



THE BRITISH SOCIETY
IN URUGUAY

Contact

December 2017



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BSU
British Choir

www.britsoc.org.uy

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BSU Croquet Tournament

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BSU CONTACT Newsletter
www.britsoc.org.uy
www.facebook.com/BritSocUy
Montevideo, Uruguay



PRESIDENT'S WORDS

Dear members,

The Society's annual croquet tournament last month was another resounding success, so much so that we will be considering options to make it open to a greater number of players in future editions. And Jonathan Lamb's *Desert Island Dusks* featuring Richard Cowley had to be taped to allow those not attending to enjoy at least the evening's feature presentation (the meal, however, remains the privilege of those who attended!). Thus, the events of 2017 came to a close, given that December is a hectic month and we have preferred to avoid adding to members' already-cluttered agendas for this month.

We are still working on the update of The British Society members' database – though now progress has picked up speed – so we have been forced to postpone the planned event for the younger members of the Community to the first months of next year. But fear not! We will be compensating for the delay with other interesting events, both for the younger and the older of the Society's members.

This is the last edition of our newsletter in 2017, and though I hope to be seeing some of you here and there, I will use the opportunity to wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year! May 2018 be a good year for you and your loved ones. I know it will be for our Society, because it is our centenary year!

Richard A. Empson





UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 8th from 20 to 24 hrs Museums at Night

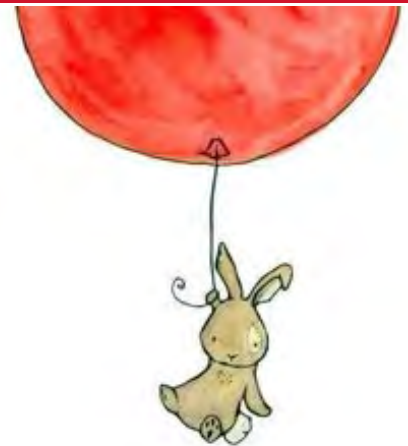
British Cemetery, Av. Rivera 3868

Organised by: British Cemetery

SOCIAL NEWS

December's Birthdays:

1 st - María Esteche	20 th - Megan Davies
1 st - Norman Fox	22 nd - María Llovet
5 th - Stephanie Biscomb	23 rd - Edison De León
7 ^h - Guillermo Symonds	27 th - Daniela Golby
10 th - Poppy Vignoles	30 th - Isabel Prevett
10 th - Valerie Dee	30 th - Nicholas Drever
12 th - Vivi Gepp	
15 th - Alan Gordon-Firing	
15 th - María De Torres	
15 th - Marta Vilar del Valle	





CROQUET TOURNAMENT

The Society's annual croquet tournament was held at the Yacht Club Uruguayo on Saturday 4 November. The turnout was the best to date, some people having been turned down due to lack of space. 36 players competed under the gruelling sun for The British Society Cup, which ended up in the hands of Ian Stanton & Martin Wells after an exciting final against newcomers Pablo & Jimena Otero.

The event proved once again that it is one of the most popular ones organised by the Society and has great potential to attract new people. Nearly a quarter of the players who took part were not members of the Society and new to its events. In light of this, the Executive Committee will evaluate the possibility of having the tournament over two days or having it twice a year.



The winning shot!

Champion Team!

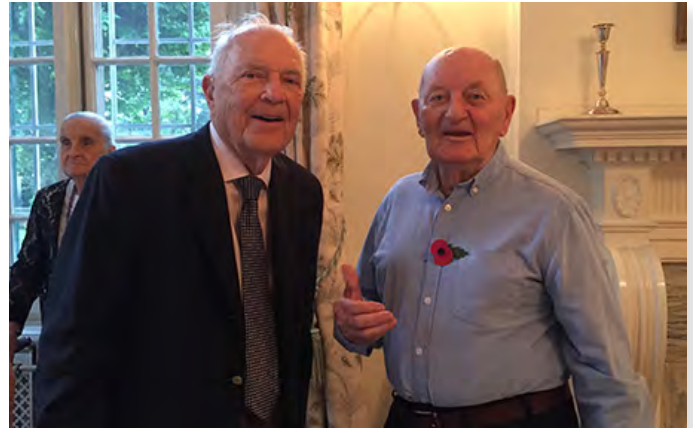


THE SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL HOME

All the residents went to the Embassy for the Afternoon Tea! It was a lovely occasion, delicious food, great company and the sun came out just in time! Thanks Ian and Neil!



Norma met friends she hadn't seen for a long time!



Old school friends Peter Schor and Ronnie Cooper met and had a nice chat.



Herbert, Ernesto and Vivi enjoying their tea.

For Halloween, Norma, Joan and Peter went to the Policlínico building to take treats they had prepared for the children who were at the Hospital that day.





