

In time of revolution the people have nothing if they don't have a people's army: just ask Chairman Mao

From the President

With revolutions sweeping countries of the Middle East it was with some interest, to me at least, that I brought back from Australia in January a little red book.

I had tossed it into my suitcase along with some favourite old photos and letters and then forgotten about it. But the other day I came across it and took a closer look. How appropriate, I thought, considering what is happening across large parts of the Middle East and North Africa.



The book is actually called *The Little Red Book* and is a book of quotations from Chairman Mao Tsetung before and during the Chinese revolution/war that saw the Communists come to power, and years after. I bought it while in China during a trip when

reporting a visit by then Prime Minister Gough Whitlam in 1973 when he met Chairman Mao.

The lead quote in chapter 9 headed The People's Army is this: *"Without a people's army the people have nothing: April 24, 1945"*. I read this just before Hosni Mubarak stepped down as President of Egypt and the world was wondering what the Egyptian army was going to do. Fortunately it did nothing against the Egyptian people, unlike what has happened in Libya.

Another quote that could apply to what is happening now: *"To win country-wide victory is only the first step in a long march. The Chinese revolution is great, but the road after the revolution*

will be longer, the work greater and more arduous."

One last quote: *"Classes struggle, some classes triumph, others are eliminated. Such is history; such is the history of civilisations for thousands of years. To interpret history from this viewpoint is historical materialism; standing in opposition to this viewpoint is historical idealism."*

Why did I bring this up? No reason really, other than at a time of such upheaval across the Middle East it struck me as yet another example of how history repeats itself.

Unfortunately recent history has been repeated in Christchurch, NZ. The devastating earthquake that struck the city on 22 February was the second to hit that city since September. This time it was our cousins across the Tasman who suffered terrible losses. At the time of writing some Australians were among the missing. The shocking summer continues.

The events in Christchurch and Libya, and before those the revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt, emphasize the advisability of Australian travellers and residents abroad registering their whereabouts with the Australian Government. There is advice on how to do this on page 7 of this newsletter.

Finally, members should have received our membership survey that was sent during the month.

Of course there is no compulsion to fill it in. But if you have some ideas or requests that you would like to make to the Board here is your chance.

If you didn't receive the questionnaire and want a copy just ask any Board member.

The joys of air travel in a northern winter

By Gabrielle Costigan

**When is a travel bargain not a real bargain?
When the weather interferes.**

I had planned to fly for a short holiday to New York City and the original Austrian Airlines ticket was booked for a bargain price of €160 including all taxes. I was pretty glad to be able to pick up such a deal and the flight was very comfortable, departing Vienna at 10 am and arriving at 2 pm the same day in NYC.

At 7 am on the day of my flight I received a courtesy call from Austrian Airlines informing me that the scheduled flight had been cancelled due to snow storms in New York and that I had been re-booked to fly to Frankfurt at 5 pm with a connecting flight onwards to NYC.



I was glad that I wasn't losing an extra day due to bad weather conditions. But as I arrived in Frankfurt I was informed that the flight to NYC was also cancelled due to bad weather. I was not impressed as I could have stayed in Vienna instead of re-routing to Frankfurt.

But the staff was nice enough to offer to put me up at the airport hotel and that I could take the next day flight to NYC. That seemed a good option until I heard another passenger say that she could fly via Toronto and catch the last connecting flight to NYC. This option seemed to work for most of the passengers that were on the flight and everyone was pleased that we were getting across the Atlantic at least.

So, after a good flight of about nine hours, we arrived in Toronto. More problems. The instructions were confusing as to which customs we were meant to take and where to pick up our checked in luggage because there was a separate customs check-in for flights into the US. I was running around trying to flag someone down and get some instructions when I fell and sprained my ankle.

Needless to say, I missed my connecting last flight to

NYC by 10 minutes. I was not impressed. But finally I found a friendly Canadian staffer who informed me that I had been re-booked for the 6 am flight to NYC.

It was 10 pm and I was exhausted, tired and frustrated due to the fact that there was no guarantee there would be any flights leaving Toronto in the morning due to a snow storm. The friendly Canadian staffer then offered to put me up in a hotel (a 40 minute drive). But with a forewarning that this could be tricky considering that they were expecting a snow blizzard over night and I might have difficulty getting back to the airport if the roads were not cleared, I accepted his suggestion that I sleep at the airport terminal.

