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Coming Events

▶ Thursday 1st March

- ▶ Guy Pratt's "My Bass and Other Animals", 20:30 hrs. at the Anglo's Millington Drake Theatre (San José 1426).

▶ Wednesday 7th March

- ▶ The British Society lecture-supper, 19:30 hrs. at The Anglo School in Carrasco (María Saldún de Rodríguez 2195).

▶ Wednesday 21st to Friday 23rd March

- ▶ "The Feather Pillow, a story of Horacio Quiroga", 21:00 hrs. at the Anglo's Millington Drake Theatre (San José 1426).





President's Blurb

Dear Members

As every year, this month Uruguay exits its summer mode and returns to normal. Your Society and its member institutions accompany this switch, offering several interesting activities. The British Society's first event of the year will be a lecture-supper with an interesting twist. Scheduled for Wednesday 7th March, the event will feature two up-and-coming young actors from London's West End, who will be entertaining those present with songs and routines from their repertoire (see details in separate box below).

The British Society's Annual General Meeting has been set for Wednesday 18th April; please put the date in your agendas. Like last year, we will be serving Dilmah teas and homemade nibbles to those present. And as was the case last year, we hope to have a good crowd present. I encourage you to take part; remember

this only happens once a year!

As our AGM approaches, I would like to remind you that the Executive Committee is open to receive nominations to honorary membership of our Society. Details for presentation of nominations can be found in a separate box below. We will be happy to receive any nominations you may want to send.

The British Hospital's trial running of The British Society's Sir Winston Churchill Home for the elderly continues to progress successfully. The move, however, must be ratified by our membership at the AGM before being permanent, so I would like to ask you to form an opinion on the issue before then. If anyone has any questions or worries, I will be more than happy to address them.

Sir Winston Churchill Home News

We are delighted that Maureen Pereira has agreed to come on to our Committee and help with the Benevolent Fund. Ian Dickin is glad to have Maureen's knowledge of our community as he continues to review our commitments.

Our main contact with our beneficiaries continues to be Phyllis Day with some delegation to Betty Gordon. Their personal care and interest gives such added value to our financial support.

It was a delight for Millie to receive a visit from Gladys Symonds, back on her feet after her stroke. We were glad that our Dr. Martin Villar was able to attend and support the family in the early days. Congratulations to

all and especially Gladys and Joyce.

And talking of our community you might like to follow this link on valiant Peter Schor:

http://www.teledoce.com/americano/noticia/31346_Historia-de-vida-en-Americando/

If there are any cast off computers, cassette or CD players, we could put them to use along with a technician!

We look forward to your visits to our home and thank you all,

Liz Cowley



Nominations for Honorary Members

The British Society Executive Committee invites Active Members to propose individuals for Honorary Membership based on the following criteria:

1. Nominee must be an Active Member of the Society, but not necessarily a British passport holder.
2. Nominee will have made an outstanding contribution to Community life over a long period of time, aside from office holding.
3. Nominee will have acted unofficially, or informally, to support the community. These acts must be described in detail on a Nomination Form.

The Executive Committee will review the nominations and present acceptable ones to the Society for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

Please remember not to tell the individual nominated that his/her name has been put forward. This is to avoid embarrassment if the nominee is not accepted.

Nomination Forms and the detailed Procedures and Criteria may be requested from any Executive Committee member or by e-mailing a request to BritSoc@gmail.com.

Nominations must be returned to an Executive Committee member or BritSoc@gmail.com no later than 8 April 2012.

Lecture Supper

The British Society is pleased to announce the first lecture-supper of the 2012 cycle, to be held on Wednesday 7th March starting 19:30 hrs. at The Anglo School in Carrasco (María Saldún de Rodríguez 2195).

This time the event will feature not only words, but music too. Up-and-coming British actors Sheila Grant, Christopher Anderton and Hugo Halbrich will be taking time off from the rehearsals for the musical 'The Feather Pillow', which will be presented in Montevideo 21 to 23 March (see Anglo News), to entertain us with songs and routines from their repertory.

As usual, the entertainment will be followed by dinner which in this occasion will consist of cold chicken curry with rice and green salads, followed by walnut and prune shortcake with cream sauce for dessert, all of which will be prepared especially for the event by our excellent Community cooks.

On this occasion, tickets will be at \$350 for members and \$450 for non-members.

Seats are limited, so book your place now at britsoc.events@gmail.com or by calling Susan McConnell on 099267413.

Proofreading is a dying art...

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter. (No comment...)

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says. (Really?)

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last A While. (You think?)

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures. (Who would have thought!)

Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors. (Boy, are they tall!)

Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead. (Did I read that right?)

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers. (Now that's taking things a bit far!)



British Embassy News

UK shares experience of Public Private Partnerships

An internationally renowned expert from HM Treasury in London, Javier Encinas, came to Uruguay in February to help the Uruguayan government introduce Public Private Partnerships (PPP). The UK is a world leader in the development of these projects which use private financing and expertise to develop public infrastructure. Uruguay is interested in using PPP initially for prison and infrastructure projects. Javier, a fluent Spanish speaker, had a busy and very productive visit to Uruguay working in the Finance Ministry's new PPP unit which will regulate the system. He was interviewed by the media and also attended a lunch with the Ambassador and Luis Porto, Vice Minister of Economy and Finance.



Our Man in Colonia

We are delighted to announce that the Embassy has appointed Roy Davies as Consular Agent in Colonia. Roy is already known to many members of the British community as manager of the Sheraton hotel in Colonia. He has worked for Starwood Hotels for 7 years and has lived in Chile, Australia and Argentina. Roy is married and has three children. Last year half of the 15000 British visitors to Uruguay entered the country via Colonia. The visitors come to Colonia all year round and not only in the peak tourist season. The appointments of Roy Davies in Colonia and Andrew Beare in Punta del Este will help the Embassy provide better service to British nationals in case of emergency.

The Fray Bentos Connection with Britain: Still going strong

The Uruguayan authorities are keen to have the historic Anglo Frigorífico and the Anglo neighbourhood in Fray Bentos declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. This will be a challenge because it would be the first industrial site in Uruguay to be recognized by UNESCO. The Embassy responded to a recent request from Intendente Omar Lafluf and helped bring an English Heritage expert, Keith Falconer, to Fray Bentos. Keith was responsible, along with an Advisory Panel, for developing a thematic approach to the UK's industrial World Heritage Sites. There are currently eight UK industrial areas designated as World Heritage Sites and a further four are being considered. Keith worked with the enthusiastic team in Rio Negro to prepare their bid for the next stage of the UNESCO process. He enjoyed his first visit to Uruguay and was given a very warm reception by his hosts in Fray Bentos, including a late-night asado at the home of Intendente Lafluf.



Facebook

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Anglo News

THE LONDON TOURING THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

A new play in English about the author of South America's most famous horror story



THE FEATHER PILLOW

A life of Horacio Quiroga, by Jonathan Lamb
with Chris Anderton and Sheila Grant
from London's West End
and Hugo Halbrich

21-23 March 2012 at 9pm

Anglo Centro, San José 1426

Tickets \$450 (RED UTS), \$350 before 29 Feb

Not for children under 13





Club de Lunch News

El primer almuerzo del año del Club Lunch Uruguayo Británico se llevará a cabo el día miércoles 7 de marzo a las 12:15. en el hotel NH Columbia. En esta ocasión el Expositor Invitado será: PRESBITERO GONZALO AEMILIUS, quien disertará sobre la experiencia del Liceo Jubilar que es la demostración exitosa de cómo se puede cambiar el panorama educativo en un barrio marginal y elevar socialmente a los jóvenes de su entorno.

PRESBITERO GONZALO AEMILIUS es Profesor de Filosofía y cursa una licenciatura en la Universidad de Montevideo. En 2005 obtuvo una Licenciatura en

Teología, es Profesor de Epistemología y de Teoría del Conocimiento.

Desde 2005 es Director General del Liceo Jubilar Responsable de su operación diaria:

- Formó un equipo con un fuerte compromiso para garantizar un buen proceso educativo.
- Responsable de conseguir financiamiento, que ha permitido aumentar la capacidad en un 300%
- Junto a su Equipo se ha ido creando modelo de educación privada en los barrios pobres que actualmente está siendo estudiado para ser replicado en el país.

Montevideo Players News

The Anglo's first cultural event of the year, comedy show "My Bass and Other Animals" by English session bassist, songwriter and comedian Guy Pratt will be a very interesting show indeed. It will be presented on Thursday 1 March, 2012 starting 20:30 at the Anglo's Millington Drake Theatre (see Anglo News for further details).

As a very special offer, members of the Montevideo Players are being offered an exclusive 2x1 on all tickets purchased. Members can purchase their special offer tickets ONLY at the Millington Drake Theatre's box office (San Jose 1426, telephone 29018819), which is open Wednesdays to Fridays from 18:00 to 21:00, and weekends from 14:00 to 21:00.

All other tickets can be purchased through the Red UTS network at the regular price.

