



**ANTWERP BRITISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION vzw**

Maandelijkse Newsletter – oktober 2020

Verschijnt niet in juli

Verantwoordelijk uitgever:

Mary Ann Marinus, Frankrijklei 94/b14-15, 2000 Antwerpen

Afgiftekantoor 2000 Antwerpen 1

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# Dates for your diary



ABCA events in **BOLD** type

<b>18th October</b>	<b>ABCA Silk Art Exhibition Rivierenhof : cancelled by organisers</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>ABCA: Waagnatie, “Van Gogh” The Immersive Experience</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> October	2am; clocks go back !
31 <sup>st</sup> October	Halloween

Advance Notice:

<b>21/22 November</b>	<b>ABCA : “Madonna meets Mad Meg”, audio tour</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>ABCA Christmas lunch at the Basiliek hotel</b>

ABCA Antwerp British Community Association:

For payments, call Margaret du Maine on 03 651 32 24

Open Evenings: The Highlander, Stadswaag 21, 03 226 91 80

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## ***From our Chairman***

Dear Members,

Unexpectedly, the organisers of the Silk Art Exhibition have had to cancel but have assured us the exhibition will take place next year when we will certainly organise a visit.

However, even with the present restrictions there's lots of exciting exhibitions in Antwerp offering audio and virtual tours. Check out our diary of events.

Halloween is upon us at the end of the month which is also when we put our clocks back.

Keep safe and healthy,

Mary Ann Marinus  
Chairman

### ***Thought for the month***

The most important thing in the world is family and love." – John Wooden.

# Membership Matters



## Change of address

Freija Dart-Geurts has moved; her new address is:  
Granvellelaan 134  
2140 Borsbeek

**Does this look familiar?**

WHERE IS THE THING?



JB

## ***October & November outings***

### **Silk Art Exhibition**

We have been informed by the organisers that due to further restrictions they are having to cancel the exhibition but all is not lost as they are negotiating with the venue, new dates for 2021.

### **new October outing: 18<sup>th</sup> October**

“Van Gogh” The Immersive Experience” - A 360° digital Art experience in the Universe of the Genius - Waagnatie, Rijnkaai 150, 2000 Antwerp - €12 pp, proposed time 2pm.

If you are interested, please mail/phone Mary Ann for tickets, at the latest by the 10<sup>th</sup> October. Payment as usual.

## ***Advance Notice***

### ***November***

Another exciting exhibition (audio tour) is the “Madonna meets Dulle Griet” in the Museum Mayer van den Bergh. We’re proposing to visit on 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> November - depending on what date is favourable to most.

### ***December***

We are delighted to report that the Christmas lunch will be going ahead as planned, albeit with fewer guests per round table and with the Covid rules in place. This year the lunch will be on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

# *Halloween in Ireland*



Yes it's pumpkin time again as Halloween slowly creeps up on us. Halloween today is a good excuse for family fun where children (of all ages) dress up to play trick or treat, pumpkins are turned into Jack O'Lanterns and people tell spooky stories to give each other a fright. But Halloween has come a long way from its origins in Ireland as the pagan festival of **Samhain**.

In the ancient Celtic world Samhain was the end of summer and the beginning of winter, a time of long and cold nights and for many, a portent of doom. As these two periods crossed over, the dead supposedly returned to the mortal world and so large communal fires were lit to ward off evil spirits. These festivals of fire were well documented at the royal court of Tara and would include a **Feile na Marbh**, a festival of the dead. In parts of Ireland it was believed that a puca, or mischievous sprite would cast spells on unsuspecting folk.

Originally Samhain would occur around moon cycles at the start of November and was observed in Ireland well into the 6th century, despite the introduction of Christianity. When Christianity set November 1st as All Saints' Day or All Hallows' Day in the 8th century, the Irish Celts were reluctant to give up their festival and so celebrated Samhain as All Hallows' Eve, which later became corrupted to Hallowe'en.

In America there is no mention of Halloween until the early 19th century, following mass transatlantic emigration by over 2 million Irish escaping the Great Famine from 1845-1849. With them, the Irish brought their age-old customs such as Halloween as a celebration of their Irish roots.

