



The families of these people made huge contributions to the Aldgate, Heathfield, HAU and Mt Lofty District Football Clubs. Lofty Legends members above are L to R Kath Bowman, Vicki Bowman, Bev Bowman, Gary Earl and Anne Searle at the last home match.

Thank you - 86 members to date!

We would like to sincerely thank the 86 people who have joined The Lofty Legends in the group's inaugural season.

Our main aim was to get a group of past players, officials, members, sponsors and volunteers from the Mt Lofty District Football Club and its heritage clubs together and we are very grateful to have received such a commitment from those 86 people.

Two gatherings were held during the season, with the second one being held on the last home match on July 10 when both the A's and B's continued their unbeaten run by defeating Gumeracha in both grades. The photo at left was taken at that half time afternoon tea which also saw recognition of the 1994 B Grade Premiership and 2004 Under 17 Premiership sides.

With the end of season Presentations coming up (see dates on this page) The Legends Committee will provide recognition from the club of players who achieved milestone games of 100 games and above during this season.

Contents

Thank you - 86 members	1
Upcoming Events	1
Finals Bound	1
Another Legend	
from the Archives	2
Jack to the Ruck?	3
Football Progress	4
Contacts	4

Finals Bound - come along for some great football!

What an amazing 12 months!!

Who would have thought the Club would be top in 4 grades in the HFL Country Division at the end of the 2014 Minor Round. At this exact stage of 2013 there was not even the thought of playing in Country Division, just disappointment at the lowly position in all grades. Over the next few months it became obvious that the club was under great pressure to continue competition in the Central Division and many options were contemplated.

In the true spirit of Mt Lofty, the club has responded magnificently with great leadership from the Committee, Coaches, Players and volunteers throughout the club. The Senior Players demonstrated an exceptional commitment from the outset, with the address made by senior player Alex Weeks, on behalf of the players at a special meeting at the end of 2013, giving pledges very rarely heard from a playing group. Match results have shown just how genuine those commitments were and the exceptional support from all areas of the club has seen the A's, B's, Under 17's and Under 13's end top at the end of the minor round, ready for the Premiership race.

It would be great to see members of The Legends at Kersbrook this Saturday for the start of the Finals Campaign if you are able!

Suggestions for 2015

The Legends Committee will, over the next few months, be setting out plans for 2015 activities. While the reunion at a home match each year is locked in, the committee would like to hold another significant event and would love to hear of any suggestions you may have. Also, if you have any other suggestions or would like to join the Committee or just attend a meeting, please give us a call or send an e-mail.

Upcoming Finals Matches and Events (Amended)

- ◆ Sat 30 August at Kersbrook - A, B, U17 and U13 Mt.lofty sides all playing in 2nd Semi-finals.
- ◆ Sat 6 September - HFL Country Division Preliminary Finals.
- ◆ Sat 13 September - HFL Country Division Grand Finals
- ◆ Presentation functions:
Sun 31 Aug Juniors 10.30am
Fri 12 Sep U13 & U15
Fri 19 Sep U17, B and A



Another Legend from the Archives

1946 Stirling A Grade Premiers



Back Row (L to R): Oliver Walker - Stirling Goal Umpire, Max O'Malley, Reg Harris, Gordon Stevens, Tom Bowes, Saxby - Umpire, Royle Chardon - Capt. Coach, John Weise, Jack Hill, Carter - Mt Barker Goal Umpire, Dick Renfrey, Leo Fullgrabe.
Centre Row: Peach Leatch, Podge Post - Boundary Umpire, Les Leach, Andy Scott - Chairman, Harold Wighton, Don Fullgrabe, Bill Atkinson, Bill Cooper.
Front Row: Bob Leach, Don Shaw, Bruce Dyer (with ball), Merv Heyer, Jack Hampton, Ray Woods, Clarke - Boundary Umpire, Sandy Hawke, George Harvey.

Legend has it that just after ¾ time, the finishing touches were being put on the expected Mt Barker Premiership celebrations, but the Stirling players had other ideas.

The 1946 season must have been an incredible time, with the resumption of football competition for the first time since its suspension after 1939 at the commencement of World War 2.

Legend is perhaps the most accurate description of the Grand Final that year. It became part of "folklore" for the Stirling Football Club and its many supporters in the district. Rarely do players experience the achievement of the '46 side which was made up of veterans returning from the war and men too young to have served, but looking forward to their first year of organized competition.

We spoke with Jack Hampton, one of only 2 remaining players along with Bill Cooper, from the amazing 1946 Premiers. Jack remembers the game clearly: "It was a flat game until ¾ time. The whole game was about the last quarter." Stirling lead by 15 pts at quarter time but Mt. Barker took the lead for the first time during the second quarter and early in the last, went to a 31 point lead at which point some of the Mt. Barker people left to finalise the Premiership celebrations.

Full Back for the season, Jack, recalls that he had been selected at Full Forward for the Grand Final and after having a fairly quiet match, was shifted to Ruck. That last quarter saw Stirling kick an amazing 9 goals and while he is very modest about his role, clearly, by the fact that he was named in the Best Players, Jack was obviously a key contributor. Also obvious from the Best Players and Goal Kickers was the influence that the Leach brothers had on the Premiership with Les kicking 6 goals and Bob kicking 3 and being named Best and Second Best Players respectively.

