

THE AUSTRALIA SOCIETY TOKYO



australiasocietytokyo.com

September 2008 – Volume 27



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

Family Sausage Sizzle

Date: Sunday 21st September, 2008

Time: 1.00pm to 4.00pm

Place: Australian Embassy Garden (entrance via Gate 4)

Price: Members Adult ¥3000, Child ¥1000

Non-Members Adult ¥4000, Child ¥1200

RSVP: By 18th September to jenniferandcam@hotmail.com

Phone: 03-3407-7450

Coffee Morning

Date: Thursday 25th September, 2008

Time: 10.00am to noon

Place: Oakwood T-Cube Residence

Price: No Charge

Contact: Mary Hanami at kmary@khaki.plala.or.jp for more details

AFL Grand Final

Date: Saturday 27th September, 2008

Time: TBA

Place: Australian Embassy Bar

Price: TBA

Contact: president@australiasocietytokyo.com for more details

Future Events

Pencil in the following dates, the details of which will be forthcoming:

Event	Date	Venue
NRL Grand Final	Sunday, October 5, 2008	Social Club, Australian Embassy
Australia Society BBQ	Saturday, October 18, 2008	Australian Embassy Garden
Melbourne Cup Luncheon	Tuesday, November 4, 2008	Grand Hyatt, Roppongi Hills
Adults' Christmas Party	Wednesday, December 3, 2008	TBA
Kid's Christmas Party	Sunday, December 7, 2008	TBA
Australia Day Gala Ball	Friday, January 30, 2009	Grand Hyatt, Roppongi Hills

President's Report

We have been faced with a few challenges over the summer which have, unfortunately, made it difficult for new members to sign up and for members to renew their memberships online. This has included problems with Paypal™ in the USA. I'm pleased that, thanks to the efforts of our Webmaster Kristen McQuillin, our great new web site is now live and fully functional. Likewise thanks to the efforts of the Society Treasurer, Maria Palmer, Paypal™ is now fully functional again. Please join with me in thanking these two volunteers for their extra efforts over the summer.

As autumn approaches, so does a host of events for the Australian Society in Tokyo. The Embassy will play host to a number of these, starting with next weekend's Sausage Sizzle (see the website for more details). We are also working with the Rec Club at the Embassy to jointly host the NRL and AFL footy finals in the next month. Then in October the Autumn BBQ is sure to be a sell out, so watch for details on this shortly.

Thanks to our friends at Oakwood T-Cube, we will also be kicking off the Society Coffee Mornings again this month, with our first one scheduled for September 25.

Looking ahead we are already well advanced with plans for both the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday November 4 and the Ball on Friday January 30. I suggest that you take the time to pencil these dates in your diary now as the rest of the year is sure to pass by before you know it.

Cheers
MICHAEL

From the Editor

OK, so maybe this bit will become a semi-regular feature. Truth to tell I sometimes like to run off at the fingers.

The summer break from the newsletter was a little longer than I had hoped, but we wanted to finalise a few things before letting you know what is going on.

As Michael has said the new, improved, easier to use Website is now up and running thanks to the tireless efforts of Kristen McQuillin. Later in the newsletter Kristen explains how to access and control your details, register online, and get calendar updates. She has also rejigged the way the Committee communicates and manages our various events so that nobody is left out of the loop. This doesn't sound too sexy, but it makes things a lot easier and more transparent for us. Registering online has been made easier by Maria (our tenacious Treasurer) who spent ages jumping through many hoops (some of them flaming) to reinstall Paypal™ service. If you are not paid up please log on to the website and take care of it.

The Ball Committee Organization for next year's Australia Day Gala Ball has begun. The Committee is a little light on with personnel this year. If you can help by taking one of the couple of positions which need to be filled, or if you can just lend a hand to share the work, please see the call-to-arms below from Anna Ruepert and put your hand up.

The Tyler Foundation has a number of events coming up which may interest members, and the The Australian Chamber Orchestra is touring Japan early in October.

For those more disposed to the biff of an Australia vs. New Zealand rugby match, the Bledisloe Cup game in Hong Kong on November 1st may be more to your liking. While the AusSoc is not organizing anything, you might want to check out <http://www.bledisloecuphk.com/ticketing.html> for ticketing details and the website of the official ticketing agent for Japan: <http://www.bledisloecuphk.com/ticketing.html>.

For those who are interested in getting the latest science on climate change an exhibition is taking place September 24th to October 3rd. Details below.

