



The Dutch Burgher Union

Bulletin – November 2007

CONTENTS

- Presidents Founder's Day Message
- Editorial
- Launch of DBU Website
- Jazz on the Latin Side
- Members Monthly Mingle
- DBU Christmas Sale
- St Nikolaas'Fete
- Birthdays & New Members

President Founder's Day Message



Mr Ferdinand Lahnstein, Deputy Head of Mission of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Sri Lanka and also a Temporary Honorary Member of the DBU, Mrs Marguerite Lahnstein, distinguished invitees, fellow members, ladies and gentlemen.

Today is the 99th anniversary of Founder's Day – our day of remembrance of Richard

Gerald Anthonisz who founded the DBU in 1908. It marks the day when Richard Gerald Anthonisz was born in 1852 and as we do every year we are gathered here today to pay tribute to the memory of the Founder of the Dutch Burgher Union. For the last 99 years the DBU has served our community in many ways and still continues to preserve our heritage as Dutch Burghers.

And now for some exciting news – today we launch our very own DBU website which will be presented to you shortly.

Next year will be our centennial and we have great plans to celebrate this event most fittingly and grandly, throughout the year. We hope that members of the DBU will join and support us in our celebrations.

Thank you Mr & Mrs Lahnstein for gracing this occasion and I now invite Mr Lahnstein to say a few words.



Editorial

It was the Spookiest night of the year at the DBU on Halloween night!



The hall was decorated with the creepiest décor, ghosts and ghouls, black bats and rats, jack o' lanterns, and even a life sized witch, lurking around every corner. Members and guests turned up in "ghostly" costumes, and those who felt they didn't need one (!), turned up dressed in black. It was hilarious seeing every table trying to do what the ancient Egyptians did and wrap one of their group like a Mummy – the hitch was they had to do it with toilet paper!

The first to do so and reach the judge (Jennifer Ingleton) was the winner of the table prize.

The "Scariest Costume" contest was conducted with dim lights, and Halloween sound effects, with the participants acting out their roles to perfection. Daniel Kellar (the Grim Reaper) won first prize for Males and Carol Prins (Evil Witch) won the Ladies prize. Both contestants were unrecognizable until they took off their masks at the end! This was judged by the renowned Beautician and Stylist, Ramzi Rahaman.

Ornella and Orlando de Kretser as the Corpse Bride and Jason (Friday the 13th) were also outstanding and won consolation prizes along with many others.

A delicious Sri Lankan buffet dinner of hot hoppers, stringhoppers, devilled prawns etc sated everyone's appetites before they went back home.

Popular radio DJ Nathan of Gold FM compered the event in his inimitable witty style. It was great to see lots of young adults and teenagers having so much fun.

Founder's Day was celebrated on the 22nd with a cocktail party, at which occasion the DBU also proudly launched its own Website, with a spectacular presentation by David Colin-Thome. Many months of hard work and much effort went into this project, and we say a very big "Thank You" to David for singlehandedly fulfilling this long felt need, and doing such an amazing job.



This month, the Entertainment Committee has lined up for you Dutch Jazz musician, Dr Hans Mater with his trio "Jazz-a-nova", who will perform for us at our upstairs Lounge, Dr Mater's group plays Jazz with a "Latin twist".

We will also have our regular "Burgher Sunday Lunch and Bingo" on the 25th.

It is our greatest pleasure to wish our President Kem Martenstyn a "Very Happy Birthday" and every good wish when she celebrates her 80th Birthday this month! The "live-wire" behind all the activities of the Union, Kem keeps all the wheels turning and everyone on their toes, with her knack for organizing fun parties and events. We all join together to wish you, Kem, a wonderful day and many more fabulous years ahead!

Cheers!

Anne-Marie Kellar

Editor of *the Bulletin*



DBU Website Launched (www.dutchburgherunion.org)

The Dutch Burgher Union website was launched on Founder's Day during the course of its celebrations held on 22nd October 2007, with a large-screen presentation made to the audience.

The website endeavours to be comprehensive in its nature by covering a variety of facets in terms of both historical and contemporary affairs and activities.

The site chronicles the history of the DBU which celebrates its centennial next year and an invaluable inclusion is the Journals of the Dutch Burgher Union which are available in their entirety. For ease of use, the genealogies that have been published in the JDBU have also been made available in a dedicated section. For this, we are deeply indebted to Mr Victor Melder for having made the JDBU available to us in digital format.

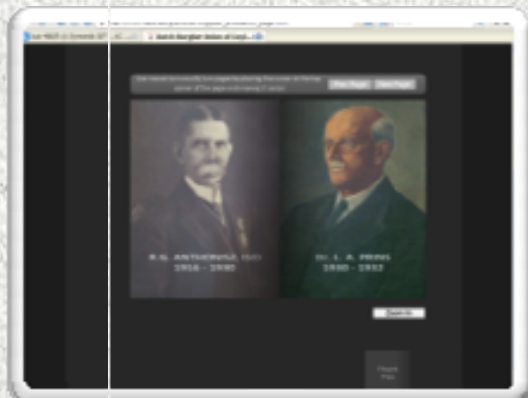
Also covered is the history of the Dutch in Ceylon and it is anticipated that over time, these sections will expand progressively as and when we source new material. A photo album is another available feature with provision for the inclusion of historical and contemporary images. The site includes a 'Library' with a

variety of categories allowing for books, articles, and in general, a section that will enable us to build a wide ranging information database on the numerous Burgher personalities as well as keeping up with the latest developments of those Burghers around the world who are in the news.

