



NEWSLETTER

PO Box 236 Altona Vic 3018
jimhevey@optusnet.com.au

Altona Football Club has set up its own place in local History in 2012



On Saturday the 15th September 2012 Altona Football Club (*The Vikings*) set up its own place in local history by winning its first Senior Premiership in the Western Region Football League when they defeated Spotswood Football Club, who were last Seasons premier team by the smallest of margins, of one point.

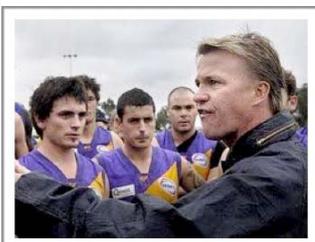
The final score was Altona 14.7 91 to Spotswood 12.18 90.

The win is the Clubs first Division One premiership in the Western Region Football League.

Altona Seniors are coached by Anthony Eames, a three time Reserves Division Coach with Williamstown, and a JJ Liston Trophy winner with Werribee in 1991.

It is understood that the Club attained another first for the League when they had teams represented in the Senior, Reserve and Under 18 division Grand Finals of the League.

The Club also won the Reserves Flag.



A précis of the Altona Football Club History

Information publicly available indicates that the early forerunner of the current Altona Football Club was established in 1918 by James Duke, Richard Blomberg, William Davey and other Altona Business persons in Davey's Cafe, near the corner of Pier Street and The Esplanade, later to become known as the **ABC Cafe**.



After playing in local competitions the Club entered the VFA Sub District competition in 1929.

The first ground was in a paddock near the corner of what is now Civic Parade and Millers Road.

The club colours of Purple and Gold were adopted as a tribute to the World War One Battalion Colours of James Duke's eldest son George.

James Duke was also President of the Life Savers Club, Cricket Club and the Hospital Auxiliary.

Another historical item of interest is that his mother sewed stars on the Southern Cross Flag flown at Eureka.

The team originally played in a local YMCA competition (1925) and has progressed through a number of different Leagues since inception including the Melbourne and Suburban Football Association (1926), The



VFA Sub District League (1929), the Werribee District Football League (1930), the Footscray District League, their inaugural seasons in this League being 1933

-1938, after which they rejoined the Werribee District Football league and disbanded during the War Years and rejoined the Footscray District Football League, B Grade division after reforming in 1945.

Later years saw progress through various Junior Leagues, until rejoining the Western Region Football League with Premier wins in Second Division allowing the Club to enter the Division 1 Grade.

A photo of the Duke Family circa 1916 is shown left.

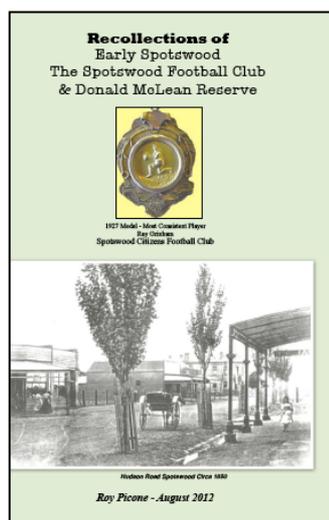
The **Footscray District League** was established in 1931 and the original founding Clubs at that time were, Parkside A, Parkside B, Bayview, Tech Old Boys, CYMS, Braybrook, Scouts & St Johns.

1931 Premiers were Parkside who defeated Braybrook 11.19 85 to 7.5 47

1932 saw the admittance of teams from West Footscray, Dark Blues, Yarraville Rovers and Seddon

The current name of the League is the Western Region Football League

The Runners Up - Spotswood Football Club



The recent publication of a limited edition Book containing the recollections of long time Spotswood resident Roy Picone indicates that Spotswood Football Club in many ways has a history similar to that of the Altona Football Club.

Photos of a Spotswood Football Club team winning Premierships in 1899,1907 and 1913 were proudly displayed in the original wooden club rooms, but the photos were destroyed in a fire during 1987 that destroyed the club rooms, it is understood that this team played in a junior Williamstown District competition.

A copy of the 1899 team has been obtained from the original glass slide that was possessed by the Australian Glass Manufacturing Company, early employees of which were involved with the Club.

A young W. J. Smith who went on to become the A.G.M Manager and a well known Australian Industrial leader is depicted in the 1899 photo.

The Spotswood Football Club in its more recent format was formed in 1927, when Mr. Jim Castles and several local business people met to form a Football Club in the District, Jim Castles said "I will make all the arrangements and enter a team in the Sub District Association, but on one condition, the club colours must be Emerald Green and Gold.

The meeting was held in the Mechanics Hall in Hope Street Spotswood.

First Office bearers were, Mr. Jim Burke - President, Charles Stephens - Secretary and Mr. Arthur Clements - Treasurer.

The Club entered a team in the strong VFA Sub District competition playing on a ground alongside the Railway line to the East of the current ground.

