4.1 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay batonbearer nominations

This is a regular or standard report.

Report Author: Kathy Banyer, Manager Marketing, Events and Communications
Contact Number: 8384 0079
Attachments: 1. Council Selected and Specialised Batonbearer Nomination Program eligibility and criteria (1 page)
2. Criteria assessment tool (1 page)
3. Nominations received
Will be provided under separate cover

1. Purpose
This report provides the nominations for the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay, Council Selected and Specialised Batonbearer Nomination Programs. The 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee (the Committee) is required to consider nominations and make recommendation to Council, in confidence on the Council nominated Batonbearers.

2. Recommendations
1. That:
   a. under the provisions of Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 an order be made that the public, with the exception of staff on duty, be excluded from attendance at the meeting in order to consider this item in confidence.
   b. the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee is satisfied that it is necessary that the public, with the exception of staff on duty, be excluded to enable the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee to consider the report at the meeting on the following grounds:
      Section 90(3)(j) information the disclosure of which -
      (i) would divulge information provided on a confidential basis by or to a Minister of the Crown, or another public authority or official (not being an employee of the council, or a person engaged by the Council); and
      (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest;
   c. accordingly, on this basis the principle that meetings of the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information or discussion confidential.

2. That the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee:
   a. Have considered the applications for the Council nominees for the batonbearer Nomination Program and Specialised batonbearer Nomination Program.
   b. Recommend to Council that the following nominations be submitted as Council’s Queens Baton Relay nominees:
3. Background

The City of Onkaparinga has been selected as an “Official Celebration Community – Queen’s Baton Relay” and will host the Aldinga Sector of the Queen’s Baton Relay on Wednesday 21 February 2018.

As an “Official Celebration Community – Queen’s Baton Relay” Council is requested to:

- in confidence, nominate a celebrity and/or high profile person for consideration in the Specialised Batonbearer Nomination Program
- in confidence, nominate a member of the community for consideration in the Council Selected Batonbearer Nomination Program.

A report was presented to Council at its meeting on 21 March 2017 seeking the formation of the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee for the purpose of determining Council nominees for both batonbearer nomination programs. The report proposed the Committee would be made up of the following members:

- Mayor Rosenberg – Chairperson
- one elected member from each Council ward

Philomena Taylor, Director Community Relations is the responsible officer for the Committee.

Elected Members were also asked to provide nominations for both batonbearer programs to Council administration for collation and due consideration by the Committee.

At its meeting, Council resolved:

................. as the Council Selected Batonbearer Nomination
and
................. as the Specialised Batonbearer Nomination.

3. That the matter of 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay batonbearer nominations having been considered by the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee in confidence under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(j) of the Local Government Act 1999 that an order be made under the provisions of sections 91(7) and (9) of the Local Government Act 1999 that the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay batonbearer nominations and the minutes and the report of the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee relating to discussion of the subject matter be kept confidential until 30 October 2017 when the successful nominees have been publically announced.

4. That, pursuant to section 91(9)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999, the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee delegates the duty to conduct an annual review of the confidentiality order to the Chief Executive Officer, or their sub-delegate.

5. That, pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee delegates the power to revoke the confidentiality order to the Chief Executive Officer, or their sub-delegate.
1. That Council approves the formation of the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee for the purposes of determining:
   a. the Council nominees for the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay- Council Selected Batonbearer Nomination Program
   b. the Council nominees for the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay- Specialised Batonbearer Nomination Program.
2. That Council approves the draft Terms of Reference for the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee, presented as Attachment 1 to the agenda report.
3. That Council appoints for the period 21 March to 30 April 2017, one elected member from each ward to the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee, those being:
   1. Cr Themeliotis as a representative from Thalassa ward
   2. Cr Olbrich as a representative from Pimpala ward
   3. Cr Merritt as a representative from Knox ward
   4. Cr Jamieson as a representative from Mid South Coast ward
   5. Cr Kilby as a representative from Wine Coast ward.
4. That Council appoint Cr Themeliotis from the members of the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee as Deputy Chairperson.

4. Financial Implications
There are no financial implications in determining the Council nominees for the Queen’s Baton Relay Batonbearer Nomination Programs.

