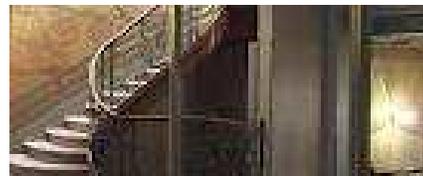
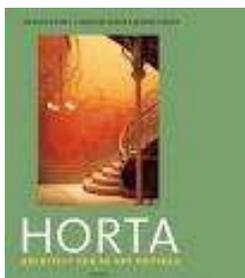
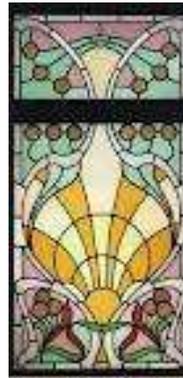


Belgian Events

October 2011



Celebrating the birth of Victor Horta 150 years ago

Belgians appointed CEOs of multinationals

On 1 October Frank Meysman (59) took over as chairman of the British *Thomas Cook Group*, second only to *TUI Travel* in Europe.



Meysman started his career at *Proctor & Gamble* (1977-1986), but made his mark during his time at *Sara Lee* (1985-2003); first as CEO and then as chairman. During the past years on the management board he has been instrumental in strategy planning for companies like loom manufacturer *Picanol*, drinks manufacturer *Spadel* and real estate investment trust *WDP*. The *Thomas Cook* nomination committee lauded Meysman for his marketing capacities and excellent track record in brand building and product innovation.

On 1 July Dirk Van de Put assumed his role as new CEO and chairman of the Canadian food concern *McCain*, a specialist in deep-frozen food such as potato products, pizzas, vegetables and pre-prepared meals. He is presiding over 20,000 staff based in some 50 factories spread throughout the world and with a turnover of 4.2 billion euros.

After his studies in veterinary medicine at the University of Ghent and an MBA in Antwerp, he accepted a position in the Belgian pet food division of the American food corporation *Mars*. This was followed by a stint with fizzy drink powerhouse *Coca-Cola* in Puerto Rico and Brazil, and the French group *Danone*. After leaving *Danone*, he joined the Swiss *Novartis*, where he was responsible for the global division of prescription-free OTC-drugs. Shortly afterwards he accepted the offer from *McCain* that he just could not refuse, leaving Miami for Toronto.



Van de Put and Meysman join a growing list of Belgian talent shining on the international arena like Paul Bulcke (food giant *Nestlé*), Patrick De Maeseeneire (international interim agency *Adecco*), Jean-François Van Boxmeer (brewer *Heineken*) and Rudy Provoost (CEO of the French electronic giant *Rexel*).

Cortebeek, vice-president of International Labour Organisation



On 17 June, the president of Belgium's largest trade union, the Christian Union ACV, was appointed the new vice-president of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Genève. The board of directors of the ILO is elected on a triennial basis and controls its daily management and an annual budget of more than 700 million dollars.

With his reputation of excellence within the ILO and his years of experience as vice-president of the International Trade Union (ITUC) it is hardly surprising that Luc Cortebeek obtained the majority vote. For this new 3-year international function, he receives no remuneration but considerable prestige. On 1 January 2012 he will hand over the ACV sceptre to Marc Leemans. Cortebeek had been its national chairman since 1999.

Belgian beats the great chess players

Since the birth of computers in the 1950s, people have tried to make them champions at chess. With chess players representing humanity's leading edge in intellect, they had a duty to keep ahead of the machines. It came therefore as a great shock in 1997 when *Deep Blue*, a computer developed by *IBM*, beat Garry Kasparov. Had the intelligence of computers overtaken that of its human creators? The truth is quite different because the computer is nothing without the human programming that created the chess engines and without its unrivalled calculating power (*Deep Blue* could perform 300 million calculations a second).



