

FROM THE ARCHIVES DROMANA DEFEAT MORNINGTON 1947

Reference: 2023/ 3



DROMANA DEFEAT MORNINGTON-1947

In 1947 Dromana was a competitive team in local football and appeared to have more than a 'fair share' of versatile and adept players. Remembering that it was less than two years after the Japanese surrender in World War 2, country football was in a stage of transition as teams reformed and leagues reorganized throughout Victoria. In 1947 Dromana FC was affiliated with the 'B' Grade of the MPFL; and the team was coached by one of the legendary figures of DFC, Bert Aust.

The team list for the clash against Mornington that day included Vern Humphries, Doug Goad, Vic Hazeldine, Norm Osborne, Bob Moorehead, the McLear brothers, Ian Christie, Alan Brown, the Clydesdale brothers, K. Keating, K. Friend, B. Allen and Arthur Cottrell.

Although not mentioned in the match report, it is known that Wally Guy was a key player for DFC in that era. Other family names which appeared in the match reviews during the 1947 season included Gourlay, Evans and Hosking.

The match was played on the 12th July 1947 at Mornington and, according to the newspaper report; it was a one-sided affair with Dromana winning by 27 goals. Dromana took control early in the match and dominated proceedings as the forwards went on a goal kicking spree.

Part of the time-worn press report was illegible but the 'lost art' of drop kicking was mentioned as was the brilliance of Dromana's Alan Brown. Norm Osborne's strong play in defence was also referred to in report. The scoreboard underlined Dromana's control of that one-sided affair.

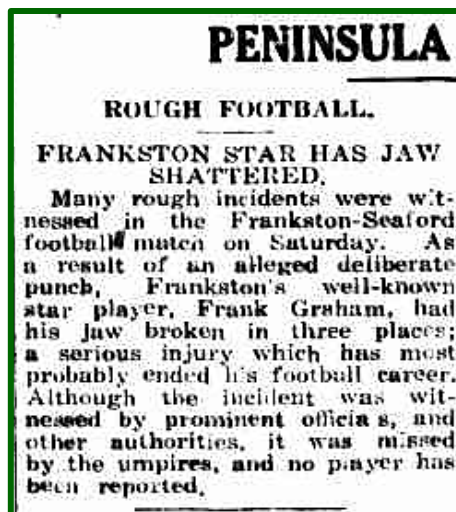
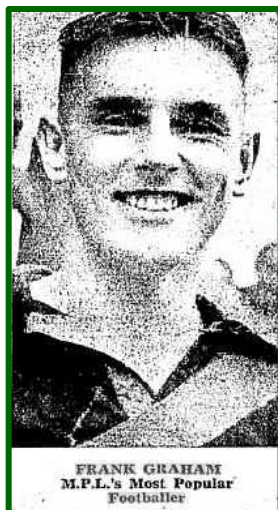
Final score: Dromana 30.30 (210) defeated Mornington 3.6(24).

Main goal kickers for Dromana: Hazeldine 6 Cottrell 6 Goad 5 Friend 3 Allen 3

Best for Dromana: Brown, Cottrell, Allen, Christie, Goad & McLear

FOOTNOTES REGARDING 1947

- According to 'The Frankston Standard', Arthur Cottrell of Dromana was polling strongly in the '£20 (pounds) Best Footballer' readers' *award at that stage of the year. *Jack Roberts (Hastings) won the award in 1947.
- On the same page of the newspaper, prominence was given to a serious incident that had occurred during the Frankston-Seaford match on that weekend. Frankston's champion, Frank Graham (shown below), had been 'king hit' and had suffered a broken jaw. The news article indicated that the injury had the potential to end Frank's football career; and the disturbing aspect, of that episode, was that no umpire's report was filed after the match.



The big news in sporting circles in 1947 was when one of the genuine drawcards of football on the Mornington Peninsula, Frank Graham, suffered a fractured jaw in the clash between Frankston and Seaford. In those days, with one central umpire and no video replays, such incidents were often impossible to resolve. Frank Graham had many admirers; and one can imagine the uproar that emanated from that issue. Source: 'The Frankston Standard' July 17th 1947.

- Little is known about Doug Goad but he was a player of some standing in local football. Doug played 123 games for Dromana and was selected in the 'Team of the Decade' (1946-55). Investigation revealed that a certain footballer named 'Goad' played with Korumburra FC in the 1950's. It is not known if Doug Goad was related to Allan Goad who played 138 games for Hawthorn and kicked 129 goals. Allan was recruited to the Hawks from Korumburra in 1972.
- In 1947 Alan Brown won the DFC's Best & Fairest trophy.

IMPORTANT FRONT PAGE NEWS IN 1947

One of the most important initiatives **ever** taken in local football occurred in May 1947 when the matter of forming a junior competition was discussed at a meeting at Mornington in May that year. It was a decision that would change the face of football and bring about the creation of a DFC junior XVIII.

The four Dromana Football Club delegates who attended that historic meeting were: George Osborne, Bert Aust, and M. (probably Malcolm) McLearn and D. (probably Dave) Birch ...