5. Additional information
Batonbearer nomination and selection criteria:
- A standardised Gold Coast 2018 Queen’s Baton Relay Batonbearer nomination and selection criteria are to be used across all categories of batonbearers.
- All Council nominated batonbearers must meet the nomination eligibility and selection criteria (attachment 1), to participate in the Council Selected and Specialised Batonbearer Nomination Programs.
- A Criteria Assessment tool has been developed to assist the Committee in its deliberations (attachment 2).
City of Onkaparinga
Confidential Agenda for the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee meeting to be held on 6 April 2017

Attachment 1

Batonbearer nomination and selection criteria

A standardised GC2018 Queen’s Baton Relay Batonbearer nomination and selection criteria are used across all categories of batonbearers.

The nomination and selection criteria has been established to ensure fairness, equity, and that a wide cross section of the community are given the opportunity to carry the Queen’s Baton.

All nominees must meet one or more of the criteria to be nominated.

Batonbearer nomination and selection criteria:

- We are looking for people of all abilities to share the dream and become a Batonbearer for the GC2018 Queen’s Baton Relay.
- A Batonbearer is someone who meets one or more of the following criteria:
  - Has achieved something extraordinary or inspired others to achieve something extraordinary.
  - Has excelled, or aspires to excel, in sport, education, the arts, culture, charity or within their community.
  - Contributes to a fun, friendly, vibrant and inclusive community.

Other eligibility rules:

- The minimum age of a Batonbearer is 10 as at 25 December 2017 (start date of the Relay in Australia).
- All nominees must be Australian Citizens or lawfully entitled to reside in Australia during the Relay period (25 December 2017 - 4 April 2018).
- All nominees are responsible for their own travel, accommodation and subsistence costs associated with carrying the Baton.
- A nominator is to explain in 100 words or less how the nominee meets one or more of the Batonbearer criteria and why they should become a Batonbearer.

Note: the nomination story may be provided to the media if your nominee is successful so please ensure it is as true and factually accurate as possible.
### Assessment Criteria and Scoring

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<th>Name/Position</th>
<th>Assessment Criteria</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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<td>In a position of influence</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Low</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. L. Miller</td>
<td>In a position of influence</td>
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<tr>
<td>T. M. Johnson</td>
<td>In a position of influence</td>
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### Specialised (Chair) Batonbearer Nomination Program

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<tr>
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CONFIDENTIAL
SEPARATE COVER ATTACHMENT
(14 pages)

Item 4.1

Attachment 3

This attachment is separate to the main agenda and is numbered autonomously. If inserted into the main agenda, note that the numbering will then not be sequential.
City of Onkaparinga
Agenda for the 2018 Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay Committee meeting to be held on 06 April 2017

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Richard Schirmer

Richard is an exemplary and passionate community development worker committed to the people in some of the most marginalised communities in our City.

He is one of the founding members of CHO (Community Health Onkaparinga), the Fleurieu White Ribbon Breakfast, the Hackham West Community Garden and People Matters Hackham West to name a few. Currently, in addition to these commitments, he has a troubleshooting role and stand-in management role at Hackham West Community Centre.

Richard's many involvements at a Community level, both paid and voluntary, have spanned at least ten years.

Worked with COO as Community Development Officer
Nomination of Richard (Dick) Olesinski for the Queens Baton Relay

Criteria met By Richard

- Has achieved something extraordinary and inspired others
- Has made a significant contribution to sport and within the Community (environmental warrior)
- Contributes to a fun, Friendly, vibrant and inclusive community

Richard (Dick) Olesinski operates an environmental consultancy business within the City of Onkaparinga focusing on environmental improvement and sustainable programs with business, industry and the community within South Australia and nationally

Consults with KESAB environmental solutions, local and State government agencies and has over 20 years working with the retail and construction industries to implement environmental improvement approaches

Provided professional support to Keep Australia Beautiful in the Australian Sustainable Cities and the Clean Beach Award Programmes and was the national Judge of the Australian Tidy Towns Programmes for 20 years (1994-2014)

Awarded the Order of Australia in 2013 for services to Surf Life Saving and to the environment.

