



AUSTRIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY AUSTRIAN CLUB MELBOURNE

NEWSLETTER

VOL. V / No.3 - MARCH 2009



Radio 3ZZZ Saturday, 7th March 6:30pm



Dutch Duo



Silverbeat



Silver Echoes



Julia & Dieter



Marianne & Mimmo



John Wanner Swing Orchestra



Rene



Rene



John Wanner Swing Orchestra



Marianne & Mimmo



Julia & Dieter



Silver Echoes



Silverbeat



Dutch Duo



Rene



Autumn Festival Sunday, 15th March 10:30am



Swiss Festival Sunday, 22nd March 10:30am



Dutch Duo



Silverbeat



Silver Echoes



Julia & Dieter



Marianne & Mimmo



John Wanner Swing Orchestra



Rene

AUSTRIAN CLUB MELBOURNE

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

Address: 76-90 Sheehan Road,
Heidelberg West 3081
Tel: +613 9459 8686
Fax: +613 9457 1221

Web Site:
www.austrianclubmelbourne.com.au

Email: ausclub@bigpond.net.au

March 2009

Executive Committee:

President: Otto Griesmayr
1st Vice President: Bruno Klepp
2nd Vice President: Fritz Reiterer
Treasurer: Irmgard Klein
Secretary: Beverly Griesmayr
Assist. Treasurer: Beverly Griesmayr
Membership: Margaret Hirschauer

Events Co-Ordinator:

Otto Griesmayr
Beverly Griesmayr
Address: 76-90 Sheehan Road,
Heidelberg West 3081
Telephone: +613 9459 8686
Fascimile: +613 9457 1221
Email: ausclub@bigpond.net.au

Newsletter Editor: Heidi Bauer
Design: Melissa Bauer
Layout: Stephen Hatton
P.O. Box: 6088, Preston 3072
Telephone: +613 9478 2660
Fascimile: +613 9478 2660
Email: paparazzi@eotr.com

No part of this Newsletter may be
reproduced without written permission

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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

English & German

Dear Members & Friends of the
Austrian Club Melbourne.

The catastrophic events of the
"Black Saturday" bushfires in
Victoria affected us all greatly. We
extend our deepest sympathies to all
those who suffered loss.

The Management Committee
naturally decided to raise
funds for the Red Cross
Bushfire Appeal. A double
raffle was planned for
Saturday 14th February and
Sunday 15th February. All the
raffle prizes were donated,
meaning that 100% of the monies
raised were donated to the Red Cross
Bushfire Appeal. The raffles were a
great fundraising success.
Furthermore, cash donations were
being accepted for the relief action
and collection tins were at hand
around the Club, to remind
Members and Guests to continue to
engage in this worthy cause. In total
we were able to forward a cheque for
\$2,165.65 to the Red Cross Bushfire
Appeal in the name of the Austrian
Club Melbourne. It felt really good
to help a little.

We sincerely thank all those kind-
hearted persons who donated prizes,
who helped sell or who purchased
raffle tickets, dropped something
into the collection tins and who dug
deep with cash donations. This
community spirit was really
fantastic.

And now to the Club news. It seems
like "only yesterday" that our last
Newsletter was published and sent
out in the mail, and here it is already
the end of February 2009!

Liebe Klub Mitglieder und Freunde des
Österreichischen Klubs Melbourne.

Die Katastrophen der Waldbrände am
"Black Saturday", die in Victoria
fürchterliche Ereignisse hervorriefen,
trafen uns alle sehr. Wir reichen unsere
aufrichtige Anteilnahme an alle
Betroffenen weiter.



Ganz selbstverständlich entschied
sich der Klub Vorstand für den
Roten Kreuz Bushfire Appeal zu
sammeln. Eine Doppelverlosung
wurde für Samstag den 14. und
Sonntag den 15. Februar geplant.
Sämtliche Geschenke wurden als

Preise dafür gestiftet, also konnten wir die
Einnahmen 100% dem Roten Kreuz Appeal
weiterreichen. Wir konnten einen sehr
guten Erfolg verbuchen. Zusätzlich wurden
Bargeldspenden für die Hilfsaktion
entgegengenommen und mehrere
Sammelbüchsen, die im Klub vorhanden
waren, regten die Mitglieder und Besucher
an, weiterhin sich für diesen guten Zweck
zu engagieren. Insgesamt waren wir in der
Lage dem Roten Kreuz Bushfire Appeal
einen Scheck von \$2,165.65 im Namen des
Österreichischen Klubs Melbourne zu
überweisen. Ein wirklich schönes Gefühl,
somit ein wenig helfen zu können.

Wir bedanken uns recht herzlich bei allen
gutherzigen Personen die Geschenke
stifteten, die Verlosungsscheine kauften
und verkauften, etwas in die Sammeldosen
steckten oder Bargeld spendeten. Dieser
Gemeinschaftssinn war wirklich
fantastisch.

Und nun zu den Klubnachrichten. Es fühlt
sich wie "nur gestern" an, seit unser letzter
Newsletter veröffentlicht und versandt
wurde - und jetzt ist es schon Ende Februar
2009!

President's report continued on page 3

Heidelberg Travel Service

161 Burgundy Street, Heidelberg
Phone: 9458 1555 Fax: 9459 9202
Est. 1968

Specializing in ALL aspects of international and domestic travel,
including travel insurance, visa assistance, travellers cheques and
much more. For a professional and personalised
service call in and see us.

Like every year in the past February sees an improvement in attendance, by both Members and Guests, over the hot holiday month of January. Should this trend steadily continue, the Club will be full steam ahead once more come March.

The weekend of the 6th and 7th February was incredibly hot and thus quite quiet in the Club. Saturday the 14th was also still quiet, with low numbers of attendance. But Sunday 15th February we nearly had a full house. It's most pleasing that the above-mentioned positive trend encompasses both the normal weekly functions as well as bookings for birthday parties, anniversaries and so on.

On Saturday 21st February we hosted the most successful function of the month with a double birthday party in the Strauss Stube. Our two young guests of honour were brothers celebrating their 8th and 11th birthday respectively with friends and family. With 15 children and 28 adults present it was cosy and pleasant in the Strauss Stüberl, and everybody tucked in with enjoyment. Special request for the birthday boys - Frittatensuppe (shredded crepes with chicken stock), chicken schnitzel with chips and tomato sauce. The adult menu consisted of Austrian specialties such as Gulasch soup, Roast pork or Gulasch with dumplings and also included the choice of specialties from an international cuisine, such as delicious Steaks.

Our Chef Hans particularly enjoys rising to the challenge of realising your special requests whilst we, in turn, have fun discussing ideas for new party bookings. On top of that we then always derive pleasure in being part of a joyful celebration and seeing how our guests enjoy themselves. With this birthday party in the Strauss Stüberl that was truly the case. For although they are not members of the Club, these people have, for many years, kept coming back for special celebrations and each time they are glad to come back again.

Dear Members of the Club, be proud of your Club, spread the word and let your friends and acquaintances know what we can do. Show them our comfortable ambience and afford them the first-hand experience of the community spirit we foster here in our/your Club. We would be particularly pleased to look after you and your family and friends in our hearty manner, so why not simply grasp the opportunity and visit us more often. I am looking forward to seeing you soon at future Club functions and to be able to catch up with you again...

In closing a hearty thank-you to all our loyal voluntary helpers and Committee Members who, with their constant diligence, carry out all the essential work as required.

With friendly greetings,
Otto Griesmayr

There is no such thing as a self-made man. We are made up of thousands of others. Everyone who has ever done a kind deed for us, or spoken one word of encouragement to us, has entered into the make-up of our character and of our thoughts, as well as our success.

George Matthew Adams

Wie jedes Jahr sehen wir im Februar eine größere Besucherzahl der Mitglieder und Gäste, als im heißen Urlaubsmonat Januar. Wenn der Trend beständig so weiter geht, sollten wir im März im Klub wieder auf vollen Touren laufen.

