

**Under 19 Winning Grand Finals
1981 Under 19 Premierships**



STANDING: D.Farrow [Physio] M.Finlay, P.Naylen, C.Davies, A.Welsh, G.Handberg, L.McMahon, C.Stevens,
G.Abbot, H.Louis [Runner]
MIDDLE ROW: D.Cochrane, P.Stewart, C.James, G.Templeton [Pres.], S.Redman [Capt], M.Louis [Coach], P.Goetz [V.C], P.Jewell.
FRONT ROW: R.Fernando, P.Harris, G.Hiller, S.Bennett, I.Roper, S.Gibson, [Absent : T.Grant.]
O.B.G.F.C 25 - 20 - 170 def Clayton A.F.C 8 - 10 - 58

Goal kickers: P. Goetz (9), C. Stevens (8), T. Grant (3),
D. Cochrane (2), G. Hiller (1), A. Welch (1)
L. McMahon (1).

1981 VAFA Leading Goalkickers

JUNIOR SECTION 3		
Goetz, Old Brighton Gr.		71
M Pascuzzi, Clayton	(1)	54
Stevens, Old Brighton Gr.		46
Eyers, Old Camberwell Gr.	(1)	44
Cochran, Old Brighton Gr.		41
Powell, Old Camberwell Gr.	(1)	38
Traynor, West Brunswick		37

per 12-13, 1981 Page 7

*1981 President Graeme Templeton reports
on the Grand Final win by the Under 19s*

The Under-Nineteens lost only two matches during the Home and Away Series and finished on top of the ladder. After defeating their main rival for the Flag Old Camberwell in the second Semi-Final, they earned the weeks' rest. In the Grand Final we played Clayton and after a fairly even first fifteen minutes we completely outplayed them for the remainder of the game and won by one hundred and twelve points. To all the Under-nineteen players who played during the year and especially to those who participated in the finals, we offer our congratulations on a great season. For excellent personal efforts special mention to Peter Goetz, who as well as being the Best and Fairest was the leading goal kicker in the Section with eighty goals, Chris James runner-up in the Best and Fairest after missing six games, Steve Redmain the Captain, third in both the Club and Section Best and Fairest and last but not least, Tony Grant who was second best in the Section. Also many thanks to Mark Louis for his enthusiastic efforts as Coach.



1981 Under 19 Grand Final Player List

No.	Name	13	Cochran, D.
1	Raper, I.	14	Harris, P.
2	Bennett, S.	15	Abbott, G.
3	Gibson, S.	16	Davies, C.
4	James, C.	17	Stevens, C.
5	Hiller, G.	18	Redman, S. (c)
6	Fernando, R.	19	Goetz, P. (vc)
8	McMahon, L.	20	Findlay, M.
9	Handberg, G.	21	Venner, D.
10	Jewell, P.	23	Neylan, P.
11	Hall, M.	24	Welsh, A.
12	Stewart, P.	25	Grant, T.
		26	Spokes, R.

1981 VAFA Best and Fairest Winners

JUNIOR SECTION 3		
1.	A. Wilkie, West Brunswick	19
2.	T. Grant, Old Brighton Gram.	15
3.	D. Gard, Parkside	14
	S. Redman, Old Brighton Gram.	14

Page 4 **THE AMATEUR FOOTBALLER—September 12-13, 1981**

1996 Premiership



Old Brighton wins U19 Blue Premiership - Well done!

Coach:**Leigh Bowes****Assistant Coach:****Sam Williams**

1. S. Gadsden
3. A. Birch
11. D. Paterson (Capt)
12. A. Alderton
15. F. Carr
20. A. McNamee
24. W. Clarke
41. J. Murchie
43. L. Marget
44. A. Brown (VC)
45. C. Rogers
46. A. Price
47. P. Williams
48. C. McGuigan
49. M. Raju
50. N. Bulfin
51. D. Strachan
52. M. Balmer
53. A. Remfry

54. X. Johnson
55. M. Dennis
56. S. Toms
57. A. Liptrot
58. D. Watson
59. C. McPherson
60. D. Crewdson
61. D. Calman
62. A. Lewis (DVC)
63. B. Wilson
64. R. Martin
65. R. Kent
66. B. Parnham
67. D. Taylor
68. M. Jackson
69. J. Stewart
70. B. Medley
71. G. Rhodes
72. L. Salter
73. N. Remfry
74. B. Logan
75. S. Alderson
76. A. Chapponel

If you were to tell me that **Old Brighton** would boot (6) first 1/4 goals and hold **Mazenod** to (1) in the first term, and then only score (2) more goals for the game, and then ask me to pick a winner I would have to lean towards the 'Noddors. Well in hindsight now that is exactly what happened except that the 'Noddors were unable to overhaul the 'Tonners tear-away start. A brilliant 1st 1/4 saw the 'Tonners, through **Dennis, Wilson** and **Alderson** set up the win, but the 'Noddors were never to be denied. Down by (31) points at the first break they chipped away and at the main break had had more scoring shots than the 'Tonners but had been unable to capitalise on the strong on-ball work of **Hemmerich, Bailey** and **Knott**. The "Premiership 1/4" again was a joy to watch both sides defending stoutly. **Paolucci** fantastic for the 'Noddors, with **Gadsden, Raju, Price** and **Rhodes** dangerous whether on the ball or up forward. Had the 'Noddors done enough? They had held the

Tonnors to (2) goals while adding one themselves, they were (4) goals down kicking with the aid of the breeze, but had they spent their tickets ? No way, they gave the Tonnors nothing adding (2) goals themselves while holding Old Brighton goalless (again). However (2) goals was not to be enough with Tonnors of the calibre of **Price, McGuigan** and **Parnham** prominent when it counted, in the finish the Noddors gallant charge came to an end with them trailing by a mere (10) points. To **Kevin King** and all of the **Mazenod players and officials**, you did yourselves proud. A fine work ethic, a committed showing and fine sportsmanship throughout made the game a joy to watch. Unfortunately you were not good enough on the day but you lost no supporters last week with a fantastic fighting final 3/4's of football. To **Leigh Bowes, Sam Williams** and **Messrs. Paterson, Brown** and **Lewis** congratulations, a mighty team effort, thoroughly deserved on the day. The desperation shown at the finish was a pleasure to watch, well done.

UNDER 19 BLUE 7.9.96

MAZENOD OC	1.0	3.6	4.6	6.9.45
OLD BRIGHTON	6.1	6.1	8.6	8.7.55
Mazenod OC Ward 2, Clifford, Moore, Knott, Quinn. Best: Clifford, Paolucci, Dunne, Bailey, Knott, Hemmerich.				
Old Brighton Raju, G. Rhodes, Price, Brown, Gadsden, Calman. Best: Dennis, Wilson, Gadsden, Raju, Lewis, Alderson.				

UNDER-19 (2) BLUE

MAZENOD OC	16	2	0	1564	995	157.19	6
OLD BRIGHTON	15	3	0	1775	1018	174.36	6
BEAUMARIS A F C	14	4	0	2026	713	284.15	5
OLD HAILEYBURY	14	4	0	1759	903	194.80	5
HAMPTON ROVERS	9	9	0	1034	1496	69.12	3
ORMOND	7	11	0	1242	1671	74.33	2
CAULFIELD GRAMMAR	7	11	0	1090	1634	66.71	2
MONASH BLUES	4	14	0	903	1838	49.13	16
ST KILDA STH CAULFIELD	4	14	0	889	2081	42.72	16

2002 Premiers



BACK ROW: Damien Hughes, Tim Marshall, Phil Smith, James Hogarth, Andrew Clark, Tom Mentiplay, Scott Eastgate, Luke Peel, Andrew Parkes.
 STANDING: James Salem, Sarah Milne, Blair Mason, Jack McCowan, Monty Franklin, Brenton Finlayson, Robert Fisher, Daniel Meade, Chris Tootell, Trevor Gibson, Scott Jackson, Big Al (Club Manager), Ryan Hand(Runner), Martin Lynch (Team Manager)
 SEATED: Ben Furzer, Brent Aburrow, Conrad Adamis, Andre Salem, Hayden Bickett (Ass. Coach), Richard O'Bea (Coach), John Trotter (Pres William Leaf, Jon Lynch, Blair Richardson, Andrew Paroissien.
 FRONT ROW: Ryan Joseph, Matt Ryan, Lachie Ross, John Edge, Ben Gadsden, Eddie McCowan, Scott Duncan, Matt Lloyd, Luke Dale



Coach: Richard Obee		18	A. Salem (C) ..
1	L. Ross	19	J. McCowan ..
2	N. Gamble (VC) ...	20	W. Leaf (VC) ..
3	S. Jackson	21	D. Hughes ...
4	M. Franklin	22	B. Mason
5	M. Ryan	23	B. Aburrow ...
6	L. Dale	24	T. Mentiplay ...
7	D. Meade	25	P. Smith
8	J. Salem	26	B. Finlayson ..
9	A. Clarke	28	L. Peel
10	J. Hogarth	29	B. Richardson .
11	C. Adamis (VC)	31	A. Paroissien ..
12	S. Eastgate	32	J. Edge
13	A Parkes	33	R. Joseph
14	S. Duncan	34	T. Gibson
15	B. Gadsden	35	J. Lynch
16	C. Tootell	44	R. Fisher
17	B. Furzer		

2002 Under 19 Grand Final v St.Kevins				
OBGFC	4.5	6.5	14.9	19.14.128
St.Kevins	3.0	6.6	7.6	8.11.59
 Goals: A. Salem 8, Lynch 2, Furzer 2, Gamble, Ryan, Leaf, Hughes, Mentiplay, Smith, Edge				
Best: Smith, A. Salem, Furzer, McCowan, Gamble, Hughes.				
 OBGFC finished third (12-6) and defeated Marcellin (1st Semi) and Old Xaverians (Prelim) to make the Grand Final against St.Kevins (13-5) who had finished on top.				

DID YOU KNOW?

In the 1958 Amateur Footballer, it was recorded that ‘with an exceptionally young side Old Brighton Grammarians are proud of their achievement in reaching the final four in their second year in the amateurs’.

2012 Under 19 Grand Final



Back Row (L to R) Alexander Dick, Al Taylor, Lachie Nicholls, Jordan Portelli, William Newman, Edward Stott, Naughton, Riley Cummin

Middle Row (L to R) Ash Cheesman (Runner), Stuart Hoy, Charlie Davidson, Nick Schaffer, Duncan Mackenzie, Tom Priestley, Jock Kumm, Al Pascoe, Ben Austen, Chris Walton

Front (L to R) Ryan Joseph (Assistant Coach), James Nearchou, Spencer Timms, Michael Karayannis, Adam Pirrie (Coach), Tom Mariani (Captain), Jarrod Sargent, Cam Rosengarden, Michael Waite

Pure Magic!

Old Brighton Grammarians Under 19s today won the Section 2 Premiership at Central Park, Waverley, beating Caulfield Grammarians by an astonishing 132 points. It was a performance that left their coach, Adam Pirrie, all but speechless and the rest of us thoroughly delighted. It was as fine a display as any Tonner team has produced, and eclipsed the previous OBGFC record Grand Final winning margin, set by our 1981 Under 19 Section 3 side, which beat Clayton by 112 points. Every player dominated his opponent and the level of skill used to decimate the Fields was sustained and relentless. The Tonners' intensity denied Caulfield first use of the ball all day. Pirrie congratulated his players at the first break and urged them to break their opponents in the second quarter. At half-time, with a lead of twelve goals, he again praised them for doing just that, announcing that the game was over, but imploring them not to relax their efforts. At the final break he was speechless, simply telling them to enjoy their final thirty minutes. They added another nine goals! Jordan Pascoe was awarded the medal for best player on the ground. It was a worthy decision, but the medal would have hung comfortably around the necks of half a dozen team-mates, so impressively did they all perform. Caulfield can obviously

play. They had won their two lead-up finals by solid margins, but today they were simply blown away.

The Tonners started strongly with early goals from Charlie King, Michael Tragear and Hamish Graham. The ball was whipped forward at great speed and with unerring accuracy and these three tall forwards had the Fields struggling. Jordan and Marshall Pascoe cut them to pieces in the mid-field, Nick Paine sliced the hapless Fields apart and had them chasing their tails, and when Levi Otto slotted a lovely ripe banana at top pace, the signs were ominous. When Caulfield went forward, Tom Hamilton turned them back with fine interceptions and well-judged marks. Dylan Verney, who had caught our eyes back in March when he played well against Old Carey at Murchison, has had an excellent season, and captained the side from the heart of the defence. He was strong, calm and in the final term drove home a magnificent long goal. Chris Hardgrave and Rob Naughton, who had a super game, provided continual drive, used the ball well and ran hard all day.

The second term was awesome. With Will Johnston dominating the ruck, the Tonners swarmed and spread everywhere, running through the lines and providing a feeding frenzy for Charlie King, Thomas Jones, and Michael Tragear. Across the centre, Seb Zaia, and Luke Healy won plenty of the ball and distributed it beautifully. Quick hands, hard running and wise decisions placed the ball in dangerous places. Matt Delaney and Henry Carlson also leapt onto the scoresheet as the Tonners raced away to a twelve goal lead with vintage obliteration football. The coach must have been pleased with their erection work as the goals were fired in from all directions. When Will Johnston had a spell, Hayden Johnson stepped in. He kept control in the centre, pushed back to help his defence as Will had done, and later in the game marked and goaled from the square. The young man had cheerfully helped out in March, waving the flags for his team at a Scoresby practice match when he was recovering from illness. I was not surprised to see his enthusiastic contribution today.

To their credit, Caulfield kept trying, but the second half brought little relief. They stemmed the flow slightly in the third term, but only because the 'Tonners' accuracy up forward momentarily deserted them. The last quarter was brutal. The Beach Boys banged on nine goals and were clearly following their coach's brief orders. Nick Hellyer goaled, Jack Knight, busy all day, slipped behind the defence to add another, then Seb Zaia capped off a fine game with a long bomb. I can recall only the massacre at Old Mentonians a dozen years ago when the Seniors booted more than thirty goals, as a display that could compare with this outstanding win. To produce it in a Grand Final will give the lads a cherished sense of achievement and they deserve our heartiest congratulations.

I wonder, when in a few months the coaches are preparing our players for 2013, will these youngsters realise the chance they have to use today as the start of something far greater and fulfilling. They have so much talent and they are the future of our Club. Two years ago, Adam's team also took a premiership from our great rivals. Benny Austen, Riley Cummin, Tom Mariani, and Jordan Portelli have enriched our senior team and are loving their footy. But so many of their premiership team-mates have disappeared; some have never played for the Club again. Caulfield's beaten youngsters helped their club to last year's Premier B flag and a season in

Premier division. They will be back in Premier B in 2013. We need to be ready to beat them. We need every member of today's Under 19 side to realise the chance they have to create their own history as senior players in the coming seasons. Their challenge is, like all current senior players, to bring today's determination to a committed pre-season. They need to bring with them, their families and friends, to stay involved, to make us stronger, to enjoy the fun they will have in striving to make today's superb effort, a springboard for something even finer. It was a wonderful victory, and I fervently hope to enjoy watching every single one of them playing next year.

OLD BRIGHTON GRAMMARIANS: 6.1 14.7 18.12 27.16.178

CAULFIELD GRAMMARIANS: 1.2 3.3 3.5 6.10.46

Goals: King 5, Tregear 4, Graham 3, Otto 3, J. Pascoe 3, Knight 2, M. Pascoe 2, Jones 2, Hellyer 2, Johnson.

Best: J. Pascoe, M. Pascoe, Hamilton, Naughton, Johnston, Healy, Zaia, Verney, King, Jones, Paine, Johnson, Graham, Otto, Hardgrave, Knight, Carlson, Delaney, Hellyer, Tregear, Robinson, Kiley, Moffitt, Sands.

Losing Grand Finals

1988 Under 19 Runners Up



STANDING: Hilton Swan, Andrew Withal, Andrew Losschilder, Simon Leversha, Brett Stevenson, Luke Fildes, Michael Joynson, Ben Broome, Simon Duggan, James Templeton,
 MIDDLE ROW: Richard Phillips, Scott Hanaford, James Styles [V.C], Neil Rumble [Mgr.], Rob Draper [Coach], Tod Sunderman [Capt.], Marshall Hill, John Trigaskis, Jamie Howden,
 FRONT ROW: Cameron Smith, Hayden Jarvis, Richard Morton, James Allmond, James Ryan, Digby Roberts.
 Old Parade A.F.C 11 - 12 - 78 def O.B.G.F.C 10 - 13 - 73

UNDER 19 - SECTION 3							
O. PARADS PURPLE	15	3	0	1458	888	164.19	60
OLD BRIGHTON	14	4	0	1717	1010	170.00	56
MONASH BLUES	13	5	0	1554	1085	143.23	52
HAMPTON ROVERS	13	5	0	1326	1071	123.81	52
ST KEVINS	11	7	0	1684	1193	141.16	44
PARKSIDE	8	9	0	1250	1392	89.80	32
AQUINAS OB	7	11	0	1387	1456	95.26	28
DE LA SALLE GOLD	6	12	0	864	1640	52.68	24
OLD ESSENDON	3	15	0	99	1700	5.82	8
W'STOWN CYMS	0	8	0	65	580	11.21	0

PRELIMINARY FINAL				
OLD BRIGHTON	3.3	4.9	6.12	9.16.70
MONASH BLUES	1.4	3.7	5.8	5.11.41
OLD BRIGHTON Ryan 2, Templeton 2, Loosschilder 2, Stevenson, Swan, Phillips. BEST Styles, Hill, Lade, Jarvis, Stevenson, Smith.				
MONASH BLUES Newman 2, Triandos, Headberry, Lopes. BEST Headberry, Triandos, Kellock, Lopes, J. Smith, Boell.				

Coach:
Robert Draper
59. M. Allen.....
57. S. Allmand.....
9. B. Broome.....
10. S. Duggan.....
35. R. Farmer.....
18. L. Fildes.....
60. M. Fisher.....
39. D. Fox.....
61. J. Fyfe.....
20. M. Gale.....
62. J. Goderidge...
63. C. Haig.....
58. S. Hannaford...
31. T. Henry.....
7. M. Hill (DVC)....
42. S. Howden.....
40. W. Jackson.....

30. M. Sarvis.....
29. S. Leversha.....
37. A. Loosschilder.....
16. R. Moreton.....
64. S. O'Connor.....
65. S. Paynter.....
1. R. Phillips.....
66. K. Richards.....
34. D. Roberts.....
67. D. Rowe.....
56. S. Ryan.....
2. C. Smith.....
15. R. Stevenson.....
27. S. Styles (VC)....
24. T Sunderman (Capt.)..
41. H. Swan.....
19. S. Templeton.....
11. S. Tregaskis.....
68. C. Walter.....
51. A. Withall.....



In 1988 Matty Allen was selected to play in the VAFA Bi-Centenary Under 19 team. Old Brighton dominated the 1988 VAFA Sharpshooters in their Under 19 Section.

UNDER 19 SECTION 3		
Fogarty, St. Kevins	(-)	52
Ryan, Old Brighton	(2)	43
Fox, Old Brighton	(-)	36
Templeton, Old Brighton	(-)	33
Pegler, Aquinas	(-)	32
Hourigan, St. Kevins	(-)	30
Howden, Old Brighton	(-)	28

The Under 19 side had a tremendous season which was just reward for the indefatigable efforts of coach Rob Draper and his able helpers Neil Rumble and Phil Rowell. In the end they were a little unlucky to lose their Grand Final by just 5 points, and all the players are to be congratulated for their great year. With enormously talented players such as B & F winner Rhett Stevenson and runner-up James Styles along with many others flowing through to Senior ranks in the coming seasons, one can see a new generation of budding champions attaining future glory by achieving our goal of reaching "A" grade.

ANDREW MULLETT

2007

U19 Section 2

Once again thank you to all those who have contributed to these articles over the season. All input has been fantastic. Ron, Ray, Paul, Warren, cheers and enjoy your summer. A big congratulations to **Stuart Macleod-Smith** who was a well deserved winner of the competition best and fairest.

Preliminary Final Review

Down at a very windy Trevor Barker Oval the two sides that have

competed for second spot most of the season wrestled for the opportunity to have one more shot at a flag.

In the first quarter Old Brighton had the strong wind advantage, and despite kicking a wasteful twelve points, managed to set up a 40 point quarter time lead. **Stuart Macleod-Smith** was providing plenty of headaches whilst **Daniel Sargent** dominated clearances. In the second Beaumaris were far more accurate with seven goals from fifteen opportunities, and would have entered half time with a handy lead if not for the crucial effort of Old Brighton to kick two into the breeze. **Jonno** and **Tom Nash** were starting to take control of the game, and both sides would have favoured their chances. In the third Old Brighton were more effective with the breeze and held Beaumaris goalless again with **Shane Tragear** showing his class, and setting up a classic last quarter. In the final stanza Beaumaris threw everything at Old Brighton with **William Sanchez** at the fore, however in the end a further goal into the breeze, three in total, proved to be the difference. Old Brighton showed the importance of being to score into a strong headwind and this is what ultimately won them the game. Great work by Old Brighton and commiserations to the Sharks who I am sure will return stronger than ever next season.

Grand Final Preview

Finally after a seemingly endless preseason and a long hard, generally dry, season, we have finally reached the Grand Final. The team of hyphens meets the hyphenated team in a mouthful for any commentator. The game is enticing; with the deserved red hot favourites the Tigers set to lock horns with the confident Old Brighton. St Bedes/Mentone has a few questions they need to answer before they can raise the cup. Who can contain **Shane Tragear**? Who will go in the air with **Stuart Macleod-Smith**? If they focus on **Tragear** will class players like **Tom Skewes**, **Liam Brosnahan** and **Morgan Rolls** hurt them? Did the first half last week by Beaumaris put some doubts in the Tigers' minds, or just steel them? How many more questions can I put in one article?

I think Old Brighton could knock off the minor premiers. However I think the questions asked by the Tigers in turn may prove to be the difference. Evidenced by the vote count St Bedes/Mentone have 22 outstanding even players, headlined by the ilk of **Mark Geshke**, **Clay Tobin**, **Pat Kean**, **Chad Ryan**, **Mark Kidner** and right down to the twenty-second player, they can all play football.

In the end I think that St Bedes/Mentone may have too much depth and will finish over the top of an Old Brighton side that can be

Stuart MacLeod-Smith wins the G T McTaggart Medal



Best and Fairest in his section.

2007 Under 19 Runners Up — Player List

1	A. Jiffry	25	M. Bannar-Martin
2	M. Keo	27	N. Paterson
3	M. Rolls	28	J. McCowan
4	T. Williams	29	J. Rice-Davidson
7	L. Brosnahan	31	R. Anniss
9	B. Trivett	36	M. Burge
11	N. Graham-Bowman	37	M. McKimm
12	W. Priestley	38	H. Horr
15	M. Finlayson	39	H. Stacey
16	R. Baines	40	S. Compton
18	J. Ward	42	S. McLeod-Smith
21	T. Cooney	48	S. Tragear
23	C. Dowling	51	D. Sargent
24	A. Georgiou	60	J. Davis (vc)
		79	T. Skewes (c)

Coach: Shane Young.

U19 (2)		P	W	L	D	For	Agst	Pts	PG
1	ST BEDES/MENTONE	18	18	0	0	2559	427	72	599.30
2	BEAUMARIS	18	15	3	0	1710	1221	60	140.05
3	OLD BRIGHTON	18	13	5	0	1560	1157	52	134.83
4	OLD CAMBERWELL	18	11	7	0	1510	1441	44	104.79
5	OLD MELBURNIANS	18	9	9	0	1273	1444	36	88.16
6	BANYULE	18	8	10	0	1448	1529	32	94.70
7	CAULFIELD GRAM'S	18	7	11	0	1314	1535	28	85.60
8	OLD PARADIANS	18	7	11	0	1194	1510	28	79.07
9	COLLEGIANS	18	1	17	0	1015	1839	4	55.19
10	WHITEFRIARS	18	1	17	0	761	2241	4	33.96

2009
2009 Under 19 Runners Up Player List

Coach : Tom Buntz

2. J. Pickering (C)	19. S. Walker
3. W. Pickering	20. C. Reilly
5. M.Ward	21. T. Fogherty
6. J. Davis	22. P. Healy
7. T. Mariani	23. N.Karayannis
8. R.Wallis	24. J. Portelli
9. S. McKell	25. S.Roney
10. A. Taylor	27. B. Rawlinson
11. A. Dewar	29. A. Betts.
12. L. Nash	30. A. Cann
13. A. Wilkinson	31. A. Graham
14. J. Baenziger	32. E. Yeatman
15. T. Tickell	33. N. Matera
16. P.Weakley	36. B. Pascoe
17. L. Nicholls	39. L. Anthony
18. C. Kennett	51. D. Sargent

U19 SOUTH 1				
OLD MELBURNIANS	6.7	8.2	13.7	17.11 (113)
OLD BRIGHTON	1.2	7.3	10.6	12.7 (79)
OLD MELB: Goals: L. Bennett 6, A. Carter 2, A. Armstrong, M. Marangon, C. Wischer, T. Healey, S. Quennell, P. May, H. Jupp, W. Hatfield, T. Hywood. Best: S. Dunell, L. Bennett, P. May, H. Webb, A. Carter, J. Macciolli				
OLD BRIGHTON: Goals: W. Pickering 6, J. Pickering 2, J. Davis 2, P. Healey, C. Reilly. Best: W. Pickering, J. Pickering, T. Mariani, J. Davis, S. Walker, P. Healey				

Congratulations to P Healey, C Kennett and A Dewar for their selection in the Team of the Year 2009.

U19 SOUTH 1 TEAM OF THE YEAR 2009		
B:	M. Wilkins (Maz),	M. Kyroussis (Coll), M. Marangon (O.M)
HB:	D. Hutchinson (DLS),	G. Kerr (SK), R.Lewis (Caul)
C:	P. Healey (O.B),	T. Hine (Orm), J. Steen (O.H)
HF:	N. Fyfield (DLS),	C. Kennett (O.B), S. Clements (Orm)
F:	A. Armstrong (O.M),	L. Bennett (O.M), J. Holdsworth (Orm)
FOL:	Ruck: D, Allanson (Caul),	X. Harkins (DLS), K. Brick (SK)
INT:	A. Dewar (O.B), R. McMurray (O.H), H. Apted (Coll), A. Carter (O.M)	

Club XVIII Winning Grand Finals

Club XVIII PREMIERS 1983



STANDING: P. Adams, J.Hill, S.Freer, T.Shacklock, A.Watts, C.Whitelegg, R.Williams, A.Booth, P.Turner.
 MIDDLE ROW: M.Armstrong [Physio], R.Draper, P.Ward[V.C], D.Becker [Coach], J.Perry [Capt],
 P.Miller [D.V.C], S.Taylor, C.Beaver, B.Parr [Boundary Umpire]
 FRONT ROW: L.Hamilton, M.Hunt, B.Kidd, I.Riley, G.Stretton, W.Halliday.
 ABSENT: P.Smith, D.Convey, S.Mountain, P.Bulte, M.Bennett.
 O.B.G.F.C 11 - 8 - 74 def Richmond A.F.C 8 - 6 - 54

2009 Club XVIII Premiers



Section 2

Old Brighton culminated a seven game winning streak with winning the Premiership by thirteen points over Marcellin. Like the phoenix, Old Brighton surged from the ashes of despair to win over minor premiers, University Blacks, in Round 12 and under the tutelage of rejuvenated Coach, Marcus Barber the players have carried all before them since that July day.

The wind played a big part in deciding the outcome of this game. Old Brighton started with its aid and led by twenty one points at the first change. Marcellin utilized the wind but only led by a point at half time. Old Brighton then were able to build a twenty one point lead by the last change.

The fourth quarter saw Old Brighton mount many attacks to the Glen Huntly Road end only for



Marcellin defenders to repel them all. At the other end and in the mid field the superior aerial strength of Old Brighton came into force as they defended stoutly and held Marcellin to a solitary goal, which meant Old Brighton won by thirteen points. Significantly Marcellin's two scoring shots at the Glen Huntly Road end in the first quarter were the only scores there for the game.

Congratulations go to Old Brighton and to Karl Sheehan, who was adjudged "Best on the Ground". Other good players for the Premiers were: Matthew Jackson, Ewert and Alcock.

Marcellin, who were unable to reproduce the form which qualified them for the Grand Final, have enjoyed a successful season in the higher grade. Their better players included; Leigh Hanson, Coach, Dustin Cracknell, veteran Garry Petroff (the leading goal kicker in Section 2) and the Matthews Brothers. Congratulations were given to Monash Blues ruckman, Keith Perry who won the Best and Fairest Award in Section 2.

CLUB XVIII (2)

MARCELLIN OC	0.1	3.5	3.5	4.7 (31)
OLD BRIGHTON	3.4	3.4	6.8	6.8 (44)

MARCELLIN OC: Goals: D. Cracknell 2, G. Petroff, S. Ayoub. Best: N. Mathews, L. Hansen, D. Cracknell, J. Matthews, G. Petroff, C. Dignan.

OLD BRIGHTON: Goals: R. Baines 2, R. Eastgate, T. Ewert, K. Sheehan, C. Nicholls. Best: T. Ewert, M. Jackson, K. Sheehan, C. Alcock, C. Nicholls, R. Baines.

Club XVIII losing Grand Finals 1997 Club XVIII Runners Up

SECTION 1 OLD XAVERIANS V. OLD BRIGHTON BLOODS

Victory to **Old Xaverians** by **fifteen points** gave them back to back premierships. The first quarter was evenly contested as each side strove to gain the ascendancy. Low scoring again seemed likely as there were only five scoring shots for the quarter, at the end of which Old Xaverians held a six point lead. The second quarter proved to be the highest scoring one of the match as **Old Brighton Bloods** with **Malcolm Shippen** doing well up forward played their best football to add four goals. On the other hand Old Xaverians proved their talent by adding three goals against the wind. At half time another upset seemed possible as Old Brighton Bloods led by the minimum margin. In the third quarter Old Xaverians responded to coach **Matt Tyrrell's** pleading and added three goals while restricting Old Brighton Bloods inaccuracy when shooting for goal prevented Old Xaverians from holding a bigger lead than sixteen points at three quarter time.

Once again the stage seemed set for an exciting finish. However reality was that scoring remained minimal in the last quarter, with a total of five scores, added during it. Old Brighton Bloods were able to score only twice in the last quarter and as in the second semi final, they failed to play out a consistent four quarters. At the final siren, the premiership cup belonged to Old Xaverians, who won by fifteen points.

Old Brighton Bloods were again best served by **Gerard Bennett** who is touted as the likely **Fisher/Mason medallist**. Others to do well included **Marcus Barber**, and **Matthew McLennan** who enjoyed a great final's series.

1997 Club XVIII Runners Up Player List

OLD BRIGHTON BLOODS

Coach: Stuart Kay

1. G. Bennett
2. M. McLennan
3. H. Jarvis
5. R. Murray
6. S. Moody
7. M. Hall
8. A. Hancock
9. A. Grant
10. R. Moreton
11. J. Rattray
11. J. McLachlan
12. D. Cochran
13. A. Noble
14. J. Bennett
16. M. Hendrie
16. J. Morrison
18. C. Lade
19. D. Smith

22. J. Lockett
24. L. Hamilton
24. P. Neylan
26. J. Uglow
28. S. Kay
31. F. Magee
31. M. Scarlett
32. R. Wraith
33. D. Moreton
34. R. Smith
34. M. Nikakis
35. A. Rutter
37. M. Donohue
39. P. Greene
40. C. James
42. A. Wittey
43. T. Betts
44. S. Carter

46. M. Barber
48. C. Haling
49. A. Neale
51. N. McCann
52. M. Walker
53. P. Bainbridge
55. A. Heron
56. R. Brown
64. B. McMurtrie
78. R. Saunders
- S. Desmond
- L. Duncan
- A. Gale
- D. Gleeson
- J. Lade
20. A. McNamara
- M. Selby
36. S. Young

LAST ROUND'S RESULTS – CLUB XVIII

CLUB XVIII (1) ~ 24.08.97 GRAND FINAL

OLD XAVERIANS	2.1	5.1	8.6	9.7.61
OLD BRIGHTON	1.1	3.2	6.2	7.4.46

Old Xaverians Goal kickers and best players not received.

Old Brighton Shippen 3, Wraith 2, Barber, Potter. Best Bennett, Barber, McLennan, James, Stefanou, Stewart.

2003 Club XVIII Runners Up VAFA Review

This match proved to be the closest contest of the day. Again Old Brighton seized the early initiative and held a thirteen point lead at first change. Aided by the wind in the second quarter, Mazenod grasped their opportunity and held an eighteen point lead at half time.

Mazenod held Old Brighton out in the third quarter so that they held a ten point lead at three quarter time and seemed assured of victory. Against the wind, Old Brighton continued to attack and with half the quarter gone, they trailed by four points. A deliberate shot for goal veered away and Mazenod regained the initiative late in the game before they ended their undefeated season with a seventeen point victory.

Congratulations go to their Coach, Troy Bridgland and Captain, Anthony Smythe, who have led the team well in their successful season.

2003 Club XVIII Sharpshooters Awards

CLUB XVIII (1)	Brett Cartlidge (Prahran)	64
CLUB XVIII (South)	David Cochran (Old Brighton)	57
CLUB XVIII (North)	Sam Evans (Old Essendon)	41

CLUB XVIII (SOUTH)				
MAZENOD	2.1	8.8	10.10	13.12 (90)
OLD BRIGHTON	4.2	6.2	9.6	11.7 (73)
Mazenod: Noble 3 Fothergill 3 Palamara 2 Bridgland Paine Cuberas Vandergert Fisher. Best: Noble Paine Jacobs Nussbaum Fisher Palamara.				
Old Brighton: G.Earl 5 Cochran 2 W.Earl 2 D.Bowden McKimm. Best: G.Earl W.Earl J.Howden C.Trim L.Stewart D.Bowden.				
Umpires: Frank Thornhill David Windlow (F) Tom Windlow Ryan Hense (B) Rhett Parker Richard Benson snr.				

CLUB 18 - SOUTH	P	W	L	D	For	Agst	%	Pts
MAZENOD O C	14	14	0	0	1667	637	261.70	56
OLD BRIGHTON	14	9	5	0	1217	650	187.23	36
ELEY PARK AFC	14	9	5	0	1400	758	184.70	36
WHITEFRIARS	14	8	6	0	1091	920	118.59	32
ST LEOS EMMAUS WP	14	7	7	0	1022	915	111.69	28
AJAX	14	5	9	0	755	1274	59.26	20
OLD GEELONG	14	4	10	0	875	1224	71.49	16
HAWTHORN AMATEURS	14	0	14	0	333	2041	16.32	0

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1983 the OBGFC invited the assistance of around 40 past players, officials, members and supporters to form a select group called the Club 25. These members generously contributed subscriptions in advance to assist in financing the bar and catering facilities which we now proudly boast are equal to any in the competition.

Contribution from Marcus Barber

Marcus Barber

First played 1988. Seniors runner-up Best and Fairest 1988, 1989.

Seniors Best and Fairest 1990.

Club XVIII coach 1999 – 2000, 2009 (Premiers).

Played in Reserves premierships and Club XVIII runners-up sides.

In the beginning I'd been a member of Her Majesty's Constabulary stationed at Brighton for a couple of years and had always thought that the ground at South Road would be a good one for footy. At the start of 1988 I transferred to St Kilda where I met the then Reserves coach, Wayne Marshall. (See chapter on *Coaches*.) I'd had most of 1987 off due to an operation on a knee and badly damaged shoulder, so when 'Maxy' suggested I come down for a kick it seemed a good idea. I was living off Hampton Street anyway so it made good sense to play closer to home.



Geoff Bennett



Tony Gale



Richard Smith



Mark Sarau

During training I remember a few guys in particular really taking time to have a chat — Geoff Bennett, Tony Gale, Dean Hogan and Richard Smith. I remember thinking at the time 'gee they're a friendly bunch' and it wasn't until about half-way through the season that I discovered that Dicky, Hoges and Chipper had only been at the club for five minutes longer than I had.

Tuesday before the first game, Mark Sarau, (see chapter on *Coaches*), the senior coach advised me that I'd be playing in the Seconds. Having only played about six games the year before, I was a bit rusty and figured I'd need a couple of games to get going anyway, so that was fine.

Thursday night the side was read out and I was in the ones, fronting up against OMs at Fawknor Park. They beat us by 10 goals. From memory, Andrew Mullett's (see chapter on *Coaches*) impression of me was along the lines of, 'Gets the ball a lot, but doesn't do much with it'.



Drewe Bellmaine



Peter Latzer



Mark Dobby

During that year I also remember watching the two's and wondering how all of the old blokes were still playing — Drewe Bellmaine, Peter Latzer, Mark Dobby and a couple of others. Over a decade later and I was one of those old blokes, having played with Sid James, David Cochrane, Roger Brown and Booty McLennan in the Club XVIII.



'Sid' James



David Cochrane



Roger Brown



'Booty' McLennan

People Profiles:

Playing at the club for a while means you meet an awful lot of people. Here's a list of some who've managed to make a lasting impression.

Paul Woff

In that first game I played for OBGFC against OMs, the Simon O'Donnell look-alike, Paul Woff, got best on the ground. What a joke! A pretty boy more worried about his hair than getting the ball. Throughout the years, that was one thing I learned about Woffy. The hair had to be just right, whether it was on his head, back or chest. Another was that at crucial times during a game, he'd 'lose the plot' and end up in a slanging match with an umpire as he was being sent off the ground.



For a player carrying a few pounds who refused to train hard and who got sent off more times for stupid things than I can remember, how he ever won a club Best and Fairest is beyond me. Lucky he's a good bloke.

Peter Latzer

Strangely enough Paul Woff's partner-in-crime was an ageing, legally blind, physically-restricted small-goods businessman named Peter Latzer; the club games record holder, deceptively intelligent and with the ability to make the most inappropriate comment sound funny. A genuine guy dedicated to the OBGFC and who'd turn up no matter who the

opposition was or where we were playing, and that is a lot more that can be said for some of the players I know!

Richard Smith

Dicky 'Teaser' Smith was a marvel. I don't think I've met anyone who loved having a game more than Dicky, but try to get him to a game on time and you'd have no chance. It's not that he'd prepare too strenuously. His boots would be in a plastic bag, his jumper, shorts, socks and jocks would be rolled up in a towel under his arm. He'd be wearing faded light-blue tracksuit pants and Dr Scholl thongs.

I remember before one final at Elsternwick Park, Dicky offered to pick me up. We had to be at the ground by 12:30. I like to get to the ground before the game a bit earlier to prepare mentally, check out the ground and get the feel for it, so we agreed that he would pick me up about 12.15. Not Smithers! He arrives at my place at 12:28 wearing a big grin. He's got no idea how close he came to not being available that day.

Dicky was also a bit lax with his disposal. On one occasion he managed to set me up with a hospital handball floated so slowly that he had time to laugh when he realised I was about to get hammered.

Little does he know that I managed to pay him back a few years later when I was coaching the Club XVIII. Smithers had racked up about 20 disposals in the first quarter and a half, and I figured I couldn't possibly let him get Best on the Ground or I'd never hear the end of it. So I dragged him for some rubbish excuse like he didn't handball on the first option. He sat on the bench for the rest of the game!

Di Dick

I have a theory that Di inadvertently managed to cost us a Grand Final one year by telling a few of us she'd join us in the showers after it in celebration. Nobody was sure if she was serious or not, but Doug didn't seem to mind. Now Di is a pretty attractive woman and I'm certain that there were quite a few guys whose attention may not have been on the game. It's only a theory, but we got beaten. Mind you Di's skills as a physio were exceptional and there were weeks when players would not have been able to front up if not for her ability to treat injuries.



And what a great couple Di and Doug are. I'm sure their kids will turn out just wonderful.

Tony Hoar

A big lump of a lad with hands the size of watermelons. He's the only guy I know who can use his hair for sanding weatherboards. Coming off the half-back-flank, he moved like an oil tanker and was just as hard to stop once he had momentum up. He has a very dry sense of humour and used to crank Woffy up beyond Paul's capacity to answer back; a great guy to play footy with.



Stewart Murray

I first saw Stewart playing in a Grand Final for Moulamein up in the country. A few of us had hired a mini-bus for the weekend so we could go up and see him play. John Goderidge spent half the day sitting on a deck chair on the roof of the bus flying a kite.

I couldn't get over how willing 'Piggy' Murray was to put himself in a position of real physical harm in order to get the ball. Back at Brighton, Stewart was the same. He could out-manoeuvre players twice his size with a great use of the body; uncanny. He was a fantastic servant for the club. Injury got the better of him during a final series and I was honoured to be able to wear his number 31 into the premiership game.

Stewart has also gone one step further. Thanks to Katie's willingness, there are three Murray boys in the pipeline ready to pull the boots on.



Chris 'Sid' James

Part of one of the best backlines I've played with. The likes of Sarau, Cochrane (where he belongs), Gut (Gerard Bennett), Hoary, Marma and Sid, Mr Reliable himself, hard at the ball, uncompromising, able to take his player out of the game and still be able to offer support to his teammates; a pleasure to play with. Sid ended his career winning the Club XVIII Best and Fairest in my first year as coach.

Sid's warm up routine consisted of two quick stretches and five quick smokes alongside Tony Grant! Now retired, he was another of the old stagers still playing beyond 35 years of age. He can't ski very well, but tries very hard.



Gerard Bennett



Tony Grant



Andrew Cooper

David Cochrane

In 2002, Cocky was 49 years old and still playing with the Club XVIII. Most often at full-back or full-forward, Cocky had one of the best leaps in the game — never saw him mark any, but geez the leaps were good. He always managed to get the crowd to 'ooh' when the specky was on for the fly. He just needs a few scars to toughen up those boyish good looks.

Like his mate Sid James, he couldn't stand up on the slopes and I spent almost a full week teaching him how to get around Falls Creek.

Matt McLennan

The 'Robbie Flower look-alike' wingman and half-back flanker. One of the odd things you'd notice about 'Booty' was the complete lack of any sign of leg muscles. So that meant he had no pace and yet somehow always managed to get the ball. He's another player who always got the job done no matter what was asked of him. Matt and Di also have provided a couple of boys for the Brighton pipeline, Tom and Lachy.

Gerard Bennett

A thug, pure and simple. He spent every game running around with his arms cocked. "What's that? An injury? You mean he couldn't straighten it? Oh, ah right, that explains it." A very hard 'nut' and another player who put himself on the line. Spent a lot of time in the back-pocket and was far more influential on the ball. A key member of the side during the late eighties early nineties, he was a ferocious tackler who intimidated players much bigger than he was.

Andrew Cooper

The only person who has got me to voluntarily drink a beer in celebration of his gold medal in Barcelona. A big strong bloke who could have dominated the VAFA, had he not been distracted by oars. I worked with Coops a couple of times and he was always good for a laugh. Very funny and the girls loved his sparkling blue eyes and big white smile, except for the night that Jason Veal king-hit him at Tony Hoar's bucks night. The 'mouse' he wore for the next few days was a monster.



Peter,



Tony and



Andrew Grant



Michael Waddington

The brothers Grant, Peter, Tony and Andrew

Three great players. Andrew played on the ball every now and again and mainly up forward. Peter never left the goal square, so that meant it was Tony who had to do all the hard work to keep his two brothers employed. All of them had the ability to kick goals when the side needed them and were very hard for the opposition to handle. They were a very talented trio with great ball sense.

Michael Waddington

Could turn in an instance, keen to kick goals and many teams underestimated his ability. Injuries interrupted a career that would have been far more fruitful. He often had to play on opponents who had a distinct height advantage and he was a very good mark for size.



Cameron Lade



Michael Hendrie



Andrew Pryor

Cameron Lade

Club captain and a very good centre-half-back who would have developed into an excellent centre-half-forward had he kept playing. We definitely missed his skills when he left. Moved to Perth with Jane and the kids for a while and that meant we missed out on seeing him dominate the Club XVIII in his later footballing years.

Michael Hendrie

Another club captain often playing at centre-half-back. He had a perfect build for a footballer; 6'2", good shoulders, athletic and quick. Strong at the ball and versatile, with excellent leadership skills. He left a big hole when he departed for work overseas.

Andrew Pryor

A super quick, half-forward rover, who later captained the side. An eye catching player who played his best footy off the half-back flank where his elusive skills could kick-start many an attack, a-la-Craig Bradley. Unfortunately Shaz put her foot down and Andy's career finished early. He returned a couple of years later for David Cochrane's 300th game and broke his shoulder, so I guess Shaz had it right.

Gary Denson

Only played for us for a short time but will always be remembered as a perfect centre-half-forward. Tall, athletic, great mark and kick, and blond! Unfortunately hit by injuries during his time with us.



James Tonkin



Andrew Mullett

James Tonkin

Another one who let rowing get in the way of a promising career! It's not often you get someone in the 6' 7" range that can park themselves in the forward-pocket, take a few grabs and

kick a few goals every game. And he gave up footy for what? A few gold medals and national recognition ... whatever was he thinking?

Andrew Mullett

'Fish' deserves a special mention. As team manager, chairman of selectors, and post-match day reporter 'for them', Andrew's football knowledge and dedication to OBGFC is outstanding. He also is a talented playwright, has a very dry sense of humour and an amazing grasp of Her Majesty's English. Many thanks.



John Tregaskis



Richard Phillips



Jamie Styles



James Howden

The (then) Young Cubs

John Tregaskis, Richard Phillips, Cameron Blair, Jamie Styles, James Howden, Andrew Fisher and Chris Brook are among a bunch of players whose playing time at OBGFC was cut short by travel, career, injuries or interstate moves. I often wonder what sort of side we may have built if we had been able to keep players of this calibre in the one side for a number of years. All added spice and skill to the team in their short playing careers with us.



Simon Williams



Simon Lennox



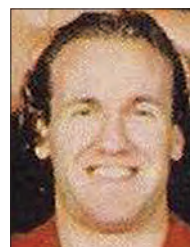
Alex Rickarby



Nick Perry



Rob Kent



Luke Fildes

The New Lions

Simon Williams, Simon Lennox, Alex Rickarby, Nick Perry, Rob Kent, Luke Fildes and others made up those who took over the role as Senior list players during the late 90s. It was great

to watch them develop from wide-eyed young kids into senior players, forming a backbone of the team and able to dominate a game.



Mark Sarau



Shane Young



Roger Brown

The Coaching Staff

Mark Sarau, Shane Young, Mark Parker, Roger Brown, Stewart Kay and Nick Sher are the coaches I've played under at various levels. Having coached the Club XVIII for two years, I learned just how frustrating, challenging, heartbreaking and exhilarating coaching can be, in particular the time-commitment required to do the job.

