

#### BSU Betalba-BSU Agreement

British Schools 115th Anniversary

No.

Era Britons The Ghosts in The Tower

Literature Matters Gunpowder, Treason, Plot, Shakespeare

Bits and Pieces Learning German

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#### **BSU CONTACT NEWSLETTER**

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#### PRESIDENT'S WORDS



love all sports, but I have a burning passion for rugby, since my father played in Uruguay's Rugby National Team and years after he became a rugby referee. It's not just a game; it's a test of endurance, strength, and mental fortitude. Players push their limits, striving for excellence. The sense of unity among players and the passion for their team is remarkable. At the Rugby World Cup France, the Teros' bravery against one of the best teams in the world was incredible. The Teros had us glued to our sofas during their matches. Not only did we do well in Rugby but also in Rowing. At the Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile Uruguay won the gold medal in the men's short sculls double. Congratulations to Newton Seawright and Martin Aguirre. Both rugby and rowing embody the spirit of sportsmanship. The respect between opponents, the celebration of victories, and the resilience in the face of defeat are all fundamental aspects of these sports. The wonderful competitions of rugby and rowing showcase the best of human athleticism, teamwork, and sportsmanship. They inspire, entertain, and bring people together, making them more than just games - they are experiences that leave a lasting impression on all who participate or witness their magic.

We are happy to tell you that on 12 October we signed a contract with BETALBA House. Joining forces and coming together with institutions is a powerful catalyst for positive change and progress. Collaboration between organizations, whether in the fields of education, healthcare, or social services, amplifies collective expertise and resources. It fosters innovation, encourages knowledge sharing, and creates a synergy that leads to impactful outcomes. We also joined forces with OBC&OGC and invited our members to take part in the 18th Squash Tournament Tommy Morton. Through collaboration, institutions can achieve outcomes that are far greater than what any single entity could accomplish alone, underscoring the importance of cooperation in addressing the challenges of our time. The tournament ends 1st November so we will have more information then.

Our trip to Conchillas on 14th October was a success, we went with Scottish Dance Uruguay and 16 kids who danced

wonderfully, it was a delight to see them dancing and delighted ourselves with the "Competencia de Mesas de Té". As you continue reading you will see what a wonderful experience it was. On 20th October Palacio Taranco guided tour was very interesting everybody enjoyed it. As you can see it was a month full of activities. October 24th Alberto Marquez delivered a lecture related to the Knights of Malta followed by a scrumptious dinner. The British Society, together with the British Embassy will have a stand at the Feria de las Colectividades and Scottish Dance Uruguay will be dancing you can't miss it! So, save the date 5th November 12:00 to 20:00 and hope to see you there. And finally, our Spring Croquet Tournament that will take place at the British Schools on Sunday 26th November.

Looking forward to seeing you at our events

Andrea



#### THIS MONTH'S COVER

# Sonnet 30: When to the sessions of sweet silent thought

By William Shakespeare

When to the sessions of sweet silent thought I summon up remembrance of things past, I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought, And with old woes new wail my dear time's waste:

Then can I drown an eye, unus'd to flow, For precious friends hid in death's dateless night, And weep afresh love's long since cancell'd woe, And moan th' expense of many a vanish'd sight; Then can I grieve at grievances foregone, And heavily from woe to woe tell o'er The sad account of fore-bemoaned moan, Which I new pay as if not paid before. But if the while I think on thee, dear friend, All losses are restor'd, and sorrows end.



#### **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 <u>MercadoPago</u>.

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 <u>HERE</u> 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.

first fill in this form. Once this is done, your membership will be updated.



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#### **MEMBER NEWS**

# Birthdays in November

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



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

# **New Members**

Joaquin Nicolas Abella Caregnani David Ian Caig Rickaby Irene Soledad Carro Zurbrigg Ana Maria Vidal Medeiros



## For news from across the pond visit <u>www.abcc.org.ar</u>





Teacher: Give me a sentence which includes the words, Defence, Defeat, Detail.

Charlie: When a horse jumps over defence, defeat go first and then detail.



#### List your events in our calendar:

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

#### **NOVEMBER**

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

SUNDAY 5 - ENCUENTRO DE COLECTIVIDADES at Morquio street, Parque Batlle, Montevideo.

SATURDAY 11: BRITISH CEMETERY: Rememberance Day, 10:20, Av. Rivera 3368.

WEDNESDAY 15: MONTEVIDEO PLAYERS: 12 Angry Jurors 20:00 At Mad Carrasco

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

SUNDAY 19: MONTEVIDEO PLAYERS: 12 Angry Jurors 20:00 At Mad Carrasco

SUNDAY 26: BSU: Spring Croquet Tournament 10:00 to 13:00 at The British Schools

**TUESDAY 28: BSU - HOSPITAL GUILD JOINT & JOYFUL CRAFT TEA -** 16:30 to 19:00 at British Hospital Policlínico 3rd Floor

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

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# SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER

10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM AT THE BRITISH SCHOOLS

# **BUY YOUR TICKET**



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The Hospital Guild and the British Society invite you to their joint Craft Tea. Theme: The 5 Elements

Tuesday November 28th from 16:30 to 19:00h at British Hospital Policlínico 3rd Floor

We will be making crafts while having tea and eating healthy food. You will take home the crafts that you create, the materials will be provided.

RSVP: events@britsoc.org.uy - 097 104 020

Ticket: Members \$350 - Non members \$500

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where are pleased to announce that Betalba House and The British Society in Uruguay have officially signed a reciprocity agreement. This agreement is a testament to our shared vision of fostering meaningful connections, promoting cultural and social exchange.

Additionally, this reciprocity agreement will enable us to explore innovative ideas for collaboration, fostering new uses and applications that will benefit both entities. We are especially enthusiastic about the prospect of engaging in cultural events, celebrating the rich heritage and traditions that our societies hold dear.

We commend Mr. Federico Ravera, President of Betalba House and Ms. Andrea Davies, President of the British Society in Uruguay for their dedication to promoting cooperation between our societies. We extend our gratitude to Mr. Matías Baridón, Secretary of Betalba House and to Ms. Solveig Schandy, Secretary of The British Society in Uruguay.



#### BETALBAHOUSE



#### **BOOK DONATION**



e are constantly receiving donations of books so if you want to fill up your library you just need to tell us.

Anglo Paysandú really needed books so off they went. We hereby attach some pictures and the headmaster's letter.





Cembridge Assessment English

British Society in Uruguay

Montevideo.

Ms. Andrea Davies,

We take great pleasure in having received such significant number of books, which will shortly be incorporated into our library's inventory and also be at our local community's disposal.

As principal of this well established and time-honoured Anglo Uruguayan Cultural Institute, I must say that this donation will surely contribute to the language reinforcement of our advanced learners as well as helping us attract more prospective readers.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

EDRO FEBRET DIRECTOR



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#### CONCHILLAS



n Saturday 14th October, Conchillas witnessed the 9th edition of Mesas de Té, a delightful event where creativity met tradition, and British style was celebrated with utmost grace. The highlight of the event was the captivating competition of beautiful tables, set in the distinguished British fashion.

To further enrich the cultural experience, the event featured a lovely performance by Scottish Dance Uruguay and a group of students. The teachers then taught the attendees how to dance and they immediately joined the group creating an atmosphere filled with energy and joy.

The event stood as a reminder that in the fusion of tradition and innovation, magic happens, creating moments that linger in memories and inspire generations to come.





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#### Europe's Last Fortress: The Knights of Malta and the Holy War against the Turkish expansion, by Alberto Marquez

n Tuesday 24th took place the British Society's second Lecture Supper "Europe's Last Fortress: The Knights of Malta and the Holy War against the Turkish expansion" by Alberto Marquez followed by a delicious supper:

Summer Chicken Marinade with couscous accompanied by a green tossed salad and for dessert Strawberry Cheesecake. Many thanks to the British Hospital and to the British Society Cooks who always make the events so pleasant!!









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We celebrated Christopher's 90th birthday at the Home on October 10!

Happy birthday to you!!!



#### It is official: the Ambassador has visited the whole country!

ollowing her visit to Colonia 12-14 October, Ambassador Faye O'Connor has completed her official tour of the 19 Uruguayan departments. Her programme had a business and educational focus, including visits to Puerto Martín Chico, Montes del Plata, a local bilingual school, a Chevening talk in UDE Colonia and a meeting with Colonia's Mayor Carlos Moreira. She was also delighted to attend the 9th edition of the "Concurso Nacional de mesas de té" in Conchillas, at the historic Casa Evans, and appreciate the great work they do every year to keep this British tradition very much alive.



#### **Chevening talks**

ver 300 prospective applicants attended several Chevening scholarships talks given by Embassy Staff and members of the Graduates of British Universities Association (GBUA) at universities and other institutions in Montevideo, Canelones and Colonia. The goal was to provide details and answer queries. A Chevening Scholarship offers the chance to Uruguayan professionals to study master degrees in any British university in the area of their choice, fully funded. Applications close on November 7th. For more information, see the Chevening website.

# Capitán Miranda: strengthening links

Using the Embassy to the Uruguayan Navy's band, were played by naval officers who received training from German Villar. Admiral Wilson, Ambassador Faye O' Connor and Major Lawrence Ward were in attendance.



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ver 1,200 people visited the Residence on Saturday 7 October for Heritage Day. Guests were invited to learn about the Residence's history through an audio-guide narrated by the British Society's President Andrea Davies. They also enjoyed exhibitions on His Majesty King Charles III, the Embassy's commitment to sustainability, British Culture and the Royal Family's ties to Uruguay. Documentaries about Charles Darwin's visit to Uruguay, the Agamemnon, and testimonials from Uruguayans who had the pleasure to meet King Charles' when he came to

Uruguay as Prince of Wales were streamed at an outdoor cinema. We are thankful to the Anglo Institute for exhibiting the digitalisation project of 19th Century newspaper "The Montevideo Times". This project is a joint venture with UDELAR and Museo Histórico Nacional [partially] funded by a grant from the British Library. Visitors were also able to enjoy ice cream, Indian food and a hor d'oeuvres made by the Residence's chef. Part of the proceeds were donated to Gran Bretaña schools in Aguas Corrientes and Montevideo.

