

## NEWSLETTER

I hope this newsletter finds you all enjoying the warmer weather and looking forward to spending time with your families and friends during Christmas and New Year

These continue to be challenging times for many of us with petrol prices not reducing and inflation and mortgage interest rates remaining high.

Hopefully the new Government will provide increased confidence and make changes that will help reduce our costs of living. This club is a member of The Poppy Foundation and grants are available for medical costs, glasses, hearing aides etc for all ex-serviceman and their spouses. Application forms are available in the Club House.

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### RESTAURANT HOURS

Lunch - Open Wednesday to Friday Midday to 2pm

Dinner – Open Tuesday to Saturday 5.30pm to 8pm (8.30pm Friday)

Daily specials on offer and Group bookings recommended

Buffet menus available for larger functions

#### Restaurant Opening days – December and January

Normal days up to Christmas:

Closed Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>,

Closed Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup>

Closed Boxing Day 26<sup>th</sup>

Open for Dinner Only Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>

Open for Dinner Only Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>

Open for Dinner Only Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

Open for Dinner Only Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>

Open New Year's Eve Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> for dinner

(Bookings recommended)

Closed from January 1<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> (Re-open Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January)

### **CLUB HOURS**

**The Club is open every day except Christmas Day and opening times remain unchanged. Closing times will be at the discretion of the Duty Manager and will be based on support from club members.**

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### **ENTERTAINMENT**

A schedule of entertainment to the end of January is included in this newsletter. Several new bands booked for next year as well as Tribute shows.

**Our New Year's Entertainment this year is TOUCAN.**

Always a popular show which will sell out quickly so recommend you purchase tickets soon! Tickets available from the Bar.

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### **AUCKLAND JAZZ AND BLUES CLUB**

Our Club is now the host venue for the Auckland Jazz and Blues Club who have a guest artist play every Tuesday night from 7.30 to 9.30pm. The acts are different each week and of very high quality. The restaurant is open from 5.30 with many people choosing to bring their meal upstairs! The shows are popular so an early arrival is best to secure a seat. Joining the Auckland Jazz and Blues Club enables you to attend any show for just \$10

Other good news is The Birkenhead RSA has been chosen as the new host venue for **The Variety Artists Club of NZ Inc.** Shows are held on the first Monday of each month and **start Monday 4th December at 7pm.** The restaurant is open for meals from 5pm on the first Monday of the month to support this event

**Please note that our weekly entertainment is updated each week on our Club Facebook and Webpage  
(Check the events calendar)  
and a copy is available at reception.**



## SUB-SECTIONS NEWS

### Golf

The club successfully hosted the National RSA Golf Tournament and our club members achieved excellent results:

Vic & Sophie Weeks -Mixed foursomes Best Gross  
(Steve Lavery Trophy)

Glenn Read & Laura Mirabito – Mixed foursomes Best Nett

Vicki Bull & Laura Mirabito – Womens 4BBB Nett winners

Laura Mirabito – Womens Best 18 hole Stableford

Nicki Davis – Winner Womens Stableford 36 holes

Alan Wilby – Winner Mens Monday Stableford

Vic Weeks – RSA 36 holes Gross Winner

Lennie Shailes – Winner Intermediate Gross

Quentin Jacob – Senior Mens Nett Winner

**Jimmy Stewart –\_WINNER SENIOR MENS GROSS  
AND BEST NETT FOR ALL GRADES**

### Snooker Section

Numbers continue to increase as a result of having a third quality snooker table.

The Club singles competition was recently held with Lee Rudolph winning over Maurice Paco in the final.



Special mention to club member Glen Crowther who recently won the National RSA Snooker Singles Competition. Strong field but Glen a deserved winner  
– Congratulations from us all!

