

May 2007

From the President

Another Anzac Day has come and gone. In Australia it is the forerunner of the approaching winter, but here in Vienna it is the opposite – summer is coming.

This year's Anzac Day service in Vienna was special. Events of less than 100 years ago were commemorated in a grand church which has stood for almost 300 years (see report on page 2).

And for some of us in OzCon we also saw history in another form over the past month. Of course I refer to the Cricket World Cup which was frankly won too easily by Australia for the third successive time. I say 'some of us' because I am fully aware that for some of our members watching cricket is like watching paint dry or grass grow. Yes, I have heard it all before and take no offence. Each to his own.

I spent most of the past month in Australia and want to refer briefly to the two big issues at home at this time. One is the looming federal election and the other is the extremely serious situation southern Australia finds itself in due to the drought.

The drought first. Prime Minister John Howard announced to an unbelieving populace that unless heavy rain falls in the Murray-Darling Basin over the next six to eight weeks, all water for irrigation will be cut off.

This area is equivalent to the total area of France and Spain, and produces 40 per cent of Australia's food. The warning is dire and will impact on every Australian if the rain does not come. More than a million Australians will lose their livelihood when crops, trees and vines will be left to die. Food will have to be imported and prices are tipped by the experts to rise by four or five times, eg a bag of oranges could soar from \$5 to \$20.

The circumstances are unprecedented and the Prime Minister called upon the nation to pray for rain. When I returned to Vienna last week and heard people here talk of looming drought conditions in Austria, I had to laugh and said to myself that Austria was blessed with so much water. While Australia's largest river, the River Murray, almost ceases to flow, I look at the mighty Danube with envy.

As for the election, I will say little other than those of us who continue to read the Australian newspapers will see little else over coming months. It's industrial relations and the economy stupid (to paraphrase an American President). The polls are in Labor's favour but the political tide can quickly change and there is still about six months to go.

Even so, all I can say is to those of us here in Vienna who are eligible to vote, update your enrolment now not later.

So, until next month, bring on the drinking weather and I hope to see you at our next bar night on 18 May!

-- Brett



This is not the Red Centre, but Yorke Peninsula, a 10-minute flight from Adelaide. Not a touch of green in sight!

An ANZAC Day service to remember



The magnificent Karlskirche

The haunting strains of *The Last Post*, played by an Austrian soldier, reverberated through Karlskirche, an early 18th century church which is one of the most baroque churches in Vienna, if not all of Europe.

This year's Anzac Day service in Vienna, accompanied by the soothing voices of Aussie sopranos Caroline Wenborne and Pamela Mildenhall, was indeed one to remember.

It also was one that many Australians might envy. While at home Australians and New Zealanders commemorated events which occurred less than 100 years ago on this most important national day, it was a rare event for those here in Vienna to sing the national anthems of the two countries in a church which dates back almost 300 years.

Construction of Karlskirche began in 1715 to the plans of one of the most famous Austrian Baroque architects, Johann Fischer von Erlach. The church is spectacular and is the biggest cathedral in Baroque style north of the Alps.

As Mag Stefan Lakonig explained to the congregation, Karlskirche was a symbol of strength and power to the city of Vienna and the nation of Austria. And so it was an apt venue for a service which commemorates the birth of nationhood of two countries on the other side of the globe.

As Australian Ambassador Peter Shannon pointed out in his address, "This is the first time that the Australian and New Zealand communities in Vienna have come together in the Karlskirche, which we rather boastfully claim as our neighbourhood church. Its beauty and grandeur make it a fitting location for this important event for our two countries."

Ambassador Shannon said it was the 92nd commemoration of ANZAC Day, which recalled the landing on 25 April 1915 of Australian, New Zealand, British, French and other forces on the Gallipoli peninsular in Turkey.

"Some 8,700 Australian soldiers and 2,700 New Zealanders were killed among allied dead of 44,000. And of course, Turkey suffered grievously with over 86,000 soldiers losing their lives. The futile campaign lasted until December 1915, when the allied forces withdrew," he said.

