

HEARTBEAT



A Newsletter For Past Players and Officials
of the West Perth Football Club

Welcome ...



We're not sure what it is about years ending in nine but in 2019 the club will be recognising the achievements of players who won premierships for our club in 1949, 1969 and 1999. In this edition, we'll be looking back at our 1949 grand final win over Perth, and we'll also be checking in with Keegan Knott, and past players Ron Skender and Michael Lockman. We'll celebrate the elevation of one of our club's finest, John Loughridge, to

the WA Football Hall of Fame and we've added a new feature by including advertisements for businesses of our current players. Your support for our players and their businesses is encouraged.

Finally, if you think you know the names of all three players featured in this photo, feel free to drop us a line at heritage@falconsfc.com.au

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Does your heart beat true?

Looking back at 1949



Back row (L-R): A. Bidstrup, H. Boyd, A. Taylor, D. Marinko (snr), W. Benton, J. Bryant, R. Dalziell, R. Reid, F. Jeffrey
2nd row: A. Collins, J. Weaver, F. Hughes, N. Lamb, R. Stockmin, D. Read, N. Garland, K. Bracken, R. Standing, J. Pola, C. Spencer
3rd row: B. Bridges, A. Lyons, H. Henderson, M. West, D. Williams, J. Larcombe, J. Shaw, M. David, R. Scott, D. Pozzie, W. Nevard, R. Bonser, R. Ennis
4th row: J. Loughridge, A. Whittle, T. Soutar, S. Heal, R. Fletcher, L. Harman, R. Hill, K. Ashdown, F. Buttsworth
Front row: R. Schofield, F. Harman, D. Porter, D. Pozzi, C. Shaw, D. Lind, W. Price, A. Yaksich, R. Foster

West Perth entered the 1949 season having been beaten in three successive grand finals, at the hands of East Fremantle in 1946 and the mighty South Fremantle in 1947 and 1948. In 1949, Perth emerged as the competition's best performing team, finishing one game clear at the top of the ladder with 14 wins.

The Cardinals finished second, with just percentage separating them from South Fremantle.

West Perth defeated Perth by 16 points in the second semi-final, with the Redlegs then easily accounting for the Southerners in the preliminary final, victors by 53 points. The Cardinals then looked forward to taking on Perth in the premierships decider.

The Cardinals were triumphant on grand final day, defeating Perth by 30 points.

Read how *The West Australian* reported the club's premierships win on the following page.

Football Pace and Teamwork Win Premiership

By "Follower"

The West Australian, Monday 10th October, 1949

Teamwork, with a foundation of pace and stamina, won for West Perth the league football premiership at Subiaco Oval on Saturday. West Perth practically assured itself of victory in the third quarter and later swept away all opposition to win by 30 points.

Narrowly beaten in each of the three previous grand finals, West Perth threw everything into the match on Saturday but not without plan. Its tactics were eminently successful. The West Perth selectors banked on superiority in condition, reasoning that the Perth players must feel the effects of the final against SouthFremantle, and laid their plans accordingly.

Stan Heal, the captain-coach, won the toss and without hesitation decided to kick first against a slight breeze, hoping to have everything in his side's favour in the last quarter. At three-quarter-time West Perth, already playing with the confidence that wins premierships, was eight points ahead and it went on to gain a decisive victory.

Perth could not make a serious challenge once West Perth applied the pressure in the last term. Momentarily the crowd worked itself into a frenzy when Perth fought back to score two goals and reduce its deficit to seven points but that was a last dying effort. The West Perth players then clapped on pace, backed up each other in approved style and had almost complete control. Inaccurate shooting led to a string of behinds but West Perth was able to keep the ball in its forward area and then score the goals which placed the issue beyond doubt.

West Perth triumphed through its teamwork. Speaking at a celebrative function yesterday, Heal said that before the second semi-final he had told the West Perth players that their team was not as strong as in previous years. He had told them that to win the premiership they must win that semi-final. They won that game and then it was merely a matter of pulling together to win the grand final. "No matter who is the coach, to be successful he must have the club committee and the players right behind him," Heal said.

In the second half there was a finesse in the West Perth play which augured well. The players moved about quickly, led and passed the ball systematically and in the last quarter they raced on in twos and threes with the object of helping each other.

Perth, by contrast, fell into an unscientific long-kicking game which more often than not broke down on a beaten half-forward line. Ironically West Perth did not have the marked success on the centre line that was expected and when Buttsworth injured his left ankle in the second term it lost its potency at half-forward. Other players, however, came to the rescue and West Perth was able to make swift forward drives which must have made their opponents envious.

Perth found Lamb a snag in the ruck, was weak at half-forward and lost its usual soundness on the full back line. Up to half-time the play was even and West Perth, on Heal's subsequent admission, was not without worry. Perth then led with 8.3 to 7.5. West Perth drew level shortly after half-time, Perth scored two goals in quick style and then West Perth attacked strongly to gain the lead in spite of inaccurate kicking at goal. The writing was then on the wall.

