

November 2007

From the President

A new OzCon secretary, the big bazaar, Christmas dinner, new members and lunch anyone? Not to mention a little something called a Federal election.

Hello everyone. It's just over eight weeks to Christmas, yet again. Just where did that year go?

It's a little difficult to grasp that we are once again organising the Australian stand at the annual UNWG bazaar, preparing to stage another OzCon Christmas dinner and planning a lunch for this month in addition to our monthly bar night.

But first I want to welcome Amanda Grant to the OzCon Board as our new Secretary. Amanda moved to Austria from Sydney just over a year ago with her Austrian husband, Michael, and their three daughters. It's not their first time in Vienna. You can read more about Amanda on page 2.

Amanda has been a member for a little while. Not so new members Eden, Lynda and 7-year-old Rachael Sarelius, Jayne Anderson and husband Noel Boyd, Shani Reynolds and Trevor Neal. Welcome all.

Members will recall that some months ago we opted for a monthly bar night instead of a monthly lunch because it was felt that more members could get to a venue at the end of a work week rather than to a luncheon venue during the week. However, I feel that there are those who would still like to gather over a cup of coffee and so I propose that we try another lunch this month in addition to the regular bar night.

Therefore, I would like to hear from anyone who can come to lunch at the historic Palmenhaus in the Burggarten behind the Hofburg at noon on Wednesday 14 November. If there is enough interest I will book a table. If not, I will be there to try a pastry or two with whoever turns up. The bar night will be on Friday 23 November at Flanagans.

On page 3 of this newsletter is all the news about the coming UN Bazaar. Once again we are looking for volunteer staff and people to make our most-sort-after pavlovas.

Also your Board, in particular our new Vice President Gabrielle Costigan, is arranging our annual pre-Christmas dinner for early to mid December. Once details are known, we will let you know via email and letter. We hope you can join us at what was last year a most enjoyable evening.

Finally, I guess everyone knows by now that Australians go to the polls on Saturday 24 November. If you have a habit of reading the Australian newspapers online as I do you would have read almost nothing else but election news. And if the opinion polls are to be believed (ALP 58 pc, Government 42 pc at time of writing) we may be facing a change of government.

In this newsletter is a notice produced by the Australian Embassy here in Vienna on where and when eligible Australians can vote.

So rug up, stay warm and we hope you participate in coming OzCon events.

Brett



*October Bar Night
Libby McBride and Aussie visitor Anthony Coles who
teaches in Lausanne, Switzerland*

Federal Election 2007

The Prime Minister has announced that the Federal Election will take place on Saturday 24 November 2007. Australians who will be overseas at the time of the election or are resident overseas may cast a pre-poll vote or apply for a postal vote at designated Australian Embassies, High Commissions, Consulate-General and Consulates. Australians will not be able to vote at Australian Honorary Consulates.

Further information regarding Australian representative missions providing voting services is available at www.smarttraveller.gov.au

Further information concerning the election can be obtained from the Australian Electoral Commission www.aec.gov.au.

Australians currently overseas, who wish to enroll, may be eligible to enroll as an overseas elector. The Australian Electoral Commission can provide further information. Enrollment information can be found online at www.oevf.aec.gov.au via email to info@aec.gov.au, or by telephoning +61-2-2671 4411.

Pre-poll Voting in Austria

Pre-poll voting will be available at the Australian Embassy, Vienna, in the two weeks prior to polling day commencing on Monday 12 November 2007, and ending on Friday 23 November 2007.

Australian Embassy
Mattiellistrasse 2-4/3
1040 Vienna

9am to 1pm

Contact: Ms Belinda Adams
Email: belinda.adams@dfat.gov.au
Phone: +43-1-50674 160
Fax: +43-1-506 1178

Postal Voting

An application for a postal vote may be downloaded at any time from the Australian Electoral Commission www.aec.gov.au/Elections/federal_elections/2007/pva.htm or by contacting Ms Adams. Applications for a postal vote must reach Ms Adams by fax or mail on the Wednesday before polling day to allow for the voting material to be sent to you for completion and posting before the close of voting. Late applications will not be processed.

Amanda Grant is our new Secretary

My name is Amanda Grant and I'm the new OzCon secretary (and I'm not sure what that entails yet!).

I moved from Sydney to Austria just over a year ago with my Austrian husband, Michael, and our three daughters. We came here for various reasons, including wanting the kids to be more bilingual (they are in Austrian schools), to spend some time with the paternal grandparents and to learn more about where their father is from (after the oldest having once said 'My daddy is from Germany'!! A big no, no for an Austrian!).

