

**British Schools
Harry Pugh**

**Bits and Pieces
Orson Welles, The Trial**

**Heritage
Conchillas: The Evans
House**

**Corned Beef Sandwich
La Celeste - A Melting Pot
of Optimism**

**Chef Phillip's Corner
Curry**





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BSU CONTACT NEWSLETTER



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+598 96 021 918

Montevideo, Uruguay



Dear Members,

September welcomed spring. It feels like winter, though; there's an undeniable longing to embrace the spirit of spring, to slip into that floral dress, and let the colours defy the lingering chill.

"12 Angry Jurors" at The Montevideo Players was a success. We are looking forward to new productions, the Summer Quiz, and whatever projects they might come up with.

The Expo Prado was fantastic, as usual. It has been running for more than 100 years now and continues to be the place of choice for farmers to present their best breeding animals. It is a place that showcases the latest news from Uruguay and international companies related to sectors like livestock, agricultural machinery, agriculture, farming, etc. For the tenth year in a row, the British Embassy was present, and the pavilion looked wonderful as usual. In the heart of Colonia's Pavilion, a hushed excitement filled the air as the announcement for the much-anticipated "Mesas de Té" contest unfolded. We went last year and loved it, so we are going back this year. It's an event that cannot be missed. Enjoy your upcoming visit, and may it be filled with even more stunning displays of artistry and design.

The Rugby World Cup had us glued to the TVs from the very beginning. We are very proud of our Teros; they are well-praised for their passion and heart. The Uruguayans have captured the hearts of fans from all over the world. We wish the Teros all the best with their final game of the pool on Thursday, the 4th of October. The anticipation is building as The Teros gear up to face off against the All Blacks, New Zealand. The stage is set for an epic clash of titans, where two nations with a deep-rooted love for rugby will collide in a battle of strength, skill, and determination.

It's great to hear that we will be taking part in the Encuentro de Colectividades fair again, five years after the first event in 2018. Such an event is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate cultural diversity and exchange experiences. It will take place on November 4th. We are planning to attend together with the British Embassy, Scottish Dance Uruguay, and St. Andrew's Society. We can showcase and sell British homemade products; this could include traditional British food, crafts, clothing, or anything else that represents British culture. The Chef from the British Embassy will be preparing scrumptious cookies. If you want to come along with your chutney, marmalade, Scotch egg, or if you knit and have granny squares made into bags, tops, or sweaters, bring them along.

Looking forward to the Squash Competition organized by OBC&OGC and the British Society starting on 18 October.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Fito Sayago and my brother Philip Davies for having been chosen as jurors for Sembrandouy in Sembrando Arte. What an honor and privilege to be entrusted with the responsibility of evaluating the creativity and talent of the participating artists.

Enjoy your reading, and hope to see you soon.

Andrea

Hallowe'en

By Joel Benton

Pixie, kobold, elf, and sprite
All are on their rounds to-night,—
In the wan moon's silver ray
Thrives their helter-skelter play.

Fond of cellar, barn, or stack
True unto the almanac,
They present to credulous eyes
Strange hobgoblin mysteries.

Cabbage-stumps—straws wet with dew—
Apple-skins, and chestnuts too,
And a mirror for some lass
Show what wonders come to pass.

Doors they move, and gates they hide
Mischiefs that on moonbeams ride
Are their deeds,—and, by their spells,
Love records its oracles.

Don't we all, of long ago
By the ruddy fireplace glow,
In the kitchen and the hall,
Those queer, coof-like pranks recall?

Every shadows were they then—
But to-night they come again;
Were we once more but sixteen
Precious would be Hallowe'en..



MEMBERSHIP FEES

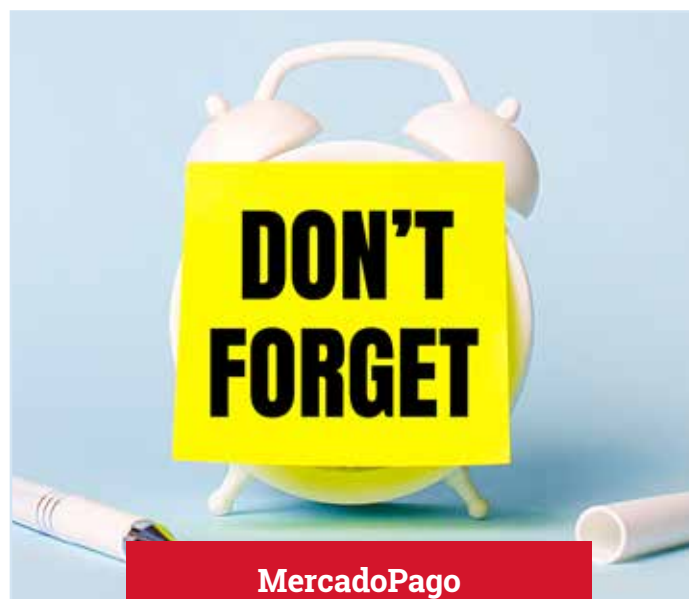
Remember you can pay your 2023 membership fees easily from the comfort of your own home using your credit or debit card through [MercadoPago](#).

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](#).



MercadoPago
Annual Fee - \$700

MercadoPago Recurring
Payments - \$650

Once this is done, your membership will be updated.

Birthdays

in October

1. Pilar Arocena Pons
1. Richard Andrew Empson Tourn
1. Lisa Biddulph Fraser
2. Alexander Edward Beare Jorge
2. Charlotte Nicola Johnson Maynier
3. Marcela Dutra Mohr-Bell
5. Raúl Alberto Gonzalez-Rocca
6. Vanessa Magnani
6. Elsa Teresita Herrera Oreggias
6. Milagros Correa-Mirapalmete Barrios
7. Jorge Marizcurrena Vejo
7. Teresita Crespi Bocage
7. Jorge Andrés Stanham Méndez
8. Leslie Waring Wilson
9. Silvina Moor- Davie Rodriguez
10. Morgan Fairless Brown
10. Christopher Bernard Pool Ambrose
12. Pilar Ellis Hill
13. Charlotte Sophie Joyce Northwood
15. John Ralph Castleton Bridger
15. Malcolm Hood Maccormack Bain
15. Stella Mazzucchelli Martino
15. Juan Zumarán Graña
16. Álvaro Cuenca Lataste
16. Gordon Malcom Yorston Hall
16. Kenneth Ian Prevett Vignoles
16. James Angus Coubrough Botto
17. Antonia Bridal Dutra
18. Juan José Castillos Duarte
18. Christine Ann Sarkis Joakim



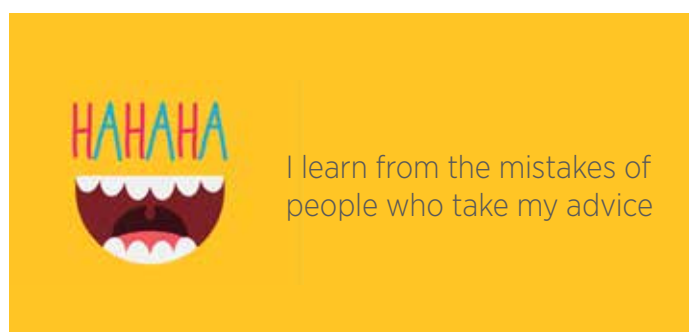
19. Harry Potts
20. Bradley Tyler Johnson Coates
20. Peter Robert Wells Ensink
21. Norman Martin Maitland-Heriot
21. Sally Anne Cooper Gibson
22. Diane Budd Jorgensen
22. Maureen Pierce De Pereira Perusso
23. John Frank Hubber Wells
23. José Alfredo Guelfi Young
24. Susana Patricia Medina Day
25. Nancy Gladys Villagran Crivelli
25. Maria Izabel Velazquez Domingues
26. Mary Grace Fenwick Forsgren
27. Virginia Serrana Prunell Falgueras
27. Emma María Prevett Gomensoro
28. Isabel María Beare Caraballo
29. John James Hyland Adkins
29. Facundo Salvo Davies
30. Francis Jouses Raquet Mailhos
30. Elizabeth Irene Mountford Hawes

New Members

César Correa
Maryel Aylén Maciel Delbono
Mariana Inés Manfredi Rovella
Veronica Terzieff

welcome

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



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.

OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY 4 - CUB: Lunch Invitation with Eng. Pablo Bocchi, 12:15pm at Parva Domus.

SATURDAY 7 - BRITISH CEMETERY: National Heritage Day, 3pm

SUNDAY 8 - THE BRITISH SCHOOL'S BIRTHDAY

SATURDAY 14 - BSU DAY TRIP TO CONCHILLAS TEA TABLE CONTEST

WEDNESDAY 18 - OBC / BSU SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY 21 - BRITISH CEMETERY: Encuentros a la Puesta de SOL, Darwin's Frog, 4pm

TUESDAY 24 - BSU LECTURE SUPPER: Alberto Márquez at the British Hospital

SATURDAY 28 - ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY: Caledonian Ball

SATURDAY 28 - BRITISH CEMETERY: Past and Present, guided by Robert Wells at 11am.

SUNDAYS 1, 15 AND 29: ANGLICAN CHURCH MASS, 10am at Templo Inglés, Reconquista 522.



NOVEMBER

SATURDAY 4 - ENCUENTRO DE COLECTIVIDADES at Morquio street, Parque Batlle, Montevideo.

SATURDAY 4 - BRITISH CEMETERY: Encuentros a la Puesta de Sol, Darwin's legacy, 3pm.

SATURDAY 11: BRITISH CEMETERY: Remembrance Day

SATURDAY 18 AND SUNDAY 19 - Encuentro Británico-Oriental (San Jorge, Durazno)

TUESDAY 28: BSU CRAFT TEA

THURSDAY 30 - ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY - St. Andrew's Day



Get your Xmas Crackers!

**There are 20 dozen Xmas crackers
for sale at U\$S 28 the dozen on
behalf of BABS.**

Contact: Angela Dickinson +598 99 175 925

Day Trip to



CONCURSO DE
**MESAS
DE TÉ.**
CONCHILLAS - URUGUAY

Conchillas

14th October

Itinerary

9:00 Bus leaves from the British Embassy at Marco Bruto

12:30 We visit Montes del Plata

14:00 Picnic Lunch

15:00 We visit Playa Conchillas and British Cemetery

15:30 Casa Evans: "Concurso de mesas de té"

19:00 We leave for Montevideo

22:00 Arrival

Includes bus, tour to Montes del Plata
and ticket to Casa Evans.

\$1500



events@britsoc.org.uy

Lecture Supper



Europe's Last Fortress: The Knights of Malta and the Holy War against the Turkish expansion.

