

OLD GEELONG FOOTBALL CLUB – QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER, MAY 2011



As per the trend set last year, we have moved our regular quarterly newsletter to an e-friendly version. For those that haven't caught up with technology yet, but would still like to receive our updates please email oldgeelongfc@gmail.com to request "snail mail" editions.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jimmy Legoe

We are only four rounds into the 2011 season and it is already evident that there is a renewed vigour and a positive vibe around the Club, with quality additions both on and off the field. A big recruiting drive during the off-season seems to be paying dividends, whilst the professionalism of the committee has only been enhanced with **Frank Herd**, **Peter Clarke**, **Nick Roper** and **Neil Kearney** all coming aboard. A priority has been for the committee to formulate a mission statement that gives the OGs a direction for the upcoming season and beyond (can be found on the home page of our website – www.oldgeelong.com.au).

As alluded to above, a promising pre-season has led to many new faces donning the blue & white hoops this year with six debutants having already played senior football – **Steen Balodis**, **Will Harris**, **Harry Sleigh**, **Hayden Timms**, **Jono Vickers-Willis** and **Dave Wood**. Add the return of **Charlie Fairbarin** (back from Adelaide) and **Tom Lyons** (recovered from injury) to the growing confidence of our youth (**Josh Hoevenaars**, **Jack O'Shea** and **Cal Wood**) and the early signs are extremely positive (three wins from our first four games). This increased depth flows through to our lower teams with the Reserves sitting undefeated and the Clubbies (aka "The White Knights") possibly looking at their first ever finals campaign. Our Under 19's are struggling for numbers early in the season, but are extremely grateful for a renewed tie-up with the **University Blacks Football Club**. This combination proved to be a huge success when the Unders won the 2009 Premiership and we look forward to working together going forward.

The demands of running an Amateur Club are a continuous challenge, as we seek to provide our players with suitable facilities and resources to enable success. The operating costs are forever growing and we are extremely thankful for our wonderful sponsors, supporters and players. The committee have strived to improve the finances of our great Club in recent years, and whilst we are making good inroads, there is still plenty of work ahead. The OGs are always looking to expand the list of names and businesses that are aboard the Oggery train, so sign up as it's not too late for 2011.

On behalf of the Committee, Coaching Staff and the Players of the Old Geelong Football Club, we hope and trust that you can get ongoing pleasure from our results this season. Look forward to seeing you all down at Como Park throughout 2011.

NEW COMMITTEE

Following the OGFC AGM held toward the end of 2010, the committee is vastly revamped. We thank the departing members (**Mark Avery**, **Simon O'Brien**, **Mark Vickers-Willis**, **Dave Taylor** and **Hugo Brettingham-Moore**) for their contributions in recent times, and at the same time welcome aboard new members as the Club moves into an exciting era. Full bio's on the current Committee members can be found on the Club's website:



Jimmy Legoe

Hamish McInnes

Michael Gretton-Watson

Neil Kearney

Peter Clarke

Frank Herd

Nick Roper

MISSION STATEMENT

As already alluded to, our mission for 2011 and beyond is defined as follows:



OLD GEELONG FOOTBALL CLUB - 2011 MISSION STATEMENT

- Increase pride and improve recognition and value of the Old Geelong Football Club.
- Strengthen ties with our two feeder schools in Geelong Grammar and The Geelong College.
- Compete at the highest level possible:
 - Three year goal to be a competitive C Section club
 - Longer term is to remain C Section and above
- Continue the growth of our non-playing membership base:
 - Provide high level of social enjoyment for all Club members
 - Target over 200 Pivot members
- Strengthen the financial position of the club:
 - Increase revenues and maintain strong financial controls
 - Target a regular financial surplus and become debt free
- Lift sponsorship to \$100k per year to assist in providing the very best facilities, personnel and resources for players, support staff and members.

