

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE FREMANTLE DOCKERS FOOTBALL CLUB

# DOCKERS



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## CLUB SONG

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## THOMMO'S TOP NINE

Standout moments in 2011

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# PURPLE POCKET

Compiled by Kasey Ball and Costa Kastanis

## TIPS FROM THE TOP

STUDENTS FROM Clontarf Foundation academies across WA got to meet Freo stars Stephen Hill and Michael Johnson when they visited Fremantle headquarters on Friday 24 June.

The Clontarf boys were preparing to play off for the Woodside Cup, which was the curtain-raiser to the Fremantle-Brisbane game at Patersons Stadium.

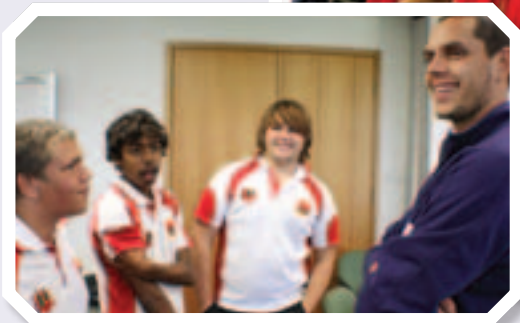
Hill and Johnson took the boys for a training session on Fremantle Oval to give them some tips before the big game.

Hill had also been emailing the students in the lead up to the game with tips on nutrition, fitness and match preparation.

The Freo star said there had been some talented footballers come out of the Clontarf Foundation over the years.

And he had some advice for the aspiring footballers.

"Keep striving for what you want to do, never give up and you can always make it if you really want to," he said. ⚡



## LUKE MCPHARLIN... AN OFF-FIELD HIT!

WE ALWAYS KNEW that Freo defender Luke McPharlin was a talented muso, strumming a tune in years gone by on Channel Nine's *The Footy Show* and singing the classics at local venues around Perth. But now it is official... Luke McPharlin is a recording artist and has hit the airwaves of Perth.

On Monday 12 September, Luke's new single "Leaders" was released on the Lisa, Baz and Sam breakfast program on 92.9.

To help Luke reach number one status in WA, make sure you head to iTunes from

Friday 16 September to download his very first off-field hit. You can stay up-to-date with the progress of Luke's musical career by following him on Facebook: [facebook.com/lukemcpharlin](https://www.facebook.com/lukemcpharlin) ⚡



## AT HOME WITH 'SUBES'

NICK SUBAN IS the latest talent to join the Docker TV lineup with his brand new show 'At Home With Subes'.

The show will air on Docker TV this October and sees 'Subes' travel around the suburbs to see how his teammates go as housemates.

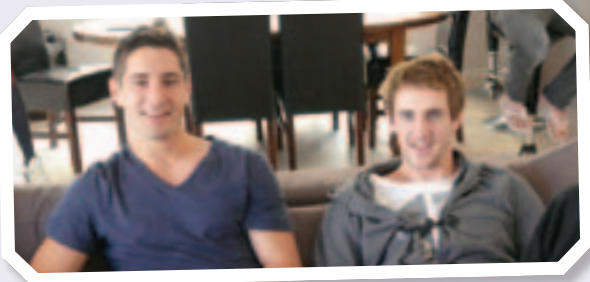
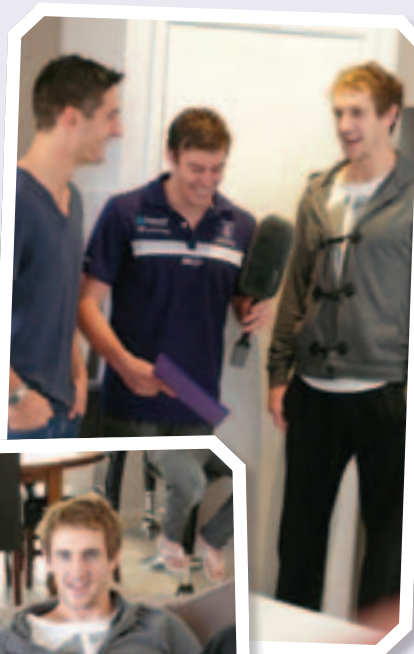
In the first episode, Suban visits Mick Barlow and Nick Lower's bachelor pad.

He gave the guys a test to see who did the most around the house and, naturally, there were a few disputes on who was the better housemate.

Mick Barlow gave 'At Home With Subes' a tour around the house, only to be stitched up when he found a lady's dress in his wardrobe that had been placed there by Lower!

Other Freo teammate/housemate combos include: Chris Mayne and Jesse Crichton, Jay van Berlo and Nat Fyfe, Anthony Morabito and Hayden Ballantyne, and the show's host himself, Nick Suban, who lives with Garrick Ibbotson.

Make sure you tune into Docker TV in October to see who else gets paid a visit by 'At Home With Subes'. ⚡



## MCPHEE 'FINDS HIMSELF IN FREO'

BACK IN JULY, Adam McPhee and a handful of senior players found themselves on the streets of Freo to take part in a TV commercial that aired in the Eastern States in August.

Filmed over two days, the commercial promoted not only the vibrant City of Fremantle as an ideal tourist destination but also our great club.

McPhee was responsible for the 'shopping' element

of the campaign and managed to encourage a few by-standers to get involved in the commercial.

Well done to the other stars of the ad, Matthew Pavlich, Aaron Sandilands, Luke McPharlin and Michael Johnson. Purple Pocket can confirm that there has been some very promising feedback on your acting abilities... but maybe just stick to footy for now. ⚡



## PLAYERS TEE OFF

FREMANTLE PLAYERS spent most of Wednesday 6 July looking for the ball... but not the red leather Sherrin variety.

It was a golf ball that had, more often than not, strayed outside of Burswood Park Golf Course's beautiful fairways

The players were on hand to team up with Fremantle sponsors for the annual Players and Sponsors Golf Day and the groups did their best to get the little white ball in the hole in what was a fun-filled event.

Nick Lower was one Freo player having a tough time keeping his ball on the fairways.

He did play a lovely shot out of a bunker, although it seems nobody from the Lux Events team (pictured right) told him that you're not allowed to have a practice swing in a sand-trap!

And Hayden Ballantyne quickly found out just how punishing the greens on the course can be when his gentle putt rolled past the cup and just kept on going.

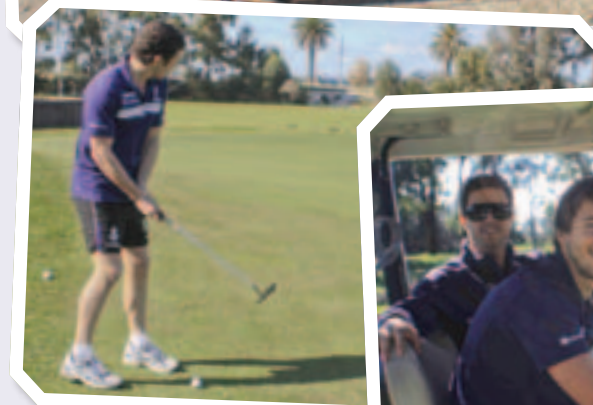
Luckily, 'Ballaz' is not quite as feisty on the golf course as he is on a footy field.

Nat Fyfe said he relished the opportunity to get out on the fairways, despite admitting he wasn't much of a golfer.

"I don't really have the temperament for it," he said.

"Byron Schammer and Luke McPharlin are probably the two golfers that get out a fair bit.

"Kepler Bradley's pretty keen on his golf, too." ‡



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*Perth W.S.T.*

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## ADAM MCPHEE 200 AFL GAMES

ADAM MCPHEE REACHED a significant milestone in round 19 against Hawthorn at Patersons Stadium – 200 AFL games.

While the team couldn't get up for his big day, it took nothing away from an exemplary career.

McPhee began his career at Fremantle in 2001, playing 25 games before moving to Essendon in 2003 to add another 142 matches to his career total.

He enjoyed a successful career at the Bombers, including selection in the All Australian side in 2004.

McPhee returned to Fremantle in 2010, where his toughness and experience has been invaluable to a youthful line-up.

Injury forced him to sit out rounds 9 to 15 this season, but McPhee returned to help the team win in round 17 against Sydney in game 199.



## KEPLER BRADLEY 50 FDFC & 100 AFL GAMES

KEPLER BRADLEY FINISHED off 2011 with a couple of milestone games.

He played his 50th game for Fremantle in the round 23 match against Collingwood at Patersons Stadium and chalked up AFL game number 100 the following week against the Western Bulldogs at Etihad Stadium.

Bradley made a great start to the year playing as Freo's main target up forward, kicking 20 goals in the first 10 rounds.

He struggled with injury and form in the second half of the season, but the 26-year-old should again be an important part of the club's attacking plans in 2012.



## GREG BROUGHTON 50 GAMES

GREG BROUGHTON played his 50th game in the round 21 match against Carlton at Patersons Stadium.

Broughton had a slow start to the season playing as a rebounding defender, but he quickly picked up his numbers towards the middle of the year

The turning point was the round 14 clash against Brisbane at Patersons when Mark Harvey called upon him to fill a void that resulted from injuries to the regular midfield brigade.

Broughton moved onto the ball after half-time and gathered 20 possessions and kicked two crucial goals to help Freo win the match.

He sustained that form for the second half of the season to become one of Freo's most important players.



