

# The Carbiner

'For sport and for good fellowship"



## THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB

EDITION 21 of 2019- 20 Dec President's Christmas Message CC London Wrap Up for the Year CC Tokyo Wrap Up for the Year SA - Cricket Luncheon Upcoming Events for your Diary

The Carbiner is also available on the Club website at <a href="www.thecarbineclub.org">www.thecarbineclub.org</a>
(All contributions to the newsletter are welcomed- please send to:

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# **President's Christmas Message**

On behalf of the members of the Carbine Club, I extend Seasons Greetings and best wishes for a safe, happy and prosperous 2020.

It is a source of great satisfaction for the members of the Carbine Club here in Melbourne to see the ever-expanding footprint of the Carbine Club and its ethos of "The celebration of sport and the fellowship that it engenders".

At this year's Derby Eve lunch, we paid tribute to one of the original founders of the Carbine Club, Trevor Craddock, who continued his unbroken record of attendance (57 years) at this longest standing of any Carbine Club event. It was in fact 50 years since Trevor himself proposed the Toast to Racing at the Derby Eve lunch in 1969.

What a year it has been for our two newest Carbine Clubs – London and Tokyo, whose programs have celebrated the key sporting events in each city and with Tokyo it continues next year with the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Once again, thank you all for your support and may the Carbine Club spirit continue around the world during 2020.

Rod Fitzroy
PRESIDENT

President Rod with Trevor
..and with Amanda Elliott, VRC Chairman





### The Carbine Club of London

The establishment of the Carbine Club of London in recent years has been a great success story – membership of the club is sought after and their events have become a fixture on the London sporting events calendar. Already the Club's Cheltenham Preview Dinner to be held in March, 2020 is almost sold out!

CC London strives to ensure that membership communications are to the fore and for some years **Terry McCaughey** has carried out that task with distinction. As Terry has now taken the role of Treasurer the
communications effort is now in the hands of two of the young members in **Balthazar Fabricius** and **Hugh Taggart** who have provided this summary of the year's activities:



# "That was the year that was ...

*In April* the peerless Paul Nicholls and the priceless Bryony Frost regaled 135 people at the Oxo Tower for the Cheltenham Preview Dinner. Both brought insight and passion to the dinner and duly saluted at Cheltenham.

The bandits and bogeys were out in force *in May*, as Peter Cozens hosted members and their guests at Royal Mid-Surrey for some ordinary golf but truly exceptional curry...

In **June**, The Jockey Club opened its doors to a delegate of Carbiners who walked the heath, visited the stables of Classic winning trainer Hugo Palmer, took in the outstanding National Horse Racing Museum and dined amongst the 'Stubbs' at the exquisite Jockey Club Rooms.

In August, when summer finally arrived, the Long Room once again played host to the annual Lord's Luncheon. The function straddled an epic World Cup Final and an Ashes series for the ages. Jason Gillespie & Steve Harmison shared high-level insights hosted by BBC's Johnny Barran.



And on the *first Monday of November* Croc McGrath gargled the throat, loosened the lips and called home [another first four] in his now legendary Melbourne Cup phantom call at the Club's AGM. And in a sign of modern times, we were also addressed by Alex Kay-Jelski, Managing Director of The Athletic, the start-up sports media business that is disrupting traditional forms of journalism".

The Club has set its schedule of events for 2020 – see the attached Calendar of Events – the annual Lord's Long Room Luncheon is popular with overseas members with a full table of visitors in attendance for the 2019 edition, so mark your diaries now and start planning that visit!

# Carbine Club of Tokyo Completes a Banner Second Year

# In more news from overseas clubs, Mark Darbyshire has provided this report on the second year for the Tokyo Club:

"The Carbine Club of Tokyo went from strength to strength in 2019. In our second year, we celebrated Super Rugby, what proved to be an immensely successful Rugby World Cup, and the Melbourne Cup with heavily attended luncheons.