By Alberto Márquez

Tuesday 24th October 2023 19:00 h
at the British Hospital Auditorium

Policlínico Central Morales 2578 piso 3

TICKETS

MEMBERS \$1000	NON MEMBERS \$1500
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events@britsoc.org.uy

Squash Tournament

Squash, a sport that originated in England, has gained popularity worldwide due to its fast-paced nature and strategic gameplay.

In Uruguay, the Old Boys Club played a pivotal role in introducing and pioneering this exhilarating sport in the 1930s. Led by Henry Hugh Grindley, an avid squash enthusiast and manager of the Central Uruguay Railway Company, the club embarked on a journey that would shape the future of squash in the country.

Grindley's passion for squash led him to construct a court at his own residence. Recognizing the potential for growth, he collaborated with Maynard La Brooy, manager of the Dunlop Rubber Company in Uruguay, to build a dedicated court for the Old Boys Club. This endeavor required importing the original court plans from England along with essential equipment such as rackets and balls.

The Old Boys Club became pioneers in practicing squash on a professional court, setting the stage for their subsequent achievements. Over time, their squash team garnered significant victories both locally and internationally, solidifying their reputation as formidable competitors.

As squash continues to captivate enthusiasts around the world, we are thrilled to announce an upcoming tournament that we are organizing with the Old Boys Club. Whether you're an experienced player or new to the sport, this tournament offers an opportunity to witness firsthand the excitement that squash brings. Mark your calendars and join us!



4^a Etapa del Torneo Uruguayo Tommy Morton Cup

From 18th October to November 1st.

at Old Boys & Old Girls Club

Further details coming soon



1 Department to go!

Ambassador Faye O'Connor is close to achieving her goal of visiting the whole country. On 5 September she went to Flores, where she met with the local authorities, visited the Anglo-Uruguayan Cultural Institute and businesses led by local women “Alfajores Cuatro de Julia” and “Ruralanas”. The latter has recently started producing knitwear made from wool imported from the Falkland Islands. The Ambassador was greatly impressed

with Flores' commitment to sustainability after getting to know the local community garden, which uses compost made from food waste, and the industrial Ecopark where plastic waste is turned into new recycled plastic products. The last department the Ambassador will officially visit is Colonia, where she is due to go this month! Any suggestions for unusual British related places to visit in Colonia would be gratefully received at ukinuruguay@adinet.com.uy.



Strengthening Uruguay-UK relations

Uruguayan parliamentarians from all political parties, who belong to the Uruguay-UK Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group, spent one week in the United Kingdom on an official visit. The Parliamentarians visited The UK Parliament in London and The Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh. They had an intense agenda of activities and meetings with fellow parliamentarians, including with Foreign, Development and Commonwealth Office Minister for the Americas, David Rutley MP, who visited Uruguay in August, to continue strengthening bilateral relations.



10 years of the British Pavilion at Expo Prado

Another edition of the British Pavilion at Expo Prado finished on Sunday 17 September, making it the Embassy's 10th participation in the event. Yet again, the Embassy hosted a variety of British companies and organisations along with travel agency, Viajeros sin fronteras, and the Falkland Islands stand in the Pavilion. Participants were: Anglo, Doulton, Frikantec, Land Rover, Martin Miller's, Tienda Inglesa, One Carbon World and Longley Heritage Brand.

The Embassy's stand focused on British pop culture and history. It included 3 large displays: 1. "The King's Gallery" - an exhibition of key moments in the career and life of King Charles III, 2. A backdrop of Hatfield House (a well-known British manor where iconic British films and TV series have been filmed) where visitors could have a photo taken and appear to be having tea in the grounds, and 3.

a wall showcasing some of the greatest British cultural icons where we asked our Pavilion visitors to tell us which were their favourites. There were also a wide array of activities held at the Pavilion including tastings, live music and seminars throughout the week. You can watch the summary of this years British Pavilion at Prado [here](#).

We would also like to make a special mention to our colleague Pia Delisante, who carried forward the relationship with ARU and the organisation of the British Pavilion at Expo Prado since restarting our participation 10 years ago and built it up year on year to what it is today. Pia has taken a sabbatical in order to accompany her husband on a diplomatic posting and we wish her the best of luck while she is away and a big thank you for all her dedication to the event over the years.



Falkland Islands competition

Archiveology student and fencer, Bettina Alberti is the Uruguayan winner of the regional Falkland Islands competition for university students. 5 finalists made their pitches at the British Pavilion in Expo Prado explaining what they would look forward to doing in the Islands, how they think the experience would add to their personal development and how they plan to share their experience and keep in touch with the Falklands when they are back in Uruguay. It was a tough decision for Ambassador Faye O'Connor and the panel (Falkland Islanders representatives amongst them) to choose the winner as they all did excellent presentations. Bettina will travel to the Islands in January together with students from Argentina, Chile and Paraguay. You can watch a summary of the pitching event [here](#).



Heritage Day 2023

The Ambassador's
Residence opens to the
public!

Enjoy guided tours,
traditional bites and
special exhibitions.

Saturday 7 October
10 to 16 hs
Jorge Canning 2491

THE ANGLO SCHOOL – BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS

Choosing a school for our children has never been an easy decision to take, especially nowadays when schooling can begin so early in their lives. There are a number of benefits to beginning our toddler's learning path at a school that offers all the way up from Kinder to Secondary.



express themselves verbally and non-verbally. They learn how to articulate their thoughts, needs, and feelings to teachers and peers, and this regular interaction will help build self-confidence as they learn to speak up, share their ideas, and participate actively in group activities. All these experiences teach valuable life skills which will be vital for building strong relationships later in life.

Starting and completing your education at the same school ensures stability and consistency, which in turn provides a sense of security in a child's school life. When young children start school, they gradually become familiar with the school's culture, its daily routines, and its teachers and classmates, all of which help reduce anxiety and enable those early years to be a positive experience of growth and development within a safe and caring environment.

Consistency regarding schooling not only fosters a sense of security in young children but also enables the building of strong foundations in core social and emotional skills. Early education introduces children to a diverse group of peers, helping them develop essential social skills like sharing, communication, and cooperation. In a classroom, children often encounter situations where they need to share toys, collaborate, or negotiate conflicts. It also encourages children to



THE ANGLO SCHOOL – BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS



At The Anglo School we welcome children as of the age of two, providing our students with a strong foundation for lifelong learning, social development, and success. With an integral approach to education, that is centred around the child, we offer excellence in bilingual education with a curriculum that covers diverse areas such as social and emotional learning, the arts, and sports all aligned with our school values: respect, responsibility, empathy, and self-esteem.

On another note, research suggests that students who attend the same school throughout their education tend to perform better academically, not only because of the feeling of security that the continuity and familiarity of attending one school brings but also because they are familiar and comfortable with school's approach to teaching and learning.





On Saturday 9th September, the 2023 Anglo Conference was held at Radisson Victoria Plaza hotel. The event, which was hugely successful, gathered about 300 participants from Uruguay and abroad.

The opening plenary by Eduardo Mangarelli dealt with AI and its impact on education, one of the top trending topics these days in the field of education and beyond. Following this first presentation, participants had the chance to attend talks on a wide variety of topics: from assessment, global citizenship, teaching young learners, student competencies, reading strategies and 21st century skills to the role of the British monarchy in today's world. The event ended with Facundo Ponce de Leon talking about a topic that concerns us all these days: mental health and the challenges it presents for us all and for teachers in particular.

This year, participants had the chance to share lunch together at the Arcadia restaurant, situated on the 25th floor of the hotel. This unique experience allowed them to foster stronger connections and enjoy some leisurely moments with both friends and colleagues while indulging in some delicious food and enjoying the stunning views of our city.

We are grateful to our speakers and sponsors and above all, to the almost 300 teachers who joined us again for an that aimed at giving us all the opportunity to exchange ideas on how to face the challenges ahead.

We look forward to meeting again in 2024 for the next Anglo Conference to be held on Saturday 17th August at Radisson Victoria Plaza Hotel!



ANGLO'S SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION AT EXPO PRADO 2023!



We're delighted to share the success of Instituto Cultural Anglo-Uruguayo's recent participation in Expo Prado. The British Pavilion was visited by thousands of visitors during the event, which ran from 8th to 17th September. Many enthusiastic participants took part in our trivia challenge and entered our raffle for a chance to win valuable Anglo courses. With approximately thousands of daily visitors from across the country, Expo Prado provided us with an excellent platform to connect with new friends and showcase our services. We would like to thank the British embassy for giving us the opportunity to take part and everyone who joined us at this exciting event!



TARANCO PALACE REVEALED



The British Society and the Instituto Anglo are delighted to extend an exclusive invitation to a once-in-a-lifetime experience – a captivating guided tour of the enchanting Taranco Palace, led by none other than José Luis Ortiz de Taranco, the grandson of Felix Ortiz de Taranco, whose family heritage traces back to the medieval ages. The Ortiz de Taranco family actively participated in commerce, industry, agriculture, banking, as well as contributing significantly to the cultural and societal fabric of their time. This remarkable tour will immerse you in the rich history and exquisite artistry that define their most treasured and magnificent family residence.

Uncover the Secrets of Taranco Palace

Step back in time as you explore the Taranco Palace, a masterpiece of architectural splendor. Designed by the renowned French architect Charles Girault, and built between 1907 and 1910 by the British architect John Adams. This palace stands as a testament to the collaboration of European craftsmanship as it embodies the fusion of French elegance and British precision, creating a truly unique architectural gem.

Royal Connections

The Prince of Wales himself stayed within these storied walls during his visit to Uruguay in 1925. The palace holds a piece of British history within its grandeur, further emphasizing its importance as a symbol of cultural exchange and diplomacy.



Discover Treasures from Across Europe

The Taranco family's discerning taste and extensive travels have resulted in a treasure trove of European art, sculptures, and opulent furniture. During this exclusive tour, you'll have the privilege of beholding an exquisite collection that spans centuries and continents. From awe-inspiring paintings to intricately crafted sculptures, every corner of the palace tells a story of art, culture, and family legacy.

Meet Your Guide - José Luis Ortiz de Taranco

José Luis Ortiz de Taranco, the grandson of Felix Ortiz de Taranco, will personally guide you through the Taranco Palace. His unique perspective and intimate knowledge of the family's history will offer you unparalleled insights into the palace's hidden gems and untold stories.

Limited Availability - Reserve Your Place Now

This exclusive tour is limited to just 20 members of the British Society, and spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. To secure your place, kindly RSVP by Tuesday 10th, October by contacting anglocultural@anglo.edu.uy

Do not miss this extraordinary opportunity to embark on a journey through time and immerse yourself in the enchanting world of the Taranco family. We look forward to sharing this unforgettable experience with you.

Friday 20th, October at 3:30 pm.

Museo de Artes Decorativas: 25 de Mayo 376





28th October, 11pm – 2pm

Past & Present Join the Community

Join us for our 3rd Past & Present, Join the Community event on Saturday, October 28th, at the British Cemetery. We're extending a warm invitation to all members of the British Community to join us from 11 am to 2 pm.



