



Bradman Gala Dinner

For one generation of fans in my country, those who grew up in the 1930s, then India was still under British rule, Bradman represented a cricketing excellence that belonged to somewhere outside England.

To a country taking its first steps in Test cricket, that meant something. My own link with Bradman was much like that of most other Indians – through history books, some old video footage and his wise words.

About leaving the game better than you found it. About playing it positively, as Bradman, then a selector, told Richie Benaud before the 1960-61 West its public. Of players being temporary trustees of a great game.

Before he retired from public life in his 80s, I do know that Bradman watched Sunil Gavaskar's generation play series in Australia. I remember the excitement that went through Indian cricket when we heard the news that Bradman had seen Sachin Tendulkar bat on TV and thought he batted like him.

It was more than mere approval, it was as if the great Don had finally, passed on his torch. Not to an Aussie or an Englishman or a West Indian. But to one of our own.

You only need to look at previous Bradman Honourees to see how this belief is reflected in some of the game's greatest players, people such as Sam Loxton, Arthur Morris, Alan Davidson, Dennis Lillee, Bob Simpson, Sir Richard Hadlee, and Adam Gilchrist. It is an honour that the Bradman Foundation consider me to be in the same company as these previous honourees, a list that includes Sunil Gavaskar.

As a young cricketer I was inspired by Sunil, and it makes me extremely proud to imagine that I too might inspire today's young cricketers to go on to represent their country, reflecting not only skills with a bat or ball, but also displaying the qualities of integrity, courage and determination – qualities that Bradman personified.

It was Bradman's vision, through the Foundation, to inspire young cricketers and as a Bradman Honouree I am pleased to continue his legacy by supporting young cricketers.



Patron: Richie Benaud OBE

Chairman: Maurice Newman AC

The Bradman Foundation A.B.N. 79 348 933 297

Trustee of The Bradman Museum Trust

St Jude Street, (PO Box 9994) * Bowral NSW 2576 * AUSTRALIA
Ph: 61 2 4862 1247 * Fax: 61 2 4861 2536 * E-mail: info@bradman.com.au

www.bradman.com.au

**BRADMAN
INTERNATIONAL
CRICKET
HALL OF FAME**



I pass on my congratulations to Glenn McGrath, often one of my greatest adversaries, but tonight I am proud to stand beside him to accept such a great honour.

I am sorry I cannot join you tonight.
My best wishes go to you all.

RAHUL DRAVID

© Copyright 2012

This document cannot be reproduced for any reasons.



Patron: Richie Benaud OBE

Chairman: Maurice Newman AC

The Bradman Foundation A.B.N. 79 348 933 297

Trustee of The Bradman Museum Trust

St Jude Street, (PO Box 9994) * Bowral NSW 2576 * AUSTRALIA
Ph: 61 2 4862 1247 * Fax: 61 2 4861 2536 * E-mail: info@bradman.com.au

www.bradman.com.au

BRADMAN
INTERNATIONAL
CRICKET
HALL OF FAME