
September 2023 - Newsletter

Three Sisters Social Group

Box 7074 LEURA NSW 2780

www.threesisterssocial.asn.au

info@threesisterssocial.asn.au

bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Committee

President: Terence Preeo - president@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Vice-president: John Wilson - vice-president@threesisterssocial.asn.au

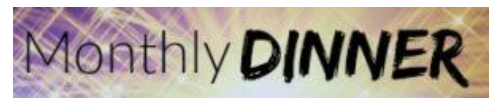
Secretary: Larry Singer - secretary@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Treasurer: Rick Hawthorne - treasurer@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Committee members: Thomas Naylor



UPCOMING EVENTS



7 PM, Wednesday

13 September 2023

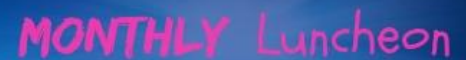
The Avalon

Katoomba

\$45

Reservations: by the Sunday evening prior

bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au



The Grandview Hotel

Wentworth Falls.

1230pm Tuesday

26 September 2023

A choice of main course and dessert

Price: \$37

Reservations: by the Sunday evening prior

bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au

Dear Friends

I'd like to thank all who attended the AGM. As a result of that meeting the committee is largely intact with the exception of Rick Hawthorne who has taken over the Treasurer's position.

The committee has been trimmed to a minimum requirement of five committee members. This is a practical measure to ensure that committee can attract sufficient members to legally operate. In the past it has been difficult to fill all the positions required under our constitution. The constitution has now been amended to reflect this.

This is not to say of course that we would not welcome members participation running the group. New committee members are always wanted, as will additional members of our subcommittees. We are planning an extension of our social activities and additional brains and hands will be accepted with alacrity.

In line with this, the committee has taken the success of the events we arranged and attended outside of our programmed activities as a guide for additional or reframed events during the year. We are also exploring the possibility of enhancing the lunches and dinners that we already host.

It would be great to get your input to this at president@threesisterssocial.asn.au.

I refer you to the President Report for the AGM for details of the event initiatives we achieved in the last 12 months and an idea of where we might take the group this coming 12 months.

World AIDS Day on 1 December will again see us hosting a commemoration at the AIDS Memorial at Medlow Bath Park. This ceremony will reveal the final plaques on the memorial. These plaques replace those damaged over the years and those that we know are missing. I will have more information about this over the next few months.

Until then, stay safe

Terry

The Three Sisters Social Group

Annual General Meeting 2023

President Report

I'd like to welcome you all to this Annual General meeting of the Three Sisters Social Group.

When I look at the minutes of the last AGM, I realise how far we have come and what we have achieved in the last twelve months.

Three Sisters membership is close on a vigorous 40 and our financial position is healthy. We have come out of the pandemic in good shape and our functions have been well attended.

Our community engagement has been exceptional. Prime examples being the dedication of the Aids Memorial in Medlow Barth Park and in our partnership with the Medlow Bath Residents Association as well as our regular sponsorship of Bent Art.

Socially, the committee has endeavoured to provide a few additional pleasures to complement our regular functions.

Our two outings to the Victoria and Albert Guest House in Mount Victoria proved great successes. The first being a LGBTIQ+ community 'Over the Rainbow' brunch to celebrate the Pride festivities in March. The accompanying cabaret performance was immersive as it was entertaining.

Following from that success we arranged our own Three Sisters lunch at the V&A as an alternative to one of our regular lunches. That too proved to be very popular to the extent that the committee has been regularly pestered to repeat the event.

Bygone Beautys High Tea Supreme in Leura was well attended and was a splendid occasion that was attended by about 30 members and guests.

Monthly dinners and lunches maintained their popularity.

Dinners, particularly, pose an ongoing issue for the Group due to a scarcity of venues that can accommodate a large group at a reasonable price. However, dinners have a consistent attendance and following.

Providing any event at a price many of us expect is, in itself, an ongoing concern for the committee. We are cognisant that escalating costs are a factor in providing our activities and we try to keep costs as low as possible.

Having said that, the committee feels that, following the success of the luncheon at the V&A, there is scope to substitute some of our regular functions with alternative events.

The Three Sisters signature events on the Kings Birthday Long Weekend, were great successes. Our sister group, Bent Art, provided a marvellous entrée to the weekend festivities.

The Blackheath Disco proved to be its usual success that attracted a larger crowd than the year before. Particular thanks go to Greg and Larry for providing the inspiration and talent that resulted in the successful night.

'On the Catwalk', our traditional Queens' Ball, was also a great success. The Carrington is a fabulous venue, the staff and catering were attentive and generous, the entertainment provided by Frock Hudson and DJ Shorty, was of an amazing standard.