1949 Premiership Team Line Up



	1 st Qtr	2 nd Qtr	3 rd Qtr	4 th Qtr	Total
West Perth	3.3	7.4	11.7	16.13	109
Perth	5.3	8.3	10.5	12.7	79

Goals:

West Perth – Ray Scott (4), Fred Buttsworth (3), Ken Ashdown (3), Frank Harman (2), Norm Lamb (2), Alvan Whittle (1), Doug Lind (1)

Perth – Ron Tucker (5), Phillip Craven (2), Merv McIntosh (1), Bob Miller (1), Fred Wray (1), Reg Zeuner (1), Bill McKenzie (1)

Best players:

West Perth – Jack Larcombe, Norm Lamb, Len Harman, Kevin Bracken, Ray Scott, Ray Schofield

Perth – Merv McIntosh, Terry Moriarty, Alex Wallace, Keith Harper, Bill McKenzie, Ron Tucker

Umpire A. Pitsikas

Free kicks West Perth (16), Perth (26)

Attendance 34,049 (record)

Jack Larcombe was awarded the Simpson Medal

While West Perth overcame Perth on grand final day, the period between 1947 and 1953 is best known for the rivalry that emerged between the Cardinals and South Fremantle. The two clubs boasted some of the finest players to ever take the field in Western Australia, and they attracted large crowds to games they played.

In a game played between these two clubs on Foundation Day in 1949, a crowd of 26,740 turned up at Subiaco Oval to watch this stand-alone fixture and clash of the 1948 grand finalists (the other six clubs had played their games on the Saturday).

The population of the Perth metropolitan area at the time numbered nearly 350,000 and so just under 8% of Perth’s population attended that game, a phenomenal figure.

Here’s how the *The West Australian* reported the build-up to the game ... (see overleaf).

Football Leading Teams to Meet Today

By "Follower"

The West Australian, Monday 6th June, 1949

Opponents in the last two grand finals and at present the leading teams in the league football competition, West Perth and South Fremantle will have their first 1949 tilt at each other this afternoon at Subiaco Oval. A record crowd of over 20,000 is expected.

This match has assumed the proportions of a final. Both clubs have made careful preparations and an unusually keen public interest has developed. Defeat will not mean forfeiture by either team of premiership claims - far from it, as each will have 11 more games before the end of the qualifying round. It is more than a contest for premiership points, only four of which are involved as in any fixture, and leadership will not necessarily change hands, as West Perth (present percentage 130) would retain first place if narrowly beaten by South Fremantle (123). It is largely a matter of morale.

Here are two clubs with soundly-based aspirations to the 1949 premiership and each regards the other as the greatest danger. West Perth's recent history is one of consistent effort and ultimate disappointment, narrow defeat in each of the last three grand finals. South Fremantle, having won the last two premierships is in the position of the champion boxer who is entitled to regard himself as the best until the title is won from him in the ring.

In the bitterness of defeat last year, the West Perth captain-coach (Stan Heal) inferred that his team had lost because it had not equalled South Fremantle in determination. Now he believes that there is a real fighting spirit in the side and hopes to see that in evidence this afternoon.

Naylor's return to goalkicking form against Subiaco has increased South Fremantle's confidence. The side is strong all-round but the men are not yet placed to the satisfaction of the keenest supporters. It must be said, however, that men, such as Crabbe, who have been given new roles have done well. West Perth, judged on its display against East Fremantle has room for improvement in attack. Of course, Yaksich (who had been a most serviceable half forward) was absent and Harman, not in the best of condition and feeling strange in a changed role, was not able to make the most of the opportunities at centre-half-forward provided by Pozzi and others.

It does seem necessary, however, for permanency at full forward, whether the player be Scott, Harman, Whittle or Buttsworth (who apparently is to be given a chance to settle down as a defender but may ultimately take a position in attack). Both sides are well-conditioned and strong across the centre. Against Lamb and Read the South Fremantle ruckmen will not have matters all their own way and efficiency in attack will be demanded.

The Cardinals jumped South Fremantle in the first quarter, booting eight goals to the Southerners' five and retained a two goal lead at the final change. South Fremantle came home with the breeze in the final term, kicking three goals to the Cardinals one, winning by four points (12.18 to 12.14). Bernie Naylor and Ray Scott each kicked five apiece. John Loughridge and Steve Marsh were best players for their teams.

Future Past Player – Keegan Knott



Keegan Knott debuted for West Perth in 2018. A clever forward and goal sneak, Keegan took time out to share his football story, and his desire to ensure our club's heritage lives on through the current player group.

You played for first senior game for the club in 2018. Can you tell us a little about your junior career and pathway to Joondalup?

My football junior career didn't start until late as I played high level soccer up until I was 15 years old. I then picked up a footy and my first season of junior footy was for the Sorrento-Duncraig JFC. I played two years there and then I moved with my school mates to Carine JFC. This is where I met the great Peter Ellis, who gave me the opportunity to play for Claremont as a top age Colt, as he was the Ruck coach down there. He inspired me to be the best player I could be by continuous belief and support that I could make it in the WAFL. I miss him dearly.

I then spent from 2011 to 2015 at Claremont and in this time, I lost a Colts grand final in 2011 and won a Reserves grand final in 2012. My league debut for Claremont was in 2013, but I could never regularly hold down that spot which ultimately led me to leave for greater opportunity – and thankfully I found that in the West Perth Football Club.

Most players have people around them who have significantly influenced their football. Who are yours?

Many people! Firstly - it's cliché, but my Dad. He was the one who did the hard yards in terms of getting my gear, giving me lifts to and from training, keeping me grounded and teaching me good habits with my diet and sleep. He instilled these lifelong habits when I was young.

