



# Österreichisch-Britische Gesellschaft Austro-British Society

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

**Club Tel: 0650 5668278 & 0664 4506196.**

**[www.austrobritishcarinthia.at](http://www.austrobritishcarinthia.at)**

## Feb 2023

Dear members and friends of the Society

At the start of our autumn programme, in September, Paul Brazell gave us a short talk on 'Facebook for Dummies'. Some of us dummies still haven't upped our game to post and/or respond to comments, perhaps just by clicking 'like' to a post! Hopefully 2023 will bring a change.

Our visit to McMullens for Quiz Night didn't go quite as expected, it being rather loud for some of us and the fact that the quizmaster didn't turn up before 'our bedtimes' didn't help the situation!

The Remembrance Service at the British and Commonwealth Cemetery was well attended and those present were then invited by the Embassy to a reception at Giovanni's bar, at the Dermuth Hotel: all very civilized and the finger buffet was delicious. Speaking of food and drink, the Christmas Party at Molly Malones was a success but a shame also, in that several members were absent due to illness. There was an abundance of food and thanks go to those who brought a plate along to add to that ordered by the club.

A lot of work has been done on the new Facebook and Website by Tristan Boyd and Paul Brazell. Their efforts were recognized at the party with a small gift.

Please note that our AGM is on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Rokohof Hotel, Klagenfurt. Start: 7.30pm. More details nearer the time. Please regard this as an official invitation. If members wish to propose or comment on something or nominate someone for the committee, just send us an email or do so on the evening.

We welcome all our new members. Don't forget to check out our Facebook site *Austro-British Society Carinthia* and check out copies of photos on our website [www.austrobritishcarinthia.at](http://www.austrobritishcarinthia.at) (please note our website has a new address).

Helen and Australian Susan



War Memorial 11.11.2022 and Christmas Party 2022

# Calendar of Events

**Unless otherwise stated below, the club rooms will be open from 7pm onwards.** Where the location of an event is not mentioned, just watch your emails. We reserve the right to change events. If in doubt as to when and where, check our website [www.austrobritishcarinthia.at](http://www.austrobritishcarinthia.at) or phone Helen on 0650 5668278.

**Feb 9 Quiz Evening, Starts 8pm** ? ? ? ? ?

At our club rooms with Quizmaster Richard. Always a popular event.

**Feb 23 AGM, Starts 7.30pm**

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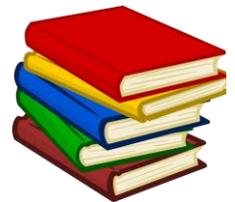
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At Rokohof Hotel, Villacherstr. 135. There is plenty of parking in the hotel carpark. Sandwiches will be provided. Come early if you wish to have a chat. Please accept this notice as your official invitation. If you have any items you would like discussed, or would like to nominate someone for the committee, please send us an email. Voting at the AGM is for paid up members only. You can pay your membership on the night.

**Mar 2 Book Reading by Walter Ludescher**

Walter will read "*The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*", a short story by American humourist, James Thurber. Not to be missed!



**Mar 9 Games Evening at the club**

If you have a game that you think people will enjoy, please bring it along with you.

**Mar 16 Club Night Out - St Patrick's Night at Molly Malone's, 6.30pm onwards**

We are celebrating one day earlier but hey, why not! Don't be afraid to don your greens.

**Apr 6 Club Night In, as usual, even although it is 'Maundy Thursday'**

The word Maundy comes from the Latin, 'mandatum' or 'command', which refers to the instructions Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper. It is in commemoration of the last supper, the crucifixion and the death of Jesus and the resurrection to new life. Some people traditionally wear white.

**Apr 13 Port and Cheese Evening at the club**

Our thanks go to Laurin who has donated the port.



**Apr 20 Club Night Out, Rösch, 6.30pm onwards**

Rösch is a very nice hotel/restaurant situated at the beginning of the Suduferstr. near to the lake. Address: Wörthersee-Südufer-straße 55 · 9073 Klagenfurt.