THE SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL HOME ...Continued

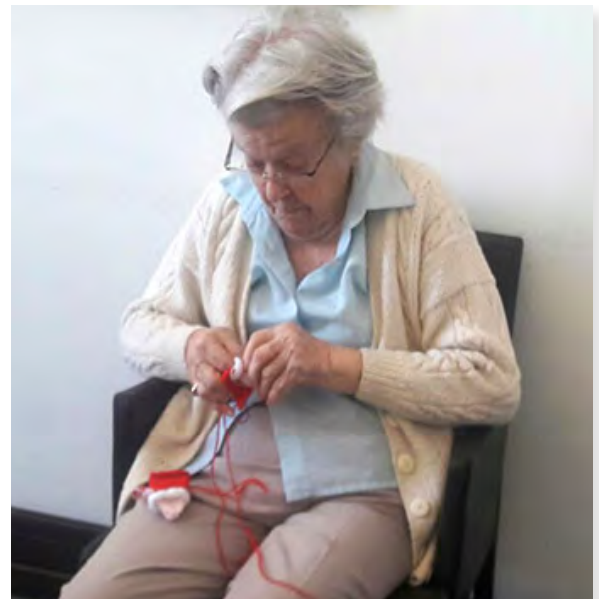
The Garden Clubs of Uruguay invited the residents to the Flower Show some weeks ago. There was a beautiful display of flowers, roses and arrangements which was much enjoyed by all.



Lots of activity is going on at the Home to get ready for Christmas!



Vivi and Herbert are making angels with our Psicomotricista Gabriela.



Joan hard at work knitting Father Christmases.

Contact us at:
SWCH@britsoc.org.uy





BRITISH EMBASSY



TEA PARTY

Ambassador Ian Duddy and Neil Morrison had the pleasure of hosting members of the British Society for a Tea Party at the Residence. It was a fun afternoon for all. The Ambassador took the opportunity to once again congratulate the President of the British Society Richard Empson for his MBE award. He will receive the honour personally in London on 8 February.

CORRUPTION PREVENTION

Ambassador Ian Duddy opened an international seminar, organised by the International Governance and Risk Institute (GovRisk) from the UK, concerning best international practice in the protection of whistleblowers exposing corruption. The aim is to improve prevention, detection, investigation and indictment of wrongdoing in both public and private institutions.

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

In November, the embassy was very pleased to welcome Silvina Lindner and Cecilia Borges. Silvina is our new Trade Officer and Cecilia has joined us as Falkland Islands Attaché, on a one-year contract.

FALKLAND ISLANDS PHOTO EXHIBITION

A Uruguayan graduate in Biological Sciences opened a photographic exhibition, "Al Sur del Sur", about his trips to the Falkland Islands and South Georgia on board a fishing ship. Agustín Loureiro has participated as an observer in these journeys since the year 2000. The beauty of the Islands, their nature and wildlife made such an impact on him that he wanted to share his experiences through his photography. The exhibition was held at Portón de San Pedro Gallery until the end of November.



Embajada Británica
Montevideo



BRITISH HOSPITAL



Summer Coverage outside Montevideo

Summer is coming, and we want to make some recommendations should you require emergency medical assistance outside Montevideo.

Steps to follow to receive assistance in the countryside:

- Authorization: Call 2487 1020, int. 3000 (24 hours)
- Location: Centre closest to the patient's location.
- Cost: regular charge for emergencies in the countryside which is added to your monthly charge.
- Please note: Private medical facilities with reciprocal health care (Mautone, Cantegril, Comero, San Fernando Clinic, etc.) should not charge you anything when requiring assistance. Other medical facilities (some facilities along the country's western border) may charge you directly in which case the corresponding reimbursement is subsequently made at the British Hospital Scheme office.
- Type of assistance: emergencies only. Once the patient's initial condition has improved, the patient should continue treatment at the British Hospital.

List of Private Medical Facilities with reciprocal health care that are most used in the east of the country:

Sanatorio Mautone, Maldonado.
Sanatorio Cantegril, Maldonado.
Clínica San Fernando (Emergency assistance is not available), Maldonado.
Comero, Rocha.

UCM

For this summer, members of the British Hospital will have coverage along the east coast, through the network of Emergency Services linked to UCM.

Tel: 24871020 ext. 2740 - www.hospitalbritanico.org.uy - Follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BritSocUy)



ANGLO-URUGUAYAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE

CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE URUGUAYAN NAVY



On 4th November the Anglo Institute held an event at the Yacht Club, Buco to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Uruguayan Navy. The area of Buco was chosen because it was the venue of several important naval battles, including the Second British Invasion in 1807. The event was well attended with about 60 people present in the attractive "Sala de Fiestas" at the Yacht Club.

The first part of the programme comprised two talks. In the first talk, Derek Tyler described the fascinating life of Pedro Campbell from Tipperary in Ireland, who was subsequently named by Artigas as the first head of the Uruguayan Navy. Derek also described the varied history of HMS Agamemnon (at one time captained by Lord Nelson) which sunk close to Punta del Este in 1809. In the second talk, John Robertson analyzed some of the "myths" relating to the 1939 Battle of the River Plate and the subsequent sinking of the Graf Spee. In particular, John contrasted the simple narrative used by the British media to ensure a propaganda victory with the true underlying strengths of the protagonists.

