



# Bulletin of the International Association *of Lyceum Clubs*

[www.lyceumclub.org](http://www.lyceumclub.org)

BULLETIN N° 41- OCTOBER 2012

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## EDITORIAL

*Dear Friends,*

*At the time of publication of this Newsletter including the headlines of the XXXII IALC Congress many of you have already registered for the **2013 IALC Congress** that will take place in **Perth from 4-14 May 2013**. The members who are still hesitating should take a look at the very interesting program that is published on our IALC website: [www.lyceumclub.org](http://www.lyceumclub.org) The login details you will find on your Club/Federation websites protected by passwords and/or are available at your Club's Secretariat.*

*The theme **Uniquely Australian, Ancient land, Contemporary cultures** will be explained by excellent keynote speakers, while the workshops, subdivided in the themes Aboriginal Art, Australian Flora, Immigration, Mining and Australian Literature, and led by professional specialists offer the registrants an even better insight into their preferred subject. At least two workshops will be offered in German and French so registrants can chose either by the subject or the language. Beside this, simultaneous translation will be available at the Congress. Pre- and Post Tours complete the excellent program of the 2013 IALC Congress Organizing Committee, chaired by Mrs. Jane Thompson.*

### ***Centenary celebrations in Melbourne and the triennial Australian Conference***

*Last May I was invited to take part in the centenary celebrations of the Lyceum Club in Melbourne as well as in the triennial conference of the AALC. It is the largest Club within our International Association with more than 1,200 members lead by Mrs. Jane Peck. I felt honored and privileged to attend these very special occasions and had the chance to meet and to inform the members of the southern hemisphere about our organization. Also members from some New Zealand Clubs attended the conference.*

### ***Cultural Meeting 2012 in Lausanne***

*The number of participants was overwhelming. From abroad 126 participants registered for the event. Over 140 Swiss Lyceum members took part in the Cultural Meeting. The meeting was very well organized. We thank the Swiss members for this wonderful and unforgettable meeting. The publication of the book *Women, Culture and Society* ( 100 years of history of the Swiss Clubs) written by Mrs. Verdiana Grossi, President of the LC Geneva added an extra dimension to this cultural meeting. We will not forget the wonderful Gala Dinner with the amazing view on the lake!*

### ***Cologne***

*This Club will celebrate its 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November. Like the Karrakatta Club in Perth this Club already existed before Lyceum Clubs were born! These Clubs later became a Lyceum Club! Between the ILC Philadelphia, celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in September and ILC Cologne there is just 100 years of age difference!*

### ***Program IALC 2013 Congress including Tours and additional information on the IALC Website***

*Please take a look on the international website and encourage your Lyceum friends to take part in the unique IALC Congress organized by the ILC Perth/ Karrakatta Club in the Western part of Australia. Unique in all aspects! See the headlines of the program on the next pages!!!*

*Read this and more in this issue of the International Bulletin. As always well worth reading. The big thrill now is to meet you all in Perth next year! The 2013 Organizing Committee is counting on you!*

*Eltje Brill-Meijer  
IALC President*

# INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS PERTH

## 2013 IALC Congress Program Perth, West Australia 4-14 May 2013

The 2013 Congress Organising Committee is very proud to welcome the members of the IALC on this very special occasion. The headlines of the program are:

### Pre Tours:

**Saturday 4 May:** New Norcia and the Benedictine Monastery, with lunch at the monastery

**Sunday 5 May:** Visit to York and Toodyay historic town with lunch at a sheep stud  
Each excursion costs AUD\$130 p.p.

### OR:

**Tuesday 30 April to Sunday 5 May:** 6 Day Shark Bay World Heritage Tour  
Limited number (30), good physical condition necessary, all inclusive price: AUD \$2,795 (twin room) and AUD \$3,150 (single room) p.p.

