



## The AIS Best of the Best

The AIS recently held functions in Canberra and every state capital where it operates a program. At the Canberra event on Saturday 5 October 2002, the AIS announced its 21 Best of the Best athletes. The AIS has made a significant contribution to helping each of these athletes reach the pinnacle of success in their chosen sport. A commemorative sculpture acknowledging the 21 athletes who exemplify the excellence for which the AIS stands, both nationally and internationally, was unveiled. The 21 outstanding AIS athletes named are:

### **Alisa Camplin**

*(Aerial Skiing 1998–2002)*

At the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Alisa became the first Australian to win an Olympic snow sports gold medal.

### **Robert de Castella MBE**

*(Athletics 1983–86)*

Rob represented Australia in four Olympic Games from 1980 to 1992. He held the marathon world record from 1981 to 1984, won the 1983 World Marathon Championship and the 1982 and 1986 Commonwealth Games marathons.

### **John Eales AM**

*(Rugby Union 1990–91)*

John played 86 tests for Australia and was a member of the winning 1991 and 1999 World Cup teams, the latter as captain. John captained the Wallabies from 1996 to 2001, winning 32 out of 52 test matches.

### **Simon Fairweather OAM**

*(Archery 1998–2000)*

Simon represented Australia in four Olympic Games from 1988 to 2000. He was 1991 World Champion and 2000 Olympic champion.

### **Neil Fuller OAM**

*(Athletics – Athletes with a Disability 1994–2002)*

Neil won a total of six gold, four silver and two bronze medals at the 1992, 1996 and 2000 Paralympic Games. He also won a gold medal at the 2001 IAAF World Championships, and eight gold, three silver and three bronze medals at four IPC World Championships.

### **Bridgette Gusterson OAM**

*(Water Polo 1993–2000)*

Bridgette captained the national team from 1998 to 2000. In this period Australia won the 2000 Olympic gold medal, silver at the 1999 World Cup and bronze at the 1998 World Championships.

### **Rechelle Hawkes OAM**

*(Hockey 1986–92, 1994–2000)*

Rechelle represented Australia in over 250 international games and at four Olympic Games. She achieved major international success at the 1988 Olympic Games (gold), 1990 World Cup (silver), 1994 World Cup (gold, captain), 1996 Olympic Games (gold, captain), 1998 World Cup (gold, captain), and 2000 Olympic Games (gold, captain).

### **Shane Kelly (Track Cycling 1992–2002)**

Shane was the world number one in the one-kilometre time trial from 1995 to 1998 and held the world record from 1995 to 2001. He won a silver medal at the 1992 Olympic Games and a bronze medal at the 2000 Olympic Games. At the World Championships from 1993 to 1999, Shane won four gold, four silver and two bronze medals.

### **Michael Klim (Swimming 1994–2001)**

Michael is a multiple Olympic and World Championship gold medalist and currently holds three world records. He won a bronze medal at the 1996 Olympic Games and two gold and two silver at the 2000 Olympics. He also won two gold and two silver medals at the 1998 World Championships, and two gold medals at the 2001 World Championships.

### **Luc Longley (Basketball 1986–87)**

Luc was the first Australian to play in the US National Basketball Association (NBA).

From 1996 to 1998, he won three championships with the Chicago Bulls. He represented Australia at the 1988, 1992 and 2000 Olympic Games.

### **Michelle Martin (Squash 1985–90, 1998–99)**

Michelle was ranked world number one or two from 1989 to 1999. She won three World Open titles from 1993 to 1995, six British

## The AIS Alumni a message from AIS Director Michael Scott

In recent months, the AIS has embarked on a series of events to mark the 21st birthday celebrations of the Australian Institute of Sport.

By the time this newsletter reaches Alumni members, functions would have been held in Canberra and every other state capital where the AIS currently operates a program.

One of the many messages coming from the 21st birthday celebrations from former athletes and coaches is the need to strengthen the role of the Alumni, as the Institute has played such a positive role in the lives of many people who have been fortunate to contribute to its success.

As the Director of the AIS, I certainly support the need for a strong and effective Alumni and will be asking the Alumni Committee to look at the possibility of establishing chapters of the Alumni in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne within the next 12–18 months.

Establishing these chapters would boost the membership of the Alumni, and would provide a friendly and understanding environment where recently retired athletes can share their experiences with Alumni members about their transition from competition to retirement.

If there are any former athletes or staff members who are interested in taking an active role in establishing a chapter in these three cities or any other state capital of Australia, please feel free to contact Mick Fogarty via email: [mick.fogarty@ausport.gov.au](mailto:mick.fogarty@ausport.gov.au).