- Life Member of South Port SLSC and a volunteer SLS for over 50 years. Dick still rows boats and recently competed in the Australian Masters Surf Life Saving Titles
- Initial Secretary of the Mid Coast Surfing Reserve Steering Committee. The Steering Committee was successful having the Mid Coast declared a Surfing Reserve
- Dick was the founding Member of the South Port Coastcare Group
- Current Chairperson of SLS SA’s Ecosurf environmental working group
- Past member of SLSA Ecosurf national group
- Past member of the Adelaide & Mt Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Boards Coast Estuarine and Marine Advisory Committee
- Past member of the City of Onkaparinga’s Environmental Consultative Group
- In 2010 Dick was instrumental in South Port being declared Australia’s Cleanest Beach
Michael von Berg OAM

DECORATED SOLDIER AWARDED FOR LEADING SA UNION SCRUM 2015 southern messenger

NOT many people can boast coaching the Governor-General of Australia at rugby union, but Sellicks Beach man Michael von Berg can.

Michael Baron von Berg has been awarded an OAM for his service to Rugby Union in SA. Mr von Berg, 71, has been awarded the Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the Queen’s Birthday Honours for services to rugby union.

Mr von Berg played a large part in bringing rugby World Cup matches to Adelaide in 2003. He was also chairman of the Adelaide International Rugby Sevens Committee.

Mr von Berg commanded Australia’s specialist Reconnaissance Platoon in Vietnam in 1966-67, in which time he was awarded the Military Cross.

When he returned to Australia he joined the Special Air Service Regiment and 2 Commando Regiment.

He is now on the State Government’s Veterans Advisory Council and the Prime Minister’s Advisory Council on Military Mental Health.

“In the twilight of my life I am trying to help young veterans who are now coming back from Afghanistan.

“Working with veterans, and in particular young veterans, it helps you appreciate issues that younger people are experiencing in today’s society that we weren’t experiencing.”

The national president of the Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) Corporation, Mr von Berg served with the 5th Battalion of the RAR in Vietnam and was platoon commander of a reconnaissance platoon.

Mike von Berg has been a member of Old Collegians since 1988 and was the 1st XV coach until 1993, a period that included the Premiership win of 1991.

He is still the only current Level III accredited coach in the club and has been a member of the National Coaching Committee and is a Life Member of the SARU.

His achievements include:
- Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) 2015
- SARU Life Member 2006
- SARU Chairman 1994 to 2005
- ARU Director 1997 to 1999 (first SA member appointed to the ARU Board)

8th June 2015

Michael B. von Berg MC was honored with the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) 8th June 2015 for his decades of service to rugby. The hours and hours of coaching at all levels, the mentoring of young players, the shouldering of the administrative duties, are all recognized


The incidents described in the book occurred in 1966 when Mike was platoon commander of 5RAR Reconnaissance Platoon. Mike was awarded the Military Cross in 1966 for his actions during an operation in October 1966. He remained in the Army where he served with The Royal Australian Regiment, The Special Air Services Regiment, 2 Commando Company and Special Operations. He resigned his commission in 1973 and lived and worked overseas for the next twelve years.

Age - 71
Lives - Sellicks Beach
Areas of contribution – Rugby and Veterans support
Stephanie Morton OAM
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Nationality Australia
Born 28 November 1990 (age 26)
Sport Cycling
Club South Coast Cycling Club
Medal record
Cycling
Paralympic Games
Gold medal – first place 2012 London 1km Time Trial B VI 1–3
Commonwealth Games
Gold medal – first place 2014 Glasgow Sprint
Silver medal – second place 2014 Glasgow 500 m time trial

UCI Para-cycling Track World Championships
Gold medal – first place 2012 Los Angeles B Tandem 1 km Time Trial
Gold medal – first place 2012 Los Angeles B Tandem Sprint

Stephanie Morton OAM (born 28 November 1990) is an Australian cyclist. She has won national and international cycling titles, and was Felicity Johnson's tandem pilot at the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London, where she won a gold medal.

Personal
Stephanie Morton was born in Adelaide on 28 November 1990. As of 2013, she works for the "Bee Safe on Bikes" education program for junior primary school students.

Cycling
Stephanie Morton and Felicity Johnson riding at the announcement of the 2012 Australian Paralympic cycling team
Morton is a member of South Coast Cycling Club and is part of Team Jayco AIS. She started cycling competitively at the age of 15. Competing at the 2011 National Keirin Final, she finished second behind Anna Meares. She made her Australian national team debut at the 2011 Para-cycling Track World Championships with Felicity Johnson. She has said forming a friendship and real partnership was key for the pair's success.