**Congress: Fee: early bird: AUD \$325; late fee AUD \$360 (after 15 December 2012)**

### Monday 6 May:

10 am-4 pm Congress Registration at Duxton Hotel  
6.00-8.00 pm Congress Welcome reception at ILC Perth/ Karrakatta Club.

### Tuesday 7 May:

9.00 Opening Congress in venue, Duxton Hotel, followed by morning tea  
10.30 Keynote speaker: Professor Fiona Stanley: *Western Australia's brilliant medical and scientific progress*  
11.30 Keynote speaker: Andrew Forrest, CEO and major shareholder of Fortescue Metals Group: *Western Australian Mining Boom*  
12.30 Workshops Information on the themes: Aboriginal Art, Western Australian Flora, Immigration, Mining and Australian Literature, followed by lunch  
02.00 Assemble for workshops (each workshop will be led by a specialist in the area assisted note taker)  
2.00-4.30 Workshops (to be in English and/or French and/or German)  
6.30 pm In Home Dinners with Karrakatta Club members

### Wednesday 8 May

9.00 Keynote speaker: Professor Ted Snell artist, arts academic, curator and reviewer: *Indigenous Art*, followed by morning tea  
10.30-1.00 International Council Meeting, followed by lunch  
2.00pm Optional Activities accompanied by members of the Karrakatta Club (Perth Art Gallery, Fremantle, Museum, or Historic Walk)  
7.00pm Gala Dinner - Royal Perth Yacht Club

**Thursday 9 May** (Venue: Karrakatta Club)

- 9.30am Keynote speaker: Nonya Peters – Director of the History of Migration Experiences at Curtin University: *Migrant Heritage in Australia*
- 11.00 Workshops Summary
- 12.00 Closing of Congress
- 02.00 Afternoon tour of Perth Mint
- 6.00pm Council House Reception with Perth Lord Mayor, Mrs.Lisa Scaffidi

**Post Tour:**

**Friday 10 May to Tuesday 14 May:** Margaret River and Albany to visit caves, wineries, lighthouse, beaches etc. AUD \$1585 p.p. twin share or AUD \$1675 single.

During the Congress there is a program for accompanying persons. Furthermore simultaneous translations will be available on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May. During the Pre- and Post Tour French and German translations are offered and members with fluency in either French or German will be on the Tours.

**Additional Information:**

Lyceum members in Australia and New Zealand are inviting overseas members and their companion to stay in their homes. The following Lyceum Clubs are offering home stays for you and your companion for several days either before or after the Congress. Also members would like to show you their area or to make suggestions for excursions. A contact person and their email address for each Club is provided so that you may make arrangements directly with the Club for that city or town. They will have local knowledge but will not be able to make bookings for you. For supplementary accommodation check accommodation websites.

**PARTICIPATING CLUBS, NUMBER OFFERING HOME STAYS AND CONTACT DETAILS**

**NewZealand**

Auckland	Colleen Jansen (1)	<a href="mailto:crjansen@xtra.co.nz">crjansen@xtra.co.nz</a>
Morrinsville	Rosalie Larsen (2)	<a href="mailto:rosgeolarsen@gmail.com">rosgeolarsen@gmail.com</a>
Tauranga	Bernadette Rolston (10)	<a href="mailto:savillestudio@xtra.co.nz">savillestudio@xtra.co.nz</a>

**Australia**

Adelaide	Tessa Hill (20)	<a href="mailto:teedy122@gmail.com">teedy122@gmail.com</a>
Brisbane	Kay Brassil (15)	<a href="mailto:kebrassil@bigpond.com">kebrassil@bigpond.com</a>
Melbourne	Venetia Patchett (2)	<a href="mailto:vpatchett@bigpond.com">vpatchett@bigpond.com</a>
Sydney	Hilary Cairns (12)	<a href="mailto:hmcairns@bigpond.net.au">hmcairns@bigpond.net.au</a>

**Read more on the IALC website: [lyceumclub.org](http://lyceumclub.org)** (username and password to be obtained by your Club secretariat or published on your Club website protected by password.)

