

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

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

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

#### **A. G. Alex Guild**

Alex Guild joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1929 and went on to play twelve seasons with our club until 1940. He played in our 1931, 1932, 1933 & 1934 premierships in the number “19” jumper. He was our club’s Best & Fairest in 1933 and club captain in 1939 & 1940. He was also a Victorian State Representative in 1935 & 1938. Alex died in 2002.

#### **R. C. Clive Heatley Jnr (“Cocky”)**

An old boy of *Scotch College* where he had been Captain of Football in 1913, Clive Heatley, better known as “Cocky” played four games for *University FC* in the VFL in 1914. He later captained the *University FC* in the MFA in 1914 & 1915. After WWI, he captained *University A FC* in the VJFL in 1919 & 1920.

However, upon foundation of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1921, he was recruited to the club from *University A FC* to both captain and coach the team, which he did from 1921 – 1925.

“Cocky”, a centremen, was said to combine considerable all-round football ability with mastery in the art of ‘staging’ for free kicks. Under Heatley, *Old Scotch* went top in 1923 and 1924, with Allan Staley stamping himself as the MAFA’s best ruckman of the period, the McLorinan brothers marshalling a watertight defence, and the likes of Gordon Law, Harold Staley and Clive Fergie (*ex-Fitzroy FC*) giving the side unmatched strength through the middle. After slipping to second in 1925, the side quickly resumed its supremacy with two more flags in 1926 and 1927.

“Cocky” played seven seasons with our club from 1921 – 1927, was the club’s Best & Fairest in 1921 & 1923, premierships captain and coach in 1923 & 1924, as well as the club’s leading goalkicker in 1924. “Cocky” was awarded Life Membership of our club in 1972, but he died in 1973.

#### **G. W. Gavin Paterson**

Gavin Paterson joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1923 in the number “20” jumper and then went on to play twelve seasons with our club until 1934. He played in our 1924, 1927, 1931, 1932, 1933 & 1934 premierships. He was club captain from 1930 – 1934, captaining four successive “A” Grade premierships in the number “1” jumper. Serious injury in his last triumph, the 1934 Grand Final, closed his twelve years playing career.

After the War, Gavin served on the VAFA Executive from 1947 – 1951. Gavin died in 1971.

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**A. W. Allan Staley**

Allan Staley joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in its foundation year, 1921, and went on to play ten seasons with our club until 1932. He played in our 1923, 1924, 1926 & 1927 premierships teams. He was our club's Best & Fairest in 1925. He was also a Victorian State Representative and Victorian state captain in 1925, 1926 & 1927, while Cocky Heatley and Clive Fergie were captains of *Old Scotch* during those years. He was reputed to be one of the toughest ruckmen playing the game. Allan died in 1966.

**W. J. Wally Morris**

Wally Morris joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1929 and went on to play eight seasons with our club until 1936. He played in our 1932, 1933 & 1934 premierships teams in the number "11" jumper. He was also a Victorian State Representative in 1933 & 1936. He captained our club in 1938 & 1939. Wally died in 1967.

**B. A. Ben Barnett**

Ben Barnett joined the *Old Scotch Football Club* in 1926 and went on to play six seasons for our club until 1931. He played in our 1926 & 1927 premierships teams in the number "4" jumper. He was club Best & Fairest in 1927 & 1929. He was also a Victorian State Representative in 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929 (Victorian state captain) & 1930.

Ben was also a champion cricketer and wicketkeeper with *Hawthorn East Melbourne Cricket Club*, *Victoria* and *Australia*. He played four tests for *Australia* in England in 1938. Ben died in 1979.

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)