As I grew older, more "football minded" people helped me along the way. As previously mentioned - Peter Ellis, gave me the vision and belief for me to start my WAFL career and his support will never be taken for granted or forgotten. Whilst I was at Claremont starting out, one of my idols, Paul Medhurst, was finishing up his career at the Tigers, so I decided to hang around him like a bad smell to pick his brains, watch his training and games. He was brilliant to have to help me gain the tools and knowledge as a small forward and he always told me "Never be scared to express yourself on the footy field" whether that was celebrating goals or trying to do the impossible. He really did help carve my own identity.



I have had some brilliant coaches along the way but I must admit that former coach Bill Monaghan probably taught me more about myself than the game itself, which in my opinion is one of the most important things to find out about. Lastly, I won't openly admit this to the boys, but running around with guys like Andrew Strijk, Tyler Keitel, Jay Van Berlo, Shane Nelson and Aaron Black is a privilege and something I'm sure I will look back with fondness.

Who were your football heroes growing up?

Depends what "football" you're talking about! Growing up as a soccer fanatic and a Chelsea fan my heroes included Zola, Thierry Henry, Ronaldo, Drogba, Owen to name a few. But in terms of AFL I always loved those who played the game with a bit of magic - Leon Davis, Jeff Wiz Farmer, Aussie Jones, Ronnie Burns and Simon Prestigiacomo come to mind.

What do you do when you're not playing or training?

A lot of my time is spent around study! I'm eager to finish off my masters in teaching so I can become a physical education teacher. I also work every morning and afternoon at a day care centre which keeps me fully occupied. If I'm not doing any of those things, I can usually be found on the couch playing FIFA.

What are some of your career highlights so far?

Everyone would say it, but my League debut rates pretty highly. Even though I only had 3 disposals and was about as useful as window wipers on a submarine it's still a proud moment. But one of my biggest and most proudest highlights was the ability to keep on persisting and believing that I could be a good WAFL player even when I was told on multiple occasions that I was too far off it, too small and not good enough. It has taken me seven years of senior WAFL footy to finally find my feet. Without self-drive, belief and determination who knows where I would be!

And challenges you've had to overcome?

Probably just being told that I wasn't good enough time and time again. It did take some toll and there were definitely some moments where I did think I was done and had nothing else to give.

You have a deep interest in the history of the club and you're mindful of the legacy of this playing group. What has sparked this for you?

I think it's very important to understand that we are only here for a very short time in the scheme of things and it's crucial to leave the club in a better place from when you arrived to when you leave. At the end of the day when you think about past players you have played with or the time you have spent with them – the first thing you think about them was what were they like as a person, not how good they were at football. All you want to be remembered for is how you made people feel. The more you get to understand people through conversations or in this case reading – the more people can relate to you and have a “connection” to you.

Do you have any ideas as to how you would like to further develop this?

I believe that by having that “connection” to someone at a football club is special and this could potentially be done by simply bonding with the person who once wore the same number as you. This would let the players of today get in touch with the players of the past and also the players of tomorrow and hopefully bridge the gap between past and present.



Ed: Keegan's enthusiasm to meet past players who have worn his number (28) is shared across the playing group. You're very welcome to come into the rooms after the game and if you happen to have worn the number of one of the team's current players, please introduce yourself to them. It would be terrific if we can assist our current players to build their connection to the heritage and history of our club.

Heading West – Michael Lockman

Michael Lockman played 15 games for West Perth in 1984 after coming to the club from Richmond. HeartBeat recently caught up with Michael when he shared the story behind his move to the West and where his football took him when his days at Leederville were over.

You debuted at senior level for Richmond just shy of your 20th birthday in August 1983. Can you tell us about your journey to senior football in Melbourne?

I played for my local team East Malvern which was a part of the Richmond Football Club zone back then. I started training at Richmond as a 14 year old (too young but nothing was going to hold me back) in 1978 and played my first game for them when I was 15 in the U19 team (Colts in WA). In 1980 I played in the U19 premiership team and in 1981 I was fortunate enough to captain a Victorian school boys side that toured Ireland to play Gaelic Football. This was a great experience and included a number of players who went on to have notable careers. In 1983 I won the reserves best and fairest and debuted in the senior team.

That Richmond team included a number of great players including Kevin Bartlett, Dale Weightman, Maurice Rioli, Jim Jess and Rob Wiley. What did you learn about the game playing alongside champions like these?

Short answer, a lot. Back then Richmond was a power in the VFL. We won the premiership in the seniors, reserves and U19's in 1980 and played in the 1982 GF. It was an era where Richmond was a power in the VFL and a winning culture was firmly established. When you are surrounded by great players who play to a very high level and expect and demand winning behaviours, you learn plenty.



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You found yourself at Leederville Oval at the beginning of the 1984 season. How did the move from Richmond come about? Two of your Richmond teammates were West Perth products, David Palm and Dan Foley. Did they influence your thinking?

The move occurred very quickly, so quickly in fact that I don't recall discussing it with too many people at Richmond except the then coach Mike Patterson (Francis Bourke had been axed after Tony Jewell had been axed) and the General Manager Kevin Dixon. I got on well with Palmy and Dan but didn't get the chance to discuss the move with them. Dennis Cometti had been to Melbourne and consulted with some football recruiting managers and they had recommended me to him. The next week I was on a plane to Perth to play a practice match, from memory it was against Subiaco and it was played at Subiaco Oval. I played ok after which the club made me an offer. Richmond weren't prepared to make me an offer which was very disappointing so I moved to Perth that week in anticipation of playing my first game.

