

IJF Brisbane Gasshuku, Australia – Pascal Krieger's comment

For me, this Gasshuku was quite a success for several reasons: first, the quality of training which was excellent! The atmosphere of this delicious place surrounded with trees. The nice mood, and, despite the big differences of temperature (7 to 25 degrees), a wonderful weather.

It was also a real pleasure to meet again these Australians that I have seen regularly during these last 50 years.

I was also honored to have been able to contribute to encourage the reunification of the various Australian groups and push them to create a national organization of Jô. It is why I thought adequate to deliver a Menkyo Kaiden to Paul Maloney who has introduced Jôdô in Australia in 1974, to Glen Henry for his high technical competence, as well as Andy Poulos, my student since about 25 years and who, with his special humour has always created a very friendly atmosphere around him.

A big thanks to Michel Ducret, Michael Söderkvist and Maria-Rosa Valluzzi for their great help during the teaching.

My gratitude to Andy Poulos who sheltered me in Sydney and made me visit this wonderful city, and also to Glen Henry for his wonderful

organization of the Gasshuku grateful to a very efficient staff, and for his hospitality in his beautiful house in Brisbane, with a great garden in which stands a wonderful dôjô.

On the break day, a cruise on the big Brisbane river led us to a park in which incredible birds welcomed us, koalas watching us quietly. I even could pat a kangaroo.



Because of the big temperature difference, I got a strong cold the third day of the Gasshuku.

On my return trip, I spent two days in Singapore in Guillaume Demesy's house, my Iaidô student since about 40 years. It was a pleasure to conduct Kenjutsu lessons for his very nice group.

The long return trip went pretty well, and it was a real pleasure to get back to my beloved city of Geneva.

