

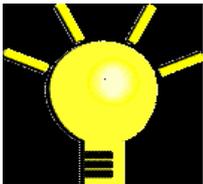
Hunter Valley Scots
Club inc

Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc



June 2016

Issue 222



Have an idea?
Maybe a new
event or place to
go?
Then please
Tell us about it .

In this issue

Committee

A sad loss

What's on

Manran's Front Man

Club Badges

A Poem Dedicated to Peter Adams

A Message from your committee

The HVSC Committee meets on a monthly basis to guide the activities of the Club.

There are two primary roles of the Committee. Firstly, to organise activities for Club members, for example the Soup and Damper day in June and the Caledonian Night in August. On other months there are the Social evenings. This role includes the production of this newsletter.

The other role of the Committee is to manage the Teralba Hall. This includes hiring the hall to other groups and the maintenance of the hall. This involves quite a deal of time for some Committee members obviously all on a volunteer basis

The management of the Club also entails an awareness of the legislative requirements on clubs and associations. The Committee became aware recently that the present Constitution is somewhat outdated and requires some minor updates to meet the recommended Model Constitution from the Department of Fair Trading. Work is proceeding on this at the moment and members will be asked to give feedback in the next few months.

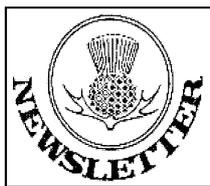
Please always remember that your committee members are all volunteers and as such give their time in order to promote the club and its members.

With committee elections looming have a think about what you could offer to the club as a committee member. You might be surprised how valuable you could be in bringing new ideas and fresh viewpoints to some of our decision making.

A WEB PAGE
FOR THE
CLUB CAN
BE FOUND
AT
www.hvsc.org.au

We have had some sad news longstanding member, Janet Crampton passed away on the 30th of May. Janet was always willing to help at functions when she could, Janet was often seen at the entrance table collecting tickets or selling raffle tickets and would always lend a hand in the kitchen. Please see the family notice for details of her funeral next Thursday 9th of June at Ryhope.





Hunter Valley Scots
club inc

**Executive Positions
2015–2016**

President:
Gary Gray
0477691573

Vice Pres:
Peter Adams
Grahame Pricter

Secretary:
Nance Adams

Minute Secretary:
Robyn Smith

Treasurer:
Peter Tranter

Committee Members:
Joan Elliott
Mike Elliott
Helen Fulton
David Graham
Genevieve Graham
Andy Smith

Hall Coordinator:
Graeme Auchterlonie

Calendar of Events 2016

Please note these dates in your diary now

**Soup and Damper Day Sun 26th June 2016, at
Teralba Hall .**

Aberdeen Highland games 2nd July.

Maitland Tattoo 30th July.

Members Social night 10th August.

Caledonian Night 20th August.

Norah Heads gathering of the Clans 3rd Sept.

Nelson Bay gathering 17th Sept.

Members social Night 12th October.

**St Andrews Day service , Uniting Church
Charlestown**

and golf day 27th November.

**Member Social Night 14th December (Christmas)
Hogmanay.**

Burns Night 2017 (21st January).

HVSC Club Name or Pin badge

**We are trying to find out if there is still anyone out there
who doesn't have a Club lapel badge or a club name
badge ?**

**If you would like a replacement or a new badge please
Contact our Vice President Grahame for further details**

***If transport to HVSC events is a problem for you, please
don't hesitate to contact us and we will endeavour to
arrange some assistance for you***

**For information on these and other Scottish events see the HVSC web
page and follow the "What's On" link to "Other Scottish Events."**



Hunter Valley Scots
club nc

Contact us:

Hunter Valley Scots
Club
PO Box 34
Kotara NSW 2289

Website:
hvsc.org.au

Email
scots@hvsc.org.au

Facebook
Don't forget to 'like'
Hunter Valley Scots
Club

OTHER SCOTTISH ACTIVITIES

If you attend an activity it would be great to have some photos and a brief report to pass on to our members in our newsletter

Watch out for more dates as the Committee works on new ideas and activities.