In the second part of the programme, the participants had the opportunity to complement the talks by visiting the nearby Naval Museum. The museum contains an interesting collection of artefacts and documents relating to Pedro Campbell, HMS Agamemnon and also the Graf Spee.





ANGLO-URUGUAYAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE

...Continued



TEACHER TRAINING COURSE AT THE ANGLO



ANGLO DIPLOMA IN TEFL



Graduates of this course acquire a solid theoretical and practical knowledge of the teaching of English to children, adolescents and adults with a variety of proficiency levels. This course prepares candidates to teach both at bilingual schools and language institutes following the latest pedagogical trends.

CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO:

- ✓ Be at least 18 years old
- ✓ Have completed secondary education (Bachillerato)
- ✓ Have a level of English similar to that certified by Cambridge English Proficiency
- ✓ Have completed and submitted the enrollment form
- ✓ Sit for an entrance exam

DATES FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS:

- ✓ Second week in December
- ✓ Second week in February



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

For more information contact:

Celia Fernández at 29023773 ext. 129 / cfernandez@anglo.edu.uy



ANGLO-URUGUAYAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE

...Continued

"There is only one rule for
being a good talker,
learn to listen."

- CHRISTOPHER MORLEY -



IMMERSION
SUMMER
COURSES
2018

CONVERSATION IN
3 LEVELS

PRE-INTERMEDIATE
INTERMEDIATE
ADVANCED

Days & Times

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
8.30 am to 10 am or 6.30 pm to 8 pm

Venue

Anglo Centro, San José 1426.

Start:

February 5, 2018

End:

March 2, 2018

Fee

\$U 6420 or 2 x \$ 3210
(course materials included)

Contact

incompany@anglo.edu.uy
2902 3773 ext. 147/146

ENROL NOW!

www.anglo.edu.uy



PIPE BAND NEWS

G7 – 7TH SOUTH AMERICAN PIPE BAND GATHERING

The 7th South American Pipe Band Gathering – or simply G7, as it is called by all those involved – was held between November 23 and 26 in the city of Santiago de Chile. This biannual event, organized on a rotating basis by the continent's participating pipe bands – which are all concentrated in the Southern Cone, in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay – varies in venue and country for each edition.

On this occasion, Uruguay was represented by several members of Riverside Pipe Band (who participated jointly with Brazil's St. Andrew's Society of São Paulo Pipes & Drums as the merged Sacramento Pipe Band), independent piper Patricia Izuibejeres (a former member of Riverside Pipe Band), tenor drummer Patricia Lockling (from City of Montevideo Pipe Band) – both the latter playing with Argentina's St. Andrew's Society of the River Plate Pipe Band –, and Drum Major Richard Empson (also a former member of Riverside Pipe Band and our Society's current President) who is the Vice-President of the Scottish Pipe Band Association of South America (SPBASA) and as such was involved in the organisation of the event.

The event kicked off on Thursday 23 with a solo piping and drumming competition at the Centro Cultural Las Condes, the first ever organised within the framework of a Gathering in this part of the world. Twelve solo pipers (including Riverside's Pipe Major Germán Villar) and five solo drummers from a number of bands competed, adjudication falling to renown piper Craig Munro (Glasgow, Scotland) from St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band and drummer Tyler Fry (Kincardine, Canada) formerly of Shotts & Dykehead Pipe Band – both members of the world-famous Red Hot Chilli Pipers. After a close contest, Carlos Henrique Perini Miranda from Brazil Caledonia Pipe Band took the piping trophy and Fernando Valles from the South American Piping Association Pipe Band took the snare drumming trophy.

On Friday 24 the bands had workshops with Craig Munro, Tyler Fry and world-class highland dancer Susan Nase (Saskatoon, Canada) – the latter having come to adjudicate the highland dancing competition – throughout the day. In the evening there was a concert by the three adjudicators at the Centro Cultural Carabineros de Chile, followed by a cocktail party for all participants.



All participants in the Gathering.

PIPE BAND NEWS

...Continued

On Saturday 25 the main event took place at the Prince of Wales Country Club. Seven bands (three from Argentina, one from Brazil, two from Chile and the merged Uruguayan-Brazilian outfit) took part in the competition, and another three (two from Chile and one from Brazil) made non-competitive presentations. Competitions were held in three categories: Quick Marches, Medley and Dancing. Prizes were also awarded for overall piping, overall drumming and overall dancing excellence. And, as ever, the SPBASA Cup was awarded to the band with the most overall points. For the first time ever, overall piping, overall drumming, overall dancing and the SPBASA Cup went to the same band: Argentina's South American Piping Association (SAPA) Pipe Band. It should be noted that – as part of the merger Sacramento Pipe Band – Uruguay's Riverside Pipe Band won third place in the Quick March category, and Argentina's St. Andrew's Society of the River Plate Pipe Band (in which two Uruguayans played) won second place in the Medley category. In addition, Riverside Pipe Band won the award for Deportment (the best presented band of the event). These are the best results obtained by Uruguay since the competitions were incorporated to the Gatherings in 2010.

