

# AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIANS 2014



- THIS ISSUE -  
SOCHI 2014 / NANJING 2014 / ROAD TO RIO  
CHAMPIONS OF THE WORLD / ATHLETE TRANSITION / REUNIONS

**NOW**





**FINDING  
THAT**

**SOMETHING  
MORE**

**SOCHI 2014**



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Australia's largest Olympic Winter Team competed in Sochi from 7-23 February 2014.



## JOHN COATES AC

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

The greatest honour in sport is to be called an Australian Olympian. This year we have seen a number of reunions take place celebrating significant milestones of Olympic Games. Whether you are still competing or retired, I encourage you to keep sharing the Olympic spirit amongst your Team mates and in your communities.

I was most pleased to see the competitive drive and camaraderie amongst our 60 Olympians in Sochi, where for the first time in Australia's Olympic history we saw more women (31) than men (29) competing. Congratulations to all Olympians for your collective effort and outstanding results.

At the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, the spirit exhibited by the 89 Youth Olympians in our Australian Team epitomised what the Olympic Movement strives for. In November 2014 the AOC Executive resolved to recognise our Australian Indigenous heritage in the AOC's Constitution. I was delighted to announce this with Cathy Freeman and I look forward to the AOC offering practical support to Indigenous Australians through sport in the years to come.

In December the IOC unanimously adopted all 40 recommendations that comprised Agenda 2020 - the strategic roadmap for the future of the Olympic Movement - at the 127th IOC Session in Monaco. I am pleased to advise all Olympians the IOC continues to place the clean athletes at the heart of its philosophy.

As we go to print I note with great sadness the passing of AOC Historian, Harry Gordon AM, a true friend of the AOC, the Olympic Movement and Australia's Olympians. More than anyone he brought to light the extraordinary stories of our Olympians - from our first Games to the latest - sharing a genuine rapport with athletes over decades. Harry will be sorely missed.

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## LEON WIEGARD OAM

*President, Olympians Club of Australia*

It has been an exciting year for the Olympians Clubs in Australia with new heroes and new members from the Sochi Games joining our ranks. We look forward to a continuation of the close cooperation between the AOC and OCA. We wish Fiona de Jong well as Secretary General of the AOC and thank the AOC's Olympian and Athlete Services unit for their tremendous work on behalf of Olympians Clubs and all the officials in State and Territory offices for their assistance to their respective Clubs.

It is pleasing to see so many of our Olympians in official positions for our next Olympic Teams, with the AOC and IOC, and on Olympic Councils throughout the Nation, and those numbers seem to be on the increase.

Of course the work of our Olympians Club Committee Members is, as always, much appreciated. All Australian Olympians Clubs were active over the past 12 months in keeping up communications to Olympians, running events and supporting our current Olympic Teams. On the International Olympians scene, it is pleasing to report that the World Olympians Association (WOA) is making positive changes and it has regained a much closer association with the IOC.

All the best for the coming year,  
cheers.



## KIM CROW

*Chair, AOC Athletes' Commission*

The AOC Athletes' Commission (AC) has been busy over the past year developing initiatives aimed at supporting athletes in the transition out of sport, and brainstorming how best to promote the Olympic Spirit and Australia's proud Olympic traditions to the next generation. Participation has been broad and vibrant at meetings, and has seen various issues tabled with the AOC Executive, AIS leadership and the IOC Athletes' Commission.

Of particular excitement is the Road to Rio: IGNITE road show aimed at bringing our potential 2016 Olympians together prior to the Olympics, enabling athletes across different sports to meet each other and share tips and tricks for performance on the big stage.

The AOC AC has also enjoyed working with the AIS Personal Excellence to share ideas of how best to engage with our athlete cohorts.

A huge success was seen in the mentoring program for our Youth Olympic Team called "Champ Connect" – so wonderfully supported by Olympians of all ages and sports – that the program will be rolled out for future Summer, Winter and Youth Teams. The AC has also been involved with ASADA in developing new educational content for their programs.

The AC always loves to hear from Olympians as to your ideas of how to grow the Australian Olympic tradition!



# CHAMPIONS

# THE

# WORLD

# OF



## **MATHEW BELCHER OAM AND WILL RYAN** **SAILING - 470**

Mathew Belcher and Will Ryan successfully defended their World title at the ISAF Sailing World Championships in September 2014. The win was Belcher's fifth consecutive World title in the Men's 470 class, a record breaking achievement.

The World Championship title is Belcher and Ryan's second, as a pair. Belcher won a Gold Medal in the same event at the London 2012 Olympic Games, partnered with Malcolm Page OAM. Belcher and Ryan's 2014 World Championship performance qualifies the Men's 470 Class to represent Australia at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

## **SAM WILLOUGHBY** **BMX CYCLING**

Olympic Silver Medallist from the London 2012 Olympic Games, Sam Willoughby, by won the World title at the UCI BMX World Championships in Rotterdam, Netherlands in July 2014. Willoughby, previously won the title in 2012, but unfortunately crashed out at the 2013 Championships, hence his determination to reclaim the 2014 World title.

Willoughby breezed through the early rounds and made the move in the final from second to first over American Connor Fields. Willoughby was visibly emotional at the end of the race. "It's incredible, you train hard and set your goals. It's all realistic on paper but doing it is a whole different story" Willoughby said.



**LUKE DAVIDSON, GLENN O'SHEA,  
ALEXANDER EDMONDSON, MITCHELL  
MULHERN, MILES SCOTSON  
CYCLING MEN'S TEAM PURSUIT**

Luke Davidson, Glenn O'Shea, Alexander Edmondson and Mitchell Mulhern have successfully defended Australia's World title beating Denmark in the final at the UCI Track World Championships in Cali, Colombia in March 2014. Miles Scotson also received a Gold Medal as an integral member of the team, racing in the qualifying round. The strategic use of a fifth cyclist was said to have given the Australian Team fresh legs and a tactical advantage.

The men earned their World title Rainbow Jerseys, coming from behind in the second half of the race to win the Gold in a time of 3 minutes 57.907, ahead of the Danish Team clocking 3 minutes 59.623 seconds.

Prior to the event in Cali, only Edmondson and O'Shea had experience in the Team Pursuit at a World Championship. "We had two new guys – well, three new guys. We rode five guys and they were super, super hungry to win a world title and I think that was the difference," O'Shea said.

***"We..were super, super hungry to win a world title and I think that was the difference,"***

*Glenn O'Shea*



**MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM**

The Australian Men's Hockey Team convincingly defended their title at the World Cup in The Hague in June 2014. The Men's Hockey Team defeated the host country, the Netherlands, 6-1 in the final of the competition, contested once every four years. However, early in the match the outcome was less than predictable.

The Men's Hockey Team fell behind the Netherlands on the scoreboard, but came back with a hat-trick from Chris Ciriello and strikes from Kieran Govers, Glenn Turner and Jamie Dwyer OAM.

***"Our aim is always to dominate our opponents and to defend better and attack better and to control the ball in the midfield. And I think we did all of those things."***

*Coach Ric Charlesworth AM*

The Men's Hockey Team became the third team, following Pakistan and Germany, to secure consecutive World titles.

**KEN WALLACE OAM  
CANOE/KAYAK SPRINT — K1 5000M**

Dual Olympian Ken Wallace OAM has been crowned World Champion in the K1 5000m race at the ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships in Moscow. This is Wallace's second consecutive World title in the event, which he has dominated in recent years. Wallace also won Silver with Lachlan Tame in the Men's K2 1000m race at the World Championships and came 9th in the K1 500m event, the same event which he won Gold in Beijing in 2008. This event is no longer on the Olympic program.



The Australian team celebrates with its trophy winning their men's Field Hockey World Cup final against the Netherlands.





**JESSICA FOX**  
**CANOE/KAYAK SLALOM — C1 AND K1**

In September 2014, Jessica Fox was again crowned a World Champion at the ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships at Deep Creek Lake, USA. Not only did Fox defend her World Championship title in the Women's C1, she also made history, claiming the World title in the Women's K1.

Fox's K1 win came 25 years after her mother Myriam and father Richard won K1 Gold in the United States. Fox commented on her achievement being "really special and I think we will all be cherishing this moment... to win is unbelievable." Fox said.



**WARREN POTENT**  
**SHOOTING**

In September 2014, Warren Potent won his first career World Championship title at the ISSF World Championships, Granada, Spain, and secured Australia's first quota place for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. In the eight-person final, Potent rose quickly to lead the field and secured his position in the match with a steady 10.5 average.

Potent's 2014 season was embellished with a Commonwealth Games Gold Medal and a World Cup Silver Medal earlier in the season. Potent's career has included an Olympic Bronze Medal at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, ten World Cup Medals, three Commonwealth Games Medals, and five Oceania Championship Medals.



**MITCH LARKIN**  
**SWIMMING – 100M BACKSTROKE**

Mitch Larkin has won his first World title in the Men's 100m Backstroke at the FINA World Short Course Championships in Doha in December. The London 2012 Olympian finished with a strong final 50m, clocking a time of 49.57 seconds. He beat some of his swimming heroes including Poland's Radoslaw Kawecki (50.11 seconds), who claimed Silver and Olympians Ryosuke Irie and Matt Grevers who finished in a dead heat for the Bronze in 50.12 seconds.

Larkin's 2014 season was further embellished with a Gold Medal in the 200m Backstroke at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

***"To come out on top is a dream and being called a World Champion is something that certainly hasn't sunk in"***

*Mitch Larkin*



# INTERNATIONAL HONOURS AND AWARDS



**SHIRLEY DE LA HUNTY**  
**(NEE STRICKLAND) AO MBE**  
**ATHLETICS – LONDON 1948, HELSINKI 1952,**  
**MELBOURNE 1956**

Australian triple Olympic Gold Medallist Shirley de la Hunty (nee Strickland) AO MBE was awarded International Athletics' highest honour when she was inducted into the IAAF Hall of Fame in Monaco in November 2014. The late de la Hunty joins Wilma Rudolph and Lasse Viren as one of only 12 international legends of athletics to be inducted into the IAAF Hall of Fame. The IAAF has only ever inducted 48 athletes into its Hall of Fame, with de la Hunty joining Marjorie Nelson (nee Jackson) AC CVO MBE and Betty Cuthbert AM MBE on the Australian list. Athletics Australia President, David Grace QC said de la Hunty "was a most worthy inclusion in the Hall of Fame".

*"I thought it  
wasn't really fair to my  
competitors... if I didn't  
want to win."*

*De la Hunty*

In her three Olympic Games, the Western Australia born athlete won an impressive seven medals – three Gold, one Silver and three Bronze. A misjudged finish in the 200m final at the London 1948 Olympic Games would have increased her tally, however the photo finish of the race was not discovered until 1975.

De la Hunty's impressive portfolio includes three Gold and two Silver Commonwealth Games Medals and she remains the nation's only track and field athlete, male or female, to have won back to back Olympic Gold Medals.



**DREW GINN OAM**  
**ROWING – ATLANTA 1996, ATHENS 2004,**  
**BEIJING 2008, LONDON 2012**

Drew Ginn was named the winner of the 2014 Thomas Keller Medal by World Rowing in July 2014. The winner of three Gold and one Silver Olympic Medals has now received Rowing's most prestigious award in recognition of an exceptional international career, as well as exemplary sportsmanship. Ginn was chosen by the Thomas Keller Medal Committee following an extensive worldwide public nomination process.

Ginn's Olympic debut was at the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games in the Coxless Four crew that won Gold. He later teamed up with James Tomkins OAM to compete in the Coxless Pair event. Ginn was forced out of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games due to a back injury, but recovered and went on to win Gold at the Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Ginn returned to the Coxless Four crew for London 2012 and added a Silver Medal to his collection.

**GRANT HACKETT OAM**  
**SWIMMING – SYDNEY 2000,**  
**ATHENS 2004, BEIJING 2008**

In June 2014, Grant Hackett OAM was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF), in Florida, for his contribution to Swimming. Hackett joins an elite group of over 700 legends from the Olympic aquatic sports. The dominant criterion of the selection process is the nominee's international career record. In addition, to be considered by the ISHOF selection committee, "the contributor must have been in swimming for no less than 20 years and have had a profound effect on swimming".

