



Austrian Cultural Society
AUSTRIAN CLUB MELBOURNE

NEWSLETTER

VOL.II/No.11 - NOVEMBER 2006

Maskenball!



Fancy Dress Ball

Saturday, 18 November

Austrian Club Melbourne

This Newsletter is the official publication of the Austrian Cultural Society - Austrian Club Melbourne Inc.

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November 2006

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Otto Griesmayr - *President*
Dieter Bajzek - *1st Vice President*
Margaret Hirschauer - *2nd Vice Pres.*
Otto Ruf - *Treasurer*
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A.C.M. Objectives

A very brief & selective summary

- To make known and promote Austrian culture in Australia with particular emphasis on Austrian fine arts, music and literature.
- To arrange performances of Austrian music in Australia.
- To maintain and develop the Austrian Cultural Centre as a place for providing cultural, social, recreational and sporting facilities from the joint funds of the Club.
- To help enable children to participate in social, cultural and artistic activities.

Events Preview

October was a busy month, as most of you would have realised by now, but that does not mean you can just sit at home now and wait for Christmas.

The European "Fasching" (roughly translated as Carnival season) starts officially on the 11th November. To celebrate this, we have planned a fun evening for all:

"Tanz in den Fasching"

in other words, a **Fancy Dress Ball**, a "Maskenball", or whatever you want to call it. The main thing is that we need **YOUR** participation on that night to make



it a successful event!! It's easier than you think to find something funny, silly or even unusually beautiful to wear for that night. Please come along, join in the fun, relax and have a great time. Alpine Cocktail will provide the music, and note

that we have given you some encouragement: every person wearing fancy dress will get **FREE entry**, and there will be prizes for best male, best female and best couples in costume. This is the first fancy dress event in a few years, so let's not make it the last one! And remember, you don't have to wear a costume to come to the dance.

Another event of quite a different nature is the forthcoming annual Christmas concert by the Robert Stolz Society at the Club on Sunday 26th November, entitled "Christmas in Vienna". As usual, a pleasant quality program of singing and ballet. Note that bookings are only through the R.S. Society (see program). Kitchen and bar will be open as usual.

Club's activities in December include the **Krampus & Nikolaus** weekend (2. and 3. December), the **Christkindl Market** on Sunday 10th December, the **Christmas Carols** with the Austrian Choir (Sunday, 17. December), and of course **New Year's Eve** celebrations, which will also feature a floorshow by a fabulous Chinese acrobat! Please note that tickets for this night must be pre-paid by 3rd December.

Hope to see you soon, Dieter Bajzek.

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Vice-President's Report

Dear Club Members and Friends of the Austrian Club Melbourne,

As our President Otto Griesmayr is still overseas, I am pleased to present you another brief report about the main happenings in our Club during October. All the so-called regular Saturdays and Sundays were pleasant evenings and afternoons, with quite a few guests bringing groups of friends and family to celebrate special birthdays and anniversaries at the Club. Most of our musical dance bands were active in October and provided diverse and enjoyable entertainment. They included Silver Echoes, Dutch Duo, René & David, Heinz, Julia & Dieter, and Marianne & Mimmo.

The first weekend saw the John Wanner Swing Orchestra hold its 4th big band dance this year at the Club. These nights have been steadily increasing in popularity and followers from all around Melbourne have been coming for a very lively and swinging night out. The Club was totally booked out - even in the Kellerstube, a successful night for the patrons and the Club. By request we have already put in place four evenings for next year with this band.

No doubt, the highlight of this month - and in many ways for the whole year so far - was our 2nd Spring Festival. Already several weeks beforehand the Club was booked out. We frantically tried to squeeze more and more "desperate" guests into the building, until every chair in every room was booked (I counted exactly 300 bookings) and we even booked tables outside in the garden. We hired more tables and chairs than last time, bought more food and drinks, and on the day it still was not enough. We even booked tables outside in the garden. Despite being a rather cold day (fortunately the rain just held off in Heidelberg), we had a huge crowd outside as well, estimated to be a total of over 1000 people, and many new faces were to be seen. The word about the quality and great atmosphere of our festivals is obviously getting around.

Personally, I was pleased with the entertainment and the way it ran like clockwork - in the hall and on the outside stage. Our guests saw and heard a range of unusual performances, like the exciting Brazilian Capaeiro (a cross between dance and martial arts with plenty of percussion). The audience participation was really good to see, especially with the young children. Also appreciated was "Inka Marka" with their beautiful and haunting songs and music from the Andes (South America), and so was the contrasting big and colourful "Croatian Dawn" dance group, and René keeping the music going with great gusto in the main hall. There was plenty to do for the children also, including pony rides, face painting, the playground and ice cream van.