Finally, on Sunday 26 all participating musicians and dancers participated in a massed bands parade which went from Plaza Perú to the Parque Arauco. Richard Empson was the massed bands' Lead Drum Major for the parade, which ended with a presentation carried out jointly with the Chilean Airforce Orchestra.

The next South American Pipe Band Gathering has already been set for the end of 2019 in Bariloche (Argentina). Piping enthusiasts should definitely include this on their calendars!

Richard Empson at the head of the massed bands.

The adjudicators and the competition prizes.



Sacramento Pipe Band entering the arena.



BRITISH CEMETERY



December's activity:
MUSEUMS AT NIGHT
 8th December
 From 20.00 to 24 hrs.

Ciclo V - 2017
Encuentros a la puesta
del Sol

CEMENTERIO BRITÁNICO
DE MONTEVIDEO

AV. RIVERA 3868 Y PIAGGIO

APOYA



PROYECTO
 DECLARADO DE
 INTERÉS POR LA
 DNC/MEC 287/2017



CEMENTERIO
BRITANICO

THE BRITISH CEMETERY SOCIETY

Consultas y actualizaciones escribir a
encuentros@cementeriobritanico.com.uy
www.cementeriobritanico.com.uy
Cementerio Británico de Montevideo
 Av. F. Rivera 3868 tel. 2622 3071



BRITISH CEMETERY ...Continued



Membership is open to everyone and it is free.
You don't need to be British to join.

All those interested in our events are welcome.



SILVER RIVER LODGE

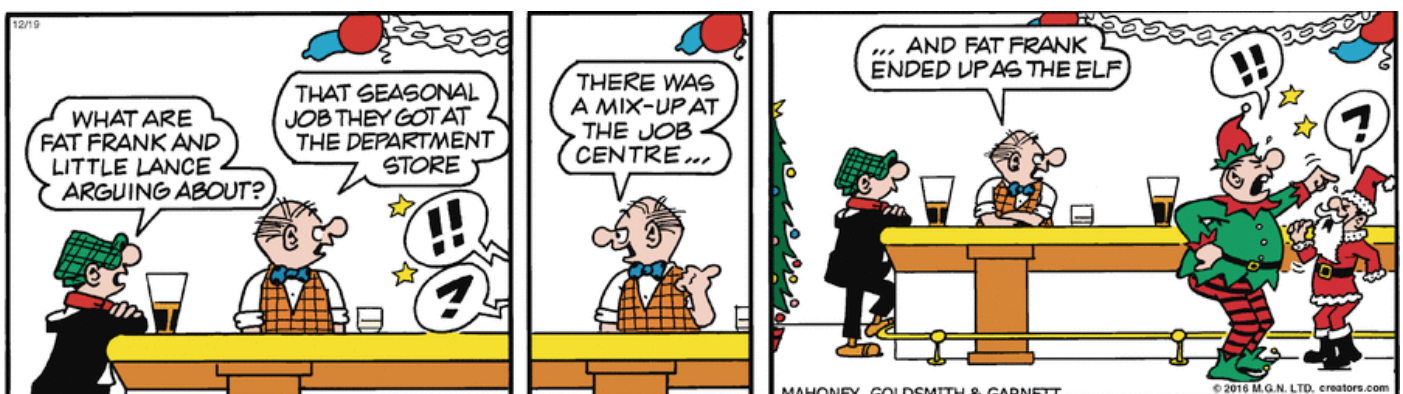
All our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month, from March through November, at the William G. Best Masonic Temple, located at 1429 Canelones Street, Montevideo.

For further information please contact us at secretarysrl876@gmail.com or call Mr. Martin Macadam at 096 001 995.



ANDY CAPP

by Reg Smythe





UPON MY WORD

by Richard Cowley
racowley@gmail.com

9. MORE OR LESS?

Clearly, supermarket designers are an ungrammatical lot, since they all insist on hanging a sign over one or two checkouts saying “10 items or less.” It’s tempting to scrawl BOGOF over the offending sign, because it’s wrong.

It’s all down to a question of countables and uncountables. If the things you are referring to can be counted, you use *fewer*:

There were fewer people at the Queen’s Birthday Party than last year. (You can count the individuals who attended)

Mark Trenton has run far fewer marathons than his wife.

However, if what you are referring to is uncountable, or only countable with great difficulty, you use *less*:

For this recipe you use less flour, less sugar, less butter and fewer eggs.

Jeremy Corbyn thinks the rich should have fewer privileges.

But this is English, after all, so there are exceptions to the rule, and those exceptions are **time**, **money**, **distance** and **weight**. These all take *less*, in spite of the fact that you can count them. This is because although you can count the individual minutes, stones, miles and dollars, we tend to think of them as an item, in the singular:

My car cost less than £1,000.

