

# HEARTBEAT



A newsletter for past players and officials  
of the West Perth Football Club

## Welcome to Heartbeat



Welcome to the first edition of *HeartBeat*, a newsletter for past players and officials of the West Perth Football Club.

*HeartBeat* has been created to keep you informed of contemporary club news, events and developments, as well as celebrate your role in our club's history.

By the end of the year, we will have moved into new facilities. This state-of-the-art

building will provide an improved environment for players, members and spectators and enable us to showcase our rich history.

Plans to establish a Hall of Fame are also underway.

If you have any questions about this exciting new phase in the club's history, please contact the club on 9300 3611, or email [membership@falconsfc.com.au](mailto:membership@falconsfc.com.au)

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*Does your heart beat true?*

## Come along and enjoy a great day at Joondalup

We may be past the half-way mark of the 2017 WAFL season but it's not too late to join the club as a financial member.

Your vocal and financial support is welcome as we press our finals claims. Membership inquiries can be directed to the club on 9300 3611.

The league team, under Bill Monaghan's stewardship enjoyed a successful start to the season and now sits in fifth position on the WAFL ladder.

Though we were well beaten by South Fremantle and then lost close games against Claremont

and Subiaco, we are well-placed to climb back up the ladder in the coming weeks.

Both the colts and the reserves sides are also in finals contention, which is particularly pleasing when it is considered that our colts teams have only made the finals twice since the turn of the century.

And we also had five representatives in the WA team that defeated Victoria in Melbourne in May.

Why not come and support the boys as they march towards September?



*Past players and officials are invited to attend all West Perth home games and are given priority parking and seating in the members' area.*

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## We need your help to re-connect with our past



*Does your heart beat true?*

*The hearts of those in the Cardies Coffee Club certainly do.*

Know something we don't about a past West Perth player or official? Why not let us know by calling the club on 9300 3611 or sending an email to [heritage@falconsfc.com.au](mailto:heritage@falconsfc.com.au)

We are keen to build strong links between the club and those who made it what it is today, but we can only do this with your help.

Please let us know about any noteworthy achievements, serious illnesses or the passing of past players and officials.

We're also looking to keep our database up to date, so make sure you let us know if you move house or change your phone number or email address.

## My first game – Len Harman remembers

It was during the war years in 1942 and the opposing team was Claremont, who we later went on to beat in the grand final by 51 points. I didn't feel particularly nervous, other than I was absolutely elated at being selected captain of the side. Prior to my first game, I had won the 14s and 16s medals.



I played at centre-half-back and my Claremont opponent was Doug Soutar, the son of Tom Soutar, who was the West Perth secretary at the time. Doug Soutar came to West Perth later, but only played one season before going back to Claremont.

Joe Brooker was the coach, but he didn't give me any instructions and he mainly spoke directly to the team rather than individuals. In those days, there were no runners as they weren't allowed, so messages from the coach were discreetly delivered by the trainers, who came out with the water or to attend an injury.

We did beat Claremont on that day. It's hard to give advice to players of today. It's such a different game. It was positional play back then and players rarely ventured up the ground like they do in today's game. Kicking across goals or sideways was just not on and, as for kicking backwards, well, you just didn't do it. I shudder when I see that happen, and how many times it comes unstuck.

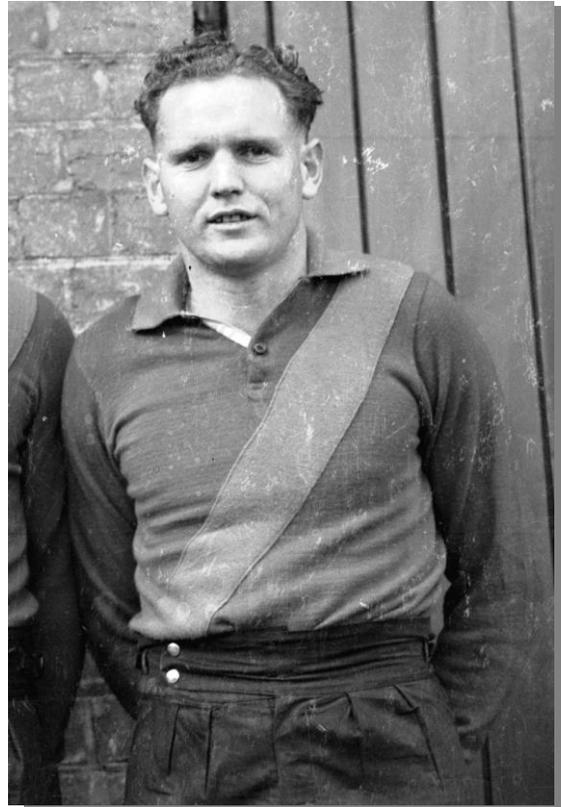
## ... and he almost won the Sandover Medal

During the war years, many of the footballers had enlisted in the services, which affected all clubs, so the league began an under-age competition in 1942 for players under 18, and in 1943 raised the age to 19.

