

THE AUSTRALIA SOCIETY TOKYO



australiasocietytokyo.com

October 2007 – Volume 21



Mark your calendar for these upcoming events & check the web for updates.

Thursday Coffee Morning

1st November, 6th December

Time: 10 - noon

Place: Oakwood Residence Roppongi T-cube. Level 22, 3-1-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku

Free for members; 2000 yen for non-members.

Enquires and RSVP to Anna Cock-Gibson annacock@hotmail.com

Enjoy coffee and conversation with Society members. Held monthly on the first Thursday.

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

Date: Tuesday 6 November 2007

Time: 11:00am - 2:00pm

Location: Grand Hyatt Tokyo, Roppongi Hills

Cost: Members 15,000 Guests 17,000

"Teppan, Aussie Style" Eat & Meet

Date: Friday 2 November 2007

Time: 7:00pm - late

Location: TBD

Cost: TBD

Enjoy an evening of eating the best Tokyo has to offer while meeting (or catching up with) Society members and guests.

RSVP: Please RSVP to Michael via email at eatmeet@australiasocietytokyo.com.

Run For The Cure

The Run for the Cure Foundation will, for the fourth year, be hosting its flagship events, the Pink Ball fundraising dinner, and the Run for the Cure/Walk for Life. This year's Pink Ball will be held on Friday, October 12, 2007 at the Westin Tokyo. Registration is 35,000 yen per person (350,000 yen per table of 10) and will be accepted through October 5, 2007 on the Foundation's Web site at www.runforthecure.org. Formal attire, pink dress or accessory pink tie requested.



“..the Melbourne Cup is scheduled on November 6th ... The Society's event at the Grand Hyatt will go ahead even if the race itself is cancelled.”

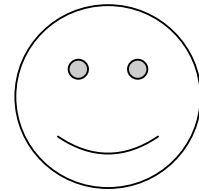
Robert Quinlivan

President's Report

Sport takes centre stage for September, October and November. Thanks to the Embassy Social Club for their invitation to attend the Aussie Rules and Rugby League grand finals. Although the games themselves were not as exciting as some in the recent past, those attending (particularly those supporting winning teams) enjoyed the Social Club's hospitality (and the yummy meat pies). Attention now turns to the Rugby World Cup. While the Society are not organising anything special, there's a fair chance you'll meet fellow Society members in Paddy Foley's Pub or Legends Bar. In November the Melbourne Cup is scheduled on November 6th. The Society's event at the Grand Hyatt will go ahead even if the race itself is cancelled as a result of Equine Influenza. The Society's event is an incredibly popular event and will feature a Calcutta, high fashions and a great meal from the Grand Hyatt. Planning is underway for the 2008 Australia Day Gala Charity Ball. Keep an eye out for tickets and also contact us if you are interested in sponsoring the event - either by way of cash donations or items that can be included our auctions. As always if you suggestions for events, or would like help out with organising an event, we'd love to hear from you.

Cheers,

Rob



A Warm Welcome to 43 new members:

Gabrielle Metherall
Bill Jackson
Michelle Allan & Paul Carlton
James & Cheryl Cass
Mariko & Andrew Francis
Vanessa & Grant Thompson
Kenjin Hotta
James & Helen Wood
Grant Fleming & Monica Lo Heni
Kimberly & Anton van Deth
James Woodrow
Marie Cosgrove
Richard & Janny Sebel

Patrick Giles-Jones
Ringo Nathan
Scott Erickson & Leanne Gerrish
Sarah & Brendan Norman
Dyan & Andrew McKee
Abbie & Peter Stavroff
Jane & Shaun Hughes
Mark Dowd & Suzanna Kingsford Smith
Bruno & Ifigenia Lettich
Louise & Yo Miura
Con & Mary-Anne Gryllakis
Cameron & Jennifer Prowse

Annual Sausage Sizzle

Report by: Alison Quinlivan

Photos by: Anna Ruepert



The weather stayed dry and sunny for the annual Family Sausage Sizzle on September 16th. Over 60 families joined in the afternoon of fun. Many thanks to the enthusiastic BBQ volunteers who helped cook the sausages. While the parents chatted and enjoyed a few drinks in the sunshine, the kids had a great time running around on the grass and were entertained by the Happy Clowns who made fantastic balloon animals for

everyone. After sausages and a run around, everyone had a go at the traditional Japanese summer activity of suica owari, or watermelon bashing. Blindfolded the children took turns being spun around the then tried to hit the watermelon with a stick until it split open. Once broken, the watermelons were cut up for everyone to share. Children and adults were then treated to delicious ice cream generously donated by NEW ZEE . This year we were fortunate to have several door prizes. Three very happy attendees won stays at the Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay Hotel . Three other lucky people won prizes from Assist Solutions Corp. Thank you to all of our generous sponsors. We look forward to seeing everyone again at the Children's Christmas party.



