

September 2008

Presidents Report

The summer holidays are closing to an end and the kids are hopefully keen to get back to school. Of course in Austria, there is the lovely tradition that kids start their 1st school year with a huge paper!

I must say that the last months have been rather enjoyable in terms of public transport. There were even times where one managed to get a seat while travelling in the U-Bahn or bus! But all good things do come to an end and so does the longer daylight days.

In the meantime, we have the autumn months to look forward to. Personally, I think that these are the prettiest times in Austria. There are many activities that can be done such as the great trips to the Heurigen, where the wine is made by the local owners. In and around town also offers great activities, such as the "Film festival 200' at the Rathausplatz and a real favourite called ' Dialogue im Dunkeln.' This is a real gem as it allows you to experience daily activities completely in the dark and so create a better understanding for people who are blind. There are blind guides escorting visitors through lightless rooms representing scenes of everyday life like a public park, a busy intersection, a boathouse or a bar. For more details visit: <http://www.dialogimdunkeln.at>

What else has happened around the world? Oh yes, the Olympics in Beijing! Needless to say Australia did a fantastic job and reached 6th place on the overall medal standing. See page three for a full report. Unfortunately, due to the time differences and the fact Austrian television concentrates on what Austria is doing I feel I saw very little of the different events that had Aussies competing. There was one occasion though, when I was watching EUROSPORT in a bar in the first district and the Men Pole Vault was on and I saw Steve Hooker get the gold medal. I was cheering all on my lonesome sad but true!

OzCon have organized the Annual Summer BBQ for Sunday 14th September at the same location as last year the Club area of the Naturfreunde, An der alten unteren Donau 51. See page six for full details. We hope to see members there to take advantage of our group and a day out with friends, family and children. We will be having our September Bar Night back at Flanagan's on Friday 26th September. We tried the Roo Bar but as yet they have no food on offer so decided it would be best, at least for the time being, to go back to Flanagan's.

For next month's newsletter, Brett Bayly will be back after having a few good weeks off holidaying and doing other important matters. See page two for details! Congratulations Brett! We wish him a lot of relaxation and enjoyment and look forward to having him back in Vienna and hearing about some of his adventures in next month's President's report.

Cheers,

Gabrielle Costigan
Vice President



Photo send by Brett of a storm looming over Broadbeach on the Gold Coast

Congratulations Brett and Suzanne!

Our President Brett Bayly and Suzanne Prissmann tied the knot on the lucky day 8.08.08 at Southport Yacht Club on the Gold Coast in Queensland.



Slip by celebrant....to lust instead of to love



Brett, Suzanne and daughter Rebecca with celebrant



Witnesses: Adrian (Suzanne's brother), Carl (Brett's son) about to sign with celebrant and Rebecca



After the ceremony Michael said to Brett, Hi Dad



Sunnies necessary for all...Rebecca held the rings, Michael the wine glasses



The Table

The wedding was preceded by the honeymoon; a four-night cruise, with children, on the Great Barrier Reef.

2008 Olympics in Beijing

We as a nation should be very proud of ourselves. Australia came in 6th on the medal total. Pretty interesting when you consider the population sizes of the nations ahead of us. I did some research and thanks to the Wikipedia Web Site I made the list below. I am very proud of our athletes and thought it would be nice to list our achievements. Taken with a few photos from Brett while downunder with the Olympics going on. Thanks Brett.

