



The Carbiner

"For sport and for good fellowship"



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB

EDITION 3 of 2025- 26 March
ACT Black Opal Racing Function
South Australia – AGM
Queensland Race Day
PNG Roundup
WA AGM
Calendar of Events

Carbine Club Member and renowned newspaperman Peter Blunden was recently honoured at the Melbourne Press Club's annual Quill awards where he received the MPC Lifetime Achievement Award for his sustained impact on the Victorian media.



A highlight of the awards night was the tribute to Peter, who was Editor of the Herald Sun from 1996-2007, Editor-in-Chief of the Herald and Weekly Times from 2001-2007 and Managing Director of the Herald and Weekly Times from 2007-2012

Among tributes paid, former Herald Sun chief footy writer Mike Sheahan said Blunden was the consummate newspaper man, while former Prime Minister John Howard said he could not think of a figure "in the whole News Corp stable" who had achieved as much as Peter Blunden has.

(Thanks to the Herald Sun for the pic and most of the words)

What's on in April?

Not so busy this month – CCWA will be off to Ascot for the Mid-week race day on 2 April in The Directors Lounge and CCNSW have a big one at Randwick to celebrate racing on the 4th.

(See flyer at foot of events calendar)



Carbine Club of ACT – Black Opal Racing

The National Press Club was the venue for the Carbine Club of ACT Black Opal Racing Function on Friday 7 March 2025, with a full house of members and guests both locally and interstate attending.

The luncheon coincided with the Canberra Racing Club's \$1m race day at Thoroughbred Park on Sunday 9 March featuring the 52nd running of the Group 3 Black Opal Stakes and the Listed Canberra Cup.

MC for the day was outgoing Honorary Secretary, Paul Walshe, who had the attention of all attendees from the very start and introduced Club President, Cade Brown for a welcome and opening address. Among the many guests, Cade welcomed Chair of the Canberra Racing Club Liz Clarke, CEO Darren Pearce, John McGrath from the John McGrath Auto Group, Major Sponsors of the Black Opal and special guest, legendary jockey, Damien Oliver (GOAT).



Proceedings commenced with President Cade Brown presenting new members Andy Friend, Angus Howell, John Price and Jason Mathie with their Carbine Club tie and pin. After a short break MC Paul Walshe welcomed the Racing Panel of Racing and Sports, Simon Dinopoulos, Sky Racings Kayla Nisbet, Queanbeyan Trainer Joe Cleary, and local training legend Barb Joseph. To keep the racing panel in check Racing HQ's Dave Stanley hosted the panel as they analysed and dissected the two major races at the meeting on Sunday, the Black Opal Stakes and Canberra Cup. The panel gave out both the winners of the featured races along with winners of many of the support races. A special mention to the Joseph Jones Racing team who trained 3 winners on the day.



Racing Panel

After main course, the club announced Erin Ellison as the recipient of the 2025 \$5000 Carbine Club Scholarship. Erin, who was in attendance, thanked the club for the scholarship and spoke about her passion to become a jockey along with her journey to date and the challenging road ahead. Everyone in the room had no doubts that Erin would achieve her goal and dream of becoming a successful jockey.

Then the moment came, MC Paul Walshe took to the stage to introduce and interview former champion jockey Damien Oliver and the interview did not disappoint with Canberra Times journalist Caden Helmers stating "Damien Oliver had a crowd hanging on every word with tales of dedicating a Melbourne Cup to his brother, Cox Plates, Golden Slippers, the spinal injury that almost ended his career, and even that Black Opal Stakes win 32 years ago". It was a fitting return to Canberra for Olly who was an outstanding guest speaker and more important the wonderful legacy he has left in Australian racing.

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The final part of the luncheon was the auctioning of a 5% share in a filly to be trained by the Joseph Jones Racing that raised valuable funds for future Carbine Club Scholarship.

Special thanks to the Canberra Racing Club, the National Press Club, Joseph Jones Racing and Jim Murphy's for their support of the luncheon.

Festivities continued upstairs at the National Press Club with a long enjoyable day had by all.