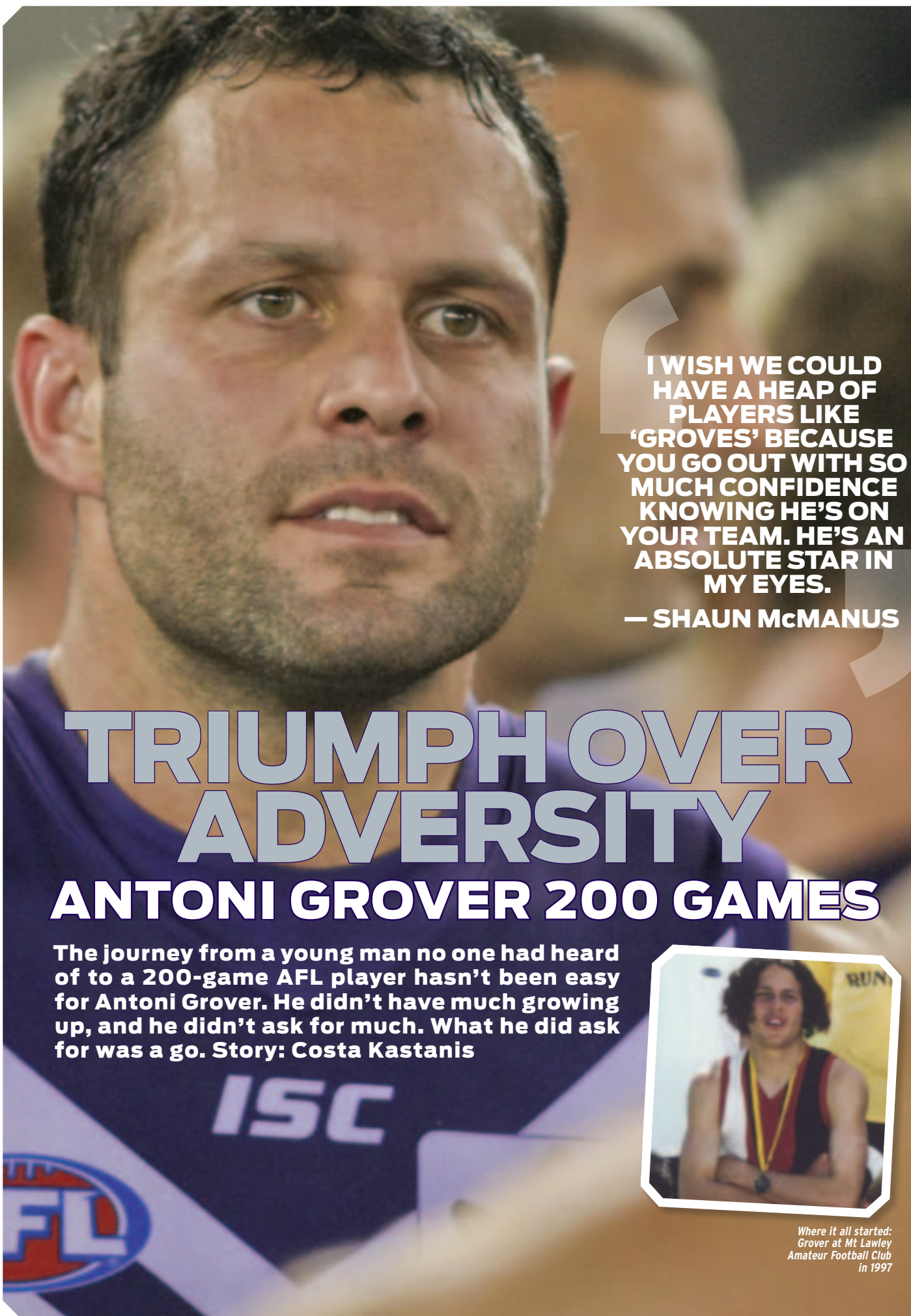
## RHYS PALMER 50 GAMES

RHYS PALMER celebrated his 50th game with a win in Sydney against the Swans in round 17.

The 2008 NAB Rising Star winner has had to work incredibly hard to reach this milestone following a knee reconstruction in 2009.

Palmer struggled to become a permanent fixture in the Fremantle side this season, playing 13 games before an ankle injury in round 19 sidelined him, although he returned to play in rounds 22 and 23.





I WISH WE COULD  
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'GROVES' BECAUSE  
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YOUR TEAM. HE'S AN  
ABSOLUTE STAR IN  
MY EYES.

— SHAUN McMANUS

# TRIUMPH OVER ADVERSITY

## ANTONI GROVER 200 GAMES

The journey from a young man no one had heard of to a 200-game AFL player hasn't been easy for Antoni Grover. He didn't have much growing up, and he didn't ask for much. What he did ask for was a go. Story: Costa Kastanis



Where it all started:  
Grover at Mt Lawley  
Amateur Football Club  
in 1997



ANTONI GROVER HAD a decision to make when he was 17.

Many of the friends he'd grown up with were straying down a tainted path. A path influenced by the lure of drugs and crime that was ultimately leading towards jail, or even death.

"It was hard to stay away from because my friends had become my brothers," Grover says.

"We looked to each other for support growing up and we always had each other's back. We became like a family."

Grover's parents split up right around the time he was born. He was raised by his mother, Sandra Grover, in Balga.

Growing up wasn't easy for them.

"We didn't have much," he says. "You ate what you were given. We didn't get to pick and choose."

Grover attended Mercy College, which he saw out through to the end of year 12. But he admits that he wasn't the perfect student.

"I wasn't getting a lot out of it," he says. "I was just rocking up and ticking the boxes."

He kept in close contact with his father, Lance King, who had moved to Meekatharra.

#### FULL HOUSE

Both Grover's parents went on to have large families – his mother six more children and his father five.

Grover enjoyed being the oldest of 12.

"It was one of the highlights of growing up because I felt I could give them something to look up to," he says.

But with the arrival of more children, the proverbial pieces of the pie were getting smaller.

"My mum's house was getting a bit full with my younger brothers," he says.

"At the age of 15, I knew it was time to move out, so I went and lived at my Nan's house, which was also in Balga."

As tough as growing up was for Grover, there were always two things that kept him going.

One was the love for his family. The other was sport.

"I loved sport," he says. "It was my release."

After junior footy stints at Balga and Girrawheen/Koondoola, where he always played up an age group, his talents would see him train with East Perth's development squad. However, car troubles and bureaucracy would stand in his way.

"East Perth told me they couldn't play

me because I was zoned to Claremont," he says. "But Claremont was just too far away at that stage of my life."

Grover was the boy who was always asking for a lift.

"Mum never had her licence, so I always found myself hitching a ride with someone," he says.

"The only way I could get to anywhere was by getting a lift with a friend to training, but I couldn't get to Claremont. I just had to miss that part of my footy."

#### OFF THE STREET

Disenchanted with football, Grover was close to giving the game away.

But his Nan, an integral figure in his life, wouldn't have a bar of it.

"My Nan rang my uncle, who was associated with the Mt Lawley Hawks Amateur Football Club, and he got me training with them," he says.

Despite being the youngest member of the colts team, Grover finished runner-up in the best and fairest and helped the side win the 1997 Premiership.

In January of 1998, with his football boots hanging around his shoulders, Grover walked off the street and into the Subiaco Football Club during a training session.

"I went straight up to the colts coach and asked him if I could have a run with them," he says.

"They'd never even heard of me."

Grover pulled on his boots and won the best and fairest for the Lions' colts that year.

#### SERIOUS JOLT

Pretty soon, the Fremantle Dockers came knocking on Grover's door, inviting him to train with them.

The young man who no one had heard of had done enough to earn himself a spot on the club's rookie list.

Freo great Shaun McManus remembers a quiet individual who was unsure of his place in the scheme of things when he arrived at the club.

"He wasn't toeing the line every week," McManus says. "He wasn't the professional bloke we see before us now."

McManus believes Grover was given a serious jolt when Shane Parker retired in 2007 and handed the defensive reigns over to him.

"He was suddenly up against the biggest names in the game and he realised that to compete at this level, he had to do everything to a tee to get the best out of himself."

Grover's best memory of his early days at Fremantle was the chance to play against his heroes.

"I was a one-eyed Eagles supporter as a kid and I was suddenly playing against Peter Matera, Guy McKenna, Glen Jakovich and Peter Sumich," he says. "I couldn't believe it. They were my idols."

Now a 200-game player, the adventurous boy from Balga has grown up a fair bit.

"There's still some kid in me, but I know what I want out of life more than I did back then," he says. "I appreciate life more too. I've lost some of the people closest to me."

These people include his Nan, who passed away on the morning of a home game in 2007, and of one of his closest friends who lost his battle with Leukaemia while Grover was in Sydney for a game in 2008.

#### PASSIONATE

The highlight of his AFL career has been the journey itself.

"Going from a rookie, to a mid-tier player, to a senior player has been awesome," he says.

"I think I owe a lot to the senior players over the years. The guys I looked up to the most when I was a rookie were Shane Parker and Dale Kickett. I wanted to emulate them."

Grover says he's learnt as much off the field as he has on it, and he wants to pass on that knowledge.

"I want to share my knowledge and my experiences any way I can," he says. "I'm passionate about the idea of helping people."

He is currently enrolled in an Indigenous mentoring course through TAFE, and he's also looking into joining the fire brigade.

"All these things are about working with people and helping them in some way," he says.

McManus is inspired by Grover's story – one he says is typical of the Australian way.

"He's fought through so much to get to where he is today," he says.

"To watch him go from a rookie list player, battle his guts out and become a cornerstone of the club, it speaks volumes about his character."

"I wish we could have a heap of players like 'Groves' because you go out with so much confidence knowing he's on your team. He's an absolute star in my eyes."

Oh, and back to that decision all those years ago.

"I didn't want to go down that same path that a lot of my friends were heading," Grover says.

"So I decided to have a crack at footy." Fair crack, 'Groves'.





# HYUNDAI



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Finally, after all the sketches, all the sculptures, the computer modeling, over 1000 prototypes, the research, the sleepless nights, the dramas, the elation, the acoustic measuring, the technology breakthroughs, the aerodynamic analysis, the high pressure water tests, the emissions checks, the performance reviews, the setbacks, the passion, the triumphs, the track work, the crash tests, the quality inspections, the manufacturing innovations, the blood, sweat and tears, it's ready. i45. The mid-size sedan completely re-imagined by the world's fastest growing and one of the most awarded car companies, Hyundai.



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## TENDAI MZUNGU DEBUT

TENDAI MZUNGU MADE his eagerly anticipated AFL debut in round 9 against Port Adelaide at AAMI Stadium, coming on as a sub in the second half and contributing towards a big 52-point win.

He backed it up with a full game the following week, where he had 24 disposals against St Kilda at Patersons Stadium.

The 25-year-old has gone on to prove what a versatile player he is, playing as a running defender, a forward, a midfielder and as a tagger towards the end of the season.

In fact, Mzungu's best game of the season came in round 20 against the Saints at Etihad Stadium.

With regular taggers Matt de Boer and Ryan Crowley out of the side, he was given the ominous task of playing on in-form Saint Nick Dal Santo.

Mzungu not only limited the St Kilda star to 25 disposals, he had 30 touches himself in a near-best-on-ground display.

Mzungu said he was still adjusting to life as an AFL footballer.

"It's a big step up from WAFL footy but I've really enjoyed it," he said.

"I feel that each week I'm learning a bit more and getting a little more confident playing at this level.

