

A.O.O.B

Our committee as usual still continues on with the tireless efforts of running raffles and raising funds to help in the ceaseless never ending task of helping sick and unfortunate children in hospitals who need constant medical care and nursing as well as the children in institutions who really need all the help, care, education and understanding that is afforded them with the help of the humble donations from their supporters.

Our end of financial year donations will be decided on the cheque written at our April Committee meeting in preparation for the closure of our books in the 26th May for audit.

Happy Birthday wishes go to that good Old Bastard Norm Bakker who celebrates on the 29th March.

To those lucky people who win our raffles please ensure you take your prize home with you as they are perishable and may be removed and discarded the next day if not picked up from the main bar when leaving the Club.

Our thanks and gratitude as usual must go to all those wonderful people who support our efforts in fund raising by buying tickets in our raffles. **Bob Foody**

Adult Dance

Our regular Tuesday night dance attendance reached a new record high of 143 in recent weeks with the advent of cooler weather and leading up to our St.Patrick's Day dinner dance which will be held in the RSL Showroom on Tuesday 17th March. The theme for this dinner dance will be of course, "green" and we are looking forward to another evening of excellence with catering by the RSL and music by organist Pat Walsh. Attendance of about 160-170 is expected.

Over recent weeks we have missed some of our regular lady attendees, namely Pat Muus, Brigita MacDonald and Eileen Webber because of injury from falls and, in Eileen's case, a knee operation. We wish them a speedy recovery and return to our dance evenings.

Lorraine Figures, another of our ladies and a star in her own right, has returned to our dance evenings with renewed health and vigour after a miraculous double transplant of both kidney and liver! Not only does she grace our dance floor but she also appeared recently in a special transplant feature on ABC Television's 7pm news, looking and sounding as lovely as she is while giving encouragement to a very young recipient with whom she shared an organ from a common donor. Well done Lorraine. **John Turvey**

Darts Club

Our clubs Annual General Meeting will be held on the 27th March 2009 at 7.30 pm. All members are urged to attend.

The attendance at our Friday night social darts has been reasonable last month except on one night when only 4 members turned up. The other nights we averaged 12 players each night. Winners over that period were Kevin Mitchell and Sean Reed with two wins each with John Blaker and Peter Hanna with one win each. The Runners up were Peter Wright and Sonny Pohiwi who were drawn together twice and were runners up both times. With Ron Jones and Heather Blaker, the other pair to pick up a frozen chook. The highest peg out at the moment is held by Kevin Mitchell with a finish of 114.

In the Balmain Darts competition on Wednesday nights Gladesville RSL are leading the B grade with both our teams in equal second (even the for and against are equal). It should be an interesting tussle as the games progress. Jason Fletcher has hit 180 in his second Balmain competition, not a bad effort. Heather Blaker is leading the women's highest peg out with a score of 87. **Keep on Darting On (Turtle)**

Indoor Bowls

It has been a good couple of weeks playing Indoor Bowls with access to the Showroom being available to the players, in particular the Friday nights, and of course the Tuesday morning under the control of our Vice President who is doing an excellent job, many thanks Thelma.

A Committee Meeting was held to discuss a few issues that have arisen and needed attention to improve the quality of our game.

It was pleasing to see Lily Pearce on Tuesday morning playing bowls after her stint in hospital.

To our not so well Members we are thinking of you and hope you have a speedy recovery from your illness.

Klaverjas

We had a very successful and enjoyable Hornsby RSL "Autumn Drive" Tournament on 14 March 2009. 72 players took part.

Hornsby RSL Klaverjas did win. Corrie Bekker had the most points.

Hornsby RSL Klaverjas	came first
Oris Kent Ons	came second
Rembrandt Club	came third

All our Members did get a voucher for a nice dinner.

Next Tournament will be the NSW Klaverjas Federation "Easter Drive" in the DASI Club in April in Woonona.

Elisabeth

Pipe Band

One could say that this time of year is the most relaxing for the pipe band. One could also point out that we're doing some serious gearing up for April!