As ever I encourage members to take an active part in the production of this newsletter. It is only as good as the content and I'm not interesting enough to produce that much content. Please send any articles, reviews, suggestions or any feedback to editor@australiasocietytokyo.com. Does that sound too desperate?

Have a good month.

David

State of Origin

(Jacqui Bayne)

The 27th State of Origin July 2nd Australian Embassy Bunker Bar, Wednesday 2nd July.

A great night of rugby, beer, good old meat pies and sausage rolls was had by 50 plus Aussies and friends for the final game of the 2008 State of Origin.

Special thanks to Robin McKenzie and Joanne Loundes from the Australian Embassy Social Club for working hard in the kitchen and bar and Jason Buckley for bringing along so many mates and ensuring that we had enough people to drink all the beer! Condolences to those south of the border with QLD winning 16-10 to take the series 2-1 and edge one ahead in the cumulative series tally.

Eat & Meet with Andrew Wigan, Peter Lehmann Winery

Eight members of the society meet on September 3 in Vineyards at the Tokyo American Club to put their livers to the test in the presence of Gourmet Traveller Wine Maker of the year nominee, Andrew Wigan. Showcasing a host of wines from the Peter Lehmann cellars, Andrew gave a personal insight into his three decades of wine making with the Barossa Valley winery.

Six courses and eleven wines later all members made pact to both take the next day off, and put the next Eat & Meet in their diaries.

(Just a note from one of the participants: one of the most delicious Sparkling Shiraz I've tasted, Black Queen 1999, a few darned fine Barossa Shiraz, and a particularly pleasant Eden Valley Riesling. This was a great value Eat & Meet)

Ball Committee Needs Help

(Anna Ruepert)

The Committee is now getting started on the Ball organisation, but are VERY short on committee members!

We are changing slightly the way we work this year to share the load a bit more than in past years, so we need people on the core committee and then people who would work on specific committees. The people on the core committee would receive a ticket FOC to the ball. The two core positions are:

Ticketing coordinator - this person is responsible for managing the full ticketing process. They would be the recipient of all ticketing emails, and would handle all table reservations, work with the Treasurer on checking on payments, issue all tickets, and work on room layouts in conjunction with the rest of the ball committee. I managed this process last year and it's not difficult - the majority of the work is done when the ball tickets first go on sale, then in the last 2 weeks before the ball.

Treasurer - this person is responsible for the money! They will make payments to vendors, check on funds from sponsors and cross reference payments for all tickets. They will also manage the budget using an excel spreadsheet. They will also pay the charities. They will be responsible for petty cash and expenses from committee members and will balance the bank account. No financial experience needed - just a logical head.

Please contact the Ball Committee by email at ball@australiasocietytokyo.com for further information.

Website Reconstruction

Kristen McQuillin has put together a mini-tutorial to help you negotiate the new website and use its many functions.

First, go to <http://www.australiasocietytokyo.com/>.

Log into your Account

First time visitors to the new site will need to choose a password.

Please click on the "Forgot password" link in the upper right corner.

Enter the e-mail address you used to register your membership and instructions for logging in will be mailed to you.

Find out Who's Who

Have you ever wondered who's who in the Society? Our new website features a searchable member directory of all active members and you can control exactly what details about you are shared.

To view the directory, log into your account on the site and click on Member Directory in the 'For Members' menu. You can scroll through the list or search by first or last name, location and more. Click on a name to see the full details.

The screenshot shows the website header with the logo and navigation menu. The user profile for Kristen McQuillin is displayed, including a 'Logout' button and a 'Member profile' section with a 'Back' link. The profile details are as follows:

Member profile	
Back	
Kristen McQuillin	
Member directory listing text	
I am the AST webmaster. Please contact me if you need help using the website.	
Member profile details	
Membership level	Associate - Family
First name	Kristen
Last name	McQuillin
Website	http://www.mediatinker.com
Email	kristen@mediatinker.com
City	Bunkyo-ku
Country	Japan

Control your Profile Details

To update your profile information, click on the View Profile link under your name in the upper right corner of the page. To make a change to your information, click the Edit profile button, update your details and click on Publish.

To change the information that can be viewed in the directory, Click Edit profile, then the Access by Others link. All of the contact details can be set for Anybody, Members, or No access. Click Publish to save your changes. To remove yourself entirely from the directory, uncheck “Allow to show profile” then click Publish.

Add Members to your Family Membership

Every family membership has a designated ‘group administrator’ usually the first name in our old membership lists. On the new website, you can add in other family members to your membership so that they receive updates and can log into the website to register for events.