Today, chess engines are particularly powerful in position analysis. This is certainly the case with the *Houdini* chess engine developed by Belgian chess player Robert Houdart. The current *Houdini* 1.5a version is widely considered to be the most powerful chess engine in the world and is overwhelmingly favoured by the grand masters of chess. In December last year *Houdini* was awarded the number one position in the international IPON Rating List, 60 points ahead of its competitors.

Houdini is free to use for non-commercial purposes and can be downloaded, installed and used by anyone.

www.cruaxis.com/chess/houdini.htm

Neuroscience at Liège University

Neuronal levels of consciousness

Recent studies have shown that patients with severe brain damage who show little or no external signs of perception or awareness may feel pain and even have a degree of consciousness. Better methods for evaluating consciousness among patients will help doctors improve their treatment and provide a more precise prognosis. They will also give families an indication as to whether their relative is aware of their visits or not.

A study carried out in Liège that appeared in the *Science* review, describes a new test of consciousness that could represent a step in this direction. The team recorded electrical responses in the brains to auditory clicks using high-density electroencephalography (EEG).

By applying a sophisticated mathematical model, the team of researchers headed by Mélanie Boly and Steven Laureys in the Liège Coma Science Group, were able to identify a neuronal signature of consciousness that is present in healthy people and in patients with a minimal and fluctuating level of consciousness, but not among unconscious patients or patients in a vegetative state.



Access to the work of their English peers at University College London enables the researchers from Liège to validate their hypothesis and detail the mechanisms. Prof. Steven Laureys stated "This is only the start. Studies currently underway will evaluate the prognostic value of this new technique."

Tackling cluster headaches with neurostimulation

There is new hope for sufferers of cluster headache, a headache so severe that it is *also known as* 'suicide' headache. A team of researchers at Liège University is currently testing a new treatment for sufferers of this chronic condition, which does not respond to available drug therapies.

Migranous neuralgie, or '*cluster headache*', is a very debilitating condition. The headache is recognised as being so unbearable that it can lead to suicide. Sufferers - mostly men - may have headache episodes several times a day or night each lasting 45 minutes on average. Cluster headache affects about two people in every thousand.

The sphenopalatine ganglion in the autonomic nervous system plays a key role in cluster headache. 30 years ago in Liège, Dr JC Devoghel introduced a technique of infiltration of this ganglion, which provides temporary relief. Professor Jean Schoenen, Director of the Headache Research Unit at the University of Liège, is currently coordinating the first multi-centre trials of a new neurostimulation system to deliver stimulation to the sphenopalatine ganglion.



The neurostimulator, a miniaturised implant the size of an almond, is inserted next to the sphenopalatine ganglion, located in a tiny cavity behind the cheekbone, through a surgical incision in the gum. The procedure is minimally invasive and leaves no visible scar. The patient applies a remote controller on the cheek to activate the implant and control the stimulation depending on the intensity of the pain.

The implant technique was developed in Liège by Drs Alain Wilmont and Sandrine Machiels at the Citadelle hospital and the first implants were inserted in Liège. At this stage of the trial, 22 patients have implants and the findings for the first seven of these were presented by Professor Schoenen at the recent Congress of the International Headache Society in Berlin. The preliminary results are very promising: in 67% of headaches treated, pain was relieved in 15 minutes, and more than 70% of patients experienced a 50% reduction in the frequency of their headaches, something they had not experienced for years.

www.ulg.ac.be

Montois scientists among world's top chemists

Every year, the *Thomson Reuters* press agency compiles top 100 lists of researchers who have had a worldwide impact through their scientific publications. The rankings, compiled from 500,000 researchers around the world, are based on two criteria: the number of publications and recorded citations of these publications between 1 January 2000 and 31 October 2010.

In the Top 100 list dedicated to the most influential chemists specialising in Material Sciences over the past decade, Philippe Dubois (Vice-President of Research at UMONS) came in 18th place and was ranked number 3 among European researchers. One of his articles was cited 2,350 times by his colleagues. David Beljonne, director of research for the FNRS [National Fund for Scientific Research] at UMONS and secretary of the Chemistry Institute, obtained 88th place in the same classification.