Two events that dominate our calendar at this time of year are the Bundanoon is Brigadoon Highland Gathering in the first weekend of April, for which we still have two practice sessions this month, and, of course, Anzac Day, and the local Anzac Sunday Street March. At last count, the Hornsby RSL Pipe Band that gets to Bundanoon could actually be as many as eight pipe bands in combination, with members from Hornsby, Singleton, Canobolas, Wingham, Scone, Leeton, Blacktown, & Hawkesbury bands. That's only those planned. Our display on the day will be restricted to those who've been at our practice sessions. We are all looking forward to our big street march through Hornsby on the Sunday before Anzac Day, with a similar march at Kirribilli thereafter. This is our first formal outing of the year, and gets us ready for the big one on the following Saturday – the Dawn Service, and the CBD street parade (and Massed Bands, and entertaining people anywhere we stop along the way on our way home). If you don't have a role on the day, get out there and cheer the march along.

The band has the doors of the War Memorial Hall open from 8pm, any Wednesday you're passing by. If you've played in a band before and want to get back into it, then we'd love to hear from you.

Jax Gibb

Rifle Club

Conditions on the Hornsby Rifle Range have been tricky lately with some “fish-tail” winds catching shooters unawares and keeping possibles at bay. All target shooters love a challenge, and shooting perfect scores in these conditions provides a lot more satisfaction than is usually the case. Alan Bowyer-Tagg has continued his winning ways posting the top score in Target Rifle at 700M – a 98.10 out of 100.20 proving that his promotion to A-Grade was no fluke.

We have moved to targets 12, 13 and 14 for the next two months and our targets still continue to be well occupied with more than 15 members shooting each week. It is very encouraging to see attendance up across the board – in part due to the influx of new members.

The Club has organised an excursion to shoot at Kariong Rifle Range as guests of the Gosford Rifle Club on the 4th of April 2009. Members are advised that regular shooting at Hornsby for our Club has been cancelled – and we will be meeting at the Kariong Rifle Range at 12:30pm on this day.

We are in the run home to the end of the Shooting year and all club members are encouraged to make sure they have attended the range four times in the last 12 months to satisfy the conditions of their firearms licenses. If we have not seen you in a while the next few weeks would be a good time to come along.

Finally to all members of the RSL Club – the licensing laws have changed meaning that unlicensed visitors are no longer required to complete paperwork and background checks in advance of participating. Now is a good time to come and try shooting if you have ever been curious about what is involved.

I look forward to seeing you on the range. We are shooting at 800M next weekend. ***Bulls Eye***

Snooker & Billiards

The two handicap competitions are now under way, one being the over 50's and the other the singles handicap Snooker. Don't forget the play or forfeit rule will apply. If you don't know your opponent or can't contact them, then approach any of the Billiards and Snooker Committee. We still need names for the HSS Competition which will get underway after Easter.

We will be hosting Canberra Billiards and Snooker on Sunday 29 March in a match consisting of both Billiards and Snooker and hopefully regain the shield, a great day will be had by all who play and or those who come to watch. Play will start at 10.00am.

Our AGM and Presentation Nights will be coming up in the near future so when that happens come along and support your Club both AGM and Social, more about that later.

We could do with more players for the Friday Chook Nights which is very popular and friendly. ***Squizzy***

Table Tennis

On Friday, 27 February the 2009 Annual Shield Challenge between Hornsby RSL Table Tennis Club and SUNS Table Tennis Association was held at SUNS. There were nine three- men teams from each club with good spirit competing against each other. The result was Hornsby won six out of the nine matches with a total score of 54 against 32. It was a wonderful achievement. The Shield will be kept at Hornsby RSL for the Year. A happy social gathering among all the players followed after the Competition with pizza and drinks. Expenses are shared by both clubs. The following members participated in the big event:

Division A Team-	James Wong, Stephen Tai, Andy Li
Division AR Teams-	Geoffrey Barrett, Tommy Mak, Lisa Liu Wing Kwai Chan, Chris Lo, An Xi Zhou Michael Choi, Raymond Huang, Lucy Zhang Edward Caruana, Sharon W H Ho, Fei Jia Zhu
Division B Teams-	Esfand Sangsari, Majid Nasr, Shine Liu David So, Scott Barrett, Peter Pi
Division C Teams-	Bob Mettam, Tony Song, Sara Chin Guy Chan, Victor Chu, William Wong

Thanks to all the above members who were so devoted and fought so hard to win the Shield.

