

**MENTONE AND
ST BEDE'S OLD COLLEGIANS
AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB**

HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS – 2007

**1977
Premiership Reunion**



*Compiled and edited by
Mark Beasley, Rob Hess and Brett Marchant*

Foreword

During the 2004 centenary season the club inducted 100 Hall of Fame members, including ten Legends of the Mentone Football Club (MFC), St Bedes Old Collegians Football Club, Mentone Junior Football Club and the club that evolved from them all, the St Bedes/Mentone Tigers Amateur Football Club. The Hall of Fame is open to all players, coaches, officials, match-day helpers and supporters. The criteria for nomination to the Hall of Fame covers the following areas:

- Significant (Hall of Fame) or outstanding (Legend) service to the club, with a minimum of 100 senior or Reserve games and/or ten years as an official; and/or
- Significant or outstanding achievement as an individual or as part of a team whilst playing, coaching or being active in administration; and/or
- Significant or outstanding achievement elsewhere in a sporting or community capacity after beginning their career at one of the constituent clubs.

In the inauguration of the Hall of Fame, there was a conscious attempt to capture a representation of people and events in the various histories of the clubs from 1904 to 2004 and to find a balance between players, coaches, officials and helpers in the various decades. After sifting through annual reports and minutes of committee meetings, checking local papers and history books, and cross-checking assessments with key personnel of the various eras, the problem was not so much who should be included, but rather the dilemma of leaving out so many outstanding contributors to the history of the clubs in order to restrict the numbers to 100 (representing one person for each year of the centenary). The task was made more difficult by the fact that the history of the early years is somewhat murky, and by the reluctance of people to nominate themselves or others as possible Hall of Fame members.

Following the tremendous success of the inaugural Hall of Fame induction, members of the Hall of Fame Committee met to consider further nominations. It was decided that players and key personnel involved in the MFC Olympic Year Premiership of 1956, the 1976 Premiership, and the 1967-68 back-to-back Premierships were deserving of induction. To this end, the contributions of players, officials and supporters involved at the MFC during these three very successful eras in the club's history were assessed, and it was agreed that all premiership players that were not already members of the Hall of Fame should be inducted, along with other significant people from this period. The 1956 inductions occurred at a special function in May 2006, the 1976 inductions occurred at a function in August 2006, and the 1967-68 inductions occurred in May 2007. All these functions generated considerable attention in the local and metropolitan press. In a similar manner, the Committee agreed that the contributions of players, officials and supporters involved at St Bede's Old Collegians FC during the premiership year of 1977 should be assessed, and where appropriate, duly recognized. It was thus agreed that all premiership players, along with other significant people from this period, should be inducted at a function to be held in July 2007.

The Hall of Fame Committee would welcome any feedback on the above processes or criteria, or on possible future nominations, as further inductions into the Hall of Fame will occur on a regular basis. Corrections or further information about the achievements of Hall of Fame members are requested and should be addressed to Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au.

Mark Beasley, Rob Hess and Brett Marchant
Hall of Fame Committee, 2007

Acknowledgements

The following valuable sources of information, and supporters of the Hall of Fame, are gratefully acknowledged:

1. Russell Holmesby and Jim Main, *The Encyclopaedia of AFL Footballers: Every AFL/VFL Player Since 1897* (Melbourne: Information Australia, 1998).
2. Leo Gamble, *Mentone Through the Years* (Mentone: Leo Gamble, 2003), and staff of the Parkdale Library.
3. Staff and helpers at the Elsternwick headquarters of the Victorian Amateur Football Association.
4. The many people who have generously provided information and memorabilia on the club's history.
5. Gerard Mulcahy, Director of IFCO Hire, for generous sponsorship of the Hall of Fame booklet.

Inductions to the Hall of Fame: 28 July 2007

George Alexander

George studied pharmacy with David Evans and David Price (both players with St Bede's), and owned a pharmacy in Brunswick. He was not an Old Collegian and yet travelled to and from Beda Park to support his club. As President of the St Bedes OCFC from 1974 to 1978, George made everyone feel equal regardless of their ability on the field. He was genuine, he loved life, and he loved people. George was also extremely generous in his financial support and worked tirelessly for the success of the club. He provided the entire club's medical tape and on the day of his death had organized the club's purchase of a halogen light which was something that the club had been unable to afford. Past players recall the forays to the local Chinese restaurant where George often picked up the bill. Also much remembered is his greeting after a famous win: 'I love ya'. After his death, it became traditional for the players to run an extra lap after training, hence the notion of 'Georgie's lap'. The Best Clubman trophy was struck in George Alexander's honour to commemorate the outstanding personal values that George engendered into the club in the early 70s. George had been President for five years when he died suddenly in 1978, still aged only in his late 30s. George resides in the hearts and minds of many of the players and supporters of those times, such was his impact on those that were lucky enough to have met him. [Dec.]

Ray Boyce

Twenty-two year old Ray Boyce was a fantastic acquisition for the Beda's in 1977. Debuting as a 17 year-old for Parkdale in the Federal League seniors he was soon recruited by Melbourne in the VFL where he played a total of 49 games with the Under 19s and reserves. He then returned to the Federal League where he played in Parkdale's 1975 Grand Final side before joining the Beda's. Good overhead, Ray's attacking play was topped off by his brilliant field kicking, which often fed the likes of Fogarty, Lockwood and Collins up field. The finals series saw 'Boycee' in top form with brilliant displays in both finals. Ray went onto play 79 games for the club and was part of the successful 1978 side that took the club another step up the VAFA ladder.

John Bradbury

John was one of the original 'hard men' of the club and struck fear into the hearts of most forward flanker opponents for a decade. He had a particular personal feud with the captain of arch-rival and Grand Final opponent Bulleen/Templestowe, an ongoing battle that provided much enjoyment to many spectators (and headaches to umpires) over several years. A valued member of the 1977 senior premiership team, John is best described as a tough and courageous player. John played exactly 100 games for the Beda's and was senior captain in 1971. He also coached the Reserves in the 1980/81 seasons. John gave great service to St Bede's and still remains a strong supporter of the club.

Danny Cecchi

Another debutant to the 1977 senior side was young Danny Cecchi, or 'Cecchi' to his team mates. Cecchi was an in-and-under rover who was clearly the engine room of the team. A review of the VAFA weekly records for 1977 shows Danny consistently appearing in the Beda's best players and coincidentally in the best on Grand Final day. Cecchi had the ability to win the hard ball just outside of goal kicking range and drop a ten metre unstoppable pass onto the chests of the leading forwards. He played 61 games through to 1980 and was a key member of the 1978 senior side. In 1981 Danny, who had been commuting from Brunswick to play for the Beda's, transferred to West Brunswick, another VAFA side. In the ensuing seasons Cecchi was a thorn in our side as he continued his dynamic play whenever the club played against his team.

Glen Clough

Joining St Bede's from local Federal League club, Parkdale, Glen played a critical role in the 1977 premiership team as an attacking backman. In his two seasons with the Beda's (1977 and 1980) Glen played a total of 33 senior games, always wearing the long sleeve jumper and displaying the silky skills and great courage he naturally possessed. Regularly punching above his weight in the back pocket,

often against bigger and stronger opponents, speed and accuracy of delivery were just some of his major football strengths.

Ken Dunn

Coming to the club for the 1977 season Ken was the 'prized' recruit from Edithvale/Aspendale. A former Melbourne reserves player, Ken was a high-marking, long-kicking forward who could change a game very quickly. Unfortunately, injury restricted Ken to only four games for the season, but fortunately one of those was the 1977 senior grand final where he kicked two valuable goals to help seal the victory.

John 'Jock' Elmore

Recruited to the club by friend Mark Lockwood as a sixteen year old in 1976, Jock went onto play a total of 242 senior games over the next sixteen consecutive years, somewhat incredibly playing 121 games in each of the senior and reserves teams during this period. Jock played on the wing in the reserves premierships teams of 1977, 1978 and 1980, and was famed for his nuggety, immaculately presented, no-nonsense, motivated approach to every game when he ran onto the ground for the Bedas. A great contributor off the ground, Jock served on Committee and was the heart and soul of the club's social committee for many years. He was awarded the George Alexander Best Clubman Trophy in 1987 and is a Life Member of the club.

Peter Fogarty

Joining the club in 1973, Peter 'Bear' Fogarty was a ruthless, highly skilled and dashing winger who started in the Under 19s before playing in excess of 100 senior games. A member of the St Bedes OC 1977 premierships team, the 1978 grand final team and the 1982 reserves premierships team, he took great pleasure in 'destroying' his opponents both physically and verbally. Peter played fantastic football throughout the 1977 premierships season, finishing runner-up in the senior Best and Fairest award and being among the best in the all important grand final.

Doug Henderson

Doug played eighteen games in his one season with St Bedes OC; fortunately his brief career with the club culminated in him being a key member of the 1977 senior premierships team. Kicking seven goals with the reserves in his first game, he was quickly promoted to the seniors and became a valuable member of the team. A lightly framed half forward/ruck rover, Doug had a spectacular leap and each week thrilled supporters and team mates with his high flying marks.

