

Old Scotch Football Club
CRACKERS CHRONICLES – FORMER COACHES FORUM (2)

Welcome back to “**Crackers Chronicles**”. This week we trace some of the history of the *Old Scotch Football Club* by recounting the contributions of three of our former senior coaches from the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s & 2000s and a former school 1st XVIII coach.

This Saturday, 27 August 2017, is the last Round of home & away matches for season 2017 and we are holding a pre-match lunch in the clubrooms at *K2 Stadium*, Camberwell Sportsground at midday.

At the lunch, we will have a panel of three of our past club coaches, Laurie Aghan, Barry Price and Peter Sherwen, plus former *Scotch College* 1st XVIII coach Steve Holding.

L. A. Laurie Aghan (1976 – 1981 & 1990)

Laurie Aghan was recruited from *Reservoir Old Boys* by John Anderson to coach our club in 1976 after coaching John in Victorian Representative teams. **He coached both the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club Seniors and Reserves teams for seven years from 1976 – 1981 plus our Seniors again in 1990. He was a premiership coach in 1977 (B Section) and 1978 (A Section), plus Reserves premiership coach in 1980. Later in 1988 he also coached our Under 19s.***

Laurie coached 135 senior OSFC games at a win ratio of 56%.

He was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1988.

In 2000, he was named as coach of the *OSFC Team of the Century*, and awarded a VAFA Certificate of Merit in 2002.

B. J. Price (1986 & 2006 – 2007)

Barry Price, the former *Collingwood* star player was recruited from teaching at *Scotch College* to **first coach our seniors in 1986** before coaching East Burwood in the Eastern Football League for two years. He played 158 games for Collingwood and kicked 60 goals. He won the Copeland Trophy for best and fairest at Collingwood in 1969, represented Victoria in 1970, and was vice-captain of Collingwood in 1972. Barry went to Western Australia at 26 in the prime of his career to study and play for Claremont, returning to Collingwood in 1979 at the age of 30. Injuries curtailed his comeback with the Magpies, but he became a skills coach with the club in the early 1980s.

Barry was again **appointed senior coach of *Old Scotch* in 2006 and 2007** when he was Director of Sport at Scotch College.

Barry coached 55 senior OSFC games at a win ratio of 51%.

Dr P. M. Peter Sherwen (1991 & 1993 – 1994)

Peter Sherwen was recruited from *Scotch College* in 1975 and played three games while still at school in 1975. He played 237 games for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1975 – 1995. He also played in our back-to-back premiership teams of 1977 (B Section) & 1978 (A Section), and was a Victorian representative in 1977, 1978, 1981, 1982, 1983 & 1985, and an Australian Amateur Football Council representative in 1983 & 1985.

Peter was our Club's leading goalkicker in 1984, 1986 & 1987.

He was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1988 upon playing 200 games for the Club.

After retiring from playing, he coached our Club for three years in 1991, 1993 & 1994. He then came out of retirement to play in our Club 18 premiership team of 1995.

Peter coached 56 OSFC senior games at a win ratio of 54%.

Peter has also acted as the Club's Honorary Medical Officer for 24 years from 1991 until today.

In 2000, he was named on the half forward flank in the *OSFC Team of the Century*.

More recently, he was winner of the Bill Pearson Most Valuable Person Award in 2015 and continues to act as the club's Honorary Medical Officer. This year he was named a Champion of the Big V.

Stephen Holding (1997 – 2012)

Stephen coached the *Scotch College* 1st XV111 for 16 years (1997 – 2012), and prior to that was assistant to Barry Price from 1988 – 1991.

In that time although he won only one premiership (2006), he came very close several times (1997, 2005, 2009) placing second in each of those years.

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His greatest enjoyment was the people he worked with over those years. Assistant coaches Peter Hawkins (now at Wesley) and Mick Smith (well known to Old Scotch), as well as Directors of Coaching Alan Joyce and Terry Wheeler were all very knowledgeable and great people, as well of course of the great Barry Price who was his mentor and Rob Smith.

Most rewarding was being involved with some wonderful players and their parents. The highlights have been seeing the development of some of them from school boy players to professional elite athletes who have made a career out of it. Having been a tiny part of their journey is a special feeling.

It is too difficult to name them all but ones that stand out are the first boy drafted during his tenure, Cameron Meckenzie-McHarg (drafted to the Bulldogs but better known as an Olympic Rower), who really paved the way for those behind him. Campbell Brown who at the moment is the most successful of the Scotch boys from his time in terms of games played, who had to work really hard to get to where he did. And of course the indigenous boys Nathan Djerrkurra and Junior Rioli who had to cope with the cultural shock of living in Melbourne as well as football.

Steve has two sons, Tom and Will, currently playing for Old Scotch.

If you would like to learn more about any of these great coaches, why not attend the final pre-match lunch for the season at our home ground, *K2 Stadium, Camberwell Sportsground*, 12 noon on Saturday 27 August 2017 – bookings via the OSFC website - > OSFC Online store -> Tickets to Events. (\$35 per head, two course meal. Drinks at bar prices).

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