By ROD ALLEN

ROYAL Randwick’s exciting new grandstand is rising from the ground at an increasing pace and the Australian Turf Club’s (ATC) ambitious $150m development is beginning to take serious shape. Right before your eyes the site will experience a burst of Spring growth. More than 250 workers are currently onsite daily and the stands will make their presence felt on the Randwick skyline.

Demolition of the unwanted elements of the Paddock and the QEII stands is complete and construction work is in full swing. Already lift shafts, stairwells and the southern access drum have reached Level Three. The basement slab is down and brickwork has begun. Steelwork is up to Level Two and concrete is being poured on Level One. The horse and pedestrian tunnels are almost complete on both former stand sites. Excavation is also proceeding for the Theatre of the Horse and the piers are complete for the new Owner’s Pavilion.

Barring unforeseen hold-ups, the development is on track for use during the BMW Sydney Carnival beginning with David Jones Australian Derby Day on April 13. This is a temporary handover with full completion due in June 2013.

ATC Executive General Manager of Property Mark Flanagan believes that people will be able to truly grasp the size and scale of the site when at Royal Randwick this carnival.

“Lots of dry weather has assisted Brookfield Multiplex in making great headway in the last couple of months and punters will really see a dramatic difference,” Mr Flanagan said.

“The Theatre of the Horse is taking shape nicely and the southern drum is very clearly defined now. “People will get an appreciation of how grand the building and surrounds are going to be. “This is an enormous project and we’re confident that it will measure up with any of the great racecourses around the world.”

ATC Chief Executive Darren Pearce said this is one of the biggest investments in a Sydney sporting facility since the Homebush Olympic site, marking a new era not only in racing, but in the larger leisure and entertainment market.

“Royal Randwick will be transformed into the most sophisticated racing and entertainment venue in Australia,” Mr Pearce said.

“We know there will be some inconvenience at Royal Randwick for the Spring Carnival but the end result will be spectacular for both members and the general public.”

History in the making - page 4

SPRINGING TO LIFE
THE ULTIMATE SPACE

Murray Crampton
Development Manager

On any duty basis, service with friends, family, partners, designers, and a range of other stakeholders. I am charged with making sure
members and customers get the very best possible facility and this project
presents the 21st-century style and feel that our customers have
already been looking for and has gone to the various range of options in the world.

Novash Randhani
Royal Randwick Racecourse Manager

‘There has been an extremely high
level of interest from these fantastic
tables from those who want to enjoy
the best things in life and share them
with their friends, family and clients.’

“THERE IS NO PRECEDENCE FOR THIS DESIGN
ON A HORSE RACING TRACK”

Margaret Helbæk
Heritage Officer

Mr Cornish said.

“The rooms will feature seasonal
dishes. It has been a new development.

New Menus

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Tanya McManus
Racing Events and Guest Services Manager

‘It is the best of the best and the
corporate entertainment infrastructure and
best possible facility and the
corporate entertainment at one of
the world-class racing surface. While
the city I live in,” Mr o’Keefe said.

Royal Randwick will live up
with the finest
dining experience with the finest
and the special tiered
sporting entertainment precinct in
the country and the special tiered
level one, the Chairman’s Club is
tables in the best piece of real estate
of the biggest names in racing
and they represent a new level
available on an annual basis with the
are top class.”

Mr Cornish said.

“We are determined to make
this project on a sure
standard in Australian racing and
the best of racing experience with
the Chairman’s Club is
the inspiration for this elite space
for our members down there
and I am happy to
enquiry from current
Food and Beverage Manager,

“THERE HAS BEEN AN EXTREMELY
HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST FOR THIS
FANTASTIC TABLES FROM THOSE WHO WANT TO
ENJOY THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE AND SHARE THEM
WITH THEIR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND CLIENTS.”

Naomi Morgan-Jones
Membership & Communications Manager

“Some of the biggest names in racing
and business have snapped up
places in the best piece of real estate
in the new grandstand – the
toursaurus Chairman’s Club.

Murray Crampton
Development Manager

‘We will see an increased level of
corporate entertainment at one of
the best racecourses of the world.

Murray Crampton
Development Manager

“Every element of this design has
 been heavily considered and that is
one of the key reasons why Sydney’s
theatre and the roofline has been
changed and it is the Chairman’s Club
that will be able to choose from cafe and
guest services to the Chairman’s Club we
choose the scale of that pattern making.

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Development Manager

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Royal Randwick looks like a construction site and that is all part of the plan. Our ambitious major renovation project is in full swing and you will see plenty of activity as our amazing facilities begin to take shape. The demolition is complete and all that remains are the bones of the old structures that will be used for the new grandstand. The foundations are in, the basement slabs are complete and already we see lift shafts and stairwells rising to the height of Level Three of the five-level structure.

Please accept our apologies for the disruption that this work will have on the Spring Carnival. But I can assure you the short term pain will be worth it when you see how fantastic the new grandstand will be when it opens next year. Royal Randwick will be the envy of every other racetrack in the world and it will raise the benchmark for sporting entertainment hospitality in Australia.

I am particularly excited about the Chairman’s Club which will be the ultimate racing experience with the best view of all of the action.

My dedicated and savvy board of Directors and our smart and committed team of Executives have ensured we are taking some major steps forward. We are focused on making our racetrack the best it can be and when we hand it back to the members and the general public next year it will truly be one of the best facilities in the world.

John Cornish, Chairman, Australian Turf Club

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

The 1959 AJC St Leger at Royal Randwick won by Bardshah from Valerius and Chicola.

“The picture was taken as the horses pull up after passing the post,” Mrs Helback said. “In the background on the right is the old Paddock Stand which was built in approximately 1914. The stand on the left hand side is the St Leger Stand.”

The structure in front of the Paddock Stand with the clock on the top is the judge’s and steward’s box and semaphore board for the posting of results and correct weight.

The new grandstand under construction is a significant development in the evolution of Royal Randwick racecourse and will offer the racing public a standard of comfort not before seen.

The ATC is keeping a daily photographic record of the building progress for historical purposes.

Australian Turf Club