



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

There is no doubt that 2016 has been an eventful year for our association, and we have broken new ground with the launch of the Ron Barassi Club.

We launched this club on Friday 13 May, in conjunction with celebrating Ron's 80th birthday in front of 400 guests in the MCC Dining Room.

The Ron Barassi Club has been formed under the auspices of the P&PP&OA, with the primary purpose of creating a sustainable membership base and holding one platinum event every year, in order to raise much needed funds for our association to facilitate benevolence.

If you attended the launch, you automatically became a member of the Ron Barassi Club for 2016. Those who missed this amazing occasion can also become a member by paying an annual membership fee of \$50, of which \$25 will be deducted from the 2017 Ron Barassi Club dinner.

Over the Queen's Birthday weekend, the P&PP&OA held a reunion for the 1956 premiership team, marking 60 years since they were named as 'Olympic Premiers'. Eleven team members attended a special Sunday lunch at The Bentleigh Club, along

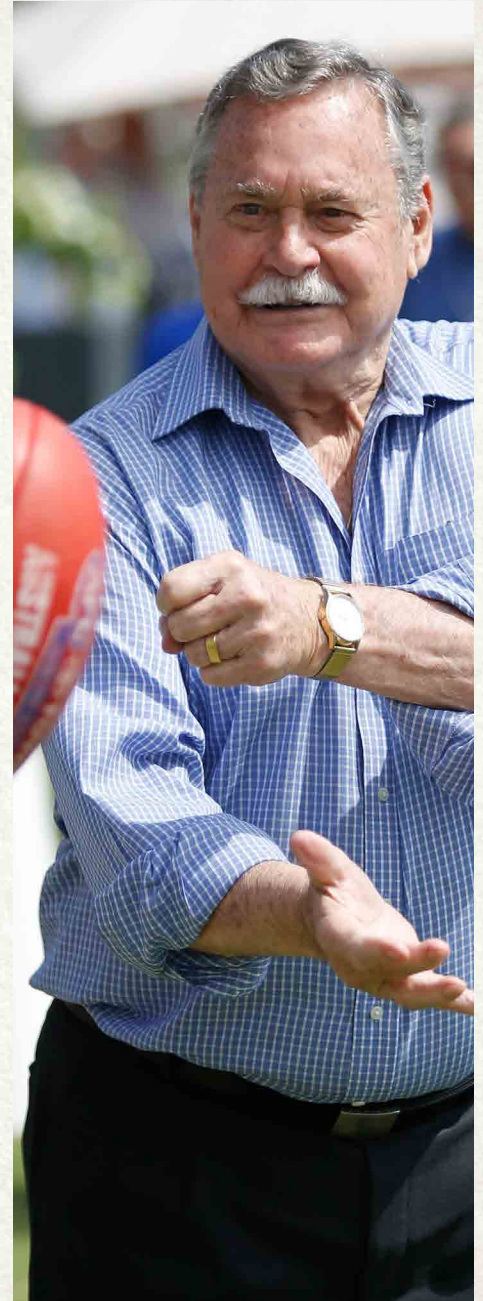
with over 100 guests. Nick McCallum was in control as MC, while Mike Sheahan conducted an 'Open Mike' session with 1956 captain, Noel McMahon.

Thank you to both Nick and Mike for their contribution to this occasion. The mandatory raffle was held, along with an auction, with the funds raised going towards togetherness for our association. Most events put on by our association are subsidised to keep costs as reasonable as possible in order to encourage more members to attend.

As in previous years, a number of events were scheduled throughout 2016, including our annual golf day, match day events and the MFC Life Members' lunch. Our annual reunion was held in the Jim Stynes Grill on Thursday 29 September, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Another regular feature was Rod Grinter's annual catch up, held on Friday 2 December.

Thank you all for your support of these events; as you know, they are nothing without you.

Rod Grinter
Chairman, MFC P&PP&OA



WHERE ARE THEY NOW? ANDREW LAMPRIILL

After leaving Melbourne in 1997, I was recruited by Vermont as captain/assistant coach, under Mick Kennedy (former Carlton and Sydney Swans player).