Das Wochenende des 6. und 7. Februars war unheimlich heiß und deshalb recht ruhig im Klub. Samstag der 14. war auch noch ruhig, mit einer geringen Besucheranzahl. Aber am Sonntag den 15. Februar hatten wir beinahe ein volles Haus. Wir freuen uns daß der schon benannte anhebende Trend sich sowohl auf die normalen wöchentlichen Veranstaltungen bezieht, als auf die Buchungen für Geburtstagsfeiern, Jahrestage usw.

Am Samstag dem 21. hielten wir die erfolgreichste Feier Februars ab, mit einer Geburtstagsparty in der Strauss Stube. Unsere zwei jungen Ehrengäste waren Brüder, die gemeinsam das 8. und 11. Lebensjahr mit Freunden und Familie feierten. Mit 15 Kindern und 28 Erwachsenen war es im Strauss Stüberl recht kuschelig und nett, und jederman ließ es sich gut schmecken. Auf Wunsch gab's für die Kinder Frittatensuppe, Hühnerschnitzel mit Pommes Frites und Tomatensoße. Das Menu für Erwachsene bestand aus einer Auswahl von Österreichischen Spezialitäten wie Gulasch Suppe, Schweinsbraten und Gulasch mit Knödel oder aber auch Spezialitäten der internationalen Cuisine, wie schmackhafte Steaks.

Küchenchef Hans hat es sehr gerne besondere Wünsche zu verwirklichen und es macht uns Spaß die Anregungen für neue Partybuchungen zu besprechen. Und dann freut es uns immer wieder an einer freudigen Feier beteiligt zu sein und zuzusehen wie sich unsere Gäste amüsieren. Bei dieser Geburtstagsfeier im Strauss Stüberl war daß wahrhaftig der Fall. Denn obwohl sie nicht Mitglieder des Klubs sind, kommen diese Leute schon viele Jahre zu uns um Feste zu feiern, und jedesmal kommen sie gerne wieder zurück.

Liebe Mitglieder des Klubs, seid stolz auf euren Klub und lasst doch auch eure Bekannten wissen was wir bieten können. Zeigt ihnen unsere Gemütlichkeit und vergönnt es euren Freunden den Gemeinschaftssinn zu erleben, den wir in unserem/eurem Klub fördern. Es würde uns besonders freuen euch und eure Verwandten und Freunde so richtig herzlich zu betreuen, also ergreifen sie ganz einfach die Gelegenheit uns öfters zu besuchen. Ich hoffe sehr, euch alle demnächst bei einer Veranstaltung im Klub wiederzutreffen und begrüßen zu können...

Zum Schluß ein herzliches Dankeschön an all unsere treuen Freiwilligen Helfer und Mitglieder des Vorstands die, immerwährend fleißig, alle nötigen Arbeiten verrichten.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,
Otto Griesmayr

If one member suffers, all members suffer together with it.
If one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Anonymous

Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark.

Rabindranath Tagore

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Wilfried Winkler & Christa Halliday

Reach out for one another. That the community spirit lives, has been very much in evidence by the way the community at large has rallied together after the tragic events of the recent past. How deeply we perceive, in these times, that the human bond of helping one another is so crucial. It's a natural act to reach out - to be glad to be able to help someone. Natural too, to be glad as a recipient, to take the proffered hand. For in the tragic and sad days of the aftermath of the bushfire catastrophe we feel in our hearts a closeness, love and compassion for one another, that is without compare.

In our lives we experience, on a daily basis, many opportunities to be there for our fellow man, to reach out to one another in friendship and understanding, to support each other and to cultivate both the community spirit and our affiliation with one another. We are thankful that our Austrian Club Melbourne places importance on these values, that the sense of belonging is kept alive and nurtured and that we, here in the Club, are consciously deliberate in our efforts to do, in numerous ways, a little something for our fellow man.

Wilfried and Christa soon recognised that additional Voluntary Helpers are always welcome and indeed even indispensable at the Club, so that the Club can continue to convey the well known, nostalgic atmosphere of "back home" and the sense that we are all here with one another/for one another. It was thus that Christa and Wilfried, immediately feeling both at ease and at home here, offered their assistance.

Interestingly, the two got to know each other at the German Club in Sydney. Wilfried, whose roots lie in the picturesque region near Dresden where three countries meet, was in town on business and decided to visit the German Club where Christa, born in Berlin but raised in Bavaria, just happened to be in attendance on this day also. It was surely the hand of fate. For Wilfried had only to convince Christa that it was just as nice living in Melbourne.

Wilfried built up his own business in Melbourne, importing and installing "Euro-Tracks" - European curtain tracks and accessories. The Club was in need of such fittings and it was Wilfried who, some years back, generously donated to the Club the stylishly hidden curtain tracks and pelmets that grace the stage and separate the Bar from the Main Hall. Thus Wilfried ensured a quiet functionality and an uncomplicated opening and closing of the respective curtains and drapes.

Christa and Wilfried regularly help out in the Café Mozart and are a popular team, serving coffee and cake with

Reach out for one another. Daß der Gemeinschaftsgeist lebt und floriert trat in jüngster Zeit stark in Erscheinung als wir alle gewahrt wurden wie eine ganze Nation sich zu einer Notgemeinschaft vereinigte, um zusammen die tragischen Ereignisse zu überwinden. Wie sehr empfinden wir gerade in diesen Tagen, daß Hilfe zum Mitmenschen so dringend notwendig ist. Ganz selbstverständlich strecken wir unsere Hand zueinander aus und freuen uns zu geben, jedoch auch für den im nehmen, denn in diesen tragischen und traurigen Tagen der Buschfeuerkatastrophe spüren wir im Herzen eine Verbundenheit, Liebe und Mitgefühl füreinander die ohne gleichen ist.

In unserem Leben gibt es täglich viele Gelegenheiten für unseren Mitmenschen da zu sein, sich in Freundschaft und Verstehen die Hand zu reichen, sich gegenseitig zu unterstützen und den Gemeinschaftsgeist und unsere Zugehörigkeit zueinander zu pflegen. Wir sind dankbar, daß in unserem Österreichischen Klub Melbourne Wert darauf gelegt wird, daß dieses Zusammengehörigkeitsgefühl aufrecht erhalten und bewahrt wird und daß wir darauf bedacht sind in vielen verschiedenen Situationen ein kleinwenig für unseren Mitmenschen tun zu können.



Wilfried und Christa erkannten bald daß im Klub zusätzliche Freiwillige Helfer immer erwünscht und unentbehrlich sind, damit der Klub weiterhin diese bekannte heimatliche Atmosphäre und das Gefühl daß wir alle miteinander/füreinander da sind, vermitteln kann. Da Christa und Wilfried sich aus diesen Gründen hier gleich wohl und heimelig fühlten, boten sie ihre Hilfe an.

Interessanterweise lernten sich beide im Deutschen Klub in Sydney kennen. Wilfried, der seine Wurzeln im schönen Dreiländereck in der Nähe Dresdens

hat, war auf Geschäftsreise und besuchte dabei den Deutschen Klub, wo Christa, die in Berlin geboren aber in Bayern aufwuchs, gerade an diesem Tag ebenfalls anwesend war. Es war wohl ein Wink des Schicksals, denn Wilfried mußte Christa nur noch überzeugen daß es in Melbourne ebenso recht schön ist.

Wilfried hatte in Melbourne sein eigenes Geschäft aufgebaut, indem er "Euro-Tracks" - Europäische Gardinengleitschienen mit nötigem Zubehör - importiert und installiert. Diese Vorrichtung war auch im Klub nötig und generös spendierte Wilfried vor einigen Jahren stilhaft versteckte Gardinengleitschienen für den Klub, die er auf der Bühne und zwischen Kellerstube und Halle anbrachte. Damit versicherte er eine lautlose, unkomplizierte Funktion der Vorhänge.

