

DROMANA FOOTBALL-NETBALL CLUB HISTORY



'DOWN MEMORY LANE'

1996 ROUND : 1 CENTENARY BLOCK BUSTER

Player Profiles

Dromana



Scott Lansdown
D.O.B.: 31.3.68
Ht: 190 Wt: 100
First Played: 1982
Where from: Carrum
Nickname: Scotty



Peter Martin
D.O.B.: 17.11.69
Ht: 190 Wt: 92
First Played: 1986
Where from: Red Hill
Nickname: PM



Dave Jordan
D.O.B.: 2.7.65
Ht: 178 Wt: 75
First Played: 1983
Where from: Rye
Nickname: Slugger



Paul Blasius
D.O.B.: 11.12.74
Ht: 171 Wt: 75
First Played: 1992
Where from: Springvale
Nickname: Biaz



Marc Corn
D.O.B.: 29.1.74
Ht: 188 Wt: 82
First Played: 1991
Where from: Syndal
Nickname: Chippa



Tim Hepner
D.O.B.: 11.6.71
Ht: 174 Wt: 77
First Played: 1987
Where from: Rosebud
Nickname: Hep



Glen Kendall
D.O.B.: 8.6.67
Ht: 181 Wt: 84
First Played: 1984
Where from: Dromana
Nickname: Kandy



Tim Lanyon
D.O.B.: 11.6.72
Ht: 171 Wt: 70
First Played: 1996
Where from: Dromana
Nickname: Timmy



Peter Johnstone
D.O.B.: 3.2.66
Ht: 180 Wt: 78
First Played: 1983
Where from: Rosebud
Nickname: Jox



Danny Rae
D.O.B.: 1.10.71
Ht: 182 Wt: 78
First Played: 1989
Where from: Red Hill
Nickname: Danny



Andrew Rowler
D.O.B.: 21.2.69
Ht: 178 Wt: 80
First Played: 1986
Where from: Dromana
Nickname: Rolls



John Lanyon
D.O.B.: 24.3.74
Ht: 180 Wt: 75
First Played: 1990
Where from: Dromana
Nickname: Blucy



Jason Hardwick
D.O.B.: 19.4.66
Ht: 173 Wt: 65
First Played: 1983
Where from: Rosebud
Nickname: Chicken Hawk



Matt Breen
D.O.B.: 10.10.74
Ht: 177 Wt: 69
First Played: 1992
Where from: Rosebud
Nickname: Breenie



Richard Cornish
D.O.B.: 20.4.62
Ht: 172 Wt: 75
First Played: 1981
Where from: Rye
Nickname: Dick



Rob Norris
D.O.B.: 2.7.73
Ht: 184 Wt: 78
First Played: 1991
Where from: Berwick
Nickname: Norro



Steve Kerr
D.O.B.: 25.9.68
Ht: 184 Wt: 85
First Played: 1986
Where from: Dromana
Nickname: Freddy



Jason Clarke
D.O.B.: 9.2.72
Ht: 175 Wt: 81
First Played: 1988
Where from: Dromana
Nickname: Clarkee



Dave Giddens
D.O.B.: 14.4.72
Ht: 190 Wt: 75
First Played: 1989
Where from: Doveton
Nickname: Sticks



Simon Iles
D.O.B.: 22.2.69
Ht: 177 Wt: 80
First Played: 1985
Where from: Nar Nar Goon
Nickname: Ozzie



Phil Watson
D.O.B.: 23.12.68
Ht: 193 Wt: 101
First Played: 1986
Where from: Duntroon
Nickname: Watto

NOTES ON THE GAME

This special fixture marked the opening round of the 1996 season and was the official 'kick off' to the club's Centenary Year Celebrations. The game was played at Dromana on Saturday 6th April.

Dromana's coach that season was Steven Reiger. Steve had crossed from the Doveton Eagles FC in the Southern Metropolitan FL at the start of the 1996 season. Dromana had recruited widely and some of the new recruits included:- Paul Blasius (Springvale), Rob Norris (Berwick), Dave Giddens (Doveton), Simon Illes (Nar Nar Goon), Peter Martin (Red Hill) and Tim Hepner from Rosebud FC .

Local stars Peter Johnstone, Jason Hardwick and Matt Breen had been cleared to Dromana from Rosebud FC in 1995.

THE DROMANA TEAM LINE- UP :-

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| BACKS | Dick Cornish | Rob Norris | Tim Hepner |
| HALF BACKS | Dave Jordan | Scott Landsdown | Danny Rae |
| CENTRES | Marc Corn | Steve Reiger | Glenn Kendall |
| HALF F'WDS | Jason Clarke | Phil Watson | Simon Illes |
| FORWARDS | John Lanyon | Dave Giddens | Jason Hardwick |
| RUCKS | Peter Martin | Andrew Rowler | Paul Blasius |
| I/C FROM : | Peter Johnstone Steve Kerr Matt Breen Tim Lanyon Mick Compton | | |

HIGH CLOUD & HIGH EXPECTATIONS

The day was virtually perfect for football and the crowd that rolled into Pier Street was overwhelming. Car parking space, around the neighbourhood streets, was 'at a premium' and the terraces, near the social rooms, were jam packed and four deep. The game had been promoted widely; and the enthusiastic support, of the local football fraternity fans 'set the scene' for a local 'blockbuster derby.'

