

CENTENARY OF CHURCHES FOOTBALL IN NEW SOUTH WALES 1919 – 2019

NSW Protestant Churches Soccer Football Association (1920 – 82)

NSW Churches Football Association (1983 – 2016)

Churches Football Association, Sydney (2017 - 2019)



▶ PLANS FOR A CLUB , ALL SOULS LEICHHARDT, WERE MADE FOR THE 1918 SEASON. HOWEVER A CHURCH WARDEN WHO BELIEVED FOOTBALL AND RELIGION DID NOT MIX DECIDED TO ORGANISE SOMETHING 'BETTER' FOR THE YOUTH OF ALL SOULS'. HE HAD THEM FORM A YOUNG CHURCHMEN'S INSTITUTE. FOR NINE MONTHS MOCK TRIALS, DEBATES, IMPROMPTU SPEECHES AND THE LIKE WERE HELD BUT THE WARDEN'S IDEA OF FUN WAS NOT THAT OF HIS YOUNG PARISHIONERS. AS A RESULT, WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM THEIR OWN RECTOR OR WARDEN, THE YOUNG MEN OF ALL SOULS' CIRCULARISED LOCAL CHURCHES WITH THE PLAN TO BEGIN A CHURCHES' SOCCER COMPETITION. THE OUTCOME WAS THE NSW PROTESTANT CHURCHES SOCCER FA.

▶ [Soccer in New South Wales, 1880-1980, Phillip Mosely, p.99]

DEBATING OR FOOTBALL?

- ▶ **THE NSWPCSFA WAS FOUNDED IN 1919 WITH THE FIRST SECRETARY AN 18 YEAR OLD REUBEN H. HENRY OF ALL SOULS LEICHHARDT CHURCH. THE INAUGURAL COMPETITION WAS WON BY AUSTENHAM RD METHODIST (AUSTEN FC) WITH THE OTHER 5 FOUNDATION TEAMS BEING ALL SOULS LEICHHARDT, LAKEMBA METHODIST, STANMORE PRESBYTERIAN, ST AIDENS ANNANDALE AND LILYFIELD LATTER DAY SAINTS.**

- ▶ (Soccer in New South Wales 1880-1980 , Philip Mosely)

THE START





1920S

Clockwise: Lakemba Congregational 1924;
 St Albans 1922; Campsie Methodist 1928;
 Carlton Methodist

CROYDON CONG'S "A"

P.C.S.F.A.

Second Grade Premiers



E. Bailey (President), L. Greening, S. Jones, E. James, G. E. Bruce (Trainer)
C. Henley (Treasurer), C. Haslock, W. Mackinnon, F. Biggs (Captain), C. Goodlet, C. Bruce
R. Philips (Vice-Capt.), R. Bruce

*By the Publisher
HOTTENROTT
1922*

CROYDON CONGREGATIONAL
(LEFT), DULWICH HILL BAPTIST,
PREMIERS MEDAL 1922 (BELOW)



1935 St Pauls Bankstown



1938 Christ Church Gladesville



1930S

Balmain Congregational

Protestant Churches Soccer Football Association of N.S.W.
QUEENSLAND, 1937



Sidney Riley.

246 Queen St., Brisbane.

BACK ROW—A. R. MORRISON, F. M. WOOTTEN, C. TINSLAY, D. E. PROTHERO, R. R. IRRDALV

SECOND ROW—N. THOMAS, R. McLEAN, S. K. BRYANT, A. E. JAMES

FRONT ROW—J. H. BOYCE, J. J. MILLROSE (Captain), S. A. JONES (Manager), T. W. HUNTER, H. GRILLS

IN FRONT—F. H. J. HAY

1930S – A TUMULTUOUS TIME FOR FOOTBALL IN AUSTRALIA

And the NSWPCSFA was in the thick of it!

PROTESTANT CHURCHES ASSOCIATION

Formerly the strongest organisation affiliated with the Sydney Junior Board of Control, the Protestant Churches Association withdrew from that body last year, and recently applied to the State League for direct affiliation. The request was made by a deputation to the council meeting, and was granted, but the Protestant Churches Association was requested to pay the affiliation fees for 1933 to the Board of Control.

P.C.S.F.A.

CHRIST CHURCH, GLADESVILLE, SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB
Winners Under 14 Six-a-Side Competition, King's Birthday. Runners up Under 14 Premiership Competition
1941



PROTESTANT CHURCHES' ASSOCIATION.

The Protestant Churches' Association will begin its 1941 competitions on Saturday afternoon, with 82 teams drawn in three grades and five subdivisions.

They will use 17 different parks for seven first grade, 10 second grade, 44 third grade, in five subdivisions; and three juvenile grade competitions.

Altogether more than 900 players will be engaged. The draw for the first set of first-grade matches on Saturday is:—

All Saints', Petersham, v Callan Park Church of England, at Callan Park Leichhardt, 2 p.m.; Newtown Methodist v St. Augustine's A, at Cook's River Park No. 4; St. Augustine's B v St. John's Glebe, at Blackmore Park, Leichhardt; May Street Methodist, a bye.



1940S

Clockwise from above: Christ Church Gladesville U14s 1941; Dulwich Hill Methodist 1946; Punchbowl Congregational 1947; Granville Methodist 1946

FIVE, FROM ONE TEAM IN A.I.F.

Protestant Churches Soccer

The inevitable has happened. Lidcombe Methodist team has been forced to draw out of the first grade competition owing to five of its members joining the A.I.F. Regtable as it may seem, there is the consolation to its leaders that its eligible members have responded to the call of Empire. (p 4)

Little was the writer to know that many more from the club would enlist over the next few years. In October 1941 *The Cumberland Argus* told the story of how seven of these schoolfriends and teammates "together since kindergarten" joined up as a group. The important things to note again are how local and embedded these young men are in their communities, how ordinary their jobs were, and how 'typical' they seem.

**AUBURN-LIDCOMBE
SEVEN SCHOOLMATES SERVING IN A.I.F.
ALL PLAYED WITH THE SAME SOCCER CLUB**



Dvr. R. H. Klein Dvr. E. F. Manks Gnr. H. R. Haggett Gnr. M. Froud



Pte. R. W. Bowen Pte. C. Burrows Gnr. R. M. Viquerat

Together since their kindergarten days, these seven Auburn soldiers are all serving overseas with the A.I.F. Mrs. Haggett, of Simpson-street, Auburn, told their story this week; She is the mother of Gunner Haggett. "These boys grew up together and looked up on my house as their own," she said. "They all went to Auburn North School together and played with the Lidcombe Methodist Soccer Club."

WORLD WAR HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS AND TEAMS WITHIN THE NSWPCSA

Mascot Congregational Soccer Football Club

SEASON 1948 — ALL AGE DIVISION WINNERS — UNDEFEATED

RECORD—16 Games Won. 2 Games Drawn. 92 Goals For. 15 Goals Against.



BACK ROW. Left to Right:—B. INGLIS, W. CREARY, M. SEARS, R. RALPH, G. CAWSEY, G. FRY.
CENTRE ROW.—Mr. W. TREVETT, (Organiser & Coach), Rev. HORNER, (President), G. LATHAM, (Vice-Captain), E. CAWSEY, (Captain), O. MIDDLEMISS, (Secretary), Mr. J. PERKINS, (Assistant Organiser).
FRONT ROW.—W. CUMMINGS, K. DOUSE, M. MILLER, A. DAY, C. DENISON. (Inset) W. SEDGWICK. *Relong Studios—Redfern.*

The 1949 grand final saw 4 replays required to separate the top two teams. For the record, Christ Church Gladesville defeated Haberfield Baptist on the 4th replay.

Gladesville Presbyterian 1950



St James Burwood C1952



1950S



Gladesville Methodist U12 1952

St Stephens Lidcombe U12 1959



Clockwise: 1955 St Pauls Redfern;
 1956 undefeated U18s Mascot
 Congregational; 1957 First Division
 premiers Drummoyne Presbyterian





St Andrews Parramatta, at the Cumberland Hospital field



JOHNNY WARREN

JOHNNY WARREN OBE

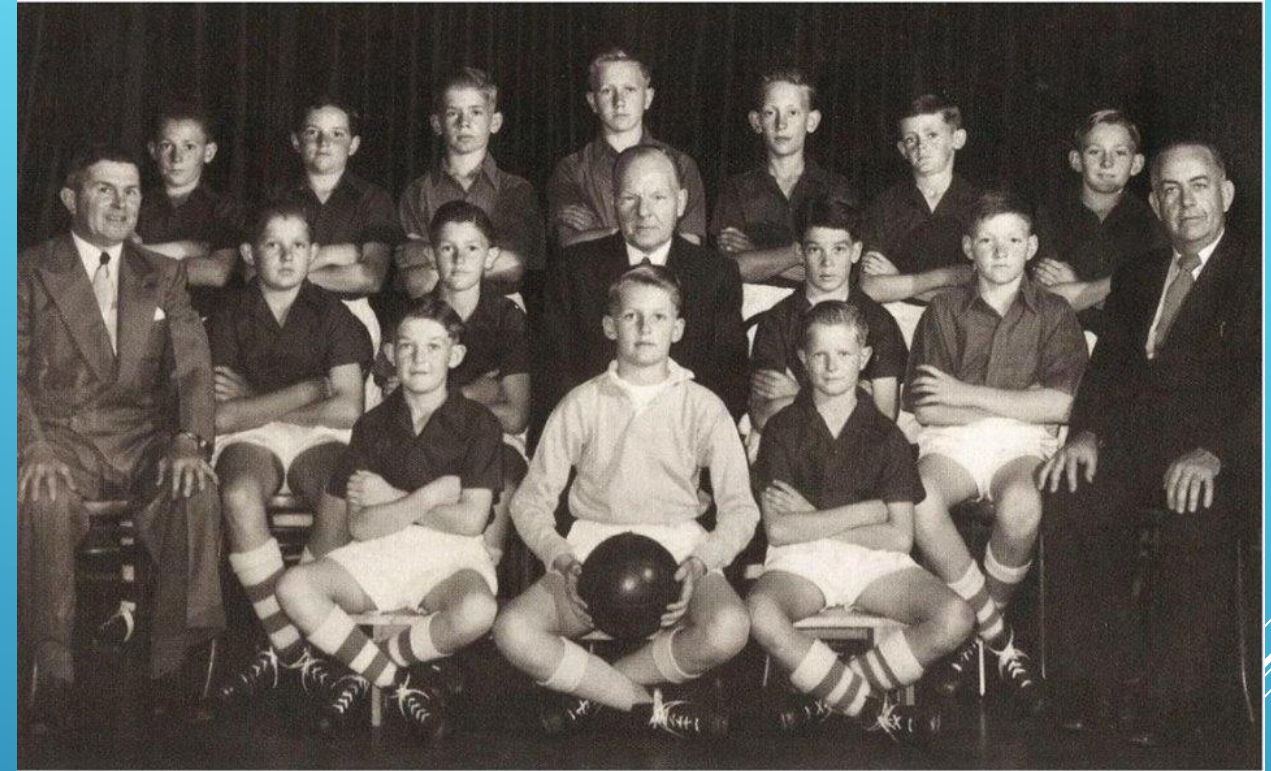
- ▶ 1965 – 74 World Cup Socceroo
- ▶ 42 caps for Australia – 24 as captain
- ▶ Began his football career with Botany Methodist in NSWPCSFA



The Joe Marston Medal is presented each year since 1999 to the Player of the Match. of the NSL (now A League) grand final. It and the Johnny Warren Medal, for the player-of-the-season, are the most prestigious in Australian soccer. Both Joe and Johnny began their football in the NSWPCSFA.