The action kicked off with a 130-seat event on May 22 to preview a Super Rugby matchup between Japan's Sunwolves and the Melbourne Rebels. The luncheon was the brainchild of Tokyo club member Darrin Hartshorn, who had noted the Rebels' strong contributions to rugby union in Japan. Andrew Cox, the Tokyo club president and rugby fanatic, leaped at the opportunity to

make this luncheon a celebration of all that is great with this sport.

Darrin and Andrew soon secured the backing and enthusiasm of both teams for the event. Rebels attendees included Chief Executive Officer Baden Stephenson and Head Coach Dave Wessels. The Sunwolves representatives included Chief Executive Yuji Watase and Chris Webb, who manages the high-performance programs of the Sunwolves and the Brave Blossoms, Japan's national team. British journalist Rich Freeman, a long-time writer about the Japan scene, emceed a panel discussion in which these special guests explored all aspects of professional rugby. Joining them was Robbie Deans, a former All Black and the most successful coach in Super Rugby. New member Emily Downey starred in the charity auction by paying a huge premium for a signed Sunwolves jersey and delighting in her new acquisition.

With this thoroughly enjoyable event complete, we soon switched attention to what Andrew and fellow member and Treasury Wine Estates wine supplier Travis Brown would bill Super Saturday. This event was to seat hundreds of sports fans at Tokyo's esteemed Grand Prince Hotel New Takanawa. It would preview a Rugby World Cup clash between Australia and Wales and present Tokyo's largest live streaming of the AFL Grand Final.



#### **CARBINER 21-2019**

The event was our largest and most successful to date. It attracted a respectable complement of around 400 diners eager to sample the sumptuous fare. Attendees at this event included a table of members and friends of the Carbine Club of New South Wales and two tables representing the Carbine Club of Papua New Guinea. The New South Welshmen were resplendent in their floral RWC 2019 tour shirts. We wish to thank Peter Kerr from the NSW club for organizing his contingent, and were saddened that he was unable to attend owing to illness. Thanks also to Glenn Maitland and Tony Westaway from the PNG club. We are also indebted to Carbiner magazine producer Mery Hill for publicizing Super Saturday.



Attendees were treated to a spellbinding panel discussion hosted by none other than the Voice of Rugby, Gordon Bray, a member of the NSW club. He has covered every Rugby World Cup, and called the game between Australia and Wales on the following day. Gordon mesmerized the crowd with a collection of witty pre-panel stories and then set to work

getting the most out of our rugby legend panelists from Australia and Wales: Stirling Mortlock, James Holbeck, Ian Williams, Rupert Moon, and Gareth Jenkins. This session was considerably longer than planned, much to the satisfaction of attendees. It was several minutes into the AFL Grand Final clash between the Richmond Tigers and GWS Giants that Gordon wrapped things up and the audio went on for the live feed on twin jumbo projector screens.

The final gathering of 2019 was the Melbourne Cup on November 5. We took over this perennially popular event at the behest of the Australia Society of Tokyo. Carbine Club of Tokyo member Patrick Sullivan oversaw this luncheon, performing a very creditable job. Almost 100 ladies attended this 120-seat gala event at the Roppongi Hills Club. In keeping with the best traditions of the Melbourne Cup, they dressed up to the nines and sported some stunning headgear. Before the big race, each table engaged in a Calcutta auction, raising significant amounts of money for charity in the process. Throughout, diners were able to view races live on multiple screens at the venue.



Our three luncheons for 2019 raised an aggregate 2 million yen (almost A\$27,000 at this writing) for Rugby World Cup charity partner ChildFund Pass it Back and NADIA, the prime recipient of our donations. We thank all diners, special guests and Ambassador Richard Court, our patron, for their commitment to great causes, and look forward to their continued generosity in 2020.

With 2019's events behind us, we gathered in early December to review progress and begin planning luncheons and charity targets for 2020, when Tokyo hosts the Summer Olympics and Paralympics. Andrew announced that he would step down in February in view of his relocation to Singapore in the New Year as Meat & Livestock Australia's General Manager for International Markets. He hopes to attend Carbine Club events in Singapore. We salute his dedication and inspiring leadership, and are grateful that he will remain in touch with us in Tokyo as an overseas member and advisor.

