



PAST & PRESENT PLAYERS' & OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION

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MEMBER NEWSLETTER

MAY 2020 EDITION



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- ROD GRINTER

Dear Members

Firstly, I hope you and your families are staying safe. I also hope this environment hasn't had a dramatic impact on you and your family - as we know, this is uncharted territory for everyone and we're all adjusting to it in different ways. Not having our weekly obsession has been challenging after spending the week at work, working from home, home schooling or just being stuck at home, not being able to get away from this to support our local footy or the Mighty MFC, is frustrating!

I would like to advise the resignation from the MFCP&PP&OA Executive Committee of John Stanaway, Cameron Pedersen and Brad Green, and I acknowledge their terrific support over the many years involved on our Committee. Thank you all very much for your contribution, it's very much appreciated, and there is no surprise that all three have indicated they want to stay involved in the new structure as part of our Non-Executive Committee to support where they can.

We would also like to congratulate Jackie Emmerton, firstly on her 25 consecutive years of employment at the MFC, which has come to an end. I welcome Jackie onto the MFCP&PP&OA Executive Committee. Jackie brings a number of strengths and knowledge to our Executive Committee.

I want you to know some of the items we are working on, following on from our workshop last October - Our Five Year Strategic Plan and the top five focus areas:

Committee Effectiveness

Areas of responsibility
Job descriptions

Volunteers

Build this group's numbers to assist both our Executive and Non-Executive Committees

Help share the load

Build Membership

Updating Association database

Further develop communication with members

Budget

Welfare support costs

Revenue generation

Welfare program

Develop program to best support members.

In the next issue of our newsletter, I will update members regarding our Committees, and who/what is involved.

During times like we are facing, I always look at this saying on my wall at home:

'Tough Times Don't Last – But Tough People Do'

Stay safe and healthy.

Regards

Rod Grinter
MFC P&PP&OA Chairman

POSITIVE PASTORAL CARE – PAUL BURNHAM

By mid-April, Paul had been in contact with around twenty members, 'just generally ringing people and seeing how everyone is going.' In these very different times, he has found that people are really appreciating the calls and contact. While it may be a challenge to keep the Association community together during the COVID-19 lockdown, the contribution made by 'The Rev' is integral to this effort, and we appreciate him for it.



Paul 'The Rev' Burnham

SEARCHING FOR...

Thank you to those who responded to our calls for email contacts in the last newsletter. Email is definitely the best way for us to keep in touch with everyone, but if you see a name below for which you have another form of contact – eg phone number or address – please feel free to pass these on as well. At the moment, some of those we are still looking for as we make our way through the database include:

- Les Bamblett
- Ben Beams
- Ross Brewer
- Paul Bryce
- Michael Byrne
- Kyle Cheney
- Dean Chiron
- Nathan Carroll
- Craig Cameron
- Rod Keogh

Please contact Spike Harris – 0411 235 073 or spike.w.harris@gmail.com





YOUR COMMITTEE - WELFARE MANAGER - JOHN AHERN



John Ahern

One of those who is in the thick of Association action through every season is John Ahern. He made his way to the role via his friendship with Rod Grinter, who had just become Chairman of the MFC P&PP&OA. 'I played with Rod, and I work the most with him in this role. We both identify if there is someone in need, talk to each other, and go from there.' It is a great connector, and a supreme example of the influence of playing day links in continuing involvement.

This ongoing connection also speaks to the most important part of John's role; his relationship with the AFLPA. 'I help to obtain support working with the AFLPA and the P&PP&OA, also helping individuals to navigate the system, including accessing Alumni funding. 'We also have a good history of working with the likes of Brad Fisher at the AFLPA, which is really important.'

Overall, John sees the Association as being



'extremely important to support past players and officials'. In these days of lockdown and an uncertain

road ahead, he also accepts that his role may well expand in coming months. But some factors are eternal, and the Association holds an important place. 'It's extremely important to give support – not just financially, but emotionally and socially as well. It needs to keep everyone connected and engaged. The Association should always be a conduit for the history of players, and link the generations. It needs to be nurtured, well run, and respected by the Melbourne Football Club.' With the commitment of the likes of John Ahern, there can be no doubt that the Association and all involved with it are in safe hands, no matter what the future holds.

BENEVOLENT FUND

Thank you to those who have already responded to this call from our last newsletter. We recognise Chris Connolly, Ray 'Smokey' Grinter, Bernadette Grinter, Rod Grinter and Brian Stynes for their donations.



The MFC P&PP&OA is a non-profit organisation that has created a benevolent fund to support those less fortunate members who are suffering various types of hardship.

In conjunction with the AFL Past Players Alumni, and as noted above, this benevolent fund aims to support past players and officials suffering challenges in a number of areas.

We are asking for members and other interested parties to donate \$100 to our benevolent fund.

BSB No - 063 204

Account No - 1008 8589

Name - MFC Past & Present Players' & Officials' Association Ltd

Our newsletters will continue to highlight the support we have given to those Association members suffering hardship.

All donors throughout 2020 will be listed in our 2020 newsletters.

VALE TONY ANDERSON

Wearing No. 11, Anderson played 75 games for Melbourne, including the 1964 premiership. He was selected for Victoria in the same year, and continued playing until early in 1969. Following his playing career,

Tony Anderson worked in building and property development. We offer our sincerest condolences to the Anderson family, along with friends and former teammates of Tony.

VALE GRAEME WATSON

Hailing from Ormond Amateurs, Watson played 18 games for Melbourne throughout 1964 and 1965, wearing No. 17. He made a steady transition from football to cricket, playing in five Tests and two one-day internationals for Australia. Watson also achieved the rare honour of becoming the

first player ever to represent three states – Victoria, Western Australia and New South Wales – playing in a Shield winning side in the west. Watson then went on to become a successful architect, particularly focusing on sports stadium management.



Graeme is tenth from the left in the second back row and Tony is second from the left in the front seated row.

We offer our most sincere condolences to Graeme's wife Jan, to his daughters Laura and Louisa, and to all his family and friends at this difficult time.

