



12 March 2009

ABN 30 000 680 651

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Gambling Inquiry Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
Canberra City ACT 2601

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on behalf of our 5,679 Members and 35 Employees.

The St George Masonic Club is located in the Southern Suburbs of Sydney in Mortdale and was established in 1969.

The "Masos" as we are locally known provides facilities and promotions for anyone aged 18 to 80 and beyond as well as welcoming families to our Brasserie for affordable and first class dining facilities.

The Club runs Bingo 3 times a week as well as Raffles twice a week for the "Oldies" while Poker Tournaments cater for the "Youngies" twice a week. Our Sub-Clubs also have raffles every week to help fund Cricket, Golf and Fishing. Entertainment is provided every Saturday Night while the many Sporting Clubs we Sponsor frequent the Club to watch FOX Sports (FOX is also very well received by those Members who can not afford Pay TV at home in these very tough economic times).

The Club is very Community and Sporting focused. The Club runs fundraisers throughout the year; we also open our Auditorium up to all local Schools who hold functions throughout the year at **NO COST** as well as a number of Year 6 Graduations Nights. When this is combined with our contribution to local Junior Sport it would be fair to say "If you grow up in the area the majority of the population will be assisted by "Maso's" in some way throughout their childhood". Not only does the Club Financially assist Local Sporting Clubs we also always donate the Auditorium and Meeting Facilities again at **NO COST**.

The Maso's currently Sponsors the following external Clubs:

- Oatley Rugby Club
- St George Dragons AFL
- St George Junior Baseball Club
- Mortdale Heights Cricket Club
- Georges River St George District Cricket Association
- Hurstville Junior Golf Club
- Forest Rangers FC
- Penshurst Physical Culture
- Burning Palms Surf Life Saving Club

We also have internal Sub-Clubs those being the St Masonic Fishing Club, St George Masonic Golf Club and Indoor Bowls Club.

We have included excerpts from our 2007 – 2008 Annual Report and an announcement about our recent contribution to the Bushfire Appeal which all better reflect our contribution to Society.

The Club could not function and contribute to our Local Community and Sporting Groups without Gaming Income. Last financial year the revenue received from Poker Machines was \$3,224,311 or 67.49% of total revenue. While the Club paid \$617,972 in Poker machine licences and taxes. Total expenses during the same period totalled \$5,086,598

We take Gambling very seriously; we are committed to the responsible provision of gambling services. The Club is a Member of the Club Safe program and it is the club's policy that all staff assisting in the delivery of gaming services completes the Responsible Conduct of Gaming Certificate.

Finally I thank the Commissioners for their time.

Yours Sincerely,



Paul O'Connor
CEO.

Charity DONATIONS

THE ST GEORGE MASOS ARE A VERY VALUED COMMUNITY MEMBER AND THESE ARE SOME OF THE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WHO WERE RECIPIENTS OF CLUB DONATIONS OR ASSISTANCE DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR.

Upon recommendation and approval by the CDSE Hurstville Consultative Committee the following Community Venture Applications were funded after meeting all Government Criteria:

- St George Zone of Playgroup – Purchase new library and educational toys
- St George Community Transport – Purchase of office equipment due to relocation
- Delta Society – Training volunteer dogs to assist with therapy
- Georges River Community Services – Career and employment assistance for the disadvantaged
- Berne Education Centre – Program to assist at risk youth with Education
- Nova Employment – Purchase training equipment to assist the disadvantaged
- Youth off the Streets – Assistance with operational costs
- Shopfront Theatre – An artistic skills development program for at risk youth

Plus the following Local Junior & Senior Sporting Groups:

- Oatley Rugby
- St George Crows AFL
- Mortdale Heights Cricket Club
- St George District Netball
- Georges River St George District Cricket Association
- Hurstville Golf Club
- Forest Rangers FC
- Penhurst Physical Culture
- Burning Palms Surf Life Saving Club

Your Club also contributed to the following Fundraising Activities:

- Bluey Day
- Bandaged Bear Day
- Sarah Hilt Foundation
- Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal
- Australia's Biggest Morning Tea
- Leukaemia Foundation "Worlds Greatest Shave"
- Red Nose Day
- Jeans for Genes Day
- Buzz Day – Diabetes Australia

Total Club

Donations Exceeded \$50,000

Leukaemia Foundation's
Worlds Greatest Shave

Prestige
Joinery^{NEW}

Prestige Joinery would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to everybody who donated money at our World's Greatest Shave evening for the Leukaemia Foundation. A grand total of \$7486.50 was raised during the event which was kindly hosted by the St George Masonic Club in Mortdale.



