



ANTWERP BRITISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION *vzw*

Maandelijkse Newsletter –november 2021

Verschijnt niet in juli

Verantwoordelijk uitgever:

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Dates for your diary



ABCA events in **BOLD** type

24 th November	ABCA open evening
28th November	new date !! ABCA : Antwerp Challenge Quiz at the Highlander

Advance Notice :

4 th December	MTS Christmas Bazaar
12th December	ABCA : Christmas lunch at the Basiliek hotel
22nd December	ABCA : mince pies & mulled wine at the Open Evening at the Highlander
25 th December	Christmas day
2022	
January	ABCA : new year brunch

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,

November - for most of us it's the month when we remember loved ones that have passed away.

The days are shorter, it's getting colder and darker and yes it's only 8 weeks till Christmas – not that I'm counting of course.

To all our members not well, at home or in hospital – get well soon and keep us posted, we're here for you.

Mary Ann Marinus
Chairman

British goods

If anyone is interested in ordering the British goods from the Missions to Seafarers, please contact Dora Jolly on 0475 229965. They can be collected at the Christmas Bazaar on the 4th of December, where a selection of items will be available for sale, but if you have a special request, it must be ordered in advance.

Thought for the month

“There's always peace in a strong cup of coffee.” – Gabriel Bá

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS: ABCA 1920 – 2020

ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN ON THE OCCASION OF THE RECEPTION
AT TOWN HALL, ON 23rd October 2021

Patron, Deputy Mayor, ABCA members, ladies and gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I address these few words to you.

Last year marked the centenary of our Association. However, due to the pandemic we had to postpone this get-together, not once but four times over the last twelve months. So, at long last, let's raise the glasses to our centenary.

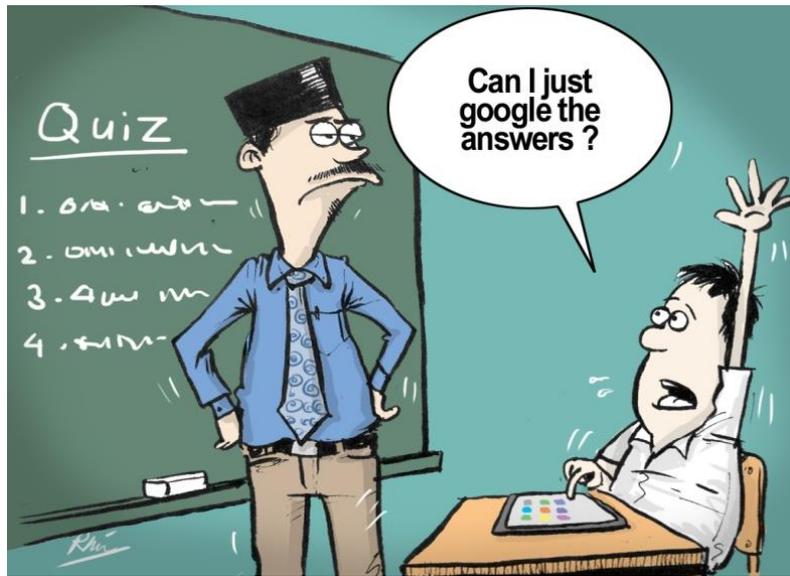
Our Association today is a far cry from those early days in the 1920s when it was very much a "gentlemen only" club. But ABCA has always been a group of interesting and diverse individuals including the elderly and less mobile, all motivated to act as a community. As much today as all those years ago. Over the last one hundred years, we have evolved, adapted, and changed with the times. We are more than ready for the challenges of this second centenary, and are looking forward to the future with confidence, just as our predecessors did before us.

ABCA has been and still is a lifeline for British and Belgian people living in Antwerp and its surroundings, providing a focus for many who have deep and long associations with Britain and want to maintain them. I would like to thank our volunteers who are always ready to help when called upon, whether it's to take a less mobile member out or visiting someone in hospital or simply being at the other end of a telephone call. Also, the support for our monthly social events and open evenings expresses better than words the dynamics that are generated.

Antwerp is a beautiful place to live, and we are privileged to have the support and recognition of the Burgomaster and the Town Authorities. Our sincere thanks and appreciation go to the Stadhuis Events Team for their efforts and generosity in hosting this reception and marking this milestone event.

