

Old Scotch Football Club
MULTIPLE FAMILY LIFE MEMBERS

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 members.

This week we look at life members of the club from the same family.

In the 100-year history of the Old Scotch Football Club, there have been only four families where two members of the same family have been awarded life membership of the club – the Morris, Gibbs, Montgomery and Dick families.

At the 2023 Presentation Night, Rob Millar was awarded the *Bryan Gibbs Distinguished Service Award*, and out of curiosity, he wanted to find out more about "Gibbles", and why the award was named after him. What he discovered left him in awe of Bryan. And it also made him think about what is the significance of such awards, and who they are named after as many of them are no longer with us.

The thread these four families have in common is their contribution to the club, both on and off the field.

Here is a snapshot of what these legends mean to our club:

Allen Morris

- Played 148 games for Old Scotch from 1952 – 1962
- Was vice captain of our first Juniors team in 1952
- Captained the club in 1955 & 1956 and best & fairest in 1957
- Victorian State Representative in 1959 & 1960
- Instrumental in establishing both our Reserves and Thirds team
- Coached our Juniors in 1961 and our Thirds in 1962 – 1964 & 1968
- Together with his younger brother Ralph, in 1953 started, published and mailed out the weekly OSCFC "Drumsheet" newsletter

Awarded life membership in 1970.

Ralph Morris

- Played 156 games for Old Scotch from 1952 – 1956 & 1958 – 1963
- Played in our first Juniors team in 1952
- Captained our 1953 Juniors team and was our Juniors best & fairest in 1953
- Together with his older brother Allen, in 1953 started, published and mailed out the weekly OSCFC "Drumsheet" newsletter

Awarded life membership in 1991.

Bryan Gibbs ("Gibbles")

- Played 107 games for Old Scotch from 1955 – 1962, and was the leading goal kicker in 1960
- Coached our Juniors 1969 - 1971
- Committee member from 1957 to 1966, and again from 1972 to 1997
- In 1978 – 79 chairman of selectors during which time Old Scotch won its last A section premiership and again from 2009 – 2015
- President from 1987 – 1990
- Member of VAFA Executive Committee 1980 – 1982 and awarded a VAFA Certificate of Merit in 1992

Awarded life membership in 1978.

Stuart Gibbs (also "Gibbles")

- Played 211 games for Old Scotch from 1989 – 2001 and won our Reserves best & fairest in 1998
- Captained our Under 19s in 1990

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- Played in the number “21” jumper, as worn by his father Bryan

Awarded life membership in 2000.

John Montgomery (“Monty”)

- Played 8 games for Old Scotch in 1961
- Committee member 1992 & 1993
- President from 1994 to 1998
- In 2017 received medal from VAFA for his contribution to Old Scotch
- Father of three sons, Scott, Peter & Ed, who all played for Old Scotch from 1986 to 2000, and grandfather of current player Ed

Awarded life membership in 2000.

Scott Montgomery (“Monty” or “Digger”)

- Played 148 games for Old Scotch from 1986 to 2000 and was Captain of the 1995 3rds Premiership team and our 1996 3rds team
- Committee member from 2007 to 2017
- Current Coach of our Old Scotch Stars

Awarded life membership in 2020.

Henry Dick (“Bubba”)

- Played 217 games for Old Scotch from 2010 – 2023
- In 2022 played his 200th game for the club but was awarded life membership in 2021
- Henry and his older brothers, Simon, Hamish & George have played a total of 510 games which is a club record, unlikely to be repeated

Awarded life membership in 2021.

Sandra Dick (our first female life member)

- From 2003 – 2022, Sandra helped stage our annual Dinner Dances
- Served on the Committee from 2017 – 2022
- Mother of Simon, Hamish, George and Henry (who played 2003 – 2022) are the only family in the history of the Club to have four brothers play in the same team on Saturday 15th June 2013.
- The first woman in the in the history of the club to be made a life member

Awarded life membership in 2022.

The good news was that six of these legends from three of those families were present at a Cardinals Coterie lunch in December 2023, Bryan & Stuart Gibbs, John & Scott Montgomery and Henry & Sandra Dick, so Rob proposed a toast to those legends of the Old Scotch Football Club.

My thanks to Rob Millar for the idea for this article.

Next week we will look at Ian Wilson Award winners ...

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