

Welcome back to this week's edition of "**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 some of our club members.

This week we focus on Secretaries of the *Old Scotch Football Club* from 1972 up to today ...

G. J. Greg McTaggart 1972

In 1972, Greg McTaggart an old boy of *Scotch College*, brother of player Bruce McTaggart and son of staunch supporter Ron McTaggart served as the nineteenth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for one year.

Greg is the younger brother of former OSCFC player Bruce McTaggart (1964 – 1971) who played 117 games.

B. A. Bryan "Gibbles" Gibbs 1973 – 1979 & 1997

In 1955, Bryan Gibbs was recruited from *Scotch College* and played 107 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1955 – 1961. He was our club's leading club goalkicker in 1960. After retiring from playing, Bryan coached our Juniors from 1969 – 1971. During his playing career, Bryan was also Treasurer of our club from 1957 – 1963, committee member from 1964 – 1966, Vice President of our club in 1972 and then served as the twentieth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for eight years from 1973 – 1979, and again in 1997. During his term as Secretary, he was a Reserves premierships secretary in 1973 and a premierships secretary in 1977 & 1978.

Bryan was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 1978.

Since then, Bryan has acted as Chairman of Selectors from 1978 – 1979, Vice President of our club from 1980 – 1981, Treasurer again in 1983, eleventh President of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for four years from 1987 – 1990, Vice President in 1992 and Chairman of our Match Committee from 2009 until 2015. During his term as President, he was an Under 19 premierships President in 1989. Our annual award to a club member for "Distinguished Service" to our Club is named after Bryan.

From 1974 – 1977, Bryan also served as OSCFC Delegate to the VAFA. Later, he joined the VAFA Executive Committee from 1980 – 1982 and acted as VAFA Under 18 Team co-ordinator from 1981 – 1983. Bryan was awarded a VAFA Certificate of Merit in 1992. Bryan was awarded a VAFA Certificate of Merit in 1992.

Bryan is the father of former OSCFC player and fellow Life Member Stuart Gibbs (1989 – 2000). He continues today to act as a match-day statistician.

W. M. Bill Pinner 1980 – 1982 & 1984

In 1961, Bill Pinner, an old boy *Scotch College*, joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* to play in the Warriors, but also played one Reserves game for our club in 1961. Later, upon completing his legal studies, Bill took up boundary umpiring at our club for 25 years from 1968 – 1992.

Bill then served as the twenty-first Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for four years from 1980 – 1982 and again in 1984.

Bill was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 1981.

Later in 1985 & 1986, Bill served as the tenth President of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club*.

R. J. Robert "Bob" Welch 1983

In 1967, Big Bob Welch was recruited from *Scotch College* and played 259 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1967 – 1984. He was our Reserves Best & Fairest in 1973 & 1976, and played in the Reserves premierships teams of 1973 & 1980. He captained our Reserves in 1976 & 1979.

Bob was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 1979, upon playing 200 games for our Club.

Later, he served as the twenty-second Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for one year in 1983.

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Bob was a member of the VAFA Executive from 1985 – 1992, and VAFA Vice President from 1987 – 1992.

Later, he was President of the *Old Scotch Collegians' Association* in 2005.

J. E. Jennie Eggleston & D. K. David Senior 1985

In 1985, Jennie Eggleston, the daughter of Mick & Nell Eggleston served conjointly with senior player David Senior as the twenty-third Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for one year.

Jennie was our first female club Secretary.

In 1985, David Senior an old boy of *Wesley College* joined our club from the *Vermont Football Club*, and as part of his re-instatement as an amateur player, needed to serve our club in an official capacity. In 1985, David served conjointly with Jennie Eggleston as the twenty-fourth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for two years in 1985 & 1986 and as our VAFA Delegate from 1986 – 1988.

Jennie is the daughter of former OSCFC player and Life Member Mick Eggleston (1948 – 1949 & 1958 – 1960), and older sister of former OSCFC players Tim Eggleston (1975 – 1981) and John Eggleston (1976 – 1982).

D. K. David Senior 1986

In 1986, David Senior an old boy of *Wesley College* joined our club from the *Vermont Football Club* and played 35 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1986 – 1988, debuting in our Seniors on 14 June 1986 and playing in the number “56” jumper until an AC joint injury finished his playing career in 1988. In 1986, in the second year of his time with our club, David served on his own as the twenty-fourth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club*, and as our VAFA Delegate from 1986 – 1988.

David is the older brother of former OSCFC player Richard Senior (1982 – 1987) who played 82 games.