Christa und Wilfried helfen oft im Café Mozart aus und sind ein recht beliebtes Team, die mit besonderer Sorgfalt und pzzaz Kaffee ausschenken und Kuchen verteilen. (Ja, dieses Wort "pzzaz" passt zu Wilfried und Christa und stimmt außerdem in der Rechtschreibung - wir haben es extra im Lexikon nachgeschaut!!!) Und natürlich teilt Wilfried seine gute Laune immer mit einem

IN THE SPOTLIGHT continued on page 5

particular care and pizzazz (yes, the word fits well to Wilfried and Christa). And naturally Wilfried always serves up his good humour with a funny joke for everyone at the same time. Christa stayed true to her calling in the Café Mozart, but also helps in the Hall and occasionally looks after the kitchen register. Wilfried, on the other hand, was soon called to other duties. Multitalented, he still helps out in the Café Mozart but also in the Bar, at other times in the Hall or with preparation for Festivals and functions as required.

To be able to participate more fully in the workings of the Club, Wilfried decided to join the Committee in September 2008. Intuitively, internal participation was Wilfried's chance to have a say and make a difference.

Christa and Wilfried love the social aspects of the Club, the friendship, the co-operation and the team spirit of our Club and give, as service in return, their easygoing character and personality. Christa and Wilfried's simple motto is "give and

you get back" - for in our lives we experience, on a daily basis, many opportunities to be there for our fellow man...

Many thanks Christa and Wilfried,

Without Prejudice



Look forward to next month's SPOTLIGHT

lustigen Witz für jederman. Christa blieb der Beschäftigung im Café Mozart treu, hilft aber auch in der Halle mit und betreut gelegentlich die Küchenkasse, während Wilfried ebenso bald für andere Tätigkeiten benötigt wurde. Vielseitig veranlagt hilft Wilfried noch immer im Café Mozart, aber auch mal in der Bar, ein andermal im Saal, oder wenn Vorbereitungen bei Festen und Veranstaltungen erforderlich sind.

Um intensiv auch im Geschehen des Klubs mitzuwirken,

entschloß er sich September 2008 dem Komitee beizutreten, denn interne Beteiligung war intuitiv Wilfried's Gelegenheit positives Mitspracherecht zu haben.

Christa und Wilfried lieben die Geselligkeit und die Freundschaft, das Zusammenwirken und den Zusammenhalt unseres Österreichischen Klubs und geben als Gegenleistung ihre natürliche Wesensart und Persönlichkeit. Christa und Wilfried's einfache Devise ist "give and you get back" - denn im Leben gibt es täglich viele

Gelegenheiten für unseren Mitmenschen da zu sein...

Vielen Dank Christa und Wilfried.

Without Prejudice

Freut Euch auf das SPOTLIGHT im nächsten Monat

A man goes to the psychiatrist and sits in the waiting room. Looking around a little apprehensively he notices Napoleon. Finally the man works up the courage to ask Napoleon if the psychiatrist was any good. With gusto Napoleon replies "The psychiatrist is excellent - I was only a Lieutenant and now I'm Napoleon!"



Doctor, doctor, I keep thinking I am a set of curtains!
Pull yourself together, man!

Wilfried Winkler



www.euro-track.com.au



ABN 12 113 910 044

We have been supplying the Australian and international trade with our locally manufactured jewellery for over 30 years. Our Opals are cut and polished and our jewellery is designed and crafted in our own Melbourne workshop.

For the first time you can now view our exquisite collection in our own showroom 55 ELIZABETH STREET MELBOURNE
Buy direct from your Swiss Goldsmith Buy Australian Made
From inexpensive gifts to exclusive handmade pieces to your own custom made design

For expert advice and great service ask for Paul Kramer or Hansruedi Gassmann Phone us :8611 2222

Visit us : Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm Sat-Sun 10am-4pm

Special discounts to members, families and friends

www.artofopal.com

Also in our showroom

AUSTRALIAN MALLEE ART

Extensive collection of Aboriginal Fine Art, Paintings, Artifacts, unique Craft-Giftware

www.malleart.com

"DIE VIER KERZEN"

Vier Kerzen brannten am Adventskranz. Es war ganz still. So still, daß man hörte, wie die Kerzen zu reden begannen.

Die erste Kerze seufzte und sagte: "Ich heie Friede. Mein Licht leuchtet, aber die Menschen halten keinen Frieden, sie wollen mich nicht." Ihr Licht wurde immer kleiner und verlsch schlielich ganz.

Die zweite Kerze flackerte und sagte: "Ich heie Glaube. Aber ich bin berflssig. Die Menschen wollen von Gott nichts wissen. Es hat keinen Sinn mehr da ich brenne." Ein Luftzug wehte durch den Raum, und die zweite Kerze war aus.

Leise und sehr traurig meldete sich nun die dritte Kerze zu Wort. "Ich heie Liebe. Ich habe keine Kraft mehr zu brennen. Die Menschen stellen mich an die Seite. Sie sehen nur sich selbst und nicht die anderen, die sie lieb haben sollen." Und mit einem letzten Aufflackern war auch dieses Licht ausgelscht.

Da kam ein Kind in das Zimmer. Es schaute die Kerzen an und sagte: "Aber, aber, ihr sollt doch brennen und nicht aus sein!" und fast fing es an zu weinen.

Da meldete sich auch die vierte Kerze zu Wort. Sie sagte: "Hab keine Angst, so lange ich brenne, knnen wir auch die anderen Kerzen wieder anznden. Ich heie Hoffnung."

Mit einem Streichholz nahm das Kind Licht von dieser Kerze und zndete die anderen Lichter wieder an...



BUSHFIRE APPEAL IM STERREICHISCHEN KLUB

Obwohl diese kurze Geschichte der vier Kerzen uns mehr an die stille, kalte Vorwinterszeit des Advents erinnert, als an die Hitze eines Australischen Sommers, passt sie jedoch im Sinne haargenau auf die Ereignisse der letzten paar Wochen.

Denn am Samstag den 7. Februar 2009 wurde der Frieden vieler Menschen mit einem bsen Streich des Schicksals zerstrt. Schicksal, der den Tag mit einer wtenden Hitze anbrechen lie und der dazu noch einen gemeinen Wind zusteuerte, der die riesigen Flammen des schlimmsten Bushfeuers in der Geschichte Australiens mchtig anfcherte.

Die Verluste an Menschen und Tierleben, die ungeheueren Flchen die ausbrannten, unzhliche Huser, Geschfte und Lebensunterhalte die zerstrt wurden, ganze Gemeinschaften die jegliche Infrastruktur verloren, verfassen eine Tragdie die schwer zu verstehen ist. Kein Wunder da man da verzweifelt sein kann und womglich auch an Glauben verliert.

Auch die Liebe zum Mitmenschen wurde ein Opfer des Feuers, denn es gab ein paar bedauerliche, opportunistische Seelen die statt Mitgefhl und Hilfe nur Gier und Gelegenheit empfanden und die diese Tage der Verwirrung und Trauer bentzten um herzlos zu plndern.

Drei Kerzen die verlschen - Friede, Glaube und Liebe...

In der Kurzgeschichte "Vier Kerzen" war es ein Kind, von der Situation so gerhrt und auch noch recht naiv, aber mit vollem Kinderherz und der Seele am rechten Fleck, da mit der letzten Kerze die Hoffnung aufnahm und damit die anderen Lichter des Friedens, des Glaubens und der Liebe wieder zum Leben brachte. hnlich geschah es auch bei den Ereignissen des Black Saturday Buschfeuers. Denn man konnte nicht anders als gerhrt zu sein, als man in den Medien die unglublichen Szenen sah, den Geschichten der berlebenden zuhrte, von den heldenhaften Taten des Notdienstpersonals sowie des normalen Menschens erfuhr, oder ber sonstige ungeheure Ereignisse des Buschfeuers las. Und man nahm persnlich die Situation in die Hand, wie das Kind es tat, um auch selbst mitzuwirken so gut man es konnte.