Restaurant of the Month

by Tim Plaehn
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Cafe Martinez

Cafe Martinez, located on Jose Ellauri at the corner of J.M. Montero offers the top spot in Punta Carretas for coffee, items from the light menu and an excellent dessert selection. Cafe Martinez is a chain of cafes based in Buenos Aires with two franchise locations in Montevideo. The cafes in Carrasco and Punta Carretas are franchise operations under different ownership.

The Punta Carretas Cafe Martinez – the only one discussed here – has outdoor seating with four tables and umbrellas and seating in the upscale and modern interior for up to 40 guests. Service is sit down with a waiter to take orders or you can order a coffee any menu item to-go at the counter.

The coffee used by Cafe Martinez is roasted by the parent company in Buenos Aires and imported to Montevideo. Customers often claim the coffee is the best in the city. Coffee choices range from the traditional expresso, americano and cappuccino to

specialty cappuccino drinks with dulce de leche, chocolate, almond and vanilla flavours. Other drink choices include fresh squeezed orange juice, licuados de fruta, coke, beer, wine and whiskey.

The menu gives a range of choices from fresh medialunas and tostadas for breakfast plus hot sandwiches and soup for lunch. The tortes and other desserts are custom prepared for the cafe and selection of choices is always on hand. The Cafe Martinez home office changes the menu twice a year, adding new items which have been tested in Buenos Aires. Currently available are waffles with ice cream.

The cafe is open from 8:00 to 8:00, Monday through Saturday. Prices are at the high end of the range for coffee shops in and around the Punta Carretas shopping center. The level of service provided by the staff will pleasantly surprise you along the top quality of the beverage and menu choices.



Lamb Chops

by Jonathan Lamb
vozinglesa@gmail.com

Not much time for original compositions this month with all the flurry of activity over The Feather Pillow (see separate poster), so here are some details of the visiting actors. They are seriously good - don't miss them at the lecture supper on 7 March.

CHRISTOPHER ANDERTON (Quiroga when younger) was a youth footballer with West Bromwich Albion before learning drama at the Manchester Metropolitan School of Theatre under David Shirley, David Salter, Gabriel Gawin and others. Chris's stage credits include Three Sisters, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Amadeus, Women Beware Women and A Flea in Her Ear. Since leaving drama school he has worked with some of the top figures in British opera, including David McVicar and Paul Curran. As well as The Tsar's Bride and Adriana Lecouvreur, Chris has just finished a stint at the Coliseum with the English National Opera in Der Rosenkavalier.

SHEILA GRANT (Alicia). Originally from Scotland, Sheila trained in London where she took a first in Dance and Theatre Performance. She went on to star in the musical Cabaret, directed by Rufus Norris, at the Lyric Theatre in the West End, and then performed in Rodgers & Hammerstein's Carousel at the Savoy Theatre where she understudied and played the part of Louise Bigelow. She has also worked in/with: Stephen Sondheim's Follies, the new musical Don Juan, the emerging contemporary dance company EIC Dance Theatre, and the film London Paris New York, which is due for international release in March 2012.

HUGO HALBRICH (Quiroga when older) has been in around a hundred productions, training in New York with Mitchell Nestor, Raul Juliá and Harold Clurman, and in Argentina with Augusto Fernandes. In New York his acting credits include Tender Offer, Desert and Twelfth Night, and In Buenos Aires Fool for Love,

Antony and Cleopatra and Richard II. He has directed works including Our Country's Good, Top Girls, Action, One For The Road, The Country Club and others. In B.A. he is currently President of community theatre The Suburban Players, and Artistic Director of Actor's Repertory Theatre at the British Arts Centre.

Quorfy

Just stumbled across this New York accent sample - lovely.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eknHlhXDNRI&feature=fwwrel>

Text:

Hi, my name's Barbara, I'm thirty-four years old, I live in New York, I got a daughter Victoria, and we got a dog named Spot. Victoria's generally a wonderful kid, awesome kid, but this one time, she comes up to me, she goes 'Ma! Can I feed the dog some coffee?' I says, 'No Victoria, what's wrong with you? You cannot feed the dog the coffee. Dogs are supposed to have water, not coffee. I mean, come on.' So I go out with my friends, I come back later that night, Victoria comes up to me again. Says 'Ma, I fed the dog some coffee.' I go 'Victoria, what did you do that for, I mean come on, really? What are you, what are you, stupid?' So now I got a dead dog, a dumb daughter, and no coffee.

The Artist

Delightful film, beautifully made, with the best leading lady and leading dog ever. 97% on Rotten Tomatoes. But take a tip and don't buy it on a bootleg CD - this one really has to be seen in a cinema, with extra popcorn.

