



WESTERN BULLDOGS PAST PLAYERS

Newsletter June/July 2021



The Two Dogs Podcast

Episode 12, Kevin Hillier interviews

Steven Kretiuk and Matthew Croft

<https://omny.fm/shows/the-two-dogs-podcast/twodogs-ep203>

Website

Our website includes:

- previous editions of the newsletter
- podcasts
- match day information



The address is: www.westernbulldogs.com.au/pastplayers.

Season 2021 Ticketing

The Past Players have 150 Reserved Seats for each Western Bulldogs' home game at Marvel Stadium. The seats are in front of the Past Players' room (Danvers Room, Level 2, aisles 24–27, entry via Gate 6).

AFL matches in 2021 will be fully ticketed and fully digital. You will no longer be able to scan your physical membership card to gain entry into the stadium.

To obtain a reserve seat follow the process below:

- Prior to **each** home game, email your request to westernbulldogspastplayers@gmail.com
- Include your name, mobile number, email and membership barcode.
- The deadline for the emails is by **5:00pm Tuesday – the week of the game.**
- Tickets will be emailed out by Alison Manser WBFC Events Executive by the Thursday evening, directly to the individual who submitted the ticketing request.

- Tickets can simply be displayed on your smart phone to gain entry into the stadium and Past Players' room.
- You must be a member of the Western Bulldogs and also a member of the Past Players in order to gain game day entry.
- There is **no additional charge** for Past Player Reserved Seating.

For any membership queries, please email Linda West: linda.west@westernbulldogs.com.au.

Pre-match Functions

We plan to have a Pre-match Function before home games at Marvel Stadium. The Danvers Room will be open 90 minutes before the game. The Entertainment will start 60 minutes before the game. Food available for evening games: Chef served Hot Roast Beef with salad or on crusty roll with coleslaw and gravy. Vegetable pasties.

For information about interstate Functions go to the 2021 Events Calendar below and click on the links to view the flyers.

R3 v Gold Coast



Danny McGinlay interviewed Ed Richards (top left), Mark Komp (1981–82; bottom left) and Len Cumming (1967–69; above).

R8 v Carlton



Bailey Williams received his 2020 WBPPA Most Improved Award from selectors Gordon Casey (1969–75), Ron McGowan (1965–72) and Graeme Joslin (1969–71).



Kevin Hillier interviewed Phil O'Keeffe (1989) and Lynton Fitzpatrick (1987–89)

Distinguished onlookers Ray Walker (1959–65), Jack Slattery (1959–62), Owen Madigan (1961–62), Ian Bryant (1960–69), Graeme Cook (1966–70) and Len Cumming (1967–69).



R9 v Port Adelaide in Adelaide

The success of the night was summed up by the following message from Darren Grant, the Western Bulldogs Past Players South Australian Coordinator:

'A big thank-you to the SA boys in Tony McGuiness, Shannon Corcoran, Jordan McMahon, Nathan Eagleton, Gary Irvine, Ron Fraser and Ray Huppatz who were joined by Ross Abbey, Lynton Fitzpatrick, Paul O'Conner and Les Bartlett from Victoria and later . . . Tony Liberatore at the Adelaide Oval, [and] to all who made the first event very memorable. The venue was perfect at the Strathmore Hotel which made the event a success. (The owners are red hot Port supporters, so I was humble with our win, so we can get the venue next year.)



Ray Huppatz, Tony McGuiness, Shannon Corcoran, Les Bartlett, Darren Grant, Jordan McMahon, Lynton Fitzpatrick, Ross Abbey, Gary Irvine and Paul O'Connor (seated)

Well done Tony McGuiness on your presentation to Shannon [Corcoran], a worthy recipient of the Past Players recognition jumper. Thank you to Ross for organising tickets to the game . . . right amongst the action in the cheer squad (loved it). To all those who had prior engagements we look forward to giving you a little more notice and hopefully building on this year's numbers.

Without knowing what to expect, seeing different generations reminiscing over days gone past, meeting past players for the first time, was a big highlight of the night for me . . . capped off with a win and a few beers at the Festival Centre on the way home. Once again, thank you for making the first event a success.'



Darren Grant, Tony McGuiness and Shannon Corcoran

R10 v St Kilda

The Pre-match Function was a fun event.
Kevin Hillier interviewed Lin Jong and Barry Round.



Rick Kennedy presented Doug Hawkins with his Recognition Jumper.

Peter Welsh

165 Games (1968–78); 92 Goals; guernsey numbers 37 (1968) and 4 (1969–78)

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.

