



THE BRITISH SOCIETY  
IN URUGUAY

# CONTACT

OCTOBER 2022

**BSU  
Craft-Tea**

**Back in Time  
On the Canals**

**Meet our Columnists  
Tony Beckwith**

**British Schools  
Wedding Singer**

**In Memoriam  
Mirita Pool**

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Montevideo, Uruguay

## Dear Members

Welcome back again, it's been a while since my last words.

I wanted to thank all of you who sent their condolences to the Royal Family. The passing of Queen Elizabeth II has given us the opportunity once again to remember her life and service to the Crown and her people. Being one of the longest monarchs in history, she reigned through seriously important times in recent history, steering the country to what the British Crown is today. I invite you all to read the wonderful obituary the BBC wrote.

Since my last words, lots has happened. In August, Richard Cowley's Lecture Supper was a huge success; a very special thanks to The British Hospital, Richard Cowley and our Events team who pulled it off, and to you all for attending. In September, the Craft Tea was also a success as well as the British Cars Event, which ended in Punta del Este after a parade of classic cars of British origin that started in front of the British Embassy.

The Expo Prado took place on the second week of September, and as usual, the British Pavilion was present with a wonderful inauguration by his majesty's ambassador Faye O'Connor OBE. At the pavilion a delegation from the Falklands gave an interesting presentation on the island's activities, economy, and commerce. And an invitation was extended to travel and visit the islands. Soon we will be informing more on this.

Now, suddenly, it's already October, and I still can't grasp the notion that a year has practically gone by. Our spring Croquet will be taking place on Saturday 15th, and the Trophy must be challenged, so I hope to see lots of you there.

Last month the news of the Victoria Theater situation brought the need to open a donations campaign. Thanks to many of you and to lots more, enough funds were raised to finish the works underway and complete the fire brigade's check list.

I wish you all a happy October, and I will be back soon with more news.

Cheers



Colin Shearer  
President



This month's cover features the final portrait of HM Queen Elizabeth II. Photographed by Randal Mackechnie, it shows the late monarch in a powder blue suit, smiling ear-to-ear. She wears her signature three-strand pearl necklace and matching earrings. Pinned to her chest is an aquamarine brooch that was a present from her father, King George, for her 18th birthday. The photo was taken to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee—the first British Monarch to reach this milestone.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Remember you can pay your 2022 membership fees easily from the comfort of your own home using your credit or debit card through [MercadoPago](#).

We have also implemented **recurring payments** so you no longer have to remember to pay your fees. You do not need to have a MercadoPago user, by clicking [HERE](#) you can choose to enter your details as “Invitado”, you are 3 clicks away of never having to remember to pay again! This recurring payment is very easy to cancel if you wish to do so in the future.

You may also pay by transfer or a direct deposit to the account of British Society in Uruguay at **Banque Heritage (account number 62582-03)**. Please email your transfer/ deposit slip to our Treasurer.

If you forgot to pay any previous annual fees please email our Treasurer at [treasurer@britsoc.org.uy](mailto:treasurer@britsoc.org.uy) to learn about ways to pay past dues.

If you wish to become a member first fill in [this form](#).



**MercadoPago**  
**Annual Fee 2022 - \$700**

**MercadoPago Recurring**  
**Payments - \$650**

**Once this is done, your membership will be updated.**





## Dear Reader,

September was a whirlwind of change and activity. You'll find information on all that happened this past month in this issue; it's rich in pictures, so if you participated in any of the events organized by the Community, your likeness might be gracing our pages.

As for this month, with the promise of better weather we are finally able to hold the Spring Croquet Tournament on Saturday 15th October. So grab your mallets and come join us for some fun and sun.

I won't detain you much longer with idle chatter. Read on and enjoy the newsletter!

And as usual, I look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments at [editor@britsoc.org.uy](mailto:editor@britsoc.org.uy)

Best,

Victoria Stanham, Newsletter Editor

# Birthdays

in October

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



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

# New Members

Carmen Rosalía Alvarez Scarpa  
Andrés Alberto Bentancourt Cabrera  
Alicia Solange Espina Diaz  
Flavia Faedo Rojel  
Virginia Serrana Prunell Falgueras  
Ignacio Rivela Rodriguez  
Gonzalo Rodríguez Anguiano

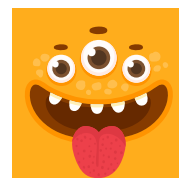


For news from across the pond visit [www.abcc.org.ar](http://www.abcc.org.ar)



Bit of wisdom...

Tsunami: The "T" is silent  
Honest: The "H" is silent  
Island: The "S" is silent  
Queue: The "UEUE" is silent



# 2022



## List your events in our calendar:

We invite all sister societies to send us dates of your upcoming events to [editor@britsoc.org.uy](mailto:editor@britsoc.org.uy).

## OCTOBER

**SATURDAY 15: BSU SPRING CROQUET TOURNAMENT** - 10:00 am to 12:00 am at The Yacht Club Uruguayo.

**SATURDAY 22: 8th National Tea Table Contest** - Conchillas, Colonia. <https://linktr.ee/mesasdete>  
Roberta Fernández - 099 192 778

**THURSDAY 27 to SUNDAY 30: 9th Southamerican Pipe Band Gathering** - Montevideo.  
[scotishdanceruruguay@gmail.com](mailto:scotishdanceruruguay@gmail.com) - [www.gatheringuruguay.com](http://www.gatheringuruguay.com)

## We are going to Conchillas. Fancy joining us?



We are going to Conchillas on the **22<sup>nd</sup> October** to participate in the **8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the "Concurso Nacional de Mesas de Té"**. Fancy joining us?

**The van will depart from the British Embassy (Marco Bruto 1073) at 9:00 am** and will return to Montevideo after the competition. Transport fee will be set according to the number of people who reserve a spot in the van. **We are taking reservations until Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October.** Book your spot by emailing [events@britsoc.org.uy](mailto:events@britsoc.org.uy)

## NOVEMBER

**SATURDAY 5: Guy Fawkes Bonfire Night**

**FRIDAY 11: Remembrance Day Service**, 10:30 at British Cemetery

**Saturday 19 and Sunday 20: Encuentro Británico Oriental San Jorge Durazno**

**Wednesday 23: BSU Xmas Tea Party.**

**SATURDAY 26: The St. Andrew's Society Senior Caledonian Ball.**



EVERY FRIDAY FROM 8PM

# SOCIAL DARTS

IN PUNTA DEL ESTE

at Ariscona, corner of Virazón and La Salina.

Contact: [Jonathan.Lamb.wozinglesa@gmail.com](mailto:Jonathan.Lamb.wozinglesa@gmail.com)

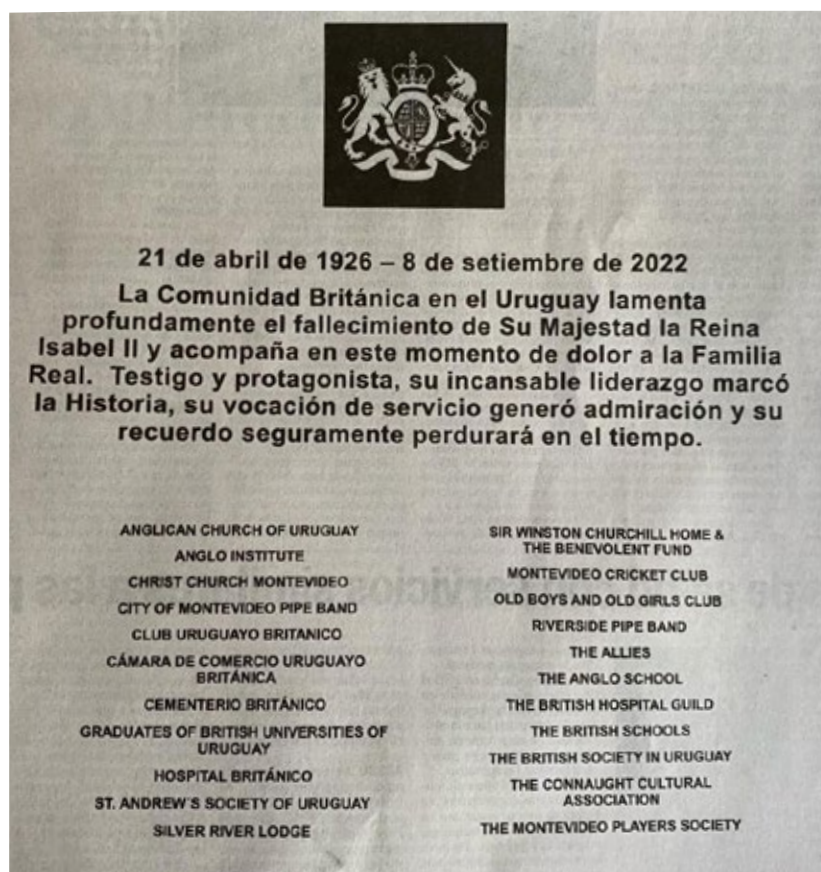


## CONDOLENCES



Members of the Board of the British Society in Uruguay, convened at the British Embassy Residence to sign HRM Queen Elizabeth II's book of condolences on behalf of the British Community in Uruguay.