#### Montevideo will be 300 years old in 2024

In 1724, Montevideo was founded by Spanish colonists to prevent Portuguese incursions into Montevideo Bay. The Intendencia of Montevideo is planning a very important celebration to mark the occasion in 2024. The celebration will cover more than one year and some events (Latinoamerican Folklore festival, Children Art Festival, etc) will be repeated every year. It will focus on:

1) inclusion, minorities and migration;

2) history exhibitions covering the 300 years of Montevideo through photography;

3) resignification of open and public spaces.

The Embassy has been asked to work with Intendencia to highlight the importance of British settlers in the history of Montevideo. We would like to put together a photographic display or exhibition and are looking for volunteers from the British Community to assist us. Please contact embajadabritanica.montevideo@fcdo.gov.uk if you are interested in this collaboration.



# REMEMBRANCE DAY Saturday 11 November 10:20 am British Cemetery Av. General Rivera 3368



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ANGLO INSTITUTE

# Looking for a bilingual school for your child?

EARLY YEARS PRIMARY EDUCATION SECONDARY EDUCATION



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- Sports, physical education, psychomotor skills and swimming

- IT skills and robotics-Visual arts and music workshops

- Theatre in English

- Cross curricular projects that bring different academic areas together

- University of Cambridge International Exams
- Cambridge International Primary Programme
- International certificate awarded by the

University of Cambridge for bilingual schools in the sixth year (free of charge)

- Personalized attention
- Learning Support Team
- Interdisciplinary team: educational

psychologist, learning specialist and psychomotor therapist support the learning process of each student



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#### ANGLO DIPLOMA IN TEFL GRADUATION CEREMONY



On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 9 new graduates received their Anglo Diploma in TEFL. The ceremony was held at the Anglo Millington-Drake Theatre and was attended by the new graduates, their families and friends, Anglo Diploma tutors and mentors and members of the Anglo Board of Governors. We had the company of Diego Paysee, president of the Anglo Board of Governors, Daniel Supervielle, member of the Anglo Board of Governors, and the Institute's General Manager, Gerardo Valazza.

During the event, our graduates received some very special and significant messages. The first on was from NILE senior trainer, Carole Robinson. The Anglo Diploma in TEFL is validated and moderated by NILE (Norwich Institution for Language education), the biggest Teacher Training Centre in the UK. Carole's message was therefore a very important one for the newly graduates, especially considering that Carole had observed some of the lessons graduates had taught during the course and had also moderated some of their work.





They were also congratulated by Scott Thornbury, an author graduates had read extensively during their teacher training course. Some of the graduates had met Scott back in 2018, when he travelled to our country to be one of the plenary speakers at the 14<sup>th</sup> Anglo Congress.

Three graduates gave some very moving and inspiring speeches, reminiscing about their TTC years and their impact on them from both a professional and personal perspective. The graduates were Gonzalo Rodriguez, Gisela Rojas, and Germaine Biye Nfon.

To close the ceremony on a high note, we enjoyed a very moving Photo Gallery which tutors had prepared for the graduates, showing different academic and social instances shared during the 2- year teacher training course. This was followed by a final special message for our graduates from Lovette Dinayen, one of the graduates who moved back to Cameroun, her home country, at the beginning of the year.

Once the ceremony was over, trainees, friends and tutors celebrated at The End Bar.

**ANGLO INSTITUTE** 

# TEACHER TRAINING COURSES AT THE ANGLO

 $\sim$ 



(2-year course)

ANGLO CERTIFICATE IN

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

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

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

TTC: Monday 4th December - 6:00 pm

ACT: Monday 4th December- 7:30 pm

Online talks via Zoom

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





For more information contact: Celia Fernández at 29023773 ext.1129 / cfernandez@anglo.edu.uy

#### ANGLO INSTITUTE

#### EXPLORING TARANCO PALACE: AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY



**O**n Friday, October 20th, history, and culture enthusiasts gathered for an exclusive tour of Taranco Palace. Hosted by the Anglo Institute and the British Society and guided by José Luis Ortiz de Taranco, this unique event offered a rare glimpse into the rich heritage and artistry of this historic family residence.



Taranco Palace, a masterwork of architecture, was designed by the French architect Charles Girault and constructed between 1907 and 1910 by the British architect John Adams. The palace's architectural elegance showcases a fusion of French and British influences, making it a one-of-a-kind gem.



The palace's history extends beyond its architectural beauty. Notably, the Prince of Wales visited the palace during his 1925 visit to Uruguay, leaving a mark of British history within its walls. It symbolizes a place of cultural exchange and diplomacy.

Throughout their extensive travels, the Taranco family curated a remarkable collection of European art, sculptures, and furniture. During the tour, participants had the privilege of exploring this collection, which spans centuries and continents. The palace is a living testament to art, culture, and family legacy.



José Luis Ortiz de Taranco, the grandson of Felix Ortiz de Taranco, personally guided the tour. His intimate knowledge of the family's history brought to life the hidden gems and stories of the palace.

This exclusive tour was limited to just 20 members of the British Society, with spaces allocated on a firstcome, first-served basis. We had a great response, making it a journey through time that no history and culture enthusiast wanted to miss.

If you missed this extraordinary event, watch for future cultural explorations and exclusive tours. The British Society and the Anglo Institute remain dedicated to sharing unique experiences that celebrate history, art, and British culture.

#### **BRITISH CEMETERY**



#### Remembrance Day Lest we forget

#### 11th November, 10:20 am

On behalf of The Allies Uruguay, we extend a heartfelt invitation to you for the 2023 Remembrance Day, to be held on Saturday, November 11th, in our beautiful rose gardens. In a brief and emotional ceremony, we will come together to honour and pay our respects to those who have valiantly served their country in armed conflicts since the First World War for the achievement of Peace, and for our responsibility to maintain it.



We hope you can join us.





#### 4th November, 3pm

### **Darwin's Legacy**

A cinematic experience by Anita Aisenberg and Marcelo Casacuberta and featuring the audiovisual: "Darwin's Return."

This event is public & in Spanish



Av. Gral. Rivera 3868, Montevideo, Uruguay.

cementeriobritanico.com.uy



#### HOSPITAL BRITANICO

# Thrombosis

#### In Uruguay, thrombosis is the third leading cause of death after coronary artery disease (myocardial infarction) and stroke (cerebral infarction).

Thrombosis is the formation of a blood clot in a blood vessel, whether an artery or a vein. Depending on its location, potentially serious thrombosis occurs in deep veins, and it occurs more frequently in the lower limbs. It is not the same to have thrombosis in a calf muscle vein as in deep veins. While the former may produce symptoms and discomfort, in general it does not have serious effects, whereas thrombosis in a deep vein can be catastrophic.

In deep vein thrombosis, the danger lies in the possibility of a clot breaking off and causing a pulmonary embolism. The most common symptoms in this case include the enlargement of one leg, which we call swelling or asymmetric oedema, pain, heaviness, cramps and changes in skin colour.

#### Can we prevent it?

Prevention depends on the patient and it is necessary to analyse the causes in each case. There are social situations, such as air travel, where a person remains seated for many hours. On the other hand, there are cases when there has been trauma or a complex surgery. Pregnant women are five times more likely to develop thrombosis than women in the same age group are.

Prevention relies on movement, i.e. stimulating the circulation in the legs, compression with graduated elastic stockings, and, depending on the case, the use of anticoagulants.

#### What are the risk factors?

Firstly, congenital diseases. The tendency to form blood clots, which runs in a family, may manifest in certain situations. For example, in the early stages of pregnancy with pregnancy loss or thrombotic complications during childbirth. Secondly, malignant diseases like cancer. Thirdly, COVID-19. This condition has led to an increase in thrombosis and has motivated changes in therapeutic treatment because thrombosis was also appearing in the lungs' microcirculation. Fourthly, complex surgeries where the patient has an extended period of bed rest. Lastly, traumas and other situations without stimulation of circulation, such as air travel already mentioned.

Contraceptives and hormone therapies also predispose individuals to the appearance of blood clots. It is important to consult with a gynaecologist who can recommend the appropriate approach based on the patient's medical history.

#### If a person has already had a thrombosis, can they prevent another one?

The cycle of thrombosis is as follows: a clot forms, it obstructs the vein's lumen, and medical professionals administer anticoagulant therapy. The obstruction is repermeabilised, i.e. the body itself unblocks it. We do not prescribe anticoagulants to dissolve the clot but to prevent it from extending further and causing a pulmonary embolism.

In deep vein thrombosis, the body recanalizes 80% of cases within two years, while the remaining 20% take longer to recanalize. Once the process is completed, the vein's wall remains damaged, particularly the vein's lumen. Patients should have a clear understanding of the cause of their thrombosis. If there is an underlying malignant disease, we work together with a haematology team to plan a specific anticoagulant therapy or lifelong therapy.

Interview with Associate Professor Dr. Carmelo Gastambide Director of the Cardiovascular Surgery Department



n Sunday, 8th October, we celebrated The School's 115th birthday anniversary. Each attendance added immeasurable significance to this special occasion: Students, alumni, families, School staff, bands, choir, pipers, cake contest participants and judges and the entire School community that joined us and made this day even more special.

The nostalgia for alumni, and Students enjoying the School in a different way for a day, was magical. The moment everyone walked through the School's entrance and past the bridge that links the Junior and Senior buildings, they found completely distinct game fields. It was an area full of inflatables, foodtrucks, a stage full of artists and thousands of small picnics where they shared talks, laughter and reunions.

One special sector at the fields was "kids' corner." A place where children could have a good time enjoying inflatable games and special activities prepared by volunteer staff members and CAS students. Also, they had the opportunity of experiencing face painting in charge of our art teachers. Undoubtedly, it was a fun experience for them.

