



# The Brisbane German Club NEWSLETTER



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(07) 3391-2434

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www.brisbanegermanclub.com

**Christmas Eve Trading Hours:**

24th December - 11am - 4pm

Lunch Bookings Encouraged!

**Club Christmas Closure:**

Closes: 24th December 4pm

Re-Open: 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



***To our valued members,***

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

***-Annual General Meeting-  
Sunday, 1st of December  
from 10am***

***-Member's Christmas Party-  
Sunday, 1st of December  
after the AGM***

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,**

It has been a very busy time here at the Brisbane German Club. Oktober saw us host 4 weekends of Oktoberfest, that was 12 days of celebrations in a year with the cost of living crisis. I can report that once again we hosted a successful event. Many thanks to Trent, Simone and Zoe, who ensured it was well organised. A big thank you to Gabor, Jordana, Josh and the bar team as well as Tory and his kitchen team. It was amazing to see that the wait lines were not that long. Feedback from our patrons indicated that they were happy with the knowledge of the team regarding the beers. We also had great feedback regarding the food. So once again thank you to Tory, and his team. Kathy, Michelle and the Ladies Group assisted with selling Oktoberfest merchandise and raffle tickets. So, thank you Kathy, Michelle and the Ladies Group. It was good to see that Schnucki Dirndl and Lederhosen were once again at our Club, selling authentic dirndls and lederhosen. I have to admit that I bought another one. A big thank you to Andy for hosting, our very own Choir for singing those wonderful drinking songs and of course the Alpenrosen for entertaining the crowds on two weekends.

November saw the Gabba host a 20-20 cricket match. There was a delay to the start, but the Club was busy. The Club has also introduced a member's discount for food and a reward on entry for swiping the member's card. Another innovation is the ability to sign up to social membership online and receive a digital card. We are looking at digital cards for full members down the track.

The Board has been reviewing the Strategic Plan which has been sent out to all members. We are also preparing for our AGM on December 1st. Thank you for allowing us to move the AGM after Oktoberfest, as it allowed us to ensure consistency in preparing for Oktoberfest, an important event to share our culture but also helps us to be independent to the Gabba. It also allowed us to have all the necessary paperwork in place as well as time to prepare for nominations at a very busy time.

# Brisbane German Club

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

November will see the Choir host their concert. The German Youth Choir will also perform some Christmas carols. It was exciting to have the German Youth Choir to reach out to.

The Children's Christmas Party is being organised by Kathy and the Ladies' Group with a special appearance by Santa. Hope to see you all then on Saturday 30th November.

As we are nearing our AGM on December 1st, I wish all our candidate's good luck.

I do hope to be able to serve you for another two years but whatever happens, it has been an honour to represent each and every one of you and seeing our great Club grow. We must never lose sight that we need to ensure we promote our culture, music, food, beer and most importantly the German spirit,

We need to continue to reach out to the community and continue our journey to be relevant within all communities, especially the German and German speaking ones.

Ich wünche Euch Allen ein Frohes Weihnachten und einen guten Rutsch ins Niue's Jahr.

Euer President

**Michaela Sowden**

*Michaela Sowden*



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

# Brisbane German Club

## CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

Welcome to December! Hard to believe we're here again already.

The Club had an amazing Oktoberfest, and I'm pleased to report we set a few new records in terms of attendance and revenue, which has set us up nicely for the year ahead. The feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive but we do have some things that we will continue to tweak and improve on for 2025. Which has just been confirmed by the board to run again on the four weekends of October next year, so please note that on your calendars.

We're still working through the last of our allocation of Munich kegs but you'll soon start to see some of them switch around and disappear until next October, so I encourage you to enjoy them while they're still on-tap.

Bookings are filling up fast for the remainder of the year so please book in advance of your next visit, especially if you're planning on attending on Friday nights or weekends, and some days are close to capacity already and we don't want you to miss out. Bookings can be made online or by calling the Club.

From Saturday 14 December the Gabba will be hosting the Australia vs. India five-day test match, which will see us provide our express match day service for lunch on each of these days (including Monday 16 Dec). Bookings will not be available for lunch on those days, however normal restaurant dinner service will be provided on the Saturday night with reservations available (and encouraged).

In the lead-up to Christmas we will also open on Monday 23 December, for both lunch and dinner, then close after lunch service on Tuesday 24 December. We'll then reopen from 11:00 am on Friday 03 January 2025.

If I don't see you around the Club beforehand, I hope you and your loved ones have a Merry Christmas.

