



Extracts from **NEWSLETTER AUGUST** **2021**

FOUR OF THE BEST

The Queens Birthday Honours list rewarded four former Essendon players with honours as detailed below. To have four former players recognised in the one list would have to be some form of record and our warmest best wishes are extended to all four recipients.

Neale Daniher on his elevation to Officer of the Order of Australia. Neale has been recognised for his distinguished service to people with Motor Neurone Disease and their families through advocacy, public education and fundraising initiatives. The Big Freeze event this year raised a record amount of \$14.6 million dollars.



David Shaw on receiving an Order of Australia Medal. David has been recognised for service to community health, in particular the Prostate Cancer Foundation and Australian Rules football. Premiership player '62 & '65, EFC President and AFL Commissioner.

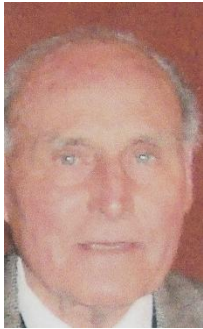
Owen Hegarty. Awarded an Order of Australia Medal. Owen has been recognised for service to the minerals and mining sector. Owen played in U19 & Reserves teams in 1965 to 1967.



Michael Long. Awarded an Order of Australia Medal on his recognition for services to Australian Rules football and to the Indigenous community. Dual premiership player 1993 and 2000, Founder The Long Walk and the Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre.

VALE TO SOME GREAT ESSENDON PEOPLE.

Harold Lambert

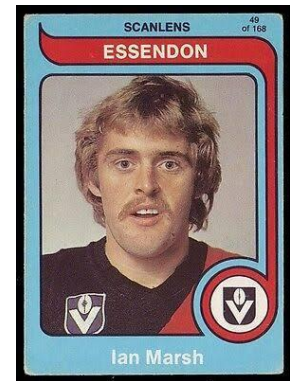


Harold played 99 games for the EFC between 1940 and 1951, serving in the armed forces between 1942 and 1945. He played in the 1946, 1949 and 1950 Premiership teams and played in a total of 7 Grand Finals. Harold was a very tough half back flanker and a man of few words. When asked at his presentation of Life Membership of the EFCPP&OA in 2016 as to how he felt about the great Geelong player Bob Davis, who Harold had played on a number of times, he responded, "I never spoke to him".

Harold was a member of the team of the Century, a Life Member of the EFC and EFCPP&OA and a Member of the EFC Hall of Fame. He passed away in May at the great age of 99 and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Ian Marsh

Ian played 68 games for the EFC between 1976 and 1980. He was a speedy winger from Tasmania but had to retire at the age of 25 due to heart problems. He passed away in May following a long illness.



Andrew Peacock



Andrew was a very strong supporter of the EFC and was granted the number 1 member of the club during the 1980's. He had a great but turbulent role in politics for many years and was the leader of the Liberal party during his involvement with the EFC. Andrew passed away in April.

Andrew congratulates Roger Merrett following the 1984 Premiership win.

The EFCPP&OA sadly acknowledges the passing of Jill Brown, the wife of past player Greg Brown, after a long illness.



The EFCPP&OA also acknowledges the passing of David Jenkins, a long time financial supporter of the EFCPP&OA.

Condolences are expressed to all family members of these great Essendon people.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Name: **Judd Lalich**
Games played: 17
Years Played: 1998-2001
Number worn: 17
Recruited from: East Perth



What did you do, football wise, following your playing days with Essendon?

For the first 2 years I returned to Perth to play with East Perth Football club, which was the club I was drafted from. After this, I initially decided to return to Melbourne and retire, but then was convinced by an old friend to play with the Melbourne University Blacks football club and be a runner for the club (for 2 years). Joining the Uni Blacks was a great decision. They had a great history, and had many great people at the club at this time, which helped lift the club from D grade back into the A grade. I then retired for a number of years, but after moving to Sydney then decided to join the Wollongong Lions football club to meet a few local people. This was also a great time, as there were some fantastic people there looking to drive the right culture at the club.

What job/jobs did you pursue following your playing days, including what you are doing currently?

I finished my physiotherapy degree in 2003, and worked as a physiotherapist until 2008. From there I moved in to health and safety roles, where I now work for a company called Daifuku Oceania managing their group wide safety, health and risk management portfolio.

Are you still working? Yes/

Have you suffered with any post football injuries and have any required surgery?

