



THE BRITISH SOCIETY
IN URUGUAY

-Contact

September 2016

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British-Uruguayan Club

25 years of
Forestry Promotion
in Uruguay

www.britsoc.org.uy



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BSU CONTACT Newsletter

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Montevideo, Uruguay



PRESIDENT'S WORDS

Dear members,

August saw the screening of a moving documentary on the Battle of the Somme at the British Residence, probably the last event we will have there before the departure of Ambassador Ben Lyster-Binns. Those who were unable to make it missed a very enjoyable evening.

This month will see us try out a new event format: an after-office, at which Derek Tyler will talk to us about the causes and implications of Brexit. And the British Society croquet tournament, another lecture-supper and our annual trip up country are beginning to loom on the event horizon... don't miss out!

At last April's British Society Council meeting, this Executive Committee set itself a number of goals for the 2016-2017 period. These were as follows:

- 1) reach 1,000 subscribers to our Newsletter (700 at the time),
- 2) reach 3,000 followers in Facebook (1500 at the time),
- 3) increase membership by at least 20% (300 at the time),
- 4) increase Society funds by 10%,
- 5) increase Society appeal to the young,
- 6) increase usefulness of Society membership,
- 7) increase Society presence outside Montevideo, especially in Maldonado,
- 8) review Society statutes, as per lawyers' recommendations.

You will be glad to know that the first three goals are well on their way to being achieved, only 4 months into the two-year period! And we are working hard on the rest. I am counting on you, our members, to hold us to these goals come the time and help us to attain them before then. :)

Richard A. Empson





UPCOMING EVENTS

1-3 September at 20:00

Chicago the Musical

British Schools Auditorium, Havre 2271

Organised by: The British Schools

Saturday, 3 September at 9:00

St. Andrew's Golf Tournament

The Cerro Golf Club, Punta de Lobos s/n casi Pasaje Este, Montevideo

Organised by: St. Andrew's Society in Uruguay

Tuesday, 6 September at 12:15

Lunch Invitation

Hotel NH Columbia, Rambla Gran Bretaña 473

Organised by: Club Uruguayo Británico

Tuesdays, starting 6 September

The Marriage Course

Christ Church, Arocena 1907 esq. Lieja

Organised by: Christ Church

7-18 September

British Pavilion

Expo Prado, Av. Lucas Obes 1011

Organised by: British Embassy

Monday, 8 September at 18:30

After-Office Talk

Sala William Shakespeare, San José 1426

Organised by: BSU & Instituto Anglo

Friday, 16 September at 19:00

Cultural Project Talk

British Cemetery Chapel, Gral. Rivera 3868

Organised by: British Cemetery

19-21 September at 19:30

Emotions - Series of Lectures

Christ Church, Arocena 1907 esq. Lieja

Organised by: Christ Church

Saturday, 1 October at 20:30

Caledonian Ball 2016

Punta Carretas Golf Club, Bvr. Gral. Artigas 379

Organised by: St. Andrew's Society in Uruguay

SOCIAL NEWS

This Month's Birthdays!

4/9	Daniela Caraballo de Beare
9/9	Daniel Pereira Pierce
13/9	Billy Beare
15/9	Prince Harry of Wales
19/9	Paul Beare
22/9	Clarissa Whitaker
28/9	George Beare
30/9	Jeanine Beare de Cash

New Members:

Federico Guillermo Carter

Gloria Trelles

Patricia Rohr

Roderick Cameron



When is your birthday?

Do you know any member's birthday or special occasion that we can publish here and celebrate together?

Let us know at editor@britsoc.org.uy



AFTER-OFFICE TALK

The British Society in Uruguay and the Anglo-Uruguayan Cultural Institute invite you to "Brexit, the Causes and Implications", an after-office talk by Derek Tyler on the most important event in British history of the last 50 years.

Thursday 8th September at 6:30 pm Sala William Shakespeare (San José 1426).