First log into your website account. Click on the View Profile link under your name in the upper right corner of the page. To make a change to your information, click the Edit profile button. In the Group Account Summary section, click the Add member button. Fill in the form, being sure to complete the required fields that are indicated with a red asterisk.

Renew your Membership Online

Our new website is a champ at managing membership renewals, and from here forward you will receive automatic reminders when it’s time to renew your membership. But this first time after changing systems is going to have to be done by us encouraging you to renew. So please take a few moments to go to the website and check your membership status. We shifted the start of most memberships to June (from April) so if you are renewing now, you will have received a few months for free.


First log into your website account. Click on the View Profile link under your name in the upper right corner of the page. You’ll see a button that says “Renew until (date)” and clicking that will start the renewal process. You can pay online by credit card/PayPal and be finished right away, or opt for bank transfer and have to go through a few extra steps before being confirmed as a paid-up member.

Register for an Event

Our new event calendar offers easy online registration for events.

Log into your account before clicking through to the Events page. Click on the event you want to attend and complete the form and payment for each person who you want to register. Non-members may register for events that are open to them.

Event of the Year

 [Add to my calendar](#)

Start	September 01, 2008
End	September 04, 2008
Location	right here
Spaces left	10

Event registration: Choose registration type

Registration type * Mandatory fields

- Registration**
- Kids - ¥300.00 (JPY)**
special kids price for member and non-members
 - Member price - ¥500.00 (JPY)**
member's price for test event
 - Non-members - ¥1,000.00 (JPY)**
price for non-members

Event of the Year

 [Add to my calendar](#)

Start	September 01, 2008
End	September 04, 2008
Location	right here
Spaces left	10

Event registration: Enter registration information

Registration form * Mandatory fields

First name	<input type="text" value="Kristen"/>
Last name	<input type="text" value="McQuillin"/>
Organization	<input type="text" value="American"/>
Phone	<input type="text" value="090-5439-0036"/>
e-Mail	<input type="text" value="kristen@mediatinker.com"/>
Meal Type	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Vegetarian <input type="radio"/> Omnivore
Notes	<input type="text" value="Please seat me with Tod McQuillin"/>
New field	<input type="text"/>

[Cancel](#)

[Back](#)

Society News via RSS

Are you using a feed reader, like Google Reader or Net News Wire? If so, you can get updates from the Society website via RSS. Look for the orange RSS symbol on the Events and News pages and click to subscribe.

If you have any comments or are experiencing any difficulties please flick us off an email.

Mary Saphin



Mary is the second Saphin to join the Committee; however we don't see the move as a stealthy takeover. In past years Mary has served on the Australia Ball committee. She has answered a few questions by way of introduction:

Who are you? Mary Saphin, wife of Craig (also a committee member), mother of Alana and Tarrant. Daughter and Sister etc etc, generally a trouble maker and noisy girl.

What brought you to Tokyo? First came to Tokyo from Sydney in 1979 as studying Japanese Language and Culture as part of my post grad teaching degree. Small trips back and forth. We returned as a family to study and

live a full-immersion life in 1991 for over two years then again in 2000. Here since, the kids have since returned to OZ for Uni education and work.

What do you do here? I am Customer Relations coordinator for Asian Tigers Premier World Wide Movers. I also have voluntary roles in JANZ (Japan Australian New Zealand Ladies Group), Tokyo American Club and British School. I also try to keep fit, swim and have fun with friends - although too many leave each year while we keep on and on. This is why JANZ is a great group to join as well as the Australian society - lots of Japanese friends who do not leave.

Which of the Aust. Soc functions have you been to, and what is your favorite? The Ball, of course. All the other events we attend change each year dependent upon our work and travel, but Craig and I try to attend as many events as we can and help out as required. I am looking forward to being on the committee and helping out even more in the Australian Society.

What do you like about Tokyo and what don't you like? We are rediscovering the Japan countryside after a few years of heading out to Asia, USA and Europe at every opportunity. The mountains areas are stunning and onsen are wonderful. We have just returned from a week cycle tour in SW Hokkaido with Craig's company - Wall Street Associates- absolutely fabulous trip (I was the driver!) and each night we discovered a new onsen area to enjoy. We love to ski and are having fun skiing lots of different resorts plus going off-piste. Hard to know what I don't like - the heat and humidity gets to me after a while despite being a beach girl!

Judy Taylor

Judy has been Part of the Committee for some time, keeping very quiet as Secretary but much noisier as an essential part of the Ball organization. It has taken a little coercion to get her to write a brief introduction.