Michael Huysmans

Michael was another former collegian who came to the club in 1977 and played nineteen games including the senior premierships of that year. A quick left footed wingman who ran and carried the ball, he formed part of a great centre line with Peter Fogarty on the other wing and Mark Lockwood in the pivot. While they provided a lot of goal-scoring power, Michael was also a hard-running player, so vital in the modern game. He was lightly -framed but courageous and strong in the air for his size.

Brian Irving

Brian was a senior premierships player in the 1970 St Bedes Old Collegians' team in the YCW C Grade South competition and became a corner stone player for the seniors in its early VAFA days. Brian played in excess of 150 games for the club, including 108 VAFA games in a career spanning some seventeen years. In the seasons leading into 1977 Brian held down the key defensive post for the senior team and also successfully coached the reserves to the 1976 flag. Combining both activities was difficult and Brian decided to step down from the seniors and focused on captain-coaching the reserves to another premierships win over Bulleen Templestowe. In the grand final 'Irv' moved forward to kick four goals after the side trailed at half time. Brian was also a club committeeman during his playing career and continued his support after his playing days were over.

Norb Knuppel

Norb Knuppel is credited with securing the entry of St Bedes Old Collegians into the VAFA. The club had twice applied to enter the Amateurs, the first time being in 1965. On both occasions the club had been unable to properly organize itself, much to the annoyance of the Association, and by 1971 the VAFA signalled their disinterest in any future applications from the club. In 1972, Norb, along with a small club delegation, paid a personal visit to Jack Fullerton, the long-time VAFA Secretary. It was well known that Fullerton did not suffer fools gladly, and when the group knocked on his door and stood there in the pouring rain as they introduced themselves, Fullerton responded 'St Bedes? – We don't want anything to do with them'. Norb was able to talk his way into Jack's house for a hearing, although it was only a remote chance that they would be able to turn Fullerton around. Apparently during the conversation it was discovered that Norb and Fullerton had at one time both worked for Patons Brakes, and from that point onward the tone of the meeting changed and the club was able to achieve its long held ambition of being admitted to the Amateur competition. President of the club from 1970 until 1973 and Treasurer in 1970 and 1971, after stepping into the breach when the club experienced a difficult season in 1969, Norb initially agreed to attend a club meeting with his future son-in-law and came away as President. The first priority was the club's finances and he asked for a loan of \$200 each from six or so club members in order to keep the club afloat. The club played in the YCW league that season and went through the 1970 season as undefeated premiers under Norb's presidency. [Dec.]

Timm Kurth

In a career that commenced in 1969 and concluded in 1981, Timm Kurth played in excess of 200 games for his much loved Bede's. A senior player from 1969-1977, he was a premiership player in the 1970 team that won the flag in YCW C Grade South, appointed club captain in 1973 when the team finished runners up in F Section to Fawcner, and was a reserves premiership player in 1977 in F Section. Timm was the appointed captain coach of the reserve's team which won the VAFA E Section reserves premiership in 1978, runners-up in 1979 in D Section, and then were premiers in D Section in 1980. Tim was also an outstanding member off the field, serving as club Treasurer in 1981 and being made a Life Member in 1992.

Michael Ladds

Mick Ladds was a quiet man on the field, but great company off it. A 'Collingwood six-footer' in size, he could play on tallies and smalls alike. Mick was renowned for his solid defensive play and ability to spoil in the air. A steady and reliable left-foot kick, he kept his cool when many around him were losing theirs. Mick played 36 games during 1977 and 1978 and was in the back pocket for the 1977 senior premiership team.

Mark Lockwood

As a fresh-faced sixteen year-old Mark played his first senior game in 1976 but always had the presence of a mature athlete. It is hard to believe that he achieved almost 50 senior games over three years before his eighteenth birthday! St Bede's were fortunate to have this delightful young champion as a key player in its premiership year of 1977 before he went on to play the game at a higher level with Melbourne reserves in the Victorian Football League.

Bob Mulavin

Bob is a great example of a man who gave quality time to the club despite an infirmity. Joining the club after playing with the Melbourne Under 19s, his deteriorating eyesight cut short a promising career as a dominant ruckman. He played nineteen senior games before his premature retirement in 1973, but remained with the club for almost ten years as an official and VAFA delegate. Club Secretary from 1974 to 1977, Bob was the recipient of the George Alexander Best Clubman award in 1979 and is a Life Member of the club. A true gentle giant and a delightful man.

Gerard Mulcahy

In 1977, an eighteen year old, 185cm debutant in Gerry Mulcahy was selected for the season's opener and went onto play eighteen senior games. The team's formidable half back line was settled early with Gerry playing along side former Melbourne reserves players in Vaughan and Boyce. Gerry's disciplined team play held the side together at crucial stages, as his opponents struggled to have any influence on games. Chronic knee problems ended his career prematurely in the early part of 1978 although there were occasions where he did pull on the jumper when numbers were short. Gerry's commitment to the club did not waiver with stints on the committee from 1978 to 1984, holding the position of senior team runner in 1985 and 1986, acting as 'chairman of selectors' for John Turner in 1984, and earning the ultimate recognition as a recipient of the George Alexander Best Clubman Award in 1985. Gerry has also sponsored the club since 1993.

Paul Robinson

'The Koondrook Kid' joined the Beda's as a junior in 1973 playing two games in the Under 19 team of that year. He was a great talent, with beautiful timing, the ability to bounce the ball effortlessly with either hand, a superb kick, and a powerful mark. A classic footballer that always had extra time to make the play, he won the club Best and Fairest award in 1976 from a strong playing list and culminated his career at St Bede's as a premierships player in 1977.

Bill Rhoden

Bill became the first official trainer for St Bede's OC and gave enormous amounts of time and energy to his roles as medical man, timekeeper, and statistician. He was one of those precious individuals whose contribution kept the organization focused and successful, and he took on key committee roles such as Treasurer in 1968 and Secretary in 1971. In 1970 he was also part of the now famous delegation that visited VAFA Secretary Jack Fullerton in order to lobby for the club's inclusion in the Amateurs. As club trainer in the premierships years of 1970 and 1977, Bill played a vital role in the medical support on offer in the club's first VAFA premierships. Bill also played for many years as a successful cricketer with St Bede's, and his laconic wit and strong ethics added a touch of class to the football club's social scene.

Geoff Terrell

The year 1972 was important as it signalled the club's first season in the VAFA as well as the arrival of a young and exciting player by the name of Geoff Terrell. Geoff was the one of those naturally talented players who had the ability to kick a freakish goal after taking the mark of the day. In the period leading into 1977, Geoff had won a senior Best and Fairest award and captained the club. Through out the 1977 season Geoff shared the ruck-roving role with another exciting high marking player in Doug Henderson. Together they combined to damage the opposition both around the packs and in the air. For all players and supporters the mark taken by Geoff in the 1977 second semi-final was not only one of the best that they had ever witnessed but was the straw that broke Bulleen Templestowe's back and triggered the Beda's 77 point victory. Geoff was also a member of the losing 1978 grand final side and went onto play 161 games for the club. Thirty years later, Geoff's sons Matt, Luke and James have all represented the club at senior level. Luke also emulated his father's feat by being a member of the 2006 senior premierships side.

Bob Turra

The 1977 season featured nine players who were new to the club and ultimately formed part of the senior premierships team. One of the recruiting coups was the signing of the enigmatic Bobby Turra. A classic half-forward, who had deft hand and foot skills, he was courageous and tough, and one of the side's key play makers and architect for many goal-scoring opportunities. Although he missed several games during the season through injury he was always a walk-up selection. Some recall the very first practice game and the debut of Turra that season. Right from the outset it was clear that he was a great team player and one that would prove to be a thorn in the side of many opposition teams. In addition to his 1977 senior premierships success, Bob also played in the 1978 reserves premierships team.

[Please note that a complete list of Hall of Fame members is listed on the club website]

VAFAs Premiers and a Decade of Achievement

St Bede's Old Collegians Football Club joined the VAFAs at the commencement of the 1972 season with the senior and reserves teams playing in F Section. Headquartered at the salubrious and rural backwaters of Mordialloc's Beda Park, the team moved from its initial establishment in the South East Suburban Football League, through the YCW and finally to the VAFAs

After forming in 1966, the club played in the A Grade Reserve section of the South East Suburban League and finished a disappointing ninth in its first year. Ted Lorenz, a brilliant schoolboy athlete, was the club's first President and Fred Gattuso was captain-coach after playing at Collingwood Football Club. He led the team again into 1967, improving to be semi finalists before the side won the club's first Premiership in 1968. Fred was a natural leader and later rose to be CEO of Remington Australia after his playing days were over.

The following year the club was coached by the determined Dick Danckert, with will-of-the-wisp Gerry Shannon as captain, and they finishing fifth in the 1969 SESFL A' Grade Reserve. At the end of the season, the club's elected administration, led by newly appointed President Norbert Knuppel, decided an alternate competition would benefit everyone and in 1970 it joined the YCW Association. Success was immediate, with St Bede's winning the 'C' Grade South Premiership under captain-coach Kevin Maguire. Kevin was Cheltenham's most notorious 'milky' and led the club to new levels of determination and ruthlessness in winning tough football games. Dave Evans won the senior Best and Fairest award.

