

# Luncheon sparkles despite the rain

NSWROA'S ANNUAL SYDNEY CUP DAY LUNCHEON WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS DESPITE THE WET CONDITIONS

WORDS: SHARON HUNT (EXECUTIVE OFFICER – NSWROA) PICTURES: CAROLINE TAYLOR

Australian Turf Club did not have much luck with the weather for the Royal Randwick leg of the Sydney Carnival with only one fine day.

The sun shone for Derby Day, perhaps especially for World Champion Galloper Black Caviar, but not so on the other two days.

Sydney Cup Day, the last day of the Carnival, dawned as yet another wet day but the weather did little to impact on the occasion for NSW Racehorse Owners Association.

Each year the Association holds a Sydney Cup Day Luncheon and each year, members and guests congregate to Royal Randwick to join us for one of our favourite events.

Racing wise there were four Group One races on the card and a host of competitive races which makes this a great day of racing to round out Sydney Carnival.

The Group One events included the Champagne Stakes, the All Aged Stakes, the Queen Elizabeth Stakes and of course the Sydney Cup.

The roll-call of winners for the Sydney Cup is something to behold. Winners of this time-honoured event include such turf legends as Carbine in the late 1800's, the champion Kingston Town who saluted in 1980 as a 3yo, the great crowd favourite Tie the Knot who went back-to-back in '98 and '99 and the super mare Makybe Diva in 2004.

Unfortunately this year's Sydney Cup was marred by a fall approaching the home turn with Tinseltown and Hawk Island hitting the turf.

Jockeys Kerrin McEvoy and Glyn Schofield were both injured but the horses appeared to escape without injury.

Hawk Island actually did another lap of the course after parting company with Glyn Schofield and looked as though he might in fact go around again, but he

was caught in a superb effort by one of the Clerks of the Course.

The winner of the Sydney Cup was the Chris Waller-trained Stand to Gain (a stablemate of Hawk Island) who scored from Older Than Time with Solid Billing in third position.

But what about the function you ask!

The day commenced for our guests with pre-luncheon drinks in the Kingston Town Room; we then moved to the Vista Room for a sumptuous buffet luncheon.

At this point I would like to extend our thanks to Jamal Nakhoul and her team who excelled in their service for the day.

Also a big thank you to Roger Brassington from Royal Randwick Conventions & Events for his help with the function.

Our Master of Ceremonies was the very talented Frank Coletta from Network Ten, who did a masterful job keeping everyone updated and entertained (not only at our function but also as the on-course announcer) and we extend our sincere thanks to him.

The Sydney Cup Day Luncheon had various competitions being held throughout the day including the Best Hat, Best Tie and of course the very popular Tipping Competition.

Another feature on the day is the presentation of the Most Elegant Woman Award. Sponsored by Perri Cutten and Sharon Lenton Events and adjudicated on by Karenne Pfeiffer from Perri Cutten, this award was taken out by Kim Tymoc who was presented with a gift bag with a lovely assortment of goodies.

The Best Hat Competition, another highlight on the day, saw Kylie Pride selected as the winner by Sharon Lenton who kindly sponsored this competition in association with Perri Cutten.

Rounding off the 'Best of Competitions' was the Best Tie category with Mrs Frances Greene taking on the hard task of selecting the winner of this competition.

They say ladies fashion events are hard to judge but the gentlemen at the function truly excelled and in a very closely contested event, George Tymoc was announced as the winner. Congratulations to all winners.

But without a doubt the most popular competition on the day was the Tipping Competition and to assist the vast array of guests, we were most fortunate to have the



TOP: (L-R) Kim and George Tymoc, Kim and Christopher Norton  
ABOVE: Food wondrous food; part of the buffet luncheon  
BELOW: (L-R) Tony Brassel, Frank Coletta and Ray McDowell





TOP: Sharon Lenton (left) with Reiko Sekiguchi, Tsutomu Sekiguchi and Hideki Ono (Japan Racing Assoc) and Ray McDowell

LEFT: Ashley Johnson and Ken Callander 'queuing up' with their selections



best in the business: Tony Brassel, Ken Callander, Ashley Johnson (representing Henry Noonan Top Odds Racing & Sports) and Max Presnell as our guest tipsters for the afternoon.

Henry Noonan was also kind enough to provide bookmaking services for the function.

Our thanks to all the gentlemen and congratulations to Mrs Trish Ryan-Yates, winner of the competition.

Speaking of winners, the lucky raffle winners on the day were Warren Chalker (first prize), Ted and Vicki Humphreys (second prize) and Wade Gudgeon (third prize).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank ATC chairman, John Cornish, and CEO Darren Pearce, for addressing our guests and also to other members of the ATC Committee who called in during the afternoon.

My thanks also to Caroline Taylor for kindly taking the photographs which have appeared in this article.

So what makes this function so good? Is it the fantastic venue or perhaps the superb food and beverages?

Or is it simply that the function itself is so relaxed that it allows everyone to enjoy themselves? Probably all of the above applies.

The next event on NSWROA's calendar is our flagship event, and the NSW Racing Industry's Night of Nights, Racing's Night of Champions.

Racing's Night of Champions will be held in the Randwick Pavilion at Royal Randwick Racecourse this year on 11 August 2011.

NSWROA is proud to be supporting the Vincentian House KEEP Program, a Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW as our charity of choice at this year's event.

KEEP (Kids Engaged in Education Program) is underpinned by seven strategies that aim to break intergenerational cycle of poverty and disadvantage and offer a range of targeted support for children and young people who are staying at Vincentian House – a crisis accommodation and case management service for homeless families.

The event which is themed around 'The New Era in Racing' will showcase Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, the one and only Jimmy Barnes, as the feature artist for the evening.

Remember, save the date – Thursday, 11 August 2011.

For more information regarding the 2011 Racing's Night of Champions or if you are interested in becoming a member of NSW Racehorse Owners Association, contact the NSWROA office by telephone (02) 9299 4299, by email - [nswroa1@ozemail.com.au](mailto:nswroa1@ozemail.com.au) - or visit the NSWROA website - [www.nswroa.com.au](http://www.nswroa.com.au) **RNSW**