"I'm reasonably happy with how I'm going."

Mzungu is yet another mature-age recruiting success story from Freo and looks to have a promising career ahead of him.



## NICK LOWER DEBUT

ON THE SCRAPHEAP after an unsuccessful initial AFL stint at Port Adelaide that ended with his delisting in 2009, Nick Lower has grasped his second shot at the big time.

Lower played his first game for Freo in round 1 against Brisbane at the Gabba, where he had 22 disposals and kicked an important goal.

A regular fixture in the side since, his attack on the football is second-to-none.

Lower played his best game of the season in the round 17 win over Sydney at the SCG.

On that occasion, he had 30 disposals and kicked the game-winning goal just seconds from the end when Sydney had all the momentum.

And he no doubt would have enjoyed playing against his old side in round 9 where he had 28 touches and a goal in a win.

The 24-year-old has been an invaluable pick up by Fremantle, considering the number of injuries the club has sustained to midfielders in 2011.

Lower said moving to Freo was the best thing that could have happened to his footy career.

"I've really appreciated the opportunity to play in the midfield, which I didn't get at Port," he said.



## JAYDEN PITT DEBUT

FREMANTLE'S TOP PICK from last year's draft was handed his AFL debut in the opening round trip to Brisbane to face the Lions at the Gabba.

Pitt applied himself well with 12 disposals and, importantly in a close game, a goal.

He played five of the following six games, including a 24-disposal effort against North Melbourne in round 4.

In each appearance, Pitt showed glimpses of what Fremantle's recruiters saw in him – lots of run off half-back and good disposal skills.

He only played two more games after round 8, but he showed some good signs in the WAFL that he can take the next step in 2012 and beyond.

"I never expected to play AFL straight away," Pitt said.

"It was a great experience to travel up to Brisbane with the boys and get up for a big win."



## JACK ANTHONY DEBUT

JACK ANTHONY MADE his debut for Fremantle in the round 8 Carlton Mid Derby loss to West Coast.

Unfortunately, Freo's forward line was starved of opportunity for most of the afternoon and Anthony failed to get on the scoreboard.

In his third game, against his old side Collingwood at Patersons Stadium, Anthony showed he could become a handy defender for Freo, keeping Magpie power forward Chris Dawes goalless.

Anthony is determined to make his mark at the club.

"I came over here and I wanted to play for Fremantle and be a part of something special," he said.

"Now I've got the opportunity to show the faith that the Fremantle Football Club has shown to me."



## JONATHON GRIFFIN DEBUT

FOR HIS FREMANTLE DEBUT, Jonathon Griffin had some big boots to fill – the size 18s of injured ruck champion Aaron Sandilands. Freo's record without big 'Spider' has been poor in recent years, but Griffin helped turn that around with a string of inspired ruck performances for his adopted club.

He began with 38 hitouts and 12 disposals against St Kilda in round 10 and hasn't looked back, improving with every game.

Without a doubt, the highlight of his year came in round 15 when the former Adelaide Crow ignited the Patersons Stadium crowd with 26 possessions, 30 hitouts and a goal in Matthew Pavlich's 250th game.

The 201cm recruit said having the AFL's best ruckman on his side has been a huge positive.

"I've benefitted a lot from watching how Aaron does his work," he said. "He's like a mentor to me."



## BEN BUCOVAZ DEBUT

IN HIS THIRD season as a Freo Docker, Ben Bucovaz made his AFL debut against Melbourne at the MCG in round 13. Unfortunately, the 20-year-old's special occasion was one to forget for the team, which suffered a disappointing 89-point defeat to the Demons.

Bucovaz began the match as the sub, but he was called upon early after defender Antoni Grover was injured. He had 11 disposals but, much like most of his teammates on the day, failed to make any real impact on the game.

Bucovaz credits having a full pre-season for the improvement in his game this season.

"I came to the club underdone and I haven't had a full pre-season before," he said. "I've had a good pre-season this year which has put me in good stead."

"I have become a lot fitter and stronger, and I am now injury-free, which is the main thing."





## JOSH MELLINGTON DEBUT

JOSH MELLINGTON WAS rewarded for his solid WAFL form with West Perth with an AFL debut in round 14 against the Brisbane Lions at Patersons Stadium.

He displayed a good willingness to work hard in the forward half, gathering 11 possessions in a 23-point win.

Mellington played as a sub the following week against Gold Coast at Patersons and came on to kick his first goal in the big league.

He didn't play another AFL game after injuring his elbow, but he showed enough to suggest he can make a claim for a permanent spot in the forward line in the future.

He has no doubts as to what his teammates will expect from him every time he pulls on a Freo jumper.

"I have to display a ruthless attack on the ball and give my all for the entire game," Mellington said.



## PETER FAULKS DEBUT

PETER FAULKS WAS thrown in at the deep end, debuting against top four candidates Carlton at Patersons Stadium in round 21 and playing a solid game in a loss to the Blues.

Despite only playing two games in 2011, the former Sydney Swan has left a great impression on his teammates, coaches and the fans with his selfless acts of courage.

One moment in particular, which ended his season in the round 23 match against Collingwood at Patersons Stadium, stood out.

Ignoring his own safety, Faulks ran with the flight of the ball towards a pack that was headed in the opposite direction. Eyes on the Sherrin, he jumped and was collected in the face by a Magpie's knee, suffering a broken jaw and multiple cheekbone fractures.

The 23-year-old said he felt he had improved in the areas required to play top level footy since arriving at Freo.

"I've adapted to the load of an AFL footballer, both physically and mentally," he said.



## CASEY SIBOSADO DEBUT

CASEY SIBOSADO MADE an unexpected debut in the final game of the season after Luke McPharlin injured himself in the warm-up for the clash against the Western Bulldogs at Etihad Stadium.

Travelling to Melbourne as an emergency, Sibosado suited up at the last minute and burst onto the AFL scene with a contested mark in the opening minutes.

He calmly went back and slotted the set-shot to register the game's first goal and the first of his career, joining the ever-growing list of players to have kicked a goal with their first kick in league footy.

The 20-year-old didn't stop there, gathering 12 disposals and six marks to round off his debut before being subbed out in the third term.

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# SEASON 2011: ROUNDS 17 TO 19

## ROUND 17 v SYDNEY

Sunday 17 July 2011, SCG, 1.10pm

<b>Fremantle</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>(98)</b>
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Sydney	3.2	6.3	8.5	13.9	(87)
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Goals: Ballantyne 3

Handballs: Fyfe 20

Marks: McPharlin 8

Subbed in: Barlow

Crowd: 23,415

Kicks: Lower 20

Disposals: Broughton, Fyfe 31

Tackles: Lower, Pavlich 8

Subbed out: Johnson

## ROUND 18 v WEST COAST

Sunday 24 July 2011, Patersons Stadium, 2.40pm

<b>Fremantle</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>9.10</b>	<b>(64)</b>
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West Coast	1.6	3.7	6.14	8.17	(65)
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Goals: Clarke, Hill 2

Handballs: Broughton 15

Marks: McPharlin 7

Subbed in: Duffield

Crowd: 41,055

Kicks: Ibbotson 16

Disposals: Broughton, Barlow 26

Tackles: Clarke 10

Subbed out: Griffin



## ROUND 19 v HAWTHORN

Saturday 30 July 2011, Patersons Stadium, 5.40pm

<b>Fremantle</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>(44)</b>
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Hawthorn	6.3	8.8	11.16	13.17	(95)
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Goals: McPhee, Ballantyne, Pavlich, Fyfe, Crowley, Clarke 1

Kicks: Pavlich 21

Handballs: Broughton 17

Disposals: Pavlich, Broughton 29

Marks: Silvagni 7

Tackles: Barlow 8

Subbed in: Pearce

Subbed out: de Boer

Crowd: 30,937





# SEASON 2011: ROUNDS 20 TO 22

## ROUND 20 v ST KILDA

Friday 5 August 2011, Etihad Stadium, 7.40pm

<b>Fremantle</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>10.10</b>	<b>10.12</b>	<b>(72)</b>
St Kilda	3.8	7.11	10.13	16.17	(113)

Goals: McPhee, Mayne 2  
Handballs: Barlow 17  
Marks: Johnson 7  
Subbed in: Robertson  
Crowd: 26,181

Kicks: Mzungu, Johnson 15  
Disposals: Mzungu 30  
Tackles: Barlow 8  
Subbed out: Hinkley



## ROUND 21 v CARLTON

Saturday 13 August 2011, Patersons Stadium, 1.10pm

<b>Fremantle</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>12.13</b>	<b>(85)</b>
Carlton	5.5	7.10	11.16	16.19	(115)

Goals: Sandilands, Crowley, Ballantyne 2

Kicks: Ballantyne 21

Handballs: Barlow 22

Marks: Ballantyne, Silvagni 9

Subbed in: Hinkley

Crowd: 34,737

Disposals: Barlow 32

Tackles: Mzungu 11

Subbed out: Lower

Debut: Faulks



## ROUND 22 v NORTH MELBOURNE

Saturday 20 August 2011, Etihad Stadium, 7.10pm

<b>Fremantle</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>(45)</b>
North Melbourne	6.1	10.7	16.10	21.17	(143)

Goals: Fyfe, Mzungu, Sandilands, Mayne, Johnson, Ballantyne 1

Kicks: Ibbotson, Mzungu 12

Handballs: Barlow 18

Marks: Clarke 12

Subbed in: Suban

Crowd: 17,581

Disposals: Barlow 26

Tackles: Mundy 8

Subbed out: Pavlich





# SEASON 2011: ROUNDS 23 TO 24

## ROUND 23 v COLLINGWOOD

Friday 26 August 2011, Patersons Stadium, 6.40pm

**Fremantle** 2.0 2.2 4.2 8.4 (52)

Collingwood 6.0 12.4 17.9 20.12 (132)

Goals: Crowley, Bradley 2  
Handballs: Hill, Barlow 21  
Marks: Anthony, Duffield 7  
Subbed in: Hinkley  
Crowd: 31,985

Kicks: Lower 19  
Disposals: Lower 37  
Tackles: Mayne, Fyfe 5  
Subbed out: Ibbotson

## ROUND 24 v WESTERN BULLDOGS

Saturday 3 September 2011, Etihad Stadium, 2.10pm


**Fremantle** 1.6 4.11 6.13 8.13 (61)

Western Bulldogs 2.6 6.8 8.15 15.17 (107)

