

THE PRIMARY CLUB OF AUSTRALIA – JUNE NEWSLETTER [RENEWALS EDITION]



The Primary Club of Australia's donation to Aspect Western Sydney School at Wetherill Park

The Primary Club were pleased to be able to donate \$58,850 – for special playground equipment to the Aspect Western Sydney School at Wetherill Park. The school provides specialised evidence-based programs for children aged 4 to 16 with autism spectrum disorder, all of whom require an autism-specific program.

Aspect builds confidence and capacity in people with ASD, their families and communities by providing information, education and other services. The primary focus of the schools is to equip students with the skills to become as independent as possible and enable them to transfer into more inclusive settings. The school caters for approximately 113 students across the Western and South Western Sydney Region.

The Primary Club has made donations to many Aspect schools, which provide educational facilities for children who have autism spectrum disorder. Like The Primary Club, Aspect is a 'not for profit' organisation, who provides Australia's largest educational services to these needy children and their families.

Online payment for events is now available

The Primary Club of Australia is pleased to announce that bookings for all its events and for the annual renewal of membership are now available online via the Primary Club website.

We accept Visa and Mastercard payments.

Please ensure that you receive a receipt to confirm your place at relevant events.

If events require more information (such as golf teams, etc) please download the flyer from the website or reply to the email you receive.

Upcoming Events

Wyang Race Day [Friday 30 September]

The popular Wyong Race Day is back on the calendar and will be held this year on Friday 30 September. Return coach transfers from a number of locations in Sydney are available to guests on the day.

Tickets will be available soon and are \$100 (\$140 including coach transfers) for Primary Club Members and for Non Primary Club Members \$130 (\$170 including coach transfers).

This includes course entry, race book, buffet lunch and wine/beer with lunch.

If you are interested in attending this event – please make a diary note and if you would like to SPONSOR A RACE, then please contact our office on 02 9980 2525.

Further details are available on the Primary Club website: www.primaryclub.com

Pymble Golf Day [Monday 17 October]

Our Annual Golf Day is back at Pymble Golf Club. The event is an Irish 4 Ball, with a shotgun start at 12.00 pm on Monday 17 October, and of course there will be many individual and novelty events to keep the players on their toes.

The cost of playing in this popular event is \$160 for Primary Club Members and \$180 for non-members. This includes 18 holes of golf, dinner & drinks and trophies.

The day is open to all golfers who hold a registered handicap of 27 or less for men and 45 or less for women. You can pay online via www.trybooking.com/11256 or via the Primary Club website

Confirmation of your entry will be sent on receipt of this application form and payment.

Melbourne Golf Day [date TBA]

Coming later in the year is the Annual Melbourne Golf Day. Details of this event will be available on the Primary Club website and will be emailed out to members.

Melbourne Cricket Luncheon – Friday 4th March report

Lots of laughter, heaps of cricket information and anecdotes, great food and good fellowship – that’s a summary of our 2011 cricket luncheon held once again at the RACV Club, Melbourne.

President Jim Maxwell opened the luncheon with a summary of The Club’s activities and encouraged all present to “spread the word” about the Club so membership can grow, and through that, donations to charities can be increased.

MC Dan Lonergan wasn’t going to let Jim step away from the microphone without quizzing him about the last Test series and that led into Jim’s famous (or is it infamous) cricketing anecdotes.

Special Olympics provide regular recreational and sporting opportunities for young adults with intellectual disabilities. One of their members, Prairie Maughan provided a most moving insight (though a DVD presentation) to the difference sport has made to her life. The Club is a proud sponsor of Special Olympics.



Then the fun really started with Max Walker taking the mike. Does that man ever run out of stories? Not only is Max a wonderful entertainer he is a man generous both in sharing his life’s experiences and of giving himself to support worthy causes. Our thanks go to Max for donating his services and for providing signed copies of his books to be used as raffle prizes.

As always there was spirited bidding for time in the ABC commentary box for the 2011 Boxing Day Test plus we were also able to auction a week in a 5 star penthouse apartment in Palm Cove thanks to the generosity of Geoff & Marilyn Cottrell. Together with a bat signed by Max, our auctioneer Hamish Tostevin once again proved that a skilful auctioneer can make us part with more money than we were anticipating spending! Well done Hamish.

The Victorian Committee thanks our great MC, Dan Lonergan, all our guests for their support of the raffle and auction and by being such wonderful guests at this annual fund raising effort.



Our membership is the Life Blood of the Club.

Our membership is the life blood of the Club. We have over 1300 members at present, 240 of which came to us as a result of playing in the Marathon Cricket Event in January. Hopefully we will retain at least this level of membership for next year.

However, the Club really needs 2000 members to allow it to grow and become an Australia-wide organization.

The Club has members scattered over four States and the ACT yet the nucleus of our membership and activities is in Sydney. In an effort to give members in the satellite areas a better reason to belong, I have been setting up and attending meetings with a small group in each case to discuss the issue.

Before the Victorian PCA lunch in March, a group representing the PCA and the Tunbridge Club (a 400 member club which supports cricket at Geelong Grammar School) met and tossed ideas around to see whether we had common ground. The President and Secretary of the Tunbridge Club were very keen to include a local charity for disabled people as part of their activities and also the idea of our two clubs combining in various endeavours in the Melbourne / Geelong area. It was good start.

In Adelaide, working with 2 keen and well connected members at a meeting in April, the idea of staging a Blind Cricketers v a team of

cricket enthusiasts game in December was discussed as an initial step. There will be more details on this event in future newsletters.

Later this month, I will be meeting with a similarly keen member and one other supporter in Canberra to see what can be done to connect members in the ACT / Monaro with the disabled groups in the area.

In a few months time, I am also hopeful of meeting a similar group in Brisbane again to see what can be done there to give the PCA an established base.

Such initiatives will take some years to develop and need constant help from the Club. But these satellite groups are essential if the PCA is to develop a strong presence in other areas where there are PCA members and also groups which would qualify for funding if only each knew of each other's existence.

In the meantime, to all existing PCA members, please sign up again for another year's membership.

It is your Club and your Club's Committee who, as volunteers, are working to produce a better and stronger presence for the PCA in the community Australia wide.

Linton Ritchie
Membership Convener

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