My husband and I originally met when we were both sent on an international training program to a German software company, SAP, for a year. He then moved to Australia for two years after which we moved back to Germany where we stayed for nearly seven years and had our first two children.

Then it was back to Australia, partly due to my homesickness, where we then had our third child and again stayed nearly seven years before our move back here.

I gave up the computer work awhile back and have now started working two days a week at a small school near us in the 21st District as the native English speaking teacher, which I enjoy very much.



Amanda with her three girls, far left Annika, Isabella and right Julia

Bazaar Time Means Volunteer Time

The annual UN Women's Guild Bazaar equates with volunteers, and organisation on our part.

With time marching on, the OzCon co-ordinating committee got together last month and decided what needs doing for the bazaar in the Austria Centre on Saturday 8 December.

Most importantly, we need:

- **Lots of pavlovas**
- **Lots of volunteers**

The committee comprises Susanna Martin, Carolyn Forbes, Melanie Willers and me. Carolyn has agreed to coordinate the volunteers and the production of pavlovas and so looks forward to hearing from you soon. Her email is: carolyn.forbes@chello.at

What we need to know is how many pavlovas you can provide (and lamingtons if that is your speciality). The pavlovas need to be small to medium size that can be sold (and eaten on the spot) in one easy piece. We found last year that selling large pavlovas by the slice was messy and not so popular. They need to be indented on the top to hold the fruit and cream. It would also assist the committee to know whether you can provide cut-up fruit which can be placed on the pavlovas on the day. The restaurant stall will purchase the cream.

A handy hint for the fruit: buy kiwi fruit three or four days before the event so that it can ripen for cutting on the day.

Pavlovas and lamingtons can be dropped off at the Australian Embassy before 1300 on Friday 7 December or at the stall in the Austria Centre on the Saturday.

Next, the all-important volunteers. We need to be organised to the point that we have:

- a team of volunteers to put our stall together on the Friday between 12:00 and 17:00. This involves hanging banners, posters and flags, arranging and covering the tables, stacking the fridges, putting up price lists etc.
- people to work behind the counter on the Saturday as cashiers (three required at any one time), food servers, wine and beer servers who preferably are fluent in German (we need to promote the product to satisfy our sponsors)
- people to still be there at 17:00 to help clean up, ie dismantle the displays, stack leftovers, return items to the organisers, wash up.

The best way to organise all this is to have a roster. People are not expected to spend the whole day at the stall and so we ask you to specify which two or three hours best suit you. If we find that everyone wants to be there in the middle of the day we might ask you to come at some other hour. We found last year that the big rush was between 12:00 to about 15:00.

Finally, if you can bring along items which identify you as true Aussie, such as caps, aprons, shirts, please do so. It gives the stall an extra Australian touch.

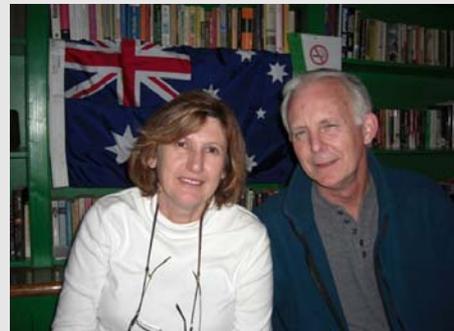
The OzCon Board will provide items such as extension cords, serving platters, spatulas, knives, bottle openers etc but if you can also bring your own items (clearly marked with names), feel free to do so. One thing we do need is a large fruit mixer on a stand.

All proceeds go to worldwide children's charities so let's see if we can match or even do better than we did last year.

– Brett Bayly

October OzCon Bar Night

It might have been cold outside, but the atmosphere inside Flanagan's was warm and cosy as usual for the OzCon Bar Night on Friday 19th October. It was good to see some new members and visitors from Australia.



Visitors David and Jo Bryce, from Perth



Libby McBride and her partner Gottfried Steiner



Leon Schupelius and new members Noel Boyd and Jayne Anderson

The following article is taken from The Southern Cross Group's occasional newsletter dated 22 October 2007. The European contact for the group is: anne@southern-cross-group.org

More Citizenship Application Forms Have Changed

On 15 October the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) published new editions of application forms to be used by those applying for **RESUMPTION** of Australian citizenship (**Form 132**) and citizenship **BY DESCENT (Form 118)** under the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007*.

The July 2007 editions of both of these forms are now defunct. If you are presently preparing a resumption or a descent application and had printed out the earlier versions of either of these forms, please throw them away. You must apply using the October 2007 version of the respective form.

You should check the edition/publication date of any citizenship application form you have in your possession by looking in the bottom right hand corner of the page of the form. "Design date 10/07" means you have the October 2007 edition of the form.

