July 2022 - Newsletter

Three Sisters Social Group

Box 7074 LEURA NSW 2780

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President:Terence Preeo - president@threesisterssocial.asn.auVice-president:John Wilson - vice-president@threesisterssocial.asn.auSecretary:Larry Singer - secretary@threesisterssocial.asn.auTreasurer:Thomas Naylor - treasurer@threesisterssocial.asn.auCommittee members:Alan Kerr, Kevin Nixon, Tim Corfield

From the President

Dear Friends

June, as usual, has been somewhat frantic. The Queen's Birthday Long Weekend has come and gone with great success.

The Blackheath Disco has proven to be one of the highlights of the mountains with an energetic and appreciative crowd in attendance.

The Platinum and Ruby Queens' Ball excelled, replete with amazing costumes, fabulous parades, exotic entertainment and music that filled the dance floor all night.

Our Medlow Bath AIDS Memorial Restoration Appeal received a welcome boost thanks to a very successful raffle. Our thanks go to Maurice Cooper, OAM, Adam Bold and the Fairmont for donating their very generous prizes.

My thanks go to the willing helpers that made these events such a success. I was particularly pleased to see quite a number of Disco attendees help us stack chairs and tables at closing time. Thank you all.

July and August are busy months.

July sees our annual Christmas in July at The Chalet and a special fund raising dinner hosted by Maurice Cooper at the International Hotel School, Leura. Details are in this newsletter.

August is our Annual General Meeting. This meeting is an important one for the Three Sisters Social Group.

The last few years have been somewhat trying, as it has been for many community groups and businesses. Our membership has declined and the willing pool of active participants with it. The





7pm 12 July 2022 Christmas in July The Chalet Medlow Bath \$37 Reservations by the Sunday evening prior bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au

MONTHLY Luncheon

12pm Tuesday 26 July 2022

The Grandview Hotel Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls. A choice of main course and dessert Price: \$ 32 Reservations: by the Sunday evening prior bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Medlow Bath AIDS Memorial Park Restoration

Proiect Dinner

28 July 2022, 6.30 for 7 pm Chambers Restaurant BMIHMS [Hotel School] Leura 1 Chambers Rd, Leura NSW 2780 Pre-Dinner Drinks, Canapes 3 Course Dinner and Wines included Tea/ Coffee \$95 per person Disco and Ball, though outstanding successes, have depended on the usual few. The time has come to weigh up the direction that the group must follow. Your participation in the AGM is therefore important.

Until then

Stay safe

Terry

AGM

6.00 PM 9 August 2022 The Grandview Hotel Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls. Dinner Complimentary for Members Reservations: by the Sunday evening prior.

bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Special Thanks

Platinum and Ruby Queens' Ball

We wish to thank Mr Maurice Cooper, OAM, of Bygone Beautys, Mr Adam Bold of Points of Difference and the management of the Fairmont Resort for their generosity in donating these fabulous prizes for the Platinum and Ruby Queens' Ball.

1st Prize: St. Raphael's The Convent Leura.

Two nights mid-week accommodation for 4 guests at including Gourmet Breakfast Platters for both mornings and a Traditional High Tea Supreme for 4 during your stay.

Total Value \$1365.00. Expiry 31/12/2022

2nd Prize: Two tickets for the hottest NYE event in Sydney. *Celebrate NYE 22/23* is an all-inclusive, fabulously exclusive, wonderfully private party, in exuberant Points of Difference Travel & Events style.

Total Value \$1200.00

3rd and 4th Prizes: One-night Superior room at the Fairmont Resort including breakfast for two.

Blackheath Disco

Enormous thanks to the following local Blackheath businesses for their generous donations for the prizes at the Blackheath Disco:

- Dryridge Estate
- The Blackheath Deli
- Harmony at Home
- The Blackheath Butchery
- This Little Piggy Deli
- The Blackheath Newsagency

Our Talented Crew

Special thanks for their contributions to the success of the Disco and Ball are extended to:

Greg and Larry for the Disco lighting

Dave Rochford for the design and creation of the divine ball table centrepieces and ballroom decorations

Matt Murray for the fabulous tunes and DJ prowess

Will for his audio magic

Frock Hudson for their talented shows and stage master/mistresscraft

Mia Jackson for her stage management skills

Adam Bold for his production skills

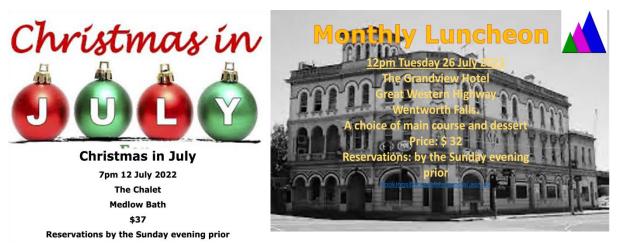
Sandy Bottom for their glittering disco skills

Dimmia Brosnan, Social Events Executive at the Fairmont, for going that extra mile for us to make the platinum and Ruby Ball such a success.

