



# Život

Attention! Membership fees are now due!

Czechoslovak Club in S.A. Inc

51 Coglin Street,

Brompton, SA5007

Tel. 8346 4181 nebo 0481047492

[www.facebook.com/csclubsa](http://www.facebook.com/csclubsa)

<https://czechoslovakclub.com.au>

[czechoslovakclubsa@gmail.com](mailto:czechoslovakclubsa@gmail.com)

## OVERVIEW OF CLUB'S PROGRAM 2026

Bar and kitchen are open every Friday from 6PM. Excellent home style food, Czech beer and yummy cakes. Booking essential.

15.3. Sunday - Gratis dinner for seniors with program

27.3. Friday - School Easter Activities

3.4. Friday - Easter Friday, club closed

8.5. Friday - Mothers Day

15.5. Friday - Tasting Australia

29.5. - 31.5. - Children's Day - Organized by the Czech School

14.6. Sunday - Ancestral Calling

1.8. Saturday - Travelling to Czech Republic

4.9. Friday - Fathers Day.

26.9. Saturday - AFL Final

9.10. Friday - Club Closed

9.10. - 11.10.- Weekend picnic in Mt Crawford Forest

25.10. Sunday - National Day Celebrations

15.11. Sunday - AGM

6.12. Sunday - St Nicholas

20.12. Sunday - Christmas Lunch and Carolls

31.12. Thursday- New Years Eve

21.12. 2026 - 28.1.2027 Club closed

Visit a new club webpage

<https://czechoslovakclub.com.au>



### Smokers !

! Please don't throw cigarette butts on the ground. Take them to the corner of the parking lot where the ashtrays are.



### Do you want to be informed about club events as quickly as possible?

Simply send us your email address by email, and optionally your mobile number to which we can send SMS messages.

Please send all inquiries, requests, and messages to this email:

[czechoslovakclubsa@gmail.com](mailto:czechoslovakclubsa@gmail.com)

or call the club mobile number: 0481 047 492



### Bar offers:

- ◆ Polomáčené oplatky
- ◆ Kremžská hořčice
- ◆ Tatranky
- ◆ Plnotučná hořčice
- ◆ Horalky
- ◆ Mila řezy
- ◆ Lina oplatky



### Committee meetings are held

on the second Thursday of each month.

12/3, 9/4, 14/5, 11/6, 9/7, 13/8, 10/9, 8/10, 12/11, 10/12.

**On March 15,**

we're putting on a **free lunch for our senior club members**, followed by an interesting talk on how to stay safe from online scams.

Other members and non-members are very welcome too — lunch will be available to buy at the bar, just like on Fridays. The talk is free for everyone.

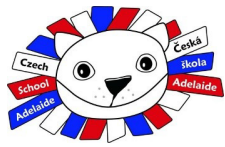
Lunch from 12:00 pm, talk from 2:00 pm.

**Safety net**

## **Financial Scam Awareness and Cyber Security Training**



Think you can spot a scam? Come along to our “Safety Net” workshop to learn how to identify warning signs and protect your money from sophisticated financial fraud. Enjoy simple, stress-free tips for a safer digital life.



email: [ceskaskolaadelaide@gmail.com](mailto:ceskaskolaadelaide@gmail.com)



New teacher. Welcome. We hope you will like it here.



*My name is Lucie Svítlová and I am here to help you develop the Czech language. I always look forward to my students and hope that during our lessons we will not only learn something new, but also enjoy it. I like to read and I am proud to be a bookworm, as we say. I try to be patient, open-minded and supportive so that everyone can learn at their own pace and with joy. I cannot wait to get to know life in Australia! Most of all I will probably enjoy the sea, but of course I am also looking forward to meeting a giant spider or a snake.*

Lucie Svítlová



Dear parents and friends of the school,

we are happy to announce that we have **successfully started the new school year**. We welcomed a new teacher from the Czech Republic, who immediately joined the work actively and with enthusiasm. Individual lessons and classes for adults have also started, and there is great interest in them this year.

The year is developing very well and we are already looking forward to several joint events. On **Friday 27 March** we have Easter activities prepared for children and parents. At the end of May, on the weekend **29–31 May**, we will go to the forest near **Mt. Crawford**, where we will spend the whole Day of Children with outdoor games and camping opportunities. The main program will take place on Saturday.

I look forward to our shared experiences and thank everyone for supporting our school.

For the Czech School  
**Lucie Handrick**

**Friday classes:**

Little Chickens group: **5:15pm – 5:45pm**

Younger children class: **6:00pm – 6:45pm**

Older children class: **7:00pm – 8:00pm**

Contact: Lucie +61 406 959 941

## Please pay your membership fees

2025 – 2026

### Thank you for your donation to the club:

M. and J. Ryneš – \$30 in the form of stamps for *Život* magazine.

Sam a Misha Pinnock \$50

Maruška Zemanová \$50

Rodina Krátkých \$10

Dan Kortschak \$50

**Thank you to everyone who decides to support the club fund and sends their contribution to the bank account:**

### Czechoslovak Club

Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 000

Account No.: 148 346 810

Please do not forget to write your name and reason for payment.

You can also send cheques to:

Czechoslovak Club

51 Coglin Street

Brompton SA 5007

**Working individual – \$35**

**Working family – \$50**

**Pensioner family – \$40**

**Pensioner – \$25**

Or you can pay every Friday at the club bar or to Hanka Silvy.

