

The Rhein-Donau Club Inc.

Issue 1, February/March 2025

# Klub Nachrichten Club Magazine

German Speaking Club Since 1958



# KARNEVAL

# Öffnungszeiten/ Opening Hours

Office:	Monday - Friday	10:00 am to 3:00pm
Bar*:	Wednesday	6:00pm to 10:00pm
	Thursday	6:00pm to 10:00pm
	Friday	6:00pm to 10:30pm
	Saturday**	6:00pm to 11:00pm
	Sunday	4:00pm to 8:30pm
Kitchen*:	Wednesday	} 11:30am to 2pm (Lunch)
	Thursday	
	Friday	
	Saturday**	6:00pm to 10:00pm
	Sunday	4:00pm to 8:00pm



\* please note opening times may vary for special occasions (see back page)  
\*\* on Saturdays we have entertainment and possibly charge a small cover fee

# Welcome to our new members!

Darren Gardiner, Troy Hunter, Brayden Huner, James Gladstone, Grit McLaughlin, Matthew Higgins, Amy Green, Patrick Conley, Tony Hughes, William Kloosterman, Sue-Anne Charlton, Craig Andrews, Uly Fritsch



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Die wiedergegebenen Meinungen in diesem Magazin entsprechen nicht notwendigerweise denen des Klubs oder der Redaktion, sondern denen der jeweiligen Autoren.

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Club or the editor but those of the respective authors.



President	Steve Schlegel	0434 269 944
Vice President	not filled	
Secretary	Pamela Millar	0421 970 089
Vice Secretary	Maria Forbrig	0469 575 502
Treasurer	Martin Engel	0447 038 784
Vice Treasurer	David Ramsay	0419 695 234
Cellar Master	David Vieceli	0438 755 156
Entertainment Manager	Brian Muir	0407 479 513
Equipment Warden	Hermine Wagner	0437 711 127
Extra Committee	Julianne Pulver	0401 685 268

Trustees:

Jeff Cadzow, Michael Giustiniano, Debbie Solomon, Stephen Brown

Club Manager | Social Media | Club Magazine | Accounts: Petra Weiss

Office Admin | Social Media | Grants | Bookings: Annette Guttman



**Note from the Editor**

Dear RDC members, this magazine is here for all members to share their stories and experiences. This is what brings the magazine to life. Therefore we welcome your contributions for the next issue, February/March 2025. Entry deadline for the issue is **Friday 7 March 2025**, please send your contribution to **accounts@rheindonau.com.au**

## *Irmgard Birtwistle*

*7 December 1927 - 16 Dec 2024*



Irmgard (Irmi)Tscheschlog was born in Munich on 7 December 1927.

Together with her parents, Paul and Anna, and her sister Berta, Irmi emigrated to Perth in 1953.

In July 1954, Irmi married Joe Birtwistle, whom she had previously met in Munich whilst he was travelling through Germany.

In 1958, Paul and Anna and Irmi and Joe became foundation members of the Rhein Donau Club.

In 1975, Joe and Irmi became foundation members of the Heimat Choir.

They were actively involved over many years in organising Club dances with entertainment. They also were involved with the early Oktoberfests held in Kalamunda and the Claremont Showgrounds.

With the Heimat Choir, Irmi attended several Sangerfests in Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

Irmi worked in the Club’s Office in the 1970’s and early 1980’s, assisting the various Presidents. Her duties included typing up the Newsletter and enrolling





new members. She thoroughly enjoyed her tasks and meeting new people.

Helping in the Club's kitchen with Volker and Beatrice This was another enjoyable activity and soon involved her family, especially at New Years and Oktoberfest functions.

In 2003, she moved to Parkland Villas Booragoon. This was conveniently located close to the Club enabling Irmie to keep involved with the choir and later the Volksingers.

She and her family always celebrated important birthdays at the Club.

At the age of 94 Irmie moved to Meath Care Como where she spent her remaining 3 years.

Irmie passed away peacefully aged 97 on 16 December 2024.

The Club and its members have always featured prominently in Irmie's life keeping memories of her Heimat alive.

Marian, Susie and Glenn sincerely thank the Club Committee and members for the lovely flowers and condolence messages and attendance at Irmie's Funeral on 30th December.

Also a special thanks to Bobby for his catering.

Marian  
Susan

## *Harry Sonnenberg*

*13 April 1928 - 11 December 2024*



Harry came to Australia in the early 50s and was soon followed by his wife and son.

Harry and his wife Magda were active members of the Rhein Donau Club for many years, with Magda passing away in 2008 and Harry relinquishing his membership due to being unable to drive for the past few years.

The family have many fond memories of the Rhein Donau Club and Harry's son Harald and daughter Lisa still attend on occasion, as do Harry's grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He lived alone right up until about a month before he became ill, still cooking and walking around as best as he could. Harry passed away peacefully at the age of 96 after a short illness. His family are very saddened to share the news of his passing, he will be greatly missed.

*May Irmgard and Harry rest in peace.*

*Our deepest sympathies go to the families of Irmgard and Harry in these difficult times.*



I am writing this whilst on holidays in a cold and beautiful Germany.

