

SPORT AUSTRALIA  
HALL OF FAME

## THE SPIRIT OF SPORT



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## AUSSIE AUSSIE AUSSIE!!!

When **Geoff Ogilvy** tapped in a putt to elbow out Phil Mickelson and win the 2006 US Open, he was within striking distance of becoming the 2006 leading money winner on the grinding US PGA Tour.

Geoff arrived home for a couple of days with his parents having banked this year prize money of \$US3,919,394 , just \$US127,499 shy of leader Mickelson's remarkable winning streak which includes his second US Masters.

Geoff's win is part of a magnificent year for Australia on the world sporting stage. **Alisa Camplin** won bronze in the world freestyle skiing following **Dale Begg-Smith** winning the moguls at the Turin Olympic Winter Games.

At the Melbourne Commonwealth Games, the Australian team notched up **84 gold, 69 silver and 68 bronze** medals, the teams watched over by many Hall of Famers who doubled up by helping to conduct the Queens Baton Relay and running the Games administration and media coverage.

And then to cap everything, along came **Guus Hiddink**, leading the Socceroos into the final 16 of the World Cup!

Congratulations all round....now for The Ashes.

## KOKODA: A MEMORIAL TO RAW COURAGE

The Chairman **John Bertrand** and Board member **Ron Barassi** were among 20 who completed the challenge of walking the Kokoda Track in June. Starting in Kokoda village they took nine days to cross the Owen Stanley ranges to Owers Corner - as John says "96 km as the crow flies. But by the time you cope with the jungle it was about 150km."

"We have now a very clear understanding of what our fathers and uncles did back in 1943," says John. "They were the true Australians. None of us will forget that four poster granite memorial along the way which reads simply 'courage, perseverance, mateship and sacrifice'.... on reflection the building blocks of Australia."

**BRISBANE LUNCH**

Date: Thursday August 3  
Venue: Brisbane International Hilton  
Time: 12 noon to 3pm

**SYDNEY LUNCH**

Date: Friday August 25  
Venue: Sydney Hilton  
Time: 12 noon to 3pm

**PERTH LUNCH**

Date: Friday September 1  
Venue: Sheraton Perth  
Time: 12 noon to 3pm

## SAHOF JOINS WITH SEN 1116 RADIO

The Hall of Fame has recently partnered with Melbourne sports radio station SEN 1116 to record some of the achievements and highlights of our Hall of Fame Members. It is now a weekly program on Kevin Bartlett's 'Hungry for Sport' segment every Wednesday morning.

Media and audiovisual extraordinaire Stephen Phillips, turned up original tapes of the first SAHOF induction in 1985 through Channel 7 and we now have them under lock and key in the office.

The first interview featured Sir Donald Bradman's induction speech with background on the formation of the Hall of Fame by **Garry Daly**. Since then, **John Bertrand, Alan Davidson, Lindsay Gaze, Michelle Ford-Eriksson, Roy Emerson, Mark Ella, 'Scobie' Breasley, Ray Baartz, Glynis Nunn-Cearns, Neil Harvey, Jan Stephenson, John Devitt, John Eales, and Arthur Beetson** have all featured on the program.

The response from the public has been fantastic and we look forward to a continuing relationship with SEN radio.

## FULL HOUSE IN MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE

We set out to 'raise the bar' at our popular state lunch series and we did just that in Melbourne and Adelaide recently.

The **Melbourne** Lunch was held on Thursday May 4 at the new MCG Olympic Room. Thirty Hall of Famers joined 220 guests, including our principal sponsor AaE. **John O'Neill**, Chief Executive Officer of the Football Federation of Australia was kind enough to fly down from Sydney to fill everyone in on the preparations of the Socceroos and the upcoming World Cup. Craig Willis was again MC and we were joined by Winter Games athletes **Jacquie Cooper, Lydia Ierodiaconou, Liz Gardner** and **Michael Robertson**. Commonwealth Games athletes **Brad Pitt** and **Scott Martin** also attended.

