



ANTWERP BRITISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION vzw

Maandelijkse Newsletter – december 2018

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

1 st December	De Roma : “West Side Story”
1 st December	Mission to Seafarers’ Christmas Bazaar : 11 am to 4 pm Antwerp Harbour Hotel, Noorderlaan 100, 2030 Antwerp
9 th December	RBL: Xmas lunch
14 th December	De Roma : Charlotte Gainsbourg
15 th December	Portsmouth Cathedral Choir concert (free),8pm at St Walburgis church
16th December	ABCA : Xmas lunch at hotel de Basiliek
19th December	ABCA : Mince pies & mulled wine at the Highlander
25 th December	Christmas Day
28 th December	Lotto Arena : Hooverphonic

Advance Notice:

January 2019	Sportpaleis : André Rieu’s New Year concert
January	ABCA : New Year brunch
January	BATS : Pantomime
10th February	ABCA Bingo & afternoon cake at the Highlander
13 February	Sportpaleis : Czech National Symphony Orchestra : “Ennio Moricone”

ABCA Antwerp British Community Association:
For payments, call Margaret du Maine on 03 651 32 24
For membership matters, call Nadine Hechtermans on 03 480 34 77 (evenings)

Open Evenings: The Highlander, Stadswaag 21, 2000 Antwerpen (03 226 91 80)

ABIW Antwerp British & International Women: <http://www.abiw.org/>.
MtS Missions to Seafarers: contact Rev. Brian Millson on 03 605 41 88
RBL Royal British Legion, info Bob Chambers on 0474 282843
St.Boniface St Boniface Anglican Church: contact Fr Wagstaff SSC on 03 239 33 39
BATS British American Theatrical Society: contact Jill Franks

Printed by:



Lange Vlierstraat 35, 2000 Antwerpen

From our Chairman



Dear Members,

Of course we're all getting ready for Christmas ...but it's only a short 4 weeks away and so much left to do – yes, even the weather has suddenly turned very cold and icy.

Time flies when you're having fun they say and our Christmas lunch on 16th is definitely going to be fun what with Father Christmas paying us a visit in the afternoon. If you have problems getting to the venue, or are not well enough to come, do get in touch with Dora Jolly.

And there's also the mince pies and mulled wine in the Highlander on 20th.

From all of us on the Committee : merry Christmas, good health and prosperity in the coming year.

Best wishes,

Mary Ann Marinus
Chairman

Thought for the month

As you grow older, you'll find that the only things you regret are the things you didn't do. *Zachary Scott*

Membership matters



R. I. P.



It is with great sadness that we have learned of the death of longstanding member , Alice Perrett, at the age of 97. She was a stalwart supporter of ABCA for many years and her husband Michael was treasurer of the Association. It is Alice we have to thank for the Christmas and Easter lunches – she started these herself, cooking the turkey and all the trimmings, with the help of her daughter and son-in-law Christine and Guy. Alice was quite upset when it was suggested to her that, as she entered her eighties, it was perhaps a good idea to farm out the hard work so that she could enjoy the lunches herself! To Alice’s family and friends, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Maria Williams-Jacquet was another of our longstanding members who has just passed away at the age of 96. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family and friends.

Get Well Soon



Marc Tulfer has been in hospital for an operation. We wish him all the best for a speedy recovery.