Here I'll quote John Wilson, "It was the first ball ever that I did not receive one complaint." There were also many compliments.

The smaller venue meant that the event revenue was less than a bigger venue provided, however we did manage to cover costs, just. But the positive was that the smaller venue meant that we sold out the ball quickly and didn't have any problem selling those tickets. We also saved money by having cheaper lighting and decoration costs.

International Aids Day on 1 December 2022 at Medlow Bath Park provided the occasion and venue to dedicate the Aids Memorial that the Three Sisters Social Group and the Medlow Bath Residents' Association had been working assiduously towards for the past two years.

I found the ceremony particularly moving, as evidently did most of those in attendance. It attracted local news coverage with two articles in the Blue Mountains Gazette.

Little did we realise that within two years we would raise the money to have the Aids Memorial restored and have it largely built. Thanks to Rick Hawthorn, who has completed the nit-picking detail to finalise the production of the final missing and damaged plaques, that the restoration will be finished in time for International Aids Day, December 2023.

We will have come the full circle in the work started by the Three Sisters Social Group in 1991.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the work of the committee, particularly John Wilson who has beautifully managed our events and Alan Kerr who has whipped our financial management into shape. Larry has been diligent in keeping us all in line. Nothing gets done without the talent and dedication of a committed group of people and this has been provided in spades by all the committee.

Additionally, you will have noticed that the Committee has recommended two important motions to the AGM.

The first is to amend the constitution to reduce the compulsory maximum number of ordinary committee members on committee from 3 to 1. It has not always been possible to attract the required number of committee members and this change recognises this situation.

Secondly the board recommends to the AGM the awarding of Honorary Life Membership of the Three Sisters Social Group to Mr Maurice Cooper OAM in recognition of his service to the group.

I commend both these motions to you.

8 August 2023

New Honorary Life Member

Maurice Cooper OAM was awarded with an Honorary Life Membership of the Three Sisters' Social Group at the Annual General Meeting.

Maurice has been a member of the Three Sisters Social Group for more years than we can count.



Mr Maurice Cooper OAM. Honorary Life
Member of the Three Sisters' Social Group.

He has provided much support and assistance to the Group and was highly instrumental in establishing the AIDS Memorial in Medlow Bath Park.

His Life Membership is awarded in recognition of his support of the Three Sisters Social Group and of the Blue Mountains LGBTIQ+ community.

New Members

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new members:

Paul McInerny, Tony Valentine, Michael Chant, Bill Isles

If you would like to become a member, please complete the membership form on our website. <https://www.threesisterssocial.asn.au/membership/> Fees can be paid through our bank account Bendigo Bank account: BSB 633 000, account number 193 701 778.

Committee Vacancies and Sub Committee Vacancies

If you would like to participate in the ongoing activities of the group there are valuable roles that you can assist in. In particular we would welcome your input in the events portfolio as we pursue innovative activities for the coming year.

 **queer screen @**



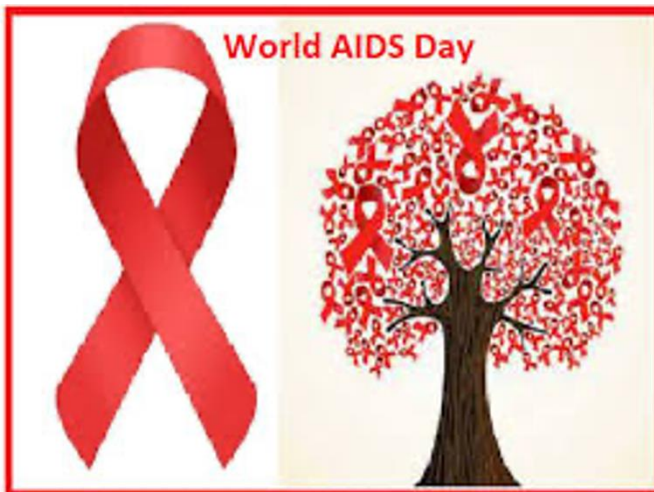
Queer Screen in the Blue Mountains 15 – 17 September 2023

Mount Vic Flicks is a much-loved treasure of the Blue Mountains. Built in 1934, it served as a cinema until the late 1950's. Reopened in 1986, Mount Vic Flicks screens mainstream and arthouse films, and serves delicious home-baked goods.

Address: 2A Harley Ave, Mount Victoria NSW 2786

Programme: <https://queerscreen.org.au/whats-on/>

World AIDS Day



**1 December 2023
01.00 PM
Medlow Bath Park
"Commemorate
all those whom
we have lost"**