In 2012, she participated in the UCI Para-cycling Track World Championships in Los Angeles as the pilot for Johnson, and finished first in the B tandem 1 km time trial and the B Tandem sprint. At the 2012 London Paralympics, they won a gold medal in the Women's 1 km Time Trial B event, and were subsequently awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2014 Australia Day Honours "for service to sport as a Gold Medallist at the London 2012 Paralympic Games."[7]

In November 2012, Morton came first in the Keirin and second in the sprint at the Oceania Track Championships. In the third round of the 2012–13 UCI Track Cycling World Cup Classics in Aguascalientes, Mexico, she came first in the team sprint with Kaarle McCulloch and 6th in the keirin, while at the 2013 UCI Track Cycling World Championships in Minsk, Belarus, she came fourth in the team sprint (with McCulloch) and sixth in the individual sprint.

At the 2013 Australian National Track Championships in Sydney, she came first in the keirin, individual sprint, and team sprint (with Rikki Belder). In February 2014, she scored an upset win at the Australian track cycling championships by beating Anna Meares in the Keirin for the first time. Meares tweeted a photo of a cap that she had signed for Morton five years before, on which she had written: "Steph, maybe one day you'll beat me".
At the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Morton competed in the track sprint and 500 m time trial, while Johnson had a new partner, Holly Takos. Morton rode a personal best time of 34.079 in the 500 m time trial at the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome, but won silver after Anna Meares posted a faster time. However, she defeated Meares in the track sprint, winning two heats to none in the best-of-three final to take the gold medal.

Age - 26
Lives - 
Area of contribution – sport, Paralympics, "Bee Safe on Bikes" education program for junior primary school students
Below is the info submitted for the 2012 excellence award.

Sam started racing BMX when he was 6 years old at Happy Valley BMX Club and is now a life member of this club. Throughout his years of racing at Happy Valley Sam received many trophies and club awards including Coaches Award, Most Improved and Presidents Award. Sam won numerous Australian Titles as a junior rider and won the Australian Elite Men Title in 2011. When Sam was 11 years old he represented Australia in the Mighty 11’s in New Zealand and competed in his first World Title in Perth, he came 4th in the 12 boys class. As a 15 year old, Sam won the Australian Chambikx Series and was selected in the Australian team and raced in The World Titles in Sao Paulo, Brazil and came 3rd.

Sam was the first rider to win a World Title as a first year Junior Elite when he raced in Taiyuan China in 2008 and in Adelaide in 2009 he won the World Title as a second year Junior Elite creating history again winning back to back Junior Elite World BMX Titles. He is the youngest ever winner in the UCI Elite Men World Cup Supercross event and represented Australia in the UCI Supercross in Pietermaritzburg South Africa winning his first race in the Elite Men class, then he raced in Chula Vista, USA coming 2nd to the current Olympic Gold Medallist and won in Le Frejes, France winning the UCI World Cup Series. Sam won the Junior Elite Men Cyclist of the Year Award in 2008 in the areas of BMX and Mountain bikes and in 2009 won both the Junior Elite and Elite Men Cycling Australia Cyclist of the Year Awards and won the 2009 SASI Awards in the category of Junior Male of the Year and Male Athlete of the Year.

Sam moved over to America when he was 17 years old. He completed Year 12 through correspondence so he could continue with his training and racing regime which required him to travel extensively throughout America and Europe. He was awarded with the Minister of Education Award for demonstrating outstanding achievement and a finalist for the SA Great Sports Award. Sam was unable to compete in the 2008 Olympics due to competition age restrictions irrespective of earning enough points. He won the American Bicycle Association Grands after competing throughout the year in this series, came second the following year and is currently leading the series again this year. He has been selected in the 2012 Australian Olympic Team to compete in London on the 8th, 9th and 10th of August.

BMX USA site

Since a very young age, Australian Sam Willoughby’s dream had been to race in the USA and become the No.1 Pro. It’s been a long and tedious journey - one that he has worked very hard to achieve. Incredibly, he’s made it come true. In fact, that dream has come true three times so far.

