

The ANZAC spirit recalled in Karlskirche

“The Crown of Vienna” is how Mag Stefan Lakonig described Karlskirche during this year’s Anzac Day commemorative service.

Karlskirche was the main State church of Vienna and represented peace and justice, just as Anzac Day did, he said.

It was the second successive year that the Australian Ambassador Peter Shannon and the New Zealand Ambassador Jennifer Macmillan had chosen to jointly celebrate Anzac Day in this historic 18th century church.



Peter and Reina Shannon beside the Australian and NZ flags in Karlskirche

It was the 93rd commemoration of the landing of Australian, New Zealand, British, French and other forces on the Gallipoli peninsula in Turkey in 1815. This year also marks the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Villers-Bretonneux in France when, on the night of 24 April 1918, Australian and NZ forces retook the town, ending the German advance on the Somme. More than 1200 Australians lost their lives in the battle.

Ambassador Shannon said the battle had been remembered ever since by the people of Villers-Bretonneux. The town’s school was built with donations from school children of Victoria and every blackboard to this day commemorated the battle with the inscription “N’ oublions jamais l’ Australie” – “Never forget Australia.”



Peter Shannon and some members of Rotary Youth Exchange

In Villers-Bretonneux at dawn on Anzac Day, as a warm sun threw the first shards of light over a faraway horizon, 3000 Australian men and women joined their French brothers and sisters on a Somme hilltop. They had arrived in tour buses, in cars, on foot, some in wheelchairs or on crutches. Children were in strollers; teenagers wore the medals of their forebears. Many still had the dazed bearing that follows a 17,000 kilometre flight.

According to *The Age*, quietly they filed up the hillside, past the ocean of white crosses that line the avenue to the memorial tower. Called by the bagpipes, some carried simple posies of fresh local flowers, others wreaths entwined with eucalypt and wattle.

It was the first Anzac Day dawn service to be held in the Somme, an official ceremony that many hope will carry on in tandem with the Gallipoli tradition — and remind Australians of the 46,000 compatriots who fought and died on the Western Front.

Here in Vienna, special guests among the 100 or so people at this year's service were young Australians and New Zealanders of the Rotary Youth Exchange program who are spending a year in various parts of Austria.

After the official representatives of seven countries – Australia, NZ, Great Britain, Canada, the US, France and Pakistan – laid wreaths, three representatives of the youth program laid their flowers in tribute.

Australian soprano Caroline Wenborne was again present to give voice during the service and, instead of an Austrian soldier as was the case last year, a professional Australian musician, Hector McDonald, who has lived in Vienna for 20 years, added to the moment by playing *The Last Post* and *Reveille*.

-- Brett Bayly



Lamingtons, scones and other goodies on the steps of Karlskirche



Some of the approximately 100 people who attended the service

The Big Dry

I arrived back in Vienna on the 20th March after four weeks in South Australia. Boy! Is it desperate over there; the drought is especially affecting SA. I visited the Murray Mouth, the Coorong, barrages and the lakes area. At the barrages there is no fresh water entering the Coorong, a nature reserve that stretches down the coast behind huge sandhills, and as a result it is slowly dying. Normally 400,000 migratory birds come each year to breed. This year there are only 40,000.

The black swans, native to Australia, are really suffering as their food supply in the Coorong is too salty and the Coorong mullet (fish) are dying by their thousands because of the salinity. The sea water level at the barrages is 40cms higher than the fresh water on the river side so it is impossible for fresh water to get into the Coorong. The lower reaches of the Murray are now so salty that there soon will be no irrigation whatsoever.

At Morgan they are removing 80 tonnes of salt from the river each day whilst in Adelaide we had 15 successive days where the temperature was over 35C and the majority of days were in the high 30s and 40s. Thankfully I had seven days in Victor Harbor playing golf where it was much cooler and pleasant.

--By Leon Schupelius



The Coorong is drying up



Evidence of the terrible salinity and lack of rain

Football is coming: clear the jails

From the President

Last month I circulated an email to members expressing my disappointment over attendances at recent OzCon functions. Some people told me they thought I must have been quite angry when I wrote it and they asked that the monthly bar night not be abandoned.

Well I just want to assure everyone that I was not angry. I was perhaps determined to 'stir the pot' a little and I'm happy to say I seem to have succeeded because I received a number of responses from members expressing regrets, sympathies and reasons for not being able to attend functions. Others managed to get out and come along after all and attendance at the April bar night at Flanagan's was impressive. So be assured that the bar night will continue as long as people support it.



