

Hinterlandgrapevine Online

A brief insight into the history of Maleny & District and other things..

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The inaugural Sportsman's Dinner of the M.D.S.& R.C. Inc.

The Maleny District Sports and Recreation Club held its inaugural Sportsman's Dinner at the Maleny Show Pavilion on February 28th, 2009.

This is bound to be the first of a new Maleny District tradition judging from the response received from those who attended this inaugural dinner.

The night saw nearly 300 attend and they enjoyed a great night of fun, reminiscence and friendship.

This night's support shows that the Sports Club has a great following in Maleny and from this start there is sure to be a very positive future for sport and recreational clubs in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland area.

Representatives from the various organisations attended and brought with them some history of their organisation in the form of photographs.

A multimedia display of those photographs brought back memories of days long past.

A number of those attending have been involved in sport in Maleny for over 50 years.

Guest Speaker for the night was Kev Bartlett. Kev is patron of the M.D.S.A.R.C. Inc and now a Maleny District resident. Kev was well known and respected in the Australian Motor Racing scene for over 30 years starting in the late 1950's. He published his autobiography entitled "Big Rev Kev" was published in 1983.

Kev Bartlett first arrived on the Australian racing scene in 1958 when he competed in the Touring Car Scratch Race at Bathurst, driving a 950cc Morris Minor.

Over the next few years, Bartlett progressed through the levels of Australian motor-sport before his big break came when he was hired to drive for 1960 Australian Grand Prix winner Alec Mildren in the Tasman Series of open wheel racing.

In 1970, Bartlett competed in the Indy Car series in the U.S.A.

Bartlett was co-driver to John Goss in the 1973 Bathurst 1000 but failed to finish. In the following year he won the event bringing the Goss Falcon home with a memorable drive in the rain.

Kev gained notoriety during the Bathurst race in 1982 crashing his famous Channel 9-sponsored Chevrolet Camaro on the entrance to Griffin's Bend.



John Goss' 1974 Falcon



Local sport legend, Vince Carbery receiving an award.

One such member, Vince Carbery, well known local identity and teacher to a number of generations of Maleny students has been involved in a number of sports, both as a player and coach. He shared this award with Len Lowe who also excelled and played cricket for over 50 years.

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Whilst the evening was pointed towards our sporting stars, both young and old an important award of the night went to a person without whose thoughts this project would never get going.

Steven Porter's family was the previous owners of the land now called "The Maleny Precinct" and over the past years he has been involved in ensuring that the land ended with the local Council for use by the Maleny Community. The Porter family was one of the pioneering families of the area.



Mr. T. Porter receives an award on behalf of Steven Porter from Club President, Mike Norman

Whilst Steven could not be in attendance but was received by another family member, Tom Porter. Steven is now officially Member No 1 of the M.D.S.A.R.C. Inc.

As with the Porter name the names of many of those attending the night are from pioneering families of this area. This night is sure to be the start of a new Maleny Tradition!



Part of the crowd of nearly 300 who enjoyed a night of celebrating sport in Maleny over the years.

Not only the believers!

Prior to this night there has been some suggestion that public support for the sports plans for The Precinct was not wide-spread.

The support given to this event shows that that line of thought was incorrect.

Although ticket numbers were capped because of limited space and they were not sold at "give-away" prices they sold very quickly indicating people's desire to attend this function.

The Sunshine Coast Regional Council should take heed of the indirect message sent regarding the level of support for this organisation.

Organisers believe that we don't need to undergo more surveys and reports - just get on with the job.

Not only a night of sport but one of exemplary food

The night could not have been complete without the delicious food supplied by Chef, Sherry Wright who completed the task COMPLETELY WITHOUT PAY.

Sherry was assisted on the night by young members of the sporting clubs who waited on tables and cleared up.

On arrival guests were presented with a complementary drink and Hors D'oeuvres. One could not do justice in describing the delectable taste of the various offerings.

The main course including rack of New Zealand lamb, pork in bacon, sauteed vegetables and salad.

The desert just capped off the perfection of the night - Drunken chocolate gateau.

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At the presentation each of the individual clubs announced their inaugural "sportsman of the year" appointments. These people were awarded because of their commitment to that particular club over a long period of time.

Some have had continuing associations with the sporting club for over 50 years whilst others not so long but have worked extremely hard or competed for their club since joining.

Hereunder is a complete list of awardees for the various clubs:-

Bowls Club

Nev Watson
Wayne Peters

Witta Tennis Club

Vic Weaver
Ron Tincknell
Elaine Tincknell
Ray Daley

Maleny Swimming Club

Gunnar Jonsson

Witta Touch Football

Max Grundon

Maleny Cricket club

Irene Owen

Maleny Junior Cricket Club

Barry Canton

Maleny Little Athletics

Peter Schaumberg

Maleny Croquet Club:

Ted Singleton

Sportsman of the Year Award

Vince Carbery and Len Lowe

Interest from those who attended

Some of our local Councillors showed their interest in the project not only by attending but by supporting it in the form of donations of trophies or auction items.

Peter Slipper M.P. whilst unable to attend due to a previous engagement did something better, he sent his charming wife, Inge and he provided the trophy for Sportsman of the Year trophy which was lovingly made by the Blackall Range Woodies.

Ex -Councillor Don Smith and Councillor Tim Dwyer also attended and showed strong support. Tim also donated a fully signed Manly Warringah Sea Eagles 2007 football jersey for auction. This was the club for which he played in his professional football career. Cr Jenny McKay was unable to attend on the night. Even ex-Councillor Pauline Clayton attended.

Photo below: Helen & Winston Johnston with the water colour by Mirella Cundill that was purchased by auction.



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