Our message read: "The British Community in Uruguay deeply regrets HRM Queen Elizabeth II's death and wishes to convey their deepest condolences to the Royal Family."



*Diario El Pais - 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022*



# SPRING TOURNAMENT 2022



## SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM  
AT THE YACHT CLUB URUGUAYO

**BUY YOUR TICKET**

**MEMBERS**  
**\$400**



**NON**  
**MEMBERS**  
**\$500**



dermaglós®







## CRAFT-TEA

COME HAVE A HEART WARMING TEA  
WHILE WE CRAFT AND CHAT TOGETHER

Courtesy of

TEA  
PLEASE

BY FREDAUY

On Tuesday September 13th we held our first Craft-Tea at the British Hospital Auditorium. Fernanda Reda of Tea Please supplied us with two of her delicious teas, N° 6 Josephine and N° 2 Earl Grey & Roses, and attendees brought along pastel pastries, dainty finger sandwiches, scones, cupcakes, cookies, and plenty of other scrumptious baked goods to share. Tables were set out with knitting and crochet items, teacher Martha Heins was available to help those who needed yarn and stitch advice, and Virginia Campbell donated loads of beads to make necklaces and bracelets. Another table had mandalas to colour, wordsearch and crossword puzzles to complete, and games to play: scrabble, board games and domino. It was such an enjoyable event and everyone had such a good time that we are planning on having another Craft-Tea soon!



*Virginia Campbell, Carmen Menotti and Solveig Schandy*



*Jacqueline McClew, Elizabeth Hyland, Sally Ann, Carolyn Cooper*





*Silvia Sherwood, Sonsoles Baison*



*Bertha Jackson, Dra Malena Barrios PAM (Programa del Adulto Mayor) Joan Lucas Calcraft*



*Alyson Schwabe, Flavia Faedo*



*Ema García Pla, Lygia Davies, Carmen Menotti*



*Ema García Pla, Andrea Davies*





On a nice sunny day 2 weeks ago, we went to the Expo Prado and we had a great time. We enjoyed looking at the animals and the different stands. The lamb nursery was a great success as was the British Stand. After we had a picnic lunch at the Rosedal.







## Falklands *After office*

This past 15th of September, at the British Pavilion in the Rural del Prado, the British Society held an After Office event for the community to meet the delegation of agricultural experts and representatives of the Tourism Board from the Falklands. Attendees mingled with the Falklanders and got to know more about the islands, their people and their way of life, while tasting some of their delicious Gin Tonic made with Darwin's Botanical Gin, recipient of the 2021 Gold Medal at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition.







Picture: @drone.puntadeleste

The third edition of BRITISH CAR MEETING took place on Sunday, September 18th with the support of the British Embassy and His Majesty's Ambassador Faye O'Connor, as well as the British Society in Uruguay. Seventy cars of all varieties and eras participated, representing a great sample of the prolific and important British Automotive industry, and its interaction with Uruguay.

President of CMCU Vicente Marmo would like to thank everyone who attended the event and the British Society in Uruguay for their support, and hopes to see us all again in the 2023 edition of BRITISH CAR MEETING.







## Her Majesty's Condolences messages

**T**he Embassy is very grateful to the hundreds of people, from authorities, British community, to members of the Uruguayan society, who have sent in messages in various forms, brought flowers and signed

the condolence books at the Embassy and Residence. The condolence messages will be sent to the Royal Family. We are also thankful to the various British institutions which have organised tributes to the late Queen Elizabeth II.







## Come visit us at Expo Prado!

Over 92,000 people visited the British Pavilion at Expo Prado from 9-18 September. Visitors were able to get a flavour of British culture, products and services offered by the companies and institutions which were part of it and learn about the Embassy's work on Trade, Education and Climate. Children had fun with "Stanley" the penguin,

Falkland Islands trivia and shooting a penalty into "Wembley Stadium" for the chance of winning a basket with British products from Tienda Inglesa. You can watch a wrap up video here, and learn about the various activities carried out at the Pavilion here.

**The British Residence will be  
open on Heritage Day  
Saturday 1st October  
from 10 to 16 hs**

**Come and visit us for guided  
tours!**



After 2 years on hold, our Form 4 students' graduation trip to the UK was a reality again. The big day finally arrived and, on Friday 24th June, our Secondary Form 4 students left for the UK, to spend 3 weeks immersed in the culture they have been learning about since they were little kids. Accompanied by teachers, they embarked on a long-awaited trip full of excitement for the days ahead.

After a long flight and a further few hours by bus, the group arrived in Scotland to start their journey in its capital, Edinburgh, where they spent 5 days visiting its main highlights, such as Edinburgh Castle and Holyrood Palace. A Kayleigh evening, with Scottish Dancing was much enjoyed by our students, and they even tried their hand at a few typical dances and songs. One cannot travel to Scotland and not attempt a sighting of the Loch Ness monster – but a boat cruise round Loch Ness proved uneventful although they did enjoy the luscious scenery. Stirling Castle, surrounded by its steep cliffs, was another must.



After leaving Edinburgh, they set off to York, where they discovered the highlights of the city by doing a guided walking tour and could enjoy the magnificent York Minster Cathedral. The trip continued down in Stratford-Upon-Avon, where they encountered the heart of British literature: a visit to Shakespeare's Birthplace and to Anne Hathaway's Cottage.

After 9 amazing days, the group arrived in London, ready to enjoy the last leg of the trip. In London they stayed at a student accommodation in Camden, where they could expand on their knowledge of British history

and culture, by attending morning lessons that worked as a trigger to experience the afternoon visits to the most renowned British landmarks: the London Eye, a London Panoramic Tour, the Thames Boat Trip, the Natural History Museum, the British Museum, the Science Museum, the Changing of the Guard, Madame Tussaud's, Westminster and Houses of Parliament, St Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London, the Globe Theatre, to name just a few.

There was also time to experience the British theatre, by enjoying the world-famous plays Matilda and the Lion King and to revive Harry Potter films when visiting the Harry Potter Studios. As if all this was not enough, the group also had the opportunity to take full-day excursions to the historic cities of Oxford and Cambridge, where they had the chance to do its most famous activity: punting. Bath, with its Roman baths, and Stonehenge were also cherished visits that helped our students embrace the heart of British culture.

This unforgettable trip is the perfect closure after the many years our students have spent at our school. Sharing such a remarkable experience with long-life friends and teachers will etch this trip into their memories and bring smiles to their faces whenever they remember it.







On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September, the Anglo organised a conference for teachers that gathered about 300 participants from Uruguay and abroad. The event took place at Radisson Victoria Plaza hotel and was hugely successful.

This event marked the return to in person events after two years in which we were unable to meet face to face. This was a much needed reunion for our ELT community, in which participants expressed their joy at this comeback.



