



The Carbiner

"For sport and for good fellowship"



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB

EDITION 8 of 2023- 17 June
Hong Kong – Rugby Sevens & AGM
Vale
Coming Club Events

The Carbine Club of Hong Kong



On Friday 31 March 2023 the Carbine Club of Hong Kong held its annual Rugby 7s Luncheon at the Hong Kong Football Club in Happy Valley. After three and a half years of COVID

restrictions, restricted event numbers and mask wearing in Hong Kong, it finally seemed that Hong Kong was back! Without any restrictions, we had 417 excited attendees to the lunch.

The event MC was member (and current Honorary Treasurer), Andrew Macintosh, who consulted long time Hong Kong rugby 7s lunch MC, Murray Burton, in advance of the day. Andrew did an outstanding job in ensuring that the entertaining long lunch ran to schedule and that the crowd were able to disperse to the 7s stadium in advance of the Friday afternoon 7s matches.

As is customary, the head table was introduced by our President Andrew Steadson, which included our two guest speakers for the afternoon. South African Schalk Brits and Australian Morgan Turinui had kindly agreed to speak and flown to Hong Kong for the festivities. Schalk spoke about rugby in South Africa, what the game had given him personally and his deep affection for the game, the people as well as the benefits of a professional rugby career.

Morgan, clearly not undertaking his first public speaking assignment, entertained the crowd with stories from when he received his first Wallaby call-up, winning more on the Melbourne Cup when in Wallaby camp than the value of his humble first season contact and answering some of his own questions in relation to the appointment and prospects of Eddie Jones with the Wallabies (another career beckons for Morgan as an Eddie Jones impersonator).



(HK cont...)

We were also fortunate to have a presentation from our very own long serving Carbine Club member Derek Currie, who has recently had a memoir published. The book titled “When Jesus came to Hong Kong” is an insight into Derek’s time as a professional football player in Hong Kong in the 70’s and 80’s. With flowing locks, a thick beard, and an abundance of personality Derek was quickly nicknamed “Jesus” by his many adoring Hong Kong fans. As former Scotland national rugby captain Gavin Hastings said of Derek.

“I first met Derek when I came out to Hong Kong for the 7s in 1990 just after Scotland won the Grand Slam. We thought we were the heroes, but the real Hong Kong heroes were “Jesus” and his great pal Walter Gerrard, aka the Water Buffalo ... what a pair of Scots they were together”.

Walter Gerrard played football with Derek and is a past president of the Carbine Club of Hong Kong. Derek kindly donated a signed copy of his book to the Club.



We were also treated to a live auction by long time Hong Kong property guru turned Aussie cattleman, Rob Blain. The auction prize donated by Laureus Foundation was for the “Alfred Dunhill Links Challenge” golf and hospitality package, which included four players to compete in the challenge at St Andrews along with dinner. Rod did a great job in raising a total of HK\$150,000 (A\$28,000) from the auction. When combined with generous donations of HK\$136,000 (A\$25,000) from members and guests, of a total of HK\$286,000 (A\$53,000) was donated to Rugby for Good being the charitable foundation of the Hong Kong Rugby Union. Special thanks must go to our event sponsor, Cathay for their continued and unwavering support of the club and our Rugby 7s Lunch. Both speakers mentioned the phenomenal service they received flying Cathay to Hong Kong for the rugby 7s.



Hong Kong 2023 AGM

On Friday 19th May 2023, members of The Carbine Club of Hong Kong were called to meet at the Hong Kong Football Club in Happy Valley for the Club's 32nd Annual General Meeting. It was decided to dispense with the traditional AGM dinner with partners and instead upgrade our New Members Cocktail Reception to a New Members Dinner with partners at the Hong Kong Club in June.

After the past few years of pandemic restrictions, Hong Kong is really starting to come back to life. For the 2022/3 financial year we had around 800 members and guests attend three signature events and raised a total of \$A85,000 for our chosen charities: Riding for the Disabled, Rugby for Good and Cricket Hong Kong.

Joining members were past presidents, Colin Jesse, Dr Frank Innes and our two Life Honorary Members, Daniel Zigal and Bruce Stinson. The Club also welcomed nine new members: Tracy Walker, Jonathan Cummings, Mark Tibbatts, Ed Middleton, Elliot Andrews, Patrick Bennett, Luke Shepherd, Christopher Kelly and Justin Flowers

The meeting was brought to a close and members retired to the Sportsman's Bar under the bright lights of the Happy Valley Racecourse for a few social beverages and some lively banter.



*Danny Zigall (Hon Life Member) and Dr Frank Innes
at AGM*

**Thanks to Peter Glanville, VP CCHK
for words and pics**

Congratulations Wayne Henson OAM



CCSA Member Wayne Henson has been awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his outstanding contributions to the community, in particular Thoroughbred Racing and Australian Rules Football.