Nothing too substantial at this stage. I did end up with a broken collarbone playing with the Wollongong lions in 2017 which needed a plate inserted.

Do you have any ongoing medical problems?

Nothing significant at this stage. Previous ankle and knee injuries and surgeries however are likely to bite me at some stage in the future!

What are your thoughts on the modern game, and how would you change any of the areas that you don't like!

I don't religiously watch AFL these days. Living in NSW also doesn't make it easy! I get the odd game here and there - mainly Anzac day and the finals. I find the

game a little sterile these days at times. The ball use and speed is impressive, however when teams don't push forward fast it can turn into a game of keepings off.

Do you have any special anecdotes from your playing time to pass onto other past players?

No real story to pass on. But I'd like to pass on a message. Don't underestimate the importance of team culture and camaraderie with respect to success. I was at EFC during a great era for the club, and I didn't get to play as many games as I'd like. I can tell you now that the reason for the success stemmed from having great people at the club, not just having great players. And this includes the full list. The guys not getting a regular game. The support staff (such as Reidy, Bruce Conner, Paul Wise/Lew). And the other support staff that are more voluntary because of their love for the Club (Alec Epis, Killer, Woodsy). The culture at the club from 1997-2001 was the true reason for its success. And this should be the priority for the current coaching and management teams.

Who were your mates in your playing days with Essendon, do you keep in touch?

The culture was so strong that in reality I felt comfortable hanging out with everyone. Key mates were Sean Wellman, Az Henneman, Bolts, Simon Easty, Blumfield, Caracella, Heff, Scott L, John Robran and Lloyd. Being in NSW I don't get to see many people, and not regularly in contact either. I also really chose to stay away from the club for a few years, but after the Grand Final reunion in 2019 (reserves GF winners 1999) I realized that I did miss the great people that made the club.

Who were the players you most admired in your playing days at Essendon?

For Essendon:...Hirdy, Mercuri. Obviously great players. But also admired a number of others who really worked their ass off to keep the club very strong – such as Peter Berbekov, Mark Fraser, Bolts, Cory McGrath.

Other teams:... Gee

Do you have any comments that you would like to pass on about your time at Essendon?

It's not the great players that make Essendon a great place. It's the great people. From the best players, the players that played less games that they'd like, and the support staff. It's the people. Good people drive the right culture. The right culture drives success.

MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS

The following members will reach significant age milestones between the 1st May and 31st August 2021.

60 years of age

70 years of age +

Tim Watson
Paul Weston
Neil Besanko (70)
Ray Williams (70)
Julie Hewes (71)
Paul Lew (71)



Graham Mendola (71)
Graham Moss (71)
Bruce Neish (71)
David Starbuck (71)
Alan Stevens (71)
Hugh Delahunty (72)
Bruce Dodson (72)
Ken Gilbertson (72)



Brian Pirouet (72)
John Carpenter (73)
Bruce Lake (73)
John Sinclair (73)
Max Warlow (73)
Paul Collins (74)
Ross Sporton (74)
Robert Thompson (74)
John Williams (74)
David Collins (75)
Vic Papp (75)
Bruce Waite (75)
Ken Betts (76)
Graeme Dowlan (76)
Graeme Langsworth (76)
Bruce Walmsley (76)
Jim Forsyth (77)
Ron Haerberle (77)

70 years of age +

Neil McKissock (77)
Kevin Andrews (79)
John Booth (79)
Graeme Johnston (79)
Graeme Beissel (80)
Ted Fordham (81)
Geoff Gosper (81)
Doug Philipson (81)
Ray Sneddon (81)
Barry Tout (81)
Ken Timms (83)
Kevin Dellar (84)
Alec Epis (84)
Jim Matthews (84)
Gerry Backhouse (85)
Morton Diston (85)
Ray Lalor (85)
Fred Lynch (85)
Ian Whitford (85)
Jack Hambridge (86)
Kevin Parks (86)
Reg Burgess (87)



Frank Driscoll (87)
Ron Okey (87)
Peter Bevilacqua (88)
Greg Sewell (88)



90 years of age +

Ray Martini (90)
Rob Taylor (90)

Associate Reserve & U19 Members

70 years of age +

Warrick Reynolds (75)
John Richardson (75)
Peter Saville (76)
Jack Clarke (78)
Don Cameron (83)
Graeme Cocks (83)

80 years of age +

80 years of age +

DRC Associate Members

60 years of age

70 years of age +

Kevin Cameron (87)

Paul Young

Ray Humphrys (71)

Ian Meggs (72)

Peter McIvor (76)

Ray Stevens (84)

80 years of age +

We wish you all many years of health and happiness.

