

The Rhein-Donau Club Inc.

Issue 6, December/January 2026

Klub Nachrichten Club Magazine

German Speaking Club Since 1958



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

and a

Happy New Year



Mika and our Mercedes Truck

Öffnungszeiten/ Opening Hours

Office:	Monday - Friday	10:00 am to 3:00pm
	CLOSED 20/12/2025-11/01/2026 (Monday)	
Bar*:	Wednesday	6:00pm to 10:00pm
	Thursday	6:00pm to 10:00pm
	Friday	6:00pm to 10:30pm
	Saturday**	6:00pm to 11:00pm
	Sunday	4:00pm to 8:30pm
	CLOSED 20/12/2025 (Saturday) - 14/01/2026 (Wednesday)	
Kitchen*:	Wednesday	6:00pm to 9:00pm
	Thursday	6:00pm to 9:00pm
	Friday	6:00pm to 9:00pm
	Saturday**	6:00pm to 10:00pm
	Sunday	4:00pm to 8:00pm
	CLOSED 20/12/2025 (Saturday) - 14/01/2026 (Wednesday)	



* please note opening times may vary for special occasions
** on Saturdays we have entertainment and possibly charge a small cover fee

Welcome to our new members!

Brad Lisak, Nicolas Spadaccini, Allister Williams, Dave Metcalfe, Katie Marsh, Annette Snook-Zacher, David Zacher, Tomislav Sostaric, Iris Evans



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Die wiedergegebenen Meinungen in diesem Magazin entsprechen nicht notwendigerweise denen des Klubs oder der Redaktion, sondern denen der jeweiligen Autoren.

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Club or the editor but those of the respective authors.

Rhein-Donau Club Committee 2025/26

President	Steve Schlegel	0434 269 944
Vice President	not filled	
Secretary	Pamela Millar	0421 970 089
Vice Secretary	Maria Forbrig	0469 575 502
Treasurer	Martin Engel	0447 038 784
Vice Treasurer	David Ramsay	0419 695 234
Cellar Master	David Vieceli	0438 755 156
Entertainment Manager	Brian Muir	0407 479 513
Maintenance Coordinator	Jamie Frost (Frosty)	0422 212 147
Extra Committee	Julianne Pulver	0401 685 268
	Hermine Wagner	0437 711 127

Trustees: Jeff Cadzow, Debbie Solomon, Stephen Brown, Kelly Hanson

Club Manager | Website | Club Magazine | Accounts: Petra Weiss

Office Admin | Social Media | Grants | Bookings: Annette Guttman



Note from the Editor

Dear RDC members, this magazine is here for all members to share their stories and experiences. This is what brings the magazine to life. Therefore we welcome your contributions for the next issue, February/March 2026. Entry deadline for the issue is **Friday 9 January 2026**, please send your contribution to **accounts@rheindonau.com.au**

Aktivitäten / Groups at the Club

Group and Group Leader	Phone	Meeting Times
<u>Billiard (Snooker)</u> Paul Muckett	0417 918 309	Weds & Fri 7pm
<u>Edelweiss Dance Group</u> David Viecei	0438 755 156	Sun from 5-7
<u>Model Railway</u> Bret Hummel	0412 939 699	Fridays from 6pm
<u>Perth Miniature Gamers</u> Michael Lancaster	400 362 444	Wednesdays from 6pm
<u>Pistol Club</u> Kym Minnis Murray Bow	0434 220 589 0424 160 750	Thursdays from 5pm Sundays from 4pm
<u>Eagle Eye Air Rifle Group</u> Jeff Cadzow	0412 381 373	Fridays from 7pm
<u>Folksingers</u> Irene Harrop	0488 585 850	Fridays 1:30pm to 3pm
<u>Senior Group</u> Rita Zeller	0419 331 601	Fortnightly on a Wednesday from 10am to 1pm
<u>Table Tennis Group</u> Debbie Solomon	0427 354 153	Tuesdays from 7pm
<u>WA Mandolin Orchestra</u> Ana Milas	0412 227 484	Weds from 7:30pm to 9:30pm
<u>WA Brick Society</u> Kelly Hanson	0438 593 646	every 3rd Weds/Month (Ladies) every 4th Weds/Month
<u>WA Strategy Boardgamers</u> Greg Colgan	0424 109 976	Every last Sunday per month 10am to 4pm
<u>Neerlandia</u> John Zwartkruis	0434 920 252	Seniors/Bingo/other events please call John for more info



