



WESTERN BULLDOGS PAST PLAYERS

Newsletter July 2020

Thank you for the positive feedback we received from the June Newsletter.

Recently, we have significantly updated the database. In order to keep this momentum going, if you know of a Past Player or Official who is not already receiving the Newsletter, please forward their email and/or mobile to ross.abbey30@gmail.com (Please note: it is worth checking the junk and spam email folders.

The June Edition was emailed on Monday June 1st at 11am.)

Our mission is to reconnect and foster connections between players and officials across all different eras. The newsletter features past player profiles, history, news, and details of upcoming functions, which – *under normal circumstances* – will appear on the Events Calendar page.

We hope you enjoy the July 2020 edition.

PODCAST

See this edition of The Two Dogs podcast – Dale Morris and Jake Landsberger – going to omny.fm/shows/the-two-dogs-podcast and selecting Episode 4, or by following this link:

<https://omny.fm/shows/the-two-dogs-podcast/dale-morris-jake-landsberger>



NIELS BECKER: FROM BRAYBROOK RECRUIT TO UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

10 games (3 goals) with the Bulldogs (1962-3)



By ROSS BRUNDRETT

As a kid growing up in Footscray, Ross Brundrett wore Dave Darcy's no.15 on the back of his Bulldog jumper and his main claim to footballing fame was being in the same year at Kingsville Primary School as Ted Whitten jnr.

His first job as a journalist was at The Footscray Mail where he covered Bulldog games for eight years, and for a further three years at the Western Times. He later wrote for The Sunday Press before spending the last 24 years of his career as a senior feature writer and columnist for The Herald Sun.

HIS footy career was over in the blink of an eye but almost 60 years later, Niels Becker still holds a unique place in the history of the Bulldogs.

He is most likely the only Bulldog to go on to become a professor, distinguishing himself in the fields of epidemiology, biostatistics and public health and health services both in Australia and overseas.

In fact, had he not retired from various national influenza and pandemic influenza committees (as well as serving on an Expert Committee of the World Health Organisation), he no doubt would have played an active role in Australia's response to the coronavirus epidemic that has swept every corner of the globe.

His career is a remarkable success story, but his chapter at the Bulldogs is just as intriguing in its own right.

Niels (pronounced Nils) arrived in Australia as an 11-year-old in the early 1950s with his Danish mum and German father and after spending time in various migrant hostels settled in the then sparsely populated St Albans. "I remember there was this large block of land and this house was built in 11 days ... no bathroom, no toilet, just bare timber for walls," he recalled.

He was one of the original students to attend Sunshine High where Ray Walker, destined to become one of the Bulldog's greatest back pockets, was in the year ahead.

Although he was still learning English and did not know the intricacies of Australian Rules, Niels did understand the concept of kick to kick in the schoolyard and, because he was tall, found he could mark the footy quite easily.

While still at Sunshine High he attracted the interest of the local Braybrook Football Club (the nursery of so many Bulldog legends, including Ray Walker) and played the last eight games of the 1959 FDL season.

"I think I went fairly well," was Niels' estimation. Well, he must have done something right because he was invited to train at the Footscray Football Club for the pre-season of 1960.

Not a bad achievement for a gangly (6' 2" or 189cm) skinny 17-year-old who had played only eight games of Australian Rules and who, just a few years earlier, couldn't speak English and had never heard of footy.

The next 18 months was a real learning experience for Becker, who, as well as developing his ruck craft was also launching his career into academia chasing a science degree at Melbourne University.

“I think I got close to senior selection a couple of times but I kept getting niggling injuries,” he said.

“I know I was very lean and I had to spend a lot of time on the weights. Every summer I would put on half a stone but then I would start running and the weight would drop off.”

Life was a bit of a struggle for Becker who would have to walk a mile to the rail station and often be forced to hitch hike if the train didn't arrive as scheduled, but the Bulldogs did their best to nurture the youngster, arranging for a physics tutor to help him with his tuition.

“John Schultz also gave me tips at the club and when I finally got selected in the seniors Teddy Whitten used to protect me from any unwanted attention from the opposition,” he said.

And suddenly things all turned around. “I got third class honours in my first year at uni and I started to think how I might go if I actually went into the library and studied instead of just hanging around outside.”