Right in front of "kids' corner", but quite a few meters away, we found an amazing stage surrounded by The British Schools' community listening to the outstanding lineup of bands, Scottish dancers, the choir and pipers. The hosts, Iñaki Abadie and Pilar Varela, made the experience even better, making everyone laugh and interact throughout the afternoon.

Meanwhile, at the Pavilion, 27 teams showcased the super special cake they prepared in commemoration of our School. Five judges were in charge of tasting them and







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choosing the winner. It was, undoubtedly, a very fun and different experience for everyone. The winning team was "God Save the Cake." At the end of the competition, the rest of the guests could taste and enjoy the cakes until they ran out!

Without a doubt, we could not miss instances of connection with the Schools' history and those memories that marked us as years go by. In the multi-purpose field, you could find a gallery of old pictures of alumni and School facilities before they were remodeled and enlarged. Also, along the entire afternoon, there was the opportunity to participate in tours throughout the entire School. Junior and Senior prefects, Senior student council members, and staff volunteers were in charge of leading them. Many alumni showed their former classrooms to their children, others came back with friends ten years after graduating, and others showed their parents their current classrooms. It was a real walk down memory lane.

"What we enjoyed on Sunday, there is no formula for, you cannot buy the level of School Spirit and community involvement that we saw. A huge thank you to everyone involved, it was an amazing day!" - Principal, Simon Roberts.

The British Schools' 115th anniversary event was more than a celebration; it was a reflection of the enduring spirit that has defined the institution for over a century. This incredible evening filled with enjoyment, laughter, and a profound sense of community, marked a milestone that will be etched into the collective memory of the ones who attended. Here's to another 115 years of Perfice, School bonding, and celebration all together!







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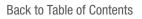
#### **BRITISH SCHOOLS**



















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#### **CHRIST CHURCH**

#### Rejoice Mourn Live

That are you helping to celebrate these days? As the calendar year comes to a close, families and friends celebrate graduations, transitions, with every conceivable program and group of people. Celebrations help create community, enjoy the moment, and gain some positive perspective.

People are also mourning. The completion of a calendar year reminds us of losses, struggles, and unrealistic or unfulfilled hopes and expectations.

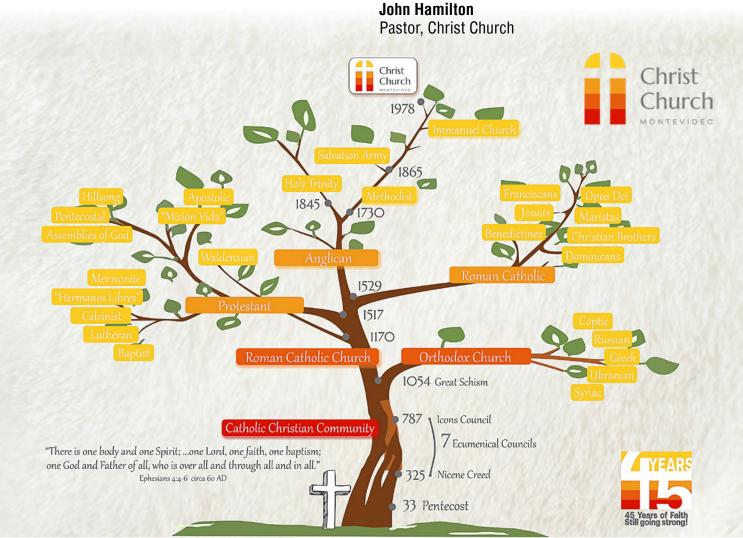
We are all happy when family succeeds and deeply sorrowful when family members leave us or are lost to us in some way. The multiple "end-of-the-year" celebrations bring to the surface our mixed emotions.

A Bible verse from Romans gives sage advice: *"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another."* (Romans 12:15-16a)

If someone is happy, celebrate with them. If they are sad, be present with them. Show empathy. This advice applies to ourselves, not just others. Allow yourself the freedom and feeling of rejoicing even if no one around you is aware or sharing your happiness. Allow yourself the space to mourn and grieve your losses. Emotions that remain unacknowledged and/or unexpressed, create confusion in our subconscious.

Living in harmony doesn't require us to sing the same notes, but to simply be aware of those around us and adjust our tone to accompany another's melody.

By the way: The Family Tree of Christ Church I shared last month inspired helpful feedback! I was able to make revisions. I am including it again not because it is definitive, but because I feel it is fun! Can you spot the changes?



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#### **CLUB URUGUAYO BRITÁNICO**





# LUNCH INVITATION

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of November at 12:15 PM

# Vice Chancellor of the Republic Dr. Nicolás Albertoni

"Uruguay in the face of an uncertain and complex world"

#### 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

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In



#### The Montevideo Players Society 2023 production

2 Angry Men by Reginald Rose was originally written for television and has had several versions and adaptations, including the script by Sherman L. Sergel, on which this version by The Montevideo Players Society is based.

The original film from 1957 became a classic and is currently number 5 in the IMDB rating charts surpassing films like Schindler's List, Pulp Fiction, the Lord of the Rings series, and many others.

The play is set in a jury room where the interaction between the characters, the unexpected twists in evidence and the rhythm set by the author, make it a play that keeps audiences on the edge of their seats. It features human nature at its best and its worst and is notable for its use of suspense and its exploration of the themes of prejudice, guilt, and the presumption of innocence. The themes are so current that the play is put on stage around the world in several languages and is used as a case study in law schools.

The 12 jurors must decide the guilt or innocence of a young man accused of murdering his father, whom, if found guilty, will be inexorably condemned to death.

Originally written for an all-male cast, the play has been adapted for mixed juries and even performed as an allfemale cast.

This is the second time that The Montevideo Players Society has produced this play. The first time was in 1963, as 12 Angry Men, under the direction of Colin Fairless.

This time, we chose to produce 12 Angry Jurors with a mixed cast and to move the time setting to late eighties / early nineties, when women were already part of juries but before mobile phones became popular, since they would have had to be part of the body of evidence.

The current version was directed by Eleonora Scoseria & Federico Heller, assisted by Alfredo Viglietti and with a cast and crew composed of Alejandro Diharce (off-stage voice), Alfredo Viglietti, Andrea Davies, Dick Ferrand, Eleonora Scoseria, Federico Heller, George Stewart, Gianna Prenol, John James Hyland, John Paré (off-stage voice), Juan Zumarán, Lázaro Silva, Lucca Hofman, Lucía Monteblanco, Marina Thomas, Martin Thomas, Mattie Paré, Román Varela (light and sound), Yolanda Pérez Eccher de Scoseria (music selection).

During its run at the Neil Fairless Centre the play had an attendance of more than 700 spectators and this November there will be two last shows in Carrasco at MAD – Escuela de Música, with the purpose of making the society's work known to more people and promoting theatre in English. The shows will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 15th and Sunday, Nov 19th at 8 PM. Tickets are available through redtickets.

For more information about the play and The Montevideo Players Society we invite you access this <u>video</u> showcasing parts of the play and a dialogue between Dick Ferrand and John James Hyland, who are respectively among the oldest and newest members of our society.



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🖏 🛐 THE MONTEVIDEO PLAYERS SOCIETY



# 

Last 2 shows at MAD Carrrasco

#### Arocena 1660

#### November Wed 15th & Sun 19th



RedTickets

The legal drama that challenges our sense of justice while keeping us on the edge of our seats.



8:00 PM

Bilingual resources

2 x 1 for teachers and their students Code can be requested through montevideoplayers5@gmail.com Last two shows of the play in English already enjoyed by more than 700 people.



eeks ago, accompanying the British Embassy at the inauguration of the stand at Expo Prado, we had a very pleasant meeting with **President Mrs.** Andrea Davies. Among several topics we discussed, she once again invited us to be part of this fantastic publication, the Newsletter. I immediately expressed our gratitude and we started working within the Club to internally coordinate the generation of content, news, stories, events, and everything that makes us proud as part of the English community in Uruguay.

In this first article, we want to share something about the recently concluded 2023 Rugby World Cup in France. As you may have seen or read. Uruguay's participation was a success, meeting our expectations. However, for us, the Old Boys & Old Girls Club, it was something unique.

To put this feeling and sensation into context, let's consider Uruguay's previous participations in the world's most important international rugby competition. Uruguay took part in the World Cups of Wales 1999, Australia 2003, England 2015, Japan 2019, and France 2023. These are relatively few appearances considering that there have been 10 World Cups held thus far. While we have always had club players as part of the squads, the current Uruguayan national team, Los Teros, has:





• The third consecutive Captain developed in the **OBC&OGC** (Santiago Vilaseca in England 2015, Juan Manuel Gaminara in Japan 2019, and Andrés Vilaseca in France 2023). For rugby enthusiasts and connoisseurs, they will understand and appreciate the importance of the Captain's role in each squad.

• Out of the 33 players called up, the Club contributed 7 players (**Santiago Civetta** - Vice Captain, **Carlos Deus, Manuel Leindekar, Baltazar Amaya, Felipe Arcos Pérez, Bautista Basso**, and **Andrés Vilaseca** – Captain), a record and a source of absolute pride for us.

• Also, a member of the Coaching Staff, **Joaquín Pastore** (who was also a player in Australia 2003).

These were already encouraging news for the entire **OBC&OGC** family and they reached their peak when the starting lineup to face Namibia, the only match that Uruguay was obliged to win, was announced. Among the 15 starters, our 7 friends, brothers, sons, or clubmates were included.

This achievement is the result of a lot of hard work, the dedicated efforts of many people associated with the Club and rugby in particular. So, this whole experience has turned into great joy for everyone.





#### Platinum Authorised Exam Centre Event 2023

Last October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Manuel Rodriguez and Sofia Scherschener represented Uruguay and Dickens Institute as they attended The Platinum Centres Events hosted by Cambridge University Press and Assessment held in Cambridge, UK.

