



**RACV**Club

OCTOBER  
2023

# HIGHLIGHTS

## KITCHEN KUDOS

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Discover what it takes to become an  
award-winning regional restaurant

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Keeping members connected  
[racv.com.au/club](http://racv.com.au/club)



# EDIBLE ART

Enjoy light refreshments and delectable cakes in the Gallery Lounge, on Level 1 at City Club. There's food inspired by the Secret Gardens exhibition, including finger sandwiches with scrumptious fillings like walnut chicken with dill-pickled sour cream. These Le Petit Gateau miniatures, below, are inspired by the artworks of Melbourne artist Marcel Cousins. The exhibition runs until 19 November. See page 9 for details.



Image: Blanche Clark



Healesville's Head Chef Himanshu Sharda and MC (aka Executive Chef) Jason Camillo kept the audience entertained at the Four Chef Showdown event in September. Image: Matt Harvey

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**ROB EVERETT** RACV Club General Manager

The Club has been abuzz with activity, and it's my pleasure to share some highlights and upcoming events that reflect what an exceptional year it has been so far.

I am looking forward to gathering for the AFL Grand Final Luncheon. After a three-year hiatus, the atmosphere is sure to be electric, as was the Four Chef Showdown at City Club earlier this month (see page 13). Our four exceptional chefs, Jason Camillo, Himanshu Sharda, Craig Dowling, and Josh Cochrane, delivered an evening of delectable dishes and delightful banter.

Following Banyalla's success at the Victorian Accommodation Awards for Excellence (see page 6), Healesville Country Club & Resort is celebrating another win, having achieved the highest customer satisfaction rating in the Club Reception category at the Victorian ABIA Wedding Industry Awards. There is no doubt the Country Club is a marvellous venue for tying the knot.

I've been humbled by the heart-warming feedback from our members at both our city and Healesville properties. Your kind words and enthusiasm contribute to our Club's warmth and sense of community. Last month, we celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the annual Billiards Tournament (see page 12). The refreshed room with new carpet and paint was a fitting tribute to this milestone.

November promises to be informative when we host two RACV Club Member information sessions: get the latest on Club developments, hear from existing members, and engage in a Q&A session with the team. Refreshments will be provided. We're bringing back the Summer of Cricket Luncheon, a beloved tradition we've missed dearly. Mark your calendars for this special occasion (see page 10).

Daylight savings brings longer, warmer evenings, perfect for enjoying your Club's offerings. Explore your [Club Benefits](#) page and discover incredible deals that maximize your savings and enrich your Club membership. As we build on this year's successes, we look forward to sharing more wonderful moments with all Club members. Thank you for being a part of our journey.

### CALL OR EMAIL US

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# SHEEDY'S VISION

Kevin Sheedy has many a tale to tell of his career as an AFL player, coach, and icon of the game. He answers five eclectic questions ahead of his special dining event at the Club.

**What are the most important words to you?**

Your health is your wealth.

**What was it like having your birthday the day before Christmas as a kid?**

I got my left thong for my birthday and my right thong for my Christmas present. I was one of seven kids, so you took what you were given in those early days after the war, but it was all good. I'm happy to be alive. Life is a gift from your parents. Each day that you wake up is like winning lotto.

**You were the foundation coach of emerging powerhouse Greater Western Sydney in 2012, was it hard to leave Melbourne?**

I was in the army in Western Sydney in the '70s, so I knew what to expect. It was all about rolling up your sleeves and getting the job done. It's like working on a building site or in an army camp.

There was nothing there at the start and 10 years later it became the best performing club in the first decade of any of the clubs in the northern states. Fremantle, in a state of AFL-loving people, hasn't won a premiership in 30 years. The Giants were nearly in two in their first seven years, and they were almost knocking on the door of another one this year. It has been an incredible performance.

**If you had the chance today, what current-day player would you like to coach most?**

Either Toby Greene or Tom Green. They are both fantastic; I love watching them play. They are very different: one is a goal-kicking machine for his height and the other is ball magnet and tough in the midfield. Tom is the grandson of a great player called Michael Green, and his grandfather played in four premierships. It's in his blood.

**You're a voracious reader, and written or co-written 14 books, what are you reading now?**

I'm reading a little book called *The Voice to Parliament Handbook* by Thomas Mayo and Kerry O'Brien. I've had a lot to do with AFL Indigenous players in the modern era. Before Michael Long, there were only 28 Indigenous players in the AFL and 14 of them were from interstate, now we've had 400. To me it's about looking after the oldest living culture in the world. I'm a member of an Aboriginal Tribe. I was formally adopted as a member of the Mantiyupwi clan of the Tiwi Islands (Sheedy was given the Mantiyupwi name of Tartuwali, which means "shark", in recognition of his service to the area and its people.) For me, it's about humanity; it's not about black or white.