Derek Tyler was born in Britain but has been based in Uruguay since 2005. After studying economics at university, Derek worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in London, Chicago and New York. Subsequently Derek became finance director for the London operations of the large Swiss bank, UBS. At UBS he was involved in issues relating to the use of the "single passport" to carry out business throughout the EU. On leaving UBS in 1998, Derek became a freelance executive and worked in a wide variety of countries (including those in South America) in the areas of finance and project management. One of the companies with whom he worked was Lloyds TSB - which in Uruguay has now become part of Banco Heritage. These days Derek's activities are mainly in the voluntary sector, including talks to students / teachers on cultural and business themes at Instituto Cultural Anglo-Uruguayo in Montevideo.



The Brexit vote has been described as the most important event in the history of the United Kingdom over the last 50 years. What were the factors which influenced the voters? As a result of the vote, Britain is divided. So what will be the consequences, not only for Britain but also for the European Union? The talk aims to explore these issues and more, starting with a quick look at the historical relation between the UK and Europe and at the way the EU has developed, then analysing the election campaign and the vote itself, to finally explore the consequences of the vote for the UK, the EU and beyond. For example, how will Brexit influence the negotiations between the EU and Mercosur towards a free trade agreement? What sort of future agreement might the UK reach with the EU in order to achieve its objective of free access to the single market while maintaining control over immigration?

**Don't miss out! Book your place now
with secretary@britsoc.org.uy
or 094 384 020.**

**Pricing:
\$250 for members of the Society
and \$300 for non-members.
Nibbles included!**

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL HOME

On Tuesday 2nd August, Ambassador Ben Lyster-Binns, together with his wife Belinda and their children Corisande, Phoebe and Algie, joined the residents for tea.

It was very much appreciated and enjoyed. Not only did they provide them with their company but also they brought along some jig-saw puzzles for the Residents.



On Saturday 12th August, José Brignoni turned up as he does every fortnight to show films and spend a wonderful time watching films, chatting and eating popcorn. This time he showed a brief "History of the Royal Family".





BRITISH EMBASSY

SEE YOU ALL IN EXPO PRADO

The Embassy, together with the Rural Association ARU is getting ready to manage the British Pavilion at Expo Prado for the third year in a row. One of the highlights will be the focus on agricultural technology with a series of lectures by British and Uruguayan experts on 14-16 September. A pub run by Craft Beer Bar will serve six types of typical British beer and a Tea House by Nuez & Chocolate will cater for breakfast, lunch and dinner besides delicious typical British Tea including Welsh Cakes. We look forward to welcoming you all from 7-18 September. More information on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).



CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIPS NOW OPEN!

Applications are open until 8 November for a Chevening scholarship to study a Masters degree in any area at any UK university, all costs covered. The Embassy along with the Graduates of British Universities Association GBUA and the National Agency for Research and Innovation ANII (who co-funds some of the scholarships) are providing informative lectures at different universities in Montevideo and in the Expo Prado 2016 open to the public. The next dates are: Saturday 10th September, 14:00 hours, Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias de la Educación, Universidad de la República and Saturday 17th September, 17:00 hours, Sala de Conferencias ARU, Expo Prado. More information on our [Facebook](#) and [Chevening page](#).



BRITISH EMBASSY ...Continued

TRAINING ON COUNTERFEIT DOCUMENTS

Michael Purton, from the Risk and Liaison Overseas Network (RALON) at the British Embassy in Bogota, Colombia, visited Uruguay to train key local stakeholders, such as airline staff, immigration authorities and other international partners and organisations, on how to mitigate the risk posed by passengers carrying forged or counterfeit documents on international flights.



FAREWELL

The Embassy team bid a warm farewell to Belinda, Corisande, Phoebe and Algie Lyster-Binns who left Uruguay for good a few months ahead of the Ambassador. As Residence Manager Belinda successfully led events, oversaw refurbishments and redecoration projects. They all enjoyed very much their time in Uruguay and promised to visit again soon!



HERITAGE DAY

Please note that this year we will not be able to open the Residence to the public for the Día del Patrimonio due to works at the Residence.