Michael Kennedy from Ski and Snowboarding Australia received the duplicate Team Sport Australia certificate that was awarded to the Australian Aerial Skiing Team in the FIS World Cup Competition 2002/3, comprising Alisa Camplin, Lydia Ierodiaconou, Elizabeth Gardner, Bree Munro, Lainie Cole.

May 31 saw SAHOF head to **Adelaide** for our biggest get together yet in South Australia. The 252 guests including 12 Hall of Famers packed into the Hilton Ballroom with MC Peter Walsh leading the charge. Spe-



cial guests included Chairman **John Bertrand**, Members **Raelene Boyle, Nick Green** and **Bob Skilton** as well as Commonwealth Games athletes **Anna Meares, Chris Rae, Shane Kelly** and EAD athlete **Katrina Webb**.

MC Peter Walsh with EAD athlete Katrina Webb.  
Background: Anna Meares, Chris Rae,  
and Shane Kelly

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

After extensive review of the values of the Hall of Fame, the Board decided on two initiatives emanating from our newly defined ethos, The Spirit of Sport. The first seeks to 'excite the youth of the country to achieve their potential' and the second, is to 'take our values to the nation'. In this way, we become pro-active as an organisation and hopefully make a difference to the nation.

**Spirit of Sport Scholarships.** We are making progress. In terms of youth, the Spirit of Sport Scholarships have been established and monies raised in the future by SAHOF will go into this program to underpin a series of youth scholarships. The vision is to award scholarships to girls and boys under 18 years of age who are rising stars within their sports and who our Selection Committee, headed up **Robert de Castella**, believe offer a great future for both themselves, their sport and youth generally.



The key is a mentoring program utilising **your** personal resources. That is, each scholarship holder will have access to perhaps two or three mentors within the SAHOF membership. The scholarship holders can use this collective resource as a sounding board over a twelve month period.

The mentoring program is unique and we believe the scholarships with time will become prestigious and highly sought after. It is our intention to award our first Spirit of Sport Scholarships at our **Annual Induction Dinner in Melbourne (October 10)**.

**Values to the nation.** Through News Limited and in particular, the Herald Sun, a new poll of the membership base will be conducted on all things sport, similar to the poll which you completed last year. The results of the first poll were published in a very impressive two-page spread in the Herald Sun leading into last year's Induction Dinner and was later published by various News Limited newspapers around the country. News Ltd will repeat this and at the same time draw attention to our Annual Dinner. Over time, the objective is for SAHOF to become an authority on sporting issues within Australia. With the immense experience we have within our ranks, we are well positioned to make a difference on the unimpeachable basis of personal experience.

**National Sports Museum.** Since the last newsletter, our new home has been officially announced by the Federal Treasurer, Peter Costello. The Sport Australia Hall of Fame Museum will be housed within the new \$400 million Olympic stadium of the MCG. Under the banner of the National Sports Museum, the SAHOF museum will sit alongside the Cricket Hall of Fame, the Olympic Museum, Australian Rules Football Exhibition, MCG Exhibition, and the MCC Museum. This is the first time that SAHOF will have a 'home' with public access. We look forward to showcasing the incredible achievements of our members.

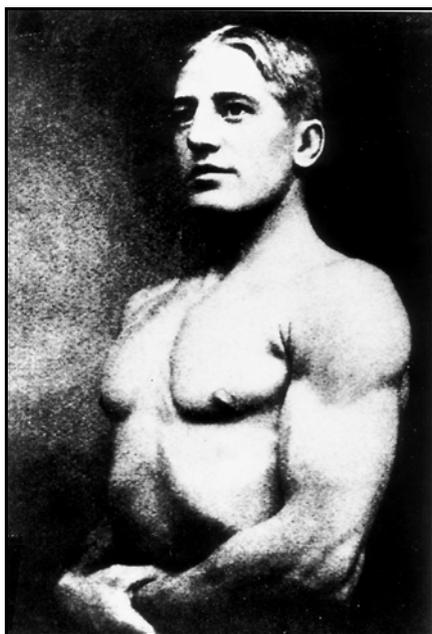
The National Sports Museum is to be funded with a new \$15 million sponsorship grant from the Federal Government. We see the National Sports Museum, being well beyond critical mass in size and by far the largest of its type in Australia, becoming a major tourist within the 'cathedral of sport' in Australia, the MCG.

