

Australian German Welfare Society Inc.

Reg. No. A 0010852 B – ABN: 98 245 957 640



Newsletter

Nr. 569 / December 2019

PRINT POST APPROVED P.P. 344276/00012

4th Floor 24 Albert Rd
South Melbourne, 3205 VIC
Monday – Thursday 9.00am – 1.00 pm
Afternoon by appt. only
Tel.: 03-9696 0907
www.germanwelfare.org.au
contact@germanwelfare.org.au

Index

Calendar of Events

News from MLH

News from TTHA

Dear Members

What a wonderful time of the year it is! We can sit outside and enjoy the warmer weather; the days are longer, and we generally seem to feel a bit more energetic. And then the days are leading up to the Festive Season. We can start decorating our house with Christmas ornaments, meet up with friends to chat about the past year, make plans for the coming year and as they say, 'be merry'.

Part of this time of the year is of course our Christmas Market at the Melbourne Town Hall. Our market has become an annual institution for many people on their calendar. It provides a fabulous meeting point for Germans, German-speakers and the general public.

This year we had a 'crisis' when we were told just recently that our delivery from Germany would not bring the much loved German Stollens, biscuits and sweets that we had ordered. A German Christmas Market without German sweets? A 'Stollen shortage' had broken out!? Needless to say, we hopped on the phone and started ringing around until we found another supplier who could deliver the cherished goodies right on time.

After six months of preparation and many hours of volunteer work, the Christmas Market was held on 28th November and it was a success. We saw so many people walk through the door; the doorman and the security guards could not keep up counting. Here some figures: 25 different stall holders, 53 tables, 14 large cakes, 4 trays of Apple strudel, 20 litres coffee, 24 volunteers, one large Christmas tree, zzz radio, 500 Bretzels, 15kg Bratwürste, 10kg Leberkäse, 60pcs Frankfurter sausage, 1kg Tommy mustard, 15kg potato salad, and the list goes on. I would like to take this opportunity and thank the volunteers for

all their help during this busy period. All money raised from the market will go towards supporting the German community.

We invite you to our yearly Christmas function at the German Club Tivoli On 12th December 2019. We will meet in the afternoon for coffee, tea and cake with some light Christmas entertainment. Bring along a friend or two, enjoy a piece of cake and sing along (if you would like) to some Christmas carols. The annual raffle is not to be missed, with some extra-special and yummy treats this year. We look forward to seeing you!

With separate mail we had sent out an invitation for a Special General Meeting which will be held at the beginning of the Christmas function, but will hopefully not take up too much time. Further information can be found in the next pages.

Personally I will not be at the Christmas function, as I will be sitting on a plane to Germany where I will spend Christmas with my family. I thank you all for your support over the last year and wish you a wonderful Christmas and all the very best for the coming year 2020.

Yours,
Birgit

A Christmas Story

Master Peter, and the two ubiquitous young Cratchits went to fetch the goose, with which they soon returned in high procession.

Such a bustle ensued that you might have thought a goose the rarest of all birds; a feathered phenomenon, to which a black swan was a matter of course, and in truth it was something very like it in that house. Mrs. Cratchit made the gravy (ready beforehand in a little saucepan) hissing hot; Master Peter mashed the potatoes with incredible vigour; Miss Belinda sweetened up

the apple-sauce; Martha dusted the hot plates; Bob took Tiny Tim beside him in a tiny corner at the table; the two young Cratchits set chairs for everybody, not forgetting themselves, and mounting guard upon their posts, crammed spoons into their mouths, lest they should shriek for goose before their turn came to be helped. At last the dishes were set on, and grace was said. It was succeeded by a breathless pause, as Mrs. Cratchit, looking slowly all along the carving-knife, prepared to plunge it in the breast; but when she did, and when the long expected gush of stuffing issued forth, one murmur of delight arose all-round the board, and even Tiny Tim, excited by the two young Cratchits, beat on the table with the handle of his knife, and feebly cried Hurrah!

There never was such a goose. Bob said he didn't believe there ever was such a goose cooked. Its tenderness and flavour, size and cheapness, were the themes of universal admiration. Eked out by the apple-sauce and mashed potatoes, it was a sufficient dinner for the whole family; indeed, as Mrs. Cratchit said with great delight (surveying one small atom of a bone upon the dish), they hadn't ate it all at last! Yet everyone had had enough, and the youngest Cratchits in particular, were steeped in sage and onion to the eyebrows! But now, the plates being changed by Miss Belinda, Mrs. Cratchit left the room alone, too nervous to bear witnesses, to take the pudding up and bring it in.