In Ireland the family may share a traditional Halloween fruitcake called a barnbrack. In Dublin Samhain is celebrated in typically flamboyant style with a huge parade from Parnell Square along O'Connell Street and finishing in Temple Bar in a kind of carnival of all things ghostly and ghoulish.

# Castle Ghosts



When the Vikings arrived in Dublin in the 8<sup>th</sup> Century, the Malahide Estuary became the main waterway to help them maintain their hold on Irish soil. The estate itself has a history dating back over 800 years and the one-time Norman fortress developed into an exquisite Gothic estate.

**Malahide Castle** is also is a gathering place for phantoms and things that go bump in the night. It's quite a roll call.

**Puck the Jester.** Puck was a poor court jester who made the mistake of falling in love with the wrong woman and was found stabbed through the heart. With his dying breath he uttered a curse that he would haunt the castle for all eternity and he does just that, playing tricks on staff and visitors alike. He can be found in the minstrels' gallery and behind the locked door of a tiny room where he lived in misery when not performing.

**Sir Walter Hussey.** A knight slain in combat on his wedding day, Sir Walter roams the castle halls at night. Wailing and moaning he reveals the spear wound in his side. Despair was added to his torment when his bride-to-be promptly wed his rival.

**Lady Maud Plunket.** The White Lady of Malahide Castle can be seen following her husband's ghostly form along the halls and chambers. She is seen to leave her shadow on the wall and floats serenely through the dark.

**Lord Chief Justice of Ireland.** This figure of nobility is the poor man being hounded through the castle by his wife Lady Maud. When not trying to spectrally outrun her, he can be seen in the grounds taking ghostly exercise.

**Myles Corbet.** This committer of regicide (he was one of the signatories to the death warrant of Charles I) has been seen since he was hanged, drawn and quartered, roaming inside the walls of the castle. He appears anguished, dressed in full armour only to fall into quarters and disintegrate before your eyes.

# ***The Secret Garden***



**The Secret Garden** is a novel by **Frances Hodgson Burnett** first published in book form in 1911. **A new film version** of this very popular story was released on August 12.

Mary Lennox is a sickly, neglected, unloved 10-year-old, born in India to wealthy British parents. After a cholera epidemic kills them she is sent to England to live with her wealthy uncle Archibald Craven at his isolated mansion Misselthwaite Manor on the Yorkshire Moors. At first, Mary is rude and short-tempered. She dislikes her new home, the people living in it, and most of all, the bleak moor on which it sits. She only begins to like a good-natured maid named Martha Sowerby who tells Mary about Mary's aunt, the late Lilies Craven, who would spend hours in a private walled garden growing roses. Mrs Craven died after an accident in the garden, and the devastated Mr Craven locked the garden and buried the key.

Mary becomes interested in finding the secret garden herself, and soon she comes to enjoy the company of Martha, the gardener Ben Weatherstaff, and a friendly robin redbreast. She grows stronger as she explores the moor. Mary wonders about the secret garden and about some mysterious cries that echo through the house at night. Thanks to the robin Mary finds the key to the locked garden, and eventually discovers the entrance door.

One night, Mary discovers her cousin Colin, who lives in a hidden bedroom. He suffers from an unspecified spinal problem which prevents him from walking and causes him to spend most of his time in bed. Mary visits him every day and finally confides that she has access to the garden. Colin is put into his wheelchair and brought outside into the secret garden. Colin and Mary soon spend almost every day in the garden and Colin's health recovers dramatically. When his father returns home he is shocked to see the garden in full bloom and his son healthy, having just won a race against Mary.

The theme of the book is the healing power of nature – a very topical issue today. The present film is not completely faithful to the book but rather has been updated with more magical elements to appeal to the Harry Potter generation.

# ***A Magical Walk***



## **What is De Grote Schijn?**

For the third year running Rivierenhof will open its doors onto a magical mystery tour through the night forest. A fairy path and whispering trees will guide you on your way through this enchanted experience hidden away at the city's edge.

Once again De Grote Schijn is a unique total immersion experience, silent with innovative and luminous tricks.

Let yourself be led along new pathways into a world of night magic with impressive and mysterious surprises.

Those who prefer to enjoy the might and beauty of nature in all its scents and colours privately, can already do so during special whisper walks each evening from 21h30 and 21h45.

