



# The Carbiner

**"For sport and for good fellowship"**



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB

## **EDITION 18 of 2025- 20 December**

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### **President's Christmas Message**

Dear Fellow Members,

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.

2025 has been an excellent year for the extended Carbine Club family, with successful functions held around the world raising money for our Club and our respective charities and sporting institutions, supporting young athletes and other notable & deserving causes. A tremendous effort and result, collectively. Well done.

I am very much looking forward to seeing many of you in 2026 and to creating many more great moments and memories for Carbine Club members and guests.

The sad part of 2025 has been the loss of many loved Carbine Club members, who we are especially missing over this festive season. To their families & friends, our thoughts are with you at this time.

There will be plenty to talk about when next Clubs meet, with in Melbourne a thrilling Ashes series, a fascinating Australian Open ahead, and lots more sport for Sister Clubs to celebrate, reflect upon, and enjoy over the Christmas break.

May I end by thanking the volunteer Committee members throughout our Club network, and particularly acknowledging the hardworking Presidents, Secretaries & Treasurers for their tireless work and care for the Carbine Club - thank you all.

Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to everyone.

Yours sincerely,  
David Evans- President, The Carbine Club

## London News

The Carbine Club of London held the AGM The Boundary on the King's Road Chelsea which included the President's review the year and events.

The meeting agreed unanimously to a proposal to proceed with a limited number of junior memberships to be offered to persons under 40 years of age who would then be progressed to general membership on reaching 40.

The Club's Racing Manager, Lord (Christopher) Rathcreedan reflected on the successful racing year where 3YO gelding Carbine Harvester won 4 races – he will race in the CCL London colours for another season, and the Club has now acquired a Territories colt to be trained by William Haggis with the aim of starting off his racing career in the spring.

After dinner Richard Phillips introduced guest speaker leading sport's commentator John Inverdale. John started with the news of his fairly recent first hole in one and then produced the actual ball from his coat pocket. It was a very funny and polished 25 minutes, thoroughly enjoyed by a welcoming audience.

The evening closed with Jim McGrath's phantom call of the Melbourne Cup - always a winner with members. Jim has recently relocated to Hong Kong and Australia. In appreciation of Jim's long standing services to the Club in London he has also been elevated to an Honorary Member

The next event is the Pre-Cheltenham Festival dinner at the OXO Tower on Tuesday 3rd March with guest speaker Henry de Bromhead.

*(Thanks to CCLondon President Terry McCaughey for his continued support with news from the UK – Terry is well known to many in Australia and is visiting in the New Year, catching up with friends and colleagues from CCVIC, CCSA and CCTAS who are very much looking forward to seeing him).*

## The Carbine Club of Tokyo Finishes 2025 with Melbourne Cup Glamour and Japan Cup Insights



The Carbine Club of Tokyo entered November on a high. After a fabulous golf day in April and a successful AFL Grand Final lunch and livecast in September, we were determined to finish the year even stronger, with our Melbourne Cup Luncheon and, several weeks later, our Japan Cup Preview Lunch.

*James Cummings shared his racing insights ahead of his move to Hong Kong's trainer ranks.*

We returned to the Grand Hyatt Tokyo's Coriander Room on 4 November. Preparations were especially glamorous this year thanks to the table-decorating flair of Dani Brown and her team, including Club member Travis. More than 140 guests attended, and the afternoon featured what was quite possibly our best Fashions

on the Field contest yet. Special guests included His Excellency Justin Hayhurst, Australia's Ambassador to Japan. Former Wallaby and Tokyo Club member Bernard Foley and his rugby mates again drew plenty of attention, posing for photos with fellow attendees.

We were also fortunate to secure outstanding prizes. Members Ian Scott and Darren Morrish landed a joint sponsorship from Qantas Airways and Hyatt Centric Melbourne, a silent-auction prize of return flights for two from Narita to Melbourne, plus two nights for two at that stylish hotel. Member Monica Taylor added another silent-auction highlight by securing a high-end skincare program donation. Treasury Wine Estates continued its long-standing support with two superb Penfolds wines.

Bidding started quietly but gathered momentum through the afternoon, helped along by our emcee, Catherine O'Donnell, a well-known Tokyo-based lawyer who has served on the board of the Australia New Zealand Chamber of Commerce and the audit and supervisory boards of several blue-ribbon Japanese corporations. Her calm, confident handling of the room kept the energy up and the bids coming.

When the bidding closed and raffle proceeds were tallied, the luncheon raised nearly ¥1.2 million (around A\$12,000) for YouMeWe, a Tokyo-based non-profit that equips 33,000 children in institutional care and another 15,000 in foster homes with essential life skills, and for the Asian University for Women Foundation Japan. Michael Clemons of YouMeWe and Ali Buford of the foundation shared their heartfelt thanks.

A special thank-you also goes to Tia Haywood of TopTia Photography, an award-winning portrait professional who has captured our events beautifully in recent years. She also put together a collection of stunning highlights from the day.

