

**The**

# **Australian Slovenian Review**

Winter 1997  
Vol. 4 Issue 3

**Harbour Cruise Photo Spread**

**St Rafeals without the Sisters**

**SDS plans 40th Anniversary**

**Lonely Planet Guide to Slovenia**



**ASR's Strategic Planning Conference**



# Editorial

**T**he days are getting shorter, the nights are getting longer and all that I feel like doing is hibernating. Not too long ago though I was fortunate enough to spend a number of pleasant hours with fellow Australian Slovenians, and it was magical.

The first social function I'm referring to is the Harbour cruise that some of Sydney's youth organised. This was an evening spent raging under the stars and many opportunities for serious discussion on a number of topics. Even though it was organised by the youth for the youth, some of us more mature members of the community braved the seas and joined in the fun. A couple of weeks later, a member of our community commented on the fact that perhaps I was a bit too old to attend such a function. I would like to think they were simply joking around, but I think not!

Reflecting on this comment, I realised that I did at first question the appropriateness of my attending, but with gentle persuasion by the organising pair, I realised that my mental age fits well and truly into the average age of those attending!

It is however true that our community segregates itself according to so many criteria; political views, religious beliefs, fluency of language (Slovenian that is), the club one is affiliated with and of course, age - to name but a few. Why do we do that? Why do we insist on focussing on our differences when really we are so much alike?

The ASR has received constructive criticism from the younger crowd saying we don't offer enough material for them, and from the older crowd the complaint that we don't support Slovenian culture because we print only in English. Don't these people know that they are just as much a part of ASR as we are? ASR is only a piece of paper until our contributors give us the information to print on it. You are a part of our team if you read this, regardless of your age, political persuasion, religious beliefs etc! If you don't like it, change it! If you do, add to it, but whatever you think of it, be a part of it. We are all the same - we all want to know what's happening in our community and in Slovenia - we are not so different at all!

One of our stories in this issue relates to the ASR Strategic Planning section that we all 'voluntarily' attended earlier in the year. Those of you who have been involved in these at work may appreciate the pain involved in working through a day like this! Well, believe me, ours was as painful as the best of them! It did however help us to re-focus on what the ASR really is. The most important word in the mission statement that we came up with (to me), is "facilitate". We are here to help you have a voice, not just to exercise ours. Anyway, read the article to see what other less important (to me) words there are in the mission statement. Our team is trying to memorise it so that we can keep Robert Suber happy and off our backs! Just kidding Robert!!

The other particularly pleasant day I had amongst fellow Australian Slovenians was an impromptu picnic at Kernell during the ANZAC day weekend. The day was pleasant for many reasons, the weather, the setting, but most of all for the ease in which the people moulded into a group of friends. I'm not being a racist here, there were non Slovenians among us and the language spoken was predominantly English, but we had a bond - something that tied us together, and that was that we all had some link to Slovenia. I'm sure people from other cultures experience the same thing. It's almost uncanny how you understand people from your culture, and their experiences even without the need to verbalise them.

Aren't we lucky to have that magic - let's work at never losing it! ❖

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The Australian Slovenian Review is a non-profit venture, which aims to publish quarterly. Production and distribution costs are funded by sponsorship and advertising.

The ASR is not a platform for any particular interest group and does not represent any group or organisation within the Slovenian community.

The ASR team believe that there should be a forum available to inform and discuss issues that are of interest to first and second generation Australians with a Slovenian heritage.

Articles for publication are most welcome. They may be presented hand written, typed or preferably on an MS-DOS format floppy disk.

Articles can be sent to:

ASR,  
P.O. Box KL926  
Kings Langley 2147  
NSW Australia  
Fax: (02) 9674 4583

Sponsorship or advertising enquiries should be directed to Robert Suber on (02) 9829 1303

If you are interested in joining our team or finding out more about the ASR please contact us at the above address or fax. ❖





## Family Life in Slovenia.

An average West European couple is well above 25 years of age when they have their first child. A similar trend is present in Slovenia, although the average age of women giving birth is somewhat lower. This is according to the survey on the position of women in Slovenia between 1990 and 1995, published by the Office for Women's Policy. The trend is mostly due to the so-called LAT ("living apart together") phenomenon denoting a child's prolonged living in the home of his or her parents even after completing their studies. In most cases, the young are economically dependant but socially independent of their parents.

Similarly, the fertility rate is also increasing in higher age groups with couples deciding to have their first child later than before. In 1994, the highest fertility rate was recorded between 25-29 years of age. 1995 showed age groups 30-34 and 35-39 as more active. Interestingly, the number of marriages has decreased, as have the number of divorces since 1992.

## 1.6 Million Tourists in 1996.

More than 1.6 million tourists visited Slovenia in 1996, 5% more than in the previous year. Compared with 1995, the number of Slovenian tourists fell. There were 825,005 Slovenian tourists recorded as staying at tourists sites, 2% less than in 1995. Conversely, the number of foreign tourists increased during the same period by 14% to 831,426.

## The Oldest Musical Instrument.

The Ljubljana National Museum will house an exhibition called Neanderthal Man and His Flute up to June 8. A precisely perforated thigh-bone of the cave-bear excavated by Dr Ivan Turk's team at the site of the Stone Age findings above the Idrijca River near the Šebrelje Plateau will occupy the central part of the exhibition devoted to the life of our ancestors. The research, including carbon dating study in the U.S. has proved the findings to be surprising. Up to now, a 35,000 year old bone pipe was considered to be the oldest music instrument made by man. The finding in Slovenia has marked the beginning of man's creativity back another 10,000 years in history.

## Slovenia's Economy.

The Slovenian Chamber of Economy assessed the

current situation in Slovenia early this year. Also attending the session was the Governor of the Bank of Slovenia, Mr France Arhar. He listed the reduction of inflation and a stable currency as the main goals for the central bank. He also stressed the need for extensive saving in Slovenia, which will lead the way to lower interest rates.

According to the Bank of Slovenia, the introduction of fixed rate for the national currency would be dangerous, though welcomed by the international community. The IMF (International Monetary Fund) reproached the Bank of Slovenia for not introducing the fixed rate, which was introduced by the currencies of the Visegrad Group countries. According to the Governor, a fixed rate results in growth of domestic prices and salaries, higher domestic consumption, reduction of exports etc. "We have been proving to the IMF that our current flexible rate is more efficient for the countries in transition than the fixed rate, which resulted in a considerable minus in the balance of payments in the Visegrad Group of countries."

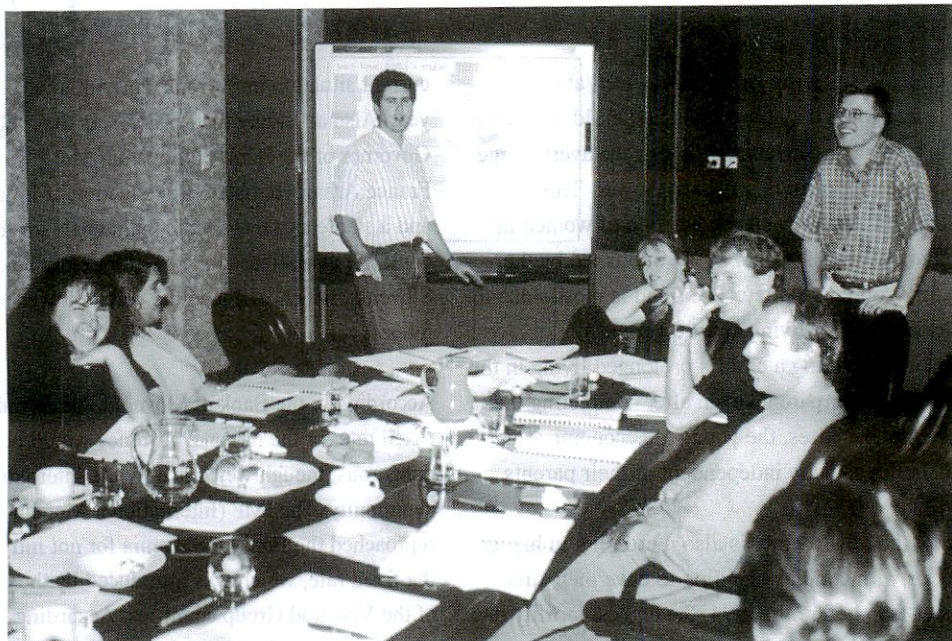
## Australian Slovenians on VTV Television.