The club's stay in the YCW Association was a short one. The real objective was to join the VAFAs. The administration saw that long-term success would be assured if it could attract players more interested in playing for each other than for money, younger players from the school and others from regional clubs. The Amateurs had an impressive history and they remain Australia's largest non-professional footballing body. Every year the VAFAs has multiple clubs trying to gain entry and it is widely acknowledged that only through the persistence and foresight of Norb Knuppel and his committees that the VAFAs finally gave permission for St Bede's to join the competition in 1972. The club has never looked back, so special thanks are due to Norbert. It is now club folklore that Norb and a small delegation visited the VAFAs Secretary at his home one evening in late 1971 when rumour had circulated that the club's application was again uncertain. Norb set about convincing the VAFAs Secretary that his club was a worthy candidate to join the Amateurs and at the end of the visit an agreement had been reached and a bottle of Scotland's finest whisky had been dispatched. The club's initial foray in the VAFAs finished with the senior team in a fourth place in F Section. Dave Evans won the senior Best and Fairest player award for the third year in succession and the team was captained by Jim Serong.

In 1973 the senior team was coached by ex South Melbourne player Tom Hynes and captained by Timm Kurth. It was promoted to E Grade after finishing runner up to the powerful Fawkner club in the grand final, with the scores being 20.21 to 13.14. Interestingly, Fawkner went on to reach A Grade but has now disappeared from the VAFAs, while St Bede's/Mentone Tigers are perhaps poised to reach A Grade in 2008. Times change but good clubs always survive. A young, spring-heeled and cheeky Geoff Terrell won the Best and Fairest player for the senior team and the signs were promising for the club's future.

Promoted to E Section in 1974 the club struggled to seventh in the higher grade. After another difficult year in 1975 the club finished ninth and was relegated back to F Section for the 1976 season. A crossroads was reached, as the club could have disintegrated without reinvigoration. The 1976 'rebirth' of the club was created when Bill Turner replaced Tom Hynes as club coach and Greg Kelly passed the honour of club captain to Geoff Terrell. Bill was a superb motivator. He retained the nucleus of the better senior players and brought with him the experience and networks of a successful businessman. Ted Turner Senior and Gary Campbell became mentors through their wonderful vocal support. The senior team fought to a credible third back in F Section in 1976, losing to West Brunswick by 28 points in the second semi final and then Beverley Hills by nine goals in the preliminary final. The club did win its first VAFAs Premiership trophy with the Reserves team, coached by Brian Irving, defeating Beverley Hills 14.16.100 to 10.7.67. This flag was significant in that it signalled to the VAFAs that St Bede's was a serious club with a serious future.

Off the field, Georgie Alexander was in his third year as club President, commencing in 1974, and with Bob Mulavin as Secretary there was significant administrative stability. George was a Brunswick chemist, yet was there at training and every game during his Presidency. Beda Park itself was developing a social environment of its own and was somewhat 'renowned' in the local area. With 10.00pm closing for licensed premises it became common to see a steady stream of car headlights winding up the dirt road into Beda Park to partake in a cold ale whilst enjoying the comforts of the famous log fire.

It was also around this time that the Campbell brothers [Greg, Terry and Rod] became involved and generously provided some much needed financial support to the club through their various business interests. The club was able to give the Beda Park rooms a makeover and players enjoyed better training and match day equipment and an overall positive feel that comes from such to a club.

Tragically we lost both George Alexander and Terry Campbell during this period of the club. George died from heart failure at 37 and Terry from cancer in his early 40s. We will all retain fond memories of two thoroughly decent men who gave much to the club and asked for nothing in return. Vale gentlemen.

The Emergence of a Power Club

The mood for success was ripe during the summer leading into the 1977 season. The guys had worked hard on the track and the club began attracting new players. This was significant in that the 1977 grand final team contained nine players who had not played for the club in 1976.

Bill Turner was now well into understanding how to survive in Amateur football. Winning VAFA games is fine but long-term planning over five or ten years is the only way for longevity in Australia's most demanding football environment. The VAFA rewards successful clubs and only constant improvement in standards and performance on and off the field will keep the better clubs ahead. There is no pity for the weaker teams with other clubs always seeking membership.

Gerry Shannon was assistant coach in 1977 and, in an inspired move, a new recruit from Parkdale FC [Dale Collins] was appointed club captain. A brilliant and courageous player, Dale remains an active club patron and administrator today. Reserves captain-coach was lawyer Brian Irving. Bill Rhoden, Norma Hand and her late husband Jack worked diligently off the ground to provide the critical support for players to enjoy their football and their social time with the club.

The 1977 Premiership flag was the beginning of a powerful and consistently well-performing club that has since flourished, especially since its merger with the mighty Mentone Tigers.

The 1977 Season in Review

Round 1

Seniors (at Beda Park)

St Bede's OC 31.18.204 def. **Monash Whites** 10.9.69

Goals: J. Powell 9, G. Terrell 6, Turner 4, Bowden 4, Lockwood 2, Cecchi 2, McCormack 2, Bradbury, Turra.

Best: Turner, J. Powell, Robinson, Roberts, G. Terrell, Cecchi.

So who said that Amateur football was a tough competition? What a start to the season! St Bede's dominated the opening game with the final margin a club record and the result providing a real kick start for the season ahead. James Powell had a field day kicking nine goals whilst Geoff Terrell was on track with six goals to three quarter time, before being rested. Mick Roberts who returned to the side after an eighteen month holiday also had a great game. Everyone got a kick out of seeing the return of the Orbost champion to the hallowed fields of Beda Park.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 21.13.139 def. **Monash Whites** 3.7.25

Goals: Henderson 7, Allen 6, L. Terrell 3, A. Hester 2, M. Bolger 2, Earp.

Best: Boomgardt, A. Hester, Henderson, Allen, A. Luscombe, L. Terrell.

Round 2

Seniors (away)

Bulleen United 19.10.124 def. **St Bede's OC** 13.15.93

Goals: Allen 3, Cecchi 3, Turner 2, Collins 2, Turra, A. Hester, Lockwood.

Best: Boyce, Roberts, G. Terrell, Kurth, Turner, Huysmans.

Bang – hello reality! This was a wake up call for the Beda's after their first round performance. Bulleen United were too quick and if not for 'junk time' goals the gap would have been wider. The only positive that came out of this game is the set of Bulleen United jumpers that found their way back to Beda Park. It was amazing how many ex-Bulleen United players trained at Beda Park for the remainder of the year – especially when the weather was 'Nippy'.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 13.9.87 def. **Bulleen United** 5.11.41

Goals: J. I. Powell 3, Hahn 3, P. Campbell 2, Earp 2, P. J. Luscombe, L. Terrell.

Best: Christofas, Boomgardt, Negri, Clough, Campbell, Ayre.

Round 3

Seniors (at Beda Park)

Commonwealth Bank 15.5.95 def. **St Bede's OC** 12.19.91

Goals: Lockwood 3, Allen 2, Turner 2, Collins, Henderson, Elmore, Cecchi, Evans.

Best: G. Terrell, Lockwood, Cecchi, Collins, Turner, Evans.

Despite the strong recruiting with nine new players in the team, the side still could not get across the line against a very accurate Commonwealth Bank. Sixteen year old centreman Mark Lockwood bagged three, whilst Geoff Terrell was best afield. The Beda's fell short by four points, putting a huge dent in their plans for the season.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 16.20.116 def. **Commonwealth Bank** 5.5.35

Goals: Christofas 4, Hahn 4, Irving 3, L. Terrell 2, Bowden, Fogarty, Kelly.

Best: Christofas, Ladds, Hahn, L. Terrell, Hall, Fogarty.

Round 4

Seniors (away)

St Bede's OC 29.15.189 def. **La Trobe Reds** 5.13.43

Goals: Collins 6, Henderson 5, Turra 5, Evans 5, Turner 3, Cecchi 2, McCormack, Bradbury, Huysmans.

Best: Lockwood, G. Terrell, Huysmans, Roberts, Collins, Evans.

The team tracked out to Latrobe University and came away with a huge 146 point win. Captain Dale Collins with six led the way along with Doug Henderson and Bob Turra who each kicked five. Triple Best and Fairest winner David Evans, who had come out of retirement, starred with five goals to half time. Perhaps if David had done the pre-season he would have kicked ten this day!

Reserves

St Bede's OC 7.8.50 def. **La Trobe Reds** 4.3.27

Goals: Wain 2, O'Rourke 2, L. Terrell, N. Hester, P. Luscombe.

Best: A. Hester, Ayre, O'Rourke, P. Luscombe, Vaughan, N. Hester.

Round 5

Seniors (away)

Bulleen-Templestowe 14.19.103 def. **St Bede's OC** 14.9.93

Goals: Allen 7, Turner 3, Cecchi, Fogarty, McCormack.

Best: Fogarty, Turner, Roberts, Mulcahy, McCormack, Allen.