While working his way to the top of the Australian ranks, Sam became the first rider to win back-to-back Junior World Titles (2008 and 2009), before moving up to the Elite ranks. It was in 2010 - now with full factory support from Redline Bicycles, that Sam won his first No.1 pro title in America.

His soaring 2011 results helped pull Australia to the highest ranked BMX nation - and Sam capped things off with a UCI World Championship; only three months out from the London Games. Full of confidence, Willoughby made his Olympic debut in London where he would again tackle the world’s best, and did his best to chase down Latvia’s Maris Strombergs. Sam wound up with a silver, for his first Olympic try - and upon returning to his new home in the U.S., proceeded to win another National No.1 Pro title in USA BMX.
2013 could very well be Sam's best year ever; as he kicked off Day 2 of the Winternationals with a AA-pro win and wouldn't stop winning until 13 races later. Sitting out Southpark to prepare for the Worlds, officially ended Sam's win-streak, but he would start a new one with a late-season charge of 5 consecutive wins, clinching yet another No.1 Pro Championship. His 13-consec win-streak would shatter the previous Pro record, held by John Purse - and his 18 Win total for the year places him in 2nd place for “most wins” in a season. While the 2013 Cup was his third ever, his 2-in-a-row feat places Sam in good company - joining Brian Patterson, Gary Ellis, Pete Loncarevich, Christophe Leveque, Warwick Stevenson and Bubba Harris.
While Sam surely has nothing else to prove - and has already put his name in the BMX history books, he's definitely not done dominating the sport. There was a lot on the line in 2014: Could Sam tie Bubba Harris' lone record of 3-in-a-row? At the same time, would he put a 4th No.1 Cup in his collection amd add his name alongside Ellis and Loncarevich as the only 4-in-a-lifetime Pro Champions?
Sam went to Tulsa looking like the favorite - winning the 2014 ROC, but was struggling a bit out of the gate in a couple of races. Unfortunately, a bad gate start in the all important Grands semi forced Sam to make up some ground from mid-pack, and while in the 4th place transfer spot he would up casing the berm-jump and going OTB. His weekend, his year and his quest for a record-setting No.1 Pro title was no over.
In 2015, Sam is again on target for the No.1 title - and we'll find out in November if he can earn himself a 4th No.1 Pro championship.

https://road2recovery.com/cause-view/strengthfor91/
Gillian Rolton OAM
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Olympic medal record
Representing Australia
Equestrian
Olympic Games
Gold medal – first place 1992 Barcelona Team eventing
Gold medal – first place 1996 Atlanta Team eventing

Born 3 May 1956 in Adelaide, South Australia) is an Australian former Olympics equestrian champion. She competed in two Olympic Games, 1992 Barcelona and 1996 Atlanta, winning a gold medal in team eventing at both competitions; at both games she rode her horse, Peppermint Grove, named after Peppermint Grove in Western Australia.

She was one of the eight flag-bearers of the Olympic flag at the opening ceremony of the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, New South Wales.

She was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2000.

In 2016, she was awarded Legend status in the KPMG South Australian Sport Hall of Fame. Gill is the Event Director of the Australian International 3 Day event, which is part of the FEI International Eventing Series.

The highlight of Gillian's career has been to compete at two Olympic Games and win consecutive gold medals. The first 'gold' at Barcelona was a milestone in Australian Eventing when Gill became the first Aussie female to medal at any Olympic Games or World Championships.

While Gill has established herself as a successful rider both nationally and internationally, the media and public recognize her as the gutsy girl that fell, broke her collarbone and ribs but got back on to help win gold for Australia in Atlanta.

Gillian's riding career has spanned 40 years and she has been competing at International level since 1984. During her career she has won, or placed, at many international competitions. These include Olympic Games, World Champs, Trans-Tasman's and Internationals in Europe and Australia.

Gillian was a Show and Dressage rider from the age of ten until her early 20's. This was a successful era, where Gillian produced, trained and rode Royal Show Pony Galloway and Hack Champions for other people and included winning the Champion Equestrienne and Champion Lady Rider at the Royal Adelaide Show.

At the relatively late age of 21, Gillian started Eventing and Showjumping. A yearling she bought for the princely sum of $200.00 showed more talent jumping out of his paddock than the quiet pastime of dressage. The young horse, Saville Row, charged up the Eventing Grades so quickly that he and Gillian were long listed for the LA Games. Unfortunately Saville Row sustained a leg injury in the final selection trial but the Olympic dream was born.

