

# 2004 Newsletter



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Victorian Branch of

The Society for Australian-German Student Exchange

Issue No 8 May 2005

## AGM 2005

The Society for Australian-German Student Exchange, Victoria Branch, held its Annual General Meeting 2005 at Club Tivoli on Tuesday 26 April 2005. The President presented his Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004. It covered the following key issues – SAGSE provided its sister organisation GDANSA in Germany with a new corporate logo and a new brochure designed and produced by AVR Promotions free of charge and assists with the search for new sponsors. In 2004 SAGSE Victoria supported GDANSA with three scholarships paid by BMW, DaimlerChrysler and GASS Victoria.

In Victoria SAGSE awarded 15 scholarships selected from 52 applications. In addition the Society also awarded 10 scholarships in NSW/ACT and 1 scholarship in WA sponsored by Keppler. The group of 29 students (26 Australians and 3 New Zealanders) were supervised by our Group Leader Jason Bond during the entire period. The Welcome Reception for the 9 German students took place at the Investment Centre Victoria at the end of June and it was sponsored by the Office of Manufacturing. The Hon. Tim Holding, Minister for Manufacturing and Export, and Mr Thomas Kessler, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany welcomed the German visitors.

In Victoria we enjoyed the ongoing support of 15 sponsor companies – Allen Arthur Robinson, Allianz, AGTV, BASF, Bosch, BMW Group, DaimlerChrysler, Degussa, Deutsche Bank, Fibrisol Services, GASS Victoria, Henkell Brothers, Schenker, Siemens and SiemensVDO Automotive.

The individual membership has been increased from 45 members in 2003 to 65 members in 2005.

The Treasurer presented the audited Financial Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004, which was unanimously accepted. The financial affairs of the Society in Victoria are sound and the accounts show a trading profit of \$6,210.34 in 2004 compared with \$840.05 in 2003.

The following people were unanimously elected or re-elected as office bearers for the year 2005:

President, Sponsor Liaison  
Vice President, Special Projects  
Vice President, Selection Committee  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Host Families  
Banquet Organiser  
Marketing  
Membership Coordinator  
Newsletter Editor, MC  
Legal Advisor  
Committee Member

Egon Vetter  
Elaine Tarran  
Kylie Witt  
Kay Wiegel  
Sandra Schilke  
Dianne Tamburro  
Roland Vogel  
Angelika Vetter  
Tania Starziczny  
Alexander Colman  
Alexander Garsa  
Manfred Handel

Jason Bond, President GASS Victoria, and Stewart Morrison, GASS Host Families Coordinator, are ex officio Committee Members. In addition Georgie Fast and Melanie Buscema will join the Committee for special tasks. Mr Stewart Leslie was unanimously re-elected as Honorary Auditor for the Financial Year 2005.

The Society for Australian German Student Exchange Victoria would like to thank all sponsor companies, corporate members, personal members, host families, the Office of Manufacturing, Club Tivoli, Scotch College, our Honorary Auditor and Committee Members for their generous and ongoing support.

### Sponsors 2005



Allianz

SCHENKER  
Stinnes Logistics

BOSCH

SIEMENS VDO  
Automotive

Deutsche Bank

BASF  
The Chemical Company

degussa.  
creating essentials

fibrisol

SIEMENS DAIMLERCHRYSLER

Allens Arthur Robinson

HENKELL BROTHERS

AGtv

GASS

### Supporters 2005

AVR PROMOTIONS

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AUSTRALIA

### Corporate Members 2005

Machinery Forum - Henkel Australia - Hella - Porsche Cars - Remco Australia  
Madgwicks Lawyers - Pilz Safe Automation - Handel & Sons - Margherita Pizza

## Debriefing 2005

It was a quiet autumn evening in the middle of March when the SAGSE community converged for the annual Debriefing of returned scholarship winners. The night began with a brief presentation to Scotch College, thanking them for their continual support in providing the Fraser Smith lecture theatre as venue for the debriefing, which they have done now for a number of years.



Egon Vetter (right) thanks Elaine Tarran presenting a Certificate of Appreciation

Decked out in their new GASS polo shirts, the recently returned GASSies assembled at the front of the theatre, eager to tell us all about their time in Germany. Their selected topics ranged from Christmas, to deer hunting, to first hand experiences of the German health care system. One by one, the recently graduated First Years shared with us their stories of friendship, family, experiences and achievements. Their speeches were both entertaining and emotional, creating senses of envy and nostalgia amongst the audience. The language, the culture, the history, the people, the food ... it all came flooding back to us. As did the memories of missed trains, misread maps, embarrassing language mistakes and the less than desirable outcomes of the consumption of unknown foods.

As we listened with intrigue we were reminded of how fortunate we are to be associated with the Society. The exchange has given us more than just a fun time full of awesome memories. It has given us a wealth of experiences, a network of friends spanning two continents, appreciation of another culture and an opportunity to mature as individuals and develop our independence. This is reflected in every speech delivered by a GASSie at a SAGSE Debriefing.

