

# Turf Talk



Autumn 2011

## Message from the Chairman



Welcome to all members and sponsors to the Autumn 2011 edition of Turf Talk.

I cannot recall a more exciting time for the club. The granting by Racing Victoria Limited (RVL) of the Jayco Bendigo Cup returning

to 2400 metres (hence meeting Melbourne Cup qualifying conditions); the upgrade to the CJ Watson Room now underway, a new sand training track also underway, construction of a new public area viewing deck in front of the historic grandstand; the return of jumping racing to Bendigo after a long hiatus, highlighted by the feature Mosstrooper Steeplechase on Sunday 19 June (first steeple event in almost 60 years at Bendigo),

the return of CUB as the club's beverage supplier; and if all that weren't enough, the distinct possibility of Bendigo being granted a stand alone metropolitan standard Saturday meeting with metropolitan level stakes on 17 March 2012 (decision announcement to be made by RVL in early May)

The 2400 metres for the cup will further highlight Bendigo in the peak period of the spring carnival and hopefully will translate into a number of Melbourne Cup contenders racing at the Nursery of Champions.

I urge all club members and supporters to come and celebrate the return of jumping to Bendigo as we host jumping events on 2 June, 19 June and 21 July.

The club Board and administration is now turning attention to how we will promote and present these meetings and the exciting schedule of events in Spring 2011 as time moves closer to the Jayco Bendigo Cup 2011.

## Cup returns to 2400 metres



- Photo courtesy Bendigo Advertiser

The Jayco Bendigo Cup will revert to 2400 metres for 2011 and 2012 and then be subject to further review by Racing Victoria. This change qualifies the winning horse for the Melbourne Cup held six days later.

The club is hopeful with this change that a boost in quality of runners will be attracted to compete in the race and will lead to increased media exposure, participation and attendance at the event.

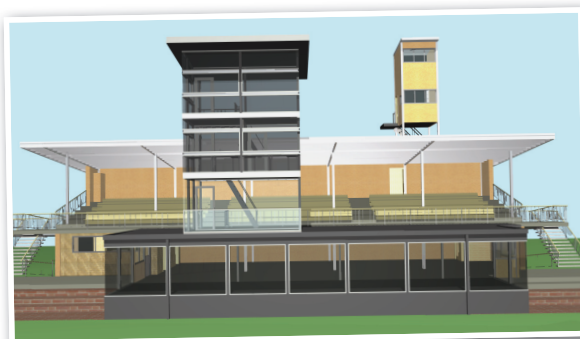
# PROJECTS

## Watson Room & Officials upgrade



The upgrade and extension of the CJ Watson Room is now well underway. This project sees the room extended by 4 metres along the entire frontage expanding the room capacity by approximately 76sq metres. The upgrade will include a new slimline bar and totalisator, new furnishings, carpet, décor, flat screen televisions. The new facility for broadcasters, judges, camera operator and photo finish will be erected above the building and will have minimal impact on the viewing deck above the CJ Watson Room. Unfortunately, this area will be security fenced off for safety reasons for a small number of meetings while the construction works take place. Members can access Silks dining facility on interim racedays and non members can only access this area if booking a luncheon package. The Gallic Bar

will remain unaffected during the construction phase. It is hoped that the CJ Watson Room will re-open in time for the big Mosstrooper Steeplechase meeting on Sunday 19 June and a members happy hour with prizes is planned to accompany the re-opening. More information will be conveyed closer to the date of re-opening.



## New Viewing Deck below Grandstand



In 2010 the club was successful in obtaining grant funds toward a new viewing deck to be constructed in front of the old grandstand. This project is now also about to commence

and when completed will provide another improved viewing area with tables, chairs and shade umbrellas. This will be available to the general public and will on some feature meetings be able to be booked – either in individual sections or as a whole for corporate functions. It will also serve as an added racecourse facility attraction for non raceday events such as the annual Caravan Industry Leisure Fest and annual Bendigo Schools cross country challenge. It is expected that this project will also be completed before end of June.



## Sand Track

Work has now commenced on the all new sand training track. The track comes at a cost of \$600,000 which is almost wholly funded by Racing Victoria Limited infrastructure fund, with the club contributing a small amount of funds. This facility has been a real impediment to training and the upgrade will be a welcome tool for the many Bendigo based trainers.

# Jumping with excitement



The Bendigo racecourse will in 2011 again host a number of jumping races. The club will hold Hurdle races on Thursday 2 June, Sunday 19 June and Thursday 22 July, while a feature steeplechase event to be known as the Mosstrooper Steeplechase, will be conducted on **Sunday 19 June**. This race will offer prizemoney of \$60,000 and will be the first time steeplechasing has been held at Bendigo in almost 60 years. Mosstrooper is a Nursery of Champions horse, having won its Maiden at Bendigo before going on to be a Group 1 race winner and superior jumping thoroughbred.