1st Place – China with 1,325,712,000 inhabitants

Gold 51 – Silver 21 – Bronze 28 TOTAL 100

2nd Place – USA with 304,952,000 inhabitants

Gold 36 – Silver 38 – Bronze 36 TOTAL 110

3rd Place – Russia with 141,888,000 inhabitants

Gold 23 – Silver 21 – Bronze 28 TOTAL 72

4th Place – Great Britain with 60,975,000 inhabitants

Gold 19 – Silver 13 – Bronze 15 TOTAL 47

5th Place – Germany with 82,191,000 inhabitants

Gold 16 – Silver 10 – Bronze 15 TOTAL 41

6th Place – Australia with only 21,394,000 inhabitants

Gold 14 – Silver 15 Bronze – 17 TOTAL 46



Winning gold watched at the world's tallest residential tower on the Gold Coast



Matthew Mitcham - Diving
 Ken Wallace - Canoe/Kayak
 Steven Hooker - Pole Vault
 Tessa Parkinson and Elise Rechichi - Sailing
 Malcolm Page and Nathan Wilmot - Sailing
 Emma Snowsill - Triathlon
 Emily Seebohm, Leisel Jones, Jessicah Schipper, Libby Trickett, - Swimming 4x100m Medley Relay - World Record
 David Crawshay and Scott Brennan - Rowing
 Duncan Free and Drew Ginn - Rowing
 Stephanie Rice, Bronte Barratt, Kylie Palmer, Linda MacKenzie - Swimming 4x200m Freestyle Relay - World Record
 Stephanie Rice - Swimming 200m Individual Medley - World Record
 Leisel Jones - Swimming 100m Breaststroke - Olympic Record
 Libby Trickett - Swimming 100m Butterfly
 Stephanie Rice - Swimming 400m Individual Medley - World Record



Jared Tallent - 50km Walk
 Darren Bundock and Glenn Ashby - Sailing
 Sally McLellan - 100m Hurdles
 Anna Meares - Cycling
 Hayden Stoeckel, Brenton Rickard, Andrew Lauterstein, Eamon Sullivan - Swimming 4x100m Medley Relay
 Grant Hackett - Swimming 1500m Freestyle
 Francis Hegerty, James Marburg, Cameron McKenzie-McHarg and Matt Ryan - Rowing
 Jacqueline Lawrence - Kayak Slalom
 Libby Trickett - Swimming 100m Freestyle
 Leisel Jones - Swimming 200m Breaststroke
 Eamon Sullivan - Swimming 100m Freestyle
 Brenton Rickard - Swimming 200m Breaststroke
 Clayton Fredericks, Lucinda Fredericks, Sonja Johnson, Megan Jones, Shane Rose - Equestrian Team Event
 Briony Cole, Melissa Wu - Diving 10m Synchronised Diving



Watching the Boomers in action in a Brisbane street



Men's hockey team
 Lyndsie Fogarty, Hannah Davis, Chatal Meek & Lisa Oldenhof - Canoe/Kayak
 Ken Wallace - Canoe/Kayak
 Women's Water Polo Team
 Softball Team
 Emma Moffatt - Triathlon
 Cate Campbell - Swimming 50m Freestyle
 Jared Tallent - Athletics 20km Walk
 Andrew Lauterstein - Swimming 100m Butterfly
 Warren Potent - Shooting
 Jessicah Schipper - Swimming 200m Butterfly
 Grant Brits, Nick Ffrost, Grant Hackett, Patrick Murphy, - Swimming 4x200 Freestyle Relay
 Robin Bell - Canoe/Kayak
 Hayden Stoeckel - Swimming 100m Backstroke
 Ashley Callus, Andrew Lauterstein, Eamon Sullivan, Matt Targett, - Swimming 4x100 Freestyle Relay
 Jessicah Schipper - Swimming 100m Butterfly
 Cate Campbell, Alice Mills, Melanie Schlanger, Libby Trickett, - Swimming 4x100m Freestyle Relay)

Austrian Airlines offers low-cost Australia link

From online AustrianTimes 4 June

Austrian Airlines has moved to boost passengers on its Europe to Australia route, via Asia, launching a range of budget fares.

Priced from just 1336 Euros the new fares will enable travellers to fly to Europe via a choice of key Asian destinations including Bangkok, Tokyo, Mumbai, Delhi and Beijing, in conjunction with partner airlines Thai Airways, Air China, and Qantas.

