Silverscene



Official Newsletter of the Silver Fawn Club Inc.

Issue: May/June 2022

www.silverfawn.com

Exciting Upcoming Events for 2022 (Dates for your Diary)

Wednesday 29th June Bus Trip to Eumundi and Yandina Ginger Factory

Sunday 31 July Christmas in July

August Family Fun Day

Saturday 3 September Gala Anniversary Night of Nights

September Bus Trip to Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers

October Bollywood Extravaganza

Saturday 10 December Christmas Function

Saturday 31 December New Year's Eve Dance

Sunday 12 February Valentine's Day Have-A-Chat Lunch

Saturday 11 March AGM

The Committee makes every attempt to hold the events as advertised However, there may be instances when changes are unavoidable. Functions are also subject to COVID -19 restrictions and the Club's cancellation policy.

June Function Reminder

Due to the short time frame for organizing a fabulous event, the June Anniversary Dance has been postponed to 3 September, 2022. We will have a Gala Night to celebrate our Anniversary which we were unable to celebrate in 2020 and 2021. More news on this event in the President's Message and coloured flyer in this issue. Tickets will be limited so book early through your nearest committee member to avoid disappointment.

Silver Fawn Club Inc. Cancellation Policy

- 1. All tickets must be booked and paid for by the closing date for bookings.
- 2. There will be no paying of tickets "at the door" on the day of the event.
- 3. Once paid, tickets are not refundable after the closing date for bookings. They will be refunded before the closing date for bookings.
- 4. The Club will endeavor to on-sell tickets paid for after the closing date. However, it is up to the member to dispose of tickets if they are unable to attend.
- 5. No meals will be provided in the event that a member is unable to attend an event.
- 6. The Committee reserves the right to cancel an event if there is insufficient interest. In this case, refunds will be given to those who have booked and paid.

Committee members for 2022

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President's message

Greeting members,

Most of us are first generations migrants, and no doubt very concerned about the diabolical events in our beloved Sri Lanka. With so much news and stories coming out on social media it is hard to decipher what is and isn't true so all we can do is keep close to our family and friends over there, help them wherever possible, and keep them all in our prayers. The road back to some normalcy is unfortunately going be long and painful.

The Sri Lankan community, through the umbrella organisation FSOQ, is currently fund-raising to send critically required medications to help the hospitals in Sri Lanka. Over \$10,000 has already been raised and I appeal to all members to donate what you can, much like the great support you showed for the highly successful Hospital Bed Project. I represented our Club at FSOQ's recent AGM and have written a report in this Newsletter; you will find more details about the medical project and how you can donate. Please note that no funds raised are being sent to the Sri Lankan Government.

What a great experience the 2022 Camp was! For a variety of reasons, I had never been to the Camp and as a first-time attendee, I was amazed at the amount of preparation needed even before we got there. A big thank you to Camp Leader Gerard, Thomazine, and Shirley for the weeks of preparation and planning, Suzie and Denis who also did a heap of work to prepare, and the rest of the Committee for a great team effort. I was also blown away by the camaraderie, friendship and support by the 80+ campers to share the workload while at Camp. To see everyone join in all the activities with plenty of jokes and banter was so lovely. Not surprisingly, a few oldies (including me!) ended up walking with a limp, having tried to do things we thought we could still do on the sporting field but sadly our bodies had long forgotten how to! Gerard's report on the Camp is in this Newsletter.

Mother's Day was the first time we used a new venue, the Everton Park Bowls Club, and we were very happy with all the support they gave us. As I mentioned in my last report, Mitchelton is playing 'hard-ball' with us, raising their fees and being more hard-nosed about charging us by the hour so we've had no choice but to look at other more financially viable options. Anyway, I want to thank the 60+ attendees who came along and helped celebrate all the mums in our lives, especially our oldest mum, the beautiful Auntie Una. Please see this Newsletter for a full report from Denis on Mother's Day.

Our plans for 'Christmas in July' are in full swing and this year we have a new experienced caterer, Con Papamitros who owns My Catering Club who will be serving us a great Roast Meal complete with Plum Pudding and Brandy Custard (they make their own custard). More info and details are in this Newsletter. We hope to have a great turnout and places are limited so please book early to ensure you don't miss out.

