

LILYDALE FOOTBALL CLUB

A Brief History

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RECORD SECTION by Ross Smith and Brain Bardenhagen

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IN THE BEGINNING

Football of one form or another has been played in the world for hundreds of years. Australian Rules Football takes as its starting point 1858 in Melbourne although some dispute this with claims that the seeds of our national game were sown a few years earlier on the Victorian goldfields.

The first match ever held was played in August 1858 between two Melbourne public schools — Scotch College and Church of England Grammar School. The next year a committee was appointed to draft the first rules for the game. Progress towards the spectacular sport so proudly displayed at the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games was under way. As the sport developed on the mainland in the 1860's the same decade saw the early settlers move into our local area which was then known as Upper Pipers River. This area in Northern Tasmania is about 27 kilometres (17 miles) northeast of Launceston and has been known as Lilydale since about 1887. The town is situated in a valley at the foot of Mt. Arthur and the two are closely linked. For many years timber was obtained from the slopes and town water supply has its source on the mountain.

Information about the early days of football in Lilydale is scarce and conclusive evidence about the first game has yet to be discovered. Mr Alf Kerkham — formerly post master at Lilydale for over 30 years — recalls that his school teacher just after the First World War played in the Lilydale team. Mr Lert Arnold told me that about the same time he "played in the side at the age of thirteen or fourteen to make up the numbers".

The Lilydale Football Association was formed in 1921 and for a few years teams from surrounding districts such as Tunnel, Bangor, Lebrina, Nabowla and Pipers River as well as Lilydale competed. Later a Scottsdale team entered the Association. Interest was difficult to sustain and one or two sides lasted for just a short period. Life was not always easy in the twenties and thirties but surely Bangor must have suffered one of the strangest quirks of fate to befall a team and force them to disband. Work in the area was scarce and the story is told of a team official who did not have a job and made the most of his opportunities. He stole Bangor's set of Guernseys, sold them in Launceston and used the money to pay for his fare to the mainland, What happened to the jumpers and the official is not known?

Newspaper records show that the L.F.A. in 1926 consisted of teams from Lebrina, Nabowla, Lilydale and Scottsdale. By 1928 only the three latter sides remained. We were generally behind Scottsdale at the final siren but in 1928 Lilydale defeated them by one point on their home territory and thus won the premiership for that season. It must be made clear, however, that this season was contested by a Scottsdale second eighteen because the senior team played in the N.E.F.U.

'The Spokesman' was a local newspaper published by Mr Kerkham at about this time and another publication of his was 'The Footballer'. He also published historical booklets on Lilydale and it is said that many a gloomy day was enlivened by his wit and humour. One issue of 'The Spokesman' dated March 27th, 1926 proudly announced that Lilydale township ". . . Now possesses some 40 dusty motor vehicles . . .". This total was made up of 5 Lorries, 12 cars and 23 motor bikes. Travelling to away matches was generally done by coach or by Lorries converted for that purpose and this practice continued until after the Second World War. The Bardenhagen family was of assistance in this area of transport.

The first photo in this booklet is of the 1928 premiership team along with some of their supporters. There are a couple of interesting sidelights about two people in that photograph. The first concerns Peter Chick who is second from the left in the front row. He was an original ANZAC, a fine soldier and after being wounded on Gallipoli he was taken down to the beach by the legendary soldier "The Man With The Donkey". The other story is connected with Alex Garcia who is the man in white shorts kneeling on the

extreme right of the picture. His grandfather helped guard Napoleon on St. Helena where the French leader had been exiled after losing the Battle of Waterloo.

The task of maintaining interest in a roster when only four, or perhaps five teams are involved is hard enough; so attempting to hold an association together when only three sides are competing must especially difficult. Indeed, keeping interest up or even adding more teams proved too much for the area and the last dozen years before the Second World War contained much forming, disbanding and re-forming of clubs and competitions. At one stage the town of Lilydale split into two teams. I understand that the dividing line was the Second River/North Lilydale Roads. Those living to the north played for Bridestowe Rovers; those on the town side played for Lilydale. The war prevented football in the area being played on an organized basis although the major competitions around Australia continued.



