

Old Geelong Football Club: marking 50 Years 1954-2004

General WebNotes 2004: Date: 17 September www.oldgeelong.com.au

RESERVES BOMB OUT (BADLY): WILL PAUL WINS HIS THIRD BEST & FAIREST

In a disappointing finish to the season, the Reserves lost their second grand-final in a row last Saturday.

From Jim Legoe:

OLD GEELONG	0.1	0.2	1.5	1.5	(11) lost to
LA TROBE UNI	2.1	4.1	4.1	7.3	(45)

Goalkicker: Greg Allen. **Best:** Tom Waters, Tim Bayles, Ben Symons, Ian.Munro, Nick Kemp, Jjim .Kilpatrick.

“With the weather forecast looking ominous all week, it was no surprise to arrive to find Central Reserve resembling more of a lake than a football arena. None-the-less, both sides were faced with the same conditions and the game had to go on. OGS warmed up as well as they have prepared at any stage this year and signs were good as we ran out onto the ground for the beginning of our second consecutive grand final - in pouring rain and a strong wind.

(Opp: the Reserves warm up inside, before freezing over outside.)

Having conquered La Trobe only two weeks earlier, we knew the first goal was going to be crucial in setting up the mode of play for the rest of the game. However, it was not to be, with La Trobe putting the first major on the board after a complete mis-kick. OGS players appeared to lapse at times and committed many an undisciplined act to have free kicks and numerous 25-metre penalties going against us. Whilst the umpiring didn't appear to be on our side, this too was no excuse as we went into quarter time with a solitary behind on the board to the opposition's two goals. More of the same continued in the second quarter as we just failed to make any foray inside our forward fifty. The midfielders couldn't gain any form of ascendancy with no clean skills on display at all. With heavy rain continuing and even a couple of minutes of hail on offer, it was going to be hard to score goals in the last half.



Being four goals down at the main break, we knew we were up against it, but our confidence had not been shattered and we came out fighting in the third quarter, which was by far our best for the match. Had we been able to kick a little straighter we could have gone into the final break with the margin well within reach, but our inaccuracy (a problem all year) had cost us despite all the momentum going our way during the quarter.

Having to catch up 14 points in the last 25 minutes was always going to be a big ask, but as soon as La Trobe kicked their fifth goal and stretched the gap to 20 points it was effectively “game-over”. This didn't prevent the OGS boys from still trying as they fought out the game until the final siren. Whilst the final margin of 34 points in the conditions appears a thrashing, the OGS team had put in their best efforts and it just wasn't good enough to match the class of La Trobe on the day. Major disappointment hung over the heads of the players after the game as we all looked back on one that

had seemed to get away. Having now stumbled at the final hurdle for the second year in a row, we can only look at going one better in 2005.”

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We thank **Reserves’ Coach Ben Dunn** who has also sent us this **comment about the season**:

“We had a good season and that should not be lost sight of.

- WE lost only two games in the Home and Away Season.
- We scored more points than anyone else in the VAFA
- We conceded less points than anyone else in the VAFA
- We won 13 games in a row
- We finished the Season with a Percentage in excess of 450%
- We had a significant number of players promoted to the Senior side and make contributions to the Seniors’ success.
- Nearly every player developed to the next level and pushed themselves to be part of the team
- We formed a really strong bond amongst ourselves and developed a very powerful team game.

“On a personal level it was great to see **Dhillio, Tom Waters, Greg Allen, Chuck Atkins** and **Slats** come back after last year’s disappointment. I think that the culture we are creating should see most, if not all of **Hugh Lockie, Rich Cutler, James O’Hare, Chris Wilson** and **Dave Youl** back next year.

“We were outstanding in the second half of the year, especially against La Trobe and Carey. The semi final against La Trobe was the best four quarters of physical football I have seen at this Club. “Undoubtedly, as a Side and as a Club we are growing. I hope that everyone will choose to pick up the banner again next year and find the hunger to go forward again.

“However, we set ourselves one goal - that was to win the Flag and we fell over at the last hurdle. I’m still not sure why. I would be interested in receiving any thoughts you might have on the season, the finals and the Grand Final in particular - why did we lose it after such a strong season?”

