



ORSA Newsletter

28TH JUNE 2010 - GERS DOWN UNDER – SYDNEY 2010 – TOUR NEWSLETTER NUMBER 1

President's Message

Welcome to the first special edition of the ORSA 'Gers Down Under' Tour Newsletter. We hope to have at least two more editions of the newsletter before the world record breaking champions, Rangers FC hit these shores!

ORSA is in contact with Ibrox regularly and we'll try to deliver you the latest updates as soon as we have them.

The latest news is that the UK promoter arrived in Sydney last week specifically to work with the Aussie organisers and the Club to fill out the itinerary around the contractual, sponsor and fan requirements. The team arrive on the morning of 22nd July and will leave on the afternoon of 1st August but beyond arrival, departure and match days the details are still under negotiation. More details are expected around the first week in July. The promoter says "Certainly there will be at least one training session open to fans". So get your autograph books ready and camera batteries charged!

The ORSA website is back up and running at www.oceaniarsa.com and as mentioned later, ORSA has joined the Facebook revolution...I like it! Please add the website to your favourites and join us at [Facebook \(Search - Oceania Rangers Supporters Association\)](#) to keep up to date with what the ORSA bears are planning for the trip to Sydney! ORSA will be able to pass on more details when we have them.

Thanks for your patience on this and other matters relating to the tour. The main contacts at Ibrox have been on annual leave and we're just starting to get a trickle of information as they come back off their holidays. We hope you've all managed to secure your tickets in the Rangers bays and we look forward to seeing you all in Sydney at the ORSA Bears HQ at the Fox and Lion pub in the Entertainment Precinct opposite the stadium for the party!

Follow Follow

George Hughes, ORSA President



ORSA is kindly supported by John Brown Loyal Adelaide, Brisbane RSC, Kiwi True Blues Auckland, 'Home and Away' RSC Tauranga, Hong Kong RSC, Melbourne GRSC, Northern Beaches RSC Sydney, NT Loyal Darwin, The Waikato Loyal Hamilton, Wanganui Loyal New Zealand, Wellington Loyal, New Zealand



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Sydney Festival of Football 2010 - Sunday 25th July

Sydney FC v AEK Athens KO 1245

Rangers FC v Blackburn Rovers **KO 1500**

Sydney Festival of Football 2010 – Wednesday 28th July

Blackburn Rovers v AEK Athens KO 1800

Rangers FC v Sydney FC **KO 2015**

Sydney Festival of Football 2010 – Saturday 31st July

(ORSA Raffle drawn)

Rangers FC v AEK Athens **KO 1700**

Sydney FC V Blackburn Rovers KO 1915

Tickets can be bought at Ticketek from the link below
<http://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=FOOTBALL3>

N.B. THE 3 DAY PASS IS NOT IN THE RANGERS END, BUY AS INDIVIDUAL TICKETS ONLY

Jim Lindsay "Singing the Blues Down Under" for ORSA

ORSA approached Jim Lindsay, a founding member of the Northern Beaches RSC, to see if he'd be willing to do a new song for the Gers trip down under. Not only did he do a sterling job with a new track, "Singing the Blues Down Under" he's also done another couple of tracks which I'm sure will get you all in the party mood for Sydney and that you'll instantly recognise. These tracks will be added to youtube very soon and advertised on the ORSA website over the coming weeks as we build you all up to a crescendo for the opening game on Sunday 25th July.



After being home in Ulster for two years, Jim literally touches down in Australia this week so the timing has been perfect and we'll also be asking the ORSA bears to learn the songs for a special live performance planned at a secret Sydney location! We'll be sending the details of this special one-off performance once we have a clearer picture from Ibrox on what the club's itinerary is. Maybe we can get the Gaffer and Coisty along for a singsong!!

The songs, with a few images and karaoke style words, have now been added to youtube as well as being sent to all the ORSA club secretaries with song sheets for you all to learn at home, in the car or to annoy any dhims at work. So bears and bearettes, get gargling with honey and lemon, keep hydrated and get ready for the biggest and best sing-a-long we've seen down under in a long time! We Are The People!

