



Est. 1903

# R A C A N E W S

**November 2021**



## OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a humbling privilege that I write to you as your 22nd President.

Thank you for your valued membership and the way that you sustain your Club through your endeavours.

I acknowledge the work of the previous Board and the leadership of the Immediate Past President, Michael Callanan, who led the Board through a tough and challenging period with grace and aplomb. Thank you to Jim Warren, Graeme Jones and Nigel Renton for their distinguished service, on your behalf; all of whom will be missed around the current Board table.

Congratulations to Stephen Wells on becoming Vice President and to Peter Reed on becoming Treasurer and I very much value this opportunity, as part of the Executive, to serve together.

May I thank all my Board colleagues Robert Armitage, Michael Callanan, Michael Harrison, Stephen Hathaway, Morgan Kelly, Peter Reed, Stephen Wells and Christine Wright for their trust and ongoing support as we take the next stages of your Board's journey together.

God bless my late parents who instilled in me the values of hard work, perseverance and that actions always speak louder than words.

I pledge to work tirelessly, proactively and collaboratively to honour our strong traditions, respect your current views and forge new pathways that will sustain us long into the next 120 years.

I am keen to share thoughts with you and see you - with the return of evening dining along with Member events - from November 1st.

Our Club is more than a building - it's our way of life.

Yours in Service,

Megan Lavender





# LADIES COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Ladies Committee, I'd like to congratulate the new President, Megan Lavender, and the newly appointed Board of Directors for 2021.

Our thanks to past President, Michael Callanan, and retiring Board Members who have given the RACA Ladies Committee much kindness and support over the years.

We would also like to thank all members that have made an effort to visit the club since its re-opening. Your continued support is valued and appreciated. If you have not yet returned to the club, we implore you to. There are some great specials available this month, and on November 29th we will hold our annual Christmas-themed lunch, which is sure to be a great success.

Join us in carolling all the Christmas classics and enjoy a traditional festive meal.

We look forward to seeing you in the club soon.

All are welcome!

Mrs Margaret Dawes-Smith OAM

**President of the RACA Ladies Committee.**



## MOTORING

I hope you enjoyed the snapshot of Club life from the early 1930s in the last newsletter. It showed how important the Club was in Sydney society. Members make a club and I certainly have forged some great friendships through our Club community.

With the Club re-opening after such a long time, the Motoring Group welcomes all members back to the Club and to our regular Fluid Fridays. We are also considering options for late year events so that we can connect with as many members as possible.

HSRCA Summer Festival: Cancelled

Sadly the annual Summer Festival has been cancelled due to the lockdowns pushing some major events into the path of the Historic Sports & Racing Car Association. This means we will not be able to present the RACA Trophies as planned. The HSRCA is planning on an Australia Day event in January to revive the memory of Amaroo and Oran Park circuits where many a racing battle took place. It should be a great few days of racing at Wakefield Park!

The Motoring Group will figure out an event to present this (and last) years trophies.

Sydney Harbour Concours d'Elegance

Tickets have gone on sale for the premier Concours d'Elegance in the Southern Hemisphere - the 4th edition of this event. If this year was anything to go by, it will be an amazing showcase of gorgeous vehicles. Many Club members attended this year's event and marvelled at the location, display and overall presentation of the vehicles. Put the 4th & 5th March in the diary!

In Closing

I look forward to recording more podcasts soon and sharing member stories with the community.

Stephen Wells

**For the Motoring Club**

[motoring@raca.com.au](mailto:motoring@raca.com.au) | <https://www.facebook.com/RACAMEG>



From Board Meetings through to Black Tie Events,  
our seven function rooms are available for hire!



**10% Discount on Room Hire  
for Functions in November**

[events@raca.com.au](mailto:events@raca.com.au) | (02) 8273 2320



# CORKS 'N' FORKS

Dear Members,

I can report that following the Club's reopening with new Chef Brett Hilton-Jones at the stoves, we've been giving some thought as to what Corks 'n' Forks might do before year's end.

Unfortunately, it's not logistically feasible to now put together this year's annual Black Tie Henschke Dinner scheduled for 19 November. So what we've decided to do is keep that date and arrange something else, so please keep 19 November free in your diaries. As we go to press the something else hasn't been confirmed.

We've had a number of good suggestions from Corks 'n' Forkers; ranging from a Best's Wines Dinner, a themed Tasting/Tour, and a 'Fiesta Italiana' shared table dinner. Member John Hitchen summed it up well with his suggestion that what's needed at the moment is simply a "good social feed and drink".

I'll be meeting with Chef shortly, but given John's suggestion of a good social feed and drink, I reckon a Fiesta Italiana on 19 November could be on the cards. As soon as we know the Club will publicise it.

Whatever the event turns out to be, you might like to pencil the date 19 November in your diaries now and make a provisional booking by contacting Yvonne Muriithi at the Club on 8273 2322 or by email at [events@raca.com.au](mailto:events@raca.com.au).

Our next tour awaits .....

Graeme Jones

**For the Corks 'n' Forks Committee**

## Spring Racing Sparkling

### Yves Premium Cuvée



Yves premium Cuvée encompasses all the pristine qualities of the cool climate Yarra Valley region.

