SLOVENIA'S NATIONAL DAY 2008

& NSW AND ACT SLOVENIAN AWARDS 2007

ON SUNDAY 22ND OF JUNE 2008 AT 12.00PM

at Triglav Panthers St. Johns Park Club

PROGRAM



12.00 PM Arrive

12.30PM Lunch is served

2.20 PM SLOVENIAN NATIONAL ANTHEMSANG BY REBECCA KEEN

Australian National Anthem Sang by <u>KATELIN KOPRIVEC</u>

Welcome and Introduction by MR PETER KROPE,
Chairman of the Advisory Board for Triglay Panthers St. Johns Park

Address by
MR GREGOR KOZOVINC
Charge d'Affairs of the
Embassy of Republic of Slovenia

KATELIN KOPRIVEC sings two songs.

BRANKO FABJANČIČ
PRESIDENT OF THE SLOVENIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS
COMMITTEE, INTRODUCES THE AWARDS

PRESENTATION OF THE AWARDS

Entertainment Dance With "THE MASTERS"

PANTHERS TEAM



Barry Walsh – Panthers Group Chairman, Peter Krope – Triglav St Johns Park Panthers Advisory Board Chairman, Danny Munk - Panthers Chief Operation Officer, Andrew Gardner – General Manager, Huy Vu – Operations Manager

JUDGING PANEL



PETER KROPE, TRIGLAV-PANTHERS, MARTHA MAGAJNA, HASA, TRIGLAV - PANTHERS, BRANKO FABJANČIČ, TRIGLAV-PANTHERS, MARIJA GROSMAN, HASA, TIVOLI NEWCASTLE, JOŽE NEMEŠ, SD SYDNEY, PERINA KEEN, DRAMA GROUP MERRYLANDS, IVAN RUDOLF, PLANICA WOLLONGONG

IN MEMORIAM

This year Awards are dedicated to The memory of

> JOŽE ČUJEŠ

A tireless worker for the Slovenian Community

Jože Cuješ 1923 - 1995



Jože Čuješ, born in the Štajerska region of Slovenia in 1923. As a schoolteacher by profession, he was sent to the Italian camp Gonars like many other Slovenian intellectuals during the Italian occupation. After he was released from the camp, he joined the Homeguards till the end of the war.

After the war he worked in Austria at the Slovenian Newspaper "Koroška Kronika," and wrote his first book.

Soon after his arrival to Australia in 1947, he helped to arrange for the arrival of the first Slovenian priests to Australia. Together they started the Slovenian schools, newspapers, drama group, established Slovenian organisations, and later Slovenian Radio. We can find his name somewhere at the start of every Slovenian activity in Sydney. His love for the Slovenian word was specially evident in his care for Slovenian schools and for a whole range of Slovenian newspapers, which he edited. He was the first coordinator of the Slovenian Radio broadcasts at 2EA and also one of its first presenters. Always full of ideas and energy, he was stopped by an illness from which he never fully recovered. He died in Brisbane.

His wife Galja scattered part of his ashes in his beloved Pohorje mountains, close to his birthplace in Slovenia.

PROPOSED AWARD CATEGORIES

NSW and ACT Slovenian Primary Student of the Year

NSW and ACT Slovenian Secondary Student of the Year

NSW and ACT Slovenian Tertiary Student of the Year

NSW and ACT Slovenian Entrepreneur of the Year

NSW and ACT Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year

NSW and ACT Slovenian Outstanding Volunteer of the Year

NSW and ACT Australian Slovenian Achievements

NSW and ACT Slovenian Life Time Achievement Award.

President of the Slovenian of the Year Awards Committee BRANKO FABIANCIC



The NSW and ACT Slovenian Awards have been a part of the Slovenian community for the last 6 years and every year they grow stronger, which is a reflection that the Slovenian community see these awards as recognition of work and effort of past winners and their contribution to the community in general as individuals, as students, or in business and the arts. It's a wonderful blend of ages and talented individuals who make up our community.