L-CC scholarship recipient Erin Ellison with Olly



R- Olly & Joe Cleary

Below -Nick Olive and Bram Van Arkel



Eric Koundouris & Garry Moffitt



Retiring CCACT Secretary Paul Walshe with Olly -out thanks to Paul for years of service as Secretary and also prolific Carbiner Correspondent.

South Australia - AGM

Chris Dittmar presided over his last meeting as President at the 41st AGM held on Friday 14th March 2025.

L-Incoming President Eric Granger presenting Chris Dittmar with Carbine Club Riedel Decanter and Glasses

As per usual Chris gained the attention of the 38 attendees from the very start, ribbing a few Members for the lack of wearing a tie and jacket, the temperature was only in the high 30's and the meeting held in the confines of the very cool and welcoming Arkaba Hotel.



The room settled very quickly and while it was not the quickest AGM for CCSA the process was succinct and embraced by all.

Nick Chigwidden finished his term on the Committee and was thanked by Chris for the many years of dedication working on the committee and overseeing many successful events as Committee Member and President. The vacancy was taken up by Arabella Branson who brings a strong professional background and years of experience from sitting on various business and sporting body boards.

Life Membership was awarded to Peter Hurley who has been a member of CCSA for 30 years during which time Peter has attended and taken a table at nearly every event and assisted the Club greatly with access to functions, meeting rooms etc over the years while also attending many of the Congresses along with his wife Jenny.

The Club also celebrated two new Members, Wendy Williams and Terry Williams (not related) both of whom have been regular attendees at luncheons prior to this opportunity to become Members.

At the end of the Meeting, incoming President, Eric Granger, thanked Chris Dittmar for his input as President over the last two years especially on his commitment to bring LIV Golf as an extra Luncheon with over 1400 Members and guests at the Luncheons in 2024 and 2025 backed by guest speakers, namely Greg Norman and Cam Smith. Eric's sincere comments were supported by all attendees at the AGM. Chris thanked all involved and considered it an honour to be President of CCSA.

Attendees at the AGM settled down to a superb Luncheon along with refreshments to discuss current topics, Football and Cricket were high on the agenda. The long Lunch continued.

Life Members L-R Elaine Condon, John Condon OAM, Wolf Blass AM

L-R Nick Chigwidden, David Shipway AM



Queensland – Race Day

After a weather delay thanks to Tropical Cyclone Alfred, the Carbine Club Gold Coast Stakes Jewel Race Day finally went ahead on 15 March at the Gold Coast Turf Club as a twilight meeting—and what a day it was! With over 250 guests in attendance, a significant lift from the previous year, the Glasshouse was buzzing with a sea of racing enthusiasts and VIP Guests.

The feature race was taken out by That's Molly, trained by Laurie Mayfield-Smith and ridden by Ceejay Graham, who had a fantastic day in the saddle, riding a treble.

The final race of the day saw Flag Hall, trained by Hall of Fame trainer Lee Freedman, cross the line first - Lee was a special guest at our Magic Millions Carbine Club Lunch earlier this year at the Star Gold Coast with his daughter Emma. Lee tipped that winner to Peter and Corinna on their way out to the mounting yard.

A huge thank you to our sponsors Assured Management, Aquis Park, TAB, and XXXX for their generous support in making the day a success. A fantastic day all around, and we can't wait to see you all back next year!

📷 Pictured: Carbine Club QLD President Peter Gwynne and Corinna Davey presenting the trophy to the connections of the winner of the Carbine Club race.



This was Peter's last official function before handing over to Danny Copley at the upcoming AGM on 28 March.

The Gates Have Dropped.....and Carbine Club of PNG Is Off and Running for 2025.

(CCPNG Secretary Max Beagrie, fresh from the visit to Manila, updates us on PNG events and news)

Carbine Club PNG – AGM

Friday 21st February was the Annual General Meeting of Carbine Club of Papua New Guinea. With an exceptional year in 2024, the Committee from 2024 was re-elected unopposed by the Members for 2025. The AGM and following lunch venue was at the Rapala Restaurant, Crown Hotel Port Moresby.

