

Old Scotch Football Club
CRACKERS CHRONICLES – 2000 TEAM OF THE CENTURY – CENTRELINE & FOLLOWERS

Welcome back to “**Crackers Chronicles**”. This week we trace some of the history of the *Old Scotch Football Club* by recounting the contributions made by some of our greatest players. We will continue with the *OSFCF Team of the Century* announced in 2000.

On 5 August 2000, at a dinner to celebrate the club’s 80th anniversary, the club announced its “*Team of the Century*”:

FB:	Peter Brown	Jim Lillie	Rohan Price
HB:	Rob Fuller (VC)	Mike Perry	Richard Tindale
C:	Marten Bedford	Mike Fitchett	Ken Melville
HF:	Mick Eggleston	John Morgan	Peter Sherwen
FF:	Manson Russel (DVC)	David Hughes	Peter Harkness
Foll:	Michael Bates	John Anderson (Capt)	Ian Law
Int:	Andrew Smith	Simon Tallent	John Moir
Coach:	Laurie Aghan		

This week we focus on the centreline players and followers...

M. G. Marten Bedford (“Cheeky”)

In 1948, Marten Bedford was recruited from *Scotch College* and played 59 games for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1948 – 1952, playing in the number “8” jumper and debuting in our team on 24 April 1948. He was a Victorian State Representative in 1949 & 1951 and an Australian Amateur Football Council Representative in 1951. He also coached our Juniors in 1953. After retiring from coaching, Marten served on the VAFA Independent Tribunal for 29 years. In 1997, he was awarded a VAFA Certificate of Merit for his services to the VAFA.

M. K. Michael Fitchett

In 1946, Michael Fitchett was recruited from *Scotch College*, where he was captain of Football in 1945, and played 67 games for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1946 – 1949, playing in the number “19” jumper and debuting in our team on 4 May 1946. He was the club’s leading goalkicker in 1946 & 1947 and captained our club from 1947 – 1949. He was a Victorian State Representative in 1948 & 1949. Later, from 1953 – 1956 he played 30 games for the *Hawthorn FC*.

P. K. Ken Melville

In 1958, Ken Melville, an Old Scotch boy was recruited to the club from *University Blacks FC*. He had been a Victorian amateur State Representative in 1952 & 1953, and then played 71 games for the *Melbourne FC* from 1953 – 1956. From 1958 – 1961, he played 59 games for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club*, playing in the number “7” jumper, debuting in our team on 12 July 1958, and captaining our club in 1961.

M. K. Michael Bates

In 1978, Laurie Aghan recruited Michael Bates to our club from *Reservoir Old Boys FC* where he had played under Laurie, to top-up our 1977 B Section Premiership team. Michael had also been a Victorian State Representative in 1973, 1975 & 1976. Mike played 24 games for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1978 – 1980, playing in the number “28” jumper and debuting in our Seniors on 15 April 1978. He went on to be our club’s Best & Fairest in 1978 and played in our 1978 A Section premiership team.

J. D. John Anderson (“Ando”)

In 1966, John Anderson was recruited from *Scotch College* and played 229 games for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1966 – 1980, playing in the number “34” jumper until he became club captain in 1972 and switched to the number “1” jumper. In 1966, he was our Under 19s leading goalkicker. He debuted in our Seniors on 21 June 1966 while still Under 19.

John captained the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for seven years from 1972 – 1973 & 1975 – 1979. He was our club’s Best & Fairest in 1969, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1976 & 1977, and our club leading goalkicker in 1973.

He played in our back-to-back premierships teams of 1977 (B section) & 1978 (A section).

He was a Victorian State Representative in 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976 & 1977 (Captain), and Australian Amateur Football Council Representative in 1973 & 1976.

In 1978, he was awarded Life Membership of our club, also for having played 200 games for the club that year.

Unfortunately, John died of a heart attack in Greece in 1999.

In 2000, John was named a captain of the OSCFC *Team of the Century*, and later in 2013 made a VAFA Big V Champion.

I. K. Ian Law (“Liberty”)

In 1956, Ian Law was recruited from *Scotch College*, where he was Captain of Football in 1956, and played 4 games with our Juniors while he was still at school and then played 71 games for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1956 – 1960, playing in the number “9” jumper. He debuted in our Seniors on 27 April 1957. He was a Victorian State Representative in 1958, 1959 & 1960 and an Australian Amateur Football Council Representative in 1958. He was our club’s Best & Fairest in 1959 and VAFA A Section Best & Fairest in 1959. He then went on and played 106 games for the *Hawthorn FC* from 1960 – 1968. Later he coached our club in 1973 & 1974.

Next week we will look at the forwardline players ...

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