Tickets from <https://degroteschijn.be/>

## **Venue:**

**Provinciaal Groendomein Rivierenhof**

Turnhoutsebaan 246 - 2100 Deurne

## **Dates:**

From October 31 upto and including November 15

# ***Die Tote Stadt***



***Die tote Stadt*** (German for *The Dead City*), is an opera in three acts by Erich Wolfgang Korngold. It is based on the 1892 novel ***Bruges-la-Morte*** by **Georges Rodenbach**. This had already been adapted by the author into a play.

When *Die tote Stadt* had its premiere on December 4, 1920, Korngold was just 23 years old. The opera had an unusual double premiere in both the Stadttheater Hamburg and Cologne (Glockengasse). In Cologne, the conductor was the famous Otto Klemperer. The opera's theme of overcoming the loss of a loved one resonated with contemporary audiences of the 1920s who had just come through the trauma and grief of World War I, and this undoubtedly fuelled the work's popularity.

*Die tote Stadt* was one of the greatest hits of the 1920s. Within two years of its premiere it had circled the globe, including several performances at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. The Berlin première was on 12 April 1924 with Lotte Lehmann as Marietta/Marie and Richard Tauber as Paul, conducted by George Szell.

But the work was banned by the Nazi régime because of Korngold's Jewish ancestry and after World War II it fell into obscurity. In recent years, however, the work has enjoyed notable revivals in some of the world's top opera houses.

All being well, La Monnaie will stage *Die Tote Stadt* from October 22 through November 13.

# ***Smashing Pumpkins Martini***



The nights are drawing in, its getting bleaker outside but never mind, you can still cheer up with a seasonal drink strong enough to knock out thoughts of approaching winter.

This heady cocktail recipe infuses pumpkin with rum and is mixed with Grand Marnier, Allspice Dram, saffron syrup, cardamon bitters and fresh lemon. (Serves 2).

## **Ingredients**

- 120 grams Pumpkin and Star Anise Infused in 10 Cane Rum
- 60 ml Grand Marnier
- 45 ml St Elizabeth All Spice Dram
- 45ml Ginger Liqueur
- 50ml Saffron Syrup
- 3-4 Dashes Cardamom Bitters
- 60 grams Fresh Lemon

## **Instructions**

1. Place rum, star anise & chopped fresh pumpkin in a vacuum sealed bag. Let sit for a few hours. Strain rum in a container.
2. Rim glass with spice mix of sanding sugar, ground ginger, nutmeg, and cinnamon.
3. Place all ingredients in a shaker, shake and strain into the glass.
4. Float Orange Putka Pod as garnish.

**Enjoy....**

## ***Bats in the Belfry***



The Church Belfry at Catherine Cross  
Was known for its ancient bells,  
The bell ringers were a hardy crew  
And their timing was superb,  
But Joe and John, they didn't get on,  
And nor did the Bellman, Herb.

Herb would leap from the belfry stair  
And knock John to the ground,  
And while they struggled and punched and swore  
The villagers would smirk,  
'That's Herb and John got a punch-up on,  
That Herb is a piece of work! '

For his final Mass at Catherine Cross  
Herb clambered up in the tower,  
He loosened the nut that held the bell  
To the headstock, up above,  
And as it rang with a mighty clang  
He gave it a final shove.

Herb is buried at Catherine Cross  
Not far from the place he fell,  
While John was trapped for three long days  
Under the dome of the bell,  
It took the arm of a crane to lift  
And set John free from his pain,  
But from then on it was 'Crazy John'  
For he clambered out insane!

*(Abridged)*  
*By David Lewis Paget*

# Sudokus

October puzzles

1	2	6		8				
				4		2		
					3			
				1	8	9	5	
	6				2			3
	4	9						
7	8			2				
		3		7				4
9			6				7	5

2								
				4	9			
		1	3					6
6	8	3					7	
			6					5
7				2				
3								9
	7		8	1			2	
	5			6				8

		6	4			3		
						7		
	1			9				
			9			4		5
7								3
2				7	6			
			5					6
	6		1					
9				3	4			8

