

AUSTRALIA BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT

2019

Our Annual Lunch was held on Tuesday 30th April 2019. The lunch was held at our usual venue at Long Reef Golf Club, on the Northern Beaches of Sydney and the weather was, as always, perfect. The attendees were (from right to left) Hamish Clark, Brian Hunter, Ron Gardiner, Sandy Hinshelwood, Ian Anderstrem and me. We greatly appreciated Ron Gardiner travelling from Brisbane and Brian from Hong Kong for the lunch, but we were even more impressed with Hamish travelling all the way from Glasgow. Hamish had only arrived the day before in Sydney on a 2 year work assignment so we were particularly delighted to welcome a new face to our gathering.



Apologies were received from Nick Crombie, John Hare, Mark Coyle and Ian Johnston.

During the lunch Sandy (Lion 437) was proud to display his Lions commemoration cap and photographs. He also had a wonderful time in Cape Town at the the 50th anniversary celebrations of the 1968 Lions Tour and was a guest of honour at the Test Match between South Africa and England last June.



This was the 'youngest' lunch in many years with two 1978 leavers and one from 1977 and the conversation turned to exploits at Carbisdale during our 3rd year. Hamish regaled us with a story of his time as house leader when they had smuggled a case of beer into their dormitory. On returning from a field trip one afternoon they found the beer had disappeared and guessed that the staff had confiscated it. He made a damage limitation move by going to the staffroom to own up. The door was opened by Eddie Heinman, the PE teacher, and Hamish made his confession. Eddie told him to wait there whilst he discussed the matter with the other teachers (who by now were probably enjoying the beer!). After a very long wait, Clem Bell (the deputy head) came to the door and said that after due consideration they had decided not to take any disciplinary steps, but if he ever told anyone the story and Clem got to hear of it then he would be expelled immediately. One can only imagine the fun the teachers had on this occasion. Hamish has kept the story a secret for 45 years and only told us as he felt that the statute of limitations had probably passed!

We are still very keen to contact any members who have moved to Australia so if you know anyone, please ask them to get in touch with me.

Graeme Reid