On behalf of the management, coaches, athletes and staff of the AIS, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Alumni a prosperous and safe 2003.

Kind regards  
Michael Scott  
Director  
Australian Institute of Sport

Open titles from 1993 to 1998 and six Australian Open titles between 1991 and 1998. She also won two gold medals at the 1998 Commonwealth Games.

**Glenn McGrath** (*Cricket 1992–93*)

Since 1993, Glen has played 84 test matches and 156 one-day internationals for Australia. He is currently the second highest all-time Australian test wicket taker. He was a member of the winning 1999 World Cup side. In 2000, he won the Alan Border Medal as Australian cricketer of the year.

**Michael Milton OAM** (*Snow Skiing — Athletes with a Disability 1993–2002*)

Michael was Australia's first Winter Paralympic medallist. His outstanding record includes a total of six gold, two silver and two bronze medals at the 1992, 1994 and 2002 Winter Paralympic Games and four gold, two silver and one bronze medal at the 1996 and 2000 World Championships.

**Clint Robinson OAM**

(*Canoe Sprint 1990–2000, 2002*)

Clint has represented Australia at three Olympic Games. He was 1992 Olympic Champion and 1994 World Champion, won silver medals at the 1991 and 1995 World Championships, and a bronze medal at the 1996 Olympic Games.

**Louise Sauvage OAM** (*Athletics — Athletes with a Disability 1990–2000*)

Louise is Australia's most successful Paralympic athlete and currently holds four world records. She won a total of nine gold and two silver medals at the 1992, 1996 and 2000 Paralympic Games, as well as ten gold medals at the 1990, 1994 and 1998 IPC World Championships.

**Kate Slatter OAM** (*Rowing 1991–2000*)

Kate represented Australia in three Olympic Games. She and her partner Megan Still (Marcks) became the first Australian oarswomen to achieve world champion status in an Olympic event. Her international medals in women's pairs include the 1994 World Championships (bronze), 1995 World Championships (gold), 1996 Olympic Games (gold), 1999 World Championships (bronze) and 2000 Olympic Games (silver).

**Zali Steggall** (*Snow Skiing 1997–2000*)

Zali represented Australia at four Winter Olympic Games from 1992 to 2002, winning Australia's first-ever Olympic skiing medal at the 1998 Winter Olympic Games. She also won Australia's first World Alpine Championship in 1999, a World Cup gold medal in 1997 and a World Cup silver medal in 1998.

**Petria Thomas** (*Swimming 1993–* )

Petria has won the same event (100 metres butterfly) at three successive Commonwealth Games. She won three gold medals at the 2001 World Championships and two silver and two bronze medals at the 1998 World Championships. Petria also won a silver medal at the 1996 Olympic Games, two silver and one bronze at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, and five gold, one silver and one bronze at the 2002 Commonwealth Games.

**Mark Viduka** (*Soccer 1992–93*)

Mark has represented Australia 21 times, including the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games. He was the 2000–01 Scottish Premier League Player of the Year and the 1994–95 Australian National Soccer League Player of the Year. He also represented Australia in the 1995 World Youth Cup finals.

**Vicki Wilson OAM** (*Netball 1985–86*)

Vicki represented Australia in 99 test matches. She competed at four World Championships, winning gold in 1991, 1995 and also 1999 when she captained the team, and silver in 1987. She also captained the winning 1998 Australian Commonwealth Games team.

**Todd Woodbridge OAM** (*Tennis 1986–90*)

Todd currently holds the world record for the number of doubles titles with Mark Woodforde. He has won 74 ATP doubles titles, including 18 grand slam doubles. He won a gold medal at the 1996 Olympic Games and a silver medal at the 2000 Olympic Games. He has also won two ATP singles titles.

**Visit the AIS web site**

[www.ais.org.au/21/ais21best.htm](http://www.ais.org.au/21/ais21best.htm) for more detailed information on the highlights of these athletes' careers, including online text and audio comments from the athletes themselves.

## Athlete search

If you know the postal address, email address, telephone number or any other contact details (such as a club the athlete is connected with) for any former AIS athletes, you could help us by asking them to send their contact information to:

Danielle Fornasiero  
AIS Alumni  
PO Box 176  
Belconnen ACT 2616

or complete a registration form at [www.ausport.gov.au/ais/alumni](http://www.ausport.gov.au/ais/alumni).

If you are still receiving your newsletter by mail but have an email address, we

would appreciate your sending it to us by the above means as well.