Man sammelte Spenden, organisierte Hilfsaktionen und Verlosungen dessen Erls zum Roten Kreuz ging so wie wir im sterreichischen Klub, oder viele andere Geschfte, Organisationen und Klubs es taten. Man trug Spielzeug fr die Kinder zusammen, Kleider, Anzge und Essenswaren fr betroffene Familien und arrangierte Unterstand. Und somit schenkten wir den Opfern des Buschfeuers wieder das Licht der Hoffnung. Hoffnung, da es wieder weiter gehen kann.

Und in dem Licht der Hoffnung wurde auch das brillante Licht der Liebe wieder erwacht. Denn auf einmal sah man den Mitmenschen und reichte die Hand mit typisch Australischem "Mateship" - ohne Bedenken oder Zgern, sofort bereit dem Nchsten zu helfen, um zusammen gegen die Enormitt der Situation zu streben. Mensch zu Mensch. Feueropfer zu Feueropfer. Ob Victorianer, Australier oder Landesman in weiter Ferne. Menschen in aller Welt die von der Situation und den inspirierenden Geschichten gerhrt worden waren und ihr Herz und ihre Seele ffneten, um in ihrer Art zu tun was sie konnten. Und das Licht der Liebe strmte in Wogen ein...

Liebe die trstet. Liebe die Verstehen bedeutet. Liebe die offen gegeben wird. Liebe die den Buschfeueropfern wieder Kraft und berzeugung ermittelt. Und das Kerzenlicht des Glaubens flackerte somit wieder auf. Glaube in einander. Glaube in Gott. Glaube da es in Zukunft wieder besser wird und da es eine hhere Macht gibt die ihnen hilft, ihr Leben aus der Asche der Tragdie wieder aufzubauen und fr die Rckkehr des Friedens in ihrem Leben sorgt.

Hoffnung, Liebe, Glaube und Frieden.

La uns diese kostbaren Werte immer schtzen und bewahren...

Faith gives me the courage to face today's battles with confidence and tomorrow's uncertainty with cheerful hope.

Anonymous

Every moment is the ideal time to embark upon the path to happiness.

David Baird

Joy is the daughter of peace.

Finnish proverb.

"MIRACLE OF THE HEART"

A little girl went to her bedroom and pulled a glass jelly-jar from its hiding place in the closet. She poured the change out on the floor and counted it carefully. Three times, even. The total had to be exactly perfect. No chance here for mistakes. Carefully placing the coins back in the jar and twisting on the cap, she slipped out the back door and made her way six blocks to Rexall's drug store with the big Red Indian chief sign above the door.

She waited patiently for the pharmacist to give her some attention, but he was too busy at this moment. Tess twisted her feet to make a scuffing noise. Nothing. She cleared her throat with the most disgusting sound she could muster. No good. Finally she took a quarter from her jar and banged it on the glass counter. That did it!

"And what do you want?" the pharmacist asked in an annoyed tone of voice. "I'm talking to my brother from Chicago whom I haven't seen in ages," he said without waiting for a reply to his question.

"Well, I want to talk to you about my brother," Tess answered back in the same annoyed tone. "He's really, really sick... and I want to buy a miracle."

"I beg your pardon?" said the pharmacist.

"His name is Andrew and he has something bad growing inside his head and my Daddy says only a miracle can save him now. So how much does a miracle cost?"

"We don't sell miracles here, little girl. I'm sorry but I can't help you," the pharmacist said, softening a little.

"Listen, I have the money to pay for it. If it isn't enough, I will get the rest. Just tell me how much it costs."

The pharmacist's brother was a well-dressed man. He stooped down and asked the little girl, "What kind of a miracle does your brother need?"

"I don't know," Tess replied with her eyes welling up. "I just know he's really sick and Mummy says he needs an operation but my Daddy can't pay for it, so I want to use my money."

"How much do you have?" asked the man from Chicago.

"One dollar and eleven cents," Tess answered barely audible. "And it's all the money I have, but I can get some more if I need to."

"Well, what a coincidence," smiled the man. "A dollar and eleven cents - the exact price of a miracle for little brothers."

He took her money in one hand and with the other hand he grasped her mitten and said "Take me to where you live. I want to see your brother and meet your parents. Let's see if I have the miracle you need."

That well-dressed man was Dr Carlton Armstrong, a surgeon, specialising in neurosurgery. The operation was completed free of charge and it wasn't long until Andrew was home again and doing well. Mum and Dad were happily talking about the chain of events that had led them to this place.

"That surgery," her Mum whispered, "was a real miracle. I wonder how much it would have cost?"

Tess smiled. She knew exactly how much a miracle cost - one dollar and eleven cents, plus the faith of a little child.

Addendum:

Some controversy surrounds this little narrative with its words of wisdom, for there is debate as to whether these events actually happened or not. Researching on the web did little to bring clarity, for both points of view were equally expressed. However whether or not the "Miracle of the Heart" actually represents fact or is a work of fiction, does not detract from the certain knowledge that every story has a value and that this particular tale packs a powerful punch with its inspirational morale-boosting message. The message that miracles can happen, when we approach life with positive expectation, with courage, determination and amazing child-like faith.

The deeper message is that when tragedy strikes, love for one another will see us through. We may not always be able to fathom the magnitude of what is before us, our vision clouded by ignorance, sadness, grief and/or despair. But though we can't absorb all of it, there is that amazing "something" within us that urges us to hold on, to reach out for one another and to rely on one another. And it is at times such as these, that inspiring stories of sacrifice, heroism and kindness are born. Stories that tell of amazing faith and hope, like this little child Tess had. Of people who reach out with compassion and generosity, like the benevolent neurosurgeon Dr Carlton Armstrong. And of trusting in one another, as the parents and the little brother Andrew no doubt had to do, when this strange man suddenly walked into their lives. Stories that live beyond the tragedies they describe and the amazing and motivational victories that were had. Etched into our memories by the wisdom from within that assures us and guides us our whole lives long...



In our lives, we never know how many miracles we will need. A miracle is not the suspension of natural law but the operation of a higher law. When life demands a miracle, will you be there?

THOUGHTS OF CHARITY

It is said that when Francis of Assisi left his wealth behind to seek God, he stripped naked and walked out of the city. The first person he encountered on his journey was a leper on the side of the road. He first passed him, then turned back. He embraced the leper in his arms before continuing his journey. A few steps down the road he turned and saw that the leper was gone. Until his dying day, Francis of Assisi was convinced that the leper was Jesus. Even if he was wrong, he was right.

I remember a poster on a dorm-room wall during my days in college. The poster was a picture of a homeless man lying in a dirty gutter holding a bottle in a paper bag by his side. The inscription on the bottom was a quote from Mother Teresa. It read, "You love Jesus only as much as the person you love the least."

Christian faith is about service and humility. It's about helping those who can't help themselves. It's about loving others more than we love ourselves.

Stephen Hatton

VICTORIAN BUSH FIRES

The terrible fires here in Victoria, with their awful consequences to human life and property, have affected some of the Austrian Club Members and regular guests to the Austrian Club.

The devastating pictures on television, along with the many reports, portray a reality reminiscent of the destruction in European cities during the Second World War. For the survivors of the Second World War it is not difficult to imagine the despair of those who have lost or are still looking for relatives and friends, and of those who are prevented from returning to what is left of their homes.

The Red Cross has been calling for monetary donations. Our own Austrian Club Melbourne, acting as a collecting agent for the Red Cross, has been accepting cash donations on behalf of the Red Cross and, where requested, have been acknowledging such monetary donations with a receipt. We have also had donation tins stationed around the premises over the last few weeks and a Raffle was run for the fire victims, where all prizes were donated and all proceeds went directly to the Red Cross Bushfire Appeal.