LIFE MEMBERS FUNCTION

The Life Members function was held at Windy Hill on Sunday 23rd March and a large number of Life Members attended the function to see the introduction of three new Life Members to the EFCPP&OA. Greg Brown was unable to attend the function due to the recent passing of his wife Jill.

It was noted that the Association had unfortunately lost the following Life Members since 2020:

Ian Browning, Peter Harrington, Alan McGillivray, Bruce Reid, Emil Eugene, Jack Jones and Harold Lambert, who passed away a few days before the event.

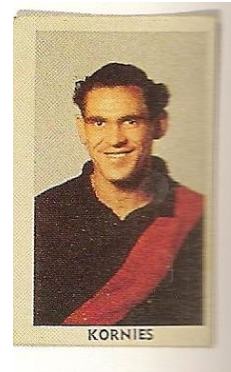


David Collins made a presentation to Barry Besanko, who had qualified for Life Membership due to him having spent 10 years as a Committee Member. David congratulated Barry on the great service he had given to the Association and Barry responded that he had totally enjoyed his time with the Association and would like to continue in his role.

Barry Capuano made a presentation to Don McKenzie for the great service and financial assistance he had provided to the Association over many years. Don responded that he still had a great love for the club and anything he could do to ensure that the club and Association continued to grow would be his pleasure.



EFC DREAMTIME JUMPER & NORM MCDONALD



The Dreamtime jumper used this year in the match against Richmond on the 5th June honoured Norm McDonald, the first aborigine player to play for Essendon.

Norm was an outstanding half back flanker for the EFC playing 128 games between 1947 and 1953, was a member of the 1949 and 1950 Premiership Teams. He was Best & Fairest in 1951 and represented Victoria in 1952. He was also second to Lance Mann, another Essendon player, in the Stawell Gift in 1952.

Norm was a proud Gunditjmara man and was inducted into the Victorian Aboriginal Honour Role for his pioneering efforts-greater inclusion of Indigenous people in Australian Rules football.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Name:	GREG PERRY
Years Played:	1970, 1972-74, 1976.
Games Played:	63
Number's Worn:	14, 36, 16 & 8
Recruited from:	Stawell



What did you do, football wise, following you're playing days with Essendon?

Playing coach – Stawell, South Warrnambool, Heywood Non-playing Shepparton United, Lucknow and Assistant Coach Ballarat U18 Rebels. Also 6 years as Melbourne Recruiting Officer (paid position) ...

What job/jobs did you pursue following your playing days, including what you are doing currently?

Had 40 rewarding years' service as a senior manager with Australia Post. Being retired since 2005. Since then have travelled to over 80 countries worldwide.

Are you still working? No

Have you suffered with any post football injuries and have any required surgery?

No have maintained a consistent level of fitness...

Do you have any ongoing medical problems?

Removal of skin cancers caused to my 12 months army service in Vietnam.

What are your thoughts on the modern game, and how would you change any of the areas that you don't like!

Overrated – top sides excellent playing skills lower sides are only at VFL standard.

Many players overpaid for what they produce on the field. Lot of players robotic and cannot think for themselves. Too much time spent at the club so they are soaked after. Too many rule changes which certainly confuses many players or it takes them a long time to understand and implement to advantage.

Do you have any special anecdotes from your playing time to pass onto other past players?

When I applied for the Melbourne recruiting position, the panel chairman (Cameron Schwab) first question was “what do you look for in footballers?” – I answered “BREEDING” –I won the position as first time Cameron had considered this. Now it is one of the main criteria used in the draft process.

Who were your mates in your playing days with Essendon, do you keep in touch?

Many, but to name some ---(Late) Allan Noonan, Fields, Halley, Wilson, Grinter, Daniels, Ray Smith. Plus see a lot at the past players annual dinner and Don McKenzie and John Birt at our monthly Ballarat Sportsmen night. Special mention to the (Late) “Swampy” Syme....what a legend?

Who were some of the players you most admired in your playing days at Essendon?

For Essendon: Fields, Wilson, Moss Daniels, Noonan, Andrews, Pryor, Williams and the (Late) Doug Tassell.

