

# MCC News



## *A new cricket era arrives*

The MCG broke another crowd record in January when more than 80,000 people watched the T20 Big Bash League Melbourne derby.

See pages 10-11.



# Committee bolstered by two

The club is pleased to advise that Clare Cannon and Adrian Anderson have been appointed to the MCC Committee to fill casual vacancies.

A former chair of the Women of the MCC interest group, Clare Cannon has spent most of her career in the community sector. She was the founding CEO of Earthwatch Australia, a founding board member of the Melbourne Community Foundation and a Bush Heritage committee member

Clare is also the founder and current chair of Cricket Without Borders (CWOB), a concept now in its sixth year designed to encourage girls around the world to play cricket. The philanthropic group has led girls cricket tours to England, Singapore, Darwin, Japan and Fiji.

Clare is passionate about expanding opportunities for young women in regards to education, career and sport. She pursues this not only with CWOB, but in her role as Chair of St Catherine's School Council. Clare also runs a grazing property north of Albury.

Adrian Anderson is a barrister who has a broad practice specialising in media and sports law and disciplinary tribunals. He is a former partner of Corrs Chambers Westgarth with commercial and practical experience as a senior executive for major professional sports.

Adrian started his career at Corrs in 1996 and became a partner in the commercial litigation division in 2003.

In 2004, Adrian joined the AFL as general manager of football operations, a position he held for nine years. During that time he was responsible for the day-to-day running of the AFL competition, including the AFL's rules and its Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations.

Immediately prior to coming to the Bar last year, Adrian advised major professional sports and conducted reviews on disciplinary, integrity and governance matters. This included six months as interim CEO of Cycling Australia and consulting to Cricket Australia and NRL.

He is chairman of the PGA Appeals Board and MyGolf, is a Victorian Amateur Football Association tribunal member and director of National Golf Holdings Ltd.

These appointments bring the number of committee members to the maximum of 14. The committee comprises president Steven Smith, vice-presidents Stephen Spargo, David Crow and Michael Andrew, treasurer Michael Happell and James Bennett, Peter King, Sally Macindoe, Fred Oldfield, Charles Sitch, Mark Smith, Karen Wood and now Clare and Adrian.

"We are delighted that Clare and Adrian have agreed to join the committee," said Steven Smith. "They bring a range of skills to the table that complements our existing skill sets and I am looking forward to the significant contributions I expect both will make to our club."



Clare Cannon (top) and Adrian Anderson have been appointed to casual vacancies on the MCC Committee.

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## Our cover



A record domestic cricket crowd of 80,883 watched the Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades match at the MCG on January 2.



## From the President

*Steven Smith*

It's hard to think we are already in March and only a few weeks away from the start of another AFL season. The cricket season seems a distant memory, although it will be remembered for the remarkable surge in the popularity of the Big Bash League.

The other memory of summer will be the trialling of enhanced security procedures, including use of a perimeter fence around the MCG for the first time since the Commonwealth Games 10 years ago. Whilst the trial had its issues, the learnings will be invaluable in developing a long-term solution for the ground.

By the time this newsletter is published, the club's position going forward will be made clearer and everyone can be assured that the issue of security at the ground is at the top of our list of priorities. Our focus is to make the MCG one of the safest sporting stadiums in the world.

Another project the club is about to embark on is to focus on the customer service culture of our staff. Everyone loves the MCG but it's primarily the ground and its history that people remember and talk about. We want people to also talk about how amazing staff at the MCG are and how important our people were to making their day at the 'G such a special experience. We'll also be working with our hospitality partner, Epicure, to ensure an improved level of service is provided throughout the stadium. It's an exciting project with a number of initiatives planned and we will be looking to our members for regular feedback after the project is rolled out.

As mentioned last year, we have converted the Jim Stynes Room into another members' dining facility. To be known as the Jim Stynes Grill, it will provide an a-la-carte menu for up to 270 members and guests and the early indications are it will be a very popular destination.

We are also about to finish the redevelopment of the Robert Flower Terrace and this will provide additional casual bar and finger food options on Level 4 of the Reserve, with exceptional views over the park and back to the city in an enclosed environment.

Members may have recently seen in the media that we were successful in obtaining a grant for \$650,000 from the



Scanning of patrons using metal-detection devices was just one of many enhancements to MCG security procedures trialled during the cricket season.

Federal Government to build a roof walk on the Northern Stand, together with a zip line from the city end scoreboard to the Richmond end of the stadium.

There is still much planning to do on the final product and its implementation, but it is another exciting project for the ground and one that is certain to attract more tourists to the MCG and, hopefully, also to our other popular attractions in the MCG tour and National Sports Museum.

With installation of a stadium-wide, free WiFi network inside the MCG it brings to a conclusion our digital upgrade of the stadium. We now have cinematic quality scoreboards, more than 650 IPTV screens to assist with directional assistance and coverage of the on-field action, as well as WiFi coverage that we believe will be as good as any sports stadium in the country. In addition, Telstra has installed a new distributed antenna system that will significantly improve mobile phone coverage.

I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce and welcome our two new committee members, Clare Cannon and Adrian Anderson. Details of their background are included elsewhere in this newsletter. They both have skills which will be much valued and we are very excited to have them on board.

The responsibilities of the committee are diverse. We need to oversee the operations of the club as the ground manager of the MCG, which is a significant business, as well as looking after the needs of our 110,000 members and their guests. Now that the tenure of each committee member is limited to nine years (with additional periods for office bearers and the president), we are constantly focused

on the pipeline of new potential committee members and the range of skills we need to recruit to ensure we continue to manage the club and the ground to a high standard.

In this regard we have established a succession sub-committee which looks solely at this issue and has introduced a formal interview process which was implemented with our recent appointments. It was pleasing that as part of that process we received applications from a number of our members who felt they had the skills, time and passion for the club to put themselves up for nomination.

While some of them were not successful this time, they will be included for future consideration and I would encourage other Full members who may be interested in participating in this process to contact the club with their details. Of course, members can also nominate for committee via the annual election process in accordance with the club rules.

I'd also like to congratulate Andrew Newbold, the recently retired president of one of our tenant clubs, Hawthorn, on the extraordinary success of his time at the Hawks and wish him well in his new role as an AFL commissioner.

Finally I'd like to congratulate the 24 members of the club, including our vice-president Michael Andrew, who were recognised for their contributions to the community in the recent Australia Day Honours list. We are proud that we have so many members who have been honoured in these awards.

Enjoy the start of the footy season and may your team, particularly if it is Melbourne, play well and give you much enjoyment over the next six months.

## Footy tipping returns

The MCC's AFL tipping competition returns in 2016 after a season in hiatus, giving members a chance to pit their tipping skills against fellow members and win some great prizes.

First prize will be \$1500 cash, donated

by Carlton and United Breweries. Other prizes include a Jim Stynes Grill dining package thanks to Epicure, a Herald Sun subscription, and a \$200 Guy Grossi dining voucher courtesy of Bank of Melbourne.

Entry is free and registration is now

open to all MCC members. Simply visit <http://www.footytips.com.au/comps/MCCMembers>, register as a footy tipper for 2016 and then join our competition.

Good luck to all those who enter.

# MCG food prices to remain a fan favourite

**M**CG footy fans will again enjoy some of the most competitive food and beverage prices in any Australian stadium during the 2016 AFL season.

MCC and our hospitality partner Epicure have completed a review of MCG food and beverage pricing, which comes on the back of last year's decision to significantly lower prices on high-volume items.