Graham Thomas

23/12/1948 - 7/10/2025

We share with great sorrow the passing of Graham Thomas, beloved partner of Julie Patchett, father of Jason, Brent, A'mee and Dylan, and stepfather of Katrina Patchett.

Graham was a dear member and co-principal of Dancepower at the Rhein-Donau Club for 26 years. Graham was 76 years old.

Graham enjoyed an unparalleled competitive career. He was 6 times undefeated Australian professional New Vogue champion and finalist in the Australian professional Ballroom and Latin styles for many years.

He trained numerous Ballroom dancing champions to become Australian champions from all age groups and levels from juvenile, junior, youth, adult and professional sections.

Graham was a mentor to so many dancers. He was a coach and adjudicator and trained many amateurs and professionals over the years for their coaching and adjudicating diplomas.

He will be remembered for his great contribution to dance Australia-wide, his mentorship, his passion, pursuit of excellence and generosity of spirit. He had a special way of making everyone feel seen and valued.

Graham will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

A memorial was held for him at Dancepower on 28th October, followed by a celebration of his life at the Club.



Helmut Watzek

1932 - 13 October 2025



Helmut was one of our longest members of the Club, though not active any more for many years.

Helmut was RDC Vice President in 1974, 1977 and 1978. In 1978 and 1979 he acted as Group Leader of the Edelweiss Dance Group after being a passive member of the group for many years. He donated a Honer Accordeon and the EDG banner to the group.

Helmut helped to create the 20 year anniversary publication of the Rhein-Donau Club Magazine in 1978 (we have included an original article from him about the Dance Group in this magazine), and he was an active member of our then still existing Karnevals Group and Theater Group. In 1977 he was the main organizer for our Oktoberfest. From 1985 to 1987 he was the Secretary of the Club, and was awarded Life Membership in 1993.

Helmut will be sadly missed by many. May he rest in peace.

Susan Ford

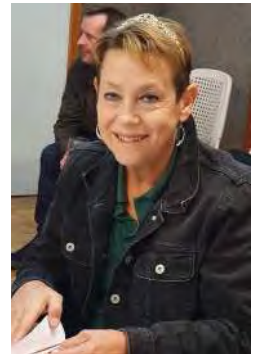
28/9/1966 - 3/11/2025

Susan joined the Club and the Eagle Eye Air Rifle Group in 2020 with her family and quickly became a valued part of our Shooting Club. She wasn't much of a shot, as she would cheerfully admit, but she still managed to be our Schützenkönigin in 2024, and I must say she wore the coronet with pride.

Susan was a true Club member, and for several years now, she organised and purchased all the prizes for all of our Oktoberfest events and many of our Club events. I believe that she really enjoyed being part of our community.

Her passing was unexpected and has come as a great shock. We will miss her greatly.

Jeff Cadzow, Group Leader Eagle Eye Air Rifle Group



President's Report

Dear Members,

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of three valued members of our community.

Our member and dance icon **Graham Thomas** from Dance Power passed away recently. Our deepest condolences go to Julie and Katrina Patchett, the extended family, and all members of Dance Power.

We also mourn the loss of **Susan Ford** from the Eagle Eye Air Rifle Group, who left us far too soon, as well as Life Member **Helmut Watzek**. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to their families, friends, and all who knew and admired them.

Oktoberfest 2025

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all members who volunteered and supported Oktoberfest 2025.

The event was an enormous success once again, with plenty of positive feedback from our guests.

The festivities were officially opened on 3 October 2025 by the Mayor of Melville, Katy Mair. A special highlight was seeing our young member Mika drive our brand-new Mercedes truck to deliver the first Oktoberfest barrel for the keg tapping. Despite a few technical hiccups—accompanied by good humour—we managed to get the beer flowing, and I promise we will refine the process for next year!

