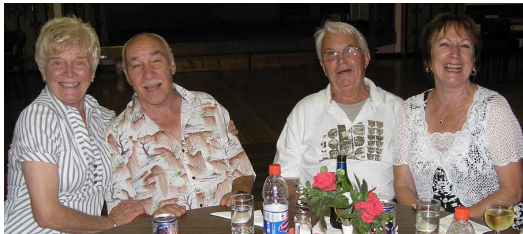
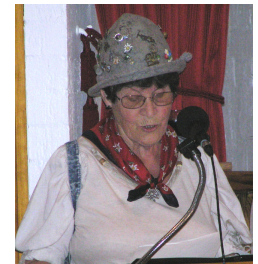




AUSTRIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY AUSTRIAN CLUB MELBOURNE

NEWSLETTER

VOL. VII / No.05/06 - MAY / JUNE 2011



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AUSTRIAN CLUB MELBOURNE

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

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May / Jun 2011

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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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

English & German

Dear Members & Friends of the
Austrian Club Melbourne.

In the last Newsletter I commented on the tragedies that had occurred in Australia. We have heard, with dismay, that since then there have also been terrible tragedies in many other countries. One wonders what will happen next, and at the same time hopes that the world will become a little more settled once again.

Many thanks to Fritz Reiterer, Wilfried Winkler and Bill Moerth, for replacing the wooden framework at the front entrance.

Beverly and I attended the Anniversary Dance at Club Teutonia in Hampton Park and the Anniversary Dance at the German Club Tivoli. Apart from that, we enjoyed the opening night of the German Film Festival. Having a person in charge of the kitchen does make a difference.

On Wednesday 30th March the Club hosted students from two campuses of Overnewton Anglican Community College. Buses ferried the children and they arrived at 10:00am full of eagerness and enthusiasm. Thank you to Ed Schellander for organizing these events. The students, accompanied by teachers and parents, were allocated to groups that were rostered to different activities.

Liebe Klub Mitglieder und Freunde des
Österreichischen Klubs Melbourne.

Im letzten Mitteilungsblatt äußerte ich mich über die in Australien stattfindenden Tragödien. Betroffen hörten wir daß seitdem auch in vielen anderen Ländern furchtbare Tragödien stattfanden. Man wundert sich ob in nächster Zeit wieder etwas passiert, und hofft zugleich daß die Welt wieder etwas ausgeglichener wird...

Herzlichen Dank an Fritz Reiterer, Wilfried Winkler und Bill Moerth, die die hölzerne Einrahmung bei der Eingangstür ersetzten.

Beverly und Ich waren beim Jubiläumstanz des Klub Teutonia in Hampton Park zu Gast, ebenso beim Jubiläumstanz des Deutschen Klub Tivoli. Außerdem genossen wir die Premiere des Deutschen Filmfestivals. Es macht halt doch einen Unterschied aus, eine leitende Person in der Küche zu haben.

Am Mittwoch den 30. März war der Klub Gastgeber für die Studenten zweierlei Campuse des Overnewton Anglican Community College. Um 10 Uhr früh kam eine Busladung Kinder an, die sich mit Begeisterung und Enthusiasmus auf den Tag freuten. Herzlichen Dank an Ed Schellander, der diesen Ausflug organisierte. Die Studenten, und die Lehrer und Eltern die die Kinder begleiteten, wurden in Gruppen eingeteilt um verschiedene Aktivitäten zu betreiben.

President's report continued on page 3

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Ed involved the children in the Ice Stock Sport and some students really showed skill. Thank you also to Mira Schellander, Margaret Hirschauer, the members of the Ladies Group, as well as Ignaz Martinu and his friend Dean. Ignatz and Dean taught the students how to "Schuhplattel". They played table tennis with Margaret Hirschauer and Marie Van Cuylenburg took them through the crafty skills of embroidery, crocheting etc. A cheerful game of "Trivial Pursuit" in German followed and then it was time for lunch - chicken schnitzels and chips, with doughnuts for dessert. The children were very well behaved, a credit to their teachers and parents.

The Swiss Festival was a great success; the weather was more benevolent than on the day of our Austrian Festival.

Sadly we heard of the death of Mrs Maria Berger (Grasberger) on 14th April. Maria will remain in our memories, as a committed Member who helped our Club in a myriad of ways. In later years she will probably be best remembered for her ability to sell raffle tickets, her consistent assistance at the Oktoberfest selling beer steins, and also for the lovely potted geraniums that she made available to the Club for decorations.

In honour of the Austrian Club Anniversary Celebration on 16th April, the Austrian Club Singers gave a wonderful lighthearted performance. It was obvious that the relaxed singers all were enjoying themselves. We also had the pleasure of watching two young ballroom dancers performing. Dion and Liana had only

been practicing together since the beginning of the year and make a fine pair. Alpine Cocktail's spirited contribution to the atmosphere in the room kept everyone tapping their feet for the rest of the night and encouraged us all to get up and have a dance ourselves.

Easter, as usual, followed the tradition of coloured hard boiled eggs being hidden in the garden for an Egg Hunt. We were blessed with good weather and the children had lots of fun.

Then came the May Day celebrations, complete with the erection and climbing of the May Pole. Our anticipation was tempered with concern, for rain threatened. With joy, enthusiasm and a



Daß Schweizerfest war ein großer Erfolg; daß Wetter war an diesem Tag gnädiger als zu unserem Österreichischen Fest.

