



MARCH 2016

CLAREMONT FOOTBALL CLUB

TIGER TALK

WHAT'S INSIDE

SANDALWOOD
GIANT JOINS
TIGERS

EXCITING
TIMES AHEAD
FOR SAM

MURPHY
LEADS
TIGERS INTO
BATTLE

MITCHELL IS
2016 CLUB
LEGEND



CFC WELCOMES
BACK DALTON
GOODING IN A
MAJOR WAY!



SUPPORT SPONSORS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



This year will present the Claremont Football Club with great challenges both on and off the field. Thanks to our Chief Executive Officer Graham Moss and our new director Grant Povey we have achieved a number of new sponsors, the major ones being:

- TFS (Tropical Forestry Services) which, under the chairmanship of former CFC

player Dalton Gooding, have signed as the major sponsor for three years

- Liquorbarons have signed a three- year agreement
- EMCO Building have signed a one- year agreement

Sponsorship for 2016 has been difficult as we shift to a community based club and I encourage members to help us come up with new sponsors that we can develop over the coming years.

As I stated last year, funding from the top down (the WA Football Commission, the AFL and the State Government) will continue to shrink. Therefore income must be replaced by bottom-up funding from within our community.

Our vision for the future, which is tied to our Facility Management Plan, will be completed by the end of the year. The development of Claremont Oval and the building of our new facility (which today is a large hole in the ground) is on track to be completed by the middle of December this year.

The financial success of 2016 will depend on the sale of Pavers and Memberships for Life. The board has formed three subcommittees to sell Pavers and Memberships for Life, as follows:

Players. Chair - Wayne Reynolds. Committee - Darrell Panizza, Sam Drabble, Barry Beecroft, John

Parkinson, Jaxon Crabb and David Crawford.

Members/Sponsors. Chair - Kaye Maskiell. Committee - Grant Povey , Ken Casellas , John O'Connell and Ken Venables

Community/Junior Clubs. Chair - Kevin Somes. Committee - Denis Marshall, Stretton Joel, David Airey, David Pye, Bob Maher and Paul Donovan

The final Paver plan is available for inspection and we are currently allocating Pavers in order of purchase. That is, "first in best dressed."

This is the year that the club needs your support in all areas:

- the sale of Pavers and Memberships for Life
- sponsorship
- as a volunteer
- participating in the Corporate Classic
- encouraging new memberships
- supporting fund raising activities

Our success relies on you, our members, so dig deep and give that little bit extra for 2016.

Go the Tigers!

Kevin Somes

PRESIDENT



Just quietly, we're pretty proud to be a sponsor of Claremont Football Club.

TFS grows the world's largest Indian Sandalwood (*Santalum album*) plantation.

With plantations in Kununurra, Katherine and north Queensland, TFS is the world's leading grower, producer and seller of Indian sandalwood, one of the world's most valuable oil-bearing trees that is nearing extinction in the wild. We not only grow the trees, we also create a range of wood, oil, cosmetic and pharmaceutical products that are distributed to more than 30 countries across the globe. We have created a corporate culture of high standards, ensuring a sustainable and ethical supply of Indian sandalwood – from soil to oil to shelf.



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CEO'S REPORT



The 2016 football season is underway and what a fantastic start it was. Congratulations to Michael Broadbridge, players and members of the Football Department for their professional preparation for this season.

Congratulations to Jake Murphy on his reappointment as Captain of the League Team. Despite being hampered by injuries over the past two seasons, Jake has continued to demonstrate his outstanding leadership qualities and is a great communicator. I wish him all the best as the

leader of the playing group.

Congratulations to Michael Mitchell on his selection as this year's match-day ball legend. Mitch and I will relive memories of the 1981 premierships year and the time I signed him up to Claremont on board a boat in Carnarvon fishing boat harbour. I'm looking forward to renewing old acquaintances with former players, administrators, members and supporters.

Off the field, the past two months have been extremely hectic in getting the right administration structure in place and operating efficiently. Marina Manuel has been extremely helpful in enabling me to settle in quickly. Her wealth of knowledge has proved invaluable.

Jessie Fear was appointed in January as the club's Business Development Officer and has brought a breath of fresh air to our sponsorship and membership activities. She understands the modern method of communication and has demonstrated in a very short space of time that she will be an extremely valuable asset to the club.

Marina, Jessie and I are working together to ensure that all our sponsors, members and supporters enjoy a wonderful experience as you support the Tigers during the year.

In relation to sponsorship, I welcome our new major sponsor TFS (Tropical Forestry Services). TFS chairman is former club champion, Dalton Gooding. It's great to have Dalton back at the club representing our major sponsor. We will

be working closely together to ensure that a successful and long-term relationship is developed between our organisations.

It is also great to have EMCO back as a major support sponsor. EMCO are doing a great job of constructing our new clubrooms that are scheduled for completion in December this year.