Other teams: Matthews, Jesalenko, Ditterich, McKenna, Dempsey, Skilton.

Do you have any comments that you would like to pass on about your time at Essendon?

I had some of the best times in my very busy life. The club was, still is, totally supportive. Cannot speak highly enough of the EFCPP&OA and its volunteer committee. Each home ANZAC day game against Collingwood, the club invites the

6 Vietnam Veteran past players to the Presidents Luncheon and includes us on the official tables. How good is that?

FACTS, PHOTOS & OTHER TRIVIA

With the 150th anniversary of the EFC due to be celebrated in 2022, it is interesting to note the following:

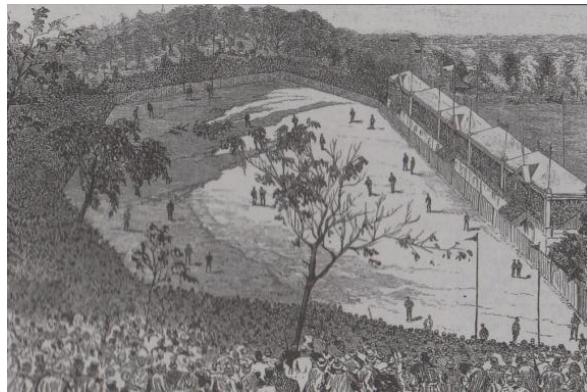
Although official records indicate that the EFC was formed in 1871, it is more likely that the club was formed in early 1872, however the following report appeared in the Yeoman and Australian Acclimatiser in July 1862: "The football match played on Saturday last between the Essendon and Collingwood teams on the Melbourne ground was a well contested affair.

Fortune first smiled on the Essendon side with J. Campbell kicking a goal. The battle was again re-joined and shortly before dusk Davidson of Collingwood obtained a goal.

Several Essendon players then left and their captain picked some of the bystanders and a scratch match was played."

(It would be interesting if J. Campbell had any relationship with the EFC CEO Xavier Campbell!)

The Melbourne Cricket ground in the early days.



In 1929, Essendon players trophies, including best and fairest, were awarded on the votes of both the committee and players. Prior to that, only the players had voted for the awards. (It would have been interesting to know how the votes were cast, i.e. 20 players and 15 committee voting!)

In 1968 zoning was first introduced into the VFL and Essendon was allotted the Wimmera Football League as a major League and seven minor Leagues, made up of Ararat and District, Southern Mallee, Tatura, South Wimmera, Horsham District, Lowan Star and Central Wimmera. In the metropolitan area Essendon was allotted the districts of Niddrie, East Keilor, Avondale Heights, City of Keilor, Airport West and sections of Ringwood, Croydon and Nunawading. Some great players were recruited from these zones.



The Legend John Coleman in action. These type of marks were taken regularly. John played 98 games for the EFC, averaging 5.5 goals per game, before a severe knee injury finished his playing career in 1954. He later coached the club to Premierships in 1962 and 1965.

AN EXCELLENT INITIATIVE BY THE EFC.

As part of the ongoing excellent relationship between the EFC and EFCPP&OA, the EFC have initiated the opportunity for past players to attend special training sessions following which, the current players are able to meet up with the past players. The past players are able to bring along their children and grand-children to meet the players.



Photo of

those attending taken in the Atrium.



Two sessions have been run, one at Windy Hill and one at The Hanger and the club intends to invite past players to future sessions. Unfortunately, the weather was unkind for the session at the Hanger on Saturday 15th May, however a number of past players and their offspring attended. We would encourage past players with children and grand-children to attend future sessions when invited by the club as this is a great opportunity to help rebuild the culture of the club.

John Williams and his grand-children meet up with Zac Merrett.

WHO IS THIS PAST PLAYER?

Harry Hunter

Played: 1921-1927
Games Played: 109
Numbers worn: 1 & 7



Harry was a fine defender and was a great mark and kick. He was a member of the 1924 Premiership team, represented the state in 1922, 1923, 1925 and 1927, and was Vice-Captain in 1927. Following stints at Yarraville and Preston, Harry returned to Essendon as joint coach with Dick Reynolds in 1939.

Harry went on to serve in many roles with the EFC, namely, a member of the Committee in 1926-27, 1937-43, Vice President 1956-60, Treasurer 1961-71. He was the first President of the EFCPP&OA when formed in 1953.

