



CHRISTMAS LUNCH
25 DECEMBER

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY
31 DECEMBER

SEAFOOD BUFFET
27 JANUARY

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER
14 FEBRUARY



RACA NEWS

DECEMBER/
JANUARY 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members,

114th Annual General Meeting

The Club held its 114th Annual General Meeting on 19th October 2017.

The following resolutions, in addition to the usual business of such meetings, were unanimously passed:

1. The adoption of an updated Constitution which provides all classes of voting members with a single vote per member, and qualifies such members the right to nominate or be nominated for the Board of the Club, and the Constitution is now on the Club's website; and

2. The nomination of Mr Gavin Frederick Crichton Thomas as an Honorary Life Member of the Club for his exceptional and distinguished service to the Club over a period of up to 20 years as President, Treasurer and Director.

Mr Thomas has written to the Club thanking all members and the Board for the honour of being so nominated and I quote from his letter as follows:

"Dear Members,

In 1987, when I offered myself as a candidate for the Board of the Club, I had no idea that I was going to be still in that position 19 years later (I almost made 20 years). Times were difficult but I was lucky to be serving alongside other Directors who had similar aims to mine but who were their own people. This meant that ideas and aims had to be thoroughly prepared and argued. Board meetings were interesting.

I do not propose to mention any Director by name (I do not want to offend by omission) but I will mention two employees being Richard Nelson and Allan Jordan. Both gentlemen were employed as the CEO of the Club at different times and both postponed their personal plans and endeavors to remain with the Club whilst the Club dealt with difficult problems that existed at those times. In my opinion all members are deeply indebted to Richard and Allan.

I also wish to thank my former business partner (Mark Roufeil) for his understanding when I was absent from our office as often as I was), the members of my staff (for their tolerance) and my partner Jenny who not only assisted me but put up with the long hours that I spent involved with Club affairs.

I offer my apologies to all members as I was unable to be in attendance at the last AGM when members accepted a proposal that I be elevated to the position of Honorary Life Member of the Club. It is an honour that I did not expect, particularly as so few Honorary Life Memberships have been granted in the past.

Not being in attendance I was unable to formally accept this great honour but in this letter I wish to convey a humble thank you and to wish the Club and its members a long and successful future."

Australasian Pioneers Club

The Board has been negotiating for several months with the Australasian Pioneers' Club (APC) to have the APC become a corporate member of RACA and relocate from the Union, University & Schools Club, introducing an initial minimum number of 30 with a potential for more of its members to join the corporate class and enjoy all benefits of our Club. We are pleased to advise that at its AGM on 21 November 2017, the members of APC present at the meeting voted by a 78% majority to accept the RACA proposal

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(President's Message Continued)

to join as a corporate member, which will include holding all of its annual functions and events at RACA. RACA will provide a home for all APC members, and its artwork and memorabilia of great significance to Australian history. Over the coming weeks we will finalise the agreement and relocation and welcome the APC and its members, who will complement the traditions of RACA and the Women's Pioneers Society who are already associated with us.

115th Club Birthday Dinner – Saturday 17 March 2018

We ask that members make note of this important event to be held on 17 March 2018. We are pleased and honoured to have received an acceptance from His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales and Mrs Linda Hurley as guests of honour at this event. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible to celebrate such an important milestone in the history of the Club.

Christmas Closure

As members may be aware last year we commenced a two phase refurbishment of air conditioning systems within the Club premises. The second phase is to be commenced during January 2018 and requires the closure of the Club premises to

perform such building invasive works. In addition refurbishment of some accommodation rooms will occur.

Any closure is not ideal for the Club and its members, particularly during a holiday season which includes an Ashes test and other similar activities which bring members to Sydney. In future years where a necessary closure is not required the Board is considering financially viable ways to minimise, or even eliminate, any closure of the Club where possible, having regard for not only members but also the annual leave requirements of its management and staff.

The Board thanks all members for their loyalty to, and use of, their Club during the year, and expresses its gratitude to Mr Friedler and all staff at the Club for their committed and much appreciated support of members and the Board.

The Club thanks all Board members for their many hours of voluntary committee and Board services. We wish all members, management and staff a happy and restful Christmas with their families. We will all return refreshed and bind together to continue the success and traditions of our Club.