Eltje Brill-Meijer  
IALC President

## NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

### AUSTRALIA

Lyceum Club Members in Australia are anticipating with pleasure the IALC Congress to be held in Perth, Western Australia, May 6 – 9, 2013. The theme is “Australia – Ancient Land, Contemporary Culture”. There will be pre-Congress Day Tours from Perth on May 4 and May 5, and a post-Congress Tour from May 10 – 14 to be spent south of Perth at Margaret River and Albany. The Perth Congress Organising Committee headed by Jane Thompson, together with the IALC President and the AALC Committee, have been involved in the organisation of the Congress. The result is an excellent program with wide appeal. Information is available on both the IALC and AALC websites, including details of Hotels and a range of optional tours elsewhere in Australia. Australia is a big country with a unique landscape varying from vast deserts to tropical islands. There is much to delight visitors. We hope that many Lyceum Club Members from Europe, New Zealand, and USA will attend the IALC Congress in Perth and then travel further within Australia.

In the meantime the Melbourne Lyceum Club has continued its Centenary Celebrations with many special events including a Cabaret, two evenings of debates, a Concert, and several Dinners and Luncheons with speakers of note. There has been the opportunity for every one of the 1270 members to participate. It is interesting to note that the Club continues to attract new members and it is very likely that the variety and number of programs contributes to this. There are over forty active circles providing opportunities for members to participate on a regular basis.

In Brisbane changes are taking place, and the Committee has been involved in updating the Constitution and devising innovative ways of attracting new Members. The challenge of attracting younger Members is one to which most Lyceum Clubs are seeking a solution. The Lyceum Club in Adelaide shares these concerns, as does the Karrakatta Club in Perth.

### CYPRUS

Our Federation sends greetings and wishes to our International President and all Presidents of IALC for a pleasant and creative summer.

This year was a very creative one and our presence in Society was very intense and productive. 250 of our members and friends celebrated Woman’s Day in the presence of our Minister of Defence by honouring the mothers and wives of the 13 heroes who became holocaust victims at Mari Village on 11 July 2011 – including twin young men aged only 17 years. Three of the wives of the heroes were expecting. It was a very emotional gathering.

Our Lyceum Clubs at Limassol, Larnaca and Paralimni in the unoccupied area of Famagusta organised separate painting exhibitions of work by the children of Marioupolis in the Ukraine, with great results. All the paintings were sold and the money was sent to the Marioupolis Children’s Art School for further Education. We opened a channel of communication, which gave us a pleasant and rewarding feeling.

On May 20th an excursion was organised to the Villages of Kalopanayiotis – Pedoulas to visit the Environmental Centre of the famous Byzantine Churches of the 14th Century. Our 25 members thoroughly enjoyed the outing.

At a meeting in the Four Seasons Hotel, members and friends of the Literary Congregation for a well-known Cypriot poet, Kypros Chryanthis attended a successful gathering with speakers, recitations of his poems and music. All the money collected was for the Children's Resort.

From 25 July to 8 August we hosted 100 children of large families with accommodation, tours, and educational lessons, under the supervision of Lyceum teaching members.

The Resort was visited by our International President, Presidents and members of IALC during the International Congress Cyprus 2010. The Resort has been in operation since 1930, hosting to date 10,000 children from Cyprus and other countries. It is a life time project.

## FINLAND

Oulu Lyceum Club has enjoyed the rainy summer holiday after a long but active wintertime. We like to say that we are from the Capital of Northern Scandinavian; our city has so many lovely activities to catch and join in.

During this year our club has participated with many occasions: we have laughed in Theatre Rio, listened to a wonderful concert of Mahler and Sibelius by the City Orchestra, got a very interesting presentation about csángós, which our vice president, Minister Tytti Isohookana-Asunmaa has prepared after publication of her book. We are now up to date with internationalisation after visiting Oulu International School, too.

