

Old Geelong Football Club Year Notes: 1967

“Each Committee member to take along a tin of fruit salad.”

Unfortunately there do not appear to be any photographs from Season 1967, so it has been necessary to use ones from other years to break up the text. Items in italics are usually explanatory comments or observations made by the person who put these notes together.

President: **Tony Mollard** (with the Club virtually since its inception, including Secretary in 1960 - 1963 and Vice-President, 1964 - 66)

Secretary: **Tom Laycock**

Treasurer: **John McInnes**

Vice-Presidents: **Deryk Stephens, Alby Carnegie**

Hon Vice-President: **Nugget Stephens**

Committee: **Al Chapman, Ted Gray, Bruce Osboldstone, Jim Anderson, Rob Happell, Mike Tinsley, Brian Wawn**

Captain Firsts: **Clive Blazey**

Captain Reserves: **Bob Malseed**

Coach Firsts: **Peter Scott**

Coach Reserves: **Jim Anderson**

Delegate to VAFA: **Nugget Stephens/Peter King**



Tony Mollard second from left in photo left, believed taken at the Eltham Barbeque the following year. To his left, Tom Laycock.

Football

C Section. The **Firsts** won just two of the first nine games, but finished the year 7-11. The **Reserves** won eight games for the season and lost 10.

A somewhat **lack**-lustre year? It appeared that the Club suffered from a major let-down from the previous season, with the loss of

around ten senior players from that year (a number of retirements, a number moving interstate), a **lack** of players at training, and a significant **lack** of support from players at the various social functions conducted during the season. **Lack** of training and match fitness was identified as a major problem in the first half of the season, although it was pointed out that the Club *had* gone up a section, a fact overlooked by its critics.

The second half of the year saw considerably improved performances, as players, many of them new, got to know each other, and the five wins to four losses included four wins in a row to put the Club clear of the danger of relegation.

A highlight of the season was the two-point win over top-of-the-ladder St. Bernard's at Como in Round 11, after St. Bernard's had rolled the OGS by ten goals at Essendon in Round 2.

Notes from the minutes of various meetings (1) Annual General Meeting

40 people in attendance. Held at The Amateur Sports Club, McKillop Street, Melbourne on 21 February, 1967.

* As presaged in the 1966 Year Notes, the President of the past five seasons, **Garth Manton**, "with great regret" did not stand for re-election, but indicated his continuing support for the Club: "I'll only be a drop kick behind the committee; which means that knowing one of my drop kicks, I will be very close".

He added, "Last year we won two Premiership flags; the first time this has happened in the history of the Club. The D Grade side was confident and exceptionally fit throughout the year. The Reserves were not quite as fit, but very enthusiastic."



*Still only a drop kick behind: **Garth Manton** just after the Reserves' Premiership win of 2012 (left) and before the Firsts' Preliminary final in 2014*

* Training was to start on 2nd March at Como Park.

*(The monthly newsletter being produced by **Ted Gray** subsequently revealed that 20 people turned up on that evening, including eight new faces, but not one player from the Firsts' Premiership side of the previous September. It is interesting that training nights in November and December 2014 regularly saw 25 to 35 in attendance.)*

(2) Notes from minutes of Committee Meetings

Committee Meeting of 9 March

* "Little Tatts" to be continued as fundraiser considering success of last season.

* Very few subscriptions had been received to date.

* The Club had been granted use of Como for the Firsts, and Righetti Oval Kooyong for the Reserves for Season 1967. Ground rental for Como for the season was \$40 and Righetti - \$20.

* Elsternwick Park was to be the new VAFA Headquarters.

* Coach's fees to be same as last year: Flat rate \$200; making the Four \$ \$250; for making the Grand Final \$300, for winning a Flag \$350. (*We hope this doesn't get you into trouble with the Taxation Department, Mr. Scott.*)

Committee Meeting of 6 April

* "The Committee are quite concerned with the numbers who remained un-financial last year, and the Treasurer is requested to take positive action this year to collect subscriptions from active players and supporters. **Ted Gray** will have the membership card printed in about 10 days and the sale of this will help the finances considerably".