Finally, the annual lunches in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Perth have and will hit new highs. In each case the size of the lunch is increasing on average two-fold. More than ever, this is a superb way for our sponsors, led by our principal sponsor Australian Air Express, to join our members in carrying the new SAHOF initiatives to people in a position to help.

You are all entitled to feel proud of the confidence being expressed across the board in your organisation.

John Bertrand AM

## FAIR DINKUM CHAMP: REGINALD 'SNOWY' BAKER



'Snowy' Baker was the most versatile of all Australian sportsmen, and a star of stage and screen. Sydney born, Baker competed at either state or national level in an incredible 29 different sports and was an international in five of them: rugby union, diving, boxing, swimming and water polo. He believed in his father's maxim that varied activity and the enjoyment of good health was the law of life.

In rugby union, Snowy played for the Eastern Suburbs, Sydney, New South Wales and Australia. He played half back for NSW in 1900 at sixteen years of age, and the following year gained his Australian cap against England.

At the 1908 London Olympic Games, he became the first - and only - Australian to compete in three sports in a single Games. He started on the diving board finishing a credible 7<sup>th</sup> against the powerful Germans who dominated the sport at the time. He then moved to the swimming pool where Baker and Frank Beaurepaire were part of Australia and New

Zealand's 4 x 200m freestyle relay team. They finished fourth but walked away from the pool unlike Hungary's silver medalist who had to be dragged out after almost drowning at the finish.

He won silver in the middleweight boxing division losing a disputed decision to subsequent English cricket captain J W H T Douglas. Douglas' father J H Douglas, as President of the Amateur Boxing Association, presented his son with the gold medal and Baker with the silver. The official report did not name referees, but a number of newspaper and magazine reports later claimed that Douglas senior had actually refereed the final, this was later confirmed by Snowy. The pair met in a return match (bare knuckle) at a London club and Baker knocked out Douglas!

He held the light, middleweight and heavyweight amateur boxing championships of NSW, the middle and heavyweight titles of Victoria and the Australian middleweight title. In just one night at the age of 18, he won the Australian middleweight and heavyweight titles.

Five years later Baker became Australia's darling of the screen when his silent movie career took off. His movies included *The Enemy Within*, *The Man from Kangaroo*, and *The Shadow of Lightning Ridge*. He taught Elizabeth Taylor, Shirley Temple, Douglas Fairbanks, Greta Garbo and Rudolph Valentino how to ride, fence and swim.

After World War I, he lived in California where he designed the equestrian course used later in the 1932 Olympics. He died in America in 1953 at the age of 69. Snowy Baker was a quick witted wise cracking prankster who loved a bet and will always remain one of this country's most legendary sporting figures.

Snowy was one of the original 120 inductees to the Hall of Fame in 1985.



## VETERAN CHAMPS ON SHOW AT LATROBE



**Peter Thomson with 5 British Opens in his bag drives the play at Latrobe**

January 20 saw a number of Hall Members display their golfing prowess at the Latrobe Golf Club on what was an extremely hot day. **Tom Andrews, Peter Bartels, Derek Clayton, Nick Green, Midge Nelson, Frank Pyke, Bob Skilton, Sue Stanley, Peter Thomson, and Michele Timms** all showed exceptional form on the course. With a shot gun start, our Members were teamed with a Professional to help get them through the round.

**Peter Bartels** cleaned up the B Division, winning with 35 points, taking home a sparkling trophy.



**Peter Bartels with the trophy that no doubt takes pride of place in the pool room!**

**Peter Thomson** presented the 'Spirit of Golf' award. This award is given to the person at the Latrobe Club who demonstrates the traits associated with golf - honesty, character, persistence, and integrity. This was awarded to Ken Holman, who has for 36 years been the backbone of the junior program at the Club.

