



WESTERN BULLDOGS PAST PLAYERS

Newsletter November 2020



The Two Dogs Podcast

Episode 8 Kevin Hillier interviews

Todd Curley and Scott West

<https://omny.fm/shows/the-two-dogs-podcast/twodogs-ep108>

Website

Our website now includes:

- previous editions of the newsletter
- podcasts
- Match Day information

The address is

www.westernbulldogs.com.au/pastplayers



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Zoom on Wednesday 11 November, starting at 7:00pm and concluding around 8:00pm. Financial Full Members will be emailed a link. **Click the link** to be admitted to the meeting.

Note: You do **not** need a Zoom account to attend.

For nomination to the committee or absentee voting, please email the following form/s (which can be downloaded from the www.westernbulldogs.com.au/pastplayers website), to Owen Madigan at belpas1@bigpond.com.

- **Nomination Form:** if you wish to be nominated for the committee
- **Proxy Form:** if you are unable to attend, but wish to vote

If you have any questions regarding the Annual General Meeting, contact one of the committee members listed at the end of this newsletter.

President's Report

2020

There have been highlights and disappointments for the WBPP in the last 12 months:

- **November 2019:** The End-of-year Function celebrated the contributions of Dale Morris and Dr Jake Landsberger
- **February 2020:** Recruits Dinner
- **March 2020:** The WBPP Season Launch Dinner was scheduled to include the 1985 List Reunion. Coach Michael Malthouse, captain Jim Edmond and Michael McLean were to be the special guests. Doug Hawkins, Stephen Macpherson, Rick Kennedy and Simon Beasley were to be part of the line-up. Neil Cordy, Robert Groenewegen, Allen Daniels and Michael McLean were travelling from interstate to attend. There was a great response, with many bookings – but, unfortunately, due to COVID 19 restrictions the event was cancelled just prior to Round 1.



November End-of-year Function



Photograph taken of guests at the Recruits Dinner, with the 2020 recruits in club polos (left to right) Louis Butler, Josh Bruce (centre back), Cody Weightman and Riley Garcia (together in the second row), and Alex Keath (back row, second from the right-hand end)

The Upside of the Health Crisis

The COVID health crisis proved to be an ideal opportunity for us to strengthen our group by:

- updating the contact database and increasing the number of contacts by 50%
- Improving communications through
 - monthly publication of the newsletter, with more feature articles
 - our website being updated, with more content and it being made easier to locate on the club website
 - Zoom meetings offering opportunities for former players to reconnect and including a very worthwhile presentation by the E.J. Whitten Foundation on Men's Health.

In 2021, we plan to create more opportunities to connect with the 25% of former players who live outside Victoria.

Thanks go to:

- Western Bulldogs staff members Linda West and Tom Nickson for providing support to the WBPP
- contributors of articles for the newsletter: Ross Brundrett, Neil Cordy, Scharlaine Cairns, Andrew Gigacz, Ron Coleman and Darren Arthur
- Kevin Hillier for hosting our end-of-year function and producing the *Two Dogs* podcasts
- our sponsors: Midway Concrete, Flash Fabrication, Xtreme Apparel and The Australian Luggage Co.
- everyone who has sent newsletter feedback, stories, photos and information regarding 'Lost Dogs'.

On behalf of Phil O'Keeffe, Owen Madigan, Andrew Howlett, Les Bartlett, Adam Contessa, Ilija Grgic, Graeme Joslin, Matthew Mansfield, Gary McGorlick and Jack Slattery, we look forward to seeing you in Season 2021.

Ross Abbey
President

Western Bulldogs Past Players Facebook

We will be using Facebook more to communicate information to former players and officials. It is a closed group. If you are not a member, please go to Western Bulldogs Past Players on Facebook and request to 'Join Group'.

'The Bald Eagle', Nathan Eagleton

Port Adelaide (1997–99); 56 games 45 goals
Western Bulldogs (2000–10); 221 games 186 goals

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.