The Platinum and Ruby Queens' Ball

Random Memories





Reservations: bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Medlow Bath HIV Memorial Park Restoration Project Dinner

The Three Sisters Social Group and The Medlow Bath Residents Association launched the AIDS Memorial Restoration Appeal on World AIDS Day 2021.

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On that day we held a memorial to the some 250 AIDS victims in the Blue Mountains, at the memorial in the Medlow Bath Park.

It was the 30th anniversary of the AIDS memorial. Over that time the memorial had sustained considerable damage and a decision was made by the Three Sisters and the MBRA to undertake a restoration of the memorial. To

that end a plan has been developed and a fund-raising appeal was started.

As a significant contribution to this appeal, Maurice Cooper, OAM, has organised a charity dinner at the International Hotel School, Leura, on 28 July, 2022. He has lent his support and extensive experience in fund raising for a number of Blue Mountains charities towards achieving our goals of restoring this valuable community institution.

Maurice has a long association with the memorial, having been a member of the original memorial founding committee in the late 1980s and early 1990s. He has supported the maintenance of the memorial over the past 30 years. The Three Sisters and the MBRA are extremely grateful for his support of the appeal.

The cost of the dinner is \$95 payable at the door. The committee urges members and friends to attend this dinner in order to lend support of the Group's endeavours to restore the AIDS Memorial. The Medlow Bath Park was developed as a memorial and has become an integral part of the Medlow Bath and Blue Mountains community and it must be retained as a perpetual memorial to an important chapter in our community's history.

If you intend to come to this important dinner, please reply to <u>bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au</u> so we can organise a table.

Membership Renewals

Memberships are now due and renewal notices will be emailed shortly. Membership for the year 2022-23 is \$20 (\$15 concession). New memberships are \$25 (\$20 concession).



Membership entitles you to a free meal at the AGM in August.

Your membership can be paid directly to our Bendigo Bank account: BSB 633 000, account number 193 701 778.

Please note that this is a **new** bank account.

Use your surname as the reference on your deposit.

See <u>https://www.threesisterssocial.asn.au/membership/</u> for more details and application form for new members.



9 August 2022 6.00 PM 9 August 2022 The Grandview Hotel Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls. Dinner Complimentary for Members Reservations: by the Sunday evening prior bookings@threesisterssocial.asn .au

The Future of the Three Sisters Social Group

The Three Sisters Social Group has just had a very successful weekend with the Blackheath Disco and the Queens' Ball. If you were at either of the events you will know how good they were. Otherwise, you can check out the photos elsewhere in this newsletter.

These events were put on by a handful of Three Sisters Social Group members, most of whom are also on the committee. The events take an enormous amount of work to organise and to run. Fortunately, there were just enough people to help on the days.

During the past year we have held luncheons and dinners where lockdowns allowed. Most of these have been organised almost single-handedly by John. Attendance at these have events has been disappointing, remaining well below the numbers we used to see pre COVID-19.

We have also tried to hold some other activities during the year, but have been thwarted by COVID-19, the weather and various other circumstances.

We did, however, hold a very successful World AIDS Day event.

Some of the hardworking committee will not be standing for re-election at the next AGM, and we are not aware of any members who are interested in replacing them. A healthy committee needs enough people so that the work of that committee is shared around.

Our membership has also been declining over the past few years and our members are not getting any younger.

The future looks bleak for the Three Sisters Social Group. Without people attending our events, members and committee members, the Group will not be able to continue to operate. There is no similar group in the Blue Mountains, so if the Group disappears there will be no local social outlet for the LGBTIQA+ community. It could also mean the end of the Ball and the Disco.

If you have been thinking about joining the Three Sisters Social Group, please come to one of our luncheons or dinners with a membership form https://www.threesisterssocial.asn.au/membership/ and the membership fee.

If you are considering joining the committee, we would love to hear from you or have a chat with you. Even if you don't want join either of these, please come to our luncheons or dinners. Or help us create some new events that are more to your liking.

Community Event



If Matt Murray, aka DJ Shorty, rocked your boat at the Blackheath Disco or/and the Platinum and Ruby Queens' Ball you now have another opportunity to put on the ruby slippers and bop the night away.

Supporting the Rhodo Festival will be a lot of fun.

Greg's doing the lights.





Medlow Bath Memorial Park AIDS Memorial Restoration Appeal

The site has been prepared; the design has been completed. Details on the Three Sisters web site;

https://www.threesisterssocial.asn.au/aids-memorial/

How to Donate for

- cash donation
- a plinth with a donor's plaque \$1,300 (2 Donated)
- half plinth with a donors' plaque \$700
- a Mature Cercis Forest Pansy with plaque \$1,000 (Donated)

Bank Transfer to NAB

Account Name: Three Sisters Aids Memorial Appeal

BSB:

082 656

177989264

Account:

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Email us on memorial@threesisterssocial.asn.au if you would like

Vindena

- a receipt
- more information
- if you are donating a plinth or plantings