

Adult Dance

Regular Tuesday night attendances are currently exceeding 130. The average attendance over the last quarter to end of October was 122 persons. The half hour group lessons held just before our social dance are also becoming increasingly popular thanks to the hard work by tutors Dianne Davidson and Daniel Van and the excellent calling by Dianne, now made easier by her expert use of a cordless microphone.

Our annual Christmas party held on 8th December was a wonderful night, attended by 184 members and visitors. As usual the meal and service were excellent, as were the organ music by Pat Walsh and the decorations by Doreen Turvey. The highlights of the night were the presentations of life membership badges to our President Ron Curby for his untiring work and highly successful stewardship of the dance club over 10 years of presidency and to Stan Byers, a foundation member of our almost 35 years old club who has held office in his younger days and who regularly attends our meetings and dances at the mature age of 97! Another highlight was the arrival of three (not 1) gift bearing Santas (alias Mick Pearce, Norm Day and Brian Carey) who enthralled the audience with little stories, jokes and seasons greetings.

Our New Years Eve party dance promises to be a great celebration if building on last years record attendance. The theme for this party will be blue and there maybe one or two surprises novelty dances, perhaps in keeping with this theme.

John Turvey

Billiards & Snooker

The last of our Club Championships are now over with the Snooker Singles and Doubles now finished and there are new names to go on the Honors Board. The winner of the Singles was John Simpson who beat Robert Spinks 4 frames to nil. The games were of a very high standard and played in the right spirit. The Doubles was won by Sasha Ghersini and Mick Ashford who beat Peter Pritchard and Dave Princewright by 3 frames to 1. Congratulations to the winners and runners up. For the rest there is always next year. In the Billiards Interclub we have made the Grand Final in our first year and we play at Smithfield RSL on Thursday 17th November against Wentworthville Leagues No. 1.

On behalf of the Billiards & Snooker Club I extend our thanks to the President, the CEO and all Directors for all the assistance given us during the year. To all staff who helped with our special nights, once again thank you. I would like to wish Seasons Greetings to all Directors and Sub Clubs and staff and have a very Happy & Safe Christmas & New Year.

Squizzy

Golf Club

The annual Hornsby RSL Golf Club end-of-year outing to the Glenmore Heritage Valley Golf Course took place on Sunday 13th December. 21 players, including our driver, and about a million flies took part in the event. Individual winners were Andy McElroy in A Grade with 37 points, Max Bridgeman in B Grade with 44 points and Barry Johnston in C Grade with 38 points.

Congratulations to all our winners and especially to Max, who won the prestigious "Deceased Members' Trophy". An honourable mention also to Mitch Merenda, a first time runner-up in C Grade with 35 points. It was good to see Peter Rapston make his long-awaited return, his first appearance since August, but sad to bid farewell to Jodie Brackenreg, who leaves us (temporarily, we trust) for they joys of motherhood. Jodie went out on a high note with the clubs and also by winning the random card draw. The highlight of the golf was a rare eagle scored by our Treasurer, Cal Moore at the tenth hole. Sadly this was not captured on video, but Cal is happy to talk anyone through his choice of club, shot selection and perfect delivery. I'm pleased to report that the euphoria involved in this achievement served to loosen the purse strings, and the players were indulged in lunch and a few celebratory drinks, all of which were gratefully received and added to the revelry of the coach journey home.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone concerned with the Club and the RSL a very merry festive season and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Jim Holland

Klaverjas

On Monday 7 December 2009 we held our Presentation night in the Boronia Room, on which night we were joined by Mr C. Bourke and Mr J. Deane with their wives. It was a very amicable evening with nice food, drinks & good service. Our thanks to the staff.

Our yearly prize winners were:

Championship:-	1. Corrie Bekker
	2. Aad Van Es
	3. Tonny Van Gaalen
Marsen:	1. Joop Stoove
	2. Paulus Breedveld
	3. Tonny Van Gaalen

On Sunday December 13 2009 13 of our members participated in the Christmas Tournament in Neerlandia, where 74 players from Sydney and surrounds attended.

Winners were:

1. Joop Stoove – Hornsby RSL
2. Paul Lepelaar – Hornsby RSL
3. Rinus Bunnings – Sutherland Card Club

On February 8 2010 we will have our AGM at 7pm in the Boronia Room.