The aim of the event was to strengthen our partnership and share thoughts on what it means to be part of the Platinum Centre Community as well as meeting colleagues from all over the world and sharing best practice. We were also invited to a lovely gala dinner where we enjoyed very interesting conversations over a delicious meal and some glasses of wine.

We are proud to be part of the Cambridge Platinum Centres Community and grateful with Cambridge authorities for hosting such a fruitful and enjoyable event.







Platinum Authorised Exam Centre



# Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

The CertTESOL equips trainees with the skills and knowledge needed to take up a post as an ESOL teacher. It gives the theory and practice of English teaching and an insight into the challenges facing the learner and the role of the teacher.

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CHINARD DAY MILLION

#### **BACK IN TIME**

by Tony Beckwith

tony@tonybeckwith.com

#### Left Right, Left Right

Before the British Schools began its migration to its current campus in Carrasco in 1958, it had been ensconced in the same premises in Pocitos since 1926. I was enrolled in kindergarten there in 1950 and remember it as a large, two-story building on a quiet residential street. There was an open-air, paved playground around the back with a high, red brick wall surrounding the perimeter and another, lower one that separated the boys from the girls. In my memory, the playground was huge.

We were mostly left to our own devices during breaks. There were no swings or slides or merry-go-rounds; we were expected to entertain ourselves. Which we did quite successfully, as I recall. The girls played jacks and hopscotch and skipping games. The boys played marbles and spun tops, down on our knees on the dusty cement floor, or exchanged the collectible cards that came in little chocolate bars. The boys also played spontaneous, informal, chaotic soccer games. A ragged old tennis ball would appear from somewhere and there'd be much shouting and jostling. Somehow (I'm not sure how), players took sides and soon there'd be two teams of about twenty-odd boys each trying to gain control of the ball and score. There was no referee, and the noise was deafening.

But the most exciting thing we did in the playground was the marching, a morning exercise designed to keep us fit and disciplined. Senior prefects ran the drill: girls in their playground and boys in ours. The prefects were trained by Mr. Ogsten, who had arrived at the school in 1930 at the age of twenty-four and remained there for 47 years. William Leslie Ogsten (M.A., Aberdeen University), affectionately known as "Oggie," was passionate about sports and had been Captain of his university's cross-country team. He was a stickler for discipline and the prefects learned to take their role as trainers very seriously.

When told to fall in we lined up in rows, by height, to

form a squad, and started marching in place, left right, left right. Actually, stamping in place, as we stomped our feet enthusiastically until we were immersed in a cloud of dust. All in our uniforms: boys in grey flannel suits, girls in green tunics. The prefects shouted instructions and we moved as one single body. When birds do this, it is called a murmuration. We advanced slowly, still stomping our feet, and then, at the command, eased into a march, keeping in step and swinging our arms in perfect sync. As we reached the end of the playground, we were given the order to slow down and mark time. Then, and I always found this part especially thrilling, we were instructed to wheel about, and the boys on the far end of each row would stomp in place as the rest of the squad gracefully spun on that axis until everyone had completed the turn. Then we'd be off again, legs kicking forwards, arms swinging, marching back down to the other end of the playground, where we'd repeat those precision turns in readiness for another go.

There was no doubt some physical benefit to this sort of activity, and there certainly was a lesson in teamwork and discipline. But it was my first exposure to the concept of being part of something much larger than myself and I loved it for that reason. I had my family, of course, and I had a group of friends. And the school as a whole was an entity to which I belonged. But the drill squad was something quite different. Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with a few dozen boys and marching with them in perfect unison, every move synchronized and replicated in every row, gave me a sense of belonging and a thrill I hadn't experienced anywhere else at that point. I assume that serving in the military can inspire similar feelings, but I have never been involved in anything like that. My sole experience of this sort of thing was marching at school in the mornings, and I remember it to this day with a catch in my throat as I picture the squad wheeling about and marching across the playground in tight formation, left right, left right, left right.

#### **Back to the Future VIII**

fter completing form 2 for the second time, my mother took us on a holiday to our summer house, "Casa Blanca," in Atlántida, a small summer town founded in 1911. We arrived, and everything went according to plan. Unfortunately, my sister pulled our dog, "Rayo," by the tail, with the expected result – a small bite, of course. Afterward, my mother asked my father to rehome the dog, which he did, much to my great sorrow. Rayo was given away to a farmer. I felt very sad, unmotivated, and in a terrible mood until I pulled myself together and decided to go fishing alone to forget what had happened. I informed my mother that I was heading to "La Brava" beach, where you can find a rock called "Piedra Lisa" - gray, huge, halfround, and extraordinarily well-polished by the sea waves. I had a small net originally designed for catching butterflies. It goes without saying that it didn't meet my expectations in the water.

As I sat there, I looked all around the place and thought to myself, "There must be lots of fish here." I had to find a way to catch them, and the answer came rather quickly. Out of nowhere, a man appeared, walking with his fishing gear and a lot of fish hanging on a rope. He showed me how to prepare the correct fishing gear and told me that the best time for fishing was from sunrise for a couple of hours more, using mussels as bait. That same afternoon, I went to a shop in Atlántida called "De Todo Un Poco" and bought the necessary equipment. Early the next morning, I was at the beach at 5 am where I met him. He was a well-known gardener in Atlántida, known as Negroblanco. He taught me where to find the right spot to fish and what kind of fish I could expect to catch. Each rock had a name: Los Banquitos, La Chata, La Millonaria, El Morro, and many others. He used to sell his catch, so I gave him half of the fish I had caught, and the rest I took home.

It became clear to me how important it is to understand and communicate with all kinds of people. He was poor and humble but had an enormous capacity to explain things slowly and clearly. I can still see him standing, looking into



the horizon, probably thinking that this vastness belonged to the fishermen, a picturesque image. Since then, I have continued fishing when opportunity and time graciously allow. That year, for my birthday, I invited my classmates, Greenwood, Teddy, and others who can be seen at the mentioned rocks.

Our neighbors at the time, Mr. Hartwell and his wife, came every year from the USA to spend their holidays in Atlántida. They were great friends of my parents. When she baked scones and waffles, I could smell them from far away. She knew I would "casually" drop by the kitchen window and invite me in for a cup of tea and the delicious-smelling treats with syrup. I can still savor the taste of them. She also gave me American sweets called "Life Savers" (round with a hole in the middle) with different fruit flavors. Besides this, I enjoyed talking to her. I think they had grown-up children, but I can't recall ever seeing them. Suddenly, they never came back, and the house was sold to Mr. Tito Lopez, a butcher and money lender in Atlántida. Today, the house is owned by the hospital "Asociación Española," so it is open to their members and the public in general. After this, and in order not to tarnish my memories, I never went back inside. Although I'm pleased to see how well the outside is maintained, it brings me back to my childhood.

Even at such a young age, my mother taught me how to drive the car and entrusted me with the responsibility of fetching drinking water at OSE when water pipes had problems – thankfully, it often happened. Car stories don't end here.

#### **BITS AND PIECES**

# SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH? Learning German

t our Institute we make our students become able to read three basic languages, English, French and German, so they can project themselves into the international academic environment without missing much valuable information that is not often translated into Spanish.

English, of course, is the international academic language, people who can't at least adequately write it are at a great disadvantage. But other European languages have retained their relevance, mainly due to their impressive cultural accomplishments.

English and French are not a big problem since those languages have been taught for many years in our High Schools, the problem arises with German, that at the beginning of the XX century was also taught in Uruguayan schools, to such an extent that my father was fluent in that language, but that today frightens our students due to the complications of its grammar and general usage.

In order to encourage them and make them lose a bit of that fear, we quote Mark Twain's funny essay "The Awful German Language" that gives them some idea of what they are getting into. Twain travelled extensively in Germany and was fluent in this language.

"I went often to look at the collection of curiosities in Heidelberg Castle, and one day I surprised the keeper of it with my German. I spoke entirely in that language. He was greatly interested, and after I had talked a while he said my German was very rare, possibly a 'unique', and wanted to add it to his museum ...... A person who has not studied German can form no idea of what a perplexing language it is ....... The inventor of the language seems to have taken pleasure in complicating it in every way he could think of".

And let's see some of its perplexities:

"In German it is true that by some oversight of the inventor of the language, a Woman is a female, but a Wife (Weib) is not, which is unfortunate. A Wife, here, has no sex, she is neuter. so, according to the grammar, a fish is he, his scales are she, but a fishwife is neither. To describe a wife as sexless may be called an under-description, that is bad enough, but over-description is surely worse. A German speaks of an Englishman as the Engländer, to change the sex, he adds inn, and that stands for Englishwoman, Engländerinn. That seems descriptive enough, but still it is not exact enough for a German. so he precedes the word with that article which indicates that the creature to follow is feminine, and writes it down thus: "die Engländerinn", which means "the she-Englishwoman". I consider that this person is over-described".

by Juan <u>José Castillos</u>

juancast@yahoo.com

Another German habit is a propensity to join many words together, and thus, the story of a stork that flees a building that caught fire but then returns to die with its chicks, becomes this convoluted narrative:

"In the-day-before-yesterday-shortly-after-eleven-o'clock Night, the in-this-town-standing-tavern called 'The Wagoner' was downburnt. When the fire to the on-thedown-burning-house-resting Stork's Nest reached, flew the parent Storks away. But when the by-the-raging, firesurrounded Nest itself caught Fire, straightway plunged the quick-returning Mother-Stork into the Flames and died, her Wings over her young ones outspread".

This also exemplifies the tendency to put all verbs at the end of the sentences, you must wait to take note of all that happened, before you find out what it was that actually took place.

Jokes are also helpful to avoid the trap of similar words in English and German. A Teuton goes to a London restaurant and orders a sausage, but the waiter takes too long to bring it, so the German indignantly exclaims: "When do I become a sausage!?", confusing the meaning of his 'bekommen' (get) with the proper English word.