40-year old permanent FNRS researcher within the New Materials Chemistry department of UMONS, Jérôme Cornil, was ranked 99th in the Top 100 most influential chemists. During the last decade, Jérôme Cornil published 65 articles in chemistry-related scientific journals and his work was cited a total of 3,640 times. Cornil works on the theoretical modelling of organic materials for electronics. The applications of this research are mainly aimed at replacing silicium. Organic materials are used in the field of OLEDs for television screens or mobile phones, in integrated circuits and solar cells.

www.thomsonreuters.com

Leuven Urologists honoured



The *European Urology Association* awards prizes to researchers during its annual conference in Vienna. The winners are authors of outstanding scientific papers and who, through their work, have contributed to the development of the medical discipline. This year, the Department of Urology of the University Hospital of Leuven received several prizes.

Dr Steven Joniau won the main prize: the Cristal EAU Matula Award 2011. This prestigious prize is awarded to promising young urologists who have the potential to become figureheads in a university environment. Dr Joniau also received the International Oncology Prize 2011.

Dr Wouter Everaerts received the Prize for the Best Paper published on Fundamental Research in the Urological Literature in 2010. And finally, Dr Joost Berkers received the First Prize for the Best Abstract by a resident.

www.uroweb.org

Energy from the earth

Five years after its establishment, the University of Ghent's science park *Greenbridge* enjoys an impressive record of achievement.

"Today the centre for startup businesses counts twenty companies that focus exclusively on energy technologies. Among the twenty new projects are a solar dome, windmills and solar panels shaped in the form of roof panels," explains CEO Greet Van Eetvelde. The new building will rest on 98 poles. Forty of these will be energy poles, i.e. concrete poles with special tubes containing a liquid which will attach to a heat pump to facilitate the extraction of energy from the earth. "One could literally say it will be extracting energy from the earth," says Joeri Ameloot of the contractor WIG Palen. Once operational, these poles will be investigated and the technology refined to apply the principle to residential homes. Major industry players *Daikin*, *Renson* and *Siemens* have put their trust in the future of *Greenbridge* by signed a collaborative agreement with science park.

www.greenbridge.be



And finally.... did you know...



Hailed as a hero in Italy, Belgian architect Jean Barthélemy was decorated for his contribution to saving the famous Tower of Pisa from collapse. Barthélemy joined a committee of 13 experts and found a solution that would save the leaning tower: excavation.

Earth was removed from under the foundations at the side that didn't lean to reverse some of the tilt. Applying this technique, the 60m high marble tower was realigned towards its vertical axis and saved to continue to delight tourists for years to come.

World Economic Forum lists Belgium amongst most competitive countries

Belgium has become better equipped to compete with its neighbouring countries and even with the rest of the world. In an annual list of countries with the highest competitive strength compiled by the *World Economic Forum (WEF)*, our country climbed from 19th to 15th position, overtaking France in the process. These remarkable results also reflect those compiled by the Swiss business school *IMB*, which put Belgium up two positions from number 25 to 23. Both ranking lists are considered an excellent tool for highlighting competitive strength. The *WEF* considers 140 countries with 111 criteria for its ranking, ranging from the job market and confidence in the political situation to the protection of intellectual property and the quality of railways. Belgium has shown progress in respect of infrastructure, especially its harbours, electricity and telecoms networks.



The *WEF* displays in a clear manner Belgium's weak and strong points, ranking the country among the cream of the crop as far as its management schools, mathematics and primary school education and harbours are concerned. Scientific research, the availability of technological and financial services rank among the top ten in the world. On the downside, the country scores poorly in respect of taxes and public debt, ranking among the ten worst in the world. The job market, when compared to the rest of the world, is rather rigid and companies are hesitant to recruit new staff. The *WEF* ranking list, which is seen as the most crucial economic beauty pageant of the year, is led by Switzerland and followed by a number of Scandinavian countries, Singapore and the United States.

www.weforum.org/issues/global-competitiveness

Belgium well ranked in the OECD wellbeing index

The *OECD* has unveiled a new interactive index which will enable each individual to measure and compare his or her own quality of life beyond the traditional scope of Gross Domestic Product statistics. Christened the "Better Life" index, this tool forms an integral part of the *OECD's* "Better Life" Initiative, which aims to measure wellbeing and progress. The index enables citizens to compare their wellbeing across 34 countries (mainly European countries, US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand) based on 11 aspects: housing; income; jobs; community; education; environment; governance; health; life satisfaction; safety; and work-life balance.