Kristina & Wendy Cestnik recently appeared as guests on a one hour children's program "Miš-mas" which was shown on regional television VTV in Slovenia. The theme of the program was life in Australia. The conversation flowed easily, and viewers discovered many previously unknown facts about Australia. Kristina also displayed her considerable singing talents with a live performance.

## Fr. Ciril Bosic Visits Australia.

The welcome mat was rolled out for Fr. Ciril Bosic who visited Australia in late April. Fr Ciril, who assisted Fr. Valerijan Jenko at St Rafael's Church, was also visiting Australia to collect paintings by the famous Slovenian Australia artist Stanislav Rapotec, for showing in Slovenia. Travelling with him to Australia was the Koperian priest Franci Trstenjak, the director of the radio program Radio Ognjišče Ljubljana. Radio Ognjišče began transmitting in Nov 1994 and on the Internet in April 1997. Internet Address: [pnm.193.95.231.105:7070/ognjisce](http://pnm.193.95.231.105:7070/ognjisce). ❖





# ASR's Strategic Planning Conference

by Sonia Kolar

**B**zzz .... Bzzz.... The buzzing alarm was a shocking sound so early on a Saturday morning. There must be something wrong. I didn't turn it off. Who gets up at 6am on a Saturday? This is the best day of the week (for some of us), the one I look most forward to, the weekend when I can sleep in and relax.

Then I remembered I had somewhere special to go. What probably started out as a hobby for a group of people was now taking up more of their time. It was becoming more serious. It was time to do some forward planning, some strategic planning.

The ASR strategic planning day was set for Saturday, 15 February 1997 and a conference room was booked at Pearl House, Parramatta.

The agenda and associated papers were already sent out so that participants were familiar with the basic outline for the day. The whole ASR team were to attend and participate. The aims for the day included; reviewing past achievements, learning about team members and team building and developing the new vision for the ASR and how to implement it.

### Achievements of ASR

The ASR started in late 1992 and the first issue was published in December 1993. It had 8 pages and the main articles were: "Should my Children Speak Slovenian", "Slovenia, a short History" and a report on the Car Rally. The first Issue had no advertisements. Costs were covered by generous donations and financial contributions from the ASR team.



The

# Australian Slovenian Review

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## READER SURVEY

ASR is a non-profit publication. However, it costs money to produce the publication. We want the ASR to remain viable in the long term. At the moment, we fund the ASR through advertising, fund-raising and donations. If any of these income streams disappear, it will make it difficult to raise the money to produce the ASR. Therefore, to widen the avenues of income and thus reduce the risk, we are looking at the option of subscriptions. Before we consider anything in this area, we would like to invite comments from our readership. Please read and answer the following questions:

1. Would you be willing to pay a yearly subscription for the ASR? Yes ☐  
No ☐

2. If no, why?
- .....
- .....

3. If yes, how much would you be willing to pay each year?

\$5 to \$10 per year ☐  
\$10 to \$15 per year ☐  
\$15 to \$20 per year ☐  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

4. Would you support these fund-raising methods?

Shopping Sprees	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bingo Nights	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harbour Cruises	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday Rendezvous	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	_____		

5. Do you have any additional comments?
- .....
- .....

Please fax or send this survey to the number or address below.

ASR thanks you for your comments. Your response will be greatly appreciated.

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PO Box KL926  
Kings Langley NSW 2147  
Fax (02) 9674 4583



## **Social Report 1997**

The Cruise was a great success thanks to all the young Slovenians & their friends that came. The atmosphere was unreal! Surprisingly, we managed to make \$600 profit which will be reinvested into CRUISE 2 which will take place on Saturday the 4th of October. I'm giving you all ample warning so I expect most of you to come especially those that didn't make it to The Cruise. In the meantime, there will be a smaller cruise on Friday the 4th of July for all of you party animals that can't wait 'til October. The profit then made from Cruise 2 (assuming we will), will go towards a free Day Out. At this stage, nothing is definite, but it will probably be a beach BBQ (early Christmas Party), on Sunday the 7th December. However, I am open to suggestions, so feel free to call me. Added to this is a whole day of Skirmish on Sunday the 24th of August. Want to know more? Flip over and read the ads on the other side.

\*If anybody is interested in going to the snow and requires accommodation - I can get accommodation for you at \$20 per person per night!

\*Great news!! Les Miserables (the best musical in the world) is coming back to Australia at the end of the year. If anybody is interested in going with a large group (to get cheaper tickets of course) let me know.

Cheers, Julie.

If you interested in any of the events phone Michelle or Julie on:

**(047) 36 5525**

**014 831 701**



# ID CRUISE

WHEN: FRIDAY, 4TH JULY  
(INDEPENDANCE DAY)

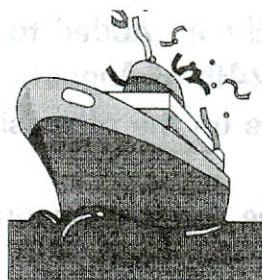
WHERE: OPERA HOUSE  
WHARF

TIME: 7:45PM - MIDNIGHT

DRESS: SMART CASUAL

COST: \$30 PRE-SALE OR  
\$40 ON THE NIGHT

PHONE JULIE  
OR MICHELLE  
ON (047)  
365525 OR  
014 831 701



# SKIRMISH

Skirmish, or Paintball as it is known, is the fastest action packed adventure sport in the world. You must be over the age of 18 years to play. A combination of childhood 'cops & robbers', 'cowboys & Indians', and Hide & seek', Skirmish is much more sophisticated and challenging. It is a sport where woman stand on an equal footing with men. Physical attributes do not create good players, but quick thinking, luck, daring & teamwork do. No profit will be made on skirmish as it is a bit steep.

The cheapest package is \$55 per person which includes:

- JT X- fire goggle system hire
- 200 paintballs
- paintball gun hire
- camouflage overalls hire
- chest protectors (for ladies only)
- unlimited BBQ lunch
- photographic lifetime membership which entitles you to \$5 discounts off future weekend packages + a 10% discount at the APGS shop

It really is outrageous fun and worth the money so start saving!

Date: Sunday 24th August

Place: 762 Springwood Rd, Yarramundi

Time: You must arrive by 8:30am

Bookings are essential & a \$25 deposit is required. For further details or to book phone (047) 365525 or 014831701

# CRUISE 2

WHEN: SATURDAY, 4TH OCTOBER

WHERE: OPERA HOUSE WHARF

TIME: 7:45pm - MIDNIGHT

DRESS: HALLOWEEN THEME  
(OR SMART CASUAL)

COST: \$30 PRE-SALE OR  
\$40 ON THE NIGHT

PRICE INCLUDES FOOD & SPECIAL  
HALLOWEEN DRINK  
CASH BAR WILL ALSO BE  
AVAILABLE.

18+ EVENT

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday the 7th of December,  
there will be a **FREE**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
for all Young Slovenians and their  
friends. At this stage, the details haven't  
been finalised so if you have any  
suggestions, feel free to phone me  
(JULIE) or MICHELLE  
on (047) 365525 or 014 831 701.

If we don't receive any suggestions, it  
will probably be a Beach BBQ.

**SO KEEP THIS DATE FREE!**



There have now been 14 issues, 2 issues in two colour which had 24 pages and were distributed to about 650 people. Some of the regular features are history, cooking, regional profile, letters to the editor, news page and the social pages. There have been three poster-type calendars produced. We now have support from a variety of businesses and clubs, who advertise regularly.

The team has had about 100 meetings with an average of 10 people giving a total of 2000 hours combined effort, with at least another 2000 hours taken for production, editorial and marketing.

The most controversial articles were "Gays in Slovenia", "Who cares about the Slovenian Language" and "Why have two clubs in Sydney".

The 'career' of the ASR culminated late last year in 'A Sunday Rendezvous' which saw about 400 people attend Club Triglav. Despite some difficulties the day was an unqualified success. This shows much can be achieved through team effort, careful planning and sheer hard work.

The cost to produce a regular issue of the ASR in the old format (Spring 1996) is a total of \$560 with distribution costs of \$262, giving a total of \$822.83. The cost to produce the 1997 Calendar and the Summer 1996 issue, together with its distribution was a total of \$1,753.20. Based on these last two issues the cost of producing and distributing the ASR for a full year is about \$4,200.

On a personal level, involvement with the ASR has also provided an opportunity for a group of people to develop skills in communication, publishing and running a financially sound credible forum. This group has received respect and recognition from the Slovenian community. Networks have been established and grown. Confidence in the ability of the group to act as a successful team has also evolved.