This year we sold 170 x 50ltr kegs (8500 ltr) of beer, 6,320 Schnapps shots, and our model railway trains travelled an impressive 760 real kilometres.

The Edelweiss Dance Group once again did a fantastic job entertaining our guests with their traditional dances, bell ringing, wood chopping, and beer stein holding competitions. It was wonderful to see Hermine back on the dance floor. Thank you.

Our traditional Brass Band performed on several evenings and proudly displayed the original Rhein-Donau Brass Band banners they rediscovered—something that brought joy to many. Our thanks also go to Best Friends, DJ Brian, and Mercury, who kept guests entertained throughout

their respective performances.

The Eagle Eye Air Rifle Group was, as always, exceptionally busy and successfully implemented the new government regulations and requirements. Thank you.

The Miniature Railway Group showcased another impressive display, including the new harbour section, which was greatly enjoyed by guests. Thank you.

Our Kitchen Chef Bobby ensured smooth operations with excellent staffing and efficient service. We received many positive comments about the food, especially the Pork Knuckle and RDC Feast Platters. Thank you.

The bars were expertly managed by Kellermeister David and his dedicated team, both in the cool room and front-of-house. Thank you.

A special thank you also goes to our Club Manager Petra Weiss for her exceptional commitment at the entry and for overseeing the overall organisation of Oktoberfest.



Our Members' Meeting held on 16 November 2025 unfortunately did not reach the quorum required. We kindly remind all members of the importance of attending these meetings to support the future of our Club.

We now look forward to a joyful Christmas season and to commencing the renovation works for the Edelweiss Hall Bar.

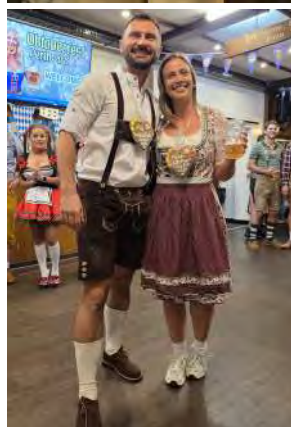
I hope to see many of you at our Christmas functions and wish you all a "Guten Rutsch" into 2026.

Steve Schlegel, President



Rückblicke Oktoberfest











What's on in December 2025

*Introductory Membership
still applies to all Non-
Members, see website

HAPPY HOUR
Sundays 5 - 6pm

Edelweiss Bar + Hall are being renovated.
Bar Service will be available through Karl's Bar

Sat 6 Easy Pickin's - Acoustic Duo

Free Entry* - Doors open 6pm

Sun 7 St. Nikolaus - Kinder Christmas
2-8pm

Sat 13 Club Christmas 6 pm

Last day Bar | Restaurant on Friday 19 Dec 2025
Re-opens Wednesday 14 Jan 2026

Office closure from Monday 22 Dec 2025
Re-opens Monday 12 Jan 2026



Rhein-Donau Club
Oktoberfestperth

www.rheindonau.com.au
9330 6488 for enquiries
108 North Lake Road, Myaree



What's on in January / February 2026

*Introductory Membership
applies to all Non-Members,
see website

HAPPY HOUR
Sundays 5 - 6pm

Edelweiss Bar + Hall are being renovated.
Bar Service will be available through Karl's Bar

January

Office re-opens Monday 12 Jan 2026

Bar and Restaurant open again from

*Wednesday 14 Jan 2026 onwards, normal hours**

No events planned in January

Sat 31 Private Event (Club Closed)



