

ANZA KOREA

COMMUNITY, NETWORKING, CHARITIES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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ANZA Exclusive interview

H.E. Catherine Raper
Australian Ambassador

Thursday 4th March some of ANZA Committee members met H.E. Catherine Raper, new Australian Ambassador to Korea and ANZA co-patron.

Your Excellency, as you recently arrived in Korea what are your impressions so far? Is this your first posting in Asia?

No, it's not my first posting in Asia, I spent four years in Taipei from 2014 to 2017, where I had an opportunity to experience life in Northern Asia. That was a great experience and when the opportunity came up for Seoul, I thought it will be a great opportunity to experience another North Asia culture. I was keen to come to Korea because it represented for me an important part of the Australian relationship with countries in the region. There is a very big trade and economic element but also an important regional security element. With these two elements together, I can see a lot of potential and I was keen to come!



Also, the lifestyle, the food, the people, the culture, the opportunity to experience all of that is very attractive and I am very keen to get out and explore Seoul and Korea as COVID restrictions allow. I haven't done too much yet but I have big plans to explore with my husband. Watch this space! I will share with you my experiences. So far, I visited few places, such as the Noryangjin Wholesale Fish Market early one morning, Dongdaemun Markets and Ttukseom Park on the Han River. This is my fifth posting and I know you have to do things early, because once you get

settled it becomes harder. I can see there is a lot to do in Seoul, it's a really dynamic city.

"I am a strong believer that you don't know a country unless you get out of the capital."

I would love to explore outside of Seoul. I am a strong believer that you don't know a country unless you get out of the capital. That will be an important part of my plan, both in my work capacity and privately. My husband and I, along with our 16 year old, will do that as well. We like going to past town, temples, historic sites and nature.



How do you plan to get to know the Australian Expat community in Korea?

Hopefully ANZA will help me with that! I already engaged with AustCham Korea and their business community. With ANZA, I hope to have the opportunity to go beyond the business community and meet some of your members. I will definitely connect with the community via events organised by ANZA and/or AustCham as well as contributing to your newsletter. Also, for the Australian and New Zealander communities there are important events in the calendar to participate in.



For ANZAC Day we are working in this COVID environment and going up to Gapyeong. I know from previous postings that these events are very valuable times for both Australian and New Zealand community to connect with their hosts, in this case Korea. The 'Taste of Australia' will be a signature event for showcasing Australian Culture and Food and Australian support for charity work. This will be such great opportunities during this 60th Anniversary year of Australia-Korea diplomatic relations.

"We have been rebranding our social media with our new staff member Koko the Koala."

Social media will be a way to connect too. We have been rebranding our social media with our new 'staff member' Koko the Koala. With social media we are looking to have a mix of fun as well as more serious messaging. I think the opportunity to participate to some events and having an online engagement will hopefully provide a good way to know the Australian community in Korea.

Being a working mum- what do you enjoy doing in your spare time to relax, unwind and have fun?

I had really valuable time with my son as we arrived together in Korea and did home isolation together. It's probably the most time we spent one on one in recent years. I also really enjoy getting out and exploring. From my house I can see a bit of the city wall and I plan to explore it. I like doing some walking, hiking and being a tourist. I like spending time with my family getting out and also cooking. It's always a juggle. However, with my husband it's a partnership it always has been two jobs and he understands the juggle. With two professional lives and children, it always takes organisation to make it work. Another member of my family, my cat, arrives tomorrow!

Living away from Australia - what do you always have with you to remind you of Home?

Vegemite! I eat Vegemite every morning. I bought the biggest jar I could find and brought it in my

baggage. That's always the little reminder of home. Also, I was excited to find some Tim Tams at the Foreign Food Market.



Also, the funny thing is there are some things I will make when I am posted overseas that I would never make back home such as: lamingtons, sausage rolls. The great thing in Korea is how popular Australian products are. You can get Australian beef everywhere and it has such a good reputation here and cheaper than Korean beef. Wine, it's great to see how much Australian wine there is on the shelves. Often it's the Yellow Tail range. We are very keen to introduce the Korean consumers to different type of Australian wine.

