



CONCORDIA CLUB

German Club (Founded 1883)



Oktoberfest München

Martin Stephan

Concordia Newsletter | 2022, Issue 4

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Dear Fellow Members,

Are you enjoying a public life again? We are! Frühschoppen is back and our members have returned in droves. Last month we celebrated our 139th Anniversary which means the big milestone of 140 years Concordia Club is less than a year away. Oktoberfest is back but not quite as you knew it. Find out more inside.

Sadly, we also had to say goodbye to some dear members of the club.

Your Board of Directors

139th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, 28 May 2022, Concordia celebrated its 139th Anniversary. For this occasion, our president Teresa Sonntag gave her much anticipated speech which we would like to share.



Good Evening und Herzlich Willkommen!

I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to you all to the celebration of Concordia Club's 139th Anniversary and invite you to enjoy the proud long held traditions of the Club's unique and well known 'Gemütlichkeit'. We have with us this evening representatives from

- Inner West Council - Clr Tim Stephens and Clr Justine Langford
- Australian German Welfare Society - President Sonja Schweizer
- Swiss Community Care Society - President Regula Scheidegger
- Austrian Club Sydney - President Sylvia Miller

Reflecting on another year of Concordia Club's history gone by, another period of lockdown leading to another year of challenges, big and small, significant and insignificant nevertheless challenging. Staff shortages, Covid isolations, equipment breakdowns, maintenance, the list is endless.

In the PAST Concordia Club's journey has experienced its share of setbacks and hardships but despite all the odds the Club has continued to survive, grow and prosper.

The PRESENT time has reaped the rewards of the hard work of the many who have preceded us and combined with the sound financial decisions made, Concordia Club has a secure future. Currently our statistics show 270 members of German, Swiss and Austrian background, with a total membership of 1,600.

The human element is what has driven the Club to where we are now and is essential for future success.

Planning for the FUTURE is vital as in December 2028 our lease will expire. To continue on this road and for Concordia to further grow and evolve, the Club's future is in our hands. Strategic planning, implementing changes and budgeting for the future are imperative.

Our core values - To provide a rendezvous for German residents in Sydney, to promote and foster a national spirit of fellowship amongst Germans and to assist in maintaining cordial relations with their fellow citizens in Australia will guide us moving forward into the future. The name Concordia means 'Harmony' - it is where families can enjoy our hospitality with the feeling of not wanting to go home. This is evident in the *Heimat Ecke* with its decor and memorabilia reflecting our core values and where we can reminisce our heritage. Our venue remains the *Sammelplatz*, a meeting place for our members and patrons of German, Swiss, Austrian heritage, together with those from the local community, who are here every weekend with their families to enjoy our food and hospitality.

Through music and song our Concordia Choir continues to pull at the heartstrings reminding us of our homeland.

Celebrating the contribution and achievement of our long term members, who have reached and passed 60, 50 and 25 year milestones, is a tribute to their loyalty to Concordia Club.

I would like to congratulate our longest serving members -

The Golden Oldies



- Herbert Groth - 68 years
- Gerhard Bornevski - 67 years
- Helmut Scheidl - 65 years
- Wilhelm Adler - 63 years
- Rudolf Heisler - 62 years
- Wilfried Filipczyk - 60 years

Welcome to our new 50 year members

- Richard Sieber & Armando Duarte

And our new 25 year members

Inge and Heinz Mueller, Gunda Besser, Herman Schmidt & Toni Aeillo.

I would also like to acknowledge and give personal thanks to the Committee, our Staff – Bar, Kitchen and Office and our very much valued Volunteers for their continued input, hard work and teamwork.

It is with enormous gratitude that I thank all those who have served the Club in these capacities past & present.



Simon Beatty

On that note sadly, our Bar Manager, Simon Beatty's time with us as an employee is coming to an end. On June 30th after 20 years of service, Simon will work his last shift and will be able to enjoy his new home in Lithgow without having to commute to Sydney every weekend,

to ensure that everything at the Club runs smoothly. His personal sacrifice, dedication, skills, knowledge and hard work have been outstanding. A tremendous support for me personally, Simon gives credit to others and 'Teamwork' as the reason for success. We look forward to seeing Simon back at Concordia as a guest on a regular basis.

In light of the world experiencing so many changes in the last few years, Concordia Club also needs to keep pace, find and adapt new ways, make changes and move forward in order to continue it's successful journey long into the future.

**Happy birthday Concordia.
Live long!**



Photos from the Anniversary Celebration



From left to right: **Tim Stephens** (Councillor), **Teresa Sonntag** (President),
Justine Langford (Councillor)



From left to right: Günter Schramm (Treasurer), **Teresa Sonntag** (President),
Richard Sieber (50 years member)



Thank you, Concordia staff



Auf Wiedersehen, Simon





Wilfried Filipczyk (60 years member)



Madeleine Lucas (Director)



Helmut Scheidl (65 years member)



Oktoberfest 2022

We are excited to announce that the Oktoberfest will go ahead on the

first 4 Sundays in October

You can expect Oktoberfest style entertainment with band and dance groups.

For more details check our website and Facebook.

Bookings are essential - on website only.

Vale Elisabeth Will

LIFE MEMBER OF THE CONCORDIA CLUB

Taken from the eulogy by Ruby-Ann Lokkers-Schmidt at Elisabeth's funeral on 30-5-2022

Elisabeth was a caring individual who had, as the French say, a '*Joie de Vivre*' - Joy of Living. Although life was not always kind to Elisabeth, her smile and gracious gratitude for her situation, her ability to see the glass half full not half empty, was a lifestyle she embraced with passion.

