



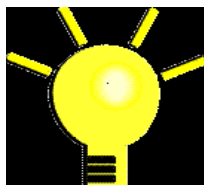
Hunter Valley Scots  
Club inc

# Hunter Valley Scots Club inc



January 2017

Issue 228



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

**In this issue**

**RECENT  
EVENTS**

**PHOTO  
GALLERY**

**WHAT'S ON**

A WEB PAGE  
FOR THE  
CLUB CAN  
BE FOUND  
AT  
[www.hvsc.org.au](http://www.hvsc.org.au)

## RECENT EVENTS

### St Andrews Church Service: 21st November 2016, St Andrews Uniting Church, Charlestown.

Graham Pricter led the service and there were few spaces left on the pews by the time we got going. Paul Ross led the colours in, with some stirring piping.

The choir delivered a special selection of songs with a Scottish theme, suitably illustrated with some fine Caledonian views on the overhead screen .

After providing some background on the original translation of the bible, Gary Gray sang unaccompanied, an eight-verse rendition of the 23rd Psalm in 'Braid Scots'. Andrew Smith gave us an insight into the life of his namesake, the disciple who became patron saint to Scotland and passages from the Bible were read by Lynn Pricter and Robyn Smith.

The after-service tea and cakes quickly evolved into a full-on ceilidh, with dancers birling up and down the normally peaceful supper room. Charlestown Uniting Church didn't know what hit it. All in all it was a thoroughly enjoyable way to spend a Sunday morning.

### Members Night - 14th December 2016

The theme was definitely a Christmassy one and Tables were decorated appropriately. We got started with some festive games, including Pass the Xmas Parcel and a fiercely competitive game of cards.

Four lasses from Flora Grubb's School of Highland Dancing entertained us with a fine selection of Highland Dances up on the stage.

A Christmas Carol singalong was led by Gary Gray, then Santa dropped in with some gifts for all present, before everyone adjourned to the Supper Room for some seasonal Fayre.

A big thanks to Graeme and Lynne again, for his efforts in organising the evening, and to all those members who assisted with the tables, chairs, food and clearing up afterwards.

*A man goes into a Glasgow shop to complain that there was a lace missing from the pair of shoes he had just bought earlier in the day. No, says the assistant, see what it says on the soles—TAIWAN.*

## **ACTION FROM THE LAST MONTH**

**Pictures from the December Club Night (check out our Facebook page for more)**



Four of the Senior dancers perform the Lilt



Santa Claus hands out goodies to some of the Highland Dancers in the hall

***Sorry we've no pictures from the St Andrew's Church Service, but the Editor's strict Presbyterian upbringing inhibited him from flashing his camera around the church hall.***