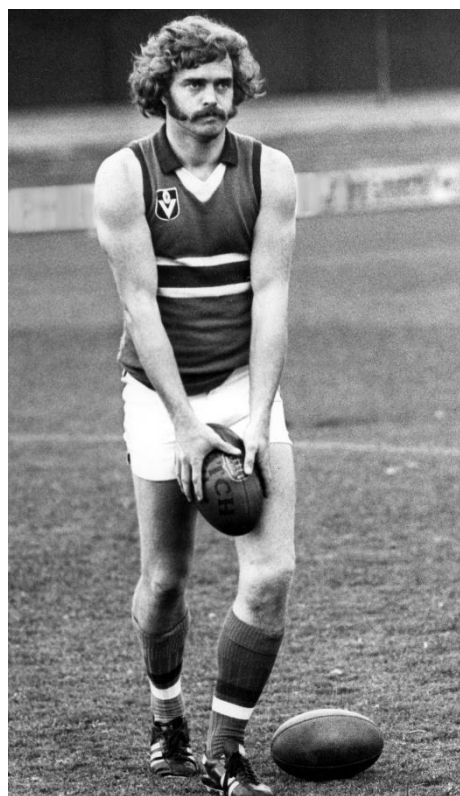
Peter Welsh must surely be unique among second generation Bulldogs because even though his father, Jack Welsh, played 29 games for the Bulldogs in the post-war years (1945–49), young Pete barracked for the Bombers growing up.

But we all know blood is thicker than water and there was something about the Western Oval (as it was known back then) that drew Peter in – as he explained: 'I remember looking at those honour boards at the club, reading the names of the best and fairest winners and those who had played 100 games and thinking to myself how good it would be to have your name up there.'

So, when the strapping youngster won the Footscray District League Under-16 best and fairest (playing for the now defunct F&Y Socials) he made the three kilometre trip from the family home in Yarraville to the home of the Bulldogs and found himself playing the first game of the 1968 season with the Footscray Under-19s.

Blessed with a good spring and decent pace for a big man, Welsh graduated to the Reserves after half a dozen games and, by the second half of the season, was lining up in the seniors before his seventeenth birthday. The AFL wouldn't allow it these days but, back then, it wasn't uncommon. 'Harry Skreja was

sixteen when he played his first game at Footscray and so was Alan Stoneham,' Welsh said.



But being a being a ruckman/forward Welsh was bound to be tested physically early on. 'I remember Ernie Hug (from Collingwood) was one bloke who had a go, but it wasn't too bad. John Schultz sort of took me under his wing and did most of the bullocking work while I stood in the pocket,' he said.

Pretty soon Welsh was a regular senior player and, because he was agile, found himself being swung from defence to attack as well as playing in the ruck.

He reached his pinnacle as a player in 1972 when new coach Bob Rose moved him to centre half-back and he won the club's best and fairest. 'What helped me that year was that I had to do my National Service in the army and that actually got me the fittest I had ever been,' W.

Playing against some of the greats of the game, such as 'Jezza' [Alex Jesaulenko] and Royce Hart, brought out the best in him. 'I remember reading in the newspaper how I nullified Hart when we played Richmond . . . of course it probably helped that he kicked 1 goal 8 behinds,' Welsh joked.

Just to underline his versatility, the following year Welsh was often switched forward and became a regular goalkicker. In 1974, he was second in the Dogs goalkicking, booting an impressive 44 goals from centre half-

forward, including five goals against Melbourne (all in the last quarter, with the first two being against his old team mate Garry Baker). Not a bad effort for a player who was maligned for much of his career for his awkward kicking style. 'A lot of people tried to teach me how to kick,' he said, 'but it stayed pretty much the same. I wasn't great at short passing but I usually kicked it pretty straight.'

It may surprise some to learn that the only player Welsh ever was reported for striking was fellow genial giant Ian 'Bluey' Hampshire, who was to later join the Bulldogs (first as a player and, later, coaching). 'I clocked Wayne Closter one day at Geelong and "Bluey" came in to remonstrate. We ended up both getting reported and I got four weeks for being the instigator. "Bluey" got two. We often reminded each other of that when he joined the Dogs – but he was a top bloke.'

In the end it was a string of serious knee injuries that cut short Welsh's career at the age of twenty-seven. 'I missed most of the 1975 season after doing my knee in the third round against Geelong and, when I got back, I found I had lost a lot of my spring and had probably slowed down a yard or two as well. So, when the second one [knee injury] came in 1978, I knew I was done,' he said.

