

Old Scotch Football Club  
CRACKERS CHRONICLES – THE THIRTIES

Welcome back to **“Crackers Chronicles”**. This week we trace some of the history of the *Old Scotch Football Club* by recounting the contributions of five of our Life Members from the highly successful 1930s.

**E. McC. Ewen Davidson (“Ginner”)**

Ewen Davidson, known as “Ginner” (a corruption of ‘Ginger’ for his red hair), a champion schoolboy athlete, was recruited from *Scotch College* in 1927, but played while still at school. He played seven seasons for the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club*, in 1927 and then from 1932 – 1937. He played in our A Section premierships teams of 1932 & 1933, and captained the club in 1936 & 1937.

Ginner taught PE at *Scotch College* from 1932 until his retirement in 1973. He was Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians’ Association* from 1958 – 1973.

He was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1972 and President of the Old Scotch Collegians’ Association in 1977. Ginner died in 1989.

Our annual award to a senior player of “Team Player of the Year” is named after Ewen Davidson.

**V. T. Vern Tilley**

Vern Tilley, an *Old Scotch Boy*, was the fourth Secretary of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for 12 years from 1932 – 1948. He was a premiership Secretary in 1932, 1933 & 1934.

After World War II, in 1946 Vern helped re-form the club when all pre-war club officials resumed their roles.

He then went on to become the fourth President of our club for six years from 1953 – 1958.

He was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1949, and made a Patron of the Club in 1959. Vern died in 1984.

**Baron Marks**

Baron Marks was an *Old Scotch Boy* Councillor of the Melbourne City Council. Under Bill Everard, Baron was Vice President of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for eight years from 1933 – 1939 & 1947.

In 1932, he donated the “Baron Marks Cup” for A section premiers as replacement for the “McBean Cup” won by Old Scotch in 1931.

He was elected a Life Member of the Club in 1937 and later helped re-form the Club after World War II. Baron died in 1947.

**C. M. Colin Gilray (“The Blue”)**

Colin Gilray, known as “The Blue”, was Principal of *Scotch College* from 1934 – 1953.

For the security of the club, it was considered very important to maintain a close relationship with the School. He was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1935. Colin died in 1974.

**L. A. Augustine “Gus” Dobrigh**

Gus Dobrigh was a former Collingwood Football Club 1917 premiership player from 1914 – 1921 and Port Melbourne Football Club player from 1922 – 1924. Also, he was a former coach of the Northcote Football Club in 1925 and the Preston Football Club in 1926 & 1927.

Gus coached the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for seven years from 1935 – 1938 and again in 1948 & 1949, with an A Section premiership year in 1933. He also coached our Juniors in 1954.

He was awarded a Life Member of the Club in 1961. Gus died in 1982.

Next week we will look at the Life Members from the period of the re-building of our club after WWII ...

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