



The Friends of the Pagoda Association
PO BOX 232 MOOROOKA BRISBANE QLD AUSTRALIA 4105
<http://www.foundationexpo88.org/friendsofthepagoda/>



FOUNDATION EXPO '88

Progressing the World Expo '88 Vision

- A non-government not-for-profit entity celebrating Brisbane's World Expo '88 -

<http://www.foundationexpo88.org>



WORLD EXPO 88

1988 (2008)

20th Anniversary Celebration

<http://www.foundationexpo88.org/20th>



Report

Tuesday 30 October 2007

5.30p.m.-8.30p.m.

Café San Marco
South Bank Parklands, Brisbane
The Transformed World Expo '88 Site

19th Anniversary of the Official Closing Ceremony
of World Expo '88



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Your Majesty the Queen, Governor-General, Prime-Minister, Premier of Queensland, Lord Mayor, Chairman, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, it is with great pleasure that I present this Inaugural Joint Annual General Meeting Report of Foundation Expo '88, The Friends of the Pagoda Association, and the 20th Anniversary of World Expo '88 Celebration, on this, the occasion of the 19th Anniversary of the Closing Ceremony of World Expo '88, Tuesday 30 October 2007 – exactly 185 days – six months to the 20th Anniversary of World Expo '88, here, at the Café San Marco Balcony Room at the transformed World Expo '88 site, South Bank Parklands.

Today's Meeting is an ad hoc if not informal attempt to summarise the past six months of the Foundation's activities in its many guises, as well as establish a new Annual General Meeting structure for the Foundation's two principal arms, the Foundation itself, and its Association branch, The Friends of the Pagoda Association, hereby bringing the Annual General Meeting for both these entities to the same Anniversary date, the official Closing Ceremony of World Expo '88 - 30 October - each year. This not only simplifies and synergises each entities' reporting needs, but also brings us to the high end point of the Australian and summer and festive year at the same time. I hope you approve.

This six months, 30 April to 30 October 2007 has seen the most extensive outreach program of the Foundation's activities to date, which commenced with the 19th Anniversary of the Opening Ceremony Meeting on Monday 30 April 2007, in the presence of Mr Heinz Munz of the Swiss Pavilion and Ms Mary Drury, Colleague from the Australian Embassy in Peking, and also Life Member Mrs Violet McGregor. Honorary President of the Association and Life Member Mr & Mrs Frank & Myra Pitt's apologies, as well as that of the Lord Mayor of Brisbane and Premier of Queensland, and that of Chairman Sir James Maccormick MBE and Lady Maccormick were also noted at the Meeting, which featured a mock-up display of a diverse selection from the Foundation's World Expo '88 Memorabilia Collection – a preview introduction of the Foundation's then planned – and later approved – content for the Pagoda's First Level interior display cabinet.

This wonderful meeting, with old and new friends, cemented our goals vis-a-vis the Pagoda and the launch of two new exciting displays at the First Level, the World Expo '88 Memorabilia Display Cabinet, and, Brisbane City Council World Expo '88 Panorama Photograph Collection, with the generous in-kind and financial support from sponsors Live Print, Image Plus Digital Imaging at Indooroopilly Shoppingtown, Foundation Expo '88, and Friends of the Pagoda, for the occasion of the National Trust of Queensland Queensland Heritage Week 13-20 May and the International Council of Museums International Museums Week during same.

Generous media coverage and support from the National Trust, Museums and Galleries



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Services Queensland, South Bank Corporation, Image Plus Digital Imaging, and expomuseum.com should also be generously mentioned here as playing an important part in the wonderful attendance during this week launch as well as logistics and other generous support from South Bank Corporation's Events Manager David Contarini, and Image Plus Digital Imaging Ian Mullins, who went out of their way to see these projects delivered on time and in perfect positioning and display.

The Queensland Heritage Week and International Museums Week endeavours were much more than this though and also included several themed activities including daily interpretive art tours of the Pagoda's rich Hindu, Buddhist, Nepalese and World Expo' 88 origins; the World Expo '88 Network Guide Pamphlet Edition 2.0 and custom holder at the Pagoda; an Association Information Board; Gift Shop Merchandise Display; as well as Activity Sheets which further encouraged exploration of the Pagoda's rich architectural forms, all of which met with resounding interested public interest, with several participants per tour and many local and international visitors armed with curious and provoking questions about the Pagoda's Nepalese and World Expo '88 heritage and role, both during World Expo '88, and today's role, including that of measures for the 20th Anniversary next year. The Activity Sheets in particular, with their custom clipboard folders and pencils were a popular target for the young at heart, especially the wonderfully creative stone rubbings at Pagoda's Peace Bell itself. And, we also had many enquiries regarding the Pagoda as a place of worship – an aspect we shall be further exploring later.

