



The Carbiner

"For sport and for good fellowship"



2 CARBINE 1890
JOCKEY: Bob Ramage Wt: 59kg TRAINER: W.Hickenbotham

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB

EDITION 24 of 2024- 17 Dec
South Australia – Test Cricket Luncheon
Singapore – Christmas Luncheon
Hong Kong Racing Luncheon
Calendar of Events
2026 Congress Info

Carbine Club of South Australia-Test Cricket Luncheon Thursday 5th December 2024



There was a real buzz at Adelaide Oval when Carbine Club members and their guests attended the lunch to celebrate the 2nd Test between Australia and India. 630 attendees celebrated in the Magarey Room overlooking the lauded playing turf of Adelaide Oval, long considered one of the best, if not the best Cricket Venue in the world.

President, Chris Dittmar, (*pic left*) opened proceedings and welcomed members and guests, both locally and overseas, which included The Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC ,along with her husband Rod Bunten, Charlie Hodgson CEO of SACA, Hon Katrine Hildyard MP Minister for Sport, Associate Member Matt Cowdrey MP Shadow Minister for Sport, David Firth General Manager of BankSA and Westpac Business Banking SA/NT/WA, Nick Addison CEO

AOSMA, interstate and overseas members James Herriman (CCNT)and Hon David Ridgway, Agent General for SA and member of CC London.

Chris Dittmar took the opportunity to induct Ilona Tamm and Sue Koch as Associate Members of CCSA, Ilona is our Luncheon Co-ordinator and Sue our Accounts Administrator for CCSA both of whom being valued members of the CCSA.



Chris Dittmar with Sue Koch



. and with Ilona Tamm



L-R Tom Davies, Chris Dittmar, Srinivasa Evuri and Renuka Evuri

The quality of food and service was complemented by a quality range of wines from Serafino and Commemorative West End beer from Lion; being a warm day the beer flowed freely, and wines were enjoyed by all.

As is tradition, Charlie Hodgson, CEO of SACA, was invited to the stage to announce the recipient of the 2024 Scholarship. Charlie provided an overview of the progress of last year's recipient, Hamish Case, prior to announcing Ratna Evuri as the recipient for this year. Ratna was a unanimous choice by the Scholarship Committee at CCSA. Ratna was in Queensland playing State Schoolboys cricket so his very proud parents, Srini and Renuka Evuri who were both guests of CCSA accepted the award on his behalf. Srini and Renuka migrated to Australia from India 6 years ago which has assisted their son Ratna hone his cricket skills. We thank Tom Davies from Thomas Foods, Sponsor of CCSA Scholarship.

MC for the day, Ben Hook interviewed the first of our guests, Harsha Bhogle, undoubtedly the leading cricket commentator in India whose passion and knowledge for the game was clearly displayed during the Q & A. Harsha also took time to meet with Srini and Renuka Evuri, they are all from the same city in India, it was a highlight for Srini and Renuka.



MC Ben Hook and Harsha Bhogle.

and with Mark Waugh

The room, part of the 630 attendees

After a short break, Mark Waugh was on stage and entertained the crowd with his stories and straight forward opinion on where cricket is at and what is facing the Australian side in the second Test.

Overall, neither Harsha nor Mark were confident on choosing a victor in the Second Test. No better way to finish off the afternoon than Comedian Des Dowling, who not only had the crowd in raptures but also the Governor, highly recommended.

Youth Opportunities were our charity for the Luncheon; besides the raffle, a dinner with renowned Turf Doctor, Les Burdett, at one of member Peter Hurley's hotels, was up for auction. Les is also an Icon for West End (Lion). Bidding was hectic and driven by Committee Member and auctioneer Nathan Casserly; Life Member CCSA Glenn Cooper (Coopers Brewery) was a very keen bidder, needless to say Lion were not letting it go without a fight and were the successful bidder on the day. Overall, \$23,000 was raised for Youth Opportunities.



R Nathan Casserly & Ben Hook

West End (Lion) team rejoicing after the Auction

Attendees enjoying a break during the Luncheon

(Thanks to CCSA Secretary Neville Mead for reporting in from SA)

Singapore – Christmas Luncheon



After 18 months and a 500-million-dollar renovation the Grand Hyatt Singapore finally opened its entire event space offering to The Carbine Club of Singapore. Drinks in the Pool House at Oasis started Christmas festivities and the views of the tropical pool were taken in by many for the first time. Such spectacular imagery threatened to derail the move to our designated lunch venue as guests got a little too comfortable taking in the sights.