Hot chips (\$4.10), Four'N Twenty pies (\$4.10), water (\$3.10), 600ml soft drink (\$4.20), Food Store hot dogs (\$4.20) sushi (\$5.20) and chicken schnitzel burgers (\$7.80) will again be competitively priced in 2016, part of a broad offering of food and beverage items for MCG sports fans.

The popular kids' meal deal price remains unchanged, while beer carry trays will also remain free of charge.

Research conducted by the AFL last season showed that the MCG's bold move to lower prices further than any other venue was a major driver in increased satisfaction levels among footy fans, with affordability one of the key issues identified by regular attendee and families in previous years.

While the annual investment in lower prices was originally forecast at \$2 million for 2015, the actual figure was closer to



\$2.5 million, as MCC and Epicure sought to avoid passing on supplier cost increases to patrons.

However with these supplier costs set to increase an average of almost seven per cent in 2016, and as much as 10 per cent for some items, prices at the MCG have changed in order to offset this and ensure that the affordable pricing strategy remains viable into the future.

The MCC is committed to maintaining affordable, family-friendly food and beverage prices for fans and therefore the increases have been kept to a minimum, with no more than four per cent (or 30 cents) across the staple items.

"Last year we led the market in terms

of food and beverage affordability, and the feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive," said MCC CEO Stephen Gough. "While fans will experience a slight increase in price for items in 2016, we are confident our prices remain incredibly competitive across the venue industry."

Epicure, a division of Spotless, welcomed the opportunity to continue with the pricing strategy adopted 12 months ago.

"The partnership we have with MCC is one that we value highly," said Ian Delmenico, Spotless general manager leisure, sport and entertainment. "We will continue to deliver on our commitment to offer food and beverage items at prices well below that of all other major stadiums in Australia."

# A celebration of the country

**W**e don't see VFL/AFL great Kevin Sheedy at the MCG as much as we used to, but when we do you can be sure things will be interesting.

So it was when he sat perched atop a fake cow out the front of the 'G, joining forces with the MCC and representatives from Essendon and Geelong Cats to launch a themed match between the two football clubs at the MCG on Saturday April 16.

Known as the Country Game, plans are underway to transform areas of the Yarra Park precinct into a country festival prior to the game. Complete with hay bales, fresh produce and potentially live animals, the match is destined to become a marquee event on the AFL calendar.

Sheedy, the driving force behind the initiative, said football represented the essence of Australian culture.

"The Country Game was born out of a very simple concept," he said. "Celebrate the great people who keep our country going. Some of the competitions' greatest players, including current and former players, grew up kicking a Sherrin on the dairy farms, sheep stations and dusty outback towns of Australia."

"It's time to say thanks to those tiny towns across Australia who 'punch above their weight'," Sheedy said. "A full MCG



would send a very powerful message to those on the land who are doing it tough."

Keep an eye out for full details of the pre-match activities in the weeks ahead.

## Post-game traffic plan continues

**A**s we previewed in our last edition, during the cricket season the club trialled some changes to procedures for vehicles exiting Yarra Park after MCG events, when patrons are leaving the stadium and attempting to access roads, tram stops and train stations.

The plan saw pedestrians given priority over vehicles when leaving Yarra Park from about 15 minutes prior to the end of play. From that time, exiting vehicles were held back, leaving the main pedestrian thoroughfares clear, until pedestrians had exited safely. Additional resources were placed in the park after events to assist with communication and the safe egress of all visitors.

We were very pleased with the trial over the cricket season and have decided to retain it for the AFL season. We believe segregation of pedestrians and vehicles improves the safety of everyone in the precinct.

Drivers entering Yarra Park during the footy season should be mindful that there will be a delay when leaving the park at the end of matches. We thank you for your understanding.



# Provisional members to make AFL debut

The club's newest category of members will access the Reserve at an AFL match for the first time on Saturday March 26 at the Round 1 match between Melbourne and GWS GIANTS.

Provisional membership was introduced late last year as part of the committee's long-term aim of maintaining an acceptable waiting time for membership. This third tier of membership carries fewer benefits and more limited access to the Members Reserve than those provided to Full and Restricted members.

The club has since elected its first intake of Provisional members, with offers posted to eligible waiting list candidates in late-October, and many had their first taste of club life during the cricket season. It is expected that 8000 candidates will have accepted Provisional membership before the membership season ends on August 31.

By reducing the number and type of events, and facilities within the Reserve, that Provisional members will have access to, the introduction of these new members is expected to have minimal impact on the use of the Members Reserve by existing members.

To manage capacity and comfort for existing members, the club has placed each

match into a category according to expected demand in the Reserve. These categories determine the access Provisional members have to the Members Reserve, as well as their ability to purchase visitor tickets and reserved seats, enter the Members Dining Room and Jim Stynes Grill ballots or apply to obtain a Long Room or Balcony pass for guests.

Of the 46 MCG home and away games, the club has nominated five Category 1 matches that Provisional members will not be able to use their membership card to enter the Reserve:

- Thursday March 24 - Richmond v Carlton
- Monday March 28 - Geelong Cats v Hawthorn
- Monday April 25 - Collingwood v Essendon
- Saturday May 28 - Essendon v Richmond
- Monday June 13 - Melbourne v Collingwood

There are two Category 2 matches, 22 Category 3 matches and 17 Category 4 matches. The match-by-match classification and all other details about the AFL season can be found on the MCC website or in the eight-page Football Guide for those who still receive a printed copy.



## Provisional member entitlements

Event category	Access to MCC Reserve	Members Dining Room bookings	Jim Stynes Grill bookings	Long Room or Balcony passes for guests	Visitor tickets (per member)	Reserved seating availability
Category 1	No access					
Category 2	Levels 1 and 4	No	Yes	No	None	Level 4
Category 3	Levels 1 and 4	No	Yes	No	2	Levels 1 and 4
Category 4	All levels	Yes	Yes	Yes	2	Levels 1 and 4

## Extra dining offering for members

As advised to members late last year, the club has expanded and improved the food and beverage facility offering for members, with two key upgrades to be introduced during the AFL season.

A major highlight is the launch of the Jim Stynes Grill as a second dining room available at all matches. Formerly the Jim Stynes Room and located on Level 2 of the Olympic Stand (just outside the Reserve), it will feature a mouth-watering a-la-carte menu for up to 270 members and guests.

Offering high-quality meat and wines in a stylish space, the Jim Stynes Grill will become a popular venue for members to enjoy a pre-game lunch or dinner and you'll also be able enjoy a range of beverages from the bar while watching the game. Premium steak cuts, including rump, scotch fillet and

porterhouse, will be cooked to your liking in a modern open kitchen, while the menu also caters for non-meat lovers.

Diners will have access to behind-glass, theatre-style seating in the room to view the match or they may return to the Members Reserve to access available walk-up seating or pre-purchased reserved seats. Neat casual Members Reserve dress regulations apply.

The Jim Stynes Grill will be available from AFL Round 1. Registrations periods and ballot conditions will be the same as for the Members Dining Room. Further details are available on the club website.

In further good news, following on from the David Neitz Terrace upgrade of recent times, members will soon be able to enjoy the confines of the Robert Flower Terrace even more, thanks to a refurbishment of the Level 4 facility. At the time of going to print, the new-look terrace was expected to be



available early in the season.

The upgrade of this north-facing balcony will largely enclose the space, enabling it to be used year-round while still preserving views across Yarra Park. Combined with additional casual bar and finger food options, it is destined to be the equal of Melbourne's best roof top bars – and perfect to enjoy in all weather.

in all weather.