Under the knowledgeable guidance of **Robert Wells**, we'll embark on a brief tour of the Cemetery to uncover the stories of **three intriguing 19th-century immigrants to Uruguay** and their families.

Following the tour, we'll gather in our garden for delightful **nibbles and refreshing drinks**. Don't worry about seating – we've got you covered. Plus, the event is on the house!

We're counting on you! Your presence will make the event even more special!

RSVP to: info@cemeteriobritanico.com.uy



7th October, 3pm – 5pm

National Heritage Day

Architects and teachers shaping our education

With the usual insightful guidance of **Arch. Eduardo Montemuiño**, **Teacher Carolina Lazo Fariello**, and the **help of actresses**, we will be learning about the lives of the people who have **played key roles in the formation of educational and cultural institutions of our country.**

21s October, 4pm

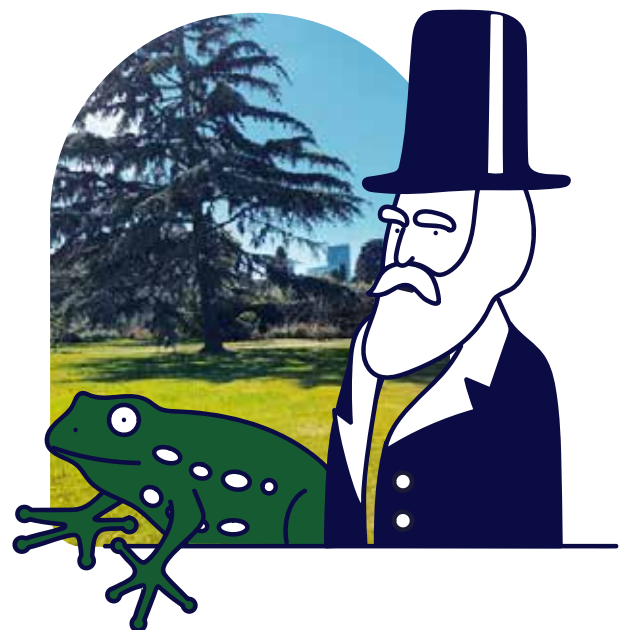
Darwin's frog

Continuing our talks commemorating **190 years of Darwin's visit to our country**, we are pleased to have **Dr. Raúl Maneyro**, from the Faculty of Sciences – Udelar, delve into some interesting findings from such an illustrious visitor.



IMPORTANT

Both events are in Spanish and open to the public.



Cycle X “Encuentros a la Puesta del Sol”
Cultural manager Eduardo Montemuiño



SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS TILSU /
UNIVERSITY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES / UDELAR
URUGUAYAN NETWORK OF CEMETERIES AND HERITAGE SITES
IBERO-AMERICAN NETWORK FOR VALUATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HERITAGE CEMETERIES



Harry Pugh

On Wednesday, 12th April, 2023, in an Old Girls' hockey tournament, Ian McConnell, then Chair of the Board, unveiled a plaque commemorating Harry Pugh, a much-loved Trustee and Board member who was very dedicated to the School and its community.

With the presence of Board members, School authorities, Harry's family and hockey players, the plaque was unveiled and the hockey pitch was dedicated to him.

For many of us who didn't know him personally, or know him only through his legacy, this is the story of Harry Pugh:

Harry was born on March 13th, in 1931 in Prestwich, Lancashire. Prestwich is a suburb of Manchester in the north of England

He grew up during the war and his childhood and youth were impacted by it. His father was an engineer specialised in gas works and left the safety of his house during the air raids to inspect the gas tanks in case of leakage, meaning that they never knew if they would see him again.

Back in that day it was common in England for young boys to work as Paperboys to earn some pocket money. This meant waking up very early in the morning to deliver the morning paper to houses that had ordered them. Since it was wartime, one of the places within his paper delivery route was an anti-aircraft battery in Manchester, a deployment with guns designed to protect the local factories that made ammunition to fight the war. This was specifically dangerous given that the location was a target.



However, Harry used to say that he loved it because upon arrival the soldiers served him a good breakfast of bacon and eggs. Considering the strict food rationing in the country, it meant that he was better fed than most.

Harry arrived just after the war in 1947 when his father was transferred to Montevideo to manage the Montevideo Gas & Dry Dock Company which was owned by British Gas. Since his mother thought that they were going to the ends of the Earth, she wanted her only son to go with them; however, that was not easy. Harry was in the Naval Academy, and therefore he had to be bought out in order to secure his release, otherwise he would be classed as AWOL (absent without official leave). Luckily, his parents managed to do this and he ended up in Uruguay where he became a Gasworks engineer.

Upon arrival, aged 18, he began working at the Montevideo Gas & Dry Dock Company together with his father whilst taking an engineering course from Cambridge. This course was designed to be remote/correspondence as it catered



for similar people that worked throughout the Empire and needed to be educated. However, he had to physically go to Cambridge to take his final exams.

Once he graduated as a fully-fledged Gas Works engineer, he went on to work for British Gas (owned by the British Government) until it was transitioned to the Uruguayan government in 1971/72. He oversaw the transition and training of the Uruguayan staff that was taking over. Thereafter he was invited to join Tienda Inglesa as the General Manager at the invitation of Jimmy James and old man Henderson – both owners of the Tienda Inglesa. He remained there until he retired.

In 1957 he married Ursula Hausmann, a German who arrived in Montevideo a couple of years after him. They had 3 girls: Jackie, Monica and Diana.

Although Harry never attended The British Schools, his involvement with the School and its community was due to the fact that his three daughters attended the School, and as a native Englishman, he was interested in fomenting and developing the School along the lines of the British social and education system.

When he joined the Board of Governors, he put his whole heart and soul into the endeavour. There were weekly meetings, and he could also be seen around the School grounds most mornings, so much so that all the staff knew him by his first name. In later years when he had retired and continued to be involved in the Board, he would religiously visit the School every morning (after his walk on the Rambla) until noon, and three times a week he would leave with his granddaughter Tatiana to take her to lunch. He was also heavily involved in all the new building projects (which within the School environment are constant and



very demanding) ensuring that things were done properly. It was normal to find him walking on roofs and alerting the maintenance staff to problems that might arise.

At one point he decided that he didn't want to get involved in certain aspects of the governance of the School and it was time for the younger generation to take over and take things forwards. However, he still wanted to go on helping which he did for many years more until he realised, as he said, that "his mind was going, he couldn't retain things and forgot others."

Harry Pugh was a true gentleman who cared for Fair Play and the correct way of doing things. He was instrumental in developing the School further and was closely involved in the building projects when the School started to grow. As an engineer by training, he was interested in things being done properly, not for now but for the future.

He was also a great sportsman who played hockey, rugby, tennis and golf. He would sometimes play hockey and rugby on the same day and soon after tennis as well. He even made it to the Teros. Later on, when he stopped playing hockey and rugby, he started playing golf. Mr Pugh was a keen sportsman who understood the value of sports in life and educated his daughters to follow his example.

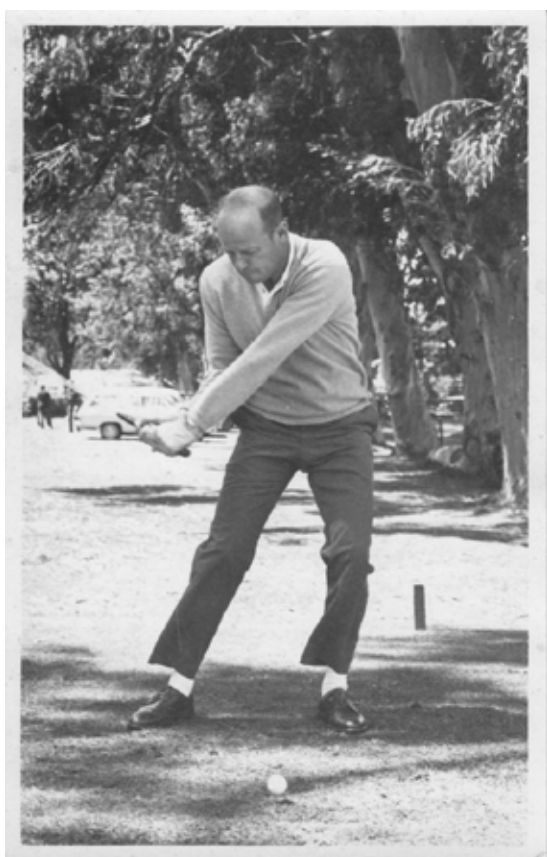
Throughout his deep relationship with the School environment, there was an aspect he never missed: both Monica and Diana were hockey players and he would attend every match they played. In those days he cut a lonely figure, as it was not usual that parents attended the games and matches. His presence was appreciated by all the team as they had a super fan in him!

In later years he would also go and watch his granddaughter



Tatiana play but things were different then, since parents went to watch their kids play hockey.

Mr Harry Pugh was a very humble man and did things without thought for himself and his legacy can be seen around the School: by those who worked alongside him in the Board, by staff members who acknowledge his constant presence and true care and commitment to the School, by students who might remember the crazy man who walked on the roofs, by his family who is still walking the corridors and buildings he helped build and by many hockey players who will remember him every time they step into the School's main synthetic hockey pitch.



Christ Church Birthday

Celebration

45 YEARS

45 YEARS OF FAITH: STILL GOING STRONG!
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29th • 5 PM
CHRIST CHURCH • LIEJA 6437

Stories, Anecdotes, Music, Choripanes, Ice Cream,
Inflatables, Family, Friends, an Intercultural
Community and the Freedom to Be Yourself!

-Envelope Gifts-



The Christ Church Chapel turns 45 on Halloween. We will celebrate this Sapphire Birthday two days early on Sunday Oct 29 starting at 5pm. Thanks to the significant efforts of our founding families and others in the community, we have had a starting place from which to build. Today individuals and families continue to participate in significant ways to share their efforts, expertise, and personal resources.

As you read this, consider stopping by to visit some of our volunteers and thank them for their hard work. We will have choripanes from the parrilla, helados Chelato in the garden, an inflatable bouncy slide for the children together with an art space. We will also have a special program in the Chapel designed to increase our appreciation for each other and the work that has been done.

I invite you to consider a financial gift of any amount to express your support and vote that the community should continue to develop and grow. We have multiple ways that people can give online, or you could bring something with you when you come. We will feel honored with your visit and deeply grateful for your support for our presence and work in the community.

Winston Churchill famously said: "We shape our buildings, afterwards they shape us."