*April Bar Night
Jodi Brown and husband Wim Rötgens and boys
David and Dylan*

There were two other 'events' last month which I would like to mention. First, the tour of the Spittelau thermal treatment plant was attended by more than 20 people. Only a few were from OzCon and this is understandable considering it could only be held during the week when most people were working. Numbers were made up staff from the nearby University of Vienna thanks to OzCon member Jacquie Montanato who works there.

The other event, while not an OzCon happening, was the Anzac Day service at Karlskirche and I'm pleased to have seen so many of our members there. Once again, it was an impressive service.

This month we hope to have a big roll-up for a day's outing at Krems/Stein which will comprise lunch at a 15th century gasthof in old Krems followed by a visit to a nearby winery which has a strong Australian connection (details on page 5).

There were two items in the local media last month that I found interesting and will mention briefly.

It was reported that Austrians further boosted their reputation as an environmentally-friendly nation by collecting more recycling material than ever last year. Apparently the recycling company ARGEV reached a new collection record for 2007 -- a record 206,400 tons of recyclable material, an increase of 0,3 per cent over the previous year. .

The other item relates to the European Championships in Vienna, something that has been difficult to avoid if you watch and read the media lately. I was somewhat amused to read that the Austrian Justice department has been clearing convicts out of jails to make way for football hooligans expected to be arrested at the championships.

Some 200 prisoners are being moved from Vienna's jails to other parts of the country in order to provide room for short-term arrests made during the three-week football event. Prisoner Administration Authority representative, Alfred Steinacher, said, "We will be transferring a large number of people with short detention-periods who are located in nearby penal institutions."

Plans are also underway to move prisoners at Klagenfurt, Salzburg and Innsbruck prisons.

Finally, on behalf of all OzCon members, I want to wish Andy Willers a speedy recovery. We are glad to hear that he has been released from hospital and is back home with his family.

Until next month.

Brett

*I don't make jokes. I just watch the government
and report the facts.*

- Will Rogers

Politicians in Town

Australian Ambassador Peter Shannon was host to a visiting delegation of Australian parliamentarians last month.

The MPs and Senators, led by the President of the Senate, Senator Alan Ferguson, were at the end of a tour to learn about European institutions. They had visited Brussels, The Hague and Paris and during their brief stay in Vienna had been introduced to various agencies at the UN and visited the Austrian Parliament.

The Australian Senate will be reconstituted on 1 July following last December's Federal election. As a result a Labor Senator will take over the Presidency from Senator Ferguson, a Liberal.



Brett Bayly meets Senator Ferguson



*Diana and Trevor Boal with their local MP from Melbourne
Petro Georgiou and Roxanne Crouch*

From rubbish to heat

It was a load of rubbish. In fact, 7000 tonnes of it can be held in the 'bunker' at the Spittelau thermal treatment plant, and from that bunker and others like it more than 250,000 households in Vienna receive their hot water. The high-tech plant uses garbage collected in Vienna to provide enough heat for 97 per cent of the city's hot water needs. Gas and oil is needed to provide just 3 per cent.

More than 20 people attended a guided tour of the plant on 22 April. The tour was organised by OzCon, although most of those on the tour were from the nearby University of Vienna who were invited by OzCon member Jacquie Montanaro.



Hunderwasser designed the exterior of the plant



*Some of the group with their hard hats ready to enter
the plant.*

OzCon Event

Lunch and Wine Tasting at Stein/Krems



OzCon has arranged a special day out and we invite as many members as possible to join us for a trip to Stein an der Donau to have lunch, visit a winery and enjoy the company. You have a choice of joining a group that will travel by train or to drive individually and meet the group at the restaurant.

We will visit the Salomon Undhof winery. Some background: Bert and Gertrud Salomon are fulltime travelers when it comes to wine. In Austria they have the seventh generation family estate **SALOMON UNDHOF** and in Australia they have the first generation **SALOMON ESTATE**, founded in 1995 at Finnis River which extends along the southern region of the Fleurieu Peninsula, about 20 km southeast of McLaren Vale in South Australia.

In Austria, the old Wachau family of Salomon has been producing white wines on the best terraces in Stein, Und and Krems, since 1792, half of which are exported, principally to the US, the EU and Australia. Today Bert and Gertrud Salomon run the traditional winery on 25 hectares, half of which are planted with Riesling, the Grüner Veltliner, which grows on decomposed soil over bedrock.

