



# Silverscene

Official Newsletter of the Silver Fawn Club Inc.

Founded in 1970

## July / August 2023

[www.silverfawn.com](http://www.silverfawn.com)

### Exciting Upcoming Events for 2023/2024 (Dates for your Diary)

Sunday August 6	BBQ and Barefoot Bowls
Saturday September 23	Hollywood Glamour Night
Sunday October 15	Sri Lanka Day FSOQ
Sunday November 5	Melbourne Cup Lunch
Saturday December 9	Christmas Celebration
Sunday December 31	New Year's Eve Dance
Sunday February 4	Picnic
Saturday March 9	AGM

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

#### 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.



#### Membership Fees expired on 31st January 2023.

If you haven't already done so, please send your renewal for 2023/2024 without delay. See fees and banking details below.

If you have changed your Address or Contact details please advise Thomazine Fernando, Membership Officer on 0419 480 808 or [thomazinefernando@bigpond.com](mailto:thomazinefernando@bigpond.com)

### Silver Fawn Club Inc Bank Account Details

please use when making direct deposits.

Silver Fawn Club Inc - BSB 064 131 A/c 00902934 Ref: Your surname and initials

#### MEMBERSHIP FEES AND RENEWALS

Family	\$30.00	Family Pensioner	\$20.00
Single	\$20.00	Single Pensioner	\$15.00
Interstate / Country	\$5.00	Student (No income)	\$10.00

# Committee members for 2023/24

## President:

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# President's message

Greetings members,

The Club celebrated its 53rd Anniversary in June and it's always a good time to pause and reflect on the history of our beloved club, and the thousands of 'good times' had by our members over that time. It's also a time to acknowledge the contribution of so, so many members (and usually their families) who have given their time, skills and often their personal resources to help manage the Club over those years. We owe all of them a debt of gratitude for putting their hands up over the years to provide those 'good times' for their fellow members and guests.

I want to start this report by noting, with considerable sadness, the passing of two stalwarts of the club in June, my uncle Alie Gonsal (Camille's husband) and 'Donny' Henderling (Rena's husband and Jeremy's Dad). Alie was such a lovable larrikin who spent about 10 years on the Committee, and we all know the huge contribution made by the Henderling family to our Club over many, many years. I believe Alie and Camille were married for 59 years while Donny and Rena had a marriage of 67 years. They will be sadly missed, and never forgotten. Rest in Peace, Alie and Donny.

Our Anniversary function on 12th June attracted close to 70 members and guests. Interestingly it took a huge push and appeal from the Committee before we got a great crowd to the event. There was some feedback about costs which I will come back to later. The function itself went off very well. Our new caterer Ruwan from Negombo Caterers put on a really tasty (if a bit chillie hot!) buffet and Ty Fox played some timeless music. I want to especially thank Christina and Jerome for making the Anniversary/Christmas cake for everyone virtually at cost, probably less. They are always doing other little acts of kindness to help the Club and Committee and we greatly appreciate their support. More about the function in the separate report in this Newsletter.

In upcoming functions, you will find flyers for our 'BBQ and Bowls' event on Sunday 6th August and our Hollywood Dinner Dance on 23rd September in this Newsletter.

The BBQ and Bowls is something a little different for a change and will be from 2pm – 6pm. We want it to be a casual, fun afternoon of 'having a go' at a game or two of Bowls followed by a nice little BBQ cooked by the Committee members. Numbers are limited to 60 and cost is only \$20pp so please come along and join in the fun.

Our Hollywood Dinner Dance will be held at the Sip 'n Dine at Woolloongabba and we want everyone to dress up in their best threads and come dance the night away. As announced in my last Newsletter, Roger Menezes and his band Jetfire (featuring his good friends Gordon Rebeira and Darrell de Silva) are coming up from Sydney to provide some great music for the night. They are all well credentialed musicians having played for all the top bands

in Sri Lanka in their time, and we are really excited to have them entertain us on the night. Please check out the details in the flyer in this Newsletter and book early.

I'd like to come back to the feedback we received regarding cost of tickets and again, in the interests of full visibility, give you some insights into the Committee's thinking and decision making in this regard. Actually, there are a few issues which the Committee is constantly challenged with, not just fees. The three main issues are:

**Do we have day functions or night functions?** Given our demographic, we have lots of members who say they can't/don't drive at night while others seem ok with it. So the Committee tries to have a balance. At this stage, there are three functions we have each year which are night functions, these being our Annual Dance, Christmas Party and NYE. We have also been under pressure to have the Christmas party as a day event but singing Carols in the middle of the day just doesn't feel like Christmas to us.