* The President had written and congratulated **Chris Mitchell** (OGFC player 1965 and 1966) and **Geoff Ainsworth** (OGFC player 1965) on their selection with the Geelong VFL team. Mitchell had replied not only to the President but to the Coach **Peter Scott** and past President **Garth Manton**.

It was resolved that **Alby Carnegie** should forward a telegram of congratulations to them on Saturday 15 April being the morning of their first match.

* The coach was very worried that up to and immediately after Easter only 5 or 6 people had been at training. To-night there were 50 odd. He would like more of the older and experienced players to appear, but they seem to be tied up with business, study or families.

* It was resolved that **Clive Blazey** be asked to captain a team against Peter Scott's team on Saturday (intra-Club practice match) and a confirmation (of his club captaincy) to be made if Peter Scott satisfied. (Scott was satisfied and Clive Blazey was duly appointed.) Reserves captain would be **Bob Malseed**, his Vice-Captain **Al Chapman**.



1967 Captain Clive Blazey with beard, 1966

* Proposed Wool Shed Dance. **Michael Tinsley**, **Jim Anderson** and **Ted Gray** to organise. Entry fee to be \$2 Males. Birds free.

* **Dr Fenton** was again asked to be the Club Doctor. A minute thanking him for his past services was recorded. **Peter Scott** proposed and **Nugget Stephens** seconded a note of thanks for the sterling support given in that area by **Peter Lemon**.

* It was resolved that owing to the rise in the price of bottled beer that we charge 45 cents at functions this year.

Committee Meeting of 8 May

* The Club had been approached by a Mr. Healy from the Shire (sic) of Malvern requesting help on 25 June for a doorknock appeal in support of the Alfred Hospital Rebuilding Appeal.

* The Treasurer reported that the financial position is not very good at all. The Eltham Barbeque had made a profit of \$48, but the woolshed event at Peter Scott's father's place (Lara?) had made a loss of \$100.

* **A. Carnegie** stated that if players are not financial by 30th June they should not be chosen in the sides to play. The Treasurer and Secretary both assured Mr. Carnegie that all players will be financial members.

* Beer sales to-date: \$15.00 as compared with a total of \$38.00 last year.

* The afternoon tea on match-days at Como is not doing well at the moment.

* The VAFA had advised that a team's coach is allowed to sit on a chair inside the fence but is not allowed to walk around.

*Photo taken the following year: Coach **Scott** nearest to camera is clearly not sitting on a chair. On the other hand he does not appear to be walking around.*

* Equipment: **J. Cantor** to make sure that we have right materials, flags etc. available on Saturdays. First aid: **P. Lemon** has entire control.

Committee Meeting of 5 June

* Alfred Hospital Appeal. **A. Chapman** and **E. Gray** still endeavouring to get a group together. We have also been approached by the City of Prahran on the same subject to do a doorknock.

* **G. Hudson** suggested a Pie Night, which was duly organised (for the next night!), and is to be held at **Mike Gretton-Watson's** on 6 June. Chinese food and fruit salad to be introduced instead of lukewarm pies and sauce. "Each Committee member to take along a tin of fruit salad."

* "Because our Firsts and Reserves play on different grounds they have less opportunity to get together and support each other on home-game Saturdays."



Photo above right: Reserves shot taken at Righetti Oval the following year. Any Firsts players coming to support could not stay after the start of half time as they needed to leave for Como.

It would be another five years before both sides were able to play on the same ground, as outlined next:

In early 1972 the Prahran Baseball Club merged with the Cheltenham Baseball Club (which has always seemed a little surprising to the writer as the two locations are not exactly contiguous), thereby leaving the Como ground unused on Saturday mornings and early afternoons. The OGGFC was quick to apply for the use of the ground during that period, on the same Saturdays as the Firsts would be playing later, and the application was approved. This meant that the Reserves were now able to play at Como, and that senior matches could be brought forward to the general Vafa starting time of 2.00pm. (They had previously had permission to start matches at Como at 2.30pm.)