He switched courses and decided to seek an honours degree in statistics at La Trobe University. “I thought statistics was so boring, but I got my best marks for it so I went for it” ... and it proved to set the course for rest of his working life.

And in 1962 he finally started to make his mark in the VFL. “I played the last eight games of the season and did pretty well ... then the reserves made the finals, so I got to play in front of 70,000 people at the MCG. I remember the (preliminary) final I had to ruck the entire game on my own and I must have had a good game because they carried me off the ground when we won. Anyway, the next week against St Kilda in the grand final I got kicked in the guts at the first bounce. I got a free kick but I could only hand pass and I was winded so badly I spent most of the day in the forward pocket. We won though and I remember John Schultz congratulating me after the game and I said I didn't do much and he said “well, you did your job last week’.”



Niels Becker with John Schultz in the 1960s and 1995

The next season though, reality hit hard for Becker, still just 20 years old and finding his studying demanding more and more of his time. He was 19th man for the first two games of the '63 season but realised his short sightedness was a problem.

"I could mark the ball but I just couldn't see it all the time," was his frank appraisal.

But the club tried to help him out once more. "Footscray was always very good to me. I wasn't a very good kick and I remember the president of the club (it would have been Henry Dolphin or Jim Miller) would take me onto the ground and work on my kicking ... so when I told them about my eyesight they wanted to organise contact lenses for me.

"But I couldn't let them do it. I thought it was too much to ask, especially if I didn't make it," he explained.

So that was the end of footy for Becker. Later, with some reluctance, he attempted to play for Oakleigh in the VFA ("my worst decision ever") but his career took over, successfully completing his honours degree and working with distinction at Sheffield University in the UK before a stint at Cornell in upstate New York.

He would then return to La Trobe for many years before moving to the Australian National University in Canberra, where he has spent the last two decades.

Now aged 77 and retired, he has never forgotten his time in the west. He met his wife Jennifer at Sunshine High and his daughter Simone is a also a keen Bulldogs fan, who made sure the whole family was at the MCG to witness the 2016 grand final joy.

"The Bulldogs have given me a lot of very happy memories," he said.

DENNIS COMETTI: CENTIMETER PERFECT BULLDOG



By NEIL CORDY

Neil Cordy played 235 VFL/AFL games with Footscray and the Sydney Swans. After his AFL career Neil coached and played for East Sydney. He worked for Network Ten for 15 years as a reporter/presenter and on their AFL coverage. He was the AFL Editor for the Daily Telegraph from 2011 to 2018 and is currently a member part of ABC Grandstand's AFL broadcast team.

CLEAR some room on the Bulldogs honour board – we need to add another name.

Dennis Cometti.

Yes it's true!

Dennis is a Doggie.

He played five games in the reserves in 1971.

It was a cameo, no doubt, but there is no disputing the fact he pulled on the red, white and blue and we're claiming him, especially after he was inducted into the AFL Hall of Fame last month.

The good news is the broadcasting legend isn't being adopted against his will. He's happy to be identified as a former Bulldog and really enjoyed his time at the Kennel, even if it wasn't a long stint. In a remarkable twist of fate the club also bookended his amazing career as a broadcaster.

"I loved the place," Cometti said

"The people at the club and the supporters were genuine and gave it to you straight. They were true to the suburb. It was a total contrast to where I'd come from. West Perth were the haves and the Bulldogs were the have nots. I remember Charlie Sutton telling me Footscray could have won a couple of premierships after the war. They had a couple of blokes from Collingwood who were good players but they had to let them go when they found out they'd crossed the picket line."



Dennis hadn't crossed any picket lines working in radio in Perth but he had to cross the country to take up his next job at 3DB.

Radio was a fickle business back then and still is, a bit like coaching.

He knows both professions well and subscribes to the theory there are only two types of coaches and DJs, those who've been sacked and those who are about to be sacked.

"I started looking for employment in other states because I'd worked the dial in Perth," Cometti said.

"If you lasted longer than 12 months at any radio station in those days you got a round of applause.

