

It's true. Lamas do take the lead so don't get in their way

I was once told that lamas could be used to herd sheep or lead them from place to place. Sounded a bit far-fetched, but then the other day I had a chat with Mr. Head Lama, at least the assumption was that it was a 'he'.

There wasn't much time to take a close look when he appeared along a road high in the Swiss Alps leading a small mob of sheep, apparently to slaughter at a nearby farm which we had passed earlier.

We had stopped on the side of the road where there was some grass and this is where Mr. Lama led his sheep. I was in the way and Mr. Lama was obviously not impressed. He just walked right up to me and seemed to hiss. I think the message was to stand back and let them pass. No problem!



A recent unreported international meeting in the Swiss Alps: Mr. Head Lama hisses at Mr. President to kindly get out of the way of his sheep

Holidays can take you to strange and amazing places and this was one encounter I thoroughly enjoyed and will not forget in a hurry.

It would be nice if this glorious weather continues this week and is still with us when we go to Krems for lunch and a wine tasting at Salomon Undhof winery on Saturday. The Salomon family has been producing white wines on some of the best terraces in Stein, Und and Krems since 1792. They also have the Salomon Estate, founded in 1995, at Finnis River, about 20km southeast of McLaren Vale in South Australia.

Details of the day can be found on page 3 and it is not too late to come along.

There is also a report on our last bar night (page 4) at which some new members joined us and we farewelled our Secretary Amanda Grant and family.

I was able to announce at the bar night that our new secretary will be Sharon Tiainen. Sharon and husband Chris Cubitt were farewelled at our bar night back in May before they returned to Australia because Chris's work contract had expired. The good news is that Chris has got a new job and they will return to Vienna later this month.

Sharon plans not to work this time and as she enjoys travelling about the region, we hope that OzCon will benefit from her experiences and she will be able to come up with some ideas of things other members might like to do.

Hopefully Sharon will tell us more about this in the next newsletter.

We also have an update and a call for volunteers for this year's UN charity bazaar which will take place in late November. Please take time to read the report on the next page from coordinator Jenny Hanna and get in touch with Jenny if you can help out with product or your time, or both. - *Brett*

Time to put up the hands for the big bazaar

The UN Women's Guild charity bazaar will be held in the Austria Centre on **Saturday 28 November 2009**. Our Australian stall with the iconic pavlova is sought out by many attendees and we would like to be able to fly the flag once again. In order to make the Australian stall successful once again there are two main things that we need your help with:

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

Pavlovas

We need to know how many pavlovas you can provide (and/or 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. Previous years have shown that selling large pavlovas by the slice is messy and not so popular. Pavlovas need to be indented on the top to hold the fruit and cream. A basic recipe is provided below - it really is child's play and my 3 year old likes nothing better than beating those egg whites, mixing in the sugar then licking the beaters!

It would also assist us to know whether you can provide cut-up fruit which can be placed on the pavlovas on the day. We will supply the cream.

Pavlovas and lamingtons can be dropped off at the Australian Embassy before 1200 on Friday 27 November or at the stall in the Austria Centre on the Saturday.



Some of the team last year

Volunteers

Without volunteers the stall cannot function. We need to be organised to the point that we have:

- **a team of volunteers to put our stall together on the Friday between 1200 and 1700.** 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.** We need cashiers (three required at any one time), food servers, wine and beer servers (it is helpful but not essential if the food and wine servers are fluent in German as we need to promote the product to satisfy our sponsors)
- **people to still be there at 1700 on Saturday to help clean up**, i.e. dismantle the displays, stack leftovers, return items to the organisers, wash up.

We have found that the best way to organise all this is to have a roster. People are not expected to spend the whole day at the stall, although many of us do stick around to enjoy the fun. 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.

And wear some Aussie gear. It's fun.

Please email me, **Jenny Hanna**
Jenny.hanna@dfat.gov.au

Easy Pavlova Recipe

4 egg whites
1 cup fein sugar
1 tablespoon cornflour
1 teaspoon vinegar

Start with very clean bowl and beaters. Eggs should be at room temperature. Beat the egg whites until peaks form. Gradually add the sugar and continue to beat until completely dissolved (rub a little of the mixture between your thumb and finger and if it is still gritty continue to beat). Fold in the cornflour and vinegar.

Place spoonfuls of the mixture onto baking tray lined with baking paper and shape into circles of the required size (making sure the sides are slightly higher than the middle). Cook in slow oven (120°C) until dry to the touch (approx 1½ hrs for one large pavlova and slightly less for smaller pavlovas). Turn oven off and leave door ajar while pavlova cools.