*Warmest regards,*

**Trent Boyle**  
Club Manager



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# WHAT'S ON: DECEMBER

## 1ST DEC.

**Annual General Meeting 10am**  
+  
**Member's Christmas Party**

## 5TH DEC.

**German Language Classes.**  
**1st Thursday of the month from 6pm - 7pm.**  
[Click here for more details](#)

## 8TH DEC.

**Frühschoppen from 11am, Raffle prizes, & live entertainment by Andrew!**

MERRY  
*Christmas*

## 14TH DEC.

**Cricket Test Begins!**  
**Australia**  
**vs**  
**India**



## 18TH DEC.

**Last Trivia of 2024!**  
Last trivia of 2024 - come and celebrate another great year of Trivia!  
**@ 6:30pm**



## 24TH DEC.

Club will be OPEN for lunch!  
**Closing at 4pm.**  
**See you in the new year.**



# Kaffee-Klatsch & Ladies' Group

## REPORT

### ***Season Greetings dear members and friends.***

We are nearing the end of another successful year with the sharing of good times and making new friends at the Club. The Ladies group, even though small in number, are happy to serve the club where required. What a super time we had during the 4 weeks of Oktoberfest. Well done to the Club's management team and staff for making it the place people wanted to come and embrace some German traditions, from the beers to the food and the entertainment. Oktoberfest is our best month for raising funds so we can continue to provide entertainment and treats for the Children's Christmas party, Members Christmas party, Easter goodies, Mother's Day to name a few. We also have a couple of projects that we would like to assist the club with in the New Year.

The Ladies group are presently finalising the planning of the annual Children's Christmas Party taking place at the club on the 30th November commencing at 11.00am. A big THANK YOU to Paula, Karen and Andrew for being so willing to volunteer your time to make this a fun and memorable time for the children. There will be Christmas goodies to make, 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 been told that we have many good children coming to the party this year, so I told Santa. Well, Santa is very excited to meet them that he is going to make a special visit to the club on the 30th November to meet them all. Thank you Santa!!!

On the 1st December is the club's Annual AGM which will be followed by the members Christmas Party. As we still have a keg and some 6 pack beers left over from Oktoberfest, the ladies group will have a couple of quick raffles on this day.

The 8th December is our last Fröhschoppen for 2024 and we have some wonderful Christmas treat prizes to be won. Again, we have a generous donation from Gotzinger Smallgoods, German Liquor and the Club. Thank you to all the people and businesses who generously continue to support our ladies group raffles. Please note the members draw stands at the Jackpot \$500.00. This would be a lovely Christmas bonus, but you need to be present for the draw. I look forward to seeing many of our members on this day.

***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](mailto:aca56177@bigpond.net.au)***

# Kaffee-Klatsch & Ladies' Group

## REPORT

Sadly, our Gerda is not well, and Heidi managed to slip and break her right ankle and now undergoing surgery getting a plate and pins inserted. Thinking of you both and wish you a speedy recovery. We also look forward to the safe return of Pauline who has been travelling overseas meeting with family and friends to celebrate her special birthday. I am sure there will be lots of chatter at our December Ladies Group/Kaffee Klatsch meeting. To all the Ladies thank you for your friendship and support throughout this year and I look forward to being part of this wonderful group in the New Year.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the Ladies Group over the past 12 months either with the purchase of raffle tickets, donating prizes, giving of their time to assist or just to come and have a chat and a meal at the club. We look forward to continuing this friendship into the New Year.

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

See you in the New Year!!! Our January Frühschoppen will be on the 12th January 2025.

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](mailto:aca56177@bigpond.net.au)

# Brisbane German Club Liedertafel & Liederkrantz

## Hello Everyone!

Our Christmas Concert on Sunday, November 24th at 2pm will be a joyful presentation of traditional festive carols. Joining us will be the talented pianists Aurelius & Leander Bodisco whose performances are so looked forward to the audience.



Virtuoso Katarina Bodisco will be the Violin accompaniment for both Soloist Teresa Boyce and the Choir.

A special treat will be a potpourri of songs by the German Youth Choir, Brisbane.

Conducted by Beatrice Klepper, this initiative will enhance a shared cultural experience for all. The universally popular Stille Nacht & Ehre sei Gott in der Höhe will be sung by the children alongside the men of the choir.

## History of Stille Nacht

The poem was originally written in 1816 by a young Catholic priest Father Joseph Mohr, in the village of Oberndorf in the Austrian Empire. In 1818 Mohr took the words to organist Franz Xaver Gruber and asked him to compose a lullaby melody and guitar accompaniment for that night's mass. It seems that the river flooding had possibly damaged the church organ. The church was eventually destroyed by repeated flooding and replaced with the Silent-Night-Chapel. The new carol was in the repertoire of travelling families of folk singers, the Strassers and the Rainers, eventually for an audience that included Franz I of Austria and Alexander I of Russia.



