



Est. 1903

R A C A N E W S

DECEMBER 2019 / JANUARY 2020



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Dear Members,

The last you heard from me was a few months ago and our calendar year has nearly come to an end.

On the 9th of October the President's Cocktail Party was held for our long-standing members of 25 years and longer. It was very well visited with everyone enjoying themselves and praising the good food, beverages and service not to forget the great music throughout the evening. We also distributed 25 and 50 year pins for all our members to commemorate their long-standing membership and loyalty to the RACA.

The club also held its AGM on the 17th of October and I am sure everybody has read the Presidents Report stating that it was a solid year although we ended it with a small loss. We are looking forward to a more positive year this financial year.

This year once again required a postal ballot to elect the 2019/20 Board. We initially received 18 nominations which later decreased to 15. We also gave members the opportunity of voting digitally this year. The elected members were announced at the AGM and I am pleased to announce that the Board has remained unchanged from the previous year.

May I remind all members that the club will be closed from the 2nd of January 2020 until the 21st of January when we re-open. We will re-open with a 'Welcome Back' Dinner Buffet in the Harbour Dining Room.

As you know we close the club to be able to take care of maintenance issues we cannot get to during opening times. The club also receives a major clean and freshen up. We do apologise for any inconvenience.

Please keep in mind that, as with each year, there will be road closures over the New Year period which will be announced on our website as soon as we receive further information from the City of Sydney Council.

2019 has nearly come to an end and once again the past year has just flown by. I have now been at the club for 8.5 years and would like to thank all members for their care and support during the last few months where I had some major medical issues.

As always at this time of the year, we ask Members to acknowledge the great efforts of the RACA team by way of gratuity. Your staff are always extremely grateful for your contributions.

On behalf of all my colleagues we would all like to wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to greeting you all again next year.

Yours sincerely,
Markus Friedler
CEO/Secretary Manager

CORKS 'N' FORKS

Dear Members,

As we approach the end of another successful Corks 'n' Forks year, and start to think about our 2020 schedule, I thought a brief recap of our 2019 events might be useful, particularly for those members unable for whatever reason to join us this year and enjoy the various things we do.

As we've done in previous years, we continued our successful 'tasting/tour' programme throughout 2019. Themes this year ranged from 'Good Wines from Unexpected Places', 'Spot the Difference', and 'A Dip in Langhorne Creek'.

For those who've not been before, our tasting/tours are relaxed, informal and educative evenings designed to appeal to those members and their guests seeking an introduction to the wonderful world of wine or to expand their existing knowledge. They're held in the seated comfort of the Pioneers or Vintage Room, and we usually serve around 12 themed wines paired with small matching food courses.

Our dinners again proved very popular this year. In May we held our Rockford Wines Dinner, which gave members and their guests the rare opportunity to enjoy a range of wines from Rockford, including their famed "Basket Press" Shiraz, that are not generally available to the public. In July we again celebrated Bastille Day in the best Gallic tradition, and as I write this piece, plans are well in hand for our annual Black Tie Henschke Dinner – this year titled 'Henschke with a Tasmanian Twist' – to be held on 29 November.

This year's trip away was a week in Tasmania in late October/early November, where 20 of us enjoyed the many food, wine and scenic delights Tasmania has to offer. Our tour highlighted the sheer quality and variety of Tasmanian Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, which we enjoyed at various dinners and tastings in and around Hobart, Bicheno and Launceston. The food wasn't half bad either – especially the seafood. The mutton bird in Bicheno and the scallop pies in Low Head were interesting, different and memorable.

Well that's all for 2019 folks, and thanks so much for supporting our events this year. Thanks also to the Club's management and staff for helping us put them on. Might I take this opportunity on behalf of the Corks 'n' Forks committee to wish each of you a happy and safe Christmas and New Year. We look forward to catching up with you at a Corks 'n' Forks event next year.

From the Corks 'n' Forks Committee

Graeme Jones – mogigi.grj@bigpond.com

| Avril Fortuin - avituin1@gmail.com

Brent Halligan - info@legalmigrationservices.com

| Roger Butler - law@colebutler.com.au

MOTORING

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE RACA MOTORING COMMITTEE

**Friday 13 December 2019
ISC Room
6pm**

**Join us for a Christmas-themed event for
our final 'Fluid' gathering for the year!**

*Our Fluid Friday's are normally
a casual get together however
we would appreciate it if you
would **rsvp by 9 December***

*Contact our Events Team on
02 8273 2320 or
events@raca.com.au*

Save the date for our first event in 2020, in the Pioneers' Room at 6pm on Friday 31 January 2020





IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK!