Bulleen Templestowe had not lost a home game in two years and this fact did not change as the Beda's went down by ten points in windy conditions. The match was spiteful and set the scene for often bitter and titanic battles that would take place over the next two years. Lockhart (BT), who played in the middle, really 'killed' us, reading the ball well off hands and being a very neat left-foot kick. Tenace

(BT) also kicked a number of goals against us. For the Beda's, full forward Chris Allen was brilliant along with Peter 'Bear' Fogarty who dominated his wing. Jack Turner with three goals had a strong game, as did Gerry Mulcahy. Results so far did not reflect the talent of this group of players.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 9.5.59 def. **Bulleen-Templestowe** 6.11.47

Goals: J. I. Powell 5, Hahn, 2, A. Hester, O'Rourke.

Best: J. I. Powell, Clough, A. Hester, Negri, Campbell, Zuccala.

Round 6

Seniors (at Beda Park)

St Bede's OC 12.13.85 def. **Footscray Institute of Technology** 9.11.65

Goals: not available

Best: not available

Played in heavy conditions at home, the Beda's dominated early with Collins kicking five goals before leaving the ground. FIT looked ordinary early, however as the game progressed they grew stronger. St Bede's steadied for a win, but FIT had played well. This was a crucial win as a loss would have left the team with two wins and four losses after six rounds and outside of the four.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 12.15.87 def. **Footscray Institute of Technology** 3.2.20

Goals: not available

Best: not available

Round 7

Seniors (away)

St Bede's OC 23.22.160 def. **Glenroy** 8.5.53

Goals: Allen 6, Henderson 4, Collins 3, J. J. Powell 3, Cecchi 2, Turner, Irving, McCormack, Evans, Vaughan.

Best: Fogarty, Roberts, Robinson, Cecchi, J. J. Powell, Huysmans.

The next few weeks saw the team rip their opponents apart with percentage boosting wins. Against Glenroy, Fogarty and Mick Huysmans dominated, whilst Chris Allen pulled in mark after mark to finish with six goals at full forward.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 10.12.72 def. **Glenroy** 3.4.22

Goals: Bowden 2, Hahn, 2 Christofas 2, L. Terrell, Yerolemis, Campbell, Zuccala.

Best: Negri, Christofas, Smyth, P. Luscombe, Boomgardt, M. G. Bolger.

Round 8

Seniors (at Beda Park)

St Bede's OC 32.30.222 def. **University Reds** 4.5.29

Goals: Collins 5, Cecchi 5, Allen 4, J. J. Powell 3, McCormack 3, Henderson 3, Roberts 2, Fogarty 2, Vaughan 2, Negri, Kelly, Turner.

Best: Fogarty, Vaughan, Lockwood, Cecchi, Clough, Henderson.

A whitewash game, and another club record with 62 scoring shots to nine. Danny Cecchi jumped in with five goals to be amongst the best. Down back, Glenn Clough and Tony Vaughan had held sway to the extent that the latter wandered down for two of his own. Peter McCormack chipped in with three as well.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 24.18.162 def. **University Reds** 1.5.11

Goals: Bowden 11, Irving 4, O'Rourke 3, Hahn, 2, Bradbury 2, A.Hester, Boomgardt.

Best: Bowden, O'Rourke, Campbell, Hahn, Boomgardt, Lagerberg.

Round 9

Seniors (away)

St Bede's OC 12.18.90 def. **Thornbury** 6.7.43

Goals: Allen 3, Cecchi 2, Henderson, 2, Evans 2, Collins, Powell, Bradbury.

Best: Evans, Roberts, Turner, Lockwood, Bradbury, Cecchi.

Melbourne had been struck by a week of torrential rain as the Beda's faced fourth-placed Thornbury. This was the day that Malcolm Blight tied the game on the siren for North Melbourne at Arden Street when he kicked a point. He was offered and accepted another kick and missed. North lost by a point to Hawthorn. The Thornbury ground was under water in many parts with torrential rain falling for the whole game. Any win on this day was tough, but against the grit of Thornbury who were renowned for their 'underhanded' play, it was significant. The game is remembered for Jack Turner's groin area coming into contact with the lime marked boundary line. 'Nippy' was in dire straights as the combination of his red raw coconuts and the freezing conditions caused great concern to his team mates. Ah well. We left Jack to it while we headed for the showers. It was a great win under terrible conditions with plenty of courage shown by the players against the odds.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 12.8.80 def. **Thornbury** 6.6.42

Goals: Irving 5, Bowden 2, L. Terrell 2, J. I. Powell 2, Christofas.

Best: Lagerberg, M. L. Bolger, J. I. Powell, Hahn, Ladds, Irving.

Round 10

Seniors (at Beda Park)

St Bede's OC 7.15.57 def. **Bulleen United** 6.4.40

Goals: not available

Best: not available

After nine rounds Bulleen Templestowe were two games clear on top of the ladder. In second place was St Bede's OC on six wins and a percentage of 196.6%. Also on six wins were Footscray, Thornbury, Commonwealth Bank and Bulleen United, who were in sixth spot and had a percentage of 126.9%. Bulleen United proved their win earlier in the year was no fluke by pushing St Bede's all the way at Beda Park. They led by two goals at the first change, and two points at half time before relinquishing the lead mid way through the third term to trail by seven points at the orange break. The win did not, however, consolidate second spot as Commonwealth Bank and Footscray also had big wins.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 8.9.57 def. **Bulleen United** 2.6.18

Goals: not available

Best: not available

Round 11

Seniors (away)

Commonwealth Bank 11.11.77 def. **St Bede's OC** 7.11.53

Goals: Evans 2, Turner 2, Allen, Turra, Bradbury.

Best: Robinson, Evans, Roberts, Huysmans, Turner, Cecchi.

Our second defeat by the bloody Bankers. Inaccurate kicking had been the excuse for a Round 3 loss to Commonwealth Bank, however there were no excuses as the Bankers played great football in perfect conditions to take the points. Paul Robinson was the standout at fullback, whilst David Evans played well across half forward. Interestingly, Roberts, Turner and Cecchi, who made up a good part of the team's on-ball division, were in our best and yet Commonwealth Bank proved too strong on the day and moved to second on the ladder.

Reserves

Commonwealth Bank 8.4.52 def. **St Bede's OC** 5.12.42

Goals: J. I. Powell 3, Biacsi, McCormack.

Best: Ladds, Biacsi, Christofas, Elmore, Boomgardt, Campbell.

Round 12

Seniors (at Beda Park)

St Bede's OC 21.17.143 def. **La Trobe Reds** 7.5.47

Goals: Allen 7, Collins, 2, Christofas 2, Evans 2, Turra 2, Henderson, Boyce, Turner, Boomgardt.

Best: Roberts, Lockwood, Boyce, Allen, Turner, Henderson.

On this day the Beda's mid-field were in top form, as Robbo gave his on-ballers first use against a hapless Latrobe Reds. Lockwood, Turner and Henderson all had good days, as did Ray Boyce off a half back flank.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 18.17.125 def. **La Trobe Reds** 2.2.14

Goals: J. I. Powell 7, Hester 3, McCormack 2, Kurth 2, Biacsi, Ryan, Bowden, Bolger.

Best: J. I. Powell, Biacsi, Kurth, Negri, Lagerberg, P. Luscombe.

Round 13

Seniors (at Beda Park)

St Bede's OC 11.15.81 def. **Bulleen-Templestowe** 4.11.35

Goals: Turner 3, Allen 2, Collins 2, Cecchi 2, Evans 2.

Best: Roberts, Huysmans, Fogarty, Robinson, Turner, Turra.

This was the decisive game of the season. Bulleen Templestowe was well clear on top of the table and St Bede's was among a number of sides fighting for second spot. There was also no love lost between the two sides as each was always prepared to give as good as they got. BT led by two points at quarter time, however they were only to kick another two goals for the game, as St Bede's piled on the next nine goals to run out 46 point winners. Little did one know that the next time the sides met in the second semi final that the boys would again rip BT apart. Mick Roberts was outstanding as was Turner with three goals. Huysmans and Fogarty tore their opponents apart to set up the win.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 7.12.54 def. **Bulleen-Templestowe** 3.5.23

Goals: J. I. Powell 2, Hester 2, Bowden, Campbell, Coutts.

Best: Biacsi, Ayre, M. G. Bolger, M. L. Bolger, Boomgardt, Kurth.

Round 14

Seniors (away)

St Bede's OC 13.18.96 def. **Footscray Institute of Technology** 12.10.82

Goals: Collins 6, Evans 3, Allen, Cecchi, Turner, Turra.

Best: Collins, Evans, Roberts, Turra, Henderson, Ladds.

A great win on an absolutely terrible day for football as a gale force wind blew straight down the ground making scoring at one end impossible. Mick Roberts battled tirelessly in the ruck and with Cecchi he ensured that FIT struggled to get the ball clear. The St Bede's half forward line of Evans, Collins and Turra proved the difference between the sides in difficult scoring conditions, with this line of attack kicking ten of the thirteen goals between them.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 15.13.103 def. **Footscray Institute of Technology** 5.3.33

Goals: Bowden 6, Negri, 3, M. G. Bolger 2, Christofas 2, Kurth, Hester.

Best: Kurth, Lagerberg, A. Luscombe, Negri, M. G. Bolger, Boomgardt.