Last but not least our members wish the Board of Directors and all the Hornsby RSL staff a merry Christmas and happy 2010.

Elisabeth

A.O.O.B

I join with our Committee:- Julia Salisbury, Margaret Messer, Helen Lowry, Gina Mulukin, Mick Gallagher, Arthur Mounter and Executives – Bob Foody – President, Geidi Geertsema – Vice President and Anthony Van Chad – Secretary to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a safe, peaceful festive season with a brilliant happy New Year.

Sincerely we thanks Hornsby RSL Club Limited (CEO & Board of Directors) for their continuing support and friendship. We appreciate our 'venue' as our fantastic home address. Also our gratitude is extended to Staff and Management.

Our Christmas donations were as follows:

The Childrens Hospital Westmead	\$600.00
Sydney Childrens Hospital Foundation Randwick	\$350.00
The Royal Institute for Deaf & Blind Children, North Rocks	\$350.00
Hornsby Ku Ring Gai Hospital, Children's Ward	<u>\$400.00</u>
	<u>\$1,700.00</u>

Computer Club

We have a new web site! Please visit us at <http://sites.google.com/site/hrslcc/>

At the end of 2009 we have 23 financial members and a mailing list of 32. Meetings were held this year each month from February and attracted an average attendance of 14 (max. 20). At each meeting we have a session titled "Comments, questions and answers: What have computers done for me and to me lately?" Here members are encouraged to bring up any problems they may have so that other members may offer advice and solutions. This session is always popular. In addition we offer a talk on a particular aspect of computing, followed by a question and answer session on that topic. Topics covered during the year include: Internet censorship, spoofing, viruses, worms and other nasties, access privileges, how to check download speed, how to check vulnerability, how to write and e-mail, how to ask smart questions, recent significant Internet risks, back up, data recovery and what do specifications mean?

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In presenting these topics we have been able to use a projector kindly lent to us by Hornsby RSL Club, in conjunction with a laptop computer supplied by a member. This enables us to demonstrate something rather than just talking about it. We have found this to be far more effective.

The following were elected to the Committee at our AGM:

President	John Nicholls
Vice-President	Richard Galvin
Secretary	Ted Weber
Treasurer	John Rose
Equipment Officer	Richard Galvin
Sports Council Representatives	Ted Weber, John Nicholls
Committee Members	Nicole Buckley, Maureen Nicholls

Membership fees are now due for 2010. The fee remains unchanged at \$5.00. Please pay at the next meeting or, if you are unable to attend, send your payment to John Rose, Hornsby RSL Computer Club, care of Hornsby RSL Club.

There is an added benefit of membership this year. Once you have made your payment you will be sent details of how to add or edit our web site at <http://sites.google.com/site/hrsicc/>. Anything related to Hornsby RSL Club, Hornsby RSL Computer Club, or computing in general will be welcome.

Our next meeting will be Saturday 9th January 2010. For more information on the meeting or anything else about the Club, visit our web site.

We are proposing some changes to the Club's constitution. The existing constitution and the proposed changes can be found at our web site. The changes will be put to the vote at our meeting on Saturday 13 February.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining our Club, please send me their name and e-mail address so I can add them to our mailing list.

From all our committee best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

John Nicholls

Indoor Bowls

What a year this has been for the Indoor Bowls, very few games played on a Friday night and a better run of games on our Tuesday mornings, putting it all together it has been a topsy turvey year for us, hopefully it will improve in 2010.

We had our Christmas get together on Friday 11th December and what a grand night it was. The President and wife Vonny, the CEO Mario Machado and wife Donna graced us with their presence and we thank them for attending our Annual Christmas event.

A thank you to the Committee members for the good work they have put in over the year, a special thanks to our treasurer Gordy Stannard for his diligence in keeping the books. To our Life Member Thelma Durrant and Vice President Warren McPherson for the excellent work they have both done over the year in maintaining contact with our Tuesday players. To our Friday night players and Tuesday morning players, thank you for your loyalty to the Indoor Bowls Club. To our Board of Directors we thank you for the support you have given us over the year and we wish you a Happy Christmas and prosperous 2010. To our not so well players we are hopeful of seeing you in 2010 in better health.