Destinations in Australia include Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Cairns and Perth with special add-on fares also available for the first time from Canberra, Adelaide and Hobart.

"This product is unique for Australians travelling to Europe," said Morten Skaar, regional manager Australia and New Zealand for Austrian Airlines.

"Called the Super Flexi Non Seasonal fare, it's name is long – but so is the list of benefits it offers to passengers," said Skaar. "These fares are available year-round to more than 100 destinations, flying via our hub airport of Vienna, in the heart of Europe," he said.

"Routing, travel zones and booking classes can be combined, and single-sector class up-sells are available to ensure that passengers can travel when they want to.

"We are also the quickest airline to key European destinations, offering a minimum connection time in Vienna of just 25 minutes before travellers continue on their next flight. No other airline can offer such a central hub or such smooth connections to so many destinations in Europe."

When connecting in Asia with onward Austrian Airlines flights, travellers can also fly to destinations such as Shanghai or Phuket, then make their own way to one of the gateways from which Austrian departs.

A Place to Visit: Hardegg, the smallest town in Austria

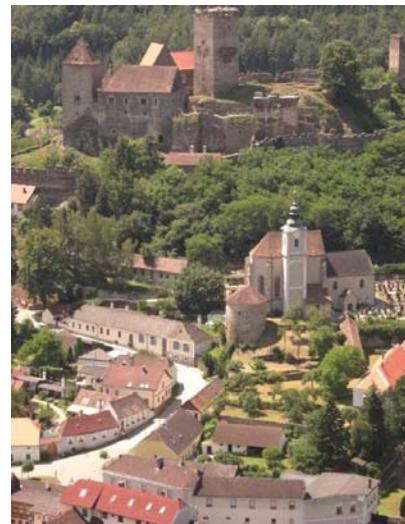
Spotted on a balcony in Hardegg recently!



Hardegg claims to be the smallest town in Austria, so don't call it a village. It is quiet, very scenic, not far from the wine growing town of Retz and an easy drive from Vienna. The town is surrounded by the Thaya National Park and is dominated by a castle which dates back to around 1100. The Thaya River is the border with the Czech Republic. You can take a walk across a bridge into the Czech Republic and then climb to a lookout for great views of Hardegg.

And so who is waving the Aussie towel?

His name is Oskar Schotz and years ago he was Manager of Qantas when the airline flew to Vienna. He is a good friend to this day of our President Brett Bayly who likes to take visitors to Hardegg.



Why coffee is the real taste of Vienna

Knowing your coffee: From www.Austriantimes.at

When Austrian troops stumbled across a few sacks of strange black beans left behind by the fleeing Turks over three centuries ago, they couldn't have imagined that their innocuous find would grow into the most distinguished and vibrant coffee culture in the world, but today many a confused British or American visitor to Vienna gets a knowing look from the waiter when saying "just a coffee please" because in Vienna it's all about how you take it.

Forget your Cappacino's and your Cafe Mokka's because, since the first coffee house opened in Vienna the year after the Turks fled in 1684, the city has developed a coffee culture that is very much its own. Although the Italian favourites can still be found on the menu in Vienna's coffee houses and the espresso machine has long since replaced traditional [filter] boiling techniques of making coffee from beans, Viennese offerings are still just as popular as their Italian counterparts.

The 'Wiener Melange' is a Viennese favourite. Served in a taller cup than its Italian cousin, the Melange is a lighter alternative to the Cappuccino with more hot, foamy milk on an espresso base. When you order a 'Kurz,' you will simply get an Espresso. Then there is the 'Brauner,' which is Espresso topped with a dash of cream. Its nearest Italian relative is the Macchiato, which uses frothy milk instead. The delicious 'Salon Einspänner' consists of a double espresso topped with whipped cream and served in a short glass with a [flake]. A tasty treat, but better not tell your doctor!