I was at my wits end. I was tired and all I wanted to do was to brush my teeth and get a small nap. So I decided that I would do just as Tom Hanks in the film "Terminal" and sleep, eat and groom at the terminal. It was a weird experience - but it wasn't that bad after all, maybe because I was so exhausted that I didn't really notice where I was.



In any case, as morning came sure enough the snow blizzard had come and gone - and lucky for me the flights were departing for NYC!

OZCON finances for 2010

Opening balance at 1 January 2010	€2950.51
Revenue	€43.85
Expenditure	€658.48
Closing balance at 31 Dec. 2010	€2335.88

Expenditure included costs of staging the Australia Day function, subsidies for the summer BBQ and support for a compassionate repatriation of an Australian citizen via airfares.

Our donation of €1000 to Queensland flood victims was paid on 9 February 2011. OzCon also paid the bank transfer fees which were €29.43. --

Provided by Treasurer Susanna Martin

Enjoying the rural life in Romania

– by Sharon Tiainen

Husband Chris had been working in Campina, a refining town about 70 km north-north-west of Bucharest in Romania on and off for a few months so when the opportunity arose I decided to join him for a few weeks.

Rather than stay in a hotel Chris took the option of staying with a family and it proved to be an excellent decision. Aside from having the comfort of an apartment rather than just a hotel room he had the added benefit of experiencing the local hospitality.

The family share a house with three apartments that surround a central courtyard and I can just imagine how lovely it would be in summer with the vines covering the seating area and the outside cooking area fired up! The evening meal is provided by the family and was a tasty introduction to the culinaria of Romania. Delicious ciorba (soup), sarmale (cabbage rolls) and stews served with beans or (mamaliga) polenta and of course a glass of homemade tuica (plum spirit).

On one weekend we took the train to Sighisoura with some friends and their young daughter. The train, whilst slow, was comfortable and meant we did not have to face the heavy traffic that inevitably clogs the roads leaving and returning to Bucharest on weekends. I had been told a car journey from the Transylvanian mountains down to Bucharest can take many hours to cover a distance of around 100 km! Sighisoura's heart is a small medieval citadel in Transylvania and was settled originally by the Saxons. Accordingly it has a strong



Germanic feel that extends to the architecture and language. You might be surprised how far your German skills will help in Romania, particularly in Transylvania.

We strolled the cobbled streets, visited the clock tower museum and walked the covered stairway to the church on the hill and in the evening we enjoyed the local fare and wine. We also took

clock tower, Sighisoura

a taxi to visit Biertan, perhaps the most famous of the Saxon fortified churches in the area. The area is rural with many horse and carts and folk working the land.

I have heard the EU, among other things is attempting to

remove the horse-drawn vehicles from at least the more major roads. I for one hope this does not succeed and similarly hope I will still be able to purchase homemade unpasteurised cheese from locals when I next return. A strong rural heart beats in Romania and I hope these time honoured traditions can be preserved.

On our way back on the train I alighted at Brasov for a few days while the rest of my companions continued on to Campina. The next day the friendly staff helped me organise a taxi driver to take me to Bran and Rasnov Castles as well as making a change to my train ticket. I enjoyed Bran Castle (below) which is built on a more human scale and having been refitted for Queen Marie (grand-daughter of Queen Victoria) it feels about as homey as a castle can. I think the lack of crowds (a weekday in January) also meant I could wander through at a leisurely pace rather than get pushed through by bussed in throngs in the busier summer period.



Rasnov in comparison is more of a ruin but no less worth seeing. There is a pleasant walk up the hill to the entrance of the 13th century fort and great views over the plains and mountains. Upon return I walked

the streets of Saxon established Brasov, visited the old walls and the White Tower and peeked inside the Black Church, supposedly the largest gothic cathedral between Vienna and Istanbul. Breakfast and excellent coffee at Bistro de l' Arte the next day was my last taste of Brasov before I walked the 3km to the train station and caught my train back to Campina.

Any negatives? Well yes train travel can be slow, car journeys can be even slower, there are stray dogs (albeit friendly) everywhere, smoking inside and a distinct lack of seatbelts in the backseats of cars. But that should not be enough to keep a traveller away.

You also hear and read a lot about the unhelpful locals dismissing tourists' questions and requests, but I experienced none of this. I found the people to be an optimistic lot, helpful and friendly, even more so when you get to know them a little better. Any suggestions of rudeness are normally related to language so muddle through as best you can, smile and take a positive attitude and enjoy all that Transylvania has to offer.

