



The Carbiner

"For sport and for good fellowship"

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CARBINE CLUB



EDITION 6 of 2025- May Queensland AGM Vale Tony Shaw Calendar of Events



Carbine Club of Queensland AGM

The AGM in 2025 held at the Kurrawa Surf Club on 28 March welcomed a new management and leadership team with long term Treasurer Danny Copley becoming President, and Syd Yates accepting the Vice President role. The committee stayed much the same with the addition of hard-working member Susie Gallagher, a daughter of one of the founding members of the Club in Peter Gallagher.

(President Danny Copley & IPP Peter Gwynne)

Three new members were admitted to the club in Rob Dawson, Alan Johnson and Gary Finger, and long-term member Mick Veivers announced the admission of two new life members: George Doniger (GD) and Dr Tom Dooley (Dr Tom was overseas, so his presentation and overview of achievements will be at our next Members Only Gathering on 16 May).



GD was accepted as a member of the Carbine Club in 1988 and served on the committee and is a big help in organising the CCQ Rugby League lunches. He and Mick Veivers (a prominent Liberal National party minister in the Queensland State Government) worked together and called the Rugby League for the free to Air broadcasts for many years.

(Mick Veivers and Life Member George Doniger)

Playing First Grade for Brothers at 19 years in 1960. Played until 1965, when an ACL injury finished his career. They did not fix them at that time. GD became the youngest player to win the Top Points Score Competition in the BRL in 1960.

Also prominent in surf lifesaving, GD joined the North Kirra Surf Club in 1958 holding the positions of Captain, Treasurer, and President during the sixties, he was awarded Life Membership in 1968 and has been Club Patron for the past 8 years.

To cap off and astonishing sporting career, he started marathon running in 1978 and completed 50 full marathons around the world. His 50th and his last was in New York for his 60th birthday in 2000.

GD had a successful and varied business career including startups for what is now known as Supercheap Autos and Wendy's Supa Sundaes plus a dabble into the world of IGA supermarkets, turning around the fortunes of the Currumbin store.

GD also featured in the world of television, starting Sportscene at Channel 7 with Rod Gallegos and Frank O'Callaghan in 1970. It commenced as a half-hour show and went on to be 3 hours every Sunday. Mick Veivers joined George in 1972 when they began broadcasting the Rugby League "Match of the Day" (black and white TV) every Saturday and Sunday from Lang Park.

Mick and George had the “time of their lives “doing those broadcasts up to 1979. The TV rights then went to Channel 0 and GD was there until 1982 when there were no local football broadcasts on TV. Whilst it was a good time at Channel 0, it was just not the same without Mick, who remained on Sportscene at Channel 7.

Congratulations to George, a worthy recipient.



Andrew Duff & Ian Macaulay



Craig Millar & Bob McHarg



New member Alan Johnson & Peter Gwynne

New member Rob Dawson & Peter Gwynne



George Friend & members



Meanwhile in the UK, Carbine Harvester finished a close up fifth at his most recent outing—that's him saddlecloth 3 on the near fence, apparently a tricky angle of the camera at the Newcastle track.



(photo courtesy NT news)

In a “follow-your-heart” move that would possibly define many of his life decisions, his arrival in Darwin in 1969 quickly saw Tony become a pillar of Territory football — sharing an incredible connection with the Tiwi people and as coach of the still fledgling St Mary’s, and later as coach of Nightcliff, North Darwin and Waratah, as well as leading representative sides with distinction, which ultimately saw him enter the AFLNT Hall of Fame. His presidency of the NTFL from 1987 saw the league relocate to Marrara, a bold move that reshaped Territory footy.

Tony’s journey with the Carbine Club started even before its official founding in 1990. Along with Robin Flannery, Shawy was among the original visionaries approached to help establish a Northern Territory chapter of the Club.

From the outset, Tony was a key contributor — offering support, insight, and momentum to the fledgling club. As Vice President and later as President, his steady hand and boundless enthusiasm helped define the club’s character and standing among Carbine Clubs nationally and internationally.