Wayne has been actively involved in numerous community initiatives, from volunteering for local charities, to mentoring various groups of people and supporting those in need. His selfless and compassionate nature has touched the hearts of many.

*(we are sure that Wayne's fellow directors at the office won't mind us
using their words and pics!)*

Vale

Recently the Club has lost two members who are renowned throughout our fraternity in Sir James Hardie and Joe Lomas.



Sir James Hardy was a long-term Carbine Club member and his friendly face lit up the room when he attended Club events, which he did on a regular basis over many years. His fame as a yachtsman and winemaker was overshadowed by his wonderful nature, and he was known to all and sundry as “Gentleman Jim”. Much has been written on the life of this great Australian since his passing – suffice for us to add that his loss will be keenly felt by all those across the Club who were fortunate to know him.



Joe Lomas was a long-term member of the club in Papua New Guinea; Joe achieved a deal of notoriety for his love of a good time and he was considered to be an essential part of the Carbine Club Congress – he was a regular attendee and forged many friendships across the Clubs. Joe lived and worked in PNG for many years and in recent years retired to Queensland for a few years and then returned to his hometown of Levin in New Zealand where he recently passed away. The many who met Joe over the years will fondly recall his mischievous humour and party loving nature – R.I.P Joe.

Calendar of Events – July to December & beyond

The Carbine Club



27 July – Annual Dinner preceded by Delegates Meeting at the RACV at 12 noon.
June/July (tbc) VRC Committee Room invitation at the races – Saturday
26 Sept – AFL Luncheon at Crown Palladium from 12 noon
3 Nov – VRC Derby Eve Luncheon at Crown Palladium from 12 noon
12 Dec – Members Xmas Lunch

Australian Capital Territory



Hong Kong



International Cricket Luncheon - Hyatt Regency, Tsim Sha Tsui - 15th September 2023
CCHK Annual Golf Day - Clearwater Bay Country Club - 19th October 2023
International Racing Luncheon - Grand Hyatt Hong Kong - 8th December 2023
Hong Kong Rugby Sevens Luncheon - Hong Kong Football Club - 5th April 2024

London



New South Wales



27 July – Rugby World Cup Luncheon, Hyatt Regency

New Zealand



Northern Territory



22 July – Derby Day, Darwin Turf Club M&P
4 August – Darwin Cup Luncheon – Mindil Beach Casino M&G
8 Sept – Founders Lunch – Mindil Beach Casino MO
27 Oct – Cox Plate Lunch, Breezes at Muirhead M&G
1 Dec – Christmas Dinner, Darwin Turf Club (includes twilight racing) M&P

Papua New Guinea



25 Aug Friday-MO Italian Lunch, Lamana Hotel
22 Sep Friday- Sportsman Lunch. Hilton Hotel
28 Oct Saturday-Cox Plate Day, Aviat Club
18 Nov Saturday-MO Lunch, NFS Lounge
8 Dec Friday Members Xmas Cocktail Party, venue TBC

Queensland



24 August Members Lunch, Gold Coast (TBC)
26 Oct- Cricket Lunch (TBC)
7 Dec- Members Lunch, Brisbane (TBC)
8 Jan 2024- Magic Millions, Star Casino Broadbeach

Singapore



Friday 15th September: 'Singapore Grand Prix Lunch'; Grand Hyatt, Singapore.
Friday 15th December: 'Xmas Lunch'; Grand Hyatt, Singapore.

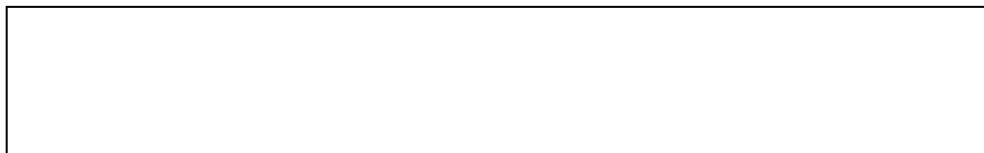
South Australia



25 July - Members Anniversary Luncheon, "The Drive", Adelaide Oval
21Sept- SANFL Grand Final Luncheon

IN THE PIPELINE:
Test Cricket Luncheon

Tasmania



Tokyo



30 September – AFL Grand Final Lunch
7 November – Melbourne Cup

Vanuatu



Western Australia



Friday 14 July -35 Year Anniversary Celebration, (Members and partners), Frasers
Friday 22 September -WAFL Grand Final Luncheon Full Tables Hyatt Regency Perth
October (date TBC)- Wine Tasting Luncheon Members +1 Guest Swan Valley
Friday 24 November Racing Luncheon- (Full Tables) Hyatt Regency Perth