NEW LOGO

Another initiative of the Committee (in particular **Mark Avery**) over the past year, involved the development of a new logo which aims to represent our Clubs origins. The logo is a blend of the emblems of our two feeder schools, being Geelong Grammar and The Geelong College. This logo will replace the outdated version on all branding and football jumpers going forward.



COMO REDEVELOPMENT

As you may be aware, the redevelopment of Como Pavilion is finally underway. The frustrations associated with having to work within temporary facilities are only short lived as we can look forward to brand new Clubrooms for the 2012 season. The redevelopment will bring the facility up to standard with statutory requirements, improved usability and restore the art-deco building which is home to local football and cricket. In advance, we thank the Stonnington Council for their support and assistance over the period of the works which are expected to finish late this year.

2011 FIXTURE

Whilst the season is well under way, there are still plenty of opportunities to come and support the Oggery this season:



Above: Senior side post Round 1 victory over Bulleen Templestowe

2011 COACHES

Shortly after the conclusion of last season, the OGFC Committee reappointed **Nick Mitchell** as our Senior Coach for the 2011 season. Nick has since transitioned into a non-playing capacity, being ably supported on the sidelines by **Will Leaf** (past player of OGFC) and **Archie Whiting** (who hopes to pull the boots on later in the season). The coaching combination brings to the Club a wealth of playing experience, coaching experience, football knowledge and passion for the Club.

We are also delighted to have **Chris Rubick** back aboard as the Reserves coach following a successful debut with the OGs in 2010. Chris is eager to make up for the early finals exit last year and has his eyes firmly set on a premiership in 2011 with his team currently undefeated. **Michael Holland** is once again taking to the duties of guiding our Under 19 side this year as they look to consolidate on the success of the past two seasons.

Also looking to take that extra step this year will be the White Knights (aka the OGs Clubbies) whom are being coached by the formidable and fearless combination of **James Cole** and **Andrew Catchlove**.

RD	Date	Seniors / Reserves	Under 19's	Club XVIII
1	Sat 9 Apr	Bulleen Templestowe (a)	Monash Blues (h)	Richmond Central AFC (h)
2	Sat 16 Apr	Williamstown (a)	MHSOB (h)	Mazenod (h)
3	Sat 30 Apr	North Old Boys/St Pats (h)	Mazenod (a)	Hawthorn (a)
4	Sat 7 May	Whitefriars (h)	BYE	BYE
5	Sat 14 May	Old Mentonians (a)	De La Salle (h)	Hampton Rovers (h)
6	Sat 21 May	Peninsula (h)	St Mary's Salesian (a)	Ajax(a)
7	Sat 28 May	Old Paradians (a)	Beamaris (h)	Ormond AFC (h)
8	Sat 4 Jun	Banyule (h)	Old Xaverians (a)	Richmond Central AFC (a)
9	Sat 18 Jun	Parkdale Vultures (a)	Peninsula (h)	Hawthorn (h)
10	Sat 25 Jun	Bulleen Templestowe (h)	MHSOB (a)	Mazenod (a)
11	Sat 2 Jul	Williamstown (h)	De La Salle (a)	Ormond AFC (h)
12	Sat 9 Jul	Whitefriars (a)	BYE	Hampton Rovers (a)
13	Sat 16 Jul	North Old Boys/St Pats (a)	Mazenod (h)	Ajax(h)
14	Sat 23 Jul	Old Paradians (h)	Beamaris (a)	BYE
15	Sat 30 Jul	Parkdale Vultures (h)	Monash Blues (a)	Ormond AFC (a)
16	Sat 6 Aug	Banyule (a)	St Mary's Salesian (h)	
17	Sat 13 Aug	Peninsula (a)	Old Xaverians (h)	
18	Sat 20 Aug	Old Mentonians (h)	Peninsula (a)	

SCHOOLS UPDATE

One of the more significant developments off the field in 2011 has been to formalize sponsorships from both the **Old Geelong Collegians Association** and the **Old Geelong Grammarians Association**. The agreement will help to strengthen the Club's ties with our two schools, with both organisations acknowledging that the OGs are able to provide a 'home away from home' to school leavers in Melbourne. With our Club now sporting four football teams, six netball teams and a cricket side, interest levels from school leavers is continually growing.