But many interesting ideas are still waiting for realisation, which means a lot of pleasant meetings with 42 members of the club.

## FRANCE

The Caen Lyceum Club was created in 1996 by Françoise Lecoutour who came to us from the Fontainebleau Club. The inaugural ceremony was carried out in the presence of Jacqueline Sutin, International President of the French Federation.

Our city, Capital of Basse-Normandie, used to be called “the city of a hundred spires”... There are nowadays only about forty churches, some of which are still in ruins. It suffered severe damage during the last world war being destroyed by 68% but in spite of the devastation the City retained many vestiges of its former glory: the Duke's Castle, the Men's Abbey, the Ladies' Abbey and many mansions and edifices dating from the Renaissance to the XVIII<sup>e</sup> century. Among these we must not forget the XX<sup>e</sup> century “monument”: the Peace Museum or “Mémorial pour la Paix”.

Great men have left their mark on this historical city including William the Conqueror, the poet François de Malherbe, Jean-Eudes, priest and founder of the order of the Eudistes, Marshal Koenig...

At the moment there are 98 members of our club, all eager to learn more and keen to enlarge upon their friendships. Our beautiful region affords many occasions for those who have enquiring minds to improve their knowledge of the department of Calvados by visiting its many points of interest; the ancient streets of Caen, the manors and châteaux of the Pays d'Auge,

the reredos in humble old country churches, the D-Day Landing beaches and the Mont Saint Michel. As we are situated at about 180 km from Paris we are often able to visit our capital city and make the most of the many painting exhibitions on offer, invariably including the visit of a monument at the same time.

We endeavour to arrange a conference every fortnight. (Outside of the school holidays, as many of us are grandmothers and are needed for baby- sitting duties!). The themes are varied: Richard the Lion Heart, the Silk Route, Resilience, American Painters, Opium, Free Masonry, the Mayas, Chinese ceramics.....

A few of our older members are suffering from health problems therefore we try to give them all the encouragement possible, making sure that the Friendship so dear to Constance Smedley's heart becomes a reality.

## GERMANY

At this year's annual federal meeting in Stuttgart, heartfelt thanks were expressed to our members Mrs Christa Glahn and Mrs Renate Bruchier for their unfailing devotion to Lyceum and for their excellent co-operation on the international level. Mrs Eltje Brill-Meijer was present.

This year's focus was on the continuance of the German clubs. Despite all the numerous suggestions, it will be necessary to continue pursuing this subject in the future and to put it on the agenda at the federal meeting in Frankfurt next year. In addition to the agenda, the Stuttgart President G. Joas and her members took great pains to organize for all members a tour of their town and a visit to the theatre. We were also pleased to be able to savour local Swabian delicacies.

At the Berlin Club in March Mrs Dorette Schuppert was elected president. At her side will be vice president Mrs Renate Wildhagen with her long experience on the managing committee.

This year the Berlin Club is hosting the German meeting from 21st to 23rd September. All members of the German clubs are invited to attend. These meetings take place every 2-3 years. Apart from an internal club trip to Amsterdam, the Berliners will be travelling to the World Congress in May 2013, to their partner club in Hamburg in June and will be paying a visit to Troyes in September.

Thanks to the expert guidance of art historian Mrs Dorothea Schöne, the visit to the "documenta" in Kassel on July 24th was one of the highlights of the programme in the last six months, giving us a view of contemporary art as seen by the respective curators.

For the first time the Berlin club will be represented at the music competition in Lausanne by their scholarship holder Julia Tramnitz and her "elysio quartet".

## ITALY

The International Lyceum Club of Florence chose as its central theme for the year "The Five Senses and Beyond: the Intelligence of the Heart" to coordinate the activities planned by the various sections of the Club, viz. arts, international relations, activities of the Presidency, music, science, social and literary.