She was also long listed for Seoul on Benton's Way but missed the final selection trial when she dislocated an elbow in a training accident the day before the trial. The consolation prise that year was winning the Advanced Class at the prestigious Gawler 3 Day Event.

While most of Australia's top riders and horses live and compete overseas, Gill lives in Australia. This is not only because Australia is Gill's home but also she feels it is the best place to find talented young horses and prepare them for their International Eventing Career.
Gill has been coordinating and Coaching the EFA National Young Eventing Rider Squad since 2003, is an FEI International Eventing judge and is Event Director of the Australian International 3 Day Event (formally the Adelaide International Horse Trials)

She currently lives at Clarendon Park with husband Greg, 7 horses and Golden Retrievers, Jess and Jez. At Clarendon Park, Gillian, now an EFA NCAS Level 3 Specialist coach, continues to identify and develop equine and human talent towards their International careers.

Gill is in demand as an International Judge and has been invited to judge the Eventing World Cup Final in Malmo, Sweden, Punchestown CCI*** Ireland, Gatcombe CIC** UK, Taupo CCI*** NZ, Khihki CIC*** NZ, South East Asia Games Thailand Adelaide CCI**** Aus and all major Events in Australia.

Gill is a National Advanced Dressage judge and an FEI International Eventing Judge and is an Australian Selector for our Eventing teams at the Olympics and World Champs

Address  Clarendon Park, PO Box 201, Happy Valley, South Australia, 5159
Phone / Fax  (08) 8383 6180
Email  ggrolton@bigpond.com
Website  www.gillian-rolton.com
Brayden Duane Davidson OAM

Is an Australian track and field para-athlete who competes mainly in the T36 classification events. He won a bronze medal at the 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships. At the 2016 Rio Paralympics, he won the gold medal in the Men's Long Jump T36.

Davidson was born on 25 October 1997 and has mild cerebral palsy. He has attended Reynella East College in Adelaide. Home town Woodcroft lives in San Francisco USA.

Sporting career
In September 2011, Davidson attended an Australian Paralympic Committee talent search day at Santos Stadium. He then qualified for the junior national championships in four events and went on to win a silver in the 400 and a bronze in the long jump, at the junior national championships the year after he won 4 gold medals in the 100m, 200m, 400m and long jump.

Davidson was awarded a Talented Athlete Award and a Paralympic Scholarship by the South Australian Sports Institute in 2013. He then went on to compete in the T36 classification in long jump at the 2013 IPC Athletics World Championships where he came fourth in the finals. Whilst still at the world championships Davidson was selected to compete in the T36 Men's 100m at the Sainsbury's Anniversary Games in London where he came fourth.

At the 2014 Australian Athletics Championships held in Melbourne, Davidson won silver in the men's 200m and long jump ambulant events.

In March 2015 Davidson competed at the Australian Junior Athletics Championships held in Sydney. He won gold in long jump, 100m and 400m and achieved a personal best and a new Australian record in the T36 class for long jump. Davidson then went on to win gold and achieved a world record in the men's ambulant long jump at the 2015 Australian Athletics Championships in Brisbane. He also won silver in the men's 200m ambulant and he reached the finals in the men's 100m ambulant event. These results have made him an A-Qualifier for the International Paralympic Committee Athletics World Championships in Doha. Davidson is now aiming to compete at the 2016 Paralympic Games.

At the 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships in Doha, he won the bronze medal in the Men's Long Jump T36. Davidson dedicated the medal to his grandmother, who encouraged him to become involved in athletics as a child.

Davidson won the gold medal in the Men's Long Jump T38 at the 2016 Rio Paralympics with a jump of 5.62 m, a personal best by 11cm. He won the gold medal on a count back due to having the second best jump. He dedicated his win to his late grandparents who were central to his pursuit of para-sport. He was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in 2017.

Recognition
2015 – South Australian Sports Institute Athlete with a Disability
2016 – South Australian Sports Institute Athlete with a Disability and Elite Athlete with a Disability of the Year at the Advertiser/Channel 7 Sport Star of the Year awards

Quick Facts
Disability Physical Impairment – Cerebral Palsy
Sport Athletics
How acquired Congenital
Brayden Davidson carved out a name for himself in Paralympic sport when he became the first T36 athlete to break the 5.50m barrier in long jump, and again the following year when he won Australia’s first gold medal in athletics at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.