Belgium comes out very well in numerous measures of wellbeing, ranking amongst the top ten countries in several categories. We are, for instance, 4th for income, 5th for housing and 5th for work-life balance.

When asked, 76% of people in Belgium say they are satisfied with their lives, which is much higher than the *OECD* average of 59%.

www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org

Brussels: 5th most important city in the world

According to a study of the world's great cities carried out by the property consultant Knight Frank, Brussels has moved up a place in its ranking since last year. The study which concentrates on economic activity, political power, quality of life and knowledge & influence ranked Brussels as 5th most important city, behind New York, London, Paris and Tokyo.

In the more specific classification of cities with the greatest political power, Brussels once again improved its ranking, with a position in 3rd place.

www.knightfrank.com/wealthreport/2011/global-cities-survey/

Pascal Paepen lives in London where he works in the City. He also reports regularly on Belgian radio and TV.



What exactly does your City job entail?

I work for Daiwa in “convertible bonds syndication and origination”. In simpler terms, I advise companies on how to raise money cheaply. I have been dealing with convertible bonds since 1997 and think it is a great product. It can be considered as an equity-linked instrument, something between equity and bonds.

Apart from that, you also report daily on financial-economic matters on Belgium’s Radio 1?

Indeed. I provide a brief overview of the financial markets. Initially, my comments were broadcast in the morning but now they are scheduled at 6.30pm Belgian time. I started working for Radio1 over 11 years ago after I suggested they spend more time on finance and economics as it is important for everyone. I was pleased they agreed.

Are these broadcasts live or pre-recorded?

They are always live. Most listeners think I am in the studio in Brussels rather than in London because of the excellent quality of the special ISDN connection from our small studio here at the bank.

Are you only commenting on financial matters?

Almost all my contributions deal with finance and economics. Exceptionally, the VRT call me to comment on U.K. affairs but that only happens if Lia van Beckhoven, the VRT radio and TV correspondent in the UK, is not available.

You work for television too?

I have appeared on TV news programmes a couple of times. But the time I get allocated to discuss an item is even shorter than on radio. I typically get 3 minutes a day on Radio1 and hardly ever more than 1 minute on the TV news. Maybe my face is more suitable for radio broadcasts.

When and why did you move to London?

I come from Mol, a municipality near the Dutch border and moved to London in October 2000. I was used to living in a capital as I had been living and working in Brussels for over 7 years. I prefer living close to the office in order to avoid a long commute. That is why I have been living in Bethnal Green for the past 11 years. At the time, nobody seemed to like the area despite its proximity to the City. Things have changed now and the area has become very popular. Sadly though, as a result, my landlord has just increased my rent by 17%!

When I worked in the trading room of KBC in Brussels, I frequently dealt with bankers and brokers based in London so I knew quite a lot of people here already. Then, KBC decided to buy a London investment bank specialised in convertible bonds and I did not hesitate to move and work for them in London. It is a decision I do not regret. Last year, KBC sold the business to Daiwa and consequently I now work for a Japanese bank.

Since the banking crisis 3 years ago, people have become very skeptical of bankers and the bonuses they receive. What is your response when people approach you with that attitude?

Some people, as well as some media, like to provoke by thinking black and white. In reality, however, there are more colours and shades. During my career, I have worked with hundreds of investment bankers and most of them are hard working people who try to find the best solution for their customers. These people should be compensated for their long hours. One should not exaggerate of course and I agree some bonuses can never be justified. But there is nothing wrong with an employee sharing in the profits of his/her employer. On the contrary, I think more people should receive bonuses, not less.

