

THE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BALTIC HERITAGE NETWORK WILL TAKE PLACE ON ZOOM

This year many of us could not travel because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Both the 2020 Baltic Heritage Network Summer School and AGM in Estonia were cancelled. For the first time in the organization's history, the Annual General Meeting of the NGO will be held online.

We invite all the members to join the Baltic Heritage Network Annual General Meeting on October 7, 2020 at 16:00 (EEST) on Zoom.

The invitation to the Zoom meeting shall be sent to members by e-mail along with the agenda and the annual report.

Please confirm your participation by October 5, 2020, at karin.kiisk@gmail.com.

If you cannot attend the meeting personally, we ask you kindly to send a proxy indicating the name of the person you authorize to vote instead of you. Please send the proxy by e-mail to: karin.kiisk@gmail.com

Piret Noorhani

President - Baltic Heritage Network

VEMU ÖÖTV PARTICIPATED IN THE ESTONIAN NIGHT OF MUSEUMS, TAKING VIEWERS ON A JOURNEY THROUGH ESTONIAN-CANADIAN HISTORY, MUSIC, AND STORIES



VEMU Museum Night team (from the left): Rasmus Rattas, Kati Kiilaspea, Piret Noorhani, Kaisa Pitsi, Veiko Parming. Photo: Paul Kiilaspea

On Saturday, August 29th, VEMU, the Museum of Estonians Abroad, took part in the vibrant pan-European tradition known as the Night of Museums. In Estonia, this is known as *Muuseumiöö*. It's a celebration of the wonders of the night, and the discovery of those wonders that we can find in museums.

The tradition that started in Germany in the late 90s has spread across Europe and beyond into Asia and South America. In Estonia, museums of all varieties have been taking part in this celebration since 2009, showcasing fascinating stories

LiLaEst-2020

CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESTORATION OF LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE 1987-2004

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION "LITHUANIAN DIASPORA PRESS AFTER THE YEAR OF 1990"

THE ARCHIVE OF THE CULTURAL ATTACHÉ OF THE DIPLOMATIC MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA IN KIEV

LITHUANIAN-IRISH NEWSPAPER LIETUVIS DP BIBLIOGRAPHY

AN ONLINE SUMMER COURSE FOR TEACHERS OF LITHUANIAN SCHOOLS ABROAD

TORONTO LATVIAN PENSIONER'S ASSOCIATION - TLPA

NEW ESTONIAN ARCHIVES IN AUSTRALIA WEBSITE

Editor-in-Chief: Piret Noorhani

Editor: Kristina Lupp

Designer: Kristina Lupp

The Baltic Heritage Newsletter is distributed quarterly, on-line. The next deadline for submissions is 15 November 2020. Please send all related enquiries and submissions to Piret Noorhani: piretnoorhani@gmail.com

The Non-Profit Association Baltic Heritage Network was founded in Tartu on January 11, 2008. NPA BaltHerNet was established to foster cooperation between national and private archives, museums, libraries, and institutions of research, public associations and organizations collecting and studying the cultural heritage of the Baltic diaspora. It aims to facilitate the preservation and research of the historically valuable cultural property of the Baltic diaspora, as well as to ensure accessibility of these materials to the public.

NPA BaltHerNet is also committed to the organising of conferences, seminars and workshops, and to developing and administrating the electronic information website Baltic Heritage Network, a multilingual electronic gateway for information on the cultural heritage of the Baltic diaspora.

www.balther.net

ISSN 2228-3390



and artefacts for visitors in the rousing atmosphere of the evening. People from every corner of Estonia have been enjoying a rich program of events that includes everything from genealogical walks to puppet theatre shows.

Last year alone, over 100,000 visits were made to Estonian museums on the night. This time VEMU brought their own interpretation of the event for the first time ever with VEMU ÖÖTV (VEMU Night TV), a special virtually-broadcast show for audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. While this year's *Museumiöö* theme was "*Öös on aega*" ("Time in the Night"), the show's theme was adapted into "*Öös on väliseesti aega*" (where *väliseesti* means "Estonians abroad"), focused on the time *väliseestlased*—Estonians who had to leave their homeland after the Second World War—have spent in Canada.

