



the generator

July 31 volume 4

It's the mid-year holidays and Gerry Generator is busy testing his hypothesis that a microwave + random objects - parental supervision = a whole load of fun.

So far he's tested a toothbrush, a microwave safe container and last night's leftover roast beef with messy, overwhelming and delicious results respectively.

Next up is his alarm clock.



In some kind of pseudo-scientific phenomenon we aren't going to bother explaining to your satisfaction, the reaction between the clock and the microwave has taken Gerry backwards in time...!

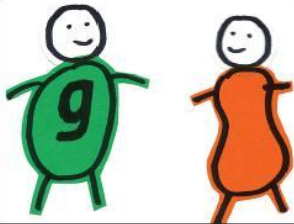
"WE GON LIGHT IT UP, LIKE IT'S DYNAMITE"



Where am I? Wait...looks like Kate and Wills just got engaged and is that Dynamite by Taio Cruz ft. Ludacris I can hear? Why, it must be the second half of 2010!

Gerry has travelled several months back in time to late 2010 and he's found himself at an event run by WA Generators - a 'When I Grow Up' fancy dress party.

And here's Anna Lam, one of the organisers, to tell him all about it.



## When I Grow Up...

Anna: Guests have been asked to dress up as their childhood fantasy to show support for the Youth Livelihoods Project, which is all about micro-financing for career opportunities in East Timor. We thought it also fit in with our core values of education and embodied the aspirations and opportunities in life that all children should have.

We organised the production and distribution of promotional material, sought out in kind sponsorship from local businesses for prizes and catering, approached venues with our proposed event to secure an accessible location with a fun atmosphere and distributed and sold tickets and kept account of the flow of money. No one in my team had had any previous experience in organising events such as this so we were pretty much thrown into the deep end. It was very difficult at first when we realised the whole list of things we had to do, but we conquered them one at a time. And it all paid off because there are over 100 people here and we've raised over \$1000!



I'm keen to stay and party and all, but I did just discover the secret of time travel so I'm pretty keen to try it out some more. Where to next I wonder?



Somewhere else in late 2010, Gerry finds himself in South Australia at quite a different kind of event. Here's Tam Brain to give him the low down.



Tam: This is an art exhibition, called Acorn Art!

Our aim was to create an experience that would cater for our local Gen Y while still working towards our fundraising objectives. We asked friends and friends of friends who were visual artists and musicians to feature work/perform on the evening. Our aim was to create an environment where we would have the opportunity to entertain, but also explain and pitch what it is we are doing at a fundraising level.

An art exhibition has turned out to be an ideal environment for some casual cross, really introducing many new people to Oaktree. It has been great to be able to show family and friends what it is we've dedicated our time to. And it was a lot of time and effort - speaking to venue owners, haggling, enquiring as to the price of alcohol, licensing, security guards, gaining support and last night.

But it's all been worth it because there are over 100 people here and we've raised over £1000. Plus the opportunity to not only contribute, but engage others, randoms, friends and family, was something that we really value.

From the success of Acorn Art I've been inspired to apply for SA Communications Manager. And if you travel back to the future you'll see that I'm really loving that role!



This is amazing! But still I think there might just be one more place my alarm clock and microwave can take me...



Gerry is once again transported through time and space, and apparently a costume hire shop, and now finds himself at a beginners salsa lesson, wearing very, very tight pants and shirt with enough sequins to fill the Atlantic Ocean. What can this be? Let's ask Bethany Hislop, a Generator from Victoria who's organised this event.



Bethany: Welcome to Salsa for a Change! We've brought in some salsa teachers to give everyone a dance lesson, and later on the DJ will help us all tear up the floor. Our main aim was fundraising, so we sold tickets for \$15 and had a raffle. We also wanted everyone to know about Oaktree and the project we were raising money for, so we have had a presentation about it..

Another one of our aims was for everyone to just have a really fun night, and create a really great atmosphere.

The main pressure points in organising tonight were finding the venue and date because you can't start to advertise until that's locked in! Working out how to best promote the event was difficult too. We ended up mostly having just friends and family here, but it would have been great to have been more organised and have people we didn't know come along. The hardest part has been working in a group. Everyone in Generate already has lots of other commitments so communication is key. That way everyone knows when things need to be done and who is doing what.

But it's all worked out well in the end, because we've reached our fundraising target and it's been a really, really massively fun night for everyone. It's been great to see something that's been so long coming come together really well!

# SALSA FOR A change

17 September  
7.30-11pm

Tickets only



All proceeds to the  
Oaktree Foundation's  
Youth Livelihoods Project  
- developing sustainable jobs  
for East Timorese youth living  
in extreme poverty.

As fun as this is...I really want to get changed pretty soon. And what's that beeping? Oh, it's the alarm on my clock. Guess it's time to go back to the future...



What a day! Not only did I discover the secrets of time travel and visit some amazing Generate events, I've now got this delicious left over roast beef to eat!



As Gerry tucks into his mum's famous roast, he dreams of time when life was simpler. Like back in late 2010. Gosh, it seems like it was just a few minutes ago!

For tips on time travel hit up



Generate



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