Hackett began his Olympic swimming career on top, winning Gold and beating his former idol Kieren Perkins OAM in the 1500m Freestyle at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Hackett went on to win Gold in the same event in Athens 2004. At his third attempt, he was touched out in the final and claimed Silver at the Beijing

2008 Olympic Games. Hackett was a member of the illustrious Men's 4 x 200m Freestyle Relay Team and an Olympic Silver Medallist in the 400m freestyle. Hackett has 10 World Championship titles and 7 Olympic Medals – three Gold, three Silver and one Bronze.●

***"Swimming is of national importance for Australia and that was definitely the case every time Grant Hackett raced for the green and gold, and in most instances for a World Record and a Gold Medal"***

*Swimming Australia President,  
John Bertrand AM*



**IN OCTOBER THE SPORT AUSTRALIA HALL OF FAME HELD ITS ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY IN MELBOURNE. MANY OF AUSTRALIA'S OLYMPIC GREATS WERE INDUCTED OR RECEIVED AWARDS AT THE PRESTIGIOUS DINNER. FOUR OLYMPIANS WERE INDUCTED INTO THE HALL OF FAME AND SALLY PEARSON WAS AWARDED 'THE DON' AWARD.**



## WE SALUTE OUR 2014 OLYMPIAN INDUCTEES:

### **JODIE HENRY OAM** **SWIMMING – ATHENS 2004**

Jodie Henry was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame for her contribution to the sport of swimming. Jodie won three Olympic Gold Medals and broke three World Records at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games in the 100m Freestyle, 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay and 4 x 100m Medley Relay. Most notably, Jodie's 100m Freestyle win was Australia's first win in that event since Dawn Fraser AO MBE won in Tokyo 1964.



### **MICHELLIE JONES** **TRIATHLON – SYDNEY 2000**

For her contribution to the sport of Triathlon, Michellie Jones was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame. Jones' 20-year sporting career garnered her an impressive portfolio of a total of 175 victories. Jones won a Silver Medal at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.



### **KERRI POTTHARST OAM** **BEACH VOLLEYBALL – ATLANTA 1996, SYDNEY 2000, ATHENS 2004**

With Olympic Gold and Bronze medals, and an international sporting career spanning over a decade, Kerri Pottharst is a well-deserved inductee into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame. Beginning her career in Indoor Volleyball, Pottharst switched to Beach Volleyball due to a knee injury. She competed at three Olympic Games: Atlanta 1996 (Bronze), Sydney 2000 (Gold) and Athens 2004, twice being on the podium with partner Natalie Cook OAM.



### **NATALIE COOK OAM** **BEACH VOLLEYBALL – ATLANTA 1996, SYDNEY 2000, ATHENS 2004, BEIJING 2008, LONDON 2012**

Natalie Cook, a five-time Olympian and dual Olympic Medallist was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in recognition of her contribution to the sport of Beach Volleyball. Partnered with Kerri Pottharst OAM, Cook won a Bronze Medal at the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games and a Gold Medal in front of her home crowd at the Sydney 2000 Games. Natalie has gone on to compete at every Olympic Games since and her outstanding contribution to the sport of Beach Volleyball continues.

### **'THE DON'** **SALLY PEARSON OAM** **ATHLETICS – BEIJING 2008, LONDON 2012**

Dual Olympian, Sally Pearson OAM was awarded The Don Award by Sport Australia Hall of Fame. The Award was created in 1998 to honour a current Australian athlete who is considered to have had the capacity to most inspire the nation over the last 12 months. Pearson's 2014 win was the second time she has received the award. Her previous honour came in 2012 after her legendary Gold Medal win in the 100m Hurdles at the London 2012 Olympic Games.

2014 was a challenging year for Pearson who had to overcome both physical and emotion obstacles to defend her Commonwealth Games 100m Hurdles title in Glasgow. Robert de Castella, the chair of the selection committee said "the measure of a champion is not how they deal with success, but how they deal with adversity".



## OLYMPIANS RECEIVE AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

London 2012 Olympic Champions were recognised for their achievements, receiving awards in the 2014 Order of Australia on 26 January 2014.

Olympic Gold Medallists Tom Slingsby, Mathew Belcher, Nathan Outteridge and Iain Jensen (Sailing); Sally Pearson (Track & Field); Cate Campbell, Alicia Coutts, Brittany Elmslie and Yolane Kukla (Swimming); and Jacob Clear, Tate Smith, Murray Stewart and David Smith (Canoe/Kayak), all received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to sport as a Gold Medallist at the London 2012 Olympic Games.

They join fellow Olympic Gold Medallists from London 2012, Melanie Schlanger and Malcolm Page, who were granted an OAM five years ago following their performances in Beijing 2008, and Anna Meares, who was granted her OAM in 2005 for her performance in Athens 2004.

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## MINUTES WITH...

### We catch up with the AOC's new Secretary General, Fiona de Jong.

#### What drives you in your work?

I've always been passionate about sport and I have a strong desire to advance the AOC and the Olympic Movement.

#### The IOC has seen changes lately – What can be expected from the AOC?

My return to the AOC comes at a time of opportunity. The IOC's Agenda 2020 has re-set the strategic direction for the Olympic Movement. Pleasingly, the IOC strategic roadmap places athletes at the heart of the reform. So too will athletes remain at the heart of everything we do here in Australia. My intention is to lead an organisation that enables 23 million Australians to connect with and be inspired by the Olympic Movement.

#### Why do you think the reforms are necessary?

'Innovation' is the only way to lead the world in sport. If we keep doing the same things the same way we will not maintain our position in the Olympic Movement. We need to constantly evolve and improve.

#### What do you have planned?

There are a number of practical applications from the IOC's Agenda 2020. We can now work

with our member Sports and shape our business accordingly. I'm driving a strategic review of the AOC's business with our President, John Coates and the AOC Executive. We are reviewing 'where we are now' and, in simple terms, where we want to be in 2024. The review is creating some exciting possibilities for the AOC to revitalise our aspirations which is ultimately to make Olympic dreams come true for Australia's athletes.

#### You're a former international triathlete – has this experience shaped your thinking?

Yes, I'm keen to continue a culture of excellence at the AOC. Our athletes are out there striving for excellence every single day - they serve as our inspiration at the AOC. But excellence alone is not enough, happiness and health are equally important attributes for the AOC to carry.

#### Do you have a message for our Olympians?

I encourage all Olympians to be active members of the Olympians Clubs and the Olympic Alumni. Whether it's maintaining friendships, or building a support network, the Olympic network is full of incredible people to lean on and draw inspiration from.

Our future teams can always learn from experience, and if any Olympian has ideas for our future teams – our door is always open. The AOC and our Athlete Services team are always pleased to connect with Olympians.

16 days, 43 first-time Olympians and a bucket-load of courage and resolve.

# SOCHI 2014 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

The Australian 2014 Olympic Winter Team comprised a record 60 athletes competing at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi from 7 – 23 February 2014. The 2014 team size eclipsed the previous winter record of 40 athletes, which was set in Torino 2006 and matched at the Vancouver Games in 2010. Not only was the 2014 team 50 per cent larger than the previous record, for the first time in Australia's 118-year Olympic history, the team had more women than men, with 31 female athletes and 29 male athletes.



Australia was represented in 11 disciplines in Sochi:

**ALPINE SKIING 5**

**BIATHLON 2**

**BOBSLEIGH 6**

**CROSS COUNTRY SKIING 4**

**FIGURE SKATING 4**

**FREESTYLE SKIING 21**

**LUGE 1**

**SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING 2**

**SKELETON 3**

**SNOWBOARD 11**

**SPEED SKATING 1**

There were 43 debutants in the Team, including three athletes who made the transition from the Australian Youth Olympic Teams – Alex Ferlazzo, Lucy Glanville and Greta Small.

Throughout 16 days of action packed competition we witnessed triumph and heartbreak as the Australian Olympic Winter Team campaign concluded with three medals and a host of top 5, 10, and 16 results.

The Games began in fine fashion when Flag Bearer Alex “Chumpy” Pullin led his teammates into the Fischt Olympic Stadium at the Opening Ceremony on 7 February 2014. The two weeks to follow saw the Australian Olympic Winter Team push themselves to new limits with many athletes exceeding their own expectations and setting personal bests.

Australia finished the Games equal 24th on the Gold Medal Tally with 3 courageous medals.



*In achieving a Silver Medal to go with her Gold, Bright became the most successful female in Australian Winter Olympic history.*



Torah Bright OAM won the first of the campaign winning Silver in her pet event of the Women's Snowboard Halfpipe. Australian Olympic Winter Team concluded on day five of competition, the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Champion was just 0.25 points behind American Kaitlyn Farrington, who scored 91.75 with her second run.

In achieving a Silver Medal to go with her Gold, Bright became the most successful female in Australian Winter Olympic history. Dale Begg-Smith achieved the same personal medal tally. Bright, competing at her third Olympic Winter Games embarked on a remarkable journey, qualifying and competing in three events. She finished seventh in Snowboard Slope Style and 18th in Snowboard Cross.



Competing in her fourth Olympic Winter Games, Lydia Lassila OAM attempted a jump that only men had performed in competition, in a bid to defend her Olympic Aerial Skiing title. The courageous 32-year-old went for a quad twisting triple somersault with a 4.425 degree of difficulty. Lassila, who had landed the jump only once in training, executed it brilliantly in the air and was agonisingly close to completing a flawless landing. Her score of 72.12 points secured the Bronze and Australia's second medal for the Games. More than the result, Lassila had progressed her sport to new heights. Her 'all or nothing' approach added to the admiration her competitors had for her, and the Australian fans at home.



On day 10, David Morris secured an incredible Silver Medal in the Men's Aerials. The dual Olympian was the first to jump in the super-final, completing a double-full full-full (quad twisting somersault) to score 110.41. Morris was rewarded for consistency in executing and landing all his competition jumps. Morris went on to be given the honour of Australian Flag Bearer for the Closing Ceremony.

**IN ADDITION TO THE REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR MEDALLISTS, OUR AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC WINTER TEAM ACHIEVED A HOST OF TOP 5, 10 AND 16 RESULTS.**

**THESE INCLUDE; 5 TOP 5 RESULTS;**

**INCLUDING 3 MEDALLISTS:**

<b>ANNA SEGAL</b> Women's Ski Slope Style	<b>4TH</b>
<b>BRITTENY COX</b> Women's Moguls	<b>5TH</b>
<b>15 TOP 10 RESULTS</b> (we had 8 in Vancouver)	
<b>27 TOP 16 FINISHES</b> (we had 15 in Vancouver)	

**AUSTRALIAN TOP 10 RESULTS:**

**Freestyle Skiing**

<b>DAVID MORRIS</b> Aerials	<b>2ND</b>
<b>LYDIA LASSILA OAM</b> Aerials	<b>3RD</b>
<b>ANNA SEGAL</b> Slopestyle	<b>4TH</b>
<b>BRITTENY COX</b> Moguls	<b>5TH</b>
<b>MATT GRAHAM</b> Moguls	<b>7TH</b>
<b>LAURA PEEL</b> Aerials	<b>7TH</b>
<b>KATYA CREMA</b> Ski Cross	<b>7TH</b>
<b>RUSSELL HENSHAW</b> Slopestyle	<b>7TH</b>
<b>DANIELLE SCOTT</b> Aerials	<b>9TH</b>
<b>AMY SHEEHAN</b> Halfpipe	<b>10TH</b>

**Short Track**

<b>DEANNA LOCKETT</b> 1000m	<b>9TH</b>
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**Snowboard**

<b>TORAH BRIGHT OAM</b> Halfpipe	<b>2ND</b>
<b>TORAH BRIGHT OAM</b> Slopestyle	<b>7TH</b>
<b>BELLE BROCKHOFF</b> Cross	<b>8TH</b>
<b>KENT CALLISTER</b> Halfpipe	<b>9TH</b>

Our winter athletes continue to go from strength to strength and we look forward to supporting our athletes as they turn their attention to PyeongChang for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games, where Australia certainly has the nucleus for another successful Olympic Winter Team.●



# NANJING 2014 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES





**THE 2014 SUMMER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES COMMENCED ON 16 AUGUST 2014 IN NANJING, CHINA WITH A PULSATING OPENING CEREMONY THAT QUICKLY SPREAD AROUND THE WORLD THANKS TO THOUSANDS OF SELFIES TAKEN BY ATHLETES AND SPECTATORS AT THE REQUEST OF INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) PRESIDENT THOMAS BACH.**

“Dear young athletes, these are your Games. This is your moment. So, young athletes, please join me: Let us all capture it – so get your smart phones out and let’s set a record for selfies,” President Bach said. Everyone in attendance was then asked to post their selfies to #YOGselfie.