They entered the Footscray District League in 1935 under the name of the Spotswood Citizens Football Club, needing to rename after having failed to properly obtain a clearance from the VFA Sub District competition.

Spotswood's first Senior Premiership was in 1938, and following their 2011 Premiership win they became the Leagues most successful Club having won 15 Senior flags, ahead of Parkside (14) and Braybrook (12)



Association News

Important information for all Members

General Meetings

The Committee of Management have decided that as a result of the decreasing membership and the increasing work load on those who are active current members, resulting from the increased interest from Tour Groups, School Groups and other persons wishing to visit and tour the Homestead, on open days, Special event days, and other week days - which requires the Homestead to be staffed to accommodate these types of visits, that the **General Meeting nights will be limited** to the minimum number required to satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act.

The planned General Meetings for the balance of 2012 and early 2013 are:

Tuesday 11th December 2012 (end of year get together)

Tuesday 19th February 2013

Tuesday 16th April 2013

Tuesday 18th June 2013

The 2013 Annual General Meeting will be conducted on a date to be confirmed in July or August 2013. Other special events or activities which require member participation will continue, including during 2013 - Australia Day, Three Movie Nights, the Beach Festival, Art in Public Places.

There will be a working bee on a date to be confirmed, and other special events of guest speaker evenings may be included from time to time.

Below is an example of upcoming tours that members can assist with by helping the committee members who have indicated they will attend to open the Homestead on the various days.

Members please assist whenever possible - a Minute Taker is actively sought.

Date	Day	Time	Group	Numbers	CoM
9th October	Tuesday	1.00pm	HBCC Information Centre	TBA	Sharon
31st October	Friday	10.00am	Childrens Picnic in Park		Sharon
13th November	Tuesday	11.00am	Rowville Tours	TBA	
14th November	Wednesday	11.00am	Lambell Tours	TBA	Jim
20th November	Tuesday	11.00am	Rowville Tours	TBA	

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE OBJECTS BELOW ?



The objects above are in the Homestead Museum Collection, they are hand painted metal discs with numbers on them and holes which indicate that they may have been hung on hooks for display, perhaps used in a game.



Currently on display at the Homestead in support of the Hobsons Bay Seniors Festival is a display of memorabilia lent by Seniors from the local area, this includes a collection of Slovak costumes and above is a Slovak Bride doll in Traditional ensemble.



The Mayor did his duty
The Homestead was a first aid station

Mercury, Hobart Tasmania, Monday 31 January 1898,
page 3

MANAGERS' REPORTS.

A PICNIC SENSATION - A Girl Shot -

A rather sensational mishap occurred last week at the annual picnic of the Williamstown trades, held at Altona. In starting the opening race, the starter accidentally lodged the contents of a revolver - which, contrary to the usual practise, seems to have been loaded with ball cartridge - in the leg of a girl aged 13 years named Alice O'Dea, who resides at 165, Ferguson-street, Williamstown. Dr. Honman, who was in attendance as honorary surgeon at the Williamstown race meeting, some three miles distant, was sent for, and treated the sufferer at the residence of the caretaker of the Altona Estate. He found that a bullet had been embedded in the leg. He succeeded in extracting it, and then ordered the patient's removal to the Williamstown Hospital, whither she was conveyed by the Mayor.

“Time Travellers” the Film

For nearly two years the Altona Laverton Historical Society has had members represented on a Committee comprising representatives from the University of the Third Age (U3A Altona), the Hobsons Bay Council, and from time to time various persons representing Senior Citizens Clubs around Hobsons Bay and Laverton, and representatives from other Clubs of various Ethnic backgrounds, in order to assist in the preparation of a Film, depicting the activities on Seniors in the area.

The project was funded by a Grant to U3A from the Hobsons Bay City Council, and has since been supplemented by generous support from other groups such as the Bendigo Community Bank, Altona Sports Club, Schools, Choir Groups, the film makers Alex and Jonathan and participation by a number of other individuals and groups, some of whom will appear in the Film.

Also as part of the project was the requirement for a memorabilia exhibition, to support Seniors Week 2012, and following hard work by VP Carol Winfield and others, items are on display in the Homestead for several weeks during October, contributors include, George Said, Don and Lorraine Bedella, Val Hanniver, The Slovak Group, Altona Seniors art members, and the Altona Painters Group.

Of special interest are hand drawn items submitted by Year 2 primary school students from Altona and Williamstown North Primary Schools.

It is intended that some of these images which include drawings of local identities will appear on the cover of the film DVD.

These drawings are a credit to the talent among the young students who produced them.

The film will be first viewed on Friday the 12th October at the Altona Theatre before an invited audience including the Mayor. Our ALHS President Peter Weaver will be the Master of Ceremony on the day



Committee 2012/2013

President: Peter Weaver

Vice President: Carol Winfield

Secretary: Kim Walsh

Treasurer: Jim Hevey

Committee Members

Sharon Walsh

Owen Hyde

