

SERVAS AUSTRALIA

February 2014

Servas Australia Inc.
2014 Annual General Meeting
5 pm on 29 March 2014
Kinma School Hall
127 Coolawie Road Terrey Hills NSW

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Servas Australia Inc. will be held on Saturday 29 March, 2014 at 5pm in the Kinma School Hall, 127 Coolawie Road, Terrey Hills NSW

Agenda

Welcome
Apologies.
Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2013 AGM.
Business arising from the Minutes.
President's Report.
Presentation of financial statements of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet for the financial year ending 31 December 2013.
Correspondence as tabled
Returning Officer's Report.
Declaration of the appointment of the Keyworkers for the term 2014 to 2017 AGM
Vote of thanks to outgoing Keyworkers

Close of Meeting

In accordance with the Constitution, Rule 13.3, only business on this agenda, may be conducted at the AGM.

If you are planning to attend the AGM please bring this agenda and **let me know by Wednesday 26 March 2014** (so we can arrange the seating) – secretary@servas.org.au

In accordance with Rule 20 Proxy Voting is available to all members unable to attend the meeting.

The proxy form is available in the February 2014 Newsletter.

Parking for the AGM is available in Coolawie Road. Other transport options are:

Forest Coach Line 270 bus from the QVB or 281 from Chatswood station. Alight at the corner of Myoora Road and Aumuna Road and walk 500 metres down Aumuna Road to where the road turns 180 degrees into Coolawie Road.

Following the AGM a dinner will be held at 6.30pm at the Terrey Hills Tavern, 2 Aumuna Road, Terrey Hills. The venue is a one minute drive from the AGM meeting place. There is parking in the grounds of the hotel and it is 50 metres from the bus stop with buses to the city and Chatswood railway station. **Please let Neryle Sheldon know if you are attending the dinner by Friday 21 March 2014. Her email is nswhosts@servas.org.au.** Prices for main meals range from \$12.50 to \$25.00. Vegetarian and other dietary concerns are taken care of. All Hosts are invited to attend this dinner to meet Board Members and other hosts.

Pam Webster, National Secretary,
Servas Aust. Inc. 02 9451 9669
secretary@servas.org.au



This newsletter is intended to provide a communication forum for SERVAS Australia members. The content, collation and distribution is undertaken by SERVAS members for SERVAS members.

NEXT ISSUE

Submissions Close: 30 April 2014 Distributed: May 2014

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions are welcome from members. Emails (word documents and high resolution photos via attachment) are preferred. Contributions are subject to approval and size restrictions. Sorry, late contributions may have to wait until the following edition.

Newsletters are compiled in February, May, August and November.

DISTRIBUTION

The Newsletter is distributed to all members by post and email.

NEWSLETTER CONTACT DETAILS

SERVAS Australia News

Editor: Kate Moore

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Phone: (02) 4293 1043 Email: newsletter@servas.org.au

Your feedback and suggestions are welcome.

SERVAS AUSTRALIA CONTACT DETAILS

SERVAS Australia Inc, National Secretary,

Pam Webster,

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ABN: 17 320 213 853 Phone: (02) 9451 9669

Email: secretary@servas.org.au Web: www: servas.org.au

DISCLAIMER

Every effort is made to ensure information is correct at the time of printing, however no responsibility will be accepted for misinformation. The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of SERVAS Australia or the Newsletter Editor.

Membership Categories and Fees

Hosts:

- Pay a joining fee of \$25 which is placed in the Development Fund and used to assist with the development of Servas in less developed countries.
- Pay an annual membership renewal fee of \$20.
- Receive newsletters in February, May, August and November
- Receive a Host List containing details of hosts.

Travellers:

- All travellers, including hosts, must contact their State Travel Officer to obtain a Letter of Introduction. Australian hosts do not need a LOI when travelling within Australia.
- Hosts pay \$50 per person for a Letter of Introduction.
- Travellers who are not hosts pay \$100 per person for a Letter of Introduction.
- A Letter of Introduction is valid for 12 months.

Servas.org.au

There is a very easy way to keep up to date with new additions to the Servas website.



Click on the following link: servas.org.au/category/featured/ and scroll down to under "Recent Posts" where there is the following: "Notify me of new posts by email Your email:" Fill in your email address and you will receive a notification by email whenever there is a change made.

If you haven't visited the website for a while I suggest you have a good look around. There are lots of newsletters from other Servas groups and SI. Under "People" there are some interesting travellers tales—great for those times when armchair travel is the only option!.....



Servas has a Facebook page to help 'spread the word'. But we urgently need more Servas supporters to help in adding content to the site.

You can post photos, photo galleries, information about events and join in with any current conversations running on the Page or start new ones. You can have a look at our Page at facebook.com/servasaustralia.