I stayed there for six years, and played in two premierships - one as assistant coach and one as coach.

I returned to my roots in Tasmania at the end of 2003, and played the 2004/2005 seasons with my younger brother at Kingborough Football Club, which was my

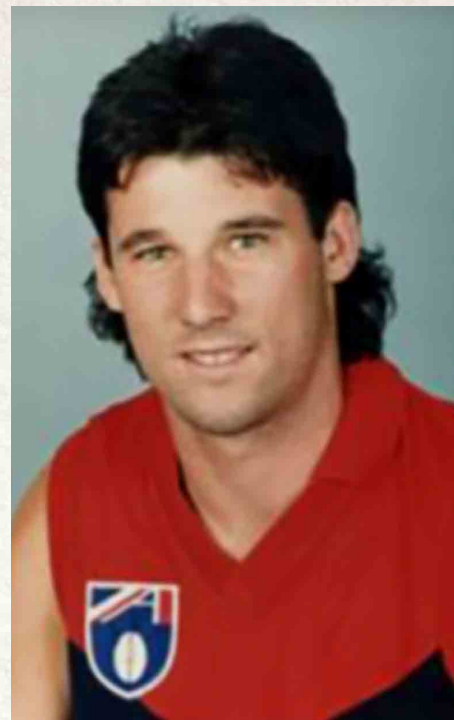
old junior club. I then went to the club that I was drafted from - Hobart Football Club - coaching them to finals appearances in 2006 and 2007.

I also coached the Southern Football League Rep side in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Having four daughters, aged 21, 19, 16 and 13, I now spend my weekends at the netball courts supporting them.

Our eldest has returned to Melbourne to study sports science at Deakin, and is a mad Melbourne supporter.

I continue to work as a builder/carpenter, and enjoy coming back when I can to watch the Dees and catch up with my old teammates. I especially enjoy Balls Grinter's annual catch up every December.



'NINE AND DINE' GOLF DAY 2016

Back in February, one of the summer highlights of the P&PP&OA's calendar took place at Albert Park Golf Course, with the annual 'Nine and Dine' contest.

While competition was fast and furious, a number of eager spectators attended to share the occasion and the meal, while also cheering on the four groups of four taking part in the golfing challenge. The eventual winners were Rod Grinter - 'it was a proud moment' - and Paul Hopgood, both of whom were delighted to take out the honours. Later in the season, each coached a side for 'Play on the MCG', on which occasion it was a Grinter victory.

Those in attendance included Colin Barnes, Liz Birnie, Paul Burnham, Ted Carroll, Neale Daniher, Colleen Dooley, Ian Edwards, Jackie Emmerton, Steven Febey, Darrell Fenton, Brad Green, Rod Grinter, Kaye Hargreaves, Spike Harris, Chris Heffernan, Paul Hopgood, Anthony Ingerson, Ruth Langley, Andrew Leoncelli, Julie Lockhart, James McDonald, David Neitz, Leigh Newton, Kay Noy, Kelly O'Donnell, Guy Rigoni, Russell Robertson, Janette Sutherland, Daniel Ward, Price Warren, Luke Williams and Karen Woodroffe.



ABOVE
Winners are grinners: David Neitz, Paul Hopgood, Neale Daniher, Rod Grinter and Anthony Ingerson at 'Nine and Dine' February 2016

RIGHT
Ready for action: Guy Rigoni, Price Warren, Paul Burnham, Spike Harris, Colin Barnes and Jackie Emmerton





MATCH DAY FUNCTIONS

Two match day functions were held during the 2016 season, with MFC P&PP&OA President Rod Grinter reporting on proceedings:

Our first match day function was in the Harrison Room in late May, when Melbourne 19.17.131 defeated Brisbane 9.14.68.

Josh Mahoney and Marcus Seecamp were interviewed by Rod Grinter, with up to 50 past players and officials – accompanied by family and friends – in attendance. While these were relatively small numbers in a large room, those who attended enjoyed a relaxing day and were able to

watch from behind the glass or in great seats on Level Two.