Thank you.

Antwerp Challenge Quiz – change of date 28th November!



No you can't. So brush up on your Shakespeare or whatever and line up for the annual Pub Quiz in the cosy atmosphere of the **Highlander pub**. As usual there will be prizes for the winners while the losers can console themselves with a glass of wine or three. Spectators are more than welcome (no entry fee required) as long as they promise not to give their team any hints, and keep quiet at really serious moments such as when a tie breaker is being decided. . Who can enter? Anyone who can put a team together, 4 members per team. Put your team together, or join one of the teams and let us know so that we're ready with the right number of tables, pencils and paper.... and questions. Contact Mary Ann on 0486 646 941 (evenings), or mail at maryann.marinus@hotmail.com.

Date: November 28th, 2021

Time: 3pm

Venue: The Highlander, Stadswaag

Christmas Lunch



Menu

Game in puff pastry



Chicory soup with grey shrimp



Turkey Filet in Hunter's sauce with sprouts, green beans, chicory, baked apple and croquette potatoes



Christmas Ice-Cream



Coffee and refreshments etc.

Venue: Hotel Basiliek Trooststraat 22, 2650 Edegem

Date: December 12, 2021

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 € 42 pp for members, **and € 45 for 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 **10th December**. If you haven't received your personal invitation by **3rd December**, it could be because we don't know that you have reached your 75th birthday... so do get in touch with Mary Ann/Margaret/Dora and let one of them know you qualify.

The Magic Woods



What is De Grote Schijn?

Cancelled last year, the third edition of De Grote Schijn, Rivierenhof opens its doors onto a magical mystery tour through the night

A forest. A fairy path and whispering trees guiding you on your way through an 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 privately enjoy the might and beauty of nature in all its scents and colours, can already do so during special whisper walks each evening from 21h30 and 21h45.

Dates from October 29 through November 14.

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

Venue:

Provinciaal Groendomein Rivierenhof

Turnhoutsebaan 246 - 2100 Deurne

The Last Duel



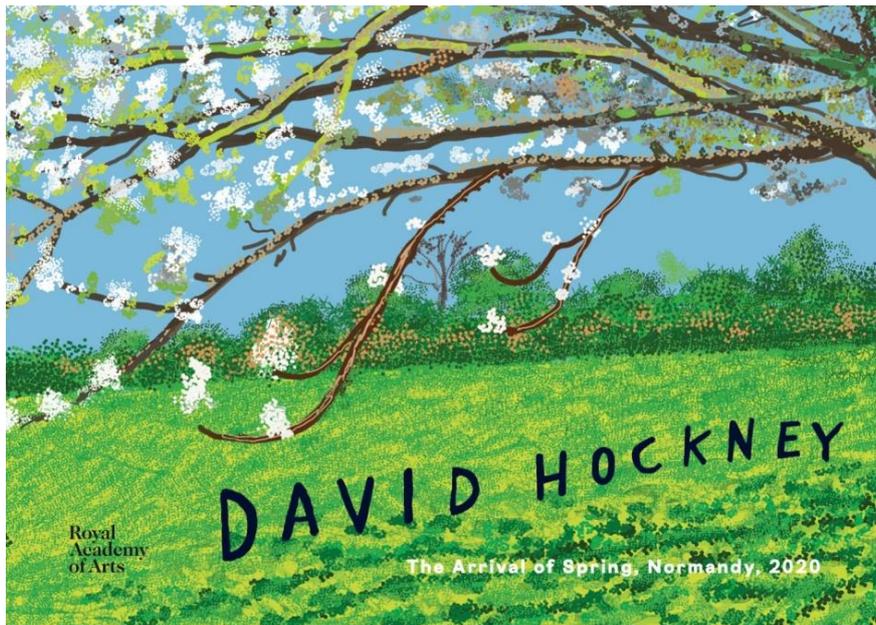
Director Ridley Scott has a new film out. After *The Kingdom of Heaven*, he revisits the mediaeval era with ***The Last Duel***. Based on the true story of the trial by combat between **Sir Jean de Carrouges IV** with **Jacques Le Gris** on behalf of his wife Marguerite described as "young, beautiful, good, sensible and modest" who accused Le Gris of sexually assaulting her. The combat became famous for being the last judicial duel permitted by the French King and the Parliament of Paris to contest the charges of rape and was attended by much of the highest French nobility of the time led by King Charles VI and his family. It was also attended by thousands of ordinary Parisians and, in the ensuing decades, was chronicled by such notable medieval historians as Jean Froissart.