Now six months have passed since this launch, which saw a further extension into 'Queensland Week' June 2007, and extension through to today, and to the 20th Anniversary next year where we wish to formally acknowledge and recognize the World Expo '88 Memorabilia Display Cabinet and Photograph Display as a permanent exhibition at the Pagoda whilst we continue plans for the Second and Third Level Museum project.

At this juncture I must also acknowledge the generous moral and in-kind support from the First Secretary of the Royal Nepalese Embassy in Canberra Mr Narayan Mainali, and the Honorary Consul-General in Brisbane Ms Helen Bainbridge who have brought their knowledge and wisdom to the project, and offered further avenues of support for a dedicated Nepalese Art Exhibition and Information area at the First Level of the Pagoda with the launch of the World Expo '88 Museum at the Pagoda's Second Level.

I must also acknowledge the kind words of support and encouragement from Nepalese visitors and other international Expo City visitors who are genuinely delighted and surprised to find this very genuine item of World Expositions heritage kept, and so perfectly preserved. May Cheppu the Garuda and his attendants shine bounteously on our endeavours as well!

Nonetheless we do have the random act of theft and vandalism here and there which is usually addressed by South Bank Corporation promptly, for which we also give thanks, and remind us that the Pagoda is a very living entity of art and work which needs and requires attention and caretaking, most nobly served by South Bank's own Security Staff and Maintenance Team, for which I also thank the Chief



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Executive's Office.

The Pagoda Tours program which celebrated the Pagoda's rich artistic heritage, twice daily during May/June, continued on a Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday schedule until September, and then to a Sunday only program till October, with present options including it continue on a 'By Special Request' template for Individual and Tour Groups to the Pagoda; the new contract of which is being hammered out at the moment with South Bank Corporation. This will see a minimalist personal intervention at the Pagoda, with Tours by Request, a bump-up of the Pagoda Information Board and a re-invigorated effort to replenish funding, and supplies of Edition 2.0 of the Network Guide Pamphlet which has been a great success.

Future options here include sponsorship and daily replenishment of stock by South Bank Corporation – which I shall investigate further in these coming months. Distribution on a daily basis here is the chief problem – could it possibly be worked into the daily regime of the Security Staff attending the Pagoda? This is a possible and practical solution.

Other activities and promotions which have soaked up the Foundation's time and resources has been our first 'in country' and 'in person' expo2020lympiad uluru 2007 Australia Information Sessions where I met with key Government, indigenous, private enterprise, media, not-for-profit, and general public stakeholders via the personal medium in open information sessions coupled with an interactive Microsoft Powerpoint Presentation on the project, the grass roots contacts and knowledge gained here being invaluable, in Darwin, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock Voyages Resort, and at the base of the Rock itself at the Uluru-Kata-Tjuta National Parkland Office and Anangu Cultural Centre. During this visit inspirations regarding the official theme song for the exp0lympiad 'It's Earth!', the 1,000 metre theme tower 'Native Australia' at the Rock, and the eucalyptus leaf exp0lympiad official torch emblem became apparent, which were communicated online 'in real time' to the Foundation's many interested worldwide eGroup subscribers. Telstra's support here courtesy of my iConnected imate jasjam PC camera mobile phone which facilitated this is also to be generously acknowledged here. Thanks Telstra!

This is the first of many 'in country' and 'in person' presentations and representations for the project – the next phase being a 3-week stay based at Ayers Rock Voyages Resort itself. Very exciting. (The Powerpoint Presentation by the way is now downloadable at <http://www.foundationexpo88.org/>).

And, in other key additions to the website, to facilitate commercial and other representation and development of the work, a Creative Commons 3.0 Licence has been applied to all work at foundationexpo88.org to see in and foster a new governed approach to credited creative internet copyright and engagement.

I look forward to your respective office's support and speaking with you again on Wednesday 30 April 2008.



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With sincere best wishes

John McGregor
Executive Director



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