Mick Pearce

Fishing Club

Twelve of us met at the Gladesville wharf before 05.00hrs to meet up with the new skipper and his boat.

The boat is well setup for charter fishing, being beamier and lower to the waterline, with plenty of seating along the starboard side. The forward railing is high enough to allow us to fish from the bow. A good point was the shade over the aft fishing area. This was most welcome, as it was a sunny Sydney summer's day. The toilet facilities were easily accessible on the back deck and excellent. There is only one fish cleaning table, but the skipper provided large tubs to be used for fish cleaning on the aft deck. The boat is well laid out for charter fishing.

We made speedy progress down the Harbour and were through the Heads and fishing half an hour earlier than previously. We dropped the lines about 10 miles east, but with limited success. A dust storm blew up while we were out there and the coastline disappeared. The dust hung around all day. It was very still and minimal current, so the inevitable line tangles plagued us all day.

The skipper moved south and closer in shore to see if there would be better luck in a new spot.

The catch for the day was pretty poor, with small or undersized fish being landed. A further change of spot didn't improve our luck.

Despite the poor catch, we all enjoyed the day out. The skipper was friendly and helpful. We appreciated the good turn of knots back up the Harbour, bringing us back to the wharf earlier than on Crystal.

Modern technology!!!! Our new scales failed in the heat after being left in a hot car however when they cooled down they were working again! We used the old faithful mechanical scales for the weigh in.

Name	Number of fish	Weight (kg)	Points
Alex Tang	13	6.9	64.2
Michael Cheng	15	7.04	61.78
Bill Idien	7	2.92	23.84
Tim Ronnin Allen	7	3.84	21.9
John Deane	14	3.2	19.36
Winnie Lo	10	2.85	18.75
Graham Moss	4	2.72	16.48
Terry Choy	5	1.72	14.42
Fred Mayer	2	1	11
Esfand Sangsari	1	.75	8.25
Bernie Crocker	3	.88	1.76
Majid Nasr	0	0	0
Total Number of fish	81		
Total Weight	33.82 Kg		
Total Points	252.61		
Trophy Winner	Alex Tang		

Fred Mayer

Pipe Band

The Band has, for many years, supported various RSL Sub-branches by participating in their local Anzac Commemorations. It was against this background that on 9th October 1989, the Post Tele-Commission Sub-branch of the RSL presented the Band with a Certificate of Appreciation. With the local Hornsby RSL Sub-branch celebrating its 90th Birthday this year, it was deemed appropriate that the Sub-branch recognise the assistance given by the Band. As only one Certificate of Appreciation can be given to any one organisation, the Band was presented with an appropriately worded banner. It was also deemed appropriate to re-present the original certificate with another plaque commemorating the Sub-branch's 90th Birthday. As such, the re-presentation was made to the Band at the November Monthly meeting of the Sub-branch on Sunday 22nd November.

Being the festive season, the Band held its Christmas Party at Crosslands on Sunday 6th December. While slightly smaller than last year, a good time was had by all. Thanks to the boys for a very good BBQ cooked to perfection. Of course, the instruments came out & the public was rewarded with a selection of Scottish tunes.

Also at this time of the year, several Army cadet Units have their final parade & award presentations. The Band has for many years also supported these units. First to parade was 226 ACU (Normanhurst) at the Normanhurst BHS on the evening of Tuesday 8th December. Being a weeknight, only a small band could be provided but what we lacked in size, we made up for in volume. Following the parade, a light repast was provided by the Unit.

Sunday 13th December saw 206 ACU (Nth Sydney) hold their 91st Anniversary Ceremonial Parade at Georges Heights parade ground, Mosman. The Band again assisted with the Unit's activities. Although a hot day, the sea breeze kept temperatures to a bearable level. We thank the Unit for the BBQ lunch provided at the conclusion of the parade.

May we take this opportunity to wish all members & staff of Hornsby RSL Club all the best for the festive season. Take care if travelling & may you receive a full Christmas stocking on Christmas morning. As well, we thank the Directors, Management & staff for their assistance & help over the past year. Without your support, things would be a lot harder.

Lastly, may I say that the Band practices in the Hornsby War Memorial Hall, next to the Hornsby RSL Club, every Wednesday from around 7.30pm. We invite those who have played or wish to play pipes or drums. Learners especially welcomed.