The Sheraton at Tokyo Bay (Disneyland) generously donated the following luck door prizes for the Sausage sizzle.

3rd prize. Deluxe room for 2 pax inclusive of breakfast

2nd prize. Treasures theme suite for 2 adults and 2 children including breakfast

1st Prize. Presidential suite for family of 4 or 5 including Buffet dinner and breakfast

“Over 60 families joined in the afternoon of fun”

Fun in the Past – Annual Sausage Sizzle



Fun in the Past – Annual Sausage Sizzle



More Than Just a Trip To Disney...

Cathy Edwards

12 Months ago while still celebrating the whole family's survival of 3 months of school holidays without injury or institutionalisation (of the parents of course!), a glance at the new school calendar revealed that it was only a short hop skip and jump until... Mid Term Break! After a summer travel itinerary that had covered 12 flights, 5 countries and opposite sides of the globe, the thought of heading to Narita and boarding another plane left the whole family in a cold sweat.

Something a little closer to home was called for so we decided to head out to Disneyland and do back to back days at the parks with an overnight stay at the Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay, one of the official Disney Resort Hotels.



We picked the kids up from school on Wednesday afternoon, headed over the Rainbow Bridge and were checking into the Hotel just on 30 minutes later. The kids, aged 6 ½ and 3 at the time, were beside themselves with excitement from the first sighting of the castle turrets and once the Mickey Train was spotted there was no containing them. Asking them to walk sedately through the hotel was impossible but nobody minded their excitement. The Sheraton Grande is located right on the edge of Tokyo Bay and boasts spectacular views from their ocean side rooms. It was strangely calming to sit and watch the shipping traffic and pleasure boats whilst knowing the mayhem we were about to let ourselves in for. The other side of the hotel has views of the Disney Parks so is equally as impressive.

After a quick freshen up we got on the Mickey Mouse shuttle bus for the 2 minute ride to the station where we got the Mickey Mouse train. First stop was the Ambassador Hotel and dinner at Chef Mickey's family buffet restaurant. Apart from the fun and yummy food the highlight of the evening is having Chef Mickey himself and his friends Minnie, Donald and Pluto come right to your table, shake your hand and pose for photo's. A great opportunity to have a fun meal and get all the photo's out of the way without having to battle the crowds in the park.

It was hard to drag the kids away from here and head to Disneyland for an evening entry. Using an After 6 Starlight Pass we then spent a frantic 4 hours in the park with the highlights being the night parade, fireworks and seeing the delight and amazement of our 3 year old son when coming face to face with a life sized Buzz Light-year for the first time. Leaving the park at closing, we were back at the Sheraton with the kids sound asleep within about 15 minutes.

The next day we started with a leisurely breakfast at the Grand Café, overlooking the lovely Sheraton gardens and beyond. Today's mission was Disney Sea, which was for first visit

for the whole family. The kids loved Ariel's Mermaid Lagoon with all of the indoor rides and the Mermaid Lagoon Theatre was a must see attraction, and if we rode Flounders Flying Fish Coaster once we did it 20 times.

We managed to last until after dark before we dragged 2 very tired but extremely happy children back to the car. They were asleep before we got to the expressway and we as parents were over the moon that we were all home and unloading the car within ½ an hour.

Our only regret with this trip was that we did not have time to experience some of the great facilities that the Sheraton had to offer within the hotel, maybe next time we will stay 2 or 3 nights!

So if you were looking for a short break destination close to Tokyo I would definitely recommend an overnight stay at the Sheraton and taking in both parks at the same time. It may not be the traditional Japanese experience but I guarantee the kids will be happy and talking about it for years to come.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR AUSTRALIA SOCIETY MEMBERS

The Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay has the following offer exclusively for Australia Society Members. Bookings can be made at 047-355-5555. Just mention the "Australian Society Offer"

Plan Name:	Australia Society Tokyo Special Plan		
Available Period :	Sep. 16, 2007 - Oct. 31, 2007		
	(Except: Sep. 15, 16, 22, 23)		
Room Type:	Standard/	Ocean Dream/	Grande
Rate:			
(per room per night)	Standard	Sun - Fri	Sat.
	Single	\14,000	\18,000
	Twin	\16,000	\20,000
	Triple	\20,000	\24,000
	Quad	\24,000	\28,000
	Ocean Dream		
	Single	\16,000	\20,000
	Twin	\18,000	\22,000
	Triple	\22,000	\26,000
	Quad	\26,000	\30,000
	Grande		
	Single	\18,000	\22,000
	Twin	\20,000	\24,000
	Triple	\24,000	\28,000
	Quad	\28,000	\32,000
Note:	The twin-bedded rooms will be assigned for single use.		
	The above prices include room charge, service charge, and tax only.		



d’Arenberg Eat & Meet

Michael Marlay

Much fuss has been made of late regarding the launch of Luke Mangan’s modern Australian restaurant, Salt, this summer in Tokyo. Those lucky enough to secure a seat at our last Eat & Meet now know why.