While the beers and prawns were a good start at the pool, the President teased that those who didn't drink up might just miss the first of many courses at Pete's Place. At once, the move from the pool to the basement occurred and we were all immersed in an Italian Christmas feast for the ages. Chef Salvatore kicked off proceedings with an outline of our starters menu that included Burrata, Aged Balsamic Vinegar and Heirloom Tomatoes, Truffle and Parmigiano Risotto, Venison Carpaccio, Wagyu Steak Tartare, Melanzane, and Grilled Oysters with Salt, Lemon and Capers. While the food menu was excellent, we were fortunate to have a wine list to match with the Basket Press and Bin 389 flowing liberally.

(Roy and Chris Masters)



With a bit of food and booze on board everyone was ready for the first speaker. What a special treat lay in store: multi Walkley Award winning investigative journalist Chris Masters took the floor – and held it, for well over 45 spell-binding silent minutes. Chris spoke about his recent Ben Roberts Smith book and gave some insights into recent Australian military operations that took the critics and supporters in the room by surprise. Before taking a break for lunch (about 4:30 by this stage) Chris also provided an up to the very minute analysis and commentary on Alan Jones and his present problems. Having written extensively on both men it was no surprise that guests

were lining up to ask questions. These had to wait until after the flame grilled Wagyu Tomahawks, BBQ Lobster, and fresh clams had been devoured.

Before getting their shot at Chris, guests heard from older brother Roy who gave a fantastic update of the 2024 sporting landscape in Australia. Roy also offered up some Olympic highlights, predicted the incoming PNG NRL team announcement, and explained how the Laurie Daley Blue's Coach appointment eventuated. It was then time to turn the tables and let the guests have their say – and the questions to Chris were relentless. Handled with much aplomb, grace and sophistication Chris fielded all comers. It has been duly noted by the Club in Singapore that the Masters Brothers were a force to be reckoned with.

As 6:00 loomed and the President started to get agitated that his spot in the Martini Bar may be under jeopardy he called a hasty conclusion to proceedings and guests were moved to the bar for further conviviality. A special thanks to Andrew O'Brien and AACo for the meat, Tim D'Souza and Culina for the seafood, and all the team at the Hyatt. From us in Singapore to all other Clubs – Merry Christmas and a great 2025.

Thanks to Marty McGettigan, Secretary CCSpore, for this report on what was obviously another Singapore blinder!



Roy Masters and David Farmer



Andrew O'Brien and Nick McGlynn



Neil Steffenson, David Brooker, and Andrew O'Brien

Merry Christmas and best wishes to all for the new year.

A big thank you to all those who have contributed copy and photos throughout the year to make The Carbiner possible.

Ed.

Carbine Club of Hong Kong

A Memorable Afternoon at the Carbine Club Hong Kong International Racing Lunch

On a beautiful December afternoon, the Grand Hyatt Hong Kong played host to an unforgettable event—the Carbine Club of Hong Kong International Racing Lunch, held on the 6th of December 2024. With 435 guests in attendance, including three tour groups from Australia, the event was a roaring success. The atmosphere was brimming with excitement and camaraderie as racing enthusiasts gathered to celebrate their shared passion. The proceedings began with the Master of Ceremonies, Andrew Gerrard, who warmly welcomed everyone to the luncheon. Andrew then introduced the President of the Carbine Club, Peter Glanville. Among the distinguished guests was Major General Guy Watkins, aged 93, a former Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Jockey Club and the first President of the Carbine Club of London. His presence added a touch of historical significance to the event.

President Peter Glanville took to the stage, expressing his gratitude to the attendees and acknowledging the support of Cathay Pacific and the Grand Hyatt for their continued partnership. He introduced the head table and the two guest speakers, Matthew Hill and The Hon Harry Herbert, both of whom would soon captivate the audience with their stories.



Grand Hyatt Ballroom



President Peter Glanville



MC Andrew Gerrard



Matthew Hill (pic left) was the first to speak, and he did not disappoint. He shared anecdotes from his childhood, recounting how he developed a fascination with calling races at a very young age. Matt reminisced about traveling across Australia with his mother in her yellow corolla, stopping at various racecourses along the way. His stories, filled with humour and nostalgia, had the crowd in giggles and brought to life the colourful world of horse racing.



Next up was Tom Wood, (pic left) who performed a phantom call for the Hong Kong Cup race. Each table in the ballroom was assigned a horse from the race, and the atmosphere was electric as guests cheered for their respective horses. In a thrilling finish, Romantic Warrior emerged as the winner, and the tables with the winning horse were rewarded with Magnum Champagne bottles, adding to the celebratory mood.



Table Winners of the Phantom Race Call



This year's luncheon featured a new and exciting theme—Fashions on the Field. Guests were encouraged to dress up, and the effort was evident as the room was filled with stylish attire. Four male and four female finalists were shortlisted and invited on stage, where the winners were crowned. Each winner received a special gift from the event's sponsor, Shanghai Tang, which was celebrating its 30th Anniversary.