**Do we have Sri Lankan Food or Western Food?** Again, we face a conundrum because some members queried why they need to spend \$45 for the Anniversary Lunch when they can eat Rice and Curry at home, so they won't attend the function. Equally, when we have put on western food, we get grumblings that "we've always had Sri Lankan buffets" and why are we changing? The Committee has to make a call on this as best it can, as we have done for the Melbourne Cup Party we've planned for November; it'll be a Melbourne Cup type meal which won't be Sri Lankan. This means that some members won't support us, purely because it is not rice and curry.

**Cost of tickets are too high** (especially if you're giving us Rice and Curry)? With all due respect to our members, we can no longer run \$25 and \$30 functions. We also no longer haggle with caterers to squeeze every extra pappadam out of them. Costs of everything have gone up, but we do get competitive quotes before we make decisions. Caterers also need to add the costs of delivery, serving, clearing and washing up when they quote us; the committee can no longer do these things to save the Club a few dollars. But the main thing to note is that the Club has to cover about \$6,000 of fixed costs per year (for things like Newsletter Printing/Postage, Website, Insurance, Storage etc). This means that we can't just 'break even', we have to add a minimum of \$3-\$4 for each ticket to cover these fixed costs. I was also surprised to hear of a perception amongst some members that we get the venue and music free of charge. We do get the best rates we can, but neither is free.

Trust this clarifies the way we approach these challenges. I assure you that we take our financial responsibility very seriously and set prices accordingly. Please continue to support us and just come have a good time.

Before I finish, one of Colombo's premier bands, The Redeemers, are coming to Brisbane for a dinner dance on Saturday 29th July and the organisers have advertised in our Newsletter. The band comprises eight very talented musos and this is their first visit to Brisbane, and it should be a great night. Please note that the organisers have offered Silver Fawn members a \$5 discount on ticket prices.

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

Laurensz

WITH DEEPEST  
*Sympathy*



**GONSAL, Alistair**, passed away on 4th June 2023, aged 84. Husband of Camille for 59 years, Father of Gavin, Michelle, Jacqueline and Danielle, Grandfather of Allannah, Dylan, Isaac, Zoroah, Ruby, Hirani, Baxter, Asha, Yemala and Miles, Great-Grandfather of Harvey and Quinn, Son of the late Zena and Herbert Gonsal, Brother of Heather (dec'd), Dugald (dec'd), Jeanne (dec'd), Russell (dec'd), Rowena, Aloma, Cheryl (dec'd), and Christopher. Rest in peace, in God's care.

**HENDERLING, Donald Edward**, passed away peacefully on 20th June aged 94 years. Loving husband of Rena, father and father-in-law of Jeremy, Tania and Mark Nicol, Mark and Joanne. Much loved grandfather of Katie, Joshua, Sam and Isaac. Brother of Elmo (dec'd), Kingsley (dec'd), Noeline, Marlene (dec'd), Eva (dec'd), Ronald (dec'd), Esther and Patricia. Forever in our hearts. (Donald and Rena were inaugural members of the Club)



# BBQ & Barefoot Bowls

Everton Park Bowls Club  
7 Gearside Street, Everton Park

Have a go or just join in the fun  
and enjoy the BBQ.

\$20.00

Sunday 6 August  
2:00pm - 6:00pm

**Bookings close 30 July**

Thomazine Fernando - 0419 480 808

Namal Wijeratne - 0433 427 377

Suzie Anthonisz - 0409 533 540

**Payment by Bank Deposit to -**

Silver Fawn Club Inc

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Ref. Your surname + Bowls

# HOLLYWOOD GLAMOUR NIGHT

## JETFIRE

Featuring

Roger Menezes, Gordon Rebeira and Darrell De Silva

*Come dressed in your best glam  
Or as your favourite Hollywood Star*

Saturday 23rd September

7:00 - 12:00

Members: \$75

Guests: \$85

Full Indian Buffet menu  
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Book Early to avoid disappointment with  
Namal 0433 427 377  
Suzie 0409 533 540  
Thomazine 0419 480 808  
Laurensz 0408 414 973

Payment by Bank Deposit due by 16 September  
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*Sip 'n' Dine*

*43 Ipswich Road  
Woolloongabba*

# 53rd Anniversary Lunch

A couple of weeks from the due date for numbers, we as a Committee put our heads together to try and resuscitate the Anniversary Lunch. It seemed that a change of date and multiple clashes made for few celebrants of our 53rd Anniversary. Everyone pitched in with phone calls to members and this ploy plus two emails saw a healthy 67 members and guests celebrate together at the Everton Park Bowls Club on June 11. Teamwork makes the DREAM WORK! The Committee's efforts were matched by the generosity of heart of our members in the manner in which they responded to our plea. Fifty three years old and still going strong!