February

Sat 14 Karneval
Sun 15 Kinder Karneval



Rhein-Donau Club
Oktoberfestperth

www.rheindonau.com.au
9330 6488 for enquiries
108 North Lake Road, Myaree



Childrens Nikolaus Party

Childrens Craft Activities, Games and a visit from St. Nicholas

Sunday 7th of December 2025
2pm- 8pm

**Member Families FREE,
Guest Families \$20**

**Family = up to 2 adults plus children.
Additional guests \$5 p/p**



**Please register your child/ren by
calling the office on 9330 6488 -
Mon to Fri 10am to 3pm**

***please provide a clearly labelled
present for
each child. Only registered
children can attend.**



Rhein-Donau Club

Oktoberfestperth 110 North Lake Road, Myaree

www.rheindonau.com.au

9330 6488 for enquiries



Club Christmas Party

Saturday 13 December 2025

Doors open 6 pm

Music by Rhythm Deluxe

Visit from Santa

Lucky Door Prizes

Members \$5, Guests \$10

Please book by calling the

office on 9330 6488

Mon to Fri 10am to 3pm

**www.rheindonau.com.au
9330 6488 for enquiries
110 North Lake Road, Myaree**



**German Club Perth
Oktoberfestperth**





Christmas Party Menu

Starter \$20 each

*Ham Hock Terrine, Pineapple Jelly, Charred Pineapple, Toast and Parmesan

*Smoked Salmon & Cream Cheese Roulade

*Classic Beef Croquette, Small Salad, Romanesco Dip

Main

*Tuscan Spiced Oven Roasted Chicken Supreme, Pea & Saffron Risotto, Chorizo Oil \$34

*Slow Braised Feather Blade, Dauphinoise Potato, Baby Veg (can be DF) \$35

*Confit Duck Leg, Dauphinoise Potato, Baby Veg, Morello Cherry Jus (can be DF) \$37

*Grilled Atlantic Salmon, Pea & Saffron Risotto, Salsa Verde \$35

*Mushroom Wellington, Potato Bravas, Summer Salad (Vegan) \$32

Dessert

*Apple Strudel Vanilla custard \$12

*Black Forest Cake \$8

*Chewy Chocolate Brownie with Vanilla Ice-cream \$10





DANCEPOWER
PRESENTS



CHRISTMAS GALA



20th of December 2025

110 NORTH LAKE ROAD, MYAREE
FROM 7pm 'TIL LATE



Champagne on arrival



A fully catered roast
Christmas meal



Dancing • Shows • Prizes

\$120 PER PERSON

Contact Julie - 0433 088 180

DM TO BOOK





SAT
DECEMBER
6TH
2025
7PM

DOORS
OPEN 6PM

ACOUSTIC DUO
EASY
PICKIN'S



Dance

Restaurant and Bar open from 6pm
108-110 North Lake Road, MYAREE WA 6154
9330 6488 admin@rheinidonau.com.au



Introductory
Membership for
Non-Members
Applies
see website

*Wir wünschen allen unseren Mitgliedern
ein gesegnetes Weihnachtsfest
und einen guten Rutsch ins Neue Jahr!*

*We wish all our members a
Merry Christmas and
a great start into the New Year!*



President
Committee
Club Manager



December Special Menu

because it's Christmas!

from Wednesday 3.12. until
Friday 19.12.

Pre-order only

2 course meal \$48

3 course meal \$58

Choose from the following:

Starter

- *Smoked Salmon & Cream Cheese Roulade
- *Classic Beef Croquette, Small Salad, Romanesco Dip

Main

- *Tuscan Spiced Oven Roasted Chicken Supreme, Pea & Saffron Risotto, Chorizo Oil
- *Slow Braised Feather Blade Beef, Dauphinoise Potato, Baby Veg (can be DF)

Dessert

- *Apple Strudel with Vanilla custard
- *Black Forest Cake



WA Brick Society Members Shine at Bricktober and Beyond

It has been a busy and exciting few months for the members of the WA Brick Society, with builders hard at work preparing for one of the biggest events of the year, Bricktober 2025, held on the 11 and 12 of October. Their dedication and creativity paid off, with several members taking home top honours across a range of categories.

Tony Slater impressed the crowds with his Big LEGO Robot and Space Station, earning the coveted People's Choice Award. **Aaron Gibson** took home the President's Choice Award for his beautifully detailed Vintage Winery, while Braith Garden received the G Award, presented by the LEGO Masters Judge, for his imaginative Robot Repair Shop.