Michael Callanan
President



CORKS 'N' FORKS

2017 has been a great year for our Corks 'n' Forks food and wine group. We've enjoyed four fully-booked Vintage Room tasting/tours, three well attended dinners culminating in our annual Black Tie Henschke Dinner, and our trip away in September to the Mornington Peninsula and Yarra Valley.

The Black Tie Henschke Dinner on November 24 – our sixth, was another great example of what we're about – good food and wine shared among friends. The six Henschke red and white wines went wonderfully with Chef's bespoke menu; my favourites being the 2015 Croft Chardonnay with the lime infused salmon, and the dinner's feature wine – the 2010 Hill of Roses Shiraz served with the cheese. The options game was again a lot of fun.

Before giving you some event dates for next year, some thanks. First, to Chef Rebecca Kaye and her team for the beautifully cooked innovative menus that went so well with all the wine matching challenges we threw at her during the year. Second, to Katrin Tali - the Club's Food & Beverage Operation Manager and her team for the friendly and professional service on the floor, and finally the Club's Events Team for all the back office work they do so well.

2018 Dates

Vintage Room Tasting/Tours - 15 February, 24 May, 23 August, 4 October

Dinners - Bests Great Western – Friday 6 April, Bastille – Saturday 14 July, Henschke – Friday 23 November

Trip away - TBA

My compliments of the Season to all, particularly to those members who attended our events during the year.

Graeme Jones
For the Corks 'n' Forks Committee

RACA MOTORING

The RACA Motoring event calendar is designed to continue the Motoring origins of our Club and develop an interesting programme of events that will appeal to all RACA Members. Some events appeal to dedicated motoring enthusiasts while others will appeal to members who enjoy a pleasant drive to a place of interest, with a long lunch or meeting with friends and fellow members at The Club. We extend a warm welcome to all RACA Members to attend any of our upcoming RACA Motoring events.

MOTORING NEWS - A BUSY NOVEMBER!

Royal Automobile Club Motoring held some great events in November.

Our **Bring Your Car Members Night** saw eight not previously seen Member Special Interest Cars in the Garage for presentation. These included; Rolls-Royce Silver Seraph, Bentley Turbo R, Jaguar XJS Cabriolet, Lotus Europa, Alfa Romeo 1750, Maserati Competizione, Porsche Carrera and A Citroen Xsara Race Car. It was a very well attended night and all owners gave an excellent preview and presentation.

The **HSRCA Historic Race Day** at Eastern Creek saw close wheel to wheel action where the RACA Trophies were hotly contested. Our Director Peter Reed Presented the winner trophies assisted by RACA Motoring, Alan Hunt.

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Members are Welcome to join our last event for the year.

Friday 8 December – RACA Motoring Christmas Drinks which is also our December Fluid Friday. This is a very informal event with no fixed start and finish and no program. Just come along and enjoy the company of RACA members gathered together from 6:00pm in the Members Bar for a meal and a few Christmas drinks. This year there will be special interest as our member, Barry Farr will be on hand to sell and sign his recently released book "Ferraris in Australia in the 1950s and 1960s".



RACA Director Peter Reed and Alan Hunt Presenting the Winner Trophies

LADIES COMMITTEE

62 members and their guests were in attendance for the last Ladies Committee luncheon of the year. Once again we welcomed entertainer Di Solomon to lead the festivities at our Christmas luncheon. The luncheon and carols were enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

Thank you to all the members and guests who have come to our luncheons this year and shown support for the Ladies Committee, as well as to Markus Friedler and all of the staff for all of their help this year in organising our luncheons.

We wish all members and their families and friends the joys and blessings of Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you to some of our exciting luncheons planned for 2018.