“By sending this selfie ... you are sending a strong message around the world,” President Bach continued. “You are showing your passion for sport and for fair competition. You are demonstrating that Olympic sport reaches beyond competition. It is also about sharing, learning and making friends across our globe.”



***“By sending this selfie ... you are sending a strong message around the world. You are showing your passion for sport and for fair competition. You are demonstrating that Olympic sport reaches beyond competition. It is also about sharing, learning and making friends across our globe.”***

*Thomas Bach, President IOC*



The vision of the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) is to inspire young people around the world to participate in sport and adopt and live by the Olympic values. During the Games, 3,800 athletes aged 14 to 18 competed in 28 sporting events while taking part in a series of cultural and educational activities off the field.

Australia sent a team of 89 athletes to the 2014 Youth Olympic Games, with the maximum of 70 individual athletes and two team sports, Women’s Rugby Sevens and Men’s Hockey.

The team was led by dual Olympic Champion and triple Olympian Susie O’Neill OAM (Swimming) as Chef de Mission. Olympic Silver Medallist and Singapore YOG Gold Medallist Jessica Fox (Canoe/Kayak-Slalom) supported her as the Young Ambassador.

Olympic Gold Medallist Emma Snowsill OAM (Triathlon) and Olympic Bronze Medallist Patrick Murphy (Swimming) were selected by their International Federations to attend the YOG as Athlete Role Models.

Australia won a total of 26 Medals: 5 Gold, 4 Silver and 17 Bronze, of which five medals were won by Aussies competing in mixed nations events. ●



# ROAD TO RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES



AUSTRALIAN  
OLYMPIC  
TEAM

olympics.com.au  
@AUSOlympicTeam  
f t i s



ROAD  
TO RIO

## IGNITE

### OLYMPIANS SHAPING OUR RIO TEAM

Dozens of Olympians have come together to assist the AOC shape our Rio 2016 Australian Olympic Team in a series of events being held across the country.

In late 2014 the AOC launched a national event series – IGNITE. Aimed to reach over 1,000 athletes and officials, IGNITE is an interactive presentation for the wider cohort of athletes and officials with aspirations of being in Rio.

The events are being delivered by Olympians for potential 2016 Team Members and focus on the honour and responsibilities of being part of the Australian Olympic Team and joining its 120 year tradition.

***We want ‘complete athletes’ who are aware of their responsibilities, who carry themselves with integrity, who are respectful of their teammates and their competitors, and who continue our proud Olympic heritage... the Australian way,”***

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

“We want ‘complete athletes’ who are aware of their responsibilities, who carry themselves with integrity, who are respectful of their teammates and their competitors, and who continue our proud

Olympic heritage... the Australian way,” Kitty Chiller, the 2016 Australian Chef de Mission said. “We need to play hard but fair, show respect and humility, and ensure we are a team that all Australians can be proud of.”

IGNITE enables lessons to be passed on in person from inspirational Olympians that make up the Athlete Panel.

The great Laurie Lawrence has been a constant presence at IGNITE providing his unique motivation, honed over decades with Olympic Teams.



### ROAD TO RIO

Tuesday 5 August marked two years until the Opening Ceremony of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, the first Olympic Games in South America.

Leading into the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, there has never been a stronger alliance between the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

Collaborating on Campaign Rio, an initiative that also involves the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC),

Australia's most prominent sporting bodies aim to create the 'Best Planned, Best Prepared, Best Performed' team at the Rio Olympic Games.

Chef de Mission, Kitty Chiller led two Australian delegations to Rio in 2014 and is satisfied with the Organising Committee's progress.

“The Rio organisers have made enormous progress since the World Cup and I am comfortable they are on track to deliver a great Games for the athletes” Kitty Chiller.

***“The Rio organisers have made enormous progress since the World Cup and I am comfortable they are on track to deliver a great Games for the athletes”***

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

A significant development for the Team in Rio was securing a ‘Team Oasis’ called The Edge just a stone's throw from the Olympic Village. Normally a functions venue, come August 2016, Espaco Rio will transform into The Edge: a high performance hub equipped with medical, physio, recovery, sport science and nutrition facilities.

Seventeen sports/disciplines have commenced their qualification periods for Rio 2016. At this early stage, it is estimated that Australia will field approximately 470 athletes at Rio 2016, up from the 410 athletes from London 2012.

The forecast increase in numbers is due to the addition of

two new sports in rugby sevens and golf, plus the expectation that Australia will qualify in both men's and women's football in 2016.

Sportscraft has been announced as the Official Supplier of Opening Ceremony and Formal Uniforms to the 2016 Australian Olympic Team. This will be their seventh time designing the symbolic apparel for Australia's most accomplished athletes. ●



*It's been an energetic year for the AOC, from recognising Indigenous Australians in the AOC constitution to delivering good news in the latest benchmark study – the inside stories start here.*

# INSIDE THE AOC: 2014 HIGH- LIGHTS



## **JANUARY**

**Olympians Receive Australia Day Honours:** Australia's Olympic Champions from London 2012 were recognised for their achievements receiving Awards in the 2014 Order of Australia.

**2014 Australian Olympians Annual** was launched and distributed to over 3,000 Australian Olympians.

## **FEBRUARY**

**Sochi 2014:** The AOC sent a Team of 60 athletes to Sochi, Russia to compete at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games held from 7 – 23 February. The Team achieved 15 top 10 results and brought home three medals: Torah Bright, Silver (Women's Snowboard Halfpipe), Lydia Lassila, Bronze (Women's Aerials) and David Morris, Silver (Men's Aerials).

***"From a Team point of view,  
I want to applaud our athletes  
and the officials for the way  
they have conducted  
themselves, and for becoming  
a Team that every Australian  
should be proud of."***

*Ian Chesterman, Chef de Mission  
2014 Australian Olympic Team*

## **APRIL**

**The AOC attends Campaign Rio** held at Sydney Olympic Park, 29 April. The Governor-General, His Excellency General the Hon. Sir Peter

Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) addressed Olympic and Paralympic coaches and performance leaders. 'It is not an overstatement to say that our sporting prowess is an element of our national identity. Aussies take enormous pride in our sporting accomplishments. We admire those amongst us who excel in our chosen sport. We admire our athletes. We appreciate their sportsmanship because win or lose we want to be proud of those representing our country and wearing our national colours'. HE General the Hon. Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)

## **MAY**

**AOC AGM** 9 - 10 May, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney.

**Prime Minister Welcomes Home Sochi Team:** The Hon. Tony Abbott MP congratulated the 2014 Australian Olympic and Paralympic Winter Teams for inspiring Australians and presented Olympians with their official IOC participation pins at the function.

**AOC Order of Merit** awarded to Gina Reinhart, Peter Fox AM and Laurie Lawrence for outstanding services to the Olympic movement.

**Women in Leadership:** Alisa Camplin OAM (Aerials) appointed Chef de Mission of the 2016 Winter Youth Olympic Team in Lillehammer, Norway.

**Drugs in Sport:** John Coates AC, President AOC outlined the latest developments in the fight against drugs in sport, which now covers the athlete's entourage, the amended WADA code, and the responsibility of Australia's National Sports Federations to comply by 1 January 2015.

**Book launch:** 'From Athens With Pride' AOC Historian Harry Gordon CMG AM has compiled the definitive history of the Australian Olympic Movement from 1896 – 2014. John Coates AC: "The book tells the stories of all our superheroes and all the Olympians. He explains the culture behind these Olympians... This is a book that they can reflect on."

## JUNE

**AOC launches 'Learn from a Champ'**, an online resource to motivate school students to learn from successful athletes and develop positive attitudes to health and sport.

## JULY

**Olympic Day** 23 July saw many Olympians return to their primary schools and sporting clubs to encourage and inspire young Australians to reach their potential.

## AUGUST

**Channel Seven awarded media rights:**

5 August: The Seven Network was awarded the Australian media rights for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, PyeongChang 2018

Olympic Winter Games and the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Seven will also broadcast the 2022 Olympic Winter Games and the 2024 Olympic Games, whose host cities are to be determined. Seven West Media acquired broadcast rights on all media platforms and committed to promoting Olympism, Olympic sports, health, education and youth sport across Seven's media platforms, including its television network, newspapers, magazines and online media. Seven first broadcast the Olympics from Melbourne in 1956.

'We've had a long relationship with Seven, which last covered the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, and we are happy to welcome them back to the Olympic Team.' John Coates AC

**Fiona de Jong appointed Secretary General of the Australian Olympic Committee** on 7 August, becoming the first female to hold this position.

**Nanjing 2014:** The AOC hosted a Champ Camp in Sydney for the 2014 Australian Youth Olympic Team. Chef de Mission Susie O'Neill OAM (Swimming) announced Rugby 7s co-captain Tiana Penitani as Flag Bearer for the Opening Ceremony. The 89 athletes comprising the Australian Team competed from 16-28 August and returned with 26 medals: 5 Gold, 4 Silver and 17 Bronze.

'Overall I have been really impressed with everyone's attitude and how they have carried themselves'. Susie O'Neill OAM, Chef de Mission.

## OCTOBER

**Drugs in Sport 17 October:** John Coates urged all sporting bodies to bring their anti-drugs codes up to world standard or risk not being able to participate in major events.

A Senate Committee heard evidence from AOC

President John Coates AC ahead of Parliament debating and passing laws to strengthen the powers of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA). The laws will bring ASADA into line with the World Anti-Doping Authority (WADA), which will introduce tougher penalties in

2015. WADA will double bans - from two to four years - for athletes using performance-enhancing drugs. Athletes will also be banned from dealing with coaches, trainers and sports scientists who have broken anti-doping laws, and the period in which investigations can begin into past doping offences will be extended by two years to 10 years.

**Women in Sport:** Helen Brownlee OAM, AOC Vice President continued her long pioneering of promoting women in sport with a keynote speech to the Asia Pacific World Sport and Women (APWSW) Conference at the Sydney Cricket Ground on 27 October.

"I truly believe we should 'get on with it' and assume equality. It is up to all of us - male and female - to look at ways of celebrating diversity by working together and actively practicing and promoting dignity, respect and inclusiveness. To look for men and women with the qualities, the

*"Overall I have been really impressed with everyone's attitude and how they have carried themselves"*

*Susie O'Neill OAM, Chef de Mission  
2014 Australian Youth Olympic Team*



skill set required and the values of our organisations, and then 'champion' them to take up positions of responsibility." Helen Brownlee OAM

## NOVEMBER

**AOC takes a stand against child abuse:** AOC introduces mandatory Working with Children Check for all coaches, staff and officials before they can join the 2016 Australian Olympic Team at the 2016 Rio Games. Concerned by the revelations at the current Royal Commission into child sexual abuse, AOC President John Coates AC has introduced the policy 'to protect all members of our Olympic Teams and create a child safe environment.'

**AOC launches Culture & Values program for Rio.** The IGNITE event series was launched on 19 November and will run for six months throughout Australia. Presented by Olympians and engaging over 1,000 athletes and officials, IGNITE is designed to motivate and demonstrate the values and responsibilities involved in joining the Australian Olympic Team, and the legacy set by Olympians over 120 years since 1896.

**Malcolm Page OAM appointed Chef de Mission 2015 Pacific Games Team.** The dual Olympic Champion Sailor will lead up to 67 Australians into our first appearance at the Pacific Games in Port Moresby from 4-18 July, 2015.

'Pulling on the green and gold at any time is exciting, however to represent Australia as a Chef de Mission is an amazing honour'. Mal Page OAM.

**AOC launches Eat Like a Champ**, an online resource with Olympians Emma Moffatt (Triathlon), Jo Brigden-Jones (Canoe/Kayak)

and Loudy Wiggins (Diving) demonstrating healthy eating options for children.

