



ANTWERP BRITISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION vzw

Maandelijkse Newsletter –maart 2023

Verschijnt niet in juli

Verantwoordelijk uitgever:

MaryAnn Marinus, Frankrijklei 94/b14-15, 2000 Antwerpen

Afgiftekantoor 2000 Antwerpen 1

POO8284

CONTENTS

<i>Dates for your diary</i>	2	<i>The Rubens House renews</i>	9
<i>From our Chairman</i>	3	<i>Bastarda</i>	10
<i>Membership matters</i>	4	<i>International Waffle Day</i>	11
<i>Subscriptions reminder</i>	5	<i>A Slap in the Face</i>	12
<i>Subscriptions paid</i>	5	<i>Sudokus</i>	13
<i>Guided Tour of Town Hall:</i>	6	<i>March Quiz</i>	15
<i>ABCA AGM 2023</i>	7	<i>March Crossword</i>	16
<i>Annual donations to Charities</i>	7	<i>Useful Information</i>	17
<i>Advance Notice</i>	8		

Dates for your diary



ABCA events in **BOLD** type

MARCH	
2nd	Arenberg : Mad Goat Comedy Festival
8th	International Women's Day
26th	ABCA guided visit to Town Hall
29th	ABCA open evening
APRIL	
9th	Easter Sunday
16th	ABCA Easter lunch
17th	Stadsschouwburg : The Rock Orchestra by Candlelight
26th	ABCA AGM & open evening
MAY	
11th	Stadsschouwburg : Casino Royale concert
28th	ABCA : Rubenswalk
31st	ABCA open evening
JUNE	
11th	ABCA : afternoon cruise
28th	ABCA open evening

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

Printed by:



Lange Vlierstraat 35, 2000 Antwerpen

From our Chairman

Dear Members,

It's time for Spring - aren't we all fed up with the cold and winter - I certainly am. Summertime starts with the clocks going forward on Sunday March 26th at 2am. Hooray. Time to get out and have some fun.

It's also that time of year to remind you that membership dues need to be paid up before April.

With very best wishes,

Mary Ann Marinus
Chairman

Thought for the month

Goodbye, February. Feel free to take Winter with you on your way out!

Membership matters



New Members

We welcome the following new members

John & Nicole Beaumont-Verhelst

nicverhelst@gmail.com

In Memoriam



We have learned of the death of Ria Vervliet, wife of our webmaster Brian Edwards, who passed away in Almeria in January. To Ria's friends and family we extend our sincerest condolences.

We have also recently learned of the death of long-standing member, Joan Porter. To Joan's family and friends we extend our deepest sympathy.

Subscriptions reminder

The subscription for 2023 is due from the 1st of January.

Single subscription: €20

Double (2 at same address): €34

Please transfer to the ABCA bank account BE11 2200 3243 8048

Every month we publish a list of those who have already paid: the lists only cover the latest month, so the names are not repeated every time.