What are your plans coming into this role in an iconic year where Australia and Korea are celebrating 60 years of diplomatic relations?

We definitely want to make a splash this year. You only get one chance at these big anniversaries and the 60th will be one. COVID clipped our wings a little bit but we will not let it hold us back.



"My main message to expat Australian community, ANZA members and Australian entrepreneurs is Thank you !"

We had a logo competition and the chosen logo will give the overall theme on how we want to approach this event. It has been a joint collaboration between the Korean Embassy in Canberra and Australian Embassy in Seoul.



We will work together making sure what people see in Australia and people see in Korea will go in the same way. The message will be about the strength of this partnership, how much we share common values, how much more we can do together.

We will be celebrating the past 60 years but also looking ahead where we will take our relationship in the future. We have a couple of events planned, we tried to backend them in the hope we will not have to cancel. Our big event will be an Australian contemporary art exhibition toward the end of the year at Seoul Museum of Art to showcase our culture. We will also have the Café Show in November with Australia as the feature country.

Do you have a personal message to address to the expat Australian community, to ANZA members and to Australian entrepreneurs in Seoul?

My main message is "Thank you !". It has been a tough year. I arrived recently, but my previous job was COVID-19 coordination effort. I saw what a massive impact this situation has been on everyone's lives, families, businesses, ... everything. The fact that people have invested their lives here in

Korea is appreciated and very valuable. And going back to an earlier point, we talked about relationships and people to people links. It takes real people for that to happen.

The contribution that everyone is making through their work and their life here are a big part of that. I am keen to hear more stories about people here, what they are doing, The life and the work they are building here are the part of the Australian-Korea partnership.

Our April issue will feature an interview of H.E. Philip Turner, New Zealand Ambassador to Korea and ANZA co-patron.

Socials

Save the dates

Social events planned below depending on COVID restrictions to be eased.

OUR COMMUNITY'S SAFETY REMAINS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY DURING THESE CHALLENGING TIMES.

Coffee Morning

Thursday 24 March y 2021

Location to be disclosed closer to the date and pending the restrictions to be eased.



Easter Picnic

Sunday 4th April 2021

Location to be disclosed closer to the date.



Pub Night

Friday 26 March 2021

Bonny's Pizza Pub, HBC
Depending on COVID restrictions to be eased.

Community events

Dwight School Seoul

Virtual Open House for Grade 6-Grade 11 families via Zoom Saturday, March 13th: 10 to 11:30 AM



UPPER SCHOOL

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Grades 6 - 11

Saturday, March 13, 2021

10:00 am - 11:30 am

REGISTER HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/DwightVirtualOpenHouse>



DWIGHT SCHOOL SEOUL

ANZA Korea Welcomes you!

Memberships

ANZA Korea welcomes all nationalities to come join our community.

Yearly membership is KRW50,000 and begins from 01 August.

Email us at registration@anzakorea.com

How to become a member in 3 steps

STEP 01 Head to our website

www.anzakorea.com

Click the "membership" link



STEP 02 Fill in your details

One membership (KRW50,000/year) covers one household

STEP 03 Transfer payment

ANZA Korea Bank Account Details
Bank: Standard Chartered (SC은행)
Account Number: 100-20-954772
Account Name: ANZA (후안호주뉴질랜드협회)

We also accept cash however, bank transfer is preferred. Unfortunately, credit card is not available as a payment option.

Join us at our next event!

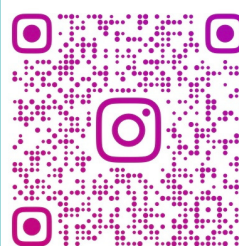
For any questions please email registration@anzakorea.com



Coming Soon

As soon as the COVID restrictions are lifted we will resume our monthly coffee mornings. In the meantime we are preparing a special edition on coffee and its benefits. Stay tuned... !!

Follow us on our social media (Facebook and Instagram) for information and news about our activities and events by clicking on the pictograms on the barre below. For Instagram you can also scan the QR Code on the right.



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