

Hawthorn Football Club

Past Players and Officials Association Inc.

Patron: John Kennedy Snr



Newsletter No 2. 2009

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Dear Members

It is with mixed emotions that this edition of our newsletter comes to you.

As you are no doubt aware on Saturday the 11th of April we were all stunned and saddened by the news that past player and friend to many of us, Rob Dickson and his 2 sons, Gabriel and Byron were killed in a car accident while holidaying in South Africa.

Rob played 17 senior games, 86 Reserve games and 3 night games for the Hawks. He then went to the Brisbane Lions where he played two games. He continued his association with Hawthorn when he was appointed runner under the coaching of Peter Schwab and more recently, with the blessing of the club, filmed the inner workings of the Hawks during our Premiership year in 2008. This work went to air this year on Channel 7 as "The Essence of The Game" and was a ratings hit for the station.

Rob was universally loved by all those who knew him. His fun loving, infectious and mischievous nature together with his uncanny ability to capture the moment in the world of film making will be an everlasting legacy to this amazing individual. Our sincerest condolences go to his wife Dusty and the Dickson Family. He, together with his two boys will be sorely missed.

On a brighter note, the third annual Generations Lunch was held at the Miller Room at the MCG. More than 100 guests availed themselves of the opportunity to catch up with old mates, tell a few tails and watch the footy. Although the result of the game was not what we would have liked it seemed that everyone still managed to enjoy themselves. I would like to thank all those who attended and supported the function and in particular Simon Marshall and Jeff Kennett, who gave up their time to say a few words. Full report next page.

Our next major event will be a one off Trainers Night at the Kennedy Past Players and Officials Room at Waverley Park. It will be a 2 hour event, from 6pm - 8pm on Thursday the 24th of July. I encourage you all to "drop in and say giddy"

And finally a reminder to keep the 21st of August free to attend our major function of the year, the Tribute Dinner, in recognition of the first back to back Premiership Teams. We encourage all past players, officials and associates to attend

Yours Sincerely

John Kennedy
President, HFCPP & OA

Get On Board

If you would like to join the HFCPP&O please contact Mike Warren at the Hawthorn Football club, on 03 9535 3063 or by E-Mail mikew@hawthornfc.com.au and we will send out a membership application. Full member \$40.00 Concession \$30.00

Current Membership 295 Target 350

2009 GENERATIONS DINNER – MILLER ROOM, MCG

The 3rd annual Generations Lunch was held on the 18th of April in the Miller Room at the MCG. It was attended by more than 100 past players, officials and associates.

The event was hosted by the most humble of them all, The Big Dipper. The President John Kennedy Jnr welcomed everyone especially those former players of the Maybloom era, Wally Bristow, Laurie Peters and Jack King. Special mention was made of former players Ken Judge and Paul Abbott and their respective wives Annette and Michelle who made the journey over from Western Australia for the event .A fantastic effort and it was great to see them there. Former Presidents Norm Lord, Alf Hughes and Ken Beck also graced us with their presence.



John Kennedy Jnr with Paul and Michelle Abbott

The event could not proceed without confronting the devastating news of the passing in tragic circumstances of former player and close friend to many in the room, Rob Dickson and his two sons. Former teammates and friends John Kennedy Jnr, Russell Morris and Greg Madigan reflected on the life of Rob, by recalling a number of humorous stories that gave members some insight into the wonderful person that was Rob Dickson.

It was then Simon Marshall's turn to enlighten us all with his experiences as a jockey over many years, from his early beginnings as an 11 year old boy, who was awakened by his father at 4am in the morning with a lashing of cold water on his face, through to the present day. He highlighted many of his 15 Group 1 winners and gave us an insight into the intricacies and judgements required to get a horse across the line first



President Jeff Kennett and the Big Dipper



Tony King, David Parkin, Nick Burn and Peter Murnane

Half time saw the arrival of club president Jeff Kennett, who withstood the hard hitting interview techniques of the Big Dipper and the crowd heckling from Russell Morris to enlighten us on the progress of the membership drive and direction of our football club.

He advised that the "5 two 50" goal is well underway and within reach. Fifty one thousand members had been reached at the time this newsletter went to print. Jeff is a great supporter of the Past Players and Officials and his attendance was very much appreciated by all.

Although the result of the game was not in our favour, we hope that all those who attended the event enjoyed themselves and we look forward to seeing you all again next year .

THE MEN BEHIND THE BACK TO BACK PREMIERSHIPS 1988 & 89

ALAN JOYCE



Played 1961- 65, 49 games, 7 goals. A handy ruckman and utility player from Glen Iris. As a youngster with only three games under his belt he was an emergency for the 1961 premiership team. A useful footballer although not particularly fast, he left the VFL at age 22 to build a successful coaching career with Preston in the VFA. He guided the club to two flags, then off to Western Australia for coaching stints with East Fremantle 1971-72. In 1974 he then coached Newtown and the NSW State Team then returned to Western Australia as chairman of selectors for Perth in 1976. That was followed by another two year stint as coach of East Fremantle in 1977-78 and two more as coach of Perth in 1980-81.

