



The Brisbane German Club NEWSLETTER



416 VULTURE ST
EAST BRISBANE, 4169
(07) 3391-2434

admin@brisbanegermanclub.com
www.brisbanegermanclub.com

Christmas Eve Trading Hours:

Sunday 24th December - 11am - 5pm
Lunch Bookings Encouraged!

Club Christmas Closure:

Closes: Saturday 24th December 5pm
Re-Open: Wednesday 3rd January @ 11am



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COMMITTEE

President: Michaela Sowden
Vice President: Chris Fletcher
Treasurer: Reimer Moeller
Board of Directors:
Alex Hyde, Monika Kortz, Kathy Carseldine, Michelle Hughes, Leanne Langer, Nick Sowden

Brisbane German Club



Kevin - Allein Zu Haus (Home Alone)
Tuesday, December 12th
Special Free Screening

BOOK NOW An eight-year-old troublemaker, mistakenly left home alone, must defend his home against a pair of burglars on Christmas eve.

NOTE: This film will be played in German with German subtitles

Brisbane German Club, Main Hall
5:00PM DINNER AVAILABLE | 6:30PM SCREENING

Proudly supported by

facebook.com/germanclubbrisbane 416 Vulture St, East Brisbane QLD 4169

To our valued members,

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Safe New Year with your families.



Save the Date

for the End of Year Party to be held on:

-Member's Christmas Party-
Sunday, 10th of December
from 12:30pm

To all our members, thank you for another fantastic year!



Club:

(p) 3391-2434

(e) admin@brisbanegermanclub.com

Schöne Grüße,

The Board of Directors

Brisbane German Club

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Liebe Mitglieder,

October has been a very busy month for Club and all our members. I would like to thank Simone, Zoe, Gabor, Pia, Tory and the team for making our Oktoberfest one of the best ever. It was the first time we held it over four weekends, and the team made every weekend feel different whilst retaining a wonderful atmosphere of Gemütlichkeit!

Another heartfelt, big thank you to all the volunteers who assisted each weekend. From those who assisted on the door to our Ladies Group selling those Lebkuchenherzen and T-shirts. Another shout out goes to both the Alpenrosen and Choir for participating in the festivities and bringing a bit of Germany down under.

If you have noticed our stage curtains are looking a bit better and less shabby, please thank the Ladies Group – spearheaded by Kathy, who have raised funds through their monthly raffles to replace the curtains. The club is incredibly appreciative to the Ladies Group for all the effort they put in each and every month!

A hearty welcome goes to our new Club Manager, Trent Boyle, as he is welcomed to the team. Trent started with us on the 20th November as our new Club Manager, and brings with him a wealth of experience in finance, management and in the kitchen. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Simone for holding the fort. Simone did a great job in managing the Club whilst we were searching for a new Manager, however, she did have a big smile when Trent started.

Chris, Reimer, Prof. Michael Rosemann and I took the opportunity to meet with Deputy Premier Steven Miles to get some information on the Gabba, which as everyone is now aware will be demolished. We are looking towards the future in order to ensure that our Club will survive into the future despite any major disruption which will occur. Rest assured, we are looking to the future so that our club continues to thrive and remains a solid gem in the community.

Brisbane German Club

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

December will be another busy month, starting off with the Children's Christmas Party on Saturday 2nd December. As you are all aware, the members Christmas party will be in the afternoon of our Fröhlschoppen Sunday, which falls on the 10th of December. The Choir will also hold their Christmas Concert as well on the 3rd December, and hope that as many of our members will come and enjoy the carols.

Weihnachten kommt bald, und ich hoffe, daß ihr alle im Familien-und Freundeskreis feiert und gesund bleibt.

Christmas is fast approaching, and I hope you all celebrate with friends and family.

Habt ein gesegnetes Weihnachtsfest, und einen guten Rutsch ins Neue Jahr.

Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays! Stay safe over the holiday period.