He is a proud South Australian and one of the original members of Port Power who, this year, has keenly followed their progress in the final series, but don't for a moment think that Nathan Eagleton is anything other than 'a mad-keen Bulldog'.

'I took my boys to the grand final in 2016, that was special, and we go to Melbourne as a family at least once a year to support them . . . they're our team,' said Eagleton.

But there was a time when it didn't seem the union between the Bulldogs and Eagleton was going to stand the test of time. There was criticism right from the start when the Bulldogs traded favourite son Brett Montgomery and a second round draft pick for the 21-year-old Port Power young gun who had collapsed earlier in the 1999 season. He had been diagnosed with the

extremely rare Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome and had undergone an operation to correct what is known as the electrical pathway in the heart.

But coach Terry Wallace saw Eagleton as being capable of filling a void in his team – he was an outside runner who could deliver the ball precisely.

‘Doug Hawkins called me a 100 metre player – someone who could run 30 metres and then kick it 60 metres – which doesn’t quite add up to 100, but that’s Dougie for you,’ laughed Nathan.

Coach Terry Wallace also told Eagleton he believed he would be a 200 game player for the club but the weight of expectation, coupled with the team’s slide down the ladder, meant that Eagleton’s early years at the club didn’t see him at his best.

Wallace departed and new coach Peter Rohde tried to turn Eagleton into a tagger, to take on the game’s most destructive midfielders – such as Robert Harvey and Ben Cousins.



‘It got me thinking more about various aspects of the game and, when Rodney Eade arrived on the scene and went for a more attacking style, I think I had more awareness – and 2005 and 2006 were probably my best years,’ he said.

With his dashing runs and raking left-foot goals, he suddenly became a fan favourite, especially with his now bald head. Seemingly overnight he became ‘the Bald Eagle’, a nickname that didn’t worry him in the slightest.

‘I was only about 24 when I was watching a video review of a game, I think against the Swans, and the sun was shining on my receding hairline and that was it, I went home and shaved it off and I’ve been bald ever since.’

Pretty soon the player who Rohde had tried to turn into a tagger was being tagged himself. ‘Having been in that role I think helped me to combat those tactics, so that was helpful,’ he said.

They were exciting years, for the club and ‘the Eagle’. ‘We had some great players, like “Westie” and “Darce” and “Johnno”, but we just couldn’t get over a couple of teams in the finals,’ he remembers.

The 2010 preliminary final loss to St Kilda would be his final game for the club. ‘I decided some way out it would be my last year, but I kept it to myself,’ he said.



Nathan (left) with his three brothers

Another year might have seen Nathan reach 300 games but he has no regrets. ‘There were some young players coming along and I knew it was my time to go.’ After heading back to South Australia for a season at Norwood (coached at the time by former team mate Matthew Dent), he returned to his junior club, the delightfully named Happy Valley, where he teamed with his three brothers, Jonathan, Damien and Michael to finally snare his very first premiership.

Damien and Michael to finally snare his very first premiership.

These days, he keeps fit playing lawn tennis and, for the past four years, he has been head of football at Adelaide's Scotch College, which has produced a long line of AFL footballers including leading Crow best and fairest winner and All-Australian Rory Laird.

This turned the conversation to Nathan's boys: Kyan, 16; and Lukas, 13. The pair both play footy but there's no pressure on them to follow in their father's footsteps . . . for one thing, unlike dad they are both right-footers. 'I blame Angela (his wife) for that,' he joked.

Barry Standfield

Footscray (1990–96); 98 games; guernsey number 17, Adelaide (1997); 13 games

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 of ABC Grandstand's AFL broadcast team.

For a player whose AFL career was badly hampered by injuries Barry Standfield became an incredibly durable footballer.