Wing Kwai Chan

Swimming Club

Our Summer Championships are now complete and results are as follows:-

Open Championships

1st Stuart McIntosh 100m F/S, 50m F/S and 30m F/S events

Handicap Championships

1st Brian Engert 100m F/S
1st Colin Hunter 50m F/S
1st Mick Pearce 30m F/S
1st Ric Wood 25m F/S
1st Brian Engert 25m Formstroke

Congratulations to all the above winners.

Twelve of us travelled to Albury on Friday 6th March to take part in the AIF Carnival, which was attended by approximately 450 swimmers. We went to the Commercial Club for a "Meet & Greet" function on the Friday night, swam at the Carnival on the Saturday and were at the Presentation dinner on Saturday night, also held at the Commercial Club. Our only winner was Margaret Davey who gained 1st place in the Ladies 80+ years 25m freestyle, congratulation once again Marg. A couple of us also attended a mini carnival on the Sunday morning followed by a BBQ on the banks of the Murray River. The weather was perfect and we all had a wonderful weekend.

We will be holding our AGM on Tuesday 17th March in the Boronia Room and thank Colin Bourke was will be acting as our Returning Officer.

Sunday 29th March is our last summer swim at Hornsby Pool before returning to Galston Indoor Pool for the winter season. Therefore we will all be having morning tea at the Club's Coffee Shop after our final Hornsby swim.

Frog of the Month is Kerry Smith.

Jeanette O'Keefe

Golf Club

Turramurra Ladies Day – 5th March 09

This annual event has traditionally been well supported with this year no exception. 23 players were split into teams of 4, each team competes together to post the lowest score. With a number of visitors attending this game, we do not apply handicaps and the mood is decidedly relaxed and casual. A score of even par was the lowest posted by the team of David Knudson, Max Bridgeman, Cal & Judy Moore. These four were heard to be “whooping it up” on a number of greens with a report of some very long putts being drained on the front nine. Some also noted it was an “interesting coincidence” that the matchplay quarterfinal between Dennis Dempsey and Barry Johnson was played on the same day. The match see-sawed early with Dennis moving two up on the turn. Barry clawed one back on the longish par four 10th however with his new(ish) clubs in hand, Dennis emerged the victor 3 and 2 to move into the quarterfinals and take on “Thommo”.

Upcoming Events

Kiama Weekend

Want a golfing weekend where you are chauffeured from Hornsby RSL to the golf course, hotel room, club/pub and back the next day with 20+ “like-minded” hackers? A \$50 deposit will secure a seat on the 24 seat bus & weekend trip to Kiama in June [Cost \$200 includes golf, accommodation, transport]. Treasurer Cal Moore or Secretary Andy McElroy will accept names and deposits with final numbers settled before the end of April.

Asquith Sunday 5th April – 7.44am

Our next game is at Asquith Golf Club on April 5th at 07.44am. This will have a big roll out with our sister club, ADAMSTOWN RSL taking the bus down the F3 to join us for the day. Place your name on the sheet downstairs [new & existing members] to secure a tee time.

Warringah Sunday 3rd May – 7.40am

A new course for the Clubs itinerary. Registration sheet out soon.

Tim Brackenreg

Computer Club

The meeting opened at 3.05pm on 14 March, 2009 with one minute's silence.

Reports:-

Secretary Ted is having problems with his computer and will have the Dec. 08 report ready for next meeting.