### **The ASR Team**

A successful team is made up by different types of people. To break up the day and learn more about ourselves, and what others think about us, a team building exercise was conducted. Team members were asked to evaluate each other and determine whether someone was a 'day dream believer', 'mother hen', 'jester', 'nervous Nellie', 'bull dog', 'whistle blower', 'keeper of the faith', 'compromiser' or 'mover and

shaker'. The most popular characteristics were the mover and shaker, keeper of the faith and instigator. The lowest scoring were the daydream believer and mother hen. For a successful team we need lots of movers and shakers, instigators and day dream believers. We're almost there! Perhaps we should pull out that old 'Monkees' album and start day dream believing.

### **Developing the Vision**

One of the main reasons for having a Strategic Planning day was to provide the ASR team with a road map showing where they are now and where it is they want to go. Sounds easy, well let me tell you it wasn't. I've never seen a group so dedicated to reaching a consensus position that every word of the mission statement was discussed, debated and finally agreed to, and I mean every word. Who would ever think that coming up with one statement would take most of the afternoon.

During the day another issue discussed was whether to incorporate the ASR. What does this mean? Incorporation creates a legal entity separate from the individual ASR members.

*(Continued on page 20)*

### **ASR Mission Statement**

***To independently facilitate communication to Australians who have an interest in Slovenia and provide a positive influence for the Slovenian community.***

**The ASR will achieve it's mission statement through:**

#### **Communication:**

- produce a national publication in English
- set up a home page on the Internet
- find appropriate partners for information exchange

#### **Influencing:**

- facilitate an open day
- attend community functions



# Life at St Rafael's in the wake of Sisters' departure



Sr. Francka

On our way to the traditional blessing of Easter foods at St Rafael's Church in Merrylands, my daughter asked "Mummy, when will sr Francka and sr Hilarija return to Australia?" Truly, I had been thinking about this myself, as we all hoped to have received an affirmative response from Slovenia, but to date and to our disappointment the response is still unclear.

Who better knows and feels this disappointment than Fr Valerijan. Suddenly he has been left very alone. When I asked him what feelings he had in those first few days after sisters' departure, he thought for a little while and said: "I felt very confused and disappointed and to some extent even cheated. Sisters' work was always productive and furthermore very necessary for our Slovenian church and in fact invaluable to the wider Slovenian community."

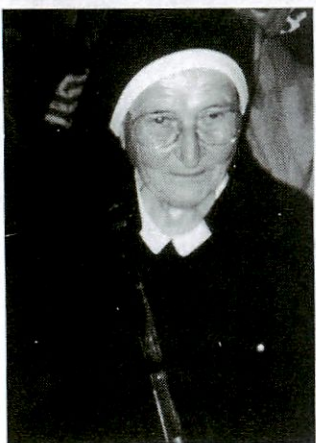
The community was sincerely concerned for Fr Valerijan's well-being. Those of us, who know him, know that he is not one to complain, but it simply was not right, that suddenly his workload now encompassed a myriad of non-pastoral work and had increased at least two hundredfold. Fr Valerijan gets through this work mostly on his own with the help of some dedicated volunteers within the St Rafael's Church community.

February brought with it a sigh of relief when Fr Method, fresh from Slovenia (via America), came to St Rafael's to start his pastoral work in Sydney. The community is extremely happy to have him here. He's currently "acclimatising" to Australian life and to us, the Sydney Slovenian community.

Before their departure, the sisters cleared up a lot of outstanding work in and around the church, however, there is still plenty which Fr Valerijan has to do on an ongoing basis. For example printing the Weekly Bulletin "Nedelja" and the community publication "Rafael", he also has to organise the Sunday mass readers and lots, lots more.

Sr Francka was responsible for all the administrative work, she maintained the Church's data bases on the computer, co-ordinated and disseminated the rosters for the volunteers of the various work groups, not to mention the tender loving care she bestowed on the flower beds in the church grounds.

Mrs Sonia Fisher has now taken over tending the garden beds, she adorns the altar with fresh floral arrangements and also prepares the lettering above the altar. After Sunday masses she takes care of religious literature sales, rosary beads and calendars etc. which had previously been done by Sr Hilarija.



Sr. Hilarija



**"I felt very confused, disappointed and to some extent even cheated. Sisters' work was always productive and furthermore very necessary for our Slovenian church and in fact invaluable to the wider Slovenian**

*by Zlatka Pondelak*

Sr Hilarija was responsible for the more domestic duties around St Rafael's eg: cooking, washing, ironing and the weekly grocery shopping etc. Currently this is carried out by two ladies who gladly help out.

Sr Francka was also very involved in music. She led the church choirs in Sydney, Newcastle, Canberra and Wollongong. She also led the Slovenian men's choir "Triglav" in Sydney which has now disbanded as a result of her departure. The St Rafael's Church choir has had to cut back their weekly practices but still manages to keep together with Martin Blessing playing the organ for them from time to time.

Fr Valerijan is still trying to maintain his visits to Slovenians living outside the Sydney metropolitan area. He continues to visit Wagga-Wagga and Queensland even though it's much more difficult now without Sr Francka as his co-driver. On the longer journeys he does ask for help, which is gladly given by our volunteers.

The students and teachers at Slomskova Sola (Saturday afternoon school at St Rafael's) particularly miss the sisters. This year there are 14 students and two teachers who are parents of a couple of the students.

Up to her departure, sr Francka taught the students. She chose and prepared the content of lessons, arranged photocopying and organised student performances for Mother's Day and Father's Day and at Christmas time for St Nicholas' visit (sv. Miklavz).

All this work is now carried out by the two voluntary teachers along with some help from the parents of those who attend school, and thankfully since his arrival, with the help of Fr. Methodius.

Sr Francka's absence is especially felt during singing practice which the children particularly look forward to at the end of their formal lessons. During her time teaching at the school, sr Francka taught the children many lovely Slovenian songs. This year however, the students will not be learning any new Slovenian songs despite the best efforts of the current teachers who diligently keep up practice of the songs the children already know. Going over the same songs however, may not be enough for these "eager beavers".

Sr Hilarija also played a role at the Slomskova Sola. She never forgot the mid-lesson break and would always prepare fully laden trays of delicious sweets and refreshing juice for the students. She was always a welcome face and the children became very fond

of her. Now the students have to bring their own refreshments.

Sr Francka always espoused to teaching the "good" Slovenian word and she would frequently describe the beauty of Slovenia to her students and in turn they would eagerly tell her of what they already knew of Slovenia. Sr Francka was keen to enrich the students with an awareness of their heritage, the Slovenian culture and language.

The current teachers of Slomskova Sola will continue to keep the school open, even though things may not run as smoothly as they would if the sisters were still in Sydney. The students still ask about the sisters' return.

Both sisters are sadly missed, but at the same time, as Fr Valerijan says, the community has been fortunate to have had them with us for some 30 years. Both carried out various and demanding work and both happily took part in the Slovenian community's life.

We wish them well in Slovenia and hope that perhaps one day we may meet them again in Australia. ♦

*Dorothy Kobal*

B. Com LL.B.

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Kings Langley NSW 2147



# Slovenian Association Sydney



**I**n 1957 a small group of Slovenians started the "Slovenian Association Sydney" (Slovensko Društvo Sydney - SDS) at Woollahra. The main reason for the formation was to provide a gathering place for newly settled Australian Slovenians, so they could socialise with people from a similar background.

In the beginning there were a variety of places that were hired for functions, such as the St Frances Church at Oxford Street Paddington and also the Paddington Town Hall. These places were also used by the Church to hold traditional events such as midnight mass.

The following people were the first Committee Members: Fr Bernard Ambrozic, Mrs V Cergol, Mr J Cujes, Mr L Klakocer, Mr J Klemencic, Mr M Lajovec (President), Mr J Perko, Mr S Pevec, Mr L Urbancic (Secretary), and Miss T Vodopivec.

Before long there were a grand total of 130 (approx) members and a growing numbers of applicants. A small group of Slovenians formed a company called "Slovenski Dom Pty Ltd", which purchased a house at No. 7 Metropolitan Road, Enmore. This house was owned by a group of shareholders. One of which was the SDS. In 1962 it was decided that as there were no

benefits to the SDS with regard to holding functions etc, that the house should be sold. The meetings were then temporarily held in the home of Mr L Kmetec. In 1963 a choir was formed which also regularly shared his home for choir practice.

Later, these events moved to the home of Miss T Vidopivec at Croydon Park. In January 1965 a fund raising committee named "Akcije za Dom" was formed to raise money so that the Slovenians could have a place of their own. Initially there were three people chosen as trustees of the funds raised, they were Fr Valerian Jenko, Mr V Ovijac and Mr A Breznik.