With VEMU ÖÖTV, viewers got an exclusive look into the distinct heritage and history of Estonians in Canada. There was a tour of the extensive VEMU collection, the largest collection of Estonian culture outside of Estonia. Archival videos that are seldom played publicly were shown, too. Those who watched discovered the home of VEMU: Tartu College. Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, Tartu College is a beacon of post-war architecture in Canada and a symbol of the Estonian diaspora.

In a special program called "Forgotten News" (*Unustatud uudised*), we heard headlines and news of days gone by, from Canada's Estonian newspapers: *Meie Elu*, *Vaba Eestlane*, and *Eesti Elu*; read by Kati Kiilaspea, Kaisa Pitsi, Veiko Parming, and Piret Noorhani.

It's no secret that Estonians' appreciation for music came to Canada with them. To cap off the show, the best of VEMU's vinyl record collection was spun, accompanied with a live chat with musicians Andres Raudsepp, the Lindau Sisters, and the band Megapop; about their records, concerts, and more, for all of the music lovers out there. Vaiko Epik and Maarja Merivoo-Parro, who in 2015 compiled a CD album of *väliseesti* pop music, dipped back into their memories, talked about their first contact with *väliseesti* music and played their favourite pieces.

177 people watched the VEMU ÖÖTV program live stream, which ran smoothly thanks to Rasmus Rattas' proficient technical support. By the beginning of September, 351 viewers had seen the program. If you haven't seen it yet, you can watch it on the VEMU YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OswCFVc4UKU&t=89s>

Vincent Teetsov

LiLaEst-2020



LiLaEst conference, organized since 1968, tries to preserve long-standing traditions, the raising of all three flags being one of them.

Photo: Sevilė Charsika/National Library of Lithuania

On August 17, a three-day conference of all three Baltic national libraries, "LiLaEst 2020," took place in Lithuania. The theme of this year's event was "Possibilities for Reusing Digitized Content." Specialists from Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia had the opportunity to discuss the situation of each national library in the field, share good practices and visions for the future.

The main idea of the meeting, which takes place every two years in one of the countries, is that culture should not be locked up in repositories or archives and must be shared. Therefore, cultural institutions, libraries among them, also care about presenting cultural objects to the public. Advanced digital tools and the Internet have opened up vast opportunities for sharing cultural heritage. Reusing works have become especially popular now when one can create new meanings by transferring work to another context or adding unexpected



elements to it. Representatives of the national libraries of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and experts gave presentations and shared their experiences, plans and problems of opening and reusing data stored at the libraries.

The participants were greeted by the director-general of the National Library of Lithuania, Prof. Renaldas Gudauskas. He also presented the Library's results for the year of 2018–2019 and talked about the challenges and new opportunities in today's COVID-19 world. Janne Andresoo, director-general of the National Library of Estonia,



A three-day conference takes place every two years in one of the Baltic States.

Photo: Sevilė Charsika/National Library of Lithuania



sent her best wishes in a video greeting. Dagnija Baltiņa, who represented the National Library of Latvia at the event, also welcomed and shared the latest news with the colleagues from Lithuania and Estonia.

Juozas Markauskas from the Baltic Audiovisual Archives Council talked about digital resource management. Anda Baklāne from Latvia gave a presentation on digital humanities in Latvian libraries and presented the results of the project “Beyond the Search: Improving Digital Skills in Libraries and Scientific Communities.”

Jolanta Budriūnienė, director of the Documentary Heritage Research Department of the National Library of Lithuania, discussed the treatment of digital cultural heritage in building the Baltic Region Cooperation Network. She also talked about the achievements of the digitization process in the Baltics and how to strengthen and expand cooperation among various cultural heritage institutions.

