



SWANSMEN

ON THE BALL!

THE NEWSLETTER OF SWANSMEN INC.

A COTERIE GROUP OF THE SWAN DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB INC.



SWANSMEN

2023 **ISSUE 10** - December

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All over Bar the Shouting

It is hard to believe that another year is drawing to a close. It seems like only yesterday that the 2023 events were beginning.

The Swansmen enjoyed a very busy and **VERY, VERY** successful 2023, especially on the fundraising front. Over \$112,000 net was raised through:

- Thursday Members Night, Chase the Ace and Raffle Wheel - net \$12,000 (at the end of October);
- Cash Bonanza Raffle \$13,000 (thanks to Peter Snow for coordinating);
- Auction **\$63,000** (thanks to the Committee, Ross Leipold and the Club staff and all the donors);
- Wine Wall \$6000 (thanks to Des Hardiman and Darryl Crotty for rounding up the wine);
- Home Game Winning Margins \$2,400 (thanks to George van der Meulen);
- Swansmen Lounge Home Game Bar - \$5,500 (thanks to 'Bar Manager' Peter Bacon);
- Membership subs, Sponsor-A-Picket, monthly dinner meetings and fines.

This was an outstanding achievement by all involved and they should all be proud of their efforts.

These funds were returned to the Club through the annual sponsorship of a Count-Me-In Round table; 10k towards renovations to the Men's changerooms; the Women's League Best Player Awards; the Men's Leading Goal Kicking Award and the end of season donation to the Club of \$100,000 (including the Auction and Wine Wall).

The monthly dinner meetings were successful with approximately 30 in attendance each month. We heard from coaches, players and a diverse range of entertaining guest speakers including League Coach Andrew Pruyn, Dr. Kevin Smythe (Catalina Aircraft history), Andrew Embley, Nic Naitanui and Luke Shuey (Mandooon Panel), Mike Richardson (Ball legend 2023), Glen Mortimer (Retravisioin History and Trotting), Dr. Bruce Mullan (Pig and Livestock Scientist) and comedy magician James Diamond. A big thanks to Des Hardiman for organising the guest speaker list for 2023 and look forward to a wide range of speakers for 2024.

The Xmas Lunch was held at Kappy's Italian Trattoria in Guildford on Sunday 10th December. 48 attendees were treated to a four course Italian feast, with everyone going home a few kilos heavier. The Secret Santa present was back again with Peter Clements donning the Big Red Suit and his trusty elf Caroline Clements handing out the gifts to the Ladies.

The relationship with the Club has grown even stronger in 2023, with their assistance in the Auction and Thursday Night Members Nights being of valuable importance to the fundraising efforts. Both parties are keen to continue the strong relationship in 2024 for the betterment of the Club.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2023 Swansmen Committee for all their support over the last year, without whom I would not have been able to have survived the year.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to continued success in 2024, both ON and OFF the field.

Trevor Hoy (President)

November Dinner Meeting

The Swansmen yearly contribution cheque was presented to Club President Peter Hodyl. After an outstanding year an amount of \$112,000 was contributed to the Club. This money will go towards minor capital works projects around the Club.



Trevor Hoy 'hands over' the 2023 proceeds to Club President Peter Hodyl



Peter Snow receives his Life Membership from John Cooper

Life Members welcome the latest addition to their club: From left, Robin McVee (1993), John Cooper (1991), Peter Snow (2023), Graeme Higgins (2018), Bob Hutchinson (2006), Rod Greene (2009), Peter Bacon (2020), and Roy Jewel (2016)

Peter Snow Awarded Life Membership

The **AGM** confirmed the awarding of the 13th Swansmen Life Membership to Peter Snow following his nomination. Peter has been a loyal servant to the Swansmen for over 16 years. He has been the President, 3 years, Treasurer, 2 years and Committeeman, 14 years; actively involved in the Club auction for many years; AFL/Melbourne Cup Raffle Co-ordinator for over 10 years.

Peter was presented with his Life Member badge by John Cooper and acknowledged accordingly. He thanked the Swansmen committee and members and was honoured to accept such a recognition for a labour of love.

Congratulations Peter – well deserved.