If we have managed to reach you through your club, we would like to update our address listings with your personal mailing address. Why not send it to us? And please include your email address if you have one.

## Stories of Indigenous AIS athletes

As part of the AIS 21st birthday, the Indigenous Sport Program is currently putting together a booklet of the stories of Indigenous athletes who have had scholarships since the AIS opened in 1981. The booklet will also track changes in attitudes over that time and document the experiences and memories of Indigenous AIS athletes. Obviously not all stories can be told, but the AIS would like to recognise all its Indigenous athletes by listing their names in the booklet.

As records were not kept of all athletes' cultural heritage, much of the list has been put together based on memories and conversations. Are you, or do you know of any other past AIS athletes of Indigenous heritage? If so, please get in touch with Glen Brennan so we can include names on the list. Glen's contact details are:

Glen Brennan  
National Manager  
Indigenous Sport Program  
Tel: (02) 6214 1149  
Fax: (02) 6214 1095  
Email: [glen.brennan@ausport.gov.au](mailto:glen.brennan@ausport.gov.au)

## Life after the AIS

**What are you doing now? As a regular feature of *Alumni News*, we would like to profile some Alumni members. Why not write or email to the address below, telling us in a few lines what you're up to?**

Danielle Fornasiero, AIS Alumni,  
PO Box 176, Belconnen ACT 2616, or  
[mick.fogarty@ausport.gov.au](mailto:mick.fogarty@ausport.gov.au)

**Did you miss out on previous editions of *Alumni News*?**

We may have added you to our database since the last edition of *Alumni News* was sent out. You can read previous copies of the newsletter on our web site, at [www.ausport.gov.au/ais/alumni/newsletter.htm](http://www.ausport.gov.au/ais/alumni/newsletter.htm).

## Alumni working group

The Alumni working group met in late September to discuss further development of the association. At the meeting were AIS Director Michael Scott, former scholarship holders Martin Roberts (Swimming), Monique Allen (Gymnastics) and Brennon Dowrick (Gymnastics), and current scholarship holder Petria Thomas (Swimming).

Also attending the meeting were Greg Blood, from the National Sport Information Centre, who joined the AIS in 1983, Lyn Addison (Athlete Career and Education), Danielle Fornasiero (AIS Sport Programs, Planning and Evaluation) and Mick Fogarty, *Alumni News* editor.

Current hockey scholarship holder Louise Dobson and former athletes Kristy Doyle (Netball) and Kate Pratley (Swimming), sent their apologies.

Michael Scott expressed his support for the AIS Alumni, made note of the potential benefits that might derive from the association, and said he would promote it during the AIS 21st birthday functions.

The meeting agreed that the primary objective of the Alumni Association should be to facilitate the networking of former athletes and staff. Other objectives could include drawing from the talent and expertise of Alumni members to complement current AIS programs, for example, by involving past scholarship athletes in mentoring programs, the speakers' bureau, fund-raising events and lobbying.

The meeting agreed that the most effective way to address issues relating to further advancing the association was to set up three specific functions for the group — administration, communication, and events and fund-raising. Members of the working group would become involved in these areas.

Among the tasks identified for immediate action were:

- setting up an association charter
- determining criteria for membership of the association
- maintaining the Alumni database
- increasing awareness of the Alumni and the number of registrations
- determining what the Alumni members would like from the association
- further developing the newsletter and web site
- exploring possibilities for fund-raising and events.

## Coaching changes

Three Alumni members have recently taken up coaching roles with the AIS.

Glenn Beringen (Swimming 1982–83) has been appointed to the AIS Swimming program. Head Coach of the SASI swimming program for the past 11 years, Glenn will take up his position in the new year. As an athlete he won the 200m breaststroke silver medal at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles and also won silver at the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane.

Russell Borgeaud (Volleyball 1990–91) has been appointed Assistant Coach in the men's Volleyball program, while Annabel Ellwood (Tennis 1992–97) has joined the Tennis program as administrator/coach.

Former Olympic gold medallist Said Aouita has been appointed AIS National Distance Coach. Aouita, who won the 5000m at the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984, is widely regarded as one of the best middle-distance runners of all time. At one stage he held five world records — 1500m, 2000m, 3000m, two miles and 5000m (twice). Six of the athletes he has coached have won a total of three Olympic gold medals and set five world records among them.

Race walking coach Ron Weigel has returned to his native Germany after five years with the Track and Field program. Netball Assistant Coach Carol Byers has been appointed Head Netball Coach at the WAIS. The job includes coaching the Perth Orioles in the Commonwealth Bank Trophy. The Alumni Association thanks Ron and Carol for their commitment to their AIS athletes and wishes them every success for the future.