Born with cerebral palsy, Brayden aspired to become a Paralympic rower. When his mum told him that he wasn’t built for the sport, he attended an APC Talent Search Day in 2011 in a bid to prove her wrong, where he was encouraged to compete in swimming and athletics.

Two years later ‘Braydo’ made his international debut at the 2013 IPC Para-athletics World Championships in Lyon, France, where he placed fourth in long jump, achieving a personal best of 5.00m. In 2014 he became a dual nationals silver medallist, and in 2015 his 5.51m world record qualified him for the IPC Para-athletics World Championships in Doha, Qatar.

Brayden looks to Australia’s most successful Paralympian, Adelaide boy Matt Cowdrey, and five-time Paralympic gold medallist, Evan O’Hanlon for inspiration. Brayden hopes his career takes a similar shape to Evan’s, who broke the 11-second barrier in the 100m sprint at Beijing 2008.

Before each event, Brayden sits down to analyse his competition. Obsessed with sports statistics, he researches his competitors’ times and other elements of their performance. On the track, Brayden shifts focus, looking upwards to acknowledge his late grandfather, who was the first to encourage him to take up Paralympic sport.

In 10 years’ time Brayden hopes to be a veteran of the Australian Paralympic Team and doing statistics and media work for major sporting events. He believes in the value of sharing knowledge and experience, and hopes to remain involved in Paralympic sport as a coach and mentor to emerging athletes.

2017 COO Excellence award winner
Ruth Wallace

Ruth is a young Aboriginal Woman that lives at Aldinga Beach with her family. She has always been a keen sports woman and is currently is the first female IMP (Indigenous Marathon Project) athlete from South Australia.

Born in Adelaide, Ruth has represented Australia in the junior matildas team in 2009, the AFL and played for Adelaide United Cup in 2013. Ruth is a young ambassador for Port Power Football Club in their community youth program.

Ruth believes she can inspire other to promote healthy living and education to support Aboriginal communities through sport.

March 17, 2017 10:20am
Adelaidenow.com
Former Adelaide United player Ruth Wallace switched football codes and now plays for Norwood in the SANFL women’s competition. Picture: MATT LOXTON
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RUTH Wallace can still recall the day she stopped playing Australian rules football and turned to soccer.

“I was eight years old and I remember a girl in my brother’s team who was told she couldn’t play anymore,” Wallace recalls. “The team moved up to the next grade and they were allowed to tackle, so she couldn’t play with boys anymore. “When I found out she couldn’t make it to the next level, I stopped playing football and switched to soccer.”

Fast-forward more than a decade and after playing soccer with Adelaide United’s Lady Reds four years ago, Wallace has returned to the football code she grew up loving.

She made a strong impression in her debut season with Adelaide University in the SA Women’s Football League last year and has earned selection with Norwood’s inaugural SANFL women’s league team.

Wallace debuted for the Redlegs last month and booted two goals in their 40-point thrashing of North Adelaide. She backed it up a week later in Norwood’s victory over West Adelaide, kicking three goals, amassing 18 disposals and making nine tackles.

“It’s pretty exciting to get yourself in a position (to kick goals), it’s a lot of hard work,” the half-forward says. “I’m all about the team environment, though, and we are able to read each other really well at Norwood and we have a great culture here.”

Wallace admits she got “wrapped up” in the politics of soccer and feels more relaxed playing football. She says playing in the W-League helped her to understand what it takes to be an elite athlete.

“I was able to hold my nerves well (in the first game with Norwood) and I’ve been able to read the play and think about the next step, that’s something you are always thinking about in any sport,” Wallace, of Glengowrie, says.

“I’m thankful I did play a sport at the high level before.”

Wallace is among former Adelaide United Lady Reds players Kelly Bartrop (North Adelaide) and Marijana Rajcic, Cassandra Tsounbris and Kristi Harvey, who all play for Norwood, to have switched codes. Although Wallace is considering playing soccer in the women’s Premier League with West Adelaide this winter, her long-term aim is to make an AFL women’s team list.
Hugh Sheridan (born 30 June 1985)

Is an Australian actor, musician and television presenter who is known for his role as Ben Rafter in the television series Packed to the Rafters. He is a three-time Logie Award winner, in the Logie Award for Most Popular Actor category.