Margaret Dawes-Smith OAM
President - RACA Ladies Committee



CHRISTMAS HOURS

DATE	DAY	HARBOUR DINING ROOM			MEMBER'S BAR	GARAGE
		BREAKFAST	LUNCH	DINNER	OPENING HOURS	OPENING HOURS
23 Dec	Saturday	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	1500-2300
24 Dec	Sunday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
25 Dec	Monday	Open	Club Function	Closed	Closed	1100-1600
26 Dec	Tuesday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
27 Dec	Wednesday	Open	Open	Open	Closed	0630-2300
28 Dec	Thursday	Open	Open	Open	Closed	0630-2300
29 Dec	Friday	Open	Open	Open	Closed	0630-2300
30 Dec	Saturday	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	1500-2300
31 Dec	Sunday	Open	Closed	Club Function	Closed	0900-1430
1 Jan	Monday	Open	Closed	Club Function	Closed	Closed
2 Jan	Tuesday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

PLEASE NOTE THE CLUB WILL BE CLOSED FROM TUESDAY 2 JANUARY 2018 & RE-OPENING ON TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2018

26 Jan	Friday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
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CLUB UPDATES

Once again our Melbourne Cup luncheon was a success, as our member's enjoyed a delightful three-course meal as we live streamed the races in the Macquarie Room. Member's participated in the sweepstakes as they all joined in the fun and frivolity of the races! Prizes were awarded for best dressed male, best dressed female, best tie, and best hat. A huge thank you to all the staff who were involved in making the event yet another success; we received nothing but positive feedback from all who attended.

WINE OF THE MONTH TYRRELL'S WINES



Sparkling Ashmans Brut IV

An elegant sparkling with excellent depth of flavour. A fresh, clean finish with citrus blossom notes.



Old Winery Cabernet Merlot

A full flavoured wine with characters of ripe berries, chocolate and spice and a smooth lingering finish.



Old Winery Chardonnay

A medium bodied wine with aromas of stone fruit and subtle vanillin oak.



Old Winery Sauvignon Blanc

Wonderfully fragrant nose with hints of snow peas, guava and a little passion fruit. Full flavoured and refreshing.



Old Winery Shiraz

A smooth, soft and spicy red wine with aromas of dark ripe fruit and subtle vanillin oak.

RACA CLOSURE PERIOD - ACCOMMODATION OFFER

We have been in correspondence with our neighbours at Sir Stamford Circular Quay, who have graciously offered all RACA members with a discount on accommodation during our closure period.

All RACA members will be offered a rate of \$229 per night room only and for additional \$20 per person to include breakfast.

For all accommodation bookings at Sir Stamford Circular Quay, please contact Jenny Lee, Front Office Manager directly:

JennyLee@sscq.stamford.com.au or call 02 9252 4600.

Terms and conditions: Bookings and stays valid from 2-22 January 2018. Subject to availability. RACA member to quote and show valid membership card and number.

THE BOARD & CEO

WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Mr Matthew Barnett
Mr Richard Brandweiner
Mr Joe Briguglio
Mr Niall Conlon
Mr Richard Falthorn
Ms Ann Field
Mr Pratik Ganguly
Mr Kedar Garpure
Commander Glenn Ker
Mrs Jayne Ker

Mr Geoffrey McCahon
Mr Donald Richardson
Mrs Elizabeth Richardson-Szaro
Mr Keith Salvat
Dr Derrick Selby
Mr Luke Star
Mr Jeffrey Worboys



14.02.18
**VALENTINES
DAY DINNER**
\$95 Four Course
\$140 with Matching Wines

MEMBER EVENTS

2017 has been a great year for the Club. From everyone here at the Club we wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year! We have already got some wonderful events lined up in 2018 for you.

CHRISTMAS FOOD WEEK 11-23 December - Harbour Room



With the success of our annual Christmas Lunch, we have decided to extend the festivities by hosting a Christmas menu in the Harbour Dining Room for two weeks in the lead up to Christmas! Join us for succulent roast turkey, and delicious berry pavlova as this menu is sure to put you in the Christmas spirit.

WOMEN'S PIONEER SOCIETY Christmas Lunch \$35 20 December 12pm - Macquarie Room



Join us for our annual Christmas Party: a fun day of fellowship, food and frivolity. Mrs Linda Hurley will also be joining us for the day. Christmas Raffle tickets available, with the prize being a Government House decoration. A Bring & Buy table will also be available.

Bookings/Dietary Requirements:
Mrs Lorna Stone (02) 9522 8924

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 25 December 12:30pm - Harbour Dining Room - Child from \$84/Adult \$152



We pride ourselves on serving you the finest Christmas fare in Sydney, featuring the freshest local seafood, seasonal salads, roast meats, decadent desserts, and so much more. Let go of the stress of cooking a huge Christmas lunch and instead, join us and make memories filled with laughter, fun, and good times with your friends & family.