All races will be held on the course proper and should be a great spectacle. Jumping racing is a legitimate part of the racing scene and the club urges all members to come along and support these racedays.



## Honorary Members



The club is pleased to announce that the following long time members have become Honorary members in 2011.

Warren Cambridge

Alan Cox

Gordon McKern

Jack Lazenby

Patrick Lyons

These members have attained the current club policy of 75 years of age and at least 20 years of continuous membership.

This policy is also under review with the club looking to adopt an amended version of the Model Rules for clubs under the Incorporated Associations Act and bring the current club Constitution into line with modern business rules. One of the considerations currently being reviewed is a lowering of the age of Honorary Membership to 70 years of age. Once the club has completed its review and has approval for any changes to the standard model rules, members will be notified of a proposal to adopt a new constitution at the Annual General Meeting of the club later this year.

A copy of the proposed new Constitution will be available online at the appropriate time from the club's website

## Myjet



MyJet Charter is Bendigo's first Jet Charter Service offering Business travel solutions and Unique Experience packages direct from Bendigo. Upcoming race packages include Warrnambool May races and Birdsville races. Also on offer are luxury dinner packages to Melbourne and Sydney. Details about availability of MyJet packages and cost share charters can be found at [myjetcharter.com.au](http://myjetcharter.com.au) or by phoning 0407518992.



## Local Trainer in the money



Congratulations to Bendigo trainer Peter Boynton who has won the Moonee Valley Mazda 55 second Challenge series with La Bella Roo, recording the fastest winning time for 955 metre races over the period of the competition. Peter collected a \$55,000 Mazda vehicle as the winning trainer.

- Photo courtesy Bendigo Advertiser

## Former Chairman Retires

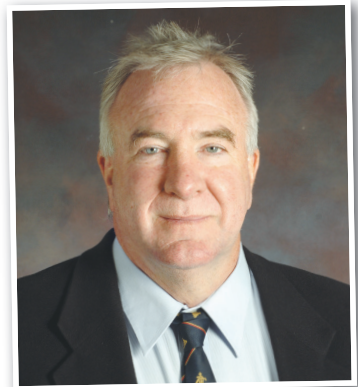
from Committee after 19 years service



Former club Chairman John Brown announced his retirement as a Director of the club at the end of February. John had been on the Committee since 1991 and had served as Chairman from 2002 to 2007.

John will remain involved with thoroughbred racing as a member of the Committee of Management of the Racecourse Reserve and through his busy animal practice where he services many local trainers' stables.

Election papers have been prepared to fill the casual vacancy as a result of John's retirement.



## Members Tour to Penang Turf Club



The opportunity exists for club members to attend the Penang Turf Club Sprint Trophy meeting in George Town Malaysia in July this year. The race meetings are held on 9 & 10 July and attendees coordinated through the Bendigo Jockey Club will be invited to the races including lunch on both days.

The cost for flights, transfers and 7 nights accommodation would be approximately \$2,000 per person, with the final price dependent on numbers and flight costs at time of booking.

Members interested in attending are invited to register with the club and long term club sponsor David Livermore from Jetset Bendigo (03 5441 8811 or email: [sales@jetsetbendigo.com.au](mailto:sales@jetsetbendigo.com.au)) will manage all travel arrangements.



# Club Chef & Autumn Recipe



## Hayden Robertson (Exec Chef Central Victorian Hospitality)

I started my apprenticeship on the Northern beaches of Sydney in 1995 for Bar Bezzera under head Chef Andrew Mathews (Ex chef of Dish Balmoral Beach).

In my second and third year I worked for (Radio Cairo, Cremorne), A multi award winning Sri Lankan restaurant. The knowledge gained in spices and balancing flavours was passed on by Spanish Chef Santos Garcia and boy did he run a tight crew some of whom are still great friends today.

In 1999 when 22 I became head chef at (The Harbour Rocks Hotel), before moving to (Pier, Rose Bay) "Two Hats". Was and still is without a doubt the best seafood restaurant in the country, working under the guidance of Head chef Steve Hodges, (now owner operator of Fish Face Darlington) the pace was intense and the skill of the other staff blew me away, especially Greg Doyle, one of Australians famous Doyle Bros.

I was yet again lured in to hotels with a position made available at (The Establishment, Sydney) where I was running the Hotel Kitchen with Brain Duncan (ex Level 41 Exec Chef) and the hotel was awarded Boutique Hotel of the year by the Australian Hotels Association three years consecutively.

I then felt I needed a change from Sydney, and Hamilton Island was best move I could ever have made, as it is here that I met my wife.

I took a job as a chef de partie (Manta ray cafe) to get a foot in, and my wages were cut in half, but now I lived at work and work was a paradise island.

Exec Chef Matt Harman (Ex Exec chef Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, Canada) took me under his wing This year was all about learning how to manage people and costs and the organization required (no green grocer on the island).

