

Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc.



Newsletter

Issue 258

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Meets at

Teralba Community Hall
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Teralba NSW

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Committee

2020-2021

President

Andrew MacPherson

Vice President

Grahame Pricter OAM

Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer

Robyn Smith

Committee

Sue Donald
Duncan Berry
Helen Fulton
Graeme Hamilton
Kim Nolan
Lynne Pricter
Andrew Smith

Greetings Hunter Valley Scots Club Members,

How is life going for you? Are you slowly getting back into the swing of life with a few less restrictions? Have you had your vaccine ('jab') yet?

Life on the Scottish culture front has certainly been very quiet. Hunter Valley Scots Club as you are aware had to cancel Burns Night and has not held any social nights this year. We are planning towards an event in July – not a Caledonian Night because of limitations, but plans are getting underway for a concert so still keep the date of **17 July 2021** in your diary for a **Scottish night**.

Sadly we saw that **Brigadoon** was cancelled but **MacLean's Highland Gathering** went ahead at Easter and apparently a successful weekend. A friend contacted me in excitement as Moree Caledonian Society Pipes and Drums had been placed third in the Band Contest. (Scots College, Warwick - 1st, City of Ipswich Pipe Band – 2nd). Congratulations to all.

Australian Celtic Festival Glen Innes is being promoted as a Fringe Festival this year and limited to 1,2 May

Bonnie Wingham. 5 June 2021. Roslyn Kerr has forwarded the programme which is attached to this newsletter.

Aberdeen games will be on 3 July 2021 – Charles Cooke reports that only a major calamity will cause its cancellation.

Clans on the Coast, Nelson Bay has been cancelled until 2022

Urgent, Desperate Need

For a willing person to compile this newsletter.

Since Gary Gray moved to northern parts of Australia several years ago we have not had an editor and have battled on. We would really appreciate hearing from someone who feels they would like to be involved.

The newsletter is monthly or bimonthly to update local news on Scottish happenings, and other information of interest pertinent to the promotion of Scottish culture.

Put these dates in your diary

HVSC Scottish Night 17 July 2021

HVSC Burns Night 29 January 2022

Do you keep up to date with Scottish activity in Australia? Two good sources are **The Scottish Banner** monthly paper, and Facebook **Scots in Australia** . Worth checking on these two, plus our own website & facebook of course.

Other dates for your diary:

1-2 May **Australian Celtic Festival, Year of Ireland & The Isle of Man**, Glen Innes.

5 June **Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival**

3 July **Aberdeen Highland Games**

6 November **Central Coast Scottish Spectacular**

And if you are travelling:

National Celtic Folk Festival on long weekend, 11-14 June 2021, Portarlington Victoria

Let's hope these events can go ahead and all the planning the organisers put into these events does not go to waste.

If you are able to attend any of these activities please send some information and photos to share with others through this newsletter.

MEMBERS

Do you receive this newsletter by snail mail? If you have some access to an email service eg your child's, please let us know, as quite often information is sent out by email and it is either received at too short notice eg virtual Burns Night information, or is too large to copy to send eg Scottish Australian Heritage Council newsletter. It is a real pity if you miss out on great Scottish cultural activities.

Hunter Multicultural Communities.

This group "supports the diverse needs of people within the Hunter Region's multicultural communities by fostering cultural harmony, encouraging social cohesion, and promoting a united, just and equitable society for all."

For many years HVSC has had a representative on their committee. Nance Adams was this person until her passing and now Helen Fulton has taken on this role. We will receive reports from her and pass them on to you.

CRANACHAN

Ingredients: 570ml double cream, 85g porridge oats, 7 tbsp whisky, 3 tbsp honey, 450g raspberries, mint to garnish

Method: Toast oats in frying pan. Lightly whip cream, fold in whisky, honey, oatmeal and raspberries. Serve in dessert glasses garnished with mint and a few raspberries.



Flora Carter (Grubb) the skilled Highland Dancer and trainer/encourager of young people in this skill, is well known to many.

I was given this outline of her life which Flora wrote some years back and thought I would share it with you as I am sure you will find it as interesting as I did.