When I was asked by our illustrious editor to write something about myself for the newsletter I ran home to New Zealand and hoped he would forget about it. No such luck. So here we go; my life with a few bits left out. I came to Japan too long ago to mention while doing what all Aussie's and Kiwi's do: the "OE".



I had planned a few months in Japan then on to Europe for six months to a year and then home. However, I fell over an Englishman in Xian, China and got married in Sydney. Japan seemed a good place to set up house (half way been two families), so we settled into the raw fish and sake. The late eighties were amazing; Japan was awash with money and work was easy, but on the flip side taxis didn't like to pick up foreigners and a steak was for a special occasion. With the bursting of the bubble in the nineties came the ¥1,000 lunches and amazing wine that was far too cheap to be good for the liver.

As the years went by I fell more in love with Japan: the changing seasons and the food that changes with them; the smiling generous people who loved giving gifts nearly as much as getting them; the thriving international community (extended family); running Balls, BBQs and Promises Nights which feel like meetings of the United Nations. With the new millennium came a new Australian husband, a new way of life and another wedding in Sydney.

Marc works in shipping out of Australia. He is away 3 month and home here in Japan for 3 months. An interesting way of life with many adventures, but a few lonely times. I keep busy with my tutoring business and all the work of the Australia Society. There are things that drive me mad about Japan, but, in the big picture they are of no significance, so I think I'll be here for a few more years, enjoying good food, good wine and good company.

Eat & Meet with Kilikanoon Winery

Friday October 24, 2008 from 7pm

Vineyards, Tokyo American Club, ¥15,000 per person

Hosted by Nathan Waks of Kilikanoon who will be showcasing four 90+ Parker wines, including the \$350 a bottle Attunga 1865 Shiraz. Email president@australiasocietytokyo.com to secure one of the eight seats available for this event.

Vovray Sec 2005

Roasted Quail Pate with Chevre Fondant and Melon Water

Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling 2007

Grilled Lobster "Boudin Blanc" with Lemongrass and Carmelized Pineapple, Celeriac Puree, Chili Oil, Prawn Nage

Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

Kilikanoon Block Road Cabernet Sauvignon 2004

Cocoa Dusted Beef Medallion, Braised Winter Vegetable, Foie Gras Fondant, Black Trumpet Mushroom, Pomegranate Infused Jus

Kilikanoon Oracle Shiraz 2005

Roo "Potstickers" with a little Berry Sambal Mojito

Kilikanoon M Reserve 2005

Kilikanoon R Reserve 2005

Carved Lamb Saddle, Fried Leek and Marcona Almond Stuffed, Wild Rice "Risotto", Vin Cotto

Kilikanoon Attunga 1865 Shiraz 2005

"A Sample of Cheeses"

Murder Mystery Over Dinner

(Rob Quinlivan)

Don't miss "Mystery a la Carte", The Tyler Foundation for Childhood Cancer's annual fundraiser.

The event is on Friday, September 26th, 2008, at the Hilton Tokyo (in Shinjuku) with doors opening at 6pm - 30,000 yen donation per person. Black-tie is optional. The Evening features an original murder-mystery drama directed by Rachel Waltzer where guests compete to solve the "whodunit."

The food will be inspired by four world-class chefs who will be attending the event:

- Stephane Gaborieau and Sebastien Lefort of Hilton Tokyo's Michelin 2-star showcase restaurant, 'Twenty One' French Dining
- Luke Mangan - Salt Tokyo
- Arturo Spicocchi - Michelin Star Restaurant La Stua de Michil at Hotel la Perla in Italy's Val Badia

As if this were not enough to keep the punters entertained, there will be live and silent auction items around a foodie theme: trips to the prized chefs' restaurants overseas, food, wine, cooking implements and a restaurant wheel where you can win dinner at restaurants throughout Tokyo.

There's never been anything like it before in this little town!

For reservations contact julie@tylershineon.org.

Be quick; RSVP by September 19th

RidgeRunner Niseko International Cricket Competition September 20 & 21, 2008

Join us as a player, spectator or to party for two days of fun at Niseko's annual charity cricket tournament. Hosted by international great Dennis Lillee and guest team members, the event benefits the Tyler Foundation for Childhood Cancer and Hokkaido International School through our Hokkaido-style-glamour charity dinner dance and auction.

For more information, please visit www.ezocricketclub.com or contact Billeigh Waaha: (080)35976307 or e-mail cricket@rad-development.com.

Tokyo Marathon 2009: Run for the Tyler Foundation!

If you are interested you have to register soon.