But a very special thank you has to be awarded to all our many vol-

unteers who made this festival possible with their hard work, not only on the day but already beforehand with all the preparation. We even managed to build a new dance floor for outside next to the "beergarden", which is collapsible and stored away. There were too many volunteers to mention here, but a huge effort well-done, in setting up, taking down, cleaning, and serving drinks, cooking food, running the office, parking hundreds of cars, and much, much more. Thank you each and everyone for your help!

The other major event in October was of course our National Day celebration on the last Sunday, and again, the hall (and Strauss Stube) was booked out in advance. The tables were decorated with fresh flowers and burning oil lanterns, and our guests made an effort to dress up for the occasion, which provided that extra feeling of importance and relevant dignity. The Consul General, Mr Otto Zambelli, was present to welcome the members and guests and convey a message from the Austrian Government, Bruno Klepp guided us through the afternoon, and I added my part where necessary. The Austrian Choir presented another varied program of Austrian songs and music, which was visibly appreciated by the audience, and Julia and myself played an hour of dance music after the concert to finish on a cheerful and happy note.

However, a very special moment of the afternoon was the presentation by Otto Zambelli of the "Silver Cross of Honour" from the Republic of Austria to past president Walter Hauser for his work in representing Austria in Australia, who responded with an emotional acceptance speech and who's family was present to witness this important occasion.

The Choir - and of course, I also personally - were surprised and pleased to receive a document of appreciation from the "Deutschen Sängerbund", represented by it's Australian current secretary Hans Roleff, for the 25th Anniversary of the Austrian Choir this year. Six of the Choir members who had been with the Choir for all these 25 years also received a special recognition. With my hat as Club vice-president firmly on my head, I congratulate the Choir to this milestone and all its good work of presenting Austrian music all around Australia over these years.

It should be noted here for your information that all the major dances, events and concerts in the Club so far have been very successful this year and showed an increase in interest, attendance and also income compared to last year. I take this as a very good sign of things to come and hope that we can keep this momentum going and are looking into a fairly bright future for our Club.

Hoping to see you soon at the Club, Dieter Bajzek.



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News, Notices & Celebrations



Recently elected President of the German Club Tivoli, Edmund Reichmann and his wife Evelyn enjoying themselves at the Club's Spring Festival.



This is the Club's new mascot - the little "Sparschweinchen". When you see it at the reception desk sometimes, don't be afraid of it! It's quite tame and friendly - especially when you put some money in its back. So please be kind to it and feed it!



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Table Tennis group

Some of the table tennis members worked on the Spring Festival Sunday and helped to make it such a great success. Our group is still playing on Mondays from 7pm-9pm in the sports pavilion. All standards are welcome as we have a relaxed competition with men and women playing doubles and mixed doubles.

Ladies Group

Our handcrafts group had great success at the recent Spring Festival and we were able to contribute \$900 to the Club. In addition one of the ladies, Marie, assisted our committee member Monika to sell \$1,044 worth of raffle tickets.

At a previous stall on Father's Day the Ladies sold \$758.50 of goods and raffle tickets that went straight to the Club account. We would like to thank all those who buy stall crafts or raffle tickets and thereby assist the Club.

Erika Pfeiffer is also to be congratulated for the many hours she maintains the "Schatzkammer" shop and she also contributed \$937 through sales to the Spring Festival income.

New Year's Eve

Just another reminder that all bookings for New Year's Eve must be paid in full by 3rd December. This is to assure that we do not have empty seats on the night and we do not send guests away who might have had room otherwise.



Lee Mohtaji, fabulous Chinese acrobat pictured above, will provide a stunning floorshow on New Year's Eve. Bookings are well advanced, so please hurry if you want to book the few remaining seats left.

Club Land Auction

As agreed to at the recent Annual General Meeting, the Club is in the process of selling the back part of its land. The first opportunity will be at the forthcoming auction on Thursday, 16th November, at 3pm on site at the Club. However, we do not have to sell if offers do not reach our reserve price. Wish us good luck anyway!

Celebrating at the Club



Irma Corlass celebrating her 90th Birthday with family and friends



Tony Duray, with his wife Marianne (above), celebrated his 70th birthday recently with a big party in the Strauss Stube. Photo below shows the set-up before the celebration (sorry, no colour).

Here is a Thank You note they sent to the Club after the successful party:

Dear Julia & Günter,
I would like to sincerely thank you and all who helped to make my Tony's 70th birthday so special. Thank you Julia for the way you set everything up - the balloons, the flowers, the great friendly service, the beautiful birthday cake (thank you Elfriede), the coffee service and, last but not least to you Günter. Thank you for the very tasty beautiful meal that you prepared. From the Antipasto, the main meal, to the pancakes. Everything was just perfect and was enjoyed by all. Once again, thank you so very much to each and everyone of you.

With love and appreciation from
Marianne Duray.