As part of this sponsorship, the OGs Sporting Club intends to offer the following to both sponsoring organisations:

- A home in Melbourne as well as an environment for school leavers to continue playing sport at a social, yet competitive level.
- Representation and links to both schools on our web page and advertisement/promotion of upcoming events of the OGCA/OGGA.
- Updates in the quarterly newsletter, weekly webnotes and the past player notes as well as ability to leverage off our database.
- Active support and marketing of the Carji Greeves - Newman Club dinner, with commitment to fill at least one table annually.
- Hosting rights to a pivot club luncheon (see below) with keynote speaker from the sponsor of the day to provide update on the school.
- Provision of Clubrooms for Melbourne based OGCA/OGGA Functions (probably more appealing once Como redevelopment is completed).
- Sponsorship of awards at our Club presentation evening.
- Signage within our clubrooms to show OGCA/OGGA support of the Old Geelong Sporting Club.

As a further representation of how the OGs have managed to unite leavers from both schools, we have designed the hybrid jumper shown below. This Guernsey was worn in the Rd 4 match against Whitefriars played at Junction Oval last weekend.

PIVOT CLUB

Our first Pivot Luncheon for 2011 (sponsored by the Old **Geelong Collegians Association**) was held last weekend, with a record crowd of 135 in attendance. In the absence of Como Pavilion, the **St Kilda Cricket Club** was generous enough to allow us the use of the Junction Oval facilities. Not only was the playing surface of excellent quality, but the function room was equally as good.

Guest speaker **Adam Freier** (Melbourne Rebels player) entertained the crowd with his humorous stories and quick wit, whilst attendees enjoyed a delicious feast of steak and wine. Yet again the produce was supplied by **Frank and Susie Herd (Herd Meats)** and **Hamish McGowan (Angus the Bull Wine)** whom we thank for their continued generosity. Their ongoing support of the luncheons is invaluable and a large factor in the success of these events.

Our target of reaching 200 non-playing members is still a way off, so we urge you to get on board if you haven't already done so in 2011. We have simplified the membership structure this year and added the all important category of **Platinum Pivot Membership** of which we can thank the following for their generous contributions:

Graeme & Kerry Goldsworthy

Frank & Susie Herd

Trevor & Tina King

Hugh & Jane Macdonald

Murray Mountjoy

Michael Gretton-Watson

John & Beverley Joyce

Peter Lemon

Jon Mollard

Lachie Stevens

Below: the hybrid jumper worn by senior players as a trial during Rd 4 Match was warmly embraced by the luncheon attendees.



The Pivot Club provides a great opportunity for past players and associates to catch up, and this great amateur Club lives off your ongoing support. Pivot Club membership is a great way to show your support without the need to go with a full sponsorship package. Without gate receipts and bar takings during the game Amateur football needs the support of its past players and associates and with admission to the game free in Amateur footy your day at Como is great value when compared to a day at a game of country, suburban, VFL or AFL footy you have to fork out \$15-25 of your hard earned. It isn't too late to come aboard, so please make contact with **Lachie Stevens** (0419 305 519 or lachie@lachstocktrading.com) for more details.



NETBALL – Ginnie Hope-Johnstone (New President)

2010 was a successful year for the ever growing OGs Netball Club, and this year continues to follow down the same path. Having fielded three teams thus far, we can once again boast at having a team make the finals (OGs Navy). Whilst very short notice, the side plays their preliminary final this Wednesday (11th May) at the Prahran Netball Centre with the Grand Final to be held the following Wednesday if victory is achieved – keep abreast of the result via the OGs home page!

