



# The Carbiner

**"For sport and for good fellowship"**



Edition Number 30 for 2015 –

18December, 2015

***In this edition:***

***Singapore Christmas Lunch***

***ACT Golf Day & Christmas Lunch***

***HK International Races***



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I regarded it is a great privilege to have been elected a member of the Carbine Club in 2004 and find it hard to believe that I have spent the last 7 months as President. It is a wonderful Club and I have been fortunate to have become good friends with many Members.

2015 has been a successful year for the Club and an historic one in that it is 125 years since Carbine won the 1890 Melbourne Cup - it was an inspired choice in 1961 to so name our Club after one of the greatest racehorses and sires this country has seen...if not the greatest.

I never tire of reminding people that Carbine's 43 starts resulted in 33 wins, 9 2nds and a 4th. An incredible record. More remarkably, at the Derby Eve lunch I mentioned that well before this year's Cup we knew it would be won by a descendant of Carbine as the pedigree of every runner in the field goes back to him.

Both the Grand Final week lunch and The Derby Eve lunch had over 900 attendees with the latter's crowd falling just short of 1000. I am pretty sure they are the biggest crowds we have had at each lunch since I have been a member. The annual dinner was well attended by both Members and delegates from sister Clubs. It was preceded by a productive delegates' meeting at which we decided that all Clubs would contribute to a project as yet unidentified to rebuild a grass roots sporting facility devastated by the March cyclone in Vanuatu..Again I think this is a first.

I thank the Committees and office bearers of all Clubs for giving up their time so selflessly to ensure that membership of a Carbine Club is a very enjoyable and rewarding experience and in particular I thank the Melbourne Carbine Club's Committee for their enthusiasm, energy and support. I am also very grateful to my predecessor, Don Abell, who accepted my invitation to stay in the Committee for another year after his term as President finished.

I am looking forward to seeing a lot of Members of various Clubs at the CC Congress in Perth in March. Lloyd Meredith and his Committee have put together a great program which will be well worth attending.

On behalf of the Carbine Club Committee, I wish all Members and your families a safe and happy festive season and a productive 2016 during which I hope to catch up with many of you

*~ Graeme Johnson, President*



## CARBINE CLUB OF SINGAPORE CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Coup is not a word used very often in Singapore, however, the Carbine Club achieved precisely that on Friday 11 Dec in having Wallabies Coach Michael Cheika join the inimitable Roy Masters and News Ltd.'s Chief Political correspondent Malcolm Farr as guest speakers. The traditional Christmas lunch in Singapore is usually a members only event, but with the line up of guest speakers generating overwhelming enquiry there was no choice but to expand the afternoon.

The Hyatt rose to the occasion with usual flair preparing an array of Asian dishes including Chilli Squid, Roast Duck with Hoisin, Sticky Chilli Caramel Pork Ribs, and Wok Fried Black Pepper Lobster. Throwing down such great fare was made all the easier thanks to the outstanding contribution of wine and beer from Treasury Wine Estates and Pacific Beverages.

President David Brooker welcomed guests with his usual dry humour and thanked visiting Carbine members from other jurisdictions including Phil Timney and David Loy from the Northern Territory. Disregarding the running sheet Brooker made an early call to get Roy Masters to the lectern to tell a tale of his recent trip to Iceland. The tone for the afternoon was set.

Malcolm Farr took the expat-heavy crowd through the year that was in Australian politics while Roy followed with a similar review of the year in sport. All were then given a moment to replenish their glasses before they alternately fired question after question at Cheika in a lively session after lunch. Michael's contribution to the lunch was fantastic and humble: long after the red wine stained tablecloths had been removed he was still happy to engage with guests and be in photo after photo. Adjourning to the bar downstairs for the 'President's Shout' Masters and Farr channelled their journalistic roots and hooked into some very very very dry martinis and things went south from there.

The Club in Singapore takes this opportunity to wish all members a safe Christmas and healthy 2016.

*(thanks to Special Member Michael Palmer for this report- see also the collage following)*





RACHEL TANG DISPLAYS THE AUCTION ITEM



Michael Cheika joins a group including Andrew Flynn Regional Director, Emirates (far right)



Malcolm Farr checking the wine!



Malcolm Farr



Roy Masters



Roy and Malcolm interview Michael Cheika



David Loy GCN, David Brooker GC and Grant Kelley GC Spore



## CARBINE CLUB OF the ACT

The Carbine Club of the ACT finished off 2015 with two great events.

On a very warm Monday, 30 November afternoon, 13 members took to the fairways of Royal Canberra Golf Course for the third annual Carbine Club Russell Parkes Memorial Golf Day. A fantastic day was had by all with Helen Parkes presenting Doug Chester with the Cup after he top scored with 37 points.

A couple days later on Friday 4 December, 48 members attended the AGM luncheon in the Boardroom at Jim Murphy's. The newly renovated Boardroom was a great backdrop for the afternoon and a big thanks to Adrien and Margaret Murphy for hosting the 2015 AGM luncheon. It was also great to have Club Patron, Hon. John Gallop attend in what was an afternoon of great food, great wines and great conversation.