An Englishman could also smile when a German talks of having to travel somewhere (Ich muss eine Fahrt machen = I must make a trip).

I always tell my students in order to motivate them that you never know in what other instances knowing this language can be very convenient. I remember that while in Canada I made many thousands of dollars translating patents from German into English since the available professional people involved in this, surprisingly provided faulty renderings.



### The Rainbow Flag - Seeking Understanding And Unity In A Diverse World

In a world as diverse as ours, the Pride Flag (Rainbow Flag) has emerged as a powerful symbol of inclusivity and acceptance. It represents the idea that love is love, and that all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, deserve respect and support. The call for the Pride Flag to be flown worldwide is a call for a better understanding among people on this planet, and a reminder that love knows no boundaries.

One important aspect to consider is the display of the Pride Flag in support of various causes, including the situation in Palestine. It's crucial to clarify that when people proudly wave the Pride Flag in support of Palestine, it is not an endorsement of terrorism. Similarly, there are individuals on the Israeli side who also embrace the Pride Flag. This diverse range of voices highlights the complexity of the LGBTQ+ community, with its members holding various opinions on numerous issues.

It's worth acknowledging that the religious philosophies of Judaism and Islam have not always been LGBTQ+-friendly. However, this does not erase the existence of queer individuals living in Israel and the Gaza Strip. LGBTQ+ individuals are part of every society, and their struggles for acceptance are universal

The Pride Flag's presence around the world sends a powerful message – the cost of embracing diversity extends beyond borders and includes all of humanity. When you see the Pride Flag, it is not a declaration of taking sides; it is a reminder that the LGBTQ+ community stands in solidarity with everyone.

Furthermore, it's essential to recognize that the conflict between Israel and Hamas is a complex issue with deep historical roots. This conflict is, in part, a product of the patriarchal systems that have perpetuated inequalities and injustices for generations. While the topic of the patriarchy's role in this conflict is a discussion for another time, it underscores the importance of addressing systemic issues as we strive for a more inclusive and understanding world

Red: Represents life. It signifies the vitality and spirit of the world in general, acknowledging the ongoing fight for existence, as well as the bloodshed and sacrifices made by many in the pursuit of equality and human rights.

Orange: Stands for healing. This color symbolizes the journey toward healing from past traumas and discrimination, aiming to foster a sense of hope, energy, and enthusiasm for the future.

Yellow: Signifies sunlight. It represents the happiness and positivity within a diverse world, celebrating the joy and brightness that community brings to the world while also representing a hopeful, optimistic future

Green: Represents nature. This color symbolizes the serenity and peace that we all seek, as well as the overall importance of the natural environment and the right to live freely and authentically without fear or discrimination.

Blue: Stands for harmony. It represents peace and serenity, as well as the diversity of the whole world. It symbolizes the pursuit of serenity and the acceptance of one another regardless of differences, advocating for a harmonious and inclusive society.

Purple: Represents spirit. This color symbolizes the spirit of a fighting portion of society, signifying the unity and resilience in the face of challenges and adversities. It also represents the diversity of the community's identities and the ongoing fight for equality and acceptance for all.

The Pride Flag's global presence represents a collective desire for unity and acceptance. It's a symbol that transcends borders and brings people together under the banner of humanity. When you see the Pride Flag, remember that it stands for inclusivity and love, not division. It's a reminder that, in a world of diversity, we are on the side of all those who seek understanding and unity.



## The Ghosts In The Tower

(Thanks to JCS for finding and sharing this astonishing information)

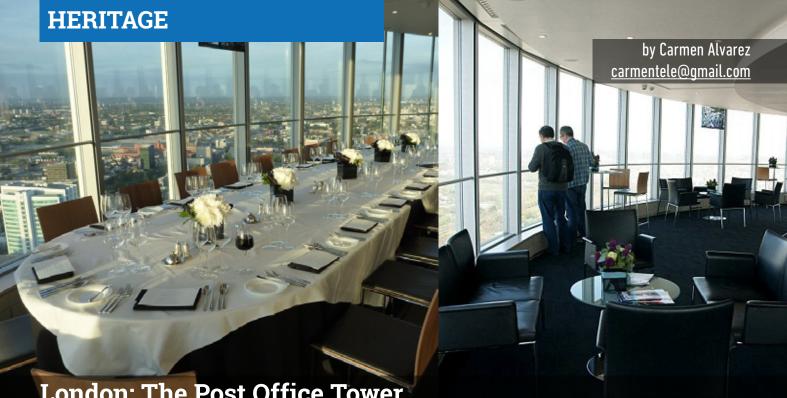
The Tower of London is one of the most popular tourist attractions in London, visited yearly by millions of men, women and children from every corner of the planet. Amongst them, we are sure that hundreds of Uruguayans make the London Underground trip to Tower Hill Station and with the expert company of the designed Beefeater Guide make the tour of the Tower with the inevitable visit to the Crown jewels and other more *spooky* places of the Norman Age castle. Because the Tower of London has had an infamous story too, being for most of its life an eerie and bloody venue of royal intrigue and murder. Prison for high profile enemies of the state, of the realm, or royal and bastard relatives of Kings or Queens, and the inevitable fallen courtiers or courtesans who outlived their utility in court.

The list of those ghosts in the Tower is long and includes the "*Who is who*" of the times. From the immortal Princes in the Tower, Edward V (12) and his brother Richard, the Duke of York (9), imprisoned by their paternal uncle, future Richard III in 1483; Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard, both Queen consort of Henry VIII, decapitated in the Tower grounds in 1536 and 1542. But the list also has a less known section we could call the "*who is he*"? Of more recent eras, not as glamorously royal but not less deadly. During the Great War the Tower of London was used as a detention centre for high profile prisoners of state and spies. One of those unwelcome visitors was the only Uruguayan resident of the Tower and not a tourist. Convicted as a spy in August 1915, he was executed by firing squad in the Tower of London a month later.

Not much can be found on the Uruguayan life of Alfredo Augusto Roggen. Born in Montevideo in 1881. Apparently son of a German Merchant captain or mariner, who must have travelled with his wife to the River Plate where by chance, the baby was born when in port, or on the sea but baptised in our country. Other sources add that Alfredo's father became a Uruguayan natural citizen four years after his son being born, and it is quite probable that Alfredo Roggen married a German girl somewhere along the road to the Tower. But what is clearly chronicled is his road to the firing squad that according to British Ministry of Defence sources starts in early 1915.

Roggen was recruited in Rotterdam by the German Naval Intelligence. His Uruguayan citizenship must have helped, and was dispatched to the British Isles, arriving at Tilbury in May 1915. British intelligence and Police were on to him immediately, and though he was allowed to enter and travel to Edinburgh, he was monitored and under surveillance as soon as he started sending postcards to Rotterdam to an address that was known to be suspect. He travelled to Loch Long, a restricted area where the Royal Navy tested torpedoes, on the excuse he was on a fishing trip, but on the inspection of his premises at the Tarbet Hotel no fishing gear was found, but maps of northern Scotland, a Browning loaded gun and an invisible ink set were not even hidden in the room. Under arrest, he was imprisoned in the Tower with three other German spies of the same Rotterdam Ring. After a guick court martial they were all found guilty and sentenced to death by shooting.

The Uruguayan Government appealed, alleging technical faults in the process and trial and for diplomatic considerations the execution was delayed for a week. Though Roggen activities were insignificant to the enemy's war effort, and the Rotterdam Ring more a curiosity than a menace, the "*spy that came to fish*" was executed in the early hours of September 17, 1915 at the Tower of London. Roggen refused to be blindfolded and "*behaved with defiant air and bearing on his last moments*". Fitting ending to his short lived spy career. Let's hope his soul rests in peace in the Tower dungeons, amongst the ghosts of his famous fellow travellers.



# **London: The Post Office Tower**

ising stark above London's skyline you can find an impressive landmark, situated in Fitzrovia, near Tottenham Court Road.

Once called the Post Office Tower, because it played an important part in London's communication system, it was later renamed the Telecom Tower and now it's a grade II listed tower owned by the BT Group and called BT Tower.

When it opened in 1965 it was the tallest building in the UK and quickly became a symbol of London, featuring as a key location for films and television shows.

But its most attractive feature was the opening of a rotating restaurant in 1966 which closed in 1980 for security reasons.

You could head up to the 35th floor for a cocktail before stepping down to the 34th for the restaurant where 800 lunches and 1.300 dinners were served each week. It was the city's coolest place to eat for 25 years.

No doubt it was the predecessor of the present rooftops, in a time when such a concept of enjoying panoramic views while dining didn't exist yet.

The Top of the Tower (such the name of the restaurant) may not exist anymore, the observatory may not be in use either, but at least the tower is still there, serving as a television network switching centre with a scrolling electronic sign that marks several important occasions, such as relevant dates of the British royal family. A unique piece of engineering when it was first built, a working icon of technological innovation for more than 50 years and a place that remains an important part of the city's history and is a much loved building today.



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# Gunpowder, Treason, Plot, Shakespeare

The renowned Shakespeare specialist, James Shapiro published 1599. A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare in 2005, and in 2015, The Year of Lear (1606). Both books are wonderfully readable, unencumbered by academic footnotes - a separate bibliographical essay bears witness to Shapiro's wide, indepth scholarly research. His The Year of Lear discusses the political situation leading to and following the "Gunpowder Plot" and its connection with Macbeth, summarised below.