Round 15

Seniors (at Beda Park)

St Bede's OC 16.9.105 def. **Glenroy** 3.9.27

Goals: not available

Best: not available

Glenroy were languishing at the bottom of the table and St Bede's recorded an expected win at home. The four points, though, were important as this result almost certainly guaranteed a top two finish, with games against bottom side games to come in the following two weeks. The match was made

memorable as this was the day the match ball was kicked through for a goal and finishing in the creek, floating toward the bay with people chasing it. The game was delayed for a period of time as a replacement ball could not be found!

Reserves

St Bedes OC 12.9.81 def. **Glenroy** 2.5.17

Goals: not available

Best: not available

Round 16

Seniors (away)

St Bede's OC 13.9.87 def. **Monash Whites** 9.18.72

Goals: not available

Best: not available

The side expected an easy game after the early season whitewash; however Monash had improved markedly and pushed all the way in a tight game. With the Bede's kicking against a strong breeze in the last quarter, Monash closed in for a win only to be denied by late goals. It proved an important win as St Bede's form was flattering to say the least.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 8.8.56 def. **Monash Whites** 4.8.32

Goals: not available

Best: not available

Round 17

Seniors (away)

St Bede's OC 21.19.145 def. **University Reds** 13.11.89

Goals: Allen 5, Dunn 4, Collins 4, Evans 3, Cecchi 2, G. Terrell 2, Turra.

Best: Terrell, Evans, Cecchi, Clough, Dunn, Huysmans.

Ken Dunn played his first game for the season after injury and chipped in with four goals to be amongst the best. The win though was not as easy as the earlier meeting between the sides as the wet season and heavy grounds took their toll. Terrell, Evans and Glen Clough all played well.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 23.10.148 def. **University Reds** 2.5.17

Goals: J. I. Powell 13, Bowden 4, Christofas 3, Boomgardt, McCormack, Bradbury.

Best: J. I. Powell, O'Rourke, Boomgardt, Smyth, Bowden, Kurth.

Round 18

Seniors (at Beda Park)

Thornbury 11.14.80 def. **St Bede's OC** 9.15.69

Goals: Lockwood 2, Evans 2, Allen, Dunn, Cecchi, G. Terrell, Turra.

Best: Collins, Robinson, Lockwood, Roberts, Clough, Evans.

Thornbury needed to win the last game to guarantee their spot in the four. A loss for the Bede's meant they would finish on equal points with Thornbury, but still second on percentage. The game was played on a heavy track at Beda Park, and the home side led well early, with Lockwood up forward instead of in the centre kicking two goals. By half time the difference had narrowed to eleven points and to three points at the last change. Thornbury wanted the win more and one suspects that Bill Turner may have been saving a few for the big one a week later. The game got nasty towards the end, which was a shame, as the sides never met again as Thornbury was knocked out in the preliminary final two weeks later. There were obviously a few scores that were never settled.

Reserves

St Bede's OC 9.12.66 def. **Thornbury** 4.4.28

Goals: Bowden 4, Christofas 2, Lagerberg, Irving, Negri.

Best: Lagerberg, Kurth, Biacsi, Ayre, Hester, L. Terrell.

The ladders at the end of the season were as follows:

F Section - Senior	W	L	PF	PA	%	Pts
Bulleen-Templestowe	15	3	2306	1095	210.6	60
St Bede's OC	13	5	2063	1173	175.9	52
Thornbury	13	5	1851	1407	131.6	52
Footscray IT	12	6	1837	1398	131.4	48
Comm. Bank	12	6	1742	1405	124.0	48
#Bulleen Utd.	11	6	1614	1301	124.1	46
Monash Whites	6	12	1412	1767	79.9	24
La Trobe Reds	3	15	1121	1953	57.4	12
#University Reds	2	15	911	2291	39.8	10
Glenroy	2	16	991	2125	46.6	8

Match on 2 July abandoned and declared a drawn game

F Section - Reserve	W	L	PF	PA	%	Pts
St Bede's OC	16	2	1512	504	300.0	64
Bulleen-Templestowe	15	3	1543	762	202.5	60
Comm. Bank	14	4	1360	807	168.5	56
Glenroy	11	7	1110	875	126.9	44
Footscray IT	8	10	813	904	89.9	32
Monash Whites	7	11	663	1146	57.9	28
La Trobe Reds	6	12	557	957	58.2	24
# Bulleen Utd.	5	12	691	1009	68.5	22
Thornbury	4	14	755	1347	56.1	16
#University Reds	3	14	475	1609	29.5	14

Match on 2 July abandoned and declared a drawn game

Second Semi Final – Played at Oval No. 10, Albert Park

Seniors

St Bede's OC 21.14.140 def. **Bulleen-Templestowe** 9.9.63

Goals: Allen 7, Collins 3, Evans 2, Huysmans 2, Henderson 2, Cecchi 2, Kelly, Fogarty, Lockwood.

Best: Boyce, Robinson, Collins, Terrell, Roberts, Lockwood.

The second semi arrived with a perfect day for football. The VAFA provided one of the better Albert Park grounds and the scene was set for a great match. With the aid of a slight breeze St Bede's jumped out of the blocks to lead by four goals at the first break however by half time the margin was back to five points with Bulleen playing good football in a high standard game. The first quarter was marred, though, when winger Greg Kelly was knocked unconscious by a wayward boot at a re-start after the first goal. At the opening bounce Greg had won the first kick and clearance. He ran on, got the ball back from a handpass and kicked a brilliant goal to give the Beda's the start they wanted. In the first half, Chris Allen was starring up forward whilst Boyce and Robinson were doing well in defence. The game broke apart in the third term with the Beda's dominating the quarter kicking a blistering ten goals in their finest quarter of footy for the year. Bulleen failed to score and they knew they were beaten when Geoff Terrell stood on top of an opponent's shoulders to take an absolute 'speccy' – the mark of the year!. Robbo was dominating in the middle and with Terrell, and young 'Billy the Kid' Lockwood in full flight the side was unstoppable. The final quarter saw similar dominance with fourteen shots on goal providing a 77 point victory and promotion to a higher grade. It was unbelievable that after such a titanic struggle early, the Beda's had played their best football of the season.

Reserves

Bulleen-Templestowe 10.11.71 def. **St Bede's OC** 10.7.67

Goals: Bowden 3, Christofas 2, McCormack, Smyth, Boomgardt, Terrell, Irving.

Best: Kurth, Negri, Irving, Lagerberg, Christofas, Boomgardt.

In the F Section first semi finals, Thornbury 11.9.75 def. Footscray IT 8.24.72 in the senior game, whilst Commonwealth Bank 11.6.72 defeated Glenroy 8.4.52 in the reserves game.

Preliminary Final

Reserves

St Bede's OC 7.11.53 def. **Commonwealth Bank** 7.7.49

Goals: Irving 3, Biacsi, Christofas, Bowden, Lagerberg

Best: Christofas, Irving, Ladds, Negri, Lagerberg, Ayre.

In the Senior F Section Preliminary Final, Bulleen-Templestowe won through to the F Section Grand Final and set up a replay of the second semi final by defeating Thornbury by 30 points kicking 14.14.98 to 10.8.68 after Thornbury kicked 7 straight goals in the first quarter.

Grand Final – Played at Oval No. 14, Albert Park

Seniors

St Bede's OC 4.3 6.6 8.10 12.16.88

Bulleen-Temp. 4.6 7.13 10.14 12.14.86

St Bede's OC

Goals: Collins 4, Dunn 2, Terrell, Lockwood, Evans, Fogarty, Cecchi, Turra.

Best: Vaughan, Lockwood, Cecchi, Roberts, Fogarty, Boyce.

Bulleen-Templestowe

Goals: C. Sheridan 6, Miles, Grieve, Dozzi, Bird, Walker, J. Tenace.

Best: Pretto, Lockhart, C. Sheridan, Miles, D. Sheridan, Chaplin.

Umpire: Goodman.

Grand final day arrived and the venue was again Albert Park. Bill Turner was at his motivational peak and had the side prepared to do anything for the jumper. St Bede's won the toss and kicked with the aid of a two to three goal breeze. Bulleen sprang an early surprise by dropping their giant full forward Joe Tenace, who had kicked 93 goals for the season and been a tower of strength, to the bench. On the other hand St Bede's had lost their full forward Chris Allen who had been injured late in the second semi final after kicking seven goals. Bulleen jumped out of the blocks with their replacement full forward Sheridan taking three screamers and kicking the first three goals of the game in the opening minutes. Bill Turner coached brilliantly, swinging the changes in order to stop the 'bleeding'. Bulleen were continually winning the ball out of the middle which was placing the St Bede's backline under tremendous pressure. The side steadied to gradually edge back to a three point deficit at quarter time. The second quarter saw Bulleen kick three goals seven behinds to only lead by thirteen points at half time. It was never going to be anything else than a nail-biter! Some decisive luck had been with St Bede's, with Bulleen hitting the post on three occasions before the major break. The third quarter saw Bulleen again on top for the first part of the quarter before Collins and Fogarty both goaled just before three quarter time. Fogarty's running goal was inspirational and one could sense the side starting to lift. Mick Roberts had been battling his heart out in the middle along with Lockwood and Cecchi. Others were starting to hit their straps, including Jack Turner and Paul Robinson. At three quarter time the margin was out to sixteen points. Bulleen with the breeze had every right to be confident, however the game was far from over. The continual niggling of Bulleen's playing coach, Barry Murphy, was paying dividends as he struggled with his own game, and annoyed the 'A' Grade umpires. The last quarter was a classic arm wrestle with both defences giving little. The difference though was the St Bede's backline. Led by best on ground Tony Vaughan as well as Ray Boyce, the entire backline was giving the side enormous run through the middle. Both sides went goal for goal early, however it was St Bede's who were gradually gaining control of the ball. A strong mark to Dale Collins and a timely fifteen-metre penalty courtesy of umpire 'Benny' Goodman brought a crucial goal. With only minutes left, Collins had another kick and goaled again to put the side in front for the first time in the game. Bulleen attacked again but Vaughan marked strongly in defence and switched the rebound to Lockwood. He charged forward and the ball was on the St Bede's half forward line as the bell sounded for a two point win. Pandemonium! A huge crowd surged on to the ground, including mums, dads, girlfriends, wives, mates, brothers and sisters, all the Campbell brothers – even school principal Brother Bill Firman. The win was well-earned and the champagne flowed! The club had won its first double VAFA senior premierships. It is interesting to note that amongst the better players for BT was Rino Pretto, who subsequently went on to play footy at Fitzroy, and then kicked a ton of goals for Oakleigh in the Victorian Football Association. BT's captain coach, Barry Murphy, congratulated the Bede's out on the ground and then proceeded to lecture us about not drinking and driving (he was a