Lunch and wine tasting at Krems



Entrance to Obere Landstrasse

It is still not too late to join us on Saturday 3 Oct.

Lunch.

Tables are booked for 12:30 at the 15th century Alte Post hotel-restaurant in Obere Landstrasse 32, Krems. Tel 02732/ 82276. Obere Landstrasse is a pedestrian only street. The restaurant is about 30 metres on the left inside the main gate entrance. If the weather is fine we will lunch in the courtyard. www.altepost-krems.at The walk from the Krems Bahnhof to the restaurant takes about 12-15 minutes.



Our visit last year

Winery

It is a 10-15 minute easy walk from the restaurant to the SALOMON UNDHOF wine estate at Undstrasse 10, Stein an der Donau (corner of Kasernstrasse). We should be there by 14:30. There is a E10 per head fee for tasting nine wines. www.salmonwines.com

By train

For those who made the trip last year please note the train leaves from a different station. While the train (Schnellbahn) leaves from Landstrasse we will catch it at **PRATERSTERN** because Landstrasse is currently a building site and is very confusing.

The U1 and U2 go through Praterstern.

Tickets: the regular fare is €12.60 one way for an adult and there is a child fare. **BUT the cheaper way is to buy an Einfach-Raus ticket for €28 return for between 2-5 people, including children.**

We will meet at Praterstern to catch the train to Stockerau where we change trains to get to Krems. Why change? There are bridgeworks at Tulln and so the trains are running on the other side of the river and there are fewer direct trains to Krems.

The timing is such that we need to get: **the 10.05 train at PRATERSTERN to STOCKERAU arriving at 10.41. We then change to the Krems train leaving at 10.58 and arriving 11.41.** The train (S5) stops at Praterstern for only a minute so please be on time.

MEETING POINT is at the top of the escalators on platforms 1-2. The ticket office is in the main entrance on the right (from the street) and on the left if you are coming from the U-Bahn.

Return: there is a train leaving at 16:49 (again there is a change at Stockerau arriving Praterstern at 18:23. There are other trains if you wish to return at a different time. www.oebb.at

By Car

Make your way to Stadtpark in Krems. Go into Utzstrasse beside the park. You can see the 'gates' to Obere Landstrasse (photo) at the top of Utzstrasse. Parking is possible in the streets surrounding the park.

Distance from Vienna is about 75km.

Today's message:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away

Goodbyes and greetings at bar night

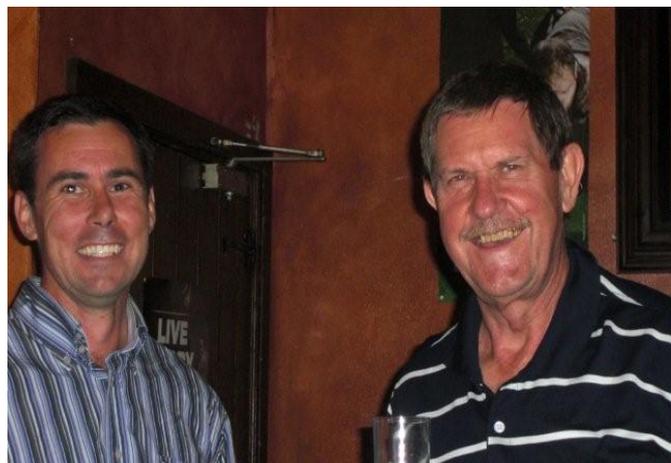
It was time to say goodbye to OzCon Secretary Amanda Grant and family while at the same time welcoming some new members.

About 20 of us attended the monthly bar night at Flanagan's.

Amanda and daughters Isabella and Annika were there, but Michael and daughter Julia couldn't make it. They will all return to Sydney this month and we wish them well.

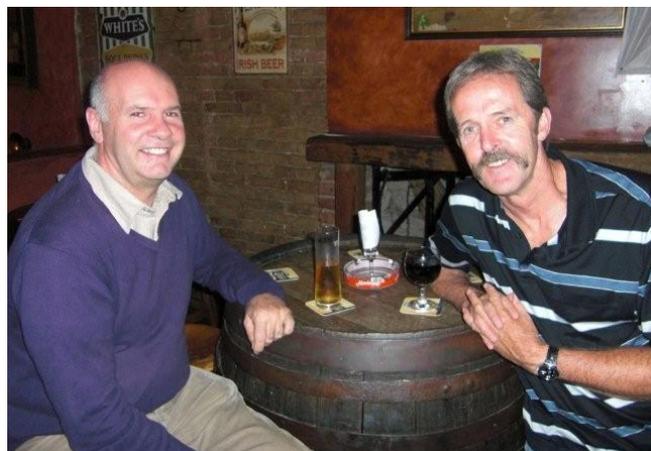


Isabella, Annika and Amanda with Rebeca Frank (second from left)



Sam Ranger and Leon Schupelius

It is always good to see new faces and there were three this time. Rob Reed, from Adelaide who is teaching at Vienna International School, and Sharon and Peter Bartsch who have come to Vienna from Lima, Peru. Peter works in the International Atomic Energy Agency.



