

Year: 1954

President: **K.F (Bill) Mollard**

Secretary: **John Happell**

(Asst. Secretary and Social Secretary – E.H. Kinnear)

Treasurer: **Don Bennett**

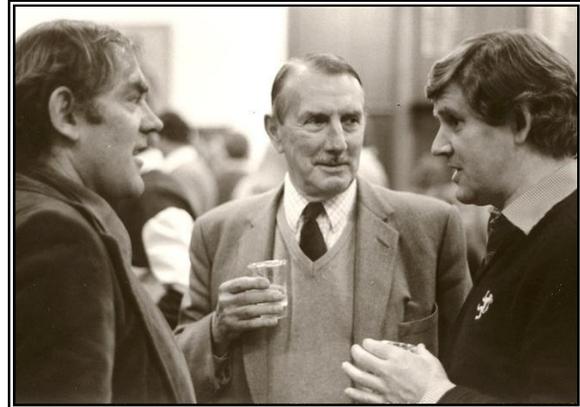
Vice-Presidents: **J.D.C.C. Moore, Alf Osbourne**

Committee: **J.R. Palfreyman, I.D. Dunkerley, Harry Youlden, Bill Irvine**

Captain/Coach of the Firsts: **W (Bill) Irvine**

Delegate to VAFA: **C. Brian Dawes**

Opposite: The first President of the Club, for the years 1954, 1955, 1956, and 1957, **Bill Mollard**, photographed in the middle, at a Past Players' event in the 1980s.



And the first Captain/Coach, **Bill Irvine**, is photographed on the right at Como Park, some time about 1974, below.)



Other people in the photo: front row, **Chris Perry**, went on to play for the Club; **Jim Perry** (player in 1954); **Evan McGregor** who will receive greater coverage when and if we ever get to 1955/6/57.

In the back are **Blair Catanach** (to get more coverage in later years), **Tony Mollard** (ditto) and partially obscured, Vice-President from 1954, **Alf Osbourne**.

* The **First General Meeting** of the Club was held on 23 March, 1954. Thirty-seven attended.

* **Subscriptions** were set at five shillings. The Club was an unincorporated body under the name The Old Geelong Grammarians Football Club.

* **Colours:** To be those of the Geelong League Football Club. *“When we first formed the Club we intended to wear our light blue jumpers, but we would have had to wear another uniform when we played another team who had light blue uniforms...For this reason we decided to wear the Geelong Football Club colours which, with circular stripes, made us look a bit more formidable.”*

* **Ground:** The Club to play in newly created E Section of the VAFA. *“...we were allocated an oval at Fairfield by the V.A.F.A with a changing room with no shower. If we wanted to get rid of our sweat the only option was to jump into the adjacent Yarra River.” (We have no idea what facilities are in the new portable rooms at Como for 2011. Who knows – the lads might have to wind the clock back to 1954. - Ed.)*

* **Selection Committee:** President/Captain/Coach/ and one other to be appointed.

* Cost of the weekly *Amateur Footballer* magazine was six-pence.

* OGGs won their first match against Old Trinity 19.22 to 2.2. *“Much to our surprise we had a good victory.”*

* Members of that first team were as follows:

F. Moore, R. Delves, W. Morrison, G. Nevett, A.W. Morrison, J. Happell, E. Ringwood, J. Middleton, R.U. Felton, J. Officer, A. Newman, D Sholl, R, Bouvier, Michael Moore, T. Bodycombe, J. Bennett, M. Howard , R .Tracey, J, Johnson, K. Mollard.

Guy Nevett from the above side, photographed on the right at a Pivot Lunch at Como in 2006. (We are informed by an occasionally reliable source that Guy recently celebrated his 80th birthday in April 2011.)



* **After seven rounds** they had only two wins, after fading badly against Old Carey the week before, and the OGGs notes in *The Amateur Footballer* magazine stated *“If we are to have wins more keenness in turning up for training and more keenness at training is necessary. Let’s make it 17-5 this week instead of 5-17.”* It appears that one theme and possibly two which have surfaced from time to time through the ensuing years may already have been established.

* **At the end of the season** the team had finished fifth. Won two of the first nine games, and seven of the second nine.

* **44 players** represented the Club in at least one game during the season.

* The first **Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies** was held at the London Hotel in Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, and there were 48 signatures on the attendance pages. But this might have been inflated, as two people, namely **C. Brian Dawes** and **Garth Manton** managed to sign on both of the two attendance pages.

Awards

Best and Fairest - **John Officer**

Most Improved - **John Johnstone**

Most Consistent Player - **W. (Bill) Morrison**

Financial:

Income for the year 268 pounds.15 shillings. And 9 pence.

A surplus of 12 pounds and 13 shillings was recorded after pre-paying rent for 1955.