Obituary

William "Billy" Bolger (1930-2012)

At the age of 82, William "Billy" Bolger, passed away on 22 February last. Billy, the older brother of David, worked at General Motors for many years. Our condolences go to his widow, Sara Lara, his brother, David, sister-in-law, Patricia and his grandchildren, nephews and nieces.



Back In Time

by Tony Beckwith
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The Tablado

The first few months of the year in Montevideo were, it seemed to me when I was growing up, all about carnival. We lived in Pocitos in the 1950s and early 1960s, on 26 de Marzo between José Osorio and Pereira de la Luz. Then as now, it was a busy thoroughfare, but the intersections led off to quiet streets with tree-lined pavements and residential homes. Quiet, that is, except during February and March, the tablado season.

Tablados were makeshift stages; raised wooden platforms that stood about 5 or 6 feet high and were as wide as the street. Though temporary, they were sturdily built, usually with a painted backdrop or curtains that provided a small backstage area, with steps on either side, and coloured lights strung on wires and poles to light the stage. The lights were essential, since tablados were only used at night. Every night.

Theoretically, the carnival was supposed to be celebrated over three nights, but it actually lasted for weeks. In fact, people used to boast that the carnival in Uruguay was the longest in the world. Neighbourhoods and any number of clubs and organizations were represented by their comparsas—groups of drummers and dancers that could range from a couple of dozen to a couple of hundred—and competed with each other to be the best of the season. These groups spent many hours rehearsing their numbers and creating their costumes, which were sometimes as lavish as any used in major theatrical productions. The women wore colourful, exotic, and frequently skimpy outfits, evocative of the uninhibited displays that made the carnival in Rio de Janeiro famous. My brother and I used to go into town for the *llamadas*, the gathering of groups whose drummers played intoxicating *candombe* rhythms in a cultural ritual with roots that ran through Uruguay's black population all the way back to Africa. The *corso* parades down Avenida 18 de Julio were almost more exciting than I could bear, with deafening drumming, bright lights, decorated floats, *cabezudos* (big heads), and scantily clad carnival queens of all ages dancing in the street. Highly excited crowds thronged the sidewalks, laughing, shouting, throwing coloured *serpentina* (paper streamers) and *papelito* (confetti), and squirting water from *pomitos* (plastic tubes) at the unwary.

The tablados, by comparison, were on a smaller, *barrio* scale. They weren't quite as overwhelming, and

I loved them. Every year there was one fairly close to where I lived, and I used to go there in the evenings to watch the *murgas*, which fascinated me. Though the music played by the Uruguayan *murga* is undeniably African in origin, the ensemble's style is descended from the Spanish *zarzuela* and is more of a theatrical performance than the wild rhythm-and-dance of the *comparsa*. The *murga* was born here in the very early 1900s as a variation on the traditional *mascaradas* which had been around since the previous century. There were usually between 13 and 17 members in a *murga*, usually all men, some of whom played percussion instruments while others did the singing. They performed satirical sketches set to music, drawing on local politics and current events to spoof and lampoon anything and anyone in the news. The instruments recalled the *murga's* European heritage: a *bombo* (shallow bass drum extending horizontally from the waist), *redoblante* (snare drum), and *platillos* (cymbals). The performers wore elaborate costumes reminiscent of Italian carnival and theatre. They were, I thought, hugely entertaining, and for a while in my teens I nurtured a secret ambition to be a *murguista*.

But the tablado was much more than a stage production. It was also a street party, with constant music blaring from speakers and crowds of people mingling—mainly the immediate neighbours who surely had mixed feelings about the nightly *fiesta* right on their doorstep. The carnival experience was largely about fantasy and blowing off steam, so we could wear costumes if we felt so inclined, or paint our faces in the *lubolo* (blackface) style, or at the very least wear a mask and imagine ourselves to be mysterious and interesting to that special someone. The street food was delicious: vendors set up portable *parrillas* and served *chivitos* and *chorizos* on fresh bread rolls. There was plenty of cold beer and *demijohns* of red wine. Those with a sweet tooth could always find a *postre chajá* or something with *dulce de leche* in it. Many, of course, had their own mate and thermos, but there was usually a cup of coffee available somewhere for those who wanted something hot to sip on before heading home to rest. It was important to get some rest, since the fun would all start up again tomorrow, and none of us wanted to miss a minute of the carnival.

Note: Pedro Figari (1861-1938), the Uruguayan painter, produced many fine paintings of *candombe* and other carnival-related themes that help to understand the origins of the Uruguayan carnival. See: <http://www.pedrofigari.com/D.html>



The Muddled Lady

“The Iron Lady”, is a biographical British film about Margaret Thatcher, the United Kingdom’s longest serving Prime Minister of the 20th century.