September solutions

7	3	4	1	5	8	2	6	9
8	9	6	2	4	7	3	5	1
1	2	5	3	6	9	4	7	8
2	8	9	4	7	3	5	1	6
3	4	1	6	9	5	7	8	2
5	6	7	8	1	2	9	3	4
4	7	2	5	8	1	6	9	3
9	1	3	7	2	6	8	4	5
6	5	8	9	3	4	1	2	7

4	6	7	5	9	8	2	3	1
1	2	5	3	4	6	9	7	8
3	8	9	7	1	2	6	4	5
5	9	2	6	8	3	7	1	4
7	1	4	9	2	5	3	8	6
6	3	8	1	7	4	5	9	2
2	5	1	4	3	7	8	6	9
8	4	3	2	6	9	1	5	7
9	7	6	8	5	1	4	2	3

4	9	3	8	1	5	7	2	6
5	6	7	9	2	3	8	4	1
8	1	2	4	6	7	5	3	9
6	5	8	3	4	9	1	7	2
7	4	9	1	5	2	3	6	8
2	3	1	6	7	8	4	9	5
9	7	5	2	3	1	6	8	4
1	2	4	7	8	6	9	5	3
3	8	6	5	9	4	2	1	7

# October Quiz

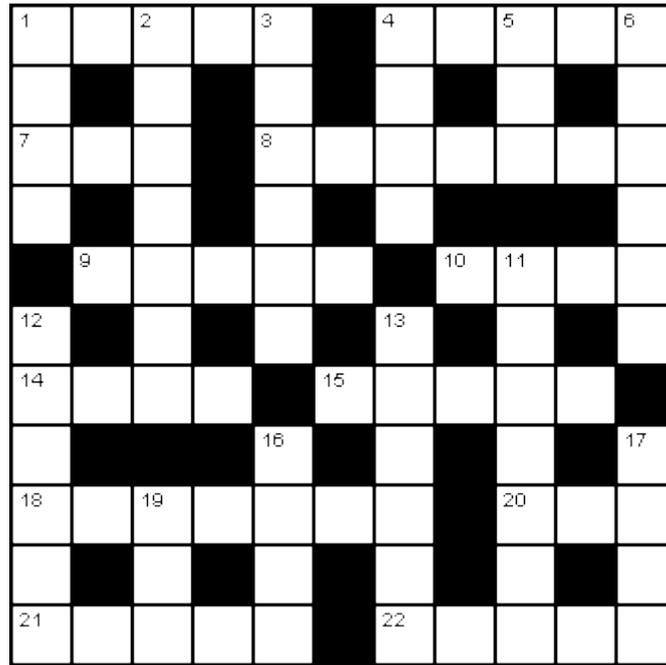


1. In which New York borough is JFK Airport?
- 2 . What is the name of the 1941 novel by AJ Cronin which tells the story of a Scottish Catholic priest, Father Chisholm, who struggles to establish a mission in China?
- 3 . What is the capital city of Antigua and Barbuda?
- 4 . What is the name of the character played by Carrie Anne Moss in the Matrix Films?
- 5 . What is the first name of Mr Darcy, hero of Pride and Prejudice?
- 6 . Which British Prime minister was born at Blenheim Palace?
- 7 . What was the name of the Conservative politician who served as Foreign Secretary, Chancellor of the Exchequer and then Speaker of House of Commons until his retirement in 1976?
8. Which Awards salute the improvement of the human gene pool by honouring those who accidentally remove themselves from it?
9. Whose first novel is entitled The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop?
10. Brothers Jim and William Reid are members of which alternative rock band?
11. How is painter Doménikos Theotokópoulos commonly known?
- 12 . Which picture by Edvard Munch has been the target of several high profile art thefts?
- 13 . Which Young British Artist caused controversy by incorporating elephant dung in his works?
14. Which artist's grandfather was the founder of the psychoanalytic school of psychiatry?
15. Who painted the work Guernica?

