

Old Scotch Football Club
CRACKERS CHRONICLES – FOUNDING FATHERS

Welcome to Season 2016, and welcome to a new column of the OSFC *eDrumsheet* entitled **“Crackers Chronicles”**.

Each week in this column, we will trace some of the history of the *Old Scotch Football Club* by recounting the contributions made by our fifty-five Life Members. This week we look at two of our founding fathers.

As you are aware from the date on the back of our jumpers, our club was founded in 1921 and first played in the Metropolitan Amateur Football Association in 1921 (later re-named the Victorian Amateur Football Association).

FOUNDING FATHERS:

W. S. William “Bill” Littlejohn (“The Boss”)

Dr Bill Littlejohn, better known as “The Boss”, was Principal of *Scotch College* from 1904 – 1933. In 1913, he was instrumental in establishing the *Old Scotch Collegians’ Association*, and later also founding the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1921.

The *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* was one of half a dozen such new clubs to be admitted to the MAFA in 1921, its formation - or reformation, if you prefer - having been overseen by three former *Scotch College* students in George Staley, ‘Cocky’ Heatley, and A.E. Sandford.

Bill was foundation President of our club for its first six years from 1921 – 1926, and it was he who granted the club permission to use the School oval in Yarra Park, which we did for 72 years from 1921 until 1992, when we re-located to the Camberwell Sportsground in 1993.

This time around, the club was extremely well organised from the start, and on-field success were swift to arrive. The club also quickly acquired a reputation for its zeal in upholding the traditions and mores of amateurism, with its players for example openly acknowledging, and even applauding, instances of fine play by the opposition.

Bill went on to be a premierships President in 1923, 1924 & 1926 and was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1927. Bill died in 1933.

R. C. Clive Heatley Jnr (“Cocky”)

An old boy of *Scotch College* where he had been Captain of Football in 1913, Clive Heatley, better known as “Cocky” played four games for University Football Club in the VFL in 1914. He later captained the University Football Club in the MFA in 1914 & 1915. After WWI, he captained University A Football Club in the VJFL in 1919 & 1920.

However, upon foundation of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1921, he was recruited to the club from University A Football Club to both captain and coach the team, which he did from 1921 – 1925.

‘Cocky’, a centreman, was said to combine considerable all-round football ability with mastery in the art of ‘staging’ for free kicks. Under Cocky, Old Scotch went top in 1923 and 1924, with Allan Staley stamping himself as the MAFA’s best ruckman of the period, the McLorinan brothers marshalling a watertight defence, and the likes of Gordon Law, Harold Staley and Clive Fergie (ex-Fitzroy FC) giving the side unmatched strength through the middle. After slipping to second in 1925, the side quickly resumed its supremacy with two more flags in 1926 and 1927.

‘Cocky’ played seven seasons for our club from 1921 – 1927, was the club’s Best & Fairest in 1921 & 1923, premierships captain and coach in 1923 & 1924, as well as the club’s leading goalkicker in 1924. He was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1972, but Cocky died in 1973.

Next week we will look at the Life Members from the roaring and highly successful Twenties ...

I welcome any feedback to gmcracken@oldscotchfc.com.au