Queen Elizabeth I (d.1603) was succeeded by the Scottish James VI, James I of England and Scotland, seeking to preserve Protestant continuity and stability. And in 1606 Shakespeare's company staged two of his greatest tragedies, King Lear, and Macbeth

On 5 November 1605, a group of disaffected Catholics led by Guy Fawkes plotted to blow up the House of Lords to kill the King, the nation's religious and political elite, and reverse the Protestant Reformation begun under Henry VIII. Thousands of Londoners would also have died in the explosion and ensuing fires. The Gunpowder Plot reverberated powerfully through the following months, as the conspirators were captured, tortured, tried, and then publicly executed. The plot and its aftermath touched close to home for Shakespeare: some of his Catholic neighbours were implicated, as in his hometown's safe-houses where the plotters met, weapons for the intended uprising were stored and religious items for the hoped-for restoration of Catholicism were hidden. The manhunt that followed the thwarted attack was accompanied by a search for documents that might shed light on the conspiracy. A month after the plot was discovered, a Treatise of Equivocation instructing Catholics on how to lie under oath was found in a suspect's lodgings: it wasn't lying exactly, if you believed that God knew your thoughts, even if the person questioning you could not. A contemporary succinctly described how this doctrine, once widespread, would lead to chaos: 'if it once take root in the hearts of people, in a short time there will be no faith... no trust... and all civil societies will break

and be dissolved.' This despairing Jacobean vision is that of Scotland under Macbeth, a nightmare world where words belie intentions and honest exchange is no longer possible. It's through 'equivocation' that Shakespeare found a way of registering the seismic shock of the Gunpowder Plot. When he wrote Macbeth in 1606, Shakespeare's audiences would have been familiar with the term, i.e., concealing the truth by saying one thing while deceptively thinking another. Macbeth, a play about the assassination of another Scottish king, is rife with equivocation. The most consequential act of equivocation occurs when Macbeth and Banguo first encounter the Weird Sisters. The first hails Macbeth as Thane of Glamis, the second as Thane of Cawdor, and the third promises him he 'shalt be king hereafter'; they tell Banquo 'Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none.' All true but equivocal, as they withhold vital information (they don't tell Macbeth that he'll have to kill to do it, or Banguo that he won't be alive to see it). The more that equivocating becomes habitual for Macbeth the more reassurance he demands from the Weird Sisters, who further equivocate. urging Macbeth to 'Be bloody, bold and resolute,' since 'none of woman born / Shall harm Macbeth.' assuring him that he shall never be vanguished until 'Great Birnam Wood' shall come to Dunsinane. By the play's end, as he watches in disbelief as branches cut from Birnam Wood are carried by an approaching army to Dunsinane, a shattered Macbeth fully grasps equivocation's destructive consequences. At the last, after learning that Macduff is not of woman born, Macbeth reflects a final time on how equivocation has destroyed him. Alone among Shakespeare's tragic heroes, Macbeth is denied a dying, self-revealing speech; the last we hear from him in way of reflection are these hard-earned insights into the workings of equivocation. A tragedy steeped in its moment of creation, written in the wake of what we would now call a failed terrorist attack. at a time when the nation was grappling with issues of union as well as the imagined threat posed by a maligned religious minority, Macbeth continues to speak to our own unsettled and equivocating times.

by Dr Jorge C Stanham OBE jorgestanham@yahoo.com

# **Cycling For Health**

In Montevideo and other cities of the Interior, greenpainted bicycle lanes are spreading. The presence of 'bicisendas' (on the veredas/sidewalks or canteros centrales/median strips) or 'ciclovías' (on the roads sharing space with motor vehicles) is ever more common as cities grow 'greener' and people are eager to keep physically active. Recently, Montevideo Mayor Carolina Cosse presented her plan for painting bicycle lanes on Avenida 18 de Julio and Calle San José and got a backlash from the opposition, from businesses of the Centro and – surprisingly – from bike fans who found it rather dangerous, at least as designed.

Bicycles were invented by German Baron Karl von Drais in 1817 (they were propelled by feet pushing on the ground). were later improved by Frenchman Pierre Lallement in 1863, who introduced pedals in the front wheel and finally in 1885 British engineer John Starley introduced the chain-driven backwheel propelled bicycle. By the 1930s, derailleur gears ('cambios') had improved from their initial introduction by French manufacturer Émile Ardennes in 1906. Bicycles sold these days use lightweight metal and carbon alloys and have trendy brandnames. Recently, electrically-assisted bicycles are ever more common, as they reduce the physical effort of going uphill, against the wind or travelling longer distances, for those less physically able. Their batteries can be charged overnight and (up to now and hopefully forever) do not require a 'patente', obligatory insurance or a motorbike driving license. (Be aware that the police may perform a spirometry whenever a booze-powered cyclist is involved in an accident - I personally checked with Policía de Tránsito.)

Bicycling is one of the best exercises available. Of course, you must have adequate balance, eyesight, hearing and be able to react rapidly. There must be no cutting corners with safety: a good helmet, a rearview mirror, a reflectivefluorescent vest, front and back lights are basics. It's important to use eyeglasses as protection against gravel thrown by overtaking motor vehicles and... flying insects! Avoid heavy traffic or routes where you cannot move to a 'banquina' where buses or lorries pass by. Recall that when cycling in company with another, the most frequent accident is colliding with your partner, so... keep your distance! Unfortunately (and most of us have been witnesses of this) city bikers have the horrible habit of ignoring traffic signals and street lights.

There is no one-size-fits all bicycle. Good advice from a bicycle dealer on frame size, will help prevent wear-and-tear issues that arise when shape and size do not match anatomy. Also, men should use seats that minimise pressure on the prostate area. Special cycling tightsf ('calzas de ciclista') are recommended to reduce friction on the skin.

For those who have osteoarthritis ('artrosis') of the hip or spine, the effect of gravity and impact is virtually eliminated, making cycling an alternative to walking or running. Advice from a specialist in sports or musculoskeletal issues is recommended in the case of knee problems. For those above age 30, or at any age if there's a family history of heart disease, electrocardiographic stress exercise tolerance testing, preferably on a bicycle ergometer, is recommended.

It's good to keep track of cycling activity and progress. Speed and distance can be registered by a Bluetooth speedometer/ odometer, which can be synced to your mobile phone and/or electronic watch. There are many phone Apps dedicated to cycling, which also record calorie consumption. Remember, zeroing your attention on electronic equipment while riding can be as risky as when driving an automobile. (There are handlebar supports for mobile phones.)

Since I retired nearly five years ago in my early 70s, I have been cycling regularly and keeping track of my progress. I'm just short reaching the 4000 km mark, by regularly adding outings that range between 5 and 25 km.

While Johnny Walker's motto is 'keep walking' (booze included?) – I stick to 'keep cycling'. It's smoother on my bones and joints and it lets me go longer and faster. Over time, I've discovered that many of my prior patients and colleagues are also bike fans, after having practised many sports previously. It's a big family out there!



The Rolling Stones are a British rock band formed in London... wait for it... in 1962! Rooted in blues and early rock and roll, and identified with the rebellious counterculture of the 1960s, they started out playing covers and were at the forefront of the 'British Invasion' in 1964. Now active for over six decades, they are the most enduring band (and one of the most popular) of the entire rock era.

In 1950, Keith Richards and Mick Jagger (both born in 1943) became classmates at school in Dartford, Kent, but didn't click at the time. Eleven years later Jagger met Richards again on a platform at Dartford railway station, where the Chuck Berry and Muddy Waters records Jagger was carrying revealed to Richards a shared interest. A musical and personal partnership began shortly afterwards, a famous love-hate relationship which has lasted over 60 years to this day.

In early 1962, the pair met multi-instrumentalist Brian Jones and keyboardist Ian Stewart, and together with Jagger's friend Dick Taylor they formed a band and began to rehearse. According to Richards, the band was named by Jones during a phone call to Jazz News: when asked by a journalist for the band's name, Jones – at a loss for an answer – happened to see a Muddy Waters LP lying on the floor and focused on one of the tracks called "Rollin' Stone". Taylor was soon replaced by Bill Wyman, and after trying out several drummers, the group settled on Charlie Watts. Stewart also left the band only a few months later by common agreement, though he worked for them for many years thereafter. Thus, with Jones, Jagger, Richards, Wyman and Watts the band began to play in pubs and to record their first tunes, which resulted in their debut album

"The Rolling Stones" (1964).

The Rolling Stones initially tried applying the strategy used by The Beatles (the most popular band at the time) and have the band members wear suits, but they soon realised that this went against the grain of the band members' personalities. Thus, they focused on contrasting with The Beatles, featuring unmatched clothing, long hair, and an 'unclean' appearance, to make them a raunchy and unpredictable bunch of undesirables, a strategy that went down very well with a significant proportion of the young in the 1960s.

The band soon became a great success in the UK and overseas. In 1965 they released three albums. "The Rolling Stones 2" reached number 1 on the UK charts and number 5 in the US. It was shortly followed by "Out of Our Heads", which contained their first international number 1 hit, "I can't get no Satisfaction" that reached the top spot of the Billboard Hot 100 in the US and was a worldwide commercial success for the band. They closed a very productive year with "December's Children (And Everybody's)".

"Aftermath" (1966) was the first album to be composed entirely of Jagger and Richards' own songs; it reached number 1 in the UK and number 2 in the US. On this album, Jones' contributions expanded: in the Middle Easterninfluenced "Paint it Black" he added a sitar, to the ballad "Lady Jane" he added a dulcimer, and in "Under My Thumb" he added marimbas.

The Stones' success peaked during this period. Their highenergy concerts proved highly successful with the young,

### **MUSICAL BOX**



while alienating the police (who had the exhausting task of controlling the rebellious crowds). Thus, the band's notoriety among the authorities and the establishment seems to have been inversely proportional to their popularity. By 1967, Jagger, Richards, and Jones had begun to be hounded by authorities over their recreational drug use, which led to all three being arrested and sentenced: Jagger was sentenced to 3 month in prison for the possession of amphetamine tablets, Richards to a year for allowing cannabis to be smoked on his property, and Jones to 18 months for the possession of cannabis. All were released on bail pending appeal, after which Jagger's sentence was reduced to a conditional discharge, Richards' conviction was overturned and Jones was fined  $\mathfrak{L}1,000$  and put on three years' probation.