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AROUND THE CLUB

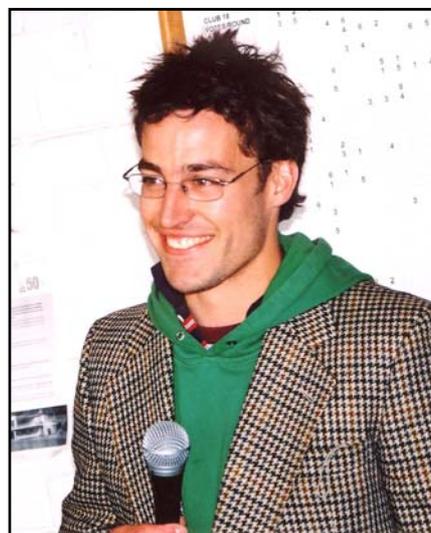
The **Presentation Day** last Sunday was really well attended. A terrific turn-up. (It was lucky there are no smoke detectors and sprinklers in the rooms because when the wind for the barbeque changed and came in from the north the rooms were swamped.)

A big thank you to those who organised the day, to those who helped man the bar and the barbeque, (especially after it had been moved) and to **Herd’s Meats** of Geelong who, *yet again*, provided much of the supplies for the BBQ. And a big thankyou to those who helped with the clean-up the following day. From **Mike Gretton-Watson, Acting Secretary**, yesterday: “Como pavilion has been cleaned top and bottom over the last two days in anticipation of the handover to the cricket club. The cleaner needed that time to hose down and clean showers and toilets downstairs as well as steam cleaning the carpet upstairs, washing down toilets and floors, etc..... I expect the bill to be at least \$800..... If the boys had not cleaned up last Monday after the Presentation Day, perhaps add another \$800 on the bill. Thank you to all the volunteers on Monday.”

Congratulations to the **Trophy Winners for the year** who were as follows:

Best & Fairest - Seniors: Will Paul.

Will (alias “Insano”) was one of only two current players to make the *Team of the Half Century* earlier this year, and he now joins the exclusive company of three other players in the history of the Club to



win the Firsts' Best and Fairest on **three occasions**. His previous wins were in 1998 and 2001, and considering he missed most of 2002 and all of 2003, following a knee reconstruction, his comeback this year has been formidable. Even awesome. Will scored 141 votes, ahead of 121 for Runner Up, and equal third were **Ed Bayles** and **Matt Goldsworthy** who both finished on 84.

(The other three-time winners were **Terry Brown** in 1966, 1969 and 1970; **Bruce Spiden** in 1976, 1979 and 1980; and **Dougal Morrison** in 1983, 1984, and 1985).

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| Runner Up to Best & Fairest - Seniors | Mark Vickers-Willis |
| Best and Fairest - Reserves | Mark Leslie (72 votes) |
| Runner Up Best & Fairest - Reserves | Tim Bayles (70 votes) (on top of two previous Reserves B&Fs). Chris Wilson was third with 62 and Anthony Dhillon fourth on 61) |
| Most Consistent - Seniors | Steve Lansdell |
| Most Consistent - Reserves | Anthony Dhillon |
| Most Improved Player | Henry Legoe (this, strangely, is the <i>second time</i> that Henry has won this award, leading to a few enquiries as to what sort of a player he must have been when he joined the Club! One thing is sure, it would be great if he could be in consideration for the same trophy again this time next year.) |
| Best First Year Player | David Kimpton |
| Best & Fairest - Club 18 | Andrew Slattery (and second was James Abbott) |
| Coach's Award - Club 18 | Tim D'Antoine |
| Best Player-Seniors finals series | Tom Paul |
| Best Player-Reserves finals series | Tav Makin (it's been a tough run for Tav – two consecutive losing Grand Finals for OGS Reserves, interspersed by a losing 2nds Grand Final for the South Yarra Cricket Club in March!) |
| Best Clubman | Jim Paul (honorary mention, Jim Legoe) |
| Life Member-100 games | Jon Malpas, Jim Paul, Will Paul, Chris Stinchcombe |
| Leading Goalkicker-Club & D2 Section | Mark Vickers-Willis |



Left: Reserves B&F Mark Leslie, and Most Consistent Anthony Dhillon

There were ten prizes on the go for the **Reverse Raffle** which was held during the afternoon, but to-date we have only been able to ascertain who won the three most major ones. They were **Stuart Hall** \$5000 (whoever he may be); **Will Paul Syndicate** \$1000; and **Matt Strauch** \$700. Doubtless there will be a rush to advise the other winners direct.

Club Football Tipping Completion: This has come through from the bloke who organised it all, **Jim Legoe**, "With the disappointing finish

to the season on all accounts and **no input** on what to do with the money raised for the Old Geelong Football Club through the football tipping competition, the funds will simply be donated to the Club" (*See, I'm not the only one who gets annoyed at the never-ending lack of input and initiative from Club members – Ed.*)

Mention was made in the previous notes that the Club had won the D2 Section Award for the **Most Disciplined Club**: there is now a plaque on the wall at Como, and the great thing is that as a result the Club now has a **credit of \$1000** for medical supplies next season with Club Warehouse. On the other hand, we can only say that the OGFC may have been fortunate that the voting ended with the end of the home-and-away season: the number of **25-metre penalties** given by our Firsts in the Preliminary final, and the Reserves in the Grand Final (at least about 150 metres each) was extremely disappointing. As these notes warned before the finals started, the umpiring is often significantly different in these games, particularly the Reserves, and we did not adapt.