Spring Festival 2006

RIGHT:
"Inka Marka"
in full flight
on the garden
stage, delighting
the audience
with their
beautiful music



Three young "groovers" getting
ready for action



ABOVE:
The busy, yet
idyllic scene at
the Festival

RIGHT:
The beautiful
"Croatian Dawn"
folkloric ensemble
in the garden
after their
performance



ABOVE:
One of the
Capoeira
dancers
astounding
the specta-
tors with a
spectacular
head-spin.



ABOVE: The mystery man, only
known by his pseudo name
"Rübezahl", having a quiet drink.



The Austrian Consul General, Otto Zambelli,
his wife Ida, and President of the Geelong
Austrian Club Gus Devatti enjoying the
Festival with a Gösler beer from Austria.



LEFT: Monika Friedrich, our "Raffle
Queen", in a victory dance after
the successful raffle draw.

Photos in this Newsletter by
Stephen Hatton & Otto Ruf

Austrian National Day 2006



LEFT: The Consul General Otto Zambelli presenting Walter Hauser with the "Silver Cross" from the Austrian Government.

ABOVE: Walter making the most of his acceptance speech, with Otto Zambelli looking on approvingly.



Bruno Klepp obviously enjoying his duty as master of ceremony on National Day.



Dieter Bajzek welcoming the many guests on National Day, before conducting the Austrian Choir Melbourne in a diverse program of Austrian music, including the fine pianist Majella Drew and the Choir "Stubenmusik". The Choir celebrates its 25th Anniversary this year and has well over 300 public performances to its credit, as well as four CD recordings.



Poldi Klepp reading another one of her original and charming poems in dialect.



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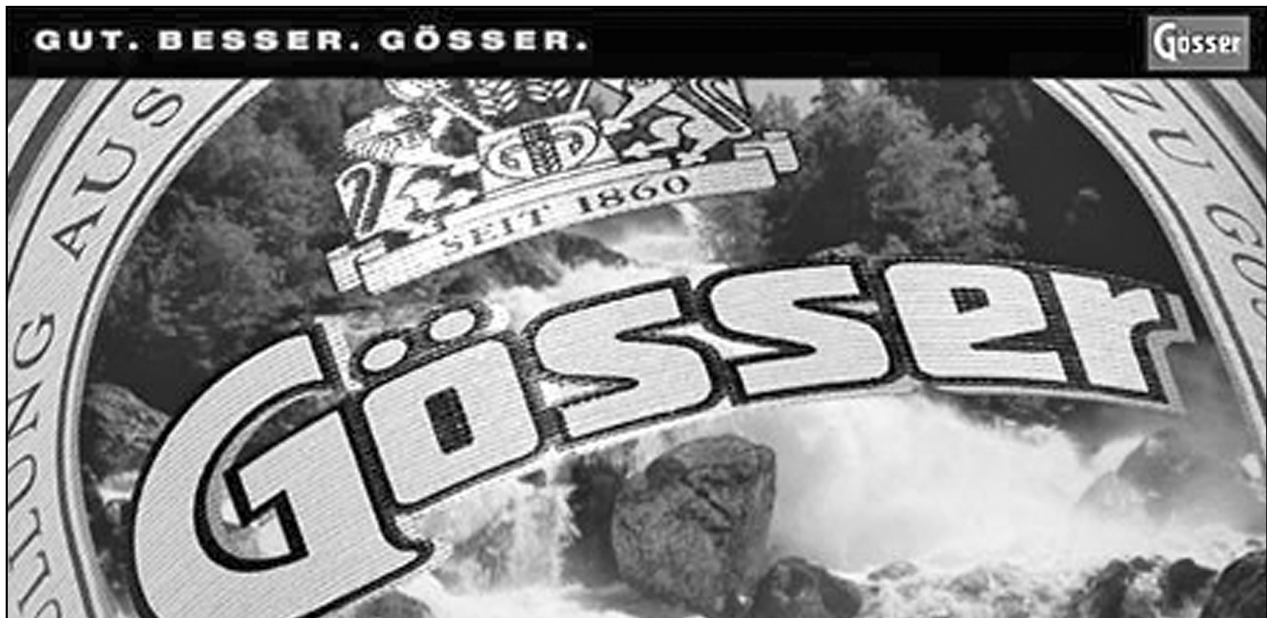
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November 2006

SATURDAY 4.

Stockschießer Annual Dance

Music & Dance with **Alpine Cocktail**

Admission: Members \$10 Guests \$15 - includes supper

SUNDAY 5.

Music & Dance with **René** - Admission free

SATURDAY 11.

Music & Dance with **Silver Echoes**

Admission: Members \$7 Guests \$11

SUNDAY 12.

Music & Dance with **Heinz** - Admission free

SATURDAY 18.

Fancy Dress Ball

Music & Dance with **Alpine Cocktail** plus floorshow

Prizes for best male, best female and best couple in fancy dress.