Subscriptions reminder

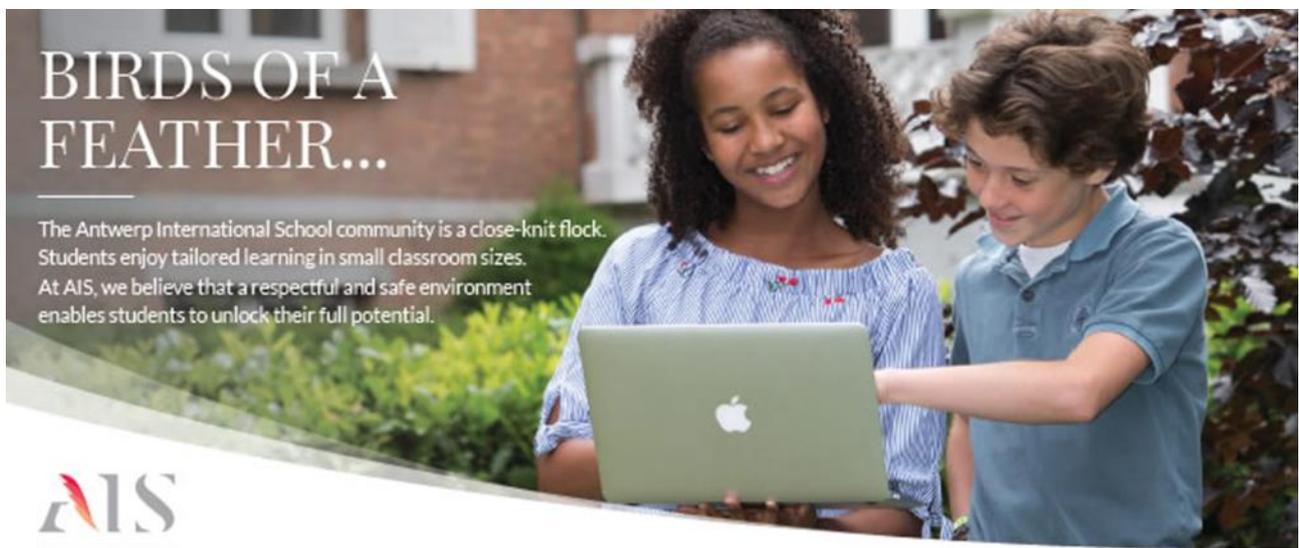


The subscription for 2019 is due from the 1st of January. If you have already paid, you may ignore this message, otherwise:

Single subscription: €20
Double (2 at same address): €34

Please transfer to the ABCA bank account BE11 2200 3243 8048

From January until April we publish the names of all those who paid in the previous month. After the AGM, anyone who has not paid is removed from the list of members.



BIRDS OF A FEATHER...

The Antwerp International School community is a close-knit flock. Students enjoy tailored learning in small classroom sizes. At AIS, we believe that a respectful and safe environment enables students to unlock their full potential.

AIS
ANTWERP
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

Find out how you can be a part of AIS
www.ais-antwerp.be/community

ABCA Christmas Lunch



Menu

Aperitif

Smoked Salmon with salad

Cream of courgette soup with herb cheese

Turkey tournedos in Burgundy sauce with beans, bacon, carrots, chicory, Brussels sprouts and croquette potatoes

Christmas ice-cream

Red/white wine & water

Coffee with refreshments



Venue: Hotel Basiliek Trooststraat 22, 2650 Edegem

Date: December 16th, 2018

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 € 38 pp for members, and € 40 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 7th 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.

Portsmouth Cathedral Choir



On 15 December 2018 the Portsmouth Cathedral Choir returns to Belgium for their 4-yearly Christmas visit. This traditional Cathedral Choir sings concerts, evensong and Mass and the Choir also contributes to the daily Menin-gate ceremony.

On **Saturday 15 December 2018** they will sing a Christmas concert at the **Saint-Walburgis church, Volkstraat in Antwerp**. The concert starts at 20h00 and is free of charge. However it is advisable to book a free ticket on www.eventbrite.be.

Alternatively send an email to cathedralontour@gmail.com stating the number of tickets you would like to book. All info regarding the tour can be found on cathedralontour.wixsite.com/Portsmouth. This event is not organized by a tour agency or concert bureau, so Portsmouth Cathedral Choir and friends in Belgium really depend on mouth-to-mouth publicity. If you are not able to attend, please pass on this message to other music lovers who might be interested. It would be great for the Choir and for the Christmas spirit to have a full church on the 15th of December.

