

Sixty years of Skäl International Sydney

LAST Fri's traditional Christmas Gathering of the Skäl Club of Sydney was an extra special celebration, with members and guests taking the much-anticipated opportunity for an in-person get-together as they commemorated the club's 60th birthday. Founded in 1960, Skäl International Sydney was the 200th Skäl Club across the globe and the first in Australia, and has since then marked many milestones including hosting the 71st Skäl World Congress in 2010.

About 60 people were able to attend the event at the Four Seasons Sydney, with an afternoon of conviviality including a new member induction, a group quiz and even a sing-along to a video produced by the club's Committee, showing that even in lockdown there is plenty of value in being part of a networking organisation like Skäl - see the video [HERE](#).

Club President Melinda Brown also took the opportunity to welcome a legion of past presidents of the club, as well as Santa Claus who made a personal appearance during the event which featured the Skäl Toast of "To fellow Skälleagues everywhere: Happiness! Good Health! Friendship! Long Life! Skäl!" presented by Past President Bruce Morton (1985).

For more pics see facebook.com/traveldaily, and for details on how to become part of Skäl see sydney.skäl.org.au.



SKÄL Sydney President Melinda Brown and "the real travel industry Santa" presented a contribution of Socks and Jocks from members to Amanda Ford-Asbeck from the club's charity partner Wayside Chapel.

THE impressive line-up of current and past Skäl Sydney Presidents - surely the luminaries of the Sydney travel and tourism community.



THE one and only Past World President Max Kingston with Past Sydney Presidents Verniece Irvine and Sue Francis.



CLUB President Melinda Brown wore the ceremonial chains as she inducted Donna Meredith as the newest member of Skäl Sydney.



WALTER Nand from Heritage Cruises pulls a cracker with Francis Cochrane.



EVERYONE wants a photo with Santa!



SKÄL Sydney Committee Members Mike Lillie and Walter Nand bump elbows with Santa.