Directed by Phyllida Lloyd, best known for her work in theatre and as the director of *Mamma Mia!* (the most financially successful British film ever released), the film looks into the years of Thatcher’s life following her time as Prime Minister.

Thatcher is portrayed primarily by Meryl Streep, but also – in her formative and early political years – by Alexandra Roach. Thatcher’s husband, Denis Thatcher, is portrayed by Jim Broadbent, and Thatcher’s longest-serving cabinet member and eventual deputy, Geoffrey Howe, is portrayed by Anthony Head.

The film has met mixed reviews, though Meryl Streep’s performance has been uniformly acclaimed. Roger Moore, of the *Chicago Tribune*: “Streep is wondrous as usual, but her superpowers have been squandered here”. Tom Long, of the *Detroit News*: “The Iron Lady is a performance in search of a film”. Ann Hornaday, of the *Washington Post*: “Streep’s performance is so true and so uncannily accurate, so full and so complete in its understanding, that she is fascinating every second she is on screen”. Mick LaSalle, of the *San Francisco Chronicle*: “Although this film contains a great performance by Streep and strong supporting performances, the muddled multi-flashback story spends far too much time on Thatcher’s late life mental problems”.

The Franco-British picture is far from the hatchet job most were predicting. It chooses to portray Thatcher as a plucky underdog defying a male-dominated establishment. But it is bewilderingly single-minded about missing out everything that made her a unique and formidable figure.

Which of the following five statements about Thatcher is true?

1. She inherited a bankrupt economy in hock to the International Monetary Fund. Her free-market policies left the British economy competitive in the world’s marketplace.

2. Her empowering social policies include the sale of council houses to their tenants, giving ordinary people a stake in a property-owning democracy. Even the Labour Party dropped opposition to the scheme by 1992, because they knew it was losing them votes.

3. She argued so strongly against involvement in the European Monetary Union and membership of the Euro that her Cabinet colleagues conspired successfully to bring her down. Her much-ridiculed prediction was that a single currency could not accommodate industrial powerhouses such as Germany and backward

countries such as Greece.

4. She is now senile and talks a great deal to the ghost of her long-dead husband Denis.

Actually, all of them are true, but according to the script of this film the first three are too insignificant to merit inclusion in a 105-minute movie, while the fifth – though dubious and of little significance – warrants more than half-an-hour of screen time. It’s hard to know what screenwriter Abi Morgan was thinking. Perhaps she felt spending so much time on Thatcher’s recent ill health would engender sympathy. Or, perhaps she feels senility is divine retribution for past crimes. It’s impossible to tell.

The rest of the movie consists of a gallop through some of the major events in her life, without much of an attempt to analyse whether she was right or wrong in her handling of the miners’ strike, the IRA bombing at Brighton, the Falklands conflict, et al.

It’s too bad the film glides over Thatcher’s interest in chemistry and the law. Convincing though Alexandra Roach is as the young Margaret, there’s no mention of her career as a research chemist or her training to become a barrister. As far as the movie is concerned, she went straight from Oxford into politics. The fact she didn’t, strikes me as central to her beliefs and abilities.

Of the supporting cast, Anthony Head stands out with an accurate impersonation of Sir Geoffrey Howe. On the other hand, the normally excellent Jim Broadbent is lumbered with a caricature based – it would seem – on the *Private Eye* column Dear Bill.

There’s no room in the movie for Keith Joseph or Nicholas Ridley, two of Mrs Thatcher’s most formidable intellectual mentors, or her most loyal henchman, Norman Tebbit.

The men around her – with two exceptions: her advisor Airey Neave (played by Julian Wadham) and strategist Gordon Reece (played by Roger Allam) – are depicted as bumbling incompetents or jealous chauvinists.

That’s typical of the film’s distortions. It consistently, and predictably, sacrifices complexity and depth in order to pretend that Margaret Thatcher was something she never set out to be: a feminist icon. That, of course, is not why she deserves commemoration. She deserves to be studied because she was right about so many things, and carried out her public duties despite hysterical abuse from most of the political and media establishment.

Small wonder this is what interests these film-makers least!



Medical Column

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

The Silver Tsunami

I didn't invent the term, but when I read it for the first time, it was used to describe the surge in emergency department use by persons 65 years old in Hawaii in 2011. Last year, the first generation of 'Baby-Boomers' (those born in the USA between 1946 and 1964) hit the magic 65-year birthday. From then on, they were entitled to coverage by the only state-run universal health coverage in the USA, called 'Medicare'. It is expected that similar situations will spread throughout the country in the following years, straining health care systems and organizations logistically, materially, financially and requiring more and more manpower, to be managed adequately. Over the last decade, ageing at the same year-at-a-time rate as my patients, I have become aware that an ever-increasing amount of my clinical time is devoted to caring for those who are above 70, 80 and 90.