We were initially thinking of an Annual Dance in June but have moved this to 3rd September. We have found a great venue, Figs on Sylvan at Toowong (a relatively central location) to have a ritzy, dress-up function. While we can never replace the 50th Anniversary Dance which was so cruelly cancelled at the 11th hour last year, we are pulling out all stops to plan a really great night of fun, food and dancing. We do hope you will get behind this event and come help us have a memorable evening. More information in this Newsletter.

Last but not least, you may notice that we have a new member on our committee. At our March AGM, we had one of the four Committee positions vacant and I am happy to announce that Ranjan Wijeratne has kindly stepped into the role. So we are fortunate to now have no less than three husband and wife combinations on this year's Committee.

As you can see, it's been a very busy two months and I want to quickly thank the Committee for a lot of hard work over that time. Our new members in particular, Namal and Ranjan, Shirley and Brian have brought lots of energy and new ideas to the Committee.

That's about all for now. Keep well, stay safe and be kind to each other.

Laurensz

Bus Trip to Wappa Dam, Eumundi Markets and Yandina Ginger Factory on 29th June 2022.

In place of the postponed dance we have organized a bus trip to Wappa Dam, the Eumundi Markets and the Yandina Ginger Factory. BelBaker Charter will provide us with their comfortable bus and expert driver. A delicious morning tea will be provided at the Wappa Dam Picnic Area – a lovely green space overlooking the dam where you can stretch your legs, have some refreshments and make a comfort stop.

Then we're off to the Eumundi markets. These markets are only held on a Wednesday and Saturday morning. Lunch can be purchased at one of the many stalls at the Markets. You will have plenty of time to stroll around the markets and have your lunch before we head to the Yandina Ginger Factory to take a tour or have an ice-cream at your own expense. The café and many shops are free of charge to enter. Tickets @ \$38 will include morning tea at Wappa Dam.



The bus will pick up passengers at the Aspley Hypermarket and also the Mitchelton Senior Citizens Centre. There will be limited numbers on the bus so book early to avoid disappointment. For further information and bookings contact Suzie on 0409 533 540.

Bookings and payment required by 20th June 2022.

Letters to the Committee

Email from Sri Lanka

Many thanks for mailing the copy of the Newsletter for me, which I read with happiness.

The format of the newsletter is fantastic and well planned, and happy to read the news planned for this year.

So sad that due to the Covid pandemic it is impossible to travel to Australia and meet club members. However I like to thank the past Committee for all the hard work done, and organizing most of the get together and events planned for all the members of the club. Wishing the new committee members all the best for a successful year and hope and pray the club will grow from strength to strength with more new members and will reap a successful financial year for 2022. Appreciate if the committee will start a membership drive and request each and every member to introduce at least one new member and enrol more members for 2022 and the more we have new members the club will progress and this will give joy for every member in the club.

I would also request to try and have more ads to the newsletters which can cover additional income towards the club. I hope my suggestions will be accepted as I am keen to see the club progressing day by day.

Wishing the President, Committee members and all the members of the club a Happy and a Joyful Easter.

Regards

M.Kamil.A.Hassan (Colombo,Sri Lanka)

Messsage from Dan and Leah (Happy Campers)

Thank you so much for having us at the Silver Fawn camp last weekend at Lake Perseverance, as first timers to the camp we felt very welcome and included from the moment we arrived.

Everything was so well organised and ran with such precision!

The activities that were run over the course of the weekend were a huge hit and we never felt pressured to join in, although we did and really enjoyed participating in all of the games and as an added bonus we were on the winning team!

Go RED team!!

The camp was such good value for money and it was really awesome to see everyone pitching in and helping out where needed. A fabulous group of people were in attendance and we felt honoured to have been invited!

The highlight of the weekend for us was definitely meeting new friends and of course all the high quality and very delicious Sri Lankan food!

Highly recommend this camp!

We will be back next year for sure with our family in tow!!

Book us in!!

Thanks again, Leah and Dan Adam



Reminder – Membership Subscriptions were due on 31 January 2022. If you haven't already sent in your subscription please do so without delay.

Simply deposit your subscription to the Club's account

BSB: 064131 A/C: 00902934

REF: Your surname and initials SUBS

OR Contact your nearest Committee Member for further information and assistance. Unfinancial members will not receive a newsletter after 30 June, 2022.

Gala Anniversary Night of Nights

A night to remember at a fabulous venue

Figs on Sylvan 65 Sylvan Road, Toowong

> 7pm till Midnight September 3rd, 2022

Non stop music by Cool Daddies and DJ Russell Lowe

Buffet Dinner Drinks at Bar Rates

Dress: Evening Lounge or Dinner Suit Tickets: Members \$65

Guests: \$80

Bookings and payment prior to 26th August 2022

Tickets are limited so book yours now by contacting your nearest Committee Member.

