



In house ladies' group of the Hawthorn Football Club

November 2019



Vale Winifred (Win) Wood

On the day of one of her favourite Thornbird events - Oaks Day - we were all saddened to learn of the peaceful passing of our much loved Win.

Win was such a passionate and loyal Hawthorn supporter all her life as well as a Thornbird of many years duration, serving her last few proudly on your committee as well, a very welcome addition who gave so much of herself.

How blessed we were that she passed through our lives, a true lady, brave, strong and honest.

Win fought her battle with Ovarian Cancer openly and valiantly, even her last Thornbirds day in October she did not allow her illness to over shadow morning tea – and she still planned to be at Oaks Day.

Win welcomed everyone personally to our events and encouraged so many to “come and join us” and they did due to her infectious enthusiasm and friendship.

Her ribbons and gift wrapping was to be admired and weren't our raffles made pretty when she added her personal touches, Easter baskets never looked so good! Of course her passion for Christmas also brought out that wonderful talent of hers.

Her love of the Mighty Hawks is well known, how she loved being at ALL 13 Premierships and she was certain the next couple of years would see more “silver ware” in the cupboards. She said recently enjoy the future ride girls!

*The **only thing** Win couldn't accept was Hodgey defecting to Brisbane!! She couldn't look at him in THAT jumper – the only time she got upset about one of “our boys” though I do think she secretly forgave him - she loved him so.*

Win was such an amazing person, raising three wonderful sons – (who all follow Collingwood with great passion much to her dismay!!) – she has 3 much loved Daughters-In-Law, one grandson and 2 grand-daughters in the USA who we “knew” through her visits over there. Our heartfelt love and sympathy to you all.



How proud Win was when we celebrated 40 years of The Thornbirds – it was so fitting that she cut our cake with Jeff – Win hadn't been confident she would get there, but it was one of those days she just did not want to miss, Win was indeed a very proud Thornbird.

Rest peacefully dear friend we will miss you.



RECAPPING PAST EVENTS:

Grand Final morning tea

We again had 50+ attend this happy morning, lots of laughter and chatter despite no finals left for the Hawks! Next year!!

How delighted we were to meet Deanne Henderson – Ricky’s lovely Mum – along with our much loved Mandy (Jack’s Mum), June Spangher, Suzie Reeves our CEO’s wife and new board member Anne-Marie Pellizer sharing their table with our legend past player Russell Green – who was our guest speaker.

On our other “main table” we welcomed Andrea Dillon (our Rosie’s Mum) Joan Henderson (Kara’s Mum) who were looked after by Marg Hill Paddy’s Mum.

Due to some very generous donations our raffle prizes were rather outstanding this morning, we did do a bit of “swindle” making sure #19 was called out so we could present Mandy with “Jack Gunston socks”. Would love to see the look on Jacks face when he sees Mandy wearing them – priceless!!

Russell spoke with such passion about everything, his life, his footy, his family, his job such a clever man and such a man with strong convictions, I think everyone in the room took something from his words. He will be back as many of you asked if we could invite him again – watch this space!

Russell won the Grand Final tipping competition, tipping the Tigers by 80pts this won him \$45 – which he donated back to us for our Kara House Buckets of Cleaning products. Thanks so much Russell!

END OF SEASON AWARDS:

*Col Austen Medal (Box Hill B&F) and the VFLW awards night was next on the Agenda- hoping for a double for the Thornbirds with Marc and Rosie both having such outstanding seasons. A few of us attended this night held at the MCG the Thursday night before the Grand Final – what a night to be at the G!!! The lights on the silence of the ground it was a sight to behold. We noted that Marc was not in attendance (still enjoying his holidays) which was a bit off putting. Our delightful Rosie laughed at our hope for her to win – such a humble young lady – **we are so fortunate and proud to sponsor her**. As luck would have it we were seated at the table with her parents and sister – so a lot of noise from our side of the room as the votes went up.*

Like the Brownlow our table rose as one when Rosie was announced the winner, family all crying, us all crying and clapping and cheering – it was truly so exciting and we were so pleased we were there with her. Rosie was overwhelmed but remained just her.

We then settled down for the Col Austen count and whilst none of us were unhappy that the much loved Dave Mirra won (what a champion player and person) we were a little disappointed that Marc didn’t BUT runner up is no shame. We sent off a message of congratulations to Marc from The Thornbirds, as he was enjoying the sun in Italy.

*FINALLY the PCM – and our hopes were on Ricky Henderson who had a stellar season only again to be pipped by another champion young man James Worpel, but Ricky being second was such a thrill for The Thornbirds table we cheered pretty loudly!! Again such a humble person who was really honoured to come second and pretty excited too – he obliged with photos after the award – **thanks Ricky we are very proud to sponsor you!!***

UNFORTUNATELY: our joys were short lived as we learnt that Paddy Hill our wonderful VFLW coach had gone to St Kilda to assist their AFLW program – we wish him all the best but he will be sorely missed by our VFLW girls.

Then AFLW Draft and Rosie's dreams were fulfilled as she was selected by St Kilda, along with Tamara Luke we wish them both great success. All in all, we had 7 of our VFLW girls chosen to play at AFLW clubs, such an awesome achievement for the program that is run at the Hawthorn Football Club. Of course we now have to rebuild our VFLW team and naturally we will be supporting them next season with this.

