

Willaston Country Music Club Inc

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"Donnybrook Dancing"

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to 2025. Hoping you all had a fantastic **Christmas** and the hangovers not too bad on **New Year's Day!** Yet again there is a great lineup of entertainment for the **2025** year ahead and we look forward to seeing you have a great time at the monthly shows.

~ ~ ~ CATCH UP ~ ~ ~

The December newsletter was the first newsletter for the editor changeover and as there had not been a newsletter for a few months, there was a lot that was missed in that last edition, so it's catchup time. Prize winners dating back to June were included, but more current stuff wasn't. I had taken quite a few photos and notes in November but in keeping the newsletter to 4 pages, I couldn't include everything. Sadly, I am not going to be able to fit everything in this newsletter either, so some things will carry over! 😊 😊 😊



~ ~ ~ HONOUR BOARD ~ ~ ~

Acknowledging the donation of our new **Honour Board** requires an extremely **special thank you**. We hope to have this mounted on the wall by next function.

Rick and Raylene Neuman, and daughter **Sarah Thorman**, along with our friends from the **disability group**,

presented the Honour Board to the club at the November Show. It is the most amazing honour board I have seen. It is truly artistic and unique, AND, **Rick** made it himself! What a clever man. Thank you so much.



~ ~ ~ HAPPY SNAPS ~ ~ ~



Did I take your photo during a show? Then you will see it on the slide show in the members lounge. All of my photos are on the screen by the servery. The screen around the corner shows 2024 photos taken by **Les Kerber**. Thank you for doing that over the years **Les**. Relax in the members lounge while listening to the music and see if you can spot yourself!

~ ~ ~ MEDIA MOMENTS ~ ~ ~

Check out our Facebook page, kindly updated by **Leigh Martin**. Some of his photos will also appear on the slide show. Thanks **Leigh**.

Check out our website which I am constantly working on. There is some new content and lots of info to read. Also includes a link to **Ian Fisk's Gig Guide**.

www.willastoncountry.com.au



~ ~ ~ **AROUND THE CLUBS** ~ ~ ~



On Sunday, 01 December 2024, **Willaston Country Music Club** hosted **Heartland** with feature artist **Kim Ritchie** at a well attended show.

Heartland are a much favoured band who just love to share their great music. **Kim** was amazing, with encores to prove

it. Her blindness, since birth, is not an obstacle for her. She is comfortable in providing hilarious "blind" stand up comedy within her sets to compliment her entertaining skills. Her voice is amazing. Hubby and I bought her USB which I think might get hammered! The afternoon was abuzz. The Christmas cheer was enhanced by the generous amount of donated prizes distributed throughout the day and a visit by jolly ol' Santa. The committee gifted all attendees a lovely tin of biscuits. Thank you. I enjoyed my MC job for the day – I hope you did too!! I had a ball and met many of you amazing people!!



Southern CMC hosted **Heartland** with feature artist, our good mate, **Graeme Hugo** on Sunday, 08 December 2024. **Graeme** was the inspiration behind my enjoyment of country music and becoming a member of **WCMC**. We have tried to attend as many of his shows as we can. Our personal music collection has all of his CD's and USB's. A very enjoyable show with lots of great prizes given away.

We look forward to **Playford CMC** and **Murray Bridge CMC** coming on board with show snippets from February onward. Unfortunately I am unable to attend most shows from other clubs to present personal photos and reviews.

~ ~ ~ **WINNERS AND SPONSORS** ~ ~ ~

December Prize Winners

Door Prize: **Jim Gardener** (St George Bakery voucher)
Membership Prize: **Earlston Gniel** (Café Nova voucher)
Birthday Prize: **Jeff Liersch** (Café Sia voucher)
Spin The Bottle: **Pam Mudge** (Lyndoch Fine Foods Produce)
Envelope #1: **Jenny Block**
Envelope #2: **Lynette Window**

Café Sia
Café Nova
Lyndoch Fine Foods
Kevin Kowald
Rick & Raylene Neuman
567 Consulting
Drake's Supermarkets
St George Bakery

~ ~ ~ **THANK YOU'S** ~ ~ ~

The Club can never say thank you enough to all of the wonderful members and patrons who support it, from little tasks and donations, to the huge tasks. Every little bit of help is greatly appreciated. I know that if I tried to list everyone, I would miss lots. I am still too new to the club to know half of what goes on behind the scenes. It is just very important to say a big **THANK YOU** to **ALL**. The great shows and great food etc are testimony to the hard work put in.