The 1928 Lilydale team which beat a Scottsdale side to win the Premiership – L'dale 7.6 (48) to S'dale 6.11 (47). Some of our supporters are also featured and named in order of appearance.

BACK (l. to r.): D. Hayes, B. Green, A. Miller, E. Power, R. Arnold, A. Hudson, W. Arnold, J. Barrenger, H. Pollard, V. Arnold, C. Arnold, G. T. Miller, H. Hayes, M. Ferguson.
CENTRE: ? Viney, V. Pollard, S. Grandfield, J. Clifford, R. Bennett, N. East, L. Viney, A. Pollard, J. East, F. Sulzberger, G. Bennett, A. Garcia.
FRONT: F. Chick, P. Chick, V. Procter, Umpire ?, E. Dolbey, M. Sulzberger.

Photo: W. Arnold.



1951 – Lilydale

BACK (l. to r.): Les Rawnsley, T. Whiting, R. Webb, R. Woodland, M. Arnold, A. Rawnsley, A. Childs, J. Arnold, F. Arnold.
CENTRE: J. Bardenhagen, C. Fuller, E. Hodgson, D. Dolbey.
FRONT: G. Johnson, T. Dornauf, A. K. Barrenger, W. Chick, E. McKercher.

Photo: Mrs. R. H. Smith

THE EAST TAMAR

The Examiner reported in April 1946 that "Lilydale reformed at a recent meeting and hoped to form an association with teams from the surrounding district". Within a few weeks the East Tamar Football Association had been formed and comprised teams from Lilydale, George Town, Karoola and Lefroy. This first season suffered from bad weather, particularly during July. The Launceston area received rain for seventeen consecutive days according to press reports and some E.T.F.A. matches were cancelled. Lilydale had reasonable seasons in the '46 to '49 period being runners-up three times. From halfway through the 1949 season until the 1954 Grand Final was our greatest era when we played a total of 83 games and lost just eleven of them. Lilydale defeated Lefroy in the 1949 Final but under the system then used Lefroy had the right as minor premiers to challenge us again. This time they kept their noses in front all day and won by fourteen points. 1950-51-52-53. four seasons, four premierships. For the first three of these our coach was Charlie Fuller, formerly of North Launceston and Launceston. He recalls with pleasure the happy times he spent with the Club and says it was a privilege to know and coach his teams. Charlie described them as well-disciplined and perhaps they needed to be because training was only held on one night a week. A stark contrast to the Lilydale of today when with training held two nights a week a handful of players each season don't even turn up once on average!

The 1950 season was a stormy year on and off the field. Several times at E.T.F. meetings delegates from Lilydale and Hillwood walked out after various disputes so perhaps it is no surprise that the Grand Final had a share of the controversy as well. Karoola had beaten us in the final two rounds of the roster when the two sides met again for the flag. Lilydale won the match by two points but only after an extraordinary incident occurred as the half-time siren sounded, Our rover Bill Chick was awarded a free kick for a push in the back about 30 to 35 yards from goal. Then the siren blew and the Karoola players crowded around him and refused to allow the shot for goal. Chick tucked the ball under his arm and would not give it up. (Wynyard and North Hobart people know all about that trick!) The goal umpire, who had N.T.F.A. experience, told the central umpire that the kick should be allowed because it was awarded before the siren had blown. After this the Karoola players stood back. Unaffected by the whole business Bill kicked the goal and eventually Lilydale scrambled home by less than a full-pointer. How important every kick can be.

A further dispute came after the game when Karoola protested to the E.T.F.A. that we should not have played R. Stanwix who was alleged to be still registered as an Amateur. The East Tamar upheld the protest but this decision was itself reversed by the N.T.F.A. after Lilydale appealed to them. They found that Stanwix did not need a clearance because the amateur registration had in fact lapsed before he played with us.

The "1951 season must have been a very tense one for players and supporters because eight of our last twelve roster matches were won or lost by less than two goals. Lilydale was a well-balanced team with strong marking players such as Keith Coghlan, Max and Fred Arnold, Astley Childs and Eric Hodgson. The forward line was well served by Bill Chick, Don Dolbey, Arthur and Alan 'Tubby' Barringer and the consistency of Jack Arnold at full back and Geoff Johnson in the back pocket often held the opposition to a losing score.