"I landed a job at 3DB which was a plum. But the last thing I was thinking about was football. When I got there I told Bill Dunstan (Secretary) and Charlie Sutton I wasn't sure it was going to work because it would be difficult for me to get to training."

Dennis had a crack at doing both jobs but his prediction proved correct.

"I started on the radio at 7pm," Cometti said.

"I would be leaving training when Ted Whitten (Coach) was getting there. I got on well with Ted. That was a career highlight, I played under with Ted Whitten at Footscray and Polly Farmer at West Perth. I had some big names to drop in radio circles."

But the name dropping didn't help Dennis when he failed an unusual examination from Charlie Sutton.

"I remember speaking with Charlie one day and he gave me a cup of tea with no handle on it," Cometti said.

"I thought it was a test, he saw me juggling the cup and it was probably why I didn't get a game because I couldn't hang on to it. It was very hot. It was a baptism of fire."

Dennis's famous sense of humour would come in handy over the coming decades as he surmounted a wide range of obstacles in his football and media career.

The first one he had to overcome at the Bulldogs was the fact he hadn't played footy in two years.

His last game was round one in 1969, two full seasons before he arrived at the Western Oval.

That WAFL season opener against Claremont was a fateful one.

It was his future wife Velia's first game of footy.

"I did my hamstring before they bounced the ball," Cometti said.

"I sat Velia down on the bank before the game. She wasn't a footy fan but it was a beautiful day and it was Graham Moss's first game.

"I didn't play a second of the match, I was off before the first bounce with a recurrence of a hamstring injury.

"I listened to Polly's post-match address and then went back to Velia.

She looked up from the book she was reading and said "You played very well."

I thought this is the woman I'm going to marry. That sort of reception didn't last but it was a good start."

It was a shame for Velia because she had missed the best footy of Dennis's career at West Perth when he kicked 63 goals in 1968.

"In 68' we only lost three games but two of those were finals and we went out in straight sets," Cometti said.

"I got on radio in Perth that year and I was kicking a few goals so I was strutting around town don't worry about that. I was in grave danger of falling in love with myself. No I did fall in love with myself.

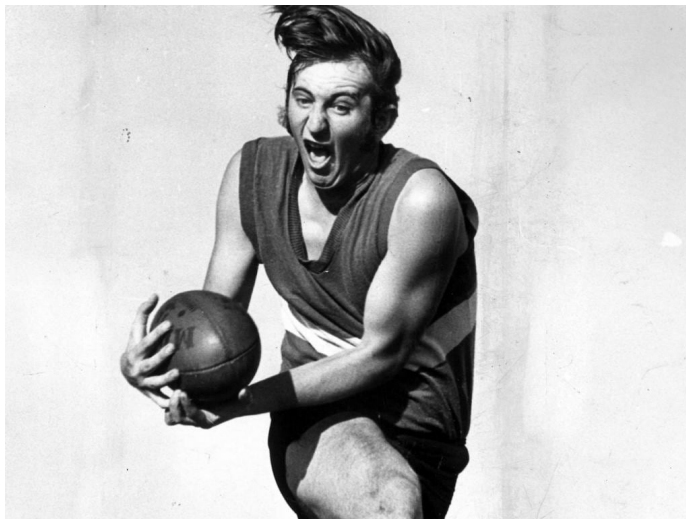
"But the Lord has a way of squaring things up and for me that was tearing my hamstring in the warm up in 69.'

So after missing the entire 69' and 70' seasons Dennis arrived at the Whitten Oval without the strut and a little bit underdone.

Surprisingly he was the subject of a clearance dispute.

"I didn't get cleared for four weeks," Cometti said.

"I don't know what that was about because I hadn't played in two years, but I started to strut again. I thought I was at the centre of a clearance wrangle, so much interest in such a small career."



Eventually the clearance came through and despite the lack of preparation Dennis was playing footy with Footscray.

"I played 5 games for the Bulldogs reserves including a couple of decent ones which surprised me," Cometti said.

"There was nothing to force my way into the seniors but a couple of decent ones, I played on the ball as a tallish ruck rover. Being a disc jockey and a footballer, they were contrasting careers I was trying to make work."

1971 was an interesting year for the Bulldogs, they missed the finals but won 11 games including one over eventual premiers Hawthorn.

