



PAST & PRESENT PLAYERS' & OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION

PAST & PRESENT PLAYERS' & OFFICIALS' MEMBER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021 EDITION

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



- ROD GRINTER

Welcome all to our first newsletter for 2021.

I hope that everyone

enjoyed a safe festive break over the Christmas/New Year period.

Your committee has already met to discuss a number of items for 2021, with the main area being engagement. The first event for the year will be our annual Nine & Dine Golf evening during this month - see in this issue for details



and booking link. Other events discussed included our match day functions, which are obviously a work in progress and will be determined by the restrictions imposed through any COVID-19 rules at the MCG.

The other area that is also a very important part of the MFC P&PP&OA is support for our members and fundraising. More details regarding how you can contribute appear further on in this newsletter.

We also congratulate our own past player and past MFC P&PP&OA committee member in Brad Green for his nomination to join the MFC board at the club's AGM this month.

The ongoing points of focus from your committee are:

- Ensuring we keep connected with our members

- Raising much needed funds (**please dig deep if you can via the GoFundMe page or directly via any committee member**)
- Refining our structure and strategy to support the MFCP&PP&OA
- Planning events for 2021

A big thank you also goes to all those who have contributed to our monthly newsletters.

Keep an eye on our website and Instagram, and please pass on this newsletter to ensure constant communication to our members.

As always, stay safe and healthy.

Regards

Rod Grinter
MFC P&PP&OA Chairman



BENEVOLENT FUND 2021

In 2020, contributions to the Association's Benevolent Fund via our GoFundMe page provided the greatest signs of everyone working together, despite all obstacles. The generosity of so many has meant that your Association has a solid foundation to support members of our community in need.

We are set to continue the campaign in 2021! With past player John Gallus sneaking under the radar to be the last donor of 2020, we welcome our first donor for 2021:

Deluxe Print

If you would like to join the list



Or go to: [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) and search MFC P&PP&OA



We look forward to welcoming all contributors during 2021, and sharing some of their stories with you. One of those to donate in 2020 was:



COLLEEN DOOLEY (Above right)

If you're born to the red and blue, there's little doubt that you will do everything possible to assist the Demon family whenever it's needed.

continued pg2



BENEVOLENT FUND 2021 *cont.*

Such is the case for Colleen Dooley, who emerged from a large, primarily Melbourne supporting clan to work at the club in the 1990s, forging connections and friendships that have lasted to the current day.

Colleen is also one of those fortunate people who saw the club's 1964 premiership win. Aged just thirteen, she and her fifteen year-old brother were the lucky recipients of tickets purchased by their father, the patriarch of the Melbourne supporting crew.

'All my clothing was red and blue', she recalls with a laugh.

From this, Colleen went on to work at the 1991 and 1992 Grand Prix, before landing a job in Melbourne's marketing department, where she stayed until late in 1996. 'I left just pre-merger in 1996. I went to the office a few times after that, and it was horrible.'

Apart from the turmoil of those times, Colleen had already made an indelible and historical mark on the club. Hearing Bev O'Connor talk on breakfast radio of her support for the Demons, Colleen helped to get her to a breakfast function, which was just the start of an amazing chapter, as Bev went on to become the club's first female director, also serving as vice-

president during her tenure.

The paths of Colleen and Bev would meet in other ways via the Melbourne Football Club. Colleen's friendship with Sean Wight – forged through involvement in car rallies – saw him suggesting that she should attend the past players' reunion. 'It was the first thing I went to, and the only other female there was - Bev O'Connor! I was so glad that she was there.'

Asking if she could join the Association, Colleen received a less than enthusiastic response to her membership query, but – in due course – she was welcomed into the fold, and now 'wouldn't miss the reunion!' This function has evolved over the years to be an invaluable platform for renewing friendships and establishing an across-the-club community.

Of course, 2020 has been the exception to every rule, and with no reunion, the sense of community and gathering has been well and truly challenged. As Colleen points out, 'Last year was awful. Being part of a club is much more than a game at the MCG.' Life as we know it took a tumble, and the Association – like so many other collectives – had to pick itself up and adapt.