Lake Perserverance Camp 2022

What a terrific long weekend! What a great Camp! This year we managed to get 80 plus people who enjoyed a tremendous variety of activities and that famous Silver Fawn community. I must thank our Club Captain Brian Dissanayake, Sandun, Denis and Suzie Anthonisz for their dedicated hard work organizing the sports events and dinner dance, especially for the creative décor that night.

My thanks to Shirley Don, Julieta, Herbie and Lorraine Tucker plus the Redcliffe crowd and Jerome Thambidurai and family for helping in the kitchen. This must be a rare occasion that most of the committee members attended the Camp including the President, Laurensz, who really pitched in with the work. Those who were on roster for cleaning, cooking, and washing up, my thanks to them. We wouldn't have achieved the success that we did without your help. Special thanks to Daniel Adam for his help in cleaning and his skilled BBQ work. Some people just joined and helped where necessary. Thank you.



Our Cricket match and sports (Athletics) were a great success, played in good spirit and spurred by a competitive edge between the Reds and the Greens. Peter Keller's motivated leadership skills saw the Reds victorious in both arenas. Congratulations to the Athletics Champions: Juniors Reece Cox; Teenage Girls Shania Jansz Cox; Teenage Boys Alok Muthuthantri; Adult Female Amanda Muthuthantri/Priya Sonnadara; Adult Male Manuka Jayamane

Our dinner dance was Fancy dress with a "J" theme. We had Jelly fish, Judas, Jungle man and woman, Jackson Five, many Jacks and Jills and various other costumes. The Jackson Five and a very stylish jelly fish took out the prizes.

The Concert mainly consisted of a few songs and dances and as usual some were funny. Thanks to all the participants. I must mention Wasantha, and the new musos who brought their own musical instruments and sound system, played good music and sang karaoke. A great time was had by the young and old.

There were lots of other people I should have thanked but far too many to mention names. My appreciation and humble thanks to all who attended Camp 22.

Before I close my little report, I must thank the backbone of my life, my lovely wife, Thomazine, for her help and support at the Camp, arranging, ordering, help with allocating cabins and serving dessert. I also must thank the management of Lake Perseverance and Kerri/Emma from the Toowoomba Council for all their help and support.

Taking the positive of Camp 22, we found many new members for the Club. These people are all under 40-50. Yes, there were lots of young adults who attended the Camp this year and they enjoyed the activities.

Next year will be better than the past years. I hope someone will take over the organization of the annual Camp next year and bring in new ideas. Thanks, and appreciate all you lovely people who attended and celebrated Silver Fawn, the oldest Sri Lankan Club in Brisbane.

Thanks, and God bless you all. Gerard Fernando

















Mothers' Day Have-A-Chat

The Everton Park Bowls Club was bathed in a red and white splash of colour as 67 people celebrated the Mother's in our lives. A highlight of the celebration of our mums was the special presentation of a plaque to Una de Zilva, at 104, our centenarian club member. Auntie Una had a fall earlier in the week and was unable to attend so the flowers and plaque were presented to her children, Moira de Silva and Malcolm de Zilva, who joined us to celebrate this special occasion.

Good company was accompanied by tasty food by Nicola; an entree of spicy chick peas, pan roll and fish cutlet, delicious lamprais and dessert served on beautiful high tea cake stands. Ray Anthonisz kept us entertained with his melodious tunes and dulcet tones.



Who would have thought Mother's Day Trivia questions would have caused such a flutter at the tables? Lots of fun was had in the table drawing of Mothers, but teamwork did not reveal any talented artists and sadly there were no Archibald Prize contenders. Raffle prizes were worth winning and we finished the enjoyable afternoon with a couple of games of Bingo with Ray and Gerard.



A classy
Silver Fawn
way to
celebrate
mothers!







On the couch with......Anton Swan OAM

(an interview with Denis Anthonisz)



Brief Bio: Anton went to school in St Mary's Dehivala and migrated to Melbourne in 1970 as a 21 year old. Anton started his working career in the ES and A bank (now ANZ) where he met the lovely Bronwen. They were married on April 1, 1972 and Bronwen warned Anton not to believe anyone who told him she wasn't going to show up for an April Fool's Day Wedding. They 'fooled' everyone! Congratulations Anton and Bronwen on 50 'golden years'. Rather than have a party to celebrate this momentous occasion they sponsored an orphanage in Beragala for 20+ children.

