



NEWS

May 2011



German Australian Association Inc. 30 Bowden Street, Glenorchy, Tas 7010 Ph: 03 6272 9445



Happy Birthday

and best wishes to

Werner Gruis	14 April
Hans Lenz	3 May
Veronica McGee	3
Horst Kutzner	17
Tony Ambroz	20
Marie Bukewitsch	24
Inge Maass	25
Erich Lenz	26
Horst Maass	28
Wally Newman	29



FM 96.1 and 92. 1

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A reminder to all to listen to Karina, Lilo or Karl on the **German Radio Program** which is broadcast each Sunday morning from 8:00 to 10:00 on Hobart FM 96.1 and 92.1 for areas south of Hobart.

If you can't find your newsletter, you can always catch up with Club events each Sunday, as well as listening to interesting stories and wonderful music.



Renate Rowe

Basil (Margaret's cat) likes nothing better than to help with the printing of the newsletter. He is an expert at clearing those paper jams in the printer.

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

Upcoming events

Potato Cakes (\$2.00 each) - 18.00 start
(every 4th Friday of the month)
Friday 27 May, 24 June, 22 July

Please pre-book by phoning the Club the Wednesday prior.

Schnitzelessen - 11.30 start

(every 2nd Sunday of the month)

Sunday 8 May, 12 June, 10 July

\$14.00 includes a glass of red or white wine & tea or coffee

Please pre-book by phoning the Club the Thursday prior.

Hand Craft Group Afternoon Tea - 14.00

(last Sunday of each month)

Sunday 29 May, 26 June, 31 July

Visitors are always welcome.
Contact Edith Bauermeister on 62437243.

German Radio Program

FM 96.1 and 92. 1 **Every Sunday 8am - 10am**

Choir Concert Saturday 21st May at 7.30pm. See Page 3 for more details.

G.A.S.T. lunches for seniors

Generally every **Wednesday** at 10.00 am
To book please contact the
Migrant Resource Centre on 6221 0999.



Alterations, Repairs and All Dry Cleaning

453 MAIN RD GLENORCHY 7010 PHONE: 6273 1584

GERMAN AU\$TRALIAN CLUB

30 Bowden Street, Glenorchy Phone 6272 9445

Opening Times

Monday, Tuesday	4-6 pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	3-7 pm
Friday	4-9 pm
Saturday	2-6 pm
Sunday	1-6 pm

Club Executive:

President	Hans Lenz
Vice-Presidents	Erich Lenz
	Horst Andree
Secretary	Margaret Hewett
Treasurer	Sandra Laird

ANY ADVERTISEMENTS OR ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Please note: The new contact for June and July will be Gaby Seely.

E: gabsbooks@gmail.com

P: 6249 5593

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Audrey Auld Concert – Moonah Arts Centre Saturday April 30

Audrey is Tasmanian-born but now lives in Nashville Tennessee where she is a respected country singer/songwriter. In this show she takes a moment out of her world tour to do a one off show in her home town.

For more details contact the Arts Officer.

Entry \$10

Circus Skills with Andrew Brassington June 7, 8 and 9 and September 5 and 6

Learn all the basic Circus skills, from juggling, Rollo bollo, acro-balance, diabolo, unicycle clowning and more. All activities are conducted in a safe and well supervised environment. Book early, these workshops fill fast!

Suits: 8 - 16 years. Times: 10am - 3pm

phone (03) 6214 7633

Choir News

Our choir will be performing at the Church of Christ, off Goulburn St in Hobart on Saturday 21st May at 7.30pm as part of the concert titled "Another opening, another show". Also performing will be the Dance Group, the Tassie Pinoy Assembly Choir, Mahaklika Performing Group and Philipino dancers. The two hour concert promises to be very colourful and lively. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults, \$20.00 for pensioners and \$15.00 for students and children. Contact **Renate Gehlhaar on 62722757** for further information.

Groups and Communities

The German Choir The Choir needs people who love singing songs in both English and German. Practice is every Monday at 15:30. Contact Renate Gehlhaar on 6272 2757 for further details.

Skat Players: The Skat Players meet every Friday at 18:00 and Sundays at 13:30. There are experienced players as well as those who merely see it as a game. So, anyone can fit in. If you are interested, please contact Hans Lenz on 62672645.

