

PERTAS LATVIEŠU ZINĀS



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Nr. 232

The Perth Latvian Newsletter

August/September 2026

CALENDAR

August

- 23 Daugavas Vanagi anniversary and exhibition 1:00pm
- 30 Church service 11:30 am

September

- 6 Church service 11:30 am
- 20 Church service 11:30 am

October

- 3 **LATVIAN ELECTIONS**
- 11 Church service 11:30 am
- 18 Church service 11:30 am

November

- 14 Latvian National Day celebration and international guest speaker.
- 18 Latvian National Day

PERKONĪTIS FOLK DANCING REHEARSALS

Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm

Latvija 100



Latvian Honorary Consul in Western Australia

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Belmont, WA 6104

Ev. Lut. St. Pauls congregation

Pastor: Gunis Balodis 040 904 8863
President: Ieva Vlahova 044 719 4080

Latviešu Association of Western Australia

President: Ivonna Danbergs
e-mail ivonna@westnet.com.au

Daugavas Vanagi Pertas branch

Secretary: Jānis Purvinskis 9582 5221

Pertas Latvian Newsletter

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EDITOR

Please send items for publication to the editor by the 15th of June.

Thank you to everybody who donated to the publications of the Perth Latvian Newsletter. If you wish to donate, please make out your cheque to:

LATVIAN SPECIAL FUND

because Pertas Latvian Newsletter does not have a separate bank account.



EV. LUT. SV. PĀVILA DRAUDZE

Sitting in the beautiful sunshine, recovering and getting well, my thoughts wandered to the subject of **GRATITUDE**, and I decided to write a few words.

At that moment, my first thought was **GRATITUDE** that I have such loving and caring children, friends, and a neighbour who have looked after me during my illness.

As I continued to reflect, my **GRATITUDE** “wandered” through my life here in Australia and in Germany, where, in so many ways, things have gone well for me. Of course, there have inevitably also been painful and unhappy events, but somehow they seem smaller now and have faded in my memory.

These reflections led me to the realization that all the good things that I/we have are ultimately in God’s hands! I remain firmly convinced that everything good is given to us by God, and for that we should be humble and **GRATEFUL**.

I encourage everyone to look within and look back over their own lives and reflect on how good God has been to us.

- We were very happy to receive the news that Pastor Gunis and Signe will be returning to Western Australia. Hopefully, this will also relieve Jānis Vucēns of some of the work and technical difficulties. Great **GRATITUDE** for his and Sarmīte’s service to our congregation.
- We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Aina Timmermanis as she has been called to eternal life.
- The film shown at the June 14 commemoration was very moving. For me personally, it was even more so because, behind the terrible scenes in the film, the names from the book *These Names Accuse* appeared on the screen, and I saw the names of both of my cousins who had been deported, Juris and Ivārs Bone. When I was in Latvia, I visited both of them. Through photographs spanning 50 years, I was able to tell them about my family’s journey into exile. *Memories! Memories!*

WORSHIP SERVICE TIME

Please note that the time of our worship services has changed. Worship services will now begin at **11:30 a.m.**

Pastor Gunis will be with us at every worship service.

Ieva Vlahov
tālrunis: 044 719 4080

CHURCH SERVICES AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 2026

Viens dievkalpojums (2/8/26) iztrūks. Šinī laikā Mācītājs pārvāksies no Yirrkalas uz Woodanilling WA.

Turpmākie dievkalpojumi tiks vadīti klātienē.

Date:	30. augusts 11:30
Day	14. svēt. Pēc Sv. Gara Svētkiem
Colour	Zaļa
Lasījumi	Jer. 15:15-21 Rom. 12:9-21 Mat. Ev. 16:21-28
Dziesmas	190, 189, 397, 418, 425
Reader	Mācītājs
Duty	Jānis Vucēns
Flowers	Ieva Vlahov

Aizlūgumi:

Inta Robinson
Astrīda Untiņš
Ieva Vlahov

David Robinson
Daina Vārpiņš

Date:	6. septembris 11:30
Day	15. svēt. Pēc Sv. Gara Svētkiem
Colour	Zaļa
Lasījumi	Eceh. 33:7-9 Rom 13:1-10 Mt. Ev. 18:1-20
Dziesmas	173, 187, 386, 312, 463
Reader	Sarmīte Vucēns
Duty	Jānis Vucēns
Flowers	Ruta Auziņa

