

Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc.



Newsletter

Issue 290

September 2024

Oh, What a Sight it Was!

The Hunter Valley Highland Games held at Saltire Estate on Saturday 24th August was, indeed, a sight to behold, with thousands of visitors enjoying a day of sheer Caledonian grandeur, equal to any event you would experience in Scotland.

Although Mother Nature produced virtually four seasons in one day, spirits were not frozen, dampened or blown away by the wind and, amongst it all, the Hunter Valley Scots Club were there beneath our beautiful new marquee in a great position right next door to the Scottish Butcher attracting many hungry guests wanting 'haggis'. From there we could also view the games activities, the country and highland dancing, whilst in the background, the pipe bands played continuously throughout the day.



Wi' a hundred pipers ... an' a', an' a'!!!



The Lone Piper

One of the highlights for us was to hear our own HVSC vice president, Andrew MacPherson as 'The Lone Piper' playing the traditional heralding of the end of the day's events, followed by the massed bands as the sun set on a perfect day.

On the 21st September we will be attending 'Clans on the Coast' at Raymond Terrace. Why not come and join us and have some fun and a chat and meet our historian, Robert, and perhaps learn a little about your Scottish Heritage.

Join us for High Tea

Although we can't guarantee cucumber sandwiches, you are cordially invited to join us on Sunday 29th September at Club Macquarie, Argenton at 3pm for a complimentary afternoon tea then afterwards our Annual General Meeting at 4pm. If you haven't already paid your membership fee, just bring along the attached form completed with your details and you can pay cash to our treasurer on the day. The life blood of any organization, and at it's core, are the members without whom there would be no association. You, as a member of the Hunter Valley Scots Club, are important to it's overall existence and your input and ideas always welcome. You will also receive our monthly newsletters with updates on future events and our social calendar and, of course, as a member, you will save on the cost of the likes of our Caledonian and Burns Nights Ceilidhs. So, renew today or come along on the 29th to get the most of out of your annual subscription. The cost is now only \$15.00 per adult with Junior Memberships (5-12 yrs) \$10.00 and Family Membership (two adults & two children) only \$40.00. If you would like to order a name badge, and make it look official, the fee is just \$20.00, although this is optional. So come join us now and enjoy the next 12 months of Scottish traditions, heritage and fun!

A Century of Service

The City of Newcastle RSL Pipe Band Centenary

On January 8, 1924, just over one century ago, an advertisement in the Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate read,

*“PIPERS AND DRUMMERS wanted for Newcastle Pipe Band.
Youths wishing to learn the Bagpipe are guaranteed expert tuition.
Band Practice every Wednesday night in Broadmeadow Mechanics’ Institute”.*

Officially formed in 1924 (under the name Newcastle Pipe Band Association), a couple of articles in local newspapers revealed that the formation was actually unfolding from July 1923 where a very small mention in The Newcastle Sun wrote of the band requesting to borrow a base drum from The Northern Caledonian Society. By November 1923 it was reported that the band now had 19 pipers and four drummers and had only been in existence for four months.

Throughout the years there has seen so many stories, street parades, fundraising fairs, sporting festivals, surf lifesaving march past events, weddings, funerals, church fetes and even a protest against the increased price of bread in December 1938.

From playing for the Duke of York (pre taking the throne) in 1930, greeting famous radio characters “Dad and Dave from Snake Gulley” at Newcastle train station, to performing on stage with Andre Rieu. The band has proudly represented the Newcastle region for the past one hundred years, from parading down Hunter Street to events across the state, with trips from Perth to New Zealand and Tasmania to Japan.



This year, a successful fundraising Ceilidh was held in March, the first function celebrating the centennial year, with an almost full house in attendance. Funds raised are being put towards the Centennial celebrations. The major event, however, is the **Centennial Ball**, being held in the **Concert Hall at Newcastle City Hall on Saturday 19th October**, with ticket sales available at <https://www.trybooking.com/CSWHE>

Celebrating 75 Years of Migration to Newcastle



Migrant family at Greta

On Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th August, the Hunter Multicultural Centre celebrated 75 years of post-war immigration with the first ship, the Fairsea, arriving in Newcastle on the 18th August 1949 with 1,896 European passengers on board. A nostalgic display was set up in the hall and a delicious served in the evening with



Photo courtesy of phototimetunnel.com

music provided by ‘Baltic Bar Mitsvah’. Awards were presented to several volunteers who organized the weekend including our own HVSC secretary, Margaret Kenning, who also propagated the original Greta Roses from the Greta Camp site.