Described in the chronicles as a rash and temperamental man, Carrouges was also a fierce and brave warrior. Late in 1384 Carrouges introduced his young wife to his friend Le Gris for the first time. On the morning of 18 January 1386, Dame Nicole de Carrouges with whom Marguerite was staying during her husband's absence, departed her chateau to attend to legal business, taking all her household servants and leaving Marguerite alone. Marguerite's testimony then alleged that a man-at-arms knocked on the chateau door, which Marguerite opened herself in the absence of servants. Le Gris then forced his way into the castle and propositioned her, offering money if she would remain silent. When Marguerite refused, Le Gris violently raped her.

Upon hearing of the attack Carrouges decided immediately to begin legal proceedings against Le Gris but faced great difficulties and his wife's testimony was not believed. In search of a fair trial, Carrouges travelled to Paris to appeal to the King. Knowing that his case depended solely on his wife's testimony and was therefore viewed as weak at the time, Carrouges would challenge Le Gris to a judicial duel, the survivor of which would thus be deemed by God to have been the rightful claimant. Such trials-by-combat, once common in France, were rare by 1386. On 15 September the parliament handed down its verdict: **As they had been unable to determine guilt in the case, the two men would fight a duel to the death on 27 November 1386.**

If you want to know how it ended you will have to watch this very spectacular film.

Hockney at BOZAR



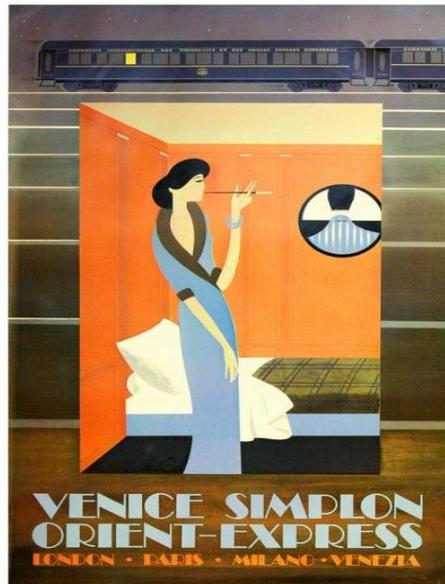
From October 8 until January 23, 2022, the BOZAR in Brussels is hosting a major exhibition of David Hockney’s work.

This major double exhibition marks the return of David Hockney (b. 1937) to the Centre for Fine Arts after almost thirty years. Even today, the British artist remains one of the most influential and inspiring artists in the world. In *Works from the Tate Collection, 1954-2017* we go on a journey through Hockney’s entire career, with iconic images of the ‘swinging sixties’ in London, Southern California, his famous double portraits and vast landscapes.

“I haven't stopped painting or drawing - I've just added another medium.”

David Hockney: The Arrival of Spring, Normandy, 2020, consists of a series of contemporary works. During Spring 2020, at his home in Normandy, he used his iPad to ‘paint’ the unfolding of spring around the time of the first lockdown. The colourful paintings of the beauty of nature remind us that we must continue to ‘love life’ even during these unsettling times: “Do remember they can’t cancel the spring”.

Europalia on the Orient Express



Mythical, Luxurious, Belgian! Has train travel ever been as glamorous as on the Orient Express?

The 1930s saw the *Orient Express* services at their most popular. During this time, the *Orient Express* acquired its reputation for comfort and luxury, carrying sleeping-cars with permanent service and restaurant cars known for the quality of their cuisine. Royalty, nobles, diplomats, business people, and the bourgeoisie in general patronized it. Associated with luxury travel, adventure, intrigue and exotic discoveries, the myth of the Orient Express persists, maintained by literature and cinema, in particular.