Embajada Británica
Montevideo



GRADUATES OF BRITISH UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION

MEET THE CLASS OF 2016-17

Late in July we had confirmation of 29 Chevening Scholars leaving for the 2016-17 term. Excellent news!

As in previous years, we organised a gathering for all those going to study in the UK and their partners so that they got to know each other in a speed-dating format, pint-in-hand, in the relaxed atmosphere of La Chopería (21 de Setiembre and Bonpland). We were honoured to receive HM Ambassador Ben Lyster-Binns along with the Head of the Diplomatic Service Sir Simon McDonald who got right in the mix getting to know them all.





GRADUATES OF BRITISH UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION

Last month we let you know about the scholars that will be returning later this year,
but who are the ones leaving?

María Elena Arretche

MSc - International Marketing with
Tourism and Events
Edinburgh Napier University

Nicolás Brener

MSc - Public Management and Governance
Birkbeck, University of London

Emilio Deagosto

MSc - Renewable Energy Enterprise and
Management
Newcastle University

Florencia Donagaray

MA - Media Production (Children's TV Production)
University of Salford

Sofía Duarte

MSc - Supply Chain and Logistics Management
University of Warwick

María Elena Fernández

MA - Sustainable Design
Kingston University

Federico Goldenberg

MSc - Renewable Energy Enterprise and
Management
Newcastle University

Camila Gottlieb

MA - Learning, Technology and Education
University of Nottingham

Florencia Guidali

MSc - Pharmaceutical Technology
King's College London

Catalina Igoa

MSc - Energy Engineering w/Environmental
Management
University of East Anglia

Agustín Iturralde

MSc - Political Economy of Late Development
LSE, University of London

Daniela Kaiser

MPhil - Criminological Research
University of Cambridge

Silvina Lindner

MA - International Political Economy
King's College London

Antonio Manzi

MSc - Public Policy and Management
King's College London

María Sofía Mascari

MA - International Relations
Queen Mary, University of London

Maia Mombru

MSc - Nanoscience and Functional Nanomaterials
University of Bristol

María Eugenia Olaso

MSc - Energy Trade and Finance
City University

Matilde Peñagaricano

MSc - Public Policy and Management
University of Glasgow

Andrea Pérez

MDes - Service Design Innovation
Ravensbourne

Nicolás Pose

MSc - International Political Economy
LSE, University of London

Stephanie Rezk

MSc - Biodevices
University of Southampton

José Ignacio Rocca

MSc - Human Computer Interaction
University of Birmingham

José Leandro Secco

LLM in Law
Queen Mary, University of London

Micaela Sureda

MSc - Regenerative Medicine (Science and
Application)
Queen Mary, University of London

Diego Tarallo

MA - Media and International Development
University of East Anglia UEA

Santiago Theoduloz

LLM in Law
Queen Mary, University of London

Martín Tucci

MSc - Energy Trade and Finance
City University

María Elena Vidal

MSc - Climate Change and Development
University of Reading

Delfina Zagarzazú

MBA in One Planet
University of Exeter

**Congratulations to all of them,
we know they will make us proud!**



CHRIST CHURCH MONTEVIDEO

The Marriage Course For Couples, for your future!



A strong, loving and lifelong relationship doesn't happen by chance. It takes effort and dedication to keep the fun and romance alive.

We can all learn how to make even the happiest marriage better.

Starting Sept 06, during 8 Tuesday nights Christ Church will once again provide a "date night" venue for couples that is challenging, inspiring and practical and fun.

Information and signups: Lisa Hamilton 094 368 769 or j_lhamilton@hotmail.com

Emotions September Lectures at Christ Church

Dr Juan Carlos Uhia will be visiting with us again during the month of September. His lectures have been fascinating and inspiring during his two recent visits.

September 19-21 he will give a series of talks on the topic of Emotions: how they impact us and how we can grow to manage them to the mutual benefit of ourselves and those around us.

Juan Carlos is an engaging and highly qualified investigator, author, educator and business consultant with a broad curriculum including extensive work in the prisons of Colombia and a well-received television program. Each evening program will be begin at 7:30 pm.

