

Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc.



Newsletter

Issue 249

Sept-Oct 2019

Location

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Committee

201-2020

President

Andrew MacPherson

Vice President

Grahame Pricter OAM

Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer

Robyn Smith

Committee

Nance Adams OAM

Sue Donald

Helen Fulton

Kim Nolan

Lynne Pricter

Andrew Smith

Peter Tranter

Vacant

Greetings Hunter Valley Scots Club Members,

More than a month has passed since the last newsletter of the Hunter Valley Scots Club and Spring has arrived – isn't it great to have some warmer weather and the blossoms on the plants certainly give a cheery look to the area. If you have done some travel west of the Great Dividing Range lately, the dryness and lack of green growth makes you appreciate what those of us living a bit closer to the coast, have in our area despite the need for (somewhat minor) water restrictions.

During this period the Club held its **Annual General Meeting** which was quite well attended for such an event. The meeting was reasonably brief and afterwards we enjoyed a pleasant time of a BBQ and socialising with other members.

The new Committee is as follows:

President Andrew MacPherson

V. President Grahame Pricter

Secretary Position Vacant

Treasurer Robyn Smith

Committee	Nance Adams	(Hunter Multicultural Community Rep)
	Sue Donald	(Teralba Hall Manager)
	Helen Fulton	(Welfare Officer)
	Kim Nolan	(Publicity/Social Media)
	Lynne Pricter	(Catering)
	Andrew Smith	(Equipment)
	Peter Tranter	(Assistant Treasurer)
	(Newsletter Editor – Vacant)	

The roles, in brackets, of the Committee Members are not elected positions but give some idea of the person who has a primary role in this area supported by others in the Committee or HVSC members.

If you were interested in joining the Committee you would be welcomed with open arms. Just let us know.

If you were unable to attend the meeting the President's Report is on the next page

HUNTER VALLEY SCOTS CLUB INC.

Annual General Meeting 15th September 2019

President's Report

Having just completed my third year as President of the Hunter Valley Scots Club Inc. it is time now for me to stand down from this role and pass on to a new President to guide the Club's future. I have enjoyed my tenure as President and thanks to an enthusiastic and efficient Management Committee I believe we have been successful in contributing to the promotion of Scottish Culture in our region.

Since the AGM last year in September when the Committee was elected and we socialised over a BBQ, we have held two major functions, Burns Night and Caledonian Night, four social evenings, a Church Parade for St Andrew's Day, a Soup and Damper lunch, supported the local ANZAC Day ceremony, and a few of us have visited a number of other cultural festivals. We have represented the Hunter Valley Scots Club at Naturalisation Ceremonies and more.

Social Nights

Our Christmas Social Night was most successful with entertainment by some of the Hirers of Teralba Hall – Bill's Ballroom, the Boolaroo Orchid Society, Dancers of Universal Peace, Scotia Highland Dancing Association, Royal Scottish Country Dancers, Lake Macquarie U3A, Lakeside Folk Circle and Hunter Bush Dancers. Other Social Nights over the past year have included the Maitland Pipe Band and the Mineworkers Pipe Band both of which also provided some excellent entertainment. Unfortunately, the cold weather has deterred Club members from attending in latter months and the future of Social Nights will be a challenge for the incoming committee to resolve.

Major Functions

Our Burns Night and Peter Adams Caledonian Night this year were again very successful thanks to all those who participated. We put out 146 tickets for the Burns Night and over 130 for the Caledonian Night which created a small surplus in both cases. This surplus was used for scholarships and other means of promoting Scottish culture.

Annual Soup Damper

This Sunday Soup and Damper lunch was enjoyed in by a good number of members with some hearty soup and extras to sustain us.

Annual St Andrew's Day Service

This annual service held at the Willows Uniting Church, Warner's Bay 25th November 2018 was led by Rev Kenneth Brown. Adam Harvey provided the traditional piping at the church. To complement the service, we all enjoyed morning tea in their church hall and Highland and Scottish Country dancing.

Newsletters

During this term we have produced and distributed ten full newsletters and numerous other posters or memos to keep members informed.