Land was bought at 45 Ferrers Road, Horsley Park in 1968. The property was quite large and included small house that was later modified to include a dance area. Due to a clash of ideas in March 1971, a general meeting was held which resulted in a number of people leaving the SDS and subsequently forming "Club Triglav".

In 1974, construction of the club began and the property remained the home of SDS until 1987, at which time Fairfield City Council offered to move the Club to the property at 2-10 Elizabeth Street, Wetheril Park in return for the property at Ferrers Road. This was an offer too good to refuse, and therefore was accepted.



# to celebrate 40th anniversary

Facilities that are now available include Table Tennis on Thursday's nights, while on Friday nights; air rifle shooting, folkloric dancing for children, electronic darts, and three pool tables. During the weekend, the tennis courts with Saturday afternoon tennis lessons, basketball court, weekend Bocce (balinanje) as well as a children's playground. The current Committee is open to suggestions for ways in which to improve facilities or to

hold activities that would attract youth to the club. Events will be held between the 26 and 28 of September to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the SDS.

Come along and see for yourself what the club has to offer and the changes that have occurred over its history. ❖

*Photograph: Sunday afternoon SDS dance at Horsley Park, June 1975 ❖*



## 40th Anniversary Celebration Program

### FRIDAY 26 September

**6pm**

- Official opening of the weekend
- Opening of "Prešernov Park"
- Indoor sporting competitions begin

**6:30pm**

- "Mali Prešeren" performs

**7pm**

- Finals of the Talent Quest

### SATURDAY 27 September

**9am - 4pm**

- Indoor sporting competitions continue
- Outdoor sporting competitions begin

**12 noon**

- Static display of Arts & Craft / Cultural, set up outside, in canopy
- Children's activities set up outside (12 - 6pm)
- Afternoon musical entertainment - Harmonica playing displays, solos, duets, etc (12-3:30pm)

### 4-6pm OFFICIAL PROGRAM

- Recitals, folklore dancing, drama piece, singing, unveiling of the Honour Board, presentation of past club Presidents
- Special dinner (6-8pm) for past Presidents and guests
- Dance (8pm)

### SUNDAY 28 September

- Outdoors Arts & Crafts / Cultural static display continues
- Sporting competitions - finals
- Children's activities continue
- Cake decorating display and competition (10am - 3pm)
- "Potica" baking competition (1pm)
- Dance (2pm - 8pm)
- Between breaks: -
  - \* Cake auction
  - \* Awarding of trophies for indoor & outdoor competitions ❖



## SLOVENIAN ASSOCIATION SYDNEY

ACN 000 904 754 2-10 Elizabeth Street Wetherill Park NSW 2164

**Visitors  
most  
welcome**

- ☆ Bistro
- ☆ Pool Tables
- ☆ Poker Machines
- ☆ Electronic Dart Board's *New!*
- ☆ Tennis & Basketball court's
- ☆ Library with Slovenian Books
- ☆ Bocce

Tel: (02) 9756 1658  
Fax: (02) 9756 1447

**Social Club available for  
Weddings, Parties,  
Functions and Hall hire**

**The Slovenian Association Support's the Advancement of Slovenians**



# Slovenians at Play

**National Chamber Opera of Australia**  
presents

**Opera in the Shire**

Including works from

Leoncavallo  
Giordano  
Moore  
Handel  
Verdi  
Delibes  
Saint-Saens  
Wagner  
Offenbach  
Mozart

**A Gala Performance of Opera Highlights**

Lanneke Jones	Soprano
Vivien Falez	Contralto
Mark Gardner	Baritone
Daryl Wallis	Musical Director
Eleanor Thorp	Associate Artist

**SUTHERLAND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE**  
Eton Street, Sutherland  
8.00 pm on Friday, 13 June 1997  
Tickets: \$15.00 Concession: \$12.00  
Bookings 9541 2098 Credit Cards accepted  
9521 8888 Sutherland Entertainment Centre



■ Margaret (Grzelj) & John Covich were married on the 8th March 1997 at St Peters Chapel, Woolwich. Their planned honeymoon to Fiji was cancelled due to cyclone closure of the island. Instead they went to Broome and claim that it was the most beautiful place they have been to.


■ Congratulations to the **Sydney Drama Group**. Their performances on 17th & 18th May in Sydney, and 25th May in Wollongong were superb! It is great to see so many young members of our community involved in this production. Well done! (Our photo's were not developed in time for this edition, but it was a spectacle to behold. H.S.) ❖



## TRIGLAV Club Limited

- ▲ Full Membership invited
- ▲ Function Facilities available
- ▲ Bowls, Snooker, Bingo
- ▲ Bistro open during Club opening hours
- ▲ Air Conditioning

- ◆ **Bingo** Wed 11:00am, Thur 7:30pm, Fri 7:30pm  
Great prizes and bonuses Fun for ALL the family
- ◆ **Bocce & BBQ** Selected Sundays (Information available from the Club)
- ◆ **Rock 'n' Roll Dance Nights** Second & fourth Sunday of each month (6-10pm)

 **(02) 9610 1627**  
**Fax: (02) 9823 2522**

**Club trading hours**  
Wed 10am-3pm Thur 5pm-11:30pm Fri 5pm-12:30am  
Sat 6pm till late (Argentina Party Night) Sun 10am - 8pm

ACN 001 297 927 80-84 Brisbane Rd St John's Park NSW 2176



## WANTED! Car Rally Participants

St Raphaels annual car rally is on again. Humiliate your friends, win a fabulous prize, and enjoy a scrumptious picnic in a wonderful recreation area.

Last years winners have delighted in bragging about their spectacular ability to follow simple directions, their superior knowledge of ridiculous trivia such as how many times Slovenia will fit into Australia, and the calm manner with which stupid, idiotic directions were dealt with by the street directory momentarily coming into contact with the navigators head.

This year could be your turn.

Your hosts (and last years winners) are Mark and Irene Stariha.

Registration will take place at St Raphaels, Merrylands after mass, or you can phone us on 9871 8641.

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

All profits to St Raphaels.



**Date:** Sunday, 10/8/97

**Start Time:** 11a.m, St Raphaels Church, Merrylands

**Picnic:** 12.30p.m.  
BYO Drinks

**Sausage Sizzle and Salads provided**  
**Cost:** Adults \$8 Children \$4

## ANNUAL SLOVENIAN YOUTH CONCERT SEPT / OCT 1997 (Date to be advised)

Will be hosted by St Raphaels  
Slovenian Catholic Church  
Merrylands NSW

Be a part of the ongoing tradition started by our Franciscan Priests in 1975. Over the years, many interstate friendships & liasons have been formed by this unique event. Come as a performer or as a member of the audience and show your support. Register with St Raphaels on:

02 9637 7147

## Slovenians Out and About in Sydney

DATE	PLACE	EVENT	DETAILS
Saturday, June 7	SDS	Winter Pork Sausage Feast	Restaurant opens 6pm for delicacies such as Kravice, PeCenice & Roasts Music by "Veseli Gorencji"
Saturday, June 14	St Raphaels	ASR Shopping Spree	Departs 8am sharp Details Olga Kuznik 02 9635 5593
Sunday, June 15	SDS	Traditional Picnic Featuring the folkloric dance group from Canberra "Prvi Rej" Performing dances & displaying costumes from various regions of Slovenia	Lunch from 12noon  "Prvi Rej" from 2pm
Saturday, June 21	SDS	Slovenian Independence Celebrations	Cultural Program 7.30pm Featuring Oktet "Lesni" From Slovenian Gradec Slovenia Music by "The Masters"
Sunday, June 22	St Raphaels	Concert by Oktet "Lesni"	After Mass in Church Hall
Friday, July 4	Opera House Warf	ID Harbour Cruise	Opera House Warf 7.45pm-midnight \$30 pre-sale or \$40 on the night
Saturday, July 5	SDS	Annual Ball	Reservations Essential (Phone numbers below) Music by "The Masters" 8pm
Sunday, July 20	SDS	Sunday Picnic	BBQ from 12noon Music by "The Masters" 2-6pm
Saturday, August 2	SDS	Winter Dance	Music by "Veseli Gorencji" 8pm
Sunday, August 10	St Raphaels	Annual Car Rally	Start 11am Details Mark & Irene 02 9871 8641
Sunday, August 17	SDS	Sunday Picnic	Lunch 12noon Music by "The Masters" 2-6pm
Sunday, August 24	762 Springwood Rd Yarramundi	Skirmish	8.30 am SHARP Bookings essential \$25 deposit Call Julie (047)365525 or 014831701
Saturday, Sept 6	SDS	Fathers Day Dance & Program	Program 7.30pm Music by "The Masters"
Sunday, Sept 7	St Raphaels	Fathers Day Celebrations with Slomskova Sola	Performance after Mass in Hall
Sunday, Sept 14	Triglav	Fathers Day Picnic	BBQ 1pm with dance
Friday To Sunday September 26-28	SDS	40th Anniversary Celebration Weekend	Begins 6pm Friday with blessing by Fr Valerijan & continues throughout W/E with various events. Main function Saturday night Ball with special guests from Slovenia
For more details on the events listed above contact the organisers direct		SDS (Slovenian Association Sydney) 2-10 Elizabeth St Wetherill Park (02) 9756 1658	St Raphaels Slovenian Catholic Church 313 Merrylands Rd Merrylands (02) 9637 7147
		Triglav Club Ltd. 80-84 Brisbane Rd St Johns Park (02) 9610 1627	



*Smooth as Silk*

Generation Gap?  
No Way!!