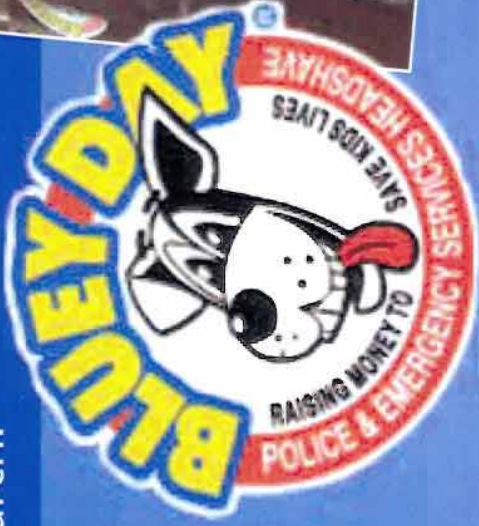
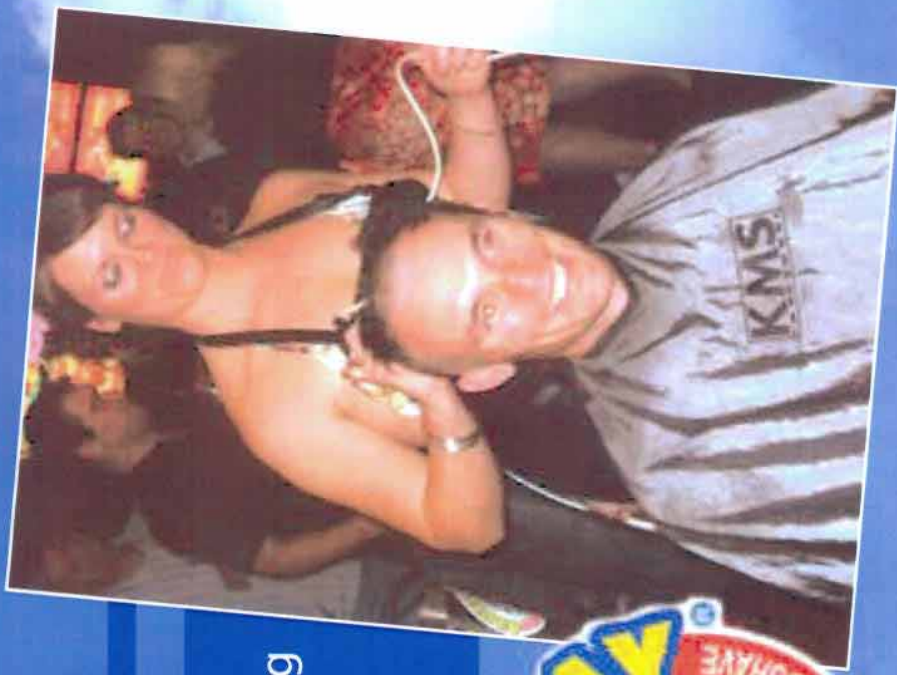
We would like to say a special thanks to our major sponsors

Paul O'Connor - St George Masonic Club Ltd
Wayne Caddy - Impression Markings Pty Ltd
Michael Doueihi - Westfield Design & Construction Pty Ltd
Paul Harbord - Prestige Joinery (NSW) Pty Ltd



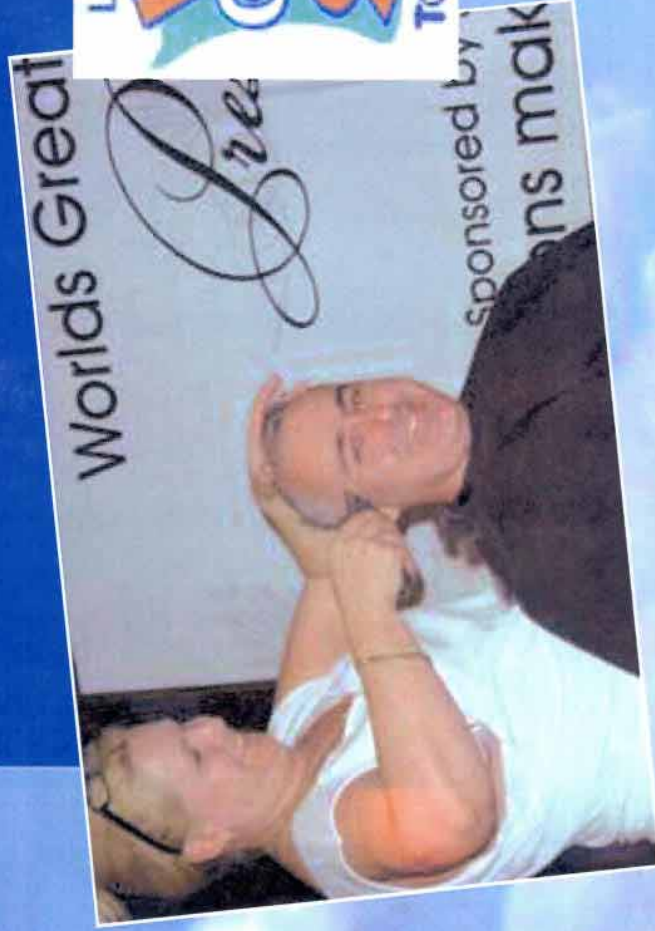
BLUEY DAY

Not your average night at Maso's. Staff Member Tim having his head shaved by Larissa to raise much needed funds for Cancer Research.



WORLDS GREATEST SHAVE

Dave from the Australian Poker League getting it all removed during "The Worlds Greatest Shave" for Leukaemia Fundraiser held at the Club.



VICTORIAN BUSH FIRE APPEAL

We wish to inform Members that the Club has made a Donation of \$2,000 on behalf of Members.

We also thank everyone who has contributed to our Collection Tins, the Fishing Club who contributed \$250 as well as our Bingo Players who held a Fund Raiser, you have all contributed to a total

Donation of \$5,000