Michaela Sowden



*Michaela, pictured with
her son and Director,
Nick Sowden*

Michaela Sowden

Brisbane German Club

CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

Season's Greeting to All,

In October we celebrated the Club's 49th Oktoberfest, this year for the first time over four weekends. We kicked off with the opening ceremony and the traditional keg tapping by the Club's Patron Prof Michael Rosemann who also celebrated his birthday with us. We had a great lineup of entertainment over the four weekends with live performances by different artists, puppet shows and face painting for the kids and a special Oktoberfest edition of our weekly Trivia. One of the highlights were the performances by the Alpenrosen Dance Group and Liedertafel/Liederkrantz Choir. Both really got the crowd engaged and on the last Saturday the entire beer hall joined in with the Choir singing. Every day of Oktoberfest we had great competitions that were loved by everyone. Thank you very much to our suppliers Alpen Liquor Wholesalers, Gotzinger Smallgoods, Stones Ginger Beer and Joval Wine that sponsored some of the prizes for the competitions. Every day of Oktoberfest the wonderful ladies of the Ladies' group were there to sell raffle tickets, merchandise and of course the classic Oktoberfest Lebkuchenherzen (Gingerbread hearts).

In total more than 4700 members and visitors celebrated Oktoberfest at the Brisbane German Club. We had a great product variety imported beer from Munich featuring Augustiner, Hacker-Pschorr, Hofbräu, Löwenbräu, Paulaner, Spaten and Weihenstephaner Festbier. Members and guests absolutely loved these classic beers and saw the bar team pour over 10,000 litres in October. The most popular dish was the famous pork knuckle and the kitchen team served more than 625 pork knuckles during Oktoberfest.

I can proudly say that Oktoberfest 2023 was a great success and I'd like to thank the entire team that made it possible. Well done everyone! We really came together as a team and turned Oktoberfest 2023 into a great success. Thank you for the many hours of hard work and the laughs we all shared. It was great to see how passionate our volunteers were and how well you all worked alongside the staff. Some of you spent several weekends helping at the door, selling raffle tickets or merchandise and just making sure everyone had a good time.

Oktoberfest is over and we are in the final weeks of the year 2023. For me personally the coming weeks will hopefully be a bit quieter. While I really appreciate the trust the board put in me as acting Club Manager for the past few months, I can't deny that it's taken a toll on me trying to do two jobs at the same time.

Brisbane German Club

CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

Therefore, I am extremely happy to announce that we have found a new Club Manager. Trent Boyle started with us on 20th November and has already made a big difference as our new Club Manager. He brings many years of hospitality experience and I believe he is a great fit for the Brisbane German Club. I am very much looking forward to working alongside Trent in my usual role as Office Manager and support him wherever I can. I'd like to welcome Trent to the Club and the team and like to give him the opportunity to introduce himself below.

Merry Christmas and eine besinnliche Adventszeit.

Simone Galle
Office Manager



Dear Members,

First of all, thank you to the President and board for entrusting me and giving me the honour of managing your Club. With the great excitement comes a few challenges, but we have an amazing staff in place that I believe are perfect custodians of the Club.

On that note, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the magnificent job that Simone has done in steering the ship over the last few months as Acting Club Manager, not only through periods of change that would ordinarily be quite challenging, but with our devoted teams also delivering the most successful Oktoberfest in the Club's history as well!

I come to the Club from a varied background, starting my hospitality career a few decades ago in Central Queensland slinging beers in a workers' social club, moving to Brisbane to complete my cookery apprenticeship, promoted through to running a kitchen brigade of 20, then transitioning into club finance and management, a few years in retail property finance, then during the covid years working for a remote hospitality (mining camps) provider and more recently several years managing a local hospitality group. There are a few strings in my bow, but Brisbane German Club most definitely feels like home. And a huge thank you to the team and those members I've met so far for making me feel so welcome.

Brisbane German Club

CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

We have a few kinks to iron-out to get our consistency where it needs to be in the restaurant, and I thank the members for their patience on that front, but assure you that we are continually tweaking and exploring all avenues to ensure that we keep improving.