During that year the band released "Between the Buttons", a less flamboyant album, and "Their Satanic Majesties Request", which has been unfavourably compared to The Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" (released only a couple of months earlier).

In 1968, to avoid being limited to the standard 9 to 5 operating hours of most recording studios, the Stones put a control room in a van, creating the Rolling Stones Mobile Studio. The band lent the mobile studio to other artists, including Led Zeppelin (who used it to record Led Zeppelin III and Led Zeppelin IV) and Deep Purple (who immortalised it in their song 'Smoke on the Water' with the line "...with the Rolling truck Stones thing just outside, making our music there").

By mid-1968, Jones' drug addiction was hindering every aspect of his life and he was only sporadically contributing to the band. "Beggars Banquet", released later that year had little to no input from him. In June 1969, he admitted to the rest that he was unable to go on the road again, and left the band. Less than a month later, on 3 July, Jones drowned under mysterious circumstances in the swimming pool at his home. The band auditioned several guitarists to replace him, before settling on Mick Taylor. The Stones' last album of the 1960s, "Let It Bleed", was released shortly after.

To become unfettered from the obligations imposed by the dominant record companies, in 1970 the band decided to launch its own record company, Rolling Stones Records, whose logo – a pair of lips with a lapping tongue – effectively became the band's logo. Without using the Stones' name, the logo instantly conjures them, as well as a certain lasciviousness that is the band's hallmark. This quickly and deservedly led to it becoming the most famous logo in the history of popular music.

"Sticky Fingers" (1971) was the first album released on the band's own label. It featured an elaborate cover designed by Andy Warhol: the photograph of a man from the waist down in tight jeans, whose zipper – when unzipped – revealed his underwear. It was followed by "Exile on Main St." (1972), which was recorded in the south of France entirely using the Rolling Stones Mobile Studio, "Goats Head Soup" (1973), recorded in Jamaica, and "It's Only Rock 'n Roll", recorded during a European tour. All four reached number 1 in the US, and are considered to be among the band's best albums.

In 1974, Taylor began to lose patience after years of feeling under-recognised by his bandmates. In addition, his drug use was starting to affect his productivity. At the end of that year, Taylor decided to guit the Stones. A number of guitarists were auditioned to replace him (including such luminaries as Peter Frampton, Jeff Beck and Rory Gallagher), but the band finally settled on Faces guitarist Ronnie Wood, who had collaborated with Jagger on the song 'It's only rock'n roll (but I like it)', title track of the Stones' most recent album. Thus began the Stones' most well-known and enduring formation, which lasted nearly 20 years until 1993. Curiously, Woods turned down Jagger's first offer to join the Stones because of his commitment to Faces, and Faces' lead singer Rod Stewart went so far as to say he would take bets that Wood would never join the Stones.

(to be continued...)



Gibraltar Chronicle, October 23th of 1805, Cardinal Gasquet's collection, Abbey Archives and Library, Downside Abbey, Bath, UK.

wo hundred and eighteen years ago, the winds of destiny swept across the tempestuous waters of Trafalgar.

The year was 1805 when the "Gibraltar Chronicle" etched history by first publishing the news of Trafalgar's resounding victory. It was October 23rd, a mere two days after the thunderous clash of cannons, and within its pages lay a letter from Admiral Collingwood to the Governor of Gibraltar, Henry Edward Fox. The letter recounted the thrilling account of the epic naval confrontation. How the "Gibraltar Chronicle" obtained this news so swiftly remained shrouded in maritime legend. Some say it was due to the fortunate encounter of a British fleet with a humble fishing boat, where the battle's news was quickly transferred to Gibraltar. The name of this modest fishing vessel and its anonymous crew would fade into the forgotten annals of history.

Admiral Collingwood's missive held such importance that it transcended language barriers. It was promptly translated into French. This linguistic metamorphosis was no mere coincidence, as the editor of the newspaper during this era was a man named Charles Bouisson, a Frenchman who had made Gibraltar his home since 1794. However, despite these early reports, the news did not reach the eager eyes of the London public until November 6th, 1805.

Meanwhile, a more formal and official missive was en route, one that would resonate throughout the British Isles and beyond. The HMS Pickle, a topsail schooner of the Royal Navy originally christened the Sting, had been acquired by Lord Hugh Seymour for use as a tender on the Jamaica station. This sturdy vessel was now serving in the victorious fleet, charged with a mission of utmost gravity.

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Breathless and with tears glistening in his eyes, Lapenotiere entered the Admiralty's hallowed chambers, announcing with quivering voice: "Sir, we have gained a great victory, but we have lost Lord Nelson."

Yet, even as history unfolded, news of the battle and the passing of Lord Nelson faced another tempestuous sea the formidable tides of bureaucracy and communication. The eager public in London remained unaware as newspapers clung to official naval dispatches from the Mediterranean. Thus, it was not until 18 days had passed since the epic clash that anyone in Britain knew the truth.

On November 7th, morning papers finally carried the news, dedicating ink and paper to the recounting of Collingwood's dispatch. The Morning Post, a predecessor to The Daily Telegraph, displayed it prominently over three noble columns, without preamble or fanfare.

As the ink dried and the news spread, the people of Britain came together to honor the memory of Lord Nelson and the triumph of their navy. The streets resounded with cheers and tears alike. The feeling with which the intelligence of the triumph and death of Lord Nelson was received by the British people did honor to their character. It was a testament to the enduring spirit of a nation that had staked its claim on the seas and in the annals.

# **CHEF PHILLIP'S CORNER**

# **Braised Chicken With Milk, Sage And Lemon**

Sage is a herb which thrives in Uruguay's hot and sunny summers, which is not surprising, as it is native to the Mediterranean regions of Italy and Greece. The plant prefers free draining soil and direct sunlight and adapts well to growing in containers. It will also grow indoors in flower pots as long as it is near to a sunny window.

The botanical name of sage is salvia officinalis, which derives from the Latin Salvare, meaning "to heal". It is high in antioxidants, aids brain functions, lowers blood sugar and cholesterol levels. Brewed into a tea it helps to relieve headaches.

Sage has a long, green-gray leaf with a slightly furry surface. Its aroma is pungent and it has a robust, peppery flavour. It is usually incorporated into dishes during cooking as it has a more pleasant taste once cooked. It can be enjoyed fresh, dried or in a tea. The whole leaves can be fried until crisp and used to decorate a dish. Sage combines well with other herbs in the kitchen, such as thyme, rosemary and basil.

Sage is popular in both British and Italian cooking. Think of sage and onion stuffing used by the British to stuff turkey, geese, chicken and pork dishes. Many sausage recipes also include sage. Italians love to incorporate sage leaves into pasta recipes. Another favourite use is in the classic Italian saltimbocca recipe, which consists of veal escalopes wrapped in prosciutto and sage.

This month's recipe –below– is for a whole chicken braised in milk which is flavoured with sage and with added lemon zest to brighten up the sauce.

#### **Ingredients – 4 Portions**

- 1 x 2-kg whole chicken
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 500 ml full fat milk
- 150 g butter
- 12 garlic cloves, skin on
- Zest from two lemons (remove all the white pith to prevent bitterness)
- 16 fresh sage leaves
- 2 tbsp Dijon mustard
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stick cinnamon (or <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon ground cinnamon)

#### Method

Remove excess fat from the chicken and season well inside and outside with salt and pepper. Heat a wok or large frying pan, add the olive oil and fry the chicken to seal it, turning regularly to get an even colour all over. Transfer the chicken into a Dutch oven or casserole dish. Remove excess fat from the wok used to seal the chicken and add the milk, butter, garlic cloves, lemon zest, sage leaves, Dijon mustard and cinnamon stick. Heat until it reaches boiling point while stirring occasionally with a wooden or nylon spoon to help release the tasty sticky goodness at the bottom of the pan which will give you a lovely caramelly flavour later on. Pour the hot, flavoured milk over the chicken and cover with a lid if using a Dutch oven or with greaseproof paper and aluminum foil (greaseproof paper first and aluminum foil over it to prevent the paper from burning) if using a casserole.

Cook for 45 minutes in a hot oven at 200°C before

### **CHEF PHILLIP'S CORNER**



removing the lid or aluminum foil and paper and continue braising for at least 45 minutes more until the chicken is nicely browned and fully cooked. Baste the chicken with the sauce occasionally and ensure that it doesn't evaporate completely and burn. Add more milk if necessary.

Remove the cooked chicken from the cooking pot and place on a large serving dish. Check the taste and consistency of the sauce. If necessary, transfer the sauce to a saucepan and reduce it over a high heat. It should be concentrated and slightly split due to the action of the lemon on the milk, and with little curds. Remove the lemon zest or if you wish cut into smaller pieces and leave in the sauce. Discard the cinnamon stick. Pour the sauce over the chicken together with the garlic cloves.

To serve, pull the chicken legs apart and use a sharp knife to cut off the two breasts from the carcass.

Serve with mashed or roast potatoes and a mixed green salad with tomatoes and finely sliced red onions.

#### A FEW TIPS:

- Press the puréed garlic out of its skin and enjoy its wonderful mild taste.

- The cooking time need not be strictly adhered to as long as the chicken is fully cooked. To check that, pierce the joint in the middle of the leg and, as long as the juice runs clear, the chicken will be ready. While there is still liquid in the pan you can carry on braising the chicken after it is cooked. The texture of the meat will change and break apart when you press it but the taste of it will change as it absorbs the concentrated flavour of the sauce.

- The sauce may be liquidized to give a more homogeneous texture. I personally prefer to leave the sauce in its natural state, with visible curds, as in an authentic, simple country dish.

- Add some small whole potatoes to the Dutch oven to cook along with the chicken.

- Add a sprig of fresh thyme or rosemary to complement the sage leaves at the start of the cooking process.