THE MACARENA

"COOL"

ROBO-DANCER

So many new faces!

Brilliant night!

"Well Organised"







# ⚓ "THE HARBOUR CRUISE WAS A GREAT EVENT!" ⚓

would like to congratulate Julie & Michelle Brcar on the organisation of THE CRUISE, & I am sure that they too were pleased with the event. The opportunity to meet new people & catch up with old faces amidst a different atmosphere & spectacular scenery was great. The night was a huge success & those present would definitely support any future events such as this. The company, music & food all made it an enjoyable night. Many of us danced until we thought our feet would drop off! There were dance moves from the 70's, 80's & 90's & some dances never seen before as well! I hope to see everyone again soon & encourage those who missed out on The Cruise to join in on the next event.

Well done Julie & Michelle!" SONJA CESAR

"When's the next Cruise?"

Good times.  
Great pizza.

What a night!

Great weather

WAS A GREAT CRUISE



## EuroVision 97

# SONG CONTEST

by Ciril Kosorok

Last year's winners, Ireland, hosted the 42nd Eurovision Song Contest at the Point Theatre in Dublin, Ireland. The aim of the song contest is to promote new and previously un-published works among European member nations and to broadcast the event live throughout Europe. Through a process of elimination, the winning finalist represents their country in the annual inter-European musical show-down. The most famous Eurovision Song winners were the Swedish group ABBA, but many other popular artists such as Cliff Richard, Bucks Fizz, Duran Duran and Julio Iglesias have also competed at the contest. The former Yugoslavia won the contest in 1989. In Australia, the Song Contest was a delayed telecast shown on Sunday, 4th May at 7:30pm on SBS television.

On the night, **Katrina and the Waves** from the UK were runaway winners with a record-breaking score total of 227 points. The song "**Love Shine A Light**" won the hearts and minds of jurors throughout Europe with all judges awarding points for the UK song. The score eclipsed Ireland's 1994 performance by one point.

Katrina and the Waves had an international smash hit in 1985 with *Walking on Sunshine* and were considered 3 to 1 favourites along with Ireland to win the Eurovision title. Since her 1985 smash hit, Katrina and the Waves have been kept busy touring with international bands, including the Beach Boys, Fleetwood Mac and Don Henley. Katrina was overjoyed with the win and rather nervous during the reprise of the winning song.

Slovenia's song "**Zbudi Se**" (Wake Up) was sung by **Tanja Ribic**. The song was composed by Sasa Losic with lyrics written by Zoran Predin. This effort by Slovenia was world class compared with previous year's and the 10th placing was well deserved considering the high standard of this years entries.

Tanja Ribic was born in 1968 in Trbovlje. During her school years she sang in a school band, and went on to study drama at the University of Ljubljana. When she graduated in 1991 she joined the Civic Theatre of Ljubljana, where she is a leading comedy and character actress.

Information about Eurovision 1997: <http://www.eurovision.ie> ❖

### 1997 Results

Score	Country
227	United Kingdom
157	Ireland
121	Turkey
114	Italy
98	Cyprus
96	Spain
95	France
82	Estonia
66	Malta
60	Slovenia
54	Poland
39	Greece
39	Hungary
36	Sweden
33	Russia
25	Denmark
24	Croatia
22	Germany
22	Bosnia-Herzegovina
18	Iceland
12	Austria
5	Switzerland
5	Netherlands
0	Portugal
0	Norway

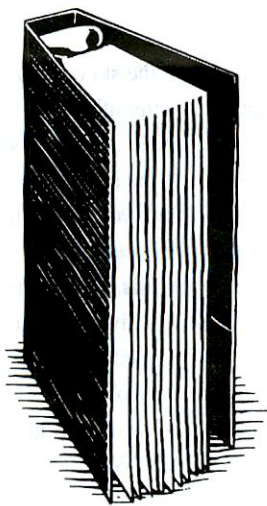


Tanja Ribic



# Slovenia

## Lonely Planet Travel Survival Kit



by Vesna Hatezic

**Slovenia - (1st Edition)**  
**Lonely Planet Travel Survival**  
By Steve Fallon  
Lonely Planet Publications 1995  
RRP \$18.95

Have you ever tried to find a tourist bureau in Slovenia? I have. I eventually found one. To the best of my knowledge, there is only one in the entire country. Of course I may be wrong, but it sure was difficult to find one of those elusive offices. I just wanted to know all the wonderful places and sites I should visit. Relatives weren't too helpful either. Sure, they live in the country, but that is all they do there. Live and work. I found that generally they don't spend a great deal of time being tourists in Slovenia. (This is not altogether uncommon in any country - how many times have you spent the day pretending to be a tourist in your home town?)

Normally when I travel, I take the Lonely Planet Guide for the particular country with me - but on my last holiday overseas, there was no such thing for Slovenia. Fear no more! It now exists! If you are planning to go to Slovenia in the near or distant future and you want to explore the country, I suggest you get yourself a copy of the Lonely Planet Guide to "Slovenia". (Don't bother if you only want to do the 'relative hop'.)

The book contains practical information for the traveller in Slovenia. First and foremost, there are quite a few maps included, from the overall map of Slovenia, to more detailed regional maps, and finally to road maps of the centres of many major towns and cities.

The opening chapter of the guide provides facts about Slovenia. Included are historical facts from Palaeolithic times through to the modern day (don't worry - it's not a heavy history book - this

entire period is covered in under ten small pages). There are also facts about the geography, climate, economy, arts and culture. Useful for those people that do not speak Slovenian is a mini (very mini) dictionary of words and phrases travellers may need to use. Following this, a number of chapters present other information that is useful for travellers to Slovenia, such as customs details, post and telecommunications, and public transport information.

Once all of the general information has been covered, the book deals with every region of Slovenia in detail. For each region you can find out where to change money, where to get your laundry done (if you are not staying with relatives), and places to stay, from the bottom of the range to the most expensive, depending upon your taste or budget. The authors even include the telephone and fax numbers of the various hotels and guest houses.

If you are hungry, recommendations are made on where to find food. If you want some entertainment, this too is covered in the book, from the theatre, to cinema, to jazz and rock music. There are many ideas on what to see and do, including information on opening times (which are correct at time of printing). In fact, there are so many places listed that I would challenge any 'native' Slovenian to be able to tell you where each of them is, what there is to see there, etc.

This is definitely the book to have if you are seeking to get the most out of your holiday in Slovenia. The author clearly states that discounts or payments are never accepted for positive coverage in the book. As a result, the advice offered in the book is independent and free from bias (apart from any preferences that the author may have). I wouldn't leave home without it! ❖



## Regional Profile



### A Skier's Winter Paradise by Renata Susanj

**T**his year's ski season in Slovenia may be coming to an end but it is just gearing up in Australia. Similarly, as Australia heads for summer, Slovenia is ready for skiing again! Thus, skiing enthusiasts can partake in their sport almost all year round. Of course this means flying to Slovenia for their winter but as a bonus you also get to see the relatives!

Another advantage of skiing in Slovenia is the cost compared to other parts of Europe. Sure, you might run into Princess Di at San Moritz or Cortina D'Ampezzo, but at least your ski dollar will go further in Slovenia!