He worked tirelessly - possibly often referred to being a pest – to gain the attention of the mother club and Allen Aylett in particular to win the 2002 Carbine Congress – and his role in hosting what many regard as the most memorable congress “Adventure Day” in Darwin, cemented his reputation as not just a great Territorian but a cherished Carbine man. More on that later.

Shawy was never one to attend a luncheon alone — often bringing a table’s worth of guests to enjoy the camaraderie and the speakers he himself had helped secure. His guest list read like a who’s who of Australian sport, particularly AFL, and it was no surprise that many felt just as drawn to Tony’s good humour and generosity as they did to the formalities.

His passion for ensuring that committees provided the best entertainment to luncheon guests was always paramount; and would lead from the front with his infamous “to-do lists”.

Tony also had a talent for keeping “stuff”. Menus, minutes, agendas, footy programmes, letters, notes and newspaper clippings. He was an informational bower bird with a shipping container load of vital information stored away and a talent for arriving at a meeting or a lunch with a folder under arm.

At the right moment, he’d pop up and start with, “It just so happens I have” Whatever the gem was that had been brought from the Shaw library.

It’s a wonderful legacy that on leaving Darwin to eventually live at his Little Bay home in Sydney, Tony transferred much of that material to the Northern Territory Archive, to the delight (and sometimes confused bewilderment) of their professional librarians.

We’ve lost a Giant – TONY SHAW

Carbine Club of Northern Territory
Founding Member, Life Member, Past President
Footballer, businessman, gentleman, mate
14/10/1939 – 6/5/2025

The Carbine Club of Northern Territory is mourning the loss of one of its founding members and one of the Territory’s most enduring figures – Tony Shaw – a man whose life was defined by leadership, loyalty, and love for sport, especially Australian Rules Football.

The always-humble boy from Adelaide – despite often being confused with the “other (Collingwood) Tony Shaw” – rose to the top ranks of SA league football with South Adelaide, playing 102 games over nine seasons and winning the 1964 premiership alongside Neil Kerley and David Kantilla.

That trait emphasised a side of Shawy that his Carbine colleagues knew well – a penchant for perfection. He would call meetings to order to ensure proper procedure, ensure everyone had the right set of documents and make 9.30pm phone calls that began with, “Sorry for the late hour, but I just thought of something for tomorrow’s meeting ...”.

During the Darwin-based Congress, Tony was originally confused by the Adventure Day programme.

“We’re going to have them do WHAT?” “How will we keep them to time?” “The bus schedule will have to be managed ...”

And Tony turned up – having previously driven from Darwin to Corroboree Billabong and the Mount Bundy live firing range where Congress members were to be privileged to watch tanks from 1st Armoured Regiment in action. He’d timed the drive, estimated how much slower buses would be and allowed for on- and off-loading passengers.

He was driving colleagues mad on the day with his stopwatch and inevitable clipboard, when he approached one with advice that it was all on time and remarkably smooth – his colleague asked to see the clipboard, broke it on his knee and sent Tony off to the Army on the next bus to have some fun.

He’d originally been sceptical of the Army involvement (“What would they want to see that for?”) but in the Carbine Bar that night, Tony could barely conceal his excitement.

“Magnificent!” he exclaimed. “I never expected THAT!”

And he was delighted to see Wolf Blass at the controls of a tank in the middle of the demonstrations of what live-firing a main battle tank was like up close.

His only regret was that the Leopard tanks then in use with 1st Armoured were not made by Toyota.

In March 2003, Tony was elected an Honorary Life Member of CCNT in recognition of his immense contributions, along with his representation of the Club at national and international Carbine Congresses — at the time more than any other NT member.

Professionally, Tony forged a respected business career — most notably rebuilding Bridge Autos Toyota in the wake of Cyclone Tracy’s devastation. His resilience, vision, and work ethic turned it into a Territory institution, earning him a Life Membership with the Motor Traders Association and a reputation as one of Darwin’s leading businessmen.