Subscriptions paid

From 20 January to 17 February 2023

Ann Flynn

Gerry & Rita Gallagher-Daems

Greet Jansen & Andy Eddison

Jane McPherson

Willy Meynckens

Marthe Shaw-Vercammen

Michel Stuyts & Reginald De Plaen

Charlotte Thompson

Maria Van De Vloet-Wouters

Guido Van den Bergh

Jeannine Van Hout

John & Nicole Verhelst-Beaumont

Marjorie Williams

Claire Blackford

Chippy Castille-Erwteman

Steve & Suzy Cook-Van Eersel

Addy De Greef

Marthe & Urbain De Groof-De Quinze

Margaret & Ton du Maine-Simpson

Keri Kruitwagen

Tony & Nel McCuaig-Allon

Freddy & Patricia Meulenbrouck-
Drappier

Sue Nurse-Harrison

David & Mylène Nutter-Roels

Isabel Schneider

Marina Stevens

Brigitte & Denyse Van den Bogaert

Roger & Jean Verschueren-Davies

Guided Tour of Town Hall: ***26th March***



During this guided themed tour (105 minutes) to view the restoration and renewal of Antwerp City Hall, you will discover parts of this recently completely renovated monument that you cannot visit on more traditional tours. You will have a chance to explore a new multipurpose room in the basement and the beautiful Verlicht Verdiep, where contemporary architecture and an integrated work of art show how successful and innovative the recent renovation of the Town Hall has been. In addition, much attention has been paid to the restoration of the facades and the impressive interior of the old Council Chamber. Highlights of this rather exclusive tour are the visit to the Salon of the Mayor, which is rarely open to the public, and the unforgettable tour of the Renaissance loggia with the panoramic balcony and its special view of the old town and the cathedral.

History

Erected between 1561 and 1565 after designs made by **Cornelis Floris de Vriendt** and several other architects and artists, this Renaissance building incorporates both Flemish and Italian influences. The City Hall is inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List along with the belfries of Belgium and France.

Practical information:

We meet at 13.45 on the Grote Markt 13.

For security reasons the guide will take names.

Guided tour is in Dutch.

Lots of stairs in town hall....

Cost : €15 for members, €17 for non-members. Payment should be made to the ABCA bank account number: BE11-2200-3243-8048. This outing is on a **first come first served** basis due to shortage of tickets. Please let MaryAnn know you would like to participate (0486 646 941).

ABCA AGM 2023

26th April 2023, café Highlander, 8.30pm

AGENDA:

1. To determine a motion that the minutes of the 2023 AGM be taken as read and approved.
2. To receive reports from:
 - The Chairman
 - The Benevolent sub-committee
 - The Honorary Treasurer
 - To approve the accounts for the year to 31st December 2022
3. To note the re-election and composition of the Committee for the ensuing year.
4. To appoint a scrutineer for the next year.
5. Any other business.



Annual donations to Charities

We welcome your suggestions for suitable charities in the Antwerp region.

Advance Notice Easter Lunch : April 16th



Venue: Hotel Basiliek Trooststraat 22, 2650 Edegem
Date: Sunday, April 16th, 2023 - Time: 12.30 for 1 pm
Details and menu in the April newsletter.

MAY 28th - RUBENSWALK

JUNE 11th - SWEET AFTERNOON CRUISE

JULY 21st - BBQ

AUGUST 27th - MUSSELS LUNCH

The Rubens House renews

Entrepreneur, innovator and visionary; Rubens was all of these things and four hundred years after his death, the master painter continues to inspire and the Rubens House is incredibly popular. Ever-increasing visitor numbers in the century-old building, however, present the museum with major challenges.

In 2016, with financial support from Tourism Flanders, the City of Antwerp commissioned the Flemish Master Builder to develop a new vision for the Rubens House. On this basis, Robbrecht en Daem architecten drew up a master plan for the new museum in 2021. The ambitious overall concept provides an answer to all challenges. The new Rubens House will double in size. A brand new building is emerging to the side of Rubens's historic home, garden and studio. This will accommodate the reception area, the new museum café, the research centre and the internationally acclaimed Rubens Library: the place to be for any research on Rubens and his contemporaries. The new entrance is the starting point of a re-imagined, accessible visitor route through the renovated museum. The historic building and baroque garden are also being carefully restored, with great respect for the past and the future, so that Rubens's house, garden and living world are preserved in all their splendour and continue to inspire generations to come.

When Rubens designed his palazzo in the early 17th century, he added innovative Italian elements to the existing Flemish building. The architects are building on this. The new building, six stories high, is based on Rubens' vision but is also highly contemporary. Old and new come together, just as they did back then.

Note from editor:

2024: estimated opening of new building and garden

2027: estimated opening of renovated Rubens House to mark
450 years Rubens

Bastarda



“The hardest thing to govern is the heart.” **Elizabeth I.**

Declared a bastard, she became Queen of England, the Virgin Queen, Elizabeth I. Collecting favourites, the muse of poets and playwrights, Elizabeth I (1533 – 1603) continues to fascinate down the centuries. The Brussels opera house La Monnaie/De Munt is staging **Bastarda**, a spectacular two-part programme on her life and loves. The basis will be the Tudor operas of Gaetano Donizetti: Anna Bolena, Maria Stuarda, Roberto Devereux and Elisabetta al castello di Kenilworth.

