



ANTWERP BRITISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION *vzw*

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Dates for your diary



ABCA events in **BOLD** type

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 21st November | ABCA : “The Madonna meets Mad Meg”, audio tour, Maagdenhuis, Antwerp |
|---------------------------------|---|

Advance Notice:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 6th December | ABCA Christmas lunch at the Basiliek hotel |
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ABCA Antwerp British Community Association:

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

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From our Chairman

Dear Members,

Hard to believe we have been living with this pandemic for 7 months.
Stay positive and we will get through the coming Winter I'm sure.

At the moment it looks like we will be able to have our Christmas lunch at the beginning of December, at least something to look forward to.

Keep safe and healthy,

Mary Ann Marinus
Chairman

Thought for the month

"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

Desmund Tutu

Membership Matters

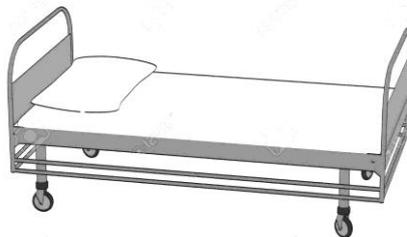


R.I.P



We have learned of the death of one of our members, **David Elliot**. Our sincere condolences go out to his daughters, family and friends.

Get Well Soon



Father Brian Millson and Gust van der Steen are both in hospital. We wish them a speedy recovery.

The Madonna Meets Dulle Griet



Fouquet's Madonna

ABCA is organising a visit to the Mayer van den Bergh's latest exhibition, **Madonna Meets Dulle Griet**. This audio tour is available on smart phone. Florent van Ertborn (1784–1840) and Fritz Mayer van den Bergh 1858–1901) were passionate collectors of paintings, sculptures, manuscripts and other art objects. Their acquisitions were often bargains, sometimes investments and occasionally brilliant discoveries. Some of these are now included in a new exhibition.

The Madonna

This painting by Fouquet is said to be a portrait of **Agnès Sorel**, known by the sobriquet Dame de Beauté (Lady of Beauty), who was chief mistress, of **King Charles VII** of France. Also included is Jan van Eyck's **The Madonna at the Fountain**.

Dulle Griet

The highlight of the collection is the recently restored *Dulle Griet* ('Mad Meg') by Pieter Bruegel the Elder. For this exhibition, the Royal Museum of Fine Arts is also showing a number of masterpieces for the first time in several years.

Date: November 21st

Venue: Museum Mayer Van den Bergh, Lange Gasthuisstraat 19

Time: 2pm

Ticket price: €6/€8 or free with the A-card

Christmas lunch



Menu

Smoked breast of duck with root vegetables and liège sauce
Minestrone soup with cheese



Turkey tournados with Burgundy sauce, apples, cranberries, chicory sprouts
and croquette potatoes



Christmas ice cream
Coffee and refreshments

Venue: Hotel Basiliek Trooststraat 22, 2650 Edegem ; **Date:** Sunday, **December 6**
Time: **12.30 for 1 pm** (if you are in need of transport to and from the Basiliek hotel, please get in touch with Dora Jolly on 03/232 71 15). The cost for the Christmas lunch is € 40 pp for members and non-members – and of course it is free if you are over 75 and have been an ABCA member for three years or more. Payment (if relevant) should be made to the ABCA bank account, number: BE11 220-0324380-48 and your transfer should be made by **30th November**. If you haven't received your personal invitation by 28th November, it could be because we don't know that you have reached your 75th birthday... so do get in touch with Dora and let her know you qualify.

Please note that because of Corona restrictions, there will not be a standing reception – you will be seated directly, the aperitif will be at the table in line with Covid rules and tables will be for 6/7 - table name will be given on entry.

The Red Cross in WWI



At the outbreak of the First World War, national societies of the Red Cross had been active for decades and had already proved their importance in many conflicts and natural disasters. The Great War, however, transformed them deeply. They played a predominant humanitarian role in which millions of people participated by making donations or volunteering.