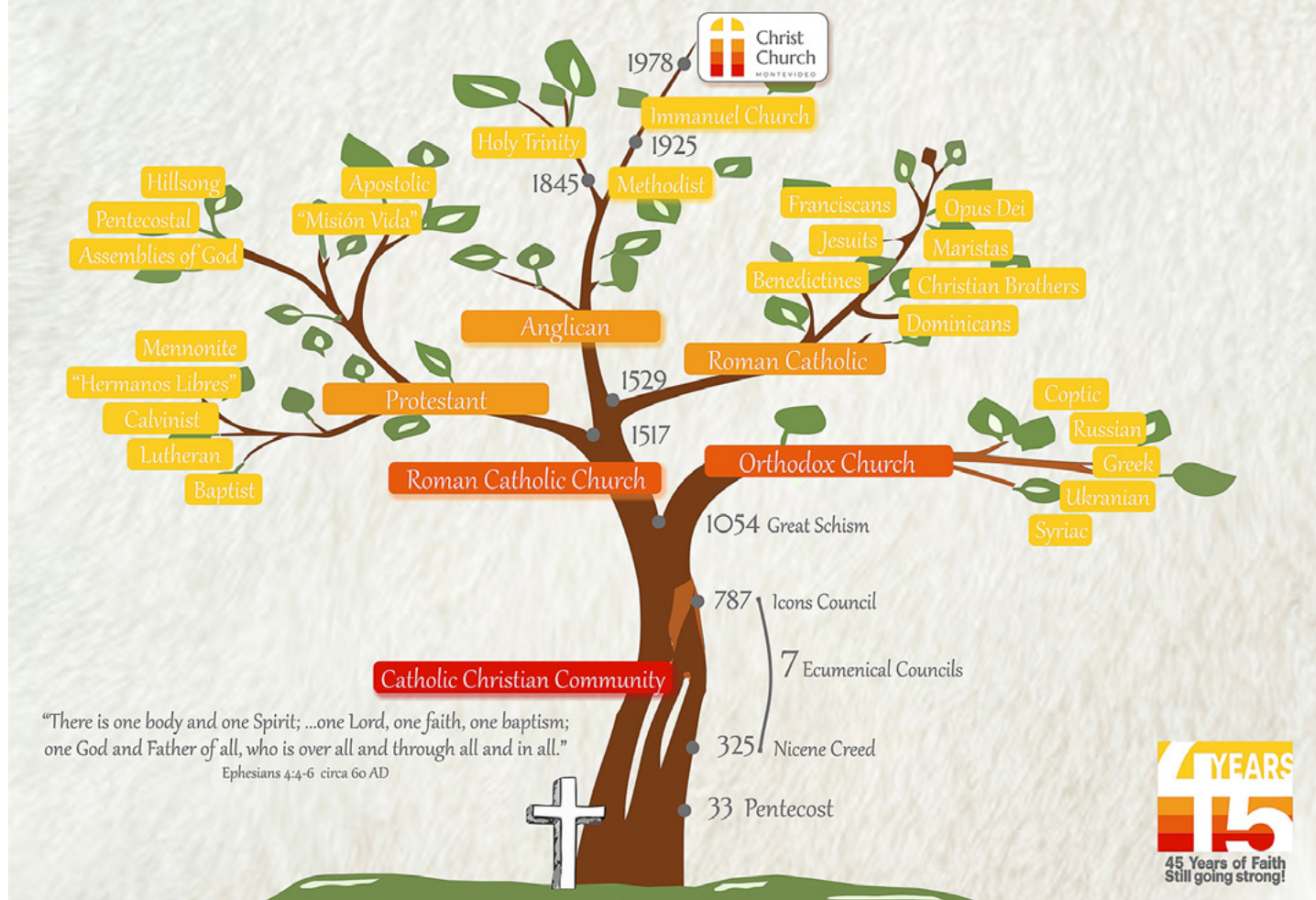
On the Sunday of our birthday celebration, our guests will experience how the Christ Church community is reshaping our spaces both inside and outside to facilitate more and better opportunities for friends to meet, groups to gather, people to play, eat, work and pray together.



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Christ Church Family Tree



The Christ Church Family Tree is a simple summary visual to educate and inspire on the occasion of our 45th Birthday! Christ Church is at the top, not because of any imagined sense of grandeur, but simply because I drew it to be about us. Christianity originally existed in unity with a common Creed affirming one Lord, one faith, and one baptism... This image is not about hierarchy, but a shared grace of God flowing from the Cross of Christ.

All Christians everywhere are part of a great family with more in common than most people seem to realize. Christ Church is barely 45 years young and a virtual baby in terms of our historic faith, but one version of our Family Tree shows our access and connection to a strong root system through the Scriptures and the Ancient Creeds. Another version might show people and families across the city and around the world.

Always a student of church history, I wanted to add more! There were originally five Patriarchs, but only one Apostolic Creed recognized from the dawn of the Common Era. Africa was the cradle of Christianity. And the early history from Turkey, Armenia, Egypt, India, the British Isles, Germany, Italy, Spain, France and Ukraine...each culture and country has a story and a place on the Family Tree.

So have fun! Do you find your place in the branches? Draw the tree the way you understand it and let me know how I could improve my work. I had awesome help with the graphics. Thank you! Diana Correa, my esteemed colleague at Christ Church.

I hope you will make the effort to stop by and visit during our Celebration highlighted on the previous page.



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LUNCH INVITATION



**Wednesday
4th of October
at 12:15 PM**

President of Julio Berkes SA
Eng. Pablo Bocchi

***"You can dream and also
do things right!"***

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



Breakfast at the British Ambassador's Residence

On September 7th, Cambridge Assessment International Education and Dickens Institute had the pleasure of offering an educational get together to the Cambridge International Education Community in Uruguay. His Majesty's Ambassador, Mrs Faye O'Connor, kindly contributed by providing the Residence for the event for which we are very grateful.



After a lovely breakfast which was a good excuse for members to socialize and exchange the latest news, everyone proceeded to take a seat in the drawing room which had been specially arranged for the occasion. The Ambassador gave a warm welcome, and spoke of the importance of Cambridge Assessment International Education and the courses and exams being offered in Uruguay by Dickens and the schools involved.



Sofia Scherschener, Dickens Director General, warmly introduced the speakers: Richard Gilby, Regional Director Latin America and the Caribbean, Lucila Marquez, Senior Manager Latin America, and Paula Irigoien, Senior Manager Educational Resources, Latin America.



Paula introduced the audience to several platforms and resources which will undoubtedly be of great help to teachers and students in the preparation of their courses and IGCSE exams.

Richard and Lucila, approached a very important subject: *Focus on well being: learner, teacher and school leader*. As expected, this topic was of great interest for the teachers present.

Lucila ended this very interesting teaching event by showing a video: Global Perspectives Fair. It gave everyone present a lot of school for thought as to what youngsters can achieve.

As usual, Cambridge International offered Teachers their greatest support.



After the session at the British Embassy, a light lunch was held at the Dickens to thank our Cambridge International friends.



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Bulls' Crossing

Malaria is an ancient disease. Mosquitoes have been biting us forever, injecting noxious parasites into our bloodstream with every jab. Never, perhaps, more notoriously than in India in the 1820s, where British Army personnel were being sickened in droves. Eminent medical experts were consulted, and a new medication was prescribed. Quinine had recently been isolated from the bark of the Chinchona tree, which is native to Peru. In fact, Andean shamans had long been using bark extracts to treat the malaria that Spanish colonizers brought to South America in the early fifteen hundreds. The bark was then introduced to Spain by Jesuit missionaries returning from the New World.

Quinine salts were effective but were also very bitter. British officers stationed in India started blending their doses of quinine with sugar and soda water to make a more palatable drink that was soon patented and produced commercially as Indian tonic water. They then added their gin rations to further blunt the unpleasant taste of quinine, and thus created one of the most delicious cocktails ever invented: the gin & tonic.

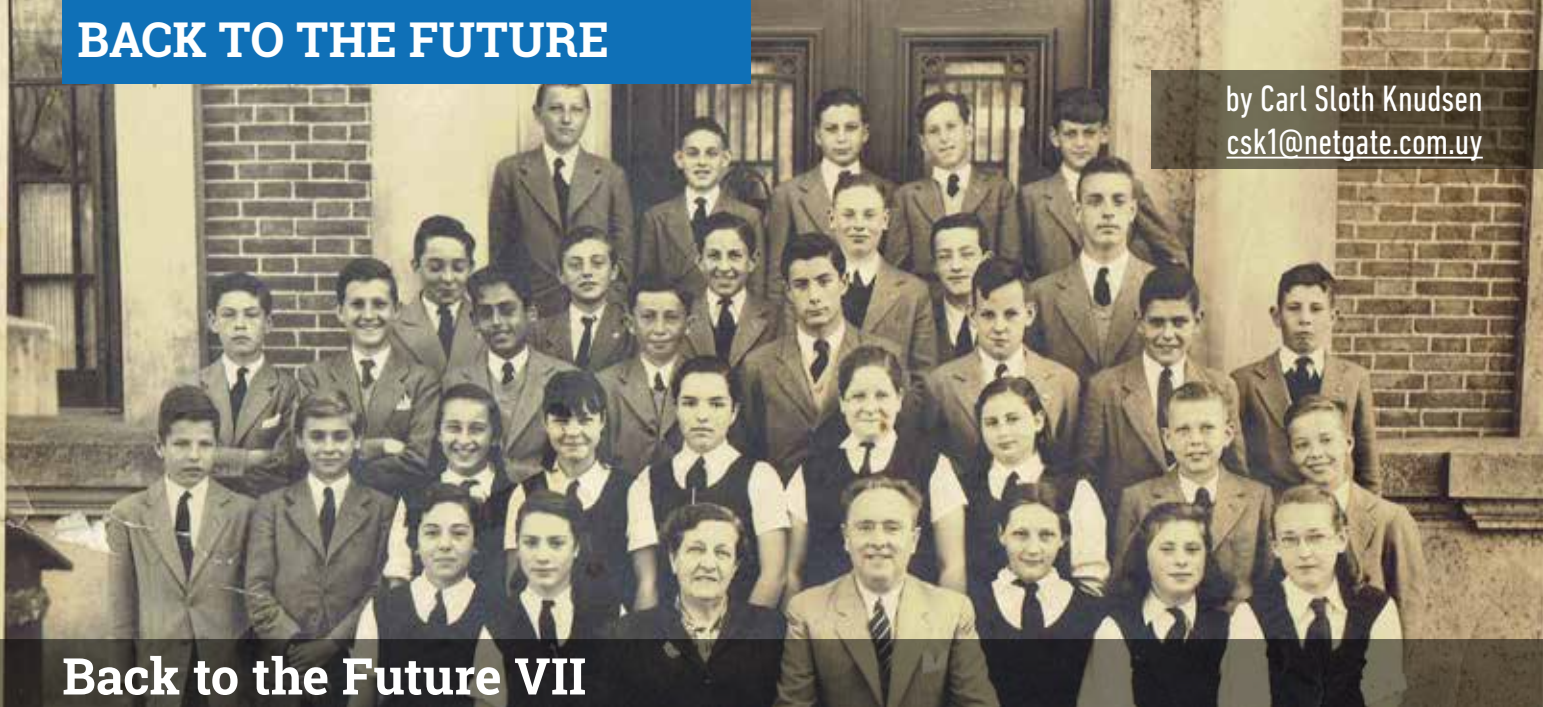
Gin has also been around for a long time. It was originally distilled by monks and alchemists in Europe in the 13th century and fused with juniper berries to make a medicinal tonic. It was a popular cure-all in those days, though some fretted that it was being consumed more for enjoyment than for medicinal purposes. The word gin is an abbreviation of an old English word that was borrowed from the Dutch *jenever*. Both are ultimately derived from *juniperus*, the Latin for juniper. A modern version of the drink subsequently emerged in the Netherlands, which some claim was the original "Dutch courage." It was brought to England in the 17th century where it soon became the alcoholic beverage of choice. It was all the rage by the time the British were in India, and became even more popular when it was paired with quinine to create the famous G&T.