His 11 seasons at the top level produced 111 games (98 Footscray/Western Bulldogs, 13 Adelaide Crows) and he played his last AFL game at just 27. But, by the time he hung up his boots for the last time in 2010, he was 40 and had played another 13 seasons, barely missing a game, mostly for his hometown of Fish Creek in South Gippsland.

Standfield's early injury woes came at a heavy price, a recurring Achilles problem cost him a spot in the Adelaide Crows first premiership in 1997.



The closest he had come to a flag at the Bulldogs was in 1992 when Geelong finished the Dogs' run in the preliminary final. But, within a year of leaving the club, he was within touching distance of a premiership medal at the Crows.

In his first game for Adelaide he booted five against the Brisbane Lions and, four weeks later, added another bag of five against the Bulldogs.

At that stage he was among the Coleman Medal leaders with 20 goals.

'My first 10 games were pretty good and then I hurt my other achilles again,' Standfield said. 'I missed a few weeks and then played hurt and lost form and confidence. But I got back by the end of the year and played for Sturt.'

Standfield was named as an emergency for all three of the Crows' finals in the lead-up to the 1997 grand final and, when Tony Modra was hurt in the preliminary final, he was in line for a berth in the grand final against St Kilda.

For Bulldogs past and present, 1997 was a year of heartbreak. Tony McGuinness was also on the wrong side of a Malcolm Blight judgement call at the start of the season when he was cut from the Adelaide list.

'All the media had me picked for the grand final, but "Blighty" [coach Malcolm Blight] went for one from left-field when he picked Aaron Keating,' Standfield said. 'He played six games for the

Crows and one was the grand final. It was one of those things, you can hang on to it or you can let it go – and I've let it go.'



Barry Standfield, Mark Hunter and Peter Foster

Then there was the preliminary final itself when the Crows left Dogs' fans in tears, sneaking into the grand final by just two points on the back of a dodgy call by a goal umpire. 'If you ask Libba about that shot, he was certain he kicked a goal,' Standfield said.

After '97 Standfield would not play another game in the AFL but his time in footy was far from over. In 1999 he returned to his native South Gippsland to captain/coach Leongatha.

The stint at the Parrots was followed by a very successful time at his hometown of Fish Creek where he won back-to-back flags in 2001 and 2002. He also claimed the 2002 best and fairest in the Alberton League. By this stage Barry was in his early thirties, but still a long way from done. He captain/coached Korumburra and then returned to Fish Creek for his swansong, at the age of 40.

'In my 30s I barely missed a game,' Standfield said. 'It was a far cry from my 20s – every player has injuries but I didn't have two-week ones. When I did things I did it in a big way. I ended up playing mostly as a ruck rover and moved to full forward at the end.'

Standfield's Fish Creek finish came a quarter of a century after recruiter Gary Merrington had first knocked on his door in 1985.

After arriving at Footscray in 1987 Standfield made steady improvement and over the next two years but faced an uncertain future at the end of 1989 when the club was in crisis. Terry Wheeler started as coach and picked him for round one against St Kilda at the Whitten Oval.



'"Plugger" [Tony Lockett] kicked 10 that day,' Standfield recalls. 'I was in the back pocket, I went across for a few minutes on "Plugger" but that was enough. A few weeks later I broke my leg which finished my season. It took a long time to recover. In 1991, I played round one and got dropped, then was injured for most of the year.'

The following year would be the start of a purple patch for Standfield who played for three years without injury, the highlight coming in '92 when the Dogs reached the preliminary final against Geelong.

'My first game was in the back pocket but basically I took over from Peter Foster at centre half - back when he finished up,' Standfield said.

'I look back at my time at the Bulldogs with great memories. It happened in a flash and you look back at what you did, the people you met and the fun times you had.'