Aizlūgumi:

Jānis Vucēns
Ruta Auziņš
Gunis Balodis

Sarmīte Vucēns
Mirdza Balodis
Signe Balodis

Date:	20. septembris 11:30
Day	Sv. Miķeļa un visu eņģeļu Day
Colour	Balta
Lasījumi	Dan 10:10-14, 12:1-3 Atkl. 12:7-12 Lk. Ev. 10:17-20
Dziesmas	549, 215, 218, 220, 255
Reaader	Mācītājs
Duty	Jānis Vucēns
Flowers	Rita Džonsons

Aizlūgumi:

Ilgvars Bergmanis Maiguta Bernšteins
 Rita Džonsons Austra Farras
 Māra Hope Sid Hope

Date:	11. oktobris 11:30
Day	19 pēc Sv Gara sv.
Colour	Zaļa
Lasījumi	Jesaja 5:1-7 Filip. 3:4b-14 Mat. Ev. 21:33-46
Dziesmas	271, 99, 104, 413, 427
Reaader	Ieva Vlahov
Duty	Jānis Vucēns
Flowers	Sarmīte Liepa

Aizlūgumi:

Austra Kaģis Juris Liepa
 Ruta Liepa Zane Lewis
 Ben Lewis Silvija Lūks

Date:	18. oktobris 11:30
Day	21 pēc Sv Gara sv.
Colour	Zaļa
Lasījumi	Jes 56:1, 6-8 67 Psalms Mt. Ev. 15:21-28
Dziesmas	171, 173, 214, 313, 155
Reaader	Mācītājs
Duty	Jānis Vucēns
Flowers	Ieva Vlahov

Aizlūgumi:

Harda Paparde Andris Paparde
 Inta Robinson David Robinson
 Astrīda Untiņš Daina Vārpiņš

GREGORY OF NAZIANZUS ON THE MYSTERY OF THE TWO NATURES AND OUR REDEMPTION

He was baptized as a Man, but forgave sins as God—not because He Himself needed purification,

but so that He might sanctify the nature of water. He was tempted as a Man, but conquered as God; indeed, He bids us take courage, because He has overcome the world.

He felt hunger—but He fed thousands; yes, He is the Bread of Life that comes down from heaven. He felt thirst—but He cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.” Yes, He promised that rivers of living water would flow from those who believe. He was weary, but He is the Rest for those who are weary and heavy-laden.

He fell asleep, yet He walked easily upon the sea. He rebuked the winds; He made Peter light when he began to sink.

He paid the tax, but took the payment from a fish; yes, He is King even of those who demanded it.

He was called a Samaritan and one who was possessed—but He saved the one who went down from Jerusalem and fell among robbers. The demons acknowledged Him, and He cast out demons; He drowned legions of evil spirits in the sea, and saw the Prince of Demons fall like lightning.

They threw stones at Him, but He was not seized. He prayed, yet He hears prayers. He wept, yet He causes tears to cease. He asked where Lazarus had been laid, because He was Man; but He raised Lazarus, because He was God.

He was sold—and very cheaply, for only thirty pieces of silver; but He redeemed the world, and at a great price, for the Price was His own blood.

As a sheep He was led to the slaughter, but He is the Shepherd of Israel, and now of the whole world. As a Lamb He is silent, yet He is the Word proclaimed by the Voice crying in the wilderness.

He was beaten and wounded, yet He heals every disease and every weakness.

He was lifted up and nailed to the Tree, but through the Tree of Life He restores us; yes, He saves even the thief who was crucified with Him. Yes, He clothes the visible world in darkness. He was given vinegar mixed with gall to drink. Who was this? The One who turned water into wine, who destroys bitterness, who is Sweetness itself and our greatest desire.

He gives up His life, yet He has power to take it up again; and the veil is torn, for the mysterious doors of Heaven are opened; the rocks are split, and the dead rise.

He dies, yet gives life, and by His own death destroys death. He is buried, yet rises again. He descends into Hades, yet brings out the souls. He ascends into Heaven and will come again to judge the living and the dead, and to examine words such as yours. If some words give you a starting point for your errors, let other words bring those errors to an end.