To date we are aware of the following members of our Austrian Community who are directly affected:

- Russell & Gaby Denke and family from our Almrausch Group - everything lost, except a shed (Flowerdale).
- Tony Kampusch from our Stockshooters shed's gone but the house was saved at the last moment (Heathcote Junction).
- Bob Saniga, a regular Friday lunch Stammtisch guest, and wife Lorraine - lost everything (St Andrews). Lorraine was hospitalised due to severe smoke inhalation but thankfully is now well enough to have been discharged.
- Fred Tschepek, our Austrian Club Security, has been assisting people and is registered to assist with animals. Fred's partner Vicki's son Warwick lost his house.
- Anni Fischer from our Frauengruppe - Anni's daughter was in the middle of it. Everything was burnt around them but their street was saved (Pheasant Creek).
- Hilde Hepper - Hilde's daughter was involved, they had to flee but the house was saved (Yea).
- Michael Galgan & Elizabeth - are safe (Flowerdale).
- Two members of the Australian Deer Hunters Association, who meet in our Club every couple of months, lost everything.

Perhaps there are other members of our community who have been involved, either directly or indirectly, but have not come forward. We hold you all in our thoughts.

Beverly Griesmayr

Flowers by ... *Johanna*
ABN No. 29 147 532 635

Bouquets. Arrangements. Weddings. Funerals.

Delivery Available. Credit Card Facilities

WINNER category of FLORIST

Leader 2001 Waverley Business Awards

Mobile: 0407 114 328 Fax: +61 3 9803 9896
mailto:flowersbyjohanna@netspace.net.au

www.fbj.rsvmsm.com

German / English Speaking Floristin fuer

Robert Stolz Viennese Music Society



NEVER DESPAIR

*We shall not despair of all too little means
When faced with mounting threats
To Earth and her Child:
The Earthchild.*

*Nor shall we abandon our purpose
Of serving the ends of freedom and justice
In the humble way we are fit to do so:*

*For we recognize the all-embracing love
That endures by the grace of God
Not yet disappointed in man;
For we are open to grace to do
What we are too unworthy to try.*

*So we pray for strength to accomplish
What we are too frail to manage,
For inspiration to communicate
What we are too numb to put in words.*

Conrad Linden
2007-07-20

E: clinden@pacific.net.au
W: <http://www.poetry.com>

SOMETHING TO PONDER...

To bear other people's afflictions,
everyone has courage and enough to spare.

Benjamin Franklin

What does love look like? It has the hands
to help others. It has the feet to hasten to
the poor and needy. It has the eyes to see
misery and want. It has the ears to hear
sighs and sorrows. That is what love looks
like.

St Augustine

I gain strength, courage and confidence by
every experience in which I must stop and
look fear in the face.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Life is mostly froth and bubble. Two
things stand like stone. Kindness in
another's trouble, and courage in your
own.

Adam Lindsay Gordon (1833 1879)

NEWS & NOTICES

KLUB MITGLIEDSCHAFT - CLUB MEMBERSHIP

This month we extend a hearty welcome to nine new members:

- Tina Di Rienzo
- Johann Schopf
- Conrad Linden
- Shirley & Valentin Wick
- Johanna Shakes
- Charmaine Nixon
- Erika Hackel
- Klaus Fleischer

GEBURTSTAGSKINDER, JUBILÄUM UND BESTE GENESUNGSWÜNSCHE BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND GET WELL WISHES

Best wishes to all members who have celebrated, or will celebrate, birthdays or anniversaries. Our best wishes also, to all members who have not been enjoying good health in recent times. May you all soon be well again.

BABY NEUIGKEITEN - BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Judith & Reinhard Kainbacher on the birth of their daughter, Josefine. We wish them all well. Reinhard & Judith are also known as "Pure Danish" - the suppliers of those delicious cakes served in the Mozart Café.

EMPFEHLUNGEN FÜR TAGUNGS-TREFFPUNKT - CONFERENCE VENUE RECOMMENDATIONS

A successful conference was conducted in the Strauss Stube from 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, 26th February. There were 25 attendees and the Club catered for morning and afternoon tea, as well as lunch. If you know of anyone looking for a conference venue please recommend the Austrian Club.

KLUB REGELN - CLUB RULES

Please Note: Food and drinks are not allowed to be brought onto the Club premises.

Bitte beachten Sie: Speisen und Getränke dürfen nicht in den Klub mitgebracht werden.

Beverly Griesmayr
Club Secretary

TABLE TENNIS TIMETABLE

The Table Tennis Group is currently meeting every Monday at 7:00pm - 9:00pm. All standards welcome for friendly doubles play.

Margaret Hirschauer

NEWSFLASH

AUSTRIAN PASSPORT DEADLINE

News just to hand confirms the approaching deadline for Austrian Passports issued in Melbourne. As of

24th March 2009

all persons wishing to submit applications for Austrian passports will need to travel to Canberra, where new fingerprinting technology is available for the revised passport format. Look out for more information on this in next month's Newsletter...

CANASTA PLAYERS, LETS MEET...

Canasta card playing - if there are any people interested in learning and playing the card game Canasta once a month, on a Wednesday between 10:00am and 2:30pm, please call Ellen Loecherer on 9471 4617 or leave your details at the Austrian Club.

Coffee and Luncheon meals at reasonable prices would be available and the bar can be opened if needed. Determining which Wednesday in the month is most suitable, is something to be discussed at a later date with all interested parties.

LATEST FROM THE LADIES GROUP...

Recently the Ladies Group donated a soft knitted toy and beautiful woollen blanket to the Austrian Club Bushfire Victims Raffle, held on the 14th and 15th February. This month we are meeting on Wednesday 4th and 18th of March from 10:00am - 2:30pm. Luncheon is provided if you contribute to the Handcrafts. Want to see what they've been making? The Ladies Group look forward to seeing you at their stall, at the Autumn Harvest Festival on Sunday 15th March, where all the latest goodies will be available.



Margaret Hirschauer



Emirates Airlines

Emirates, the award-winning airline, internationally acclaimed for its superb level of in-flight service.

With Services from Sydney, Melbourne Brisbane and Perth to **Vienna, Munich, Zürich** and to over 80 international destinations

www.emirates.com

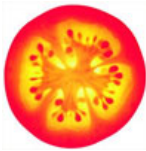
GOD'S PHARMACY

Part of a much bigger website that offers us (as the domain name implies) amazing health products, "God's Pharmacy" is a webpage with some astonishing facts that I felt I just had to share with you all. It talks about how God left us a great clue as to what foods help what part of our body. And whether you believe in God and his plan, or just put it all down to coincidence, the information is truly astounding!

Here is an excerpt from the website:

It's been said that God first separated the salt water from the fresh, made dry land, planted a garden, made animals and fish ... all before making a human. He made and provided what we'd need before we were born. These are best & more powerful when eaten raw. We're such slow learners ...

A sliced Carrot looks like the human eye. The pupil, iris and radiating lines look just like the human eye ... and YES, science now shows carrots greatly enhance blood flow to and function of the eyes.



A Tomato has four chambers and is red. The heart has four chambers and is red. All of the research shows tomatoes are loaded with lycopine and are indeed pure heart and blood food.

Grapes hang in a cluster that has the shape of the heart. Each grape looks like a blood cell and all of the research today shows grapes are also profound heart and blood vitalizing food.



Kidney Beans actually heal and help maintain kidney function and yes, they look exactly like the human kidneys.



Olives assist the health and function of the ovaries.



Sweet Potatoes look like the pancreas and actually balance the glycemic index of diabetics.

Figs are full of seeds and hang in twos when they grow. Figs increase the mobility of male sperm and increase the numbers of sperm as well to overcome male sterility.



Oranges, Grapefruits, and other Citrus fruits look just like the mammary glands of the female and actually assist the health of the breasts and the movement of lymph in and out of the breasts.

A Walnut looks like a little brain, a left and right hemisphere, upper cerebrums and lower cerebellums. Even the wrinkles or folds on the nut are just like the neo-cortex. We now know walnuts help develop more than three (3) dozen neuron-transmitters for brain function.



Onions look like the body's cells. Today's research shows onions help clear waste materials from all of the body cells.



They even produce tears which wash the epithelial layers of the eyes. A working companion, Garlic, also helps eliminate waste materials and dangerous free radicals from the body.

Celery, Bok Choy, Rhubarb and many more look just like bones. These foods specifically target bone strength. Bones are 23% sodium and these foods are 23% sodium. If you don't have enough sodium in your diet, the body pulls it from the bones, thus making them weak. These foods replenish the skeletal needs of the body.