The lectures will be in Spanish, simultaneous translation through headsets will be available for those interested.



ANGLO-URUGUAYAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE

THINKING ABOUT YOUR FUTURE? WE SHOW YOU A DIFFERENT WAY TO SUCCEED IN LIFE: IELTS

IELTS continues to be the world's most popular English language proficiency test for higher education and global migration. The demand for IELTS continues to grow as more people are taking opportunities to study or work abroad or prove their English communication skills to achieve their goals.

Adda Corbo (Examinations Officer for the Cambridge English Exams and IELTS Administrator at the ANGLO in Montevideo), explained: "We have a solid team of Examiners, Supervisors and Administrative Staff who carefully see that everything is done according to the test takers' needs and requests. More than 2.7 million IELTS tests were completed worldwide in the last 12 months. The world is changing and IELTS is recognized not only to study, but as an important tool to assess the English Language by employers in Uruguay as well. We have welcomed test takers from Uruguay, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Venezuela and India among other countries, which has been a very rich and enlightening experience."

But, why is the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) so popular? Why is it so well known all over the world? We visited the ANGLO and talked to the people who passionately work with the test every day, and this is what they said:

"The exam itself is exciting. It's very different from other exams, because of the fact that you cannot fail it. I like the fact that you get a mark for each part of the test."

M.G., Supervisor & Clerical Marker



"The variety of candidates, the exchange and interaction with them are enriching.

Every IELTS candidate is unique, they have a specific purpose for taking the test. You get to establish a more direct contact, providing information that is vital for them. IELTS is a candidate with a story and a life behind."

E.O.B., Assistant to IELTS Administrator



"The security policy definitely speaks of a very serious professional proceeding. It's always good to feel as a candidate that you are in good, expert hands. It gives a glimpse of a very professional group of people doing things right."

F.C., Speaking and Writing Examiner





ANGLO-URUGUAYAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE ...Continued

“When you get people from different nationalities and different contexts, that’s when it’s more enriching, and having to be standardized with people from other countries who work in such different contexts is one of the great assets of an exam like this. I think IELTS is far richer compared to other exams.”

G.B., potential Speaking Examiner



“I was already a teacher when I took IELTS, I just wanted to have the experience. Since I was about to start helping students prepare for the exam I felt I had to go through it myself. I liked it, a lot.”

T.P., Teacher



IELTS, also known as the test for study, work and life, offers sessions every month and results in 13 days. There is something for everybody in it. Start your future at the ANGLO with IELTS today.



ANGLO

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Email: ielts@anglo.edu.uy
www.takeielts.org

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BRITISH-URUGUAYAN CLUB



LUNCH INVITATION

TUESDAY
6 SEPTEMBER
12:15 HOURS

**25 YEARS OF FORESTRY
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ING. ALVARO MOLINARI

HOTEL NH COLUMBIA
RAMBLA GRAN BRETAÑA, 473
DRESS CODE: BUSINESS

MORE INFORMATION 





ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF URUGUAY



GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 3rd, St. Andrew's Golf Tournament

The Cerro Golf Club

The St. Andrew's Society will be holding its Golf Tournament at the Club de Golf del Cerro on 3rd September 2016. The playoff is at 9 am. This is open to anyone who wants to participate. Some of the more experienced golfers are willing to teach children to putt.

There will be different categories and extra points for those who wear something Scottish.

Make this a family outing and picnic under the trees or have lunch at the canteen.

Members of the Cerro Golf Club have a participating fee of \$100.-

Members of Punta Carretas Golf Club \$400.-

Non-members of either club a green fee of \$1,400.-

To register and for further information,
please contact Michael Warren at: mjwarren46@gmail.com or
tel: 091 048 937.