Above – The Boardroom at Dan Murphy's ready for our lunch.

At left-Doug Chester (holding the cup) with Helen Parkes and Club President Mac Howell

*(Thanks to Paul Walshe, Secretary CCNSW for keeping us informed on ACT events).*





## HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL RACES CELEBRATION



(picture of Sha Tin courtesy SCMP)

*The International Races in December in Hong Kong are firmly established as one of the major and must see events on the world racing calendar with the cream of the international crop descending on Hong Kong for the prestigious racing. The Carbine Club of Hong Kong conducts a major luncheon which has a special place in the week of first class racing and celebrations; our HK correspondent, Club Member Danny Zigal, filed this report:*

The Carbine Club of Hong Kong held its annual International Races Luncheon on Friday 11 December 2015 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Wan Chai. This event is part of the magnificent “World Turf Championships” racing week held in Hong Kong every December.

In attendance were over 350 members and guests and a fine day was had by all. Regular MC Mark Richards did an excellent job as always, while President Trevor Gregory welcomed everyone and introduced some very special guests including the day’s speakers.

Michael Tibbatts, Special Member, past President of the Hong Kong Carbine Club and former Hong Kong Jockey Club official, was first out of the barrier and recounted some hilarious stories relating to his time as a Hong Kong Jockey Club official working under Maj Gen Guy Watkins. Mike concluded by proposing the “Toast to Racing.”

Paul O’Sullivan, Hong Kong Carbine Club Member and local trainer, revealed a hidden side with his bawdy ditties. Paul had the audience cheering as he delivered his poetry which seem to be penned for special occasions and, at times, certain people. Few in the audience would have volunteered to be the subject of the next one.

John Rothfield, better known as “Dr Turf”, had the audience bursting with laughter with his stories, gathered over a long career as a punter and racing man. John proposed the “Toast to the Carbine Club.”

The lunch concluded with Hong Kong Jockey Club race caller Brett Davies delivering an exciting Phantom Call of the International Sprint – one of the four big races contested on the Sunday. Brett called the result as (1) Gold-Fun, (2) Green Mask, and (3) Peniaphobia. The result of the race was Peniaphobia first, due to a magnificent front-running ride by the Magic Man – Joao Moreira – the fast closing Gold-Fun second with Not Listenin’tome filling the third placing – so Brett was very close to the mark.

The club raised a significant amount at the lunch to donate to long-term beneficiary of this event – Riding for the Disabled in Hong Kong.

The Carbine Club of Hong Kong wishes to acknowledge the kind support of Inglis and Tattersalls for their ongoing sponsorship, Cathay Pacific for flying our guests to Hong Kong, as well as the Grand Hyatt Hotel for accommodating the guests and putting on such an outstanding affair. After the lunch, members and guests retired to the Poolside Bar to continue exchanging mostly exaggerated stories, one of which was that a certain Hong Kong Carbine Club member backed the Melbourne Cup winner Prince of Penzance.



**The Diary 2016**  
*Please note important dates in your diary!*

<b>5 January</b> <b>QLD</b> Magic Millions Luncheon Gold Coast Turf Club			
<b>5 February</b> <b>TAS</b> Derby Lunch Elwick Racecourse	<b>16 February</b> <b>South Australia</b> AGM & Lunch	<b>26 February</b> <b>PNG</b> AGM Crowne Plaza	<b>29 February</b> <b>New Zealand</b> Charity Golf Day Pakuranga Country Club
<b>2 March</b> <b>South Australia</b> V8 Luncheon to celebrate "Clipsal500"	<b>8 March</b> <b>Congress starts!</b> Perth, WA	<b>11 March</b> <b>WA</b> Congress Luncheon Rendezvous Grand	<b>12 March</b> <b>QLD</b> Carbine Club Raceday Gold Coast Turf Club
<b>20 March</b> <b>The Carbine Club</b> Members & Partners Day, Swettenham Stud & Mitchelton Winery			
<b>8 April</b> <b>Hong Kong</b> Rugby Sevens Luncheon	<b>19 May</b> <b>The Carbine Club</b> Annual Meeting & Members Lunch, Garden Rooms, Crown	<b>13 June</b> <b>The Carbine Club</b> Golf Day, Huntingdale (tbc)	<b>14 June</b> <b>Annual Dinner and Delegates Meeting, The Australian Club Melbourne</b>
<b>18 August</b> <b>The Carbine Club</b> Members Lunch, Heroes Club (Toorak RSL)	<b>27 September</b> <b>The Carbine Club</b> AFL Grand Final Luncheon at Crown	<b>28 October</b> <b>The Carbine Club</b> VRC Derby Eve Luncheon at Crown	
<b>13 December</b> <b>The Carbine Club</b> Members Christmas Lunch at RACV	<b>Your event here!</b> <b>Details to:</b> <b><a href="mailto:carbiner@netspace.net.au">carbiner@netspace.net.au</a></b>		

*This is the final Carbiner for 2015 -thanks to all those who have contributed stories and pictures to help keep our membership at large informed on Club activities and events.*