Other members showcased an incredible variety of displays, including:

- Spud, with his spectacular It's All Mine display featuring moving dump trucks and machinery in motion



- Stephen Slaney, with his collection of Star Wars figures
- Liam Phillips, with his creative LEGO artworks
- Peter Meadwell, with his tropical-themed Castaways Beach II
- Chris McRae, with his nostalgic LPs in LEGO
- James Lucas, with his whimsical Fairy Garden
- Rod Iseppi, with his dazzling Crystal Cave
- Jasper Greenhill, with Aperture Science inspired by the Portal universe
- Gabby Adams, with her stunning Marksburg Castle
- Sue-Ann Charlton, with the PLUG's Group Hospital display
- Graeme Price, with his Western Train display, along with a special mention to his granddaughter for her colourful Tinsel Town creation and not to forget

Jude Wright and crew with the incredible Great Ball Contraption GBC display.

The fun did not stop there. The following weekend, **Jodie Sparks** once again supported Telethon for her work with Wheels for Hope, running the club's Fat Cat Mosaic for kids to build while set up in the city on Sunday for Telethon. It was a wonderful way to share the joy of LEGO with the wider community while raising awareness for a great cause.



WA Brick Society members Aaron Gibson, Spud, Steve, Robert and David Tidman also continued their long-standing involvement with NAWIC, the National Association of Women in Construction, on the 2 of November, marking over five years of support for women in the construction industry. Members displayed LEGO Construction sets and helped kids get hands-on with LEGO building activities throughout the morning. Later that day, the club returned to the Rhein Donau Club for Family Day, with more displays and creative activities for all ages to enjoy.

To finish off a fantastic year, the WA Brick Society will be at the Claremont Carols in the Park on the 13 of December, with special Christmas-themed LEGO characters on display and plenty of LEGO play activities for the kids to enjoy.



We are also thrilled to welcome some new members who have joined both the Rhein Donau Club and the WA Brick Society. A warm welcome to **Tamara Watson, Courtney Ferguson, Tony Slater, James Lucas, Stephen Slaney, Jennifer Heart, and Lawrie George**. We are excited to have you all as part of our LEGO community.

Kelly Hanson
WA Brick Society

Table Tennis Group

After another successful Oktoberfest we are back to our normal table set up on a Tuesday night. A few of our boys enjoyed the Oktoberfest festivities, Dave looks particularly happy. We now have ducted air-conditioning in the sports hall so playing over summer will be much more enjoyable.

Our Christmas breakup will be on Tuesday 16 December and we will play first then enjoy a bit of festive cheer with a few drinks and some nibbles. Our Tuesday night table tennis will resume on Tuesday 27 January 2026. The shed is available over the break for our members. If you don't have the code just ring Dave 0419695234 or myself 0427354153. Wishing all our members and their families a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Debbie Solomon
Group Leader



Edelweiss Dance Group



Hello to all Members,

The Edelweiss Dance Group has had an exciting few weeks - we performed at the WA Multicultural Festival in Elizabeth Quay in Perth alongside 10 other Countries as well as the Wadjuk Noongar Dances. It was a grand spectacle seeing all the different costumes and dances. I personally think we performed terrific on a floating barge, something different!

The Dance Group also performed at the Jacaranda Festival in Applecross where we closed the festival.

We will be having a well earned break over the summer and be back practising hard in February
So from myself and the Edelweiss Dance Group we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a joyful happy New Year!

So till next time – Wir sehen uns im Club

David Viecele
Group Leader

History - Die Edelweiss Tanzgruppe

written 1978 by Helmut Watzek, Gruppenleiter "Edelweiss Dancers"

DIE EDELWEISS TANZGRUPPE

Mit dem Ziel, die Bayrisch-Oesterreichische Tradition des Schuhplattlers und Volkstanzes zu erhalten, wurde im September 1960 von einer kleinen Gruppe von Klubmitgliedern die erste Tanzgruppe des Rhein Donau Klubs gegründet.