Anton and Bronwen have four children, and six grandchildren, three of whom live in the USA. They came to Brisbane in 1974 and a career change loomed in 1979 when they bought a motel. Then followed a multi-faceted foray in many fields of hospitality. Anton's community service had its birth with his role as Coordinator of the Sri Lankan Pavilion at Expo 88 after which he was offered and accepted the role of Hon. Sri Lankan Consul in 1990. He has served in this role with distinction since then, receiving the OAM for service to the Sri Lankan community in the 2021 Australia Day Honours List. Anton joined Silver Fawn in the 80's when Albert Schokman was President (Anton was also an active member and office bearer in the Sri Lanka Society being President in 1986 - 1988).

Sport/Recreation Involvement: This space given to me by the Editor doesn't do justice to Anton's sporting achievements. Anton represented Sri Lanka in swimming and water polo. As a thirteen year old, he was the youngest Sri Lankan to attain a Bronze Medal in Surf Lifesaving. He played Rugby for Havelocks. In Australia, Anton continued to play Rugby Union, Touch Football and Rugby League and gained representative honours in Touch Football and Rugby at the Masters Games. Anton still plays golf and is a very handy 74 year old golfer! He continues to be an armchair watcher of all sports.

Favourite Books: Anton stated that he was a lazy reader but he did enjoy a good western yarn.

Favourite Film: Anton expressed three favourite genres; detective stories, court room dramas and westerns. His favourite movie is a golden oldie, 'Shane', starring Alan Ladd.

Food and Drink that tempts you: Anton loves all curries but made special mention of lamprais and biryanis. He enjoys a good scotch and is partial to a beer on a hot day after a challenging day on the golf course.

What sustains your soul? Anton is driven by self-motivation and this both drives and sustains him. He is religious but does not practise any particular religion. It is very much a personal faith driven by a desire to help others less fortunate than himself.

What irks you/gets under your skin? Anton struggles with domestic violence and marriage breakdowns. "My parents divorced when I was two. As my father was working away I was fostered by a number of families. My involvement in sport sustained me and also gave me my mentors."

Do you have a hero? Anton has two heroes, one a figure of history and another he has worked closely with. John F. Kennedy's speeches championing the civil rights movement inspired him and touched him emotionally. Anton has worked closely with Fr. Dilan Pereria OMI, Provincial of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Sri Lanka. Fr Dilan raises money in Australia and uses this money to build houses for families living in abject poverty in Sri Lanka. Anton supports the fundraising and each time he goes to Sri Lanka he opens houses that have been built. "Fr Dilan is a man I really admire; an outstanding leader who has a great intellect and yet he is truly humble and walks with the poor."

If you had a magic wand how would you change the world? Anton would love to see a world where there is peace and harmony. He struggles with the fact that the rich are so few in number and the poor so many. "I would love to see a world where there is true equality and no poverty and I get really emotional when I am confronted by people living in poverty."

Anton added his thanks again to the Silver Fawn Club and the Management Committees over the years for the support they have given him in his role as the Hon. Consul for Sri Lanka in Queensland. He also expressed his appreciation for the community work that is done by the Club.

Celebrating Eid with the Sri Lankan Muslims in Brisbane

As you may know, Muslims across the world recently completed 30 days of fasting during the holy month of Ramadan which culminates with the Eid celebration. The Silver Fawn Club Office-Bearers were invited by a group of Sri Lankan Muslims in Brisbane to celebrate Eid with Sri Lankans from all other Brisbane Associations, on Saturday 7th May.



Over 100 Sri Lankan community leaders and members gathered at the Darul Uloom Mosque at Woolloongabba for what was a most enjoyable and informative meeting with the Sri Lankan Muslim community in Brisbane. Sandun, Tyrone, Ranjan, Namal and Laurensz represented our Club while other members we spotted included Anton and Bronwyn Swan, Jayantha Pathikirikorale, Fyri and Susan Fahir, Wasantha Muthuthantri, Dr Sajee Alok and Dr Judy Fernando to name a few.

The mosque complex in Woolloongabba, we learned, was acquired around 1980, and also houses the Australian International Islamic College which started in 2002 and now has 100 students studying a full Australian approved curriculum as well as a program of religious subjects. We also learned that Woolloongabba was one of three campuses they manage in Brisbane, with their largest campus in Durack having about one thousand students; a most impressive achievement.