The exhibition, which forms part of the Train and Track Europalia Festival, evokes the society that created this legendary train, the imaginations it awakened, the landscapes it crossed, the dreams it engendered, as well as giving a the behind-the-scenes look at both the Orient Express and luxury tourism in general. On this rare occasion, two original carriages will be transported to Brussels, and visitors will be able to physically experience this extraordinary train. The Orient Express represents the fulfilment of the dream of connecting the East and the West.

As part of **EUROPALIA TRAINS & TRACKS**, Train World presents the Orient Express not only as a train of dreams, but also as the exceptional result of the needs and means of the industrial society of that time. Photographs, posters, paintings, archival documents, plans, furniture and references to literature and film will allow visitors to familiarise themselves with this legendary train. So get in touch with your inner Hercule Poirot and bask in the luxury of the golden era of train travel.

Venue: Train World Museum, Brussels

Dates: From October 26 through April 17, 2022

Cheer in the Trenches



Everyone associates France with its love of wine and assumes that the country has had a long love affair with the grape. But it was only during World War I that France really began to cement its relationship with wine, partly because of army rations. Before World War I, different regions of France drank different things. Some regions had beer, others wine and everyone had absinthe. The war was so devastating to so many people that eventually it became synonymous with alcohol. Many of the Parisian bars began selling the French 75, named after the French artillery gun, because it had such a big kick. Alcohol became a key part of the so-called “Lost Generation” of authors and artists in France, like F. Scott Fitzgerald and Hemingway, who drank to forget the horrors of war during the decade that followed.

The beginning of World War I also coincided with the complete ban of absinthe in France. Absinthe is a very strong alcoholic drink which was popular before the war, but was considered to be contributing to France’s so-called moral decline (it was said to be responsible for Van Gogh cutting off his ear). As a country under war, France needed a drink that wasn’t as destructive and something the government could support. Wine helped soldiers to bond. Troops were originally rationed water but soon they were given wine rations to help them get through their daily ordeal. French soldiers from different regions found themselves living side-by-side in trenches for a considerable period. Through drinking wine, which many of them hadn’t done before, they discovered a shared culture and shared customs. Drinking wine was a way to bond with each other while on the battlefield, a fact advertised a lot during this era.

World War I cemented wine into French culture. Increasingly, wine became perceived as being acceptable (particularly when it was weaker than the liqueurs of old). **Huge production and distribution networks sprang up** to get supplies to the trenches, and campaigns were conducted to encourage citizens to conserve their wine for the war effort. When the war was over, wine continued to be consumed in the same way, distributed using the now fully-functioning transport links. It was by then, France’s national drink.

November is Upon Us



November is upon us
Thanksgiving's nearly here.
I've never been more thankful than
the way I feel this year.
I'm thankful we have apple pie.
I'm thankful we have beans.
I'm thankful we have mashed potatoes,
yams, and salad greens.
But, most of all, I'm thankful that
my future isn't murky.
My family's vegetarian
and I am their pet turkey.