This event was truly a once in a life time affair with Luke putting together an outstanding menu that just happened to be paired with a flight of eight wines from acclaimed MacLaren Vale winery d’Arenberg. The fact that father and son team from the winery turned up as our hosts for the night made it just magical. With a great splash of Aussie sarcasm son, Chester, started off the evening by “slagging” off at his days weight gain given the fact that he had spent the last year eating birthday cakes in 30 countries in celebration of his father’s 80th birthday.



By the end of the night d’Arry, Chester’s dad, had his own turn with the group. He took us back to days without power in country South Australia and showed what passion he and his family had for their craft.

Look out for our next event on Friday November 2, 2007 at Tokyo’s newest Australian inspired Teppan-yaki restaurant.

October Coffee Morning

Anna Cock-Gibson

Thank you to those who made it along to the October coffee morning, held on Thursday 4th at the Oakwood Roppongi T-Cube. It was great to see some new faces, including Ulla Krause, who arrived here in Tokyo from Sydney during March with her husband Bernd and one-year-old son Marcus. Australia Society member Judy Brown brought along some friends, Baljit Gill and Usha Nielsen, and we also enjoyed the company of regular coffee morning attendees Mary Hanami and Lorraine Weyman. The next coffee morning will be on Thursday November 1. (Pics From Clockwise from top left: Judy Brown, Baljit Gill with son Roneet, Usha Nielson, Ulla Kraus with Marcus)



/cont



Embassy Update

(from Anna Robens)

Enrolling to vote for federal elections

The latest date for polling day for the next federal election is 19 January 2008. If you are residing overseas or are planning to travel before this date, please be aware that there have been some important changes to the deadlines to enrol to vote, or to update your enrolment for federal elections.

If you are not enrolled, or have not made sure that your name or address details on the electoral rolls are up to date, you risk missing out on being able to vote.

If you have recently moved address and not updated your enrolment, you may be taken off the electoral roll if the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) becomes aware that your enrolment is out of date.

In order to vote in a federal election, your enrolment form must be correctly completed and received by the AEC before the close of the electoral rolls.

If you are:	The electoral rolls will close and your deadline for the AEC to receive your correctly completed enrolment form is:
<p>Enrolling for the first time</p> <p>Except if:</p> <p>you are 17, but will turn 18 years of age between the day after the issue of the writs and election day (inclusive)</p> <p>or</p> <p>you will become an Australian citizen between the day after the issue of the writs and election day (inclusive)</p> <p>Re-enrolling to get back on the roll after having been removed for any reason</p>	<p>8pm on the same day the writs for the election are issued</p> <p>Then the deadline is 8pm, three working days after the day the writs for the election are issued</p> <p>Then the deadline is 8pm, three working days after the day the writs for the election are issued</p> <p>8pm, on the same day the writs for the election are issued</p>
<p>On the roll , but with an out-of-date address or name details</p>	<p>8pm, three working days after the day the writs for the election are issued</p>

You can check your [enrolment status](https://oevf.aec.gov.au/) at <https://oevf.aec.gov.au/> and get more information

and forms on the [enrolment section of the AEC website](#) at http://www.aec.gov.au/Enrolling_to_vote/index.htm. If you have general enrolment or voting enquiries for the AEC, please contact them directly on **+61 2 6271 4411** from outside Australia, or e-mail info@aec.gov.au.

Upon announcement of a federal election, the Embassy will provide advice on voting procedures in Japan via the Australian Embassy website (www.australia.or.jp) and also by email to Australian citizens registered with the Embassy (at www.orao.dfat.gov.au). Voting services will be offered at the Embassy in Tokyo as well as the Consulates-General and Consulates throughout Japan.

Further information (guidelines and application form) are available online:
<http://www.ajf.australia.or.jp/english/awards/ajfgrants/>

Anna Robens
Consul
Australian Embassy, Tokyo
T: 03-5232-4111
E: auscitzreg.tokyo@dfat.gov.au





*To promote goodwill and understanding among the people
of Japan, Australia and New Zealand*

Japan, Australia & New Zealand Ladies Group (JANZ)

JANZ Ladies Group is an energetic and social organisation formed to promote friendship, goodwill and understanding among the women of Japan, Australia and New Zealand. JANZ Ladies offers support and camaraderie to Australian-New Zealand expatriates and Japanese nationals alike in their appreciation of cultural diversity. The group is open to Australian and New Zealand women residing in Japan and to Japanese women who have resided in either Australia or New Zealand for at least one year. Our current membership base consists of around two thirds Japanese and one third ANZ ladies with a total number of approximately 200.

