



PAST & PRESENT PLAYERS' & OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION

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MEMBER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020 EDITION



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- ROD GRINTER

Dear Members
As I write to you, I reflect on the many challenges we're currently facing as a community. My thoughts are with our members who are struggling at this time, whether that be through social isolation, financial hardship, job loss or family pressures from COVID-19. We are here for anyone who needs someone to talk to, just pick up the phone or flick us an email.

On behalf of everyone on your Executive Committee, I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank those who have kindly donated much required funds to enable us as an Association to function productively for all. We thank those of you who have put their hand in their pocket, as this is one approach that we believe will assist us - simply asking our members to contribute.

As you would have heard so many times, these unprecedented times have presented many challenges to businesses as they navigate the 'new normal'. We have not been immune to this, with no footy, no catch ups, no functions or any other avenues to raise funds. One of the five pillars we have established is **Budget Welfare Support Costs - Revenue Generation**, and we will continue to pursue new initiatives in this area. As indicated, a simple method is to just ask, and we have set up a GoFundMe

page to make contributing to the Association's Benevolent Fund as easy as possible.

A direct donation link to GoFundMe can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, so please support us to in turn enable us to support those past players and officials of our great club who need it. We must ensure we can survive financially under these worst possible scenarios and continue our role as an Executive Committee, which is so integral to what we offer you as members of our Association.

We have been and will continue to be in constant communication via our monthly newsletter, Instagram and our website.

As always, stay safe and healthy.

Regards

Rod Grinter
MFC P&PP&OA Chairman

DEMONS NETWORK PROGRAM

Introducing a new addition to our newsletter, aimed at assisting with networking and support for Association members seeking employment and/or business networking opportunities. If you can assist any member mentioned in this segment, require assistance yourself or would like to promote your business, please email program co-ordinator and committee member, Daniel Ward at danielsward10@gmail.com

1. Matt Jones

Matt owns an electrical business - M. Jones Electrical in Wonga Park, and would be grateful for any leads for residential or commercial electrical work.

2. Steve 'Strawbs' O'Dwyer

Steve was made redundant from his position late in 2019 and is currently looking for opportunities within the building and property development industry, in which he has extensive experience. Steve's CV is available on request.



Steve 'Strawbs' O'Dwyer

NEW ASSOCIATION T-SHIRTS

We are excited to advise of the first edition of the MFC P&PP&OA long sleeve t-shirt! Perfect for a cold winter and a must have for every Association member to proudly wear. Price is only \$40 + postage (if required) and size range is from XS-5XL in a unisex style. Production of the t-shirts will be based on interest levels and pre-payment will be required, so if you would like to place an order, please register your interest with Jackie Emmerton by **30 June 2020** at jackie-e@live.com.au. Please include size, quantity and credit card details for payment.

BENEVOLENT FUND UPDATE



We have recently set up a GoFundMe page for the purpose of simplifying the process of making donations to the MFC P&PP&OA Benevolent Fund. In these uncertain times it is especially important that we are equipped and resourced to be able to support our members who are in need.

We appreciate and understand that in the present climate many may not be able to contribute, rest assured any amount is greatly appreciated.



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





WELFARE/PROACTIVE PASTORAL CARE

Paul Burnham and John Ahern continue to maintain welfare and pastoral care activities on behalf of our members at this uncertain time.

Paul (The Rev) is delighted to have a 'captive audience' at this time, and has checked in with over 40 people since the last newsletter, keeping in touch with a range of members.

John has met with Tim Harrington, who is the Association's new contact at the AFLPA. Tim, who worked at Melbourne as List Manager from 2009 to 2013, and who has vast experience of the football landscape at all levels, is encouraged by the amount of work being undertaken by the Association. He will be working with us intensively into the future.



Rod and Paul

THANK YOU

Benevolent Fund donors for 2020 are:



Steven Smith (second from left) – Ron Barassi Annual Address Dinner, 2019

Don Baron

Chris Connolly

Penny Connolly

Ray 'Smokey' Dawson

Bernadette Grinter

Rod Grinter

Jeremy Nichols

Steven Smith

Brian Stynes

We also thank those who have helped us to track down members lost in action. We are still searching for the following:

David Cockatoo-Collins

Donald Cockatoo-Collins

Ross Dillon

Glenn Elliott

Robert Elliott

Craig Ellis

Ross Fisher

Ross Funcke

Graham Gaunt



VALE GRAHAM SIMPSON

All involved with the Melbourne Football Club were extremely saddened to hear of the recent death of Graham Simpson. Made a Life Member in 1974, Graham was one of a much valued crew, working with the club as a Property Steward from the late 1950s. He remained a devoted supporter throughout his lifetime, and will be greatly missed. We pass on our most sincere condolences to his family and friends at this difficult time.

YOUR COMMITTEE - LYNDA CARROLL, WRITER/HISTORIAN

BY CHRIS CONNOLLY

Lynda Carroll is a vital member of the P&PP&OA executive committee, overseeing all forms of communication (newsletters, website, Instagram etc) to our members. She writes, photographs, collates and creates all forms of communication to inform everyone involved about current events, opportunities and services, in the process also creating historical reference pieces for our Association.

Lynda has supported Melbourne her entire life, being introduced to the Demons via her father, who – before joining the Navy in the 1960s – attended many matches with his mother during the 1950s.

Lynda Carroll's great passion in life is Australian history - it is in her family's DNA. Her maternal grandfather collected history books for her even before she was born. This eventually led to her interest in Australian sporting history, and particularly the Melbourne Football Club.

In 1993, Lynda commenced a Master of Arts (Research) with a focus on Australian sport. The focus quickly turned to the Melbourne Football Club, after she met and interviewed former champion and CEO at the time, Hassa Mann.

When researching Australian sporting history, Lynda became frustrated that there was limited research of the MFC's history compared to other established AFL clubs like Carlton and Collingwood. This motivated her to commence a PhD on the history of the MFC, alongside the writing and publication of 'The Grand Old Flag', researching the first 140 years of the MFC. The P&PP&OA is currently



Book launch, Long Room 1999: MC Stephen Phillips and Lynda Carroll.

working with Lynda to update the 'The Grand Old Flag' and write the next era of the club's history, focusing on 1999 onwards.

Lynda has held a variety of roles at the MFC over the past 25-plus years, mostly as the go to person on historical research for the club. As well as being the writer and historian for the P&PP&OA, she also contributes to the heritage committee and its research involving Hall of Fame, Life Memberships and other industry and government awards.

Today, Lynda writes on a freelance basis and has just published a huge history dealing with 100 years of Lilydale High School. She also works for the MCC Library, as well as Monash and Deakin Universities.

Dr Lynda Carroll is a wonderful and dynamic member of our P&PP&OA executive committee. She is also a Life Member of the MFC, and says she looks forward to writing an extensive historical piece on the next MFC premiership. The MFC P&PP&OA is very lucky to have a person of Lynda's skills and passion as a key member of its executive committee.

