

2022/23

Annual Report



**MELBOURNE
CRICKET CLUB**



Acknowledgement of Country

The Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land where our administration office is based within the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) and where many of our members come together every week.

As an umbrella organisation for 14 Sporting Sections, we also acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands across Melbourne where our Club hosts and plays sport, the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation.

The land surrounding the MCG, now called Yarra Park, has been a special meeting place from time immemorial for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, long before the stadium was built and it became a meeting place for modern-day Australia. It was the place of age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. The MCG today is a place for newer ceremonies, many of which proudly involve First Nations peoples. Their living culture had and continues to have a unique role in the life of the MCG and its surrounding precinct.

The MCC recognises and respects the cultural heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their beliefs, their relationship with and connection to country, and the significance of the land where we are situated and where we invite millions of visitors each year.

We acknowledge that these beliefs and relationships are of continuing importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and should be celebrated. We pay our respect to the Elders past, present and emerging of the lands in which we operate.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In the Melbourne Cricket Club's 2022/23 financial year, business operations have recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic and resumed their growth.

It is a privilege to present to members my first Annual Report as President of our great Club. The Melbourne Cricket Club has been a huge part of my life and the past year has seen the Club at its best.

We are a club and a community, and we share a passion for live sport, entertainment and honouring history.

More than four million patrons attended major events at the MCG during 2022/23 – AFL, cricket, two soccer matches, four concerts and the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.



Our year was set up by an uninterrupted 2022 AFL Premiership Season, where the MCG hosted 46 matches that culminated in our first AFL Grand Final since 2019. A capacity crowd of 100,024 attended the match between the Geelong Cats and the Sydney Swans and rocked along to the hot pink suit-wearing Robbie Williams during the pre-game entertainment. It was a moment that brought home that the worst of the pandemic was truly over. Patrons of all ages enjoyed the spectacle of the day and it was a wonderful highlight to see the Members' Reserve humming.

In our quest to celebrate the remarkable moments that happen at our beloved ground, we learnt that Robbie Williams had donated his hot pink suit worn on AFL Grand Final Day to the McGrath Foundation as part of the SCG's Pink Test. We knew the suit was a significant item that should be displayed within the MCG. Following a successful bid in the auction by the MCC Foundation, the pink suit has made its way back to the MCG. Our Heritage Services team is working on an exciting display that will be unveiled in 2023/24.

During the winter months, the Club was again able to attract huge international content for the MCG. We hosted super club Manchester United in two matches against Melbourne Victory and Crystal Palace FC respectively, which attracted a total attendance of 150,656.

The cricket season began with the ICC Men's T20 World Cup tournament, held over from 2020. A total attendance of 302,196 was achieved across all matches played at the MCG during the tournament, highlighted by the first MCG match of the tournament between Pakistan and India that had everyone on their feet.



Another successful domestic and international cricket season was run, with the beloved Boxing Day Test match having South Africa as the visiting side for the first time since 2008. A double century from David Warner was a clear highlight of the match, which was won by the Aussies on the fourth day of play.

A backlog of concerts from the pandemic were rescheduled to 2022/23, with the MCG hosting Guns N' Roses concert in December in front of 52,745 fans. Just one week later, the Piano Man – Billy Joel – graced the MCG stage with his only Australian performance in front of 76,300 fans. Then in March 2023, in between the cricket and AFL seasons, the MCG hosted its biggest ever concerts. Across consecutive record-breaking shows, Ed Sheeran smashed the previous attendance record set by Eminem in 2019. Seeing the MCG lit up like it was for Ed was such a spectacular moment for me, everyone in attendance and also for our city.

More than 4 million patrons attended major events ... at the MCG during 2022/23.

While our management of the MCG goes from strength to strength, Club life is thriving. We have more than 2,800 participants in our 14 Sporting Sections who compete in 13 different sports. At our core, we're a sports club and it's so pleasing to see so many enjoying all that our Club has to offer.

Our Cricket Section experienced success once again, winning premierships in the Men's and Women's Premier Cricket competition. Our Men's Premier Cricket First XI won the 2022/23 premiership, defeating Carlton Cricket Club in the Grand Final at Windy Hill. The match lasted for four innings and was a gallant effort by the team. Our Women's teams won the Club Championship for the second consecutive year.

In the Baseball Section, we won premierships in the Men's Division 4 and the Masters 38+ competitions. Our Bowls Section celebrated participants competing at state and national championships. Our Croquet Section was dominant in state competitions and the MCC Women's Football side achieved the ultimate victory by winning its inaugural premiership in the VAFA Division 3 competition.

There has been considerable participant growth in the Golf Section, and the Hockey Section celebrated its most triumphant season with the Men's Premier League side reaching the Grand Final. Our Lacrosse Section teams made multiple finals appearances and had individuals progress to represent the state at the national championships.

Four out of the five Hockey Section teams made finals this year and the Real Tennis Section attracted new players. The Squash Section thrived in the Spring Club Circuit Pennant and players were selected for national sides. The Target Shooting Section boasted several individual success stories including players representing Australia in international competitions, and the Tennis Section had 21 teams competing across the district.



The mighty Dees AFL side continued to feature in the top eight; however, sadly, were unable to match their great feats of 2021. The Melbourne Football Club's AFLW side would achieve the ultimate feat in 2022, claiming its maiden AFLW premiership after a memorable season.

Our commitment to honouring heritage while inspiring the next generation of athletes and sports lovers continues. Enhancements included the Shrine to Test Cricket, located to the side of the Frank Grey Smith Bar, where Wisden's greatest cricketers of the 20th century are honoured with a new display. The space is also the dedicated home to the famous Sir Donald Bradman and Sachin Tendulkar photo, which is extremely popular with visitors.

More than 154,000 visitors have either taken an MCG Tour or visited the Australian Sports Museum in this financial year. Stemming from our commitment and relationships as part of our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, the MCC and Melbourne Football Club unveiled an exhibition of the Narrm Football Club. Narrm, the traditional Aboriginal name for Melbourne in the Woi-wurrung language, was celebrated with MFC's Indigenous jumpers and players, creating a space for education, recognition and acknowledgement. I would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who create enjoyable and memorable moments for those who visit the Australian Sports Museum and join an MCG Tour.



Through our philanthropic arm, the MCC Foundation, we are contributing to real changes across our eight community partners. From participants in the Bachar Houli Foundation programs and Melbourne Indigenous Transition School getting the opportunity to play on the hallowed turf to supporting talented athletes through the Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund and Special Olympics, our members should be proud that our shared passion for sport is being extended to thousands of others.

Our new hospitality partner Delaware North has expanded the offering in the Members' Reserve through several new brands and spaces. This is detailed further within the report.

A review of the membership has been undertaken over the past few years and a major piece of work was presented to the members at last year's Annual General Meeting. The proposed changes, which were supported, aimed at updating the Club Rules to ensure we were able to maintain the

amenity of the MCC Members' Reserve and bring arrangements in line with contemporary times. As a result, the classification of 50-Year membership is now enshrined in the Club Rules, alongside the introduction of female members to that classification. The changes also introduced a new category of membership – 50-Year Social – for those members who have reached the milestone but no longer wish to regularly attend matches at the MCG.

There have been several Committee changes this year, including the tenure of President Michael Happell ending in the last month of the 2022/23 year. Michael is a remarkable Club person, a brilliant business mind and someone who steered our Club through its most challenging period – the COVID-19 pandemic. On behalf of the Committee, management, volunteers and members, I thank Michael for his enormous and truly special contribution to the Club's life. More about Michael's contributions follow later in this report.

We also farewelled long-serving Committee member Peter King, whose tenure came to an end. His experience as a cricket player and in the events industry enabled him to make a valued contribution to the Club. He championed our Cricket Section, which brought better facilities, coaches and programs, while also chairing the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame. We thank Peter for everything he was able to achieve while on the Committee.

I would like to welcome our three new Committee members – Carolyn Bendall, Tony Johnson and Alice Robinson. All three will make great contributions to the Club and I would like to thank them – and all Committee members – for their tireless contribution to our great Club. My thanks also go to the Victorian Government and MCG Trust, ably led by the Honourable Steve Bracks AC.

Our Club is special and its scope of influence is huge within the city and state, across the country and globally. I'm so glad it is led by Stuart Fox, with such passion and purpose, along with his Executive Management team. They are dedicated to providing exceptional experiences to our members and all patrons who attend our great stadium. And to our members, thank you for being part of our strong and passionate community. It has been a great year and we will continue to work on new initiatives to further enhance your experiences.

It is you who we serve.



CEO'S REPORT

The pandemic was well in our rearview mirror this year as our Club and the MCG returned with increased business and crowds. The second year of the Club's five-year Strategic Plan has experienced good growth across our key focus areas, helping us to steer through to a full recovery.

UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES

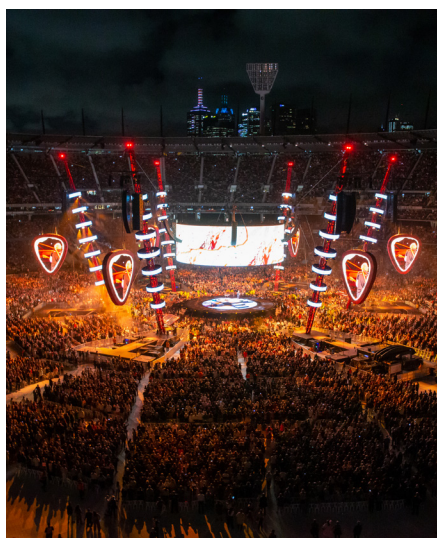
Unforgettable experiences continued at the MCG in the past year, with many delayed tours and events taking place. The AFL was able to present a full season and the Grand Final returned to the MCG for the first time since 2019. The sounds and sight of Robbie Williams in that hot pink suit during the pre-game performance will live long in the memory of those in attendance. Robbie's pink suit will also adorn the walls of the MCG after the Club purchased it in an auction conducted by the McGrath Foundation.

In the past year, soccer also returned to the MCG when Manchester United played two games - against Melbourne Victory and Crystal Palace FC - in June 2022, attracting a collective crowd of nearly 151,000. Crowds flocked to the MCG for the 2022 ICC Men's T20 World Cup across October and November. The tournament attracted global attention, most notably the match between India and Pakistan in front of a boisterous crowd of 90,293 people. Days later, England prevailed over Pakistan in the Final to conclude the tournament, which had been held over from 2020.

The summer of cricket was highlighted by the beloved Boxing Day Test Match. Australia hosted South Africa, and our pitch was lauded for its pace, bounce and lateral movement. All three characteristics have been nurtured for the past five years and it was pleasing to see that we could consistently present this for long-form cricket matches.

The MCG hosted four concerts by three incredible and beloved artists. Billy Joel played his only show in Australia in December, which saw a considerable increase in visitation to Melbourne by interstate travellers. Guns N' Roses was also able to draw a huge crowd for its second concert in five years at the MCG.

In March, our concert record - previously held by Eminem with his 2019 performance - was eclipsed by back-to-back performances from Ed Sheeran. The concerts were held in the round where all angles of the ground's circular structure were utilised along with flooring across the arena. Ed Sheeran was able to perform in front of a collective 217,500 people in just two nights.



Cumulatively across our major events in the 2022/23 financial year, the MCG has welcomed 4,079,678 patrons through our gates.

WORLD-CLASS STADIUM AND PRECINCT

The Club continues to make progress in the assessment of the Shane Warne Stand. Now an ageing asset that was unveiled for the 1992 Men's Cricket World Cup, modelling is now under way to understand its current state and future requirements. With a vision to always ensure the MCG is a world-class stadium, a business case began in 2022/23 to deep-dive into future requirements for a modern stadium.

Delaware North's first full year as the MCG's hospitality partner saw the best of Melbourne's food scene embedded at the ground. Feedback from members

and patrons highlighted the enjoyment of the increased variety and price points.

Ahead of the 2023 AFL Premiership Season, several new food and beverage partners were added to our offering. Members are now exclusively treated to the Lucy Liu Lounge, a border-hopping dining experience taking inspiration from the best cuisines across Southern Asia and bringing the laneway experience to the Members' Reserve. The Club has also been pleased to see increased patronage in the Trumble Bar & Café after an extensive renovation.

Following a competitive tender process, local Melbourne manufacturer Industry Beans was announced as the MCG's new coffee partner. Delivered to the MCG directly from Industry Beans' roastery in Fitzroy, there are 35 locations inside the venue where patrons can purchase one of its beverages on match days. In collaboration with Delaware North, the refurbished AFL Dining Room, Legends' Room and Tom Wills Room were unveiled in time for the AFL's first round of 2023.

The Club is also committed to acknowledging and celebrating Australian sport. During the year we invested in several exhibitions in the Museum spaces and upgraded facilities along the MCG Tour to enhance patrons' experiences. Record-breaking patronage was achieved on MCG Tours and in the Australian Sports Museum during this financial year.

TREASURED MEMBERSHIP

We are committed to ensuring that membership of the Melbourne Cricket Club is truly treasured. Over the past few years, a full review of our membership operations has taken place. One outcome was presented at the last Annual General Meeting. The review uncovered that 50-Year membership was not enshrined in the Club Rules and its fee structure was not aligned with contemporary times. Proposed changes, along with rectifying the recognition

of women as 50-Year members of the Club, were presented to members and a vote took place at the AGM. This was supported by a subsequent ballot with those changes coming into effect from the 2023/24 subscription season.

In August 2022, we launched the MCC app. A first for Club members, it aimed to improve the member experience and enhance ease of navigation of the membership portal. It also contains a digital membership card and the ability to make dining bookings.

Our 14 Sporting Sections (across 13 sports) bounced back from the pandemic with increased participation and success. MCC members excelled at the Commonwealth Games, held in Birmingham.

LEADERSHIP IN OUR DNA

The Club continues to make inroads into reducing our carbon footprint through new recycling programs, enhanced building management practices and climate change mitigation initiatives. Following our announcement in 2022 that the MCG would be the first major Australian stadium to run on 100 per cent renewable power, the Club has a great sense of responsibility in maintaining and improving practices across the entire business.

Our commitment to the national reconciliation movement has been strengthened this year by a trusted working relationship with the Traditional Custodians of the land where the MCG is situated – the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We are incredibly fortunate to work with the Wurundjeri Elders to present opportunities and initiatives so that all visitors to the MCG and Yarra Park precinct can acknowledge and respect the world's oldest and continuing culture.

Through the MCC Foundation – the philanthropic arm of the Club – we aim to preserve Australian sporting history and enhance access to sport for all Australians. Our existing community partnerships – all focused on increasing participation in sport – made a full recovery after the pandemic. We were extremely proud to announce new partnerships with the National Indigenous Cricket Championships and the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation's CALDPlay program.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM CHANGES

In December 2022, our General Manager of Commercial Operations and Partnerships, Jennifer Watt, was announced as the new North Melbourne Football Club Chief Executive Officer. The appointment is a tremendous recognition of Jen's standing within the



AFL and sports industries. Following 14 years at Melbourne Football Club, Jen spent five years with the Club reinvigorating the MCG and MCC brand relationship, forging partnerships across sponsors and community partners and securing content across AFL, cricket and special events.

After three years as General Manager of Club Services and Heritage, Tanya Gallina has been appointed General Manager of Commercial Operations and Partnerships. Following a recruitment process, in May 2023 respected Tennis Australia executive Dean Matthews was appointed as General Manager of Club Services and Heritage.

Rounding out the changes to the Executive Leadership team, long-serving General Manager of Finance and Business Performance Clive Driscoll has announced his retirement after more than 23 years with the Club. Clive was instrumental in preserving our stable financial position during the pandemic while maintaining our debt repayments and partnership arrangements.

Clive has been a trusted ally to many Committee members, staff members and me for many years. He leaves the Club with a huge amount of gratitude and well wishes as he moves into the next stage of his life. Clive's trusted and valued deputy Mark Jones has been appointed to succeed Clive in July 2023.

MEMBERSHIP INTAKE

Melbourne Cricket Club membership was 157,708 on August 31, 2022 (the last date of the 2022/23 membership subscription season), with 182,869 candidates on the waiting list.

Full members comprise 63,709 of the total membership base and include nominations to September 30, 1992.

Restricted members comprise 43,339 of the total membership base and include nominations to December 31, 1998.

Provisional members comprise 50,660 of the total membership base and include nominations to November 30, 2006.

OPERATING RESULTS

The Club recorded a net profit of \$4.72 million for the financial year ending March 31, 2023.

We continue to meet our obligations with respect to the Northern Stand redevelopment debt, which was \$37.03 million at year-end, down from \$77.22 million in the 2021/22 financial year.

Treasurer Geoff Roberts will report the Club's financial results in detail at the 186th Annual General Meeting in August 2023.

THANKS

The continued success of the Melbourne Cricket Club is due to the many committed and passionate people who put in countless hours of work – from the Committee, to our permanent and event staff members through to our hundreds of volunteers. Your contribution is deeply valued by all who love the Club, Library, Museums and our ground.

Specific thanks to the Committee members, who volunteer their time to lead, advise and protect the greatest sporting club in the country. In the last month of this financial year, the tenure of President Michael Happell concluded. In this role, Michael was the ultimate mentor and leader through the COVID-19 pandemic, the toughest period in the Club's existence. I valued Michael's guidance as we navigated the difficult period together. He always had the Club's future and the wellbeing of our members at the forefront of his decision-making and I'm grateful for his friendship throughout.

Thanks must also go to the MCG Trust, led by The Honourable Steve Bracks, and the Victorian Government in our partnership to manage the greatest venue in the country. Thank you to our main venue hirers – Cricket Australia and the AFL – who continue to bring exceptional content to the MCG. We are also appreciative of the MCG's main delivery partners, Ticketek, Delaware North, ISS and SecureCorp.

Being involved in something that so many hold dear is our collective privilege.

Our Club

The Melbourne Cricket Club was established in 1838 by five people for recreation and socialising. Little did these pioneers know that they were sowing the seeds for a club that would grow to play a fundamental role in Australia's love of sport.



Founded on November 15, 1838, the Club played cricket on various Melbourne sites before settling on its current site, once known as a police paddock, in September 1853.

The Police Paddock, now known as Yarra Park, is anchored to its 65,000 year First Nations history and as ceremonial grounds for the Kulin Nation.

The MCC has always been the foremost promoter of sport in Australia. In 1859 the MCC drew up the first set of rules for Victorian (later Australian) Football. The Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) hosted the first tour by an English cricket team in 1862, the first Test match in 1877 and the first One-Day International match in 1971. It has also been home to the 1956 Summer Olympic Games, the 2006 Commonwealth Games, two ICC Men's One-Day International Cricket World Cups and one ICC Women's T20 World Cup.