Medical teams and voluntary aid societies were officially recognized by the Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armies in the Field from 6 July 1906. The primary mission of the national Red Cross societies was to assist the military health services in the event of conflict. Prepared and trained for this purpose, they were massively mobilized at the beginning of the war. Red Cross members were present at almost every stage of the wounded route.

In France, ambulances, like that of Dr. Alexis Carrel (1873-1944), were deployed next to the front. Self-surgical groups or the presence of the famous X-ray units initiated by Marie Curie (1867-1934) enabled doctors to act efficiently as quickly as possible. The injured were also transferred behind the front and transported by thousands of ambulances of all kinds. In August 1917, the Ford Motor Company donated 1,000 ambulances to Bordeaux. Barges and sanitary trains were also used for the transportation and repatriation of the wounded. Auxiliary hospitals supported military hospitals and treated millions of soldiers. Red Cross assistance was still present during the convalescence and rehabilitation of the wounded.

The British Red Cross mobilized thousands of vehicles, barge transports, and dozens of motor launches to be used as hospital-ships; it even used three sanitary trains that carried 461,844 wounded throughout the conflict. On British territories, the Red Cross ran more than 3,000 auxiliary hospitals. Despite small differences, all national societies from belligerent countries were engaged in similar activities to aid and assist wounded soldiers and prisoners of war.

Van Eyck Year



The Mystic Lamb

When you say Ghent, you think of the Ghent Altarpiece. After all, the two are inextricably linked. Ghent is the city where Van Eyck painted his world-famous masterpiece and where, for the past six centuries, millions of visitors have gathered from all over the world to admire it. Ghent is celebrating Jan Van Eyck and the Ghent Altarpiece with a special festive year full of events and activities for everyone to enjoy.

Van Eyck year extended until spring 2021

Due to the corona crisis 'The theme year **'OMG! Van Eyck was here'** is therefore extended for a further six months. To avoid losing the program that should have made 2020 a festive year, the Van Eyck year itself is extended until June 24, 2021 with Saint John's Day as the closing event. This gives you the opportunity to still enjoy the many fantastic projects and activities as planned.

Experience the Ghent altarpiece

See the colours featured on the Ghent Altarpiece come to life in magical spectacles. Get carried away by the scents of the flowers and plants featured in the work during the Ghent Floralties. Or better still: taste them in one of the city's top-notch restaurants. Feel the intricate brocade or solid oak wood in contemporary designs. Listen to angelic music from the 15th century brought to life or reworked into modern compositions.

Visual arts, theatre, dance, design, fashion, gastronomy, music and even shopping ... For a whole year, everything in the city will be a nod to Van Eyck and his impressive masterpiece.

See you in Ghent.

Ghent University Museum



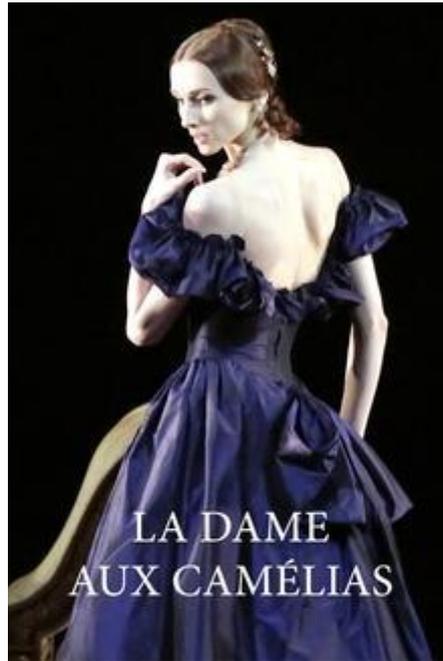
Still in Ghent, the GUM - Ghent University Museum and the Ghent Botanical Garden have joined forces at a unique location, near Ghent Sint-Pieters railway station and the Citadel Park. The GUM will become part of the future Museum Square, along with art museums S.M.A.K. and MSK Gent.

The new museum combines a city of knowledge and culture, a critical and creative community of students, employees and scientists. What challenges do scientists face? How do they go about things? Is there room left for imagination, doubt and failure? How does that impact every aspect of our lives and way of thinking? And last but not least, which remarkable objects can illuminate this story?

