



Australian & New Zealand  
Chamber of Commerce in Japan

# ANZCCJ NEWS

May 2010

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## 2010-2011 ANZCCJ Chair & Executive Council

We are pleased to introduce Melanie Brock (Agenda) as ANZCCJ Chair for 2010-2011. Melanie Brock is the Australian and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan's 16th Chair and succeeds Greg Story in this position.

David Devlin (systemsGo) was duly re-elected as Vice-Chair. The election of Chair and Vice-Chair took place at the first meeting of the new Executive Council, which followed the election of the 2010-2011 Executive Council members at the Annual General Meeting held on 23 April at the New Zealand Embassy.

The new Executive Council represents a broad range of industries and experiences and is committed to continuing to grow and improve the Chamber for the benefit of members. We encourage you to get to know the new Executive Council and share your ideas with them.

**Chair:** Melanie Brock (Agenda)  
**Vice-Chair:** David Devlin (systemsGo)  
**Co Vice-Chair:** Andrew Gauci (Bovis Lend Lease)  
**Treasurer:** Ryann Thomas (PWC)

### Other Members:

Alison Airey (Kreab Gavin Anderson)  
 Ben Austin (Macquarie Capital Securities)  
 Geoff Dossor (Insentiv Media)  
 Glen Feist (Meat and Livestock Australia)  
 Nick Mudge (Air New Zealand)  
 Arun Nangia (National Australia Bank)  
 Bryn Rowdon (Fonterra)  
 Greg Story (Independent)

On behalf of the membership I congratulate the new Executive Council members.

*Katherine Nozaki*  
 ANZCCJ Executive Director



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## Changing of the Guard

### Message from the New ANZCCJ Chair

The Chamber has an immensely important role to play in the relationship between Australia and Japan and between New Zealand and Japan. This is truer now than perhaps it has been for a long while. As the difficulties of the past two years begin to recede we are now presented with a real opportunity to re-invigorate and revitalise the Chamber, to establish a clear and strong path for it to tread.

With over twenty years experience in Japan working in the private sector and in



Government, as an interpreter, corporate advisor and in establishing and running my own successful business and trading company I understand the challenges that the business community face in this market. Drawing on this well of experience and the detailed knowledge and contacts I have, I believe I am ideally placed to take the Chamber down this new path and help grow and strengthen it for the benefit of all of our members.

I am particularly excited about injecting a renewed sense of dynamism into the Chamber and working to proactively pursue initiatives and events of real and practical relevance to our members.

It is often said that the strength of the Chamber is linked to the relevance it offers to its members. I believe this to be true and think we have allowed this linkage to weaken in recent times. I would like to remedy that and work with all of the executive and the broader membership of the Chamber to elevate the relevance that the Chamber holds and that it offers to its members. I believe we can and ought to be doing more and that the changing economic times represent a real opportunity to do this.

To realise this ambition real focus and determination is required. Re-invigorating what we do and what we offer also requires a fresh approach, real passion for the task, strong business acumen underpinned by well developed people and networking skills. I offer these skills to the Chamber and am keen to put them to use to achieve this goal.

That is the ideal that I would like to pursue. However, there are also many specific areas that I believe we can improve and to which we can bring improved attention. These include:

- improving and enlivening the operations of the sub-committees
- re-establishing key sub-committees of significance to the economic relationship such as the energy and resources sub-committee
- actively promoting Australian and New Zealand products, produce and businesses at events we hold
- introducing clearer and more transparent operating procedures
- setting realistic and achievable goals and timelines to achieve them
- improving communication and consultation among members and opportunities to network effectively socially or for business
- developing closer links with our Embassies and Departments of Trade to promote and participate in change that is relevant to market access and the businesses we operate

On the running of the Chamber, I believe closer interaction with the Executive Director and the Secretariat is also required and will be beneficial. I also see strong merit in promoting closer ties with other Chambers and industry bodies that share similar goals. I am confident that closer interaction with the Secretariat will help ensure the Executive Council receives improved support and provides a more focused and improved service to members.

I believe that to be successful as Chair it is necessary to not only propose clear vision and keen interest in the Chamber but to actually believe in and have the capacity and commitment to achieve that vision.

I am confident that I have that capacity and commitment. I will work with the Executive Council with all of their talents and experience across a wide range of fields, to ensure that the Chamber fills its role as the hub of the Australian and New Zealand business community creating a Chamber that will offer value, relevance and real interest for us all.

My vision is a Chamber that we can all be proud of and one whose value all members will come to appreciate and benefit from as much as I do and have done over the years.



東京青山・青木法律事務所



Melanie Brock  
ANZCCJ Chair  
10 May 2010

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## Blake Dawson Tokyo Office Officially Opens

Blake Dawson has announced the opening of their new Tokyo office. They are the first Australian law firm to have an office in Japan - an exciting step for their international strategy and clients in the Asian region.

Blake Dawson's Tokyo office is headed by Natsuko Ogawa who has been appointed a partner of Blake Dawson Gaikokuho Jimu Bengoshi Jimusho (Foreign Law Office). Natsuko acts for a cross-section of Japanese clients in M&A, joint ventures, energy and resources.

Opening an office in Japan was a natural extension of Blake Dawson's strong North Asia practice which has a market leading reputation and longstanding client relationships with many of Japan's foremost trading houses; financial institutions; and energy and resources, infrastructure and consumer products companies. It provides dedicated support to Japanese clients and further strengthens the existing Asian presence in Jakarta, Port Moresby, Singapore and Shanghai.

### Blake Dawson

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Tokyo 100-0005, Japan  
T 81 3 5293 8228

For more information on Blake Dawson's Tokyo office please contact [Natsuko Ogawa](#) or [Ian Williams](#), head of Blake Dawson's North Asia group.

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## The Launch of Hogan Lovells

In December 2009, the partners of Hogan & Hartson and Lovells voted to combine the two firms. They are pleased to announce that the combination has come into effect on 1 May 2010.

Hogan Lovells may be new, but the experience, resources, and approach to practice they draw upon have been developed and cultivated over a long period.

Hogan Lovells will afford clients a multi-national capability with an unmatched quality, range, and depth of legal services. They are confident that with their breadth of practice, deep industry knowledge, and one-team approach worldwide, Hogan Lovells will provide an excellent, responsive, and innovative service needed to navigate today's complex legal landscape.

Warren Gorrell and David Harris  
Co-Chief Executive Officers

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## Chairman's Report

Year Ended 31 March 2010

## 1. Introduction

Thank you Ambassador Ian Kennedy for hosting us here tonight. It is fitting that as a joint Chamber of our two countries, we should gather here at the New Zealand Embassy for our 2010 AGM.

Thank you, Mark Willacy, our guest speaker, for not only agreeing to speak, but for being so flexible around the timing of tonight's speech.

As a Chamber, we enjoy powerful support from our two Governments and on behalf of all of us, I warmly thank our patrons, Ambassadors Murray McLean and Ian Kennedy for their continued assistance and support.

We also recognise the support we get from their all of their staff, in particular Alan McKinnon who has taken up a new position back in Canberra and Mark Pearson who continues here in Japan. To Alan's successor, Brendon Hammer, let me say "welcome" and we all look forward to working with you.