The opera house will be transformed into an Elizabethan court with dancing, minstrels playing and a superb decor with costumes which took years to create in the opera house’s workshops.

PART I : « For better, for worse... »

Elizabeth is not yet three when her father Henry VIII orders the execution of her mother, Anne Boleyn, and the heiress to the English throne is declared a bastard. To her enemies she will remain a bastard even when she is crowned queen. To keep power she will have to sacrifice personal happiness.

PART II : « ... Till death do us part »

Treason has many faces but the same punishment awaits the guilty. Elizabeth’s wrath is as brutal at the executioner’s axe. Yet she remains the star of the politician firmament. Good Queen Bess or The Faerie Queene of Spenser’s epic poem. All the world is a stage and she remains the star player until her death.

Part s I and II of the opera are on different dates. The première is on March 21 and the final performance on April 16. This promises to be the most spectacular work the opera house has staged in a long time.

International Waffle Day



Hands up those who knew there was a International Waffle Day. No? Well there is. On **March 25 International Waffle Day** celebrates waffles, their history, and a surprising religious holiday. A holiday that is best celebrated by eating waffles is our kind of holiday. Unsurprisingly the day has become a bit of a hit. It was originally celebrated in Sweden but is now eagerly embraced all over the world . So plug in your waffle maker and tuck into some mouth-watering treats.

Waffles came to Sweden near the early 1600s and quickly spread to nearby lands. They were often eaten with jams and fruits, establishing themselves as a beloved treat to be eaten at all times of the day. The event in celebration of them was called Våffeldagen which sounded remarkably close to the religious Vårfrudagen (**Our Lady Day**) and the traditions merged. Because of this lingual connection, it became customary for Swedish families to celebrate Vårfrudagen with waffles on Our Lady Day. That's how International Waffle Day ended up being celebrated on March 25.

As time passed, a wider variety of waffles emerged. They became sweeter in the 1700s after more butter and sugar were added to the recipes. In 1839, the Belgian waffle was created and it was much thicker than regular waffles and with deeper grids. The Belgian variation was more filling and held more jam and cream too.

Yum.....

A Slap in the Face



Just a cold, hard slap in the face
Is Daylight Savings Time to morning place

Winter's drive is dark and cold
Headlights searching for deer in the road

But March brings the sun like golden ripe fruit
To brighten my chores and morning commute

For just a while I pretend it will last
Try to keep winter's veil in the past

But then the inevitable Monday comes
Because someone decided this silly thing should be done

I've changed the clock the night before
So once again only darkness waits outside my door

For another month
I keep the dark place
Whoever thought of this needs a slap in the face!

Anon.



