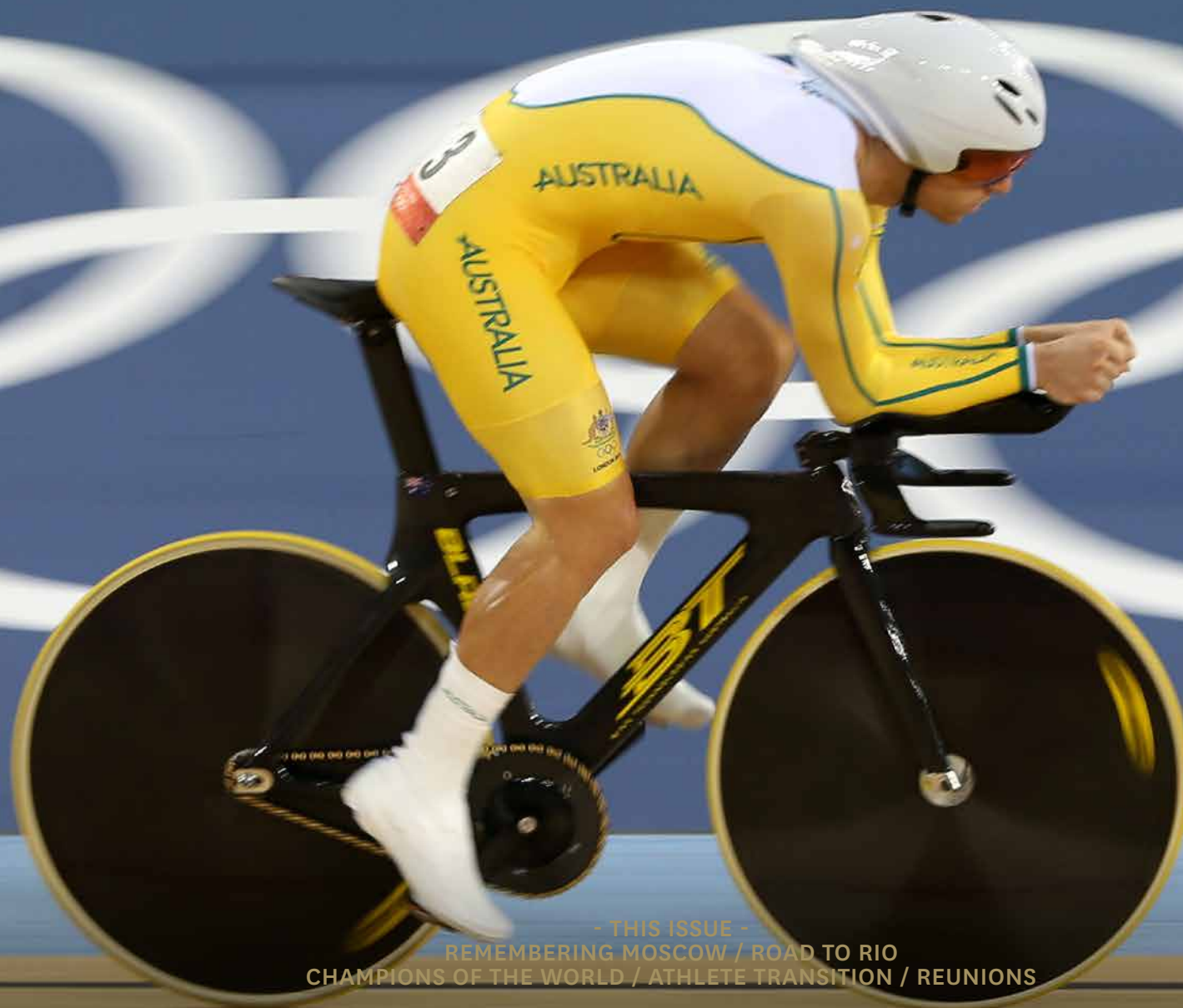
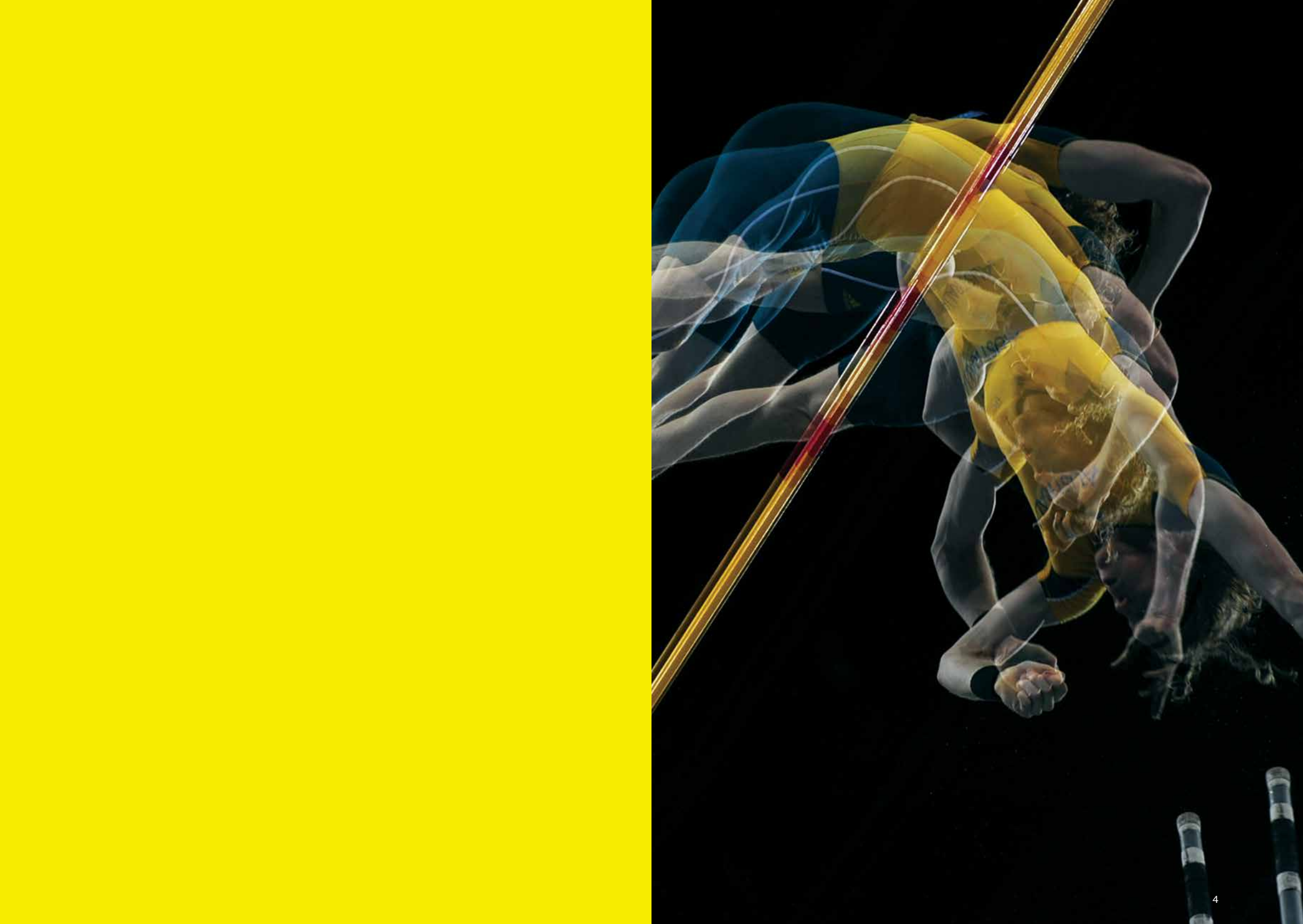


AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIANS

2015



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CHAMPIONS OF THE WORLD / ATHLETE TRANSITION / REUNIONS





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JOHN COATES AC

*President, Australian Olympic Committee
Vice President, International Olympic Committee*

Congratulations to all our current athletes for a remarkable year of achievement. Our benchmarking results point to Australia's constant standing in the world's top ten sporting nations.

Following on from the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games, 2015 saw some wonderful results from our winter athletes led by our two new World Champions Scotty James and Laura Peel. We now look forward to Australia's representation at the Winter Youth Olympic Games, Lillehammer in February 2016.

The AOC was delighted to accept an invitation to participate at the Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea in July. We were represented in four sports – Sailing, Taekwondo, Weightlifting and Rugby Sevens as part of their qualification path for Rio. Unity is essential for all Teams and our Pacific Games Team were a shining example, coming together as a happy and competitive Team under the leadership of Mal Page as Chef de Mission.

Thank you to all the Olympians Clubs in each capital city who, together with our State Olympic Councils, run the many social events and keep the flame burning for all Olympians. Our Australian Olympians Alumni is set up to support the Clubs with communications and network Olympians, as nothing compares with catching up with teammates in person. Long may it continue.

On the international scene, the World Olympians Association (WOA), which under a new

constitution represents over 100,000 Olympians worldwide, has now formed a genuine working partnership with the IOC. Congratulations to Nat Cook who is now the IOC's representative for Oceania on the WOA Executive Board. We look forward to working closely with the new WOA and the IOC on all matters relating to Olympians.

The foundations for our future Games are being laid with the next three editions of the Olympic Games being presented on our door step in Asia, with the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games, Tokyo 2020 and then we return to Beijing in 2022 for the Winter Games. The geographical and commercial focus in Asia in the six years after Rio will be of great benefit for our athletes.

The AOC was pleased to welcome IOC President, Thomas Bach to Australia in April. The IOC's Agenda 2020 reforms continue to be implemented. In light of recent global doping revelations, the AOC remains steadfast in our fight for clean athletes. We stand shoulder to shoulder with the IOC, WADA, ASADA and our National Federations for a fair playing field.

It has been wonderful to see our Summer Team come together through the Road to Rio series at IGNITE and ASPIRE. As our current athletes gear up for Rio, I hope all Olympians can share the journey.



LEON WIEGARD OAM

President, Olympians Club of Australia

The major changes to the profile of Olympians Clubs over the last 12 months has been at the International level with the World Olympians Association (WOA) forging a greater association with the IOC.

Here in Australia the Olympians Club of Australia is part of the Australian Olympic Committee and has been since its formation in 1999. Our individual clubs in all states and the ACT have a common constitution.

James Edwards from the AOC and I attended the WOA Forum & Assembly in Russia this year. At the Forum, significant alterations to the WOA's constitution were adopted. Of note, a male & female Olympian from each continent plus five Olympians were nominated by the IOC to be elected to the board of WOA. We are delighted that one of the IOC nominations elected to the board is Sydney 2000 gold medallist Natalie Cook, who is also President of the Queensland Olympic Council (QOC).

On the local scene, all clubs report excellent communications from the Olympians Club of Australia (OCA) to individual Olympians and it is pleasing that all clubs have been active in running various events.

I'm sure I speak for all Australian Olympians in wishing contenders for our Rio Team well, in the selection process and the final Team the best of luck at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

And on that note, I advise Olympians going to Rio to support, that there will be a large WOA Olympians Welcome Centre available for your use in Rio. Do not hesitate to contact the OCA for details.

Warm regards.



KIM BRENNAN

*(nee Crow)
Chair, AOC Athletes' Commission*

I had the privilege of attending two Road to Rio IGNITE sessions over this past year. Each session had a different panel of Australian Olympians sharing their stories. Our Olympians – young and old – were funny, engaging and heart wrenching all at once. It was impossible not to be inspired. I have always felt incredibly proud to be an Australian Olympian, but these sessions were a wonderful reminder of just HOW special it is to be a part of this group.

Hearing stories of boat rides to Olympic Games and paying one's own fare (a year's wage!) were a great reminder of how lucky we now are. I left feeling so grateful for the opportunities we now have.

With any progress though, there is change, and with change we need to adapt. Today's Olympians have the gift of not paying to wear the green and gold, but also have added responsibilities consistent with living in the world of the internet and social media. Shenanigans we laughed at in times past may no longer be laughing matters in times present.

IGNITE was about understanding where the Australian Olympic movement has come from, and where it is going. It was also about welcoming Olympians of tomorrow to the foundations already built by the Olympians of yesterday. Above all, it was about sharing the passion we have for the Olympic Games, and the pride we have for our country. Once an Olympian, always an Olympian.

The end of 2015 and beginning of 2016 sees IGNITE turn into ASPIRE – another opportunity to build our 2016 Olympic team. The IGNITE and ASPIRE concept is one that hopefully grows as future Winter and Summer Teams also engage in the process.

The Athletes' Commission (AC) thank the team at the AOC for all their hard work in making IGNITE and ASPIRE come to life, and to all our Olympians who have contributed. It is so wonderful to be bringing our special group closer together.

CHAMPIONS

OF

THE

WORLD



LAURA PEEL

AERIAL SKIING WORLD CHAMPION

Canberra's Laura Peel became Australia's World Champion of 2015 when she won the Aerial Skiing at the FIS Freestyle Ski and Snowboard World Championships in Kreischberg, Austria on 16 January 2015. The 25-year-old Sochi 2014 Olympian became the fourth Australian woman to win an aerial skiing World Championships title. Peel's courageous victory came from a triple twisting double somersault. A shell-shocked Peel described the win as "disbelief" after her higher ranked competitor failed to land her final jump cleanly. "I just wanted to get through to the top six but to come away with the win is unbelievable," Peel said. "I am so happy to be the World Champion. I can't believe it." Peel was also crowned the joint 2015 Snowsports Athlete of the Year.



SCOTTY JAMES
SNOWBOARD HALF PIPE WORLD CHAMPION

Since his Olympic debut in Vancouver 2010 as Australia's youngest Winter Olympian, Scotty James has shown a lot of promise for the future. The 21-year-old dual Olympian secured his first major title by taking out the Halfpipe competition at the FIS Ski and Snowboard World Championships, in Kreischberg, Austria on 18 January 2015. His performance made him the second Australian man to win the world title in the halfpipe, following Nathan Johnstone in 2011, after earning 91.50 points for his first run of the final. James said that the win "means the world to me" and "It's been such a crazy journey the last couple of years and I'm absolutely over the moon right now." James was also crowned the joint 2015 Australia's Snowsports Athlete of the Year.



**ASHLEE ANKUDINOFF, AMY CURE,
 MELISSA HOSKINS, ANNETTE EDMONDSON**
CYCLING WOMEN'S TEAM PURSUIT

Australia set a world record in winning gold in the cycling women's team pursuit at the 2015 Track Cycling World Championships in Paris on 19 January 2015. Australia took almost three seconds off the world record to upset four-time reigning champions Great Britain in the final. Edmondson said she was too busy celebrating after crossing the line to realise the Australians had smashed the world record. "It took me about two laps before I looked up and saw the time," Edmondson said, "It's absolutely incredible. I can't believe it." Cure, Edmondson, Ankudinoff, and Hoskins posted a world record time of 4 minutes, 13.683 seconds.