Traurig erhielten wir die Nachricht, daß Frau Maria Berger (Grasberger) am 14. April verstarb. Maria wird in unserer Erinnerung verbleiben, als engagiertes Mitglied die unserem Klub in vieler Beziehung beistand. In letzteren Jahren wird sie wohl für ihre Fähigkeit Lose zu verkaufen erinnert, sowie ihre beständige Mitwirkung beim Oktoberfest, wo sie Biersteine verkaufte. Aber auch für die schönen Töpfe Geranien, die sie dem Klub zur Dekoration zur Verfügung stellte.



Die Sänger des Österreichischen Klubs gaben zur Ehre des Österreichischen Klub Jubiläums am 16. April eine wunderbare, unbekümmerte Vorstellung. Es war deutlich zu erkennen daß die "Austrian Club Singers", mit leichtem Herzen, die Vorstellung genossen. Es freute uns auch den zwei jungen Gesellschaftstänzern, Dion und Liana, bei ihrem Auftritt zuzuschauen. Die beiden

üben erst seit Anfang dieses Jahres miteinander, und schauen als Tanzpaar prima aus. "Alpine Cocktail" trug recht temperamentvoll zur Stimmung bei und erwogen uns alle, selbst daß Tanzbein zu schwingen.



Zu Ostern folgte nun wieder die beliebte Tradition der gefärbten Ostereier-Suche. Die hartgekochten Eier wurden wie gewöhnlich in unserem Garten versteckt glücklichlicherweise spielte das Wetter mit und die Kinder hatten recht viel Spaß.

Dem Maitag, mit der Aufstellung und Beklettern des Maibaums, schauten wir mit Sorgen entgegen - denn es war Regen angesagt. Mit Freude,

President's report continued from page 3

little bit of help most young people were able to conquer the tree to claim their prize. We were blessed because the rain did hold off until the outside celebrations were completed. On this day we had a 90th birthday party in the Strauss Stube. One of the young guests attending the party found the tradition of climbing the May Pole rather interesting, monkeyed up the pole in no time, and gained herself a sausage. For the other party guests it was an added entertainment activity which they had not expected but thoroughly enjoyed.

Mother's Day was the next function in the list of activities filling our Club calendar. Reservations were up and down in the preceding days, but on the actual day all areas were booked out. The children were able to participate in a question and answer competition, where the three entries with the most correct answers and the nicest quote about their mum were judged to be the

winner. The prizes were cheerfully accepted. We also acknowledged the oldest and youngest mothers, as well as the mother with the most children. The Ladies Group held a raffle and it was rather successful. Many thanks to the Ladies for the donation.

On Wednesday 11th May the Rotary Club of Rosanna celebrated in our Club the 50 years of service to Rotary by Noel and Val Henry. This was carried out in the form of the TV programme "This is Your Life".

It is rather unusual to have so many major events in such a short period of time. I do wish to say a big "thank you" to all the Committee Members and Volunteers, who pitched in to keep everything running smoothly, and to which the success of our Club functions can be attributed. Without the assistance of these people the Club would find it very difficult to operate on a daily basis.

*With friendly greetings,
Otto Griesmayr*

*New Volunteers would be
very much appreciated.*

Enthusiasm und manch einer kleinen Hilfe gelang es den meisten jungen Leute den Baum zu bezwingen, um ihre Belohnung zu erhalten. Gottseidank waren die Feierlichkeiten im Freien schon vorüber als der Regen runter prasselte. An diesem Tag gab es in der Strauss Stube einen 90. Geburtstag. Einer der jungen Gäste dieser Party fand die Tradition des Maibaumkletterns interessant, erkletterte ihn auch "mir nichts - dir nichts", und erbeutete sich dabei eine Wurst. Für die übrigen Party Gäste war dieses Ereignis eine zusätzliche Unterhaltungsaktivität die sie zwar nicht erwarteten, aber fröhlich genossen.



Der Muttertag war das nächste Ereignis am Klubkalender. Die Reservierungen schwankten in den Vortagen, aber am Tage selbst war der Klub voll ausgebucht. Es gab einen Wettbewerb, in dem die Kinder mitmachen konnten. Die Preiserstattung folgte, wobei die Eingaben mit den meisten richtigen Antworten, sowie einer lieben Bemerkung, die besten drei Gewinner hervorbrachten. Die Preise wurden fröhlich entgegengenommen. Wir ehrten auch die älteste Mutter, die

jüngste Mutter, sowie die Mutter mit den meisten Kindern. Die Frauengruppe hielt eine Tombola ab, und es war recht erfolgreich. Vielen Dank für die Stiftung.

Am Mittwoch den 11. Mai feierte der Rotary Club of Rosanna in unserem Klub den 50. jährigen Dienst zwei ihrer Mitglieder. Noel und Val Henry wirken schon seit dieser Zeit zum Guten des Rotary Klubs mit, und der Ablauf der Feier glich der Sendung "This is your Life".

Es ist etwas ungewöhnlich, daß in solch kurzer Zeit so viele größere Veranstaltungen stattfanden, und ich möchte all unsererem Kommittee und den Freiwilligen Helfern ein großes "Dankeschön" überreichen. Wir verdanken den erfolgreichen Ablauf unserer Klubveranstaltungen daran, daß jeder so fleißig mit anpackte, um alles "glatt über die Bühne zu bringen". Ohne die Hilfe dieser Leute würde es dem Klub schwerfallen tagtäglich zu funktionieren.

