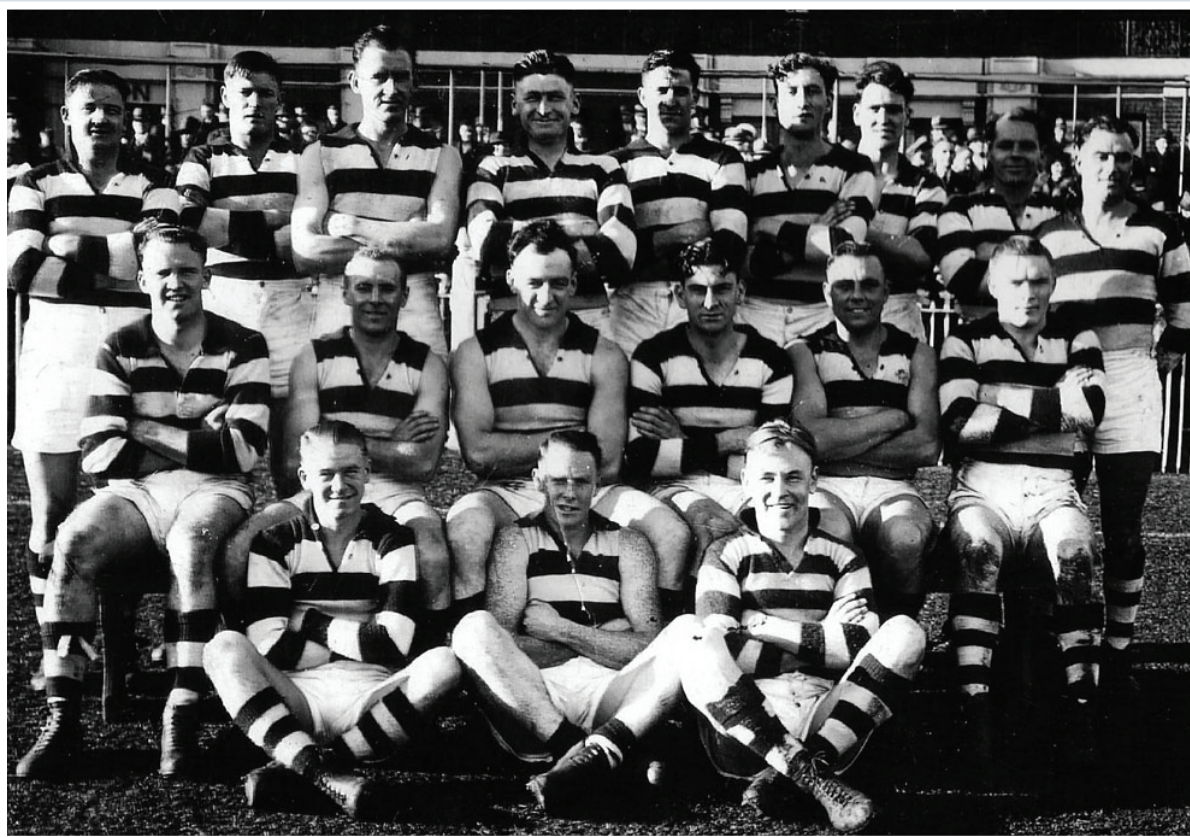




LIFE MEMBER

Harold Albert ("Mick") Glenister

21 November 1917–6 August 2010



1939 first semi-final at the MCG; Mick Glenister second from the right in the second row.

Mick Glenister was born in Geelong. His family lived in Autumn Street and Mick and his brother Norm played for Geelong West.

Norm was recruited to Geelong (where he played 124 games 1934-40 and 1945-46, kicked 262 goals and was Geelong's leading goal kicker in 1939 and 1946). Mick's son Mike Glenister explains:

When Norm made the decision to leave GFC to take up coaching, the club said to him, 'You don't have a brother or anything do you?' Norm said 'My younger brother plays for Geelong West.' So they recruited Mick. He was small and nuggety, not quite as good a player as Norm but good enough to get a game.¹

Mick played 39 senior games for Geelong in 1939-41 and kicked nine goals. At Geelong West

he played mostly in the centre, but Geelong played him at half-forward flank and occasionally half-back flank although he was really too small to be a defender.

He served in the army during the Second World War (see Chapter 10).

Mick married and lived in Warracknabeal from 1951-53, then returned to Geelong and played for Marshall/Grovedale in 1954. He would have steak and eggs for lunch before he played!

Mick joined the Geelong Past Players and Officials Association and was an office bearer and committee member from 1965 to 1984. He was the Association's first press correspondent in 1968 and continued in this position until 1972. He was Vice-President 1966-74 and 1976, when his resignation



**Geelong
Past Players
& Officials Club**

LIFE MEMBER

Harold Glenister

was accepted with regret. He continued as a committee member until 1984.

On 7 December 1978, Max Kelly moved that Mick Glenister receive a life membership of the Past Players and Officials Association. His badge was presented at the North Melbourne luncheon in April 1979.²

Mike Glenister recalls that his dad loved the past players and remembers going to Kardinia Park with Mick in his grey serge overcoat. He would sit in the Past Players' Stand if he could get a seat, but often by the time he caught up with a few mates there were no seats left, so he would stand in the overflow area ('like Clancy', he would say). Then they went to Centenary Hall for a 'cup of tea' that was probably a beer. Mike would pester him so that to get rid of him Mick would shell out some money for a donut.

Mick got tickets for his wife and son in the Great Southern Stand at the MCG for the 1963 Grand Final, but stayed at home himself to watch the game with his footy mates at the pub. After the game, Mick met his wife and son at the railway station—Mike says his dad had had quite a few drinks but the car somehow found its way home! Mick was devastated that they took away the old Past Players' Stand. In later years, Mike tried to get his dad to the footy:

I tried to find out if the past players were having a joint function at the MCG when they played Melbourne ... the Melbourne people were very helpful. They gave us free tickets, seats for people in wheelchairs, and made [Mick] so welcome.³

After Mick died in 2010 his son Mike and daughter-in-law Dianne sent a card to the Past Players and Officials Association:

He was never quite as good a player at VFL level as Norm, but still had great memories of his playing days at Kardinia Park, West Geelong, Marshall, Grovedale and Warracknabeal. He loved getting to the Melbourne and Essendon games in 2009, even though he'd lost all sight by then. The roar of the crowd was enough. I hope he managed to bluff his way through the Pearly Gates and is busy making contact with all the other Past Players who were so much part of his life in Geelong.



Mick at Ned Kelly's last stand

Sources

- 1 Mike Glenister, talking to Susan Kruss, 2013
- 2 Minutes 12 April 1979
- 3 Mike Glenister, talking to Susan Kruss, 2013