The trade and business promotion frontline teams led by Liz Masamune at Austrade and Shaun Conroy at New Zealand Trade & Enterprise work very closely with us and we appreciate their continued support and assistance.

We thank our Platinum Sponsors this year – the Australian Embassy, Austrade, the Australian and New Zealand Banking Group, BHP Billiton, the Commonwealth Bank, Meat and Livestock Australia, the National Australia Bank, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise.

Thank you to our other sponsors, we very much appreciate what you do for the Chamber. We have listed all of our sponsors in the AGM Pack, so please take note of who has been supporting your Chamber.

My fellow Executive Council members – Treasurer Ryann Thomas, Vice-Chairs Melanie Brock and David Devlin, members Geoff Dossor, Steve Burson, Bryn Rowdon, Glen Feist, Alison Airey, Ben Austin, Paul Butler, Jon Sparks, and Committee Chairs who have served at some point throughout the year, Paul Butler, Geoff Dossor, Joe Gayton, Glen Feist, Chris Glenn, Darren Morrish, Chris Hodgens, Emil Gorgees, Alan Lind, Jon Sparks, Paul Jones, Paul Previtera, Dean Page, Ryann Thomas and Shannon Walker all spent time, effort and money for the Chamber's benefit. Please join me in thanking them.

Let me also thank the Chubu Branch steering committee of Chris Glenn, Declan Murphy, Steve Burson, Bryce Conlan, James Hanna, and Sally Philips for their success in flying the flag in Chubu.

In Osaka, I would like to recognise the efforts of Mark Roth, Darren Morrish, Derek Hamilton, Raymond Tait, Cindy Lineburg and Chris Rees in getting the Kansai Branch up and running.

The Chamber is only as successful as its membership decides it will be. Any success we have enjoyed has come off the back of our members' continued support, so thank you everyone for ensuring our Chamber continues to evolve and succeed. Please keep supporting your Chamber!

Personally, I would like to thank our previous Chairman Tim Lester and our Lifetime Honorary Membership holder Bill Hall, for their advice to me over the past year – I have found it invaluable.

## 2. ANZCCJ Progress & Activity

The Asahi on April 17<sup>th</sup> reported that 47,000 foreigners departed Japan in the wake of the Lehman Shock. Sadly some of our members were part of that diaspora, as they relocated back home or to third countries, as their companies' positions here suffered because of the Global Financial Crisis. Some of our members lost their jobs completely or suffered financially in the global meltdown.

This last year has been hell for many of us, myself included.

2009/2010 saw a decline in membership of 15%. We currently have 264 members represented in the Chamber. This decline, while it is in line with the experience of the other chambers here in Japan, still hurts!

This has been an active year of events - 71 compared to 78 in the previous year. The full list of events is also included in the full AGM Pack.

The Chamber attended a special event at the Australian Embassy for Prime Minister Kevin Rudd during his visit to Japan last December.

It was a great pleasure to welcome back Australian Minister for Trade the Hon Simon Crean MP and to meet his counterpart New Zealand Minister for Trade, the Hon Tim Groser MP.

We had an unfortunate incident between our two countries called the Bledisloe Cup, which despite the result for the Wallabies, did provide an excellent networking opportunity for our members.

Last year the Chamber was able to avail our members of the opportunity to attend the Tokyo Chamber run Australia-Japan Symposium at which Mr. Shinzo Abe, previous Prime Minister, was the keynote speaker.

In October, the 47<sup>th</sup> Japan-Australia Joint Business Conference was held in Tokyo. The 48<sup>th</sup> Conference will be held in my hometown of Brisbane from 10 -12<sup>th</sup> October.

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Meeting of the Japan New Zealand Business Council took place in October. The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Meeting will be held in Tauranga from 6-8<sup>th</sup> October.

These are important conferences, so if you have the chance to attend it is well worthwhile.

We attended the regional Chamber Forum held in Hong Kong, at which was signed a Memorandum of Understanding with 12 other Australian Chambers in Asia for the development of regional Australian Chamber co-operation. The aim is to increase the connectivity and mutual benefit between Chambers and businesses across Asia which will ultimately benefit you, the members.

Last year saw the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Kea which promotes the interests of the New Zealand business community around the world.

As you will recall, we gathered funds in the wake of the Victorian Bushfires and were pleased to use those funds to assist the re-establishment of the tourism industry in the Marysville Triangle Area. Again, I would like to thank all those who supported our charity appeal for your contributions.

After a long wait, many iterations, much debugging and a lot of effort, the Chamber's new website is finally completed. Over the weekend we will transition to the new site which will be available for business from Monday. We have gone with the most up to date technology to ensure we can run our Chamber as efficiently as possible. Please take a look and let us know what you think. A lot of the new features are in the "engine room" and will be hidden from the general user's view, however these will

significantly help the operations of the Chamber.

### **3. A Look at 2010-2011**

Survival gets your attention; in fact it gets all of your attention.

Our members have been totally occupied with staying afloat over the last year, and certain Chamber activities originally planned back at the strategic planning meeting in 2007 were neither timely nor appropriate over the last year.

It is timely and appropriate now to hold a fresh planning meeting, to encompass the direction the Chamber needs to take over the next few years in this post meltdown world.

One of the big questions we will have to grapple with is “whither Japan over the next decade?”.

Are we all admiring the slivers of silky moonlight radiating over a dark sea, while leaning on the rails of the Titanic?

“Japan passing” or “Japan nothing” - which is the future?

Value? Gravitas? Relevance?

Whither Japan and whither the Chamber and our businesses?

We stand on the brink, as a Chamber, are we to remain observers or architects of our fortune?

With APEC activities being hosted here in Japan this year, there will be many opportunities to interact with decision makers from our two countries.

It also presents the chance to make points about Japan’s continued significance as a business partner.

We need to grab these opportunities with both hands.

### **4. General Acknowledgements**

On behalf of our members I would like to thank Executive Director Katherine Nozaki and Operations Manager Deborah Lee for the good work they have done throughout the year.

We are fortunate to have a full time secretariat and to have such dedication from our two staff members.

A large part of the work of the Chairman is done outside of the meetings, so it goes unseen, but there is no doubt I could not get through the work required without the help of Katherine and Deborah.

Thank you very much for your support for me both professionally and personally.

I would like to remind everyone that this Sunday there is the ANZAC Day remembrance at the Yokohama Commonwealth War Cemetery at Hodogaya. The maps and details of how to get there are on the New Zealand Embassy’s website in the section on the Relationship between New Zealand and Japan, as they are this year’s hosts for the event.

The ceremony begins at 9.00am.

It is a worthwhile experience, so if you have the opportunity to attend please do so, and while you are down there, maybe enjoy the delights of Yokohama for the rest of the day.

Let me conclude my report by thanking all of you for your support for me during the year. The Chamber is a living organism and it is the culmination of all of our efforts, so thank you for your support and I look forward to a much better year ahead!

Thank you.

Dr. Greg Story  
Hon. Chairman 2008-2010

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## Financial Report

For Year Ended 31 March 2010

The Statement of Income and Expenditure and the Statement of Funds for the year ending 31 March 2010 of the Australian and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan (the "**Chamber**"), is attached.