The deadline for registration is September 22, 2008.

Find out more and sign up at <http://www.tylershineon.org/index.php/events/>

Embassy News

(Anna Robens)

The Australian Chamber Orchestra will travel to Japan this October. Amongst other pieces, they will perform the Vivaldi flute concertos with Emmanuel Pahud. The Tokyo venue is the Suntory Hall. They will also be travelling to Kita-Kyushu, Osaka, Kurashiki and Matsumoto.

It will showcase some of Australia's best musical talent, and would an excellent rep function, or just a great opportunity to enjoy some lovely music in an superb setting.

For the concert in Suntory Hall, or for purchases for any of the concerts of more than 10 tickets, please contact Ms. Shuko Hasegawa of Nikkyo (03-5721-4621 or s.hasegawa@nikkyo.jp).

Ms.Hasegawa will give a discount to attendees from the Embassy.

For smaller ticket purchases for the regional concerts, please contact the ticket offices below.

Kita-Kyushu Organiser: Kita-Kyushu International Music Festival

Ticket Office: Phone 093-663-6567

Osaka Organiser: Asahi Broadcasting Company

Ticket Office: ABC Ticket Center Phone 06-6453-6000

Kurashiki Organiser: Kurashiki city Cultural Foundation

Ticket Office: Aluso Kurashiki Ticket Center Phone 086-434-0010

Matsumoto Organiser: The Harmony Hall

Ticket Office: ph 0263-47-2004

The Australian Chamber Orchestra Tours Japan

Richard Tognetti: Lead Violin and Artistic Director

Emmanuel Pahud: Flute

Program:

VIVALDI: Six Flute Concertos, Op.10

DEAN: Short Stories

TAKEMITSU: Death and Resurrection

BEETHOVEN: arr. Tognetti String Quartet, Op.95, 'Il Serioso'

PÄRT: Fratres

RAVEL: arr. Tognetti String Quartet

Acclaimed flutist Emmanuel Pahud joins the Australian Chamber Orchestra for its 2008 Japanese Tour. Pahud's recording of Vivaldi's six flute concertos with the Australian Chamber Orchestra was nominated for a Grammy award. Under the inspired leadership of Richard Tognetti, the ACO performs music from the Baroque to the present day with a vitality and energy unmatched by any other ensemble.

Schedule:

KITA-KYUSHU	Thursday 2 October, 7pm
TOKYO Suginami Koukaidou	Friday 3 October, 7pm
OSAKA, Symphony Hall	Saturday 4 October, 2pm
KURASHIKI, Kurashiki Tamashima Cultural Hall	Sunday 5 October, 3pm
TOKYO, Suntory Hall	Tuesday 7 October, 7pm
MATSUMOTO, Harmony Hall	Thursday 9 October, 7pm

Climate Change Exhibition

Date: 24 September - 3 October 2008 (closed 27, 28 and 29 September)

Hours: 1.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Place: Munich Re Japan Services K.K.

Access: 14F Sanno Park Tower, 2-11-1

Nagata-cho Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Tel: 03-5251-6871

www.munichre.co.jp (Japanese only)

Ginza & Namboku Lines (Tameike Sanno Station Exit 7)

Chiyoda Line (Kokkai Gijidomae Station Exit 7)

During the Exhibition, there will be accompanying lectures on the following dates:

Date: 25 and 26 September 2008, 2.00 pm

Speaker: Professor Dr. Peter Höppe

Head of the Geo Risks Research and Corporate Climate Centre, Munich Re

* Registration for these lectures is desirable as numbers are limited. If you wish to take part, please contact us. Knowledge of insurance is not required.

Australia Society Gala Ball Sponsors

The Australia Society Tokyo would not be able to bring you this fabulous event if it were not for the support of its sponsors.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following:

PRINCIPLE BALL SPONSORS

Qantas Airways Limited

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| * Riva Degli Etrushi | * Roti | * Tokyo American Club |
| * Tokyo International Players | * Wulguru Japan | * Yokohama Country & Athletic Club |

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.

Melbourne Cup



Other Event Sponsors

Annual BBQ

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Asist Solutions
Salt

Annual Sausage Sizzle

Village Cellars

Sheraton Tokyo Bay

New Zee

AGM & Christmas Parties

Oakwood

Tokyo American Club

Coffee Morning

SIRVA
Oakwood

Kiwi Kitchen
Allied Pickfords

National Australia Bank

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*If you would like to become a sponsor of the Australia Society Tokyo,
please email president@australiasocietytokyo.com*

