

Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc.



Newsletter

Issue 272

February 2023

Meets at

Teralba Community Hall
Cnr Margaret St &
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Teralba NSW

For Hall Bookings
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Committee

2022-2023

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Andrew MacPherson

Vice President

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Committee

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Hello to Hunter Valley Scots Club Members and friends,

2023 is underway well and truly! Summer seems to have finally come and I imagine you are similar to us, in that regular activities for the year have hotted up. Was there a quieter time around Christmas, New Year and January? I am not sure. It was quieter for Hunter Valley Scots Club but planning for 2023 is now underway.

We had a great **Burns Night** at the beginning of February. Despite bookings being a bit slow at first we ended up with 109 people ordering meals, plus the Highland Dancers, the Pipe Band and the dance band and singers. Probably more than 130 people all together (and that's not including the staff from Club Macquarie who took the opportunity when they were able, to view the activities of the evening)



There were the traditional toasts to: The Haggis, Absent Friends, The Immortal Memory, Toon We Bide In, Lads and Lassies. We thank those toast makers – both those who have proposed toasts frequently and those who were proposing a toast for the first time – thank you to all of you for playing this important part of a Burns Night.

The Highland Dancers and the Mineworkers Pipe Band are also vital contributors to the evening and did you notice how often the Scots Club Piper assisted during the evening? Adam Harvey not only played with the Pipe Band but assisted with some of the formalities eg piping in the VIP's and The Haggis, and played for the Highland Dancers – you had to be there to appreciate the enthusiasm of these dancers particularly the younger ones keen to be involved!

There had been numerous requests for lots of dancing for the company and Jeff Lawrie with the band Walcha Rd certainly provided great music for this, as well as the Pipe Band playing for Strip the Willow. Entertainment by a group like Neeps & Tatties was a new aspect of the evening and was greatly appreciated.

2023 - put these dates in your diary now

Hunter Valley Scots Club

Soup & Damper 7 May 2023

Caledonian Night 15 July 2023

AGM September 2023

Christmas Social December 2023

Planning is also underway for other social activities for HVSC members in order that we get to know each other better – we would welcome any suggestion.

Other local Scottish activities in 2023

1 April 2023 - Brigadoon, Bundanoon Highland Gathering

4-7 May 2023 – Australian Celtic Festival – Glen Innes

27 May 2023 – Berry Celtic Festival

2 June 2023 – Bonnie Wingham Scottish Festival

1 July 2023 – Aberdeen Highland Games

1 July -International Tartan Day - marks the anniversary of the repeal of the Act of Proscription that banned the wearing of tartan



A blurry picture but it portrays the skills of the older dancers, the club piper, and the enthusiasm of the younger dancers

Other Bits and Pieces

1. Central Coast Scots a while ago were considering the need to fold. It is good to see that they have decided to continue and we will aim to join in their activities at times.
2. There are a number of kilts available for purchase. Contact us hunterscots@gmail.com if you would like to view them
3. A lady by the name of Eunice English contacted us. She was apparently a member some years back and maybe some longer time members might recall her. Below is a section of her email

"Hello the noo!" Its a long time since I was a member of the Scots club and I have been away in England until my Mum and Dad passed away. I returned in 2015 I now I live in Belmont North I wonder if you have any members I could get a lift with to any of the events. I'm not as mobile and I'm currently about to move into the residential care part of Narla Village. I used to do your newsletter at one time many years ago. I would also like to contact Vlvian in the accordionist to see if he could be available to perform at our care home in Belmont North and also to write about for my blog which I am just adapting at the moment. If my son' (Richard Hobson opens his planned music shop in Warners Bay I would like any Scots Club musicians to come there and show off their talents and if they have CDs for sale to take them on display in the shop once they are set up. I am totally out of touch with everyone but thinking of Bernard night from Sydney to get back to you please say hello to everyone and say I would like to hear from them.... I have a website called Mee Memoirs.com on which some of your members might like to find my memories of living in Scotland going to school in alloway plus other bits and pieces. I am not on Facebook at the moment because I have been having problems with the Site so I have not been able to look at your fb page now to keep up with not what's happening. Please put me on your mailing list as euniceenglish@gmail.com

Bye the noo.

best regards Eunice

Hobson-English

<http://meememoirs.com>

You might like to look at Eunice's website – Included in the website are -My Artwork, Inside Euntun Abbey, Mee Garden at Dawn, and Mee Poyums (which particularly liked). Eunice explains she has Parkinsons, and Macular Degeneration so I imagine for her that the physical aspect of writing is not the easiest activity .

Note: We still have an urgent need for a Secretary and a Newsletter Editor