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report as Treasurer of the Chamber, which I believe provides positive news despite the continuing tough times for all of us.

As can be seen from these financial statements, despite the financial crisis and an inevitable drop in membership, the Chamber's financial position has been sustained at a relatively strong level. Although there is a significant portion of income attributable to the next financial year shown in the statement of funds (approximately ¥4 million), the position of the Chamber after netting this amount and the ¥600,000 net receivable is generally consistent with last year.

In fact, the Chamber concluded the current financial year with an operating profit of just over ¥3 million. This results in the Chamber moving forward into the 2010/2011 year with a positive balance of ¥30,525,070, subject to the comments above in relation to income received in advance.

Although not shown in the financial accounts provided tonight, the final income for 2009/2010 was only slightly less (approximately ¥300,000) than the Executive Council's budget prepared around this time last year. I believe the strength of the Chamber's financial position is in part attributable to its conservative and accurate budgeting, and its ability to meet the budget targets throughout the year.

Key items of income and expenditure in the accounts for the year ended March 31, 2010 are as follows:

- Total membership fees of ¥20,745,000. After taking into account the membership income received in advance relating to the 2010/2011 financial year, total membership fees for 2009/2010 were ¥16.7 million. This represents an approximate 12% decrease on membership income, which we believe is reflective of the state of the economy in general.
- Total income from Directory advertising is a net amount of ¥1.44 million. Once again, the Directory has formed an important part of the Chamber's income, particularly given the decline in membership noted above. However, I would like to make reference to the efforts of the Chamber's Executive and Operations Directors, for whom generating Directory advertising revenues was a far tougher task this past year than in previous years.
- On the expenses side, there are no significant extraordinary items this year. As in

previous years, we continued our support of JMEC (Japan Market Expansion Competition) during 2009/2010 with a refundable loan of ¥250,000. We also provided a fellowship to an individual member Participant in the program, although unfortunately, there were no eligible Project Client candidates to take up the corporate grant this year. Please bear in mind for next year's JMEC that we do have this sponsorship available, if you are aware of any eligible Participants or Project Clients.

- A further instalment of IT development costs, in the amount of ¥525,000, was also incurred during 2009/2010. The Chairman has already mentioned the rollout of the new website, so I will not provide any further comment on this expenditure.

Finally, the financial results for the Chamber have once again been reviewed by Certified Practising Accountant, Jason Buckley, and I thank Jason for this service, provided in an honorary capacity.

Before concluding, I would once again like to thank Katherine Nozaki, our Executive Director, who has continued to manage the day-to-day bookkeeping of the Chamber efficiently.

Secondly, I would also like to thank you, the current members, who have continued to support the Chamber during these difficult financial times. Without you the Chamber would cease to exist, and it is in times like this that this fact becomes clear, particularly for those of us who monitor the accounts on a regular basis.

I strongly urge you all to continue to support the Chamber going forward, and to promote the Chamber to your friends and colleagues in Japan with an interest in Australia and New Zealand. With your continuing support the Chamber can continue to ride out the financial crisis.

I look forward to meeting you at future events.

Ryann Thomas

ANZCCJ Hon. Treasurer

Please [click](#) here for a link to the certified accounts for 2009/2010 (PDF).

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## ANZCCJ Chubu Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

The Chubu team members have been rather busy with keeping their businesses in line and haven't had as much time as previous years to put into the Chamber over the past 12 months. The Chubu steering committee also lost the valued input and assistance of former Nagoya Consul Sally Phillips, who was transferred to Osaka at the end of August last year with the closing of the Nagoya Consulate, although she still maintains her support from a distance.

The year kicked off with our annual hanami in Nagoya's oldest park, Tsuruma Koen on March 28<sup>th</sup>, with 45 people sat on our blue sheets enjoying themselves. Prior to that, a lot of work had gone into securing a movie theatre and media back up, and getting the rights to screen a special pre-showing of the movie Australia, with proceeds planned to aid the bushfire victims of early last year. Unfortunately, the movie company pulled the screenings rights a week before publicity was to begin.

June 7, at Nagoya's Aoshonen Koen, a local American entrepreneur and meat importer gave a talk on various meats, how to cook and serve, as well as BBQ a large selection of his wares for over 50 members and guests. The event was so successful a similar event is on the calendar for this year.

July 17 saw us gather at local venue, Sports Bar Shooters to farewell Sally Phillips.

Later in the year, October 15 was a most interesting night. We held a presentation in a Thai restaurant run by a local Japanese company importing Australian wines. October 23<sup>rd</sup> saw Terrie Lloyd provide members with a great deal of good advice and food for thought. Thanks to Terrie's informative and detailed insight into business, we now know why he is doing so well for himself!

December 4<sup>th</sup> was the annual XMAS party, which was once again very well attended. One of the highlights was the Bingo game, in which ALL attendees received 2 presents. Many thanks to all the gift sponsors.

On January 26, the steering committee convened to polish off 2 packs of Oreo Cookies, a few cans of beer and some chips while planning out a full year of events and projects. The meeting was followed up with a trip to Red Rock Bar to celebrate Australia Day. A few days later, on the 29<sup>th</sup>, a successful joint chamber Meet and Greet was staged to provide members with the opportunity to fill those blank spaces in the meishi file.

The 2010 Hanami on March 27<sup>th</sup> was a huge success, a joint chamber event in conjunction with the American and Canadian chambers, with our own Bryce Conlan and Steve Burson playing major roles in making it happen.

We've come full circle again. This year probably wasn't as financially rewarding nor was the schedule as full as we may have hoped, however we have seen a number of new faces and continued to make a profit on most events. Once again, through word of mouth, local networking and use of the media, the profile of the Chamber has continued to grow and provide members with quality and worthwhile events to enjoy and benefit from.

We thank the ANZCCJ Secretariat and Executive Council in Tokyo for their continued support and as always, remind all Chamber members there is life in the central regions, and invite you to "Come on Down" and discover some of the talent, services and opportunities available in the Chubu area! A draft 2010 schedule of events will be made available on the Chubu Committee page of the new website soon. Next time you make your trip down, see if you can get it to coincide with an event!

There's still a recession on, and as most of our members represent micro firms or local businesses, it's a struggle, but we're a close knit community and things can only get better. I hope.

*Chris Glenn*

Chairperson, Chubu Sub Committee

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## ANZCCJ Finance and Tax Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

2009 will be remembered in many ways as a watershed year for the Finance and Tax Committee. Dean Page, formerly Chair of the Independent Business sub-committee joined the Finance and Tax Committee as co-chair, plus the committee continued to develop a strong relationship with Australia CPA, headed by Jason Buckley. Through this collaboration a number of interesting events were staged, enjoyed by members of both organisations.

Events in 2009 featured speakers from diverse backgrounds covering a broad range of topics of interest to the chamber, including:

### **Individual tax**

In March, members of PricewaterhouseCoopers' individual tax team spoke about

expatriate tax issues to a very healthy turnout. Individual tax is always a favourite in Japan and this event proved to be no different.

#### **Office leasing & deals**

In July, Tony Cha from CB Richard Ellis KK gave extraordinary insights into the real estate leasing market in Japan. Tony's presentation took attendees through the current market, the opportunities, and techniques available to get the most out of your office lease deal.