Our history is one of boldness, adaptation and transformation; our future will be, too. This has never been more important given the unprecedented changes taking place in our communities, our industry and the world.

Today, the MCC is a private club with public responsibilities. Its scope encompasses:

- managing the MCG as the world's greatest stadium on behalf of Victorians
- providing the best services and facilities for more than 150,000 members
- respecting the history of sport and its influence on Australia's culture through the management of the Australian Sports Museum, MCC Museum, MCC Library and MCG Tours
- maintaining Yarra Park as a public facility for every Victorian to enjoy
- the MCC Foundation, which aims to promote and enable access to sport and participation through the oversight of 14 Sporting Sections, partnerships with community organisations and management of our sporting grounds throughout Melbourne.

The Melbourne Cricket Club is the largest sporting club in Australia consisting of over 150,000 members and approximately 183,000 on the waitlist to join. There are three main levels of membership – Full, Restricted

and Provisional – which entitle those members to varying benefits. One of the benefits includes access to the MCC Members' Reserve on event days at the MCG. The MCC Members' Reserve equates to 23 per cent of the total capacity of the MCG.

Today, the MCC is an umbrella organisation for thousands of participants in 13 sports: baseball, bowls, cricket, croquet, Australian Rules Football, golf, hockey, lacrosse, netball, real tennis, squash, target shooting and tennis. The Melbourne Football Club is also one of the Club's Sporting Sections.

The Club's principal public role, however, remains the progressive management and development of one of the country's greatest assets – the MCG. The MCG has a global reach, holding a special place in the hearts and minds of all sport-loving Australians as well as many international visitors and guests. Each year the MCG plays host to many domestic and international cricket games, matches as part of the AFL Premiership Season and other special events and concerts. The MCC works closely with Cricket Australia, the AFL and concert/event promoters in bringing major events to the MCG.

Modern times have seen the MCC work with the MCG Trust, an independent board appointed by the Victorian Government to ensure the special place of the MCG is maintained, cherished and celebrated for generations of Victorians, Australians and international visitors to come.

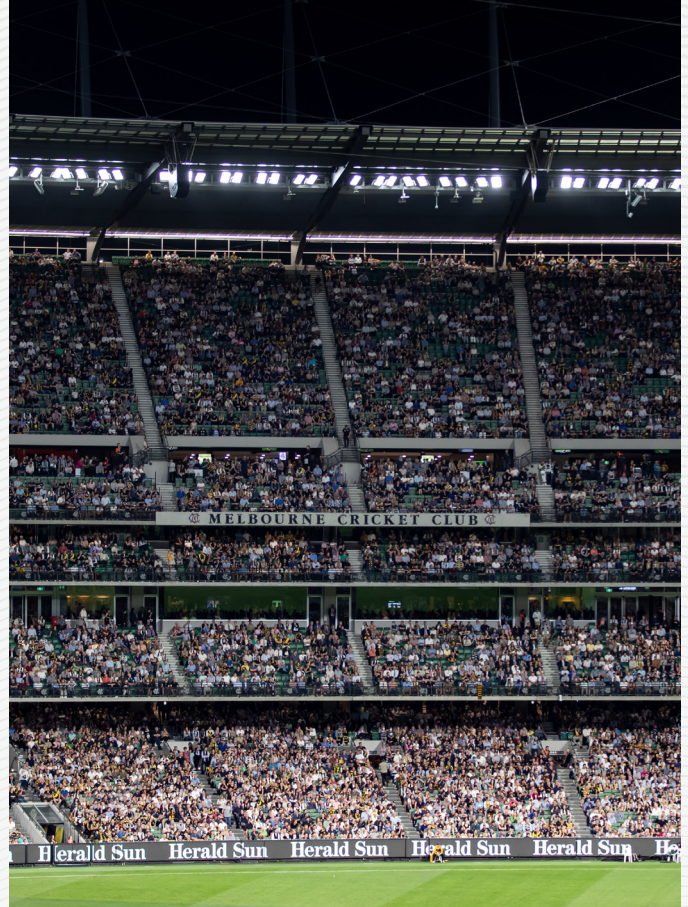


Also managed by the MCC is Yarra Park, a traditional Kulin Nation meeting place that contains at least two scarred trees. The MCG is a modern-day meeting place located within Yarra Park, located on land of the oldest living culture in the world.

The MCG operates in conjunction with catering, cleaning and security partners, Delaware North, ISS and SecureCorp respectively, with another 3,000 staff members engaged on event days.

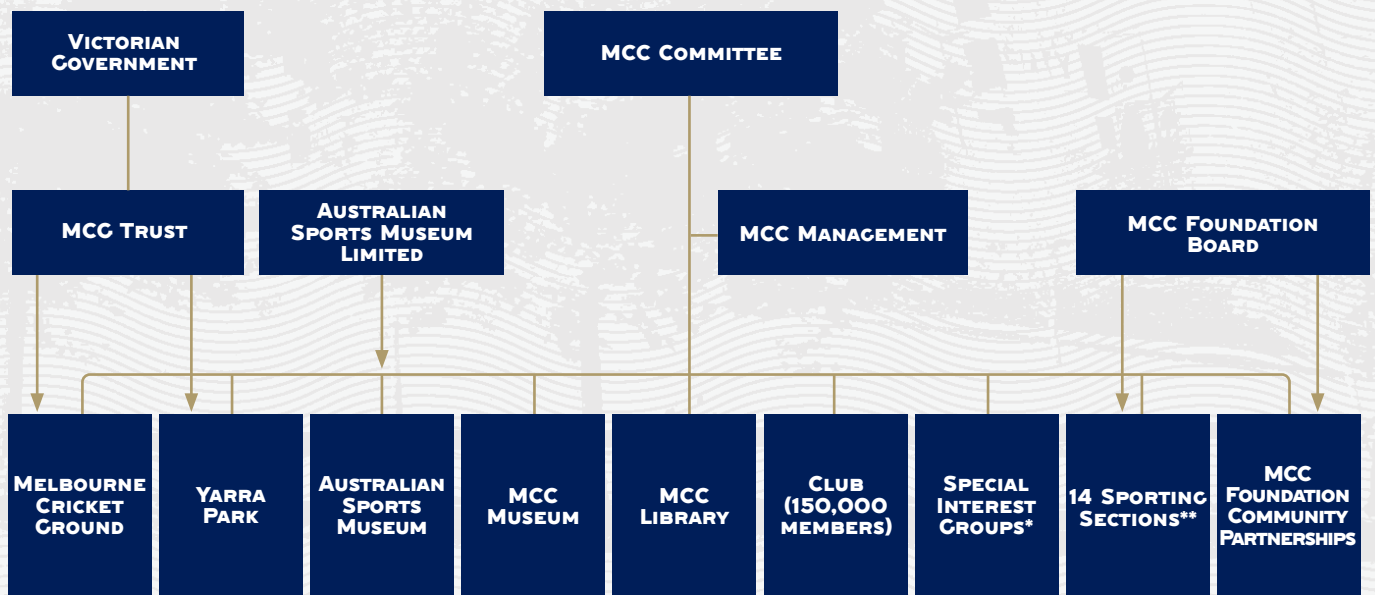
The MCC’s philanthropic arm is the MCC Foundation which is a company limited by guarantee and not-for-profit entity. The MCC Foundation provides financial support to various community sport activities and programs. The Foundation encourages and promotes the playing of sports, through the provision of funds for the MCC’s Sporting Sections and community partnerships. Current community partnerships include the Bachar Houli Foundation, Melbourne Indigenous Transition School, the Santa Teresa Oval Project, Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund, Western Bulldogs CALDplay program, National Indigenous Cricket Championships and Special Olympics Australia.

The MCC Foundation also invests in facilities and amenities for the use and enjoyment of members and the Sporting Sections. The MCC Foundation partnered with the Victorian Government to provide world-class sporting facilities at Beaumaris Secondary College, Elwood College and Melbourne High. The facilities are used by students during school hours and the MCC’s Sporting Sections and other local community groups outside of school hours.



The MCC also oversees the management of the Australian Sports Museum, MCC Museum, MCC Library and MCG Tours based at the MCG. After recently undergoing an extensive \$17 million redevelopment, the Museum celebrates more than 90 different sports, the way sport is ingrained in Australian culture while also paying tribute to the sporting feats of First Nations peoples.

Melbourne Cricket Club’s organisation structure



*Special Interest Groups include: Bridge Club, Long Room Wine & Food Society, Young Members’ Club, Military Veterans’ Group, Women of the MCC and XXIX Club (social cricket).

**Sporting Sections include: Baseball, Bowls, Cricket, Croquet, Football (Women’s), Golf, Hockey, Melbourne Football Club, Netball, Lacrosse, Real Tennis, Squash, Tennis and Target Shooting.

2021-2026 Strategic Plan overview

The current five-year Strategic Plan that was due to be implemented from April 2020 was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and released during the 2021/22 financial year. The 2022/23 financial year was the second in the Strategic Plan structure.

OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to move Australia through the transformative power of live sport, entertainment and culture.

We will foster the love of sport by creating unrivalled experiences that inspire and cultivate a sense of connection and belonging.

We will do this through our dual role as custodian and manager of these incredible grounds, through the development of our outstanding Club, and by preserving the heritage and 'spirit of the 'G'.

OUR FOCUS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

Our focus in this Strategic Plan is to demonstrate leadership in all that we do, by building on our history and strong sense of tradition, but continuing to innovate to meet the changing needs of our community, stakeholders, fans and members.



LEVERS: PARTNERSHIPS + TECHNOLOGY + STORYTELLING + PEOPLE

Thank you,

Michael Happell

During Michael Happell's time as MCC President, several crowd records were bettered, multi-million-dollar renovations were unveiled, stadium firsts abounded – and the COVID-19 pandemic challenged the leadership of the Club in unprecedented ways.

Michael's four-year tenure as President came to a close in March 2023. Elected as President in March 2019, his time in the role was filled with highs and lows – from celebrating a record attendance at the ICC Women's T20 World Cup Final between Australia and India to navigating the Club through the challenges of the pandemic and seeing the return of crowds and the success of the 2022 AFL Grand Final.

Michael served on the MCC Committee for 12 years, joining in 2011 and serving as Treasurer and Vice-President before being elected as President in 2019.

During his time in the role, the MCG hosted two ICC T20 World Cup Finals, four concerts, two soccer matches, two AFL Grand Finals, four Boxing Day Test matches, the State Memorial Service for Shane Warne and numerous AFL matches and domestic and international cricket matches.

As President, Michael steered the Club through one of the most challenging periods in its 185-year history with the COVID-19 pandemic.

From supporting members and staff during long periods of lockdowns, to navigating the closure of the MCG, relocation of games, games played behind closed doors, crowd capacity restrictions and the halting of Club sport – Michael had challenges like no other MCC president.

With COVID-19 restrictions now gone, events are in full swing – from the capacity crowd at the 2022 AFL Grand Final to the two record-breaking Ed Sheeran concerts.

On a community front, the MCC Foundation welcomed and supported six new community partners during Michael's presidency, with Michael travelling to Alice Springs in late February to announce the partnership with the National Indigenous Cricket Championships and to visit one of the first partners – the Santa Teresa Oval Project – in action. The Club also began its reconciliation journey with the launch of its Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan in 2022.



Club sport continued to thrive, with the MCC well represented at the Tokyo Olympics and Birmingham Commonwealth Games and the Sporting Sections seeing great success. Most notable among these was the Melbourne Football Club, which claimed the 2021 AFL Premiership (breaking a 57-year drought) and its inaugural 2022 AFLW Premiership. As a passionate and lifelong Demons supporter, Michael enjoyed these premierships along with all Melbourne supporters in the MCC.

On the Club front, Michael led the changes to the 50-Year membership classification at last year's AGM, which saw the formalisation of the 50-Year membership in the Club Rules and the introduction of the 50-Year Social membership – a legacy of his time as President. He was instrumental and inspirational in bringing equity to the Club's membership foundations.

FlexiPay was also introduced as a way to assist members in paying their membership fees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Fees could be paid in three instalments throughout the membership season, instead of one full amount. The program's popularity saw it become part of our standard membership operations.

Around the MCG itself, a number of upgrades, refreshes and renovations were completed during Michael's presidency.

The Australian Sports Museum launched with a \$17-million rebrand and renovation in February 2020 – just two weeks before the pandemic hit. The MCC Museum refresh followed in late 2021. A new catering partner for the venue – Delaware North – introduced the Committee Room by Grossi, a new menu offering by renowned Melbourne chef Guy Grossi. There was also the redevelopment of the Trumble Bar & Café and the introduction of a range of refreshed food outlets around the stadium.

On behalf of the Committee, staff and members, we would like to thank Michael Happell for his dedication, care, compassion and exceptional service to the Club.

FOOTY'S BACK!



A RETURN TO FORM FOR THE MCG IN THE 2022 AFL SEASON

After two interrupted years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the MCG was back in full swing for the 2022 AFL Premiership Season, with no capacity restrictions and the first Grand Final at the stadium since 2019.

Following an impressive opening round, which included four games in five days, all eyes turned to the traditional ANZAC Day clash between Essendon and Collingwood, in what would at the time be recognised as the largest crowd in the southern hemisphere since the start of the pandemic.

More than 84,000 fans flocked to the MCG on April 25 as Collingwood narrowly defeated Essendon by 11 points, which followed a strong crowd of just over 70,000 for the ANZAC Day Eve match between Richmond and Melbourne.

Other marquee matches for the season included Dreamtime at the 'G, the BCNA Pink Lady match and Big Freeze 8, which raised a record-breaking \$19.8 million for FightMND and saw three MCC members – Andy Maher, David Neitz and Justin Langer (Honorary Cricket member) – among those taking the plunge down the Big Freeze slide.

From April 1 to the conclusion of the 2022 AFL Premiership Season, the MCG hosted 40 home and away matches with an accumulative attendance total of 2,006,856. The MCG also hosted six matches during the

AFL Finals, including the Grand Final, with a total attendance of 500,377.

In April 2022, the MCG hosted its first AFLW fixture – the first women's football match to be played at the stadium since the exhibition games that set in motion the inception of AFLW. Melbourne and the Brisbane Lions competed in a Preliminary Final, with the Demons going on to secure a spot in the AFLW Grand Final.

The MCG welcomed the return of the AFL Finals, hosting five finals matches in the lead-up to the Grand Final. An average crowd of 80,701 attended these matches, with Geelong versus Collingwood for the Qualifying Final and Collingwood vs Fremantle for the Semi-Final recording crowds of more than 90,000.

The MCG hosted a capacity crowd of 100,024 for the Grand Final, which resulted in an overwhelming 61-point win for Geelong Cats over the Sydney Swans. Plenty of highlights came from both the match and the entertainment as the MCG welcomed the Grand Final home.

Performers on the day, headlined by international superstar Robbie Williams, included a

wealth of homegrown talent from Delta Goodrem – who performed a duet with Robbie for his hit song 'Kids' – to the Temper Trap, Budjerah, G Flip and Christine Anu.

The momentum continued through to the opening round of the 2023 AFL Premiership Season. Again hosting four matches to open the season, a record attendance was achieved for Round 1 at the MCG. The stadium also celebrated its 3000th VFL/AFL match in Round 1 between Melbourne and the Western Bulldogs.

From the beginning of 2023 AFL Premiership Season to the end of the 2022/23 financial year, the MCG hosted seven matches with a total crowd of 493,319.



2022/23 AFL AT THE 'G

Date	Round	Event name	Attendance
01-Apr-22	3	Melbourne vs. Essendon	44,503
02-Apr-22	3	Collingwood vs. Geelong Cats	52,974
03-Apr-22	3	Carlton vs. Hawthorn	66,317
09-Apr-22	4	Richmond vs. Western Bulldogs	43,645
10-Apr-22	4	Hawthorn vs. St Kilda	30,926
16-Apr-22	5	Melbourne vs. GWS GIANTS	20,791
17-Apr-22	5	Carlton vs. Port Adelaide	33,433
18-Apr-22	5	Hawthorn vs. Geelong Cats	48,030
24-Apr-22	6	Richmond vs. Melbourne	70,334
25-Apr-22	6	Essendon vs. Collingwood	84,205
30-Apr-22	7	Melbourne vs. Hawthorn	39,425
01-May-22	7	Collingwood vs. Gold Coast Suns	28,916
07-May-22	8	Richmond vs. Collingwood	64,481
08-May-22	8	Melbourne vs. St Kilda	35,767
14-May-22	9	Hawthorn vs. Richmond	40,663
21-May-22	10	Richmond vs. Essendon	70,226
28-May-22	11	Melbourne vs. Fremantle	29,812
29-May-22	11	Collingwood vs. Carlton	80,627
04-Jun-22	12	Melbourne vs. Sydney Swans	32,753
05-Jun-22	12	Hawthorn vs. Collingwood	43,939
09-Jun-22	13	Richmond vs. Port Adelaide	21,757
10-Jun-22	13	Essendon vs. Carlton	65,440
13-Jun-22	13	Collingwood vs. Melbourne	76,059
16-Jun-22	14	Richmond vs. Carlton	50,741
23-Jun-22	15	Melbourne vs. Brisbane Lions	37,728
25-Jun-22	15	Geelong Cats vs. Richmond	59,335
26-Jun-22	15	Collingwood vs. GWS GIANTS	30,804
02-Jul-22	16	Essendon vs. Sydney Swans	43,163
03-Jul-22	16	Richmond vs. West Coast Eagles	39,391
09-Jul-22	17	Collingwood vs. North Melbourne	45,039
16-Jul-22	18	Carlton vs. Geelong Cats	68,208
17-Jul-22	18	Hawthorn vs. West Coast Eagles	22,598
24-Jul-22	19	Collingwood vs. Essendon	72,402
30-Jul-22	20	Collingwood vs. Port Adelaide	40,716
31-Jul-22	20	Richmond vs. Brisbane Lions	39,056
05-Aug-22	21	Melbourne vs. Collingwood	70,956
13-Aug-22	22	Melbourne vs. Carlton	55,705
14-Aug-22	22	Richmond vs. Hawthorn	59,338
20-Aug-22	23	Essendon vs. Richmond	58,366
21-Aug-22	23	Carlton vs. Collingwood	88,287
02-Sep-22	QF	Melbourne vs. Sydney Swans	78,377
03-Sep-22	QF	Geelong Cats vs. Collingwood	91,525
09-Sep-22	SF	Melbourne vs. Brisbane Lions	62,162
10-Sep-22	SF	Collingwood vs. Fremantle	90,612
16-Sep-22	PF	Geelong Cats vs. Brisbane Lions	77,677
24-Sep-22	GF	Geelong Cats vs. Sydney Swans	100,024
16-Mar-23	1	Richmond vs. Carlton	88,084
17-Mar-23	1	Geelong Cats vs. Collingwood	86,595
18-Mar-23	1	Melbourne vs. Western Bulldogs	48,103
19-Mar-23	1	Hawthorn vs. Essendon	68,691
23-Mar-23	2	Carlton vs. Geelong Cats	55,861
25-Mar-23	2	Collingwood vs. Port Adelaide	60,744
31-Mar-23	3	Collingwood vs. Richmond	85,241





The perfect pitch delivers stellar summer of cricket

The Boxing Day Test is traditionally the pinnacle of summer cricket in Australia, but the most recent Test between Australia and South Africa was particularly significant as the sporting world paid tribute to cricketing icon and MCC Honorary Cricket Member Shane Warne following his passing in March 2022.

