

# LOFTY LEGENDS



Supporting a confident future built from a rich heritage

May 2017 Reunion

## Welcome to the 2017 Reunion

The Mt Lofty District Football Club and the Lofty Legends Group would like to welcome everybody to the Arkaba Oval at Heathfield today as we celebrate our football club and our heritage clubs, some of which dated back to 1901. We are all looking forward to a great day where we will be barracking hard for the Devil's juniors and men's sides as they take on Lobethal and the women's As take on Ingle Farm immediately after the men's As. Best of luck to all 6 grades!

We are especially pleased to welcome all of those people having a connection with the Premierships for which we celebrate milestone anniversaries today. People involved in football clubs realize just how much hard work is involved, but over the

decades of a football club, it becomes clear just how special the Premiership years are.

We look forward to everybody enjoying the day, especially those of you who have travelled from Interstate and our number 1 ticket holder of the Lofty Legends Group,

Jack Hampton and his wife Joyce. As we recall the many special stories which seem to grow in stature as they are retold over the decades, this flyer celebrates the legendary achievements in this year's milestone anniversaries.



Span of legends... (from left) legends number one ticket holder and 1946 Stirling premiership player John 'Jack' Hampton, 1957 Stirling premiership team member Peter Robinson, Heathfield-Aldgate United 1967 premiership captain Haydn O'Shaughnessy, 1967 and 1977 Heathfield-Aldgate United premiership player John Coventry, 2007 premiership team members David 'DK' Stevens and Adam Trzesinski, current Mt Lofty women's A Grade captain Shae Pacifico-Hart and current Mt Lofty men's A Grade captain Sam Miles.

# 1927

## Aldgate and Stirling Football Clubs - both 1927 Premiers!

Over a lifetime ago (for most), both clubs won A Grade Premierships, but in separate competitions, Aldgate in Hills Central Football Association and Stirling in the Mt Lofty Football Association.

Aldgate played until the 1965 season before amalgamating with Heathfield in 1966, where the new club played its first season in the old "Adelaide Metropolitan League".

If surviving relatives of players have memorabilia or stories from the Aldgate years, we would be pleased to have the opportunity to share them.

# 1957

## Stirling FC claims the 1950s as theirs!

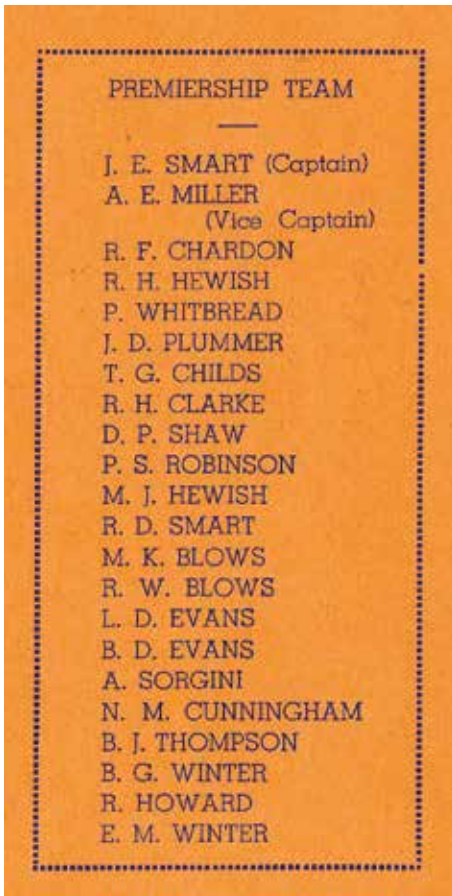
1957 saw the Stirling Football Club A Grade win their sixth Premiership in the decade - 1950, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955 and 1957!

The achievements of the Stirling Football Club are legendary and 1957 was the 17th won by the Club. The side boasted multi Premiership players with Royl Chardon continuing his outstanding coaching career and the side being Captained by John Smart. The grand final score was Stirling 10.17 (77) defeating Uraidla 9.10 (64), a 13 point win after trailing by the same margin at half time. This saw the Premiership return to Stirling after Uraidla had won the 1956 title.