How do you see the future of the Euro?

The euro's future does not need to be bleak. However, the single currency requires responsibility and financial discipline from all governments in the eurozone. Unfortunately, the latter is wishful thinking. Hence, the crisis. It is a shame, really.

How does London compare with living in Belgium?

I like the open-mindedness of the people here and the fact that there is always something to do at any time of the day. The good tube and bus network, the long opening hours of the local supermarket, the curry restaurants in Brick Lane,... these are all things I will miss if and when I go back to Belgium.

Are you planning to return to Belgium?

Before I came, I told my family and friends I would return after 2 or 3 years. Since then, I have been postponing the move back. I still think I will return one day, but the longer I stay the harder it gets. It will take some getting used to living in Belgium again!

How often do you go to Belgium and what do you miss about your native country now that you live abroad?

I go to Belgium about once a month, for business or to visit friends and family. Travelling on the Eurostar is convenient, although I think the language skills of some Eurostar employees are poor. I do not miss a lot, really. Maybe a real Belgian 'frietkot'? Although it's better for my diet that there are none.

Do you have regular contact with other Belgians in London?

Sure. I recently went to see a football match at Fulham with several other Belgians. We were proud to see Belgian Moussa Dembélé perform very well. I also try to attend TYC's drinks from time to time and I frequently have friends from Belgium staying in my flat.

What are your future aspirations?

I am happy as long as I am healthy, have a job I enjoy and some good friends. I would never have thought that I would be living abroad or that I would ever work in a trading room and be on radio or TV. As a child, I always wanted to be a teacher. Maybe, one day, I will be.

London Olympics 2012

In preparation for the London Olympic Games, the usual series of test events kicked off in August. We briefly met up with BOIC (Belgian Olympic Interfederal Committee) members Eddie De Smedt (Chef de mission, London 2012) and Rudy Lahor (Project Manager, London 2012) who attended the sailing event in Weymouth, rowing in Eton and swimming, beach volley ball and cycling in London. Both were impressed with the venues and organisation of the events. The London riots did not affect any of the activities although they had travelled through Clapham only hours before the manifestations caused serious damage in that area.



So far, according to De Smedt, 35 Belgian athletes are selectable to participate in the London Games, based on the criteria put forward by both the IOC (International Olympic Committee) and the BOIC. The latter usually sets tougher requirements than the IOC who looks for top results in international championships or high places in the world rankings.

The selectable Belgian athletes will represent Belgium in horse jumping (team) and eventing (team), table tennis (Jean-Michel Saive), kayak (Olivier Cauwenbergh, Laurens Pannecoucke in sprint and Mathieu Doby in slalom), hockey (team men), swimming (Brian Ryckeman and Fanny Lecluyse), 400m distance running (Jonathan and Kevin Borlée), 400m hurdles (Elodie Ouedraogo) and decathlon (Hans Van Alphen).

A number of athletes, such as the 4x400m relay (track and field) Thomas Van Der Plaetsen (decathlon), Kim Clijsters, Xavier Malisse and Yanina Wickmayer (tennis), Evi Van Acker (sailing), Kevin Van Hoovels (MTB), Charline Van Snick, Dirk Van Tichelt, Elco Van Der Geest and Cathérine Jacques (judo) as well as some other athletes in sailing, badminton, beach volleyball, weightlifting, gymnastics and fencing have so far fulfilled the Belgian or international requirements only but should qualify without too many problems.

There are more international competitions to be held later this year such as Gymnastics and Sailing, but the majority of 'tickets' will be earned next year. By 9 July 2012 the entire Belgian Olympic Team will be known as LOCOG stops all entries at midnight.

'In fact, after the autumn training sessions in Lanzarote, Belgium will be able to predict the majority of its London Olympic participants. In Beijing, the Belgian delegation counted 98 members. I'm hoping for the same or slightly higher number for London', reveals De Smedt.



