

## National Sports Museum Treasure and Trivia

### AUSTRALIA'S GAME

- ★ Graeme "Jerker" Jenkin (Collingwood) helped launch Carlton's Alex Jesaulenko to take one of during the 1970 Grand Final won by the Blues.
- ★ Carlton, Collingwood, Essendon, Fitzroy, Geelong, Melbourne, South Melbourne and St Kilda were the eight foundation clubs of the Victorian Football League in 1897 season.
- ★ Melbourne, St Kilda and Western Bulldogs have made the most Guernsey changes.
- ★ A jerkin is a sleeveless, leather top with laces that tie up the front – did you see Edward "Carji" Greeves' jerkin that was worn by himself and his father as part of their Geelong uniform?

### THE PEOPLE'S GROUND

- ★ In 1846, a site on the south side of the Yarra River, opposite King Street, was used by MCC Members, which became the first Melbourne Cricket Ground. 1853.

On September 23, 1853 the government granted the MCC a new site for a ground in the Government Paddock, the current site of the Melbourne Cricket Ground. After the site was cleared and the first Members' Pavilion was constructed, the first cricket match was played on the current MCG a year later.

- ★ There have been 14 stands built at the MCG (The northern stand redevelopment includes the Ponsford, Members' Pavilion and Olympic Stand as they are one entire construction).
- ★ Other sports events held at the MCG: cycling, baseball, rugby union, rugby league, soccer (association football), lacrosse, squash, lawn bowls, croquet, track and field, gymnastics, gridiron (American football – during WWII), Gaelic football, International Rules, Caledonian Games 1861, Commonwealth Games 2006 and Olympic Games 1956 and 2000 soccer.
- ★ The MCG's six floodlights are the world's tallest. Built in 1984-5, they average 75 metres in height, the equivalent of a 24-storey building.

## BACKYARD TO BAGGY GREEN

- ★ Seven – India, Pakistan, The Caribbean, England, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Australia
- ★ Springbok! Mounted springbok head was presented to the Australian Board of Control during the 1931/32 season. The springbok was adopted as the mascot for South Africa's sporting teams under white minority rule, but following the end of apartheid in 1991 the protea became the emblem for its cricket teams.
- ★ Don G. Bradman - #124, E.R. "Betty" Wilson - #25, Shane K. Warne - #350

## FASTER, HIGHER, STRONGER

- ★ Four cities – Athens (1896 & 2004), Los Angeles (1932 & 1984), Paris (1900 & 1924) and London (1908, 1948 & 2012)
- ★ Waldi the dog was the first Olympic mascot at the 1972 Munich games.

## SPIRIT OF SPORT

- ★ Shane Gould, at the age of 15, set world marks at all distances – 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m – all before taking five medals at the 1972 Munich games. She took Gold the 200m medley, 200m and 400m freestyle, Silver in the 800m and Bronze in the 100m.
- ★ Malvern Star was the brand of cycle Hubert Opperman rode and a company he worked for as a young man.
- ★ The Spirit of Sport Award was presented to the Melbourne Cricket Club in 2006, in honour of the MCG redevelopment and transformation into the main arena for the 2006 Commonwealth Games.