Avocados, Eggplant and Pears target the health and function of the womb and cervix of the female - they look just like these organs. Today's research shows that when a woman eats one avocado a week, it balances hormones, sheds unwanted birth weight, and prevents cervical cancers. And how profound is this? It takes exactly nine (9) months to grow an avocado from blossom to ripened fruit. There are over 14,000 photolytic chemical constituents of nutrition in each one of these foods (modern science has only studied and named about 141 of them).

Coincidence? A master plan? I guess we all have to make up our own minds on that. But I think you'll agree that the information truly is astounding...

Ruth Decker

"www.amazing-health-products.com/gods-pharmacy.htm"

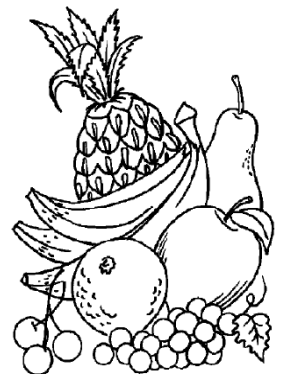
**WE
ARE
HERE**



B&J Fruit Emporium Quality Fruit & Vegetables

Supplying restaurants, cafes, kindergartens
and all special occasions within 24 hours
Phone orders are welcome.

75 Main Road, Lower Plenty
Telephone/Fax 9435 4363



DIE KLEINE KRÄUTERKUNDE

THE LITTLE HERBAL

Melissa - Lemon Balm - *Melissa officinalis*

Lemon Balm is a small evergreen of Mediterranean origin. The plant, which is easily grown, has oblong, light green leaves that have the taste and smell of sweet lemon. Lemon Balm contains flavonoids, tannins and phenol acids, including rosmarinic acid. An essential oil melissa oil is also present in the plant in small amounts. This is one of the most expensive essential oils available, reflecting the low yield from each plant. This oil consists mainly of citrals, hence the analogy to lemon.

Lemon Balm is also known as melissa, the Greek word for bee, for bees are greatly attracted to the plant. It is excellent chopped and used in salads, soups and egg dishes, and is frequently used with fish. Fresh leaves can be floated on summer cocktails; dried it makes a refreshing tea and the plant has a traditional use in liqueurs such as Benedictine. Eau-de-melissa (Melissengeist) is also distilled from the herb.

For medicinal use Lemon Balm is most often prescribed to treat morning sickness and intestinal problems such as sluggish

digestion, bloating and flatulence. A number of experiments have clearly shown the plant's capacity to relieve stomach spasms and aid digestion. In 2001, a German trial found that a herbal preparation containing Lemon Balm improved the symptoms of dyspepsia.

The plant is also used to treat minor sleep problems as well as nervousness and mild depression. For these purposes it is combined with several other plants, such as lime flower, hawthorn and passionflower. A Spanish review published in 2001 also documents the use of Lemon Balm for treating attention deficit disorder, as well as hyperactivity in infants. Early research has demonstrated the antiviral properties of Lemon Balm, which is used topically to treat herpes and cold sores. It also appears to have an effect on the thyroid gland.

The 'Little Herbal' is intended as inspiration only. We recommend you collect further information and consult a qualified medical professional such as your own doctor or naturopath for individualised advice regarding a herb's effectiveness and suitability for your needs.

LEMON BALM CRÈME

Custard with a difference. Pale mint green in colour and with a subtle but very delicious hint of lemony, minty flavour, this lemon balm crème will make a refreshing dessert on its own and also tastes superb with a plate of fresh fruit. Serve it up with an ice-cold shot of Benedictine for a truly heavenly summer treat.

Ingredients:

500ml full cream milk
565ml double cream
1 tbsp dried Lemon Balm
6 tbsp castor sugar
1 vanilla pod scored lengthways, seeds removed
8 large free-range egg-yolks
2 tbsp additional milk
50g cornflour

NB: For a thicker crème simply use a little more cornflour, or for pouring custard omit the cornflour altogether.

Method:

- Mix the milk, cream, dried Lemon Balm, 4 tablespoons of the castor sugar, the vanilla pod and seeds in a saucepan. Bring to the point of boiling then remove from the heat and leave for a couple of minutes to cool slightly. This will allow the Lemon Balm and vanilla flavours to infuse.

- In a large mixing bowl whisk the egg yolks with the remaining two tablespoons of sugar until pale.
- Strain the warm milk to remove the Lemon Balm leaves and the vanilla pod from the liquid, then ladle a little of the liquid onto the egg yolks and whisk immediately. Add the remaining milk a ladle full at a time, whisking in well before the next addition.
- Pour the egg mixture back into the warm saucepan and cook very gently for a few minutes, stirring all the time using a wooden spoon. After a matter of minutes the yolks should cook just enough to thicken the custard and make it shiny. You should be able to coat the back of the spoon with it.
- If you have decided to use cornflour to make a thicker crème (rather than a runny dessert with the consistency of pouring custard) mix the 2 tablespoons of additional milk with the cornflour to make a smooth paste. Slowly whisk this paste into the warm custard and simmer gently until the custard thickens to a crème.
- Take off the heat immediately and enjoy warm, or cool in pretty serving bowls for a refreshing pale green custard crème.

Decorate with some fresh Lemon Balm leaves, cranberries or strawberry slices and perhaps a dollop or two of whipped cream, and you will have yourself a beautiful, yummy dessert.

In the midst of winter, I finally learned there was in me an invincible summer.

Albert Camus (1913 - 1960) French Writer

When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.

Helen Keller (1880 - 1968) Blind American

The universe is change; our life is what our thoughts make it.

Marcus Aurelius (121 - 180) Roman Emperor

ZUM SCHMUNZELN

Die Großmutter fährt in der Bahn mit ihrem kleinen Enkelkind. Da muß der Kleine auf einmal ganz notwendig und sagt laut "Oma, ich muß Pipi machen". Die Oma steigt bei der nächsten Station mit ihrem Enkel aus und erklärt ihm "Daß sagt man nicht. Es ist nicht nett. Das nächste Mal wo du Pipi machen mußt sagst Du einfach daß Du mal singen mußt." Ein paar Wochen darauf übernachtet der Kleine bei seinen Großeltern. Er liegt im Bett mit dem Opa und schläft. Auf einmal wacht er auf und merkt daß er wieder einmal muß. "Opa, Ich muß mal singen" piepst der Kleine seinen schlafenden Opa an. Der Opa öffnet schlaftrunken die Augen, sagt "In der Nacht singt man nicht", dreht sich damit um und schläft weiter. Eine kleine Weile beherrscht sich der Junge, dann weckt er seinen Opa nochmals. "Opa, ich muß aber wirklich singen". Etwas zornig erwidert der Opa "Aber ich habe dir schon gesagt daß man in der Nacht nicht singt. Jetzt leg dich hin und schlaf!" Weil er ein braver Junge ist, legt der Kleine sich gehorsam auch wieder hin. Er quält sich eine Weile, resolut brav zu sein, aber auf einmal wird's ihm zu arg und er weckt den Opa nochmals. "Opa, ich muß ganz schrecklich notwendig singen!" Da ergibt sich der Opa und flüstert seinem Enkel zu "Aber ganz leise ins Ohr..."

Wilfried Winkler

"The Book of Heroic Failures"

Are you fed up with all these books of telling you how to be a success? Are you dreadful at most things you try? Here at long last is a book in praise of spectacular failure and people who can't do a thing. The following excerpts from Stephen Pile's disastrous book should act as a comfort and an inspiration...

The Least Successful Weather Report

After severe flooding in Jeddah in January 1979, the Arab News gave the following bulletin:

"We regret we are unable to give you the weather. We rely on weather reports from the airport, which is closed because of the weather. Whether we are able to give you the weather tomorrow depends on the weather."

The Most Inaccurate Value of Pi (π)

Pi (π) is a mathematical constant which is the ratio of the circumference of the circle to its diameter. It is a never-ending number and, for most calculations, is taken to its third decimal place (3.142).

