

Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc.



Newsletter

Issue 290

November 2024

Meet the New Crew!

Our Annual General Meeting of the Hunter Valley Scots Club, which was held on Sunday 29th September at Club Macquarie, proved an easy progression as we sail

into the next twelve months of management. I was happy to remain as President for another term with Andrew MacPherson again as Vice President, Elizabeth Lewin continues as Treasurer, whilst Linda Baer stepped up as Secretary. Into the Committee positions, we welcomed back Robert Findlay, William Baer and Helen Fulton along with newbies Robyn Smith and Kim Nolan, both of whom have served on committees in previous years and bring to the table the benefit of their experience.

Hunter Valley Scots Club's first members joined in August 1981 and the Club was incorporated on the 27th November 1989. Since then, Scottish traditions and culture have been well and truly nurtured by several generations of Scots and Scots-at-heart, bringing awareness to the young and the young-at-heart with regular Scottish Country Dancing, Highland Dancing, Pipe & Drum scholarships and of course our very popular Caledonian Nights (mid-year) and our Burns' Night Supper & Ceilidh coming up on 1st February 2025 at Club Macquarie.

For several years the Club upgraded and operated the Teralba Community Hall, where Scottish Country Dancing is still taught, and regular dances held. See our Events Calendar on page three for upcoming dates and sessions.

The new Committee have great plans to bring to our members plenty of social activities and to promote HVSC in partnering with other associations in the Hunter to bring more awareness and recognition to the Hunter Valley Scots Club.

As a member you will be kept regularly informed of upcoming events so, why not renew your membership or join now to get the most of out of your annual subscription. The cost for the year is 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 additional 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! Find an application form on page three.



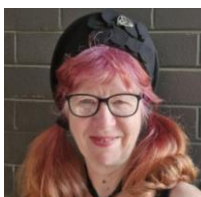
Toni McLean



Andrew MacPherson



Linda Baer



Elizabeth Lewin



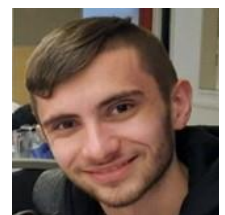
Robyn Smith



Robert Findlay



Helen Fulton



William Baer



Kim Nolan

For up-to-date information, membership application forms and contact details find us on Facebook or check out our website: www.hvscots.org

The City of Newcastle RSL Pipe Band Centenary

The Concert Hall at Newcastle City Hall on Saturday 19th October was a-buzz as Pipers and Drummers lined up to celebrate their 100th Anniversary. It was obvious that this milestone commemoration had been planned for a few years in advance from the organization that that gone into this final and most significant event and was fully supported by the RSL. Several of the band members were presented with Lifetime memberships including pipe major, Ailsa Barnett, who also, as the band's historian, compiled an excellent memoir coffee-table book for future generations. I was particularly impressed with the 'placemat' at each table setting which was, in fact, a commemorative plate for everyone to take home. Congratulations to City of Newcastle RSL Pipe Band and their members!



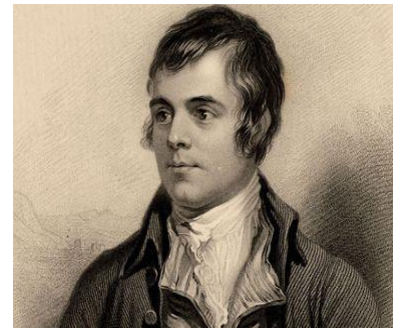
Robert Burns – Poet Extraordinaire

Robert Burns, also known familiarly as Rabbie Burns, was born in Alloway, Ayrshire on the 25th January 1759. A Scottish poet and lyricist who is widely regarded as the national poet of Scotland and is celebrated internationally. He is the best known of the poets who have written in the Scots language, although much of his writing is in a "light Scots dialect" of English, accessible to an audience worldwide.

