

ANDREA SUBERCASEAUX-BATEMAN

Andrea Subercaseaux-Bateman who passed away recently at the Royal Trinity Hospice after a long battle with cancer was a member of Roehampton Club since 2014.

She was born in Santiago to a Chilean father and a Dutch mother and was educated to the age of 11 in French at the Lycée Francais in Santiago where she once received a language prize from none other than President de Gaulle on his state visit in 1964.

She was subsequently educated at international schools in Peru, Argentina, and Venezuela and an American high school in New York before studying modern languages at Manchester University.

Andrea then received a diploma in interpreting from the Polytechnic of Central London before moving to Brussels to work as a freelance for the European Commission, which is where she met, Peter, her husband who subsequently left Brussels to join the Foreign Office.

During their marriage, they spent most of Peter's career on overseas postings to countries as varied as Japan (twice), Germany, Bolivia, Luxembourg and Azerbaijan.

Andrea had three main passions in life: family, friends, and interpreting.

First and foremost, she was a loving mother to Jamie, Sam, and Laura. Nothing mattered more to her than her children and nothing was too much effort. She was a constant, loving and supportive presence in their lives to the very end.

She was a kind and supportive friend with a gift for maintaining and cultivating relationships over many decades and across many continents.

And she was a formidably talented interpreter much in demand for international conferences all over the world. One mark of her standing in this world was the recent moving gesture of the Secretary-General of the IMO who held a minute's silence in her honour at a recent meeting.

She loved bridge and when her illness permitted was a regular figure at bridge evenings at the Club. She will be missed by all who knew her.