Slovenians have been skiing for more than three centuries. Sport skiing was developed after the first world war and at that time Slovenians were recognised as being the oldest skiing nation in Central Europe. Many competitions are held in the Slovenian ski resorts. Slovenia hosts the annual World Cup competitions in cross-country skiing, the Men's World Cup Alpine Skiing Competition in Kranjska Gora and the women's competition in Maribor. There are competitions

in skiing, ski-flight, ski jump and crosscountry. These competitions cater for professional and amateur athletes. One of the better known competitions is the crosscountry where skiers run in the triangle of land between Slovenia, Austria and Italy. This has led to ideas of holding the Winter Olympics in this triangle, jointly co-ordinated by the three countries in question.

Apart from skiing, the ski centres and the locations offer other recreational activities. Bled offers ice-skating trips to the island and the castle. At Bohinj you can, with the aid of an experienced climber, climb frozen waterfalls. Most other locations also offer activities other than skiing including cultural activities such as the Kobarid Museum at Kobarid which features

many artefacts from the First World War. There are also numerous churches, castles and museums to visit. Other forms of entertainment are the many clubs, gostilnas and discos that help numb the pain of a long days skiing! ♦



*For a small country there certainly is a big choice of skiing areas. Slovenia has thirty seven skiing locations and forty seven ski centres. The table (Centre for Tourist and Economic Promotion at the Chamber of Economy of Slovenia, 1994, 'A Merry Wintertime on the Sunny Side of the Alps') shows the ski areas, length of runs, facilities available for skiing and recreation, and other information that may be useful to those planning a ski trip to Slovenia. This table is an excellent and concise reference point for choosing which area and location best suits the needs of the avid skier. ♦*



Location	Name of Ski Centre	Altitude (m)	Ski Altitude	Cable Car	# Chairlifts	# T Bars	Length of ski Pistes (km)	Length of Cross Country (km)	Ski School	Nursery	Ski Bus	Artificial Snow	Night Skiing	Sport Equipment Rental	Skating	Sleigh pistes	Ice curling	Indoor Swimming Pool	Tennis Hall	Gymnasium	Hotel	Sauna	# Beds in Hotels	Railway Station	Bus Station	Sport Shop	Post Office	Pharmacy
Bled	Pokljuka	1250	1300		1	0.215	35		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	4790	X	X	X	X	Bled
	Zaimik	920	1264		1	4	3.699		X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	4790	X	X	X	X	Bled
	Straza	503	634		1	1	1.24		X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	4790	X	X	X	X	Bled
Bohinj	Vogel	569	1800	X	3	5	36		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	2540	X	X	X	X	Boh. Bistrica
	Kobla	540	1480		3	3	23	35	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	2510	X	X	X	X	Boh. Bistrica
Bovec	Livak	850	950		3	3	3		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	2510	X	X	X	X	Kobarid
	Kanin	2200	2289	X	3	2	14	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	220	X	X	X	X	Bovec, Tolmin
Cerkno	Smucarski center Cerkno	939	1290		2	4	7.2	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	220	X	X	X	X	Cerkno
Golte	Golte	1375	1579	X	2	5	10	13	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	700	X	X	X	X	Mozirje
Koroska	GTC Kope	1377	1542		7	9	15	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	850	X	X	X	X	Slovenj Gradec
	Peca	500	996		1	3	12	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	210	X	X	X	X	Mezica
	Ravne na Koroskem	394	1108		1	3	2.6	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	210	X	X	X	X	Ravne na Koroskem
Kranjska Gora	Kranjska Gora	810	1623		4	16	30	40	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	4000	X	X	X	X	Kranjska Gora
Ratece-Planica	Planica	870	900		1	0.27	20		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	200	X	X	X	X	Kranjska Gora
Krvavec	Krvavec	1450	1971	X	7	5	25	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	886	X	X	X	X	Kranj
Trzic(Ljubelj)	Zelenica	1088	1704		2	3	3.75	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	72	X	X	X	X	Trzic
Mariborsko Pohorje	Lovrenc na Pohorju	500	600		1	1	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	21	X	X	X	X	Maribor
	Mariborsko Pohorje	325	1347	X	2	14	60	20	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	1447	X	X	X	X	Radlje ob Dravi
	Ribnica na Pohorju	765	1539		2	18	6		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	75	X	X	X	X	Postojna
Postojna	Kalic	765	981		4	4.5	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	1014	X	X	X	X	Postojna
Rog Crmosnjice	SC Rog Krka Crmosnjice	730	970		6	3.7	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	400	X	X	X	X	Dolenjske Toplice
Rogla	Rogla	1517	1517		2	11	10	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	802	X	X	X	X	Slovenske Konjice
Skofja Loka	Start Vrh nad Skofjo Loko	550	1200		1	4	18	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	250	X	X	X	X	Skofja Loka
	Soriska Planina	1270	1550		3	6	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	50	X	X	X	X	Zelezniki
Velika Planina	Velika Planina	1666	1888	X	1	6	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	206	X	X	X	X	Kamnik
Trnovo pri Novi Gori	Lazna	930	1040		1	1	1		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	40	X	X	X	X	Nova Gorica
Polzevo	Polzevo	600	625		1	0.5	4		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	50	X	X	X	X	Ivancna Gorica, Grosuplje
Jesenice	Spanov Vrh	979	1365		1	3	3		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	292	X	X	X	X	Jesenice
Menges	Gobavica	390	420		2	1.5		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	71	X	X	X	X	Menges
Knezak	Masun	1004	1050		1	1	4		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	71	X	X	X	X	Pivka, Ilirska Bistrica
Trnovo pri Novi Gori	Lokve	950	1115		4	3	15	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	145	X	X	X	X	Nova Gorica
Kal nad Kanalom	Kal nad Kanalom	708	810		2	0.6	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	53	X	X	X	X	Kanal
Ilirska Bistrica	Svisaki	1200	1300		3	1.4	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	60	X	X	X	X	Ilirska Bistrica
Sodrazica	Travna Gora	860	910		1	0.2			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	72	X	X	X	X	Sodrazica
Sevnica	Lisca	803	950		2	2			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	150	X	X	X	X	Sevnica
Kisovec	SRC Marela	460	900		1	3	3.2	3		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	72	X	X	X	X	Zagorje ob Savi
Crni vrh nad Idrijo	Crni vrh nad Idrijo	600	683		2	2	25	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	72	X	X	X	X	Idrija
Zagorje	Prvine	870	913		2	2			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	110	X	X	X	X	Zagorje, Izlake
Hrasnik	"Rajska Dolina"	829	955		1	0.45			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	110	X	X	X	X	Hrasnik
Vrhnika	Zaplana Urlovka	700	800		3	3			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	180	X	X	X	X	Vrhnika
Trbovlje	Vrhe Medvednica	865	1133		1	2.5	2		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	52	X	X	X	X	Trbovlje
	Dobovec/Kum	800	950		1	2	2	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	144	X	X	X	X	Trbovlje
Slovenska Bistrica	Trje kralji/planina nad Sumkom	1200	1400		2	20ha			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	1030	X	X	X	X	Slovenska Bistrica
Logatec	Logatec	400	460		1	0.5	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	1030	X	X	X	X	Logatec
Rogarska Slatina	Janina	264	404		2	0.6	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	1030	X	X	X	X	Rogarska Slatina
Petrovce	Liboje	300	340		2	0.4			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	60	X	X	X	X	Petrovce
Prebold	Prebold	287	320		1	0.2			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	60	X	X	X	X	Prebold



# A Story of Proud Parents



Gleaming through a box of old photographs, I found this photo which brought back a little bit of history for me. It was a photo taken in late 1961 of our two little boys.

Their father was a very proud young man, working long hours like so many other young fathers did at the time. We lived in one room, sharing the kitchen, bathroom/toilet and laundry with 4 other families. It was a mixture of people - Australians, Slovenians, Germans and Polish. We couldn't speak each others' language but we tried to be friendly and helpful to one another. Every day, I tried to learn a few words of English,

My husband would bring home a weekly pay packet of \$13, which with overtime, could go up to as much as \$18. Every Friday it was my responsibility to go to the bank and deposit \$5 into our savings account, \$5 went towards our rent and \$2-\$3 was spent on our groceries, clothing and my husband's weekly train fare to work. At that time, I made all the children's clothing from cheap cuts of materials. Any extras or treats came out of overtime money, such as a few bottles of beer, maybe ice-cream on Sundays or buying presents for birthdays, Mother's Day or Father's Day.

In 1962, I became pregnant again and soon after we bought our block of land. We built our 'castle' on it - a 3 bedroom fibro house. In August of that year we moved in. What a happy time this was for us! From one bedroom to 3 bedrooms, our own kitchen, bathroom and toilet. I can still remember with a smile, how one could go to the 'out house' toilet, in the middle of the night, in the middle of the yard, leave the door open and count the stars!