Your first game for West Perth was in the second game of the season, against East Perth at Perth Oval. What are your recollections of that game?

Before playing this game there were a few dramas to overcome. Dennis wanted me to play the first game of the season against Perth however Richmond wouldn't clear me so the club and Rod Brown took this to court in WA claiming a restraint of trade (which I thought was a pretty fair argument in consideration of what had transpired with Richmond). So I didn't play the first game came in for the second against East Perth. Unfortunately from a team perspective I don't have great recollections of that game, we were thrashed! It was a sunny day, the game was played at Perth Oval and we never really looked like winning that one.

What are the memories of your time at Leederville that stand out?

I loved Perth and I loved playing for the West Perth Football Club. In 1984 I think we missed the finals maybe by a game and percentage but we had a young side that was loaded with talent and which I thought would do very well the following year. We had Derek Kickett, John Gastev, Dean Warwick, Craig Nelson, Dean Laidley, Craig Turley, Paul Mifka and a number of other young guys who were set to become very good players and guys like Fong and Menaglio who were already were. We started the season slowly but we came home with a wet sail. It was great playing in front 20,000 people at Leederville Oval against sides like East Perth, Subiaco, etc. Prior to the Eagles it was the number one football competition and the atmosphere at Leederville playing in front of those crowds was great.

You played 15 games for the club in 1984, booting 21 goals, and then found your way back east in 1985. How did that come about?

Dennis played me in the backline for the first 10 games and then moved me forward for the last five. If he'd played me up forward all year I might've kicked a few more!! Unfortunately for me he decided his time as coach was up at West Perth and the club appointed John Wynne to the position. John made the decision that my services were no longer required by the club. I was extremely disappointed. I'd really enjoyed my first year in Perth and did not want to leave. Both Subiaco and East Fremantle wanted me to play with them the following year but ironically, West Perth would not clear me. So I got in my car, drove to Adelaide and played the 1985 season for South Adelaide under Don Scott and Rick Davies.

You played another three seasons of senior football after you returned to Melbourne, playing the 1986 and 1987 seasons at Collingwood (15 games) and a further eleven games with Sydney in 1988. Can you tell us about some of your playing days upon your return to the VFL?

Playing at Collingwood in front of 70,000 plus spectators on a regular basis was a great experience. Leigh Matthews was a great coach and I still see some of my former teammates. The Swans' were very different. At that stage they were struggling to survive and were being propped up financially by the VFL. Playing with guys like Greg Williams and Gerard Healy was great and Tom Hafey was a hard task master as coach.

You remained involved in the game for a few years after you finished at Sydney, including some coaching in Tasmania. How long were you involved post (playing) retirement and are you involved in the game today?

I was a playing coach at Colac in the Western District of Victoria where we won a flag and I also coached Railways FC in the GNFL in 1995 to a grand final which we unfortunately lost. From there I went to Tasmania and coached the Launceston FC in the state league for a couple of years. By this stage I was approaching my mid-thirties and it was time to hang the boots up. In 2003 I joined the Old Geelong FC in the VAFA which is the amateur league and coached them for four years. It's a great club and we won a flag in 2005. From there I got involved in corporate life and have not been actively involved in the game since - never say never though! I still love the game and would like to get involved again.

Do you get a chance to follow West Perth from afar? Or keep in touch with former teammates at the club?

Unfortunately no, I haven't stayed in touch with many of the guys except our coach, Dennis. I moved back to Perth in 2008 to work in the airline industry and remained there until 2014. Dennis being the great guy that he is assisted in these endeavours from time to time. It's excellent that the old boy network is being active and I recently caught up with Terry Stokesbury in Melbourne recently for the first time in many years which was great.



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My first game – Ron Skender

Ron Skender represented the club in 101 games and over six seasons. An outstanding ruckman, Breckler medal winner and state representative, Ron was selected in the West Perth team of the decade (1994-2004) and the Garlic Muncher's team of the century.

Still a servant of West Perth as the club's ruck coach, we asked Ron to recall his memories of his first game and time at the club.

My dad has always been a keen West Perth supporter, and he used to take me to the games, and at 10 years of age I loved watching Craig Nelson, Peter Menaglio and Les Fong, they were my heroes and it was a great thrill to see them play.

I lived within the boundaries of the Swan Districts recruiting zone and played all my junior football with the Bassendean Junior Football Club. I later progressed through Swan Districts Colts, and Reserves. My league debut for Swans came on 1st June 1992, and in 1996, after five seasons, I had played 61 games.

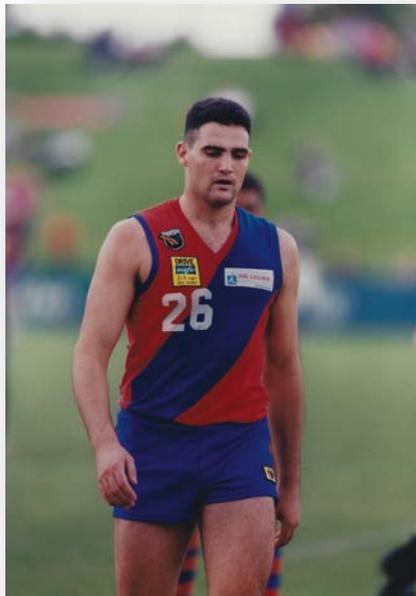


Opportunities as a ruckman at Swans became limited, and with Travis Edmonds and Jason Ball entrenched in the league side, any guarantee of getting a consistent game was just a week by week proposition. Unlike Swans, West Perth at the time weren't particularly blessed with big men, and I was approached with an offer to make the transition to Joondalup. I weighed up the pro's and con's, then decided that West Perth offered more of an opportunity to play league football, so in 1997 I went from being a Swan to a Falcon. The bonus for me was that I was going to play with the club I had followed since I was a youngster.