There was a range of touching tributes paid to Warne on Day 1 at the 'G, where he consolidated his status as a legend of the game with achievements and moments that will forever be remembered by generations of cricket fans.

Droves of fans paused at the Shane Warne statue outside Gate 2 to reflect while wearing Warne's favoured headwear – the white floppy hat. White zinc cream was also visible on the faces of many, who replicated the look in honour of their sporting idol.

Both Australia and South Africa acknowledged Warne's legacy as a highlights package played on the big screen before the start of play. The 64,876 fans in attendance relived some of Warne's defining moments – many of which took place on the hallowed turf.

Play also paused at 3.50pm on Day 1 – a nod to Warne's Australian Test cap number 350 – with a standing ovation in honour of his stellar career.

The Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) also acknowledged the outstanding contributions of Rod Marsh and Andrew Symonds following their deaths in March and May 2022 respectively.

Australian wicketkeeper Alex Carey's maiden Test century saw him become just the second wicketkeeper to score a Test century at the MCG, with fans fittingly remembering the first wicketkeeper to make a century at the 'G – the late Rod Marsh.

Fans also reminisced about Symonds's 156 runs in the 2006 Boxing Day Test, when he top-scored for the team and made his maiden Test century.

A total of 155,714 fans attended the 2022 Boxing Day Test across four days, with an incredible display of support from both the public and members.

Throughout the Test, the MCC Library – a national sporting treasure with a comprehensive collection of books from around the world – had 3,000 patrons visit the cherished space, making it the highest number of visitors in a non-Ashes series since 2016.

Three cricketers from the Australian side had their names etched onto the MCG honour boards for their individual performances.

Cameron Green took his maiden Test five-wicket haul on Day 1, while David Warner and Alex Carey secured their place in MCG history with a double century and maiden Test century, respectively.

David Warner was awarded the Johnny Mullagh Medal for player of the match at the conclusion of the Test, recognised for his courageous 200 on a sweltering Day 2.



Despite external pressure in the lead-up to the match – amplified after the first Test of the series at the Gabba in Brisbane concluded in two days – MCG curator Matt Page and the MCG Arenas team delivered the perfect pitch for bat and ball. The ICC awarded the MCG wicket with the highest possible rating, ‘very good’.

On the domestic scene, the MCG was once again home to the Melbourne Stars in the Big Bash League (BBL), hosting six fixtures across the 2022/23 season. One of the highlights of the Stars’ season came during a match against the Hobart Hurricanes, with Beau Webster hitting a memorable six that travelled 102.28m into the Shane Warne Stand. Despite this huge effort, he was unable to beat Simon O’Donnell’s record hit at the MCG in 1993.



The MCG’s continued support of domestic cricket saw it host two Marsh Sheffield Shield matches and one Marsh One-Day Cup match in a welcome return to a full summer of cricket.

The Australian Cricket Hall of Fame, first proposed by the MCC in 1995, also welcomed two new inductees – wicketkeeper-batter Marg Jennings and prolific batter Ian Redpath – as the 60th and 61st members respectively.

2022/23 CRICKET AT THE 'G

Date	Event name	Attendance
ICC MEN’S T20 WORLD CUP		
23-Oct-22	India vs. Pakistan	90,293
26-Oct-22	Ireland vs. England New Zealand vs. Afghanistan	11,369
28-Oct-22	Afghanistan vs. Ireland Australia vs. England	37,565
06-Nov-22	Zimbabwe vs. India	82,507
13-Nov-22	Final: Pakistan vs. England	80,462
ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL		
22-Nov-22	Australia vs. England	10,406
SHEFFIELD SHIELD		
24-Nov-22	Day 1: Victoria vs. Tasmania	410
25-Nov-22	Day 2: Victoria vs. Tasmania	98
26-Nov-22	Day 3: Victoria vs. Tasmania	98
27-Nov-22	Day 4: Victoria vs. Tasmania	98
BBL 12		
16-Dec-22	Melbourne Stars vs. Hobart Hurricanes	9,142
BOXING DAY TEST		
26-Dec-22	Day 1: Australia vs. South Africa	64,876
27-Dec-22	Day 2: Australia vs. South Africa	42,614
28-Dec-22	Day 3: Australia vs. South Africa	34,318
29-Dec-22	Day 4: Australia vs. South Africa	13,906
BBL 12		
03-Jan-23	Melbourne Stars vs. Melbourne Renegades	38,564
06-Jan-23	Melbourne Stars vs. Sydney Sixers	17,137
12-Jan-23	Melbourne Stars vs. Adelaide Strikers	16,224
16-Jan-23	Melbourne Stars vs. Brisbane Heat	12,991
25-Jan-23	Melbourne Stars vs. Sydney Thunder	16,482
SHEFFIELD SHIELD		
09-Feb-23	Day 1: Victoria vs. Queensland	555
10-Feb-23	Day 2: Victoria vs. Queensland	587
11-Feb-23	Day 3: Victoria vs. Queensland	514
12-Feb-23	Day 4: Victoria vs. Queensland	297
MARSH ONE DAY CUP		
14-Feb-23	Victoria vs. Queensland	412

TOTAL CROWD FOR 2022/23 CRICKET SEASON 581,925



MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP ATMOSPHERE ATTRACTS GLOBAL ATTENTION

Following its postponement in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICC Men's T20 World Cup finally came to Australia in 2022, with the MCG hosting seven matches including the World Cup Final between England and Pakistan.

Held across October and November 2022, the Melbourne Cricket Club was pleased to welcome the return of the tournament to the MCG following the success of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup Final in March 2020.

The World Cup had some incredible crowds that attracted global attention, most notably the fixture between India and Pakistan. This match, held on October 23, 2022, attracted a crowd of 90,293 fans and received widespread acclaim for its electric atmosphere. India secured a nail-biting victory as Virat Kohli led his team to the win on the final ball to beat Pakistan by four wickets.

Mirroring the teams featured in the 1992 World Cup Final (50-over format) at the MCG, England and Pakistan won through to the 2022 ICC Men's T20 World Cup Final.

Despite heavy rain forecast, the final went ahead without delay. With a total of 8/137 posted by Pakistan, England needed 138 runs to take home the trophy and go one better than its 2021 World Cup campaign.

England's Ben Stokes was pivotal in his country's batting innings, making an unbeaten 52 runs from 49 balls. Team-mate Sam Curran's bowling heroics – 3/12 from four overs – saw him named Player of the Match. Unlike 1992, this time England triumphed, raising the trophy in front of 80,462 fans.



Red Devils return

It was a welcome return to the MCG for global powerhouse Manchester United, with the team playing two matches at the stadium in July 2022 as part of its Australian tour.

The last time Manchester United played at the MCG was in July 1999 against the Socceroos, attracting a crowd of 71,215 fans.

This time around, the Red Devils attracted even larger crowds. More than 74,000 fans witnessed a 4-1 win over Melbourne Victory on Friday July 15, while a crowd of 76,499 saw a 3-1 victory against Crystal Palace FC on Tuesday July 19.





A rockin' start to summer at the 'G

Summer 2022 started with a bang at the MCG as huge concerts by two of the biggest names in world entertainment set the tone for a massive few months of events at the stadium.

With Guns N' Roses on December 3 followed by Billy Joel on December 10, the MCG was in full song. These were the first standalone concerts hosted at the 'G since Eminem in 2019.

The long-awaited Guns N' Roses show, delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic, finally went ahead 13 months after the original date was set in early 2020. More than 52,000 fans flocked to the MCG to get a glimpse of Axl, Slash and Duff together on stage. The band last played at the MCG in February 2017.

Then, one week later, the Piano Man took to the stage for his only show in Australia. Billy Joel's show attracted more than 76,300 fans to witness classics such as 'Piano Man', 'We Didn't Start the Fire', and 'Uptown Girl' – a duet with Australian singer-songwriter Tina Arena, who was also the support act for his show.





Ed Sheeran + the MCG = two record-breaking nights

History was made at the MCG when British singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran performed two massive shows in the round in front of more than 215,000 fans across two nights.

Performing at the MCG as part of his Mathematics tour, Sheeran fulfilled a dream conceived with the late Michael Gudinski, with the set-up allowing for the biggest concert crowd ever at the 'G.

Sheeran performed in front of 108,000 fans for his first show on March 2 - an MCG concert record - surpassing that number the following night with 109,500 fans in attendance.

Both shows trumped the MCG's previous highest concert crowd record - 80,708 - set by Eminem when he played the venue in 2019.

Sheeran's shows consisted of some of his biggest hits - from his debut album to modern masterpieces - and even a cover of an Australian classic from Hunters & Collectors, while also paying tribute to cricket icon Shane Warne and music legend Michael Gudinski.

Following the two shows, the MCG underwent a massive makeover, with 10,000sqm of turf replaced ahead of the 2023 AFL Premiership Season, which started just 13 days later.





The storytellers of the MCG

The Club is proud to have almost 200 volunteer tour guides who share the legendary stories of the iconic stadium.

Due to high demand for tours in 2022 in the lead-up to the AFL Finals Series and AFL Grand Final, several twilight tours were introduced to ensure visitors had ample opportunities to explore the MCG during one of its most famed periods of the year.

Several enhancements have been made to MCG Tours, with the final changes to be completed during 2023/24.

SHRINE TO TEST CRICKET

Using Wisden's list of the Greatest Cricketers of the Twentieth Century, the highest-listed players from each Test-playing country are now part of a display known as the 'Shrine to Test Cricket', located on Level 3 of the Members' Reserve.

Players featured are: Sir Donald Bradman (Australia), Sir Garfield Sobers (West Indies), Sir Jack Hobbs (England), Sir Richard Hadlee (New Zealand), Imran Khan (Pakistan), Sunil Gavaskar (India) and Graeme Pollock (South Africa).

The centrepiece of the display is the photograph of Sir Donald Bradman and Sachin Tendulkar taken on Sir Donald's 90th birthday on August 27, 1998.

OLYMPIC AND COMMONWEALTH GAMES RECORDS

A dedicated section on Level 4 of the MCG featuring noteworthy jumps records from the 1956 Olympic Games and the 2006 Commonwealth Games has been refreshed to include pole vault, hammer throw, shotput, discus and javelin records from both events.

PLAYER CHANGEROOMS MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENCE

Atmospheric audio in the player changerooms is an enhancement designed to replicate the atmosphere within this inner sanctum on a match day.

In the coaches' briefing room, a push-button activates a collection of interviews with football players (current and retired) who have played on the MCG.

Interviewees include Kiara Bowers, Daisy Pearce, Brent Harvey, Emma Swanson, Ellie Blackburn, Brad Sewell, Ben Brown, Kaitlyn Ashmore, Mason Cox, Zach Merrett, Nat Fyfe, Mitch Duncan, Bachar Houli, Luke Shuey, Chad Wingard, Simon Goodwin, Matt Spangher and Anthony Koutoufides.

A video with the same premise, but instead with interviews from past and current cricketers, will become part of the tour experience in 2023.

Growth continues for the Australian Sports Museum

The Australian Sports Museum and Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) Museum showcased many new displays in 2022/23, highlighting different sporting and cultural subjects.

More than 154,000 people visited Gate 3 for either an MCG tour or a visit to the Australian Sports Museum (or both), with figures remaining high despite disruptions to opening hours during the ICC Men's T20 World Cup and concert set-ups.

NARRM FOOTBALL CLUB EXHIBITION

This exhibition was a collaboration with the Melbourne Football Club (MFC) coinciding with the unveiling of the Narm Football Club renaming.

Narm, the Aboriginal name for Melbourne, comes from Woi-wurrung, the language spoken by the traditional owners of the land where Melbourne is now located.

On display was each of the MFC's Indigenous Round jumpers since 2014. These jumpers were specifically designed for and worn in the AFL and AFL Women's competitions honouring different responses to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, art and connection to country.

The jumpers were supported by a visual chronology of MFC's Indigenous history from the recruitment of Eddie Jackson in 1947 to the launch of its second Reconciliation Action Plan in 2022.

Through a touchscreen, visitors had the ability to experience multimedia offerings that told the story of each jumper's design, featuring interviews and artwork inspirations.



MEN'S T20 CRICKET EXHIBITION

During the ICC Men's T20 World Cup held at the MCG, the Australian Sports Museum displayed a multimedia exploration of the event. The exhibition featured Australian uniforms from 2007, 2021 and 2022 as well as hours of T20 footage on three large screens.

MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB ZONE

In a collaboration with the MFC, a new permanent exhibition space has been created within the MCC Museum exploring the MFC's history.

One of the most widely recognised and popular items on display is Jim Stynes's 1991 Brownlow Medal. Current MFC AFL players Jack Viney, Max Gawn and Christian Petracca have loaned items for display.

INDIGENOUS TRAIL

The Australian Sports Museum introduced an 'Indigenous Trail' in 2022, connecting together several items on display that tell the stories of Indigenous athletes and the impact of their defining moments on Australian sport.

The Indigenous Trail is a starting place for meaningful conversations around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders' impact on shaping Australia through sport, and it is intended that the conversations extend beyond the walls of the Museum.



LET HIM ENTERTAIN YOU

Robbie's pink suit finds home at the MCG

He provided some of the most memorable moments of the 2022 AFL Grand Final, and now Robbie Williams' pink suit has a new home at the 'G.

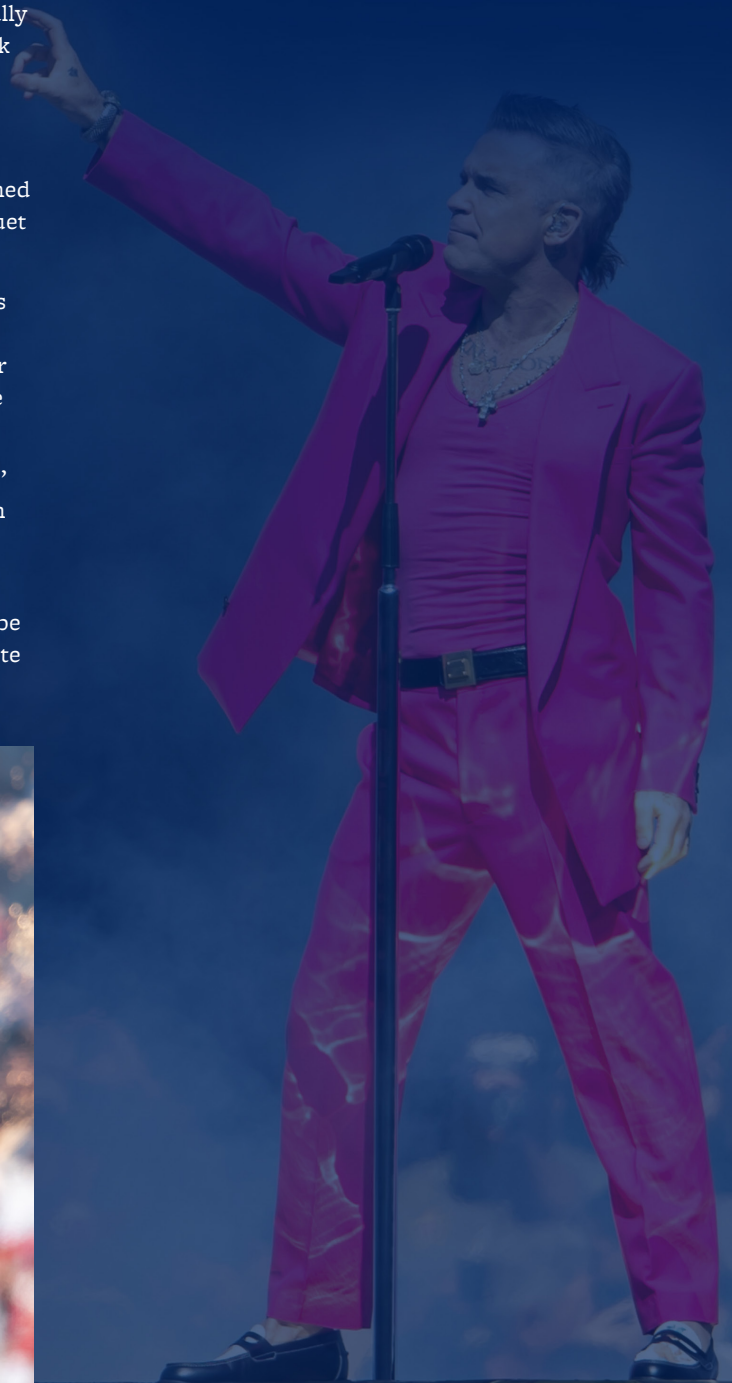
The Melbourne Cricket Club Foundation was thrilled to secure Williams' pink suit from the AFL Grand Final after successfully bidding on the item as part of the McGrath Foundation's Pink Test Memorabilia Auction.

Williams' performance during the Grand Final – the first held at the MCG since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic – provided some of the iconic images of the day, as he performed hits such as 'Let Me Entertain You', 'Angels' and 'Kids' – a duet with Delta Goodrem.

The pink Alexander McQueen suit from the performance was donated to the McGrath Foundation by Williams, with the suit matching the same hue that fans are encouraged to wear at the annual Pink Test in Sydney, which raises funds for the McGrath Foundation.

The winning bid also included two tickets to one of Williams' upcoming concerts in November, which the MCC Foundation donated back to the McGrath Foundation to reward and recognise two of their breast cancer nurses.

The exact location where the suit will be displayed is yet to be determined; however, it will feature along the MCG Tour route for visitors to enjoy on event and non-event days.



Club Functions

The return of a full on-field event calendar for the MCG coincided with the return of many of the Club's most popular functions for the 2022/23 AFL and cricket seasons.

The MCC Functions team provided members with opportunities to come together and celebrate the role of sport and community in Club life, hosting regular events as the stadium returned to normal operations.