In the first year of the competition, I finished equal second in the Sandover Medal with three other players. West Perth's Laurie Bowen won the medal by a single vote. Laurie was from Swan Districts, who couldn't field a side in 1942, so he came to West Perth but went back to Swans in 1943.

The competition consisted of only two rounds and I did miss one game against East Perth with a knee injury, so who knows how it may have turned out?

- with Bill Spittles.



## Can you help make our new rooms feel like home?

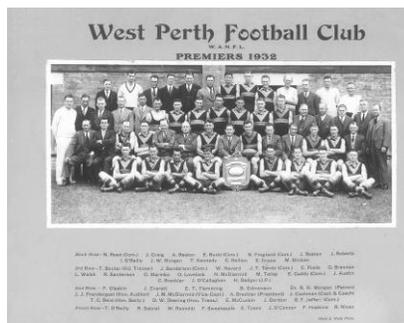
Our new facility at Joondalup will house and display an extensive collection of West Perth Football Club memorabilia, along with film and audio footage, and will represent the history of our club since its origins in 1885.

Any club memorabilia, film, video or audio you would like to donate or lend for inclusion within the display would be gratefully received.

Please contact the club on 9300 3611 or email

[heritage@falconsfc.com.au](mailto:heritage@falconsfc.com.au)

should you wish to assist us to make our new clubrooms look and feel as they should.



With this project in mind, members of our Heritage Committee recently inspected the new facility.

It became immediately obvious that the amount of hanging space was significant and a great deal of work would need to be undertaken in order to fill those areas with photographs relating to the club's long and proud history.

As a result, the past players have purchased a computer and scanner and will soon start digitising the club's collection of photographs to ensure they can be restored, printed and framed for display.

## Team photo flashback - 1985



**Back row:** L-R Derek Kickett, Peter Murnane, Craig Turley, Dean Laidley, Graeme Comerford, Geoff Hendriks, Peter Cutler, Doug Simms, Gary Wright, Craig Binder, Paul Hasler;  
**3rd row:** L-R Paul Mifka, Noel Mugavin, John Duckworth, Craig Nelson, Michael Stockley, Kim Rogers, Mark Stephens, Greg Evans, Heath Soutar, David Martin, Phil Bradmore;  
**2nd row:** L-R Alf Nelson, Howard Collinge, Tony Fraser, John Gastev, Neale Fong, Les Fong, Ross Munns, Sean King, Brian Perrin, Paddy Papalia, Wayne Dayman;  
**Front row:** L-R Mick O'Brien, Alan Hutchings, Darren Bewick, George Michalczyk, Dean Warwick, Dean Falconer, Brendan Bell, Corry Bewick, Gavin Chaplin.

This photo of the 1985 league team shows just how good the Falcons could have been in the second half of the 1980s, if not for the move towards a national competition

Among the young players in the team were future AFL stars Derek Kickett, Craig Turley, Dean Laidley, John Gastev and Darren Bewick, while the team was stacked with seasoned talent like Les Fong, George Michalczyk, Corry Bewick and John Duckworth.

It was disappointing, then, that West Perth exited the 1985 finals series in the first week, falling to reigning premiers Swan Districts.

## Upcoming Events

14 July: Rock n Roll Sports Trivia Night at Fleur Freame Pavilion, Padbury. Funds raised will go to the Falcons' colts program. \$20 per person.

24 July: Past and Current Players' Tea at Joondalup. Starts at 6pm. Contact the club on 9300 3611 for details.

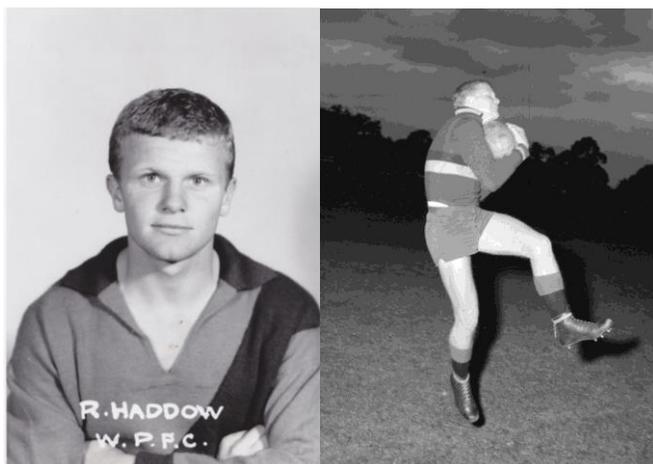
5 August: Sponsor Recognition Day at HBF Arena. Lunch in the Premier's Suite costs \$75pp.



Remaining  
home fixtures

8 July v Peel Thunder  
5 Aug v East Perth  
12 Aug v East Fremantle

## Where are they now? – Richie Haddow



### Richard “Richie” John Haddow

**Born:** 21 November 1941

**Years played:** 1960-1965 & 1968

**Games played :** 92

**Position:** Wing

**Main attributes:** Speed and accurate left foot drop kick

When Richie first started playing football, he was at Teachers College. His first few years of teaching was at Rosalie Primary School, but he then took up a position at Geraldton SHS as a sports teacher, thus (temporarily) finishing his career at West Perth in 1965.