Suppose it should not be done enough! Suppose it should break in turning out. Suppose somebody should have got over the wall of the backyard and stolen it, while they were merry with the goose, a supposition at which the two young Cratchits became livid! All sorts of horrors were supposed.

Hallo! A great deal of steam! The pudding was out of the copper. A smell like a washing-day! That was the cloth. A smell like an eating-house and a pastrycook's next door to each other, with a laundress's next door to that! That was the pudding! In half a minute Mrs. Cratchit entered, -flushed, but smiling proudly, with the pudding, like a speckled cannon-ball, so hard and firm,

blazing in half of half-a-quarter of ignited brandy, and bedight with Christmas holly stuck into the top.

Oh, a wonderful pudding! Bob Cratchit said, and calmly too, that he regarded it as the greatest success achieved by Mrs. Cratchit since their marriage. Mrs. Cratchit said that now the weight was off her mind, she would confess she had had her doubts about the quantity of flour. Everybody had something to say about it, but nobody said or thought it was at all a small pudding for a large family. It would have been, flat heresy to do so. Any Cratchit would have blushed to hint at such a thing.

At last the dinner was all done, the cloth was cleared, the hearth swept, and the fire made up. The compound in the jug being tasted, and considered perfect, apples and oranges were put upon the table, and a shovel-full of chestnuts on the fire. Then all the Cratchit family drew round the hearth, in what Bob Cratchit called a circle, meaning half a one; and at Bob Cratchit's elbow stood the family display of glasses. Two tumblers, and a custard-cup without a handle.

These held the hot stuff from the jug, however, as well as golden goblets would have done; and Bob served it out with beaming looks, while the chestnuts on the fire sputtered and cracked noisily. Then Bob proposed:

"A Merry Christmas to us all, my dears. God bless us!"

Which all the family re-echoed.

"God bless us everyone!" said Tiny Tim, the last of all.

Charles Dickens

Farewell



Mrs. Jutta Gerhards
Mrs. Marge Neu

Our heartfelt condolences to family and friends.

Obituary

It is with sincere regret that we advise of the passing of Mr. Imants Dižgalvis on 9th November 2019, aged 90; he has been a longstanding and good friend of our Society.

My first contact with him goes back to the early seventies, when he started to assist us with legal matters. His help was most welcome when it came to the acquisition of our office in Albert Road and again when he, together with his partner, Mr. Alexander Garsa, provided legal counsel during the formation of the Tabulam Nursing Home, now TTHA.

Born in Riga, Latvia, he fled to Germany with his parents after the Russian occupation of Latvia and then went to Australia as a migrant. He soon mastered English in addition to German and his native tongue and studied law, and then started his own law firm, which ultimately became Kahn Lawyers. He was honoured by the Law Institute Victoria for 50 years as a legal practitioner in 2008.

We shall always honour his memory and express our sincere condolences to his family and loved ones.

Dr. Walter W.J. Uhlenbruch AO
Honorary Life President - AGWS Melbourne
November 2019

Many thanks for your kind donation!

In October 2019 AGWS received

\$ \$ 485.00

in donations!

Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Mr.	Kimmer	Mrs.	Vigliaro
	Anonym	Mrs.	Gancarz
Mrs.	Dietz	Mrs.	Heymig
Mrs.	Bradley		

Calendar of Events

German Film Afternoon, Coffee and Cake

Thursday 5th of December

1.30 - ~3.30 pm

AGWS office

Cost \$ 5.00

Please let the office know if you are coming!

AGWS Christmas Celebration

Thursday 12th December

Club Tivoli

2pm - 4pm

Cost \$ 10.00

Please let the office know if you are coming!

Our Christmas Celebration will be the same as every year, only this time we had to add a, hopefully very quick, formality at the beginning of the programme: Over the past year AGWS has revised its Rules and we are legally obliged for our members to have the opportunity to accept the new Rules. Which we will do at the beginning and then celebrate as per usual.

Rappelkiste

The 'Rappelkiste' is the AGWS's German language playgroup for children aged 2 - 5.