Belgian House at
London's Inner Temple
during the 2012 Olympics





Liège was presented by Prime Minister Leterme as candidate for holding the 2017 International Expo. Coronmeuse was chosen as the location for an Expo in 2017 after it served as the site for the last International Exposition held in Liège back in 1939.

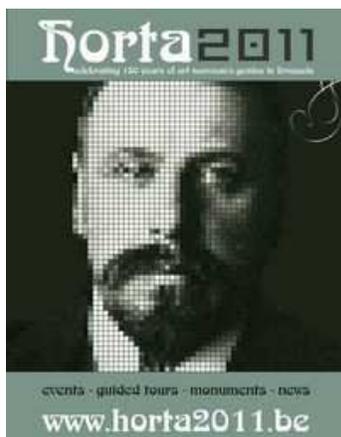
The City of Liège, the heart of the third biggest conurbation in Belgium (its urban area boasts a population of 600,000), is the economic capital of the Walloon region, the French-speaking region in the south of Belgium. In the last decade, Liège has been transformed into a city that generates a service economy that centers on its 'poles of competence'. Organising an International Expo in 2017 will be a superb chance for Liège to make its advantages more valuable and tell its success stories in economy, science and culture to the world.



The concept of the theme '**Connecting the world, linking people**' is based on connectivity and may be defined as "the technological phenomenon that makes it increasingly easy and fast to create links between an impressive number of women and men world-wide".

www.bie-paris.org

2011, the Year of Victor Horta



Victor Horta, born in Ghent in 1861, would have been 150 years old this year. An ideal opportunity therefore to celebrate this Art Nouveau genius by turning the spotlight on his works and the importance of his heritage. With grand townhouses, large boutiques, country residences, a Palais des Beaux Arts, a Central Station and more to his name, this inventive builder also reformed architectural teaching. The exciting new spirit he inspired at the beginning of the 20th century undoubtedly has something to do with the abundance of talented designers of whom Brussels is so proud today.

This anniversary of Horta's birth offers the perfect opportunity to revisit his work through his buildings and the numerous activities organised around the theme of Horta 2011. A selection appears in the cultural calendar in this publication.

Belgium participates at the 55th BFI London Film Festival

12 - 27 October 2011

Every year the BFI London Film Festival brings the best new films to the capital as one of Europe's leading public film events.

Amongst this year's programme, the LFF presents a selection of Belgian feature films including *The Kid with a Bike*, *The Giants*, *The Fairy* and *Last Winter*. Also included is the short film *Swimsuit 46* (see 'Calendar of Events')

The Festival screenings will take place at a host of venues across the capital - BFI Southbank, Odeon Leicester Square, Vue West End, ICA, Curzon Mayfair and Ritz.

www.bfi.org.uk/lff

Biometric passports

Biometric Passport
Passport.belgium.be



Since 2004 Belgium has issued electronic passports with a computer chip containing your personal data and photograph. We have now crossed a new milestone with a chip that will contain your fingerprints.

New security measures

How can we make sure a passport can only be used by its rightful holder? How can we protect you against identity theft in case of loss or theft of your passport?

The European Union answers these questions through the integration of biometric data in your passport. It is a matter of specific characteristics that are linked to your person only and that will irrefutably prove beyond doubt your identity: your face and your fingerprints.

New Customs

Contrary to many other European countries, Belgium has during many years shown great flexibility by allowing its fellow-countrymen residing abroad to apply for their passports by post. As such, long journeys could be avoided. With the biometric passport this alternative will no longer be available since all citizens will have to submit their passport application in person.

Only the official missions—and no longer the Honorary Consulates—will have the authority to register passport application and process the biometric data.

This is not all...

The heightened security measures for our passports are part of a much larger framework: the European fight against fraud in order to better protect its territory.