Players from this era speak fondly of the intense rivalry between Stirling and Uraidla, but a great respect was present and both

sides socialised off field leading to lifelong friendships. With the passing of the years, remaining members of the 1957 side are Neville Cunningham, Peter Robinson, Allan Miller (those 3 being named as best players in the GF), Reg Hewish and Bob and Max Blows. The third Blows brother, Don, also played in the 1950s but spent some years playing league football in the SANFL with Sturt.

Of great significance in 1957 was the formation of the first Colts Competition in the Hills Football Association with Stirling being one of the clubs to field a side.



**Above:** 1955 Stirling Premiership photo - we've been unable to find the 1957 team photo but 14 players played in both 1955 and 1957 premierships. BACK ROW: K Potter (President), H Wighton, L Evans, W Rossini, A Miller, P Whitbread, F Cantwell (Manager). CENTRE: R Renfrey (Trainer.), P Martin, D Blows, J Plummer, R Chardon (Captain), R Blows, J Smart, W Miller, P Leach (Trainer). FRONT ROW: M Blows, T Childs, M Hewish, R Smart, B Evans. INSET: (top left) D Shaw, (bottom left) R Hewish, (bottom right) P Robinson.

**Above:** Full list of the 1957 Stirling premiership team from the Premiership Dinner Toast List.



# 1967

**Left:** 1967 HAU A-Grade Premiers.

**BACK ROW:** R Burbidge, J DeRoos, A Muir, L Malzard. **THIRD ROW:** C Chaplin (Goal Umpire), J Roe (Manager), H Deans, H DeRoos, R Brew, R Wastell (Trainer), J Hampton (Boundary Umpire). **SECOND ROW:** J Westrych, B Williams, G Bowes, A Fletcher, M Weatherald, J Fletcher, A Strazdins, M Luke. **FRONT ROW:** S Evans (President), R Brooks, G Hawthorne (Vice-Captain), L Evans (Coach), H O'Shaughnessy (Captain), J Coventry, B Foale (Secretary). **ABSENT:** R Murch, K Radbone, C Howe (Trainer).

# Heathfield Aldgate United – a legendary achievement 50 years ago!

1967 was an amazing year. Flower power, the Beatles, Vietnam, and change happening throughout the world! Many of we Adelaide Hills football people though, considered the greatest change was happening with the formation of the 3 zone Hills Football League.

Heathfield Aldgate United, formed just a year before, was the subject of much debate among the hills clubs as to whether the side moving from the Adelaide Metropolitan Football League would be up to competing in the main Central Zone of the new HFL. Although competing under “probationary” status, and after a minor round finish in 4th position, the very young side, coached by former 1957 and 1955 Stirling Premiership

player, Lin Evans, continued to grow in confidence and defeated the much more highly rated Uraidla by 11 points 12.8 (80) to 9.15 (69). The Grand Final was an incredibly tight affair with HAU leading by 3 points at the first change, 2 points at half time and went into the last quarter trailing by 2 points.

With experienced players like Captain Haydn O’Shaughnessy, Vice Captain George

Hawthorn and ruckman Alex Muir guiding the young charges, players who had suffered many heavy defeats as colts in the late 50s with the Heathfield Football Club developed a spirit rarely seen in teams with the then 18 year old John Coventry going on to play in all 9 A Grade Premierships won by HAU. Wingman Roger Brooks and Centre Half Back Herman DeRoos also went on to play in the 9 Premierships – an amazing achievement!

# 1977

## Heathfield Aldgate United – 1977 Premiers – 7 in a row and 3 more Premierships!

12 seasons competing in Central Zone/Division 1 in the HFL saw Heathfield Aldgate United win the 1977 Premiership, the 7th in a row and to this day, an equal highest number (9) of Premierships won in the 50 year old competition. Only once, in 1969, did the side not play in the Grand Final, being defeated by Stirling in the first semi final.

Captain Coached by the late Keith Stewart who had, like Warren Foster, played in the SANFL with South Adelaide, Heathfield Aldgate continued on its winning way to defeat Mt Barker by 47 points. HAU jumped out to a big lead in the first quarter kicking 10.3 (63) to 2.4 (16). The next two quarters saw Mount Barker narrowly outscore United but with a 6 goal lead going into the last quarter HAU kicked 5 goals 4 points to win by 7 goals 5 points.