The program for the morning featured a tour of the Mosque, brief presentations on the history of the Sri Lankan Muslims in Australia, the significance of Ramadan, and a short panel discussion on Islam. Our beloved Sri Lankan Counsel Anton Swan talked about the challenges and achievements of the Sri Lankans in Brisbane and reinforced the need to celebrate our diversity but always remember that we are Sri Lankans first, a message which was warmly received by the attendees.

The formal program ended with a presentation of a Quran to Anton Swan by Dr Aslam Jabbar. This was followed by time for social interaction, and guests were treated to a tasty lunch of classic biriyani with all the accompaniments, including delicious Falooda and Vattalapam. There was also a henna artist available for ladies to decorate their hands.



All up, it was a most enjoyable and interesting event and it was wonderful to see all the younger Muslims in the community who worked



tirelessly throughout the day, to look after all of us guests. We have written to Sharmil Markar, Aslam Jabbar, Fikreth Shuaib, Yasmina Sultanbawa and Imran Ahamed thanking them for their kind invitation to all the Sri Lankan community clubs, and for hosting/leading a most successful event.

Laurensz Manricks

YOUR LEGAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED by RIN FERNANDO, LLB (Hons), GradDipLP TIMES LAWYERS

The Silver Fawn Club has arranged a 'Seminar' on a variety of Legal issues which we hope will be of interest to our members. It will be led by Sri Lankan born Solicitor, Tharindu (Rin) Fernando. Details are as follows:

- DATE & TIME: Thursday 23 June from 6.00pm to 7.30pm
- VENUE: Chermside Library Meeting Room 2, Hamilton Road, Chermside.
- OTHER DETAILS: We have a meeting room booked and there is undercover parking available. Tea and Coffee will be supplied.

Rin Fernando has an Honours degree on LLB and Business Management from University of Queensland (UQ) and will overview the following legal issues:

- Wills importance of having one, the key components of a Will (eg. Executor, Beneficiaries, Trustees), maintaining and transferring your estate to your beneficiaries.
- EPOA what is it, differences between an EPOA and a Will, should the Nominee be the same as the Executor?
- Role of the Attorney in EPOAs and Wills, and key considerations when selecting an Attorney.
- Advanced Health Directives what is it? Making choices about your health in advance.
- Conveyancing tips including the three most commonly made mistakes.
- Refundable Accommodation Deposits and Downsizer Contributions.

Being a professional Lawyer who understands the Sri Lankan culture, Rin firmly believes that the purpose of a lawyer is to not just provide a legal solution but to walk alongside his clients, love, care and serve them. The evening will have a Q & A format after initial input from Rin.

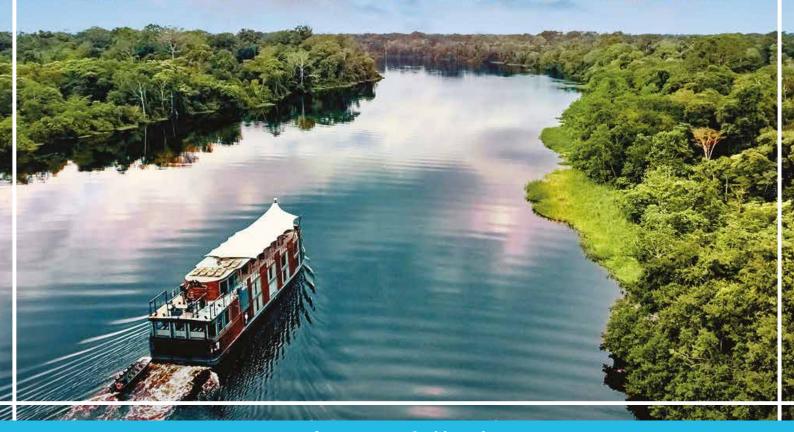
This session has been arranged as a community service to our members, and attendance is free. Please text or email Laurensz (Mobile: 0408 414 973 Email: Lmanricks@bigpond.com), preferably by Monday, 19th June if you and/or your family wish to attend.



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FSOQ Update – May 2022

By way of background for those not aware of the Federation of Sri Lankan Organisations in Queensland (FSOQ), it was formed in 2013 to ensure a combined 'QLD' voice when engaging with the Australian and Sri Lankan Governments to better the lives of people in Sri Lanka and abroad. Today, FSOQ's membership comprises eight QLD-based Sri Lankan clubs including ours, providing a great diversity of views, goals and aspirations.