WIN A \$100 HOUSE CREDIT

Each month our Members knowledge will be put to the test! The walls of our club have stood the test of time and house some of the most beautiful artefacts from history. Simply answer the question below via email (include your membership number) to marketing@raca.com.au or pick up an entry form from the club. Correct entries will go in the draw to win a \$100 credit on your house account.

Question:

Which ISC President is memorialised in the beautifully carved grand sideboard in the Reading Room?

Bonus Question:

What year did this gentleman become President?

Include the correct answer to the 'Bonus Question' to automatically receive a voucher for a complimentary glass of **Premium RACA House Wine, Beer or Soft Drink** when dining in the Harbour Dining Room or Member's Bar.

T&C's: The winner will be randomly selected from the correct entries and drawn on the 25th of each month (or nearest business day) and their name published in the following newsletter. Members must be financial to enter and the \$50 credit will be transferred to the Members house account. **Bonus question prize:** glass of wine, beer or soft drink valid for 30 days from the date of issue and available from the Harbour Dining Room or Members Bar only, Limit ONE VOUCHER per member, not transferable for cash or credit. The Bonus Question Voucher will be emailed or mailed, depending on your preferred delivery option, on 25th of each month (or nearest business day).

NSW permit number: LTPS/19/35542

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. If you wish to contribute, please contact the club's Accounts team on 02 8273 2311 or acctsrc@raca.com.au

The last day to contribute is Wednesday 18 December 2019.



LADIES COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Ladies Committee, we wish all our RACA Family a special and festive time this Christmas and New Year.

We wish to thank Michael Callanan, the Board, Markus Friedler and the staff and in particular all of the members for their kindness and support throughout the year.

We have started to plan some very exciting events for the next year and look forward to seeing you all at future Ladies Committee luncheons.

Yours sincerely,
(Mrs) Margaret Dawes-Smith OAM
President, RACA Ladies Committee



CLUB UPDATES



CONGRATULATIONS to our esteemed member **Mr Shaun Kalms** a happy recipient of \$50 on their house account, who was drawn from all the entries that correctly answered the main question for November in our 'If these walls could talk' competition. There are seven chandeliers in the Macquarie Room.

Thank you to all our members that participated and those who correctly answered the Bonus Question, each chandelier holds twelve candles - **enjoy your complimentary beverage voucher!**

Take some time out and look around the club. While you're at it, pick up an entry form and complete the quiz for the next draw which will be for Dec/Jan so enter now for the chance to double your win with a **\$100 HOUSE CREDIT!**

OUT & ABOUT WITH RACA - Site Visit To The Upcoming Sydney Harbour Concours d'Elegance Event 2020



SAVE THE DATE!

Sydney Harbour Concours d'Elegance
5 - 7 March 2020
at
Swifts
68 Darling Point Rd Darling Point



CORKS 'N' FORKS TASMANIAN TOUR



THE BOARD & CEO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

LCDR Kylie Storen
LCDR Robert Valler
Major Andrew Kfoury
LtCol Errol Christian
Major Sarah Winter
Captain Ed Chan
F/Lt Mike Keaney
Mr Ed Lippmann
Mr Michael O'Brien
Mr Aidian Kinsella
Professor Stephen Burdon

Mrs Suzanne Burdon
Mr Warren Dixon esq.
Mr Prabhat Kumar
Mr Michael Vincent
Mr Phillip Terry
Mr Peter Hill
Mr Rodney Dickson
Mr Paul Crellin
Mr Gavin Blackhall
Mr Surinder Agnihotri



MEMBER EVENTS

We have number of fantastic upcoming events for members and their guests. Book early to avoid disappointment.

WREATH MAKING CLASS

4 December 10AM-12PM \$95



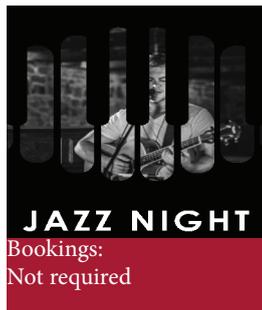
Create your own dry floral festive wreaths, under the expert guidance of experienced florist Setsuko Yanagisawa.