1955

Below: Botany Methodist U16 Premiers featuring Johnny Warren who scored the winning goal this day (filling in from the U12s)



Johnny Warren, Under 12s. NSW state junior championship, 1955 – NSW churches team. Warren is third from the right in the middle row.

Above: NSWPCSFA State U12s featuring Johnny Warren (middle row third from right)

Young Cricket Star's Soccer Triumph

Ritchie Benaud, Cumberland's 16-year-old schoolboy cricket star, is apparently heading for top-grade soccer honours as well.



He exhibited his soccer prowess when he helped his team, Parramatta Methodists, to a 6-nil victory over Y.M.C.A. Central in the Under 18 A grade last Saturday.

Ritchie Benaud Ritchie, who is tipped to represent Australia in international cricket, scored five of the team's goals.

JOHNNY WARREN WASN'T THE ONLY 'SOON TO BE FAMOUS' SPORTSMAN PLAYING IN NSWPCSFA IN THE '50S

ALBERT RAAHAUGE – WE ALL KNOW THE NAME, BUT WHO WAS THE MAN?

Albert Raahauge was a refugee who arrived in Australia following World War 1. Albert would spend the 2nd World War in an internment camp at Trial Bay Gaol. Albert was a close friend of the Association Secretary, Stan Jones and was President for many years until 1962. Albert has been described as a very honourable man, a very calm figure who did not get flustered. Albert passed away in 1991





JOHNNY WATKISS

* 1965 - 74 WORLD CUP

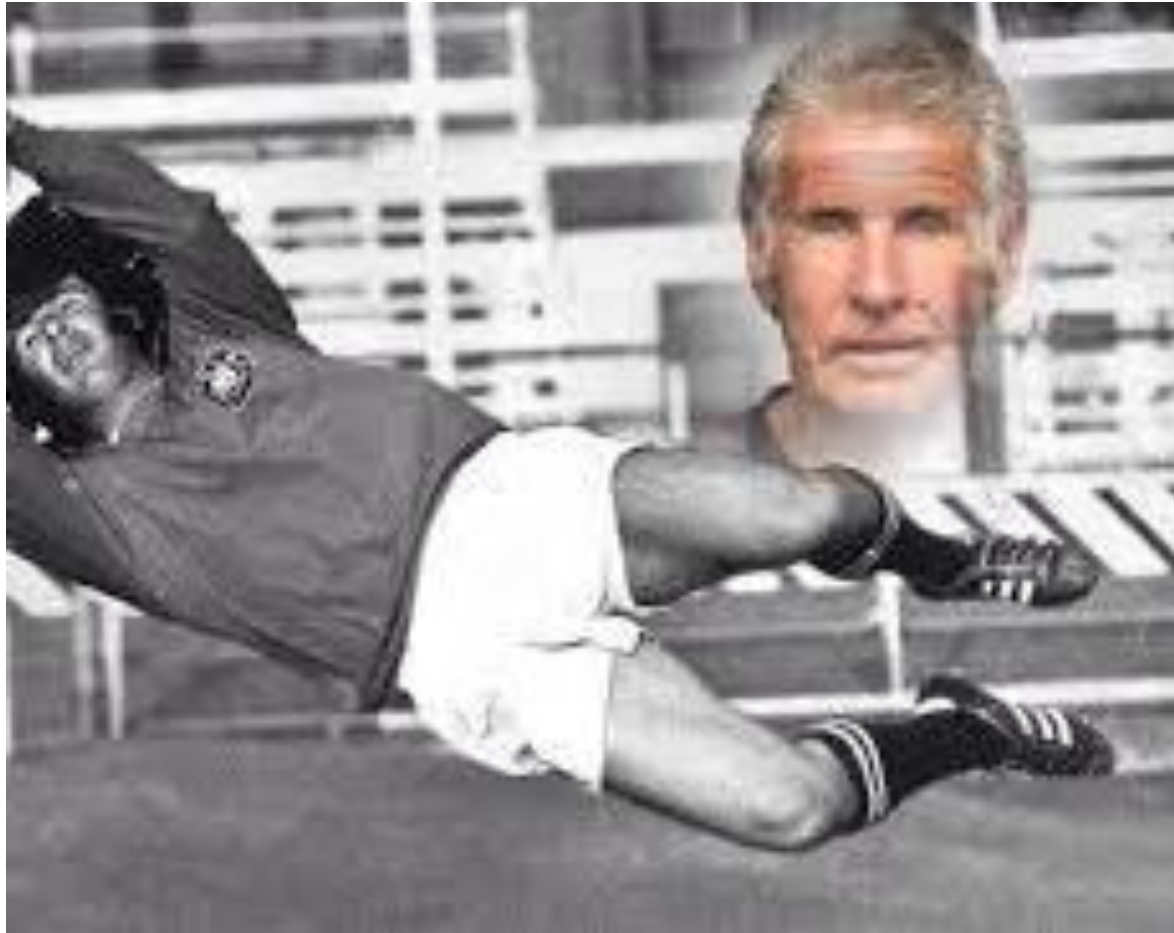
SOCCEROO

* 31 CAPS FOR AUSTRALIA

* BOTANY METHODIST JUNIOR

A group photograph of the NSWPCSFA U14 State Team. The team consists of approximately 25 young men, likely players and staff, arranged in four rows. They are posed against a dark background. The text 'NSWPCSFA U14 STATE TEAM – JOHNNY WATKISS' and 'MIDDLE OF MIDDLE ROW' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font. A decorative graphic of three parallel white lines is on the right side of the image.

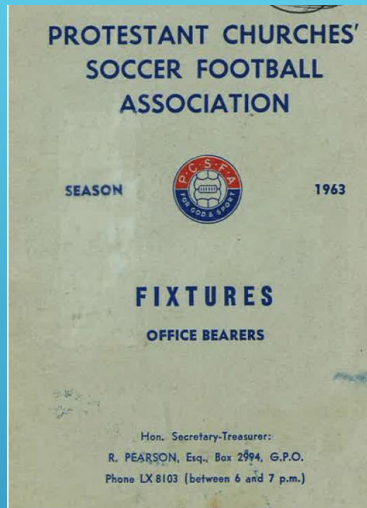
NSWPCSFA U14 STATE TEAM – JOHNNY WATKISS
MIDDLE OF MIDDLE ROW



RON CORRY
* 1967 – 73
SOCCEROO
* 27 CAPS
* NSWPCSFA
JUNIOR



Lidcombe Congregational 1966 (above);
St Thomas Kingsgrove U16s 1967 (below)



Lugarno Baptist U15s 1968 (above);
Punchbowl Methodist 1969 (below)



1960S



Five young Soccer players from the St. Paul's Club received best and fairest awards from the Jay Jay Sports and Radio store this week. They are Keith Clissold, who is pictured with



Clockwise: St Pauls Bankstown; Wentworthville Methodist; banners from Auburn Churches & Arncliffe Presbyterian; St Davids Arncliffe; Arncliffe Presbyterian



- ▶ As a footballer, Ted Simmons played Churches football until early 1960s when he became President of NSW and then Australian Churches Football Association.
- ▶ Ted Simmons made a very significant contribution to Australian football over a 60 year period.
- ▶ In 1950 he worked as a football journalist and was a travelling correspondent following Australian national teams over a 20 year period. During this time he acted as the Australian team's Media Officer.
- ▶ Ted covered the Socceroos FIFA World Cup campaigns for Mexico 86, Italia 90 and USA 94.
- ▶ In 2006 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his services to football and has been made a Life Member of Australian Football Media Association.
- ▶ In 2019 Ted was honoured by CFA Sydney with the U11 six a side perpetual trophy being named in his honour and we were delighted on the day to have Ted present the award.



Presidents past and present –
2019 President Paul Sydenham
talks with Ted Simmons at six a
side 2019.

TED SIMMONS OAM (PRESIDENT NSWPCSFA 1967-70)

N.S.W. PROTESTANT
CHURCHES SOCCER FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION

50th Anniversary Dinner

TROCADERO
GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY

WEDNESDAY, 6th AUGUST, 1969

Menu

CREAM OF VEGETABLE SOUP

ROAST BEEF WITH
VEGETABLES IN SEASON

COFFEE

BREAD ROLL & BUTTER

CHEESE & BISCUITS

* * *

ARTISTS: THE McMANUS SISTERS

DANCING TO FRANK COUGHLAN AND
THE TROCADERO ORCHESTRA

Toast List

LOYAL TOAST
THE CHAIRMAN

OUR GUESTS

PROPOSED: MR. E. SIMMONS
RESPONSE: MR. R. HENRY
RESPONSE: REV. W. GRANT

THE ASSOCIATION

PROPOSED: MR. I. McANDREW
RESPONSE: MR. S. A. JONES
RESPONSE: MR. S. S. PERRY

THE PLAYERS

PROPOSED: MR. F. M. ROUSE

CHAIRMAN
MR. G. GOUDIE

"The Churches"

The N.S.W. Protestant Churches Soccer Football Association came into being in 1919 when a group of fathers became worried about their teenage children and decided to take positive action.

They organised a soccer competition to be played on Saturdays only, and be associated with their local church.

The competition began in 1920 with six teams and in this year of 1969 has grown to more than 700 teams.