The group takes place on Thursday mornings from 10 - 12 pm during school terms at Parkdale Church of Christ, Parkdale

Enquiries and bookings: Gine at rappelkisteparkdale@yahoo.com.au



Rappelkiste Frankston will take place every Wednesday from 10 - 12am during school term.

Enquiries and bookings: Gine at rappelkistefrankston@yahoo.com

Cost: \$ 10 for the first child; \$ 5 for every other child two years and older; children under 18 months of age are free.

The AGWS family membership for one year is \$60 (this includes insurance with Playgroup Australia).

A Project of the Australian-German Welfare Society: 'Deutsche Sprache und Traditionen spielend beibehalten'.

Q

QU-QU-Meeting-

Meet with likeminded people for a chat in German

On every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month a group of likeminded people meet at our office for an informal chat.

If you feel like conversing in German about books, films, memories, health, travels or whatever else you might think of and are interested in good company just come along! We look forward to meeting you!

Our meeting dates for December are:

Tuesday 10th of December from 10 am to 1 pm

AGWS German Bookclubs

The AGWS book clubs meet every third Tuesday of the month. If you like to read and enjoy sharing your opinion with others, join us!

The “**AGWS Buchclub**” meets in the morning at 11am in the rooms of the AGWS in South Melbourne and the “**Bookworms**” at 7.30pm in the evening. The “**Buchwürmer**” at varying locations, sometimes in a café, sometimes at one of our member’s homes. Please contact Dagmar under 0438 353 910 if you would like to join.

Call the AGWS office under 9696 0907 for more info.

News from TTHA

The warmer spring weather of late is simply stunning and residents are enjoying their daily walks with fresh air and warming sun on their faces. The gardens are in full bloom here and residents enjoy picking flowers to share with others in our communal areas. Its hard to believe that the year is nearly over and soon enough we will be once again, gathering for all of our joyous Christmas celebrations and parties. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a very merry Christmas and a wonderful new year!

Our recent Oktoberfest celebration on 11th October was a wonderful cultural celebration for all residents and visitors. We were lucky to have Joe Parks and the Evergreen German Choir entertain us with all the traditional German songs, residents and visitors enjoying singing along and swaying their hands to the melody. The atmosphere was

magical with the wonderful singing voices and the delicious fare from our kitchen. Tim, our chef and his team prepared a delicious meal of frankfurts, bratwurst and kranskys paired with traditional potato salad and black forest cake for dessert. All staff and most residents got into the festive spirit wearing traditional German Dirndl, Lederhosen and hats and savoured in German beer and wine fit for the occasion. Family members and ILU residents joined in the fun and we sang the afternoon away.

We currently have three Independent Living Units for sale here at TTHA. The units vary in size and we have availability for either a single person or couple to move in. If you or a loved one would be interested in having a tour of one or all of the units available, please contact reception on 8720 1333

If you or a loved one are thinking about home assistance, or need extra support, our Accent Home Care team can give you all of the information and assistance you need. Our team is there to answer all of your questions and to guide you through the process, please call our office on 8720 1338 or homecare@accenthomecare.org.au.

As we enjoy some sun, we invite you to come in and talk to us about your own aged care needs and how we can assist you. If you would like to make an enquiry for any of our services, please contact us on (03) 8720 1333 or visit our website: www.ttha.org.au, or Accent Home Care on (03) 8720 1338 www.accenthomecare.org.au

Eva Simo CEO

News from the Martin Luther Homes

What to do with your old technology?



Our residents have really enjoyed our new Tech Lessons, supported by the AGWS, and learning about digital technology in general. In order to engage even more people at Martin Luther Homes, we are putting the word out there that IF YOU HAVE A SPARE LAPTOP OR

TABLET COMPUTER, and you want to put it to a good use, please contact reception on 9760 2100.

We can reset the device to factory settings for you and ensure that all personal data has been deleted before we use them in class. Our residents would really appreciate the kind donation.

