

Rustlers

CHELTENHAM BASEBALL CLUB INC



**LIFE MEMBERS AND CLUB REUNION
12 August 2006**

ENTERTAINER TODAY

John Davidson, a professional entertainer and father of Trent, one of our promising Under 16 players, has kindly consented to sing for us as a warm up for his gig tonight at Clayton RSL.

John once again entertained the Baseball Club on 1 July 2006 and we sincerely thank for him for his generosity and expertise.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Speakers during the day will be former player and award winning writer of comedy and drama, **Hugh Stuckey** who is fondly regarded as "The Father of Comedy" in Australia.

Lance Blackley, father of Travis and Adam, and former Board President, will speak on life in the United States as a professional baseballer and the transition from amateur to professional from his boys' point of view.

THE PAST

In 1926 Prahran Baseball Club was officially formed at a meeting of club members of the Private Prahran Club located on the corner of High and Hornby Streets, Prahran (where it still stands today).

The Cheltenham Baseball Club was formed in 1953 by members of the Cheltenham Cricket Club.

GROUNDS

Prahran played its games at Orrong Park and Toorak Park (Prahran Football Ground) and then Como Park.

Cheltenham played at Park Road Reserve, Cheltenham and Gasworks Site on Nepean Highway, Cheltenham.

Following the merger with Prahran the club played at both Park Road and Gasworks sites before moving to Kingston Road (ground in between the Hospital and Sanitarium) before moving to Kingston Heath Reserve for which it had long awaited.

THE MERGER

The two clubs met independently and both decided by majority vote of members to merge the two clubs after the Winter seasons of 1972 with the merger club officially operating as from 1 January 1973. At the time of the merger, each club had nine teams comprising junior and senior teams.

The Cheltenham club had competed in the Dandenong Baseball Association and Prahran in the Victorian Baseball Association with the aim of the merger club to endeavour to become the major force in both associations.

THE PRESENT

Cheltenham Baseball Club Inc has become the largest community sports club in the City of Kingston and is vying with Waverley as the largest Baseball Club in Victoria and Australia with between 40 and 50 teams competing on a 12 months of the year basis.

In the pre 1970 days, Prahran would rarely complete a 9 innings game due to time constraints and old Geelong Grammarians Football Club running onto the diamond at 2.10pm (20 minutes before baseball's ground usage expired).

Today the club enjoys usage of 20 acres of parklands with three full size diamonds with the main diamond fully enclosed by a home run fence and roofed dugout and club built scorers' box and substantial clubrooms in which you find yourselves today.

Earlier this year the club hosted a Victorian Baseball Association Under 12's Lightning Premiership and operated 13 diamonds all at the one time and can play 4 or 5 other under age matches if necessary.

LIQUOR LICENCE

Since the opening of these premises in 1985, the Kingston Heath Sports Club, comprised of Hockey and Baseball club members holds a Liquor Licence on behalf of the two clubs for which extensions can be arranged until 1.00am.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Cheltenham has developed players capable of playing in U.S. Professional ranks including our current Coach, Matthew Gourlay along with Rohan Brasher, Tim Fisher, Glen Richards (formerly Springvale), Travis Blackley, Adam Blackley, Andrew Gribbin and Tom Ellis.

The downside to this is that the latter five players are all pitchers and in general terms are not able to provide the club with much input as their U.S. clubs restrict the Australian usage of these players; we have to bide our time.

CLUB OPERATIONS

The club operates 12 months of the year under separate Summer and Winter committees with a Board overseeing the entire club activities.

The Board

The Board consists of Brad Lark (President), Greg Blaskett (Vice President), Matthew Coppens (Secretary), Dean Felsenthal (Treasurer), and other Board members of Graeme Ainscough OAM, David Stenhouse (Winter President), Bruce Fitzgerald (Summer General Committee), Glenn Sanders, and Elaine Williams.

Winter Committee

The Winter committee consists of David Stenhouse (President), Trevor Clemens (Secretary), Janette Holland (Treasurer) plus 16 committee members.

Summer Committee

The Summer committee consists of John Carlile (President), Kathy Whiteside (Secretary), Alan Ogilvie (Treasurer) and a committee of 12.



Thank you for your attendance today; we hope you enjoy yourselves and will no doubt have a better understanding of where your old club is today and what it has achieved and hopes to achieve in the future in its endeavours to fight its way back into Division 1 in the Victorian Baseball Association.

For those of you on the internet, please check out websites for the club and VBA as well as baseball results in The Age and Herald Sun and Leader Newspapers.

LIFE MEMBERS

*PRAHRAN

1934 L (Les) Cheong*
 1936 E L (Ted) Greenwood*
 1937 C (Charles) Boulton*
 1939 J (Jimmy) Lowe*
 1940 M (Merv) Simpson*
 1940 H (Herb) Raphael**
 1946 J (Jack) Middleton*
 1947 J (Jack) Ferguson*
 1948 R W (Dick) Chapman
 1949 J (Jeff) Phillips*
 1950 G (Gordon) Tamblyn*
 1951 C (Charlie) Chapman*
 1951 R (Ron) Grime*
 1951 J (Jack) Coulson
 1954 M (Mort) Adams
 1954 L (Lyle) Snare*
 1955 J (Jim) Scott
 1957 W (Bill) Anderson
 1961 J (Jack) Wadsworth
 1961 B (Bruce) Bedwell
 1961 C (Colin) Hyland
 1961 W C (Colin) Wale
 1961 J (Jim) Beitzell*
 1963 G (Gordon) Lockhart
 1966 P (Peter) Boulton
 1968 D R (Dick) Skinner*
 1970 G B (Graeme) Ainscough**
 1970 P (Peter) Finney

CHELTHENHAM

1962 E L (Eric) Knorr*
 1963 J R (Ray) Trevorah*
 1964 Mrs M (Molly) Knorr (now Harrison)
 1966 T G (Frank) Babidge Snr*
 1968 J E (Jim) Upfill
 1971 A H (Alan) Burdett
 1981 K (Kel) Roberts
 1982 P C (Frank) Babidge Jnr*
 1983 J R (John) Ferguson (Pahran)
 1984 A M (Alan) Tanner (Pahran)
 1984 S J (Stan) Hogben (Cheltenham)
 1985 M J P (Michael) Trevorah (Cheltenham)

CLUB INCORPORATED 6.1.1986 REG NO. 7816

1986 P A (Paul) Ferguson (Pahran)
 1987 Mrs B J (Joy) Roberts (Cheltenham)
 1990 S (Sam) Jamieson (Pahran)
 1992 P A (Paul) Stanford (Cheltenham)
 1992 S T (Trevor) Hogben (Cheltenham)
 1992 L J P (Lawrie) Hall (Cheltenham)
 1993 Mrs M E (Maureen) Phillips (Cheltenham)
 1994 K K (Kevin) Williams (ex Caulfield)
 1996 C J (Colin) Anderson (Cheltenham)
 2000 C (Colin) Upfill (Cheltenham)
 2001 S (Steven) Babidge (Cheltenham)
 2002 B (Bruce) Fitzgerald (Cheltenham)

*Deceased

*Original Club Patron with over 50 years club service

**Current Club Patron

TO BE INDUCTED 2006

Presented by Graeme Ainscough

A (Tony) Bailey & V (Val) Bailey

Presented by Colin Upfill

B (Brad) Lark

Presented by John Ferguson

T (Trevor) Clemens

D (David) Stenhouse

Presented by Bruce Fitzgerald

J (John) Carlile