**AOC recognises Indigenous heritage.** The AOC is changing its Constitution to recognise Australia's Indigenous heritage. The proposal will be voted on at the next Annual General Meeting in May 2015. 'To recognise the heritage, culture and contribution of our nation's first people, and to give practical support to Indigenous reconciliation through sport'.

## DECEMBER

**IOC Agenda 2020.** All 40 recommendations for reform of the Olympic Movement - including an overhaul of the Olympic bidding process driven by John Coates - were approved at the IOC's 127th Session in Monaco, 8-9 December.

**Benchmarking: Positive signs for Rio:** The AOC undertakes a regular benchmarking exercise to rate our Team's results against other countries in World Championship (or equivalent) events. There were very positive signs for Australia's Olympic Team in Rio moving into sixth place on the Overall Medal tally and seventh on the Gold Medal Tally in the AOC's final benchmark study for 2014.

'Congratulations to our swimmers on some excellent results and also to the coaches and officials who are driving their resurgence. We are lower on the Gold Medal Tally, but remain hopeful our athletes will convert some of the 29 Silver and Bronze Medals into Gold come 2016. A top five finish is an aspirational goal and we unashamedly strive to be back up there with the best again.' John Coates AC. ●



# FIRST

THE AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE IS CHANGING ITS CONSTITUTION TO RECOGNISE AUSTRALIA'S INDIGENOUS HERITAGE.

THE AOC PRESIDENT, JOHN COATES AC, HAS INTRODUCED THE CHANGE WHICH STATES: TO RECOGNISE THE HERITAGE, CULTURE AND CONTRIBUTION OF OUR NATION'S FIRST PEOPLE, AND TO GIVE PRACTICAL SUPPORT TO INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION THROUGH SPORT.

AOC  
recognises  
Indigenous  
heritage

# NATION



The proposal will be voted on at the next Annual General Meeting of the AOC in May 2015. The AOC has also proposed changes to the Australian Olympic Team A.S.P.I.R.E. values, with 'RESPECT' now reading:

***I respect sport, the efforts of my competitors, my team mates and officials. I respect Australia and its Indigenous heritage. I respect our nation's past and the spirit of Olympism.***

The move has the support of the Prime Minister, The Hon. Tony Abbott MP, who challenged national leaders to recognise our Indigenous heritage during a visit to Arnhem Land earlier this year.

"We are accepting the Prime Minister's challenge," Coates said.

"Mr Abbott hit a nerve. This year as we prepare for the centenary of ANZAC we read about the contribution of the Indigenous Australians in both World Wars. We marvel at their prowess on the sporting field yet many live in poverty,

struggle with poor health, discrimination, drug abuse and an appallingly high suicide rate.

"More work needs to be done and major sporting organisations, including the Australian Olympic Committee, can lead the way. There is no better way to bring people together than through sport."

Olympic Gold Medallist, Cathy Freeman OAM expressed her appreciation at the announcement.

"I am proud that the Australian Olympic

Committee recognises Australian Indigenous heritage and this is reflected in a change to their constitution and team values. The one thing that moved me most at the 2000 Olympics, when I saw the joy on everyone's face, was the feeling that sport is an arena where we can all come together and put our differences aside," Freeman said.

"I am very appreciative of the tangible support and commitment that the AOC have offered towards the Cathy Freeman Foundation (CFF). The CFF helps Indigenous children experience

their full potential in school and beyond. It is my belief that education and sport builds confidence and getting the Olympic movement involved in inspiring Indigenous children is a very positive step."

"Cathy Freeman's appearance on the world stage when she lit the cauldron at the Sydney 2000 Olympics signified Australia's greatest act of reconciliation. 14 years on she continues to give so much to Indigenous Australia and Australia itself," Coates said.

"Changing the AOC Constitution is only the first step. I hope the 35 sports under the AOC umbrella will mobilise, along with other sports, and bring about change. Ultimately, I would definitely like to see more athletes out in the communities encouraging the kids," Coates said.

Australia has been represented by 43 Indigenous athletes at the summer Olympic Games dating back to Tokyo 1964, winning 12 medals with nine of these won by women.●

***"I am proud that the Australian Olympic Committee recognises Australian Indigenous heritage and this is reflected in a change to their constitution and team values. The one thing that moved me most at the 2000 Olympics, when I saw the joy on everyone's face, was the feeling that sport is an arena where we can all come together and put our differences aside"***

*Cathy Freeman, OAM*

# INSIDE THE IOC

## Contributing to a better world through sport

### AGENDA 2020

"We must be the change we want to be" Thomas Bach, President International Olympic Committee.

At the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) 127th session in Monaco on 8-9 December 2014, the IOC unanimously voted in favour of forty recommendations to shape the framework of the Olympic Movement going forward. This momentous occasion symbolised that Olympic Agenda 2020 will change the Olympic Movement, and make Olympic sport fit for the future.

President Bach initiated Olympic Agenda 2020 discussions over a year ago, with the premise to drive a strategic roadmap for the future of the Olympic Movement.

Australia's Jess Fox (Canoe Slalom) played a part as one of 11 athletes at a round table discussion with IOC President, Thomas Bach.

'It was an honour to be part of a select group to discuss the Agenda 2020 with the President. Hearing his vision and the direction of the Olympic movement was very exciting and it was a great learning experience to be a part of the round table discussion and contribute.' Jess Fox

Some of the key areas addressed by the recommendations are:

- Changes to the bidding process to reduce costs, simplify the process and attract more bidding cities,
- Move from a sport-based to an event-based program,
- Strengthen the 6th Fundamental Principle of Olympism of the Olympic Charter to include non-discrimination on sexual orientation,
- Launch of an Olympic TV Channel to provide a platform for sports and athletes beyond the Olympic Games period, 365 days a year, and
- The athletes remain at the centre of all 40 of the recommendations, with the protection of the clean athletes being at the heart of the IOC's philosophy.



# AUSTRALIA'S IOC MEMBERS



The President of the Australian Olympic Committee and IOC Vice President, John Coates AC, will lead two key Commissions on the International Olympic Committee, Chair of the IOC Juridical Commission and the Sport & Law Commission. He was re-appointed to the TV Rights and New Media Commission. Coates will remain as a member of the Coordination Commission for Rio 2016 Olympic Games and Chair of the Coordination Commission for the Tokyo 2020 Games.

James Tomkins OAM, who is a member of the IOC Athletes' Commission, has been appointed to the IOC Programme Commission.



*"We must be the change  
we want to be"*

*Thomas Bach, IOC President*

## **IOC AND THE UN**

The IOC and the United Nations (UN) took unprecedented steps together in 2014.

A historic Agreement was signed in New York between Thomas Bach, President IOC and Ban Ki-moon Secretary General UN, to articulate the shared values of the IOC and the UN 'to contribute to a better world through sport'.

The UN declared 6 April as the International Day of Sport.

## **IOC ATHLETE'S COMMISSION**

Keep up with the latest information (and contact) on the IOC Athletes' Commission at [www.olympic.org/fortherecord](http://www.olympic.org/fortherecord)

## **INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY:**

Travis Moran (Volleyball, Athens 2004) was selected to attend the 54th Young Participants Session at the International Olympic Academy held in Olympia, Greece from 15 to 29 June 2014. Approximately 200 participants from almost 100 countries attended the two week Session which included workshops, lectures and cultural events exploring the Olympic Values and importance of respect for diversity.

## **WOA'S GLOBAL PROMOTION OF OLYMPISM**

The World Olympians Association represents and advocates for the 100,000+ living Olympians globally. The IOC and WOA have

agreed to a more integrated approach to spreading the spirit and practice of Olympism involving more of the WOA's Olympian members in programmes that make positive impact on society. [Olympians.org](http://Olympians.org)

## **WORLD OLYMPIANS ASSOCIATION**

Keep up to date with news from the World Olympians Association. The Olympians Club of Australia is one of 142 members of WOA — the global body of Olympians Clubs with over 80,000 Olympians represented worldwide.●

*'Olympians are at the heart of  
what the IOC does. A strong,  
vibrant WOA will help ensure  
that our Olympians are looked  
after and that they are able to  
contribute to our global  
programmes'*

*Thomas Bach, IOC President*

# MASTERING THE MOMENT

Australian Adam Pretty is Chief Photographer for Getty Images, highly awarded and so not resting on his laurels.

**WRITER**  
Pier Stamatogiannis

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Adam Pretty

*'It's the highlight of being a sports photographer... nothing comes close to the Olympic Games.'*

Adam Pretty has shot every summer and winter Olympic Games since Sydney in 2000 and takes preparation for the Olympic Games very seriously.

Even with close to twenty years as a sports photographer, he doesn't just show up on the day. Preparation is everything. "I practised shooting football as best as I could, said Adam, "just trying to prepare [myself] for what to expect."

However, the excitement of sport comes from its unforeseeable moments and the emotions

associated with the final outcome. These are what Adam looks to record.

"With the nature of sport, it's so unpredictable. But if you put yourself in a good position, you know, with a nice background, then when something unexpected does happen, you have the best chance of capturing that."

"Most of my better shots are when it has been unexpected and I think that's what I love about sports photography." His move to Getty Images proved to be a dream outcome and allowed Adam

to photograph the world's greatest sporting events and athletes.

Thoroughly scoping out the venue and positioning for background and lighting is key. "I want to get the best picture I can and also tell the news story. For an Olympic Games or a big event like that, the main objective is to get that winning goal or the winning moment, like when the athlete crosses the line.

"You have to balance shooting artistically with also getting the news angle of the picture. And I

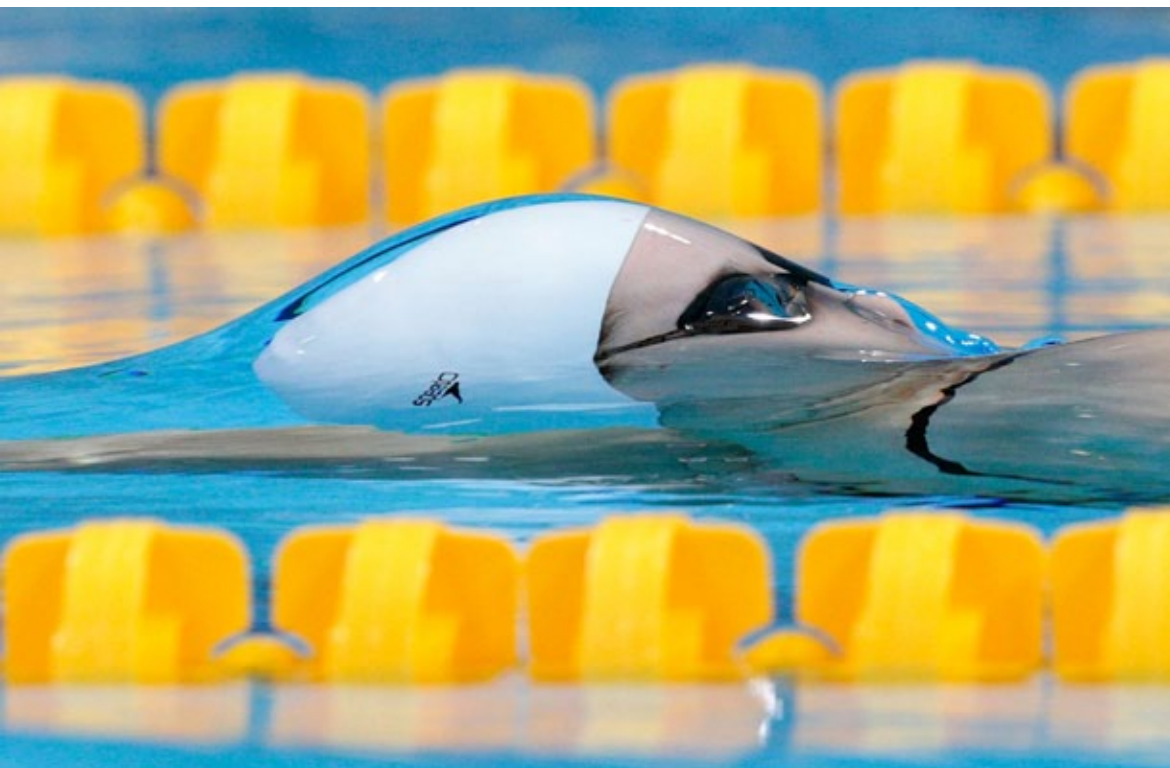
think it's when you have a bit of both that you get a really great sports picture...when it's got a news edge and some great emotion and it's artistically and aesthetically beautiful as well."