● **Dine with a Champion: Kevin Sheedy, Sat 21 Oct, 6.30pm-10pm, 4-course dinner, drinks and private sitting in the Wine Cellar, City Club, \$495pp. Book via [this link](#) or scan the QR code.**



DON'T  
MISS



## FIND YOUR PERFECT HAT STYLE

Celebrate spring with fellow members at an afternoon of fashion and food. Milliner Wendy Scully returns with a troupe of local designers and models to show off the latest trends. Dress up, indulge in some bubbles, and enjoy an afternoon of spring delight.

● **High Tea & Haute Couture: A Spring Fashion Showcase**  
Thu 5 Oct, 3pm–5.30pm, Club Pavilion, City Club, \$70pp.  
Book via [this link](#) or the QR Code.



## PERFECT YOUR COOKING

Donna Hay presents an extension of her beloved foundational recipes in her latest cookbook, *Even More Basics to Brilliance*. Packed with essential recipes for every kitchen, along with effortless flavor enhancements and time-saving tips, this culinary journey promises numerous ingenious twists. Donna will personally autograph copies of her books, which will be on sale at the event. Your ticket includes beverages and canapés.

● **Author Talk: Donna Hay, Thu 19 Oct, 5.45pm–8.30pm,**  
Library, City Club, \$30pp. Book via [this link](#) or the QR Code.



You'll find all the details about the latest events and activities,  
at [racv.com.au/club-whats-on](http://racv.com.au/club-whats-on) or scan the QR code.



## AWE-INSPIRING PHOTOGRAPHY

National Geographic photographer Jason Edwards boasts one of the largest portfolios of photographs in the society's history. Hear Jason's stories of three decades in the field. Attendees will have the chance to purchase Jason's new book, *Icebergs to Iguanas*, at a special discounted price. Ticket includes talk and canapés. Beverages available at bar prices.

● **Icebergs to Iguanas: A National Geographic Adventure**  
Thu 2 Nov, 7pm–9pm, Library, City Club, \$45pp.  
Book via [this link](#) or QR code.



## SEE THE BEST OF EUROPE

Every good journey tells a story. When planning the perfect holiday with Globus, you can anticipate great hotels, amazing food, incredible sightseeing and, above all, life-long memories. As a trusted partner of RACV Travel and Experiences, Globus representatives will be doing a presentation at the Club, offering inspiration for your next European holiday. Canapés and refreshments will be provided for those Club Members attending, with special offers and a giveaway on the night.

● **Travel Talk, Thu 16 Nov, 6pm–7.30pm, Level 2, City Club.**  
Book via [this link](#) or the QR code.







Banyalla's stellar team with the award. Images: Matt Harvey

# KITCHEN KUDOS

We go behind the scenes to find out what it takes to become an award-winning regional restaurant

In the heart of Yarra Valley's serene landscape, the RACV Healesville Country Club & Resort offers a dining experience that transcends the ordinary. Since opening its doors in December 2021, Banyalla has built its reputation as a foodie and family-friendly destination.

Head Chef Himanshu Sharda says Banyalla is driven by a simple philosophy: keep it simple, keep it local, and keep it seasonal. It's an approach that has paid off, with Banyalla winning Regional Hotel Restaurant of the Year at the Victorian Accommodation Awards for Excellence in August.

"It has been a two-year long journey," Himanshu says. "When I took over as Head Chef, the brief was to create something unique. I did my market research, and clearly people come to the region for great food and wine but not necessarily anything too formal. I don't call Banyalla fine dining, I call it refined dining. We've kept it local, and we've kept it elegant."

Himanshu says Banyalla's success is a result of "every single individual" who works in the kitchen or front of house with Restaurant Manager Hediye Moran, as well as the team across all other outlets. He particularly acknowledges the dedication of Sous Chef Alex Huser, Sous Chef Lalit Kumar, Chef de Partie Kim Na Yeon and Chef de Partie Jordan Choo.

"They have been loyal and hard-working. There was one point when staffing was tight and Alex and Kim ran Banyalla for me. This award is testament to our team and what they have done," he says.



Head Chef Himanshu Sharda briefs Chef de Partie Jordan Choo and Sous Chef Alex Hauser on the day ahead.

Banyalla's new spring/summer menu will be launched in mid-October, after two months of meticulous planning. Himanshu says the new menu, primarily crafted by Alex, stays true to the restaurant's original vision of incorporating native ingredients (the restaurant was named after a native flowering shrub) and as much locally sourced produce as possible.

"People have a misconception that the Yarra Valley produces a lot of local food; that's not a reality," Himanshu says.

"The Yarra Valley has lots of berries, and olives, but it's mainly for wines. So, we get seasonal vegetables from places like Mornington Peninsula and exceptional meats from Gippsland."



Every dish is prepared in-house, from the delectable daily focaccia to the mouth-watering veal rotolo, which is part of the new spring/summer menu.

Over the years, the culinary world has seen trends come and go, from molecular gastronomy to fine dining. However, the trend now leans toward simplicity and allowing the essence of each ingredient to shine.

Himanshu says winning the award was a moment of pure elation for him and the team.