The awards are in conjunction with the Slovenian National Day, a celebration of Slovenia's independence, giving the awards a fantastic vehicle to showcase our Slovenian community achievers.

Just to be nominated is a great honour and it acknowledges the effort and hard work of the nominees in their designated category.

The award categories have been developed to capture every walk and stage of life, of a potential nominee.

Please join me in congratulating this year's nominees and the winners.

PRESENTED IN THE YEAR 2007 THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2006



KATELIN KOPRIVEC

NSW PRIMARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2006 LOREN DRUŽINEC

SECONDARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2006

ROBERT GROZNIK

SLOVENIAN ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR 2006.

MARIJA OVIJAČ

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 2006 ALEKSANDRA LAJOVIC

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 2006 BARICA BRODNIK

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2006 ALBINA MAVRIČ

> SLOVENIAN VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2006 STANE TOMŠIČ AND MARTA TOMŠIČ

SLOVENIAN VOLUNTEER HIGHLY COMMENDED OF THE YEAR 2006. PETER KROPE

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2006 ALFRED BREŽNIK

AUSTRALIAN SLOVENIAN ACHIEVEMENTS AWARD OF THE YEAR 2006 VINKO OVIJAČ

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR THE LIFE WORK IN THE SLOVENIAN COMMUNITY

KATELIN KOPRIVEC

NSW Slovenian Primary Student of the Year 2006



Katelin was born 3rd February 1997 to Robert and Suzie Koprivec. She is currently a student at St Therese West Wollongong Primary School where she is a conscientious student amongst the top 5 in her year. Her interests include Singing, Dancing, Swimming and Reading.

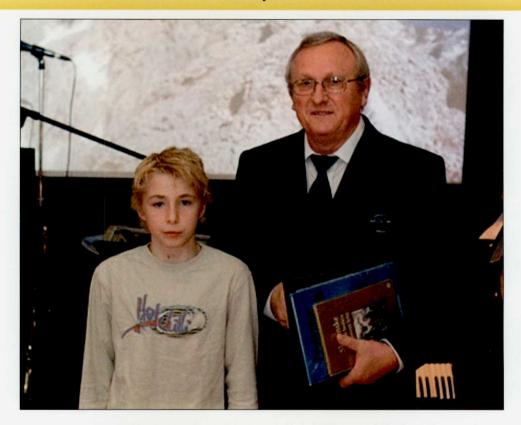
She has been dancing since she was 4 yrs old and so has been performing and competing for about 6 years, including at shopping mall performances, and in the Wollongong, Sydney and Illawarra Eisteddfods.

She has also been successful in swimming and has been in the water since she was six months old. Singing though seems to be her passion and in the last few years she has achieved many first places in various Eisteddfods and festivals. Most recently she has come first twice, both in the Under 12's Championships and Scholarship at the Illawarra Regional Eisteddfod 2007 even though she was only 10.

She performed for the Starlight Foundation at the Wollongong Entertainment Centre in a performance bringing pleasure to handicapped children and their families. She also has performed at Carols by Candlelight at Wollongong and the Australia Day Celebrations, and on many other occasions. There seems to be lots in the pipeline for you, Katelin, keep up the good work and Congratulations

LOREN DRUZINEC

NSW Slovenian Secondary Student of the Year 2006



LOREN was born in Australia on 2nd of Nov 1993 to Drago and Erika Druzinec. He was attending Year 8 at Gilroy College in Baulkham Hills, where he was attaining results in the top 10% of his classes.

He began his gymnastics career in Oct 2001 just as he was turning 8, where it was quickly evident that he possessed a natural talent for gymnastics. He was invited to begin serious gymnastics training at the start of 2002 at level 3. Over the next few years he progressed to the point were he attained an overall first place in level 6 at the State Championships at Homebush in May 2007.