In early 1963, our beautiful daughter was born. How her brothers loved her then, and it's still so wonderful to see the bond between them now. They had to share all their toys (there weren't many to share), such as dolls, cars and guns. One of my boys loved dressing and undressing the dolls, while my little daughter was forever playing Cowboys and Indians.

So, with a lot of hard work, hard saving, trying to learn English, cleaning offices and toilets in the evenings and working while the children were at school, our 'little fibro castle' grew into a 'bigger castle'. We had to extend and make more room because our little children had grown up into teenagers and they filled our house with their friends.

Now they are all married and have enriched our family with daughters and a son in law. We now have 6 beautiful grandchildren, who just love to come and stay over, slide on the stair railings, make lots of mess, noise just like our children used to do! So, you see, we are never lonely.

This story will end as it began; with a reference to the photo. This photo was in the wallet of the proud father for 33 years! It travelled everywhere with him. Over the years the wallet fell apart, the picture lost its corners, but the family love is still around and going strong!

Come and visit one Sunday afternoon, have a chat, 'kavico' and maybe some other 'goodies'. We can talk about old times and look at photos that bring back many lovely memories. ❖



## Media Watch

### Cleo April 1997

In the HOT SPOTS section of Cleo a short piece on Slovenia with a traditional photo of Bled. The article stated that "Slovenia is an emerging hip destination...it's an interesting mix of Eastern and Western Europe. Just a day trip from Vienna, Venice or Budapest, this tiny green country of castles offers the best of Europe, without the crowds."

Wouldn't you like to go?

### The Sun-Herald April 13 1997

In a story titled "Schools fail maths test", there was a table showing the results of the International Maths/Science Study. This table listed the scores of 20 countries in order of results (1 being highest and 20 being lowest). Slovenia was marked at 10th place whilst Australia was placed 16th.

### The Times (London) April 17 1997

This newspaper article was sent to us by a reader in London. It features a huge photo of Bled and the headline reads "Slovenia attracts sharp increase in British visitors". It goes on to explain that for no apparent reason the British have been slow to return to Slovenia as a tourist destination (unlike their counterparts on the continent). It describes how to get there, the surprisingly low costs for accommodation, food and wine. The article suggests, now that the British are finally returning, Slovenia can expect to have up to 30,000 British tourists compared with 14,000 last year.

### Radio 2BL April 23 1997

Mike Carlton is really giving Slovenia a great rap. Having Marjella Anning report on Slovenia for a second time in the last year. Again it was a glowing report of our beautiful country including an interview with Milan Kucan who had a special message for Australians. The PM was in Brussels lobbying to get Slovenia into NATO. He told Marjella that Australians and Slovenians have a lot in common and that Australians should visit Slovenia as it is beautiful and diverse. If Mike Carlton continues with this advertising for Slovenia, even some of our younger generation may be more likely to listen to his program. (Well maybe!)

### STOP PRESS

#### Robert Mikuletic appointed NSW Bocce coach

ASR has already introduced to its readers, young Robert Mikuletic, who has achieved great sporting heights in his first 18 years. Recently nominated for the NSW Junior Sportsman of the year (1996), Robert has a long list of impressive Bocce credentials. He has represented NSW during the past five national titles, going on to represent Australia at the World Junior Championships on three occasions. He was recently selected in the Australian team and in July is heading for Morocco, which is host to the 9th World Junior Bocce Championships. To show the world that Australia can produce world class Bocce players, the Australian Bocce Federation will begin a promotion campaign to promote Bocce, particularly among the younger age groups. Robert can be contacted on (02) 9737 5845 for further details about the game, training times, etc. ❖



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## ASR Conference .... con'td

(Continued from page 5)

Without incorporation legal rights and obligations may rest on ASR members. This is a further step towards professionalism which the ASR decided to act upon. It means we can provide a free voice with no personal risk or liability involved.

Overall the strategic day was a very intensive day and professionally managed. The ASR team now has a clearer focus on what it is they are doing and we hope you now do too.

If you would like to join the team please don't be a Nervous Nellie and talk to any one of the members and start moving and shaking. We need all sorts of personality types, the bigger the variety the better. So no matter what, if you're a jester, bull dog, keeper of the faith or mother hen you will be most welcome. ♦

<b>ASR Production Team</b>	<b>Ciril Kosorok</b>  John Kobal Mark Stariha <i>Vacant</i>	<b>Production Manager.</b> Layout and new advertisements design WWW Home page manager, Article allocations, printer liaison Graphic artist
<b>ASR Editorial Team</b>	<b>Irene Stariha</b>  Dorothy Kobal  Henry Stariha Sonia Kolar Robert Pecovnik Tania Kolar <i>Vacant</i>	<b>Editor.</b> Proof reading, writer, public relations Gathering source material, proof reading, writer, Public relations Photography Proof reading, Librarian Writer Writer Journalist
<b>ASR Administration &amp; Marketing Team</b>	<b>Renata Susanj</b>  Robert Suber Jude Bavcar-Skubla Sylvia Loncar Olga Kuznik Boris Kobal Jenny Stariha	<b>Administration Manager.</b>  Marketing / sales, Public relations Typing, fundraising and functions Minutes, Special projects Treasurer Database manager Distribution manager of finished product

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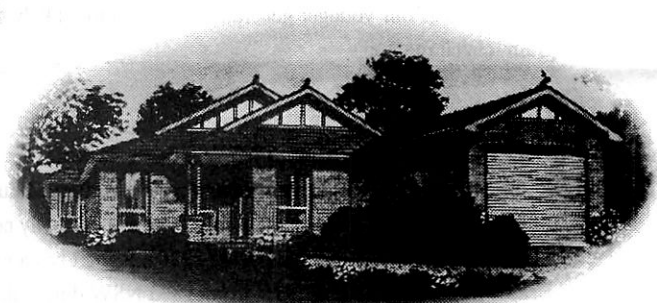


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## Grisov Narastek - Baked Semolina

by Jenny Stariha

This dish is a popular winter dessert, especially when served with a fruit compote. For best results, use the thicker granule semolina not the fine one.



### Ingredients:

½ litre milk  
100 grams butter  
80 grams sugar  
180 grams semolina  
5 eggs  
1 cup sultanas  
Lemon rind

### Method

- Preheat oven to 180°C.
- Grease baking dish and sprinkle with breadcrumbs.
- Bring milk to boil, add salt and semolina, stirring until semolina thickens. Leave to cool.
- Separate eggs. Beat whites until firm peaks form.
- Cream the butter and sugar until fluffy and light, then add egg yolks, lemon rind and sultanas - mix well.
- Add cool semolina and continue mixing.
- Fold in egg whites.
- Transfer mixture to baking dish and bake in moderate oven for 35-45 minutes

### Fresh Fruit Compote

Select the fruit you would like (eg. plums, peaches apples etc). Wash, peel and cut the fruit. Boil water, adding sugar (to taste), lemon peel and a cinnamon stick. Place fruit in boiling water and boil until fruit softens. Cool the compote and serve with your baked pudding. ❖

### Crossword Answers

**ACROSS** 4.Adder 8.Roman 9.Independence 12.Anne Boleyn 14.Slid 15.Sheep 16.Robbery 17.Slot 18.Cocopops 20.Willow 22.Six 26.Numb 28.Novel 30.Solomon 32.Host 33.Minute 34.Eiffel Tower

**DOWN** 1.Saw 2.German Measles 3.Three 5.Green 6.Alcohol 7.Mime 10.Description 11.Cadavar 13.Nervous 19.Plague 20.Wealthy 21.Labour 23.Xylophone 24.Permit 25.Moron 27.Use 29.Lame 31.Name ❖



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The ASR welcomes your suggestions and comments. Send correspondence to:

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PO Box KL806  
Kings Langley NSW 2147  
Australia

Fax: (02) 9674 4583



Dear ASR team,  
I wish to congratulate you for your dedication and devotion to the ASR newspaper. I have many times admired your work and commiserated the fact that you are not able to devote some of your space to the Slovenian language. Many Slovenian publications devote some pages to English after many years of printing when some of their readers are not able to understand them any more. You have unfortunately started from the opposite direction. Maybe you can start using some Slovenian now and eventually end with an all Slovenian language newspaper. This is not to say that I do not appreciate and recognise the advantages of the English publication.