It is easy to work out the strength of the Association . . . games for players ranging from over 50's to under 8's, knock-out competitions, representative matches, firm but hard-working and go-ahead officials and club pride.

Finally, the P.C.S.F.A. motto, "For God and Sport," is a living example of the belief that, although players are opponents on the field, the game can be played in a spirit of Christian fellowship, with enjoyment to all, and leading to a better preparation and understanding of the game of life.



50TH ANNIVERSARY 1969

St Albans Fivedock, 1969

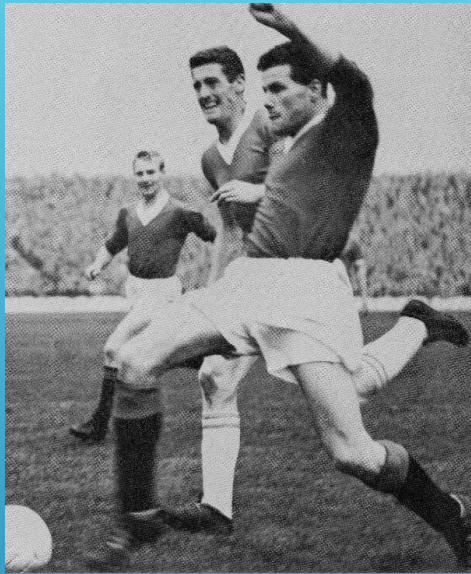


**Clockwise: Greenacre Baptist U12s 1970;
Georges Hall Churches U8s 1975;
Beverly Hills YMCA U12s 1976**

1970S

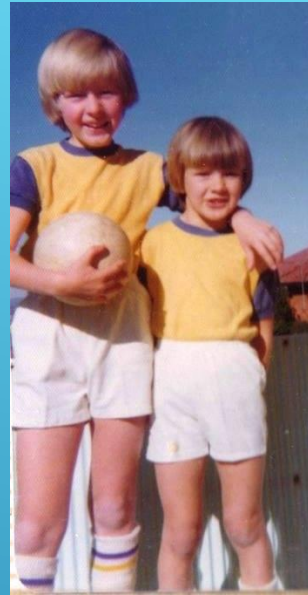
**John Mark Sefton 1975; Parramatta Baptist 1974;
Bankstown Baptist U13s 1973**



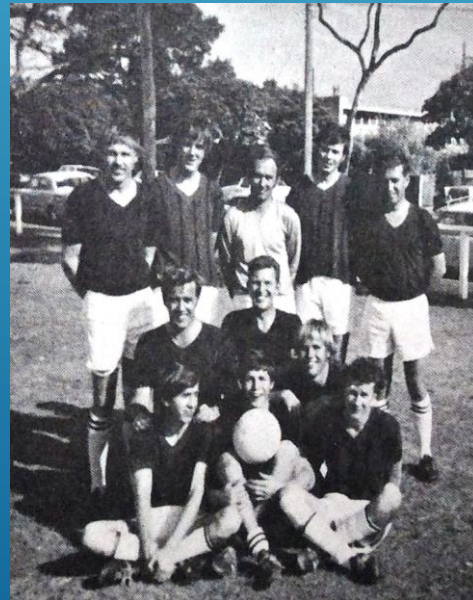
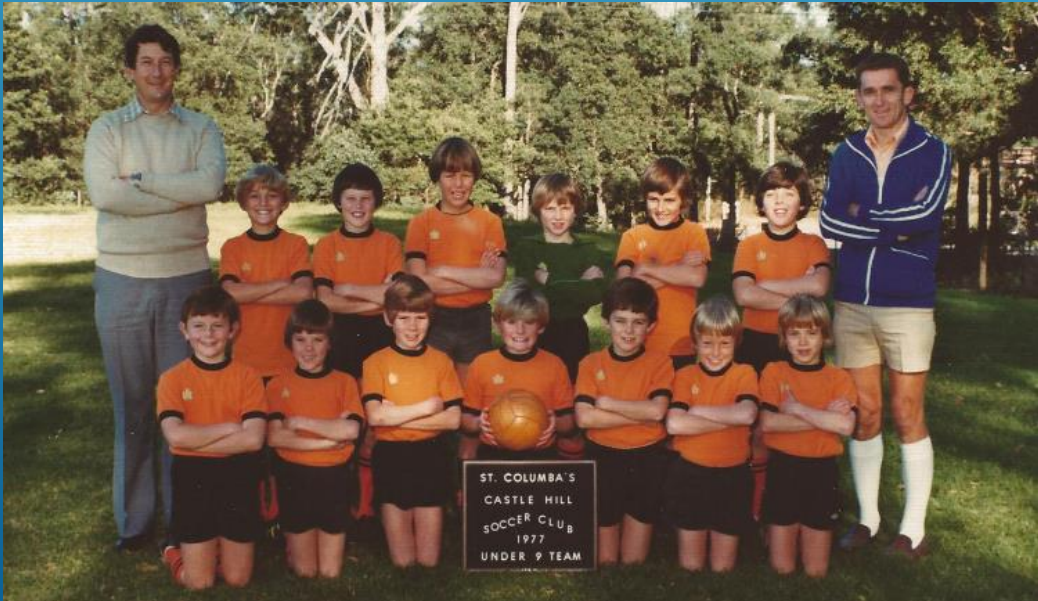


Clockwise from top – In the early 70s Jimmy Christie who had played for NSW and Glasgow Rangers (pic), pulled on the boots as captain/coach of St Andrews Fairfield; 1978 Telopea Baptist; 1972 Christ Church Gladesville U16; 1973 Beverly Hills Methodist U8; 1979 All Saints Oatley West U8; Joe Marsten played in Lidcombe Congs victorious O30s six a side team (JM far right of pic)





1970S – RIGHT ACROSS SYDNEY FROM ABBOTSFORD TO CARLINGFORD, FROM ARNCLIFFE TO CASTLE HILL & FROM PENSHURST TO CHESTER HILL, THE NSWPCSFA WAS STRONG (AND HAIRDRESSERS WEPT)



Kingsgrove YMCA U16 prems 1971
would help become



Premier League royalty - 1974, 79, 80 &
84 Prems & Runners up 76, 77, 78 & 81



vs Auburn Churches



KINGSGROVE YMCA 70S AND 80S



Tracey Wheeler

1989 – 2000 Matilda's Goal keeper

49 caps

Wentworthville Methodist junior

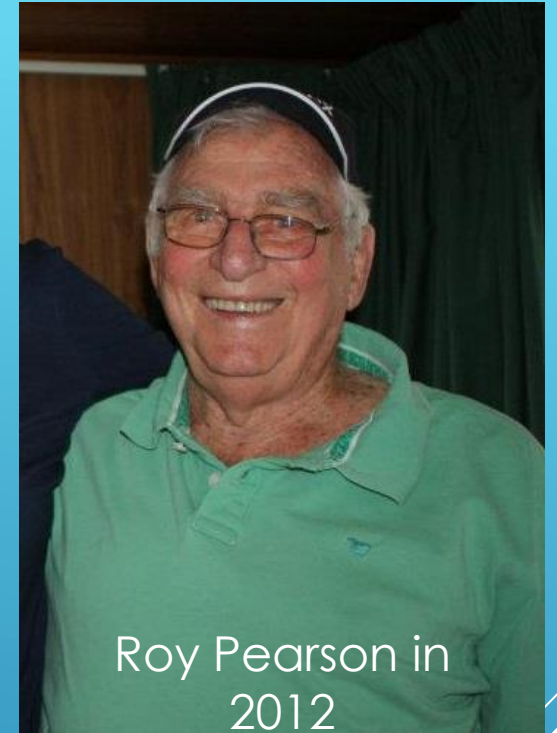


That at one time the NSWPCSFA was the largest soccer association in the Southern Hemisphere



Did you know?

David Hill played with the Sydney Uni club in NSWCF A and would go on, after his playing days, to be Head of Soccer Australia



Roy Pearson in 2012

During the 70s the NSWPCSFA had more All Age teams than the rest of NSW combined!

Stan Jones was secretary of NSWPCSFA for 30 years and would also hold the position of President of the NSW SFA. He is credited as holding the Association together through The Great Depression and a World War.

From 1962 to 1985 one man held the position of Association Secretary. No computers, no mobile phones - take a bow Mr Roy Pearson

"I've had a great life and it (Churches soccer) was an interesting part of my life. It changed my life without me realising it"

Joan Pearson was a power behind the scenes with an intricate knowledge of the Association, remaining strong until this day. Joan too is a life member of CFA.



"I saw some cops hassling a group of bikies. I went home to Joan and said I am going to sign them up. I did. Later the Rev Alan Wilson would play against them and remarked what a well behaved team they were"

"I played for May St Meths, St Davids Arncliffe and Arncliffe Pres. When I played for May Street we would meet at the Cooks River cemetery on Saturday morning and go through all the dirty tricks for the game. Boy they were crook!"



"We were picking blokes off the street, we were giving them a chance. You know I had more crims playing at Arncliffe than anybody knew. But they all went on to get married. One bloke became the minister at Cardiff Uniting. You never would have picked him for a minister!"

ROY PEARSON AO REFLECTS IN 2019

Carlingford Uniting U13s 1981



Chester Hill Presbyterian



Yaralla U6s 1981



1980S

Life members –
Sue Grinyer &
Geoff Baker 1985



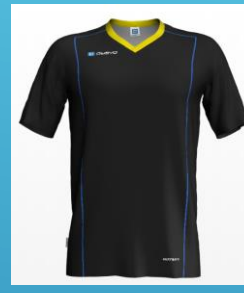
St Columbas
Castle Hill
U16s 1982

- ▶ 1980 saw the most senior teams ever entered
 - ▶ There were 10 divisions of Raahauge Cup and 14 divisions of All Age in addition to Premier League.
 - ▶ A total of 36 senior men's divisions
- ▶ There was also
 - ▶ an All Age Ladies' division
 - ▶ U18 (2 divisions)
 - ▶ U16 (2 divisions)
 - ▶ U15 (4 divisions)
 - ▶ U14 (4 divisions)
 - ▶ U13 (4 divisions)
 - ▶ U12 (5 divisions)
 - ▶ U11 (6 divisions)
 - ▶ U10 (7 divisions)
 - ▶ U9 (8 divisions)
 - ▶ U8 (7 divisions)
 - ▶ U7 (6 divisions – 11 a side)
 - ▶ U6 (2 divisions – 11 a side)



1980 Junior teams: St Columbas
Castle Hill, Carlingford Uniting,
Chester Hill Sports

1980



How many of these classic 'Churches' jerseys do you recognise?