#### **Stimulation package: Transfer Pricing**

In July Ryann Thomas, Managing Director of PricewaterhouseCoopers Transfer Pricing Group, spoke to the chamber about the growing importance of transfer pricing from an international business and tax perspective. Ryann's position that the importance of transfer pricing is magnified during times of economic difficulty was shared by the vast majority of attendees, and reflected in the number of members with questions for Ryann afterwards.

#### **Australian/Japan – finance update**

In February, Finance and Tax Committee co-chairs Paul Previtera and Dean Page gave a lecture on international tax with an Australia/NZ – Japan focus at the 2nd ANJeL Business Law Update conference, held in Tokyo. Other speakers at the conference included Associate Professor Luke Nottage of the Sydney Law School, Sheelagh McCracken, Professor of Finance at the Sydney Law School, and Professor Souichirou Kozuka of the Sophia University Law School. Attendees included lawyers from Japan, Australia, the US and the UK.

The Finance and Tax Committee also lent its support to events sponsored by the Independent Business Sub Committee, chaired by Emil Gorgees, including the event "Taking the Leap into Business" in December. Kengo Miyamoto, a Japanese attorney gave a very good overview of the legal issues involved with establishing a company in Japan while Emil's presentation on the finance and tax issues with going into business was very well received.

The Finance and Tax Committee has had a busy year and we continue to maintain close links with the Independent Business Committee, Australia CPA, both Embassies and the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan. We look forward to bringing more informative and entertaining presentations to the Chamber in 2010/11.

*Paul Previtera, Dean Page*  
Co-Chairs, Finance & Tax Sub Committee

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## **ANZCCJ Food & Agriculture Sub-Committee Annual Report**

23 April 2010

The Food and Agriculture Committee enjoyed good support throughout the year with meetings held at various locations covering a range of topics. The purpose of the Committee is to foster understanding of food and agriculture issues and to give members an opportunity to network and share experiences among the many varied companies represented here. The underlying topic in the past year has been updates and discussion based around the proposed FTA/EPA between Australia and Japan.

This year's Food and Agriculture Committee events were:

- 2010 Mar 1<sup>st</sup>** FOODEX Japan Seminar
- 2010 Feb 24<sup>th</sup>** Food & Agriculture Committee (Two Rooms restaurant)
- 2009 Oct 15<sup>th</sup>** Food & Agriculture Committee (Australian Embassy)

The Food and Agriculture Committee normally holds informal meetings where we include some good food and wine which is often donated by members. There was a change in Chairmanship half way through the year and I would particularly like to thank our long serving Chair Joe Gayton who has developed a strong foundation from

which to take our activities forward in the coming years.

The Committee consists of around 30 members with a good proportion actively involved in attending and assisting with meetings or events. We are particularly fortunate to have the strong support of the Australian Embassy agricultural section and the Austrade staff involved with food and beverage trade issues. We have developed a fairly strong Australian focus over the last few years which is purely a reflection of the Committee members makeup. I do encourage more participation from New Zealand members, Embassy and trade representatives and hope we can balance the content for future meetings to attract a wider participation.

One of the more valuable aspects of the meetings is to have detailed updates from the respective embassies on Agricultural matters and to share insights and issues between members and their respective companies. These insights and discussions all assist greatly when it comes to advocacy and assistance we in turn can offer our embassies and negotiators in trade disputes or FTA negotiations.

To all the members who have assisted in making this a strong and active committee I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for welcoming me and encourage you to continue to support the Chamber and the Food and Agriculture Committee again this year.

*Glen M. Feist*  
Chairman, Food and Agriculture Sub Committee

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## ANZCCJ Human Resources Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

The HR Committee was reformed at the start of the year after a 5-year hiatus. From there it has been a productive year including holding a Chamber and a combined chambers event as well as planning for an interactive combined chamber event on merger case studies: perspectives from foreign managers and Japanese workers.

The largest undertaking for the year was the survey of member needs and priorities in the Human Resources field. The result is a proposed series of HR Master Classes for 2010 and 2011 covering:

1. How to effectively recruit staff & staff retention: best and emerging practices  
Firing staff
2. HR in Japan for non-Japanese managers. A tutorial format to dispel myths and reduce poor professional behaviour by foreigners in the HR area in Japan.
3. Performance management: methodologies and best practices
4. Structuring compensation and benefits
5. Setting up an effective coaching program and how to assess external coaches

*Jon Sparks*  
Human Resources Sub Committee

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## ANZCCJ Independent Business Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

The Independent Business Committee members represent a diverse range of constituencies – from one person start-ups to more mature SMEs with tens or even hundreds of employees.

The aim of the Committee is to promote the interests of ANZCCJ members involved in independent business activities in Japan. This includes promoting networking with new and existing members, particularly to those who are already involved in running independent businesses or are thinking of starting such businesses.

The Committee sponsors a variety of seminars and events and was involved in establishing the highly successful Japan Market Expansion Competition (JMEC) - an initiative of the Committee.

Of particular note for 2009 was the change of chairmanship. Emil Gorgees took over from long-serving Chair, Dean Page. Emil Gorgees is the Vice President of New Ventures at Foreya Partners, is an alumni of Ernst & Young and holds an MBA in Marketing from Deakin University. A big thank you Dean Page for his years of hard work, and also Finance & Tax Committee Chairman Paul Previterra for his contributions and support of the Committee.

In addition to the change of chairmanship, the Committee introduced a Practical Independent Business presentation series, covering practical issues faced by small business owners and those interested in independent business. The first presentation of the series, titled "Taking the Leap to Independent Business" was held in December. Guest speaker, lawyer Kengo Miyamoto, answered queries regarding corporate establishment. There was also a discussion about tax issues facing sole proprietors moderated by Emil Gorgees.

Moving ahead, the Committee will continue to arrange events around five themes:

1. Practical guides for issues facing independent businesses,
2. Presentations by entrepreneurs who can share their business creation experience in Japan,
3. Presentations by people who provide services to entrepreneurs (lawyers, accountants, etc.),
4. Events aimed at bringing entrepreneurs and potential sources of finance together, and
5. Informal networking events for the independent business minded.

*Emil Gorgees*

Chairman, Independent Business Sub Committee

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## ANZCCJ IT Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

The IT Committee has had a productive year networking with the Japanese Ministry of Economics, Trade, and Industry (METI) as well as reaching out to new fellow Australians and New Zealanders leading IT companies in Japan demonstrating great initiative in a challenging market.

While the IT committee has no networking events to report this year, the committee has been actively seeking several leads with the view to presenting new and cutting edge IT business solution providers to ANZCCJ members. Cloud Computing is one area of business growth in Japan which the IT committee is looking to present so watch this space for IT events in the near future.

The IT Committee has been active this year in providing pro bono IT consulting to the non-profit organisation of Tokyo English Life Line (Tell). Under the current challenging

economic times, non-profit organisations like Tell provide a vital and ever increasing role in servicing the expat community.