In that respect, not only Belgian passports will contain biometric data: other European countries will also introduce biometrics into their passports and the applicants of a Schengen-visa will see them processed into their visa as well. In other words, we are on the eve of a new era.

A biometric era that will tighten the net around fraud and that will offer all of us more security. A biometric era that will make it easier for bona fide people to cross borders thanks to automatic gateposts (e-gates).

A biometric era that will give us the world at our fingertips...

The Belgian Embassy in London is issuing biometric passport as from 17th October 2011.

More details from www.diplomatie.be/london/default.asp?id=36&ACT=5&content=11&mnu=36

Clubs news

The Anglo-Belgian Club shall again be holding the Belgian Ball next year, on Saturday 17 March under the Patronage of H.E. the Ambassador of Belgium and Mrs Johan Verbeke.

The proceeds of the Belgian Ball will be donated to the Royal Belgian Benevolent Society of which His Majesty King Albert II is patron.

The Benevolent Society with the close co-operation of the British Council, presents awards to Belgian postgraduate students to give them the opportunity to study at British universities.



The Ball will be held in the Club's new clubhouse in Northumberland Avenue, which leads into Trafalgar Square.

For enquiries about the Anglo-Belgian Club, please contact

Mr. Philippe Sauvage

secretary@anglobelgianclub.com,

Tel: +44 (0) 207 839 8562

The Anglo-Belgian Society (ABS) promotes Anglo-Belgian friendship and culture. Membership is not expensive and application forms can be obtained, with all enquiries, from the Hon. Secretary, Mr Patrick Bresnan, www.anglo-belgiansoc.co.uk, secretary@anglo-belgiansoc.co.uk

The Anglo-Belgian Club (ABC), situated in the heart of London, an ideal meeting place for Belgians living in or traveling to London, as well as for British with Belgian connections. Information and application forms from the secretariat, ABC, 8 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BY, tel. 0207 839 4732, www.ra-bc.com, secretary@ra-bc.com

The Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce (BLCC) For information on membership or on any of the events organised by the Chamber, contact the BLCC at Westwood House, Annie Med Lane, South Cave, HU15 2HG, tel. 0207 127 4292, fax 0870 429 2148, www.blcc.co.uk, info@blcc.co.uk

The Young Chamber. Contact: Aurelien Huynen. All Belgians welcome to meet in informal atmosphere. www.theyoungchamber.org, info@theyoungchamber.org

Brussels Capital Region, François De Vrije, Economic and Commercial Attaché tel. 0207 235 8949, fax 020/7235 8650, info@brusselstrade.co.uk

The Walloon Region of Belgium, Didier Denayer, Economic and Commercial Attaché tel. 0207 235 0903, fax 020/7235 0585, www.wallonia.co.uk, london@awex.co.uk

Walloon & Flemish Trade Office (Birmingham Branch), Vincent Bastin, Economic & Commercial Counsellor, The White House, 111 New Street, Birmingham B2 4EU tel: 0121 616 1962, Birmingham@awex.co.uk

Belgian Tourist Office, Brussels-Wallonia, 217 Marsh Wall, London E14 9FJ, tel. 0207 531 0391, www.belgiumtheplaceto.be, info@belgiumtheplaceto.be

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It houses the services

of the **Representative of the Flemish Government**, Geert De Proost, Tel: 0207 299 3592, geert.de.proost@flandershouse.co.uk

of **Flanders Investment and Trade**, Ben De Smit, Economic and Commercial Attaché Tel: 0207 307 7710, fitlondon@fitlondon.org

and **Tourism Flanders-Brussels**

Tel: 0207 307 7730, info@visitflanders.co.uk

Flanders Investment and Trade (Scotland Branch) / AWEX / Brussels Export, Cathy Grieve, Economic & Commercial Representative, Conference House, 152 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EB, tel: 0131 200 6080 Edinburgh@fitagency.com

Vlaamse Club in Londen (VCL), organises activities for Flemish and Dutch-speaking people in the London area, thus creating a meeting place and a network opportunity for the many Flemings in the UK, www.vlaamseclublonden.com, info@vlaamseclublonden.com