Fashions on the Field Winners – Adele Kneebone / Nick Thorn

The final act of the day was the much-anticipated Harry Herbert, who truly was the icing on the cake. Herbert, who had always aspired to be an actor, delighted the crowd with his theatrical flair and impeccable storytelling. He shared enthralling tales of working for Her Majesty the Queen, attending races at Royal Ascot, and handing out race tips that were warmly received by all. Harry's anecdotes about his dealings with a broker named Fat Gary and his invitation to Belarus for work had the audience in stitches. His Belarusian accent and comedic delivery made it difficult for anyone to contain their laughter. His performance was a masterclass in humour and storytelling, leaving a lasting impression on everyone present.

Hon Harry Herbert



Harry Herbert, Matt Hill and Peter Glanville



As the luncheon drew to a close at 4pm, the room was filled with happy and satisfied guests. Some even continued the celebrations at the Waterfall Bar by the poolside, further extending the joyous spirit of the day.

Reflecting on the event, it is clear that this year's Carbine Club International Racing Lunch was one of the most entertaining and memorable in recent history. The combination of engaging speakers, exciting activities, and a vibrant atmosphere created an unforgettable experience for all attendees. The positive feedback was immediate, with table bookings for the next Racing Lunch in December 2025 already coming in.



In summary, the International Racing Luncheon at the Grand Hyatt was a remarkable celebration of horse racing, friendship, and fun. The event brought together a diverse group of guests, each contributing to the day's success. With such high standards set this year, anticipation is already building for the next luncheon, promising another day of laughter, camaraderie, and, of course, racing excitement.

What's on in January

The Carbine Club year kicks off in grand style with the **Magic Millions Luncheon** on the Gold Coast on 6 Jan; in Vanuatu the new year will be celebrated on 27 Jan, albeit that may be in doubt following the disastrous natural event this week – we anxiously await news from our friends in Port Vila and hope all are safe and well.

..... and in February







A big club month – 7 Feb sees the **Tasmanian** chapter's big racing luncheon where members can not only enjoy a great CC luncheon but are then welcome to keep their table and stay on for the Tasmanian Racing Club's twilight meeting featuring the Tasmanian Derby.

South Australia comes alight for the LIV golf tournament- the club there celebrates with a luncheon at the iconic Adelaide Oval on 12 February.

In **Hong Kong** it's off to the races at Happy Valley on 19 Feb, and then it is over to **Manila** for the golf day on 28 Feb followed the next day by the inaugural luncheon, where many members from other clubs have already signified intention to attend this historic event for the newest club.

The full schedule of events reported thus far follows, and there is also further information on the **2026 International Congress to be held in Tasmania**, together with an expression of interest form.

Calendar of Events

	<p>The Carbine Club www.thecarbineclub.org.au</p>
	<p>Australian Capital Territory</p>
	<p>Hong Kong www.carbineclubhk.com 19th February- Racing Night at Happy Valley 28th March- Rugby Sevens Luncheon</p>
	<p>London www.carbineclublondon.org.uk Pre-Cheltenham Festival dinner at the OXO Tower Restaurant on Tuesday 4th March 2025 at 7:00pm The Royal Box for the Brigadier Gerard Meeting at Sandown Park on Thursday 29th May 2025 from 5pm CCL golf day at Royal Mid Surrey Golf Club on Friday 30th May 2025 from 12 noon Lord's Luncheon on Thursday 3rd July 2025 from 12 noon (tbc) AGM, Sam Vestey and Melbourne Cup Eve dinner at the Bluebird Café in Chelsea on Monday 3rd November 2025 from 7:00pm</p>
	<p>Manila www.carbineclubmanila.org 28 Feb 2025-Manila Golf Day 1 March 2025 Inaugural Lunch – The Penthouse, 70th floor at the Grand Hyatt</p>
	<p>New South Wales www.carbineclubnsw.com.au</p>
	<p>New Zealand www.carbineclubnz.org.nz</p>



Northern Territory
www.carbineclubnt.org.au



Papua New Guinea
(Sorry – we are out, all gone to Manila for golf and lunch!)