Shannon Corcoran

**Footscray (1989–94); 23 senior games; guernsey numbers 41 (1989–90) and 11 (1991–94)
Brisbane Bears (1995–96); Sydney Swans (1997)**

By **SCHARLAINE CAIRNS**



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

Arriving at Footscray Football Club after the 1988 end-of-season draft, Shannon Corcoran had no idea what he would be in for late in 1989. He played Under-19s and Reserves football in his first year, before the post-season turmoil of Footscray's proposed merger with Fitzroy. Just 18 at the time, Shannon admits he was confused and 'wasn't sure what was going on'.

Growing up in Adelaide and having been at Footscray for such a short time before the Fightback, Shannon hadn't had a chance to form the strong attachment to the club felt by others around him – but the events of that Fightback in October 1989 meant he rapidly learnt about the club's proud history and what the Footscray Football Club meant to so many people. He quickly appreciated why the club needed to survive – and his connection was forged.

Other clubs had spoken to Shannon before he was drafted and he admits making phone calls to see if he had options should the merger go ahead. But, as he says, 'Thankfully the club was still alive and kicking in 1990 . . . and still is today!'



Shannon was at Footscray through the League's transition from VFL to AFL – interesting times! He played his first senior AFL game, against Essendon in Round 21 of 1990. It was an exciting time to be on the Bulldogs' list and he relishes memories of the players with whom he played and trained. That year also marked the beginning of the careers of Chris Grant and Leon Cameron, who had joined established players of the calibre of Doug Hawkins, Steve Macpherson, Peter Foster, Tony Liberatore, Scott Wynd and Tony McGuinness, with whom Shannon had played junior football at Glenelg and who was approaching the end of his five-year career at Footscray. During the years that followed, Rohan Smith, Luke Darcy, Brad Johnson and Scott West all made their senior debuts.

Shannon had completed his final year of high school at Westbourne Grammar during his first year with Footscray and had lived in a share-house with two players who were just 15 and 18 years old. He does say that, while he probably didn't appreciate it all as much as he should have at the time, in his formative years, aged 19 to 24, he essentially grew up at the Footscray Football Club, fortunate to be surrounded by good quality people – including club doctor Jake Landsberger and both his senior coaches Mick Malthouse and Terry Wheeler. He describes Wheeler as a 'fabulous' innovative coach who helped his players grow as people.

Injury interrupted Shannon's career more than once but, injury-free at the end of 1992, he played in all three finals, including the memorable semi-final win against St Kilda at Waverley, with Simon Atkins and Nigel Kellett being among influential team mates at that time.



Footscray.

In 1993–94, Shannon played alongside Luke Beveridge who, in 2016, was to become the Bulldogs second premierships coach. In fact, a number of Shannon's team mates from all three of his clubs became coaches after their retirement or extended their association with the game through media involvements.

In 1995, Shannon's move from Footscray to Brisbane to become a Bears' player was a culture shock. The Brisbane supporters were still learning the basics of the game and the club had only been playing at the Gabba since 1993. Among his team mates at Brisbane (1995–96) were Michael Voss, Roger Merrett and 'Magic' Michael McLean, with whom he was pleased to renew a friendship established in his first year at

Season 1996 was the last in which the Brisbane Bears and Fitzroy competed as separate clubs. But Shannon left before the merger. He arrived in Sydney following the Swans' 1996 grand final loss to North Melbourne, which had been the club's first grand final appearance since South Melbourne's 1945 loss. There was a sense the Swans were on the rise.

The move to Sydney involved another culture shock. The Swans were in the thick of a bustling city, with interesting people to meet and plenty to be involved in. Shannon lived with team mate Matthew Nicks who is now senior coach at Adelaide (making two current senior AFL coaches that were once his team mates).

Other team mates at the Swans (1997) included Paul Roos, Paul Kelly and Tony Lockett and the coach was Rodney Eade, later to be the Bulldogs' senior coach (2005–11).

Reflecting on his career, Shannon's overall impression is of the many incredibly good players and good quality, generous people with whom he came into contact. He considers himself fortunate to have played with so many champions. Including Liberatore and Wynd at Footscray, Shannon played with five Brownlow Medallists.