Our second match day function was again in the Harrison Room, this time in early July when Melbourne 15.8.98 took on Adelaide 18.12.120. Todd Viney and Paul Hoggood were interviewed by Rod Grinter, and around 80 people were in attendance. It was great to have a few more in the room, watching a tight, attacking game with the Dees falling short by 22 points.

A special mention goes to Lyn Harris (Spike's wife) for assisting us at both functions by greeting everyone on arrival, along with Jackie Emmerton for sending out names and collating attendances, as well as organising our special guest speakers.

REUNION

The Thursday evening before the Grand Final is firmly entrenched as a 'must attend' occasion for many associated with the MFC P&PP&OA, as the annual reunion at the MCG provides the ideal chance to gather and catch up with friends, teammates and colleagues.

With over 100 gathered in the Jim Stynes Grill, the conversation was buzzing, and music provided by MC Russell Robertson and Phil Ceberano added to the atmosphere.

The arena backdrop was definitely the star of the show, ready and waiting for the Western Bulldogs' drought breaking triumph over the Sydney Swans. Meanwhile, everyone enjoyed catching up on a year of stories and memories over a meal and accompanying refreshments, as well as hearing the P&PP&OA's plans for the upcoming season and beyond.

Those who had passed away during the year were acknowledged with a moment's silence. Having made their contributions from the playing arena to statistics and administration, we farewelled: Roma Allica, Carmel Fenton-Smith, Carl Fergie, Alec Ingwersen, Bob 'Tassie' Johnson, Pat Kelly, Marj Lenne, Ken Osborne, Bob Rowse and Max Walker. Preparation is already in progress to make next year's reunion even bigger and better, with hopes expressed that the entire room can be opened up for

a crowd of at least 200. So put the date – Thursday 28 September 2017 – in your diary now, and don't miss out.

Winners of the raffle were:

1. One week at Club Noosa Resort (accommodation only – donated by Derek Feldmann, Club Resort Manager, via Barry Bourke) – Bryan Kenneally
2. Cricket bat signed by current Australian cricket team (donated by Brand Collective/Liz Coningsby) – David Neitz
3. 2016 signed jumper (donated by MFC) – Paul Hoggood
4. Two pairs of Raoul Merton shoes (donated by Brand Collective/Liz Coningsby) – Chris Heffernan
5. Tingay Personal Exercise – five sessions (donated by Stephen Tingay) – Darrell Fenton
6. Cheese Hamper (donated by Dan Rogers) – Rosalyn Jeffreys
7. One night at Jamieson B&B for two people (donated by Brian and Carmel Dixon) – Michael Rogers
8. MFC Sponsors Pack (donated by Tyrrell's Wines and TaylorMade Golf) – Darren McMennaman
9. The Publican Group voucher (donated by John Ahern) – Phil Ceberano

10. Demon Shop voucher (donated by MFC P&PP&O Association) – Simon Johnson

Thank you to all those who donated prizes. Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated.



DANIHER'S DRIVE 2016

In mid October, a convoy of vehicles took over regional Victoria, set on a special mission. One of those taking part was Russell Robertson, who reported on the four day adventure.

Daniher's Drive was attended by a number of MFC past players: Clint Bizzell, David Neitz, Stephen Powell, Paul Hopgood, Ben Holland, Guy Rigoni, Brett Lovett, Andrew Leoncelli, Glenn Molloy and Nathan Brown, who dropped in to see how everyone was going.

The first day involved driving through many towns, with lunch at Mansfield, a few beers at Bright and then on to Dinner Plain on Mount Hotham. That night, an event was held for which each team had to dress up as their team name.

We were 'Daniher's Angels and Robbo', so the three girls dressed up as Charlie's Angels, and I was Bosley. Neita's team was 'RACV Dees' as they had a sponsorship through the RACV, so they dressed up in typical RACV mechanics' attire. Notably, they lost their keys on the last day, and it was quite hilarious that they needed the real RACV to save them! In further (mis)adventures, former MFC President Don McLardy may have run out of petrol on top of Mount Hotham. He then blew up his engine when he filled the car with diesel instead of unleaded – a very costly mistake!