The president of the IT Committee Allan Lind became aware of TELL's desire to move to a new location and identified the need to aid in the set up of IT and telephony set for the new office. These service needs are at the heart of Allan's expertise where he felt that donating consulting and some hardware resources would be an excellent way to give back to the English-speaking community in Tokyo. This was also an opportunity to establish contact with new people and organisations involved in the project. One such contact involved in the project is Jim Weisser, Managing Director of PBXL also rallied to the cause by providing free consulting to the office move. Jim states "PBXL is serious about our role as a corporate citizen. Given that our core business is communications, sponsoring the Lifeline fits well with our CSR goals, and we look forward to working with TELL in the years to come."

Andrew Bradford, and Jay Dearien of Joho Technology have been involved in donating free consulting time and also some donated equipment to the Tokyo English Life Line for their upcoming office move. Jay has visited the old and new sites on several occasions to meet with architects, contractors, electricians, phone company people, staff members, IT people, plus other organizations and individuals donating their time and resources toward a successful move. Joho are acting in a project management capacity to ensure that all technical details conducted by the many parties involved are attended to which include layout planning of the new site, installing new equipment, and moving in the old equipment.

Allan Lind and Jay Dearien were invited to the Ministry of Economics, Trade, and Industry (METI) to informally discuss the future directions of electrical power in Japan with the deputy minister. Allan has extensive experience from his native country of New Zealand in the field of energy management and hopes to explore the possibilities for this field in his adoptive homeland of Japan. The deputy minister cited Kyoto protocols and Japan's commitments to reduce carbon emissions. He discussed the challenges of persuading industry to participate in a future paradigm of reduced power usage, "micro-grids" where consumers produce their own power, use it themselves, and even sell it back to the power company. As a follow up to this meeting Allan and Jay also attended an industry convention on Solar Power this year.

The chairman, Allan Lind, would like to take this opportunity to invite any members in IT or have an interest in IT to join the IT committee.

Allan Lind  
Chairman, IT Sub Committee

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## ANZCCJ Kansai Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

The re-birth of the Kansai Chapter of the ANZCCJ had been discussed and debated for a considerable amount of time following a relatively strong representation back in the late 90's early 2000' and was ultimately fuelled by the interest shown by numerous people in the Osaka, and Kobe areas.

Following is a brief summary of the actions of the group over the past 12 months.

- **February:** An initial gathering was held at the Swissotel in Namba to gauge the level of interest and commitment in establishing the ANZCCJ Kansai Sub Committee. It was agreed that there was enough interest and we worked on holding our Inaugural Event at the Ramada Hotel on April the 17th with Peter O'Byrne, CEO of Austrade being our guest speaker.
- **March:** With the committee members selected, a follow-up meeting and calendar of events was put together, with the Inaugural event in April being the focus. Numerous other events were pencilled in including the Melbourne Cup, Football Finals, a Christmas Party, and some joint chambering events.
- **April:** With support from Chris Rees from Austrade here in Osaka, Katherine Nozaki from the ANZCCJ office in Tokyo and numerous others present, the Inaugural event was held

at "Lampada Restaurant" in the Ramada Hotel. A good turnout and a great encouraging speech was given by Peter from Austrade. Around 30 people attended the night with great feedback and enthusiasm for the Kansai Chapter to push on with its progress. Thank you also to Katherine who made the trip down from Tokyo for the event.

April 26th: Despite all the doom and gloom of the Economic Crises we manage to pull together a social event at Shio Ashiya-hama to celebrate an Aussie Summer Beach BBQ. A great turnout with around 45 people attending despite a fairly ordinary day as far as the weather was concerned.

- **May:** The Kansai region is thrown into turmoil with the first outbreak of SwineFlu (H1N1) in Japan being reported in Kobe on May the 17th. It quickly spreads to Osaka, Kyoto and other areas. Within 24 hours you cannot buy a facemask in all of Kansai, the regions tourism and hospitality businesses receive a major setback with many businesses and individuals cancelling or postponing trips to the area.... the impact is enormous. Unfortunately with many of the committee members being affected by this, their own time and focus needed to shift back to their own businesses and operations, therefore taking the steam out of our sails.
- **June:** We push on and have a great night in Nishinomiya at "Cheers Bar" hosted by an ex Melbournian but long-term resident of Kansai, Dave Horley. The spread included some good Aussie Grub, music from a great New Zealand duo and some fantastic Australian wines, which is what Dave specialises in. (A great bar for a drink if you are heading to or from a Hanshin Tigers game)
- **November:** Another great event is planned in Kobe to enjoy and celebrate the Melbourne Cup, including the Australian Duo from the Hilton Osaka, great prizes from Turkish Airlines and hotels from the area. Unfortunately due to a limited response and final confirmed numbers the event is cancelled.
- **December:** We were planning to hold a Christmas Party at the Kobe Club, however unfortunately due to the disappointment of having to cancel the Melbourne Cup event it was difficult to put together an organising team, therefore left off the calendar.

Summary: With great intentions and enthusiasm a group of loyal people were keen to see 2009 as the year of the return of the ANZCCJ to Kansai. Unfortunately due to reasons explained earlier and outside of our control we struggled at times to be able to commit the time and efforts due to many having to focus on their own personal pressing issues and concerns which we were all faced with last year.

The enthusiasm remains, Chris Rees and all the team at Austrade is 100% behind and involved in ensuring we push on and keep the momentum up. Numerous events are pencilled in for the remainder of 2010 such as, co-chambering events with Canadian/French/and American chambers here in Kansai. A world BBQ Challenge between the Australians/ Canadians/ Americans and Europeans in June. Speeches by the Melbourne City Mayor, and other visiting dignitaries', Sounds of Australia in October, Football finals, the Melbourne Cup and possibly a joint Christmas Party with the Chubu Chapter.

I look forward to a more successful and enjoyable 2010/11 period and look forward to writing and hopefully presenting a much more detailed report at next year's AGM.

Darren Morrish  
Co-chairman, Kansai Chapter

## ANZCCJ Legal Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

The ANZCCJ Legal Committee, building on the previous year's activities, has continued this year to host, sponsor or otherwise encourage participation by ANZCCJ members, particularly members active in the legal community in Australia, New Zealand and Japan, in a range of legal and social events.

In November 2009, the Committee joined with its counterpart committees of the ACCJ and EBC to promote the Tokyo Three Bar Associations International Seminar and Party. The seminar, "US Class Actions: Impact on the Japanese Legal System", proved to be quite topical and drew a large gathering of Japanese and international practitioners.

The Committee plans to participate in promoting this year's seminar to members later in the year.

Other events on this year's calendar include:

- Roppongi Bar Association Shinnenkai in January
- Update on Australian-Japanese Law, ANJeL's 7th Annual Conference, Crisis and the Law in February
- Post-Copenhagen Climate Change: Legal and Business Perspectives in March

The Post-Copenhagen Seminar was jointly sponsored and organised by the ANZCCJ, CCCJ and Tokyo Bar Association International Committee.

The year's events would not have been possible without the support of our various partners, co-hosts, co-sponsors, members and of course our Executive Director, for which the Committee is very grateful.

The Committee (including the Chair) hopes to continue to be actively engaged in the legal community and to that end invites interested members to join and participate in committee meetings and activities.

