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Aussie Olympic obsessives

We can't get enough of the Games!

This Melbourne family has Olympic fever all year round

Lots of Aussies lay claim to being the nation's biggest sports fans - but when it comes to the Olympics, the Lombards take gold. When *Woman's Day* arrives at mum-of-two Michelle's house in north-west Melbourne, it's hard to even find the family amongst the green and gold balloons, flags, giant inflatables and banners.

"We're big fans of the Olympics," says grandfather-of-five Claude, 73, who plans to watch the Rio 2016 Games on TV every night with his wife Susan, 71.

"My favourite sport to watch is probably the weightlifting, but

I cried when Sally Pearson won the hurdles in London in 2012." Claude indulges his passion for the games running the family business, Lombard The Paper People, which supplies the Aussie Olympic team's decorations and merchandise. Susan, the couple's twins Michelle and Danielle, 47, and daughter Anouk, 42, along with Michelle's husband Andrew, 47, work there as well, with the grandkids primed to take over!

Family affair
"The Olympics just brings everybody together," says Claude of his sports-mad clan.

"Everyone trains in our family. We watch football, I love boxing, one of our grandkids

a future tennis star, one plays soccer, another's a basketball, and one does Irish dancing!" Anouk has been to as many Olympics as possible, and was on the sidelines in 2004 when the Kookaburras men's hockey team won gold at the Athens Games. "Just being there and seeing the athletes who have put so much effort into potentially one opportunity to get that gold

medal is inspiring," says the proud mum of seven-year-old Irish-dancer Vesper, and future baseballer Jensen, five.

"When the Kookaburras played in Athens the crowd was incredible. We're diehard as Aussies, we love our sport and we're so committed. It would be so cool to see our children at the Olympics one day!" adds Anouk, a former netballer.

"Depending on how far we get in certain events, we might host a party and get everyone together to celebrate!"



Jensen's a future Olympics champ!

Pet pooch Darcy gets involved!

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