

Old Scotch Football Club  
CRACKERS CHRONICLES – PRE-WAR TEAM – BACKLINE

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 from before World War II.

Before he died in 1998, Hec Ingram shared with me his team of the greatest players to play for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in the 1920s and 1930s:

<b>FB:</b>	<b>Harold Francis</b>	<b>Bob Coutts</b>	<b>Neil Corke</b>
<b>HB:</b>	<b>Neil Law</b>	<b>Alec Sloan</b>	<b>Charles Chapman</b>
C:	Alex Guild	Cocky Heatley (Capt)	Gavin Paterson (VC)
HF:	Clive Fergie (DVC)	Ewen Davidson	Gordon Law
FF:	Frank Scott	Bill Pearson	Jock McLorinan
Foll:	Allan Staley	Wally Morris	Ben Barnett
19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> :	Billy Vickers	Dave Swan	
Coach:	Cocky Heatley		

This week we focus on the backline players ...

#### **H. J. Harold “Snowy” Francis**

Harold “Snowy” Francis joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in its foundation year, 1921, and went on to play seven seasons with our club until 1927. He was the club’s Best & Fairest in 1922 and played on our 1924 and 1926 premiership teams in the number “2” jumper. He was also a Victorian State Representative in 1925 & 1926. Harold died in 1978.

#### **R. A. Bob Coutts**

Bob Coutts joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1929 and went on to play eleven seasons with our club until 1939. He played in our 1931, 1932, 1933 & 1934 premiership teams in the number “6” jumper. He was also a Victorian State Representative in 1932, 1933 & 1937. Bob was a very versatile player able to play back or forward. Bob died in 1987.

#### **N. H. Neil Corke**

Neil Corke joined the *Old Scotch Football Club* in 1934 and went on to play four seasons with our club until 1937. He played in our 1934 premiership team in the number “15” jumper. He was also a Victorian State Representative in 1934 & 1935. Neil died in 1983.

#### **N. H. Neil Law**

In 1924, Neil Law was recruited from *Scotch College* and went on to play 13 seasons for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1924 – 1935. He played in five pre-war A Section premiership teams of 1924, 1927, 1931, 1932 & 1934 in the number “7” jumper. He was the club’s Best & Fairest in 1928 & 1930. He was also a Victorian State Representative in 1930.

After retiring from playing, in 1961 he was appointed to the VFA Independent Tribunal.

He was awarded Life Membership of our club in 1959 and also made a Patron of our club in 1959.

Neil died in 1989.

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**A. F. Alexander “Alec” Sloan**

Alec Sloan first played for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1924 while still at *Scotch College* and where he was Captain of Football, but later joined our club in 1929 playing in the number “12” jumper and went on to play seven seasons with our club until 1934. In 1924, while still at *Scotch College*, he was Captain of Football, Captain of Boats, Captain of Athletics and Captain of the School. And, Dux of the School. He played in our 1931, 1932, 1933 & 1934 premierships in the number “2” jumper. He had no peer as a centre half back. He was our club’s Best & Fairest in 1931 and a Victorian State Representative in 1931. Many older supporters nominate Alex as one of our greatest players ever. Alex died in 1974.

**C. T. Charles Chapman**

Charlie Chapman joined the *Old Scotch Football Club* in 1923 and went on to play three seasons with our club until 1925. He played in our 1923 & 1924 premierships. He was our club’s Best & Fairest in 1924. Charlie died in 1978.

Next week we will look at our centreline players from before the War – the 1920s & 1930s ...

I welcome any feedback to [gmccracken@oldscotchfc.com.au](mailto:gmccracken@oldscotchfc.com.au)