

**BSU
Croquet Tournament**

**Back To The Future
Back to the Future IV**

**Bits and Pieces
Climate Change**

**Oceanids
Echoes of the Mist:
Unraveling the Secrets of
La Calavera, Cabo Polonio.**



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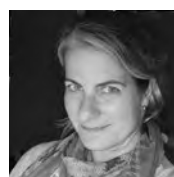
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Montevideo, Uruguay

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Dear Members,

I hope July finds you in good health and high spirits despite the low temperatures. Uruguay continues to be globally recognized due to the exceptional leadership of President Lacalle Pou, who received the Gold Insignia award from the Council of the Americas.

In addition to our international recognition for exceptional governance, we have also earned a well-deserved reputation for excellence in the realm of football, as Uruguay won the Under-20 Team World Cup in Argentina. Uruguay beat Italy 1-0 on Sunday to win its first Under-20 World Cup title. The Celeste's victory ends a streak of four consecutive wins by European teams in the tournament.

June saw the Autumn Croquet Tournament, which experienced a turnout of only 10 players due to the weather. Nevertheless, the tournament turned out to be an opportunity for the players to bond and form closer connections. With fewer players, they had more time to interact and share their love for the sport, forging new friendships and strengthening existing ones. The players who did turn up for the tournament displayed their enthusiasm and competitive spirit, undeterred by the lower turnout and weather conditions. They showcased their skills and engaged in friendly rivalries on the croquet field, making the most of the situation.

June also saw The St. Andrew's Society annual Junior Caledonian Competition. Congratulations on such a remarkable and impressive event, which brought together many families, Pipe Bands, Dancers, teachers, etc. My congratulations also go to the Montevideo Players on the play "Misery." I won't say much so that you can go see it in July! You can't miss it!

The Lecture Supper on Tuesday 27th at the British Hospital Auditorium welcomed an excellent guest. Richard Cowley's talk on Rite Royal was an absolute delight. Not only did he captivate the audience with his vast knowledge and expertise, but he also infused the entire presentation with his infectious sense of humor and impeccable timing. His witty remarks and clever anecdotes had the crowd in stitches, creating an atmosphere of laughter and enjoyment.

We want to thank the community cooks: Margaret and Susan McConnell, Liz Cowley, Carolyn and Sally Ann Cooper, Madeleine Pool, Lilo Wells, and Mónica Bastarrica for their time, dedication, and for preparing delicious dishes with such love.

We were forced to make a necessary change in our upcoming event, the Chocolate Craft Tea, which was scheduled to take place on Monday 3rd July. Due to the current cold weather conditions, we have decided to postpone it for the comfort and safety of our attendees. We are working on a new date that will be more suitable for the event. We are also working very hard on The Big Lunch, which will take place on Sunday, August 13th, at the British Schools. It will be great fun, just like in previous years. This year, we will add a Mini Croquet Contest to the traditional Bunting and Cupcakes competition.

Happy Winter Holidays! Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Andrea Davies

Winter's frosty embrace is upon us, and the captivating cover of this month's "Contact" edition, (designed by the talented Juan Pablo Rodríguez) encapsulates the essence of the season. Embracing the chilly weather, perfect for cozying up with a hot beverage and a good read, "Contact" becomes your ideal companion on wintry days. Let the cover beckon you into its depths; join us on this journey, celebrating the beauty of winter and the enduring spirit of The British Society in Uruguay. Stay warm, stay connected, and let the magic of "Contact" embrace you this winter.



MEMBERSHIP FEES

Remember you can pay your 2023 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 - \$700**

**MercadoPago Recurring
Payments - \$650**

Birthdays

in July

1. Jorge Clavijo
3. Jacqueline Carol McClew Taylor
5. Magdalena Etcheverry Racine
5. Elizabeth Jane Hambrook McLellan
6. William Jonathan Biscomb Hall
8. Marion Rocher Maynier Hoffmann
8. Martin Inthamoussu Mirandetti
10. Jacqueline Anne Larbalestier
11. Solveig Astrid Schandy Sicco
14. Caroline Alice Stanham Méndez
14. Virginia Sosa Leites
15. Romina Micaela Serrano Yemini
15. María Lebrato Day
15. Victoria Cooper Xavier
16. John Hobbins Llovet
16. Catalina María Prevett Vera
16. Nicholas Beare Willans
16. María Helena Freyre Pisano
17. Luis Alberto Marquez Correa
17. Carlos Bernardo Monkhouse-Jones Svensen
19. Sylvia Vignoles Bonner
20. Andrew Teuten Ponzoni



22. Federico Guillermo Carter Mercer
23. Colin Shearer
23. Joaquín Francisco Bazzano García
24. Rosa Elizabeth Comerio Sacramento
25. Diana Carol Beare Hirst
25. Geraldine Hazel Pool Velasco
26. Victoria Hobbins Vilar del Valle
27. Ruth Kathleen Morton Holms
28. Patricia Tobitt Moger
30. Estela Marta Cardeza Davies
31. Jorge Humberto Gioia Garcén

New Members

Rosa Perera Dueñas
Andrea Miguez Bercianos
David Keith Rogerson
Cecilia Silvosio Lozano

welcome

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



I was going to tell a joke about Sodium, but Na.

2023



List your events in our calendar:

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

JULY

WEDNESDAY 5: CUB Almuerzo: Prof. Robert Silva. 12:15 hs at Parva Domus. www.cub.com.uy

WEDNESDAY 5: BSU Art Talk: Henry Moore's Life and Work by Sculptor Ramón Cuadra. 18:00 hs at Club Uruguay, Salón Inglés, (in Spanish).

WEDNESDAY 12 AND 26: British Cemetery Open Tea.

AUGUST

SUNDAY 13: BSU BIG CORONATION LUNCH 12 hs at The British Schools Pavilion

NOVEMBER

THURSDAY 30: St. Andrew's Society - St. Andrew's Day.



EVERY FRIDAY FROM 8PM

SOCIAL DARTS IN PUNTA DEL ESTE

at Ariscona, corner of Virazón and La Salina.

Contact: Jonathan Lamb vozinglesa@gmail.com

Club Uruguay Ciclo cultural 2023

En colaboración con
The British Society in Uruguay

**Charla a cargo del escultor
Ramón Cuadra Cantera**

“Henry Moore y su obra”



Miércoles 5 de julio 18 horas

Salón Inglés

Entrada gratuita



Club Uruguay

Peatonal Sarandí 584



SAVE THE DATE

**BIG
CORONATION
LUNCH**

**AUGUST
13TH**

12hs at The British Schools Pavilion



CROQUET TOURNAMENT



Laura Aguirre, Susan McConnell, Pía González, Geoffrey Deakin, Luciano Chinelli, Daniel Bonelli, Andrea Davies, Gonzalo Prego, Richard Empson, Trevor Dumford

We had an amazing time at our Winter Croquet Tournament on Sunday, 11th June. Despite the cloudy weather adding a touch of gloom, it didn't dampen our spirits. With a turnout of 10 players, everyone had a chance to participate and enjoy the game. The drizzle and wind made the matches even more challenging, but our players rose to the occasion. Congratulations to the skilled duo of Trevor Dumford and Luciano Chinelli for clinching the top spot as winners. And let's give a round of applause to the talented pair of Daniel Bonelli and Gonzalo Prego for their impressive performance as runners-up.