When I graduated more than thirty years ago, anybody living beyond 70 was considered 'very old'. As we enter the second decade of this century, the number of my above-90 patients is steadily increasing. Although some of them are pretty good physically and mentally, most rely to some or a great extent on the constant presence of caregivers, be them family or trained caregivers, either at their home or within residential facilities.

People now live longer and one of the mostly used explanations is that they have received better healthcare than prior generations. Although many have been cured and survived severe acute illnesses, the main reasons lie outside of medical care: better

nutrition, better sanitation, better housing and better social resources explain why people live healthier to older ages. However, time takes its toll on our biology and reliance on health care services increases disproportionately as we add decades to our lifetimes. For example, a recent investigation by our geriatricians who work at the British Hospital showed that inpatient hospital use as a percentage of total hospitalizations increases with each decade above 65 years: persons aged 65 to 74 are 6.4%, but are 8.3% of all admissions; persons aged 75 and older are 3.5%, but are 10.8% of all admissions. But this only takes into account inpatient care; most of the care takes place at home and in residential facilities, where the caregivers are family members, contracted or voluntary helpers, nursing staff, physical therapists, nutritionists and one or more physicians, depending on the number of ailments the person has. This is in part reflected in the 'capitation' the Fondo Nacional de Salud (FONASA) pays for above -65 affiliate to the mutualistas: the 'capita' per affiliate per month is 5 times as much as the average healthy under-30 affiliate.

When we think about what medical care in the future will look like, we are tempted to think of high-tech diagnostic and surgical equipment, newer medications and even genetic manipulation. Reality, however, will force us to create systems that will integrate health care with all the other services the ageing will need. Medical care by itself has had little to do with present day longevity, but the innovations in store may well be doing this job after all... pushing the buck forward to the next generations...

For Sale

Boy's Scottish outfit for sale.

Condition: used only once – like new!

- Kilt: Royal Stewart tartan, 4 yards, for ages 6-10 - US\$125

Matching accessories:

- Royal Stewart tartan tie - US\$30
- Leather belt with thistle on buckle - US\$35
- Leather sporran with chain - US\$40

Complete set: US\$200

Contact: Jane Silverwood, jane.silverwood@fco.gov.uk, 099658491



CLOSET REFEREE OUTED: PRENTICE REVEALED

With few sportsmen in our midst to talk to, the best we can do this month is an interview with someone who is a professional football referee: step forward our own Jon Prentice. Jon is perhaps better known amongst us for his language school, Eureka, or for his volunteer work with the Montevideo Players. However we have discovered that he is another member of the community with a talent, which he has kept very well hidden - until now. Others amongst us have other interests which would also bring us into disrepute if they became widely known, but not many are prepared to face the public ridicule and venom that goes with being a ref. So why does he do it?

Jon says that he got his qualification in order to give something back to the game and not out of any pseudo-fascist desire to exercise control. But let's face it, there's something about putting on a uniform that we all like, isn't there? Jon got his badges and his yellow and red cards whilst still at Cambridge University – he also managed to get a degree as well, so he didn't totally waste his time. At the time Jon was by all accounts quite a good player, in the Nobby Stiles variety – assuming you consider Nobby Stiles to have been quite a good player. Jon does also admit that being a ref has taught him how to use some of the darker arts of defending.

Jon is a fan of Howard Webb, notwithstanding some of his error prone performances. He does say that if he were reffing the last World Cup Final, one or three of the Holland players would have been sent to jail rather than just given a yellow card. He also accepts that it should be impossible for a ref to give three yellow cards to the same player in the same match, as Webb famously also did in a World Cup match. Jon says he has never done that. Indeed he says the worst thing he has had to do was send off a young kid, who promptly burst into tears.

Jon's suggestions to improve the game include creating a 10 minute Sin Bin for yellow card offences and a distance penalty for talking back to the ref – both of which already work well in Rugby. He would also allow goal line technology to remove doubts. A bit too late for Frankie Lampard, but better late than never. If Seff Blatter is reading this, please take note.

Jon has not reffed a match yet in Uruguay, but at our special request he has agreed to come out of retirement to officiate at next months inaugural British Society 5-a-side tournament (see below for details). Those of us whose best football days are way behind us, but have been working on our Kung Fu, will hope that Jon is in a lenient mood for that.