Office Bearers and Committee: President – Mr. Tony Carbry MBE, Vice President – Reg Monagi, Honorary Treasurer – Derek Hunter, Honorary Solicitor – William Frizzell, Honorary Secretary – Max Beagrie, Committee – David Bishop, David Ham, John Nilkare, John Robinson, Brent St Hill

New Members: Town- Jason Drews, Andrew Langley, Scott Ryan.

Reserves – Simon Brendling, Lachlan Halstead, Chris Tyson. Country – Angus King



L-AGM in Progress

Below L – members Andrew Langley, Terry Hall, Mark Gibbons, Warwick Vele

Below R – Committee present the annual report



Carbine Club Manila – Lunch of a Lifetime (Inaugural Lunch and Golf Day)



Carbine Club Secretary Tony Carbry MBE fronts the team from “The Travelling Club”, preparing for the events in Manila!



President – Tony Carbry MBE answered the call from Carbine Club Manila founder Mr. Chris Moriarty to attend the Inaugural Luncheon, bringing with him 40 plus members and guests from Papua New Guinea. Moriarty and his team laid the red carpet out for all. A meet and greet with sundowners at the roof top bar of the Grand Hyatt was a welcome start for weary travellers.



The following day was a very exclusive opportunity to play golf at the Manila Golf Club, a truly spectacular course with a stunning background. It's very rare to have a golf course, where if you hit O.B., you are hitting a 70-storey building. Smack bang in the middle of the CBD of a city of 15 million people with Persian carpets for fairways and slated snooker tables for greens, all these factors justify its Membership fees.

Then came the big day, the Inaugural Luncheon took on a unique format with guests looking down on Manila city as the background to the main stage, where Carbine Club Manila inaugural President – Mr. Max Stewart expressed his gratitude to all for attending and emphasised the Carbine values and what Carbine Club - Manila's potential means to Philippine's sports and athletes. With Chris Moriarty hosting the luncheon and having Q&A with the Guest Speakers. Main Speaker – Graham Lloyd, a true gentleman and gentle giant from Geelong with 2 x World Series Baseball rings and an Olympic Silver medal. Philippines only female Olympic Gold Medallist, Hidilyn Diaz, with her story of triumph in the face of adversity and her continued support of her sport, Weightlifting, on a local community level. Attendees also heard from Ada Milby, the President of Philippines Rugby and the only female member of the World Rugby Council.



5. Intense discussions underway of where the after party will be.

With the Luncheon closing well after the sun had fallen, all members staying in the Grand Hyatt appreciated the convenience of catching a lift straight down into their rooms for a well-earned rest. Carbine Club PNG are looking forward to this format being a marquee event on Carbine Manila's calendar for 2026.



L- Committee Member Brent St Hill with his newly acquired World Series ring

R- A quiet night cap at the end of the lunch

New Members Welcome – Aviat Balcony Bar



Vice President – Reg Monagi officiated at the New Members Welcome Function, with the President overseas on official business. A casual and small affair with a few senior members providing an insight into their own experiences in the Carbine Club, to the new members. Thank you to Member – Terry Hall (ex – Treasurer) for providing a recount on the origins of Carbine and the PNG Club.

Vice President – Reg Monagi. New Members – Jason Drews, Andrew Langley, Scott Ryan.

Members Only Lunch - Bacchus Restaurant

Carbine Club of Papua New Guinea had their traditional first members lunch of the year at the fine dining restaurant of Bacchus, at the Airways Hotel. Always a popular event, with 44 members present to enjoy the exquisite lamb, salmon, wines and SP Beer. The opportunity was taken to honour those members who have diligently provided their support over 25 Years of Membership, congratulations to President – Tony Carbry MBE, Tony Westaway, John Robinson, David Toua, Past President – Greg “The Champ” Rudani, Vice President – Reg Monagi.

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Member – Cameron Taylor then took centre stage to provide a historical recount on his sporting background, with wearing the green and gold for Rowing at the Junior World Championships and then pursuing sailing. Now a champion sailor being the current winning Skipper of PNG's premier offshore sailing/endurance race "The 3 Peaks". He has his eyes set on a Sydney to Hobart.