A big thanks to all our new sponsors and existing sponsors who have renewed for this season. It's great to have you all on board.

Our membership renewals are on track for the start of the season and we also welcome many new sponsors. Don't forget about our new member competition which runs through until our first home game on April 23. Be in the running to win a trip for two to Melbourne for the AFL grand final.

The new building project is progressing well. By the end of March the two-level underground carpark will be completed and the structural steelwork will start rising out of the ground. Visible construction will accelerate from this time through to the completion in December.

We are looking forward to moving into the magnificent new clubrooms early in 2017. I look forward to seeing you at home games and at the various functions we will be holding this season.

Graham Moss

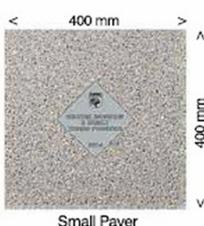
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PAVING OUR FUTURE

The Claremont Football Club invites all Members and Supporters to be part of a permanent place in the Club's future—purchase a personalized large or small paver by the entrance to the new facility at our traditional ground on Davies Road.



KEY:
■ Large Pavers
■ Small Pavers



SMALL PAVER - Donations of \$295 and above



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LARGE PAVER - Donations of \$1,195 and above



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LEAGUE REPORT



We're on the March. I'm upbeat about our league side's prospects this season and can promise our supporters plenty of excitement in the coming months.

We've lost a lot of quality and experience over the past two years, but I think we've been able to cover these losses better than we have in that time and I'm confident that we have the right blend of youth and experience to be a significant force in the competition.

The side will be strengthened by the return of delisted AFL players Jared Hardisty and Rowen Powell and the arrival of Jye Bolton from Werribee and Tom Shanahan from East Perth.

The leadership group has been expanded from seven to ten and that's a reflection of the fact that we've got such a depth of quality players who will be able to provide the experience and guidance to the younger guys. The senior list welcomes some fine colts players of the calibre of Matt Guelfi,

Morgan Davies and Eddie Simpson.

There will be keen competition for places in the league side and at the moment there are 32 or 33 players vying for a spot in our side for the opening match against East Perth on March 19. And that's really healthy. We know that we will play somewhere between 36 and 39 players during the season, depending on injuries. There will be some players who will bob up unexpectedly and some recruits who will surprise us.

Selection in round one will be very competitive and there will be some very unlucky and disappointed players.

In my first two years at the club we have had pretty similar seasons in terms of slow starts, good finishes and then not quite good enough at the end. We need to show improvement on fifth-place finishes of the past two years --- and everyone is acutely aware of that. So, we're looking at perhaps three or four more wins than we had last year and hopefully knocking on the door for a top couple of positions.

Last year we lost our first four away games and were zero and five. We know that we have to win a couple of those early games. We know that it's not ideal to have to play our first four games away from home after having been unable to train at the Showgrounds in the pre-season. But that's the cards we've been dealt and we can't do anything about it. We live a nomadic existence during the pre-season and I think the players are becoming used to it. In some aspects this has made the players more resilient.

On the other hand we have shown over the past two years that we have a distinct home-ground advantage where our record at the Showgrounds is outstanding. There is a unique size, shape and feel at the Showgrounds which is a bit different to other WAFL grounds. There's definitely a tactical and mental advantage for us --- and that's the way

we want to keep it.

I don't think that the fundamentals of our game plan are going to change. However, we definitely need to improve our offensive output. We're not going to win enough games only scoring the average points that we have been kicking in the past couple of years. So we have worked hard on improving our offence during the pre-season and we need to make a two to three goal improvement in every game.

Our defence was outstanding last year and we will be looking to improve on that this year. I have highly capable guys as assistant coaches. Damian McMahon (midfield) brings a wealth of experience and we welcome Pat Litherland from East Perth colts where he has had a strong development focus. He will be our defensive coach

Chris Bolton is in his third year and we've re-positioned him from the defensive coach to look after the forwards. Kepler Bradley takes over as coach of the reserves and he is a fantastic attribute for us. From a coaching perspective he's a bit more contemporary than some of the other coaches, a bit more in tune with the modern generation.

My final message to our members and supporters is that we have a fantastic club, with a strong one-team motto. When the players run out in our jumper they play with a lot of pride and passion.

Football is a good day out and I encourage everyone to get along and support us, and when we get to the Showgrounds it's a great place to watch football. You have an elevated platform and there's great hospitality and great facilities for our members and supporters. For a cheap day out of entertainment, coming to watch Claremont you're guaranteed to get value for money.

Michael Broadbridge

LEAGUE COACH

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the Claremont
Tigers!**



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**SUCCESS THROUGH
UNDERSTANDING**

EXCITING TIMES FOR SAM

By Ken Casellas

It's life in the fast lane for Claremont's sensational teenage prodigy Sam Petrevski-Seton, one of the brightest stars to emerge from the remote Kimberley region in Western Australia's north-west, as his football journey continues to spiral.