A big thank you to everyone who joined us and made the event a memorable one. Stay tuned for more exciting tournaments and events coming your way.



1st Place: Luciano Chinelli and Trevor Dumford



Trevor Dumford, Luciano Chinelli, Geoffrey Deakin, Gonzalo Prego, Daniel Bonelli, Richard Empson

CROQUET TOURNAMENT



Pia González, Andrea Davies, Susan McConnell



Andrea Davies, Daniel Bonelli, Gonzalo Prego, Susan McConnell

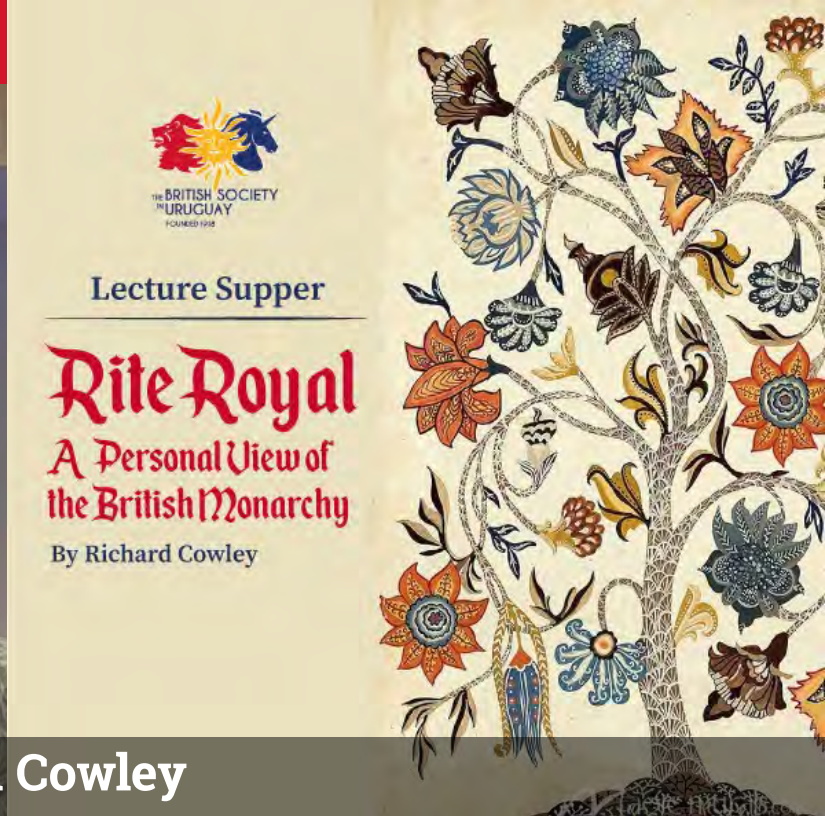


Gonzalo Prego, Daniel Bonelli



Susan McConnell, Andrea Davies





Lecture Supper with Richard Cowley

On Tuesday, 27th June, our first Lecture Supper of the year took place at the British Hospital Auditorium, on the 3rd floor, featuring Richard Cowley and his presentation titled "Rite Royal." It was a well-attended event, with a wonderful turnout of people. Richard delighted us with captivating anecdotes and interesting tidbits about the world of royalty. His engaging delivery of historical facts and juicy gossip kept us on the edge of our seats.

Amidst the enthralling talk, the talented cooks prepared a culinary masterpiece - chicken vol-au-vent, which was perfectly flaky and bursting with flavors. The meal was accompanied by peas, carrots, and a refreshing tossed green salad, creating a delectable treat for our taste buds. And let's not forget the scrumptious Apple Crumble with cream that was served as dessert. The combination of Cowley's entertaining speech and the mouthwatering cuisine made for an unforgettable experience that left everyone thoroughly entertained and satisfied.



Cecilia Silvano, Alberto Márquez, Carmen Alvarez, María Inés Pittamiglio, Sonya Ayling



Marlene Flores, Gail Leroy, Alison Hill, Dalehl Geuskens, Alison Schwabe.



Kitty Schandy, Andra Davies, Jaqueline Larbalestier, Solveig Schandy, Elita Herrera Ines Stefani



Richard Cowley, Stephanie Gault, Monica Prevett, Lilo Wells, Peter Gault



June Celebrations

Four members of the Sodre choir visited the Home for Grandparent's day last June 18. It was a most enjoyable occasion.

A very important date in the Antarctic is Midwinter's Day. Kenn's friends from the BAS Club funded a special lunch last week to celebrate this day.

Janis turned 91 on June 22, so her friends came to tea last Thursday.





Pushing the bilateral agenda

ITM Power plant

Ambassador Faye O'Connor spent two weeks in the UK in June. After attending the annual Heads of Mission Conference in the Foreign Office, an annual gathering designed to set direction for the international network and shape policy priorities. Immediately following, the Ambassador had a busy agenda of meetings in London and in the north of England. She visited companies and organisations from a range of sectors including agriculture, green hydrogen, architecture, who already have links with Uruguay or are looking to develop them, to understand how we can further progress in the bilateral relationship for the benefit of both countries.



Longley farm

Uruguayan companies at London Tech Week

Four Uruguayan technological companies attended London Tech Week 12-16 June with the support of the Department of Business and Trade, in the largest Latin American delegation ever. Besides having a busy programme of talks and events, they had the chance to network with entrepreneurs from all over the world and learn how to set up their companies in the UK. This article published by El País tells why companies around the world are choosing London as a destination to expand their businesses



DelegaTion London Tech Week



Ukraine Recovery Conference

From 21 to 22 June 2023, the UK and Ukraine jointly hosted the international Ukraine Recovery Conference in London, working towards international investment to rebuild Ukraine. Our Chargé d'affaires, Sandy

Domaingue, published this article explaining the objectives of the conference, in El País.



Expo Prado, here we go!

The Embassy is getting ready to participate at Expo Prado for the 10th consecutive year next September. If you represent a British company/organisation in

Uruguay, and are interested in taking part with a stand in our British Pavilion please contact Josefina.Mayans@fcdo.gov.uk for further information.

'SANAMOS APRENDIENDO' BRINGS THE ANGLO SCHOOL COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

For the second year now, The Anglo School continues sponsoring the heartfelt programme 'Sanamos Aprendiendo', created by Fundación Humaniza Josefina, which seeks to achieve the goal of enabling children undergoing medical treatment to continue with their schooling while in hospital.



This is a project our educational community cherishes, as it allows us to keep Josefina Ruiz's memory alive in our hearts. Josefina, our Primary school student at The Anglo School Carrasco, underwent cancer treatment for more than a year and a half and, unfortunately, is no longer with us today. The grief this loss caused on her parents was the driving force to create this programme, making it possible for other children like Josefina to keep in touch with their school community and continue with their learning process even during prolonged hospitalisations.



In order to support this admirable initiative, this year we hosted the second edition of the event 'Sanamos Aprendiendo', which is already embedded in our school culture. Last Saturday, May 13th The Anglo School Carrasco premises welcomed students, families, alumni, staff, and friends of the institution, who were presented with a wide range of activities that fostered a wonderful sense of community among all participants. Through engaging games, shared lunches, pleasant chats, and lots of laughter, in a relaxed atmosphere that invited all of us to generously collaborate with this noble cause, we spent an extraordinary afternoon which will be stored in the bank of our school's fondest memories.



