



The Carbiner

"For sport and for good fellowship"

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB



EDITION 17 of 2025- 11 December
Hong Kong Cricket Lunch
Queensland Cricket Lunch & Bill Brown Medal
Vale Ian Hollindale
Calendar of Events

As we approach the tail end of 2025 it seems like we need to start planning for 2026!
As always, the year's events kick off with the magnificent Racing Luncheon around the Magic Millions in Queensland, this year to be held for the first time at the JW Marriott, Surfers Paradise with a stellar line up of racing personalities.

Below is the flyer for the event and a booking link – tickets are selling fast so get in now!



Magic Millions Lunch 2026

2025 Gold Coast Magic Millions 2YO Classic Winner, O'Le, 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
0432 313 366
Mobile: admin@carbineclubqld.com.au
Email:



Booking link:

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

Address for articles and items of interest for publication: thecarbiner@yahoo.com

Carbine Club of Hong Kong Cricket Luncheon 2025



MC Jake McCauley



President Peter Glanville

On 31st October 2025, the Carbine Club of Hong Kong hosted its annual Cricket Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Tsim Sha Tsui. A capacity gathering of 260 guests filled the ballroom, creating an atmosphere buzzing with anticipation for an afternoon of storytelling, entertainment, and shared passion for cricket.

The Carbine Club's Cricket luncheons have long been known for their lively character and ability to bring global sporting heroes closer to fans. This year's edition built on that reputation, highlighted by guest appearances from two renowned cricket personalities: Graeme Swann, former England spinner and Ashes winner, and Simon Katich, the gritty former Australian opener turned coach and commentator. Their presence alone promised both humour and insight—and the afternoon delivered that in abundance.

A Warm Welcome: Setting the Tone

The luncheon formally began with MC Jake McCauley taking to the stage. Jake welcomed the guests and invited President Peter Glanville to address the room.

Peter recalled that a year ago, the Club had hosted its cricket lunch under Typhoon Signal No. 8 a day where venturing out required both determination and a strong umbrella. Yet, even under extreme weather conditions, the room was fully packed, and we had a full house once more.

The President started off by offering best wishes to the Hong Kong Men's Cricket Team, who were preparing to compete in the upcoming Cricket Sixes tournament. He also took the opportunity to recognise the invaluable partners who make the event possible year after year. He extended "a massive thanks" to Cathay Pacific, represented at the luncheon by Sebastian Hue, and to Hyatt Regency, represented by General Manager Per Kredner. Their ongoing support, he emphasized, made this such a successful event.

Peter then introduced the distinguished head table. In addition to Sebastian and Per, guests also included Burji Shroff, Chairman of Cricket Hong Kong, China, and Chair of the Cricket Hong Kong Community Foundation.

A Deep Dive with Simon Katich



Simon Katich with Jake McCauley



Prize for best question donated by Auld Wines

L-R – Jock Auld, Simon Katich, Christopher Owen

The first speaker of the afternoon, Simon Katich, made his way to the stage to enthusiastic applause. Rather than a traditional speech, Simon's segment was structured as a Q&A with MC Jake McCauley.

Jake began by charting Simon's journey through the Australian cricket system: from his resilient early years to his breakthrough in the Test side, to his transformation into one of Australia's most dependable top-order batsmen. Simon discussed the honour of representing his country, the challenges of competing in a fiercely talented team, and the lessons learned from both triumphs and setbacks.

But the room's curiosity was clearly piqued by the mention of one of cricket's most publicised internal dramas: the Michael Clarke incident. When Jake gently nudged the conversation toward that notorious locker-room confrontation, the crowd leaned in. Simon—never one to dodge a question—handled it with admirable balance and sharp humour. Without indulging in sensationalism, he offered context, recalled what happened from his perspective, and reflected on the tensions and competitive pressures within elite sporting environments.

Sensing the crowd's engagement, Jake opened the floor to audience questions. Immediately, numerous hands shot up. Guests asked Simon about everything from his toughest opponents to the differences between today's cricketing environment and the era he played in. He spoke generously and with insight, even weaving in a few behind-the-scenes stories that drew both chuckles and nods of admiration. By the end of the session, it was clear the audience had enjoyed not only the content but the candor with which it was shared.