I am very keen to receive direct feedback from you on how we are doing, whether it's good, indifferent, or bad. So please do say hello when you see me around the Club or drop me a message clubmanager@brisbanegermanclub.com

I'd like to wish you and your families all the best for the festive season, I hope to see many of you at the upcoming Christmas Choir & Frühschoppen events. And please do keep us in mind if you're looking for a venue for your end of year gatherings as we still at this stage have capacity on most days to squeeze in a few more bookings.

The club will be closed following lunch service on Sun 24 Dec 2023, and reopen for lunch on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

Warmest regards,

Trent Boyle
Club Manager



WHAT'S ON: DECEMBER

2ND DEC.

**Children's Xmas
Party**

+

**Entertainment in
the hall from 6pm.**

3RD DEC.

**Choir Christmas
Concert**

Starting at 2pm

12TH DEC.

**German Kino Film
Screening!**

**Kevin - Allein Zu
Haus (Home Alone)
FREE @ 6:30pm**



Kevin - Allein Zu Haus (Home Alone)
Tuesday, December 12th
Special Free Screening



BOOK NOW

An eight-year-old troublemaker, mistakenly left home alone, must defend his home against a pair of burglars on Christmas eve.

NOTE: This film will be played in German with German subtitles

Brisbane German Club, Main Hall

10TH DEC.

**Member's Christmas
Party**

+

**Frühschoppen to
follow!**



Liedertafel / Liederkranz

Music Director: Leo Keller OAM

Accompanist: Olga Lipsky

Invite you to an afternoon of
traditional German carols
& seasonal Australian ballads
at our 2023 Christmas Concert



Weihnachtskonzert

Sunday, 3rd Dec at 2.00pm

Admission: \$15

Reserve seats: Monika 07 3397 0971 or 0421 631 914

Tickets available at door from 1pm

Brisbane German Club
Opposite "The Gabba"
416 Vulture Street, East Brisbane

Club Bar & Restaurant open 12 noon



20TH DEC.

Last Trivia of 2023!

**Last trivia of 2023 -
come and celebrate
another great year of
Trivia!**

@ 6:30pm

24TH DEC.

**Club will be OPEN for
lunch!**

**Closing at 5pm.
See you in the new
year.**



Kaffee-Klatsch

REPORT

Dear Members & Friends of Kaffee-Klatsch,

Hello and greetings to friends and Members, another Year is coming to a close and many new changes have taken place in our Club. The annual Oktoberfest was spread over the entire month this Year and the very reliable Volunteers in our little group have been kept busy supporting the Club in all ways possible, it was great fun and a big "Thank You" to everyone for participating. We are now looking forward to the many joyful Events organised for December. Our last Kaffee- Klatsch meeting for this year will take place on Thursday 14th. December with some special Xmas Cheers starting 11 am in the new Presidents room, please you are invited to join us in this exciting get together!

We are sending belated "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" greetings to our lovely Kathy on her special Day November 21st. – and dear friend Renate Waldock is celebrating hers on December 5th. – Frequent Guest joining our Group regularly are Paul Sowa OAM this year was his memorable big 85th. Birthday on November 22nd. Followed by Alice Sowa on December 9th. Please, accept our Congratulations and best wishes for much happiness and good health coming your way, we are grateful indeed to be given the opportunity to enjoy memorable friendship celebrations in our little "Heimat"!

Sunday 10th. December [normal Fruehschoppen] the Volunteers will decorate and set up the Tables in the big Hall for the Members and Guest Christmas Party, as usually we will be happy to spoil everyone with some special Christmas delights, however it will be necessary to book your table early.

Hereby I wish to extend very best wishes for a "MERRY CHRISTMAS" and a healthy, happy and prosperous new 2024 to the Club's President, the Committee, Office and Bar Management's as well as the wonderful Chef's and Staff looking after our Guest and Members wellbeing with an extensive and exiting Menu, please enjoy the festive Season everyone and much appreciation to all in your unfailing commitments to the Brisbane German Club.

"FROHE WEIHNACHTEN" und ein gesundes und glueckliches neues Jahr 2024

"MERRY CHRISTMAS " and a happy and healthy 2024

In friendship,

Gerda Schulz



Gerda Schulz

Ladies' Group

REPORT

Greetings to all!