This year we were honoured to receive Gabriel Diaz and Andrea Constanst from Uruguay, Penny Ur online from Israel and Pablo Toledo and Belen Gonzalez from Argentina. They all shared their knowledge generously

and enthusiastically and we are grateful to them and their sponsors for making their presence at the Anglo Conference possible.

We are grateful to our speakers and sponsors and above all, to the almost 300 teachers who, after two years, joined us again for an in-person event that aimed at giving us all the opportunity to reconnect, rethink and reflect on our practice.

We look forward to meeting again in 2023 for the next Anglo Congress!

Follow this [link](#) to find more images of the Anglo Conference.





The Anglo took great pleasure in being part of the 117th edition of Expo Prado, Uruguay's leading agricultural trade show, with a stand located inside the British pavilion. This popular trade fair, organised by ARU, has been connecting farmers from all sectors with companies providing cutting-edge machinery, technology and equipment for the farming industry since 1913. For ten days, animals, vehicles, retail stands and much more converge on the beautiful premises of Predio Ferial del Prado.

*The 117th edition of the Expo Prado was a huge success with record crowds attending, and it had the British Pavilion as one of its most popular displays.*

Follow this [link](#) to find more images of our stand at the British Pavilion.



*The Anglo ran a series of short talks at the Great Hall of the British Pavilion.*



*Passers-by enter the Anglo raffle for a chance to win free English courses.*





### Gifts of flowers and notes in tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

**D**ear readers,  
Our Cemetery was host to a warm tribute on occasion of the sorrowful passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II, in honour of her extraordinary life of service. World-renowned and highly admired, she has left a significant legacy while touching the hearts of so many people.

The Cemetery's gates were open to receive offerings of flowers and notes from Friday the 16th until Monday 19th when a short ceremony was held.

We were very happy to see so many people from all parts of our community present and glad to see so many people from beyond it present too. A special thanks to British Ambassador Faye O'Conner OBE for taking part in our tribute and to Gonzalo Rodríguez from City of Montevideo Pipe band for his welcome participation in the event.

Bertha Jackson read us the lovely poem "For my Queen Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor" by Jarvis Bryant and our Ambassador followed giving us an interesting talk on what HM The Queen has represented to her over the years. The flag was lowered, we held 2 minutes of silence and Gonzalo Rodríguez then played for us Flowers of the Forest, a lament, on the bagpipes.

We leave you some wonderful photos of the many flowers and notes received in sign of the great respect and affection she has inspired in our community.

***"To live in hearts we leave behind  
Is not to die."***

~ Thomas Campbell











## Fresh news!

**We continue working hard for your satisfaction**

### Donating blood saves lives

The Transfusion Medicine Department implemented blood donation campaigns at the Carrasco Clinic.

The first one was held on June 28th, on account of the World Blood Donor Day, and others will take place during the year. To book an appointment: extension 4235.

### Your opinion is very important

Our members' personal experience using the BH services is very important for us in our continual quest for excellence.

We are carrying out a series of surveys that our members receive randomly after attending different services.

Your answers will help us improve. Thank you!

### Urology: new tests

We have added new tests for diagnosis and treatment in the Urology Department. Both urodynamic and uroflowmetry tests are now done at the Hospital in order to provide more services to our members.

### Emergency: service improvement

Our members can choose among different options for low complexity consultations without long waiting times:

- 1 · Day consultation
- 2 · Home doctor
- 3 · General practitioner: in-person or telephone consultation
- 4 · Book an appointment in the Emergency Department for the same day when the situation requires it (low complexity situations).
- 5 · Call UCM.

We have all these options to better cater for your needs.

### UCM: faster response in the event of a CPA

UCM materialised its project of reducing by 50% the maximum arrival time in the event of a cardiopulmonary arrest (CPA). In order to fulfil this objective it has incorporated 40 cutting-edge defibrillators to all its fleet and trained more than 250 doctors in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) using AED (Automatic External Defibrillators).

### UCM's heart saving community

UCM decided to invite all its members to receive training on cardiopulmonary resuscitation / AED and form part of UCM's heart saving community. The idea is to empower the population in identifying CPA and collaborate in CPR in an emergency.

This is a very good initiative for the whole community.

### Help Line, after discharge from hospital

We have reached an agreement with remote care service HELP LINE to accompany our members aged over 70 after discharge from hospital. Upon discharge and for 30 days the device is offered to the patient during recovery at home or in a nursing home. We believe it will be of great help to the patient and family during this period.

### New Metabolism and Obesity Unit

Its objective is to accompany patients in the process towards reaching an adequate weight, diminishing risk factors associated with obesity and having a better quality of life.

The unit is formed by a multidisciplinary team including endocrinology, diet therapy and nutrition, psychology and sports medicine.

It is an individual approach and group sessions are also available.

Endocrinology clinic ext. 4660

### Whatsapp on 2487 1020

With the same telephone number we have a chatbot to answer the most frequent questions in a prompt and effective way.

Save the phone number and let's start!





## Andropause

**Unlike menopause, andropause starts slowly in men, so slowly that they become accustomed to it.**

Notwithstanding the age, we can have a healthy sexuality. But certain symptoms which appear and affect our sexuality and pleasure must be taken care of.

The WHO deems that sexual health is crucial in order to have a good quality of life and well-being. Sexual medicine's aim is to improve people's quality of life, accompanying them in the process of extending their life and sexual satisfaction.

Many couples suffer some sort of sexual symptom. When men start having problems with their sexual health such as lack of initiative, loss of sexual drive and problems to reach an orgasm, it does not necessarily mean that they are having problems with their partner. It may be due to a sexual dysfunction, which, if taken care of in time can avoid many problems and may be reverted.

The most frequent dysfunction is erectile, normally called impotence. It affects men's self-esteem, and causes repercussions in the couple. More than 50% of men over 40 suffer from erectile dysfunction, and 90% have never asked for help. Generally men deny it, minimise it and are reluctant to see a doctor. One of the causes is circulatory problems. Erection is a hydraulic matter and any circulatory issue will cause erection dysfunctions. A decrease of testosterone, the sexual hormone by excellence, brings about erectile dysfunction. When the level of testosterone is lower than normal for the age, andropause appears.

Unlike menopause in women, andropause can be reverted. Men can continue secreting testosterone with certain stimuli. Testosterone helps to maintain bone density, distribution of fat, muscle mass and strength, facial and body hair, production of red blood cells, sex drive and production of sperm.



The decrease of testosterone levels produce the following symptoms: sleep disorders, including insomnia and restlessness, increase of irritable male syndrome (IMS), anger, impatience, difficulty with recent memory, depression, frustration, low self-esteem, loss of vital perspective, emotional blunting, increase of fat and loss of muscle, osteoporosis, among other sexual symptoms (loss of sexual drive, decrease in frequency of morning erections, erectile dysfunction, orgasm and ejaculation disorder).

Erectile dysfunction sometimes is organic and sometimes psychological. In men over 40 it is considered organic. When this happens the role of the partner is crucial. It is very important that she participates in the rehabilitation, informs herself on what her partner can do and cannot do and that she has a more active role in the sexual relationship. Supervised by a doctor, sexual life can and should continue.

It is a myth that the drugs that improve erection can bring about a heart attack. Erection problems are caused by the same risk factors that clog arteries, such as diabetes, obesity, hypertension, smoking, sedentary lifestyle and atherosclerosis. This is why it is crucial that men over 40 have a cardiovascular checkup. The cause of an erectile dysfunction could mean a cardiovascular disease in 2 to 4 years' time.

Erectile dysfunction could represent a risk of having a heart attack and diabetes, and should be treated. It is important to have regular checkups, as an early diagnosis is important.

*Article written from a podcast of Dr. Santiago Cedrés.*





## Wedding Singer

**A**fter two years without the Senior School's musical production, 2022 saw its return with "The Wedding Singer". During 8 days in August, the lights went on again over almost 100 actors, singers and dancers who performed to the delight of the audience.

School plays are rooted in our conviction of their profound educational value: students have the opportunity to develop personal and interpersonal skills as well as working in non-competitive collaboration. At the same time, the experience allows for strong ties within the extended School community, since the Choir is entirely composed by alumni, parents and teachers.