Classical talent joins OzCon

OzCon is pleased to welcome two very talented classical singers to our membership.

Ben Connor, originally from Magnetic Island, Queensland, and Sonia (Anfiloff) Connor, Canberra-born, are both graduates of the Australian National University School of Music Masters Programme, majoring in Classical voice.



In October last year they moved their lives to Vienna to pursue their operatic careers. In Canberra they were regulars in the performance scene, including appearances in The Canberra International Music Festival, regulars with Canberra Friends of Opera, soloists with various Canberra choirs, and performed in at least one opera for every year of their study. They also won 1st and 3rd prize in the 2010 National Singing Eisteddfod.

Ben is currently attending the Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Wien in the Post-Graduate Opera programme. Sonia is enjoying some much needed time off from teaching and choir conducting, as was a big part of her music career, and is currently learning German and improving Ben's quality of life.

Ben and Sonia hope that their careers allow them to remain in Vienna for the foreseeable future to gain a better knowledge and experience of their craft. While here they hope to make many friends from Vienna and beyond.

In the meantime, if Opera is one of your passions Ben will be performing in Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro at Schloss Schönbrunn Theatre from March 25-30. His dates of performing are yet to be finalised.

February Lunch Out

Nine wakeful adults and one sleeping princess (little Mariella Stevens) attended the February Lunch Out at the Glacis Beisl.

Topics of discussion were diverse and covered important and current subjects, often reflecting our cultural connection with our beautiful host city of Vienna, such as the vexing question of who Herr Lugner might be bringing to the Opera Ball this year. And how could he refuse the offer of companionship of Mr George Clooney, an opportunity many of the ex-princesses at the table would have graciously accepted?

After lunch a small splinter group attended the HyperReal exhibition at MOMOK, a really interesting and extensive collection of art works from the 1960's and 70s, featuring many distinct snapshots of subgenres within the whole, stretching from enormous mirrored interiors of the White House Oval Office, which one might imagine oneself into, to extraordinarily detailed watercolour portraits of such technical skill that they appeared to be photographs.

The standard of curation at the MOMUK in the Museums' Quarter is always high and if you don't know it and you don't know much about contemporary art it is highly recommended as a place to bravely visit. You may be surprised, challenged and entertained.



Gabrielle Costigan at the HyperReal Exhibition.

There is another interesting reason to go to the Museums' Quarter. You can make music on/with the MOMUK building (the big black one). It is made of porous black basalt bricks and when you hit them the sound resonates through the material.

Tapping on different areas produces different pitches and you can compose little pieces of music. It is possible to have wonderful family fun (or late night slozzled adult fun) as a group orchestra creating music on the MOMUK building.

Just find a place where you can stand close to the wall -- from the outside is fine-- and rap it with your knuckles and find out! -- *Jeanette Hannaford*

Vienna panda curator tours Adelaide Zoo

A personal bond between the Adelaide Zoo and the Schönbrunn Tiergarten has expanded.

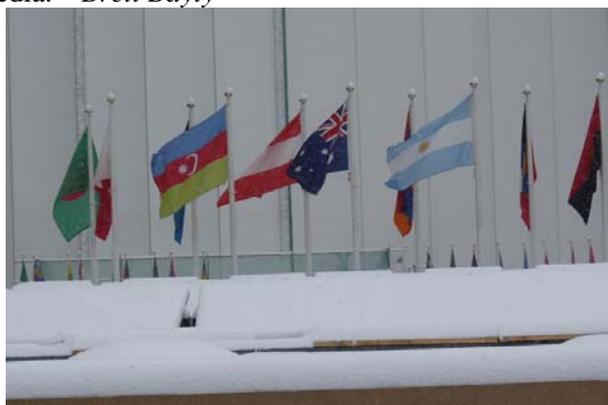
Last month I mentioned how my daughter Simone Davey spent five days at the Schönbrunn Tiergarten picking up tips on looking after the baby panda Fu Hu after meeting one of the zoo's senior staff, Eveline Dungal, in China in 2009.

Well it now turns out that Eveline, who is the Tiergarten's Giant Panda Curator, has visited the Adelaide Zoo where Simone is Senior Panda Keeper to look over the zoo's \$8m centre that houses Wang Wang and Funi.



