



The Carbiner



For sport and for good fellowship: 32-2012

The Carbine Club of Vanuatu

[Courtesy: Tony Ryan President of The Carbine Club of Vanuatu]

The Carbine Club of Vanuatu have booted a goal with the hosting of their first ever Carbine Club Luncheon in support of the Kiwanis Charity Race Week in Port Vila on Friday the 13th March. The luncheon was held at the brand new Warwick Le Lagon Conference Center and attended by over 240 supportive members and guests, as well as visiting members from both Melbourne and PNG. The Carbine Club Lunch was the second of the major events held during the race week with the Black Tie Ball held on Thursday night and, of course, culminating in the Port Vila Cup race day on Saturday. Major sponsors Tusker Beer kept everyone fluid and in high spirits throughout the day.

MC for the day was Rod Fitzroy of the Carbine Club who graciously filled in when there was a change in programming with the booked MC having to cancel a couple of days before. He did a marvellous job. Rod performed a major coup in bringing the Emirates Melbourne Cup for 2012 to Port Vila. It created a massive amount of interest and much money was raised for the local charity with over 100 photographs being taken of attendees with the Cup. As well, Rod entertained the large crowd with the fascinating tale of the fake and lost Cups in his memorable Toast to Racing, which everyone talked about throughout the day and evening.

The Club managed to gather an eclectic bunch of guest speakers and entertainers kicking off with cricketer, Greg Ritchie who regaled the crowd with stories of his very first selection into the Australian Test Team for a tour of the sub-continent and the many - laugh out loud - situations presented from that. We learnt how the umpires were kept busy while ever he was at the crease and what it cost him to stay there.

Steve Moneghetti had the crowd listening intently while he spoke of his long and very arduous running career and the pain and rewards that this has brought to his life and family. But, also of the enjoyment that he gets from just putting on the running shoes and doing what he does best. Running.



With members of the Carbine Club of Vanuatu
President of CC of Vanuatu, Tony Ryan (Far Right) next to Rod Fitzroy and Bill Hoffman (Carbine Club)



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The afternoon flowed smoothly with a short, but lively auction headed by the Club's very own resident auctioneer, President of the CC of Vanuatu, Tony Ryan. He kept everyone on their toes and sold all the items at their peak value while squeezing out every available dollar from the large crowd. Last, but by no means the very least, it was the turn of popular WA entertainer and comedian, Peter Dee, who absolutely was not what everyone was expecting, and for nearly an hour had the members and guests in fits of laughter.

A memorable day was had by all the members and guests and the Carbine Club of Vanuatu would like to thank Rod Fitzroy for the generous giving of his time in MCing the day as well as carrying out the important duties of the Toast to Racing. Also a big thanks to the large contingent of Carbine Club of PNG members led by President Rob Allport, who made the afternoon that bit more special by their attendance. Thanks also to Bill Hoffman, our Chairman of the Affiliates Committee, for being part of what was a great day for the newest addition to the Carbine Family. From the talk of all present, the Carbine Club of Vanuatu will be around for a very long time and praise was heaped on the Club for a wonderful first up effort. Not having seen a function of this magnitude in Vanuatu, many of the Port Vila guests that attended are already asking when the next Carbine Club function will be held.



Melbourne Cup



Vila Cup