Melbourne Football Club members welcomed the return of their much-loved Game Day Function in April alongside the Long Room Wine & Food Society Annual Dinner.

Members were able to get a first taste of the new-look Trumble Bar & Café in early May ahead of its reopening to the public. One hundred lucky members were treated to a dining experience in the café's newly refurbished, modern surrounds before making their way onto the ground for a rare photo opportunity.

The return of regular matches also saw the return of football functions with both the MCC Young Members and MCC/VRC members enjoying match-day functions in May.

The most prestigious function on the Club's AFL calendar, the Norm Smith Oration, returned in June 2022 and quickly became one of the most talked-about events of the year. Fox Footy and Fox Cricket presenter Sarah Jones proposed a touching toast to football. Former Melbourne Football Club captain Nathan Jones' response, in which he detailed a career of hardship and final-year success with the club - only to miss a chance to be part of its premiership team - will remain one of the most renowned speeches in Norm Smith Oration history.

The Young Members group also hosted its inaugural Food and Wine Night in June with a sit-down banquet in the Long Room, while the Women of the MCC and XXIX Club enjoyed respective football functions.

The 20th annual Bradman Luncheon was held in the Members' Dining Room in August, where former Australian batsman Brad Hodge shared his insight into the sport of cricket alongside host Gerard Whateley.



AFL Finals returned to the MCG in September, as did the ever-popular Brownlow Dinner featuring The Coodabeens. Members were able to enjoy the Brownlow Medal broadcast in the Members' Dining Room.

Following the AFL Grand Final celebrations, the Young Members' Ball returned on Friday September 30, bringing together members aged 18 to 40 and their guests for an unforgettable evening.

In October, the Club welcomed 50-Year members to their annual luncheon, with two fantastic events hosted across the course of two days to celebrate our longest-serving members.

Also in October, the Women of the MCC group celebrated women in business with the Women of the MCC Business Breakfast. The inspirational panel of speakers included Annabel Brebner, Clare Cannon, Paula Dwyer,

Sally Macindoe, Jane Nathan and Kalpana Ramani, who alongside host Jacqui Felgate provided insights into leading business, sporting and community groups at senior levels.

The year concluded with a host of memorable functions including the 2022 Members' Dinner, Special Interest Group Christmas parties, regular Christmas luncheons and Boxing Day Test functions.

Following a quiet start to 2023, February and March saw members return to the Reserve for new and unique functions including the Tower 6 Pizza Night and Young Members' Yoga on the 'G, as well as some much-loved favourites such as the Members' Golf Day, Long Room Wine & Food Society Old Bottle Day, and the MCG Footy Season Launch.





Bridge Club

Committee representative: Paula Dwyer

The MCC Bridge Club convenes every Thursday afternoon in the Hans Ebeling Room to hold regular sessions of the most popular card game in the world. Lessons are held on every third Thursday of the month, while the club also plays regular matches against other Bridge clubs.

In-person Bridge resumed in early 2022 and continued successfully throughout the year. The club was pleased to welcome members and guests back to the Members' Reserve for the popular Duplicate Bridge sessions. The Bridge Club concludes each year with its annual Christmas lunch for Bridge Club members and guests.



Long Room Wine & Food Society

Committee representative: Geoff Roberts

The MCC Long Room Wine & Food Society holds luncheons for its members in the Long Room on the last Wednesday of each month in addition to waiting list functions. The group has been meeting regularly since its inception in 1987.

The functions roster includes its Annual Dinner, the International Wine and Cuisine Luncheon and

regular cellar days. The annual Long Room Wine & Food Society Waiting List Dinner and Christmas Cocktail Function are also popular among members.

Long Room Wine & Food Society members enjoyed the return of their monthly luncheons and regular popular dinners in 2022 before closing the year with a sold-out Christmas

Party in the Members' Dining Room. Working closely with MCG hospitality partner Delaware North, the group welcomed guest speakers from around the state in 2022 and 2023 to showcase the best of Australian wine and produce.



Military Veterans' Group

Committee representative: James Cain

The MCC Military Veterans' Group comprises current and former service personnel. The group welcomes eligible former or current service personnel.

The group holds three lunches a year, generally in March, July and October. During the ANZAC AFL round, the MCC makes the Hans Ebeling Room available for refreshments before and during the traditional Melbourne versus Richmond and Collingwood versus Essendon matches.

The July and October Military Veterans' Group luncheons returned in March 2022 and March 2023, where attendees heard from special guest speakers Mr Matt Anderson PSM, Major-General Liz Cosson AM CSC and Mr Fred Smith, respectively. In December 2022, the group introduced a Christmas Cocktail Function held in the MCC Committee Room, which will now become an annual event.



Women of the MCC

Committee representative: Carolyn Bendall

The Women of the MCC group was founded in 2006 with the aims of encouraging the use of MCC facilities by female members, enhancing networking opportunities and profiling and promoting the achievements of women in sport.

Women of the MCC membership is free and available to all MCC members via an application form, located on the MCC website.

The Women of the MCC host several functions each year to encourage networking opportunities and fundraising to support and encourage

female participation. Annual Women of the MCC functions include Women in Wine, Women in Football, the Football Cocktail Function, Business Breakfast and Women in Cricket Breakfast.



MCC Young Members

Committee representative: Kalpana Ramani

The MCC Young Members group is run by a committee of young professionals. The group consists of several thousand members aged between 18 and 40 years.

The group hosts regular football and cricket functions, a Scotch Malt Whiskey Appreciation Night, Craft Beer Night, Food and Wine Night, and an extremely popular Annual Ball in addition to more casual lawn bowls and croquet events.

The Young Members' functions calendar returned to its full capacity in 2022 with the group hosting events almost monthly while making the most of a full MCG on-field calendar with regular football functions. The much-anticipated Young Members' Ball returned in September to great success.



XXIX Club

Committee representative: Tony Johnson

The XXIX Club was formed in 1956 by a group of senior MCC players of the day who wanted to play pleasant social cricket. Today, the XXIX Club continues to thrive with more than 430 members.

The XXIX Club enjoyed an uninterrupted season that featured a full schedule of home-and-away matches against the likes of the Media XI, MCC Club XI, Cricket Southern

Bayside, Euroa, Australian Cricketers' Society, Blackfriars Cricket Club, Delaware North and the annual fixture against the MCC President's XI on the MCG. Tours to the Gold Coast to play the Queensland Cricketers' Club, Albury to play the Albury Cricket Club and the Barossa Valley to play the Vignerons were also features of the calendar enjoyed by many members.

Off the field, great camaraderie was assured. The XXIX Club hosted several Long Room luncheons, functions during AFL matches, the famous Boxing Day Test luncheon and the Annual Dinner in the Members' Dining Room for members and guests, which were all a great success. The XXIX Club is looking forward to embarking on a tour of Spain and England in June/July 2023.

Club Sport

The MCC is a sporting club at its core and acts as an umbrella organisation for 14 Sporting Sections across 13 sports and thousands of participants and volunteers. It encourages sport participation and competition at the highest possible level. Each section provides an opportunity for players of all ages and capabilities to enjoy their sport.



BASEBALL (Est. 1888)

The MCC Baseball Section had another successful season, with five teams making finals and two winning premierships.

Premierships were won by the Men's Division 4 team and the Masters 38+ team, while the Masters 45+ team finished runner-up, narrowly missing the premiership title. MCC Baseball's Kurtis Smith (Men's Division 1) and Dominique Williams (Women's Division 2) were awarded MVP of their respective divisions by Baseball Victoria.

Off the field, the Baseball Section enjoyed an update to its facility at Les Arthur Field, including new lights, a batting cage, digital scoreboard and information hub.

The Section also congratulates Stephen Pahos, Bryce Gammon and Chao Shih, who were awarded life memberships of the Baseball Section.

200 participants

Committee representative: Kalpana Ramani
melbournedemons.baseball.com.au



BOWLS (Est. 1894)

The MCC Bowls Section celebrated several individual success stories across 2022/23, with many participants placing at state and national championships.

Tris Doolan won the 2023 Victorian Open Championships Women's Pairs and Triples competitions, and was ranked second in Australia overall and first in Victoria. Alison Hall was also ranked among the top 10 players in the country - ranked seventh at the national level and fourth in Victoria. Tim O'Meara won the Victorian Novice Singles Men's title.

Brendan Gallagher's season was also recognised at a national level, selected to join the Pathways Jackaroo Squad - the development squad to Australia's national team.

At a club level, the Men's Premier Pennant team finished fifth overall for the season, narrowly missing finals by two points, while the Pennant Division 6 Section 6 team won the premiership.

285 participants

Committee representative: Fred Oldfield
mccbowl.org



CRICKET (Est. 1838)

The MCC Premier Men's Cricket First XI won the 2022/23 premiership in a hard-fought Grand Final against Carlton at Windy Hill. The match was played over four innings across three gripping days of cricket. Kieran Elliott (4/74) continued a fine finals series and was assisted by a strong bowling effort to restrict the strong Blues line-up to a total of 184. Carlton 184 and 7/207 (dec) were defeated by Melbourne 236 and 3/151.

The MCC Premier Women's teams won the Club Championship for the second successive season and also took out the Marg Jennings Cup (Under-18 Girls).

The Women's Firsts and Seconds both finished runner-up in their divisions.

Several players across our men's and women's programs played cricket at interstate and WBBL level. Ella Hayward represented Australia in the inaugural ICC Under-19 Women's Cricket World Cup, earning player-of-the-match honours in one game. Campbell Kellaway scored an unbeaten century against South Africa in the Cricket Australia XI tour match in Brisbane.

200 participants

Committee representative: Christian Johnston
mcc.org.au/mcc-cricket/mcc-cricket



CROQUET (Est. 2008)

The MCC Croquet Section again had individual successes around the state.

Lachlan Berryman defeated Ian Philpot to claim the Division 1 Club Championship, while Tom Kudelka, Mary Vindin and Sarah Lewis won the Division 2, 3 and 4 Championships respectively. Kate Gilmore won the Beginner's Invitational title.

Lachlan Berryman backed-up a successful 2021/22 season in 2022/23, ranked sixth overall in Victoria and 85th in the world with a handicap of -1.5.

Around the state, Trevor Taylor won the Division 1 title at Warrnambool and finished runner-up in the Division 1 Final in Portland, while Doug Neale won the Division 2 title at Warrnambool and Tom Kudelka the Division 3 title in Traralgon.

80 participants

Committee representative: James Cain
mcc.org.au/croquet



FOOTBALL (Est. 2018)

The MCC Women's Football team celebrated the ultimate success at the end of the 2022 season, winning its inaugural premiership in the VAFA Division 3 competition. The MCC team, which went through the home-and-away season undefeated and claimed the minor premiership, defeated Bulleen Templestowe 2.7 (19) to 1.2 (8).

MCC Women's Football foundation player Renee Hayward was one of two goal scorers for the MCC in the match and was awarded best-on-ground.

Following the premiership success, the club has been promoted to the VAFA's Division 2 for the 2023 season.

30 participants

Committee representative: James Bennett
mccwomensfc.com.au



GOLF (Est. 2003)

The MCC Golf Section enjoyed growth in its membership over the past year with an additional 65 members joining, helped by a program pilot aimed at increasing involvement among women and girls.

Pauline Craven was crowned Women's Club Champion for the fifth time and third year in a row, with a score of 37. Ian Grant was named Men's Club Champion - his first win - with a score of 44.

580 participants

Committee representative: Paula Dwyer
mcc.org.au/golf





HOCKEY (Est. 1961)

The MCC Hockey Section celebrated a successful season with its best-ever finish in the Men's Premier League – runner-up in the Grand Final. This was the club's first-ever appearance in a Premier League Grand Final. The Men's Reserves fell just short of a Grand Final appearance.

On an individual note, Jonathon Bretherton represented Australia A against Japan in August 2022, while Samantha Love played for Australia's Under-21 Women's team, the Jillaroos, against Japan in February 2023. Doug Buckley was named in the Hockey Victoria All-Star team for 2022.

At a junior level, Duncan Jackson and Campbell Evans represented Victoria in the Under-16 Boys Squad at the State Schools Australia competition and were later selected in the All Australian Boys Team following the tournament. The MCC's Under-16 Boys Shield A and Under-16 Boys Shield B teams were crowned premiers.

490 participants

Committee representative: Sally Macindoe
mcchockey.org.au



LACROSSE (Est. 1896)

The MCC Lacrosse Section had multiple finals appearances, including a Grand Final appearance by the Men's Division 1 team, which finished runner-up against Williamstown. The Men's Division 3, Women's B Grade and Men's Under-18 teams were all semi-finalists.

At an individual level, Jack Cahill and Christian Iuliano represented Victoria in the Under-18 Championships, defeating Western Australia in the Grand Final.

Both players had player-of-the-match performances across the tournament, with Jack Cahill named MVP of the Grand Final and Christian Iuliano named MVP in a group game against South Australia.

Steve Stojkos, Marty Hyde and Gareth Allen were all selected to represent the 2023 Victorian Men's Lacrosse team.

85 participants

Committee representative: Ted Baillieu
mcclacrosse.com.au



MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB (Est. 1890)

The Melbourne Football Club once again experienced success in 2022, this time with its AFLW team claiming its inaugural Premiership by defeating the Brisbane Lions 2.7 (19) to 2.3 (15) in the Grand Final.

Kate Hore won the club's best-and-fairest award, while Olivia Purcell finished fifth in the AFLW's best-and-fairest award with 16 votes.

The AFL side reached the Semi-Finals in 2022, defeated by the Brisbane Lions after finishing the home-and-away season in second spot with 16 wins and six losses. Clayton Oliver finished fourth overall in the Brownlow Medal with 25 votes and claimed the club's Keith 'Bluey' Truscott Memorial Trophy for the men's best-and-fairest.

melbournefc.com.au



NETBALL (Est. 2011)

The MCC Netball Section fielded five women's teams in the 2022 Autumn and Spring seasons in the Parkville Netball Competition at the State Netball and Hockey Centre – the state's strongest competition after the Victorian Netball League.

Four of the five teams made finals. MCC2 in Premier Division 2 and MCC4 in Open Division A1 both made the finals, while MCC1 in Premier Division 1 and MCC5 in Open Division A3 were grand finalists, finishing runners-up against Eastside and Airport Saints respectively.

Shelley White was the recipient of a 2022 Hans Ebeling Award, which honours those who have given outstanding service to their Sporting Section.

50 participants

Committee representative: Alice Robinson
mccnetball.org.au



REAL TENNIS (Est. 2007)

The MCC Real Tennis Section enjoyed some highly popular introductory nights that aimed to attract more players to the sport.

In the first contest in three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the MCC defeated the Sydney Real Tennis Club for the Paul Wheeler Trophy.

The Real Tennis Section will turn its sights to a match against Marylebone Cricket Club on July 3 in line with the Lord's Ashes Test Match.

100 participants

Committee representative: Carolyn Bendall
mccrts.com.au



SQUASH (Est. 1968)

The MCC Squash Section enjoyed success in the Spring Club Circuit Pennant, with four grades claiming premierships - A1 (top grade), B2, D2 and D3. Premierships also came for the State Premier Grade team and Junior Grade 1 teams.

At an individual level, Courtney Scholtz and Joanne Joseph were selected in the Australia Junior team for the Trans-Tasman competition, which was played in December 2022. Australia ended an eight-year drought by defeating New Zealand, with Joanne and Courtney victorious in their matches.

145 participants

Committee representative: Annabel Brebner
mcc.org.au/squash



TARGET SHOOTING (Est. 1900)

The MCC Target Shooting Section boasted several individual success stories across 2022/23. Gabriel Sensi (Trap) and Brittany Melbourne (Skeet) were selected to represent Australia at the ISSF World Cup in Cairo. Megan Trembath and Kelly Coogan were part of the winning Victorian South East Zone Ladies Clay Target Team.

Veteran competitor Peter Males also experienced success in his 48th consecutive

season with the MCC. He competed in his 687th competition in 2022, having not missed a match since 2001. Peter finished fifth in the individual Victorian 20m Prone - Small Bore.

At a club level, the MCC won both the Target Rifle Victoria 20m Prone Pennant divisions it competed in (Section A and Section C) for the first time since the Section's inception in 1900.

260 participants

Committee representative: Tony Johnson
mcc.org.au/targetshooting



TENNIS (Est. 1879)

The MCC Glen Iris Valley Tennis Club had strong participation rates across 2022/23. Twenty-one teams competed in the Waverley and District Winter Season and 22 teams in the summer season. Josh Davis finished the winter season undefeated in the senior grade in both singles and doubles. Ten teams also entered the Tennis Victoria Winter Pennant, with the Grade 3 Ladies team finishing runner-up.

Chiro Mukerjea was recognised for his contribution to the Tennis Section, named as one of the Hans Ebeling Award winners for 2022.

At an international level, Jaimee Fourlis qualified for Wimbledon, the US Open and the Australian Open, with a career-high ranking of 147 in the world. Alex Bolt also experienced success on the international stage, winning the ITF M25 Santo Domingo tournament and finishing runner-up in the ITF Burnie International.

360 participants

Committee representative: Adrian Anderson
mccglenirisvalley.org.au



MCC members bring home Commonwealth Games medal haul

Ten MCC members represented the green and gold at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games, bringing home 15 medals between them including six gold.

The members, who competed across swimming, athletics, cycling and cricket, were part of an Australia team that brought home 178 medals in all.

Ten medals were awarded in the pool between our five swimmers, including gold in the Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay and Mixed 4x100m Medley Relay. Two gold medals were also won on the cycling track by MCC member Caitlin Ward and her partner Jessica Gallagher. Acting as pilot for Gallagher, who is legally blind, the pair claimed gold in the Women's Tandem Sprint B and Women's Tandem B 1000m events.

On the athletics track, Declan Tingay won silver in the Men's Race Walk, Abbey Caldwell finished with a bronze medal in the Women's 1500m and Christopher Mitrevski finished ninth on the Men's Long Jump.

Wrapping up the Games on a high, Annabel Sutherland claimed gold with the Australian Women's T20 Cricket team, defeating India on the second last day of the Games.



On behalf of the Club, we congratulate all 10 of our members who represented Australia at the 2022 Commonwealth Games:

- Abbey Caldwell (athletics)
- Annabel Sutherland (cricket)
- Caitlin Ward (cycling)
- Christopher Mitrevski (athletics)
- Declan Tingay (athletics)
- Jacob Templeton (swimming)
- Jenna Strauch (swimming)
- Mack Horton (swimming)
- Matthew Temple (swimming)
- Samuel Williamson (swimming)



AN EXPANDED OFFERING OF MELBOURNE'S FINEST FLAVOURS

The Club consolidated its shared commitment with MCG hospitality partner Delaware North to celebrate the multicultural flavours of Melbourne, sourcing the highest quality local producers and products to elevate the flavours on offer at the MCG.