On the second day, we came down through Lakes Entrance, stopping for school visits and community catch ups, finishing in Sale, where we took on the local cricket club in a Celebrities vs Sale match of twelve overs apiece. Shane Watson – who was on the Drive – played, as did Merv Hughes. The celebrities won! Afterwards, we had a 'sporties night', which was well attended, with Rodney Hogg having us all in stitches, along with a panel of Danihers! More money was raised on this very successful night.

The third day saw us drive to Phillip Island, stopping in at Foster Farmers Market, where we were greeted by the whole town.

Homemade biscuits and coffee were on offer, as hundreds showed up for photos and autographs. Then we continued on to the island, where we had a Roaring '20s themed bash in the evening. We raised money, and we danced all night.

So far, \$1.25 million has been raised through Daniher's Drive, with more coming in every day. We encourage more P&PP&OA members to put together a team for next year's Drive, as it was an amazing experience. There are rumblings that it may head to Tasmania, but even if it is still in Victoria, I recommend the experience as one of the best in which I have ever been involved.

www.curemnd.org.au/daniersdrive





NOEL McMAHEN'S 90TH

Noel McMahon is undeniably one of the legends of both the game and the Melbourne Football Club. On 30 October, the premiers captain, Best and Fairest, former director, Life Member, Team of the Century member and Hall of Fame inductee (to name but a sample of his honours and achievements) celebrated his 90th birthday.

Wearing No. 35 throughout his 175 games, McMahon made his senior debut as part of the immediate post war generation in 1946.

A forceful presence who found his place on the half back flank, McMahon went on to play in the drawn Grand Final and win on replay in 1948 against Essendon, and ultimately captained the Demons to premierships in 1955 and 1956 before departing for country Victoria. Experiencing success at Rochester, McMahon also coached South Melbourne between 1962 and 1964.

In following years, he returned to his red and blue origins, serving in a number of roles including as a director, chairman of selectors, Club vice president and chairman of Coterie. In 2014, his service to the Melbourne Football Club was recognised by the MCC, when he was named as the winner of the Hans Ebeling Award, established to acknowledge those who have provided outstanding service to the MCC's Sporting Sections.

We all wish Noel the very best for his birthday, and look forward to sharing many more grand occasions with him in the years to come.

'His inspiring leadership, his determination to achieve victory, and his relentless strength so often used to his side's advantage will be remembered by us all for many years.' – Melbourne Football Club annual report, 1956

REMEMBERING JIM CARDWELL

Twenty years ago this December, we farewelled one of the integral figures of the Melbourne Football Club. While not a coach or player, Jim Cardwell had a major role to play in the success of the Club, and will long be remembered for his contribution.

In 1939, Cardwell joined the Melbourne reserves side at half back, after winning the best and fairest at North Brunswick Amateurs in 1938. His first year with the Demons was successful, with Melbourne's Second Eighteen winning the premiership over Richmond.

However, Jim Cardwell's long career with Melbourne was to be as one of the best VFL Secretaries and recruiters in the business. Having won the Victorian Solo Debating Championships at Ballarat in 1934 and 1935, he was well credentialled, his powers of persuasion vital in the seasons that followed.

As for many young men of the era, Cardwell's life was upturned by the Second World War. His service included postings to New Guinea and Darwin. While briefly at home in 1942, he had the chance to play senior football with Melbourne, but decided instead to take a much delayed honeymoon with his young wife, Mavis. Cardwell returned to serve on the Seconds' committee at Melbourne, also playing for the Reserves, and serving as Melbourne's Seconds' delegate at the VFL.

In 1950, he accepted the role of Seniors' Secretary. This was initially part-time, as he owned a flourishing engineering business. By 1958, Cardwell was the first full-time Secretary in the VFL.

Cardwell's first recruit as Secretary was a new coach, with Norm Smith encouraged by Cardwell to return to Melbourne after the resignation of Allan La Fontaine. Together, Smith and Cardwell were at the heart of a potent team, establishing the player base for the Club's 'golden era' of the 1950s and early 1960s.