TIM CAHILL



TIM CAHILL : 2006 -18 SOCCEROO

* 108 CAPS

* 9 AS CAPTAIN

* 50 GOALS

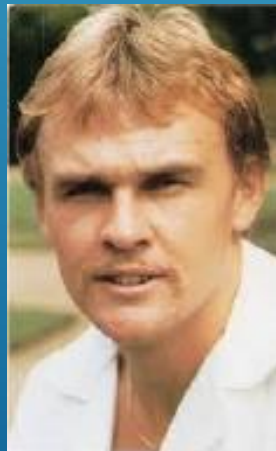
PRODUCT OF BALMAIN PCYC



John Howard (Prime Minister); Adam Spencer (Media personality); David Hill (Businessman, Head of Soccer Australia); Len Pascoe (Test cricketer); Jeff Thomson (Test cricketer); Brandon Starc (Olympic high jumper); Eric Jang (Ten Pin Bowling Champion)



These prominent sporting and cultural identities have all played within our Association



Mike Tomalaris (Broadcaster); Richie Benaud (Test cricket captain); Dirk Welham (Test cricketer); Brian Booth (Test cricket captain); Bobby Simpson (Test cricket captain); Brian 'Poppa' Clay (Australian Rugby League); Mitchell Starc (Test cricketer)



BRANDON AND MITCHELL STARC IN THEIR LIDCOMBE CHURCHES DAYS

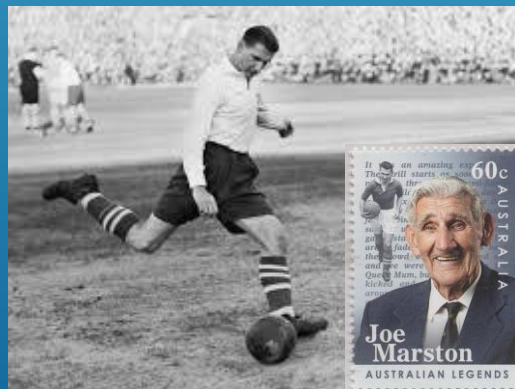


Brandon (top pic, bottom row – 3rd from right)

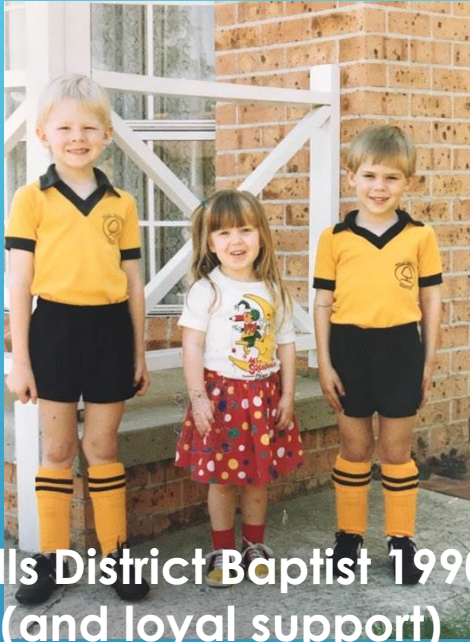
Mitchell (Bottom pic, back row – 9th from left)

MORE AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES

- ▶ Alf Quill – 1927 Socceroo, 2 caps, Ultimo Churches
- ▶ Ron Hughes – 1947 Socceroo, 17 caps, Arncliffe Presbyterian
- ▶ Joe Marsten MBE – 37 caps, All Souls Leichhardt & Lidcombe Congregational
- ▶ Cec Drummond – 1948 Socceroo, captain, 4 caps, Arncliffe Presbyterian
- ▶ Greg Woodhouse – 79-80 Socceroo, 24 caps, St Pauls Bankstown & Chester Hill Presbyterian
- ▶ Paul Degney – 1979-80 Socceroo, 4 caps, Arncliffe Presbyterian
- ▶ Abbas Saad – 1992 – 98 Socceroo, 4 caps, Kingsgrove YMCA
- ▶ Paul Reid – 1998 Socceroo, 2 caps, Campbelltown Uniting
- ▶ Jacob Burns – 2000-10 Socceroo, 11 caps, Arncliffe Presbyterian



Clockwise from top – Abbas Saad; Paul Reid; Jacob Burns; Greg Woodhouse (GK); Paul Degney; Cec Drummond; Joe Marsten; Alf Quill



Hills District Baptist 1990
(and loyal support)



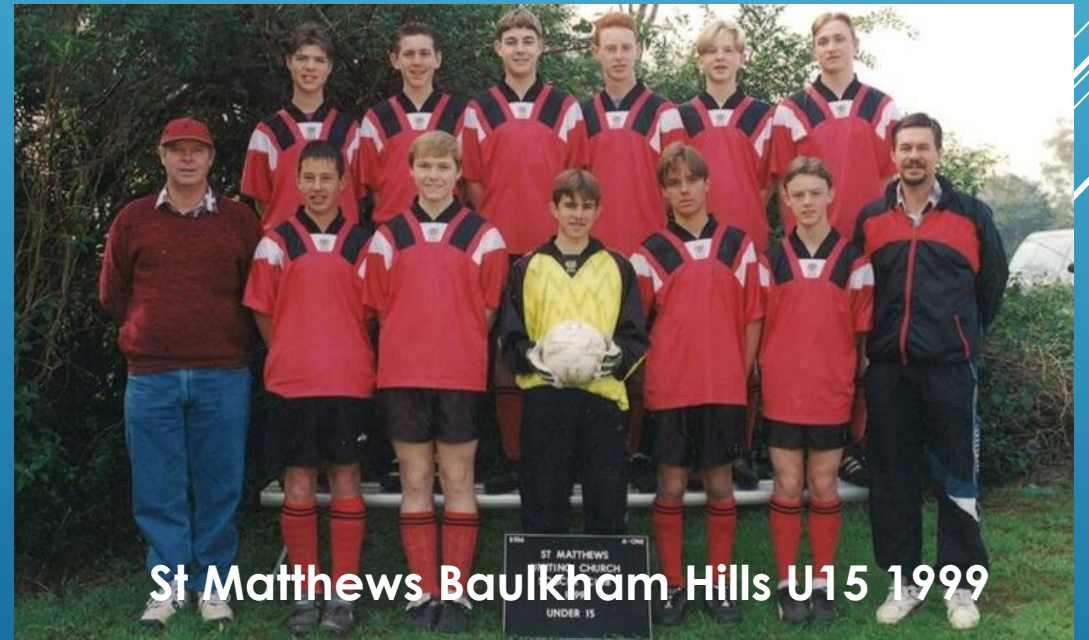
Berala Uniting 1990



Greystanes Churches U12 1990



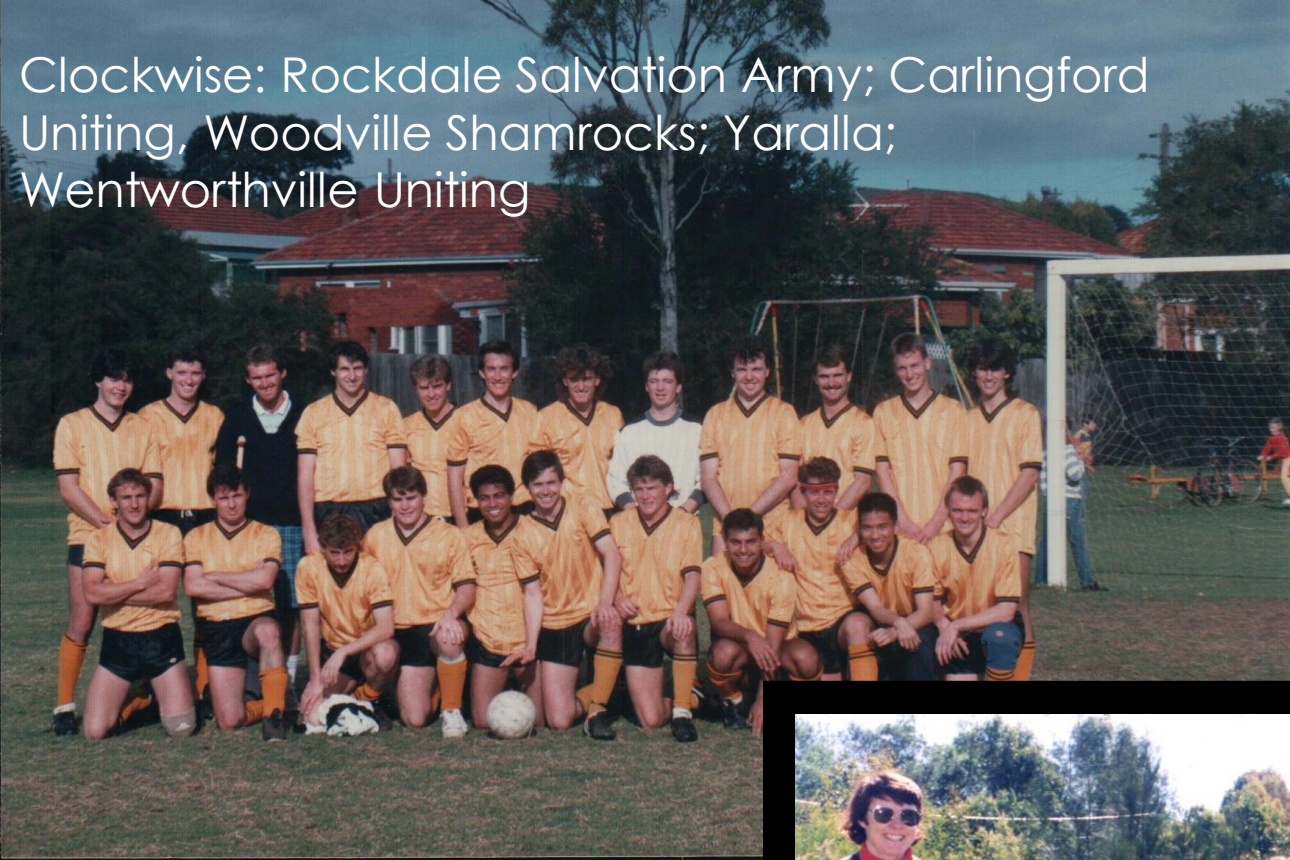
Campbelltown Christian Brethren
1996



St Matthews Baulkham Hills U15 1999

1990S

Clockwise: Rockdale Salvation Army; Carlingford Uniting, Woodville Shamrocks; Yaralla; Wentworthville Uniting





SHANNON COLE

2008 SOCCEROO (1 CAP)

YARALLA SOCCER CLUB JUNIOR



Guildford McCredie vs OLOR Kellyville 2004; Newington Gunners 2004; Salvo United 2009



2000S



INTERNATIONALS **PITA RABO** (FIJI 16 CAPS) & **PETER PULLICINO** (MALTA 22 CAPS) PULLED ON THE BOOTS FOR GUILDFORD MCCREDIE IN 2000 AND ULTIMATE SOCCER IN 2018 RESPECTIVELY



Clockwise: Blacktown Reformed v Guildford McCredie; St Columbas Castle Hill; St Bernadettes Castle Hill; Team Thunder



Clockwise: Coverdale Christian School vs Guildford McCredie; Arncliffe Presbyterian; St Lukes Concord play St Patricks Strathfield at Monash





Western Sydney Youth Academy U8s, 2017

Decisive win, 600th time

REACHING an impressive milestone, player-coach Trent Smith made his 600th appearance for the Lidcombe Churches Soccer Club (CSC) in his side's 5-0 win over St Mathews at Phillips Park.