A Chat with Manran's Front Man by Gary Gray

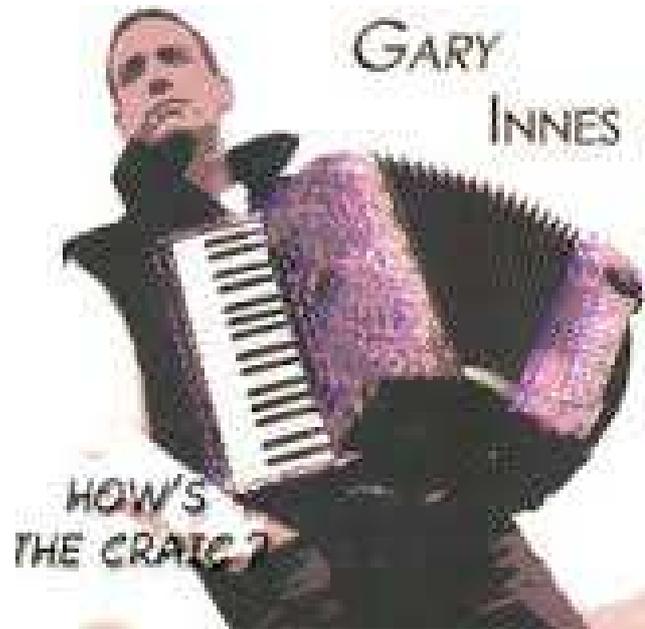
Those of us lucky enough to have attended the Manran concert would have enjoyed some fabulous Celtic music, interspersed with the dulcet tones of band leader Gary Innes, the accordion player who provided the commentary and background to many of the songs. Gary has worked his way steadily upwards in the Celtic music world, and has also made a name for himself as a BBC Scotland presenter. Gary is a product of the *Fèis* movement for traditional gaelic arts and culture. He turned professional in 2003, released his first record in 2005, and formed Manran in 2010, who within two years were already famous enough to be invited to play at the London Olympics. But there's another side to the man that's maybe even more impressive. Gary has amassed a formidable record as a shinty player, collecting winners medals for all the top competitions, voted Scotland's player of the year, as well as having captained his national team in the Annual Shinty-Hurling International against the Irish. For the uninitiated, shinty is a uniquely Scottish stick and ball team sport, with roots in the two handed sword fighting of the days of Clan warfare. Played mainly in the Highlands, it has mellowed a bit since its ancient form, but still has the potential to appear a bit wild for those more accustomed to stick sports like hockey. In reality it is one of the fastest, most athletic team sports around, requiring very sharp hand-eye coordination, as well as considerable skill in looking after yourself when the going gets tough. Your President was a shinty player in his younger days too, so Gary and I shared a few stories of our respective careers and people we both knew in the very small world that is shinty. Playing shinty every Saturday had its drawbacks for people who also try to play a bit of music for a living, and finger injuries were just one of these. Furthering a career as a top musician was one of the main reasons that our accordion playing shinty star hung up his boots while still right at the top of his game. Gigs - especially weddings and dances - are invariably on a Saturday night. Touring with a band precludes regular training sessions if you are a first team player with a Premier Division team. Gary's prowess with both the stick and the 'box' even made him a target in some of the more ferocious derby matches that take place between nearby towns and villages. I have plenty of painful memories of skint knuckles and the odd broken finger that stifled an evening's efforts with a guitar. It even made holding a pint glass a challenge at times. Though I miss the fun of chasing a ball and swinging a club around on a Saturday afternoon, rain or shine, I don't miss the knocks. I'm probably also one of the relatively few former shinty players who still sports a full set of front teeth.

Manran are an award winning Scottish band that was established in June 2010. Since 2010 they have performed at many of the World's most established folk/world festivals and were invited to do a special one-off concert for the 2012 London Olympics.





Gary Innes in action in one of his many Cup Final appearances, wearing the colours of Fort William.



Action from at Oban – your President is the chap away at the back of the picture, in the centre, hiding well away from the ball, still hoping to keep all his teeth firmly in place. Skye Camanachd won this match, defeating Glasgow University 3-1, in the University's only ever appearance in a national cup final. This picture from the West Highland Free Press.

A Poem
“The Scots Club Burns Night”
By Barbara Costello. Dedicated to Peter Adams.
(with apologies to Robbie Burns)

The Scots Club Burns Night.

This is a story of our Burns Night
which comes round every year
so when we hold it must be right
to Robbies birthday it must be near.

The twenty fifth of January is the date
so Saturday night nearest is best
Club Macquarie's the venue and don't be late
then to find your table is your quest.

The Scots Club committee despite the stress
succeeds in presenting a really good time
and the members and friends in Scottish dress
is a sight which we all find truly sublime.

Immaculate kilts and pretty sashes
Celtic broaches of silver and gold
bejeweled skean dhus and colorful flashes
help make this night a vision to behold.

We've Scotch broth and reekin' haggis 'n' neeps
tender Angus steak then tipsy laird
so truly for all a sumptuous feast
and better when by all is shared.

The 'Address to a Haggis' is so well done
always authentic to keep traditions alive
the speeches are short and the items such fun
to keep the attention of everyone.

The Miners pipe band is the best in the town
they play through the evening and keep us en-
tranced
in their Royal Stewart tartan they're a band of
renown
then they play when Strip the Willow is danced.

The highland dancers have skill and grace
and with the piper who plays for them
bring joy and a smile to every face
can't wait to see them dance again.

The Scottish country dancers will have their turn
and also give a fine display
those dances must take them ages to learn
and of tartans what a fine array.