After football Shannon moved back to Adelaide. He had studied banking and finance while playing football, was careful with his own money and invested in the stock market, so had managed to put together enough to fund himself for two years. Self-sufficient, he offered to work for an investment company for nothing. After 8 months, the business owners decided to put him on the payroll. It was then that Shannon decided to get serious about a career in finance and went back to university to get a financial planning degree. Now he and his business partner Mark Draper own Gem Capital Financial Advice, with Shannon managing clients' direct equities and share portfolios.

Shannon has been married for 20 years to Stephanie and they have three sons: Sterling is 14 and loves Formula 1 racing, Crawford is 11 and a surfer, while Willoughby is 8 and has a passion for soccer. All three support Port Power (except when they play the Bulldogs).

Shannon still cherishes fond memories of great people at the Bulldogs and of a club that he considers to have been a great organisation. He says that 'connections and friendships are the greatest thing' he got from football and believes himself fortunate to have had the opportunity to experience what he did.

But there is more than fond memories. Shannon admits he has a genuine passion for the Bulldogs. Despite being based in Adelaide, he purchases a Western Bulldogs' membership every year as well as his past players' membership.

The 2016 Premiership brought home to Shannon that, when games were won in his playing days, he and his team mates sang a club song including the words 'Remember '54'! Even back then, that referred to a time more than 40 years before. Memories of success are not so distant now and Shannon appreciates the fact that the premiership also led him to renew contact with Bulldog team mates and share the joy of that long-awaited 'awesome' victory with them. He reconnected with close friends Peter Quill and Tony McGuinness among others, and he and Luke Darcy were sending texts to each other throughout the finals series. It just goes to show, the connection forged in 1989 remains and once a Bulldog always a Bulldog!

Where are they now?

Dennis Blair

1976–78, 41 games, guernsey number 16

By **ROSS ABBEY**



*Footscray 1971–1981, 124 games, 67 goals
President of the Western Bulldogs Past Players*

Dennis was recruited to Footscray from Subiaco in 1976. He played in the Subiaco team that won the drought-breaking 1973 WAFL grand final, in which he was awarded the Simpson Medal for best on ground. He played alongside captain/coach of that team, ex-St Kilda captain Ross Smith, as well as another ex-Saint, Brian Sierakowski, and future VFL players Mike Fitzpatrick (Carlton), Peter Featherby (Footscray) and Austin Robertson (South Melbourne), as well as Australian fast bowler Mick Malone.

After leaving the Bulldogs, Dennis spent more than 30 years involved in football on his return to Western Australia, continuing to play, then coaching, and later in administrative roles (see below).

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1979–80 | Subiaco (retiring after 146 games) |
| 1981 | Captain/coach of Boulder Football Club (in Kalgoorlie) |
| 1982–86 | Subiaco senior runner |
| 1985–95 | Kingsley Junior Football Club: coached from Under-10s to Under-17s and filled administrative roles, including that of president

Subiaco development coach |
| 1995–96 | Subiaco Reserves coach, with Peter Featherby his assistant |
| 1997–2013 | Subiaco board as Football Director during the club's golden years, with premierships in 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2008. |

Nowadays, Dennis watches his grandsons play the game.

Dennis pursued his career as a civil engineer alongside his involvement in football. While in Melbourne he worked for the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Work. He also held a senior role with Main Roads Western Australia in Kalgoorlie (where he had lived until the age of 13). While working for Main Roads, he was also captain/coach of the Boulder Football Club, Kalgoorlie.

Returning to Perth from Kalgoorlie in 1982, Dennis took up a role in local government for the City of Wanneroo and rose through the ranks to become the director of technical services, a position he held for 20 years before moving into a similar role at the City of Kalamunda for four years prior to his retirement in 2018.

Dennis was coaxed out of retirement by his son Paul, to look after tenders, plant and equipment in Paul's construction and landscaping business.