My parents threw G&T parties at home in Montevideo when

I was in my teens. Guests arrived at midday on Saturday and mingled for two or three hours. A few stayed for a very late, very relaxed lunch. The garden was at its most beautiful in the summer, and we set up a bar on the back patio. People sat under the grape vine arbour or clustered in groups on the lawn, chilled glasses in hand. My brother and I were the de facto bar tenders and waiters, and we probably had as much fun as anybody. My father served imported Gordon's London dry gin because he thought it was the best in the world. But the mixer was another story. He would only serve Agua Tónica Paso de los Toros, the Uruguayan tonic water that was, in his opinion, better than any of the British brands.

Paso de los Toros is a town in Central Uruguay. It was originally a ford, a low water point for those who wanted to cross the mighty Río Negro. In the late eighteen hundreds, local men helped wagons and herds of cattle to cross the river at the "*paso*." Their strength and fearlessness earned them the nickname "*toros*" (bulls), which is how the crossing and eventually the town got its name.

A young chemistry student from Montevideo, Rómulo Mangini, moved there in 1924 to work at his wife's family's business and then opened a soda water factory. He befriended a Welshman, George Jones, who worked on the railways and was known for his refined palate. Jones challenged his new friend to produce a better tonic water than the British brands available at the time. After much trial and error, Mangini came up with a formula that Jones considered superior to any tonic water on the market. The improved flavour was at least partly attributed to the pristine spring water used in the manufacturing process, which was drawn from a well on the factory premises. The product was a huge success and Mangini's company soon flourished and attracted the attention of international beverage corporations. In time, the Paso de los Toros brand was bought out by PepsiCo, but it remains, to this day, a highly prized ingredient among those who are partial to a first-class gin and tonic.



Back to the Future VII

We arrived in Oslo on the same day we left Copenhagen. The car was lifted on board, and the family settled into different cabins. Miss Hornbaek, our teacher, gave instructions, but I can't recall what she said. After dinner, we set off the next morning for Uruguay. We encountered rough and challenging seas along the way, and due to the high waves, many flying fish landed on top of the ship's holds. I asked the cook to take me there so I could hold a fish in my hands. It was not without danger, as the vessel swayed from side to side. I managed to grasp one fish that was still alive, and I gave it to the cook, who tossed it back into the sea. I thought to myself: "Fly, fly home," just as I had done earlier on a beach, as explained in Chapter IV. I can still feel the cook's hand gripping me tightly during this experience. It's quite a story, if I may say so. I didn't share it with my father, though.

This time, only nine passengers were on board, and there were no kids our age. So, we had to entertain ourselves between the teacher's lectures. Although the distance was the same, I felt that the return trip went faster. Perhaps sailing "down" the Atlantic Ocean held the answer. It's fascinating how the brain works at that age, isn't it? Well, my brother Martin and I enjoyed drinking—oh, please, don't panic—the marines referred to it as a "sugar drink." Years later, we discovered that it was a Brazilian beverage called Guarana, which, at the time, could only be obtained in Brazil. Coca-Cola was unavailable in Denmark during our stay, along with many other unnecessary things. Denmark was struggling to recover and simultaneously pay its debts to England and the USA, who had helped free the country from the German invasion.

During the voyage, I pondered the war and what people must have been thinking while hiding in underground bomb shelters, waiting for the sirens to cease. Incidentally, these shelters are now used to store potatoes and wine bottles, as my uncle Carl Bondorf did during our stay. The sirens were frequently tested, and it honestly sent a chill down my

spine. It gave me a vivid picture of the horrors of the war and how arduous and painful it must have been. But time has a way of clearing one's mind.

One morning, without warning, we arrived at Montevideo Harbor. Unconsciously, I anticipated problems, which unfortunately materialized the following year. The car was unloaded as usual, ready for us to drive home, while the truck with our luggage was en route to the Customs Room for clearance. Upon arriving home, we unpacked, and my brother Martin and I readied our uniforms to resume attending the British School early the next morning. At that time, I was in Form 2 until the end of the term. For some reason, the following year, back at school, they informed me that I had to repeat Form 2. So, the expected problem arose. I couldn't believe it, nor could I understand why, and I spiraled into a state of panic. My initial reaction took me back to when I started kindergarten one and was immediately transferred to kindergarten two, where I stayed for 2 years! Wow! The same issue again, but in reverse. I thought to myself: "What's wrong? What have I done?" Unfortunately, from that moment, I developed an indescribable hatred for the school. Nevertheless, I gathered my strength to continue and make the most of the situation.

The positive side of this was that instead of having 34 classmates, I had double that. For instance, Luis Cuenca, and later, his sister Eloisa. Tabare Rodriguez, and later his brother Manolo. Simone Beauvois, followed by her brother John. Daniel Puig, and later Ines, and so on—a privilege. Today, those of us who are able meet once a year for lunch, most recently at Irene Maggi's apartment in Pocitos. This gathering was originally organized by Kenneth Stanham, the alma mater of our group. We feel extremely comfortable, have loads of fun, sing songs we learned from Maestro Simon, reminisce about various situations, and of course, exchange information about our medical supplies. More school happenings will be shared next.

Orson Welles, The Trial

While I am on the subject of films, I'd like to refer to what I consider the best film in the history of cinema. Orson Welles is famous for other films he directed, perhaps more attuned to the history of his own country.

I must confess that I have always been fond of good cinema, mainly of the European variety. Over the years I have accumulated a personal collection of over 25,000 good films that I used to watch with my wife Val in the evenings.

I must also confess that since 2020 I have been unable to find one single very good film to acquire, all being badly conceived and made, always with the box office in mind, simplistic and superficial. I was vexed to watch, for instance, the recent one about Oppenheimer, full of things that were better told before and lacking others of a more meaningful nature.

When I was just 15 years old I discovered Ingmar Bergman, that Swedish master, through whom I learned a lot about life and human problems. My interest went to such an extreme that I took Swedish language classes from a lady who was temporarily residing here and I can recite some lines by heart from his most famous movies, like *The Seventh Seal*, *Wild Strawberries* and *The Magician*. To me he was the greatest director of all time.

But then, in 1962, Welles' *The Trial* changed my whole perspective. The film included many top contemporary actors, like Welles himself, Anthony Perkins, Jeanne Moreau, Romy Schneider, Akim Tamiroff, Elsa Martinelli. It was based on a book by Kafka that portrayed the oppression many Jews suffered in Central Europe.

But Welles gave it an entirely different perspective. In a few words, the human condition in society. Groups of critics here and abroad could never agree about the meaning of the film and came up with wildly diverging perceptions. But with what they all seemed to agree was that the soundtrack, mainly based on Albinoni's *Adagio*, was one of the richest in the history of cinema. In fact, every time of the very many I watched this film, I discovered things that I had missed before.

Anthony Perkins is Joseph K., a man who suddenly becomes accused of a crime the nature of which he is never told, and tries unsuccessfully to defend himself. In the end, he is executed by some thugs working for the government but dies laughing at their cowardice.

There is one scene in which Anthony Perkins walks through a public square full of old people bearing numbers on their chests, with the background of a huge statue, perhaps representing Justice, covered with a tarpaulin, that never fails to give me goose bumps, since it is full of meaning.

Some have argued that Joseph K. is a misfit, someone who consistently refuses to abide by the rules that society imposes on us in order to assure stability and a certain degree of order, but when it is a despotic government that imposes a humiliating submission to allow people to live, then his continuous refusal in the film to accept such capricious set of rules, becomes a claim for personal freedom, an attitude that many are often afraid to assume.

At the beginning and once more later on, Welles warns viewers with a short story that it is up to us to take action if we want to achieve anything. But the film is so full of different episodes and situations that one must be very attentive to perceive the full meaning of the challenges many people face in society, unless we assume a strong positive action to overcome all obstacles.

In a world in which cinema today is viewed just as a form of entertainment, we would perhaps be well advised to turn to these jewels of old films that try to make us think and reflect on the meaning and the mostly unintended consequences of our actions.



La Celeste - A Melting Pot of Optimism

“La Celeste,” Uruguay’s national football team, embodies the success of a hyper-integrative society. It represents a peaceful, inclusive, and egalitarian country—a melting pot of optimism where differences are celebrated, and a nation finds its identity.

Football, above all, possesses one virtue: It democratizes our aristocracy. We were in need of a truly popular game like football, one that could not only capture the attention of the wealthy but also be accessible to people from all walks of life. It has the remarkable ability to draw in vast crowds, transcending distinctions of social status, the capricious inequalities of fortune, or other differences such as age and gender. Football possesses this virtue, which, until now, no other form of entertainment has displayed.

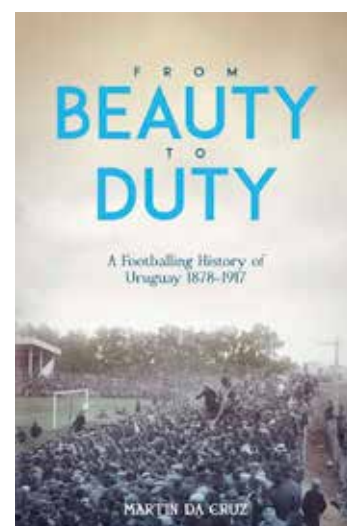
The arrival of football in Uruguay marked a pivotal moment that reshaped the nation’s trajectory. It transcended geographical, social, and economic boundaries, becoming a unifying force that bridged divisions in a nation struggling with its “Personality.” Uruguay emerged as a new country, defined by its predominantly white population. Officially, the country’s national story revolves around immigration, particularly from Italy and Spain. This was a diverse society, sharply divided by class and ethnicity, making it challenging for marginalized groups to find a sense of belonging.