Goals: Bradley, Mzungu 2  
Handballs: Clarke 12  
Marks: Johnson 11  
Subbed in: Bollenhagen  
Crowd: 18,128


Kicks: Johnson 22  
Disposals: Johnson 30  
Tackles: Clarke 8  
Subbed out: Sibosado  
Debut: Sibosado






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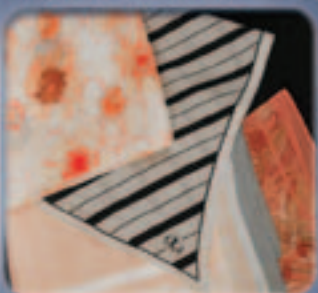


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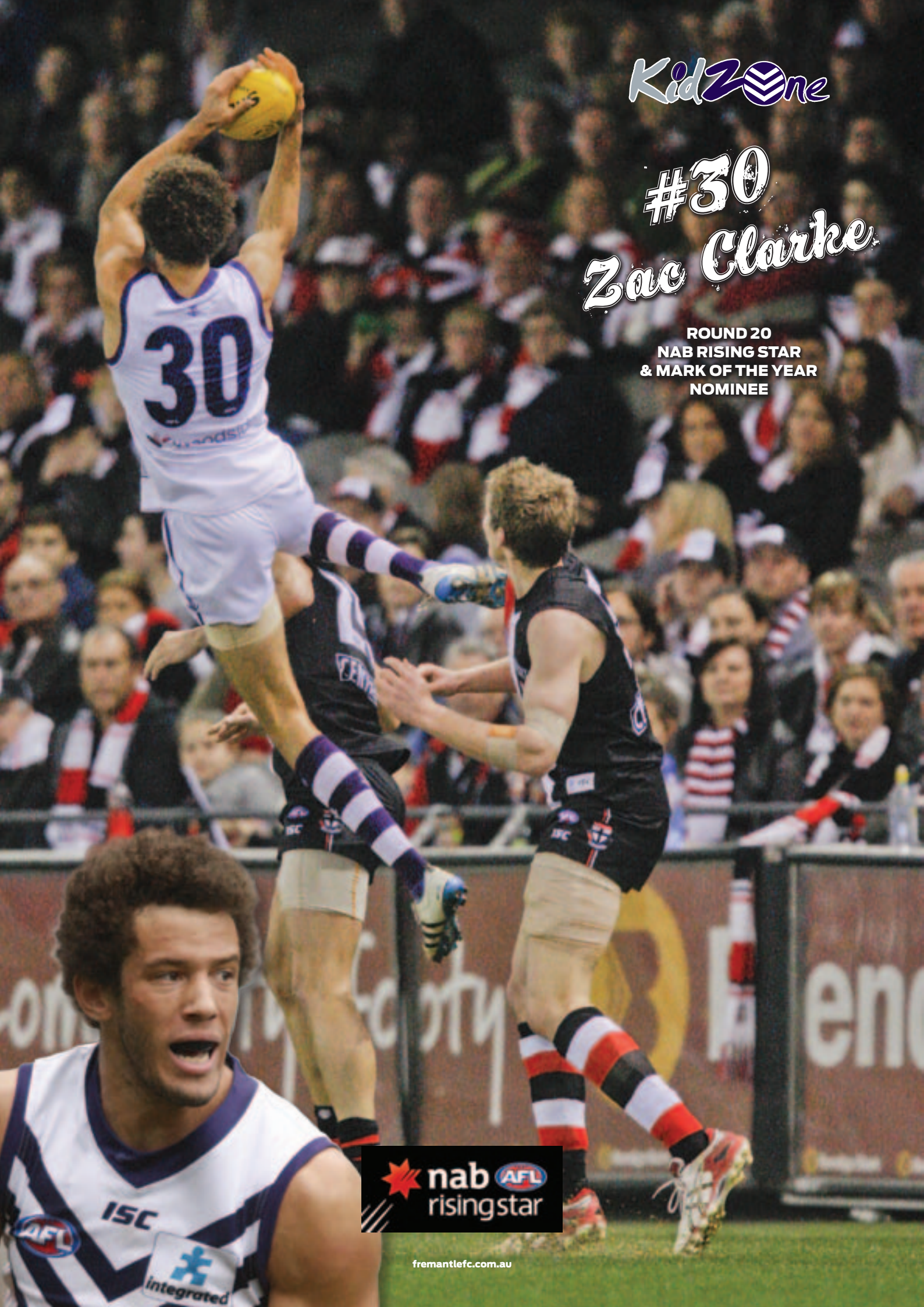
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# CLUB SONG

## Vote to take place in November



**E**LIGIBLE VOTING MEMBERS who participate in the poll to determine Fremantle's official club song will have up to four weeks to hear and consider the options before casting their vote.

The club's objective has been to arrive at a list of alternate songs, including the current song, for members to consider and vote on in an appropriate process.

The vote on the song will be held in conjunction with the annual vote for a member-elected director, making it a more efficient process.

Both polls will be conducted by Computershare, an independent, internationally recognised company that has run the club's member-elected director polls since 2007.

The voting options for the song will include the current club song and Ken Walther's re-worked version of his original song. The ballot will also include one or possibly two options for a new club song, which were being finalised at the time of writing.

As advised in the previous edition of *Docker*, the club engaged suitably qualified professional recording artists to work within AFL guidelines for intellectual property rights and copyright to assist in the production of a shortlist of potential new club songs.

### BACKGROUND

In October 2010, when the club launched its new logo and new jumper for the 2011 season, it announced that as part of the review of the club's brand elements, members would be provided with the opportunity to vote to keep the current song or vote for a preferred alternate song.

On or about 24 October this year, all financial 2011 eligible voting members will receive correspondence from the club outlining both the procedure for the online voting process for the song, and the online and ballot process for the member-elected director poll.

Around the same time, the choice of songs that members will vote on will be posted on the club's website for people to listen to online. Members who do not have access to the internet will be able to visit a listening booth at the club to hear the songs before casting their vote.

All eligible voting members will be able to vote in both the song poll and the member-elected director poll.

Under the club's constitution, eligible voting members are defined as members aged 18 years and over who are financial as at 30 September, 2011.

For up-to-date information leading up to and during the voting period visit [www.fremantlefc.com.au/clubsong](http://www.fremantlefc.com.au/clubsong) .

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# THOMMO'S moments of 2011

**Michael Thomson followed the Fremantle Dockers closely in 2011, and, as he wrapped up with Channel Nine as Sports Director on Friday 2 September, he summed up the top moments for the club this season.**

## 1 SPECTACULAR GOAL

Nat Fyfe produced one of the greatest goals ever kicked at Patersons Stadium in the first Carlton Mid Derby of the season. Running at full speed down the half-forward flank the young gun kicked a left foot 'banana' that travelled in excess of 50 metres and scored a stunning major.

The brilliance of the passage of play was Fyfe's ability to kick a goal on his non-preferred side, running at such speed. Even the Eagles nodded their approval at that one.

## 2 CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Luke McPharlin put on a clinic against St Kilda superstar Nick Reiwooldt in the round 10 clash at Patersons Stadium. The high leaping Freo defender was playing with such confidence that day, he decided to play on after marking deep in defence, running straight at Reiwooldt, who was standing on the mark. The Saints star was stunned at the audacity of the speedy Freo Docker, but was helpless to catch him as McPharlin wrong footed him, then put down the accelerator and sprinted away. Inspiring stuff.

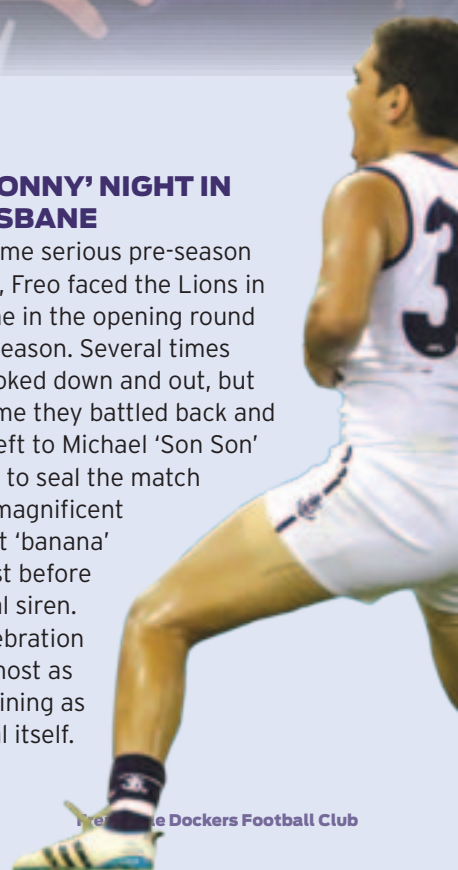
## 3 EMERGING GIANT

Zac Clarke came of age as a player with a superb performance against St Kilda in the round 20 match in Melbourne. The young ruckman soared over Saint Sam Fisher and took an absolute screamer that had the commentators raving about his "brilliant raw talents". His speed around the ground is a treat to watch. Several times during the season we marvelled as the big guy out-sprinted his teammates to run down opposition players. A star of the future.



## 4 A 'SONNY' NIGHT IN BRISBANE

With some serious pre-season injuries, Freo faced the Lions in Brisbane in the opening round of the season. Several times Freo looked down and out, but each time they battled back and it was left to Michael 'Son Son' Walters to seal the match with a magnificent left-foot 'banana' goal just before the final siren. His celebration was almost as entertaining as the goal itself.





# TOP



## 7 DOGFIGHT IN THE WEST

Nick Lower's breathtaking goal to give Fremantle a thrilling win over the Bulldogs at Patersons. The mature age recruit showed his class by getting the ball outside the 50 metre arc and kicking a bomb to seal the victory with just seconds remaining on the clock.



## 6 THE BATTLE OF SYDNEY

This was the Freo Dockers best win of the season. The Swans are always very tough to beat at home and there was a lot riding on this result. With a team devastated by injury, Fremantle fought out a stunning win in cold and wet conditions. Nat Fyfe produced another brilliant performance, capped off with a sensational goal. The young utility showed he's just

as good on the ground in greasy conditions as he is in the air. It seems the sky is the limit.