As mentioned in the last edition of our newsletter, for those applying for citizenship **by conferral** under **Section 21(6)** of the new *Citizenship Act*, the old Form 124 no longer exists. Instead, you must use the new **Form 1290**. This applies to people born outside Australia to a parent who had forfeited their Australian citizenship under the **old Section 17** by the date of the child's birth. For further information on applying for this special category of Australian citizenship by conferral see [this page of the Australian Government Citizenship website](#).

Remember that current versions of all [Australian Citizenship forms are always available on the Government's Australian Citizenship Website in pdf format](#), along with instructions as to the required supporting documentation, filing fees, and other handy information.

If you are not sure which form to use, or require any other support with your citizenship application or that of a family member, please contact the SCG at info@southern-cross-group.org.

OzCon welcomes the Sarelius Family



Eden and Rachael Sarelius

Hello! We are a family of Aussies (Eden, Lynda and 7 year old Rachael Sarelius) recently arrived here in Vienna. We have come from Darwin, Northern Territory, for Lynda to take up a three-year teaching contract at the Vienna International School. Eden is also a teacher and will eventually pursue teaching work, but has needed to return to Darwin for a knee operation and will be the house husband for a while. Rachael now attends VIS in grade one and has very quickly settled into life in Vienna.

Our arrival in Vienna is the beginning of our overseas adventures and is the culmination preparation over a few years. Eden began his teaching degree at university at the age of 35 to open up more work options in different countries. We didn't feel that his previous career in sales would have given us the same opportunities. We sold our house in Darwin and are intending to work and travel until Rachael reaches high school age. At this time, we will settle somewhere for her to have consistency in her high school years.

Since our arrival in August, we have settled into our new apartment in the 1st District and have managed to find our way around relatively easily. Although we have seen a small portion of things here, we are completely thrilled to be here and are very much looking forward to experiencing more of this beautiful city, country and continent!

A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The Stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says, "Dam!"

November Bar Night

Come along and join us again for an Election Eve drink with OzCon members on Friday 23rd November at Flanagan's, Schwarzenbergstr. 1-3, 1010 Vienna from 5pm.



November Lunch

As Brett mentioned in his report we are going to have an OzCon Lunch in November. So please come along and join us for lunch at 12:00 on Wednesday 14th November at The Palmenhaus Café behind the Hofburg in the Burggarten.



Gala Christmas Dinner

Time has flown again, and the weather equally suggests that Christmas is around the corner. OzCon is organising a Gala dinner to help celebrate the closing of yet another eventful year. Details will follow shortly via individual emails posted by the OzCon board. We are also pleased to announce that the Australian Ambassador Peter Shannon will be joining us. For any further questions, please contact: Gabrielle Costigan
Email: gabrielle.costigan@gmx.at
Phone: 0664 61 22522



October OzCon Heurigen Evening



*Llew, Randi and Thomas Vincent
Georg Rappold*



Rosalie Toomey with daughter Isabella



Gabrielle Costigan with Shani Reynolds



Michelle Kay (centre) with son Nicholas and guest

Aussie News Briefs

Compiled by Brett Bayly

27 Oct – **EUROPEAN NATO powers** with troops in Afghanistan must directly engage the Taliban to help countries such as Australia who are being targeted, Prime Minister John Howard says. Australia, Canada, the US, the Netherlands and Britain all have troops in the restive south of the central Asian nation but NATO nations such as Germany, Italy, France and Spain have so far refused, Mr Howard said. Today Mr Howard challenged the major European powers to become more involved in directly countering the Islamic fundamentalist Taliban. (Age)

26 Oct - A **CHANGE** in design rules has failed to put the brakes on the Dutch Nuon team as it raced away with another **World Solar Challenge** today. While the team's Nuna4 car arrived at the final time check last night to take victory, the car made its way into the centre of Adelaide today to cross the ceremonial finish line in Victoria Square. It was the fourth win in the 3000km race from Darwin to Adelaide for the Dutch outfit. (Advertiser)

23 Oct - **POLICE will issue on-the-spot fines** for minor criminal offences such as shoplifting, offensive language and minor fraud, under a scheme announced by the NSW Government today. NSW Premier Morris Iemma said the reforms would be rolled out from November 1. "An estimated 56,000 hours of police time will be saved by this innovative scheme, which will keep frontline police on the streets driving down crime," Mr Iemma said. (Sydney Morning Herald)