CALEDONIAN BALL 2016

October 1st, Punta Carretas Golf Club

The Caledonian Ball will take place this year at the Punta Carretas Golf Club on Saturday October 1st 2016. This year there will be two options, with or without dinner, though places available for those who prefer not to have dinner are limited. Dinner, which will be a 3 course meal and includes drinks (whiskey, wine and soft drinks), will be served at 8:30 pm. Between courses, soprano Tamara Mesa will delight us with typical Scottish and Celtic songs, and poetry she has musicalized.

The Grand March, led by the City of Montevideo Pipe Band, will be at 10:30 pm. sharp, and it is at this time those who prefer to miss the first part of the evening will join us. Between sets of Scottish dances, there will be ordinary dances, the pipers and dancers will also perform, and the door prizes will be drawn. The late comers will be served something to nibble at about midnight.

Practices and lessons are held every Saturday of September in the Gymnasium of the Punta Carretas Golf Club from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. If you don't have an eightsome, you can surely form one there or if you wish just enjoy the dinner, show and dancing.

Invitations can be acquired before September 24th from Michael Warren Tel. 091 048 937, Mariana Billotto Tel. 091 295 601 or any member of the Committee.



BRITISH CEMETERY SOCIETY

CULTURAL PROJECT 2016 PROGRAMME

"Emotional Development and Health. Our planet as living heritage"

You are invited to an open discussion and to a collective reflection on
social responsibility

Friday 16th. September - 19:00 at the Chapel.



OFFICIAL IMAGE
ENVIRONMENT DAY 2016. free/
bancoimagenesgratis.net



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CO-ORGANIZAN CEMENTERIO BRITÁNICO Y ARQ. EDUARDO MONTEMUÑO

This month's proposal has a collective input: to talk
about what we do about our environment during this
time frame which we call "LIFE". Let's spend a moment
talking about this topic, let's listen and propose things.

Our guest is an expert in Social Responsibility and
Sustainable Development. Director of the International

Programme: **Save Life - Save the Planet**

Talk by:

Engineer Andrés Senlle



AUSPICIOS

RED URUGUAYA DE CEMENTERIOS y SITIOS PATRIMONIALES
RED IBEROAMERICANA DE VALORACIÓN Y GESTIÓN DE CEMENTERIOS PATRIMONIALES
TULSU - E / FHCE/ U de la R.
BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL - URUGUAY
INTENDENCIA DE MONTEVIDEO- DIRECCIÓN DE CULTURA
MONTEVIDEO CAPITAL IBEROAMERICANA DE LA CULTURA
COMISIÓN NACIONAL DEL URUGUAY PARA LA UNESCO
DIRECCIÓN NACIONAL DE CULTURA/MEC Res 250 -2016-11-0003-0183
ASOCIACIÓN DE INTERPRETES-GUÍAS Y GUÍAS DEL URUGUAY (A.I.G.U.)
COMISIÓN DEL PATRIMONIO CULTURAL DE LA NACIÓN- MEC
EMBAJADA BRITÁNICA EN MONTEVIDEO
LIBRERÍA LINARDI Y RISSO
ASOCIACIÓN URUGUAYA DE FÚTBOL



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del XV Encuentro Iberoamericano de
Valoración y Gestión de Cementerios
Patrimoniales-Chile 2014



Comisión Nacional
para la UNESCO



En las actividades contarán con
apoyo de intérpretes de Lengua
de Señas de la TULSU Español -
FHUCE - UdelaR.





SILVER RIVER LODGE

English Freemasonry first commenced definite activities in the Republic in 1861. Eight Brethren from “Excelsior” Lodge N° 900 (now 617) and a Brother from “Teutonia” Lodge N° 1092 (since closed 1870), petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for a warrant to form a Lodge in Montevideo. This was granted in September 1861, and “Acacia” Lodge N° 1178 (now N° 876) was consecrated in February 1862. It was immediately accorded full official recognition by the Grand Orient of Uruguay, and has continued to work in harmonious cooperation with that national Masonic Authority to the present day.

“Acacia” Lodge can also claim to have had some influence upon the birth of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Argentine Republic, (now the District Grand Lodge of South America, Southern Division).

