

# New location for Sydney Cup Day lunch

THE 2012 NSWROA SYDNEY CUP DAY LUNCHEON WAS HELD IN A MARQUEE THIS YEAR BUT THAT DIDN'T PREVENT THE 'HOUSE FULL' SIGN FROM BEING POSTED WORDS: SHARON HUNT (EXECUTIVE OFFICER – NSWROA)

Sydney Cup Day is always a very special day for the NSW Racehorse Owners Association.

The Association holds an annual Sydney Cup Day Luncheon and each year our members and guests assemble at Royal Randwick for this wonderful function.

As a result of the Randwick redevelopment work, our regular venue of the Vista Room in the Queen Elizabeth Stand was not available this year and hospitality options were very limited with only a small amount of marquee hospitality available.

Australian Turf Club kindly guaranteed the Association space in the Leger Lawn Marquee for our function which was very much appreciated.

I must say there were initially some reservations that the "new" location would impact on our numbers for the event but nothing could be further from the truth as the room was, to quote a popular saying, "packed to the rafters".

Another change to this year's event was the catering with gastronomy providing a fantastic array of food for the buffet-style function.

At this point I would like to extend our thanks to chef extraordinaire Kevin Low, our maitre d' Anthony Dean and also to Roger Brassington from the ATC Convention Centre for all his help with the function.

Our sincere thanks also to the very talented Christy Johns from Sky Racing who was in charge of the microphone for the afternoon and did a masterful job keeping everyone updated and entertained.

Apart from enjoying some wonderful racing, which I will write about later in this article, various competitions were held throughout the day including the Best Dressed Woman, Best Hat, Best Tie and the Tipping Competition.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank:-

- Sharon Lenton from Sharon Lenton Events for providing the prizes for the Best Dressed, Best Hat and Best Tie Competitions;

- Max Presnell, the racing guru from the Sydney Morning Herald for "trekking down to the marquee" to deliver valuable tipping advice to guests;



Christy Johns – the luncheon compere. Picture by Caroline Taylor

- Henry Noonan Top Odds Racing and Sports for “fielding” in the marquee and providing tipping advice;
- Ken Callander, from the Daily Telegraph for sending his tips to assist guests in the tipping competition; and
- Caroline Taylor for kindly taking the photographs which have appeared in this article.

Our lucky competition winners were Julie Steel (Best Dressed), Jane Pitman (Best Hat), Berman White (Best Tie), Anne Kelly (Tipping Competition) whilst Chris Bourne took out first prize in the raffle. Congratulations to all winners.

As readers are aware Sydney Cup Day is the last day of the BMW Sydney Carnival and it has been said that the fields this year were the best ever assembled for the day.

Not only was it a racing smorgasbord with four Group One races (the Champagne Stakes, the All Aged Stakes, the Queen Elizabeth Stakes and of course the Sydney Cup), a Group 2, a Group 3 and two Listed Races on the card, but we were also privileged to see, via the screens on-course, the incredible Black Caviar extending her winning streak to 20 wins in succession when she scored in the Gr 1-Robert Sangster Stakes at Morphettville.

Back in Sydney we were most fortunate indeed to see the wonderful Atlantic Jewel win with ease in the All Aged Stakes, More Joyous – our reigning Luxbet.com NSW Champion Horse of the Year – win the Queen Elizabeth Stakes and the fantastic Pierro, the undefeated two-year-old star of the season, complete the juvenile triple crown by scoring in the Champagne Stakes.

Success in the Sydney Cup went to Niwot, trained by Michael, Wayne & John Hawkes, from Efficient with Once Were Wild in third place.

Speaking of winners, our congratulations to the following NSWROA members who had Black Type winners on the day:-

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**Gr 1-ATC All Aged Stakes:**

Atlantic Jewel Mr L. Macri

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**Gr 1-ATC Champagne Stakes:**

Pierro Mr G. & Mrs D. Kolivos

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**LR-ATC Hall Mark Stakes:**

Tiger Tees (NZ) Mr N. Couper

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NSWROA members also recorded wins during the day at Newcastle (two winners) and Albury.

Whilst I am always reluctant to highlight one win over another, it would be remiss of me not to make special mention of Pierro who is owned by NSWROA members Greg and Donna Kolivos.

How good is this colt and what can I say about him that hasn't been said before? Probably nothing.

His win in the Champagne Stakes was simply awesome and brought the crowd to its feet and cheering with gay abandon.

He claimed the two-year-old triple crown with a dominance that has not been seen for some years.

In closing, my thanks to all who attended the NSWROA Sydney Cup Day Luncheon this year and I look forward



NSWROA President Ray McDowell with NSWROA Executive Officer Sharon Hunt and Sky Racing's Christy Johns. Picture by Caroline Taylor

to welcoming you to the 2013 function.

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

This year's gala event which features the 2012 NSW Racing Awards will be held at the Grand Pavilion at Rosehill Gardens Racecourse on Thursday, 16 August 2012 and it is themed "Where The Stars Align".

NSWROA is proud to be supporting the Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation (POWHF) as our charity of choice at this year's event.

POWHF is an established charitable organisation supporting and promoting research, education, health promotion and patient care for and at the Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick.

For more information regarding the 2012 Racing's Night of Champions or if you are interested in becoming a member of the NSW Racehorse Owners Association, simply 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**