Pastor Gunis Balodis
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gunis.balodis@gmail.com



DV PERTH BRANCH

**OPENING OF THE
EXHIBITION
COMMEMORATING 80
YEARS OF THE DV
ORGANIZATION'S
ACTIVITIES
77TH ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATION OF
THE DV PERTH BRANCH
BALTIC WAY
COMMEMORATION
Sunday, 23 August 2026
at 1:00 p.m.
AT THE PERTH
DAUGAVAS VANAGI
CLUB**

LATVIAN TV3 PROGRAM "NEKĀ PERSONĪGA" DOCUMENTARY PROJECT "THE LEGIONNAIRES' CONSTELLATION"

Jānis Krēvics is a journalist with the Latvian TV3 program "Nekā personīga" ("Nothing Personal") and is currently working with a documentary production team on a series entitled "Leģionāru zvaigznājs" ("The Legionnaires' Constellation").

The generation of Latvian legionnaires is passing away. With every person whose story we fail to record in time, an irreplaceable part of Latvia's history disappears. It is not only memories of the front and battles that are lost. We also lose stories about life before the war, conscription, forced choices, injuries, captivity and camps; the refugee journey across Europe; arriving in Australia and starting a new life in a foreign country; and families in which what had happened was often left unspoken for decades.

Latvia was not a free country at that time. Our people found themselves caught between two occupying powers. The Latvian Legion was part of the German Waffen-SS, and we will not avoid this historical fact. But neither will we ignore the forced mobilization, the lack of choice, the horrors of war, and the repression experienced by many soldiers and their families after the war.

Mr. Krēvics is asking for help in finding Latvian legionnaires who currently live, or previously lived, in Australia, as well as other Latvian soldiers who served during the Second World War, their relatives, and people who have preserved the testimonies or personal records of these men.

The aim is not to create a simplified or politically convenient heroic narrative, but to preserve people's voices and tell the complex history of Latvia honestly—with personal memories, family archives, documents, and historians' commentary.

From **11 to 14 October**, the TV3 filming team will be in Perth. Interviews will be conducted by actor Jēkabs Reinis and journalist Jānis Krēvics. The conversations will, where available, be supplemented with photographs, letters, documents, archival film footage, reenactments, and historians' assessments.

A video about the project is available online:
<https://vimeo.com/1148330572?fl=pl&fe=sh>

If you would like to participate in this project, please contact:

Jānis Vucēns: 0417 990 263
jvucens@ozemail.com.au

or

Ilmārs Rudaks: 0413 772 714
ilanroo@bigpond.com



15TH SAEIMA ELECTIONS

3 October 2026

There will be a polling station at the Daugavas Vanagi Club in Perth.

To vote, you will need a Latvian passport. Please check whether your passport or eID card and eParaksts are valid.

You will be able to vote either at the polling station or by post.

The pre-election debate with candidates for the **15th Saeima** will take place on **13 September**.

The World Federation of Free Latvians (PBLA) is collecting questions that you would like to ask the candidates during the debate. If you have a question, please send it to me and I will forward it to the PBLA.

Workshops are also planned to help people who need to register for **eParaksts**.

It is very important that we make use of our opportunity to vote.

Jānis Vucēns
LAAJ vicepresident, WA
email: jvucens@ozemail.com.au



DIASPORA

15 Saeimas election candidate debate for the diaspora

13 September at 7:00pm (Latvian time)

The debates will focus primarily on issues that are important to the Latvian diaspora.

The debates will include political parties that, according to public opinion polls, have significant support among the population and whose activities uphold the fundamental values of Latvia as a democratic state governed by the rule of law, national security interests, and the principles enshrined in the Constitution.

The debates will take place at the Latvian property "Straumēni" in the United Kingdom. The participants in the debates will be announced shortly.



LSM tiešraide

Debātu tiešraide būs skatāma Latvijas Saeimā un visās vietās LSM.