We are grateful for the return of this activity which is an icon of the School's bustling and vibrant life.







# Lunch Invitation

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 12:15 PM



Representative

**Ricardo López Murphy**

*The Prediction for South America  
The Argentine Phenomenon*

Parva Domus, Punta Carretas

Bvar Artigas 136, Esq. Parva Domus

Those in need of a special menu (celiac, diabetic, vegetarian, etc.)  
please notify the Club Secretary in advance to attend to your requirement.

More Information



[www.cub.com.uy](http://www.cub.com.uy)



## Thoughtful Conversations

**H**ow often do you have a really, really good conversation? A conversation that keeps you thinking, wondering, and investigating for the next few hours, days or perhaps weeks? Think of the best conversation you have enjoyed recently and ask yourself why did you enjoy it?

Perhaps you remember the laughter or the affirmation. Perhaps you enjoyed the intellectual focus on a particular topic you that interests you. Maybe you simply took the time to engage.

When we listen to learn, our conversations are much more enjoyable. When we listen only to defend one perspective, or to debate, or to deny, then we ruin the conversation and fail to appreciate the perspective of the person in front of us. Listening opens up new opportunities for our minds, emotions, imaginations, and intellect to grow. (I wonder if mind and intellect refer to the same?)

At Christ Church, we invited a visiting professor to lead us into some conversations that would be different from the usual fare. Sunday, September 24, was the first of three public interactions and it did not disappoint. Like good cup of coffee,

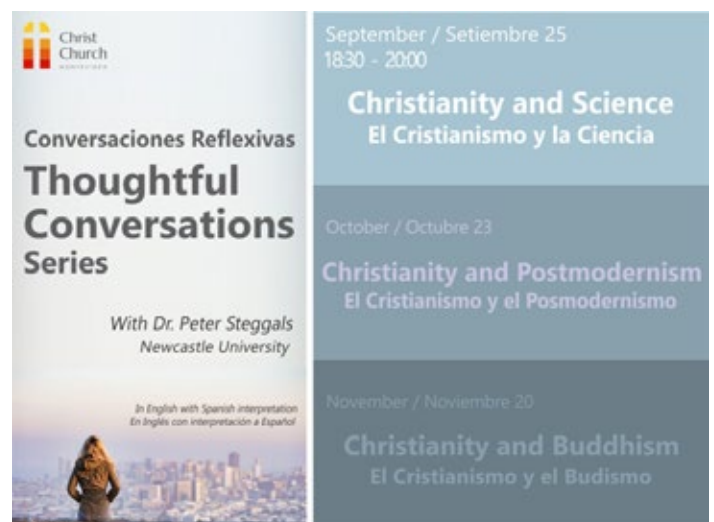
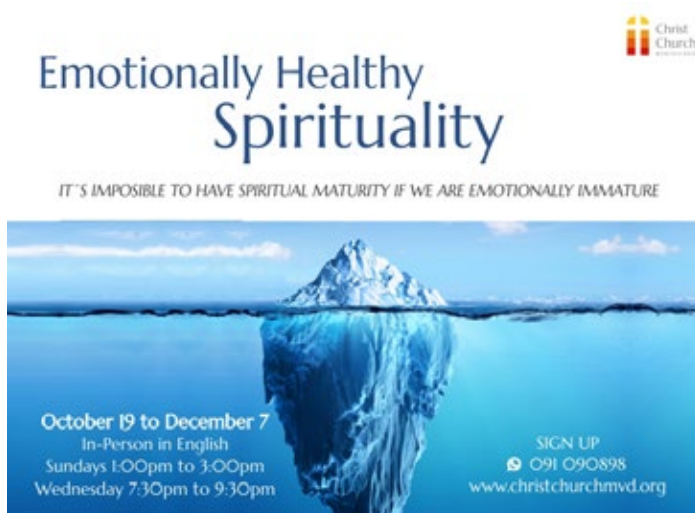
I loved the calm presentation blended with academic rigor and sweetened by spaces for input and feedback.

We are calling the series: "Thoughtful Conversations". Pete Steggals combines personal interest with academic experience to present these topics and to facilitate our interest, imagination, and intellect. We have the professor. Now we need you. Conversation takes two!

Eventually, all three will be available to view online on our website. But the Q/A interactions are only available in person. Simultaneous interpretation is available for those who prefer to listen in Spanish.

You are always welcome at Christ Church as a friend of the family.

Warm regards,  
Pastor John Hamilton







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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Cambridge International Associates Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean

In September Dickens Institute received an invitation from Cambridge Assessment International Education to a meeting of Associate Partners to be held at Cambridge on the week of September 19<sup>th</sup>. As a working member of the Board of Directors I had the privilege to be asked to attend the meeting as the Associate Partner from Uruguay.

Seven Associate Partners were received very warmly by Richard Gilby, Regional Director, Latin America and the Caribbean, Lucila Marquez, Senior Manager Latin America, Anik Blanchard, Regional Development Executive, Fabrizio Rossi Country Manager, and Stephanie Razo. Cambridge International had moved into a brand new building, the weather was quite warm so it was all very welcoming indeed!



There were very enriching meetings, exchange of ideas, information and so on. Each Associate Partner gave a presentation, which helped us all to develop new ideas. Listening to all this made me realise that Uruguay was doing very well indeed. On our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 30 years of which have been spent working very closely with Cambridge International, have helped us and our

Associate Schools to develop in a great many ways.

On our final day, Richard Gilby took our group punting! What a wonderful ending to our most useful five days in Cambridge meeting extraordinary people from other countries in South America and, of course, our excellent hosts!

*Sofia Scherschener, Board of Directors*





## Metacognition: Boosting students' learning

At Dickens we are always striving for excellence, and we deeply believe that teachers who really understand the power of metacognitive techniques are able to help their students learn more effectively.

Last September, we had the pleasure of hosting a two-day enrichment training course which Cambridge Assessment International Education delivered to help teachers boost their students' progress by developing better ways of learning.

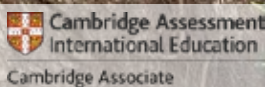
In these days, when the National Curriculum Framework is being revised, developing metacognition is one of the key principles: making thinking visible.

Teacher trainer, Ms. Jo-Anne Innes-Kruger, shared her expertise in the field with teachers from several bilingual schools and Dickens coordinators, who were really eager to learn more about this hot topic.



Jo-Anne provided valuable tools to help them recognise the different types of learners and provide a useful framework for teachers to develop learners' independence.

Attendees to the course, delved into the concept that metacognitive practices are useful for all learners from primary level upwards. Using metacognition improves students' academic achievement across learning domains and it helps students to transfer what they have learnt from one context to another. This includes reading and text comprehension, writing, mathematics, reasoning and problem-solving, and memorising.



***"Too often, we teach students what to think, but not how to think."***  
OECD (2014)







**His Majesty  
King Charles III**



  
**GOD  
SAVE  
THE  
KING**

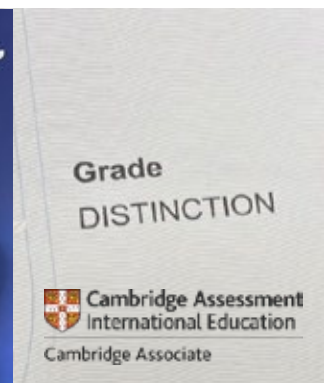
### Cambridge Educational Leadership



The Cambridge International Certificate in Educational Leadership allows participants to gain knowledge, validate their leadership skills, reflect upon their practice and exchange ideas and experiences with colleagues in similar roles.

A group of lovely and highly professional candidates embarked on this journey with us and have now received their certificates, which are proof of their hard work and dedication, as well as of the high standards achieved.

We will be offering this course again in 2023, as well as the Diploma in Educational Leadership, and I very much look forward to working with a new group of exceptional professionals who are committed to their professional development and willing to seek excellence.







