

Willaston Country Music Club Inc

Gawler River Road, Willaston South Australia
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"Donnybrook Dancing"

AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER



On Sunday 6th July 2025, **Willaston Country Music Club** hosted **The Jukebox Boys** along with feature artist **Graeme Hugo**. **The Jukebox Boys** are a very popular band playing the right mix of music, which everyone enjoyed.

Graeme was a last minute call in, as our previously advertised entertainer, **Gemma Tiller**, was not able to make it. Three cheers to **Graeme** for giving up his day off for us. He's a legend!

This was the first time that **The Jukebox Boys** and **Graeme** had worked together, and they gelled so well, you would never have known. Such is the talent of our entertainers!

The day was cold, but the heaters were on to keep us warm. Getting up for a dance was the best way to keep warm.



~ ~ ~ AROUND THE CLUBS ~ ~ ~



Southern CMC welcomed **Highway One Band** on Sunday 13th July.

It was a beautiful sunny day and the hall was full to capacity. **Highway One** were brilliant. **Rachel Lawson** on the violin did several solo pieces, including a beautiful waltz. The dance floor was full all day and **Anthony's** food menu was up to its usual A1 standard.

It was newsletter month and all present received their hard copy. Many members receive them by email and this saves on printing and

postage. A great day was had by all.



(Thanks to **Sandy Smallacombe** for the report & **Robert Chapman** for photos)



Barossa CMC in Nuriootpa hosted **Eddie Edwards and Friends** on Sunday 13th July.



It was a reasonable day considering that it was cold and raining. The line dancers enjoyed the floor and music.

(Thanks to **Elaine Guymer** for the report and photo)

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Murray Bridge CMC hosted **Palomino Deluxe** on Sunday 27th July, 2025. It was a cold and wet day but the crowd was good under the circumstances. The band played a wide variety of music including some older traditional country which the audience really enjoyed.

As usual, a dedicated group danced the "River Waltz" to the tune of "Cold River Waltz". Lucky spot prizes were given for this, and also the "Spin The Bottle" segment for the non dancers, both well attended.

The AGM was held prior to the main event and new president **Bob Neindorf** was elected. **Bob** expressed his gratitude to the excellent work of past president **Christine Weber** who remains on the committee as Entertainment Officer. Our next event will be held on August 24th, featuring **Out of Order**.



(Thanks to **Bob and Gloria Neindorf** for the report and photo.)

~ ~ ~ JULY WINNERS AND SPONSORS ~ ~ ~



**Vickie Ross
and
Teresita Mee**

**Cash Winners of the
Lucky Envelopes.**



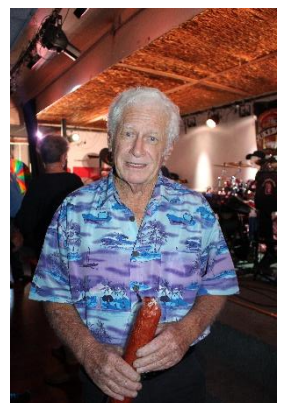
Membership draw
winner **Robert
Window** won a
voucher from **Café
Nova**



Door prize winner
Gail McMillan
won a voucher
from **Coffee & Co**



Birthday prize winner
was **Marie Purcell**
who won a **Café Sia**
voucher



**Spin The Bottle
Winner**

Arthur Williams with
his Mettwurst from
Lyndoch Fine Foods



~ ~ ~ NEWSFLASH ~ ~ ~

It's official. By a unanimous show of hands from our patrons at the July Show, it was voted that we retain our show times as **11.30 am to 4.30pm.**



~ ~ ~ RAY'S CORNER ~ ~ ~

Music Appreciation Society (Or How to Enjoy the Performances)

At **WCMC**, and indeed most other Country Music clubs, we are always striving to strike the balance between the musical and social aspects of each show. We put them on so that everyone can enjoy the music and entertainment, while acknowledging that for many patrons this is a primary opportunity for social interaction, mostly manifested as having a chat.

To give you the opportunity to talk, we have longer breaks.



But when the balance fails there are always complaints about people talking while the band is playing. So **Ray** has to play bad cop and bring out the cane.

If you need to have an extended conversation, do so in the other room.

But while the band is playing - please use whisper mode.

