



Burgher Association Australia

Autumn Community Newsletter March 2021



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The 2020/21 Burgher Association Australia Donations Pledge



The Burgher Association Australia Incorporated (BAA) is passionate about supporting the community and is proud to be helping make a difference in the area of health and wellbeing. It is our goal to empower wellbeing and healthy lifestyles across Australia and Sri Lanka. The BAA is pleased to have considered charitable contributions, donations and sponsorships to children's education in Sri Lanka and other charitable donations/sponsorship based in Australia

However taking that fund raising events were almost non existence in the past year due to the corona virus pandemic, the BAA has taken the view that all sponsorships/donations excluding the sponsorships of children in their education via the DBU in Sri Lanka will not take place until we get back to normal as before the corona virus pandemic and we can have and raise funds via the fund raising events.

As such the BAA has just announced following the January 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) that for the current year donations and sponsorships will be granted only to the following.

**Sponsorship of education to children via the Dutch Burgher
Union of Sri Lanka for up to 21 Children doing year 11 and 12**

We will review again annually the position to set up a budget for new/continued sponsorship to be adopted in the following year.



From the Editor



Dear Members & Friends

Greetings and Good Wishes go out to all of you. We hope you have all stayed safe and well and, have been out of the clutches of Covid-19. Our sincere good wishes go out to those who may have taken ill from the virus and recovered and our heartfelt condolences also go out to those who may have lost loved ones as result of the dreaded disease.

The Burgher Association held their Annual General Meeting on 28th January 2021; as a consequence, we now have 2 new Committee Members (Mrs Helen Backhouse and Mrs Karen Henricus). We have had to bid adieu to 2 long standing Committee Members (Mrs Tamaris Lourensz, former Vice President and Mr Bert Van Geyzel, former Treasurer) who have resigned for personal reasons. We thank them for their continued and very staunch support of the Association's ideals over the years and wish them all the very best for the future. Please see the front inner cover of the Newsletter for details of the new Committee of Management.

Moving ahead, in anticipation that Covid-19 will be history in the next few months, the Burgher Association will be having a sumptuous Buriyani Lunch at our premises on 18 April 2021 with adherence to ongoing health restrictions and social gatherings. The event will only allow 80 attendees due to spatial restrictions. So please check out the Poster and express your interest in attending!

Special condolences go out to the families of Ralph Moldrich and Leslie Fernando who passed away recently. Ralph was a one of the founding members of the BAA and was part of a highly focused group who raised sufficient finances to purchase the property we call the BA Community Hall and Leslie was a longstanding member and past President of the BAA. Rest in Peace!

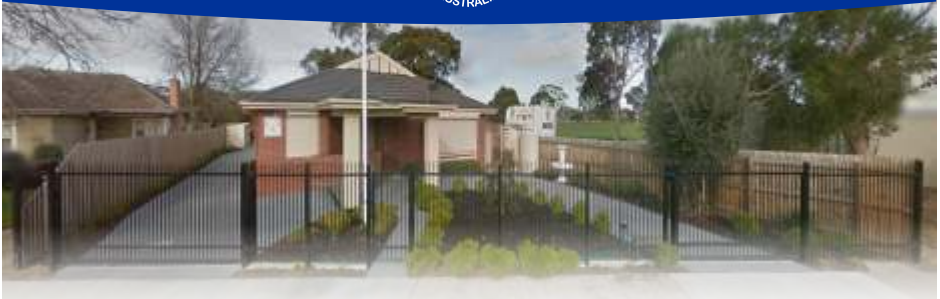
In conclusion, I hope you all enjoy this edition of the Newsletter. Please feel free to email me of coming birthdays, anniversaries or stories of any extraordinary happenings in your lives that may make good reading for our Members.

Please stay safe & well.

Neville Davidson

Burgher Association (Australia)

358 Haughton Road, Clayton VIC 3168



The Burgher Association of Australia Centre is available for private hire (**Dances, Birthday parties, Anniversaries etc**). The BAA Centre is located within a short walk from Clayton railway station. The hall is licensed to hold 150 people. Tables and chairs for this number of attendees are provided. There is usually plenty of parking across the road and a few spaces on the property. Disabled access via ramps is available to both the front and rear doors and a disabled parking space is available. There is also a 'horseshoe' driveway permitting the dropping off of attendees under cover.

Commercial kitchen facilities are available including stainless steel splash walls, a commercial glass washer, dishwasher, stove, oven, hot water boiler, large freezer, refrigerator and a bain-marie. There also is an alfresco area at the back that can be used for making the famous Sri Lankan Hoppers, BBQs or other activity that requires a shielded outdoor space. There are multiple reverse-cycle heating and cooling units servicing the main hall and kitchen. There are separate male, female and disabled toilets. More pictures are available on our website <http://burgherassocn.org.au/baa-centre/>

How to make a booking: Call Breeda Foenander on 0423 844 101 to enquire whether the date, you wish to hire the hall for is available. If you are a member of the BAA, the price of hiring the Centre costs \$350 per day; Non-members \$400 per day. Minimum booking is 5 hours (\$300). Hours of operation Friday/Saturday 11AM to 12 Midnight, other days 10AM to 10PM. All bookings require a bond of \$250 that is refunded if the centre is handed back to management clean and undamaged. (**\$2000 for age 21+ and under**). A payment of \$100.00 will be deducted



**Burgher Association Australia
Presents**

A Buriyani Lunch

12.00noon - 5.00pm

Caterer

“Cha’s Cabin”

18 April 2021

358 Houghton Road, Clayton 3168

Menu

Buriyani Rice garnished with eggs, coriander,
fried shallots & cashews
Chicken Curry, Devilled Beef
Pepper Pork, Brinjal Pahai
Cashew & Pea Vegetable, Mint Sambol
Yoghurt Salad, Malay Pickle

BYO

DESSERT

Wattalappan, Fruit Salad & Ice Cream

TICKET CONTACTS

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Elaine Jansz - 9798 6315, Neville Davidson - 0419 880 329

Breeda or Harvey Foenander - 8790 1610, Rita Van Geyzel - 9503 4841,

Carol or Hermann Loos - 9827 4455, Helen or Terry backhouse - 0429 987 300

Fallon De Zilwa - 0414 096 774, Hans De Zilwa - 0419 292 939

Shoua Liu - 0415 463 037, Ruth Liu - 0420 225 600

\$35.00pp

Music for your listening pleasure!