## 8 MONSTER KICK

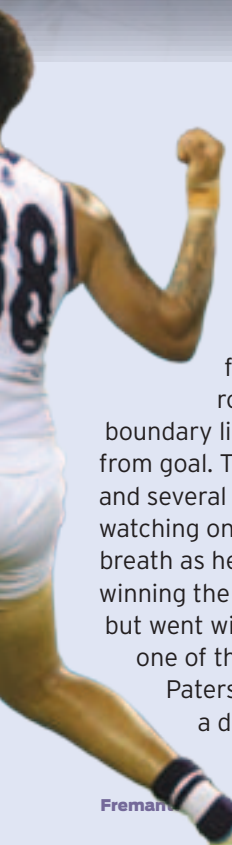
Matthew Pavlich has kicked his fair share of long goals at Patersons Stadium. From a set shot, his effort in the third quarter of the round 14 clash against Brisbane was huge, even by his standards. 'Pav' had taken a mark between the wing and 50 metre arc, kicking towards the three-tier stand end. I checked the replay to confirm he kicked the ball a good 10 metres outside 50 and the ball sailed through the goals, half-way up the posts. It was a 75 metre 'ball burster' that brought the crowd to their feet.

## 9 LOOKING GOOD

The Freo Dockers' home-and-away strip... The new outfits are among the best in the AFL. With so many outstanding young players at the club, it's a great design to take the club forward to its first premiership.‡

## 5 CLOSE, BUT NOT CLOSE ENOUGH

Hayden Ballantyne's kick after the siren in the second Derby of the season. A controversial free kick saw the pocket rocket given the ball on the boundary line more than 50 metres from goal. The crowd at the ground, and several hundred thousand people watching on television, held their breath as he made a mighty effort at winning the game. The ball hit the post, but went within a whisker of producing one of the most sensational wins at Patersons Stadium in more than a decade.





**On Saturday 8 October, the Fremantle Dockers will crown their club champion. Who will take home the 2011 Doig Medal? Will it be the second-year player who's ascended to levels rarely reached so early in one's career? Or perhaps an exemplary season in defence will see the career of a club stalwart fittingly rewarded? Could a six-time winner emerge, or will someone flash home and trump them all? Read on...**

# DOIG MEDAL

## NAT FYFE

To be one of the favourites to win Fremantle's best and fairest award in just his second year of elite football speaks volumes about the impact Nat Fyfe had in 2011. The young man from Lake Grace, 350km south-east of Perth, had all the experts talking about just how good he can be. He led the club for total handballs and finished second in total kicks on the way to topping the statistics at Fremantle for total disposals and disposals per game. A move into the midfield was the catalyst for the 19-year-old's breakout season. His intelligent running patterns meant he inevitably found himself in the same neighbourhood as the football, while his brilliant judgement and leap allowed him to haul down numerous pack marks. There wasn't any particular standout game from Fyfe in 2011 – he just performed at an incredibly high level on a weekly basis.

## LUKE MCPHARLIN

Luke McPharlin has been a brick wall in the heart of Fremantle's defence this season. He got the opposition's best key forward and, more often than not, he came out on top. Among his impressive scalps was St Kilda captain Nick Riewoldt who McPharlin kept goalless on two occasions in 2011. While the 29-year-old's talents were crucial defensively this season, he was also influential going the other way, averaging a career-best 15 disposals per game. Although defenders do not poll well when it comes to the Brownlow Medal, the Doig is judged by the coaches, who look for how well players perform their role for the team when handing out the votes. Judging by this criterion, McPharlin is the big danger to the favourite, Nat Fyfe. A win would be a just reward for an exemplary career at the Fremantle Dockers which began back in 2002.

### THE #1 TICKET HOLDERS



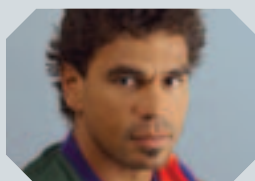
Eskimo Joe  
TIP: Nat Fyfe

### THE JUNIOR



Jessica Sheehan  
TIP: Matthew Pavlich

### THE '97 MEDALLIST



Dale Kickett  
TIP: Nat Fyfe

### THE MEDIA



Steve Butler, The West  
TIP: Luke McPharlin

### THE MEDIA



Michael Thomson, Channel Nine  
TIP: Nat Fyfe





# L P PREVIEW

## MATTHEW PAVLICH

It wouldn't be Doig Medal night without the five-time winner of the award, Matthew Pavlich. 2011 was a year that saw 'Pav' play predominately in the midfield, which didn't harm his prospects of adding a sixth Doig to his collection. Freo's captain has been consistent all year. He gathered more than 20 disposals in every match from rounds 1 to 10. In fact, 'Pav' only failed to reach 20 touches in three games all season, before injury saw him subbed out in the second quarter of the round 22 match against North Melbourne. He didn't play again after that. When required, the 29-year-old still had his goalkicking touch, as shown by a five-goal haul in round 14 and two bags of three in rounds 12 and 15. One thing is certain: 'Pav' will poll well in most matches this season, which makes him a serious contender for the 2011 Doig Medal and further add to his growing legacy at Fremantle.

## GREG BROUGHTON

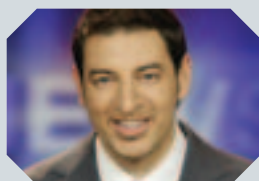
After missing seven games in 2010 and still finishing sixth, Greg Broughton was fancied as a legitimate Doig Medal contender in 2011. He started the year slowly playing off half-back, only twice managing more than 20 disposals in the opening eight rounds. But injuries to key midfielders throughout the season began to take their toll. So, in the third quarter of the round 14 match against Brisbane at Patersons Stadium, coach Mark Harvey decided to swing Broughton into the midfield. The 24-year-old ignited the turf with a 20-possession, two-goal half that carried Freo to a win. Broughton continued where he left off in the ensuing weeks, gathering hauls of 32 (twice), 31, 26 and 29 disposals. He will be a long way from the leaders at the halfway mark, but expect Broughton to thunder home with some big vote-getting games at the business end of the season.

### THE MEDIA



Lachy Reid, Channel 10  
TIP: Nat Fyfe

### THE MEDIA



Basil Zempilas, Channel 7  
TIP: Luke McPharlin

### THE SIREN



Lisa Fernandez  
TIP: Nat Fyfe

### THE MAYOR OF FREMANTLE



Brad Pettitt  
TIP: Nat Fyfe

### THE MASCOT



Johnny 'the Doc' Docker  
TIP: Matthew Pavlich

# Schammer calls time

**Described by Mark Harvey as a “little terrier who gave his all”, Byron Schammer dedicated his life to Fremantle. A popular player among the fans throughout his career, Schammer-time has come to an end. Story: Costa Kastanis**

**M**UCH HAS CHANGED at the Fremantle Dockers since a 17-year-old Byron Schammer arrived at the club as a fresh-faced, impressionable recruit in 2002.

“When I first came we had one fitness guy,” Schammer says. “Now we’ve got several.

“And I used to get my game on the old VHS tape. Now we’ve got a laptop each.”

Schammer left his parents behind in the South Australian country town of Loxton to start his new life in the West. He felt a little alone at first, but that soon changed.

“I’m so thankful of the footy club,” he says.

“They gave me so much at that age and I am the person that I am today because of the football club.”

Today, Schammer is a 129-game veteran who has lived through some of the best and worst times at Fremantle.

His favourite memory over the past nine seasons is his first game – round 1, 2003 – which was in his hometown of Adelaide and was also Aaron Sandilands’ debut.

“That was Wayne Carey’s first game for Adelaide,” he says. “It was quite special to play my first game in front of my family and friends.

“I was so excited to be on the boundary thinking I was about to run on and be an AFL footballer. It was just a fantastic day.”

A star-struck Schammer knew every member of the opposition. Many of them were his idols.

“I grew up barracking for the Crows,” he says.

“They had guys that played in premierships when I was a mad-keen Crows supporter – Ben Hart, Mark Riccietto and Andrew McLeod.

“Running alongside those guys was something I’ll never forget.”

## NEXT PHASE

Wiping away a couple of tears, Schammer stood up in front of his teammates and coaches on Monday 29 August and told them that he wasn’t going to be a Fremantle Docker anymore – not a player anyway.

“I didn’t think it was going to be that hard,” he says.

“Getting up there and telling them I was no longer going to be here was quite difficult, but I’m just happy to move on and begin the next phase of my life.”

After struggling to get a game in the seniors over the past two seasons, Schammer says he knew it was time to give his AFL career away and focus his energies on a stockbroking career.

“I’ve put my heart and soul into the footy club for nine years and I now want to be able to put my time and effort into something else,” he says.

Now calling WA home, he will remain in football as a Claremont player in the WAFL, where he hopes to win a premiership.

“I’ll continue while the body is pretty good,” he says.

“I’m only 26.”



Schammer says his greatest influences throughout his career were always his fellow players.

“The quality of people at the footy club when I came here was outstanding,” he says.

He makes special mention of his best mate Paul Hasleby, along with former Freo stars Peter Bell, Shaun McManus, and the Carr brothers, Josh and Matthew.

“All those guys were instrumental in my development as a player and also as a person,” he says.

“I’d like to thank them very much. They’ve been fantastic to me and the reason for who I am today.”

He admits he will miss the passion of the fans.

“I can’t describe that feeling of running out in front of 40,000 passionate Fremantle fans and the comradeship between the players after a win,” he says.

“Those are the things that I’ll miss the most.”

Schammer thanks the Fremantle fans for their “amazing” support throughout his career.

“I’m really proud and honoured to be a part of this football club and now I move on as a past player,” he says.

“I’m so proud to have played for Fremantle and I’ve always given it everything.” ‡



# Roger, over and out

**Entering the game as a “skinny kid” who minded his own business, Roger Hayden leaves it as a leader, a legend and a gentleman respected by all his peers. Story: Costa Kastanis**

**R**OUND 16, 2002. In just his second game of AFL football, 22-year-old Roger Hayden is issued a challenge by his then coach Chris Connolly. Facing bitter rivals West Coast, Hayden is told that he is playing on dangerous Eagles' goalsneak Phil Matera, who had hurt Freo in the past. He is also told that he is playing for his career.

“Those things never fazed me,” Hayden, now 30, says.

“I just went out there and accepted it and tried to play harder.”

Hayden played harder. He kept Matera kickless until the last quarter as Freo went on to record a 30-point win.

“That was a turning point,” Hayden says.

“It was early in my career and I was just happy to be playing. When I was challenged, I thought to myself, ‘I’m going to have a go here’.”