The programme for the year 2011-12 included several important events, commencing and concluding with two lectures prepared and presented by our President, Maria Grazia Beverini del Santo, the first with the collaboration of the Arts section and the second with the collaboration of the Music section.

The Social and Literary sections, chaired respectively by Mirka Sandiford and Enza Biagini, organized the showing of a series of films of social and historic importance, including “Viva l’Italia”, “La Dolce Vita” and “Miracolo a Milano”, with a masterly commentary by Marino Biondi of the University of Florence.

Equally interesting was the programme of the Music section, chaired by Eleonora Negri and assisted by Irene Weber Froboese, which comprised a concert season embracing ancient and contemporary music and jazz. The chairman of the Arts section, Aurora Nomellini, organized a series of lectures entitled “The Artistic Environment of Cosimo I de’ Medici” which proved to be very popular.

The wide and varied activities of the Science and Agriculture section, chaired by Maria Luisa Eliana Luisi, commenced with a lecture on “Coffee Perspectives; the Role of Coffee in Physiological and Pathological Conditions”, organized in collaboration with SINU (Italian Society for Human Nutrition) – section Tuscany and ISIC (Institute for Scientific Information on Coffee).

The International Relations section, headed by Adelina Spallanzani, organized a very successful Day of Remembrance and an exhibition of the work of Japanese artists and artisans, and collaborated on other events.

## NETHERLANDS

On 22 May 2012 38 members of the Groningen Lyceum Club visited the south east of Drenthe, lying to the south of Groningen. At Erica on the Bourtangter Moor – the century-old border between The Netherlands and Germany – peat cutting commenced around 1850. The use of peat in industry was superseded by coal about 1900 when peat litter was substituted for straw in horse stables and as raw material in horticulture. The upper layer of peat soil dried in the field, called shell, was transported over a 900 mm narrow gauge railway to the factory.

After the closure of this factory in 1983, the Industrial Narrow Gauge Railway Museum was inaugurated. We were driven by a train comprising an original locomotive and coaches to the restored factory and coach house. We saw how the cargo coaches were unloaded by a turnover machine and how the factory had been built around the machinery for grinding, riddling and packing. The museum is totally run by volunteers. Pupils of a school for children with learning difficulties assist in the reconditioning of the trains. The know-how of former labourers in peat and factory work is recorded.

We then left for the Sculpture Garden and Gallery at Gees where a beautiful garden has been created over seven hectares. The new owner, Yvo van Marle, related the history of the garden which was commenced by the Dehullu family 21 years ago. The round forms are striking, and even the lawn is mowed in circles. There are wide vistas over the surrounding estates broken up by enclosed gardens, and many seats invite us to rest and enjoy the works of thirty artists from The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and South Africa. From the terrace there is a wonderful view of the sculptures of Hartwig Doden. In the Gallery sculptures and ceramics are displayed in bright lighting. An interesting day of sun, technology, nature and culture.

## NEW ZEALAND

The Australian Association of Lyceum Clubs held their Triennial Conference in May 2012, to which the ten Lyceum Clubs of New Zealand were invited. Ten members from New Zealand accepted this invitation and so enjoyed the four day visit to Melbourne and the hospitality of the Melbourne Lyceum Club.

On return to New Zealand these members often speak to their own and other clubs to which they are invited about their experiences, and so relay the experiences and workings of Lyceum international. This also happens after BCI and Cultural Meetings. By doing this, our Federation President gets to visit most clubs each year and therefore keeps the international content to the fore.

Late July and mid-September are two of the busy times of the year for the New Zealand Lyceum Federation as this is when we hold our Choir Festival and our Annual General Meeting.

The Te Kuiti Lyceum Club hosted a very successful Choir Festival at the end of July with five of the ten clubs presenting a choir. Te Kuiti formed a new choir this year, making two more than last year. Each club presents a 15 to 20 minute bracket of songs. The Festival ends with a selection of three songs chosen by the host club, which are learned and sung by the combined choirs and any other members who wish to join in. As this is the first time everyone sings together, it makes for a wonderful finale to a very successful day with a great array of music.

