

## **Newsletter**

The following are excerpts from our December 2010 Newsletter. The Newsletter is currently produced three times per year, namely April, August and December, and interesting excerpts will be included on our Website when available. If there are any areas that you would like to comment on please do so through our Comments section.

## ***EFCPP&OA Newsletter December 2010***

### **Memorabilia**

The EFC is always looking for memorabilia to include in the Hall of Fame, and this could include any interesting photographs or other artifacts from your own playing times. This may also open up opportunities for past players to further develop their own memorabilia collections, e.g. team photographs of each year that you played. At this stage the Hall of Fame has a number of gaps in team photographs, namely, 1906, 1912, 1913, 1915, 1918, 1920, 1930, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1952, 1957, 1958, 1964, 1966, 1967, 1971 and 1974 and if you have any team photographs from these years or know anyone who may be able to assist in filling in any of the missing years, we would like to hear from you. Please contact Gregor McCaskie at the EFC on 9230 0351 or Barry Capuano.

If we were in a position to get the majority of years filled, we would be able to supply copies of the years you may be missing from your own collection.

In conjunction with Gregor McCaskie, the Curator of the Hall of Fame, our Association is also promoting the concept of producing a set of cards of the 2000 Premiership Team. The intent is to produce and sell about 2000 sets of cards, the proceeds of which are to be used to continue to develop the Hall of Fame and to help support some of the programs run by the EFCPP&OA. If this concept works for the 2000 Premiership Team, there is no reason as to why we couldn't produce Premiership cards for each Premiership year, as we believe these cards would become great collector items. We will keep you informed of progress.

### **Annual Dinner**

The Annual Dinner held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September was another great success with some 155 attending. Apart from a great meal and plenty to drink, comedian Peter Dee was excellent entertainment.

Debut Jumpers were presented to the following past players:

Peter Keenan-presented by Kevin Egan

Cory McGrath-presented by Adam Ramauskas and Aaron Henneman

Ben Jolley-presented by Mark Johnson and Damien Peverill

## Obituaries

We are very saddened to report that the following persons have passed on since our last Newsletter:

Bill Cox- former Head Trainer of the club.

Bob Woods- long time servant of the club.

Wendy Hare- the wife of Committeeman Ron Hare.

Carol Payne- the wife of former player and Committeeman Charlie Payne

Our condolences have been passed on to the families on your behalf.

## Where are they now?

### Peter Daniel

Peter played from 1969 to 1974, playing 100 games and now lives in Launceston, Tasmania.

Question What did you do football wise following your playing days with Essendon?

Answer Following Essendon I coached North Launceston FC. This was a successful stint, winning 5 Premierships in 8 years (incl. 4 consecutive). During this time coached Tasmania, Greater Northern Tasmania and Northern Tasmanian Teams. Coached a warm up game of VFL verses Rest of Australia on MCG in 1980. Left for a stint to coach Subiaco in the WAFL and then returned to Tasmania to successfully coach City South and Clarence. Inaugural Member of Football Tasmania (now AFL Tas) and Chairman of Football Development Board.

Question What job/jobs did you pursue following your playing days, including what are you doing now?

Answer Always been a teacher. Currently, Principal Summerdale Primary School in Tasmania, which is the largest Primary School in the State.

Question Have you suffered with any post football injuries and have any required surgery?

Answer Unfortunately, some real problem. Bi-lateral hip replacement x 2, including Golden Staff issues. Left shoulder to be fully replaced on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Right shoulder scheduled for March 2011. All results due to osteo-arthritis and loss of cartilage. Right knee to go!

Question Do you have any ongoing medical problems?

Answer Nil other than the above.

Question What are your thoughts on the modern game, and how would you change any of the areas that you don't like?

Answer Love the speed and movement. Use of structure, process and planned plays is great. I personally do not believe full use is made of the center

square and what quality ball usage from ball up to out-sourcing the ball offers. The focus on athleticism has caused a reduction of skills, particularly with increased speed. I am constantly frustrated with “wrestling” or handling of players before the balls arrival. (Oh, to have that option against Jezza, Hudson, Hart... we would probably never have heard of them)

Question Do you have any special anecdotes from your playing time to pass onto other past players?