At the new science museum, visitors can discover a highly valuable and exceptional collection covering various disciplines, ranging from Biology to Archaeology, and from Psychology to Medicine. The collection is where the history of science and contemporary research meet, while simultaneously offering a glimpse into the future. Throughout the exhibits and the programme, the GUM will be exploring the bridge between science and art.

Ghent University boasts valuable and extensive scientific heritage collections (over 400.000 objects) from every possible scientific field. These collections have originated in the two centuries the university has been in existence, and will keep on growing. The GUM is a platform for discussion for visitors, scientists, artists and students alike. These exchanges are encouraged through lectures, debates, salons, exhibitions, workshops and podcasts. The new museum comes equipped with workshop spaces, the GUM Salon at the heart of the building, the GUM Forum offering a magnificent view of the Botanical Garden, the Palmarium (a unique greenhouse, which can also be used as an event venue), and other in- and outdoor locations around campus.

Ballet is Back



Maybe not in the theatres yet but in the cinema.

The young Armand Duval falls in love with Marguerite Gautier, a beautiful young Parisian courtesan. Despite her infidelity Armand tries to persuade her to give up her luxurious existence, with tragic consequences.

The world famous Bolshoi ballet is bringing this masterpiece from John Neumeier back to life on stage.

The story itself is based on the famous book by Alexandre Dumas and the score is by Chopin. Dumas based his novel on the tragedy of the real-life courtesan, Marie Duplessis, once queen of the Parisian demi-monde and arguably one of the modern world's first celebrities. She, died of tuberculosis at the age of 23. Within weeks, all her belongings were auctioned off to pay her massive debts. Fashionable Paris turned out in force, most not to bid but merely to stare.

Charles Dickens was among the throng, later commenting: "One could have believed that Marie was Jeanne d'Arc or some other national heroine, so profound was the general sadness." A myth was beginning to take shape. The story would also inspire Verdi's opera **La Traviata**

Venue: Kinopolis Antwerp

Date November 15

Water Lily Harvest



Water lilies are one of the most beautiful flowers in nature. The great impressionist painter, Claude Monet, immortalised them in paintings of his garden at Giverny.

Each autumn, Vietnam's Mekong Delta is filled with gorgeous, long-stemmed lilies that are the result of the flooding that nourishes the waterway. From early-September to mid-November, farmers in the Long An province spend their days harvesting these delicate flowers.

It's an incredible spectacle to see, the dark waters contrasting with the colourful blossoms and the traditional conical hats worn by the farmers. The majority of the lilies are a deep pink hue or white. As the white lilies only bloom at night, they're often called "ghost flowers." These lilies provide extra income, as they can be used as decoration or food – the stalks are edible and the plant can be used for tea.



The Moon and November



The Moon & November

By Lenore Hetrick

To the skies and the moon November spoke.
"Weep with me!" said November and wept.
The skies melted into tears at the sight,
And a siege of weeping with November kept.

But the moon was stubborn and would not cry,
Nor would she hide behind a cloud.
In fact, she was very indignant about it,
And she spoke her opinion, good and loud.

"Through the centuries I have shed my light
In every season, dry or wet,
And on the rainiest night of the year
A sliver of my light you'll get!

"Shining, dear sir, is my business, you see.
I leave all the weeping to such as you!
So shine I shall!" And right then and there
In the dark, wet night the moon shone through.