Chris Hodgens  
Chair, Legal Sub Committee

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## ANZCCJ New Zealand Business Development Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

The New Zealand Business Development Committee had another very active year, with a range of different events held regularly under the Kiwi Contacts banner. There are currently 267 names on the Kiwi Contacts mailing list.

The highlights of Kiwi Contacts events this year included:

Kiwi Contacts members gathered to support the Junior All Blacks defeat England in the final of the U21 World Cup Rugby held at Chichibu Stadium in June 2009, followed by a few celebratory after match drinks.

- We invited members to join 'Fun with Touch' touch rugby games organised regularly by fellow New Zealander Glenn Lambert.
- In August, Kiwi Contacts gathered at the Tokyo American Club for a 'Taste New Zealand' buffet dinner.
- Kiwi Contacts started an online presence in the form of a blog site in September to post information, photos and calendar of events. Greg Lane from Fusion Bureau kindly donated his time to get this up and running, including a logo for Kiwi Contacts. See: [www.kiwicontacts.org](http://www.kiwicontacts.org)
- In early October Kiwi Contacts attended a New Zealand wine event hosted by Wild Rock Wines held at 57, Roppongi.

· October was a big month for New Zealand and Kiwi Contacts with the Bledisloe Cup being held in Tokyo, along with Tourism New Zealand's Giant Rugby Ball pavilion at the Tokyo Tower and the visit to Japan by PM John Key. In collaboration with the New Zealand Embassy, Kiwi Contacts invited members to attend a 'Breakfast with the Prime Minister' inside the Giant Rugby Ball on the morning of the Bledisloe Cup match, October 31. This was a great opportunity for New Zealanders here to personally meet with the PM and also learn of the activities surrounding the Rugby World Cup 2011 to be hosted in New Zealand.

· Following on from the 'Breakfast with the PM', Kiwi Contacts members gathered for pre-match drinks at Midtown Roppongi before making their way to the National Stadium to support the All Blacks play the Wallabies. With the All Blacks winning the match, no doubt many post-match celebrations continued throughout the evening.

· As part of the Japan Music Week, New Zealand musician Alastair Rogers helped organize a NZ music night in Shibuya on November 10. There was a great mix of musicians and genres, including NZ's renowned hip hop group Nesian Mystik. This event saw a strong turn out of around 30 Kiwi Contacts members.

· It late 2009, the Kea global community for New Zealanders started a Japan Chapter. An inaugural meeting was held at the NZ Embassy in February 2010 to outline the objectives of the Kea organisation in Japan. Kiwi Contacts Co-chairperson, Shannon Walker, attended this meeting to discuss how we can involve Kiwi Contacts with the Kea Chapter.

Coming into 2010, Kiwi Contacts events have been less frequent than usual with Chairperson Ryann Thomas being away from Japan due to work commitments and Co-chairperson Fiona Hermesen no longer in Japan. We will look to recruit another co-chairperson in due course.

With regards to Kea Japan chapter, Kiwi Contacts supports this initiative and will no doubt collaborate with Kea on future social events. Our focus remains in supporting New Zealanders and friends of New Zealand in the Kanto region through the strong networks and friendships made at our social events. Kiwi Contacts will continue to champion kiwi ventures and activities and we encourage New Zealanders who are new to Japan to join both Kiwi Contacts and the ANZCCJ.

Shannon Walker, Ryann Thomas  
Co-chairpersons, New Zealand Business Development Sub Committee

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## ANZCCJ Tourism & Hospitality Sub Committee Annual Report

23 April 2010

In 2009 the global economic conditions inherited from the September 2008 collapse added further woes to the Australia Tourism and Hospitality industry. The strong Yen should have benefited the Australian/New Zealand market, however instead it saw the total spend on Tourism and Hospitality by Japanese shift and shrink to more domestic and regional markets spending.

The volatility and fragility of the market from late 2008 to early 2010 has meant that all Tourism and Hospitality groups have had to seriously reassess how they approach each segment of the Japanese market.

Therefore the main objective of the Committee has been to develop a brief/report on the following key questions and deliver to the Chamber before the end of 2010 with a key focus on Marketing/Sales support.

The areas are as follows:

1. What are the basic fundamentals of Japanese travellers?
2. What do Australian/New Zealand tourism industries need to do in order improve its Marketing mix (Price, Place and Promotion)?
3. In what key areas are the Australian and New Zealand Leisure and Hospitality industries not delivering to the Japanese market?
4. What types of specific channel Marketing and Sales could be introduced to reach

the target market. Is the future Print, TV, Radio, or Web based? To what level?

5. Understand the JTA agenda. Work with them into cross marketing and sales activities. Develop an Australian/New Zealand annual Exhibition.

We would like to encourage the members of the Chamber with an interest to support the efforts and contributions of the Tourism and Hospitality Sub Committee.

*Paul Jones*

Chair Tourism and Hospitality Sub Committee

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## Sixth Australia-Japan Conference: Co-chairs' Statement

The Sixth Australia-Japan Conference was held in Canberra 11–12 February 2010. The Conference was co-chaired by Sir Rod Eddington, Chairman of the Australia-Japan Business Cooperation Committee, and Mr Akio Mimura, Chairman of the Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee.

Participants included eminent representatives from politics, business, academia, think-tanks and media in both countries. Australia's Foreign Minister, the Hon Stephen Smith MP, addressed Conference participants, and the Chair of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, Senator Michael Forshaw, participated in the Conference. Japan's State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr Tetsuro Fukuyama, participated in the Conference and delivered Japan's keynote address.

Conference discussions focused on three broad themes: political and strategic cooperation, trade and economic cooperation, and people-to-people links. The main outcomes of the Conference discussions are outlined below.

### **Political/strategic**

Conference participants considered that Australia and Japan were on the threshold of a significant expansion of their cooperation on political and strategic issues. They observed that cooperation on global issues in multilateral fora had progressed and should be expanded even further, noting that Australia and Japan were able to achieve more in these areas when they worked together. They:

- Welcomed the rapid progress in bilateral security and defence cooperation, and urged the two Governments to expand further their cooperation in peace-keeping, post-conflict reconstruction, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and to cooperate more on development assistance.
- Reaffirmed the vital role of strong and effective Australia-US and Japan-US alliances in underpinning stability in the region as a whole, and welcomed growing trilateral Australia-Japan-United States strategic cooperation.
- Urged the two Governments to expand their cooperation to include the full range of global issues, including climate change, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, UN reform and economic development.
- Welcomed Australian and Japanese leadership in promoting discussions on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, including in the context of the report of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (ICNND), and urged the two Governments to deepen dialogue on international nuclear safeguards, safety, security and related issues.
- Welcomed continued Australian and Japanese leadership in shaping the development of regional architecture in the Asia-Pacific region and called on both Governments to deepen their discussions and coordination on this issue.
- Noted that regional prosperity was best achieved through global, regional and

bilateral trade and investment liberalisation and a commitment to open regionalism.

- Welcomed the deepening of trilateral dialogue and cooperation among Japan, the Republic of Korea, and China, noting that this helped to enhance regional stability.
- Urged experts in both countries to deepen their dialogue on challenges and opportunities resulting from emerging trends in East Asia.