He started playing soccer in 1984 with the Under 6s side and throughout the long career that followed, has proven to be one of his team's top performers each season.

In what is a landmark year for Smith, his first-grade side currently sits on top of the competition table and he remains quietly confident they will make another finals appearance.

Smith is the sixth Lidcombe CSC footballer to play 600 games for the club, joining James May and Ken, Ray, Mathew and Stephen James.

Flanked by fellow members of the '600 club' Mathew and Stephen James, Trent Smith (second left) is congratulated by Lidcombe CSC president Ken James (second right).

Left: Lidcombe stalwarts Matt James, Trent Smith, Ken James and Steve James get local media recognition

2010S

St Columbas Castle Hill vs OLQP Falcons (right); Living Grace Lions (Below)



Living Grace Lions FC



Clockwise: Columna vs ZimWarriors; friends at Guildford McCredie; Brothers in arms Lidcombe Churches; St Bernadettes Castle Hill vs Kings Old Boys; Parramatta Salvation Army vs Gymea Baptist





Clockwise: Sutherland Reformed; South Hurstville Uniting vs St Barnabas; Miranda Congregational; OLQP Falcons Blue and Red



Celebrations for Mortdale Oatley Baptist; St Matthews Baulkham Hills & OLQP Falcons





Sydney's diversity is embraced in CFA Sydney competition –
Clockwise: Columna FC; Young Nak Presbyterian; St George Rowing & Zimwarriors



Did you know?

Chester Hill Sports (Presbyterian) has the most known premierships won with 81



Chester Hill Sports 2016

U10 competition began in 1959, U8 in 1964, U7 in 1975 and U6 in 1976

A junior girls only comp was begun in 2019 (U9-11)

The first knockout competition within 'Churches' was held in 1923

'Odd' ages (ie U9, 11, 13, 15) were not run until 1965. That would be why there were 8 divisions of U16s in 1964!

The club still competing that has won the most premierships is Lidcombe Churches (Congregational, Uniting). 72 known premierships (but with many records pre 1962 missing – this number is probably much higher!)

U6 and U7 were played 11 a side on full fields in competitions up until 1983. Competitions continued on mini fields until 1986 when the current non-competitive mini format began

LADIES

**NSWPCSFA OPERATED
LADIES COMPETITIONS
FROM 1976 UNTIL 1984.**

**PICTURED ARE WEST RYDE
ROVERS 1981 DIVISION 2
PREMIERS**





LADIES COMPETITIONS
WERE ALSO HELD AT THE
ANNUAL SIX A SIDE
COMPETITION FROM 1965
UNTIL 1992, BEING
REINTRODUCED IN 2013



Clockwise: Hazara United;
Guildford McCredie;
St Barnabas Broadway;
Merrylands SFC

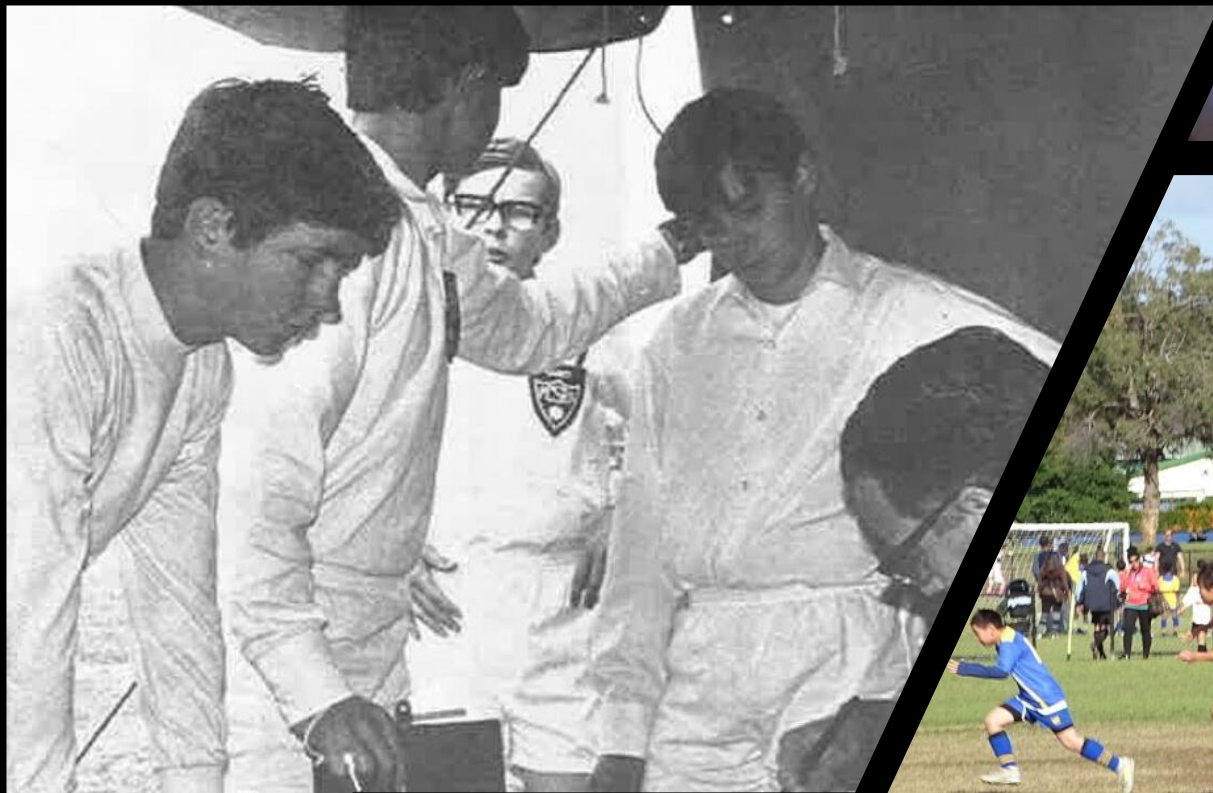
SIX A SIDE

- ▶ The Annual six a side gala day (originally known as “Sports Weekend”) has been a feature of ‘Churches’ football since our inception. The first known winners were Lakemba Congregational in 1924.
- ▶ The tournament was held at Tempe during the early 1930s, Wardell grounds on the Cooks River through the 30s and 40s, Timbrell Park in Fivedock through the 70s, 80s and 90s, Jamison Park in Penrith in 1999 (jnrs) and Everley Park, Sefton 1999 (snrs) & jnrs/snrs 2000-2018, Granville Park (2007 minis) and Endeavour Park at Fairfield 2019.
- ▶ The A Grade trophy is the Reuben Henry Shield – named for the Association’s founder and first life member

PROTESTANT CHURCHES ASSOCIATION.
The **Protestant Churches Football Association** held its annual gala yesterday at Tempe Park. Although the weather was threatening and a few light showers fell, there was a good attendance. The five-a-side competitions resulted:—
First grade: All Saints, one goal three behinds, beat Alexandria Mission, one corner kick six behinds. Second grade: Alexandria Mission, one goal four behinds, beat Tempe Methodists, four corners three behinds. Third grade: Newtown Congregationals, four behinds, beat Mortlake Congregationals, nil. Juvenile grade: Lakemba Methodists, two corners three behinds, beat May-street Methodists, one corner nine behinds.



This article appeared in the 1933 Sydney Morning Herald. (The article reports 5 a side but this may well be an error as early records suggest the tournament was always 6 a side) As you can see though, corners and behinds have always been used to separate tied teams and – it always rains!



Six a side through the years – 1970 (2 photos left), 2004 (top) and 2018 (below)



Six a side



Guildford McCredie score against St Michaels Baulkham Hills (top left) and take on Rouse Hill Anglican College (below left), Hills Spirit celebrate and OLQP Falcons have fun!





Six a side has welcomed guest teams in the past. In the 1980s Manly Warringah Christian Football entered teams.



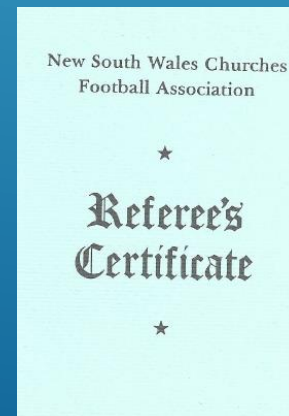
In recent times the doors have been opened wider. Winning visitors have included (clockwise) Lidcombe Waratah; West Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook and Haliti Academy



- ▶ NSWPCSFA referees wore white. Long after other Associations wore black. You could always identify a 'Churches' game by the referee's white shirt
- ▶ In 1986 a schism within the referee's ranks followed a defeated attempt by a large group of referees to be allowed to wear black
- ▶ Some 20 years later the shirts would be modernised though and today whilst green is the standard, a rainbow of colours – green, yellow, pink and yes, even black, are worn. Referees are not even required to wear white laces any more!



REFEREES – NO GAME
STARTS WITHOUT ONE!









Parramatta Hospital was a field inside the grounds of Cumberland Hospital. The ground was utilised by North Parramatta Methodist, Wentworthville Uniting and Auburn United at different times. It is not known which club had the fortune to be hosting the day the enthusiastic referee, dressed in his best all whites arrived early to take control. All was going well until the referee awarded a try to the attacking team. At this point both teams realised that their match was being controlled by a patient, not a PCSFA referee!