"We were finalists last year and we took that as positive sign that we were on the right track with our simple, flavoursome food," he says.

"When our name was announced as the winner this year, we all jumped up and Jordan texted Alex straight away because he was overseas at the time. It was a great feeling."

After nearly 25 years in the business, Himanshu relishes his role as a trainer, supervisor and mentor.

"It is all about our team and how they can develop, and hopefully they have learnt a lot from me," he says. "These boys and girls are the future of our industry. They are the future of RACV as well."



Left top: dishes such as the in-house focaccia with olives and cured meats, and the Naugaon chicken with Uttarakhand sauce, left, have helped make Banyalla a stand-out restaurant.



## A REFINED DINING EXPERIENCE FOR MEMBERS

As an RACV Club Member, you can access a 15% discount off your final bill at Banyalla by charging it back to your Club membership card. View terms and conditions at [racv.com.au/clubtcs](https://racv.com.au/clubtcs). Book online via [this link](#) or scan the QR code.



All the staff at Healesville Country Club & Resort have contributed to Banyalla's success.





Grounds Manager Tim Pierce in the rose garden at Healesville Country Club & Resort. Image: Matt Harvey

# COMING UP ROSES

It might be a prickly job, but the gardeners at Healesville Country Club & Resort ensure the roses bloom and look beautiful every spring

Nestled within the sprawling landscape of RACV Healesville Country Club & Resort lies a hidden treasure that reveals itself every spring. Boasting a palette of half a dozen hues, including reds, whites, and delicate mauves, the rose garden blooms from mid-October to the end of November.

The rose garden has an interesting history, dating back to the property's 2008/09 renovations, when all the bushes were carefully uprooted and entrusted to a rose specialist for safekeeping during the development. After the project's completion, the roses found their new home by the tennis courts, where they are dutifully cared for by grounds staff.

Grounds Manager Tim Pierce says the roses require an annual prune and regular attention during the growing season. "We give them some fertilizer at the start of each season, a bit of spray to prevent insects, and you need to deadhead them to encourage more blooms," he says.

When it comes to water, roses are surprisingly hardy and drought tolerant. For those interested in growing their own roses, Tim offers these tips. "Roses thrive in free-draining soil and need plenty of sunlight," he says. "They don't like competition, so give them a dedicated space and avoid planting anything nearby that competes with them or blocks the sun."

Beyond the rose garden, the expansive grounds of the Healesville Country Club & Resort span 58ha, featuring 20ha of fairway, two hectares of greens, and a hectare of tees. The remaining property consists of sweeping lawns, gardens and diverse vegetation.

"It's a brutal landscape, so it's designed for minimal water usage," Tim says. "We have lots of native flora and grasses of varying colors and textures, and we have planted a lot of trees along the river frontage, in keeping with Melbourne Water's conservation initiatives."

Tim oversees a team of six staff, who preserve the environment and its beautiful surroundings, making it a haven for guests and nature lovers alike. A tranquil walk, encompassing the lake and Watts River, takes about an hour. At the end of the day you can dine at Riddell's Green and watch the kangaroos graze as the sun sets over the greens and fairway. Along with the rose garden, it's this immersion in nature that makes Healesville Country Club & Resort such a wonderful retreat for Club Members and guests.

● To book an accommodation package at Healesville Country Club & Resort, visit [racv.com.au/healesville-packages](http://racv.com.au/healesville-packages) or scan the QR code.





## REKINDLE YOUR RELATIONSHIP

If you've been away from RACV Club for a while, it's time to rekindle your relationship and enjoy the monthly offers and exciting new experiences that await you.

Your membership is not just a card in your wallet; it's the key to a world of possibilities and a chance to make the most of your leisure time.

Along with the retail Wine Club, ongoing member discounts at four restaurants, and accommodation specials – plus the complimentary Aperitivo Hour for in-house Members and their guests at Healesville Country Club & Resort – you'll find more monthly Club offers on the Club Benefits webpage.



INSIDER  
NEWS

## EXCLUSIVE CLUB MEMBER BENEFITS EVERY MONTH

RACV Club Members have exclusive access to monthly offers and a vast range of benefits across both Club properties. See the latest offers via [this link](#) or scan the QR code.



## EARTHLY DELIGHTS

Who doesn't love the idea of a secret garden, especially if you've read Frances Hogson Burnett's 1911 book? The power of flowers to evoke emotions and give us a sense of place resonates in the works of nine artists currently on display in the Gallery Lounge at City Club.

RACV Curator Ellen Wignell says The Secret Garden exhibition showcases the breadth of artists whose works are included in the 20-year-old RACV Art Collection.

"There are many nooks and crannies to be explored in this exhibition of the floral, from First Nations explorations of landscapes to portrait like close-ups, and pollinators buzzing around," Ellen says.

The Secret Garden features the work of Stephen Bush, Peter Graham, Edie Holmes Akemarr, Peter Kennedy, Elisabeth Kruger, Margaret Turner Petyarre, Guan Wei and Melbourne-based artist Marcel Cousins, who will be talking about his work at the Club's next Artist in Conversation event.