### **Trade/economic**

Conference participants considered that the bilateral trade and investment relationship remained vital to both countries in the changing international environment, and noted that it was important not to take that relationship for granted. The economic relationship was highly complementary and had much potential for further growth. Australia was a safe and reliable supplier of food and resources and a world-class financial services centre. Japanese investment remained vital to Australia's economy. Recent strong growth in two-way investment flows was a positive sign of mutual confidence at a time of global economic difficulty. Participants:

- Urged both Governments to ensure all necessary steps were taken domestically and globally to accelerate economic recovery, including continued targeted and sustainable economic stimulus measures and improvements in global financial governance.
- Welcomed the consolidation of the G20, which includes Australia and Japan, as the key forum to discuss international economic issues, and called on both Governments to work actively and cooperatively in the G20 in the future.
- Urged both Governments to continue to work to reach a successful conclusion to the WTO Doha Round of trade negotiations, to assist global economic recovery and to lay the basis for sustainable global growth.
- Noted the strong support among business in both countries for a Free Trade Agreement/Economic Partnership Agreement and urged both Governments to move forward in their negotiations in order to conclude a comprehensive, high-quality and mutually-beneficial agreement.
- Noted that the services sector dominated both economies, presenting significant but unrealised complementarities in the trade and investment relationship especially financial services where Australia has world-class strengths, and called for these opportunities to be further explored.
- Encouraged Australian firms to increase their profile in, and level of investment into, Japan.
- Noted that Japan attached great importance to Australia continuing to be a safe and reliable supplier of exports to Japan.
- Called on business and government to explore opportunities for cooperation between Australian and Japanese companies in third countries, particularly in the provision of infrastructure in Asia, and welcomed the work of the Australia-Japan and Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committees in promoting a system of public-private infrastructure financing.
- Called on both Governments to work closely together in shaping international and domestic responses to the challenge of climate change, including by sharing experiences on domestic responses, collaboration in the development of clean energy technology, and working together in international fora.

### **People-to-people links**

Conference participants considered the people-to-people relationship to be in good order, with positive public perceptions on both sides of the relationship, and an

extensive and organic network of people-to-people ties. They highlighted the need continually to reinforce the value of the relationship to the public in both countries, and felt that stronger parliamentary exchanges were vital to this. They:

- Emphasised the importance of regular and frequent exchanges between parliamentarians and Diet Members and called for increased exchanges.
- Welcomed and endorsed the report prepared by the joint working group, co-chaired by Mr Tim Lester and Professor Masami Sekine, on ways to enhance the effectiveness of Japanese language learning in Australia, and called on the Australian and Japanese Governments and the business and academic communities to be ambitious in considering its recommendations.
- Welcomed the efforts already made by the Australian Government to support Japanese language learning through the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program.
- Welcomed recent Japanese efforts to enhance visiting programs for business people, university students and high-school students under the JENESYS program sponsored by the Japanese Government.
- Welcomed the long-standing contributions of the Australia-Japan Foundation (AJF) and the Japan Foundation to furthering people-to-people links.
- Supported the important role of sister-city, sister-State, and other ties in enhancing people-to-people exchanges between Australians and Japanese.
- Urged both Governments to continue to make efforts to find a solution to the whaling issue through dialogue, and agreed that the issue should not affect the priority given to the comprehensive strategic, security and economic partnership between the two countries.

### **Fifth Australia-Japan Conference**

The Fifth Australia-Japan Conference was held in Tokyo on 19 November 2008. Established in 1999, Australia-Japan Conferences are significant events on the bilateral Australia-Japan calendar and have generated and promoted new ideas and initiatives in support of the bilateral relationship. This year was no exception.

This year's Conference, hosted by Japan, was co-chaired by Sir Rod Eddington, Chairman of the Australia-Japan Business Cooperation Committee, and Mr Akio Mimura, Chairman of the Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee. Japanese Prime Minister, the Hon Taro Aso, and Australia's Minister for Resources, Energy and Tourism, the Hon Martin Ferguson, [addressed the Conference](#).

Conference invitees included senior representatives from politics, business, academia and the media. This year's Conference participants embraced the challenge set by the Prime Ministers of Australia and Japan in June, when the Prime Ministers called on the Australia-Japan Conference to present forward-looking recommendations for future Australia-Japan relations. Discussion covered four main themes: political/security cooperation, trade/economic cooperation, the environment and climate change, and people to people links. Participants engaged in a free flowing discussion and explored opportunities and challenges for the relationship in light of significant developments such as the global financial crisis, climate change, the evolving regional strategic environment and changing demographics. The co-Chairs issued a statement on the Conference's outcomes highlighting key issues in the current and future bilateral relationship (below).

### **Co-Chairs' statement**

The Fifth Australia-Japan Conference was held at Mita Kaigisho on 19 November 2008. The Conference was co-chaired by Sir Rod Eddington, Chairman of the Australia-Japan Business Cooperation Committee, and Mr Akio Mimura, Chairman of the Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee. Participants included eminent representatives of politics, business, academia and media from both countries.

Japan's Prime Minister, the Hon Taro Aso, and Australia's Minister for Resources, Energy and Tourism, the Hon Martin Ferguson MP, addressed the Conference. Participants underscored that Australia and Japan are natural and indispensable partners, with a sixty-year history of close cooperation based on shared strategic interests and democratic values, economic complementarities and warm people-to-people links, and presented forward-looking recommendations for the future of the bilateral relationship.

The key and general outcomes of the conference discussions are outlined below.

### **Political/security**

- Agreed that a close strategic relationship between Australia and Japan will be of growing importance to both countries and encouraged both Governments to further promote security and defence cooperation.
- Agreed on the importance of deep engagement with the Asia-Pacific region, strong alliance ties with the United States, and comprehensive involvement in multilateral institutions to the bilateral relationship and the international policies of both countries.
- Called on both Government to work together to shape regional and global institutions able to address effectively current and emerging challenges.
- Welcomed the continued steady growth in Japan's role in international security. Urged both Governments to continue to work closely to address key challenges including in the multilateral context, and to enhance further practical cooperation on disaster relief, peacekeeping, post-conflict reconstruction, governance, counter-terrorism, counter-piracy, pandemics, disarmament and non-proliferation.
- Urged both Governments to work closely with the new US Administration bilaterally and trilaterally and to encourage continued and closer US strategic and economic engagement in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Welcomed the growth of China and India as beneficial to the economies of both Australia and Japan as well as to the Asia Pacific region as a whole. Urged both Governments to work cooperatively with both countries to ensure that their rise contributes constructively to the international system, including through their comprehensive engagement.

### **Trade/economic**

- Discussed ways in which Australia and Japan can address the global financial crisis and welcomed the outcomes of the G20 meeting in Washington as well as the emergence of the G20 as a key forum to discuss international financial issues.
- Urged both Governments to continue to work together to bring about a successful conclusion to the WTO Doha Round of trade negotiations to assist in the global economic recovery.
- Noted the high degree of complementarities between the two economies and the strong support of business in Japan and Australia for an FTA/EPA and urged both Governments to show flexibility in order to conclude a comprehensive and high quality FTA/EPA, taking into account the interests and sensitivities of both sides.
- Agreed on the importance of safety and security in food supply, noting that Australia, as a supplier of safe and high-quality food, can play a role in helping to ensure that Japan's food security needs are met.
- Urged both Governments to continue with urgently-needed structural economic reform as a key element in achieving stronger growth in both countries and to boosting bilateral trade.
- Emphasised the potential for expanded bilateral trade in services.