The fight for the '51 flag was a very close affair between Lilydale and Hillwood, so close in fact that the match was drawn and had to be replayed the following week. In that first game 'Tubby' Barringer was moving around the boundary line and about to shoot for goal when it is alleged that a well-known Hillwood supporter stepped out from the crowd and tripped him up. When they attacked strongly towards the end of the game we appeared to become a little rattled by the pressure. Charlie Fuller used his experience to direct the troops and we managed to hang on to battle again the following week. Many people talking about the history of the Club recall that this next match was probably one of the greatest

victories ever achieved. Arthur Barrenger {broken nose} and Keith Coghlan (unavailable) were missing from the side but despite the odds against them Lilydale won the 1951 premiership by 28 points almost doubling Hillwood's score in the process. For the second year running we won the flag by defeating the team which just a week or two earlier had beaten us in the final roster match of the season. Well, if you thought that was a little unusual 1952 just happens to have followed exactly the same pattern of events. Lilydale met Lebrina in the last roster match of the year and our colours were lowered. Guess who we played in the Grand final? Yes, Lebrina!

Charlie Fuller asked Keith Coghlan --- who had missed almost half the season --- to make a special effort to get fit for the game. The big ruckman made the effort and played a vital role in our victory by seven points.

When the siren sounded we had kicked 6.11 to Lebrina's 5.10.

The next season saw a new coach and a new opponent. Rocherlea entered the E.T.F.A. for the first time and Lilydale welcomed a new leader who helped us maintain our reputation as a strong marking side. Doug Smith, 6.2 and 13.0, began his career with Tech Old Boys in Launceston and when hostilities disturbed the relative peace of the footy field Smith entered the Navy. In 1943 he played with Collingwood who were coached by the famous jock McHale. After the War Doug played with Longford, Newtown and Scottsdale before coming to the East Tamar. We lost just one match in 1953, that being to Lebrina halfway through the year. The latter won the semi-final against Hillwood but lost on protest as a player, Pat Ryan, I believe, was ruled ineligible. Hillwood were unable to match Lilydale and we won by 35 points; our fourth premiership in a row. Talking to Doug Smith about the game he remembers that during the third quarter our opponents tried very hard to get back into the game. His tactical sense came to the fore when there was a disturbance in the crowd. To allow the players to settle down and to stop the run Hillwood were making at us he told the central umpire that he would not agree to any further play until fighting spectators were removed from the boundary line area.

Comradeship amongst the team was very strong and Smith is a coach held in high regard by members of the Club. Some even described him as "exceptional" and a fine footballer he continued to be because when he moved to the North West Coast the Ulverstone side had the benefit of his experience. Doug Smith also represented the Union in intra-state games having earlier in his career played in N.T.F.A. and T.F.L. combined sides. Few other players can have represented each of the major competitions in this State.

The difficulties of going through the season unbeaten were experienced by Lilydale in 1954. We won all the roster matches but in the most important game -The Grand Final - luck finally withdrew its favour from us and Rocherlea beat us by nine points. Late in the game Trevor Dornauf could not pick up the slippery ball as it slithered around near the goal square and our chance was gone.

The next season the East Tamar used the present system of a final four for the first time and Lilydale's next premiership was won in 1956 when our coach was Jack Hawksley. We beat Hillwood in the second semi-final and met them again two weeks later to decide the E.T.F.A. title. The Lilydale side won by three goals. Hawksley told me that the team gave complete and full commitment to the task ahead and fitness was also an important reason for success. Naturally lack of severe injuries helped but that seems fair enough because in later years they have sometimes ruined our chances of winning more titles. The '56 win earned us the honour of playing Bridgenorth for the title of Tamar Valley Champions and in a magnificent game of football we triumphed by eight points— 15.17 to 15.9. Though pleased with the victory Jack is unhappy that we did not win the East Tamar flag in the years either side of our success, feeling that complete courage and dedication at vital stages of the '55 and '57 match was not shown by one or two players.