I debuted for West Perth on 5th April 1997. It was also the year that Peel Thunder played in the WAFL for the first time. John Dimmer was our coach, and as fate would have it, my first game was against my old club Swan Districts at Bassendean. Running out onto the ground in a red and blue jumper was like a dream come true, following in the footsteps of those players I had respected and admired many years before as a kid. It was also a proud moment for my dad.

Unfortunately, the dream took a bit of a dent, as by the final siren we had been comprehensively beaten by 86 points. Things picked up considerably a few games later, and from that point we won nine out of the next ten games to be only two games away from second spot, however, injuries took their toll and we finished sixth by the end of the season.

During my first game I copped some stick from parts of the Swans crowd, but I didn't take too much notice because my attention was captured by a strange thought. For some reason I couldn't help but notice how



bright the colours were on my red and blue socks. For many years I had been so used to wearing just plain black socks at Swans, that my new club's colours seemed to stand out like the proverbial privy in the desert.

Christian "Critter" Kelly and I are great mates, due to the fact that we've played footy together in every grade since we were 10 years old. When I left Swans in 1997 it seemed the link would be broken, but in 1998 "Critter" was recruited by West Perth, which turned out to be a bonus for the club.

For me, the '98 season consisted of spending five weeks in the two's, until I got a call-up to the league side for the game against Subiaco at Joondalup on 27th June. This game became a turning point in my career. It was a wet day, and during the first half I was coming on and off the bench. Subiaco jumped out of the blocks and were winning in most areas on the ground, to the extent that just after half time it was looking grim and winning seemed remote in the wet. John Dimmer

gave me the nod, and I replaced Marty Whitelaw and rucked for the whole second half. An opportunity like this doesn't present itself every day, and I knew I had to seize it. I think my determination to succeed took my game to another level, and we got on top in the centre bouncelows and around the stoppages. The boys seemed to spring into life, and we started to peg back the sizeable deficit. The last quarter was tense, and just before the final siren we hit the front and won by 2 points, 8.13 to 9.5. It was a real team effort, and I couldn't have been happier with my game, and it was great to be able to contribute to the win.

1998 was a good year, but it was a disappointing end to the season after going down to East Fremantle in the grand final by 43 points. We made up for that in 1999, by beating a strong South Fremantle side in the grand final who were host club to the Fremantle Dockers. It was a meritorious win for the boys, and for John Dimmer and the coaching staff. Receiving that premiership medallion was of great significance to me, and it was capped off by "Critter" winning the Simpson Medal after transitioning from Swans the previous year.

