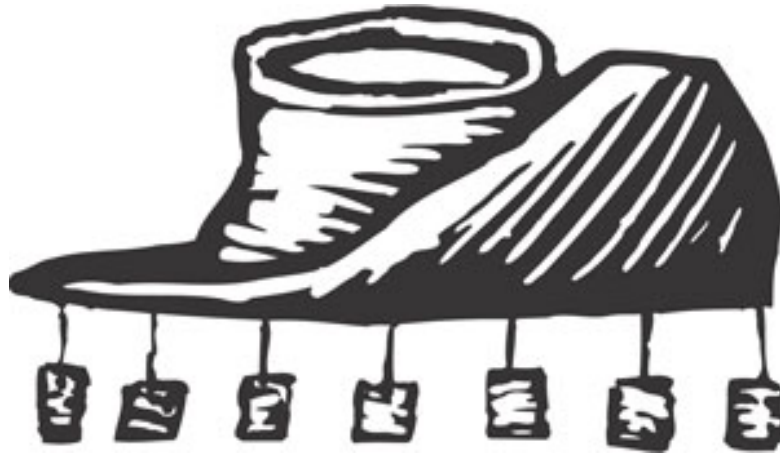




# GASSBAG



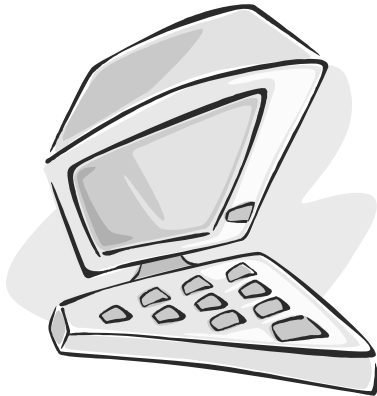
**WELCOME TO DOWNUNDER!**

JUNE 2007

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THE GERMAN-AUSTRALIAN STUDENT SOCIETY NSW  
Student Branch of the Society for Australian-German Student Exchange

# **!! Welcome-the-Germans !!**



## **We are Online!**

GASS NSW has an almost brand spankin' new website, run by us GASSies for you GASSies!!

It can be viewed at:

**<http://groups.msn.com/gassnsw>**

Bookmark it, check it out, see your name on the world wide web.

Suggestions and comments can be sent to Sal Ivimey:  
[sallyanne\\_i@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyanne_i@hotmail.com)

# CONTENTS:

Centrefold	2
Editorial	4
Contents	You're looking at it!
Calendar	keep reading!
President's Address	5
Debauchery	6
Contact Information	7
Extras	8

## CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday 21 June** – German students arrive in Australia! Very early airport arrival – bring your Australian/German paraphernalia!

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Welcome Picnic at Balls Head** – Chance for everyone to meet and adjust to Aussie life!

**Saturday 7 July – Sunday 8 July** – Sydney Weekend – a chance for German students, their host siblings and GASSies to be tourists in a big city for a weekend (details TBA, watch your post and emails)

**Monday 9 July – Friday 13 July** – Winter Camp for German students staying in NSW, their host siblings and previous Australian scholarship winners (“aka GASSies”)

**Sunday 12 August – Blue Mountains Day** – A day in the fresh air of the mountains, we will meet at central and catch the train up together. (details TBA).

**Monday 27 August – Sydney Day** - activities for German students staying in NSW, VIC and WA, their host siblings and previous Australian scholarship winners (details TBA)

**Tuesday 28 August** - German students leave Australia, with a very long flight ahead of them...

# EDITORIAL

Greetings all! Yet *another* group of tired and bedraggled Germans, another early rise: welcome to the life of a committed Gassie. We indeed only rise before the crack of dawn (in some cases midday) when the need for the Gassie song arises, and the opportunity to act Japanese with our cameras: the recompense some may argue is to party on down till dawn during Winter Camp, where sleep is not compulsory.

Just a quick note that for the first time in many years, the Gassbag has been produced ahead of time, that's right, before the morning of your arrival. What a miracle! The makers of No-Doze and Red Bull are starting to miss their profits...

All of you have no doubt heard stories of the possible adventures in Australia from those who been before you, as you will have to carry the flag for those who will follow in your footsteps. Some of you know what to expect from Gassie brothers or sisters, some of you haven't got the foggiest, but I can assure you that we will do our best to show you a good time! Here's a hint: if you haven't planned your free travel, remember that Oz is 22 times the size of Germany, and you can't see it in a week: so choose everything carefully and remember, don't be afraid to ask an Aussie for assistance.

Michelle Rzepecki put together this awesome edition for you all, so please take the time to thank her for her amazing input, or to send a personal comment on the Debauchery section (which you can find on page 6 – a great and totally 100% true read which no-one takes any responsibility for).

What more needs to be said? You've all done yourselves proud by being selected as a Stipi or a Hosti, but don't forget who you are or where you come from. Really get involved with the activities and camps that GASS runs for you all, and take advantage of the opportunity that his exchange program provides: not just now, but in the future as well. I wish you all the best for your stay here Down Under and your travels around our wide brown land.

All the best,

Nick Marshall

[marshall\\_nick@hotmail.com](mailto:marshall_nick@hotmail.com)

PS: (Editorial auf Strine) I wan youse all not to come a gutser, go walkabout, lair it up or spit the dummy, but to have a ripper time, give everything a burl and rage on!  
Grouse, oder?

# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

And now a word from our President:

G'day GASSies, Stipis and Hosties of 2007!!!

I am thrilled to welcome our new German imports to our slightly chilly, surprising wet and friendly home of 'Stralia'. I hope that you all have a wonderful time in Australia. My name is Shell and I am GASS President, basically I am here to make sure you all have a hell of a time!!