The dozen or so years after 1956 saw our team lose seven grand finals. Some reasons for this were; Hillwood and GeorgeTown played a style of football similar to that seen in present day games instead of the 1960`s mark and kick game and their players used ability and often much experience to make fewer mistakes than other teams lastly, Hillwood sometimes suffered large defeats at the start of a season but towards the end of that year experienced players from N.T.F.A. sides were "contracted" to build the team into premiership material. Superstition had no place in our side of 1969 this was the thirteenth year since our last flag and the coach for that season, Wayne Blazely, enforced strict discipline expecting all players to train as hard as possible. Theoretically all coaches think like that; few in the country competitions gain the respect to carry it out. Blazely was one who did gain that respect. Joe East, a veteran of over 220 games for Lilydale, said this was the only year he put everything into training and the same probably applies to many other players In that team- "if you told Wayne that you couldn't — train on Tuesday night he told you to have a run on Monday or Wednesday night". Outsiders moulded into the club atmosphere as if they were a local and a football news Sheet was printed on a weekly basis. With correspondents having names such as 'Squeaky', 'Biscuit', and 'Wong Nut' (Wing Nut Wang the Wong number!) one can see that life around the Recreation Ground was never dull. September 13th was the day eagerly awaited by all connected with Lilydale and the 'Magpie News' issued a special edition in it the following view was put forward ". . .We can match Hillwood in every department and it will only need 100 minutes of complete concentration, together with dedicated teamwork and purposeful forward play, to see Lilydale win . . .".



1954 — A Lilydale Senior Team

BACK (l. to r.) D. Dolbey, L. Flynn, D. Flynn, E. Hodgson, K. Coghlan, A. Finlayson, A. F. Barrenger.
CENTRE: G. Johnson, T. Whiting, R. Turner, R. Webb, J. Arnold.
FRONT: G. Simmons, L. Dennis, W. Chick, H. Franklin, B. Franklin, T. Dornauf.

Photo: W. Chick



Tamar Valley Champions 1956 – Lilydale 15.17 to B'north 15.9

(From l. to r.) T. Coghlan (mascot), J. Hawksley, J. Arnold, D. Flynn, E. Franklin, G. Terry, K. Turner, T. Whiting, A. Sulzberger, L. Flynn, E. Hodgson, D. Dolbey, A. Johnson, I. Dornauf, A. Finlayson, R. Webb, G. Johnson, T. Dornauf, R. Turner.

Photo: K. Coghlan



East Tamar Runners-Up 1963 – Lilydale 12.13 lost to George Town 14.16

BACK (l. to r.) L. Pollard, P. Arnold, N. Venn, D. Flynn, G. Mineall, G. Pyers, K. Semmens, J. Brooks, G. McKercher, A. K. Barringer.

FRONT: P. Vincent, E. Hodgson, G. Wright, R. Sherriff, G. Talbot, G. Hawksley, P. Youl, M. Frazer, L. Flynn.

Photo: L. & H. Pollard

Police stop footy brawl

THREE police officers went on the Rocherlea football oval to break up a savage brawl in the East Tamar grand final between Lilydale and Hillwood.

They stepped in after a boundary umpire who had tried to stop the fight was picked up over a player's head and thrown in the mud.

The wild melee started about 15 minutes into the third quarter, and lasted about seven minutes.

A Lilydale player who had taken a mark on the half-forward flank was knocked to the ground.

Then it started. First two or three players rushed in and seconds later about 30 players were slogging it out.

The fight was so wild that central umpire R. Lewis could not make any reports.

Knocked down

Had he reported one player, he would have had to report at least another 20.

During the fight, several spectators rushed on the ground but they were knocked down, and left the

field dazed and covered in mud.

The three umpires were pushed and shoved as the fight went on. When it appeared that umpire Lewis had broken it up, the fight flared again and police stepped in.

They lined the teams up and told the players that they were on the ground to play football and if they continued to fight, they would have to call the game off.

While the police were talking to the players, Mr J. Thirkell, president of the Umpires Board, called the umpires aside and held a short discussion.

Play resumed

Ten minutes after the Lilydale player had taken the mark, he was awarded his kick and the game went on.

The three-quarter time spell settled most of the players and there was little trouble in the last quarter.