Feb 09 Secretary report presented by Nicole.

Equipment:-

A list of the Club's computer equipment was tabled by Richard.

Richard advised the meeting that some redundant computer equipment held by the Club was available to members. Ron Cox then gave an assessment of the Club's only computer. Richard thanked Ron for his efforts and advised him not to proceed with any further investigations with the computer as Peter Hutchinson has offered his old laptop to the Club for gratis after he transfers info from the hard drive.

Doing a Google search on 'Zombie Week' produced a list of URL's for research on hackers, malware, etc.

The above brought up a discussion on a freeware registry cleaner CC Cleaner. Some members were wary of using a registry cleaner, then there were other members who used the above program on a regular basis with no problems.

News:-

News report that another windows operating system (Win 7) will be released soon. Another search engine called SS is schedule for release in May, '09. The freeware search engine webFerret does a search on several existing search engines to obtain results.

Mike set up his computer to the HRSL projector so that all could see what was being discussed. He also gave his usual clear explanations as to how the computer functions, where to find information, how to customize your computer, also which programs to use for what purpose and when.

The homepage of a relatively new anti-virus program Kapersky was put up on the screen. Mention was made that in one instance, three anti-virus programs were run to find the culprit. President John then brought up the Questions and Answer session, and asked 'What has your computer done to you lately? There was stunned silence for several seconds until Richard brought up his frustration regarding updates. His own perseverance resolved this situation. Ted reiterated a few of this computer problems, concluding that 'You get what you pay for'. Pay peanuts to an ISP, you get peanuts service.

Mike then demonstrated the usage of the three add-ons available to Thunderbird viz:-

- a. Contacts side bar.
- b. Lighting.
- c. Not to.

To update info. In Outlook Express, export address book, then edit addresses.

Mike concluded by stating he would be giving a series of lectures on computers, that all were invited when a venue and program are determined. It is anticipated the lectures will start June/July 2009. John advised that the computer subjects of Spam an Viruses would be discussed at next month's meeting.

It is always good to see our longstanding fellow member Hugh at our meetings. Unfortunately he does not enjoy food health, but invariably has some material or constructive comments to make.

Hoping also that John's health will be much improved by next meeting.

Ted Weber

Interclub competition Report 16 March 2009

The purpose for these games are to allow all the members to socialise, although there will always be that competitive element. On the day no sub-club will play the same sub-club therefore getting maximum exposure to other members.

The games to be played will be like last year ie Darts, Indoor Bowls, Snooker and Table Tennis. These sub-clubs need to supply two umpires (as two games will be played eg two table tennis tables will be in use, at the same time). Plus a person who can run the scores (after each event) to the overall score keeper. For the next meeting, can you supply a set of rules for your event so that I can distribute them to members before the day (please eMail them to me at ecConnect@live.com.au). Note: do not make these rules complex as the intention is for a fun day.

Teams will be made up of 2 to 8 players, with each player on a team to play at least one game.

The request is that each sub-club to organise two teams. As there will be a trophy at the end, it is fair to have equal number of teams competing. So I ask each sub club to go back to their members to confirm that they can make this commitment.

We are putting forward the date, 13 September, 2009 (originally we wanted 6 September, but this falls on Father's Day). Time to start is 11 am. Please come back to next months meeting confirming that this is satisfactory with your sub-club.

We are in early days, so as we progress with the planning we will keep you informed, On the table are such things as selling raffle tickets on the day, and various extra games to keep onlookers/bystanders occupied!

-
- Can your sub-club organise 2 teams of minimum 2/maximum 8 players?
 - Is the 13 September, 2009 starting at 11am, games finishing at 4pm, acceptable to your sub-club's members?

Please eMail your sub-clubs responses to these questions (ecConnect@live.com.au)

Darts, Indoor Bowls, Snooker and Table Tennis sub-clubs only:

- eMail me at ecConnect@live.com.au, a set of rules for the playing of your event as a social, fun game.
-

Edward Caruana
Convener