I recommend, to absolutely maximise your enjoyment, that you do as much as is humanly possible whilst you are here! Spend a night cooking with your host family, try to introduce them to the concept of mayonnaise instead of tomato sauce, take several walks through the bush, but not by yourself!!! We do not want to see any newspaper headlines with 'Another German Tourist gets lost in Bush!' Buy a football...yes the egg shaped one and learn a new sport. Just make sure to take every opportunity and make the most of your stay!

A few handy hints:

If you really want to enjoy your stay and experience Australia first hand, try to blend in, adapt!!!

- Reframe from wearing socks with your sandals!
- If you see John Howard on TV, complain and criticise his rather scary, monster like eye brows.
- Put tomato sauce on everything you eat.
- Make sure you put 'mate' in every sentence
- Do not sort out your rubbish!
- When asking someone for a photo, ask them to 'take' a photo not 'make' one!

I look forward to meeting everyone and can't wait to see how Australian you have become at the Sydney weekend and at Winter Camp! Take care, keep safe and have a bloody good time!

Liebe Gruesse,

Shell

# DEBAUCHERY

Things that may, or may never, have transpired... but, for some mysterious reason, a good, absolutely scandalous story always holds true....

This month an absolutely scandalous story, a hitherto unforeseen love triangle between 3 stipis: Claudia Cao, Thomas Marshall and Bridget Gilchrist. Both Thomas and Bridget spent a good deal of their time together on independent travel in Germany... or should I say dependent travel and their relationship was seen blossoming on internet bloggs... but lately Bridget has not been online. Her presence has been replaced with a third party: Claudia Cao.

Whether or not the unbridled passion, heathen lust and closeted romance between Claudia and Thomas has been realised in a more physical sense since Germany, this is clear: they are often to be found online, exchanging chortles, lols and rofls.

For those of you lamenting the lack of technological bones in your body, these phrases are jargon for: Laugh Out Loud and Role On Floor Laughing. This humble reporter would offer an alternative interpretation of all this ROFLing... but such debauchery should - nay, CANNOT grace the pages of such a reputable magazine as the GASSBag...

And what has become of Bridget? It would seem she is no longer favoured. What luscious drama lies in her recent relegation only time, and future Rumour Mills, will tell...

From a passive observer....

## GASS Contact List

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# Australian Slang

## What does it all mean?

**Australian Slang!** - That colourful language we speak in Australia that seems to baffle other people to no-end. Why?

Well, when you think of Australia, chances are you think of Desert, Kangaroos and Paul Hogan. And when you think of the way we speak, you probably think of "g'day", "mate", and the phrase popularised by Paul Hogan, "Throw another shrimp on the barbie!"

Whilst these words and phrases are somewhat true, only they're prawns, not shrimp, they are a limited view of the Australian version of English; and yes it may surprise you that the official Australian language is English, er, well, kind of.



## Australian Slang Quiz!

**1. If someone asks you what you are doing this 'arvo', they want to know what you are doing this:**

- a) During the holidays
- b) This afternoon
- c) At lunch time

**2. If someone invites you to a barbie, they are inviting you to:**

- a) A bar to drink some beer
- b) A doll competition
- c) A barbeque

**3. If someone offers you a 'cuppa' they are offering you a:**

- a) A cupboard
- b) An Australian cake
- c) A cup of tea

**4. If someone tells you to take a load off, they want you to:**

- a) Help them unload a truck
- b) Clear the table
- c) Sit down

**5. If someone's offering you a 'Tinny', they are offering you:**

- a) Tin for your roof
- b) A can of beer
- c) Food

**6. If someone asks you what are you doing 'in the hols' they mean what are you doing:**

- a) At a shopping centre
- b) At home
- c) During your holidays

**7. If someone tells you to 'av a good weegen' they mean"**

- a) Be careful because bad weather is forecast
- b) Drive carefully
- b) Have a good weekend

**8. If someone is yapping they are:**

- a) Talking a lot
- b) Crying a lot
- c) Making something out of wood

**9. If someone tells you to take one for Ron, they mean"**

- a) Give one to the man called Ron
- b) Take another one for later on
- c) Please don't take anymore

**10. If someone tells you they are 'fair Dinkem', they mean they:**

- a) Telling you the truth
- b) Were born in Australia
- c) They are overweight

**Answers: For you to find out and for us to smile and nod!**

# **One last tip!!! Only use dictionaries when desperate; otherwise this could be you :-)**

Two strangers meet in London. They start a conversation but they have to use their dictionary quite often.

- Hello, Sir, how goes it you?
- Oh, thank you for the afterquestion.
- Are you already long here?
- No, first a pair days. I'm not out of London.
- Thunderweather, that overrushed me. You see not so out.
- That can yes beforecome. But now what other: My hairs stood to mountain as I the traffic saw. So much cars give it here.
- You are heavy on the woodway if you believe that in London horsedroveworks go.
- Will we now a beer drink go? My throat is outdried. But look, there is a guesthouse, let us man there go!
- That is a good think! Equal goes it loose. I will only my shoeband close.
- Here we are. Make me please the door open.
- But there is a beforehangingcastle. The economy is to. How sorry. Then will I go back to the hotel, it is already retard. On againsee!
- Oh yes, I will too go. I must get the draught too Backsidemonkeycastle. Auf Wiedersehen!
- Nanu, sind Sie Deutscher?
- Ja, sie auch? Das wundert mich aber. Ihr Englisch ist so hervorragend, daß ich es gar nicht bemerkt hätte.

**Just get out there and 'giv it a go'!!!**