What a wonderful 4 weekends of Oktoberfest for 2023 was enjoyed by many members and guests at the club. Thank you to all who supported our Ladies Group stall and the several raffles we ran with the prize being a 5litre Früh Kölsch Keg.

The Ladies group are now planning the annual Childrens Christmas Party taking place at the club on the 2nd December commencing at 11.30. Thank you to Paula and Karen, Andrew and Reuben for volunteering to make this a fun and memorable time for the children. There will be Christmas goodies to make, a colouring-in competition, games to play, songs to sing. We have a face painter coming to create beautiful faces and Andrew will share his talent of balloon making. I have heard that all the girls and boys have been good this year so Santa is coming to visit the club at 2pm. I am very excited for this day.

On the 10th December is our last Fröhschoppen for this year, plus the members afternoon tea Christmas Party which is being provided by the Ladies Group. Please note the members draw still stands at the Jackpot of \$500.00. I look forward to seeing many of our members on this day.

As this is the last newsletter for the year, on behalf of the Ladies Group, I would like to thank our members and guests for supporting our monthly raffles. We have been fortunate to have some of our suppliers kindly make donations for our monthly raffle tables to help our group build our funds to continue to support the club with various events and projects. A big thank goes to Gotzinger Smallgoods, Stones Corner Ginger Beers, German Liquor and Joval Wines. This year we were able to make a donation for the new stage curtains, roses for Mother's Day, gifts for the members children and afternoon tea for the clubs members.

On behalf of the Ladies Group, I wish you all a very happy, safe and blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

See you at our New Year Fröhschoppen on 14th January 2024.

Kind regards,

Kathy Carseldine

Kathy Carseldine
President – Ladies Group



For more information or to get in touch with the Ladies Group, please contact:

Kathy's Mobile: 0419 779 110

Email: aca56177@bigpond.net.au

Brisbane German Club

Liedertafel & Liederkrantz

Hello Everyone!

The Choir held their AGM on the 31.10.2023 and VOTED Rainer Klose back in as President for 2024; Peter Jansen as Vice-President again and Renate Koehn as Stage Manager. The other continuing Committee Members are: Marion Kirberg (Treasurer); Bette Jansen (Vice-Treasurer); Monika Kortz (Secretary/Music Warden); Paul Sowa OAM (Patron);
Congratulation to everyone and keep up the good work. Our Performances on the first and last Oktoberfest Saturday 2023 (7.10. and 28.10.) at the Club was well received.

If anyone is interested in the performance of our Annual Concert held on the 23.7.2023, a DVD is available from Vicki Dunn in our Choir. All you have to do is place an order with her for the DVD which costs only \$5.00. Please contact Monika for details.



*The Choir Members wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in 2024.
See you in the new Year.*



It's never too late to have some fun and entertain others with your singing! We are still looking for some willing participants to join our choir. Our wishes for new participants in the last Newsletter were finally answered and we now have three new singers in our choir. We are a happy bunch and love to entertain the members and visitors to the Club with our songs.

Choir Practice Every Tuesday from 6.30pm - 9.00pm when singing practice is on. Subject to change
Rainer: (07) 3821 5223, Monika: (07) 3397 0971

Zum Geburtstag, Choir!

Gunter Kirberg [3.12.]; Olga Lipsky [11.12.]; Daniel Dillon [16.12.]; Ulrike Rehm [19.12.]; Edita Marschall [13.1.];

Hip Hip, Hooray! Zicke zacke, zicke, zacke, oi oi oiii

farewell

Farewell, Leo!



As the *Liedertafel/ Liederkrantz* bids farewell to Music Director, Leo Keller OAM, let us reflect on some of the highlights of his musical collaboration with the choir. Leo began conducting the *Liedertafel* (Men's Choir) in 1973. He instigated the first choir concerts at the club which have prove so popular at mid-year and Christmas throughout the years. The choir regularly performed at other venues and events bringing German music and culture to a wide variety of social organisations - Rotary, Lions, church, ethic and community groups across Brisbane and South East Queensland.

