



To Tim (Bluey) McGrath
Best wishes and a speedy
recovery.
From
All the Geelong Past Players.



Season 2013

Geelong Past Players & Officials Newsletter



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December 2013



*The president and committee would like to wish all members, patrons and supporters
 A Merry Christmas & A Happy and Safe New Year.*



Presidents Report

A year of constant activity has just concluded for the Past Players & Officials Club

Our new facilities, as part of the Premiership stand continue to serve us well and are the envy of visitors from our kindred clubs. We have a compatible relationship with our joint tenants Deakin University and are obligingly served on the ground, by both Nathan Twedde and Kelly Mainwright

As with the pleasure of seeing increasing numbers of Past Players and Officials using the facility, this year came the bad news of illness to two of our members in Tim McGrath and Casey Tatungi.

It is a great credit to the Geelong Football community, the way in which they rallied to the cause of both ex-players. In our plight of Tim McGrath, diagnosed with Stage 3 melanoma, was keenly felt due to the fact he has been a Past Player board member ever since his playing days were over. We felt justified, obliged even, to assist in some way and consequently we organized "A NIGHT FOR BLUEY" at the Fred Flanagan Room on Nov 22. It was attended by 360 people and raised considerable funds for his ongoing fight against cancer.

Another major initiative this year was the launching of a book on the 80 year history of The Past Players & Officials Club. It was written by former Deakin University author Susan Kruss and details all activities of this club as told via the recently discovered minute books.

A great read, I would advise any members who have not yet got a copy to do so. Your name will be inscribed somewhere in the book. Retail \$30.00

Our golf day at Barwon Heads Golf Club continues to attract good fields and this years winners were Ron Tenabel, Richard Perry, Peter Van Den Bosch and Graeme Swinton.

Of greater importance, however, was the victory of our Bowls team in the combined AFL PPA event held at the Altona Bowls Club. The winning team consisted of Bruce Peake, Bill Dalziel, Brian Lever with Frank Pomeroy skip.

Our coffers were boosted considerably by the generosity of Andy Bumpstead who was the winning bidder of a signed 2013 Geelong Football jumper. His bid of \$2400-00 ensured that the jumper went directly to the Bumpstead Pool room. Thanks Andy.

In conclusion, a great year was enjoyed by this club, tinged by the sad news of the plight of two of our members Tim McGrath and Casey Tatungi. We hope, however, that in both cases there will be a ray of sunlight at the end of the tunnel for both men.

Brian Brushfield
 President

Peter Charles Burns

Born on 5th January, 1866 at Steiglitz, Victoria, he began his senior football career as a 17 year-old with Ballarat Imperial in 1882. He transferred to South Melbourne three years later. During seven seasons with that club, he earned selection in the 1885, 1888, 1889 and 1890 Victorian Football Association Premiership teams.

At the beginning of the 1892 season he moved to the Geelong region and joined the local club. Being 185cm tall and weighing 82kg, he was outstanding in almost any position on the field. His performances at full-back and as a follower were brilliant. He possessed a strong physique, great skill and dash, and always strived to play within the rules. He staved off opposition attacks most effectively and was a fine high mark, a great kick and a smart ball handler. He loved to make attacking runs out of the back line. As a fitness fanatic, he regularly engaged in early-morning long walks which often included a plunge into Corio Bay. During his illustrious career he made several appearances for VFA representative teams in inter-colonial matches. During his 21 playing seasons, he became the first man in Victoria to participate in at least 300 games. Known universally as 'Peter the Great', his retirement was forced by a serious leg injury when aged 36.

Geelong Football Club Career

First senior match at Association level: Round 2, 1892 v Williamstown at the Williamstown Cricket Ground

First senior match at League level: Round 1, 1897 v Essendon at Corio Oval

Career span at Association level: 1892-96 (88 matches, 27 goals)

Career span at League level: 1897-1902 (89 matches, 7 goals)

Captain: 1896, 1900 (35 matches)

Last League match: Round 8, 1902 v Carlton at Corio Oval

Immediately after retiring as a player, he became the club's official timekeeper, a position he held until the end of the 1941 season. During that period, he kept track of time and rang the bell in almost 700 matches.

For a total of 13 seasons between 1894 and 1927, he was also a member of the club selection committee.

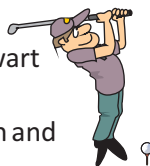
He died on 11th October, 1952 aged 86.

A portrait of Peter hangs in the foyer of our club rooms.



ANNUAL Golf Day

A field of 56 Golfers hit off in windy conditions trying to win the Fred Hawking Shield and trophies donated by John Rafferty, Ben Stewart and Ron Hosking. Several good scores were recorded and in the end it was a 4 comprising Ron Tenable, Richard Perry, Peter Van Den Bosch and Graeme Swinton who won the day. Trophies were presented at a luncheon where Ian Cover interviewed Russell Renfrey and Mike Sheehan Herald Sun journalist.



Bowls Report

Combined AFL Past Players Bowls Champions. On Sunday 17th November 2013 4 Bowlers representing the Geelong Past Players & Officials Club won the prestigious Ken McKaige Cup at the Altona Bowls Club. Bruce Peake lead, Bill Dalziel second, Brian Lever third and Frank Pomery was skipper. They won all 4 games against Footscray, a combined team, Melbourne and Collingwood. The No 1 side were not as successful comprising Peter Falconer, Peter Menzies, Russ Middlemiss and skippered by Wayne Hovey they managed only one win against Melbourne.



Vale

Clive (Wonder) Waugh, Bootstudder, Trainer. 2nd 18 Past Player, Committee 1999-2002, 2004-2010.
Jim Roberts, Player 1953- 1956.
21 Games, Recruiting Officer, Life member 2000.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual meeting of the Geelong Past Players and Officials Club will be held on Monday February 3 in the club rooms. The meeting will commence at 7-30 pm when all Board positions will be declared vacant.