"I always thought the playing talent was amazing and they were too good to not be contending," Cometti said.

"There was Bernie Quinlan, Gary Dempsey, David Thorpe, Laurie Sandilands, Stuart Magee, Dennis Collins, Gary Merrington and Barry Round . They had three Brownlow medallists!"

Sadly successes were rare for Footscray in the 1970s and Dennis's stint there would be short lived.

A change of format at 3DB and he was on his way back to Perth where his playing career in the WAFL soon finished but a very successful stint as a captain coach started.

He led Maddington to four consecutive grand finals including three consecutive premierships (1974, 1975 and 1976) in Perth's Sunday Football League, he also coached another at Kelmscott in 1979.

He went on to coach West Perth from 1982 to 1984 where he had three former Bulldogs, Phil Bradmore, Brian Perrin and Gordon Polson in his team. He had also played under another Bulldog Bob Spargo in his stint as Falcons coach from 1965 to 1967. Jeff Gieschen later coached there from 1992 to 1994 and Andrew Purser played there in 1988.

As Cometti maintained his involvement in footy his career in radio continued to flourish.

He broadcast his first game of footy alongside the great Ian Major in the 1971 clash between WA and Victoria at Subiaco Oval in Perth.

"I was working for 6KY and Ian Major called," Cometti said.

"I don't know where Jack Dyer was but I grabbed the chance. The longer it went the more he let me do. It was terrific and very generous of him."

His move to the ABC in 1972 saw him working on sports broadcasting exclusively.

The following year he called his first test match, at 23 he became the youngest in ABC history to do it. He worked at the cricket alongside the legendary Alan McGilvray for the next 13 years.

In 1986 he moved to the Seven Network where his reputation as a football caller continued to grow. He also anchored the Sport segment at Seven News in Perth throughout this time. When the broadcast rights went to Nine in 2002 so did he. At this stage his status as Australia's favourite caller were well and truly established.



He was back at Seven in 2007 where he continued his reign and called his last grand final for the network in 2016.

It was a remarkable twist of fate for Cometti who had listened to the Bulldogs in another grand final on his first trip across the country 46 years earlier.

“It was 1970 and Velia and I we were driving across the Nullarbor and there was nothing on the radio,” Cometti said.

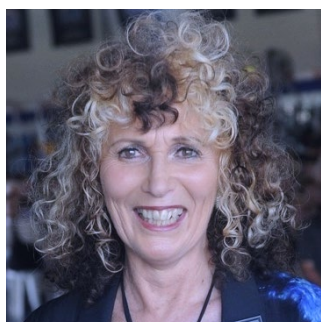
“Then suddenly out of the blue the night grand final came on, the Bulldogs won and I thought what a good omen.

“Then in 2016 my wife said wouldn’t it be strange if the Bulldogs won again.

“They did, of course and it was like bookends to my career.”

TRENT BARTLETT

Guernsey number 18; Western Bulldogs 2000–2002



By SCHARLAINE CAIRNS

Editor of “A History of the Footscray Football Club: Unleashed” and “The Bulldog Heritage Vol.1 & Vol.2 and long time Player Sponsor

TRENT Bartlett still describes himself as ‘a Deloraine boy’, despite living in Hobart for the past 17 years. His childhood was spent in Deloraine, barracking for the Deloraine Kangaroos and dreaming of playing football for them.

By his teenage years, Trent’s football dream had changed. He became the captain of the Tasmanian Teal Cup side (1992–93) and was drafted at the age of 16 by the Brisbane Bears (as they were then known).

Trent played 22 games for Brisbane Bears and another 17 for the Lions after Brisbane merged with Fitzroy – totalling 39 senior games (1995–1999). He had to sit out the 1997 season with an ankle injury that recurred throughout his career.

After the 1999 season, Trent was traded to the Western Bulldogs. Ironically, he had anticipated playing with fellow Taswegian Michael Martin, a team-mate from his Teal Cup



days in Tasmania, but Martin was traded to Brisbane for Trent and they virtually passed in the air heading for their new clubs.

Trent says, having gone to Brisbane as a 16 year old, he grew up and learnt a lot about life there, but he believes he learnt more about football in his three years and 42 senior games at the Bulldogs, probably due to his own maturity.