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Sudokus

November puzzles

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

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

October solutions

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

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

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

November Quiz

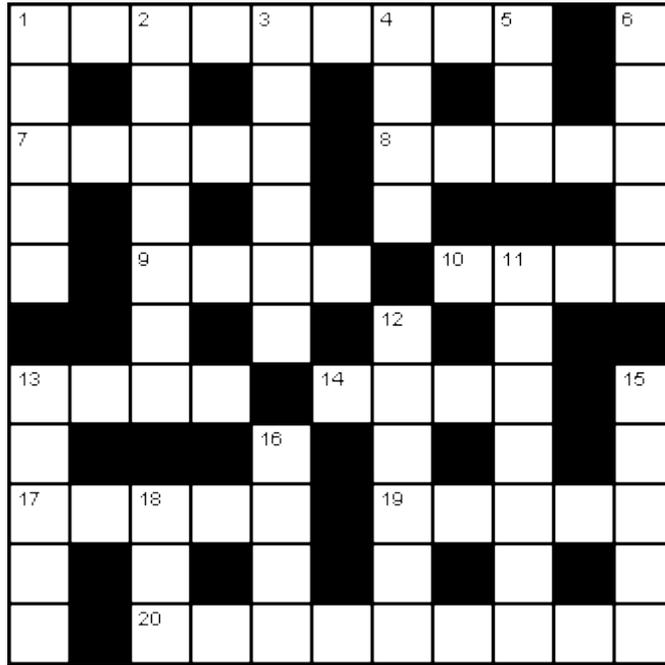


1. How many eggs does the average chicken lay per year?
2. In which English seaside town was 'Fawlty Towers' set?
3. What is a group of lions called?
4. What animal alive today is even bigger than a dinosaur?
5. What alcohol do you traditionally use to flame a Christmas pudding?
6. What is a baby kangaroo called?
7. What is the name of the fictional town where the series Stranger Things is set?
8. What year did Rihanna achieve global success with the mega-hit 'Umbrella'?
9. Name the slowest animal in the world.
10. Is the sun a star or a planet?
11. What are the names of Harry Potter's parents?
12. What is the capital city of Spain?
13. Who plays Tommy Shelby in Peaky Blinders?
14. How many legs does a lobster have?
15. What's the best selling book of all time?

October's answers

1. Queens; 2. The Keys of the Kingdom ; 3. St John's ;4. Trinity; 5. Fitzwilliam;
6. Churchill; 7. John Selwyn Lloyd;8. The Darwin Awards; 9. Clare Balding;
10. Jesus and Mary Chain; 11. El Greco ; 12. The Scream; 13. Chris Ofil; 14. Lucian
Freud; 15. Pablo Picasso

November Crossword



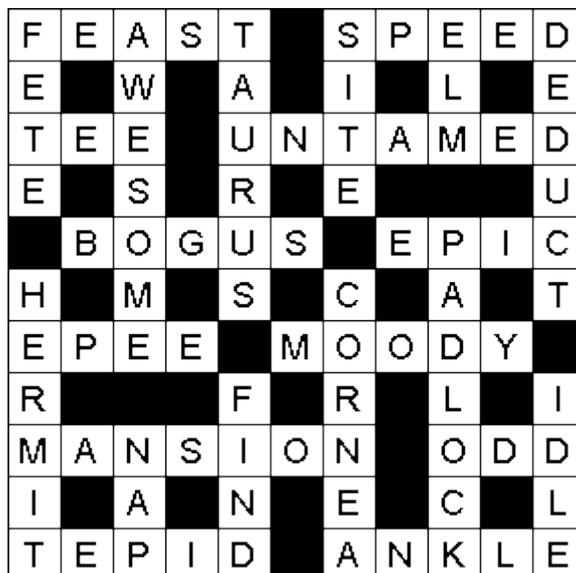
Across

1. Friend (9); 7. Stringed instrument (5); 8. Part of a jacket (5); 9. Notion (4);
 10. ;Prejudice (4); 13. Sand hill (4); 14. Vegetable (4); 17. Weak (5); 19. Freight (5)
 20. Ended (9)

Down

1. Stateroom (5); 2. Large house (7); 3. Worshipped (6); 4. Not working (4);
 5. Short sleep (3); 6. Book of maps (5); 11. Disregarded (7); 12. Writing implement (6)
 13. Postpone (5); 15. Stay clear from (5); 16. Tribe (4); 18. Part of a circle (3)

October solution



Useful Information

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

| | | |
|--|---|---|
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| Webmaster: brian.paul.edwards@gmail.com ABCA Website: www.abca-antwerp.be e-mail address: ABCA_Antwerp@yahoo.co | 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 www.antwerpen.be -tel 03 338 3115. | |

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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 20th of the month for inclusion in the next edition.**

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