## Apology

In the Autumn 2002 edition, we showed the incorrect photo for 2001 AIS Education Achievement Award winner, Matthew Engele. A correct photo of Matthew has been included in the copy of the newsletter on the AIS Alumni web site [www.ausport.gov.au/ais/alumni/newsletter.htm](http://www.ausport.gov.au/ais/alumni/newsletter.htm). We apologise for the error.

## AIS athletes offer their condolences to the Bali victims

In a heartfelt ceremony at the final AIS athlete assembly for 2002 in Canberra, AIS chaplain Peter Nelson led the gathering in prayer to pay respects and offer condolences to the victims of the Bali bombings.

The AIS athletes then signed a condolence book as an expression of sympathy.

## John Eales appointed to ASC Board

Former Wallaby captain John Eales AM has been appointed to the Board of the Australian Sports Commission.

Mr Eales, 32, who in October was named in the 21 AIS Best of the Best athletes, participated in two successful World Cup rugby campaigns, led Australia through four successive years of Bledisloe Cup wins and two successful seasons of Tri-nations fixtures. He is the most capped Wallaby captain and one of the most respected figures in world rugby.

Mr Eales is a business development executive with BT Funds Management in Sydney.

## Casual employment for AIS athletes, Canberra

As an AIS Alumni member, can you help an athlete with employment?

AIS Athlete Career and Education (ACE) is seeking the help of Canberra Alumni to provide employment opportunities or work experience for our current athletes. Employers should be flexible with athlete working hours so that employment can complement training and competition schedules.

If your business has an opening for an AIS athlete, please contact Lyn Addison on (02) 6214 1265 or email [lyn.addison@ausport.gov.au](mailto:lyn.addison@ausport.gov.au).

## Sports Snippets

### Commonwealth Games

The 168 current or former AIS athletes at Manchester won 101 medals — 44 gold, 23 silver and 33 bronze. Cycling (ten gold, seven silver, five bronze), swimming (nine gold, one silver, three bronze) and shooting (three gold, four silver and six bronze) led the way. There were 12 medals in weightlifting, and eight in athletics, gymnastics and squash. AIS boxers won three gold medals.

There were some outstanding individual performances:

- In athletics, Nathan Deakes and Jana Pittman each won two gold medals.
- Cyclists Ryan Bailey, Graeme Brown and Kerrie Meares won two gold medals.

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# Sports Snippets

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- Gymnast Philippe Rizzo won gold medals on three apparatus.
- Former scholarship holder Tim Lowndes won an individual and a pairs gold medal in rifle shooting.
- Petria Thomas won three individual gold medals, including the 100m butterfly for the third successive Commonwealth Games, and two relay gold medals.
- Swimmer Justin Norris also won three individual gold medals.
- Former scholarship holder Ben Austin won two gold medals in multi-disability freestyle events.
- Weightlifters Yurik Sarkisian and Alex Karapetyan won all three gold medals on offer in their weight divisions.

You can read full details of medals won by current and former AIS athletes on the AIS website [www.ausport.gov.au/info/cg2002/cg2002summary.htm](http://www.ausport.gov.au/info/cg2002/cg2002summary.htm). The full Australian team showing current AIS athletes and alumni is at [www.ais.org.au/team2002c.htm](http://www.ais.org.au/team2002c.htm).

## Archery

Archer Tim Cuddihy defeated his AIS teammate David Barnes 114–113 in the final of the cadet men's recurve division at the 7th Junior Outdoor Archery World Championships. They, and third team member, Chris Madeley, also won the teams gold medal, defeating the Russian Federation in the final.

## Athletics

Benita Johnson bettered her Australian 5000m road best time in finishing second to Olympic gold medallist Sonia O'Sullivan in London in a time of 14.59.00, only five seconds off the world best time. Then at the Berlin Golden League she took 14 seconds off her Australian 5000m track record — recording a time of 14.47.60 in finishing third.

Patrick Johnson won the 200m at the Helsinki Athletics Grand Prix.

AIS scholarship holder Hamish MacDonald won the gold medal and set a world record with a throw of 10.69m in the shot-put at the International Paralympic Committee World Championships.

In the best ever result by an Australian walks team at the IAAF World Cup, the Australian men's 50km team finished fourth in Turin, only three points out of the bronze medal. The five-man team included AIS athletes Liam Murphy (15th), Luke Adams (29th) and Darren Bown (38th) and former scholarship holder Duane Cousins (37th).