We are extremely grateful to Josefina's parents for their presence during such an important day and to all the attendees who made this fundraising event a resounding success, as it showed us all how much our community spirit and enthusiasm can achieve.

The Anglo School feel deeply honoured to be part of this valuable project which, we believe, has such a positive impact on hospitalised children and their families, making their treatments a bit more bearable and humane.

ANGLO INSTITUTE

ONLINE COURSES



ANGLO



NEW START: AUGUST 2023

SECURE YOUR PLACE!

ENROL NOW

ANGLO
CONFERENCE
2023



ANGLO

SAT. 9, SEPTEMBER
RADISSON MONTEVIDEO

book the date

AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED!

- 3 plenary sessions
- 8 semi-plenary sessions
- Speakers from Uruguay and abroad

ENROL NOW!





12th & 26th of July from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Open Tea at The Britannia Hall British Cemetery

Mark your calendars for our gathering, next Wednesday 12th of July and Wednesday 26th of July. It's the perfect opportunity for our community to connect, share stories, and enjoy the simple pleasure of tea or coffee with delicious biscuits.



We are appealing for British-themed decorations, paintings, posters, and cherished mementos! If you have any treasures to share, lend, or donate, we'd be thrilled to welcome them into our Hall. Thanks to all the donators who have already contributed!

Let's create a remarkable space together where community bonds grow stronger!

Visit our website: cementeribritanico.com.uy



HOSPITAL BRITANICO

Self Plus is a new programme offered by the British Hospital to private users (non-members) with exclusive benefits and discounts in different services.

With the payment of an annual fee these users can have access to unlimited services at special rates.

Conditions and benefits:

- Personalised assistance.
- Access to all of The British Hospital's services, including Carrasco Clinic.
- App to access test results, medical records, prescriptions and invoices.
- 40% off medication in our affiliated pharmacies.
- Optional 30-day deferred payment.

**A plus
for your health**



selfplus



Christ
Church
MONTEVIDEO

We're a local
uruguayan church
with a global
community
and family

SERVICE
IN ENGLISH
Spanish interpretation

SERVICE
IN SPANISH
English interpretation



JULY

2

English

JULY

9

Spanish

JULY

16

English

JULY

23

Spanish

JULY

30

English

Seeking to strengthen our presence and identity as a local Uruguayan church with a global community and family, we now celebrate our Sunday Service twice a month in Spanish (**every 2nd and 4th Sunday**) starting now and the other Sundays remain in English (**the 1st, 3rd, and 5th**).

We will continue to offer simultaneous interpretation and online connection by Zoom.

We always enjoy singing a few songs and the lyrics might be in either language, but are always projected in both. The objective is to respond to the growing number of Latin Americans who are part of our community, without losing our history and tradition and English-speaking presence that makes us unique. Many English speakers from around the world enjoy hearing and practicing their Spanish and many Spanish speakers enjoy the opportunity to expand their English. Now both languages are more fully integrated into our common usage in the Chapel, just like it often is at work or at home.

Christ Church is a multifaceted church. We speak English and Spanish. It's a global community in a dynamic and changing world. We are from everywhere. The two most common languages in the city are the ones that we can and should prioritize in each communication.

"For me the Service in Spanish is an excellent initiative. It allows me to better understand the whole message as well as Nate's funny comments that make his message more relatable and relaxed. Keeping Sunday intermediate to English/Spanish seems to me to keep bilingualism more than a Service in English with Spanish interpretation". Gabriel P.

"It seems great to me!! I understand the message much better." Gabriela C.

Our mission is to encourage and equip people to follow Christ and feel the presence and power of God in their lives. And we understand that it's easier to connect with God in our heart language.

You can confirm any dates or doubts about the schedule or programs on our website as well as request our monthly Christ Church newsletter.

Pastor
John Hamilton



Christ
Church
MONTEVIDEO

Arocena 1907, Esq. Lieja, Carrasco · Tel 2601 0300
contact@christchurchmvd.org
www.christchurchmvd.org

The CHOSEN

JUNE & JULY every other friday: 7/07, 21/07



LUNCH INVITATION



**Wednesday
5th of July
at 12:15 PM**



ANEP

ADMINISTRACIÓN
NACIONAL DE
EDUCACIÓN PÚBLICA

Prof. Robert Silva

**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



MONTEVIDEO PLAYERS



THE MONTEVIDEO PLAYERS SOCIETY
PRESENTS



**(10 SHOWS SOLD OUT)
NEW SHOWS IN JULY**

THU 13th FRI 14th SAT 15th

ALL SHOWS 21:00 hs

**The Pub and doors will be open 30 minutes
before and also during the interval.
PUB ONLY CASH PLEASE**

TICKETS

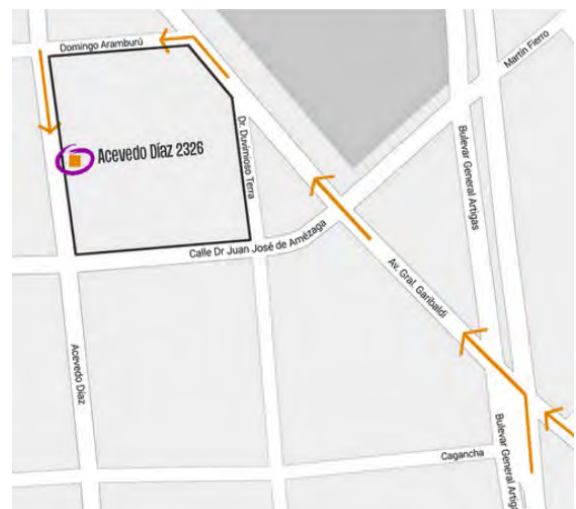
Adults - \$ 400

Students, Teachers & OAP's - \$ 250

Members - FREE!

- 1) BOOKINGS only through our LINK
- 2) We confirm the seats and hold them for 48 hrs
- 3) You pay through LINK we send you
- 4) We confirm payment
- 5) Pick up tickets at the box office before the show

BOOK NOW!





St. Andrew's Society's Junior Caledonian 2023: a celebration of Scottish dancing.

On Saturday 24th June, the St. Andrew's Society of Uruguay (SASOU) held it's annual Junior Caledonian Competition. For those who are not familiar with it, the event is an annual inter-school competition of Scottish dancing. As such, it is a celebration of Scottish culture, but it is much more than that: it is a celebration of fellowship and camaraderie among bilingual schools from around Uruguay, through the power of music and dance.

With the participation of 52 eightsomes comprising over 400 boys and girls, accompanied by an audience of over 900 friends and family members, the event was a vibrant display of talent and unity.

The traditional Grand March, led by the pipers and drummers of Uruguay 's Latitude 33 and Riverside pipe bands, set the perfect tone and ambiance for the festivities.





Throughout the event, the audience was treated to two exceptional performances by the talented dancers of Scottish Dance Uruguay, showcasing the grace, precision, and energy of Scottish highland dancing.