Chance played a great part in Cardwell's success. One journey which had a huge

impact for Melbourne was a trip to Mildura. Heading to watch Merbein in action, Cardwell was fortunate enough to see one Hassa Mann playing his first senior game for the team.

After convincing the Mann family that Melbourne was his natural destination, Hassa remembers 'Mr Cardwell – as he was to me then – would win the parents over, and then the parents would put pressure on the son.' Boarding facilities, oversized boots and an exciting future in the VFL – highlighted by three premierships – all beckoned.

In Cardwell's time at Melbourne, the senior side appeared in eleven successive finals series from 1954 to 1964. They won six premierships – in 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1960 and 1964 – and played in seven successive Grand Finals. His death in 1996 marked the end of an era for the Melbourne Football Club. Cardwell – the 'Prince of Secretaries' – was a treasured part of the Club's heritage, and as long as there are stories of his achievements, his legacy endures.



Jim Cardwell

DEPARTURES

At the end of every season, we farewell a number of our playing group, and acknowledge them for their service. We look forward to maintaining contact in the future, as our association plays an important role in forging ongoing connections.

We thank former captain Jack Grimes, along with Chris Dawes, Matt Jones, Max King, Viv Michie, Ben Newton and Dean Terlich, for the part they have played in the Melbourne Football Club. We acknowledge more than a decade of service from Life Member Lynden Dunn, as he moves to take his place at the Collingwood Football Club. Lynden also played a valuable role as a player representative on the MFC P&PP&OA committee.



Former Melbourne captain Jack Grimes

NEW WEBSITE

Earlier this year, we launched our own website, at <http://mfcpastplayers.com.au/>. While this has been in a trial phase, we look forward to building it up during the off season, so that it can act as a hub for the MFC P&PP&OA community.

It will serve as an extension to the newsletter and regular email communication, with concentration on in season content, providing information around special events, offers and feature pieces.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Sincere congratulations go to the following 'MFC people' for their achievements and recognition throughout the sporting and wider community in 2016.

Luke Beveridge

AFL Coaches' Association coach of the year (2015 and 2016) and Western Bulldogs' premiership coach in 2016, Luke took the Bulldogs to their first flag since 1954.

He played 42 games and kicked 41 goals for Melbourne between 1989 and 1992, and was the Best First Year Player of 1989, before continuing his playing career at Footscray and St Kilda.

Robert Hickmott

Hailing from Wangaratta Rovers, Rob played two games for Melbourne in 1990. He has since made his mark in the racing fraternity with Lloyd and Nick Williams' stable. His achievements include training this year's Melbourne Cup winner, Almandin, following up on his success with Green Moon in 2012.

Neale Daniher

Essendon legend, and Melbourne coach between 1998 and 2007, Neale was named Melburnian of the Year for 2016, recognising his inspirational efforts in the fight against Motor Neurone Disease.

In June this year, Neale was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), 'for significant service to community health through support for people with Motor Neurone Disease and their families, and to Australian rules football.'



Former Melbourne player and 2016 Premiership coach Luke Beveridge



Trevor Johnson in full flight

VALE TREVOR JOHNSON

News was recently received of the passing of four time premiership player, Trevor Johnson OAM, after a long battle with cancer. Originally from Epping, Johnson was known as 'The Phantom' for his work under the radar, and was renowned for consistently sound performances throughout his 118 games with Melbourne.

Named Best First Year Player in 1955, Johnson played in the 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1960 premierships.

Following his retirement in 1962, Johnson was made a Life Member of the Club, and went on to coach the Under 19s in 1968.

He was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2004 as a member of Melbourne's 1956 premiership team, and in 2006 was awarded a Medal of the Order of the Australia 'for service to the community of Wanneroo, particularly through local sporting and service organisations.'

We pass on our most sincere condolences to Trevor Johnson's family and friends, and recognise his wonderful contribution to the Melbourne Football Club over many years.