Our final event of the year was the Japan Cup Luncheon at the prestigious Pullman Tokyo Tamachi Hotel on Friday, 28 November. The 40 or so attendees included racing professionals and owners from Japan and Australia who gathered to preview Japan's most prestigious race, run the following Sunday. Honoured guest James Ross, Head of Racing Commercial at the Hong Kong Jockey Club, offered a detailed assessment of the field and shared tips on likely contenders. We were also delighted to welcome James Cummings, who shared his perspectives on the Japan Cup and the wider racing scene. James is set to join Hong Kong's trainer ranks in the 2026/27 season, and he will no doubt do one of Australian racing's most storied families proud.

As always, the luncheons benefited from the incredible efforts of Tokyo Club President Darrin Hartshorn and members like Treasurer Tim Barnstable and Sponsorship Co-Managers Frank Foley and Leon Van Houwelingen.

In closing, we send season's greetings to Carbine Club chapters around the world. We look forward to 2026, and to another year of sport, good fellowship, and enjoyable times.



*The Tokyo Club's Melbourne Cup Luncheon drew terrific support from Qantas and other sponsors and from guests dressed to impress.*

## South Australia – Test Luncheon

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025, just a week out from Christmas and no doubt everyone is running around doing a few last minute chores except for the record breaking crowd of **764 people** who attended the Carbine Club of SA Test Luncheon. The venue was the Magarey Room at Adelaide Oval overlooking what many consider to be the best cricket venue in the world. Members and guests came from far and wide including NT, Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania, England and even USA.

CCSA President, Eric Granger, welcomed everyone to the Luncheon and provided an overview of the events held during the year as well as thanking our valued sponsors including BankSA, West End, Serafino Wines, Lane Print, Thomas Foods International (TFI) and Oval Hotel. Eric also had the honour of presenting long term Member, Peter Hurley AO, with Life Membership of the Club. Peter has been a very strong supporter of the Carbine Club as a whole, assisting with venues for numerous functions and also attending many Congresses with his wife Jenny.



Presentation of the Carbine Club of SA Junior Scholarship sponsored by TFI was a highlight of the day, CCSA receive a list of nominees from SACA and the recipient is chosen by the CCSA Committee Members. Jimmy Hamblin was this year's recipient; Jimmy is 17 years old and is considered a great prospect as a fast bowler. Jimmy was able to catch up one of our guest speakers, Lord Ian Botham OBE later in the day. Jimmy's parents, Julie and Damian were our very proud guests on the day.

Our MC for the day was none other than, Wayne "Flipper" Phillips, Test opening batsman and wicketkeeper; Flipper had the role as MC and was superb, especially his Interview with Ian Botham OBE and David Gower OBE. Many a story was told which kept the crowd engaged, some strong comments were also made about the current English side. A very quiet and respectful audience which is a great sign of how good the guest speakers were.

After a short break, Greg Ritchie was welcomed to the stage, it has been eight years since Greg was in Adelaide and he did not disappoint, Greg told some great stories mixed with sincerity, emotion and humour. Greg outlined his close relationship with David Hookes and how the character "Mahatma Coat" evolved during a radio interview when Hooksey was on 5AA in Adelaide. This went on for 20 years and was taken up with numerous radio stations and TV programmes around the country; Ritchie credits David Hookes for guiding him in the right direction. A great ovation for Greg Ritchie, he could have stayed for hours.

Our Charity for the day was Youth Opportunities who raised Circa \$30,000 with a raffle and an auction of a Ricky Ponting signed bat; the latter going for \$4,500 auctioned by CCSA Committee Member, Nathan Casserly.

A superb day enjoyed by everyone who attended.



L-R Hon David  
Ridgeway,  
David Rasheed  
  
Agent General  
SA UK/Europe





L-R Hon Terry Stephens MLC

L-R John Alderson, Chris Mattner, Eric Granger,

Lindsay Hick

Hon Sarah Game MLC, Brooke Kilowsky

## Paralympics Scholarship CCSA

The Carbine Club of SA started a scholarship programme for Paralympics SA in 2024 at the suggestion of two of our Members, Grant Harrison ( Vice President of Commonwealth Games Australia along with Joe Stevens OAM Commonwealth Games South Australia.

Nominations were received from athletes in the SASI Launch Pad programme which is managed by Jed Altschwager and Emily Petricola; aspiring athletes are guided through a series of tests to assess their ability in various Para sports and provide a pathway.

The Scholarship recipient for 2025 is Brooke Joppich, who, after progressing through the previous SASI Launch Pad Academy decided on wheelchair basketball as her chosen sport. Brooke also attracted attention from multiple Para-sports including rowing & cycling. Brooke's skill and commitment were recently acknowledged with an invitation to the National Under-25 Women's Pathways Camp in Canberra this December. With her growing experience and versatility across sports, Brooke's future in Para-sport is exceptionally bright.