— Kenn Nesbitt

Sudokus

November puzzles

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

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

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

October solutions

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

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

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

November Quiz

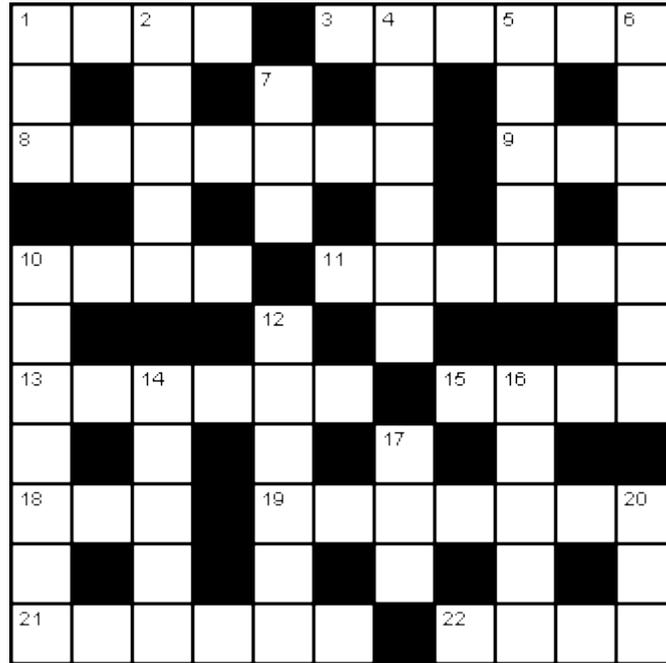


1. What name was given to the revolution that took place through an armed insurrection in Petrograd on 7 November, 1917?
2. What are the two zodiac signs for the month of November?
3. Which mineral is an eight on Mohs scale of hardness, with the orange variety being both the state gemstone of Utah and the birthstone for November?
4. Which group had a hit with 'November Rain'?
5. Which flower's name derives from the Greek words meaning golden flower? It's also the birth flower for November.
6. In literature, who was born in Wattenscheid, Germany, on November the 11th?
7. Bonfire Night is celebrated on the 5th of November, but in which year was the Gunpowder Plot?
8. Is Thanksgiving Day in America celebrated on the first, second, third or fourth Thursday in November?
9. The November class of submarine was a nuclear-powered attack submarine in service from 1958 to 1990 for which country?
10. The national Remembrance Sunday ceremony is held in the UK at 11 a.m. on the second Sunday in November at the Cenotaph on Whitehall. Who designed the Cenotaph?
11. On the 28th of November 1919, Nancy Astor becomes Britain's first woman MP. She was elected Member of Parliament for which city?
12. "The house was very quiet, and the fog—we are in November now—pressed against the windows like an excluded ghost." is a line from which book that was first published in 1910?
13. On which day in November does St. Andrew's Day fall?
14. What number month was November in the ancient Roman calendar?
15. What officially opened for the first time on November 17, 1869?

October Answers

1. *October 31st*; **2.** *All Hallow's Eve*; **3.** *A coven*; **4.** *Apples*; **5.** *Ancient Rome* ; **6.** *Jack O' Lantern*; **7.** *Turnips*; **8.** *"Monster Mash"*; **9.** *North and South America*; **10.** *Their eyebrows meet in the middle; they have hairy palms and/ or a long middle finger; they turn hairy in the moonlight.*; **11.** *The Wild Hunt* ; **12.** *Saint* ; **13.** *The witching hour*; **14.** *Anne Rice*; **15.** *Lestat de Lioncourt*

November Crossword



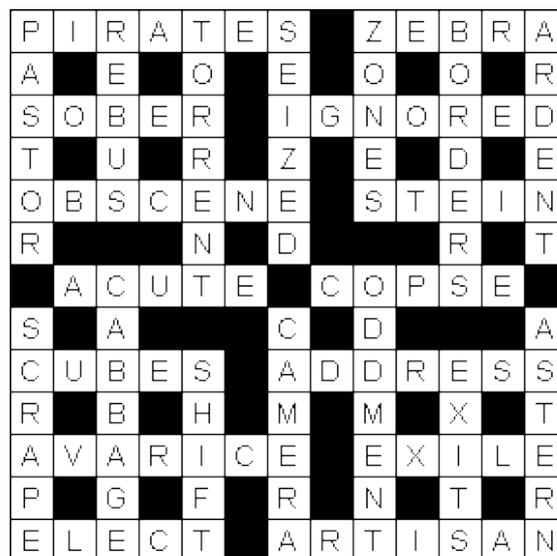
Across

1. Nil (4); 3. Cask (6); 8. Security device (7); 9. Water barrier (3); 10. Terse (4);
 11. Rudderless (6); 13. Technical terminology (6); 15. Zealous (4); 18. Written record of
 events (3); 19. Countries (7); 21. Currency unit (6); 22. Labyrinth (4)

Down

1. Fastner (3); 2. Detection instrument (5); 4. Japanese martial art (6); 5. Arm bones (5);
 6. Restricted (7); 7. Adult male swan (3); 10. Coaxed (7); 12. Part of the eye (6);
 14. Majestic (5); 16. Stringed instrument (5); 17. Consumed (3); 20. Litigate (3)

October Solution



Useful Information

Patron: Mr Martin Shearman CVO, HM Ambassador to Belgium
Committee for 2021/2022:

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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.

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

Advertising rates:

1/8 page: € 6.50 per issue/	1/4 page: € 11 per issue
1/2 page: € 16.50 per issue	1 page: € 30 per issue

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