## Basketball

The AIS men's basketball team became the first AIS team to win the ABA East Conference championship, defeating Geelong 111–100. They then finished runner-up in the ABA national final.

## Canoe

Nathan Baggaley (AIS/NSWIS) won the K1 500m at the World Sprint Canoe/Kayak Championships.

Katrin Borchert (QAS/AIS) finished fourth in both the K1 500m and the K1 1000m.

## Cycling — track

Australia won four gold medals, five silver medals and four bronze medals from 15 events at the World Track Cycling Championships in Denmark, with AIS athletes and Alumni well to the fore.

### Gold medals

- Men's 4000m team pursuit — Peter Dawson (AIS/WAIS), Brett Lancaster (AIS/VIS), Mark Renshaw (AIS/NSWIS), Stephen Wooldridge (NSWIS)
- Men's keirin — Jobie Dajka (AIS/SASI)
- Men's sprint — Sean Eadie (AIS/NSWIS)
- Men's 4000m individual pursuit — Brad McGee (ex-AIS)

### Silver medals

- Men's sprint — Jobie Dajka (AIS/SASI)
- Men's team sprint — Ryan Bayley (AIS/WAIS), Jobie Dajka (AIS/SASI), Sean Eadie (AIS/NSWIS)
- Women's sprint — Kerrie Meares (AIS/QAS)
- Women's scratch race — Rochelle Gilmore (AIS/NSWIS)
- Men's 4000m individual pursuit — Luke Roberts (ex-AIS)

### Bronze medals

- Men's 1000m time trial — Shane Kelly (AIS/VIS)
- Women's 3000m individual pursuit — Katherine Bates (ex-AIS)
- Women's 500m time trial — Kerrie Meares (AIS/QAS)

## Cycling — road

At the World Road Cycling Championships, former AIS athlete Robbie McEwen won the silver medal in the elite men's road race. This followed his winning the sprinter's green jersey in the Tour de France, including the final stage win in Paris. Robbie is now fourth in the UCI world rankings.

Also at the World Road Cycling Championships Sara Carrigan (AIS/QAS) was fourth in the elite women's road race and fifth in the elite women's time trial. Alison Wright (AIS/ACTAS) was fifth in the elite women's road race.

## Golf

Richard Moir (Golf 2001–02) finished leading amateur and equal fifteenth in the Australian Open. He has now finished leading amateur in the 2002 NSW, Queensland and Australian Open Championships.

## Gymnastics

In the final of the Gymnastics World Cup, to which only the top eight qualifiers are invited, Philippe Rizzo placed second on horizontal bars and Jacqui Dunn second on uneven bars.

## Rowing

At the World Rowing Championships the women's four — Kristina Larsen (AIS/NSWIS), Jodi Winter (former AIS), Rebecca Sattin (AIS) and Victoria Roberts (AIS) — coached by Lyall McCarthy (AIS), won the gold medal.

These four rowers plus Jo Lutz (AIS), Julia Wilson (AIS), Jane Robinson (AIS), Rachael Taylor (AIS/VIS) and cox Carly Bilson, also coached by Lyall McCarthy, won the silver medal in the women's eight.

The women's four also won gold at the Lucerne and Munich World Cups.

At the Munich World Cup AIS rowers won one gold, four silver and two bronze medals.

At the U23 World Regatta, Mitchell Punch won a silver medal in the men's single scull, and Tim O'Callaghan a bronze medal in the lightweight four.

## Sailing

AIS sailor Sarah Blanck won the Europe Class World Championship.

AIS sailors, Nathan Wilmot and Malcolm Page won the 470 class at the European Championships. Fellow AIS scholarship holders and Olympic gold medallists Jenny Armstrong and Belinda Stowell were runners-up in the women's race.

Jenny Armstrong and Belinda Stowell won the women's 470 class and fellow scholarship holder Darren Bundock paired with Mark Padgett to win the Hobie 16 class at the ISAF World Sailing Games in France.

## Squash

AIS squash player Dan Jenson who has suffered from injury over the past two years, won the CAS International in Pakistan. He defeated the legendary Jansher Khan in the first round.

## Swimming

In the Pan Pac Swimming Championships, Petria Thomas won three gold and two silver medals. She won gold in the 200m butterfly and silver in the 100m butterfly, as well as two gold and one silver medal in relays. Sarah Ryan and Craig Stevens each won a relay gold medal.

## Triathlon

AIS triathlete Brad Kahlefeldt won the U23 World Triathlon Championships.

Fellow AIS athlete Mirinda Carfrae placed second in the women's event.