S. L. Simon Tallent 1987

In 1971, Simon Tallent was recruited from *Scotch College* and played three games for our club in 1971 & 1972 while still at school, where he was Captain of Football in 1972, debuting in our Seniors on 12 August 1972. In 1973, in his first full season with our club, Simon won our club's Best & Fairest wearing the number “16” jumper. However, when Bryan Steel returned to captain our club in 1973 and resumed his old number “16” jumper, Simon then played in the number “17” jumper until 1980 when he became club captain and switched to the number “1” jumper, taking over from John Anderson. He played 221 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1971 – 1991. Simon also played in our back-to-back 1977 B Section and 1978 A Section premierships teams as a centreman or follower, and was a Victorian State Representative in 1978 & 1979. Simon captained our club for five years from 1980 – 1984.

In 1980, coached by Laurie Aghan, Simon captained our club to be B Section runners up, but importantly returning our club back to A Section in 1981.

Simon was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 1984, upon playing 200 games for our club.

After retiring from playing, in 1987 Simon served the twenty-fifth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for one year. He also coached our club in 1988 & 1989, and coached our Reserves in 1989 & 1996. In 2000, he was named on the interchange bench in our *OSCFC Team of the Century*.

Simon is the father of former OSFC player Charlie Tallent (2002 – 2011) who played 113 games.

I. McK. Ian Wilson 1988 – 1989

In 1961, Ian Wilson, an old boy of *Scotch College*, where he had been Captain of Football in 1959, was recruited to our club from *University Blacks* and played 162 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians*

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Football Club from 1961 – 1970, debuting in our Seniors on 22 April 1961 and playing in the number “5” jumper. He played in our 1961 & 1967 Reserves premierships teams, and our 1965 & 1970 B Section premierships teams. Ian captained our club for four years from 1963 – 1966. In 1965, coached by Don Howell, he captained our club to a B Section premiership. Later after he retired, in 1988 & 1989 he served as the twenty-sixth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for two years and in 1990 he coached our Reserves. Ian died in 1998.

Ian is the father of former OSCFC player Tom Wilson (1988 – 1999) who played 154 games.

R. C. Richard Lloyd 1990 – 1991

In 1983, Richard Lloyd was recruited from *Scotch College* as an Under 19s player and played three games in our Under 19s while still at school. He played 71 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians football Club* from 1983 – 1988 & 1990, debuting in our Seniors on 15 June 1985 and playing in the number “3” jumper. He played in our 1984 Under 19 premiership team coached by Lindsay Whitford. In 1990, in his final year of playing, Richard served as the twenty-seventh Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for two years in 1990 & 1991.

Richard is the younger brother of former OSCFC player and Life Member Andrew Lloyd (1982 – 1997) who played 269 games.

J. W. R. John Bell 1992 – 1996 & 1998

John Bell, an old boy of *Scotch College* who left in 1960, joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1990 to manage our Under 19s team, after having first managed teams for *Bulleen Templestowe Football Club*. In 1991, he managed our Seniors & Reserves teams and joined our club’s general committee. In 1992, he first served as the twenty-eighth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for five years from 1992 – 1996 & 1998. From 1993 – 1996, he continued to manage our Under 19s team. From 1994 – 1996, John also acted as the club’s Registration Secretary. In 1998, he again served as club Secretary, after having acted as the club’s delegate to the VAFA for six years from 1992 – 1996 & 1998, before then joining the VAFA Executive from 1999 – 2008, and being their Vice President from 2003 - 2008.

In 2008, John was awarded an OSCA Certificate of Merit. In 2009, the VAFA awarded John with Life Membership.

I. D. Ian “Myrtles” McMurtrie 1999 – 2007

In 1959, Ian McMurtrie was recruited from *Scotch College*. He played 56 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1959 – 1966.

He served as the twenty-ninth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for nine years from 1999 – 2007.

Ian was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 2007.

Ian continues to act as a timekeeper for our Reserves & Seniors.

Ian is the brother of former OSCFC player Duncan McMurtrie (1956).

G. C. A. Geoff “Crackers” McCracken 2008 - 2011

In 1966, Geoff McCracken was recruited from *Scotch College* as a Juniors player. He played 133 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1966 - 1980, mainly in our Reserves and Warriors (later renamed “Club 18” and now “Thirds”). In 1971, he played in Peter Wood’s Club 18 Premiership team and was named Warriors 1971 Best & Fairest. Upon his return from overseas in 1972 & 1973, he continued to play in the Warriors until he finally retired after the 1980 season.