Since that competition Loren has begun training at level 7 where he will be able to qualify for the Australian National team. His aim is to represent Australia at the 2016 Olympics and he trains 21 hours each week, his favourite apparatus is the Rings. To top everything off he has also recently taken up Karate for which he trains up to two hours each Tuesday.

Well done Loren and keep up the good work.

ROBERT GROZNIK

NSW - Slovenian Entrepreneur of the Year 2006



ROBERT GROZNIK was born in Wollongong in the Slovenian family of Dragica and Zvonko Groznik, both dedicated workers in the Slovenian community in Wollongong. Young Robert attended Slovenian school and was also a member of the Slovenian folkloric Group. As a qualified accountant and bookkeeper, he also donated his time to the Slovenian Club Planica as a voluntary bookeeper and accountant. His wife Tanja also comes from a Slovenian family, Besednjak, and together they have two sons and one daughter. In 1985 they started their own family business under the name "Set4 Life Financial Solutions". Robert is working together with his wife and two sons, providing financial services in areas such as tax effective wealth accumulation and retirement planning together with taxation and accounting advice.

Due to the growth, Robert has expanded his business and now has 2 offices and a total of 8 staff members. The business services provided by Robert's firm are: Retirement Planning, Superannuation, Small Business planning, Salary packaging Investment, Wealth Creation Insurance, Life Insurance, Disability, Trauma and Income Protection, Retrenchment and Redundancy, Social Security/CentreLink Considerations and Business Succession Planning.

MARIJA OVIJAČ

NSW - Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year 2006



MARIJA OVIJAČ came to Australia in 1958 after living in Venezuela for 13 years. Together with her husband Vinko, she became involved in the Slovenian community in many different ways.

Besides helping her husband at his work in the Slovenian Association Sydney, she also offered her home to young girls, sewed national costumes, performed in the drama group, and participated in other social, cultural and religious activities. Marija is famous for her baking skills, she has contributed her cakes and specially donuts to almost every community event, and she had always loved to share her skills with others. She has been a member of the church choir for over 40 years. She has sung solo at over 40 weddings and funerals, and has visited Slovenians in Newcastle, Brisbane and Wollongong. She also leads the community singing every Sunday when the choir is not singing. With her beautiful voice, although never formally trained, she has often brought tears to the listener's eyes.

She has always put 110 per cent effort into her work.

Congratulations, and thank you.

ALEKSANDRA LAJOVIC

NSW - Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen Of The Year 2006



ALEKSANDRA LAJOVIC, known by friends as Sasa, was born in Trieste as a daughter of Slovenian parents. She married Dusan in Trieste and they arrived in Australia on 11/6/1950 on the ship "Oxfordshire". Both quickly immersed themselves into the Slovenian community. In Woollahra in 1957 they were part of the initial Slovenian club members. Sasa was also part of the newly formed drama group "Soca". In about 1970, she was the secretary of the Slovenian Association at Ferrers Rd Horsley Park. As the Slovenian National Association developed, she worked there tirelessly. Later Sasa again resumed as a member of the Slovenian Association and also became a member of club Triglav. She has always been very active within the Slovenian Centre at the St Rapfael Church at Merrylands.

From 1981 till recently she had voluntarily worked in the church office on a weekly basis running the church finances and also other jobs. She had only stopped due to ill health. With her work here she also supported collections for various social and humane causes. Sasa is a humble and very private person but thru her work she leaves an indelible mark of her achievements within the Slovenian community.

BARICA BRODNIK

NSW Slovenian Outstanding Volunteer For Year 2006



BARICA BRODNIK arrived in Australia in 1966 and established her home in Wollongong. Very quickly she became part of the Slovenian Association Danica, which had been formed in 1960. A very eager singer with a lovely voice, she formed the church choir in Wollongong that she still runs today. When the current Slovenian Association Planica established its home on the grounds, which included a church, Barica became more energised with her singing. With her input, a youth choir "Zlati Glas" began and she looked after it for 3 years.