As Burnett's character Mary states: "If you look the right way, you can see the whole world is a garden."

● Don't miss the next Artist in Conversation event with Marcel Cousins, Thu 26 Oct, 6pm–7.30pm, Level 1, City Club, \$25 for RACV Club Members. Book via [this link](#) or the QR Code.

The Secret Garden exhibition in the City Club's Gallery Lounge runs until 19 November. Book for the Artists in Conversation event on 26 October via the QR code.



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HIGHLIGHTS  
OCTOBER 2023



# CREASE IS THE WORD

Cricket enthusiasts, mark your calendars and don your whites because cricket is making a grand return to City Club

How often do you get to combine your personal passions with your professional life? For self-confessed cricket nut and Club Events Manager Melissa McCallum, the Summer of Cricket Luncheon with a panel of cricketing legends is cause for celebration.

“We have a great line-up, with Damien Fleming hosting the panel, supported by Brad Hodge, who played for Victoria and Australia and now commentates on Channel 7, and Belinda Clark, who is an Australian legend in her own right, with the Best Female Cricketer of the Year medal named after her.”

Melissa says the annual cricket luncheon was once a cherished tradition, and an RACV Club Member attending the AFL pre-season launch suggested it was time to resurrect it.

“The AFL Grand Final Luncheon is popular, so we’d been thinking about re-establishing the cricket luncheon for a while,” says Melissa. “The challenge was to figure out what time of year would work best.”

There will be no shortage of cricket topics to discuss, including the Men’s World Cup and the Women’s Big Bash League, as well as the chance to review The Ashes and preview Australia’s summer of cricket.

“The traditional Friday long-lunch format promises an afternoon of excellent food, delightful drinks, engaging conversations, and expert insights,” Melissa says. There will be lots to talk about, lots to digest, with brilliant cricket minds in the room to do it with.”

## STAR-STUDED LINE-UP



Cricketing greats (l-r) Brad Hodge, Belinda Clark 'bowlologist' Damien Fleming make up the panel for the Club event.

She says the Club Events team is appreciative of former cricketer Adam Crosthwaite’s help in finding such a talented panel. “For me, personally, it’s a great honour to be able to host Belinda Clark because she’s a legend,” Melissa says.

“Women’s cricket has been remarkably progressive, and it will be great to talk about women’s sport, especially after the success of the Matildas.”

Melissa, who’s previous job was with Cricket Australia, says sport brings people together and so does the Club. “Bring your work colleagues or bring your family and friends, and come along and celebrate your shared interests together.”

● Summer of Cricket Luncheon, Fri 10 Nov, 11.45am–2.30pm, City Club, \$120pp. \$800 table of 8. Book via [this link](#) or the QR code.





# FOR THE LOVE OF PASTA

Dr Tania Cammarano is set to take Club members on a fascinating tour to unravel the history of pasta

## What attracted you to becoming a food historian?

I have always been interested in food and early in my career was a food writer. I wrote lots of stories but I realised none of them could tell me why we eat the way we do in this country and that's what I wanted to know. Because of my Italian background, I also wanted to understand the influence of Italians in particular. I love digging up stories and sharing them. It's possible I'm a frustrated detective because piecing together these stories is so much fun.

## There are hundreds of shapes of pasta: what's your favourite and why?

I have never met a pasta shape I didn't like, but I prefer short, rigate types as they grip the sauce better. My favourite homemade pasta is fusilli. You press an iron rod into a piece of fresh pasta, roll it fast to make a hole in the middle, and then slide it off the rod. My Aunt Marinella makes it look easy. If you're less skilled, like me, it doesn't always go so well.

## Do you make your own pasta from scratch? If so, any tips?

I have two tips - one is use the right flour - Tipo 00 is what you need. Also, and this is probably super lazy, get yourself an electric handle turner for your pasta machine.

## You've been part of two Italian dinner & masterclasses at the Club, with dishes inspired by *The First Australian Continental Cookery Book*. What's your favourite recipe from this book?

My favourite recipe to cook is "Siennese 'Little Horses'", even though the first time I made them I ended up with super hard biscuits that could break your teeth. The second time, I tweaked things and this resulted in a delicious fragrant fennel seed and orange biscuit. My favourite recipe to read is "Lamb in a Hurry" and that's because it contains this line: "To start with, it must be real lamb, not mutton rejuvenated like ambitious ladies on the wrong side of forty." As a woman on the wrong side of forty, I should probably be offended, but I think it's funny.

## What's one place you will be taking Club members to on the Macaroni and the City tour?

I am very excited to be able to take Club members to the Special Collections Research Room at William Angliss Institute. Here there is a little known but epic collection of pre-1900 Australian cookbooks, menus and other culinary ephemera. We will look at some of the oldest pasta recipes in these cookbooks. I think Club Members will be surprised, especially if they think that there was no pasta in Australia till the large wave of Italian migration in the 1950s (spoiler alert - there was!).