A truly exceptional expression of chardonnay - Pale yellow with fine bubbles and persistent mousse. Delicate and floral, with a creamy mid-palate and a lingering, zippy finish.

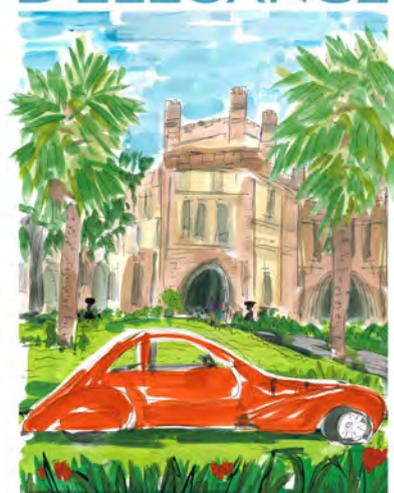
Apple aromas with hints of nut and toast. Primary fruit flavours of pears and apples and a hint of nectarine.

6 Bottles - \$120

1 Bottle - \$45

Glass - \$8

## -SYDNEY HARBOUR- CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE



MARCH 4-5  
**2022** LIMITED  
TICKETS  
AVAILABLE  
[SYDNEYHARBORCONCOURS.COM.AU](http://SYDNEYHARBORCONCOURS.COM.AU)

## New RACA Merchandise Now Available!



Silk Tie  
\$50



Water Bottle  
\$18



Umbrella  
\$45



Drawstring  
Backpack  
\$12

For orders visit the RACA members Portal, RACA App, see reception or contact the Marketing Team on [marketingco@raca.com.au](mailto:marketingco@raca.com.au) | (02) 8273 2324

*Relaxation in the heart of Sydney...*

**30%**  
OFFER  
*Special*

Your Club is a short distance from all the main attractions our wonderful city has to offer so why not take full advantage of the beautiful Spring weather and take a stroll around Sydney. After exploring, relax in the comfort of your Club and receive 30% off our lowest available accommodation rates in October and November 2021.

Contact Reception on [reception@raca.com.au](mailto:reception@raca.com.au) or 02 8273 2300 to reserve your accommodation and don't forget to ask the team about adding a discounted Food and Beverage service to your booking to take full advantage of your stay!

# HARBOUR DINING ROOM

Join us for lunch in the Harbour Dining Room for a special treat

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

Enjoy a complimentary glass of RACA House Wine or Soft Drink with your two-course meal (Entrée/Main or Main/Dessert) for \$55 or all three courses for \$65!

This special offer is valid for **Lunch Only** Monday-Friday October-November 2021

Bookings are essential. Please contact us on 02 8273 2300 or [harbour@raca.com.au](mailto:harbour@raca.com.au)

Book via the RACA App for an automatic entry into the weekly draw for a *Three-Course Dinner for two, complemented by a bottle of Wine.*



## Royal Automobile Club of Australia

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# HAPPY HOUR

MONDAY - SATURDAY | 5PM-7PM

MEMBERS BAR | LEVEL 3

50% off Selected Beers, Wines, Spirits & Cocktails



Book your New Year's Eve celebrations! Dining and Accommodation packages are now available [reception@raca.com.au](mailto:reception@raca.com.au) | (02) 8273 2300

**Congratulations Mr Vandyke,**  
the winner of a Dinner or Lunch for 2 in the Harbour Dining Room!

Download the RACA App now and instantly go in the draw to win next week!



## WINE OF THE MONTH



### 2021 Henschke Julius Riesling

Pale lemon with green hues. Lifted aromas of frangipani. Kaffir lime leaf, citrus blossom and lime zest, with notes of bergamot orange, white currant, thyme and green peppercorn. The palate shows excellent flavour intensity with concentrated lime juice, grapefruit and white peach, balanced by focused and defined acidity, and a river peddle mineral mouthfeel driving the power and long finish.

6 Bottles - \$240



### 2019 Henschke Five Shillings Shiraz Mataro

Deep crimson with violet hues. Fragrant and intense aromas of ripe raspberry, blackberry, Satsuma plum, with lifted, spicy notes of black pepper, liquorice, cinnamon and nutmeg. A full, lush palate of vibrant raspberry, boysenberry and mulberry with complex and textural savoury tannins, and fresh acidity driving a long, spicy and structural finish.

6 Bottles - \$190



### 2019 Henschke Johann's Garden Grenache Mataro Shiraz

Bright ruby with pale ruby hues. Complex aromas of ripe blue plum, blueberry, raspberry and violets, with charcuterie, nutmeg, mace and black pepper, and undertones of lemongrass, turmeric and mace. A rich and supple medium-bodied palate of raspberry, baked plum with hints of musk, and savoury celery salt and peppercorn spice, driven by rolling, fresh acidity and fine-grained tannins for a long, polished finish.