And what a special afternoon it was! The venue was resplendent in black and orange, crowned by beautiful arrangements of vases with majestic Bird of Paradise flowers. (We won't talk about the clandestine late night forays in 'borrowing' these blooms following Suzie Anthonisz' request for these particular centrepieces!). The décor was complimented by the Anniversary Cake made by Christina and Jerome de Silva, which was then beautifully boxed with a special Silver Fawn touch.

Lunch was a great hit. Ruwan from Negombo Traders catered a delicious Sri Lankan Buffet which was enjoyed by all, even though the 'chilli factor' tested some of our more delicate palates. Ruwan promised to tone down the chilli but not the taste next time.

And we had a good time! Ty Fox' music took us back over the music history over the last fifty years – great for dancing and foot tapping in our chairs. Loved the Elimination Dance and can't believe so many people had to leave the floor with underwear forfeits! And our last foundation member, Daphne Ephraims moved to the groove with her walker!! The Anniversary Trivia tested the Silver Fawn knowledge of our history buffs, and this included the Trivia Compere's knowledge of all the life members present. Thank goodness for our longest serving Committee Member, Jeremy Henderling's helping hand to the hapless Compere.

A very pleasant celebration of all Silver Fawn IS and HAS been. A special touch to the proceedings was President Laurensz Manrick's recognition of club stalwarts past and present, and the many committee members who have been the lifeblood of our fifty-three years.

Denis Anthonisz





## Letters to the Committee

Thank you sooo much for the transport to the venue. I am so glad that I had the opportunity to be there. It was a very informal and friendly get together. Plenty of chatter, laughs sharing a great meal and dancing to some good music. The atmosphere was warming and inviting, beautiful decor in striking colours of bright orange and black. A big thank you to committee members and other helpers who did a marvellous job to make this occasion a memorable day. Looking forward to the next date on the calendar which is Barefoot Bowls and BBQ. Thanks once again to Suzie, Denis and the committee members.

All the best  
Hortense



Patrick, Valerie & Marina (Gold Coast mob) join me in extending our thanks for a most enjoyable afternoon – of good music, great food and a lot of fun!  
But we know it takes a combination of time and resources of a committed committee to make this happen! Please extend these sincere thanks to all.

Sincerely  
Trevor Ebert.



Your article in Silver Scene on your recent holiday to Sri Lanka was a joy to read. I found it most interesting and informative. You gave us a lovely picture, skillfully written, of the land that was our birthplace. We have a longing to visit again, perhaps some day.....

Thank you.  
Fond regards,  
Deanna.



This is a brief note to thank you and all your helpers for the 53rd Anniversary lunch. The meal was one of the best we've had. Congratulations on discovering a new caterer. We appreciate all the work involved in organizing a function. Thank you.

Fond regards,  
Deanna.

Camille and family wish to express their thanks to all who attended Alie's funeral and sent cards, flowers and messages of sympathy.

Alie had a unique personality and a gifted business mind. He was self-taught and self-employed for most of his life, successfully running his own business at the Gabba for over 35 years and building our family home in Carindale as an owner/builder, to his plans and specifications. Alie served on the Club's Committee for over 10 years and we've been members for at least 45 years. He loved his family, friends and the Silver Fawn Club. We will miss him dearly. Rest in Peace Alie boy.

**PLEASE  
NOTE...**

The Silver Fawn Club reserves the right to publish items submitted by its members in the Silverscene. We will not publish anything of a political nature.





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## Welcome to our New Members

James Sheddon and Leah  
Lewis-Macpherson  
Anusha and Raj Mohan  
Raja



From time to time you will be receiving emails from us. These will mainly refer to upcoming events and deadlines. These emails will be sent using Mail Chimp and you can Opt Out at any time.

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

**DEADLINE: 1 August 2023**

(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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