ANNA MEARES OAM
WOMEN'S KEIRIN

Anna Meares officially became the world's greatest female track cyclist after winning her 11th world title in the Women's Keirin at the 2015 World Track Championship in Paris on 22 February 2015. "Today's number one," Meares beamed after shedding tears on the podium at the Championships. The gold, along with earlier silver and bronze medals, took Meares' career tally to 26 world track title medals to surpass previous record-holder, Britain's Chris Hoy.

ANNETTE EDMONDSON
WOMEN'S CYCLING OMNIUM

Annette Edmondson upset the reigning Olympic champion to win the Women's Omnium title at the 2015 Track World Championships in Paris on 22 February 2015. It was the 23-year-old's second gold medal of the Championships, having been part of the Australian world record-breaking team pursuit squad earlier that week. Edmondson finished third at the London 2012 Olympic Games and has reached the podium at the past three World Championships for a tally of two silver and one bronze. "I really can't believe it. It is pretty special to finally reach the top step of the podium after the high of the team pursuit, this is just a bonus," said Edmondson.



Top: Cycling Women's
 Team Pursuit
 Left: Anna Meares



**EMMA MCKEON, CATE CAMPBELL OAM,
BRONTE CAMPBELL, EMILY SEEBOHM OAM
(MADISON WILSON, MELANIE WRIGHT –
HEATS) SWIMMING WOMEN’S 4X100M
FREESTYLE RELAY**

Australia’s 4x100m Women’s freestyle relay team are officially “all-conquering” after adding the coveted world title to their long list of achievements at the 16th FINA World Championships in Kazan, Russia on 2 August 2015. The team of Bronte and Cate Campbell, Emma McKeon and renowned backstroker Emily Seebohm set a new Championship record. The Australians are now the reigning Olympic, World, Pan Pacific and Commonwealth Champions and World, Olympic, Pan Pacific and Commonwealth record holders – one of Australia’s finest sporting combinations.



**MITCH LARKIN
SWIMMING 100M & 200M BACKSTROKE**

Mitch Larkin became the first Australian male to claim the 100m and 200m backstroke double at the 2015 FINA World Championships in Kazan, Russia. In the 200m, he controlled his pace through the first three laps and then unleashed down the last lap to win by almost a second in an Australian record of 1 minute, 53.58 seconds, becoming just the fourth man to break 1:54 in a textile suit. It has been a decade since an Australian man has won more than one individual title at this level, back when Ian Thorpe and Grant Hackett were at the peak of their careers. When he came off the gold medal podium for the second time in Kazan he said: “I don’t think that feeling will ever get old.”



*“I don’t think that feeling
will ever get old.”*

Mitch Larkin

**EMILY SEEBOHM OAM
SWIMMING 100M & 200M BACKSTROKE**

Dual Olympic relay gold medallist Emily Seebohm added two individual world titles to her name after winning the 100m and 200m double in the backstroke at the 2015 FINA World Championships in Kazan, Russia. Seebohm set a new Commonwealth record in a barnstorming finish to claim the 200m backstroke gold and was part of Australia’s gold medal winning 4x100m freestyle relay team in Kazan. And the 100m victory appears to have achieved so much more for Seebohm. At London 2012, an emotional Seebohm feared disappointing the Australian public for ‘only’ winning a silver medal. However, a very different Seebohm found her mental edge in Russia, “It’s something (the edge) I feel I have got now and I can’t lose. I will go back and train as hard as I can because we all know how much I want that Olympic gold.”



BRONTE CAMPBELL

SWIMMING 50M & 100M FREESTYLE

Bronte Campbell capped Australia's golden breakthrough world titles by becoming the third Australian swimmer to become a dual individual world champion at the 2015 FINA World Championships in Kazan on 9 August 2015. Campbell won the 50m and 100m Freestyle events and became the third woman in history to complete the 50m and 100m sprint double. "That was unbelievable. I couldn't believe I got the win on that one," Campbell said. Campbell was also part of Australia's gold medal winning 4x100m freestyle relay team in Kazan, along with her sister Cate Campbell.



GLENN ASHBY

SAILING A-CLASS

Glenn Ashby was crowned the 2015 World Champion in the Sailing A-Class at the A-Cat Worlds in Punta Ala, Italy in 9 September 2015. Ashby credits a magic touch and "getting ahead of the bubble of dirty air," in the first race of the regatta to give him a one lap lead in the race. Ashby won his first title 19 years ago and has claimed the title nine times.

MATHEW BELCHER OAM AND WILL RYAN

SAILING MEN'S 470

There were no bigger gold medal favourites at the start of the 2015 ISAF Sailing World Cup Final than Men's 470 defending champions Mathew Belcher and Will Ryan. And the multiple champions lived up to their billing. Belcher from the Gold Coast and Ryan from Lake Macquarie won the Men's 470 class at the 2015 ISAF Sailing World Cup Final in Abu Dhabi on 1 November 2015. It is the third consecutive World Championship title for the successful combination, who have continuously finished on the podium at every sailing regatta at which they have competed since getting together post the London 2012 Olympic Games, when Malcolm Page retired. ●



KIM BRENNAN

WOMEN'S SINGLE SCULL

Kim Brennan was crowned the world champion in the Women's Single Scull at the 2015 World Rowing Championships held in Aiguebelette, France on 7 September 2015 after dominating her race to lead from start to finish in blustery conditions. "This feels really special. It's been a really fun year, I've got a great training group around me in Canberra, I've just got engaged, I'm getting married later in the year and to round it off with a World Championship title is just fantastic," Brennan said.



INTERNATIONAL HONOURS AND AWARDS

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

MICHAEL ROGERS
SYDNEY 2000, ATHENS 2004,
BEIJING 2008, LONDON 2012

**BRONZE MEDAL FOR THE MEN'S
INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL IN ATHENS 2004**

Australian cyclist Michael Rogers has been officially awarded an Olympic bronze medal 11 years after the ride in which he earned it at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games.

Rogers finished fourth in the men's individual time trial at the Games but after winner Tyler Hamilton was stripped of his gold three years ago for doping, Rogers was elevated to third place. "What a great honour", Rogers said during the ceremony at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, attended by Roger's family, IOC President Thomas Bach and Vice-President John Coates – who at the time was Chef de Mission of the Australia team.



CATHY FREEMAN OAM
BARCELONA 1992, ATLANTA 1996,
SYDNEY 2000

**2015 IOC WOMEN AND SPORT AWARD
FOR THE OCEANIA REGION**

Sydney 2000 Olympic Champion Cathy Freeman was awarded the prestigious 2015 International Olympic Committee Women and Sport Award for the Oceania Region for her work through her Foundation, the Cathy Freeman Foundation (CFF). As one of Australia's most admired Olympic champions and the only Aboriginal individual gold medallist, Freeman is a role model for girls and women throughout the country and the world. Since the end of her sports career, she has concentrated her time on making a difference to young Australians through the CFF and lending her support to other community and charitable activities.

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS

MICHELLIE JONES, EMMA SNOWSILL AND PETER ROBERTSON INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON UNION HALL OF FAME

Australian triathlon legends Michellie Jones, Emma Snowsill and Peter Robertson, who won eight world championships between them, were inducted into the International Triathlon Union (ITU) Hall of Fame in September 2015.

MICHELLIE JONES

Sydney 2000 Olympic Games silver medallist, 2 x ITU World Champion, 2006 Ironman World Champion, 2 x overall World Cup Champion.

EMMA SNOWSILL

3 x ITU World Champion, Beijing 2008 Olympic Champion, 2000 ITU World Junior Champion, 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games Champion.

PETER ROBERTSON

3 x ITU Triathlon World Champion, 2 x Olympian, Melbourne Commonwealth Games bronze medallist, record World Cup wins with 17.



MARIA PEKLI INTERNATIONAL JUDO FEDERATION HALL OF FAME

Five-time Olympian Maria Pekli made history in Sydney 2000 when she became the first Australian woman to win an Olympic judo medal since women's judo officially joined the Olympic program in 1992. In 2015 Pekli was inducted into the International Judo Federation Hall of Fame for her contribution to the sport. Pekli, a winner of seven national titles in a row, was also awarded in 2011 the Lifetime Membership of Judo Australia for her contribution to the sport.



SPORT AUSTRALIA HALL OF FAME RECOGNISES AND PROMOTES THE OUTSTANDING SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR GREATEST ATHLETES AND ENCOURAGES EVERYONE TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.



THE FOLLOWING AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIANS WERE HONOURED AT THE 2015 SPORT AUSTRALIA HALL OF FAME ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT.



RYAN BAYLEY OAM
CYCLING – ATHENS 2004, BEIJING 2008

Bayley was the spearhead of Australia's hugely successful track cycling campaign at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games which produced a record nine gold medals, two silvers and two bronze. The powerful young Western Australian stamped himself as the fastest man on two wheels as he won the sprint and the keirin titles, becoming the first Australian cyclist ever to have won two individual Olympic gold medals at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. ●

LEISEL JONES OAM
SWIMMING – SYDNEY 2000, ATHENS 2004, BEIJING 2008, LONDON 2012

"Lethal Leisel" is the most successful Australian female swimmer of all time and the only one, male or female, to have competed at four Olympic Games. Between making her international debut at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games at the age of 15 and her retirement after the London 2012 Olympic Games, the breaststroke specialist won nine Olympic medals; three gold, five silver and one bronze.



2015 PACIFIC GAMES



Australia wraps up its first Pacific Games in Port Moresby with great success and an opportunity to forge important friendships with our Pacific Nations.

Australia competed for the first time at the 15th Pacific Games held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea from the 4–18 July 2015. The AOC sent a team of 43 athletes to the Games in four sports: sailing, taekwondo, weightlifting and rugby sevens. The aim of the Games is to promote and develop sport in the region, without any barrier

of 'race, colour or politics'. Australian Chef de Mission and dual sailing Olympic gold medallist, Malcolm Page, said Papua New Guinea was a fantastic host, "The spirit here has been incredible, an amazing welcoming for Australia at its first Pacific Games."

FAST FACTS	
HOST NATION	PAPUA NEW GUINEA
GAMES DURATION	4-18 JULY 2015
NATIONS	22
SPORTS	28
AUS SPORTS	RUGBY SEVENS
	SAILING
	WEIGHTLIFTING
	TAEKWONDO
CHEF DE MISSION	MALCOLM PAGE
	OAM
AUSTRALIANS COMPETING	43

It was a magnificent effort by 43 Australian athletes to claim 47 medals. The Games kicked off for Australia with Erika Ropati-Frost claiming two gold medals in the women’s weightlifting. Ropati-Frost said the atmosphere was exhilarating, “I couldn’t hold the tears back... The crowd was fantastic, one of the best crowds I’ve ever competed in front of.” The weightlifting venue also saw another crowd stopping moment with legally blind Australian weightlifter Malek Chamoun taking home three medals; gold in the snatch and silver in the clean and jerk, and overall. Teammate Liam Larkins also picked up two bronze in the same event. Australia’s weightlifters contributed six gold, 14 silver and nine bronze to the final medal tally.

In the sailing, Carissa Bridge, Mark Spearman and Thomas Vincent claimed three medals. Victoria’s Thomas Vincent took home bronze and Western Australian Mark Spearman gold, in the laser class. The pair combined to take home the team gold medal. While Carissa Bridge faced a tough challenge from the Cook Islands she managed to snag bronze in the laser radial. “The whole experience has been really good, the competition and the way it is over here – it’s like we’re at the Olympics” said Vincent.



The Australian Pacific Games Taekwondo Team dominated the competition, with each of the 13 athletes coming away with gold or silver. The event was an important step on the road to Rio 2016 with each division win worth 40 world ranking points.

The Rugby Sevens women’s team had a fantastic tournament at the Games, with eight girls making their debut. In an awesome finish to the event, the girls faced a tough Fijian side and took home silver.

Page said the Games were not only a successful campaign for the athletes, but a journey full of cultural appreciation and respect for the Pacific region.

“I couldn’t hold the tears back... The crowd was fantastic, one of the best crowds I’ve ever competed in front of.”

*Erika Ropati-Frost,
Weightlifter*

“The facilities are world class and the Village is equal to any Olympic Games I’ve been to. I think they have an amazing legacy for the future” said Page. The Chef de Mission emphasised that any chance athletes can experience big competition pressure will help them prepare for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. ●

REMEMBERING MOSCOW



THE AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC SPIRIT WAS PUT TO THE TEST AS MANY ATHLETES FELT THE PRESSURE TO BOYCOTT THE GAMES.

For some athletes 35 years on, the scars have still not healed. We remember the bravery of those Australian athletes who competed against the wishes of the Government and continued Australia's proud tradition of being one of only two countries to have competed in every Summer Games in the Modern Olympiad.



FAST FACTS	
HOST NATION	USSR (URS)
GAMES DURATION	19 JULY – 3 AUGUST 1980
NATIONS	80
NO. OF ATHLETES	5,179 (4,064 MEN, 1,115 WOMEN)
SPORTS	21
AUS ATHLETES	123



The Moscow 1980 Olympic Games are remembered for many things, but mostly for the boycott of the Games. Led by the United States, more than 45 nations boycotted the Games in protest of the Soviet Union’s invasion of Afghanistan in December 1979. Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser supported his American allies, however the Australian Olympic Federation (later to become the Australian Olympic Committee) voted narrowly in favour of competing but left it up to individual Federations and athletes to decide whether or not they would go.

“It’s important to remember the bitter struggle the Australian Olympic Committee and our athletes went through to participate in the Moscow Olympics that year” said AOC President John Coates. The team size dwindled from 273 athletes to 123 and corporate sponsors withdrew financial support leaving the Team desperately short of funds. The National Federations from Yachting, men’s and women’s Hockey, Equestrian sports, Volleyball and Shooting Teams withdrew their Teams. Champion athletes including swimmer Tracey Wickham and sprinter Raelene Boyle also withdrew. Australia did



compete, though many athletes chose – or were pressured – not to attend.

In the end, 80 nations, a third less than in Munich eight years earlier, competed.

With the Sailing Team withdrawn, Geoff Davidson laments the missed opportunity, “Growing up, all my heroes were Olympians and I’d dreamt about it for years. The boycott achieved nothing. It just hurt a whole bunch of people.”

Olympic swimmer Lisa Forrest is proud that she was part of the Team that has kept the Australian record of competing at every Summer Games in the Modern Olympiad. “We were the ones that maintained that proud record when the chips were down, when everybody called us traitors and when people were saying that we should have our passports taken from us,” said Forrest.