# Hong Kong visitors most welcome

An 80-strong touring party from Hong Kong Cricket Club, one of our overseas reciprocal clubs, visited Melbourne for a series of sporting contests with MCC in February.

Headed by chairman Gavin Erasmus and general manager Richard Coate, and led by tour manager Bob Betteridge, the group played MCC in a series of cricket, golf, hockey and netball matches, including an 'official/trophy match' as well as 'social' matches against MCC and several other local clubs.

MCC also hosted the touring party at a dinner in the Members Dining Room on February 10, at which the clubs exchanged gifts and continued the strong relationships that have been formed between the two clubs in recent decades.

On the field, MCC came out on top in the netball, cricket and golf trophy matches, before lowering our colours on the hockey pitch.

Our netballers triumphed 73-17 in the trophy match and split the social matches one-apiece with the visitors.

HKCC triumphed 2-0 in the hockey encounter, while our cricketers scored a thrilling, one-run win at the MCG in the "main" match.

The MCC XXIX Club also played a 35-overs-per-side cricket match against the visitors at the Albert Ground, winning by seven runs.

The golf trophy match consisted of 24 players per side playing 12 matches of four-ball, best-ball at Kingston Heath, with one point being awarded to each winning pair. The final result was MCC narrowly winning 7-5.

The club was delighted to welcome our reciprocal friends and we look forward to continuing our relationship with Hong Kong CC, which commenced in 1983, well into the future.

In addition to Hong Kong CC, MCC has formal arrangements for its members to have reciprocal rights with a number of sporting clubs and stadiums in Melbourne, interstate and overseas. To find out more, visit [www.mcc.org.au](http://www.mcc.org.au).





# MCG roof experience on the way

Plans are being developed to bring an exciting new tourism product to the MCG, allowing visitors and locals to see and experience Australia's most famous stadium like never before.

Under a program administered by the Victorian Government, a \$650,000 grant from the Federal Government will assist the club to develop the finer details behind a roof experience attraction at the MCG.

In addition to the ever-popular stadium tour and National Sports Museum products, visitors will be able to walk on the MCG's city end roof, taking in spectacular views of the ground itself, as well as Melbourne's sporting precinct and city skyline.

As if that wasn't enough, they will also be

able to add to the thrill with a unique zipline that will transport participants from the city end scoreboard to a landing on the opposite side of the stadium.

The project represents a multi-million dollar investment by MCC, with management to continue scoping how and when the new attraction will be implemented at the stadium.

"We are very confident that these new products will add value to the experience of visiting the MCG and enhance its reputation as a premier tourist attraction," said MCC CEO Stephen Gough.

"This will cement the MCG as a one-stop shop for events, with an all-round, unique Melbourne experience in the one venue –

a stadium tour, roof experience, meeting and function facilities, sports museum, and food and beverage services all on site."

We will keep members informed as more details come to hand.



MCC CEO Stephen Gough, Victorian Sports Minister John Eren and Victorian Senator Scott Ryan admire the view from the MCG roof.

## Golfer shines on world stage

MCC member Marcus Fraser won his third European Tour golf title in February when he holed an 18-foot putt on the final hole to claim the Maybank Championship in Malaysia.

An MCC member for more than 20 years, trailed Lee Soo-min of South Korea throughout the final round at Royal Selangor Golf Club before taking advantage of Lee's late collapse to win by two shots. It ended a six-year title drought for the 37-year-old from Corowa.

"Unbelievable," said Fraser after the win.

"Six years since the last one. My kids keep saying every time I walk out the door 'Hey Dad, can you bring home a trophy? This time I'll take one home and I'll get them to take it to school for show and tell,'" he said.

He was surprised by his par-saving putt on 18.

"I don't know how I got that one to go in," he said. "I was very nervous and looking down on the putt, I could see my putter shaking. But I just said to myself that this is one opportunity for me to win and I took a few deep breaths and holed the putt."



Golfer Marcus Fraser (top) and tennis player John Peers are two MCC members doing well in their chosen sport.



## Davis Cup debut for John

The club was delighted to receive news of MCC member John Peers' selection in Australia's Davis Cup team for the tie against USA at Kooyong.

The 27-year-old from Glen Waverley has been a member of the club for the past 11 years and is a doubles specialist on the professional tour. He is currently ranked no. 9 in the world in men's doubles and finished runner-up at Wimbledon and US Open last year with Jamie Murray, brother of Andy.

At the time of going to print the exact Davis Cup lineup was unclear, following the withdrawal of Nick Kyrgios due to illness. However, it was expected that Peers would partner Sam Groth in the doubles against the highly credentialed Bryan brothers, Bob and Mike, on Saturday March 5.

The Peers family has a strong history in tennis. John's mother, Elizabeth Peers (nee Little) won an Australian Open girls singles title in 1978. She competed in the women's singles three times at the Australian Open, and once each at Wimbledon and the US Open.

John's younger sister Sally is also a professional tennis player who won the gold medal in women's doubles and bronze in singles at the 2010 Commonwealth Games. To round out the quartet of MCC members, John's father, Bill, was a Victorian amateur footballer.



# Get stomping at the ‘G

Australia's ultimate stair climbing challenge will return to the MCG on Sunday June 26.

Stadium Stomp MCG is not a competition or a race, but rather a personal test of stamina and concentration.

Participants climb up and down the grandstands on the top and bottom level of the MCG to raise money for Leukaemia Foundation or their own nominated charities.

The course options available to participants make this event open to people of all ages and all levels of fitness. There are rest stops along the way, drink stations scattered throughout the course and music to keep you going.

The full course comprises more than 7300 steps and will take anywhere from 45 minutes to two hours-plus to complete, depending on your fitness level.

If that seems too daunting, then the half course – taking in ground level only – involves about 1900 steps and should take 20-30 minutes to negotiate.

Entries are now being taken and those who register before April 17 will receive a \$10 discount on the price of either the full course (\$80) or half course (\$50) rate.

For more information, visit [stadiumstomp.com.au/mcg](http://stadiumstomp.com.au/mcg).



# An opportunity not to be missed

While members have some excellent facilities in the MCC Reserve, there is now a rare opportunity to take your stadium experience to the next level and entertain in style.

With an action-packed calendar of major sporting events in a world-class stadium, MCG corporate suites offer you and your business the ultimate in private corporate entertainment.

Boasting first-class amenities, personal service and an exclusive environment, a suite is the perfect setting to entertain clients, reward employees or enjoy an event with family and friends.

Available on an annual basis, our suites allow you to make a brilliant and lasting impression in a truly intimate setting, offering first-class amenities, personal service and an exclusive environment.

The suite provides guaranteed access for all AFL and cricket matches, including underground car parking and in-stadium signage, and is available for private use and meetings on non-match days



# Iconic sporting arena becomes an open air cinema

The MCG added further weight to its claim as Australia's most versatile stadium when it hosted two open-air cinema screenings on the turf in February.

Cinema at the 'G, presented by Bank of Melbourne, saw more than 3500 people sit on the hallowed turf over two nights on February 12 and 13 to watch Million Dollar Arm and The Martian respectively. The latter movie was a sellout affair on a perfect Saturday evening.

The giant MCG scoreboard screen at the Punt Road end, measuring more than 330 square metres, shone brightly in the night sky as moviegoers enjoyed dinner and drinks on picnic rugs, or huddled under blankets on cushions, pillows or beanbags. It was quite a sight.