The late John Sandland, Glenelg Premiership player, lead the way as best player, while Jimmy Deans and Herman DeRoos also performed well in another outstanding team effort. Former Central District player Julian Swinstead and another club stalwart, Daryl Hampton led the goal kicking with 4 each.

Premiership number six for the B Grade came after a 3 goal 5 point win against Onkaparinga Valley. Trailing by 2 goals and 6 points going into the last quarter the very experienced United kept Onkas scoreless and kicked 6 goals 5 points to make the final score 13.9 (87) to 9.10 (64) and win the Premiership. The side was Captain

Coached by Richard Symons and the late Neil Cutting was best player for United after just missing selection in the As, with Greg Pearse and Peter Pritchard also leading in another typically gutsy team effort. Michael Hayward led the scoring with 3 goals for the Premiers.

The club’s second B2 Premiership followed an emphatic victory at Woodside Oval, also against Onkaparinga Valley, with United kicking 20.13 (133) to Onkas 6.7 (43). Captain Coached by past champion A Grade Premiership player Harry Deans, Graeme Drew really showed the way as best player for United and kicking 6 goals. Shayne McDonald and Brian Morgan were in the best three players in a young team. Quite a few of the team went on to be very successful A Grade players including Shane, who won a Mail Medal with Bridgewater, Robert Penny, Mark Custance and Allan ‘Blue’ Symonds with HAU and the Devils, and Graeme Drew with Bridgewater.

The Senior Colts also played in the Grand Final in 1977 but unfortunately lost by the narrowest of margins against Mount Barker.



**Above:** 1977 HAU B2 Premiers. *BACK ROW:* S McDonald, A McLoughlin, D Wilkinson, R Roberts, M Custance. *THIRD ROW:* B Weber, P Krahn, D Mackie, P Hampton, Peter Nidd, A Symonds. *SECOND ROW:* Paul Nidd, R Coat, P Symonds, P Hiley, B Morgan. *FRONT ROW:* R Penny, G Drew, H Deans (Captain Coach), M Aspley (President), A Rowe, D Weissman, G Miller, R Axford. *ABSENT:* P Gray, P Malik, T Sherriff.



**Above:** 1977 HAU B Grade Premiers. *BACK ROW:* R Penny, J Pistola, N Cutting, R Henderson, G Pearse, R Pritchard. *MIDDLE ROW:* J Roe (Timekeeper), P McLoughlin, G Drew, C Daly, G Bowes, L Evans, P Pritchard, M Hayward, A Mutton, C Strawhan, P Goodrich (Manager). *FRONT ROW:* D Gower, D White, S Dunning, R Symons (Captain Coach), M Aspley (President), L Langley (Vice-Captain), B Chaplin, A Clements, D Sanders, D Earl (Boundary Umpire). *ABSENT:* G Allen, S Jentsch.

**Right:** 1977 HAU A Grade Premiers. *BACK ROW:* R Daly, T Deans, A Hayward, F Clements (Runner), H DeRoos, J Deans, D Weeks. *THIRD ROW:* J Sandland, P Burgess, M Radbone, D Sanders. *SECOND ROW:* W Wastell (Trainer), D Gower, D Lobban (Goal Umpire), G Bowes, J Bowes, S Magor (Manager), I Hampton, J Swinstead, A White, S Zakej (Trainer). *FRONT ROW:* D Hampton, R Brooks, R Melhuish, J Coventry (Vice-Captain), M Aspley (President), K Stewart (Captain Coach), P Allen, G Hampton, N Cutting, M Stewart (Mascot). *Absent:* B Penny (Secretary), I Small (Head Trainer), P Milde (Trainer).



# 1987

## Mt Lofty A3 1987 Premiers - flying the club flag

1987 saw the B2s, coached by Jeff Pistola, defeat Eastern Ranges 17.10 (112) to 9.6 (60) in the Grand Final and claim the club's single Premiership that year.