After 128 games, Hayden announced his retirement on Wednesday 31 August. Ultimately, his battles with his body forced him to call an end to his AFL career.

“I was disappointed,” he says. “I knew it was coming, but I didn’t know it was going to come on that day.”

Hayden had sat down with the coaches and fitness staff to discuss his future.

“They told me it would be tough for me to get back,” he says.

“They gave me a bit of time to have a think about it. It was surreal.”

After talking it over with his wife, Nina, and receiving some advice from his friends, Hayden made his decision.

“I did not want to go through another six months of rehab,” he says emphatically.

“There are other things in life besides football, and, in the end, there was a mutual agreement between the club and myself.

“I’m looking forward to the next part of my life with my wife and two kids, Noah and Isaiah. It’s exciting.”

## INDEBTED

Hayden remembers when he first arrived at Fremantle as a 2000 Rookie Draft selection.

“I was this very quiet, skinny 68kg kid,” he says.

“Very much like Stephen Hill when he got here.”

Hayden says he was at first perceived as being very lazy by a few of the coaches at the time.

“I think that’s just the way I am,” he says.

“I’m pretty laid back. When I’m out there playing football, it looks like that, but believe me, I’m trying hard.”

Hayden credits his teammates over the years for helping him blossom into the person he is today.

“I’m indebted to guys like Troy Cook, Shane Parker, Peter Bell, Matthew Pavlich and Antoni Grover – guys that go through that journey with you,” he says.

“They brought me out of my shell. I became a leader of the club, on and off the field, and earned the respect of the players and coaching staff.”

Hayden thinks Freo won’t have any problems finding a replacement for the defensive-sweeper role he’s done so well throughout his career.

“Nick Suban could be the next one,” he says.

“He’s tough and hates getting beaten, which is a trait that I love. He’s got that fiery nature out on the field and he’s got good skills as well.”

Hayden’s most cherished memory at Freo is the club’s first ever final, at Subiaco in 2003.

“That night against Essendon was the best feeling ever,” he says.

“The crowd were unbelievable. I’ve never heard anything that loud in my life.

“We kicked the first two goals of the game and the roar was just amazing. I’ll never forget it.”

He wants to be remembered as a humble guy who went out there and played the game as best he could.

“I got the most out of what I had as a person and a player,” he says.

“I hope I’m respected for what I did on and off the field. I gave everything I had and achieved as much as I could.” ‡



KidZone

POLL  
WINNER



#1  
Hayden Ballantyne



# Membership Matters



**CELEBRATING OUR FOUNDATION**

**O**N SUNDAY 14 AUGUST, more than 200 inaugural Fremantle Dockers' members attended the Foundation Members Breakfast held at Burswood's Grand Ballroom.

Fremantle CEO Steve Rosich and President Steve Harris were among the guest speakers and spoke of the importance of long-term members. They also acknowledged how our members are considered among the most loyal and passionate in the AFL.

The guests enjoyed hearing from the Freo Footy Panel that included three players from the club's first ever game – Peter Bell, Matthew Burton and Quentin Leach. They spoke about how much the club has changed in the past 16 years. 'Belly' reminisced about hearing the bell ring at Subiaco Oval whenever he had a possession, while Matthew Burton, now in the club's coaching department, gave an insight into what it was like to be the tallest person in the AFL and on being a cult figure. Leach reminded the guests that he was the first Freo Docker to win a game with a goal after the siren, back in 1997 against Brisbane at Subiaco Oval.

The function was a great success and a fantastic opportunity for the club to acknowledge and recognise this very loyal group of supporters. ⚓



*Fremantle founding members enjoying the event at Burswood*



## WIN A SIGNED JUMPER!

We are currently preparing for 2012 membership renewals.

Renewing online is the quickest way to renew your membership.

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To update your information – simply log on to [fremantlefc.com.au](http://fremantlefc.com.au) and follow the links to log in to your account.

If you have any questions please call the Membership Services Team on (08) 9433 7111 or 1300 88 20 77.

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# THE LONG R

**It's been a long road back for Anthony Morabito since the day he heard the three dreaded letters: A.C.L. After an intense recovery period, he's now ready to become a second-year player, again. Story: Costa Kastanis**

**A**NTHONY Morabito was driving home at about 2pm on Friday 10 December, 2010, when he got the call from Fremantle Dockers club doctor Ken Withers. "Kenny said I'd better come into the office and have a chat," Morabito says. "I drew my conclusions from there."

Earlier that day, Morabito had been out on the track for a pre-season training session. Taking part in a regulation handball drill, one simple change of direction changed everything.

"I felt something in my knee that I hadn't felt before and I didn't know what it was," he says.

"I thought I may have just jarred it and it was going to be a two week injury at the most.

"I was pretty confident that I hadn't done anything too major."

What he had done was damage the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in his left knee, which amounted to a full reconstruction and one year on the sidelines.

The 19-year-old, who had never been seriously injured before, was stunned that one little tweak could do so much damage.

"I'd heard that it doesn't take much to do it but it never crossed my mind at the time that it happened," he says.

## POISED

A shattered Morabito didn't know what to think when Dr Withers gave him the diagnosis.

"A lot of things went through my mind," he says.

"After playing 23 games in my first year I had all the confidence I could do it again, and news like that brings you right back down to reality."

Morabito had finished the 2010 season off strongly and felt like he was poised to take the next step in 2011.

"In 2010, I came in doing no pre-season, but by the end of the year



I felt I had built up enough fitness to run out games better. So I set myself up for a big pre-season," he says.

"I made big strides in my fitness levels and I thought that the only way would be up."

After the operation on his knee, everyday things – getting in and out of a car and walking up stairs – suddenly presented a major challenge.

"I couldn't really do any of that too comfortably," he says. "For that first month I went back home to Harvey and had mum look after me."

His PlayStation 3 and episodes of Prison Break helped him kill some time, but it was a book given to him by assistant coach Simon Lloyd that impacted Morabito the most.

"It was the Adam Ramanauskas biography," Morabito says.

"That was an eye opener because you think you've got it bad with a knee injury, and he fought cancer. "That was pretty inspirational."

There was no end of support for Morabito from his teammates, both past and current ones.

"I got a call from Des Headland," Morabito says.

"He had a knee issue throughout his career, and told me I still have plenty of time to get over it.

"Paul Hasleby contacted me, too. He'd been through it himself and he was pretty positive about the situation."

## INSPIRATION

If any of his teammates were qualified to offer support to Morabito, it was Tim Ruffles, who had undergone two knee reconstructions in two seasons, on different knees.

"He was the first one to see me in hospital after the surgery," Morabito says.

"Being in rehab with Timmy and seeing how he had gone about it was great.

"I looked to him for a lot of inspiration."

Morabito also gained confidence from some established stars of the competition that had made successful comebacks from knee injuries.

"I said to myself 'they came back from it so why can't I?'"

St Kilda's Brendon Goddard, who injured an ACL in 2007 which required a reconstruction, was one



# ROAD BACK

player that Morabito had particular admiration for.

"It was heartening to see a guy like Brendon Goddard, who has done a similar injury at a similar age to me, come back and play the way he has played over the past few years," he says.

"It's a fair achievement."

## MENTAL TOUGHNESS

2011 has been all about rehab for Morabito, who says his knee is feeling stronger and more flexible by the day.

"I've had lots of time to concentrate on power lifting – general dead lifts and back squats," he says.

"I was pretty poor at both of those before I did my knee.

"This year I'm lifting a lot more than I was when I first arrived at the club. That's shown that I still have the strength in my legs to get back out there."

Morabito believes his situation has helped him improve markedly in another area of his game – mental toughness.

"Watching the boys running out there, you do get a little bit jealous," he says.

"I can't wait for next year. I have the motivation in me to know I never want to be back in that position in rehab again."

Morabito is close to resuming full-scale training, aiming to rejoin his teammates within the first month of pre-season – give or take a week or two.

And he's set his sights on playing his first match during next year's NAB Cup campaign.

But the number four pick from the 2009 AFL Draft is approaching 2012 a little differently.

"I'll be a third-year player, but I definitely feel like next year is my second year of AFL," he says.

When he does pull on the purple

jumper again to run out for an AFL game, Morabito will be savouring every moment.

"It'll be like I'm a little kid and I've woken up for the first time to go to footy again," he says.

"I can't wait for that feeling of preparing for a game and running out there in front of the crowd.

"It's something I probably took for granted, but from now on I definitely won't."✎

## REHAB SNAPSHOT

**First 4-5 months:** cannot push knee too hard

- 1 Tying legs up and swimming laps – 500m, 1km and 2km. Gradual walking in the pool.
- 2 In gym on the bike, which leads as an introduction to leg weights.
- 3 Cross trainer and Ultra G machine.

**Now:** outside

- 1 Running laps.
- 2 Leg weights.

**Next**

- 1 Looking at changing direction very soon.
- 2 To resume full training early in pre-season.

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**DOCKERS**

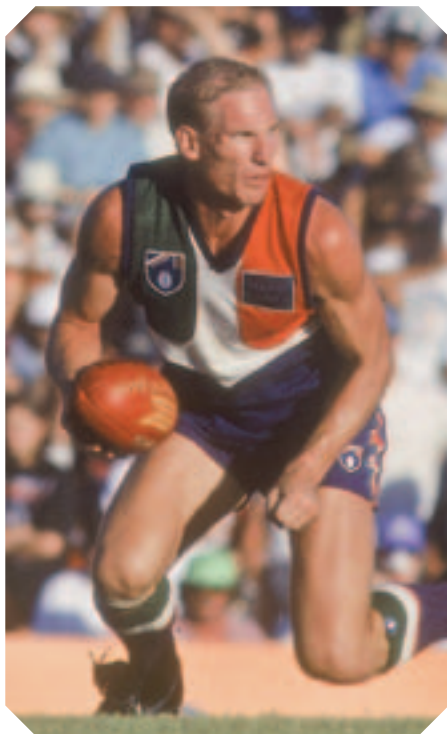
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# Where have they docked? TODD RIDLEY

**An inaugural Freo Docker, Todd Ridley holds the distinction of kicking the first ever goal for the club. He played 21 games for Fremantle in a 35-game, five-year AFL career that included stints at Essendon and Hawthorn. Docker caught up with the now 42-year-old.**



**Where are you living at the moment?**

I just bought and renovated a house in Craigie.