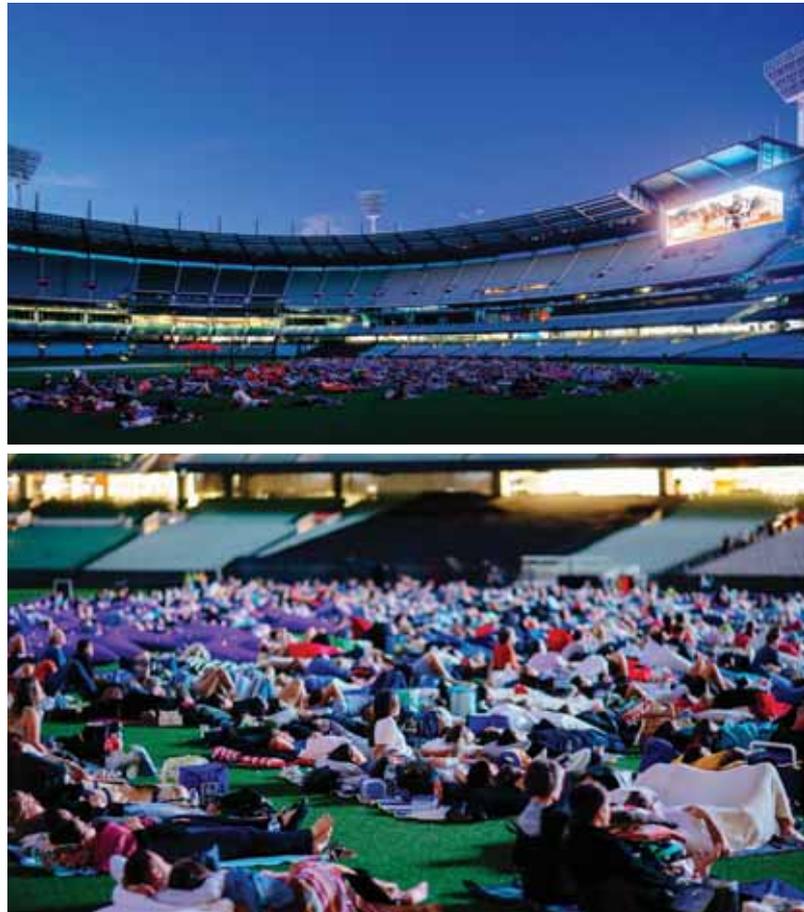
It was not only a great night of entertainment, but also a great night of fundraising. Proceeds from the event went to the Bank of Melbourne Neighbourhood Fund, which supports local charities and programs that deliver sustainable benefits to Victorian communities.

The audience was a mix of couples young and old, families and groups of friends and it was clear everyone got a buzz out of spending time on Australia's most famous patch of grass.

"It was absolutely fantastic!" Leanne Davey said afterwards. "But you will need to increase the number of nights if you do it again though - everyone is onto our little secret now."

"We had a brilliant night! It was perfection... the setup, the staff, the amenities, the friendly crowd, everything. It was great to see the 'G available to the general public for more than just footy and cricket"

There's no doubt the first cinematic experience at the MCG is more than a century was a spectacular success. And there is every likelihood of an encore performance in the future.



Images courtesy of IMAGEPLAY

## Put youth homelessness to bed

As we went to press, plans were being finalised for the fourth instalment of Sleep at the 'G on Thursday May 26, an event designed to raise money for and awareness of the issue of youth homelessness in Victoria.

Thousands of young people have no place to call home, every night in Victoria. Sleep at the 'G is Melbourne's response to this tragedy - and you and your team are invited to be a part of it.

When you register your team to Sleep at the 'G, you'll join 1000 others braving the cold while spending a great night in an iconic venue. Best of all, you'll raise funds to help

end youth homelessness. And that means you'll help keep young people safe, warm and housed this winter.

The MCC is again partnering with Melbourne City Mission to host the event. The aim is to give participants a taste of the experience faced by thousands of homeless people each night by providing an opportunity to sleep out in the elements, albeit within the confines of a stadium.

Last year, the event raised more than \$480,000, and we hope MCC members can get behind this worthy cause again in 2016. For more, visit [melbournecitymission.org.au](http://melbournecitymission.org.au) or phone [03] 8625 4444.





# Big Bash breaks records, captures hearts

*Almost half-a-million people watched cricket at the MCG last summer, but it was one day in early January that had everyone talking.*

**B**arely a season goes by these days without the MCG breaking an attendance milestone of some sort or another, which is remarkable given the rich history of our great ground.

Still, very few would have predicted the huge numbers that flocked to the T20 Big Bash League match between the two Melbourne teams – the Stars and Renegades – on a balmy Saturday evening on January 2.

The presence of crowd pullers Kevin Pietersen and Chris Gayle was a factor, as was the chance to see the women's Melbourne derby beforehand. But the underlying message was that T20 domestic cricket is set to be a permanent feature on the summer landscape in this country.

The final crowd of 80,883 was almost double the previous mark for domestic T20 at the MCG (see accompanying table). In fact, it was the 14th-highest crowd for any day of MCG cricket, across all formats, ever. It was simply remarkable.

From a venue management perspective,

the crowd was 30,000 more than our forecast. This put immense strain on our services, particularly our security screening checkpoints and catering outlets, and we were unable to meet demand, right around the ground.

Once inside, fans saw the Stars defeat their cross-town rivals by seven wickets with five balls to spare. Englishman Luke Wright was the key to victory, blasting 109 not out from 63 balls in the run chase.

The Stars finally overcame their semi final hoodoo with a win over Perth Scorchers at the MCG on January 22, before playing Sydney Thunder in the BBL final two days later, also at the 'G. But it was not to be for the Stars, as Usman Khawaja blasted 70 off 40 balls as Thunder chased down 177 for victory in Michael Hussey's farewell appearance.

The average attendance for BBL matches across the regular season was 28,248, up 22 per cent on the previous year. The one-millionth fan for the tournament – MCC

member Tony White and his family – passed through the MCG turnstiles during the final, winning some great prizes.

The traditional marquee cricket match of the summer, the Boxing Day Test, was a somewhat more pedestrian affair, with Australia dominating to win by 177 runs. An undermanned West Indies led by Jason Holder had been soundly defeated in the opening Test in Hobart and expectations of a reversal in form were not high going into Christmas.

Australia, on the other hand, was in good lead-up form and this continued after a rainy start on Boxing Day. Khawaja (144), Joe Burns (128), captain Steve Smith (134 not out) and Adam Voges (106 not out) etched their names on the MCG honour roll as the home side amassed 3/551 declared. Nathan Lyon took seven wickets across the Windies' two innings to claim the man-of-the-match award.

The home team also won the MCG one-day international (ODI) on January 17



against India, despite a wonderful century from visiting captain Virat Kohli. Led by Glenn Maxwell's 96 from 83 balls, the home side chased down India's 295 with seven balls to spare.

A crowd of 58,787 saw an entertaining Twenty20 international between Australia and India on January 29. Rohit Sharma (60 off 47 balls) and Kohli (59 not out from 33 balls) ensured India's 3/184 would be a winning total. Aaron Finch led from the front in reply with 74 from 48 balls before a hamstring injury ended any hope of victory and placed in jeopardy his spot in

Australia's Twenty20 World Cup squad.

More than 475,000 attended the 12 days of international and BBL cricket contests, indicating that cricket is still very much on the radar of fans in the summer months.

As we went to press, the Bushrangers were on top of the Sheffield Shield table with two matches remaining. However, the MCG cricket season is over, with Cricket Victoria relocating its final round match (March 15-18) to Traeger Park Oval in Alice Springs in what they hope is a forerunner to hosting the Shield Final over the Easter weekend.