His only regrets were not reaching the 200 game mark and a lack of team success, having lost both finals that he played in (1974 and 1976).



Margo and Peter Welsh prior to the unfurling of the 2016 Premiership Flag in April 2017

'But I made a lot of great mates along the way such as 'Roundy' (Barry Round) and Bernie Quinlan and Ian 'Sockeye' Salmon,' Welsh said.

His toughest opponents, he says, were Geelong high flyer Billy Ryan when he was in defence, and Carlton champion defender Geoff Southby. 'As for the blokes I played with, I'd say the most talented footballers were Kelvin Templeton and Gary Dempsey; they are the two who really stood out.'

After leaving the Dogs, Welsh briefly taught PE at Melton before becoming a partner in a successful container business for many years and taking early retirement a decade ago.

For a few years he served on the match committee and the board at the Dogs and he also was cajoled into coaching Bacchus Marsh for two seasons, but he has devoted much of his time in recent decades to local footy club Williamstown CYMs, serving in various guises including several years as president. 'The club has

come a long way over the years, both in on-field success and in the growth of the club . . . we didn't have Under-19s in the early days and now we have three Under-19 sides,' he says proudly.

Peter Welsh is what legendary St Kilda/Hawthorn coach Allan Jeans might have described as a 'solid citizen'. Someone who would always stand up to be counted. On that fateful October morning in 1989 when news of the proposed merger of the Bulldogs with Fitzroy filtered through, it was no surprise that one of the first past players to arrive at the Western Oval was Peter Welsh, to offer his support to the club that had his name on its honour boards. It's unassuming foot soldiers like Welsh that are the lifeblood of footy clubs across the land.

And his final words? 'I guess I would like to be remembered the way that Jack Dyer used to say . . . as a good ordinary player.'

Phil Bradmore

15 Games (1978–81); guernsey number 19

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.

More than forty years on, Phil Bradmore is still embarrassed by how he behaved when Footscray coach Billy Goggin came knocking on his door in 1978.

Phil had been training pre-season with Richmond and was living with none other than footy legend Kevin Sheedy. 'Sheeds' was in the twilight of his playing career but his personality was as big as ever. He'd invited Phil to live with him so he could get to know his new Richmond team mates and have a better feel for footy life in Melbourne. Phil had been staying with his grandmother Ruby in Ascot Vale but, as much as he loved his Nan, this offer was too good an opportunity to ignore.

Living with 'Sheeds' in Richmond was a 'money can't buy' experience. Unfortunately Tigers' coach Barry Richardson didn't share the same level of interest as 'Sheeds' in the strong marking forward from Sydney. So, when Footscray's Billy Goggin came calling and said he'd like to sign him up, Phil was caught in a dilemma. He wanted to go to the Bulldogs but didn't know how to break the news to Sheedy.

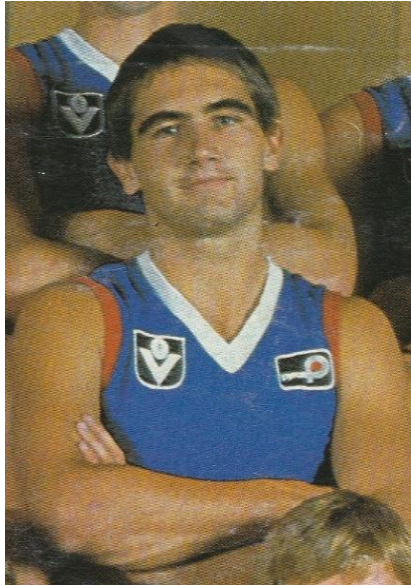
'I was an immature teenager and didn't know how to handle the situation,' Bradmore said. 'Instead of telling Kevin I was going to Footscray, I just bolted. I packed my bags that night and left at two o'clock in the morning and didn't say a thing.'

Phil felt uncomfortable about this behaviour but he felt a lot worse when he was picked to line up against Richmond in Round 11 at the MCG. '“Sheeds” ran through me the first chance he got,' Bradmore said. 'I've met him a number of times since and apologised for my behaviour, he's okay with it and has moved on, but it's something that I still struggle with.'

Being cleaned up by a future Hall of Famer was tough to deal with but the bigger problem Phil faced was breaking into the Bulldogs talented forward line. 'I needed a lot of injuries to get a game,' Bradmore said. 'As well as Kelvin Templeton up forward, we had Peter Welsh, Jim Edmond, Shane Loveless, Richard Murrie and Bruce Reid. I wasn't mature enough, physically or mentally, plus I was an awkward size. I wasn't big enough for a key position, but I was too slow to play on a flank or in the pocket.'