He's one of the country's hottest football properties and is widely touted to be chosen in the top five at the annual AFL draft in November.

But the youngster with an engaging smile and charming personality is taking all the hype in his stride. He remains composed and completely focused on his mission in football. He is confident and self-assured, but humble, ever willing to learn and with a work ethic at training that is rarely seen in one so young.

Petrevski-Seton celebrated his 18th birthday on February 18 and is looking forward to playing league football for Claremont as well as representing Western Australia in the under-18 championships this year.

"I'm not letting all the talk about the draft affect me," he said.

"I like to keep a quiet mind and just deal with my footy each week. To play AFL footy has been a dream since my childhood."

He has had a thorough grounding in preparing for the draft, starring for his State in successive under-16 national championships and the under-18 carnival last year. He is mindful that many talented players from remote communities in the north of the State have failed to come to grips with the demands of AFL.

However, he is determined to make a success of his time in the AFL, unlike several former Claremont indigenous players who fell by the wayside after being drafted by AFL clubs. Just a few of those who found the move from isolated communities to attempting to adapt to city life and the grind of football at the highest level are Zephaniah Skinner (Nookanbah), Alroy Gilligan (Yiyili) and Waylen Manson (Billiluna).

"I guess that those players didn't have the pathway that I've had," Petrevski-Seton said. "The presentation the AFL now gives to young players is really important. We're informed about nutrition, eating the right food and we're made aware of problems associated with drugs and alcohol. There have been multiple people who have helped me, from the State academy, the AIS and the Claremont Football Club."

Petrevski-Seton said that Phil Collins, the associate principal of the Halls Creek High School, had been a major influence in his life. "He watched me grow up and taught me how to speak," he said. "I had to practise how to speak English. I used to speak in broken English. I still speak Creole when I'm around my family."

Petrevski-Seton's abundant talent was evident from an early age and he started playing senior football in the Kimberley when he was 13. He explained that basketball had helped him develop

into a highly-skilled footballer.

"Basketball was my second sport and you have to be really good with your hands," he said.

"And playing basketball has helped me to be composed, getting through in and out of traffic in the midfield and at the stoppages."

In his early teens Petrevski-Seton also loved competing in rodeos, an activity that his father enjoyed for many years during his time as a stockman on a cattle station near Fitzroy Crossing. He gave up riding buckjumpers when he moved to the city at 15 and did well at his studies in Years 10, 11 and 12 at Clontarf College where he was football captain for two years and also had the thrill of playing in successive grand finals for the Claremont colts.

In April 2014 he was a member of the AIS squad which played in a curtain-raiser before Carlton and St Kilda clashed in an special AFL Anzac Day fixture in Wellington and then, along with

Claremont teammates Jeremy Goddard and Jake Waterman, he was a member of the AIS squad of 34 which spent 16 days in America in the past Australian summer.

"We had eight days at the IMG academy in Bradenton in Florida before travelling to Los Angeles where we enjoyed watching NBA and ice hockey games. Then in April I will be in Melbourne for an AIS camp for a week or two. Hopefully in the first half of the season I will be able to play some good league footy for Claremont before preparing for the 18s championship.

"From a very young age I have always loved Claremont and it has been a privilege to play for the Tigers as well as for the State in the 16s and 18s carnivals. My idol is Cyril Rioli and I also admire Jack Martin's skills."

Now the young man from faraway Halls Creek, not far from the Great Sandy Desert, has a simple ambition: To play good, consistent footy each week.



MURPHY TO LEAD TIGERS INTO BATTLE

By Ken Casellas



Inspirational midfielder Jake Murphy will lead Claremont's league side for the third consecutive year in 2016, with dashing midfielder Ryan Neates and brilliant forward Ian Richardson continuing as co vice-captains.

The Tigers have extended their leadership group from seven to ten, with:

- Beau Maister
- Brandon Franz
- Oliver Tate
- Aaron Holt
- Keifer Yu
- Anton Hamp and
- Jye Bolton

being chosen, on the votes from members of the senior squad, to lead pod groups of players.

Sadly, outstanding midfielder Corey Yeo will miss the entire season, recovering from a knee reconstruction. He ruptured the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee at training in January.

Also missing this year are the following players

who appeared in league ranks in 2015

- Tom Swift
- Tom Willett
- Mark Seaby
- Kepler Bradley
- Jordan McAllister
- Lachlan Davey
- Matt Goyder
- Max Bentley
- Isaac Baum
- Shane McAdam
- Keegan Knott
- Declan Mountford and
- Jackson Starceвич.