The duplication of resources and of some personnel needed between Como and Righetti would now become a thing of the past, and it was seen as a plus that the Firsts could now see more of the Reserves matches, and equally, the latter could see more of the senior games. (Previously some Reserves players were not infrequently known to drop in at the Toorak Hotel en-route to the senior game from Righetti, only arriving at Como fairly late. Or not all.)



Baseball Club, Como circa 1971

Committee Meeting minutes of 5 May 1967 continues:

* It has been extremely difficult to produce an efficient, confident side when only seven regular Firsts players attend training, and so many players are only showing partial interest.

* It was suggested there be a manager appointed each week to organise officials and the running of both games.

* **Lack** of people at training and at social functions was commented on yet again. The **St. Kilda Go-Go Nite** had shown a profit, with about 140 attending; once again a **lack** of players from the team was noted.

*(The Band at the St. Kilda Go-Go Dance evening was entitled “**The Rave**” M & B Sound. Unlike **The Seekers** who went on to things bigger and better after playing for the OGFC in 1963, a Google search is not showing anything further for “The Rave” M & B Sound.)*

* The Pie Night on the Tuesday after the previous meeting, whilst an enjoyable occasion, did not achieve its purpose of attracting enough Firsts players. Perhaps because of lack of notice (*less than 24 hours*), perhaps too early in the week. It was noted that 30 cents was willingly paid for by those present for a bit more than a pie and sauce. (*Presumably the fruit salad had arrived in sufficient quantities.*)

Committee Meeting of 10 July

* Success of the Club’s participation in the Alfred Door Knock Appeal was duly noted, thanks to the organisation by **Nugget Stephens, Tom Laycock** and **Al Chapman**. A good club effort with some 30 Club members having made themselves available to assist in both municipalities. Letters of appreciation had been received from both the City of Malvern and the City of Prahran.

Committee Meeting of 14 August

* We have 163 members, as compared with 144 last year. *(It is not stated if these figures included players: it probably did. In addition to their subscriptions, players were also paying about 25 cents match fees for each game they were playing in. An annoying task for someone, usually the captain, having to collect the moneys pre-match.)*

* A match against the school (GGS) was eventually held on 9 August. “The balance of our team was excellent, being comprised mainly of Reserves players, plus our Firsts coach who also played.”

* That coach (**P. Scott**) concluded by saying that he was very impressed with the match...and that with a few new players from there next year we could do very well.

* **P. Lemon** (attending by invitation) suggested that some arrangements be made for the transportation of people from the University to Como Park next year. Noted for incoming Committee.

* Representation at **Geelong College: P. Scott** to make this trip. (Presumably to promote the Club.)

* Vote of thanks passed to **Michael Rigg, Nick Gatehouse** and **Robin Edge** for their support behind the bar at after-match drinks.

(Gatehouse second from left, Rigg furthest right, after the Reserves Premiership 1966.)



Committee Meeting sometime in September

* VAFA fines (for such things as late starts) had amounted to \$3 for the season, as opposed to \$5 the previous year.

* Need expressed for much better organisation of the Reserves next year – players must be fully changed and ready by 11.45am. *(Matches then started at Noon.)*

* On the same subject, complaints were made about many of the Reserves players arriving at their game with just five minutes to go. *(One player, then at university. who subsequently went on to become and remain a Prominent Melbourne Dentist lived just around the corner from Righetti Oval in Elizabeth Street, Kooyong and from time to time had to be woken when he had failed to arrive with less than 15 minutes until the first bounce was due.)*

* Debate took place as to what is definition of “Most Improved Player”.

=====
That appears to end the Committee Meeting minutes for 1967.

A few notes from *The Amateur Footballer* magazine

* After Round 1: OGGs' Vice Captain **Bill Tunbridge** played a great opening game. Bill showed he had lost none of his "fire" and none of his 15½ stone in weight. In the Reserves, new players **Ian Webster**, **Alex McCosh** and **Jon McConchie** all played a big part in the team's convincing win.

* After Round 2 (St. Bernards 12-10 d OGS 3-11): "We would like to thank Mr. **Scott** for making his woolshed available last Saturday and the organisers of a great evening, **Michael Tinsley** and **Derek Stephens**."