The SASOU Executive Committee would like to extend its heartfelt gratitude to St. Brendan's School, for generously allowing us to host the event at its Playing Fields Gymnasium, a splendid venue for the event. The Executive Committee would also like to express its sincere thanks to everyone who selflessly supported the event, including past members of the Committee. Last, but certainly not least, the Executive Committee would like to express its special thanks to Andrea Davies, President of the British Society in Uruguay, for her generous presence and assistance throughout this long, but delightful celebration.

The event was made even more enjoyable by the addition of on-site food trucks that provided diverse catering services, adding convenience and nourishment for all attendees.

Just before the finale, the audience experienced a moment of extra enjoyment with a mass circle dance, the Dashing White Sergeant, which involved not only the competing children, but also their teachers, parents, friends and other spectators, creating a sense of unity and camaraderie among all.

The overall outcome of this event has served to further encourage the newly-elected Executive Committee, and reinforce its expectations for the upcoming Senior Caledonian Ball, set for October 28th. Make sure to save



the date on your calendar for what promises to be another memorable celebration of Scottish culture!

In the coming weeks, rehearsals will begin for those interested in learning the Scottish country dances to be danced at the event, and for those wanting to refresh their rusty dance skills.

Follow us on social media and/or sign up to receive more details of this and other events at contact.st.andrews.uruguay@gmail.com.

Stay tuned for updates in this newsletter, and join us in celebrating the rich tradition of Scottish dance!



4th Cambridge International Associates Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean



Cambridge Assessment
International Education

Cambridge Associate

Dickens Institute is very proud that Sofia Scherschener, Dickens' Director, and Manuel Rodriguez, General Manager, were invited to attend the above mentioned Conference which took place in Tequisquiapan, Queretaro, a city in the central region of Mexico.

15 Associates were present. They were warmly received by Richard Gilby, Regional Director at Cambridge International, and his lovely wife Aida, and by Lucila Marquez, Senior Manager at Cambridge International, as well as Tom John Kendon part of the Cambridge Team.

The Conference was extremely fruitful with exchanges of the best practices and expertise held in each Cambridge International Centre. The Cambridge Team shared the latest updates on teaching and learning around the World as well as news from Cambridge.

But all was not work. The associates were invited to go up in a balloon and had a wonderful view of Querétaro! A fantastic experience! Unforgettable! This took place at five o'clock in the morning to avoid the heat.

At Dickens we are all looking forward to the arrival of Sofia and Manuel to hear all about their extraordinary experience.

Dickens is the only official associate centre for Cambridge Assessment International Education in Uruguay



Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards Ceremony



Last Thursday 8th June, together with Cambridge Assessment International Education, we held another awards ceremony to celebrate the outstanding academic achievements of secondary school learners in Uruguay in the June and November 2022 Cambridge IGCSE examinations. This celebration considers the achievements of students taking Cambridge IGCSE exams in over 40 countries around the world.

Over 21 Uruguayan learners received awards for their exceptional performance in their exams. There was one student who achieved the highest marks in the world and 14 learners who achieved the highest marks in Uruguay in a single subject. Last but not least, there were 10 students who attained the highest mark in subjects which are not yet widely taken in Uruguay.



The award-winning students were accompanied by their school's authorities, teachers, family and friends. They were greeted and congratulated by Dickens authorities, Ms Sofía Scherschener, General Director; Ms Verónica Jara, Head of the International Examinations Department; Ms Lucila Marquez, Senior Manager, Latin America (Southern Cone & Andes) for Cambridge Assessment International Education and Ms Juliet Wilson, Director of Assessment and Customer Support for Cambridge Assessment International Education.

We could not be prouder of all these students and their outstanding achievements. It is an honour for us to be able to accompany schools, teachers and students every step of the way and, especially, to have the chance to celebrate their achievements together, as we've been doing for 51 years.



These spectacular results are a clear indicator of the hard work and effort put by these students and teachers, which evidently has paid off. We wish them the very best in their future endeavours and we hope they inspire them to keep shining in the future.



CAMBRIDGE & DICKENS HEADS' FORUM AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE



Cambridge Associate



On Friday 9th June we held the 2023 Dickens-Cambridge Heads' Forum at the British Ambassador's Residence.

Over 40 Cambridge school authorities attended the event. We had a delicious breakfast as well as some time to catch up with colleagues, which is always very enriching.

The event started with the British Consul in Uruguay, Ms Sandy Domaingue, saying a few words of welcome. Then, Ms Sofía Scherschener, Dickens' General Director, greeted the schools' authorities and introduced the guest speakers of the event. After that, Ms Verónica Jara, Head of the International Examinations Department at Dickens, shared some news from Dickens in terms of some upcoming changes in the administrative and academic service we provide to all Cambridge Schools in Uruguay. This was followed by a very interesting presentation of the Cambridge Wall delivered by Ms Lucila Marquez, Senior Manager, Latin America (Southern Cone & Andes) from Cambridge Assessment International Education. The icing on the cake was towards the end of the event because we were in for a treat when Ms Juliet Wilson, Director of Assessment and Customer Support for Cambridge Assessment International Education, delivered a really thought-provoking presentation on assessment principles, marking and grading in Cambridge International Qualifications.

It was lovely to share such a fantastic time with colleagues once again and we wish them the very best for the next examination series at the end of the year.



MID SUMMER DREAM 2023



And our Dream came true!
Mid Summer Dream was a great success!





Fish & Chips

My maternal grandmother was born in Finsbury, London in 1891. Her father was a prosperous textile distributor and Dora enjoyed an active social life. She met my grandfather when she was nineteen. They soon married and moved to Mendoza, Argentina, where he was the expat branch manager of the Bank of London and South America. The social life in this small town in the middle of the vast Argentine pampas was nothing like the one Dora had enjoyed in London, and it took her some time to assimilate.

Many years later, when I was a little boy sitting on her lap at her home in Buenos Aires, she was still telling stories about life in London when she was a girl. “Then we came to Mendoza,” she would say, rolling her eyes, “and I missed all the fun of the war.” By that she meant that she had missed all the parties that her friends had given in London during WWI, the charity dances organized “for the war effort.” In her telling, those parties sounded like more fun than I could possibly imagine. But she also told me stories about what the war was like for other people in England, the ones who weren’t dancing the nights away in Kensington. She said that children were sent away from London to stay with relatives or friends or sometimes strangers in the country where, it was assumed, they would be safer. At that point in my life, I had never been away from my parents for a single night, and the thought of being packed off to live with people I didn’t know filled me with dread.

The stories that made the deepest impression on me were about food rationing. In 1918, when the war was over, there was still a desperate shortage of food in England. Everyone was issued a ration book that listed the kind of food they could buy and in what quantities. It was rumoured that even King George and Queen Mary had a ration book. People used their coupons to buy their weekly allotment of food, which might consist of one egg, two ounces of tea, two ounces of butter, one ounce of cheese, eight ounces of

sugar, four ounces of bacon, and four ounces of margarine. Dora marched me into the kitchen and showed me two ounces of butter, eight ounces of sugar, and so on. “Imagine trying to last a week on this,” she said, with one of her usual dramatic gestures.