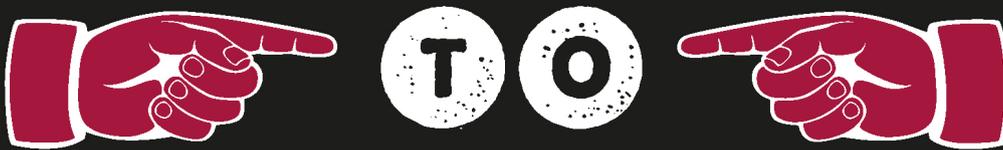
This exodus followed the retirements a year earlier of such outstanding players in Luke Blackwell, Trinity Handley, Matt Orzel, Andrew Foster and Tom Taylor.

Retirements and loss of players to AFL clubs are part and parcel of football and this provides many wonderful opportunities for young and aspiring footballers.



Leadership Group Left to Right: Brandon Franz, Beau Maister, Jye Bolton, Ryan Neates (VC), Jake Murphy (C), Ian Richardson (VC), Aaron Holt, Anton Hamp, Oliver Tate, Keifer Yu

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LIQUOR BARONS - VOTED AUSTRALIA'S BEST LIQUOR GROUP FOR THE THIRD TIME RUNNING



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ALL TOGETHER BETTER



SANDALWOOD GIANT JOINS THE TIGERS

By Ken Cassella

The Claremont Football Club has a new major sponsor for the 2016 season in TFS, the world's leading producer of sandalwood from soil to oil to shelf.

And there is a powerful Claremont association in the new partnership, with TFS's plantations in Kununurra and Kingston Rest, deep in the heart of Claremont's Kimberley country zone.

TFS's non-executive chairman Dalton Gooding has a rich history with the Tigers, appearing in 145 league matches between 1974 and 1981 after being recruited from the family farm in Moulyinning. Dalton, a bespectacled wingman, represented Western Australia in 1975, the year in which he won the club's fairest-and-best award.

Gooding, a Clark Kent lookalike with his horn-rimmed Coke-bottle glasses, followed his twin brothers Graham and Malcolm, who played 41 and 25 matches, respectively, in 1967 and 1968. Dalton Gooding was chairman of the West Coast Eagles from 2002 to 2007.

Indian sandalwood is a fragrant, oil-bearing tree that is used in pharmaceuticals, fragrances and worship. TFS has a major processing plant in Kununurra.

Claremont also is delighted to welcome Liquor Barons as one of the club's chief sponsors this year. Many Claremont members and supporters have enjoyed the excellent service at Liquor Barons stores, Swanbourne Cellars in Claremont Crescent and the shop in Ashton Avenue.

Among the valuable sponsorships that will continue this year are Emco, McInerney Ford, KC Sports, Mirvac, Hertz, Don Russell Homes and Bethesda.



REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Regular travellers along Davies Road will have noticed that the site of the new Claremont Football Club is a hive of activity.

The building is on track to be completed by December this year, with the fit-out to follow. Our plan has always been to play football on Claremont Oval in 2017 and that has not changed.

Builders have encountered some challenges with having to remove limestone found at the base of the site to a depth of 15 metres. They do not expect that to delay the completion date, though it has required some engineering changes.

We encourage members to watch our new home begin to arise from a deep hole filled with yellow sand to a long-awaited community centre.



BIGGER GROUNDS LURE BOLTON TO THE WEST

By Ken Casellas

The prospect of playing on the bigger grounds in the WAFL, a love of Perth's warmer weather and the West Australian lifestyle were the major driving forces in Jye Bolton leaving Victoria and joining Claremont in 2016.

For the strongly-built midfielder it is a case of leaving the Werribee Tigers to join the Claremont band of Tigers.

Bolton, who turned 24 on March 3, wants to help Claremont win the 2016 premiership by fulfilling his on-field role to the best of his ability. And he is hopeful that a strong season will provide him with another chance to be drafted by an AFL club.

Born in Geelong, Bolton began his football journey with Drysdale in the local junior competition before joining Leopold. He was a skinny 17-year-old wingman when he made his senior debut with Leopold in the Geelong Football League. The side reached the preliminary final and lost to the eventual premiers South Barwon.

Bolton was then a member of the Geelong Falcons TAC Cup (under-18) squad, but did not play a Cup match. He was considered a late developer and not ready for that competition. However, he was drafted by the 2010 AFL premiers Collingwood as

a rookie for the 2011 season.

He played in Collingwood's first four pre-season NAB Cup matches (including the match against the West Coast Eagles at Subiaco Oval) before being squeezed out of the side for the grand final in which the Magpies defeated Essendon.

Collingwood had a powerful side and Bolton did not make an appearance in an AFL match. He was drafted as a midfielder and he said that he was not required because Collingwood boasted the best midfield in the competition, a group which included Luke Ball, Dane Swan, Steele Sidebottom, Scott Pendlebury and Dale Thomas.