● **Macaroni and the City: How Melbourne Fell in Love with Pasta**,  
Fri 24 Nov, 10am-1pm, from Flagstaff Gardens, \$70pp. Book via [this link](#) or the QR code.



This advertisement, left, from a 1949 edition of the *Australian Women's Weekly*, is among the treasures Tania has found in the Trove collection. The dish, above, which was served at the second Italian Dinner and Masterclass, was inspired by *The First Australian Continental Cookery Book*.

EAT &  
DRINK







# FROM FAME TO FRAME

The Annual Billiards Tournament kicked off with a special event to mark the 100th anniversary of the competition at the Club. Three-time World Champion and resident professional, Robby Foldvari was presented with a framed portrait, which will hang in the Billiards Room as an acknowledgement of his enduring connection and contribution to the Club.



The 2022 RACV Annual Billiards Tournament winner Samuel Bashfield and finalist Mick Adam (above l-r) received trophies, while the Club's chefs chalked up a winner with this amazing replica of a billiards table, and this year's players, below, had practice matches to kickstart the competition.



Billiards Tournament participants: (l-r) Bernie Brophy, Eila Basile, Andrew Bull, Rob Barbour, Daniel Hild and Hugo Marriott.





Annette Lester, Deborah Isherwood and Jill Earnshaw at the Four Chef Showdown event. Image: Matt Harvey

## TRIPLING THE FUN

Whether it's special dinners, lectures or tours, Annette Lester, Deborah Isherwood and Jill Earnshaw enjoy getting together at a Club event

Having enjoyed fulfilling careers, Jill Earnshaw, Annette Lester, and Deborah Isherwood wanted to make the most of their newfound time in retirement, and the Club has offered new experiences and a broader circle of friends.

The trio first met through the Travel Group – one of RACV Club's member interest groups – and they have gone on to become avid fans of the special dining events.

"That all started because the three of us went to the Italian Migrant Journey Dinner and Masterclass, which I thought was going to be a small affair in the Members Dining Room and it turned out to be 230 or so people upstairs (on Level 17)," Jill says. "We told the rest of the Travel Group how good it was, and we went on masse to the Gabriel Gaté dinner at Healesville Country Club and Resort in August."

The Four Chef Showdown at City Club in September was another chance to get together for fabulous food, laughter, and stimulating conversation. On the night, four RACV chefs battled it out to deliver the best dish. "We want the recipe for the fish curry," Jill says. "The moment you smelt it, you knew it would be hard to beat it. It was exceptional."

The trio agree the friendship is at the heart of their Club experience. "None of us knew each other before joining the Travel Group and we've established some other nice friendships too," says Deborah, who travelled to Morocco with Jill last year.

"The member interest groups give you the time and opportunity to meet regularly and exchange views, and get to know each other," Annette says. "You then develop friendships that extend beyond those groups."



### AWESOME FOURSOME

The inaugural Four Chef Showdown pitted City Club chefs (l-r above) Jason Camillo, Craig Dowling and Josh Cochrane against Healesville's Head Chef Himanshu Sharda, who proved his mettle with his fish curry being named the crowd favourite.

One of the City Club chefs will have a chance to reclaim the unofficial "Best Dish" title at the second Four Chef Showdown next year.

"I love the special dinners, too, because when you're on your own those sorts of things are not always accessible."

Jill says it's the breadth of offerings that makes RACV Club attractive, whether it's the lectures, tours, workshops or dining events. "If you join the National Gallery of Victoria or something like that, you see one particular kind of event. Here you get exposure to a whole range of things."

"We'll go to things that are cheap and cheerful, and then we'll go to more formal activities as well. The more you attend the functions and use the facilities and resorts, the more you get out of your membership," Jill says.

Don't miss the next Four Chef Showdown in 2024. You'll find all the latest information on the Club's special dining events on the What's On page.







# REALITY BITES

This hyper-real mandarin cake is one of Sojourn's signature dishes. Image: Matt Harvey

The weather was fine and the food was sublime at the re-launch of So Good Saturdays at Sojourn. Club Members and guests enjoyed two hours of bottomless Four Pillars Gin cocktails, wine and beer, and a variety of plates, sides, and desserts.

● So Good Saturdays, until 9 Dec, 2023. Two sessions: noon-2pm and 3pm-5pm.  
Book online via [this link](#) or the QR code.



The relaxed atmosphere of So Good Saturdays, left, includes exquisite cocktails like the Sojourn Bramble, above, and slow-cooked meats and seasonal vegetables, below.





## FASHION ON A PLATE

Creswick in Healesville is known for its timeless fashion and eco-friendly fabrics, and its staff are presenting a fun-filled fashion parade at Healesville Country Club & Resort. Be inspired and learn the art of transeasonal dressing, with great tips on how to coordinate wardrobe staples and choose flattering silhouettes for your body shape.

● Mon 23 Oct, 3.30pm-4.30pm, Grand Conservatory, Healesville Country Club & Resort, \$25pp. Book via this link or the QR code.