One of the most influential Hills football people, Royal Chardon, as Captain Coach of the Premiers, played no small part in the commencement of what was to become a Stirling football dynasty.

Stirling 5-5 5-9 9-10 18-18

Mt. Barker 3-2 8-7 13-11 16-12

Goals: Stirling: L. Leatch 6, B. Leatch 3, W. Atkinson 3, T. Bowes 2, J. Weise, R. Woods, J. Hampton, R. Chaplin each 1. Mt. Barker: R. Peters 6, J. Rule 4, J. Hansberry 2, H. Edmondson 2, R. Leschke, B. Walkom each 1.

Best: Stirling: L. Leatch, B. Leatch, G. Stevens, W. Atkinson, J. Hampton, M. O'Malley, R. Chardon and T. Bowes. Mt. Barker: A. Wyld, R. Childs.

Hansberry, G. Liebelt, M. Noacke, and C. Heinrich.



Lofty Legends - "Supporting a confident future built from a rich heritage"

Club news www.mtloftydevils.com.au - also access A Grade progress scores through this link to Facebook

“How about a run in the Ruck Jack?”

These were the words which Royl Chardon often greeted Jack Hampton with when they met throughout the decades following the 1946 Stirling Premiership. The words which showed the bond forged through being team mates in the Grand Final when Royl, as Captain Coach, moved Jack into the Ruck in the unforgettable last quarter!



Jack and Joyce Hampton pictured at their family home of over 60 years at Longwood Road, Heathfield.

The bond forged between team mates is one of the most powerful aspects of team sport and is one element of our great Australian game which has not changed.

There are many aspects of the game which have changed, however, with one of those being the way that teams celebrate Premiership success. When asked about how he celebrated the '46 Premiership on the night of the match, Jack responded “I took Joyce to the dance at Bridgewater!”.

That was obviously a very smart decision as Jack and Joyce married later in the 1940's and Jack celebrated his 90th Birthday earlier this year.

While Jack is very reluctant to make much of his playing career and services to football, he has made great contributions as a player, coach and official and was rewarded with Life Membership of the Heathfield-Aldgate United Football Club. The family commitment in playing, coaching and volunteer roles has continued over the decades, with 2 of Jack and Joyce's 5 children, Lorraine Pawlak and Kevin Hampton being made Life Members of the Mt. Lofty District Football Club. Seven Grandsons also played for Mount Lofty over the years; Glen and Jason Pawlak, Michael and Joel Hampton, Brayden and Tyler Overell and Tim Noble. There is currently great interest over the coming weeks as another Grandson, Josh Healey, plays in the club's Under 17 side which ended top at the end of the minor round.

Post Match 1946 Premiership Side?

The photo on page 2 is thought to have been taken on the eastern side of the Hahndorf Oval before the commencement of the '46 Grand Final and has been used as we have a complete list of every person appearing in it. The photo to the left is thought to have been taken post match on the western side of the oval.



Curiously, the shot before the match only has 18 players present. We would love to hear from anybody who can offer information which gives a more complete understanding of both photos and also the first names which are missing off the photo on page 2.



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Football Progress



Senior Leaders

LEFT: Bruce Dawes A Grade Coach, Jeff Pistola A Grade Team Manager, Rex Robinson past player and Junior Co-ordinator, and Scott Huff B Grade Coach.

RIGHT: A Grade Co-Captains David "DK" Stevens and Sam Miles pictured with past champion. John Coventry



Senior Grades

The A and B Grade sides have, so far, answered the club's relegation to Country Division in emphatic fashion, ending the minor round undefeated and both having won the Courier Cup. Heading into the finals this Saturday, Senior Coach Bruce Dawes is quoted in today's Courier: "It's part of the rebuilding process to try and get the club to where we want to be." Players in both grades have been single focused in their endeavors, illustrated by Ben "Flash" Gordon topping the A Grade goal kicking at the end of the minor round with 94 goals and Ben Pohl topping the B Grade minor round goal kicking with 72 goals. Leadership from coaches and senior players has been outstanding and they will no doubt be aiming to further lift performance to achieve the ultimate success.

Colts Grades

The Under 17's and Under 13's both ended top at the conclusion of the minor round and now embark on the tough finals series, having both won the Courier Cup, but realizing that the major round represents a big step up. The results have been outstanding to date and while the Under 15's ended 8th, the team was made up mainly of first year players in that group who are looking to improve greatly in 2015.

Junior Football (Under 8 to Under 11)

Mt. Lofty, as in previous years, was again one of the leading HFL Club's in terms of its junior football programs, fielding 9 sides in the modified format and acquainting around 40 youngsters with our great Australian game through the introductory Auskick level.

Next Issue of "The Legend"
*We will issue a Christmas edition
 and bring all Lofty Legend members
 up to date with 2015 plans.*

Email Address

If you have received "The Legend" through the post, to reduce delays and save on postage costs, we would really appreciate you forwarding your email address to:

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