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**Warne, Clarke and friends ready for special footy lunch**

CRICKET great **Shane Warne** has called in the services of good mate **Michael Clarke**, who will appear at his annual pre-AFL finals charity lunch at Crown later this month. Warne, who arrived back in Melbourne last week, plans to quiz the Australian cricket vice-captain about the team's difficult winter tour to England, as well as the impending Ashes series this summer. There will be plenty to talk about – Warne has been critical of the scheduling of this year's Ashes series, which he believes won't give the Australian team enough time to find form, and wondered how the bowling line-up will be able to take 20 wickets in a Test match.

Australian captain **Ricky Ponting** has suggested an Ashes white-wash of England is not out of the question, which has drawn a return serve from England captain **Andrew Strauss**. Among the others to take the stage at the Shane Warne Foundation's annual Footy Finals Luncheon will be **Garry Lyon**, who will lead a footy panel that includes **Sam Newman**, **Glenn Archer** and **Aaron Hamill**, along with comedian **Mick Molloy**. **Hamish Blake** and **Andy Lee** will headline the event, while the headlines will no doubt be provided when they interview guest **Jason Akermanis**. The event will be held at Palladium on August 29. Details at [www.tswf.com.au](http://www.tswf.com.au).