However, football became the great equalizer. On the football pitch, talent and passion outshone privilege. Immigrants and factory workers could stand shoulder to shoulder with the affluent, and their skills spoke louder than their origins. This democratization of sport offered an escape from societal stratification. Football became a mirror reflecting Uruguay’s spirit and chronicling its history. It allowed Uruguayans to navigate change, painting their aspirations, joys, and sorrows on its canvas. This shared experience fostered unity and a newfound sense of identity.

Football provided stability in times of upheaval, connecting people to their roots and envisioning a future shaped by their own hands. It anchored them in a world that seemed to constantly shift, offering continuity and purpose.

Football arrived as a gift precisely when Uruguay needed it most. It democratized society, granting everyone the opportunity to be part of something greater. It wasn’t just a game; it became the heartbeat of a nation, the pulse of a people, and the essence of Uruguay itself. It meant more than just a new sports attraction; it turned into a transformative force that shaped the nation’s identity and united its people in a shared dream of a better future. It exemplified the power of sport to transcend societal divisions and redefine a nation’s character.

If you want to learn more about the fascinating history of football in Uruguay, you must read “From Beauty To Duty” by Martin Da Cruz, published in 2022.





The Anglican Cid

El Cid is a familiar name for my generation. Because of his historical importance as a Champion of Christianity against the Moors in the 11th Century Spain; or by the 1961 film with Charlton Heston which portrayed his exploits in the battlefield and rallying his troops after death to win the decisive battle. Charlton Heston never set a foot on Uruguay, but we can find a similar case on an Englishman in 19th Century Montevideo and similarly trace his footsteps as defender of the faith.

Samuel Fisher Lafone (1805, Liverpool – 1871, Buenos Aires) is credited as being the founder of the British colony of Montevideo. Samuel Lafone arrived to Buenos Aires in 1820 and quickly made a name for himself as successful merchant and entrepreneur, made possible by his family connections in Liverpool. He would cross the River Plate definitively in 1833 to become a legendary figure in the new republic of Uruguay. Quick to assess the needs of the Government before and during the Guerra Grande period he became an overt money lender of the Uruguayan state, the most important merchant of the sieged city, a businessmen respected by both contending armies and a real estate investor and developer ready to grasp every opportunity the war times offered. What is not so known is that Samuel Lafone was also a pious and devoted man that embraced the Anglican faith with a resolute attitude, an unexpected champion of the faith, and as the *Cid*, suffered the consequences of his strong religious stance. Persecution and intolerance for his religious beliefs were a constant company during Samuel Lafone's life, and ironically it came from his family ancestors and also haunted his descendants.

The Lafone's were not native from the Liverpool, but were part of the thousands of French Huguenots who forcibly migrated to the British Isles during the XVI Century religious persecutions. In Buenos Aires, Samuel Lafone would encounter Juan Manuel de Rosas wrath when on a secret Anglican ceremony, officiated by an American minister, he married a patrician girl, María Quevedo y Alsina, daughter

of an important colonial merchant, thus in 1833 he was expelled from Buenos Aires after paying a huge fine. Decades later, Samuel Lafone's daughter, Martha Lucia Lafone Quevedo married under the Anglican rites Thomas Tomkinson, businessman, banker and entrepreneur from Montevideo after receiving a special authorisation from the local Catholic authorities. Samuel Lafone's private and public life was always tainted and driven by his Anglican faith, so it's not a surprise when we find that he was responsible for the construction of the Holy Trinity Church of Montevideo. Samuel Lafone donated the land and the building of the church. The works began in January 1844 in a ceremony attended by the President Joaquin Suarez. The inauguration was set for 1845 when the small British community of Montevideo attended the first Anglican denomination temple in Latin America.

Samuel Lafone did not only pay for his religious devotion, but acted accordingly. His most remembered business in Uruguay is the '*saladero Pantanoso*', on the lands of the actual ANCAP works. But not everything was business, as he built a workers neighbourhood close to the *saladero* with exemplary urban considerations for the workers and their families. Sanitary and leisure conditions were contemplated in the parks and open streets. He called it *Pueblo Victoria* in honour of the Queen, and is today the southern part of *La Teja*. In fact, today's name reflects that the roof tiles of the houses where what traditionally was to be found in British homes back in the British Isles.

He was a Good Samaritan to the very last. When the British community in Buenos Aires was suffering a yellow fever epidemic in 1871 he crossed the river to help, falling ill and dying on April 30 of that year, emulating Charlton Heston, as a XIX Century *Cid* and closing the circle, battling to the end and being an example and driving force for the British communities on both sides of the River Plate.



by Carmen Alvarez
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Conchillas : The Evans House

The Evans House : a unique building which at the beginning of the 20th century was a general store and now is a National Historical Building. In 1910 Walker & Co. Ltd. founded the only general store in Conchillas, Colonia department.

Conchillas history is marked by the influence of this English company which arrived at the end of the 20th century to exploit the existing rock quarries in the area.

The construction of the house was entrusted to the Scottish architect William Lumsden. Walker himself appointed David Evans as the store manager.

Evans became a very important character in the town having done many different activities such as sailor, cook, salesman and businessman. He gave the town a strong commercial impulse. The place continued to be in Evans family for many years and in 2008 a Committee was formed to take over the house for different activities.

The Evans house is not alone in the set of British properties in the area, all of which give a special flavour and character to Conchillas. There are also the Anglican church, the Conchillas Hotel where the great personalities coming from England used to stay with wooden balconies surrounded by a huge park with tennis and courts. Also the cemetery where rest the remains of the founders and the most illustrious Conchillas personalities.

And last but not least, the typical houses of the first settlers, painted in yellow with thick walls and gabled zinc roofs that have been standing since their construction in the 19th century.

The port, about 5 kms from the town center was a key piece in the entire operation of the Walker company. The stone and sand extracted in Conchillas was exported to

Buenos Aires for the construction of Madero Port.

Conchillas is a welcoming place where every year the tea table contest is held. It's a fantastic event where the whole village enthusiastically takes part and we are looking forward to being present at the next event which will take place this month.





Picture: <https://www.irisht Examiner.com/news/aid-40956122.html>

Claire Keegan (1968)

The *Quiet Girl* is a 2022 Irish – language film directed by Colm Bairéad based on Claire Keegan’s 2010 short story “Foster”. The story was first published in *The New Yorker* (easily accessed) and then expanded, by Keegan, as the basis for the film. Although the short story is narrated in the first person, by the protagonist, an unnamed little girl who recalls a short summer stay with relatives, the film director chose not to use, for example, voice-over, but rather to convey her story in images and very brief dialogue. It centres on what is not said, never expressed in words, not only by the girl who is indeed quiet, but also on the absence of verbal and physical communication among the characters. Set in rural Ireland this low-key, really lovely film is nevertheless able to convey, like the story, dramatic issues connected with family relationships, childhood, death, birth, and a neglected child’s first experience of real affection. The film ends just like the story, and the little girl’s anguished cry “Daddy”, in the final scene, full of poignant ambiguity, is unforgettable.

“Foster”, the title of the story, is deliberately oblique. As a verb, to foster, it means to encourage or stimulate; also, to bring up (a child that is not one’s own by birth); as an adjective, it denotes someone that has a specified family connection through fostering rather than birth. All three meanings are compressed into the title of the story, whereas the film’s title focusses on the girl herself. “Foster” was translated into Spanish as “Las tres luces” – don’t miss the film, on now in Montevideo, and you’ll see why!

Keegan’s other works are described in a *Guardian* review. “In all Keegan’s stories, there is a family. The protagonist changes – the father, the mother, a son, or daughter. But this figure never stands very far out in front. Instead, the narrative gains emotional resonance from the dynamics between characters. Within these families there is cruelty and violence, as well as deep affection. There is much left unspoken, as in m Keegan’s second collection, *Walk the Blue Fields* (2007). In “The Ginger Rogers Sermon”, from her

first, *Antarctica* (1999), the protagonist describes the trivial secrets they all keep from one another: “That’s the way it is in our house, everybody knowing things but pretending they don’t.” The wide sky, the flowing river and the sea are prominent in her stories– we are often in County Wexford or County Wicklow in south-east Ireland, where Keegan grew up on a farm, the youngest of six children. And this landscape tells us things the characters cannot or do not know about the stories they inhabit.”

Her latest work is a short novel, *Small Things Like These*, which was shortlisted for the 2022 Booker Prize and won several awards. As in “Foster”, the undercurrents and secrets of people’s lives loom unsaid – and in both, they are secrets in fact known by everyone. In *Small Things* the story takes place over Christmas, and the protagonist is Bill Furlong, a generous, good-hearted family man who owns a coal selling and distributing business. He provides the winter fuel for the community he lives in and for the nearby nuns who run a thriving laundry business employing “fallen” girls; the nuns also run the only good school for girls, next door to the convent. Bill Furlong is an illegitimate son who’s been trying, unsuccessfully, to discover who his father was; his mother worked for a rich lady living in the Big House, who nevertheless permitted his mother to continue working even though she was pregnant. Christmas stories, including Dickens, the Nativity and his own story are referenced and contrasted with the lives of the “fallen girls” in the convent, almost inconspicuously interwoven into this narrative of secrets.

Keegan’s story takes place in 1983, and the time is important. *Small Things* comes to an end at a point which is really a new beginning, and readers are left to speculate. However, she does add a postscript, denouncing the infamous Irish Magdalen Laundries, suppressed only in 1996: check youtube for further information regarding the involvement of both the Irish government, and the Catholic church.



The Threat of Nuclear War

At the beginning of this year, the Science and Security Board of Atomic Scientists moved the hands of the Doomsday Clock forward to 90 seconds before midnight, reflecting the reality of nuclear confrontation at any time by any of the countries which own these weapons: USA, Russia, China, North Korea, UK, France, India, Pakistan, maybe Israel (unconfirmed) and Iran (anytime).

Seventy-eight years ago, the first and last nuclear bombs fell on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Their devastating effects, immediate and late, have served to act as a deterrent to further use, at least during the Cold War, which lasted until 1989. During that period, nuclear tests were carried underground or in Pacific atolls (some of these islands still cannot be accessed today).

The use of atomic detonations is divided into 'tactical' when aimed at military facilities, and 'strategic' when the targets are major concentrations of humans, like the two which brought the end of WW2.

Atomic explosions are not the only way a nuclear attack can happen. Radioactive material can be hoarded and used within standard explosives, which then disseminate nuclear contaminants in a wide area, either urban, rural, in water reservoirs or cultivated land. Although not intentional, what was left of Chernobyl after the 1986 disaster is an example of what a 'dirty bomb' can cause. The fact is: radioactive material can be used by terrorist groups and weaponised.

It takes a single, cornered, psychologically unstable leader of a nuclear weapon owning country to make disaster happen. We've all heard of the 'man who saved humanity' who halted the Russian response to an apparent USA attack with multiple intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) in the 80s, when the Russian early detector system sounded off an alarm. Nowadays, with supersonic-travelling missiles, there is no room for doubting, as the time before impact goes undetected. More disturbing, is the fact that artificial-intelligence powered systems, could trigger a nuclear attack anytime. Things can go wrong by 'design, error or miscalculation'.