He is regarded as a pioneer of the romantic movement, and after his death on 21 July 1796 at the young age of 37, he became a great source of inspiration to the founders of both liberalism and socialism, and a cultural icon in Scotland and around the world. Celebration of his life and work became almost a national charismatic cult during the 19th and 20th centuries, and his influence has long been strong on Scottish literature. In 2009 he was chosen as the greatest Scot by the Scottish public in a vote run by Scottish television channel STV.

As well as making original compositions, Burns also collected folk songs from across Scotland, often revising or adapting them. His poem (and song) 'Auld Lang Syne' is traditionally sung at Hogmanay (New Year's Eve), and 'Scots Wha Hae' served for a long time as an unofficial national anthem of the country. Other poems and songs of Burns that remain well known across the world today include 'A Red, Red Rose', 'A Man's a Man for A' That', 'To a Louse', 'To a Mouse', 'The Battle of Sherramuir', 'Tam o' Shanter' and 'Ae Fond Kiss'.

But perhaps the most famous of all Robert Burns' odes, along with 'Auld Lang Syne' is his 'Address to a Haggis', which is always a major part of a Burns' Night Supper and which you, yourself, will be able to witness and enjoy when **The Hunter Valley Scots Club** presents their **Burns Night celebration and Ceilidh** on **Saturday 1st February 2025**. Full details and cost will be forwarded to you as an update to this newsletter plus QR code and Trybooking details.



Robert Burns

25th January 1759 – 21st July 1796

January at the Warners Bay Foreshore

Every Tuesday night (7th, 14th, 21st & 28th) in January 2025 you will be able to trip the light fantastic beside The Royal Scottish Country Dancers along the foreshore, opposite the Warners Bay Performing Arts Theatre, Lake Road. You are invited to bring your chair or blanket and picnic tea or buy take away food and join them for some fun dancing from 6.00pm 'til sunset.

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

Mailing 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
Linda Baer

Treasurer
Elizabeth Lewin

Committee
William Baer
Robert Findley

Helen Fulton

Kim Nolan

Robyn Smith



Upcoming Events

Saturday 2nd November: The Hunter Valley Folk Club invite you to come and enjoy the lively Traditional Graffiti, a mix of English & contemporary folk music and US blues. From 6.30pm at the Community Centre, Alma Road, New Lambton. Tickets from trybooking.com

Sunday 3rd November: NSW Pipe Band Championships at Maitland Park, James Street, Maitland from 9.00am to 4.00pm

Saturday 16th November: Clan McLean Chief's Birthday Banquet at NSW Masonic Club, Sydney.

Sunday 17th November: Kirkin' O' The Tartan to be held at St. Stephens Uniting Church, 197 Macquarie Street Sydney from 9.30am

Sunday 24th November: St Andrews Day service at Scots Kirk, Cnr Tudor & Murray Streets, Hamilton at 9.30am

Saturday 30th November: The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society St. Andrew's Day will hold a day dance at Wye Community Hall, 1.30 pm till 4.30 pm with live music by Chris Duncan and Catherine Strutt. \$30 entry for Dancers. Bring a plate for afternoon tea

Saturday 30th November: N & HV Folk Club presents a traditional Australian Bush Dance at the Community Hall, Anzac Parade, Teralba with live music by The Water Bombers from 7.30-10.30pm. Tickets \$20.00 Donation, \$17.00 Concession \$15.00 Members
Light refreshments available or bring your own

A great opportunity for you to get involved

We would love you to consider becoming a member of HVSC. We are a friendly lot, and look forward, from time to time in between events, to our members social nights, and to welcoming you for dinner and a good chat at a local venue. Someone once said, "those who play together, stay together" and we like the company we keep. So how about you come join us and let us have the pleasure of your company too. We had a lovely night at 'Pippi's at the Point' on Tuesday 29th. Hope to see you next month for our Christmas Party. For more information contact Toni on 4970 5105.

Hunter Valley Scots Club Christmas Party
Come join us for our yuletide celebrations in the Sunset Lounge at Club Macquarie, Argenton on Tuesday 10th December from 6.30pm. Buy your own dinner. Bookings Essential Call 4970 5105





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: Additional **\$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)