



CONCORDIA CLUB

German Club (Founded 1883)



Pettneu am Arlberg, Tyrol

Photo Steve Bliim



Concordia Newsletter | 2021, Issue 2

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Dear Fellow Members,

These are truly uncertain times. Last month we were celebrating our 138th Anniversary - gathering, singing and dancing - now we are in lockdown. We can only check the current restrictions and adjust to them. If you are unsure what they are, feel free to contact us.

We sadly have decided to cancel the Oktoberfest this year but hope we will have one next year - bigger and better.

Your Board of Directors

138th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, 29 May 2021, Concordia celebrated its 138th Anniversary. For the occasion, our president Teresa Sonntag gave a heartfelt speech. We would like to share a shortened version with all members:



Good Evening und Herzlich Willkommen!

I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to you all to the celebration of Concordia Club's 138th Anniversary. As you know, due to Covid, we were not able to hold the anniversary celebration last year, so we are delighted to see you all here tonight to continue the long-held

traditions and experience Concordia Club's unique and well known 'Gemütlichkeit'.

The immense sadness of Karl's passing was and still is difficult to come to terms with, his dedication and commitment will long be remembered and appreciated. It is with determination and resolve that we continue his legacy and work towards the many challenges which face us in the immediate and long-term future.

The vast challenges that come with managing and running the Club have been relentless - some great, some small, some time consuming, some frustrating and some just exhausting - the closing and reopening of the Club, the restrictions, the scanning in, and the Safety Plans. Despite these challenges and the ones waiting for us around the corner, we have worked together to achieve many positive outcomes and are pleased to welcome the return of the Newsletter and Frühschoppen. Future projects already underway - Website revamp, so watch this space.

Reflecting back to the core "Objects - der Zweck" of Concordia Club, I would like to quote a passage out of a little black book, the original Constitution dated 1926.

OBJECTS OF THE CLUB - The German Club "Concordia" founded on 1st June 1883 has as its Objects:

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.

It is within this culture of working together that we have continued to provide the "Sammelplatz"- the "Rendezvous" for our members, patrons and our local community. Our seniors meet here every 1st Friday. Choir rehearse here every Wednesday, the Swiss have made our Club their 'Sammelplatz' every 3rd Friday, the German Welfare Society and German Saturday School celebrate Christmas here and the Inner West community have embraced us as their 'Rendezvous' for their families and friends on weekends.

The recognition of Life Members and 50 and 25 year members is a tribute to the loyalty of members contributing to the Concordia Club ethos.

I would also like to acknowledge that Concordia prides itself for our hardworking Committee,

our staff and our very much valued Volunteers. It is with enormous gratitude that I thank all those who have served the Club in these capacities past and present.

Although over the years the way we do things has changed, moving forward has retained the same original values- to promote and foster the spirit, traditions, the language and the fellowship. Der Zweck des Vereins, the Objects of the Club, have remained unchanged.

Concordia's journey over the years has experienced its share of setbacks and hardships, as will moving forward into the future, as opportunities to grow and prosper evolve. So, as was decreed over one hundred years ago, Concordia Club will always remain true in the endeavour to maintain its German tradition and as long as we keep gathering here it's DOORS WILL STAY WIDE OPEN.



Photos from the Anniversary Celebration



From left to right: **Günter Schramm** (Treasurer), **Edmund Reichmann** (25 year member), **Connie Salat** accepting for **Hildegard Dagn** (25 year member), **Martin Jordan** (25 year member), **Hans Graf** (50 year member), **Teresa Sonntag** (President), **Christel Jordan** (25 year member), **Simon Beatty** (Life Member), **Karl Dieter Voss** (50 year member)



Klaus Steitz (Deputy
Consul General)



Daniel Roller
(Treasurer Austrian
Club)



Klaus Steitz and Teresa Sonntag



Günter Schramm and Edmund Reichmann





Uta Panayotakos and Manfred Koch



Dorothy Brown and Kurt Hoven



Colin Hesse and Justine Langford



Simon Beatty and Ben Zerbes



William Pauchard



Jacqueline and Karl Dieter Voss

Photographs by Paul Rideout

Simon Beatty

LIFE MEMBER OF THE CONCORDIA CLUB

We are pleased to introduce our new Life Member, Simon who received this award for his long-lasting contributions as a diligent volunteer to the successful running of the Club.