Our dancing is done to the sound of the fiddle
the Dashing White Sergeant always brings laugh-
ter
'lines of three facing three and a man in the mid-
dle'
you'll always remember the steps hereafter.

The progressive dances will have a pause
this is your chance with fame to dance
and a wee box of chocolates may be yours
if partnering Highland Mary perchance.

The raffle means much excitement for all
lovely fruit boxes, Scottish gifts and wine
adorn the table at the top of the hall.
Where is my ticket, did they call mine?
The evening's suddenly almost ended
Strip the Willow's danced but have no illusion
that shoe you broke cannot be mended
but the dance is done despite the confusion,

Then it's time for Auld Lang Syne
with hands held way round the floor
Robbies birthday held in style so fine
many long farewells inside the door.

The committee and helpers are back at work
gathering, packing, tidying and more
they never have been known to shirk
they've given us a lovely night, for sure.

So good night Robbie, Scotland's bard
drams of single malt to you
we remember you, it isn't hard
and your words stay with us too.

By Barbara Costello

EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO

Melbourne – February 2016

Some of our members were fortunate enough to be able to attend the TATTOO at Etihad Stadium in February this year.

What a spectacle! The revamped Edinburgh Castle previously used in Sydney 2010, looked very authentic and with the stadium roof closed we still had the night time feeling – especially for the Secret Army and Fireworks display.

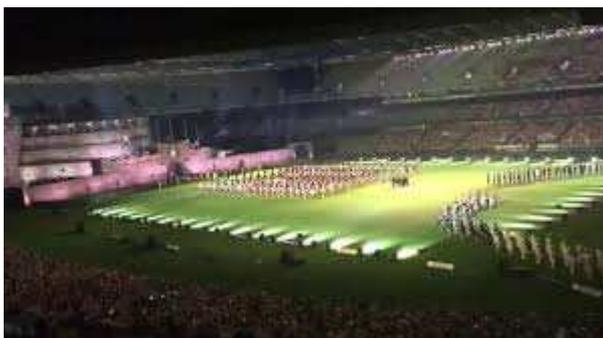
Brigadier David Allfrey MBE did his usual informative commentary keeping things running smoothly. There was a distinctly Australian and New Zealand flavour as well as all the usual favourites including:

Kings Guard of Norway
Top Secret Drum Corps of Switzerland
UK and Australian Highland Dancers
Lochiel Marching Drill Team NZ
UK Military of Defence Pipes and Drums
SA Police Band
Australian Military Pipes and Drums

The NZ Marching Drill Team were definitely a highlight as were the combined Highland Dancers. The mass bands were a wonderful sight and included our own Matthew Abrahams on drums. The atmosphere was great, and crowd control and transport handled very smoothly and efficiently.

A Great Experience!!

(Thank you Helen for this review)



SOUP & DAMPER DAY
SUNDAY 26th JUNE 2016, TERALBA HALL
THEME: "BONNIE PRINCE CHARLES"

This year our annual Soup & Damper day will feature the story of Bonnie Prince Charles

President Gary Gray will present an interesting talk on the subject, together with songs from the time.

Guests should arrive at 12 noon, for a 12.30pm Lunch, when we will partake in the delicious and unusual soups our Members always create for the event. This will be followed, after Gary's talk, by a selection of sweets, cakes & slices. The cost is \$15 per head, and bookings are essential by returning the form below to the Treasurer, P.O. Box 34, KOTARA NSW 2289. Include a stamped, self addressed envelope.

APPEAL FOR SOUP COOKS:

If you have a treasured family recipe for a great Soup, would you be prepared to make up a batch to share with Members? We find soups made in slow cookers are easiest to plug in and reheat on arrival at the Hall. However, we do have a stove, and several electrical hotplates we can use to heat saucepans of soup.

If you would like to make a soup or soups, please advise Joan Elliott, on 4943 6427, or joan.elliott4@bigpond.com, so we have a record of what soups will be coming in on the Day. You will be reimbursed all costs for the ingredients, so please keep a note of same.

SOUP & DAMPER DAY
SUNDAY 26th JUNE, 2016, TERALBA HALL, 12 NOON.

I require.....TICKETS TO THE SOUP & DAMPER DAY. @ \$15 each.

Total:.....

ENCLOSED or DIRECT DEPOSIT IN BANK ACCOUNT
(Please circle relevant method)

**Hunter Valley Scots Club Working Account ANZ BSB 012571 Account No. 2045
68722 Identify deposit clearly**

NAME & ADDRESS.....

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Hello a reminder to all about.....

HVSE

Membership renewal

Due by 30 th June 2016

**You can renew by online transfer
Or send it in by post
But please let us know either way**

**Payment methods and details
(PO Box 34, Kotara 2289),**

or

**send it by
direct EFT**

**ANZ BSB 012571 Acc No. 204568722
identifying yourself clearly**

Cost

**\$20 individual or \$30 for
2 in one family.**

Pens \$15 and Juniors \$10