As to be expected, there's some jostling between the press pack for what could be the ideal position, especially "when you go to a new country, you always have to start from the back of the queue again."

There's less fighting for elbowroom at the Olympic Games where, according to Adam, "you







are working with the familiar [photo] agencies and you know most of the guys from around the world. So, there is some degree of mutual respect... But when something happens quickly and you've run into a position to get it.

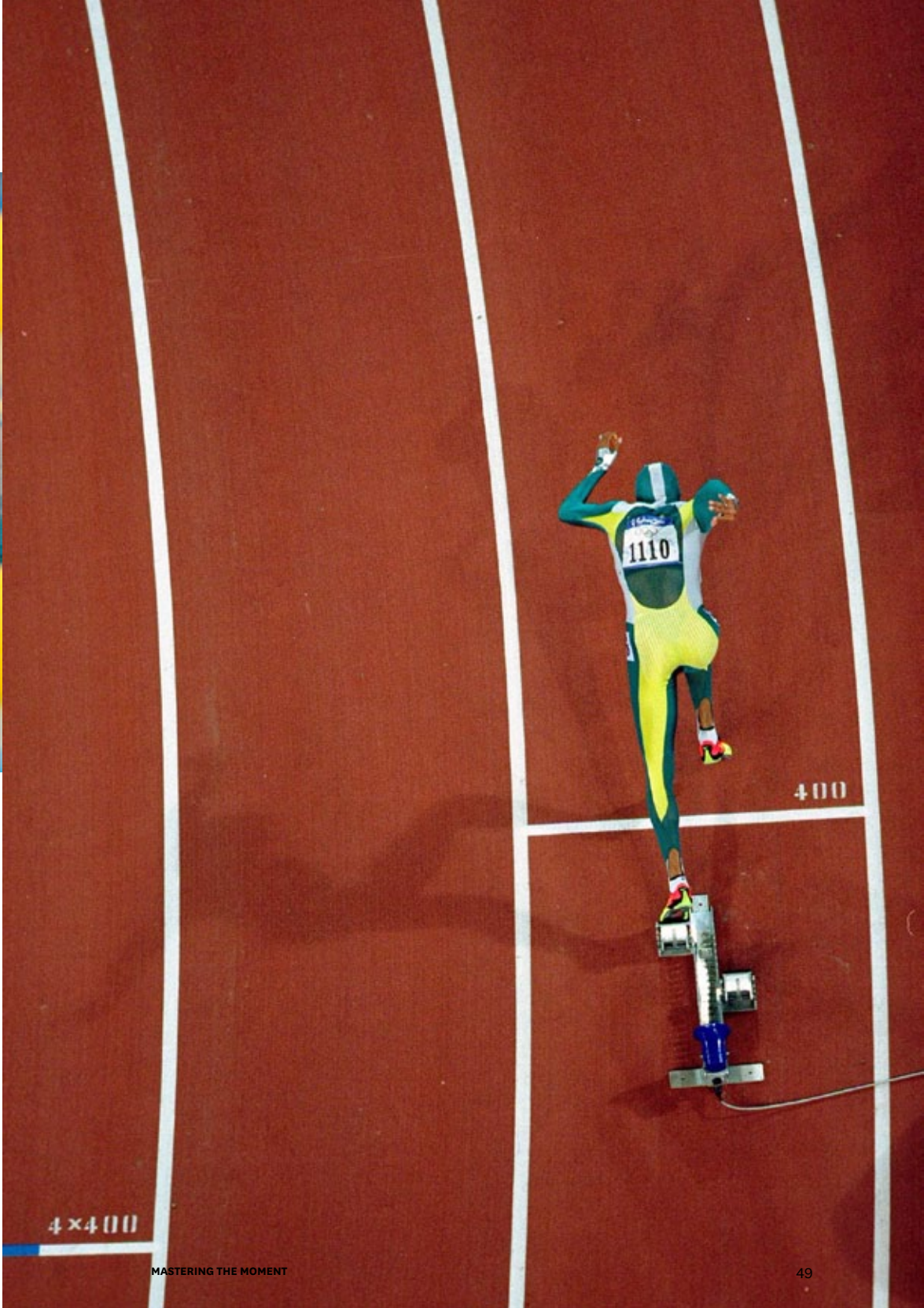
"I guess it does get pretty rough. Everyone's trying to get that picture. I like having a bit of space to work and just do my own thing."

From his space Adam has captured some of the most iconic images of recent Olympic history, including the series, titled "Olympic Journey 2012", which was chosen from over 122,000

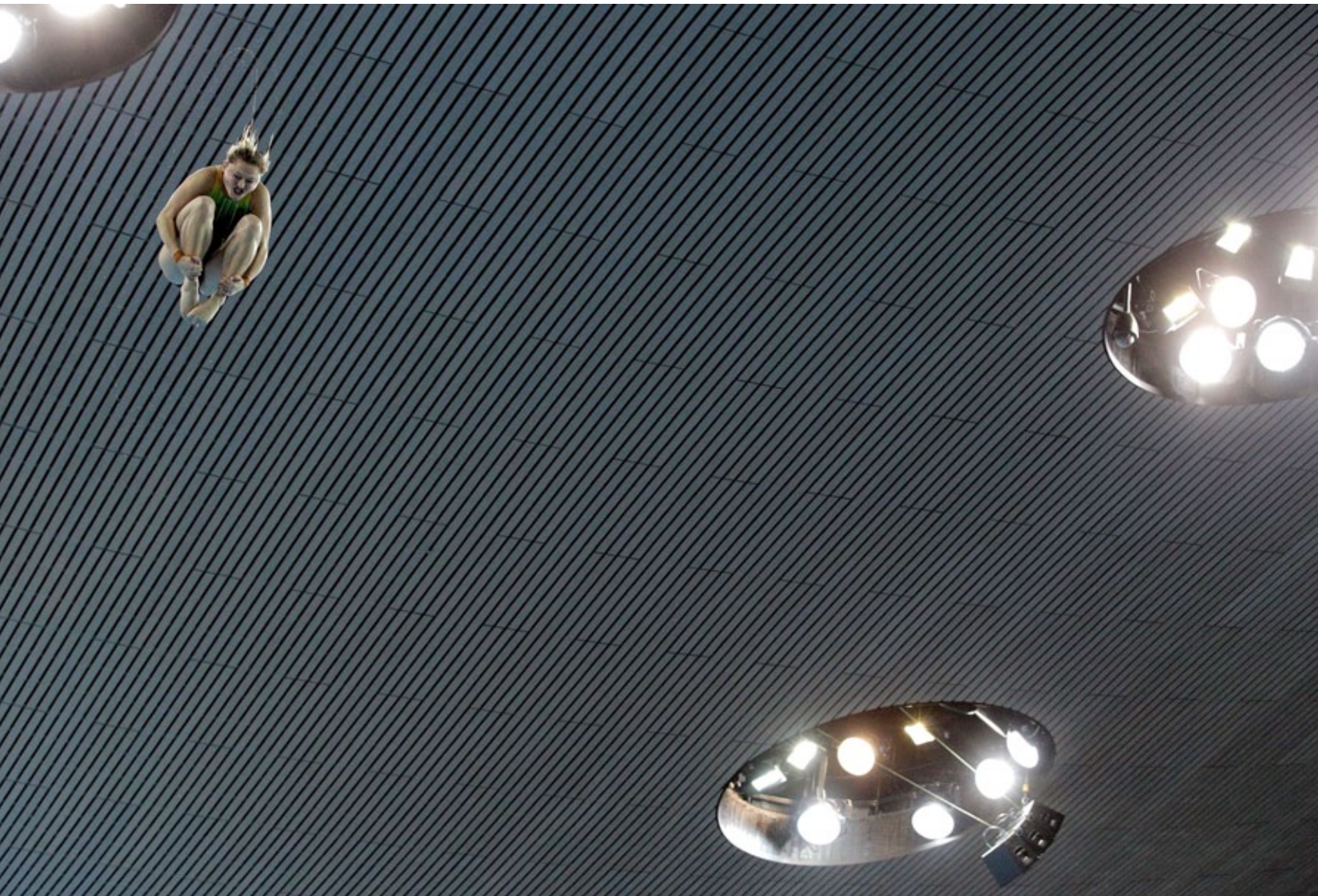
submissions from 170 countries by the Sony World Photography Awards Honorary Jury.

"I guess [it's about] communicating as much as possible, so they know exactly what they need to do and what I'm trying to capture. I basically don't want to waste any of their time, and I get the shot done as quickly and smoothly as possible.

He's looking forward to photographing his fifth summer Olympic Games. "From my point of view, it's the highlight of being a sports photographer. Even after [shooting] the World Cup, nothing comes close to the Olympic Games.







***“It’s something I feel really privileged to be able to go and – not just watch – but work at for my profession. It’s amazing to do.”***

“Every day has the highest level of sport you can imagine, whatever the sport is. So it’s a phenomenal experience for a sports photographer... And after about the thirteenth day, you’re so tired, you’re just working on adrenalin the whole time.

“It’s something I feel really privileged to be able to go and – not just watch – but work at for my profession. It’s amazing to do.”

Adam Pretty has won multiple World Press Awards, Pictures of the Year International, Walkey Award and other accolades. ●

Special thanks  
to Adam Pretty and  
Getty Images for  
facilitating this  
feature story.

[gettyimages.com](http://gettyimages.com)



# ATHLETE TRANSITION

## KATRINA POWELL

Hockey

Atlanta 1996 (Gold), Sydney 2000 (Gold), Athens 2004

Head Coach, Women's Hockey – NSWIS

### Describe your transition path following your athletic retirement that led you to where you are now?

I retired from International Hockey after the 2004 Olympic Games and began a two-year AIS Coaching Scholarship in 2005 that allowed me to work and study concurrently. I had a great mentor coach and received numerous opportunities to expand my experience, including being an assistant coach to the Junior World Cup team that travelled to Santiago in 2005. Achieving a formal qualification in something I loved was very rewarding.



### What have you learnt from your Olympic Journey that you have been able to apply to your post Olympic transition?

My Olympic Journey shaped the person that I am today. I have a great sense of pride in representing my country. My journey helped me discover the kind of person I want to be. The experience built on the values I was raised with, especially my drive to be “the best I could be,” something I try to instill in my athletes now.

Hard work, sacrifice, professionalism and good citizenship are things that I apply every day. My journey gave me belief and confidence in myself, taught me persistence and humility, and it showed me the value of being part of an elite culture that demands excellence from each of its members.

### How would you describe your post-Olympic transition? What advice would you give to other Olympians who are yet to transition from sport to life after sport?

My transition from athlete to coach was pretty seamless because I knew it was time to go and I was looking for my next challenge well before I played my last game. Having a good balance between my working, sporting and personal lives made the transition a lot easier.

It is important to consider what you want to do, and take steps to assist the transition process prior to retirement. My advice would be to chip away at a university course, work out what industry you want to work in, and then take advantage of the support available to you through your Personal Excellence advisor. You have more people around you willing to help than you may think you do!

## SCOTT KNELLER

Freestyle Skiing

Vancouver 2010, Sochi 2014

Project Manager – Nix Anderson Project Management

### Describe your transition path following your athletic retirement that led you to where you are now?

I have always valued the importance of education and the importance of pursuing a career for myself after sport and it feels natural to pursue a career with the same intensity I did my sport. Over the last 6 years I have been studying a civil engineering and commerce degree at UNSW.

Balancing sport and study was certainly challenging, but I look back on it now as an invaluable learning experience. I learnt how to deal with stress and developed an appreciation for living a balanced lifestyle. I retired from competitive skiing after the 2014 Olympic Winter Games and got stuck into my studies again. The slower pace of uni was a welcomed change following the Olympic Games but I craved new projects.

I opened a retail store in Jindabyne. Although it wasn't particularly successful, it taught me a lot about small businesses. The store also led me to a charity event in Thredbo where I met Derek Nix, founder and owner of Nix Anderson project management. I now work for Derek on a range of projects including the new Northern Beaches Hospital. It's still early days, but I'm enjoying the challenges the job provides everyday and looking forward to furthering my career.