So if you would like to contribute to the Servas effort, especially in encouraging younger people to feel that Servas is an option for them, please consider putting your hand up and become a Facebook 'content provider admin' for the Page.

Contact me, Gil Webster, by email membership@servas.org.au so I can register you, or for any additional information.

Regards, Gil



Dear Servas Friends,

Over the last few months Exco has been considering the best place to hold the next SI General Assembly. Servas Colombia and Servas New Zealand came forward as possible hosts for the event.



We are now pleased to announce that the next General Assembly will be held in New Zealand in October 2015.

More details to follow after the next Exco face to face meeting to take place in France from March 26th to 31st March 2014.

In the meantime if you have any comments or questions please let us know.

Best wishes

Ann Greenhough
Vice President, Servas International

Jonny Sagagner
President, Servas International



Servas India

will hold its National Conference 2014 from 28th February to 2nd March, 2014 at Kanyakumari, the southernmost town of India, where three seas meet. Servas hosts and travellers from all countries are welcome to

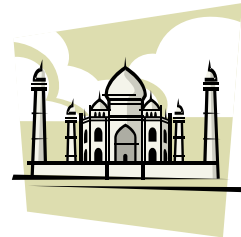
participate in the conference. Detailed information about the conference and a registration form are available on the Servas India web page.

Best wishes

Pramod Kumar

National Secretary, Servas India

Enquiries can also be directed to pramod.servas@gmail.com



Where next for Servas?

A Servas event is to take place from 16th to 23rd June 2014 at the Dalesbridge Centre in the Yorkshire Dales, UK, the venue for the 2007 Servas Youth meeting. This will be a joint venture between Servas International and Servas Britain.

It will be a chance for Servas friends, old and new, to enjoy time together whilst also thinking about where we go next as an organisation.

There will be time and space to explore and debate important issues about the future of Servas:



We would welcome expressions of interest from anyone who would like to attend. So let us know at vicepresident@servas.org if you would be interested in joining the event.

Give us your ideas for contributions to the programme.

Ann Greenhough
Vice President

Servas International

Jean Seymour
National Secretary

Servas Britain

FROM THE AUSTRALIAN PEACE SECRETARY

First and foremost I would like to thank all those people who arranged get-togethers for International Day of Peace. Thanks to your efforts we had an event organized for each state and TWO in Queensland. I do hope you have managed to write a short paragraph about the event for the SERVAS newsletter.



I recently returned from a trip overseas where I had many wonderful opportunities to catch up with friends, some of more than 50 years standing, in Singapore, the UK and Canada. In Ontario I was able to attend a gathering of about 30 SERVAS members at a pot luck dinner at John and Carolyn's home in Stratford. Before dinner John took us for a walk around the lake with the autumn leaves making a lovely display.

On the way to Canada I stopped over in Iceland for a week. What an amazing country this is, with volcanoes and glaciers, geysers and thermal pools, ice and snow. My big disappointment was I was unable to stay with any hosts. There are 3 hosts listed and 3 day hosts. I got replies from 3 hosts who were unable to host me. Their lives would obviously be so different from mine it would have been such an education to meet them. Maybe I will be able to persuade one of them to write to me!

I wish you all a Happy, Healthy 2014.

Gwen Gregg, Peace Secretary
Servas Australia

Peace Picnics



Servas NT had a lovely Peace Day Picnic on the cliffs at Nightcliff beach overlooking the sea. We enjoyed a great sunset, a glass of wine or mineral water in our hands. Numbers were up as two previous hosts had just returned to the Servas fold. Regrettably, as usual, our Alice Springs members were not able to join us given the distance of 1476km.

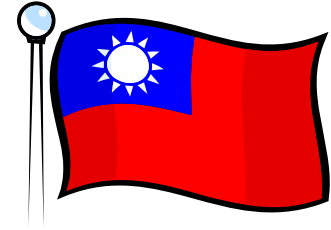
Thanks to Uta Vorst



Fantastic Canberra weather and a wonderful lakeside location set the scene for a very enjoyable picnic. Ten hosts made it on the day to celebrate IDP 2013. Pictured are Karen, Gerin, Elizabeth, Robyn, Gerry, Tania, Bill, Pat and Geoff.

Thanks to Robyn Clarey

Servas Contact in Taiwan



Our second trip to Taiwan proved as interesting as the first, with Servas hosts remaining a most positive feature.