Committee Meetings

Your diligent Committee has faithfully attended and participated in eleven committee meetings (one was washed out by some extremely violent winter weather). At these meeting all our activities were carefully planned and evaluated. As well as the running of our own activities the Committee has spent considerable effort managing Teralba Community Hall.

Cultural Scholarship

This year we awarded two Cultural Scholarship - Bodie Chadban and Edward Horner to assist them with the costs of tuition. We look forward to hearing wonderful sounds from this young drummer and young piper.

Teralba Community Hall

As mentioned previously one of the major activities of the Committee is the management of Teralba Hall. This is a service provided to the community and separate from the promotion of Scottish culture. We are fortunate to have a most competent Hall Manager, Sue Donald who has been performing an amazing job keeping the Hall in clean and fresh state, as well as taking care of the bookings. Thank you, Sue. Please read her report included in this booklet

Committee Resignations

We were sorry to lose and have missed two of our most long term, hardworking committee members, Mike and Joan Elliott, who have moved on to Toowoomba, Queensland. We really did appreciate their time with us and look forward to any return visits.

Newsletter Editor

It has been difficult this year to maintain monthly interesting and informative newsletters to our members. Hopefully some aspiring journalist will come forward to take on this role.

In Conclusion

To the Committee members; Thank you for all your hard work and support throughout the year. You all have particular skills which you share generously.

Most importantly I thank Club members for their participation in activities – without this enthusiastic involvement, the Club would not be so successful. Let's get behind your new President and Committee to make this next year another great year.

Your President 2018-19

Andrew Smith

Audited Financial Report

This was presented to those in attendance at the AGM noting that the Club is in a sound financial position. Please let us know if you would like a copy – 16 pages is a little too long to add to the newsletter!

The Annual Report has gone to the Dept Fair Trading.

The Club's complete Annual Report together with the new Committee and statistics on the hire of Teralba Hall have gone to Lake Macquarie City Council



Coming HVSC Activities

1 December 9am – St Andrew’s Day Service. This will be held at The Willows in Hillsborough Rd, Warners Bay and led by Rev Kenneth Brown (with his good Scottish accent)

11 December – Christmas Social night 7pm Teralba Hall. Last year this was a great opportunity to hear of the groups who hire Teralba Hall. The invitation is going out again for any of these groups who are able, to join us at our Christmas social. Members, come and celebrate the festive season together.

1 February 2020 – Burns Night. Club Macquarie. Tickets available Dec-Jan. The later date allows us to avoid the Australia Day weekend events.



Other Celtic Activities in 2019

Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, ANZ Stadium Sydney, 17-19th October 2019

Central Coast Scottish Spectacular 3rd November, The Entertainment Grounds, Racecourse Rd West Gosford

Gathering of the Celts, Wallsend Diggers, 2nd November 2019 – As you were advised previously HVSC booked a table for this event. There is one ticket remaining for an interested person (\$20). Tickets also available from the Wallsend Diggers. Based on last year’s concert this will be a most enjoyable event.

Central Coast – St Andrew’s Day Meet and Greet, 30th November. Gosford Waterfront

If you attended Clans on the Coast or any other activity, and could give us a short report it would be great to share it through this newsletter with others who were not able to attend. Thank you

Points of interest

Why ‘Scotland’ Yard in England? In 1829 the first organised London Police Force was established in part of old Whitehall Palace. Later the London Police had taken over additional buildings which had housed the Kings of Scotland when they visited the London Court. This was the origin of the name Scotland Yard, which became synonymous with the English Criminal Police.

Those Bonnie Brave Men in Their Tunics. Remember those stirring scenes featuring courageous early 14th century Scots battling the English for their freedom in *Braveheart*? We knew it was an authentic historical picture because the men are wearing kilts, and what says ‘Scotsmen’ better than kilts, right? Alas the costume designers forgot to do their research. In truth, Scotsmen didn’t begin to wear short kilts (known as ‘small’ or ‘walking’ kilts) until nearly 400 years later. (thanks to a 2018 calendar for this information)