"The facts of that particular battle though are not what make ANZAC Day so meaningful in the lives of our two nations. The campaign and its losses were the first major expressions of nationhood, of national identity which people could respond to, albeit in sense of great loss mixed with pride."

For Australians and New Zealanders today, ANZAC Day touched deeply their sense of national self-identity.

New Zealand Ambassador Jennifer Macmillan also spoke at the service and gave the reading from the Bible.



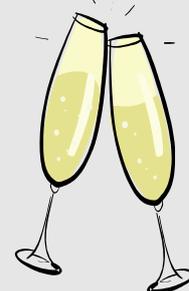
Australian War Wall Memorial

--By Brett Bayly

OzCon Bar Night

Friday 13th April was a great success with a good turn out and a lot of fun had by all. To make it even better we thrashed the Irish in the cricket. I mean really, since when can Ireland play cricket?

Come along and join us again on **Friday 18th May at Flanagan's, Schwarzenbergstr. 1-3, 1010 Vienna from 5pm.**



Voting Overseas

Everything you need to know about voting and enrolment while you live abroad is explained in the Southern Cross Group's info sheet "What you need to know about voting in Australia while you live overseas", accessible at:

www.southern-cross-group.org

Join in the new blog discussion about Aussie expat voting on the GetUp! Website and share your views and experiences:

www.getup.org.au/blog_details.asp?blog_post_id=132

GetUp! is campaigning in Australia to alert people to the fact that the electoral rolls will close virtually immediately the next federal election is called due to new legislation enacted last year. Since most people only think about getting their enrolment in order once an election is called, this change may well operate to disenfranchise you or people you know. So get your enrolment organised with the AEC now. A federal election is expected towards the end of this year. It will be too late once the election is called.

To check out the GetUp! campaign:

www.getup.org.au

When signing the GetUp! online petition overseas Australians should give their Australian home state or territory.



RC Stade Viennois presents
RUGBY 4 EVERYONE
12.05.2007
Tag der offenen Tür

10h: Empfang
11h: Demo-Touch
11h30: Workshop
13h30: Break
14h30: U14 Match VIS vs. Lycée
15h30: U18 Liga RC Stade vs. RC Linz
16h30: 7's Women Nationalteam vs. Barbarians
17h: Herren Liga RC Stade vs. RC NÖXV

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Cricket farce but Aussies reign supreme

It was excessively long, it was controversial at times, there was the tragic murder of Pakistan's coach and it ended in farcical circumstances. But despite all this, Australia created history in the West Indies and won the Cricket World Cup for the third successive time. Australia won because they were way, way in front of the pack.

As former Australian fast bowler Geoff Lawson wrote in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, Australia remained undefeated. Ponting's troops rarely experienced a moment of tension let alone an innings or match. Only nine players batted in 11 games. Mike Hussey was the number one ranked ODI batsmen going into the World Cup and he only got to face 122 balls in the full tournament!!!!

Lawson continued: "The most wickets we lost in a match was six, the closest game was the final, which by any measure of a contest was not at all close. Bob Woolmer's death was sad, tragic, bizarre, the umpires attempts at authoritarianism was simply stupid. And the ticket pricing, length of tournament and police state clamp down on having fun at what should have been the the Calypso Cup, was sad."

And so I guess that is a wrap for another four years. But those of us interested in cricket did manage to view some games. I was in Australia during the semi finals and found myself gazing at the box at 4 am some mornings. And at the OzCon hangout here in Vienna, Flanagan's Irish Pub, it was the final night.

Despite a late start due to rain, a few OzCon desperadoes got stuck into the beer and fish and chips in close proximity of a happy band of Sri Lankans (happy in the early stages, at least). People drifted in from the street to see what all the noise was about, and quickly drifted out again when they saw this strange game which they did not understand being played on the TV.

Few fans managed to stay to the very end and disappeared into the night when the result became obvious. Midnight was enough for me, but it felt good to see the writing of another page of Aussie sporting history.

--By Brett Bayly



Robert Clark and the Hannaford family watch Australia heading for victory at Flanagan's.