The Cathedral Choir is made up of twenty-four boy choristers and fourteen gentlemen (made up of seven lay-clerks and up to seven choral scholars).

The choir regularly broadcasts on TV and Radio and have played a major part in two BBC Songs of Praise programmes. BBC Radio 3 and 4 were with them in France for DDAY 60 for a 'Sunday Morning' broadcast as well as a Wednesday 'Choral Evensong'. This pattern was repeated for Trafalgar200 with a live BBC Radio 4 'Sunday Morning Worship', a Radio 4 Daily Service from HMS Victory and a Radio 3 Choral Evensong. They most recently sang on Radio 4 for DDay 70 and on Christmas Day 2014.

Scrooge – the Musical



Last year, over the festive period, the Park Theatre in Brussels put on a Christmas Carol with a modern twist. This year it's Antwerp's turn to tell the story of the bitter, grasping miser who gets his comeuppance in the guise of the three Ghosts of Christmas. In Scrooge, the Musical, the ghosts even get to sing.

Since its publication in 1843, Dickens's story has been immensely popular and, though the musical stays faithful to the original, there will be a number of new and exciting additions to the tale.

This imaginative production will include a number of energetic dance routines and the sets and costumes will add to the festive atmosphere. Over the years such acting luminaries as Albert Finney, Patrick Stewart and Michael Caine have interpreted the old skinflint. In this production Warre Borgmans will be eating his gruel in his freezing home unaware that he's about to get the fright of his life when the ghost of his late business partner, Jacob Marley, comes clanking into the room dragging heavy ledgers and chains as punishment for his misspent time on earth.

No Christmas would be complete without Scrooge.

Venue: Stadsschouwburg
Dates: December 6, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
Times: 20h00, except Sundays : 15h00



A Burglars' Christmas



It's winter, a few days before Christmas.

Two burglars, Ben Van Boven and Lesley Govaert have had their eyes on the same villa and have chosen exactly the same evening to break in. However they can't come to an agreement about who pinches what and are forced to ask their mutual fence to help them share out the loot "fairly".

When the absent owner's brother and sister, Didier and Marie-Christine, unexpectedly turn up, the burglars see no other alternative than to pass themselves off as house-sitters.

Krakers Onder de Kerstboom (Squatters round the Christmas Tree) is a fun-filled Christmas family comedy from the Sven Ridder Company.

Cast: Herman Verbruggen, Mieke Laureys, Sven De Ridder, Brik Van Dyck, Noline Hummel

Venue: Rode Zaal, Fakkeltheater, Hoogstraat 12

Dates: December 14 through January 6 (except on Christmas and New Year)

Digital Ice Art Museum



In the same way that light travels through water magically, the projection of light through crystal clear ice becomes even more spectacular. Combined with 3-D videos, it creates an incredible never before seen transformation of Light and Art into the most awe-inspiring **Glow Show** ever created. One hundred video projections light up the ice sculpture panoramas which reach a height of 4 metres. You can discover this visible spectrum effect, on a much larger scale, at the Digital Ice Palace in Bruges

The temporary exhibit, built in a huge, hermetically isolated icebox, measures more than 1000 square metres and exceeds more than 6000 cubic metres. Over three thousand blocks of ice placed in specific locations and based on a designer's 3-D artistic impression, fires the splendour.

The 500 tons of transparent and opaque ice are produced locally and a vast number of solar panels are used for the refrigeration of the palace. 40 professional ice carvers and video engineers, from seven different nationalities, are the masterminds behind this immersive event.

Delight in a breathtaking event of Ice, Art and Music during this Ice and Light extravaganza.

Note: Warm clothing is a must.

Venue: Stationsplein, 8000 Bruges (outside the railway station)

Dates: Daily from November 24, 2018 to January 6, 2019

Times: 10h00 to 19h00

An Icelandic Christmas



The Icelandic Christmas period is an intriguing mixture of religious practice and traditional folklore, beginning on 23 December and ending on Epiphany, 6 January. As in many countries, Iceland celebrates Christmas mostly with good food and gifts to loved ones, but unlike most countries that have a single Father Christmas / Santa Claus character, Icelandic children are fortunate enough to be visited by **13 Yule Lads**. Other Christmas stories are rather bleak in nature, perhaps reflecting the harshness of winter and the isolation of the community in previous centuries.