“ALL FOR THE BOYS...Public Meeting Launches Junior League. A public meeting, held at Mornington on Friday night, unanimously decided to form a Junior Football League to provide" competition for hundreds of Peninsula boys under 17. For some time past the Mornington Peninsula League has been endeavouring to bring about the establishment of a junior league, and 'at last' delegates' meeting it was decided to convene a public meeting..” . Source: Frankston Standard May 15th 1947. Page: 1

It was a highly significant moment in the development and promotion of football in the town and in the district! Once again, DFNC owes so much to the Osborne, McLearn, Aust and Birch families who saw the importance of establishing a junior league to allow children the chance to play sport.

It was another shining example of ‘vision coupled with action’ by the loyal volunteers who made such a positive difference to the lives of youngsters in the district. It is not hyperbole to say that 1947 was a defining year in the lives of local children and the history of DFNC

A RARE PIECE OF MEMORABILIA- THE 1964 THIRD XVIII LINE-UP



‘Thank you’ to Lorraine Matthews for her significant contribution in building the DFNC history files . The club appreciates her on-going interest and support of the club.

In light of the far-reaching decision in 1947, regarding the formation of a local under-age football competition, it seems fitting, at this juncture, to mention the Dromana Under: 17 team’s historic premiership victory in 1964.

DROMANA

3rd EIGHTEEN

- 1—D. GOURLAY
- 2—J. HERBERT
- 3—I. FRAZER
- 4—N. HAZELDINE
- 5—B. HAZELDINE
- 6—R. BRIGHT
- 7—R. DARK
- 8—J. PORTER
- 9—R. WEBB
- 10—C. MATTHEWS
- 11—E. DIGREGORIO
- 12—R. JONES
- 13—R. FYSON
- 14—R. WAACK
- 15—A. PITTOCK
- 16—C. HARRIS
- 17—O. GRIFFITH
- 18—D. FLETJE
- 19—P. JONES
- 20—R. MILLSOM
- 21—J. WILLIAMS
- 22—W. BRINDLEY
- 23—R. DUCKETT
- 24—P. FRAZER
- 25—J. HASLEM
- 26—P. LECHTE
- 27—K. ALLAN

Some time ago, Lorraine Matthews forwarded newspaper cuttings and other DFC memorabilia to the club. Many of the items (e.g. flags, photographs, programs, membership tickets etc.) have been previously posted on the website.

Another piece of memorabilia, unearthed by Lorraine, was part of the official program (in the original colour) which was published as a 'spectator guide' for 1964 Nepean Football League Grand Final.

The game was played at Somerville on the 12th September. The above item shows the names and guernsey numbers of the Dromana Third XVIII players (i.e. Under:17 age group in that era) who represented the club that day.

The list included Colin Matthews, Ray Fyson, Ian Frazer, the Hazeldine brothers, Bill Brindley, Dave Gourlay, Peter Lechte, John Williams, Owen Griffith, Royden Webb, Rod Dark and Robert Bright.

In 1964, *Bill Martin (see below), a well-known local identity and outstanding sportsman, was the coach; and the his young team established a club record by going through the entire season undefeated. Bill was one of the finest cricketers in the district; and it is recorded that he compiled 17 centuries in his cricket career with Dromana and Main Ridge. In 1963-64, he amassed 1238 runs and was awarded the Phillips Trophy. Bill also captained the SPCA at the Country Week Championships.



A 'long lost' photograph of the DFNC Under: 17 team in 1964. Bill Martin (coach) and his enthusiastic group of boys who went through the season undefeated. George Osborne and Eric Oakes can be seen; and the gentleman at the back is Ed Buchanan.

CAN YOU HELP BUILD THE HISTORY FILES OF DFNC?

Any reader who can assist in adding further information about that historic season is kindly urged to forward their memories and anecdotes to the club for posting on the DFNC History Page. Further photographs of the Under: 17 Grand Final would be welcomed.

Furthermore, any names that can be added to the team photograph, as seen above would help 'solve part of the puzzle' of 1964. It would be a fitting gesture to be able to acknowledge all the boys who served the team with such distinction in 1964.

VALE-THE SAD PASSING OF JOHN PERRY



William John Perry- DFNC Life Member who passed away on February 20th 2023.

While preparing this article, sad news was received that DFNC Life Member, William (aka John) Perry, had passed away after recent illness.

John, who was a highly respected, dedicated and active member of the club, was presented with Life Membership in 2018. All players, officials and members express their deepest sympathies to the Perry family at this time of sorrow.

John's expertise and friendly ways will be greatly missed at Pier Street. R.I.P. A tribute to John will be posted on this website at a later date.



REFERENCE & RESEARCH INFORMATION

Sources: National Library of Australia-'The Frankston Standard'- DFNC records-personal files-Lorraine Matthews & family-John Kelly-Life Members/DFNC.

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Researched and written for DFNC by: Roger Spaul-March 2023

DFNC website administrator: Graham Stelling.

Email contacts: historian@dromanatigers.com.au or website@dromanatigers.com.au