The Club has had many changes in staff and volunteers over the years but Simon has been part of the club since the mid-eighties, when he was only 15 years old and joined the Folk Dance Group.

He participated in many performances until he left to live in Nürnberg, Germany for 10 years where he worked in a printing house. Although he had learnt German in school, in Nürnberg he acquired a 'fränkisch' (Franconian) accent and developed a taste for German culture, food and beer.

After his return to Australia in 2000 he became a member of the Concordia Club helping on many occasions as a volunteer whenever he was needed. The former barman Klaus Barschdorf helped Simon to develop an interest in bar service. Because of his pleasant personality and diligent manner, he was offered a permanent job in 2005.

Simon is very special to our members and guests of the German Club. He is a constant figure - heart and soul of the service of the Club. He is very attentive and has kind words for all guests.

He always speaks in German to the German speakers and we often say that Simon is the one who upholds the German language when others fall back on talking in English.

Congratulations from all of us! This Life Membership is well deserved.



Message Board

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Home Delivery

Alain Will (25 year member) was unable to attend the ceremony at the 138th Anniversary. We delivered the certificate to his home.



From right to left: Alain Will, Elisabeth Will and Martin Stephan (Director)

Skat Group

We now have a Skat group that plays Skat twice a month. If you like playing Skat you are most welcome to join us. We play every

2nd and **4th Friday** of the month from **12.30 pm** to around **5.30 pm**

For further information please contact Jacob Hanich on **0405 371 937**

Concordia Walking Group

We would like to establish a walking group and want to get started close to home (Concordia Club). Our first walk will be from

Bexley North to Concordia Club

When: Sunday **8 August 2021**

Start: We will meet at Bexley North Station on the platform at **10 am**

This is a 5 Km walk via the Wolli Creek Valley walking track through native bushland. Expect to see tall gum trees, birds and the home of flying foxes. Some parts of the track are uneven. You will need to have a good level of fitness and proper walking boots. You can join us for lunch at the Club after the walk. We will reserve a table.

Bookings are essential. Contact

concordiaclub@hotmail.com

by the **30 July 2021** if you want to come along.

Please note that the walk can be postponed due to bad weather conditions. We will keep you informed.

Map and further information are available via The Wolli Creek Preservation Society (WCPS) at:

<https://www.wollicreek.org.au/tvt/>

Message Board

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Concordia Choir News

What a wonderful night the Anniversary of the Club was! The Choir sang brilliantly! After not performing for a year we sang our hearts out!

The audience also enjoyed our performance joining in with our last song "Kornblumenblau" and schunkling along! It was just great!

*"Ist der Himmel am herrlichen Rheine,
kornblumenblau ..."*

Its what singing is all about especially in a choir, bringing lots of joy, sometimes lots of tears but always some emotion.

After every rehearsal everyone feels happier and that makes for good health, physical, mental and emotional.

We have a big adventure coming up. We shall be recording at proper recording studios and making CDs so that our families and friends can hear our voices forever!

If you would like to join our fun choir we rehearse at our Concordia Club on

Wednesday nights at 7.30

with Dr Tamara Carlin as our musical director.



For further information ring Mavis
0408 286 956

Newsletter online only!

From next issue our newsletter will be available online only. If you have not provided an email yet, make sure to let us know your email address.

If you still wish to receive the newsletter by post, please contact the office to be added to the mailing list.

Alternatively, you can access the newsletter on our webpage at:

<https://www.concordiaclub.org.au/newsletter.html>

Bundestagswahlen – 26 September 2021

GERMAN ELECTIONS 2021

Deutsche, die außerhalb der Bundesrepublik Deutschland leben und dort keine Wohnung mehr innehaben, können grundsätzlich an der Wahl teilnehmen.