Apart from the yearly two main luncheons (for the AGM and Christmas) and New Zealand and Australian Embassy coffee mornings, JANZ have many interest groups, for example: book club, gourmet, golf, cross-cultural activities, sumi-e, calligraphy, ikebana, bridge and many more as well as daytrips and overnight excursions. A monthly newsletter is distributed to members and a directory with contact names and addresses is produced each year.

We welcome new members and are always on the look out for new ladies interested in taking part in the group. For further information on membership or any of our activities, please refer to our website www.janzladies.com or contact info@janzladies.com .

Chicken and Chablis

Leanne Oksinski

Chicken and Chablis (C & C) is a ladies group that meets for lunch once a month, visiting various restaurants around Tokyo. We usually meet on the 3rd Friday of each month, from 12 noon until around 3pm, however, we've been known to change venues to continue our conversation! .

The group has been going for many years, and was started as a result of the boys Burgundy and Beefsteak group – basically because the girls didn't want to miss out!! Originally the membership was open only to Australians and New Zealanders, however over the years this has gradually changed to included members from other Commonwealth countries. C & C currently has 24 members, and the group is constantly changing with people moving in and out of Tokyo.

There is an annual membership fee of ¥5000, with the year commencing in September through until June the following year. The President of the C & C works with each restaurant to provide a 3-course western-style menu, including wine and bubbly, for around ¥5000. Restaurants we have been to in the past year include Beacon, Terroir, Roy's, Hiro-o 148, and the City Club of Tokyo, just to name a few.

We are a friendly group of ladies, and invite you join us. If you would like any further information, or would like to join the next lunch, please contact the current President, Erna Elliott on 03-5427-4431 or 090-6527-9218, Cheryl White on 080-6603-0600, or email chickenandchablis@hotmail.com.

The best way to find out all about C&C is to come along and see for yourself! Our first lunch for this year will be Friday, 21st September.



Enjoy making friends and greeting new arrivals to Tokyo.

Coffee Morning

1st Thursday of most months, 10 am - noon
Oakwood Residence Roppongi T-Cube, level 22
FREE to members!
RSVP to Anna Cock Gibson
annacock@hotmail.com

Nariboku Inn, Roppongi Roppongi Station. T-Cube is above the station. Enter on 6th floor and take elevator to level 22.



Supporting a Good Cause

SUBJECT: Pink Ball & Run for the Cure/Walk for Life 2 0 0 7

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Run for the Cure Foundation, a Japan-licensed NPO. Our goals include raising funds to support breast cancer awareness and education programs throughout Japan. Below is a link to our website, which offers a great deal of information on the Foundation's mission, goals, activities, etc. <<http://runfortheure.org/>>

Two of the Foundation's events, Pink Ball and Run for the Cure/Walk for Life are being held in the month of October. I wondered if you could add these two events to the Events section on your website? If so, I would be grateful if you could kindly post the following text:

The Run for the Cure Foundation will, for the fourth year, be hosting its flagship events, the Pink Ball fundraising dinner, and the Run for the Cure/Walk for Life. This year's Pink Ball will be held on Friday, October 12, 2007 at the Westin Tokyo. Registration is 35,000\ per person (350,000\ per table of 10) and will be accepted through October 5, 2007 on the Foundation's Web site at www.runfortheure.org. Formal attire, pink dress or accessory pink tie requested.

In addition, this year's 5k Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, October 20, 2007 starting at Hibiya City 9:30 a.m. Registration is 5,000\ and sign-ups for this event are also being taken on the Foundation's Web site. The Foundation continues to seek sponsors for both events. Additional information on sponsorship and the Run for the Cure Foundation in general, can be found on the Web site, and any questions can be answered by e-mail at inquiries@runfortheure.org, or by telephone at (03) 3466-4798. We look forward to seeing you in October.

If not, could you possibly display a poster on your notice board? I can send you PDF files of the poster in Japanese and English for your convenience, however, if it is easier, someone can also bring/mail the posters to you.

Should you have any questions on the Foundation or any of the information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kindest regards,
Cindy Beck



Our Sponsors

The Australia Society Tokyo relies on the support of its members and sponsors to run successful events. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our sponsors:

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Illustrator |

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please email president@australiasocietytokyo.com*