In a video presentation entitled “The More We Give, The More We Get,” Henning Scholz, representing Europeana, presented Europeana’s strategy, quality guidelines for image and metadata (Publishing frameworks). Mahendra Mahey from the British Library spoke about the Library Labs in the British Library. The conference

also offered participants various creative workshops, sessions and discussions.

In two years, LiLaEst will take place in Estonia.

CANADA’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESTORATION OF LITHUANIA’S INDEPENDENCE 1987-2004

A sweeping historical event occurred 30 years ago – the Restoration of Independence. Lithuania was rarely mentioned in the Canadian press until the Iron Curtain began crumbling and glasnost began.

The Canadian press turned its attention to evolving events in Lithuania, and Lithuanian Canadians were able to follow the unfolding story in both the Canadian and Lithuanian Canadian media.

We present the progress of Lithuanian history from 1987-2004 from a journalistic vantage point. Article headlines will show you how Canadian journalists interpreted this time period, and glimpses at the Lights of Homeland reveal the Lithuanian Canadian community’s pro-active responses at a social and political level.

Visit the exhibition on our website:

<https://www.lithuanianheritage.ca/canadas-contribution-to-lithuanias-road-to-independence-1987-2004/>

Lithuanian Museum Archives of Canada



**Lietuvių išeivijos
žiniasklaidos lužiai
po 1990 m.**

Virtuali paroda



VIRTUAL EXHIBITION “LITHUANIAN DIASPORA PRESS AFTER THE YEAR OF 1990”

On July 17, 2020, the Day of Lithuanian Unity in the World, the National Library of Lithuania presented a new virtual exhibition dedicated to the Lithuanian press abroad after 1990.

The exhibition consists of seven chapters. It invites to learn more about the newspapers and magazines published in Europe, the United States of America, South America, Canada and Australia. Extremely rich and diverse corpus of Lithuanian press published in the US is worth a separate exhibition, for example, the daily *Draugas*, founded in 1909, is the oldest Lithuanian newspaper published without a break in the world.

Topical issues of the Lithuanian press in America are also discussed in the section on periodicals which have been transferred to Lithuania after the country regained independence. Lithuanian radio and television programs abroad also receive special attention in the exhibition: from the Margutis Radio Program, founded in 1932 in Chicago, to the contemporary podcasts accessible on the Internet.

The tendency to move to the virtual space is discussed in detail in the last chapter of the exhibition. The websites of Lithuanian communities abroad, the Lithuanian February 16th Gymnasium in Germany, the US-based online newspaper for youth, *Laikai vaikams*, and other websites are presented here.

Having started working on the exhibition during quarantine, the curators had a chance to look at it from a slightly different angle. When working from home, they had to rely on their knowledge,

experience, intuition and sources available on the Internet (fortunately, many publications have been digitized and are available on the Internet, for example, on the portal Epaveldas.lt). But the most important thing was to ask questions. In this way, contacts with the editors of the publications have been established and in many cases, renewed. The Library collections have been supplemented with the missing issues.

Only a small part of the Lithuanian media existing abroad has made into the exhibition. The visitor will not find a carefully compiled bibliography, only a few characteristic examples that will help him or her to see a vibrant and, most importantly, open to change Lithuanian media abroad.

Soon the exhibition will be available in English. You can access the Lithuanian version here:

<https://parodos.lnb.lt/exhibits/show/iseivijos-ziniasklaidos-luziai>

THE ARCHIVE OF THE CULTURAL ATTACHÉ OF THE DIPLOMATIC MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA IN KIEV

Former Cultural Attaché of the Republic of Lithuania to Ukraine, Jurgis Giedrys, handed over the documents of the Cultural Attaché of the Diplomatic Mission of the Republic of Lithuania in Kiev to the National Library of Lithuania.

This archive covers five years, from 2013 to 2018. The documents testify to the intensive development of cultural and political relations between the Republic of Lithuania and Ukraine, the efforts of the diplomatic mission to introduce the Ukrainians to the works of Lithuanian artists and to foster the continuity of the common historical and cultural heritage.