Queensland
www.carbineclubqueensland.com.au
6 January 2025 – Magic Millions Lunch, Star Casino Broadbeach



Singapore
www.carbineclub.com.sg
Friday 28th March – The Australian Way Lunch
Friday 25th July – Crabs and Cans Locked Door Lunch
Friday 12th December – Christmas Lunch



South Australia
www.carbineclubsa.com.au
Carbine Club LIV Golf Luncheon Magery Room Adelaide Oval 12th February 2025
Carbine Club AGM, Members Only. Osmond Room, Arkaba Hotel 14th March 2025
SAJC Luncheon Friday 9th May 2025 Celebrating the Goodwood, Venue Morphettville “Wolf Blass “The Man” Function Centre”.
Members Anniversary Luncheon Late July 2025 date and Venue TBC
SANFL Grand Final Late Sept 2025 Magarey Room Adelaide Oval Date TBC
Ashes Test Tuesday 16th December 2025 Magarey Room Adelaide Oval



Tasmania
www.carbineclubtasmania.com.au
7 Feb - Derby Day Luncheon, Elwick
International Congress – 5-9 Feb, 2026



Tokyo
www.carbineclubtokyo.com



Vanuatu
Monday 27 Jan – New Year Function @ Tamanu



Western Australia
www.carbineclubwa.com.au

2026 International Congress – Hobart, Tasmania

Carbine Club of Tasmania Secretary Ross Burridge AM has issued an invitation and provided an update on the 2026 Congress:

“The Carbine Club of Tasmania would like to invite all members to the 2026 Carbine Club Congress to be held in Hobart from 5-9 of February 2026.

February is a perfect time to visit Tasmania. That weekend in Hobart is a long weekend with many activities including the Hobart Cup Carnival and the Royal Hobart Regatta.

The location of the Congress is spread across two award winning adjacent hotels. The Henry Jones Art Hotel and the Macq01 hotel. Both hotels are truly waterfront and located in one of the most historic parts of Hobart.

The hotels are surrounded by many quality restaurants and bars and are a 10 minute-walk to historic Salamanca Place.

We have an action-packed agenda for you focussing on some of the best attractions in Hobart.

The pricing is still being finalised, but we expect the conference to be reasonably priced in the range of \$3,500-\$4,000 per person with a single supplement available.

Direct access to Hobart is available from most Australian capital cities.

The attached document outlines the agenda for the 4 days. It also has an expression of interest form to assist us in our planning. Please return this form by 24 January 2025.

We will have a full conference brochure out in late February with deposits required by the end of April 2025.

Details of the post congress tour will be available in February. We are looking a wine tour overnighting on Tasmania’s pristine East Coast.

We look forward to welcoming you to Hobart, a beautiful unique city.

Regards Ross Burridge AM”



Hobart. Image Credit: Darren Wright

Can Tassie Tempt You?

The Carbine Club of Tasmania looks forward to hosting delegates from across the Globe for our 2026 Congress to be held between the 5th and 9th of February 2026. Here is a brief look at what we are planning! We will be offering a choice of accommodation packages at first class hotels all situated on Hobart's magnificent waterfront, a short stroll to the heart of Salamanca, restaurants, shops, bars and galleries.



Thursday

Once you've arrived and settled into your waterfront accommodation, at either the acclaimed Henry Jones Art Hotel or the magnificent Macqo1 Hotel. We will kick off your visit with welcome drinks in our Carbine Club Bar. Then dine at your leisure in any of the award winning restaurants near by.

Friday

The delegates meeting will be held on this morning then it's off to Elwick Racecourse for our Carbine Club Derby Day Lunch and race meeting. Buses will get you to the races and back. A leisure evening will be appreciated after a big day trackside! – the Carbine Club Bar will be open

Saturday

Enjoy a morning at Salamanca Market before hopping on board the Mona Ferry travelling to Mona in style in the Posh Pit. Explore the fascinating museum and surrounds and enjoy lunch at your leisure. There's time for a catch up in our Carbine Club Bar - then get yourself ready for our 'Big Black Tie' event!

Sunday

It's back to Elwick Racecourse for the 151st running of the Hobart Cup. We will have our own designated area on course with everything you could possibly need for a great day at the races. Buses will return you to your accommodation followed by drinks in the Carbine Club Bar. Alternatively, you might like to try something different. Why not cruise the stunning River Derwent in luxury and lunch at the Award-Winning Peppermint Bay Restaurant set on the banks of the D'Entrecasteaux Channel in Woodbridge.

Monday

Delegates depart unless you choose to stay on for the post congress tour – details on this will follow.



Expression of Interest

If you are keen to join us for the 2026 International Congress in Hobart,
please return the following by 24 January 2025

*please note the estimated cost per person will be \$3,500 - \$4000 depending on
accommodation choice. Price does not include airfares.

Name: _____

Carbine Club: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Accommodation Preference: _____

Expected Number of nights: _____

Single or Double: _____

Interest in post congress tour: _____

Return to: secretarycarbinedclubtas@gmail.com or phone Ross Burridge 0419303778

We are keen to hear from you!