Follow Your Dream

After winning the Grand Australasian Championship in 1959, my dream to dance in Scotland was fulfilled when the Newcastle Scots Association, led by Ian McKenzie and Les Splatt, raised 800 pounds to fund my trip. I sailed for Bonnie Scotland on the S.S. Oronsay on the 7th March 1960 to represent Australia at the World Championships held at the Cowal Games in Dunoon in August each year.

The Flying Scotsman took me to Aberdeen where I had dance classes every day with World Champion -J.L.McKenzie, until he left for the USA in June. Then I was off to the Summer Games, where I soon made lots of friends. Katie Forsyth, Billy and Andrea were so kind and helped me with accommodation and transport to all the Highland Games from Inverness to Dunoon. Competition was keen, however leading up to Cowal I began to break through the winners circle.

Then to Dunoon where my mum had spent many holidays with her family when she was a child. So I already had a special connection with this charming village where my dream was to come true. I found myself a finalist dancing for the World Championship. Overjoyed, I danced with sheer delight, skill, and the love of Highland Dancing. The result was beyond belief!

Holding the Adult World Championship Trophy, I was driven around the field in an open utility with the Australian flag flying. I was the 1960 World Champion. This was the first time they had honoured the World Champion in this way and I was the first overseas dancer to ever win this event.

My life instantly became one big whirl. Back to Katie Forsyth's for a celebration which lasted till dawn. Then came the offers – A Scottish TV series or lead dancer in 'Caledonia' – Singers and Dancers of Scotland, touring the USA and Canada for the next five months. It was hard leaving Scotland as I flew to New York to start my concert tour. Exhausting, exciting, and lots of fun, we travelled by coach through 32 states doing one night shows. Finally in February 1961, we returned home to an amazing reception in both Sydney and Newcastle.

The next 50 years I have spent promoting Highland Dancing in Australia and particularly Newcastle. I have trained many champions, the greatest one, you all know as Justine Daly, who won 5th place in the Adult World Championship in Scotland in 1995.

I was awarded the honour of Duine Uasal by the Celtic Council of Australia in 1993 for my service to the Scottish Arts.

I have been greatly rewarded in my passion for Highland Dancing, none of which would have eventuated without the support of the Newcastle Scots and the tireless efforts of Ian McKenzie, Les Splatt and my dear family.

Flora Grubb

B.W.S.F. Fair program Saturday 5th June, 2021, Central Park, Wingham

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	ORGANISER
0830-0930	entrances	registration and bracelet purchases	Wade King
0930-0950	field	Bands Parade	John Andrews
0950-1005	dais & field	Opening Ceremony	M.C. Stuart Weller
1005-1025	dais	Jacaranda Highland Dancers	Katrina Sanne
1025-1040	field	Manning Valley Pipes and Drums	J.A.
1040-1100	field	Highland Rose Jacobite Re-enactment Group	Lachlan MacPherson
1100-1115	field	Hastings District Pipe Band	J.A.
1115-1125	field	Lassies' Hurling the Haggis	W.K.
1125-1140	field	Tamworth Pipe Band	J.A.
1140-1200	field	Lads' Hurling the Haggis	W.K.
1200-1215	field	City of Newcastle R.S.L. Pipe Band	J.A.
1215-1235	dais	Jacaranda Highland Dancers	K.S.
1235-1255	field	Best Dressed Dog with Scottish Theme	Rosalind Walker
1255-1315	field	Lassies' Tug-o-War (adult/teen girls)	W.K.
1315-1335	field	Lads' Tug-o-War (adult/teen boys)	W.K.
1335-1355	field	Highland Rose Jacobite Re-enactment Group	L.M.
1355-1410	field	Coffs Coast Pipes and Drums	J.A.
1410-1420	field	Wee Lassies' kilted dash (primary school girls)	W.K.
1420-1430	field	Wee Lads' kilted dash (primary school boys)	W.K.
1430-1440	field	Wee Bairns' kilted dash (pre-schoolers)	W.K.
1440-1500	dais	Jacaranda Highland Dancers	K.S.
1500-1515	field	Bands Parade	John Andrews
1515-1530	dais & field	Closing Ceremony	M.C. Stuart Weller

Note colour coding:

- black is on the road
- blue is on the field and dais
- orange is on the dais
- red is for bands on the field
- green is for games on the field