Bolton played in 16 matches for Collingwood (coached by Tarkyn Lockyer) in the VFL competition before being delisted at the end of the 2011 season. "I was shattered," Bolton said. "But it's a business and clubs have to do what is best for them.

"I then joined Werribee because I had some of my best mates there and I thought that playing for them in the VFL competition would be the best for my career." A few injuries niggles prevented Bolton from shining in 2012 and 2013 before he struck top form in the 2013 preliminary final in which he booted five goals in a losing cause against Box Hill.

Free of injury, Bolton excelled in 2014 and was chosen in the VFL Team of the Year as well as finishing second in the club's fairest-and-best

award to former Sydney Swans player Jarrod Moore.

A shoulder injury in round two last year kept Bolton on the sidelines for a few matches and then in a round-13 contest he fractured a bone in his left foot, requiring surgery to insert a screw to stabilize the foot.

"I've always been keen on Perth and I thought that playing on the bigger grounds would suit my style," Bolton said. "I have found that Claremont is a professional outfit and all the boys train pretty hard, and that's what I like to do. I like to train as I play."

Bolton names as the biggest influences in his career his grandfather Frank Lane, his parents, former Collingwood captain Nick Maxwell, Aaron Greaves, his first senior coach at Leopold, and his Werribee coach John Lamont.

He is working as a sale representative with O'Rourke Reality in Scarborough and will soon complete a Bachelor of Business in marketing, transferring from Victoria University to Edith Cowan University.

Another former Werribee Tigers player to show up at pre-season raining is 20-year-old athletic defender Luke Maddock. He was captain and won the fairest-and-best award for the club's development side last year.



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POWELL BACK IN THE FOLD

By Ken Casellas

Six months ago Rowen Powell booted three first-half goals in the WAFL elimination final at Leederville Oval which played a major part in East Perth's victory and ended Claremont's dream of advancing further into the finals series.

Powell went on to take eight marks and have 20 disposals in the first semi-final against Peel Thunder and he had a further 12 disposals in the losing preliminary final against West Perth.

But the second-year rookie on the West Coast Eagles list was delisted after playing in 13 league matches for East Perth as an aligned West Coast player. "This wasn't the toughest thing I've been through in my life," said the philosophical Powell. "Life goes on. And this probably has made me more hungry and maybe to prove that I deserve to be on an AFL list. I'm delighted to be back at Claremont and if I have to battle my way in the WAFL for a while, so be it.

"I'd rather be at this great club than any other WAFL club. I'm never going to give up my dreams. I know what I want to be and that's an AFL footballer."

Powell, who turned 20 in September, also has ambitions outside of football. He is studying finance and economics at UWA and aims to get into the business of financial planning.

Powell was recruited by Claremont from the Broome Towns club and made one appearance in the Claremont colts side in 2012 before playing 19 colts matches in 2013, including the memorable grand final victory over South Fremantle.

He damaged his left shoulder three weeks before the grand final after which he had several medical screenings with Claremont club doctors and AFL doctors. He was drafted by the Eagles in late November and underwent shoulder surgery the following day.

He played in seven reserves matches for East Perth in 2014, but still had problems with his shoulder, requiring a further reconstruction, in which a piece of bone from his humerus was used to help stabilize the shoulder.

"It was quite bizarre last year, helping to knock out a team I'm now back playing for," he said. "Now I can't wait to put on the Claremont jumper again and if I am not drafted hopefully I'll be able to help Claremont win a premiership and have my name on a Tigers locker."



YOUNGSTERS KEEPING ROSS ON HIS TOES

By Ken Casellas

Twenty-five-year-old Dylan Ross gets the feeling that he is a real oldtimer at Claremont this year as he works hard at pre-season training in a bid to return to league ranks with the Tigers after a five-year absence.

"I've loved this pre-season," he says. "It's a real young group and that's keeping me on my toes. Funnily enough I've coached six or seven blokes, including Harrison Court and Jack Beeck, who are running around with the senior squad. I coached development squads and at the Wembley Downs Junior Football Club for five or six years."

Ross graduated from Newman College and the Marist juniors and represented the Tigers in colts football in 2007 and 2008 before appearing in five league matches at the end of the 2009 season and another three the following year. "We played the invincible Swan Districts side in the 2008 colts grand final and in 2009 we were knocked out by East Perth in the elimination final."

Ross, a member of the State 16s and 18s squads, started as a key forward, but has developed into a highly-effective key defender.

"Claremont had a strong league side in 2010 and a lot of guys were unlucky to miss league selection," Ross said. "However, I was lucky

enough to play in the reserves premiership side. We beat East Perth after failing to beat them until the grand final.