## **SUB-SECTIONS NEWS (CONTINUED)**

### **Dart Section**

The darts Section goes from strength to strength under the leadership of Jamie Roberts - continuing to increase in numbers with club seasonal tournaments quickly filling up and being very well managed, and Club nights attracting strong numbers! A recent innovation was holding an Under 25 tournament which attracted entrants from outside Auckland. Results were:

2023 U25 Birkenhead Youth Open

1st: Nate Kitchen

2nd: Anthony Misich

3rd equal: James Macleod & Drew Kitchen

Most 100+ scores after Round Robin: Connor Wilson

Highest Checkout: Anthony Misich 120

Prize sponsored by The Dart Depot 🙏

A big Thank You to the many sponsors who support our Dart Section throughout the year and include:

The Dart Depot

James Smith Electrical

Safety Logic

Top Roofer

Barfoot & Thompson (Dutch Van Guens)

McLeods Car Polishing Services

Valley Plumbing & Drainage

Standing Room Espresso

Coronation Mini Mart

QF TAVERN

Gents Barbershop



### **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

Tickets go on sale from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and fantastic prizes are again on offer. Prizes are drawn Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December starting around 6.45pm.

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIP – KEVIN GEORGE**

Kevin was awarded a well deserved Life membership at the Club's AGM in September and a function was held for Kevin recently.

Lovely to see his family and close friends who enjoyed a great night and lovely meal by our club caterers Andrena and Fred Pene.



### **CLUB LIBRARY**

The Club Library is open during club hours - free for use by club members. Books & movies available



## ARMISTICE DAY

Thank you to all who turned out for our Armistice Day Service on Saturday. Special thanks to all involved including:



Colour Party of Peter Elbourn (Colour Party Commander), Howie Synge, Richard Guerra, Rocket Palmer, Shaun Ainsworth and Dai Davies. A tremendous job by these men in such hot conditions!

Red Matthews and Budge Burgess for the Flag Lowering ceremony.

Dutch van Geuns the main organiser of the event who also stepped in for President George Coffin

Kevin George for being MC  
Chaplain Pauline Law for her advice, support and opening Prayer and Final Blessing



Taff Wikaira for reading the ODE in Maori  
Dutch for reading the ODE in English and a reading on the Cessation of War  
Colleen Wilson-Lavery for her reading (Ecclesiastics)



Ray Maddix for his reading about the reason for the 2 minute silence and Bruce

Powell with a wonderful speech on his memories of war.



Lynda Gage and Jo Coffin for laying of the Wreaths  
Sue Newman and her fellow singers singing the National Anthems , and our Women's Section ladies for providing a wonderful afternoon tea.



## **CLUB WELFARE**

This year there has been a significant increase in requests from members for transport to and from medical appointments. Thank you from all members to our wonderful volunteer welfare drivers Neville Finer, Mike Mackle, Garry Stayte and Kevin George.

Great to see Greg Hartley returning as a volunteer driver

## **ESTATE PLANNING**

### **HAVE YOU MADE A WILL AND IS IT UPDATED?**

Sadly we have had a number of members pass during the last twelve months and more sadly one member did not have a current Will. The result of not having a Will is that it is likely to delay the processing of the Estate and result in proceeds of your estate not being disbursed in accordance with your wishes. There can also be problems planning and paying for your funeral and other sundry expenses.

All this can easily be avoided by having an updated Will. You do not even have to involve a lawyer however we recommend you do so.

### **Thought of leaving a Gift in your Will to the RSA?**

Any funds gifted to The Birkenhead RSA are used solely for the Welfare and wellbeing of our returned and service members. Please take advice from your solicitor if you would like to leave a gift supporting the club – no matter how big or small your legacy will make a difference!

## **SPORT SECTIONS**

Weekly club nights for sections are:

Pool – Tuesday nights starting at 7pm (Register by 6.45)

Darts – Wednesday nights starting at 7pm (register by 6.30)

Snooker – Thursday nights starting at 7pm

Texas Hold-em Poker - Wednesday starting at 5pm

Community Dancing - Wednesday afternoon starting at 1pm

Line dancing classes are available for all levels – contact Sue Orr

0276411401

Weekly games/cards mornings – Monday morning from 10am