The archive mainly contains programs of various art events, presentations

by participating artists, articles and interviews with the artists, as well as programs of academic conferences.

LITHUANIAN-IRISH NEWSPAPER LIETUVIS

Very soon the National Library of Lithuania will have all issues of the Lithuanian newspaper *Lietuvis* [The Lithuanian] published in Ireland. This was made possible because of an agreement signed with the publisher of the newspaper, Sergey Tarutin. The agreement foresees a transfer of all the issues of the newspaper to the Library and their digitization. The agreement was personally initiated by the Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to Ireland Egidijus Meilūnas in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania in Ireland.



The newspaper has become a chronicle of Lithuanian life in Ireland.

Photo: Edita Kaškevičiūtė

Launched sixteen years ago, the newspaper *Lietuvis* has become a chronicle of Lithuanian life and various activities in Ireland. Currently, it is the only printed periodical in Europe.

DP BIBLIOGRAPHY

The website of the Arolsen Archives now provides access to a comprehensive specialised bibliography on the history of Displaced Persons (DPs) after 1945. Researchers are invited to actively contribute to it by informing us about relevant publications if we have not yet included them in the bibliography.

A few notes on how the bibliography works. Entries are sorted by year of publication. You can narrow the list by applying thematic filters (multiple selections are possible) and export results via the printing button. The bibliography can also be searched in full-text.

For more information, see the news item at:

<https://arolsen-archives.org/en/news/dp-bibliographie-online/>

This link takes you straight to the bibliography:

<https://arolsen-archives.org/en/search-explore/additional-resources/dp-bibliographie/>

Christian Höschler

AN ONLINE SUMMER COURSE FOR TEACHERS OF LITHUANIAN SCHOOLS ABROAD

For the third summer in a row, the National Library of Lithuania has been contributing to the teachings of teachers of Lithuanian Saturday schools abroad organized by Vytautas Magnus University. This year, twenty teachers from Ireland, Great Britain, Australia, Belarus, Estonia, USA, Poland, Norway, the Netherlands, Russia, Germany and Ukraine took part in an online course.

The event started on July 27 with the World Summer Language and Culture Forum. First lady Diana Nausėdienė, the chairman of the Seimas Committee of Education and Science Prof. Eugenijus Jovaiša, the rector of Vytautas Magnus University Prof. Juozas Augutis, Deputy Director-General for the Development of Information Resources and Services of the National Library of Lithuania Sandra Leknickienė and other distinguished guests participated in the Forum.

Part of the lectures for teachers took place at the Library. A few lectures were given by the Library staff. On July 31, the lecture on the contemporary Lithuanian literature was presented by the head of the Lithuanian Studies



The participants of the opening ceremony organized in the National Library of Lithuania.

Photo: Vygaudas Juozaitis/National Library of Lithuania





First lady Diana Nausėdienė opened the event.

Photo: Vygaudas Juozaitis/National Library of Lithuania

Unit Prof. Dainius Vaitiekūnas. On the same day, another staff member of the unit, chief researcher Prof. Jolanta Zabarskaitė discussed with teachers how to build personal vocabulary. On August 8, Dr Dalia Cidzikaitė, also from the Lithuanian Studies Unit, gave a talk about the late Soviet era in Lithuania and its representation in rock-n-roll music.

TORONTO LATVIAN PENSIONER'S ASSOCIATION – TLPA

TLPA is a non-profit organisation founded in 1972. In 1974 the Association was granted a privileged document - the Charter. We use the name Latvian Senior Citizens Association in Metro Toronto for correspondence with the government. Its first location was at the Latvian House on College Street in midtown Toronto. In its present location at the Latvian Centre, it resides since 1994.

TLPA mission is to provide Latvian seniors with services and programs which are diverse, varied, rich and engaging: exercise, singing, eating, playing, socializing, learning and contributing - feeling useful.