*Mit freundlichen Grüßen,
Otto Griesmayr*

*Neue Freiwillige Helfer sehen wir
mit Dank entgegen*



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A bimonthly publication, the ACM Newsletter appears in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Circulation approx 450

Rates:

- Eighth Page \$27.50
- Quarter Page \$38.50
- Third Page \$49.50
- Half Page \$66.00
- Full Page \$110.00

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HELLO!

May Day! May Day!

Now that I've got your attention, happy May to you all. And happy June and July for that matter. Not to mention a happy rest of the year, actually. Why? Because this Newsletter ducks and weaves its way around the theme of a happy life, of smiles and friendship, and being strong and brave enough to listen to the heart in knowing what is right. Then standing up and doing good for our Community and fellow man, even though we may not always be understood. We begin our journey with the smiles and fun embodied by the twins, Christa Crocker and Sigrid Rheinbold, whom many of you know as the effervescent and immensely likeable presence in our coffee shop. The sisters' "In the Spotlight" article highlights the fact that these two live true to their motto of having a happy life, enjoying what you do and where you are, making the most of each day and brightening the day of those around us. Just as it is written in the "Affirmation for a Happy Life" poem, they have a heart to bring joy to each day, and never fail to take an opportunity to "Pack Somebody's Parachute". Sounds simple, but sometimes the actualisation of this can be almost impossible for some of us! Perhaps because of our different outlooks on life, our different personalities, and

the inevitable differences in opinion that different sentient beings will have on occasion. That's when it's important to recognise we're all unique animals in the same zoo and, like the "Gebet Von Pfarrer Fritz Happing", may we too pray and earnestly strive for tolerance towards one another. For what matters is friendship and Community. Speaking of Community, this is something that Bill and Hilde Moerth, the focus of our second "In the Spotlight" feature value dearly. As we all should. The "True Story Of Two Tenors" highlights this Community consciousness spectacularly, showing that human kindness and compassion can conquer even the most embittered enmity and that the value of a voice is incalculably important! Indeed, as our President Otto points to in his report, our Club cannot survive without the voices and bodies of our friends - Members and Guests - that come to eat, to drink and to volunteer. And like the parable "The Fence", we need to understand that the words that we speak and the actions that we take that hurt another will leave wounds that can never be totally undone. So let us take a moment, this Newsletter, to reflect about how we ourselves can reach out and touch another with kindness, build them up and support them, so that we all may share smiles and fun and have a many-voiced Community that revolves around friendship and a happy life.

Paparazzi Team

ZUM SCHMUNZELN

GEBET VON PFARRER FRITZ HAPPING

Wenn du sie damals nicht alle mit hineingelassen hättest in die Arche,
die bunten und verschiedenartigen Tiere,
um wie viel ärmer wäre deine Menschheit, Herr.
Niemand weiß besser als du, wie viel wir bis heute gemeinsam haben
mit deinen Tieren.

Hilf mir, mit allen zurechtzukommen:
mit den Meckerziegen und albernem Gänsen,
mit alten Drachen und lahmen Enten,
mit Mistkäfern, Trampeltieren und Windhunden,
mit sturen Böcken und komischen Käuzen,
mit Nachtfaltern und Eintagsfliegen,
mit Leithammeln und folgsamen Schafen,
mit verwöhnten Schoßhündchen und Pechvögeln.

Gib mir Verständnis für Einsiedlerkrebse und gesellige Pinguine,
für wendige Wiesel und tapsige Bären,
für schlanke Giraffen und fette Masthähnchen,

für giftige Nattern und lustige Spaßvögel,
geduldige Lämme und wilde Wölfe,
stachelige Igel und anschießige Angorakatten.

Hilf mir beim Zusammenleben mit den fleißigen Bienen und
faulen Siebenschläfern,
mit hässlichen Raupen und wunderschönen Schmetterlingen,
mit stolzen Pfauen und unscheinbaren Kirchenmäusen,
mit starken Löwen und scheuen Rehen,
mit dickfälligen Elefanten und empfindlichen Schnecken.

Herr, es ist nicht immer ganz einfach,
es in deiner Arche auszuhalten.

Gib mir die nötige Geduld und eine Prise Humor,
sie alle zu ertragen
und jedem Tierchen sein Plaisierchen zu lassen.

Und vor allem: Lass mich nicht vergessen, Herr,
dass ich für die anderen
auch ein seltsamer Vogel bin.



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

Christa Crocker & Sigrid Rheinbold

When you think of our Café Mozart, it's inevitable that you think of coffee and cakes. Whether it's a cappuccino, café latte or macchiato, the rich, smooth, earthy liquid gives us an adrenaline buzz and a feeling of energy and well-being. And the cakes? Sweet, with perhaps a hint of spice, a little creamy decadence or some fruity individuality that make us feel special and are guaranteed to put a smile on our face. What better place for our popular twins to work, than in the Café Mozart. For excitable and animated Christa Crocker and Sigrid Rheinbold



"A smile is the curve that sets everything straight." -- Phyllis Diller

mirror the special qualities inherent in coffee and cake and serve up our order with their special blend of energy and sweetness that does put a smile on our face and makes us feel special, happy and alive.

Sigrid and Christa's infectious joie-de-vivre is a trait that is born of an amazing and highly admirable attitude, rather than circumstance, for the beginning years of their life can be described at best, as having been very hard. Wartime, the heartache of a father who was killed in action, seven years in a Refugee camp in Nürnberg, and living in a burnt out cellar after having lost everything would be enough to make even the strongest man fail. But what these two young girls lacked in worldly possessions and comfortable environs was more than made up for by their spirit and kindness, and the love that they share with those around them.