When the Grand Orient of Argentina was formed in 1858, the young Argentine Masonic Authority was naturally desirous of obtaining recognition from the established Masonic Powers of the world. At that time there were two Lodges in Buenos Aires warranted by the Grand Lodge of England, “Excelsior” N° 900 and “Teutonia” N° 1092. The Worshipful Master of “Excelsior” was approached in 1859 with a view to negotiating a Masonic Treaty between the Grand Lodge of England and the Argentine Grand Orient, and for the appointment of a Provincial Grand Master at Buenos Aires. The proposition was put before Grand Lodge in London, but Grand Lodge pointed out that a Provincial

Grand Master could not be appointed to a Masonic Province of less than three Lodges. So the matter was held up, and it looked as if the golden opportunity for founding a Provincial Grand Lodge in Argentina would be lost.

Then the “Acacia” Lodge was formed in Montevideo, making three Lodges under the Grand Lodge of England in the River Plate area. This Lodge did not go under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Buenos Aires when that body was instituted, nor has it ever formed part of the English Masonic District in the Argentine, but in 1861-62 the Grand master in London appears to have taken an accommodating view of the matter, and regarded the formation of “Acacia” Lodge as sufficient warrant for appointing a Provincial Grand Master. He was duly appointed and authorized to proceed with the negotiations, and the result is that today there is a large English Masonic Province of 26 Lodges in Argentina. As the next English Lodge in Argentina was not founded until 1864, and the Argentine Masonic viewpoint regarding the proposed Masonic Treaty is reputed to have altered within a few years of signing the Treaty, there is the possibility that the English Masonic Province may not have come into being had it not been for the foundation of the “Acacia” Lodge in 1861-62.

This address will continue in our next issue...



MEDICAL COLUMN

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

CALLING AND VOCATION

When my class was in 4th year of high-school at the British School, back in 1969, we had an expert in vocational counselling run a test on each of the pupils of our combined class of about fifty, with the intention of helping us, especially those uncertain of which career or studies to follow after leaving the school. The questions covered many areas; they were both open and multiple-choice and were followed by final interview by the expert, who gave us a list of four options, in decreasing magnitude of fit to our personal, academic and eventually professional selves.

My list was topped by engineering: a no-brainer as I was really good at maths. Over time, in spite of never dreaming of being an engineer, my mathematical mind helped tremendously in my understanding of physical, chemical, biological and statistical data, all relevant to the study and practice of medicine. This was followed by accounting: an option that was felled by one of my Math professors who spoke of that profession in a demeaning hue in a casual chat as we walked to the bus stop at the end of an afternoon. Third came medicine, which was already topping my list anyway. Last and not least, came clergy. Although religious in my approach to life and its meaning, at that late adolescent stage, I could not witness myself isolated from my ideal of having a family, like the one I had grown in. Although I teased my mind with the engineering-medicine

dilemma for a short while, I had been already coarse-tuned into becoming a doctor since late childhood and it took very little refining of my wish to commit myself to a medical career.

What makes someone want to become a doctor? Once in medical school, my classmates fell into roughly three categories. A limited few, like myself, came from physician families. One (or two) of their parents, an uncle or aunt, a grandparent or maybe an older sibling were doctors or were already ahead in medical school. Others came from the interior, from hard-working middle-class families that belonged to communities in which being a doctor carried prestige and a boost up the social (and sometimes political) ladder. However, the great majority fell into neither of the above: they just chose medicine as what they wanted to be. In conversations with these classmates, I probably came close to what would be called a 'vocation' or a 'calling'. They felt that they were embarked on a path that would put them in a helping role for their fellow humans. A significant number of them already knew they would study medicine well before the end of their secondary studies. They had a goal; they had a purpose; they were finding a path and a commitment to a meaningful life. Maybe, they had a 'calling'.