Rangers FC in Sydney July 2010 - Useful Links

To assist travelling Bears visiting Sydney for the Rangers games ORSA have put together a guide which we hope will be helpful to Rangers fans.

- ❖ The Stadium - Sydney Football Stadium (SFS) is a short 20 minutes stroll from Sydney's Central Railway station. Details can be found here <http://www.sydneycricketground.com.au/Transport.html>
- ❖ Accommodation - From Darling harbour to King Cross any Hotel/Motel/backpackers will be handy for the short walk to the Stadium. There are plenty of good deals at <http://www.wotif.com/hotels/australia-sydney-hotels.html>
- ❖ Flights - Flight Centre <http://www.flightcentre.com.au/fcweb/flights/domestic/> or Webjet at <http://www.webjet.com.au/flights/>
- ❖ Tickets here - <http://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=FOOTBALL3>
- ❖ Public Transport - For more information on Bus and Train timetables, visit the public transport website at www.131500.com.au
- ❖ ORSA HQ for match day will be the Fox and Lion pub in the Entertainment quarter of Moore Park. More information on the Fox and Lion can be found at <http://www.foxandlion.com.au/>
- ❖ Tourist Attractions. Sydney is world famous for the iconic Sydney Opera house and the Harbour Bridge. Details here <http://www.sydney.com/>
- ❖ Festival links <http://www.sydneyfestivaloffootball.com.au/>



For regular updates via email and SMS please register at the ORSA website for news on special events, musical treats planned for the Bears, open training session with the players and a march to the stadium. More details to follow soon.

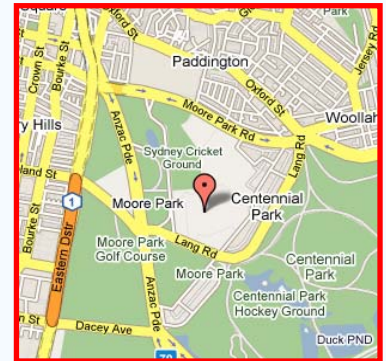
ORSA Bears Official Match Day HQ

Fox and Lion, 1 Bent Street – The Entertainment Quarter

<http://www.foxandlion.com.au/>



After much deliberation, the Fox and Lion has been chosen as the ORSA Bears official match day HQ for the week long Sydney festival of football. Sydney Football Stadium is a short walk away and the manager Jamie is looking forward to welcoming all the ORSA (and non-ORSA) bears to the venue.



Due to licensing arrangements around ticketing we were unable to secure the venue exclusively and thus the bar will still remain open to the general public. We have reserved areas and access to the house PA so we'll be able to crank up the tunes.

The advice for all bears is to head along early on match days to secure your spot in the reserved areas. The venue has a capacity of up to 750 people overall and a wristband system will be in operation at the venue for the ORSA reserved areas. The wristbands cannot be pre-booked and are only available on match days. Bears will be welcomed before and after the games at the venue.

Sunday 25th July – Opening time 10.30am (Rangers v Blackburn KO 3pm), Closing time midnight.

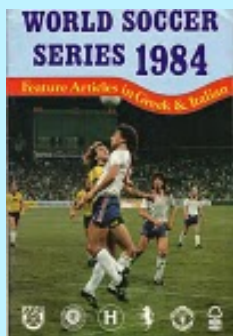
Wednesday 28th July – Opening time 11.30am (Rangers v Sydney KO 8.15pm), Closing time 11.30pm

Saturday 31st July – Opening time 10.30am (Rangers v AEK Athens KO 5pm), Closing time 1.30am

The Entertainment Quarter is in the heart of Sydney and is only 10 minutes from the CBD and 15 minutes from the airport, the harbour and the beaches. It is easily accessible by car, coach or public transport. A regular 339 service runs from the city direct to the Moore Park bus station. The 355 service from Bondi Junction travels via Lang Road and stops near The Entertainment Quarter entrance.