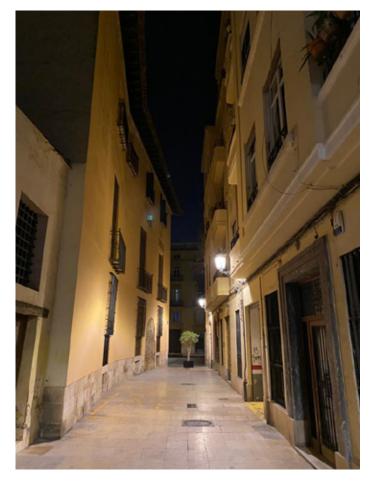
## LAMB CHOPS

#### 'Jonathan Lamb starts a revolution in Valencia'

Any book sales this month go to Aldeas Infantiles.

#### ANCIENT AND MODERN: THE TRAIN IN SPAIN

One day you rightly decide to visit Valencia. For two years in the 1930s, during the Civil War, Valencia was the capital of Spain, and its old town must surely be the loveliest place in the country, perhaps even in Europe, for a late evening stroll. Huge doors, narrow streets, marble pavements, soft yellow lamplight, restaurant terraces, families, gobsmacked tourists. The night (in October) is gentle - relaxing - and quiet, for the old town admits no cars. It's a bit like Rome without the swarms of bloody Vespas. You could live here, you think, you could relax, you could breathe again, you could be young....



## Valencia

Until you try to leave the place. Valencia's public transport is great, but as with the architecture there's a strange disconnect between ancient and modern. It's like a clock in a church. Modern these days means QR codes, weird hieroglyphs like crosswords on acid, helping consumers consume. You muse on this as your shiny new bus approaches Valencia's Estació del Nord, where you plan to buy a RENFE train ticket to Tarragona. It's a quaint old place next to a bullring. You go inside and look for a ticket machine. Good, you think, there are five machines. You go to one of them and touch the screen. A wobbly arrow flickers into life, not where your finger is, but a centimetre or so above. This means that to input 'Tarragona' you have to click on Gzffzlspacebarz, the keys immediately underneath. When Gzffzlspacebarz doesn't appear as a destination you try another machine, realising after a while that four of the five machines are for local trains, and only the fifth is for long distance. On this machine there is one train to Gzffzlspacebarz next day, at 5pm. You feel there must be more, so you join a long queue for the ticket windows. After 20 minutes in this queue you notice a small sign above the windows saying that they too are for local trains only. Further along there's another queue for long distance, not so much a line this time as a group of people gathered around like extras in Les Misérables. To get a train ticket you need a queue ticket. A helpful lady who has thrown in the towel says, 'Here, have mine'.



### Crosswords on acid

After 20 minutes holding this ticket you realise that there are in fact two types of queue ticket, one for today and another for tomorrow. Hers is for today: you need tomorrow. By this time you are starting to suspect that RENFE's customer service may not be the sharpest arrow in the Euroquiver, but you have made friends with so many fellow sufferers around you (Valencians may seem gruff at first, but they're innately friendly) that you're quite enjoying life on the barricades. You get a queue for not-today trains and start again. In the ticket window that will perhaps serve this queue, although possibly not today, there is a helpful screen listing the turnos anteriores, the heroes who have already made it to the window and gone home.



Turno VH0116 Puesto 7 Turno VO0021 Puesto 6 Turno VH0115 Puesto 7

#### Modern v ancient

This is tremendously useful information, your new friends agree. It's just what you need! Unfortunately no other information is available. You would sit at a nearby bench to admire this information but RENFE have forestalled you, and erected a large perspex barrier that prevents anyone from sitting down. There are no other seats. You and your new comrades discuss how to dismantle the barrier. An elderly lady suggests lifting it off the hinges.



By now you are at the centre of a small groundswell of popular emotion, and are about to hand out sashes to the other Misérables when word goes round that somebody who has been waiting for two hours has given up. So do you - so does the elderly lady - and so do several other unheroic comrades. You go home and buy online. Not cheap. Next day you finally get to Gzffzlspacebarz on a train that shoots along at 200 kph but does not have wi-fi. Modern must be a relative term. Gzffzlspacebarz is nice, but not nearly as nice as Valencia.

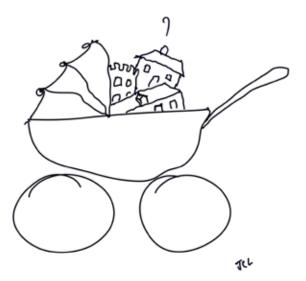
#### HOMAGE TO VALENCIA (see p.....)

I love this old town I want to MARRY IT And have its BABIES

Okay, there may be a few problems With the ferrocarriles

> But I love this old town I want to MARRY IT And have its BABIES

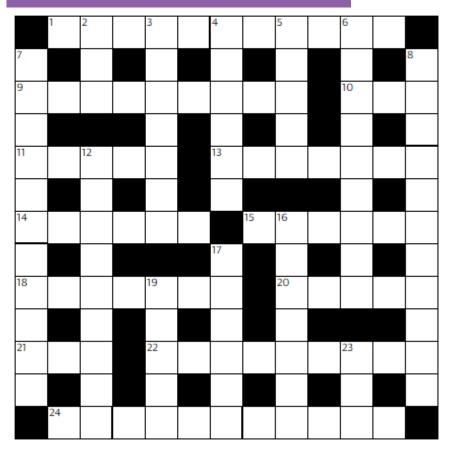
And we will call them Aldeas Infantiles



All profits from sales of Jonathan's books this month will go to the children's charity Aldeas Infantiles. To order, eg as Christmas presents that can be sent cheaply from the uk, write to vozinglesa@gmail.com



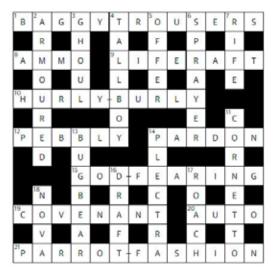
### SPEEDY CROSSWORD TIME



from The Guardian www.theguardian.com

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

October solution:



### Across

- 1 A children's entertainer might have a hand in this (5,6)
- 9 Redolent of 1984, say (9)
- 10 Lyric poem (3)
- 11 Member of a Jamaican movement (5)
- 13 Nose (7)
- 14 Arab from southwest Asia (6)
- 15 Get by on very little (6)
- 18 Hearing range (7)
- 20 Levy for the church (5)
- 21 Traitor (3)
- 22 Photographers (9)
- 24 Physically fit (2,4,5)

### Down

- 2 Rule (3)
- 3 Malefactor (7)
- 4 Cleric (6)
- 5 Blow (5)
- 6 Adam Smith or Karl Marx, e.g. (9)
- 7 Hearty, posh fellow (6,5)
- 8 English rock band (3,8)
- 12 Biblical Israelite (9)
- 16 Fluid from inflammation of the nose and throat (7)
- 17 Dim (6)
- 19 Large African mammal (5)
- 23 Move quickly (3)



https://www.gocomics.com/

### LETTERS FROM OUR READERS



# **Conchillas Tea Contest Trip**

Isabel Piñeiro Sorondo (moodleigcselit@gmail.com)

onchillas opens up recollections of UK landscapes and industrial effort in the heart as you walk through it, mesmerized at the existence of this forgotten Uruguayan spot. This rural paradise provided sandy flesh for the construction of the once vibrant Buenos Aires port, hiding in its DNA the passage of forgotten migrants, unique dwellings and apparent evidence of past flowing trade with Britain. Nowadays, its habitual stillness is stirred up by the Tea Contest annual edition, celebrated in Casa Evans where a Welshman who overcame the perils of shipwreck, stranded on this providential spot and not desiring to taste the sea again, helped build a community of well-being and work. The Anglican Church, the primary public school open to the children of all workers and dwellers, the headquarters of Casa Evans and the quaint flower beds in-between are a living reminder of the ties of cooperation existent time ago.

Opposite, on the main street, the architecture of the housing provided by the Walker Co. for its workers remains a relic feature of the town, unmatched in the country: red zinc roofs over thick slanted rock and lime yellow walls, three roomed dwellings furnished with iron beds protected by tulle against mosquitoes and external lavatories.

The slant of red zinc roof over the untouched closed-down hotel, seemingly to be refurbished, eyes down on the onlooker, only disclosing a top storey gallery baranda, in a crisscrossed design of wooden squares and rhombuses. The ground floor refrains revealing silhouettes of past welloff guests, succulently shrubbing their excesses from us under the excuse of surviving Aloe arborescens.

The way to the cemetery, on the outskirts, has a first prime stretch that offers no surprises to the local walker,

eucalyptus and two lone farmhouses. Then an uncanny taste evolves as the path meanders onto the left, unfolding the green riverbank and conchilla rockbed. You intake where it all began, geologically and tradewise. But upway, where it ended for those who did not leave the town. Once over the bridge, a seemingly floating stone wall, mossed with Usherish Poe lichens, and deceiving Stonehenge solidity, is set firm to the gaze. Outlandish. Undeniably protecting the 'remains of the illustrious founders of Conchillas. Originary diversity in German and English inscribed grave slabs' and other nationalities buried. Some burial sites recognise the gratitude of the local population to the founding citizens, others swarmed over by unkept ivy remind of beloved nolonger-minded losses. A pair, no longer visibly identified, uselessly guarded by neogothic iron rails. Definitely a miraculously nostalgic reminder of the crossroads Conchillas once was. Till 1918, this privately owned cemetery, built on Walker property, barred the unwanted entry of errant animals via a curious staircase that still surmounts the peripheral wall. Standing on the wall, you realise that only part of the wall survives, since it passed to the ownership of the Departamento de Colonia as public cemetery, altering its archaic physiognomy.

Walking back, the end of the day is crowned with the rebirth of the bustling Casa Evans and its local friends, where the proud once well-stocked barracks, bizarrely built with walls ready to slip off never-fallen snow, now kindle the energy of the Tea Contest. The event cannot be missed, if you want to admire the best tea sets in town, delicacies and treats included, with a flavour of the best bakers and entrepreneurs from all over the land. Plus a souvenir mug and your appreciated vote.