She was the organiser who ensured that the church choir was regularly part of the annual Slovenian Youth Concerts wherever they happened to be. She has always enjoyed participating at various city performances proudly wearing her Slovenian national costume. She has also spent time as a committee member of Planica.

She regularly acts as hostess to the Slovenian priests, who visit Wollongong, either at her home or at the club's premises. She participates in all avenues associated with the club and church, including cleaning and baking.

She is always giving 100% effort and plenty of goodwill regardless of wether she is a part of the club committee or not.

ALBINA MAVRIČ

NSW Slovenian Volunteer of the year 2006



ALBINA MAVRIČ was born in the village of Rute in the Primorsko region of Slovenia. In 1952, as 20 years old, she arrived in Australia. Soon after, she married Andrew Mavric at the Sacred Heart Church. She had met and fallen in love with him in Slovenia. They set up a home at Waratah, Newcastle, and had their family. When in 1957 fr. Bernard organised the first Slovenian Mass in Newcastle, Albina and her family attended. In fact, Albina and Marta Kodela are today the only two living persons to remember this event. Since then, Albina has been a regular attendee, and has always organized tea, coffee, milk, etc, for tasty refreshments afterwards in the hall next door. This is an important and regular gathering after mass for local community to exchange news and have a good chat. Now that her health is failing, her daughter Helen is continuing her good work. Deeply tied with the Slovenian Association Tivoli, Albina had regularly attended and participated at the picnics, dances, etc. She had always helped with regular cleaning, cooking and whatever else was required.

When she lost her life partner, she also took over his role within the association as a committee member. Thank you.

STANE TOMŠIČ and MARTA TOMŠIČ Highly NSW Slovenian Volunteer Commended 2006



MARTA IN STANE arrived in Australia in 1960. They began actively participating in the Slovenian Association Sydney as the building of the hall in Horsley Park began. Both did whatever was required: Stane with the actual building and Marta in the kitchen, cooking, cleaning and attending every weekend. Their work continued with the building of the new hall at Wetherill Park. As the building work was completed, they continued with their voluntary work in other areas. Marta particularly continued to help in the kitchen. In 1998 they were both voted into the committee, but due to health problems, they had to give up the positions four years later. For many years they have looked after the gardens around the hall, attending 2 to 3 times each week watering, cleaning, planting and general care of the area.

Whilst Stane was a committee member, he looked after all buildings and gardening needs. Today, they gladly attend to anything that needs a hand. They both enjoy club functions and are regular attendees on weekends. Both play Bocce, often representing the club at inter club games. As they do most things together, the club's committee members felt it was most appropriate for them to receive this award together. Thank you both of you and congratulations.

PETER KROPE

NSW Slovenian Outstanding Volunteer For The Year 2006



PETER KROPE, born in Slovenia, came to Australia in 1972 and soon got involved in the Sydney Slovenian community especially in the newly established Triglav Club. In his 35 years association with the Triglav, he has been a member of the committee most of those years, many times elected as the president or as the Co-ordinator for the Public Relations and Organizations for social, cultural and other events of the Club. Peter and his wife Ivica were the members of the first Folkloric Dance Group at Triglav Club, he was involved in the Triglav Slovenian School and was also a member of the Slovenian School Council for NSW. Almost from the beginning, he was involved with the Slovenian ethnic radio either as the announcer or as the coordinator. With others, he was always trying to find a sensible way to unite all Slovenian organizations in Sydney. Peter played his biggest role in the life of the Slovenians in Sydney, when Triglav Club found itself in a critical financial position. He was instrumental in finding the best long-term solutions to care for the needs of the Slovenian community. Club Triglav amalgamated with the giant Panthers Group Penrith with guaranteed financial backing of the club, respect for the Slovenian heritage and traditions, and financial support for specific Slovenian activities for years to come. Peter, as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee Panthers Triglay, St. Johns Park, is working hard, and by having a very positive attitude towards working with the community, attained a lot of respect from the giant Panthers Group, that very positively reflects on everything that is Slovenian.