No players were reported and no one was seriously injured. One player lost several teeth.

Lilydale went on to win the game and its first premiership in 13 years.

Tuesday September 16th, 1969.

'The Examiner' reports on the East Tamar grand final which Lilydale won by 21 points.

Photo: 'Examiner'

The team lined up as follows:

Backs	H. Ebbelaar	D. Flynn	A. Van Asch
Half Backs	R. Hawes	H. Hawes	R. Harding
Centres	B. Chick	. Henderson	P. Hawes
Half-forward	G. Hammersley	J. East	P. Arnold
Forwards	G. Murray	T. Coghlan	G. Nott
Rucks	G. East	F. Nott	
Rover	W. Blazely		
Reserves	19 th A. Kettle	20 th B. Walker	

A few days after the game another special issue of the news sheet came out with the headline "The Mighty Magpies Downed The Dirty Demons" and also stated "a dedicated and well-disciplined team will beat a mob of individuals . . .".

Conditions for the match were not good. Recalling that day fourteen years later Wayne Blazely said they were about the worst conditions I ever played in. . .". Driving rain made the heavy surface of the ground even worse and good ball handling was impossible. Comparing the two sides on paper Hillwood probably looked the better and more experienced side.

The first half of the game was low scoring, Lilydale having put 3.3 on the board were just one point ahead. Frank Nott, Blazely and Geoff Murray had kicked one goal each. Memories of that third quarter at Rocherlea are still vivid in the minds of those who were present. A magnificent exhibition from the forwards capitalised on efforts made by the other players and we kicked five goals to Hillwood's one. ". . . following Gerry Nott being smacked in the mouth and Gilbert Hammersley being flattened after taking a mark from Gerry's free kick, the ugliest scene in the history of the East Tamar took place . . .". The wild scenes of the next few minutes were reported by 'The Examiner' on Tuesday, September '16th. The report is shown on page '12. After the melee the Lilydale players kept their minds on the game. Coolly led by skipper Blazely teaming well with the defence and our winning centre line "the mountain men" coasted to success by 21 points. Our goal scorers in the second half were G. Murray (2), I. East (2), G. Nott, F. Nott and Terry Coghlan who popped through the sealer from about 50 yards out. Determination, fitness, belief self and in the team as a cohesive unit complemented the ability of the twenty players to win for Lilydale sixth E.T.F.A .Flag. The town showed some life that night!

The 1969-70 summer period saw Hillwood fold and I believe Rocherlea were not keen on moves combine the East and West Tamar into one roster. Lilydale readily agreed to the new competition and another part of our history began. The West Tamar team of Exeter already wore the same Guernsey as Lilydale — black and white vertical stripes — so after some unproductive negotiation we agreed to change colours. A number of different designs were discussed but the committee finally decided on the jumpers we used before the Second World War: black with red sash.in one's



East Tamar Senior Premiers 1969 – Lilydale 10.6 to Hillwood 7.3

BACK (l. to r.) H. Ebbelaar, T. Coghlan, H. Hawes, A. Van Asch, G. East, G. Nott, D. Flynn, P. Arnold, J. East, F. Nott.
 FRONT: R. Harding, G. Hammersley, G. Murray, B. Chick, G. Henderson, R. Hawes, W. Blazely (Capt.-Coach), P. Hawes.

Photo: 'Examiner' & R. Hawes



1972 – 'A' Lilydale Senior Team

BACK (l. to r.) A. Woolnough, L. Pollard, T. Coghlan, R. Hay, J. Chugg, P. Arnold, J. East, L. Arnold, G. Snooks, G. Wells, H. Cook (Trainer).
 FRONT: K. Hawes, R. East, B. Chick, M. Johnson, R. Hawes, G. Hawes, A. Arnold, R. Hill, R. McDonald, H. Hawes.

Photo: L. & H. Pollard

THE TAMAR ASSOCIATION

The competition increasing in size from five up to as many as eight teams created a lot of interest on both sides of the river and today the Tamar is one of the strongest country associations in the North perhaps even the whole of Tasmania. Writing this during the fourteenth season of the T-F.A. I am unable to report any further premierships won by our senior team. However, the reserves won in '1978 and '1979. The latter year is the only season that the Lilydale seniors have played off for a Tamar title. Many of us had high hopes of victory but George Town maintained their magnificent unbeaten record and defeated us by 9 points. They were the only side Lilydale did not beat in 1979.