Sudokus

March puzzles

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

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

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

February solutions

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

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

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

March Quiz

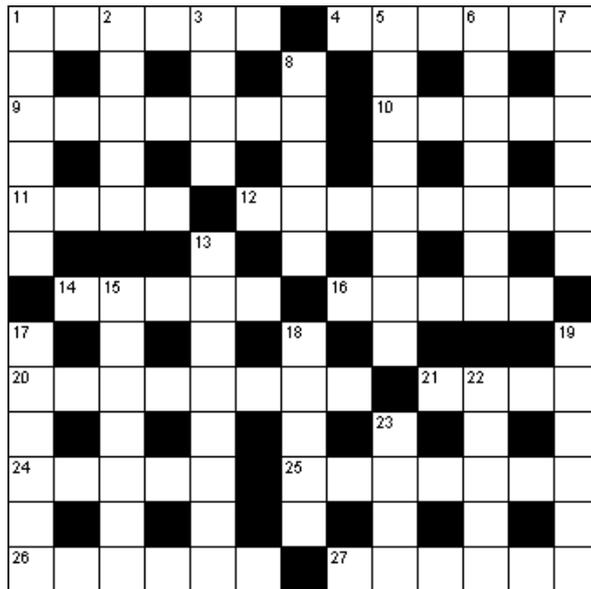


1. What kind of "Babies" reached number one in the album charts on both sides of the Atlantic in 1973?
2. In which 1987 war drama did actor Vincent D'Onofrio gain a film record 32 kg for his role?
3. The all powerful alien deity Azathoth was a creation of which horror fiction writer?
4. Which organisation's motto is "Nation shall speak peace unto nation"?
a. BBC, b. UNO, c. NSA
5. The famous Ali Foreman fight nicknamed 'Rumble in the Jungle' took place in which city?
6. The movie poster tag line for which 1986 film and Academy Award winner for Best Picture was - "The first casualty of war is innocence"?
7. In the English language, what are the names of the four most populated cities in Germany that end with the letter "n"? One point for each correct answer.
8. Which church in Spain attracts the most visitors?
9. In sport, which two domestic leagues have the highest average attendance figures worldwide?
10. Nick & Nora, Double Old Fashioned, Flute and Copita are all examples of what?
11. What was American singer and actor Dooley Wilson's most famous role in film?
12. Which player won a record 11 NBA titles in his 13 year career?
- 13.. Although not officially recognised by the ATP, Australian tennis player Sam Groth's serve was once recorded at which record speed? Plus or minus 10 km/h.
14. Suffolk Punch, Abaco Barb, Norman Cob, American Cream Draft, Friesian and Mangalarga Marchador are all examples of what?
15. What is the largest member of the weasel family?

February Answers

1.All the President's Men; 2. Simon Amstell; 3. Call of Duty; 4. Tennessee; 5. Nine Inch Nails; 6. Krone; 7. The French Open (Roland Garros); 8. Netherlands; 9. Four (The Godfather Part 2, Heat, Righteous Kill, The Irishman); 10. Marathon; 11. Emperor Hirohito; 12. Mercury; 13. Gillian Flynn; 14. Salvador Dali; 15. Queen's Park Rangers

March Crossword



Across

1. Ploy (6); 4. Requiring secret knowledge (6); 9. Disapproves (7); 11. Land measure (4);
 12. Perplexing (8); 14. Disney cartoon character (5); 16. Mournful poem (5);
 20. Scorn (8); 21. Fencing sword (4); 24. Female relative (5); 25. Pills (7);
 26. Unmarried (6); 27. Precious stones (6)

Down

1. Worldwide (6); 2. US military officer (5); 3. Unit of length (4); 5. Precipitation (8);
 6. Astounding (7); 7. Come out into view (6) 8. Ordinary (5); 13. Celestial (8);
 15. Lamp (7); 17. Parts of a play (6); 18. Catches sight of (5); 19. Creatures (6);
 22. Fragment (5); 23. Woodwind instrument (4)

February Solution



Useful Information

Patron: Mr. Martin Shearman CVO, HM Ambassador to Belgium

Committee for 2022/2023

Contact via the ABCA e-mail - ABCA_Antwerp@yahoo.com

ABCA Website www.abca-antwerp.be

Chairman
MaryAnn Marinus

Hon. Treasurer
Margaret du Maine

Hon. Secretary
Peter Best

Committee Member
Jill Barnard

Committee Member
Suzanne van Eersel

Social Media
Jane McPherson

ABCA - Annual subscription

due 1stQuarter of the New Year: Single: € 20, Double: € 34.

ABCA Bank Account number isBE11 2200 3243 8048

Benevolent Matters

Dora Jolly/Suzanne van Eersel

Donations towards our benevolent work are welcome.

Anglican Church, St Boniface Church, 2018 Antwerpen, tel: 03 239 33 39

ABCA recognizes the diversity of belief in contemporary British society and accordingly directs members wanting to contact other faith groups to the “Gids LevensbeschouwingenAntwerpen” Multifaith Antwerp guide, published by the StadAntwerpen.Information on www.antwerpen.be

Newsletter

Editor: Madeleine Richardson

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

12 months advertising, pay for only 10!

Contact the Newsletter Editor

ABCA takes no responsibility for the consequences of reacting to advertisements placed by third parties