

**Please join Harvard's Co-Chairs of Australian Studies,
Mick Dodson and Chris McAuliffe,
to celebrate a great Australian occasion.**

the 2011 AFL Grand Final

Collingwood v Geelong



When: Friday September 30th

Where: 52A Linnaean St

Dress: team colours encouraged

Pre-game drinks, snacks and socialising from 9pm.

Match begins at midnight.

TEN THINGS

YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

THE GRAND FINAL



The Grand Final is the climax of the Australian Football League annual Australian Rules football ('footy' or 'Aussie Rules') season. The teams play for the Premiership of the league.



This years competing clubs are COLLINGWOOD and GEELONG. They finished respectively first and second on the league ladder. Collingwood has had the stronger season, but Geelong have beaten them the two times they met.



COLLINGWOOD wear black and white, are known as the Magpies or the Pies, and are ruthless, arrogant and supremely talented. They are the reigning Premiers, universally hated (except by their fans).



GEELONG wear blue and white, are known as the Cats, are grudgingly respected by most and loved insanely by their fans. They are playing in their fourth Grand Final in five years. They were Premiers in 2009 and 2007.



Aussie Rules football evolved from early forms of soccer and rugby, is comparable to Gaelic football, and displays elements typical of Indigenous ball games such as marn grook, especially its characteristic high mark, a leaping catch.



Aussie Rules is played on an oval of varying dimensions, with goals at either end. Goals comprise two tall inner goal posts, and two shorter outer behind posts. Teams play for four 20-minute quarters (playing time).



Teams advance the ball by kicking, tapping or 'handballing'. Players can only carry or hold the ball for short periods, and cannot throw it. Players may tackle and bump an opponent's body in a contest for the ball, but cannot push them in the back.



Teams earn 6 points for a goal – a kick (untouched) through the goalposts – and 1 point for a behind – a touched goal, a ball 'rushed' (carried) through the goalposts, a 'poster' that hits a goalpost, or a kick between a goalpost and the small 'behind' post.



The AFL Grand Final is always played at the MCG (Melbourne Cricket Ground), known as the "home of football", where the first game of this newly codified sport was played in 1859. The MCG seats around 100,000 spectators.



Regardless of who you barrack for, a spectacular high mark or flukish goal should always be applauded.



Feel free to mock the pre-game and half-time entertainment. Everybody does.