The plan for the day is take the train or car to Krems where we meet at the restaurant. After lunch we walk to the winery for a tasting. Those travelling by train will then return to the bahnhof. There will be time to wander through old Krems if you wish.

Lunch:

12:30 to approx 14:00 at the 15th century gasthaus in the main street of the old town, Hotel-Restaurant Alte Post, Obere Landstrasse 32, Krems. Tel 02732/82276.
www.altepost-krems.at

Then a 10-15 min walk to SALOMON UNDHOF wine estate

Undstrasse 10, A-3500 Stein an der Donau

Phone: +43-2732-83226:

e-mail: office@salomonwines.com

www.salomonwines.com

Wine tasting: cost: €10 per person for 5 wines, or €15 per person for 9 wines.

Children are welcome but be advised there are no play facilities at the winery.

When: Saturday 31 May 2008



How to get there:

By train: - There is an almost hourly train service from the Franz Josefs Bahnhof to Krems/Donau Bahnhof. Meet at Franz Josefs Bahnhof at 10.30 to get the 10.51 train, arriving at Krems/Donau at 11.54. It is a 10-15 minute walk to the restaurant.

The group returns to the station by foot and catches the 17:15 train, arriving in Vienna at 18:38. There are other trains if you prefer to leave earlier or later.

Regular fare is €12.60 one way for an adult and there is a child fare.

However, there is a much cheaper fare. By taking an **Einfach-Raus ticket** you can pay a total of €28 **RETURN** for between 2 and 5 people, including children. There is no need to book seats.

By car: - from Vienna over the "Nordbrücke" on the freeway to Krems on the Danube. Drive past the exit to Krems in the direction of Wachau. In Stein at the ship docking station turn right at the first traffic circle into a second traffic circle. Turn right into Steiner Donaulände and drive several blocks until you pass through Stadtpark. Turn left into Utzstrasse beside the park. At the top of the street is a small platz (fenced off for reconstruction). From here you can see the tower and entrance (above) to the main pedestrian-only street, Obere Landstrasse. The Alte Post is about 30 metres on the left.

Parking is possible in the streets surrounding the park. The winery is a 10-15 minute walk from the restaurant.

Distance Vienna - Stein: 75 km

Driving time: 50 minutes

For booking purposes it is important you RSVP to Brett Bayly by Wednesday 21 May.

Brett_bayly@yahoo.com.au Tel 264.5813 or 06991 264.5813

Many faces at Bar Night

There was a good turn out to our monthly bar night at Flanagan's on Friday 18 April, both young and old. While the younger ones propped themselves on bar stools and watched a DVD, the adults got to meet some new faces over drinks and a meal.

It was pleasing to see Jodi Brown and family. Jodi has been a long time OzCon member but with two young boys just hasn't been able to get to any of our functions for some time. A friend of hers, Australian Kerry Thompson who works in Cambridge, UK, was visiting Vienna and came along.



Kerry Thompson, from the UK, and Jodi Brown

Others who shared the conviviality were Simon, Jeanette and Alice (the Golden Retriever) Hannaford, Sharyn and Michael Rieger, Noel Boyd and Jayne Anderson, Gabrielle Costigan and Georg Rappold, Lynda, Eden and Rachael Sarelius, Leon Schupelius, and Susanna and Paul Martin.

We hope we can keep up this turn-out and look forward to seeing you this month.

-- Brett Bayly



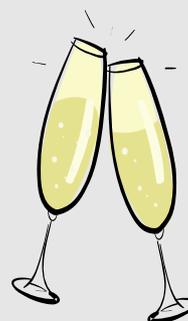
Susanna Martin and Lynda Sarelius



Gabrielle Costigan, Georg Rappold and Eden Sarelius

May Bar Night

Come along and join us on Friday 23rd May at Flanagan's, Schwarzenbergstr. 1-3, 1010 Vienna from 5pm.



5 minute Management Course

A man is getting into the shower just as his wife is finishing up her shower, when the doorbell rings. The wife quickly wraps herself in a towel and runs downstairs.

When she opens the door, there stands Bob, the next-door neighbour.

Before she says a word, Bob says, 'I'll give you \$800 to drop that towel.'

After thinking for a moment, the woman drops her towel and stands naked in front of Bob, after a few seconds, Bob hands her \$800 and leaves.