### What have you learnt from your Olympic Journey that you have been able to apply to your post Olympic transition?

I learnt there is always a positive to find in any situation, you just have to be driven and motivated enough to find it. Less than two months out from Sochi 2014 I injured myself and nearly shattered my Olympic dream.

The experience made me realise just how lucky I was to have the opportunity to give it a go. When I came home in January for rehab, I was blown away by the support I received from my local community of Jindabyne. As my career was coming to an end, I thought a lot about the legacy I wanted to leave behind and how I could give back to a community that had given me so much.



So in January 2014, my brother Luke and I started the Rob Kneller Youth Foundation in loving memory of our late father. In the last 12 months I have worked tirelessly to build a self-sustaining foundation that supports my local community. I believe positive opportunities present themselves if you're willing to find them and that's how I try to live my life.

### How would you describe your post-Olympic transition? What advice would you give to other Olympians who are yet to transition from sport to life after sport?

I'm the first to admit the transition to the real world has been tough. My friends are in Japan, skiing neck deep powder at the moment, while I sit behind a desk and doubt my lifestyle choices. As a professional athlete, you're an expert in your chosen field, the best of the best. Everyone around you is there to help you achieve your goals. I have moved into full time employment and started at the bottom. I'm not used to working for someone else and taking orders. It's not worse though, it's just different.

I see it as an opportunity to learn from the best. I've been thrown in the deep end, but I'm motivated to learn something new every day and be the best again. The real world is definitely different, but there are so many opportunities waiting to present themselves.

## AMY HETZEL

Water polo

Beijing 2008 (Bronze)

Senior Account Manager – Bastion EBA, Director – Water Polo Australia,  
Education Ambassador – Australian Olympic Committee

### Can you describe your transition path from athletic retirement to where you are now?

I completed my Bachelor degree in Occupational Therapy not long before I competed in the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. After the high of competing at the pinnacle of world sport, I was keen to chase a new and exciting career in the world of sports media. I reached out to some of the amazing people I had met during my Olympic journey to learn more about the media industry. I completed unpaid internships for the next six months until Network Ten offered me a position as a Production Assistant. After a year, I gained some experience reporting for Sports Tonight and my reporting career grew. I made the switch to Seven Network, where I reported on and produced sport for the 6pm Nightly News, AFL broadcast, Spring Racing Carnival and Sunrise. I then spent two years presenting sport on ABC and News24.

Not long after I finished competing, I also joined the board of Water Polo Australia, as I was looking to contribute back to the sport that had given me so much over the years.

I am finishing my MBA this year at the Australian Graduate School of Management and am now exploring a career in the commercial side of sport at Bastion EBA.

**What have you learnt from your Olympic Journey that you've been able to apply to your post-Olympic transition?** After my Olympic experience, I felt such a deep sense of fulfillment, achievement and happiness, but also relief.

The biggest adjustment was finding

challenges in my professional life that fulfilled me and gave me the same sense of achievement and excitement that elite competition had. When you are working towards an Olympic Games, everything is tracked and accounted for but I quickly learnt that in your professional career, milestones are less tangible.

The strong work ethic that I developed through my sporting career has proved to be a huge asset, by providing me with the opportunity to inspire and motivate my colleagues.

### What was your transition like? What advice would you give to other Olympians?

My post-Olympic transition has been a learning experience that has adjusted my perception from the narrowly focused world of an elite athlete to the greater professional and business world. We are all part of the Olympic family and I have never met another member of this fraternity that wasn't

willing to reach out and help out another member. It's so important to reach out, form relationships, meet up and learn about other people, industries and opportunities. You'll also learn a lot about yourself.

My other piece of advice is to be prepared to work just as hard as you did in your athletic life to establish a professional career. Nothing will be handed to you because you are an Olympian. Apply the many wonderful traits you developed as an athlete, because there is an incredible and rewarding career ahead of you. You just need to be willing to chase it down, like you did your Olympic dream.



## ROBIN BELL

Canoe/Kayak – Slalom

Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008 (Bronze)

Private Client Manager – NAB Private Wealth

### Can you describe your transition path from athletic retirement to where you are now?

The transition comes rather abruptly in the end. I tried through my sporting career to prepare with a University degree (Economics and Finance at USYD completed part time) and various jobs in the relevant field during sport.

I had four job prospects in finance after the 2008 Olympic Games, but by the time I was back from the Olympics the GFC was in full flight. I got my break at NAB Private, where I am today. I had met a banking executive at a lunch which I had done a speech at, I guessed his email address and he put me in contact with NAB Private Wealth. I started as an associate in November 2009 moved to a business development manager and then onto a Private Client Manager.

### What have you learnt from your Olympic Journey that you've been able to apply to your post-Olympic transition?

I used to apply the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities & threats) analysis in sport. I would update this on a weekly basis, short term and long term goals, looking at turning my weaknesses into strengths and seizing opportunities. I still use this analysis at the end of each day, considering how I may have handled things differently, and then I overlay that with a SWOT analysis weekly.

In sport, you are confronted with injuries and failures, and you learn from them, and the same applies to your working career. You cannot win everything but it is how you adapt you get back into the game.

*Resilience has also been key...*



### What was your transition like? What advice would you give to other Olympians?

I entered the corporate world in tough market conditions which compounded into a hard transition. It is always hard, daunting and exciting starting something new. I knew I wanted to get into finance but had no idea where to begin.

It was hard going from a world class athlete to starting at the bottom of the corporate ladder. You do have a different set of skills that are very useful however it does take time for you to really bring them to the table. The skills companies like are generally skills athletes have obtained to become world class. Highlight these skills to any potential employer.

In sport I use to find out who best ranked athlete was and ask to train with them or watch them train, it is a little different watching someone sitting at a work terminal, however finding a mentor in your chosen field can help you accelerate your career. They have done it before and can help you negotiate the landscape a little easier. ●



# OLYMPIANS IN THE COMMUNITY

Have you helped out your community?  
Let us know @ alumni@olympics.com.au



## **22 JANUARY**

Ramone Cooper (Freestyle Skiing) participated in the Cathy Freeman Foundation's (CFF) Horizons Program in Mt Buller. Cooper spent a rewarding time with ten Indigenous students who had travelled to Mt Buller from Palm Island, Queensland. It was the first time any of them had seen snow.

## **29 JANUARY**

Katya Crema (Freestyle Skiing) returned to Middle Park Primary School. Almost 90 primary school students were treated to a first-hand account of the commitment and endeavour necessary to become an elite athlete.

## **10 MARCH**

Year 7 students at St. Kevin's High School in Benowa, QLD were inspired by 2008 Olympic Gold Medallist Ken Wallace OAM (Canoe/Kayak) and Bernadette Wallace.

## **17 MARCH**

Deanna Lockett (Short Track Skating) returned to her school, Sunnybank Hills State School in Brisbane and was received with a hero's welcome. The primary students were eager to obtain her autograph and listen to stories about her experiences at the Olympic Games.

## **31 MARCH**

Erin Walklate (Badminton) held a series of badminton clinics for the school students in Kerang, Victoria. Two hundred students from Kerang Primary School, Kerang South Primary School and Kerang Technical High School attended.

## **7 APRIL**

Scott Kneller (Freestyle Skiing) attended the Snowy Mountains Christian School to share his Sochi experience with the students, teachers and parents.

## **2 JUNE**

248 students from the Warrnambool district were inspired by Nicole Livingstone OAM (Swimming), Pam Kilborn-Ryan AM MBE (Athletics), Trevor Vincent (Athletics), Michelle Brogan (Basketball), Kristi Willoughby (Basketball), Peter Blackburn (Badminton), Linley Frame (Swimming), Miao Miao (Table Tennis) at the Active Youth Development Program (AYDP) on June 3, 2014.

Over 30 Olympians visited 29 Schools throughout Victoria as part of the popular AYDP.

## **12 JUNE**

Olivia Vivian (Gymnastics) and Kim Mickle (Athletics) shared the Olympic spirit at two Perth primary schools as part of the national Olympic Day celebrations.

## **16 JUNE**

Damon Kelly (Weightlifting) shared his inspiring story and tips on what it takes to be an elite athlete with students at Bray Park State High School.

## **23 JUNE – OLYMPIC DAY**

Past and present Olympic athletes visited the National Sports Museum in Melbourne as part of Olympic Day celebrations from June 23 to 26, including Steve Hooker OAM (Athletics), Steve Moneghetti (Athletics), Claire Mitchell-Taverner (Hockey) and Nicole Livingstone OAM (Swimming).

## **15 AUGUST**

On live TV, Anna Meares OAM (Cycling) shaved her head to raise funds for the Little Heroes Foundation. Anna is the Little Heroes Foundation Ambassador, which supports seriously ill children by raising funds for essential equipment and services for the children and their families. Anna summarised her decision to shave her head as prioritising life over vanity and saying, "If being uncomfortable for a little while makes a big difference to the lives of seriously ill children, then I am all for it". Anna aimed to raise a total of \$250,000 for the Little Heroes Foundation, 86% of which had been raised by the end of 2014.

## **17 NOVEMBER**

Gold Medallists from the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, Malcolm Page OAM (Sailing), Scott Brennan OAM (Rowing) and Angie Bainbridge OAM (Swimming) attended an Address to Members and Senators of Parliament of Australia by his Excellency Mr Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China. They also attended a dinner in honour of his Excellency Mr Xi Jinping and Madame Peng Liyuan in the Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra on 17 November 2014 at the invitation of the Prime Minister. ●

# OLYMPIANS CONGRATULATIONS

## BIRTHS

**Tamsin Hinchley** (nee Barnett) (Beach Volleyball – Beijing 2008, London 2012) and her husband Al on the birth of their daughter Saskia in December 2013

**Adam Miller** (Athletics – Athens 2004) and his wife on the birth their son Maxwell in October 2014

**Paul Murray** (Cross Country Skiing – Torino 2006, Vancouver 2010) and his wife Marina on the birth of their son Patrick in August 2014

**Tom King OAM** (Sailing – Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000) and **Marguerite Houston** (Rowing – 2008) on the birth of their son Lachlan Jack in April 2014

**Elka Whalan** (nee Graham) (Swimming – Sydney 2000, Athens 2004) and her husband **Tom Whalan** (Water Polo – Sydney 200, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, London 2012) on the birth of their son Presley in January 2014

**Tarnee Southwell** (nee White) (Swimming – Sydney 2000, Beijing 2008) and her husband Ben on the birth of their daughter Willow in October 2014

**Amber Webster** (nee Bradley) (Rowing – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008) and her husband Neill on the birth of their daughter Marley in December 2013

**Kym Howe** (Athletics – Athens 2004) and her husband Aaron on the birth of their twins Austin and Arianne in May 2014

**Mark Knowles** (Hockey – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, London 2012) and his wife Kelly on the birth of their son Luca in November 2014

**Erin Walklate** (nee Carroll) (Badminton – Beijing 2008) and her husband Ben on the birth of their son Charlie Benjamin in May 2014

**Jack Bobridge** (Sailing – Beijing 2008, London 2012) and his wife Josie on the birth of their daughter Amelie in August 2014

**James Stewart** (Rowing- Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004) and his wife Amy on the birth of their daughter Aurelia in February 2014 ●



## MARRIAGES

**Travis Moran** (Volleyball – Athens 2004) on his marriage to **Ellie Kyrlyenko** in March 2014

**Sally Foster** (Swimming – Beijing 2008, London 2012) on her marriage to **Andrew Hunter** in December 2013

**Des Abbott** (Hockey – Beijing 2008) on his marriage to **Ellena Murdock** in November 2014

**Amber Webster** (nee Bradley) (Rowing – Athens 2004, Beijing 2008) on her marriage to **Neill Webster** in April 2014

**Lara Carroll** (Swimming – Athens 2004) on her marriage to **Sam Mist** in May 2014

**Casey Eastham** (Hockey – Beijing 2008, London 2012) on her marriage to **Scott Sablowski** in September 2014

**Sally Robbins** (Rowing – Sydney 2000, Athens 2004) on her marriage to **Howard Cameron** in April 2014

**Rebecca Smith** (Rowing – Athens 2004) on her marriage to **James McLaughlin** in April 2014

**Melanie Schlanger OAM** (Swimming – Beijing 2008, London 2012) and **Chris Wright** (Swimming – London 2012) on their marriage in September 2014

**Holly Lincoln-Smith** (Water Polo – London 2012) on her marriage to **James Young** in November 2014

**Ken Wallace OAM** (Canoe/Kayak – Beijing 2008, London 2012) on his marriage to **Naomi Shears** in November 2014



# OLYMPIANS IN MEMORIAM

## **MERVYN DAVID FINLAY** **1931 - 2014**

Mervyn David Finlay, an Olympic rower and highly respected athlete in both the rowing and Australian sporting communities, passed away in July 2014 at age 89. He competed in the Helsinki 1952 Olympic Games where he was part of the Bronze Medal winning Men's Eight and went on to be an integral member of the Kapyla Club and its annual reunions that was developed from the Games.