## On the Canals

In my first springtime in England, in 1966, I spent a week or so with friends on what is called a narrowboat, cruising on the canals near Stoke-On-Trent. The English canal system forms a network in the Midlands that was created in the late 1700s as a way to transport coal and iron ore more rapidly and efficiently than by horse and cart. The network was designed to connect key mining, manufacturing, and distribution centres at the dawn of Britain's Industrial Age. The original canal boats were pulled by horses from a towpath, but it wasn't long before they were powered by little diesel engines that propelled them along at speeds of about four miles per hour. Then came the railways, in the mid-1800s, and canals just couldn't compete with the technology they had helped to create. The network was all but abandoned for a few years, until owners started refitting their narrowboats to accommodate tourists like us.

We rented one with a cabin that could sleep six. It was a bit rustic, not one of the newer ones, but it suited us perfectly. It had a small stove to boil water for tea, considered a priority by all. We had other beverages too, of course—bottles of wine and beer were kept cool in a canvas bag attached to the stern just below the waterline. We stopped here and there during the day at villages or pubs to buy sandwiches and things for lunch and dinner, and pastries of all sorts for breakfast. Sometimes we'd tie up alongside the back lawn of a pub and stop for a sausage and a pint. The best of those stops was at a pub serving fish & chips. Second was the one with steak-and-kidney pie.

There's nothing much to do on a narrowboat while puttering along on a canal. Someone takes the wheel and everyone else finds a spot to perch and watch the landscape drifting by. Fields of wildflowers, graceful old trees drooping down to touch the water, clear blue skies dotted with puffy white

clouds, then dappled greens and muted shades of red and yellow on rippling water sliding past the bow. Or read. We all brought a book or two to share, sometimes reading bits aloud. One day it rained. It started in the early hours and was falling steadily as we huddled under the awning on the stern deck for breakfast. Raindrops exploding on the surface of the water like little depth charges. Teacups in hand, we sat and watched the rain and smoked our Woodbines. At night, tied up to a mooring, we lit candles, and the flames reflected off the dark water, expanding the visible space around the boat. Sleep came easily on the canal. The water was almost still, but there was a gentle swell and a peaceful sense of being immersed in nature, completely enveloped by the natural world.

Birds were our constant companions and we got used to watching ducks and geese gliding serenely along beside us. At dusk we listened for owls hooting in the shadows. Foxes darted away up the towpath as we rounded a bend. When we met another boat coming from the opposite direction we drifted past each other carefully, waving or shaking hands and wishing each other bon voyage. There was a feeling of community on the canals, a sense of sharing something special with a limited circle of devotees. The most exciting parts of the trip were the locks, which are remarkable feats of eighteenth-century engineering designed to raise and lower boats when transitioning from one level of canal to another.

The sad day finally came when we returned the narrowboat and caught the train back to London. It had been a shoestring trip. None of us had any money at the time, but those days on the canals were idyllic in ways that had nothing to do with money. Being back in the city felt jarring and unnatural and for weeks I dreamed of the simplicity and tranquillity of life on the canals.





## A Local Tragedy

**W**hen I was in High School I had a very good teacher, Lumen Cabezudo Sposito, who, apart from bearing a very unusual name and surname that made him unforgettable, was also a professor at the state university. He perceived in me at the time a similar vocation to his own, and therefore allowed me to visit him at the university and made available to me books that were not supposed to be lent to high school students.

In 1955 he published a paper on Teaching at the University that had very commendable and well-reasoned arguments as to the duties of those who taught and also on how to treat the students with respect and encouragement so as to make them absorb knowledge more readily and permanently. He was very shy and was the object of all sorts of pranks by my fellow high school students, something that bothered me very much since I thought he deserved better treatment.

At one time, they bought a plastic imitation of dog poo and placed it near his desk. When he came in, he immediately saw it and called the janitor to remove it, who told him it was a joke. He laughed and scolded the students for their wicked sense of humour. But a couple of days later, they picked from the street the real thing and placed it on the same spot. When the teacher came in, he laughed and said, "So, you're back to your old tricks and stepped on it". He cried in disgust, had to clean his shoe and call the janitor again, while all but me, laughed heartily. He never complained to the high school authorities because of these pranks.

What I didn't know at the time was that he belonged to a family with very serious mental health problems that led to a series of almost unbelievable tragedies. His father had threatened to kill his mother, so his sister, Iris, grabbed a gun and shot him four times until he was dead. The case was a cause célèbre in the media at the time (the 1930s) and she was found to be unfit to stand trial due to her mental health at the time.

She studied to become a schoolteacher. After many years of a difficult relationship with her mother, she went to visit her, but before the door was slammed in her face to deny her entrance, she threw a stone at her mother that hit her on one leg. The wound became infected and the mother died shortly after. Then it was said of Iris that she had not only killed her father but her mother as well.

The couple had six children, four boys and two girls, Iris being the eldest. None of them ever got married; my professor died in 1987 and shortly after, the last surviving son, killed his dog and shot himself. Since there were no heirs, the family home became derelict and was soon after just ruins, as if it were one of those haunted houses we read about in gothic stories.

One would have never guessed the very tragic events that had marked the life of my mild-mannered, shy, very talented professor, without apparently ever having affected his demeanor and general kind and obliging behaviour.





## There's a Corner of Some Foreign Field...

The colonies were backward and primitive lands where Britons could make a difference by bringing civilisation to the natives while advancing their own careers, but they were dangerous places. Death in the colonies was a common and expected occurrence and provisions had to be taken. Montevideo was no exception, and even though colonists were in little danger of dying violently there, accidents, diseases and natural death prompted the foundation of the British cemetery in the early years of the republic. The first premises were well out of the walls of the fortified city and when the expansion of Montevideo engulfed it, the cemetery was moved to its actual location in Buceo neighbourhood. Anonymous and illustrious Britons rest at the British cemetery, but this was not the case for a certain Englishman, as close to a celebrity as Montevideo could have in the late XIX Century.

In November 1869 Africa turned into an island and India became 6,000 kilometres and one month closer to England than the day before. The African desert tribes also turned to be prime actors in the geo-political struggle of the European empires. Suddenly the cultural, political and religious aspects of Islam were important and experts on the subject, now with a self-appointed title, "Arabists" were looked for and coveted. One of the most famous of the Late Victorian Era was William Gifford Palgrave.

Palgrave was not an action man like Richard Burton. He was a scholar, a perfect functionary expert in the Middle East languages, culture and religion. It is difficult to explain and understand how the Foreign Office ended up sending Palgrave to Uruguay as its official representative in 1885. One can only imagine a scenario in which, after the Khartoum expedition debacle and the demise of Gordon, the Foreign Office gets rid of all the Arabian experts that had failed so miserably. Palgrave's destination would be more a slap in the face than a pat on the shoulder.

Son of a famous historian and antiquarian, Palgrave was educated at Charterhouse and Trinity College, Oxford, and lands in Montevideo at the time when the City of

London investors establish the Informal Empire in the region and fuel the Uruguayan modernisation with British technologies, British expertise and British investments and credit. Uruguay is then an important destination, one that expects its representatives to have some background of the region, something that Palgrave obviously lacks. He can boast having been a Jesuit priest in Madras, a missionary in Syria, a professor in Rome, and an expert in Arabian languages, but nothing that will help him in his official job in Montevideo where he would have had an uneventful three year tenure but for one small detail: he is one of the few British representatives to have died in active service in Uruguay, in October 1888. The Express, daily of Montevideo, announced the dismal news to the British community: "The British Minister had been very ill for some time and was found dead on Sunday morning. He was 62. Doctors certified the cause of death as weakness on account of not being able to eat for some time".

The London Athenaeum had something to say about his presence in Uruguay:

"We have said with much sadness, for that must always be the feeling experienced in recording the end of a career which, though distinguished, has not attained the full development of its early promise. Certain those who knew W.G. Palgrave's special qualifications would not have expected that a man of such complete command of Eastern matters would have ended his days as official representative of the British Government in South America. Such however, is the irony of fate".