The bumper crowd witnessed a fierce opening to the game. The contest had everything that could be wished for in country/suburban football including heavy physical clashes, strong high marking, long kicking and 'no beg your pardons.'

The standard of football displayed, for so early in the new season, was stunning for a country/ suburban league. It was, in fact, a sensational 'lift off' for local football; and, as would be seen, was day that lifted the spirits of the 'Dromana faithful' skywards.

DAVE GIDDENS & PHIL WATSON STAR

One of the finest players at Dromana in that era, Phil Watson, got the scoreboard ticking over with a brilliant early effort; and the new forward Dave Giddens booted his first major for the his new club . The Hoppers (as Dromana was then called) booted seven goals and held the 'Buds goal-less in a powerful first term exhibition.

Jason Hardwick, Paul Blasius and Jason Clarke were like salt and pepper ('in anything'); and one of the highlights of the first half was the magnificent long kicking by Robbie Norris (ex- Berwick).

Rosebud's inaccuracy, in front of goal didn't help its cause, and with Phil Watson controlling the forward line , Dromana was in command at the half time break.

THE HOPPERS DOMINATE THE LAST STANZA

Despite the big margin, the second half held the interest of the crowd. Rosebud booted a string of four goals and, momentarily, the 'Buds appeared to be surging. However, Dromana steadied; and with Dave Giddens giving a brilliant display of leading and converting up forward, the Hoppers booted six goals for the term and were well in control.

With Marc Corn and Phil Watson winning the aerial duels; and Scott Lansdown, Paul Balsius Dave Jordan , Glen Kendall and the two Jasons (Clarke and Hardwick) contributing heavily, Dromana held sway.

The last term was terrific football to witness as both sides slotted seven goals in an action pack stanza of football. However, Rosebud's poor kicking and lack-lustre first half cost the Blues; and Dromana went on to record a decisive victory by 53 points.

In an unforgettable exhibition, Dave Giddens and Phil Watson had combined for eleven goals that day and won the plaudits of the after-match throng.

THE QUARTER BY QUARTER SCORES:

Dromana : 7.2 10.8 16.12 23.16 (154)

Rosebud : 0.9 2.6 6.17 13.23 (101)

- **Goalkickers for Dromana:** Giddens 7 Watson 4 Clarke 3 Kendall 3 Lansdown 2 Hardwick 2 Blasius Lanyon
- **Best for Dromana:** Marc Corn Rob Norris Phil Watson Dave Giddens and Jason Clarke

Note: The crowd that attended that match was the biggest seen at Dromana in many years, Unfortunately, there are no figures available for the gate receipts that day but it was probably a record for a home game for DFNC.

THE HIGH AND LOWS OF 1996

With such a definitive victory in that game, Dromana supporters were understandably optimistic that 1996 was going to be year of 'high yield' for the club's heavy investment in recruiting.

As history shows nothing can be guaranteed in life or football; and 1996 was a season that supporters chose to forget in a hurry. From being on top of the pack after Round : 1 , the Hoppers plummeted back to earth with a colossal thud; and wins were few and far between as the season unflooded. The star-studded team finished at the lower end of the ladder and it was the start of a dark and difficult era for the club

The win against Rosebud in Round : 1 was Dromana's 'moment in the sun' but ominous dark clouds were gathering but that is another story for another time.

THE PUZZLE IS SOLVED- THANK YOU

In the previous history article on this website, a photograph of a Third XVIII team, from the 1970's, was posted with a request for readers to assist in identifying the players shown in the line-up.

Within eight hours of Graham Stelling posting the photograph, the question of the un-named players, in the photograph, had been answered . With thanks to Brian Cairns, Grant Hitchener and Gary Ferguson, the names of the players and officials are as shown below.

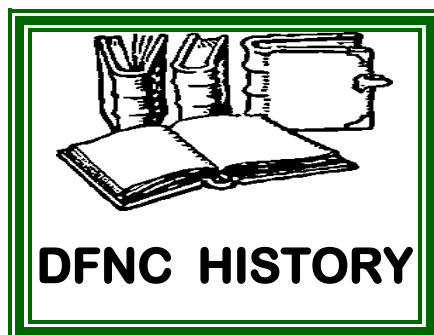


L-R- Back row: Chris Matthews, Mal McCrindle, Graham Williams, George Gunn, Brian Cairns, Dale Hellesey, Mark Lowerson, Mr Lowerson.

L-R- Front row: Glenn Sellick, Ralph Watson, Grant Hitchener, Kevin Shakespeare, Norm Webb, Gary McGaffin, Glenn Britton, Arnold Vandeguard, John McCrindle, boy from Rye, Dean Hellesey- boundary umpire. Ted Hough, George Osborne, Eric Oakes

Coach: Vin Skinner

CAN YOU HELP TO BUILD THE DFNC ARCHIVES ?



Over the past few years, the History Committee of the DFNC has been trying to place on record as much as possible about the people, games and events of the club since its inception more than 100 years ago.

It is hoped to gather club memorabilia such as photographs, programs, publications, membership tickets, press cuttings, awards and team sheets to place on permanent record on the club's website. Hopefully, in this way, our club's rich history can be preserved and enjoyed by future generations.

One of the best ways for any club to show its appreciation, to those members who 'paved the way' in earlier days, is to record their contribution to strengthening and maintaining the club. Your assistance in building the club's archives is valued. Thank you. Roger Spaul for DFNC – February 2020.