22 Oct - **KEVIN Rudd's campaign** for the November 24 election gained momentum last night when he scored a narrow victory over John Howard in a hard-fought 90-minute television debate. The Labor leader, put on the backfoot in campaigning last week, outpointed the Prime Minister with promises of new leadership and an education revolution. But Mr Howard, who has struggled in debates in previous election campaigns, performed well above par as the pair went head-to-head in front of a national television audience. The Prime Minister, with his entire ministry seated in the front row of the audience, stoutly defended his economic record, arguing Australia had embraced a "new optimism". (Australian)

20 Oct - **KEVIN Rudd** wants most working families to get all the tax cuts offered by the Coalition plus the chance to buy computers for school-age children. The Labor Leader yesterday released a \$31billion tax plan which was almost the same as the one released by Prime Minister John Howard this week. The chief difference was \$2.9 billion in tax cuts proposed to those earning \$180,000 and above would be deferred. (Mercury)

19 Oct - **JOHN Howard is close to holding the vital marginal seat of Braddon** in Tasmania and has halved the gap to Labor across the nation. A Newspoll survey exclusive to The Australian shows the Coalition defying the national drift to Labor in Braddon, complicating Kevin Rudd's bid to win the 16 seats he needs for victory. And a Galaxy poll published in The Daily Telegraph newspaper today shows Labor's nationwide lead over the Coalition on a two-party preferred basis halving from 12 to six points. After preferences, the Coalition vote has risen from 44 per cent in September to 47 per cent in the opening days of the election campaign, while Labor's has fallen from 56 per cent to 53 per cent. (Australian)

15 Oct - **PRIME Minister John Howard** challenged Opposition Leader Kevin Rudd last night to an immediate debate, as the official 2007 election campaign was launched with the two attacking each other's credentials to govern. Earlier, Mr Howard declared **the November 24 election** his "day of accountability". He said Australia's best years were within reach and pledged to drive unemployment below 4 per cent in a fifth term. Mr Rudd said the challenges for the next generation would be greater than for the current one and promised "new leadership" on climate change, workplace reform, hospitals, education and broadband provision. Choosing a six-week campaign, rather than the minimum of five, Mr Howard visited Governor-General Michael Jeffery yesterday morning, moving to dissolve Parliament and take the nation to the polls three years and 1 month since the last election. (Canberra Times)

11 Oct - **EVERY Australian will be able to access broadband** after Telstra yesterday agreed to sign up to a government program and flick the ADSL switch on 211 exchanges. The telco has committed to providing internet services to more than 200 communities, many of them remote, that do not have fast internet yet. (Herald Sun)

9 Oct - **AN Australian soldier has been killed** and another severely injured in a roadside bomb blast in Afghanistan. The soldiers were patrolling in a Australian light armoured vehicle about six kilometres from their base at Tarin Kowt, in southern Afghanistan, when it was hit by the powerful bomb. The only other Australian soldier killed in Afghanistan was an SAS sergeant, Andrew Russell, who died in 2002 when his vehicle hit a landmine. Canada, by comparison, has lost 71 soldiers and a diplomat in Afghanistan. There are about 970 Australian army and air force personnel in Afghanistan. Most operate under the NATO umbrella as part of a larger Dutch force. (Age)

7 Oct - **ATHLETES caught three times taking illicit drugs face life bans** under a Federal Government crackdown on all forms of drugs in sport. After a series of drug scandals across various sports in recent months, the Government yesterday announced it would put in \$21 million per year for the next four years to test elite athletes and will urge all major sports to embrace the new policy. The Government's program is aimed at making the rules uniform across all sports. (Courier Mail)

4 Oct - **A WEDDING frenzy** has swept Australia with the number of marriages hitting a seven-year high. Lovelorn couples walked down the aisle 114,222 times last year, warming the hearts of hopeless romantics. The number getting hitched was almost 5000 more than the previous year, and the biggest since 1999. (Herald Sun)

What does love mean?

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."

Rebecca- age 8

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth."

Billy - age 4

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired."

Terri - age 4

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."

Bobby - age 7 (Wow!)

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate,"

Nikka - age 6

(we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)

Author and lecturer Leo Gusaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.

The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbour was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his Mother asked what he had said to the neighbour, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry"

Monthly Recipe



We invite OzCon members to share their recipes that will be published in the newsletters. Please email to LizziECrawford@yahoo.co.uk or send via the mail to Liz Crawford, Steinbruchgasse 7, 2500 Baden.

As we all know the UN Bazaar is to be held on the 8th December. Just in case you've thought about making a Pavlova or two, or three, or four, or more and didn't have a recipe this is my mother's recipe that works perfectly every time. My Austrian family and friends love it!