Elisabeth became a member of Concordia Club on 28-4-1989 and enjoyed membership in the table tennis sub-group for many years. In 2006 she joined the Committee as a Director and in 2007 and 2008 she served as Vice President. During this time Elisabeth ran the Cake Stall and decorated the Club with plants, curtains and costume dolls, and generally cared for the staff. She was awarded Life Membership in 2010 and her contribution to the Club lives on today, as the Cake Stall was appropriately named after her.

Caring for Alain, Patrick as a young boy, and having Ruth's friendship, gave her the biggest joy. To picture Elisabeth you would see a beautiful tiny blonde woman skipping around the Club dancing with the man she loved most, taking photos and generally making the lives of those she came in contact with the richer with her smile

and happiness. She could cheer the darkest souls and when things were not right she would raise her tiny fist and state her case. She was not afraid of anyone.

Elisabeth and Alain moved to Wentworth Falls in 2014 inviting their many friends to visit them in their cosy home in the mountains. She enriched the lives of many, as we all have our own fond memories of her.

Remember Alain, Elisabeth could not abide self pity or too much sadness.

Remember, as I am sure we all will, that '*Joie de Vivre*'.



Remembering Rosemarie Scheidl

LIFE MEMBER OF THE CONCORDIA CLUB

By Suzanne Scheidl

Rosemarie was born in May 1934, in Hornberg, Germany, in the depths of the Black Forest, where she lived until 1948. She was an only child, with loving parents, always out-going, cheerful and adventurous. These traits stayed with her throughout her life.

When her father decided to migrate to Australia after the war, it was not a popular choice for Rosemarie who threatened to remain in Germany. She was overruled and in 1950 they boarded the ship, spending at least 2 months at sea traversing the world, including through the Suez Canal, to land first in Hobart, then Melbourne and finally Sydney.

Life in Sydney was very different from what she was used to. She maintained her ties to her beloved Germany, insisted that she would ONLY marry a German man, wrote prolifically to her multitude of relatives and friends back home.

Rosemarie sought out the German Church in Goulburn Street and the German Concordia Club. She joined the Concordia Youth Group, making new friends, some of which lasted the remainder of her life. She loved the outings, balls and festivals. When she first joined the Concordia Club, ladies

were only allowed to be associate members adjoined to their husbands.

In the intervening years, Rosemarie raised a family of 2 children with her GERMAN husband, Helmut, took pride in having 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Rosemarie loved the Concordia Club! She loved the fact that the Club at Tempe was closer and that she could help out on the Cake Stall, that she could meet old friends and make new ones. She laughed and told stories, reminisced and soaked up the welcoming, caring atmosphere. It was her bit of Germany that she continued to crave even after almost 72 years in Australia.

Rosmarie passed away on Saturday 5 February 2022 at the age of 87 years. Please remember her with kindness and a smile on your faces.



Message Board

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Concordia Choir News

The Choir is going well! Although we lost a couple of members due to COVID, we do have a new one as well. I have had a couple of nibbles but no show, which is disappointing because we do need new members but really it's the singer who gains the benefit. We performed wonderfully well at the Club's Anniversary Celebration receiving many compliments. I'd like to say a big thank you for your amazing support of our raffle that night!

Now we are rehearsing for the Saengerfest being held in September in Canberra. This year there will be 9 choirs attending.

There used to be 22 at one stage so I'm proud to say Concordia Choir has endured the years through thick and thin and is still going strong, a lot of it due to our Musical director, Dr Tamara Carlin.

Singing and music is so good for you. It's a great advantage to belong to a choir so why don't you come on **Wednesday night 7.00pm** and see for yourself.

Hope to meet one or two of you soon!

Mavis Glaesel

Secretary Concordia Choir

Mobile: **0408 286 956**



Flammekueche Recipe

Ingredients

Dough

200 g white plain flour

120 ml water* (luke warm in Winter)

Large pinch salt

1 tbsp olive oil

*Every flour is different so the water quantity will vary but the dough should be much firmer than normal bread dough.

Base sauce

125 g crème fraiche/sour cream (1/2 tub)

Fresh herbs (what is to hand - thyme, basil, parsley work well)

Garlic (small clove grated) optional

Squeezed lime/lemon juice optional

Salt and pepper to taste

Toppings

Whatever you want ...

Traditional toppings include:

Smoked salmon with capers and white onion (thinly sliced) and cheese

- Bacon/speck (diced), white onion (thinly sliced) and cheese

Directions

Make dough at least 3 hours prior to cooking.

- Mix together all ingredients in a bowl (electric mixer preferred as it is a stiff dough). Mix until well combined and rest for 2 hours.
- Once rested divide the dough into TWO separate balls and rest again for 30 min.

- Roll it out flat and rest it again for 15 min.
- Roll the dough out further so it is as thin as possible. This will allow gluten to rest and it will not shrink as much when cooking.
- Preheat the oven as hot as possible. For best results use a pizza stone.
- To make the sauce add the fresh herbs, garlic, juice and salt and pepper to the crème fraiche or sour cream and mix well.
- Spread the base sauce thinly and add toppings (not too much, keep it light).
- Bake for 2-5 min depending on oven.
- Slice into squares.

Do not make more than double quantity of the recipe in a home mixer as it might overwork the motor due to the tightness of the dough.



Viel Genuss!

Jan Wicher



Bar & Restaurant

OPENING HOURS

Bar

Friday	12 pm to close
Saturday	12 pm to close
Sunday	11 am to close

Restaurant

Friday	12 pm to 8.30 pm
Saturday	12 pm to 8.30 pm
Sunday	12 pm to 8.00 pm

For reservations call Teresa **0434 941 778**

We have restarted Frühshoppen every 1st and 3rd Sunday

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