The world's population is at present 8 billion (8 thousand million) and the number of warheads is 13,000. According to a recent article published in the New England Journal of Medicine (21 Sep 2023), a limited confrontation with 250 of these bombs would kill 120 million people and the ensuing climate disruption and nuclear famine would put 2 billion people at risk (one quarter of the world's population). An outright shootout between the USA and Russia would wipe out 200 million and the nuclear winter that would follow would kill up to 6 billion (three quarters of the world's population).

Short of these disasters, nuclear warhead rattling has been used as a means of 'not ruling out' the resort to their use, in a 'limited' or 'tactical' way. We've seen it during the war started by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, as both sides escalate in conventional warfare and rhetoric. At times when Putin has felt cornered, he has clearly voiced that he's been considering the limited or tactical use of less potent nuclear weapons aimed at the battlefield or military targets.

Nuclear war, at a small scale (tactical use against military targets), even if they do not escalate further, will create spots and areas analogous to many Chernobyl and Pacific atolls, where the buildings, land, air and water will be contaminated for decades. The effects on water supply, food (crops, livestock and fish), buildings, neighbourhoods and cities, will have consequences on the health of individuals, populations, health care systems and governments.

A common statement is that countries 'way south' like South America, sub-Saharan Africa, Australia and New Zealand will probably be spared the consequences during the initial phases of a major nuclear confrontation. However, we'll have our share of the nuclear winter and fallout and will be exposed to massive migrations (or invasions) by those who flee the worst scenarios. Every bit of infrastructure, especially health care, will be strained beyond its limits.

The potential scenario barely 90 seconds away defies the ancient narratives of the end of the world. Health and health care will be the first casualties.



‘The Dark Side of the Moon’ turned 50.

Pink Floyd are a British rock band formed in London in 1965 by Syd Barrett (guitar, lead vocals), Roger Waters (bass guitar, vocals), Nick Mason (drums) and Richard Wright (keyboards, vocals). Their name is derived from the given names of 2 blues musicians whose records Barrett had in his collection: Pink Anderson and Floyd Council. Gaining an early following as one of the first British psychedelic groups, they were distinguished by their extended compositions, sonic experimentation, philosophical lyrics and elaborate live shows. They became a leading band of the progressive rock genre, cited by some as the greatest progressive rock band of all time.

Under Barrett’s leadership, they released 2 charting singles and their successful debut album “The Piper at the Gates of Dawn” (1967). Barrett left the band in April 1968 due to deteriorating mental health, shortly after guitarist and vocalist David Gilmour had joined in January.

In the absence of Barrett, Waters became the band’s primary lyricist and thematic leader, devising the concepts behind Pink Floyd’s 4 most successful albums: “The Dark Side of the Moon” (1973), “Wish You Were Here” (1975), “Animals” (1977) and “The Wall” (1979). The first of these remains, to this day, the best-selling album by a British band and the third best-selling album in music history (after Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” and AC/DC’s “Back in Black”).

This year, “The Dark Side of The Moon” turned 50 years old. It is a milestone in rock history that allowed the band to achieve megastar status and holds the record for staying on the charts for the longest time. It has endured far more than any other album, and this is because its sound and

message are still relevant. The album has now been re-released – coinciding with its anniversary – re-recorded by Waters (who recently turned 80) surprisingly without the 2 other surviving band members who had recorded the original version, Gilmour and Mason (Wright passed away in 2008).

“The Dark Side of The Moon” is a conceptual album born of Waters’ concerns. Artistically, the work is tremendously ambitious, and it represents our great modern tragedy: it reflects on greed, the passage of time, mortality and mental health. Half a century later, the timeliness of the lyrics remains vibrant. Its message is as valid now as it was then.

Of all the arguments that Waters and Gilmour have had during their long and checkered relationship, the one that developed during the recording of “The Dark Side of the Moon” must have been one of the mildest. But it was their first significant spat, and it gave rise to all the disagreements that came after. What was the argument about? A technical matter: Waters wanted a dry sound, the one he later imposed on “The Wall”, and Gilmour preferred something thicker, grander and more reverberant. Gilmour’s vision won out, but thereafter Waters allowed no one to challenge his increasingly imperious leadership of the band.

In 1973 Pink Floyd was at an important crossroads. It had released 7 albums and overcome its founding leader’s departure, but the band had yet to find the sound that would take it to the next level and give it its decades-long staying power. At the time, Waters and Wright were 29 years old, Mason was 28 and Gilmour 26. They began to perform the



songs to be included on their next album on a flurry of tours, months before entering the recording studio, something unthinkable in our current era of karaoke concerts. This approach allowed the quartet to shape the songs and add or discard details; it also gave them a sense of the audience's reaction to them. It took about 7 months from the time Pink Floyd started recording until they finished, but there were only 40 days of actual recording. A 25-year-old sound engineer named Alan Parsons assisted with the recording; 3 years later, he would leave to start his own successful avant-garde career.

"The Dark Side of The Moon" is replete with sonorous discoveries. The album is not long (43 minutes), a function of the vinyl format's capacity, and it is intended to be listened to in its entirety as an emotional journey. The music is based on a foundation of drums, bass, rhythm guitar and keyboard, played and recorded all at the same time. It's hard to distinguish among the instruments because of how well intertwined they are, the end sound so much greater than the sum of its parts. Each song leads smoothly into the next one. The goal of this journey is to lead somewhere, for each listener to find his or her own recreational space and enjoyment.

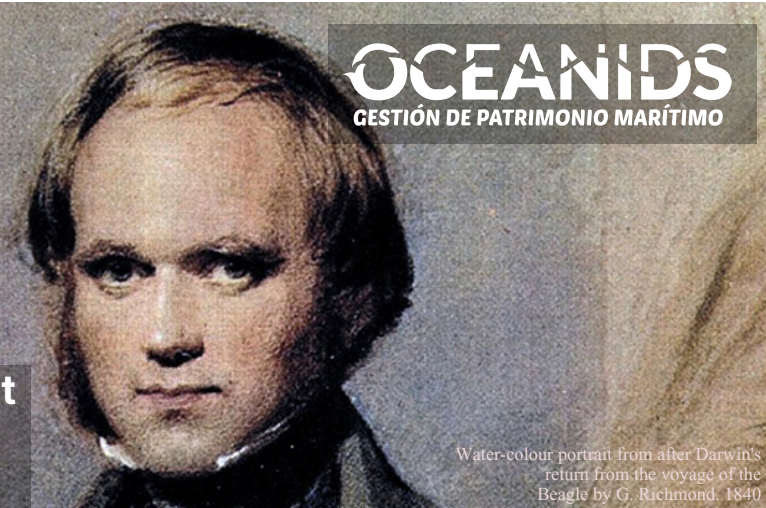
The album consists of 10 songs. It opens with "*Speak to Me*", an instrumental piece that includes all the sound effects that appear throughout the album (each of which has its own meaning). Then "*Breathe*" erupts with a beautiful steel guitar pedal, the pieces flowing together to facilitate a complete listening experience, followed by the techno instrumental "*On the Run*". "*Time*" is a highlight, because of Gilmour's tremendous work both singing and on guitar. Clare Torry provided the chilling vocals on "*The*

Great Gig in The Sky". Waters decries the corrosive effect of lucre in "*Money*", but he would earn a lot of it precisely because of this song, the most played of the album. The ethereal "*Us and Them*" is next, followed by "*Any Colour You Like*", another instrumental piece. "*Brain Damage*" is about madness, and was Waters' tribute to his friend Barrett. "*Eclipse*" closes the album, with a repeating of the heartbeat with which the album opens, and a reflection voiced by Gerry O'Driscoll, the recording studio's doorman: "In reality, there is no dark side of the moon: in fact, all of it is dark".

Despite their differences of opinion, the band worked as a team on the album and each musician contributed his energy to benefit the final product. But the record's extraordinary sales caught the band off guard. After all, it delved into sombre themes and the disillusionment of the human condition, a topic unlikely to become a hit with the public... but it did! Success made everyone uncomfortable, especially Waters, who saw his socialist convictions at odds with his newly rich status. Mounting tensions led to Wright leaving Pink Floyd in 1981, fed up with all the infighting. Waters himself left in 1985, to follow a solo career. Gilmour and Mason continued as Pink Floyd, re-joined soon after by Wright. They produced 2 more albums before entering a long hiatus. In 2005, the four reunited for a single performance at the global awareness event 'Live 8'.

By 2020, Pink Floyd had sold more than 250 million records worldwide, making them one of the top 10 best-selling music artists of all time. In 2022, Gilmour and Mason resurrected the band to release the song "Hey, Hey, Rise Up!" in protest at Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

190 years after Charles Darwin's Visit to Uruguay: An Ongoing Journey of Discovery



Water-colour portrait from after Darwin's return from the voyage of the Beagle by G. Richmond. 1840

The historic voyage of a young Charles Darwin to the newly formed República Oriental del Uruguay in 1832 remains an inexhaustible wellspring of fascination. Even after 190 years, the journey undertaken by the British naturalist upon his arrival on the Uruguayan shores aboard the HMS Beagle continues to captivate the attention of local researchers.

Recently, the British Cemetery of Montevideo made an exciting announcement – a series of events designed to inform and encourage discussions regarding the observations made by Darwin during his visit. These observations later played a pivotal role in shaping the evolutionary theory he would go on to develop in the following decades.

Celebration started last September 23rd., and will be extended all around this month of October. On Saturday 21st, at 4:00 PM, within the hallowed grounds of the British Cemetery, Dr. Raúl Maneyro, will illuminate the audience about "Darwin's Toad," a small black amphibian that naturalist observed on the coasts of the Maldonado department.

Curtain on this enlightening series of presentations will fall on Saturday, November 4th, at 3:00 PM, with Dr. Anita Aisemberg and Marcelo Casacuberta, the distinguished writer and director of the remarkable audiovisual piece titled "The Return of Darwin," accessible on YouTube.

In an engaging conversation with Oceanids, architect Eduardo Montemuiño, who serves as the cultural manager of the British Cemetery of Montevideo, highlighted the profound expertise of the forthcoming presenters.

"This year signifies the beginning of our tenth cycle of meetings at the British Cemetery. This time, our discussions are entirely dedicated to Charles Darwin and his voyage through Uruguay, a journey that unfolded 190 years ago, spanning from 1832 to 1833. This series serves as an open invitation to ponder the indelible legacy left by this remarkable scientist. It's not just a legacy for Uruguay's scientific community, which continues to explore his foundational ideas to this day, but a legacy that resonates on a global scale. Darwin's work marked a seismic shift in the world of science, and Uruguay played

a significant role in contributing to this global pool of knowledge," he emphasized.

