



Director Pacific Rim

22 Wickham Street, Morningside, Queensland 4170

Ph 041 831 2109

glenn.austin@bigpond.com.au

<http://www.xtremechef.com.au/>

Since the board meeting in Singapore we have moved forward but not at the speed I would like, it is taking considerable time getting interest in the Pacific Rim. The Nations that we are dealing with are pretty well starting from scratch with the setting up of Chef Associations and as you all are aware this is very time consuming. Notwithstanding this Noumea, Vanuatu and Tahiti are making progress.

Vanuatu is being headed up by Chef Clayton Hatch originally from Canada; Clayton is doing an excellent job and is being assisted by Adam Haywood from Fiji. Clayton is putting together a membership benefit document to create initial interest in the association. I spoke with Clayton and he has put in a request to assist with starting a library for the Vanuatu Chefs, so a book drive is now under way.

The Pacific challenge is still only in concept stage funding is representing a problem, raising cash is an ongoing Chef association issue, but trying to secure cash straight after an Olympic Year with three other major events happening in the region is proving to be more than awkward. The Continental Directors team have organised the criteria, location and logistics so we are ready to roll, just waiting for the golden Goose.

The Asia Pacific Forum is looming these things do have a habit of creeping up on us, September one to five are the dates. The MLA Black Box competition will happen at the same time; this is the largest Black Box final for MLA to date. The International secondary school challenge follows this up what a month it will be. Again well done to Allan Parker and his team.

New Zealand is now at the fine tuning point of the March Congress all systems are in place and Murray Dick is not the only person working towards the success of the New Zealand Congress, but as the Director of the congress he has put in 100% effort and will deserve the hard earned nervous breakdown that a Congress can bring. But all jokes aside the Kiwis have done a great job to date.

Fiji has there annual Salon ready to go Daniel and his team are a terrific group of Chefs and a role model to the neighbouring islands. If we can get the other associations to the same stage as quickly as the Fiji guys have, then the Pacific Rim will thrive. I would like to think that the Pacific Challenge does come off this year as it will be a well earned reward for the hard working Fijian Chefs, they will be hosting the show.

Peter Wright the President elect for Australia has his hands full at the moment Peter for those of you who do not know is the kitchen operations Manager for Spotless Catering, the biggest Caterer in Australia, Peter has just done the reopening of the Melbourne Cricket Ground in Melbourne so between organising himself to take over the ACF and the normal opening drams of any major venue Peter has more than enough to deal with currently, but I can assure you all that you will be hearing more from him