The most popular coffee on the menu in recent years, however, has been the Latte, which consists of espresso and hot, foamy milk. Elmel Longin, head waiter at the prestigious Café Landtmann, said: "The Latte has become very popular over the last 20 years because Vienna has more international visitors now."

A Kaffeesieder or coffee boiler, as coffee house owners have been known for three centuries, once explained why Vienna's coffee houses were so important to the Viennese.

As found in Austrian school textbooks, the coffee-house tradition was started over 300 years ago by a plucky Pole. In 1683, Georg Kolschitzky found himself in Vienna as troops of the Ottoman Empire were approaching it. Disguising himself as a Turk, he became a spy for the city's defenders and succeeded in helping liberate Vienna. When offered a reward, he is said to have asked for the sacks of unroasted coffee beans left behind by the Turkish army. Kolschitzky thus became the city's first Kaffeesieder.

Vienna's eco-friendly eating places

Have you heard about Vienna's Ecolabel for Tourism program? No? Neither had I until I saw a booklet put out by the City of Vienna.

So if you want to eat at an eco-friendly restaurant, here's how to find out where to go. There are also eco-friendly hotels and wine taverns, and an official Vienna EcoBusiness plan especially tailored to the needs of Vienna's hotel and catering industry.

Vienna rightly claims to be one of the cleanest cities in the world and visitors to the city appreciate this just as much as the local inhabitants. The Ecolabel for Tourism is just one of the measures that the city has introduced to ensure that this standard is maintained.

Hotels, restaurants, coffee houses and simple bistros take part in the scheme on an entirely voluntary basis. According to StadtWien, they improve their quality and environmental standards in an ongoing process designed to enable them to meet stringent conditions laid down by an independent jury.

The Ecolabel for Tourism guarantees that visitors will find environmental quality and a high standard of living by maintenance and improvement of:

- ecological purchasing
- efficient and economical use of energy
- environmentally friendly cleaning agents coupled with
- thrifty use of energy, and
- careful use of water supplies.

The 66-page booklet that explains all these programs also lists 29 environmentally friendly hotels, 33 restaurants, 7 coffee houses, 8 wine taverns and 12 friendly catering outlets. The booklet, which is available in English, is available at the Rathaus (Stadtinformation) or at the Wien Tourist Information near the Albertina. Or you can get more information at:

1200 Wien, Dresdner Str. 45
Tel: +43 1 4000-73436
Fax: +43 1 4000-99-73436
mail to: robert.lehner@wien.gv.at
www.umweltschutz.wien.at

-- Brett Bayly

OzCon Events

OzCon's summer barbecue is planned for **Sunday 14th September 08** and we urge members to come along for this one opportunity when all ages can enjoy the outdoors together.

Because we have booked a location in the grounds of a private club there is an entry fee and we will need to know how many people are going to attend. In this way we can guarantee a good location with barbecue facilities.

Your OzCon Board has decided to subsidise members to the amount of Euro5 per family.

It should be possible to organise some games for the children and even try a game of cricket for those who are interested. And there is swimming if weather permits.

Details are:

Date and time: Sunday 14th September, between 11.30 am and 7pm

Location: Club area of the Naturfreunde, An der alten unteren Donau 51

Entrance fee: Adults €6.00, children above age 6: €3.00, children if younger than 6 years: no charge.

Beach volleyball facility and access to the water (Alte Donau) available. Bring your own food, drinks and barbecue utensils. For those who do not want to barbecue, food and drinks are on sale at a kiosk.

How to get there. U1 to Alte Donau, then walk across the road bridge and right along An der alten unteren. There is no car park. However there is parking near the Strand Café which is close by.

Please register with Amanda Grant amandagrants65@gmail.com so that we can get some idea of numbers and arrange payment of the subsidy.

Bar Night

The September Bar Night will take place at Flanagan's, Schwarzenbergstr. 1-3, 1010 Vienna from 5pm. Come along and join us on **Friday 26th September.**

Extract from The Southern Cross Group's occasional newsletter of 6 June 2008

Australian Government Information Portal

Just a reminder that if you have not looked at the Government's information portal www.australia.gov.au for some time it may worth having a look again. It contains links to regularly updated information about a very wide range of Government services that is of potential interest to Australians and non-Australians both in Australia and overseas.