Olympic swimmer Max Metzker said the Moscow Team is the epitome of an Australian Olympic Team. “I believe that every athlete and staff member of that Team should be proudly held up to all the new breed of athletes to illustrate personification of pride, courage and 100% commitment to the Olympic ideal,” said the Moscow 1980 Olympic Games Flag Bearer and 1500 metre freestyle bronze medallist. Metzker said the courage and determination demonstrated by the Australian Team showed great character and excellence, “We were all

feeling the pressure but we were resilient, we acted as a team, we were there for each other, it was probably the most bonded team ever in the history of the Australian Olympics.”

The fallout from the Moscow Games upheaval was not lost on the AOC. It took until 1993 when Sydney won the right to host the 2000 Olympic Games, for the AOC to operate independently from the Federal Government. Since 1993 the AOC has neither sought nor received funding from the Federal Government.

“I believe that every athlete and staff member of that Team should be proudly held up to all the new breed of athletes to illustrate personification of pride, courage and 100% commitment to the Olympic ideal.”

Max Metzker,
Olympic Swimmer



ROAD TO RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES

FOR 120 YEARS AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIANS HAVE INSPIRED OUR COUNTRY IN THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE. ON 5 AUGUST 2016 THE AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC TEAM WILL MARCH INTO THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES, MARKING THE START OF 17 DAYS OF COMPETITION ON THE WORLD'S BIGGEST SPORTING STAGE. OUR TEAM WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WRITE THEIR OWN CHAPTER IN OLYMPIC HISTORY. AS WELL AS LOOKING AT AN IMPROVED 'ONE TEAM' CULTURE, DRIVEN BY HUMILITY AND RESPECT, THE TEAM WILL AIM TO INSPIRE FUTURE GENERATIONS AND FOSTER "LIFE BEST EXPERIENCES" FOR ATHLETES AND OFFICIALS.



FAST FACTS	
GAMES	
DURATION	5-21 AUGUST 2016
AUS CHEF	
DE MISSION	KITTY CHILLER
EXPECTED AUS	
TEAM SIZE	450 ATHLETES
SPORTS	
VENUES	
BARRA COPACABANA MARACANA DEODORO	
THE EDGE	
A HIGH PERFORMANCE HUB OR 'TEAM OASIS' EQUIPPED WITH MEDICAL, PHYSIOTHERAPY RECOVERY, SPORTS SCIENCE AND NUTRITION FACILITIES, CLOSE TO THE VILLAGE.	

Perhaps even ‘podium ready’!” Kitty reminded the Rio hopefuls of Kieren Perkins in Atlanta, 1996, Matthew Mitcham in Beijing, 2008 and Steven Bradbury in Salt Lake City, 2002 as great examples of what is possible at an Olympic Games. Kitty says “It is fantastic to get the second phase of our Road to Rio underway and the aim to develop a ‘One Team’ approach, is really paying dividends. The athletes are learning about Australia’s proud Olympic History and what it means to be an Olympian. It’s so good to see the different sports mingling now which will only help them all at Games time, knowing other athletes outside their own sport and knowing they have the support of their Team mates”.

It is anticipated the 2016 Australian Olympic Team size will be approximately 450 athletes. The goal is for the Team to finish top five on the overall and Gold Medal tally. As well as being the most respected Team, it is hoped the Team will

ASPIRE

The second phase of the ‘Road to Rio’ campaign commenced around the country with the ASPIRE sessions as an important milestone in building the Australian Olympic Team – one Team – for Rio. Between November 2015 and April 2016, over 800 athletes and officials from all sports will attend an ASPIRE session.

At the ASPIRE sessions, athletes receive the latest briefings to assist their preparation for Rio. The sessions cover everything from village information, venue locations, safety and security, travel, hygiene and wellness – everything to ensure a smooth transition into the Olympic city. Prospective team members also try on uniforms, have their accreditation photos taken and have interviews with media.

The sessions provide necessary information in relation to being a member of the Australian Team. Channel 7 and the AOC produced a video which is being shown at these sessions reminding today’s athletes of the courage demonstrated by Olympians in the lead up to and during the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games.

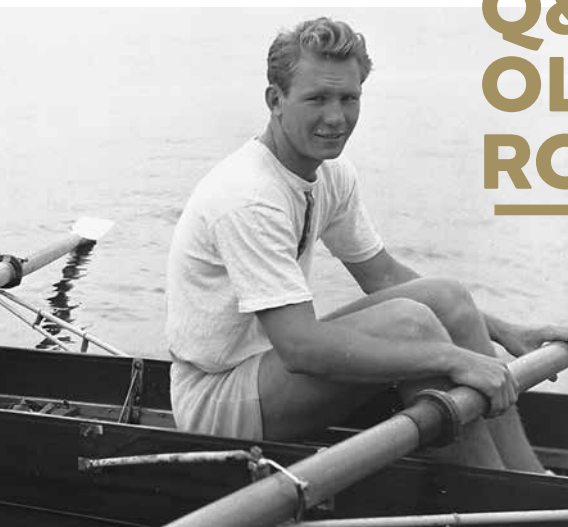
At the sessions, Kitty Chiller, Chef de Mission encourages athletes to “Leave no stone unturned to join the Olympic Family, to move from participation to ‘performance excellence ready’.



“Leave no stone unturned to join the Olympic Family, to move from participation to ‘performance excellence ready’. Perhaps even ‘podium ready’!”

*Kitty Chiller, Chef de Mission
2016 Australian Olympic Team*

return home filled with “life best experiences”. These are lofty goals but from the feeling in the rooms at the ASPIRE sessions and the feedback from athletes afterwards, you would not write off the 2016 Australian Olympic Team from achieving it all. ●



Q&A WITH OLYMPIC ROLE MODELS



“TO KNOW WHERE YOU’RE GOING, YOU NEED TO KNOW WHERE YOU’VE COME FROM”. ATHLETES ON THE ROAD TO RIO WERE PRIVILEGED TO LEARN FROM THE “OLD AND BOLD” OLYMPIANS WHO PAVED THE PATH THEY WALK TODAY.

WHAT SACRIFICES DID YOU MAKE TO GET TO THE OLYMPICS?

“In truth, because of the camaraderie of rowing in crews, the way we did it wasn’t regarded as a sacrifice (by me anyway), it was an enjoyable getting together with great companions with a clearly defined purpose and getting on with it”
David Anderson – Rowing 1952, 1956

“My paddling partner and I had to build our Kayaks and paddles to confirm kayak racing was for us. We were both married and with no funding, no coaching and no assistance from the Australian Olympic Foundation, we were left to our own resources. Each Games became a little less stressful and the rewards were worth the effort.”
Dennis Green – Canoe/Kayak, 1956, 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976

“My family and others made the sacrifices to fund my swimming career. Because of my swimming, I was not able to finish my schooling as I was away training and competing, but I had a practical education by travelling overseas at such a young age.”
Sandra Morgan-Beavis – Swimming 1956, 1960

“The overall sacrifices required in the four years leading up to the 1952 selections were that we had never trained or competed in an Olympic, fresh water, tiled, indoor, heated pool and most of us had to travel to all venues by trams or buses.”
Ray Smee – Water Polo 1952, 1956

“If there was any sacrifice I made in order to make the Olympics, it was the ‘time’. I had to fit in training around my job. I trained on the runway of the local small airport at 6:00pm with the lights of the car driven by my wife to light up the runway in order to continue training. I would drive 280kms to Melbourne on Fridays to train and compete on Saturday, train on Sunday morning in the company of other athletes before returning home late Sunday afternoon. Time to fit everything into the day, the week, the months, but it was a sacrifice worth every moment.”
Ray Weinberg – Athletics 1948, 1952

WHAT HAVE THE OLYMPICS GIVEN YOU THAT YOU VALUE THE MOST?

“Success requires genuine and sustained effort together with the ability to engage with and trust others in group activities, which really is life. To be prepared to accept criticism and advice from the appropriate people but take responsibility for whatever you do and do it to the best of your ability.”
David Anderson – Rowing 1952, 1956

“In Melbourne 1956 I realised that the Olympics was the only time that the world came together where the common goal was to compete in friendship, creating goodwill and understanding, it is the most important meeting in the world. My strongest lifetime friendships, competitors and officials, winning a medal and being flag bearer at the Opening Ceremony at Munich 1976 are my personal treasures.”
Dennis Green – Canoe/Kayak, 1956, 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976

“A love and pride for our country, Australia. To represent your country at a young age and wear the Olympic blazer with the Australian coat of arms over your heart. Marching in the Opening Ceremony with other nations in front of millions and to stand on the victory dais with my fellow Relay Team and hear the Australian Anthem. To be part of a Team, learning, caring and encouraging each other. A privilege in life many never experience. This has shaped my life.”
Sandra Morgan-Beavis – Swimming 1956, 1960

“Without any doubt the opportunity and honour of living in the Olympic Village during the Olympic Games in 1952 and 1956, I experienced and lived by, the true glories of internationalism. If the political leaders of the world shared that same experience, the world may well be free of wars.”
Ray Smee – Water Polo 1952, 1956

“In 1948 and 1952 we travelled, trained and lived together as a Team, the result being lifetime friends as evidenced by the annual Kapyla Club luncheons, where the 1952 Helsinki Team have

met every year since – 63 years later, my friends from the Olympics is what I most value as well as being selected to compete and march in the Opening Ceremony.”
Ray Weinberg – Athletics 1948, 1952

WHAT HAVE YOU ENJOYED MOST ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN THE IGNITE SESSIONS AND THE OLYMPIC TEAM PREPARATIONS?

“Meeting so many wonderful young people who are going to make a tremendous impression for us in Rio. They were young, polite, enthusiastic and genuine.”
David Anderson – Rowing 1952, 1956

“At 84 years, to be invited to be involved in Rio 2016 IGNITE sessions is continuing my Olympic dream and allowing me to still feel connected to the current Olympians, the AOC and the Olympic movement.”
Dennis Green – Canoe/Kayak, 1956, 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976

“I was honoured to be invited to attend the sessions and share my Olympic experience which will remain very precious to me. I loved meeting up with other medallists and also imparting the way I feel regarding team culture on and off the field which, as an Australia Day Ambassador, I have spoken about for many years.”
Sandra Morgan-Beavis – Swimming 1956, 1960

“I was delighted to be invited to the IGNITE sessions in the preparation for the Rio Team. From the very commencement there was enthusiasm with which the AOC drove the program and this enthusiasm rolled strongly into the sessions including all involved, from management through to the coaches and athletes, the entire program deserves congratulations.”
Ray Smee – Water Polo 1952, 1956

“It was wonderful to meet Olympians, gold medallists and speak to Rio hopefuls. I felt privileged to be invited to attend the IGNITE sessions and be associated with such a large Team.”
Ray Weinberg – Athletics 1948, 1952

IN 2015, TOGETHER WITH MANY OLYMPIANS, YOUNG, OLD, SUMMER AND WINTER, THE AOC UPDATED AND REVITALISED OUR OLYMPIC TEAM BRAND. WE HOPE YOU LIKE IT AND HELP SHARE IT.

OUR STORY

We felt it was the time to enhance Australia's Olympic movement in order for our identity and heritage to resonate in a stronger way with future generations – this is the direction of the Olympic Movement led by IOC President Bach's Agenda 2020. Change was also necessary as we needed to adhere to new guidelines mandated by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). We had to rationalise, consolidate and simplify.

BRING IT TO LIFE

The AOC worked with athletes, fans, stakeholders, partners, staff and executive to bring the new brand to life.

BRAND NEW

“I love the look! It's modern version of who we are as the Australian Olympic Team, yet it respects our heritage as where we've come from.” *Lydia Lassila*
AOC Athletes Commission, Aerials
(2002, 2006, 2010 Gold, 2014 Bronze)

“The look is energetic and fresh and our simplified logo makes us more recognisable to youth. Our vibrant look will help inspire the next generation of Olympic hopefuls.”
Steve Hooker OAM
AOC Athletes Commission, Athletics
(2004, 2008 Gold, 2012)

“We are immensely proud to share the new era of our Olympic movement with Australia. Inspired by athletes every step of the way, it reflects our proud Olympic history and embodies the energy and passion of our athletes. A contemporary take on classic, uniting our team and our nation. Come with us Australia.”
Fiona de Jong
CEO Australian Olympic Committee

“It was a fantastic experience to be involved in the process. The new direction retains the historical and distinctively Australian elements while adding a modern and fresh new look that I'm sure all Olympic athletes and fans will feel proud of.” *Juliet Haslam*
Olympian, Hockey (1992, 1996 Gold, 2000 Gold)

Our values shape everything we do:

— PRIDE —

Pride enables us to believe in ourselves and trust in our abilities, both gifted and learnt. Pride arms us with the courage to continue to do our very best, and with pride comes responsibility. Pride is “high fives” partnering with “humility” with both equality and grace.

— EXCELLENCE —

Excellence is a state of being. We encourage effort as equally as we applaud success, and strive for the highest levels always. Our biggest competition lies within, and new benchmarks lie beyond yesterday's “absolute all”.

— LEADERSHIP —

Living leadership has the remarkable ability to create a ripple effect to positively inspire extraordinary performances from those around us both immediate and future.

— RESILIENCE —

We never give up. We are courageous, and we believe that there is always better! Resilience is part of being an Australian.

— MATESHIP —

We live by the code of mateship; a bond (spoken and unspoken) that unites; allegiance to team; community; country; Olympic ideals. It's what makes us who we are and informs what we do.

We were two brands, but now we have a new future as one. Stronger, more focused, more together.



For the full story and behind the scenes please refer to:
rio2016.olympics.com.au/team/our-story

LILLEHAMMER 2016 WINTER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES



AUSTRALIA'S FINEST YOUNG WINTER SPORTS STARS ARE FINALISING THEIR PREPARATION FOR A COMPETITION AND EDUCATION EXPERIENCE THEY WILL NEVER FORGET.

Hot off the heels of Sochi 2014, the Norwegian city of Lillehammer will host the second Winter Youth Olympic Games (WYOG). One of Scandinavia's finest winter sports locations, Lillehammer was also the host of the 1994 Olympic Winter Games where Australia celebrated its first Winter Olympic medal, a bronze in the men's short track speed skating relay.