Pavlova

4 egg whites at room temperature

1 and a ¼ cups of Caster Sugar

Dessertspoon of white vinegar

Dessertspoon of cornflour

Beat egg whites with an electric mixer until stiff, approximately 5-7 minutes. It is vital that the bowl is perfectly clean and that you don't have any egg yolk mixed into the egg white. If you do it will not work! Slowly add in the sugar with the electric mixer. Then add in the cornflour and vinegar and fold into the mixture with a **wooden spoon**. As soon as it's added in and there are no lumps **STOP** quickly. **DO NOT** over mix! Arrange small Pavlovas onto a Pizza tray if you have one or else just assemble the mixture into small circles on a sheet of baking paper on your regular baking tray. **Remember the small Pavlovas sell better at the Bazaar!** Bake in the oven at 130 degrees C for about an hour.

Once cooked turn off the oven and open the oven door to let the oven cool down with the Pavlovas inside. To store the Pavlovas simply arrange them between baking paper sheets. If you are making them a day or two in advance it's better to store them in an airtight Tupperware container.

Here's to another successful UN Bazaar and thank you all for your contributions.

- By Liz Crawford



The
Double
Bass
Page

Performances with Australian Artists

From the Australian Events Calendar as at 26 October 2007, Australian Embassy Vienna

15 November	Alexandra Bourne in Concert	Molly Darcy's Irish Pub Teinfaltstrasse 6 1010 Vienna Ph: 5332311 Email: office@mollydarcys.at www.alexandraboutourne.com	Australian Alexandra Bourne will be playing acoustic pop and alternative cover versions from Kylie Minogue, Natalie Imbruglia, Gwen Stefani and many more.
2, 9, 16, 22, 23 & 30 November	Matt Burke Live in Concert	Venues around Austria. Please visit www.mattburke.com Email: info@MattBurke.com	Australian singer/songwriter Matt Burke will be performing solo as well as with his "Acoustic Friends" at various venues around Austria. Matt's second album "LIVE at the ROCKHOUSE" was released in May 07.
4 November 7.30pm at the Mozart-Saal	Lorelei Dowling	Wiener Konzerthaus Lothringerstrasse 20 1030 Vienna www.klangforum.at www.wienmodern.at www.konzerthaus.at	Lorelei Dowling will be performing "Sequenza XII for Bassoon".
8 November 7.00pm	Exhibition Ricky Swallow "Younger than Yesterday"	Kunsthalle Wien "project space" Karlsplatz Treitlstrasse 2 1040 Vienna Ph: 5218933 Email: office@kunsthallewien.at	Australian Ricky Swallow will be exhibiting a selection of his latest works. Swallow's sculptural objects and installations are imaginative, intricate and intriguing.
10 November 11.00am & 4.00pm	"Study in Australia" Education Fair	Centre International Universitaire Schottengasse 1 1010 Vienna Ph : 4060224 Email : wien@ranke-heinemann.at www.ranke-heinemann.at	The Institue Ranke-Heinemann is organizing an education fair on studying in Australia.

Unless otherwise specified, all telephone numbers are in Vienna

Australian Connection (OZCON)

email: ozcon_board@yahoo.com

President: **Brett Bayly**

Tel: 06991 264 5813

Home: 264 5813

brett_bayly@yahoo.com.au

Vice President: **Gabrielle Costigan**

Phone: 0664 61 22522

gabrielle.costigan@gmx.at

Secretary: **Amanda Grant**

Phone: 2711027

amandagrants65@gmail.com

Treasurer and Membership Coordinator

Susanna Martin-Murtinger

Tel: H: 944 0353

paul.martin@chello.at

Newsletter Editor: **Liz Crawford**

Mobile: 0699 1268 1023

Home: 02252 252 638

Lizziecrawf@yahoo.co.uk

Bank Account Details:

Susanna Martin-Murtinger

OZCON Account

Raiffeisenlandesbank Niederösterreich – Wien

BLZ 32000

Kontonummer (Account Number): 12.097.176

Membership Fee: Euro 20

Australian Embassy

Mattiellstrasse 2-4, 1040 Vienna

Tel: 506740

Useful Websites:

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

www.expatriates.com

Other Associations

Austrian-Australian Society (OAG)

Hubert Heine, General Secretary

Tel: 0676 5003058; 9847328

Heine69at@yahoo.de

www.australia-austria.at

American Women's Association (AWA)

Tel: 9662925

awa@awavienna.com

www.awavienna.com

Women's Career Network (WCN)

Tel: 9662925

wcnvienna@yahoo.com

www.wcnvienna.com

Helpful Tips Living in Vienna

Published by the AWA

Contact AWA for stockists

Handbook Vienna (FREE!)

Published by Austria Today

handbook@austriatoday.at

Gelbe Seiten (Yellow Pages) – with an English index at the back.