A place where seniors can feel independent, support each other and can make new friendships. A place where they can maintain their Latvian language and culture. A place where their spiritual and social life is enriched. A place that can provide education and assistance regarding the laws of the land, medical care, pensions and aid in other pertinent matters that affect their lives. Members must be 60 years or older.

Gatherings are held once a week, on Thursdays starting 9:00 to give time for various activities before lunch and entertainment and educational programs which start at noon.

Staying physically active is important for the health and quality of life. We have an exercise group who meet before the main program starts.

Staying mentally and socially engaged is also key to good overall health. We offer a number of programs to that end: singing in the mixed choir "Rota", men's ensemble "Pusstunda", led by Iriša Pūrens, to play bingo, to knit with the handicraft working group and to just chat over a cup of coffee and a bun.

During this current Covid-19 pandemic, all of the above activities, for the time being, have been suspended. However, we have not given up. As of May 7th, we have started virtual meetings. Our first virtual meeting was a huge success, thanks to our diligent, devoted, fearless members. Despite the older generation's classic fear of technology, over 50 people signed on. These meetings are particularly well-received by those with mobility issues. Indeed, we hope to continue zooming even when we are allowed to gather together again, live from the Latvian Centre. This week, for instance, our oldest zoomer, who still lives at home and is still of sound mind, is 102 years old. Another presenter this week, who used to be very active, will participate virtually from Welland, ON.



Zoom TLPA meeting May 7th

Photo Tālis Plūdums.

Indeed, zooming unites the Latvian diaspora world-wide. All are invited to join.

Gunta Dreifelds - Program Co-ordinator

Ženija Vitols - Co-author

NEW ESTONIAN ARCHIVES IN AUSTRALIA WEBSITE

I am very pleased to introduce to you our new Estonian Archives in Australia website.

While we are always happy to have visitors, we realise that not everyone can visit the Archive in person. We are delighted to be able to share our treasures with you online.

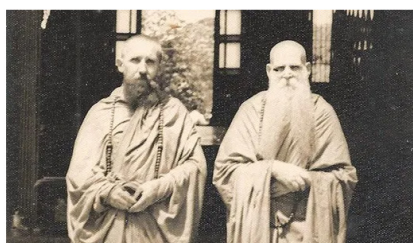
We have not updated our old site much since it was originally launched back in 2001 and a great deal has changed over the last 20 years! We have a brand new logo thanks to Lachlan Bell and a new



141 CAMPBELL ST, SURRY HILLS NSW 2150, AUSTRALIA
HOME NEWS ABOUT ▾ HOLDINGS EXHIBITIONS ▾ MEET THE TEAM ▾ DONATE



Photo: Estonian President Kersti Kaljulaid with Maie Barrow, Reet Simmul at the Archive, Sydney 2018.