A Bit of Fun! Aussie Etiquette

IN GENERAL

- Never take an open stubby to a job interview.
- Always identify people in your paddocks before shooting at them.
- It's tacky to take an esky to church.
- If you have to vacuum the bed, it's time to change the sheets.
- Even if you're certain you're included in the will, it's rude to take your ute and trailer to the funeral.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- While ears need to be cleaned regularly, this should be done in private, using one's OWN ute keys.
- Even if you live alone, deodorant isn't a waste of money.
- Extensive use of deodorant can only delay bathing by a few days.
- Dirt and grease under the fingernails is a no-no, it alters the taste of finger foods and if you are a woman it can draw attention away from your jewellery.

DATING

- Always offer to bait your date's hook - especially on the first date.
- Be assertive. Let her know you're interested: "I've been wanting to go out with you ever since I read that stuff on the dunny door two years ago."
- Establish with her parents what time she's expected back. Some will say 11:00 PM, others might say "Monday." If the latter is the answer, it's the man's responsibility to get her to school on time.

WEDDINGS

- Livestock is a poor choice for a wedding gift.
- Kissing the bride for more than five seconds may cause a drop in your popularity. (Excessive use of the tongue is also considered out of place)
- For the groom, at least, rent a tux. A tracksuit with a cummerbund and a clean football jumper can create a tacky appearance.
- Though uncomfortable, say "yes" to socks and shoes for the occasion.

DRIVING ETIQUETTE

- Dim your headlights for approaching vehicles, even if your gun's loaded and the roo's in your rifle sight.
- When entering a roundabout, the vehicle with the largest roo bar doesn't always have the right of way.
- Never tow another car using panty hose and duct tape.
- When sending your wife down the road with a petrol can, it's impolite to ask her to bring back beer too.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.



Look what you can find under ONE rock on a beach in southern New South Wales.....oysters, sea urchins, shellfish and even a baby octopus.

-- Brett Bayly

Summer Family BBQ

OzCon is planning to have a Summer Family BBQ in June. We are currently checking dates and possible venues for the BBQ and will let you know details once we have them organised. Should be a great day out and we look forward to seeing our members on a relaxed Saturday or Sunday afternoon, hopefully by the Danube!!

Monthly Recipe



We invite OzCon members to share their recipes that will be published in the newsletters. Please email to Lizziecrawf@yahoo.co.uk or send via the mail to Liz Crawford, Gürtelstrasse 49, 2514 Traiskirchen.

Thai Pork Patties

These are delicious and so easy to prepare!!

Serves 4

Good handful of coriander

1 lemon grass stalk, white part only, chopped

4-5 garlic cloves, chopped

1 teaspoon ground white pepper

1 small red chilli, chopped (I use more but I love spicy!)

2 teaspoons fish sauce

2 teaspoons sugar

300g minced pork

Using a pestle and mortar or a food processor, pound or blend the coriander, lemon grass, garlic and pepper to a fine paste. Add the chilli, fish sauce, sugar and pork to the mixture and combine well, add in an egg if you think it's necessary to form into patties. Fry until cooked through. Serve with some Thai Sweet Chilli Sauce.

Asian Cabbage Salad

The pork patties go very well with this healthy Asian salad.

Slice a green cabbage very thinly, add some crisp fresh bean sprouts. Combine plenty of rice wine vinegar with a little bit of vegetable oil, add lots of freshly pressed/grated ginger and garlic. Mix well and season, pour the dressing over the salad.

Mahlzeit!!

-- by Liz Crawford

CLASSIFIEDS

Beautiful Family House for Sale

A family is moving to a new posting and need to sell their house **urgently**. The house is 210 m² in size, built in 2001 on double block of land ca. 1300 m². It has an excellent layout, modern kitchen with top quality appliances, under floor heating, 4 double bedrooms, a large living room with direct access to a big terrace, 2 beautiful bathrooms with mosaics. It is located near Gänserndorf (about 35 km from UNO- City).

