

Old Scotch Football Club
CRACKERS CHRONICLES – CLUB PRESIDENTS 1990s (1991 – 1999)

Welcome back to this week's edition of "**Crackers Chronicles**".

Each week in this column we will trace some of the history of the *Old Scotch Football Club* by recounting the contributions made by our great club presidents.

This week we focus on our club presidents of the 1990s ...

Dr D. J. Don "Skinny" Symington 1991

In 1967, Don "Skinny" Symington was recruited from *Scotch College* and played twelve games with our club while still at school in 1967 & 1968. He then played 219 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1967 – 1975 & 1979 - 1988 in all club teams, debuting in our Seniors on 19 April 1969, playing first in the number "30" jumper and from 1979 in the number "22" jumper. Skinny played in our 1970 B Section premiership team coached by David Kidd, and played in our 1980 Reserves premiership team coached by Laurie Aghan. He captained our Reserves in 1981, again coached by Laurie Aghan.

Don was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 1986 upon playing 200 games for our club.

Later, in 1991 Don served as the twelfth President of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for one year. Unfortunately, Skinny died in 2015.

Don is the younger brother of former OSCFC players Graeme Symington (1964 - 1966) & Ian Symington (1966 – 1970). He is father of former OSCFC player Will Symington (2002 – 2008).

A. J. Andrew Macmillan 1992 – 1993

In 1979, Andrew Macmillan was recruited from *Scotch College* as an Juniors player, debuting in our Seniors on 12 May 1979 and playing four games with our club while still at school, and then playing 132 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1979 – 1987, playing in the number "24" jumper and later the number "18" jumper.

After retiring in 1987, Andrew joined the committee of our club. In 1992, Andrew served as the thirteenth President of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for two years from 1992 – 1993. He presided over the club during a very turbulent time relocating our club from Yarra Park to the Camberwell Sportsground. He stabilised the administrative and financial position of our club acquiring the nickname "Mr. Camberwell".

Andrew is the father of current OSFC player Tim Macmillan (2013 -). Andrew is also the cousin of former OSCFC player & club president James Macmillan (OSFC President 2010 & 2011).

J. R. John Montgomery 1994 - 1998

In 1961, John Montgomery was recruited from *Scotch College* as a Juniors player and played eight Juniors games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* in 1961. However, he re-joined our club in 1986 when his eldest son Scott started playing in our Under 19s, helping to goal umpire, run or kiosk & bar in 1991 and later join our club committee in 1992 & 1993.

John went on to serve as the fourteenth President of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for five years from 1994 – 1998 during a very demanding time settling into our new clubrooms following our move to the Camberwell Sportsground. He was very proud to be a Club 18 premiership president in 1995 (as son Scott Montgomery captained our Club 18 team).

John was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 2000. John continues to act a timekeeper for our Reserves & Seniors.

In 2017, to celebrate the VAFA's 125th anniversary, the VAFA awarded a personalised medal to John for making a most significant contribution to the ongoing success of our club between 1992 – 2017.

John's most significant contribution to our club was settling the club into our new home ground and premises at the Camberwell Sportsground, and his ongoing significant financial support of our club.

John is father of former OSCFC players Scott Montgomery (1986 – 2000), Peter Montgomery (1988 – 1995) & Ed Montgomery (1992 – 1996).

G. E. Geoff “Sammy” Speed 1999

Geoff Speed was recruited from *Scotch College* in 1960. He played 144 games with the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* from 1960 – 1964 & 1967 – 1971, debuting in our Seniors on 25 June 1960, and playing in the number “45” jumper. He played in our Reserves premiership teams of 1961, 1967 & 1969, and in our 1971 Club 18 premiership team.

Geoff went on to be President of the *Old Scotch Collegians’ Association* in 1992, and served as the fifteenth President of the *Old Scotch Collegians Football Club* for five years from 1999 – 2003.

Geoff was awarded Life Membership of our Club in 2003.

In 2010, Geoff was awarded an OSCA Certificate of Merit.

In 2017, to celebrate the VAFA’s 125th anniversary, the VAFA awarded a personalised medal to Geoff for making a most significant contribution to the ongoing success of our club between 1992 – 2017.

Geoff’s most significant contribution to our club has been in leading our club, mentoring incoming presidents, with a particular focus on collecting players’ subscriptions and selling club memberships.

Geoff died in 2018.

Geoff is father of former OSCFC player Andrew Speed (1992 – 2001).

Next week we will look at our club presidents of the 2000s ...

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