Coming from a family of eight children, the necessity to eat was a driving factor and the whole family worked very hard to survive. So when one of the twins' sisters emigrated to Australia and wrote home of a country with wide expanses of land and a chance to create for oneself a better life, Christa and Sigrid decided to take opportunity by the horns and follow in their sister's footsteps. In 1955 this dream became reality as the girls, and their mother, set foot in Australia for the first time.



Christa & Sigrid
put Heart into the Club
with their big smiles
and homely
decorations



Settling in and establishing themselves in a foreign land was not a piece of cake. Both Sigrid and Christa worked very hard to make a living - doing piecework in a factory by day and attending night-school in the evenings to learn English. Not surprisingly, their diligence, industriousness and ambition was recognised. And so it was that, within a short time, the twins had worked their way up in the factory, with both Christa and Sigrid being promoted to office jobs. They look back fondly at this time and smile as they recollect the fun they had at work. At one

time Christa and Sigrid, and another two of their sisters were all working in the same factory office and having a ball! Yet the twins had a wisdom beyond their years and always looked to improve the future.

Though Sigrid and Christa's paths now diverged as they branched out in different working careers, focus, creativity and application to the task at hand remained instrumental in steering the lives of these two cheerfully energetic ladies. Fostering an ongoing desire to get ahead, vivacious Christa started her own flourishing business selling caravans, and later taught English for a year in Beijing, China. Meanwhile sister Sigrid found the ideal niche with her next job, working at the Salzburg Lodge. She loved it straight away, for it brought the feeling of home a little closer. When the owner opened a second restaurant, Edelweiss, Sigrid was promoted as its head waitress. Speaking of this time Sigrid effervescently bubbles out "I loved every minute - and that for seven and a half years!" After the restaurants were sold, Sigrid became the former owner's Personal Assistant and now looks back contentedly on thirty-five working years under a good Boss and generous man.

As much as Christa and Sigrid loved their working lives, their jobs and careers pale in significance, in contrast to family. Christa literally sparkles when speaking of her son Dieter, who

IN THE SPOTLIGHT continued on page 7

lives in Norway with his family, and whom she visits nearly every year. As an added bonus, the trip to visit him also affords Christa the opportunity to travel extensively around Europe and keep the connection to "back home". Sigrid travels less, but it's obvious her two children are the light of her life and she counts herself blessed to share good friendship and oodles of love with son Rainer, a fireman in Heidelberg, and daughter Gitti, a district manager of the VACC. And the twins have each other. "Unzertrennlich" and inseparable.

And smiling the whole time. Joyous, and obviously totally happy, the twins both complete and complement each other. Thinking alike, Sigrid and Christa are prone to finish each others' sentences as they look back and recount their life story. One sentiment comes across strongly, and that is that "It's not where you start, it's where you finish that matters. And we finished on top!" So they have. For real success lies in happiness, and nobody can deny that these two ladies take real pleasure in being alive. The key seems to be involvement in everything they do. With each other - they see each other on a nearly daily basis, not to mention speaking on the phone several times a day. By sharing their lives and their love with sisters, brothers and children. Through social and community activities such as aquarobics, walking, line-dancing, completing crosswords and helping out with the 3ZZZ Radiothon.

Naturally the Austrian Club Melbourne is a big part of this involvement. Christa and Sigrid thank their involvement today

to friends who introduced them to the Fitzroy premises, to two of their sisters with lovely voices who delighted them with melodic performances in the Austrian Choir, and later to a dear friend who invited them to volunteer in the Café Mozart. They laugh as they say "Two sisters are involved with the Austrian Club Singers, and two sisters are voluntary helpers in the Café Mozart". With a radiant smile Christa exclaims "From the first moment on I loved every single moment that I spend here in the Club with friends...". And twin Sigrid completes the sentence "...I love the atmosphere, I love the Club and the people. Life was good to us. And we both hope that the pleasure that we received from the Club in the past continues. We want to contribute".

WORDS OF WISDOM

"Affirmation For A Happy Life"

Anon

*Give us the kindness to hear with compassion,
to offer support,
loving comfort, and care.*

*Give us the courage to do what is needed,
the wisdom to choose
what is right and fair.*

Give us the vision to see what is possible.

*Give us the faith
that will help pave the way
for a present that is hopeful,
a future that is peaceful*

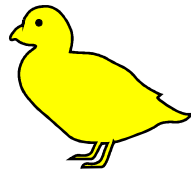
Give us a heart to bring joy to each day.

In typical twins style, both Sigrid and Christa sum up by simply wishing that the Club continues to exist "just as it is". With a radiant atmosphere full of happiness and joy and energy - and that the standing together and staying together (with a little bit of effort and contribution from us all) is a reachable goal. They sincerely hope it stays that way...

Without Prejudice

*Look forward to next
month's SPOTLIGHT*

An elderly couple decide to go for a meal on their anniversary and after some deliberation decide on their local Chinese restaurant. They peruse the menu and finally agree to share the chef's special-chicken surprise. The waiter brings over the meal, served in a lidded cast iron pot. Just as the wife is about to start in on the meal, the lid of the pot rises a tiny amount and she briefly sees two beady little eyes looking around before the lid slams back down. "Did you see that?" she asks her husband. He hasn't so she asks him to



look in the pot. He reaches for it, and again the lid rises. This time he sees two beady little eyes looking around before the lid firmly slams back down. Rather perturbed the husband calls the waiter over, explains what is happening and demands an explanation. "Well sir", says the waiter, "What did you order?" "We both chose the same", the husband replies, "the chicken surprise." "Oh I do apologize, this is my fault" says the waiter... "I've brought you the Peking duck".