OUT &  
ABOUT



## PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Head to Ballarat and the RACV Goldfields Resort for the Ballarat International Foto Biennale (BIFB), with an exclusive discount on tickets and season passes for Club Members. Explore the Within the Landscape exhibition, featuring the works of Selina Ou (pictured right), Lisa Sorgini and Naomi Hobson around the RACV Goldfields Resort.

● Members can get 15% off BIFB tickets until 22 October by entering promo code 'RACV2023' at [ballaratfoto.org/buy-tickets/](https://ballaratfoto.org/buy-tickets/). Terms and conditions at [ballaratfoto.org/festival-info/](https://ballaratfoto.org/festival-info/)



Scan the QR code to buy a discounted BIFB festival ticket or season pass.

Fashion, food, photography and more: you'll find a Club event to suit you. Healesville Country Club & Resort regularly hosts dinners featuring Yarra Valley winemakers, while Club Sommelier Camm Whiteoak has a series of wine events planned for the Members Dining Room. Keep up to date at [racv.com.au/club-whats-on](https://racv.com.au/club-whats-on) or scan the QR code.



## PASSIONATE WINEMAKERS

Warramunda Estate's Robert Magdziarz and his daughter Olivia Zak-Magdziarz shared their passion for producing outstanding wines at an intimate four-course dinner in Banyalla's Private Dining Room last month.

It was a chance for Club Members and guests to chat directly to the winemakers and learn about their methods and the nuances behind the Warramunda Estate and Liv Zak labels. Club Members and guests were able to purchase discounted wines on the night.



From l-r:  
Olivia Zak-Magdziarz,  
Restaurant  
Manager  
Hediye Moran,  
Head Chef  
Himanshu  
Sharda  
and Robert  
Magdziarz.



## GRAPES OF WRATH

The scallop and kingfish crudo with horseradish granita, right, was one of the amazing dishes served at the Grapes of Wrath Wine Dinner in the Members Dining Room. Bringing together great wines from the Mornington Peninsula and Yarra Valley, Montalto winemaker Simon Black (left) talked about what makes their wines unique, while Club Sommelier Camm Whiteoak drew on his extensive knowledge of the Yarra Valley to educate Club Members and guests about this wine region. A great night was had by all.



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HIGHLIGHTS  
OCTOBER 2023





Discover one of Cinque Terre villages on the Italian Riviera. Image: Getty

# EXPLORE EUROPE

The enduring appeal of Europe means it's worth booking early to get the best deals at a time of year that suits you

Europe keeps getting better with age. It's ancient landmarks, rich traditions and spectacular coastline mean it's a travel destination that never goes out of fashion.

The continent's popularity, especially during the summer months of June, July and August, also means it's worth planning your holiday in advance. It's not like popping over to a Bali resort. If you're going to endure a long-haul flight, you want to make it worthwhile at the other end. With more than 40 countries to see, it's worth considering these fabulous and fuss-free ways of seeing the best of Europe.

## LUXURY RIVER CRUISES

Do you love the idea of visiting multiple countries without the hassle of flights, taxis, packing and unpacking, and navigating unfamiliar streets without a guide? A floating hotel may be the answer.

Wake up in a new place every day on an [APT](#) luxury river ship. For music lovers, the 15-day Magnificent Europe river cruise includes an exclusive visit to Vienna's City Palace for a cocktail party and classical concert, plus a *Sound of Music* show in Salzburg. For foodies, there is

## REASONS TO BOOK EARLY

**More choice:** Popular tours sell out. By booking early, you can secure your spot.

**More value:** As an RACV Member, when you book through RACV Travel and Experiences you have access to travel deals and all-inclusive holidays with our trusted partners.

**More savings:** You have months to save for added luxuries, spa treatments, gifts or hotel nights before or after your tour.

**More certainty:** Leaving a booking to the last minute is stressful, and prices often increase rather than decrease.

**More time:** You have time to research your destinations and maximise your enjoyment when you get there.

the Chef's Table experience, showcasing Europe's finest flavours. An APT river cruise is an all-inclusive way to see the sights, make new friends and get the best of service from both the crew and your own private butler. You also have the freedom to choose your own on-shore adventures.



## LUXURY YACHT CRUISING

See the stunning coastlines of the French and Italian Riviera from the vantage point of a small ship. Santorini, with its iconic whitewashed houses, rugged cliffs and sandy beaches, will make a lasting impression, while a voyage across the Ionian Sea from Greece to Italy offers rich culinary and cultural experiences. [Emerald Cruises](#) luxury yachts pair the intimacy of small guest numbers with spacious surrounds. The yachts pull into the heart of each destination, allowing guests to step onto the marina for an elevated experience away from the larger cruise lines.