"I moved to South Fremantle early in the 2011 season when, for whatever reason, I couldn't get a run in the twos --- and the club wanted me to play pre-season games in the amateurs. I didn't really agree with that, so I went to South Fremantle. It was an opportunity for me; it was all I wanted, just to have a crack at it. I am thankful to Souths for giving me the opportunity."

Ross played mainly at centre-half-back and full-back in his 58 league for the Bulldogs. At the end of the 2014 season he fractured his right wrist when he spoiled an attempt to mark by Subiaco's Matt Boland. This required surgery and he still has a plate in his wrist. This, coupled with an attack of glandular fever, seriously affected his 2015 season when he managed just six league appearances.

Ross now has grasped the opportunity to return to Claremont and he is based at the Showgrounds, working for the football commission as a development officer, with his main tasks being engaging kids to play Auskick and improving the participation numbers in the Claremont district. He is studying health promotion at university and is about to gain his degree.



SHIELS HELPS HARDISTY

By Ken Casellas

Jared Hardisty is back at Claremont after spending a year at Hawthorn, training alongside such luminaries as Luke Hodge, Sam Mitchell, Jordan Lewis and Liam Shiels. And it is that wonderful experience that he hopes will help him to develop into a better footballer.

"It was a roller-coaster ride, all in the space of 12 months," said Hardisty, who was drafted as a rookie by the Hawks and then delisted last October.

"It was a pretty weird feeling, going from the excitement of being drafted, settling in at a new club, the thrill of watching Hawthorn win the premiership and then having the disappointment of being delisted.

"Now I'm happy to be home with my great mates and being back at Claremont where there's a great bunch of guys. Fingers crossed, there will be another opportunity to get on to an AFL list. A good year or two, or how many it takes, maybe I'll get another chance.

"There's no guarantees that I'll be playing WAFL every week. I'm doing everything I can to earn my spot in the team and hold it down for the whole year. I just want to make sure I can do my part for the team."

Hardisty, who celebrates his 20th birthday on March 7, is in the third year as an apprentice electrician. He has fond memories of his time with the Claremont colts side in 2013 and 2014 and is more than happy to be back training with former colts teammates, including Darcy Cameron and Harry McCracken.

A solidly-built, hard-running left-footer, Hardisty was a member of the 2013 colts premiership side and during that year he made his senior debut, playing in the Fostel Cup match against Southport at Subiaco Oval. He also won the colts fairest-and-best award by a runaway margin of 82 votes and strong performances for WA in the under-18 championship series that year earned him further recognition.

Hardisty paid tribute to former Claremont colts star Angus Litherland, now an emerging member of the Hawthorn side. "He looked after me really well, took me under his wing and showed me the ropes," Hardisty said.

"I was lucky enough to be in the Hawthorn midfield group with Mitchell, Lewis, Shiels and others. I just tried to soak up as much as I could off those guys. I was pinching myself at every training session, kicking the footy to Mitchell and Hodge and rest of them.

"Mitchell was the player who most impressed me with his work ethic at training. He gets the most out of himself at every training session. When it's business time he's strictly footy, and he also knows when it is time to switch off.

"Liam Shiels was particularly helpful. We sat down together and looked at the vision every Monday afternoon after the weekend's game. He gave me pointers and tips and things to work on for the next game. I also spent a lot of time with Marco Bello, the coach of the Box Hill side, and a few of the development coaches.

"It's amazing how different VFL footy is compared with WAFL footy. The grounds are smaller and it's wet almost every second week. There's much more tight and congested play."



SHANAHAN MAKES A FRESH START

By Ken Casellas

Promising midfielder Tom Shanahan has switched from East Perth and is keen to bolster Claremont's engine room in 2016.

The 20-year-old has made a strong recovery from surgery to remove his troublesome tonsils in the third week of January and has impressed with his skill and work ethic in pre-season work-outs.

Shanahan, who won the Prendergast Medal as the best player in the WAFL reserves competition last year, was a student at Newman College in Churchlands and played for the Marist Junior Football Club. His family lived in the East Perth metropolitan district and he was a member of that club's development squads before he started with the colts side in 2013.

"I decided to join Claremont in a bid to get more opportunities in league ranks than I did at East Perth," he said. "Obviously the alignment with the West Coast Eagles has made it really difficult to hold down a league spot. Claremont was the club of choice because I knew a lot of boys who played for Marist and went on to Claremont.

"Going to Claremont has been a pretty easy transition for me. I played a lot of school footy

and Marist footy with Jared Hardisty, and we're quite good mates. I'm also friends with Harry McCracken and other guys from Hale School."

Shanahan was captain of the colts side in 2013 and won the club's fairest-and-best award. "I enjoy leadership roles and the captaincy helped me to develop my game," he said. "I liked the challenge."

He graduated to the reserves side in 2014 and led the side several times when the captaincy was rotated. He broke into the league side for three matches late in the season, including the final qualifying-round match in which the Royals were beaten by seven points by Claremont.