One major initiative to emerge from 2020

was the Benevolent Fund, and – as her story undoubtedly suggests – Colleen readily donated to the cause. 'I think it's a fantastic idea – we can help people on hard times. We're all part of the same group, and we can help each other.' As she sees it, the sense of benevolence springs from the likes of Association chairman, Rod Grinter. 'Rod's inclusive, and he knows that it's all about good communication.' It's also about lasting connections; when Colleen was working for the club, 'Rod worked for the marketing department. I don't think he'd ever touched a computer before, but he was never afraid to ask for help.'

Such good humour and memories of Melbourne are vital to so many, which is why Colleen, along with nearly 100 others, sat down and logged on to join in the Association's Zoom reunion in October last year. 'It was nice to see faces, and it was well done.' Hopefully, of course, the real thing can be held in 2021.

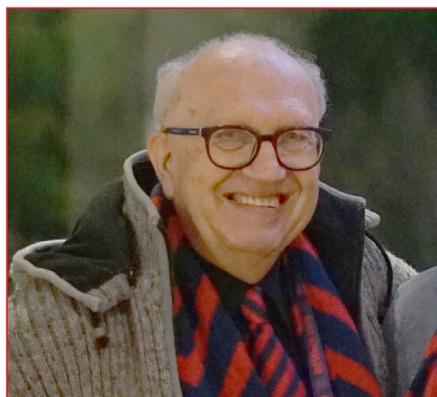
And so it is that Colleen Dooley, who lives in Creswick, has two great-nephews who play for Hepburn, and is Secretary of the local U3A (University of the Third Age), is waiting to see what 2021 brings. Of Melbourne, she says, **'Every year, I think they will do well!'**

With support such as Colleen's, from the MCG stands to her Benevolent Fund donation, how could it be otherwise?

PAUL BURNHAM – THE REV NEVER RESTS

In his quest to continue providing the Positive Pastoral Care that is at the heart of the Association's well-being, 'The Rev' has been keeping in touch with the Melbourne multitudes, setting communication records over the Christmas-New Year break.

Between December 2020 and January 2021, he 'called 135 members, and sent



forty individual emails for Christmas greetings.' Salutations came in return, with Allen Jakovich sending his regards

to all, Stan Alves holding a philosophical discussion about the upcoming season, and Graeme Yeats sharing the news of his appointment to the Port Colts' coaching post (congratulations!)

From yesteryear and Bob Skilton to the recent past and Sam Blease, 'The Rev' is a major touchstone for the Association, helping to ease uncertainty and maintain contacts and friendships. While he may be wearing out the odd phone or two, his commitment to caring and connection is one of the treasured aspects of the Association's life.

LOOKING FOR....

In 2021, another effort that will continue is that of chasing up Disappeared Demons. We thank everyone who has helped us to reconnect with those we listed in 2020, and look forward to re-establishing contact with many in 2021. At present, we are looking for:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Tomas Bugg | Declan Keilty |
| Ross Fisher | Debbie Lee |
| Stuart Grimshaw | Craig Notman |
| Guy Jalland | |



As always, if you have contact details for these or anyone else connected with the MFC, please don't hesitate to get in touch with **Spike Harris** via spike.w.harris@gmail.com or 0411 235 073.

GOLF DAY IT'S ON AGAIN!



Nine & Dine Golf Evening Albert Park Golf Course

- Friday, 19 February 2021
- Tee off - 5 pm
- GOLF AND BARBECUE - \$25
- BARBECUE ONLY - \$20

Book today, via:

BOOK NOW



or contact Spike Harris – spike.w.harris@gmail.com or 0411 235 073.



CATCHING UP

One of the greatest tests of 2020 was not being able to catch up with family and friends at various times, whether 5 km away or over state borders.

The joy of being able to meet special people can be seen in this series of photos from December 2020. With their daughter living in Tasmania, this



was when MFC Life Member Dr Andrew Daff and wife Merrin met their grandson, Gabe, for the first time since his birth in May last year.

We look forward to seeing Gabe at the footy in a couple of seasons' time – he will undoubtedly be a Little Demon!

VALE - IVAN BAUMGARTNER

It was with much sadness that we heard of the recent passing of Ivan Baumgartner, who played five games for Melbourne in 1955, in between stints with Geelong and St Kilda. Ivan, who wore No. 5 in his time at the Demons, originally hailed from Wesley College.

We pass on our most sincere condolences to Ivan's family and friends.

