



HAPPY HAWTHORN CHRISTMAS!!



A very Hawthorn Santa & Elf delivered Christmas wishes to a festive group of Thornbird Ladies and friends at our annual Christmas Party.

We enjoyed our "very special guests" and the opportunity for everyone to have their photos taken with our "Three-peat Cups".

Our Thornbird Committee, President Gaby, Secretary Robyne, Treasurer Lyn, Events coordinator Jas and Newsletter editor Di would like to thank our very loyal Thornbirds for supporting our functions so well this year. Once again you lovely ladies have donated a fantastic amount of food and gifts in support of St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Thank you to Alan Fraser and James Couzin-Wood for delivering our goodies to Vinnies.

OAKS DAY FUNCTION:

The Oaks Day function, held at the Box Hill Football Club Pavilion, was a most enjoyable, if somewhat long, afternoon. The major race, already scheduled for 4:45pm, was postponed until after 5:00pm due to very heavy rain! The day was the usual blend of food, chat and lots of sweeps under the firm guidance of Graham Arthur and Mike Derum, ably assisted by John Vincent and Ray Sutton. Many thanks to them for their unfailing support over many years.

Sarah Knights Appeal

Peter and Sarah Knights sent their thanks for the wonderful support the Thornbirds have provided to Sarah as she endeavours to beat Lyme disease. Sarah has improved and we wish her every success for the future.



Handing over the cheque to Peter for \$1000 from the second Blue Illusion night.

SPONSORED PLAYERS FOR 2016

*We are very happy to announce that once again we have secured **Jack Gunston** and **Matt Spangher** as our sponsored players for season 2016. We are also hoping to sponsor a third player.*

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR JAS!!!

Congratulations to Jasminka Paic on being appointed Life Membership to The Hawthorn Football Club – only the fourth woman to achieve this honour – well done Jas!!!

REMINISCING

At our final Coffee Morning for this year Marilyn Bartlett reminisced about her many years as a Hawthorn supporter. She escaped from a mostly Richmond barracking family by being taken to the football by her fanatically Hawthorn Auntie Olive. Her sister is also a Hawthorn supporter and with Cousin Di was one of the original Banner Squad members in the 1960's (OMG)!!! Marilyn actively participated in the "No Merger" movement shaking tins all round Waverley Park.



Congratulations to Ann Skelt on her October 31st marriage to Kevin Styles.

Along with his children they make a very happy Hawthorn family

THINKING OF YOU

It was great to see Judy Couzin-Wood at our Christmas party, on the mend after her very unfortunate accident.

Helen Greenfield has been extremely ill but is now in Donvale Rehab Hospital and hopes to be home for Christmas. We wish her all the best.

To our Thornbird Ladies – who are not feeling well at the moment we send our best wishes to you.

If you have any significant events in your life and would like to share in the Newsletter with your fellow Thornbirds (e.g. Special Birthday, Anniversary, New Grandchild, etc.) please contact Di McDonald.

Please contact Robyne Vincent if you know of any Thornbird who needs a cheer up.



Condolences to Natalie Perrin and Lyn and Olivea Sutton on the sad loss of Natalie's mother Di, sister to Lyn and aunt to Olivea.

UPCOMING THORNBIRDS DATES FOR 2016

DATE

VENUE – BOX HILL GOLF CLUB

We are in the process of arranging and confirming dates and venues for our Thornbird functions for the coming year.

Make a note that the first game in Tasmania is scheduled for Saturday 16th April 2016 and this will be our Thornbird Dinner night in Launceston – more details to follow.

Christmas Party is booked for Tuesday 6th December at Box Hill Golf Club.

***We extend our Christmas Wishes to you and yours for a Safe, Healthy and
Happy 2016
(Let's make it 4 cups in a row – GO HAWKS)***



LIFE AFTER FOOTBALL - MAX BAILEY'S STORY

After 10 years in the AFL environment I am stepping out and starting a new journey.

In February 2016 I will begin a six-month volunteer position with Future Warriors Project in Tanzania.

Future Warriors supports the Maasai people and communities throughout the east African country.

The Maasai in Tanzania are traditionally farmers but their land is continually being taken from them. Pressure from the government to abandon their traditional lifestyle and limited access to education due to language barriers means daily life for many Maasai is getting more difficult. The Maasai speak a language called Maa, which differs from Swahili - the main language in Tanzania.

My time in the country will be spent in Kitenden, a Maasai village in northern Tanzania near the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro. I will be teaching sport at a preschool run by Future Warriors and at the local primary school.

Why have I chosen this new path?

Playing and coaching football at the professional level has allowed me to be self-sufficient. Not everyone is as fortunate.

Inspired by a friend who volunteered at an orphanage in Tanzania, and armed with a desire to make a contribution to the lives of others and to get out of my comfort zone, I decided to embark on this volunteer project.

How can you help?

Over the coming months I will be fundraising to help Future Warriors Project assist more people. I would be very grateful if you wish to assist in any way, no matter how small the amount. Here is a brief outline of the projects your money would go towards:

- \$300 a year will put a child through preschool, providing them with meals and the resources required.*
- Future Warriors Project run this preschool and are wanting to expand the building to include a primary school. This will cost \$50,000.*
- They also plan to build a preschool in another Maasai village called Kiserian at a cost of \$13,500.*
- Finally, a Maasai community centre will cost \$60,000 to build and run for the first 2 years. This centre will be used to support Maasai people who have been forced to leave their homes, helping to connect and provide them with accommodation, education and employment.*

I look forward to making a difference with your help and sharing the progress of this journey with you!

If you would like to assist Max in these endeavours you can follow the link:

<http://www.chuffed.org/project/maxintanzania2016>

Gaby Warren: warrmmg@bigpond.net.au

Phone: 9561 5020

Robyne Vincent: robynevincent@live.com.au

Phone: 0408 853 073

Lyn Sutton: suttonfam@bigpond.com

Phone: 0409 863 211

Jas Paic: JasminkaP@hawthornfc.com.au

Phone: 0413 685 495

Di McDonald: dmc16676@bigpond.net.au

Phone: 0400 100 005



In house ladies group of the HFC

MEMBERSHIP for 2016 is \$35

Please post your payment with your completed membership application to:

The Thornbirds
P O Box 1319
MOUNTAIN GATE 3156

(Or bring to the next morning coffee if that is more convenient).

YOUR NAME:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

PHONE
NUMBERS: MOBILE

Suggestions for 2016, (we welcome your ideas and suggestions to improve events and membership. Remember you are the members!!!).....

.....

ENCLOSED: cheque/cash

Or bank transfer to The Thornbirds Committee BSB 033326 A/C 372622 please put your name on payment.

Date paid:
Rec No.