Phil's cause also wasn't helped shortly after his arrival at the Western Oval in 1978 by the departure of the man who had recruited him, Billy Goggin.

While footy was a bit of a struggle for Phil, one of his favourite memories is of when he celebrated his twenty-first birthday in 1980. 'I had two future Brownlow Medallists at my party,' he said. 'Kelvin Templeton won the Brownlow later that year and Brian Wilson won one when he moved to North Melbourne a few years after that.'



While some of his team mates were doing well, things weren't exactly going to plan for Phil. After fifteen senior games in four years it was time to move on. Mid-way through the 1981 season he followed a path that was familiar to a host of ex-Bulldogs and headed to West Perth.

Bob Spargo had started the trend in 1965 when he went to the Falcons as captain coach. Bradmore, Wayne Foreman, Greg Davis, Gordon Polson and Brian Perrin all followed, as did Jeff Gieschen who coached West Perth from 1992 to 1994.

Phil's coach at the Falcons, Graham Campbell, couldn't believe his eyes when Phil kicked 10 goals on debut.

'It was slightly bizarre because I barely knew any of my team mates,' Bradmore said. 'I spent most of the week looking at the team photo learning the player's names. For whatever reason, it didn't bother me

and it was the first time in my career where everything had really clicked,' Bradmore said.

Things went on clicking for Phil for another eight seasons at West Perth, where he played 130 games and won the best and fairest. He also represented Western Australia in their 1984 win over South Australia, playing alongside many of the West Coast Eagles foundation players, including John Worsfold and Chris Mainwaring.

He followed up that success representing NSW in the National Carnival in Adelaide in 1988.

'It was funny, I eventually got to be coached by a Richmond legend in Tommy Hafey all those years after I did a runner on them,' Bradmore said. 'It was fantastic to play for my home state and alongside players like Terry Daniher, Billy Brownless and Dennis Carroll.'

When Bradmore finished up at West Perth, in 1988, he moved back to Victoria with team mate and former Fitzroy player Noel Mugavin who was coaching South Warrnambool. As well as winning two premierships and the Hampden League best and fairest, he also picked up a teaching degree at Deakin University.

It was then onto Wentworth in NSW to start primary school teaching and to have a final fling with footy at Wentworth and then the Mildura Imps in the Sunraysia League. His three years in the bush enabled Bradmore to have the choice of where he would like to teach next. He picked the idyllic beachside hamlet of Iluka on the north coast of NSW where he has lived for 25 years.

He is now Principal of Iluka Public School and was last year awarded the town's Citizen of the Year. He is also an ambassador for the Sydney Swans.

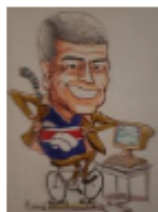
'This is Rugby League heartland here, but I managed to get some goalposts up at my school,' Bradmore said. 'It caused a bit of a stink among the locals but the posts are here to stay and they're getting used to it.'

Mark West:

A football gypsy who played in two prelim finals

16 games (1996–98); guernsey number 34

By MICHAEL STEVENS



After a short stint playing Under-19s and reserves with Footscray in the 1960s, Michael Stevens completed a cadetship at the Footscray Mail before starting a long career in sports journalism, which ended in 2007 after 27 years at the Herald Sun.

Some players go through their complete career without playing finals. Among the current crop of AFL players, former Bulldog Liam Jones, now with Carlton, has played 153 games to the end of Round 11 this year, without playing a final.

Others, like Brownlow Medallist Barry Round played 328 games in a celebrated career with the Bulldogs and Sydney between 1969 and 1985 and only played in two finals, without a win. Mark West falls into the same category as Barry Round but, extraordinarily, his two finals losses came in the 1997 and 1998 preliminary finals.

West played only a total of 16 games with the Bulldogs before his career was cut short by injury. A self-confessed 'football gypsy', West was originally from Darwin and came to the Bulldogs via a circuitous route, including playing two seasons with the Brisbane reserves in 1991 and 1992.

One of his earliest coaches, Billy Martin, thought West had what it took to play senior football and rang all the clubs in South Australia to see if they would give him an opportunity. South Adelaide, then coached by former Carlton and St Kilda star Ken Sheldon, took him on board and he played two Reserves games and then six for the seniors, which were enough for him to be nominated for the 1995 AFL draft.