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY 31 December 6:30pm - Harbour Dining Room - Child from \$60/Adult \$215



The Royal Automobile Club of Australia invites you to join us as we welcome the New Year with a cheer. Bring along friends & family as we enjoy the spectacular view of the fireworks across the Harbour at midnight! Book in for our New Years Eve Party, with dinner and drinks to ring in the New Year with class and style in one of the best locations in Sydney.

SEAFOOD BUFFET 27 January 12PM - Harbour Room \$110



There's something about the Summer that brings out the desire to eat fresh produce. Indulge in the return of the Club's seafood buffet. Feast on fresh oysters, salt & pepper squid, delicious mussels, salmon and more - as we welcome 2018 with our first members' event for the year.

GOLDEN OLDIES FOOD WEEK

5-10 February - Harbour Dining Room



In alliance with our Club history trivia night we will be offering a special menu titled "A step back in time". Offering some variety and an array of older styled dishes along side the A La Carte menu in the Harbour Dining Room. This simple yet delicious menu is designed to set you back a step in time, giving you a sense of nostalgia.

CLUB HISTORY TRIVIA

7 February 12pm - ISC Room

\$79



Come and test your knowledge of the Club's history as well as motoring history in Sydney at this exclusive members trivia night. Along with a night that promises laughter and fun, you may learn a fact or two about this illustrious club you belong to. Accompanied by a two course meal, drink on arrival and prizes for the winner of the Trivia Night.

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

14 February 7PM - Harbour Dining Room - \$95/\$145 with Matching Wines



Choosing the perfect place for this special time can be tricky! Luckily, heart of Sydney is home to a wealth of fine dining destinations and relaxing restaurants ready to spoil you and your loved one with some indulging treats. The Harbour Dining Room will be offering a delicious four course set menu.

QUARANTINE STATION TOUR

20 February 10:45am

\$68



Sprawled across the hillside on the very edge of Sydney Harbour, the historic Quarantine Station has not only an impressive Sydney Harbour National Park location but also an incredible history behind its more recent transformation into Q Station. Join us as we take you on an exclusive tour of this remarkable location followed by a light lunch.

LADIES COMMITTEE

Susannah Fullerton

\$35

26 February 12PM - Macquarie Room



Join the Ladies Committee for their very first luncheon of 2018, as they introduce Susannah Fullerton back to the Club. Susannah brings to life, the lives and writings of great novelists & poets in her fascinating round of talks, lectures, books & monographs. Susannah will be speaking on Winston Graham's Poldark Novels. This is an event not to be missed by any literature lover.

CHRISTMAS GRATUITIES FUND

As members are aware, the club does not support a staff tipping policy. The trading results achieved by the club reflect not only on the support of members but also the service offered by all staff members.

The Board encourages member support of the Staff Christmas Gratuities Fund to ensure that all staff receive some monetary recognition for their efforts in making our visits to the Club as pleasant as they always are. Members will be supplied with a gratuities donation form with statements this month.

If you wish to contribute, please ring the club accounts team on 02 8273 2311

FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

- 1 Jazz Night
- 7 Caviar Night
- 11-23 Christmas Food Week
- 20 Women's Pioneer Society
- 25 Christmas Lunch
- 31 New Year's Eve Party

REGULAR EVENTS

Bridge Club

Every Tuesday
\$30pp 10.30am in the Albert Room

Regular Army Officers

2nd Friday of the Month (Except Dec. where the event will be held on the 15th)
\$65pp 2 course lunch & beverages
12pm in the Members Bar

JANUARY

- 2 Club Closes
- 23 Club Re-Opens
- 27 Seafood Buffet

FEBRUARY

- 2 Jazz Night
- 5-10 Golden Oldies Food Week
- 7 Club History Trivia
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 Corks 'N' Forks Tasting Tour
- 20 Quarantine Station Tour
- 21 Women's Pioneer Society
- 26 Ladies Committee
- 27 Penfold Wine Dinner



To book an event please call 02 8273 2322 or email eventsadmin@raca.com.au