## SMALL-GROUP TOURS

[Intrepid](#) lives up to its name by imbuing its tours with a sense of adventure. Whether you have six days or six weeks, you can focus on a region or theme. For example, the 6-day Northern Lights Escape introduces you to the unique beauty of Iceland, while a 15-day Balkan Adventure will take you from Hungary to Croatia. If you want to take the road less travelled, consider the fairytale towns of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Choose a premium tour or adapt a trip using Intrepid's expertise and local guides.

## PREMIUM COACH TOURING

If you're seeking an unforgettable European adventure, then consider a premium coach tour for an in-depth exploration of countries around the world. From the white-capped peaks of the Swiss Alps to the kaleidoscope of Holland's famous bulb fields and beyond, [Globus](#) premium coach touring offers seamless transportation between multiple destinations. With "On The Go" or "Leisurely" rated trips, you'll find a pace to suit you. Wander around Portugal's historic cities, marvel at Sicily's mix of Greek ruins and Baroque architecture, and immerse yourself in Croatia's medieval towns. Go solo, or go with family or friends.



ESCAPE

Left: The Croatian island of Korčula is among the many pictureque places you can see in this part of Europe.

## BOOK EARLY FOR SAVINGS AND PEACE OF MIND

RACV Club Members receive extra savings with RACV Travel and Experiences' trusted travel partners. To plan your perfect trip, call 1800 850 888 or book an appointment in store with one of our travel experts at [racv.com.au/travel](http://racv.com.au/travel) or via the QR code.



## RECIPROCAL CLUB

If you're visiting central Europe, then consider a trip to Kitzbühel Country Club in Austria, one of RACV's reciprocal clubs. With a backdrop of the Kitzbühel Alps, you'll be immersed in alpine traditions.

The Steinway Salon sets the scene for classic musical experiences, while the Cigar Lounge, resplendent with leather chairs and a selection of cigars, provides a sophisticated retreat for a leisurely whisky or cognac.



RACV Club Members can enjoy the privacy of a luxury suite, equipped with a kitchen, bar, steam shower, and luxurious sleeping area. Each apartment is individually designed, and has glorious mountain views.

Take a dip in the natural stone swimming pool, and head to the Panorama Terrace for a pre-dinner drink. Then sample the local produce in the Club Restaurant. It's also worth having a peek at the private dining rooms. They are modelled on the wood-clad living rooms traditionally found in Austria's rural homes.



Another reason to visit this reciprocal club is the stunning hiking routes. The club's staff can design tours to suit your skill and fitness level. The Kitzbühel Alps also have mountain routes and trails for cycling, and you can hire an e-bike from Kitzbühel Country Club.

See Kitzbühel Country Club's website for details at [www.kitzbuehel.cc](http://www.kitzbuehel.cc)

● **RACV Club Members need to arrange a letter of introduction prior to visiting Kitzbühel Country Club. Details at [racv.com.au/club](http://racv.com.au/club) or scan the QR code.**





# WHAT'S ON OCTOBER 2023

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## **CRAFT SERIES: EARRING WORKSHOP**

Sunday, 1pm-3pm

Tarrant Room, City Club

3

## **NIKKA WHISKY MASTERCLASS**

Tuesday, 6pm-9pm

Wine Bar, City Club

## **KENNETH PARK WALKING TOUR**

Tuesday, 10am-noon

Offsite: Carlton Gardens

4

## **NIKKA WHISKY DINNER**

Wednesday, 6pm-10.30pm

Members Dining Room, City club

5

## **HIGH TEA & HAUTE COUTURE**

Thursday, 3pm-5.30pm

Club Pavilion, City Club

## **SOCIAL 8-BALL NIGHT**

Thursday, 6pm-late

Billiards Room, City Club

10

## **EXPERIENCE & EXPLORE**

Tuesday, 10.30am-11.30pm

Offsite: Duldig Studio, Malvern East



11

## **MIDWEEK JAZZ AT THE BAR**

Wednesday, 6pm-8pm

Wine Bar, City Club

12

## **PAINTING THE FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE**

Thursday Lecture Series, noon-1pm

Theatrette, City Club

13

## **PALACES AND JEWELS OF THE MAHARAJAHS**

Double Lecture, Thursday, 10.30am-1pm

Includes brunch, Level 2, City Club

18

## **BEGINNER BRIDGE COURSE COMMENCES**

Wednesdays from 18 Oct, 1.30pm-3.30pm

Level 2, City Club

19

## **RESEARCHING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY**

Thursday, 1pm-2.30pm

Level 2, City Club

## **AUTHOR TALK: DONNA HAY**

Thursday, 5.45pm-8.30pm

Level 2, City Club



20

## **FILM GROUP: HIDDEN FIGURES**

Friday, 11am-1pm

Theatrette, City Club

21

## **KENNETH PARK WALKING TOUR (REPEAT)**

Tuesday, 10am-noon

Offsite: Carlton Gardens

23

## **DINE WITH A CHAMPION: KEVIN SHEEDY**

Saturday, 6.30pm-10pm

Wine Cellar, City Club

25

## **EXPERIENCE & EXPLORE**

Wednesday, noon-2pm

Offsite: Johnston Collection, East Melbourne

26

## **KENNETH PARK DOUBLE LECTURE**

Thursday, 11am-2pm

Includes light lunch, Level 2, City Club

## **ARTIST IN CONVERSATION: MARCEL COUSINS**

Thursday, 6pm-7.30pm

Level 1, City Club



## MEMBER INTEREST GROUPS

**SUPERVISED BRIDGE** Mondays,  
9.45am–1pm 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 October  
Clubroom, City Club