The partnership between the MCC and Delaware North, established in February 2022, delivered a range of new and diverse hospitality experiences for fans and members during the 2022 AFL Premiership Season and 2022/23 summer of cricket.

Renowned Melbourne chef Guy Grossi introduced his famed food and service to the Melbourne Cricket Club Committee Room, bringing an exquisite Italian-inspired menu to one of the venue's most-sought after dining locations. MCC members and non-members are able to reserve a table for the Committee Room by Grossi on non-event days, enjoying the exclusive menu curated by Grossi while overlooking the hallowed turf.

Much-loved Melbourne brands Gami Chicken, Royal Stacks and SPQR Pizza (now also available in the Barassi Café) were popular additions on match days during the AFL and cricket seasons. Ahead of the 2023 AFL Premiership Season, the Club introduced a new outlet, Lamb Paddock, on Level B1 of the Members' Reserve, offering a range of products that feature the best in Australian lamb.



The Trumble Bar & Café, located on Level 1 of the Members' Reserve, reopened in May 2022 after undergoing a significant transformation. Its revamped dining space was complemented by a new-look menu. Renovations were also made to the outdoor dining area, with the big screen displaying live action on game days. Trumble Bar & Café has become a popular space on match days and for the general public on weekdays.

The AFL Dining Room, Legends' Room and Tom Wills Room were also extensively renovated ahead of the 2023 AFL Premiership Season in a commitment to continue to provide exceptional dining experiences.



In March 2023, Industry Beans was officially announced as the MCG's new coffee partner. Direct from its Melbourne roastery alongside its flagship café in Fitzroy, Industry Beans coffee is delivered fresh and direct to the MCG. The Fitzroy Street Blend is distributed and served across 35 locations inside the venue on match days and at Trumble Bar & Café and Paddock Café on non-match days.

The partnership supports the commitment of Industry Beans' co-founders, brothers Steve and Trevor Simmons, to provide the ultimate coffee experience at a venue that is so intrinsically linked to the people of Melbourne.

The 2023 opening of the Lucy Liu Lounge, located in the Ponsford Stand on Level 3, was a welcome addition for MCC members. Famed Melbourne restaurant Lucy Liu is a border-hopping dining experience, taking inspiration from the best cuisines across Southern Asia and bringing the laneway experience to the MCG. The Lucy Liu Lounge is available exclusively for MCC member bookings as a dining option on match days.

Leading the way for a sustainable future



The Club's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint is fundamental in maintaining the MCG's status as a world-class stadium.

The Melbourne Cricket Club's 2022-2025 Sustainability Plan, distributed in 2022, outlines key focus areas to sustainably manage the MCG, including the preservation of its heritage and spirit.

The Plan includes key targets in the following areas:

Energy and emissions

Implementing effective building management practices and specific climate change mitigation initiatives.

Waste

Achieving circular economy outcomes by focusing on reduce, reuse and recycle waste management principles.

Water

Maximising the water efficiency of the Water Treatment Plant and further reducing the requirements on local water sources.

Transport and fleet

Encouraging sustainable transport for staff and visitors to the MCG.

Communication and community engagement

Using the Club's connection with the community, staff, patrons and sporting bodies to educate about climate change.

Sustainable procurement

Ensuring all procurement activities incorporate environmental considerations.

Culturally significant parklands and places

Protecting and managing the culturally significant land of Yarra Park for the benefit of the greater community.

Health, happiness and equity

Creating an inclusive, safe and welcoming environment.



2022 environmental achievements

- 164 tonnes of organic matter were processed through the dehydrator, producing 44 tonnes of soil food. On average, the dehydrator reduced the weight of organic waste by 70 per cent.
- All MCG waste was at a recycling rate of 80 per cent.

Soft plastics removed

The Club has a soft plastics recycling program that diverts plastic bags and packaging from landfill and turns it into a resource used to manufacture new products.

The MCC, in conjunction with hospitality partner Delaware North, addresses all soft plastic brought into the venue. The MCC administers a soft/single-use plastic register that the Catering team works with daily to prevent unwanted soft plastics being used on site.

Energy efficiency

In a seven-year period of the energy performance contract with Siemens, the MCG has achieved CO2 emissions savings that equate to 3,047 tonnes of CO2 for electricity and 192 tonnes of CO2 for gas.

These emissions savings are roughly equivalent to taking 710 passenger vehicles off the road or the annual electricity use of 510 average-sized Australian houses.

Additional renewable energy

The MCG is currently operating on 100% renewable energy. This has resulted in a greenhouse gas emissions reduction of 16,198 tonnes of CO2 equivalent in 2022.

Increased messaging: reduce, reuse, recycle

The Club has increased its recycling messaging on match days, ensuring fans play their role in the Club's sustainability practices by filling up reusable drink bottles, recycling appropriate material and using public transport where possible when visiting the venue.

The MCC has redesigned bin enclosure messaging along the internal concourse to identify the different waste streams that separate general waste from recyclable material and organics.



MCC CEO Stuart Fox with Peter Halliday, Chairman and CEO of Siemens Australia and New Zealand. Through the energy performance contract between the MCG and Siemens, over a seven-year period the MCG has achieved higher than expected energy cost and emissions savings.

“The MCG is a special place for the people of Melbourne – and visitors from all around the world – proudly leading by example when it comes to sustainability and continually investing in ways to further progress initiatives in this space.”

– STUART FOX

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The MCC Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the MCC and aims to preserve Australian sporting history and enhance access to sport for all Australians. The Club is proud to be making a meaningful contribution to several worthy causes and communities.



National Indigenous Cricket Championships

In November 2022, the MCC Foundation announced a three-year partnership with Cricket Australia to support the National Indigenous Cricket Championships (NICC).

The NICC is an important pathway for First Nations cricketers at community and elite levels, bringing the best Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander male and female cricketers together to compete for national titles in the T20 format.

Speaking at the partnership launch, Australian pace bowler Scott Boland reflected on the significance of having First Nations cricketers to look up to. "Ashleigh Gardner always says you can't be what you can't see, so when you have Indigenous players at that top level it gives younger ones something to aspire to," he said.



Following a two-year hiatus due to the impact of COVID-19, the NICC returned in February 2023 in Alice Springs.

Queensland and NSW emerged victors in the women's and men's competitions respectively, rounding out a great week of competition in which First Nations cricket talent flourished and valuable connections and friendships were forged.

In addition to being the official inclusion partner of the NICC through to 2025, the MCC Foundation will host an annual training camp for the best players from the men's and women's competition, bringing them to the MCG to experience playing on cricket's premier stage.

As a Club we look forward to hosting these emerging players and seeing their talents and skills on display on the hallowed MCG turf.



Bachar Houli Foundation

Since 2019, the MCC Foundation has proudly supported the Bachar Houli Foundation (BHF) to deliver meaningful programs that support social cohesion, employment pathways and education for more than 35,000 young Muslim men and women.

Using sport and in particular Australian Rules Football, the BHF instills participants with a sense of belonging and fosters connections that surpass differences of background or belief.

Throughout the year the Club facilitated access to the stadium and Australian Sports Museum for BHF's Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Senior Girls programs, with all groups enjoying a training and skills session on the hallowed turf as well as the Grand Final of the Bachar Houli Cup – a five-week interschool competition.



In a particularly special event, on the day after the 2022 AFL Grand Final the MCG welcomed the Bachar Houli Academy and Maccabi's Jolson/Maccabi/AJAX Community Team (JMA) to play the third annual Jolson Houli Unity Cup. Bringing together players from Muslim and Jewish faiths, the game has become a fixture on the MCG calendar and reinforces the unique way sport can serve as a bridge between communities.

Beyond the sporting field, the MCC was privileged to again host the annual Ramadan Iftar Dinner in the Members' Dining Room in March 2022.

In a testament to the success of the partnership, in October the MCC announced a three-year extension where the MCC Foundation becomes a presenting partner of the Bachar Houli Foundation through to 2025.

Melbourne Indigenous Transition School

It was an exciting year of activity and engagement between the MCC and the Melbourne Indigenous Transition School (MITS).

MITS exists to empower Indigenous students from regional and remote communities in Victoria and the Northern Territory to achieve their educational aspirations. Located on Wurundjeri Country with classroom and boarding houses in nearby Richmond, MITS is essentially a specialist boarding school delivering a high-quality, culturally safe learning environment for Year 7 and (as of 2023) Year 8. The students are then supported in their transition to places at partner schools across Melbourne.

The MCC Foundation's support enables MITS students and alumni to participate in organised club football and further connect with the local Richmond community.

With the MITS classroom and boarding houses located just a short walk from the MCG, the students have also visited the stadium on many occasions, from exploring the Australian Sports Museum to enjoying 'PE on the 'G'.

In July, a group of senior coaches and players from the MCC's Premier Cricket ranks took the MITS students through their

paces in a range of skill-based drills designed to introduce them to cricket. Hosted in the MCG's world-class indoor training facilities, for many of the students the session was their first time holding a bat or bowling ball.

MITS further connected with the Club's Sporting Sections in December, taking part in a 'come and try' sports session at the Albert Ground with representatives from the Baseball, Hockey and Lacrosse sections.



Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund

The Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund (SESF) aims to break down the financial barriers preventing young Australian athletes from pursuing their goals and representing their state or country in their chosen sport.

Since starting its partnership with SESF in 2021, the MCC Foundation has helped SESF provide hundreds of scholarships for students from low socio-economic, Indigenous or rural and regional backgrounds, supporting them to achieve their dreams and build skills for life through the power of sport.



In 2022, SESF began accepting applications nationwide for the first time. This development reflects not only SESF's growth and maturity as an organisation but also the increased demand for support across Australia's sporting community.

In 2022/23, 80 SESF x MCC scholarships were awarded to skilled and deserving athletes involved in diverse sports from hockey and tennis to taekwondo and pentathlon.

Beyond the scholarship program, SESF provides ongoing mentoring and development opportunities to help students excel in their chosen sport and beyond. The MCC proudly delivered an online masterclass series with SESF across 2022, which provided students and their parents with valuable advice and insights from top Australian athletes and sports administrators including Mack Horton, Steve Moneghetti and Ellie Cole.

In October, SESF celebrated its 10-year anniversary with a special event at the MCG that brought together alumni, partners and program ambassadors. On the night, the MCC confirmed its commitment to SESF, announcing an extension to the partnership for a further two years. The MCC Foundation looks forward to continuing to work with SESF to help young athletes reach their sporting potential.

Santa Teresa Oval Project

Since 2019, the MCC Foundation has been involved in a joint venture with the Melbourne Football Club (MFC) and the Atyenhenge Atherre Aboriginal Corporation (AAC) to grass the red clay oval of Santa Teresa, a remote Indigenous community 80 kilometres south-east of Alice Springs.

The oval was officially launched in June 2021 and in July 2022, one year after it was completed, the Melbourne Cricket Club was thrilled to visit Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa) to meet the local community and see the grassed Santa Teresa Oval in action.

After many trips planned in 2020 and 2021 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was emotional and surreal to finally be in Santa Teresa and see firsthand the 'MCG of the Desert'. In addition to visiting the oval, a small number

of MCC and MFC staff were privileged to be invited onto country to spend an evening connecting with some of the Traditional Owners from the area. A further delegation of MCC representatives visited the oval at the height of summer in February 2023.



Maintaining a grassed playing surface in the harsh climate of Central Australia will be an ongoing endeavour and the MCC Foundation will continue to provide funding and support until at least 2023 to assist the oval's irrigation and ongoing maintenance.



Western Bulldogs Community Foundation – CALDplay

The MCC Foundation has partnered with the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation (WBCF) to help provide greater opportunities for multicultural and migrant communities to connect through sport, as well as experience all the iconic MCG has to offer.

In March 2023, the Club announced that the MCC Foundation would serve as the presenting partner of the WBCF’s CALDplay program. This is a free program that each year provides more than 1,000 culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) adults and children newly arrived in Australia with the opportunity to engage in sport as a means to improve their English, develop skills and increase social participation.

To celebrate the partnership, more than 200 migrant and refugee adult CALDplay participants visited the Australian Sports Museum and explored the stadium on an MCG Tour. For most, it was their first time visiting the MCG.

With both the MCC Foundation and WBCF fundamentally aligned in their commitment to make sport more accessible for all people, the Club looks forward to welcoming CALDplay participants to the ‘People’s Ground’ and encouraging them to enjoy physical activity and deepen their community connections through sport.



Special Olympics Australia

The MCC Foundation has proudly partnered with Special Olympics Australia since 2019, with the two organisations united by their shared goal of making sport accessible to everyone and fostering a culture of inclusion.

After numerous COVID-19 disruptions over the past few years, the 2022/23 period saw the return of events and activities for Special Olympics Australia. The Club was pleased to welcome athletes to the MCG on several occasions.

In October, the MCC hosted a special send-off for more than 250 athletes who were representing Victoria at the 12th Special Olympics Australia National Games in Launceston. The ceremony began with a group of athletes and supporters carrying a lit torch on a lap of honour of the ground before lighting the ‘flame of hope’ cauldron. Each athlete was then called onto the hallowed turf and presented with a commemorative pin.

Furthermore, in celebration of International Day of People with Disability in December, the Club welcomed a group of Victorian Special Olympics athletes to the MCG to explore the stadium’s new and improved Sensory Friendly Space, presented by the MCC Foundation.

Sensory Friendly Space, presented by the MCC Foundation

In June 2022, the MCC Foundation provided one-off support to both cement and enhance the Sensory Friendly Space that had been trialled at the MCG since February 2022.

Designed in consultation with Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect), the space aims to provide patrons with a quiet, safe and supported place to retreat and recharge away from the stress and stimulation of the live event.

As a Club, we understand the immense ability sport has to bring people together, create communities and breakdown barriers; this power applies not just when playing sport but also when watching it with others.

Officially launched in December 2022, the Sensory Friendly Space presented by the MCC Foundation allows more people to experience and attend the football, cricket or concerts at the MCG with confidence.



Community support

Following many COVID-19 disruptions in the past two years, in 2022/23 the Club was pleased to once again support causes and initiatives such as Freeze MND and Breast Cancer Network Australia, as well as assisting local schools, sporting clubs and community organisations with grassroots fundraising requests.

Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan

The MCC and MCG have a long and proud connection with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Since 1853, the Club and the MCG have been based on land of immense cultural significance to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. Long before the building of the stadium that makes it a modern-day meeting place, this land was a place of age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.

At the end of 2022, the Club concluded its Reflect stage Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The Reflect RAP is the first of a four-tiered framework developed by Reconciliation Australia and represents the Club's first formal commitment to support and enhance the national reconciliation movement.

Key priorities in the Reflect RAP include scoping and developing relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, deciding on our vision for reconciliation and exploring our sphere of influence.



As an organisation with great reach and recognition, we have both the opportunity and responsibility to lead change. In particular, we can highlight, promote and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their cultures through the vehicle of sport and entertainment and acknowledge the long history of the land that the MCG now inhabits.

The Club is proud to have accomplished a great number of the goals set out in the Reflect RAP and to have made meaningful inroads on the four key focus areas outlined.

The Club is now looking ahead to the next tier in the RAP framework – the Innovate stage – which runs for two years and will see the MCC taking further steps to achieve our vision for reconciliation. We look forward to taking all our members, stakeholders and patrons on this journey with us.

Highlights from 2022/23

- Fostering a strong, collaborative relationship with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (WWCHAC), which represent the Traditional Owners of the land on which the MCG is based.
- In May 2022, the Club celebrated National Reconciliation Week with a multi-faceted program that included events and engagement opportunities for MCC staff, support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and promotion of National Reconciliation Week themes and messaging the wider MCC and MCG audience.
- Joining forces with Melbourne Football Club to celebrate its Indigenous history and unveil the 'NARRM Football Club' display in the Australian Sports Museum. Taking visitors on a journey through the Melbourne Football Club's Indigenous links, the exhibition received 27,000 visitors during its five-month run from May to October 2022.
- In the lead-up to Sir Doug Nicholls Round, students from the MCC Foundation's community partner, the Melbourne Indigenous Transition School, were invited onto the 'G' to paint the Aboriginal flag in the goal square.
- In December both the MCC Premier Men's and Women's First XI teams debuted a specially designed First Nations shirt, created by local Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung artist Ky-ya Nicholson Ward along with MCC cricketer, Women's First XI all-rounder and proud Jawoyn woman Ella Hayward.
- The Club conducted a full review of cultural learning needs within the business, including permanent staff, event staff and volunteers, and has begun the process of enhancing understanding with bespoke training opportunities.
- Creation of 30 Acknowledgement of Country plaques for the MCC's venues, which include six facilities on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country and two on Bunurong Country. Based on their location, the plaques feature artworks by either a Wurundjeri artist (Mandy Nicholson) or a Bunurong artist (Glenn Shaw).

Obituary

The Melbourne Cricket Club mourns the loss of the following individuals whose contributions to the Club, the MCG and the broader sporting community will be forever cherished and celebrated.

Andrew Symonds

Australian cricket great and MCC Honorary Cricket Member Andrew Symonds suddenly passed in May 2022. Symonds was an impressive international player with both bat and ball who made his One-Day International debut in 1998.

He went on to play 198 ODI matches for Australia, amassing 5,088 runs including six centuries with a top score of 156. Symonds also took 133 ODI wickets, with career-best figures of 5/18.

Following his ODI debut, Symonds went on to play Test cricket for Australia, making his debut in 2004 against Sri Lanka. Symonds played 26 Tests

for Australia, making 1,462 runs that included two centuries – one of which came at the MCG during the 2006 Ashes Boxing Day Test, where he made 156 from 220 balls. This performance saw his name etched onto the MCG honour boards for Australian Test centuries scored at the ground.

With the ball, Symonds claimed 24 Test wickets with best figures of 3/50, which came at the MCG during the 2005 Boxing Day Test against South Africa. Symonds also played 14 T20 International matches between 2005 and 2009, making 337 runs and taking eight wickets.



John Bell

One of the Club's beloved contributors, John Bell, was closely tied with MCC Premier Cricket from 1995/96, when he took on the key role as Team Manager of the Men's First XI.

As Team Manager for the 1997/98 First XI Premiership, John was named Best Club Person, winning it for a second time in 2002/03. He held the role of First XI Team Manager for a decade and was also a highly valued Net Captain for several seasons.

He took on the role of Cricket Secretary from 1999 to 2002 and acted as Convener of the MCC Club XI competition for four seasons. He was also an MCC 50-Year member.