Callings historically have come to extraordinary people: prophets in the



MEDICAL COLUMN ...Continued

religious traditions and writings; leaders who guided their communities to a better future; heroes who took risks and gave their lives for others. But doctors are common persons; some may excel, but most of us are roughly average and do the best we can, within the limits of our time and circumstances. In spite of this, is there anything special about being a physician that makes them stand out above other professions? My biased view is that the healing professions (physical, social, psychological and spiritual healing) are mostly filled by those who do have a 'vocation', especially to care for individuals at time of pain, suffering, duress or despair. The fact that these healers are held in esteem and reverence by others, should not cloud us from the fact that a strong vocation to help and take risks exists in the police, in the fire and rescue brigade, in the armed forces and in missionaries in humanitarian enterprises. With this broad view, all professions: law, business, engineering, architecture, agriculture, space exploration and even politics have to do with finding a place for a purpose and a meaning for our lives at that crucial time when we leave our schooling and start the remainder of our lives.

In our post-modern 21st century, the new generations X, Y (Millennials) and Z have different views on life, work, career and family than we baby-boomers. In challenging and fruitful conversations with these youngsters, our traditional and

maybe rigid views on vocation and calling, have to give way to a more pragmatic way of defining purpose and goals. I sometimes am baffled by the down-to-earth and seize-the-day attitude of many or most, with little regard for the long-term future to which we gave great importance. A bright psychologist friend told me: "The new generations simply have picked up from what we have taught them with our example; we shouldn't be surprised at the changes we're seeing."

I only know that if I live long enough, one of these Gen XYZ'ers is going to be my doc!





BACK IN TIME

by Tony Beckwith
tony@tonybeckwith.com

THE CALEDONIAN BALL

Many years ago, when the British first arrived in Uruguay and Argentina, they came as soldiers, which is how they did things in those days. Things didn't go quite according to plan, and they later returned as businessmen, which was a much better idea. Thriving new opportunities then attracted people from all over the United Kingdom, launching a wave of immigration that brought several generations from the old world to the two countries that border the River Plate.

The Scots who came to the region in the very early days trusted their native experience and settled in rural areas as sheep ranchers and shepherds. They brought with them their traditions, their music, and their dances; their kilt and bagpipe became recognizable icons everywhere. In time they blended into the larger British Communities in the area, whose members to this day are descended from those early adventurers.

This explains why the Caledonian Ball was one of the high points of the social calendar during my youth in Montevideo. The Ball was a very grand affair, held at the Parque Hotel, in their spacious ballroom with polished parquet floors, sparkling chandeliers, and waiters in dinner jackets. It was a gathering of the clans, a tribal experience, attended by a cross-section of the community and thoroughly enjoyed by venerable elders, frisky youngsters, and everyone in between. I was a teenager at the time and enjoyed the event to the full extent of my capacity for having fun, which in those days was prodigious. And why not? There was a most agreeable feeling of belonging. Plus, I was all spiffed up in formal attire, at a splendid hotel, surrounded by friends and music. It was always a night to remember.

But you couldn't just show up at a Caledonian Ball. You had to be part of an eight-some, which hopefully included seven of your wildest friends. And you had to attend practice sessions for weeks in advance so that you and your wild friends could perform flawless renditions of the traditional group dances—the Eightsome Reel,

the Schottische, the Dashing White Sergeant, Strip the Willow, the Petronella, the Highland Fling, and so on. Some of the dances were sedate, some lively, some downright dangerous, in which excited couples careened up and down at breakneck speeds, occasionally colliding with others, which only added to the excitement. There was a giddiness in the air all night, like a carnival or a very popular wedding. People connected with their inner highlander or lowlander and, by some unspoken understanding, certain codes of behavior acquired an unusual elasticity.

The dances were of the traditional variety: four couples form a square, with all dancers facing inwards. They raise their arms above their heads, thumbs touching their middle finger and the other fingers fully extended. Then they hop from one foot to the other, in time to the music, tapping the floor with the toe of the raised foot on the offbeat. Men and women perform this ritual jig in a prescribed order, then sashay towards each other, meeting in the center of the square for a sequence of approaches and steps that lead to a linking of arms and skipping around in a circle. There is much merriment and no restriction whatsoever on shouting or squealing with laughter. In fact, the more noise the better, or so it seemed back then at the Parque Hotel.