FAST FACTS

HOST NATION	NORWAY
GAMES	
DURATION	12-21 FEBRUARY 2016
ATHLETES	1,100
NATIONS	70
SPORTS	7
AGE	15-18 YEARS
VISION	GO BEYOND. CREATE TOMORROW.
VALUES	AWESOME AND HUMBLE, PLAYFUL AND DETERMINED
MASCOT	SJOGG - A LYNX MEANING "SNOW"
AUS CHEF DE MISSION	IAN CHESTERMAN
AUS ANTICIPATED ATHLETES	15



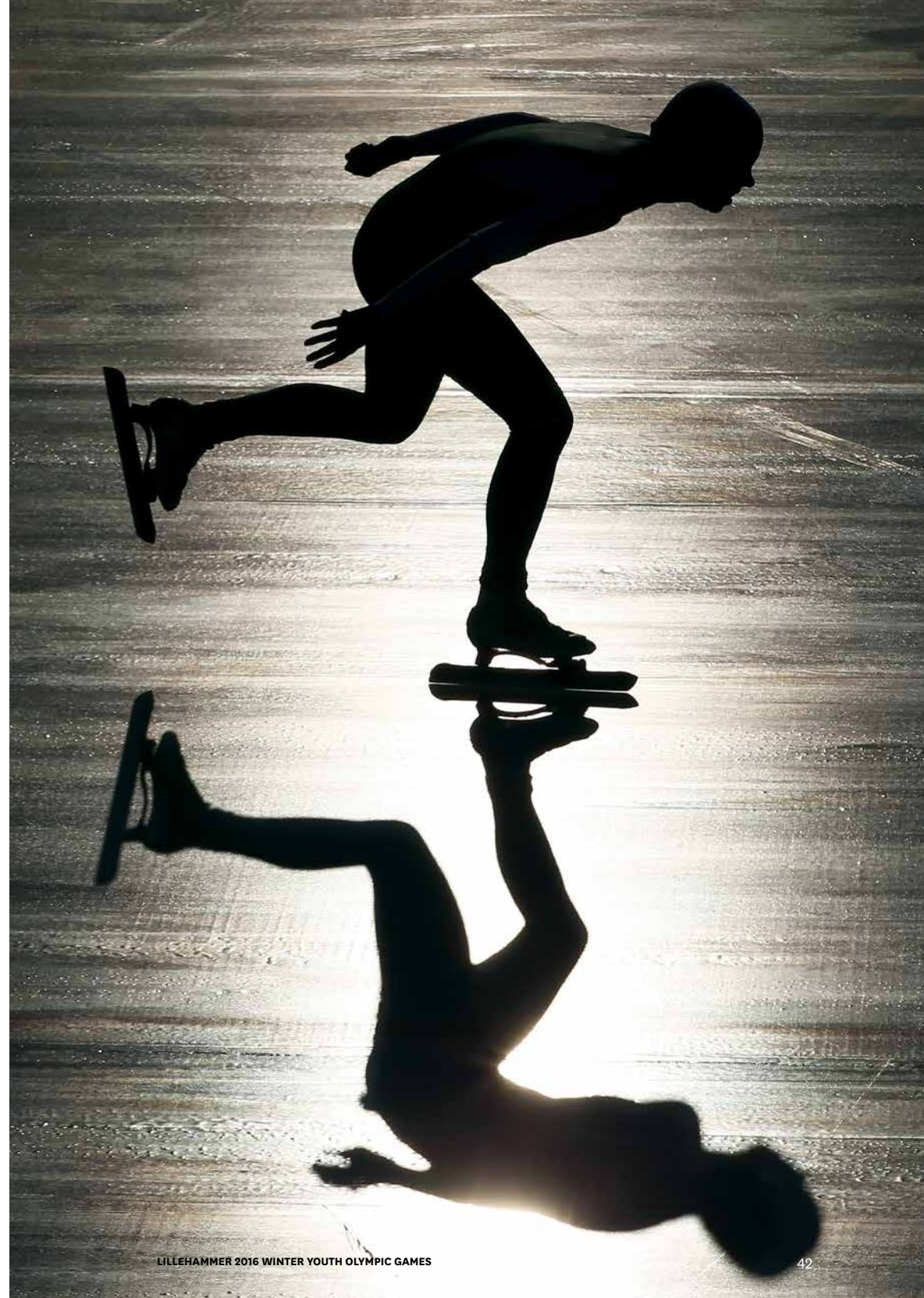
Following the inaugural WYOG in Innsbruck, Austria in January 2012, the Lillehammer Organising Committee endeavours to create a WYOG that builds on the Innsbruck experience and also ties in aspects of the 1994 Winter Olympic Games. Like Innsbruck and the past two Summer Youth Olympic Games (Singapore 2010 and Nanjing 2014), a Culture and Education Program (CEP) will form an important part of the Games experience for athletes. The CEP activities are aimed at integrating young people with the Olympic values and culture by combining elite sport competition with a festival atmosphere across the city. Some 1,100 of the world's best young winter athletes and future champions will compete in all of the seven sports on the Olympic program over the 10 days of the Games, while spectators and athletes alike will be able to enjoy a daily program of film, music and arts festivals that brings together some of Norway's leading talent. The Education Program is known as "Learn and Share".

The AOC will send a team of approximately 17 athletes to represent Australia in the following sports of Alpine Skiing, Biathlon, Cross Country Skiing, Figure Skating, Freestyle Skiing (Ski Cross, Halfpipe), Ice Hockey (Individual Skills), Luge, Short Track Speed Skating and Snowboard (Cross). The first Australian athletes selected to compete are Madison Poole and Jake Riley who will contest respectively the men's and women's Ice Hockey Individual Skills Challenge event.

The Australian Team will be led by six-time Winter Olympic Chef de Mission Ian Chesterman who is thrilled to be able to help Australia's future winter sports champions reach their full potential. Youth Ambassador and dual Olympian Scott Kneller and 2010 Olympian Ramone Cooper, as Performance Services Manager, will also guide the Australian Team in Lillehammer. "It's an opportunity to give back by passing on the experiences that I've been through in my career to help the next generation of athletes," Kneller said.

One athlete that knows just how beneficial the WYOG are is alpine skier Greta Small. At Innsbruck 2012 aged just 16 years old, Small was appointed the Australian Team Flag bearer and competed in four events. Two years later, all the hard work paid off when she made her senior Olympic debut at Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games and posted impressive results. "It's definitely an eye opening experience for my career in Innsbruck and I learnt so much at the Games", Small said. Reflecting on her experience Small knows just how important the Youth event is to realising your Olympic dreams.

The WYOG is a stepping stone for young winter athletes as a performance pathway to the Australian Olympic Team for the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympic Games, and Beijing 2022. ●





INSIDE THE IOC

*Contributing to a
better world through sport.*

**WE ARE SHAPING A BRIGHTER FUTURE
FOR THE ATHLETES AND THE OLYMPIC
MOVEMENT. JUST AS PIERRE DE COUBERTIN
DID BEFORE US, WE WILL ALL 'BE
THAT CHANGE'.**

**TOGETHER WE WILL DELIVER AN OLYMPIC
FUTURE FOR THIS MAGNIFICENT, TRULY
GLOBAL OLYMPIC MOVEMENT.**

The President of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach, placed great focus on the Olympic Agenda 2020 in 2015, after its implementation in 2014. Bach highlighted, "The recommendations the Olympic Movement have passed are all about progress – progress in safeguarding the Olympic values and progress in strengthening sport in society."

**JANUARY
IOC PARTNERSHIP WITH UNESCO**

The IOC, in partnership with UNESCO and several other international organisations, cooperated on new Guidelines urging governments and educational planners to invest in the quantity and quality of physical education offered. President Bach said, "Physical education in schools is crucial if we are to get the couch potatoes off the couch. Collaborating closely with UNESCO, we will ensure physical education is an integral part of school curricula to promote a healthy mind in a healthy body."



**APRIL
THE UN CALL FOR SPORT TO PLAY A GREATER
ROLE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE**

The IOC President Bach addressed the United Nations headquarters promoting that the time has come for sport to play a greater role as a force for positive change around the world. His remarks were met with broad support from the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and President of the UN General Assembly H.E. Sam Kutesa, who also spoke at the event – United Action towards Sustainable Development for All Through Sport.

OLYMPIC CHANNEL

The new 24-hour Olympic television channel was announced and set up to be functional by May 2016 in time for the Rio Games. It will show news, theme programming and events such as qualifying contests for the Olympics and World Championships of International Federations. "The Olympic channel is our game changer to stay ahead of the curve. It goes well beyond a TV channel – it is a digital platform that will leverage all technology trends. It will give Olympic fans the opportunity to view, engage with, and share the magic of Olympic sport" said President Bach.

**MAY
THE IOC ATHLETE LEARNING GATEWAY**
During the 7th IOC Athlete Career Programme

Forum in Lima, Peru, the IOC launched a free, online education service aimed specifically at Olympians, other elite athletes and their coaches called “The IOC Athlete Learning Gateway.” For more information refer to: <http://onlinecourse.olympic.org/>

INCREASE OF WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN THE IOC

The President of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach, has announced widespread changes to the composition and function of the IOC commissions for 2015. The changes increase the number of women and geographical representation and are a direct result of the reforms stemming from implementation of Olympic Agenda 2020. President Bach has significantly increased the number of women nominated to a commission, with a third (32%) of places now taken by women – a 49% increase since he took office two years ago.

JULY IOC’S STANCE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

The IOC made a strong statement against discrimination stating that countries hoping to bid for the Olympics in the future must allow female athletes to ‘freely participate’ and commit to ‘non-discrimination.’ The IOC’s move toward setting higher expectations for Olympic host nations began in 2013 when then-future Winter Olympic host Sochi passed laws outlawing certain aspects of homosexuality. In the time following those Games, President Bach added a clause to Olympic host city contracts forbidding discrimination on the part of local governments.

BEIJING TO BE THE ONLY CITY TO HOST THE SUMMER AND WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

The 2008 Summer Olympic Games host city, Beijing, will enter history as the only city to host the Summer and Winter Olympic Games after being awarded the 2022 Winter Games. At the 128th IOC Session in Kuala Lumpur the members voted for Beijing ahead of Almaty in Kazakhstan. It was a tight contest with members voting 44-40 in favour of Beijing.

OLYMPIC DAY JULY 23

Based on the three pillars “move”, “learn” and “discover”, National Olympic Committees around the globe deployed sports, cultural and educational activities which address everybody – regardless age, gender, social background or sporting ability. Head to the link for more information: <http://www.olympic.org/olympic-day>

IOC COORDINATION COMMISSION PLEASED WITH TOKYO 2020 PROGRESS

The IOC noted the excellent work done by the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee in implementing Olympic Agenda 2020 reforms into its venue master plan and other aspects of preparations. By making greater use of existing facilities (including those from Tokyo 1964 Olympic Games) and working to ensure that new venues deliver on the needs for the Games and the subsequent legacy, the application of Olympic Agenda 2020 for Tokyo 2020 has already resulted in approximately AUD \$2.3 billion in savings from the revised construction budget.

ARGENTINA TO HOST THE 3RD SUMMER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

The Argentinian city of Buenos Aires was announced as host of the 2018 Youth Olympic Games. In August 2015, the IOC delegation concluded the two-day meeting, enthused by extensive plans to engage young people and innovate at every stage of the preparations.

AUGUST LAUSANNE TO HOST 2020 WINTER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

The home of the Olympic Movement, Lausanne, Switzerland was voted to host the 3rd Winter Youth Olympic Games in 2020.

SEPTEMBER ATTRACTING THE YOUTH

IOC Vice-President John Coates has stressed that the future events and sports on the Olympic program “must be attractive to youth.” The five sports in contention to be added to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games are Softball/Baseball, Karate, Skateboarding, Sport Climbing and Surfing. Coates added that these sports are in



the running because of their youth involvement and popularity around the globe saying, “Universality and gender equality are key in selecting new sports or events but the IOC will also consider an up and coming sport that is gaining in popularity especially with youth.”

IOC SUPPORTS REFUGEES

The IOC announced a \$2 million fund that will be made available to National Olympic Committees for programs focused on refugees. “We have all been touched by the terrible news and the heartbreaking stories unfolding across the Middle East, Africa and Europe, sport and the Olympic Movement wanted to play its part in bringing humanitarian help to the refugees. We have a long term relationship with the United Nations and we draw on their help and expertise” said the IOC President, Thomas Bach. President Bach announced that top athletes who are refugees with no home country to represent will be allowed to compete at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games under the Olympic Flag.

NOVEMBER IOC PRIORITISING THE PROTECTION OF CLEAN ATHLETES

The protection of clean athletes became a top priority for the IOC. “The Russian athlete doping ban has brought worldwide attention with Russia’s track and field athletes only eligible for the Olympics, if the country falls into line with all global anti-doping rules and the reforms are verifiable”, says IOC President Thomas Bach.

DECEMBER 2024 HOST CITY CANDIDATES

The IOC announced a very strong field of candidates for the Olympic Games in 2024. Four cities – Budapest (HUN), Los Angeles (USA), Paris (FRA), and Rome (ITA) – will compete to host the 2024 Olympic Games. The IOC will continue to work in close collaboration with each Candidate City to provide them with the best possible services and assistance in the lead-up to the election in 2017. ●



IOC ATHLETE'S COMMISSION

In October 2015, the 7th IOC International Athletes' Forum was held in Lausanne, Switzerland with the outcome a set of recommendations aimed at empowering Athletes' Commissions at all levels. The Athletes' Forum recommendations included:

- Empowering athletes through better communication and provision of information. Fully integrating all athletes' communications into the Olympic Channel.
- To make all International Federations

establish Athletes' Commissions in accordance with the relevant IOC guidelines.

- The Court of Arbitration for Sport to develop and educate athlete arbitrators.

Australian rowing great, James Tomkins OAM is Australia's representative on the IOC's Athletes' Commission. Tomkins was a member of Australia's "Oarsome Foursome" winning three gold medals and a bronze throughout his six Olympics and a rowing career that spanned over 20 years.

WORLD OLYMPIANS FORUM



The inaugural World Olympians Forum (WOF) held in Moscow on 21 October 2015 saw Olympians, representatives of the IOC, the National Olympians Associations and the Olympic Family, Governments and other key stakeholders come together to celebrate Olympism and the achievements of Olympians worldwide. Natalie Cook, five-time Australian Olympian, was appointed to the World Olympians Association Board as a representative of the Oceania region.



"We pledge to oppose any political or governmental interference in the autonomy of sports organisations which might prevent an athlete from exercising their right to compete in the Olympic Games or other major sporting event which also embody the Olympic spirit."

"We pledge to oppose any political or governmental interference in the autonomy of sports organisations which might prevent an athlete from exercising their right to compete in the Olympic Games or other major sporting event which also embody the Olympic spirit," the declaration says.