THE ST ALBANS PIVOTONIANS (Part 1)

By Col Hutchinson
1st December, 2013

First race meetings in the Geelong area: 1844

Geelong Racing Club: 1865

Marshalltown Racecourse: 1864 – early 1906 (became Geelong Harbour Trust research farm 1906-36 (Sparrovale)

Railway to Marshalltown Racecourse opened 22nd Jan, 1878

Rev E. Harris sermon: Would have preferred to see racecourse relocated further away from Geelong – a mile into the sea on the other side of Barwon Heads

Geelong Show at racecourse for the first time Late Oct, 1907

First race meeting at current racecourse: St Patricks March, 1908

James Wilson senior

Born in Yorkshire, England on 26th December, 1828 and migrated to Australia as a very young man

Trained Musidora to second place in the 1863 Melb Cup

Founder of St Albans Stud: Sept, 1871 - 200 acres (80ha) purchased for \$2400

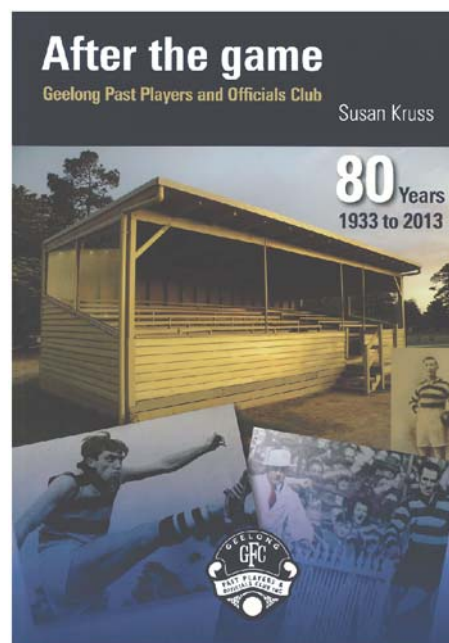
1873 St Albans Homestead completed

1876 another 210 acres (85ha) purchased


Eventual size 842 acres (842ha) Secretive nature – high hedges (shelter/security), gate house

Geelong Cup victories as trainer: 1872 (1st Geel Cup) Flying Scud ridden by Billy Wilson – James' second wife, Ester died two days earlier, 1881 Progress, 1899 Relic (also owner), 1902 Merryman (also owner)

Geelong Cup victories as owner: 1884 Linda (co-owner)



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Melbourne Cup victories:

1873: Trained Don Juan, ridden by his son, Billy (44kg) to victory in the Melbourne Cup – horse cured of suspected heart by the application of hot blankets by James junior & others days before running - started at 3:1 (\$2860 prize money) – time 3 min 36 s

1876: He contacted an Aboriginal orphan boy, Peter Bowden, who did not turn 13 until 15th November –too young to ride in the Melb Cup of that year. Bowden was falsely listed as a young Aboriginal jockey, Peter St Albans, who rode the Wilson owned and trained horse, Briseis to victory by six lengths in a field of 33 on the first Tuesday in November in front of 75,000 spectators. Briseis also won the Derby and the Oaks during that carnival as a 3 yo mare.

GRC committee member: 1886-96m - GRC starter: 1887; 1889 - Foundation President of Geelong Swimming Club

President of Corio Fox Terrier Coursing Club

GFC President: 1879-84; 1886-89 (Premiers 1879-80; 1882-83-84) - GFC Match Committee: 1879

Bought Prince of Wales Hotel, Little Malop St, Geelong in July, 1882 for \$4800. He remained the owner until 1917.

Bought 500ha for \$5800 at Mannerim in 1882 - Also owned a number of shops in Ryrie St - Close friend of John Wren

Nearly killed in January, 1886 when gored by a young bull when crossing a paddock – broke ribs and apparently was not able to sleep lying down for the rest of his life

After selling St Albans stud in 1886 for \$74,000, he bought land and established Frankfurt-on-sea (later renamed Suma Park by the next owner, Stephen Baley), near Queenscliff, for racehorse breeding in 1888. An enormous stable, insulated with canvas and lined with horsehair could accommodate 24 horses.

Queenscliff Cup held at his property 1887-89 (Winner 1887 – Mistake, owned by J.G. Baillieu)

Apparent financial hardship early 1900s

Died: 24th November, 1917 at his residence Frankford (or Bonny Vale), Marcus (Hill) aged almost 89 - He is buried in the Melbourne General Cemetery

To be continued.....

Bluey's Big Night Out.

The event was organized by the Past Players with great help from event co-ordinator Sarah Start (Bluey's niece) Sharron Dickman and Tim's mates Peter Livingston and Brian Berry. More than 360 attended the function at Simmonds Stadium.

Geelong President Colin Carter and Chief Executive Brian Cook attended the dinner along with former players Russell Renfrey, Ron Hovey, John Sharrock, Colin Rice, Brian Brushfield, Bruce Nankervis, Ray Card and Matthew Scarlett.

Tim's team mates Michael Mansfield, Liam Pickering, Paul Brown, Barry Stoneham, Sean Simpson and Tim Darcy were there, while Mark Yeates and Hawthorn great Dermott Brereton reflected on their famous clash during the 1989 Grand Final.

Master of ceremonies Ian Cover assisted by Andrew Bews conducted interviews which included Ben Graham, Brendan McCartney and Russell Renfrey.

Donors included Carlton and United, which supplied the beer at no cost and Peter and Jan Burnett, from the Lord of the Isles Hotel, who supplied the wine free of charge.