HOW TO VOTE AT A POLLING STATION

1. Choose one ballot paper with the list of candidates you wish to vote for.

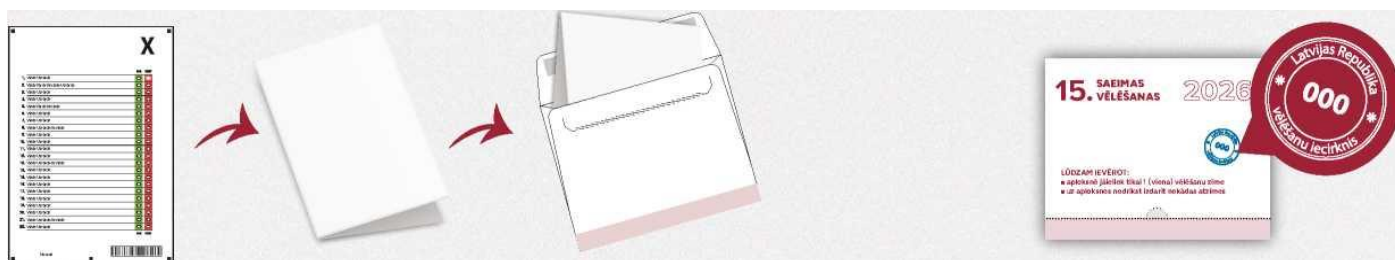
On the ballot paper, you can:

- leave the ballot paper unchanged;
- mark “**PAR**” if you particularly support the election of a candidate;
- mark “**PRET**” if you do not support the election of a candidate.

	PAR	PRET
Nr. Vārds Uzvārds		
Nr. Vārds Uzvārds		
Nr. Vārds Uzvārds		

2. Fold the ballot paper and place it in the ballot envelope.

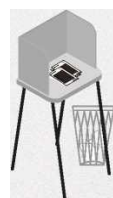
3. . Make sure the polling-station stamp is on the envelope.



4. Seal the ballot envelope and place it in the ballot box.



5. Throw away the remaining ballot papers, or, when leaving the polling station, take with you the ballot paper for the candidate list you voted for.
This ensures that no one will know how you voted.



Please note!

If you mark “**AGAINST**” for all candidates, your vote is still counted **FOR** the candidate list.

For more information: [CVK.lv](https://cvk.lv) or 6701 9999



Central
Election Commission

HOW CAN VOTERS ABROAD VOTE BY POST?

REGISTER TO VOTE BY POST FROM 29 AUGUST TO 25 SEPTEMBER

On **latvija.gov.lv**, using the e-service
“**Voter Data Management**”.

1.



LOG IN TO THE E-SERVICE:

- Register to vote by post.
- Select and indicate the postal voting polling station to which you will send your voting materials.
- Write down the registration number shown in the e-service.

2.



SAŅEM UN LEJUPLĀDĒ BALSOŠANAS MATERIĀLUS:

- ballot papers for all candidate lists;
- a declaration confirming that you are voting personally;
- voting instructions;
- information to be written on the postal envelope.

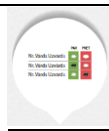
3.



Print:

- the ballot paper for the candidate list you wish to vote for;
- the declaration confirming that you are voting personally.

4.



COMPLETE THE BALLOT PAPER:

- leave the ballot paper unchanged;
- if you particularly support a candidate, mark “**PAR**” next to the candidate’s surname;
- if you do not support a candidate, mark “**PRET**” next to the candidate’s surname.

5.



SAGATAVO DIVAS APLOKSNES:

- one envelope (ballot envelope) for the ballot paper;
- a second envelope (postal envelope) for mailing your vote. Place your chosen ballot paper in the ballot envelope and seal it.
- place the sealed ballot envelope together with the signed declaration form inside the postal envelope.

PĒC IESPĒJAS DRĪZĀK

NOSŪTI PASTA

APLOKSNI IZVĒLĒTAJAM

PASTA BALSOŠANAS

IECIRKNIM:

6.



- on the postal envelope indicate: your first and last name;
- your registration number shown in the e-service;
- the address of the selected postal voting polling station;
- mark “The postal envelope contains a ballot envelope.”

IMPORTANT:

- only **one vote** may be placed in each envelope.
- if you vote **in person at a polling station**, your postal vote will not be valid.
- voters abroad vote for candidates from the **Riga electoral district**.
- the vote must be **sent from abroad**. A postal vote sent from Latvia will not be valid.

For more information: www.cvk.lv or **6701 9999**.