**Above:** 1987 Mt Lofty B2 Premiers. **BACK ROW:** T Johnson, N Bull, F Evans, D Thomas, B Winter, T Brooks. **MIDDLE ROW:** G Allen (Manager), R Emery (Runner), T Milde, P Carlsson, D Childs, B Egglestone, C Higginson, C Egglestone, G Noble (Trainer). **FRONT ROW:** S Thomas, B Dunow, S Hill, A Boucaut (Captain), J Pistola (Coach), P Horsnell (Vice-Captain), S DeRoos, T Lewis, P Johns. **ABSENT:** K Bourgonjen, M Porter, J Barton, A McDonnell, L Sharrad.

A 2 goal 4 point lead at the first change saw the Devils off to a good start, although Eastern Ranges closed the gap a little to trail by just 9 points at half time. The second half belonged to Mt Lofty with the side outscoring the opposition by 3 goals 1 point in the third and completely running away with the game outscoring Eastern Ranges by 4 goals 2 points.

Martin Porter lead the way for the Devils, well supported by Craig Higginson and Andrew MacDonell and Peter Horsnell showed the way in front of goals kicking 5 for the match.

# 2007

## Mt Lofty District Football Club - triple Premiers 2 years in a row!

After some very difficult years in the late 1990s and early 2000s the club proved that the triple Premiership year of 2006 was no fluke, going on to take the flags in the A Grade, B Grade and Senior Colts again in 2007.

Playing Uraidla in the Grand Final for the second year in a row, the As got off to a dream start with 6 goals 4 points to 1 goal 3 points in the first quarter, but some real worries followed with a serious knee injury to triple club Best and Fairest and Mail Medalist Adam 'Trigger' Trzesinski. The Devils continued to build on their lead kicking 5 goals 5 points to 3 goals 4 points in the second quarter for a 44 point lead at half time.

While Uraidla matched Mt Lofty in the third quarter and outscored the reigning Premier by 3 goals 3 points in the last quarter it was not enough to prevent Captain Heath Cutting and Coach Nathan Grainger from raising the Premiership Cup in front of a delirious sea of red and white after a convincing 17.12 (114) to 13.13 (91) win.

A masterful display in ruck saw the club's Andrew 'Billy' Bawden named the Alec Parker Medal winner as best on ground with great support coming from Michael Artis and David 'DK' Stevens. Four goals each to Ben Gordon and Travis White provided the side with a powerful combination in attack with plenty of options through seven other players getting among the goals. Brad Burch, who has since become a six-time Best and Fairest player for the club, played in the 2006 and 2008 Premierships and will play his 250th A Grade game next week, unfortunately missed the 2007 finals series due to commitments made to training with the Fire Brigade.

The Senior Colts and the B Grade set the scene earlier in the day for the main event. The Senior Colts defeated Uraidla also,

with a workman-like display where they steadily built their lead in every quarter to claim their second Premiership in a row 14.8 (92) to 8.7 (55) with David Abernathy being named the Don Shearer medal for best on ground. Trevor Gould in yet another club role, successfully coached successive Premierships with Co-Captains Brett Pistola and Josh Radbone leading on field.

Current A Grade coach Scott Madsen was the first year coach in 2007 and with Marlon Coates captaining the side, saw the B Grade win its 3rd Premiership in a row. Lining up against Blackwood, the side got off to a good first quarter lead of 4 goals 5 points to 2 goals 1 point and continued to build the lead each quarter to claim a 53 point victory 15.11 (101) to 7.6 (48). Michael Stapleton won the Harold Raymond medal as best on ground and full forward Lachlan Fleet really led the way up forward with 7 goals. Michael will actually play his 250th game in today's B Grade match against Lobethal.

The Lofty Legends Group congratulates Brad Burch and Michael Stapleton on their magnificent achievements.



**Above:** 2007 A Grade Premiers. **Middle:** 2007 B Grade Premiers. **Bottom:** 2007 Senior Colts Premiers. *The official premiership team photos can be viewed in the clubrooms.* **Far right:** DK Stevens, Bruce Dawes, Heath Cutting, Mark Nielsen and Steve Milde celebrate two in a row for the A Grade.