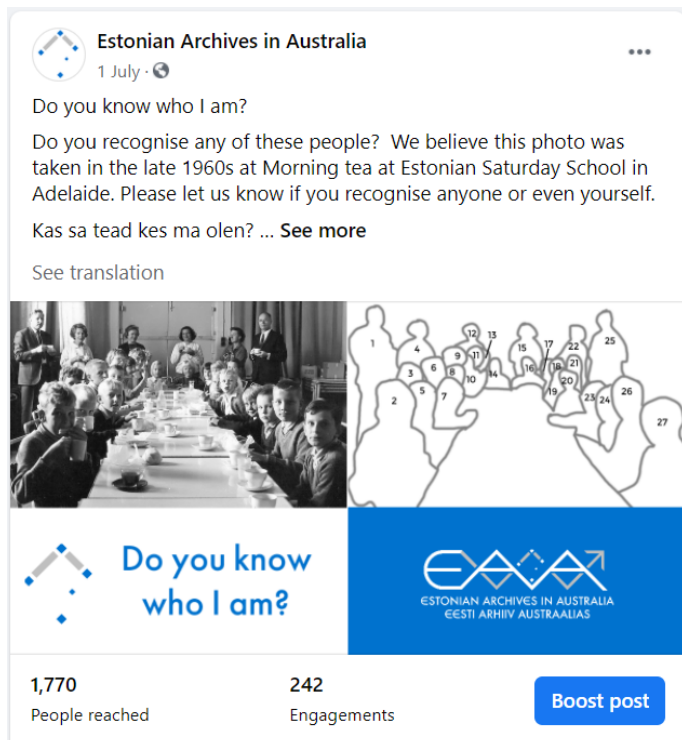


EAA is pleased to acknowledge the funding from the Estonian Cultural Foundation in Australia Ltd

MAIE BARROW JULY 29, 2020 GENERAL NEWS

EAA is pleased to acknowledge the funding from the Estonian Cultural Foundation in Australia Ltd which will allow us to digitise a rare manuscript in our collection. The manuscript is entitled "The Mahatma of the Baltics. The memorable life of the Most Rev. Karlis A. M. Tennisons, the Buddhist Archbishop of Latvia." By The Most Rev. Friedrich Lustig. The manuscript is over 600 folios long and is extremely fragile. Making it available in a digital form will save the [...]

CONTINUE READING



The Estonian Archives in Australia was looking to 'rebrand' to help increase their awareness in the community, especially with the younger generation who are less aware of its purposes. The logo and website had not been updated since the early 2000s and required a cohesive visual identity and a modern approach.

Initial research

arrow arriving from present, back to past and towards our future, symbolising the nature and purpose of Archives in helping us understand who we are and where we came from.

The inclusion of the Southern Cross aimed to provide a culturally-resonant motif and assist in creating a distinctive Australian design to set it apart from its Estonian and diasporic counterparts around the world.

Whilst this project began as a University project, I chose the Archives as it felt like a purposeful and appropriate use of my time in applying my theory to a real-life scenario. Becoming increasingly involved within the Sydney Estonian community has allowed me to work on projects with real-life clients and work on often challenging briefs (even more so for individuals approaching from outside the community).

Having previously worked on briefs for Eeski Ski Lodge, the folk-dancing group Virmalised, Sõrve Summer Camp, the Estonian Cultural Foundation in Australia and the choir Kooskõlas I find these projects particularly satisfying and gratifying and hope to continue further encourage young and emerging designers/artists to make the most of the opportunities we are provided being a part of such a community.

Lachlan Bell

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/lachlan-c-bell/>

<https://www.instagram.com/lochman/>

website courtesy of Kristi Barrow.

Catalogues of [Personal Papers](#) and the [In Memoriam](#) notices are currently online.

[Meet the Team](#) introduces the people who make all this possible, devoting one day a week to sorting, arranging and describing the collected material and finally preparing the catalogues which make access to the collections easier.

We start with our current exhibition [The Great Escape 1944](#) but plan to add more of our past exhibitions so that we can all share the history and culture of the Estonian community in Australia.

I hope that you will visit our site and find something new and interesting or familiar and reassuring. Further catalogues are being prepared. We can share our materials with you as scans, photocopies or downloads. The best way to get in touch is via our [Contact Us](#) page or email. We have also started an [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) account to complement our existing [Facebook](#) presence.

We plan to continually update the contents, so I look forward to you visiting us often.

<https://archives.eesti.org.au/>

Maie Barrow

into cultural organisations such as the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, the Estonian National Museum, Sydney Jewish Museum and Blue Shield International informed the design approach.

Inspired to stay true to the original logo, additional text in both English and Estonian was incorporated as one of the main drawbacks of the original logo was the unexplained EAA acronym.

The letter 'E' was stylised in the form of a traditional brooch which is a common item worn by individuals as a symbol of protection.

The inspiration behind the form was drawn from traditional belts and the interweaving of histories, with a single

Logo (Before & After)



BEFORE



AFTER

THE STORY BEHIND OUR NEW LOGO