



The Carbiner

"For sport and for good fellowship"



The Autumn (for some) Edition 23 April - Number 5 for 2017

London News PNG Members Lunch Hong Kong

Carbine Club of London - Cheltenham Festival Racing Dinner~by Terry McCaughey



The Carbine Club of London held the second Cheltenham Festival Racing dinner at the delightful Lutyens Restaurant in Fleet Street on 7 March where over 80 members and guests heard from outstanding speaker Sir Mark Prescott Bt and an hilarious tipping panel from within the membership.

After a generous round of pre-dinner drinks, President Peter Jensen once again kicked off proceedings by welcoming VIPs, guests and members and proposing a toast to the Carbine Club of London before placing proceedings in the very capable hands of MC, Nick Luck, noted racing journalist and former front man of the very popular Channel 4 Racing programme, for the rest of the evening.

President Peter Jensen opens the evening



The Tipping Panel, with MC Nick Luck interviewing Jim McGrath and last year's speakers, George Baker (left) and Richard Phillips (right)

Jim earlier presented a phantom call of the Gold Cup and the tipping panel vied for a magnum of Bollinger!



Sir Mark addresses his audience

New Members

Terry McCaughey, our London correspondent, reported that three new members have been admitted to the London chapter:

Ken Ryan, formerly of the Victorian club, has transferred to London to take on the position of Agent General to the United Kingdom and Commissioner to Europe for the State of Victoria.. During the week of his arrival in London, Ken was able to squeeze in a quick visit to the Cheltenham Festival Dinner.

Businessman and entrepreneur **Balthazar Fabricius** (introduced by Peter Jensen) who is a co-founder of Fitzdares. Balthazar was also a co-executive producer of the cricket documentary Fire in Babylon in 2011.

Michael Barker (introduced by John Revie) is an Australian working in London as an Investor Relations Manager at easyJet. Michael is currently the captain of the Australian High Commission cricket team and played over 200 games of Australian Rules football for North Old Boys Football Club in Melbourne. Also a keen race goer, Michael has had success as an owner in Victoria, Australia.

The London club also boasts an impressive list of Sporting Associates:

Stuart Barnes – former England International rugby player
Luca Cumani – Classic winning Newmarket racehorse trainer
Sean Fitzpatrick – former All Black captain and RWC winner
Brett Gosper – former u21 Wallaby and CEO of the IRB
David Gower – former England cricket captain
Sally Gunnell – British gold medal Olympic hurdles champion
Michael Lynagh – former Wallaby Captain and RWC winner
Jim McGrath – leading racing commentator
Alice Plunkett – Previously Channel 4 now ITV television presenter
Sir Mark Prescott Bt. – Noted Newmarket racehorse trainer
Sam Waley-Cohen – Britain’s leading amateur horse riding jockey
Shane Warne – probably the world’s best ever leg spinner

The next event for London is a visit to Sandown Park Racecourse on 25 May where Carbine Club President, and also Chairman at Sandown, Peter Jensen has organised a package for members and guests in the Gold Suite to enjoy the twilight race meeting.

The Carbine Club of Papua New Guinea~ by Derek Hunter

(Derek Hunter is now The Carbiner correspondent for PNG. Welcome aboard Derek).

The Carbine Club of Papua New Guinea held its first club lunch of 2017 on 7th April at the Bacchus Restaurant, located within the Airways Hotel Resort, the base for the 2018 International Congress. New members were welcomed and the 'strapper' for the year announced.



Kumul is the pidgin english word for PNG's official bird of paradise – the reggiana. It is also the name adopted by the Papua New Guinea Rugby League team. Kumul number 9 cap Rod Pearce, a longtime member of the Carbine Club, was part of the first official Kumuls team that played in the inaugural game against England in Port Moresby on 6 July 1975. He is seen here welcoming new member, Mark Mom, Kumul number 184, a former captain of the Kumuls and former Canberra Raider, now In-Country General Manager for the NRL in Papua New Guinea.



In other news from PNG, long serving member John Robinson (pic left) has relinquished the role of secretary after many years of service with Tony Carbry now stepping into that role. Derek Hunter is the new Carbiner correspondent for PNG.