Reserve Member Simon Brendling provided the membership who missed the charter to Manila a debrief on what those that attended had experienced. Infamously starting the "Brendling Cup", which is the precursor to the official Carbine Club Golf Day and played at The Orchard Golf and Country Club. Simon has been a welcome inclusion to Carbine Club PNG and his organisational skills are second to none....the bus was on time at the Hotel on Thursday!

Finally, to keep the members focused and inspired, Committee Member – David Bishop provided a brief on his and PNG's Super Fish, Member – Ryan Pini, on their training and upcoming participation in swimming for PNG at the World Aquatics – Masters Championships in Singapore (August). The invitation was extended to all members that would like to join in the 5am training sessions in preparation for the tournament, needless to say it was met with deafening silence. Good luck to David, Ryan and the team, we look forward to hearing from them after the event.

With all the awards and speeches completed, the membership retired to the Cigar Bar at Bacchus to sample some of Cuba's finest exports.



CCPNG Members at the Bacchus and in the Cigar Bar

Member Cameron Taylor displayed his green & gold Jacket and regaled on what might have been





25 Year Member Badge – Recipients. President – Tony Carbry MBE. Tony Westaway. John Robinson. David Toua. Past President - Greg “The Champ” Rudani. Vice President – Reg Monagi.



Reserve Member – Simon Brendling and the “Brendling Cup”.



Formalities over and time to enjoy a beer and wine with robust conversation.

The future looks bright for Carbine PNG. 25 Year Member - David Toua and son, Special Member – Aidan Toua.

CCWA AGM

The Carbine Club of Western Australia held its AGM on Friday February 21st, 2025, on the banks of the Swan River at the highly regarded Matilda Bay Restaurant in Nedlands.

The highlight of the meeting was the award of life membership to Reg Webb after 27 years of membership with the Club. The Carbine Club of WA Patron Lloyd Meredith presented Reg with his life membership award and had the following to say at the meeting.

"Reg Webb joined the Carbine Club of WA in 1997 and in 2003 was elected to the position of Treasurer – the 3rd such person to hold this highly esteemed office. In 37 years the club has only had 5 treasurers.

Reg has made an enormous contribution to our club – far greater than the 9 years he spent as Treasurer. He did it all in the "Reg Webb" style that any member who has had a drink or two with Reg will understand .

In his days as Treasurer, Reg made it his business to know every single member of the club – something achieved by very few of our members over the years. Reg showed it is not only possible to do this but it is really quite easy. The job of treasurer back then was vastly different to what is required today. Nobody had heard of an eft in 2003 – you paid either by cash or cheque. and Reg was right onto any member who failed to pay for his lunch table on or before the day.

For Reg's first 2 years as Treasurer I happened to be the Secretary. It was our joint responsibility to arrange table locations for the club lunches. One thing that has not changed since those days is the whinging from members when they draw the back pocket or the wing in the dining room! Reg introduced a novel way of fixing this problem. He and I made sure his and my tables were always in the back row – that quickly silenced members complaining about their table location.

In those days everyone paid in cash or by cheque. It was common that Reg was left with thousands of dollars in his possession at the end of the day – and the bank didn't open until Monday. Reg particularly enjoyed the fellowship at the bar after each and every lunch. On one particular day at the Sheraton in Perth, Reg got an earlier start than usual and decided that he could not be responsible for the club's takings. As I was about to leave he asked me to look after the bag. We still drove home from lunches back then so it was no problem for me until, on Sunday morning my wife Jan and I were taking off for lunch. We piled into my car and Jan said "what's this bag doing here?" Yep, the loot from Friday's lunch safely stored in the carpark of our apartment block!

Reg epitomises the true Carbine Club member. If there is a club event on and he is available, he will be there. In 2007 we held the first of many lunches in Broome to assist the Broome Racing Club with their Cup celebrations. Great times! I believe that Reg did not miss a single Broome Cup Luncheon. Then there was Rottneest. For many years we travelled to the Rottneest Hotel for lunch thanks to club members Lex Piper and Rod Russell who made their lunches available.

Again no blemishes on Reg's attendance record. Mate, you have been, and remain, a true Carbine Club member, even to the point of winning the Carbine Club Stakes on Railway Stakes Day with your old grey "itsahymn".