Jeremy Corbyn thinks the rich should have less money.

She sang the national anthem in less than 15 minutes.

And these days, she weighs less than 18 stone.

We were less than 50 miles away from home when the car broke down. (Well, it didn’t cost much, did it?)

*Less**Fewer*



DICKENS INSTITUTE

MSD9 | DICKENS MID SUMMER DREAM

In February, right after our Summer Holidays, the Dickens Institute celebrates its major teaching event of the year: Mid Summer Dream. It is a Conference for teachers by teachers, where the idea is for teachers to enjoy listening to their peers and sharing experiences and new ways of teaching with each other. The plenaries are carefully chosen to bring new winds of change to the teaching world while the shared lunch gives teachers the opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. This is the 9th year of MSD and its theme this year is "Discover".

If you are interested in teaching, I invite you to spend a magical Mid Summer day in February **discovering** and enjoying what its creators have planned especially for you.

A MIDSUMMER DREAM

Discover

February 7th 2018

ENROL NOW!
discount for groups

National and International Speakers

\$1.600
(before 26th December)

\$1.950
(February)

LUNCH IS ON US!

If you enrol before 15th December, you'll get some materials from our publishers.

JOIN US!

British Embassy Montevideo

BOOKSHOP

macmillan education

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

P Pearson

Richmond

DAZZLER HOTELS

dickens

eventos@dickens.edu.uy



DICKENS INSTITUTE ...Continued

THE DICKENS UNICORN IS IN A FESTIVE MOOD WISHING ALL CONTACT READERS AND STAFF SEASON'S GREETINGS!

For the Dickens it has been a magical 45th Anniversary Year and sharing it with Contact Readers has been part of the magic.

Now it is time for holidays so we wish you all a lovely and relaxing summer. We shall be back in Contact in March to share with you the Dickens Mid Summer Dream Conference to be held in February.

Thank you Contact Readers and Staff and may 2018 be a splendid year for all of you and the newsletter that brings us together!

The Dickens Team





MEDICAL COLUMN

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

MY PROMISED BUCKET LIST

As I mentioned in my last post, I just turned 65 and although I could retire and live within my relatively frugal lifestyle, I have decided to continue to be active professionally, but mainly in non-clinical roles.

Over the past 38 years, apart from caring for my patients, I have been in teaching, administrative, and advising roles. I am certified in Internal Medicine, Public Health, Existential Analysis and Logotherapy and have just completed a Diplomate in Health Care Quality and Patient Safety. On top of this, I advise the Informatics Department on the implementation and use of electronic health records and electronic prescribing.

To downsize my daily and weekly workload, I'll close my regular clinical practice by the end of this year and when I return from my summer holiday next February, though still active as a physician, my roles will be limited to the non-clinical areas of Health Care Informatics, Health Care Quality and Patient Safety, apart from overseeing the Continuing Medical Education Programme.

Throughout my nearly four decades of clinical practice, I have witnessed and been part of changes in technology and diagnostic equipment, the introduction of novel treatments and systems designed to provide them in hospitals, clinics and at home. I have also been a promoter and designer of the digital highways that are replacing the 20th century modes of communicating and with patients and providing care. This has made me aware

of the significant space for improvement in the quality of care, patient safety and the experience of the persons involved on all sides of the health care equation. In order to be part of these needed changes, my commitment to my new roles will be nearly full-time and therefore, with a heavy heart, I'll leave behind the clinical phase of being a doctor, where the best memories of my professional life will forever exist.

What I'll miss most will be my patients, the relationships we shared over time and the experiences, happy and sad, that were part of it all. I won't miss medical practice as much as my patients, as I'll still be active in fields that pose a challenge to me and to all and which are a central part of health care. I will be available for counsel and assistance to my patients, for however long the transition lasts. I still imagine myself seeing a patient occasionally, but mostly to guide them towards the care of younger and promising colleagues, who are already care for me, my wife and my family. These new generations of doctors need open-minded mentors, monitors and role-models to guide them through the new challenges, at times when, although living through shifts in culture and values, all must have clear mission and vision statements.

Even if health care at present, and more so in the future, will depend on quantum changes in technology, artificial intelligence and the redesigning and refining of the processes of its mode of delivery, it will always remain a human-to-human interaction, based on stories



MEDICAL COLUMN

...Continued

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

rather than histories, where the deep questions regarding the meaning of life, are ever-present, in patients, their loved ones and in the professionals and staff caring for them.

Last, but not least, I've had acceptably good health up to now, but my window for enjoyment during this phase of my life won't last forever. I've seen what happens to the wish lists of many of my patients and thus I know that having a free ride

till my time comes is an illusion. I have a wife, children and grandchildren – plus my nearly 91-year old mother in law who lives with us. Due to my profession, they have had a smaller portion of my life-pie than they've deserved and my give-back time has arrived.