In 2002, Trent's final season, he played just six senior games for the Dogs before having surgery on a tear in his patellar tendon (knee) at the end of the season and heading back to Tasmania to settle in Hobart. He filled an administrative role for the 'Tassie Devils' and played 67 games for them in the VFL (2003–2006, with a year off in 2005). The Devils played finals in two of those years.



Trent's decision to move back to Tasmania from Melbourne was not easy, because his Tasmanian-born wife Phillippa's employment as a Melbourne lawyer demanded she remain in Melbourne until a year later. But Trent and Phillippa found ways to make that work.

Having reinjured his ankle in March 2007, Trent's last game of football was at the age of 31, for the Tasmanian representative side against Queensland at Aurora Stadium in June 2007.

He had previously played in representative teams for Queensland against Western Australia during his time at Brisbane, and for the Victorian VFL side against Western Australia while playing for the Tasmanian Devils.

Looking back Trent realised that he played finals at every level of football he had played and with every team of which he had been part.

Off the field, after his time as football manager and administrator for the 'Tassie Devils', Trent had continued with AFL Tasmania as finance and administration manager and then as business development/commercial manager. He took a redundancy package in 2012 but continued to assist in a voluntary capacity. Over his nine years employed by AFL Tasmania, Trent had been involved with what he describes as 'the whole kit and caboodle' – VFL operations, player contracts, player welfare, and more.

Women's football had started in Tasmania with a two-team competition in 2007. Trent admits that he had never seen a game of women's football when he had casually asked, on leaving a 2011 AFL Tasmania sponsorship meeting, who would be coaching the first Tasmanian women's side going to the national championships later that year. He was surprised when a few weeks later, he received a call asking if he would take on the role. In those championships, Trent coached the team in four games, including a win against the Northern Territory in the first game.

Trent's cousin and close friend Ian Perry had been assistant coach when Trent played for the Tassie Devils and had been Trent's assistant coach when he coached the Tasmanian women's representative teams, 2011–2013. As a result of that and the time Trent had spent coaching Under-18 boys' sides, Ian had urged Trent to take on a senior coaching role so he could be his assistant. In 2016, it appeared their dream of coaching a side together was to become a reality when Trent was appointed senior coach of the Clarence Football Club.



But, devastatingly for Trent and his family, Ian collapsed and died on the club's pre-season camp. It was extremely difficult for Trent to continue with the dream of being a senior coach without the man who had shared the dream and would have been his greatest support.

Trent played nine debutants in his first eight games as coach of Clarence, but he acknowledged that his circumstances no longer permitted him the time necessary to develop young players. He spent just six months in the role before tendering his resignation, which the committee accepted with regret.

But Trent's coaching involvement with women's football did continue, with him coaching the Tasmanian Under-18 women's team since 2016 and being assistant coach for the North Melbourne Tasmania Kangaroos women's side.

Trent is a keen golfer and has served as a board member and vice-captain of the Royal Hobart Golf Club but, with the arrival of son Ned six years ago, his role as a stay-at-home dad has restricted his golfing time. Happily, he knows it won't be too long before Ned, who already has his own undersized clubs, will be joining him on the course.

Looking back, Trent is extremely proud of the nine years he spent as a professional footballer and the contribution he has made to football in his home state.

In 2013 Trent became the 275th inductee into the Football Tasmania Hall of Fame, for his overall contribution to Australian Football.

In June 2020 Deloraine Football Club celebrated its 125th anniversary and Trent was there to celebrate the club whose proud tradition and strong community links gave him his love for the game and the ability to say 'Giddyay' to everyone, which is what Trent loves most about footy!

KEN DUFF

1961 Grand Final Side- Geurnsey number 16

By Jason Duff

Son and Treasurer of the WA Western Bulldogs Supporter Group

AT the culmination of Ken's football career with Footscray (1959:1965 - 67 Senior games) he focused on a family life. Ken was working at the Ammo factory in Gordon Street as a Technical Officer when he married Valerie Darmody in 1965 and in the ensuing years he focused on family endeavours. Post football Ken had morphed into being a dedicated cricket (life member of Altona Cricket Club) and hockey father and with three sons he was busy being taxi, coach and mentor. Along with Val they raised the boys to be quite accomplished sportsmen in and around Altona. With the boys enjoying success he had little time for much else. Craig (eldest son) and Jason played district cricket with Footscray and Darren and Jason both represented Australia in Field Hockey, Jason competing in the 2000 Sydney Olympics - a bronze medallist. A more leisurely life was sought in retirement moving to the stunning Bellarine Peninsula, currently residing in Portarlington.