copper). It is a pity he did not tell Benny Goodman (the umpire), as he partied well into the very early hours of the next day, celebrating with many St Bede's players and supporters!

St Bede's OC VAFA 'F' Section - Senior Premiership Team 1977

Backs :	Glen Clough	Paul Robinson	Michael Ladds
Half Backs:	Ray Boyce	Tony Vaughan	Gerard Mulcahy
Centres:	Michael Huysmans	Mark Lockwood	Peter Fogarty
Half Fwds:	Bob Turra	Dale Collins (C)	David Evans
Forwards:	Danny Cecchi	Ken Dunn	Doug Henderson
Ruck:	Michael Roberts		
Ruck Rover:	Geoff Terrell		
Rover:	John Turner		

19th: Greg Kelly
20th: John Bradbury

Coach: Bill Turner
Assistant Coach and Runner: Gerry Shannon
Team Manager: Bob Mulavin
Trainer: Bill Rhoden

Grand Final – Played at Oval No. 14, Albert Park

Reserves

This game was a significant prelude to the seniors. The reserves were confident of victory yet when the senior players arrived during the second quarter they were dismayed to see Bulleen Templestowe in front. Captain-coach Brian Irving swung the changes at half time and demanded more from his team, and the impact was evident with the Bede's playing all over their opponents with a brilliant seven goal burst in the third quarter. Mal Boomgardt and ruck rover Peter McCormack were the standouts. Irving moved himself from defence to the forward line and booted four second half goals. This win was the second of a reserves premiership 'trifecta', as they won again in 1978.

St Bede's OC	2.4	3.7	10.8	12.11.83
Bulleen-Temp.	4.3	5.4	5.5	6.7.43

St Bede's OC

Goals: Irving 4, Coutts 2, Bowden 2, Negri 2, McCormack, Hester.
Best: Boomgardt, McCormack, Negri, Coutts, Christofas, Lagerberg.

Umpire: Halbish

St Bede's OC VAFA 'F' Section - Reserves Premiership Team 1977

Backs:	Gary Ayre	Anthony Luscombe	Dennis Hall
Half Backs:	Csongor Biasci	Anthony Smythe	Peter Luscombe
Centres:	Con Christofas	Timm Kurth	John Elmore
Half Fwds:	Christopher Coutts	Peter McCormack	Paul Negri
Forwards:	Michael Bolger	Paul Bowden	Melwyn Boomgardt
Ruck:	Willem Lagerberg		
Ruck Rover:	Brian Irving (C)		
Rover:	Alan Hester		

19th: Martin Bolger
20th: Jeffrey O'Rourke

Coach: Brian Irving

A Skipper's Memories

Very little has changed since 1977 in that players bring players to clubs. In my case it was the school friendships with Tony Smyth and Ray Fyans and a simple phone call from Bill Turner that saw a new player at the first training session on the front oval at St Bede's. A mate of mine in Ray Boyce, who turned out to be a very handy player, also joined that year and my recollections of the club during that season are of the fantastic people that we had off field.

George Alexander was such a warm and welcoming President that everyone felt good about being at the club. Others such as Gerry Shannon, Bob Mulavin, Peter McCormack, Paul Hulett and Greg Campbell worked tirelessly to back George up; importantly they had real aspirations for the clubs future. Their determination for success flowed through to the players. There were many others including Mick Callaghan, Tim Kurth, Bradda and Bill Rhoden who made the club just a good place to be.

The other factor of course was Bill Turner. Life for all players would have been a lot poorer if we had not been coached by Bill. Bill was without doubt a coach ahead of the times. Team breakfasts, motivation tapes and of course his references to Vince Lombardi, the great American Football coach, were instruments he successfully used to motivate the side to fever pitch before and during games. He was a great orator who quite simply had the ability to raise the hair on the back of necks when he wanted to. On the field Bill introduced the famous 'Switch'. Simply put if a player was clear in the back line players would yell 'Switch' and the player with the ball would kick the ball to the other side of the ground. A move and term that today is so crucial to the modern game and a huge play for us at the time.

The difficulty the players and club faced though was the dismal playing and training conditions of Beda Park. Ankle deep mud and poor lighting made it very difficult to train properly. The longer the season went the tougher it seemed. Cold showers were killers, hot, long showers awesome and the open log fire and a cold beer even better.

The season though for the team and the club is best summed up by the atmosphere in the huddle at three-quarter time on Grand Final day. Sixteen points down, kicking against the breeze and having just lost the third quarter by a point, yet the players and supporters believed that we were lifting and that we would win. It was that factor that is so hard to pin point that ultimately proved the difference between ourselves and Bulleen/Templestowe.

It was a hard season, littered with a lot of tough games and a few losses. The Grand Final proved no different. Ultimately we won by an inch because the combined effort of our players (senior and reserve), coaches, committee and supporters through the season had given the team the ability to pull together and claw our way to the flag. This was something the club saw again in 1993 when the senior side won our second VAFA senior premiership flag by two points and yet again last year when we prevailed for our third by just a point. On all three occasions we kicked against the breeze, trailed early in the last and got up to win. Our premiership teams have a common trait. Congratulations to all players/officials on their induction into the Hall of Fame.

Dale Collins
First XVIII Captain, 1977

From the Files of Coach Bill Turner

The way I see it:-

Bulleen/Templestowe must have their tails up at the moment and will most probably treat St Bedes as a bit of a cakewalk.

They have only lost one game and although they should not have beaten us - (we gave them the game after being six in front at half time) - this time they will possibly underestimate us. Maybe they wont pay the price to beat us. To be champions they must beat us. We must pay the price to beat them. So success looks like being fairly expensive.

We have been searching for form and going through hard games: Thornbury, Bulleen, The Bank, without really fielding our strongest side nor without playing at our best.

This Saturday will be different. We will win.

To say we will win is easy - paying the price is harder.

We must pay the price - Tuesday and Thursday at practice. Also by looking after ourselves Thursday and Friday nights and thinking aggressively and constructively about next Saturday's game.

IT'S NOT YOU, IT'S NOT ME, IT'S US - ST BEDES.

A Coaches's Memories

1977 Premiership Year Revisited in 2007

The way I see it

What do you get out of football?
If you say money – you're wrong!
The money never lasts – even if you get it out of the footy club.
You certainly get mates but it's the memories.
Memories – that's what you get out of football!
We sang
“Any plum any pud, are the old boys any good?
Oh are the old boys any good?
We are wearing the colours of red gold and blue,
To the finals we'll take'em and tak'em right through
Any plum any pud are the old boys any good ?
oh are the old boys any good?”

The fact of the matter was – we weren't good
St Bede's had won a premiership in 1970 in the Southeast Suburban league
but nothing since then in the VAFA (Amateurs) – never won an amateur premiership!

Mission

Someone, someway, some how, some group had to go into the sludge, grime and infamy
of “F” grade VAFA amateurs and salvage the old colls reputation – particularly with
bloody De La Salle playing in “A” grade – the local sides Mordialloc, Mentone,
Parkdale, Beaumaris and Edithvale Aspendale were chocka-block full of old colls –
Good and famed players but - no one wanted to play “F” grade

Greg and Terry Campbell, Mark Quan, Gerry Shannon, Pete McCormack, Bob Mulavin,
Tim Kurth, Brian Irving, Paul Hulett waded “into the mire” and got
We recruited Boyce, Collins, Turner, Lockwood, Robinson - “the side to get to A grade”.
Trouble was Bulleen Templestow did too and history shows that they went to “A” grade

1977

President George Alexander abandoned evening committee meetings because the
committee were apt to indulge in early fellowship and turn up to the meetings
a tad tired and emotional.. Gentlemen “we will have all future meetings at 5 o'clock in
the morning meetings in future” and we did. Regularly! Weekly!