Early life
Born in Adelaide, the second youngest of seven children, Sheridan grew up in the suburb of Millswood and completed his early years of schooling at Loreto College Marryatville before changing to Saint Ignatius' College and then in his senior years to University Senior College. It was during primary school that he began his training at Unley Youth Theatre and Terry Simpson Studios in Adelaide before he went on to study Music at the Victorian College of the Arts and Dance at The Australian Ballet School.

Career
In his youth, he sang with The State Opera of South Australia, played football for St Ignatius and studied drama at Unley Youth Theatre. He left the ABS when he was accepted into the prestigious Bachelor of Dramatic Art, actor course at the National Institute of Dramatic Art. In 2007, Sheridan was awarded the Adele Koh Memorial Scholarship by The State Theatre Company of South Australia to study acting in New York.

He performed in The Lost Echo with the Sydney Theatre Company, and was then hired for the Seven Network series Packed to the Rafters as Ben Rafter. In 2009, Sheridan won the Logie Award for "Most Popular New Male Talent". In February 2011, Sheridan filled in as host on The Kyle & Jackie O Show alongside fellow Packed to the Rafters star George Houvardas. In 2012, Sheridan hosted the Network Ten talent show series I Will Survive, during his production break for Packed to the Rafters.

In 2014, Sheridan appeared in the Seven Network mini series, INXS: Never Tear Us Apart, about the Australian rock band INXS.

He is the number 1 ticket holder for the Port Adelaide Football Club, and performed the National Anthem at the opening round at the new Adelaide Oval Stadium on March 29, 2014.

Music
In December 2008, Sheridan performed on Seven Network's television concert special Carols in the Domain in which he performed "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas". In August 2009, he signed a recording contract with Sony Music Australia, releasing his first single "Just Can't Throw Us Away" on Seven's Dancing With the Stars in September 2009. The following month he released the follow up single, "All About Me". His first album, Speak Love, was released on 27 November 2009 and peaked at number 86 on the Australian ARIA Albums Chart. In June 2010, a remix of the album's title track was released as the album's third and final single. In 2015, Sheridan formed The California Crooners Club with mates Emile Welman and Gabe Roland. In Spring 2016, CCC toured Adelaide, Sydney & Melbourne Australia to great critical acclaim.

Personal life
Sheridan is based in Los Angeles.
Erik Thomson
On why he calls the Fleurieu Peninsula home
Born Scotland, raise New Zealand
Rachel Moore, Southern Times Messenger
December 9, 2016 8:12am
ACTOR Erik Thomson recalls the first time he set eyes on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

“(My wife) Caitlin and I had driven from Melbourne and arrived at Penny’s Hill Winery at night,” he says.

“I got up at dawn on a beautiful November’s day and the first time I saw the Vale, it was like, bam.

“I loved it immediately.”

That was nearly 20 years ago, and Thomson’s love for the region has not diminished.

These days, Thomson, wife Caitlin McDougall and their children Eilish, 9, and Magnus, 6, call Port Willunga home.

Thomson, whose parents-in-law own Penny’s Hill Winery, says the decision to move here from Sydney once drama Packed to the Rafters wound up was an easy one.

“We have family here, it’s beautiful, it’s affordable, it’s a really good base,” Thomson says.

He adds as an actor, there’s no ideal location to live, as you have to travel where the work is.

Thomson says while he has strong ties to New Zealand, where he grew up, and Scotland, where he was born, Port Willunga is definitely home.

“It’s where my family is,” he says.

When not away filming, Thomson can be found doing the school run to Willunga Waldorf School, or catching yabbies with his children at Willunga Creek.

Wanting to give back, the actor, who these days can be seen on our screens in 800 Words, jumped at the chance to support the Fleurieu Film Festival as patron.

Now in its second year, the short film competition is open to budding national and international filmmakers, and has the support of theatre, film and TV writer Andrew Bovell and world-renowned sound engineer Jon Lemon, among others.

“It’s a good fit for me to be involved, living down here,” Thomson says.

He says the Fleurieu, with its stunning scenery and great food and wine offerings, provides the perfect backdrop to give festival goers an unforgettable experience.