We look forward to inviting members of Carbine Club community from around the world to join us in what we hope will be our best year yet".



## Carbine Club of South Australia - Test Cricket Lunch

Once again Carbine Club of SA turned on a great show with some excellent speakers for the Test Cricket Luncheon celebrating Australia V Pakistan at the Adelaide Oval – the  $2^{\rm nd}$  Test match between the two international teams.

L-R: David Myers (President), Paris Hall

(recipient) and Jess O'Riley (SACA)

L-R: Wayne Phillips, John Condon OAM, Justin Langer AM and Wasim Akram

Wayne 'Flipper' Phillips shone again as MC, and started the busy day interviewing the second recipient of the Junior Sports Scholarship in the sport of cricket – Paris Hall. Paris is a secondary school student playing for West Torrens and proving to be a strong contender for the International scene. She is keen to use the funds to get equipment and further her training to achieve her goal





Justin Langer AM also dropped by for another candid chat about the upcoming series, and how the Test cricket team is performing. The strong line up of fast and spin bowlers and returning form of both Smith and Warner pits Australia as the 'force' in International cricket once again.

L-R: Wayne Phillips, Justin Langer AM

Wasim Akram also showed his consummate professionalism in a lively chat with Flipper – the most engaging moment being when he retold the story of Viv Richards wanting to 'kill him' after a match with the Windies during his hay day as a test cricketer. His captain at the time who he was sharing a room with, Imran Khan told him to get out and face Viv when he came

knocking on Wasim's room door shirtless and full of rage!

To end the day, Marty Fields followed Wasim and cheered the crowd up with his routine which was very well received. He is a great entertainer, and excelled with many one liners.

A top day which also raised funds for the Can Do 4 Kids organisation who specialise in raising funds for hearing impaired children. Their fundraising achieved over \$16,000 raised on the day via a raffle and Kookaburra cricket ball lucky number envelope on each table – thanks to a generous donation by Carbine Member Sam Parkinson @ Parkinson Sport.



Solitaire also backed the entertainment on the day, and displayed 4 beautiful Jaguar cars on the Plaza area of the Adelaide Oval – F-Pace, E-Pace a standout. The end of the day saw many punters upstairs on Lindsay Head Terrace enjoying the afterburn of the luncheon.

L-R: Megan Marotti (Can Do 4 Kids), David Shipway, Lauren Pike (Can Do 4 Kids)

Cheers and Best Wishes to you all for the Festive Season and may you all enjoy a Prosperous, Happy and Healthy New Year. We look forward to welcoming many of you at the Carbine Club International Congress here in Adelaide in May of 2020. From: Ms Robbi Tims and John Condon OAM



### **Calendar of Events**

#### The London Schedule for 2020

**Cheltenham Preview Dinner** (Members and guests)

Tuesday, 3rd March, the Oxo Tower, South Bank, London SE1 9PH

Golf Day at Royal Mid-Surrey (Members and guests)

Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, Old Deer Park, Richmond, TW9 2SB

**Lord's Long Room Luncheon** (Members and guests)

Wednesday, 1st July, Lord's Cricket Ground, NW8 8QN

Melbourne Cup Preview Dinner & AGM (Members only)

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the Alfred Tennyson, Belgravia, SW1X 8LA

# The next for Queensland - a big one- 7 Jan!



# Tasmania Club has a special event on January 31st

Ross Burridge from the Carbine Club of Tasmania who also doubles as a committeeman at the local major race club is planning a big day for members and guests at the Elwick Racecourse on 31 January – first, the Carbine Club racing luncheon to be held in the Members at the track followed by a twilight race meeting which not only kicks off their Tas racing summer carnival but this will be the first meeting on the new Elwick track which has undergone a multi million total renovation by local company StrathAyr. Members and guests are invited to retain their tables in the members for the race meeting – a great day assured!



..... and over in NZ, it's golf next - on 24 Feb.

Best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Many thanks to all those who have contributed to The Carbiner through the year – Ed.