ALFRED BREŽNIK

NSW Australian Slovenian Achievements Award



ALFRED BREZNIK was born in Sentjur near Celje in 1937 and arrived in Australia in 1959. Within 2 years his wife arrived and they were then blessed with 2 sons. Very early, the sense of belonging and the unlimited love of all that is Slovenian soon saw him involved with like minded progressive compatriots in many activities for the benefit of Slovenian migrants.

As secretary, he was involved with the creation and growth of many committees over the years, starting with "Akcija za Dom", followed by the Slovenian Association Sydney, the Slovenian Schools Committee, where he forged links between the various Slovenian organisations and also the paper "The Voice of Slovenia". He was also instrumental in many activities of the Slovenian community in NSW at the time when our support was needed for the recognition of the Slovenian Independence.

He was later invited to be the Honorary Consul for NSW and VIC, then Honorary Consul General. His involvement stretched far and wide, including representation at the 2000 Olympics as the Olympic attaché. His help and support is always at hand - supporting Slovenian Mission, Slovenian archives HASA-NSW or any other action or group for the good of the Slovenian community. Having received well deserved recognition from the Republic of Slovenia as well as from Pope Benedict 16th, we would like to express our appreciation and thank you for all your efforts.

VINKO OVIJAČ

Achievement Award For The Life Work In The Slovenian Community



VINKO OVIJAČ – came to Australia with his family in 1958 after spending 13 years in Venezuela. They made their home at Yagoona.

Being very homesick for his beloved Slovenia, he felt a cultural void in his new adopted country. Learning that an attempt by the Slovene Association Sydney to own its own premises had failed left him very frustrated. In February 1964 he wrote an open letter to the periodical MISLI, which had a long-term effect in the history of the Slovenian community in Sydney.

As a result, a small group of dedicated Slovenians set up a new forum, "Akcija za dom—Action for Home," collecting money to buy suitable premises and to establish a Slovenian home – club. The first 50 pounds in the fund came from Vinko.

In next five years, Vinko went from one Slovenian home to another begging for money. In 1969 the premises were bought at Horsley Park, where in years that followed, the first Slovenian club was built. Apart from being a treasurer, a president or a trustee, he has also cleaned the toilets and windows, maintained gardens, oversaw the building of the club, and did the club's book-keeping. His ceaseless and selfless work for the community for 20 years had a significant impact on the history of the club and the community generally. Today, in his 86th year and dwindling health, he is still a regular visitor and a strong supporter of the activities in the community and no setback ever stopped him.

PRESENTED IN THE YEAR 2006 THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2005



LOJZE MAGAJNA

NSW SLOVENIAN AUSTRALIAN AWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF SPORTS AND CULTURE

MIHAELA ŠUŠTERŠIČ

NSW Special Award in the Field of Slovenian Culture

AND HERITAGE

IVAN KLOPČIČ

NSW SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR MIRA SMRDEL

NSW Equal winner for Slovenian Volunteer of the Year IVAN RUDOLF

NSW Equal winner for Slovenian Volunteer of the Year NATALIE BRCAR

NSW SLOVENIAN TERTIARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

PRESENTED IN THE YEAR 2005 THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2004



STEPHANIE ŠUBER

NSW SLOVENIAN PRIMARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR REBECCA KEEN

NSW SLOVENIAN SECONDARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR DANIEL ŠUBER

NSW HIGHLY COMMENDED SECONDARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR,

ROBERT MIKULETIČ

NSW SLOVENIAN TERTIARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR DANICA PETRIČ

NSW SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR MARIA GROSMAN

NSW SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

PRESENTED IN THE YEAR 2004 THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2003



CHERIE ŠAJN

SLOVENIAN PRIMARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

ROBERT RUDOLF

SLOVENIAN TERTIARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR, IVAN KOŽELI