Graeme Bolton

Swimming Club

On Friday 20th November the Frogs travelled by mini bus to Dubbo to celebrate Dubbo Diggers RSL Swimming Club's 50th Anniversary. It was a wonderful weekend with several events and functions arranged for the guests. One of these events involved a number of our members paddling a raft down the Macquarie River on the Saturday morning. There were five rafts taking part in this race, however unfortunately the "Frogs" came in last after one hour and fifteen minutes of paddling, but the experience was first class. There was a 50th Anniversary Dinner on the Saturday night, a swim on Sunday morning and lunch after the swim on the Dubbo Diggers Club Terrace. We then travelled home after having had one of our best weekends ever.

On Sunday 6th December we held our swim at Loreto girls' school pool, as Hornsby Pool was holding an all day carnival. After our swim we all adjourned to the Club's coffee shop for a Christmas morning tea and as usual it was very enjoyable.

We have recently held the following 2 annual championships:-

Stan Willis Brace Relay	1 st	Stuart McIntosh and Bruce Sweeting
60-69 years 30m Handicap	1 st	Brian O'Keeffe
70 years & over Handicap	1 st	Mick Pearce

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Next week after our Sunday swim, we will be travelling down the Hawkesbury River on the Windsor Paddle wheeler, enjoying a BBQ lunch on the way and we all look forward to this end of year Christmas celebration.

Once again our members attended the Thursday night Birthday Draw and Meat Raffle and we had many meat tray winners, who were delighted with their wins with Christmas just around the corner.

Also on New Years Day, we will be bringing in the New Year at the home of Brian and Jeanette O'Keeffe with our usual get together and BBQ.

In the last report, we welcomed a new Member Christine Croucher and now we welcome her mum and dad Bridget and Michael, who have also recently joined the "Frogs". We know they will enjoy many happy times with our club.

Frog of the Month for December is Colin Hunter.

May we take this opportunity to wish all the Directors and Staff, a wonderful Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

Jeanette O'Keeffe

Darts Club

It was good news to hear our darts team won the Balmain B grade competition for the summer season this year, its been a long time since we have won in any grade. Congratulations to the players for beating Concord RSL 6 games to 4 in the grand final.

The team consisted of Peter Hanna (captain) Heather Blaker, John Blaker, Jason Fletcher, Andrew Hasman, Kevin Mitchell, Dion Scott and Trevor Turnbull. Dion and myself could not play in the final game as Dion was in Tasmania and I was in the Philippines.

The final got off to a good start with our team winning both triple games and Kevin and John taking out the first game of doubles. Concord fought back to win the next two games of doubles to make it 3 to 2 our way going into the singles.

Kevin started off in the singles with a win followed by Pete making the score 5 to 2 to Hornsby. Jason and John lost the next two games bringing Concord to one game behind with 2 games to go. Andy showed how consistent he has been all season by winning the next and taking the game for Hornsby RSL. This took the pressure of Heather as she didn't have to play the final game. Well done guys.

I hope everybody has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and see you all next Year.

Turtle

Table Tennis

The Hornsby RSL Table Tennis Club, in terms of competition results, has a very good harvest during the year of 2009. For this Spring Season the Hornsby RSL Table Tennis Teams won for the first time in the A Reserve Division, the B Division as well as in the C Division. The A Grade Team ranks 4th in position in the A Division and such a position is not easy to attain at all. Congratulations to all the teams and players who have made great efforts in achieving the amazing results. Special congratulations are to Scott Barrett who attained 94.4% win in the AR Division, Yin Qin who attained 100% win in the B Division and Victor Chu who attained 95% win in the C Division. The three of them are expected to move up one grade higher than their present grade. Attached are photos of the winning teams after their final matches.

The 2009 Handicap Points Challenge which has continuously been running on Tuesday nights will be finished on 15December. The winner of the 2009 Points Challenge is Scott Barrett who is 5 points or more well ahead of the others. There are four players happen to have 13 points each in

the second position. It will be exciting to watch the final Challenge Night match which determines eventually who will be the winner up. Attached is a photo of Scott Barrett in action.

The Hornsby RSL Table Tennis will hold its Annual General Meeting at the ACACIA Room on 16 February 2009 at 7.30pm.
Wing Kwai Chan