Enjoy a glass of sparkling on arrival, Christmas themed canapé brunch menu, tea, coffee, juice and sparkling water. Products and tools provided.

Bookings:
events@raca.com.au or
(02) 8273 2320

JAZZ NIGHT

6 December 6PM - Members Bar \$20



Join us for Jazz Night! Now a monthly tradition, Jazz Night welcomes in talented musicians to play some classic jazz standards and tunes for you; right in the heart of the Member's Bar. With our themed jazz bites for only \$20, grab a drink, unwind and join us as we do Friday evenings the right way.

Bookings:
Not required

CHRISTMAS MENU SERVICE

14-24 December \$55-\$65



Join us in the Harbour Dining Room as we lead up to Christmas celebrations with a wonderful festive menu sure to get you in the Christmas spirit!

Two-Course \$55
Three-Course \$65

Contact the Harbour Dining Room and reserve your table for either lunch or dinner.

Bookings:
harbour@raca.com.au or
(02) 8273 2300

WOMEN'S PIONEER SOCIETY

18 December 12PM \$35



Welcome to the Women's Pioneer Society final luncheon for the year.

Please join us as we feast on a wonderful Christmas-themed luncheon.

Limited seats available, please book early to avoid disappointment.

Bookings: Ann Lisle
0407 958 582

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

25 December 12PM \$89-\$165



Leave the stress of cooking in the past and join us at the Club as we celebrate Christmas over a beautiful buffet lunch prepared by our Executive Chef and his team.

Limited spaces still available, contact our Events Team today.

Bookings:
events@raca.com.au or
(02) 8273 2320

WELCOME BACK BUFFET DINNER

21 January 6PM \$45



Join us in January for a delicious 'Welcome Back' buffet dinner, serving all your favourites, and a complimentary beverage whilst soaking in the beautiful views from the Harbour Dining Room.

Contact the Harbour Dining Room and book ahead to secure your table.

Bookings:
harbour@raca.com.au or
(02) 8273 2300

WOMEN'S PIONEER SOCIETY

22 January 12PM \$75



Join us as we welcome Mr Ron Ray from the Australian National Maritime Museum, who will provide a glimpse of how the HMB Endeavour was sailed and operated in the 18th Century - both above and below decks.

Hear what life on board was like for the 98 sailors and marines to the officers and scientists, and to Captain Cook himself.

Bookings: Ann Lisle
0407 958 582

CHINESE NEW YEAR FOOD WEEK

3-8 February 6PM onwards \$70



Join us in the Harbour Dining Room as we celebrate Chinese Lunar New Year with a four-course dinner feast available in the first week of February.

Contact the Harbour Dining Room and book ahead to secure your table.

Bookings:
harbour@raca.com.au or
(02) 8273 2300

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

14 February 7PM \$85



Celebrate Valentine's Day in the Harbour Dining Room with magnificent views of Sydney Harbour and feast on a four-course dinner designed by our Executive Chef.

Bookings are as essential as LOVE! Contact the Harbour Dining Room and book ahead to secure your table.

Bookings:
harbour@raca.com.au or
(02) 8273 2300

LADIES COMMITTEE

24 February 12PM \$65



The Ladies Committee of The Royal Automobile Club of Australia invite you to our first event for 2020 with special guest speaker Ronni Kahn AO, CEO & Founder of OzHarvest. Driven by a determination to find purpose in her life, the simple act of rescuing good food and delivering it to people in need quickly caught on, and in 2004 OzHarvest was born.

Bookings:
eventsadmin@raca.com.au or
(02) 8273 2322

WINE OF THE MONTH

TYRRELL'S



Sparkling Ashmans Brut NV

An elegant sparkling with excellent depth of flavour. A fresh, clean finish with citrus blossom notes. Lightbodied with a touch of creaminess on the well-balanced palate.



Old Winery Pinot Noir

Lots of varietal cherry and strawberry aromas with complexing forest floor undertones. A soft but generously flavoured style with sweet aromas of berries and mushroom. The palate is long and concentrated with rich sweet fruit, subtle savoury oak support and smooth tannins.