Palgrave's body was embalmed and rested for a while in the vault of the Commercial Bank, whose director had been a close friend. The funeral service had to wait for the arrival of a ship of the American Navy which provided the honour guard. With the presence of the Uruguayan President and the whole British community, Palgrave was returned to the vault until a ship of the Royal Navy arrived to take his remains home. Thus, the British cemetery was denied the richer dust concealed of such illustrious Briton.





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## Is the pandemic over?

**I**n the minds of medical scientists, it's not. In everybody else's, it is. This September, President Joe Biden didn't mince his words when asked if the pandemic was over. "Yes!" was the answer – in the same tone and clarity as when asked if he would involve the US military in the event China invaded Taiwan. In both cases, the medical and military intelligentsia, already used to Joe's occasional gaffes, offered their interpretations as to what he really meant, which helped little.

In fact, statistics show that the number of cases is gradually decreasing in most countries, although some Europe countries show an uptick. The problem is that counting cases isn't a good measurement of what's happening at this stage, as most countries aren't testing as rigorously as a few months ago. The number of COVID-19 related deaths, however, can be considered hard data, as these are counted without exception. Worldwide, around 1700 daily deaths are reported, of which 400 are in the US and slightly above 1 in Uruguay. The testing positivity rate hovers between slightly above and below 10 percent, which is above the 5 percent recommended by the WHO.

In Uruguay, there is at present no booking for vaccines: you just show up and get the jab if you're a candidate. Most of the severe cases and deaths happen in those above 65 years of age with medical comorbidities, and the overwhelming majority of these persons are fully vaccinated (2 doses) and a significant number are already 1 or 2 times boosted (4 doses). In virtually all studies, being vaccinated (especially if boosted) is by far the best way of keeping out of harm's way.

During the eleven days that separated Queen Elizabeth II's death and burial, crowds of tens of thousands gathered in open and in closed spaces, all in close proximity, and very few used a mask. This was probably the best example of

where people's (and government's) moods are now: let's-move-on mode.

I still wear a mask when riding a bus, inside a health facility (it's required) and keep one stuffed into a pocket, just in case I have to don it.

Therefore, from a practical standpoint, the pandemic is over (unless we have a bounce-back from an unexpected mutation). The main problem will be dealing with long-COVID, still a poorly defined condition, but incapacitating for many nonetheless. As we approach the end of the third year of the pandemic, we have learned that this is not a benign bug. It may cause lasting damage to the brain, the heart, the lungs and other organ systems. We know that this harm is cumulative: having had COVID twice adds to whatever scars the first infection caused. Brain fog, a cognitive disorder that may last for months after the acute phase, is a worrying disability. Those who perform highly specialised tasks or need to make critical decisions, may be badly affected – a problem noticed by the patient and others. We may (and some statistics may be showing this) be experiencing an increased incidence of heart disorders, including early cardiovascular death, due to the effect of COVID.

As I'm writing this post, the world's worries have more to do with inflation, to be followed by recession, weather extremes like heat waves, fires, torrential rain, flooding, typhoons and storms, political unrest and nuclear-warhead rattling by Putin.

COVID has become a background murmur.





TIERA DE SOLIS  
TIERA DE PATAGONES:

## Mr. Roger Barlow and the unknown story of South America's conquest

**H**ere is a story about which very little has been said and which is still under investigation.

Although the great historical relevance of our character few people know about the first Englishman to set foot on Uruguayan soil, a marine named Roger Barlow, who was involved with the most notable protagonists of the "America's first discovery".

Mr. Barlow was a sailor, born in England around the year 1480. It is known that while he was still a child, he worked in the ultra-maritime business of his father John Barlow of Chorlton; an important Customs Officer both in Bristol and Chelchester, well-known for trading woolen clothes and sugar from Morocco.

Historical documents from that time give us a clue of the bonds, political and commercial, between the Barlows and another famous father-son pair: the explorers John Cabot (or Giovanni Gaboto) and his son Juan Sebastián Gaboto.

Whatever the anecdote result on, the fact is that Sebastián Gaboto travelled from England to take up the position of Grand Pilot and Admiral of Spain in 1517 while he settled in Seville with his brother in arms, the Englishman Roger Barlow.

Being not an ordinary explorer, Gaboto had the personal support of Fernando "the Catholic", and later from Carlos I of Spain and Queen Juana of Castilla, to capitulate the South American continent on behalf of the Castilian kings.

Such a strategic expedition had been prepared for years, until in April 1526, the fleet set sail heading America from a small port in Andalucía.

Mr. Barlow commanded the caravels, where important explorers travelled, such as the brothers Álvaro and Juan Núñez de Balboa, co-discoverers of Panamá, Antonio de Montoya, who would become Francisco Pizarro's partner in Peru's conquest campaign in 1534, and a small group of Spanish nobles.

A separate chapter deserves the discovery of the "Río de



*Portrait of the Emperor Carlos V, wearing the badge of the Order of the Golden Fleece, the same one that he extended to Roger Barlow in 1529.*

Solís" and the capitulations of the "Río de la Plata" and the Argentinian land, but today we'd like to emphasize the fact that these conquerors settled in Uruguay, on the shores of the San Salvador River in Soriano, not only setting up a port there but also a fortification and several harvesting grounds where wheat grains were grow for the first time in America.

In August 1528, Barlow departed from the San Salvador settlement in the company of Hernando Calderón, the expedition treasurer, to report the discoveries to Carlos I of Spain. "Three sheep of the earth" were taken by him to Spain (camelids of the vicuña type unknown to Europeans up to that time), some young men from the native populations, and the pieces of silver metal obtained from the Río de la Plata.

Mr. Barlow arrived at the port of Lisboa, where he was received by the Castellan ambassador who wrote a letter to the king saying: "the news given by this emissary of Gaboto about the wealth of the lands it is so stupendous that I cannot but communicate to the Emperor that he would not need to worry about the trade of spices, because he would have more gold and silver than he needs".

Later in November that same year, Mr. Barlow travelled to Sevilla to give the King the report personally, who decorated him with the order of the Golden Fleece in gratitude for his work and devotion.

Mr. Barlow died at Slebech, Pembrokeshire, Wales in the year 1554, but not before leaving many adventures that deserve to be told.

*Planisphere drawn up at the return of Sebastián Gaboto's expedition in 1529, by Diego Ribero, cartographer of Carlos I of Spain.*





## Encuentro Británico-Oriental

Every year, since 2004, the old British enclave of San Jorge, in the department of Durazno, dresses up for an event that celebrates its British roots.

During the 19th century, Estancia San Jorge was a center of agricultural progress and modernization; it promoted advances in cattle breeding, the fencing-off of land to secure private property, the afforestation of fields, and with the construction of a flour mill ushered in the industrialization of the countryside. The Estancia was also the place that saw in 1897 the first horseback polo matches played by British riders on Uruguayan soil.

The Encuentro Británico-Oriental is a festival that celebrates and reaffirms the pride in this shared history and the marks left in the landscape, the collective imagination and the identities of those Orientales who trace their roots back to it.

The event, a legacy of those rural activities and festivities which in the past took place in the farm fields, will take place this year over the weekend of November 19th and 20th. Activities will include horseback riding competitions, music shows, stands selling food and handcrafted goods, a parade on Sunday, and a guided visit to the most relevant historical points of interest: Estancia San Jorge, Cementerio de los Ingleses, Molino Memorial de los Ingleses (currently under construction) and Capilla San Jorge.







## Paiva Institute

**H**ello! Sorry for not introducing ourselves properly in the previous article. We are Juan José, Robin and Santiago, and we want to continue telling you about Paiva, our home. This time around we would like to tell you something about our orchard and vegetable pad.

Every day, after returning from our studies, we have lunch and go to work growing our own food organically. Everything has to be properly tended so as to get the best products from our labour and the land. We grow a variety of fruits and vegetables that are turned in our kitchen into tasty meals for everyone.

This work is also fruitful in its educational value; we will use our learning in the future in our jobs and in our homes to help our families. We are taught about the times when it is not convenient to sow and cultivate; for example, parsley must be cultivated during the waning moons of January and August so that they do not flower, and thus we can have parsley all year round. We have also learned about how to harvest of melons, watermelons, and sweet potatoes. We've been taught that these plants cannot receive frost as it prevents them from growing.