With several Eagles players available every week, Shanahan managed only four league appearances last year, when he chalked up 16 matches for the reserves side. He was runner-up for the club's fairest-and-best award in the reserves, being beaten by a solitary point.

He has played most of his football as a hard-running midfielder and now he is looking forward to adding another string to his bow at Claremont and becoming a more valuable player by spending some time as a half-forward.

Shanahan is a full-time student at Murdoch University, studying environmental science, with plans of gaining employment with the fisheries department.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015

DATE	TIME	EVENT	WHERE
MARCH			
Saturday 19 th	2.15pm	AWAY GAME East Perth vs CLAREMONT (League 4.15pm start)	Medibank
Saturday 26 th		BYE	
APRIL			
Saturday 2 nd	All Day	AWAY GAME Perth vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	Lathlain Park
Sunday 10 th	All Day	AWAY GAME Swan Districts vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	Steel Blue Stadium
Saturday 16 th	All Day	AWAY GAME East Fremantle vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	ATOM Stadium
Saturday 23 rd	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs Peel Thunder (League 2.15pm start)	Showgrounds
Saturday 30 th	All Day	AWAY GAME West Perth vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	HBF Arena
MAY			
Saturday 7 th	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs South Fremantle (League 2.15pm start)	Showgrounds
Saturday 14 th	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs Subiaco (League 3.10pm start)	Showgrounds
Saturday 21 st	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs East Fremantle (League 2.15pm start)	Showgrounds
Sunday 29 th	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs Swan Districts (League 12.10pm start)	Showgrounds
JUNE			
Saturday 4 th		BYE	
Saturday 18 th	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs West Perth (League 2.15pm start)	Showgrounds
Saturday 25 th	All Day	AWAY GAME Subiaco vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	Medibank Stadium
JULY			
Saturday 2 nd	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs Perth (League 2.15pm start)	Showgrounds
Saturday 9 th	All Day	AWAY GAME South Fremantle vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	Fremantle Oval
Saturday 23 rd	All Day	HOME GAME CLAREMONT vs East Perth (League 2.15pm start)	Showgrounds
Saturday 30 th	All Day	AWAY GAME Peel Thunder vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	Bendigo Bank Stadium
AUGUST			
Saturday 6 th	All Day	AWAY GAME Swan Districts vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	Steel Blue Oval
Saturday 13 th	All Day	AWAY GAME West Perth vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	HBF Arena
Saturday 20 th	All Day	AWAY GAME East Fremantle vs CLAREMONT (League 2.15pm start)	ATOM Stadium
Saturday 20 th	6.30pm	Banquet Auction	Members Lounge



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PERTH BUNBURY ALBANY GERALDTON KATANNING

MITCHELL IS 2016 CLUB LEGEND

By Ken Casellas

Claremont supporters retain wonderful memories of the freakish skills of lightning-fast, lightly-framed rover Michael Mitchell in the 1980s and his amazing ability to soar skywards to pull down spectacular marks.

Born in Carnarvon in November 1961, Mitchell shone for the Warriors side in that delightful coastal town 900km north of Perth. He was courted by East Fremantle in 1981, but coach Ken Smith rejected him, declaring that he was too small to play league football.

So Mitchell returned to Carnarvon to complete his apprenticeship as an electrician. Claremont captain-coach Graham Moss had heard that young Mitchell was a player of rare ability, so he arranged a meeting.

"Mossy was planning a trip by boat to Exmouth and he arranged to meet me on the Carnarvon jetty," Mitchell said. "We had a bit of a yarn on the jetty and I decided to sign with Claremont for the 1982 season."

Tipping the scales at 66kg, Mitchell started in the reserves side and made 13 league appearances in his debut season, including the win over West Perth in the preliminary final, but was squeezed

out of the grand final side which lost to Swan Districts. Instead he helped the Tigers win the reserves premiership and despite playing in only 13 league matches he won the WAFL Players' Association's best first-year-player.

In 1983 Mitchell played in the first of his eight interstate matches for WA and in the following year he won the Sandover Medal in a three-way tie with teammate Steve Malaxos and East Perth's Peter Spencer. In 1985 he was runner-up to East Fremantle's Murray Wrensted in the Sandover Medal and he was chosen as an all-Australian player in 1985 and 1986.

His remarkable soaring high mark over Subiaco full-back Greg Wilkinson at Subiaco Oval in 1985 earned Mitchell the Mark of the Year award. He was recruited by Richmond at the end of 1986 after playing 88 league matches and scoring 135 goals for Claremont and Victorian fans were soon in awe of his lightning speed, his tremendous leap, his determination to chase hard and tackle fiercely, as well as his ability to break away from packs and score goals.