What do you get a hunter for his birthday? A birthday pheasant

What does a clam do on his birthday? He shellabrates!

Why was the birthday cake as hard as a rock? Because it was marble cake!

You are like dandruff because I just cannot get you out of my head no matter how hard I try.

My dad is so cheap that when he dies, he's going to walk toward the light and turn it off. —

Never trust math teachers who use graph paper. They're always plotting something.

Why did the diet coach send her clients to the paint store? She heard you could get thinner there.

Q: Why did the skeleton climb up the tree? A: Because a dog was after his bones!

Q. What's red and white and falls down chimneys? A. Santa Klutz!

Q. What do snowmen do when they're not feeling well? A. They take a chill pill!

Q. What do snowmen order at fast-food restaurants? A. An iceberg-er and fries!

What's a quiet Hawaiian laugh? Aloha. —



FORT HAMMENHIEL

The Hammenhiel Fort lies on a small rocky island between the islands of Kayts and Karaitivu at the entrance to the Jaffna Lagoon. The fort was built by the Portuguese in mid-1618 of quarried coral and was named Fortaleza Real (Fort Royal). After a 3-month siege, the Dutch captured the fort in 1658 and renamed it as Hammenhiel (Heel of the Ham) and was rebuilt by them in 1680.

The strange serenity of the little Dutch water-fort, Hammenhiel, invests this memorial with a sense of departed usefulness which is most striking. It stands on a rock at the entrance to Jaffna lagoon, and is surrounded on all sides by the sea. In those forgotten days of tumult, Hammenhiel served on the north, like Mannar Fort in the south, to guard the passage by water to the Castle or Key Fort at Jaffna. The Dutch, when they pictured the shape of Ceylon, saw in it a resemblance to a smoked ham. Hammenhiel means “the heel of the ham”, and with a little imagination the picturesque little water-fort might very well be placed at the point where the shank bone projects.

The fort is octagonal in shape and the base of the ramparts is washed by the surf. It would appear that the walls were originally raised and the place was fortified on the orders of the Portuguese Governor of Jaffna, Antonio do Amaral de Menezes, a few years before the arrival of the Dutch. The historian Baldaeus, who accompanied the Dutch army to the assault on Jaffna, gives a brief description of the blockade and the attack on Hammenhiel by the fleet, before Jaffna capitulated. The Portuguese only held out for a fortnight and were obliged to surrender for want of water. Consequently, the thirst-ridden Portuguese troops surrendered their fort on April 28, 1658. It is not certain what happened to them thereafter. When the Dutch occupied this water-fort they found that the sand bank on which it was built had been undermined by the storms of the north-east monsoon. They remedied this by piling up a breakwater of stones. The Portuguese had built the ramparts hollow, and had roofed them with beams which supported a floor of stone and chunam, with a view to the space being utilized for storing provisions and ammunition.

Since the beams were liable to decay, and the floor had to support the weight of the cannon without fear of its giving way when the guns were moved about and turned round, the Dutch considered this a mistake and they replaced the roof by an entire stone vault.

Finally, profiting by the error of their predecessors, the Dutch took special pains to ensure a satisfactory water supply. On the northern side of the fortress they built a huge reservoir, paved with “Dutch Bricks” to collect and preserve the rain water. This reservoir had, however, been built so high that it reached above the parapets and was, therefore, exposed to the fire and possibility of ruin by the enemy. The defect was pointed out time and again at subsequent inspections of the fortress, but since it was a new work, it was allowed to remain until such time as alterations could be effected.

A low vaulted gateway, not more than seven feet in height, is the only entrance to this water-fort. The living quarters consist of three or four rooms in the courtyard. The vaults under the ramparts were doubtless used as store rooms. The Dutch invariably maintained a garrison of thirty men under the charge of a Lieutenant or Ensign on this spot, and the early Dutch Governors make very special mention in their memoirs that Hammenhiel must be carefully guarded, none but Dutch being stationed there. Until the year 1795, Fort Hammenhiel operated as a 17-gun fortress. Thereafter, it was captured by the British, whence it was transformed into a maximum security NDB – Naval Detention Barracks and subsequently a hospital and an infectious disease holding clinic. After gaining independence in 1948, the fortress was used as a maximum-security prison once again by the government and housed inmates. One of them, a far left-wing prisoner that caused much trouble during the early 1970s, was the leader of Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, often abbreviated as JVP, Rohana Wijeweera. Other notable inmates were collaborators of the insurrection. Those detained included Upatissa Gamanayake, Lionel Bopage, Podi Athula (Victor Ivan), Loku Athula (N. Jayasinghe), Prof. Jayadeva Uyangoda and Mahinda Wijesekara.

Having plenty of space and the proper location to detain prisoners, it was used thereafter by the Sri Lanka Navy to detain sailors accused of wrongdoing. After the defeat of the LTTE, in September 2015 the Sri Lanka Navy made great efforts to fully restore this fort to her former glory. Fort Hammenhiel is now a hotel controlled by the Sri Lanka Navy, open for visitors to explore history through its walls. There is evidence that the fort consisted of a functional jail. Today, guests can occupy one of the cells and imagine what life was like for prisoners of old. The ramparts, gates, cannons, bastions, including the very armoury used back in the day are on display.

Credit – Wikipedia, Amazing Lanka, Know Sri Lanka, Attractions Sri Lanka, Sunday Observer, Tales of Ceylon, Bandi's Blog, Atlas of Mutual Heritage



Interesting & Educational

Do you know the best residential area in Colombo during the Dutch times?

Yes it was 'Grandpass' : (from Grande Passo)

Some old Dutch houses and even a Dispensary are still there?

Other interesting names that still survive from those days:

Main Street: (Roa Direto)

The Dutch remembered one of their governors – Hulft who died during the siege of Colombo, with Hulftsdorp and recalled some of their native place names like Leyden and Delft.

The Dutch named Maliban Street to identify the fashionable promenade in Pettah – Maliban meaning the MMall.

Kayman's Gate refers to 'kayman' – crocodiles that were found in the area where the rivulet entered the sea.