New Committee members:

Was great to welcome new committee members to our recent management meeting.

Cherie Honson has bravely taken on the role of Treasurer. She will work with “retiring” treasurer **Raelene Dunn** and capable sidekick **Graham Howard**. Takes quite a load off knowing the money and finances are in good hands.

Kimberley Reid is stepping up from being a kitchen volunteer for five years to becoming an active Committee Member.

Both of these younger people are giving us a new perspective and enthusiasm which is very refreshing and helpful.

Raelene Neumann is also on board, but hampered by injuries. I believe she will also improve the dynamics of our group very positively.

Of course there’s still one gap that needs filling.....

Newsletter Editor:

Welcome also to **Sandy Newell** as our Newsletter Editor. She’s doing this role off-Committee.

I had a peek at her calendar one day and I don’t know how she fits it all in.

Living proof of the adage: *If you want something done – give it to a busy person*

And she’s doing it in spades. Wait until you see the next (this) edition.

And does Master of Ceremonies.

And takes a lot of photos.

And hustles up other people to take photos and report on other shows.

And (watch this space....)

Just wonderful to see this enthusiasm and energy. A million thanks already.

Q. Why did the elephant not like playing poker in the jungle?

A. Because of all the cheetahs



Ambulance Costs and Insurance:

We’ve had to call 000 for an ambulance a few times over recent years so we thought we’d better investigate the financial aspects as well as the medical ones.

Charges for SA Ambulance Service are the responsibility of the person being treated.

The only exception would be if there is a Public Liability claim where an injury was caused by physical negligence – fairly unlikely – when our Insurance would get involved.

However, charges only begin when paramedics begin observations on the patient. There is no charge for actually turning up.

Patients can refuse to be attended or observed by paramedics. This reduces your costs, but at considerably greater personal risk.

So far everyone we have called an Ambulance for has had Ambulance Insurance cover so there has been no issue. Usually it’s part of your Health Insurance, or purchased separately.

Without this insurance Ambulances are very expensive, often up to \$1000 for basic services.

While we have designated Health Officers within the Club, they are not always equipped to handle every situation.

We will always call 000 for a true emergency as we take your physical well being seriously.

It is up to each patron to take responsibility for the financial aspects if they accept the ambulance or paramedic services.

We thoroughly recommend that everyone has insurance to cover Ambulance services.



Medical Information:

The new membership renewal forms now have a small section for you to let us know of any medical conditions. This is entirely voluntary, and would only be used in case of a medical emergency to better help you.

I encourage you to complete this area, especially if you could be affected by use of a Defibrillator or have any medical allergies.



First Aid Course Invitation:

While we're on the subject of medical stuff, we are going to run a First Aid course for the Club. And everyone is invited to attend free-of-charge.

While many of us have done these courses before, it never hurts to have a refresher, particularly if techniques and tools have changed.

We're trying to get a course tailored for our demographic to get the best results. You never know when you might need this knowledge.

Call or email me directly (or any Committee member) if you are at all interested.



Ucare Christmas Donations – a Big THANK YOU:

Once again our CMC patrons have given generously to our Christmas appeal for the needy. I noticed the table overflowing with donations,, but missed getting a photo before they were collected.

Does the soul a power of good.

Kitchen Etiquette:

We ask that patrons refrain from entering the kitchen itself unless you are working, especially during meal times. This is mainly for safety reasons.

We know you are probably trying to be helpful, but we don't want any accidents.



Show Etiquette:



Phones off or on silent. Take calls outside or if appropriate, in the members lounge. Respect the entertainer's time on stage and avoid talking and making noises. Clap at appropriate times. They are performing for **you**. Be respectful to those around you. Enjoy the music!!

New Club Function Times:

Everyone seemed really happy that the club times are changing – **11.30am to 4.30pm** as a trial from **March 2025** as it means in winter, people might still be able to get home before dark, AND hopefully patrons will stay until the END of the show, rather than leaving early.



Member Care:

Spare a thought and prayer for our honourable Secretary, **Bryan Sparks**, who has had a very difficult few months medically and is in a pretty bad way. But he's keeping his determination to do the Secretarial job regardless. Good on him. Classic Aussie spirit.

Sisters **Sue Castle** and **Kathy Trankalis** are also in the medical wars and could do with some support.



Send your newsletter content to
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