New member Rob Reed over a barrel with Noel Boyd



A final drink with Amanda. Jenny Hanna, husband Mike and Suzanne Prissmann



Edith Ranger with new members Sharon and Peter Bartsch



The boys Flo, Thomas and Michael being cool

October Bar Night

This month's bar night will be on Friday 30 October at Flanagan's, Schwarzenbergstrasse 1-3, 1010 Vienna from 5.30pm. (Normally it would be Friday 23rd but this is the start of a holiday weekend).



When we asked departing Secretary Amanda Grant what she would remember about Vienna, she responded:

Things I will miss about Vienna

1. Travel opportunities
2. Seasonal food (asparagus, mushrooms, goose)
3. European Spring and Autumn
4. Ease of getting around town (compared to Sydney)
5. The internationalness of the place

Things I won't miss

1. Smoking
2. Dog poo
3. Winter
4. Viennese unfriendliness
5. Austrian school finishing times (a parent's nightmare)

Things I look forward to in Sydney

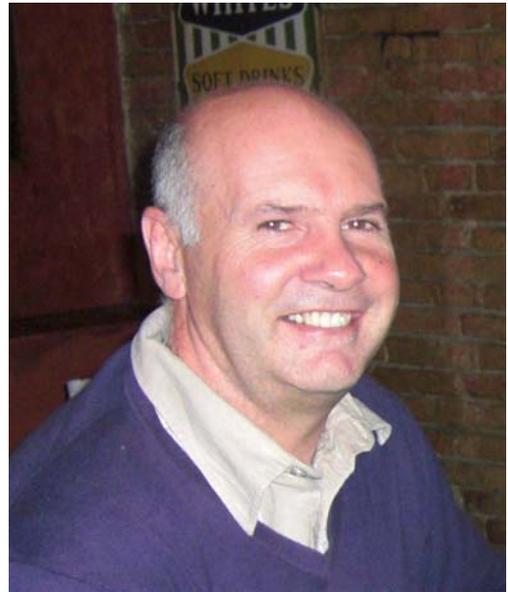
1. Sun
2. Beach
3. Friendliness
4. Relaxed lifestyle
5. Good Asian food

Sightseeing in Upper Austria....



Catch a cable car from Obertraun to Krippenstein 2100m and, if you are brave enough, enjoy a five-finger lookout over Hallstatt

OzCon welcomes Rob Reed



Hi, my name is Rob Reed. I originally come from Adelaide. This is my second time to live in Vienna. I lived here from 2000-2004 and worked at Vienna International School. I then left and worked in the United Nations School in Hanoi, Vietnam. After working there for five years, I returned to Vienna because of a job opportunity.

So here I am again for at least another three years. The city of Vienna does not seem to have changed much since I left and I am looking forward to continuing to explore this wonderful city and surrounds.

My hobbies: I like travelling, playing tennis and watching TV series.

.....and in Südtirol



13th century Tirol Castle near Dorf Tirol and above Merano, Italy

Aussie News Briefs

28 September - **THREE-QUARTERS** of Australians believe that the price of fossil fuels should be increased to deal with climate change and 92 per cent believe a legally binding global climate deal is urgent and should be made at the conference to be held in Copenhagen in December. Their views are echoed by people from most other countries who took part in a simultaneous global consultation on climate change at the weekend organised by the Danish Board of Technology. (Sydney Morning Herald)



22 September – **AUSTRALIA'S** population soared by almost half a million people in the year to March - a boom not seen since the 1960s. A green group says that's no cause for celebration and has called for immigration to be cut to protect the environment. Australian Bureau of Statistics data released on Tuesday shows the population increased by just over two per cent - or 439,000 people - in the year to March. There are now 21.8 million of us. Recent research showed Australia's population would balloon to 35 million - seven million more than previously thought - on the strength of immigration and births over the next 40 years. (AAP)