John made a distinguished contribution to the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA), holding roles with Bulleen Templestowe Football Club and Old Scotch Collegians before joining the VAFA Executive. He was Vice-President from 2003–08 and awarded Life Membership in 2009.



Trevor Burgess

The MCC's oldest member, Trevor Burgess, passed away on Tuesday June 7, 2022, aged 105. A devoted Western Bulldogs fan, Trevor loved to attend the football and witnessed his beloved side claim two premierships in the VFL and AFL.

He was a dedicated cricket spectator and rarely missed a Boxing Day Test, with Day 1 falling on his birthday. Trevor was also a passionate bowls player, joining the MCC Bowls Section in July 1998.



Barry Brennan

Former MCC Tennis Section Chair and Hans Ebeling Award winner Barry Brennan was a dedicated clubman, imparting knowledge and sharing his passion for the Tennis Section while serving on its Committee between 1978 and 1991. This included the role of Secretary between 1985 and 1992.

Barry then moved to the role of Section Chairman, serving between 1992 and 1998. It was during this time that he negotiated the

merger of MCC Tennis with the St Kilda Tennis Club to grant MCC Tennis access to six courts at Junction Oval. In addition to being awarded the Hans Ebeling Award in 1998, Barry was also elected to Life Membership of the Tennis Section.

Throughout his years of service to the Tennis Section, Barry also served on the Member Sporting Sections Sub-committee from 1982 until 2003.

Queen Elizabeth II

The long life and legacy of Queen Elizabeth II was honoured at both AFL Semi-Final matches hosted at the MCG following Her Majesty's passing in September 2022.

Queen Elizabeth II visited the MCG on four occasions during trips to Australia, accompanied each time by her husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Queen and Prince Philip's 1954 Royal Tour marked the first visit of a reigning sovereign to the MCG, where the couple attended on two occasions over a two-month period.

On February 25, a total of 43,019 patrons attended an ex-serviceman's rally with admission granted by invitation, service medals or RSL badges. On March 4, the Queen and Prince Philip returned to the MCG for the Education Department children's display, where 17,000 children took part in activities in front of a crowd of 92,438. The crowd, at this time, set the record for the highest ever attendance for an event at the MCG.

During this visit, Prince Philip was made an Honorary Life Member of the Melbourne Cricket Club.

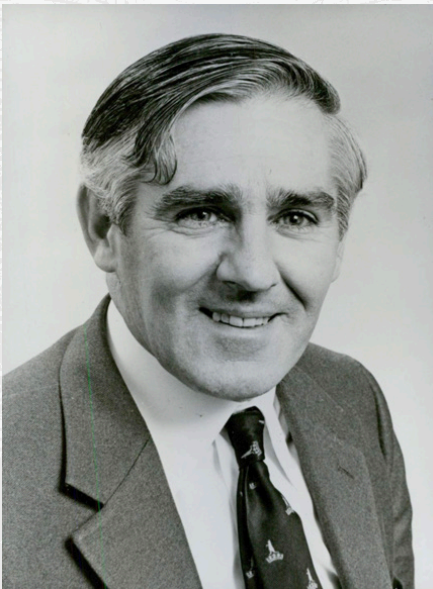
Her Majesty returned in 1970 with Prince Philip and also with (the then) Prince Charles and Princess Anne. On April 5, they joined 38,617 fans to see Fitzroy defeat Richmond in the first VFL match played on a Sunday. Prince Charles was made an Honorary Life Member of our Club during this visit.

On March 17, 1977, the Queen and Prince Philip attended the final day's play in the famous Centenary Test match. They were introduced to the players on the ground and were driven on a lap of the ground before visiting the old MCC Pavilion and the MCC Museum. Later, they entered the Long Room to invest Sir Robert Menzies with his knighthood. Before departing, the Queen unveiled a plaque commemorating the Centenary of Test Cricket.



The final visit of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip to the MCG came in 2006 when Her Majesty opened the XVIII Commonwealth Games on March 15. It was also the year she celebrated her 80th birthday.

The MCG was illuminated in the colour purple with all flags at half-mast during the 10-day mourning period.



Tony Street

Just shy of celebrating 90 years of MCC membership, the Club sadly lost former Committee member and its longest serving member, The Honourable Anthony (Tony) Street, aged 96.

After being nominated for membership on the day of his birth in February 1926, Tony was elected to membership in October 1932 at the age of six.

His involvement with the Club during his incredible tenure was extensive, including 14 years as a Committee member from 1985 until 1998, serving alongside presidents Donald Cordner and John Mitchell.

Away from the Club, Tony's professional career included nearly 20 years as a federal politician with the Liberal Party, where he held several ministerial positions. He served in the House of Representatives from 1966 to 1984 for the Division of Corangamite, a shire in the Barwon South West region of Victoria.

The expertise he gained when serving as Minister for Labour and Immigration, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1975 to 1983 in the Fraser government was welcomed by the MCC Committee when he joined following his resignation from office in 1984.



Noel McMahan

A 50-Year member and Hans Ebeling Award winner, Noel McMahan was heavily involved with one of the Melbourne Cricket Club's Sporting Sections, the Melbourne Football Club (MFC).

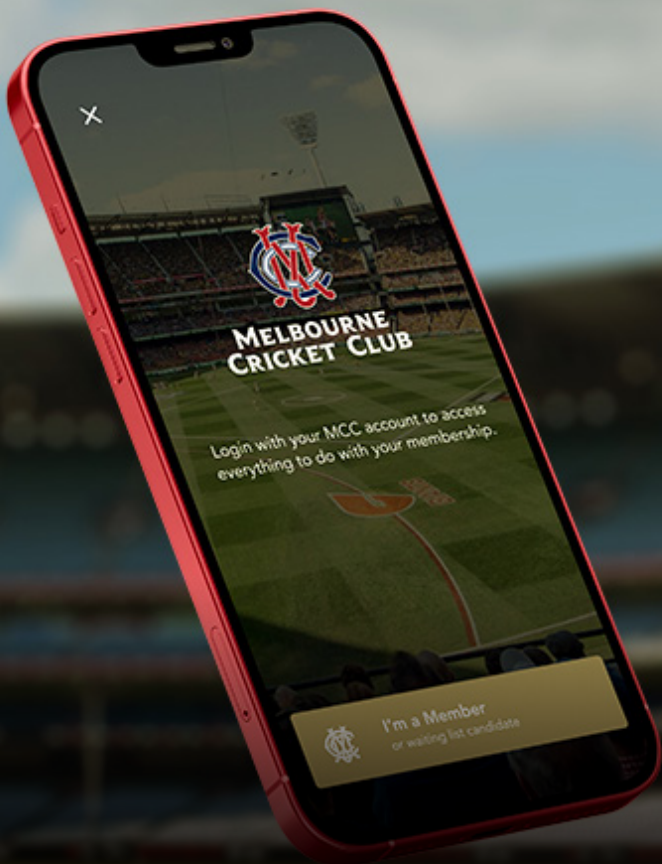
Noel represented MFC in 175 games between 1946 and 1956, which included three premierships in 1948, 1955 and 1956, captaining the team for the latter two premierships.

The half-back was awarded several individual accolades during and after his on-field career, including the Demons' best and fairest award - the Keith 'Bluey' Truscott Medal - in 1951,

the MCC's Hans Ebeling Award in 2014 for his outstanding contribution to MFC, a member of the MFC Team of the Century, and induction into the Demons' Hall of Fame in 2001.

Following his playing career, Noel went on to coach South Melbourne for 54 matches.

Noel was well known among the membership, particularly the 50-Year member community where he was a regular attendee at the annual member luncheons along with many of his Demon premierships teammates.



MCC JOINS THE APP AGE

The MCC launched its first app in August 2022. The new app aims to enhance the member experience when visiting the MCC Reserve and improve ease of account access.

The app was launched in two stages, with the first stage including an initial set of key features. The second stage was launched a few months later and included the integration of MCC Plus into the device's digital wallet.

The MCC app is exclusive to members and free to download via the App Store or Google Play. Key features include:

My Card - a digital membership card located within the app that members can use to scan into the MCC Reserve.

Bookings - members can make ticket, dining and function bookings and manage upcoming events.

MCC Plus - members can top-up their MCC Plus card, view past transactions and manage their account. Members can also add their MCC Plus card to their digital wallet to tap-and-pay in the MCC Reserve.

Discover - members can find all the key information they need about their membership, accessing the MCC Reserve and much more.

The MCC App is here!
Your one stop shop for MCC Membership.

GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

50-Year membership changes passed following postal vote

At last year's Annual General Meeting, the Committee proposed changes to arrangements in relation to 50-Year membership to introduce a new category of membership, 50-Year Social.

These changes, summarised into four fundamental points, were proposed in the interest of overall fairness for current and future members. The Club's obligation is to maintain the amenity of the MCC Members' Reserve while bringing arrangements in line with contemporary times.

The fundamental points

1. Despite the introduction of the 50-Year membership classification in 1965, the cohort has never been formally recognised in the Rules of the Club.
2. As women were not eligible to be members of the Club in their own right until 1984, there are no women members in the 50-Year membership cohort and under the existing arrangement this would not have changed until 2034.
3. A change to the 50-Year membership fee that the Committee believed was more sustainable and financially prudent in the long term.
4. The creation of a 50-Year Social membership category. This new category was proposed with a subscription fee of \$15 per membership season to create an option for those members, currently within the 50-Year membership classification, who are either unable or no longer wish to attend event days at the MCG but wish to retain their long-held and treasured membership.

The changes proposed

1. The formal recognition of 50-Year members in the Club Rules: in the interest of good governance and complete transparency, the Club Rules should reflect what has been custom and practice for 57 years.
2. The inclusion of an initial cohort of women members as 50-Year members: given that women were not able to join as MCC members until 1984, the Club believed that women members who took the opportunity to join at their earliest possible chance should have been offered access as 50-Year members. To reflect this decision, current women members who meet a set criteria will be eligible to be classified as 50-Year members.
3. The formal setting of subscription fees for 50-Year members: as part of the MCC membership review, the Club determined that continuation of the \$15 membership fee for all 50-Year members did not reflect the contemporary cost of managing the Club, amenities or the MCG. When first introduced in 1965, \$15 represented 75 per cent of the Full membership rate. The Club proposed a 50 per cent discount from the current Full membership fees for 50-Year members, introduced gradually over the next five membership seasons.
4. The establishment of a 50-Year Social membership, set at the \$15 price-point: this membership allows for those members who are unable to, or no longer wish to, attend games at the MCG but would still like to remain connected to the Club and be able to nominate and second candidates for the waiting list.



These proposals were put to members at the Annual General Meeting and were approved by eligible members – both in-person and online – with 78.82 per cent voting in favour of the motion.

However, in accordance with the Club Rules, more than 30 members who attended the meeting – both in-person and online – proposed the changes be put to the Full membership through a ballot process.

CorpVote was engaged as an independent voting service provider to facilitate the ballot process, in which the proposals were passed with a 77.48 per cent majority voting for the changes. A 50 per cent majority was required for the motion to pass. The breakdown was as follows:

- Total votes: 18,581
- For: 77.48 per cent
- Against: 22.52 per cent.

The following changes will come into effect from September 1, 2023 – the start of the 2023/24 membership season:

- formal recognition of 50-Year membership as a classification in the Club Rules
- set subscription fees for 50-Year membership
- inclusion of an initial cohort of women members who meet a set criteria into the 50-Year membership classification
- creation and introduction of the 50-Year Social membership category.





Permanent 'Shane Warne Stand' sign installed

Following the sudden death of Australian cricketing legend and MCC Honorary Cricket Member Shane Warne in March 2022, the MCG's Great Southern Stand was renamed the Shane Warne Stand in his honour.

The original sign, first revealed at Warne's State Memorial Service at the MCG in March 2022, was a temporary fixture, with the permanent sign installed in December 2022.

Against the backdrop of an empty MCG, Warne's three children - Brooke, Jackson and Summer - witnessed the first time the sign's lights were switched on.

The Shane Warne Stand recognises Warne's legacy and his deserving place in the history of the MCG - a place where he will continue to be celebrated as a cricketing world icon.

Bledisloe rivalry renewed at MCG

The Bledisloe Cup is returning to the MCG. On May 2, 2022, it was announced that the MCG would host the trans-Tasman clash between the Wallabies and the All Blacks on July 29, 2023.

This will be the fourth time the MCG has hosted a Bledisloe Cup match between the two countries and the first time since 2007.

Across the three previous encounters between the two sides at the MCG, Australia has recorded two victories, with an average crowd of 81,529.



ARE YOU READY FOR IT?

Taylor Swift | The Eras Tour announced for February 2024

International superstar Taylor Swift is bringing Taylor Swift | The Eras Tour to the MCG across three dates in February 2024.

The three dates - Friday February 16, Saturday February 17 and Sunday February 18 - will see Taylor Swift as the first female to headline a concert at the MCG since Madonna in 1993.

The MCG is one of two venues in Australia to host Taylor Swift | The Eras Tour, with Sydney's Accor Stadium also on the tour schedule following the three MCG dates.





MCG NETWORK EVENTS FLOURISH

Now in its second year, the MCG Network – a group where businesses can gain exposure, foster connections and support locals – continues to grow in awareness and membership.

The 2022 MCG Network events season continued to thrive following the Wine and Dine launch event on the hallowed turf. The MCG Network hosted a further four events throughout 2022, including themed luncheons and a golf day.

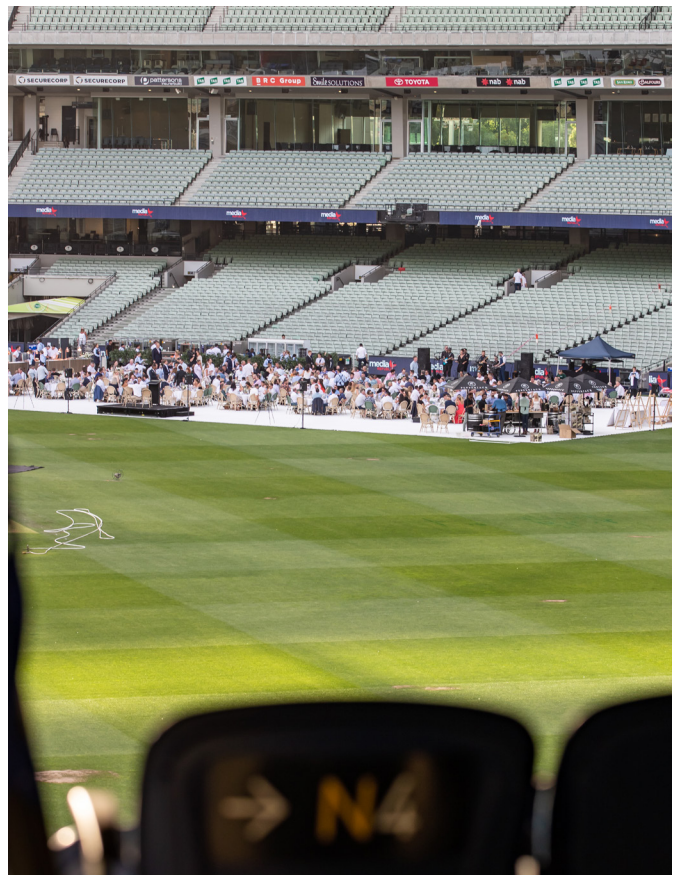
Following on from the successful launch event, the MCG Network's second event, the Spirit of ANZAC Luncheon, took place in the Olympic Room in the lead-up to ANZAC Day. A live painting was created throughout the event, and special guests Dr Rob Webster (State President of RSL Victoria), Colonel Matt Stevens, Order of Australia Medallist Stan Alves, Andrew Wishart, Heath Shaw and David Zaharakis were in attendance.



An exclusive Inner Sanctum event was held two months later, with a smaller group of attendees able to experience the inner workings of the MCG – including a Guy Grossi-designed meal served in the player change rooms – hosted by Sarah Jones with keynote addresses from Alastair Clarkson and Mark Williams.

The Final Four footy finals luncheon was held on Preliminary Final day with a packed room at the MCG. Spirits were high as Damian Barrett hosted a panel featuring Nathan Brown, Matthew Lloyd and MCG Network Ambassador Luke Darcy.

Finishing off the events season was a Golf Day at Moonah Links on the Mornington Peninsula, where attendees played for prizes and trophies. The day included giveaways from major partners and a post-golf lunch at St Andrew's Beach Brewery with John Hastings and his baggy green.



Along with Luke Darcy, we are grateful for the support of fellow Ambassador Katie Brennan. The captain of Richmond's AFLW team, Katie is an active business owner herself and brought capability and expertise to the MCG Network.

The 2023 calendar of the MCG Network again kicked off with an event on the hallowed turf – this time a dinner featuring fire dancers, magicians and a silent auction. Host Catherine Murphy delved into the life and career of former AFLW player turned Channel Seven commentator Abbey Holmes, and MCG executive chef Dylan Sanding described the spectacular meal.

More than 50 companies have joined the MCG Network as members or partners, led by Principal Partner oOh!media.



Our Partners

The Club is grateful for the support of our key commercial partners, stakeholders and suppliers.

ICON PARTNERS



OFFICIAL PARTNERS

Cadbury
Herald Sun
University Campus
of Football Business (UCFB)

Four'n Twenty
Telstra
Delaware North
Ticketek

Playbill
oOh!media
Treasury Wine Estates

PREFERRED SUPPLIERS

McCain
Peters Ice Cream
George Weston Foods
Masterfoods

Industry Beans
The Smith's Snackfood Company
Diageo
ISS

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS



HOME TEAMS





Governance

Melbourne Cricket Club is a body corporate incorporated under the Melbourne Cricket Club Act 1974, consisting of persons who are members of the Club.

The business and affairs of the Club are overseen and controlled by the MCC Committee. The Committee comprises members of the Club elected to honorary office-bearer positions – President, three Vice-Presidents and Treasurer – and up to nine other elected members. The Committee meets at least 10 times a year for the purpose of overseeing all aspects of the Club’s business plan and objectives. It also deliberates on its responsibilities as ground manager of the Melbourne Cricket Ground and Yarra Park for the MCG Trust. Additionally, the Committee reviews the performance of the Club’s management team in consultation with the Club’s Chief Executive Officer, measuring results against the business plan objectives, ensuring compliance with legal requirements and monitoring the strategic Risk Management Plan.

Governance

The Club is committed to overall strong governance across its operations and management of the MCG. Such governance delivers on the MCC’s current five-year Strategic Plan.

Cyber security – management and monitoring

The IT & Innovation department has engaged a third party security operations centre to provide 24/7 monitoring of all cyber security threats. This enhances our capability to provide even greater levels of protection to MCC membership data from any external cyber-attacks.

