



The Carbiner

"For sport and for good fellowship"



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB

EDITION 2 of 2020- February Edition

Carbine Club Fellowship ~ a story from Flan

CCNT – Vale Dick Norris

Upcoming Events for your Diary

The Carbiner is also available on the Club website at www.thecarbineclub.org

(All contributions to the newsletter are welcomed- please send to:

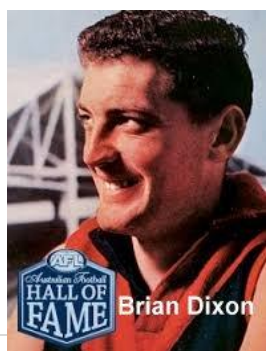
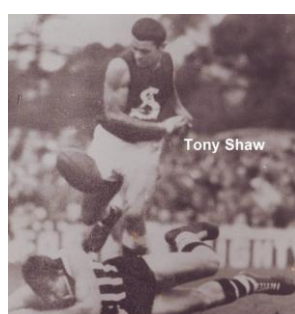
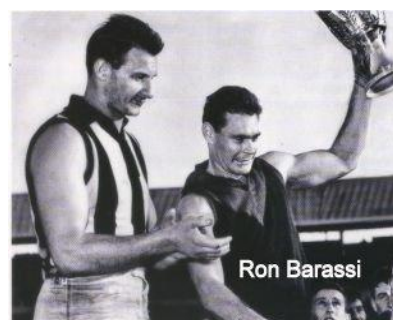
The Editor, Merv Hill - carbiner@netspace.net.au)

Carbine Club Fellowship: A Seamless Web

At the AFL website, Ben Collins reported recently that more than 100,000 people witnessed Ian Graham's wonderful goal for Collingwood in the epic 1964 Grand Final against Melbourne, yet everyone missed it. In perhaps the biggest statistical blunder in League history, Graham's team-lifting snap in the heart-stopping premiership play-off won by the Demons had been wrongly attributed to teammate Terry Waters, and the mistake was perpetuated for 55 years until it came to light recently. Incredibly, the staggering clanger has also forced a change to the Magpies' honour roll, with Graham's extra goal elevating him to joint winner of the club's 1964 goalkicking award, alongside Waters.

Two longstanding members of The Carbine Club played in that Melbourne premiership side: Ron Barassi (Captain) and Brian Dixon. The story also stirred the memory of Tony Shaw who, with Brian in 1990, played a major role in establishing The Carbine Club of Northern Territory and today is a Life Member of that club. Tony played for South Adelaide from 1962 to 1969 and was a member of their SANFL premiership team in 1964, defeating Port Adelaide.

After the 1964 state competitions finished, Tony recalls playing for South Adelaide against Melbourne (with Ron as Captain & Coach) for the title of "Champions of Australia". Melbourne won by 11 points but cemented fellowship that continues to this day via our club network.



The Carbine Club of NT- Vale: Richard Edward Norris

The Carbine Club of Northern Territory has just lost a Life Member – Richard (Dick) Norris-he was much more than just a Club member – he was a force of nature. A ten-pound Pom who made a wonderful contribution to the Carbine Club, to his community, to his sport and to a broad and remarkably diverse group of friends.

Dick was singled out through several obvious attributes. He had a physique that proved that he stayed in shape (round is a shape), an infectious and wicked laugh, a sharp and self-deprecating wit and a generosity of spirit that commanded all other parts of an admirable and unforgettable personality-he used to say his doctor believed his weight was perfect (for someone who was 7ft 4in tall).



Born at the height of the Blitz in 1940 within the sound of Bow bells and therefore a genuine Cockney, Dickie boarded the SS Canberra to come to his new land armed with his degree in Engineering, a history as a strong Rugby player and an enthusiast for several other sports – like basketball.

His girth in those days marked him a half-back in Rugby (and he played there for Sydney's Eastern Suburbs) and on the Canberra on the way out, when bar staff wanted to cut off drinks at the bar at the stern of the liner, Norris would bribe them that if he could walk from one side of the ship from the other along the stern rail – above that massive propeller and lots of ocean – then they'd have to keep serving to acknowledge his bravery, sobriety and balance. Some of those attributes were true, others perhaps exaggerated by the then much-trimmer and fitter Dickie, but he always got another drink and he survived the trip to Australia.

After coming to Darwin in 1971, he re-embraced Rugby after the Cyclone and eventually gained a stature that looked like the one-time halfback had eaten the scrum – but that was Dickie!

He served career-wise across the Top End with periods in Katherine and other centres, but he loved Darwin and its people.