Carbine Club of Hong Kong Rugby Sevens Luncheon~ by Danny Zigal

On April 7th The Carbine Club of Hong Kong held its annual Rugby Sevens Luncheon at the Hong Kong Football Club. It kicked off at 12:00 noon for drinks with luncheon served at 12:45pm. There were 580 members and invited guests in attendance.

Some notable changes took place at the luncheon. This was the first Rugby luncheon in Hong Kong to include lady guests. To mark this historic change, **Ms Robby Nimmo**, reporter for the South China Morning Post was on hand to write about the success of the luncheon.

In the audience, we were honoured to have five time Olympic Gold Medalist **Sir Steve Redgrave CBE**, Chinese Gymnast **Li Xiaopeng**, who holds 16 world titles, **Warren Gatland OBE**, who was a former New Zealand rugby union coach and now head coach of the British and Irish Lions for their 2017 tour of New Zealand, four time Olympic Gold Medalist **Baron Sebastian Coe KBE**, **Ieuan Evans MBE**, former rugby union player who played for Wales and the British and Irish Lions, **Trevor Rigland MBE**, former Irish rugby player, **David Campese AM**, former Australian Rugby Union player with 101 test caps, **Bill Beaumont**, Chairman of World Rugby, **Agustin Pichot**, Vice Chairman of World Rugby and **Brett Gosper** CEO of World Rugby.

As usual the luncheon was started off by our illustrious Master of Ceremonies **Murray Burton** who once again prepped the guests for what would be a terrific luncheon. Murray introduced our President of the Carbine Club of Hong Kong, **John Ridley** who welcomed all Members and guests.

Rob Wainwright, who led Scotland to the second place behind England in the 1996 Five Nations Championship proposed the “Toast to Rugby” and then Murray introduced the colourful **Justin Harrison**, better known as “The Plank” who proposed “The Toast to the Carbine Club.”

Members and Guests were later entertained by the hilarious Yorkshireman and former rugby player **Lea Roberts**. If any member has an opportunity to listen to **Lea**, it would be highly worthwhile, if one does not mind have a belly ache from so much laughing. **Lea** was a very popular choice. If it were not for the rugby matches starting at 4:00 pm at the Hong Kong Stadium, **Lea** could have kept us in stitches until midnight. He was a huge hit and totally enjoyed by all in the audience.

The lunch raised about HK\$200,000.00 in charitable donations for The Hong Kong Football Charitable Trust.



More pics overleaf.....



Past President Colin Jessie with member Richard Witts & guest



Rob Wainwright with Andy Nicol



President John Ridley



580 members and guests enjoying the lunch



Annette Stedman with Justin Harrison



Charlie Bright & Darren Tucker



Treasurer Dave Garcia with President John Ridley & Guests



Coming Events:

SA SAJC Autumn Carnival Luncheon on 5 May

PNG Carbine Sportsman's Lunch (Racing) on 12 May

NSW Commonwealth Games Luncheon on 12 May

VIC AGM and Members Lunch, May 16 at Garden Rooms, Crown

QLD State of Origin Luncheon on 26 May

TAS AFL Lunch on 26 May

PNG PMGFC Gantry Lunch (MO) on 9 June

The Annual Dinner of the Carbine Club is on [Wednesday June 14](#), The Australian Club

NT V8 Supercars on 15 June

London Lord's Long Room Luncheon on 27 June

Singapore Racing Lunch on 8 July

SA 34th Anniversary Members Lunch 20 July

NT Raceday at DTC on 29 July

NT Darwin Cup Luncheon on 3 August

For those who travel to the events in Melbourne, jot down these dates now!

Tuesday, Sept 26 – AFL Grand Final Luncheon at Crown

Friday November 3 – VRC Derby Eve Luncheon at Crown

INTERESTING MOVE BY CC LONDON

In 2016 the committee proposed some fundamental changes to the way the Club should move forward in London. The principle change was to the subscription policy, which was moved from a nominal £50.00 per annum to the more substantial amount of £200.00. With this larger amount it was decided to offer gratis entry to the AGM Melbourne Cup dinner held on Melbourne Cup eve each year. The increase in subscriptions was seen as a way to offer an exit for those members not fully committed and to free up spaces for newer and more active members to join.