A story regularly recounted by the more experienced referees is that one afternoon at Gannons Park (where two grounds were located side by side), only one referee arrived. Ever eager to help out, the referee offered to, and indeed did, referee both matches by running up and down between the fields!

REFEREE FOLKLORE OR URBAN MYTH?



It is believed that Ken Duffy had the honour of refereeing 18 Premier League grand finals in a row through the 1970s and 1980s.



PREMIER LEAGUE WINNERS

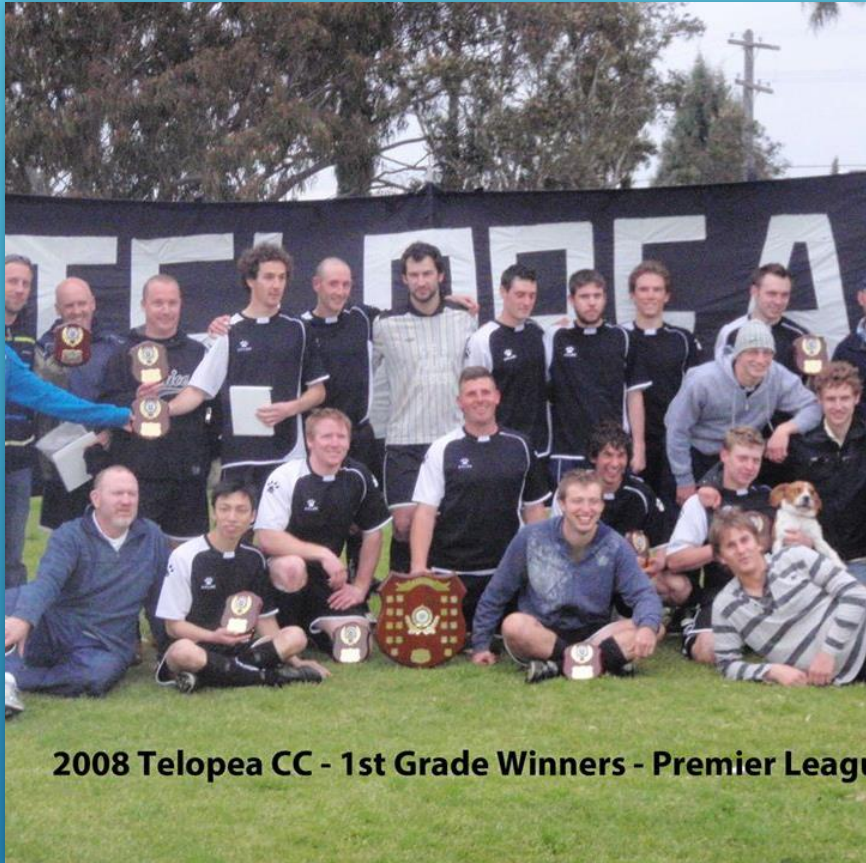
The Premier League competition began in 1968. Since its inception 18 clubs have held the trophy

* Drummoyne Presbyterian	9
* Kingsgrove YMCA	4
* Chester Hill Sports	4
* St Barnabas Broadway	4
* Arncliffe Presbyterian	3
* St Andrews Bexley	3
* Blacktown Reformed Church	3
* Telopea Christian Centre	3
* Macarthur Wasps	3
* St Patricks Strathfield	2



* All Saints Hunters Hill	1
* St Pauls Bankstown	1
* Carlingford Uniting	1
* St Matthews Baulkham Hills	1
* St Pauls Castle Hill	1
* St Columbas Castle Hill	1
* Wentworthville Uniting	1
* Coptic United	1
* Greystanes United	1

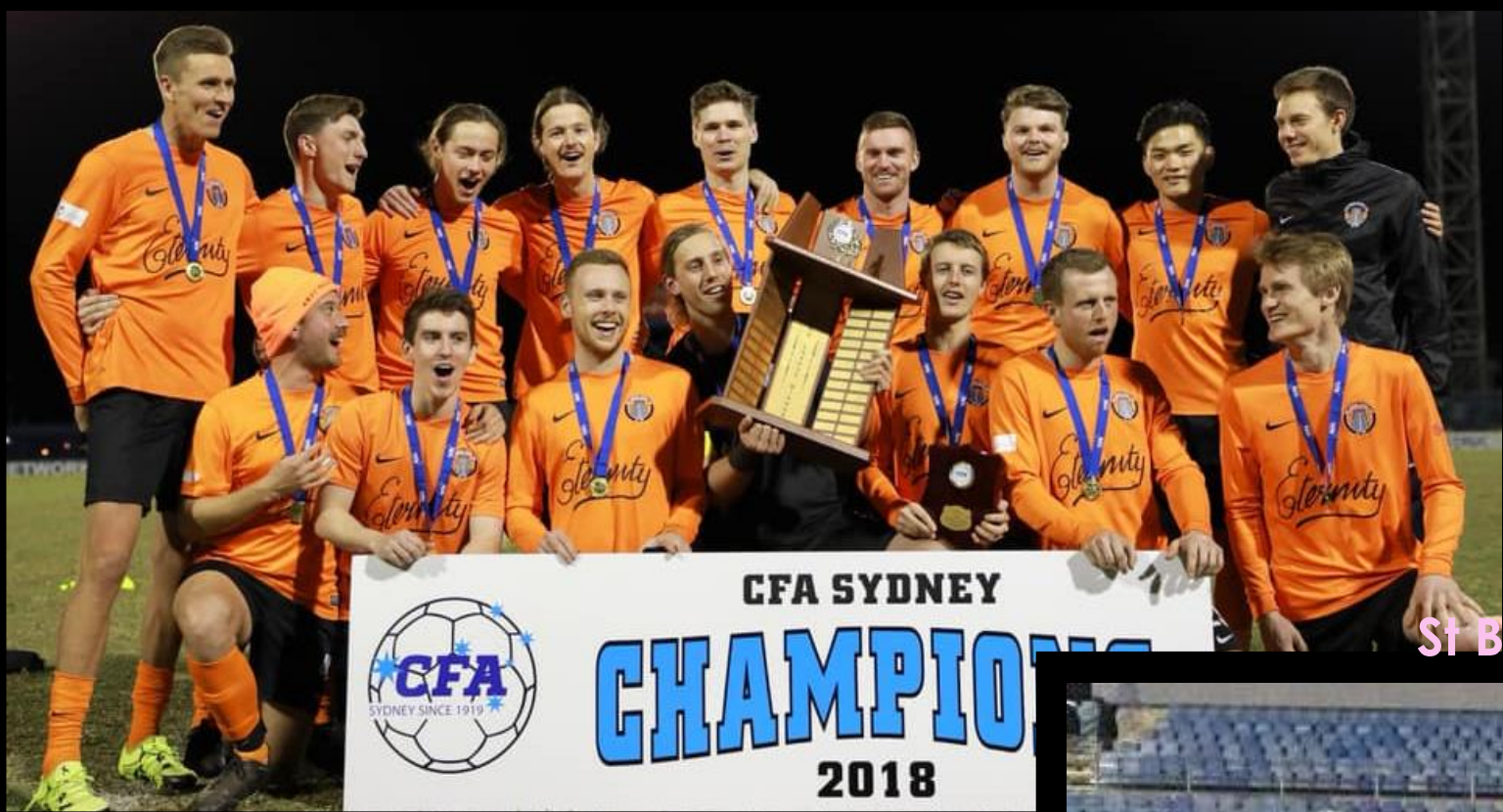
Telopea CC – 2005 and 2008 Premier League Champions





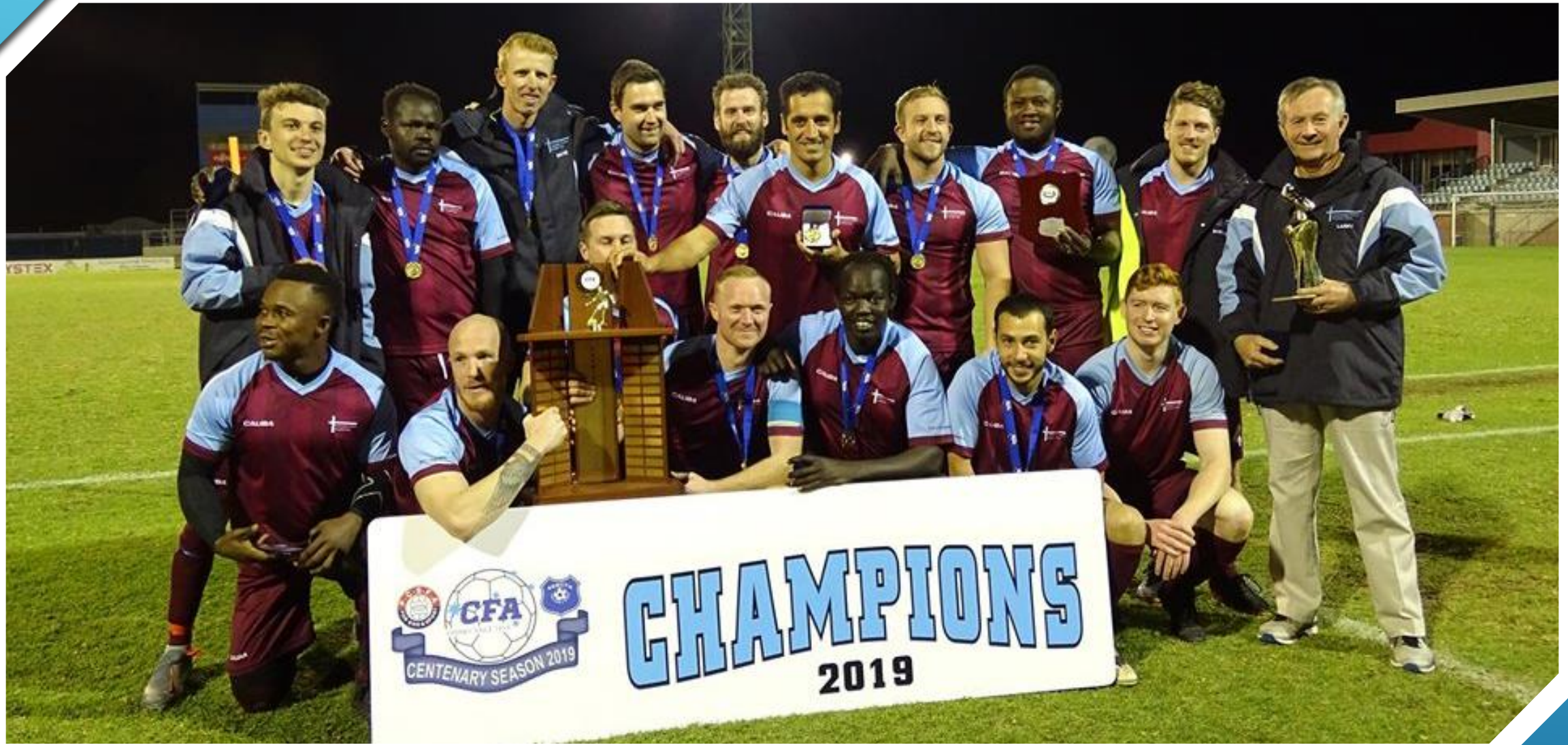
Clockwise – PL celebrations for Coptic United; St Patricks Strathfield; Macarthur Wasps; Chester Hill Sports & Wentworthville Uniting





St Barnabas Broadway – 4 time PL champions





In the 1920s separate branches of NSWPCSFA were created in St George & The Eastern Suburbs and in the 1930s in Manly-Warringah. In the 1970s the Eastern Suburbs Christian schools were affiliated and in the 1980s Macarthur and District and Illawarra also.