After a year in the sun I wanted to go to New Zealand and experience the Snow. I took a position at (Evian's Restaurant, National Park, in the north island) and ran the restaurant over the snow season. Amazing produce - amazing Country.

Returning to Australia as soon as the snow melted I returned to Hamilton Island. During that year 2005 I was running three restaurants on the island at once, in charge of 30 apprentices 40 chefs and the gala dinner for race week (Australia's largest sailing regatta).

Family then drew me to Melbourne and I was able to take a position at the (Felt Restaurant, Hotel Lindum, on Flinders St Melbourne).

In 2009 we decided to move to Bendigo, as it is close to family, and is big enough to support a successful Hospitality industry. I have found the local produce exciting, formed strong ties within the local industry and am relishing the people I'm working with and time spent both at the Restaurant (Wild Mint) and at the fantastic (Silks Function Centre).

I really look forward to a future in Bendigo and cooking for you at the racecourse or at our restaurant.

*Best regards Hayden Robertson.*

## PEAR, CHOCOLATE & ARMOND TART

### Ingredients

4 burre bosc pears, peeled, quartered and cored  
230g butter  
3 tbsp brown sugar  
1 fresh vanilla bean, split and seeds scraped  
5 egg whites  
Pinch salt

340g icing sugar  
110g plain flour  
140g ground almonds  
130g chopped dark chocolate  
2 tbsp flaked almonds  
Double cream to serve

### Method

In frying pan over low heat, place pears, 50g butter and brown sugar. Cook for 20 minutes or until pears are slightly soft and golden. Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly.

Preheat oven to 160°C fan-forced (180°C conventional).

In a small pot over medium heat, place 180g butter and vanilla seeds and pod and cook for 4-5 minutes, until dark nut brown. Tip mixture into a bowl and cool to room temperature. Remove vanilla pod pieces. In a separate bowl, whisk eggs with salt and 170g icing sugar until peaks form, then fold in remaining 170g icing sugar, flour and ground almonds. Fold in vanilla butter.

Line the base of a loose-base 24cm fluted tin with baking paper and grease with baking spray. Pour half the mixture into tin, then top with half the pears and half the chocolate. Repeat and make two layers. Scatter flaked almonds on top. Bake for 45 minutes or until puffed, but not too coloured. Allow to cool. Dust with extra icing sugar (if desired) and serve with double cream on the side.

Enjoy with a glass of Semillon.

# Race Dates 2011/12



Race dates have been released by Racing Victoria Limited (RVL) for the 2011/12 season and scheduled dates are set out below. There is a potential change to the dates, with the possibility of the club being granted a stand alone metropolitan standard Saturday meeting on the date of 17 March 2012. After making a submission on the concept, Bendigo is now one of three clubs RVL are considering to allocate this feature date. The club is currently workshopping with RVL why granting the meeting date to Bendigo is the right option and a final decision is expected to be made by the RVL Board in early May. If allocated this date, the full list of confirmed racedays with any amendments will be printed with membership renewal information in June/July this year.

Among the changes are a much improved pre-Christmas meeting on Friday 16 December, which the club encourages all supporters to book a end of year staff/clients party at the racecourse on this day and the new years eve Saturday fixture.

## 2011

04 August	(Thu)	
18 August	(Thu)	
11 September	(Sun)	Taste of Pink Ladies Day (Golden Mile)
22 September	(Thu)	
06 October	(Thu)	Seniors Festival Raceday
15 October	(Sat)	'Bendigogo" Beach Party (Caulfield Cup Day)
26 October	(Wed)	Jayco Bendigo Cup
10 November	(Thu)	
24 November	(Thu)	
16 December	(Fri)	Christmas Party raceday
31 December	(Sat)	New Years Eve

## 2012

11 February	(Sat)	Marong Cup
19 February	(Sun)	SV Stayer Final
04 March	(Sun)	
15 March	(Thu)	
23 March	(Fri)	Business Lunch Friday
11 April	(Wed)	
21 April	(Sat)	Elmore Cup
04 May	(Fri)	Business Lunch Friday
17 May	(Thu)	
30 May	(Wed)	Pubs/Clubs Raceday
17 June	(Sun)	Mostrooper Jumps Day
05 July	(Thu)	Fillies & Mares raceday
22 July	(Sun)	

## Silks



Whether it be a wedding, 21<sup>st</sup>, birthday party, awards function, business function the Bendigo racecourse has a variety of rooms to suit any occasion. Call Jenny Rawiller to discuss options available.



## Got Feedback?

Let us know!

Bendigo Jockey Club,  
P.O. Box 6044, White Hills. Vic. 3550.  
Tel: 03 54 484209. Email: [info@bendigojc.com.au](mailto:info@bendigojc.com.au)  
[www.countryracing.com.au/clubs/bendigo](http://www.countryracing.com.au/clubs/bendigo)