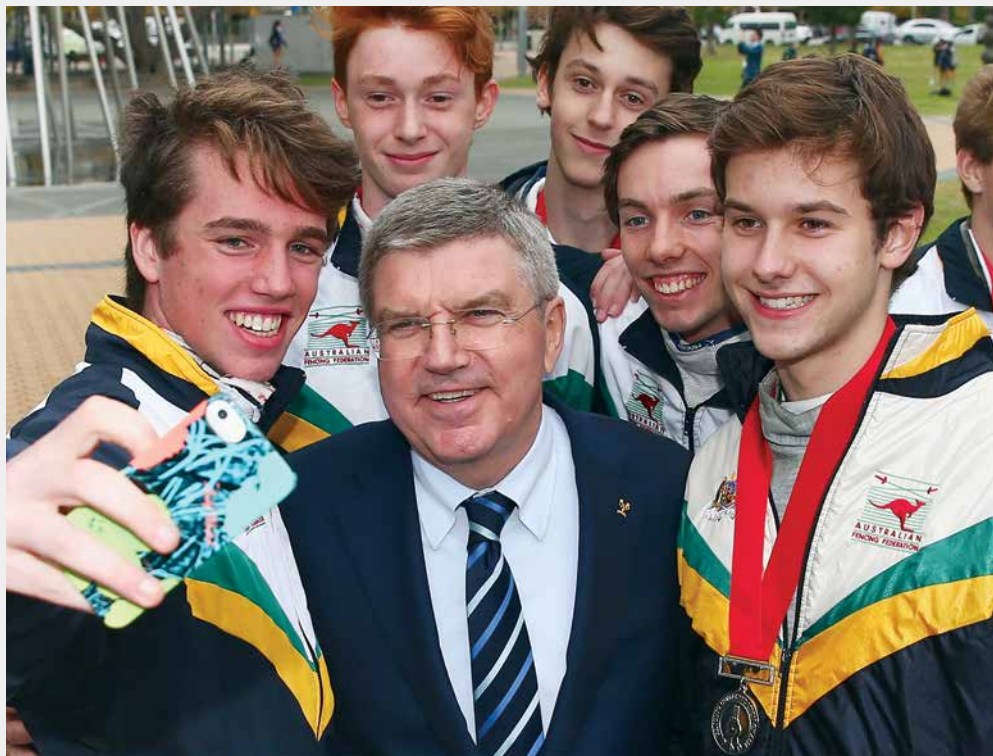
The launch of the WOF marked new ground for the WOA in its strategic mission to create a meaningful platform for Olympians to share best practices and discuss the topics of greatest concern to them. The Forum also symbolises the new spirit of collaboration between the IOC and the WOA, which includes an agreement to work in close partnership with integrated teams delivering joint projects.

The forum discussed the challenges and best practice amongst Olympic networks globally and locally such as athletes transitions. The forum has now established an ongoing network with the WOA and IOC to share continuing solutions. ●

The highlight of the WOF was the signing of the Declaration of Support for the Olympic Charter which was signed by Olympians and from all five continents. The declaration pledges:

- To continue to spread the spirit and practice of Olympism in our communities.
- To work for peace and a better life for all through sport.
- To help our fellow Olympians with their life transitions and their post-career health and fitness issues.

IOC PRESIDENT BACH VISITS AUSTRALIA



Bach had not been to Australia since the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and it took no time at all to “really feel at home again amongst friends.”



The President of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach, visited Australia in April 2015 on his way to the Oceania Olympic National Committee (OCNC) meetings in Fiji.

Accompanied by AOC President John Coates, President Bach's Australian visit began in Canberra meeting with Prime Minister Tony Abbott. He then travelled to Sydney and toured Sydney Olympic Park with Sports Minister Sussan Ley along with other dignitaries and athletes. “It was a very emotional visit I must say for very different reasons. First of all it was emotional coming back after 15 years and seeing the Olympic Park and having very good memories” said Bach. “There was also some very special moments when we saw the video of Cathy Freeman's win in the 400m. I was at the Stadium at the time and the video today still gives you goosebumps. You remember the roar in the stadium and how this tension exploded in joy after she crossed the finish line. I guess this is the most glorious moment in Australian sport and one of the most glorious in all Olympic sports. It was more than winning the race or lighting the cauldron, it was a major step for reconciliation of Australia with the indigenous people” said Bach.



The President enjoyed meeting a group of young Australian fencers who are targeting the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The Australian fencing team made Bach, an Olympic Fencing Champion, an honorary member. Bach reflected on his SOPA visit by saying, “We had it all today. We had the past, we had the present - with this unique legacy of Olympic Park to which I can only congratulate everybody involved. This is a benchmark for Olympic organisers what you can see here.”

While in Sydney President Bach also met with politicians from South-East Queensland to discuss a potential 2028 Olympic Games bid for the region. Bach says Australia's famous love of sport gives the nation a great chance of hosting the 2028 Olympics, if an expected bid from South-East Queensland eventuates.

The delegation also visited the Munich Memorial outside of the Olympic Stadium to pay tribute to the victims who lost their lives in the terrorist attack at the 1972 Olympic Games. This memorial shows the extremes of what Olympic Games mean and the significance of the Games on society”, said Bach.

Bach reflected on the words of his predecessor, Juan Antonio Samaranch, who had labelled the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games as the ‘best Games ever’. “Sydney Olympic Park set the benchmark for all future Games and the people of Sydney continue to enjoy the legacy forever”, said Bach. ●

INSIDE THE AOC



2015 Highlights

JANUARY

World Anti-Doping Code: Australian sport has embraced the new World Anti-Doping Code with AOC President John Coates declaring the uptake a “clear indication that Australian sport is united in the fight against doping.”

Official Supermarket of the Australian Olympic Team: Woolworths, the Fresh Food People, signed on as an official sponsor for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

FEBRUARY

AOC Strategic Framework 2015-2024: Members of the AOC Executive and Staff undertook a series of working groups to re-articulate our mission and develop a united focus on achieving organisational short and long-term goals.

MARCH

Law Firm for the Australian Olympic Team: Leading Australian consumer law firm, Slater + Gordon was announced as the official law firm for the Australian Olympic Team for the Rio 2016 Olympics through to PyeongChang 2018 and Tokyo 2020. Slater + Gordon will also support the Australian Youth Olympic Teams as they prepare for events in Lillehammer 2016, Buenos Aires 2018 and on to 2020.

APRIL

ANZAC Day Commemorations: To commemorate ANZAC Day the AOC recognised the 40 Olympians who enlisted in WW1. For a list of these athletes head to: <http://corporate.olympics.com.au/news/remembering-australian-olympians-enlisted-in-world-war-i>.

IOC President Bach visits Australia: IOC President Thomas Bach visited Australia and met





with the AOC President John Coates, the Australian Prime Minister as well as South-East Queensland Mayors to discuss a potential bid for 2028.

New Olympic Training Centre: The WAIS High Performance Service Centre in Mt Claremont WA, was officially opened and provides WA's Olympic and Paralympic athletes with a world class training facility as they prepare for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

MAY

Brownlee awarded the Olympic Order: The Vice President of the Australian Olympic Committee, Helen Brownlee OAM, was awarded the Olympic Order for her contribution to world sport and her dedication to upholding the Olympic ideals. Helen has been a pioneer for women in sport and is the first female Vice

President of the AOC. She has devoted much of her life to her sport of canoeing as a competitor, then as an official attending six Olympic Games and finally as an administrator.

AOC Recognise the Nation's First People: At the AOC's Annual General Meeting, member federations voted unanimously to amend the AOC's Constitution to recognise the nation's first people and indigenous heritage. The new passage in the AOC's Constitution reads "To recognise the heritage, culture and contribution of our nation's first people and to give practical support to indigenous reconciliation through sport."

Uluru Indigenous Fun Run: Over 100 Indigenous runners participated in the 2015 Indigenous Marathon Project's Deadly Fun Run Championship (DFR) in Uluru to celebrate the 30 year anniversary of the handing back of the

nation's most iconic natural landmark to its traditional owners. Olympian and World Champion marathon runner, Robert de Castella is the Founder and Director of the Indigenous Marathon Foundation (IMF) and said having the support of the AOC at the DFR was incredibly inspiring to the young Indigenous children who participated. The AOC had a team of five athletes supporting the run. These were made up of Indigenous Olympians including Kyle Vander-Kuyp (Athletics), Des Abbott (Hockey) and Beki Smith (Athletics) as well as Beijing 2008 silver medallist, Hannah Davis (Canoe/Kayak) and a prospective Rio Team member, Tanisha Stanton (Rugby Sevens).

Official Partner of the Australian Olympic Team: Seven West Media Group underpinned its commitment to the Olympic Movement in Australia by becoming an official Partner. Kerry Stokes AC, Chairman of Seven West Media said "We are extraordinarily proud of our long-term partnership with the Olympic Movement. We are looking forward to Rio and beyond and are delighted to commit our company to a partnership with the Australian Olympic Committee."

JUNE

Olympic Day: 23 July 2015 saw many Olympians visiting local schools to share the Olympic values, including Ken Wallace (Canoe/Kayak), Steve Moneghetti (Athletics) and Stephanie Moorhouse (Gymnastics).

First Rio Olympians Selected: Modern Pentathlon siblings, Chloe and Max Esposito were the first athletes to be selected for the Australian Team for Rio 2016.

JULY

Australia competes in Pacific Games: Australia competed for the first time at the 15th Pacific Games held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Invited to compete in four sports, 42 Australian athletes took on the Pacific nations in Weightlifting, Rugby Sevens, Sailing and Taekwondo. It was not only a successful campaign for the athletes, but a journey full of cultural appreciation and respect for the Pacific



Games. Australian Chef de Mission and dual Olympic gold medallist in sailing, Malcolm Page said Papua New Guinea had been a fantastic host. "The spirit here has been incredible, an amazing welcoming for Australia at its first Pacific Games."

AUGUST

One Year to Rio: The 'one year to go' mark was celebrated Australia wide on 5 August 2015 with numerous fundraising events involving Olympians across the country. At the same time the AOC launched its new brand and website for Rio. The new revitalised identity was accompanied by a video featuring summer and winter athletes, including Olympic Gold Medallists Sally Pearson, Matthew Mitcham and Lydia Lassila. The AOC also introduced the motto "Come With Us Australia."

New AOC Brand Launch: The AOC modernised its brand in a bold move designed to give fans more access to the athletes wearing green and gold at the Rio Games. "We are bringing the athletes and the fans together with one emblem so every Australian feels they are part of the Team," AOC Chief Executive Officer, Fiona de Jong said at the launch of the new brand in Sydney. The AOC felt it was time to revitalise the brand while maintaining the history and heritage associated with the Australian Olympic Team. The first athletes to compete with the new mark will be the Lillehammer 2016 Youth Winter Team in February 2016.

Official Partner of the Olympic Team: The AOC announced Mondelēz International as the Official chocolate, candy, biscuits and spreads Partner of the Australian Olympic Team.

AOC Medication Ban for Rio: The AOC's ban on certain hypnotics remains in place for the Olympic Games in Rio. The AOC Executive decided the ban will apply from the date an athlete is selected on to the 2016 Australian Olympic Team.

SEPTEMBER

15th Anniversary Sydney 2000 Olympics: 2015 marked the 15th anniversary of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, when Australia welcomed the world to its shores. Fifteen years on, the AOC reflected on the joy and excitement of hosting the Olympic Games and the lasting memories generated on and off the field of play. Olympian Clubs hosted reunions to celebrate the momentous anniversary.

OCTOBER

Natalie Cook Appointed to WOA Board: Five-time Australian Olympian Natalie Cook was appointed to the World Olympians Association (WOA) Board as a representative of the Oceania Region. "It's an honour to be chosen to represent

the Oceania region on the WOA Board. After spending four years on the ground with the Oceania Athletes' Commission I feel that I can make a difference on a global level to ensure the athletes have the best possible support network available," Cook said.

AOC Executive Appointment: The President of Volleyball Australia and leading businessman, Craig Carracher, was appointed to the Executive of the AOC following the resignation of Russell Withers.

Peter Norman's Historic Actions are Valued: The AOC recognised and supported Peter Norman's performance at the Mexico 1968 Olympic Games to win silver in the 200m and then support the black salute from American gold and bronze medallists, Tommie Smith and John Carlos. Norman is very much acknowledged as an Olympian and the AOC valued his contribution.

NOVEMBER

Brownlee Inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame: Helen Brownlee OAM was inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2015 as a General Member for her services as a sports administrator within the sport of Canoeing and the Olympic movement. Helen was welcomed



into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame fold by fellow Member and five-time Olympic Kayaker, Clint Robinson.

Official Partner of the Olympic Team: The AOC announced, News Corp Australia as a Partner of Australian Olympic Teams through to 2020. This partnership represents a return to the Olympic family for News Corp, following their sponsorship of the Sydney 2000 Torch Relay.

DECEMBER

In the spirit of Christmas, a number of the State Olympic Councils held Christmas functions for Olympians and stakeholders to celebrate the year that passed. ●

"We are bringing the athletes and the fans together with one emblem so every Australian feels they are part of the Team."

*Fiona de Jong,
AOC Chief Executive Officer*



ATHLETE TRANSITION

In 2015 the AOC's Athletes' Commission prioritised 'Athlete Transition'. We trust you find the following eight Olympians stories of transition insightful. For more information, please contact Athlete and Olympian Services at the AOC on Tel 02 9247 2000

MICHELLE MITCHELL

*Hockey
Atlanta 1996*



When did you finish competing? I retired in 2000 due to injury.

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? I decided it was time to retire due to ongoing knee injuries, forced retirement.

What was the hardest part of your transition? Going from an elite environment where I was supported on and off the pitch to having to survive in the "real world" on my own. Taking responsibility and ownership of my life.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? Make sure you have your ducks lined up and an exit plan for 'where to next'. If you have support in your sporting environment, tap into the resource and support prior to leaving. Find a mentor to support you through transition and that you can use as a sounding board.

What is your current occupation? Player Development Manager at the Gold Coast Suns Football Club.

What is your career goal? I have just landed my dream job at AFL as the Player Development Manager, supporting all players off the field and making sure they maximise their opportunities whilst playing AFL and nurturing and strengthening the personal and professional development of the playing group.

HANNAH DAVIS

*Kayak/Canoe
Beijing 2008, London 2012*



When did you finish competing? I raced my last Flatwater Kayaking World Championships in 2013, and my last National Championships in 2014. I still compete in Surf Life Saving on the Surf Ski for a good time and to get my paddling fix!

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? While I still loved paddling, I no longer had the passion that I needed to be the best elite athlete I could be. Instead, I had a growing desire to begin to explore a life and professional career away from sport.

What was the hardest part of your transition? My life went from being completely structured, day in day out, to one day waking up to no structure at all. I had to redefine my daily routines, and establish new goals in a world that was quite foreign to me.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? Seek support, both from friends and family, but also from the professionals, while adjusting to your new life. I experienced some really tough times and battled with mild depression & anxiety, trying to cope with all of the new changes on my own. I wish I had reached out sooner!

