

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It was great to see our last major event for the year well attended and supported. Thank you to those that helped with directing, organising the boards and catering.

Congratulations to the winners of the Festive Teams – The Finch Team (Donna Fitch - Betty Hobdell - Rosemary Glastonbury - Robyn Nolan)

2025 was another successful year for our club but sadly we also saw the passing of a number of the club's long time members, and our thoughts go out to their families at this time of the year.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a safe and Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Wilfred Tapiolas



Courtesy – Adrian Raeside



70 percent Club

PAT LEIGHTON / BARBARA HOSPERS

LEIGH OWENS / BILL BISHOP

HELEN LOVEGROVE / RUTH MORRIS

JO-ANNE GILLIS / KELLY WALKER

KEN MANDERS / BETTY HOBDELL

RECENT PROMOTIONS

Heather Colbert **Bronze National**

GRAND SLAMS

TONI BARRELL / GARRY BOLTON

SUPERVISED PLAY

Supervised play will recommence

Tuesday 15 January 2026

Recent Novice Team Event

Jana Zrno and Sylvia Van Rossum



Jan Nettle and Michele Jones

**Well
Done!**

CONGRATULATIONS TO LUTHILE ARLETT AND RUTH MORRIS - THEY ARE NOW BOTH QUALIFIED CLUB DIRECTORS !!!

Did you know?

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA - believe it or not!

How did Christmas carols get their name?

The word carol may derive from the French "carole" or the Latin "carula" meaning a circular dance. The earliest carol, about Mary and Jesus, was written in 1410.

What do the Christmas colours symbolise?

The traditional three colours of Christmas are green, red, and gold. Green has long been a symbol of life and rebirth; red symbolises the blood of Christ, and gold represents light as well as wealth and royalty.

Who was the inspiration for Scrooge?

Charles Dickens classic character Scrooge was created after seeing the gravestone of Ebenezer Scroggie. Dickens misread the surname on the gravestone as Scrooge and thought "mealman", which referred to Scroggie's career as a corn trader, was 'Meanman'.

Which author's friend gave her a year's salary for Christmas?

*Harper Lee's friend gave her a cash on the condition that she give up work and write. Lee famously went to write *To Kill a Mockingbird*, an immediate bestseller that won the 1961 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and is regarded as one of the best novels of the 20th century. Her friends message read - "You have one year off from your job to write whatever you please. Merry Christmas".*



Where here did Candy canes originate from?

According to folklore, candy canes originated in Germany, where a cathedral's choirmaster in 1670 used them to quiet children at Christmas Eve services

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

According to the U.S. Billboard, what was the number one song on **December 25**:

1955: a. *Rock Around the Clock* by Bill Haley & His Comets.

b. *Love and marriage* by Frank Sinatra

c. *Ain't That a Shame* by Fats Domino

1960: a. *Cathy's clown* by Everly Brothers

b. *Running Bear* by Johnny Preston

c. *Are You Lonesome Tonight?* by Elvis Presley



1965: a. *Turn! Turn! Turn!* By the Byrds

b. *Over and Over* by The Dave Clark Five

c. *Downtown* by Petula Clark

1970: a. *My Sweet Lord* by George Harrison.

b. *Bridge Over Troubled Water* by Simon & Garfunkel

c. *Let It Be* by The Beatles

Who penned Bing Crosby's White Christmas?

a. Col Porter

b. Irving Berlin

c. George & Ira Gershwin

What is considered to be the most recorded Christmas song?

a. Silent Night

b. Jingle Bells

c. All I Want For Christmas Is You



Before 1939, Santa has traditionally how many reindeers?

a. 7

b. 8

c. 9

d. 12



CAN YOU SOLVE THIS MYSTERY?

Sam Bishop received this gift 4 years ago. She has had this gift for four years!

This year Sam looked at it and could see paper inside. When I pulled it out there was a Xmas card saying *To a very nice bridge player from another nice bridge player*. Also two little gift jars and wait for a 50\$ gift card. The date of the expiry of this card was the end of November this year. Luckily, Sam was able to redeem the card with the shop keeper saying *you're very lucky as it was only 4 years*

Sam would like to thank the person who gave her this gift 4 years ago, but has no idea who it is. Can anyone solve the mystery for Sam?

GETTING INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



The Wednesday Night xmas party



CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

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The Original Eight: Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen.
The Ninth: Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer, became famous after a **1939** story and song, making him the ninth member

UH-ER-IT DOESN'T SEEM
QUITE RIGHT TO WISH
THEM A MERRY CHRISTMAS
WHEN I'M SO WARM AND
COMFORTABLE UP HERE, AND
THEY ARE SO COLD AND
MISERABLE DOWN THERE.
PERHAPS I'D BETTER TEAR
UP THE CARD AND FORGET IT



Anyway, Merry Christmas from Ethel and me

HESTER
1935