The *Liedertafel* participated in the triennial German Choir Festival (*Sängerfest*) which was held on a rotational basis throughout Australia. Leo's first *Sängerfests* conducting the choir were in Melbourne in 1975 & 1980 and Adelaide in 1978. Leo left the choir in 1981 to pursue other interests and in the following decade, conducted a variety of ethnic choirs, including the *Verdi Chorale*. Leo served on the *Queensland Ethnic Communities Council* and was a member of the *Warana All Nations Committee*.

Leo returned to conduct the *Liedertafel* at the *Sängerfest* held in Tanunda in 1991. He conducted the *Liedertafel* and from 2003, the *Liedertafel / Liederkrantz* (Mixed Choir), at ten of the fourteen *Sangerfests* the choir has attended. Most notably in 1998, when Brisbane sucessfully hosted the 11th *Sängerfest*, under Leo's baton, with 23 choirs, including one from Germany in attendance.

Leo's efforts have received recognition from the German Club, being presented with the *President's Trophy*, the *Generalkonsul Turk Trophy* and the *Teo Teicher Memorial Trophy*. At the 15th *Sängerfest* in 2011, Leo received the *Golden Tuning Fork Badge* from the German Choral Association of Australia (*Australischer Sängerbund - Established 1858*) and was awarded the *Order of Australia Medal* in the 2014 Australia Day Honours, for his contribution to the Arts – Choral Music.

Sängerfests, along with Anniversary and Christmas Concerts, highlight the choir's performance but they are only part of the choral story. There have been so many joyful moments amidst the grind of note bashing over thirty-five years of weekly rehearsals for the choir, guided by a man who loves his music and who seeks to impart this gift to us all. He has fulfilled his role with patience, perseverance and an unwavering gentlemanly personae to encourage, maintain and foster our musical links to homeland and heritage.

Thank you, Leo, we are sad to see you go!

Liedertafel / Liederkrantz
December 2023



Brisbane German Club

Alpenrosen Report

Hello all,

We have survived!!! Although Kurt was unable to dance, we put him to good use as sound technician and roadie, although he couldn't resist the odd waltz or two on the floor!!

Our performances were, as always, very well received by all who attended the Oktoberfest celebrations at the various venues. We were surprised that the floor of the Club survived our enthusiastic boys (Jonathan was worried!) At the Gold Coast we were joined by our youngest dancer, Dre, who is fascinated by the hat dance!



The girls impressed once again with our Mädls dance (so the boys can rest!) and of course, the very popular bell ringing!



As part of the German week hosted by the Honorary Consul, the Mädls performed at the Trivia Night at the Club ... we were also pleased to be able to add a cultural flavour when we performed at the All Saints' celebration of the Friends of Nundah Cemetery commemoration day. It is the oldest cemetery in Queensland with the earliest German settlers buried there.



Brisbane German Club

Alpenrosen Report

The year hasn't slowed down yet ... we were keen to celebrate our interstate and local achievements at our end-of-year Christmas party – many thanks to our hosts Leanne and Kurt – was a great day/evening for swims and pool games. Schnapps may have been involved!!



We haven't hung up our Dirndls just yet! Our final performance for the year will be at the upcoming German Exhibition at the Sunnybank Multicultural Gallery. Organised under the leadership of the GACCQ President Louise Moeller and President of the Qld German Teachers, Paula, the exhibition is a month long feature, entitled German Festivals and Traditions. The Mädls will be performing at the official opening.

We hope you may be able to visit during the month of December.

We look forward to returning next year with an addition to the Alpenrosen family – congratulations to Jonathan and Eloise who are expecting in January!

Frohe Weihnachten ... und ein guten Rutsch ins Neujahr!!

Prost!

Paula
for the Alpenrosen
Folk Dance Group

Paula Hay



Brisbane German Club

Skat Report

Skartbericht...

Hello Skatfreunde,

At our Oktober Skat Competition, there were 13 Players present.

The First Prize went to W. Simke with 2703 Points.

2...Ferro Kaya	2560 Points.
3...Doehler A.	2423 Points.
4...Cameron A.	2411 Points.