The new year started off relaxed with the Club closed in January as usual. At the beginning of February, we will open again with our beloved Summer Party.

But the Club is not all about party, as you know, there is much more going on.

We keep working on improving our systems and facilities to enable us to conduct the administration more efficiently and cost effectively for the benefit of our members.

The ongoing membership cards were only the first step. The second step is improving the way we are managing our memberships. We are currently working on a new Club website that will include a membership payment page. It will be up and running before our next financial year.

I would like to ask all members to embrace this change and pay their membership fees online. Furthermore, there will be options for ongoing memberships, monthly payments and new members will also be able to apply for memberships on the website.

If you need assistance or would rather pay in person, Petra and Annette will still be there for you. You can call them any time on 93306488.

We have also organised the upgrade of our telephone system and we have a new NBN high speed internet connection.

The air condition upgrade is still on the way. Western Power will upgrade the old overhead powerlines over North Lake Road to underground power. This is part of the supply upgrade to enable us to draw more power for the air conditioners and future upgrades.

We are also upgrading the car park lights to LED and improving the lighting on the back car park. Once completed we will paint the car park brick wall for a welcoming fresh look.

The window at the WA Brick Society room has also been replaced after it was damaged some time back.

I believe that we have a successful year ahead of us with continued improvements, positive member engagement, happy guests and plenty of cultural events, functions and groups activities.

Happy New Year!



Steve Schlegel  
President





MEMBERS' CHRISTMAS





# CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS ST. NIKOLAUS





# What's on in February 2025

**HAPPY HOUR**  
every **SUNDAY**  
5pm - 6pm



## WE ARE OPEN AGAIN! WELCOME!

The Restaurant will re-open its' doors on  
Saturday 25 January.

The office is open again from Monday 27 January.

### Sat 8 German Summer Party

5:00pm

[www.trybooking.com/CXEGS](http://www.trybooking.com/CXEGS)

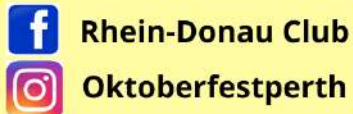


Members \$5  
Guests \$10

### Sat 22 Duo Best Friends

6:30pm

Members \$5, Guests \$10



[www.rheindonau.com.au](http://www.rheindonau.com.au)  
9330 6488 for enquiries  
110 North Lake Road, Myaree



# What's on in March 2025

**HAPPY HOUR** every **SUNDAY**  
5pm - 6pm



### Sat 1 Karneval at the Club

6:30 pm

[www.trybooking.com/CYGYB](http://www.trybooking.com/CYGYB)  
Members \$10, Guest \$15

### Sun 2 Kinder Karneval

2 pm



[www.trybooking.com/CYGYI](http://www.trybooking.com/CYGYI)  
Members FREE Entry,  
Non-Members \$5 per person 2 years  
and over



### Sat 15 German Brass Band more details to come



[www.rheindonau.com.au](http://www.rheindonau.com.au)  
9330 6488 for enquiries  
110 North Lake Road, Myaree





# KARNEVAL

# KINDER KARNEVAL

Sat. 1 March 2025

6.30pm

**CRAZY FANCY DRESS  
PARTY**

**MEMBERS \$10  
GUESTS \$15**

[www.trybooking.com/CYGYB](http://www.trybooking.com/CYGYB)



**WITH DJ BRIAN**

[www.rhein-donau.com.au](http://www.rhein-donau.com.au)  
9330 6488 for enquiries  
110 North Lake Road, Myaree



*Come dressed in your  
favourite outfit*

**WITH DJ BRIAN**

Sunday 2 March 2025

2pm-8pm



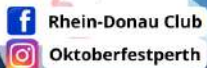
MEMBERS - FREE Entry.  
(bookings still required)

NON-MEMBERS

\$5 per person 2 years and over  
*Bookings via Trybooking required by all*  
[trybooking.com/CYGYI](http://trybooking.com/CYGYI)



**The Rhein Donau Club, 110 North Lake Rd, Myaree**



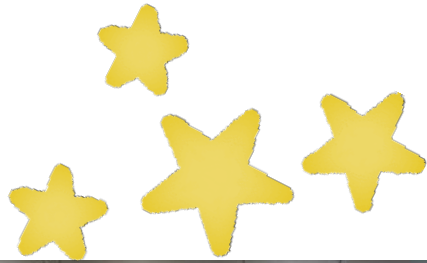
# Table Tennis Group

Happy New Year to our table tennis members and we look forward to a successful and busy 2025. New members are always welcome to join. The shed had been used a fair bit by our members during the January break, and some of our boys have enjoyed playing at the Armadale table tennis club and catching up with Wayne (Paul Robson's brother).

Dave Ramsay will be taking orders for our signature table tennis club shirts this month so please put in your order.

We had a good turnout on our end of year function on 12th December last year. Plenty of food and some drinks to add to the Christmas cheer.

Debbie Solomon  
Group Leader



# Thank You Letter



Last year the Rhein-Donau Club made a sponsorship payment to SAGSE (Scholarships for Australian-German Student Exchange), and the below student from Kelmscott Senior High was the lucky recipient of the funding to go on a trip to Germany! She was so nice to let us know how she enjoyed her travels. Below is an email she sent to the Club to say thanks!