* In edition of May 13. "**Cam Macmillan** returned to OGGs last Saturday with all his old football and acting ability, kicking six goals. **Peter King** played his 50th last Saturday with a dashing game in the centre."

Newsletters



There were about four Newsletters written, typed and roneoed (copied) by **Ted Gray** and posted out to members on a fairly regular basis during the season. The following was noted in that produced during the second half of the year:

"What a change has come over the Club! The introduction to the last Newsletter was a little on the pessimistic side. Since then we have had wins over Old Brighton (then second), St. Bernard's (first) and Old Haileybury, and with a very much weakened side went down to Alphington (third) by less than two goals.

"When we play well on Como we can really turn on a spectacular brand of football. Against the top side the standard was particularly high."

(Ted Gray pictured in the middle above played a number of roles for the Club in the mid-60s to mid-70s – Committee, Reserves Manager, Vice-President 1970/71, Reserves Coach 1971, Best Clubman 1969 (aeq), 85 games 1962-1968.)

From the Correspondence File

* Notes on the use of equipment and supplies used during the season, and the associated costs had been prepared and appear in the correspondence file at the end of the season:

In the days before moulded soles, stops had to be hammered in individually into boots. A large and heavy metal boot-last and hammer had to be carried in the gear each week.

"Stops. The number of stops used was somewhat excessive due to the failure of players to arrive at the game properly equipped."

“**Tape.** It would appear that many players feel incapable of taking the field without looking like a cross between an Egyptian Mummy and the occupant of an Alfred Hospital Casualty ward.”

“**Training Oil.** Use of this commodity has been at a slightly lower rate than last year. However there are still some individuals who insist on taking a bath in the stuff before the game (and at half time, and at three quarter time.”)

“**Methylated Spirits:** Very few people used it during the season but unfortunately the top was left off the bottle and it all evaporated anyway.” *(It is not recalled what the metho would have been used for. Whilst sherry might have been an item occasionally found in the first-aid box for use at three-quarter time in the very early years in the 1950s, one doubts that anyone would have descended to consuming these spirits as a Performance Enhancing Concoction.)*

* *Peter Scott had met with the Secretary of the Old Geelong Collegians Association, **Mr. A.R.J. McVittie**, and various members of staff in early October. This was followed by a letter to Mr. McVittie from Tony Mollard, which evoked the following response dated 19 October, 1967:*

“Thank you for your letter concerning your kind offer to our boys leaving school to train and play with the Old Geelong Grammarians Football Club.

“At about this time each year members of the Old Collegians’ Association have a meeting with school leavers to tell them about the Association and perhaps introduce other matters which might be of interest to the boys.

“I propose mentioning the OGG football team at this meeting, and in addition the master in charge of football will be putting a notice on the school noticeboard drawing attention to your offer. Yours truly, ARJ Mc Vittie”

*This was one of a smattering of references to The Geelong College which had started to come into play over the past few seasons, but which had resulted and was to result in little momentum (yes, we know, **Gretto**, quality rather than quantity in your case) until the early 1970s.*

Trophies for the year were awarded at the Annual Dinner as follows:

Turnbull Trophy for Best & Fairest: **Tony Blazey**

EH Montgomery Trophy for Runner Up to Best & Fairest: **Richard Weibye**

DC Moore Trophy for Best First Year Player: **Michael Forwood**

D.M. Bennett Trophy for Most Consistent: **Terry Brown**

Brazier Trophy for Most Improved: **Gary Hudson**

I.D. MacKinnon Trophy for Best Club Man: **Peter Bubb**

Seymour Trophy for Best & Fairest in the Reserves: **Chris Renwick**



In addition, **Cam McMillan** (left) was presented with a trophy for having played his **150th game** during the season, the first OGGFC player to have ever reached that mark.

Cam continues to support the Club on a regular (but non-playing!) basis all these years later.

It was also noted that in addition to **Peter King** having played his 50th game (as mentioned earlier), **Reginald S.T. Bright** had also reached his 50th during the season.

Notes completed 19/1/2015

As always, if any reader has anything to add, change or criticise, please contact **Peter Lemon** on Melbourne 86014327 or peter@peregrineadventures.com. A revised edition of these notes is always possible.