Grýla

From a relatively young age Icelandic children are told the story of Grýla, the ogress living in the Icelandic mountains. She is a dreadful character, described as part troll and part animal and the mother of 13 precocious boys (the Yule Lads). Grýla lives in the mountains with her third husband, her thirteen children and a black cat. Every Christmas, Grýla and her sons come down from the mountains: Grýla in search of naughty children to boil in her cauldron and the boys in search of mischief. She can only capture children who misbehave but those who repent must be released.

The Yule Lads

Icelandic children place a shoe in their bedroom window each evening on the 13 days before Christmas. Every night one Yuletide lad visits, leaving sweets and small gifts or rotting potatoes, depending on how that particular child has behaved on the preceding day. Each Yuletide lad has a specific idiosyncrasy and will therefore behave in a particular manner.

The Christmas Cat

Old Icelandic folklore states that every Icelander must receive a new piece of clothing for Christmas or they will find themselves in mortal danger. An enormous black cat prowls Iceland on Christmas Eve and eats anyone who doesn't follow this simple rule. This obnoxious feline is known as the Christmas Cat.

The Yule Cat



You all know the Yule Cat
And that Cat was huge indeed.
People didn't know where he came from
Or where he went.

He opened his glaring eyes wide,
The two of them glowing bright.
It took a really brave man
To look straight into them.
His whiskers, sharp as bristles,
His back arched up high.
And the claws of his hairy paws
Were a terrible sight.

He gave a wave of his strong tail,
He jumped and he clawed and he hissed.
Sometimes up in the valley,
Sometimes down by the shore.
He roamed at large, hungry and evil
In the freezing Yule snow.
In every home
People shuddered at his name.

If one heard a pitiful "meow"
Something evil would happen soon.
Everybody knew he hunted men
But didn't care for mice.