Ofcourse, digitally archiving our history, important as it may be, is only one objective of the DBU website. But no less important an objective is to inform and promote the contemporary DBU affairs and its aspirations by expanding its reach beyond what has largely been, thus far, restricted to the confines of Colombo. Expanding our supporter base as well as attracting a few more souls that are prepared to put their shoulder to the proverbial wheel, is also a vital ingredient in ensuring the future success of the DBU, and a website such as this has the potential to aid us in this respect.

In essence, while there is great promise for this site to develop into an expansive information source in relation to the history and current affairs of our community, this promise can only be realised with the assistance of all of you out there by sending in related material for inclusion on the site. Collectively, this site can evolve into a one-stop Burgher shop!

So please send us material for inclusion, be it old articles and photographs, or new. The website administrators are David Colin-Thomé, Anne-Marie Kellar and Dallas Martenstyn who can be reached on info@dutchburgherunion.org if you wish to discuss submitting your content for the site. Thank you.





3



4



7



Day Celebration

ad of Mission – Royal
n cut the birthday
n Muller receives his
Rodney Vandergert
resident 4. Speech by
driesz 6. Token of
President 7. Bouquet
d refurbished



From the Mail Room



What an interesting newsletter and what interesting reading. A friend e-mailed this Bulletin to me & I was fascinated to read the recipe for Karamanache, which my Mum made to perfection. It is a long time since I heard the term.

Keep up the good work & the link with Burghers all over the world. **Malvina Anthonisz – Sydney, Australia**

Dear Anne-Marie Kellar,

I received the 'The Dutch Burgher Union' Newsletter, October 2007 last week by e-mail, sent to me by one of my St. Peter's College mates.

I was really glad to read all the articles & see that Kem Martenstyn is still the DBU President. Maeve & Dallas Martenstyn have been childhood friends from the "good old days", & Auntie Kem brings back wonderful memories of the well organized events she used to have, be it parties or other social events.

Anyway, congratulations on a lovely Newsletter which gave me much pleasure. I, too, do a Newsletter every year here at UNESCO which I send to friends all over the world.

I appreciate the good editing, images & layout - **Adrien Vannier, UNESCO, Paris**

Hi Anne -Marie,

Just received a copy of the October Newsletter from my brother-in-law. Another good issue with interesting stories. Congratulations to the committee and you for the hard work.

Please place me on your mailing list for future issues. **Davenal Flanderka – Melbourne**

It is with great interest that I read your October Newsletter that was sent to me by a friend in Sri Lanka. I live in Australia. I would be pleased if you could email me a copy of the newsletter on a regular basis.

The DBU should make membership available to expatriates and forward the newsletter to them. Please let me know if I can become a member of your union stating the requirements for such membership and the membership fee.

Expatriate membership will enable those visiting Sri Lanka take part in the activities of your union and also provide much needed funding – **Glen Stewart - Australia**



JAZZ ON THE LATIN SIDE!

The DBU is happy to present

DR. HANS MATER
AND
"JAZZ-A-NOVA"

At the Members
Bar/Lounge

On 21st November 2007
From 8 p.m. onwards

Members Free
Guests Rs 200



Spooky Nite



Birthday Greetings!

We wish all our Members celebrating their birthday in November good health and happiness...

Mrs Kem Martenstyn, Fleur Mack, Tania Arnolda, Fiona Emersley Chandiram, Pamela de Silva, Dawn de Kretser, Babs Speldewinde, Sandra Seneviratne, Caryll Vandort, Nayantara Fonseka, Averil Nathanielsz, Joan Maeve Perera, Amanda Tanghe, Michael Joachim, Rodney Vandergert, Ralph Armstrong, Adriansz Astor, Prema Felix Abeyasundera, Joseph Radley de Cruz, Jonathan Williams, Christopher Rohan Dias, Maurice Foenander, David Grenier, Randolph Hingert, Edward Clyde Mack, Brandon Philip Morris, Previn Kumar Moonesinghe, J.H.N. Prins, Keith Raymond, Trevor Reckerman, Udesh Ratnagopal, Shiran Rajakaruna, Charles Singarayar, Rajan Sellamuttu and Noel Selvanayagam. Belated Birthday greetings to Mr Jeff Schucroft who celebrated his birthday in October.

Welcome! We also warmly welcome the members who joined in October 2007...
Mrs April Esther Atton
Mr Stuart Chapman
Mr S. Sivanandarajah

Dutch Burgher Union
114, Reid Avenue, Colombo 4
T'ph 258 4511 or 533 1661
E-mail – dbu100@sltnet.lk
(NEW EMAIL)

Members' Monthly Mingle

Lunch & Tombola

Sunday 25th November, 2007
11am onwards at the Members Bar

Bookings close on 22nd November, 2007



Special Rice & Curry Menu
@ Rs 375 per head (cost price)

DBU CHRISTMAS SALE

Sunday 2nd December, 2007 - 9.30am onwards

Cost of table - Rs 750 for Members - Rs1,000 for non-members

The DBU will also have a table with all the Burgher delicacies -
Sweets, savouries, milk wine and lots more

Come and participate in the day's events

ST. NIKOLAAS' FETE

Wednesday, 5th December 2007

5.30 pm to 8.30 pm

Rs 100 per child and Rs 150 per adult

Please book your tickets, before the
30th of November 2007

Let's keep this Dutch and
DBU tradition alive!

Plenty of games and prizes and loads of yummy food. The grand finalé will be the arrival of St. Nikolaas with sweets and gifts for all the children

Please bring a specially wrapped gift for your child and hand it over to the DBU office by the 4th of December