After attending a SAGSE Debriefing and witnessing the response of those who have been awarded scholarships, one cannot help but feel pride in their efforts in supporting and assisting this program.

Jensen Lai  
Winner of the Siemens VDO Automotive scholarship 2003/04  
GASS Naja Editor/Website Coordinator

## Group Leader report 2004/2005

Well another group of SAGSE scholarship winners have returned from Germany, and this year I was fortunate enough to have travelled with them. It was once again a very successful year, and all of the Stipis have reported having the times of their lives.

It started off with the teary farewells at Tullamarine on November 23, 2004. But we weren't ten paces through the gate when the tears disappeared and were replaced by excited anticipation and nerves. Everyone spent their first few weeks settling into life at home, and getting used to the somewhat different school system. During December everyone attended a regional day at either Lübeck, Dresden, Bielefeld or Heidelberg. This was the first chance for everyone to swap stories.

After everyone's first German Christmas (a white Christmas for a few lucky Stipis!) it was off to Wintercamp for a week of culture, fun and games. It was held at Lutherstadt Wittenberg in Sachsen-Anhalt, the home of Martin Luther. For this reason a lot of the week was spent learning about the life of Martin Luther and his legacy. Of course this was accompanied by games and culture nights, the typical StadtRally and a visit to the famous Hundertwasserschule.



Snow for the first time

Following Wintercamp it was everyone's turn to learn all about German train punctuality, efficiency and youth hostels during independent travel. Everyone took the opportunity to see as much of Germany as possible, and between the 15 Victorian scholarship winners I think just about every major German city was visited (and many smaller ones!), and each city had many a story to go with it. These stories are still being told with fond memories.

After independent travel it was back to school for just a few short weeks before the final week of the exchange in Berlin.



Students in Germany 2004/2005

This week was one of the highlights of the whole exchange. Some of the best elements were seen by all of us, highlights including the "Long Night of Museums", a city tour, visits to Pottsdam and Sachsenhausen concentration camp, and a chance meeting with FC Bayern München.

All of the scholarship winners have now fully returned to school or uni life, with their German exchange completed. However it is only the beginning of their lives as GASSies, as they start to get involved in GASS and SAGSE at different levels. I'd like to thank SAGSE for entrusting me with the responsibility of being Group Leader this year, and the scholarship winners for being such a great group of young people to spend 10 weeks in Germany with. I look forward to having a lot to do with them in the future.

Jason Bond



Handel & Sons Pty Ltd is a private company founded end 1983 to specifically concentrate on a specialised printing process – pad printing - which was largely unknown in Australia at the time. Pad printing or Tampondruck is an offset type printing process, based on a silicon pad picking up ink in the recesses of an etched plate – forming the image on the pad – which image is then released onto the object to be printed upon.

Because of the flexible nature of the silicon pad and the enormous variety of pad shapes, round, recessed, embossed – almost any shape or substrate – be it plastic, steel, glass, even golf balls, can be printed upon. In a nutshell, by the pad printing process a relatively small, high quality single or multicolour image can be applied to an almost infinite number of objects – phones, pens, instrument clusters in cars, medical ampoules, calculators, mobile phones, toys, etc.

Through our capacity to offer not only service-backed printing machine sales, but also the consumables, plate etching and graphic advice, many productive partnerships have been forged in the automotive component, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, white ware and promotional product industries. Acquisition in recent times of our Swiss principals, Teca-Print, by leading French screen printing machine manufacturer, Machines Dubuit, means that we are also able to offer the latest printing technology in the field of screen, CD, DVD and flexible tube printing.

Located in Melbourne and Sydney and ISO 9001:2000 accredited, Handel & Sons are a small team of specialists, respected for their contribution to the Australian pad and screen printing industry.



Who would have known that back in 1991 when an Italian family bought a small pizza shop in Lower Plenty that it would grow to become a fast paced and fresh new pizza innovation by 2005.

In 2001 Richard Dovile left Telstra's managing group to become sole owner and his full time passion was to Margherita's. It was then that he decided Margherita's had outgrown its home and extensive renovations were made. His award winning new design has now enabled him to take his range of traditional and Margherita's favorites to a higher level.

Margherita's employs over 40 staff members, which are predominantly secondary and tertiary students. We are proud to assist and develop these young people for their future careers. Providing the best quality pizza and pasta for the past 14 years to our local community has enabled Richard to expand his cult of pizza design to a different level and has now opened a restaurant in Lower Plenty, "di riccardos." di riccardos has taken Margherita's oven pizzas to produce delicious wood fired pizzas with the dine in experience.

Richard's passion to develop and help young Australians in as many aspects as possible is a high priority. Currently, he supports and sponsors over 30 local sporting clubs, schools and community groups and is now proud to include The Society for Australian German Student Exchange.

Come and dine at di riccardos and mention The Society for Australian German Student Exchange and 10% of your total bill will be collected to sponsor another students exchange experience.

di riccardos. 81 Main Rd, Lower Plenty VIC 3093.  
Tel: (03) 9434 5793

## New individual Members 2005

We would like to thank our 2004 Scholarship winners and their families who have joined the Society as new individual members in 2005.