Eveline, (second from the right) seen here with Simone and other panda and koala keepers, went to Melbourne on holiday at the end of February then travelled on to Adelaide where Simone had just returned after spending time with family in Canada.

Eveline was interested in touring the new state of the art panda enclosure to see how the pandas are cared for in such different climatic conditions and offer pointers on the zoo's future birthing areas. They toured the Adelaide Zoo and the open range zoo at Monarto near Murray Bridge. Eveline's visit attracted the attention of the local media. – *Brett Bayly*



Flags at the Vienna International Centre

Hello from Perth

OzCon member Diana Teplyj sends greetings and a thank you to her friends in Vienna. Diana returned to Perth in February 2005 to look after her father who suffered a stroke that left him severely disabled. Although there was some improvement in his condition with time, giving her some hope that she could return to her work in Vienna at UNOV, her mother then also suffered a stroke. Her partner Peter Korcsek, who lives in Vienna but is a regular traveller because of his work, recently visited Diana in Perth. She writes:

“Just a very quick hello with a photo of Peter and myself when he visited last month - indeed a very special visit. The weather in Perth was lovely, inspite of bushfires on the outskirts of the city - well, some 45 kms from us. We were not affected, but Australia is having a record breaking difficult summer of extremist extremes with flooding in the north west and east. And we in Perth need the rain so badly and don't get a drop.



“So hugs and the warmest of wishes to you all. I'll use this opportunity to thank you all for all the wonderful emails you send me - the funny ones and the uplifting ones - although I cannot respond personally every time, let me assure you that each and every one is deeply appreciated. Thank you for thinking of me“

RETARDED GRANDPARENTS

After Christmas, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holiday away from school. One child wrote the following

We always used to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa.
They used to live in a big brick house but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Batemans Bay where everyone lives in nice little houses, and so they don't have to mow the grass anymore.
They ride around on their bicycles and scooters and wear name tags because they don't know who they are anymore.
They go to a building called a wreck centre, but they must have got it fixed because it is all okay now. They do exercises there, but they don't do them very well.

There is a swimming pool too, but they all jump up and down in it with hats on.

At their gate, there is a doll house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape. Sometimes they sneak out,

and go cruising in their golf carts. Nobody there cooks, they just eat out. And they eat the same thing every night --- early birds.

Some of the people can't get out past the man in the doll house.

The ones who do get out bring food back to the wrecked centre for pot luck.

My Grandma says that Grandpa worked all his life to earn his retardment and says I should work hard so I can be retarded someday too.

When I earn my retardment, I want to be the man in the doll house. Then I will let people out so they can visit their grandchildren.

OzCon Events

March Lunch Out

Please join us on Friday 18 March at 1.00pm for a Lunch Out at Café Mozart <http://www.cafe-mozart.at/> an elegant café serving traditional Viennese food.

Albertina Platz 2 in the 1st district. Children are welcome. Please RSVP to jeanettehannaford@yahoo.co.uk.

This will be followed by an optional visit to the Roy Lichtenstein Black & White exhibition at the Albertina, a display of drawings and paintings rendered by Lichtenstein between 1961 and 1968, the time that his work changed direction and became focused in the direction of advertising, media and comic strips. You are very welcome to join us.

Next Bar Night

See the item on the next page re a change of venue.

Anzac Day

At the time of writing it was not known if there will be an Anzac Day service in Vienna next month. This was under discussion by the embassies involved. This is because Anzac Day falls on Easter Monday, 25 April. Members will be advised when a decision is known.

Midsummer solstice cruise

Bookings for this medieval festival down the Danube are required months in advance of the actual event in June. Your Board is examining availability on one of the many ships and will call for names within weeks. So think about it. It is a great night out.

A George Orwellian evening

Dinner and then the theatre – a very dignified way to spend an evening in Vienna.

Eleven theatre goers first enjoyed the tasty cuisine at the high ceiling Porzellan restaurant. One of them, Peter Waggitt, was also celebrating his birthday.



They then joined another couple at the nearby International Theatre to see the play 1984 by George Orwell.

The International Theatre is a small and intimate theatre with only 66 seats. The production had been written specifically by one of the theatre's artists for their stage and was performed with only five actors. The story unfolded not in chronological order, but in parallel story lines.

Our thanks to Susanna Martin for organising this night out.