In a nutshell, I'm not retiring. I'm still a doctor.

BRITISH CHOIR?!

We are recruiting members to form a choir!

Many of our members are eagerly asking for one.

We have have sung together in different opportunities, at the Big Lunch, at the SWCH, on the bus to Conchillas, singing Carols at the British Hospital, etc.

Sign in and let us find a Choir Master!!!

Contact us at secretary@britsoc.org.uy and let's sing!





BACK IN TIME

by Tony Beckwith
tony@tonybeckwith.com

WHEN A TREAT BECAME A TRADITION

A couple of years after we moved to Montevideo my mother was stricken with a severe case of homesickness. It was early December and she pined for the sort of family Christmas she had known while she was growing up. My father, who was at his wit's end trying to decide what to give her for Christmas, recognized a perfect solution when he saw one, and we were soon on our way to Buenos Aires to spend the holidays with her parents.

My maternal grandparents lived in a large house in Coghlan, a leafy suburb where many British families had settled over the years. It was a fine old place, only slightly the worse for wear, with a bright, spacious living room and dining room on the ground floor and several bedrooms upstairs. The kitchen was down a dark hallway that led off the dining room, with French doors that opened onto a back patio. It was a huge, cavernous room, like the kitchens I had seen at estancias in the camp, with an enormous wood-burning stove that must have been hauled in when the house was built, many years ago. There was also a modern gas stove that my grandfather had had installed for doing the daily cooking. But when the house was full of guests, as it usually was on Christmas day, my grandmother fired up the old range where she could cook a variety of things all at

once, some in the twin ovens down below and some on the burners on the top. She was a terrific cook, the kind who never used a recipe, just added a pinch of this and a dash of that, tasting each item until she

was satisfied, flitting about the kitchen to make sure that everything was just right, ably assisted on this occasion by her two daughters and a maid. Wearing an embroidered white apron over her party dress, she was obviously enjoying herself, occasionally doing little dance steps in time to the music that could be heard filtering in from the living room.

While Grannie and her crew were producing lunch for the score or so guests, Grandpa was entertaining them, ably assisted by his son, my uncle David. My grandfather was a marvellous musician; he had never had a lesson in his life but could play anything that anyone could hum or whistle. While David replenished drinks and bowls of peanuts and potato chips, Grandpa played the piano, encouraging everyone to sing along to the popular songs he had learned as a young man growing up in Yorkshire, back in the old country. He sang a few Christmas carols, but mainly played oldies like *Knees Up Mother Brown*. Paying tribute to Glenn Miller's greatest hits, he called out,





BACK IN TIME

...Continued

by Tony Beckwith
tony@tonybeckwith.com

"Pardon me, boy, is that the Chattanooga Choo-Choo?" From across the room David replied: "Track 29!" and Grandpa sang: "Boy, you can give me a shine." The assembled friends and family were delighted.

At some point David poured a "Gin & It"—Grannie's favourite cocktail: two parts gin, one part sweet vermouth—and ran it back to the kitchen. "Thank you, dear!" said Grannie, as she brandished a long wooden spoon in one hand and a cigarette in the other. It was the cigarette that particularly fascinated my brother and me. Much as we wanted to be in the living room watching Grandpa do his routine, we just couldn't tear ourselves away when Grannie put her cigarette in the corner of her mouth, squinting through the smoke as she stirred one saucepan after another. The ash got longer, and longer, and longer, and finally crumbled and fell into one of the pans. She didn't seem to notice, or maybe she thought it added something to the flavour. My brother and I strained to see exactly where the ash landed, and made a mental note to avoid the carrots, or potatoes, or whatever it had fallen into.

of the party. My mother and father joined my brother and me at one of the smaller tables so that we could all be together for the occasion. "Isn't this fun!" said my mother, looking flushed and happy. She had thoroughly enjoyed working with her mother and sister in the kitchen again after being absent for a few years. Grandpa carved the turkey while David sliced the roast beef, and there was a flurry of activity as vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, gravy, and bread rolls were passed from one person to another. Everyone raised a glass and said "Merry Christmas" and then tucked into the meal. The food was, as always, first class and people were soon murmuring "delicious" and offering "compliments to the chef."

As we started eating, my mother inspected our plates and noticed that neither my brother nor I had taken any carrots. "What's the matter," she asked, "I thought you liked Grannie's carrots?" Not knowing quite what to say, we both just looked down at our plates, and were hugely relieved when my father said, "I'd forgotten what a good time we always have with your parents. We should do this every year." And just like that, a family tradition was born.



Lunch was finally served at about three o'clock in the afternoon. There was a long table in the dining room where most of the adults were seated, and a couple of bridge tables in the living room for the rest

Christmas Poem

Dear Father Christmas
 do you remember me?
 May I ask for just one gift
 to put beneath my tree?