## *September's answers*

1.Gold; 2. Lin Manuel Miranda; 3. Dominic Raab; 4. Renee Zellweger; 5. Billy Eilish; 6. 42; 7. Cheese and Onion; 8. W1A0AA; 9. The Church of England; 10. Time; 11. 6; 12. 238,000 13. Nautical miles; 14. Prunes; 15. China

## October Crossword



### Across

1. Banquet (5); 4. Velocity (5); 7. Golfing accessory (3); 8. Wild (7); 9. Fake (5);  
 10. Long narrative poem (4); 14. Fencing sword (4); 15. Temperamental (5);  
 18. Large imposing house (7); 20. Peculiar (3); 21. Lukewarm (5); 22. Part of the leg (5)

### Down

1. Festival (4); 2. Amazing (7); 3. Second sign of the Zodiac (6); 4. Location (4); 5. Type of tree (3); 6. Subtract (6); 11. Security device (7); 12. Recluse (6); 13. Part of the eye (6);  
 16. Discover (4); 17. Not in action (4); 19. Short sleep (3).

### September solution

T	A	V	E	R	N		A	S	S	U	M	E
O		A		A		T		H		N		R
U	N	C	A	N	N	Y		O	C	C	U	R
C		U		G		P		U		L		O
A	T	O	N	E	M	E	N	T		E	A	R
N		U				S		E				S
	A	S	I	D	E		I	D	E	A	L	
C				A		F				B		S
O	R	B		M	A	E	L	S	T	R	O	M
O		L		A		R		C		I		U
P	R	O	N	G		A	M	E	N	D	E	D
E		O		E		L		N		G		G
R	E	M	E	D	Y		S	E	V	E	R	E

## **Useful Information**

Patron: Mr Martin Shearman CVO, HM Ambassador to Belgium  
Committee for 2020/2021:

Chairman Mary Ann Marinus Frankrijklei 94/b14 2000 Antwerpen tel: 0486 646 941 (pm only) <a href="mailto:maryann.marinus@hotmail.com">maryann.marinus@hotmail.com</a>	Hon. Treasurer Margaret du Maine Miksebeekstraat 104 2930 Brasschaat tel: 03 651 32 24 <a href="mailto:mdumaine@scarlet.be">mdumaine@scarlet.be</a>	Secretary Mabel Baker Bakkerstraat 45 2140 Borgherhout tel: 03 271 09 71 <a href="mailto:mabellbaker@gmail.com">mabellbaker@gmail.com</a>
Committee Member Jill Barnard Baggenstraat 14 2140 Borgerhout tel: 0474 432191 <a href="mailto:jillbarnard2000@yahoo.com">jillbarnard2000@yahoo.com</a>	Committee Member Suzanne van Eersel Dambruggestraat 85 2000 Antwerpen tel :03 233 42 51 <a href="mailto:steveandsuzy@skynet.be">steveandsuzy@skynet.be</a>	Newsletter Editor Madeleine Richardson Prins Boudewijnlaan 84/3 2610 Wilrijk tel: 03 230 49 47 <a href="mailto:madeleine.richardson@telenet.be">madeleine.richardson@telenet.be</a>
Committee Member vacant	Benevolent Matters Dora Jolly Hollandstraat 38 2060 Antwerpen tel: 03 232 71 15 <a href="mailto:aljolly@busmail.net">aljolly@busmail.net</a>	Anglican Church St Boniface Church Grétrystraat 39 2018 Antwerpen tel: 03 239 33 39 <a href="mailto:chaplain@boniface.be">chaplain@boniface.be</a>
Webmaster: <a href="mailto:brian.paul.edwards@gmail.com">brian.paul.edwards@gmail.com</a> ABCA Website: <a href="http://www.abca-antwerp.be">www.abca-antwerp.be</a> e-mail address: <a href="mailto:ABCA_Antwerp@yahoo.co">ABCA_Antwerp@yahoo.co</a>	ABCA recognizes the diversity of belief in contemporary British society and accordingly directs members wanting to contact other faith groups to the “Gids Levensbeschouwingen Antwerpen”/Multifaith Antwerp guide, published by the Stad Antwerpen. Information on <a href="http://www.antwerpen.be">www.antwerpen.be</a> - tel 03 338 3115.	

ABCA Bank Account number is BE11 2200 3243 8048.

Annual subscription: Single: € 20, Double: € 34. Donations towards our benevolent work are welcome.

Please feel free to submit items for inclusion in the newsletter, such as poems you particularly like, anecdotes, stories about Antwerp, hints, suggestions. **Items must be submitted to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next edition.**

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