



Director Pacific Rim

22 Wickham Street, Morningside, Queensland 4170

Ph 0418312109

glenn.austin@bigpond.com.au

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

PACIFIC RIM- CONTINENTAL DIRECTORS

REPORT



As continental director, I have attended all meetings except Paris. On taking my position, I outlined that I would ensure the message of WACS would be spread within the region, and that every effort would be made to expand the region.

Prior to achieving this position in Dublin, my speech included the following:

If successful in obtaining the position of Continental Director, I intend to take note of the members' concerns and move forward on them to give the Pacific Rim the full opportunity to develop as it deserves.

It is my intention to further strengthen the bond between the existing financial members of the Pacific Rim, namely Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, and use the collective strength from all organizations to create a healthy culinary association throughout the Pacific.

To this end I have worked with different countries to help promote, and in some regions, establish their chefs associations. It must be understood that these countries are from a low economic background and require assistance to develop. With my team, I have embraced and implemented programs that have been outlined by the board such as the Global Chefs Challenge and the WACS chefs' accreditation program. I have established the Pacific Rim Web site in conjunction with the ACF to assist in keeping every member up-to-date with what is happening within the region. I have established a Pacific Rim office with the help of regional assistants from Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

VANUATU

Having helped organize this association, one of the glaring issues they faced was access to training knowledge. With the assistance of the Australian Culinary Federation, my office has been able to establish a knowledge centre for the Vanuatu chefs and the books and computer systems are currently being packed in the ACF Melbourne office and will then be sent very shortly. The response from all was fantastic. The chefs association is gathering momentum, and my office is assisting them in every way we can. The only delay is actually organizing my time to visit and assist in the actual set-up.

FIJI

I had one of my regional assistants, as well as the ACF president, attend the Fiji Salon in December; all awards have been posted on the Web site. The master classes prior to the event were well attended, and this year's Salon saw a substantial increase in the quality and standard of food. Over all, it was an excellent Salon run professionally by the Fiji Chefs Association. This association is now on a sound footing and has representatives attending both the Asia/Pacific forum and this year's congress.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The chefs association is now organized and their membership is increasing. My office has assisted in their formation with clerical and professional advice and they are now striving to ensure they have a strong sustainable organization with a focus on their youth.

TAHITI

I have had discussions with the nucleus of the Tahitian Chefs Association and am well underway to having the association up and running, and again my office has assisted with clerical and professional advice. I am in constant contact with them, and as requested my office will be assisting them to formulate a youth training policy.

NOUMEA

Communication is continuing with Noumea, and it is only a matter of time before we see considerable progress within this nation. Work continues in this area.

AUSTRALIA

Over the past two years, I have assisted the ACF to field representatives and teams in world competition. Through the director's office, the ACF had the privilege of hosting the 2005 Asia Pacific Forum, which incorporated an international high schools culinary challenge and also the finals of the MLA black box competition. Australia will also be piloting the WACS Chef accreditation program and the dates are already set for the national finals of the Global Chef's Challenge.

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand has been very busy with organizing the congress, and I have used the resources of my office to assist where possible. The work in New Zealand will not stop here as they have requested and been granted the right to host the regions final of the Global Chefs Challenge in 2007.

SUMMARY

In past two years, there has been a marked increase in awareness of WACS and its message within the region. The new organizations are striving to join the fold, and I am confident that the next congress will see a bigger Pacific Rim delegation. It is also my belief that with the assistance of the more established countries and the WACS board, we will have a vibrant and sustainable future before us. I look forward to the challenges to come.

Glenn Austin
WACS Continental Director - Pacific Rim