She explained that Britain struggled to rebuild its economy in the postwar years. Then the Second World War broke out in 1939 and a year later rationing was back. Britons were once again issued ration books and had to use coupons to buy certain hard-to-find things like butter, sugar, and eggs. The government was a little more generous this time, setting weekly rations per person at four ounces of butter, twelve ounces of sugar, four ounces of raw bacon or ham, three-and-a-half ounces of cooked bacon or ham, and two eggs. As the war dragged on, rationing was applied to other kinds of meat, bread, tea, and clothing as well. Children aged five and older were issued their own books; younger children were expected to share their parents’ rations. Dora talked about some of her cousins and friends back home who all had young children at the time and found that shopkeepers occasionally slipped extra food into their shopping bags, on the house. “Being an island helped Britain survive WWII,” she said. “But it also caused problems with the supply of things coming from abroad.” That round of rationing remained in effect until 1954.

Among the few food items that were never subject to rationing during the Second World War were fish and chips. They were considered so essential to the British people’s wellbeing and sense of identity that they were never listed in ration books. Winston Churchill called them “the good companions.” It was feared that if Britons were denied their fish and chips, morale would plummet. So the government protected the fish supply and made sure that potato crops were well taken care of, often by British girls (as shown above) who helped to keep the country going while their men were at war.



Back to the Future IV

From Hamburg, we sailed towards Norway and arrived the following day. The car was unloaded using the same procedure as always. We spent a day with my grandmother's sister, who resided in Oslo. She was a very kind lady, although I couldn't comprehend a word she said. She took us to see the "fjords," and I remember the sensation of everything being so serene, silent, and peaceful.

The next day, we drove through Sweden and then proceeded from Helsingborg to Elsinore via ferry boat. At Elsinore, we were greeted by the Danish press and the Danish radio station DR, who interviewed my parents. It took some time, so my eldest brother, Nils, had to drive the car off the ferry. I must have been very tired because I have no recollection of the journey from Elsinore to Copenhagen.

The next morning, when I woke up, I didn't know where I was, but I recognized my grandmother, Ellen Knudsen, who had visited us in 1946, just after the war ended. I was overjoyed to see her again. She asked me to come downstairs to the main entrance to meet the milkman. There he was, dressed in a white uniform, waiting to be paid for the milk. My grandmother also gave him a handful of small stickers. When I asked about them, she explained that they were ration cards for butter and other items, which allowed the country to export a higher percentage of its production to England, a country that had aided Denmark greatly during the war.

After about a week, I met my grandfather, Martin Knudsen, who sat in a wheelchair with a blanket over his knees, absent-mindedly gazing out of the window. I tried to establish contact with him, but to no avail. I remember feeling very saddened by the situation.

Meanwhile, my parents traveled to Geneva, and my brother Martin and I were invited to stay with our aunt, Dr. Thyra Sloth, at her summer house in Elsinore. It was a marvelous beach house right on the coast, facing Sweden. Although

she had no children of her own, she and I developed a very close relationship that lasted until the end of her life. It was an extraordinary situation that I will never forget.

While swimming in the water in front of the house, I managed to catch a half-meter-long silver-colored fish called a horn fish with my bare hands. My aunt commented, "Too many bones," so I returned it to the water and told it to swim back home. The next day, she took us to visit "Kronborg Castle," the setting for Shakespeare's famous drama "Hamlet." In the dungeons, there stood an enormous carved stone statue of "Holger Danske" with his famous sword. According to the story, whenever Denmark is attacked, he will come to life and defend the country. He served as a symbol for the Danish resistance movement during World War II. I will revisit this group later in my life, as I encountered many of them in different circumstances.

We were supposed to be on holiday for a couple of weeks, but unfortunately, my grandfather passed away suddenly. My parents returned immediately, and the funeral took place on a separate island (Fyn). We children did not participate. Inside the house, you could sense the sorrow, so I decided to dress up as a Scottish-Viking warrior to break the ice. This brought smiles and made me happy.

Since my parents were often invited to official events, I had to keep myself entertained, so I ventured into business. Without money and hesitant to ask for it, but with the candies at the nearby railway station serving as a strong incentive, I came up with the following idea: my grandmother had a cherry tree, and no one bothered to pick the fruits. After obtaining permission and engaging in several battles with competing birds, I began collecting and packing the cherries in small trays made from old newspapers. I then sold them to passersby. It was an excellent solution, but not for the birds. This was my introduction to the commercial activities that would shape my way of life in the future.



Climate Change

It is a fact that the world climate is changing and has been changing since the earth was formed. The really important subject is man-induced climate change. It is also true that glaciers are slowly melting down and recently a Swedish high school girl became prominent as a vehement critic, although speaking of subjects she knows very little about.

The man-induced climate change advocates resort to a number of tactics and arguments that make a reasonably well informed person skeptic of their motivations and data.

For instance, in order to attack skeptics, they don't call them as such, but rather as 'deniers', which has a very negative implication due to holocaust deniers and other such people that twist the truth to gain some dubious credibility.

They also accuse man-induced climate change skeptics of resorting to the tactics of big tobacco companies, that deny the bad effect of smoking on humans, which is a very unfair comparison.

When the man-induced climate change advocates say that, after a thorough search in scientific journals, they find that thousands of papers support their claims while not a single paper holds the opposite view, they conveniently ignore the fact that all those journals are refereed, so while they are under the control of man-induced climate change advocates, any paper going against their views is simply rejected and has to be published elsewhere.

Another fact to bear in mind is that there are billions of dollars in grants for such people at universities, that if

the human effect on climate change resulted not to be so dramatic as they claim, and part of natural phenomena, most of those grants would dry up, with the considerable loss of money for them. This is a fact seldom mentioned but that should be considered, there are substantial interests at play here, and not only those of the oil companies and such pressure groups.

When man-induced climate change advocates quote figures, they usually talk of increasing CO2 levels and other harmful consequences but in the context of hundreds of years or at the most thousands, while climate change should be considered with a perspective of many millions of years and that would reveal the enormous changes in the earth's climate, which are unavoidable.

I remember that at the turn of the century very negative forecasts were made that in 15 or 20 years catastrophic events would take place if drastic changes were not implemented by governments. Well, nothing of the sort happened and the warnings were enormously exaggerated.

In order to test these views, I joined some time ago a scientific climate change forum and although I received some criticism from man-induced climate change advocates, none of my views expressed here could be ridiculed or proved wrong.

Perhaps until very serious things do happen, we should perhaps adopt a healthy skepticism rather than being pushed to measures that would seriously affect our well-being, without any very real cause for concern.



Heritage Betalba House

Betalba House is a private club in the heart of Carrasco. Situated in a splendid house, it boasts a remarkable history.

The renowned Uruguayan shipping magnate Alberto Dodero, mentor to Greek tycoon Aristotle Onassis, constructed the property known as "Villa Betalba" at the beginning of the Second World War and settled there with his second wife, the American actress Elizabeth "Betty" Sundmark. Designed by architects Raul Clerc and Hector A. Guerra, it served as a gathering place for the international jet-set and the high society of the River Plate region in the 1940s.

Dodero hosted unforgettable parties and receptions in the halls of the residence. Notable figures such as former US President Richard Nixon, actresses Joan Fontaine and Anne Bancroft, Eva Peron, and even Aristotle Onassis himself, who stayed there several times and spent part of his honeymoon with his new wife Tina Livanos, have graced its premises.