Some people actually wore a kilt of their clan's tartan to the Ball and there were, of course, the usual jokes about what went on under the family colors. If I'd had a kilt I would certainly have worn it, probably over my rugby shorts like everyone else. It would have to be a Campbell tartan because my family is descended from the Campbell clan through my paternal grandmother. Long ago, back in the misty Scottish highlands, there was bitter animosity between two clans, the Campbells and the MacDonalds, because of a terrible incident that came to be known as the Massacre of Glencoe (*Mort Ghlinne Comhann*, in Gaelic). Much water had, of course, flowed under the bridge since 1692, and the Campbell clan's unfortunate excesses had largely (hopefully)

BACK IN TIME ...Continued

been forgotten. I nonetheless wondered whether, in the excitement of the Ball, some descendant of the MacDonalds clan might be contemplating a little old-fashioned revenge. After all, you never really know what's going through people's minds. A couple of whiskeys and some of us think we're Rob Roy himself.

My brother wore a kilt on at least one occasion, but I have no idea how it came into his possession. Christopher, who was fourteen months older than I, was one of the bagpipers that night, and the pipers were the highlight of the Ball. They readied themselves in a private room, adjusting their kilts, straightening their stockings, and downing a ritual tumbler of neat Scotch whisky before exploding into the ballroom and filling the hearts of all present with the extraordinary sound of the Scottish bagpipe. It can be wild music, evocative of moor and glen, its intoxicating rhythm inciting you to give your inhibitions the night off and dance like one possessed. Or it can roll over you slowly like a dirge, its thick welling notes suffocating you with sadness.

Our ancestors were undoubtedly present amongst us on the night of the Ball. The event was a potent manifestation of Scottish tradition that allowed those so inclined to create a Scottish persona they could wear like a fancy dress at a costume ball. People got into the spirit of the occasion and, as the evening wore on, started referring to young women as "lasses," and saying "aye!" at the drop of a tam o' shanter. They'd roll their "rr's" like Sean Connery does and attempt a variety of linguistic experiments, saying things like, "aye, that's a verra nice drop o' whiskey, laddie!" Nobody minded these unscripted deviations from the norm. With bagpipes wailing and sips of Scotch warming one's throat, who *didn't* wonder aloud whether there was "a moose loose about the hoose," or sing a nostalgic verse or two from *Auld Lang Syne*? Hoots mon, this was the Caledonian Ball!



CAROLINE'S COOKING CORNER

by Carolina Conde
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Jam Roly-Poly

Ingredients

- 225 g self-raising flour
- 110 g margarine + 50 g margarine
- 2 tablespoons water
- 4 tablespoons jam (preserve) of choice
- a pinch of salt
- 75 g sugar
- 180 ml boiling water

Instructions

Preheat oven to 180°C.

Add the salt to the flour and rub in the larger of the two quantities of margarine.

Add the 2 tablespoons of water to make a stiff dough.

Roll on a floured surface to roughly 20 cm x 24 cm and then spread with the jam (preserve).

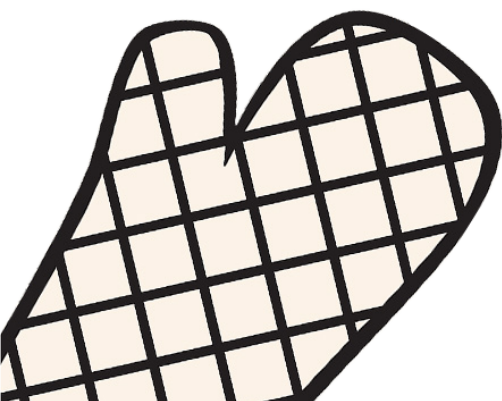
Roll up, seal the final edge to the roll and place in a buttered dish.

Melt the smaller quantity of margarine, dissolve the sugar in boiling water and mix with the margarine.

Pour over the Roly-Poly and bake at 180°C for 35-40 minutes.

Serve with pouring custard.

Enjoy!





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by Reg Smythe