For more information please contact:
Diana Boal on 0699 1 747 4114



Aussie News Briefs

1 May - **TWO-THIRDS of Australians want a tax cut** in next week's budget, but half would forgo the tax cut if it threatened to push up interest rates. While voters are keen to get a tax reduction in the budget, including 36 per cent who want one even if it pushes up interest rates, the fear of inflation caused by an overly generous budget is a strong deterrent. As Peter Costello puts the finishing touches to his 12th budget, and the Coalition and business go on the offensive over Labor's industrial relations policy, the ALP's polling momentum has eased slightly. (Australian)

30 April - **GERMAN police** are trying to find the owner of \$70,000 in Australian banknotes found on a train. The money was found aboard an Inter City Express (ICE) train travelling from the Swiss city of Basel to the German city of Cologne. Police have given no further details, to prevent false claims to the money.

The cash was discovered by a 44-year-old woman, who handed it in to police. (Sydney Morning Herald)

Aussie News Briefs Cont'd

29 April - **AUSTRALIA won an historic third successive World Cup** this morning, but not before celebrating prematurely as the tournament's troubled run ended in complete farce. With three overs left in the match reduced to 38 overs a side because of rain, Sri Lanka's batsmen were offered the light and accepted, sparking wild celebrations from the Australia players. But after whoops of delight and much prancing around, Ricky Ponting's men were told the game wasn't over after all, and after a long discussion with umpires Aleem Dar and Steve Bucknor, as well as third umpire Billy Bowden, play continued in near darkness. It was an appalling way to finish a tournament that has been pilloried for its excessive length and lack of depth, and the International Cricket Council will have much to ponder in the four years between now and the next tournament on the sub-continent. The biggest shame is that Australia's historic moment, and a performance of sheer class from Adam Gilchrist, will be forgotten as a result of a quite ludicrous finale. (Australian)

28 April - **KEVIN Rudd** stamped his authority on federal Labor, narrowly winning support for policy changes on uranium mining and industrial relations at the party's national conference. Losses on either issue would have seriously damaged Mr Rudd's fledgling leadership just months out from the federal election. In the end, the industrial relations policy was passed unanimously without debate, while the Rudd camp won the uranium vote by just 15 of the 400 votes after 90 minutes of passionate debate. (AAP)

27 April - **US rapper Snoop Dogg** may have been banned from Australia for more than just his long criminal record, Prime Minister John Howard has suggested. Snoop was due to perform at the MTV Australia Music Video Awards in Sydney on Sunday, but has been denied a visa on character grounds. The ban follows the hip-hop artist and actor's conviction in the US earlier this month on gun and drugs charges - the latest in a series of offences on an extensive rap sheet. (Sydney Morning Herald)

26 April - **FORMER Immigration Minister Amanda Vanstone** has been appointed Australia's ambassador to Italy after earlier today retiring from the Senate. The announcement was made by Foreign Minister Alexander Downer tonight but must be confirmed by Italy. "Ms Vanstone may take up the position in Rome when the current ambassador's term ends in late June," Mr Downer said in a statement. (Age)

21 April - **THE drought** afflicting much of southern Australia will take many years to break, potentially leaving the Murray River dry by Christmas and Adelaide's water supply under more pressure, according to a report prepared for Prime Minister John Howard and state premiers. (Australian Financial Review)

21 April - **PRIME Minister John Howard** has intensified the nuclear energy debate by opening Australia's newest reactor. The so-called OPAL research reactor in south-west Sydney will be expanded to play a crucial role in developing local knowledge of the technology if Australia chooses to move towards nuclear power. (Australian Financial Review)

20 April - **THE nation's food bowl will be sacrificed** to provide drinking water to towns and cities as John Howard moved yesterday to tackle an "unprecedentedly dangerous situation" in the drought-ravaged Murray-Darling Basin. The Prime Minister said irrigation farmers in the basin - covering crops from oranges to grapes and rice - would have their water allocations cut to zero unless the catchment received "very substantial" rainfall in the next six to eight weeks. The warning raises the prospect of taxpayers bankrolling a multi-million-dollar expansion of the \$2 billion drought relief funds already allocated for farmers, some of whom will be forced to leave the land if they get no water this year. (Australian)