Would you bring some
 peace on Earth?
 I'm tired of all the wars
 Many thanks and lots of love
 to you and Mrs. Claus

GURU'GUAY

 by Karen A Higgs
www.guruguay.com

OBSERVATION DECK WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS OF MONTEVIDEO REOPENED

The mirador on the twenty-second floor of the Intendencia de Montevideo just reopened in October. At eighty metres high it affords some of the best vistas of the city.

The renovated space, which was first opened to the public back in 1979, includes a cafeteria, a gift shop and tour guides. Nice touches include free wifi, places to charge your devices and you can borrow binoculars and umbrellas! It's a great place to hang out if you have some time to kill in the centre, or somewhere to take visitors.

Visiting hours: 10am to 4pm daily including weekends

Where: Intendencia de Montevideo 18 de julio 1360 on the corner of Ejido

Cost: Free of charge

Observations on the observation deck from the Guru'Guay photographer

Our trusty camera man Indrasish Banerjee went to take shots and has a few words of advice to visitors:

1. You take the lift up to the viewing deck from the basement and there are no signs pointing the way from the city hall entrance. So a lot of people were confused including me! I even guided a few other tourists in on my own way out.

2. The place has a nice place to enjoy coffee and a shop for buying souvenirs. I loved the tables which are particularly great if you want to spend some time inside especially if you are visiting at noon. The coffee shop has a great view.

3. Beware, the windows are treated so you can't really take great pictures as there is a coating on the glass.

4. There's information at each viewing point so you can locate historical buildings down below.

5. Going up the lift is cool as you soar up high and suddenly see the sea.



Photos: Indrasish Banerjee for Guru'Guay



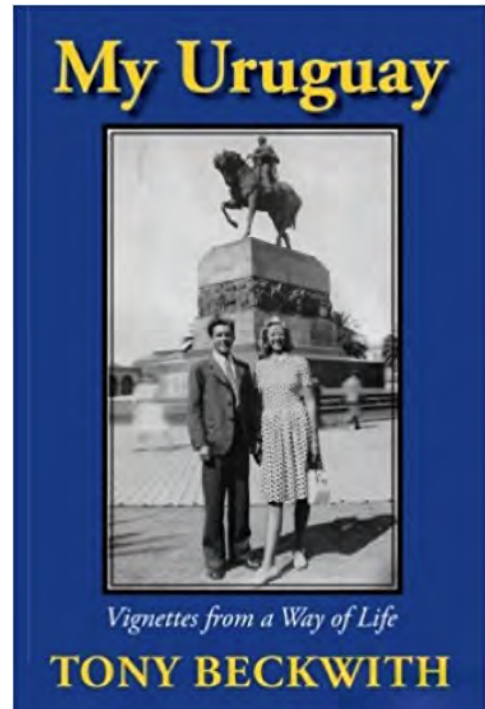
ADVERTISING

"My Uruguay" is the perfect Christmas gift.

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SIMON'S CAT

by Simon Tofield
<https://simonscat.com>



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episode
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GEOFF THE CHEF'S CORNER

by Geoffrey W Deakin
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Christmas Specials

Crisp roast pork with honey mustard gravy

Maybe this year, instead of the traditional turkey, you could try a summery roast: serve slices of pork with light gravy, potatoes and / or sweet potatoes with a tangy green salad on the side.

Ingredients

- 2 kg pork loin (bondiola will do), with fat scored
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 100ml hot chicken stock
- 1 tbsp wholegrain mustard (Savora is OK)
- 1 tbsp clear honey
- 1 tsp finely chopped thyme leaves
- Soy sauce
- Cloves for decoration

Method

- Pre-heat oven to 240C/220C.
- Lightly rub all over with oil and sprinkle liberally with salt and soy sauce.
- Cover and rub with mustard.
- Spread honey over the top.
- Poke small holes with a large fork and insert a clove in each hole.
- Cook for 20 mins, turn down the oven to 190C/170C, then cook for 30 mins per 500g (about 2 hrs).
- Remove from the tin, place on a serving plate and loosely cover with foil.
- Pour off excess fat from the tin.
- Add stock to the tin, then stir to incorporate meat juices and sticky bits at the bottom.
- Add mustard, honey and thyme, plus juices from the resting meat.
- Stir and simmer for 5 mins until starting to turn syrupy.
- Serve alongside the pork.



GEOFF THE CHEF'S CORNER

...Continued

by Geoffrey W Deakin
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Christmas Specials

And for a very addictive dessert, Microwave boozy fudge

Ingredients

- 400g golden caster sugar
- 397g can condensed milk
- 140g salted butter, chopped into pieces
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 tbsp coffee liqueur (or another alcohol of your choice - amaretto or brandy works well)

Method

- Grease and line a 20cm square baking tin with baking parchment.
- Put the sugar, condensed milk and butter in a large heatproof bowl (the mixture will bubble up as it cooks to roughly double its size), add a good pinch of salt and stir together.
- Heat the mixture in the microwave on High for 10 mins, stirring every 2-3 mins. Keep an eye on the mixture, as it will bubble up and may go over the sides of the bowl.
- Add the vanilla and liqueur to the mixture, whisk together and heat on High for another 2 mins. The mixture should be caramel-coloured and thickened.
- Scrape into the tin and set aside for 45 mins–1 hr until cool and firm before cutting.
- Pack into a box and eat within 3 weeks (or less...)