#### Top 10 MCG domestic Twenty20 cricket crowds

80,883	Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades	Jan 2, 2016
47,672	Melbourne Stars v Sydney Thunder	Jan 24, 2016
46,581	Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades	Jan 6, 2013
43,125	Victoria v Tasmania	Jan 15, 2010
40,227	Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades	Jan 7, 2012
37,323	Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades	Jan 10, 2015
33,603	Melbourne Stars v Hobart Hurricanes	Jan 6, 2016
33,580	Melbourne Stars v Perth Scorchers	Jan 21, 2015





# A home run for baseball great

**M**CC Baseball Hall of Fame member Ross Arthur added another chapter to his family's legacy at the Sporting Sections Annual Dinner in November, where he received the prestigious Hans Ebeling Award.

Perpetuating the memory of one of the MCC's greatest contributors as player and administrator, the Hans Ebeling Award was introduced in 1981 to honour those who have given outstanding service to our Sporting Sections.

Ross began his baseball career with MCC in 1974, having already represented Victoria at under 15 and under 17 levels and achieved All-Australian junior selection. A natural catcher, he would go on to play more than 400 senior games for the Demons, including the 1975/76 premiership.

He was named MCC MVP on three occasions and won a swag of batting awards throughout his career. He also coached the club for seven seasons, leading the senior men's team to the premiership in 1987/88.

Blessed with power, skill and innate leadership capabilities, he was awarded the Victorian Baseball Association Division 1 MVP in 1979 and the Home Run King title in 1980 and 1982. His performances also led to higher honours, playing Claxton Shield for Victoria for six years and representing Australia from 1981-83.

In 1993 he was awarded Life membership of the MCC Baseball Section, emulating the feat of his father Les, mother Merle and brother Gary. His love for the game is also demonstrated in



President Steven Smith (left) presents Ross Arthur with the 2015 Hans Ebeling Award in November.

his off-field contribution on the committee of Melbourne Aces and Baseball Victoria Masters.

Ross is the sixth Hans Ebeling Award winner affiliated with baseball, following Ian Huntington (1983), Jack Francis (1990), John Cavanagh (1993), Graeme Howarth (1994) and David Went (2012). He undoubtedly belongs in such illustrious company.

## Baseballers win club crown



**T**he MCC Baseball Section has had a very promising summer, winning the Victorian Baseball Summer League's Division 1 club championship for the first time since 1971.

The club championship is awarded on a points system for wins in each of the four grades in Men's Division 1. This season, all four MCC men's teams reached the finals, as did our women's Division 2 team and two Masters teams.

As we went to print, our premiership hopes rested with the women's Division 2 First IX, who had progressed through to the grand final to be played against Werribee at Surrey Park on March 5, and the all-conquering Masters A team (38-plus category).

Unfortunately, all four of our men's senior grades and our Masters B team bowed out in the semi finals. The first IX came back from losing its first match of a three-game semi final against Cheltenham, winning the second match 11-2 before going down by two runs in the third match to end their season.

## Bowls milestone for Rob

**M**CC Bowls Section stalwart Robert Storey chalked up a significant milestone in January when he became just the sixth bowler to play 600 games for the club.

Rob (pictured second from left) joined the bowls section in 1980, and very shortly after demonstrated his prowess by taking out the 1981/82 club champion title. It took another decade-and-a-half to snare his next crown – the triples championship in 1997/98 – but off the field he has served the club with distinction.

Rob was a bowls section committee member from 1990 to 2005, including a stint as treasurer and nine years as chairman. During that time, he oversaw the move away from the MCG to the present Hawthorn facility, and also the merger with Glenferrie Hills Recreation Club.

In 2002, Rob was recognised by the MCC with the Hans Ebeling Award for outstanding service to our sporting sections.

As we went to print, 86-year-old Rob was fast approaching the games tallies of Bruce Seamons (604) and Jack Rush



(611), with Allan Bamford (661), Laurie Skues (783) and the legendary Jack Francis (876) perhaps out of reach. Not that you'd count him out just yet.

# Finals beckon, Kent joins 300 club

Our cricketers are at the business end of the 2015/16 season, with a number of men's and women's teams well in finals contention.

With the last round underway before the finals commence on March 12 and 13, our men's First XI was second on the ladder and needed to win its final match against Northcote to ensure a top two finish. The men's Second XI was also well placed for a top four finish, while the third and fourth elevens were facing finals exclusion after inconsistent seasons.

Under new coach Keith Jansz, our women's teams have continued their rapid improvement in just their fourth year competing in the club colours, highlighted by the First and Second elevens appearing in both mid-season Twenty20 finals, with the Second XI taking out the MCC's first women's title.

With one round of the regular season remaining, the women's Firsts had secured its second straight finals berth, while the Seconds were also well placed to be part of finals action. Our women's thirds, in their first season playing in the community competition, finished on a high despite not challenging for finals, but were competitive in collecting seven wins and, above all, enjoyed their participation.

In the men's Club XI, defending Division 2 titleholders MCC Blue ended its season abruptly with a surprise 34-run semi final loss to Old Haileybury.

The men's First XI's batting has been held together this season by Seb Gotch (522 runs at 52.20), with good support from Andrew Kent and Matthew Brown who have each scored more than 500 runs.

The bowling attack has been led by leg-spinning all-rounder Brenton McDonald, whose 31 wickets at 22.55 while contributing handy middle-order runs has again made him one of the club's most valuable players. Pacemen Jackson Koop (23 wickets), Patrick Smith (18), Jackson Coleman (17) and Chris Tremain (14)



have all played a role in a very even bowling attack.

The women's Firsts have been led by Hayley Jensen who, in between Melbourne Stars commitments in the inaugural women's BBL, has had a stellar season. As we went to print, Hayley's 528 runs at 58.56 leads all comers, with her 13 wickets underlying her value. Tegan Orwin (19 wickets), Natalie Plane (18) and Breannon Sutton (15) have also claimed many a scalp.

A mid-season highlight came on November 28 when Kent became the third cricketer (behind Steven McCooke and Robert Templeton) to play 300 MCC First XI matches. Both "Cooky" and "Tempo" were on hand at the Albert Ground to welcome the new member to their "club", with a pre-match guard of honour and a formal cocktail party in December allowing the club to celebrate the special milestone.



Andrew Kent played his 300th First XI game in November, recognised by his peers (top) and the club (below, with MCC Cricket chairman David Crow.) CENTRE: The MCC women's second Twenty20 champions.

## Sam's dream debut

MCC wicketkeeper-batsman Sam Harper lived out every young cricketer's dream when he was called to make his first-class debut in February.

The son of former MCC coach Bryan Harper, and nephew of former Victorian batsman Laurie Harper, would have been leading Australia in the under 19 World Cup had Cricket Australia not withdrawn from the tournament due to security concerns in Bangladesh.

Instead, he was called up to replace Victoria's wicketkeeper Matthew Wade for the Sheffield Shield match against Tasmania on February 3-5 while Wade went to New Zealand with the national team. In the process the 19-year-old became the youngest-ever Victorian wicketkeeper.

After being presented with his cap by



MCC Cricketer Sam Harper became Victoria's youngest wicketkeeper when he made his Sheffield Shield debut in February.

captain David Hussey, Sam got straight down to business. He took three catches in the first innings, made a breezy 21 with the bat, and then pocketed six more catches in Tasmania's second innings – including a blinder off the bowling of Peter Siddle.

His match tally of nine dismissals was the most on debut by any gloveman in Shield history.

"Obviously I was initially really disappointed – an under-19 World Cup doesn't come along that often," he told reporters after the match. "But to have the last three days I've just had, that's irreplaceable. It was amazing."