After his sporting career, Mervyn went on to become an Australian Supreme Court Judge (1984-1994) and Queens Council. After retiring as a Judge, Mervyn was appointed as an Inspector of the Police Integrity Commission by the NSW State Cabinet. Mervyn continued his involvement in and commitment to rowing with his home club, the Leichhardt Rowing Club, where he captained the year he represented Australia at the Helsinki Olympic Games.

## **DOUGLAS LAING** **1931 - 2014**

Born on 19 March 1931, Doug Laing became a well renowned and respected athlete throughout Australia, competing in the Helsinki 1952 and Melbourne 1956 Olympic Games as the Australian Water Polo goalkeeper. Doug was known for his 'piano legs' and his ability to propel his body out of the water. With an international career that spanned seven years from 1950-1956, the Dual Olympian wore fifty Australian Team caps.

After his sporting career, Doug became a household name in the real estate industry partnering with colleague and friend Spencer Simmons to establish Laing and Simmons in 1967. Doug passed away, aged 83, on 27 October 2014 and will be remembered for his kind and caring nature, and incredible selflessness.



## **BRIDGET HYEM (NEE MACINTYRE)** **1933 - 2014**

Bridget 'Bud' Hyem (nee MacIntyre), Australia's first female equestrian Olympian, passed away in March 2014 aged 81. Raised in Kayuga, near Muswellbrook, Bridget competed at Tokyo 1964 Olympic Games, where she finished 24th in the individual Showjumping event and part of the Australian Showjumping Team that finished 7th riding her horse 'Coronation'. Bridget married well-known Australian show jumper, Bill Hyem.

After Bridget's representation in Tokyo 1964, no Australian woman competed in equestrian for 20 years. Bridget went on to be a well renowned and respected owner and breeder, breeding two of Australia's most successful Olympic horses, Gold Medallists Kibah Tic-Toc and Kibah Sandstone. Bridget was praised among the equestrian community for her tough but necessary approach and her outstanding character and leadership.

Just like Bridget's Olympic dream and journey began at age 9, she too fostered the development of her horses from beginners to Olympic Champions. Bridget will be remembered for her extraordinary commitment and dedication to the sport of Equestrian and her remarkable achievements as both an athlete and a breeder. ●



**Jim Dunn OAM**  
(Equestrian  
Official – Atlanta  
1996, Sydney  
2000, Athens  
2004)  
November 2013

**Charles Bazzano**  
(Cycling –  
London 1948)  
January 2014

**Helen Baird**  
(Cycling  
Administration)  
January 2014

**David Power**  
(Athletics –  
Melbourne 1956,  
Rome 1960)  
February 2014

**Bridget Hyem  
(nee MacIntyre)**  
(Equestrian –  
Tokyo 1964)  
March 2014

**Gregory Brough**  
(Swimming –  
Mexico 1968)  
March 2014

**Malcolm Shaw**  
(Rowing –  
Munich 1972,  
Montreal 1976)  
May 2014

**Terry Moessinger AM**  
(QOC Life  
Member, QOC  
Treasurer  
1959-1970, Hon.  
Secretary  
1970-1989)  
May 2014

**John Gardiner**  
(Basketball –  
Tokyo 1964,  
Mexico 1968)  
May 2014

**Penelope Dunbabin**  
(Hockey –  
Los Angeles 1984)  
May 2014

**Brian Blackburn**  
(Athletics –  
Melbourne 1956)  
May 2014

**Kenneth Doubleday**  
(Athletics –  
Helsinki 1952,  
Melbourne 1956)  
June 2014

**The Hon Mervyn Finlay**  
(Rowing –  
Helsinki 1952)  
July 2014

**Raymond Buckingham**  
(Fencing –  
Melbourne 1956)  
July 2014

**Kenneth Clarke**  
(Hockey –  
Melbourne 1956)  
August 2014

**Douglas Laing**  
(Water Polo –  
Helsinki 1952,  
Melbourne 1956)  
October 2014

**Dr William Orchard**  
(Water Polo –  
Helsinki 1952,  
Melbourne 1956)  
October 2014

**Dr John Bartram**  
(Athletics –  
London 1948)  
November 2014

**Phil May**  
(Athletics –  
Mexico 1968)  
November 2014

**John Pettigrew**  
(Football –  
Melbourne 1956)  
December 2014

# REUNIONS AND EVENTS

## **THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOKYO 1964 OLYMPIC GAMES**

The Japanese Olympic Committee (JOC) extended an invitation to all 1964 Olympians to participate in the celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the Tokyo 1964 Olympic Games. The Australian contingent consisted of 17 Olympians and their partners.

The hospitality provided by the JOC was outstanding. The highlight of the visit was the reception for 1,000 guests, held in the magnificent ballroom of the Palace Hotel in the presence of His Royal Highness The Crown Prince Of Japan, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Governor of Tokyo Yoshi Mori and JOC President Tsunekazu Takeda, of whom we were privileged to meet.

A nostalgic stopover was to the mighty Meiji Stadium, the venue for the 1964 Opening Ceremony. The “old girl” hadn’t aged at all and was due to be demolished that week to be replaced by a 100,000 seat stadium catering for the future Olympics. An eerie silence took over as 17 former Australian Olympians stood arm in arm in the silence of that empty stadium, remembering the thrill of marching through the tunnel, in the Green and Gold, into that packed, cheering stadium of 80 thousand people.

Our grateful thanks is extended to JOC President, Mr Tsunekazu Takeda Misu and the generosity of the JOC for strengthening the bond that exists between the Japanese and Australian Olympic family. We all hope we will be around to celebrate the Olympics in 2020.

Once an Olympian always an Olympian and the memory stays forever. Citius, Altius, Fortius.

— Barclay Wade (Rowing, Tokyo 1964)

## **ATHLETICS INTERNATIONAL (AI) 2014 BREAKFAST FUNCTION**

Originally conceived as an occasion to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Australian Track and Field Team’s participation in the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games, this function was subsequently extended to also mark 30 years since Los Angeles 1984, and 10 years since Athens 2004.

Early in 2014 details were announced of a new Athletics Australia (AA) initiative to introduce uniquely numbered ‘Bibs’ for athletes who represented Australia at the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, World Track and Field, World Cross Country, or World Indoor Championships. AI then grasped the opportunity provided by our function, to present ‘Bibs’ to any eligible athletes who attended and this added significantly to the ultimate great success of this breakfast.

Conducted in the Olympic Room at the famous MCG, our breakfast was extremely well patronised with an attendance of 205, our best for some years.

The breakfast was most competently MC’d by 1976 Olympian Dr Peter Larkins, along with the company of 15 members of the 1964 Team, five from the 1984 Team and two from 2004. Quite a number travelled from interstate and all who attended were unanimous in their praise of the function. Many old friendships were rekindled and contacts exchanged. A range of memorabilia was brought along and displayed by many attendees, much to the interest and enjoyment of all.

The highlights of the function were Len Johnson’s very entertaining presentation of our participation in each Olympic Games.

The Bib presentations were highlighted by the attendance of Bib recipients Ray Weinberg - Bib number 136 - London 1948, John Vernon - Bib number 173 - Auckland 1950, & Neil Robbins - Bib number 196 - Vancouver 1954.

A big thank you to the organising Sub-Committee including, Bob Lay (Athletics - Tokyo 1964), Trevor Vincent (Athletics - Tokyo 1964), Lynne Williams, Erica Hooker (Athletics - Munich 1972), and Charlene Rendina (Athletics - Munich 1972, Montreal 1976). Many thanks also to the rest of the AI Committee, Marian O’Shaughnessy, Terri Cater (Athletics - Montreal 1976), & Graham Crouch (Athletics - Montreal 1976) for their ongoing support.

— Trevor Vincent OAM - (Athletics - Tokyo 1964)

## **KAPYLA CLUB HELSINKI 1952**

For the 61st consecutive year - an ‘Olympic Record’ world wide - members of the 1952 Australian Olympic Team, the famed ‘Kapyla Club’ (named after their Olympic Village in Helsinki) gathered at the Sydney Rowing Club for their annual reunion.

Of the 83 Olympians in the 1952 Australian Team, seven attended the reunion: David Anderson (Rowing), Edwin Carr (Athletics), Forbes Carlile (Modern Pentathlon), Vic Middleton (Rowing), John Rodgers (Rowing), Dan McDonnell (Boxing) and Ray Smee OAM (Water Polo).

As per the Kapyla Club Scandinavian tradition, guests were treated to a shot of ‘Aquavit’ on arrival washed down with salted herrings.

MC Ray Smee presided over an entertaining and profoundly warm function, full of friendships and shared memories. Long may the Kapyla Club live on in Australia’s Olympic family.

The 62nd anniversary of the Helsinki Olympic Games will be held at the Sydney Rowing Club on Friday 17 July 2015.





# CLUB NEWS

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The ACT Olympians Club has been reinvigorated at a Christmas Cocktail Party held on 4 December 2014.



Thank you to Jenny Owens (Alpine and Freestyle Skiing) and Regan Harrison (Swimming). The event proved a great success, with a significant number of new faces appearing. Prominent among these were current World Champion Caroline Buchanan (BMX Cycling), Kim Crow (Rowing), Scott Brennan (Rowing), Hannah Every-Hall (Rowing), and Louise

Dobson (Hockey). It was good to have Olympians of yesteryear in attendance, notably John Fox (Water Polo) and Marty Roberts (Swimming).

The ACT Olympians Club has been working with the ACT Olympic Council (ACTOC) on rejuvenating the club, with increasing momentum. This is particularly important in light of the AOC-administered Rio 2016 fundraising campaign. Both the ACTOC and the OCACT are keen to see local Olympians, a valuable and significant asset, become more involved.

We commence 2015 with great optimism.

— Marty Rabjohns, President

## NEW SOUTH WALES

2014 has been a year of change for the Olympians Club of NSW. Our focus has been to create a program of events that is relevant to our members based on information gleaned from the survey we conducted in 2013. As a result, our events in 2014 focused on Olympians and their partners and we have promoted our events through the power of personal contact.

The creation of an Olympians Club Ambassadors Program in 2013 has been instrumental in increasing the numbers of Olympians attending our events and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Ambassadors for their support and passion.

We conducted a Twilight Sail on Sydney Harbour in February. The competitive spirit of our Olympians came to the fore on what was a picture perfect evening on the harbour. The sailing was followed by a cocktail party at the Australian Maritime



Museum. Many thanks must go to Matt Hayes (Sailing), CEO of Sydney by Sail for arranging and supporting the event.

In October, NSW Olympians



gathered at the wonderful Billich Gallery to celebrate some significant milestones – the 50th Anniversary of the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, the 30th Anniversary of the Los Angeles 1984 Summer Games and the Sarajevo 1984 Winter Olympics, the 20th Anniversary of the Lillehammer Winter Games and the 10th Anniversary of the Athens Summer Games. We also welcomed the latest group of Olympians to the Olympians Club, those athletes who represented at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Games earlier in the year. Over 100 people attended the event with 60 Olympians.

2015 provides us with the opportunity to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Sydney

2000 Olympic Games and I ask all Olympians to 'save the date' of 15 September 2015 for a gala event.

I would like to thank the Olympians Club Executive Members for their significant contribution to the success of the Club and the events conducted this year. Sincere thanks to the AOC and the NSW Olympic Council for their ongoing support of the Olympians Club.