Undoubtedly, the place witnessed the political and cultural heritage of its time and became an emblem of power and savoir-vivre.

After nearly 80 years of history, this legendary residence was acquired in 2018 by a group of Uruguayan friends and businessmen who transformed it into “Betalba House.”

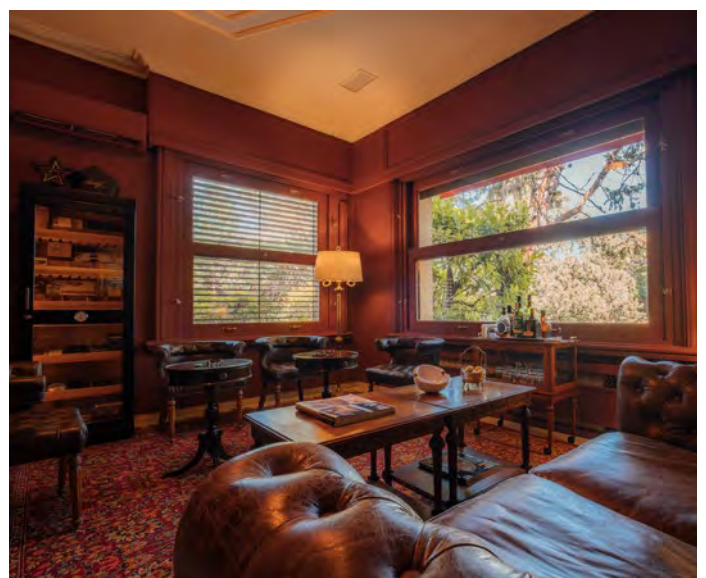
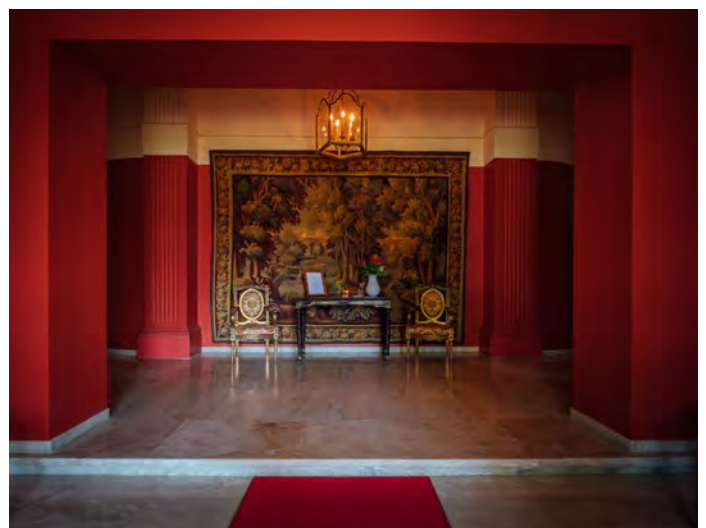
The mansion offers a magnificent Drawing Room, an elegant and spacious Meeting Room, as well as other rooms and lounges with various purposes.

The unique Churchill’s lounge takes inspiration from classic English cigar lounges, and its intimate and discreet ambiance recreates the traditional space where the art of cigar smoking was once savored. The Temple Bar provides a cozy setting to enjoy a selection of fine spirits carefully curated by sommeliers. The Victory Room serves as a reading room, adorned with historical pieces and a private collection of books on naval themes, history, and philosophy. The glamorous garden, designed by renowned French landscape designer Charles Thays, features a stunning pool surrounded by palm trees, rose bushes, and various species of trees.

The interior decoration bears the refined touch of Maison Jansen in Paris and Aubusson upholstery.

It is a space for socialization and personal development, for conversations and moments of relaxation, and for both social and business gatherings—a kind of “second home.” It has proven highly successful among a niche of foreign businessmen and executives, as well as Uruguayans who reside abroad and frequently visit the country.

Members should not miss regular activities such as knowledge-sharing talks, wine tastings, or the popular Friday barbecues.





Comradship And Solidarity

The Great War (1914-1918) was the first conflict between European powers waged with weapons of mass destruction developed scientifically to kill, maim and terrorise the armies and civil population alike. It was also the first total war, where all the resources of the nation were needed for the war effort; and the professional armies merged quickly with the citizen armies. Empires fell, the women became an essential part of the industrial workforce and administrative services, and the whole world order changed dramatically.

The war left scars in Britain at all levels. The obvious ones that dot in white the green fields of France in every British War Graves cemetery, and the hidden and stigmatised but never spoken ones. The wrecks at hundreds of hospitals of the British Isles. Never before had so many injured and maimed survived, and what was more unexpected, never before where the psychological casualties so numerous. Even a designation was invented for this: shell shock. Great Britain ended victorious but with a whole generation gone, and having to look after 100,000 maimed veterans of the trenches who not being able to be part of the country's workforce, were also unable to maintain themselves. As a response to this crisis, in 1924, an organisation was founded to help the unfortunate survivors of the war, the British Legion.

As usual, the Britons in Montevideo were a step ahead and in 1921 founded the Ex Servicemen Association, though its first task was not that of solidarity to those in need, of whom there were none in Uruguay at that time, but that of comradeship and entertainment. The message was clear. Only those who had endured the war knew what it was all about, and they were the only ones who could share that experience and who could understand and talk about it. The ESA was fundamentally for catharsis. Thus the first meetings of the ESA were all about having fun and excesses. Only on its second year of existence was the solidarity clause added to the association's statutes, and in Anglo-Uruguayan case, not reflecting on the injured but on the returned volunteers that had not a job, or that were not

well financially. This was mainly the case of the returnees that had psychological disorders.

The first president of the ESA was Lloyd Hirst, a young officer of the Royal Navy, veteran of the battle of Coronel where he was gravely injured. Patient of the British Hospital, he ended marrying a nurse, daughter of John Christie of the *Alpargatas* jute company of Montevideo. He was one of the founders of the association, and one of its great driving forces thereafter.

In 1939 the Uruguayan Chapter of the British Legion was founded and the ESA merged and incorporated automatically to the new association. The new denomination meant new responsibilities with the mother association which ultimately would cause its end. But that seemed impossible when the new war (1939-1945) gave the BL new members and new enthusiasm for its existence. The heyday of the BL was after the war ended when the victory impulse and the two hundred new members gave it an important place amongst the communities' associations in Uruguay. Even a venue was rented close to the port, the *Liberty Inn*, to serve as the premises of the BL.

The good days quickly ended, everybody wanted to leave the hostilities behind and slowly the association lost its reason to exist. Liberty Inn lasted for only five years and as Legionnaires died or left the country the association could not meet the payments to the British Legion headquarters in London. Its only formal duties became the attendance to Legionnaires burials and the guards on Armistice Day (November 11). Long gone were the roaring smoking concerts, dinners and balls, golf tournaments and field trips. The *HMS Proctor* and *HMS Endurance* visits in the 60's and 70's gave the BL a new lease of life until its formal disappearance in the late 1980's.

A new informal association was founded in 2000 by the last Legionnaires to be present at burials of the remaining veterans called the *Allies*. The Last Post will soon be sounding for it too.