While Sam rightly made way for Wade upon his return, there is no doubt he has a bright future.



# SUMMER FUN FOR MEMBERS,

It has been a hectic schedule of sport at the MCG and the club's function's calendar has been no less frantic, with a wide range of events for members and guests to enjoy.

On November 26 and 27, the club hosted the annual gathering of its 50-Year members in the Members Dining Room. The combined attendance was more than 500 members and we now have more than 3000 on the 50-year list. Among those present were sporting luminaries Ron Barassi, Neale Fraser, Noel McMahan, Brian Dixon and former Western Bulldogs player John Westacott.

The luncheons continue to provide an excellent opportunity for our long-serving members to get together with life-long friends and enjoy an afternoon together, whilst for some, it may even be the catalyst for reacquainting themselves with old friends. We were delighted to have along the club's seventh longest-serving member, Maurice Smith, who joined the club way back in 1934.

A few days later the club hosted many of the newly elected 50-Year members at a special luncheon in the Long Room.

Among them were former Melbourne captain and five-time premiership player John Beckwith, former Geelong player and commentator Brian Brushfield and former Victorian basebatter and cricketer Eddie Illingworth.

Former New Zealand captain and new Melbourne Stars coach Stephen Fleming was the star of the show at the Members' Dinner on December 3, attended by more than 300 members in the Members Dining Room.

Hosted by Tim Lane, the dinner first heard from former senior Cricket Australia public affairs executive, Peter Young, who proposed the toast to cricket. He began by placing two cricket balls on the lectern – the new controversial pink ball to be used at the Adelaide Test and the traditional cherry red Kookaburra, with comments to the effect he was putting his views on the line!

Peter praised cricket and its ability to survive and bring people together. He spoke about the many changes that Australian cricket has undergone over the past decade – including the introduction of the BBL, women's cricket and enormous growth at

participation level.

"Australian cricket needs to continue to attract young women to the game," he said, "as well as drawing on the multicultural backgrounds of many Australians – drawing a diverse range of people together for a common love."

A self-confessed "non-speaker", Fleming was genuinely humbled and honoured to be asked to address our members. He was particularly anxious given the quality of speakers at this who's who of cricket since its inception in 1994.

This led him to select his "MCC Members' Dinner Cricketers XI" from the list of previous speakers. And what a lineup it is.

Matthew Hayden and Graham Gooch opened the batting, with Sunil Gavaskar at number three and Greg Chappell at four. Former England captains David Gower and Lord Cowdrey rounded out the top six.

The allrounder was Sir Richard Hadlee, followed by Ian Healy as wicketkeeper. At number nine was England's Geoff Miller, not necessarily for his on-field achievements, but for providing the greatest contribution in his role as a selector.



# FUNCTIONS IN FULL SWING

At number 10 was Wes Hall, with the team rounded out by former Australian Prime Minister, John Howard, as the final bowler and who was also given the captaincy. At this point Fleming asked the audience to turn to their screens to see the famous news clip of Howard bowling to Australian troops. The clip rounded out Fleming's XI beautifully.

Within weeks it was time for the festive season and the Boxing Day Test. Christmas Day Lunch in the Members Dining Room and Long Room was well attended, setting the scene for the next few days.

The Boxing Day Breakfast was held amidst the backdrop of a rainy start to the Test. Hosted by Damien Fleming, the morning commenced with a chat to Victorian and Australian batsman Aaron Finch. After breakfast, guests heard from former West Indies captain and great fast bowler, Courtney Walsh, who is also a Test selector. The man who took 518 Test wickets lamented the plight of cricket in Caribbean but also demonstrated his belief that the island nations could again rise to the top of world cricket.

Rounding out the morning, attendees were treated to a surprise visit from Hollywood actor and big cricket fan, Hugh Jackman.

The following day, more than 400 members and guests enjoyed the spectacular surrounds of the Members Dining Room at the Women in Cricket Test Breakfast.

Members and guests were first treated to a panel discussion involving former Australian player Melanie Jones and two Melbourne Renegades – Molly Strano and Danielle Wyatt – regarding the success of the inaugural women's Big Bash League that was underway around the country.

Former Australian batsman Simon Katich took to the microphone just after breakfast, answering questions from host Angela Pippas with honesty and humour. As was noted by media scribes present, he also took a little jibe at his former teammate Michael Clarke, with whom he fell out with during their playing days.

To round out the summer, the annual Australia Day Luncheon featured former Supreme Court judge The Hon Frank Vincent AO QC as guest speaker.

With more than 150 members and guests

in attendance, the day featured a number of musical performances by soprano Shauntai Batzke and pianist Simon Bruckard, before a powerful address by Vincent.

The former judge and chair of the Victorian Adult Parole Board spoke passionately about the power of education and that it should not favour the wealthy, but be available to all Australians, because there are both personal and national benefits to a strong education system.

He found that too often throughout his career in dealing with criminals that he continued to see the same pattern of them having a background of disadvantage. He referred to his time on the parole board as "picking through the pieces of shattered lives".

Vincent concluded by referring to Australia as a country of opportunities. We still have some way to go in improving our childhood services in order to give our children the best opportunities, and work is still needed to help our indigenous communities, but we are a proud and developing society committed to helping others.



# Anzac Ball for young members

The club's most popular event for young members will be held one day earlier again this year, owing to a clash with the AFL schedule.

The ninth annual Young Members' Anzac Ball will be held in the Members Dining Room on Saturday April 23, with the Melbourne-Richmond clash taking precedence the following night.

The evening includes pre-dinner drinks and canapés in the Long Room, a three-course dinner with beverages, followed by a night of entertainment and dancing.

Dress is lounge suit for men (tie required) and equivalent standard for women, so dress to impress! Strictly no denim or casual attire allowed.

Full and Restricted members and their



guests aged 18-40 are eligible to attend. Cost is \$115 (members) and \$130 (guests) and there is a limit of four guests each.

Bookings opened on March 8 and were selling fast, so we suggest you move quickly to secure a table.

## Doctor triumphs again

Once again our members were fortunate to draw beautiful weather to navigate the splendid Kingston Heath Golf Course at this year's President's Cup on February 9.

With a full field, members enjoyed a light lunch prior to taking on the challenging course, but they were given relief throughout the afternoon with on-course refreshments keeping them well hydrated.

At the end of the round, members moved into the dining room to enjoy a delicious sit-down dinner, cold beverages and to review their day's

achievements and challenges. Prizes were awarded throughout the dinner for individual and team events, longest drive and nearest the pin.

Winner of the prestigious President's Cup, for the second time, was Dr John Lill. The former MCC CEO, who is also an Honorary Life member of the club, took out the event on a countback with 38 Stableford points. The leading female was Mary O'Shea, who scored 29 points from a 15-handicap, while the best team aggregate was won by John Hamilton, Nicholas Speer, Simon Tallent and John Wright.



Dr John Lill (left) receives the President's Cup from MCC vice-president Stephen Spargo.

## YOUR FUNCTIONS CALENDAR

There's a broad range of entertaining functions to cater for members and guests over the next six months. Please mark your diaries and keep an eye on the club website, email newsletters and social media for updates during the year.