- **Andy Holmes**, Peter Hodyl, Tim Outred, Peter Clements and Darryl Crotty were thanked for their contributions to making the Thursday night members night such a great success. George van der Meulen was welcomed and thanked for his *Winning Margin* ticket selling and Pete Bacon was thanked for his continued service in the Swansmen Lounge on Game Day.
- **Club President Peter Hodyl** acknowledged the great work of the Swansmen for 2023. He spoke about the recruitment for 2024, Nik Rokahr from the SANFL and Jye Chalcraft, Tom Panuccio and Mitch Roche from Victoria while Jake Pasini returns to the club after spending time with Port Adelaide. He added that Aiden Clarke, Jesse Glass-McCasker and Matthew Germs had resigned to the Club for another couple of years. He acknowledged the drafting of Riley Hardeman and Lawson Humphries into the AFL system and stated that the Club was in a financial enough position for moneys to be spent on minor capital works around the Club.
- **AGM**
A brief summary of the Presidents report was given. A full version is available on the Swansmen page of the SDFC web site in the Annual Report. The Treasurer's Report was summarised. It was noted that we have a healthy balance after the cheque was presented to the Club and several members congratulated the committee on a great year.

Thanks was extended to the outgoing committee for their outstanding efforts in 2023. A special mention went to Graeme Higgins for his behind-the-scenes accounting skills.

Election of Office Bearers for 2024 – The following were elected unanimously and unopposed in block.

President:	Trevor Hoy	Committee:	Neville Bassett
Vice President:	Tim Outred		Jim Benson
Secretary:	Steve Bakes		Darryl Crotty
Treasurer:	Des Hardiman		Kim Doust
			Maurice Embley
			Steve Grech
			Mark McNair

- The door raffle prize was won by Ross Wheldon.

Thursday Nights – Swans Members Night

The '**Chase the Ace**' jackpot of \$4005 went off on Thursday 23rd November. The lucky winner was John Erceg, father of League Captain Brandon. Congratulations John, spend it wisely.

The Members' nights will re-commence on Thursday 7th March 2024. All Club Members and Supporters are invited to Steel Blue Oval to join in the following activities in the members' bar:

Chase the Ace – The starting jackpot will be \$1,150

Chook Raffles – Win meat packs, chooks and wine plus more.

Free Members Draw – The starting jackpot will be \$1,000. The lucky member must be in attendance and must claim the prize within 2 minutes, otherwise \$100 is added to the jackpot.



The **Members** draw jackpot did not go off on the final night, so each member present was given a ticket into the consolation draw for \$1,000. The lucky member was Ray McNair. The '**Chase the Ace**' draw was won by Trevor Hoy who turned over the Seven of Spades. The jackpot of \$1,150 will carry over to 2024.

Christmas Lunch – Kappy's Restaurant

An excellent attendance of 48 members and their partners enjoyed the great hospitality and food from Kappy's plus the extensive wine list provided by Darryl Crotty - on Sunday 10th December.



Left, Leona Snow receives her Secret Santa from Santa, AKA Peter Clements



Right, Some of the attendees enjoying the afternoon

We note the passing of another great Swannie recently in Howard Angel. Having recently celebrated his 90th birthday Howard died peacefully in his sleep on the 9th December. Howard was a keen member of the Swansmen in the 1980's and 90's and served as Vice President in 1990 and 91 as well as a committeeman. He provided the badges for the Club during that time through his business Angel Agencies. It was great to see him visit the Swansmen lounge this past year to catch up with old friends. Condolences to his family, RIP.



Membership 2024

As we look forward to the new football season, we hope all Swansmen and Judda Bee sponsors renew for 2024. **Membership will remain at \$35** and is eligible to all financial Swans members. Payment can be made by any of the following methods:

- Direct to the Club with your 2024 Renewal (Tick the Swansmen box).
- Direct Deposit to the Swansmen by BSB: 036080 A/C# 276254 (Please include your name in reference).
- Payment to the Treasurer at any time.

Happy Christmas

On behalf of the Swansmen Committee I would like to wish you all a Happy and Joyful Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.



2023 Swansmen Committee (Absent: Neville Bassett)

2024 Coming Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Venue/ Guest</i>
Tuesday 6th February	Committee Meeting	6:00pm	Swansmen Lounge
Sunday 11th February	Swansmen Seminar	3:00pm	TBA
Thursday 29th February	SDFC AGM	6:30pm	Presidents Lounge
Thursday 7th March	First Members Night	5:30pm	Members Lounge
Tuesday 19th March	DINNER MEETING 1	6:00pm	TBC