Wer darf wählen?

Sie haben das 14. Lebensjahr vollendet und **mindestens 3 Monate** ununterbrochen in Deutschland gelebt und dieser Aufenthalt liegt nicht mehr als **25 Jahre** zurück.

Oder Sie haben aus anderen Gründen persönlich und unmittelbar Vertrautheit mit den politischen Verhältnissen in Deutschland erworben und sind von ihnen betroffen.

Wahlberechtigt, was tun?

1. Einen schriftlichen Antrag auf Eintragung in das Wählerverzeichnis bei der zuständigen Gemeinde bis spätestens am **5. September 2021** (Posteingang) stellen. Das ist die Gemeinde, wo Sie zuletzt mindestens 3 Monate ununterbrochen gelebt haben.

2. Dieser Antrag muss persönlich unterschrieben und per Post an das Wahlamt der Gemeinde geschickt werden. Briefe nach Deutschland dauern z.Z. bis zu 25 Tage.

3. Auf die Zusendung der Wahlunterlagen warten. Eine Briefsendung nach Australien dauert z.Z. bis zu 14 Tage.

4. Sind die Briefwahlunterlagen angekommen, können Sie diese ausfüllen und an das Wahlamt der zuständigen Gemeinde zurückschicken. Das dauert, wie schon erwähnt z.Z. ca. 25 Tage. Der Wahlbrief muss am Wahlsonntag dem **26. September 2021** bis **18 Uhr** vorliegen.

Oder Sie stellen sicher, dass Ihre ausgefüllten Briefwahlunterlagen bis spätestens am **6. September 2021** bei der Deutschen Botschaft Canberra oder dem Deutschen Generalkonsulat Sydney eingehen. Was Sie dabei beachten müssen finden sie unter <https://australien.diplo.de/au-de/aktuelles/-/2364330>

Ausführliche Informationen für Deutsche im Ausland rund um die Wahl und das Formular für den Antrag auf Eintragung in das Wählerverzeichnis finden Sie auf der Webseite des Bundeswahlleiters: bit.ly/35P9Xsw



Ralf's Soljanka Recipe

Soljanka is a thick, spicy and sour soup that is very common in Russia. Soljanka is also popular in the eastern part of Germany where it is commonly found in restaurants and available in supermarkets. German Chancellor Angela Merkel says that Soljanka is one of her favourite foods. This German Soljanka recipe has a hearty, savoury, tad bit spicy and little bit sour flavour which makes it an incredibly comforting and satisfying experience.

Ingredients

1 tablespoon of olive oil
 1 large onion, finely chopped
 2 medium carrots, shredded
 2 celery stalks, chopped
 1 green and red Capsicum, chopped
 Ham, cubed (1/2 cup)
 Smoked sausage, cubed (1/2 cup)
 Cooked chicken (or turkey) breast, cubed (1/2 cup)
 4 slices of bacon, chopped
 1 can of diced tomatoes
 8 cups chicken stock
 2 teaspoons capers, rinsed
 3 pickled gherkins, chopped
 1 cup pickle juice
 1 bay leaf, salt, pepper & black olives, halved
 Fresh dill, finely chopped, sour cream
 chilli (as much or as little as you like)

Instructions

Heat olive oil in a medium pot over medium heat.
 Add onions, carrots, capsicum and celery and sauté for about 2 minutes. Add the meats and cook for about 5 minutes stirring occasionally.
 Add tomatoes, continue to stir. Add the chicken stock and bring to a boil, boil for about 20 minutes on medium heat.
 Add bay leaf, pickles and pickle juice and continue cooking for another 5 minutes (Spice lovers can add some chillies here).
 Add chopped olives, salt and pepper to your taste.
 Sprinkle with chopped dill and serve with a dollop of sour cream.
 A perfect soup for the cooler months.



Guten Appetit!

Ralf Genuttis



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 depending on COVID restrictions

Concordia Club Ltd

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