The woman wraps back up in the towel and goes back upstairs.

When she gets to the bathroom, her husband asks, 'Who was that?'

'It was Bob the next door neighbour,' she replies.

'Great,' the husband says, 'did he say anything about the \$800 he owes me?'

Moral of the story:

If you share critical information pertaining to credit and risk with your shareholders in time, you may be in a position to prevent avoidable exposure.

Aussie News Briefs

29 April - **MORE than 400 wealthy Australians**, including high-profile business figures, have been caught up in a money laundering and tax evasion scheme operating out of Vanuatu. The alleged operator of the scheme, former Sydney accountant Robert Agius, has been arrested in Perth after an investigation by the Project Wickenby taskforce into tax avoidance, tax evasion and money laundering. Operation Wickenby taskforce Commander Warren Gray said yesterday that Agius had received \$1.4 million in commissions from at least 20 participants in the scheme. The participants were predominantly "from the high end of town". Commander Gray said the AFP expected to make "quite a few more arrests" in coming weeks. (Age)

28 April - **AN Australian special forces commando has been killed** and four others have been wounded in a firefight with Taliban militants near the Australian base in southern Afghanistan's Uruzgan Province. Defence Force head Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston said 27-year-old Lance Corporal Jason Marks was killed early this morning during an attack on a "substantial number" of Taliban militants around 25 kilometres south of the Australian base at Tarin Kowt. (ABC)

26 April - A **BLUEGUM tree** flourishing in the state's Mid North is likely to have emerged from the Earth just as the Roman Empire took hold 2000 years ago. A group of eucalyptus bicostata, found on a private property at Mt Bryan, is the only known population of the species in South Australia. (Advertiser)

25 April - **AT least 25 counterfeit diploma factories** are willing to sell University of Sydney MBA certificates over the internet, and many routinely sell fake parchments and transcripts from universities around Australia. But often employers do not check the bona fides of job applicants' qualifications, and universities are unable or unwilling to prevent scammers from ripping off their qualifications, a specialist in degree fraud has found. (Sydney Morning Herald)

23 April - **THE chances of farms exceeding their median rainfall** over May to July are between 60-70pc in a broad band covering far northern WA, most of the NT, northwest and southern Queensland, and the far north of NSW. (Farm Weekly)

22 April - **AUSTRALIA may be sitting on an oil and gas bonanza** after winning legal ownership of a slice of undersea territory five times the size of France. In a landmark judgement by a United Nations commission, Australia expanded its borders by almost 35%, or 2.5 million square kilometres, including a seabed thought to harbour fossil fuels and minerals.

The Australian claim, which was lodged in 2004, is the first to succeed under the 1982 United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea. (Age)

21 April - **THE 2020 ideas summit** has endorsed Kevin Rudd's economic and education policies but demanded the Prime Minister lead a fresh push for Australia to become a republic with a Bill of Rights. And Mr Rudd, who had previously insisted a republic was not high on his list of priorities, acknowledged last night that the summit push was "a big step forward" but indicated he would proceed cautiously to build the case for change. "We lost the last referendum 10 years ago," Mr Rudd said. "We don't want to lose the next one. So we'll be building this one up very carefully." (Australian)

15 April - **PETROL stations will have to reveal their fuel prices** up to 24 hours in advance and commuters will be able to find out the prices for their local area by signing up to an email or SMS alert. The scheme was announced by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd at his "Community Cabinet" meeting in Penrith. It will force metropolitan fuel stations to notify the ACCC daily by 2pm of the price they intend to charge the following day. Motorists would be able to sign up to a price alert for their area - or ring a toll-free number to get prices. (Daily Telegraph)

14 April - **QANTAS is set to boost its presence in Southeast Asia** by establishing a fleet of 30 Jetstar-branded aircraft in Vietnam. Qantas executives and Vietnamese officials will today unveil an agreement to change the name of Pacific Airlines, Vietnam's second-largest carrier, to Jetstar Pacific as part of a joint venture that will also lead to a fleet of 30 leased Airbus A320 aircraft being based in the country by 2014. (Australian)

13 April - **Australia is to get its first female governor-general**, with the announcement that Quentin Bryce, the Governor of Queensland, will take up the post following the resignation of Major General Michael Jeffery today.