Webby - it is my great honour, and pleasure, to announce today that the committee has awarded you life membership of the club you love so much. Congratulations!"



Carbine Club of WA Life Members: Rick Hart, Graham Moss, Leith Putland, Reg Webb, Darren McAullay, Tony Brennan, Lloyd Meredith, & CCWA President Matt Fahey.

Thanks to Jason Ferris and Lloyd Meredith for news from the west.

Calendar of Events



The Carbine Club

www.thecarbineclub.org.au

Wed 7th May- Annual Meeting and Members Lunch, Garden Rooms, Crown Towers 12 noon
Saturday 17th May -VRC Committee Room Invitation – Andrew Ramsden Race Day
Thu 24th July- Annual Dinner at 6:30pm, preceded by CC Delegates meeting, RACV 12 noon
Tuesday 23rd September -AFL Grand Final Luncheon at Crown Palladium from 12 noon
Friday 31st October -VRC Derby Eve Luncheon at Crown Palladium from 12 noon



Australian Capital Territory



Hong Kong

www.carbineclubhk.com



London

www.carbineclublondon.org.uk

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 – 12 September
Lord's Luncheon on Thursday 3rd July 2025 from 12 noon
AGM, Sam Vestey and Melbourne Cup Eve dinner, Bluebird Café in Chelsea on Monday 3rd November 2025

Manila

www.carbineclubmanila.org



New South Wales

www.carbineclubnsw.com.au

4 April- Champions Lunch, Royal Randwick
26 June – AGM & Dinner



New Zealand

www.carbineclubnz.org.nz



Northern Territory

www.carbineclubnt.org.au



Papua New Guinea

16 May – Sportsmans Lunch-State of Origin- Hilton Hotel
 20 Jun – MO Gantry Lunch, RPYC PMGFC Gantry
 15 Aug – MO Italian Lunch, Lamana
 5 Sep – Sportsmans Lunch – 50th Independence, Hilton Hotel
 25 Oct – Cox Plate Day, Aviat Club
 Nov/Dec - Members Xmas Cocktail Party TBC



Queensland

www.carbineclubqueensland.com.au

16 May Members Lunch TBC
 June State of Origin Lunch TBC
 15 August Members Lunch TBC
 2 December Cricket Lunch Cricketers Club



Singapore

www.carbineclub.com.sg

Friday 25th July – Crabs and Cans Locked Door Lunch
 Friday 12th December – Christmas Lunch



South Australia

www.carbineclubsa.com.au

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

International Congress – 5-9 Feb, 2026



Tokyo

www.carbineclubtokyo.com



Vanuatu



Western Australia

www.carbineclubwa.com.au

Wed April 2- Mid-week Racing Lunch, Ascot Directors Lounge
 Fri 22 or 27 Jun (TBC)- Legends of Sport Event, Frasers
 Fri 19 Sep- WAFL Grand Final Luncheon, Optus Stadium
 Fi 28 Nov- Racing Luncheon, Optus Stadium



BUSINESS CONNECT

THE CHAMPIONS LUNCH

PRESENTED BY THE CARBINE CLUB OF NSW & ATC
BUSINESS CONNECT

The Carbine Club of NSW and ATC Business Connect invite you to an exclusive celebration ahead of The Star Championships Day 1 at Royal Randwick.

Hosted by Tim Gilbert, enjoy a two-course meal featuring comedian Arj Barker, a charity auction, raffle and much more!

Date: Friday 4th April 2025

Time: 12.00pm - 3.00pm

Location: Winx Stand, Royal Randwick

RSVP: Friday 28 March

Dress Code: Corporate Attire

20 25

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AMPOL STATE OF
ORIGIN

The Carbine Club
Papua New Guinea

Sportsman's Luncheon

Sponsored by

Kumul Petroleum
Holdings Limited

Special Guest Speakers and Entertainers

NRL Legend
Billy Moore

Comic Duo
The Nelson Twins

Hilton Hotel
Friday, 16th of May 2025, 12 Noon for 12:30 start
K6,600 per table of 10 Mixed Event - Ladies Welcome.
Long sleeved shirt and tie please gentlemen. Carbine Club tie for members



Support Sponsors