The Tamar for the past few years has decided where each final is to be played before the season begins. Lilydale was chosen to host the '79 second semi-final and the grand finale. Unfortunately, the weather did not do the ground justice. After a generally fine and dry winter on "footy days", that September day deemed with rain and the oval was soon reduced to a quagmire. An interesting second-semi took place though and Radford snapped a superb goal to earn George Town a 1 draw; they won the replay and to avoid the VFL grand finale the Tamar committee arranged to play theirs on October 6th. A fortnight before that Lilydale defeated Bridgenorth in the preliminary final played at Beaconsfield. We had another crack at our greatest rivals of the year, Could we win?

The semi-final replay and preliminary final were played in fine weather as per the earlier pattern of the season but when the important day arrived heavy rain also returned. Lilydale could not sustain their good beginning — 20 points up halfway through the first term — and a tally of only three points in the third quarter left us too much to do in the last term,

A number of other seasons have finished in disappointing fashion after our form was as good as any shown by other members of the final four until the vital match; notably the 1976 first semi-final. That game is remembered by us as a disaster. We were six or seven goals up at halftime but then appeared to relax probably thinking we had it won. Bridgenorth took over in the air and out-ran us for the next quarter and a half. Lilydale's desperate attempt to grab the lead back in the last few minutes failed and the dressing rooms after the match were a sad and sorry place to be. For all that, the game must have been a feast for the impartial fans — Bridgenorth scored 18.15 to our 18.9 — a perfect day which allowed comfortable viewing of some fine marks and attractive football by both sides.

Now I turn to a happier day; also in 1976. The game I refer to was at Beauty Point where the home side are always difficult to beat. Against enormous odds Lilydale achieved a remarkable victory. At the end of the third quarter we had a lead of about six or seven points. Earlier in the game we had lost ruckman David Anning with a knee injury. When Robert Sims went onto the ground he was accidentally knocked out within a minute of going on the field? This was his debut in the seniors too, but I am not sure how much he remembers, there were no reserves left to replace him and soon after the last term started another player was injured and forced to go to a forward pocket. So here we are. Less than a goal up. Sixteen reasonably fit men and two 'crocks'. To top it all off Beauty Point were kicking with the wind. Peter Brooks, formerly of City—South, was an outstanding defender in those last few minutes and Lilydale hung on until the final siren winning 7.14 to 6.18.

In 1977 the seniors did not win a match, surprisingly our social functions during that year were very successful. If we can regain the atmosphere of that season and retain the services of very nearly all players in the Senior, Reserves and Min-League teams of 1983 we will surely win our first Tamar Senior flag within 5 years.

CONCLUSION

The L.F.C, Annual Meeting, for the 1983 season turned out to be one of the most important in many years. Moves were made for us to affiliate with the N.E.F.U but the majority felt the Tamar still offered a higher standard of play and other benefits to member teams. The township itself needs to support the Football Club a little more than it does at the moment; perhaps as the finals arrive that support will be forthcoming. The current year has been fairly successful on the field but in this modern world loyalty to the team you play for doesn't seem to mean as much as it used to. More effort on the social side of events by 'contract' players in particular, would make the job of running the club easier for the committee.

A few years from now I look forward to reading a new and perhaps even enlarged edition of this booklet. Perhaps I will also have the pleasure of being present when we win that next senior flag. Until then I can only thank you for reading this small contribution to a growing pool of information about Australian Football and ask that if you have anything which the Club may find useful do not hesitate to contact us. Material about our years before World War Two would be particularly welcome.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A lot of patience from many people was necessary as I researched and compiled this booklet. First of all thank you to my family for understanding the long hours needed to make this a viable project and I am sorry for any inconvenience caused by this. The many people who have or had connections with the Lilydale Football Club also deserve thanks for their encouragement and assistance with answers to numerous questions. All those who have so kindly granted permission for material to be quoted and photos reprinted — a big thank you for your help, especially with identification of players. Finally, the staffs at the Northern Regional Library, The Mercury, The North Eastern Advertiser and The Examiner where Evelyne Cash (Library) and Ian Lynch (Graphics) have helped considerably.