**TRAVEL GROUP** Tuesday, 3 October  
10.30am–12.30pm Level 2, City Club

**DUPLICATE BRIDGE** Wednesdays, 9.45am–1pm  
4, 11, 18, 25 October Clubroom, City Club

**EVENING MAHJONG** Wednesday, 4 October  
7pm–9pm Clubroom, City Club

**MAHJONG GROUP** Thursdays,  
10am–1pm: 5, 12, 19, 26 October  
Clubroom, City Club

**SOCIAL SQUASH GROUP** Thursdays,  
6pm start: 5, 12, 19, 26 October  
Squash courts, City Club

**SOLO GROUP** Thursdays,  
9am–1pm: 5, 12, 19, 26 October  
Clubroom, City Club

**BOOK GROUP 2** Saturday, 14 October  
11.15am start Clubroom, City Club

**BOOK GROUP 4** Wednesday, 18 October  
7.15pm start Library, City Club

**FILM GROUP** Friday, 20 October  
11am–1pm Theatrette, City Club

Scan the QR  
code below  
for more  
information  
about Member  
Interest  
Groups.



## FUNNY WITHOUT FAULT

Expect a whirlwind of chaos and an afternoon of uninterrupted laughter with Basil, Sybil, and Manuel. Inspired by the BBC TV show, this immersive comedy extravaganza boasts more than 70 per cent improvisation, and promises to be an interactive and unpredictable event, where the unexpected is the norm! Which means even if you've seen it before, it will be unique each time.

● **The Faulty Towers Dining Experience,**  
Sun 19 Nov, noon–3pm, Club Pavilion, City  
Club, \$130pp. Book via [this link](#) or  
scan the QR code.



## FREE GROUP FITNESS

**MORNING PILATES WITH CARLA**  
8am–8.45pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM  
Mondays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 October

**MORNING YOGA WITH KATHY**  
8–8.45am ONLINE VIA ZOOM  
Tuesdays 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 October

**MORNING MOVEMENT WITH FRAN**  
8am–8.45pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM  
Thursdays 5, 12, 19, 26 October



Scan the QR code, left, for the latest  
events and activities at the Club  
or visit [racv.com.au/club-whats-on](https://racv.com.au/club-whats-on)



Scan the QR code, left,  
for facility opening hours and to  
book your next Club experience,  
or visit [racv.com.au/clubbookings](https://racv.com.au/clubbookings).





# Holidays that stay with you

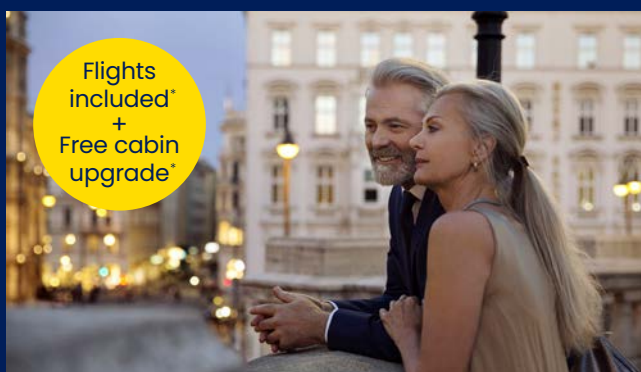
**RACV**

TRAVEL &  
EXPERIENCES

Prepare for the best with a luxury travel experience from one of our trusted partners.



Flights included\*  
+ Free cabin upgrade\*



## Magnificent Europe River Cruise with APT

- 15-day river cruise from Budapest to Amsterdam (or reverse) onboard a luxury river ship.
- Includes 41 meals, select onboard beverages and butler service (select suites).
- Highlights include a 'Sound of Music' show in Salzburg and visit to Vienna's City Palace for a cocktail party and private classical concert.

15 days from  
**\$7,386\***  
per person



Includes RACV Member savings of up to \$309\*

Prepare for the best at [racv.com.au/travel](https://racv.com.au/travel)

Book a wide range of holidays and experiences online or call 13 17 17.

\*Terms and conditions apply. Offer is subject to availability, restrictions and blackout dates may apply. Discount applies to new bookings only and cannot be combined except where stated. Free upgrade to next applicable cabin category, subject to availability. Excludes cabin upgrade from category D to C. Advertised prices are per person twin share and includes all savings and Early Payment Discount where applicable. Advertised price based on 10 November, 2024 departure. Prices are correct as at 22 September, 2023. Offer ends 30 November, 2023 unless sold out prior. Scan offer QR code for all details.