What is your current occupation? I am the Programs Manager at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence in Redfern, NSW. I have also just been accepted for my Juris Doctor at the University of NSW, which I will commence as a part time student in 2016.

What is your career goal? I hope to be a strong advocate for human rights, both in Australia, and abroad, while also being a positive role model for women.

JENNI SCREEN

Basketball
Beijing 2008, London 2012

When did you finish competing? I retired from the Australian women's Basketball Team in July 2014 & professionally February 2015.

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? Instincts - I woke up one morning and just knew deep in my gut that it was time. I could no longer push through the pain barrier to keep going. I had achieved and taken and given all I could from Basketball. It was time to move on. There are more things in life that I want to accomplish.

What was the hardest part of your transition? Acknowledging the decision was the hardest. It is easy to think it but to verbalise it to my team mates was the toughest part. I miss them everyday. The mateship and laughs are the hardest part of walking away.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? Never make a decision based on emotion. Be clear in mind and body when considering such a massive component of your life. Additionally, remember you are not defined by your sport. It is not who you are but rather it is what you do. When you realise this, the opportunities post career are endless. The world has so much to offer you, even outside sport.

What is your current occupation? I have a Masters in Exercise Science (Strength and Conditioning) and now am almost 12 months in as the High Performance Manager of Athlete Development with ESS Performance, a private company assisting athletes both in Melbourne and Sydney who strive for excellence in their chosen sports. I love my job. I love working with like minded people. People that want to better themselves.



What is your career goal? This changes regularly. If I am being honest, I just want to be able to give people the opportunities that I was lucky to have received when I was a youngster. If I can do that in some small capacity then that is a career goal for me. But I do remember sitting watching Chef de Mission Kitty Chiller present on the Road to Rio Campaigns and I thought to myself, 10 to 15 years from now I want to be that – the Chef de Mission of the Australian Olympic Team. May never happen but a girl has to dream right? Watch this Space!

BROOKE PRATLEY

Rowing
Beijing 2008, London 2012



When did you finish competing? I finished competing after the 2012 London Olympics. I had a practice run of retirement following the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games but found myself back in full time training after a year out of the sport.

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? By the time the 2012 London Olympics came around I felt quite strongly I was ready for retirement. I was enjoying my time as an athlete but was very aware that it was all coming to an end. I had already started counting down testing sessions and was looking to the future in regard to having children and moving on with life.

What was the hardest part of your transition? I retired from rowing twice; the first time following an Olympic performance I was disappointed with and the second after picking up an Olympic medal. I found both transitions equally hard. It took me about two years to adjust. I would often be very nervous before races and big competition. One of the things I missed most in retirement was having something mean so much to me that it could make me feel sick with a mess of excitement, dread, anticipation and nervous energy. Training for an Olympics gave me such an overriding sense of purpose and a feeling of being part of something special that to begin with I felt quite lost without it. Time and motherhood have neatly wrapped up the transition for me. I can now watch international races without butterflies and a sense of detachment rather than a longing to leap back into the boat.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? You are a long time retired. Enjoy the ride while you are still on it. It does help to have at least the semblance of a plan as to what shape the next goal posts will take on.

What is your current occupation? I work as a Sports Physiotherapist and am also a very happy mum to my 8 month old baby girl, Evelyn.

What is your career goal? I am very lucky to have a job I really enjoy that allows me to work flexible hours. I plan to continue growing the practice I am working in and extend my professional development.

TOBY JENKINS

*Water Polo
Athens 2004*



When did you finish competing? 2005 Montreal World Championships was my last international tournament. I finished playing National League in 2010.

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? I started my business Bluewire Media in January 2005 and realised that it was gripping my attention and motivation more than water polo so that became my last international season.

What was the hardest part of your transition? The part I missed the most was the regular contact with my teammates. I really loved the high performance environment of Olympic sport too and so I've tried to bring that across to my business career.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? It doesn't have to be an all or nothing decision – you can build a business or have a career and play your sport. That way you can test whether you're ready to really move on. And find people whose work you admire and have accomplished what you want to accomplish. Ask them for help and then apply it to your own situation. You'll save yourself years and years of learning.

What is your current occupation? I am a husband, dad, entrepreneur, author, speaker and digital marketing consultant.

What is your career goal? Right now – to improve the digital marketing skills of 100,000 students. Lifelong: to be a polymath working on high impact projects around the world with great people.

MATT DUNN

*Swimming
Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996,
Sydney 2000*

When did you finish competing? After Sydney 2000.

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? The main goal for me to continue swimming past Sydney would have been to compete in Athens. At that stage of my career I knew that it would have been difficult to make substantial improvements and realised that a four year period would be a great time to create a new foundation to develop a new career from.

What was the hardest part of your transition? Initially it was the lack of routine but also disconnecting from such a motivated, focused and professional training squad all of whom were, and still are, great mates. A bit further down the track I found the hardest part being trying to establish my own identity in a new career path knowing that my peers have had a very big head start.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? Understand that being at the pinnacle of sport doesn't entitle you to step across into a totally new field at the same level. The level that you step into the new career at is only as good as the foundation you have created. Therefore the sooner an athlete can recognise this the better. This will allow them to plan to either start creating this foundation while competing or plan to create this foundation when they retire. I think that creating the foundation while competing is the best option by far for many reasons. The key is to actually have a plan and be realistic at the point of retirement.

What is your current occupation? Director of Capital Transactions at Savills.

I have been in the property industry for about 12 years developing business space for the likes of Goodman Group and other large developers. In the last year I took a position with Savills selling commercial office buildings with a focus on Sydney. The attraction to join them was the strength of the Caps Trans team and the strong growth of our market share.

What is your career goal? To continue to extend and develop my skills within the property industry. I really enjoy the transactional nature of the industry so as long I'm "doing deals", whether it be developments or sales, I feel like I'm moving forward and making progress.



RAMONE COOPER

Freestyle Skiing
Vancouver 2010

When did you finish competing? Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. I injured myself four weeks out but made a full recovery and competed. However in January 2011 I made the decision to hang up the ski boots.

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? I viewed and planned my career in four year cycles. Having the benefit of training alongside Dale Begg-Smith (Gold in 2006 and Silver in 2010) my goal was to win a medal in Sochi. I had a really clear picture of what was required to achieve this but in the end, what steered my decision was having the experience to identify that my goal was unrealistic and I became enthusiastic about throwing my energy in a new direction.

What was the hardest part of your transition? As a winter athlete I spent 6–9 months of the year overseas and having grown up in a small country town I thoroughly embraced and enjoyed it. The global winter sport community is also very tight knit and I built a strong network of like-minded peers so transitioning from sport life and the network into the unknown was difficult at first, however, as something I value have tried to maintain since retiring, albeit from a different perspective.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? Take a step back and remove yourself from the minutia of a daily training routine so you can bring about a renewed perspective of what you aim to achieve in life. Have clarity and follow through and commit to change or renew your focus. Use your skills you've developed as an elite athlete as many skills are relevant in life outside of sport. Identify what they are so as to communicate to prospective employers is a really important point of difference and something that should



be practiced and developed during your athletic career.

What is your current occupation? National Pathway and Programs Manager with Ski & Snowboard Australia across 13 different snow sports from grass roots to high performance. I was also on the 2014 Australian Olympic Winter Team and the 2012 and 2016 Australian Winter Youth Olympic Teams as a Performance Manager and Young Ambassador.

What is your career goal? I really enjoy working in sport and with my passion in winter sport, I see a long affiliation. I have enjoyed being flexible and open to different opportunities in my professional career. I hope to continue working in a field that I am passionate about and in an environment that is challenging and rewarding.

STEPHEN WOOLDRIDGE OAM

Cycling
Athens 2004



What was the hardest part of your transition? After approx. 1–2 years when the reality of not being able to compete hits in. Additionally for me, all of my friends were still racing and on the other side of the world most of the year so I very rarely saw them. These days we are almost all around an hour from each other and catch up regularly.

What would be one piece of advice you would give to athletes considering retiring? Well from my perspective I was told one piece of advice from an ex-Wallaby World Cup winner I will never forget. “Steve, you will go from being at the top of your game in cycling, to a shit kicker in another field. The quicker you realise that, the quicker you will move through the ranks and give yourself opportunities.”

When did you finish competing? January 2007.

What made you decide that it was time for your transition? To start to raise a family in Australia (not on the other side of the world) and to begin a new professional career at an age I felt still gave me plenty of room to grow.

What is your current occupation? Development Director, UNSW Engineering.

What is your career goal? To be a major fundraiser whether philanthropic or in the financial markets and to excel in bringing people together for the greater good of both parties. ●

MENTORING JANE MORAN ON BEING A MENTEE UNDER THE WOMEN ATHLETES BUSINESS NETWORK

Jane Moran has successfully completed a business mentoring program of the Women Athletes Business Network (WABN), which was co-funded by the International Women's Forum (IWF) and Ernst & Young. Jane was one of 25 retired athletes selected for this highly regarded program. She was mentored monthly throughout 2015 by Helen Rule, CEO Imatech (IWF Member) and Patricia Twaalfhoven, Senior

Director Transport for NSW. Jane advised that it was a fantastic learning experience, culminating in attendance at the IWF Annual Leadership Conference, and the Inaugural WABN Roundtable in Boston, Massachusetts in October 2015. Other attendees were from North America, Jamaica, Sweden, Egypt, New Zealand and Israel, and included Olympic medalists from Track and Field, Swimming, Hockey, Skiing, Taekwondo, Water Polo and Luge, Tennis professionals, WNBA players and all-star team members, Rugby World Cup participants and Wheelchair Marathon racers.

OLYMPIANS IN THE COMMUNITY

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MARCH

Students from Subiaco Primary School and Quintilian Primary School in Perth got a special treat when they were visited by Olympic athletes Sonja Johnson (Equestrian), Fiona Crawley (Hockey), Toni Cronk (Hockey) and David Guest (Hockey). The students were delighted to hear stories about each of the athletes own personal experiences, and eagerly asked questions about the Olympic Games.

More than 200 students at Churchlands Senior High School, Duncraig Senior High School and Sheldon College in Perth were inspired by Australia Olympic athletes at a 'Meet with a Champ' session. The one hour talk featured Belinda Stowell (Sailing), Natalie Bale (Rowing), Olivia Vivian (Gymnastics) and Matthew Swam (Diving) where students were able to experience a multimedia display, including highlights of the Olympic Games and Olympic memorabilia such as medals and uniforms.

MAY

Indigenous athlete and Olympic bronze medalist, Joel Carroll (Hockey) took time out to chat to the kids from Gapuwiyak High School in the Northern Territory as part of the Australian Olympic Committee's 'Chat to a Champ' series.

The 7th annual Sports United event for the Wesley Homeless Service was an opportunity for the corporate world and the sporting world to unite and raise much needed funds. Olympic sisters Holly Lincoln-Smith (Water Polo) and Emma Lincoln-Smith (Skeleton) attended the lunch on 14 May at the Royal Automobile Club of Australia (RAC) in Sydney.

Jane Moran (Water Polo 2012) was one of 25 retired athletes worldwide who are in any form of business selected for Women Athletes Business Network (WABN). The program matched a mentor who is a CEO and who is an International Women's Forum (IWF) member.

JUNE

The 2015 International Olympic Academy's 55th Young Participants Session was held from May 23rd to June 6th and brought together a large group of international and diverse participants from around the world to the ancient city of Olympia. Australia was represented by Scott Kneller (Skiing) and Ashleigh Knight, Education Manager at the Australian Olympic Committee. Scott had the opportunity to give an athlete presentation to the participants about his experience at the 2010 Vancouver and 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games, which he did with great professionalism and grace.

Australian Snowboarder and Sochi 2014 Olympian, Jarrod Hughes, spoke to students at Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College at the Monster skate park at Sydney Olympic Park. Hughes' visit and talk with students from Monte for Olympic Day was another example of an Olympian inspiring young Australians to participate in sport and lead active and healthy lifestyles.

Students in two NSW primary schools were fortunate enough to experience Olympian visits as part of the celebration of International Olympic Day. Rebecca Rippon (Water Polo) and Steph Magiros (Snowboard) visited All Hallows Catholic Primary School in Five Dock and Singapore 2012 Youth Olympic Games athlete, Michelle Jenneke (Athletics) visited students at North Epping Primary School. The 100m hurdler secured a silver medal at the Australian Championships in 2015 behind Olympic Champion Sally Pearson. Michelle is hoping to fulfil her dreams of competing at the Olympic Games in Rio.

Selina Scoble (Volleyball) ran the Scenic Rim Council Leadership program that involved 36 grade 10 Queensland students. This is the largest and most successful youth program run in the area that leads the students through a series of interactive workshops over a five month program to develop their leadership skills.

JULY

Over 100 Indigenous runners participated in the 2015 Indigenous Marathon Project's Deadly Fun Run Championships (DFRS) in Uluru to celebrate the 30 year anniversary of the handing back of the nation's most iconic natural landmark to its traditional owners. Olympian and World Champion marathon runner, Robert de Castella is the Founder and Director of the Indigenous Marathon Foundation (IMF) and said having the support of the AOC at the DFRS was incredibly inspiring to the young Indigenous children who participated. The AOC had a team of five Indigenous Athletes supporting the run including Kyle Vander-Kuyp (Athletics), Des Abbott (Hockey), Beki Smith (Athletics) along with prospective 2016 Rio team member, Tanisha Stanton (Rugby Sevens) and Hannah Davis (Kayak).

Olympians Lyndsie Fogarty (Canoe/Kayak) and Stephanie Moorhouse (Gymnastics) travelled to Tamworth to attend the inaugural National Primary Games and promote and inspire Olympism to approximately 1500 young athletes. These two Olympians were on hand to cheer on and motivate athletes who were participating in the two-day tournament across 12 different sports.

OLYMPIANS IN THE COMMUNITY

AUGUST

Over 750 international swimmers, including Sydney 2000 gold medallist swimmer and Deputy Chef de Mission of the 2016 Australian Team Chris Fydler (Swimming), participated in a commemorative swim in Anzac Cove, Turkey. The event was organised by the Turkish Olympic Committee (TOC) to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Gallipoli.

Fresh off their test event in Rio de Janeiro, Olympic triathletes Emma Moffatt and Courtney Atkinson participated in the Australian Olympic Committee's 'Chat with a Champ' with three primary schools. Students of St Phillips College in Cessnock, Fahan School in Hobart and St Thomas' Catholic Primary School in Willoughby all had the chance to chat with some experienced Olympians and ask them questions about their Olympic journeys.

