

Old Scotch Football Club  
CRACKERS CHRONICLES – PRE-WAR TEAM – RESERVES & COACH

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
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
<b>19<sup>th</sup> &amp; 20<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>Billy Vickers</b>	<b>Dave Swan</b>	
<b>Coach:</b>	<b>Cocky Heatley</b>		

This week we focus on the reserve players and coach ...

#### **W. T. William “Billy” Vickers**

Billy Vickers, a *University High School* old boy who worked as a clerk for Union Assurance, joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1923 and played six seasons for our club until 1931. In 1923 as a promising player, *St Kilda FC* approached him, but he elected to play with Old Scotch. He played in our 1923, 1926, 1927 & 1931 premierships teams playing in the number “15” jumper. Rheumatic fever prevented him from playing in 1924. He was our club’s leading goalkicker in 1926 – the newspaper reported “he kicks with both feet and is good in the air”. In 1926, he was also a Victorian State Representative playing against South Australia in Adelaide kicking four goals to help Victoria to win.

In 1929, he and his friend Jim Shankland decided to try out for *Essendon FC* and Bill was selected, going on to play three games and kick four goals. However, in 1931 he returned to *Old Scotch* and played in our 1931 premiership team.

Billy died in 1976. His son Bob Vickers played 56 games with *Old Scotch* from 1964 – 1966 & 1969.

#### **D. David Swan**

David Swan, along with his brother Charlie, joined the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1925 and played four seasons with our club until 1928 in the number “3” jumper. He played in our 1926 & 1927 premierships teams. He was the club’s leading goalkicker in 1925, 1927 & 1928.

#### **R. C. Heatley (“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*)

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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 for our club from 1921 – 1927, was the club’s Best & Fairest in 1921 & 1923, premiership 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.

Next week we will look at Manson Russel’s 1994 best ever Old Scotch team ...

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