6 Bottles - \$320



### 2021 Henschke Peggy's Hill Riesling

Pale lemon with lime hues. Fragrant aromas of lemon and lime zest, white peach and citrus blossom, with hints of ginger, lemon balm and white rose. The palate is concentrated and pure with flavours of tangerine, grilled lemon and crisp green apple, framed by fine minerality giving shape and focus, excellent balance and a long finish.

6 Bottles - \$150

## FOR YOUR DIARY

### REGULAR EVENTS

#### Bridge Club

Every Tuesday  
\$35pp 10.30am in the Harbour Dining Room

#### Army Officer's Lunch

2nd Friday of the Month  
Next: Friday 12 November  
\$70pp 2 course lunch & beverages  
12pm in the Members Bar

#### Fluid Fridays

Last Friday of each month  
Next: Friday 26 November  
6pm in the Pioneers' Room

#### Just Infantry

Normally 1st Thursday of the Month  
Next: Thursday 4 November  
12pm Members Bar, 12:30pm Harbour Dining Room Lunch

### NOVEMBER

- 2 Melbourne Cup
- 5 Jazz Night
- 9 Remembrance Day Lunch
- 17 Women's Pioneer Society
- 19 Classical Night
- 19 Corks 'n' Forks
- 26 Fluid Friday
- 29 Ladies Committee

### DECEMBER

- 3 Jazz Night
- 13 Christmas Food Week
- 15 Women's Pioneer Society
- 17 Classical Night
- 17 Fluid Friday
- 25 Christmas Day Lunch
- 31 New Year's Eve Dinner

### JANUARY

- 7 Jazz Night
- 14 Latin-American Night
- 19 Women's Pioneer Society
- 21 Classical Night
- 28 Fluid Friday
- 31 Chinese New Year Food Week

## CHRISTMAS GRATUITIES FUND

As members are aware, the Club does not support a staff tipping policy. During one of the most difficult years the Club has faced, due to the continuing impact of COVID, our team has remained positive and continue to provide the high level of service our members have become accustomed to.

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 | [acctsrc@raca.com.au](mailto:acctsrc@raca.com.au)

The last day to contribute is Friday 17 December 2021.



# MEMBER EVENTS

We have a number of fantastic upcoming events for members and their guests.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

## MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON 2021

02 November 12PM

\$141



Race in to the Club and enjoy a wonderful feast as we host yet another exciting Melbourne Cup luncheon.

Dust off your best race day outfit to make it a fun day out with prizes to be won throughout, including best dressed and our own sweepstake!

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

## JAZZ NIGHT

5 November 6PM



The tradition continues at the Club, with Jazz Night on the first Friday of each month.

Join us and grab some of our themed jazz bites for only \$25.

Bookings:  
harbour@raca.com.au or  
(02) 8273 2370

## REMEMBRANCE DAY

9 November 6PM

\$75



The Australasian Pioneers' Club, invite you to attend a special Remembrance Day luncheon as we welcome our guest speaker Sarah Watson.

Topic:  
What Remembrance Day Means to Me

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

## WOMEN'S PIONEERS SOCIETY

17 November 12PM

\$80



The Women's Pioneer Society invite you to lunch with Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC Governor of NSW

Guest Speaker- Sue Williams, award-winning journalist and columnist. Sue will speak about her novel, "Elizabeth & Elizabeth".

Bookings:  
Please contact Ann Lisle on  
0407 958 582

## CLASSICAL NIGHT

19 November 6PM



Join us in the Members Bar on the third Friday of each month at the Club and be entertained with live Classical music!

November's highlighted composer is Franz Schubert. Enjoy 'Classical Bites' for \$25, designed to pay tribute to the composer's country of origin, and why not indulge in a signature cocktail for \$10.

Bookings:  
harbour@raca.com.au or  
(02) 8273 2370

## CORKS 'N' FORKS

19 November 7PM

\$TBD



Join Corks 'n' Forks for their upcoming event scheduled for November.

Save the date...it'll be a good one and details will follow shortly!

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

## LADIES COMMITTEE

29 November 12PM

\$58



The Ladies Committee of The Royal Automobile Club of Australia invite you to a Christmas-themed affair featuring musician Jordan Roach.

Join us in carolling the festive classics whilst you feast on delicious canapés and a two course Christmas menu.

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

## WOMEN'S PIONEERS SOCIETY

15 December 12PM

\$45



The Women's Pioneer Society invite you to the WPS Christmas Party and Trading Table.

Guest Speaker: Ambre Hammond- Australian classical pianist and composer. Come and listen to her fascinating life story.

Bookings:  
Please contact Mrs. Joy Dean  
on 0417 217 963

## Christmas Food Week

13 - 24 December

\$55 - \$65



Join us for lunch or dinner in the Harbour Dining Room during the lead up to Christmas with a wonderful menu sure to get you in the festive spirit!

Reserve your table now for either lunch or dinner.

Bookings:  
harbour@raca.com.au or  
(02) 8273 2370

## CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON

25 December 12PM

\$89 - \$145



Join us as we celebrate Christmas Day in the Harbour Dining Room. Enjoy a delicious meal with all the trimmings prepared by the Executive Chef and his team.

Limited spaces are still available. Book now via the Members Portal, RACA app or contact the Events team.

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