Wolvendaal meant the dale of wolves.

Bloemendahl is a vale of flowers.

Korteboom means short trees.

Beira (mythology), the mother to all the gods and goddesses in the Celtic mythology of Scotland.

There was a time when Kollupitiya was known as Baradeniya. It was a beautiful rustic village with coconut gardens and cinnamon trees that grew wild and narrow cart-tracks which connected the few villas and homes here with the rest of the country. For the purpose of postal services 'Colombo 03' consists of Kollupitiya. How Baradeniya became Kollupitiya - The year was 1664 and the king was Rajasinghe II whose cruel acts embittered his subjects. Three Kandyan chiefs sought to slay the king and place his 12-year-old son on the throne. One of the conspirators was Udanuwara Ambanwela Appuhamy. When the plot failed, the king had two of the rebel leaders beheaded. However, instead of executing Abanwela Appuhamy, the most feared of the rebels, he handed him over to the Dutch to undergo what he thought would be a more brutal torture. Instead, the Dutch set him free. Ambanwela Appuhamy took the Dutch name of Van Ry-cloff and built up a good relationship with the Dutch who gave him a large plot of land by the sea where he grew a coconut plantation which soon expanded over the ancestral farms of the natives

who dared not complain. They could only retaliate by calling the plantation Kolla-ke-pitiya meaning 'Plundered land'. Today, there is still an area in Kollupitiya that is called Polwatte.

The footprints of Galle Face (Colombo 03) begins with Galle face south of Colombo Fort (Colombo 01). Originally a vast swamp, the Portuguese and Dutch used this piece of land as a strategic defense. It was the British who developed the Green into a leisure ground.

The 19th century paintings of John Deschamps, show the Galle-Face esplanade with a high road running through the centre of it. Added later was a promenade by the sea and a driveway bordering the lake where the Dutch Military cemetery was. Deschamps describes it as forming not only the principal exercising ground of the garrison, but also the general promenade of the inhabitants of Colombo and its vicinity. On foot, on horseback, or in carriages, people flocked to this salubrious setting to inhale the delicious breeze which is almost always to be found by the sea side of this part of the Island. The Galle Face esplanade or Green was established by Governor Ward in 1859. An inscription reads "in the interest of the ladies and children of Colombo".

Cricket, football and polo were played on the Green. In 1829, horse racing was established under the auspices of Sir Edward Barnes. Everyone enjoyed a day at the races: the vendors poured in from early noon, servants on leave spent their day there, as well as schoolboys who didn't make it to school, palanquin carriages with shutters down and curtain drawn conveying Mohammedan ladies and of course the European community. A circular race stand was built by subscription. Initially it was a building of brick, coated with a plaster of chunam. Its conical roof was covered with an excellent thatch of kehjan (woven coconut leaves). From here a view of the whole course could be obtained. The race-balls were held here, the upper room being cool and airy for dancing; card-tables were placed in the verandahs, whilst the lower portion formed a good supper-room. Subsequently the roof was tiled. By the 1870s it had become a more substantial building and was known as the Colombo Club. This building still stands, even though maybe not in its original modest form, and is now the Crystal Ballroom of the Taj Samudra Hotel Colombo.

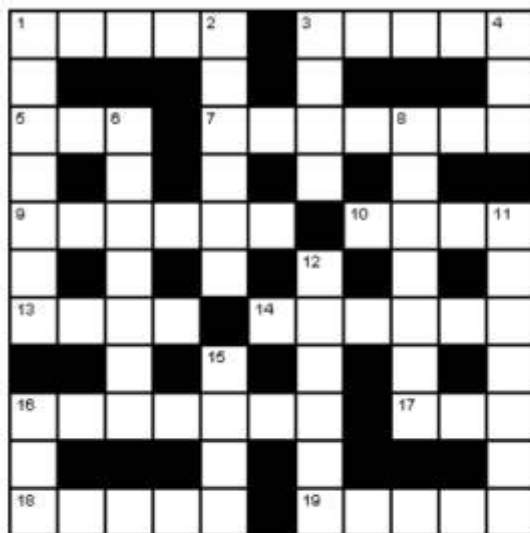
At one end of the green was the Galle Face Boarding House, forerunner of the present Galle Face Hotel, which was constructed in 1887. Today the green has lost much in its extent; but after a long period of neglect has recently been restored back to the chief leisure ground of modern Colombo for people of all walks of life. A temple, a church, a school, Kollupitiya Walukarama Buddhist Temple is said to be the oldest temple in Colombo. It was founded in the 1800s by Ven. Panditha Valane Sri Siddhahatta Maha Nayake Thera, who was also the founder member of the Maha Sangha Saba of the Siyam Nikaya of the Kotte Chapter. The land for the construction of the temple was donated by a famous indigenous medicine physician of Kollupitiya, Arnolis Silva. St. Andrew's Scots Kirk founded in 1842 as a Church of Scotland by Scots living in Ceylon, has today become the International Church in Colombo welcoming into its fellowship

people of all nations and denominations of the Christian faith.

Jinaraja Kanista Vidyalaya down Dharmakirthi Ramya Road dates back to 1898. Then named "Jinaraja Buddhist English School" this was the oldest Buddhist English mixed school in Colombo. This school was established for boys and girls of Colombo managed by the Buddhist Theosophical Society, Colombo, under the guidance of Col. Henry Steele Olcott.

A jeweller, a textile dealer, a baker, a grocer, an optician and a private hospital in Galle Face Court 1 was the first multi storey block of flats in Sri Lanka and the domed addition which followed as Galle Face Court 2 were both buildings that were initiated by the Macan Markar family as residential, business and real estate ventures. The dome housed an observatory. The road here was renamed Sir Macan Markar Mawatha on account of the contribution of the Macan Markar family towards industry, business, trading and politics.





The Crossword



Across

1. African equine (5)
3. Artery (5)
5. Part of a circle (3)
7. Farm vehicle (7)
9. Embellished (6)
10. Break suddenly (4)
13. Plant support (4)
14. Lumber (6)
16. Household implement (7)
17. Make a mistake (3)
18. Awful (5)
19. Cacophonous (5)

Down

1. Avid (7)
2. Shrewd (6)
3. Slightly open (4)
4. Atmosphere (3)
6. Yield (7)
8. Well-founded (7)
11. Depict (7)
12. Stringed instrument (6)
15. Catch sight of (4)
16. Large vase (3)

Solution



Macquarie gets its first female CEO

AUSTRALIA'S biggest investment bank has appointed its first female CEO taking over from the current boss after 10 years.