In September we will hold our Federation AGM, which will result in a change of Executive.

Lyceum in New Zealand continues to be alive and well, with some club memberships increasing while others are declining. Best wishes are sent to all Lyceum Members.

## PORTUGAL

Since April 2012 the Lyceum Club of Lisbon has organized a guided visit to the Food Bank in Lisbon, not only because it has a worthy social mission but also because it is an institution which has been managed by a woman, Mrs Isabel Jonet, for several years.

The first Food Bank was founded in Portugal in 1990 thanks to the initiative of Mr. Jose Vaz Pinto with the aim « To collect the surplus for distribution where it is most needed ». John Van Hengel founded the first Food Bank in 1967 in Phoenix, Arizona, initiating a movement which is today extended to all continents. In Europe Food Banks were created in France and Belgium in 1984.

Food Banks are based on the principles of giving and sharing gratuitous contributions, cutting down on the wastage of food and distributing to the people most in need of help through solidarity institutions. These principles led in January 1990 to the creation of the Food Bank in Lisbon. And on 19th February 1999 the Portuguese Food Banks Federation was created.

Food Banks are a necessary but temporary stopgap in the actual situation. Article 25 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights states inter alia that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services.

These days in Portugal more than 1800 institutions are supported by the Food Banks, which means that they benefit more than 275,000 people.

In a moment of generalized social crisis in Europe, it seems to us pertinent to divulge the existence of this institution and its objectives, based on a vast solidarity chain.

### **Thoughts about being on the board of the Stockholm Lyceum Club and how it works!!**

In Sweden there are generally difficulties in finding a president for the Club since most possible candidates refuse to accept on the grounds of too much responsibility and too much work.

Previously the Club president was expected to carry the heavy burden of taking care of anything and everything alone, with the assistance of only her secretary and treasurer.

Today the board members have their own “fields of responsibility”. Two members are in charge of the programme. They present to the board a list of various lecturers which the board discuss and decide which ones to choose. The chosen lecturers are contacted by the programme board members who negotiate their fees, and then take all the necessary steps to finalize the programme.

Two other board members keep track of all the members of the Club - newcomers, the deceased and those who have resigned - presenting the actual figures at every board meeting. Thus they take care of all the paper work when taking on new members! Three times a year they present to the board a list of all the members and every two years they print a small booklet, a list of the members, which is distributed to all members.

The treasurer does a tremendous amount of work and shoulders a lot of responsibility - all by herself.

The secretary keeps the minutes; issues summons to meetings and is the president’s aide in various matters. A substitute secretary is also on the board – always ready to stand by. At our club meetings two board members take care of the refreshments, consisting of tea and excellent sandwiches and biscuits. We all help them to lay the tables - normally between 70 and 100 members attend.

The president has the ultimate responsibility, which she shares with the vice president. There are 10 members on the board and the duties of the vice president and the secretary are performed by the same person.

This way of performing club matters with all board members taking responsibility for their tasks has increased their commitment to and interest in the Club, and of course has taken a great load off the president's shoulders.

The year 2012 is marked by the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Lyceum Club of Switzerland. This Jubilee includes three main events: first, the publication of the book “*Women, Culture and Society, 100 years of History of the International Lyceum Club of Switzerland*” (bilingual version French-German, Slatkine, 2012, 292 pages, from Verdiana Grossi)\*, then the Cultural Days of Switzerland, June 5th-8th 2012, and finally the closing ceremony to be organized by the Geneva Club on November 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> 2012. On this last occasion a concert will be held, with performances of compositions by Club members from the beginning of the XX<sup>th</sup> century to the present day, followed by a banquet at the Hotel de la Paix, and on the

following day by a visit to the archeological site of St. Peter's Cathedral. The international aspect of the Lyceum Club was a source of fascination for the founding ladies of the Club's Swiss Chapter since through it they envisaged a means of emancipation and of increasing the value of the artistic, literary and social professions.