But celebration continues all around the world. "Clemente Estable Institute" has been fervently engaged in a grand undertaking known as "Darwin in Uruguay," featuring captivating exhibitions that have traversed the entire nation. On a global scale, a group of intrepid researchers and students embarked on an ambitious quest from London just last month, in order to recreate Darwin's historic voyage. Uruguayan biologist Nadia Kacevas will be one of the crew members of a Dutch sailboat that will replicate the saga of maritime stations of the HMS Beagle.

Nadia recently shared insights during an interview with Montevideo's newspaper, "El Observador". "Our aim," she elucidated, "is to rigorously test some of the very observations that Darwin meticulously documented in his travel journal." The Uruguayan biologist will spend a total of 41 days aboard the "Oosterschelde" tall ship, focusing her research on the intriguing phenomenon of how spiders can traverse significant distances through the air, propelled by gossamer silk threads.

With the confluence of historical reflection and cutting-edge scientific exploration, these events celebrate Charles Darwin's enduring legacy, fostering a vibrant spirit of inquiry that resonates not only locally but across the entire scientific world.



Darwin, C. R. 1845. *Journal of researches into the natural history and geology of the countries visited during the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle round the world, under the Command of Capt. Fitz Roy, R.N.* 2d ed. London: John Murray.

by Phillip Berzins
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Curry

Contrary to what many people think, there is no such thing as “curry” in India. It is a word coined by the British in colonial times to describe Indian food in a sauce.

There are many stories about exactly when the word curry came about, but most of them start around the time when the British came to India and had difficulties pronouncing many Indian words that were so different from their own language.

There is a Tamil dish called Kari which means spiced sauce. It is possible that the British heard of this dish and grouped all Indian food in a sauce under the generic name of curry.

Curry powder is actually a British creation and is a combination of many different spices that were considered Indian-ish. Often used in the West to give food a touch of Indian taste, it is certainly not used in India. Indians instead use whole spices, both fresh and dried and make their own spice mixtures depending on the food they are preparing. Many Indians do however use garam masala (garam means hot while masala means spice mix) as a basis for seasoning a dish while adding extra herbs and spices to give each preparation its own characteristic taste. The spices used to make garam masala differ greatly from region to region and home to home but it is not necessarily hot. The name refers to the warm nature of its ingredients, such as cinnamon and cumin.

So how do you describe a dish as being a curry. It is such a

broad category that encompasses a diverse array of dishes which make it difficult to explain what is curry and what is not. The content of curry and style of preparation vary from region to region. Most Indian curries are water based with occasional use of yogurt, coconut milk and dairy cream.

Curry dishes are usually thick and spicy and eaten with steamed rice and a variety of Indian breads.

Some of the better-known Indian dishes which are grouped under the generic name of curry are Rogan Josh, Vindaloo, Biryani, Korma, Butter Chicken and Makhani, Madras and Tikka Masala.

LAMB DHANSAK

One of my favourite curry type recipes is lamb dhansak, a dish developed by the Parsi people who arrived in India from Persia over 1300 years ago. This version is made with spicy lamb, lentils and butternut squash.

Ingredients – 6 Portions

- 3 tbsp sunflower oil
- 800 g diced lamb (shoulder or leg)
- 250 g onions, finely chopped
- 4-cm piece of root ginger, peeled and finely chopped
- 4 garlic cloves finely chopped
- 1 red chili, deseeded and finely chopped
- 1 tbsp ground cumin seeds
- 1 tbsp ground coriander seeds
- 4 ground cardamom seeds
- 1 tbsp turmeric powder
- 400-g tin of chopped tomatoes
- 200 ml water
- 100 g lentils previously soaked in water for several hours
- 500 g butternut squash, peeled and cut in 1-cm cubes
- 1 tbsp garam masala
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Small bunch chopped coriander leaves

Method

Heat the saucepan and add part of the oil to colour and seal the lamb. Do this part little by little so as not to overcrowd the pan, which will result in the lamb releasing its juices and boiling. Reserve the sealed lamb in a bowl and add more oil to the saucepan and add the onions. Fry while stirring for several minutes before adding the ginger, garlic and chili and cook carefully for another minute. Add the cumin, coriander, cardamom and turmeric and cook for another 30 seconds to enhance the flavours. Add the lamb and mix in well.

Next, add the tomatoes, water, drained lentils and butternut squash and simmer gently for two to three hours until the lamb is tender and the lentils and squash are almost a puree.

Finish by stirring in the garam masala and the required

CHEF PHILLIP'S CORNER

amount of salt and pepper. Simmer for two minutes. Sprinkle with the coriander leaves.

Serve with Urumati rice or if you are lucky enough to have basmati rice and chapati bread or any other flat bread (unleavened bread cooked on a griddle or heavy frying pan without oil) you can use those.

Accompany with a floral, fragrant Chardonnay wine or, better still, a Lassi (Indian yoghurt-based drink).

Notes:

- Feel free to use beef, pork or chicken instead of lamb, but do not forget to adjust the cooking time
- To make most Indian-style dishes it is not necessary to have a vast array of spices. Most important is to have

a ready supply of just the following five: cumin seeds, coriander seeds, cardamom seeds, garam masala and ginger. And of course, chili (if you like it hot) and garlic, but these two are usually commonly found in most households.

- Like most curries, this dish benefits from being made a day in advance, as it tastes even better reheated.
- Use the type and amount of fresh chili according to your taste. If you wish to add more heat to your curry, leave in the seeds. It can be substituted by chili powder.
- Instead of using ground coriander seeds and ground cumin, lightly toast the seeds in a frying pan before crushing using a pestle and mortar or a coffee grinder or blender. Toasting and grinding the whole spices bring out the essential oils and deepens flavour.

LAMB CHOPS



HOW DO I LOVE THEE?

After Elizabeth Barrett Browning

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways
On my calculator, using the LoveCount app.
You will not notice, for your lowered gaze
Is tending to more urgent matters in your lap

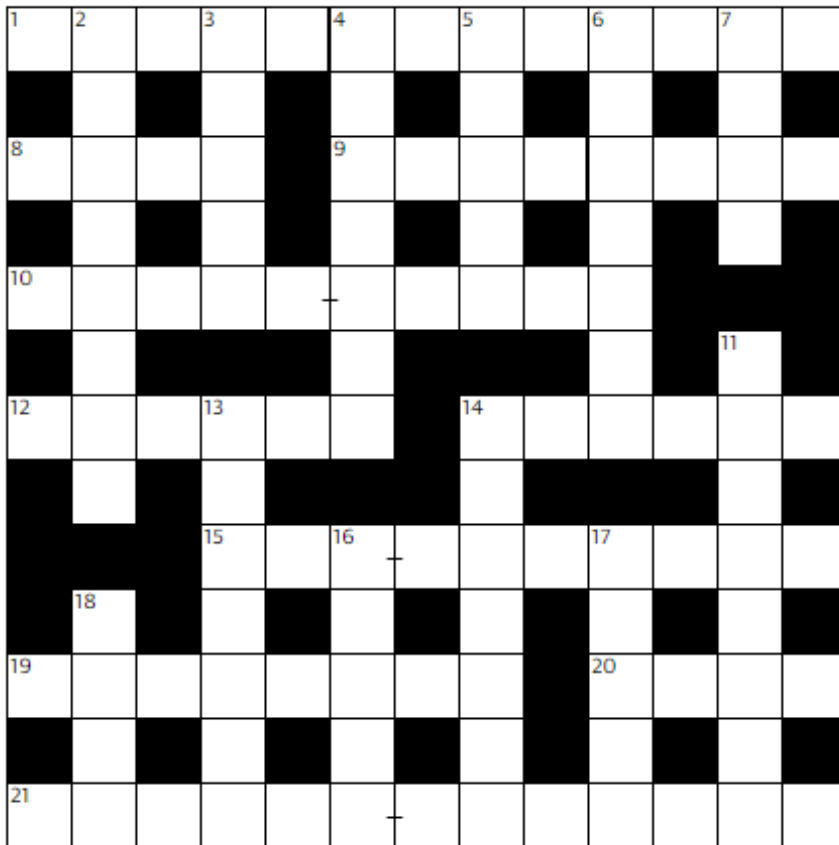
And for a while, before the embers die
And both our lights have gone from green to red,
We will recall our days together, you and I,
Especially the top of each others' head

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 and he'll send you a book, with gift dedication if required.



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Contact: Jonathan Lamb vozinglesa@gmail.com



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

September solution:

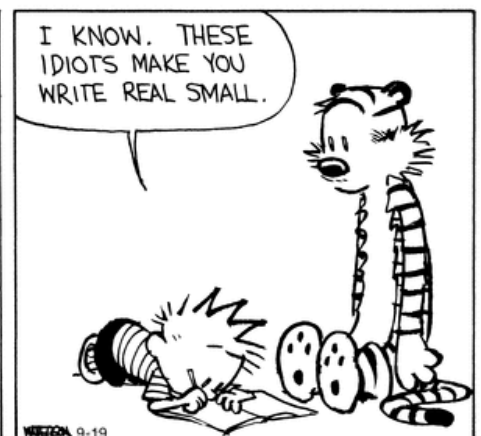
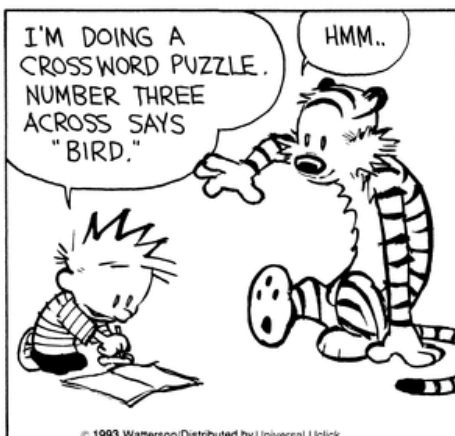


Across

- 1 Loose garment — 1980 Madness song (5,8)
- 8 What gets fired (abbr) (4)
- 9 It can save you at sea (4,4)
- 10 Boisterousness (5-5)
- 12 Covered in small stones (6)
- 14 Absolve — condone (6)
- 15 Deeply religious (3-7)
- 19 Formal promise (8)
- 20 Car (somewhat reduced in length) (4)
- 21 By rote (6-7)

Down

- 2 Ironclad (8)
- 3 Horrible spirit (5)
- 4 High chest of drawers (7)
- 5 Put forward for consideration (5)
- 6 Aerosol, for example (7)
- 7 Overabundant (4)
- 11 Musical instrument — frozen dessert (8)
- 13 Object of fear (7)
- 14 Guitar players? (7)
- 16 Preliminary sketch (5)
- 17 Freshwater fish (5)
- 18 Apparent bright new star that gradually fades away (4)



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HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



THE BRITISH SOCIETY
IN URUGUAY
FOUNDED 1918



50

PINK FLOYD



Click to listen on Spotify.