“Our game was the ball moves faster than the body and we had our own footy language”
Start of the season we ran ten miles from Seaford to Mentone - together
On the field our aim was to move the ball quickly and get it to our forwards before the
opposition rucks and rovers could get into our forward line. The game starts in the centre
and we had to have first use of the ball. Mick Roberts (1977 B & F), John Turner, Dave
Evans, Mark Lockwood, Geoff Terrell and Danny Checchi “got the ball”.

A Coaches's Memories (continued)

If we lost the ball, the opposition ran smack into Bear Fogarty, Greg Kelly, Bobby Turra, Chris Coutts or Mel Boomgardt our wingers who started the game at the centre half back line and "screamed through the centre at top pace looking for the lost ball carrier"

On the big day, GF 1977 our mid fielders were there to play and did.

50% of football was to "get the ball" 50% is "deliver" it to a team-mate – our half forwards were more than capable with Skipper, Dale Collins in the most important CHF with Kenny Dunn, Dougy Henderson, Peter McCormack or Chris Christofas "sweeping" the flanks. Full forward Chris Allen who played his greatest game in the 2nd Semi to get us out of "F" grade played full forward but missed the granny. Kenny Dunn filled the spot on the big day in 1977.

Our backs were brilliant

Half backs Gerry Mulcahy, Johnny Bradbury, Paul Robinson and Ray Boyce were tough, fit and mean – our full backs Tony Vaughan, Paul Ladds, Mick Huysman were tough, fit, mean but all were extremely disciplined, in fact the thing that strikes me most about the 1977 team was its football discipline. Backs played in front, cut off leads and punched the ball away – in the granny Gerry Mulcahy sent Barry Murphy "off his Head" playing Murphy (a gun) close. So Close - Mulcahy may as well have been inside Murphy's jumper. Doug Henderson switched HHF to CHB and starved the CHF.

In the pivot

No one will forget the big ANZAC heart of Michael Roberts our ruckman ; Tony (AJV) Vaughan's game saving mark of GF last quarter, Paul Robinson's flair "on the ball", Lockwood's grace in moving the ball, Dave Evans sweeping left foot, Checchi's courage, Collins courage & leadership, Turner's cheek and his drop-kicks, Shannon's cool instructions, Terells leaps – one particular leap in the second semi caused a known ex league football to remark that "that mark was more majestic than John Coleman could muster"- Terrell had just leaped over the full height of the Bulleen Templestow winger.

Our forwards – Dauntless

Our forwards continually moved, led, created opportunities, "locked the ball in", "formed the wall", ran past and kept the ball in our forward line. While the clock still ticked towards that 100 minutes..... we were always a chance. Example?

1977 Grand Final last quarter

Skipper Collins gets the ball in the dying minutes of the game, can you see it in your mind..... Dale going back for his kick. slowly, silence reigns,

My thoughts were simple "Turra, Dunn, Locky, Robbo or Collins.....Good – its Collins!!"

With cold precision, Collins kicked truly and so we won our first amateur grand final defeating Bulleen for the third time that year.

Congratulations to all 77 campaigners

Be proud, you went into the sludge and grime and won the club's first VAFA premiership

The First Flag in a long marchto A grade in 2008

Just some thoughts..... Bill Turner, 1977 coach



Premiership Photographs and Memorabilia



Coach Bill Turner urging his players on at the three quarter time huddle of the second semi final. [Courtesy: Peter Fogarty]



Interested onlookers at the three quarter time huddle of the second semi final. [Courtesy: Peter Fogarty]



St Bede's players take the field for the start of the grand final. Note the 1968 and 1970 premiership flags on display, and the tent pitched by the club. [Courtesy: Peter Fogarty]



Action from the grand final. [Courtesy: Peter Fogarty]



Jubilant supporters invade the ground to embrace the players after the grand final victory. [Courtesy: The Turner family]



Captain Dale Collins was hoisted on the shoulders of Mick Roberts at the end of the grand final. [Courtesy: Peter Fogarty]



Jenny Turner, John Turner, and Paul Robinson, celebrating after the grand final victory. [Courtesy: The Turner family]



Bill Turner being congratulated by jubilant supporters after the grand final victory. [Courtesy: The Turner family]

CLUB RECORDS

- 1966—9th, "A" Grade Reserve, S.E. Suburban League
- 1967—Semi-Finalist "A" Grade Reserve, S.E. Suburban League
- 1968—Premiers, "A" Grade Reserve, S.E. Suburban League
- 1969—5th, "A" Grade Reserve, S.E. Suburban League
- 1970—Premiers, "C" Grade South, Y.C.W. Association
- 1971—Finalist, "A" Grade South, Y.C.W. Association
- 1972—Semi-Finalist, "F" Section, V.A.F.A.
- 1973—Runner-Up, "F" Section, V.A.F.A.
- 1974—7th, "E" Section, V.A.F.A.
- 1975—9th, "E" Section, V.A.F.A.
- 1976—Preliminary Finalist, "F" Section, V.A.F.A.
—Premiers, 2nd XVIII, "F" Section Reserves, V.A.F.A.
- 1977—Premiers "F" Section, V.A.F.A.
—Premiers, 2nd XVIII, "F" Section Reserves, V.A.F.A.

TROPHY AWARDS, 1977

- Best and Fairest M. ROBERTS
- Best and Fairest (Runner-up) P. FOGARTY
- Most Improved M. LADDS
- Leading Goal Kicker C. ALLEN
- Leading Goal Kicker (2nd XVIII) P. BOWDEN
- Best Clubman M. CALLAGHAN
- Most Determined M. LOCKWOOD
- Best and Fairest (2nd XVIII) W. LAGERBERG
- Best and Fairest (2nd XVIII Runner-up) P. NEGRI
- Best 1st Year Player D. COLLINS
- Les Campbell Trophy for Guts D. CECCHI
- Best Finals Players:—
- 1st XVIII M. ROBERTS
- 2nd XVIII B. IRVING
- 150 Games Medallion T. KURTH
- 100 Games Medallion P. BOWDEN
 A. HESTER
 G. TERRELL
- 50 Games Medallion G. AYRE
 C. BIASCI
 M. CALLAGHAN
 P. FOGARTY
 M. ROBERTS
 A. SMYTH

**HOLDERS OF ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE PERPETUAL TROPHY
FOR BEST AND FAIREST**

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1966—F. Gattuso | 1972—D. Evans |
| 1967—J. Varney | 1973—G. Terrell |
| 1968—P. McCarthy | 1974—D. Kean |
| 1969—A. Allen | 1975—G. Rydberg |
| 1970—D. Evans | 1976—P. Robinson |
| 1971—D. Evans | 1977—M. Roberts |

ST. BEDE'S OLD COLLEGIANS' FOOTBALL CLUB



**1977
PREMIERSHIP
ANNUAL PRESENTATION
NIGHT**

Held at
**SANDRINGHAM FOOTBALL CLUB
SOCIAL CLUB,
BEACH RD., SANDRINGHAM**
on
FRIDAY, 28th OCTOBER, 1977

CLUB INFORMATION

- President G. ALEXANDER
- Senior Vice-President P. McCORMACK
- Vice-President P. HULETT
- General Secretary R. MULAVIN
- Assistant Secretary D. PRICE
- Treasurer T. HYNES

COACHING PANEL

- Senior Coach W. TURNER
- Assistant Coach G. SHANNON
- 2nd XVIII Coach B. IRVING
 D. COLLINS
 J. TURNER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- D. BAYLISS, D. OLIVER, J. PLUMRIDGE, M. RYAN,
A. VAUGHAN

PLAYERS' REPRESENTATIVE

- P. ROBINSON

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE

- Rev. Brother LAWRENCE

- Captain 1st XVIII D. COLLINS
- Captain 2nd XVIII B. IRVING

[Courtesy: Timm Kurth]

In each of my previous Annual REports as President, I have asked the question; How does one judge the success of a football Club? Is it success on the field or off the field? I believe that it is a combination! Hence in 1977, we have had a moderately successful year.

We have achieved the ultimate on the field in that we obtained two Premierships with the two teams we fielded. We have been promoted to E grade and it must be our aim to be promoted to D grade in 1978. If we retain the players we recruited in 1977, and supplement them with more players of their calibre whilst we retain our players of local standing then we will achieve that goal.

The instituting of our panel system of coaches has been successful and we must retain that idea. We congratulate the coaching panel. Our Senior Coach, Bill Turner has blossomed in 1977-converting a group of players that accepted defeat to players that would not give-in. That would not have been achieved without the support of Gerry Shannon, Brian Irving as Reserves Coach and Dale Collins and John Turner. Well done!

Turning now to the performance off the field. Whilst achieving a lot- renovation to certain extent Beda Park, the new room, partitioning of the hall, New goal posts, erection of training lights to the value of \$300, demolition of the House for revenue commencing Minilotto, we have failed to bring in revenue from our Social functions.

Lack of direction from the top, lack of player participation in social functions, lack of communication from the Committee has resulted in functions such as the Car Trial, Bad Taste Night, Sportsmans Night, Pleasant Sunday Mornings etc, not being the financial success that was essential. To all those that worked hard to attempt to make these facets of club life work, my deepest gratitude.