21 September - **THREE men charged over a cocaine importation syndicate** involved in smuggling packages of drugs through Sydney's airport were employees of an airline catering company, the Australian Federal Police say. A joint investigation by the AFP and Australian Customs led to raids on six Sydney homes on Sunday and the seizure of a kilogram of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$350,000. (West Australian)

19 September - **TWO teenage boys on Friday handed police almost \$100,000 cash** they found earlier this month during a fishing trip at Turntable Creek, north of Lismore on the NSW north coast. They recently told a carer about their ultimate catch and after seeking legal advice, decided to alert police. Officers searched the area where the boys say they found the cash but failed to find anything to help inquiries. (AAP)



17 September - **KIM Beazley** has been appointed as Australia's next ambassador to the United States. Prime Minister Kevin Rudd made the announcement this morning. He will replace Dennis Richardson, who is scheduled to come home in November to head the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Mr. Rudd also announced Brendan Nelson as ambassador to European Communities, Belgium and Luxembourg and Australia's representative to NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and the World Health Organisation. Both Mr. Beazley and Dr Nelson had served as defence ministers, both had led their parties and both had earned the trust and respect of the Australian people, Mr. Rudd said. (Canberra Times)

17 September - **THE Rudd Government's handling of the global economic crisis has been given a double boost**, with the OECD singling out its stimulus package for praise and a global poll showing Australians are among the most satisfied with the official response. The Government seized on the OECD report as it faced a concerted and growing campaign from the Coalition that the stimulus package was a waste of money and should be withdrawn. (Sydney Morning Herald)

12 September - **MELBOURNE has posted its hottest day on record for the first half of September** (29.9) after warm, windy conditions swept across Victoria. Wind gusts of up to 85 kilometres an hour have been recorded so far, but the gusts could reach as much as 100 kilometres on Saturday night. (AAP)

10 September - **THE Australian Federal Police's war crimes investigation** into the slaying of five Australian-based journalists in East Timor in 1975 risked undermining the relationship between Indonesia and Australia, the Indonesian foreign ministry said yesterday. The sharp official response to the new investigation into the death of the Balibo Five came with a warning that Indonesia would not co-operate. (Sydney Morning Herald)

5 September - **TOUGHER laws banning the sale of knives** to people under the age of 16 are designed to prevent Adelaide from becoming like London where violent stabbings are common. Community groups will be consulted about planned new knife laws which would also allow police to be granted powers to use hand held metal detectors. (Advertiser)

WHY WOMEN SHOULDN'T TAKE MEN SHOPPING

(caution: not to be tried in Austria)

After Mr Hudson retired, his wife insisted that he accompany her on her trips to Target. Unfortunately, like most men, he found shopping boring and preferred to get in and get out. Equally unfortunate, his wife loves to browse. Yesterday his wife received the following letter from the local Target store.

Dear Mrs.Hudson

Over the past six months, your husband has caused quite a commotion in our store. We cannot tolerate this behaviour and have been forced to ban both of you from the store. Our complaints against your husband are listed below and are documented by our video surveillance cameras.

1. June 15:

Took 24 boxes of condoms and randomly put them in other people's carts when they weren't looking.

2. July 2:

Set all the alarm clocks in Housewares to go off at 5-minute intervals.

3. July 7:

He made a trail of tomato juice on the floor leading to the women's restroom.

4. July 19:

Walked up to an employee and told her in an official voice, 'Code 3 in Housewares. Get on it right away?' This caused the employee to leave her assigned station and receive a reprimand from her Supervisor that in turn resulted with a union grievance, causing management to lose time and costing the company money.

5. August 4:

Went to the Service Desk and tried to put a bag of M&Ms on layby.

6. August 14:

Moved a 'CAUTION - WET FLOOR' sign to a carpeted area.

7. August 15:

Set up a tent in the camping department and told the children shoppers he'd invite them in if they would bring pillows and blankets from the bedding department to which twenty children obliged.

8. August 23:

When a clerk asked if they could help him he began crying and screamed, 'Why can't you people just leave me alone?' Police were called.

9. September 4:

Looked right into the security camera and used it as a mirror while he picked his nose.

10. September 10:

While handling guns in the hunting department, he asked the clerk where the antidepressants were.

11. October 3:

Darted around the store suspiciously while loudly humming the 'Mission Impossible' theme.

12. October 6:

In the auto department, he practiced his 'Madonna look' by using different sizes of funnels.

13. October 18:

Hid in a clothing rack and when people browsed through, yelled 'PICK ME! PICK ME!'

14. October 21:

When an announcement came over the loud speaker, he assumed a fetal position and screamed 'OH NO! IT'S THOSE VOICES AGAIN!'