**May 18 Closed (religious holiday)**

**May 25 Club Night Out, Hotel Moser Verdino, 6.30pm onwards**

Hotel Moser is very conveniently placed in the city center and quite upmarket. Verdino is on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. We met here just before Christmas: see photo from terrace on page 4.

# When we were young ...

To all the kids who were born in the 40's and 50's and to the kids of today who don't know what they're missing.



First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they carried us and lived in houses which used asbestos. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese, tuna from a tin and didn't get tested for diabetes or cervical cancer. Then after that trauma, our baby cots were covered with bright coloured, lead-based paints. We had no childproof lids or locks on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets or shoes, not to mention the risks we took hitchhiking.

As children we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the back of an estate car on a warm day was always a special treat. We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from the bottle. Take-away food was limited to fish and chips, no pizza shops, McDonalds, KFC. Even though all the shops closed at 5pm and didn't open on the weekends, we somehow didn't starve to death. We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO-ONE actually died from this. We would collect old drink bottles and cash them in at the local off-licence and buy sherbet sweets and gob stoppers. We ate iced buns, white bread and real butter and drank soft drinks with sugar in it, but we weren't overweight because – **WE WERE ALWAYS OUTSIDE PLAYING!**

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, only going home when our tummies rumbled – and no-one worried as long as we were back when the street lights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. And we were OK. We would spend hours building our go-carts out of old pram wheels and scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find we had forgotten the brakes. We built tree houses and 'camps' in the woods and played in stream beds, with matchbox cars. We did not have Playstations, Nintendo's, X boxes, no video games at all, no 1000 channels on cable, no video tape movies, no surround sound, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no Internet or Internet chat rooms.

We had FRIENDS and we went outside and found them. We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents and only girls had pierced ears. We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

You could only buy Easter Eggs and Hot Cross buns at Easter time – no – really. We were given cap guns at 5 or 6 and catapults for our 10<sup>th</sup> birthdays. We drank milk laced with Strontium 90 from cows that had eaten grass supposedly covered in nuclear fallout from the atomic testing in 1956. We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just yelled for them.

Mum didn't have to go to work to help dad make ends meet. 'Footy' had try-outs and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn with disappointment. Imagine that!!! Our teachers used to punish us with leather straps or rulers on the hands or bottoms and bullies always ruled the playground at school. The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law.

Our parents got married before they had children and didn't invent stupid names for their kids like 'Kiora' or 'Blade'. This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever. The past 70 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility and we learned HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL.



Club Night Out at Gasthaus im Landhaushof, on the 26<sup>th</sup> January. A great time was had by all twenty who attended – and the food was excellent!

## Membership is due again

Single €35 Family/Partner €55

Fees are valid for one calendar year. Pay at the bar, at the AGM or via the bank:

Österreichisch-Britische Gesellschaft Kärntner Sparkasse IBAN AT50 2070 6000 0010 9876

If you pay at the bar, you will receive a receipt. Want an Erlagschein? You can get this at the bar or you can phone Helen on (0650 5668278) or Elisabeth on (0664 4506196), or you can send us an email requesting one and we will send it to you by post.

[www.facebook.com/groups/austrobritishcarinthia/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/austrobritishcarinthia/)

*Want to know what the club is doing and thinking? Go to our facebook page and don't be afraid to comment or like posts:*



Please remember that we have a lift, at the rear side of the building, for your convenience. You would need to phone Helen from street level, so she can pop down with the necessary keys: 0650 5668278.

Our Social media Managers continue working to make our website better and better. Check it out:

[www.austrobritishcarinthia.at](http://www.austrobritishcarinthia.at)



This photo, taken by our Vice-President Annelies Wallace, shows the view from the Moser Verdino terrace where club members enjoyed pre-Christmas drinks.

But don't worry if you missed the evening, we are going there again for a Club Night Out on the 25<sup>th</sup> May (see events page).

## Did you know?

The Austro-British Society Carinthia, based in Klagenfurt, was founded in 1946, the first members being the British soldiers stationed in Carinthia after the war. And, our society has now been running for more than 70 years non-stop, the longest of all the Austro-British societies in Austria.