

Belgian News

BELGIAN NATIONAL DAY 2011



The July 23 Belgian National Day dinner at the Abel Tasman Club in Carnegie was a success with over 44 dinner participants, and nearly a hundred people participating in the post dinner events. The Dutch club was used for the first time for this great day, the lunch included some great Belgian dishes cooked by Tineke (Abel Tasman chef) many Belgian beers were consumed. The entertainment included Belgian music and of course Tin Tin videos, and a clown for the children.

The Belgian Club of Victoria intends to have a Mussel dinner at the Abel Tasman club in October, for more information see the Belgian in Melbourne and the Dutchies in Melbourne facebook sites or google the Belgian Club Victoria site. It is anticipated this event will be attended by many Belgian and Netherlanders as the mussels are a favourite in both countries. Come along and enjoy the great club atmosphere in Carnegie, the facilities are fantastic.

Many new members have joined, and the club is gradually growing, the December St Nicholas event held at the Alma Community



Centre in East St Kilda will be a great event with an anticipated attendance of nearly 50 children

this year. For further information ring 03 9710 1309.

Georges Bernard

BEAUTIFULLY HUMAN

These days life can be tough on many people. Just think of rising prices in supermarkets, expensive utility bills, petrol prices that have gone through the roof and still on the rise. These are just a few examples.

What we also notice is that we are expected to work much harder to make a living nowadays. Employers expect their employees to tackle heavy workloads. The pressure is on. Saving money is the aim but it also causes heaps of stress as there is no longer such a thing as job security. Sometimes I wonder where this whole world is going to? What happens to humanity? These days we tend to forget to pay attention to the little things that can be so important. What happened to being a gentleman (or lady) on the road? Instead you are confronted with road rage and obscene gestures addressed to you. The world revolves around money and making more money. This necessary evil tends to take over our lives. We forget to live, we forget to be

kind to each other, we forget to get our priorities right most of the time. At the end of the day, we wonder: "Was it all worth it? Did I really have to yell at my col-



By Frieda G De Doncker

league? Did I have to send that person away because I didn't feel like listening to his problem?" So yes, we get stressed and it can make us ill, mentally and physically ... we feel caught in some vicious circle.

So where lies the solution? Maybe we need to take control again of our priorities? Maybe we can try listening to each other, really lis-

ten. Most people are so hasty in their judgement and draw wrong conclusions as a consequence. Why don't we just calm down and become more serene and gentle to our fellow men. It would benefit us all, we will feel better about ourselves. We all make mistakes and therefore we are "beautifully human" but people can be forgiven. Mistakes have a great purpose. It allows us to grow and to learn about a better way.

Life is passing us by so quickly and we should make time to ponder about the little things that can make a difference. Seize the day, touch somebody's life by a nice unexpected gesture. Shock them! We need to limit our stress levels. There are many ways, it is about tricking our mind and discipline needs to be applied. We have to be kinder to ourselves too. Give yourself a break before your fast lifestyle breaks you. Don't forget, you are in control, *We are all beautifully human!*