— Peter Hadfield (Athletics), President

## QUEENSLAND

In October 2014, the Queensland Olympians Club held a successful 50th Anniversary Reunion for the 1964 Olympians. Notably in attendance were Julian Rossi (Boxing), Billy Booth (Boxing), Bruce Richardson (Rowing), Graeme McCall (Rowing), Athol McQueen (Boxing), Arthur Denovan (ABC Broadcaster), Simon Newcomb (Rowing), Randall Hope (Boxing) and Fred Casey (Boxing).

The guests had a great time sharing old stories including life in the Tokyo Olympic Village, amongst memorabilia that the Queensland Olympic Council compiled for display. It was a great celebration after such a long time and they are all very much looking forward to the

next reunion.

We hope 2015 is a great year for the Queensland Olympians Club and its members and look forward to reconnecting with even more Queensland based Olympians.

— Julie McDonald OAM (Swimming), President



# CLUB NEWS

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The 2014 Annual Dinner was held at the Glenelg Golf Club on 31st May. As 2014 commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Tokyo Olympic Games, John Heard (Captain, Basketball Team, Tokyo 1964) was the guest speaker. Also in attendance was South Australia's oldest living Olympian Denise Wangel (nee Norton) (Swimming) who competed at the Helsinki 1952 Olympic Games.

All SA based Olympians



were invited to attend a Reunion Cocktail Party on 16th October at the Hilton Hotel. Of the 70 guests there were 50 Olympians. In light of the 50th, 30th, and 10th anniversaries of, Tokyo 1964, Los Angeles 1984 and Athens 2004 respectively, Marley Chapman (nee Dayman) (Swimming), Jenny Cheesman (Basketball) and Travis Moran (Volleyball) represented their respective Games and were interviewed by MC, Adam

Steinhardt. Given the success of this event, the Club intends to hold a similar event in 2016, when we can celebrate another year of Games' Anniversaries.

The Club sincerely welcomes all SA based Olympians who are keen to be involved in the Olympians Club to ensure that it continues to progress and connect SA Olympians. Please contact SA Olympic Council Executive Director, Kirsty Withers on 08 7424 7749 or President of the SA Olympians



Club, Leon Gregory on 08 8296 4542.

We hope to see you all at our next Annual Dinner, Friday 13 June 2015. Details to be provided closer to the date.

— Kirsty Withers, Executive Director

## TASMANIA

The Tasmanian Olympians Club in conjunction with the Tasmanian Olympian Council held a Cocktail Party in June followed by a breakfast in November. The Olympians also joined the Tasmanian Team Appeal Committee for Christmas at the Hobart Lord Mayor's offices in December.

Tasmanian Olympians have had a great year including reigning World Champion and 2012 London Olympian, Amy Cure (Cycling) who won the Australia's first Gold Medal at the Track Cycling World Cup meet in London in December. Hobart's Luke Jackson (Boxing) after his fight in December is currently unbeaten after seven professional bouts.

In April, Peter Eckhardt (Canoe/Slalom), who paddled for Australia at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, watched his 16-year-old daughter Kate win Silver in the Junior K1 World Canoe Slalom Championships at Penrith.

Eddie Ockenden (Hockey) was named Tasmania's Athlete of the Year in December. Eddie is an integral member of the Kookaburras. He also captained the Tasmanian Tigers in the Australian Hockey League, which won its first National Championship this year.

"I'm really privileged to play a fantastic sport along with some of the best athletes in the world," he said. I hope people play hockey and I hope that people see things like this and get inspired to keep playing their sport at their grassroots level and hope to be going to the Olympics like I've been lucky enough to do."

— Bethanie Kearney (Athletics), President



## VICTORIA

The Olympians Club of Victoria (OCV) had some notable highlights the last 12 months including the formation of the Young Olympians Club of Victoria, headed up by Steph Moorehouse (Gymnastics). This is a sub-group of the OCV but with their own committee and the capacity to run their own events with the assistance, as required, of the VOC and OCV. To qualify for the Young Olympic Club of Victoria, Olympians are required to be under 35 years of age. It is envisaged that this new club will attract young Olympians keen to rekindle friendships and reconnect with their fellow team mates and progress seamlessly into the Olympians Club activities.

The 2014 Annual Dinner held at the Sofitel on Collins Street in Melbourne was a success with 500 guests and a large percentage of Olympians and Olympic officials, including many members of the Young Olympians Club.

The VOC would like to pay tribute and show immense gratitude to Gill Brewster, CEO of the VOC and secretary of the OCV for her contribution over the past seven years. Gill, who has recently retired from the position, has had a huge influence in the successful running of both organisations in her tenure at the VOC. 80 people attended



Gill's farewell lunch at the Il Duca restaurant in early November, where the notable John Wylie, Chairman of the Australian Sports Commission and Nick Green, AOC Board member and President of the VOC both spoke and thanked Gill.

—Leon Wiegard (Water Polo) President



# CLUB NEWS

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

In October, the Olympians Club of WA hosted an event in conjunction with the Chetkovich Cup in Perth. This team event featured performances from all seven disciplines of gymnastics over a single night. Olympians Club members and their families were treated to a gymnastics spectacular, including the showcasing of four WA Olympians: Lauren Mitchell, Olivia Vivian, Emily Little and Janine Murray. The pre-event function provided an opportunity for social interaction whilst

It was a crowd-pleasing, unconventional and fun filled performance by Olivia Vivian on the uneven bars.

The Annual 2014 Christmas lunch combined with the AGM was held at Cambridge Bowls Club on 30 November. The event was attended by 78 guests, of which 44 were Olympians who between them have won 12 Medals - 6 Gold, 4 Silver, 2 Bronze including a representation at every summer Games since Melbourne 1956. Masters of Ceremonies, Allana Slater and Jesse Phillips

The OCWA will continue to host functions in conjunction with local sporting events and Olympic milestone anniversaries.

The OCWA is constantly seeking social events to continue to progress and connect our West Aussie Olympians. Best wishes to all our alumni here in WA. We look forward to seeing you at some of our OCWA events this year.

— Liane Tooth, President



enjoying scrumptious food and a drink. An extra level of excitement was enjoyed as a few Olympians had the opportunity to judge the Allana Slater Medal for the 'wow factor'.

together kept the audience entertained with some interesting interviews. The raffle proceeds were again donated to Mission Australia's 'Perth Christmas Lunch in the Park for the disadvantaged'.

# COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, CLUBS, CONTACTS

## ATHLETES' COMMISSION

### Chair

**Kim Crow**

Rowing

Beijing 2008, London 2012

### Deputy Chairperson

**Ramone Cooper**

Freestyle Skiing, Moguls  
Vancouver 2010

## MEMBERS

**Alana Boyd**

Athletics

Beijing 2008, London 2012

### Cate Campbell OAM

Swimming

Beijing 2008, London 2012

### Lydia Lassila OAM

Freestyle Skiing, Aerials

Salt Lake City 2002, Torino 2006,  
Vancouver 2010, Sochi 2014

### Steven Hooker OAM

Athletics

Athens 2004,

Beijing 2008, London 2012

### Anna Meares OAM

Cycling

Athens 2004,

Beijing 2008, London 2012

### Lauren Mitchell

Gymnastics

Beijing 2008, London 2012

### James Tomkins OAM

Rowing

Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992,  
Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000,  
Athens 2004, Beijing 2008

### Ken Wallace OAM

Canoe/Kayak

Beijing 2008, London 2012

### Loudy Wiggins

Diving

Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000,  
Athens 2004, London 2012

## AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Level 4, 140 George St  
Museum of Contemporary Art  
Sydney NSW 2000

E: alumni@olympics.com.au

E: aoc@olympics.com.au

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## CONTACTS

Athlete and Olympian Services  
at the AOC – For any information  
please contact the following AOC

Staff Member Meg Sissian

E: Megan.Sissian@olympics.com.au

## ACT OLYMPIANS CLUB

### President

**Marty Rabjohns**

Rowing

Beijing 2008

Executive Committee

E: m.rabjohns@gmail.com

M: 0402 292 645

## NSW OLYMPIANS CLUB

### President

**Peter Hadfield OAM**

Athletics

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

## Rick Timperi

Boxing

Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996

## Mark Tonelli

Swimming

Montreal 1976, Moscow 1980

## Manny Santos

Weightlifting

Melbourne 1956, Rome 1960

## Barclay Wade

Rowing - Tokyo 1964

E: peterhadfield@optusnet.com.au

P: 02 9247 2000

## QLD OLYMPIANS CLUB

### President

**Julie McDonald OAM**

Swimming

Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992

### Executive Committee

**Trevor Beckingham OAM**

Treasurer

### Lisa Zoomers

Secretary

### Denise Boyd

Athletics

Montreal 1976, Moscow 1980

# COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, CLUBS, CONTACTS

## QLD OLYMPIANS CLUB CONT.

**Jane Moran**  
Water Polo  
London 2012

**Angus Waddell**  
Swimming  
Barcelona 1992

**Josh Jefferis**  
Gymnastics  
London 2012

**Bruce Featherston**  
Swimming  
Munich 1972

**Paul Gonzalez**  
Baseball  
Sydney 2000, Athens 2004

**Chantelle Newbery OAM**  
Diving  
Sydney 2000, Athens 2004

**Peter Phillips**  
Weightlifting  
Munich 1972  
E: jmacswims@gmail.com  
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## SA OLYMPIANS CLUB

**President**  
**Leon Gregory**

**Executive Committee**  
**Kirsty Withers**  
Executive Director  
**Jenni Screen**  
Basketball  
Beijing 2008, London 2012

**Travis Moran**  
Volleyball  
Athens 2004  
E: kirsty.withers@olympics.com.au  
P: 08 7424 7749

## TAS OLYMPIANS CLUB

**President**  
**Bethanie Kearney**  
Athletics  
Montreal 1976

**Executive Committee**  
**Anthony Edwards**  
Rowing  
Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000,  
Athens 2004, Beijing 2008,  
London 2012  
E: bethanie.kearney@education.tas.gov.au  
M: 0438 355 102

## VIC OLYMPIANS CLUB

**President**  
**Leon Wiegard OAM**  
Water polo -  
Tokyo 1964, Munich 1972

**Executive Committee**  
**Nick Green**  
Rowing  
Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996  
**Nicole Livingstone**  
Swimming - Seoul 1988,  
Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996

**Steve Moneghetti**  
Athletics  
Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992,  
Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000

**David Wansbrough**  
Hockey  
Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992

**Andrew Collette**  
Judo - Sydney 2000, Athens 2004

**Stephanie Moorhouse**  
Honorary Officer  
Gymnastics - Athens 2004  
E: leon@ccav.com.au  
M: 0418 334 664

## WA OLYMPIANS CLUB

**President**  
**Liane Tooth**  
Hockey  
Los Angeles 1984, Seoul 1988,  
Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996

**Executive Committee**  
**Danielle Woodhouse**  
Secretary  
Water Polo  
Sydney 2000

**Shane Tonkin**  
Treasurer  
Baseball  
Atlanta 1996

**Stephen Bird**  
Canoe / Kayak  
London 2012

**Greg Corbitt**  
Hockey  
Barcelona 1992

**Ben Cureton**  
Rowing  
Athens 2004, Beijing 2008,  
London 2012

**Jesse Phillips**  
Canoe / Kayak  
London 2012

**Allana Slater**  
Gymnastics  
Sydney 2000, Athens 2004

**Andy Stewart**  
Water Polo  
Moscow 1980

**Olivia Vivian**  
Gymnastics  
Beijing 2008  
E: waoc@olympics.com.au  
M: 0457 097 085

## THE AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIANS ALUMNI NETWORK CONTINUES TO EXPAND

Stay informed with bi-monthly e-news to all Olympians via email.

Connect with your team mates via the 'Australian Olympians' Group on LinkedIn and keep an eye out for details on events organised by your State Olympians Club.

## SHARE YOUR STORIES!

The AOC is eager to hear about your news and events.

## EVENTS

If you would like any assistance in arranging an event or gathering Olympians please let us know and we can assist you.

## STAY CONNECTED

Keep in touch with the AOC via Athletes & Olympians Services, call +61 2 9247 2000 or email admin@olympics.com.au

Please keep us informed as your contact details change to ensure you receive all correspondence from the AOC and stay up to date with the latest events, news and other important information.

## 2016 AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC TEAM SPONSORS

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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.



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