Quick Quiz for Dennis:

Toughest opponents?

'Hawthorn stars John Hendrie and Leigh Matthews; George Young (St Kilda) and Graham Moss (Essendon).'

Best Bulldogs?

'Gary Dempsey, Bernie Quinlan and Kelvin Templeton – exceptional players; Stephen Power and Terry Wheeler – liked their tough and hard approach; and Ian Dunstan – hardworking inside midfielder.'

What are your thoughts on the modern game? How would you change areas you don't like?

'I enjoy most aspects of the game. The skills under pressure are terrific. I think the appealing for free kicks for deliberate out of bounds and holding the ball are blights on the game. I would like to see the marking rule changed so that the ball has to travel 20 metres for a mark to be awarded.'

Friends from the Bulldogs

'My wife, Jenny, and I really enjoyed our time in Melbourne. We became close friends with Tony and Bernadette Capes and still visit Bernadette in Hepburn Springs each year.'

'Laurie Sandilands was the first person I met when I arrived at Tullamarine. He showed me around, introduced me to the staff and generally made me feel welcome. We then had a long counter lunch before Laurie said, "I guess we should head off to training." Training at Skinner Reserve started with 12 x 200 metre sprints. After the tenth 200 metres, I threw up. Not a good first impression at my new club!'

'Over the years I have lost touch with Laurie. I would love to catch up with him.'

'I am in regular contact with Ross Abbey whose son Nick moved to Perth for university and has settled here. When in Melbourne, it is great to catch up with Ian Morrison, Peter Welsh, Allan Stoneham, Steve Power and other ex-team mates.'



July 2008: Stephen Power, Allan Stoneham, Peter Welsh, Dennis Blair and Ross Abbey (Absent: Ian Morrison)

Two-way Traffic: St Kilda⇌Footscray/Bulldogs

By **ANDREW GIGACZ**



Contributing editor at australianfootball.com and Western Bulldogs Supporter

What do Koby Stevens and Norm Thompson have in common?

Even hardcore footy fans would be forgiven for answering that question with one in return – specifically, ‘Who is Norm Thompson?’ Norm Thompson is, in fact, one of the 45 VFL/AFL players to have made senior appearances for both the Bulldogs and St Kilda.

What links Thompson and Stevens to a greater degree is the fact that, before continuing their careers at St Kilda, they both played for the Dogs in premiership seasons without playing in the grand final.

Stevens was probably the unluckier of the two. While Thompson’s last appearance for Footscray was in Round 6 of the 1954 Premiership season, Stevens played 12 games in 2016, including the final home-and-away match, in which he collected 19 touches and laid five tackles, before sadly becoming one of several players who had to make way for the return from injury of Easton Wood, Jake Stringer, Jack Macrae and Tom Liberatore. Stevens watched on from the sidelines as the Dogs forged their way through September to claim a memorable flag.

Despite picking up Brownlow votes in three games in 2016, including three votes for best afield against Brisbane in Round 5, and two votes against Gold Coast as late as Round 17, Stevens’ Round 23 match was his last with the Dogs and he joined St Kilda the following season. Once he broke into the Saints’ senior side in Round 17, Stevens looked every inch a long-term League footballer, but his career was sadly cut short by the effects of concussion less than a year later.



Koby Stevens

Norm Thompson’s time in the red, white and black was even shorter than Stevens’. He played just six games for the Saints in 1956, the last being against Carlton in Round 14. That last match against the Blues provides an interesting footnote to his career. The game ended with both sides locked on a score of 66. Not only did the match end in a draw, but scores had also been tied at quarter time and three-quarter time.

Norm Thompson is, therefore, a member of a very exclusive club: players whose last VFL/AFL match was a draw.

None of the 45 players who have gone from Whitten Oval to St Kilda, or in the reverse direction, have found premiership success after making the move. In fact, none of them played in a premiership with their other club *before* the move either.