The Bulldogs snagged West with pick No. 43, and he was already twenty-three when he made his AFL debut, wearing number 34, in the second round of the 1996 season, against North Melbourne.



Mark and Ana West.

But dogged by a shoulder injury, as he would be for the majority of his career, West managed only another three games late in his first season (Rounds 20, 21 and 22).

In 1997, by which time Terry Wallace had replaced Alan Joyce as coach, West's shoulder issues had begun (he had three reconstructions during his brief AFL career) and he didn't get another senior opportunity until Round 9. Games in Rounds 10 and 11 followed, but then he was again out of the senior side until Rounds 19 and 20.

West obviously showed enough to get a berth in the qualifying final against Sydney, a victory which propelled the Bulldogs into the preliminary final against Adelaide – and it was from that preliminary final that West's name was to be forever etched into Bulldog folklore. Playing in the centre after Jose Romero's shoulder didn't stand up, he had a career-best 24 disposals and kicked two goals. Despite this it was the goal he missed, when he received a handball inside 50 and had a running shot, which gets the most

publicity. Had he kicked that goal, the Bulldogs would have gone eight points up, with a grand final berth beckoning.

When asked to reflect on that missed goal opportunity, West is philosophical. 'In the heat of the game, it was probably one I should have kicked,' he said. 'But in hindsight, we should have had that game sewn up at half-time because we had completely dominated the first two quarters.'

In 1998, West was again coming back from shoulder surgery and didn't play his first game for the year until Round 20. Two more games followed before a qualifying win against West Coast and another shot for a grand final spot in a preliminary final – against Adelaide again, would you believe.

This time there would be no last quarter heroics with the Bulldogs well beaten, but West again was a fine contributor with 13 kicks, three marks, two handballs and a goal. 'That was a bitter-sweet result,' he said. 'One of my sons was born on the Friday and it was a toss-up whether to wet the baby's head or drown my sorrows, so I did both.'

In 1999, West had a Bristow procedure to repair his shoulder and stabilise it, which meant another twelve months on the sidelines. Then, in 2000, he found himself in the Reserves playing at Windy Hill when he slipped in the mud and injured himself again. He says that after that, 'I lost my drive to keep going.'

He and his Portuguese wife, Ana, returned to Darwin, where for the past 18 years they have been house parents for Indigenous children at Mararra Christian College. 'For 40 weeks of the year we have helped raise the next generation and, only in the past four years, also took on girls. It has been very rewarding,' he said.

And what of those dreadlocks – his signature trademark? I shaved them off one day and, when I went to pick up the boys from school, they walked right past me because they didn't recognise me,' he laughed.

2021 Events Calendar

Saturday 5 June, v Fremantle (Prior to the match on Sunday 6 June)	6.00pm	Pre-match Function at the Inglewood Hotel (Back Bar Room) 803 Beaufort Street, Inglewood. Contact Darren Joseph: 0417775954 Click here for Flyer
Weekend of 17 July, v Gold Coast	TBC	Pre-match Function at Emerald Golf Club, 3 Alabaster Drive, Carrara. MC: Barry Round Block of match seats available. Contact Neil Cordy: 0419116315 or Geoff Jennings: 0408770659 Click here for Flyer
Weekend of 14 August, v Hawthorn in Launceston	TBC	Corporate Box at York Park Launceston including food, drinks and seat. Accommodation option available. Contact Gary McGorlick: 0409804057 Click here for Flyer
Sunday 7 November	11:00am	AGM at Barkers Café
	12:00noon	End of Year Lunch at Barkers Café
Sunday 14 November	9:30am	AFLCPP Bowls Day at Altona Bowls Club Contact Len Cumming: 0418 374 079

Congratulations

50th Birthday



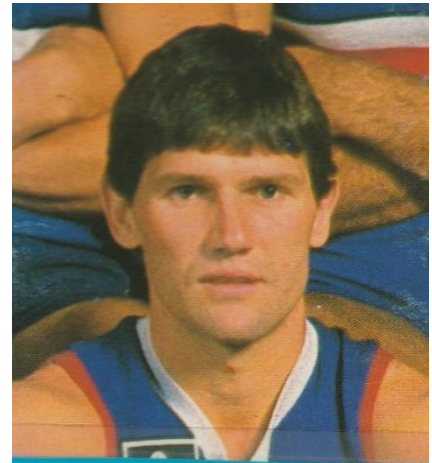
Jason Watts (left)

WB #840, 57 games (1994–98)

60th Birthday

Peter Baxter (right)

WB #758, 23 games (1985–88)



60th Birthday

Terry De Koning

WB #700, 31 games (1980–82)

Terry, wife Jackie and son Tom who plays for Carlton. Another of their ten children, Sam, plays for Geelong.