Ken Duff in action with John Schultz against StKilda. Note. The number 50 jumper was probably a replacement jumper as Ken always wore 16.

GARY STEEL

Footscray 1972-73, 6 games, 3 goals

Gary studied Physical Education at FIT with Geoff Jennings, Terry Wheeler, Peter Welsh and Kelvin Templeton. He played the last 4 games in the firsts in 1973 and then left the club. We recently tracked him down in South Korea.



GREETINGS FROM SOUTH KOREA!

To all the bulldogs out there, I hope you are weathering the COVID-19 storm. I was in Australia for a friend's 70th birthday when it started to build. I've been fortunate because Jeju Island, South Korea, where I live, has not been subject to lock-down. We only had 15 cases and the population is over 800,000 plus holiday makers. I've been fortunate enough to be able to ride my bike every day and go to the gym.

When I finished playing with the Bulldogs back in 1973, I stopped playing football. That was it; well almost, I played a few games in Bacchus Marsh but my heart wasn't in it and I drifted away quickly. I lost interest in football but over the last 15 years, I have become more and more absorbed in the game. Of course, I was a total fan in 2016. I think the game is a fantastic spectacle and I am a little envious of the men and women who play today.

Since my football days, I have led mountaineering and trekking expeditions in the Indian Himalaya. I have sailed my sailboat in the Mediterranean for 3 months every year for 4 years. I miss that boat. I have lived in 7 countries and have travelled in many more. Life has been full but I want more.

Currently, my wife and I run a guesthouse called [Sunday Jeju](#) on [Jeju Island](#), South Korea. It's not so much a guesthouse as a two-bedroom house we rent to holidays makers. It is suitable for families and couples. It is on the ocean, in a fishing village with cafes and restaurants within walking distance. Also, I teach at a university in China although that is on hold at the moment with the COVID-19 situation.

Jeju island is a volcano and it is the tallest peak in South Korea. The island is about 80km long by 40km across. It snows in the winter and the sun shines strong in the summer, and it is fantastic for recreational pursuits.

1. Cycling. The traffic is light; the roads are smooth and the rides take in hills and the sea. I've got some great rides, short, medium and long.
2. Swimming. Last summer, I was swimming around a small off-shore island (2.5km) and also swimming from village to village.
3. Scuba diving, most famous for its colourful soft corals and drop-offs.
4. Korean food is fantastic and the island is famous for its sashimi and pork.
5. It is the only place in Korea where oranges are grown. In the autumn the cycling is particularly beautiful as the roads are lined with volcanic rock walls and the trees are loaded with oranges.

To any of ex-Bulldog who is looking for a holiday in an exotic part of the world, I can be contacted on dugonggary@gmail.com. Also, you can check out our guesthouse at **Sunday Jeju**.

Expedia: <https://www.expedia.com/Seogwipo-Hotels-Sunday-Jeju.h23316845.Hotel-Information>



MOVING ON



By Ross Abbey

Footscray 1971-1981, 124 games, 67 goals

This is an update on players who left the Bulldogs in 2014.

Jason Tutt – 2015-16 Carlton (14 games), 2017-18 De La Salle including 2017 Best & Fairest and twice represented the VAFA, 2019 Tatura. Jason retired after a very nasty facial injury. He is putting his VU Sports Science degree to good use working as a Players Liaison Manager with Football Federation Australia assisting young soccer players. Jason, fiancée Jess and their baby daughter Frankie live in Kingsville.



Christian Howard – Returned to Glenelg and played for several years before retiring with hip problems. Christian, partner Pru and one year old Freddie live 5 minutes from Glenelg beach. Christian works in Marketing at the Morphettville Racecourse.