The CCSA were invited to present the scholarship to Brooke at the presentation night for the current SASI Launch Pad programme.

Grant Harrison and Joe Stevens OAM were both on hand to present the scholarship of \$5,000 to Brooke Joppich, at this stage Brooke plans to put the funds towards the purchase of a new Sports Wheelchair which will cost \$25,000.













Right- L-R Jed Altschwager, Brooke Joppich Emily Petricola

Left- L-R Grant Harrison, Brooke Joppich Joe Stevens OAM



## Calendar of Events

	<p><b><i>The Carbine Club</i></b>  <a href="http://www.thecarbineclub.org.au">www.thecarbineclub.org.au</a></p>
	<p><b><i>Australian Capital Territory</i></b></p>
	<p><b><i>Hong Kong</i></b>  <a href="http://www.carbineclubhk.com">www.carbineclubhk.com</a>            Member Golf Day, Clearwater Bay Country Club TBC</p>
	<p><b><i>London</i></b>  <a href="http://www.carbineclublondon.org.uk">www.carbineclublondon.org.uk</a>            3 March - Cheltenham Dinner, OXO Tower</p>
	<p><b><i>Manila</i></b>  <a href="http://www.carbineclubmanila.org">www.carbineclubmanila.org</a>            26 Feb – Golf Day, Summit Point Golf and Country Club            28 Feb – Luncheon, Grand Hyatt Manila</p>
	<p><b><i>New South Wales</i></b>  <a href="http://www.carbineclubnsw.com.au">www.carbineclubnsw.com.au</a></p>
	<p><b><i>New Zealand</i></b>  <a href="http://www.carbineclubnz.org.nz">www.carbineclubnz.org.nz</a></p>
	<p><b><i>Northern Territory</i></b>  <a href="http://www.carbineclubnt.org.au">www.carbineclubnt.org.au</a></p>
	<p><b><i>Papua New Guinea</i></b></p>
	<p><b><i>Queensland</i></b>  <a href="http://www.carbineclubqld.com.au">www.carbineclubqld.com.au</a>            12 January – Magic Millions Luncheon, JW Marriott Gold Coast Grand Ballroom</p>



**Singapore**  
[www.carbineclub.com.sg](http://www.carbineclub.com.sg)



**South Australia**  
[www.carbineclubsa.com.au](http://www.carbineclubsa.com.au)  
 LIV Golf on Tuesday 10th February Adelaide Oval  
 AGM on Friday 13th March at The Arkaba Hotel  
 Racing Luncheon on Thursday 7th May at SAJC "Wolf Bass "The Man" Function Centre  
 Members Anniversary Luncheon Friday 24th July 2026 Coopers Brewery Function Facility Regency Park  
 SANFL Thursday 17th September 2026 Adelaide Oval



**Tasmania**  
[www.carbineclubtasmania.com.au](http://www.carbineclubtasmania.com.au)  
 6 Feb-Derby Day, Elwick  
 21 June – Raceday  
 16 Oct – AGM & Luncheon



**Tokyo**  
[www.carbineclubtokyo.com](http://www.carbineclubtokyo.com)



**Vanuatu**

*Magic Millions Lunch 2026*

2025 Gold Coast Magic Millions 2YO Classic Winner, O'Die, trained by Bjorn Baker and ridden by Tommy Berry.

**THE CARBINE CLUB**  
QUEENSLAND

**JW Marriott Gold Coast**  
 Grand Ballroom, 158 Ferny Ave, Surfers Paradise  
**Monday 12 January 2026**  
 11.30am – 4.00pm

**Cost: \$280 per head or Table of 10 \$2,800**  
**Dress:** Carbine Club Tie/Scarf and name badge for members.  
 Guests: smart casual (no denim or shorts).  
**MC:** Vince Sorrenti **Interviewer:** Pat Welsh

**Special Guests:**  
**Jo McKinnon:** Award-winning racing broadcaster and journalist, former Sky Racing anchor, and founder of Off the Track Horses, dedicated to promoting thoroughbred welfare and life after racing.  
**Damien Oliver:** Champion jockey and Hall of Fame inductee, with three Melbourne Cup victories, two Cox Plates, four Caulfield Cups, and a Golden Slipper among his many career highlights.  
**Vin Cox:** Esteemed bloodstock and racing executive, former Managing Director of Magic Millions, Godolphin Australia, and Yulong Investments, with a distinguished career in the thoroughbred industry.

**Bookings:** <https://www.trybooking.com/DGPCX>

**RSVP:** Friday 22nd December 2025  
 Lisa McHarg, Admin Secretary  
**Mobile:** 0432 313 366  
**Email:** [admin@carbineclubqld.com.au](mailto:admin@carbineclubqld.com.au)

Thanks to all those who have contributed to "The Carbiner" during the year and best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy new year – Ed.