Canasta Players: The Canasta Players love a good game of cards with lots of social interaction and they meet on Thursdays at **3.30**. Please call Margot Meier on 6249 3420 if you would like to participate.

Austrian Community: Our Austrian Club Members have a table especially booked for them on Thursdays and you can talk to Horst Meister at the German Club if you would like to join.

Lithuanian and Latvian Community members meet at the Club. Phone the Club to find out when they will next join us.

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Walpurgis Night (Walpurgisnacht) is a traditional spring festival on 30 April or 1 May in large parts of Central and Northern Europe. Its celebration is associated with dancing and with bonfires. The current festival is, in most countries that celebrate it, named after Saint Walburga (ca. 710-777/9). As Walburga was canonized on 1 May (ca. 870), she became associated



with May Day, especially in the Finnish and Swedish calendars. The eve of May Day, traditionally celebrated with dancing, came to be known as Walpurgisnacht ("Walpurga's night").

The 17th century German tradition of a meeting of sorcerers and witches on May Day is influenced by the descriptions of Witches' Sabbaths in 15th and 16th century literature. In Germany, Walpurgisnacht is the night when witches are reputed to hold a large celebration on the Brocken and await the arrival of spring. Brocken is the highest of the Harz Mountains of north central Germany. It is noted for the phenomenon of the Brocken spectre and for witches' revels which reputedly took place there on Walpurgis Night.

In some parts of northern coastal regions of Germany, the custom of lighting huge fires is still kept alive to celebrate the coming of May, while most parts of Germany have a derived Christianized custom around Easter called "Easter fires". In rural parts of southern Germany, it is part of popular youth culture to play pranks such as tampering with neighbours' gardens, hiding possessions, or spraying graffiti on private property. These pranks occasionally result in serious damage to property or bodily injury.

In Berlin, traditional leftist May Day riots usually start at Walpurgis Night in the Mauerpark in Prenzlauer Berg. There is a similar tradition in the Schanzenviertel district of Hamburg, though in both cases, the situation has significantly calmed down in the past few years.



Muttertag

Mother's Day is not celebrated at the same time around the world, but Germans and Austrians observe *Muttertag* on the second Sunday in May, the same as in Australia. Celebrate by bringing Mum to Schnitzelessen on the 8th May.

1. Mai Tag der Arbeit

In Germany, May Day (erster Mai, May 1st) is a national holiday and an important day, partly because of Blutmai ("bloody May") in 1929. That year in Berlin the ruling Social Democratic

(SPD) party had banned the traditional workers' demonstrations. But the KPD (Kommunistische Partei Deutschlands) called for demonstrations anyway. The resulting bloodbath left 32 people dead and at least 80 seriously injured. It also left a big split between the two workers' parties (KPD and SPD), which the Nazis soon used to their advantage. The National Socialists named the holiday **Tag der Arbeit** ("Day of Labour"), the name still used in Germany today.

In recent years Germany's chronic high unemployment (**Arbeitslosigkeit**, over 5 million in 2004) also comes into focus each May. The holiday also tends to be a day of *Demos* that often turn into clashes between the demonstrators (more like hooligans) and the police in Berlin and other large cities. If the weather allows, nice, law-abiding people use the day for picnicking or relaxing with the family.

Der Maibaum

In Austria and many parts of Germany, especially in Bavaria, the tradition of raising a Maypole (**Maibaum**) on May 1 still serves to welcome spring, as it has since ancient times. Similar Maypole festivities also can be found in England, Finland, Sweden, and the Czech Republic.

A Maypole is a tall wooden pole made from a tree trunk (pine or birch), with colourful ribbons, flowers, carved figures, and various other decorations adorning it, depending on the location. In Germany the name *Maibaum* ("May tree") reflects the custom of placing a small pine tree atop the Maypole, which is usually set up in a town's public square or village green. Traditional dances, music, and folk customs are often associated with the Maypole. In small towns virtually the entire polulation turns out for the ceremonial raising of the Maypole and the festivities that follow, with *Bier und Wurst* of course. In Munich a permanent *Maibaum* stands at the Viktualienmarkt.

If you would like to learn to speak German,
Mrs Franz of Kingston has kindly donated a kit consisting of
twelve cassette tapes and a book titled "Mastering German".
It will be available for loan from the Club.