**And what are you doing with yourself these days for work?**

As I've pretty much always done in my career, I'm working in the mining industry, mostly in the supply department. I'm the infantry controller for Karara mining – a big iron ore project out of Geraldton.

**Do you have a family.**

I've got a couple of daughters, Bree – nearly 17, and Emerson – 13 going on 23. And my girlfriend Toni.

**Are your daughters Freo fans?**

No. Bree is a Collingwood supporter and Emerson wouldn't know a football if it bounced up and hit her in the face.

**What did you do after you retired from AFL footy?**

I finished up at Subiaco for four years playing WAFL and I still do the commentary and boundary riding on the ABC for WAFL games. I've done that since 2002.

**Having watched a lot of WAFL, are there any young Fremantle players that have impressed you?**

Yes, I like Josh Mellington from West Perth. I've seen him play a few times and he's pretty impressive. He doesn't get a lot of the ball but what he does with it is pretty impressive.

**Back to the AFL, you were at Essendon in a Premiership year. What was that like?**

Well I would have liked to play in the Grand Final. I played in one of the finals but didn't make it into the Grand Final. They were exciting times to be involved with. I got there after the 1990 Grand Final loss to Collingwood, so even though the team was completely different, Kevin Sheedy got them winning straight away.

**What was it like coming from an established club such as Essendon to a new young team like Fremantle in its inaugural year?**

It was a big turnaround coming from Essendon. They had terrific facilities at their home ground at Windy Hill. At Fremantle, we didn't have any facilities at all really. Even the head office was just a temporary fix in High Street. We used to train at Troy Park in Attadale and Aquinas College. Even a couple of grounds in Bicton around the corner from Gerard Neesham's house. Coming from Essendon, where they had just about the best facilities, to a club which was new and had very limited facilities, it was pretty tough but exciting at the same time being part of something brand new.

**What stood out for you as your best memory in that first year at Freo?**

The first win was a big moment, it was against Fitzroy, and, the week after we played Geelong at the WACA and won that too. We won eight games for the year and were in the finals hunt. We did get thrashed a few times, but we still managed to win quite a few games that year and considering

everyone picked us to win nothing, winning eight games was an exciting thing in itself.

**What did it mean to kick to the first goal ever for the Fremantle Dockers?**

My kids still think I had one kick in footy and that was the first goal. They don't know too much about me other than that. To kick the first goal wasn't my aim; I actually thought I'd be lining up down back. But it was very exciting. My boots were taken off me straight after the game and they bronzed them. I've become the answer to a trivia question which gets asked every now and then. It's one question I always get right! I found out the other day that I also got the first Brownlow vote for Fremantle as well and I didn't even know that. I don't know how I got the votes thinking back, but I'll be the first vote getter and goal kicker. I'm pretty proud of it to be honest.

**Who's your favourite player from the current Fremantle team? And why?**

Nathan Fyfe. For a skinny bloke he has got an incredible set of hands. I've seen him play quite a bit and the way he just grabs everything, even a bouncing ball on the ground, he'll scoop it up with one hand. His kicking is outstanding and, for a second year player, he's very impressive. I really like watching him and by all reports, he's just a pure gentleman, an absolute pleasure of a young man to work with and he's got his head screwed on the right way.Ⓜ



# WELCOME TO THE PURPLE PATCH!

We asked our supporters to email us photos for 'The Purple Patch' at [purplepatch@fremantlefc.com.au](mailto:purplepatch@fremantlefc.com.au) and we have received some fantastic shots! Here are some of the great entries sent for this edition of *Docker*.



## AROUND THE WORLD IN DOCKER DAYS

During my recent travels to Europe, I visited several countries, including Italy and Switzerland. Lucerne in Switzerland was one of my favourite stops during my three-week trip, and in this photo (above left) I'm standing in front of Lucerne's famous chapel bridge which links one side of the city to the other.

While in Italy, we stopped by Pisa where I visited the famous Leaning Tower which I'm sure Aaron Sandilands can push up himself!

Then while 'Rome-ing' around the Italian capital, I stopped by the famous Trevi Fountain and threw in some coins to make a wish for Freo success in the years to come.  
*Mick Soh, Churchlands*

## PURPLE IN THE LION CITY

My family and I recently enjoyed a great holiday in Singapore.

Before we left for our trip, the first things we packed were our Dockers guernseys.

We could not wait to share our passion in the Merlion City... Go Freo!  
*Marieki, Masey and Jada Watson, North Yunderup*



## A LONG WAY TO THE TOP

This is my brother, Robbie Williams, once he had reached the top of the Southern Alps in New Zealand. It took him four days to climb the mountain and once on top, Robbie stripped down to his Freo jumper.

*Bridie Williams, Carine*



## BOMBS AWAY

After winding our way along pathways cleared of 'unexploded bombs' from the Vietnam War, we could not go past without taking a photo with my favourite gear on at 'The Plain of Jars' in Laos. These unexplained features were dotted around the countryside and dated back to around 500 BC.

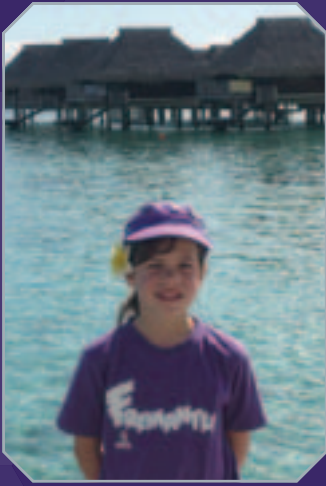
*Judy Buck, Jandakot*



## WINNING DOCKER SMILE

Jorja Fernandes loves playing footy in her Dockers outfit with her dad and tios (uncles) and she loves being a little Docker!  
*Paulo Fernandes, Munster*





### SILENT READING

Here is a picture of my 20-month-old son Caylan, catching up on all the important information from the Fremantle Dockers Football Club. Your magazine is one of the few things that can keep him occupied for a good length of time.

Thank you *Docker mag!*  
Tiffany Kailis, Woodlands



### ADELAIDE TO TAHITI

This is me in my Freo gear on holidays recently in Tahiti. I am from Adelaide and love the Freo Dockers.

I am a member and I go to the game whenever they are in Adelaide, so of course Matthew Pavlich is my favourite player.

Caitlin Bailey, Adelaide



### DOES THIS SCARF SUIT ME?

We think so! Little Oscar was only seven days old when he 'posed' for this beautiful photograph to declare his lifelong commitment to the Freo Dockers... Heave Ho!

Jonathon Bates, Innaloo



### FREO FRIENDS' LUNCH

Three times this season, a passionate group of Freo fans got together to enjoy a "Freo Friends' Lunch". With more than 40 people at each lunch, there was plenty of purple and lots of footy talk. Here is a photo of the 'Freo Friends' before the round 18 derby.

Julie Dempster, Leeming



### HARDCOURT DOCKERS

The Horsham Dockers Volleyball Team now stand out from the rest of the competition since receiving a set of training singlets from the Fremantle Dockers.

Come grand final time, inspired by their new uniforms and wearing them with pride, they beat their opposition in straight sets to become the reigning premiers for the second season running.

Well done guys!

Mykel Dwan, Mikko Roldan, Jack Hannan, William Radford, Mitch Huff & Jaydon Walters, Victoria



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# Community Matters



## South Africa's pride of Lions

**In their eyes, it's as big as playing rugby because they represent their families, their communities and their whole nation. Story: Costa Kastanis**

**W**HEN FREMANTLE champion Aaron Sandilands walked into the club's change rooms on Friday 4 August, he would not have expected to hear the collective gasp of an Aussie Rules football team from South Africa, staring upward in astonishment.

"We are not very big, we are mostly quick," said 20-year-old Lwazi (pictured below), of the South African Lions Aussie Rules team. The Lions were recently in Australia preparing for the 2011 International Cup, held in Sydney.

The Lions were the special guests of Freo development coach Jason

McCartney, who took the boys for a training session on Fremantle Oval, followed by a tour of the club's facilities.

McCartney has a special affiliation with the team – he coached them in the 2008 International Cup when the Lions defied all the odds to finish third.

He said the way they embraced the game made it a wonderful experience for him.

"They have a genuine love and passion for the game," McCartney said.

"They follow everything you say and they're so polite. It's always, 'Yes coach, what do you want me to do coach?'."

"It gives you great hope that there will one day be talent come out of these areas that will play AFL."

During their visit to the club, the Lions were given an inspirational speech from Freo legend Shaun McManus, before being shown an opposition analysis from one of Freo's games this season.

Lwazi said it was an eye-opening experience for him and his teammates.

"It's brilliant to see great facilities and see what top level guys do to prepare for the games," he said.

"We only see them on television on a field, but it's amazing to see how they train and maintain that fitness."

McCartney said he would always treasure the relationships he's built with what he described were some of the warmest and friendliest people he'd ever come across.

"When you look at their background and where they live, you shake your head in amazement," he said.

"They are always happy, which is remarkable considering some of the circumstances they've grown up in and live their day-to-day lives in."

### STRANGE GAME

Back home, Lwazi lives in Khayelitsha, the second biggest township in South Africa after Soweto. There are no skyscrapers, just an urban sprawl with a population of 420,271 of which one in two people are unemployed.

Growing up a rugby and basketball fan, like most of the kids in his country, Lwazi one day saw a strange game on TV that raised his eyebrow.

"I wondered what sport it was. I was curious," he said.





That sport was Australian Rules football, and a fascination began that saw him play for the AFL Wild's Western Cape Magpies in 2007, and eventually South Africa's national side, the Lions, in the 2008 International Cup in Melbourne and Warrnambool.

Lwazi has wonderful memories of the 2008 tournament, when he and his teammates trumped the highly-fancied Irish team in a dramatic third-place playoff.

"We were five points down when one of our players took a mark about 55m out," he said.

"We all knew he had no chance of making the distance."

### CRAZY

The siren sounded and the Irish began to celebrate, but unwittingly, one of them stepped over the mark and the umpire awarded a 25m penalty to the Lions, bringing the shot within range.

"None of us could even look at the kick, but it went through for a goal and we all went crazy," Lwazi said.

The tournament was a great experience for Lwazi and his



teammates, and one that made all of them immensely proud.

"It was incredible to have all these different sporting backgrounds come together and put it all together on the field as a team," he said.

"In any sport that one plays, you play to reach the top level and represent your country, no matter how big the sport is.

"In my eyes, it's as big as playing rugby because we represent our families, our communities and our whole nation."