Benita Kolovos

AAP JULY 26, 2018 7:50PM

AUSTRALIA'S biggest investment bank Macquarie Group has its first female CEO.

Shemara Wikramanayake will replace Nicholas Moore, who will end a 10-year tenure as managing director and chief executive when he steps down in November.

Ms Wikramanayake, who is currently group head of Macquarie Asset Management, has also been appointed to the board of Macquarie Bank Ltd.

Mr Moore said he had worked with Ms Wikramanayake for more than 30 years and was confident he was leaving the company "in a strong position and in safe hands".

Ms Wikramanayake joined Macquarie in 1987 and has worked for the group in six countries and across several business lines.

In a statement, Ms Wikramanayake said she was honoured to take on the role.

"I look forward to working with the Board, management and our entire Macquarie team to build on Nicholas' remarkable legacy for the benefit of all our stakeholders," she said.

The announcement was made prior to Macquarie's annual general meeting on Thursday.

Macquarie has maintained its outlook for 2019 fiscal year earnings to be in line with the previous year.

WHO IS MACQUARIE'S NEW CEO?

Ms Wikramanayake was born in England in 1961 and educated in Britain and Sri Lanka before attending Sydney's Ascham School for girls.

She earned a commerce and law degree from the University of NSW before completing an advanced management program at Harvard University.

She spends time as a corporate lawyer at Blake Dawson Waldron in 1986 before joining Macquarie in 1987. Working across corporate services before helping to establish Macquarie Capital, Ms Wikramanayake worked her way up to head prudential function for Macquarie investment bank from 2001-04.

She headed Macquarie Infrastructure and Real Assets in New York from 2004-08 where she established infrastructure funds in the US and Canada, and established and led the Macquarie's corporate advisory offices in New Zealand, Hong Kong and Malaysia. Appointed Head of Macquarie Asset Management in 2008, she became chair of the Macquarie Group Foundation from 2013.

Ms Wikramanayake told the *Financial Times* that she had never sold a Macquarie share in 30 years. She has two children.



OFTEN OVERLOOKED PLUM

Oct 02, 2016 17:36

Ishara Jayawardane



Uguressa is Sri Lanka's best kept secret. Not many among the young crowd know about this highly nutritious fruit. Uguressa is a small berry type fruit resembling an English plum. Garden Talk speaks to Director, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, Swarna Hapuarachchi about uguressa that has the botanical name *Flacourtia Indica* which is also known as governor's plum or Indian plum.

"During our childhood, uguressa was very popular. It was available everywhere. At present, it is very difficult to find these fruits in fruit stalls. Sometimes I have seen roadside sellers selling it. The fruit is available in some supermarkets. But I think our young generation is not aware of these fruits, maybe because it is usually cultivated in the rural areas or village areas. There are many other fruits that we have tasted in our childhood which are not available now," said Hapuarachchi. Uguressa is available in supermarkets in small portions but it is not readily accessible all the time.

"When it is consumed, it should be in a good ripened state. Before eating, it must be massaged with the palm of the hand. Otherwise, it tastes astringent and hard. It is a hard fruit but after it is massaged, it becomes soft. Sometimes it can be consumed with the outer layer but otherwise after rubbing, it is squeezed. Then the pulp is softened. After it becomes soft, you get the real taste – it is sweet and sour. Then, you can squeeze the jelly like pulp or juice into the mouth. But sometimes if you want, you can eat the whole fruit as it is, or you can squeeze. Then the outer covering is empty," pointed out Hapuarachchi.

Uguressa is not that sweet, but it has a sweet quality. It is a little sour and astringent. After massaging the astringent taste is less, but without rubbing the astringent taste is more. It can also give a cooling property to the body.

The uguressa fruit has countless health benefits and medicinal value.

"It has a fibre content and is very good for arthritis. The fruit, seed, root and leaves can be used for arthritis. It has iron and is good for anemic conditions. It is also good for the cough and flu because it has a very high Vitamin C content and Riboflavin Vitamin B content. It is

good for diarrhea as well. It is also good for rheumatism and rhinitis. It helps in stomach ache and relieves pain,” explained Hapuarachchi. Some peoples' bones are brittle. The fruit is good for those people. It also boosts immunity. It has a lot of antioxidants. “Also the pulp should be applied soon after a snake bite. It should be applied on the area of the snake bite wound. It then neutralizes the poison. The toxicity may be less. The leaves and roots are also used in herbal medicine for treatment of snakebite,” added Hapuarachchi. He says it is good for children. We import apples, oranges and grapes but these uguressa fruits are available in Sri Lanka. “It is available in villages, but it has spikes and thorns in the stem and sometimes it is an invasive plant. This is why some people do not want to have it in the home garden. It is a mid-sized tree, and does not allow other plants to grow which is why it is considered invasive. It is a disturbance to the other home garden activity and usually it is grown in some abandoned area. The thorns are a disturbance. It is nevertheless a good fruit tree,” elucidated Hapuarachchi.

Uguressa is not an indigenous plant to Sri Lanka. It is available in East Africa and Malaysia. It can be seen in India and Madagascar. It is already available in the USA. In Sri Lanka, it is grown everywhere. It is more or less spread throughout the world in Ethiopia, Uganda and China. “It can be used as an added juice drink for diarrhea and viral infections and infectious diseases. In European and Western countries, there is more of a trend for these plants. Now they are preparing juices, jams, jellies and sauce. These fruits can be fermented to make alcoholic beverages. It can be used as a beer. In Madagascar, the leaves are eaten as a vegetable. The bark is used for making of rum by flavouring. In Sri Lanka the same can be done. We can get these fresh fruits from Sri Lanka. We can cultivate these.

“The pulp of the fruit is used in sweetening of cakes and pie. It can also be stewed in sugar to be served as a dessert. It can even be pickled. This is done by sautéing the uguressa with ginger, garlic and chili oil,” informed Hapuarachchi. “Its skin is tough and green in colour. As it begins to mature, it turns into dark red. It is at this stage when the first tints of dark pink and red begin to appear on its thin, taut skin that it is ready for plucking. When it has fully ripened, it is reddish to reddish black or purple. A wood like mottling may appear on the skin of some fruits but this is harmless. Buried in the flesh of the fruit up to 10 beige-coloured seeds can be found, but the average number is between three and seven per fruit,” described Hapuarachchi.

Pictures by Siripala Halwala

HEALTH BENEFITS

- * For arthritis – high content of Calcium, Phosphorus, Zinc and other minerals
- * For anemia – high levels of iron boosts blood level in the body. Highly recommended for use in pregnancy and menstrual bleeding.

cont'd

- * For treatment of flu and coughs – presence of Vitamin C, A and Riboflavin ideal to treat coughs and treatment of flu.
- * Diarrhea - uguressa replaces minerals lost during diarrhea
- * Brittle bones – the minerals help make the bones stronger
- * Good for rheumatic pain and other rheumatic disorders
- * Little known facts about uguressa
- * It is an important ayurvedic drug in India – the leaves are used as sedatives and are useful for asthma and some gynaecological problems
- * The leaf sap is used for diarrhea and infantile fevers
- * The bark is used as a painkiller and in combination with leaves for nasopharyngeal affections and pulmonary troubles.
- * A root decoction in combination with the leaf sap is taken for malaria and to relieve body pains
- * The bark is used for rheumatic pain and as a gargle for hoarseness



IMPRESSIVE FACTS

Hummingbirds do everything fast. In just one minute they can flap their wings 50 times, have their heart beat 1200 times, and take 250 breaths of air.

Bees must collect nectar from 2 million flowers to produce one pound of honey.

Adult camels can drink 30 gallons (113 litres) of water in just 13 minutes.

In the 1830's ketchup was marketed as a medicine for an upset stomach and rheumatism.

Sloths are the slowest animals on Earth. They also sleep a lot, 15 to 18 hours per day while hanging upside down.

The South American fish "Pacu" is the world's only fish that eats nuts. Its jaws are so powerful that it can crack open nuts underwater.

The Mako shark is the fastest shark on earth. It swims up to 60 miles per hour (96km/h) and it can jump almost 32ft (10m) out of the water.

Snails can glide across razor blades and knives without being harmed. The mucus they secrete acts as a barrier between their body and the sharp object.

The human liver can regenerate itself fully. A liver that is only 30% the normal mass can regenerate to a full liver.

If you add all the numbers on a roulette wheel, you will get a total of 666.

The southern elephant seal is the world largest seal. It can dive more than 3300 feet (1 km) while hunting for fish.

All scorpions glow under UV light. The Emperor Scorpion in West Africa glows blue or green. UV lights are perfect for finding scorpions in a home.

Ant eaters can eat up to 350,000 ants daily. They eat the ants without destroying the nest.

More than 1000 chemical components contribute to the taste and flavour of coffee.

Hyenas have exceptional strength. Their heart is twice the size of a lion's heart.

Trivia Fun

Who was known as The Tramp or The King of Comedy? Charlie Chaplin.
If you were eating du Barry, what would you be eating? Cauliflower soup.
Who was known as the Welsh Wizard? David Lloyd George.
Name the type of footwear invented in 1815, which enables the wearer to move very quickly over smooth, flat ground. Roller skates.
Which book featured the eloi and the morlocks? The Time Machine.
Which hormone controls the supply of sugar between muscles and blood? Insulin.
In Japanese, what is the word for goodbye? Sayonara.
How many American cents make up a dime? 10.
Which annual English festival of music was founded by the conductor Sir Henry Joseph Wood in 1895? Promenade Concerts.
Which illness wiped out thousands of people across Europe during the 14th Century? Bubonic Plague.
Name the craft of knotting threads to create decorative yet useful objects. Macrame.
What is a bouquet garni? Bunch of herbs used to add flavour to food.
Name the Chinese game played with small tiles. Mah-jong.
Which delicacy is loved by pigs, who dig for it around tree roots? Truffles.
What do you call the smell which wine gives off? Bouquet.
What was John Wayne's original name? Marion Morrison.
Name the French blue cheese made from ewe's milk. Roquefort.
Whose statue in Red Square was pulled down in 1991? Lenin's.
What are espadrilles? Sandals.
How many sets of petals does a Tudor rose have? 5.
How many strings does a cello have? 4.
In which year did Britain start using the decimal currency? 1971.
What is the average temperature of the human body, in degrees centigrade? 37.
What was the name of the Bronte sister's brother? Branwell.
What is an antonym? A word which is the opposite of another word.
Who invented Kodak cameras? George Eastman.
Name the train which was designed and driven by George Stephenson. Locomotion No.1.
What is the bluebird of symbol of? Happiness.
Which former American president had a popular children's toy named after him? Theodore Roosevelt.
What is rum distilled from? Sugar cane.

10 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THE VATICAN

By CHRISTOPHER KLEIN

1. Vatican City is the smallest country in the world.

Encircled by a 2-mile border with Italy, Vatican City is an independent city-state that covers just over 100 acres, making it one-eighth the size of New York's Central Park. Vatican City is governed as an absolute monarchy with the pope at its head. The Vatican mints its own euros, prints its own stamps, issues passports and license plates, operates media outlets and has its own flag and anthem. One government function it lacks: taxation. Museum admission fees, stamp and souvenir sales, and contributions generate the Vatican's revenue.

2. St. Peter's Basilica sits atop a city of the dead, including its namesake's tomb.

A Roman necropolis stood on Vatican Hill in pagan times. When a great fire leveled much of Rome in A.D. 64, Emperor Nero, seeking to shift blame from himself, accused the Christians of starting the blaze. He executed them by burning them at the stake, tearing them apart with wild beasts and crucifying them. Among those crucified was St. Peter—disciple of Jesus Christ, leader of the Apostles and the first bishop of Rome—who was supposedly buried in a shallow grave on Vatican Hill. By the fourth century and official recognition of the Christian religion in Rome, Emperor Constantine began construction of the original basilica atop the ancient burial ground with what was believed to be the tomb of St. Peter at its center. The present basilica, built starting in the 1500s, sits over a maze of catacombs and St. Peter's suspected grave.