Mark Sarau and Shane Young were great for the club in terms of the approaches they brought to the game. Both were tough nuts and in the late 1980s early 1990s it was probably what we needed. Their physical presence as players meant that we developed better tackling skills as a side. In the 'Ammos', sides that can dominate an opposition physically with consistent hard tackling and shepherding will almost always win the game.

Mark and Shane were also good tactically in handling what was a pretty young playing list and I always enjoyed chatting with them about aspects of team play. Mark Parker brought a new playing style to the club; a deliberate playing style that suited the needs of the team. In charge of the two's, Roger Brown was an old-style coach who led us from the front on the field; a Teddy Whitten style who'd yell and scream and then bust the door down on the way out to the ground. Lots of fun to play with, in a side of ageing stars and younger kids and with the premierships cups in the cupboard to prove the success.

Stewart Kay and Nick Sher took on arguably the hardest role in the club as coaches of the Club XVIII. A team made up of older players who could play once but haven't got the message from Father Time, younger players who can play but don't have the time or commitment to play higher and a group who just like having a kick. And in that mix they have to come up with training and match day plans that don't kill the old guys, bore the younger guys and aren't over the top for the ones that just want to have a kick. Whilst the time commitments aren't as demanding as coaching at senior levels, the dynamic is incredibly challenging due to lower levels, older support staff and player commitment. Both Stewart and Nick managed to get their sides to the finals with Stewart unlucky that we didn't beat Xavs in the Grand Final.

*Peter Sedgwick**Doug Dick**John Trotter**Drewe Bellmaine**Rob McKinnon**Graeme Templeton**Michael Wood*

Around the Club

All clubs have stalwarts and the OBGFC seems to have more than its fair share. I've played at Eltham in the Diamond Valley League, a short stint at Collingwood in the then VFL, Oakleigh Districts and Parkdale in the then South East Suburban and Frankston in the then VFA, but Brighton is always a place that welcomes you back.

One of the reasons is due to the sheer weight of people who commit time and resources to make the place fantastic to be around. Peter Sedgwick, Doug Dick, John Trotter, Rob Fildes, Drewe Bellmaine, Rob McKinnon and Graeme Templeton are among the many that went out of their way to lend a hand.

A huge mention must also go to Michael Wood whose ongoing commitment and support of the OBGFC is superb. The President and Committee also deserve a special mention; Bill Browne, Michael Perry and Michael Patterson in particular.

*Bill Brown**Michael Perry**David Smyth**Chris Haling*

And then there are some of the people who've added much to the place; David 'Spocka' Smyth whose social abilities are brilliant. If you ever need an assorted music tape for a party, 'Spocka' is the one you want to talk to. So too for Chris Haling — 'Brissy Bear', the

only bloke born without calf muscles; another top person who helped make the OBGFC a fun and active place.

Along with all of the trainers and medical staff, wives, girlfriends, Mums, Dads and supporters, the OBGFC is a wonderful club to be involved with and I'm fortunate to have gained a number of friendships as a result of playing here.

You can tell the quality of a place by the quality of the people it attracts. OBGFC shows its true qualities in time of crisis. You only need to look at the level of support and assistance provided to its members in times of tragedy and loss. Whilst the footy is important, I think that OBGFC shows that it's the people that count.

—**Marcus Barber**

Contribution from Leigh Hendra

Here are a few memories from my past 14 years at the club.

December 1999, was my first pre-season session at Dendy Park. A fresh-faced 18 year old straight out of school, I remember looking around in awe at the likes of Matthew Dennis, Simon Williams, Andrew Cooper, Nick Perry and Simon Lennox. I was welcomed immediately along with all of my other Under 19 mates.

It was a long, hot pre-season and there was a good feeling amongst all involved. The team was fit and ready to launch into a successful 2000 campaign.

Round 1 came around and I was unfortunately on the sidelines with stress fractures to the foot. The Under 19s had a much anticipated bus ride to Old Paradians under the guidance of coach Roger 'Doggy' Brown, assistant-coach Stu 'Egg' Murray, runner Graeme 'Turtle' Hand and team selector Shane 'Gonzo' Young. During the pre-match speech, the coach was clearly nervous about the club's poor record to the north of the Yarra River. His plan was to bribe us to play well with the lure of a full esky for the bus ride home should we collect the four points. I remember him opening up the esky before the game as bait; it was like it was full of gold bullions as the light reflected off the cold green cans.

I volunteered my services as goal umpire. It was a tight game. In the third quarter my good mate Chris 'Noodle' McNicol had a set shot at goal 30m out close to the boundary line. If my memory serves me correctly, the ball sailed high and straight. I would say, with confidence, if the goal posts were slightly higher the ball would have snuck in between the two main uprights by the barest of margins. I awarded it a major, much to the dismay of the Old Paradians.

We went on to claim victory that day. Everyone was on top of the world. The bus trip home was one of the more memorable of my OBGFC career; four middle-aged men handing down to another generation, the famous Old Brighton sing-alongs such as 'Lager Land' and 'Casey Jones'; twenty 18 year olds bonded by this, a famous victory and a famous bus ride.

The following Thursday night at the club, I was surprised to read in the record that number 23 for Old Brighton (Leigh Hendra) had been awarded a goal even though he had yet to play for the club!

—**Leigh Hendra**

Warriors/The OBGFC Club XVIII

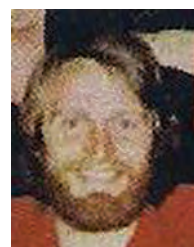
L ove 'em or hate 'em, the Clubbies have played an intriguing role throughout the history of the Old Brighton Football Club since inception in 1980.

A recruiting zone for 'Tonners' with limited training time, overflow destination for enthusiastic U19s, or a last bastion for former greats, the Clubbies has been surrounded by controversy, glory and intrigue over its 30 plus year history. It has, more than any other team, had the ability to polarise the views of the club faithful.

Having actually arrived at the club via the Warriors circa 1987, not as some undercover agent of Old Collegians (being an old Wesley boy) as *The Benchwarmer* would have some believe, I feel well positioned to provide the uninformed with a greater insight into the Clubbies for those who are reading Bobby's collective efforts in this great book of ours. I would also publically like to thank Bobby 'Mac' at this stage for the opportunity to divulge and educate all on some of the history of Old Brighton's Club 18's proud past.

Unable to confidently provide a full and accurate insight into all of the sides separate historical components, I thought I would break up the history of the Club 18 into four separate sections:

1. The actual birth of the Warriors which, with many thanks to Rob Draper, I have been able to outline in full.
2. The demise of the side at the end of 1987 (which just happened to coincide with my introduction to it..., hmmm).
3. The Clubbies rebirth in 1995.
4. Some coaches' contributions, culminating in a piece from current coach Marcus Barber on his premiership year of 2009; a club-first for the new Warriors! Well done Barbs!



The birth of the Clubbies — (thanks to Rob Draper)

With the success of the OBGFC senior teams in the late 70s, first via the Seconds in 1976, then the Seniors in 1977, the club found itself in the unique position where for the first time it was losing players due to a lack of available opportunity amongst the Under 19s, Seconds and Firsts. As a result the committee decided to enter a social side for the 1980 season, with Rick Trewavis appointed its inaugural coach. During the summer of 1980, Rick contacted a number of past and present veterans of the club and persuaded them to join the cause. Alas, it wouldn't be the Warriors without some early controversy and true to form, Rick had to declare himself unavailable as coach due to some last minute commitments he had to attend to.



Rick Trewavis



David Becker

Fortunately Rob Draper, a current player and long-time servant of OBGFC was able to persuade a fellow Uni mate of his, David Becker, to take over the reins. David was already president of one of Monash University's football clubs, nicknamed MAD, (Monash Association of Drinkers), so obviously David came from the right pedigree. His belated appointment as replacement coach saw an influx of fellow MAD players drawn to the Beach Road Oval to swell the ranks of the new side. Some of these recruits included John Hill, Peter 'Cock' Adams (both of who had already joined the Tonners in 1978), John 'JP' Perry, Dave 'Thommo' Thomas, Pete 'Pretty Legs' Turner, Peter 'Frosty' Miller, Bill 'Wee Willie' Halliday, Michael Nugent, and Mark Benny 'Blue Green'. These new recruits were joined by existing Old Brighton stalwarts, Ken Robertson, John Trotter, Ian 'Flea' Riley, Leigh Hamilton, Tooter Turner, Simon Freer and Peter Draper. The boundary umpire was the infamous Bruce 'BHP' Parr. The Warriors were born!



Ken Robertson



John Trotter



Peter Draper

(Some of the above-mentioned players can be seen in the 1983 team photo below.)

That first season tested the character of the new found side, (read... they got belted) as the 'Bloods' from Old Haileybury dominated all before them during the 1980 season. Despite this shortcoming, Dave Becker's Warriors soon came to the fore in the off-field stakes, holding many a successful social function. Many a successful function!

The wives and girlfriends of the newly founded Warriors showed great and enthusiastic support and were promptly christened 'The Warts'. The head 'Wart', Kim 'Kimba' Ward, and her hard-working committee, were to organise many a social function over the years, with the main event being the infamous Wart Awards. Held long before the constraints of political correctness, these awards were to outshine the regulation B & F nights and were to include trophies for the likes of 'best legs' and 'tightest shorts', amongst others. Training was to consist of 30 minutes of kick-to-kick, a round of Killer Darts and 'Coins' upstairs, washed down with a dozen pots, and of course finishing up with a few nightcaps at the Marine Hotel. The precedent for the side had been set.

In only a few short seasons, the Warriors found themselves competing against the might of Port Colts, Richmond Central, and the Bloods for the 1983 Premiership Cup. Port Colts were

the early favourites and boasted the likes of Sammy Holt, (father of young Luke Holt who came to play with OBGFC via the Under 19s in 2002), Buster Harland and Paul Goss, all 'straight line' players from the halcyon days of the VFL. Still, strange things happen in football, and it was to be the newly formed Warriors who played off against Richmond in that season's Grand Final. The Warriors went on to be the eventual premiers of the 1983 season with a significant melee at half-time occurring, led by old Brighton's 'Gentleman' John Hill. New inclusions for the Tonners in that season to help in the ultimate prize included a retiring Rob 'Restless' Draper and 'Gentleman' John Hill, who both joined the side after the successful 1980 Seniors flag. They were also to be joined by Steve Mountain, Andy Watts, Dave and Chris Whitelegg, Terry 'Rhys' Shacklock, and Dave 'Donuts' Convey.

The side for that inaugural 1983 premiership was —

Backs	KIDD	BOOTH	ADAM
H/Backs	TAYLOR	WHITELEGG	WILLIAMS
Centre	STRETTON	CONVEY	?
H/Forwards	HILL	SHACKLOCK	PERRY
Forwards	MILLER	HUNT	
Rucks	MOUNTAIN	DRAPER	RILEY
I/Change	WATTS	HALLIDAY	BENNETT
Coach	BECKER		
Boundary	PARR		

V.A.F.A Club XVIII 1983 Premiership Team



STANDING: P. Adams, J.Hill, S.Freer, T.Shacklock, A.Watts, C.Whitelegg, R.Williams, A.Booth, P.Turner.
 MIDDLE ROW: M.Armstrong [Physio], R.Draper, P.Ward[V.C], D.Becker [Coach], J.Perry [Capt],
 P.Miller [D.V.C], S.Taylor, C.Beaver, B.Parr [Boundary Umpire]
 FRONT ROW: L.Hamilton, M.Hunt, B.Kidd, I.Riley, G.Stretton, W.Halliday.
 ABSENT: P.Smith, D.Convey, S.Mountain, P.Bulte, M.Bennett.
 O.B.G.F.C 11 - 8 - 74 def Richmond A.F.C 8 - 6 - 54

Footnote: Unfortunately the great Dave Becker passed away in 1993 at the age of 39. Dave had become president of the Club 18 Association, and served a number of years on the committee of the Old Brighton Football Club jokingly asking one day if the president of the Old Boys Society had to be an Old Boy! He headed up the law firm Arnold Thomas and Becker; regarded by all as a ‘ripping’ bloke and great leader of men. In 2004 the MAD/Warriors had a reunion at Khyat’s Hotel and announced the 1980 – 84 Team of the Century.

My Introduction and the Warriors demise

By Roger Brown 1987

Whilst the actual details of my initial connection are a tad sketchy, the general scenario remains clear. It was a wintry Friday night in 1987. I was having a relaxing ale at the Marine Hotel, ‘the mecca’ of all things social during the 80s, when I was made aware by those in the current shout that the football side was short of numbers for the upcoming clash against ‘De La’ that Saturday. Suitably fortified with a rapid fire dozen pots, I found out it was the OBGFC Warriors or club ‘social side’ which was short.



Tony Grant



Chris James



Lindsay McMahon



David Cochrane



Terry Shacklock



Paul Neylan



Peter Latzer

Being a regular supporter of the Tonners through my friendship with Tony Grant and his family and by extension, current players Chris ‘Sid’ James, Lindsay ‘Hugo’ McMahon and David Cochrane, I was no stranger to the Beach Road oval, nor the social benefits of the infamous Old Brighton Red ‘n’ Blue. As such, and at the ripe old age of 26, I felt the time was right to begin my football club career with the Warriors and the Old Brighton Football Club.

Taking up the challenge, along with the next pot, we played that Saturday against De La Salle, coached by Warriors veteran, Terry Shacklock. Along with a number of other mates of mine from the ‘New Street’ recruiting zone, the Warriors that year included amongst others, Tony Brown (current New Oak Ford sponsor), Paul Neylan, David ‘Bomber’ Heinz, Russell Hopkins, Martin ‘Hutchy’ Hutchinson, Leigh Bowes, Neil Hillard, Terry Shacklock and Pete ‘Popa’ Rankin.

The rest of the season was littered with highlights, not many of which are that clear some 25 years later, but it would be fair to say the side competed extremely well with an embarrassment

of riches with regard to available playing resources. At the same time the great Peter Latzer and his cronies in the Seconds were trying to avoid forfeits due to lack of numbers, and held weekly recruiting drives trying to get enough players for the upcoming games. This was a fact which was in the end to be the cause of the Warrior's demise over the summer of 87/88 and left us a legacy we would not soon forget when the side reformed in 1995.

Not having at the time the same history with the club that I have now, I, as did most others, politely refused the then Second's coach, 'Doc' MacKenzie's constant requests for us to play with the Seconds to help out with numbers. We were just there to have a kick with our mates; little was I to realise I would also be in the same scenario as the Doc some years later when coaching the Seconds in 1995 and 1996.

Two things stand out in particular for me that year that summed up the Warriors season and all that it stood for.

The first was turning up for a game against Richmond Central towards the end of the season. We were travelling beautifully, in the top four of the competition and a finals birth looking like a given. We arrived for a 12.00 o'clock game to significant confusion. It was a Clubbies double-header and someone had got the times wrong; we were the later game starting at 2.00 pm. As it was only about 11.00 am, what were we to do for the next 3 hours? With the Powell Hotel not far away, the conclusion was obvious; head to the pub! As a new recruit to the comradeship of Australian Rules football and in my first season with Old Brighton, my expectations were that perhaps we would have a couple of softie's and watch a bit of sport on the hotel's TV while waiting for our start time. Whatever, it was not my position to comment, uh huh. Upon arrival the whole team was to take one look at the menu over the bar and proceeded to get stuck into a 'high carb' pre-game meal of 'Parma and chips' washed down with a round or two of pots. Suitably fortified with the 'correct' (?) carb loading, we managed to get back to the ground with 30 minutes to spare, and followed this up by giving the Tigers a real touch-up, going on to win quite comfortably.

The other significant event that year was the Warriors Best and Fairest count. After narrowly getting beaten in the preliminary final, our season came to a close; arguably this was a game that we should have won but the pre-finals team meeting the night before had got a bit willing for some. A number of the lads got themselves over-refreshed at 'Jakes' after the meeting and fair to say weren't up to scratch for the big one the following day. At the season's conclusion the Best and Fairest count was held at the Beach Road clubhouse. Rumour had been rife around the local ale houses in Brighton that the club's administration had decided to disband the Clubbies with the thought that the 30 odd players on its list would then sign up for duty with the Second XVIII. This rumour was strenuously denied by a long-standing club member that night, who shall remain nameless, which of course was met with a resounding cheer from all Warriors and Warts present. Alas, four months later the rumour had become a reality and the club administration of the time decided to disband the Club XVIII. *(I often wondered what would have happened if the Clubbies had gone on to win the flag that year. Would the club have acted in the same way? ... Probably, and in hindsight the decision was the correct one.)*

Impressively as a group we continued to train throughout the summer, twice a week at Dendy

Park, while the leaders of the team, Leigh Bowes in particular, looked at options to see how/if the side could survive as its own entity. The most popular approach at the time was to align ourselves to the current social football powerhouse, The Bloods, where the Warriors would ‘ground share’ the same facilities (and hopefully some of their supporters) and play on as the Brighton Warriors in its own right.

With the Bloods having a strong winning ethic and an even stronger off-field social calendar, this was widely seen as the most popular path to take. Unfortunately this didn’t get through the proper VAFA administration channels and the rest was history. The Warriors ceased to exist. Still, we did manage to ‘pen’ our own club theme song which was sung with much gusto on many summer occasions that year at the Marine Hotel front bar, while the direction of our side was waiting to be determined.

To the tune of *Advance Australia Fair* the chant opened up with the lines:

*“Old Brighton’s sons let us rejoice, for the footy season’s back you see.
With cans in our hands and (censored), a flags our destiny,
We’ll sink more beers and kick more goals, a few may get a shag... ..”
Etc etc etc.*

It also included a verse that went —

*“Old Brighton couldn’t keep us there, we were too good they found,
So on one dark and stormy night they kicked us off our ground,
We’ll kick more goals and drink more beers, etc etc etc.”*

Controversial stuff! Some of the current players would recognise the start of this little ditty, which years later was adjusted and re-written for some of the infamous bus trips of the early 90s (along with Lagerland, Ratshit, We’re the Boys and Casey Jones).

Footnote: Despite the club’s expectations that the bulk of the list would stay on to bolster the ranks of the Seconds now the Clubbies ceased to exist, only four players remained to further their duties with the club; Neil Hillard, Russell Hopkins, Martin Hutchinson and myself, Roger Brown. We did however go on to win our first Second’s flag since 1977 some four years later (Premiers B Reserve 1992, Roger Brown captain) under Seconds coach Shane ‘Gonzo’ Young, so the decision could well have been said to be justified.

The Clubbies Rebirth in 1995

After a seven year absence in the club’s history book, it was decided it was time to once again have the name Club XVIII feature in Old Brighton’s team listing. It just so happened, the timing of this also coincided just as some of the club’s most durable and decorated players were drawing their celebrated careers to an end.

As to be expected, the actual structure, potential players, who was to coach, etc. were the subject of many a robust discussion around many backyard BBQs that summer, the ‘Dev’ Hotel,

and of course the Murchison campfire. Murchison is a share-farm whose owners amongst others include, Roger Brown, the Grant family and previously 'Big Al' Munkittrick. Past OBGFC players who have at one time or another appeared on the guest list of this establishment include Peter King, Doug Dick, Stu Murray, Gut Bennet, Jeff Bennet, Chris Haling, Andrew Cooper, David Smyth, Carl Anderson, Maxy McLaughlin, Sid James, Lyndsay McMahan, Graeme 'Turtle' Hand and of course all three Grant boys, Andrew, Tony, Peter, and myself, Roger Brown. As you can imagine, many a campfire, fuelled by a couple of cold ones, would see animated conversation on all things football at our beloved Tonners.



Roger Brown



Tony Grant



Andrew Grant



Peter Grant



Marg Grant



John Grant



Al Munkittrick



Peter King



Doug Dick



Stu Murray



Gerard Bennett



Jeff Bennett



C Haling



A Cooper



David Smythe



Carl Anderson



Greg McLoughlin



Chris James



Lyndsay McMahan



Graeme Hand

A high-powered strategy meeting was called in the summer of 1994 to nut out the detail of the 'new' Warriors. This was held at 13 Ferguson St, Brighton. Players from the 70s, 80s and 90s may recognise this as the previous home address of the club's former games record holder, that favoured son of Israel, Peter 'The Tsar' Latzer.

Stuart 'Egg' Murray and Peter 'Tsar' Latzer, both life members of the club, then discussed at length with me, over a few refreshments, how the new Clubbies could work as a valued resource to the football club. It was important to realise early that we needed to learn from the lessons

of history and this new social side would not become a club within a club, but rather an avenue for past players, Under 19s who couldn't get a game, or players who were just looking for a kick. The veterans of the side would be in a position to help the 'raw' recruits learn their craft, and the Under 19 kids who couldn't get a game would have a place for their talents. We would train on a Thursday night to ensure Club/Warriors cohesion.

Leaving the meeting with a resounding, "We're right behind you Dog" from Egg and Latz, I went to organise a catch-up with the then President, Mike Perry, to outline how we thought this may work.



Mike Perry



Matt McLennan



Richard Smith



M Hendrie



D Cochrane

This was followed up with a recruiting meeting at the Devonshire Hotel, where a number of current older stalwarts of the club were contacted and asked to attend to discuss our plans and gauge their interest in them extending their careers a few more seasons via the new Club XVIII. Some of OBGFC's favourite sons who attended that meeting included Chris 'Sid' James, Matthew 'Booty' McLennan, Gerrard 'Gut' Bennet, Richard 'Dicky' Smith, Andrew 'Radar' Grant, Michael 'Bomber' Hendrie, Stuart 'Egg' Murray, David Cochran, Tony 'Buddha' Grant, Peter Latzer, David 'Spok' Smyth, and Lindsay 'Hugo' MacMahon, just to name a few. All of these revered sons of Old Brighton were to dig deep one more time for the sake of the Tonners. We had a quorum!

Suitably fortified with a unanimous vote of support, the club agreed to commence the 1995 season with a new Clubbies side and advised VFA headquarters to include the new Warriors into the 1995 fixture. Roger Brown was the self-appointed captain-coach of the side, while great mate Andrew Rutter was appointed as team manager. This would enable Ruttsy to assist in the actual coaching of the side during game time, and utilise his much vaunted coaching skills that he had honed over the years from the terraces of Linton Street Moorabbin while watching his beloved Saints. Little were we to realise that half-way through the season Ruttsy, in conjunction with Marc Selby, would take over the reins permanently as Roger Brown would be forced to take over the coaching of the Seconds after then Seconds coach Clarry walked out on the club. The new Warriors would start in similar fashion to the original MAD/Warriors. They were back!

In fact two years later in 1997, the new-found Warriors under then coach Stuart Kaye played off in the Grand Final against the might of Old Xavs via the Crocs. The Crocs, undefeated all year and looking at their 9th premiership in a row, were down to the OBG Warriors by an 18 point margin at the main break. Early in the third quarter a man who goes by the initials of 'Richard Wraith' (Slapper), decided to take on the Old Xavs back-pocket player (Lucius Orsini) and get himself sent off for his trouble. The resulting two quarters of football, with one man down, saw the challenge too much for the new-found Warriors who missed what would have been a fairytale return to the annals of Old Brighton history!

Footnote: Despite Egg and Latz's, (who remain great friends), assurances of support at the Ferguson Street seminar, it is fair to say the end of their involvement and support coincided with when I closed Latzer's front door on my way out that very same day! A fact I remind them both of on a regular basis. One of the things that always impressed me was the incredible support that Boots, Gut, Cocky, and Sid James gave to Old Brighton Football Club over all the various sides. Whilst many senior players hang up their boots when their career draws to a close, these four guys continued to play long after decorated senior careers, then in the Seconds, and now had volunteered to help create the new Club XVIII side. Andrew Kryzniack and Marcus Barber would also do the same at a later stage joining the Warriors in the late 90s. In fact Barbs would take it one step further by actually coaching the Warriors culminating in a premiership in 2009. Great stuff Hudgy! The value of this kind of support from these past players and their experience that they shared with younger players coming into the club is beyond measure. Well done guys. In fact David Cochrane was to break the OBGFC games record via the Clubbies, under Nick Sher.



Andrew Kryzniack



Marcus Barber



David Cochrane

Many thanks should be given to those who stood up to coach the Clubbies in the ensuing years; Nick Sher, Dan Stockdale, Stu Kay, Marc Selby, F Wiedermann, and of course Marcus Barber in particular. It is interesting to note that in 1999 (?), the much respected Bloods, through Simon 'Poddy' Smith, decided to amalgamate with the Warriors to become the Brighton Bloods. Due to VAFA guidelines and dwindling numbers 'Poddy' and 'Bainer' (Bloods' stalwarts) had a high-powered meeting at the Devonshire Hotel to discuss how the revered Bloods could join the Tonners brigade in the social league. Many thanks should be given to their efforts to keep the dream alive for both clubs as Bloods and Warriors combined to keep the dew off the ground for those who 'just wanted a game with their mates' and for a period of time play as the Brighton Bloods.

I shall pass on the remaining parts of this chapter to the contributions of three of the Warriors longer serving coaches; Nick Sher 2001 – 2004; Dan Stockdale 2005 – 2007 and Marcus Barber 2009. Apologies once again to anyone who may have been missed or of course disagree with my recollections of history some 20 years later.

Go Tonners!

OBGFC Club XVIII 2001 – 2004

By coach Nick Sher

The 2001 Club 18 team saw a huge turnover of players, a new coach and a club legend (who never actually played a game) as team manager. With the 2001 season beginning in April, by mid-March the team had a total of no more than 10 players and no coach. What they did have however, was a legendary and dedicated Old Brighton Grammarian supporter and committee member called Alan Munkittrick, aka Big Al. This ensured that not only would the Old Brighton Grammarians Club 18 team live to take the field in anger in season 2001, but we would have a great time doing it. So Big Al put it to the players to find a coach and bring some mates along to play. This was where I came in ...

My brother Anton Sher, a 50-game player, asked me if I would coach the team and after getting the green light from my wife, the Club 18 team of 2001 now had a coach.

Our first game for the season was against Therry Penola at Oak Park. We began the game with a total of 14 players and at quarter time had 15, as David 'Cocky' Cochrane stopped in on his way from the airport after a business meeting in Sydney. Although Therry Penola was no powerhouse of the competition, they had 18 players on the field and a sizeable bench, which was one hell of an advantage. Therry Penola won the game; however they had to fight for every possession, as the spirit we showed that day was enough to prove that we could be competitive in this competition.

Round 11 saw our first win, against Prahran at home. This coincided with Cocky's 300th game for the club. We played all of our available regular players that day, however still had room to make this a reunion game for Cocky's teammates from years gone by, including Matt Prior, Matthew McLennan, Andrew Grant, Peter Grant, Gerard Bennet, Chris James, Stuart Murray, Lindsay MacMahon, Paul Woff, and Roger 'Dog' Brown. Apologies to those that I have missed.

This drought breaker opened the floodgates a little, as we won the next three out of the final four games of the season which took us out of wooden spoon contention; the highlight being a stirring final game of the season where we beat a strong Mazenod team at their home ground. We knew this would give us a sense of belief leading into season 2002. We drank plenty that evening.

Season 2002 saw an organised pre-season and much optimism towards the coming season. With a settled team, we managed to win enough games to finish the season in 4th place. Among the highlights were two inspirational wins against the eventual runners-up, Monash Blues.

We knew that if results fell our way and we won our semi-final, and Monash Blues lost theirs, then we would have a huge psychological advantage that could see us into the Grand Final. Although Monash kept their end, we did not. In a close, tough, hard-fought struggle, we were narrowly beaten by St Leo's. The turning point came when ex-coach/ex senior champion, Marcus Barber, severely damaged his ankle which saw him spend a week in hospital. After Barbs left the field half-way through the third quarter, we never recovered. Our season was over. 2002 however, gave an indication of future success as the players were playing as a team and we could sense that things were beginning to take shape.

Pre-season 2003 saw the passing of my friend and mentor Alan 'Big Al' Munkittrick. Big Al was a true Old Brighton Grammarian Football Club legend, and to have worked closely with him over two years was somewhat of a privilege. Big Al is still missed by all at Old Brighton; however he is remembered through the Best Clubman award being named in his honour, which was very fitting.

Season 2003 was a ripper. We played off in the 2003 Grand Final, but were narrowly beaten by a strong Mazenod side that went through the season undefeated. The return from injury of our captain Gil Norwood after six weeks on the sidelines inspired us to defeat Whitefriars in the preliminary final by 80 points. We went into the Grand Final with confidence and a strong game plan. However we were unable to come up with the goods in a high standard game of Club 18 football.

Highlights were a series of hundred point thumpings of middle of the ladder teams towards the end of the season. The fact that we were clearly stronger than these teams was evident, yet it was the fact that we were able to bury teams and keep pressure on the opposition for 100% of matches that was so pleasing. This mindset was taken into the finals series, and the preliminary final was testament to this. This was a most enjoyable season both on and off the ground.

2004 saw us move up a grade into the Premier Club 18 section. We enjoyed a relatively successful season, finishing middle of the table. We won some tight games against Old Scotch and Old Essendon, however the might of Old Xaverians and the talent of St Kevin's and Prahran were just too strong for us at this stage of our team's development.

This year saw Cocky break the club games record and my decision to retire from coaching.

The time I spent at Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club was years that I will remember fondly for the rest of my life. I met some fantastic people and coached some great footballers.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2002 a letter was sent to all members headed Sponsorship 2002 and Social Club re-development, in which it was stated that the club's long-term plan provides that the Brighton Social Club, the incorporated body under which the club license is held and currently comprised of the OBGFC and the Brighton Sub-district Cricket Club, will in the future be expanded to also include the Brighton Beach Bowling Club along with the Old Brighton Grammarians Society and its affiliated sporting clubs to provide security for all the clubs.

OBGFC Club XVIII 2005 – 2007

By coach Dan Stockdale

The period 2005 – 2007 saw a new era of professionalism introduced into the Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club. With the Seniors moving from B Grade towards a permanent position in A Grade VAFA competition, the Club XVIII would also begin to change its psyche from that of ‘weekend warriors’ to a legitimate third eighteen.



Peter Gadsen Michael Dickerson Andrew Mullett Matthew Allan

Through the efforts of coaches and administrators Daniel Stockdale, Alastair Liptrot, Peter Gadsen, Roger Brown, Michael Dickerson, Andrew Mullett and Matthew Allan, the Club XVIII came to be an essential part of the OBGFC offering. It remained a place for former greats of the club to play out their twilight years, where senior players could get a kick on their way back from injury, where those challenged by poor form could get the game-time they required to push for selection in the Second Eighteen or Under 19s. Most importantly it provided an avenue for those players, of all standards, who just wanted to continue their association with school friends or simply have a kick of a football to do so.

Whilst the Club XVIII was unable to match the on-field results of other OBGFC teams, it certainly made up for it by providing a broad range of opportunities for members of the Old Brighton community to interact with the club and primarily, have a kick of footy in a competitive environment. With a focus on inclusiveness rather than elitism, (Mr Robert Rofe would be proud), the Club XVIII provided an opportunity for up to 80 individual players, aged 18 – 44, of all standards, to play a game for the OBGFC in any one season.

Of the games played by the Club XVIII in seasons 2005–2007, two games in particular stand out. Both were thrilling wins roundly considered amongst the players to be the best of their careers and, as much as anything else that might be said about them, they were exemplary of the spirit that permeates the entire club.

OBGFC Club XVIII v Old Scotch 2006 — ‘**The immovable object**’: Matched up against a talented Scotch side with a one-way ticket to the top four and finals, the Club XVIII after struggling through the start of the season, was boosted by the return of players on university holidays. Buoyed by the inclusion of some additional talent and with a full complement on the bench, the Clubbies looked set to shake up the competition by making a spirited attack on one of the competition’s elite clubs.

After three-quarters of determined footy and multiple lead changes, Old Brighton found itself four points in front with five minutes on the clock and a howling wind working against us. Despite not scoring for the remainder of the term, the Clubbies were unmoved by the desperate attempts

of Scotch to post a winning score. Scotch scored three more times that quarter but thanks to a well-coordinated team effort and several acts of individual bravery, each score that registered was a minor and Old Brighton held their nerve to claim a top four scalp by the barest of margins.

OBGFC Club XVIII v Old Trinity 2007 — ‘The irresistible force’: Without a doubt this was the best Club XVIII win in the years 2005 – 2007. Trinity and Brighton were well matched from the first kick in terms of personnel, talent and ladder position on a bitterly cold and wet day in Bulleen. After getting off to a flying start and leading early, by the last quarter the Clubbies had been reduced to 16 fit players, a one legged centre-half-back and a now playing coach who, it could be argued, wasn’t conditioned for competitive sport.

Struggling to keep a full complement on the field, it seemed that everything was conspiring to ensure Old Brighton would have no chance of winning what was becoming a test of survival rather than a game of football. It was pouring with rain, so cold you hadn’t felt your legs since showering fully-clothed at half-time, at a hostile arena, with almost no support, no oversight on match officials and with one minute and forty seconds remaining with a seven point deficit.

It was going to take a minimum of two scoring shots to win, more likely three and if Trinity scored again, four. Not content with the current challenge, the Clubbies gifted Trinity a mark and shot on goal from 15 metres out. Fortunately the pressure or the weather got to our opponents and the kick dropped short and was marked spectacularly on the full-back line. From the following kick the Clubbies went ‘coast to coast’ uncontested and slotted a handy point. The margin was back to six points, with one minute on the clock.

From the Trinity kick-out to a contest at centre-half-forward, a scrum ensued. Fortunately for Old Brighton our midfield was well populated with ex-rugby converts and so as it turned out, a scrum was ideal. This match was such a great team effort that it doesn’t seem right to name names, but he who shall remain nameless, retrieved the ball from the bottom of the scrum, deployed what can only be described as an ‘alligator roll’ to dislodge competitors’ hands from the ball, stood, performed a one-legged pirouette and snapped at goal. The kick wasn’t great but it bounced once ... over two Trinity players’ heads and then rolled end-over-end through for a goal!

The scores are level; there’s twenty seconds on the clock and the Clubbies are now determined to prove that an irresistible force is not just a logically impossible paradox. Not wanting to make the game any less thrilling, Old Brighton lost the tap and the ball was sent deep into Trinity’s forward line. Fortunately, it came straight back out just as quickly and a succession of slippery handballs ended in a blind snap from fifty that dropped short, thought about bouncing through for a point, turned right and went out of bounds, just as the clock hit ten seconds to go.

The Clubbies’ runner screamed out how little time was remaining, the ball was thrown in with three seconds on the clock. It bashed towards the point line and what turned out to be a Maginot line of Trinity defenders, two Old Brighton players fought each other, on their knees, inches from the line for possession of the ball. With one second to go one of them finally out-muscled their teammate and shoved the ball across the line to register the winning score. It was a truly astonishing win and a demonstration of the attitude Old Brighton players bring to every competitive endeavour.

Amongst many wonderful playing and officiating contributions to the Club XVIII

2005 – 2007, the following people stood out: Daniel Stockdale, Alastair Liptrot, Dane Bowden, James Bulfin, David Cooper, Jess Dooley, George Daou, Steven Dimer, Warwick Earl, Geoffrey Earl, Mark Jenkin, Ross Latta, Gill Norwood, Richard Oakley, AJ Paterson, Chris Reddin, Matthew Stockdale, Rory Sullivan, Chris Trim, Chris Walker and the incomparable David Cochrane, who retired as the club Games Record Holder in 2006 after a long and successful playing career. (Apologies to those whose photos we don't have as yet.)



Jess Dooley



AJ Paterson

2009: The Warriors pick up another Premiership

By coach Marcus Barber

I returned to coaching the Club XVIII around ten years since my last stint. Taking over from Frank Marchesani, there was clear signs that the bones of a side were there and that to be competitive we'd need to have a handful of more experienced players to support and guide the younger and arguably quicker group. There are two key factors for success in Club XVIII football — an oversupply of players who can fill the void when work, study and family commitments prevent players from being available, and a good mix of experience and youth. The first email sent out to the collection of names stated that with the right approach “we would win the flag this year”. There's nothing like setting your future up right!

The campaign started in an interesting fashion when for the first time I can recall, the Club XVIII had a pre-season practice match. Given four days to prepare we were, shall we say, not prepared, with just eleven players fronting up. A few Under 19s put up their hands to play another game and with Uni Blues providing another three players we had a solid hit-out, going down by 10 goals. Despite the loss we were already better prepared than any Clubbies side had been for quite some time and I was grateful for the ‘nudge’ we got from Greg McLoughlin for saying “yes” to the Uni Blues request for a Clubbies practice match.



Greg McLoughlin

I'd set the team's mantra as the 3Ps — Protection (you must protect your teammates going for the ball and in how you deliver the ball to them); Position (you must give the ball to the person in the best position to benefit the team); and Inflict Pain on the opposition (which works best

when you get inside their heads and the best way to do that is on the scoreboard). By following the 3Ps everyone knew where they stood and knew what to expect from the coaching staff.

Our first match against Old Trinity at Bulleen saw us display some great football with a number of players coming out of the woodwork, or being on loan from the Seconds. With an abundance of numbers and a great mix of youth and experience, we had a twelve goal win on the scoreboard but ended up losing the match due to playing an unregistered player. It was the start of a less than impressive five weeks which saw us pumped at home by Uni Blacks to the tune of 15 goals, lose to Monash by 3 points in a game we should have won easily and lose to the then bottom side Fitzroy. Our win against Mazenod showed that we really could play but after round five we were one win, four losses and equal last on the ladder. In a 15 round season, it was fair to say that we were in trouble and needed to start winning games.

Numbers on the training track were excellent and being able to train on a Wednesday night without getting in the way of the Seniors was of great value to the team. We reeled off wins against North Old Boys and Whitefriars and then faced Old Camberwell who was likely to be our main rival for a spot in the final four, given that Uni Blacks, Marcellin and Monash had already stamped themselves as the clear competition leaders. We played our best game for the year with a convincing win in a match that saw our game plan start to solidify, as a number of the team became more comfortable playing in less familiar positions than they had previously in their careers.

Coming into the round nine match against Marcellin at Marcellin, it was fair to say that some of the lads had gotten ahead of themselves given we'd had three wins in a row in rather emphatic style. We played a rubbish first half and still led by 8 points. And then things went pear-shaped. Marcellin kicked 8 goals to 1 in the 3rd quarter and that was the end result. Out in the middle of the ground after the game I told the lads they should be embarrassed by how they performed — we were made to look like donkeys.

The season continued and we improved bit by bit. I was interstate for a fortnight and handed the reins to assistant-coach Dan Stockdale who managed the lads against Mazenod at home — a scrappy but convincing result, and then Monash at Monash in which the boys went berserk and finally put any doubts they could play behind them. We were sitting in a race for fourth with Old Camberwell when we confronted our final watershed moment in round eleven playing the then undefeated Uni Blacks at the University, the scene of some horrible shellackings for Old Brighton Clubbies in recent time.

The challenge was even greater when injuries, snow, work and other interests saw about nine of our top 12 or so players not being available for the game. At the end of Wednesday night's training we only had 12 players available. By Friday morning we only had thirteen players available and I'd rung Uni Blacks to advise them that we might be about to forfeit the match. By Friday afternoon we'd gotten our numbers up to 18 available and my only thoughts were to hope we could minimise the potential damage to our percentage.

Then I started to put the side together and was surprisingly content; it looked a pretty good side! A chat with the President also meant I could come out of mothballs for my first game for the year. Lo and behold on the Saturday, three Un19 lads in Yeatman, Betts and Kariannis joined us,

along with some bloke called Sheehan for his first game and we'd swelled to almost a full bench. The match was a ripper, played on the big Crawford Oval with a solid four goal breeze, strong attacks on the ball by both sides, high skills and a very good pace. We held them at bay for most of the match, with Uni Blacks just putting their noses in front for the first time about halfway through the last quarter. We responded immediately with two quick goals and in the end hung on to win by two points. The comment to the lads after the game was: "It doesn't matter who gets the stats, who gets the goals and whether or not we have our best players. What matters is that those who take the field do what they have to do to win the match!" The phone call by the vice-captain Jess Dooley to the 'snow brigade' was one laced with a fair amount of passion, and not just about the win! Needless to say the captain, vice-captain and coach looked pretty content in the showers after the match as we discussed the hits and tackles and way the side had played. Given the earlier thumping Blacks had given us, we were now on a more level footing.

A win at home against Old Trinity saw us then face Marcellin at home. We won by five goals without too much stress but what was more important was what we learned about how they preferred to play. They were a side hard to run over the top of, but one likely to get frustrated when forced to chase you down on the scoreboard — it was to be an important clue. It turned out that the round 9 loss to Marcellin was the last time we would be beaten for the year, which had us winning 12 of our last 13 matches. We set ourselves to win the next four matches. A competitive Fitzroy gave us the ideal hit-out leading into the finals with some players facing competition for a spot in the side and a chance for others to get an extra week of post-injury fitness.

In the first semi-final we played Monash at the Brunswick Oval and despite some wayward kicking we were never in any real trouble, benefitting instead from Monash's persistence allowing us to keep working hard. For the second semi-finalists watching in the grandstand, some would say that we'd already gotten into their heads with how effectively we dismantled Monash and I doubt either side wanted to meet us in the preliminary. In the second semi-final played after our game, Marcellin easily accounted for Uni Blacks and I knew we would beat Blacks the following week at Elsternwick Park. We did so and although the scoreboard suggests a final margin of ten points in a scrappy, windy and occasionally rain-soaked day, two late goals to Uni Blacks flattered them. We'd well and truly off-loaded any historical baggage and were more than keen for the Marcellin onslaught.

The Grand Final was played in typical Elsternwick Park conditions — a 5 – 6 goal breeze blowing straight down the ground. Within a couple of minutes I was pretty confident we would win the game, not because of how well we were playing, but because Marcellin were going the man and not the ball. Our lads kept at the ball each time. Up by three goals at quarter time, down by a point at half-time, (the same as we were against Uni Blacks the week before), and up by three goals at the final change, I asked the lads for one final commitment, just one more quarter. I urged them to understand that the rewards for their effort would be well and truly worth it, that it was a chance to do this together and to 'win this bloody match'. Kicking against a four goal breeze, the ball did not enter into Marcellin's forward 50 until the 13 minute mark of the last quarter (with the quarters being 17 minutes plus time on). When Marcellin kicked their first goal of the

quarter at about the 16 minute mark they knew it was too late. We out-played, out-persisted and out-thought them the whole game... the 3Ps had stood up.



Standing back and watching the boys celebrate in the middle was an absolute delight. There's many more stories to be told — of injured players who maybe/shouldn't have played and others who should have, of players who missed out on the Grand Final side having played in one of the other finals. Of players who'd given up earlier in the year and missed out and others who joined at just the right time, of how only two players were dragged for the entire year and that was for not protecting their teammates with a shepherd! In the end though, it came down to one thing — winning that flag. All of the players and support staff will remember that they earned the right to be part of that win throughout the year.

Go Tonners!

Roger Brown was responsible for this excellent chapter.

Contribution from Owen Millis

Memories of OBGFC:

After having played football from the Under 10s through to the first XVIII at school, it was a natural progression for me and my mates to head down to OBGFC. Having also watched my brother (Mark) play for several years, and being inspired by the then legends — John Code, Barry Pryor, Barry Morris, Keith Peachey, the Sedgwick's (David, Peter), etc. With the likes of Barry Hamilton, Joe Nicholls, Mick Rossiter, we hit the U19s and Bill Faul, who was assisted (more guided) by Doug Ridley and Ken Kendall. From there it was to the Firsts and Reserves with a long line of long-suffering coaches. It was a very social club; every one welcomed you, and the age barrier made no difference.



John Code



Barry Prior



Barry Morris



Keith Peachy



David Sedgwick



Peter Sedgwick



Barry Hamilton



Mick Rossiter



Doug Ridley



Ken Kendall

I always looked forward to having a few beers with the old heads — Doug Wood, James Agar, Geoff Hosie, Pedro Ewan, etc. In those days the footy match on Saturdays was easy compared to the obligatory Friday night at Khyat's, and if you were game enough, the pleasant Sunday mornings at Rob Pitchers etc. from which you needed a good few days to recover. And not to be forgotten are the obligatory Thursday night card games after training, led by Graham Willis (part of the infamous Reserves Virgin half backline — never penetrated), along with Joe Nicholls.



Doug Wood



Jamie Agar



Geoff Hosie



Graeme Jeffery



Roy Harper



R McLellan

Early coaches who come to mind: Graeme (you're not worth a bucket full of arseholes) Jeffery, Roy Harper, Kevin Deer (who placed a lot of faith in statisticians), Bobby Mac who was often moved to tears of pure frustration and one time, so pissed off at how we were playing he played himself, taping over the wedding ring which he couldn't remove. Who could ever forget the placid Alan Miller — he of the chair throwing, dummy spitting genre? Next, Bill (Bull) McGrory who insisted a good coach had to wear a tie and a coat, (except when the coat is stolen), and a pre-requisite at OBGS particularly, a psychiatrist's couch, (I think he probably initiated this trend to the AFL), and ably backed by a strong coaching panel of John Berry, Phil Meyer, Rick Trewavis and Ian Stan Pascal. He took the club to its first 1st XVIII premiership. Peter Murphy was followed by bustling Billy Browne, who took us to a C Grade premiership.



Bill McGrory



John Berry



Phil Meyer



Rick Trewavis



Billy Browne

Having chosen to work in the wholesale fruit and vegetable market and working from 1am for often 12 hours a day and weekends too, I was often promoted to the 'Magoos' due to lack of training. There some of the characters of the game congregated and it was always good to see these players perform — Peter 'The Judge' Latzer (always on the bench), the 'brilliant' Mark Dobbie, 'kick it to the doctor' Marty Hunt, Jezza Riddell (the man who could baulk his own shadow), Rod Cowling, Barry Gartner, Drewe Bellmaine, John Tapp, etc.



Peter Latzer



Mark Dobbie



Marty Hunt



Jezza Riddell



Rod Cowling



Barry Gartner



Drewe Bellmaine



John Tapp

It was not uncommon in the eighties to have only 16 players to start with, which included spectators (unknown) dragged off their bikes and sequestered to play. It was a test of true metal to be the coach, and those deserve a mention — some have never recovered from the experience I suspect: 'Fish' Mullett, Barry 'Ruddy' Hamilton, Bruce McBriar, Kompie, Peter

Burns, Rod 'Howling' Cowling and John MacKenzie. Brave men indeed! From Bill McGrory, Billy Browne, Greg Tootell and Mark Sarau, plus a strong committee, the accent of the club changed from more social to more football first, and became a strong and respected football club.



Andrew Mullett



Bruce McBriar



John MacKenzie



Greg Tootell



Mark Sarau



Tony Gedye



John Priestly

Highlights:

- Playing alongside some truly great footballers such as Rick Thomas, John Berry and the whole of the 1980 premiership side which boasted talent in every department; Tony Gedye, John and Steve Priestley, Dave Shepherd, Mark Epstein, Bruce McClure, Mark Leske, Peter Grant, Peter 'Far' King, to name a few. To my mind, this is by far the greatest team to grace the field for us ever!



Steve Priestley



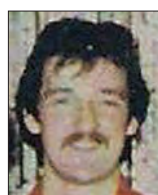
Dave Shepherd



Mark Epstein



Bruce McClure



Mark Leske



Peter Grant



Peter King



Peter Latzer



Peter Watkins

- Peter Latzer felling the field umpire at a Reserves game against Old Melburnians with a well-placed soccer kick to the testicles. After recovering, (a good 20 minutes later), the umpire was then chased all day by a very apologetic Latzer.

- Peter Latzer organising an emu parade search in the middle of a Reserves game versus Old Xavs. Barry Gartner had relocated an Old Xav forward's front tooth with an errant elbow, so Latzer stopped the game, got everyone in line and started the search. Alas, no tooth was found.
- Peter Watkins handballing on the forward line — no, this never happened! But I do remember the day he came off the bench against Old Melburnians Firsts and with the help of 'Hitman' Hamilton started an all-in blue within 30 seconds — the day 'our pedigree was stained'.
- Playing against Reservoir in the early 70s when the South Road oval was blanketed with thick fog; visibility was about 25 metres and even then you couldn't make out the players. Scores were relayed by voice around the ground and needless to say, every one claimed to be Best on Ground (BOG) that day!
- A pleasant Sunday morning at Joe Nicholls which started at 11am and ended about 10pm, (the grog had finally run out). This most enjoyable and memorable day (for some) raised \$20 for the club.

The most important things were the friendships made, the good times at all the numerous functions, and the love of a game of football — all were in abundance at OBGFC.

Claims to Fame:

- Having played in four different decades for the club (60s-90s).
- Only player to have suffered a broken jaw by being hit in the face with the football.

It would be remiss not to thank all those tireless and hard-working people without whom there would never be a club, people who gave their time and often their homes for the club. From my era there was Peter Sedgwick, Graeme Templeton, Mabs and Noelle, Andrew Mullett, Doug Dick, Michael Wood, Billy Browne, Nobby Forster, Stuart Murray, to name just a few, and the lifelong supporters such as Harry Zac, Mary Edmonson and Tom Cullinan — adding true colour to the club.



Harry Zachariah



Tom Cullinan

Also thanks to my darling wife Gabrielle — an avid anti-football fan — for putting up with everything and washing the dirty gear!

—Owen Millis

Contribution from Peter King

I came to the club directly as my mates Peter Grant and Doug Dick were already there. I knew many other players at that time as there was a strong group from BGS playing in that era.



Peter Grant



Doug Dick

I had played most of my junior football in the local Moorabbin competition for the Moorabbin Cats. They were a feeder for the St Kilda Little League at the time. I played for two seasons and we won the 1971 Little League flag — the last time St Kilda came close to a flag!

I was playing cricket seriously when I was playing football for OBGFC. Consequently my commitment to the footy season usually began quite a bit later than most. This was a constant frustration to all the coaches I played under, as they were trying to build a tight team unit and me (and a couple of others) were not giving the correct signal.

I did not play a great amount of games for the club, although I think my amateur 'career' encompassed 8 years. I missed a few games with injuries, (the Red and Blue Disco put me out for 6 weeks one year when I fell from the shoulders of Peter Grant and crushed my knee cap!) and I missed a few under suspension, although this was 'out of character' and occurred under extreme provocation.

Winning the B Grade Flag was a real highlight in my sporting career as we overcame a very good side to win.



David Warnock



Tony Geyde



David Shepherd



John Priestly



Gary Jones



Mark Epstein



Mark Leske



Bruce McClure

Playing with the likes of Warnock, Gedye, Shepherd, Priestly, Grant, Jones, Epstein, Leske, McClure, etc. was a great source of enjoyment. These were all very talented people, (not only in sporting circles), who came together to not only compete and succeed but have a lot of fun doing it.

Peter Grant and I took it upon ourselves in this period to write a column for the newsletter (*The Tonners Times*) under the headline of the Buchan Brothers. We successfully reported upon (and ultimately caused) all sorts of scandal in these articles and if we were short of gossip, we made it up. This did offend the odd person but was something that helped build a strong team bond. (See chapter *Tonners Times*.)

I was playing cricket with the Melbourne Cricket Club and remember turning up to watch a practice match at the Beach Oval prior to one season. I think Billy Browne was coach and I was with Jack Priestley, David Shepherd and Peter Grant. We had been at the Marine for a counter lunch and had a schnitzel and a few pots, and Billy made us play! We played an A grade team (Collegians from memory). The four of us were on fire for the first half. Jumping Jack kicked 5 or 6, Shepherd was untouchable. We killed Collegians until half-time; then the juice ran out and we got done.

As I mentioned I played a lot of cricket, so fitting football in was a bit hard. I had 25 years of playing cricket, with 13 years at the Melbourne Cricket Club. I coached and captained 1st XI premierships teams and represented Victoria in Sheffield Shield cricket. I played cricket professionally in the UK for a season and ended up coaching and captaining back at Moorabbin Cricket Club where I began my cricket as a Junior. I am now coaching my son's U9 team in Sydney!

I have been living in Sydney now for over 5 years (2002) and have 3 children (Kate 14, Alice 11, and Tom 8). I am married to Joanna, who was by my side through my time at OBGFC. She would tell you that she does not know how we survived that time but if our relationship can thrive after a few seasons at Old Brighton, it is destined to be a long and happy relationship.

Having worked at Sales and Marketing at Puma in Melbourne for 13 years in the sporting business I am now President, Asia Pacific, for the Coleman Company. This is a US based company and is the largest outdoor recreation company in the world. I am responsible for the Asia Pacific business reporting directly to the US CEO. I now travel overseas frequently, but we are loving Sydney and the lifestyle we have there. I remain in close contact with a number of people connected with the Old Boys. I employed both Bulldog Brown and Andrew Grant when I was with Puma for example.

OBGFC provided great teammates, wonderful supporters and was always surrounded by a core-group of quality people who made this a great club in which to be involved.

I have stayed in touch via various means; I was even on the committee one year when Peter Grant put me in charge of the kiosk — a joke at the time, but he never did it again such was my contribution! I was a member of the Brighton Icebergers at the Baths for many years when in Melbourne and this kept me in touch with the happenings at the footy club. Every morning

in the sauna it was like a committee meeting with Billy Browne, Peter Grant, Mike Wood, Peter Sedgwick etc. Catching up with Tempo (Graeme Templeton), Woody, the Mulletts (Ian, Andrew), Nobby Forster is always great. It was like the last 20 years never happened.

The stories of my times at the club are too many to write down. If I could list a few lines, I think you will get the picture:

- Latzer sliding on his knees (soccer style) in front of the stand at Alphington after kicking a goal.
- The spa at Graeme Templeton's.
- Pete Simon drinking a glass of p.... in the club (thinking it was beer, of course).
- Rushing to Bryan Templeton's place to save his wife from a burglar only to find it was a false alarm. We all left and went back to the club including Bryan, leaving Jan by herself!



Graeme Templeton



Marg Templeton



Don Draper



Harry Zachariah

- All Red and Blue Discos.
- Dick and Don (Gedye and Draper) yelling support.
- Eating Marg Templeton's ceramic breadstick display late one night thinking it was just stale!
- Harry Zac sitting in the cold stands at the Beach Road unfailing in his support.
- Punching Peter Grant in the head as I ran onto the ground at the commencement of a game just before he hit me. He believed I played better if I was belted early in a game; he was injured and wanted to fire me up. He ended up on his back with his crutches on top of him in the room.
- Graeme Templeton's inebriated smile
- Getting a 'squirrel grip' from Ian Cooper (ex St Kilda and Hampton Rovers) in one of my first games, along with a belt in the head. Welcome to senior football!
- Billy Browne's coaching vocabulary — "Let's get out of this brothel and back to Khyat's. I don't want to see anyone throwing cut lunches today — except me."
- Jack Priestley's marking and David Shepherds delivery to him.
- Peter Grant's lack of mobility and agility in his early years.
- Dougy Dick's courage.
- Telling the President of the club (Graeme Templeton) who was runner at Coburg on this occasion to tell the coach (Billy Browne) to get f*#*d, I wasn't going near the ball. Bill had questioned my commitment to the ball. We were winning easily and I had a bloke covered in cartoons chasing me around the ground belting me whenever I went near the ball. I had apparently hurt his brother earlier in the game in a rough tackle and he was looking for retribution.

- Getting into a scuffle with a Collegians player on the wing at the Harry Trott Oval and having our boundary umpire, Simon Davis, tackle a Collegian player from behind who was about to belt me from behind ... if you get the picture!
- The after-match celebrations of the premiership win in 1980. The looks on the faces of the supporters when we won — I think they enjoyed it more than the players.
- The awesome ruck duo of Gedye and Warnock.
- The slick skills of Epstein, McClure and Leske.
- 'Mad Dog' Wilson losing a large piece of hair in the hands of an Ivanhoe player and going berserk. He never reacted this way but he could not afford to lose any hair!

I had many happy times at the club and am proud to be able to call so many of the people associated with the club my friend.

—**Peter King**

Our Coaches

“The art of good coaching is to keep the guys who hate you away from those who haven’t made up their minds.” (Casey Stengel, US baseball coach.)

The coaching of Australian Rules football has come a long way in the 53 years since Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club was reformed. In that time, we’ve had a total of eighty-two coaches in the Seniors, Reserves, Under 19s and Clubbies. Some played with the club but many others were attracted to the club from other playing and coaching backgrounds, a combination that has steadily improved our competitiveness and now has Old Brighton firmly entrenched in Premier One; the Amateurs top division. This chapter celebrates each of our coaches, with a brief profile of their terms and achievements.

This history would not be complete without acknowledging the Old Brightonians, who fielded a team from 1932 until the Second World War interrupted the Amateur competition at the end of 1939. Roy Harper, (no relation to the coach in 1967 – 9), coached from 1932 – 1934. He was succeeded by Fred Turnbull (1935 – 38) and Bill Fitzgerald in 1939 who later became the first coach of the reformed Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club in 1957.

Senior Coaches 1957 – 2010

Amateur Football Clubs, who choose not to match the financial incentives offered to players in other suburban and country football leagues, depend more on the quality of the people involved in administering and guiding the club and of course on the character and selfless attitude of the players. In this setting, the senior coach plays a critical role.

Through his actions and leadership, the senior coach largely determines what the playing group is prepared to sacrifice to win matches. He is a strategist, a mentor, a disciplinarian and a motivator. He accepts the advice of others, but ultimately makes his own decisions. He listens to the problems and concerns of players but is not judgmental and does his best to treat everyone with the same degree of fairness. His overriding principle in dealing with the playing group is to consider what is in the best interests of the team. And when the heat of battle is over, he has the ability to focus on the positives, no matter what the result and start planning for the next game. Amateur football being what it is, come 5 pm on a Saturday, he’ll make a point of mixing with his players, the umpires, the opposition players and coaches over a cold drink in a genuine spirit of camaraderie. Old Brighton has been fortunate to have twenty-two senior coaches since the club was reformed in 1957 who embodied most, if not all, of these characteristics.

Seventeen of our coaches came to the club from other football backgrounds, nine of them from

other amateur football clubs, four of our coaches (Berry, Jeffery, McLellan and Mullett) were educated at Brighton Grammar and Horrie Webber (1958) was a teacher at the School. Graeme Jeffery has the distinction of being the longest serving coach, (six years from 1961 – 1966), and there are three others who coached for 5 years; Mark Sarau, Dale Tapping and Greg 'Max' McLaughlin. The shortest term as a coach belongs to Bill Miller who coached half a season in 1974, thus depriving Bill McGrory, who coached both the Seniors and the Reserves for the remainder of that season, of a full 5 years as senior coach. Five of our coaches stayed for only one season.

Three senior coaches have won premierships; Bill McGrory (D Grade 1977), Bill Browne (C Grade 1980) and Dale Tapping (B Grade 1997).

Reference has been made throughout the individual profiles of the coaches to the percentage of games won and lost. This should be treated only as a guide and doesn't necessarily indicate the relative success of one coach compared to another. Such huge variables as the promotion and relegation system and the rapid turnover of players that is typical of amateur football have almost certainly influenced these figures.

So here's a profile of all twenty-two coaches from 1957 to 2010.

Bill Fitzgerald (1957):

He coached the Old Boys, known as the Old Brightonians, in 1939 before the club disbanded because of the Second World War. Bill remained friendly with then players, Nick Walsh (Vice-captain 1939) and Dave Paroissien (Captain 1938). Formerly Captain of Collingwood Reserves, Bill played a single game for Collingwood in the Firsts but won the Most Consistent Player award over four consecutive years in the Reserves. It was fitting that Nick Walsh, when he became President of the reformed Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club asked Bill to come back as the inaugural coach. In his only year as coach in the entry level E Grade competition, Bill's team won 11 games and lost 7 for a win ratio of 61%. Bill passed away in the 1970s.

Horrie Webber (1958):

Horrie Webber taught at Brighton Grammar School for many years. He had a justifiable reputation as a strict disciplinarian and was greatly respected for his knowledge of cricket and football, coaching premierships sides in both sports in the Associated Grammar Schools' competition and for a short time in the Associated Public Schools' competition. After Bill Fitzgerald's departure, Horrie agreed to step in even though he was still teaching, because he had coached most of the players and knew their individual abilities and potential. In those early years, the Old Boys trained and played on the



Crowther Oval so it was easy to leave the classroom and walk across Kramer Street to the main oval on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Horrie successfully managed the demands of the Old Boys with his teaching duties, and still managed to get to the MCG to watch his beloved Demons play a game or two during the season. In E Grade, Horrie coached the side to a 50% win ratio.

Horrie Berry (1959 – 1960):

Horrie attended BGS with his brother Trevor 'Skip' Berry who is still active in the Old Brighton Grammarians Lodge. Horrie coached the Under 19s at Power House where a lot of Old Boys went to play before our club reformed. Horrie had coached Army football teams and he brought a new approach to fitness and an uncompromising attitude which didn't please everyone, but set new standards. In his first year, Horrie coached the team to second position and promotion to D Grade in 1960 and maintained an overall win ratio of 70%.

**Graeme Jeffery (1961 – 1966):**

Graeme was a Power House player before the club reformed. He went to Brighton Grammar with Keith Robinson who in 1961 succeeded Nick Walsh as President. In 1960, Graeme coached the first Reserves team, which was actually a mix of Old Brighton and Old Haileybury players. In 1961, he took charge of the senior team and coached them until the end of 1966. In spite of many highlights both on and off the field, Graeme's greatest disappointment was losing the Grand Final to St Bernard's in 1965. Having beaten them twice during the year, everyone was confident we could win but despite having eight more scoring shots, a score line of 15 goals 2 points (93 points) to 7 goals 18 behinds (60 points) told the story of day which still rankles with those who were involved. Graeme has the distinction of being the first coach who both attended Brighton Grammar and played for the Old Boys (1957/8). Graeme continued his service to OBGFC with a five year term as President from 1968 to 1973. After Graeme retired from a long career in stockbroking, he moved to Port Macquarie where he was Chairman of the Racing Club for some years. He celebrated his 80th birthday in 2008, in the company of family and his sister Jill who is married to Don Cameron, inaugural coach of the Under 19 team and former Chairman of BGS Council. Successful in D Grade for 4 years, the stronger competition in C grade reduced Graeme's overall win ratio to 56%.

**Roy Harper (1967 – 9):**

Roy was the first cousin of Keith and Betty Wood, Mike and Peter's parents. As a youngster Roy modelled his game on the extraordinary skills of Les Foote and Kevin Dynon of North Melbourne. Roy played VFA with Sandringham in the late 40s and early 50s, and was runner-up in the J J Liston Trophy and Best and Fairest for the Zebras in 1951. He crossed to Footscray in 1952 and played 40 games which yielded 26 goals. Unfortunately he missed the Bulldogs' Grand Final victory in 1954 due to injury. He then became captain-coach of Glenhuntly in the Federal District League before being invited by President Keith Robinson to coach Old Brighton. Although retired for some years, Roy was more than capable of handing out some very solid



bumps at training and in the occasional practice game. Roy's great strength was his ability to teach the skills he had learned over a distinguished career to a group of willing amateurs. Roy turned 80 in 2009 and a 'dodgy football knee' prevents him from being too active. His wife Loris, much respected by all at the club, died in 1996. Roy coached all 3 years in C Grade for an overall win ratio of 42%.

Kevin Deer — (1970):

President Graeme Jeffery advertised the coaching position after Roy Harper retired and the selection panel decided on Kevin Deer, who played all his football in the Federal District League. Kevin's football knowledge was indisputable but by nature he was a quiet person. Unlike previous coaches, Kevin was only a few years older than the players and struggled to get to grips with the culture of the club. In a year of rebuilding after demotion to D Grade his win ratio was 47%.

Bob McLellan — (1971 – 1974):

Bob was School Captain in 1954 and excelled as a footballer and middle distance runner. Bob won the club Best and Fairest in 1957, 1958, 1962 and 1964. Most importantly Bob was the first Old Brighton player to win a competition Best and Fairest, winning E Grade in 1958. He played 144 games and was club captain in 1958, 1959 and 1966. Appointed during Graeme Jeffery's Presidency, Bob brought the same intensity and endurance to coaching as he displayed as a player. In his second year OBGFC was D Grade runner-up to Parkside by a single point and in Bob's last year in C grade, the team won 9 games and lost 9 games for an overall win ratio of 56%. It is typical of Bob that after nearly 30 years away from the club he took on the Team Manager's role in 2006–7 and even managed to run the water bottle out to players when he was short on volunteers. Bob missed most of season 2008 after he and Alison retired to Sorrento, but in 2009 was seen regularly except for an enforced absence due to a knee operation for an old injury sustained many years before while playing for the Old Boys. He recalled he was in so much pain all he could do was repeatedly say f**k, the first time his father had heard Bob use the word. Bob was selected in the ruck in the Best of OBGFC 1957–2007.



Bill McGrory (1974 – 1978):

Bill began 1974 as coach of the Reserves and stepped into the senior coaching role mid-way through the season at half-time in an away game against University High. Although well qualified as an amateur footballer and coach, the Coaching Selection panel preferred another applicant for the senior job. Alan Miller had played and coached at South Melbourne and the opportunity to recruit a former League coach was too compelling. Unfortunately, Alan didn't adapt easily to amateur football and became so frustrated with the players' inability to follow his instructions he quit mid-season. Bill took over at half-time and history records that Old Brighton won the game. Believing that the side needed 'toughening up', Bill recruited his son Dennis and two other players from his old



club Glenhuntly AFC, Paul Valle and Jim Rose. Relegated to D Grade in 1976, Bill coached the Seniors to a famous Grand Final victory in 1977 against Alphington. In his last year, now back in C Grade, the club won 9 games. Bill was enthusiastic about football and loved the coaching business and the camaraderie that existed at Old Brighton. He was an engaging personality who took a genuine interest in all his players and the club supporters. Bill would often drop down to the Beach Road oval long after he retired as coach and share a laugh and a drink with his many friends. Sadly he passed away in mid-1990. His overall record was 46 wins and 46 losses; although it would be typical of Bill to argue that it would have been over 50% if he'd been in charge of the Senior team in the first half of 1974. Bill was one of five to be nominated as coach for the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007.

Peter Murphy (1979):

After Bill Mc Grory's retirement, the Committee decided that a playing coach would be worth considering. Not only would the right person bring contemporary football coaching skills to the club but also enhance the playing group. A search identified a number of candidates and Peter Murphy, centre-half-back for Ormond AFC, winner of multiple A grade amateur premierships in the 1970s, club Best and Fairest and State representative, was a stand out. Peter readily accepted the challenge and became the club's first captain-coach. The club won half the games in C grade the year before so his record of 14 wins and 6 losses (including 2 in the finals) for a 70% win ratio was testament to the contribution Peter made to OBGFC. It didn't go unnoticed at Ormond either, because he was approached to take up their senior coaching role and returned to his old club the next year. Peter and his wife Rae are keen golfers and can be seen regularly at Southern Golf Club.

Bill Browne (1980 – 1981, 1983):

A former St Kilda and Sandringham player, Bill had been a friend of many in the club for some years through an association with the Royal Brighton Yacht Club. For years the VAFA had been very strict in disallowing applications to play amateur football by players who had played at more senior levels and been paid. With the relaxation of these rules players such as Bill, who had progressed from VFL to VFA and then to Latrobe in the NTF, became eligible to join the amateur ranks. Bill's presence on the field and his no-nonsense style of coaching brought immediate success as the club won the C Grade Grand Final against the Geelong AFC and after promotion to B grade the next year won 9 of 18 games. Not long before the season started for his third year, Bill met with President Graeme Templeton to inform him that his wife Sheila was expecting triplets and he'd have to stand down. With Anthony and Lucy still young, the arrival of the triplets meant the Brownes would soon have five children under five years of age. Bill returned after a year in which Reserves coach Andrew Mullett stepped into the position of senior coach. Bill's overall win ratio was 57%. He was one of five to be nominated as coach for the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007. Bill became President in 1988 and 1989 and has stayed close to the club ever since. He and Sheila retired to McCrae a couple of years ago.



Andrew Mullett (1982):

Along with parents, Bill and Tupp and brother Ian, the Mulletts are an integral part of the Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club. Andrew was voted Chairman of Selectors in the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007 and is still involved as the regular Saturday timekeeper and the creator and presenter of the long running *Bench Warmer*, a fearless, satirical and deliciously amusing account of the weekend's round of matches. Andrew was a tough half-forward whose career total of 142 games would undoubtedly have been greater but for a posting to a teaching position in Corryong for some years. He was Runner-up to Jim Kemp in the Seniors Best and Fairest in 1973. Andrew coached the Reserves for three years and with the sudden withdrawal of Bill Browne before the start of the 1982 season, he agreed to accept the senior coaching position.



Greg Tootell (1984 – 1985):

The youngest of three Tootell brothers who played many games for Old Caulfield Grammarians during their A Grade years, Greg played 293 senior games and another 40 as captain-coach of the Reserves. At the time John Wilson was Chairman of Selectors at Old Brighton. He was a legendary coach of Old Caulfield and became involved with Old Brighton where his son Cameron played. He had a high regard for Greg as a player and unhesitatingly recommended him when asked by President Michael Wood if he had any ideas who could guide the playing group over the next few years. The club stayed in C Grade because Alphington were disbarred from the amateur competition, and it was a great credit to Greg that he took the side into the Grand Final only to be beaten by CBC St Kilda. Promoted to B grade in 1985, the team again performed well. Greg well remembers the trepidation of joining a new club but by season's end, "couldn't have felt more comfortable amongst a great group of players and supporters". After two very successful years, with an overall win ratio of 57%, Greg was lured back to coach Old Caulfield Grammarians. He is still an active supporter of the club, a very knowledgeable spectator and one of the founders of the players' pre-season camp at Lorne.



Mark Sarau (1986 – 1990):

The club began a search for a new coach at the end of the 1985 season. Amongst the list of candidates was Mark Sarau who had played at St Kilda with his brother Jeff and for the most recent five years as centre-half-back for Sandringham.

Mark would occasionally come down to Beach Road to watch his friend John Clarkson play and when John suggested to him that Old Brighton were looking for a coach he followed through his application with the new President, Graeme Templeton and Mark was eventually selected for the 1986 season. VAFA rules at that time meant that to regain his amateur status, Mark could not play for one season so he coached the side and Peter Grant was captain. The following season Mark was captain-coach,



although a serious knee injury prevented him from playing half the year. In 1988 – 89 he coached and played but left the captaincy to Cameron Lade and in his final year he was non-playing coach. Mark played 56 games for Old Brighton. Captain-coach, non-playing and playing coach is a mixture of roles we are unlikely to experience again at Beach Road. Reflecting on his five years at Old Brighton, Mark was adamant that, “they were the best five years of my football career”. He said, “the culture of the club and the genuine closeness of the playing group made my role a pleasure.” Mark was one of five to be nominated as coach for the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007. After dropping back to C Grade in his second year, Mark coached the team to a Grand Final in 1988 and competed in B grade in his last two years. His overall win ratio was 54%.

Mark and his wife Heather are now living at Barnawartha and he coached Rutherglen in 2008/9.

Mark Parker (1991 – 1993):

Mark had seen Old Brighton play in 1990 when he was involved at De La Salle as assistant-coach. He was impressed by what he saw and when the coaching job was advertised he applied. Sitting in front of the selection committee, he explained that the side had a stack of ability, but based their game plan on their taller players. Mark argued that the club needed to introduce a running style of game to be more successful. The committee agreed and Mark set about educating the players to a new way of thinking about football which didn't work immediately and in 1991 OBGFC narrowly avoided demotion to C grade. But things started to change in 1992 and with running players like Andrew Pryor leading the way, the senior team had a great year, only to lose the Grand Final to Old Trinity by 8 points. Mark became the first coach to take an Old Brighton team into A grade, an achievement of which he is still very proud.

1993 was a tough year. The competition in A grade was a significant step up from B Grade and although we won only 6 games we were competitive against every side. At the end of the season Mark decided that three years was enough and stepped down as coach. He moved on to a game-day role at Richmond for 3 years and then spent 8 years in the coach's box at St Kilda. In 2009 he was lured back to his old club De La Salle as Chairman of Selectors. Although Mark's win/loss ratio was 50%, his principal legacy was promotion to A Grade and a contemporary running style of game that has been built-on by successive coaches.

Russell Barnes (1994):

With the retirement of Mark Parker, the senior coaching role was advertised and Russell was chosen from a high quality list of candidates. Russell was legendary as a footballer at Ormond and impressed with his enthusiasm and knowledge of the game and a fierce desire to get the club back into A Grade.

Everyone would agree that Russell was a 'top bloke', but his style just didn't fit with the culture of the club at that time. The team won 8 of their games for a win ratio of 44%. Being the football professional that he is, Russell went on to successful coaching roles with amateur teams Beau-maris and Hampton Rovers. As best we know, he is still coaching.

Shane Young (1995 – 1996):

Transferred to Melbourne from Tasmania by his employer in 1990, Shane commuted back every weekend to play as captain of North Launceston in the NTFL, a routine that was becoming increasingly demanding. Also the difficulty of getting decent fitness training during the week was affecting his on-field performance.



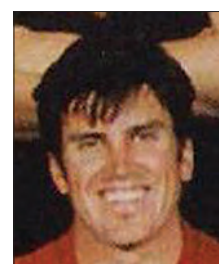
One mid-winter evening before departing on his customary run from Hampton Street up South Road to Warrigal Road and back down North Road, he decided instead to run down South Road to the beach then along to Luna Park and back. As he ran past the Beach Road oval he noticed a training session in progress. He's still not sure why but he stopped, but he walked onto the oval and was surprised to see Mark Sarau, who had trained with him in the Tasmanian State squad some years before. Thus began an involvement with Old Brighton that included just one game (because of the amateur rules in force at the time), three years as Reserves coach and two years as senior coach.

Mark 'Gus' Parker was senior coach during the three years Shane coached the Reserves and it was assumed by some that he would take over the senior role when Gus retired. But in 1994, Russell Barnes was appointed coach and Shane went to Prahran in a coaching role where he met Dale Tapping which proved to be the catalyst for his appointment after Shane's tenure.

Shane was senior coach in 1995 – 6 when Old Brighton played in B Grade and his win ratio is 67%. He described Old Brighton as "a very welcoming club, one that had an excellent social side and with leaders like Andrew Pryor and Leigh Hendra, a committed playing group". As a consequence of that simple decision to run the other way down South Road, Shane is still a keen supporter of the club. In 2007 – 8 he coached the Under 19s and in 2009 was assistant to senior coach Greg McLaughlin.

Dale Tapping (1997 – 2001):

Dale was a very good A Grade player with Old Xaverians and came to the club highly recommended by Barry Richardson. After a three year absence from A Grade, Dale's team was promoted back at the end of his first year. Unfortunately, a number of players retired and 1998 was a difficult year in which the club won only 4 games. Relegated to B Grade in 1999, the team won 10 and lost 8 games in a year of rebuilding.



2000 was an outstanding season for the club winning 16 of the 18 home and away games. Promoted to A grade again in 2001, there was significant player turnover once again and the team managed only a few wins and a couple of draws. It was a great credit to Dale that throughout the five years he accepted the ups and downs of amateur football and showed great faith in the younger players. His overall win ratio was 52%. In 2007, Dale was selected as coach in the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007.

Stuart Glascott (2002):

A teacher at Brighton Grammar for some years, Stuart had an impressive mix of AFL and amateur experience. He played for Carlton Under 19s and Reserves and then had senior games with the

Brisbane Bears. Playing under coaches like David Parkin, Colin Kinnear and Peter Knights, Stuart developed his own coaching philosophy which he applied as captain-coach of amateur clubs Old Geelong and Old Ivanhoe. He also played A Grade football with Old Scotch, finishing runner-up in the competition Best and Fairest in 1986.

In his only year as coach, the team won 8 games in B Grade for a 44% win ratio.

Jarrold O'Neill (2003 – 2004):

Selected from a long list of candidates, Jarrod had played with Essendon Under 19s, Box Hill and West Preston and later coached in both district and amateur ranks. Through his Masters in Exercise Physiology he had worked for Hawthorn Football Club in rehabilitation and fitness advisory roles. Jarrod brought a new level of professionalism to Old Brighton and it was disappointing that he had to stand down after only two years due to work commitments. He maintained the club's place in B Grade with an overall win ratio of 61%.

Greg McLaughlin (2005 – 2009):

Greg was well prepared for the senior coaching role when he was offered the job. As assistant-coach to Stuart Glascott and Jarrod O'Neill in the three prior years, Greg had a proud record as a player in AFL Under 19 teams, North Melbourne and Fitzroy and De La Salle in A Grade amateurs.

"One of the things I realised is that the intensity of training needed to lift considerably if we were to match it with the top teams," said Greg. "Fortunately there was a core group of players like Phelan, Perrett and Hendra who led the way. I was amazed at the playing group's willingness to take their footy to a new level and as a result the side became highly coachable."

But that would be understating the role he played. A very good player until a knee injury finished his career, an astute football brain and possessing outstanding communication skills, Greg has contributed to Old Brighton's most successful period in amateur ranks. With a third and runners-up in consecutive years in B Grade, Greg's team were runners-up to Old Xaverians in the first year back in A grade and beaten again by Old Xaverians in the last game of the 2008 season missing out on second position and finishing fifth.

Greg announced his retirement from coaching at the end of the 2009 season. Greg's win ratio in B Grade was 77% and 55% in the highly competitive A Grade competition, for an overall win ratio of 63%.

Paul McCormack (2010 – 2011):

Paul comes to Old Brighton with a very impressive set of credentials. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Youth Affairs and has worked with disaffected young persons for the past ten years, managing to fit in personal training and a role in welfare for International students. He was premierships captain with North Melbourne Under 19s and went on to play Seniors and Reserves under the coaching of Denis Pagan and John Kennedy. He was a premierships player with AFL team Dandenong and also played with Carlton under David Parkin and then Norwood in the SANFL.

Paul has coaching experience with the Sandringham Dragons and from 2006 – 2009 was

senior coach with EFL Division 1 side Ringwood, who finished in the four and in two Preliminary Finals in that time.

His early work with the playing group has been outstanding. It remains to be seen what season 2010 holds.

Simon Williams (2012 – 2014):

Simon Williams by leading his side for six years (1999 – 2004) has broken Peter Sedgwick's old record of five years. This in itself indicates what a great amount of respect he had from the players. He was an inspirational leader on the field. His captaincy included one Grand Final appearance. Back in 1995, he was awarded the Best Clubman award. In 2007, he was selected to be part of the Team of the Half Century (1957 – 2007) and in 2009 he took on the role of Reserves coach.

In 2012 Simon was appointed Seniors Coach and in 2013 his team won the B Grade Grand Final. At the end of season 2014 Simon who had a very young family, decided to finish coaching.

Greg Hutchison (2015 –):

Our Club has been very fortunate to be able to include Greg Hutchison as Senior Coach on our Coaching Panel in 2015. Greg has been an AFL coach and player and we wish him well.

Reserves Coaches (1960 – 2010)

Reserves coaches who have accepted this position over the past 50 years, nearly always for no financial reward, have done so for a variety of reasons. For some, it was an opportunity to get the feel for what it is like to coach a football team for the first time. For others it was a way to give something back to the Club when asked to help out and for a few, it gave them a chance to gain the necessary experience to be considered for a Senior coaching role. Graeme Jeffery, Bill McGrory, Shane Young and Andrew Mullett fall into this category.

There have been 29 Reserves Coaches in the 50 years since 1960. Eighteen of them attended Brighton Grammar and eleven were recruited from other football backgrounds. Bruce Robinson and Roger Wilson both had four consecutive years as Coach and four others, Andrew Mullett, Shane Young, Steven Barnes and Joe Coy coached for three years.

The Reserves have won eight Premierships since 1960. Coaches were Graeme Templeton (1976), Phil Meyer (1978), Shane Young (1992), Roger Brown (1996), Steve Barnes (1997), Brad Berry (1999, 2000) and Hayden Bickett (2003).

The profile of each of these coaches is not as comprehensive as the Senior Coaches and no disrespect is intended. However, we do acknowledge the very important role they have played at the club as members of the Coaching Team.

From 1957 to 1959, the Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club didn't field a Reserves team because of lack of numbers. But by 1960, the club was ready to go and the inaugural coach was Graeme Jeffery, former player, who in 1961 went on to coach the Seniors for a record six years. The first Reserves team contained a number of ex Hailebury College players who were planning on forming their own team the following year. The Reserves finished tenth out of fourteen teams.

Greg Kelly (1961 – 1963)

Greg was a very skilled player for the Senior team but a serious head injury prevented him from playing again. Success was elusive in the first couple of years but in 1963 Greg's record was 13 wins for third place.



Bruce Robinson (1964 – 1967)

Former player in the Seniors and Reserves and younger brother of Keith who was then President. Best result was a 4th place finish in C Grade in 1966. Bruce passed away in 2002.



Roger Wilson (1968 – 1971)

Roger was Captain of Brighton Grammar School in 1963. He played 200 games for OBGFC and was twice Reserves Best and Fairest winner. In 1968/9/70 he was Captain/Coach of the Reserves. In 1971 Roger was non-playing Coach and Michael Wood was appointed Captain. In 2009, Roger was awarded the Order of Australia for his services to rowing.



Ken Kendall (1972 – 1973)

Played 155 games with the Club. Ken's sister Joan married Doug Ridley and Ken married Heather, sister of fellow player Alan Hart. (*Editor's note: We were a close knit group in those days.*) Ken won more than 60% of the games he coached. He and Heather now live in Queensland.



Bill McGrory (1974)

Promoted to Senior Coach following Alan Miller's departure after the tenth game, but continued to coach the Reserves until season's end.



Peter Wood (1975)

Peter played 145 games for the Club. He was Captain of the Reserves in 1974 and Captain-Coach in 1975, winning 8 games in C Grade.



Graeme Templeton (1976 – 1977)

A 251 gamer for OBGFC and Club President. Graeme was a tough, unrelenting on-baller who delighted in intimidating opposition players. He was Captain-Coach in the first ever Reserves Premiership in 1976 and after retiring, coached the Reserves to runners-up in 1977.



Phil Meyer (1978)

Phil was an old friend of Bill McGrory who persuaded him to come to the Club after a playing career with amateur club CBC St Kilda. Phil played in both the Seniors and Reserves and won a Reserves Premiership in his only year as Coach, the same year that Bill McGrory coached the Seniors to a C Grade Premiership.



Andrew Mullett (1979 – 1981)

Andrew coached with distinction for 3 years and when Bill Browne withdrew on the eve of the 1982 season for family reasons, Andrew willingly accepted the Senior role.



Barry Hamilton (1982)

Barry "Bud" Hamilton played 267 games for the Club and was three times Best and Fairest winner in the Reserves and runner-up once. Only John Priestley has kicked more goals for the Club than Bud.



Bruce McBriar (1983)

Played 88 games in the Seniors. Notably was sent to the Tribunal before for engaging three West Brunswick players in a brawl in the second semi-final and received a suspended sentence until after the Seniors Grand Final, which Parkside won by a point. Bruce coached the Reserves to 7 wins and a draw and finished 7th in C Grade.



Andrew Komp (1984)

Although Rod Cowling was the Captain of the Reserves in 1984, Andrew Komp was the Coach and a player. The team was runner-up and Andrew finished runner-up to Rod in the Best and Fairest.

Peter Burns (1985)

Played with St Kilda in the Lindsay Fox years and later with VFA side Moorabbin. Amateur rules at the time prevented him from playing for Old Brighton. Peter became interested in OBGFC after his sons, Tim and Matthew joined the Club and in 1985 had a year as Reserves coach. Peter passed away in Perth in February 2009.

Rod Cowling (1986)

A 258 game player, Rod was Reserves Captain in the two previous years, winning the Best and Fairest in 1984. He became Playing Coach for one year in 1986.

**John McKenzie (1987)**

John attended Scotch College but lived locally so joined the OBGFC in 1979. He played 187 games, most of them in the Seniors. In 1987 he was appointed Captain-Coach of the Reserves and was runner-up in the Best and Fairest. He remained Captain in 1988 but stepped down from the coaching role.

**Wayne Marshall (1988)**

Wayne played in the Seniors as a ruckman and forward and was appointed Playing Coach in 1988.

Jeff Bennett (1989 – 1990)

Jeff played 139 games for the Club. After seven different coaches in seven years, Jeff coached the Reserves for two years, the first as Captain-Coach.

**Shane Young (1991 – 1993)**

See Senior Coaches for more information. Note that Shane coached the Reserves to the B Grade Premiership in 1992.

**Steve Barnes (1994, 1997 – 1998)**

Steve is the brother of Russell who was Senior Coach in the 1994. The Reserves finished 3rd in B Grade that year. He came back to coach the Reserves again in 1997 and won the B Grade Premiership and coached again in 1988.



Roger Brown (1995 – 1996)

Roger was Reserves Captain for 3 years and was Captain-Coach of the reformed Clubbies when due to the sudden resignation of Pat O’Leary he stepped into that role. He played 88 games for the Club and as Coach, won a B Grade Reserves Premiership in 1996. In 1999 and 2000 Roger coached the Under 19s. He later went on to become President of the Club.



Brad Berry (1999 – 2000)

For the first time in the Club’s history we won back-to-back Premierships. Brad coached the Reserves to the B Grade Premiership in 1999 and B Grade again in 2000.



Richard Obee (2001)

Richard came via Collegians where Roger Brown had met him when he was coaching the Under 19s. In 2002, Richard accepted the coaching role for the Under 19s and won a Premiership in Division One, the first in the club’s history. He opted for a senior coaching position with another amateur team in 2002.



Paul Dwyer (2002)

Paul was introduced to the Club by Greg McLaughlin who knew him at De La Salle where he was a 200 game player and Assistant Senior Coach in 2001. Despite being reappointed for 2003, Paul had to stand down for business reasons.

Hayden Bickett (2003 – 2004)

A former 100 game player, Hayden was playing coach in 2003 and kicked a freak goal late in the final quarter to seal the B Grade Reserves Premiership. He coached again in 2004 when the Reserves finished fourth.



Nick Perry (2005)

Son of past President Mike Perry and Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007 centre-half-forward. Nick played more than 200 games for the Club.



Joe Coy (2006 – 2008)

Joe brought a high level of passion for football to the Club and his enthusiasm quickly spread. He coached in B Grade in his first year for a total of 14 wins and then in A Grade in the next two years the team won 75% of their games, including a second place in 2007 and third in 2008.



Simon Williams (2009)

Captain of the Club for six consecutive years and Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007 player, Simon accepted another challenge in his long association with the Club.



The Reserves were eliminated in the A Grade preliminary final by 4 points. In 2010, Simon took on an Assistant Coaching role with the Senior team.

Ross Stewart (2010 – 2015 ...

Ross is a former player and is taking on the challenge of coaching for the first time. Whether it's a bonus or a liability to be in charge of last year's finalists remains to be seen. His brother Luke coached the Under 19s in 2004 so there will be plenty of family discussions on tactics. In 2011 in Ross's second year as Coach, his team won the B Reserve Premiership.



DID YOU KNOW?

Paul McMahon played in Five (5) Reserves Premierships-1992,1996,1997,1999, and 2000.

Under 19's Coaches (1965 – 2010)

It was recognised early on that to be successful in the long term, Old Brighton needed to have an Under 19 team. Despite having a regular source of potential new players from the School, the Club was not able to guarantee everyone a game and as a result we lost a lot of players to other amateur and suburban clubs. But it wasn't until 1965, eight years after the Senior team resumed playing in the amateur competition, that our first Under 19 team was formed. Even then the Under 19s played only ten seasons to the end of 1974 when the team was disbanded and then reformed after four years at the start of the 1979 season. The transition from school football to amateur football was a big change for many players. When assessing applications over the years, high regard was given to coaches with the ability to continue to develop player's basic skills in addition to having strategic and motivational skills.

Over the forty year period, 22 coaches were appointed, 11 of whom played in either the Seniors or Reserves with the Club. With 5 years in the job, Mark Swain and Leigh Bowes (1994 – 1998) are the longest serving coaches, although Mark did it in two stages (1984 – 5 and 1989 – 91). Bill Faul coached for 4 seasons and Mark Louis for 3 seasons. Mark Louis (1981), Leigh Bowes (1986) and Richard Obee (2002) each coached premiership sides.

Don Cameron (1965 – 6)

Don Cameron was appointed as Coach in the inaugural year of our Under 19 side. Related by marriage and a good friend of Senior coach Graeme Jeffery, he had played most of his football with Power House and we were fortunate to gain the services of such a good communicator for the young players. The team had 13 wins in the first year and was beaten by Ajax in the first semi-final. The second year the Under 19s finished seventh. Don later became President of the Old Brighton Grammarians Society and Chairman of the BGS School Council.



Peter Kellaway (1967)

A strong ruckman for Old Brighton in the early years, Peter's team won 7 games for the year to finish eighth. Peter's sons, Duncan and Andrew both went to Caulfield Grammar and went on to play many games for Richmond.



Bill Faul (1968 – 71)

Bill was a former star player with South Melbourne and coached the side in 1960/1 when Bobby Skilton was Captain. Successive Captains were Marty Castle, John Levvey, Rod Eastgate and Mark Swain. During Bill's 4 years as Coach, the Under 19s won about 45% of their games.

John Forster (1972 – 3)

John “Nobby” Forster accepted the coaching role and did a creditable job, winning more games than were lost over the two years. Nobby has remained involved with the Club ever since and can still be seen, even on a cold wind-swept Saturday afternoon at the Beach Road oval, shouting encouragement for ‘The Tonners’ and keeping the umpires accountable.



Michael Rossiter (1974)

An 88 game player and son of former State Parliamentarian Jack Rossiter, Michael had charge of the Under 19s in 1974. They only won 4 games for the year. For a number of reasons the Club did not field an Under 19 side again until 1979. Michael died from a heart attack following a bike ride some years ago.



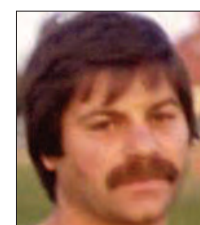
Mark Louis (1979 – 81)

Mark was appointed as Coach after 4 years without an Under 19 team. It was considered essential for the Club to compete successfully that the Under 19s was reformed and under Mark’s coaching in the first two years they finished a creditable 4th and 5th. Don Nicholson and Matt McLennan were Best and Fairest winners. Then in 1981, they lost only one game and went on to win the Club’s first Under 19s flag by a massive 112 points.



Peter Johnson (1982)

Peter was a friend of club members McBriar, Wood and Titshall and was encouraged to apply for the job when Mark Louis retired after the Grand Final the year before. Peter had a reasonably successful year with 9 wins.



Andrew Komp (1983)

A former player, Andrew coached the Under 19s to 4th place, losing the first semi-final to Old Melburnians. The next year he coached the Reserves. Stuart Kay was Captain and Best and Fairest.

Mark Swain (1984 – 5)

Former Captain of the Under 19s and Seniors player, Mark’s teams finished fifth and tenth in the two years. Returned to coach the Under 19s again three years later.

Doug Neal (1986)

Doug attended Hailebury College and later joined Brighton Grammar as a teacher. In late 1985, when the Club was searching for a coach, Doug Dick who was also teaching at BGS, encouraged him to apply.

Rob Draper (1987 – 8)

Rob is a former stalwart of the Senior team, playing 126 games. In 1987 Rob's team placed tenth and in the following year put in an outstanding performance finishing runners up in a 5 point loss to Old Paradians. Rob was also part of the Club XVIII 1983 Premiership Team.



Mark Swain (1989/90/91)

Mark was encouraged to return for another stint as coach and in his first year the team won 17 games and lost just three to finish in third place. The second and third years didn't bring the same level of success but over the whole five years of coaching Mark's coaching record was impressive.

Michael Hill (1992 – 3)

Michael's overall record was outstanding, winning almost 3 out of every 4 games played. Finishing just out of the four in 1992, his team won 15 games in 1993, unfortunately losing both Finals to finish third.

Leigh Bowes (1994 – 98)

Leigh Bowes played 54 games for Old Brighton and kicked 87 goals. He assembled a group of young players that stayed together for a couple of years, resulting in a Premiership in 1996, when they beat Mazenod by 10 points. He continued coaching in 1997/8 finishing seventh and fourth respectively.

Roger Brown (1999 – 2000)

Roger was Reserves Captain in 1990/1 and remained active in the Club after he retired. He took on the Under 19s role in 1999 and finished fifth and third in 2000. He later became President of the Club in 2003/4/5.



Brad Berry (2001)

Following on from his great success with back-to-back Reserves Premier-ships in 1999/2000, Brad turned his hand to the Under 19s in 2001. The team finished fifth with 12 wins for the season.



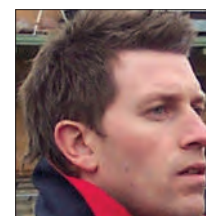
Richard Obee (2002)

Richard coached the Reserves in 2001 and followed on from the good work of Brad Berry the year before by winning the Grand Final against St Kevin's by 69 points, despite losing 6 games during the home and away season. This was the Club's first Premiership win in the Under 19 Division One competition.



Adam McConnell (2003)

Adam came to Old Brighton at the suggestion of John Trotter and senior coach Jarrod O'Neill after a career at Carlton and Box Hill. He later married



Penny Forster, daughter of Nobby and Jill. Adam had mixed success as coach in a year of team rebuilding. He went on to become the Senior Assistant Coach in 2004/5/6/7/8.

Luke Stewart (2004)

After Adam stepped down, Luke nominated for the position. A former Under 19s player and teacher, he formed a close association with the players and although they battled hard, wins were hard to come by. Luke's father Graeme and brother Ross have also been very active in the Club.

Joe Lyttleton (2005 – 6)

Joe had been involved with Old Xaverians Club sides but lived locally and in 2004 came down to help Nick Sher with the Clubbies. He was approached by Roger Brown to take on the Under 19s in 2005. His first year produced only a few wins but in 2006, they won 50% of their games and set a foundation for the successful teams of the next three years.

Shane Young (2007 – 8)

After successful years coaching the Seniors in 1995/6, Shane's love of football brought him back to coach the Under 19s. The team finished second in 2007 and fifth in 2008 for an average of two wins from every three games



Tom Buntz (2009)

Tom is a local businessman who took a keen interest in watching his son Luke play in the Under 19s in 2008. Tom had coached at Hampton Rovers at Junior level and accepted the coaching role in 2009. Despite the disappointment of learning that Luke would be ineligible to play in 2009 because of his age, Tom maintained his commitment and had a very successful year, losing to Old Melburnians in the Grand Final.



Adam Pirrie (2010 – 2012)

A former PE teacher and football coach at Brighton Grammar and a very skilled player and leading goal kicker for Old Brighton over many years. Adam retired at the end of season 2009 and has agreed to take on the Under 19s coaching role in season 2010. Adam's proven communication skills and knowledge of amateur football will be a big plus for the young players. In 2012 Adam's team won the U 19 Premiership.



Ryan Joseph (2013 – 2015 ...)

Ryan has served the Club in several guises for more than a decade, since first pulling on a jumper in 2002 for the Under 19's. Ryan always showed Great determination and aggression on the field and has In 2013 and 2014 continued to demand the same from his players while always being their honest and enthusiastic mentor. The Club is very fortunate to have Ryan as Under 19 coach again in 2015. We wish him every success.



Clubbies Coaches (1995 – 2010)

It is typical of the spirit of amateur football that there is always a group of players who love playing the game but don't have the time to train properly or take it as seriously as the players in the Seniors, Reserves or Under 19s. As they get older, most players find themselves constrained by a combination of study, work or family commitments and no longer possessing the speed to chase down an opponent or absorb a bone-jarring bump, so opt for the easier, and slightly less competitive environment of the Clubbies.

We applaud all those who have been prepared to give up their time, usually with very little off-field support, to coach this eclectic band of warriors. Roger Brown, a former player and coach of the Reserves and Under 19s was the coach in 1995, but unexpectedly had to take over the Reserves halfway through the season and Andrew Rutter took over. Stuart Kay and Nick Sher both coached the Clubbies to Grand Finals, unfortunately losing both. Perhaps the most credentialed of all the coaches is Marcus Barber who was selected in the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007, coached the Clubbies in 2000, won the Premiership in 2009 and coached again in 2010.

Here's the full list of Clubbie's coaches:

1995	Roger Brown/Andrew Rutter (See Roger's excellent chapter 'Warriors/OBGFC Club XVIII')
1996	Marc Selby
1997	Stuart Kay
1998	Stuart Kay
1999	Stuart Kay
2000	Marcus Barber
2001	Nick Sher
2002	Nick Sher
2003	Nick Sher
2004	Nick Sher
2005	Dan Stockdale /Alastair Liptrot
2006	Dan Stockdale
2007	Dan Stockdale
2008	Frank Weidemann
2009	Marcus Barber
2010	Marcus Barber
2011	Ted Window
2012	Tommy Buntz
2013	John Marks
2014	Tommy Buntz

DID YOU KNOW?

1983

D.Becker coached the Warriors to their first Premiership

1987/88

At the time of the Warriors demise Terry Shacklock was coach. The side reformed again in 1995

By Peter Sedgwick

Contribution from Peter Sedgwick

I played in the Brighton Grammar School 1st XVIII in 1961 and had the dubious honour of being best for Brighton in losing to Wesley by 28 goals because I kept their star full-forward, Rod Walduck to **only** 7 goals. That year I made the APS side which beat a combined High Schools team.



I joined the Old Boys in 1962, and was immediately selected to play in the Seniors. I was working at General Motors at Fisherman's Bend and doing a Commerce degree part-time at Melbourne Uni so there was little time for training. Playing alongside my brother Dave, Doug Ridley, Barry Morris and Alan Hart was a real buzz.



David Sedgwick



Doug Ridley



Barry Morris



Alan Hart

I started playing on the half-forward-flank, then on the ball as a sort of ruck-rover and then to centre-half-back and finally to full-back where I spent most of my 202 games. John Sharkey of St Bernard's was probably the best full-forward I played on. My trademark was the long drop kick into play after a point and in those days all you did was to get the ball as far away from your goals as possible. I always admired Barry Davis for his drop-kicking skills and tried to model my style on his, with limited success. I had five years as captain of the club but never won a Best and Fairest. I always use the excuse that I was always up against the mercurial Ricky Thomas, who had a mortgage on the Best and Fairests during my time. In other words, I wasn't good enough. Ricky succeeded me as club captain.

I retired in 1976 after ignoring a persistent campaign from coach Bill McGrory to get me to play on. I later joined the Committee and went on to become President for a couple of years in the early 80s. I am still an enthusiastic supporter of the Old Boys, but Saturday golf makes it hard to get to a lot of games these days.

What I value most from my time with the footy club are the mates I made. Most of them I continue to see and whenever we get together to tell a few lies about how good we were, I know that without the OBGFC it wouldn't have been possible.



Ricky Thomas



Graeme Jeffries



Geoff Hosie

Classical Gas:

The D Grade Grand Final in 1964 was clearly between the best two teams all year, Old Brighton and St Bernard's. It was played at the Power House ground in Albert Park on a lovely September day. Coach Graeme Jeffery was always innovative and on this particular day he decided that his players needed to be calm and relaxed before the game in order to give of their best. The change rooms at the ground in those days were little more than public urinals and when we arrived to change we were greeted by Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' emanating from a portable record player that Graeme had installed for the day. At first we were a little embarrassed by this very different strategy, but gradually warmed to it as the very inspiring Elgar's 'Pomp and Circumstance' and then Grieg's 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' accompanied our warm up. Just before the pre-game speech, the music reverted back to something very dreamy from Beethoven and I couldn't help noting a rather glazed look in the eyes of some of my teammates. The St Bernard's boys came out breathing fire and at one point had kicked 11 straight goals. By the time we woke up it was too late and the final score was 15 goals 3 behinds to 7 goals 18 behinds. No one was cruel enough to make the connection between our performance and the music, but we never saw the record player again and even now when I hear Vivaldi I get dry in the mouth.

Pre-Game Beer:

In the late 60s, the trip north of the Yarra to Fairfield, Bellfield, West Brunswick, Alphington or Preston was anticipated by the Old Brighton Boys much as you would root canal treatment. There was never a blade of grass on the ovals and the layer of stinking brown mud neatly covered the razor-sharp shale underneath. But the worst part was that the prisoners from nearby Coburg always seemed to get leave on the very weekend we were scheduled to play any of these teams, or so it seemed. Remember that these were the days of only one field umpire from the VAFA and the boundary and goal umpires were supplied by the clubs. So the one person with any authority needed eyes in the back of his head to have any chance of controlling the game. On this particular day we were due to play Fairfield and I had arranged to get a lift with Geoff Hosie who was playing at full-forward and Terry Smith who was selected in the ruck. (Remember Terry with only two fingers on one hand?) I arrived at Geoff's place around 12.15 pm, walked into the kitchen and they were both standing there with a glass of beer in hand and two empty bottles on the table. I said, "I know we're playing Fairfield, but do you really need a beer for courage?" "Don't be stupid," said Geoff, reaching into the fridge for another bottle. "We do this before every game."

Ricky Thomas:

In my opinion, Rick 'Pussy' Thomas was the best player I ever played with or against and one of the top two or three in the club's history. I haven't got



the details of the number of games played or goals kicked but I know he captained the club for several years, won plenty of Best and Fairest awards and I think a Grade Award. (See chapter dealing with *Best and Fairest* and also chapter on *Captains*.) But you don't need to know these stats to appreciate what a wonderful player and a great leader he was.

Rick was about 5'10" (178 cms) and weighed around 12 stone (76 kgs). He had legs like tree trunks and preferred to use the left side of his body, but was capable on the other side at a time when this was not so common. He wasn't overly quick but had that unique ability to be where he needed to be so he was rarely caught out of position. His real strength was getting to the ball on the ground, getting under the pack and somehow emerging with it and feeding it off with great precision to a forward downfield. Rick was good overhead too and needed only one grab most of the time. He would finish a game at the same intensity he started it and was never prepared to concede defeat. All in all, a formidable package as a footballer and a terrific guy as well.

You'll still see him down at the Beach Road oval sometimes, kicking the footy around with his kids at half-time. As a player he hardly drank at all so he rarely comes upstairs after a game. It's typical of Rick to prefer actions to words.

The 70s:

One of the enduring memories of the 70s was the day that Graeme Templeton earned his reputation as one of the tough guys of the amateurs. Graeme's father Jim was a fairly handy boxer in his younger days and passed his skills on to both 'Tempo' and his younger brother Bryan in the back garden of their home in Chelsea Street.



Graeme Templeton



Bryan Templeton

Tempo was a strong left foot player with good skills but always liked to deliver a bit of extra vigour to his opponents. The trouble was that his tackling was delivered with all the subtlety of an axe-murderer, rather than the finesse you would expect from a student of boxing. To his credit, he was one of the few players at Old Brighton who could be relied upon to take it up to the aggressive sides from north of the Yarra.

One day St Bernard's visited us at Beach Road and Tony Hannabery was playing for them in the centre. Tony was a very influential player, (he went on to play for Williamstown and later became a player's advocate and chairman of the VFA), and on this particular day was doing a lot of damage to us.

The play was in the roadside pocket at the croquet club end and Tempo lined Tony up as he was about to receive the ball. As Tempo gathered speed, Tony disposed of the ball but a

100kg-plus of charging red and blue could not be stopped and the crash was sickening. Had Tony been airborne he would have ended up on the other side of the wire-mesh fence, but unfortunately his trajectory was low enough to meet the mesh at full tilt. He lay there with a broken jaw and was unable to take the free kick that was so clearly his. What followed was Tony's removal from the ground on a stretcher to a waiting ambulance and a fairly wild melee between the rest of the St Bernard's boys and Tempo. We managed to calm things down but for years later, the St Bernard's boys tried to even up with Tempo without anywhere near the success he had in disposing of Tony.

In 2001, Tempo was at a function at the MCG and a friend said there was a guy on the other side of the room who wanted to speak to him. Uncertainly Tempo made his way over and to his surprise there was Tony rubbing his jaw. "Remember me?" he said with a scowl on his face. The delicate situation was relieved as Tony then grinned and offered Tempo a beer. They then spent a few minutes reliving that infamous day some thirty years before.

I ran into Tony at the 2002 A Grade Grand Final and the first thing he said to me, "Is Templeton here?" "No," I joked, "he wouldn't cross the road to watch you mongrels try to win a flag."

Tom Cullinan:

Tom was at the club when I first began watching my brother play in 1957. In those days he was the trainer and used to give inspiring 'fairy rubs' before the game and was always on hand with the cold towel when on-field assistance was needed. As I write this (2002) Tom is still at the club, although these days he is in less than mint condition because of long exposure to the sun in the days when we thought it didn't matter.



Tom Cullinan



Rob McKinnon



John Forster

When I didn't own a car, the only way I could get to training was to catch a bus from Fisherman's Bend to the Mobil building at Princes Bridge where Tom worked in Public Relations. Rob McKinnon also worked there so when I arrived at about twenty-five to six, we'd bundle into Tom's car and head for Beach Road. I never thought to offer him petrol money but I am sure he'd have just laughed.

Tom's flat in Bay Street was a place we'd often go for a beer on Sunday after watching 'World of Sport' at Nobby's (John Forster) place. After the right amount of grog, Nobby, Peter 'Strawb' Walsh, Geoff Moon and I would pack into Tom's tiny bathroom and harmonise Sweet Caroline and Underneath the Arches, much to the dismay of Tom's neighbours.

There are plenty of people who have been connected to the club since 1957 but I doubt

there are any who have so consistently been such a true follower as Tom. In many ways, Tom is the football club.

Early Morning Call:

Amateur footy was great for making friends at other clubs as well as your own. Many years ago Peter Rattray, who attended Melbourne Grammar, was captain of Monash Blues when I was captain of Old Brighton. We used to see each other socially and I knew how unpredictable he could be, so I shouldn't have been surprised when the telephone rang at 4 am on the day we were due to play Monash. It was Rattray still out celebrating end of term with some mates. He said, "If I'm not going to get any sleep, neither are you." Startled I said, "But you've woken up my Mum and Dad too." "Casualties of war," he replied as he hung up. I spent the whole first half trying to kill him until he took himself off early in the third quarter claiming 'fatigue'.

The Shooter:

Despite their fearsome reputation on the field, the Alphington players were very friendly after the game and it was not unusual to stay in their clubrooms drinking until well after 8pm. Keith Robinson relates a wonderful story about the time that he, President Graeme Jeffery and player John Boucher found themselves in very hot water after the match. It was in the late sixties and before the game John Boucher had placed a substantial bet with an Alphington official that Old Brighton would win. After the game, which Alphington won, 'Bouch' sidled up to Keith and asked him if he had any money. "Only about \$20," said Keith. He then turned to Graeme and asked him how much he had. "About the same," said Graeme. "Shit," said Bouch. "I lost over \$100 on the match and I've already spent my money on booze." At this point, the Alphington guy came over and suggested it was time to settle up. As he did, he leaned sideways and Keith spotted what to this day he swears was a gun under his left armpit. Unaware of this, Bouch made some laughing excuses about not having enough money to pay as Keith was frantically trying to signal to him that this guy was not to be messed with. Thinking quickly, President Graeme said that if there had been betting on the game he needed to know about it and pulled the other two aside. Bouch went white when he heard about the gun as they checked their pockets again for cash. Fortunately Graeme had a cheque book with him and wrote a cheque for the balance which was hurriedly handed over to the Alphington guys. Last drinks were hurriedly downed and the trio made as dignified an exit as possible. There were no more bets that season.



Keith Robinson



Graeme Jeffery



John Boucher

A Foggy Intervention:

Back in the early 70s, we were struggling a bit in C grade and the top team at that time was Reservoir Old Boys coached by the fearsome Laurie Aghan, (who later went on to coach Old Scotch in A grade for some years). I'm sure this was the football team that inspired the film Reservoir Dogs. Not only could they play football, but they were real mongrels and it was never a pleasing prospect to be lining up against them. This particular day we were hosting them down at Brighton Beach and the thought that there were several good hospitals close by did something to ease the anxiety for most of the Old Brighton Boys. It was a strange day, quite still and with a fluffy grey cloud-cover that kept the sun well hidden and lent an eerie half-light to the ground. By half-time we were quite a few goals down and facing the prospect of a monumental loss as we ran out to start the second half. What happened next was something I have rarely seen since. A sea fog began to roll in from the west. At first it totally obliterated the horizon, then the shore disappeared, followed by the overhead lines for the train tracks and it finally drifted across the ground. I was at full-back and could not make out our full-forward Jamie Agar, (a blessing some may say). Then centre-half-forward disappeared, then all the players across the centre line. At its peak all you could see was a circle of players inside the 45 metre mark to the goals and then only like ghosts. Reservoir kicked a goal and the field umpire had to run to the other end of the ground to advise the goal umpire to signal with the flags which was a futile gesture as no one could see him. The game deteriorated as we saw the humorous side of trying to play in such bizarre conditions. It was the only time I ever saw a Reservoir player smile. From memory, I think we agreed to take an early three-quarter time break to see if the conditions would improve or abandon the game. Then, as quickly as it came, the fog lifted and we were able to play most of the last quarter in reasonable conditions. Since Reservoir only booted one goal in the third term, Mother Nature's intervention saved us from an even bigger loss.

The Scud:

Bill McGrory had a great time at the football club as coach, but he always felt that as ex-private schoolboys we lacked a certain degree of aggression on-field. We had very skilled players but sometimes games were lost because we weren't able to effectively tag opposition players who were damaging. Bill had a long involvement with the Glenhuntly Football Club in the amateurs and at pre-season training one year he introduced a couple of new players from his own club. One was Paul Valley, a chunky six footer with a permanent frown, the other Jimmy Rose, a lean spindly raw-boned type with an angelic face. Paul held down a permanent spot in the side that season. He was tough but a bit slow to really catch anyone. Jimmy was used mainly off the bench and Bill only let him loose when a player needed 'restraining' or a payback was due. The sight of Jimmy streaking onto the field with his right elbow already cocked put the spectators in mind of a missile on target-lock, hence 'The Scud'. Long after they left the club, I know that Bill, Paul and Jimmy remained firm friends.



Contribution from Andrew Grant

I went to Brighton Grammar in 1979 after spending a couple of years at the local High School down the road. It wasn't my reputation that preceded me but more of my two brothers, Peter and Tony, who were already at Brighton Grammar School and had gained impressive reputations both on and off the sporting field. My father had also attended BGS and assures us he was a sporting 'gun', although the academic nature of the School finally took its toll long before it was supposed to.



'Gut' Bennett



Stuart Murray



Andrew Cooper

I played in a cricket premiership in 1980 when in Form 4 and went on to captain the first X1 in 1982. I was Vice-captain of the football side in the same year, deputy to 'Gut' Bennett. It was a time when Brighton's footy side was starting to mix it with the Xav's and Scotch's and we had some great wins and close losses to quality opposition. My favourite school footy memories are of David Thomas' genius, Gut Bennett's hardiness and Danny Dalziel's advanced coaching methods. He was ahead of his time! The other highlight involved cricket where I was captain of the All Australian U16 cricket side, one which included the two Waugh brothers and Mark Taylor. They managed to kick-on a little more than me!

Also during this time I often went down to Brighton Beach oval on a Saturday arvo with 'Egg', 'Spock', 'Gut' and 'Coops' to watch 'Jumping' Jack Priestley, (see chapter on *Sharpshooters*), take 'spekkies' and my brother Peter, (see chapter on *Best and Fairest*), throw some sly ones. This was a taste of things to come.

Off to OBGFC in 1983 when we were in C grade. From that day up until now being the Vice-president of the club, it has played a huge part in my life. There have been so many fantastic and dedicated people it would be unjust to name only a few.

The highlights over the years have been plenty. Going up to A grade was always exciting and to be part of the side that went to A grade for the first time was great. The downside was that I played in three losing Grand Finals in the Firsts (1984, 88, 92). In all three I believed we were the best side in the competition but couldn't put it together on the day. Conversely, later on in my career when the hamstrings and calves had snapped and I had moved to the sanctity of the goal square, I played in premierships in the Magoos in 1996 and 1997. These were my first footy premierships in over 22 years of footy.



Peter Latzer



Peter King

It always was a great highlight watching the Tsar and Neil Rumble weave their magic in the 2's and to listen to Doc Mackenzie's (see 1972 Grand Final team photo) frenzied speech at half-time. This fired us all up for the main game! The other highlight was watching Peter King throw 50 punches in five seconds vs St Kilda CBC, only to get three weeks!



Best players played with were Peter and Tony Grant, Andrew Pryor, (see chapter on *Best and Fairest*), 'Gut' Bennett, 'Booty' McLennan and 'Sid' James.

Personal highlights were two Best and Fairests in the Firsts and one in the Seconds and selection in the Victorian Amateur U19 side.

The club has been fantastic to me and it is with a great deal of pride that I can bring my three daughters down to the club these days and tell them that the old man used to run around in that great jumper trying to get a kick and help win the game for 'The Tonners'.

Best and Fairest Winners

Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club has had many great players pull on the red and blue jumper over the years. From dashing half-back flankers to tirelessly working ruckmen, we have witnessed all types at the Beach Oval.

Each year there are one or two players that rise above the rest — the Best and Fairests. To achieve a Best and Fairest you have to have consistency, skill, determination and mental toughness; it is a reward for a sustained level of performance. To win one Best and Fairest is difficult enough and to win more, that one will put you into Old Brighton's elite.

The following chapter details the exploits of the Best and Fairest winners of our great club.

DOUG RIDLEY — 1957 – 1959 — Seniors:

Doug is a member of the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007. He was a fast and fearless centre-half-forward, extremely skilful and renowned for his accurate kicking and strong marking. He was an excellent team leader who was captain in 1960, 1961 and 1963. Doug played 135 games and kicked 188 goals. Doug played in the club's first Grand Final in 1959.



1957 runner-up B& F — Brian Mulligan

BOB MCLELLAN — 1957, 1958, 1962, 1964 — Seniors:

Bob McLellan was described by his peers as not the tallest or fastest ruckmen in the competition but certainly the best. His outstanding fitness, tenacity and enthusiasm meant that he was always in the right position to mark or to take the hit out. A scrupulously fair player, he would ruck all day regardless of the conditions. In the words of one teammate: "A champion on and off the field." To this day Bob still tirelessly devotes his time and passion to OBGFC. Bob played in both the 1959 and 1964 Grand Finals.



1958 runner-up B & F — Barry Morris — Seniors

DOUG RIDLEY — 1959 — Seniors

KEITH PEACHEY — 1960 — Seniors:

Strong and fast, Keith played 174 games in defence and was known for his strong marking and 'cool head' under pressure. He displayed wonderful skills and was a penetrating and accurate kick. Keith played in the 1959 Grand Final.



1960 runner-up B & F — Brian Mulligan — Seniors

PETER KELLAWAY — 1961 — Seniors:

An inspirational leader, Peter was captain in 1962. With a strong mark and good foot skills, he could have played in a number of positions but usually settled in the ruck and worked tirelessly all day. Both Peter's sons, Duncan and Andrew, were fearless competitors for Richmond. Peter played in the 1959 Grand Final.



1961 runner-up B & F — Barry Morris — Seniors

1962 — BOB MCLELLAN — Seniors

1962 runner-up B & F — Barry Morris — Seniors

1962 Reserves B & F — Graham Tozer



DAVID PULLMAN — 1963 — Seniors:

David was an inspirational player who was a penetrating and accurate kick. A courageous back man who was very hard at the ball and launched many attacks from defence. David played in our 1964 Grand Final.



1963 runner-up B & F — Graeme Templeton — Seniors

1963 Reserves B & F — Lance Westerman



BOB MCLELLAN — 1964 — Seniors

1964 runner-up B & F — John Berry — Seniors

1964 Reserves B & F — Roger Wilson



JOHN DEVINE — 1965 — Seniors:

John was a tough, relentless half-back player with a great deal of skill which would have seen him equally as comfortable as a sharp shooter up forward. His first instinct was to attack, but such was his versatility he could also become defensive and shut a game down when required. A natural leader, he earned great respect from players and supporters during his time at Old Brighton. He suffered an injury early in his time at the club which stopped him playing, John played in the 1972 Grand Final.



1965 runner-up B & F
— Ossie Spence — Seniors



1965 Reserves B & F
— Clive Taylor

1965 U19 B & F
— Colin Heseltine



DOUG WOOD — 1966
— Seniors:

Doug was a talented and gifted schoolboy sprinter and regularly used his speed on the football field to outrun his opponents. He dominated on the wing at Old Brighton for many seasons and displayed great ball skills and strong marking at top pace. Amongst the hardest working players on the training track, he retained his amazing speed right up until his last season. Doug played in the 1964 Grand Final.



1966 runner-up B & F — John Berry

1966 Reserves B & F
— Victor Stewart



1966 U19 B & F
— Rick Thomas



BARRY MORRIS — 1967 — Seniors:

Many of Barry's opponents were said to have nightmares after they played against him. The combination of being a gifted middle-distance runner, having amazing endurance and strong ball skills, meant he was a very difficult match-up for opposing coaches. He also had a tough uncompromising attitude and was a worthy selection in the Best of OBGFC 1957–2007. Barry played in the 1959 and 1964 Grand Finals.



1967 runner-up B & F
— Rick Thomas

1967 Reserves B & F
— Wayne Comper



1967 U19 B & F
— Duncan Van Woerden

DON AGAR — 1968 — Senior:

At 198cm, Don was a tall and mobile on-baller and had incredible stamina and endurance for such a big man. His centre bounce palming skills usually gave the mid-fielders first use of the ball and around the ground his strong marking and lightning handball brought plenty of other players into the game.



1968 runner-up B & F — Rick Thomas

1968 Reserves B & F
— Michael Wood



1968 U19 B & F
— Bryan Templeton



JOHN BERRY
— 1969/1970 — Senior:

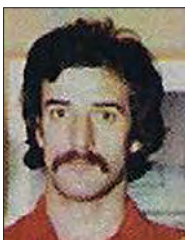
John was an extremely courageous centre-half-back. He was a great inspiration to all his teammates with towering high marks, long dashes down the centre corridor and great skills with both feet. Not surprisingly he was often injured but somehow managed to get himself back on the field. Included in the best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007, John played in the 1964 Grand Final.



1969 runner-up B & F — Ian Dalton

1969 Reserves B & F — Roger Wilson

1969 U19 B & F
— Owen Millis



JOHN BERRY — 1970
— Seniors:

1970 runner-up B & F — Terry Smith — Seniors

1970 Reserves B & F — Michael Wood

1970 U19 B & F — Max Powell

IAN PAROISSEN 1971 — Seniors:

Ian made his mark as a tough and creative back-pocket with exceptional all-round ball skills. He was always prepared to sacrifice his game for the good



of the team, but usually ended up with more possessions than most because of his superior ability to read the play. His leadership across the whole back line was exemplary.

1971 runner-up B & F — John Devine/
David Myers — Seniors

1971 Reserves B & F — Michael Wood

1971 U19 B & F
— John Levvey



RICK THOMAS
— 1972/1974/1976
— Seniors:

Rick started with the club in the U19s in 1966. As an on-baller he was a very reliable kick, had great speed, a strong body, extreme courage and was often found at the bottom of the pack. He was captain of the Seniors from 1972 – 75 and played in the 1972 Grand Final, and was also in the 1977 senior premierships team. He kicked a career total of 151 goals. He was Grade Best and Fairest in 1972 and club Best and Fairest in 1972, 1974 and 1976, being runner-up in 1967 and 1968.

1972 runner-up B & F — Peter Watkins — Seniors

1972 Reserves B & F
— Andrew Dick



1972 U19 B & F — Ian Gutteridge

JAMES KEMP — 1973 (dec) — Seniors:

James was a fit, determined rover and his speed, stamina and fitness enabled him to run out a game when others were tiring, and he was a prolific possession winner. He was a courageous player who was always contesting in packs, and his nickname, 'The Crab', captured the way he hovered over the ball before darting away to launch another attack. Jim is surely the only Tonner who throughout his career always ran to training, then ran home afterwards! He played in the 1972 Grand Final.



1973 runner-up B & F — Andrew Mullett — Seniors

1973 Reserves B & F — Barry Hamilton

1973 U19 B & F — John Downie



RICK THOMAS — 1974 — Seniors

1974 runner-up B & F — Ian Mullett

1974 Reserves B & F — Ian Edmonson

1974 U19 B & F — Martin Hunt



PETER WALSH — 1975 — Seniors:

The son of inaugural President Nick Walsh who also initiated our club's post-war re-entry to the VAFA, Peter Walsh returned from national service in the early 70s and stunned his teammates with his fitness and ability to win the ball. Peter emerged as one of those players who blossomed after school and played in the back-pocket taking the opposition rover. He played in the 1972 Grand Final. In 1975 he played superbly every week, running off his opponent to send us long into attack. He possessed excellent judgment and was a very accurate kick.



1975 runner-up B & F — John Levvy — Seniors

1975 Reserves B & F — Owen Millis

RICK THOMAS — 1976 — Seniors

1976 runner-up B & F — Gary Jones — Seniors

1976 Reserves B & F — Martin Hunt

DAVID WARNOCK — 1977/1979 — Seniors:

As a dual Best and Fairness winner, David was certainly a tireless and decorated ruckman during the late 70s. A fair and lion-hearted performer, Chopper's 100 games were always played with great determination and spirit. Chopper was a dominant player in 1977 when we won the D Grade flag and was awarded his first well deserved Best and



Fairest in that year. 1979 produced his second Best and Fairest when the Tonners were third in C Grade. Tall and strong, Chopper was an imposing opponent who gave great confidence to his teammates with skilful ruckwork and bustling aerial work around the ground. It was not a rare sight for Chopper to ruck all day and his efforts certainly greatly contributed to the Tonners success in the late 70s.

1977 runner-up B & F
— Mark Epstein — Seniors

1977 Reserves B & F
— Barry Gartner



1977 U19 B & F — No team

DAVID SHEPHERD 1978/1981 — Seniors:

In the late 1970s/early 1980s, very few VAFA clubs had the privilege of young VFL players pulling on their club colours following successful stints at the highest level. The Tonners were most fortunate to secure the services of David Shepherd who, after several seasons with St Kilda, ventured to the Beach Road oval to play with a number of his mates and former school colleagues. A highly skilful on-baller, Shep's delivery and creativeness resulted in many players around him being the beneficiary of his magnificent foot and hands skills. Although Shep's appearances were limited to 66 games, they were 66 outstanding performances which yielded two Best and Fairest awards, VAFA state representation, a Premiership Medal, and a membership of the Team of the Half Century.



1978 runner-up B & F — John Priestly — Seniors

1978 Reserves B & F
— Peter Wagner



DAVID WARNOCK
— 1979 — Seniors

1979 runner-up B & F
— Bruce McClure — Seniors

1979 Reserves B & F
— Rod Cowling



1979 U19 B & F — Don Nicholson

TONY GEDYE — 1980 — Seniors:

The Tonners were fortunate to have a wealth of talent in the big man department in the late 1970s/early 1980s and there were none better than Tony Gedye. Tall, athletic, and fiercely competitive, Tadpole was a true leader at the club. Tony's finest season was in the 1980 C Grade premiership season where he dominated the ruck and around the ground. So much so that he rucked the entire day and by his actions almost demanded the same level of commitment from those around him. Tony will be remembered as one of the greats of the club and the 1980 Best and Fairest, State representation, a Premiership Medal, and a membership of the Team of the Half Century is testimony to that.



1980 runner-up B & F — John Priestly — Senior

1980 Reserves B & F
— John Tapp



1980 Club 18 B & F
— John Perry



1980 U19 B & F
— Matthew McLennan

DAVID SHEPHERD
— 1981 — Seniors



1981 runner-up B & F
— Peter King — Seniors



1981 Reserves B & F
— Ian Mullett



1981 Club 18 B & F
— John Perry

1981 U19 B & F
— Peter Goetz

MARK LESKE — 1982 — Seniors:

Winner of the 1982 Best and Fairest, Mark was a most gifted player whose magnificent kicking and marking skills made him a very important player for the Tonners. We are left with great memories of his 151 games which are highlighted with outstanding performances on the wing where the opposition often had no chance of matching his height, aerial skills and superb long kicking. An important member of the 1980 C Grade premiership side, Mark was an



unassuming yet popular member of the club whose performances will be long remembered both on and off the field.

1982 runner-up B & F — Brad Cornwall — Seniors



1982 Reserves B & F
— Barry Hamilton

1982 Club 18 B & F
— Kim Whitelegg



1982 U19 B & F — Peter Ellison

PETER GRANT — 1983/1984 — Seniors:

Peter was one of the most inspirational leaders in the history of the OBGFC. His list of achievements includes captain, dual Best and Fairest winner, State representative and captain of the best of OBGFC 1957–2007. After beginning his career at full-back, 'Buddha' became a tireless on-baller who regularly amassed 30 possessions plus and was always putting his body on the line for the team. In addition to being fiercely competitive he was highly skilled, extremely fit and set a great example for the rest of the club.



1983 runner-up B & F
— Gerard Bennett — Seniors



1983 Reserves B & F
— Barry Hamilton

1983 Club 18 B & F
— Rob Draper/Peter Miller



1983 U19 B & F — Stuart Kay

PETER GRANT — 1984 — Seniors:

1984 runner-up B & F — Andrew Grant — Seniors

1984 Reserves B & F — Rod Cowling

1983 Club 18 B & F — Terry Shacklock

1984 U19 B & F — Tony Hoar



ANDREW GRANT — 1985/1988 — Seniors:

Andrew is a dual Best and Fairest winner, having won the award in 1985 and 1988. He played 185 games and kicked 308 goals in a long and outstanding career. One of the most naturally gifted sportsmen to have represented Old Brighton, Andrew was the architect of our strong sides in the 1980s that consolidated the club in B Grade. Andrew was skilled on both sides of his body and deadly around goals and is recognised as one of the best finishers in the club's history. Andrew played in the 1988 Seniors Grand Final and then played in the 1996 and 1997 Reserves premierships.



1985 runner-up B & F — Tony Grant — Seniors

1985 Reserves B & F — Owen Millis

1985 Club 18 B & F — Terry Shacklock



1985 U19 B & F — Adam Greene

CAMERON LADE — 1986/1989 — Seniors:

Known as 'Marma' by his teammates, Cam was rarely, if ever, beaten at full-back. His strength was his extraordinary leap which enabled him to regularly punch the ball away from his opponents and out of danger. He also launched many attacks from defence and it was not unusual to see him take a screamer over the back and quickly play on to set up a forward thrust. He played in the 1988 Grand Final. Another member of the best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007, Cam also captained the club.



1986 runner-up B & F — Tony Grant — Seniors

1986 Reserves B & F — Steven Timms

1986 Club 18 B & F — David Hynes

1986 U19 B & F — Michael Osborne

PAUL WOFF — 1987 — Seniors:

For a number of years 'Woffy' controlled the ruck for OBGFC. He regularly outclassed bigger, taller opponents with his mobility around the ground and his skilful tap work gave a number of the Tonners' players first use of the ball. Often asked to ruck all day, his work was tireless and was a tribute to his physical fitness and mental application. Paul played in the 1988 Grand Final and then the 1996 and 1997 Reserves premierships. He was another proud player of OBGFC to be a State Amateur representative.

1987 runner-up B & F — Matthew McLennan — Seniors



1987 Reserves B & F — Peter Latzer

1987 U19 B & F — James Styles (dec)



ANDREW GRANT — 1988 — Seniors:

1988 runner-up B & F — Marcus Barber — Seniors

1988 Reserves B & F — Michael Osborne

1988 U19 B & F — Brett Stevenson



CAMERON LADE — 1989 — Seniors:

1989 runner-up B & F — Marcus Barber — Seniors

1989 Reserves B & F — Matthew McLennan

1989 U19 B & F — Justin Lade

MARCUS BARBER — 1990 — Seniors:

Barbs' was one of the fittest players ever to pull on an OBGFC jumper. His tireless running wore down his opponents and meant he collected countless possessions around the ground. He was a fierce tackler and many an opposition player ended up sore and sorry from a 'Barbs' tackle. He played in the 1988



Grand Final and the 1996 and 1997 Reserves premierships. Always keeping the team entertained with his pre-game antics, 'Barbs' was a member of the best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007.

1990 runner-up B & F — Cameron Lade

1990 Reserves B & F — Peter Latzer

1990 U19 B & F — Matthew Talbot/Alex Rickarby



ANDREW PRYOR — 1991, 1992, 1995, 1998 — Seniors:

One of the all-time great Old Brighton players, 'Noel' won four Best and Fairests, a premiership, was in the best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007 and was a regular VAFA representative. He began his career as an opportunistic forward and soon developed into a quick, skilful on-baller and then later as a hard running, creative half-back. Andrew played in the 1988 and 1992 Grand Finals and then the 1997 premiership. Never one to hold back on giving instructions to teammates, he led by example in a very successful era for the OBGFC in the mid-90s and will rank as one of the great amateur players of all time.



1991 runner-up B & F — Nick Perry — Seniors

1991 Reserves B & F — Matthew McLennan

1991 U19 B & F
— Jeremy (Jed) Pyers



ANDREW PRYOR — 1992
— Seniors

1992 runner-up B & F
— Matthew Reid — Seniors

1992 Reserves B & F
— Matthew McLennan

1992 U19 B & F — Jonathon Farrer

CHRIS BROOK — 1993:

A great on-field leader 'Chook' led the Tonners like it was the last battle they would fight. He was very encouraging and would set a terrific example for all players at the club. As well as a fierce determination to win, he had an energy and enthusiasm that was infectious. Whilst not blessed with an abundance of natural skill he more than compensated with a wonderful work ethic and never say die attitude.



1993 runner-up B & F — Nick Perry — Seniors

1993 Reserves B & F
— Luke Fildes



1993 U19 B & F — Perry Robinson

MATTHEW REID — 1994 — Seniors:

Matt was an extremely hardworking on-baller who would 'rack up' possessions week after week. He was tough over the football and his supreme fitness ensured Matt was a difficult match-up for any opposition player. His strength was around the stoppages where he would use his low centre of gravity to consistently brush opposing players aside and feed off the ball to a teammate or drive the ball forward himself. Matt played in the 1997 premiership team.



1994 runner-up B & F — Andrew Pryor — Seniors

1994 Reserves B & F — Daniel Atkin

1994 U19 B & F
— Richard Oakley



ANDREW PRYOR — 1995
— Seniors:

1995 runner-up B & F — Brad Pollock — Seniors

1995 Reserves B & F — Robert Harrison

1995 Club 18 B & F
— Hayden Jarvis



1995 U19 B & F
— James Murch



1997 Club 18 B & F
— Gerard Bennett



SIMON LENNOX — 1996
— Seniors:

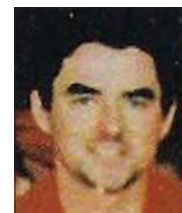
1997 U19 B & F
— Simon Alderson

Described by one former teammate as Old Brighton's equivalent of Chris Judd, this teammate went on to say, "not a huge man, but had immense strength, was leopard-like in his movement across the ground and opponents could not stop him." Extremely versatile, 'Lenny' could play tall, could play small, he could run and he could be in and under. With two Best and Fairests, a member of the Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007 and a VAFA State representative, he is up there with Old Brighton's best.



ANDREW PRYOR — 1998 — Seniors:

1998 runner-up B & F
— Simon Lennox — Seniors



1998 Reserves B & F
— Paul McMahon



1998 Club 18 B & F
— David Morton

1998 U19 B & F
— Liam O'Neill



1996 runner-up B & F
— Spiros Nikas — Seniors

MATTHEW JACKSON — 1999/2000
— Seniors:

1996 Reserves B & F — Andrew Grant

1996 Club 18 B & F — Luke Hamilton

1996 U19 B & F
— Simon Alderson/
Rob Kent



MATTHEW REID — 1997 — Seniors

1997 runner-up B & F — Adam Fitzgerald — Seniors

1997 Reserves B & F
— Paul Woff



One of the hardest runners at the club, Matt ran the opposition ragged each week and players used to dread lining up at him. Opposing coaches would attempt to double tag him each week with both players being totally exhausted come the last quarter. Matt played in the 1997 premiership team, the 2000 Grand Final and the 2009 Club XVIII premiership. A scrupulously fair player, 'Jacko' was a regular State representative and such was his quality that he was regularly in the best players for the Big V.



1999 runner-up B & F — Adam Fitzgerald — Seniors

1999 Reserves B & F
— Toby Ewart



1999 Club 18 B & F — Chris James

1999 U19 B & F
— Anthony McLaughlin



MATTHEW JACKSON

2000 — Seniors:

PAT
PHELAN — 2000/2006:



Coming from Sandringham, Patty settled into the Seniors straight away with his hard work evident from the very first training session where he would punch out lap after lap.



He possessed extraordinary running ability and with a work ethic that continually amazed his peers he was always in the top possession gatherers. As current coach Greg McLaughlin states, "What sets Patty apart from other players is that if he is struggling during a game he just works harder to get into it." It wasn't just his endurance that he was known for but also a great amount of skill, with that deadly left foot setting up many a forward thrust.

2000 runner-up B & F — Matthew Dennis — Seniors



2000 Reserves B & F
— Matthew Talbot

2000 Club 18 B & F — Matthew Nikakis

2000 U19 B & F
— Ben Williams



MATTHEW REID — 2001 — Seniors:

2001 runner-up B & F — Matthew Jackson — Seniors

2001 Reserves B & F
— Matthew Smith



2001 Club 18 B & F — Gilbert Norwood

2001 U19 B & F — Jason Mead

ROSS STEWART — 2002 — Seniors:

Whilst not your conventional on-baller, Ross was a great reader of the play and came into his own under the tutelage of Stuart Glascott. He was strong in the centre bounces and was very clever particularly by hand and seemed to be one step ahead of the play all the time. He was also very strong mentally and quite often got a tagging job, a role which he approached with great determination and success. Ross played in the 2006 Grand Final.



2002 runner-up B & F
— Simon Lennox — Seniors

2002 Reserves B & F
— Chris McNichol



2002 Club 18 B & F
— Nick Maddox

2002 U19 B & F
— Luke Dale



JON
PERRETT — 2003/2008:

An inspirational leader, Jon has followed his dad Ross as a tireless, hard working footballer. As well as having an insatiable desire for a contest and frequently being at the bottom of the packs, Jon also displayed classy skills and would always pop up with a much needed goal. He played in the 2006 and 2007 Grand Finals. As his career has progressed he has displayed much valued leadership both on and off the field and by 2008 had two Best and Fairests to his name.



2003 runner-up B & F — Simon
Lennox — Seniors



2003 Reserves B & F
— Tom Mattesi

2003 Club 18 B &
F — Chris Trim



2003 U19 B & F
— Ben Gadsden

LEIGH HENDRA — 2004/2005 —
Seniors:

Leigh, or 'Ray' as he is affectionally known, will no doubt be remembered as one of the most skilful, tenacious and gifted players OBGFC has seen. Not only



did he have the foot and hand skills to match many AFL players, his tackling, desperation and second efforts were something to behold. He was a fantastic mark for his size and led many attacks from either on the ball or roaming around the half-back line. Described by coach Greg McLoughlin as the best player he has coached, he is a dual Best and Fairest winner and member of the Best of OBGFC 1957–2007.

2004 runner-up B & F — Pat
Phelan — Senior

2004 Reserves B & F — Matthew Smith

2004 Club 18 B & F — Warwick Earl

2004 U19 B & F — Adam Tregear

LEIGH HENDRA — 2005

2005 runner-up B & F — Jon
Perrett — Senior

2005 Reserves B & F — Chris Reddin

2005 Club 18 B & F — Geoff Earl

2005 U19 B & F
— Scott Olliver



PAT PHELAN — 2006
— Senior:

2006 runner-up B & F — Callum
Buckley — Senior

2006 Reserves B & F
— Ross Stewart



2006 Club 18 B & F — Rory
Sullivan

2006 U19 B & F — James Sest

MARK AINLEY — 2007 — Senior:

Mark Ainley will be remembered as one of the most skilful and hard running players Old Brighton has seen. It was not unusual to see 'Ains' take the ball on the half-back line, pass it off and then run hard through the lines to then receive the ball and line up for a goal. He combined this running with a ferocious attack on the ball and consistent, high quality disposal. Mark played in the 2007 Grand Final. A highly popular player on and off the field, Mark was one of the players who made the club consistently successful in A grade.



2007 runner-up B & F — Leigh Hendra — Seniors

2007 Reserves B & F — James Salem



2007 Club 18 B & F — Chris Reddin

2007 U19 B & F — Michael Bannar — Martin

JON PERRETT — 2008 — Seniors:

2008 runner-up B & F — Matthew Gadsden — Seniors

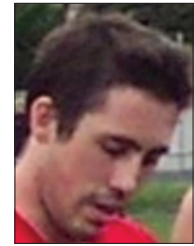
2008 Reserves B & F — Ross Stewart and Luke Warren

2008 Club 18 B & F — David Cooper

2008 U19 B & F — Lachlan Nash

MATTHEW GADSDEN — 2009:

Described by former coach Greg McLoughlin as, "the most coachable player I ever came across", Matt Gadsden often sacrificed his own game for the team.



Many times he was given tagging roles which he completed successfully and at the same time managed to launch attacks and accumulate many possessions himself. A completely selfless, skilful and gifted player he won the respect of teammates and opposition alike. Matt played in the 2000, 2006 and 2007 Grand Finals. It must also be noted that Matt played in two winning premiership teams with Sandringham in the VFL — a great achievement.

2009 runner-up B & F — David Spriggs — Seniors

2009 Reserves B & F — Trent Zantuck

2009 Club 18 B & F — Toby Ewert

2009 U19 B & F — Tim Tickell

Scott Olliver — 2010 — Seniors:

2010 Runner — up B & F — J Perrett

2010 Reserves B & F — L Nash

2010 Club 18 B & F — R Anniss

2010 U19 B & F — B Austin

Nick Marston — 2011 — Seniors:



2011 Runner — up B & F
— J Perrett

2011 Reserves B & F — Tom Clarke

2011 Club 18 B & F — Pat Healey

2011 U19 B & F — Callum Nicholls

John Perrett — 2012 — Seniors:

2012 Reserves B & F — Will Bardoel

2012 U19 B & F — L Healey/D Verney

M Bruin — 2013 — Seniors:

2013 Reserves B & F — Callum Nicholls

DID YOU KNOW?

For very many years Drewe Bellmaine has generously provided his very fine facilities at the Riva Restaurant situated at the St Kilda Marina where 100 or more guests can be catered for. Drewe's generosity in this regard has meant that our club has been able to raise many thousands of dollars to assist in the significant expenses incurred in running our club each year.

**SUMMARY OF BEST AND FAIREST
WINNERS — ALL GRADES**

1957

Seniors: Doug Ridley, Bob McLellan
Runner up: Brian Mulligan

1958

Seniors: Bob McLellan
Runner up: Barry Morris

1959

Seniors: Doug Ridley
Runner up: David Sedgwick

1960

Seniors: Keith Peachey
Runner up: Brian Mulligan

1961

Seniors: Peter Kellawy
Runner up: Barry Morris

1962

Seniors: Bob McLellan
Runner up: Barry Morris
Reserves: Graham Tozer

1963

Seniors: David Pullman
Runner up: Graeme Templeton
Reserves: Lance Westerman

1964

Seniors: Bob McLellan
Runner up: John Berry
Reserves: Roger Wilson

1965

Seniors: John Devine
Runner up: Ossie Spence
Reserves: Clive Taylor
U19: Colin Heseltine

1966

Seniors: Doug Wood
Runner up: John Berry
Reserves: Vic Stewart
U19: Rick Thomas

1967

Seniors: Barry Morris
Runner up: Rick Thomas
Reserves: Wayne Comper
U19: Duncan Van Woerden

1968

Seniors: Don Agar
Runner up: Rick Thomas
Reserves: Michael Wood
U19: Bryan Templeton

1969

Seniors: John Berry
Runner up: Ian Dalton
Reserves: Roger Wilson
U19: Owen Millis

1970

Seniors: John Berry
Runner up: Terry Smith
Reserves: Michael Wood
U19: Max Powell

1971

Seniors: Ian Paroissen
Runner up: John Devine, David Myers
Reserves: Michael Wood
U19: John Levvey

1972

Seniors: Rick Thomas
 Runner up: Peter Watkins
 Reserves: Andrew Dick
 U19: Ian Gutteridge

1973

Seniors: James Kemp
 Runner up: Andrew Mullett
 Reserves: Buddy Hamilton
 U19: John Downie

1974

Seniors: Rick Thomas
 Runner up: Ian Mullett
 Reserves: Ian Edmonson
 U19: Martin Hunt

1975

Seniors: Peter Walsh
 Runner up: John Levvey
 Reserves: Owen Millis
 U19: Martin Hunt

1976

Seniors: Rick Thomas
 Runner up: Garry Jones
 Reserves: Martin Hunt

1977

Seniors: David Warnock
 Runner up: Mark Epstein
 Reserves: Barry Gartner

1978

Seniors: David Shepherd
 Runner up: John Priestly
 Reserves: Peter Wagner

1979

Seniors: David Warnock
 Runner up: Bruce McClure
 Reserves: Rod Cowling
 U19: Don Nicholson

1980

Seniors: Tony Gedye
 Runner up: John Priestly
 Reserves: John Tapp
 U19: Matthew McLennan
 Club 18: John Perry

1981

Seniors: David Shepherd
 Runner up: Peter King
 Reserves: Ian Mullett
 U19: Peter Goetz
 Club 18: John Perry

1982

Seniors: Mark Leske
 Runner up: Brad Cornwell
 Reserves: Buddy Hamilton
 U19: Peter Ellinson
 Club 18: Ken Whitelegg

1983

Seniors: Peter Grant
 Runner up: Gerard Bennett
 Reserves: Buddy Hamilton
 U19: Stuart Kay
 Club 18: Rob Draper, Peter Miller

1984

Seniors: Peter Grant
 Runner up: Andrew Grant
 Reserves: Rod Cowling
 U19: Tony Hoar

1985

Seniors: Andrew Grant
 Runner up: Tony Grant
 Reserves: Owen Millis
 U19: A Green
 Club 18: Terry Shacklock

1986

Seniors: Cameron Lade
Runner up: Tony Grant
Reserves: Steven Timms
U19: Michael Osborne
Club 18: David Hynes

1987

Seniors: Paul Woff
Runner up: Matthew McLennan
Reserves: Peter Latzer
U19: James Styles

1988

Seniors: Andrew Grant
Runner up: Marcus Barber
Reserves: Michael Osborne
U19: Rhett Stevenson

1989

Seniors: Cameron Lade
Runner up: Marcus Barber
Reserves: Matthew McLennan
U19: Justin Lade

1990

Seniors: Marcus Barber
Runner up: Cameron Lade
Reserves: Peter Latzer
U19: Matthew Talbot, Alex Rickarby

1991

Seniors: Andrew Pryor
Runner up: Nick Perry
Reserves: Matthew McLennan
U19: Jed Pyers

1992

Seniors: Andrew Pryor
Runner up: Matthew Reid
Reserves: Matthew McLennan
U19: Jon Farrer

1993

Seniors: Chris Brook
Runner up: Nick Perry
Reserves: Luke Fildes
U19: Perry Robinson

1994

Seniors: Matthew Reid
Runner up: Andrew Pryor
Reserves: Dan Atkin
U19: Richard Oakley

1995

Seniors: Andrew Pryor
Runner up: Brad Pollock
Reserves: Rob Harrison
U19: James Murch
Club 18: Hayden Jarvis

1996

Seniors: Simon Lennox
Runner up: Spiro Nikas
Reserves: Andrew Grant
U19: Simon Alderson, Rob Kent
Club 18: Luke Hamilton

1997

Seniors: Matthew Reid
Runner up: Adam Fitzgerald
Reserves: Paul Woff
U19: Simon Alderson
Club 18: Gerard Bennett

1998

Seniors: Andrew Pryor
Runner up: Simon Lennox
Reserves: Paul McMahan
U19: Liam O'Neill
Club 18: David Morton

1999

Seniors: Matthew Jackson
Runner up: Adam Fitzgerald
Reserves: Toby Ewart
U19: Adam McLaughlin
Club 18: Chris James

2000

Seniors: Matthew Jackson, Pat Phelan
 Runner up: Matthew Dennis
 Reserves: Matthew Talbot
 U19: Ben Williams
 Club 18: M Nikakis

2001

Seniors: Matthew Reid
 Runner up: Matthew Jackson
 Reserves: Matthew Smith
 U19: Jason Mead
 Club 18: Gil Norwood

2002

Seniors: Ross Stewart
 Runner up: Simon Lennox
 Reserves: Chris McNichol
 U19: Luke Dale
 Club 18: Nick Maddox

2003

Seniors: Jon Perrett
 Runner up: Simon Lennox
 Reserves: Tom Mattessi
 U19: Ben Gadsden
 Club 18: Chris Trim

2004

Seniors: Leigh Hendra
 Runner up: Pat Phelan
 Reserves: Matthew Smith
 U19: Adam Tregear
 Club 18: Warwick Earl

2005

Seniors: Leigh Hendra
 Runner up: Jon Perrett
 Reserves: Chris Reddin
 U19: Scott Olliver
 Club 18: Geoff Earl, Richard Oakley

2006

Seniors: Pat Phelan
 Runner up: Callum Buckley
 Reserves: Ross Stewart
 U19: James Sest
 Club 18: Rory Sullivan

2007

Seniors: Mark Ainley
 Runner up: Leigh Hendra
 Reserves: James Salem
 U19: Michael Bannar-Martin
 Club 18: Chris Reddin

2008

Seniors: Jon Perrett
 Runner up: Matthew Gadsden
 Reserves: Ross Stewart, L Warren
 U19: Lachlan Nash
 Club 18: David Cooper

2009

Seniors: Matthew Gadsden
 Runner up: David Spriggs
 Reserves: Trent Zantuck
 U19: Tim Tickell
 Club 18: Toby Ewart

2010

Seniors: Scott Olliver
 Runner up: Jon Perrett
 Reserves: L Nash
 U19: B Austin
 Club 18: R Anniss

2011

Seniors: Nick Marston
 Runner up: Jon Perrett
 Reserves: Tom Clarke
 U19: Callum Nicholls
 Club 18: Pet Healey

**PLAYERS TO WIN MORE THAN ONE
BEST AND FAIREST**

SENIORS:

Doug Ridley	1957, 1959
Bob McLellan	1957, 1958, 1962, 1964
John Berry	1969, 1970
Rick Thomas	1972, 1974, 1976
David Warnock	1977, 1979
David Shepherd	1978, 1981
Peter Grant	1983, 1984
Andrew Grant	1985, 1988
Cameron Lade	1986, 1989
Andrew Pryor	1991, 1992, 1995, 1998
Matthew Reid	1994, 1997, 2001
Matthew Jackson	1999, 2000
Pat Phelan	2000, 2006
Jon Perrett	2003, 2008, 2012
Leigh Hendra	2004, 2005

RESERVES:

Roger Wilson	1964, 1969
Michael Wood	1968, 1970, 1971
Buddy Hamilton	1973, 1982, 1983
Rod Cowling	1979, 1984
Peter Latzer	1987, 1990
Matthew McLennan	1989, 1991, 1992
Matthew Smith	2001, 2004
Ross Stewart	2006, 2008

U19s:

Martin Hunt	1974, 1975
Simon Alderson	1996, 1997

CLUB 18

John Perry	1980, 1981
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By Andrew Grant

DID YOU KNOW?

The OBGFC website (www.obgfc.com.au) was set up in 2000 for up-to-date match results, forthcoming social events and sponsorship and membership opportunities. 'Hot Links' are provided to the School, the Old Boys Society and VAFA websites, the latter of course providing all the most up to the minute premierships ladder information. This facility is of course also available to all sponsors. With their own website, the club sees this as the biggest single future prospect for growing the sponsorship database.

A Life at the Beach — Benchwarmer Reflections

By Andrew Mullett, March 31, 2010

My continuous involvement with our footy club probably has much to do with my bleak memories of school matches. I played in only one winning senior football team at BGS between 1966–68; it was the stuff of legends. We knocked off Geelong Grammar on the Crowther Oval when Justin Judd delayed the siren long enough for Bud Hamilton to torpedo the winner at the Junior Oval end. I remember only that I wanted to win again, as often as possible; that was blatant and compelling. Subconsciously, I probably wanted to sound the siren on plenty of victories when I could no longer play. That urge too eventually surfaced.



Bud Hamilton



Owen Millis

A number of us played a couple of games with the Old Boys towards the end of the VAFA season after our 1968 APS season was over. Owen Millis's older brother Mark played there, and Owen used to watch. He was going to have a kick, so I went too. I lived in Bentleigh and had no idea where the Old Boys played. I couldn't believe it when I went down to practice and met the Under 19 coach. Bill Faull used to coach South Melbourne. I had a photo of him in a footy magazine at home, telling Bobby Skilton what to do. Now he was telling me I would play at centre-half-forward and he wanted me to move around a bit and lead. We played Army Apprentices at South Road on a windy Saturday. We smashed them. I moved around a bit and kicked a few goals and Bill said I did alright. Bill said, "Thanks for helping out, son." I knew I'd be back; I couldn't wait.

The Tonners were in C Grade in 1969, but at first it was misery all over again. We couldn't win a thing and were soon on the bottom. I played my first game at Alphington and felt lucky to survive. I kicked one goal and a skinny bloke with tattoos said if I did it again it again he'd fix me. I was nearly killed the next week against Hampton Rovers when I ran into a pack looking up at the flight of the ball and was suddenly flat on my back gasping for breath. The bloke who ran

through me said I was lucky because he went to BGS and he'd hit me fairly. He said any of his teammates would have coat-hangered me. He told me never to leave myself open like that again. After several defeats, we had a windfall. We knocked over the National and Commonwealth Banks in successive matches. The Commonwealth Bankers were on top, but the Templetons took them apart. Bryan booted eight and Big Grah kicked five and scared the hell out of them. That winning taste again!



Bryan Templeton



Graeme Templeton



Bob McLellan



James Agar

My playing career was a humble one. Between 1963 and 1973, we rode the VAFA escalator, sinking back to D Grade, before surging back into C Grade under Bob McLellan's inspirational coaching. During those years we often played against Alphington, Parkside, Fairfield and Coburg, and James Agar ruled our forward line. He was never intimidated by brawn or tattoos. I would often stare in disbelief as our fearless full-forward stood toe-to-toe, exchanging blows with the boys across the Yarra. I realised the more I played with and listened to James that matches against these blokes were not sporting contests he embraced so much as odious, social excursions that had been imposed upon his winter calendar! He was an irascible character and a fierce competitor. Sometimes his own teammates offended him to the point where he would berate us violently, either for invading his space or for falling short of the expectations he held for us. Peter Watkins, our chirpy and pugnacious little rover in the early 70s was a favourite Agar target, because he would often pinch goals that James thought were his.

Today the full-forward either marks strongly, and James did that often, or 'creates a contest', allowing flankers (like me) or rovers (like Wokka) to crumb goals. In 1972, if Agar didn't mark it he would pounce on the spilled ball, knock over teammate and opponent alike, ignore all pleas for handballs, twist and turn through innumerable arcs before snapping at goal from an impossible angle, and as often as not, the ball finished up on South Road or across the railway line. James would then turn on us like a caged lion and abuse us for getting in the way! The man could play though. He was strong, brave, fast and kicked goals. It was just that you often had the feeling that he would rather that the rest of us weren't there!



Peter Watkins



John Shepherd



Bruce McBriar



Peter Walsh

My most significant achievement in those early years was kicking a last-quarter goal in the promotional preliminary final against Brunswick in 1972. We played in the shadows of the MCG

on Old Scotch's ground at the time. I was on the bench with Johnny Shepherd who had come on at half-time and lifted us. Bob McLellan sent me into the fray in a tense last quarter after Bruce McBriar had threatened to ignite World War 3. The Brunswick boys had led all day but Macca had distracted them long enough to give us a chance. I remember being exhausted after five minutes and couldn't get out of the way when one of our mid-fielders speared the ball into our forward line. I heard James Agar coming and knew he wouldn't be happy, but I held my ground, took the mark, got absolutely poleaxed, then stood and saw that the goals were probably ten metres too far away. "Stuff it", I thought. I'd been practising kicking for goal all week with Peter Walsh and had got onto a few in front of the dressing rooms and I reckoned I was a chance. I hit it perfectly. It sailed through, we were in front, and the boys were up and ready to storm into the 'Granny'. Rick Trewavis was time-keeping and he told me later that his Brunswick counterpart declared I had no hope of dobbing it. Rick was kind enough to say that he knew I would, and that we would win for sure once it had gone through. Agar wasn't too pleased though.



Rick Trewavis



Jim Kemp

"Next time, get out of the bloody way Mullett!" he growled. Seconds later, he marked on a lead, and as I ran past and called for the ball with a clear run into goal, he just snarled, "Piss off," ... and went back and kicked it himself!

James Agar.....I loved the bugger!

I will never forget the elation of that victory. Five days later I dislocated my elbow at training in a competitive drill that was normal practice in the 70s, but would never be contemplated on the eve of a Grand Final now. I watched Parkside, who had finished fourth, beat us by a point, 15 – 12 102 to 14 – 17, 101. I don't remember ever feeling as gutted after a footy match. The emotional roller-coaster of that week taught me never to take sporting success for granted.

Jim Kemp beat me by a vote in the 1973 OBGFC Best and Fairest count which was held at St Kilda's Linton Street premises and then I disappeared, spending three years in the bush beginning my teaching career and playing for Corryong in the Upper Murray League in the top north-east corner of the state. The club was back in D Grade when I returned in 1977, but exciting times were brewing. BGS had won the APS premiership in 1975, something that my generation found inconceivable. I had travelled down from the hills in September 1976 to see the Old Boys Reserves win the flag, the side sprinkled with members of that BGS side who were going to change things at South Road.



Bill McGrory



John Priestly



Tony Gedye

During the 1976 season, there had been a sensation in the Old Brighton rooms in the boys' mid-season clash against University High Old Boys up near the Zoo. My brother Ian, who was rucking his way to life membership, rang me to say Alan Miller, another Old Swan's coach who was now our senior coach had totally lost the plot at half-time. Roaring louder than the caged lions a few hundred yards away, he hurled his folder across the room, berated the team's lack of effort and stormed out and was never seen again! Assistant Bill McGrory took over amid the chaos; the match was won, and so began Bill's epic charge to the 1977 D Grade premiership over Alphington at Monash University. Bill was a VAFA legend, having played over 400 games. He was a dapper, confident, successful man who knew what he wanted; he had a simple game plan, much in the manner of Bobby Davis's 'go out and be brilliant' instructions to his champion Geelong sides in the 50s.



Mark Epstein



Bruce McClure



Gary Jones



Martin Castle

John Priestley is Old Brighton's greatest goal kicker. John kicked over 500 goals and in 1977, he was unstoppable. Bill knew he had a good side. Tony Gedye and David Warnock were dominant ruckmen, Mark Epstein, Bruce McClure, Gary Jones and Martin Castle feeding off their superb work like seagulls on hot chips. Bill McGrory's instructions were simple — Kick it to Priestley! They did and blokes like me ran in increasingly irrelevant circles on the periphery. I wasn't arguing. This was fantastic stuff. 'Jumping Jack' marked everything from any direction and booted them through with the most reliable left foot I've seen at the Beach. Bill played one more trump that he knew would win him the flag. He convinced retired Ricky Thomas to pull on the boots one more time. It was a master-stroke. Rick dominated every match he played, and provided the inspiration that galvanised the very considerable talent in Ian Paroissien's team. I was happy to play in the Reserves' Grand Final in the morning, and watch 'Jumping' take Alphington apart in the afternoon.



Ricky Thomas



Ian Paroissien

But I didn't see much of the last quarter. My nerves got the better of me. All those years at BGS, losing week after week, year after year were hard to shake off. Now we were going to win ... maybe. Memories of 1972 chewed at my insides. Alphington had frightened the life out of me on debut. Now, eight years later, we had them at three-quarter time in a Grand Final, but I couldn't bear the looming excitement. I wandered off in a cold sweat through the University

grounds, desperately trying to interpret the cheering that periodically reached me through the gaps in the buildings. When I summoned the courage to return five minutes before the end, we were ten goals in front, and John Priestley had eight! It was a dream and even then I couldn't believe it had come true. These days, more than thirty years later, I expect our boys to win every week and I'm filthy if I think they've missed a chance. It all stems back to those tough days. They began when I was kicking the dew off twenty goal defeats against Scotch Under 16s, and they ended when footy became a revelation in September, 1977.



Former Mothers' Circle members (see p. 124), now O.B.G.S. Football Club Auxiliary
L. to r.: Mary Edmondson, Tupp Mullett, Kay Hutchinson, Peg Webb, Doreen Richardson, Lois Keast,
 Jean Appeltton, Susan Gluning, Norma Trotter

Old Brighton was a wonderful place to be in that period, with so many families involved in the club. My parents, Bill and Tup, always followed their son's sport. Bill loved the footy and we had endless debates over the dinner table about the ebb and flow of our fortunes. During my coaching years he was always there in support, usually as team manager in the thick of the action. Bill was a very proud winner of our Best Clubman award in 1982. Tuppy was always in the grandstand, urging us on with Mary Edmondson, Doreen Richardson, Wilma Draper and a band of Mums who loved to cheer the Tonners. Tuppy doesn't miss many home games even now, and as one of a dwindling group of 'Old Mums', she still hands me a cheque each season for the club's coffers. She and her friends put in a few dollars at their monthly card games. "It's not much, but it might buy the boys a footy," she says. Like any footy club, we are at our strongest when parents are involved. With the success in the 70s, the strong family friendships forged a unity that has become the hallmark of our happiest times. I can see that starting to happen again today and we must embrace and involve as many families as possible.



Rob & Wilma Draper



Phillip Meyer

We missed the double in 1977, but in 1978 I finally played in a premiership team. At the ripe old age of 28, I wasn't able to hold down a place in the Seniors, but my cricketing friend from Carnegie, Phillip Meyer, had come down to coach the Reserves. Phil was also a great mate of Bill McGrory's. He had played against us in a St Kilda CBC guernsey, but now he was a Tonner and he convinced me to play at full-back. I had rarely ventured into the back-half of the ground in my life and had certainly never played in a fixed back line position. I had a great time. It was like starting the game all over again, and I played plenty of footy there until I retired in 1981. Our premiership win in 1978 was loaded with the richest irony. We had finished third on the Reserves table and beat local rivals, Hampton Rovers in the first semi-final. That was another score settled. Phil laid the plans to knock over his old side St Kilda CBC in the Preliminary. We nearly did too, but the game was tied! Of gravest concern amongst the spectating senior players, was the chaos resulting for the end of season trip arrangements. We cleaned up the Saints the following week, and then pinched the flag from the favourites at Albert Park; the sweetest irony? We beat Geelong, and Bud Hamilton kicked the winner as he had done at school a decade earlier!

Ormond champion Peter Murphy coached us (Seniors) in 1979. I remember him as a ripper bloke. We made the finals but let him down. He tried to lead from the front on the ball after being a champion defender. Peter helped us to maintain our progress and our confidence. As Reserves coach, I was one of the off-field advisors trying to support Peter, as he did his best to keep our noses in front on the ground. We lost the Preliminary Final when St Kilda CBC produced a young Simon Meehan out of the hat, and the youngster kicked crucial goals to bring us undone.



Bill Browne



Diana Dick



David Shepherd

The next great phase in Old Brighton's history began with the arrival of Sandringham's key defender, Bill Browne as senior coach in 1980. I had inherited leadership (captain-coach) of the Reserves from Phil. After playing in the early game, I spent Saturday afternoons on the bench with good friend and 1977 premiership captain, Ian Paroissien. We were Bill's extra eyes, throwing in our advice at the breaks, while he galloped about having fun and stitching the seams of our next flag. No panel of coaches in 1980, no stats sheets, no water bottles; however we did have superb physios! Sue married Jumping Jack who kicked the best goal of his career, and Dougie Dick snared Diana; even today, no one is sure how he managed it! On the field the same band of medical students who disposed of Alphington, were at their peak. David Shepherd, Peter Grant

and Peter King were among additions to that team and they were playing great footy, and Billy just kept telling them he was going to haul that flag up the flagpole! We all believed everything Billy told us. He was just magnificent, still a fine player and a fearless competitor. We hardly missed a trick and finished on top with fifteen wins.



Peter Grant



Peter King



Shane Young

Footy was great fun in those days. Shane Young who coached our Under 19s in 2008, was constantly amazed by his charges' refusal to shower after training and after games. They would scuttle off home in their gear as soon as the action was over. Youngy reckons they'll never be real men until they hit the showers. In 1980, the action often only started after training. Peter 'Buddha' Grant and Peter 'Dog' King would have caused today's young blokes serious mental damage. I remember they emerged one cold and rainy night after unspeakable atrocities in the showers, and naked and steaming they pulled on their boots and did another couple of laps under lights in the rain, their gleaming white bodies on glorious display for any local resident who may have glanced out from behind the curtains!

After dominating the competition, we had a rude awakening when Geelong Amateurs thrashed us in the second semi-final at Geelong West. I was furious, and next morning I arrived at the Beach early after Billy had demanded a Sunday morning training. Bill was delayed, so I jumped in and cut loose on the players, whom I thought had given up without a real crack. I remember telling them how angry I was when Priestley was still kicking defiant goals in the final term but no one seemed to care. No-one went to him with any show of respect or appreciation of his efforts. The Cats humiliated us. It just spilt out of me spontaneously. I had such respect for those blokes who were good enough to do all the things I hadn't. I reckoned if I could let them see how much I thought of them, we wouldn't have to endure the disappointments of 1972 all over again. They all stared at me and I stared back and put it to each of them. Then I backed off as I saw Billy's car pull up. I was shaking like hell and was hoping that I hadn't burned any friendships. We thrashed Bulleen-Templestowe in the Preliminary Final and took the Tonners into B Grade for the first time, and then we reversed the result against Geelong at Elsternwick Park when it counted most. David Shepherd still likes to talk about that Sunday morning. It was a huge finish to the season.



Michael Wood



Drewe Bellmaine



David Cochrane



Mark Dobbie

The ‘Godfather’, Michael Wood, pulled me aside at Dendy Park during pre-season training in early 1982. I was considering being the non-playing coach of the Ressies. I had suffered a shoulder injury in the last game of 1981. It required pinning and I hadn’t enjoyed the pain. I was doing the work to play but was still undecided. The Godfather made the decision. “Fish, we’ve got a problem. Billy’s missus has had triplets today. That means five kids less than five years of age. He doesn’t think it’s possible to coach. He wants the year off. The Committee wants to know if you’ll coach the club. It’s a bit late to advertise.”

Coaching the Seniors meant handing over the task of managing Peter Latzer to somebody else in the early game. ‘The Tsar’ was already a legend in his own mind. He’d ring me every Sunday morning and insisted that I steam open the Best and Fairest votes to see if he’d featured. He won it one year, and Drew Bellman swears to this day that the Tsar paid me off. He was a permanent fixture in the Reserves and would play as long as it took to secure the club’s games record from his great mate Owen Millis. When the ageless David Cochrane later broke the record, the Tsar was still threatening to climb down out of his smallgoods van and sit on the bench as long as it took to win it back. In his pomp, he could make life difficult for his coach, particularly if he thought he was given a raw deal. In a match at Bundoora in 1981, we had Old Paradians on the ropes at orange time and I grabbed the board, threw a few names around and told the Tsar to come back on and finish the game in the ruck. “Okay Pete?” I said, looking around the huddle. “Where’s Latzer, boys?” I couldn’t spot him. There was an embarrassed silence before Mark Dobie ventured, “I think he’s in the shower Fish. He got sick of waiting.”

A decade later, I was attending to team sheet details before the Seniors ran out to start their match against Banyule. A really wet winter had taken heavy toll on many grounds, and the match had been switched to Latrobe University. Suddenly word filtered into the dressing room that Peter had been reported in the dying stages of the Reserves match for striking the field umpire. It sounded impossible. Everybody knew Tsar was all bluster. Wasn’t it Pete who had berated an Old Estonian for not getting up and returning to the fray? He gave the bloke a fearful burst which drove the opposition team into a frenzy. The bloke had a broken leg! The Tsar could have found himself in a sticky situation but pleaded poor eyesight on that occasion. At the tribunal, accused of striking the umpire, he beat the charge. Apparently he had been the target of decidedly personal abuse all day, and when the umpire had moved in on Peter’s blindside to break up an altercation, he had ‘feared for his safety’ and flung back his arm to protect himself. He could talk himself out of any awkward moment and kept the club laughing for years. Peter just loved playing footy, and he was utterly incredulous when I told him years later that I had met one of his old opponents during a drink after a game, and the fella asked me if “that mean, tough, rough-headed bloke who played in your Reserves for years”, was still around. “You mean Peter Latzer?” I asked. “Latzer ... yeah that’s him, he used to scare the hell out of me!” The Tsar was greatly amused and thought that I was having a ‘lend’ of him, but the bloke was genuine!

*Chris James**Matt McLennan**Tony Grant**John Priestly*

I was thrilled with the sudden offer to coach the club, and quickly assured Woody I'd do my best. We should have survived in 1982, and it sat very heavily with me that I didn't hand back the side to Billy in 1983 with the club in B Grade. Although we had lost a number of senior players, some of our boys up from the Under 19s would become OBG legends. Chris 'Sid' James, Matt 'Booty' McLennan, Tony Grant and David Cochrane began their careers and we lost our first couple narrowly before disaster struck. John Priestley broke his finger at training and that was it for the season. We had to find six goals a week that I had reasonably expected would come from Jumping's boot. We struggled. We had a fabulous victory over Ivanhoe at Brighton, knocking off the unbeaten leaders with Big Andrew Beck kicking five from the square, and 'Fireman Ronnie' Young sealing the game with a late goal into the bowling green as he pumped his fist and went berserk. Captain David Shepherd was a fine player, Mark 'Gum Leaves' Leske won the Best and Fairest from a wing, and the blokes tried their hearts out.

*David Shepherd**Mark Leske**David Gedye**Don Nicholson*

My memory of the season is foggy, but I do remember one player fronting me at training and screaming, "Why don't you stop bagging us!" He was right; I was so worried about the things we weren't doing well, that I wasn't being sufficiently positive and their confidence must have suffered. We nearly made it even then. Later in the season, retired champion ruckman, Tony Gedye, tried to save us by driving up from Gippsland where he still lives and serves the community as the local vet. We had to win our last couple to avoid relegation and when we were 34 points up at three quarter time at Alphington, I thought our luck had changed. I was pretty sure that we could handle Bulleen-Templestowe at home the following week. Don Nicholson goaled in the opening minute of the final term and we lead by forty points; then the wheels fell off. We just ran out of gas. I threw a few blokes around, but remember watching in despair as players valiantly tried to hold off the home side's withering finish. Down by eleven points, Alphington won again! We beat Bulleen but down we went to C Grade.



Greg Tootell



Doug Dick



Mark Sarau



Adam Pirrie

I can't remember what I did the next winter; I just couldn't show my face. Billy came back and almost suffered the same fate. After finishing ninth, we were heading for D Grade! In a remarkable twist that completed our history with Alphington, the boys from beneath the paper mill were given their marching orders from the VAFA during the summer and Old Brighton was given a reprieve. Greg Tootell took over from Billy and the next time I saw the boys play was the 1984 C Grade Grand Final. A new wave of recruits from BGS, including future captain Cameron Lade, had arrived to save us just in time. We lost the Grand Final narrowly, but Greg had led the Tonners back into B Grade. Dougie Dick accepted the Presidency back in 1985 and convinced me it was time to get back on board, this time as Senior Team Manager. We only just managed to cling onto B Grade, and Mark Sarau replaced Greg at the start of 1986.

Doug was working with an information processing company that he would later run and he urged me to use a messaging service that he could provide, to record summaries of the weekend's games that supporters could ring.

The Benchwarmer

So began *The Benchwarmer* reports, which continue on the website today, though they are far more restrained. Indeed you can gain a measure of how absurdly anal society has become, if you take a line through *The Benchwarmer* reports over twenty years. They were only ever intended as a bit of fun for Old Brighton supporters. No one else had the phone number and I doubt whether more than a handful of people ever bothered to ring it. But I had fun. *The Benchwarmer* was unapologetically biased, anti-Catholic, ruthlessly critical of umpires of course, and unashamedly proud of the deeds of the Tonners! I had always loved listening to Jack Dyer's radio coverage of the footy, and his astonishing repetitive use of the phrase "for them" or "for th'm" at the end of virtually every sentence. That became *The Benchwarmer's* catchcry as I phoned in my report to Douglas. With tongue planted very firmly in my cheek, it never occurred to me that anyone would take my ramblings seriously.

I believe that these days there is a wider audience and that some opponents enjoy listening in. It hasn't always been the case. Hampton rovers were most offended on one occasion to hear of their summary dismissal after a thrashing. I was amazed that a 'left-footer' from one of the 'green clubs', complained to the VAFA after *The Benchwarmer* had been highly insulting to one of his players. The bloke was a noted thug and had been reported for striking Adam Pirrie so he copped the full brunt of *The Benchwarmer's* wrath. Apparently this was going to destroy relations between our clubs! At a recent VAFA meeting, I revealed my identity to this gentleman, admitting I was "the idiot who raves on about your matches". He reeled back in astonishment and said he would never speak to me again. You can imagine how chastened I felt! This year (season 2008) the VAFA also asked *The Benchwarmer* to be censored from the website as comments

about a Reserve umpire were insensitive! *The Benchwarmer* lives on however, undaunted by the straight-laced and fickle, and seeks merely to convey Red and Blue truth. Thank you listeners.



Cameron Lade



Gerard Bennett



Chris James



Peter,



Andrew and



Tony Grant



Marcus Barber



Paul Woff



Andrew Pryor



Andrew Cooper

Back to the footy, Mark Sarau coached Old Brighton from 1986 until 1990, and in that period he strengthened our values and was a key figure in ensuring that we all saw ourselves as a B Grade club, putting the lower grades behind us and striving for A Grade. What a character he was! One of my favourite memories was a moment in a match at McKinnon against Old Haileybury. I was watching behind the goals when Mark hauled his opponent into a pretty handy headlock while things got a bit heated in the goal square. With the captured Blood's defender squealing for release and throwing his arms about, Mark looked at me with a devilish grin and quipped, "Angry little bastard, isn't he!" Mark was an articulate man who demanded courage and loyalty from his players. He believed that quality footballers had to be quality people. He led from the front and expected everyone to follow, even when he made Fawkner or Thomastown angry! We had some wonderful players during that period and they responded to Mark's coaching. It was exciting sharing their Saturdays. Cameron Lade, Gerard Bennett, Chris James, Peter, Andrew and Tony Grant, Marcus Barber, Paul Woff, Andrew Pryor, Chris Brook, Tim Burns, and Andrew Cooper were wonderful players who never took a backward step, and we won often. I felt fortunate to be close to the action, whether organising team sheets, on the clock, throwing in advice from the bench or celebrating afterwards. We had become a serious footy team.

The high point of Mark's stint as playing-coach came in 1988 when we were promoted, although losing the C Grade Grand Final to Old Melburnians by a kick, and the next year we fronted De La Salle in the B Grade Preliminary Final at Northcote. It was the first time in our history that we had the chance to win promotion in successive years. A Grade beckoned. We were absolutely thrashed. At quarter-time we were eleven goals down! Billy Browne arrived at my shoulder at the huddle. "I think we're in a bit of trouble, boy," he mused. Even in crises, our coaches have traditionally held their sense of humour! Mark was in a different place that day, but who could blame him! Thank goodness we kicked seven goals in the last quarter to reclaim some respectability. Mark left at the end of the following year. Although those two finals were bitter memories for him, he had taken us to the brink of fine achievements and further foundations had been laid.

By this time, I was in charge of allocating jumpers and this took me down to Hugh Lyons'

premises in Mordialloc. Teaching nearby at Parkdale Secondary College, I have always been able to drop in and chat with the Lyons' staff, who have been wonderful over the years. Our jumpers were always made on time, and it is never a problem to have numbers sewn on new stock at the drop of a hat during the season. I am still looking after jumpers and shorts and although this is an onerous and time-consuming task, it has produced some amusing moments. A player's character is often revealed by the way he treats his gear. The old adage that you should always look as though you can play, even if you're struggling, was always drummed into me. I am astonished by players who can turn up to games without their boots or their jumpers and expect you to wave a magic wand and produce replacements. Anyone can occasionally forget something, but we have had our share of repeat offenders. Not only do they forget to pack their bags carefully, but I could stock a footballing Op-Shop with the gear that is left behind each week; jumpers, socks, shorts, tracksuits, mouthguards, jackets, shirts, towels ... you name it. Then comes the task of finding the owners! Most of them don't seem to realise their gear is missing! The only time I gave a bloke a serve was when I found his muddied jumper discarded in the shower after a match. It was a famous number, once worn before this bloke by one of our greatest players. It lay in the slop after a disappointing loss and I saw red. I waited until he came looking and told him I'd retrieved it and he'd forfeited the honour. You have to be allowed an occasional erratic moment once in a while!



Carl Anderson



Ian Mullett



Stuart Murray

In 1991 we appointed Mark 'Gus' Parker as our coach. Mark had come from De la Salle and I remember being impressed at his interview by his knowledge and his vision of how he thought football should be played. The 'La De Dahs', as *The Benchwarmer* loves to call them, had been a hugely successful club and we had nothing but the greatest respect for them. Carl Anderson had come to play for us and he had already instilled some of the toughness and class that we needed. If Mark could replicate the Blue and Gold's success at Beach Road, we would be more than happy. My brother Ian had accepted the Presidency in what would become the toughest year I could remember. Helpers deserted us in droves, and a few of us just managed to keep it together off the field. Mark deserved more support and he must have wondered at times what he had walked into. He was outstanding, and Ian and I often used to say in later seasons that Mark had 'taught us how to play'.

In 1992, Mark took us into the B Grade Grand Final for the first time. I watched the clash against Old Trinity from an elevated spot at Elsternwick Park and produced a commentary with Stuart 'Eggy' Murray, while the cameras recorded what we hoped would be a glorious day. The ground was wet and heavy and we kicked a flurry of behinds early in the game when the ball was still dry. They cost us dearly and we went under by 8 points. We had played in three Grand

Finals since 1980 (Premiers). We were on a four-year cycle but had only one flag up the pole. Defeats by 14, 6 and now 8 points produced plenty of pain.



Matt Allen



Simon Lennox



Brad Pollock



*Andrew
Krzynwiak*



Alex Rickarby

Mark Parker's three year reign had given us the skills and the sense of cohesion to realistically aim for A Grade. We didn't succeed in 1993 and came straight back, but we'd had a taste and saw how hard it was. Footy was great fun under 'Mork Porker', as Peter Latzer loved to call the coach. We had many fine players, and it was exciting watching Gus hone their talents. Andrew Pryor was regularly selected for Victoria and he would emerge as the finest player I had seen at the Beach, winning a record four club Best and Fairest awards in this decade. Tommy Hayden, Malcolm Shippen and Matt Allen kicked plenty of goals, while our defence was still built around Cameron Lade, Gerard Bennett and the legendary Chris 'Sid' James. Andrew Grant had returned, and future champions Nick Perry, Matthew Reid, Simon Lennox, Brad Pollock, Andrew Krzynwiak and Alex Rickarby were all starting to make their presence felt. Andrew Cooper had lured his Olympian colleague, James Tonkins, to Brighton and Simon O'Donnell pulled on the boots in 1992, so there was no shortage of celebrity at the Beach in the VFA's Centenary year! Jimmy and 'Sod' were happy enough to pull on numbers 57 and 58. I often think of them when less humble and far less talented new arrivals turn up their noses at anything in double digits! We won some impressive games in 1993, but needed to build our depth to sustain a spot in the elite section.



James Tonkin



Simon O'Donnell



Shane Young

Shane Young is one of the most respected and astute men involved at OBGFC. A former champion player in his native Launceston, Shane has recently coached our Under 18s and at the time of writing (pre-season 2010), is likely to re-join the senior coaching panel in what I hope will be a season that will fulfil our wildest dreams. In 1994, Shane was widely thought to be the likely replacement for Mark Parker, who was no longer available to be our senior coach. After guiding the Reserves during the Parker seasons, Shane was revered by the playing group, and it is fair to say that the appointment of Ormond legend Russell Barnes was controversial and caused some splits within the ranks. It was the most politically tense time at a club that has had remarkably few ructions. Footy is an emotional game and everyone has opinions about where power should rest. In the wash-up, Shane accepted a position at Prahran Football Club and

his good mates and club stalwarts, Stuart Murray and Roger Brown went with him. I imagine that Russell threw himself into his task with his customary dedication, but I confess that I was one who didn't see much of the Tonners in 1994. We missed the finals and Russell moved on after one season. He would enjoy success at Beaumaris and St Bedes-Mentone Tigers where he became a fiery adversary and in 2008, he took his beloved Ormond to the C Grade premiership.

Shane returned in 1995 and as senior coach he steadied the club with his strong work ethic, rebuilt the players' confidence and we played in the first semi-final in 1995 but lost to Therry. In 1996 we reversed the result against Therry, but were beaten by Old Paradians in the preliminary final. It cost Shane his job, but it didn't end his love of the club, his friendships or his involvement. I remember the dressing room after that loss. Shane was gutted and everyone realised they had let him down. We had a fine squad of players and they would fulfil their potential the following season. For the second time, Youngy was stiff not to be there at the helm.



Dale Tapping



Steve Barnes

Dale Tapping inherited a good side. Coming from Old Xavs, he was seen as a man who might just have a golden touch. There was nothing fancy about Tapps. He was humble, friendly and understandably nervous when he started, but he was a bloke who instantly impressed me. I remember him saying to me one Thursday night during the season when I was sounding him out about our chances, "I don't know Fish, this club has been in the finals often enough, but you haven't achieved. The club needs to win a premiership." Tapps was calm and uncomplicated. He was fit and hard and looked like he should be playing. He had Steve Barnes alongside him and he couldn't have had a better man. Steve had kept in touch since brother Russell had left, and in 1997 he coached the Reserves to a glorious upset win over his old club, Ormond, and his astute tactical brain on match days was an enormous asset for Tapps and the club overall. On top of that, Steve is a footy 'nut' who was very much the spiritual heart of the club during the final seasons of the millennium.



McNamara



Fischer



Raju



Bickett



McMahon



Adam Brown

What a day it was on September 20, 1997. The Clubbies had fallen narrowly to Old Xavs in their Grand Final, but this day belonged to the Tonners, although it didn't look likely early on. Under sunny skies, the Reserves trailed Ormond by six goals at quarter time! As *The Bench-warmer* noted at the time, "Bennett was elbowed and left the ground and they were in need of

inspiration, And Douglas, cometh the hour, cometh the man. The heroic Gully Bennett returned with an eye plaster to commence one of the most epic performances in Old Brighton's final's history. Four times he left the field under the blood rule, and four times he returned to haunt the Blue and nasty Brown, constantly generating attacking moves as the Tonners comeback built momentum for them. McNamara got them on the board after receiving from the Architect (Andrew Grant), Fischer marked, played on and goaled from an angle. Bennett forced it to McNamara for another and Grant kicked a fourth for them. The game was over ten minutes into the third quarter. Douglas, Woff and Barbour took over the centre, the wounded Bennett was in everything, and Ormond couldn't catch Raju, Bickett, McMahon and Adam Brown. The Architect designed two more gems for them. Raju centred superbly to the enigmatic Aaron Fischer for another and a glorious move from Barber found McNamara for his third and we were in front. It was academic at orange-time. Ormond hadn't goaled for an hour and their players were at a total loss about what to do with this side they had totally smashed at the start, but which had ripped the flag away from them. The boys kicked 11 – 8 to 1 – 3 after the first break, and their 29 point win sent the senior side into battle with St Kevin's to euphoric applause.



Matt Dennis



Robbie Kent



Jarrod Bradley



James Murch

I was still shaking when I hit the button to start the clock that afternoon. Again, thank goodness I have kept those Benchwarmer notes.

“At 3 goals 5 to nothing, I wasn't comfortable, particularly with the St Kev's tall forwards looking dangerous for them, but when Jackson's flick to Pryor provided our first and Matt Reid dashed in for our second, I started to breathe more easily. Big Rickars marked strongly for a third for them, and when Pryor crumbed a spill brilliantly to dash in for our fourth, we went to the break only seven points down despite the 'Bumble Bees' early dominance. Our great year had been inspired by Matt Dennis who set up much of our play from centre-half-back. He had begun strongly in the Grand Final, but we still trailed at half-time and *The Benchwarmer* wasn't happy. The second quarter was disappointing for them. We lacked imagination in attack; long bombs were punched away from Robbie 'Big Red Bus' Kent, and Bradley, Murch and Rickarby missed shots that should have put them in front for them.”



McLachlan



Ricky Hartman



R Oakley



Brook Logan

If things looked grim at the break, they suddenly rejuvenated in 'the premiership quarter'. The

Tonnors started running into the wind, Nick Perry took over at centre-half-forward, and that fired up McLachlan. Both goaled and Bradley, happier in the square, marked, converted, then led at a Reid pass set up by a brilliant hand-pass from Ricky Hartman. McLachlan pounced on the spill and kicked our fourth for the quarter for them. A charity free to St Kev's Garvey, (*The Benchwarmer* was of the opinion that the larvae in white had murdered the Tonners all day) kept the Bumbles buzzing, but Rickarby's late reply, restored our 8 point lead, and we were coming home with the wind at our backs for them.

I wonder how Tapps and Barnsey remember that final three-quarter time address. It is the fashion these days to speak in muted tones, to share deep secrets that cannot be revealed to the enthusiastic hordes that ring the players in anticipation, and stare at each other hoping someone will provide some insight into the result. I was in the Elsternwick Park timekeeper's box, shaking like a leaf, daring to believe that at last it was going to happen. Phil Hope, who sounds the siren on all matches at HQ, assured me we were home. I took a deep breath, and Peter Power from St Kev's and me started running down the time.

The Benchwarmer remembers, "The final quarter was a lilting, pulsating affair. Three times we extended our lead, and three times St Kevin's answered for them. Big Patto, Hartman and Bradley goaled, the third after cranial interference to the big man was finally spotted by the umpire. Rickarby was sent to full-back to quieten the insane rumblings of Popeye's girlfriend, who promptly ripped Rickar's jumper in half. Marcus Olive was not *The Benchwarmer's* favourite St Kev's opponent!" Obliteration football then took over. Douglas, Jackson, Oakley and Bradley goaled and Peter Power conceded gracefully. Hooker McLachlan sat on a bloke's head and promptly hit the post from the square, but no one in Red and Blue was complaining. Hooker later had his mark shown on the Footy Show's 'Almost Football Legends'. He'd become an Old Brighton legend for us alright, and Dale Tapping was the new Messiah!

We haven't managed a premiership since then [Andrew wrote this piece prior to the Seniors 2013 Premiership, our Club's fourth amongst 9 Grand Final Losses], although we contested the 2000 B Grade Grand Final against Mazenod Old Boys, after finishing the year on top with 16 wins, two clear of the Noddors. It is a matter of public record that we were raging favourites after beating them by five goals in the second semi-final. We found ways to lose it that I have erased from my mind ... almost. That flag has always appeared on the pole at Glen Waverley in our subsequent smashings of the home side.

Dale Tapping moved on after a five year stint in which we twice played in the A Grade competition, in 1998 and 2001. He made a wonderful contribution to our club and still keeps in touch. Although we had a number of outstanding wins, most notably at Toorak Park when a young Brook Logan took the points over the legendary Mike Blood and we downed the unbeatable Xavs, we lacked the depth to cope. Too many fine players left and weren't replaced and it seemed that as a club, we were content to be comfortable in B Grade. How many times had conversation over the bar reasoned that we just didn't have the depth of talent, or the drawing power to match it with the 'Big Boys'? Echoes of excuses that accompanied the school days hidings so long ago.

Is it any wonder that events of the last three years have simply intensified my enjoyment and passion for being involved at Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club? Jump forward eight

seasons to the eve of the 2009 season and as I write, I am excited that we have all set ourselves to have a real crack at winning the A Grade flag, which has become a realistic goal. It is eight seasons since we failed in A Grade and we sustained high quality B Grade performances until 2006, culminating in another Grand Final defeat that year, this time to Collegians who defeated us for the fourth time to emphatically claim the flag. From that disappointment sprang the determination not to waste another chance and we very nearly pulled off the impossible, bowing out in the 2007 A Grade Grand Final to Old Xaverians.



Chris Haling



Mike Perry



Ben Furzur



Andre Salem



Ross Stewart

But further lessons had been learned in the lead-up to 2006. The B Grade seasons were enormously enjoyable. After returning to B Grade in 2002, we won 59 games, lost 35 and tied one before returning to A Grade for the fourth time. Some of our finest players entertained us during that period. We played in five finals and won twice. The Under 19s won our first Section 1 flag in 2002. I was in New Zealand fishing with Chris ‘Brizzy Bear’ Haling, and we rang ‘Egg’ Murray from the car park after pulling in Chris’s boat, Tickety Boo, named after Mike Perry’s use of that optimistic phrase which had amused the Bear. Egg was beside himself. He described how our boys were physically smashing the favoured St Kevin’s blokes. A lad named Ben Furzer was running riot, and Andre ‘The Doc’ Salem had just booted five goals in the third quarter! The reserves won another flag in 2003, our sixth JFX Dillon cup in twelve years. We reckoned the ‘Ammos’ should give it to us permanently!

We shook off a dogged 2002 under Stuart Glascott, when a weakened list was forced to play defensive, survival footy until we could rebuild. Ross Stewart was a brave Best and Fairest winner, doing a tough job each week, but I confess I felt sorry for Simon Lennox whose superb skills and endless running earned him regular State representation during this period. In that 2000 final that I’ve almost forgotten, Lenny ran into a brick wall on the three-quarter time siren. It hammered him into the ground. In a split-second he bounced straight up and didn’t seem to blink. It was right in front of me and I couldn’t believe he wasn’t down for the count. I thought it was a pivotal moment in the match which would surely galvanise the side. It wasn’t to be that day.



Josh Dickinson



Pat Phelan



Matt Gadsden



*Andrew
MacGuilivray*

Simon Williams captained through these years and went on to play 220 games, every one of them solid and tough. Josh Dickenson began to emerge as a promising youngster and Adam

Pirrie began a long run as our most exciting and prolific goal kicker, being confirmed in *The Benchwarmer* parlance as Mr Magic. We first saw Leigh Hendra play with a ferocity that belied his youth, and it has been a privilege to watch the exploits of our decorated captain, who may be the best man in the jumper I've seen. Patrick Phelan and Matt Gadsden were occasional stars as they spent time elsewhere, testing themselves at a higher level. They have returned to be at the heart of the best teams we have ever put on the field. My greatest regret during these years was that injury confined the blissful skills of Andrew MacGillivray to increasingly rare appearances. He will probably try again this year to coax his body to engage in the rigours of the game he loves. I doubt that many amateur footballers have made the sacrifices Andrew has endured. A naturally gifted left-footer, he created goals from nothing, especially from tight angles and in crucial stages of the game. At Sandringham, in a final against Old Essendon Grammarians, he had an incredible ten shots at goal in the third quarter, and his five goals brought down the Bombers.



Toby Ewart



Jarrod O'Neill



Jon Perrett

Toby Ewart was our big-hearted, underrated ruckman during these seasons. I loved watching him play. He played with an intelligence and reliability that kept the opposition out on a cold day, like a favourite overcoat. Mark after mark across the backline and a reliable shot for goal when he had a chance. I took some long service leave in 2004 and rang the VAFA hotline from a caravan park in the remote Northern Territory to find out the results of a game at Mazenod which I was sure we would win. When the scores revealed an astonishing defeat of considerable proportions, I returned to my travelling companion and grumbled that "Big Tobias must have been injured for that to have happened." He didn't miss often, but I confirmed later that he missed that day. Jarrod O'Neill coached us in 2003 – 4 and did it well. He was astute, keen and approachable. Jon Perrett won the Best and Fairest in his first year in 2003, disappeared to W.A. and left me wondering if we would ever get enough of our best players to stay in one place at the same time! Fair dinkum, we have blokes who set the world on fire, then disappear to play guitar, go surfing, chase overseas dreams, who become seduced by interstate distractions; women, money, work and God knows what else. We lost Brook Logan to a Bermuda bank and Chris Barrow to the Arabs!



Greg McLoughlin



David Dawes



Tom Jakobi



Chris Tolji

Greg McLoughlin took over in 2005. We had two Gadsdens and two Ginnivans. Toby was close to 150 games and Leigh nudged 100. Anthony Bristow, Simon Williams, Adam Pirrie and

Josh Dickerson were the solid establishment. Rob Kent had come home from England ... again! Paddy and Jon were back and Hercules ruled the roost. A wonderful player was David Dawes, but alas he would be lured by the sirens in distant lands. A taste of the finals, but it would be one more year before we made another Grand Final. Numbers grew. It would only take a few, as long as everyone stayed at home. In 2006, Cal Buckley arrived. Matt Gadsden came home with two VFL premiership medals. Tom Jakobi arrived from BGS full of reckless energy and flair. Big Pezza made a comeback and played nineteen games. Chris Tolji reappeared from somewhere in the cosmos. Andrew Edge, Jono Edge, Damien Hughes, Blair Mason and Andrew Paroissien all had outstanding seasons. It was nearly enough. We made the Grand Final, but Collegians had our measure. The most memorable thing about that defeat was the aftermath. There was a palpable air of determination that this time ... this time we would leave no stone unturned in an effort to make an impression on our A Grade opposition.

It was no idle boast. The players themselves took responsibility for recruiting new teammates and they worked like Trojans in the summer. I submitted a record order for new jumpers to Lyons and wondered how I would allocate numbers without hitting the 80s! Mark Ainley fulfilled a promise to play once he returned from W A. He won the Best and Fairest. David Clark came from Donald via W A, his friendship with Paddy introducing, if only for one season, a player of exceptional ability. Marcel Bruin came from Springvale with the prodigal Josh Homann; Luke Mann came from Chelsea; Nick Marston and Dan Anthony from Sandringham and Andrew McGuinness and Tom Skewes were youngsters of immense reputation. 'Max' Talbot arrived from Sydney and it was only late in the season that I had realised that I had gone to BGS like his dad. And everybody else had stayed! This was amazing. It was clearly the best list that we had ever assembled, but even then I doubt that any of us expected what was to follow.

We opened with a home win against the Hoers and followed with a victory over Old Scotch. My mind flashed back to school, to that day forty years earlier when we had lost an Under-16 match on the school oval by twenty goals and there had been nowhere to hide. I pinched myself. The next week was one of the toughest of my life. A close mate, Lawrie Weir, died suddenly and footy seemed utterly irrelevant. I had always dropped an *Amateur Footballer* in Lawrie's letterbox on the way home from the club on a Thursday night. He followed us keenly. On Saturday morning, I discussed his funeral arrangements with his wife Ellie, before retreating to South Road to operate the clock for the match against the formidable Old Xavs. Three hours later we had beaten them; our third win in a row. A few of us shed some tears on the balcony that afternoon and some of them were inspired by this wonderful team that was emerging to become the talk of amateur football. Lawrie would have loved it. Uni Blues became our fourth victim and De La Salle held us to a draw, before we went down to Collegians, missing a golden opportunity for revenge when we kicked with appalling inaccuracy. It was an incredible year and we entered the A Grade Grand Final in both Seniors and Reserves. The Under 19s too had made the Grand Final. We stood to exceed the deeds of a decade earlier. Perhaps, given that it was at a higher level of competition, in a sense, we did. But Old Xavs were too good on the day and we had nothing tangible to hang our hats on.

To our great dismay, David Clark left in 2008 and Dawsey went to WA. I couldn't believe it. To

be that close and not want to stay. But I have to keep remembering that these blokes haven't been waiting as long as me; there are other things in winter apart from amateur footy ... apparently. I don't think we did enough work in preparation for this season. Perhaps, after the deeds of 2007, we expected it to just happen again. We lost Muir, Anthony, Heath, Talbot, Skewes and Homann as well as Clark and Dawes. We gained the considerable skills of M J T Smith who roamed like a colossus and almost won the Ammo's Best and Fairest. Tom Mentiplay, Grant Ryan and Andrew Hewison joined us, and Tom in particular was a wonderful performer up forward and in the ruck. We had a record number of players represent the VAFA and Leigh Hendra was appointed Victoria's captain, a huge honour for OBGFC. In fact, within six minutes of the season to go, Leigh's goal restored our lead over Old Xavs in a match at The Beach that would decide a final's berth for both clubs. Down the road at Mentone, eventual premiers, St Bedes-Mentone Tigers, were about to go down to the Hoers. At that moment we were heading for a second semi-final. Such was the intensity of the competition, that when Xavs kicked the last two goals of the match in the dying moments, we didn't even make the finals at all! Fifth place was the punishment for a poor start and an inadequately attended poor season.

So that is it. Forty seasons at the Beach in various guises, up to my eyeballs in jumpers and shorts, press reports and voting sheets; a lifetime of playing footy and watching hundreds of talented players representing our colours. I have been so fortunate to share the company of fine people. Let not drought-stricken grounds stand in the way of another glorious winter! The boys played their first practice match last week and gave Collegians a contest. There were precious few to help out and brother Ian goal-umpired three games in a row. I did mine in the score-box. We'll need all hands on deck this season. I'd better get Buddy Hamilton down to watch a few games. His presence might just make the difference ... for them!

Go Tonners!

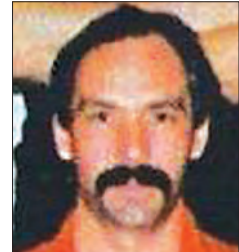
DID YOU KNOW?

The \$1000 draw, last man standing wins the money. Normally a Sunday in June and always a highlight.

Contribution by Mark Sarau

Senior Coach 1986 – 1990

When I was contacted to submit a written piece about my five years at Old Brighton Grammarians as senior coach, I struggled for many days to establish a beginning. My dilemma was how to talk about the wonderful people I met through this great club, and not to leave anyone out. How to mention the highs and lows and not to miss a significant or relevant event that occurred during that era?



So let me preface the following by saying this: My five years at Old Brighton were some of the most enjoyable years that I have spent in footy. I apologise to anyone if I have failed to mention you. Circumstances, situations and events; those that mould the fabric and culture of the club I will attempt to recall, and of course, never let a good story be affected by the truth! Hopefully over the next few minutes I can bring a 'remember-when' smile to your face and keep great memories to the forefront of your minds.

My first introduction to the OBGFC was through my close friend John Clarkson. I attended a sportsman's night at the Tudor Court receptions rooms, Kooyong Road. What a great night! Believe it or not, I still use a story that I heard that night from a member of the Australia 11 boat. It was a great night to be exposed to the club, concluding with the legendary Lindsay 'Hugo' McMahon doing handstands on the head table.



Andrew Mullett



Graeme Templeton

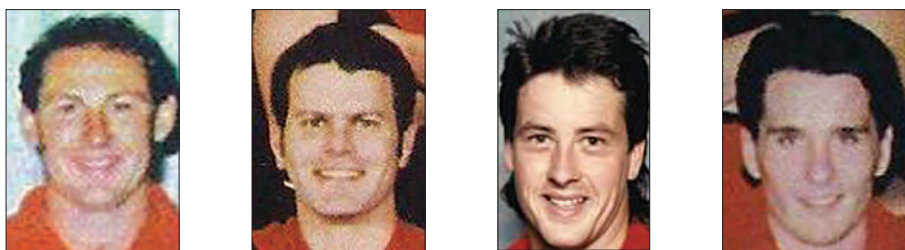
My first year appointment was made by President Graeme Templeton and his Committee. I had to stand out in my first year as a player to gain amateur status. We were in B Grade in that year and by the year's end found ourselves relegated to C grade. Not a lot of highlights in 1986. One that stands out was the support of Graeme Templeton in a game against Old Xavs at Beach Road Oval, when an overzealous supporter from Xavier had to be subdued by Graeme's left foot after clashing with yours truly.

The club never ceased to amaze me with its hard-working volunteers. Andrew Mullett is a man whose love of the club and continual work was just outstanding. I was very fortunate to be with a fantastic group of young men who came through together in this period; Gerrard

Bennet, Cameron Lade, Michael Hendrie, Andrew Pryor, Andrew Grant, Stuart Murray, Paul Woff ... the list just seems to go on forever. These terrific bunch of fellows bonded together to form a really strong group, beginning in 1997. This year we just finished outside the final four of C Grade and could see a special environment forming. The players were dedicating themselves and preparing for some great years ahead. We also had join us at this time Richard Smith and other players from East Malvern Football Club which added to our already strong list.



Gerrard Bennett Cameron Lade Michael Hendrie Andrew Pryor



Andrew Grant Stuart Murray Paul Woff Richard Smith

1988 saw us play off in a Grand Final against Old Melburnians at Elsternwick Park. With no doubt one of the most enjoyable victories I experienced as coach of OBGFC was the one against Banyule at Sandringham. They threw everything they had at us, but with the brilliance of Peter Grant, the tenacity of Marcus Barber, and the great ball getting of Andrew Grant, we held them off (and gave them what-for), to advance to the Grand Final. I sincerely believe that this was one of the pivotal moments of the Old Brighton Grammarian Football Club.



Peter Grant Marcus Barber Bill Browne

We became a tough never-say-die club, who went as hard as any going around. The Old Melburnian's were favourites with their star-studded line up. I think from memory they had nearly five or six players who had played at the highest level (VFL). However with our 'hard

at them' we nearly had the upset of the year; we went down by a goal; truly a great effort. Many thanks to President Bill Browne for his great management and leadership throughout the year.

Revenge is sweet in sport. In 1989 we played the C Grade premiers in the opening round at Fawkner Park and after the final siren, and much debate over the score, we opened our season in B Grade with a much enjoyed win. 1989 saw some great highs, defeating De La Salle at home in front of a big crowd after drawing with them earlier was a highlight. However our finish of the year against De La Salle in the preliminary was certainly a 'low'. At this stage of Old Brighton's history, I believe this was the highest the club had achieved. (By 1988, Old Brighton Seniors had appeared in seven Grand Finals, Premiers in 1972, went from D grade to C Grade, and Premiers in 1980, went from C Grade to B Grade, runners-up five times.)

1990 saw my last year as senior coach. It was a frustrating year as injuries took their toll at crucial times. By year's end we just finished outside the four, but I believe that the club had firmed as a B Grade club. As a funny conclusion to my involvement, the club was in the same position as it was when I started.

Old Brighton Grammarian's Football Club is truly a great club. I am honoured to have been involved with the club and to have had an opportunity to be a part of its recorded history is genuinely a highlight of my football career.

DID YOU KNOW?

Peter Rennie is 62 and plays for the Boolarra Reserves. Boolarra is between Morwell and Leongatha. In late April 2009 he played his 750th game and has no thoughts of stopping. (*The Age* article and photo April 25 2009)

2007 — The 50th Anniversary of the Club's Inception

*By Michael Dickerson, OBGFC Committee Member 2003 to 2007,
President 2006, 2007
December 2010*

I am so proud to be involved in contributing to this book about the club's history and with a fabulous committee running the club in 2007, during what transpired to be our most successful year on record in terms of on-field performance. The culmination of which was OBGFC playing against Xavs in the 2007 A Grade Grand Final, having only just been promoted from B to A at the end of 2006 when we competed in the B Grade Grand Final.



It was also our best year in terms of revenue generated and I might be a little biased, but also believe it was the best year for the club in terms of the success of our social side.

In 2006 the committee decided to spend on a long overdue renovation of the players' changing rooms and clubhouse with an internal facelift including painting, carpeting, and plasma screen. This was done pending the results of the Council's long outstanding master plan, which would at some stage provide, we hoped, re-development of the clubhouse and grounds.

In 2007, further work was done in improving the interior and exterior lighting and erecting a large back-lit sponsors' board at the top of the stairs in the clubrooms. These new facilities and the new extension to the outside balcony created a wonderful ambiance and would no doubt have contributed to the large attendances by sponsors, players and supporters at all events held in the social centre during 2007.

It is possible that some people might have thought that our on-field and social success was in some way random or just good luck. Whilst it is always good to have luck on your side and on many occasions we did, let me assure everyone that lots of careful planning and hard work by the management team and the many helpers went into achieving the results we did both on and off the field continuing on from 2006.

I would like to take you in a little more detail through the main events that led up to and I believe contributed to our success. I will also try and recount what actually happened during what was an outstanding year for the club.

The Pre-season:

Planning

As we had done in 2006, myself and the Committee consisting of Peter Gadsden, Jim Olliver, John Geddes, Marty Lynch, Rob Jakobi, Andrew Mullett, Bob McLellan as well as Michael Wood and senior coach Greg McLoughlan sat down in December 2006 sessions to set objectives, budgets and KPIs for the coming 2007 season.

The goals for season 2007 included:

- To play in A Grade finals in season 2007.
- To increase revenue by 25% and profit by 15%, in order to provide the planned improvement to player and social club facilities.
- To obtain a definite commitment from Bayside Council for the improvements that have been in planning for a number of years and the funding they are prepared to make available by end of season 2007.
- Increase involvement of our female supporters at games and functions during season 2007.
- Replace existing lights on the clubhouse and review overall lighting improvement.
- Continue to develop and improve players' overall welfare during season 2007.
- Evaluate and improve financial management, media, bar and social management systems prior to start of season. These goals were taken up by the various sub-committees and further details are outlined below.

The club committed to considerable capital expenditure in 2007. This included provision for new ground lighting, scoreboard as well as updated internal clubroom lighting, and computer hardware and software for players' statistics and game analysis. Also fulfilling the requirement to provide on-line facilities for access and the updating of the VAFA website results system.

Foreseeing the need for the above capital outlays, the Sponsorship Sub-Committee headed up by Jim Olliver had ambitious plans to introduce new Major Sponsors to facilitate the budgeted 25% increase in revenue in season 2007. At that point the Half Moon had committed as our new Pub Sponsor for season 2007. It would be remiss not to acknowledge at this point long time traditional sponsor Khyat's Hotel for their generous support over many years.

As an example, attached are the main objectives that were agreed between the senior coach, President and committee early in 2007.

Football Operation

Goals, Strategies and KPIs

GOALS	STRATEGIES	KPIs	WHO	WHEN	FINANCIAL RESOURCES
To play in 'A' grade finals in Season 2007	Improve Existing Players Performance	Identify and Work on individual players Strengths and weaknesses	Coach	In progress	Nil
		Self Analysis by players			
		Training focus on Skills with Fitness combined	Coach	In Progress	Nil
		Pilates and Sprint work	Coach	In Progress	Nil
		Maximize use of Weight Equipment	Coach	Mar – 07	Nil
		Commission Dietitian to do talk and plan for players	Coach	End Jan	to be advised
		Review and change if necessary	Coach	End Jan	to be advised
		Medical facilities to improve			
		Player Injury management and Match day trainer services			
		Confirm Injury Management Process	Coach	End Jan	
		Improve Player Mentoring and Job Network Process	President	end March	Nil
	Recruit X** New Players of which Y** are earmarked for senior positions	Appoint Co-Coordinator and	Coach	Dec	Nil
		Create Recruiting Sub/Sub Committee	Co-Coordinator	Dec	Nil
		To analyse recruiting opportunities and contact players and progress	Recruiting SubCommittee	End Dec	Nil

GOALS	STRATEGIES	KPIs	WHO	WHEN	FINANCIAL RESOURCES
		Follow up List of Brighton Grammar	Tim Marshal	End Dec	Nil
		Players	Committee		
		Lease with Sandy VFL and other	Recruiting	End Jan	Nil
		Local VFL clubs to ensure OBGFC	Committee		
		is nominated players home club			

More Integration with Clubbies	Communicate with Dan Stockdale	President	End Jan	Nil
	Appoint Clubbies Co Coordinator	Coach	End Feb	
Acquire Statistics Software	Research and obtain quotes	Coach	Mid Feb	tba
	Present to Committee for approval	Coach	Mid March	
	Confirm Software operator	Coach		

Recruiting:

Possibly the major factor in our on-field success in 2007, was the massive focus and effort put into the recruiting of new quality players. It was realised that whilst the 2006 Grand Final senior side had done us proud, we needed more depth and key players if we were to compete effectively in A grade and not come straight back to B grade as had happened in previous forays.

This work actually commenced in the latter half of 2006 with senior coach Greg (Max) McLoughlin, Cam McKimm and the committee vigorously pursuing potential players. With the carrot of playing at A Grade and some very smooth talking, we identified a strong list of players and organised special recruiting functions.

Cam McKimm took on the job of Recruiting Co-ordinator and once recruits were almost in place, organised a night at Khyat’s Hotel where the new and potential recruits had a meet-and-greet with existing players. As a result of this the attached report indicates the status as at 25 January 2007.

OBGFC recruiting as of 25 Jan 2007 — Confirmed:

1. Dave Clark
2. Marcel Bruin

3. Josh Homann
4. Justin Heath
5. Cam Butters
6. Nick Marston
7. Luke Mann
8. Daniel Anthony
9. Anthony McGuiness
10. Tristian Marma

DID YOU KNOW?

Best and Fairest vote count first started in? It is normally held as a Sunday BBQ after the last of the finals games.

Still deciding:

1. Mark Ainley
2. James Ross
3. Matt Dennis
4. Leigh Fletcher
5. Ben Phibbs
6. Sean Crilly and mates
7. Josh Young (Training this Thursday)

Subsequently, happily Mark Ainley did decide to join us with Sean Crilly.

Medical Services:

A key factor identified in our pre-season planning meetings was the need for really professional player injury management and training. The objective was to have the right professional organisation associated with the club to educate players in the best way to avoid injury and if injured for efficient physiotherapy and medical management, monitoring and follow-up to be applied to assist in getting players back on the ground as soon as possible.

It was decided to review our medical/physio/trainer suppliers and after extensive and careful evaluation and review, we appointed Recover Physio as our medical support group for 2007.

I outline below for interest the terms of a very important medical services agreement consummated between the club and Recover Physio.

Agreement for Provision of Medical services for season 2007:

This document confirms the medical services and facilities to be provided by Recover Physiotherapy of Bay Road, Highett, Vic, to Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club for season 2007.

Provision of Trainers and Physiotherapist for training and Match days Training Nights:

Pre-season:

Recover Physio will provide two suitably qualified trainers to attend all training nights from 6pm to 8pm, currently Monday and Thursday nights or as directed by the senior coach and a physiotherapist once a week at the first training session for one hour's duration.

In Season:

Recover Physio will provide suitably qualified staff as follows: —

- Monday nights: One sports trainer for U19s.
- Tuesday nights: One Physio (6pm till 7pm) and two sports trainers (6 – 8pm).
- Thursday nights: Two sports trainers (one from 5.45pm till 8pm, the other from 6 – 8pm).
- Match Days: Saturdays or as advised by senior coach.
- Reserves and Seniors: Two sports trainers from 10.30 am until 5 pm.
- Clubbies and U19s: Two sports trainers from 10.30am until 5 pm.

Injury Diagnosis and Management Clinic arrangements:

After the completion of the senior game and coach's player address, a Physiotherapist and Sports Trainers as required will be available to analyse, diagnose and put together an action plan for remediation of players' injuries at the venue where the senior game is being played as per the format of the current Injury Log.

Recover Physio staff will have access to players' clinical and other records via Computer Notebook radio VPN into the main system in their offices.

Coaching staff responsible for the injured players will be advised of their players' injury status via email before the end of that weekend.

Any players, whose injury was not apparent after weekend games, will have the opportunity to present themselves to be reviewed by the Physio on duty on the Tuesday training night.

Rehabilitation facilities:

OBGFC players, as directed by Recover Physio or recommended Sports Physician or Specialist, who require rehabilitation facilities, will be able to use the pool and gym facilities at the Fitness First Complex in Bay Road, Highett free of charge.

Management of Sports Trainers and Physio staff:

All Sports Trainers and Physios involved in this agreement will be managed and coordinated by Recover Physio including previous trainers who were working directly with OBGFC. Recover Physio will ensure that the staff working with OBGFC will be properly trained and updated via regular monthly training seasons at their premises.

Costings:

It has been agreed that the following rates per hour will be applicable to OBGFC for season 2007: Sports Trainers \$xx per hour, Physiotherapists \$xx per hour, OBGFC players injury consultation \$xx.

Other General Arrangements:

Use of Recover Physiotherapy Marquee:

Depending on the space available at grounds, with the agreement of the senior coach and/or OBGFC Committee, Recover Physio will set up a 6m x 3m marquee close to the ground to conduct Sports Trainer activities during senior games.

Involvement of Recovery Physiotherapy principles:

Whilst the day-to-day medical services will be provided by Recover Physio staff, it is important that Sam Rosengarten and principals take an active involvement in overseeing provision of the outlined services including addressing the players when appropriate, providing expertise in difficult injury situations, being available for the Lorne pre-season camp on March 10, on games days and club functions where possible to show the flag.

Other Services:

Recover Physio has offered the use of a Uni-qualified dietitian to advise on player nutrition arrangements, services to assess player fitness and susceptibility to injuries (possibly at the Lorne Camp), and OBGFC is interested in reviewing these arrangements subject to cost and suitability.

Offer of OBGFC Major Sponsorship:

In recognition of the importance and the attractive nature of the costing from Recover Physio for provision of medical services, OBGFC is pleased to offer Recover Physio a Major sponsorship.

Review:

It is agreed that Recover Physio will participate in a review with the senior coach and committee at the start of the season, after round 9 and at the conclusion of the season. The purpose of these reviews is to provide OBGFC and Recover Physio an opportunity to discuss any concerns or issues that may have arisen to the point of the review. The senior coach and committee will of course be available to Recover Physio at any stage of the year if there are concerns that need to be addressed immediately.

Pre-season Training and the Drought:

The country was experiencing the worst droughts conditions that had occurred for many years and Melbourne was badly hit with grounds not being able to be watered and thus in very poor condition.

Because of these conditions, the Bayside Council, like most councils throughout Victoria, severely restricted use of the grounds for training purposes. Brighton Grammar grounds were a dust bowl and the school understandably did not want OBGFC training on them. Many VAFA clubs were left in a position of not having access to their normal training facilities and having to conduct pre-season training in gyms or basketball stadiums or on small very unsuitable grounds.

With our contacts with AFL club St Kilda, we were very fortunate indeed in being able to negotiate training at the St Kilda grounds in Moorabbin for the majority of the pre-season. The grounds were spacious and in immaculate conditions as AFL clubs were exempt from the watering restrictions. This I believe gave the club an enormous advantage coming into the start of the season proper, as our boys were extremely fit and were even able to conduct practice matches on the St Kilda ground.

Lorne Camp:

The Lorne Camp on 9 – 11 March was an outstanding success with almost 60 players, one of the

largest ever attendances. Some really hard training, quality coaching sessions and social bonding left everyone with a buzz of anticipation and excitement of things to come in the season ahead.

All players were assessed by the club's new physio team Recover Physiotherapy, for joint strength, deflection capability and proneness to injury. The information was recorded and placed on a new player database as the basis of reference for the season, to determine appropriate fitness regimes and assisting in injury diagnosis and remediation.

Season Commencement Delayed:

The severe drought conditions forced the VAFA, on direction from local councils, to delay the start of the 2007 season by two weeks. Round 1 was deferred to April 28th with our first senior game at home against old foes, Old Ivanhoe. It also created some headaches in finding suitable grounds with practice matches being banned on Brighton Beach Reserve during March.

Some dogged determination by the coaches and Committee achieved the results we needed, and we were able to take advantage of the extra two weeks' pre-season to play two practice games against Donvale on 16th and 24th March, on 31st March against Old Scotch, 14th April against Ajax, and a final hit-out versus West Preston on 21st April. These games allowed the coaching team to review the attributes of a new quality player group to determine the best combinations to make up the senior and Under 19 teams for the opening round.

The Senior's performance in their dominating win against leading A Grade team Old Scotch, the defeat of a fast running Ajax in a close game and a close tough encounter in the mud against Division 1 Diamond Valley League side West Preston, gave us all an expectation of something special coming in season 2007.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS:

As a focus on revenue-raising, the Functions and Events sub-committee, coordinated by John Geddes had a fabulous start to the season with the sponsors' lunch held at the Half Moon on Friday April 13th. In excess of 100 attendees, including a number of potential new sponsors were privileged to hear the motivational words and themes put forward in guest speaker David Parkin's riveting dialogue.

A range of exciting events included the very successful Players' Auction, Red and Blue disco replacing the Toga Night, and the Acoustic Sunday at the Half Moon were organised by the committee.

The after-game catch-ups at the Half Moon were very popular with players and supporters as a wind-down after a usually good win, with our key sponsor donating free nibbles and drinks.

The pre-game Saturday lunches were a real highlight featuring the Pepper Jack and Porter-house format, with most lunches sold out and several attendances of over 80 people.

It was our 50th year as a VAFA club in 2007 and Roger Brown kindly agreed to coordinate a special gala function where The Best of 50 Years Team players and officials was to be selected and presented at a gala dinner. Many planning and selection meetings were held commencing in December 2006 by the auspicious sub-committee of past presidents, coaches, club captains and

players, including R Brown, P Grant, M Sarau, A Mullett, P Sedgwick, S Priestley, B McLellan, P Gadsden, and N Perry.

The Black Tie dinner at the Brighton International was a superb, very well attended success with 50 nominees for the best team and officials of our fifty years selected and presented, from which a team of 25 was announced on the night as The Best of OBGFC 1957 – 2007.

Drewe Bellmaine once again offered the Riva for the Sports and Comedy late lunch on Friday 31 August and it was billed as an annual club fundraising event by our great sponsors at Riva; this year features a new 'long, late lunch' format with a focus on fun and comedy.

Ricky Nixon, Wayne Carey, Danny Frawley, Wayne Johnson and Ken Sheldon are just a few of the AFL and media personalities in attendance as guests of Drewe Bellmaine and Riva, St Kilda and available to be drawn into commentary by compere John Blackman. For St Kilda fans, Rod Butters is also putting together a table in conjunction with coach Ross Lyon and current players. The 'comedy' will be provided by stand-up identity Elliott Goblet. Given we had already had a blockbuster 50th anniversary function, attendances at the S and C Lunch were outstanding.

Our final major event for the year was the season 2007 celebration held at the International on October 9 with music by the Soul Sisters and with such a lot to celebrate this was a wonderful function to end the season, with Mark Ainley the deserved winner of the Best and Fairest award.

Season 2007

I include below a brief rundown of each game that led us to the A Grade Grand Final. I have used actual comments and information from our senior coach's reports of the time, pre and post the matches and other sources and publications of this period to ensure accuracy and not rely on memory.

Round 1: OBGFC v IVANHOE at home

With a superb pre-season and fantastic recruiting, the club faithful watched with an air of excited anticipation at the opening game at Brighton Beach Oval. Despite ten changes and ten new faces from the 2006 Grand Final senior team, OBGFC's performance was fluent and harmonious.

The most pleasing aspect was that we played tough, disciplined and smart football. Physically they were bigger but we hit them hard at the contests all day and eventually wore them down. Mentally we stayed strong — they came hard after half-time and again in the last quarter, but each time we kept working hard, maintained our composure and took control of the game again. An excellent start to the season for the Senior group, with the Reserves and the Seniors recording solid wins. The Under 19s lost to Beaumaris but knowing the quality of the group and the character they are developing, I'm sure that a win is not too far away.

Better Players:

Jono Edge: Hit the contest at real speed multiple times throughout the game, whether it was to link up and run, or to make a physical contest. Great decision making and delivery.

Leigh Hendra: Had your usual impact on a game, with your pressure on the opposition ball carriers and ball winning ability and used when we had the footy.

Mark Ainley: Very strong at handball, good decision making, generally good delivery, rebounded very well for us especially in the first half.

Tom Jakobi: As mentioned earlier, great work rate, great impact.

Dave Clark: Same as Jibba.

Andrew Edge: Very strong in the back-half; gave Thompson nothing when he was forward. Excellent decision making all day.

Luke Mann: Strong target all day at centre-half-forward. Moved well to create space and make position. Marked strongly and finished well.

Dan Anthony: A very good game on Stevens except for the time you got caught out zoning off. Great run and poise in the first half.

Nick Marston: Gave Luxon nothing, exactly as we wanted.

Tolji: No-one is more ferocious than you around the stoppages. It is a real strength for you and it is providing the team with great value.

Marcel Bruin: A fantastic first-up game for the club. Dangerous up forward and a good work rate on ball.

Jon Perrett: Very good work rate, six clearances, a strong contributor to us winning the stoppages.

Dawesy: Worked incredibly hard in the ruck all day. An important contribution when we were undermanned in the tall department.

Result: OBGFC 18 – 18 – 96, Old Ivanhoe 9 – 11 – 66.

Round 2: OLD SCOTCH v OBGFC away

A great weekend for the club with four wins. Special congratulations to Joey Coy and the Reserves — Scotch had an incredible record with their twos. They are fed by three Clubbies teams, so a fantastic performance by our guys. Again, we were strong, mentally and physically. We never really got into a flow. I felt we were a 6 or 7 goal better team, but our finishing made the result a lot closer.

Barry Price's comment: "Your guys ran harder for longer compared to our blokes." One senior Scotch player made the comment, "You guys have a great mixture of strength and speed."

Better Players:

Andrew Edge: You beat your opponent and provided great drive with excellent decision making. One of the most valuable games I've seen you play for Old Brighton in terms of team value.

Matt Gadsden: What a clubman! Never ever a complaint, no matter what the role. No ego — just a steely determination to do the job for the team. A frustrating first half on Houlihan, then you broke the game open for us through the mid-field.

Leigh Hendra: Hard working, brave and team-focussed again, all the things you deliver every week. Accountability on Houlihan and Lorenzini plus your general work in our back-half was great; also you pushed forward and got dangerous at critical times.

Tolji: Three goals and some amazing work around the packs. We all value your work incredibly.

Mark Ainley: Strength at the contest and drive in the first half was fantastic.

Luke Mann: Strong target all day at centre-half-forward. Moved well to create space and make position. Selfless work. Missed the votes in my book because of your finishing. Read the Johnny Wilkinson tip and get yourself out there after training.

Nick Marston: Outstanding fight-back on Gertsman. Need to back yourself when you lead your opponent to the footy, grab it, break and run!

Jon Perrett: I really rated your work at half-forward. Other team members are only just starting to realise how important that work off the ball is. The 98 minutes without the footy! (Not without Jennifer Hawkins Manny!)

Dawesy: Worked incredibly hard in the ruck again. I'm still a bit shell shocked with how you developed a leap in the 20 minutes during half-time. You were all over your opponent in the 3rd quarter. Result: OBGFC 16 – 22 – 118, Old Scotch 14 – 17 – 101.

Round 3: OBGFC v OLD XAVS at home

It was certainly one of the best wins we have ever been involved in. A tight, tough game for three quarters — the scores were level at three-quarter time, then an amazing onslaught of run-tackling, harassment and sheer desire to win the game.

Considering each team had only kicked 8 goals by three-quarter time, to break the game open with an 8 goal last quarter was amazing. We gained some strong psychological points from that last quarter.

What an absolutely sensational start to season 2007 with a 41 point win for the Tonners in A Grade, sitting on top of the ladder after round three with 3 wins, no losses. What a sensational weekend for the club! A great win for the U19s over Caulfield, a strong performance from the Reserves and an outstanding win from the Seniors. Commiserations to the Clubbies on a narrow loss to Monash Blues.

Better Players:

Leigh Hendra: Best on ground; 10 clearances; close to 30 possessions and multiple 1 per cent-ers. Massive work rate; great result.

Mark Ainley: Sensational example of control/create. Stopped one of their dangerous forwards — smothered him; gave him nothing, then picked up 30 possessions to help us set up our run.

Nick Marston: They had a plan to exploit the young full-back — you were sensational. Nervous early but you settled, gave Handley no space. Every time he led you were right with him, smashing and harassing. Also gave us some great run and attack.

Scotty Olliver: You keep getting better and better. Closed your opponent down, picked up multiple possessions and delivered with good decision making.

Jon Perrett: What a competitor! Great day all around the contests but stepped up another notch in the last quarter. Numerous one per cent-ers, especially around the stoppages.

Marcel Bruin: Worked hard at half forward and on the ball. Tackled and harassed really well. Got dangerous and finished well.

Dawesy: Strong in the ruck. Worked hard to get back and help out our defenders. Exploited their ruckman by running hard through the mid-field and got dangerous forward. Well done.

Luke Mann: A great start to the season. Another hard working, valuable game at centre-half forward. A mixture of one per cent-ers and attacking stuff that had a great impact on the result.

Piz: Four valuable goals, especially valuable early in the game when they were hard to come by. Led well to exploit your opponent.

Patty: Struggled early. Gave 20 too much space, then fought back to beat your opponent and have a massive impact in the last quarter when the game was up for grabs.

Clarky: Nervous early, rushed your decision making, then like Patty, fought back and gave us control of the wings and set up many attacking moves for us. Your defensive work — tackling and chasing, was outstanding all day.

Press coverage on the VAFA website stated that everyone has the job in front of them to catch upstarts Old Brighton who have proven near unbeatable in the opening three rounds of 2007, and a massive 41 point over Xaverians on Saturday stamped them as the team to beat.

Result: OBGFC 16 – 16 – 112 OLD XAVS 10 – 11 – 71

Round 4: OBGFC v UNI BLUES away

Another sensational weekend for the club! Great wins for the U19s and the Clubbies. A really strong win for the Reserves and another very solid performance by our Senior team.

What a side we had this year! Yet again the boys stood up to some hard play from Uni Blues on their home ground to come out winners again with another 40 point victory leaving us undefeated at the top of the VAFA ladder.

Better Players:

Leigh Hendra: Explosive around the contest, 7 clearances, great leg speed, good defensive pressure.

Jusi Heath: 18 possessions in the first half and 28 for the game. Fantastic composure with your disposal.

Cal Buckley: A very good game. Solid on ball, great pressure attacking and defensive around half-forward.

Luke Mann: Solid marking and a great target at half-forward. Three valuable goals.

Dawesy: Last quarter 12 hit outs to your opponent's 7 — was indicative of your impact. Valuable contribution around the ground. Your physical presence and work rate has been outstanding.

Andrew Edge: After a sluggish start you played a valuable role in defence for us. Again, good decision making and strong leadership in the back half.

Pez: Six clearances. Made a solid contribution whether on ball or up forward.

Patty Phelan: Cut out number 28 who has been a very attacking wingman for them, plus picked up mid-20 disposals for us.

Clarky: Really helped set us up early in the game with your outstanding work rate as a half forward. Decision making and disposal went to another level this week.

Result: OBGFC 14 – 17 – 101 UNI BLUES 9 – 10 – 64

Round 5: OBGFC v De La Salle at home

The De La Salle game as expected was a close, tough, torrid affair with both teams' runners in full swing. At three-quarter time, it looks as though OBGFC had the game won, but some strong mid-field and forward pressure from De La Salle levelled things about five minutes from the final siren, and despite some threatening moves by both sides, neither could get the extra points.

Positives: Gutsy effort to ultimately salvage 2 points. We had a lot of blokes who were hurting after massive work rates and no rotations, after losing Hendra and Perrett in the first five minutes and then Clarky in the last quarter.

The De La coaching staff commented how impressed they were with our pressure and tackling. In terms of their own intensity, they said it was the best they had seen in the first 5 rounds which reinforces what we said during the week — teams will be coming after us. Every week we need to be proactive and hunt/attack our opponents from the first bounce.

Negatives: We had some specific plans for De La, plus we have specific elements of our game plan that have worked well all year. Too many blokes did not stick to the plan and we paid the price. The very last thing we spoke about before we ran out was the wind — where to position ourselves re kick-outs etc. and the need to play the top side with the wind.

Better Players:

Andrew McGuinness — Filled the void left by Hendra sensationally. Work rate was outstanding. You clearly tried to set up well at every stopped play — you just need to make sure you know all the set ups.

Mark Ainley — At half-back and on ball very strong; you hold your ground incredibly well in a contest. Good decision making again.

Dave Clark — Our only effective forward. I blasted you at quarter time for straying from the team plan. You bounced back and gave us a great work rate. Still don't know how one of those goals went through!

Dawesy — Our only effective big man. Got you into fantastic spots behind the footy. Used your body magnificently in the ruck contests.

Nick Marston — Saved us repeatedly in the first quarter with your strong attack on the contest and rebounding from our backline.

Scotty Olliver — Great job on 4 (Harrison). He is a class act and you negated his influence, plus gave us consistent run from the back half.

Result: OBGFC 7 – 16 – 58, DE LA SALLE 8 – 10 – 58.

Round 6: OBGFC v COLLEGIANS Away

After a spectacular win by the Joe Coy's Ressies 25. 17 – 167 to 1. 0 – 6, attendees at the Collegians' lunch and spectators all around the Harry Trott Oval were anticipating a positive result from the Senior game.

Whilst throughout the game we seemed to be on top and OBGFC played with plenty of determination, some poor goal kicking and a few strategy and skill errors allowed Collegians to kick a couple of telling goals in the last quarter giving them the day by 5 points. The Tonners are however still in a great position in second spot on the A Grade ladder, hoping to regain some momentum this coming Saturday against Haileybury at home. The Under 19s are showing a strong likelihood of being finals contenders with a very impressive 100 point win against Whitefriars. This Saturday they follow the Seniors against ninth placed Collegians, which should allow them to continue their winning ways.

Better Players:

Nick Marston: Our best defender again.

Dan Anthony: Stone was great early, but when you took him you greatly reduced his impact. On-ball, up the field, in the goal square — he never exploited you. After quarter time, his biggest impact was when he went 3rd man up at stoppages.

Andrew McGuinness: Some great work on ball. 4 clearances, 2 goals, some great dashing runs. The blemish was your part in the Arnott accountability.

Mark Ainley: Another very good game.

Dave Clark: Outstanding first three quarters. Worked hard, found space and used the ball well.

Dawesy: Another brave performance. Ran hard and set up well behind the footy. At times I thought you could have pushed down harder to present as a forward target to drag the ruckman out.

Scotty Olliver: Good job on Arnott and each opponent you had. You provided good run. Don't make a habit of what happened to create the Robbin's free kick.

Marcel Bruin: Worked hard up forward as mentioned earlier.

Perrett: After a slow start, outstanding work rate to make an impact on this game and significantly to play a big part in our third quarter push.

Tolji: Nine tackles rates big time in this team.

Pirrie: Worked hard — conversion has been unusually down.

ROUND 7: OBGFC v HAILEYBURY at home

OBGFC wins the inaugural Galdsdén Challenge cup.



Tonnors win both Seniors and Ressies games v Haileybury to win the cup.

The OBGFC and Old Haileybury committees recently agreed to compete for the Gadsden Challenge Cup, given the long association between the two schools and the Old Boys clubs and particularly to recognise the contribution of OBGFC Secretary Peter Gadsden as senior player and captain of Old Haileybury in the seventies.

The Ressies and the Seniors did us proud; the Ressies with a resounding 30. 14 – 194 to 1. 7 – 13 win. The Seniors had a tougher time, with Haileybury putting up strong opposition until in the last quarter when we were able to move away to a convincing victory leaving us still on second spot on the A Grade ladder.

Result: OBGFC 18 – 12 – 120 HAILEYBURY 11 – 11 – 77

Our Unders smashed lower ladder side Collegians at the Harry Trot Oval and continue to look very strong, with coach Gonzo Young's work cut out this coming Saturday as Round 8 opposition against unbeaten St Bede's current ladder leaders.



Big congratulations to OBGFC Dan Anthony and Andrew McGuiness who played a big part in Sunday's Victorian Under 19 game versus Queensland Under 21s game, which Victoria unfortunately lost. Dan's 6 goals made him the highest goal scorer of the game and Andrew McGuiness played superbly having a remarkable 31 possessions for the game.

ROUND 8: OBGFC v ST BERNARDS at home

Once again the Seniors and Ressies continued their winning form against St Bernard's, although this was a much tougher contest. As senior coach Greg 'Max' McLoughlin reported, "The senior game was a high quality contest. St Bernard's are a good team — hard at it, plus they run. Our work rate needed to be high to get the points."

Better Players:

Clarky: 21 possessions, 5 goals, 4 points and two on the full! 4 tackles and a huge defensive work rate. Best on ground.

Dawesy: 27 possessions, 14 marks, 3 goals. An incredibly valuable game.

Hendra: 31 possessions. An outstanding third quarter and a super work rate for the whole game.

Patty Phelan: 33 possessions, 7 tackles, 11 inside 50s.

Scotty Olliver: 21 possessions. Great run off half-back, plus the shutdown on Madden when he was at half-forward. He got away on you briefly but you again tightened up and did the job.

Mark Ainley: 23 possessions, 7 tackles. Great pressure around the contests and composure with the footy.

Jusi Heath: 21 possessions, 7 inside 50s. Good decision making and composure with the footy.

Gado: Great job for the team on Madden.

Andrew Edge: Strong defence, particularly early when we were under enormous pressure. Good rebound and decision making from the back half.

Andrew McGuinness: 26 possessions, 4 tackles. Great work particularly around half-forward. Your intensity in the contest and urgency to arc and go were great. Got caught out early guarding space, not on opponent, Liberatore, then not tight enough on 35 at half forward. Fought back well.

Jon Perrett: 25 possessions largely from half-forward was a sensational output. Big impact on the game.

Damien Hughes: Best game for the year. 11 rebounds out of the back half, plus shut down your opponent.



Congratulations to OBGFC Dan Anthony being voted VAFA Rising Star for his performance in the recent Victorian Under 19 game versus Queensland.

Also to Mark Ainley, David Clarke, David Dawes and Leigh Hendra for being selected in the VAFA Victorian Senior Squad v VCFL in Ballarat on July 15. Also Marcel Bruin, Luke Mann, Nick Marsden and Andrew McGuinness for their Victorian Under 23 Squad selection v South Australia in Adelaide on July 14th.

Result: OBGFC 18 – 12 – 120 St Bernard's 14 – 3 – 87

Round 9: OBGFC v Trinity at home

The Seniors again played some of the best footy we have played all year to record a 66 point win over Trinity.

Another fantastic win for the Reserves. Almost every week when the Seniors meet at half-time of the two's game, I use you guys as a positive example of playing to the game plan and the numerous selfless acts that are contributing to the success the team is enjoying. Well done to Joey and the boys!

The Clubbies had a sensational one point win and the U19s will be hoping to bounce back after a disappointing loss. This game was right up with the Xav's game as one of our best performances so far this season, largely because of the decision making and the predictability — sticking to the plan and the movement patterns that we practice every week at training.

Predictable:

Working the contest line, Hendra and our back men did this extremely well.

Contest line — feedback spot, under pressure knowing someone will be there — Phelan/McGuinness example in the 3rd quarter, under pressure, knowing someone will be there.

Dawes — when at centre half forward, handball feedbacks to blokes facing our goals, setting up scoring opportunities i.e. one to Clarky and a couple in the last quarter.

Clarky and other half forwards creating space and then running back in to hit the fall of the ball.

Better Players:

Perrett: Worked so hard and ran hard through the corridor. Good in close at the stoppages.

Marston: Gave us an outstanding forward target, because you were prepared to move and work.

Hendra: Worked hard both ways. Presented for switch plays by running hard. That type of movement will be a big factor against Haileybury this week, as they try to block it up and we try to break it open.

McGuinness: A really good hard working game. Heaps of 98%ers.

Mann: Quiet first quarter, then an outstanding last three quarters — 11 marks and 4 goals.

Gadsden: As I said previously — the 98%er king.

Dawes: A solid game. Beaten in the ruck but gave us a great contest all day around the ground.

Anthony: Great job on Cultrera. Your focus and team ethic is sensational.

Pirrie: 4 goals. Worked hard up and down the ground. Used the footy really well and worked to the forward structure.

Jusi Heath and Brissy: I'm a hard marker on our wingmen. In A grade, teams are playing some of their best players there. It is a critical position where you can get hurt badly if you don't have wingmen that run hard both ways. Both of you did some great work for us, but you both got caught out defensively on some critical occasions.

Result: OBGFC 22 – 13 – 145 TRINITY 11 – 13 – 79

ROUND 10: OBGFC v OLD HAILEYBURY away

The club continues on its winning ways with Seniors, Ressies, Under 19s and Clubbies all having good wins at the weekend.

The Seniors led the way with a massive win against Old Haileybury, 18 – 12 – 120 to 5 – 4 – 34, which puts us back on top of the A Grade ladder after Collegians fell to Uni Blues by two points. Also the highest percentage in A Grade as of Round 10.

The Ressies with an even bigger win 19 – 11 – 125 to 1 – 2 – 8 in a torrid match are sitting comfortably in second spot and a very undermanned Under 19 squad still managed a win against Collegians putting them in third position on the ladder. Even our 3rd XVIII must have caught the winning bug with an eighteen goal thrashing of Kew leaving them now nudging the top four spots.

Better Players:

Again this was an incredibly even performance — multiple contributors with similar numbers of possessions and impact on the game.

Ainley: I had Ains and Pez equal best. Ains had 27 possessions, 18 rebounds and 5 clearances. A really tough, hard working but creative game of footy.

Perrett: 28 possessions, 4 clearances and 7 tackles. Gave us heaps of grunt around the packs and hard working runs through the middle.

Muir: Carried on where he left off in the twos. He works hard as a forward, works diligently — running, moving continually to find space and present. Defensive efforts outstanding. Rewarded with 4 goals.

Hendra: 29 possessions, 4 tackles, 3 clearances. Gave us heaps of run and attacking drive, good run and carry over the four quarters.

Mann: Marked really well. 4 goals, 5 tackles — a great measure of your defensive work rate in this game.

Gadsden: Best game for the year. 17 kicks, 9 marks, 7 handballs, 15 rebounds out of the back half carried the footy. Still found a goal from the back pocket!

Clark: Ran so hard to create opportunities. I love the way you work your opponent so hard — if they are going to beat you, they have to run bloody hard to do it.

Phelan: A solid game in the middle and across half-back. Feedback receives and subsequent ball use outstanding. Also set up many attacking moves, using those angles across the centre square.

Hughes: Marking was sensational. Gave your opponent nothing and gave us 17 attacking rebounds. Well done.

Mase: A great comeback game. Consistent effort. Work rate in the contests was as good as it has ever been. Need to build on it next week.

Jusi Heath and Brissy: Good contributions from the wing. Brissy worked really well in bursts to pick up 15 possessions in probably only a bit over two quarters of game time. Jusi — good vision and ball use again. Accountability from both of you was good.

Jibba: Great work. Less spectating and more time spent doing what you do really well — winning

contested possession. Also applied very good defensive pressure in our forward line. Build on it next week.

Tolji: Another very good performance. 7 tackles, 17 possessions and great defensive pressure. Apologies to the blokes I didn't mention, because everyone made a solid contribution. This was honestly one of our best team efforts for the year. A special mention to Josh Homann, in getting through the game really well and shutting down Stewart Loewe.

Result: OBGFC 18 – 12 – 120 OLD HAILEYBURY 5 – 4 – 34

Round 11: OBGFC v Old Ivanhoe, away

After strong wins against Haileybury away on Saturday 30th June and despite a muddy disappointing loss against Old Ivanhoe last Saturday, the Tonners are still on top of the A Grade ladder.



The OBGFC v Old Ivanhoe was Match of the Day broadcast live by 965 Inner FM on Saturday, 7th July. Old Ivanhoe were able to take advantage of their knowledge of home ground slippery conditions to move to an early lead.

Further rain made the ground conditions very difficult for the Tonners running game, and the Hoers made much better use of the conditions. OBGFC rallied in the third quarter with some strong attacking play and good forward marks, but were unable to convert to the scoreboard.

With a loss also by Collegians to De La Salle, the Tonners managed to retain top spot with a 2 point and percentage advantage.

Better Players:

Hendra: Worked hard. Took a bullet for the team by covering two opponents at a time throughout the game. 20 possessions, 6 tackles. Made a solid impact.

Gadsden: A great job on Luxon. Worked hard and never stopped running.

Ainley: Worked hard at half-back and around the stoppages.

Clark: Best urgency level (along with Tolji) of any of our players. Pushed hard, worked hard to present from an attacking perspective plus defensively as indicated by your four tackles.

Tolji: Worked hard. Great urgency around the contest, however along with Pez was beaten on the day by Curatolo.

Result: OBGFC 5 – 11 – 41 OLD IVANHOE 11 – 11 – 71

ROUND 12: OBGFC v ST BERNARDS Away

It was a hard day's work for the both the Seniors and Resses last Saturday against St Bernard's who were a skilled, well coached, running side with the advantage of their home ground.

In the senior game, St Bernard's were 4 goals up at quarter time, however the Tonners levelled by the end of the second. It was goal for goal in the third and we were finally able to gain ascendancy in the last quarter, winning 13 – 9 – 87 to 15 – 13 – 103.

Everyone should be really proud of the gutsy performance by our boys in both games and some quotes from the opposition coach after the game indicated some of our winning tactics. "The ability of your guys to effectively get that first handball out of a contest was sensational. After that 2nd quarter, we had no alternative but to tell all of our guys to play man--n man. We counted 11 guys rotated through the middle — we couldn't keep up with it and our players had no idea who they should have been on."

Better Players:

Perrett: Best on ground. 40 touches, sensational work rate especially in close.

Phelan: Great captain's game. Gave us something either at half-forward, on a wing or on ball — especially in that critical last quarter.

Hendra: Gutsy effort playing with the 'flu. 26 touches in 3 quarters.

McGuinness: Worked hard in bursts. 10 clearances — sensational. Looked tired, hopefully fresher this week.

Gadsden: One of your best for the year. Three pivotal clearances in the last quarter.

Dawes: Worked hard at centre-half-forward. Gave us a strong target.

Clark: 30 possessions and 4 tackles from a wing and half-forward. Ran hard, got dangerous.

Tolji: First picked every week, due to the points made in the first few paragraphs of this report.

Jusi Heath: Worked the contest line sensationally at the back of the pack. My only criticism is sometimes you get caught out badly in transition when an opposition wingmen runs hard forward.

Olliver: Kept one of their key goal kickers to only 1 goal — plus strong marking and good drive.

Ainley: Two great goals in the 2nd quarter. A solid game but not your usual drive from half-back this week.

Muir: Took your chance, as mentioned earlier.

A Edge: Last quarter decision making was excellent.

Result: OBGFC 15 – 13 – 103 St Bernard's 13 – 9 – 87

Round 13: OBGFC v Old Scotch, at home

Who would have believed it this time last year that not only would we make A Grade but as we move closer to the finals, we are still on top.

In the senior game, Old Scotch fighting relegation had come to play and from the word go it was obvious it was going to be a no-holds-barred, tough contest. However the Tonners showed the sort of team resilience we are becoming used to in fighting back and winning the day.

The Ressies had a slightly easier day with a big win. The Under 19s, a little complacency cost them the game against lower ladder Banyule (but still in third spot) and Clubbies had a stirring win keeping them in finals contention.

A very emotional weekend for the club when the overall success of the day was dramatically marred when Cam McKimm was badly injured during the Ressies game in breaking his leg; his 2007 season was over from a playing perspective.

Better Players:

Clark: Best on ground. 19 kicks, 3 handballs and an incredible 15 marks and 5 tackles. Sensational work rate. Massive impact in continually separating the opposition's defence with your hard running. Would have preferred 4:1 instead of 1:4.

Phelan: Not far behind Clarky. An outstanding game. We gave you their most dangerous player. The stats tell the story — Lorenzini had 11 possessions for the game, Patty had 28 and drove us inside 50 a massive 12 times. To put that into perspective, the next highest in terms of inside 50s was Clark with 7, then Gado and Jusi with 5.

Hendra: Gutsy effort, still feeling the effects of the 'flu. 25 quality touches and some great run and carry. Downside — Lawrence had way too much of it, particularly in dangerous spots.

Dawes: Great work up forward, then pivotal when moved into the ruck. Kicked 3 valuable goals.

Tolji: In terms of getting us back into the match, you were the most influential player on the ground. Your work late in the 3rd and throughout the last quarter was outstanding — desperate, ferocious attack on the ball and the opposition. You played with finals-like urgency, led the way with 7 tackles and had 16 touches in less than three quarters of footy.

Perrett: 29 touches and 10 clearances — kept working hard all day. Watch the loopy handballs.

Bruin: Dangerous all day. 4 valuable goals — could have been 6. I love seeing defensively minded forwards. You had 4 tackles. You and Clarky are great in this facet of the game.

Jusi Heath: 26 touches. A few critical errors, but you showed great resilience to bounce back.

Josh Homann: Great job on Doherty when you went to centre half-back. Gradually working into some great form.

Result: OBGFC 18 – 16 – 124 OLD SCOTCH 16 – 17 – 113

Round 14: OBGFC v Old Xaviers, away

What a sensational weekend for the footy club! In their last game for the season a big win for the Clubbies against Emmaus St Leo's. Well done to coach Dan Stockdale on his efforts with our 3rd XVIII this year.

The Under 19s had a solid win against Caulfield leaving them clearly in finals contention.

The Reserves continued their amazing winning sequence against Xavs, a team that is rarely beaten, replacing them on the top of the ladder.

Our coaches confirm that the Reserves play with more system than any twos side we've seen in amateur footy. It is a real credit to Joe Coy and the boys.

From a senior perspective, coach Greg McLoughlin stated, "I wanted this win badly and so did the players. As a club, we took a massive step forward in terms of A grade respect. All the questions were being thrown around ... was round 3 a fluke? Now they know more about us. Bottom line: we were strong, mentally and physically, we played to the plan, we were resilient, we ran hard, we deserved the win. Well done! We need to keep working on our six key elements that we identified a few weeks back so that next time we play them we are even better prepared."

A great start — we hit them hard, ran hard. With massive pressure on all zones and won contested possessions in all zones; it really set the scene and set up the half-time lead. We lapsed a little in the third and they lifted, but then we smashed them in the last. We maintained the physical pressure, both around the contests and with our run.

Better Players:

It was an incredibly even performance — a real team effort. No massive standouts in the stats.

Pirrie: Best on ground — 6 goals. Won first possession in our forward line 12 times. It was a memorable 150th — it doesn't get any better, standing up and playing well in a big game. Well done Piz!

Perrett: 27 touches and 8 clearances — you were outstanding with your urgency and intensity around the contest.

Tolji: A great job with the tag, plus picked up a valuable 25 possessions and 6 tackles. Every job we gave you, you stood up — even the last quarter defensive forward role on Ruyg. Well done. **Clark:** Another ripper game. 7 tackles, 17 pivotal possessions and some great gut running.

Hendra: A super start to the game. Got plenty of it early and really helped us set the scene.

Dawes: Another solid performance. Played a huge role in the last quarter effort — won 12 hit outs and provided a great contest around the ground, with saving marks in the back half.

Ainley: Smashed Clarke, plus became our best rebounding defender.

Dicko: Smashed McCarthy — had him taken from the ground.

Josh Homann: Getting better every week. Had 6 clearances when in the ruck then did a great job in defence.

Bruin: Dangerous all day.

Mann: Worked hard and consistently throughout the game.

Result: OBGFC 18 – 7 – 125 OLD XAVS 11 – 9 – 75

Round 15: OBGFC v Uni Blues at home

A lapse in concentration cost the Seniors a game, whilst Gonzo's Under 19s had a great win against top 4 contenders Old Camberwell, and the Ressies, under the pump all day, pushed through for another great victory. The Senior's determination and concentration appeared to suffer a bit of a lapse against a highly motivated and skilful Uni Blues to suffer a rare loss.

Hopefully a lesson has been learnt so that the boys can lift to re-establish the momentum as we approach the finals with a good result against De La Salle this coming weekend; a team we have not beaten for a while. It was a great wake-up call as to what is required if we are to give ourselves any chance of premiership success this year. The competition is so tight, meaning that a 1% or 2% drop-off in either game-day intensity or preparation is enough to make a massive difference.

Did Uni Blues want to keep their finals chances alive a little more than we wanted to shore-up a top 2 spot?

Uni Blues did a Sunday recovery session last week at Brighton Beach, then came up to our ground and walked around it, got a feel for it, in preparation for this week. They are training three nights a week in the lead-up to the finals and it showed. We are one of the fittest teams in the competition, but they ran with us all the way and probably shaded us.

Better Players:

Ainley: Best on ground — 38 touches, 20 rebounds from the back half.

Gadsden: 18 rebounds from half-back. Gave us some sensational run and carry.

Hughes: Talk about taking your opportunity! Along with Gado and Ains, got the back half decision making perfect control then create — gave your opponent nothing, then had 17 attacking rebounds.

Pirrie: 5 goals from limited opportunities. A great game.

Dawes: Turned the ball over badly early in the game but fought back to be one of our best players, with 4 great goals and strong marking across half forward.

Anthony: Stopped Decrespigny, after also starting brilliantly up forward.

Result: OBGFC 12 – 10 – 82 UNI BLUES 14 – 15 – 99

Round 16: OBGFC v De La Salle, away:

A weekend the Tonners want to put behind them. Another good win for the Under 19s against Old Melburnians. A shocker from the twos, however they have had a sensational season and they will rebound next week. The Seniors went down to De La Salle in a game that again emphasised how tight this competition is.

As senior coach Greg 'Max' McLoughlin stated, "We simply did not take our opportunities. That's footy! An incredibly fine line between winning and losing. Ironically, our key theme for the day was 'the inches' that make the difference between winning and losing. This game was decided by inches."

With a number of key senior one's players back on deck and a determination by our boys

to show what the teams are really made of, expect a hot game against Collegians this coming Saturday at Brighton Beach.

Better Players:

Ainley: Best on ground. 4 tackles, 7 clearances, 13 rebounds. Good decision making with the footy.

Dawes: 13 marks. Limited Corin's influence as well as giving us a target. A sensational last quarter.

Gadsden: Great run through the corridor. Excellent job on Shields. Field kicking sensational.

Heath: 30 touches. Opened up the corridor for us. Generally great ball use.

Marston: Great work rate up forward. Looking forward to a great five weeks from you.

Talbot: Defensively gave your opponent nothing and gave us 11 rebounds.

Perrett: 25 touches, 9 clearances, but some opponent damage and a few poor decisions.

A Edge: A great start on Kelly. Then generally a very good job on Mannix, but paid the price (the inches) twice letting him go unopposed to a contest.

Olliver: 16 rebounds, but allowed Duggan to set up a third quarter goal by not going with him into the contest.

Phelan: In and out of the game, largely due to positional shifts but start was sensational. Solid game with 23 touches.

Bristow: Inspiring last quarter. Took your opportunity, generally great run and field kicking all day. Plus, with Mase, limited Keely's influence.

Result: OBGFC 12 – 15 – 87 DE LA SALLE 14 – 13 – 97

Round 17: OBGFC v Collegians at home

All three teams win as we move to the finals. The club was able to reverse the previous week's form with superb wins for all teams, as we move relentlessly to the finals.

A sweet 70 point win against Collegians for the Seniors, after numerous losses has really taken the monkey off the Tonners' back and set up their momentum for the finals.

The Coy boys rekindled their intensity with a resounding victory against the Violets, leaving the team, like the Seniors, in second spot on the ladder with one game to go.

Well done to the Unders, who just keep getting better with a 76 point win against Whitefriars. They have every reason to look forward to a successful finals campaign.

Better Players:

Talbot: Pivotal job on Arnott. Perfect control/create balance, shut him down then worked off him.

Heath: Generally an excellent game. 36 touches, 30 of them were sensational — put us inside 58 times but at least 6 turnovers. Also had 6 clearances from stoppages.

Hendra: A very hardworking game. Used the ball well. Moved to smart positions to set up switch plays. Good tackle count and great work from half-back in the last quarter. 4 clearances.

Ainley: Another very good game. 26 quality touches and 4 tackles from half-back and in the middle.

Gadsden: Great job on Robbins, plus 20 touches, 6 tackles and 2 goals — an excellent team game.

Anthony: Worked hard on Stone all day — limited his easy kicks which are exactly what we wanted. Also forced him to turn the footy over a number of times, then gave us something up forward late in the game.

Perrett: 32 touches, 7 clearances, but turned the footy over with some rushed, unbalanced kicks.

Dickerson: A very disciplined, hard working game on Dixon.

Homann: Best game you've played this year — pushed hard, got dangerous, 21 touches, 6 marks, 3 tackles and 20 hit outs. I still think you have 40% improvement in you as you get more and more game time into you.

Dawes: A great target again.

Bristow: You keep giving us something — this week really gave us a spark up forward when we needed it in the first half.

I could have named another 7 or 8 blokes, because it really was a very good team win. Well done.

ROUND 17: OBGFC v TRINITY At home

As we moved to the A Grade finals, what a weekend! What a season to date, and the best is yet to come.

I am sure all supporters agreed on how proud we all were in the way our players had performed this season and at this weekend, the skill, the teamwork, the dogged determination, the execution of the strategy. Trinity tried so hard but we just overwhelmed them.

To our coaching team, Greg, Adam, Joey, Damon, John, Phil, Gonzo and the others, congratulations were due on a superb job to date. The planning, the detail, the motivation — outstanding. The momentum was there as we move to the ultimate challenge.

What had been achieved so far and the coming battle for the ultimate in Amateur football will I am sure be written and talked about for many years to come by the club faithful as perhaps the greatest moments in the club's history. Savour these moments as they are rare indeed in anyone's lifetime, and support the boys in what you know they have to do now to complete the job.

Better Players:

Clark: Worked so hard — both ways. Ran hard through the corridor. Hit targets, finished well.

Jakobi: Tackling was sensational. Urgency in the contest was great.

Talbot: Getting better every week. Discipline on your opponents outstanding.

Ainley: Outstanding around the stoppages. Decision making and composure in the traffic was first class.

Pirrie: 7 goals was a great result. Excellent fight back from a heavy knock early.

Perrett: 30 plus possessions. Solid work rate.

Heath: Beaten early but fought back and gave us plenty of drive.

McGuinness: Very creative across half-forward and later excellent with centre clearances.

Hendra: A solid game. Caught too wide early in the game. Finished strongly in the last quarter.

Phelan: Played the mid-forward role really well. Good work rate defensively and on the attack.

Homann: Again, improving every week. Making better decisions with the ball, hitting targets.

Team: This is one of those weeks when I could have listed close to 22 players as the performance was incredibly even. Solid contributions from all and a sensational lead into our first final.

Result: OBGFC 22 – 16 – 148 TRINITY 9 – 8 – 62

SEPTEMBER 2007 BULLETIN

SUMMARY OF POSITION AT THAT POINT

I am very proud to report that without doubt Old Brighton's 2007 season has been the best the club has ever experienced to this point and we haven't even begun the finals.

With our promotion from B to A grade at the end of 2006, as part of our pre-season planning process, we set a base objective to win enough games to maintain our position in A grade for the following season and for what we considered would be a much more challenging goal, to compete in the A grade finals. As everyone knows these goals have been well and truly achieved and history has already been made, as this will be the first time our club will remain in A grade in season 2008. Competing in the A grade finals is another first for OBGFC particularly poignant in our 50th year of involvement with the VAFA. With the calibre of our coaching team, the depth, skill and determination of the current playing group, we are quietly confident that further history is in the making.

The Senior team spent much of the home and away series in top position, however following a late season hiccup with two successive losses, they dropped to second spot, and despite two stirring wins, the first against our 2006 nemesis and B Grade Premiers, Collegians by 70 points and in the final game against Old Trinity by 85 points, we remain in second position moving to the finals.

The Reserves were in a similar position but with a fine 93 point win in Round 18 against Old Trinity, moved into top spot on their ladder.

Our Under 19s have also had a very rewarding season finishing in third position and are in good, solid form to tackle Old Camberwell in the first semi-final in U19 (2) section.

VIII our official third team, finished their season in sixth position. This was a solid result and one with which they can be well satisfied. Coach Dan Stockdale will not be continuing in the role next year and all at the club would like to congratulate him for his service to this team and the great support he has provided to the club over many seasons.

We also acknowledge and congratulate Gil Norwood for being selected in the 2007 Club XVIII (2) Team of the Year and to Chris Reddin for being voted the Club XVIII's Best Player for 2007.

The Under 19s first semi-final will be against Old Camberwell at 11.20am Saturday 8th September at Cheltenham Reserve in Weatherall Road (Melway map reference 86 H3).

Both the Senior and Reserve Grade teams will play in their respective second semi-finals at Sportscover Arena (Elsternwick Park) on Sunday 9th September. Both matches will be against Old Xaverians. The senior game commences at 2.00pm and the Reserves game at 11.20am.

For all involved with the club, we urge you to be there to support the boys in the coming ultimate challenges in amateur football, and potentially witness further history in the making.

Michael Dickerson, President.

***SECOND SEMI FINAL: OBGFC v OLD XAVS,
ELSTERNWICK PARK, SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER, 2 pm***

A great performance by Gonzo's Unders against Old Camberwell has put them squarely in the Prelims against Beaumaris. The Unders are a tall, strong side with loads of talent and are showing some fine form. We are expecting big things this weekend from them.

Both the Seniors and Ressies fell to Old Xavs, the Seniors not able to capitalise on the Elsternwick Park wind and the Ressies never recovered from an unfortunate second quarter.

This weekend however is a new ball game and both teams have analysed their performances and put things behind them and are determined to rectify matters — the Seniors against Uni Blues and the Ressies versus De La Salle.

Better Players:

Talbot: Sensational job on Ockleshaw.

Heath: Close to 30 touches — many were great attacking moves but turned the ball over terribly in low percentage areas a few times.

Clark: Worked hard — both ways. Set up some great attacking moves.

Hughes: Shut Bowen down completely.

Dickerson: Gave Lynch no easy touches. He is a quality player but you made him work hard for his contested marks.

Olliver: Brave. Worked hard. Multiple desperate acts.

Result: OBGFC 11 – 12 – 78 OLD XAVS 14 – 18 – 102

***PRELIMINARY FINAL OBGFC v UNI BLUES
Sunday 16th September***

A sensational weekend for the football club, with all three teams earning the right to play in Grand Finals this coming weekend. The Under 19s controlled their game for most of the day against the highly rated Beaumaris. The two's game was unbelievable — a great lesson in terms of 'it ain't over until the siren goes'. They eventually found a way to win. The thing I was most impressed with was the proactive intensity the twos showed all day.

We simply rectified the mistakes made in the second semi-final. Full credit to every senior

player; everyone played a part in implementing our plan, making it happen and subsequently earning a shot at an A grade premiership.

Why did we win the game? Tackle count and pressure skills.

TACKLES	
Round 3 v Xavs	52
Round 14 v Xavs	58
2nd Semi v Xavs	37
Preliminary Final v Uni Blues	53

It is such a critical indicator for us, getting that tackle count above 50. We also focused heavily on the chases, which were great. Multiple times on the weekend we forced the opposition into mistakes with sensational chasing and implied pressure.

We've said all year — the ability to pressure the opposition consistently throughout a game is the biggest single defining difference between average teams and great teams. We saw the Tyson Stenglein 150th game DVD prior to the game, which clearly demonstrated what skills the Eagles value most in terms of building a team to win a premiership.

Better Players:

Matt Gadsden: Pressure count sensational — led the way. Smashed Patterson and picked up valuable possessions.

Heath: Another excellent game in terms of sheer ball winning ability. Plus you worked back harder and better than any other game this year. One of your absolute strong points is your ability to find a target, but must realise that you can't pick out a target 100% of the time — sometimes a kick into space is the high percentage option, especially in a pressure final.

Hendra: An excellent game. Worked hard defensively and offensively with real urgency. Only tough balancing act was with the mid-forward role — 34 picked up a bit of it at half-back for them.

Clark: Another very good game.

Hughes: Great early battle with Knowles (27), then you broke him — well done. Worked hard to run off him in transition.

Dickerson: Another big scalp, Paton (59) was an absolute key for them. Well done.

Phelan: A great captain's game. Led from the front in terms of playing the percentages. Generally used the footy well and did well with the pressure count, 7 tackles and chases.

Pirrie: A sensational contribution in a pressure final, well done.

Anthony: Super job on Decrespigny (27).

Team: There were honestly zero non-contributors on Sunday, exactly how it needs to be in finals footy. We could not have been in a better position. We were playing a team that we had a 2 wins 1 loss record against this season.

Result: OBGFC 13 – 15 – 93, UNI BLUES 6 – 12 – 48.

We saw what they could do in the 2nd semi when we drop off in key areas. We knew what we

did wrong, we addressed it on Sunday against Uni and we knew what we needed to do and win a premiership the following Sunday.

A GRADE GRAND FINAL: OBGFC v XAVS

Sunday 23rd September 2007, 2 pm

It was an unfortunate weekend, but a great season. A disappointing weekend for the Tonners with the Unders going down to ladder leaders St Bedes-Mentone on Saturday morning in the Under 19 Section 2 Grand Final, and both the Reserves and Senior team falling short on Sunday in the A Grade Grand Finals against Old Xaverians.

The better handling of the notorious Elsternwick wind and a more experienced Xav's side in Grand Finals were telling factors for OBGFC.

The closest result was the Reserves who went down by just two points and they must be ruing the missed goal scoring opportunities with 22 behinds.

However as was stated at the Grand Final after match address by Nick Bourke VAFA Ops manager, "Congratulation to Old Brighton who have achieved great things this year by competing in the Grand Finals with three teams, being on top of the A Grade ladder for a lot of the home and away series in your first season in A Grade." We have a young team and the club will now regroup and prepare for an exciting season 2008 in A Grade. Congratulations to Max, Adam, Joey, Damon, Phil, Shane and John from our coaching team for a very fine season 2007.

FINALE and THANKS

I would just like to thank my General Manager, terrific organiser and go-to person Peter Gadsden, for his stirring work covering off all the detailed issues that occur when running an amateur football club. Gado was always there to help and did his work effectively using his own initiative. It was a new decision by the committee to have a dedicated person involved in the day to day operations of the club and this decision was vindicated in the fine work done by Gado.

Rob Jakobi took over the Treasurer's position from Michael Wood and a 'hard act to follow' was an understatement in following on from Woodies fine efforts. Rob was meticulous in his detail with financial figures and am sure greatly contributed to the financial success of the club in 2007. He gained the title of the Grim Reaper through his firm but fair chasing up of players' subs and also his black doctor's bag and sombre dark suit in which he'd sneak in with on Thursday after training nights at the clubhouse.

2007 was our best year ever in attracting sponsors and sponsorship revenue and Jim Olliver was primarily responsible, with assistance from Woody for this success. Using his extensive footy and business contacts, he revamped and refreshed the club's sponsorship offerings and attracted several new and prestigious sponsors and increased existing sponsor payments. Thanks and well done Jim.

Our social side generated very strong revenue streams in 2007 and the varied program was masterminded and brilliantly managed by John (Jack) Geddes. This is probably one of the most demanding jobs on the committee and John handled things with skill and professionalism.

Andrew 'Fish' Mullett is one of the most dedicated individuals the club has ever had as player, coach, long time committee member, VAFA member, property manager, raconteur and creator of the iconic *Benchwarmer* every week. No praise can be high enough for his creativity and dedicated efforts for the committee and club.

To Marty Lynch and Bob McLellan, thank you for your sterling work in Football Team Management and contributions on the committee.

A big thanks to the brilliant job done by ex-President, Roger Brown and his sub-committee, in selecting the all-time best players and organising the 50th Anniversary celebration. It was a most memorable function, admirably celebrating our 50 years of existence involving lots of hard work, creativity and attention to detail.

This chapter is a record of some of the highlights of season 2007, our 50th year, and what was the best ever to date for the club and one I will treasure for the rest of my life.

DID YOU KNOW?

Andrew Mullett can go back as far as the 1973 count at St Kilda's Linton Street, Moorabbin. He remembers it because Jimmy Kemp beat him by one vote.

Contribution from Ross Stewart

My time at OBGFC started in my second year out of school when I was playing Under 19 under Roger 'Doggy' Brown, Shane 'Gonzo' Young and Stuart 'Egg' Murray. To be honest with you, you probably could not have asked for a better three guys to take a young group of kids under their wings. We had a great team and the way those three brought us together as a group and also got us involved in the club was great. As a young kid you tend to stand back a bit and just watch how the club runs and sort of get to know the senior guys at the club over a season or two. Not with these guys pushing you into the limelight. There was no time for standing back. It was basically get in and make yourselves known to the senior guys straight away. This started with the pre-season camp which was held down at Torquay back then. It was train hard with the Seniors and then go and drink harder with them that night. That was the way we got to know the Seniors — sink or swim. It was great though. It meant that when we went back to the club after an away game or the Seniors came back to the club after an away game, we had other people to talk to who obviously had similar interests. From my perspective, I got to know guys like Simon Williams, Dave Patterson, Andrew Van Den Dungen, Simon Lennox, Nick Perry and many more, which was great because I wanted to play senior footy and it was these guys who I would be playing with. It was much easier when I did play senior footy to get involved because I already knew these guys as people off the field. Doggy, Gonzo and Egg really pushed this with the young guys and I think it was great because it brought the club together.

The bus trips home from places like the Snakepit (St Bernards), Trinity and Marcellin were a heap of fun. I remember the first one we had in U19 after a game at St Bernard's. What would normally take 45 minutes took us hours to get back to the club. We had a number of stops at pubs along the way and I think we circled the city three or four times, until the bus driver finally got sick of us. The singing and jokes told along the way were probably a little rude to go into detail, but what fun it was.

One guy that I do remember who was always down at the club was big Al Munkitrick. What a personality he was, unfortunately taken away from us far too early. Big Al was always helping out at the club, getting things ready for the game on Saturday or cleaning up after a big Saturday night or sometimes making the mess on a Saturday night himself. On regular occasions Big Al would bring out his guitar and play random songs and sing along until he could sing no more. It is guys like this that make a club and when Big Al passed away, a huge hole was left to fill. More recently guys like Jack Geddes and Rob and Rosie Jakobi go far beyond the call of duty to keep the club running. These people are huge to the running of the club.

As a player I played under a number of coaches and with a number of great players. It was an environment where young players could learn more about themselves and how to go about playing the game. With coaches like Dale Tapping, Jared O'Neill, Stu Glascott and Greg McLaughlin and players like Simon Lennox, Simon Williams, Darren Timms, and

more recently Patty Phelan, Matt Gadsden, Leigh Hendra and many more, how could you not learn and become a better player from all these people.

Obviously winning the 1st XVIII Best and Fairest in 2002 was a great personal achievement. It was my first full year playing senior footy and as mentioned above, with the players I had around me, they were a great support and helped me develop. Winning the 2nd XVIII Best and Fairest a couple of times (2006/8) was also a great personal achievement, but I was never lucky enough to play in a winning premiership team. They are very hard to come by.

In 2010 the Seconds coaching job became available and after having broken both my wrists within two seasons, I took the opportunity that arose due to needing my hands for work (being an engraver). I had always wanted to do this and in the last couple of years as a player, I took on an assistant coaching role under Joe Coy and Simon Williams where I learnt a lot. The first year of coaching was a tough one in A Grade. We had a young group of players and obviously me being in my first year, there was a lot to learn. I remember getting smashed in most games in the first half of the season, but by the end of the year the players had learnt, and as a coach, I had learnt a heap and we had won 2 games and drawn 1.

The following year was back to B Grade and I wasn't sure what to think as we were struggling for numbers in the practice matches. By the first round some guys had come out of the woodwork and we had a full team. And I bet they are glad they did the way the season panned out. We played 20 games during the year including finals and won every game, a feat that no other team at the club has achieved.

We had some great leaders in that team. Daniel Mann (Assistant-coach) and John McKell (Team Manager) were outstanding and a huge help for me personally. I constantly remember Dan keeping me in check during most games when things got a little heated towards the opposition or umpires. I can't thank them enough for how they contributed towards the premiership.

Then the on-field leaders; Scott Cramey who had only come to the club a couple of years earlier was captain and led from the front. With the help of Vice-captains Nick Graham-Bowman and David Jennings, they were able to get the guys to bond together. They constantly challenged not only the players but also Dan and myself to make us a better team and get to the result that we ultimately wanted to achieve. They would organise team meetings for after training and matches. After some games they also organised parties. All these initiatives contributed hugely towards us becoming a closer team and all of us wanting the same outcome. It was no surprise that these three were in the best players in the Grand Final.

Obviously having talent gets you a long way towards the ultimate success and we had a heap of that. Guys like Antony Bristow, Max Leishman, and Blair Mason, just to name a few. But the key to winning the premiership and going through the season undefeated was the guys' desire to win from any position during any game and the camaraderie that we had. Everyone in the team just wanted to do it for each other. That is what wins you games and wins you flags. Each and every person that was involved in that team whether they were the Assistant-coach down to a guy who may have played only one game should be proud of what they achieved that year. I just can't wait for the 10 year reunion to catch up with all those guys and go back over what a great year and what a great group of people we had.

Leaders Into Battle — Our Captains

Peter Sedgwick, as you will note from the reference to him below, has had plenty of experience as a Senior's captain. Here are Peter's thoughts on captaincy:

Since it is over 40 years since I was first appointed captain, my memories are a bit hazy but I do remember that the voting to elect a captain was done by the players from a list of candidates assembled by the President and the coach. It meant a lot to me that the playing group considered me as the sort of individual who could lead on the field, make a contribution at the selection table and generally represent the club as captain within the amateur football scene. I stayed on as captain for five consecutive years, stepping down for Rick Thomas in 1972. Thinking back, I'm sure that I was nervous and a bit overwhelmed in my first year, but gradually grew into the role and was able to assist in the football skills of the younger players and keep up the motivation of some of the older players. I really don't think that a captain's role back then was as demanding or strategic as it has now become, perhaps more like winning a popularity contest, but it was a lot of fun at the time and I'm proud to have my name on the board in the clubrooms alongside all the other OBGFC skippers.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the VFA competition a normal season consists of 18 home and away games. So if you played in all those home and away games and no finals for (say) 5 seasons, you would have played 90 games.

SENIOR'S CAPTAINS

Bruce Robinson — 1957:



As the captain of our first post-war senior team, Bruce set a very high standard in terms of leadership and club spirit. Our club was extremely fortunate from the outset in that we had a very fine team of men and women determined to see that we began our journey successfully. Bruce was to be one of this team for at least two decades.

Bob McLellan — 1958, 1959, 1966:



Best and Fairest — 1957, 1958, 1963, 1964.
1958 — Grade Best and Fairest, with record number of votes 43 ½ votes out of possible 54.

Senior coach — 1971, 1972, 1973. Runners-up 1972 Grand Final.

Played 144 games.

Doug Ridley — 1960, 1961, 1963:



Best and Fairest — 1957, 1958.

Kicked 188 goals. Played 135 games. It should be mentioned that off-field Doug was a committeeman for 10 years until 1973, during which time he was also Social Secretary in 1972. Doug also gave a huge amount of help from 1971 – 1973 to senior coach Bob McLellan, a period which included the 1972 Grand Final.

Barry Pryor — 1964, 1965:



Kicked 262 goals, played 126 games. Barry has a playing record at our club which is simply outstanding. Barry's son Andrew was also a captain and became an outstanding player for our club.

Peter Sedgwick — 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971:



Played 204 games mainly at full-back, had a prodigious drop-kick.

Club President — 1978, 1979.

Peter has made a superb contribution in sharing with us his memories of his time at our club as well as producing the chapter *Coaches*.

Rick Thomas — 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975:



Best and Fairest — 1972, 1974, 1976.
 Member of 1972 Grand Final team.
 Grade Best and Fairest — 1972.
 Member of 1977 premiership team.
 Has made a wonderful contribution to this book, recording memories of his playing days at our club.

Ian Currie — 1976:



Ian Parroissien — 1977:



This was the year of our club's first senior premiership team.
 Best and Fairest — 1971.
 David Paroissien, Ian's father, captained our pre-war team for 7 years and was awarded a Best and Fairest on three occasions. Ian also made a significant contribution to the *Pre-War* chapter in this book.

Garry Jones — 1978:



State representative — 1981.
 Played in both the 1977 (Best Player and vice-captain) and 1980 Grand Final wins.
 Kicked 261 goals, played 172 games.

Peter Murphy — 1979:

Was recruited to the club from Ormond as captain-coach. Peter, who had an illustrious career as an A Grade and State player just played for the one season.

Bill Browne — 1980, 1981, 1983:



Captain and coach 1980 Grand Final win.
 Senior coach 1980, 1981.
 President 1988, 1989.

David Shepherd — 1982:



Best and Fairest — 1978, 1981.
 State representative 1978.
 Played 66 games. His brothers Tim and John also played for our club.

**Peter Grant — 1983, 1984,
1985, 1986:**



Best and Fairest — 1983, 1984.
State representative — 1983, 1984, 1988.
President — 1992, 1993.
Kicked 182 goals, played 156 games and
played in the 1980 Grand Final win.

Mark Sarau — 1987:



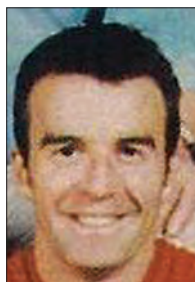
Senior coach — 1986, 1987, 1988 (runners
up), 1989, 1990.

**Cameron Lade — 1988, 1989, 1990,
1991:**



Best and Fairest — 1986, 1989.
State representative 1988
Played 183 games.

Andrew Pryor — 1992, 1993:



Best and Fairest. 1991, 1992, 1995, 1998
1995 — Grade Best and Fairest Winner
Played in the 1997 Grand Final win.
State representative — 1987 (U18s), 1992,
1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997
Kicked 278 goals. Played 230 games.

Michael Hendrie — 1994:

Played 119 games, kicked 47 goals.

Nick Perry — 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998.



Captain of the 1997 premierships team
Played 241 games. Kicked 212 goals.

**Simon Williams — 1999, 2000,
(runners-up), 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004:**



Played 206 games. Kicked 40 goals.

Patrick Phelan — 2005, 2006, 2007:



Best and Fairest — 2006
 Played 56 games (until end of season 2008).

Leigh Hendra and John Perrett — 2008:



Best and Fairest awarded to John Perrett in 2003, 2008 and 2012, and to Leigh Hendra in 2004, 2005.

State representatives: Leigh Hendra — 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008. John Perrett — 2003 (U19).

Games played: John Perrett 31 (until end of season 2008) and 37 goals kicked. Leigh Hendra 95 (until end of season 2008) and 52 goals kicked.

L Hendra, J Perrett, M Inley — 2009

A Edge and J Perrett — 2010

J Perrett, A Edge, L Hendra — 2011

A Edge and J Perrett — 2012

J Perrett and A Edge — 2013

M Bruin, J Perrett — 2014

DID YOU KNOW?

No Captain as yet has equalled Dave Paroissiens' record as Captain from 1932-1938, a total of seven(7) years.

RESERVES CAPTAINS

Peter Cooper — 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964:



Games played 105.

Roger Wilson — 1965, 1968, 1969, 1970:



Best and Fairest 1964, 1969
Coached Reserves 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971
Games played 200.

Graeme Tozer — 1966:



Best and Fairest — 1962
Played 159 games.

Chris Larcombe — 1967:



Played 107 games.

Mike Wood — 1971, 1972:



Best and Fairest 1968, 1970, 1971
President 1983, 1984
Our 'Godfather' as we fondly call him, is *still* making an enormous contribution to the club, notching up an incredible 40 years or so of invaluable service to OBGFC.

Andrew Dick — 1973:

Reserves Best and Fairest 1972.

Peter Wood — 1974, 1975:



Coached Reserves 1975
Played 145 games
Brother of Michael Wood.

Graeme Templeton — 1976:



1976 Captain-coach of the Reserves in the club's first Grand Final win since the club started in 1957. Was also Reserves coach in 1977 when they were runners up.

President 1980, 1981, 1982
 Played 251 games (mostly with Seniors)
 Kicked 218 goals. Also has generously made a contribution to this book with his chapter on *Our Presidents*.

Drewe Bellmaine — 1977:



Reserves were runners up in 1977.
 Kicked 218 goals — VAFA Section top goal kicker for the Reserves in 1976 (61) and 1977 (64)
 Played 100 games.
 Drewe produced the superb report *Club Records and Statistics, Pre War to 1994* — a period of over 50 years, an enormous task which is included and updated in this book.
 Drewe has owned for many years the fabulous Riva Restaurant, St Kilda, which overlooks Port Phillip Bay. For many years our club has been able to hold a variety of functions in the excellent facilities available there. Drewe has always been extremely generous towards our club whenever we hold a function there.

Barry Gartner — 1978:



Captained Reserves Grand Final win in 1978
 Played 209 games.

Andrew 'Fish' Mullett — 1979, 1980, 1981:



Captain-coach Reserves 1979, 1980, 1981, Seniors coach 1982.
 Played in the club's first senior premiership in 1977.
 Has continued to give extraordinary service to the club for over 40 years. Andrew has made many contributions throughout this book. He also has contributed some priceless memories of his time at the Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club.

Barry Hamilton — 1982:



Was captain and coach.
 Best and Fairest with Reserves in 1973, 1982, 1983.
 Played in the club's first senior premiership in 1977.
 Played 267 games.
 Kicked 429 goals with Seniors, Reserves and Under 19s.

Bruce Mc Briar — 1983:



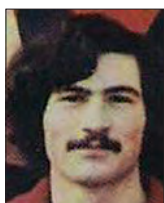
Was captain and coach.
Played 166 games.
Kicked 135 goals.
Most games played with Seniors and played in the 1972 Seniors Grand Final.

Rod Cowling — 1984 (runners-up), 1985, 1986:



Captain and coach 1986
Best and Fairest Reserves 1979, 1984
Played in the club's first premiership with the Reserves in 1976
Played 258 games.

John MacKenzie — 1987, 1988:



Captain and coach 1987
Played 187 games.
John also wrote a superb article for inclusion in this book where he reminisces about his days at the club.

Jeff Bennett — 1989:



Was captain and coach.
Coached Reserves 1990.
Played in the 1992 Reserves premiership.
Played 134 games.

Roger Brown — 1990, 1991, 1992 (Premiers):



Coached Club XVIII in 1995.
Coached Reserves 1996 (Premiers).
Coached Under 19s 1999, 2000.
President 2003, 2004, 2005.
Has given exceptional service to the club for over 20 years including his contribution to this book with a chapter on our *Warriors/Club XVIII* side.

Matt McLennan — 1993, 1996 (Premiers):



Best and Fairest — 1989, 1991, 1992.
Runner up Seniors Best and Fairest 1987
Played in the 1997 Reserves premiership team.
On May 9, 1998 joined the 300 Games Club.

David Moreton — 1994:



Played in the Reserves premiership team of 1996.

**Stuart Murray — 1996, 1997
(Back-to-Back premierships):**



Through injury Stuart missed the 1997 game. Also was part of the 1992 Grand Final win.

Played 209 games and kicked 222 goals. Stuart, apart from writing an article on the 1996 Reserves Grand Final has also shared with us his reminiscences about his time at the club.

Paul McMahon — 1997 (Joint Captain with Stuart Murray), 1998, 1999:



Played in 5 Grand Finals — 1992, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2000 Reserves premierships.

Matt Talbot — 2000:



Matt played 220 games and kicked 250 goals. In 2000 the Reserves were Premiers in B Section.

Michael Billionis — 2001:



Cam Stewart — 2002:



Chris McNicol — 2003 (Premiers), 2004, 2005 (Captain with Rhys Henderson), 2006, 2007 (runners-up), 2008:



One of our longest serving captains, ‘Noodle’ was an inspiration to his teammates.

J Edge — 2009

M Browning — 2010

Scott Cramey — 2011, 2012

Cal Nicholls — 2013

Brendan Blatt — 2014

UNDER 19 CAPTAINS

Peter Cooper — 1965:



Was also our first Reserves captain in 1961.
(See also *Captains — Reserves*).

Rick Thomas — 1966:



Was also Seniors captain (see
Captains — Seniors).

Rob Pitcher — 1967

Duncan Van Woerden — 1968

Mark Swain — 1969:

Coached the Under 19s in 1984, 1985, 1989,
1990, 1991.

Rod Eastgate 1970:



Played in the 1972 Seniors Grand Final
(runners-up)
Played 122 games.

Rod's sons Scott and Ryan also played for
the club.

John Levvey — 1971:



Played in the 1972 Seniors Grand Final
(runners-up), the 1977 Seniors Grand Final
which was the club's first senior premier-
ship.

Played 204 senior games.

Martin Castle — 1972:



Played in the 1977 Seniors' Grand Final,
which was the club's first senior premier-
ship.

Tim Shepherd — 1973:



Played in the 1977 Seniors Grand Final
which was the club's first senior premier-
ship.

John Tapp — 1974:



Played in the Reserves first premiership in 1976, and then in 1978 played in the Reserves second premiership.

Best and Fairest Reserves 1980.

Played 123 games.

From 1975 until 1979, our club had no Under 19 side. John Devine, President 1974 and 1975 makes the following comments. “We were really struggling for numbers as maybe more boys were staying at BGS until year 12. The club’s funds were in a perilous state and we were struggling to find volunteers around the club, so running one less team may have been attractive. There was also an idea that the School 1st XVIII should be regarded as an Under 19 team. BGS football was now very competitive in the APS and we should concentrate on recruiting from the School.”

S Laughlin — 1979

Garry Wood — 1980:

Played 127 games.

S Redman — 1981:



1981 Premiers U19 Section.

Andrew Welsh — 1982

Stuart Kay — 1983

Stuart Murray — 1984:



Played in the 1992, 1996 and 1997 Reserves premiership teams and was captain of the 1995 and 1997 Reserves teams.

Played 209 games

Kicked 222 goals

Adam McLennan — 1985

Tim Branson — 1986

Michael Osborne — 1987

Todd Sunderman — 1988:



Captain of team who were runners-up in 1988 Grand Final.

Justin Lade — 1989

Matthew Talbot — 1990:



Captain Reserves — 2000.

Jon Farrer — 1991

Paul Murphy — 1992



Played in the Reserves premiership team 1996

Nick Winter — 1994:



Played in the Reserves premiership team 1996.

George Billionis — 1995

David Paterson — 1996:



Robert Kent — 1997:



Liam O'Neill — 1998:



Adam Ginnivan — 1999

David Hellyer — 2000

A MacGillivray — 2001:



Andre Salem — 2002:



Ben Gadsden — 2003



Ryan Joseph — 2004



Scott Olliver — 2005



Charlie Betts — 2006

Tom Skewes — 2007



Jack Davis — 2008

James Pickering — 2009

T Mariani — 2010

No nomination — 2011

M Pascoe, D Verney — 2012 Cavallaro,
L Healey — 2013

Jackson Bilu — 2014

Club XVIII Captains not available at this time.

DID YOU KNOW?

Not only did John Priestley kick more goals than any other player at our club but also the average number of goals he kicked per game played was the highest at 4.08 per game.

DID YOU KNOW?

Riva, the well known St Kilda restaurant overlooking beautiful Port Phillip Bay, is owned by Drewe Bellmaine who kicked 220 goals for the club. Drewe has very generously allowed OBGFC to frequently use his superb premises.

OBGFC Club Records and Statistics

Out of respect for the huge effort made by Drewe Bellmaine and his helpers, we are including his *Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club Records and Statistics* which was printed on the 20th June 1995. What we have done is to attempt as much as possible, to use the same format as Drewe and update those statistics as far as we could prior to publication. Apologies for any errors and omissions.

The information in this leaflet has been compiled from data provided by the VAFA, limited Old Brighton Grammarian Football Club records and numerous individual records.

All statistics are current to the end of the 1994 season. Any errors, additions or omissions that may be found by club members will be gladly remedied by the author. Should you require further information please do not hesitate to phone.

Special thanks to David Siminton and Gerard Bennett from CIC International Pty Ltd for their efforts in computerising these records.

—Regards,

Drewe Bellmaine

OBGFC RECORDS			
YEAR	PRESIDENT	BEST CLUBMAN	BEST 1ST YEAR PLAYER
1957	N D Walsh		
1958	N D Walsh		
1959	N D Walsh		
1960	N D Walsh		
1961	K J Robinson		
1962	K J Robinson	P Cooper	
1963	K J Robinson	R Larcombe	R Wilson
1964	K J Robinson	R Harvey	J Code
1965	K J Robinson	B Scouller	M Millis
1966	K J Robinson	N Smith	D Meyers
1967	K J Robinson	B Easton	P Marshall
1968	G C Jeffery	G Reilly	P Wynne
1969	G C Jeffery	L Walker	A Mullett

OBGFC RECORDS			
YEAR	PRESIDENT	BEST CLUBMAN	BEST 1ST YEAR PLAYER
1970	G C Jeffery	R Wilson	G Finkmeyer
1971	G C Jeffery	L Pascal	P Watkins
1972	G C Jeffery	R Trewavas	J Kemp
1973	G C Jeffery	No Award	M Castle
1974	J D Devine	E Maberly — Smith	G Jones
1975	J D Devine	M Johnston	K Holmes
1976	J F Forster	N Richardson	J Priestley
1977	J F Forster	R Draper	B Beddoe
1978	P N Sedgwick	D Robinson	D Simon
1979	P N Sedgwick	D Becker	P King
1980	G R Templeton	J Levvey	D Nicholson
1981	G R Templeton	W Draper	M McLennan
1982	G R Templeton	W Mullett	B Cornwell
1983	M C Wood	N Rumble	G Bennett
1984	M C Wood	P Rowell/R Drew	S Taylor
1985	D A Dick	C Wilson	P Woff
1986	G R Templeton	D Witts	A Pryor
1987	D R Siminton	D Blair	M Allen
1988	R W Browne	N Rumble	S O'Connor
1989	R W Browne	S Murray	C Brook
1990	D A Dick	M Hill	Unknown
YEAR	PRESIDENT	BEST CLUBMAN	BEST 1ST YEAR PLAYER
1991	I W Mullett	A Mullett	N Perry
1992	P J Grant	J Dalton	Unknown
1993	P J Grant	J Trotter	S Mercer
1994	M W Perry	L Bowes/C Haling	M Nickels
1995	M W Perry	Sam Williams	
1996	M W Perry	A Munkittrik	
1997	M W Perry	J Leary	
1998	M W Perry	G Hand	
1999	R D Paterson	D Handley	
2000	R D Paterson	P Woff	
2001	R D Paterson	N Sher	
2002	J Trotter	M Lynch	
2003	R G Brown	G Tootall	
2004	R G Brown	A Van Den Dungen/ P Adamis	
2005	R G Brown	N Edwards	
2006	M Dickerson	Mrs Yvonne Gadsden/ B Dale	
2007	M Dickerson	C McKimm	
2008	J Olliver	L Cooney	

OBGFC RECORDS			
YEAR	PRESIDENT	BEST CLUBMAN	BEST 1ST YEAR PLAYER
2009	J Olliver	D Davis	
2010	R Jakobi	P Gadsden	
2011	R Jakobi	L Cannon	
2012	R Jakobi	R McLellan	
2013	R Jakobi	R Joseph	
2014	S Young	J Geddes	

OBGFC SEASON LEADING GOAL KICKERS						
YEAR	SENIORS		RESERVES		UNDER 19	
1957	L Thomson	32				
1958	D Ridley	57				
1959	B Pryor	46				
1960	B Pryor	46	A Home Haily	12		
1961	J Boucher	47	J Braddock	4		
1962	D Ridley	29	B McKenna	15		
1963	B Pryor	46	W Jackson	34		
1964	B Mulligan	39	B McKenna	15		
1965	J Barry	29	R Harvey	10	M Wood	42
1966	G Hosie	49	D Jackson	14	W Comper	17
1967	C Warnock	42	R Dean	21	H Webb	28
1968	D Meyers	25	R Wilson	20	A Bond	32
1969	G Hosie	32	M Wood	10	D Wilson	52
1970	B Hamilton	22	M Wood	18	B Grandin	53
1971	B Hamilton	32	M Titshall	26	B Grandin	57
1972	J Agar	70	R Flack	19	J Trotter	58
1973	J Agar	76	B Hamilton	20	M Riddell	52
1974	J Agar	44	M Riddell	20	G Larkin	35
1975	B Hamilton/ G Jones	30	G Larkin	20		
1976	J Priestley	51	D Bellmaine	61*		
1977	J Priestley	71	D Bellmaine	64*		
1978	J Priestley	72	P Latzer	39*		
1979	J Priestley	66	P Latzer	24	S Bouyer	39
1980	J Priestley	117*	B Hamilton	18	C Stevens	64
1981	J Priestley	74	B Hamilton	29	P Goetz	80
1982	G Tate	23	J Levvey	27	C Wilson	31
1983	J Priestley	41	R Purvis	31	D Wittey	61
1984	D Wittey	46	G Handberg	19	J Hillier	72
1985	D Thomas	68	J Hillier	19	A Greene	13
1986	P Grant	26	D Bellmaine	13	S Taylor	10
1987	D Cochrane	43	D Bellmaine	28	T Sunderman	35
1988	A Pryor	63*	D Bellmaine	14	J Ryan	43

OBGFC SEASON LEADING GOAL KICKERS						
YEAR	SENIORS		RESERVES		UNDER 19	
1989	M Waddington	39	D Smyth	13	C Knight	93*
1990	M Shippen	44	R Hopkins	17	C Knight	52
1991	M Shippen	36	R Hopkins	12	L Hamilton	23
1992	T Hayden	53	D Smyth	47	P Swanell	58
1993	T Hayden	48	N Hoare	23	D Atkin	47
1994	N Perry	43	R Smith	13	J Murch	73*
1995	J Bradley	71	S Murray		J Murch	101
1996	J Murch	55	A Grant	82	A Price	58
1997	J Bradley	80	A Grant	52	L O'Neil	
1998	M Jackson	33	M Talbot	10		
1999	J Bradley	42	M Talbot	32		
2000	J Bradley	82	J Murch	32		
2001	M Jackson	32	A Ginnivan	13		
2002	A Pirrie	25	B Scott	20		
2003	A MacGillivray	41	B Scott	58		
2004	A Pirrie	33	B Scott	24		
2005	A Pirrie	60	A Salemm	26		
2006	A Pirrie	60	J Maguire	26		
2007	A Pirrie	56	T March	40		
2008	A Pirrie	39	T Zantuck	34		
2009	B Sinclair	50	T Zantuck	46		
2010	Michael Dewar	27	Trent Zantuck			
2011	Tom Mentiplay	45	Tim Marshall			
2012	Dan Anthony	35	Brendan Blatt			
2013	Dan Anthony	64	Harry Cannon			

*** GRADE TOP GOAL KICKERS**

V A F A SECTION TOP GOAL KICKERS			
YEAR	PLAYER	GRADE	GOALS
1976	Drewe Bellmaine	D Reserve	61 goals
1977	Drewe Bellmaine	D Reserve	64 goals
1977	John Priestley	D Grade	71 goals
1978	Peter Latzer	C Reserve	39 goals
1980	John Priestley	C Grade	117 goals
1981	Peter Goetz	U19 Zone 2	80 goals
1981	John Priestley	B Grade	74 goals
1984	John Hillier	U/19 Zone 2	72 goals
1987	Leigh Bowes	H Grade	72 goals
1988	Andrew Pryor	C Grade	63 goals
1989	Cameron Knight	U19 Zone 2	93 goals
1995	James Murch	U19 South	94 goals

V A F A SECTION TOP GOAL KICKERS			
YEAR	PLAYER	GRADE	GOALS
1995	Jarrold Bradley	B Grade	70 goals
1996	Andrew Grant	B Reserve	82 goals
2000	Jarrold Bradley	B Grade	84 goals
2003	Brian Scott	B Reserve	58 goals
2003	David Cochran	Club 18 South	57 goals

GOALKICKING RECORDS					
MATCH	PLAYER	VS		DATE	
Seniors:	Malcolm Shippen	vs	Monash Blues	26th May 1990	13
	John Priestley	vs	Power House	7th May 1977	13
	John Priestley	vs	Fawkner	18th April 1981	12
	Tom Hayden	vs	Parkside	16th May 1992	12
	Ken Holmes	vs	Brunswick	1st May 1976	12
	Hugh Gaunt	vs	Sth Camberwell	12th May 1937	12
	Barry Pryor	vs	Ajax	10th Aug 1963	11
	James Agar	vs	University High	16th June 1973	11
	Jarrold Bradley	vs	Old Ivanhoe	10th May 1997	11
	Adam Pirrie	vs	University Blacks	3rd May 2008	11
	John Priestley	vs	National Bank	14th Aug 1976	10
	John Priestley	vs	Kew	28th July 1979	10
	John Priestley	vs	St Kilda CBC	4th Aug 1979	10
	John Priestley	vs	Old Haileybury	3rd May 1980	10
	John Priestley	vs	Coburg	17th May 1980	10
	Andrew Grant	vs	Parkside	25th July 1992	10
	Jarrold Bradley	vs	Hampton Rovers	5th June 1999	10
	Jarrold Bradley	vs	Collegians	22nd July 2000	10
	Adam Pirrie	vs	St Bedes Mentone	23rd April 2005	10
Reserves:	Robert Kennedy	vs	National Bank	12th June 1976	17
	James Gerstman	vs	Old Essendon	8th August 2009	13
	Drewe Bellmaine	vs	Alphington	16th July 1977	11
	David Smyth	vs	Parkside	24th July 1992	9
	Andrew Grant	vs	Banyule	21st June 1997	9
	Luke Mann	vs	Collegians	31st May 2009	9
	Drewe Bellmaine	vs	Old Geelong	21st Aug 1976	8
	Andrew Grant	vs	Banyule	24th Aug 1996	8
	Jarrold Bradley	vs	St Kevins	19th April 1997	8
	Andrew Grant	vs	St Kilda/Sth Caul	19th July 1997	8
	Trent Zantuck	vs	Old Essendon	25th April 2009	8
	Drewe Bellmaine	vs	Brunswick	1st May 1976	7
	Andrew Grant	vs	MHSOB	27th April 1996	7

GOALKICKING RECORDS					
MATCH	PLAYER	VS		DATE	
	Shane Douglas	vs	Ivanhoe	9th August 1997	7
	Hayden Bickett	vs	North CBCOB	24th April 1999	7
	Matthew Talbot	vs	MHSOB	19th June 1999	7
	Brian Scott	vs	Hampton Rovers	12th July 2003	7
				28th August	
	Brian Scott	vs	North CBCOB	2004	7
	Andre Salem	vs	Caulfield Grammar	30th April 2005	7
	James Salem	vs	Old Scotch	12th April 2008	7
	Drewe Bellmaine	vs	Brunswick	3rd July 1976	7
	Drewe Bellmaine	vs	State Bank	16th April 1977	7
	Michael Rossiter	vs	St Patricks	29th July 1972	7
	Ian Mullett	vs	Latrobe Blacks	2nd July 1977	7
	Peter Latzer	vs	Old Geelong	29th April 1978	7
	Barry Hamilton	vs	Old Paradians	18th July 1981	7
	Mathew Allen	vs	St Kilda — Sth Caulfield	20th May 1995	7
Under 19:	Brian Grandin	vs	Alphington	17th July 1971	18
	Geoff Larkin	vs	Old Paradians	20th April 1974	12
	John Trotter	vs	Brunswick	17th June 1972	12
	David Wilson	vs	National Bank	28th June 1969	12
	Tim Clark	vs	St Kevins	21st Aug 1982	11
	Cameron Knight	vs	Old Caulfield	3rd June 1989	11
	Peter Swanell	vs	Old Ivanhoe	25th April 1992	11
	Craig Stevens	vs	St Pius	10th May 1980	10
	Peter Goetz	vs	Parkside	16th May 1980	10
	John Hillier	vs	De La Salle	23rd June 1984	10
	John Hillier	vs	St Kilda CBC	14th July 1984	10
	Cameron Knight	vs	Therry	27th May 1989	10
	Richard Oakley	vs	Hampton Rovers	26th June 1993	10
Warriors:	Peter Miller	vs	Old Xaverians	4th May 1985	10
	John Hill	vs	Therry	1st May 1982	8
	John Hill	vs	Old Caulfield	15th May 1982	8

MOST GOALS — SEASON				
TEAM	PLAYER	GAMES	SEASON	GOALS
Seniors:	John Priestley	20 games	1980	117 goals
Reserves:	Drewe Bellmaine	14 games	1977	64 goals
Under 19:	Cameron Knight	18 games	1989	93 goals
Warriors:	Leigh Bowes	18 games	1987	72 goals

MOST GOALS — CAREER				
TEAM	PLAYER	GAMES	SEASON	GOALS
Seniors:	John Priestley	126 games	1975 – 1983	508 goals (+ 7 Reserves)
Reserves:	Drewe Bellmaine	100 games	1974 – 1988	208 goals (+ 12 Senior)
Under 19:	Peter Goetz	35 games	1980 – 1981	128 goals
Combined:	Barry Hamilton	267 games	1969 – 1987	429 goals

NB: John Priestley kicked 26 goals in 7 State games including 10 vs West Aust in 1981

His 1980 season tally of 117 goals was scored in the following sequence:

5 5 3 10 9 10 8 9 3 5 6 2 2 6 3 8 7 7 3 6 = 117 goals.

CLUB CAPTAINS & COACHES						
YEAR	CLUB CAPTAINS			CLUB COACHES		
	SENIORS	RESERVES	UNDER 19	SENIORS	RESERVES	UNDER 19
1957	B Robinson			W Fitzgerald		
1958	R McLellan			H Webber		
1959	R McLellan			H Berry		
1960	D Ridley			H Berry	G Jeffery	
1961	D Ridley	P Cooper		G Jeffery	G Kelly	
1962	P Kellaway	P Cooper		G Jeffery	G Kelly	
1963	D Ridley	P Cooper		G Jeffery	G Kelly	
1964	B Pryor	P Cooper		G Jeffery	B Robinson	
1965	B Pryor	R Wilson	P Cooper	G Jeffery	B Robinson	D Cameron
1966	R McLellan	G Tozer	R Thomas	G Jeffery	B Robinson	D Cameron
1967	P Sedgwick	C Larcombe	R Pitcher	R Harper	B Robinson	P Kellaway
1968	P Sedgwick	R Wilson	D van Woerden	R Harper	R Wilson	W Faul
1969	P Sedgwick	R Wilson	M Swain	R Harper	R Wilson	W Faul
1970	P Sedgwick	R Wilson	R Eastgate	K Deer	R Wilson	W Faul
1971	P Sedgwick	M Wood	J Levvey	R McLellan	R Wilson	W Faul
1972	R Thomas	M Wood	M Castle	R McLellan	K Kendall	J Forster
1973	R Thomas	A Dick	T Shepherd	R McLellan	K Kendall	J Forster
1974	R Thomas	P Wood	J Tapp	W McGrory	W McGrory	M Rossiter
1975	R Thomas	P Wood		W McGrory	P Wood	—
1976	I Currie	G Templeton		W McGrory	G Templeton	—
1977	I Paroissien	D Bellmaine		W McGrory	G Templeton	—
1978	G Jones	B Gartner		W McGrory	P Meyer	—
1979	P Murphy	A Mullett	S Laughlin	P Murphy	A Mullett	M Louis
1980	R Browne	A Mullett	G Wood	R Browne	A Mullett	M Louis
1981	R Browne	A Mullett	S Redman	R Browne	A Mullett	M Louis
1982	D Shepherd	B Hamilton	A Welsh	A Mullett	B Hamilton	P Johnson
1983	P Grant	B McBriar	S Kay	R Browne	B McBriar	A Komp
1984	P Grant	R Cowling	S Murray	G Tootell	A Komp	M Swain
1985	P Grant	R Cowling	A McLennan	G Tootell	P Burns	M Swain

CLUB CAPTAINS & COACHES						
	CLUB CAPTAINS			CLUB COACHES		
YEAR	SENIORS	RESERVES	UNDER 19	SENIORS	RESERVES	UNDER 19
1986	P Grant	R Cowling	T Branson	M Sarau	R Cowling	D Neal
1987	M Sarau	J McKenzie	M Osborne	M Sarau	J McKenzie	R Draper
1988	C Lade	J McKenzie	T Sunderman	M Sarau	W Marshall	R Draper
1989	C Lade	J Bennett	J Lade	M Sarau	J Bennett	M Swain
1990	C Lade	R Brown	M Talbot	M Sarau	J Bennett	M Swain
1991	C Lade	R Brown	J Farrer	M Parker	S Young	M Swain
1992	A Pryor	R Brown	P Murphy	M Parker	S Young	M Hill
1993	A Pryor	M McLennan	T Farrer	M Parker	S Young	M Hill
1994	M Hendrie	D Moreton	N Winter	R Barnes	S Barnes	L Bowes
1995	N W Perry	S Murray	G Billionis	S Young	D Rawlings	L Bowes
1996	N W Perry	M McLennan		S R Young	R Brown	L Bowes
1997	N W Perry	S Murray		D W Tapping	S Barnes	L Bowes
1998	N W Perry	P McMahan		D W Tapping	S Barnes	L Bowes
1999	S M William	P McMahan		D W Tapping	B Berry	R Brown
2000	S M William	M Talboit		D W Tapping	B Berry	R Brown
2001	S M William	M Billionis		D W Tapping	R Obee	B Berry
2002	S M William	C Stewart		S Glascott	P Dwyer	R Obee
2003	S M William	C McNicol		J O'Neill	H Bickett	A McConnell
2004	S M William	C McNicol	J Edge	J O'Neill	H Bickett	L Stewart
2005	P Phelan	C McNicol		G McLoughlin	N W Perry	J Lyttleton
2006	P Phelan	C McNicol		G McLoughlin	J Coy	J Lyttleton
2007	P Phelan	C McNicol		G McLoughlin	J Coy	S Young
2008	J Perrett L Hendra	C McNicol	J Davis	G McLoughlin	J Coy	S Young
2009	L Hendra/ J Berrett M Ainley	J Edge	J Pickering	G McLoughlin	S Williams	T Buntz
2010	A Edge/ J Perrett	M Browning	T Mariani	P McCormack	R Stewart	A Pirrie
2011	J Perrett/ A Edge	Scott Cramey	No Nomination	P McCormack	R Stewart	A Pirrie
2012	A Edge/ J Perrett	Scott Cramey	M Pascoe D Verney	S Williams	R Stewart	A Pirrie
2013	J Perrett/ A Edge	Cal Nicholls	O Cavallaro/ L Healey	S Williams	R Stewart	R Joseph
2014	Marcel Bruin/ J Perrett	Brendan Blatt	Jackson Bilu	S Williams	R Stewart	R Joseph

CLUB RESULTS									
Year	Grade	Seniors				Reserves			
		W	L	D	Finish	W	L	D	Finish
1957	E	11	7	—	5th			—	
1958	E	9	9	1	4th				
1959	E	15	3	—	2nd				
1960	D	11	8	—	4th	6	10	—	10th
1961	D	13	6	—	4th	1	16	1	10th
1962	D	9	9	1	4th	6	10	—	6th
1963	D	10	7	1	5th	13	5	—	3rd
1964	D	15	5	—	2nd	8	10	—	5th
1965	C	5	12	1	8th	2	16	—	10th
1966	C	9	8	1	5th	9	10	—	4th
1967	C	11	8	—	4th	7	11	—	7th
1968	C	7	11	—	6th	4	14	—	9th
1969	C	5	13	—	10th	3	15	—	10th
1970	D	8	9	1	7th	12	6	—	6th
1971	D	5	13	—	8th	6	12	—	8th
1972	D	16	4	—	2nd	12	6	—	5th
1973	C	10	8	—	5th	9	9	—	6th
1974	C	9	9	—	6th	11	7	—	5th
1975	C	5	13	—	9th	8	10	—	7th
1976	D	8	10	—	6th	16	3	1	1st
1977	D	15	5	1	1st	15	6	—	2nd
1978	C	9	9	—	5th	17	4	1	1st
1979	C	14	6	—	3rd	10	8	—	5th
1980	C	18	2	—	1st	7	11	—	6th
1981	B	9	9	—	6th	10	8	—	7th
1982	B	4	14	—	10th	5	13	—	9th
1983	C	5	13	—	9th	7	10	1	7th
1984	C	15	6	—	2nd	14	7	—	2nd
1985	B	7	11	—	8th	4	14	—	9th
1986	B	5	13	—	9th	3	15	—	10th
1987	C	11	7	—	5th	2	16	—	10th
1988	C	14	7	—	2nd	2	16	—	10th
1989	B	13	6	1	3rd	4	14	—	8th
1990	B	8	10	—	7th	5	13	—	8th
1991	B	7	11	—	8th	4	14	—	9th
1992	B	15	5	—	2nd	17	3	1	1st
1993	A	6	12	—	9th	8	10	—	7th
1994	B	8	10	—	6h	13	7	—	3rd
1995	B								
1996	B	11	7	—	3rd	16	1	1	1st

1997	B	14	4	—	1st	13	5	—	1st
1998	A	4	13	—	9th	13	15	—	9th
1999	B	10	8	—	4th	15	3		1st
2000	B	16	2	—	2nd	11	7		1st
2001	A	2	14	2	10th	6	12	—	8th
2002	B	8	10	—	6th	5	13	—	7th
2003	B	12	6	—	4th	13	5	—	1st
2004	B	10	8	—	5th	10	8	—	4th
2005	B	13	5	—	3rd	4	13	1	8th
2006	B	14	3	1	2nd	14	4	—	3rd
2007	A	13	4	1	2nd	16	2	—	2nd
2008	A	11	7	—	5th	11	7	—	3rd
TOTALS		512	419	12		417	434	7	

CLUB RESULTS									
	Under 19					Club 18			
Year	W	L	D	Finish	Grade	W	L	D	Finish
1957				—					
1958									
1959									
1960			—						
1961			—						
1962			—						
1963			—						
1964			—						
1965	13	6	—	4th					
1966	7	9	—	7th					
1967	7	11	—	8th					
1968	8	10	—	5th					
1969	5	11	—	9th					
1970	9	9	—	6th					
1971	6	12	—	8th					
1972	9	7	—	5th					
1973	8	9	—	6th					
1974	3	12	—	8th					
1975			—						
1976			—						
1977			—						
1978			—						
1979	10	8	—	4th					
1980	13	5	—	5th					
1981	19	1	—	1st					
1982	9	9	—	6th					

1983	12	7	—	4th					
1984	7	8	—	5th					
1985	4	14	—	12th					
1986	5	13	—	8th					
1987	4	14	—	10th					
1988	16	5	—	2nd					
1989	17	3	—	3rd					
1990	7	10	1	7th					
1991	6	12	—	8th					
1992	13	5	—	5th					
1993	15	5	—	3rd					
1994	13	6	—	4th					
1995					South	3	11	1	9th
1996	13	5	—	1st	South	10	5	—	4th
1997	8	10	—	7th	Club 18 (1)	12	3	—	2nd
1998	11	7	—	4th	Club 18 (1)	10	4	1	4th
1999	7	11	—	5th	Club 18 (1)	9	6	—	3rd
2000	14	4	—	3rd	Club 18 (1)	3	10	—	8th
2001	12	6	—	5th	Club 18 (1)	3	12	—	9th
2002	12	6	—	1st	South	7	8	—	4th
2003	2	14	2	9th	South	9	5	—	2nd
2004	4	14	—	9th	Club 18 (1)	5	8	—	6th
2005	3	15	—	10th	Club 18 (1)	3	12	—	9th
2006	9	9	—	5th	Club 18 (2)	4	11	—	8th
2007	13	5	—	2nd	Club 18 (2)	8	7	—	6th
2008	11	7	—	5th	Club 18 (2)	7	8	—	6th
TOTALS	364	334	3			93	110	2	

FINALS APPEARANCES

TOTAL CLUB RESULTS (Not including Club 18)	
Won	1420
Lost	1337
Drawn	25

SENIORS		RESERVES		UNDER 19		CLUB 18		
Premiers	3	Premiers	8	Premiers	3	Premiers	1	(1983)
Runners-up	9	Runners-up	3	Runners-Up	2	Runners-Up	2	
3rd	4	3rd	3	3rd	3	3rd	1	
4th	7	4th	1	4th	5	4th	3	
Total Top 4 Places	22		15		13		7	

SEASONS IN GRADE RECORD SCORES (As at end of season 2008)	
A	5
B	19
C	15
D	10
E	3
52 SEASONS	

SENIORS:	Old Brighton		National Bank		
14th Aug 1976 at Beach Oval D Grade	33 20 218	def	4 7 31		
	Goals: J Priestley 10 R Thomas 7 B Hamilton 3 K Holmes 3 B McClure 3 G Jones 2 P Simon 2 A Gedye 1 M Riddell 1 P Walsh 1				
RESERVES:	Old Brighton		National Bank		
18th May 1974 at Beach Oval C Reserve	29 21 195	def	2 4 16		
	Goals: B Hamilton 6 G Larkin 6 G Notman 6 J Trotter 3 R Smith 3 K Burnell 2 M Riddell 1 G Templeton 1 D Wood 1				
UNDER 19:	Old Brighton		North Brunswick		
11 April 1981 at Beach Oval U/19 Section 3	44 27 291	def	3 3 21		
	Goals: P Goetz 9 C Stevens 8 D Cochrane 7 R Fernando 4 S Redman 4 J Raper 3 A Grant 2 M Hall 2 C James 2 A Welsh 2 P Jewell 1				
WARRIORS:	Old Brighton		Power House		
23 April 1983 at Beach Oval H Grade	29 13 187	def	4 8 32		

STATE REPRESENTATIVES					
YEAR	PLAYER	YEAR	PLAYER	YEAR	PLAYER
1932	Roy Snell	1988	Sam O'Connor (U19s)	2002	Simon Lennox
	David Paroissien	(cont)	Mark Fisher (U19s)		Josh Homann (U19s)
1934	Arthur Gibson	1992	Andrew Pryor		Tim Marshall (U19s)
1939	Geoff Waring	1993	Andrew Pryor		Matthew Ryan (U19s)
1978	David Shepherd	1994	Andrew Pryor		Nick Williams (U19s)
	John Priestley		Nick Winter (U19s)	2003	Andrew MacGillivray
1979	John Priestley	1995	Andrew Pryor		Jon Perrett (U19s)
1980	John Priestley		Cameron Templeton	2004	Leigh Hendra

STATE REPRESENTATIVES					
YEAR	PLAYER	YEAR	PLAYER	YEAR	PLAYER
	Tony Gedye	1996	Andrew Pryor	2005	Leigh Hendra
1981	Tony Gedye	1997	Andrew Pryor	2006	Leigh Hendra
	John Priestley		Matthew Dennis (U19s)	2007	Leigh Hendra
	Gary Jones	1998	Matthew Jackson		David Clark
1983	Peter Grant	1999	Matthew Jackson		Marcel Bruin
	Andrew Grant (U18s)		Simon Lennox		Nick Marston
1984	Peter Grant		Matt Gadsden (U19)		Andrew McGuinness
	John Clarkson	2000	Matthew Dennis		Dan Anthony
			Matthew Jackson		Tom Jakobi
	David Wittey (U18s)		Simon Lennox		Luke Mann
1986	Adam Gillon (U18s)		Matthew Gadsden (U19s)		Adam Pirrie
1987	Adam Gillon (U18s)	2001	Simon Lennox		Leigh Hendra (Captain)
	Andrew Pryor (U18s)		Matthew Jackson		Andrew McGuinness
1988	Peter Grant		Josh Homann (U19s)	2008	Nick Marston
	Cameron Lade		Nick Williams (U19s)		Scott Olliver
	Paul Woff				

V A F A SECTION BEST AND FAIREST WINNERS		
YEAR	PLAYER	GRADE
1932	David Paroissien	D Grade
1958	Robert McLellan	E Grade
1972	Rick Thomas	D Grade
1992	Andrew McLean	U19 South
1994	Richard Oakley	U19 South
1995	Andrew Pryor	B Grade

BEST & FAIREST				
Year	SENIORS		RESERVES	
	Best and Fairest	Runner-up	Best and Fairest	Runner-up
1957	R McLellan / D Ridley	B Mulligan		
1958	R McLellan	B Morris		
1959	D Ridley	D Sedgwick		
1960	K Peachey	B Mulligan		

BEST & FAIREST				
	SENIORS		RESERVES	
Year	Best and Fairest	Runner-up	Best and Fairest	Runner-up
1961	P Kellaway	B Morris		
1962	R McLellan	B Morris	G Tozer	D Wood
1963	D Pullman	G Templeton	L Westerman	D Brice
1964	R McLellan	J Berry	R Wilson	G Tozer and B Stewart
1965	J Devine	J Spence	C Taylor	N Smith
1966	D Wood	J Berry	V Stewart	R Wilson
1967	B Morris	R Thomas	W Comper	C Larcombe
1968	D Agar	R Thomas	M Wood	W Comper
1969	J Berry	I Dalton	R Wilson	C Taylor
1970	J Berry	T Smith	M Wood	G Finlayson
1971	I Paroissien	J Devine/ D Myers	M Wood	R Huggins
1972	R Thomas	P Watkins	A Dick	D Wood
1973	J Kemp	A Mullett	B Hamilton	R Smith
1974	R Thomas	I Mullett	I Edmondson	J Rose
1975	P Walsh	J Levvey	O Millis	G Levvey
1976	R Thomas	G Jones	M Hunt	D Warnock
1977	D Warnock	M Epstein	B Gartner	I Mullett
1978	D Shepherd	J Priestley	P Wagner	B Gartner
1979	D Warnock	B McClure	R Cowling	I Mullett
1980	A Gedye	J Priestley	J Tapp	P Wagner
1981	D Shepherd	P King	I Mullett	B Hamilton
1982	M Leske	B Cornwell	B Hamilton	A Cameron
1983	P Grant	G Bennett	B Hamilton	M Campi
1984	P Grant	A Grant	R Cowling	A Komp
1985	A Grant	T Grant	O Millis	R Jones
1986	C Lade	T Grant	S Timms	O Millis
1987	P Woff	M McLennan	P Latzer	J McKenzie
1988	A Grant	M Barber	M Osborne	D Smyth
1989	C Lade	M Barber	M McLennan	J Tregaskis
1990	M Barber	C Lade	P Latzer	A Gale
1991	A Pryor	N Perry	M McLennan	J Bennett
1992	A Pryor	M Reid	M McLennan	N Timms
1993	C Brook	N Perry	L Fildes	A Cooper
1994	M Reid	A Pryor	D Atkin	A Grant
1995	A Pryor	B Pollock	R Harrison	
1996	S Lennox	A Pryor	A Grant	
1997	M Reid	S Mikas & A Fitzgerald	P Woff	
1998	A Pryor	S Lennox		

BEST & FAIREST				
	SENIORS		RESERVES	
Year	Best and Fairest	Runner-up	Best and Fairest	Runner-up
1999	M Jackson			
2000	M Jackson and P Phelan			
2001	M Reid		M Smith	
2002	R Stewart		C McNicol	
2003	J Perrett		T Matessi	
2004	L Hendra		M L Smith	
2005	L Hendra		C Reddin	
2006	P Phelan		R Stewart	
2007	M Ainley		J Salem	
2008	J Perrett		L Warren and R Stewart	
2009	M Gadsden		Trent Zantuck	
2010	S Olliver		Lachie Nash	
2011	N Marston		Tom Clarke	
2012	J Perrett		Will Bardoel	
2013	M Bruin		Cal Nicholls	
2014	M Bruin			

BEST AND FAIREST		
YEAR	UNDER 19	CLUB 18
1965	C Heseltine	
1966	R Thomas	
1967	D Van Woerden	
1968	B Templeton	
1969	O Millis	
1970	M Powell	
1971	J Levvey	
1972	I Gutteridge	
1973	J Downie	
1974	M Hunt	
1979	D Nicholson	
1980	M McLennan	
1981	P Goetz	
1982	R Ellison	
1983	S Kay	
1984	T Hoar	
1985	A Green	
1986	M Osborne	
1987	J Styles	
1988	R Stevenson	
1989	J Lade	
1990	M Talbot/A Rickarby	

BEST AND FAIREST		
YEAR	UNDER 19	CLUB 18
1991	J Pyers	
1992	J Farrer	
1993	R Robinson	
1994	R Oakley	
1995	J Murch	
1996	R Kent/S Alderson	
1997	S Alderson	
1998	L O'Neill	
1999	T McLaughlin	
2000	B Williams	
2001	J Mead	
2002	L Dale	
2003	B Gadsden	
2004	A Triggear	
2005	S Olliver	
2006	J Sest	
2007	M Bannar-Martin	
2008	L Nash	
2009	T Tickell	
2010	B Austen	
2011	C Nicholls	
2012	L Healey/D Verney	
2013	Dane Robinson	

OBGFC 2014 B&F Trophy Winners

1st XVIII

Best & Fairest — Marcel Bruin

Runner Up — Leigh Hendra

3rd — Luke Healy

Best 1st year player — Charlie King

Most Improved — Luke Healy

Most Courageous — David Fallon

Rising Star — Dylan Verney

Coach's Award — Tom Skewes

Leading Goal Kicker — Dan Anthony

Club Captains — Marcel Bruin, Jon Perrett

2nd XVIII

Best & Fairest — Jonathon Edge, Zack Alcott, Alexander Gunning

Runner Up — Stuart Hooy

3rd — Jordan Pascoe & Jack Davis

Most Improved — Sebastian Zaia

Coach's Award — Michael Tregear

Captain — Brendan Blatt

3rd XVIII

Best & Fairest — Luke Buntz

Runner Up — Ryan Eastgate

3rd — Stuart Conlon, Charlie Betts, Zack Wilson

Most Courageous — Nick Materia

Most Improved — Robert Baines

Coach's Award — Ben Trivet

Under 19s

Best & Fairest — Jack Rutter

Runner Up — Dane Robinson

3rd — Jack Cowling

Coach's Award — George Kimpton-Moss & Adam Andrews

Dalziell Club — Tom Fisher

Leading Goal Kicker — Jack Rutter

Captain — Jackson Bilu

Club Games Record Holder

For mention of other equally worthy long term playing records, see Stuart Murray's superb article contributed by David Cochrane.

PETER ERIC LATZER

Researched earlier by Drew Bellmaine.

YEAR	GAMES	GOALS
1971	13	4
1972	12	7
1973	16	2
1974	15	0
1975	16	7
1976	10	3
1977	15	12

YEAR	GAMES	GOALS
1978	22	39
1979	13	24
1980	16	16
1981	10	1
1982	18	12
1983	18	2
1984	16	8
1985	17	4
1986	16	4
1987	17	4
1988	15	1
1989	17	1
1990	17	3
1991	17	0
1992	17	0
1993	2	2
23 Seasons	345 Games	156 Goals

1976	D Reserve Premiership
1978	C Reserve Premiership
1978	C Reserve Top Goal kicker
1978	OBGFC Reserves Top Goal kicker
1979	OBGFC Rservices Top Goal kicker
1987	Reserves Best and Fairest
1990	Reserves Best and Fairest
<p>NB: June 17th 1978 C Reserve Section Old Brighton 6 6 42 Defeated Old Carey 4 6 30 Goals: P Latzer 6!!!</p>	

DID YOU KNOW?

Club luncheons are held at our club rooms on the occasion of senior home games and can be held also prior to Under 19 games at home.

OLD BRIGHTONIANS 1932 – 1939											
Year	Captain	V Captain	Coach	Best & Fairest	Top Goal Kicker	Grade	W	L	D	Position	
1932	D Paroissien	L Cock	R Harper	L Cock	S Rowell	D	7	11	—	7	
1933	D Paroissien	A Gibson	R Harper	N Fairway	N Waring	D	9	7	—	5	
1934	D Paroissien	A Gibson	R Harper	D Paroissien	N Waring	D	10	9	—	4	
1935	D Paroissien	N Fairway	F Turnbull	H Ellis	L Purse	D	14	5	—	3	
1936	D Paroissien	N Fairway	F Turnbull	D Paroissien	N Waring	D	13	5	1	3	
1937	D Paroissien	N Fairway	F Turnbull	D Paroissien	H Gaunt	D	6	12	—	9	
1938	D Paroissien	N Fairway	F Turnbull	C Waring	H Gaunt	D	7	11	—	7	
1939	G Waring	L Cock N Walsh	W Fitzgerald	A Pollard	H Gaunt	D	5	13	—	7	
					Played 145		71	73	1	1	

At the start of 1936 season Games Played (As per 23rd May 1936 Vol 4 Page 30 Amateur Record)

Harry Ellis	73	Donald Donaldson	63
Lyn Cock	72	Noel Fairway	62
David Paroissien	66	Nick Walsh	58
Jim Saunders	66	Angus Robertson	50
Arthur Gibson	59	Noel Fairway	53
Pat Ferrano	50		

PLAYERS WITH 100 GOALS CAREER (Up to and including season 2008)			
Name		Games	Goals
John Priestley	1975 – 1983	126	515
Barry Hamilton	1969 – 1987	267	429
David Cochrane	1981	354	396
James Murch	1994	131	355
James Agar	1965 – 1978	151	311
Andrew Grant	1983 – 1994	185	308
Andrew Pryor	1986 –	230	278
Barry Pryor	1959 – 1966	126	262
Gary Jones	1974 – 1984	172	261
Matthew Talbot	1989 –	220	250
Stuart Murray	1982 –	209	222
Drewe Bellmaine	1974 – 1988	100	220
Graeme Templeton	1961 – 1978	251	218
Nick Perry	1990 –	222	212
Adam Pirrie	1998 –	118	208
Matthew Jackson	1997 –	96	204
Noel Waring	1933 – 1936	70	198
Jarrold Bradley	1995 –	64	200
Matthew Allen	1987 –	170	199
Malcolm Shippen	1989 –	88	195
Geoff Hosie	1962 – 1971	97	188
Doug Ridley	1957 – 1963	135	188
Tom Hayden	1990 – 1993	62	188
Peter Grant	1978 – 1993	156	182
Adam McLachlan	1990 –	181	183
Brian Mulligan	1957 – 1965	111	174
Owen Millis	1969 – 1991	340	170
Peter Latzer	1971 – 1993	350	156
Mark Riddell	1972 – 1979	102	155
Adam Ginnivan	1998 –	148	154
Harry Gaunt	1937 – 1939	54	153

PLAYERS WITH 100 GOALS CAREER			
(Up to and including season 2008)			
Bryan Templeton	1968 – 1983	89	150
Liam O'Neill	1997	126	150
Cameron Knight	1989 – 1990	34	145
Michael Waddington	1985 – 1992	72	141
Bruce McBriar	1967 – 1983	166	135
Tony Grant	1980 – 1990	169	135
Peter Goetz	1980 – 1981	36	133
Peter Watkins	1969 – 1976	121	133
Andrew McGillivray	2000 –	71	130
Simon Lennox	1992	177	128
Brian Scott	2001 –	74	123
John Trotter	1971 – 1979	111	122
Bruce McLure	1976 – 1981	100	122
James Ryan	1988 –	79	122
Hayden Bicket	1994 –	123	122
Gary Wood	1979 – 1988	127	120
Andre Salem	2001 –	68	120
Name		Games	Goals
Craig Stevens	1980 – 1981	33	118
Michael Wood	1965 – 1973	138	118
Ossie Spence	1963 – 1968	106	117
John Levvey	1970 – 1983	204	117
David Smythe	1982 –	154	117
Richard Wakeham	1974 – 1984	65	116
Brian Grandin	1970 – 1972	33	115
Martin Hunt	1973 – 1986	108	112
David Wittey	1983 – 1984	32	108
Warwick Earl	1997 –	86	105
John Boucher	1958 – 1962	65	104
Marcus Barber	1988 –	149	101
Robert Kent	1996 –	116	101
John Berry	1964 – 1978	154	100
Jim Kemp	1971 – 1983	181	100
Geoff Earl	1997 –	95	100



Since 1957 the women at our club, who are mainly mums, wives or girlfriends of current or ex-players, undeniably have made a very significant contribution to its success. Their presence about our club alters and enhances the tone of the club in so many beneficial ways.

Club Song

*It's a Grand Old Flag, it's a high flying flag
It's the emblem for me and for you
It's the emblem of the team we love
The team of the red and the blue.*

*Every heart beats true for the red and the blue
and we sing this song for you
Should old acquaintance be forgot
Keep your eye on the red and the blue.*



Old Brighton Grammarians Football Club-Life Members as at 2014

LIFE MEMBERS:

NICK D. WALSH 1961	GRAEME C. JEFFERY 1967	KEITH J. ROBINSON 1968	BRUCE ROBINSON [DEC] 1968
DAVID SEDGWICK 1968 – 200 GAMES	GRAEME TEMPLETON 1973 – 200 GAMES	ROGER WILSON 1975 – 200 GAMES	PETER SEDGWICK 1976 – 200 GAMES
BARRY HAMILTON 1980 – 200 GAMES	TOM CULLINAN [DEC] 1981	R. 'BOB' McLELLAN 1981	OWEN MILLIS 1981 – 200 GAMES
IAN MULLETT 1982 – 200 GAMES	RODNEY COWLING 1983 – 200 GAMES	MARK DOBBI 1983 – 200 GAMES	JOHN LEVVEY 1983 – 200 GAMES
PETER LATZER 1984 – 200 GAMES	MICHAEL C. WOOD 1985	MARY EDMONDSON [DEC] 1986	JOHN FORSTER 1986
BARRY GARTNER 1987 – 200 GAMES	ANDREW MULLETT 1989	R. W 'BILL' BROWNE 1990	PETER GRANT 1990
CHRIS 'SYD' JAMES 1992 – 200 GAMES	MATTHEW McLENNAN 1992 – 200 GAMES	DAVID COCHRAN 1993 – 200 GAMES	DOUGLAS DICK 1993
JOHN TROTTER 1993	STUART MURRAY 1996 – 200 GAMES	ANDREW A. PRYOR 1998 – 200 GAMES	MATTHEW TALBOT 2000 – 200 GAMES
ROGER BROWN 2000	HARRY ZACHARIAH [DEC] 2000	ALAN MUNKITTRICK [DEC] 2003	NICK PERRY 2003 – 200 GAMES
DREWE BELLMAINE 2005	SIMON WILLIAMS 2005 – 200 GAMES	ANDREW KRZYWNIAK 2009 – 200 GAMES	MARCUS BARBER 2010
DOUG RIDLEY 2010	SHANE YOUNG 2010	JOSH DICKERSON 2011 – 200 GAMES	ROBERT 'BARDY' DALE 2012
PETER GADSDEN 2012	LEIGH HENDRA 2013 – 200 GAMES	MATTHEW ALLEN 2014	ANDREW EDGE 2014 – 200 GAMES
YVONNE GADSDEN 2014			

Life membership is awarded to those who play at least 200 games. The award is also for service to the Club. Of the 2014 Awards Yvonne Gadsden's award is referred to in the tribute in this book to both her and Peter. Matt Allen who played in the 80s was given the Award for the exceptional service that he has given to the Club having been responsible for Player Registrations for decades.

* 200 games

Sports Medicine Department

The boom in sports medicine and science that has been evident in professional sport has resulted in significant changes in the requirements at the sub-elite level as well. Gone are the days of trainers using heat lamps and rolling pins on a corkie. So too is the idea that if something is sore you should massage it as hard as possible. Players are now monitored in-game, as well as throughout the week, with training and playing loads adjusted accordingly for each individual. Injured players are diagnosed and specific rehabilitation and management plans are put into place for all players. Coaches, players and medical staff are in constant dialogue throughout the season to try and ensure success.

Physiosports Brighton has provided sports medicine support to Old Brighton since 2009. Through this relationship, the club has had access to the Melbourne's premier sports physiotherapists, sports physicians, podiatrists and when required medical imaging and orthopaedic surgeons. With a focus on evidence-based medicine, the Physiosports Brighton team monitors injuries and games missed per year every season and based on this data works with the coaches to reduce the risk to our players. Keeping the playing group healthy is a key to success, as evidenced by the 2013 B grade premiership. As a club, we are striving to gain a competitive advantage over our opponents through best practice sports medicine. As such, implementations of injury prevention strategies in the preseason and return to play protocols in-season have become the norm for the playing group.

Physiosports Brighton also facilitates the placement and education of sports trainers that assist the



*Steve Whytcross (top)
and Micheal McCloskey*

physiotherapists at training and on match day. All the sports trainers are highly qualified, generally being physiotherapy students, having completed the Sports Medicine Australia Trainers course and holding current first aid and CPR qualifications. It is a requirement of the league that at every game played a sports trainer is present to provide first aid and improve the safety for players during the course of a match.

The sports medicine team is an integral part of the Old Brighton Football Club . The evolution of this area of football will continue and Physiosports looks forward to continuing to help our club on its quest for continued Premiership success.

Postscript

(Taken from an article titled 'In Praise of Contact Sports for Kids' in Martin Flanagan's Saturday Reflection.)

'I knew that periodically people got injured playing contact sport. I had a few injuries myself but, beyond the obvious factor of pain, it was not something that bothered me. It was part of this other slightly more dangerous world that was so much more exciting than the one I normally inhabited. And, occasionally on the sports field, I made something happen and there was an excitement in that also, in doing things I had previously only dreamed of doing. Plus there was the camaraderie that came from sharing this adventure with team-mates.'

In 2015 our Club had a redeveloped oval to play on at Brighton Beach with a beautiful new surface. Earlier in August 2014 President Shane Young had announced that the Bayside Council had also agreed to extend the Ground.

Roger Wilson had been communicating with the Mayor on the matter of redeveloping Brighton Beach Oval and was strongly supported by Ross Perrett with his expertise in ground development and turfology. Ross, is father of John Perrett whose exceptional playing record with the Club is well recorded here.



Since 1957, the Club has always endeavoured to maintain a close relationship with Brighton Grammar School. Back in 2014 representatives from the Club have been in discussions with the Headmaster as to ways and means of continuing to attract players from the school to our Club.

When we see such a wonderful achievement as the one illustrated in the photo overleaf, followed up by yet another Premiership in 2015, the Club certainly has great incentive to do all that it can to emphasize the many benefits that a young man derives from being a part of our great Amateur Football Club.



Brighton Grammarians 2014 Premiership



Our new scoreboard under installation.



... and in action.