Last year's clubwomen of the year **Annie Legoe** concluded her netball presidency with a bang, luring around 140 ladies down to Como Pavilion for the infamous ladies lunch where **Jobe Watson** (Essendon captain) and **Luke Ball** (Collingwood player) attended as guest speakers. It was great to see so many females down at the Club to show their support to both the Club and the footballers. Plans are already in place for this years' luncheon, although with Como Pavilion unavailable it is proving difficult to source a suitable venue. Stay tuned.

In leveraging off the changes made to the OGs Football Club logo, the netballers have created a new design for their tops (see right) that will soon be worn by all OGs netballers.

The coming Winter Season (commencing June 1st) will see the OGs field up to five netball teams, so if you are interested in taking to the courts please contact Netball President **Ginnie Hope-Johnstone** at ghopejohnstone@elitesports.com.au or 0422 188 808.



Above – the newly designed netballers attire

CRICKET – Roly Imhoff (President)

As has been the case in the past two seasons, the Old Geelong Cricket Club once again made the semi finals of the MCC Club XI Competition over the summer, but we unfortunately lost to Old Wesley by quite a margin. Despite the disappointment of not going any further than last year, we do have a lot to be proud of. For much of the season we were on top of the ladder and apart from the semi final we only narrowly lost 2 games.

Our captain, **Rob Hunter**, had an excellent year making a club record 412 runs from eight innings at an average of 51.5 including a highest score of 115 (club record) as well as two other scores over 50. This made him the equal highest run scorer in the competition, leaving it as no surprise that Rob took out three of our Clubs four awards (Club Champion, Batting, Best Clubman). The Bowling Award went to our leading wicket taker in **Cal Wood** who took 18 wickets (club record), including a hat-trick against Old Melbourne as well as setting a new club record of 6/17 in the semi final (also against Old Melbourne).

Apart from these two there were many other fine performances with 50's from **Tom Wettenhall** (55), **Bertie Weddell** (51), **Ed Bayles** (51) and with the ball **Rob Hunter** (4/39), **Cam Russell** (4/11) and with **Tim Bayles**, **Jimmy Ratcliffe** and **Andy Burchell** we had easily the best bowling attack in the competition.

We are considering entering a second side into the 2011/2012 season. Like Old Scotch and Old Xavier, the seconds will play in the same competition, but will give us the following advantages:

- 1. Two teams obviously means that we can give more blokes a game more often. Usually towards the end of the season we are having to leave guys out who want to have a hit, but haven't consolidated their spot in the team.*
- 2. With two teams we'll have the firsts, who'll be made up of the best players in form, while the seconds will be a mix of players, looking for form, playing casually or who aren't at the same level as the guys in the ones.*

Traditionally at the start of each season we struggle to get one full team together, but after Christmas we are having to leave guys out. We easily have the numbers amongst our group to have two teams if we can get a solid commitment from everyone.

So with this in mind, if you are interested in playing cricket next summer please get in contact with Roly Imhoff (0419 003 264 or roly@qphotoandweb.com.au).



MATCH-DAY HELPERS

Despite a plea from the Club through a targeted letter to past players and supporters last year, we have had very few people volunteer to assist with off-field roles on match-day. It is an ongoing battle to fill tasks such as goal umpire, boundary umpire, time keeper, water boy and interchange steward amongst others, so we would welcome anyone to put their hand up for a game or two during the season. If you are able to offer your services, please contact **Steve Lansdell** on 0425 847 817 or stephen.lansdell@epa.vic.gov.au.

OGFC JOB NETWORK

For years the dominant teams in the VAFA have used their "Old School Network" to assist in the recruiting of players from within and outside their school, and to assist their players in gaining suitable employment. There is no doubt that the range of business connections in the Old Geelong Grammarians and Old Geelong Collegians network is as wide and varied as any other old boys' network. To date however, it has not been utilised, to the detriment of the Football Club, as well as the business network of the leavers of both schools who may require suitable candidates to fill roles within their businesses.