Admission: Members \$10 Guests \$15

FREE Entry for guests in fancy dress!!

SUNDAY 19.

Music & Dance with **Marianne & Mimmo** - Admission free

SATURDAY 25.

Music & Dance with **Julia & Dieter**

Admission: Members \$7 Guests \$11

SUNDAY 26.

"Christmas in Vienna" - Robert Stolz Society Concert

Start: 2 pm - All bookings through the Robert Stolz Society

Tel: 9457 6449 or 9836 7214

Lunch & Coffee as usual - Admission: Members \$20 Guests \$28

December 2006

SATURDAY 2.

Krampus & Nikolo

Music & Dance with **Newsound**

Admission: Members \$7 Guests \$11

SUNDAY 3.

Krampus & Nikolo

Music & Dance with **Silver Echoes** - Admission free

SATURDAY 9.

Music & Dance with **Silverbeat**

Admission: Members \$7 Guests \$11

SUNDAY 10.

Christmas Market

Music & Dance with **Marianne & Mimmo** - Admission free

FRIDAY 15.

Accordion Society of Vic. Christmas Party

Details to be confirmed

SATURDAY 16.

Music & Dance with **Willi Mueller**

Admission: Members \$7 Guests \$11

SUNDAY 17.

Christmas Carols

Performance and Carols Singing with the **Austrian Choir**

Music starts at 2 pm - Lunch as usual.

Admission free or Gold-Coin Donation

SATURDAY 23. & SUNDAY 24.

Closed over Christmas

SUNDAY, 31ST DECEMBER

New Year's Eve

Music & Dance with **Julia & Dieter Bajzek**

Special Floorshow: internationally acclaimed **Lee Mohtaji**

Extraordinary and amazing Chinese acrobat and dancer.

Admission: Members \$25 Guests \$40

Includes supper and midnight drink

The Club will be closed for a short Summer recess and will re-open on Saturday, 20th January 2007

November 2006

SAMSTAG 4.

Stockschießer Jahresball

Musik & Tanz mit **Alpine Cocktail**

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$10 Gäste \$15 - einschließlich Supper

SONNTAG 5.

Musik & Tanz mit **René** - Eintritt frei

SAMSTAG 11.

Musik & Tanz mit den **Silver Echoes**

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$7 Gäste \$11

SONNTAG 12.

Musik & Tanz mit **Heinz** - Eintritt frei

SAMSTAG 18.

Tanz in den Fasching - Maskenball

Musik & Tanz mit **Alpine Cocktail** und Floorshow

Preise für beste Frau, bester Mann und bestes Paar in Kostüm.

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$10 Gäste \$15

FREIER Eintrit für Gäste in Maskenkostüm!!

SONNTAG 19.

Musik & Tanz mit **Marianne & Mimmo** - Eintrirr frei

SAMSTAG 25.

Musik & Tanz mit **Julia & Dieter**

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$7 Gäste \$11

SONNTAG 26.

"Weihnacht in Wien" - Robert Stolz Society Konzert

Beginn: 14 hr - Buchungen nur durch die Robert Stolz Society

Tel: 9457 6449 oder 9836 7214

Essen & Kaffee wie üblich - Eintritt: Mitglieder \$20 Gäste \$28

Dezember 2006

SAMSTAG 2.

Krampus & Nikolo

Musik & Tanz mit **Newsound**

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$7 Gäste \$11

SONNTAG 3.

Krampus & Nikolo

Musik & Tanz mit **Silver Echoes** - Eintritt frei

SAMSTAG 9.

Musik & Tanz mit **Silverbeat**

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$7 Gäste \$11

SONNTAG 10.

Christkindlmarkt

Musik & Tanz mit **Marianne & Mimmo** - Eintritt frei

FREITAG 15.

Akkordeon Society von Vic. Weihnachtsfeier

Einzelheiten werden noch gemeldet.

SAMSTAG 16.

Musik & Tanz mit **Willi Mueller**

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$7 Gäste \$11

SONNTAG 17.

Weihnachtsfeier

Weihnachtslieder Singen mit dem **Österreichischen Singkreis**

Musik beginnt um 14 Uhr - Mittagessen wie üblich

Eintritt frei oder Goldmünzen Spende

SAMSTAG 23. & SONNTAG 24.

Geschlossen über Weihnachten

SONNTAG, 31. DEZEMBER

Sylvester Abend

Musik & Tanz **Julia & Dieter Bajzek**

Einmalige Floorshow: international berühmte **Lee Mohtaji**

Außerordentliche und fantastische chinesische Akrobatin.

Eintritt: Mitglieder \$25 Gäste \$40

Einschließlich Supper und Mitternachtstrunk

Der Klub wird für eine kurze Sommerpause schließen und wird wieder am Samstag, den 20. Jänner 2007 geöffnet.