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WHO PACKS YOUR PARACHUTES?

Charles Plumb was a US Navy jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent 6 years in a communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience!

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!" "How in the world did you know that?" asked Plumb. "I packed your parachute," the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said "I guess it worked!" Plumb assured him "It sure did. If your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today."

Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb says, "I kept wondering what he had looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat; a bib in the back; and bell-bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said "Good morning, how are you?" or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot and he was just a sailor." Plumb thought of the many hours the sailor had spent at a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn't know.

Now, Plumb asks his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?" Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. He also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory - he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety.

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please, or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason. As you go through this week, this month, this year, recognise people who pack your parachutes.

We, the editorial team, wish to share this article with you, our friends, members and guests of the Austrian Club Melbourne, as our way of thanking you for your individual parts in packing our parachutes. And we hope you will pass this little story on, in print or by word-of-mouth, to those who have helped pack yours! Know that you personally have been thought of today, by friends on the other side of the computer that created this Newsletter, and we wanted to send YOU a smile, to help you pack your parachutes. Stay well and happy.

Thanks to Les Segeal for making this article available for sharing.

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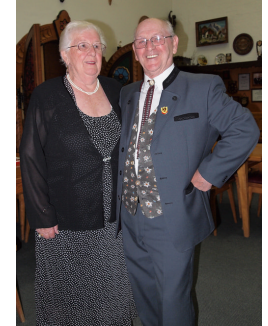
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*Der Heimat näher kommen
durch Radio.....*

Österreichische Stunde

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



Austrian Club Melbourne 67th Anniversary



IN THE SPOTLIGHT (2)...

Bill & Hilde Moerth

The mark of somebody truly dedicated to a cause is best shown by their willingness to step in and do whatever it takes - without expectation or desire for fame, glory or financial gain. The reward is the achievement of the goal itself, in knowing that their work has not been in vain. These anonymous faces, the often humble behind-the-scenes workers, are what keeps a Club like ours ticking over. Loyal and devoted members and friends, who give of their time, their energy and their



love, to keep our Club running. Our much loved Voluntary Helpers, Hilde and Bill Moerth, are one such couple.

Humble and quietly modest about their contributions, it is immediately evident that Hilde and Bill are not there for the accolades. The connection is much stronger than that. Rather, they foster a sense of community that is always displayed, tangibly in fact, as an admirably deep attachment to our Club and the varied Club happenings.

Perhaps it was always there, born of two personalities that shared a unique blend of friendliness, perseverance and servility. And who would do anything - all for the sake of their love of our Austrian Community in Melbourne, this little patch of earth that is home-away-from-home for so many of us. Or perhaps (and this little piece of trivia is rather fascinating) it is because their life together has its foundations in an Austrian Club, the place where they both met for the very first time, and to which they can thank the start of their mutual love and loyalty to one another.

Hilde, spontaneous and charming, was born in Graz. Her Bill, capable and lovable, first saw the light of the world in Leoben, a

small town located only 60 km away from Graz. But fate had it that their paths were not to cross in Austria. And so it was that Hilde, who was immensely fond of children and caring by nature, hit the bullseye with her decision to become a nanny - a decision that this young lady had no idea



would ultimately take her on the path to Australia and the man of her dreams. Her first assignment was a doctor's household in Switzerland, where she looked after four bright children. The next important steps on the pathway to the yet unknown future were taken when Hilde accepted a position in Oxford, England, again looking after four charges. Not one to rest on her laurels, this excellent nanny took full advantage of working in Oxford and

seized the opportunity to study English at college, consequently gaining mastery of the mother-tongue of the land that would become her home. At the tender age of twenty-one fate had deemed Hilde ready for the trip to Australia. Once again a suitably interesting nanny's position became available to pique Hilde's interest. And so the journey took its last leg, as Hilde's fate was sealed.

Bill's travels to Australia, by contrast, were much more direct. Emigrating straight from Austria, he arrived here a few years earlier than Hilde, at a time when the country was experiencing a severe shortage of skilled workers. Needless to say, Bill's carpentry expertise was in high demand. Displaying skill and attention to detail, Bill was meticulously exact in finishing lovely pieces of furniture. History goes to show that an interest in his work, following his dreams, application to the task at hand and a variety of offers expanded Bill's career options. Today there are houses, schools and churches in existence, that bear the mark of Bill's quality work. He made a statement with those buildings and to this day they have his fingerprint on them...

Bill and Hilde settled in well in Australia. Quiet, happy people, they know how to make the most of what life dishes up for them and value both the freedom and the singular sunburnt-country uniqueness of this great wide land.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT(2) continued on page 11

Two boys, and now three lovely grandchildren as well, make their lives here complete. Yet the acceptance of a new homeland does nothing to diminish the ties of their roots, and their love and attachment to the "Alte Heimat", the old homeland, stays faithfully in both their hearts and souls. Fourteen trips back home, and countless memories and stories bear witness to this.