However, in 1897 the General Assembly of Indiana passed a Bill ruling that the value of Pi was 4. This ensured that all mathematical and engineering calculations in the state would be wrong. It would, for example, mean that a pendulum clock would gain about 15 minutes every hour!

HEROIC FAILURES continued on page 13



Austria's best beer !

Brought to you by Beach Avenue Wholesalers

HEROIC FAILURES continued from page 12

The Greatest Mathematical Error

The Mariner I space probe was launched from Cape Canaveral on 28th July 1962 towards Venus. After 13 minutes flight a booster engine would give acceleration up to 25,820 miles per hour; after 44 minutes 9,800 solar cells would unfold; after 80 days a computer would calculate the final course corrections and after 100 days the craft would circle the unknown planet, scanning the mysterious cloud in which it is bathed.

However, with an efficiency that is truly heartening, Mariner I plunged into the Atlantic Ocean only 4 minutes after takeoff.

Enquiries later revealed that a minus sign had been omitted from the instructions fed into the computer. "It was human error", a launch spokesman said.

This minus sign cost £4,280,000.

Melissa Bauer

REZEPT

"UPBEET" HERBAL SALAD

An unusual salad with an unusual name. Reflecting both the main ingredient beetroot and this salad's mood-enhancing properties, this creamy pink mixture brings a blaze of colour as an unusual starter, a light lunch dish served with wholemeal bread, a side dish with cold meat or fish, or as an accompaniment to a barbeque. It has the added piquancy of horseradish - a popular combination in Burgenland and across to Eastern Europe.

Ingredients:

700g cooked baby beetroot bulbs
juice and grated rind of ½ unwaxed lemon
1 tsp freshly grated horseradish
1 tsp finely snipped chives
1 tsp finely chopped tarragon
1 tsp finely chopped lemon balm
250ml natural live bio-yoghurt

Method:

- Cut the baby beetroot into chunks
- Sprinkle with the lemon juice and stir in the lemon rind
- Stir the horseradish and herbs into the yoghurt and pour over the beetroot
- Leave for 1 hour to allow the flavours to infuse and combine

Vital Statistics: Working beneficially on the psyche and aiding positive thinking, this extremely healthy salad is quick to prepare and very soothing. Lemon balm is a traditional anti-depressant and heart tonic, and the phytochemicals in tarragon are calming and sleep-inducing, whilst the blood-building benefits of beetroot and probiotic bacteria from the yoghurt imbue this recipe with health-giving properties.

Besides, it's really quite tasty...

MASTER CUT

Food Industries P/L

Specialising in Portion Cutting

Suppliers to Hotels, Restaurants, etc.

Wholesale & Retail

Fresh Meat, Poultry & Smallgoods

25 Assembly Drive, Tullamarine

Telephone 9334 5250 Fax 9334 5292

Proudly supplying and supporting
the Austrian Club Melbourne



MULTICULTURAL RADIO MELBOURNE



*Der Heimat näher kommen
durch Radio.....*

Österreichische Stunde

Montag 15 - 16 Uhr
Donnerstag 12 - 13 Uhr
Freitag 19 - 20 Uhr

SURPRISE, SURPRISE, SURPRISE

Three unforgettable birthdays...

"Marian is staying over on Saturday Dad", my daughter announced. Attending mass on either Saturday night or Sunday morning was obligatory in those days. So that Saturday night I took the two girls to church, whilst my wife stayed home busily cooking and baking for my birthday celebrations, planned for the next day (or so I thought!) Coming home from mass we left the car in the back and entered the house, which was in complete darkness for some mysterious reason. Not for long. Within moments of our arrival the lights went on and a group of people shouted "Happy Birthday" in unison. And hence began my most unexpected and delightful birthday party. It was a great night for all of us, especially for me - a real surprise. I was 50 at the time.

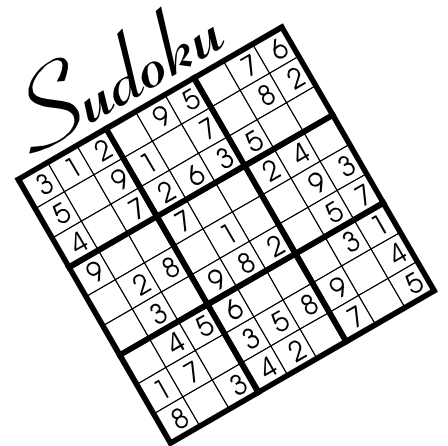
My wife Eva had to wait another sixteen years until I came up with a "surprising" idea. A rather original one, I thought. Evike (little Eva) offered her house for the celebration. It had, after all, a more spacious living area for dancing - and dance we did on that night. Plentifully. But not just any dancing to any music - it was rather special. Let me explain. After all the guests arrived, mingled and engaged in the usual chit-chats, the doorbell rang again. A man appeared with a huge accordion behind him. And a girl with a violin. Our Schrammel music, Chris and Ingrid. My unexpected special gift for my wife's sixtieth. We danced the csárdás, sang "Wiener Lieder" and generally had a marvellous time. Present were the Deckers, the Rabensteiners, the Griesmayrs, Franz and Hannelore and many more. As you can see from the list, we liked to rub shoulders with high society. Being together, sharing special times with people whose company one enjoys, and celebrating Eva's birthday was what it was all about. But it was also delightful to have come up with such a novel and successful party idea. One of our lady guests remarked afterwards that "That is the best party I've ever been to". Yes, it was a great surprise.

The third of the memorable surprise birthday events took place when our eldest granddaughter Jessica was about

10 years old. She decided she wanted to buy a birthday present for her Opa and asked her mother to accompany her to the bookshop. The purchase itself had to be completely independent, Mum had to wait outside. As we found out later, what transpired in the shop was something like this: Jessica entered the bookshop and announced "I'd like to buy a Hungarian book". The assistant was no doubt a little surprised by this request yet truthfully replied "Sorry, we have no Hungarian books". On being pressed by Jessica, who was determined to buy her Opa a Hungarian book, the lady sales assistant put on her thinking cap to try and please this little customer, suddenly remembering and remarking "Oops, I have a map of Hungary." Jessica enquired about the map's cost. "Eight dollars" the lady said. At that point Jessica was close to tears. "But I only have five dollars" she must have replied with quivering voice "and I want to buy a present for my grandfather." Now this was new for the sales lady. "A present for your grandfather? I never had anybody in the shop buying a present for their grandfather. And, because you are such a nice, thoughtful little girl, I will give it to you for five dollars." So it was that Jessica bought me a map. I have the map. I treasure it for sentimental and other personal reasons. It is Hungary before and after the Treaty of Trianon. Without going into too much detail, just one telling data from this "map that could have been a book": Area of old Hungary - 325,411sq km. Mutilated Hungary (post Treaty) - 92,916sq km. In other words, only 28.55% was left. This succinct little mathematical fact encompasses volumes about Hungary's history in the 1920's and concurrently embraces the remembrances of its people. One small map symbolising not only a great deal of factual information but also historical accounts and emotional reminiscences which could be written in a much larger book about Hungary's past. A surprising present, yes. But one which is important to me for the unwritten tomes it represents. I digress again, with reference to the little succinct fact mentioned above. The British themselves later discovered that they treated Hungary unfairly. In 1928

Lloyd George, in the English parliament, commented that England listened to the wrong advice, treated Hungary unfairly (or words to that effect). This phrase still rests vividly in my memory bank from whence it came - my source some earlier edition of the "Economist". And so I close my tales of surprising birthdays having come full circle. My birthday reminiscences bringing me back once again to finish up with Hungary, where I seem to finish all the time. No wonder. I was born there...