So here are the guidelines we use to try and strike the right balance:

- Breaks: Initially we used to have 5-7 minute breaks between sets or artist changeovers. This did not give people enough time for their conversations, so they simply kept talking. Now we have 15 minute breaks. You can have a reasonable conversation or two in that time. Talk to your hearts content, unless you're asked to listen to specific announcements.
- **Lights: when the artists are performing, we turn off the overhead lights. This is the signal to stop chatting and enjoy the performance.** When the lights are on, talk all you want.
- Volume: The quality of equipment bands have today allows them to increase the volume without losing sound quality. Gone are the days of distortion and clipping. You may have noticed that some bands appear "louder" than others. This can be subjective, depending on individual hearing and tolerances. We generally allow the band to set their own volume levels and most of them are pretty good at getting it right. I reserve the ability to instruct bands to change their volume if needed. Some start a bit loud and turn down the volume on request. One of my standard instructions (sometimes giving quippingly) is "If you can hear people talking, turn up your volume until you can't hear them anymore". You get the idea.
- Walk arounds: This is the soft version of getting people to stop chatting. **Ray** walks around shushing people he spots being a bit rowdy.
- Announcements: Sometimes the problem goes beyond gentle measures, and we must call it out.
- New idea: We've come up with another possible solution that I won't mention just yet – it would spoil the surprise. It involves embarrassment and humour.

Shhhhhhhplease. When the music is on.

The trap: It's very easy to find yourself having a longer conversation when you thought it was going to be a quick answer to someone. And as our hearing gets worse, we have to talk louder. And we don't want to leave our seats every time. And some people are just naturally chatty. And that gets their neighbours upset. And they start complaining loudly..... see the spiral here?

The solution: We all must make a conscious effort to prioritise the music. It is a shared experience for our enjoyment. Sadly, the noise is also shared.





Drakes.

Drakes Community Dollars Programme

Are you helping us raise money through the *Drakes Community Dollars Programme* run by **Drakes Supermarkets**? We receive one cent for every two dollars spent at any Drakes supermarket. You can still use your fob at the checkout if you've got one, though they are now preferring you use their app.



Download the app from here: <https://drakes.com.au/mydrakes-app/>

Make sure to fill in your Settings properly. (It can be a bit tedious getting your birthday, but persist.) Also make sure you complete the Community Dollars link to us: **Willaston Country Music Club**. While 0.5% may not seem like a lot, it adds up fairly quickly. We are receiving a few hundred dollars a year so far, so let's boost that up.

A big thank you to the **Drakes** organisation for this program.

As you will see, it benefits a very large number of community groups, clubs and organisations.



Preliminary AGM Notice.

It's only four months to our AGM in November.

The priority remains to find a new President, as **Ray** needs a break. Happy to entertain "**Dob in a Mate**" here.



Prize Coordinator role

I'm looking for someone to take over this role. Can be an individual or a couple. Can be a Committee position if desired, or a stand alone role. Many thanks to **June Sparks** for doing it for quite a while, but she's had to give it away.

Thought I had a candidate but they've had to pull out for health reasons. Been doing it myself, along with my good lady **Lynda**, and understand what is needed. It's a vital role to keep our fundraising on track. This helps us maintain our quality artists. So let Ray know if you're interested, or dob in someone you think would be good at it.



Kitchen Hygiene



Someone has asked why kitchen staff don't wear gloves.

Bottom line is they have to maintain high standards of hygiene when handling food at all times. Using gloves is not mandatory, although it is used in some other establishments.

We currently hold a 5-star rating from Gawler Council for this.

In our case hygiene is maintained by either:

- Not handling food directly, such as using clean utensils, or
- Washing hands regularly when handling food directly, especially when handling other things in between.

Sue Kouflidis is a professional chef and maintains very strict discipline and hygiene standards in the kitchen.

Recent addition to the crew, **Mark Reid**, is a certified meat Inspector. He also keeps an eye on things.

Many of the volunteers have completed Food Handling certification courses, and we are aiming for 100% attendance in this area. So you can be confident that your food is safe.

~ ~ ~ **MEDIA** ~ ~ ~

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/WillastonCMC

WEBSITE: www.willastoncountry.com.au

Send your newsletter content to

Newsletter Editor: **Sandy Newell** news@willastoncountry.com.au Ph 0437 586 725

Deadline: Tuesday before the show.

Members are welcome to make contributions.