Modern slavery

The MCC, as ground manager of the MCG, is committed to an ongoing program aimed at identifying, assessing and mitigating the risks of our operations and supply chains contributing to modern slavery.

The MCC takes its obligations under the Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 seriously and continues to commit to an ongoing program of business and procurement practices to ensure our risk of contribution to modern slavery is understood and mitigated.

Safety

The Club continues to have a strong and proactive focus on occupational health and safety at the MCG. This is evidenced by the Club maintaining its ISO45001:2018 certification.

ISO45001 applies to Committee, staff, contractors and MCG tenants and is continuously under audit and review. The review of policies and procedures occurs regularly through reporting to the Committee and its Sub-Committees, in addition to management, staff and contractors via a range of consultative forums including the Health and Safety Committee.

Security

Given the MCG’s status as an iconic event venue in Australia, the Club has placed high importance upon the management and mitigation of security risk issues. Accordingly, several strategic security management initiatives are ongoing. These measures have enhanced the safety of ground users on event and non-event days. The Committee and Club management will continue to develop, implement and assess security risk reduction strategies.

Legal

The MCC engages Ashurst, a leading multinational law firm and advisor to corporates, financial institutions and governments worldwide, to provide the Club with guidance on its constitution as well as being involved in all contract negotiations. Processes and policies are in place to ensure a consistent approach to contracts, privacy, intellectual property protection and legal compliance.

Diversity & Inclusion

The MCC, as Ground Manager of the MCG - the People’s Ground, acknowledges it has a responsibility to represent the diversity of all Australians. The Club is currently finalising a Diversity & Inclusion Strategy to provide strategic guidance around developing an inclusive culture for all involved with our great Club and the broader MCG community.

Gender Equality

In accordance with the requirements of the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012, the MCC lodges an annual public report with the Workplace Gender Equality Agency. The Committee and Management of the MCC are deeply committed to ensuring a gender balance through all staffing areas of the Club and are proud there has been considerable improvement in this space over recent years.

MCC Committee succession

The skill and experience set required by the MCC Committee as a whole is that necessary to govern the running of a large public asset with a significant business as well as a club of more than 150,000 members. The Committee's role is to represent members of the Club to the executive under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer.

Some matters are reserved for decision by the Committee, including Club rule changes, large financial transactions and capital works, strategy and the business plan. The executive reports regularly on

the discharge of its responsibilities to the Committee or the sub-committees that have been established under its governance framework.

In order to govern effectively, the Committee believes it needs members with skills and experiences in a wide range of areas. These may include finance and accounting, audit, risk, health, safety and the environment, contract negotiation and management, strategy, marketing, legal, human resources, construction, large capital projects, sport and sporting bodies both professional and amateur, communications and government.

A Succession Sub-committee has been established to assess the skill and experience represented on the Committee and to ensure that when a casual vacancy occurs candidates are selected who not only meet any skill or experience need identified such that the Committee can collectively meet their responsibilities, but also demonstrate behaviours in line with the MCC's values and culture.

Committee members are submitted to members for election in accordance with term limits. Any Full member of the Club may also submit him or herself for election.

Eleven meetings of the Full Committee were held during the period of April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023. The attendance of the Committee members is as follows:

M. Happell (P) 11/11	J. Bennett 11/11
C. Johnston (VP) 10/11	A. Brebner 11/11
S. Macindoe (VP) 11/11	J. Cain 8/11*
F. Oldfield (VP) 11/11	C. Cannon 2/11**
G. Roberts (T) 11/11	P. King 9/11
A. Anderson 11/11	P. Dwyer 9/11
T. Baillieu 10/11	K. Ramani 10/11

* Joined the Committee in June 2022.

** Resigned from the Committee in May 2022.



MEMBERS

Annual General Meeting

A meeting of Full members of the Club is held annually to receive reports and audited financial statements from the Committee, elect office-bearers and other Committee members and to consider other business for which notice has been given in accordance with Club Rules.

Full members are advised in the notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) about Committee retirements and nominations for election or re-election. Full members are encouraged to attend the AGM.



CEO

Executive Sub-committee meetings attended:

M. Happell (chair) 6/6
C. Johnston 6/6
S. Macindoe 6/6
F. Oldfield 6/6
G. Roberts 6/6

Club Sub-committee meetings attended:

C. Johnston (chair) 6/6
A. Brebner 6/6
T. Baillieu 5/6
K. Ramani 6/6
S. Macindoe 1/6

Finance & Audit Sub-committee meetings attended:

G. Roberts (chair) 5/5
P. Dwyer 4/5
M. Happell 3/4
T. Johnson 1/1
C. Johnston 5/5
F. Oldfield 5/5

Ground Sub-committee meetings attended:

F. Oldfield (chair) 6/6
A. Anderson 5/6
J. Bennett 5/6
J. Cain 4/5
P. Dwyer 5/6
C. Johnston 1/1
S. Macindoe 6/6
G. Roberts 5/6

(P) President (VP) Vice-President (T) Treasurer

MCC Committee



FRED OLDFIELD
PRESIDENT (FROM MARCH 2023)
 Joined the Committee in 2012
 Chair of the Executive Sub-committee
 Director of MCC Foundation Limited
 Director of MCC Heritage Limited



JAMES BENNETT
 Joined the Committee in 2015
 Member of the Ground Sub-committee
 Chair of Australian Sports Museum Limited



ADRIAN ANDERSON
VICE-PRESIDENT
 Joined the Committee in 2016
 Member of the Executive Sub-committee
 Chair of the Club Sub-committee
 Chair of MCC Sports Limited
 Chair of the Discipline Sub-committee



ANNABEL BREBNER
 Joined the Committee in 2019
 Director of MCC Sports Limited
 Director of MCC Foundation Limited
 Director of MCC Heritage Limited
 Member of the Ground Sub-committee



CHRISTIAN JOHNSTON
VICE-PRESIDENT
 Joined the Committee in 2017
 Member of the Executive Sub-committee
 Chair of the Ground Sub-committee
 Member of the Finance Sub-committee



JAMES CAIN
 Joined the Committee in 2022
 Director of MCC Sports Limited
 Member of the Ground Sub-committee



SALLY MACINDOE
VICE-PRESIDENT
 Joined the Committee in 2014
 Member of the Executive Sub-committee
 Chair of MCC Foundation Limited
 Member of the Ground Sub-committee
 Director of MCC Heritage Limited



PAULA DWYER
 Joined the Committee in 2021
 Member of the Ground Sub-committee
 Member of the Finance Sub-committee
 Director of Australian Sports Museum Limited



GEOFF ROBERTS
TREASURER
 Joined the Committee in 2019
 Member of the Executive Sub-committee
 Member of the Ground Sub-committee
 Chair of the Finance Sub-committee



TONY JOHNSON
 Joined the Committee in 2023
 Member of the Finance Sub-committee



TED BAILLIEU
 Joined the Committee in 2017
 Member of the Club Sub-committee
 Director of MCC Sports Limited
 Director of MCC Foundation Limited
 Director of MCC Heritage Limited



KALPANA RAMANI
 Joined the Committee in 2021
 Member of the Club Sub-committee
 Director of MCC Sports Limited
 Director of Australian Sports Museum Limited



CAROLYN BENDALL
 Joined the Committee in 2023
 Member of the Club Sub-committee



ALICE ROBINSON
 Joined the Committee in 2023
 Member of the Club Sub-committee
 Director of Australian Sports Museum Limited




The Committee thanks Michael Happell and Peter King, who finished their tenure on the MCC Committee in March 2023. Michael served on the Committee from 2011 and was President from 2019, while Peter joined the Committee in 2014 and championed the Club's Cricket Section.

Executive Leadership Team



Stuart Fox - Chief Executive Officer

Overall responsibility for the delivery of the strategic plan, business plan and day-to-day operation of the Club, MCG, Australian Sports Museum and Yarra Park via the Executive Leadership team. Oversees the delivery of exceptional member services and development of a nimble and customer service-led culture, and drives enhancement of MCG experiences. Also responsible for key stakeholder relationships, strengthening vital partnerships and demonstrating community leadership. Reports to the MCC Committee and MCG Trust.



Dean Matthews - General Manager, Club Services and Heritage

Responsible for MCC membership and Club life, including customer service, functions, database management, MCC Plus Rewards program, Members' Reserve operations and the Club's Sporting Sections. Also oversees the management of the various Sporting Sections' venues and facilities, the operations of the Australian Sports Museum, MCG Tours, MCC Library and MCC Museum.



Josh Eltringham - General Manager, Venue and Event Services

Responsible for the delivery and management of all events at the MCG. This includes safety, security, ticketing, staffing, precinct operations, event operations, emergency management, business resilience and customer service delivery. The day-to-day safety and security management of the MCG and other MCC-managed venues also sits in Josh's portfolio.



Michelle Nolan - General Manager, People and Culture

Responsible for maximising employee engagement and performance to assist with achievement of MCC business objectives through a comprehensive human resources strategy. Key areas include organisational culture, recruitment and talent acquisition, learning and development, reward and remuneration, diversity and inclusion, payroll and employee relations.



Tanya Gallina - General Manager, Commercial Operations and Partnerships

Responsible for enhancing reputation, branding and commercial return at the MCG. This includes communications, marketing, corporate social responsibility, brand and intellectual property management, corporate sales, sponsorship and commercial arrangements. Oversees hospitality operations at the MCG and is responsible for securing major and special events to the MCG.

Tanya was appointed the General Manager of Commercial Operations and Partnerships in April 2023, following three years as General Manager of Club Services and Heritage.



Rey Sumaru - General Manager, IT and Innovation

Responsible for the delivery and management of information and communications technology (ICT), digital and broadcasting systems, and network security, as well as operational integrity of technology. Evaluates new and emerging technologies and innovations, and also responsible for the development of organisationally aligned ICT strategies to enable the business to achieve strategic goals and improve operation effectiveness.



Mark Jones - General Manager, Finance and Business Performance

Administers the finances of the Club's entities, including reporting, financial performance management, investment, compliance, financial integrity and debt management. Also responsible for major project management, business intelligence, strategic and business planning, risk management, internal auditing, contract management, legislative compliance, tendering and procurement.



Peter Wearne - General Manager, Facilities

Responsible for the strategic and operational performance of the built assets at the MCG and other MCC-managed sites, including building services and turf management. Manages the environment management system and implementation of the Yarra Park master plan, as well as being responsible for key operational contracts associated with Yarra Park. Project lead for the MCG Redevelopment Business Case.

Jennifer Watt, the former General Manager of Commercial Operations and Partnerships, left the Club in December 2022 following her appointment as the North Melbourne Football Club's Chief Executive Officer. Jen oversaw tremendous growth in major events secured at the MCG, including the record-breaking Ed Sheeran concerts, the MCC Foundation's community partnership framework and updated brand architecture.



The Club wishes to thank Clive Driscoll, the former General Manager of Finance and Business Performance, for his more than 23 years of service following his retirement in July 2023. Clive was instrumental in the longevity of the Club's financial security, the implementation of business intelligence analysis, governance, compliance with Federal Government legislation and legal services. He leaves the Club with our warmest wishes and gratitude for an impactful tenure.



Melbourne Cricket Club and Controlled Entities

Annual Financial Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Important Information For Members

The Committee Report, Concise Financial Report and Auditor's Report contained within this document represent a Concise Report.

Members wishing to receive the full financial report and Auditor's Report may arrange delivery by calling the Melbourne Cricket Club office on (+61 3) 9657 8888.

The Concise Report contained within this document has been derived from the full financial report of the Melbourne Cricket Club and Controlled Entities for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 and cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and operating, financing and investing cash flows of the consolidated entity as the full financial report.

Committee Report

Your Committee submit their report for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Committee Members

The names of the Committee Members of the Melbourne Cricket Club (“the Club”) in office during the financial year and until the date of this report are as follows. Committee members were in office for the entire period unless otherwise stated.

Frederick H. Oldfield, Adrian C.R. Anderson, Christian W. Johnston, Sally G. Macindoe, Geoffrey I. Roberts, Edward N. Baillieu, James D. Bennett, Annabel J. Brebner, Paula J. Dwyer, Kalpana Ramani, Clare V. Cannon (resigned 17 May 2022), Michael J. Happell (retired 21 March 2023), Peter D. King (retired 21 March 2023), James R. Cain (appointed 17 May 2022), Carolyn J. Bendall (appointed 21 March 2023), Anthony J. Johnson (appointed 21 March 2023) and Alice A.B. Robinson (appointed 21 March 2023).

Nature of Operations and Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Club during the year were the ground management of the Melbourne Cricket Ground (“MCG”) and the encouragement and promotion of sport. The Club also performs the role of the Reserve Manager of Yarra Park.

There was no significant change in the nature of these activities during the period.

Results and Review of Operations

The consolidated net result of the Club amounted to a net profit of \$4.720 million compared with the prior year net loss of \$3.665 million.

During the 2022/23 financial year, more than four million patrons attended events held at the MCG, as the ground came back to life following two interrupted years due to the COVID-19 pandemic which considerably impacted upon the MCG’s operations. To have events return without any COVID-19 related restrictions has driven the financial result for the Club, and is the key change when comparing the Club’s year-on-year financial result.

The MCG hosted 46 AFL matches including 6 AFL Finals for the 2022 AFL Premiership Season, with a total attendance of more than 2.5 million patrons, including the 2022 AFL Grand Final between the Geelong Cats and the Sydney Swans, which saw the Cats victorious in front of a stadium capacity crowd of 100,024. Only weeks later, the MCG hosted the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup, with seven matches including the Pakistan versus England final, with a total attendance across the tournament matches at the ground of 302,196. South Africa returned to the MCG for the first time since 2008 in the 2022 Boxing Day Test which saw Australia secure a comprehensive victory over South Africa on the fourth day of play.

The Club continues to attract major international events, with six events held during the financial year. Two international soccer events were held in front of a combined attendance of 150,656 when Manchester United played against Melbourne Victory and Crystal Palace FC. December 3 saw the return of the Guns ‘N Roses who performed in front of 52,745 fans, while Billy Joel entertained 76,300 guests in his only concert in Australia. To close out the financial year, Ed Sheeran performed two record-breaking shows in front of 108,000 and 109,500 on consecutive nights. Ed Sheeran’s concert crowds comfortably surpassed Eminem’s 2019 record as the MCG’s biggest crowd attendance for a concert.

Included in the 2023 financial year result is the seven matches played at the MCG at the beginning of the 2023 AFL Premiership Season, which had a total cumulative attendance of 593,343.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

There have been no significant changes in the Club’s state of affairs during the financial year.

Significant Events after Balance Date

There have been no significant events occurring after balance date which may affect either the Club’s operations or results of those operations or the Club’s state of affairs.

Likely Developments and Expected Results

The Committee does not expect any significant changes to the operations of the Club in the forthcoming financial year.

Environmental Regulation and Performance

The Club continues to demonstrate a positive commitment to the environment, and as a signatory to the United Nations Framework for Sports for Climate Action is committed to actions that meet fundamental responsibilities in the areas of environmental sustainability and addressing climate change. The MCG was the first sporting venue in Australia to make this commitment and did so as the Club recognises the impact that climate change has on sport and sporting venues. The Club has seen this as an opportunity to become a climate leader in this sector and influence positive environmental change.

Security

Given the MCG's status as an iconic event venue in Australia, the Club has placed high importance upon the management and mitigation of security risk issues. Accordingly, several strategic security management initiatives are ongoing. These measures have enhanced the safety of ground users on event and non-event days. The Committee and Club management will continue to develop, implement and assess security risk reduction strategies.

Safety

The Club continues to have a strong and pro-active focus on Occupational Health and Safety at the MCG. This is evidenced by the Club maintaining its ISO45001:2018 certification.

ISO45001 applies to Committee, staff, contractors and MCG tenants and is continuously under audit and review. The review of policies and procedures occurs regularly through reporting to the Committee and its Sub-Committees, in addition to management, staff and contractors via a range of consultative forums including the Health and Safety Committee


Indemnification and Insurance of Committee Members

The Club has entered into Directors' and Officers' insurance policies and paid an insurance premium in respect of the insurance policies, covering members of the Committee, and the Directors, Executives and Statutory Officers of the Club. The Club have not included details of the nature of the liabilities covered or the amount of the premium paid in respect of the insurance contract, as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

Rounding

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000) (where rounding is applicable) pursuant to the option available to the Club under ASIC Corporations Instrument 2016/191.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Committee.



Frederick H. Oldfield
President

Geoffrey I. Roberts
Treasurer

Melbourne, 23 June 2023

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

Year Ended 31 March 2023	NOTES	CONSOLIDATED	
		2023	2022
		\$000	\$000
Revenue	3(a)	154,150	106,585
Other income	3(b)	8,623	12,831
TOTAL INCOME		162,773	119,416
Arena expenses		(1,328)	(1,359)
Facilities expenses		(13,188)	(13,099)
Commercial Operations expenses		(8,052)	(4,994)
Member contributions to the gate		(17,348)	(4,830)
Membership and Customer Services expenses		(7,118)	(4,716)
Events Administration expenses		(34,388)	(17,940)
Security and Safety expenses		(4,671)	(3,689)
Administration expenses		(18,983)	(17,140)
Depreciation expenses		(36,787)	(40,615)
Australian Sports Museum Limited ("ASM") expenses		(3,664)	(2,133)
Yarra Park expenses		(2,404)	(2,223)
Finance costs		(10,122)	(10,343)
TOTAL EXPENSES		(158,053)	(123,081)
NET PROFIT / (LOSS)		4,720	(3,665)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD		4,720	(3,665)

Discussion and Analysis: Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

Trends in Revenues and Expenditures

Income

Total consolidated income increased by \$43.357 million, from \$119.416 million in 2022 to \$162.773 million in 2023 (see note 3 for further details). The major items contributing to the increase in consolidated income were:

- Event related revenue increased \$16.463 million, mainly due to an uninterrupted 2022 AFL Premiership Season. The MCG hosted 46 AFL matches including six AFL Finals for the 2022 AFL Premiership Season, with a total attendance of over 2.5 million patrons. Also included in the 2023 financial year result is the seven matches played at the MCG at the beginning of the 2023 AFL Premiership Season, which had a total cumulative attendance of 593,343.
- Rental income increased \$9.231 million mainly due to all Corporate Suite contracts returning to full value (previous year included COVID related discounts).
- Member & Customer Services related revenue increased \$7.136 million due to a full year of subscriptions with no discount applied.
- Other Revenue increased \$5.734 million due to a number of Special Events held at the ground over 2022/23. Major events included the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, Ed Sheeran, Guns 'N Roses and Billy Joel concerts.
- Commercial Operations revenue increased \$3.946 million with a number of contractual arrangements returning to normal levels in the 2022/23 year.