Vlamingen in de Wereld, representative in the UK: Mr David Vermylen, david.vermylen@uk.bp.com

Union Francophone des Belges à l'Étranger, representative in the UK: Mr Didier Denayer, 20 West Heath Close, London NW3 7NJ, ufbe_uk@yahoo.co.uk

Vlamingen in Surrey organise meetings and events for Flemish people living in the Surrey area. Contact: Brit Deckers-Beckers, Chase Manor, Kingfield Road, Woking, GU22 9AA, tel. 01483 726 760, Britbeckers@yahoo.co.uk, www.vlamingeninsurrey.co.uk

Orde Van den Prince promotes the unity of the Dutch language and culture, stimulating cooperation between Flanders and the Netherlands. Bimonthly meetings in London. Enquiries: Bruno Stalmans at brunostalmans@aol.com, tel. 01483 893522

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Horta 2011 (see article in this issue)

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 4 weekends in Oct | <p><i>Sixth Biennial Art Nouveau:</i>
Guided tours of over 60 interiors normally closed to the public
www.voiretdirebruxelles.be/en/biennale</p> |
| 4 weekends in Oct | <p><i>CINEMATEK celebrates Horta</i>
The Film Archive offers a selection of films in which Horta plays a central role
www.cinematek.be</p> |
| until 4 Dec | <p><i>Victor Horta revisited! L'Art de Vivre & Shopping</i>
Exhibition highlighting the way in which Horta renovated the bourgeois house and how his ideas spread throughout Brussels and Europe
www.belvue.be</p> |
| until 31 Dec | <p><i>Horta, a lost world:</i>
exhibition about Horta's lost architectural works at the 'Maison Autrique'
www.autrique.be</p> |

13 - 27 October **Belgian films at the 55th BFI London Film Festival**

www.bfi.org.uk/lff

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 13 Oct
14 Oct
15 Oct | <p><i>Almayer's Folly (La Folie Almayer),</i>
Director: Chantal Ackerman
Vue 3, 6.30pm
Ciné Lumière, 8.30pm
Ciné Lumière, 1.15pm</p> |
| 21 Oct
23 Oct | <p><i>The kid with a bike (Le gamin au vélo)</i>
Directors: Jean-Pierre & Luc Dardenne
Vue 5, 8.15pm
Curzon Mayfair, 6.30pm</p> |
| 15 Oct
18 Oct | <p><i>Early one morning (De bon matin)</i>
Director: Jean-Marc Moutout
Ciné Lumière, 6.30pm
NFT1, 3.30pm</p> |
| 15 Oct
16 Oct | <p><i>The fairy (La fée)</i>
Directors: Abel, Gordon, Romy
Ciné Lumière, 4.15pm
Ciné Lumière, 8.30pm</p> |
| 13 Oct
14 Oct
16 Oct | <p><i>The giants (Les géants)</i>
Director: Bouli Lanners
Vue 5, 5.45pm
Vue 6, 3.15pm
Ciné Lumière, 1.30pm</p> |

Cont...

23 Oct *Last Winter (L'hiver dernier)*
 Director: John Shank
 Vue 6, 9pm
 24 Oct Vue 6, 3.15pm

23 Oct *On the sly (A pas de loup)*
 Director: Olivier Ringer
 NFT2, 1.45pm

18 Oct *Swimsuit 46 (Badpakje 46)*
 short film
 Director: Wannas Destoop
 19 Oct NFT2, 6.15pm
 NFT3, 3.45pm

5 November VIS: Autumn Walk in Effingham

8 November BCC: Brussels Day at St Pancras
 The Renaissance Hotel, St Pancras

21 - 22 November *Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, Jérôme Bel*
 & Ictus perform '3Abschied' at Sadler's Wells
www.sadlerswells.com

4 December VIS: St Nicholas party

9 December VIS: Christmas drink

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Reactions and contributions by outsiders are welcome