After four years as your President, I have concluded, that our Committee system as it exists is cumbersome and unweilding, and restrictive. Many changes, I believe must be made and with the support of the Committee, a constitutional amendment will be presented at the Annual General Meeting tonight. During 1977, I have made it clear on many occasions that I could not stand as your President again but if the amendment is passed, I will reconsider. Probably the most important facet of the amendment is that previously, elected Committee-men could not be asked to fulfil minimal responsibilities with the threat of replacement. Job allocations could not be made after election satisfactorily because we could not indicate before election the range of jobs available. People would not stand for election because they did not know what they "were in for".

After having painted this dismal picture, on the credit side, I wish to thank all Executive and committee members that have worked hard under a difficult system. I could not have carried on this year without the support of these men. Individual effort by John Plumridge with Tattsлото, Dennis Oliver, Peter McCormack & Jack Hand with the House demolition, Mick Callaghan with collection of Subscriptions, were outstanding.

To all I cannot than individually, my deepest gratitude. My thanks to all members for their support and confidence in allowing me to be your 1977 President.

George Alexander
President

FUND RAISING REPORT

For the season just finished the total amount raised was \$1564.32, consisting of \$1271.25 from Mini Lotto and \$293.07 from Thursday night Raffles.

On the surface it appears to be a rather good result, but that is far from fact. Without the tremendous regular effort put in by Paul Bowden, Ann Bolger, Des Bayliss, Gerry Shannon, Bill Daw, Gerry Mulcahy and Paul Hulett, Mini Lotto was a flop.

Not enough players were prepared to put in a little effort to help the Club raise the funds necessary to keep the two teams on the field.

In 1978 I would recommend, if Mini Lotto is continued, that teams be compiled to compete against each other to get greater participation from all Club Members.

Too often the same few do too much. In Mini Lotto we had the ideal instrument to raise money from outside the Club, to widen our sphere of interest and possible clientele for other functions.

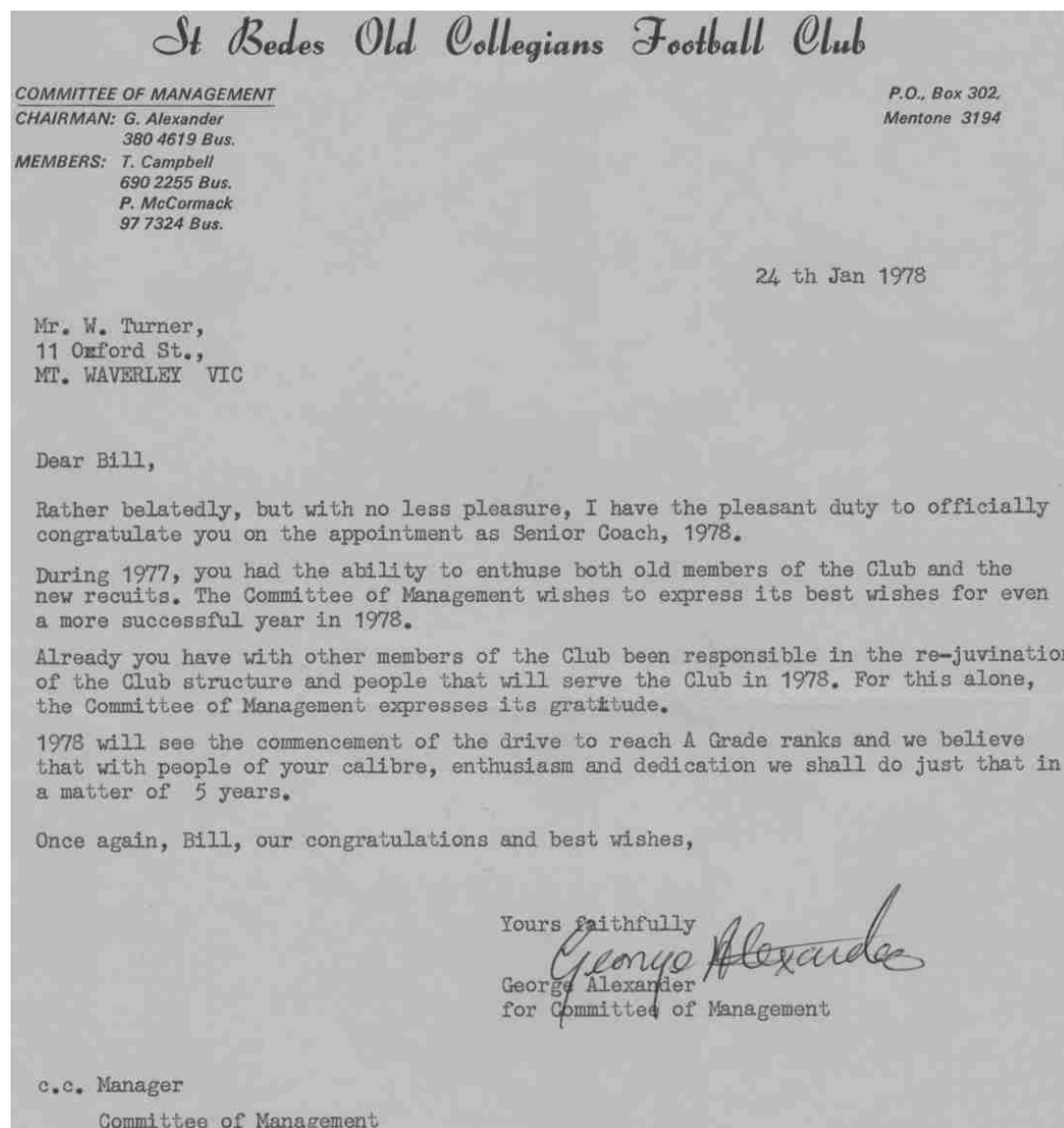
The Thursday night raffles, 14 in all, raised \$293.07 an average of \$21 per night. Special thanks here go to the following people who donated prizes during the year : D.Evans, G.Alexander, M.Quan, D.Price, T.Hynes, R.Mulewin, P.McCormack, W.Turner, P.Hulett and J.Plumridge.

Although the Budget for the Fund Raising was exceeded, I am Personally disappointed that the results did not exceed \$2000.00.

In conclusion my thanks go to D. Price and P. Hulett who assisted me at various times throughout the year, particularly D. Price who assisted with the ticket checking on Sundays.



J. Plumridge



The Aftermath: Senior Finals, Reserves Premierships and a Fire

A significant rivalry had developed between St Bede's OC and Bulleen/Templestowe from this 1977 season. Both clubs were promoted to 'E' Section in 1978 and both clubs' senior and reserve teams again played in the grand final of this year. Bulleen/Templestowe exacted some revenge on the Beda's by winning the Senior 'E' Section Grand Final of 1978 with the final scores being **Bulleen/Templestowe 23.11.149 def. St Bede's OC 15.17.107**. The Beda's Reserve team, however, made it an amazing three premierships in succession with the final scores being **St Bede's OC 9.7.61 def. Bulleen/Templestowe 4.5.29**.

Now promoted to 'D' Section in 1979, the Beda's senior team finished outside the finals, the premiership being won by Bulleen/Templestowe defeating MHSOB. The Reserves failed in a low scoring encounter by three points to make it four successive premierships. Final scores in the grand final were **Bulleen/Templestowe 9.6.60 def. St Bede's OC 8.9.57**.

The club remained in 'D' Section in 1980 and 1981, when in both years the senior team were defeated in the preliminary final and finished in third place. Alphington defeated South Bank in the 1980 'D' Section Grand Final and then Coburg defeated West Brunswick in 1981. The Beda's reserves' teams maintained their impressive record winning the 1980 Premiership with the final score being **St Bede's**

OC 16.8.104 def Old Carey 8.7.55. They again won the 1982 Premiership in 'D' Section making it a total of five Premierships in a seven-year period.

Of course another piece of significant and somewhat controversial club history occurred in early August 1980, when the Beda Park club rooms were burnt down by fire, perhaps disrupting the clubs possible rise through VAFA grades in the next decade. It is also interesting to note that Bulleen/Templestowe continued their rapid climb through the VAFA grades, winning the 1983 'B' Section Premiership and being finalists in 'A' section in 1984.

Memorabilia Wanted

The club is keen to complete its records of the 1977 premiership season. Memorabilia from other seasons, such as 1970 (see below) is also sought. Please contact any of the Hall of Fame Committee, listed below, if you would like to donate items or provide material for copying.

Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au

mbeasley@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

Brett.Marchant@csa.gov.au



Absent: T. Vaughan, P. Adams, P. McCormack

Note: Brian Irving is standing between J. English and D. Kane in the back row.

[Courtesy: Timm Kurth]

THIS 2007 HALL OF FAME BOOKLET IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

ifco hire

'NUMBER **1** IN HIRE'



IFCO H1RE

GROUND FLOOR, 12 ABBOTTS RD
DANDENONG SOUTH, VIC 3175
Ph: 1300 738 758 Fax: 03 9706 5657
www.ifco.com.au

1300 738 758



Portable Buildings

Offices – Lunchrooms – Toilets
Construction – Commercial – Retail

Access Equipment

Scissor Lifts – Boom Lifts – Forklifts
Scaffold – Telehandlers – Licencing



AUTOGRAPHS