***Q. There were ten milking coos in a field, which was the one from the Persian Gulf?***

***A. Coo Eight.***



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## Positions 2016-2017

### President:

Andrew Smith

### Vice President:

Gary Gray

### Secretary:

Lynne Pricter

### Minute Secretary:

Grahame Pricter

Tel: 0402 335 410

### Treasurer:

Robyn Smith

### Committee Members

Helen Fulton

Joan Elliott

Mike Elliott

Graeme Auchterlonie

Lynne Pricter

David Graham

Genevieve Graham

Kim Nolan

### Newsletter Editor

Gary Gray

gary.j.gray@aecom.com

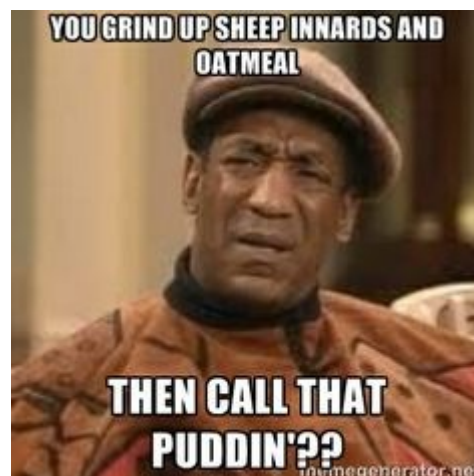
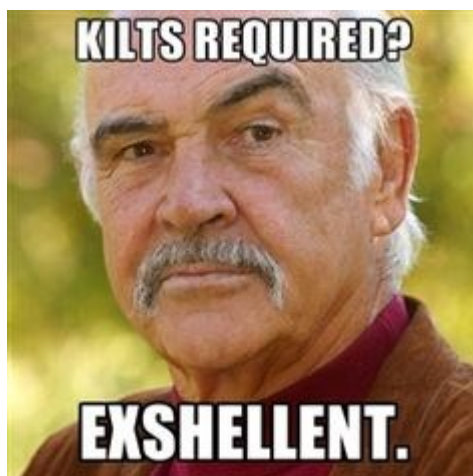
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# Calendar of Events 2017

**Note these dates in your diary now**

**Saturday January 21st 2017—Burns Night at Club MacQuarie, Cockle Creek — Tickets are getting pretty scarce now, but give Grahame a call if you're still hoping to attend.**

**Remember .....Kilts optional, haggis pudding for all....**



**Wednesday February 8th 2017—Members Social Night, programme to be confirmed.**

**Sunday March 5th 2017—Newcastle Highland Dancers 50th Anniversary Ceilidh.**

**Sunday March 19th 2017—Barefoot Bowls, 4pm at Adamstown Bowling Club. \$5 covers bowls and BBQ tea. Lots of Prizes to be won.**

***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***

## OTHER SCOTTISH ACTIVITIES

Greetings from your Newsletter Editor, let me know your suggestions for articles to write up on, photos to include, what's on in your area. Anything with a Scottish connection, however tentative.

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





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club inc

### Contact us:

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Website:  
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Email  
scots@hvsc.org.au

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

## Reports / News from our Connections:

### Highland Dancers:

**Newcastle Highland Dancers** are celebrating 50 years in March 2017 with an International Highland Dance Competition at the McQuarie Performing Arts Centre in Warner's Bay. The programme will include a ceilidh on the Sunday night (5th March). Watch this space for more details.

All the highland dancers, from Beginner right up to Premier, are still awaiting their exam results, after all the intensity of preparation and scrutiny. The first competition looming is on Australia Day down in Sydney. This is the first year that the competition will not be under the Bridge, but instead at North Sydney Civic Centre Park in Miller Street.

### Country Dancers:

All through January, the country dancers will be out on Warner's Bay Foreshore from around 7pm on Tuesday nights, going through their steps—these evenings are open to all, beginners included. What a good way to get back into shape after Christmas.

### Pipe Bands:

It's much too hot for these poor souls to be marching about in their heavy winter tartans. However, there will be plenty of piping at our Burns Night, when the United Mineworkers Pipe Band will do their best to lift the roof off and 'gie us a blaw'.

### NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

We are progressing the review of our e-mail address list—please let us know of any changes. Rather than impose a charge on those preferring a paper copy, we are still looking for a suitable sponsor to help cover the ever increasing cost of postage.

### Tailpiece:

Anyone go camping this Christmas? A few of the Editor's work colleagues spent their holidays camping at various popular sites further up the coast or up in the Barrington Tops. All had their tales of hardship, what with mosquitoes, leeches, the hot weather or the rain, not to mention the challenges some people face when confronted with long drop toilets and no H&C running water.



What can I say. Luxury! ...Back in the glen, when we went 'camping' the midges were so thick you would be lucky to even see the tent. Which would of course be under two feet of water. In those days tents weren't insect proof, so even in your (non-waterproof) sleeping bag you were subject to the non-stop assault. I always kept a lifejacket inside my tent.

Ever tried lighting a camp fire in horizontal rain? when nothing within six miles was dry—certainly not the wood, or the paper, or the matches. Maybe pack up and get the bus home—sorry, one bus a day, no buses on a Sunday, so next bus is not until Monday. And the nearest shop, the one over in the next glen—six miles away—is also closed on a Sunday.