Tony Shaw’s legacy to our Club will live on in the story of Carbine’s Shoe – which captured everything you needed to know about the man and the way he went about life: a romantic, deep commitment to sport, to community, to friendship, and to the Club he loved. Along with his love of the Northern Territory, he left a mark in all those domains that time will not erase.

For those unaware of the story of the shoe - in 2006, Tony became the custodian of one of the Club's now most cherished artefacts — an original horseshoe believed to have belonged to the legendary racehorse Carbine. After painstaking research and years of pestering successive committees, Tony personally took the shoe to the Victorian Racing Club for examination. In a scene straight from the pages of the Cinderella fairy tale, he paired the shoe with the preserved hoof of Carbine on display.

In 2023, the Club officially passed the shoe to the Carbine Club of Victoria for wider appreciation and is on display in the Carbine Bar at the RACV in Melbourne — a story that now forms part of Carbine folklore, thanks to Tony’s dedication and passion for both sport and legacy.

Our condolences go to Tony’s family and to all who knew and loved him.

“To sport and good fellowship.”

Calendar of Events



The Carbine Club

www.thecarbineclub.org.au

Saturday 17th May -VRC Committee Room Invitation – Andrew Ramsden Race Day

Thu 24th July- Annual Dinner at 6:30pm, preceded by CC Delegates meeting, RACV 12 noon

Tuesday 23rd September -AFL Grand Final Luncheon at Crown Palladium from 12

noon

Friday 31st October -VRC Derby Eve Luncheon at Crown Palladium from 12 noon



Australian Capital Territory



Hong Kong

www.carbineclubhk.com

22 May – AGM

31 Oct – Cricket Luncheon

12 Dec – Racing Luncheon



London

www.carbineclublondon.org.uk

The Royal Box for the Brigadier Gerard Meeting at Sandown Park on Thursday 29th May 2025 from 5pm

CCL golf day at Royal Mid Surrey Golf Club – 12 September

Lord's Luncheon on Thursday 3rd July 2025 from 12 noon

AGM, Sam Vestey and Melbourne Cup Eve dinner, Bluebird Café in Chelsea on Monday 3rd November 2025

Manila

www.carbineclubmanila.org



New South Wales

www.carbineclubnsw.com.au

26 June – AGM & Dinner



New Zealand

www.carbineclubnz.org.nz



Northern Territory

www.carbineclubnt.org.au



Papua New Guinea

16 May – Sportsmans Lunch
 20 Jun – MO Gantry Lunch, RPYC PMGFC Gantry
 15 Aug – MO Italian Lunch, Lamana
 5 Sep – Sportsmans Lunch – 50th Independence, Hilton Hotel
 25 Oct – Cox Plate Day, Aviat Club
 Nov/Dec - Members Xmas Cocktail Party TBC



Queensland

www.carbineclubqueensland.com.au

16 May – Members Lunch
 13 June-June State of Origin Lunch
 15 August- Members Lunch TBC
 2 December - Cricket Lunch Cricketers Club



Singapore

www.carbineclub.com.sg

Friday 25th July – Crabs and Cans Locked Door Lunch
 Friday 12th December – Christmas Lunch



South Australia

www.carbineclubsa.com.au

Members Anniversary Luncheon Late July 2025 date and Venue TBC
 SANFL Grand Final Late Sept 2025 Magarey Room Adelaide Oval Date TBC
 Ashes Test Tuesday 16th December 2025 Magarey Room Adelaide Oval



Tasmania

www.carbineclubtasmania.com.au

22 June – Raceday at Elwick



Tokyo

www.carbineclubtokyo.com



Vanuatu



Western Australia

www.carbineclubwa.com.au

Fri 22 or 27 Jun (TBC)- Legends of Sport Event, Frasers
 Fri 19 Sep- WAFL Grand Final Luncheon, Optus Stadium
 Fi 28 Nov- Racing Luncheon, Optus Stadium