And by the way...

To put an end to something old, we must start something new.

Here is wishing you, with a joy-filled heart, a very happy New Year!

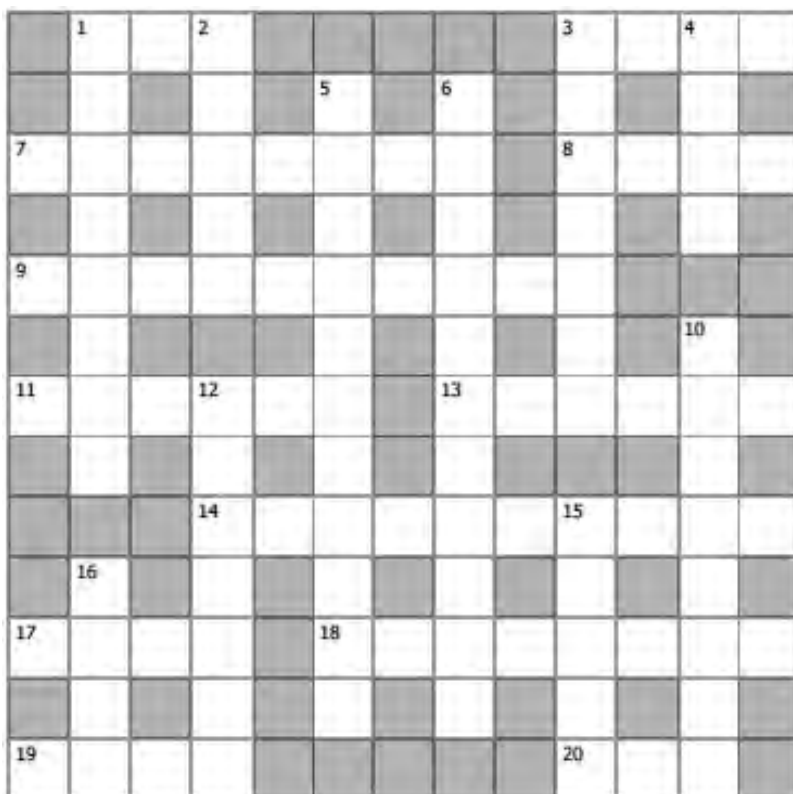


CROSSWORDS TIME!

from Independent
<http://puzzles.independent.co.uk>

Print this page and start playing!

The solution will be revealed in the next issue.



ACROSS

1. Mass of fish eggs (3)
3. Place for waste materials (4)
7. Dishonour (8)
8. Competent (4)
9. Amity (10)
11. Period before Christmas (6)
13. Miscellaneous (6)
14. Reoffending criminal (10)
17. Large weighty book (4)
18. Ear-examining instrument (8)
19. Apartment (4)
20. Colour (3)

DOWN

1. Clothing business (Informal) (3,5)
2. Wear away (5)
3. Expressionless (7)
4. Cereal grain (4)
5. Polygraph (3,8)
6. Next to (2,3,4,2)
10. Place to sleep (Informal) (5,3)
12. Heartfelt (7)
15. Churchman (5)
16. Young horse (4)

November Crossword solution:

1	H	I	2	D	E				3	A	G	4	R	E	5	E
	E		I		6	A		7	R		P		U		S	
8	R	I	G	I	D			9	E	X	H	I	B	I	T	
	M		I		O			A		I		E		E		
10	I	G	N	O	R	E	D		11	D	E	L	V	E		
	T				E		Y					L		M		
		12	13	C	O	N	D	I	T	I	14	O	N	A	L	
15	C		N					O		R					16	P
17	H	O	P	I	T			18	W	I	N	E	20	B	A	R
	E		A		W		E			A		A				I
21	R	E	P	L	I	C	A			22	T	A	L	O	N	
	U		E		S		R		E		T					C
23	B	E	R	E	T											
										24	M	I	C	E		

ACROSS

1. Conceal (4)
3. Concur (5)
8. Stiff (5)
9. Display (7)
10. Took no notice of (7)
11. Inquire deeply (5)
12. Depending on other factors (11)
17. Clear off! (3,2)
19. Drinking establishment (4,3)
21. Exact copy (7)
22. Bird's claw (5)
23. Flat round hat (5)
24. Small rodents (4)

DOWN

1. Recluse (6)
2. Begin eating (Informal) (3,2)
3. Garden pest (5)
4. German measles (7)
5. High regard (6)
6. Loved intensely (6)
7. Not made-to-measure (5,2,4)
13. Theoretically (2,5)
14. Flowery (6)
15. Angel (6)
16. Monarch's son (6)
18. Distort (5)
20. Indian dish (5)