Graeme Joslin, Peter Welsh, Ron McGowan and Bernie Quinlan at the 2019 Recruits Dinner

70th Birthday

Peter Welsh

WB #563, 165 games, 92 goals (1968–78)

Bernie Quinlan

WB #580, 177 games, 241 goals (1969–77)

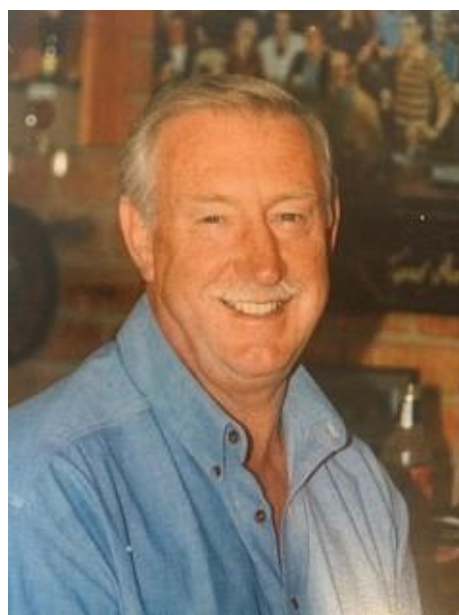
[also 1981 Brownlow Medal for Fitzroy:
241 games, 576 goals (1978-86)]

Vale: Ken Greenwood

WB #553, 73 games (1967–72) [also Carlton 55 games (1962–66)]

Ken Greenwood, who died on 18 April, after a long illness, had an auspicious debut season at Footscray, finishing runner-up to John Jillard in the 1967 best and fairest.

A strongly-built ruckman (188 cm and 96 kg), Greenwood had been an understudy to Carlton powerhouse John Nicholls in his 55 games with the Blues after being recruited from South Bendigo in 1962.



He had also had an auspicious debut season with Carlton, including a preliminary final win against Geelong and a grand final loss to Essendon among his eight games in 1962.

Greenwood's coaches at Footscray included Bob Rose and club stalwarts Charlie Sutton and Ted Whitten. He had fond memories of his six years, 73 day games and nine night games (including the 1967 night premiership) with Footscray between 1967 and 1972.

Playing with the Dogs, he had followed in the footsteps of his father, Richard, who had played 11 games for the Bulldogs (1929–30).

Writing in *The Bulldog Heritage: historical player register* (volume 1), Greenwood said he knew his time was up at the Kennel with the arrival of Bob Rose, whose emphasis was on youth to move the club forward. He knew the fact he had turned 30 played a part.

'I played my last game for the Bulldogs against Essendon at Windy Hill in 1972,' he wrote. 'With the game won and only 10 minutes to go, flying for a mark, I ruptured the cruciate ligament in my right knee, and that was it.'

by Michael Steven

Who did Brian Cordy bump into in Broome?

When Zaine Cordy's father Brian recently lobbed at a Broome pub a lone patron at a telly beaming the Bulldogs-Carlton match – Patrick Cripp's old man Brad as it happened.

Together over a few beers, the Dads watch the boys go at it.

Pics courtesy Zaine's uncle Neil.



LOSTDOGS

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 address and/or mobile number of any of the following, please forward them to ross.abbey30@gmail.com.

*David Allday
Michael Rolfe
Brennan Stack*

*Michael Kelly
Harry Skreja
Andrew Wills*

*Angelo Petraglia
Lindsay Sneddon*

2021 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
	Gary McGorlick	0409 804 057
	Ilija Grgic	0413 677 736
AFLCPP Delegate	Jack Slattery	0425 746 148

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 (WB #805, 1989–90), pictured with Mitch Hannan at the 2021 Recruits Dinner. is the AFL Players' Association Football Operations Manager and Head of Alumni.



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'.

Western Bulldogs Community Foundation

Benefits of joining Sons of the West

- Learn about health, with experts covering topics including nutrition, mental health, alcohol, gambling, skin cancer, bowel cancer, and prostate and testicular cancer.
- Get active with a range of exercises to suit everyone's fitness levels.
- Get involved with a community of great people and meet other locals.
- Plenty of support along the way.
- More accessible than ever, with options to complete the 2021 program online.
- For more information, go to:
<https://www.westernbulldogs.com.au/foundation/programs/sons-of-the-west>