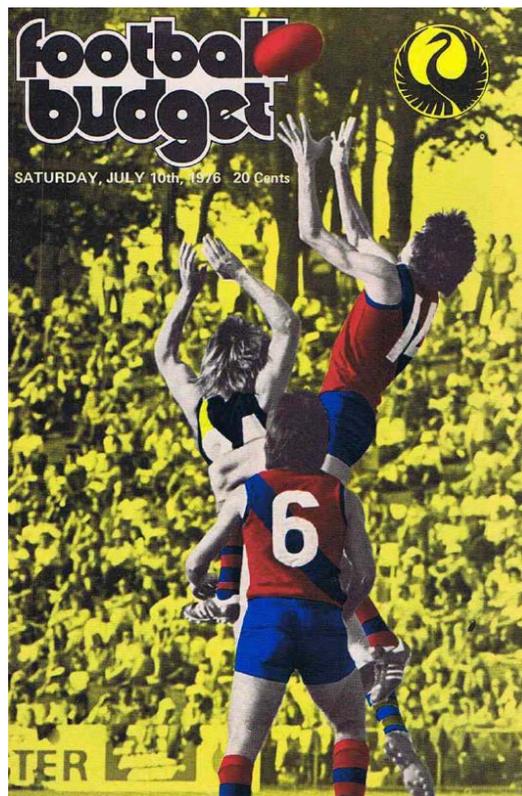
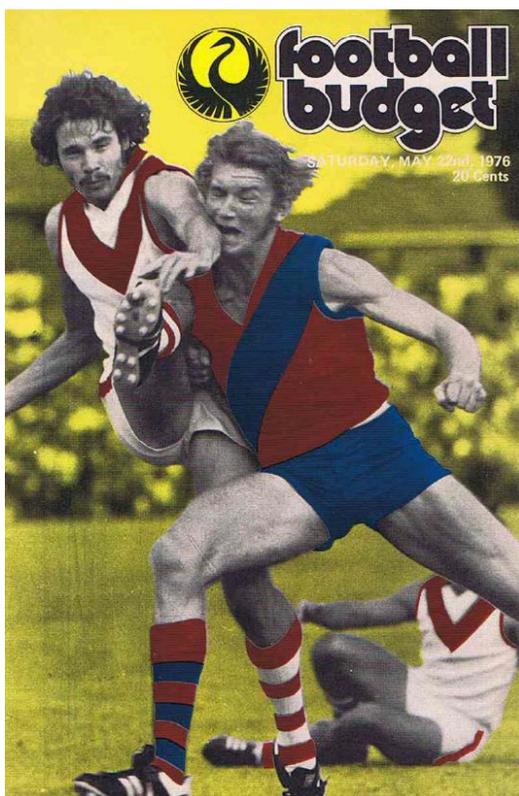
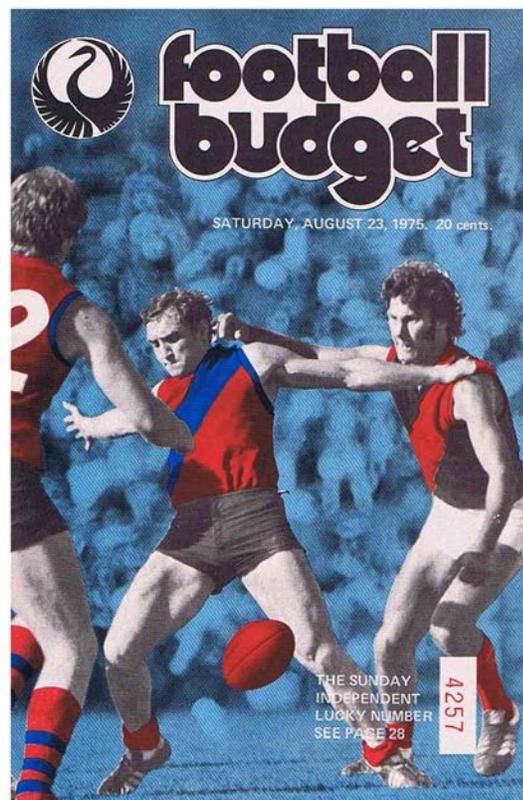
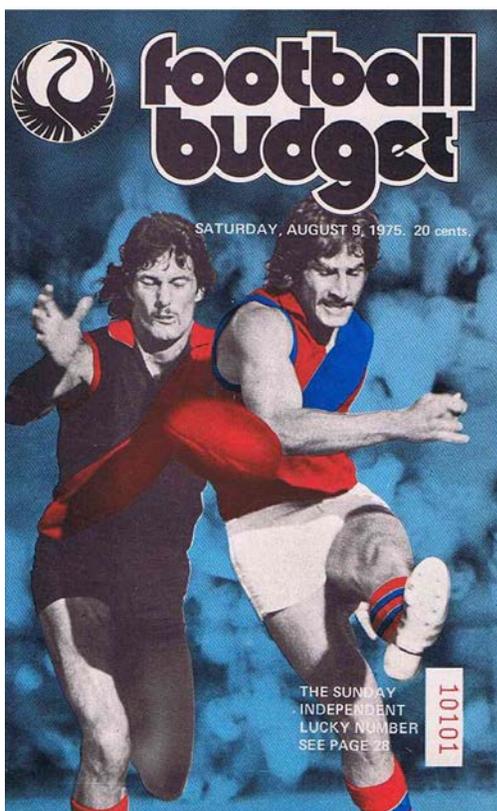
I currently have the role as ruck coach for the league team and enjoy working with Geoff Valentine and the boys, including my nephew Tyler Keitel. The 1999 lads still get together from time to time and being the twentieth anniversary of our premiership this year, I think a good time will be had by all at the forthcoming reunion.

I'm extremely grateful to West Perth for showing faith in me and giving me the opportunity to play 101 games with this remarkable club. I've made some terrific mates and met some exceptional people and been part of a wonderful premiership. To also be included in the club's "Team of the Decade (1994-2004)", and the "Garlic Munchers Team of the Century", then represent WA in 2000, and win a Breckler Medal in 2002, really is a dream come true.



From the vault

In 1975, the football budget began producing colour cover pages. Here are a few featuring West Perth players from 1975 and 1976.



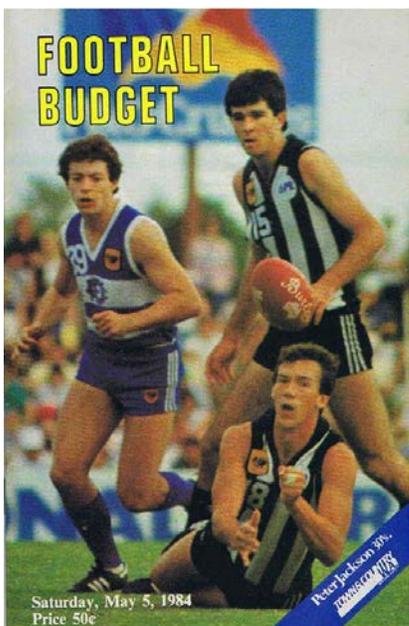
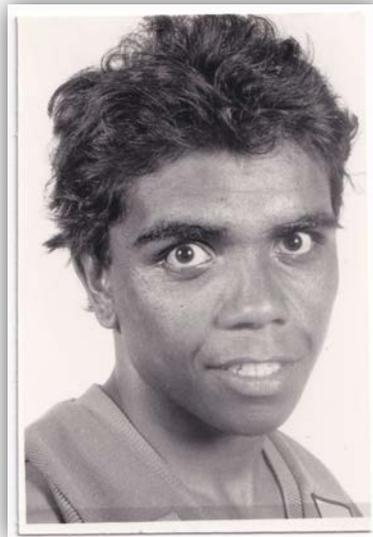
Remember when... Ron Davis saved us?