The Lyceum Club of Geneva is inspired by the spirit of the city, open to foreign influence but anchored in Swiss tradition. It has reintegrated the Liaison Centre of Feminist Associations of Geneva which it had founded in 1937. The Committee also attributes great value to exchanges between the Swiss and foreign Lyceum Clubs. The Lycéennes of Geneva responded enthusiastically to the Dijon Club's invitation in September 2011. Warmly welcomed, they were able to rediscover the richness of this magnificent heart of the Burgundy culture.

The Genevans are preparing to celebrate during the closing ceremony of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary the double celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with other Lycéennes of France, Basle, Lucern, Florence and Switzerland.

## UNITED KINGDOM

2012 has been an eventful year for Great Britain, with celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games. Queen Elizabeth came to the throne in 1952 and during the past sixty years there have been many changes in the world. Although the Queen is now in her eighties, she has undertaken tours both in the U.K. and abroad and shared in many events celebrating such a long period. One of the most interesting events was in early June when there was a Regatta on the River Thames; it must have been a wonderful spectacle to see the many different types of vessel taking part in the procession – most of us spent the afternoon watching it on television. The Queen and Prince Philip and many others obviously enjoyed it all.

Recently many of us have been spending a lot of time watching television, to share in the excitement of the Olympic Games. It has been fascinating to see some events such as handball (unfamiliar to many of us!) as well as swimming, rowing, and athletics. Everything seems to have turned out well, and it was good to see athletes from so many countries mixing together happily. The Post Office has shown imagination in painting gold a post box in every town which is the home town of an athlete who has won a gold medal.

Now we look forward to the Paralympics, while Edinburgh is in the midst of its Festival season, so there is still excitement in the air. We hope it will still be in the air as we begin the new session in our Lyceum Club. Our Committee has prepared an interesting syllabus with speakers on a variety of subjects such as the world of Jane Austen, links with India, and the recently created Prestonpans Tapestry, reminiscent of the world famous Bayeux Tapestry, illustrating the famous Battle there outside Edinburgh in 1745.

## UNITED STATES

The Philadelphia Lyceum Club sponsored a “Day in the City” on May 3<sup>rd</sup> of this year. The itinerary included a tour of the world famous Curtis Institute, a student concert and a tour of the Rosenbach Museum.

The Rosenbach Museum occupies two 19<sup>th</sup> century townhouses and was founded in 1954. It showcases the collections and treasures of brothers Philip and Dr. A.S.W. Rosenbach. The brothers dealt in books, manuscripts and fine arts.

The museum features items which they were unable to part with, including the first Poor Richard’s Almanac, the manuscript for Ulysses, letters from George Washington, and, since 2003, an exhibit of Maurice Sendak’s work and artistic talent. Collections housed in this museum include Americana, fine arts, furniture, jewelry, literature, maps, incunabula, metal, ceramics and glass, and portraits. It is a virtual treasure trove of historic literature. The largest portion is English literature with books or manuscripts from Chaucer, Daniel Defoe, Robert Burns, Lewis Carroll, Bram Stoker, Joseph Conrad and James Joyce. On June 16 the museum holds a Bloomsday which honors James Joyce and his work Ulysses. People read from his famous tome.

The Curtis Institute is a conservatory in Philadelphia that trains gifted young musicians as performing artists. The school was founded in 1924 and is very selective, enrolling only 165 students. It fulfilled the wishes of Mary Louise Curtis Bok whose father, Cyrus, owned the Curtis Publishing Company. Curtis has a rare tuition-free policy which was started in 1928. Acceptance is based solely on artistic talent.

Alumni have received Pulitzer Prizes and Guggenheim Fellowships. They are soloists and conductors. They have sung with the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala and the Vienna Staatsoper.



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