Having said that, there are still a number of ‘hooped Saints’ of prominence.



Barry Hall did play in a premiership, but his came between his stays at the Saints and Dogs. Having moved from St Kilda to Sydney in 2002, Hall captained the Swans to the 2005 flag before having a final two AFL seasons with the Bulldogs (2010–11). Hall did win a premiership with the Dogs too – but it was the pre-season one, in 2010.

Brian Wilson is another who found fame and success while between the two clubs. Wilson's VFL/AFL career was bookended by short stays at the Dogs and St Kilda. He came from Braybrook with Doug Hawkins and Robert Groenewegen in 1978, but failed to have the impact many thought he would.

After playing seven games in two seasons (1979–80), Wilson spent two years at North Melbourne (1980–81) before his career blossomed at his third club, Melbourne (1982–90). He won the Brownlow Medal in his first year at the Demons and, while he didn't reproduce his 1982 form consistently after winning the medal, he was a fine player in red and blue for 154 games before leaving to finish his career with St Kilda, playing seven games in 1991.

Nicky Winmar is one of the most interesting players on the Saints/Dogs list. The mere mention of his name conjures up images of sublime skill in St Kilda colours, not to mention his famous anti-racism stance at Victoria Park in 1993. Eleven of Nicky's 12 AFL seasons were with the Saints (1987–98).

Winmar was given his marching orders from Moorabbin at the end of 1998 as a result of off-field issues and, rather than retiring, he chose to play on, spending the 1999 season with the Western Bulldogs. Nicky didn't just quietly fade away in his final season. He played 21 matches in that one season with the Dogs, kicking 34 goals, including bags of three or more in six games.

The drought-breaker

For exactly 50 years, both St Kilda and the Bulldogs shared the unwanted tag of being single-premiership clubs – and the man who was to break that deadlock was one who had played at both clubs. Luke Beveridge started his career with Melbourne, where he played 42 games in four seasons (1989–92). He then spent three years with the Dogs (1993–95), making 31 appearances, before closing out his career with a further 45 games in four seasons with the Saints (1996–99).



Beveridge then joined the coaching brigade, having triple-premiership success in the VAFA prior to having assistant roles at Collingwood and Hawthorn. Beveridge was about to return to St Kilda as director of coaching when the Western Bulldogs sneaked in and appointed him as senior coach in late 2014. Less than two years later, 'Bevo' had taken the Bulldogs to a brilliant premiership.

Player moves since the 1970s

BULLDOGS TO SAINTS	BULLDOGS	GAMES	SAINTS	GAMES	OTHER CLUBS	GAMES
Luke Beveridge	1993–95	31	1996–99	45	Melbourne 1989–92	42
Shane Birss	2002–06	51	2007–08	20		
Anthony Darcy	1993–94	14	1996	3	Geelong 1992	1
Darren Davies	1988–90	37	1991	2		
Alister Ford	1981–85	21	1986–87	18		
Michael Ford	1985–91	96	1992	2		
Michael Frost	1992–93	13	1994	11		
Luke Penny	2000–02	35	2003–2005	45		
Stephen Powell	1997–99	30	2003–06	68	Melbourne 2000–02	44
Farren Ray	2004–08	75	2009–15	130	North Melbourne 2016	4
Alby Smedts	1976–79	51	1980–81	10		
Koby Stevens	2013–16	63	2017–18	17	West Coast 2010–12	11
Brian Wilson	1978–79	9	1991	7	North Melbourne 1980–81 Melbourne 1982–90	39 154