REMEMBER WHEN?

... The central umpire travelled out to Lilydale on the morning train. The game had to be over in time for him to catch the evening train back to Launceston.

... Change rooms at some East Tamar grounds were rather primitive. One ground had four posts hammered in the turf with chaff bags fixed on. Another oval didn't even have that much, tea-trees providing shelter.

... The Exeter ground was rather slippery and Barry Chick chased the ball to the boundary line. Barry couldn't stop so he slid on his knees under the fence, ducking his head at the right time. He gained no sympathy from the car owner on the other side though, only abuse for using the grille as a brake.

.. . Players had to chase the pig off the half-forward flank at Karoola before the game could start.

.. . Ron Harding badly damaged his shoulder blade very early in his career but didn't want to tell his mother in case she stopped him playing any more games at all. Ron went on to become one of Lilydale's toughest and most determined half back flankers.

... Ray Woodland was coach and said to the team . I haven't got much to say but I want you to slide out there like a bag of snakes. And if your legs give out run along on your guts.

... Those channels of water would run down either side of the Lilydale Ground. Waves caused by players attempting to get the ball would only force it to float even further away from them.

... There was a party at Blazely's house to celebrate the '69 flag. Wonder who the little, round man who went out onto the patio was? Why did he roll off down the front lawn?

Joe East was goal umpiring at Lilydale after allegedly consuming some liquid refreshment. A high floating shot for goal at Joe's end forced him to adjudicate. As he watched the ball he faltered back towards the fence, then, preparing to signal he took one step too many, looped the loop around the fence and after making a perfect landing, calmly signalled full points.

DID YOU HEAR . . . ?

.. . about the loss of a local personality during a football trip many years ago. "The Red Stag [" H.H.) was lost during the journey between Avoca and Launceston. On the way a couple of stops were made at appropriate watering holes. During the final miles into the city the rest of the party discovered their number was one short. The city stop was opposite a radio station so a "Missing Persons" advertisement was lodged and broadcast soon after- Unbeknown to the main group our missing friend had taken a lift to town with a fellow Lilydale supporter seen at one of those earlier stops. H.H. was sitting in the pub behind his fellow travellers when he heard the ad. declaring him "whereabouts unknown". The look on their faces when they all turned around!

- . . the story of Max McKercher who marked in the square one day against Lefroy. He didn't play many games so this was an opportunity he was not going to miss. Jock Connell standing on the mark was almost resigned to a goal being scored but may have been surprised to see how far McKercher moved away from him. Max had no intention of kicking into the man on the mark. Steadily he moved in for the shot. Peter Hudson would have been proud of the concentration shown but unfortunately not of the result. The follow through was strong and ball met boot with a thud; sadly, amazingly the football sailed over McKercher head back towards the centre. Connell laughed so much that he could hardly stand up.

. . . about the dash to the Queen Victoria Hospital after the 1969 Grand Final. Blazely was not surprised at having to take his wife there because their baby was due that very day. Returning later that evening to the celebrations, he told a very proud Lilydale President that the Blazely's were parents of twins and in honour of the Club they had named them Lily and Dale. I understand that this was announced to the crowd and only later did it become known that the Coach had made up the story. The trip to hospital had been a false alarm.

- . . how Eric Hodgson lost money while still on the field. Towards the end of a particular match Lilydale were well in front when Royal 'Seeds' Turner lined up another shot for goal. Before the match had started points margin tickets were sold and one Hodgson bought showed the number 27. Looking at the scoreboard as Turner prepared to kick he noticed that we in fact led by 27; Eric yelled out kick it out of bounds. 'I've got the winning points ticket". Turner reflected upon this for a moment and then kicked a point. Grinning from ear to ear 'Seeds' gave his team-mate the perfect answer 'I've got 28"

LILYDALE FOOTBALL CLUB

Records Section

FROM 1946 TO THE END OF 1982 SEASON

Unless otherwise noted.