3. Caligula captured the obelisk that stands in St. Peter's Square.

Roman Emperor Caligula built a small circus in his mother's gardens at the base of Vatican Hill where charioteers trained and where Nero is thought to have martyred the Christians. To crown the center of the amphitheater, Caligula had his forces transport from Egypt a pylon that had originally stood in Heliopolis. The obelisk, made of a single piece of red granite weighing more than 350 tons, was erected for an Egyptian pharaoh more than 3,000 years ago. In 1586 it was moved to its present location in St. Peter's Square, where it does double duty as a giant sundial.

4. For nearly 60 years in the 1800s and 1900s, popes refused to leave the Vatican.

Popes ruled over a collection of sovereign Papal States throughout central Italy until the country was unified in 1870. The new secular government had seized all the land of the Papal States with the exception of the small patch of the Vatican, and a cold war of sorts then broke out between the church and the Italian government. Popes refused to recognize the authority of the Kingdom of Italy, and the Vatican remained beyond Italian national control. Pope Pius IX proclaimed himself a "prisoner of the Vatican," and for almost 60 years popes refused to leave the Vatican and submit to the authority of the Italian government. When Italian

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troops were present in St. Peter's Square, popes even refused to give blessings or appear from the balcony overlooking the public space.

5. Benito Mussolini signed Vatican City into existence.

The dispute between the Italian government and the Catholic Church ended in 1929 with the signing of the Lateran Pacts, which allowed the Vatican to exist as its own sovereign state and compensated the church \$92 million (more than \$1 billion in today's money) for the Papal States. The Vatican used the payment as seed money to re-grow its coffers. Mussolini, the head of the Italian government, signed the treaty on behalf of King Victor Emmanuel III.

6. Popes did not live at the Vatican until the 14th century.

Even after the construction of the original St. Peter's Basilica, popes lived principally at the Lateran Palace across Rome. They even left the city altogether in 1309 when the papal court moved to Avignon, France, after King Philip IV arranged for a French cardinal to be elected pope. Seven popes, all French, ruled from Avignon, and the papacy did not return to Rome until 1377, by which time the Lateran Palace had burned and the Vatican started to be used as a papal residence. Much repair work needed to be done, however, because the Vatican had fallen into such disrepair that wolves dug for bodies in the cemetery and cows even wandered the basilica.

7. The Swiss Guard was hired as a mercenary force.

The Swiss Guard, recognizable by its armor and colorful Renaissance-era uniforms, has been protecting the pontiff since 1506. That's when Pope Julius II, following in the footsteps of many European courts of the time, hired one of the Swiss mercenary forces for his personal protection. The Swiss Guard's role in Vatican City is strictly to protect the safety of the pope. Although the world's smallest standing army appears to be strictly ceremonial, its soldiers are extensively trained and highly skilled marksmen. And, yes, the force is entirely comprised of Swiss citizens.

8. At several times during the Vatican's history, popes escaped through a secret passageway.

In 1277, a half-mile-long elevated covered passageway, the Passetto di Borgo, was constructed to link the Vatican with the fortified Castel Sant'Angelo on the banks of the Tiber River. It served as an escape route for popes, most notably in 1527 when it likely saved the life of Pope Clement VII during the sack of Rome. As the forces of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V rampaged through the city and murdered priests and nuns, the Swiss Guard held back the enemy long enough to allow Clement to safely reach the Castel Sant'Angelo, although 147 of the pope's forces lost their lives in the battle.

9. The majority of Vatican City's 600 citizens live abroad.

As of 2011, the number of people with Vatican citizenship totaled 594. That number included 71 cardinals, 109 members of the Swiss Guard, 51 members of the clergy and one nun inside the Vatican walls. The largest group of citizens, however, was the 307 members of the clergy in diplomatic positions around the world. With Benedict XVI residing as a pope emeritus in the Vatican, the population will increase by one when a new pope is named.

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10. The Vatican Observatory owns a telescope in Arizona.

As Rome expanded, light pollution from the city made it increasingly difficult for astronomers at the Vatican Observatory—located 15 miles from the city at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo—to view the night skies, so in 1981 the observatory opened a second research center in Tucson, Arizona. The Vatican conducts astronomical research with a state-of-the-art telescope that sits atop Mount Graham in southeast Arizona.



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SEE PAGE 5 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**



The following article was published in THE DANDENONG STAR JOURNAL of the 31st March 2020.

A World of Friends - By Cam Lucadou-Wells

The well-travelled **Bernard VanCuylenburg's** worldly interests don't only span five languages but millennia of history. For two decades, the 76-year-old multi linguist has volunteered as an English language tutor for migrants and new arrivals at the AMES School in Dandenong. His students have landed from as far away as Afghanistan, China, Sudan, and Vietnam. Each a window to history and culture, each a friend to Bernard. Such is his dedication, he learned Mandarin - thanks to AMES in recent years, to better support some of his Chinese students. "You get more than you give because you meet many different cultures", Bernard says of his role as a Volunteer Tutor. "They have got so much to teach you It is a two-way street You also learn to be a good listener". Motivation is high among his students though they are bewildered by the sheer size of Australia. He adds, "You find they appreciate the chances they have in this country".

Bernard has travelled widely to many parts of the world and his travels always have a historical focus. Some of his favourite tours have been with history groups to explore the ancient Mayan, and Aztec cultures in Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras, and the Inca culture of ancient Peru. "History is a fascinating prism to take a long view of the world at present" he says. He has toured China four times, not just to discover her 5000-year-old history, but also to improve his language skills. It unlocked to him a land of many surprises and gave him a deep insight into the psyche of her people. "These trips widened my horizon, and you would be surprised to see how many friends I made" he says. He further states "The Chinese have a quaint sense of humour - for example they think that any foreigner speaking their language must have something wrong with him or her! This only further adds weight to the mistakenly held belief that Mandarin is a difficult language to learn. If you want to learn a language with your heart, you will learn it."

He once helped a Chinese traveller at Tullamarine International Airport who wished to order a milk coffee and could not speak a word of English! A knowledge of Mandarin also opened many channels with his Chinese students. Thirty-five years ago, all most people knew about China was "The Great Wall" and Chinese restaurants! Now, the more you get into her heart and soul you learn that - politics apart - it is a country of picture post card scenery and fascinating people. Bernard says "The younger generation of Chinese today yearn for travel and freedom. Democracy is new to them and they have always been under authoritarian rule. They want to break free and see the world."