### What did you do after you left West Perth?

I was captain-coach of Rovers in Geraldton in 1966 and 1967, and then went back to West Perth in 1968. I won the fairest & best in the reserves that year after only one game in the league and the rest in the reserves. Then it was bush again to North Mt Barker where I captain-coached the North Mt Barker Football Club to a premiership in 1970. At the time, I was the phys ed teacher at Mt Barker Ag College.

### Who do you still see from your footy days?

The Margarias and Murray Leeder. I also attend the

Cardie Club coffee afternoons.

### What do you think of the game now?

It is a different game - much faster. Sort of like hockey/soccer/water polo in one, with a strong touch of rugby.

### What are your interests now?

I swim and run every morning. I enjoy reading history books, as well as historical fiction. I also do a bit of relief teaching when I get time. My grandson plays a big part in my life, too. And I love the Eagles.

### Do you have any ongoing injuries from your footy days?

Arthritis in my knees. I had an ACL injury while playing footy, and in those days the treatment was to plaster you from the groin to your ankle for two months – no driving. I had to get into the back seat with great effort and my wife had to drive me everywhere, and boy did it itch!!

### Have you followed any players since your playing days?

I take an interest in Strijk, the Tedescos, Lynchs, Antonios, Turners and Wilhelm because they were in classes that I taught at Mater Dei College.

### Do you attend the West Perth games?

I attend a few a year. I am a member of the Eagles. I keep up with the team from afar.

### Do you have any special memorabilia?

I have a West Perth scrapbook that my mum kept with me from the time I was five. It is full of Cardies clippings.

### Growing up, did you have a favourite West Perth player?

We lived in West Perth and my uncle would piggyback me to the game from about age 3½. He used to work with Johnny Loughridge at Foy and Gibson, so he became my favourite player. By the age of 8, Johnny was letting me polish his boots in the change room before the game.

**Who was your greatest influence while playing?**

Don Marinko – he gave me my first kick against South Fremantle. The ball was knocked out of the centre to Don, he grabbed it and passed it to me and said “grab it and kick it”.

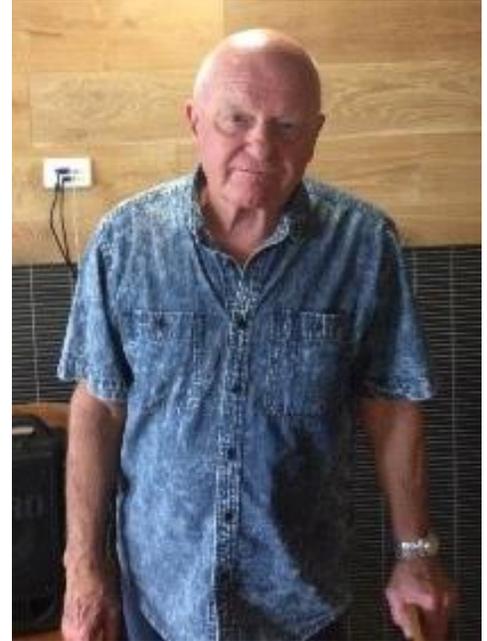
**When you returned from the country, what did you do in footy?**

I was the junior coaching coordinator, teaching theory and practical courses to prospective junior coaches in the various WAFL clubs. I also helped pioneer the in-house TV broadcast at Leederville

Oval for the West Perth FC. I also coached the West Perth reserves and then moved to Subiaco FC as assistant coach. I was then the director of junior football at SFC. After leaving Subiaco I went on to coach Osborne Park Sunday League. I then retired from my heavy involvement in footy and became a spectator and an avid Eagles fan.

From the age of 3½ to 23, Richie was ALL red and blue – first as a spectator then playing for CBC Leederville, then on to West Perth.

- with Elizabeth Lourenz



## Obituaries

We are saddened to report the passing of two former players in recent times.

**Past Player**

**Jim Anderson 1940-2017**

Jim played nine games with the club in 1960 and 1962 after coming down from Darwin with Bill Dempsey.

In Darwin, he played in nine local grand finals, winning three premierships. He also won three club fairest & best awards, and was twice runner-up for the Nichols

Medal – the NT’s equivalent of the Sandover Medal. He is a member of the AFLNT Hall of Fame.

**Past Player**

**Terry Loughnan 1937-2017**

Terry played seven games on a flank for West Perth in 1958 and 1959 before transferring to the country with work. He is best remembered by the Cardies faithful for his effort to square the ledger with Jack Sheedy after the East Perth skipper knocked Brian Foley out in a derby.

## Contributions

*If you have any suggestions, facts or photos for inclusion in future editions of HeartBeat, please contact the Heritage Committee at [heritage@falconsfc.com.au](mailto:heritage@falconsfc.com.au)*