Aussie News Briefs (cont'd)

Mrs Bryce is a former Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner, inaugural director of the Queensland Women's Information Service and founding chairwoman and chief executive officer of the National Childcare Accreditation Council. The Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, said Mrs Bryce would become Australia's 25th governor-general. She has been appointed to a five-year term. (Sydney Morning Herald)

9 April - **PRIME Minister Kevin Rudd** has told Chinese university students what their own leaders will not - that there are significant human rights problems in Tibet. "Australia, like most other countries, recognises China sovereignty over Tibet but we also believe it is necessary to recognise there are significant human rights problems in Tibet," Mr Rudd told students at Peking University today. "The current situation in Tibet is of concern to Australians. We recognise the need for all parties to avoid silence and find a solution through dialogue." (Advertiser)

9 April - **TEENAGER Brock Curtis-Mathew** was being hailed a hero yesterday but all he could do was cry for the best mate he tried in vain to save from a killer shark. Brock, 16, choked back tears as he told of his brave bid to save his friend Peter Edmonds, also 16, after the attack at Lighthouse Beach, Ballina in northern NSW. The two boys had taken advantage of a teachers' strike to go for a morning surf when tragedy struck. (Courier Mail)



6 April - **INCAT's latest vessel Natchan World** took to the open water for sea trials yesterday in final preparations for delivery to its new home in Japan. The 112m vessel is the second ferry built in Hobart for Higashinihon Ferry in Japan and will join its sister ship Natchan Rera, completed by Incat in August, on the crossing of Tsugaru Strait between the islands of Honshu and Hokkaido. The ferry, worth about \$100 million, took 18 months to build, draws less than 4m of water and can convey 800 passengers and 355 cars at a top speed of 40 knots. (Mercury)

3 April - A **MASSIVE saltwater crocodile** has been released from police custody without charge after spending Easter under lock and key. Captured at Injinoo, 920km north of Cairns, on March 21, the 3.6m reptile was detained under the Bamaga Police Station while arrangements were made to transport him south for tagging after the holiday weekend. The croc was one of three, including a 4.5m monster, sighted loitering in Cowal Creek near Injinoo school. (Cairns Post)

3 April - **THE group of Aboriginal dancers** whose version of the Zorba dance became a hit video on the internet has been invited to Greece.



The Chooky Dancers, from Elcho Island off Arnhem Land, first decided to beef up their performance of indigenous dance at a festival in the Northern Territory. A video of the Zorba-goes-indigenous act was posted on the web. Since then, the Chooky Dancers have had 700,000 hits on the video-sharing site, YouTube. (NT News)

"I CAN HEAR JUST FINE!"

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, "Windy, isn't it?" "No," the second man replied, "it's Thursday." And the third man chimed in, "So am I. Let's have a beer."



Performances with Australian Artists

From the Australian Events Calendar as at 30th April 2008, Australian Embassy Vienna

<p>15 March to 2 November 10am to 6pm</p>	<p>TraumZeitSpuren – Austria meets Australia</p>	<p>Kunsthau Herberstein Schloss Herberstein 8223 Stubenberg Ph: 03176 88250 Email: office@herberstein.co.at www.herberstein.co.au</p>	<p>The Kunsthau Herberstein, in cooperation with Galerie Judith Walker shows works of contemporary Australian artists, such as Janie Nolan Napangka, Betsy Presley Manpitjinpa, etc.</p>
<p>14 May 7.30pm</p>	<p>Kylie Minogue in Concert</p>	<p>Wiener Stadthalle Halle D Vogelweidplatz 14 1150 Wien Tickets: 01 06096 or 88088 For more information please refer to: www.kylie.com www.stadthalle.com</p>	<p>You can count on the fingers of one hand the number of “pop” artists who’ve lasted more than a decade, let alone more than two decades. Since Kylie Minogue released her first single, a remake of the hit “Locomotion” in July 1987, Kylie has released nine studio albums, two live DVDs, seven live concert DVDs, plus her Greatest Hits and the Ultimate Kylie double album.</p>
<p>25 May 8pm</p>	<p>Nick Cave in Concert</p>	<p>Wien BA-CA Halle Gasometer Guglgasse 8 1110 Wien www.oeticket.at www.nickcaveandthebadseeds.com</p>	<p>Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds will be promoting their 14th studio album “Dig, Lazarus, Dig!!!”</p>

Unless otherwise specified, all telephone numbers are in Vienna

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www.australian-embassy.at

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

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www.australia-austria.at

American Women's Association (AWA)

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