Some of the original migrants were present and have kept up friendships formed in Greta, Mayfield & Nelson Bay camps. It is interesting to note that many worked at the Steelworks and, looking back in history, some were also founding members of Hunter Valley Scots Club.

On Sunday, a bus trip to Greta Migrant Camp & Museum, followed by afternoon tea and a screening of ‘Silver City’.

Congratulating HMC for a wonderful weekend and the continuing good work in welcoming and assisting newcomers from around the world adapt to a new country and culture.

Committee meets at
Club Macquarie at 7pm
on the second Tuesday
of each month

Mail Address
Hunter Valley Scots Club
PO Box 34
Kotara NSW 2289

Email:

Web Site
www.hvscots.org

Committee

President
Toni Mclean

Vice President
Andrew MacPherson

Secretary
Margaret Kenning

Treasurer
Rosalind Elizabeth Lewin

Committee
Linda Baer

William Baer

Robert Findley

Helen Fulton

Dr Duncan Berry

Grahame Pricter



Upcoming Events

- Saturday 21st September: Clans on the Coast Highland Celtic Festival Lakeside Sports Complex, 13 Leisure Way, Raymond Terrace 8.30am to 4pm.**
- Saturday 21st September: The Royal Scottish Country Dancers Hunter Valley Branch Annual Ball at the Therry Centre East Maitland. 7pm. Music by Chris Duncan & Catherine Strut.**
- Sunday 29th September: Hunter Valley Scots Club Annual General Meeting at Club Macquarie. Join us for afternoon tea from 3pm with AGM commencing at 4 pm. Members only!**
- Saturday 19th October: City of Newcastle Pipe Band Centennial Ball in the Concert Hall at Newcastle City Hall. (See feature on page 2)**
- Sunday 3rd November: NSW Pipe Band Championships at Maitland Park**
- Saturday 16th November: Clan McLean Chief's Birthday Banquet at NSW Masonic Club, Sydney**
- Sunday 24th November St Andrews Day service including Kirkin' O' the Tartan, at Scots Kirk, Cnr Tudor & Murray Streets, Hamilton at 9.30am**
- Saturday 1st February 2025: HVSC Burns' Night Supper & Ceilidh Featuring 'Highlander Celtic Rock Band'**

Hunter Valley Scots Club – a great opportunity for you to get involved

With the Annual General Meeting less than two weeks away, we would love you to consider becoming part of our team and nominating for a position on our committee. We are a friendly lot and we look forward from time to time in between events for our soirees (that's just a posh name for a get together!) wish to join us when we can have dinner somewhere local and a good chat. Someone once said, "those who play together, stay together" and we like the company we keep. So how about you joining us and let us have the pleasure of your company too. Call Toni 4970 5105

Come & join in the fun with us at 'Clans on the Coast' Highland Celtic Festival on Saturday 21st September at Lakeside Sports Complex, 13 Leisure Way, Raymond Terrace

Email: admin@clansonthecoast.com.au

For more information call 0432 187 010



Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc.

Membership Application & Renewal

Accounts: HVSC, 15 Wangi Road, Fassifern 2283 NSW

I, _____ (full name of applicant)
 of _____ D.O.B _____ (opt)
 _____ Post Code _____ Phone _____
 Email _____ Mobile _____

Hereby apply to become a member of the Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc (HVSC). In the event of my admission as a member I agree to be bound by the Constitution and By Laws of the Association.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please note: The following is to be completed only for new members

NB: Information provided on this form will only be used for the Register of Members as required by the Incorporation Act and for mailing HVSC information to members

I, _____ a member of Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc, nominate the Applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the Association.

Proposer's Signature _____

Date _____

I, _____ a member of Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc, second the nomination of the Applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the Association.

Seconder's Signature _____

Date _____

FEES: Annual Membership & Renewals for Adults **\$15.00**: Name Badge Fee: **\$20.00** (optional)
 Junior Membership: 5-12 yrs **\$10.00** Family Membership (Two Adults & two Children: **\$40.00**

SUMMARY: Adult Membership \$.....
 Junior Membership \$.....
 Family Membership \$.....
 Badge/s \$.....
 Total \$.....

Cash enclosed or Direct Deposit:
Hunter Valley Scots Club ANZ BSB
012-571 Acc. No. 2045 68722

BADGE NAMES: (Please print clearly)