## MEMBERS RECOGNISED... AROUND THE WORLD

In the Australia Day honours, Members **Michael Wenden** and **Johnny Lewis** were recognised for their contributions to their respective sports. Michael picked up an AM for his service to the Olympic movement and Johnny was awarded the OAM for his service to boxing and to the Australian rugby league.

The International Society of Olympic Historians has conferred a rare honour on Australia's **Harry Gordon**, official historian on the Australian Olympic Committee. Harry has been named as this year's recipient of the ISOH Lifetime Award, which recognises outstanding work in the field of Olympic history. He is being honoured for his work on the Olympic history of Australia and his commitment to the International Society of Olympic Historians.

In the recent Queen's birthday Order of Australia honours, **John Coates** was awarded with an AC, and **Ralph Doubell** and **Rolly Tasker** were each awarded an AM. John was awarded the AC for service to the development of sport nationally and internationally through the Olympic movement. Ralph was awarded the AM for service to athletics, and Rolly was awarded the AM for service to sailing.

**Margaret Court**, SAHOF Legend and one of the greatest female tennis players of all time has been given the International Tennis Federation's ultimate accolade. Margaret was presented with the Phillipe Chatrier award at the ITF's world champions dinner in Paris, during this year's French Open. She is only the eleventh recipient of the award.

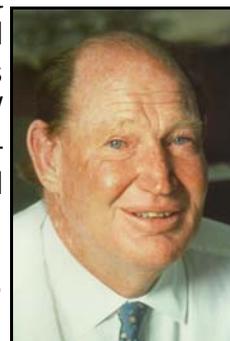
Our congratulations go to all our Members who have been recognised for their efforts and contributions to Australian sport.

## VALE KERRY PACKER

Kerry Packer entered the family business Australian Consolidated Press (ACP) in 1956. He then took over the running of the conglomerate in 1974 following the death of his father, Sir Frank Packer. His influence was crucial in the development of cricket, rugby league, golf, AFL and horse racing, ensuring that they grow towards a successful future.

Cricket was one of his great passions and Packer transformed the sport in 1977 when he introduced the breakaway World Series Cricket, which was the dawn of professional, one-day internationals and modern television coverage. Unable to secure exclusive television rights to the Sheffield and Test cricket, he made up his own teams with the best players in the world and started World Series Cricket. If the Australian Cricket Board (now Cricket Australia) wanted the services of these players, including sacked England captain Tony Greig, it needed to grant the TV rights to Mr Packer. In 1979, after a long battle his ambitions were realised. World Series Cricket, seen as a farce by many 'experts' because of the introduction of coloured clothing and other modifications, became a very successful world wide competition.

Packer's contribution to all Australian sport as a broadcasting innovator is unmatched. He will be deeply missed by all at SAHOF.



## CHANGES IN THE OFFICE

The Board and staff would like to welcome AFL Sportsready Trainee **Kimberley Howlett** into the SAHOF office. She joins Bob and Phoebe in Malvern East on a twelve month contract and we are sure she will be a very useful addition to the company, especially as the Night of Nights approaches! Kim looks forward to working with and meeting all our Members and supporters in the coming months.

In turn, this will allow Phoebe to mostly work full time on the development of a new website for the Hall of Fame, and the SAHOF exhibition at the new National Sports Museum to ensure it is of the highest quality. Phoebe will be seeking your support from time to time in the development of this project, in particular for photographs and updated career details. At this stage, please feel free to log on to the website at [www.sahof.org.au](http://www.sahof.org.au) and have a (critical) look at your citation and let us know if there should be any changes. We encourage you to send in updated CV's/career details for our records as we strive to become the premier authority on Australia's sporting history.

## 2006 ANNUAL DINNER AND INDUCTION CEREMONY

**Date:** Tuesday October 10

**Venue:** Crown Palladium Ballroom, Melbourne

For all bookings and enquiries, please contact the SAHOF office on 03 9572 4600 or [mail@sahof.org](mailto:mail@sahof.org).

## THANK YOU

The Sport Australia Hall of Fame thanks its sponsors and supporters for their unfailing dedication to the preservation of Australia's rich sporting heritage.

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