In 2007, the AFL/AIS Academy began

touring South Africa for an annual series of games against the Lions.

Last year, the results were one-sided, as expected, but the experience was invaluable to the South Africans.

"To be the best, you've got to play the best, and that experience against the best kids from Australia was incredible," Lwazi said.

The Lions competed with passion at the 2011 International Cup, finishing fifth after winning another heart-stopping playoff, this time against Nauru.

Lwazi and his pride of Lions were the pride of South Africa again.†

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# Grover and Mundy light the night

**A** CROSS AUSTRALIA in September, people gather to shine beautiful coloured lanterns for the Leukaemia Foundation's 'Light the Night' campaign to remember, reflect and give hope and support to those who have battled, or are battling, Leukaemia.

Fremantle Dockers Antoni Grover and David Mundy attended the launch of the campaign in August in support of this very special event.

Representing the gold 'love light' lantern for those who have lost loved ones, Grover spoke openly of losing a very close friend and confidant to

the disease in August 2008. It is due to this great personal loss that Grover feels so passionately about the club's partnership with the Leukaemia Foundation.

General manager of the Leukaemia Foundation WA, Carolyn Turner, said thousands of people who are facing the challenges of leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood disorders, come to the Leukaemia Foundation each year for support.

"Light the Night is the Leukaemia Foundation's most inspiring event, and helps to create a brighter future for West Australian families by bringing people together, and raising money

for free services and blood cancer research," Turner said.

While the gold 'love light' remembers lost loved ones, there is also the white 'life light' to reflect on a life with blood cancer, and the blue 'hope light' to give hope and support to others affected by the disease.

The Perth Light the Night is held at the Esplanade Park on Riverside Drive where thousands of families, friends and work colleagues converge to hear some inspiring stories.

For more information on 'Light the Night' or to donate to the Leukaemia Foundation please visit their website: [www.leukaemia.org.au](http://www.leukaemia.org.au)



## KICKING GOALS IN THE KIMBERLEY

CONSTABLE CARE PUT THE PEDAL to the metal in August and once again joined the annual Variety Bash to raise money for sick, disadvantaged and special needs children. Piloted by Assistant Police Commissioner Wayne Gregson, the Constable Care 1964 Dodge Phoenix left Perth with a chorus of sirens and an impressive light show. Amongst the vital provisions secured in the boot of the '64 Dodge, alongside the first aid kit and emergency rations, were boxes of specially printed Constable Care merchandise to distribute to schools along the route, including some special Freo Dockers' footys for the kids living in the Kimberley.

This year's Variety Bash route passed through Port Hedland, Broome, Derby, Kununurra and some (even more) remote spots in between, giving the competitors a chance to see parts of our State they'd never seen, and meet some footy mad kids along the way. Next to dodging crocs, footy is the biggest thing in this part of the world so, naturally, the Freo Dockers' footbolls went down a treat.

As any competitor will tell you, it wouldn't be 'The Bash' without a few mechanical casualties, and unfortunately this year the Constable Care wagon was no exception. But that's another story, so check out [www.constablecare.org.au/news](http://www.constablecare.org.au/news) to read about what happened and how the Constable Care team got back on the road!





# Freo helps tackle asthma

After 22 games played, and after laying 1,604 tackles this season, the club is delighted to announce it has helped raise \$32,080 for the Asthma Foundation WA.



**A**T THE COMMENCEMENT of the 2011 season, the Fremantle Dockers teamed up with the Asthma

Foundation WA for a new initiative which aimed to bring awareness to the serious condition that is asthma.

Back in February, ten Perth companies signed up to "Help the Fremantle Dockers Tackle Asthma" and committed to donate \$2 for every tackle that Fremantle laid in the 2011 season.

Stephen Hill and Adam McPhee led the charge as the ambassadors for the campaign and were extremely honoured to be associated with the initiative. Stephen himself struggled with asthma growing up, and is a terrific example of how asthma doesn't have to affect your life, so long as it is managed properly.

The CEO of the Asthma Foundation WA, David Johnson, said he was extremely pleased with the result.

"From the outset, the Freo Dockers have been outstanding in their commitment to the initiative," he said.

"We knew that with a little help from others, together we could tackle this cause head on.

"On behalf of all West Australians that have asthma or a linked condition, we are extremely grateful to the Fremantle Dockers, particularly Adam McPhee and Stephen Hill, and the ten companies for all they have done for us," Johnson said.

## BETTER DIAGNOSIS

Each year the Asthma Foundation WA funds vital research into asthma prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Projects that gain funding have been judged by independent, international and national assessors of the highest quality. These projects result in an improved understanding of the illness, better diagnosis and treatment developments and the ability to

make life much easier for all West Australians living with asthma.

Asthma is in the top five most common reasons for visiting a general practitioner, with more than 225,000 West Australians living with the condition.

The Asthma Foundation WA provides a number of services to assist people with asthma, along with their families, friends and carers.‡

## TOP 5 TACKLERS

1. Chris Mayne 92 tackles  
= **\$1,840** raised for Asthma WA
2. Nick Lower 87 tackles  
= **\$1,740** raised for Asthma WA
3. Matthew Pavlich 86 tackles  
= **\$1,720** raised for Asthma WA
3. Paul Duffield 86 tackles  
= **\$1,720** raised for Asthma WA
4. Nathan Fyfe 85 tackles  
= **\$1,700** raised for Asthma WA
5. Matthew de Boer 84 tackles  
= **\$1,680** raised for Asthma WA
5. Greg Broughton 84 tackles  
= **\$1,680** raised for Asthma WA

*Hi Kids, well I can't believe season 2011 has come to an end.*

We managed to keep so busy this year with lots of fun games, activities and competitions through *Docker* and 'My Monday Message' emails that the time has flown by.

I wanted to make a special mention to all the junior fans that came along to the Collingwood game in round 23. It was a big night of footy with KIDZONE CLUB members even forming the guard of honour that the players ran through at the start of the match.

Did anyone notice me getting around Patersons Stadium even quicker by the end of the season? Well I have Ballaz to thank for that – he worked with me on improving my running speed so I could high-five as many of you as possible on game day – and it worked!

Enjoy the cool activities and games in this final siren edition of *Docker* for 2011. I'll keep in touch with you all with 'My Monday Message' throughout the pre-season.

*See you on the flipside! Johnny*



## CRAFT CORNER: PAPER PLAYERS

### 1 Cut a long strip of paper



### 2 Draw the outline of a person at one end of the strip



### 3 Fold the paper accordion style

Make sure that the width of the folds are the size of the outline of the person you drew



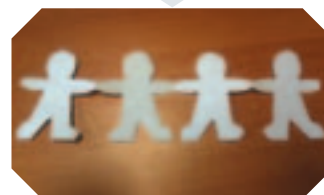
### 4 Cut out the person

Leaving the folds intact at the hands so the chain does not break



### 5 Unfold the paper

Now you will have a chain of people



### 6 Decorate as your favourite player

Using textas, pencils or anything else you can find to decorate



You can even make a whole team!



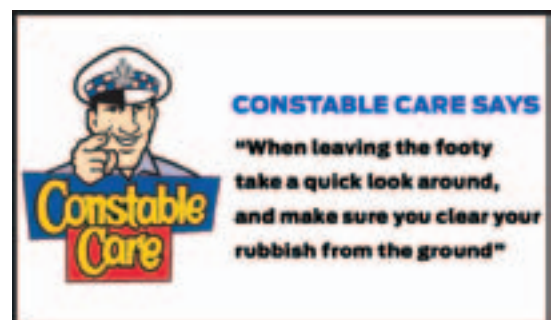
## KIDZONE CLUB GUARD OF HONOUR

On Friday 26 August a group of lucky KidZone Club members formed a guard of honour for the Freo players to run through for their game against Collingwood.

As the kids were lined up waiting for the team to run through, Hayden Ballantyne came past to say hello, giving everyone a high-five.

Nina Fuller had an extra special night, as she had written the words to go on the banner that the team ran through. She was taken out onto the field first and was lucky enough to meet Freo captain Matthew Pavlich!

Johnny 'the Doc' Docker even got the chance to go out and say hi to the kids, who looked like they were having the time of their lives.



## RESULTS FROM DOCKER EDITION 2, 2011:

*Bring Me to Life: Tendai Mzungu #13 and Jayden Pitt #4*



## HOUSEMATES

Look at the players below and match them up with their housemates. Read the clues to help guess which player lives with who.



My housemate's brother is the captain of the Adelaide Crows. My housemate is:



My housemate captained Vic Country in the 2008 National under 18 Championships. My housemate is:



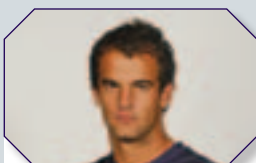
My housemate hosted a Docker TV show called The \_\_\_\_\_ Minutes. My housemate is:



My housemate won the AFLPA's Best First Year Player Award in 2010. My housemate is:



My housemate has a twin who plays for North Melbourne. My housemate is:



My housemate's jumper number plus my jumper number equals 58. My housemate is:



My housemate played junior footy at Bullcreek/Leeming. My housemate is:



My housemate played 43 games for the Magpies. My housemate is:



My housemate loves to fly. My housemate is:



My housemate is from Tasmania. My housemate is:

**HINT:** For some extra clues watch DTV's episode of Roving Mike, 'Teammates'.



## HELP JOHNNY KICK A GOAL

Can you direct Johnny through the maze to get to the goals?



## WHAT WAS HE THINKING?

Fill in what you think Ballaz is thinking in this photo and send your answer to **kidzone@fremantlefc.com.au** and you could see it in Johnny's 'My Monday Message'.



WHO AM I?

**KidZone CLUB**

**GET ALL YOUR BUDDIES TO JOIN KIDZONE CLUB ONLINE!**  
HEAD TO [WWW.FREMANTLEFC.COM.AU/KIDZONE](http://WWW.FREMANTLEFC.COM.AU/KIDZONE)





# THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE SUPPORT OF OUR MEMBERS

We never underestimate the support of 40,000 people cheering us on as we run out onto Patersons Stadium, or the loyal members at our away games.

We really appreciate your dedication to the club and unwavering loyalty to the team.

Thanks for all your support in 2011.  
Get behind us again in 2012.  
We can't do it without you!



Matthew Pavlich, Captain



FREMANTLE  
**DOCKERS**

PROUD • LOYAL • PASSIONATE