*Hallo Rhein Donau Club!*

*This is Shanita Knol, currently in Fulda, Germany! I just wanted to send you, my sponsor, an update about some of the things I have been up to here. I really want to thank you all so much for this experience. It's really been life changing and something I will never forget. I have had an overall amazing time here, but these are a few of my highlights:*

*- I got to see snow for the first time! It's really so beautiful to see.*

*- My host family took me to Dresden for a weekend and the Weihnachtsmarkt there was honestly so beautiful and there were so many places to explore!*

*- Weihnachten! Experiencing a German Christmas, with St Nicholas, and cutting our own tree from a tree farm, and gifts on the 24th, and a typical German Christmas Dinner of duck, potato and red cabbage was really a lovely tradition to be a part of. I definitely want to take some traditions from Germany back with me to Australia.*

*- They also took me to Paris for 4 days, which was something I never expected to do, but the Eiffel tower was beautiful and it was lovely to learn about the history in one of the museums there, and also the Palace of Versailles.*

*- Winter Camp was also super amazing. It's really nice to be able to see the people you hosted again and also meet so many other people who have a similar experience with exchanges and the environment is just so high energy and friendly, it was definitely a highlight of my trip.*



*- I just came back from free travel. We went to Munich first, explored Schloss Neuschwanstein and learned about German history. Salzburg in Austria, where my free travel group did a Sound of Music tour, which was really special to me, since Sound of Music was a big part of my childhood. We also went to Koln, and saw the cathedral, and then finished our free travel in Hamburg.*



*I really want to thank the Rhein Donau Club again, for allowing me to have all these experiences beyond my imagination, not to mention enabling me to meet people like my host family and sister that I will be connected with my whole life.*

*Kind regards,  
Shanita Knol*



***“The LIONS Club of East Fremantle welcomes new members!”***

Our club is small, but very active in community service around the local area.

We meet at the Rhein-Donau Club on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month, getting together at 6:00pm for a meal and a beer(s). It is an informal and fun get together, to plan and discuss our activities, which usually involves our now famous ‘Kiddies Train’, that, remarkably, happens to look like Thomas the Tank Engine.

Simply stop and say hello, or you are welcome to ring

Alan (0402 499 049).



<b>Group and Group Leader</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Meeting Times</b>
<b><u>Billiard (Snooker)</u></b> Paul Muckett	0417 918 309	Weds & Fri 7pm
<b><u>Edelweiss Dance Group</u></b> David Viececi	0438 755 156	Sun from 5-7
<b><u>Model Railway</u></b> Bret Hummel	0412 939 699	Fridays from 6pm
<b><u>Perth Miniature Gamers</u></b> Michael Walsh	0402 408 778	Wednesdays from 6pm
<b><u>Pistol Club</u></b> Philip Kroczek Murray Bow	0467 787 857 0424 160 750	Thursdays from 5pm
<b><u>Eagle Eye Air Rifle Group</u></b> Jeff Cadzow	0412 381 373	Fridays from 7pm
<b><u>Folksingers</u></b> Irene Harrop	0488 585 850	Fridays 1:30pm to 3pm
<b><u>Senior Group</u></b> Rita Zeller	0419 331 601	Fortnightly on a Wednesday from 10am to 1pm
<b><u>Table Tennis Group</u></b> Debbie Solomon	0427 354 153	Tuesdays from 7pm
<b><u>WA Mandolin Orchestra</u></b> Robert Schulz	0490 868 344	Weds from 7:30pm to 9:30pm
<b><u>WA Brick Society</u></b> Kelly Hanson	0438 593 646	every 4th Tues/Month (Ladies) every 4th Weds/Month
<b><u>WA Strategy Boardgamers</u></b> Greg Colgan	0424 109 976	Once a month on a Sunday from 10am to 4pm
<b><u>Neerlandia</u></b> John Zwartkruis	0434 920 252	Seniors/Bingo/other events please call John for more info

# RDC Küche

Anno 1958



- A la carte menu including a selection of authentic German, Swiss and Austrian meals.
- Catering for private functions for 30 - 220 guests

We have rooms available for your private functions, conventions or meetings, in the Karl's Bar, Sports Hall, Edelweiss Hall and Beer Garden.

**For bookings** please call the Club Office  
Phone: 9330 6488 (weekdays 10am - 3pm)



## *Opening Hours of Restaurant*

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for lunch 11:30am to 2pm

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings from 6pm to 9pm

Saturdays 6pm to 10pm

Sundays 4pm to 8pm

**The Restaurant is now also selling packaged German goods for you to take home! Spätzle, Red Cabbage, Sauerkraut, German Mustard and a variety of German Sausages from Elmar's for you to enjoy at home.**

**Please come and get some!**



110 North Lake Road, Myaree WA 6154  
Ph: (08) 9330 6488  
Email: [admin@rheindonau.com.au](mailto:admin@rheindonau.com.au)  
[www.rheindonau.com.au](http://www.rheindonau.com.au)

GermanClubPerth

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