New singers for 2025 most welcome, please call Rainer on (07) 3821 5223

## Zum Geburtstag, Choir!

*Gunter Kirberg [3.12.]; Olga Lipsky [11.12.]; Daniel Dillon [16.12.]; Maja Rusch [17.12.]; Ulrike Rehm [19.12.]; Edita Marshall [13.1.];*

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

# Brisbane German Club Alpenrosen Report

Hello all,

Where to begin?! The team once again was in full force with the return of all our travellers.

We were danced off our feet with 18 performances stretching from Brisbane to the Gold Coast.

I am happy to report that all dancers and bell ringers successfully survived with no lasting injuries! (Jonathan recovered midway!)

It was great to see all the enthusiastic audiences at the many and varied venues at which we performed.

It was also a great time for our friends and family too who joined us.



We hope you enjoy our gallery of photos. We have re-introduced the lovely Sterntanz – star dance! We would also like to feature our ‘cute’ factors – Stella, fourth generation Alpenrosen (Uroma Rae, Omi Katrina and Mutti Danielle) who impressed our audiences with her participation in our performances with her swaying, twirling and clapping and Cillian who joined us too (he is still at swaying and waving level).



# Brisbane German Club Alpenrosen Report

We finally got to relax and celebrate our efforts at the annual Alpenrosen Christmas Party – thank you to the Langers for hosting.



Training will continue for a few more weeks as we adjust our performances back to Dancefest 2025 formats. We also have a few new faces at training on Tuesday nights – Justin and daughter Lottie have begun rehearsing for 2025.

We love the visitors who pop in to watch rehearsals and are entranced with the bell playing and dance routines weekly.

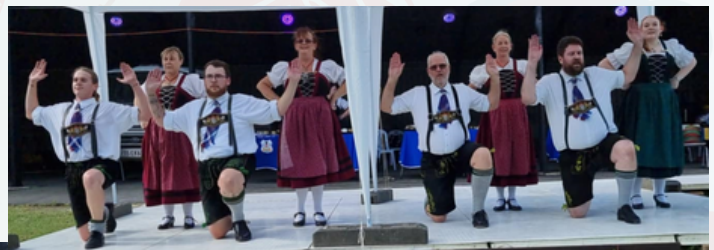
Wir wünschen alle Frohe Weihnachten!

Alles Gute zum neuen Jahr!

**Paula**  
for the Alpenrosen  
Folk Dance Group



Paula Hay



# Brisbane German Club

## Skat Report

### Skatbericht...

Hello Skat Friends,

At our Oktober Skat Competition, there were 11 Players present.

The first Prize went to A. Cameron with 2749 Points.

2...M. Mehlert	2401 Points.
3...S. Svarbic	2010 Points.
4...J. Gleeson	1945 Points.

At our November Skat Competition, there were 11 Players present.

The first Prize went to S. Svarbic with 3047 Points.

2...A. Doehler	2856 Points.
3...W. Bummer	2220 Points.
4...M. Mehlert	2180 Points.

We play Skat every second Sunday of the Month, start time 11-00am.

Every second Wednesday we play Friendly Skat, start time 12-00 noon.

For further information please contact Werner Simke...3300 2565.....0410 118 371.

Gut Blatt,

*Werner Simke*

**Werner Simke**

Phone: 3300 2565

Mobile: 0410 118 371



*Skat is Germany's  
National Cards Game*

Happy **90<sup>th</sup>**  
**Birthday**  
**Werner**

# Fotogalerie

Oktoberfest 2024!



# NOTICE BOARD

*Willkommen New Full Members!*

*Garnett Stegemann, Craig Christensen, David Booth, Etienne Julian*

## LOOKING FOR MEMBERS INTERESTED IN A GERMAN FILM GROUP



Throughout the Club's history, the Undergroups have promoted our Club by being a meeting point for all German and Australian friends in Queensland. They facilitated our intercultural exchange through German culture and helped us to recover from our hardest setbacks and even garnished national popularity for our Club.

Unfortunately, we have lost many of our Undergroups over the years and thereby many opportunities to unite as the Australian-German community in Brisbane. To regain these opportunities, I'd be interested in forming a new Undergroup of the Brisbane German Club – a new German Film Group.

Whatever your affinity for German cinema may be, let us connect Australians and Germans through monthly screenings. No formal education is required, just unwavering commitment to the values of our Brisbane German Club. If you are interested, please contact me on [samuel@german-events-brisbane.com](mailto:samuel@german-events-brisbane.com)

## *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.

Alek March  
Hans Rennet  
Harald Richert  
Christopher Dixon

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





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

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*December 2024, January, 2025*