DAY	DATE	FUNCTION	BOOKINGS OPEN	VENUE
Thursday	March 10	Comedy Blockbuster @ the 'G	Now open	Members Dining Room
Wednesday	March 23	MCG Footy Season Launch	Now open	Members Dining Room
Saturday	April 2	MFC/MCC Game Day Function (Ess v Melb)	Now open	Hans Ebeling Room
Saturday	April 23	Young Members' Anzac Ball	March 8	Members Dining Room
Saturday	May 14	Comedy @ the 'G (Rich v Syd)	April 5	Hans Ebeling Room
Friday	May 20	Young Members' Footy Function (Haw v Syd)	April 12	Hans Ebeling Room
Sunday	May 29	Women in Football (Coll v WB)	April 19	Committee Room
Saturday	June 4	MFC/MCC Game Day Function (Haw v Melb)	April 19	Hans Ebeling Room
Wednesday	June 8	Norm Smith Oration	April 26	Members Dining Room
Saturday	July 2	Young Members' Footy Function (Carl v Coll)	May 10	Hans Ebeling Room
Saturday	July 23	VRC/MCC Members' Race Day Event	June 7	Flemington Racecourse
Friday	August 5	Comedy @ the 'G (Rich v Coll)	June 28	Hans Ebeling Room
Wednesday	August 17	MCC Annual General Meeting	N/A	Members Dining Room
Sunday	August 21	MFC/MCC Game Day Function (Carl v Melb)	July 5	Hans Ebeling Room
Thursday	August 25	The Bradman Luncheon	July 12	Members Dining Room
Saturday	September 3	Young Members' Themed Ball	July 19	Members Dining Room
Wednesday	September 14	Members' Culinary Centre Experience	Ballot: August 2-9	MCC Culinary Centre
Monday	September 26	Brownlow Dinner with the Coodabeens	Ballot: August 9-11	Members Dining Room
Sunday	December 25	MCC Members' Christmas Day Lunch	July 19	Members Dining Room



# Impressive lineup at Norm Smith Oration

Four-time Hawthorn premiership coach Alastair Clarkson and The Honourable Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria will take to the stage at the Norm Smith Oration on Wednesday June 8 in the Members Dining Room.

Hosted by Tim Lane and in its sixth year, this major football function on the MCC calendar reprises the legacy of Melbourne's legendary player and coach. It is open to all members and their guests to hear our guest speakers chronicle our great game and its influence on generations.

Governor Dessau is an MCC member who served on the AFL Commission from 2008 until her appointment last year. She served for 18 years as a Judge of the Family Court of Australia and, among her many other roles, was founding chair of the Essendon Football Club Women's Network.

After a 134-game playing career at North Melbourne (1987-95) and Melbourne (1996-97), Clarkson has presided over

the Hawks for 257 matches since his appointment in 2005 and is widely regarded as one of the best coaches of the modern era. His club has, of course, won the last three AFL premierships to go with the 2008 triumph and his is an influential voice on the game's many issues.

Tickets to the function include canapés, three-course dinner and beverages and members of all categories can each bring a maximum of four guests.

Bookings will be taken on a first-in, first-served basis from Tuesday April 26. For further information, keep an eye on [mcc.org.au](http://mcc.org.au).

## NORM SMITH ORATION

<b>WHEN</b>	Wednesday June 8
<b>TIME</b>	6.45pm for 7.30pm
<b>WHERE</b>	Members Dining Room
<b>COST</b>	\$130 (members) \$140 (guests)



## Fine dining, unique setting

Following the success of last year's inaugural event, members and their guests can again go behind-the-scenes into the MCG culinary centre for an intimate dinner on Wednesday September 14.

Seated within EPICURE's biggest kitchen at the ground, attendees can savour a specially prepared four-course meal with matched beverages. Take a tour through the centre, watching chefs as they prepare your meal and taste canapés made before your eyes.

EPICURE's head chefs will be on hand to provide insights into running one of the biggest commercial kitchens in Melbourne and preparing hundreds of meals on a daily basis. You will also go home with some special gifts and wonderful memories to share with family and friends.



Located in the basement of the MCG, the culinary centre is the hub of food preparation for function rooms and corporate dining spaces throughout the stadium, as well as for other major venues in Melbourne.

There is a very limited number of places available, so a ballot will be held if demand exceeds supply. Registrations will be open from Tuesday August 2 at 9.00am until Tuesday August 9 at 5.00pm. This function is only open to Full and Restricted members who may each bring one guest. A maximum of four people per booking applies.

Don't miss out on this unique and exciting opportunity.

## MEMBERS' CULINARY CENTRE EXPERIENCE

<b>WHEN</b>	Wednesday September 14
<b>TIME</b>	6.45pm for 7.30pm
<b>WHERE</b>	MCG Culinary Centre
<b>COST</b>	\$180 (members) \$190 (guests)



## Laugh along before the footy

We are delighted to announce two pre-match Comedy @ the 'G functions for members in 2016.

Laugh along with some of Australia's top comics while enjoying a two-hour, pre-game, snack food and beverage package prior to the Richmond v Sydney Swans match on Saturday May 14 and the Richmond v Collingwood game on Friday August 5. A reserved seat on Level 2 to watch the match is also included.

These functions are only open to Full and Restricted members and their guests (maximum one per member). Guests will require a visitor ticket to access the ground so please ensure you pre-purchase visitor tickets early. The lineup of comedians for May 14 will include Daniel Connell, Sami Shah and Showko. Comedy tickets will be available from Tuesday April 5 (Richmond-Sydney Swans) and Tuesday June 28 (Richmond-Collingwood) via [mcc.org.au](http://mcc.org.au).

## COMEDY AT THE 'G

<b>WHEN</b>	Saturday May 14
<b>TIME</b>	5.15pm - 7.15pm Match commences at 7.25pm
<b>MATCH</b>	Richmond v Sydney Swans
<b>WHERE</b>	Hans Ebeling Room
<b>COST</b>	\$50 per person



# Footy functions for young members

The first of two MCC Young Members' football functions this season will be held on Friday May 20 in the Hans Ebeling Room at the match between Hawthorn and Sydney Swans.

Bookings open on April 12 and your entry ticket includes finger food, beer, wine and soft drink and a reserved seat on Level 2 to watch the match.

Please be aware the function cost does not include entry to the ground for members' guests. We recommend purchasing visitor tickets in advance, as it cannot be guaranteed they will be available on match day.

A second function for young members will be held at the Carlton-Collingwood match on Saturday July 2. Bookings for that evening will be accepted from May 10.



## VRC Young Members' Cocktail Event

On behalf of the Victoria Racing Club, MCC young members and their guests are invited to enjoy a fun day at the races at Flemington on Andrew Ramsden Stakes Day, Saturday May 21.

The VRC Young Members' Cocktail Event includes live performances, finger food, MYER best dressed competition, door prizes, make-up pamper lounge, "Instabooth" and bus transfers to the after party.

Tickets cost \$10 for MCC members and \$32 for guests, which includes general admission racecourse entry. There is a limit of five tickets per MCC member. Members are required to attend with their guests.

VRC Members' dress regulations apply, so please refer to the VRC



website ([www.flemington.com.au](http://www.flemington.com.au)) for further details.

To book, please contact VRC Customer Service on 1300 727 575

from March 28 at 9.00am. Please ensure you have your MCC membership card number ready when booking.

## Footy functions for MFC/MCC members

In addition to playing a part in the club's future success, dual MFC/MCC membership provides the opportunity to access a range of functions during the footy season.

The first of these is the MFC/MCC Game Day Luncheon in the Hans Ebeling Room at the Round 2 match against Essendon on Saturday April 2.

Members and their guests will enjoy a two-course luncheon, half-time afternoon tea, pre-game beverages, entertainment and a

reserved seat on Level 2 to watch the match. A cash bar will operate during the game.