Working in the vegetable garden is a team effort that fosters lively and nurturing conversations among us in tune with the rhythm of the task. Together we try to improve the yield and quality of our produce, and we appreciate enjoying the fruits of our labour at our table.





by Phillip Berzins  
sbpberzins@hotmail.com



## Gnocchi Parisienne

**G**nocchi Parisienne are the French version of the Italian classic comfort food.

In Italy there are basically two versions of gnocchi. Gnocchi di Patate which are made by mixing mashed potatoes, flour and eggs to form a thick starchy dough. The other version of Italian gnocchi is Gnocchi alla Romana, which are made from semolina cooked with milk or water and the resulting mash spread out onto a baking tray and allowed to cool and solidify before being cut into the desired shapes. The shaped gnocchi are placed onto a greased baking tray and baked with butter, cheese and any other ingredients, until crispy.

Gnocchi Parisienne are lighter and airier than the Italian version. They are made with pâte à choux, which is the same dough used for profiteroles and éclairs. Once shaped they are poached before being baked or fried.

### Ingredients – 4 Portions

- 250 ml water
- 65 g butter
- 125 g flour
- 4 eggs
- 30 g grated parmesan cheese
- Salt, pepper
- Grated nutmeg

### Béchamel Sauce

- 35 g butter
- 35 g flour
- 500 ml milk
- Salt, nutmeg

### To Finish

- 50 g grated parmesan cheese
- 25 g butter

### Method

Bring the 250 ml of water to the boil together with the butter. Once the butter has melted, remove from the heat and add all the flour in one go. Mix well with a wooden spoon and return to the heat stirring continually until the mixture comes away from the sides of the pan. Remove from the heat again and allow to cool slightly before adding the eggs one by one fully incorporating each egg before adding the next one. Finally, add the grated cheese, salt and pepper and nutmeg.

Bring a large pot of salted water to the boil. Place the gnocchi mixture into a piping bag with a plain ½ inch-wide nozzle. With the water at a gentle simmer, hold the piping bag over the water and press out the dough while at the same time using a small sharp knife to cut the dough into one-inch pieces before they drop into the water. If necessary, wet the point of the knife in the simmering water to prevent the dough from sticking to it.

Simmer the gnocchi -in small batches so as not to overcrowd the pan- for several minutes or until they float to the surface. Be careful not to overcook or they will become mushy.

With a slotted spoon remove the gnocchi once cooked and cool quickly in iced water before draining and drying on paper towels. At this stage the gnocchi can be stored in a fridge for up to 12 hours before using.

To make the béchamel sauce melt the butter in a saucepan and add the flour stirring continuously with a wooden spoon. Cook for two minutes before adding the milk little by little, only adding more when the mixture is homogeneous. Simmer for five minutes stirring occasionally to prevent sticking. Season with salt and nutmeg.

To finish – line a baking tray with a thin layer of béchamel sauce and arrange the gnocchi on top. Cover with the remaining sauce. Sprinkle with grated cheese and small knobs of butter. Preheat the oven to 180°C and bake for between 15 and 25 minutes until bubbling and nicely browned.

Enjoy with a glass of crisp white wine.

A simpler way to make these gnocchi once simmered and dried is to fry them in a hot pan with melted butter and sage leaves until they crisp up. Finish by squeezing over a little bit of lemon juice and grated parmesan cheese.

The recipe can also be altered slightly by adding crispy bacon or ham, cooked mushrooms, chopped cooked spinach, etc. These ingredients should be added in between the layers of béchamel and gnocchi.

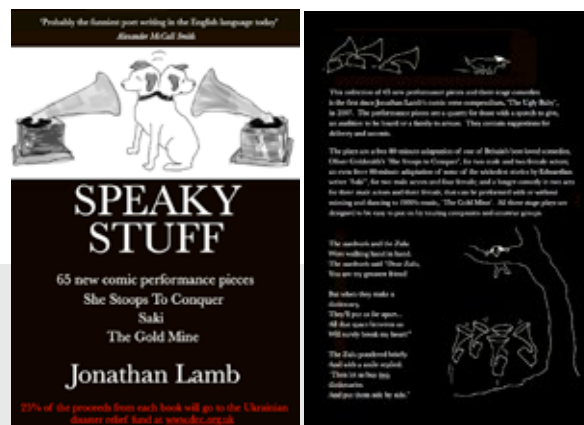


## The Conspiracy Theorist

A conspiracy theorist breathed his last  
And to the Pearly Gates he flew.  
'What secret is there,' he was asked,  
'That you have always wished you knew?'

'Who killed JFK!' he cried. 'Oh, that's a trifle:  
Lee Harvey Oswald,' said St Peter.  
'As reported. On his own - Italian rifle -  
Carcano bolt-action repeater.'

The conspiracy theorist said 'Ho ho!'  
And gave a knowing snort.  
'Clearly,' he said, 'This all must go  
Higher than I thought!'



From Jonathan Lamb's new book of performance material, *Speaky Stuff*, published in June 2022 with a quarter of the cover price (\$1000 or a twenty-pound note) going to the Ukrainian disaster relief fund at [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk). To order copies, write to [vozinglesa@gmail.com](mailto:vozinglesa@gmail.com).

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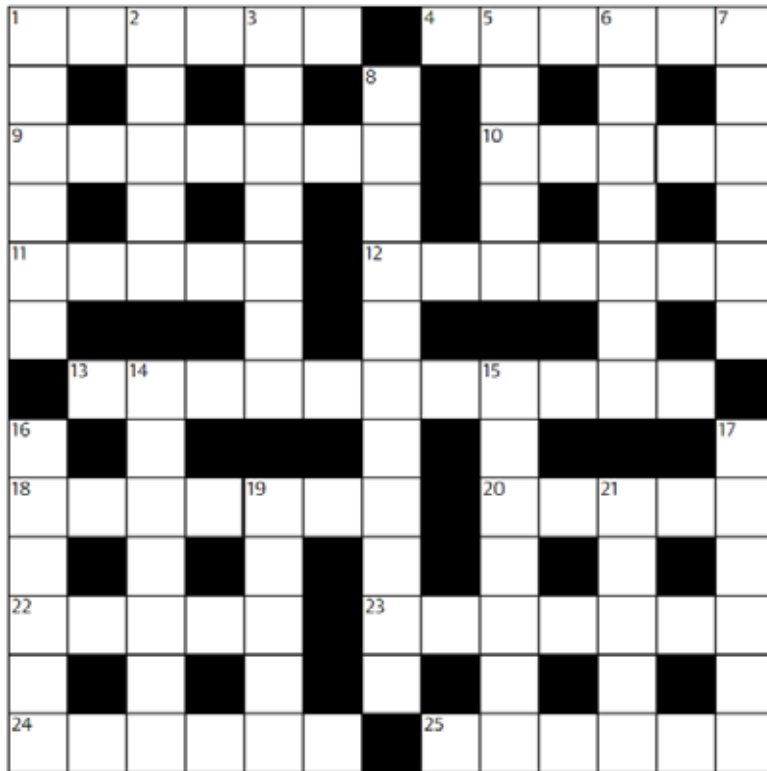
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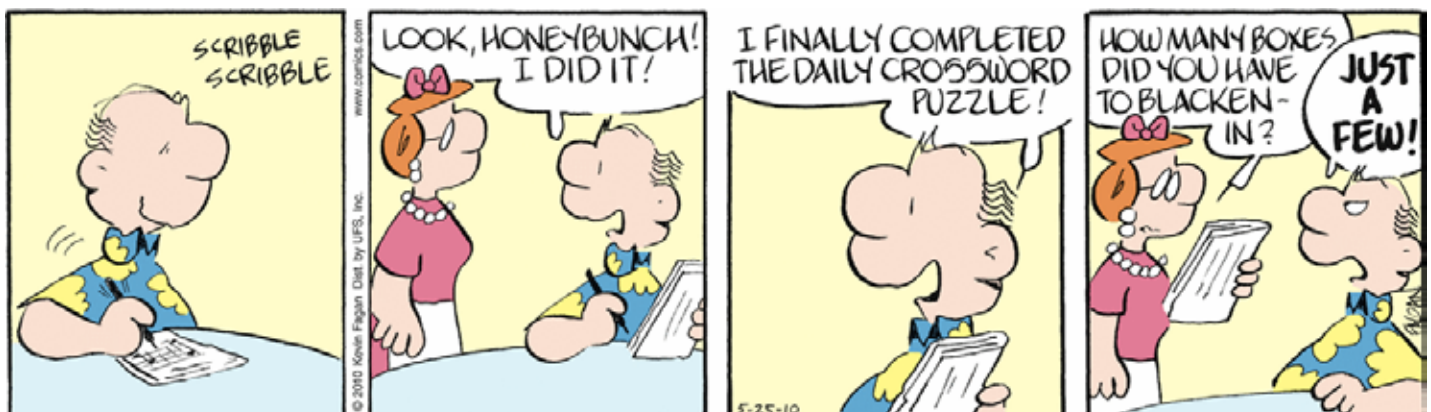


