Royal) British Legion held its first-ever "Poppy Appeal," which sold millions of the silk flowers and raised over £106,000 (a hefty sum at the time) to go towards finding employment and housing for Great War veterans. The following year, Major George Howson set up the Poppy Factory in Richmond, England, in which disabled servicemen were employed to make the fabric and paper blooms.

Other nations soon followed suit in adopting the poppy as their official symbol of remembrance. Today, nearly a century after World War I ended, millions of people in the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Belgium, Australia and New Zealand don the red flowers every November 11 (known as Remembrance Day or Armistice Day) to commemorate the anniversary of the 1918 armistice. The Poppy Factory (now located in Richmond, England and Edinburgh, Scotland) is still the center of poppy production, churning out as many as 45 million poppies made of various materials each year.

"In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

Source: *How the Poppy Became a WWI Remembrance Symbol* (<https://www.history.com/news/world-war-i-poppy-remembrance-symbol-veterans-day>)

Meet our columnists

Jorge Stanham



Column: Medical Column

Topic: General and relevant medical and health care issues

How long have you been a writer for Contact?
Since December 2011.

What inspires your monthly column?
I like to write.

How would you define your column?
Finding the important meanings behind what is happening in health care.

Which is your favourite article to date?
October 2015: 'Gifts, notes and letters'.

Tell us a little about yourself.
I was born in Montevideo, Uruguay and grew up there, attending Zena Hubber's Kindergarten, The British Schools, and Colegio Seminario. I then studied medicine at the Universidad de la República, specializing in Internal Medicine and Public Health. I also got certified in Existential Analysis and Logotherapy, and got a diploma in Health Care Quality and Patient Safety.



As doctor, I worked at the British Hospital (house doctor, staff physician, Medical Director, Medical Advisor), the US Embassy (Medical Advisor), the British Embassy (Medical Adviser), and the Facultad de Medicina Udelar (teaching staff).

I retired from my general medical practice a few years ago, and now enjoy living 50/50 between La Pedrera and Montevideo.

What are the values that drive you?
Family life; collegiality with my workmates; free and open society.

Do you have a favorite quote?
"When you're up to your neck in alligators, it's hard to give serious consideration to draining the swamp."

Favorite books, films, music?
Books: Irvin Yalom's 'Staring at the Sun'.
Films: '2001 A Space Odyssey' by Stanley Kubrick and 'Interstellar' by Christopher Nolan.
Records: The Beatles, Creedence Clearwater Revival and Elton John.

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?
Reading, writing, cycling, walking... and daydreaming!
My hobbies include chess and garden woodwork (fences, gates, etc).

What's on your plate right now? Any current projects?
My wife, my children and grandchildren are always foremost on my plate. I'm also trying to achieve some basic knowledge about programming with Python.

Where can we see more of you and/or your work?
Facebook as Jorge C Stanham;
Books:
• 'La Relación entre Médico y Paciente', Montevideo: El Toboso, 2010.
• 'The Hamsterwheel': Amazon/Kindle, 2017.

How did the Saltire become Scotland's national flag?

The St Andrew's Cross or saltire is Scotland's national flag. Tradition has it that the flag, the white saltire on a blue background, the oldest flag in the Commonwealth and Europe, originated in a battle fought in East Lothian in the Dark Ages.

It is believed that the battle took place in the year 832AD between an army of Picts under Angus mac Fergus, high king of Alba, and aided by a contingent of Scots led by Eochaidh, king of Dalriada, and a larger force of Angles and Saxons under one Athelstan.

Fearing the outcome of the encounter, King Angus led prayers for deliverance and was rewarded by the dramatic appearance overhead of a white saltire (the diagonal cross on which St Andrew had been martyred) against a blue sky. The king vowed that if, with the saint's help, he gained victory, then Andrew would thereafter be the patron saint of Scotland. The Scots did win and in due course, the Saltire became the flag of Scotland.