This year, the football Club is greatly interested in hearing from any person who is willing to assist the Old Geelong Football Club in its pursuit of football success and who sees benefit of having a talent pool of potential employees which comes at no expense. All opportunities are useful to us and could range from part time or holiday work (skilled or unskilled) to full time positions in all any professional field.

If you are capable of adding your firm / name to the business network we are trying to establish to make Old Geelong a more sustainable and successful Club, we would greatly appreciate hearing from you. Please contact **Ed Stevens** on 0409 355 391 or edwardo.stevens@hotmail.com.

WEBSITE – www.oldgeelong.com.au

We are making a conscious effort to regularly update our Club website on a more regular basis through 2011 as we look to clean up the site and make it more user friendly. The weekend's results (scores, goal kickers and best players) are uploaded by mid-Monday morning (for OGs, GGC and GC matches), whilst various other content (such as webnotes, past player notes, photo's, fixtures, polls, etc) continue to be updated regularly. Other detail surrounding Netball, Cricket, Club History, Honour Boards, Links, Sponsors, Payment Systems and much more can also be found online. If you have any thoughts on how the website can be improved or have anything that you would like posted online, please email oldgeelongfc@gmail.com.



PAST PLAYER NOTES

2011 sees the continuation of **Pete Lemon's "Past Player Notes"**. The reading base continues to grow with the editions becoming more and more frequent (at times two editions have been released in a month!). The latest editions (April 2011) can be found on the Club website via the tab titled "**The Club**" → "**Past Player News**".

YEAR BY YEAR HISTORY OF THE OGFC

Following the request from several supporters, **Pete Lemon** has taken it upon himself to create a Year by Year history of the Old Geelong Football Club. Given our 50+ year history, it will clearly take some time to complete every year, however if you have any photo's or news of relevance from any year at the Old Geelong Football Club, please send Peter Lemon an email at Peter@peregrineadventures.com. Pete has initiated with our founding year of 1954 and will gradually add to this collection. These summaries can be found on the Club website via the tab titled "**The Club**" → "**Year by Year History**".

WEEKLY WEBNOTES

A more light hearted look at the week that was at the Oggerly is published weekly via our **Club Webnotes**. These include match reviews, look-a-likes, player profiles and other useless information and are sent out every Thursday evening during the season. If you aren't on this distribution list but would like to receive the weekly update, please email oldgeelongfc@gmail.com requesting to be added (alternatively, can be located on Club website via tab titled "**The Club**" → "**Webnotes**"). Further to this, if you have any updates for the publication, please email **Nick Betts** (webnotes co-ordinator) at Nick.Betts@bakernet.com.

SPONSORS

Sponsorship is major source of revenue for the OGs and we are pleased to report that many of our long standing supporters are back on board in 2011. **Bennison Mackinnon** remains as our major sponsor, whilst we are also grateful for the ongoing support of **MC Herd**, **Angus the Bull**, **Ingrams**, **Rex Gorell**, **Wilson's Real Estate**, **Boags Draught**, **Windsor Community Bank** and **Emma & Tom's**. As previously flagged, we welcome the **Old Geelong Collegians Association** and **Old Geelong Grammarians Association** as sponsors with **The Rising Sun Hotel** and **The Betts Family** also coming on as new sponsors.

We urge the OGs community to “support those who support us” where possible.



We continue to seek new sponsors, so if you are interested or can recommend anyone, please contact **Frank Herd** on 0417 035 390 or frank.herd@herd.com.au.



CONFIRM CONTACT DETAILS

Over the past couple of years we worked really hard to update our Club database. However, many contact details **STILL** appear to be out of date, so if you have changed your details recently (or believe we have incorrect details on file) please email oldgeelongfc@gmail.com with your current email address, postal address and phone number.

Thanks to Pete Lemon for many photos contained within this OGs Newsletter.