Over the years Bill and Hilde also stayed loyal to the Austrian Community here in Melbourne. From the beginning they gladly and selflessly helped out - whenever and wherever they just happened to be needed. For their motto was, and always will be, "if it needs to be done, just do it."

In the early years Hilde and Bill set up and, in conjunction with friends, ran the much loved Shashlik stand at the Dandenong Oktoberfest. As the years went by they added the Melbourne Oktoberfest to their repertoire of duties and soon this strong connection and dedication to the Club and the activities there had been set in concrete. Working busily at the Club's Festivals, cheerfully manning the outside kitchen, selling goodies on one of the market stalls, and working in the Hall for regular functions quickly became a beloved pastime. On occasion Hilde (and Bill) were Schatzkammer-Meister also. It was an opportunity to immerse themselves in the



*So wie man in den Wald hinein ruft,
so hallt das Echo wieder heraus*

*Es geht nicht um die Veränderung
der ganzen Welt,
sondern um meinen Einsatz hier und jetzt,
da, wo ich es begreife,
wo ich helfen kann,
wo meine Mittel gefragt sind,
um nichts anderes geht es.*

culture of the homeland they loved, to socialise, to enjoy the music and the people around them. Both assist with serving parties and showing people to tables. Hilde humbly says "Whatever's on. Whatever needs to be done. Whatever goes. That's the green light to go for us!"

And indeed they do just that. Bill, with his knack for carpentry and handyman skills, offers his time and care to assist with the painting, woodwork, cleaning and many a job around the grounds. With a cheeky grin and a wave of his hand he has hardly finished a sentence before hurriedly running off to continue doing what needs to be done...

But it's not all work. Whilst they pitch in with zest and praiseworthy constancy, and love working together, they also love fun and the lighter side of life. Believe me, they really do know how to get into the spirit of things! The Maskenball fancy dress nights spring instantly to mind, with both Hilde and Bill in costumed persona and playing their parts to perfection...

What is not an act, is their dedication to the cause that is the "Austrian Club Melbourne Community". Requiring no fame nor glory, no praise and no reward, other than the knowledge that they have contributed worthily, Hilde



shows her feeling - and it comes straight from the heart - as she quietly reflects:

"We both love the great atmosphere in the Club. That home-away-from-home feeling. We enjoy being amongst friends and we both hope that the Club keeps going for many, many more years yet. It would be nice to see more people getting involved, especially young ones..." With a big smile she adds "...good happy people, who care and know that we care too. For, as the German saying goes, how you call into the woods, that's how the Echo comes back".

Without Prejudice

Look forward to next month's SPOTLIGHT



A TRUE STORY OF THE TWO TENORS

This is a story that perhaps few people have heard. It's about two of the three tenors - Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, and José Carreras - who stirred the world through their singing together.

Even those who've never visited Spain, know of the rivalry between Catalanes and Madrileños ... since the Catalanes are fighting for their autonomy from a Madrid dominated Spain. It so happens that Placido Domingo is Madrileño and José Carreras is Catalan. For political reasons, in 1984, Carreras and Domingo became enemies. Being that they were very popular and much sought after around the world, both stated in their contracts that they would perform only if the other was not invited.

In 1987, Carreras met up with an enemy more implacable than his rival Placido Domingo. He was taken by surprise by a terrible diagnosis: leukaemia! His fight against cancer was a painful one. He was subjected to numerous treatments, besides having a bone marrow transplant and blood transfusions that forced him to travel to the United States once a month. Unable to work under these conditions, though he possessed a considerable fortune, the high cost of these trips and medical treatments depleted his finances.

When at the end of his financial ability, Carreras discovered a foundation in Madrid, the sole purpose of which was the support of treatment for the sufferers of leukaemia. Thanks to the support from the "Hermosa Foundation", Carreras conquered the disease and returned to

singing. Once again he attained an elevated and deserved status and attempted to join the foundation. Reading their by-laws he discovered that the founder, leading contributor and president of the foundation was Placido Domingo. He later found out that Placido had originally formed this organisation to help him with his treatment, but had chosen to remain anonymous in order to not humiliate Carreras in accepting help from his "enemy".

But the most moving part of this story is their encounter...

Surprising Placido at one of his performances in Madrid, Carreras interrupted the event and humbly knelt at his feet, asked him forgiveness and publicly thanked him. Placido helped him up and with a big hug they sealed the beginning of a great friendship.

In an interview with Placido Domingo, a reporter asked him why he had created the "Hermosa Foundation" at a time when, besides benefitting an "enemy" he had helped the only other artist who was his competitor. Domingo's answer was short and definite:

"We cannot afford to lose a voice like that!"

This is a true story of human kindness and should serve as an example and inspiration. But it also serves as a timely and just reminder - that there are people in this world with whom we may not see eye to eye, but "can we afford to lose their voice?"

"THE FENCE"

Anon

With thanks to the German Shepherd News for permission to reprint this article

There was a little boy with a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, to hammer a nail in the back fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Then it gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone.

The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one."

Friends are a very rare jewel indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.

LONG LIFE

A man once counselled his son that if he wanted to live a long life, the secret was to sprinkle a little gunpowder on his corn-flakes every morning. The son did this religiously, and he lived to the age of 93. When he died, he left 14 children, 28 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, and a 15 foot hole in the wall of the crematorium.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

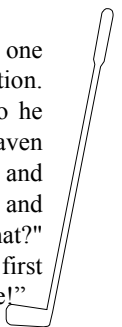
"So in everything, do unto others what you would have them do unto you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 7:12



HOLY GOLF

A minister decided he would play golf one morning instead of preaching to his congregation. He chose a golf course outside the area so he would not be recognised. Two angels in heaven were watching him. One nudged the other and said, "Watch this." The minister teed off and scored a hole in one. "Why did you allow that?" asked the other angel. "I allowed it", said the first angel, "because he won't be able to tell anyone!"