Answer Most are either censored or inappropriate, though the disappearance of Broncos muttonchops, the crayfish in Jack Dyers motor, the functions at our flat “the Castle” and anything that involved Greenwood or Noonan was a worry.

Question Who were your mates in you playing with Essendon, do you keep in touch?

Answer Unfortunately not with the tyranny of distance but it is always great to see them.

Question Who were the players you most admired in your plating days with Essendon?

Answer For Essendon- Barry Davis, Ian Shelton (though just before him), Graeme Moss  
Other teams-Jesaulenko, Skilton, Farmer,

Question Do you have any comments that you would like to pass on about your time at Essendon?

Answer As an always Bomber it was a joy to have the chance!

### **Terry Rodgers**

Terry played from 1961 to 1964, playing 38 games and now lives in Wycheproof, Victoria.

Question What did you do, football wise, following your playing days with Essendon?

Answer Captain/Coach Alexandra, Captain/Coach Croydon. Ran around like a silly old bugger in C grade Churches football with other silly old buggers and had a ball.

Question What job/jobs did you pursue following your playing days, and what are you doing currently?

Answer Education-teaching, lecturing, consulting, principalships until mid eighties. Bought and operated a motel in Caloundra. Now retired.

Question Have you suffered with any post football injuries and have any required surgery?

Answer Every bit of me aches. In particular, a debilitating back problem. Knees/ankles. The usual scrapes and clean-ups, all too little too late

Question Do you have any ongoing medical problems?

- Answer Congenital aortic valve malformation that plagued me from my early teenage to as recently as 2 years ago has at last been diagnosed and successfully resolved with a tissue transplant and bypasses and I now enjoy the rudest of good health.
- Question What are your thoughts on the modern game, and how would you change any of the areas that you don't like?
- Answer Skills brilliantly honed. Pleased to see a return to a more attacking approach balanced by prudent defence. In the face of the prevailing negativity that blighted the game for a time I feared for its wellbeing before wiser heads prevailed.
- Question Do you have any special anecdotes from your playing time to pass onto other past players?
- Answer We know what most current players won't learn until much later. We never owned the game- we were just passing through.
- Question Who were your mates in your playing days with Essendon, do you keep in touch?
- Answer The gathering of men who played for Essendon in my time at the club were an amazing collection of individuals. Decent men with a fine sense of purpose- an absolute privilege to know and share time with. It is always a joy to catch up again at Past Players events, etc.
- Question Who were the players you most admired in your playing days at Essendon?
- Answer For Essendon-In no particular order, Clarke, Fraser, Birt, Davis, Epis, Capuano, Blew and Beissel  
Other teams-Skilton by a long street.
- Question Do you have any comments that you would like to pass on about your time at Essendon?
- Answer How fortunate we were to be able to play the game to such a standard that we could become part of such a magnificent club and share our time with so many memorable people.

### **Laurie Moloney**

Laurie played from 1971 to 1976, playing 80 games and now lives in Rosedale Queensland.

- Question What did you do, football wise, following your playing days with Essendon?
- Answer Coached Mayne in Qld then moved to Canberra playing with Belconnen. Coached Belconnen for a year and then went overseas to America. After moving to Queensland helped out at the Brisbane Lions mainly in a support role for the Cobs coaches (Vossy and Roger Merrett) and first grade with John Northey and Leigh Matthews.
- Question What job/jobs did you pursue following your playing days, including what you are doing currently?

Answer After working in the Public Service for 20 years (including a 3 year stint in New Jersey and working in Philadelphia USA) I joined a software company in Brisbane. I am their Customer Services Manager still but work mainly from my new place of residence in Rosedale Qld. Still involves travel to Brisbane and clients interstate.

Question Have you suffered with any post football injuries and have any required surgery?

Answer Have a recurring problem with a hip. Mainly arthritis I believe.

Question Do you have any ongoing medical problems?

Answer Onto my second pacemaker (last approx 7 years) which our programmers keep offering to program for me.

Question What are your thoughts on the modern game, and how would you change any of the areas that you don't like?

Answer Like the change to the in the back rule (i.e back to how it should be) and the only change I would make is to cut the teams back to 20 and limit interchange. Make it a real test of fitness.