In December, we lost a long-standing active member of the club,

**Miroslava Rožková**, aged 78.

A large number of people came to the club to pay their respects.

In January, a long-standing club member

**Naděžda Bohutínská-Pudilová**

passed away at the age of 90.

On behalf of the club, the farewell was attended by social officer Sylvia Wundersitz

*Rest in peace!*



# St. Nicholas Celebration

7.12.2025



# TIPS FOR TRIPS

## KONOPIŠŤE CHATEAU Tours from Prague



**Konopiště Castle**, near Prague in the Czech Republic, was the lavish residence of Archduke Franz Ferdinand d'Este, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, who bought it in 1887 and modernized it, turning it into a stunning palace filled with his vast hunting trophies (over 300,000 animals), armor collections, and luxurious amenities like elevators and indoor plumbing, making it famous as his home before his assassination triggered WWI.

### Key Aspects of Konopiště under Franz Ferdinand:

- ◆ **Home & Retreat:** He chose it as his home away from the Viennese court, where his marriage to the "unequal" Countess Sophie Chotek faced disapproval.
- ◆ **Modernization:** He transformed the Gothic castle into a modern residence with state-of-the-art comforts for the era, including a shower, flush toilet, and an elevator.
- ◆ **Collections:** The castle became a museum of his passions, housing thousands of hunting trophies, an extensive collection of arms and armor, and art.
- ◆ **Family Life:** Visitors can see his private rooms and those of his wife, Sophie, adding a personal touch to the opulent setting.
- ◆ **Historical Significance:** It's known as the place where Franz Ferdinand lived before his assassination in Sarajevo, which led to World War I.

## The Hunting Maniac

Archduke **Franz Ferdinand d'Este** is largely known for his assassination, which triggered World War I, but his life was filled with unusual stories of an **obsessive hunting mania**.

Franz Ferdinand's passion for hunting was so extreme that even his uncle, Emperor Franz Joseph, reportedly described it as "mass murder".

**Astonishing Kill Count:** He kept meticulous diaries and records of every animal he shot, with the final tally reaching an astounding **274,899 kills**. This included tigers, elephants, kangaroos, emus, and even a platypus during his world tour in the 1890s.

**A Trophy Obsession:** His Bohemian castle at Konopiště housed over 100,000 trophies; guests reportedly had to be careful walking the halls to avoid being impaled by antlers. An elephant's foot was even repurposed as an ashtray.

**Cheating in Yellowstone:** While visiting Yellowstone National Park, where hunting was strictly banned and rangers sealed the barrels of visitors' rifles, Ferdinand was determined to secure a trophy. Undeterred, he and his companions used sticks and rocks to beat a skunk, porcupines, and squirrels to death, gleefully recording his defiance of the rules.



## Small but Meaningful Returns: Czechs and Slovaks at Home and Abroad

After years when it seemed that young people from the Czech Republic and Slovakia were mainly heading abroad, an interesting shift has appeared. Some are returning home – not always permanently, but bringing with them new skills, contacts and confidence. They are opening small businesses, cafés, IT start-ups and community projects, often in regional towns.

For the second generation of migrants in Australia, this may come as a surprise. Prague and Bratislava are not just picturesque tourist destinations; they are living, fast-changing cities where tradition and modern life meet every day.

## Traditions with a Modern Twist

Christmas baking, Easter customs or Slovak *fašiangy* carnivals – traditions familiar to our parents and grandparents are now finding new life. Young people share them on social media, post short videos with family recipes and explain their origins to friends and followers.

What once belonged mainly to the family circle has become a cultural calling card. In this way, traditions are turning into a bridge between generations – linking those who remember them from childhood with those who are discovering them anew.

## When Nature Speaks Loudly

The Czech Republic and Slovakia may be small countries, but they are rich in natural diversity. In recent years, there has been much discussion about the return of wolves, lynx and beavers to the countryside. Animals known to our grandparents mostly from stories are once again appearing in forests and rivers.

Debates about nature conservation can be lively, but they also bring renewed interest in the landscape as a whole. For people living abroad, this is a reminder that “home” is not only a city or village, but also the mountains, forests and rivers that remain.

In 2025, **2.7 million people** visited Prague Castle on guided tours. This surpassed the previous record from 2019, when nearly **2.6 million visitors** came. As in previous years, most paying visitors last year were **foreign tourists**. More than **nine million people** passed through the entire Prague Castle complex, including its gardens. The busiest months were **August, October, and July**.



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Velvyslanectví České republiky  
v Canberře

**Jana Tyrer**  
Velvyslanec

3 Beale Crescent, Deakin, ACT 2600, Australia  
tel: +61 2 6290 1 386  
e-mail: jana.tyrer@mzv.gov.cz  
e-mail: canberra@mzv.gov.cz  
www.mzv.gov.cz/canberra

## Překlady

českých textů do angličtiny a naopak  
odborně provede **Alexandra Kovaříčková**  
*certifikovaná překladatelka*

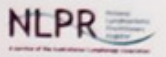
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[eva.green@travelmanagers.com.au](mailto:eva.green@travelmanagers.com.au)

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Born in Prague, I am a member of  
the Czech Club and have  
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