Josef Verpeleti



Pure Danish

Traditional Austrian & German Cakes

Made to order
fresh and delicious
for all occasions

For information
and orders
telephone Reinhard
9752 0892



Proudly supplying the
Austrian Club Melbourne

FILM REVIEW

PAY IT FORWARD

"Sometimes the simplest idea can make the biggest difference"

Pay it forward tells the story of a social studies teacher who gives an assignment to his junior high school class to think of an idea to change the world for the better, then put it into action. When one young student creates a plan for "paying forward" favours, he not only affects the life of his struggling single mother, but he sets in motion an unprecedented wave of human kindness which, unbeknownst to him, has blossomed into a profound national phenomenon.

Pay it forward - The rules:

#1 *It has to be something that really helps people.*

#2 *Something they can't do by themselves.*

#3 *I do it for them, they do it for three other people.*

With a big name cast and a solid storyline, this movie had already captured my attention before the first words were spoken. Seeing it to its magnificent conclusion simply cemented my opinion, for Kevin Spacey puts in a brilliant performance as the teacher, young Haley Joel Osment plays Trevor most convincingly and Helen Hunt stars as Trevor's single mother in this earthy role that seems made for her.

Predominantly revolving around these three main characters and the idea of "Paying it forward" the movie challenges us to ask ourselves "What if the world is a big disappointment?" And then to answer with the knowledge that "Unless you take the things you don't like and turn them upside down [the world will not change] for the better". Not a novel idea but a reminder that we can make a difference if we really choose to. A recognition that what goes around comes around. A realisation that the practice of giving to others unmerited favour can create a tidal wave of positive change, for random acts of kindness mushroom.

I was profoundly moved by this film. What a great idea. In a closing scene hundreds of people gather to honor the boy who taught the world to see other people with a heart bent on committing random acts of kindness. But I ask, "Why stop at three?"

Pay it forward. Kind of like the childrens' game. Tag, you're it! Will you play?

Melissa Bauer

VOLUNTEERS PAY IT FORWARD

Volunteers do pay it forward. They are those wonderful people who selflessly give of their time, their energy and their enthusiasm to support and foster the causes and the communities they believe in. Their endeavours are a prime example of paying it forward - doing something simple which makes a big difference.

Our Austrian Club is a not-for-profit organisation. We depend on the contributions of our trusty band of loyal Volunteers, Committee members and Helpers. And each and every one of these has in the past, presently does and will continue to make in the future, a big difference. Regardless of what task they do, of how simple or difficult, how menial or important, how seemingly insignificant or how monumental that task may be. The fact that they are there, are helping out, is enough. It's their act of kindness to make the world that little bit of a better place.

And every one of us has the capacity to make a change, to create such a little bit of goodness in the world. To change something we don't like and make it better. To be a positive influence on the world and the people around us. Do you want to be a part of this? Why not volunteer too - one day or night a month can make a big difference. Talk to us in the office. We're looking forward to chatting with you...



Malvern Continental Butcher

Specialising in Quality Meats & Smallgoods

79 Glenferrie Road
Malvern VIC 3144

9509 1078



www.coffeemio.com.au

C O F F E E
MIO

811 HIGH STREET
THORBURY 3071

T: 9484 0776

F: 9480 5087

AUSTRIAN CLUB MELBOURNE

Opening Hours: Saturdays from **6.30pm - 12 midnight**, and on Sundays from **11.30am - 6pm**

Bookings: Telephone: 9459 8686

Facsimile: 9457 1221

Address: 76-90 Sheehan Road, Heidelberg West 3081

Web: www.austrianclubmelbourne.com.au

Email: ausclub@bigpond.net.au

March 2009

- Sunday 1st **Julia & Dieter** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**
- Saturday 7th **Radio 3ZZZ** **Music**
20th Anniversary Celebration
with Alpine Cocktail
Admission Cost: Members \$15
Guests \$20
- Sunday 8th **Rene** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**
- Saturday 14th **Silverbeat** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**
- Sunday 15th **Autumn Festival**
Huge Entertainment program for the whole family.
Hot food stalls, cold drinks, coffee & cake, craft stalls
and entertainment for the children in the garden.
Admission: \$2 - Children under 12 are free
- Saturday 21st **Julia & Dieter** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**
- Sunday 22nd **Swiss Festival**
Music & Dance in the Hall
Swiss Traditional Folk Music -
Entertainment and displays in the Garden
Heinz - in Main Hall - music & dance
Swiss Band - on Garden Stage - music & dance
Market, hot food stalls, bar, coffee & cake in the garden
and special entertainment for the children.
- Saturday 28th **Marianne & Mimmo** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**
- Sunday 29th **Silver Echoes** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**

April 2009

- Saturday 4th **John Wanner Swing Orchestra** **Music & Dance**
Fabulous and powerful 18 piece orchestra and vocalists.
Big Band Swing Orchestra
Admission Cost: Members \$12
Guests \$17
Bookings are strongly encouraged
- Sunday 5th **Julia & Dieter** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**
- Saturday 11th **Silver Echoes** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**
- Sunday 12th **Easter Sunday** **Music & Dance**
with Marianne & Mimmo
Easter Egg search for the children.
- Saturday 18th **Austrian Club 65th Anniversary**
with Alpine Cocktail
Special Floorshow - Ballroom Dancers
Admission Cost: Members \$Free
Guests \$15
- Sunday 19th **Robert Stolz Society** **Artists**
Bookings only through the R.S. Society -
(Telephone: 9457 6449)
Admission Cost: Members \$22
Guests \$30
Bookings are essential
- Saturday 25th **Herbert Stauber** **Music & Dance**
The Austrian from Adelaide
Music for Dancing and a Fabulous Show
Admission Cost: Members \$10
Guests \$15
- Sunday 26th **Dutch Duo** *****Free Admission***
Music & Dance**

März 2009

- Sonntag 1. **Julia & Dieter** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**
- Samstag 7. **Radio 3ZZZ** **Music**
20. Jubiläum Feier
mit Alpine Cocktail
Eintritt: Mitglieder \$15
Gäste \$20
- Sonntag 8. **Rene** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**
- Samstag 14. **Silverbeat** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**
- Sonntag 15. **Herbstfest**
Großes Unterhaltungsprogramm für die ganze Familie.
Markt & Imbißstände, Bar, Kaffee & Kuchen im
Garten. Besondere Unterhaltung für Kinder im Garten.
Eintritt: \$2 - Kinder unter 12 sind frei
- Samstag 21. **Julia & Dieter** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**
- Sonntag 22. **Schweizerfest**
Musik u. Tanz in der Halle
Schweizer Traditionelle Musik -
Unterhaltung und Vorführungen im Garten
Heinz - in der Haupt Halle - Musik & Tanz
Schweizer Band - im Garten - Musik & Tanz
Heiße Imbißstände, kalte Getränke, Kaffee u. Kuchen,
Marktstände und Unterhaltung für die Kinder im Garten.
- Samstag 28. **Marianne & Mimmo** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**
- Sonntag 29. **Silver Echoes** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**

April 2009

- Samstag 4. **John Wanner Swing Orchestra** **Music & Tanz**
Das schwingende fabelhafte und leistungsfähige
Orchester mit 18 Musikanten und Sängern.
Eintritt: Mitglieder \$12
Gäste \$17
Anmeldungen sind sehr empfehlungswert
- Sonntag 5. **Julia & Dieter** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**
- Samstag 11. **Silver Echoes** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**
- Sonntag 12. **Easter Sunday** **Music & Tanz**
mit Marianne & Mimmo
Ostereier Suche für alle Kinder.
- Samstag 18. **Austrian Club 65th Anniversary**
mit Alpine Cocktail
Special Floorshow - Ballroom Dancers
Eintritt: Mitglieder \$Free
Gäste \$15
- Sonntag 19. **Robert Stolz Society** **Artisten**
Buchungen nur durch R.S. Society -
(Telephone: 9457 6449)
Eintritt: Mitglieder \$22
Gäste \$30
Buchungen sind erforderlich
- Samstag 25. **Herbert Stauber** **Music & Tanz**
Der Österreicher von Adelaide
Tanzmusik und eine fabelhafte Floorshow
Eintritt: Mitglieder \$15
Gäste \$20
- Sonntag 26. **Dutch Duo** *****Eintritt frei***
Musik & Tanz**