### Environment/climate change

- Agreed that climate change presents real and significant global challenges that require a coordinated global response, and that Australia and Japan should work closely and actively together to help shape that response.
- Noted that decisions by both Governments on emission reduction will present both opportunities and challenges and will lead to structural reform in both economies.
- Agreed on the vital role that new technology must play in responses to climate change and urged both Governments to collaborate intensively on efforts to find technological solutions to alleviating the problem of climate change.
- Welcomed Australia's Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) initiative and Japan's proposed sectoral approach as important elements of the global policy response.
- Supported efforts by Australia and Japan to build capacity in developing countries to tackle climate change and alleviate its impact, including technological transfer and support.

### People-to-people exchanges

- Encouraged increased exchanges of parliamentarians and Diet Members. Welcomed the long-standing contributions of the Australia Japan Foundation (AJF) and Japan Foundation to bilateral people-to-people links. Noted the importance of student and young peoples' exchanges in fostering relations between future generations of Australian and Japanese leaders. Encouraged closer cooperation in education, including in advanced studies, science and research, and tertiary school exchanges.
- Decided to jointly review, at the request of Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso, the role language learning can play in promoting people-to-people exchange and to put together recommendations for strengthening the linkage between Japanese language learning in tertiary education and that in advanced studies as well as businesses in the lead-up to the next Australia-Japan Conference.
- Noted the key role that tourism had played in shaping peoples' understanding of each country and discussed ways to promote closer tourism exchanges in light of growing competition from other markets and changing economic circumstances.
- Urged both Governments to continue diplomatic efforts to find a mutually-acceptable solution to the whaling issues and agreed that the issue should not affect other cooperation.

Source: [www.dfat.gov.au/geo/japan/ajc.html](http://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/japan/ajc.html)

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## Australian Cultural News

### Ko Omura Special Quintet

**15 May 2010 - 15 May 2010**

On the 15 May, 2010 Ko Omura's jazz concert at the Shinjuku Pit Inn will feature some of Japan and Australia's finest young jazz musicians. Having spent many years collaborating in Australia with Australian musicians, Ko returned to Tokyo to continue international jazz collaborations at the top level.

With several international and national jazz events under their belts, alto saxophonist, Jeremy Rose and double bassist Alex Boneham will join the drummer/composer Ko Omura. They will

be performing at one of Japan's most respected and sought after jazz clubs, the Shinjuku Pit Inn.

**Date:** 15 May 2010, 14:30 -

**Venue:** Shinjuku Pit Inn  
ACCORD Bld. B1, 2-12-4 Shinjuku,  
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan 160-0022

**Phone:** 03-3354-2024

**Website:** [www.pit-inn.com/](http://www.pit-inn.com/)

**Admission:** 2500 yen

**Links:**

Jeremy Rose ([www.jeremyrose.com.au/](http://www.jeremyrose.com.au/))

Akihiro Yoshimoto ([www.geocities.jp/jazzakihiro60/](http://www.geocities.jp/jazzakihiro60/))

Aaron Choulai ([www.myspace.com/aaronchoulai](http://www.myspace.com/aaronchoulai))

Alex Boneham ([www.myspace.com/alexbonehammusic](http://www.myspace.com/alexbonehammusic))

Ko Omura ([www.myspace.com/koomura](http://www.myspace.com/koomura))

### **Raquel Ormella at TWS creator in residence**

#### **5 January 2010 - 23 May 2010**

From January to March 2010, Sydney-based visual artist Raquel Ormella will be the creator in residence as part of the International Creator Residency Program at Tokyo Wonder Site.

Curious about Japanese constructions of 'nature' and human-animal relations in urban Japanese environments, Ormella proposes to work with environmental and urban organisations which care for birds.

She plans to visit and document bird-watching sites (Oi Yacho Koen, Takao-san) with an aim to capture the complexity of human-animal relationships. She plans to also work in the same way with similar Australian organisations. .

Raquel Ormella Ormella (1969- ) has a diverse practice including making video, installation, drawing, and zines/artists books. Her work has been included in the 2008 Sydney Biennale, 2003 Biennale of Istanbul and the 2002 Sao Paulo Biennale. Recent exhibitions in Sydney have been Making it new: Focus on Contemporary Australian Art at the MCA, and She went that way (2009), the first survey of her work at Artspace. Ormella is a PhD student at the School of Art, ANU, and is represented by the Milani Gallery, Brisbane, and Uplands Gallery, Melbourne.

Creator-in-Residence Program Exhibition "Tokyo Story"

**Date:** 7 April 2010 - 23 May 2010

**Venue:** Tokyo Wonder Site Shibuya  
1-19-8 Jinnan, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo  
\*8 min walk from Shibuya Station

**Phone:** 03-3463-0603

**Website:** [www.tokyo-ws.org/shibuya/index.html](http://www.tokyo-ws.org/shibuya/index.html)

**Links:**

Raquel Ormella ([www.raquelormella.com/](http://www.raquelormella.com/))

Tokyo Wonder Site ([www.tokyo-ws.org/](http://www.tokyo-ws.org/))

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## **New Zealand News Update**

### **NZ Feature Country at Short Shorts Film Festival 2010**

The [Short Shorts Film Festival](http://www.shortshorts.org/lounge2006/?lang=en) ([www.shortshorts.org/lounge2006/?lang=en](http://www.shortshorts.org/lounge2006/?lang=en)) will run from June 10 – 20, 2010 in Tokyo and Yokohama. New Zealand has been chosen as this year's SSFF featured country. A selection of New Zealand films will be screened at Harajuku La Floret, Omotesando Hills Space O and Roppongi Toho Cinemas. The NZ films chosen for screenings include *The Six Dollar Fifty Man*, *Valley of the Stereos*, *Undergrowth* and *100% Pure NZ Working day - Clown Story*, *Fog* and *Aphrodite's Farm* (for further details please go to SSFF [website](#)).

Academy Award winner Richard Taylor of Weta Workshop will travel to Japan to attend the festival. He will hold a seminar and promote his latest creative offering, *the Wot Wots*. Richard is eager to share his personal experiences working on short films and on how humble stepping stones can lead to greater achievements. His seminar will focus on utilising innovation and creativity in film on a limited budget.



### **Coca- Haka – Controversy over “the real thing”...**

Coca-Cola promoted their latest Coke Zero product in February with a commercial campaign that featured Japanese pop icon Namie Amuro and her dance troupe in a showdown with haka performing rugby players. Based on Amuro's popularity in Asia, negotiations began to extend the campaign to China and other Asian countries. After the CM release in Japan, video footage found its way to New Zealand via the internet and quickly turned to controversy. NZRU opposed the similarity in imagery to the All Blacks while Maori perceived an encroachment on cultural expression. Coca-Cola Japan temporarily withdrew the commercial to sort out issues of branding and cultural sensitivities. Time will tell if Japanese companies will incorporate NZ themes for future commercials.