By Johannes ur Kotlum

SuDokus

December puzzles

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

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

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

November solutions

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

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

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

December Quiz

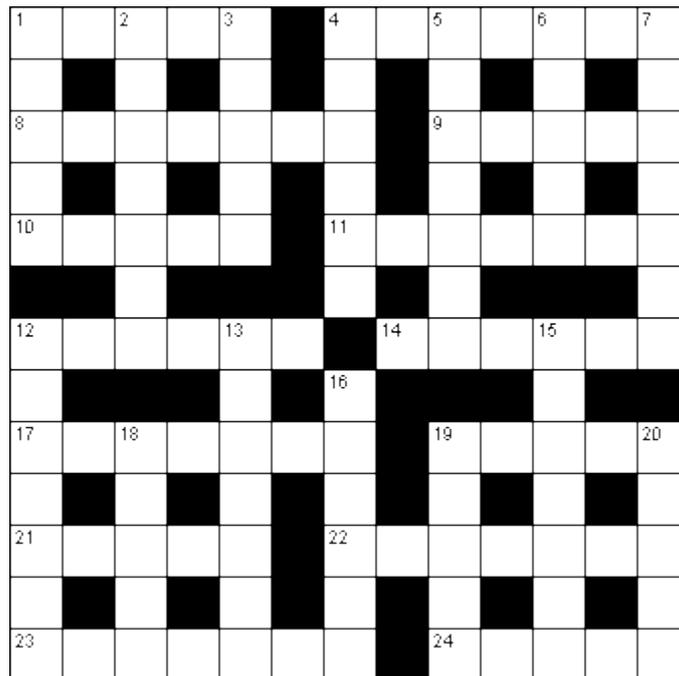


1. Who is the patron saint remembered on the 26th December?
2. Every elf has this ornament on the tip of their shoes. Which ornament are we talking about?
3. Which reindeer is an anagram of OTEMC?
4. What type of liqueur is set alight over a Christmas pudding?
5. What type of nut is commonly roasted at Christmas time and serves with sprouts and pancetta?
6. According to the Christmas song, what does Santa want to find out when he checks his list?
7. “All I Want for Christmas” was released in 1994, 1995 and 2011 by three different artists; can you name them all?
8. In which Christmas film does Jim Carrey appear as a green coloured character?
9. In the United States, what is the name of the milk-based drink made from eggs; cream and sugar?
10. Which Christmas film stars two characters by the names of Harry and Marv?
11. Traditionally mince pies sometimes had a pastry figure placed on top, what did this figure represent?
12. Which spirit is used as a main ingredient in a snowball cocktail?
13. Mince pies used to be known by what other name?
12. What type of animal carried Mary to Bethlehem?
13. In New York City, which famous centre is transformed into a huge ice rink?
14. True or False: Christmas is not a formal public holiday in Turkey?
15. During the 12th century, what type of fruit did nuns place in the stockings of the poor?

November Answers

- 1) Qantas Airways; 2) Bhutan 3) Eileen Collins; 4. Valentina Tereshkova;
- 5) John Glenn 6) Boxing day; 7) The bounced ball at nose-level of batsman.
- 8) John G. Kemeny and Thomas E. Kurtz.; 9) Al-Haram Mosque, Mecca
- 10) Lyon, France 11) Answer: Waggle dance; 12) Supernova.; 13) Arthur Eddington.
- 14) Dame Silvia Rose Cartwright; 15) Mongolia.

December Crossword



Across

1. Tempest (5); 4. Perplexes (7); 8. Fall back (7); 9. Portion (5); 10. Boasts (5);
 11. Compared (7); 12. Pact (6); 14. Pique (6); 17. Certify (7); 19. Meeting place (5);
 21. Mountain range (5); 22. Flair (7); 23. Passed by (7); 24. Begin (5)

Down

1. Bush (5); 2. Indignation (7); 3. Encounters (5); 4. Improved (6); 5. Crevice (7);
 6. Jumped (5); 7. Thin (7); 12. Kind of syrup (7); 13. Despots (7); 15. Cure-all (7);
 16. Assisted (6); 18. Play (5); 19. Planet (5); 20. Happening (5)

November solution

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

Useful Information

Patron: HM Ambassador to Belgium
Committee for 2018/2019:

Chairman
Mary Ann Marinus
Frankrijklei 94/b14
2000 Antwerpen
tel: 0486 646 941 (pm only)
maryann.marinus@hotmail.com

Hon. Treasurer
Margaret du Maine
Miksebeekstraat 104
2930 Brasschaat
tel: 03 651 32 24
mdumaine@scarlet.be

Secretary
Nadine Hechtermans
Lispersteenweg 219
2500 Lier
tel: 03 480 34 77
nadine.hechtermans@telenet.be

Committee Member
Jill Barnard
Baggenstraat 14
2140 Borgerhout
tel: 0474 432191
jillbarnard2000@yahoo.com

Committee Member
Mabel Baker
Bakkerstraat 45
2140 Borgerhout
tel: 03 271 09 71
mabel1baker@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
Madeleine Richardson
Prins Boudewijnlaan 84/3
2610 Wilrijk
tel: 03 230 49 47
madeleine.richardson@telenet.be

Benevolent Matters
Dora Jolly
Hollandstraat 38
2060 Antwerpen
tel: 03 232 71 15
alijolly@busmail.net

Anglican Church
St Boniface Church
Grétrystraat 39
2018 Antwerpen
tel: 03 239 33 39
chaplain@boniface.be

Webmaster:
brian.paul.edwards@gmail.com
ABCA Website:
www.abca-antwerp.be
e-mail address:
ABCA_Antwerp@yahoo.com

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:

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1/2 page: € 16.50 per issue 1 page: € 30 per issue

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