



Österreichisch-Britische Gesellschaft Austro-British Society

**Open every Thursday 7 pm onwards at Karfreitstr. - 6/1.
Club Tel: 0650 5668278 & 0664 4506196.**

June 2013, Newsletter

DieKärntner
SPARKASSE
In jeder Beziehung zählen die Menschen.

Dear Members

My note to you will be short so we can fit in a special tribute, written by Colin Finch, to Joe Welsh who sadly passed on the 17th February. I don't think there is any member who did not know Joe and find themselves at some point sharing a joke, a yarn or a song with him. I remember most warmly when Joe would sing to me. He had a lovely voice and his song gave away the true romantic in him.

In this issue you will find our coming events listed on page 4. I am most looking forward to the Guided tour of Klagenfurt city with Patricia Gerlich and the Boat Cruise on the Völkermarkter Stausee. I hope to see you there. Unfortunately I will miss our Annual Summer Party as I will be in Australia. Happy reading!

Yours faithfully
Australian Susan

Are you aware?

We have a lift to the club.
When you are facing Gasthaus Egges, there is a covered entrance to the left leading to the Italian restaurant. From the courtyard, at the entrance to the restaurant, there are some stairs on the right. You will find the lift there. Go to the first floor, walk along the balcony and you will find our door. If it is locked please bang very loudly or tel 0650 5668278.



QUIZ NIGHT

We had a smashing turnout for our recent Quiz Evening. It was neck and neck between Team America and The Young Ones, but in the end The Young Ones (pictured above) took the prize.



Cathedral City cheddar cheese is available for purchase at MERKUR - you can find it in the main cheese section, on the shelves.

In remembrance of
Joe Welsh, 1933 - 2013

By Colin Finch

Joe was born in Ashton under Lyne on 20th December 1933: the eldest of 4 siblings. After completing his school years Joe went to Manchester University and then studied Theology in Spain where he became quite fluent in Spanish. He finished his university studies in London.

In 1962 Joe married his first wife who sadly died of Leukaemia, as did their daughter Nicola in 2010, after immigrating to Australia. What was even sadder, was that Joe was not fit enough to go and visit her before she died.



After finishing his studies, Joe started work in Uganda (during the 70's at the time of Idi Amin's rule) selling Telecommunication equipment. Still in the 70's Joe returned to England and worked as a male nurse. He then married Sonja, whom we all know, and had a son, Dominic.

Joe retired in July 1993 due to lung problems, but his life was destined to start all over again. Sonja's mother, who owned a large house in Klagenfurt, had recently died. Joe, Sonia and Dominic moved to this house and re-planted their roots. In 1994 Joe became a staunch member of the Austro British Society. We were housed at the Wurm Garage on the St. Veiter Ring: to date the best premises we have ever had!

In this same year Joe asked me to accompany him and Dominic on a trip to visit his friends. We travelled through the English Channel tunnel, which had only just been opened. This became one of Joe's most exciting memories as the project had at long last been completed based on ideas and designs that went back 50 years.

Also in 1994 I started a club car rally which was a hit. The following year Joe wanted to become 'involved' and ended up taking charge for the next couple of years! In 1997 Joe was voted ABS President. Proud of the job Joe was a huge force in bringing the club to where it is today, so much so that he was awarded Hon. President: a position he held to the end.

Joe was a lifelong member of the ABS club. There is no one who was more loved by the club than our Joe, with the exception of Peter Mathews (who still comes and helps on the committee as an artistic coordinator) and our long standing ex-President, the late Bunty Oberwinkler.

Joe's hobbies were gardening and football. He was an avid writer of many a poem and he loved music, so much so that he sang as a member of the Klagenfurt Cathedral Choir. Joe also had a passion for Bridge and gave Wednesday afternoon Bridge classes to club

Continued next page

members and friends. Typical of Joe, nearly all the pupils were women. Joe had a big eye for the women and if a female stranger came into the club, he would be the first to make them welcome. Sometimes a little risqué with his jokes, but always a gentleman, the ladies were charmed. Joe was a natural comedian and I still don't know how he could remember so many jokes!

Joe died on 17th February 2013: St Patrick's Day. Unfortunately neither I nor Helga could attend as we were in Spain but, with the help of Dominic, Joe rang me from hospital. I believe Joe knew he wouldn't see us again and wanted to say goodbye. He sounded very cheerful and after saying "enjoy your holidays" he sung us a song from his bedside to remember him to us.

As they say in England, Joe had a good sending off. Held in Klagenfurt, the funeral was attended by over 300 people. Joe touched the hearts and minds of so many: even his friends from the market attended and Sir Alex Ferguson, MU team coach, was so grieved at the loss of his best fan that he decided to retire at the end of the season, and he has.

The Rules of Cricket

You have two sides, one out in the field and one in.

Each man that's in the side that's in goes out and when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out.

When they are all out the side that's out comes in and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get those coming in out.

Sometimes you get men still in and not out.

When both sides have been in and out including the not outs.

That's the end of the game.

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."
Groucho Marx

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

*Remember, your membership allows you **FREE** entry to our Summer Party and other events.*

You can pay at the bar or to the
Österreichisch-Britische Gesellschaft
Kärntner Sparkasse
Account no: 109876
Bilanz code: 20706

Individuals €30, Family €40
(Family covers parents and their children up to 14 yrs.)

For further info: tel 06645722622



How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?

"He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up." Paul Keating

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up like every two hours?

Calendar of Events

For further info about any of our events please call Helen on 0650 5668278

**6 Jun
Thu**

Guided tour of Klagenfurt city with Patricia Gerlich

Experience a completely different view of our city. Patricia is Irish and a trained tour guide. *Duration:* 1½ - 2 hours. *Meet:* At the club, **7.30pm**.
In the event of bad weather to be held on the 13th June.



**15 June
Sat 4pm**



Church Service, Altkatholische Kirche, 4pm

After the service there will be a discussion with Patrick about the future of our church services. All members are welcome to join in. It will be held in the church rooms at about 5 pm.

**22 & 23 Jun
Sat & Sun**

Velden Cricket Club Sixes Tournament

Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and club hospitality. If interested make your own arrangements. Check it at www.t20international.org/velden-sixes.



**29 Jun
Sat**



American Independence Day

The celebration will be held at a private home from 12.00 onwards.

**27 Jul
Saturday**



Annual Summer Party

Where: Gasthaus Alte Stadtgrenze on the road of the same name that is the connecting road between Völkermarkterstrasse (where Vögele and OBI are) and Pischeldorferstrasse.

When: 17.00 onwards. Food to be served at 18.00.

Cost: Members - Free, Guests - €18

Pay for your own drinks.

An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held at the party, in light of our treasurer resigning and the need to vote in a new one.

**24 Aug
Sat**



Boat Cruise on the Völkermarkter Stausee

What better way to spend the day than relaxing with friends and watching the beautiful country side float by? Catch the public boat at 2pm, near St. Kanzian. Afterwards we meet at the Klopeinersee for eats and drinks - details nearer the time. But the important thing is to mark this date in your diary!

**7 Sept
Sa**



Walk/hike from Magdalensberg to the Christoffberg

Meet: 2pm punctually. *Where:* Drive towards the top of Magdalensberg. About 100 metres before the Celtic Ruins, very near to the top on the right hand side there is a parking area, with a large P for parking. Those not wishing to do the walk can meet up with us afterwards at the Gasthaus on Magdalensberg at about 4.30 pm.