When not to hyphenate your name!

Best-Lay

Jennifer Lynn Lay, of Maryville, daughter of Donald and Barbara Lay, of Maryville, was united in marriage with William Daniel Best, of Maryville, son of Georgia and C.M. Best, of Maryville, at 5 p.m. April 7 at the home of the bride's parents. Pastor Clarence Byrd of Zion Chapel Baptist Church, Louisville, officiated.

Carla Norton, of Maryville, was maid of honor. Alyssa Lay, of Maryville, was bridesmaid. Gracie Manning, of Maryville, was flower girl.

Jason Spence, of Oak Ridge, and Shane Miller, of Maryville, were best men.

The bride is a graduate of the



icine. She is a physician at East Tennessee Medical Group.

The bridegroom is a graduate of William Blount High School and attended Polk State

Weddings

Looney - Warde

Shelby Warde and Joe Looney were married on July 9, 2005 at the Grand Ballroom in Salem, Oregon. Shelby is the daughter of Al and Julie Warde of Corvallis and Laura and Chuck Robinson of Salem. Joe is the son of Wayne and Pam Looney of Prineville. The matron of honor was Tara Mangus, sister of the bride and the best man was Tommy Price, friend of the groom.

Joe grew up in Pendleton, Ore. and graduated from Western Oregon and Willamette Universities. He is currently working in Salem as a teacher and coach. Shelby graduated from Sprague in 1995 and is a grad-



Aussie News Briefs

21 August - **ACCUSED war criminal** Charles Zentai had his first taste of prison yesterday after a Perth magistrate ordered he be sent back to Hungary to face a 64-year-old murder charge. Accused Nazi war criminal Charles Zentai is driven away from Hakea prison, Perth. As Nazi hunters from the Simon Wiesenthal Centre swore never to give up pursuing Mr Zentai, 86, over the alleged murder of Jewish teenager Peter Balazs in 1944, the frail great-grandfather was still behind bars last night waiting to be freed from Perth's Hakea prison. (Australian)



17 August - **THE ice climber lost in a snowslip in Kosciuszko National Park** has been found dead - hours after two men were killed in separate skiing accidents at Perisher Blue. Emergency service crews were called out to Blue Lake in Kosciuszko National Park shortly after 1.30pm today following an avalanche in a known ice climbing area. (Courier Mail)

12 August - **A RUN of bad publicity has not affected Qantas' international reputation**, with the airline today named the world's third best in a survey of 15 million travelers. Singapore Airlines and Cathay Pacific were named ahead of the national carrier in the independent Skytrax 2008 World Airline Awards. (Advertiser)

27 July - **QUEENSLAND'S new Liberal National Party** has been launched in front of an ecstatic crowd in Brisbane as its leaders set their sights on Labor. New party members cheered loudly and chanted "LNP" and "Go the Borg" as inaugural leader Lawrence Springborg entered the packed conference room at the Sofitel hotel as Shannon Noll's *Shine* played in the background. (Courier Mail)



25 July - **AN Australian submarine** has used a new super torpedo to sink an American warship off Hawaii. HMAS *Waller* fired the heavyweight Mark 48 torpedo, which the US and Australian navies say is the world's deadliest, during war games this week. (Advertiser)



Kevin Rudd meets with Arnhem Land indigenous leader Galarrwuy Yunupingu in Yirrkala

24 July - **KEVIN Rudd has foreshadowed a referendum** on the recognition of Aboriginal people in the nation's Constitution, vowing at a historic Arnhem Land cabinet meeting yesterday to build a "new Australia" based on equality between blacks and whites. At the remote community of Yirrkala, the Prime Minister laid out his vision for Aboriginal Australia, emphasising practical reconciliation but promising to simultaneously launch consultations over the form and timing of constitutional reform. For the rights of indigenous people to be recognised in the Constitution, such as in a preamble, there would have to be a referendum requiring majority support in a majority of states. (Australian)