Waterworld

Waterworld (1995) is a film starring Kevin Costner. In a distant future year 2500 CE, the polar ice caps have melted down and sea level has risen 7600 metres (really, there isn't that much water on Earth). Costner's role as 'Mariner', a human mutant with gills, is to trade 'dirt', a rare material, sailing a trimaran. In this wet version of Mad Max (which was filmed in the dry Australian desert), Mariner confronts the 'Smokers' (the bad guys) who ride on jet skis, who are seeking a girl named Enola, who has a map of a hypothetical 'Dryland' tattooed on her back. The film, nearly thirty years ago, was the most expensive production ever at the time, but the box office sales did not recoup the investment.

Whatever caused planet Earth to be covered completely by water, was open to the audience's imagination, but finger-pointing at a human-made climate disaster would top the list. Well... as I write, the process that may melt icecaps, glaciers and increase sea levels, covering islands and cause receding coastlines, is already happening and it may be too late to halt it, at least in the near future. Habitable 'exoplanets' are defined as those which can contain water in solid ice, fluid and gaseous forms, due to being in the 'Goldilocks zone' – the temperature range that makes this possible, and this is relatively narrow. Minor shifts either way can create Mars-like planets with dried-up oceans or water-flooded worlds like the one portrayed in the film.

Water is essential to life as has developed and evolved on planet Earth. Safe water for drinking, bathing, cleaning, washing and its adequate disposal and recycling, is becoming a potentially scarce resource. What we are experiencing now in the Montevideo metro area is serious. Even if we blame past administrations for not anticipating our present plight, the fact is that changes have occurred faster than expected.

Uruguay is virtually floating above aquifers, maybe the largest that exist on Earth. However, the present extended drought has left us high and dry. Our government is rushing to find long-range solutions, but we're still in Band-Aid stage, unless rain-dancing brings showers (and we might not even mind some flooding) that will fill the reservoirs of the Santa Lucía Grande and Chico basins.

Lack of water (and other basic services) due to civil wars and corrupt governments is one of the reasons for the massive migrations from the Middle East and Africa to Europe. Water is indispensable for the maintenance of an adequate (or at least acceptable) level of living, as the risk of communicable diseases increases when it lacks. The opposite: tropical storms, flooding and disruption of communities, also is a health risk. Insect-borne infections, like malaria, dengue, Zika and Chikungunya, are spreading over many parts of the world – our neighbouring regions and countries included.

Benchmark figures like the 1.5C degrees cap put on warming, are meaningless, as lesser increases in ocean temperature can lead to more rapid melting of ice caps and glaciers, as is being seen in the Arctic and Antarctica.

We've just managed to emerge, wounded, from the COVID-19 pandemic. The full epicrisis, when we'll learn what worked and what was ineffective (ie lockdowns, masking, vaccines, etc) has still to take place. By then, we'll be facing other threats and pandemics now in the making. The water factor may be one of the most critical and everything seems to be happening at the same time. Last, but never least, water may be more geopolitically important than fuels, minerals and land, with superpowers scrambling to assure their access.

Echoes of the Mist: Unraveling the Secrets of La Calavera, Cabo Polonio.

Venturing into the northern side of the Cabo Polonio peninsula, one encounters the enigmatic “La Calavera” (Skull) coast. This coastal stretch is delicately nestled between the untamed sea and a vast expanse of dunes that fade into the horizon.

Reaching the Skull coast is no easy feat; only the most intrepid can undertake the challenge of traversing its unique path on foot. Not only is good physical condition required, but also careful consideration of the weather conditions is crucial for embarking on this captivating journey. The tempestuous sea often engulfs the passable sections of the beach. However, the greatest obstacle is the persistent fog that blankets the coast for most of the year. Warm and humid winds blowing from the land contrast with the cooler ocean waters, creating dense oceanic mists.

Here, plants and insects find sustenance in the moisture emanating from the thick fogs that enshroud the coast. The entire territory of the Skull coast is protected by the Cabo Polonio National Park, a sanctuary that preserves its valuable biodiversity. The small archipelago formed by “Isla Seca” and “Isla del Marco” silently bears witness to the preferred refuge of Spanish ships caught in the fearsome southern wind known as “Pampero.”

Little information exists regarding the origin of the name Skull coast, but all accounts allude to ancient shipwreck victims consumed by the merciless sea. In 1910, Orestes Araújo mentioned that the Skull coast was the place where unfortunate survivors of an Argentine warship had washed ashore. The battleship “Rosales” sank in June 1892, leaving a tragic mark on the history of the Skull coast.

Antonio Lussich, who had embarked on a rescue mission to save the lost survivors of La Rosales, emotionally recounted his experience of witnessing the drowned men resting in a nearby shed, transformed into a solemn chapel. In 1893, Lussich wrote, “I shuddered at the sight of their lifeless bodies, their faces ravaged and barely concealed. They had been brought there the day before for burial in hospitable land, albeit far from their homeland.”

Even older records exist. In 1790, Captain Andrés de Oyarbide was commissioned to map the area and documented his findings: “The westernmost arm of Rocha extends with impassable ruggedness until reaching the place they call Calaveras, in the levee of Castillos. It consists of twelve rocky peaks that, from a distance, resemble authentic skulls.”

In 1868, Lobo and Riudavets mentioned, “Only winds coming from the land permit safe anchorage on the beach of La Calavera. This coast is composed solely of white dunes lining the sea and reeds covering the innermost areas.”

However, the most enigmatic chronicle of all dates back to the year 1531 when a phantom Spanish ship was discovered near the Skull coast, abandoned with its supplies intact but devoid of its crew. It was Portuguese admiral Martín Alfonso de Sousa who found it in November of that year. Upon realizing that it was “constructed of excellent quality cedar boards,” he decided to inquire among the indigenous populations about the fate of the missing crew. Unfortunately, the question remained unanswered, and the mystery surrounding the disappearance of those individuals was never solved.

Thus, it remains unclear how long this coast has been known as the Skull coast. What we do know is that it has instilled fear in the hearts of courageous sailors who venture into its waters. Does the secret lie within the fog? Even in the era of modern technology, international navigation regulations require sailors to anchor their vessels during foggy days and sound a loud bell followed by two soft tones every two minutes.

According to legend, when summer walkers become ensnared in the fog, they claim to hear mysterious melodies emanating from the sea, resembling the lament of tolling bells. What hidden secrets await in the depths of this magical and enigmatic place? Only those willing to confront its riddle can unveil the truth concealed behind the veil of mist and immerse themselves in a world of endless stories.



Peri-Peri Sauce

During my recent travels around Europe, I never ceased to be amazed at the vast array of condiments, sauces, spreads, dips, pastes, dressings, marinades, relishes and preserves that can be found in many supermarkets, especially in the UK. I do not intend to attempt to define the difference between these aforementioned categories, as the lines tend to easily blur. Peri-Peri sauce can be found ready-made in many supermarkets, but it is incredibly easy to make at home and well worth the effort. It is a traditional Mozambique-Angolan sauce, made popular by Portuguese settlers. It is used to make the now famous Peri-Peri chicken dish, which is widespread in Portugal, often using whole spring chickens which are first deboned or simply split open before being smothered with the sauce and barbecued or grilled.