Growing up on a tea estate in the hill country of Sri Lanka the land of his birth, his love of learning was nurtured as a boarder at a private school SAINT ANTHONY'S COLLEGE in

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Kandy, which was one of the finest educational institutions in the island. Within the hallowed portals of this college his teachers fed his love for history. He says "My teachers went beyond the call of duty. I was good at the subject and they took extra time to teach me historical facts which were not found in the standard text books for the school curriculum.

One of my teachers went into the trouble of getting me extra books from the library. People are often surprised when I tell them that ancient Ceylon was the only country that traded with the Roman Empire, often through the port of Pondicherry in South India."

After working as Administrative Manager for a hotel belonging to a chain owned by one of the largest finance companies in the island, Bernard migrated to Australia in 1984. He worked as an Administrative Officer in the Victoria Police Department at Police Headquarters in Melbourne, before being retrenched following a ministerial restructure in 1999. In 2000 he commenced working as a Volunteer English Tutor at AMES in Dandenong. During his varied life, Bernard played lead and rhythm guitar for bands in Sri Lanka and Australia. He speaks - apart from English - French, German, Italian and Mandarin, apart from the two indigenous languages of the land of his birth, Sinhalese and Tamil. He said that during his travels in Turkey, he came upon a Turkish proverb in a hotel which perfectly sums up his life's philosophy:

"The heart is not searching for coffee or a coffee house. The heart is searching for a friend".



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OBITUARIES - January 2021

GREET – Chris, Husband of Dee Campbell, father of Natalie, Mariko and Stephen, grandfather of Charith, Luke, Chelsea, Gabby, Sam, Emily, Hitoshi and Yukiko. Son of Martin and Ada Greet (dec), in England, on December 28, 2020, aged 88 years (News from Jayam, January 1, 2021)

PEREIRA – Sylvia, wife of the late Frank Morley Pereira, mother and grandmother, in Melbourne, on January 1, 2021. (Contributed)

PERERA – Colvin Merle Lucien, (1944-2021) in Sri Lanka. (Contributed)

VANDERWALL – Fernando Trevon Marian, husband of Andrianna Vanderwall. Son of Bernard Vanderwall and Chulani Kawdawatta. Son-in-law of Ralston De Silva and late Annie De Silva, grandson of late Margie and Lenny Vanderwall and Kingston and Yvonne Pietersz. Brother of Trevin and Bilasha, brother-in-law of Trevin De Silva and Rasanjali Bandara, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 6.1.2021)

DE ALWIS – Lawrence Patrick Susantha, husband of Dorita, father of Tamara and Marina, Father-in-law of Duncan and Matt, grandfather of Tahlia, Tiana and Sofia, in Melbourne on January 2, 2021, aged 69 years. (Herald Sun, 6.1.2021)

WALLES – Cletus Bryan, husband of Brenda, father of Tammy, Tony and Nick (all USA). Son of the late Bertie and Brenda Waller, brother of Beverley, brother-in-law of late Tryphon Miranda, in the USA, on December 31, 2020. (Sunday Observer, 10.1.2021)

ALMEIDA – Kenneth Justin, husband of Lourdes, brother of Arthur Qunnie, Claude, Melvin, Llewellyn, Gordon, Roma (all dec)

And Maureen Waller, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 11.1.2021)

NEVINS – SELVADURAI, Ronald Wijanathan, (1.12.1934 – 10.1.2021), husband of Francesca Pavalam Nevins – Selvadurai (nee Swamipillai), father of Ernest (Ernie), Marina (Dushy), Oswald (Ossie), Robert (Bobby), Leonard (Lennie) and Maureen (Girlie), father-in-law of Judy and Felicita, grandfather of Megan, Alexandra, Christopher, Matthew and Daniel, in Sacrborough, Ontario, Canada. (Contributed)

VISSER – George Waldemar “George”, husband of Anne, brother-in-law of John and Percy, in Sydney, on January 15, 2021, aged 76 years. (Sydney Morning Herald, 19.1.2021)

RAUX – Michelle A. E., daughter of late Earl & Shinska Raux, sister of Eardly and Judy, sister-in-law of Julia and Samadh, in Sri Lanka. (Daily News, 23.1.2021)

DIAZ – Thomas (Tony) Bernadine, husband of the late Jeanne (nee Bastiansz), father of Johann and Jeff, in England, on January 19, 2021, aged 4 years. (Contributed)

MOLDRICH, Ralph – 10.1.1937 - 19.1.2021 Dearly beloved husband of Pauline. Much loved father of Riz and Ricky and father-in-law of Sharon. Loving grandfather of Nicole and Emmanuel, Brittany, Kyle, Raquel and great grandfather of Bodhi. Always in our hearts

PEREIRA – Howard, husband of Audrey Vandort, father of Salome, Randy (Kuwait) and Sabrina (Can) father-in-law of Christina (Kuwait), grandfather of Julian, Melissa, Damian and Marlon (Can), Jason and Tiyaana (Kuwait), Charlene and Prasad, great grandfather of Leandra. Son of the late Sperling & Bobby Pereira, brother of Dolores, late Tom, Hectorine, Risso, Dave, Mary, Jackie and Corrina, in Sri Lanka. (Sunday Observer, 31.1.2021)

LESLIE FERNANDO - 20/04/37-17/02/21. Son of Justin and Edith Fernando (deceased). Dearly beloved Partner of Shirley Hensman, much loved Father to Michelle Bisset, Andrea Pask and Kevin Fernando, Stepfather to Johann Stork, Cedric Hensman, Roger Hensman and Lynwood Hensman. Loved Grandfather and Great Grand Father. Brother to Audrey La Brooy, Yvonne Fernando and Hylton Fernando

2020/21 Subscription Reminder

Dear Member

If you have not paid your subscriptions for the previous or current year Financial Year, we will not worry you with further reminders except to say that you are a valued member of the Burgher cultural identity and we, through this Association, endeavour to maintain a focal point for the continuity of our cultural community traditions and unique identity. Please consider renewing your Membership.