SEPTEMBER

Students from Derby District School, WA and Murrumbidgeer Catholic Primary School, NT chat with three-time Olympian and Australian Hockey Captain Mark Knowles. This marked the second "Chat with a Champ" session in conjunction with the Federal Government's "Remote Schools Attendance Strategy".

OCTOBER

Shaun Boyle (Skeleton) volunteered his time running the events and handing out medals to the competitors at the Mini Olympics Day held at Beaton Park Leisure Centre Stadium in Wollongong. The event is run by Essential Personnel who help find employment for people with a disability and also help young children.

The Australian Olympic Committee's (AOC) 'Meet with a Champ' program saw a number



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of Olympians visit schools across Australia during October.

In Victoria, Stephanie Moorhouse (Gymnastics) and Joshua Dunkley-Smith (Rowing) visited Melton Secondary College while Tamsin Hinchley (Beach Volleyball) and Matson Lawson (Swimming) visited Mornington Secondary College.

In Queensland, Lara Davenport (Swimming) and Meagan Nay (Swimming) visited Craigsea State High School in Brisbane and shared an insight into life in the pool, before Davenport travelled to Coolumb State High School on the Sunshine Coast with Shara Gillow (Cycling).

Merici College in Canberra also played host to a couple of special guests with Olympians Caroline Buchanan (BMX) and Tristan Thomas (Athletics) participating in a 'Meet with a Champ' session.

Olympians Jayde Taylor (Hockey), Kate Jenner (Hockey), Georgia Nanscawen (Hockey) and Olivia Vivian (Gymnastics) were among a group of eight athletes visiting 14 schools, facilitating eight sports clinics and conducting two coaches' breakfasts for the Champions 2 Country Tour. The four day tour reached approximately 2,500 people in the towns of Northam, Toodyay, York, Merredin and Narrogin in WA.

NOVEMBER

Olympic champions and education ambassadors shared their sporting journeys with participants and students from around Australia at the 2015 Pacific School Games. The flagship event of School Sport Australia, Pacific School Games provides opportunities for around 4000 school-aged students to participate in nine different sports at the highest level, as well as participating in education excursions. Amber Halliday (Rowing), Johan Linde (Boxing), Lou Bawden (Volleyball), Jess Trengrove (Athletics),

Amy Cure (Cycling) and Renee Chatterton (Rowing) all participated in a range of events throughout the week including education excursions, team sports dinners and sports events.

Sally Hunter (Swimming) attended the Paringa Park Primary School to share her Beijing and London Olympic Games experience with the students, teachers and parents for their Sports Award Ceremony.

DECEMBER

Dual Olympic weightlifter Deb Acason (née Lovely) moved to the small town of Miles in Western QLD and set up the first Olympic weightlifting club in Western QLD. Deb conducted Talent identification at the local high school and attracted around 35 new members to the sport. In 2015 Deb completed her Australian Weightlifting Federation coaching level 3 course which is the highest level in Australia. In December 2014 Deb was nominated as an AWF National Director and she will serve another minimum two years on the National Board. "There is a need for sports and especially Olympic athletes to continue their visits to schools particularly in the rural communities and provide much needed support for local sporting clubs. I want to encourage all Olympians who have the chance to visit rural areas to go because it is definitely an experience. There is a wealth of talent in the young country kids in these communities if they have the right support." ●

OLYMPIANS CONGRATULATIONS

BIRTHS

Mathew Belcher (Sailing – Beijing 2008, London 2012) and his wife Riky on the birth of their daughter Amelie in November 2015.

Sara Carrigan (Cycling – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008) and her husband Stevo Sing on the birth of their daughter Bobbi in June 2015.

Natalie Cook (Beach Volleyball – Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, London 2012) and Sarah Maxwell on the birth of their daughter Jordan Natalie Maxell in October 2015.

Suzie Fraser (Water Polo – Beijing 2008) and her husband Tim Case on the birth of their daughter Lily in January 2015.

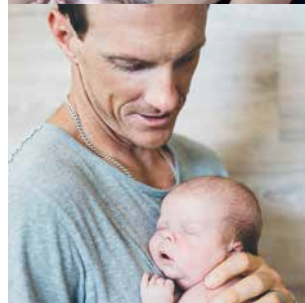
Amber Halliday (Rowing – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008) and partner Mello Bouwmeester on the birth of their son Monty Rex in June 2015.

Steve Hooker (Athletics – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, London 2012) and Ekaterina Kostetskaya on the birth of their son Benjamin Alexander in September 2015.

Rebecca Joyce (Rowing – Atlanta 1996) and her husband **Lachlan Elmer** (Hockey – Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996) on the birth of their daughter Isabella in June 2015.

Lydia Lassila (Aerial Skiing – Salt Lake City 2002, Torino 2006, Vancouver 2010, Sochi 2014) and her husband Lauri Lassila on the birth of their son Alek in February 2015.

Brooke Pratley (Rowing – Beijing 2008, London 2012) and partner Dan on the birth of their daughter Evelyn in March 2015.



Phil Rogers (Swimming – Barcelona 1992) and his wife Sonya Rogers on the birth of their daughter April Rose in November 2015.

Alice Tait (Swimming – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008) and her husband Gregor on the birth of their son Vance in August 2015.

Libby Trickett (Swimming – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, London 2012) and her husband Luke on the birth of their daughter Poppy Frances in September 2015.

Kenny Wallace (Canoe/Kayak – Beijing 2008, London 2012) and his wife Naomi on the birth of their son Bodhi Wallace in November 2015.

Matthew Belcher (Sailing – London 2012) and his wife **Friederike** (Sailing [Germany] – London 2012) on the birth of their daughter Amelie in November.

MARRIAGES

Alicia Coutts OAM (Swimming – Beijing 2008, London 2012) on her marriage to Steve Hardy in September 2015.

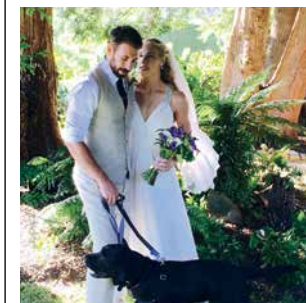
Kim Crow (Rowing – Beijing 2008, London 2012) and **Scott Brennan OAM** (Rowing – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, London 2012) in December 2015.



Tess Gerrard (Rowing – London 2012) on her marriage to Adam Vine-Hall in December 2015.

Amy Hetzel (Water Polo – Beijing 2008) on her marriage to David Jones in March 2015.

Hannah Campbell-Pegg (Luge – Vancouver 2010) on her marriage to Mark Painter in January 2015.



THE PASSING OF A GREAT – HARRY GORDON



‘Our Australian Olympic family has lost a dear and loyal friend and our sincere condolences go out to Joy [wife] and their family.’

John Coates,
AOC President, IOC Vice President

TO US, HARRY WAS A TREASURE, HIS LIFE WAS A GOLD MEDAL PERFORMANCE

A distinguished career that spanned 70 years ended in January 2015 with the passing of journalist, foreign correspondent, editor, author and Olympic historian, Harry Gordon at the age of 89. Gordon was by far one of Australia’s most admired and accomplished journalists. When it came to the Olympics, he was without peer. From the war zone in Korea, he was sent to his first Olympic Games in Helsinki in 1952 and so to the start of a love affair with the Olympic Movement.

His Olympic involvement included the “Golden era” in the 1950’s and 60’s. He chronicled the deeds of such athletes as Marjorie Jackson, Shirley Strickland, Betty Cuthbert, Dawn Fraser, Murray Rose and Herb Elliott at the Olympic Games in 1952, 1956, 1960 and 1964. He

was also glowing in his tributes to the modern day champions Kieren Perkins, Ian Thorpe, Grant Hackett and Cathy Freeman.

In 2000, Harry represented the AOC on the Olympic Co-ordination Authority and he named Olympic streets, as well as the streets and boulevards surrounding the main arenas at the Sydney Olympic Park. He became the official AOC Historian in 1992 and his 1994 book, ‘Australia and the Olympic Games’, is considered the bible of Olympic publications.

Gordon became the doyen of Australian Olympic journalists and was recognised around the world. He wrote a total of 15 books on the Olympic Movement, his final work ‘From Athens With Pride’ was published in 2014.

At his 80th birthday AOC President, John Coates, told assembled guests “Harry has earned the respect of so many people throughout Australia and many more overseas, and not just in the media. Harry is held high on a

pedestal by Olympic athletes... young and old. He is their friend, he is admired and trusted and treated like a member of the family.”

After the famous incident in 1956 in which John Landy stopped during an Australian mile championship to aid a fallen Ron Clarke, Gordon wrote an open letter to Landy in the Melbourne Sun newspaper, explaining that Landy’s action had been the “instinctive gesture of a man whose mate is in trouble.” A sculpture was unveiled in Olympic Park in 2010 to commemorate Landy’s gesture and the full text of Harry Gordon’s open letter was incorporated in it, in bronze. Gordon also wrote “Yours was the classic sporting gesture. It was a senseless piece of chivalry, but it will be remembered as one of the finest actions in the history of sport.”

‘A shining beaming light has left us.’

Peter Montgomery,
Four-time Olympian and AOC Vice President

‘He was a beautiful man, a wonderful writer and journalist and a good friend.’

Herb Elliott,
1960 Olympic Champion

AWARDS

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1980 | COMPANION OF THE ORDER OF ST MICHAEL AND ST GEORGE (CMG) FOR HIS SERVICE TO JOURNALISM IN QUEENSLAND. |
| 1993 | MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (AM) FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO THE PROMOTION OF AUSTRALIAN SPORT. |
| 1999 | AWARDED THE AOC’S HIGHEST AWARD, THE ORDER OF MERIT. |
| 2001 | AWARDED THE IOC’S HIGHEST HONOUR, OLYMPIC ORDER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT. |
| 2002 | AUSTRALIA’S INAUGURAL AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPORTS JOURNALISM. |
| 2003 | INDUCTED MEMBER OF THE MCG MEDIA HALL OF FAME. |
| 2006 | THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC HISTORIANS HONOURED HIM WITH ITS ISOH AWARD. |
| 2013 | MELBOURNE PRESS CLUB HALL OF FAME. |

OLYMPIANS IN MEMORIAM

RON CLARKE **1937–2015**

ATHLETICS – 1964 TOKYO, 1968 MEXICO CITY

Tributes have flowed for one of Australia's greatest distance runners, Ron Clarke AO MBE, who died on Queensland's Gold Coast at age 78. Clarke was a dual Olympian who competed at the Tokyo 1964 Olympic Games and the Mexico 1968 Olympic Games. Clarke was the junior world record holder in the mile when he lit the Olympic Flame at Melbourne 1956 Olympic Games. Throughout much of the 1960s, Clarke was the dominant distance runner, setting 19 world records. Olympic champion Herb Elliot paid tribute to Clarke saying "Ron was a great man. His contribution to athletics was enormous. Ron was also a wonderful contributor to public health through lifestyle programs and gymnasiums and the communities in which he lived. Ron will be greatly missed."



PAUL DEARING **1942–2015**

HOCKEY – 1964 TOKYO, 1968 MEXICO CITY, MUNICH 1972

Paul Dearing was a three-time Olympian, a member of the Hockey Australia Hall of Fame and an icon of Newcastle sport. Dearing was a pioneer in an era when goalkeepers were admired for courage as much as their cat-like reflexes. "When Dad played his Olympic hockey, he wore cricket pads, some kickers, a protector, cricket gloves and a baggy green hat," son Steve Dearing said. A three-time Olympian, he represented Australia at the 1964, 1968 and 1972 Olympic Games, and winning silver and bronze medals. Paul's rating as the best goalkeeper in the world for five successive years (1968–1972) and his selection in the first World Cup in 1972 places him on a pedestal to which few Australian players can hope to aspire. After retiring, Paul continued to serve as a coach and umpire and was inducted into Hockey Australia's Hall of Fame in 2008. Paul died at his Eleebana family home after a long battle with illness aged 73.



PHILLIP CAYZER OAM **1922–2015**

ROWING – 1952 HELSINKI

Leader, mentor, Olympic rower and coach, Phil passed away peacefully on 15 July 2015. At the Helsinki 1952 Olympic Games Phil was a part of the bronze medal winning men's eight, which was the best performance to that date by an Australian sweep-oared crew at an Olympic Games. Phil then turned his energies to coaching which he did with distinction. During 1960s, Phil performed excellent coaching and recruiting work at Sydney Rowing Club which led to success for Australia at the international level. Phil's contribution to the development of a large number of Australian rowers is significant. He continuously coached, mentored, assisted and even employed some rowers from 1955 to recent times. He enjoyed seeing young people succeed. Those who he coached regarded Phil as a friend.



Mr Basil Hansen (VIC)
(Ice Hockey – Squaw Valley 1960 (Winter))
3 January 2015

Mr Harry Gordon CMG, AM (QLD)
(1952 – Olympic Historian)
21 January 2015

Mr Kenneth McDonald (QLD)
(Weightlifting – Helsinki 1952)
24 January 2015

Mr Graeme Hall (VIC)
(Weightlifting – Tokyo 1964)
4 February 2015

Mr Ronald Taylor (VIC)
(Boxing – Rome 1960)
5 February 2015

Mr Thomas Owens (NSW)
(Sailing – Tokyo 1964)
28 February 2015

Mrs Margaret Arnold (nee Johnson) (QLD)
(Athletics – Melbourne 1956)
February 2015

Mr Michael Moroney AM (QLD)
(Athletics – Melbourne 1956)
March 2015

Mr Allan Charleston (WA)
(Water Polo – Rome 1960, Melbourne 1956)
24 March 2015

Mr Paul Dearing (NSW)
(Hockey – Tokyo 1964, Mexico City 1968, Munich 1972)
6 April 2015

Mr James Findlay (NSW)
(Swimming – Munich 1972)
19 May 2015

Mr Charles Morris (VIC)
(Athletics – Melbourne 1956)
4 June 2015

Mr Ron Clarke (QLD)
(Athletics – Tokyo 1964, Mexico 1968)
17 June 2015

Mrs Patricia Duggan (De Glas) (QLD)
(Athletics – Rome 1960)
26 June 2015

Mr Max Annett (NSW)
(Rowing – Rome 1960)
6 July 2015

Mr Philip Cayzer OAM (NSW)
(Rowing – Helsinki 1952)
15 July 2015

Mr Teifion Davies (SA)
(Boxing – Rome 1960)
8 October 2015

Mr Brian Oliver (WA)
(Athletics – Melbourne 1956)
20 October 2015

Mr James Achurch (QLD)
(Athletics – Melbourne 1956)
5 November 2015

Mr Maurice Grace (QLD)
(Rowing – Melbourne 1956)
19 December 2015

Mr James Achurch (QLD)
(Athletics – Melbourne 1956)
5 November 2015

SYDNEY 2000 – THE TIME OF OUR LIVES 15 YEARS AGO

15 years on we reflect the joy and excitement of hosting the Olympic Games and the lasting memories generated on and off the field of play.