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR, ANTHONY TOMAŽIN

SLOVENIAN ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

MARK KOBAL

SLOVENIAN/ AUSTRALIAN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FATHER VALERIJAN JENKO

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR SONJA FIŠER

SLOVENIAN HIGHLY COMMENDED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR,

PRESENTED IN THE YEAR 2003 THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2002



STEPHANIE ŠUBER

SLOVENIAN PRIMARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

JOSHUA BLEESING

SLOVENIAN HIGHLY COMMENDED PRIMARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR REBECCA KEEN

SLOVENIAN SECONDARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

DR.LILIJANA MIKULETIČ

SLOVENIAN TERTIARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

NATALIE BRCAR

SLOVENIAN HIGHLY COMMENDED TERTIARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR MARTHA MAGAJNA

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

JULIE BRCAR

SLOVENIAN HIGHLY COMMENDED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR IOZE KOŠOROK

SLOVENIAN HIGHLY COMMENDED SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR MIMI DE ROOY

SLOVENIAN ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

IRENA STARIHA

SLOVENIAN/ AUSTRALIAN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PRESENTED IN THE YEAR 2002 THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2001



STEPHANIE ŠUBER SLOVENIAN PRIMARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR BRIGITA BEZJAK SLOVENIAN TERTIARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

DRAGO OSTRIČ

SLOVENIAN YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR DR. SEAN PARSONAGE

SLOVENIAN HIGHLY COMMENDED YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

ELEONORA WHITE

SLOVENIAN OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR MILKA STANIČ

SLOVENIAN HIGHLY COMMENDED SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

OFFICIAL PROPOSAL FORM

PANTHERS ST JOHNS PARK- TRIGLAV 2009 NSW AND ACT SLOVENIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS for the year 2008

Closing date; 18th May 2009

AWARD CATEGORIES:

- · NSW and ACT-Slovenian Primary Student of the Year
- NSW and ACT Slovenian Secondary Student of the Year
- · NSW and ACT Slovenian Tertiary Student of the Year
- NSW and ACT Slovenian Entrepreneur of the Year
- NSW and ACT Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year
- NSW and ACT Slovenian Outstanding Volunteer of the Year
- NSW and ACT Australian Slovenian Achievements

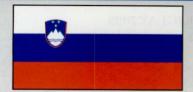
(Please tick to indicate the Award Category you are nominating for)

NSW and ACT – Slovenian Life Time Achievement Award.

Send the proposal to "Slovenian of the Year" Awards
Triglav Panthers St Johns Park
80-84 Brisbane Rd St Johns Park NSW 2176
Tel (o2) 9426 1000 or Email to: triglav@panthers.com.au

Slovenska himna





Prijat`lji, obrodile so trte vince nam sladko; Ki nam oživlja žile, srce razjasni in oko; Ki vtopi vse skrbi, V potrtih prsih up budi,

Žive naj vsi narodi, ki hrepene dočakat dan, Da koder sonce hodi Prepir bo iz sveta pregnan Da rojak prost bo vsak Ne vrag le sosed bo mejak!

Australian Anthem



Australians all let us rejoice
For we are young and free.
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
our home is girt by sea.
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare.
In history's page let every stage
advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing
Advance Australia Fair

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
We'll toil with hearts and hands.
To make this Commonwealth of ours
renowned of all the lands.
For those who've come across the seas
we've boundless plains to share.
With courage let us all combine
to Advance Australia Fair.





Your lifestyle, your club.

TRIGLAV

SLOVENIAN AWARDS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY TRIGLAV PANTHERS ST. JOHNS PARK



80 - 84 Brisbane Road - St. Johns Park NSW 2176 Tel 02 9426 1000, Fax: 02 9823 2522

EDITORS: MARTHA MAGAJNA, MARIJA GROSMAN AND PERINA KEEN, PHOTO: IGOR POCH, MARTHA MAGAJNA. MARIJA GROSMAN AND FLORJAN AUSER DESIGN: SLOVENIAN MEDIA HOUSE, FLORJAN AUSER