Question Do you have any special anecdotes from your playing time to pass onto other past players?

Answer Do remember having a few too many red wines with Starchy Close (after getting suspended in a big one against Carlton-for not telling what went on) at a function (I think at Jimmy Matthews place) and we gave Tuddy a few coaching tips then drove home.

Question Who were your mates in your playing days with Essendon, do you keep in touch?

Answer Caught up with Lurch (Alan Noonan) and Simon Madden in the last 12 months. Speak to Salt (Ron Andrews) occasionally and in regular contact with the Brute (Bob Thompson). However I think, if tomorrow, I met any of the guys I played with we could start up where we left off and enjoy each others company.

Question Who were the players you most admired in your playing days at Essendon?

Answer For Essendon-Geoff Pryor-was a great bloke to play next to as you knew he would never give up and would back you to the hilt. Don McKenzie for his ability to play against far bigger players. Did a lot of extra training with Magoo Blethyn, so enjoyed his 100.  
Other teams-Barry Cable-I remember he started a loose man against North at North and they were one short.

Question Do you have any comments that you would like to pass on about your time at Essendon?

Answer Playing AFL (then VFL of course) was my goal in life and to achieve that, incorporate a far range of experience and meet a lot of good people has stood me in good stead for the rest of my life. Always a Bomber.

## Milestones & Achievements

The following players have reached or will reach significant milestones in their lives between September 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> 2010.

50 years of age	Michael Sheldon Darren Williams
60 years of age	Rod McFarlane
70 years of age plus	Barry Capuano (70) Barry Matthews (70) Max Byers (71) Paul Doran (71) George Moloney (71) Don Nicolson (71) Geoff Barber (73) Trevor Elliott (73) Les Pridham (73) Colin Hebbard (74) Robert Dunlop (75) Hugh Mitchell (76) John Towner (77) Robert Fox (79) Max Nixon (79)
80 years of age plus	Brian Gilmore (81) Keith McIntosh (82) Wally May (84) Noel Allanson (85) Jack Jones (86) George Hassell (87)

We hope you all have many more great years of health and prosperity.

Congratulations to James Hird on his appointment as the Senior Coach of the club, and it's great to see Mark Thompson, Sean Wellman and Dean Wallis back in assistant coaching roles to James Hird.

Congratulations to Hugh Delahunty on being appointed as Sports and Recreation and Veterans' Affairs Minister in the new State Government lead by Ted Baillieu.

## Facts, Figures & Other Trivia

In 1874 Essendon played East Melbourne in the first game with the ground enclosed with a fence.

In 1879 Essendon was the first team to score 10 goals in a match, beating Hawthorn, who only managed one goal.

Essendon played their first game in the VFL on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1897 against Geelong at Corio Bay, winning 7.5 to 3.6.

Due to some unrest with supporters, an Essendon team was established in the VFA in 1900, and played at the Essendon Ground until 1921, when they disbanded due to the VFL team relocating to Essendon at that time. The VFA team were known as the “Dreadnoughts” and played as Essendon Town. During that time they won Premierships in 1911 and 1912, as did Essendon in the VFL in those years.

The cost of a Membership ticket in 1938 was eight shillings and four pence for 18 games (5.5 pence per game).

The 1942 Premiership won by Essendon was played at Princes Park (Carlton’s ground), as the MCG and a number of other grounds were unavailable being used as service camps or depots for the war effort.

In 1952, Essendon not only missed out on the four, it was the first time since 1946 that they had not played in the Grand Final. John Coleman however, kicked 103 goals in that season.

Best & Fairest awards were not regularly awarded until 1923.

Roger Merrett won club Reserve Best & Fairest awards in 1979 and 1981 and won the Gardiner Medal (League Reserve Best and Fairest Award) in 1982.

In 1964 when playing against Geelong at Essendon in round 15, just prior to the final siren, Ken Fraser had a shot for goal and kicked a point drawing the game. However Ken was awarded a free kick after the siren from about 30 meters out and was lining up to take a shot when the Captain, Jack Clarke, told Ken not to take the kick as he wasn’t confident enough of Ken’s kicking to score at all, so the game remained as a draw. Ken was unfairly criticized for not taking the shot, but he was just acting on the Captains instructions!