A Spirited Auction: Generosity at Play



George Lacey



George with George Loup (Winning Bidder)

Following Simon's well-received session, it was time to transition from storytelling to fundraising. Taking command of the stage was auctioneer George Lacey, whose lively style and quick wit made him an immediate crowd favourite.

The first item on the block was a golf four-ball at the Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club, generously donated by Peter Downie, the Club's General Manager. The bidding opened with enthusiasm, quickly escalating as several guests battled for the sought-after prize. With George expertly stirring excitement, the bids climbed steadily until the hammer finally fell for a winning bid of HK\$26,000 (AUD 5,120), awarded to George Loup.



Graeme Swann Takes the Stage



With the crowd warmed up and spirits high, it was time for one of the marquee moments of the afternoon: Graeme “Swanny” Swann taking the stage. True to form, Swann wasted no time in igniting the room with laughter. His comedic timing, trademark mischievousness, and ability to weave humour into every cricketing tale made his session one of the highlights of the luncheon.

He dove into his Ashes experiences, particularly reminiscing about playing in the 2010/11 series, where England secured their most recent Ashes victory in Australia. His retelling of dressing-room antics, pressure moments, on-field rivalries, and unexpected mishaps had the room fully captivated. Swann’s stories often blended self-deprecating humour with keen cricketing insight, a combination that resonated with long-time cricket fans and casual followers alike.

The laughter rolling across the ballroom made it instantly clear: Swann was in his element, and so was the audience. Whether recounting the challenges of bowling to the world’s best batsmen, reflecting on leadership dynamics within the England team, or poking fun at the Australians in the room, he left everyone thoroughly entertained.

A Surprise Auction: Irish Whisky for a Cause



Just as guests thought the surprises might be done for the day, Hyatt Regency GM Per Kredner added a new twist by generously donating a rare bottle of Irish whisky. George Lacey was invited back to conduct a second auction.

Despite being unplanned, the bidding was just as lively as the earlier golf auction. Guests raised their hands with enthusiasm, knowing that proceeds would support the event’s charity benefactor: the Cricket Hong Kong Community Foundation Limited. Eventually, the prized bottle was secured with a winning bid of HK\$10,000 (AUD 1,970)—a wonderful result that underscored the community’s willingness to give.

Luck of the Draw: Raffles and More



After the excitement of the auctions, the mood softened into eager anticipation as the lucky draw portion of the luncheon commenced. A selection of prizes awaited their new owners, but the standout was certainly the Macallan 18-year-old whisky, generously donated by Progeny.

Closing Remarks and Gratitude



As the afternoon approached its close, President Peter Glanville returned to the stage to offer final thanks. He expressed sincere appreciation to all attendees for supporting both the luncheon and the Club's wider mission. He once again acknowledged the invaluable contributions of sponsors and partners, whose involvement ensures the event's continued success.

Peter then invited the two star speakers, Simon Katich and Graeme Swann, back to the stage for a final round of applause. On behalf of the Carbine Club, he presented each of them with engraved Carbine Club memorabilia, a token of gratitude for their time, stories, and contributions.



Sundowners at Chin Chin: The Tradition Continues

Even after the final words were spoken, the day was far from over. In true Carbine Club fashion, many guests made their way to the Chin Chin bar for post-lunch sundowners.

A Reflection on the Day

The 2025 Carbine Club of Hong Kong Cricket Luncheon will be remembered not just for its remarkable speakers, entertaining stories, and successful fundraising, but for the enduring spirit that binds the Carbine Club community together. It showcased everything the Club stands for: celebrating sporting excellence, fostering camaraderie, and giving back to the community through charitable initiatives.

As the final glasses clinked at Chin Chin and guests drifted off into the Hong Kong evening, one thing was unmistakably clear: another successful Carbine Club lunch was in the books, leaving everyone already looking forward to the next chapter in 2026.

(Thanks to Parshid Falahati, Vice President CCHK for this comprehensive cover of the great event in HK, and for regular support of the newsletter throughout the year).

RECORD ATTENDANCE CELEBRATES 2025 QLD CARBINE CLUB BILL BROWN MEDAL AT THE GABBA

The 2025 Carbine Club of Queensland Bill Brown Medal Luncheon drew a record attendance on Tuesday, 2 December, with more than 237 guests filling the Cricketers' Club at The Gabba for one of the leading events on the Queensland sporting social calendar.