And last, but not least:

15. October 23:

Went into a fitting room, shut the door, waited awhile, then yelled very loudly, 'Hey! There's no toilet paper in here.'

One of the clerks passed out.

Actual exchanges between pilots and control towers

Tower: "Delta 351, you have traffic at 10 o'clock, 6 miles!"

Delta 351: "Give us another hint! We have digital watches!"

Tower: "TWA 2341, for noise abatement turn right 45 Degrees."

TWA 2341: "Center, we are at 35,000 feet. How much noise can we make up here?"

Tower: "Sir, have you ever heard the noise a 747 makes when it hits a 727?"

O'Hare Approach Control to a 747: "United 329 heavy, your traffic is a Fokker, one o'clock, three miles, Eastbound."

United 329: "Approach, I've always wanted to say this...I've got the little Fokker in sight."



Performances with Australian Artists and other events

From the Australian Events Calendar, Australian Embassy Vienna

Until 1 November 9am-4.30pm	Benedictina Nocturna exhibition	Melk Abbey Abt-Berthold-Dietmayrstr 1 3390 Melk www.stiftmelk.at www.loxpix.com for information	Australian artist and photographer Lachlan Blair exhibits unique photos of Melk Abbey
5 Sept – 25 October	Exhibition Andrew Tetzlaff	Kunst Verein Baden www.kunstvereinbade.at	Australian artist in residence in Krems is exhibiting his works
10 October 7.30 pm	Sydney Conservatory in Concert	Konservatorium Wien Johannesgasse 4a 1010 Vienna www.konservatorium-wien.ac.at Tickets free but limited office@konswien.at	With solo violinist Lorenzo Gatta
15 October	Presidents without Countries	Flying Pig International Club Liechtensteinstrasse 31 1090 Vienna	Richard O'Brien, from Melbourne, presents his new band
24 October 7.30 pm	Shine on Tour 2009	Wiener Konzerthaus Lothringerstr 20 1030 Vienna www.konzerthaus.at	David Helfgott returns to the Austrian stage
25 October	Presidents without Countries	Down Under Aussie Pub Magdalenenstrasse 32 1060 Vienna	Richard O'Brien, from Melbourne, presents his new band
28 October 8.30 pm	Eskimo Joe in Concert	Szene Wien Hauffgasse 1110 Vienna www.szenewien.com	Indiepop and stadion rock meet the 80s. Australian alternative band introduce their latest release "Inshalla"
21 November 8.30 pm	The Living End in Concert	Szene Wien Hauffgasse 1110 Vienna www.szenewien.com www.thelivingend.com	Pop, punk and rock band presents their new album "White Noise"

Unless otherwise specified, all telephone numbers are in Vienna

Australian Connection (OzCon)

Website: www.ozcon.at

Email: ozcon_board@yahoo.com

President: **Brett Bayly**

Tel: 06991 264 5813

Home: 264 5813

brett_bayly@yahoo.com

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: €20

Australian Embassy

Mattiellstrasse 2-4, 1040 Vienna

Tel: 506740

www.australian-embassy.at

Helpful Tips Living in Vienna

Published by the AWA

Contact AWA for stockists

Handbook Vienna (FREE!)

Published by Austria Today

handbook@austriatoday.at

Useful Websites:

www.nucolorvue.com.au

www.australien-lifestyle.de

www.australien-info.de

www.virtualvienna.net

www.ninemsn.com.au

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

www.expats-consulting.com

www.homesick.com.au

www.viennababiesclub.com

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

www.australianaonline.com.au

www.news.com.au

www.expatriates.com

www.australia.gov.au

www.amadeus.net/home/dialing_codes/en/top.htm

www.austrain.vc

www.vienna-expats.at

Austrian media in English:

Austrian Times, daily English news

www.austriantimes.at

The Vienna Review, monthly produced by Webster University www.viennareview.net

Ether magazine, monthly www.ethermagazine.at

Worldwide media guide www.mondotimes.com

Guided Walks

Places of Human Rights, Shadow of the Past

Schonberg and Freud

Roman Findings in Carnuntum and the National Park

More information visit: www.viennawalks.at

The Old City of Vienna

The Third Man

More information visit: www.wienguide.at

Other Associations

Austrian-Australian Society (OAG)

Hubert Heine, General Secretary

Tel: 0676 5003058; 9847328

Heine69at@yahoo.de

www.australia-austria.at

Women's Career Network (WCN)

Tel: 9662925

wcnvienna@yahoo.com

www.wcnvienna.com