

# Forest Men's Kitchen 2018-19 President's Report



At the end of our third financial year as the Forest Men's Kitchen Association, we have a lot of events to report on:

- Grown our number of members, starting with 39 last July and ending the year with 77 at the end of June this year.
- Continued to operate our existing two venues at Forestville and Warriewood plus opened a third venue at the Curl Curl Youth and Community Centre.
- Increased our monthly Cooking Sessions from four per month to seven with around eight to ten regulars for each session.
- At the end of June we had eleven Cooking Instructors with Mary DiMattina, Chris Chandler, Doris Sammut, Carmel Leach, Sandra Dyball and Tiffany Schaffter leading our regular Cooking Sessions and Tracey Orehov, Lynne Power, Tania Papandrea, Gloria Xuereb and Trish Kingaby assisting. On behalf of the committee and all members I thank each Instructor for the valuable assistance you have given us this year.
- Supporting each Cooking Session we have two members who step up as Coordinators for each session, that requires fourteen members to help each month. Thank you to Ray McGimpsey, Mark Twohill, Renee Salaverry, Mick Norsa, Alan Moore, John Coye, Morrie Thacker, Graham Grainger, Bob McManaman, Michelle Moore, Peter Geluk, Ken Smith and Gordon Currie for supporting us.
- Published our third recipe book; "What's Cooking?", this publication is 106 pages and made available through the efforts of Chris Chandler who did all the recipe development and photography and Daniela Basello who contributed the nutritional information. All members received a copy and the printing of this book was sponsored by Minuteman Press Pittwater valued at more than \$5,000.
- Held our Christmas function last December at the Ted Blackwood Centre and 80 members and guests attended. From all reports this was enjoyed by everyone. I want to also recognise the financial contributions made by members at this function (through the raffle and donations).
- Received sponsorship cash grants from the Forestville RSL Club of \$2,500.
- Held two Masterclasses, one at our Forestville Kitchen and the other at our Warriewood Kitchen.
- Conducted a Bunnings BBQ in December and generated \$1,300 in income.
- The Peninsula Living magazine published an article about us in September, and this one article attracted over 20 new members.
- Made presentations to Probus in Narrabeen, Killarney Heights, Belrose. Promoted ourselves at the NBC Seniors Expo in February, attended the Volunteer expo at the DY RSL in May and handed out flyers at the Warriewood centre.

# Forest Men's Kitchen

As we move into 2019-20 we have several exciting plans for the group.

- We will be continuing our current four days per month at Forestville, two days at Warriewood and one at Curl Curl and plus adding a third Cooking Session a month at Warriewood in October and starting a second monthly Cooking Session in Curl Curl from the start of 2020.
- Conducting two Masterclasses in 2020 to showcase some particular skills not usually covered in regular Cooking Sessions.
- Publishing a supplementary "What's Cooking?" recipe book for all members.
- We are developing our plans to extend outside of the Northern Beaches Council area. This will require us to revamp our corporate structure to move away from being an Incorporated Association to become a Company Limited by Guarantee. Our plans currently have us making this transition as of July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, but that schedule depends substantially on grant funding to achieve the planned outcome. The transition will not change our current Cooking Session operations other than change the name of the organisation running them. We are excited by the planned change as we morph into, and become, Men's Kitchen Australia.

I would like to thank all the Cooking Instructors for their fantastic support, and our Coordinators who make each Cooking Session possible. I also want to recognise the support offered by Michelle Tournier who ran several Cooking Sessions at Warriewood during the year, Kath McQuoid who assisted at Forestville and Daniela Basello supporting our recipe book development. I would also like to thank the committee: Billy Whitforde-Young (who has now moved to the country), Ian Brissett, Peter Rudland, Mick Norsa, Mary Di Mattina, Chris Chandler, Doris and Austin Sammut, John Coye, John Fraser-Hills, Lin Sinton and Peter Geluk without whose assistance we just could not operate.

Finally, a huge thank you to our 2018-19 sponsors: Forestville RSL Club who sponsored our venue hiring costs, Minuteman Press who sponsored our recipe book printing costs and the Northern Beaches Council Mayor who sponsored the acquisition of a new printer and has been a fantastic supporter of what we do. We also received the benefit of many donations by individual members, some were in cash, and there were other contributions such as utensils and appliances for the Cooking Sessions. Some of these contributions were substantial. A heartfelt thank you to every sponsor or donor for your support of our Kitchen.

Peter Watson President 2018-2019

--O--



---

**FOREST MEN'S KITCHEN Association Incorporated**

Peter Rudland Public Officer; 39 Cashel Crescent, Killarney Heights NSW 2087

Phone: (02) 9451 0576 Mobile: 0438 092 528