

Österreichisch-Britische Gesellschaft Austro-British Society

Open most Thursdays, 7 pm onwards at Karfreitstr. 6/1.

Club Tel: 0650 5668278 & 0664 4506196.

www.austrobritish.com

September 2021, Newsletter

Dear members and friends of the Society

During the last few months we have managed to meet up every second week. We have visited various places (always a good opportunity to discover new places) and these evenings have usually been well attended. The highlight was our Summer Party where about 43 people turned up. From feedback it seems that everyone enjoyed themselves (photos below).

IMPORTANT: Re Covid regulations - when visiting the club or any event outside the club, please see Susan's directives (page 3).

There are changes happening at our club premises in the Karfreitstrasse. Due to the proprietor moving into some rooms on the first floor we have lost the use of the large room where we often held events and had the buffet for the Xmas party. In addition, the store room where we kept our drinks can no longer be used. For the future this means we cannot hold an event at the club if we anticipate a lot of people attending. Hence we will have to find other locations and we may have to pay for the use of the room. Such is the case for the quiz to be held in October. The terrace will be renovated, which is a relief to us all, as it was rather 'dangerous', with wooden boards either being horribly slippery if wet or ready to break if you stepped on the wrong one. Hopefully by the time you get this newsletter the club rooms will be open again and we will then meet up every week.



Calendar of Events

All of the following events are obviously dependent on government regulations regarding Covid. If you need confirmation of the events please phone Helen 0650 5668278.

Sep 30 Visit by Joy (our ex-president) and Eric from Malaysia

To be held in our clubrooms.



Oct 7 **Quiz Night by Richard Gould**

Quiz
Night

Rokohof Hotel: Villacher Str. 135, Klagenfurt (next to the Wulfenia cinema). Arrive as of 6.30 pm. Quiz to start about 7 pm. Bar snacks are available: toast, frankfurters etc. We have the conference room until 10 pm.

Oct 21 **Club Night Out**

Hotel Restaurant Rösch: Wörthersee, Südufer Str 55 (opposite the BILLA at the Viktringer turnoff). Food and atmosphere are really good. Meet 6.30 pm.

Oct 23 **An afternoon trip to the vineyard Taggenbrunn, near St. Veit**



Meet at the Burg on top of the hill and view, not only the scenery, but the world class 'Andre Heller' exhibition (for further details about the exhibition, go to page 3). Share a refreshment afterwards and maybe a meal. Further details nearer the time.

Nov 11 **Remembrance Service, 10.30am**



This commemoration is observed on the 11th Nov, to recall the end of World War 1 hostilities, in 1918. The service starts punctually at 10.50am so please arrive from 10.30am. Many dignitaries attend. Address: Klagenfurt War Cemetery, Lilienthal Str (just off Villacherstrasse).

Nov 18 **Club Night Out**

Lao Shanghai restaurant at Benediktinermarkt. The place to be if you care about real Asian style. 6.30 pm onwards.

Dec 9 **Christmas Party**



Venue and further details to be advised. It will not be at the club.

Dec 23, 30 and Jan 6 (public holiday) - club closed

Jan 13 - club reopens

Feb 17 **Annual General Meeting**

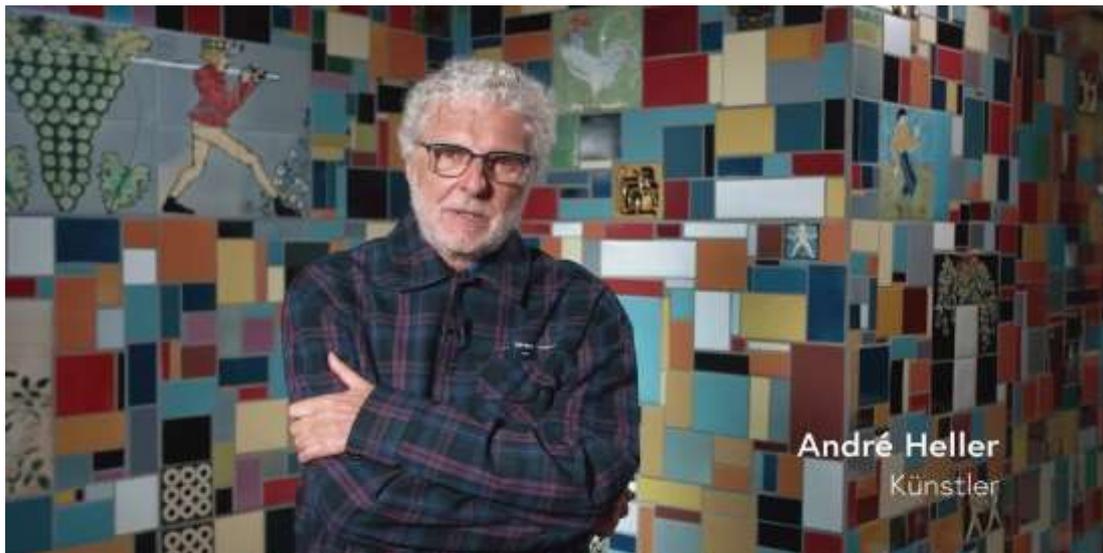
YOUR SAY!

Rokohof Hotel Villacher Str 135, Klagenfurt (next to the Wulfenia cinema). Starts punctually at 8 pm. Please arrive a little earlier to organize yourself with drinks and food and to catch up on the gossip.

IMPORTANT

Your safety comes first!

This is why the committee passed a resolution, at our last meeting, to enforce Covid regulations. To attend our club nights (be they in-house or out) and any of our trips (including entry to the bus) you must be able to show your valid Covid inoculation pass, or proof of a test, not more than 48 hours old. This reflects our duty of care to our members and visitors. We apologize for any inconvenience or disappointment this may cause.



André Heller, the Taggenbrunn Exhibition

André Heller created Swarovski Crystal Worlds in 1995 to celebrate Swarovski's hundredth anniversary. This versatile artist has never limited himself to a single form of artistic expression: in addition to the Chambers of Wonder, he has also produced garden artworks and published prose. He has brought new life to circus and variety performances, sold millions of records as a singer-songwriter, created mazes and sculptures and produced films, plays and shows which have earned international admiration.

What will you experience at the Taggenbrunn exhibition?

- A fascinating play of light and forms in a gigantic kaleidoscope.
- Being in the middle of continually changing figurations and colours which bring you to astounding pictures.
- The condition of the world today shown on a large globe: air pollution, droughts, storms, earthquakes and the oceans and where they destroy the livelihood of mankind.
- In a small room you will travel a fascinating journey to the middle point of the earth: through the solar system, a flight to earth through the atmosphere and a dive below the seas and then down to the very centre of the earth.

This exhibition is a complex mix between biology, machines, music and light.

Historical things that you have always wanted to know, or maybe not, but here they are anyway!

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted! Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, "Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg". Indeed, artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint.

As incredible as it sounds now, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October). Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash their wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell and then bake it for 30 minutes! The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term "big wig". Today we often use the term "here comes the Big Wig" because someone appears to be, or is, powerful and wealthy.

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the "chairman". Today in business, we use the expression or title "chairman" or "chairman of the board".

In days gone by personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many men and women had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face, she was told, "mind your own bee's wax". Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term "crack a smile". In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt . . . Thereof, came the expression "losing face".