In 2015, we celebrated the 15th anniversary of the Sydney Olympics, when Australia welcomed the world to our shores. We showcased our harbour, the bridge, the Opera House and our beaches, particularly Bondi.

The Sydney 2000 Olympics will long be remembered for the outpouring of national pride, the friendliness Australians showed towards their fellow citizens and overseas visitors and the remarkable achievements of our young athletes. The arrival of the Olympic Torch on our shores generated this sense of mateship, warmth and goodwill and by the time the flame reached Sydney, all Australians had been touched by the Olympic spirit. This was truly a special time in our lives, a time we will never forget.

Our Team won 58 medals, 16 gold, 25 silver, and 17 bronze. Our small country staged what the IOC President, Juan Antonio Samaranch called the “greatest Games of all”. People often ask me what was the highlight? Was it Cathy Freeman, the humble indigenous champion who lit the flame on that famous night in September and then carried the weight of the nation on her shoulders as she powered to the line in the 400m? For me the highlight was not on the arena, it was outside. Walking through the thousands of people each day waiting for their events, the smiles and the laughter. I have never witnessed a happier time. Seeing Australians singing the national anthem on the bus and the train on the way to Homebush and on the way home. Strangers arm in arm. There was no

aggro, there was no trouble. Discrimination of all kinds, racial, religious, political, all that nonsense, was forgotten for those few magic weeks.

The volunteers did the nation proud. They were certainly a highlight. They oozed Aussie charm. Doctors, engineers, solicitors, teachers, they came from all walks of life and were happy to open and shut doors, drive cars, sweep and clean from sun up to sundown. They all deserved gold but all were satisfied with a simple thank you and the odd Olympic pin.

The Australian Team was led by basketballer, Andrew Gaze. When he was announced as the flag bearer and was handed the Australian flag by Prime Minister John Howard, he was so proud I thought he was going to burst.

In the Village, John Williamson sang songs at the Team barbecues which were held in what we dubbed “Boxing Kangaroo square”. Thorpie and other superstars sang along with Laurie Lawrence. Booze was banned in the Village but after she won her silver medal, and as the Games drew to a close, Tatiana arrived at the security checkpoint at the back gate off Silverwater Road with a carton of VB over her shoulder. What do you do? You tell the sergeant in charge to let her in, which he did.

It was all a dream, and one you didn’t want to end.

Mike Tancred,
Director of Media and Communications



REUNIONS AND EVENTS

KAPYLA CLUB HELSINKI 1952

The famed Kapyla Club met for the 62nd consecutive year in Sydney on 20 July 2015 as the group of sporting heroes came together to share some much loved memories and celebrate their sporting achievements.

The club, named after the suburb where the Olympic Village was built in Helsinki, is the only such reunion in the world that has met every year following an Olympic Games – for such an extended period of time. The annual lunch at Sydney Rowing Club continues with its tradition for guests on arrival of an Aquavit, a Finnish spirit and a pickled herring.

Water Polo player Ray Smee OAM said “We captured the whole ethos of the Helsinki Games and our Team from the Games and have tried not to change the event too much over the years. We’ve continued to try and keep the spirit of Olympism alive.”

It is always an emotional day with plenty of laughs and a few tears. Sadly Phil Cayzer, who was a regular at the annual Kapyla Club event, passed away earlier in the week. This added to the emotion of the day with AOC President, John Coates, making a special tribute to Phil who he knew well from their time together at Sydney Rowing Club.

And while Phil and others were not there in 2015, the Club did expand for the first time to include 1956 Olympians to ensure the Club lives on for many years to come. ●



CLUB NEWS

NEW SOUTH WALES

The NSW Olympians Club celebrated the 15th Anniversary of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games in September this year. The cocktail party at the North Bondi Surf Club was a huge reunion for all Olympians local and interstate, especially those that competed in 2000.



North Bondi Surf Club, being the home to Beach Volleyball in 2000, was the logical venue. Life Member of North Bondi Surf Life Saving Club and Honorary IOC Member, Phil Coles attended the Reunion and welcomed the attendees to his Club.

Sydney Olympic gold medallists Kerri Pottharst (Beach Volleyball) and Chris Fydlar (Swimming) recounted their Olympic triumphs in 2000, capably interviewed by Amy Jones (nee Hetzel – Water Polo).

The night was a star studded event with a host of Olympians from 1956 through to London 2012.

I would like to pass on sincere thanks to Mani Santos who has resigned as a Committee Member of the NSW Olympians Club. His contribution over the years has been sincerely appreciated. I would also like to welcome Matt Hayes (Sailing) to the Committee.

The NSW Olympians Club Ambassadors have been instrumental in increasing the numbers of Olympians attending our events and we are very grateful.

Sincere thanks to the AOC and the NSW Olympic Council for their on-going support of the Olympians Club.

— Peter Hadfield OAM (Athletics)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Olympians Club of South Australia has undergone a few changes this past year. We would like to thank Val Winter (Shooting), after a number of years as our Treasurer of the Club. She is leaving us to be replaced by Victoria Toogood (Tori) who was a member of the Australian Rowing Team from 1991–1996. Margie Barry has come on board as our Secretary. Margie is a chiropractor and was part of the Medical Team for the Australian Cycling Team from 1997–2006 including the Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004 Olympic Games.

The SAOC 2015 Annual Dinner was held on 13 June at the Glenelg Golf Club with ABC commentator and sports journalist Neil Cross kindly accepting our invitation to be the MC. The night was a great success with over 150 guests including Olympians hosting tables. We hope to see you all at our next



CLUB NEWS

year's Annual Dinner and details to be available closer to the date.

The Club sincerely welcomes all SA based Olympians who are keen to be involved and will continue to connect SA Olympians.

— *Kristen Taylor,*
Acting Executive Director



VICTORIA

The highlight of the year was once again the Olympians Club's Annual Dinner, held in November at the Sofitel Hotel. There were 550 guests including Olympians from various sports and Olympiads as well as a number of sporting peak bodies and we were thrilled to have the notable Craig Willis as the MC.

Next year will be the 60th Anniversary of the Melbourne Olympic Games, a golden opportunity for a huge reunion. The event will be promoted during the year with details

available closer to November.

I join all Victorian Olympians and officials in wishing our "Ozzie" Team well for a successful Games and look forward to welcoming them safely home.

A young Olympians Club has been formed over the past two years under the auspices of the OCV and continues to grow for the benefit of Olympians under 35 years of age. All Olympians returning from Rio will automatically become members of the OCV and therefore the Young Olympians Club.

The OCV is a very well organised and active club and appreciates the great support it receives from the VOC, Nick Green, his Committee and our thanks also to the AOC and its contribution to Olympians with the regular correspondence to Olympians keeping them informed.

— *Leon Wiegard OAM*
(Water Polo)

QUEENSLAND

The Queenslanders have had a great year of achievements, both sports wise and personally. We have had some great opportunities to spread the Olympic message through schools with lots of Olympians giving up their time to share their Olympic stories.

On 16 May 2015, the QLD Olympians Club came together for our AGM and lawn bowls evening at Yeronga Bowls Club. We have ten Olympians attend with their families and friends.

Queensland London 2012 Olympic Water Polo player Jane Moran was selected as



one of 25 retired athletes worldwide as part of the Women Athletes Business Network (WABN), which was co-funded by the International Women's Forum (IWF) and Ernst & Young. Moran was matched with IWF member, Helen Rule, CEO Imatech. She travelled to the IWF Annual Leadership Conference, and the Inaugural WABN Roundtable in Boston, Massachusetts in October 2015



and said it was a fantastic experience and opportunity to further her professional career development and meet other mentees around the world.

With 2016 being an Olympic Year, I encourage you all to come along to our events and reconnect with your fellow Olympians and meet some new ones!

— *Julie McDonald OAM*
(Swimming)

TASMANIA

The Tasmanian Olympians Club has supported the Tasmanian Olympic Council in a number of functions during the year. Over twenty Olympians have attended events and helped share the Olympic Experience.

The TOC held a Cocktail Party in June to celebrate Olympic Day with many Olympians, sports officials and corporate committee members attending. This was followed



by a "One Year to Go" Dinner at the Blundstone Arena, Bellerive in August. Steve Hooker was the guest speaker and captivated the audience with his honest and uplifting stories from his career. Saroo Brierley also shared his experiences in his quest to find his birth mother in India and the changes that he has had in his life.

The 19th Pierre de Coubertin Awards were held on 6 November and again they were held at the Silver Dome

in Launceston with over 70 guests participating in a variety of activities. The Tasmanian Institute of Sport, Senior Sports Scientist, John Gregory, took the students through some speed tests while Paralympic gold medallists, Julie Vankeulen and Todd Hodgetts, shared some important insights into their sporting experiences. Rob Fairs shared his expertise in presenting to the media and Olympian rower Drew Ginn captivated the young audience with his stories and lessons for succeeding in your chosen life path.

A successful Fundraising Dinner was also held on 6 November in Launceston for the first time in many years. The Oarsome Foursome rowing crew members, Mike Mackay and Drew Ginn joined in the celebrations and shared their experiences.

Many Olympians joined the TAS Corporate Fundraising Committee for Christmas drinks at the Hobart NAB Office in December.

Congratulations should go to Tasmanian 2012 Olympian and 2015 World Champion gold medallist and record holder, Amy Cure (Cycling) who recently won the Tasmanian Athlete of the Year award and also to our Tasmanian Olympic

CLUB NEWS

Council President, Anthony Edwards, who has worked hard with his dedicated corporate committee to present such successful events.

We look forward to watching and celebrating our Tasmanian athletes in Rio in 2016.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

In October, Olympians gathered at the new WA Institute of Sport High Performance Service Centre. It was a great chance to catch up with old friends. Guests were taken on a private tour of the AUD \$33 million high performance centre by WAIS Executive Director Steve Lawrence and were able to see first-hand the amazing resources and equipment available to athletes today. Greg Kaeding of the WAOC, and Danielle Woodhouse of the Olympians Club of Western Australia Executive, provided an update on Rio Olympic preparations and the fundraising events in the pipeline.

On 29 November, the annual Christmas lunch and AGM was held at Cambridge Bowls Club. The event was attended by 78 people, 40 of whom were Olympians who between them have attended 72 Games, with representation from every Summer Games since 1956. It was a festive occasion again and again the Master of Ceremonies were Olympians, Olympians Allana Slater (Gymnastics) and Jesse Phillips (Canoe).

The Olympians Club of Western Australia will continue to look for opportunities to host functions in conjunction



with local sporting events and Olympic milestone anniversaries.

— Liane Tooth (Hockey)
President, Olympians Club of Western Australia ●

COMMITTEES, CLUBS, CONTACTS

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Moscow 1980, Los Angeles 1984
Executive Committee
Ian Brown
Sailing
Montreal 1976, Los Angeles 1984

Stephen Carr
Figure Skating
Albertville 1992,
Lillehammer 1994,
Nagano 1998

Jo Carter
Figure Skating
Nagano 1998, Torino 2006

Hannah Campbell-Pegg
Luge
Torino 2006, Vancouver 2010

Alexandra Croak
Gymnastics – Sydney 2000
Diving – Beijing 2008

Amy Hetzel
Water Polo – Beijing 2008

Dean Lukin OAM
Weightlifting – Los Angeles 1984

Warren Parr
Athletics – Montreal 1976

Russell Phegan
Swimming – Tokyo 1964

Jeremy Rolleston
Bobsleigh
Torino 2006, Vancouver 2010

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Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996

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Montreal 1976, Moscow 1980

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Montreal 1976, Moscow 1980

Angus Waddell
Swimming – Barcelona 1992
Josh Jefferis
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Kristen Taylor
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Leon Gregory
Basketball – Melbourne 1956

Margaret Barry
Chiropractor
Sydney 2000, Athens 2004

Tory Toogood
Rowing – Atlanta 1996

Glen Maguire
Doctor – Montreal 1976

Colin Burdett
Basketball – Melbourne 1956

Stuart O'Grady
Cycling
Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996,
Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing
2008, London 2012

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Basketball – 1964

Sally Hunter
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Beijing 2008, London 2012

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Water polo

Tokyo 1964, Munich 1972

Executive Committee

Peter Doak OAM Treasurer

Swimming – Tokyo 1964

Warwick Waters

Secretary

Maria Cabeliza

Project Manager

Adrian Costa

Freestyle Skiing

Albertville 1992, Lillehammer 1994,
Nagano 1998, Salt Lake City 2002

David Culbert

Athletics

Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992

Margot Foster AM

Rowing – Los Angeles 1984

Mark Turnbull OAM

Sailing – Sydney 2000

Mike McKay OAM

Rowing

Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992,

Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000,

Athens 2004

Shirley Harris

Administration

Moscow 1980, Los Angeles 1984,

Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992

Stephanie Moorhouse

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Los Angeles 1984, Seoul 1988,

Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996

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Shane Tonkin

Treasurer

Baseball – Atlanta 1996

Natalie Bale

Rowing – Beijing 2008

Stephen Bird

Canoe / Kayak

London 2012

Ben Cureton

Rowing

Athens 2004, Beijing 2008,

London 2012

Jesse Phillips

Canoe / Kayak

London 2012

Allana Slater

Gymnastics

Sydney 2000, Athens 2004

Olivia Vivian

Gymnastics

Beijing 2008

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AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIANS ALUMNI

The AOC is delighted to continue the expansion of the Australian Olympians Alumni network.

The Alumni is for all Australian Olympians to connect and catch up. Here's how:

CONNECT ON LINKEDIN

The Australian Olympians LinkedIn page is a closed group, dedicated to you. Share contacts, information to Information, views, stories, whatever you wish. LinkedIn is a great forum to promote your own Olympic events via the group. Please visit the

Australian Olympians web page for details on how to join.

INFO

For all current news and upcoming events, refer to: olympics.com.au/alumni

If we have overlooked anything incorrectly published in this magazine, please accept our sincerest apologies and do not hesitate to contact the Australian Olympic Committee.

UPDATES

A monthly e-newsletter will be distributed to share the details of upcoming events around the country, news and other important information (if you are not online, you will continue to receive an abridged quarterly publication in the mail).

THE ANNUAL

Each year, this Australian Olympians Annual Magazine will be distributed. The publication will be a review of the year past and a preview of what is to come.

EVENTS

The Alumni is for all Australian Olympians. If you have an event you would like to promote, you can do so via LinkedIn or

contact the AOC to include in the regular e-newsletters.

CONTACT

If you wish to arrange an event or find a Team mate, feel free to call the AOC Athlete Services on (02) 9247 2000 or email alumni@olympics.com.au

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