It was May 1984 and Boy George and Culture Club were riding high in the charts with their catchy tune, "It's a Miracle". Meanwhile, Ron Davis was conspiring to create his own miracle by winning a game off his own boot with seconds to spare, on debut on Saturday 5th May.

The Falcons went into their round six contest against South Fremantle with a 2-3 record, another loss placing the club at risk of losing touch with the top four. Their opponent at Leederville that day sat at the top of the ladder with four wins. On a wet and blustery afternoon in front of nearly 8,000 fans, the home side led by 20 points at the last change, and kicking to the tech school end in the last quarter.

The Bulldogs held the ascendancy for most of that final quarter and with two minutes remaining led by 12 points. Davis, who had kicked one goal, then took two marks for two goals, the second of which was from the tightest of angles. The final siren sounded just a few seconds later to jubilant celebration by the Leederville faithful. Scores were tied at 105 points apiece, West Perth 15.15 to South Fremantle 16.9. Derek Kickett booted four goals and Brian Perrin, George Michalczyk and Dean Warwick were listed as West Perth's best on the day, but the game will always be remembered as the Ron Davis match.

Ron Davis played 13 games for West Perth over the 1984 and 1985 seasons.



COLTS 9.25 a.m. — Coach: Brian Crockett

1 BOWE, Stephen	11 PERKINS, Stephen (C)
2 COLLARD, Gary	12 ADAMS, Simon
3 BULL, Gary	13 CAMPBELL, Dean
4 BICE, Mark	14 JETTA, Michael
5 BROWN, Paul	15 CAMPBELL, Gary
6 MCDONNELL, Darren	16 CAMMIE, Gary
7 MCGILL, Colin	17 JETT, Stephen
8 GIBBS, Chris	18 ADAMS, David
9 PERKINS, Stephen (C)	19 BROWN, Stephen
10 ADAMS, Simon	20 JETTA, Michael
11 PERKINS, Stephen (C)	21 CAMMIE, Gary
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WEST PERTH 15.15 — Coach: Clifton Farmer

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Ball legend 2019 - Brian Foley

Brian Foley has been selected as our club's ball legend for 2019. One of the finest players to pull on a West Perth jumper, and a true gentleman, Brian played 202 games for West Perth and another 22 for Western Australia. Debuting as a 21 year old on the 11th of September 1954 against South Fremantle at Subiaco Oval, Blue represented our club and state with distinction. In an era blessed by quality ruckmen including the likes of Polly Farmer, Keith Slater and Jack Clarke locally, and John Nicholls, John Schultz and Roy Wright when playing interstate, his Sandover medal win in 1959 is persuasive testimony to his football prowess.

Blue won a Simpson Medal in 1960 in West Perth's grand final victory over East Perth and he was our club's best and fairest in 1957 and 1959. He

was club captain from 1960 to 1964, and played his final season in 1965 after Bob Spargo took over as captain-coach. He finished his football career on a high, representing WA in a famous come from behind three point win over Victoria in that season.

Brian's contribution did not end in 1965, however. He and Dolores produced a son, Dan, who played 57 games between 1980 and 1988, and won the club's best and fairest award in 1986. Dan spent the 1983, 1984 and 1985 seasons at Richmond where he played 13 games.

Blue is an inductee into the Western Australian Football Hall of Fame and he was named in a forward pocket in the West Perth team of the century.

Brian passed away in 1998.



Brian Foley



Dolores Foley with Club President, Neale Fong

Upcoming Events

Final home and away game



Vs South Fremantle

Joondalup
Saturday
24th August
2.15pm

Celebrate the Victories (1949, 1969 and 1999) evening

Friday 30th August
at 6.30pm

Italian Club,
219 Fitzgerald Street



Breckler Medal presentation night

Saturday
5th October 2019

Up and about ...

Peter Menaglio took a good number of high flying marks during his illustrious career. These days he flies high with former West Perth teammate Paul Ramsay, who played seven games for the club in 1980 and 1981.

HeartBeat discovered this photo of the two of them, as co-pilots in a recent jaunt high above Perth.



The club will be hosting a celebration evening for the 1949, 1969 and 1999 premiership teams on Friday 30th August. Dennis Cometti will be master of ceremonies and a great night is in store.

This event is the club's major fund raiser for the season and your support is encouraged and welcomed. Details are included on the back page of this edition of HeartBeat.

- Log book servicing
- Brake repairs
- Suspension repairs
- Mechanical repairs
- Fault diagnosis
- Free quotes
- Vehicle inspections
- Mobile mechanic

MRB 7597



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Western Australian Football Hall of Fame



John Loughridge was inducted into the Western Australian Football Hall of Fame in March. Debuting in 1945, Loughridge played 136 games for West Perth and another ten for Western Australia, retiring from the game as a player in 1950.

In 1946, Loughridge won both the Sandover Medal and a Simpson Medal, for his performance in the club's grand final defeat at the hands of East Fremantle.

Loughridge was awarded the club's best and fairest in 1945, 1946 and 1949, was a member of our premiership team of 1949 and was selected on a half-forward flank in the West Perth Team of the Century. He was awarded life membership in 1955.

The WA Football Commission's tribute to Loughridge marking his induction into the Hall of Fame, has been reproduced overleaf.