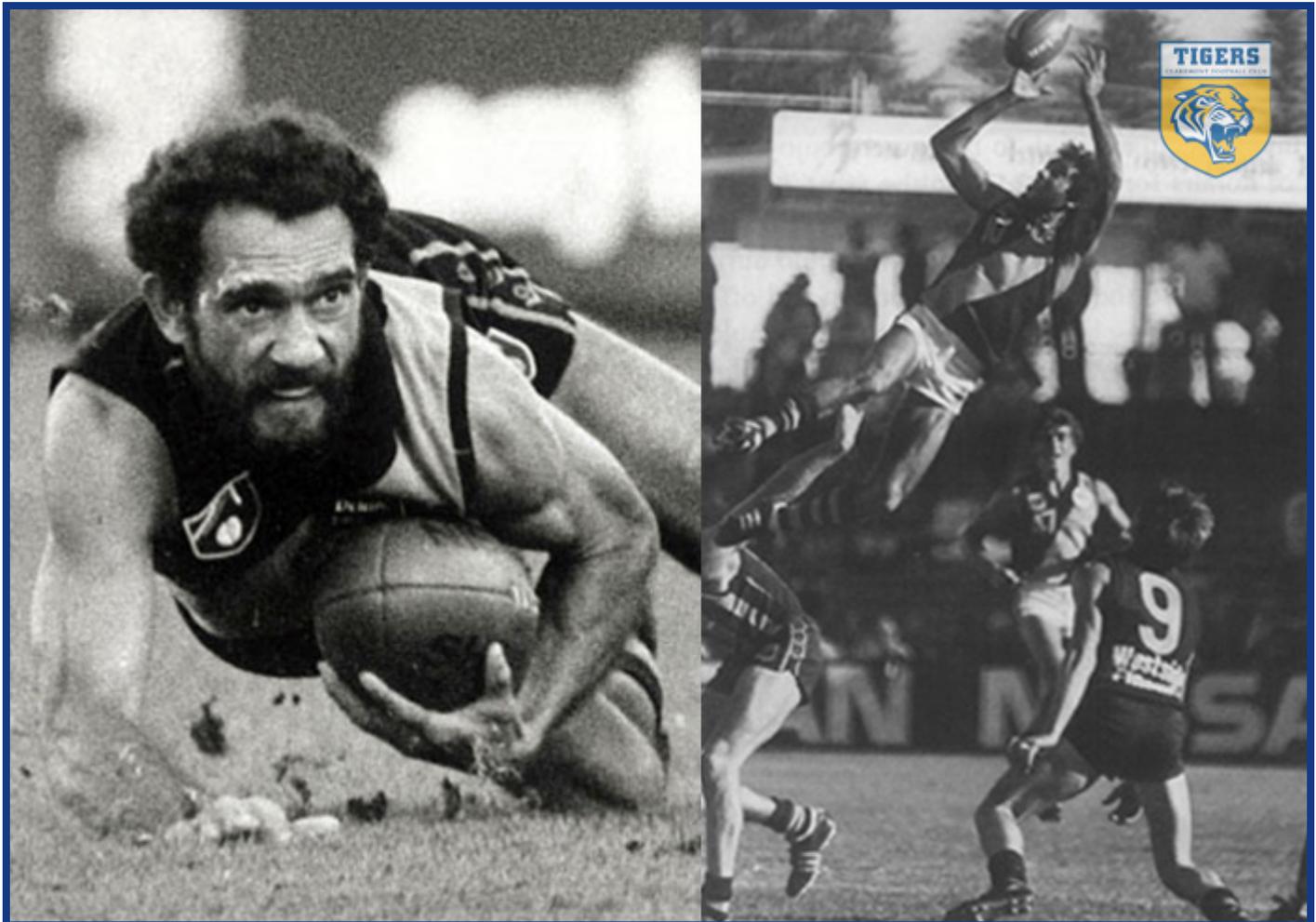
It was in 1990 that Mitchell gained further prominence when he took the mark of the year and scored the goal of the year. In the final round of qualifying matches Mitchell gained possession of the ball at centre-half-back at the SCG before he charged forward and took seven bounces as he outpaced his pursuers before booting an inspirational goal. He took his award-winning

mark, a juggled one-handed capture, over Fitzroy's Brett Stevens.

In Richmond's centenary year in 2008 Mitchell was awarded the honour of scoring the club's Goal of the Century. He was also one of ten nominees for the Mark of the Century (won by Michael Roach) and he was selected as one of Richmond's ten Tiger Treasures.

Mitchell, who represented Australia in six Tests against Ireland in the international series, received a serious head injury in a practice match against North Melbourne and further concussions brought an end to his career in 1991 after playing 81 matches and scoring 103 goals for Richmond.

He returned to WA at the end of 1991 and his sheer brilliance for Claremont has earned him the honour as the club's 2016 match-day legend.



Mitchell pictured during his playing days.