Co-ordinator Serena Tang again passed our travel plans on to relevant hosts, resulting in many offers of

accommodation and day tours. We were only able to

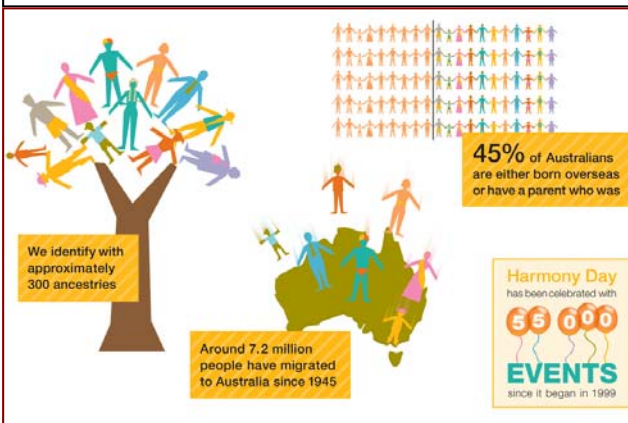
accept a few, but these resulted in very pleasant visits to the NE coast and around Taichung, with well-informed and extremely hospitable day hosts. In addition, these people were happy to answer tricky questions, facilitate unusual meetings and provide transport (no small thing in Taipei's traffic).

We particularly enjoyed several group meals which allowed us to savour delicious local cuisine and meet many more local hosts. What a varied and interesting range of people, some from other lands. It was a great pleasure to learn about life in this vibrant country, and to explore other common interests, in such company.

We would highly recommend a visit to Taiwan. You'll find fascinating aspects of Chinese culture in the cities, beautiful mountain areas to explore, and some of the world's most delicious food (and tea). Very efficient infrastructure and an

extremely friendly populace make travel a pleasure.

- Shirley Faulf



Harmony Day - March 21st

The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. It is a day to celebrate Australia's diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

There are many ways we can celebrate Harmony Day – through sport, dance, art, film, music, storytelling, cooking and sharing cultural meals. By participating in Harmony Day activities we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and make it a better place.

Harmony Day is an Australian Government programme and coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Since 1999 Harmony Day has been widely celebrated across schools, childcare centres, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies.

To encourage celebrations, free Harmony Day promotional material is available

Servas Board and Keyworkers effective November 2013

POSITION	NAME	ADDRESS
President	Geoff Sheldon 02 9487 6073	president@servas.org.au
Secretary	Pam Webster 02 9451 9669	secretary@servas.org.au
Treasurer	Ernie Catchlove 03 9889 4994	treasurer@servas.org.au
ACT Host Co-ordinator	Sandra Daly 02 6249 7439	acthosts@servas.org.au
NSW Host Co-ordinator	Neryle Sheldon 02 9487 4741	nswhosts@servas.org.au
NT Host Co-ord & Travel Officer	Uta Vorst 08 8932 2152	nthosts@servas.org.au
QLD Travel Officer	Hilary Wiffen 07 3411 5318	qldtravellers@servas.org.au
SA Host Co-ordinator	Helen Foumakis 08 8277 0296	sahosts@servas.org.au
TAS Host Co-ordinator	Barbara Mawson 03 6239 1475	tashosts@servas.org.au
VIC Travel Officer	Peter Williams 03 9497 2160	victravellers@servas.org.au
WA Host Co-ordinator	Glenys Russell 08 9255 4457	wahosts@servas.org.au
ACT Travel Officer	Ruth Lathlean 02 6231 7739	acttravellers@servas.org.au
NSW Travel Officer	Valerie Orton 02 9960 3699	nswtravellers@servas.org.au
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SA Travel Officer	Charlie Adam 08 8272 2870	satravellers@servas.org.au
TAS Travel Officer	Rick Boyle 03 6224 7364	tastravellers@servas.org.au
VIC Host Co-ordinator	Margaret Desira 03 5146 0219	vichosts@servas.org.au
WA Travel Officer	Karen May 08 9921 5963	watravellers@servas.org.au
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Newsletter Editor	Kate Moore 02 4293 1043	newsletter@servas.org.au
Peace Secretary	Gwen Gregg 07 3848 2101	peacesecretary@servas.org.au
Webmaster	Membership officer (acting)	webmaster@servas.org.au

**Servas Australia Inc.
Proxy Voting Form
2014 Annual General Meeting
5 pm on 29 March 2014
Kinma School Hall, Coolawie Road, Terrey Hills NSW**

Your proxy must be a Servas Australia Inc. Host who will be attending the AGM.

Please note that each Servas Household is entitled to one vote only

I/We.....
address.....
.....

Appoint (please nominate)

Geoff Sheldon President ** or

Pam Webster Secretary ** or

(name of nominee)

Address
.....

to vote by proxy on my/our behalf at the Annual General meeting of Servas Australia Inc. to be held on the 29th day of March 2014 and at each and every adjournment thereof.

This form is to be used as the proxy thinks fit, and includes abstaining from voting, unless otherwise instructed to vote in respect of the motions appearing in the Notice of Meeting.

Signed Date

Please complete the form and return it by post to Pam Webster, National Secretary, 2 Warili Road, Frenchs Forest NSW 2086 or email a scanned copy to secretary@servas.org.au by Wednesday 26 March 2014.