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Happy Mothers Day



Happy Anniversary

**THANK YOU TO
THE LADIES GROUP...**

The Ladies Group donated \$650 - from sales and a raffle on the Swissfest - to the Austrian Club. There was also a raffle on Mothers Day, with donations of \$555 going to the Club. Please continue to support the Ladies, as all the money goes to the Club.

Next meeting is Wednesday 25th May at 10:00am. New members welcome.

TABLE TENNIS TIMETABLE

The Table Tennis Group continue to play on Fridays at 10:30am. Come and play and then have lunch at the Club.

Margaret Hirschauer



Congratulations to the Ladies Group for their excellent work



It's PARTY TIME!



Weddings!

Blow out the Candles for your Birthday here in our beautiful Club

Planning a Wedding Celebration or celebrating a Jubilee or Anniversary? Invite Family and Friends to share your special day with you here



Get Ready to PARTY



Happy Birthday

Family friendly atmosphere. Great for babies' christenings or namesday celebrations.

Better than a hall. Book your Christmas party, work function or other special occasion here...

Special entry discounts may apply. Speak to Beverly or one of the office staff to **BOOK YOUR PARTY NOW!**

Phone: 03 9459 8686

ENTERTAINMENT REPORT

Forward Review:

Here are some important dates to pencil into your diaries:

- Saturday 28th May: J.W. Swing Band
- Saturday 25th June: Burgenland Abend with a floorshow by the "Oberbayern Dance Group"
- Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th July: Christmas in July
- Saturday 23rd July: Tiroler Abend with a floorshow by the "Oberbayern Dance Group"

These events are always popular. Book early and remember to keep these dates in your diary and on the calendar.

PLANNING A PARTY?

Admission fee discounts may apply for Non-member guests when planning a party with more than 20 persons and where the persons in this party will all enjoy meals, coffee and cake etc. For more information speak with Beverly Griesmayr, or the Committee Member on Duty.

ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS

Why not visit the Club and experience Austrian "Gemütlichkeit".

For all Enquiries & Bookings:

Telephone 9459-8686 during the above office hours

Or find out more information and details about future entertainment on our web site:

www.austrianclubmelbourne.com.au

Hon. Entertainment Co-ordinators: *Otto & Beverly Griesmayr*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Hours

10:00am – 3:00pm
5:00pm – 8:00pm
11:00am – 6:00pm

Wednesday to Friday
Saturday
Sunday

Bistro Open - Lunch / Dinner

11:30am – 2:00pm
6:30pm – 9:00pm
6:30pm – 9:00pm
11:30am – 3:30pm
11:30am – 5:00pm

Thursday & Friday (Lunch)
Saturday (Dinner – Main Meals)
Saturday (Dinner – Snacks)
Sunday (Lunch – Main Meals)
Sunday (Lunch - Snacks)

after 9:30pm Kitchen closed Saturday

after 5:00pm Kitchen closed Sunday

NEWS & NOTICES

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

We warmly welcome two new members to the Austrian Club:

- Mr. Imrich Plasek
- Mr. Norbert Schaber
- Ms. Jillian Morris-Schaber

CLUB RULES

Please note:

Food and drinks are not allowed to be brought onto the premises.

Bitte beachten Sie:

Speisen und Getränke können nicht mit in den Klub gebracht werden.

ADMISSION FEE CHANGES

The Management Committee, after heavy discussions, have come to the conclusion that the Club cannot keep absorbing increased costs for energy, food and other various services required to keep the Club running. Other Clubs have had higher entry charges for many years, and some of those Clubs do not have the overhead expenses that we incur. Effective from 1st July 2011 the Admission Fees will be:

- | | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| • Standard Function | M: Free | G: \$10 |
| • Provincial Evenings (Burgenland/Tiroler/Steirer) | M: \$12 | G: \$17 |
| • Christmas in July & Maypole | M: Free | G: \$12 |
| • Radio 3ZZZ Ball | M: \$20 | G: \$25 |
| • New Year | M: \$35 | G: \$55 |

The JW Swing Band function is currently excluded from the increases, as John has his advertising circulated up to the end of the year. Increases for this function will take effect from 2012.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND GET WELL WISHES

Congratulations to Club Members celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries. Our best wishes also, to all persons who are recovering from operations or who are struggling with health problems.

CREDIT CARD SURCHARGE

Purchases made with credit cards attract a surcharge of 3%, with the exception of Diners Cards which attract a surcharge of 4.5%. This information is displayed in several places within the Club. It is also displayed on the menu.

VALE



It is with regret that we advise the death of Mrs. Maria Berger (Grasberger). Deepest sympathy has been extended to Maria's son Adi Kautz, and his wife Margaret.

It is with regret that we advise the passing of Mr. Anton (Toni) Duray on Saturday 14th May 2011. For many years, right up to when he was stricken with ill health, Toni - together with his wife Marianne and friends Christine and Nereo Segnan - was a regular attendee at all the major Club functions. Deepest sympathy is extended to Marianne and family, and also to Christine and Nereo.