Guests will require a visitor ticket to access the ground so members should ensure they pre-purchase their visitor tickets early.

Bookings are now being taken via the MCC website or by contacting the club on (03) 9657 8888.



### MFC/MCC GAME DAY LUNCHEON

<b>WHEN</b>	Saturday April 2
<b>MATCH</b>	Essendon v Melbourne
<b>TIME</b>	12.00pm (match starts at 2.10pm)
<b>WHERE</b>	Hans Ebeling Room
<b>COST</b>	\$105 (dual MFC/MCC members) \$120 (other MCC members and guests)



## Soccer triple treat in July

Following the success of last year's tournament, this July the MCG will again host three matches of the International Champions Cup (ICC) Australia, presented by Audi. Defending A-League champions Melbourne Victory will join Tottenham Hotspur, Juventus and Atletico Madrid in matches to be played on July 23, 26 and 29. All categories of members and their guests will be able to access the MCC Members Reserve to watch each match. As has been the case for recent special events that have been hosted at the ground, including last year's ICC matches, members (except 50-Year and Honorary Life members) will be required to pay a subsidised admission fee to enter the Reserve.

For each of the three matches, MCC members (except 50-year and Honorary Life members) and guest cardholders will be required to pre-purchase a \$45 entry entitlement that will validate their card at the turnstiles and admit into the Members Reserve.

Note: The actual member must attend with their card and the entitlement is not transferable. Guest cards are transferable, but entry entitlements must also be purchased for these cards and they must be used in accordance with the normal conditions.

Also on sale are visitor tickets for guests (maximum of four per Full and Restricted member and two per Provisional member), as well as reserved seats for members and their guests on Level 1 or Level 4.

Visitor tickets cost \$105 (adults) and \$60 (children aged 6-14). Members will not be able to purchase visitor tickets unless they have validated their own card for entry.

For the latest update on ticket availability, as well as arrangements for dining and Long Room/Balcony passes, please visit [www.mcc.org.au](http://www.mcc.org.au)

**Provisional members**



All three matches will be Category 3 events for Provisional members, meaning they'll be able to purchase an entry entitlement for themselves and up to two visitor tickets for guests. They will also be able purchase reserved seating on levels 1 and 4.

Provisional members will not be able access seating on levels 2 and 3, make a booking in the Members Dining Room nor make application for Long Room/Balcony passes for guests.

### International Champions Cup Australia

Saturday July 23	Melbourne Victory v Juventus
Tuesday July 26	Juventus v Tottenham Hotspur
Friday July 29	Tottenham Hotspur v Atletico Madrid

### TICKET PRICES

Members' entry entitlement	\$45
Visitor tickets	\$105 (adults) \$60 (child 6-14)
Reserved seats	\$10 (adults) \$5 (child 6-14)

## Show your true footy colours

For several years, MCC members who support Melbourne Football Club have had the opportunity to financially assist their football team by purchasing a dual membership package.

In recent times the club has extended that offer to MCC members who barrack for any of the 10 Victorian-based AFL teams.

Members who support any of those clubs received their membership renewal notice in July last year with an option to upgrade to the dual membership category. Each package offers excellent value and is a great way to show your club colours and boost your team's overall membership numbers.

Dual membership not only provides financial assistance to your footy team, but also affords additional opportunities to attract sponsors and advertising revenue streams. We encourage members to get behind their club in 2016, even if you have already renewed your MCC membership.

If you wish to take up the offer for the new AFL season, please phone 1300 300 107 with your reference number and credit card, or you can log in to the MCC website, click through to 'renew my membership' and follow the prompts.

If you did not receive the offer as part of your renewal mailing, or would like



more information, please contact us on [membership@mcc.org.au](mailto:membership@mcc.org.au) or (03) 9657 8888.



# Members honoured on Australia Day

MCC vice-president Michael Andrew was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in the 2016 Australia Day Honours List.

Michael served on the MCC Committee from 2007-11, including as treasurer. He re-joined in 2014 and was elevated to the vice-presidency last year.

He was recognised for “distinguished service to the accountancy profession at the national and international level, and to a range of business, anti-corruption, finance and community organisations.”

Michael is renowned for his deep understanding of business, finance, strategy and risk management from his time as the global CEO of KPMG international (2011 to 2014) and chairman of KPMG Australia (2006 to 2011).

He is currently chairman of the Australian government’s Board of Taxation and chaired the B20 Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group in 2014. He has been a member of the International Business Council of the World Economic Forum, Business Council of Australia and was vice-chair of the Committee for Melbourne.

Other prominent MCC members to feature in this year’s honours list included Western Bulldogs vice-president Dr Susan Alberti and Allan Myers QC.

Alberti, one of Australia’s pre-eminent philanthropists, was recognised for her



philanthropic and fundraising support for a range of medical research, education and sporting organisations, as an advocate for improved health care services for the disadvantaged, and to young women as a role model and mentor.

A prominent lawyer and former president of National Gallery of Victoria, Myers was recognised for his philanthropic leadership in support of major visual arts, not-for-profit organisations and to the law. His wife, Maria, was also recognised for her work, in particular in advancing the understanding of Indigenous rock art as chair of the Kimberley Foundation Australia.

We congratulate all our members on their recognition in this year’s honours list.

## MCC MEMBERS HONOUR ROLL

### AC (General Division)

- ALBERTI, Dr Susan
- MYERS, Allan
- MYERS, Maria

### AO (General Division)

- ANDREW, Michael
- COPOLOV, Professor David
- KIRBY, Robert
- MACRAE, Professor Finlay

### AM (General Division)

- BATT, The Hon John
- DRENNEN, Dr Helen
- MOSS, Philip
- POLLACK, Bruce
- PYMAN, Ian
- STOOKE, Brian
- VORRATH, Dr John
- WALSH, Valda
- WILLIS, Geoffrey

### OAM (General Division)

- BROOK, Alan
- BROOK, Barbara
- GARDEN, Donald
- JELBART, Maxwell
- KEUNEMAN, Gerald
- KOSTOS, Mike
- MILES, Gregory
- TUCKER, Dr John

## Live out your dreams on the hallowed turf

The long wait for footy fans is almost over, with the 2016 AFL season to commence on Thursday March 24 when Richmond hosts Carlton at the MCG.

The MCG playing surface will again be made available for a kick-to-kick opportunity after selected Sunday matches, following its successful introduction last season.

While matches in the windy June-July period have been avoided in order to preserve the turf, every Victorian-based club will get at least one opportunity (weather permitting), except North Melbourne who don't play any Sunday games this season. Bring your footy and make your own memories.



### Post-game MCG turf access

Sunday April 3	Hawthorn v West Coast Eagles
Sunday April 17	Collingwood v Melbourne
Sunday May 1	Carlton v Essendon
Sunday May 15	Melbourne v Western Bulldogs
Sunday May 29	Collingwood v Western Bulldogs
Sunday August 7	Carlton v St Kilda
Sunday August 14	Richmond v Geelong Cats
Sunday August 21	Carlton v Melbourne

## AFL stats book special offer

AFL Record Season 2016 is the 21st edition of what has become the AFL’s statistical bible.

Containing 1184 pages of statistics, history and information, it is perfect to wade through before a game or on the train.

The guide also includes full details on the draft, profiles on every player in the competition, detailed statistics on every club and a history of all finals and award winners. The cover features last year’s Brownlow medallist, Nat Fyfe.

As a special offer to members, the club has a limited number of copies for sale at the discounted price of \$25 (rrp \$39.95). For further information or to order your copy, please phone the club on (03) 9657 8888 or email membership@mcc.org.au.