22 July - **ZIMBABWE is using Australian air space** to ferry to China high-ranking military officials and war veterans, some responsible for political thuggery and violent disruption of elections under Robert Mugabe's repressive regime. Flights from Harare, also carrying tonnes of illicit goods including ivory, gold and diamonds, pass directly through Australian air space en route to Singapore before touching down in Beijing and southern China. (Age)

Aussie News Briefs cont'd



21 July - **POPE Benedict** urged young pilgrims to become champions of a new age in a momentous climax to World Youth Day yesterday. The 81-year-old pontiff also told the vast gathering crammed into Sydney's Randwick Racecourse his first visit to Australia had been an "unforgettable experience". Pope Benedict challenged young people to shed the greed and cynicism of their time to create a new age of hope for the world. (Herald Sun)

19 July - **QANTAS will cut 1500 jobs**, cancel plans to hire 1200 workers and retire 22 planes as it continues to grapple with higher fuel costs. "We hope there will not be anymore job cuts, but we don't know where oil will be 12 months," chief executive Geoff Dixon told reporters. The airline said planned capacity growth for the next eight months would cut from 8 per cent to zero and a recruitment and executive pay freeze would be maintained for the foreseeable future. (Australian)

17 July **HOUSEHOLD electricity prices and other essential living costs will rise** when the Government introduces its key response to climate change, an emissions trading scheme, in less than two years. But pensioners, carers and the least well off will get tax cuts and increased welfare benefits to meet rising costs. Climate Change Minister Penny Wong released the Government's widely anticipated policy green paper yesterday, declaring the economy-wide impact would be "profound" and that there was no "cost-free way to tackle climate change". (Advertiser)

17 July - **FAMILIES will be hit with a \$220 rise in power bills** from 2010 under Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's carbon emissions trading scheme. And price rises will filter through to every sector of the economy, pushing up inflation by almost 1 per cent.

Middle Australia, which carried the Rudd Government into office, will pay the biggest price in the climate change fight. The Government will spend billions of dollars compensating pensioners, low-income earners and businesses. (Herald Sun)

11 July - **RESIDENTS of southeast Queensland** have broken records with their lowest ever consumption of water in the drought-parched state, at 112 litres a day per person. The Queensland Water Commission announced the figure today, which was well below the 140-litre target usage each day under level 6 watering restrictions. (Courier Mail)

9 July - **AUSTRALIA'S economy is braking sharply**, with business reporting that soaring petrol prices and high interest rates have wiped away all positive momentum from demand. Bankruptcies have soared to record levels. The National Australia Bank's latest business survey says firms report that economic conditions are on the verge of negative territory for the first time since early 2002 as confidence has plunged deep into the red, to be the lowest since 1991. (Age)

5 July - **KEVIN Rudd's hand-picked climate change adviser Ross Garnaut** yesterday backed Labor's ambitious plan to introduce an emissions trading scheme within two years, saying it would be "terribly hard, but possible". Releasing his landmark report on Australia's climate-change challenge, Professor Garnaut yesterday warned that the nation faced dire economic and environmental consequences if the world did not act quickly to slow global warming. The Government will give the first indication of how it intends to shape the ETS in a discussion paper later this month. (Australian)



Brett's comment "I wish there were more of these in Austria"
Photo taken by Brett at a shopping mall in Brisbane.

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

OzCon Bank Account Details:

OZCON Account

Raiffeisenlandesbank Niederösterreich – Wien

BLZ 32000

Kontonummer (Account Number): 12.097.176

Membership Fee: Euro 20

Australian Embassy

Matiellistrasse 2-4, 1040 Vienna

Tel: 506740

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

www.australia.gov.au

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.