SAINTS TO BULLDOGS	SAINTS	GAMES	BULLDOGS	GAMES	OTHER CLUBS	GAMES
John Bennett	1980–83, 1985–86	35	1984	3		
Josh Bruce	2014–19	99	2020*	17*	GWS 2012–13	14
Dean Chiron	1983–84	19	1986	1	Melbourne 1987–89	17
Phil Cronan	1984–86	49	1987–88	26		
Max Crow	1983–85	40	1986	12	Essendon 1974–82	136
Bruce Duperouzel	1974–82	139	1983–84	25		
Con Gorozidis	1980–82	29	1983	5		
Barry Hall	1996–2001	88	2010–11	39	Sydney 2002–09	162
Mark Kellett	1979–82	55	1983–86	63	Sydney 1988–90	37
Russell Tweeddale	1977–79	43	1980	8		
Nicky Winmar	1987–98	230	1999	21		

* Still playing

CONGRATULATIONS



Bailey Williams

WBPP Most Improved Player

Ron McGowan, Graeme Joslin and Gordon Casey selected Bailey Williams as the winner of our Most Improved Player award in 2020. He played all 18 games as a rebounding defender this season, having played 41 games in his first four seasons.

Todd Curley

WB #858, 1996 – 2001

Coached South Fremantle to the 2020 WAFL Premiership



Happy 95th Birthday

Angus Abbey

WB #359, 78 games, 1949 – 1954

1954 Premiership player

Angus unfurling the 2016 Premiership flag (with Doug Hawkins) at the first home game of 2017

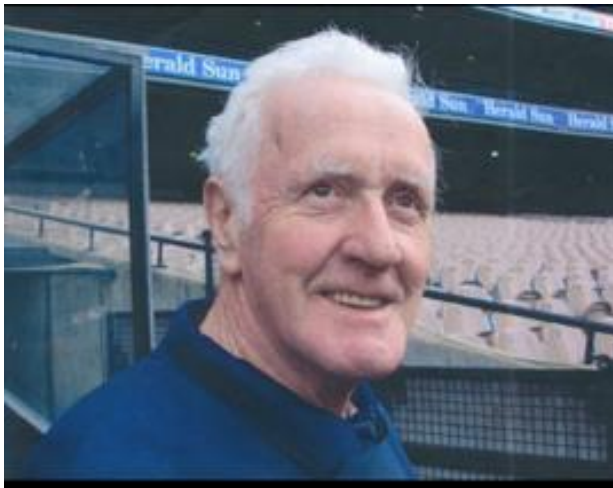
80th Birthday

Ron Blain

WB #501, 4 games, 1962 – 63



VALE



Frank Knight

Western Bulldogs Life Member and former trainer

Memory Lane

Laurie Sandilands

WB #548, 160 games, 1966 – 1977

Laurie lives on the Gold Coast. He recently MC'd the second Bulldogs' Zoom morning tea.

The poster on the left appeared in the ***Footscray Mail*** on 9 April 1975 and is reproduced here courtesy of Ron Coleman.



LOST DOGS

We would like to send our newsletter 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.

*Phil Cronan
Ian Williams
Lindsay Sneddon
Tony Fox
Dallas Patterson*

*Andrew Wills
Angelo Petraglia
Brennan Stack
David Allday
Colin Shaw*

*Michael Kelly
Michael Rolfe
Tony Campbell
Harry Skreja*

2020 Committee

President	Ross Abbey	0412 073 092
Vice President	Phil O'Keeffe	0402 007 270
Secretary	Owen Madigan	0408 105 151
Treasurer	Andrew Howlett	0418 510 635
Committee	Les Bartlett	0416 485 652
	Adam Contessa	0416 081 259
	Graeme Joslin	0412 771 235
	Matthew Mansfield	0439 336 939
	Gary McGorlick	0409 804 057
	Ilija Grgic	0413 677 736
	Jack Slattery	0425 746 148
ALFCPP Delegate		

Player Welfare

We strongly recommend past players join the AFLPA Alumni. Benefits include:

- 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.

The one-off joining fee is \$50. To join, contact Chris Smith at AFLPA on 0400 019 391 or csmith@aflplayers.com.au.



Tim Harrington (right) (WB #805, 1989–90) is AFL Players Football Operation Manager and Head of Alumni