

NEWSLETTER

NSW Australian Football History Society Inc ☰ ABN 48 204 892 073



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WEBSITE ISSUES AT LAST RESOLVED

The Society's website is the most important medium we have to communicate with the outside world. Late last year we received a grant of \$3,600 to help us with the task of refining and improving the site, to make it easier to navigate and retrieve items that people wanted to see. In an attempt to economize we tried a couple of different methods to achieve our goal but felt we were only just scratching the surface. Then our vice president, Paul Macpherson took control and produced what we consider is a very user friendly site.

He was acutely aware of our needs and he continuing to work on it in an ongoing basis. If you have any thoughts or would like us to see something differently on the site, please let us know.

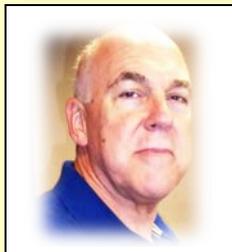
New Members

Rob Cook - ex Newtown

Rod Gillett - ex -umpire, Sydney Uni,
andNSWAFL Official

ROD GILLETT JOINS SOCIETY AFTER YEARS IN THE WINDERNESS

Former president of the NSW AFL, ANFC Delegate and Kyabram tragic, Dr Rod Gillett has at last joined the Society. He was one of the founding members of the group when it was just a committee of the league but at the time of incorporation, he moved overseas to further career in education management. But, he is back.



ROB PEARSALL PASSES

You may not know or remember Rob. He played NSW Teale Cup in 1975 from his home town of Lavington then transferred to Western Suburbs in Sydney for a few seasons before moving back home. After marriage he moved to Annandale and recently he signed up as a member of the Society volunteering to join with the Tuesday workers at our Wests rooms to take over management of the image repository. He attended on a number of occasions but then announced he was suffering from cancer. His days with the group became limited and he quietly passed away in late July.

CLUB HONOUR BOARDS

We have started to update the club honour boards we maintain on our website for both current and those clubs which have ceased to exist.

Only too often we forget who captained or coached a club or who was the president or other officials in their organisation in a particular year.

We have been fortunate to have a number of annual reports from some of the more established clubs which provided much of the details we use.

And yet ironically a number of clubs that have been in existence for years and years hardly ever published an annual report. For all of their success, nothing is recorded.

Even today the vast majority of clubs throughout the state do not keep a permanent record of their yearly accomplishments or activities and that is such a shame.

Besides the scanty information we also have access to old newspaper articles on **TROVE**, through the National Library of Australia. Hundreds of newspapers from round Australia have been scanned and digitally recorded. Fortunately for us many contain articles on NSW football. These articles are truly a treasure and it is a real pity that budget cuts by the federal government will no longer see more newspapers saved this way.

GALLERY

If you get the chance of viewing our website at www.nswfootballhistory.com.au not only has the site been improved but we have installed a better way of viewing photographs.

We have dedicated a page to photos with categories including:

State Teams	School photos	Club photos
Womens	People	Places

etc.

We literally have thousands of images which are slowly being copied and posted on the internet. A fair number of these are now available for viewing in this new **Gallery** section.

Occasionally now we have players write in to identify themselves or someone else in the photos so where applicable, we are able to add their names.

Recording State Games

We have previously told you about updating and recording the details of all NSW representative state games. Well, we are up to 1938 and already have almost a thousand players and 193 games listed in the database on our website. Some of these games are Sydney representative matches as opposed to NSW State Games.

In the old days (100 years ago) I am sure they didn't know what to call the Sydney rep team. In one game it would be Combined Sydney, then next maybe Metropolis or simply called 'Sydney Clubs'. Very confusing indeed.

We don't want to stop at NSW nor Sydney rep games and would like to register all representative matches played in the state between all leagues – Yes, a very big job.

NSW to VFL/AFL

Former committeeman and current member, Miles Wilks wrote an excellent book on players who, over the years, went from NSW football to play in the AFL/VFL.

Using his research as a basis, we are compiling the list into alphabetical order and will place this on our website for all to see.

Of course Miles' book contains much more information and includes many images than we could ever hope to have. It is a good read.

CHANGES AT THE OFFICE

To make things are safer and to provide more storage space at our rooms in the Western Suburbs Aussie Rules Club (*Magpie Sports*), we are arranging to put all the electrical and computer connection wires into a special conduit. This will conform to OH&S standards and the room more comfortable.

Additionally we will purchase another metal cupboard in which we will deposit further items of value to the Society.

For those who have been to our offices, the flat screen TV has been relocated to a spare spot on the walls of the room.

Also, we now have six **work stations** at which our volunteers perform their activities almost every Tuesday.

Time-On Journal

Each year we compose a journal of stories that were mostly written about NSW football.

These books are a great look at the past and in some cases reveal the story behind the story or might just provide a bit more detail about an incident that happened years ago.

We are currently working on this year's edition which should be posted out to you soon.

BALMAIN PHOTOS

A big thanks to Tommy Watts for donating a number of Balmain Football Club photos and we are grateful to Simon Kelly for putting names to a number of faces in these images.

Most of the photographs have now been added to our online gallery and can be seen on our website.

If anyone else would like to donate images, you can have them back after scanning, please contact us.



SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Society will be holding their Annual Christmas Party at **Magpie Sports Club**, (*West Aussie Rules Club*) on Tuesday, 13 December. If you can come along, please do so and join in the fun.

It starts at 12 midday. Contact us on 02 9716 0433 to let us know of your attendance. Meals are only \$10 with drinks at bar prices. **AND, watch out for a real visit from Santa!** Other than your food etc. there is no cost and you can bring your partner. Christmas is fast approaching. See you there.