Liam Jones – After a slow start with Carlton, was switched to defence and has become an outstanding key defender.

Adam Cooney – Played 31 games with Essendon to finish with 250 games. He played for Spotswood, works for SEN and recently relocated down Geelong way on a few acres.

Ryan Griffin – Retired after 55 games with GWS as one of the super players of his era winning the Western Bulldogs Best & Fairest in 2010 and 2013 and being club captain and All-Australian in 2013. He and Jasmine live in the bush in NSW with their young daughter, Poppy.

Shaun Higgins – Relatively injury free and well, Shaun has had an outstanding career with North Melbourne winning the Best & Fairest in 2017 and 2018 and being selected in the 2018 All-Australian side.

Mark Austin – 2015-16 played for Footscray in the VFL. Had 2017 off due to a knee injury. In 2018 he was a key member of Aberfeldie's EDFL Premiership side. In 2019 he injured his ACL in Round 1 and retired. Mark works in freight. He and his fiancée Deanna will soon move into their new home in Seddon.



Tom Young – Obtained a Graduate Certificate in Commerce and MBA at University of Sydney. He won the NEAFL 2016 Best & Fairest and the Sydney Uni Best & Fairest in 2016 and 2017. He returned to Melbourne to work in project management. He and Ayce Cordy were members of the University Blues 2019 A Grade Premiership. Tom is hoping to play with Uni Blues again this year and to coach Brighton Grammar's Year 8 team.

Tom Young and Ayce Cordy, February 2020

Tom Williams – Coached St Kevins Old Boys to the 2018 VAFA A Grade Premiership. Tom and Jayne returned to Brisbane where he works for Podium Financial Services.



70th BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS



Gary McGorlick (Brutus) – Western Bulldogs Team Manager 1990-2003 on turning 70. Celebrating with former club officials Clare Delaney and Narelle Lloyd.

Graeme Cook (1971-73) on turning 70, was presented with a water buffalo by his family!

Graeme is a plumber turned farmer at Athlone near Drouin. He enjoys competing with his stock horses in Campdrafting throughout southern Australia. Highlights of his overseas travels have been two weeks riding in the Carpathian mountains in Romania, and three more weeks in Western Mongolia.



1960 END OF SEASON TRIP TO THE GOLD COAST

Jim Gallagher took this photo as the group were boarding at Essendon airport.



From the top, and left to right : John Jillard, John Quarrel, Ian Bryant, Ron Howard, Keith Beamish, Bob Spargo, Charlie Zinnock, Ernie Thomlinson, Ray Whitzel, Fred Trainer, Jim Miller, Charlie Evans, Gus Smith, Max Oates, Trainer, Frank O'Brien, Bernie Lee, Dolly Aked, Bob Turner, Cameron McDonald, Official, Eddie Walsh, Barry Thornton, Ben Shorten, Graham Ion, Len Smith, Ray Walker, Ray Baxter, Ted Whitten, Bob Ware.

LOST DOGS

We would like to send the Newsletters to all Past Players and Officials.

Keeping the database current is an ongoing challenge as people change email addresses. If you know the email and or mobile of any of the following please forward them to ross.abbey30@gmail.com

Thank you to the following who helped us round up some of the "Lost Dogs": Clare Delaney, Emmett Dunne, Lee Perussich, Tony Hargreaves, Glenn Calvert, Brian Perrin, Cameron Wright, and Andrew Pollett.

CALLING:

*Andrew Wills
Angelo Petraglia
Cameron Wight
Daniel Hargrave
David Allday*

*Harry Skreja
Ian Williams
Ivan Rasmussen
Michael Kelly
Troy Maloney*

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MEMBERSHIP: AFLPA ALUMNI

Being a member of the AFLPA Alumni offers great advantages to past players including:

- ⇒ Up to \$500 refund on excess payments when in hospital if you are in a private Health Fund
- ⇒ Up to \$8000 refund for extra operation charges should you require surgery on body joints, including damaged teeth.
- ⇒ An opportunity to seek funds from the Geoff Pryor Fund or an Injury and Hardship fund in the event of suffering financial hardship.
- ⇒ Join by ringing Rebecca Gross at AFLPA on 8651 4351. The one off joining fee is \$50.