Please refer to the address label and if the “Paid to Date” is a prior financial year we would appreciate your continued support of the Burgher Association. The Annual Subscription is \$20 and is payable on 1st July of each year. If you prefer you may make payments in advance for a future year’s subscription. Please send your remittance to:

The President
Burgher Association (Australia) Inc
No 1 St Georges Court, Toorak Vic 3142

OR, pay by Direct Deposit at the nearest National Australia Bank quoting your Membership Number & Surname:

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MAIL TO: The President, Burgher Association (Australia) Inc. No 1 St Georges Court, Toorak Vic 3142.

COMMENTS:

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Burgher Association Australia "Christmas in July"



18 July 2021

BA Community Centre

358 Houghton Road, Clayton 3168

12.00noon to 5.00pm

**Delicious
Christmas Feast by "Cha's Cabin"**

MENU

Glazed Leg of Ham with Mustard Sauce

Roast Pork - Roast Beef

Roast Chicken - Roast Vegies

Scalloped Potato - Tossed Salad

Bread Rolls & Butter

BYO

40.00pp

DESSERT

Pavlova, Fruit Salad & Caramel Pudding

TICKET CONTACTS

Ashley or Karen Henricus - 9561 6212

Elaine Jansz - 9798 6315, Neville Davidson - 0419 880 329

Breeda or Harvey Foenander - 8790 1610, Rita Van Geyzel - 9503 4841,

Carol or Hermann Loos - 9827 4455,

Helen or Terry backhouse - 0429 987 300

Fallon De Zilwa - 0414 096 774, Hans De Zilwa - 0419 292 939

Shoua Liu - 0415 463 037, Ruth Liu -0420 225 600

Happier Days!!!



REMEMBERING CLIFF FOENANDER OF THE FABULOUS ECHOES

By – Patrick Ranasinghe

Cliff Foenander was one of Sri Lanka's great musicians. He was King of the 'crooners' in 1950s and 1960s Ceylon. Foenander had a passion for music and he was determined to succeed in life. He reached the dizzy heights of stardom – not only in Sri Lanka but right across South and South East Asia, and even the United States of America.

Sri Lanka remembers Cliff Foenander he passed away in Australia. Recently, thanks to You Tube there has been a real revival of music connected with Sri Lanka's first international star, Cliff Foenander. Thousands have logged on to Youtube to hear The Fabulous Echoes. The whole history of The Fabulous Echoes is also on You Tube. The Fabulous Echoes featured Bert Sagum, Tony Ruivivar, Terry Lucido, Stan Robertson, Danny Ruivivar and Cliff Foenander. Foenander was a pioneer – one of his earliest hits was 'Butterfly in the Rain' composed by the great singer/songwriter Nimal Mendis. Radio Ceylon, the oldest radio station in South Asia discovered Cliff Foenander. The legendary Radio Ceylon announcers Vernon Corea, Tim Horshington, Livy Wijemanne, Jimmy Bharucha, promoted his music throughout the late 1950s and 1960s on the airwaves of the radio station. Radio Ceylon was 'King of the Airwaves' in South Asia and Cliff Foenander's music was played to the huge audience on the Indian sub-continent. He had a succession of number one hits in South Asia as a result of the exposure on Radio Ceylon.

Foenander's big break came along when he joined one of the hottest acts in Hong Kong, 'The Fabulous Echoes.' They had a massive hit with 'A Little Bit of Soap' in 1964 released on Diamond Records – they enjoyed 25 weeks in the Number one position in the Hong Kong Charts. 'A Little Bit of Soap' was a huge hit in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, The Philippines and Sri Lanka. Cliff Foenander and The Fabulous Echoes had a string of hits, among them – 'Dancing on The Moon,' 'Sukiyaki,' 'Cry,' 'Another Saturday Night,' 'Another Romance,' 'I know,' 'The Wedding,' 'Skip to My Lou,' 'Sunshine,' 'Way Back When,' 'Mashed Potato,' 'It Won't be Long,' 'Day By Day,' 'This Land is My Land.'

As a result of their huge hit 'A Little Bit of Soap' among a string of hits in South East Asia, The Fabulous Echoes were invited to play Las Vegas. Cliff Foenander and the group were playing with the greats – The 'rat pack,' Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis

cont'd

Junior who were performing in Las Vegas at the time in the early 1960s – they performed with Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald and Pat Boone among a whole host of stars.

One evening Cliff Foenander sang a song to a lady in the audience, she like The Fabulous Echoes so much that she told her husband. He happened to be the great Ed Sullivan who also liked their style and sound. He signed them up for two shows and Ceylon's Cliff Foenander was seen by an audience of 45 million viewers. Foenander was at the very top with the Fabulous Echoes. They were a hit in Las Vegas.

Cliff Foenander died of lung cancer in 2000 in Australia. Born in 1934, he was 66 years old. Please Forward this to Others and his Fans



SMART ONE-LINERS

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun.

Despite the cost of living, have you noticed how popular it remains?

All power corrupts. Absolute power is pretty neat, though.

Always remember you're unique, just like everyone else.

Everybody repeat after me: "We are all individuals."

Confession is good for the soul, but bad for your career.

A bartender is just a pharmacist with a limited inventory.

I want patience - AND I WANT IT NOW!!!!

A day for firm decisions! Or is it?

Am I ambivalent? Well, yes and no.

Bombs don't kill people, explosions kill people.

Bureaucrats cut red tape, lengthwise.

Help stamp out, eliminate and abolish redundancy!

How many of you believe in telekinesis? Raise MY hand!

A dog has an owner. A cat has a staff.

Every organisation is perfectly designed to get the results they are getting.

Treat each day as your last; one day you will be right.

Red meat is not bad for you. Fuzzy green meat is bad for you.

The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

Isn't it scary that doctors call what they do "practice"?

The problem with sex in the movies is, that the popcorn usually spills.

If I want your opinion, I'll ask you to fill out the necessary forms.

Coming Events

You Should Know About!

18 April 2021

Buriyani Lunch

BAA Community Hall - 358 Haughton Road,
Clayton 3169

18 July 2021

Christmas in July

BAA Community Hall - 358 Haughton Road,
Clayton 3169

Please note that a colour version of this Newsletter is also available on the Burgher Association Australia website and may be downloaded in PDF Format

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