Trip down memory lane...Gers in Oz 1984 Tour



In May and June of 1984, The Australian Soccer Federation organised what they called a "World Soccer Series" inviting Rangers, Man United, Nottingham Forest, Juventus and Iraklis to play against two Australian squads coached by Frank Arok (Australia A) and Eddie Thomson (Australia B). The tournament was a great success boosting the profile of the Aussie national side at home and providing some quality opposition to play. The world series games were split between Sydney, Melbourne, Newcastle, Brisbane and Adelaide giving the Australian fans the opportunity to see their national side in action against top quality European opposition.

The Rangers squad, managed by the late great jungle fighter Jock Wallace, was to the best of my research as follows:

Peter McCloy, Nicky Walker, David McKinnon, Stuart Munro, Colin McAdam, Craig Paterson, Ally Dawson, Hugh Burns, Bobby Russell, Bobby Williamson, Dave McPherson, Ian Redford, John MacDonald, Ally McCoist, Iain Ferguson, Sandy Clark, Davie Cooper and Dave Mitchell.

The tour also included a few well known aussie soccer icons including Frank Farina and John Kosmina. Ron Atkinson managed Man Utd and Giovanni Trapattoni was the Juve coach at the time. Man Utd players included Gordon McQueen and Mark Hughes with Viv Anderson and Garry Birtles starring for Notts Forest.

For the record the results were as follows:

- ❖ May 27th 1984 at the MCG, Melbourne – Australia (B) 0 - Rangers FC 0
- ❖ **May 31st 1984 at Lang Park, Brisbane – Australia (B)1 – Rangers FC 2 (Clark, Ferguson)**
- ❖ June 2nd 1984 at SCG, Sydney – Australia (A) 3 – Rangers FC 2 (McCoist 2)
- ❖ **June 5th 1984 at Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide – Australia (B) 1 – Rangers FC 1 (McClelland)**
- ❖ June 7th 1984 at Adamstown oval, Newcastle – Australia (B) 2 – Rangers FC 4
(Paterson, Burns, McCoist, Cooper)

Interestingly, it seems Davie Mitchell turned out for both Rangers FC and Australia although match reports are a little hard to come by so I'm not sure if this is totally correct!!!

Graphic Designer wanted urgently!

ORSA is looking for the services of a bear friendly graphic designer. If you are, or if you know a graphic designer, please email secretary@oceaniarsa.com



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ORSA 'Unofficial' HQ - James Squire's Darling Harbour

As if one pub wasn't enough to keep you lot in beer, we've spoken to the lovely people at James Squire's pub at King Steet Wharf, Darling Harbour and we're happy to announce this as our 'unofficial' watering hole for those taking a leisurely week in Sydney and who need to adopt a local boozier to keep them topped up as you do all the tourist activities in and around the harbour area.

Great food, great location and great company what more can you ask? We're hoping to also have at least one event at this location which is provisionally booked for Friday 30th July but we'll canvas the ORSA members on what they'd like to do and see how many bears can attend this date before we finalise the details. The rest of the time the management are happy to welcome the bears along, so hopefully you can meet some old and new friends down by the harbour!

www.oceaniarsa.com back online and new **ORSA Facebook** page!



The ORSA website is now back up and running at www.oceaniarsa.com. The site content is fairly basic for now but it was necessary to have an online presence leading up to the Gers trip down under so we've brought it live earlier than we'd planned.



We're looking for suggestions for what you'd like to see on the website however we will not be offering a forum as we now have set up, as per the discussions at the Auckland AGM, an **ORSA Facebook** page ([search Oceania Rangers Supporters Association](#)). The ORSA website will be more our gateway to direct people to the various ORSA clubs in the region whilst the Facebook page will let you do the day to day chit chat about all things red, white and blue.

Website at: www.oceaniarsa.com

Facebook search: Oceania Rangers Supporters Association (ORSA)

ORSA needs **YOU!**

ORSA is always looking for new members and for new RSC's to join. Even if you are geographically challenged you still become a member with ORSA for \$10 AUD and we will affiliate you with your nearest RSC. We also offer a welcome pack for those wishing to start an RSC. If you wish to start a club or enquiry about membership of ORSA please email: secretary@oceaniarsa.com