At our November Skat Competition there were 11 Players present.

The First Prize went to A. Cameron with 2538 Points.

2...Doehler A.	2518 Points.
3...Simke W.	2144 Points.
4...Mehlert M.	2099 Points.

**We play Price Skat every second Sunday of the month, start time 11:00am.
Every second Wednesday we play Friendly Skat; start time 12 noon.**

The event is open to everyone; early bookings are encouraged.

For more information or to register to play, please contact Skat President Werner via the details below.

Gut Blatt,

Werner Simke

Werner Simke

Phone: 3300 2565

Mobile: 0410 118 371



*Skat is Germany's
National Cards Game*

Fotogalerie

Oktoberfest 2023!



NOTICE BOARD

Willkommen New Full Members!

Helmut Fritz, Jennifer Fritz, Helmut Geiblinger, Aija Brzozovskis, Fred Hopkins, John Mill, Konstantin Mangold, Alexandra Sowden, Michael Mathews, John Kahler, Jeremy Richardson, Bradley Geiger, Robert Pregel, Greg Shaw, Aaron O'Neill, Noel Buchanan, Roy Pedersen



Kevin - Allein Zu Haus (Home Alone)

Tuesday, December 12th

Special Free Screening

BOOK NOW



An eight-year-old troublemaker, mistakenly left home alone, must defend his home against a pair of burglars on Christmas eve.

NOTE: This film will be played in German with German subtitles

Brisbane German Club, Main Hall

5:00PM DINNER AVAILABLE | 6:30PM SCREENING

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416 Vulture St, East Brisbane QLD 4169

Liedertafel / Liederkranz

Music Director: Leo Keller OAM

Accompanist: Olga Lipsky

Invite you to an afternoon of traditional German carols & seasonal Australian ballads at our 2023 Christmas Concert



Weihnachtskonzert

Sunday, 3rd Dec at 2.00pm

Admission: \$15

Reserve seats: Monika 07 3397 0971 or 0421 631 914

Tickets available at door from 1pm

Brisbane German Club

Opposite "The Gabba"

416 Vulture Street, East Brisbane

Club Bar & Restaurant open 12 noon



Special Free Screening of Kevin - Allein Zu Haus (Home Alone) in the Main Hall on Tuesday 12th December, all is welcome.

Our German Choir have their Christmas Concert on Sunday 3th December at 2pm. Please contact Monika on 0421 631 914 to reserve your seats! Tickets are \$15.

Our Deepest Sympathy

Sadly, we have been advised of the passing of the following members.
Our hearts are with their families during these difficult times.

Alfred Beyer

Our deepest sympathies to any of our members and their families who have lost someone recently.



NOTICE BOARD



“Germany – Festivals & Traditions” Cultural Exhibition

When: December 6-31, 2023. Wed-Fri 11-3, Sat-Sun 10.30-4

Where: Sunnybank Multicultural Gallery (Sunnybank Plaza, Shop 77B (next to Australia Post), Mains Rd, Sunnybank)

More information: contact Louise Moeller at president@gaccq.org.au or visit the GACCQ facebook page.

Herzlich Willkommen! Discover the delights of a few of Germany's favourite festivals & traditions:

- Karneval's wild, ancient expression of fun before the pre-Easter Lent period starts!
- Oktoberfest's fun fortnight of frivolities, fairgrounds and all things beer and Munich!
- Christmas magic and markets celebrated over four Advent weeks!

Exhibition highlights include:

- Festival displays
- Folklore costumes
- Traditional decorations
- Student Art Post Competition winning entries
- Fascinating insights
- Cultural artefacts
- Musical Alpenglocken (cow-bells) for you to try.

This exhibition is organised by GACCQ (German Australian Community Centre Qld) with special thanks to MLTAQ German Teachers' Branch.



**Brisbane Deutscher Turn-Verein
The Brisbane German Club**

416 Vulture St, East Brisbane QLD 4169

Phone: (07) 3391-2434

Email: admin@brisbanegermanclub.com

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December 2023, January, 2024