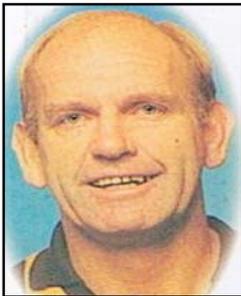
In 1986 he returned to Hawthorn as a match committee adviser and the following year as the Football Director. Coach Allan Jeans had to take a year off due to ill-health and Joyce was appointed coach in 1988.

His seasons goals were simple win the pre-season competition, finish on top of the ladder and collect the Premiership Cup. After winning the Cup that year he handed back the reins to Allan Jeans for season 1989.

He returned again to coach Hawthorn in 1991 till 1993 winning the 1991 premiership.

He reflected many of Allan Jeans qualities and he was said to be intensely loyal.

ALLAN JEANS



Played 77 games for St Kilda between 1955 and 1959 his first in the centre and his last in the ruck. A chest injury prevented him playing in early 1960 and he retired mid year at the age of only 26.

St Kilda used him as reserve coach in the later part of the year and he was then appointed senior coach in 1961 and was believed to be the youngest ever non playing coach in VFL history. He coached St Kilda for sixteen years and took them to their first and only premiership to date in 1965

Allan was appointed coach of Hawthorn in 1980. He entered a club in discontent, but soon won over the confidence of everyone at the club. Under his guiding hand he led Hawthorn back to the finals in 1982 and won a premiership in 1983 runners up in 1984 and 1985, won another flag in 1986 and runners up in 1987. He stood aside in 1988 for 12 months due to ill health and resumed in 1989 to guide Hawthorn to a memorable Grand Final win over Geelong. Before the game he implored the players to "Pay the Price".

His homespun philosophies were legendary no more so than comments on coaching teams. "They're like sausages. You can boil them, grill them, fry them, but ultimately they're still sausages."

At the end of 1990 he retired from the coaching position to go down in history, as one of Hawthorn's greatest coaches along with John Kennedy senior.



John Kennedy Senior caught up with former player Len Andrews.

Len was with Hawthorn just after the war from 1946-48 and played 31 games and kicked 5 goals

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Peter Curran

Year first played – 1982

Nickname: “PC”

Games – 123 (109 with HFC, 14 with BFC)

First Game 1983 Round 5 V Collingwood

Where do you live-Glen Waverley

Family –. Wife Fiona, Son Thomas, Daughter Chloe

Occupation – Teacher

Hobbies –Golf



How do you think you would perform in today's football?

Impossible to know, in my opinion. As an Assistant Coach for eight years I saw how fast the game has become and how skilful today's players have become. I guess height and endurance-wise I might've got a look in. Speed-wise I may have struggled. Whatever the outcome, it would be a great time to play, although a demanding life to live – but definitely worth the effort if I was good enough.

Heard Around the Club

Mike Derum one of the Waverley Park tour guides with Graham Arthur was recently guiding a group of school children through the facilities at Waverley Park. After touring the gym area and club rooms they made their way to the concrete concourse at the front of the stand where they stood beside the statue of John Kennedy Snr. One enquiring mind asked Mike Whose statue is that ? Mike replied John Kennedy Snr “.Did he win any Premierships the young girl enquired” Mike went on to tell her all his achievements as a player and coach. When Mike had completed his glowing appraisal of the great man, she asked Mike “Why have they buried him here “?

Needless to say Mike struggled to maintain his composure and then gently let the young girl know it was a monument not a tomb.

Upcoming Events for 2009

Please pencil in your diary immediately

- **Players & Trainers Night –John Kennedy PP & O Room Waverley Park Thursday 24 July**
- **Tribute Dinner Friday 21 August Olympic Room MCG (IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS THAT YOU COULD DONATE FOR THE MAJOR AUCTION. PLEASE CONTACT MIKE WARREN AT THE CLUB.)**

Please see HFC Web Site for further information

Did you know

Tickets for seating only (not entry) for Hawthorn home games at the MCG are available by phoning Bob Moore on M 0409 366 002.

Ken Beck organises a number of Golf Days during the year. Should you wish to join him and other members on the fairways please contact the association by phone or E-Mail.

Waverley Park Tours are conducted by Hawthorn Legend Graham Arthur every Wednesday at 11am the cost is \$10 for adults, \$7 concession and \$8 for friends of the Museum.

The tour includes Hawks Museum, The Presidents Room with the Premiership Cups, Players Gymnasium; warm up area and swimming pool and the John Kennedy statue.

RIP-

Robert (Bob) Pacey Reserve Team Player and HFC Member for 57 years

Jack Formby HFC Member 56 years, HFC Life Member and Associate Member Past Players & Officials Association

Robert Dickson Games 1988 – 90, 17 Games 12 Goals