John Loughridge

136 games for WPFC
10 games for WA

1946
Sandover Medallist and
Simpson Medallist

1945, 1946 and 1949
West Perth Best and
Fairest

1949
Premiership player

1955
West Perth Life
Membership

2019
WA Football
Hall of Fame

West Perth Football Club
Team of the Century

Tribute to John Loughridge

A great centreman in an era of great WA centremen, John Loughridge amassed a record of achievement in a six-season league career unmatched by many great players with far longer careers at the top. As a champion schoolboy footballer, he was always destined for stardom but the intervention of World War 2 delayed the commencement of his league career until age 22 and work commitments as a travelling salesman cut his career short at age 28. But as a Sandover and Simpson Medal winner, three-time club fairest and best winner and state representative on multiple occasions, he was a mandatory selection in the West Perth Team of the Century and unquestionably one of the great WA players of his era.

John William Loughridge was born in Subiaco in 1923 into a football family, his father Bill having played more than 100 league games with East Perth, Midland Junction and Subiaco. John first gained attention by achieving selection in the WA state schoolboys team at the age of only 12 in 1935. He followed this up with selection again in both 1936 and 1937. His achievement of selection in three successive state schoolboys' teams was not equalled for more than 30 years.

Playing with Mount Hawthorn in 1938 aged 15, Loughridge again distinguished himself, twice winning the club best and fairest award and holding the positions of vice-captain and captain. At this time, his raking dropkicks were described as "unusual in their assurance, length, and general style for one of his years" although he was later not regarded as a long kick in league ranks.

Loughridge seemed assured of joining West Perth's league ranks but the suspension of the WAFL league competition to be replaced by an age restricted competition in 1942 cost him three seasons. His age exceeded the underage limit by 18 months and John played only a few games in an overage competition until 1945 when open football recommenced and he went straight into the West Perth senior team as vice-captain.

Playing in various positions Loughridge had a brilliant first league season winning his club fairest and best award and being runner to George Bailey for the Sandover Medal. New coach Ross Hutchinson established Loughridge as a permanent centreman in 1946, and in what was his best season in league football, Loughridge won the Sandover Medal, Simpson Medal for a brilliant display in a losing Grand Final against the undefeated East Fremantle team, and again collected his club award.

Contemporary accounts described Loughridge as a scrupulously fair player and a brilliant and instinctive ball winner, a ground player par excellence who had an uncanny ability to trap the ball, swerve around or sidestep an opponent and deliver the ball with a beautiful drop kick into the forward line.

Loughridge continued to play with a high level of consistency, capturing a third fairest and best award in 1949 and a premiership win with his club. He gained state selection for games against Victoria and South Australia and also played seven times for WA second 18 teams against visiting VFL teams.

In a non-professional era however, work commitments forced Loughridge to place family security before football and he retired at the age of 28 due to work commitments. John Loughridge was not lost to football however, serving on the West Perth committee from 1952 to 1957 and intermittently as a broadcaster. He was the driving force behind the Sandover Medallists' club, serving as its president until his early death from a brain tumour in 1981. He was only 58 and remembered by many as one of the game's great personalities and friends.

Around the club

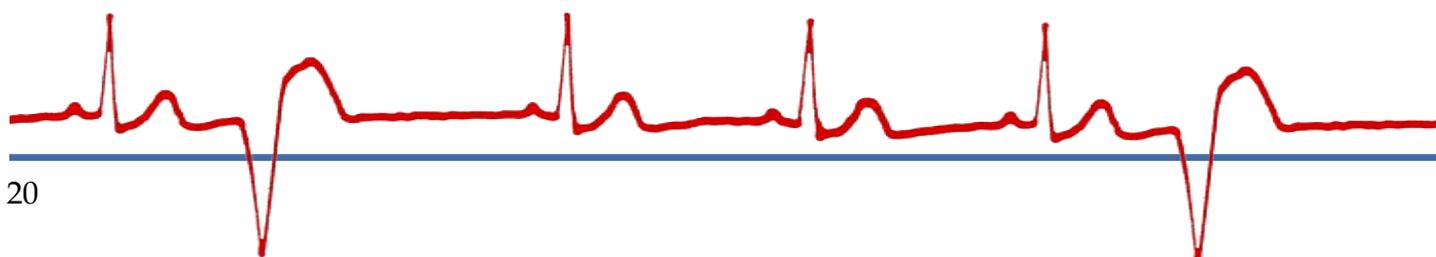
The West Perth Football Club would like to express its gratitude to club sponsor, Darren Brown at Metalworks for kindly donating monies to fund completion of the club's locker project.

Our change room lockers (pictured) now carry the names of all players who have represented the club in 100 games or more, and depict the number of premierships these players have represented the club in. Darren, thank you.



Obituary

We are saddened to report the passing of **Michael Dragun** who played two games for West Perth in 1964, debuting on 29th August against Swan Districts. Michael passed peacefully away on 28 June 2019.



Celebrate THE Victories

OF OUR GREAT CLUB'S
1949, 1969 AND 1999 PREMIERSHIP WINS

Friday 30 August 2019 at 6.30pm

WA Italian Club
219 Fitzgerald Street, West Perth

Cost: \$150
Sumptuous 3 course meal
Beer, wine and soft drinks
Tables of 10 or can purchase tickets separately

Dress: Formal
MC: Dennis Cometti

RSVP: Tracy at West Perth Football Club on reception@falconsfc.com.au or
9300 3611 by Friday 16 August 2019