VALE - MAURIE LEHMANN

All involved with the Association were saddened to hear of the passing of Maurie Lehmann. From State Savings Bank, he played six games at the start of 1952, wearing No. 8.

We offer our deepest sympathies to Maurie's family and friends.

While both Ivan and Maurie were at the Melbourne Football Club for a relatively short time, they are, and will remain, a valued part of the red and blue family.

MELBOURNE MILESTONE

While 2020 tested many, sometimes there were reasons to smile. A major one of these came in Round One, when

Kysaiah Pickett

played his first game – the first of fourteen for the season. He went on to be nominated for a Rising Star in Round 11. The Association was delighted to present 'Kozzy' – as well as Luke

Jackson, Trent Rivers and Toby Bedford – with a plaque to recognise their senior debuts, and we all look forward to seeing them in action in 2021.





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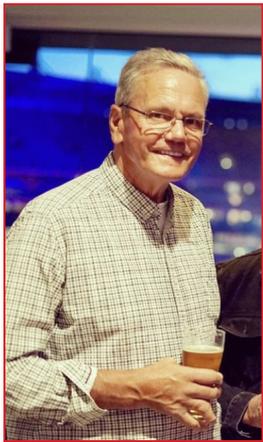
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WHERE ARE THEY NOW? – LLOYD BURGEMANN

If you are ever on a highway heading out of town, particularly in the Gippsland direction, and you come across roadworks, there's a fair chance that there's a Demon in charge of directions.



While he might not be decked out in red and blue these days (although, like most, he 'can't wait to get back to the MCG'), Lloyd Burgemann is a familiar figure to many, not only through his 30 senior

games between 1970 and 1972, including the 1970 Reserves premiership. He is part of a special generational connection, as father Jack played a senior game for Richmond in 1938, and son Shane came along in the 1990s, making it to senior ranks, as well as notching another flag for the family when he played in the 1993 Reserves premiership.

Now, after years of experience in the industry, Lloyd is the Managing Director of A Plus Traffic Management, which sees him – in true Leyland Brother style – 'travel all over the countryside! We started the company five years ago – so early 2016.' Business is thriving, with the added attraction of heading to parts previously unknown. 'There are places in

East Gippsland I'm seeing that I've never seen before!'

Such enthusiasm is something that transfers readily to his workplace, and to those employed in it. 'We employ up to 25 people, and 14 of those are on a regular basis.' All ages are represented, with a substantial female group included in the staff cohort.

The growing success of the business is not only in the expanding fleet, including 'two cars, two highway trucks...eleven other vehicles', or the number of employees involved, but in the fact that 'we're often asked to come back.' Being VicRoads accredited, and with a strong regional reach from bases at Narre Warren, Warragul, Wonthaggi and Morwell, Lloyd is alert to the opportunities presented throughout the state. One of his most memorable projects to date has been the 'demolition of Hazelwood. There were thirty people involved, and we had to block the whole highway! We've got more work to do there yet; the burners still have to be taken down. It's certainly helped that we are a country group.'

Of course, the work is not all regional for A Plus; as Lloyd relates, they have even undertaken an assignment with the NBN, in the busy environment of Hoddle

Street/Punt Road. The company was also very fortunate throughout 2020, being able to continue functioning during assorted lockdowns and curfews. 'I was very aware that people had mouths to feed', says Lloyd. With that awareness, the nuisance factor of having to issue individual staff permits every day faded into insignificance.

One of Lloyd's greatest strengths is that A Plus has flourished courtesy of many recommendations and word of mouth connections. From working with local councils to private businesses, he and his staff have built an enviable reputation.

Lloyd is now reaching out to the Association community and its connections, with a variety of wonderful employment opportunities in a growing industry:

2 x casual traffic controllers
(male or female)

Office position also available
(traffic management plans)

MUST HAVE:

- Traffic tickets (valid)
- White card
- Driver's license (manual if possible)

Job requires travelling in regional areas.

Please send CV + tickets/license to rachel@aplustraff.com.au or phone Rachel on 0477 142 772.



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

MERCHANDISE - CAPS



What better way to show your Association allegiances than to add a new cap to the wardrobe? Perfect for all seasons, not just footy season, order one today and get yourself ready for 2021.



Contact Jackie Emmerton via jackie-e@live.com.au or 0409 806 750 - just \$35 plus \$10 postage.



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