Christian Football federations in NSW continue to operate in the Hunter, Central Coast, Illawarra and Blue Mountains. NSWPCSFA established The Hunter in 1935 and re-established them post war in the 1960s.

Whilst 18 clubs have won Premier League, a further 9 have been runners up without ever claiming the title. They are – Rockdale Salvation Army x 3, Greystanes Churches x 3, Auburn Churches, Macquarie Fields United, Northside Baptist, Castle Hill Baptist & Columna

Did you know?

Cup awarded to the St George Branch 3rd Division Premiers in 1927
– St Johns



There are also Christian Football Associations in Victoria; Queensland x 2, Western Australia x 3, New Zealand & ACT. The ACT started courtesy of a 100 dollar contribution from NSWPCSFA to John Hewson in the 70s.

Of the 18 Premier League winners – only 5 have done so without fielding junior teams.

STATE CUP – THE FIRST STATE CUP WAS PLAYED IN 1975.

- ▶ The excitement of a competition involving any team that would like to enter and the unpredictability of shortened games, has led to some surprising results, with no team ever certain of victory
- ▶ 21 different clubs have held the Cup



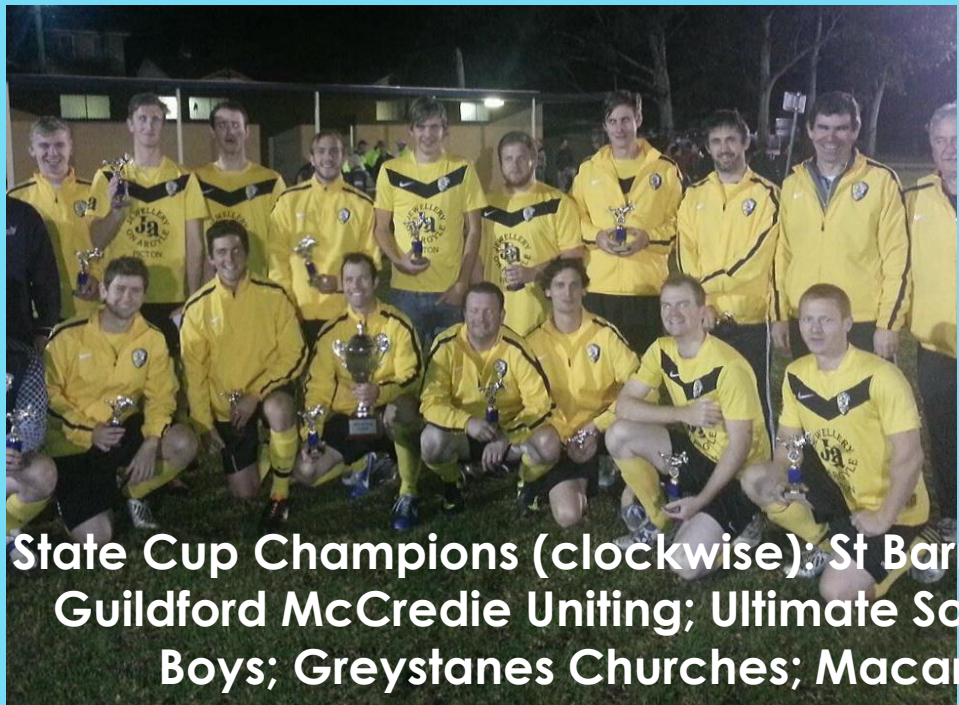
* Chester Hill Sports	10
* Blacktown Reformed Church	7
* Telopea Christian Centre	4
* Guildford McCredie Uniting	3
* Kingsgrove YMCA	2
* St Andrews Bexley	2
* St Matthews Baulkham Hills	2
* Sydney United	1
* Auburn Churches	1
* Castlefield Free Church	1
* Coptic United	1
* Ultimate Soccer	1
* St Barnabas Broadway	1

* Abbotsford Jnr Soccer Club	1
* Engadine Crusaders	1
* Viva Cabramatta Uniting	1
* Lidcombe Churches	1
* Wentworthville Uniting	1
* Greystanes Churches	1
* Kings Old Boys	1
* Macarthur Wasps	1

STATE CUP WINNERS



2004 Champions –
Telopea CC



State Cup Champions (clockwise): St Barnabas Broadway;
Guildford McCredie Uniting; Ultimate Soccer; Kings Old
Boys; Greystanes Churches; Macarthur Wasps



Old clubs and new in 2018 –
Clockwise: All Souls Darling Street
score vs Wentworthville; Castle
Hill Baptist; Greystanes United
and new clubs International
Soccer & Western City FC





MOHAMMED RAHIMI

GUILDFORD MCCREDIE 2006 (BACK RIGHT),
NSWCFA 2012 (FRONT ROW, 2ND FROM RIGHT)
& AFGHANISTAN 2019 (MAN BUN)





Since 2010 our Association has participated in the CFFA National Titles (affiliating with that body in 2012)

But representative teams at zone and state level have long been a feature of 'Churches Soccer'.

From as early as the 1920s Churches teams have played other Associations (and in 1924 even the visiting Tasmanian State Team)

REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

Junior zone representative matches were played during the 60s, 70s & 80s. Clubs were divided into North, South, East and West for zone representative matches



State U14s 1993



Zone rep matches were played on Saturday afternoons in the 60s but by the 80s were played at night on fields like Camperdown, Jones and Powell Creek. In at least one season matches were an all day affair at ES Marks field as curtain raisers for NSW vs Blackpool.

During the 1970s & 80s PCSFA teams would travel to Newcastle to play the Hunter CFA or Queensland, hosting them again later in the year. Teams as young as U8 were selected.

In 1975 the U8 team did not have trials before the away leg and instead the leading teams were asked. Two teams contributed players and they headed off on the bus along the Old Pacific Highway. The highlight was stopping at The Oak for milkshakes. The team was billeted with their opponents. It rained, the coach forgot the jerseys (so grey school shirts were worn), the showers were cold (not what was promised) and the team lost 2-0 (for most of the boys this was their first ever loss!)



1973 U11s



1977 U13s



1981 U13s

Junior State teams were selected from the 1950s to the 1990s



1983 U12s



1983 U14s



1983 U15s



1984 U14s



1990 U13s



1990 U14s

The John Oliver Shield



After a number of years with no zone representative competition, in 2012 the John Oliver Shield was launched.

Named for the tireless advocate of junior football, life member, coach and referee, John Oliver; clubs were initially divided geographically, teams selected and a two or three match series was played at night.

Since 2016 clubs have been divided to ensure an even distribution of player numbers and talent.



The NSWPCSFA representative teams historically competed against District Football Associations.

National Titles between Christian Football Associations have been run since 1999, with our Association competing as NSW City since 2010.

Our involvement grew from a single mens' team in 2010 to U14, 16 & 18s boys, U16 girls, U23 and Open Mens' and Womens' teams. From 2014 to 2017 we hosted the event at Narrabeen Sports Complex.

NATIONAL TITLES





AAM 2012 (left),
U18s 2014 (right)



Since first entering in 2010 our AAM have won 6 of the 8 titles on offer.

Whilst NSWCFR hosted the event in Narrabeen our AAM, U23 Men won all 4 years, our U18s won for 3 years being undefeated the whole time, before being runners up in 2017.



AAM 2011



U23 2017



AAM 2017



**Clockwise; U16G 2015; AAL
2014; U16G 2018; AAL 2016**





Clockwise: U14 2013; U18 2012;
U14 2017; U16 2018







But we are not always
just about the soccer!

Clockwise: 1980 St Columbas "almost anything goes"; 1988 Yaralla march to celebrate the Bicentennial; 2016 Chester Hill reunion; 2018 St Barnabas' "Flames Ball"; 2018 CFA Thanksgiving breakfast.

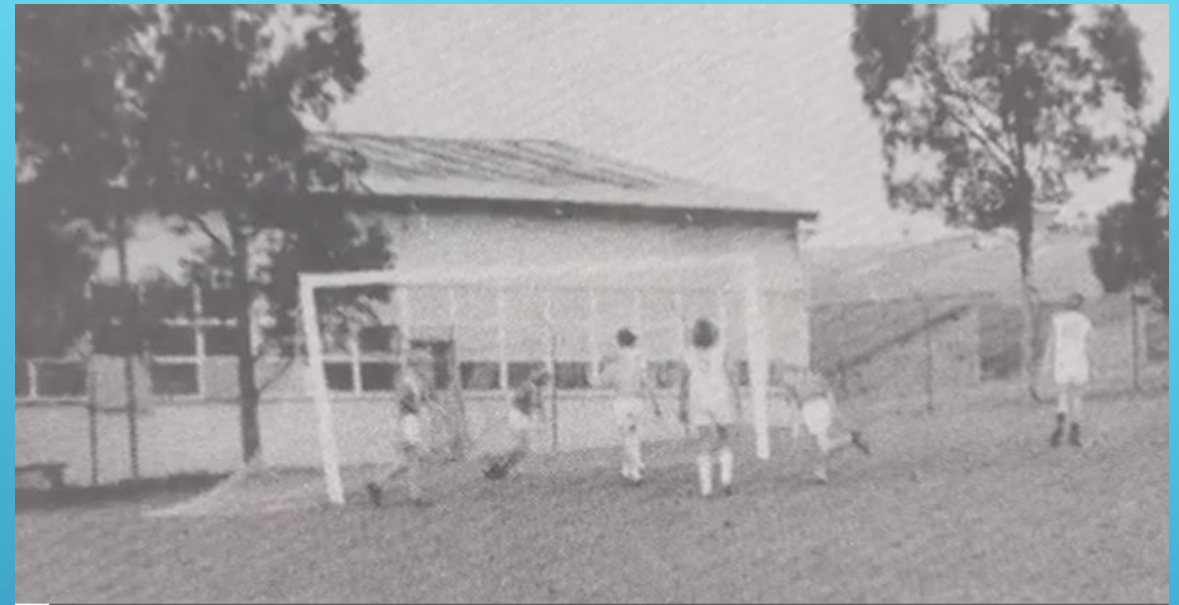




Golf day 2016 (top and right) and just enjoying each other's company at "the card table" National Titles 2015.