20 April - **AUSTRALIA is praying for rain** as it faces the stark truth that the drought crisis is just six weeks from becoming an unprecedented disaster. Murray-Darling Basin irrigators in four states will be denied water from July if there is no substantial rainfall by June, with Prime Minister John Howard delivering an edict that urban water supplies must be protected, even at the expense of thousands of farmers facing a doubtful future under a worst-case scenario. All Australians face higher supermarket prices for the fruit and vegetables produced in the basin, which supplies 40 per cent of the nation's agricultural produce. Mr Howard called an urgent press conference in Canberra yesterday to announce the drastic situation, saying a "contingency planning report" on water reserves had revealed the worst news yet during the harshest drought in history. (Advertiser)

19 April - **THE federal government** has rejected claims its English language education program is failing migrants. Labor has criticised the government's English classes, saying the program fails to consider that many migrants, especially refugees, are illiterate in their own languages. But Immigration Minister Kevin Andrews said refugee and humanitarian entrants were entitled to up to 910 hours of English training. (AAP)



The
Double
Bass
Page

Performances with Australian Artists

From the Australian Events Calendar as at 2nd May 2007, Australian Embassy Vienna

<p>26 April – 23 May 9am to 8pm Monday to Friday</p>	<p>Art & Wine: Aboriginal Dot Paintings</p>	<p>VHS 3 Landstrasse Hainburgerstrasse 29 1030 Vienna www.vhs3.at</p>	<p>Maria Schafner (“Dreamtime Sands Collection”) and Shane Baty in cooperation with Gallery Judith Walker showing an exhibition of Aboriginal dot paintings from Ti Tree Stations and Utopia.</p>
<p>4 May 9pm</p>	<p>Matt Burke & Acoustic Friends</p>	<p>Rockhouse Salzburg Schallmooser Hauptstrasse 46 5020 Salzburg Ph: 0662 884 915 Service@rockhouse.at www.rockhouse.at</p>	<p>Australian singer/songwriter Matt Burke releases his second album “LIVE the ROCKHOUSE” on 4 May. “Matt’s acoustic folk-rock music what you could expect if Jack Johnson and Sting were kidnapped and made to write songs together to save their lives.”</p>
<p>7 – 13 May 7pm</p>	<p>Exhibition by Teresa-Lucja Tonar</p>	<p>Lerchenfelder Str. 13 Im Durchhaus, 1070 Wien Ph: 01 969 4001 kandinsky@gmx.net www.kandinsky.at</p>	<p>Teresa Tonar will exhibit her paintings inspired by her travels to Australia.</p>
<p>21 May 7.30pm</p>	<p>An Introduction to Australia</p>	<p>VHS 3 Landstrasse Hainburgerstrasse 29 1030 Vienna www.vhs3.at</p>	<p>Insider information from Dr. Alfred Gerstl on Australia’s geography, history, society as well as its economy and culture. The lecture will be topped-off with a slide show about Australia.</p>
<p>22 – 25 May 7.30pm</p>	<p>Honour Bound</p>	<p>Museums Quartier, Hall E, Museumsplatz 1/5 1070 Vienna Festwochen-Service Line: 01-589 22 22 Email: festwochen@festwochen.at www.festwochen.at</p>	<p>Director Nigel Jamieson’s large scale theatre piece about the story of David Hicks. Here is what the Sydney Morning Herald said about the production: “Honour Bound is shatteringly good”.</p>

Unless otherwise specified, all telephone numbers are in Vienna

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www.ethermagazine.at

www.nucolorvue.com.au

www.australien-lifestyle.de

www.virtualvienna.net

www.australian-embassy.at

www.ninemsn.com.au

www.kids-days.com/Wien/index_wien.html

www.expatsconsulting.com

www.homesick.com.au

www.viennababiesclub.com

http://www.abc.net.au/vod/news/

www.australianaonline.com.au

www.news.com.au

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