Our residents put on their hiking boots

“Keep on walking” or “Das Wandern ist des Müllers Lust” the motto of our new walking group ‘Wanderlust’ that has been started by some of our residents in the retirement village. Supported by our Lifestyle Coordinator, Birgit Gisler, the Wanderlust members discover natural gems around the outer east of Melbourne, including national parks and popular hiking tracks. After all, hiking is not only good for your fitness and physique but also for your mental health.
Oliver Heuthe



is

Useful Information

Resident Return Visa

If you require **evidence of a valid visa** you have to download your current status via

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/check-conditions-online>

Private Health Insurance

PrivateHealth.gov.au is an Australian Government site that enables you to compare insurance policies. Follow the link

<https://www.privatehealth.gov.au/dynamic/search/start>

Aged and Home Care

If care recipients don't complete their income and/or assets information, they are classed as 'means not disclosed' and will be asked to pay the maximum fee for their home care package or for residential aged care.

For further information please refer to:

<https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/income-and-assets-assessment-aged-care-homes>

<https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/income-assessment-home-care-packages>

Dental Care

If you are a health care or pension concession card holder, you are eligible for emergency dental care through The Royal Dental Hospital in Melbourne (including non-concession card holders) and also through your local community dental clinic. The clinics provide access to general dental, denture and specialist dental care. To find a clinic near you, check out

<https://www.dhsv.org.au/clinic-locations/community-dental-clinics>

Reciprocal Health Care Agreements

Agreements with 11 countries that covers the cost of medically necessary care when Australians visit certain countries and visitors from these countries visit Australia.

Residents of some countries may qualify for access to Medicare via Reciprocal Health Care Agreements (RHCA). The Australian Government has RHCA with the governments of the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, Finland, Norway, Malta, Italy, Belgium, the Republic of Ireland and New Zealand.

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/reciprocal-health-care-agreements/australians>

Announcements / Advertisements

Disclaimer: The responsibility for the content of announcements remains with the providers

Senior Au Pair Position

My name is Andrea Sommer. I am 58 year old and I am a physiotherapist. I live in Nürnberg.

I'm looking for a senior au pair job in your town to improve my English, which is middle.

I was born in the GDR, where we only learned Russian.

Three years ago, I sold my practice. Now I am working as a self-employed with colleagues.

I'm divorced, do not have children but many nieces and nephews. I like cooking and baking.

I like cycling, walking, jogging. I am fit. I like to read, classical music and ballet.

I would arrive at my own expense.

I would like help you with your homework and do sport with you. We could maybe learn German together.

Of course, I like to help in the household.

I plan to come for six weeks from February-March 2020

For more information please write me: a.sommer@sommer-physio.de

Sincerely,

Yours Andrea Sommer

If you would like some further information please feel free to contact Ruth Hofmann, one of our committee members, who knows Mrs Sommer personally.

Tel.: 03-9077 4113 or ruth@hofmannfamily.com.au

HENKELL VINEYARDS

Yarra Valley



Entdecken Sie den speziellen Charakter
unserer Yarra Valley Weine
Cabernet Sauvignon 2012 + 2014
Chardonnay 2015



Wir führen auch
HENKELL TROCKEN,
einen importierten Sekt aus Deutschland.

Unsere Weine und das Bestellformular finden
Sie auf unserer Webseite
www.henkellvineyards.com.au
Sie erreichen uns auch telefonisch,
per Fax oder per E-Mail.



P.O. BOX 2160 M.D.C., Fitzroy 3065, Victoria
Phone: (03) 9417 4144 Fax: (03) 9419 8873
sales@henkellvineyards.com.au

**Please help us save trees, lower our printing
costs and save paper!**

If you have an email address, we would love to send you our
monthly newsletter electronically.

Please let us know under:

Tel. 9696 0907, Email: contact@germanwelfare.org.au

The trees thank you very much!

Sudoku

4	9			2	5		1	
					6			5
				7			3	4
		3			1			2
5								7
2			6				9	
	3	7		1				
9			7					
	5		4	8			7	3

4	7	2	3	1	9	8	6	5
8	6	9	2	5	4	7	1	3
5	3	1	8	6	7	4	2	9
9	5	6	1	4	2	3	7	8
7	2	3	9	8	6	5	4	1
1	8	4	7	3	5	6	9	2
6	1	7	5	9	3	2	8	4
3	4	8	6	2	1	9	5	7
2	9	5	4	7	8	1	3	6

Solution November

**The AGWS office will be closed
for Christmas and New Year
from the 23rd of December to the 6th of January.**

**The AGWS office team wishes you a Merry Christmas
and a very happy New Year 2020**



*The Australian-German
Welfare Society
Wishes our members,
Friends and the
German community
a merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
2020!*