BRITISH SOCIETY 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

We are pleased to announce that the powers that be have given approval to us holding a 5-a-side football tournament. A date has yet to be fixed, but it will be sometime in April, with the idea being to do it all on one Saturday afternoon.

We hope that all the member societies of the British Society will form a team – the Hospital Guild and the residents of the Sir Winston Churchill Home are exempt, but can play if they want. Other companies or societies with a British connection are also invited to put up a team.

Teams should be of 7 players max and must have at least two 30 year old (or more) players on the pitch at any one time.

For more details please contact me at mteuten@teutenabogados.com



Crossword Puzzle

By **LEONARD THANE**

#14

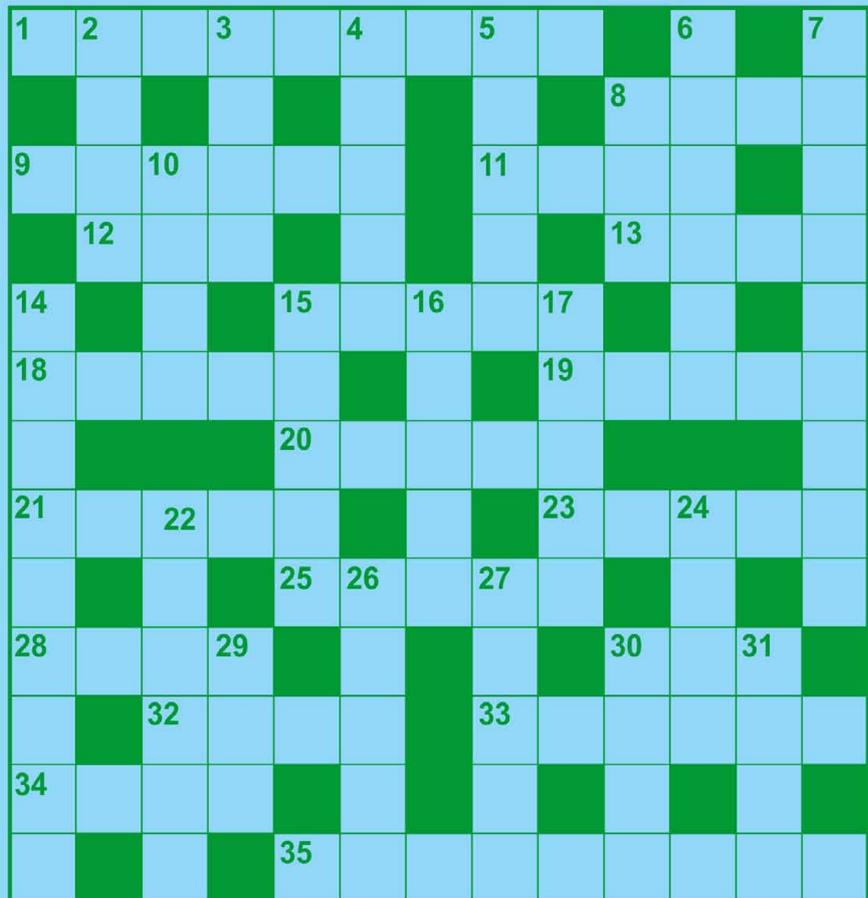
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

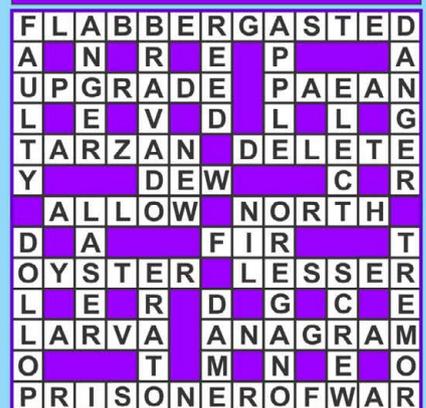
- 1) Dwelling place, home.
- 8) Russian ruler of old.
- 9) Secret, known only by the initiated.
- 11) Chess piece, castle.
- 12) Tree of the beech family.
- 13) Sty dwellers.
- 15) Different.
- 18) Element 54.
- 19) In the normal volume of the speaking voice.
- 20) After part of a vessel.
- 21) Platform for performers.
- 23) A range of mountains.
- 25) Give instruction.
- 28) Famous English college.
- 30) Abraham's nephew.
- 32) To understand the meaning of something written.
- 33) Enmity, strong dislike.
- 34) On line conversation.
- 35) Conspicuous.