Expenses

Total consolidated expenses increased by \$34.972 million, from \$123.081 million in 2022 to \$158.053 million in 2023. The key movements in material expense categories were:

- Events Administration expenditure increased \$16.448 million, in line with increased Event related revenue.
- Members Contribution to the Gate expense increased \$12.518 million in line with increased attendance with Members able to attend an uninterrupted 2022 AFL Season.
- Combined Administration, Commercial Operations and Yarra Park expenditure increased \$5.082 million due to a return of events at the ground.
- Membership and customer services expenses increased \$2.402 million due to member service requirements returning to normal levels in the 2022/23 year.
- Depreciation expense has decreased \$3.828 million, with a number of projects being fully depreciated in the previous year.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

At 31 March 2023	CONSOLIDATED	
	2023	2022
	\$000	\$000
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	22,102	30,464
Trade and other receivables	22,065	19,710
Other assets	2,550	2,275
Held for trading financial assets	13,672	14,157
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	60,389	66,606
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment		
MCG building improvements	318,975	345,921
Plant and equipment	41,054	42,355
Work in progress	12,224	2,430
Yarra Park assets	8,709	9,520
ASM Collection assets	523	504
Other assets	8,710	8,947
Right-of-use lease asset	77,704	74,110
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	467,899	483,787
TOTAL ASSETS	528,288	550,393
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	14,118	9,122
Income in advance	31,704	29,617
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	11,586	17,552
Provisions	4,030	3,418
Lease liability	808	756
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	62,246	60,465
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Income in advance	2,987	2,845
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	25,446	59,673
Provisions	460	287
Lease liability	83,148	77,853
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	112,041	140,658
TOTAL LIABILITIES	174,287	201,123
NET ASSETS	354,001	349,270
EQUITY		
Accumulated funds	337,949	332,438
Reserves	16,052	16,832
TOTAL EQUITY	354,001	349,270

Discussion and Analysis: Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

Changes in the Composition of Assets and Liabilities

Consolidated Net Assets increased by \$4.731 million from \$349.270 million to \$354.001 million primarily due to the net profit for the year.

Changes in Assets

The major changes were:

Current Assets

- Cash and Cash Equivalents decreased by \$8.362 million as detailed in our Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.
- Trade and Other Receivables increased by \$2.355 million, due to a number of the Club's major stakeholders being invoiced their full value prior to 31 March 2023 (previous year included COVID discounts).

Non-Current Assets

- MCG Building Improvements decreased by \$26.946 million, due to the annual depreciation charges for the MCG asset base exceeding new capital expenditure for the financial year.
- Work in progress increased by \$9.794 million due to a number of major projects currently being undertaken. Namely IT projects and refurbishment of hospitality areas.
- Right-of-use lease asset increased by \$3.594 million, due to the execution of the agreement to extend the Club's MCG management rights to 2059.

Changes in Liabilities

The major changes were:

Current Liabilities

- Trade and Other Payables increased by \$4.996 million, due to the timing of payments to major creditors.
- Income in advance increased \$2.087 million mainly due to CPI applied to a number of significant contractual arrangements.

Borrowings

- Interest bearing liabilities decreased by \$40.193 million, mainly due to a combination of scheduled payments of \$17.552 million and early debt repayments of \$22.641 million. At year end, net debt (borrowings less cash and held for trading financial assets) was \$1.258 million.

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

Year Ended 31 March 2023	CONSOLIDATED			
	Accumulated Funds	Yarra Park Reserve	Contributed Assets Reserve	Total Equity
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Balance at 31 March 2021	335,000	(2,001)	16,954	349,953
Profit for the year	(3,665)	-	-	(3,665)
Transfer to Yarra Park reserve	1,103	(1,103)	-	-
Capital contributions	-	-	2,982	2,982
Other Comprehensive Income for the year	-	-	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	(2,562)	(1,103)	2,982	(683)
BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2022	332,438	(3,104)	19,936	349,270
Profit for the year	4,720	-	-	4,720
Transfer to Yarra Park reserve	791	(791)	-	-
Capital contributions	-	-	11	11
Other Comprehensive Income for the year	-	-	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	5,480	(791)	11	4,731
BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2023	337,949	(3,895)	19,947	354,001

Discussion and Analysis: Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

Changes in the Composition of Total Equity

Consolidated total equity increased from \$349.270 million to \$354.001 million primarily due to the reported profit of \$4.720 million.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended 31 March 2023	CONSOLIDATED	
	2023	2022
	\$000	\$000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from members and customers (inclusive of GST)	153,406	111,247
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)	(105,401)	(73,430)
Interest received	1,254	310
Interest paid	(9,813)	(9,787)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	39,446	28,340
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(15,323)	(12,369)
Receipt of held for trading financial assets	176	184
NET CASH FLOWS (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(15,147)	(12,185)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Contributions from related parties	7,970	5,705
Repayment of lease liability	(438)	(510)
Repayments of borrowings	(40,193)	(16,499)
NET CASH FLOWS (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(32,661)	(11,304)
NET (DECREASE) / INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(8,362)	4,851
Cash and Cash equivalents at beginning of the year	30,464	25,613
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR	22,102	30,464

Discussion and Analysis: Consolidated Statement of Changes of Cash Flows

Changes in Cash Flows

There was a net decrease in consolidated cash holdings during the year of \$8.362 million, with the Club reporting a closing cash position of \$22.102 million.

The major changes in cash flows were:

- An increase in net cash flows from operating activities of \$11.106 million due to the increase in net profit and the increase in trade creditors.
- An increase in repayments of borrowings. Loan repayments of \$40.193 million due to a combination of scheduled payments of \$17.552 million and early debt repayments of \$22.641 million.

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 MARCH 2023

1. Basis of Preparation of Accounts of the Concise Financial Report

The consolidated concise financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Accounting Standard AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports. The financial report is presented in Australian dollars.

The consolidated financial report of the Club has been prepared on a going concern basis. In assessing the issue of going concern the Committee has had regard to the financial position of the Club at year end, and approved cash flow and liquidity forecasts and other relevant information for the 12 months subsequent to the approval of this financial report.

There are no new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations that are effective for the year ended 31 March 2023 and have been applied in preparing these financial statements. Those that are relevant to the Club are set out below.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements are those of the consolidated entity, comprising the Club, the Australian Sports Museum Limited (“ASM”) and Melbourne Cricket Club Sports Limited (“Sports”) (controlled entities). The ultimate parent is the Club.

The Club has determined it controls the ASM and Sports. The principal activities of the ASM are the operation of a sports museum at the MCG. Amounts relating to the construction and fit out of ASM are recorded in the Club’s financial report as they are considered part of the MCG.

The principal activities of Sports is management responsibility of the Club’s sporting fields and venues across Melbourne which are utilised by the community and by the MCC sporting sections. The 14 MCC sporting sections are not consolidated, as these entities are separately managed incorporated associations with independent Committees who have entered into an affiliation agreement with the Club.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, all intergroup balances and transactions, income and expenses and profit and losses resulting from intra-group transactions have been eliminated in full.

The subsidiary and controlled entity are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred and cease to be consolidated from the date on which control is transferred out of the consolidated Group.

The Melbourne Cricket Club Foundation Limited (“Foundation”), a company limited by guarantee, is categorised as a director related entity and is not consolidated into the Club’s accounts, on the basis that the Club does not control the Foundation based on relevant Accounting Standard criteria.

(b) Yarra Park

Effective 15 March 2010, the Melbourne Cricket Ground and Yarra Park Amendment Act 2009 (“Yarra Park Amendment Act”) appointed the Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust (“MCG Trust”) as the Committee of Management for Yarra Park, thereby expanding the functions of the MCG Trust and specifying the management arrangements and the implementation of an improvement plan for Yarra Park.

Under the Yarra Park Amendment Act, the MCG Trust assumed responsibility for car parking arrangements, receiving advice from the Yarra Park Advisory Committee on the operation and management of Yarra Park, and the management of licences and contracts. Further, any money received by or on behalf of the MCG Trust in relation to Yarra Park may only be spent on the operation, management, maintenance and improvement of Yarra Park, and such monies received and spent must be separately accounted for in the financial report.

The Yarra Park Amendment Act allowed the MCG Trust to delegate its functions and responsibilities for Yarra Park to the Club and it has done so via the execution by the MCG Trust, the Club and the relevant Ministers of the State Government of Victoria through a formal Instrument of Delegation and Second Deed of Amendment to the MCG Management and Indemnity Deed. These agreements appoint and allow the Club to fulfil all of the responsibilities assigned to the MCG Trust under the Yarra Park Amendment Act as the Reserve Manager of Yarra Park.

The Club has agreed a separate accounting policy with the MCG Trust that details those revenue and expense items that are received or incurred by the Club in the performance of their role as the Reserve Manager of Yarra Park. These amounts are included in the totals in the Statement of Comprehensive Income of the Club.

The net deficit of these identified items is then transferred to a separate reserve as a sub-component of equity so that these amounts can be identified and spent on the operation, management, maintenance and improvement of Yarra Park.

The Club has also recorded a number of Yarra Park plant and equipment assets that were contributed by the MCG Trust for nil consideration.

(c) Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

Other than those listed below, the Club’s accounting policies do not contain significant accounting judgements or significant accounting estimates and assumptions that would have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities within the next annual reporting period.

Key accounting judgement and estimates made by management include; the Basis of Consolidation, the ASM collection which is carried at fair value, the determination of appropriate depreciation periods, the useful life of assets, and the incremental borrowing rate used in the measurement of lease liabilities in accordance with AASB 16 Leases.

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

31 March 2023	CONSOLIDATED	
	2023	2022
	\$000	\$000
3. INCOME		
(A) REVENUE		
Membership and Customer Services related revenue	58,227	51,091
Event related revenue	34,642	18,179
Commercial Operations revenue	22,900	18,954
Rental Income	16,152	6,921
ASM revenues	4,097	2,047
Yarra Park revenues	1,424	994
AFL revenues	7,975	6,701
Interest income	1,254	310
Revenue from sales	759	402
Other revenues	6,720	986
	154,150	106,585
(B) OTHER INCOME		
Distribution from the MCG Trust for repayment of debt	4,560	4,520
MCG contractual arrangement contributions	653	3,873
State Government of Victoria contribution	-	1,253
Contributions from related parties	3,320	3,145
	8,623	12,831
TOTAL INCOME	162,773	119,416

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

4. Subsequent Events

There have been no significant events occurring after balance date which may affect either the Club's operations, or results of those operations, or the Club's state of affairs.

5. Related Party Disclosures

(a) The Committee Members of the Melbourne Cricket Club during the financial year were:

Frederick H. Oldfield (appointed President 21 March 2023)
 Adrian C. R. Anderson (appointed Vice-President 21 March 2023)
 Christian W. Johnston (Vice-President)
 Sally G. Macindoe (Vice-President)
 Geoffrey I. Roberts (Treasurer)
 Edward N. Baillieu
 James D. Bennett
 Annabel J. Brebner
 Paula J. Dwyer
 Kalpana Ramani
 Clare V. Cannon (resigned 17 May 2022)
 Michael J. Happell (retired 21 March 2023)
 Peter D. King (retired 21 March 2023)
 James R. Cain (appointed 17 May 2022)
 Carolyn J. Bendall (appointed 21 March 2023)
 Anthony J. Johnson (appointed 21 March 2023)
 Alice A.B. Robinson (appointed 21 March 2023)

No remuneration was paid to the Committee Members during the year (2022: nil)

(b) The following related party transactions occurred during the financial year:

(i) Transactions with other related parties

a) MCG Trust

The Club is party to a "Deed of Variation of Lease" with the MCG Trust. The Club's tenancy of the MCG runs until 31 October 2059 with an option to extend its lease over the members' reserve for a further 25 years. In 2023 the Club's existing tenancy of the MCG was extended until 31 October 2059. Under the terms of the lease, any residual interest in buildings and improvements at the MCG will revert to the Trust at the end of the lease period.

Under a separate management agreement with the MCG Trust and the State of Victoria, the Club's role as ground manager of the MCG also runs until 31 October 2059.

During the year, the Club paid the MCG Trust \$5.080 million (2022: \$4.861 million) in respect of its lease rental of the MCG.

The MCG Trust distributed \$4.650 million to the Club for the repayment of term loans (2022: \$4.560 million).

From time to time, the Club undertakes transactions on behalf of the MCG Trust. As at year-end, nil amounts were receivable by the Club from the MCG Trust (2022: \$0.220 million). Any amounts owing to the Club are settled on 30 day terms and are non-interest bearing.

The MCG Trust has delegated its functions and responsibilities for the management of Yarra Park to the

Club. It has done so via the execution by the MCG Trust, the Club and the relevant State Government of Victoria Ministers through a formal Instrument of Delegation and Second Deed of Amendment to the MCG Management and Indemnity Deed. These agreements appoint and allow the Club to fulfil all of the responsibilities assigned to the MCG Trust under the Yarra Park Amendment Act as the Reserve Manager of Yarra Park.

b) Australian Sports Museum Limited

From time to time, the Club undertakes transactions on behalf of ASM. As at year-end, amounts receivable by the Club from ASM were \$0.538 million (2022: \$1.359 million). Amounts payable by the Club to ASM were nil (2022: nil). Any amounts owing between the Club and ASM are settled on 30 day terms and are non-interest bearing. These amounts are eliminated in the consolidated financial report.

c) Melbourne Cricket Club Sports Limited

From time to time, the Club undertakes transactions on behalf of Melbourne Cricket Club Sports Limited. As at year-end, amounts receivable by the Club from Sports were nil (2022: nil). Amounts payable by the Club to Sports were nil (2022: nil). Any amounts owing between the Club and Sports are settled on 30 day terms and are non-interest bearing. These amounts are eliminated in the consolidated financial report.

d) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel are determined to be the Chief Executive Officer and General Managers of the Club. During the year, total annual remuneration of \$2,858,662 (2022: \$2,861,224) was paid to key management personnel for services provided to the Club.

(ii) Transactions with director-related entities

The MCC Foundation is a director related entity of the Club. During the year, the Club remitted to the Foundation \$15.702 million (2022: \$13.955 million) pursuant with the provisions of the amended Indemnity Deed between the MCG Trust and the Club, for the purposes of promoting and encouraging sport and managing the MCC Museum and Library.

From time to time, the Club undertakes transactions on behalf of the MCC Foundation. As at year-end, amounts receivable by the Club from the MCC Foundation were \$0.582 million (2022: \$0.488 million). Amounts payable by the Club to the MCC Foundation were \$0.172 million (2022: \$0.046 million). Amounts receivable by ASM from the MCC Foundation at year end were nil (2022: nil). Amounts payable by ASM to the MCC Foundation at year end were nil (2022: nil). Amounts receivable by Sports from the MCC Foundation at year end were \$3.320 million (2022: \$3.145 million). Amounts payable by Sports to the MCC Foundation at year end were \$3.309 million (2022: \$3.142 million).

During the current year, sporting facility assets were transferred from the MCC Foundation to Sports in the form of a capital contribution at a value of \$0.011 million (2022: \$2.982 million), which represents the book value of the assets at the time of transfer.

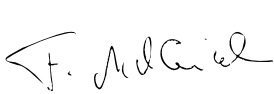
Statement by the Committee

In accordance with a resolution of the Committee of the Melbourne Cricket Club, we state that:

In the opinion of the Committee members:

- a) the concise financial report of the consolidated entity for the year ended 31 March 2023 is in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports; and
- (b) the financial statements and specific disclosures included in this concise report have been derived from the full financial report for the year ended 31 March 2023.

On behalf of the Committee.



Frederick H. Oldfield
President



Geoffrey I. Roberts
Treasurer

Melbourne, 23 June 2023



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Melbourne Cricket Club

Opinion

We report on the Concise Financial Report of the Melbourne Cricket Club and its controlled entities (the Club) as at and for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Concise Financial Report is derived from the audited financial report of the Club (the Audited Financial Report).

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Report of the Melbourne Cricket Club is consistent, in all material respects, with the Audited Financial Report, in accordance with the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the Concise Financial Report.

The Concise Financial Report comprises:

The Concise Financial Report comprises:

- Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2023;
- Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity, and Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended; and
- Related notes.

The Concise Financial Report is contained in the MCC Annual Report on pages 55 to 69.

The Club consists of the Melbourne Cricket Club and the entities it controlled at the year end or from time to time during the financial year.

Scope of the Concise Financial Report

The Concise Financial Report does not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards in the preparation of the Audited Financial Report. Reading the Concise Financial Report and this Auditor's Report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Audited Financial Report and our auditor's report thereon.

The Concise Financial Report and the Audited Financial Report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the Audited Financial Report.

The Audited Financial Report and our auditor's report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the Audited Financial Report in our auditor's report dated 23 June 2023.

Emphasis of matter - basis of preparation and restriction on use

We draw attention to Note 1 to the Concise Financial Report, which describes the basis of preparation.

The Concise Financial Report has been prepared for the members of the Melbourne Cricket Club to provide a summary of a financial results of the Club for the year ended 31 March 2023.

As a result, the Concise Financial Report and this Auditor's Report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Our Auditor's report is intended solely for the members of the Melbourne Cricket Club and should not be used by other parties other than the members of the Melbourne Cricket Club. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this Auditor's report, or on the Concise Financial Report to which it relates, to any person other than the members of the Melbourne Cricket Club or for any other purpose than that for which it was prepared.

Other Information

Other Information is financial and non-financial information in the Melbourne Cricket Club's MCC annual reporting which is provided in addition to the Concise Financial Report and the Auditor's Report. The Committee is responsible for the Other Information.

Our opinion on the Concise Financial Report does not cover the Other Information and, accordingly, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the Concise Financial Report, our responsibility is to read the Other Information. In doing so, we consider whether the Other Information is materially inconsistent with the Concise Financial Report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We are required to report if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, and based on the work we have performed on the Other Information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report we have nothing to report.

Responsibility of the Committee for the Concise Financial Report

The Committee are responsible for the preparation of the Concise Financial Report in accordance with the basis of preparation described in Note 1 of the Concise Financial Report, including their derivation from the Audited Financial Report of the Club as at and for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the Concise Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the Concise Financial Report is consistent, in all material respects, with the Audited Financial Report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

KPMG

Gordon Sangster
Partner
Melbourne
23 June 2023



1st XI PREMIERS 1961-62
1st XI PREMIERS 1982-83
1st XI PREMIERS 1984-85
1st XI PREMIERS 1997-98



**MELBOURNE
CRICKET CLUB**