He joined Carbine in 1992 and spent eight years as the Club's talented secretary, a time throughout which the CCNT grew in terms of influence, effectiveness and membership. His role as Vice President encompassed Congress planning and other duties but he was quickly consumed to the defacto presidency before his term as leader of the club started, and he stepped up with enthusiasm and skill to guide the Club through a difficult period – the right man for the job.

His wonderful nature – an ability to “take the mickey” (his words) – out of himself led Dick to be one of best examples of a Carbine member you could find anywhere. Dedicated to sport and helping youngsters, committed to his fellow members and the camaraderie of the Club and one of those willing to pitch in to make a difference.

There are many of the longer serving members of his own and other Carbine Clubs who have shared the experience of an encounter with Norris after too many reds and too few songs who have found next morning that they lost a day or so on the way in his company, but knew they were sore not only from a headache, but from laughing.

It's been tough for Dick for the past several years as he suffered through a disease that cruelly stole his personality, his ability to communicate and his wicked Cockney repartee.

His lack of mobility and difficulty attending functions has removed his physical presence from the Club's activities for some time now, but the strength of his character, his legacy of strong and measured involvement in Club activities and the wonderful nature of his friendship will stay etched on the Carbine Club of Northern Territory for many years to come.

Vale good friend. Here's to Dickie Norris – now in the long bar.

(Filed by CCNT Life Member Andrew Bruyn AM)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2020

MARCH

- 3rd** – **London** - Cheltenham Preview Dinner (Members and guests) , Oxo Tower, South Bank, London
6th - **ACT**- Black Opal Stakes Luncheon - National Press Club (Members and Guests)
12th -**TAS**- Captain's Congratulations Lunch, Blundstone Arena
19th – **VIC**- Members Heroes Club lunch Toorak RSL
20th – **NSW**- Racing Lunch, Royal Randwick
27th – **NZ**- Luncheon

APRIL

- 30th- VIC**- Annual Meeting and Members Lunch, River Room 3, Crown Towers, 12noon

MAY

- 6th- WA** - Mid week Racing Luncheon, Members + 3 guests, Directors Lounge, Ascot Racecourse
22nd- LONDON- Golf Day at Royal Mid-Surrey (Members and guests) Old Deer Park, Richmond, TW9 2SB
22nd- WA - Olympic Luncheon, Full Tables, Frasers Restaurant

JUNE

- Wednesday 3 June** – Carbine Club NRL State of Origin 1 Dinner - Boardroom Jim Murphy's (MO)

JULY

- 1st-LONDON- Lord's Long Room Luncheon** (Members and guests) Lord's Cricket Ground, NW8 8QN
9th -VIC- Annual Dinner at The Australian Club, at 6:30pm (CC Delegates meeting, RACV at 12)
31st-ACT – Carbine Club AFL Luncheon - Giants v Brisbane - National Press Club (Members and Guests)

AUGUST

- 14th-WA**- Broome Cup Luncheon, Members & Guests (optional), Cable Beach Club

SEPTEMBER

- 18th-WA**- WAFL Grand Final Lunch, Full tables, Hyatt Regency, Perth
22nd-VIC- AFL Grand Final Luncheon at Crown Palladium from 12 noon

OCTOBER

- 9th-ACT**- Tony Campbell Memorial Cup Day - Thoroughbred Park (Members and Guests)
16th-WA- Members Only Luncheon, The Shoe Function Room
30th- VIC- VRC Derby Eve Luncheon at Crown Palladium

NOVEMBER

2nd- LONDON- Melbourne Cup Preview Dinner & AGM (Members only) The Alfred Tennyson, Belgravia

20th-WA- Racing Luncheon, Full tables, Hyatt Regency, Perth

30th-ACT – Carbine Club Russell Parkes Memorial Golf Day - Royal Canberra Golf Club (MO)

30th-ACT- Members and Partners Christmas Cocktail Party - Royal Canberra Golf Club

DECEMBER

TBC Dec WA *Cricket Luncheon, venue tbc*

4th-ACT- AGM Lunch at Boardroom Jim Murphy's (Members Only)

10th-VIC- Members Xmas Lunch at RACV



CARBINE CLUB OF NSW

GOLDEN SLIPPER RACING LUNCH

Kicks off a big week in Racing
and this lunch will be the best ever

FRIDAY 20 MARCH 2020

BALLROOM

ROYAL RANDWICK RACECOURSE

12:00pm for 12:30pm

The room will be filled
with celebrities and sports people from many
backgrounds brought together by their love of racing

MC: Alan Thomas
Entertainment: Vince Sorrenti
Kurt Fearnley AO Scholarship Presentation

Post Luncheon Drinks - The Stables bar - till 7pm