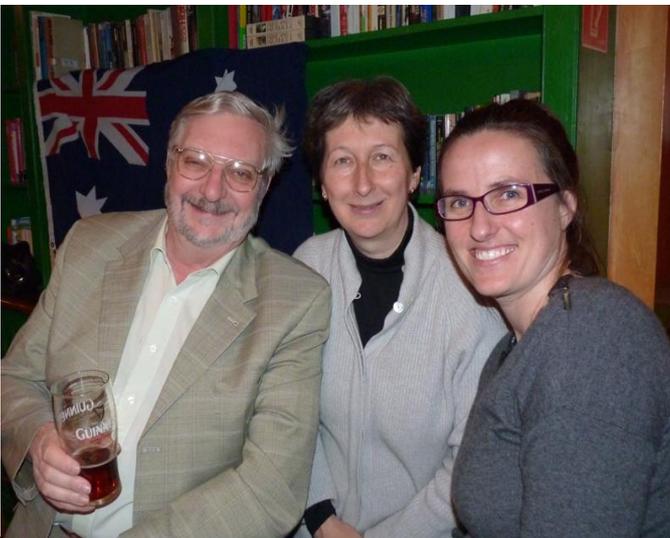
Change of venue for March bar night

There will be a change of venue for our next bar night, on Friday 25 March. It has been recommended that we try the 1516 Brewing Company which happens to be just across the road from Flanagans in Schwarzenbergerstr in the 1st District from 18:00.

1516 has a no-smoking upstairs and so we have opted to book a table. This will mean giving a definite number and so we may need to ask you closer to the time if you intend to join us. www.1516brewingcompany.com

Our bar nights offer a good opportunity for new members to get to know a few of the oldies in a relaxed atmosphere so we hope you can come along. The evenings usually run until between 8 and 9 pm so you don't have to dash from your work place.

Once again a cold night did not prevent some from venturing out to Flanagans in February.



Final figures for 2010 bazaar: Australia's stall 6th out of 41

Our stall at last year's UNWG bazaar raised a total of €2814.37 after expenses, according to figures published by the guild in its March newsletter.

This was the sixth highest amount of the 41 restaurant stalls and so once again congratulations are in order to everyone involved.

The restaurant stalls raised a total of €94,093.72 for children's charities around the world.

The bazaar's gross income was €239,370.93. After deducting expenses of €100,413.01 (including €3,665 for the venue) the bazaar's net income was €138,957.92. This demonstrates how important the restaurant stalls are to the overall success of the bazaar.

National stalls (non-food) raised €43,098.81 and the guild's own stalls raised €5,000.

Once again the two most popular food stalls, Argentina and Brazil, battled for first place with Argentina coming out on top with €14,182.90, just €10.23 more than Brazil's €14,172.67.

Third was Greece with €4,687.49 followed by Republic of Korea €4,284.12 and Japan €3,743.40.
– Brett Bayly

Are you registered?

The Australian Government encourages travellers to register with it so that the government can find you in an emergency - whether it is a natural disaster, eg Christchurch, civil disturbance eg Libya, or a family emergency. It may also be used to pass other information to you such as new travel advisories, notice of elections and information on other matters relevant to travellers and expatriates. What many people don't realise is that the same thing applies to people who are living overseas. You don't have to be a traveller to benefit from being registered. You can register on-line at www.orao.dfat.gov.au and the information will be forwarded to the nearest embassy so that it can locate you in time of an emergency.

Aussie News Briefs

27 Feb. – **THE death toll from the massive Christchurch earthquake will be more than 200, police said tonight.** Superintendent Dave Cliff confirmed the death toll in Christchurch had increased to 147. He said there are still more than 200 people missing, including a New Zealand police officer. Mayor Bob Parker said there has already been as much silt removed from city streets as there was after September 4. It is believed five times as much silt has seeped from the ground due to liquefaction compared to the earlier quake. (NZ Herald)



23 Feb. - **AS the search for survivors from Christchurch's earthquake entered its second night, authorities were preparing for a death toll well in excess of 75.** Officials put the number of people missing at 300, while police announced a night-time curfew in parts of the city and the country operated under a state of emergency issued by Prime Minister John Key. An Australian was confirmed as one of the earthquake victims, while concerns were held for three others known to be in the CBD, and 1352 remained unaccounted for in the region. (Australian)



