



**The Danish Club Ltd. Sydney**  
P.O. Box 38, Collaroy Beach NSW 2097  
**Club Phone:** 0410 619 248  
**E-mail:** sydney@danishclub.com.au  
**Website:** <http://www.danishclub.com.au>

# NewsFlash November 2013

## Presidents Corner

It is time for me to give you, members and friends of the Danish Club Ltd, an update on what the sitting Committee has been looking into since its election back in November 2012.

For the benefit of everyone, new and old friends of the Club, let me start by recapturing why we sold the Club House in June 2012 and how we have moved on from there.

### Why did we sell the Club House?

The Club House was jointly owned by the Danish Club and the Swedish Club (70.3% Danes, 29.7% Swedes). The Club House was located on leased Crown land with the lease expiring in July 2020. Upon expiry of the lease the Club House and all facilities on the land would default to the NSW Government. Hence, in essence the value of the Club House to us would have to be depreciated to nil\$ by July 2020.

Moreover, we faced a number of significant repair/maintenance jobs on the Club House in the near term whilst other expenditures such as annual lease fees, insurance costs, and Council fees continued to escalate. The associated financial burden on the two small Clubs, the Danish and the Swedish Clubs, was judged to be excessive and we agreed that it was best to sell the Club House and transfer the Crown Lease as soon as possible; with 10 years remaining on the lease we could secure a reasonable price for the Club House. The Club House was sold to the Ararat Cultural and Sports Association in June 2012. Today the Danish Club is debt free and we have \$40,000 in the bank.

### The new Committee

At the AGM in Nov 2012 six old time members of the Club were elected to form the new Committee. The Committee quickly formulated its primary agenda and action plan for 2013: Redesign and contract for a new web site, continue the collaboration with the Swedish Clubs via Scandinavian Association, and clarify how the Club can be structured to become relevant and appealing to young Danish families and recent arrivals in Sydney.

Unfortunately, two members of the Committee moved away from Sydney in 2013 (one back to Denmark), and other members of the Committee have been travelling overseas extensively. These circumstances made it difficult for the remaining Committee to resource and execute the above plan. However, it was great to meet up with numerous members and friends of the Danish Club at the Eurofest on 14th September. Thank you for your feedback.

### What is next?

The AGM 2013 will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November in the Austrian Club house. For directions and facilities see the web link: <http://www.austrianclubsydney.com/>. We hope young Danish families and recent arrivals in Sydney will join the arrangement. The average age of the sitting Committee is over 60 years. We know that our interests and circumstances have changed since we began in the Club when our kids were young. Hence, we believe the next generation must be encouraged to participate - to set Club activities in accordance with their key interests and social priorities. At the AGM, we will encourage a discussion in relation to attracting renewed involvement from younger Danes and Danish families in Sydney.

Jan Stampe Rasmussen  
President