## Across

- 1 Intrigue (6)
- 4 Rigidly old-fashioned (6)
- 9 Novice (7)
- 10 Select a target (3,2)
- 11 Youngest of the Bennet sisters in Pride and Prejudice (5)
- 12 Unusual (7)
- 13 Closely question (11)
- 18 Third and last epoch of the three divisions of European prehistory (4,3)
- 20 Something used by mountaineers, college porters and beavers (5)
- 22 Pile of stones (5)
- 23 Lacking the means to fight back (7)
- 24 In a straightforward way (6)
- 25 Superfluous (6)

## Down

- 1 Wooden bench with 6s and a high back (6)
- 2 Discerned (5)
- 3 Authority (7)
- 5 Swallow in a single draft (5)
- 6 Smarter (anag) (7)
- 7 Deceased's money and property (6)
- 8 Capable — of cruel ruse (anag) (11)
- 14 Silvery metal used in superconducting alloys, Nb (7)
- 15 Brave — charmer (7)
- 16 Travelling show (6)
- 17 Piercing instrument (6)
- 19 Quash (5)
- 21 Walt Disney's (stupid?) flying elephant (5)



Drabble by Kevin Fagan - <https://www.gocomics.com/>



## REEL OF THE MONTH



### The happy history of the word 'cheers'

In the English language, there aren't many happier histories than that of the word 'cheers'. From a Latin term for your face, to the toasting word we know today, etymologist and broadcaster Susie Dent raises a glass in salute to one of our favourite exclamations.

**BBC**  
**REEL**



## ARTICLE OF THE MONTH



### The 'super-deep' royal diamonds revealing Earth's secrets

The largest diamonds in the British Crown Jewels may be pieces of the ancient ocean floor, which have drifted down into the interior of our planet – then come back up again.

**CLICK HERE TO  
READ THE ARTICLE**



**BBC**



# Meet our columnists

## Tony Beckwith

**Column:** Back in Time

**Topic:** History, nostalgia

*How long have you been a writer for Contact?*

I have been writing for Contact since December 2006. Prior to that I had been writing some short stories about my childhood and adolescence in Montevideo and wanted to share them with people who would understand the context and the references, in other words my school friends and members of the community where I grew up. So I was delighted to be able to publish them in the society's newsletter. It turned into a regular column that, at some point, became "Back in Time."

*What inspires your monthly column?*

Over the years I have veered off my original topic and published stories about other experiences I had later on as I traveled and moved around. But most of these stories have some connection to Uruguay or Great Britain or Australia. I would describe "Back in Time" as a general-interest column based on personal experiences in Uruguay and various other parts of the world.

*Which is your favourite article to date?*

If I had to pick a favourite piece, I would say "The Fine Four Marbles," first published in September 2007. It was a snapshot of the boys' playground at the British Schools in the early-1950s and it struck a chord with many old friends who recognized some of their own memories in the story about playing marbles at school. It was later published in the Schools' Centenary book in 2008.

*Tell us a little about yourself.*

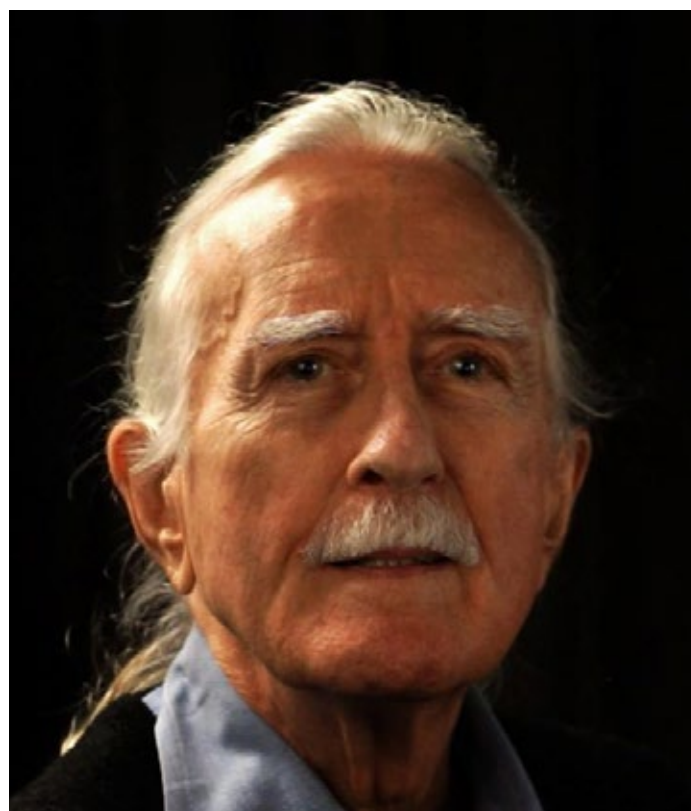
I was born in Buenos Aires, but my parents moved us to Montevideo when I was three. I lived in Montevideo until I was twenty, in 1965, and then set off to see the world. I now live in Austin, Texas.



I was educated at the British Schools and, among other things, spent some dozen years in advertising agencies in Uruguay, Spain, and Australia, then a similar period in the restaurant business in Texas. For the last twenty-five years I have been a free-lance literary translator, mainly in the art field.

*Where can we see more of you and your work?*

There is more about me at: [www.tonybeckwith.com](http://www.tonybeckwith.com)







### In Memory of Mirita Pool

**W**e were all deeply saddened to hear of the death of Mirita Pool on August 28th. Mirita will be terribly missed by her family, of course, but also by the wider British Community, of which she was a true pillar. Mirita didn't hold office in the Community because that was not her style: she preferred to help and support in a much more unobtrusive way. For example, she was one of the most faithful Lecture Supper cooks, always willing to cook for dozens when time was short and so were the chefs. Mirita was the epitome of reliability whenever she was needed..

And Mirita provided the same staunch support for her remarkable family in their service to the British Community. She was at Chris's side when he served on the committees of the Anglo, The British Legion (later The Allies), the Hospital, the British Society and much more. She was the most caring of mothers and grandmothers, ensuring that her four grandsons always knew that she was there for them and that they could always count on her. And when Geraldine took up a position as headmistress of the Anglo School, and Madeleine served on the committees of the Hospital and the British Society, Mirita was there to counsel and encourage.

Not that she was a sobersides, far from it. As she talked, there was a mischief in her eye and in her smile. And who else would fix a sail to her bike and set off on a wind-driven race down the main street of La Paloma?

Mirita was known by family and friends as a truly joyful spirit, a guiding light for her lovely family, and a great friend and companion for our British Community. We shall miss her dreadfully but we also have the consolation of having had the privilege of knowing her and sharing so many good times with her.

We send our very sincere condolences to Chris and the family, together with the assurance that all your friends in the British Community are around you at this very sad time.



HM KING CHARLES III



**God Save The King**