A service will be held at St. Gabriels, Reservoir, at 1:30pm on Thursday 19th May.

Beverly Griesmayr
Honorary Club Secretary &
Membership Secretary



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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: 90 Sheehan Road, Heidelberg West 3081

Web: www.austrianclubmelbourne.com.au

Email: ausclub@bigpond.net.au

May 2011

Saturday 21st **I.C. Rock** *Music & Dance*
Re-unite with Presley, Orbison etc. M:Free G:\$5

Sunday 22nd **Robert Stolz Society Artists**
Bookings only through the R.S. Society
Bookings are essential -
Don Tel: 9807 2154
Johanna Mobile: 0407 114 328

Saturday 28th **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 29th **Rene** *Music & Dance*
Bua vom Ottakring M:Free G:\$5

June 2011

Saturday 4th **Mustang** *Music & Dance*
A little bit of Country & European M:Free G:\$5

Sunday 5th **Silver Echoes** *Music & Dance*
Musical Love is in the Air M:Free G:\$5

Saturday 11th **Silver Echoes** *Music & Dance*
Musical Love is in the Air M:Free G:\$5

Sunday 12th **Scorpio Duo** *Music & Dance*
Italian Surprise M:Free G:\$5

Saturday 18th **Silverbeat** *Music & Dance*
A Little Bit of Spice M:Free G:\$5

Sunday 19th **Rene** *Music & Dance*
Bua vom Ottakring M:Free G:\$5

Saturday 25th **Burgenland Evening** *Music & Dance*
Music & Dance with Alpine Cocktail M:\$10 G:\$15
Floorshow - Oberbayern

Sunday 26th **Heinz** *Music & Dance*
Popular and Precise M:Free G:\$5

July 2011

Saturday 2nd **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 3rd **Silver Echoes** *Music & Dance*
Musical Love is in the Air M:Free G:\$10

Saturday 9th **Continental Duo** *Music & Dance*
Slovenia, Germany and Austria together M:Free G:\$10

Sunday 10th **Accordion Society of Australia (Vic.)** *Concert*
ASA M+Pens:\$15 G:\$20
Concert - Performances by a range of top soloists & the Victorian Accordion Orchestra

Saturday 16th **Christmas In July** *Music & Dance*
with Silver Echoes M:Free G:\$12
Musical Love is in the Air

Sunday 17th **Christmas In July** *Music & Dance*
with Rene M:Free G:\$12
Bua vom Ottakring

Mai 2011

Samstag 21. **I.C. Rock** *Musik & Tanz*
Re-unite with Presley, Orbison etc. M:Frei G:\$5

Sonntag 22. **Robert Stolz Society Artisten**
Buchungen nur durch R.S. Society -
Don Tel: 9807 2154
Johanna Mobile: 0407 114 328

Samstag 28. **John Wanner Swing Orchestra** *Musik & Tanz*
Das schwingende fabelhafte und leistungsfähige Orchester mit 18 Musikanten und Sängern.
Eintritt: Mitglieder \$12
Gäste \$17
Anmeldungen sind sehr empfehlenswert

Sonntag 29. **Rene** *Musik & Tanz*
Bua vom Ottakring M:Frei G:\$5

Juni 2011

Samstag 4. **Mustang** *Musik & Tanz*
A little bit of Country & European M:Frei G:\$5

Sonntag 5. **Silver Echoes** *Musik & Tanz*
Musical Love is in the Air M:Frei G:\$5

Samstag 11. **Silver Echoes** *Musik & Tanz*
Musical Love is in the Air M:Frei G:\$5

Sonntag 12. **Scorpio Duo** *Musik & Tanz*
Italian Surprise M:Frei G:\$5

Samstag 18. **Silverbeat** *Musik & Tanz*
A Little Bit of Spice M:Frei G:\$5

Sonntag 19. **Rene** *Musik & Tanz*
Bua vom Ottakring M:Frei G:\$5

Samstag 25. **Burgenland Abend** *Musik & Tanz*
Musik & Tanz mit Alpine Cocktail M:\$10 G:\$15
Floorshow - Oberbayern

Sonntag 26. **Heinz** *Musik & Tanz*
Popular and Precise M:Frei G:\$5

Juli 2011

Samstag 2. **John Wanner Swing Orchestra** *Musik & Tanz*
Das schwingende fabelhafte und leistungsfähige Orchester mit 18 Musikanten und Sängern.
Eintritt: Mitglieder \$12
Gäste \$17
Anmeldungen sind sehr empfehlenswert

Sonntag 3. **Silver Echoes** *Musik & Tanz*
Musical Love is in the Air M:Frei G:\$10

Samstag 9. **Continental Duo** *Musik & Tanz*
Slovenia, Germany and Austria together M:Frei G:\$10

Sonntag 10. **Akkordeon Gesellschaft von Australien (Vic.)** *Konzert*
ASA M+Pens:\$15 G:\$20
Konzert - Vorführung einiger Spitzensoloisten und dem Victorian Akkordeon Orchester

Samstag 16. **Christmas In July** *Musik & Tanz*
mit Silver Echoes M:Frei G:\$12
Musical Love is in the Air

Sonntag 17. **Christmas In July** *Musik & Tanz*
mit Rene M:Frei G:\$12
Bua vom Ottakring

Admission / Eintritt charges for each day is now given as

M:\$ (Austrian Club Members / Mitglieder - remember to bring membership cards), G:\$ (Guest / Gäste)