Hunting Family  
Hall Family  
Leschinski Family  
Munro Family  
LeHunt Family  
Teese Family  
Hay-Smith Family  
Black Family



Billanook College

## Billanook College Independent Uniting Church co-ed Prep to Year 12

Billanook College was founded in 1980 by a group of committed local parents who wanted to establish a co-educational primary and secondary school in the emerging outer east of Melbourne.

Billanook was the name the local Wurundjeri people called the site and the College's motto "Growing and Caring" was chosen to reflect the values and attitudes of the founding families and the local community. The college applies the motto by ensuring the development of academic, social, emotional and spiritual dimensions of all students.

Billanook College is set on 15ha of sweeping green lawns and natural bushland. The Primary, Middle and Senior schools are situated on both sides of Brushy Creek and linked by the Billanook Bridge. This maintains the natural environment whilst providing excellent facilities for its academic and co-curricular programs.

**Facilities:** include all weather multi purpose tennis and basketball courts, sports gymnasium; science technology and arts complex; Dame Phyllis Frost Support Education which caters for students who require enrichment and extension or have specific learning or social/emotional needs. The Old Market Theatre is a purpose built, flexible performance facility for traditional and experimental theatre. There is also a performing arts building, viticulture skills centre and vineyard, hospitality centre, restaurant and giant chess boards (in garden settings). All student buildings from Prep to VCE have a centre-space for social interaction and community activities.

**Curriculum:** Billanook offers one of the most comprehensive selections of VCE subjects, including all the traditional core subjects and other modern areas such as business studies, visual arts, technology, information systems, media, human development and society and the environment. Languages are Indonesian and German. VET viticulture, university enhancement philosophy, multi-media, music industry skills.

The college has a vertical timetable that allows students to progress beyond their chronological age and comprehensive careers and vocational education programs are available.

**Sport:** Member of EISM Sports Association inter-school sports. A wide range of sports including snowboarding, surfing, athletics, swimming, football, cricket, softball, volleyball, table tennis, hockey, basketball, soccer, golf, squash, archery, cycling and lawn bowls, walking, aerobics.

**Extra-curricular activities:** Adventure club, music ensembles, choirs, debating, photography, camping, adventure club, national and international exchange, sporting clubs, science clubs, bike club, equestrian club, rock band, gymnastics club, technology club, homework club and chess club, engineering club.

**Principal:** Mr A Ross  
**197 – 199 Cardigan Road**  
**Mooroolbark 3138**  
**Tel: 9725 5388, fax: 9725 8556**  
**Webiste :** [www.billanook.vic.edu.au](http://www.billanook.vic.edu.au)



Catholic Ladies' College has a century-long tradition of providing a quality education for young women. Founded by the Sisters of Charity in 1902 in East Melbourne, the school moved in 1971 to its present eight hectare site in Eltham. In

1999 the former convent building, Currajeen, was converted to provide a unique learning environment for the Year 12 students.

Today the school educates over 800 girls from Year 7 through to Year 12. The spirit of the Sisters of Charity continues to guide the school, in providing an education which contributes to each student's spiritual, physical, social and intellectual development. CLC's fine academic achievement is a testament to its focus on personal and intellectual growth.

### INAUGURAL CLC TOUR OF GERMANY

Twenty-one students of German from Catholic Ladies' College accompanied by their German teachers, Frau Andrea Henderson and Frau Tania McGuire, flew to Germany on 2 April, 2005 to embark on an intensive 3 week language and sightseeing program in Germany. The girls ranged in age from 14 to 17 and they were from Years 9-12 German classes.

Students reported that it was hard to identify highlights of the trip because every day of the tour was so wonderful and so varied. The tour involved homestays for several days in both Passau and Gütersloh. The school the girls attended in Passau was also a Catholic girls' school, the Gisela School, which is in fact CLC's Sister school. There the group was warmly welcomed and the CLC students departed, not before having established very strong bonds with their German host sisters and host families. The next leg of the journey was to the capital, Berlin, which was fascinating for all. The girls saw the amazing Charlottenburg Palace, the remaining section of the Berlin Wall, the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, the Gedächtnis Kirche (Memorial Church), the Brandenburger Gate, and the famous shopping strip on the Kurfürstendamm.

After Berlin the group travelled to Gütersloh where another set of equally hospitable host families was waiting. The superb co-educational school the girls visited was called the Evangelisches Stiftungsgymnasium. An excursion to a Freilichtmuseum, a most interesting open air museum of German farm houses and dwellings from bygone centuries in Detmold was arranged. A mayoral reception was also given for the CLC students and as a result a large article was written for the newspaper in Gütersloh, complete with photograph! The Principal, Mrs Margaret McKenna, joined the tour in Gütersloh and was present for the magnificent Rhine River cruise.

The trip was a huge success!

Mrs Andrea Henderson  
(LOTE KLA Team Leader Catholic Ladies College, Eltham)

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The Society would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors, supporters, corporate members, individual members and teachers for their support and for the hours of voluntary work they contribute.

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