Cricket royalty was in the room, with special guests Ian Healy, David Boon, Barry Richards, and Greg Ritchie (MC), along with former Australian players Carl Rackerman, Geoff Dymock, Martin Kent, Nathan Hauritz, Ray Phillips and John Maguire.



Celebrating the Bill Brown Medal, the award — was presented by esteemed cricket writer Crash Craddock. The 2025 recipient, Lucy Hamilton, was unable to attend, and her mother, Claire, accepted the medal on her behalf. Crash and Tina Brown, granddaughter of Bill Brown, shared heartfelt reflections on the Hall of Fame opener's legacy.

(Stephen & Claire Hamilton receiving the Bill Brown Medal from Tina Brown)
Insights from David Boon Australian Cricket Board Director David Boon offered valuable perspectives on Australia's Test side, including discussion of the injury to Usman Khawaja, which forced selectors into a late reshuffle. Boon also reflected on his own celebrated career, drawing warm applause.

The luncheon honoured Barry Richards, celebrating his 80th year in 2025. A pioneer of World Series Cricket, Richards remains one of the most revered figures in the sport. Despite playing only three official Tests, his legend was cemented in world and domestic circuits, raising the question: What might have been without apartheid restrictions?

A moving tribute was delivered for the late Patron Ian Hollindale. His daughter, Arlie Walsh, honoured his legacy as a pioneer of the Gold Coast's rural development and founder of the Coomera Cricket Club.

MC Greg Ritchie (left) delivered humour and energy with his trademark Ashes anecdotes and behind-the-scenes stories, delighting guests throughout the afternoon.

Thank you to everyone who supported the raffles and auctions. Funds raised go directly to youth sport bursaries. Special thanks to Rob Dawson for donating XXXX Beach Cricket bats (2007–2008) and to Barry Richards for contributing a signed bat and caricature.

Highlight of the Day: Healy Interviews Boon A standout moment was the engaging interview between Ian Healy and David Boon, showcasing the camaraderie and insight of two Australian cricket greats.



Thank You to Our Sponsors Black Label Property, Queensland Cricket, Queensland Cricketers' Club, Hoppy's Car Wash, AJ Civil, and Monos at Main Beach.

With record attendance, star studded guests, heartfelt tributes, and rich cricketing nostalgia, the 2025 Bill Brown Medal Luncheon was a powerful celebration of community, sport, and legacy.

We would also like to thank Lisa McHarg for all her hard work co-ordinating with event organiser, Andrew Ramsey and the hard work put into the luncheon by Syd Yates and Danny Copley.



L-Dr Tom Dooley, with Carl Rackeman, Geoff Dyock, Ray Phillips, Barry Richards & Guests



R- Glen White, Past President Michael Robinson, Steve Cunliffe & Guests



Our thanks to CCQLD President Danny Copley (pic R) and to CCQ Administration Secretary Lisa McHarg (R) for their support of The Carbiner during the year.



Vale Ian Hollindale

Ian Hollindale (Past President CCQ2011-2012) (Patron of CCQ since 2019) Fourth Generation Gold Coaster heavily involved in the Dairy industry since 1967. Ian was an active and productive member of CCQ and in 2014 was head of the International Carbine Club Congress committee held on the Gold Coast. Ian has been a very strong supporter of many sporting and community organizations and has raced a few horses as well over the years.



Calendar of Events

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

	Singapore www.carbineclub.com.sg
	South Australia www.carbineclubsa.com.au LIV Golf on Tuesday 10th February Adelaide Oval AGM on Friday 13th March at The Arkaba Racing Luncheon on Thursday 7th May at SAJC "Wolf Bass "The Man" Function Centre
	Tasmania www.carbineclubtasmania.com.au 6 Feb-Derby Day, Elwick 21 June – Raceday 16 Oct – AGM & Luncheon
	Tokyo www.carbineclubtokyo.com
	Vanuatu

The next edition of "The Carbiner" will be the final one for 2025 – thanks to all those who continue to provide reports and info for the Club, creating an historical trail and sharing their story with the wider Carbine fraternity.

Importantly, the Calendar provides an opportunity for travelling members to visit sister Clubs and enjoy the fellowship that abounds at Club events which always attract the best entertainment and speakers.

Already some exciting key events are mooted for 2026 – hard to top 2025, but looking good already!