Photos: The Australian

21 Feb. - **FEDERAL Parliament has formally acknowledged the death of Kangaroo Island soldier Jamie Ronald Larcombe, the 23rd Australian fatality in Afghanistan.** Sapper Larcombe was shot dead by insurgents while on patrol in the Mirabad Valley on Saturday night. Prime Minister Julia Gillard said in honouring Sapper Larcombe she honoured all engineers for their critical work. (Advertiser)

21 Feb. – **MELBOURNE should axe the Australian Grand Prix because it's too expensive** and locals are fed up, federal parliament has been told. Labor MP Michael Danby, whose Melbourne Ports electorate hosts the Grand Prix circuit, said he had polled 600 local residents about the Formula One race with a majority 10-1 opting to ditch the event. (Age)

18 Feb. – **THE nation's banking scuffle has turned into an all-out war,** with market heavyweight Commonwealth Bank planning to offer cash incentives to National Australia Bank customers to switch. It is also offering a range of discounts on new home loans. CBA is offering NAB customers \$1200 to refinance their home loan. To open a credit card or deposit account, CBA is also offering NAB customers \$100. The move is a direct rebuke to NAB, which made a grab for mortgage market-share through an audacious offer to pay the early exit fees for Commonwealth and Westpac customers who switch to NAB's variable mortgage. (Brisbane Times)

16 Feb. - **A NEW poll suggests New South Wales Labor could win as few as 13 seats at next month's election.** The first Nielsen poll of the election campaign has put the party's primary vote at 22 per cent to the Coalition's 53 per cent. Premier Kristina Keneally's approval rating is placed at 36 per cent, compared to Opposition Leader Barry O'Farrell whose approval rating stands at 55 per cent. (ABC)

14 Feb. - **JULIA Gillard has stared down state leaders to deliver \$16.4 billion into the health system** in return for absolute transparency about how state governments spend the federal money. Despite early resistance from the states and territories, the Prime Minister sealed a deal last night that she said would improve services, take an axe to red tape and deliver "unprecedented transparency" on health. (Australian)

10 Feb. - **TWO-THIRDS of the Royal Australian Navy fleet could not operate at full capacity at some stage of the first half of last year,** putting the force under pressure to scale back its activities around the world. The parlous state of the navy is revealed in full for the first time by figures that show 38 of the fleet's 54 vessels were at some stage hit by faults, repairs, operational restrictions or crew shortages in the first half of last year. (Australian)

8 Feb. - **THE West Australia Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) has confirmed 72 homes have been destroyed in a bushfire** which ripped through the Perth hills district this week. FESA spokesman Allen Gale said the number of houses lost in the Kelmscott and Roleystone area had been revised upwards from 68, which was reported earlier on Tuesday. Mr Gale said a further 32 homes had experienced significant damage. (AAP)

7 Feb. - **A MAJORITY of Australians have backed Julia Gillard's \$1.8 billion flood levy.** As Federal Parliament this week resumes for the year to debate the controversial tax, the first Newspoll of the year shows 55 per cent of people support it. In a boost for the Prime Minister's risky strategy to impose the tax to help pay for the clean up of Queensland and Victoria's floods, only 41 per cent were opposed. (Herald Sun)

5 Feb. - **SYDNEY'S heatwave has shattered a 150-year-old record,** but the big sweat isn't over yet. In dozens of suburbs on Saturday the temperature soared into the mid to high 30s for the sixth day running and over much of NSW. Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) senior forecaster Neale Fraser said that Saturday was officially the sixth successive day that the Sydney area had sweltered in 30-plus temperatures. Since records were first kept in 1858, Sydney had never experienced such consistently high temperatures. (AAP)



Photo: Courier Mail

4 Feb. - **HOMES disintegrated, hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of crops were flattened and boats were hurled hundreds of metres** as Cyclone Yasi left a trail of havoc across Queensland yesterday. As emergency workers scrambled to restore essential services to the disaster zone left by the category 5 cyclone in north Queensland, the 180,000 residents of Townsville were in danger of losing mains water last night. Hopes that the shattered communities had "dodged a bullet" and avoided deaths or casualties were dealt a blow last night, when Queensland police confirmed two men were missing from the area, south of

Cairns, that absorbed the brunt of Yasi's fury. The townships of Cardwell and Tully, and the nearby tourist centre of Mission Beach, were devastated by the maximum-strength cyclone. (Australian)

Vienna edges down in global quality of living study

Report from the Austrian Times, 22 Feb.

