



LIFE MEMBER

John Black ("Jack" or "J.B.") Paterson

6 December 1900–30 November 1975



Athletics 1919, The Geelong College

J.B. Paterson was a founding member of the Geelong Past Players and Officials Association in 1933, Vice-President 1959–60, and President from 1961 to 1965. He was President of the Past Players and Officials Association when Geelong won both the senior and reserves premierships in 1963. He was made a life member of the Past Players and Officials Association in 1967.

John Black Paterson was born in Boort. He attended Miss Clanchy's School, then Geelong College in 1918 and 1919. He played in the College First-18 football team in both years and won the College swimming championship. He was also a talented athlete, competing in school athletics events and winning medals for high jump in 1919.¹

In 1920, Jack Paterson was recruited by Geelong Football Club. He played 23 senior games (1920 and 1924–26) and kicked ten goals. He was a member of the seconds (reserves) premiership team in 1923, playing on the half-forward line with Nick Brushfield and Roy Fleming, and kicking two goals. Geelong defeated

Richmond despite playing with only 17 men after Billy Little, at half-back, broke his collarbone shortly before half-time.²

During World War 2, Jack Paterson, like Les Laver and Arthur Pink, enlisted aged 42. At that time he was working for the Geelong wool-broking firm, Strachan & Co Ltd. He served in Libya and Greece and was a prisoner of war (see Chapter 10).³ Jack was discharged from the army in 1946.

John Black Paterson married in 1923 but that marriage was annulled. He later married again and had one daughter, Fay. The family lived in East Geelong.



Geelong Advertiser, 29 July 1941

Sources

- 1 Geelong College archives, <http://gnet.geelongcollege.vic.edu.au:8080/wiki/PATERSON-John-Black-1900-1975>
- 2 Col Hutchinson, information provided to Peter Menzies 2012; Hutchinson, C. 1984, *Cat's Tales*, Geelong Advertiser Pty Ltd, p. 323; <http://www.geelongcats.com.au/club/history/every-player/i-q>
- 3 *Geelong Advertiser*, 28 July 1941 & 1 Dec. 1975, p.6