Die ersten TÄnzer dieser Gruppe waren:

Pepi Krivda & Hartha Gaudlitz
Steve Wallner & Anni Krispiar

mit Erich Schmollengruber am Akkordeon.

Der Name der Gruppe: "Die gemütlichen Edelweisser".

Eine Menge Schwierigkeiten und Probleme waren zu Überwinden bis endlich im Jahre 1965 die Tanzgruppe mit 15 Mitgliedern als selbstverwaltende Gruppe vom Klub bestätigt wurde.

Im Dezember 1967 war dann der erste grosse Auftritt ausserhalb des Klubs. Die TÄnzer traten im Fernsehen des Channel 9 auf. Wieder waren Probleme zu bewältigen bis endlich die Gruppenstatuten ausgearbeitet waren und die Tanzgruppe mit ihren neuen Statuten und dem neuen Namen "Edelweisser" im September 1969 vom Klub bestätigt wurden.

Wieder ein Rückschlag: Unlösbare Probleme führten zur Auflösung der "Edelweisser" als selbstverwaltende Gruppe des Klubs.

Trotzdem versuchte eine Handvoll von Idealisten die Tanzgruppe am Leben zu erhalten.

Diese harte Arbeit wurde im April 1974 gekrönt mit der Bildung der "Edelweiss Tanzgruppe", unter der Leitung von Dieter Dücke.

Seitdem ist es trotz vieler Probleme immer aufwärts gegangen. Die Mitgliederzahl beträgt heute 40 Personen, von denen 16 bis 18 aktive TÄnzer sind. Die Musik macht unser Akkordeonspieler Mario De Reggi der auch von Anfang an dabei war.

Inzwischen haben wir mit anderen Tanzgruppen deutschsprechender Klubs Verbindung aufgenommen.

Der Erfolg unserer TÄnzer beim Festival in Brisbane zu Ostern 1978 hat bewiesen, dass sich harte Arbeit lohnt.

Unsere "Edelweiss Dancers" sind nun zu einem festen Bestandteil des Kulturgeschehens in West Australien geworden. Auftritte in vielen Orten des Landes sogar bis Mt. Newman sind keine Seltenheit mehr.

Momentan baut die Tanzgruppe das "Alte Haus" um. Diese Arbeit wird von Tanzgruppenmitgliedern und deren Freunden auf freiwilliger Basis geleistet und ist nun fast fertiggestellt.



THE EDELWEISS DANCERS.



Von links nach rechts oben: Rinnie Zwartkruis, Michael Merkel, Heinz Kuziw, Dieter Ducke, Peter Hansen, Lucien Bouley of USS Midway, Colin Shurlock, Hans Nimmerrichter, Bill Mellor. Von links nach rechts unten: Richard Wröbel, Tessa Merkel, Heidi Kuziw, Del Nistelberger, Sigi Ducke, Regina Kais, Pat Mellor, Jenny Liebinger, Julie Kais, Helmut Watzek, Margaret Shurlock, Knieend: Joan Gleeson & Mario De Reggi.

Unser nächster Höhepunkt ist die Vorbereitung des nächsten Volkstanzfestivals, welches Ostern 1979 in unserem Klub stattfinden wird und zu dem hoffentlich alle deutschen und Österreichischen Tanzgruppen Australiens teilnehmen können.

Zum Abschluss möchte ich dem Vorstand und den Mitgliedern des Rhein Donau Klubs für die Unterstützung der Tanzgruppe danken, die uns zuteil wurde.

Helmut Watzek
Gruppenleiter "Edelweiss Dancers"

JANSSEN + MALUGA LEGAL

German-Australian Law Firm



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Legal Practitioner Director

Solicitor – Rechtsanwalt/German Lawyer

Fachanwalt für Strafrecht/Accredited

Specialist for German Criminal Law

Dr Gabriele Maluga, L.L.B.

Director – Company Secretary

Solicitor - Rechtsanwältin/German Lawyer

Fachanwältin für Strafrecht/Accredited

Specialist for German Criminal Law



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- Criminal Law - Strafrecht
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