Vienna has dropped from second to third place in a ranking of the most liveable cities in the world. The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) announced today (Tues) it considered the Canadian city of Vancouver – which hosted the 2010 Winter Olympics – as the best place to live on the planet for a fifth year in a row.

Vienna, which was listed second-best last year, swapped places with the Australian city of Melbourne in the new ranking. The Canadian cities of Toronto and Calgary came fourth and fifth. Helsinki, the capital of Finland, was the second-best European city in sixth. Sydney reached seventh place ahead of Perth and Adelaide, two other Australian cities. Osaka, Japan, was the top Asian city in 12th. Harare in Zimbabwe is the least pleasant place to live in the world today, according to the EIU.

THESE NOTES WERE LEFT IN MILK BOTTLES FOR VARIOUS MILKMAN

Dear milkman:

I've just had a baby, please leave another one.

Please leave an extra pint of paralysed milk.

Cancel one pint after the day after today.

Please don't leave any more milk. All they do is drink it.

Milkman, please close the gate behind you because the birds keep pecking the tops off the milk.

Please cancel milk. I have nothing coming into the house but two sons on the dole.

Sorry not to have paid your bill before, but my wife had a baby and I've been carrying it around in my pocket for weeks.

Sorry about yesterday's note. I didn't mean one egg and a dozen pints, but the other way round.

When you leave my milk knock on my bedroom window and wake me because I want you to give me a hand to turn the mattress.



Performances with Australian Artists and other events

From the Australian Events Calendar, Australian Embassy Vienna

8 to 12 March 8 pm	Vienna Theatre Project: “Drama Queens and a King!”	Theatre Drachengasse Fleischmarkt 22 1010 Wien Email: karten@drachengasse.at Tel +43 1 5131444	The first cabaret show by the Vienna Theatre Project. Australian actress Bronwynn Mertz-Penzinger will perform this funny and heart rendering drama by Alan Bennett and Jane Martin.
23 February to 17 April Mon.-Thursday 9 am – 5 pm Fridays 9 am – 3.30 pm	Reflections Exhibition	ERCO Lighting Showroom Engerthstrasse 151/Loft e6 1020 Wien Tel 01 7988494 11	Three dimensional photographic mirror projections of Australian landscapes by Austrian/Norwegian photographer Yenny Huber.
10 March and on various dates through March	Australia – Lecture and multi-media show	Locations at various towns For itinerary see www.wolfgang-kunstmann.at	Experience Australia’s beauty in high definition and join Wolfgang Kunstmann and his wife Margit as they relive their journey across the continent.
15 March 6.30 pm	Film Screening- Preserving Aboriginal Rock Art	Bezirkmuseum Mariahilf, Mollardgasse 8/Mezzanin, 1060 Wien Admission Free www.australia-austria.at	The Austrian-Australian Soc. Will screen a documentary by Austrian filmmaker Ferdinand “Marshall” Karl on preserving 30,000 year old Aboriginal rock paintings in Queensland.
19 March 8 pm	Australian Dance Theatre – “Be Your Self”	Bregenz Spielhaus, Vorarlberg. www.festspielhausbregenz.at www.adt.org.au	The ADT will perform for the second time in Austria. ADT has been building its reputation as one of the world’s best contemporary dance companies.
19 March talk 6.30pm, performance 7.30pm 20 March talk 5pm, performance 6pm	Dance Theatre – “Impressing the Czar”	Festspielhaus, St Pölten, Kulturbezirk 2, 3100 St Pölten www.festspielhaus.at	Under its Australian leader Kathryn Bennetts, the Royal Ballet of Flanders provides a top-quality performance putting 50 dancers on the stage and into Baroque costumes and schoolgirl uniforms.
30 March 10 am 31 March 10 am 1 April 7.30 pm	Dance Theatre – “Food Chain”	Festspielhaus, St Pölten, Kulturbezirk 2, 3100 St Pölten www.festspielhaus.at	Australian Splinter Group directed by Grayson Millwood and Gavin Webber is famous for its virtuoso dance pieces.

Unless otherwise specified, all telephone numbers are in Vienna

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www.australia-austria.at

Useful Websites:

www.language-learning-advisor.com/learning-german.html

www.aussiehouseswap.com.au

www.wien.gv.at

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.expatsconsulting.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

www.aussiehouseswap.com.au

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