I recently represented our Club at FSOQ's Annual General Meeting and by way of an update, it is fair to say the FSOQ's biggest two achievements for the year were:

- Sri Lanka Day 2021 Mega multi-cultural food and cultural festival held in November 2021, which was
 a wonderful success, with unexpectedly high community participation. Funded by the members clubs
 plus grants from the State and Local Governments, the day featured a cultural show with Sri Lankan and
 multi-ethnic community dances plus authentic Sri Lankan food stalls, most of whom sold out their tasty
 goodies.
- Hospital beds for Sri Lanka project which was supported by a highly successful community fund-raising campaign in the height of the pandemic. The target was to raise \$18,000 to ship about 300 beds however, the community response raised about \$40,000 and enabled the FSOQ to load and ship 500 beds – a great result.

Another project worth a mention is FSOQ's initiative to apply to the Brisbane City Council (BCC) to lease premises for use by all Sri Lankan Associations in Queensland. FSOQ is also attempting to gain 'charitable' status as an incorporated community of organisations.

There are many other achievements noted at the AGM; please visit the website www.fsoq.com.au. Going forward, the FSOQ has locked-in Sunday 11 September for Sri Lanka Day 2022 and our Club will definitely be running a food stall, so please put this date in your diary.

Lastly, with the current crisis engulfing Sri Lanka, the FSOQ is responding to many urgent requests for medications for critically ill patients and in Sri Lanka and I appeal to all our members to donate to this current initiative. Briefly, a team of Sri Lankan Doctors in Brisbane are working with a team of Doctors in Colombo to:

- Prioritise a critically urgent list of medications,
- Obtain quotes from the National Medications Regulatory Authority (NRMA) suppliers,
- Make recommendations to FSOQ on what should be purchased,
- FSOQ to approve and pay NRMA direct for the medications,
- Liaise with the SL team of doctors to confirm receipt and use of the medications.

Importantly, there is no political affiliation as FSOQ and member associations are working independently under the governance rules of Australia, and no funds are sent to the Sri Lankan Government. FSOQ has already raised over \$10,000 and the first consignment of Cancer and Heart disease medication costing about \$9,000 has been approved and is ready for delivery.

This Newsletter has more details on this initiative and how you can donate. Thanks for your help and support.

Laurensz

Welcome to our New Members

Michael Gauder
Rohana & Charlene Wijesekera
Suraj & Muditha Sennandara
Noel & Aloma De Silva
Deborah Jansz Cox
Anton & Aloma Martil
Maryse Samuel
Tony Kitchil & Zaheera Fazier
Robert & Deanna Cornish
Disna Wakista
Vajira & Basil Wickremasinghe
Cleonie, Lachlan & Muir Jayasurya



Ruwan, Yasasvi, Manishka, Charles & Kavisha Kalutara Faaega Fazier & Hisham Faalil Mubeen & Madeline Fazier



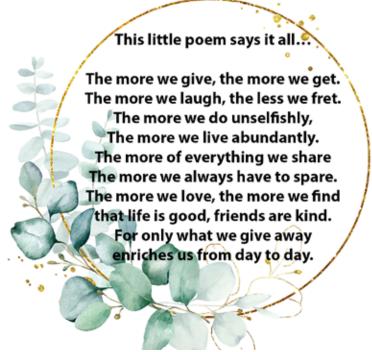
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If you have an email address and currently receive your newsletters in hard copy via Australia Post please consider receiving it via email. Not only will you receive your newsletter earlier and in colour to your Inbox, but you will assist by saving the Club money in printing and postage costs.

You can send your details or any other correspondence to the Editor at Newsletter.Silverfawn@gmail.com



Any queries, please call Laurensz on 0408 414 973



If undeliverable return to: SILVER FAWN CLUB INC. P.O. Box 5005 BRENDALE. QLD 4500

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Silverscene is the official Newsletter of the Silver Fawn Club Inc. and is published at least six times a year. Members are invited to submit any item of interest to be included in the Newsletter. Any items submitted will be published at the discretion of the Management Committee. Articles may be edited for length and clarity.

Please address all correspondence to: Silverscene, P O Box 5005, Brendale QLD 4500

DEADLINE: 17TH JUNE 2022

(Items for inclusion in the next edition of Silver Scene should be submitted by this date)

The President and Committee of the Silver Fawn Club Inc., do not necessarily share or endorse the views contained in the articles published in this or future Newsletters.

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