Jones Park has been one of the Association's premier grounds since it was leased as an enclosed field in the 1960s. The cost to enter was originally six pence and after 1966, 20c. The fence came down in the early 80s.

Times change – many will remember “signing the card” and when getting muddy was a real possibility.



The picture is level – Dunmore wasn't!

At St Michaels in the 70s removing the odd grazing cow was required before kick off; at Glenbrook early games had to contend with the frost; at Todd in the driest drought the field remained water logged; nothing equalled the smell of freshly baked biscuits when playing away to Yaralla at Arnotts; whilst at Homelands, prior to the levelling in the 90s, the crossbar at the southern end, was level with the ground at the north (and it isn't a long field).

GROUNDS



Clockwise – Every club has their loyal support; letting our hair down at Nationals; Shirley Cuff Foundation donation; St Patricks Parramatta team talk.



Jeff Cuff and NSW Churches Football Association president Paul Sydenham. Picture: Phil Rogers
Football association donates \$4000 to research

ROUND 12 of the NSW Churches Football Association was dedicated to the Baulkham Hills-based Shirley Cuff Research Foundation.

The association's 17 grounds were covered in the foundation's signature purple colour on June 25 to raise awareness of colon cancer and funds for research into treatments.

The Shirley Cuff Research Foundation was set up by Baulkham Hills resident Jeff Cuff after his wife Shirley died from colon cancer.

Jeff and sons David and Stephen - who all play for St Matthews - and daughter Deanne attended the gala day at Green Up Park in Castle Hill.

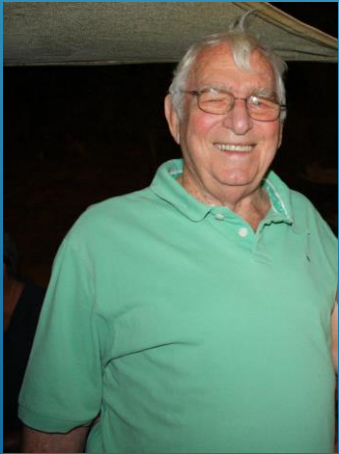
While St Matthews lost both the reserves and premier league matches to Greystanes, the focus of the day was on raising awareness and funds for cancer research.

The NSW Churches Football Association handed over a \$4000 donation to the Shirley Cuff Cancer Research Foundation on the day, while this located across the association's grounds also collected money for the foundation.

The funds raised will be used to further research by the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- ▶ Churches Football, like any voluntary association, relies on a loyal few.
- ▶ From J Nobbs and Reuben Henry, President and Secretary 1920 to Paul Sydenham and Kim Sydenham who hold those positions today.
- ▶ Our Association owes a huge debt to people like Stan Jones who was secretary for over 30 years from 1930 to 1961 and Roy Pearson who was secretary of the Southern Hemisphere's largest football body for an incredible 23 years from 1962 – 85. Pre computers! Think about that.



Secretaries: Roy Pearson 1962-85; Geoff Woods 1986-90; Geoff Baker 1991-95; Noel Sampson 1997-2003; Alan Spaul 2004-10; Matt Duggan 2011-13; Kim Sydenham since 2014





ALL SOULS LEICHHARDT

From the inaugural competition in 1920 to a strong All Age presence in the 1960s (including 5 premierships); participation in the Association's inaugural Premier League competition in 1968, playing out of Easton Park, Rozelle; amalgamating with the titanic Drummoyne Presbyterian in the 1970s before re-emerging in 2017 as Darling Street Anglican, the "All Souls Wharfies" as they are known in 2019, continue a proud tradition in 'Churches Soccer'





CCIW United "Chiefs" (top left);
Wenty Saints (top right) ;
Ambassadors (centre)



North Parramatta Knights
(bottom left);
GPM Eagles
(bottom right)



MORE NEW CLUBS WELCOMED IN 2019!



Six a side 2019 – U6 champions OLQP Falcons; BBQ Kings; St Columbas' youngsters watch the O35s; action everywhere; new perpetual trophies unveiled; U7 champions Kings Old Boys.



A Grade six a side winners –
St Matthews Baulkham Hills



State Cup Champions –
Guildford McCredie Uniting



SILVERWARE IN 2019



2019: (Clockwise) Ted Simmons presents the U11 six a side trophy that bears his name to Guildford McCredie; Lidcombe Congs' Life Members at their 80th Anniversary; business as usual for St Columbas U9s; OLQP Falcons U9-11 Girls refresh; GPM Eagles prepare; CFA Sydney "marching on" at St Columbas





Arthur S	Adey **
Latimer R	Allen **
Karen R	Ambrose
Geoff	Austin
Alex	Baker
M	Bankier **
R	Baxter
Samuel	Beggs
R	Boyes
E (Ted)	Bricknell
L J	Broome **
Les	Brown
R A	Brydie
P	Bywater **
G	Castrey
Laurence D	Christie **
Keith B	Clissold
E	Cousins
Kevin	Crook

Elizabeth	Cruikshank
Derek	Crumbley
Ken	Duffy **
Matthew	Duggan
Alan	Edmonstone
William J	Engel **
Harvey	Facer
Peter	Goldsmith
Alan	Goudie **
Wal	Gourlie
Peter	Graham
Sue	Grinyer
Les	Haggett **
Hilda	Haggett **
K	Hamill **
Ron	Hanson
Stan	Hardy **
William A	Hay **
Kay	Hayes
Reuben H	Henry **
S R	Henry **

Ron	Hicks
Brian	Higginson
J	Hird
Harry	Hoppitt
H	Howard
E	James
J	James
Ken	James
Roy	James
P Ray	James **
Neil	Jenkin
T	Jerome
S	Jones
Stan A	Jones **
Ian	Lapham
A L	Lonsdale
Beryl	Martin
J C	Mather
James	May
Tom	McCarty**

R	McKechnie
S	McKibbin
John	McKittrick **
Alan	Mosely
John	Oliver
G	Page
W (Bill)	Palmer
Arthur	Parsons **
Joan	Pearson
Roy	Pearson
Sid	Perry **
Harold (Toby)	Phillips
J	Poole **
Albert	Raahauge **
W (Bill)	Raisbeck **
R	Robinson
Col	Rose **
F M	Rouse
R	Rouse **
Larry	Rundle
W Noel T	Sampson

Col	Sanders
W	Seymour
G	Sommerville
Alan	Spaul
W	Stephenson
Paul	Sydenham
F L	Stevens
E	Stocken **
Alan	Tate
Keith	Taunton **
Sam	Taylor
W	Trevitt
H	Walker
Graham	Walters **
Kevin	Ward
Greg	Wark
	Wellings
E	Westrup
	Young

LIFE MEMBERS



Martin Lo

From left: U11 six a side champions, 2008; Western Sydney Wanderers 2014;
on debut for Vietnam U23s, June 2019



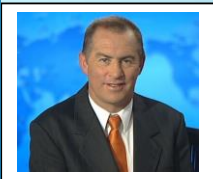
IN 2019 CFA PLAYERS CONTINUE TO EXCEL
(CONTINUING A PROUD TRADITION)



CENTENARY DINNER



A hundred years of service to the community by a volunteer organised association is quite remarkable and deserves broad recognition.



Calling all players, officials, referees and supporters past and present.

Come help us celebrate at our Centenary Dinner

Friday August 2nd 2019 – 6.30pm \$65.00

Club Marconi



Guest speakers –

Paul Wade (former Soccereroo captain)

& **David Hill** (former head of Soccer Australia)

MC – **Mike Tomalaris** (SBS television presenter)

- ▶ Boasting a past line up of Australian football greats including former Soccereroo Captains Tim Cahill, Johnny Warren, Joe Marsten and Cec Drummond. Other Australian representatives have included – Johnny Watkiss, Ron Corry, Jacob Burns, Shannon Cole, Abbas Saad and Tracey Wheeler.
- ▶ Over the years the Association's playing roster has included 18 internationals, including 14 Soccereros and a Matilda, making it a breeding ground for many of the nation's sporting greats. Established in 1919, the Churches Football Association grew to become the largest soccer association in the Southern Hemisphere during the 70's and 80's with thousands of members. Other ex-players in the Association's ranks have included former and current cricket greats, business leaders, media personalities and our second longest serving Prime Minister.

CENTENARY DINNER







ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This booklet could not have been created without the generous contributions of so many. In particular Roy & Joan Pearson; Kim Sydenham; Neil Jenkin; Keith Clissold; Peter Butler; Matt Whybrow; Bob & Sue Grinyer; Paul Sydenham; Neil Rudgley; Chris Ambrose; Dorothy Warwick; Stuart Smith; Les Brown; Phil Mosely; Bruce Pettiford; John Dixon; Kate Cox; Norma Semple; Merv Yee; Andy Chung; Ted Simmons; Carolynne Wark; Gordon Bromhead; Geoff Baker; Geoff Hosey; The Cole Family; The Warren Family; Brian Higginson and the numerous Facebook 'posters' and club secretaries who promote their clubs and teams (as they should).

For details from the 1920s: *Soccer in New South Wales, 1880-1980*, Phillip Mosely, chapters recounting our history were relied upon. (Phil Mosely was a past player with Maroubra Baptist).

For details from the 1930s: the weekly magazine *Soccer News* was an invaluable resource.

We have an Association of which we are all justifiably proud, and whilst we are not as large as we once were, we continue to provide football and fellowship for many, and memories that will last.

Thank you to all those that have gone before and to all those yet to come.

Greg Wark, Centenary Organising Committee

