



2019

Chairman's Mid-Year Report



Stuart Stockdale

Chairman Victorian Taverners

Taverner's Mid-year Report from the Chairman

Before I head off to the UK for some warmer weeks and cricket I wish to up-date Members on what has transpired in the past six months.

Our Victorian Branch assisted in funding the National Sports Inclusion week with cricket being played in Geelong and tennis at the Albert Ground courts and Melbourne Park. All up we gave the opportunity for approx. 300 disadvantaged youth to participate in sport.

Our funding was greatly assisted by Sir Ian Botham's Wine Show in February – a sold out event.

Nationally, Members were fantastic in selling raffle tickets which raised about \$96,000 – a brilliant effort.

Last month we were invited to co-host with the Australian Cricket Society a pre-Ashes dinner for Tim Paine. He was a delightful guest and for many in the full house it was the first chance to visit the new cricket Victoria headquarters at the Junction Oval. Very rare to have the incumbent Aussie captain supporting a charity event just before the biggest cricket contest of all.

In the coming months there is much to look forward to and our Annual Legends Night will again be held at Royal South Yarra Tennis Club not in August but this year on Wednesday 16 October. The late Ashes series necessitated a change from the traditional August date.

On Friday 25 October we are again invited, by the ACS, to share in the celebration of Bob Cowper's 1969/70 Sheffield Shield Team reunion – Bob and most of the living members of the squad have committed to lunch at the City Kelvin Club.

Big news for our Boxing Day Breakfast with former NZ Captain, Brendan McCullum agreeing to share his journey with us and no doubt stories from his current role as a World Cup commentator and surely he will mention the fastest century in Test cricket history!

If Breakfast does not suit, the following evening we are invited to share stories from a few former NZ greats at the co-branded ACS Annual Christmas Dinner on 27 December.

February next year brings the Taverners National Executive and team to Melbourne for the Annual Conference and there will be a gala sports dinner on Thursday 20 February featuring the cricket-loving honorary Taverner – Kevin Sheedy - on stage with Paul Sheahan! Reserve the date now as it should be an outstanding function.

Forward Program

2019

July/August – Subscription Renewals to be despatched

October 16 – Legends Night at Royal South Yarra

October 25 – AGM at Kelvin Club 11:30am then lunch

October 25 – Lunch with Bob Cowper's 1969 Team Reunion

December 26 – Boxing Day Breakfast in the Yarra View Room MCG

December 27 – ACS dinner with NZ players from the Melbourne Test of 1980

2020

February 18-21 National Conference in Melbourne

February 19 – Conference Dinner

February 20 – Gala Sports Dinner

The **fastest** recorded **century** in **Test** cricket in terms of balls faced is held by Brendon McCullum who scored 100 runs from 54 balls against Australia at Christchurch, New Zealand in 2016 in his final **test**, beating the previous record of 56 held jointly by Viv Richards and Misbah-ul-Haq.

At the last Boxing Day Breakfast I asked Members to safe-guard the future of the Organisation by each recruiting a new member.

To assist the program we have reduced the annual membership fee for the under 23's to just \$15 so that gives your children and/or grand-children every chance to join. Happy if you can recruit a team of new young members – let's aim to double our Membership numbers by Boxing Day. A present with a difference next Christmas - Membership and Breakfast with the Fastest Test Hundred Scorer of all time!

<http://www.lordstavernersvic.org.au/membership.html>

Winter wishes from Stuart Stockdale
Chairman
Taverners Victoria