Peri-Peri chicken is also the signature dish of the famous South African multinational fast food chain, Nando's, which operates over one thousand two hundred outlets in thirty countries.

Peri-Peri sauce has a peppery-lemony flavour and it is made by balancing bird's eye chilli peppers with garlic, lemon and vinegar, creating a sweet, citrusy, sour and spicy combination.

Bird's-eye chilli peppers grow wild in Africa, and are closely related to the peri-peri peppers which are also used to make the sauce. They are small, thin, pointed peppers that are red when mature. They are extensively used in Thai, Vietnamese, Malaysian and Indonesian cuisine.

The small peppers pack a real punch and reach between fifty-thousand and a hundred and seventy-five thousand on the Scoville scale. If you do not have any of these on hand, Serrano, Jalapeno or Tabasco peppers make a good substitute.

The sauce combines well with pork, fish, prawns and shrimp, and beef. It can be used as a marinade, as a glaze and added to stews it gives a spicy kick and depth of flavour. It can also be used as a dip or simply splashed onto your finished food.

Ingredients – 4 Portions

- Fresh red chilli peppers*
- 1 large red sweet pepper
- ¼ red onion, peeled and roughly chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled and roughly chopped
- 25 ml olive oil
- 25 ml lemon juice
- 25 ml red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp** white sugar
- ¼ tsp smoked paprika
- ½ tsp oregano
- Zest of ¼ lemon
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1 bay leaf

Method

Add all ingredients into a food processor or blender, process to form a smooth sauce to your preferred consistency.

The mixture can be kept raw if being used as a marinade or a glaze, but to be used as a condiment/sauce, once processed it should be simmered in a covered pot over a low heat for about an hour.

NOTES

- When making Peri Peri chicken brush the sauce over the raw chicken pieces and leave to marinate in the fridge for several hours before barbecuing or grilling. Brush with extra sauce while cooking for a more intense flavour and glazed finish.
- If you cannot find any fresh chilli peppers, Cayenne pepper powder can be used as a substitute. This can also be added to the fresh chillies to add some more hotness and kick to your sauce.
- Mix the sauce with softened butter while heating it slightly –taking care not to boil– to make a dip, which will pair well with crudités, prawns, etc., or even to be used as a milder peri-peri sauce to go with your favourite food. Add chopped basil or cilantro leaves.
- The finished sauce will keep for several weeks in the fridge or may also be frozen for up to one year.

*The type of chilli pepper you use will obviously influence the quantity required. Feel free to deviate from the original recipe and use any fresh chilli you can find. The amount of chilli peppers used will depend on your personal taste and tolerance for hot spice. Removing the seeds and white veins will take away some of the hotness but still leave the flavour of the chilli you are using. If you wish the sauce to be more spicy and hot, leave them in.

**tsp = teaspoon

All the takings from Jonathan's second comedy collection, *Speaky Stuff*, go to Ukrainian Disaster Relief at www.dec.org.uk. You can either give him \$1000 via vozinglesa@gmail.com or donate them direct.

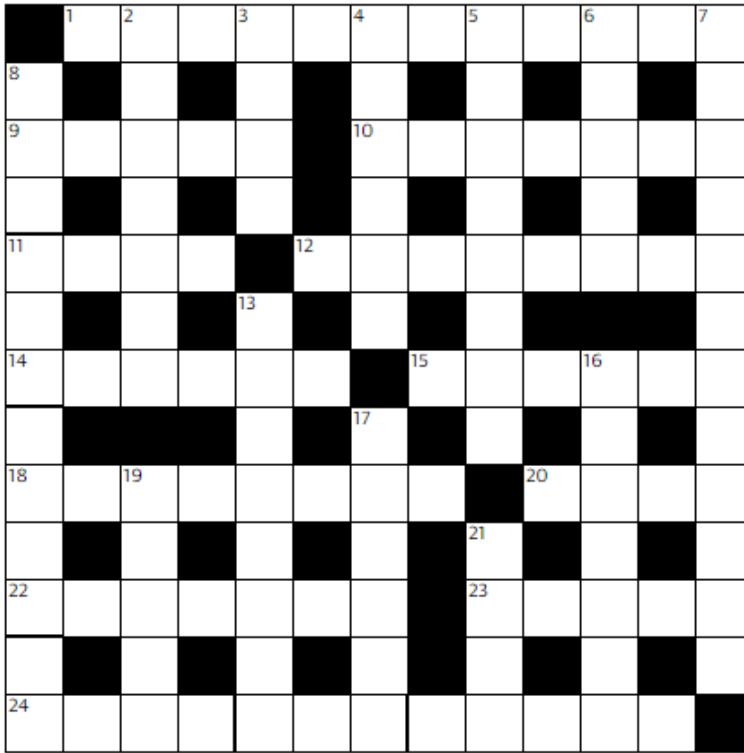
by Jonathan Lamb
vozinglesa@gmail.com



The Sick Squid

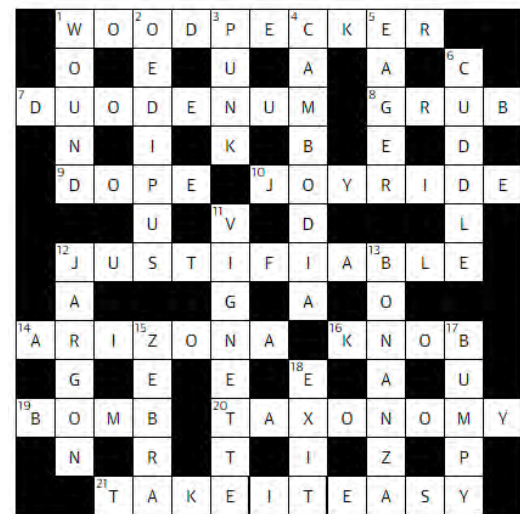
A shark met a squid in the Channel.
'Hi squid', he said, 'You all right?'
'Do I'b dot,' said the squid, 'It's too code.
I've beed sdeezing and sdeezing all dight'.

'Let's head for the Med', said the shark.
'Hold on to my tail, I'll tow you.
'Look, there's Barry the barracuda...
'Hi Bas, here's that sick squid I owe you'



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

June solution:



Across

- 1 Small articles used in sewing (12)
- 9 Call up (5)
- 10 Bridge where one road crosses another (7)
- 11 They are designed to be played with (4)
- 12 ... (8)
- 14 Greek god of darkness — active volcano in Antarctica (6)
- 15 Affectedly pretty (6)
- 18 Shining (8)
- 20 Debauchee (4)
- 22 Actress (nee Gumm) who played Dorothy (7)
- 23 Port city of ancient Rome (5)
- 24 Begin to have money problems (4,3,5)

Down

- 2 Person who accepts the leadership of another (7)
- 3 Flat (4)
- 4 Sully (6)
- 5 Roof window (8)
- 6 Santa's helpers? (5)
- 7 One born in Leeds, say (12)
- 8 Learn how to do (3,3,4,2)
- 13 Take away (8)
- 16 Disorderly (7)
- 17 Minor parish official with ceremonial functions (6)
- 19 Whopping (5)
- 21 Vast desert area of southern Mongolia and northern China (4)



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