It appears to have been a bad case of dyslexia on the part of the person who has the job of keeping count of games played (*me. - Ed*), plus the absence of a relevant Club 18 team sheet, but we are embarrassed to report that we missed advertising the fact that **Greg Allen** would, and did, play his **50th game** for the Club when the Reserves played, and won, their Second Semi final. G-N: we apologize for this bad oversight/error and congratulate you on doing so – one of the most regular and dependable players and people around the Club.

On the subject of **games played** it was hoped to have this completed for the year and updated into these notes, but it looks as if it may have to wait for a few weeks.

In appallingly cold conditions after the game last Saturday, the Reserves could not get back into the rooms until Old Carey took the field their for Senior grand final almost half an hour later. For us to then discover that there was no hot water. Guess if we'd won we wouldn't have noticed it.

Last Saturday saw the final appearance of **Club Secretary, David Mims**, who has now officially retired from the position and will next week be moving up to Mansfield with his family. The extraordinary effort and contribution that David has put into the Club over many, many years, not just as Secretary but also in a number of other capacities such as Reserves and Club 18 Central umpiring, boundary umpiring (and being the one member of the Club to donate blood each year for the VAFA's Red Cross Blood Bank Challenge), has been mentioned many times in these notes over the past couple of seasons. It now remains to wish Dave, Debbie and the family all the best in their new incarnation. (However, we'll be keeping Mimsey on the Reserves' umpiring panel next year, as we understand that he may be making the occasional visit back down to Melbourne next season. (And doubtless, for any Club members considering going skiing next season, *mid-week*, there will be a room available in Mansfield either on the way up or the way back.)



Young **Charlotte Bayles** has been a regular attendee at matches of late, and was one of many highly attractive young ladies at last Sunday's Presentation Day.

On the subject of the Club's administration, and office bearers for next season, we understand that the **Annual Meeting** is to be held on **Wednesday 27 October**. The requisite Statutory Notice, and a Printed Newsletter to end the year, are in the course of preparation and will be mailed out to members by mid-October.

On the subject of next season, we understand that three or four pretty important Firsts players from this year who had been considering **retirement** have indicated that they *will* be playing next year.

Thanks: There are many, many people who contributed around the Club, both on and off the field during the past season; they will be thanked in the President's Report which will appear in the Printed Newsletter referred to above.

A reminder that there is an advertisement on the relevant part of the VAFA website for **coaches** for OGFC for next season. Without trying to pre-empt anything, we've had this comment in "I also think mention should be made of **Michael Lockman**: that although he is not yet fully decided on coaching for next year, the protracted and spontaneous applause that erupted when he mentioned last Sunday he was likely to do so showed the desire the players have for him to continue.

Profiles in power: Club 18. B&F, **Andrew Slattery**; Coach **Moose Edgar**; **Tim D'Antoine**, Runner Up **Jim Abbott**, and Captain **Beetle Southey**, last Sunday.



Interesting to note that our Best and Fairest Winner, **Will Paul**, only received one vote in the VAFA's D2 Section B & F voting: we've received a suggestion that next year he'd better dye his hair red or grow a porno moustache like Vicko and he might get a few more votes!



NEW PLAYERS WELCOME!

The South Yarra Cricket Club is looking for players interested in playing cricket in the 2004/05 season. The teams cover a fairly wide spread of abilities and competitiveness varying from reasonably competitive VTCA South A1) to more of a club XI (MCA C Grade). All teams play on turf wickets within the central to south-east regions. The club's home ground is located at Como Park. The club has enjoyed a period of sustained development over the past five years.

- Expansion to 4 Playing XI's,
- Doubling of playing membership to over 80 players,
- Promotion of our teams to higher grades of cricket
- Development of an active social club that has been critical to the success enjoyed to date.
- 3 teams in Grand Finals for '03/'04 (unfortunately no flags!) (*The Como Curse? – Ed.*)

Pre-season training is currently underway at Hawthorn Indoor Cricket Centre, 7pm Tues & Thurs. For more info, contact: **Rodney Macaulay** Email: rmacaulay@airinter.com.au Ph: 0425 744 233 Yarras Website: www.yarras.com Or speak to **Tim Bayles**.