

Sporting Memorabilia
Weekly Times Column
By Warren Joel

Sporting memorabilia is a very large part of the collectors' market with many items selling for tens of thousands of dollars. At the very top of the collectors' market are our sporting greats, names like Don Bradman and Pharlap, just to name a few. A "Baggy Green" used by the Don will sell for hundreds of thousands of dollars. And if you can find the missing 1930 Melbourne cup won by Pharlap you will be able to pay off the mortgage, take the first class trip round the world and still have money in the bank when you get home.

Like many Australians during the summer months I enjoy watching the cricket on the TV. And like many of you I go out to the kitchen during the adv breaks so I don't have to sit through the advs. But I have started to see the sporting memorabilia being advertised for this season.

There are some great items of sporting memorabilia coming onto the market today that are worth collecting. But most are missing one important element to their long term value. There are just too many in the "limited edition" run. A limited edition of say of a thousand is not very limited in the collectors' market. If you think about the baggy green cap or the missing Melbourne cup they are both one off items, and highly collectable.

In the long term, say 25 years, the new memorabilia that is being sold today may well be at the top end of market. But if you are thinking of cashing in that jumper you bought on line or the cricket bat you saw advertised on TV you may get a nasty surprise.

Next week: Chinese Imports

Free Valuation for Weekly Times readers.

Byjoel will do a free valuation of your collectables via email. If you send a photo and description of your item to hwtvaluations@byjoel.com.au I will access the item and respond.

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Warren is a third generation auctioneer and valuer specialising in Art, Antiques and Collectables, accredited by the Commonwealth in 2002 different areas of collectables.

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