Harry was inducted to the EFC Hall of Fame as a Member due to the long and great service he had provided to the club over many years.

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PAST EFC TEAM & INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

We are seeking any old team photos of EFC teams at all levels, Senior, Reserve and U19 Teams and we would greatly appreciate if you have any old photos that a copy could be made available to Barry Capuano. Barry can be contacted on 0407592979.

We are endeavouring to assist the club in providing team shots for all EFC teams to ensure that the club has a complete history of all EFC past players. In this respect there are a number of past EFC players that the club has no photo of and if anyone is able to assist in supplying photos of those listed it would be greatly appreciated.

Any photos should be sent to Barry Capuano.

James Alexander (1918-19)	William Hansen (1913)	George Prismall (1935)
Fred Anderson (1908)	Gerald Hartigan (1931)	Ralph Raisbeck (1922-23)
Clifford Bennett (1907)	George Hemmingway (1918)	Edward Regan (1931)
John Blencowe (1912)	Henry Hubert (1937)	Hurtle Rice (1909)
James Campbell (1908)	Frank Hunting (1933)	Almond Richards (1936)
Athol Cerini (1928)	Francis Hurren (1914-15)	Patrick Robertson (1919-20)
Bill Coffey (1918)	Malcolm James (1927)	Vernard Sarsfield (1929)
Charles Comber (1915)	Barnett Jenkins (1907)	Harry Sawyer (1918)
Rupert Cooper (1909)	Jack Johnson (1947)	William Scott (1915)
George Coward (1935-37)	Cornelius Kennedy (1906)	Alan Shaw (1944-45)
Val Crawley (1910)	Neil King (1914-15)	Joseph Shippen (1903)

Daniel Currie (1898)
 Harold Day (1915)
 Harold Dickenson (1933)
 Charles Edwards (1913)
 Henry Ellington (1914)
 Marcus Evans (1901)
 John Everard (1905)
 Harold Feehan (1915)
 Charles Fehring (1921)
 Edward Flynn (1903)
 Phillip Furlong (1918)
 Charles Garton (1906)
 Phil Gibson (1906)
 Bruce Godfrey (1912)
 James Gordon (1913-14)
 Richard Gosling (1926-27)
 William Grace (1900)
 John Graham (1897)
 Alf Gray (1898-1902)
 John Green (1906)
 Tom Greenwood (1918)
 Thomas Gubbins (1930-31)
 Harry Giles (1934)

William Kyme (1912)
 James Lavelle (1918)
 Malcom MacRae (1930-31)
 Edgar Masters (1911)
 Albert Mathieson (1905)
 Richard Maynard (1921)
 Charles McCartney (1899)
 Norman McCleary (1933)
 Archibald McDonald (1905)
 Jack McGarity (1918)
 Allan McHardy (1936)
 J. Victor McNeil (1913-14)
 John Meadows (1903)
 James Moore (1913)
 Ivan More (1919)
 Gavin Morgan (1933-34)
 Charles Morley (1906)
 Michael Morris (1901)
 Douglas Munro (1937)
 Victor Nankervis (1915, 1918)
 Albert O'Connor (1915, 1918)
 John Pike (1913)
 Henry Plummer (1934)

Colin Sinclair (1915, 1918)
 Lindsay Smail (1930)
 Louis Smith (1908)
 John Stephenson (1907)
 Horace Stewart (1898)
 Mervyn Storey (1934)
 Donald Sutherland (1919)
 Albert Sykes (1907)
 Hugh Tait (1913)
 James Taylor (1918)
 Charles Teather (1906-7, 1910)
 Enos Thomas (1922)
 John Turner (1930)
 Rob Walker (1913-15, 1919-20)
 George Ward (1901)
 Percy Watson (1920)
 Jim White (1897)
 Herbert Wilson (1913, 1919)
 James Wilson (1906)
 John Wood (1910)
 William Wylie (1915, 1918)

DEBUT JUMPER PRESENTATIONS

During the year four Debut Jumpers were presented by the EFC to past players. The club will continue to present Debut Jumpers as soon as practical to those who have not as yet received their jumpers.



Peter Filandia receives his jumper from Dustin Fletcher & Paul Brasher



Tayte Pears & Darcy Daniher receive their jumpers from Sean Wellman.



Adam McPhee receives his jumper from Sean Wellman.