Down

- 2) European currency.
- 3) Asian country.
- 4) Put into vigorous action.
- 5) Swearword.
- 6) Inuit.
- 7) Republican chief of state.
- 8) Highest point, summit.
- 10) Abel's murderer.
- 14) Life.
- 15) Beginning, start.
- 16) Laughing carnivore.
- 17) Large farm for raising livestock.
- 22) Hooded pullover jacket.
- 24) Elemental particle.
- 26) Older, influential member of a community.
- 27) Gorge, deep cleft in the earth's surface.
- 29) Court divider.
- 30) The king of the jungle.
- 31) To change or convert.



Crossword # 13





Chef In Residence

by Joanna Mullee
joannamullee@hotmail.com

Roasted Plums with Almonds and Cinnamon Ice Cream

Ingredients:

- 2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 Lt vanilla ice cream, softened
- 8 Plums halved and de-stoned
- 3 Tbsp soft brown sugar
- 3 Tbsp flaked almonds lightly toasted

Preparation:

1. Stir the cinnamon into the ice cream and return to the freezer.
2. Preheat oven to 200C / 400F / Gas 6.
3. Put the plums (cut side up) in a roasting tin and sprinkle with the sugar.
4. Roast for 15 minutes or until plums are soft.
5. Preheat the grill to high.
6. Sprinkle the almonds on top of the plums and place under the grill for 2 - 3 minutes until the fruit is browned around the edges and the almonds are golden.
7. Leave to cool a little then serve with a scoop of the ice cream.

Smoothies

Raspberries and Figs

- 125g fresh or frozen raspberries
- 2 ripe figs - chopped
- 125mls natural yogurt
- 125mls milk
- 2 tsp honey
- A good handful of crushed ice

Put all ingredients into a blender and whizz until smooth. (serves 2)

Zumo

- 1 large ripe banana
- 150g strawberries, washed and hulled
- 250mls orange juice (fresh is best!)
- A hand full of ice

Put all ingredients into a blender and whizz until smooth.

Community Outreach

As we are all aware there are lives being lived out in the marginalized areas of our city somewhat removed from our own.

Just this week Helen was offered an abandoned shell to be a home for her and her two small children. No roof, no floor, no windows, no door and no loo. But she's young, on her own, desperate, and is there every day hoping to make a home with breeze blocks and 'chapas' and other donations.

If you have been looking for a way to help, this could be a great start. Please call Liz Cowley on 2710 28 09 or 099692757



Future Events

- ▶ **Sunday 8th April**
 - ▶ Easter Services at Christ Church and Holy Trinity Cathedral.
- ▶ **Wednesday 18th April**
 - ▶ British Society Annual General Meeting.

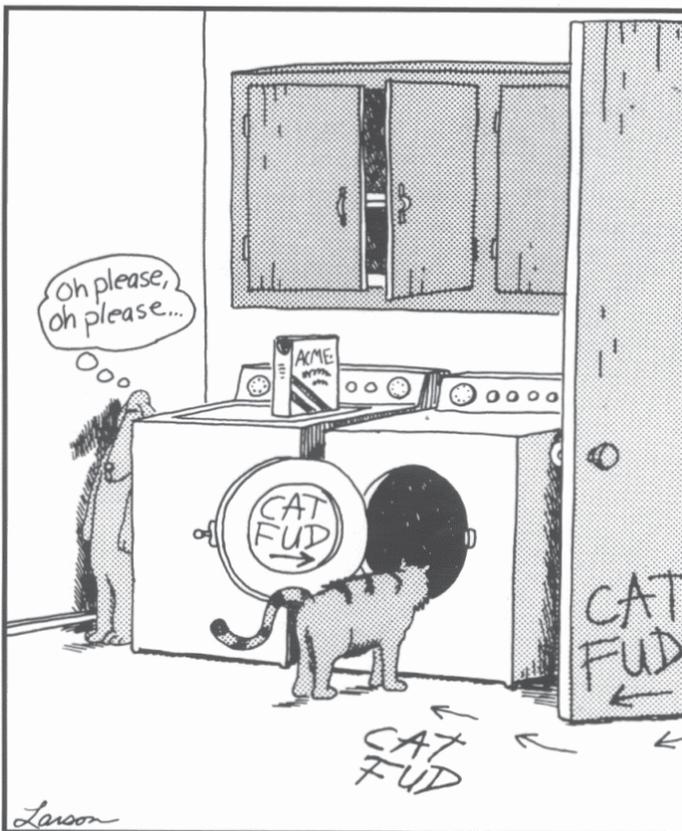
Link Of The Month

Don't tease the frog!
<http://www.youtube.com/v/WIEzvdIYRes>



The Far Side

by Gary Larson



The Society At A Glance

Executive Committee



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