Old Winery Sauvignon Blanc

The Old Winery Sauvignon Blanc exhibits a wonderfully fragrant nose of snow peas, guava and a little passionfruit. With its classic varietal character, this full flavoured and refreshing sauvignon blanc delivers herbal and grassy notes with vibrant, zesty citrus fruit character.



Old Winery Shiraz

Deep red in colour with a bright purple rim. A smooth, soft and spicy red wine with aromas of dark ripe fruit and subtle vanillin oak. The palate is full of rich shiraz flavours and is supported by firm tannins which provide good length and complexity.



Old Winery Chardonnay

A medium bodied wine with aromas of stone fruit and subtle vanillin oak. The palate is generously flavoured with white peach citrus characters and a clean, crisp finish.



Exhibition ~
A Tour of
England's Great
Coachbuilding
Workshops

12 February 2020
ISC Room, 7.30pm

The RACA Motoring Committee invite you to a unique opportunity to meet, hear and chat with:

ROBERT SIEMSEN
Coachbuilder of Dubble and recipient of WINSTON CHURCHILL Fellowship

Robert's award allowed him to visit and study his trade in automotive workshops in England. This is an invitation to visit Robert's extensive photographic exhibition and discuss restoration techniques and practices he witnessed in England.

Refreshments:
Cash Bar available in ISC Room

Optional Dinner:
Dinner available from 5:00pm in the Members Bar

Bookings are essential, please contact the RACA Events Team
eventsadmin@raca.com.au
or 8273 2322

NO ENTRANCE FEE BUT YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND.
RSVP MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2020

FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER	
1	Summer Classic, RACA Trophy Race & Promo Day (Sydney Motorsport Park)
4	Wreath Making Class
6	Jazz Night
13	Fluid Friday's - Motoring Christmas Drinks
14-24	Christmas Food Service
18	Women's Pioneer Society
25	Christmas Day Lunch
31	New Years Eve

JANUARY	
21	Welcome Back Buffet Dinner
22	Women's Pioneer Society
31	Fluid Friday's

FEBRUARY	
7	Jazz Night
3-8	Chinese New Year Food Week
11-12	Motoring Exhibition
14	Valentine's Day Dinner
19	Women's Pioneer Society
20	Corks 'n' Forks
24	Ladies Committee
28	Fluid Friday's

MARCH	
6	Jazz Night
TBC	Sydney Living Museum Tour
TBC	Casino Night
27	Fluid Friday's
28	Women's Pioneer Society
30	Ladies Committee

REGULAR EVENTS	
Bridge Club	Every Tuesday (Feb-Nov but only 3rd & 10th Dec 2019). Resuming on 4 Feb 2020. \$32pp 10.30am in the Victoria Room
Regular Army Officers	2nd Friday of the Month (Feb-Dec) \$65pp 2 course lunch & beverages 12pm in the Members Bar
Fluid Fridays	Last Friday of each month Next: Friday 13 December 6pm in the Pioneers' Room
Just Infantry	1st Thursday of the Month (except January 2020) 12pm Member's Bar, 12:30pm Harbour Dining Room Lunch



2019/2020 CLUB TRADING HOURS DURING CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

DATE	DAY	HARBOUR DINING ROOM			MEMBER'S BAR	GARAGE
		BREAKFAST	LUNCH	DINNER	OPENING HOURS	OPENING HOURS
23 December	Monday	Open	Open	Open	Closed	06:30-23:00
24 December	Tuesday	Open	Open	Open	Closed	06:30-23:00
25 December	Wednesday	Open	Club Function	Closed	Closed	11:00-16:00
26 December	Thursday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
27 December	Friday	Open	Open	Open	Closed	06:30-23:00
28 December	Saturday	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	15:00-23:00
29 December	Sunday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
30 December	Monday	Open	Open	Open	Closed	06:30-23:00
31 December	Tuesday	Open	Closed	Club Function	Closed	09:00-14:30
01 January	Wednesday	Open	Closed	Club Function	Closed	Closed
02 January	Thursday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

PLEASE NOTE THE CLUB WILL BE CLOSED FROM THURSDAY 2 JANUARY 2020 & REOPENING ON TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 2020

AUSTRALIA DAY						
27 January	Monday	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed