



# AWARDS, RESULTS & FAREWELLS

The Hawks make it three flags in a row as the AFL bids farewell to some of the game's greats, including Goodes, Judd and Fletcher.

#### KEY TARGET

Josh Kennedy became only the second Eagle to win the Coleman Medal, finishing the home and away season with 75 goals.

In this era of drafts and salary cap, the three-peat was thought to be unattainable. But the powerful Hawthorn unit under the tutelage of coach Alastair Clarkson continues to astound.

In 2015, the Hawks made it three in a row with their demolition of West Coast. Cyril Rioli won the Norm Smith Medal, following in the footsteps of his famous uncles, the late Maurice Rioli and Michael Long, as past winners of the medal.

In winning its 13th flag, Hawthorn sits behind only Carlton, Essendon and Collingwood for AFL/VFL premierships.

Despite not making it to the Grand Final, it was a big year for Fremantle. It produced its first Brownlow medallist, midfielder Nat Fyfe, and took out the McClelland Trophy for the first time.

The Western Bulldogs improved dramatically and the All-Australian selectors recognised the performances of Robert Murphy, Easton Wood and Jake Stringer, with Murphy awarded the accolade of captaining the team.

Footy mourned the tragic death of Adelaide coach Phil Walsh mid-season, causing the abandonment of the Crows' round 14 fixture against Geelong.

After breaking the long-standing record of Collingwood legend Jock McHale for most games coached, Mick Malthouse lasted only three more matches before losing his job at Carlton and a similar fate befell Essendon's James Hird later in the season.

The game farewelled several big names, notably dual Brownlow medallists Adam Goodes and Chris Judd and Bombers games record-holder Dustin Fletcher. →





THE PREMIERS

In keeping with the title of the book detailing the club's official history, Hawthorn did it the hard way in 2015 to win its third consecutive premiership.

After being soundly beaten by West Coast in the second qualifying final at Domain Stadium, the Hawks had to overcome the in-form Crows in the second semi-final and return to Perth to defeat the Dockers, becoming the first Victorian team to win an interstate preliminary final.

There were other hurdles along the way – Jarryd Roughead having a melanoma removed from his lip in July and dealing with the tragic death of assistant coach Brett Ratten's son, Cooper, in a car accident in August. But the Hawks' esprit de corps enabled them to triumph in the hottest Grand Final on record, with the temperature hitting 31.3 degrees.

Before Hawthorn's remarkable run, the three-peat had been achieved on only five occasions. Melbourne did it twice (1939-41 and 1955-57) and Carlton (1906-08), Collingwood (1927-30) and the Brisbane Lions (2001-03) also accomplished the feat.

Despite conceding the opening goal of the game to Luke Shuey, the Hawks were rarely challenged, with the Eagles letting themselves down by a lack of composure and poor finishing in front of goal.

Cyril Rioli sparked Hawthorn in the first quarter, booting two of its first three goals and setting up an easy one for Bradley Hill. He finished with 18 disposals, 12 marks and four goal assists to be a worthy Norm Smith medallist.

Sam Mitchell was unlucky not to snare the medal in another sublime display and, in his first Grand Final, James Frawley did an excellent job to keep Coleman medallist Josh Kennedy goalless.

The 2013 Norm Smith medallist Brian Lake, in what was his final AFL game after announcing his retirement post-season, was a constant stumbling block for the Eagles. While the result was already well and truly decided, Lake was involved in one of the game's most memorable moments when he stopped a certain goal by Josh Hill with a desperate smother early in the final quarter.

Skipper Luke Hodge's banana goal off one step from the boundary line early in the second term was another highlight.



2015 TOYOTA AFL GRAND FINAL

HAWTHORN	5.0	9.3	14.5	16.11 (107)
WEST COAST EAGLES	1.5	3.8	5.9	8.13 (61)

**BEST:** Hawthorn – Rioli, Mitchell, Smith, Hodge, Gunston, Burgoyne, Frawley. West Coast Eagles – Gaff, Shuey, Butler, Hutchings, Priddis.

**GOALS:** Hawthorn – Gunston 4, Smith 3, Rioli 2, Hodge, Roughead, Birchall, Schoenmakers, Hill, McEvoy, Suckling. West Coast Eagles – McGovern 2, Darling, Hill, Hutchings, LeCras, Shuey, Yeo.

**Umpires:** J. Dalgleish, B. Rosebury, M. Stevic

**Crowd:** 98,632 at the MCG

TEAMS AS SELECTED

HAWTHORN v WEST COAST EAGLES

<b>F</b> B	<b>L. Breust</b> S. Wellingham	<b>J. Roughead</b> W. Schofield	<b>P. Puopolo</b> S. Hurn (c)
<b>HF</b> HB	<b>C. Rioli</b> M. Hutchings	<b>R. Schoenmakers</b> J. McGovern	<b>J. Gunston</b> B. Sheppard
<b>C</b> C	<b>B. Hill</b> A. Gaff	<b>S. Mitchell</b> M. Priddis	<b>I. Smith</b> E. Yeo
<b>HB</b> HF	<b>G. Birchall</b> J. Cripps	<b>J. Gibson</b> J. Darling	<b>S. Burgoyne</b> M. LeCras
<b>B</b> F	<b>B. Stratton</b> S. Butler	<b>B. Lake</b> J. Kennedy	<b>J. Frawley</b> J. Hill
<b>Foll</b> Foll	<b>D. Hale</b> N. Naitanui	<b>J. Lewis</b> C. Masten	<b>L. Hodge (c)</b> L. Shuey
<b>I/C</b> <b>Em</b> <b>Coach</b>	<b>T. Duryea, B. McEvoy, L. Shiels, M. Suckling (sub)</b> <b>J. Ceglar, A. Litherland, B. Hartung</b> <b>Alastair Clarkson</b>		
<b>I/C</b> <b>Em</b> <b>Coach</b>	X. Ellis, D. Sheed, C. Sinclair, M. Rosa (sub) P. McGinness, S. Selwood, S. Lycett Adam Simpson		



NORM SMITH MEDAL



Winning the Norm Smith Medal runs in the family for Hawthorn star Cyril Rioli.

Two of his uncles, the late Maurice Rioli and Michael Long, were previous winners. Former Tiger Rioli took it out in 1982 and ex-Bomber Long in 1993.

The Hawk polled 13 of a possible 15 votes, finishing four ahead of teammate Sam Mitchell.

Defender James Frawley, who kept Coleman medallist Josh Kennedy goalless, was third with four votes.

The triumph on Grand Final day capped a superb season for Rioli, who was named All-Australian for the second time.

He was presented with his award by dual Norm Smith medallist and former Adelaide star Andrew McLeod.

Clearly the crowd favourite for the medal, Rioli dedicated it to his cousin Fabian 'Brocky' Brock, who was killed halfway through the season.

Rioli kick-started the Hawks' third consecutive Grand Final win with a brilliant first quarter, booting his team's first goal with a left-foot snap after four minutes and following it up with his second eight minutes later. He then set up Bradley Hill for an easy goal late in the term.

Rioli finished with 18 disposals, 12 marks (five inside 50), four goal assists, three inside 50s, two tackles and two goals.

NORM SMITH MEDAL VOTING

PLAYER	CLUB	VOTES
Cyril Rioli	Hawthorn	13 (3, 2, 2, 3, 3)
Sam Mitchell	Hawthorn	9 (2, 3, 3, 1)
James Frawley	Hawthorn	4 (1, 2, 1)
Luke Hodge	Hawthorn	2 (2)
Isaac Smith	Hawthorn	1 (1)
Shaun Burgoyne	Hawthorn	1 (1)
<b>Judges:</b> Peter Bell, (6PR, chairman), Dermott Brereton (SEN 1116), Mark Thompson (3AW), Guy McKenna (ABC), Peter Lalor ( <i>The Australian</i> )		



JOCK McHALE MEDAL



After securing his fourth premiership in eight seasons, Alastair Clarkson became the most successful coach in Hawthorn's history. Clarkson moved ahead of legendary mentors John Kennedy snr and Allan Jeans, who won three apiece with the Hawks.

He joined a select group with four flags as a coach – Jeans (one with St Kilda), Ron Barassi, David Parkin, Dick Reynolds, Tom Hafey, Kevin Sheedy and Leigh Matthews.

Only Jock McHale (eight), Norm Smith (six), Jack Worrall (five) and Frank 'Checker' Hughes (five) have coached more premierships.

In 11 seasons at the helm, Clarkson has evolved and helped shape the modern game. Testament to his influence is that five senior coaches in 2016 – Damien Hardwick (Richmond), Leon Cameron (GWS), Adam Simpson (West Coast), Luke Beveridge (Western Bulldogs) and Brendon Bolton (Carlton) – have worked under him as assistants.

While Clarkson had a health issue that prevented him coaching for five matches in 2014, his 2015 campaign was also far from trouble-free. The coach had a post-game altercation with a fan in Adelaide in April but that was a small hiccup compared with other off-field setbacks he had to cope with.

The tragic death of assistant coach Brett Ratten's son, Cooper, in a car crash in August affected all at the club.

Clarkson then lost the services of Bolton, who won the senior job with the Blues.

After finishing third with a 16-6 record, the Hawks had to make the AFL's toughest road trip to Domain Stadium twice during the finals, losing the first final to West Coast before becoming the first Victorian team to win an interstate preliminary final by defeating Fremantle.

In the lead-up to the Grand Final, Clarkson was forced to make another big call. Jack Gunston returned from injury and was included at the expense of speedy youngster Billy Hartung.

As usual it was handled with a minimum of fuss and proved the right decision as Gunston booted four goals.

When the final siren sounded on Grand Final day, Clarkson moved into an elite group. Now the challenge is to join McHale as the only coaches to achieve the "four-peat" in the AFL/VFL.



MARK & GOAL OF THE YEAR

The 2015 AFL Mark and Goal of the Year occurred on the same weekend in May.

West Coast Eagles ruckman Nic Naitanui won the Weet-Bix Mark of the Year award and Adelaide Crows small forward Eddie Betts took out the Coates Hire Goal of the Year award.

The players were presented with their prizes – \$10,000 thanks to Weet-Bix and Coates Hire – during the Brownlow Medal ceremony.

Betts, who previously won the Goal of the Year award in 2006, earned four weekly nominations in 2015, but it was his effort against Fremantle in round nine in wet conditions under lights at Adelaide Oval that stood out.

Pressed hard against the boundary on the 50m arc, the veteran launched a left-foot torpedo that bounced twice before going through.

The day after Betts' memorable goal, Naitanui took his spectacular mark against Geelong at Domain Stadium.

The Eagles star launched himself on to the shoulders of 200cm ruck partner Callum Sinclair to take the mark in the last quarter. Naitanui then goaled from an acute angle.

The winners were chosen by public voting after the All-Australian selection committee picked the three finalists for marks and goals from the 23 weekly selections.

**FLYING EAGLE**  
West Coast's Nic Naitanui flies high over teammate Callum Sinclair and Geelong's Jared Rivers for his award-winning mark at Domain Stadium.



BROWNLOW MEDAL



Nat Fyfe was a popular winner of the Brownlow Medal, becoming the first Docker to win the award.

The Fremantle midfielder reversed the result from the previous season when he was runner-up to West Coast's Matt Priddis.

Polling 31 votes to win in 2015 was a remarkable effort by the Docker, given he missed four of the last six home and away games because of groin and leg injuries.

Fyfe polled 26 of a possible 30 votes between rounds four and 14. In Fremantle's first 13 games of the season, he averaged 31.5 disposals and kicked 15 goals.

He polled his last votes (two) in round 17 against Richmond to set up an exciting finish and was able to hang on.

Fyfe, the winner of the AFL Players' Association's MVP, finished three votes ahead of Priddis.

Fyfe set one record and equalled another on the way to his historic win. He polled 17 votes in the first eight rounds to surpass Chris Judd's performance in 2010 when he collected 16 votes over the same period.

With nine best-on-grounds, Fyfe equalled the record of 1994 winner Greg Williams for the most three-vote matches in a season.

Fyfe hobbled to the stage to receive his medal from dual winner Gary Ablett, having fractured his left fibula early in the first preliminary final against Hawthorn.

In his acceptance speech, Fyfe captivated the audience at the Palladium at Melbourne's Crown and on TV with his humility and humour. The midfielder returned to a hero's welcome at his hometown of Lake Grace, Western Australia.

BROWNLOW MEDAL

Nat Fyfe (Frem)	31	Patrick Dangerfield (Adel)	22
Matt Priddis (WCE)	28	Dustin Martin (Rich)	21
Sam Mitchell (Haw)	26	David Mundy (Frem)	19
Josh Kennedy (Syd)	25	Callan Ward (GWS)	19
Dan Hannebery (Syd)	24	Todd Goldstein (NM)	18



COLEMAN MEDAL

Josh Kennedy became only the second West Coast Eagle to win the Coleman Medal.

Despite injuring his right elbow in round five against the Giants, Kennedy played through the pain barrier and did not miss a game.

He kicked goals in every game during the home and away season – the only match in which he was goalless was the Grand Final.

Kennedy started the season strongly with a 10-goal haul against Carlton in round two, his best performance for the year.

He booted seven against the Western Bulldogs in round 21 and had six-goal hauls against the Giants in round five and Geelong in round nine.

He kicked five goals in the first two finals to finish the season with 80.55.

The key forward was selected in the All-Australian team for the first time and was named vice-captain.

Scott Cummings is the Eagles' only previous Coleman medallist, booting 88 goals in 1999.

LEADING GOALKICKERS 2015

	HOME AND AWAY			INCLUDING FINALS				
	G	B	Gms	G	B	%	Av.	Gms
Josh Kennedy (WCE)	75	50	22	80	55	59.2	3.2	25
Jeremy Cameron (GWS)	63	37	22	63	37	63	2.9	22
Eddie Betts (Adel)	58	24	21	63	25	71.5	2.7	23
Taylor Walker (Adel)	55	40	21	59	45	56.7	2.6	23
Jake Stringer (WB)	54	30	21	56	32	63.6	2.5	22
Chad Wingard (PA)	53	27	22	53	27	66.2	2.4	22
Jack Gunston (Haw)	52	33	22	57	35	61.9	2.4	24
Josh Bruce (St K)	50	24	22	50	24	67.5	2.3	22
Jack Riewoldt (Rich)	50	30	22	54	30	64.2	2.3	23
Lance Franklin (Syd)	47	17	17	47	17	73.4	2.8	17





VIRGIN AUSTRALIA ALL-AUSTRALIAN TEAM

The Western Bulldogs’ remarkable rise under Luke Beveridge was duly recognised in the 2015 Virgin Australia AFL All-Australian team.

Second-time All-Australian Robert Murphy was named captain and was one of three Bulldogs to be selected in the team. Fellow backman Easton Wood won his first All-Australian selection for his outstanding contribution as an intercept marking defender, while Jake Stringer was another newcomer, his superb season earning him a place in the forward pocket.

VIRGIN AUSTRALIA ALL-AUSTRALIAN TEAM 2015				
B	Heath Shaw GWS Giants	Alex Rance Richmond	Josh Gibson Hawthorn	
HB	Easton Wood Western Bulldogs	Michael Hurley Essendon	Robert Murphy (c) Western Bulldogs	
C	Dan Hannebery Sydney Swans	Matt Priddis West Coast	Andrew Gaff West Coast	
HF	Chad Wingard Port Adelaide	Jack Riewoldt Richmond	Cyril Rioli Hawthorn	
F	Eddie Betts Adelaide	Josh Kennedy (vc) West Coast	Jake Stringer Western Bulldogs	
Foll	Todd Goldstein North Melbourne	Nat Fyfe Fremantle	Patrick Dangerfield Adelaide	
I/C	Sam Mitchell Hawthorn	Brett Deledio Richmond	David Mundy Fremantle	Robbie Gray Port Adelaide
Coach	Alastair Clarkson Hawthorn			
Umpire	Matt Stevic			



Wood and Stringer were among 11 players picked in the All-Australian team for the first time, including 2014 Brownlow medallist Matt Priddis and Eagles teammate Andrew Gaff and defenders Michael Hurley (Essendon), Heath Shaw (Greater Western Sydney) and Josh Gibson (Hawthorn).

Another newcomer was West Coast’s Coleman medallist Josh Kennedy, who was selected at full-forward and named as vice-captain.

At the other end of the ground, Richmond full-back Alex Rance was one of only three players to win back-to-back honours. He was joined by teammates Jack Riewoldt and Brett Deledio.

Port Adelaide’s Robbie Gray was named for the second successive season, with teammate Chad Wingard on a half-forward flank.

Selectors decided to go for only one ruckman, with Kangaroo Todd Goldstein gaining the nod ahead of Eagle Nic Naitanui.

Adelaide’s Patrick Dangerfield was named All-Australian for the third time and teammate Eddie Betts for the first time, while Crows skipper Taylor Walker was unlucky to miss out after being included in the original squad of 40.

Sydney Swan Josh Kennedy was another omission from the initial squad, while teammate Dan Hannebery was selected on a wing.

Hawthorn, Richmond, West Coast and the Bulldogs had the most representatives with three each. Despite finishing on top of the ladder, Fremantle had only two players in the team – Brownlow medallist Nat Fyfe and David Mundy.

South Australian clubs Port Adelaide and Adelaide also had two representatives. Essendon, GWS, North Melbourne and Sydney had one apiece.

The All-Australian selection panel was Gillon McLachlan (chairman), Kevin Bartlett, Luke Darcy, Mark Evans, Danny Fawley, Glen Jakovich, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson and Warren Tredrea.



Wood and Stringer were among 11 players picked in the All-Australian team for the first time



VIRGIN AUSTRALIA INTERNATIONAL RULES



Australia’s slow start proved costly in the Virgin Australia International Rules Series, losing the one-off Test 56-52 at Croke Park in Dublin.

Despite Australia’s second-half comeback, Ireland regained the Cormac McAnallen Trophy.

In an absorbing contest, Australia came within three points with three minutes remaining after trailing by 20 points at half-time.

Inaccuracy in front of goal robbed the Australians of any chance to gain early momentum. The visitors lifted in the second half, restricting Ireland to just three overs after the main break as their defence became more organised.

Ireland captain Bernard Brogan finished with four overs to win the GAA Medal as the home team’s best player, while teammate Aidan O’Shea kicked two goals.

Robbie Gray (three overs) led Australia’s attack and Harry Taylor was awarded the Jim Stynes Medal as the visitors’ best player for a superb display in defence.

After Gray scored the game’s first over, the Irish began to find space and exploit the Australians on the counter-attack.

All four of Brogan’s overs came in the first half while Ireland scored three goals – two of which were after Australian skipper Luke Hodge gave away penalties.

Sam Mitchell was controlling play in the middle while Australia’s small forwards Luke Breust, Eddie Betts and Hayden Ballantyne were dangerous.

At half-time, Australia had only one fewer scoring shot yet Ireland held a significant advantage because of its superior conversion.

In the third quarter, Nick Riewoldt brought the Australians back into the contest with two quick overs.

Andrew Gaff, Patrick Dangerfield and Dyson Heppell were winning the ball through the middle and Hodge played with great intensity as Australia restricted Ireland to only two overs in the term. But a costly turnover in the forward half cost the visitors when they had momentum.

In the frantic final minutes, a video review was required to confirm Betts’ late goal from a goalmouth scramble before Gray’s third over drew Australia within three points.

But Brogan scored a behind in the dying minutes, giving Ireland much-needed breathing space and the final whistle sounded to hand the hosts a hard-fought victory.

Disappointed Australian coach Alastair Clarkson said his team was able to control the ball and put itself into scoring positions but unable to take the chances on offer.

“We just could not convert the opportunities,” Clarkson said.



Harry Taylor was awarded the Jim Stynes Medal as the visitors’ best player for a superb display in defence

TEST AT CROKE PARK, DUBLIN				
IRELAND	1.5.0 (21)	3.8.1 (43)	3.10.2 (50)	3.11.5 (56)
AUSTRALIA	0.4.1 (13)	0.6.5 (23)	0.11.6 (39)	1.13.7 (52)
<b>Ireland:</b> Bernard Brogan (capt), Lee Keegan, Niall Morgan (goalkeeper), Colm Begley, Gary Brennan, Eoin Cadogan, Mattie Donnelly, Eoin Doyle, Peter Harte, Darren Hughes, Paul Kerrigan, Jack McCaffrey, Ciaran McDonald, Phillip McMahon, Conor McManus, Rory O’Carroll, John O’Loughlin, Aidan O’Shea, Michael Quinn, Donnchadh Walsh, Diarmuid Connolly, Paul Cribbin, Paddy McBrearty.				
<b>Australia:</b> Luke Hodge (capt), Dustin Fletcher (goalkeeper), Hayden Ballantyne, Eddie Betts, Grant Birchall, Luke Breust, Patrick Dangerfield, Andrew Gaff, Brendon Goddard, Robbie Gray, Dyson Heppell, Sam Mitchell, Leigh Montagna, David Mundy, Robert Murphy, Nick Riewoldt, Tom Rockliff, Jarryd Roughead, Nick Smith, Jake Stringer, Harry Taylor, Easton Wood.				
<b>BEST:</b> Ireland – O’Shea, Brogan, McManus, Keegan. <b>Australia</b> – Taylor, Mitchell, Breust, Gaff, Heppell, Betts, Riewoldt.				
<b>GOALS (6 points):</b> Ireland – O’Shea 2, McManus. Australia – Betts.				
<b>OVERS (3 points):</b> Ireland – Brogan 4, McManus 3, Connolly, O’Shea, Keegan, Hughes. <b>Australia</b> – Gray 3, Riewoldt 3, Betts 2, Roughead, Ballantyne, Montagna, Mundy, Breust.				
<b>Jim Stynes Medal:</b> Harry Taylor				
<b>Umpires:</b> Mathew Nicholls (Aus), Joe McQuillan (Ire)				
<b>Crowd:</b> 38,387				





**WAY TO GO**  
Skipper Matthew Pavlich, Jonathon Griffin and Chris Mayne celebrate a Fremantle goal against Carlton.

McCLELLAND TROPHY

Fremantle created history in 2015, winning the McClelland Trophy for the first time.

Before last year’s triumph, the closest the Dockers had come to winning the trophy in 20 previous seasons was in 2006 and 2013, finishing third in both years.

Fremantle lost only five games in 2015. Two of those were on its home ground at Domain Stadium – to Richmond by 27 points in round 10 and crosstown rivals West Coast Eagles by 24 points in round 20.

The Dockers made a flying start, winning their first nine matches. Five of these were at Domain Stadium, with the biggest by 73 points over North Melbourne in round eight. Other big wins in this streak were against Geelong at Simonds Stadium in round two (44 points) and Melbourne at the MCG in round five (68 points).

After its opening loss of the season to the Tigers, Fremantle won its next three matches before capitulating to eventual premier Hawthorn in round 15 at Aurora Stadium.

The Dockers won their next four games before losing three of their final four matches, including by 69 points against Port Adelaide in the last home and away round.

This gave them a 17-5 record with a percentage of 118.73, finishing two points ahead of the Eagles.

Hawthorn was third with a 16-6 record and a huge percentage of 158.4. The Sydney Swans finished with the same win-loss ratio as the Hawks, but had a substantially inferior percentage of 127.12.

Richmond finished a game behind Hawthorn and the Swans in fifth spot with a percentage of 123.09.

2015 TOYOTA AFL PREMIERSHIP SEASON LADDER

		P	W	L	D	FOR			AGAINST				MATCH	HOME	AWAY		FORM	SCORES		AVMARGIN		W<	L>	PLS	RD23	1 <sup>ST</sup> YR	QTRS	4 <sup>TH</sup> QTR	
						G	B	PTS	G	B	PTS	%	POINTS	W		W	L	W/L	High	Low	W	L	7PTS	7PTS	USED	2014	PLS	WON	WON
1	Fremantle	22	17	5	0	273	219	1857	225	214	1564	118.73	68	9	2	8	3	1L	118	43	29	40	1	0	38	4	7	50	12
2	West Coast Eagles	22	16	5	1	340	290	2330	229	198	1572	148.22	66	9	2	7	3	1W	162	69	54	24	0	0	35	9	5	61	16
3	Hawthorn	22	16	6	0	365	262	2452	221	222	1548	158.4	64	8	3	8	3	2W	173	53	60	10	0	2	33	2	2	67	17
4	Sydney Swans	22	16	6	0	292	254	2006	223	240	1578	127.12	64	8	3	8	3	4W	135	51	39	34	1	1	32	1	4	53	13
5	Richmond	22	15	7	0	280	250	1930	220	248	1568	123.09	60	6	5	9	2	4W	147	51	34	22	1	1	38	8	5	50	15
6	Western Bulldogs	22	14	8	0	310	241	2101	268	217	1825	115.12	56	9	2	5	6	1L	153	57	38	32	2	0	40	14	8	44	10
7	Adelaide Crows*	21	13	8	0	308	259	2107	266	225	1821	115.71	54	7	3	6	5	1L	171	57	44	36	1	0	32	10	4	46	12
8	North Melbourne	22	13	9	0	303	244	2062	280	257	1937	106.45	52	7	4	6	5	2L	133	42	38	41	0	0	34	6	1	45	13
9	Port Adelaide	22	12	10	0	296	226	2002	276	218	1874	106.83	48	6	5	6	5	4W	129	43	30	23	1	2	35	5	2	43	12
10	Geelong Cats*	21	11	9	1	272	221	1853	266	237	1833	101.09	48	6	5	5	4	1W	140	60	35	41	0	0	35	3	4	43	8
11	GWS Giants	22	11	11	0	268	264	1872	272	259	1891	99	44	8	3	3	8	1L	135	33	38	40	0	0	38	16	3	42	13
12	Collingwood	22	10	12	0	287	250	1972	270	236	1856	106.25	40	4	7	6	5	1L	140	54	40	23	0	3	36	11	5	46	12
13	Melbourne	22	7	15	0	225	223	1573	301	238	2044	76.96	28	4	7	3	8	1W	115	46	29	45	0	1	39	17	8	35	8
14	St Kilda	22	6	15	1	241	249	1695	319	248	2162	78.4	26	1	9	5	6	2L	162	30	34	44	1	2	38	18	6	33	9
15	Essendon	22	6	16	0	226	224	1580	312	262	2134	74.04	24	3	8	3	8	1W	136	40	15	40	3	1	41	7	3	31	5
16	Gold Coast Suns	22	4	17	1	235	223	1633	326	284	2240	72.9	18	3	7	1	10	2L	125	40	33	43	1	0	41	12	4	22	2
17	Brisbane Lions	22	4	18	0	224	213	1557	341	260	2306	67.52	16	3	8	1	10	1W	131	36	29	48	0	0	40	15	8	31	9
18	Carlton	22	4	18	0	219	211	1525	349	260	2354	64.78	16	3	8	1	10	2L	121	35	25	51	1	0	40	13	6	22	5

\* Adelaide and Geelong awarded two premiership points each due to cancellation of round 14 match.



**END OF AN ERA** Essendon games record-holder Dustin Fletcher and dual Brownlow medallists Adam Goodes and Chris Judd were among the group of stars who retired in 2015.



RETIREEES

Dustin Fletcher and Adam Goodes headlined the retiring champions in 2015.

Fletcher, the Bombers’ games record-holder and regarded as one of the best defenders in the past 20 years, played his 400th and final game in the Dreamtime at the ‘G match against Richmond in round nine before succumbing to a persistent abdominal problem. He was a two-time premiership player and All-Australian and won Essendon’s best and fairest in 2000.

Goodes holds the record for the most games by a Swan and is one of the club’s most decorated players. The dual Brownlow medallist was a four-time All-Australian, three-time best and fairest winner, three-time leading club goalkicker, two-time premiership player, AFL Rising Star winner in 1999 and member of the Indigenous Team of the Century.

He has become a role model for indigenous players and an advocate in the fight against racism on and off the field, which resulted in him being named Australian of the Year in 2014.

Fellow dual Brownlow medallist Chris Judd called it quits after seriously injuring his knee against Adelaide in round 10. He won five best and fairest awards (two with West Coast, three with Carlton), was a six-time All-Australian, a Norm Smith medallist in 2005 and Eagles premiership captain in 2006.

Port Adelaide midfielder Kane Cornes hung up the boots after playing his 300th game against Richmond at Adelaide Oval. Cornes, the son of SA legend Graham and brother of former Power and GWS player Chad, was a member of Port’s first AFL premiership team in 2004 and the club’s games record-holder.

He was a two-time All-Australian and four-time best and fairest winner.

The career of Paul Chapman, a key member of Geelong’s triple premiership teams in 2007, 2009 and 2011, also came to an end.

Chapman, the 2009 Norm Smith medallist and two-time All-Australian, played his final two seasons with Essendon.

Other retirees included Hawthorn premiership teammates Brian Lake and David Hale and Chris Newman, Daniel Cross and Luke McPharlin.

DEPARTING PLAYERS (MORE THAN 100 GAMES)

PLAYER	CLUB/S	GAMES	GOALS
Dustin Fletcher	Essendon	400	71
Adam Goodes	Sydney	372	464
Kane Cornes	Port Adelaide	300	93
Paul Chapman	Geelong/Essendon	280	366
Chris Judd	West Coast/Carlton	279	228
Chris Newman	Richmond	268	56
Luke McPharlin	Hawthorn/Fremantle	256	115
Brian Lake	Western Bulldogs/Hawthorn	251	34
Daniel Cross	Western Bulldogs/Melbourne	249	34
David Hale	North Melbourne/Hawthorn	237	217
Rhyce Shaw	Collingwood/Sydney	237	44
Adam Schneider	Sydney/St Kilda	228	259
Brent Reilly	Adelaide	203	52
Andrew Carrazzo	Carlton	194	48
Jared Rivers	Melbourne/Geelong	194	18
Paul Duffield	Fremantle	171	33
Matt Maguire	St Kilda/Brisbane	170	21
Colin Sylvia	Melbourne/Fremantle	163	130
Brent Staker	West Coast/Brisbane	160	119
Nathan Foley	Richmond	154	44
Clinton Young	Hawthorn/Collingwood	137	69
Andrew Raines	Richmond/Brisbane/Gold Coast	129	17
Jason Winterlich	Essendon	129	83
Hamish McIntosh	North Melbourne/Geelong	126	66
Scott McMahon	North Melbourne	124	28
Beau Waters	West Coast	120	25
Tom Logan	Brisbane/Port Adelaide	117	27
Luke McGuane	Richmond/Brisbane	112	46
Greg Broughton	Fremantle/Gold Coast	110	19
Mike Pyke	Sydney	110	48
Leigh Adams	North Melbourne	104	72
James Podsiadly	Geelong/Adelaide	104	195
Chris Knights	Adelaide/Richmond	102	75
Matt Thomas	Port Adelaide/Richmond	102	36



# AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME



## HONOURED

Hall of Fame inductees in 2015 (back row from left) Peter Bell, Michael O'Loughlin, Austin Robertson and Jason Akermanis. (front row) Bob Hammond, Tony Lockett and Neil Roberts. →



**JASON AKERMANIS**

**Born:** February 24, 1977  
**Playing career:** 1995-2010 (Brisbane 1995-2006, Western Bulldogs 2007-10)  
**Games:** 325 (BL 248, WB 77)  
**Goals:** 421 (BL 307, WB 114)

As a footballer, Akermanis possessed rare ability. He was quick and superbly skilled on both sides of his body. The extroverted Akermanis wasn't afraid to show his emotions on the field and off it he was outspoken and controversial. He had a tough upbringing, raised by a single mother in the Victorian town of Mildura before moving north to Brisbane. Akermanis went on to become one of the game's greats, winning the Brownlow Medal in 2001 and playing a key role in the Brisbane Lions' remarkable achievement of three consecutive premierships between 2001-03. The four-time All-Australian saved his best for the big occasions – he kicked the match-sealing goal with a left-foot snap in the 2002 Grand Final and the following year helped contribute to the Magpies' demise again with five goals in the premiership decider. After 12 seasons with the Lions, he spent his final four years in the AFL with the Western Bulldogs. Since retiring from the AFL at the end of 2010, he has embarked on a coaching career, having coached North Albury in the Ovens and Murray league for the past three seasons.



**PETER BELL**

**Born:** March 1, 1976  
**Playing career:** 1994-2009 (South Fremantle 1994-95, 2009; Fremantle 1995, 2001-08; North Melbourne 1996-2000)  
**Games:** 335 games (SF 49; Frem 163; NM 123)  
**Goals:** 308 (SF 58; Frem 130; NM 120)

Bell defied the odds to make it to the AFL. The adopted son of a family in Kojonup, Western Australia, he was born in Korea, the result of a union between an American serviceman and a Korean woman. After suffering two broken legs as a teenager, he displayed great determination to become a star with WAFL club South Fremantle. Bell signed with the newly formed Dockers at the end of 1994, but played just two games in 1995 and looked destined for the football scrapheap until given a second chance by then North Melbourne coach Denis Pagan. Bell had an outstanding career with the Kangaroos, playing in the 1996 and 1999 premiership teams and winning the best and fairest in 2000. He was terrific in the '99 flag decider with 31 disposals and four goals. In 2001, he returned to Fremantle, this time as captain, and was part of the Dockers' first finals team in 2003. The two-time All-Australian retired in 2008, by which time he was president of the AFL Players' Association. He has become a successful broadcaster on Perth radio station 6PR and joined the Dockers' board last year.



**MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN**

**Born:** February 20, 1977  
**Playing career:** 1995-2009 (Sydney Swans)  
**Games:** 303 games  
**Goals:** 521

Nicknamed 'Magic', O'Loughlin was a gifted forward who became an important cog in the Swans' success during the late 1990s and 2000s, leading up to the club's drought-breaking premiership in 2005. He played his junior football with South Australian club Central District and supported Carlton growing up as a youngster. O'Loughlin could have gone to the Blues in the 1994 National Draft, but Sydney swooped with pick 40. In the early 2000s, he was forced to reinvent himself from a half-forward/midfielder to a permanent forward because of tendinitis in both knees. He went on to play 303 games for the Swans, a club record before it was broken by close friend Adam Goodes in 2012. He formed a strong combination with Tony Lockett and then with Barry Hall later in his career. O'Loughlin won the Swans' best and fairest in 1998, led the club goalkicking in 2000-01 and was a two-time All-Australian. He was the only Swan to play in the 1996 Grand Final loss to North Melbourne and the 2005 triumph over West Coast. O'Loughlin is proud of his indigenous background and was named at full-forward in the Indigenous Team of the Century in 2005.



**TONY LOCKETT**  
LEGEND

**Born:** March 9, 1966  
**Playing career:** 1983-99; 2002 (St Kilda 1983-94; Sydney Swans 1995-99; 2002)  
**Games:** 281 (St K 183; Syd 98)  
**Goals:** 1360 (St K 898; Syd 462)

Lockett was a powerhouse full-forward who intimidated rival defenders with his physical presence. He holds the League's goalkicking record with 1360, breaking Collingwood legend Gordon Coventry's long-standing mark of 1299 in 1999. Hailing from North Ballarat in Victoria, Lockett was

a fierce competitor, remarkably agile for his size and a deadly shot for goal. A member of the Australian Football Hall of Fame since being inducted in 2006, he is a member of the St Kilda and Sydney Swans teams of the century. He became a member of St Kilda's Hall of Fame in 2003 and was elevated to Legend status in 2010. Lockett shared the Brownlow Medal with Hawthorn's John Platten in 1987, also winning the AFL Players Association Most Valuable Player award that season. A six-time All-Australian, he won the Coleman Medal on four occasions. He was St Kilda's leading goalkicker between 1984-87 and 1989-94 and led the Swans' goalkicking between 1995-99. He represented Victoria on five occasions and booted 19 goals, winning the E.J. Whitten Medal in 1995.



**NEIL ROBERTS**

**Born:** June 15, 1933  
**Playing career:** 1952-62 (St Kilda)  
**Games:** 169 games  
**Goals:** 40

Roberts was the complete package as a footballer – an athletic blond with the year-round tan. He was destined to play for St Kilda after kicking 100 goals and winning the amateur competition best and fairest while playing under-19s for Melbourne High School Old Boys in 1951. He started as a full-forward with the Saints but was moved to defence because of his wayward kicking and found his niche. In his era, St Kilda enjoyed little success and he played in only one final in 11 seasons. His most memorable season was in 1958 when he won the Brownlow Medal, was named in the All-Australian team and won his second best and fairest (he won previously in 1955). He was St Kilda captain between 1958-62 and represented Victoria 11 times. Roberts is a member of the Saints' Team of the Century and Hall of Fame. Once his football career was over, he was a regular panellist on the popular TV program *World of Sport* on Channel Seven. A wonderful public speaker, he was a star of the sportsmen's night circuit. He was a leading physical education teacher and journalist and spent 18 months living in Antarctica.



**AUSTIN ROBERTSON**

**Born:** April 29, 1943  
**Playing career:** 1962-74 (Subiaco 1962-65, 1967-74; South Melbourne 1966)  
**Games:** 269 (Sub 251; SM 18)  
**Goals:** 1271 (Sub 1211; SM 60)

Robertson was a star full-forward who achieved notoriety after his football career as a manager of several of Australia's leading sports stars, playing a key role in the formation of World Series Cricket. Encouraged by his father Austin snr, a star utility for South Melbourne in the 1920s and '30s, to become a full-forward, he was quick off the mark and an excellent set shot for goal. In 1966, he joined South Melbourne on a three-year deal and was runner-up in the League goalkicking with 60. However, after just one season, he returned to WA where he topped the goalkicking for five consecutive years, including a remarkable 157 goals in the home and away season of 1968. In 251 games with Subiaco, he kicked a WAFL record of 1211 goals. He won Subiaco's best and fairest award twice, led the WAFL goalkicking in eight seasons and was the club's leading goalkicker between 1962-65 and 1967-74. He was a member of Subiaco's premiership team in 1973, a Subiaco Legend and club Team of the Century member and member of the WA Football Hall of Fame. He represented WA in 10 games and kicked 44 goals.



**BOB HAMMOND**  
ADMINISTRATOR

**Born:** February 16, 1942  
**Playing career:** 1960-75 (North Adelaide 1960-73; Norwood 1974-75)  
**Games:** 248 (NA 234; Nor 14)  
**Goals:** 68 (NA 68; Nor 0)  
**Coached:** Norwood 1974-79 (141 games, 89 wins, 52 losses, premiership 1975, 1978); Sydney Swans 1984 (8 games, 3 wins, 5 losses); South Australia 1983 (1 game, 1 win)

Hammond has given more than 50 years of distinguished service to football in South Australia, where he is an iconic figure at three clubs – North Adelaide, Norwood and Adelaide. Hammond played in three North Adelaide premiership teams, coached Norwood to two flags and captained both clubs. He played seven games for South Australia and coached SA to a big victory over Victoria in State of Origin football in 1983. The following season he took over as the Sydney Swans' caretaker coach after the resignation of Ricky Quade and coached them for eight games. He was the Crows' first chairman after they were admitted to the AFL at the end of 1990 and was at the helm for their successive premierships in 1997-98. Hammond is a life member of the SANFL and AFL and a member of the SA Football Hall of Fame and Adelaide Hall of Fame. He was appointed to the AFL Commission in 2001 and was on the League's controlling body until 2011.



# LIFE MEMBERS



## SHAUN BURGOPYNE

Known as 'Silk' for his exquisite skills, Burgoyne started his AFL career with Port Adelaide in 2002. In eight seasons with the Power, he played 157 games, being a member of the club's first AFL premiership team in 2004. He won Port's best and fairest award in 2006 and won All-Australian selection in the same season. He represented Australia in two International Rules Series matches in 2008. Since being traded to Hawthorn at the end of 2009, he has become a key component of the Hawks' premiership success in 2013-15.



## PAUL CHAPMAN

Chapman's match-winning performance in the gripping 2009 Grand Final win over St Kilda will live long in the memories of Geelong fans, the solid midfielder/forward being rewarded with the Norm Smith Medal for his three goals and 26 disposals. He was a key member of the Cats' premiership teams in 2007, 2009 and 2011, won All-Australian honours in 2009 and 2010 and won the club best and fairest in 2006. After 14 seasons with Geelong, he was traded to Essendon at the end of 2013 and played his final two seasons with the Bombers.



## BRENDON GODDARD

The top pick in the 2002 National Draft has been a fine contributor with two clubs, St Kilda and Essendon. The midfielder played in the Saints' Grand Finals in 2009 and 2010, his spectacular mark in the draw against Collingwood being a memorable moment. He was an All-Australian in 2009 and 2010. At the end of 2012, he transferred as a restricted free agent to Essendon and had an impact immediately, winning the best and fairest in 2013. With suspended skipper Jobe Watson unavailable, Goddard will lead the Bombers in 2016.



## SCOTT JEFFERY

The accountant umpired in the Southern Tasmania Junior Football League before joining the Tasmanian Football League in 1994. He officiated in the TFL Grand Final in 1997 before shifting to Victoria the following year. He joined the VFL in 1998 and umpired Grand Finals in 1999 and 2000. Jeffery has umpired 284 AFL games, including nine finals, as well as 39 pre-season/night series games since making his AFL debut in 2001. In 2015, he umpired 22 games, including two finals – the first elimination final (Richmond-North Melbourne) and second semi-final (Hawthorn-Adelaide Crows).



## CHRIS JUDD

The champion midfielder had a distinguished career with two clubs, West Coast and Carlton. In six seasons with the Eagles, he won a Brownlow Medal (2004), Norm Smith Medal (2005), two best and fairests (2004, 2006) and was a premiership captain in 2006. After returning to his home state of Victoria, he joined the Blues and added another Brownlow (2010) and three best and fairests (2008-10) to his collection. He was a six-time All-Australian, being named captain in 2008 and vice-captain in 2009 and 2011. He captained both clubs.



## JAMES KELLY

Kelly was one of Geelong's most reliable players over 14 seasons, being a key member of the Cats' premiership successes in 2007, 2009 and 2011. He was an All-Australian in 2011 and third in the best and fairest in 2010. Kelly represented Australia in two International Rules Series matches in 2011, winning the Jim Stynes Medal. He was given a farewell game in front of the Geelong faithful in the final round of 2015, but was lured out of retirement by Essendon in 2016 and signed as a top-up player.

## JACK TITUS AWARD



## KEITH BURNS

Burns served the Collingwood, Sandringham and Northern Knights football clubs with distinction. He has been passionate about preparing younger players for senior football, coaching the Collingwood under-19s between 1978-91 before going on to coach the Northern Knights in the TAC Cup between 1992-2002. He played 28 games for the Magpies between 1957-61 and was awarded life membership in 1990. Burns won the VFA's Liston Trophy with Sandringham in 1962 and was named in the club's Team of the Century. Since retiring as a coach he has been an administrator with AFL Victoria.



## BILL KELTY

Kelty was an AFL Commissioner for 17 years until he retired in March 2015 – only Graeme Samuel (18 years) served longer on the Commission. Kelty's commitment to community football, indigenous players and recognition of women's roles are among his greatest achievements. He was instrumental in the establishment of AFL SportsReady, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2015, and has provided education and job training opportunities. He has continued his involvement in football by overseeing a national review into the game's development at all levels outside the AFL competition.



## JUSTIN LEPPITSCH

Leppitsch was a key member of the Brisbane Lions' triple premiership teams of 2001-03. Originally recruited as a key forward, he was the Lions' leading goalkicker in 1997 and 1998 before switching to defence. He tied with Jason Akermanis in the best and fairest in 1999 and won All-Australian honours in 1999, 2002 and 2003. After retiring in 2006 because of a chronic back injury, he moved quickly into coaching. He served as an assistant at Brisbane and Richmond and has been the Lions' senior coach since 2014.



## STEPHEN MILNE

In 13 seasons with St Kilda, Milne was a dangerous goalsneak who was the perfect foil for his captain Nick Riewoldt and other key forwards. He played with Essendon and Richmond reserves and was on St Kilda's rookie list before being elevated to the seniors in 2001. Milne held the record for the most goals kicked at Etihad Stadium (357) until that was broken by Riewoldt in 2014. He was St Kilda's leading goalkicker on four occasions (2002, 2010-12) and won All-Australian honours in 2011-12. He represented Australia in four International Rules Series games.



## SAM MITCHELL

The solidly built Hawk has been one of the AFL's elite midfielders for many years, renowned for his dual-sided skills and sharp football brain. He captained Hawthorn to the 2008 premiership and has played a major role in the club's flags in 2013-15. He is a three-time All-Australian (2011, 2013, 2015) and has won the club best and fairest four times. He won the NAB AFL Rising Star award in 2003 and the VFL's Liston Trophy in 2002. He represented Australia in the International Rules Series in 2014-15.



## ROBERT MURPHY

In his 16th season at the elite level and his first as Bulldogs skipper, Murphy showed he had lost none of his trademark pace, composure and skill in 2015, being honoured with the captaincy of the All-Australian team. It was Murphy's second time as an All-Australian, having been selected in 2011. The first-round pick at the 1999 National Draft has twice finished second in the club best and fairest, represented Australia in the International Rules Series in four games, was a Rising Star nominee in 2001 and member of the pre-season premiership team in 2010.



## DREW PETRIE

Petrie has become a star forward and occasional ruckman for North Melbourne since being recruited from the North Ballarat Rebels. He is renowned for his strength in the air, with the ability to take contested marks inside 50m. He has been the Roos' leading goalkicker on five occasions, finished second in the best and fairest in 2008 and third in 2011, when he also won All-Australian honours. He was an All-Australian nominee in 2008 and 2012 and represented Australia in the International Rules Series in 2008. He will play his 16th season in 2016.



## HUGH SEWARD

Dr Seward has been involved in football since 1982. One of Victoria's first formally trained GPs in sports medicine, he was Geelong's club doctor for many seasons and is a current board member. He has led the AFL Doctors Association (formerly the AFL Medical Officers Association) for more than 25 years, being responsible for introducing modern sports medicine practices and instituting the many initiatives to improve the health and welfare of players. He was team doctor for the Flying Boomerangs and Indigenous All-Stars (2006-10), and the International Rules Series team in 1999 and 2000.



## MATT STEVIC

Stevic capped off a memorable 2015 season when he was one of the three field umpires in the Grand Final and was named All-Australian umpire, a feat he also achieved in 2014. The 2015 premiership decider was his third Grand Final, having officiated in 2012 and 2014. Recruited from the West Gippsland Umpires Association, the teacher was promoted to the AFL list in 2004. He umpired the 2003 under-18 championships and the 2003 VFL Grand Final. He was the All-Australian umpire for the under-17 International Rules Series in 2004. He has officiated in two International Rules Series games.



## SCOTT THOMPSON

Thompson wins the contested ball consistently and has developed into one of the AFL's best midfielders, averaging close to 27 possessions a game last season. The prolific ball-winner started his AFL career at Melbourne, playing four seasons with the Demons between 2001-04 before returning to South Australia. The blond playmaker won the Crows' best and fairest in 2011 and 2012, was second in 2010 and third in 2007-08. He earned All-Australian honours in 2012 and represented Australia in the International Rules Series in 2008.



## GEOFF WALSH

Walsh has been associated with four AFL clubs over 31 years, being involved in four premierships. He started with Fitzroy as the club's metro development manager in 1985 before joining Carlton in a similar role the following year. In eight years with the Blues, he was recruiting manager and football manager before leaving to join North Melbourne as football manager in 1994. He was promoted to CEO in 2002, a position he held for four years. Between 2006-13, he was Collingwood's director of football before returning to the Kangaroos in 2013.



# OBITUARIES

## KEN WHIFFIN

Whiffin, a long-time trainer, mentor, confidante and friend to generations of St Kilda players, died on January 10, 2015, aged 87. He was a well-respected figure in the Saints' rooms since 1965, was a good friend of premiership coach, the late Allan Jeans, and helped with the running duties when St Kilda won its only flag in 1966. Season 2014 marked his 50th year at the club and during that time was made a life member (1987). He also won the AFL's Jack Titus Recognition of Service award (2007).

## HARRY GORDON

Gordon, CMG, AM, was one of Australia's most distinguished newspaper executives, sports writers and sports historians. He died on the Gold Coast on January 21, 2015, aged 89. He is a former Editor of *The Sun News-Pictorial* and Editor-in-Chief of the Herald and Weekly Times and Queensland Newspapers. Gordon, a war correspondent during the Korean War in the 1950s, had a passion for sport, particularly the Olympics and Australian Football. His No. 1 football love was Hawthorn and he wrote the club's history *The Hard Way*. Several of his 15 books were on the Olympics and he was recognised by the international body with many awards. He was an inaugural member of the Australian Football Hall of Fame selection committee from 1996 to his retirement in 2008.

## LANCE MANN

Mann was an Essendon speedster who won Australia's premier professional sprint event, the Stawell Gift. Mann, who died in Albury on March 13, 2015, aged 84, made his debut with Essendon in 1951. That season he played on the wing in the losing Grand Final team against Geelong. His VFL career was interrupted when he injured his knee and went home to Albury from 1955-57, but was invited back to the Bombers and played in the 1958-59 seasons before bowing out with 80 games. Later he coached Essendon's reserves side. During his break from the Bombers, Mann won the Ovens and Murray League's best and fairest award in 1956.



**DESTRUCTIVE DEMON**  
Geoff Tunbridge was an elusive half-forward who was difficult to subdue for the entire game.



## Richardson was always known as 'Bull' because of his robust, bull-like physique

## ALAN RICHARDSON

Richardson, who died aged 74 on March 17, 2015, was an integral part of Richmond's drought-breaking premiership team in 1967. The barrel-chested ruck-rover is best remembered on the field for his sweeping handball out of packs that repeatedly opened up scoring avenues for his attacking teammates. Richardson, father of Richmond's 282-game player Matthew, played 103 games for the Tigers from 1959-69 and seven with South Melbourne from 1969-70. He was recruited from the Victorian western district town Casterton and after his VFL career moved to Tasmania where he was captain-coach (and later president) of East Devonport. Richardson, who returned to Victoria, was always known as 'Bull' because of his robust, bull-like physique.