A few years ago I translated a magnificent Slovenian article into English, written by Mirko Javornik about the advantages of speaking Slovenian. It was published at Celovec in the Mohorjevc koledar for 1988. I am sending it to you and I am sure that it will broaden your horizons. I also sincerely hope you will give your readers the benefit of knowing this extraordinary work by publishing it. It seems the perfect article for your paper. I personally am not able to advance the writer's arguments for the use of the Slovenian language any further, however I would like to make a few observations. They are made in the hope that some of you young people will become more open to the Slovenian language.

The English speaking world is totally self

centred and those who refuse to pen to another language are following the same narrow-minded outlook. Most other cultures value the knowledge of languages and give employees allowances for every other language spoken. In Slovenia an employee in the foreign affairs must command at least two foreign languages whereas in Australia only English is required. A language does not only open the window to communication with other people it also opens the door to the secrets of other cultures.

Our early Slovenian settlers, under the duress of assimilation have made irreparable damage to many migrant children. Wrongly convinced that their children would have an advantage by speaking the broken English they imposed it on them at the same time denying them the advantage of knowing a second language. Many parents were perhaps unable to give their children the incentive they needed for learning and many of the children defied them outright. All this is water under the bridge. However, people of your caliber and education can still recoup most of what was lost.

You might perhaps ask me why I take this view. You will find most of the answers in the article I included on the floppy disk. The scarce Slovenian human and money resources should not be divided further. The pride expressed in ASR for the Slovenian achievements at the Olympics is

noteworthy but it is short lived. For how many generations can such pride exist? Where will the next generation of Slovenians get the urge to even look at Slovenian news if it can not understand a word of that foreign language? A nation without the language is not a nation it is not even an ethnic group. At best, it is a pressure group. The person that robs himself of his or her parents language robs not only himself but all his descendants! Do you want to do that? But remember, it is tough to be a Slovenian.

The best your paper can do for all the young people of Australia is to start a Slovenian language course. I warmly recommend it to you. I wish you all the success and greet you joyfully.

**Cvetko Falez**  
**Fadden NSW**

*Your letter is very sincere and a view that has been presented to us (although not always as eloquently) in the past. We appreciate the value of keeping the Slovenian language alive, as do we agree that print should be easily available to those members of our small community who wish to access it. It is therefore fortunate that we have organisations of high quality who both teach our language and who keep our community informed using their home language. We are in no way trying to take on either of these roles or compete with those that are doing this job so well. Our aim is to broaden the knowledge and interest levels of our generation (and indeed*



those older and younger if they wish) on the topics of Slovenia and our Australian Slovenian community.

As you are aware, our publication is free to our readers. It is not free to produce or indeed mail, thus we are limited in the length of article we can afford to produce. Every bit of space is precious. We are realistic enough to accept that fewer people are able to (or motivated to) read in Slovenian. In order for them to gain information on what is happening within their extended community they need to read it in English. To take this away from them would only isolate them further from their Slovenian roots. On the other hand to duplicate our information would be extremely costly and time consuming and therefore could jeopardize the continuation of our publication.

We have always been committed to offering information to our readers on how to go about contacting the different language programs available to them - we have not however pretended to be language educators ourselves. We also hope that those readers who wish to subscribe to publications such as 'Glas Slovenije', 'Mislj', 'Raphael' and any other publication that can extend their knowledge of written Slovenian would do so (and I'm sure many do). These publications offer excellent information and are easy to receive and therefore we believe that our poor attempt at producing something in Slovenian would be superfluous.

We will endeavour to print the article you have supplied us with and I assure you that we do have a great respect for the Slovenian language but feel that our target group is in deeper need of being encouraged to participate in our community in a way that is interesting and easy. Our community is shrinking and we are actively and possibly controversially trying to bring it closer together. *Ed*

Dear ASR team,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for publishing the article on my work. I haven't had any replies yet, but you never know! Hopefully, people will contact me when I visit Sydney.

I was wondering, however, why you didn't publish my review of Milena Brgoc's "Annotated Bibliography". It is a fine work, well worth reviewing and making better known the Slovenians in Australia. If you are not happy with my review, please feel free to write your own. Her work deserves recognition.

In case you lost my review and want to use it, I have included another copy. Please contact me if you are not going to publish a review of Milena Brgoc's work.

Keep up the good work. Are you going to have your own home page?

**Veronika Ferfolja**  
**Adelaide SA**

I'm sorry to hear that you have not yet received any response in relation to

your article. I'm sure people will feel more comfortable sharing their life experiences when they meet you face to face.

In regards to the review of Milena Brgoc's "Annotated Bibliography" not yet being published, I must stress that we are limited with space and do have a backlog of some kinds of stories. I agree with you that the article is worthy of being printed but our production time is quite long as is our planning for future issues. The article will be printed when we have the space available.

One of our goals for 1997 is to create a home page, and hopefully this won't take too long. *Ed*

Dear ASR team,

Thank you for including me on your mailing list. I thoroughly enjoy your publication. I have one Slovenian parent, and your publication keeps me very well informed. In addition, the ASR is now one of my only contacts with the Slovenian community and culture. This I believe is important, as I try to maintain my heritage as a second generation Slovenian.

Keep up the good work!

**Branka Zugic**  
**Fairfield VIC 3078**

Branka, you are just the kind of person we are hoping to reach! Thank you so much for your note, it inspires us and makes us feel as though we are on the right track. *Ed* ♦

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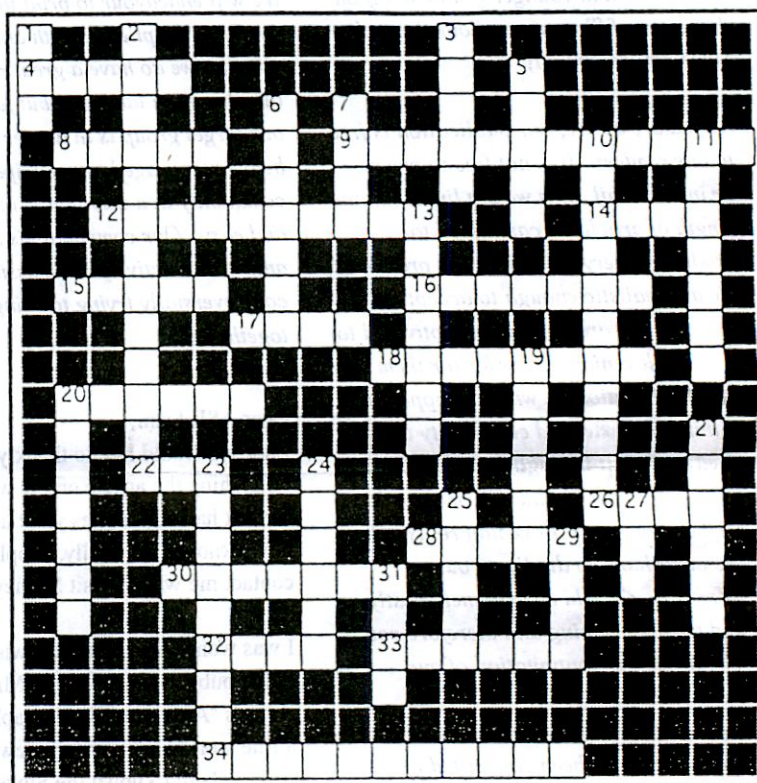
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# Crossword

## Across

- 4 A poisonous snake in Britain
- 8 The empire ruled by Titus
- 9 The day the Americans celebrate on the 4th of July
- 12 The mother of the first Queen Elizabeth (2 words)
- 14 Past tense for slide
- 15 A jumbuck
- 16 Stick-up
- 17 Slit in a machine for coins
- 18 Just like a chocolate milkshake only crunchy
- 20 Wood used to make cricket bats
- 22 The number of balls in a cricket over
- 26 No feeling
- 28 Story
- 30 Biblical King
- 32 A large number of angels
- 33 Very small
- 34 A famous tower that opened in 1889 (2 words)



## Down

- 1 Tool for cutting wood
- 2 Another name for rubella (2 words)
- 3 The amount of times the banns must be called before a marriage in the Church of England
- 5 The background colour of signs showing directions on primary roads
- 6 A bootlegger sells this
- 7 What Marcel Marceau is famous for
- 10 Explanation
- 11 Corpse
- 13 Edgy
- 19 A group of locusts
- 20 Rich
- 21 Work
- 23 A musical instrument made of flat wooden bars
- 24 Allow
- 25 Idiot
- 27 Consume
- 29 Crippled
- 31 Christen

Answers on Page 21 ♦

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