



NEWSLETTER

Committee Returned at AGM New Face Joins Group

Those who stood for re-election at the Annual Meeting were returned unanimously, some going round for their fourth or fifth year with the Society.

Former committeeman, **Paul Macpherson**, has been elevated to the Vice President's role while **John Addison**, former Bankstown Sports player and father of GWS 2014 recruit, **Dylan**, was elected to fill the vacant slot on the committee.

GILLETT to EDIT

Considering the popularity of our first journal last year, we decided to approach a former icon of the code in Sydney, Dr Rodney Gillett, to edit our future journals.

Last year it was edited by committeeman, Paul Macpherson but considering his workload with the WWI book, it was decided to look outside the committee and Gillett's name immediately came to mind.

Rod was a founding member of the organization when it formed as a sub-committee of the league, way back in 1994.

Prior to this he was a Board Member of the NSW AFL and for one year served as president.

The issue thing about his editorship is that he will do it from his home in Vietna.m.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS PROG.

The Society recently purchased a new programme which is compatible with the website. That means it works with it. Unfortunately getting it to work is proving a problem.

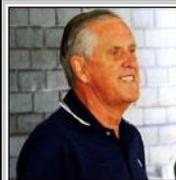
New committeeman, John Addison is using his computer skills to get deeper into the programme, but because it takes a little more than basic knowledge, the operation of the very sophisticated system is taking a little longer than first thought.

MORE ROOM AT WESTS?

By the time you receive this, we should know if we have been able to secure a little more space at the Wests Club, Croydon Park, now known as Magpie Sports.

It has been found that with the collection of material steadily growing and more people attending of a Tuesday, it would be a decided advantage to have a little more room.

We are working with Wests manager, and Society Benevolent Member, Dave Spence and will keep you posted on developments.



RON JACKSON TAKES OUT FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP

Central Coast resident and former Newtown player, Ron Jackson, has upped his membership to **Foundation Category**. He is the first one to be accepted at this level which carries a subscription of \$1,000.

"I was very happy to support the Society in this manner" Ron said. "They do a wonderful job in researching and maintaining the history of football in Sydney and it gives my wife Jeanette and myself great pleasure to be able to help in in this way."

AS OF TODAY
MEMBERSHIP OF
THE SOCIETY :
70



President
Ian Granland



Vice
President
Paul Macpherson



Secretary
Heather White



Treasurer
Gus McKernan



Committee
Jenny Hancock



Committee
Ian Wright



Committee
Michael
Livingstone



Committee
John Addison



Committee
Ann Abbott

WE LOST BILL



Our vice president for the past few years, Bill Carey, died in January. He had a lung removed last year through cancer and after it hit him again he contracted pneumonia and unfortunately was not strong enough to recover.

At 72, Bill had a continuous involvement in Sydney football—bar one year—since 1959. He played over 150 first grade games with Balmain on the wing then transferred to the (then) new second division side, Pennant Hills. When he retired he became involved in Pennant Hills junior club and the local association.

A schoolteacher, Bill coached many school and regional primary school teams. In his latter years he was the resident ground manager at Pennant Hills Junior Games.

We always referred to Bill as the *umpires' friend*, simply because he was forever giving umpires a mouthful either as a player, official or spectator. He knew best and gave it to those whom he thought was not playing it fair or to the rules. His stories on some of his experiences as a player at Balmain always had us in fits of laughter, particularly when we found he was the easiest of people to wind up over his exploits. Our thoughts are with his family

FOUNDATION MEMBER

- Ron Jackson

FELLOW MEMBER

Nil

BENEFACTOR MEMBERS

- Kevin Taylor
- David Spence
- Keith Claxton
- Ian Spiers
- James O'Connor
- Ian Granland

WE HAVE LOST SOME MEMBERS

Since you last received a newsletter we have to report the loss of some members:



Bill Carey

It is unfortunate to lose members, people who were passionate about their footy.



Brian Cleary

Not a member but we also list the passing of Pat McKenzie, the wife Ron, former St George president.

ONE FOR THE BRAINS OUT THERE

When the Society was incorporated it adopted the old Australian National Football Council Latin motto: *Populi Ludas Populo*.

No doubt those of you who did Latin at school and went on to use it in your chosen vocation will know it roughly translates to the game of the people.

The committee is currently changing the motto to one was more fitting to our situation: *non ut mittatur foras*

We'll leave it with you.



The Society conducted a Bar-B-Que at Bunnings Ashfield last January. It was another big day in terms of work but very rewarding grossing almost \$2500, this was considerably down on the previous Ashfield bar-b-que but there were a number of circumstances which had to be taken into the day.



MEMBER JOINS IN THE TUESDAY FUN

New member, Peter Kilmister (pictured), who formerly played with St George and Camden, has lent his expertise to the Society helping with computers and scanning a number of old football records he has in his possession.

Peter learnt his football with the well known Miranda Junior Football Club and went onto play with St George. As a junior he was selected in the 1964 NSW Teal Cup team and organised a reunion with a number of the players earlier this month.

He developed his skills with computers following a successful career as an electrical engineer.

BET YOU ARE WONDERING ABOUT OUR WWI BOOK?

One of the most exciting projects ever taken on in Sydney football is the production of a book with the subject, *The Effect WWI had on Sydney Football*.

Nothing has been written and really little is known about football in this period; the officials, umpires, clubs, grounds and the players.

Well, the Society decided to embark on a mission as part of the Anzac Centenary, to publish a book on just what did happen, who were the identities and what impact the war had on our football.

This book will become an ever-lasting legacy to those who went before us.

It is turning out to be a very, very interesting subject and we are finding some fascinating data is emerging about the personalities and the way the game was conducted in Sydney, 100 years ago.

Because Sydney has had such little emphasis or respect for their football past, those people, who were legends of their time, have simply been forgotten.

There is only one, **Jim Phelan**, after whom the Phelan Medal is named, is remembered.

There was Bert Watts who over a period of time was captain and coach of the Paddington team, a forerunner of the Eastern Suburbs Club. He represented both NSW and Queensland.

Watts was a fulltime army man. Raised in South Australia and posted to Victoria Barracks early in his career. He first served in the Boer War, was later stationed on Thursday Island and after a further stint at Vic Barracks, underwent special training in the UK just before WWI was announced.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the field and was unfortunately killed in 1917. He was awarded the DSO and was

several times mentioned in dispatches. There were many others who served, several of whom did not return.

The East Sydney club found the going so hard in 1915 that they had to forfeit a number of their games. Several of their players were in the navy.

Ralph Robertson is another who did not return. He captained NSW on over 20 occasions and in fact was captain in each of the three Australian National Football Carnivals in 1908, 11 & 14.

There will only be a limited number of books published. The Society has received limited grants from the Australian War Memorial and the Royal Australian History Society. An application for assistance from the AFL was refused.

A book launch will be held in April next year and, if interested, it would be prudent to reserve yourself a copy.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

We have been given material from a number of people recently. Bryan Rush, son of a former Collingwood player and subsequently NSW & North Shore player and coach of the early 1920s, also named Bryan Rush, sent in a great photograph of the 1922 North Shore team, unfortunately there are no names, a certificate his father was given for his participation for NSW in the 1924 carnival in Tasmania and a never before seen certificate of appreciation also presented to his father in 1935.

Additionally, Harvey McRae, former Western Suburbs player, sent in a photo of the 1985 NSW team who played Queensland and a copy of the Escort Cup Football Record. Harvey has also applied to join the Society.

Finally committeeman, Ian Wright brought in a series of documents from the league and the Macquarie Uni Club which he has been hoarding over the years. Some of these are very interesting.