WORSE was still to come - losing our much loved Marc to Carlton. His opportunities at the Hawks were limited and he wanted to try and elevate his game and this needed to be at another club. We of course wish Marc all the very best at Carlton – not sure we can sponsor you there Marc much as we would like to!!! We will always be grateful to Marc being such a fabulous sponsored player. He was always obliging and smiling and genuinely loved being sponsored by The Thornbirds. We have sent Marc a message congratulating him and wishing him well and I know we will be cheering him on to great success! Thanks to Helene for supporting The Thornbirds also – you are always welcome at our events Helene.

Late News!!!! We were all overwhelmed upon arriving for Oaks Day to find a beautiful cake and card addressed to the Thornbirds. It was to say thank you from Marc and Helene for everything we did for them whilst sponsoring Marc. The cake was absolutely beautiful and thoroughly enjoyed with coffee by all that attended the day. Thank you to the Pittonet Family.

The downside of following our wonderful football club – the farewells!

WHO ARE THE THORNBIRDS????

Lyn walked past James Worpel after he won the Peter Crimmins Medal – such a lovely young man, offered to have photos but as she congratulated him on our behalf he said: “Oh yes The Thornbirds, you are the ladies making the rugs for “Jars” charity work aren't you”!!!! Having all the excitement of just winning and people everywhere congratulating him and wanting photos – for him to come out with this was something very special and so rewarding – we are definitely making an impact! Thanks Worps!

OAKS DAY REPORT:

Despite the over whelming sorrow in the room we soldiered on with Oaks Day of a different kind this year! With the races not starting until near 2pm we were a bit unsure what we could do or even if we could run this day, but regardless off we went. The room was resplendent with horses, cups, lots of pink everywhere, roses on the tables a lovely welcoming sight. We were all able to sit and enjoy lunch before proceedings started which was a change, then our wonderful men took over the races – sincere thanks to John Vincent and Ray Sutton for organising these with the assistance of James Cousin-Wood, Alan Cameron, Alan Fraser and Brian Youten (you are all booked in for next year you did such great jobs!!).

Barbara Causon then showed her talents as a bingo caller – great fun we had horse bingo and Hawthorn bingo – thanks Barb you have that job for life now! Prizes of carrots and chaff bags with little fun gifts inside were handed out to the winners.

We challenged the tables to a competition about previous Melbourne Cup winners and all this with the men running the sweeps. The day went so fast but lots of laughter, winners, great PINK raffles, lovely food and excellent company ensured another very successful Thornbirds Oaks Day!! And we raised \$400 well done all of you!

Thank you to the Box Hill Golf Club the televisions were great so we could see the races, special thanks to Olivea who took the day off and did an outstanding job – though she was embarrassed to win 2nd prize in the numbers board – but it was all legal!!! How special that Maree won this, choosing Win's birthday as her number – well done and I did hear the money was going into ovarian cancer – how thoughtful.

Thank you to everyone who came along! As ladies said when leaving it was a great day, not to be missed next year!

What's ahead in 2019????

We are nearly to the end of the year for The Thornbirds BUT we still have the major raffle to be drawn at the Christmas party – you will receive your tickets in the mail next week. We have some outstanding and generous donations this year. 1 dozen bottles of Vandenberg Wines - 2019 signed and authenticated Captain/Coach Jumper-George Forman Grill and a great Hawthorn Reading cushion (you can put your book or remote in the sleeve). Thank you so much to our wonderful donors. Thanks Jenni who has been very busy behind the scenes gathering goods for us during the year.

We would prefer the money and tickets returned BEFORE the Christmas party, but if you are not able to do this we will accept them on the night. ALL the money from the major raffle goes to sponsoring our players which assists the HFC directly. It costs us around \$5000 to sponsor and how proud you should all be for a group our size to be able to sponsor 5 players – this is an outstanding achievement.

CHRISTMAS BREAK UP:

Tuesday 3rd December 6.30pm is our Christmas break up at **the Box Hill RSL**. We are planning a really happy finale to “our season” full of surprises and lots of laughs – so don't miss out.

You will see the attached booking form which needs to be returned by **TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER – we cannot accept late bookings as the RSL are very strict with their time frames**. (Apologies we had these for Thursday but I am sure you understand it didn't seem a priority).

As per last year, IF YOU WISH to be part of a Kris Kringle, please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10. This is not compulsory – we had such fun last year though. You will get a ticket to enter when you bring your gift.

As we have in the past, there will be NO raffle this night we don't want to be fundraising we just want everyone to come and start off the festive season together. Having said that we do have some amazing door prizes and you will be quite blown away with this trust me!

A REMINDER – IF YOU ARE COMING TO WIN'S MEMORIAL NEXT THURSDAY, PLEASE WEAR YOUR THORNBIRD BADGES AND HAWTHORN SCARVES – Win would love it!! And her sons WILL cope just this once!!

PS. Many of you have noted that our 40th anniversary badges keep unclipping, we have been in touch with the manufacturers and they are replacing these at no charge! Also those not at the event you will receive the new version which hopefully stays closed. We will keep you updated on these; maybe we will have them at the Christmas party!

UPCOMING THORNBIRDS DATES FOR 2019 (September - December)

DATE	VENUE
November Fri 29 th – 10:00am	Morning Coffee – at Box Hill Golf Club Last one for 2019
December Tue 3 rd – 6.30pm	Christmas Break Up - Box Hill RSL - UPTON ROOM

THORNBIRDS COMMITTEE

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The yummy cake from the Pittonet Family