Geoff, a chartered accountant, was Treasurer of our club for eight years in 1971 and from 1976 – 1982. It was during that period that Laurie Aghan nick-named him “Crackers”. Whilst on the committee, he acted as the OSCFC Delegate to the VAFA from 1976 – 1982.

Geoff was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 1981, for his services to the club.

Later, he went on to be Vice President of the club for three years from 1984 – 1986, and OSCFC Delegate to OSCA from 1984 – 1986. This led him to becoming President of the *Old Scotch Collegians' Association* in 1997.

Later, after he retired, he became the thirtieth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Football Club* for four years from 2008 – 2011, and then Football Administration Manager in 2012 & 2013.

In 2012, Geoff was awarded both a VAFA Certificate of Merit and an OSCA Certificate of Merit.

Since 1972, Geoff continues to act as the club's historian maintaining the honourboards, recording club history and writing the *eDrumsheet* column "Crackers Chronicles".

M. McK. Mark Wilson 2012

In 2007, President Tim Shearer recruited Mark Wilson, an old boy of *Scotch College* and an accountant, to manage our bar from 2007 - 2011. Later Mark served as thirty-first Secretary & Treasurer of the *Old Scotch Football Club* for one year in 2012. In 2013, Mark returned to university to further his qualifications.

Mark is a member of the extensive sporting Scotch College McKinley Wilson family.

D. Damian Scodella 2013

In 2013, Damian Scodella an accounting and business manager with *EntityOne Business Solutions* joined our club from the *Fitzroy Football Club* and served as the thirty-second Secretary of the *Old Scotch Football Club* for one year.

D. S. Don Larkin 2014, 2015 & 2016

In 1967, Don Larkin an old boy of *Scotch College* joined our club from the *Australian National University Football Club* where he had played in their inaugural A Grade team from 1963 – 1966, and played 22 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1967, 1969 & 1971, debuting in our Seniors on 29 April 1967 and playing first in the number "46" jumper and then in the number "35" jumper. Reoccurring sporting knee injuries brought his playing career to an end in 1971. Later in 2009, Don joined our club committee and served as Treasurer in 2011, Vice President in 2012, 2013 & 2015 and as the thirty-third Secretary of the *Old Scotch Football Club* for three years in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

In 2016, Don was awarded an OSCA Certificate of Merit for his service to our club.

G. E. Garry Goodman 2015

In 2015, new club co-president Peter Warner recruited to our club a former cricket colleague of his from the *Camberwell Cricket Club*, Garry Goodman to serve as thirty-fourth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Football Club*. Unfortunately, Garry did not complete his term as club Secretary, so former club Secretary and Vice President Don Larkin stepped in to see the season out. Don then continued on for one more year in 2016.

J. M. Joan De Vond 2017

In 2017, Paul Gregor was appointed coach of our Thirds while his partner Joan De Vond, team manager of our Thirds, was appointed Registration Secretary and club Secretary. From 2005 – 2008, Joan was Secretary & Registration Secretary of the *Old Eltham Collegians Football Club*, from 2009 – 2011 Secretary & Registration Secretary of the *Old Paradians Football Club*, in 2012 Assistant Secretary & Registration Secretary of the *Northern Blues (now Preston Bullants) Football Club*, in 2013 Registration Secretary of the *Warrandyte Football Club* and from 2014 – 2015 Co-Secretary and Registration Secretary of the *Old Camberwell Football Club*. In 2017 Joan served as the thirty-fifth Secretary &

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Registration Secretary of the *Old Scotch Football Club* for one year. However, Joan continues to serve as Registration Secretary and team manager of our Thirds.

C. K. Christine Shearer 2018

In 2018, President Tim Shearer's wife Christine Shearer served as the thirty-sixth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Football Club* for one year, and as Club Administrator in 2017, 2018 & 2019.

P. C. Peter Simpson 2019 –

In 2019, in a break with tradition, our club appointed Peter Simpson as its first full-time General Manager & thirty-seventh Secretary of the *Old Scotch Football Club*. Peter came to our club with a wealth of experience in the sports industry. From 2004 – 2014, he was both the General Manager and a Board Member of the *Northcote Cricket Club*. In 2014, he was appointed General Manager of the *Old Xaverians Football Club* which he fulfilled until the end of 2018.

Next week we will look at the club's leading men's goalkickers.

I welcome any feedback to geoff.mccracken@bigpond.com