NEW SOUTH WALES MASONIC CLUB

CLUB CHAT

31 October 2026

Verdi in the City
A standing ovation in Cellos!

Verdi in the City, presented by The Opera Room on Sunday 18 October, was a tremendous success, with a full house enjoying a magnificent performance of highlights from Verdi's Don Carlo and Il Trovatore.

The outstanding soloists and 16-voice women's chorus filled Cellos with glorious music, with the chorus singing from the balcony providing one of the afternoon's most memorable moments. The performance concluded with an enthusiastic standing ovation from a delighted audience.

Soprano Louise Keast, who brought the production together, was full of praise for Cellos, describing it as the perfect venue for the concert. Audience feedback was equally glowing, particularly about the superb acoustics, comfortable seating, welcoming staff and the opportunity to enjoy a drink during the performance.

The concert also received a wonderful review in Limelight magazine, adding to the celebrations.

Our congratulations to Louise and everyone at The Opera Room for such an exceptional performance, and special thanks to our team for helping make the afternoon such a success.

With requests already being expressed for another concert next year, we certainly look forward to welcoming The Opera Room back to Cellos!

Full house for our theatre debut

What a wonderful start to live theatre in the King George Room!

Our first theatrical production, The Good Soldier Švejk, presented by Scene Theatre Sydney, has been a remarkable success, with all five performances selling out before the season even began. With around 90 audience members at each performance, that's approximately 450 theatregoers enjoying this new chapter in the Club's entertainment program.

Opening night brought a lively audience to the King George Room, including a number of theatre critics who have written rave reviews

The production marks an exciting new use for the King George Room, now equipped with a dedicated stage, and demonstrates the wonderful potential of this intimate space for live theatre

Congratulations to Carol Dance and the team at Scene Theatre Sydney for an outstanding show, and thank you to everyone who has supported this exciting new venture at the Club.

The Ionians Celebrate 50 Years of Friendship

The Sydney 76 Ionian Club recently celebrated its 50th anniversary in Cellos, marking five decades of friendship, fun and connection.

Established in 1976, the Ionians welcome women from all walks of life, bringing together both long-time Sydney residents and newcomers through a wonderful variety of social activities, from mahjong and book clubs to cultural outings and shared lunches.

The group has a special connection with the Club, holding its monthly daytime meetings and lunches in Cellos at 10am on the 4th Wednesday of each month for many years.

It was a pleasure to host this milestone celebration, and we extend our warmest congratulations to the Ionians on 50 wonderful years of friendship and community!

New members are always welcome! To find out more email **sydney76@ionians.net**.

Happy 90th Birthday John!

There was a very special celebration in the Adam Room recently as RW John Joseph Moore AM, a mason for 70 years, former Club Director and Vice President, marked his 90th birthday!

Numerous family and friends gathered to celebrate this wonderful milestone, complete with balloons, a magnificent birthday cake specially prepared by our talented culinary team.

It was a lovely occasion and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate John, who has generously contributed so much to the Club over the years.

Friendship and Fellowship - Our Seniors Association

The NSW Masonic Club Seniors Association provides a wonderful opportunity for members to enjoy friendship, fellowship and regular social gatherings at the Club.

Open to all Masons aged 55 and over, the Association brings members together for monthly meetings, interesting guest speakers and a chance to catch up over lunch.

Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 11.30am in the Castlereagh Room on Level 2, followed by lunch at 12.30pm.

New members are warmly welcomed! For more information or to join, contact Mark Black, Honorary Secretary, on 0438 434 456 or email **nswmasonicclub.seniorsassoc@gmail.com**.

Lest We Forget - Remembrance Day at the Club

Wednesday 11 November
Lunch in Cellos 12pm | Service in Reagh Bar at 2.30pm

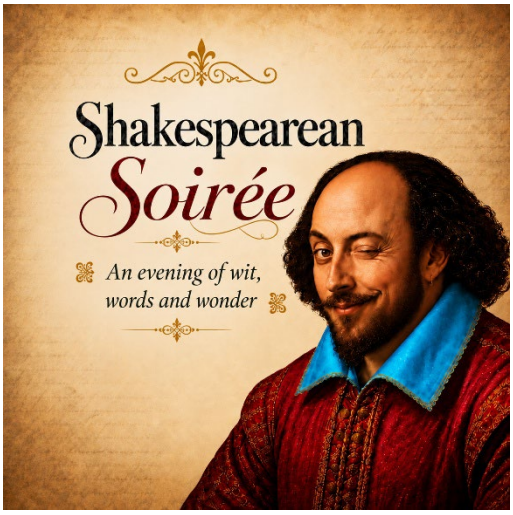
Remembrance Day holds a special place in the Club's calendar, providing an opportunity to come together to honour and remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

Members and guests are warmly invited to join us for our traditional three-course Remembrance Day Lunch in Cellos Grand Ballroom, followed by a commemorative service in Reagh Bar at 2.30pm followed by refreshments.

Tickets: $70 per person + booking fee.

Book on our website or call Rita on 9284 1006.

Shakespeare comes to the Club



Saturday 5 December, Two performances - 3.00pm & 7.00pm | King George Room

We're delighted to welcome **Scene Theatre Sydney** back to the King George Room in December with another theatrical treat - **Shakespearean Soirée**.

Joining forces with Jo Bloom and Charles Mayer of **Come You Spirits**, together with their son Harley, this intimate and entertaining production brings Shakespeare's wit, words and wonderful characters vividly to life.

From the mischief of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and the romance of *Romeo and Juliet* to the verbal sparring of *The Taming of the Shrew*, expect a lively journey through some of the Bard's best-loved works, with plenty of comedy, passion and surprises along the way.

And you certainly don't need to be a Shakespearean scholar to enjoy it! The performance unfolds around the audience, offering a wonderfully engaging way to experience Shakespeare up close – with no audience participation required.

Tickets: Adults $60 | Seniors/Concessions $45 | Under 18 $30 | Family (2 adults + 2 students) $150

Make an evening of it! The Alcoves will be serving dinner, perfect for dining after the afternoon performance or before the evening show.

Other Upcoming Events

Melbourne Cup Lunch in Cellos

When: 12.30pm, Tuesday 3 November
Price: $110 per person + booking fee
Glass of sparkling and canapé on arrival with a 3-course lunch.
Very few seat remaining!

Cluedunnit Murder Mystery Dinner Cocktail of Murder

When: 6.30pm, 21 November
Price: $175 per person + booking fee
Includes a 3-course meal + show

American Thanksgiving Lunch

When: 12pm, Thursday 26 November
Price: $65 per person + booking fee
Includes a 2-course traditional lunch in Alcoves
Almost sold out

Trivia Nights

When: Every 1st, 2nd, 4th Thursday 6pm
Where: Reagh Bar - Free entry, food available

Christmas Day Lunch

When: 12pm, Friday 25 December, Cellos
Price: $199 per person + booking fee, children welcome. Includes a 3-course meal, live music and a visit from Santa.

Dancing Queen - The ABBA Tribute Show

When: 6.30pm, Saturday 10 April 2027
Details and tickets coming soon.

Chapel Row Jazz

When: Live jazz every Friday 7pm - 10pm
Where: Reagh Bar – Free entry, food available

The Gentlemen Magician

When: Every Friday night from 7pm
Price: $54.95 + booking fee
Join highly acclaimed gentleman magician **Bruce Glen** for an intimate evening of magic and illusion

Book events through the hotel website at **www.thecastlereagh.com.au** or call **9284 1006 or 9284 1007**.