## GEOFF TUNBRIDGE

Tunbridge, one of Melbourne's greatest half-forward flankers, died at Ballarat in country Victoria on March 23, 2015, aged 82. Tunbridge was 25 when he made his debut with Melbourne in 1957 and quickly made his presence felt, playing in a premiership team under coach Norm Smith that year, and again in 1959 and 1960. He was a wizard in the position

often referred to as 'starvation corner' and while he wasn't as physically powerful as most of his opponents, he had the uncanny skills to disrupt backlines. Tunbridge also played in the losing 1958 Grand Final team against Collingwood and when he bowed out in 1963 had played 117 games from a possible 119. Tunbridge was a long-time teacher at Ballarat Grammar where he coached the football team. The main oval at the school was named in his honour in 1996.

## STEPHEN PHILLIPS

A prominent sports media all-rounder, Phillips succumbed to a brain tumour on March 25, 2015, aged 62. For more than 40 years, Phillips was a popular figure around the sporting scene, having worked as a journalist on *The Sun News-Pictorial*, *The Australian* and *The Age*. He then went into television with Channel Seven and Channel Nine. At Seven, he was involved in the 1992 and 1996 Olympic Games. Phillips was well known as an MC at sports functions and in recent years ran his own sports video production company. His first love was football and some of his best work was interviewing the stars at the Sport Australia Hall of Fame's annual induction dinners. Phillips also helped establish the VFL Football Writers' Association, now the Australian Football Media Association. At the time of his passing, he was a member of the Australian Football Hall of Fame selection committee.

## BRIAN HANSEN

Hansen, who died on May 14, 2015, aged 81, was a media authority on Australian Football for more than 60 years. He started his journalistic career with the defunct Melbourne morning daily *The Argus* and later worked on the hard-hitting *Truth* newspaper in Melbourne. He was the author and publisher of more than 30 books and is best remembered for his strong association at the *Truth* with Richmond legend Jack Dyer. Hansen was a member of the Australian Football Media Hall of Fame.

## SYD TATE

Geelong lost another of its 1951 premiership players with Tate's death on May 15, 2015, aged 87. Tate, who previously played for Victorian country club Yallourn, was a strong and pacy wingman who formed a great centreline with Leo Turner and Terry Fulton when the Cats won the 1951 Grand Final against Essendon. Tate made his senior debut in 1947 and the 1951 Grand Final, his 85th game, was his last. Tate was captain-coach of Wagga in 1952, then returned to Victoria to captain-coach Geelong's reserves side in 1953-54. He also helped Geelong's recruiting program.

## ALLAN CATIONS

Cations, a regular member of the Richmond backline in the 1950s, died on May 21, 2015, aged 82. Recruited from Werribee, he played his best football at full-back from 1952-57 and 1959, finishing with 102 games. In 1958, he was captain and coach of Victorian country club Port Fairy before returning to the Tigers. Cations also helped Richmond as a recruiting officer and was a member of the committee that saw Werribee gain entry into the Victorian Football Association.

## GRAHAM GILCHRIST

Gilchrist, a true-blue Carlton wingman in the 1950s and early '60s, died on June 24, 2015, aged 82. Gilchrist, educated at Coburg High School, captained the Carlton under-19s to the premiership in 1951, played in the reserves premiership in 1953 and went on to play 114 senior games from 1952-61.

## TONY HAENEN

Haenen, a ruckman/defender for South Melbourne, died on July 9, 2015 aged 69. Haenen was a product of Mildura Imperials in Victoria's north-west and had to choose between South Melbourne and Footscray before settling for the Swans. He played 93 games from 1966-71 and was a member of South's drought-breaking finals team in 1970 — the club's first finals appearance since 1945 which resulted in a loss to St Kilda. After South, Haenen became North Launceston's captain-coach and then spent six years at VFA club Port Melbourne, playing in the 1976 premiership side.

## COLIN YOUREN

Youren, who died on July 20, 2015, aged 76, was a member of the Hawthorn team which finally brought a premiership to the club in 1961. Youren, an outstanding athlete from Scotch College in Melbourne, was on the wing beside crack centreman Brendan Edwards in the 43-point win over Footscray. Two years later, Youren was also on the wing in the Grand Final when the Hawks lost to Geelong. Youren, a Hawthorn life member and son of Collingwood player George Youren, played 135 games from 1958-65 and represented Victoria five times.

## GEOFF MCGIVERN

McGivern, a key-position player in Melbourne's golden era of the 1950s, died on August 15, 2015, aged 84. McGivern was recruited from Croydon, where he played in a premiership team, and made his senior debut with Melbourne in 1950. He went on to play 105 games, kick 53 goals and be a member of the 1955 premiership side after playing in the losing Grand Final team in 1954. McGivern won the best and fairest in 1952 and is remembered as a prominent centre half-forward/centre half-back. McGivern suffered bad knee injuries and retired from the VFL after the 1956 season. He returned to Croydon as coach in 1958-59.

## JIM ROSS

Ross, a top-line St Kilda ruckman and centre half-forward from 1946-54, died on September 18, 2015, one month short of his 88th birthday. He made his name at the Saints and then went on to become a

decorated player and well-known hotelier in Tasmania. At St Kilda, where he became a life member, he played 139 games and kicked 171 goals and won the best and fairest award three times — in 1949, 1950 and 1951. He also represented Victoria four times and was on the bench in the Saints' Team of the Century. At 27 and with plenty of football ahead, Ross moved to Tasmania and North Launceston to continue his career and won All-Australian selection in 1958. He won the North Tasmanian Football Association best player award on two occasions.

## BOB JOHNSON

Johnson, generally regarded as the best full-back in Melbourne's history, died on October 29, 2015, aged 77. Known as 'Tassie', Johnson hailed from North Launceston and played 202 games between 1959-69. His opening years at Melbourne (after standing out of football for a season waiting on a clearance) brought plenty of success with premierships in 1959, 1960 and 1964. He also played in finals in 1961-63. Johnson was selected at full-back in the Demons' Team of the Century and in Tasmania's Team of the Century. He played for Victoria on 12 occasions and captained Melbourne in his final season of 1969. Later he was captain-coach of Box Hill in the VFA.

## MICK TWOMEY

Twomey, part of a famous family at Collingwood, died on December 14, 2015, aged 84. Twomey was one of three brothers to play senior football with the Magpies and all three — Bill, Pat and Mick — played in the same premiership team in 1953. Their father Bill snr was also a Collingwood player and a member of the 1919 premiership team. Twomey, who was born in Ararat in country Victoria, played his early football with Heidelberg YCW and made his senior debut with the Magpies in 1951 in a League career that spanned until 1961 and included 157 games. The ruckman played in Collingwood's 1958 premiership side and was a member of the losing 1952, 1955 and 1960 Grand Final teams. Twomey is a Magpie life member and is in the club's Hall of Fame. After leaving Collingwood, he headed to the far west of Victoria to captain-coach Portland.