Considerable assistance from material compiled over many years by BRIAN BARDENHAGEN

GROUND: Recreation Ground, Doak's Road, Lilydale

GROUND DIMENSIONS: 165 yards x 150 yards

COLOURS since 1970

Black jersey with red sash

Red and black striped hose.

MATCHES PLAYED

598 Won

300 Lost 259

Drawn 9

PREMIERSHIPS

1950 Defeated Karoola
1951 Defeated Hillwood
1952 Defeated Lebrina

1953 Defeated Hillwood
1956 Defeated Hillwood
1969 Defeated Hillwood

PRESIDENTS

1950-1 T. A. Whiting
1952 E. F. Dolbey
1953 E. McKercher
1954 E. F. Dolbey
1955-65 T. A. Whiting

1966 T.J. Whiting
1967-79 V.J. Arnold
1980 A. Arnold
1981 S. Smith
1982 W. P. Griffin

SECRETARIES

1950-1 H. J. Cheadle
1952 B. Bardenhagen
1953-5 V. J. Arnold
1966 D. Pollard
1967-8 N. East
1969-70 S. Wardlaw
1971-3 J.N. East
1974 S. Dolbey

1975 Ross Smith
1976 D. Dolbey
1977 P. Chick
1978 A. Roberts
1979-80 Ross Smith
1981 A. Roberts
1982- B. Colgrave

TREASURER

1952-61 G. Johnson

1962-79 B. Bardenhagen

1980- V. J. Arnold

COACHES

1946	J. East	1959	R. Byron	1970	G. Nott
1947	J Bardenhagen	1960	E. Hodgson	1971	C. Thompson
1948	R. Barker	1961	P. Vincent	1972-3	R. Hay
	J. Arnold	1962-3	R. Sherriff	1974	P. Lee
1949	R. Woodland	1964	R. Castles	1975-6	A. Jones
1950-2	C. Fuller	1965	G. Henderson	1977	P. Hawes
1953	D. Smith	1966	M. Nankervis		A. Roberts
1954	E. Hodgson	1967	J. Smith	1978-9	S. Cuthbertson
1955-7	J. Hawksley	1968	L. Nankervis	1980-1	K. McLean
1958	E. Hodgson	1969	W. Blazely	1982	G. Ricketts

BEST & FAIREST

Year	Name	Year	Name	Year	Name
1946	C. Von Schill	1959	G. Bott	1972	J. East
1947	A. Rawnsley	1960	G. Venn	1973	B. Chick
1948	A. F. Barrenger	1961	J. Brooks	1974	G. East
1949	C. Von Schill	1962	P. Vincent	1975	B. Chick
1950	R. Woodland	1963	G. Pyers	1976	P. Holt
1951	E. Hodgson	1964	J. Brooks	1977	L. Dilworth
1952	A. K. Barrenger	1965	V. Stone	1978	G. Woods
1953	D. Smith	1966	G. East	1979	S. Barcza
1954	E. Hodgson	1967	H. Ebbelaar	1980	B. Hawes
1955	A. Finlayson	1968	H. Hawes	1981	M. Casbault
1956	A. Sulzberger	1969	G. East	1982	P. Hawes
1957	C. Fox 1965	1970	A. Arnold		
1958	L. Flynn	1971	P. Hawes		

L.F.C. LIFE MEMBERS

Mr C. Fuller	Mr E. F. Dolbey	Mr W. Flynn
Mr A von Schill	Mrs A von Schill	Mr H. Pollard
Mr V.J .Arnold	Mr T A. Whiting	Mr B. Bardenhagen
Mr G.T.Miller	Mr L Pollard	Mr G.J East
Mrs V. J. Arnold		

L.F.C. RECORD SCORES AGAINST OTHER TEAMS

Versus	Highest	Year
Beaconsfield	24.16(16090	1979
Beauty Point	20.14 (134)	1979
Bridgenorth	21.25 (151)	1970
Exeter	33.26 (22	1953
George Town	25 .16 (166)	1953
Hillwood	38.15 (24)	1980
H'wd—Karooa	19.18 (132)	1970
Karooa	30.24 (204)	1957
Lebrina	29.33 (207)	1956
Lefroy	17.17 (119)	1950
Newstead	29.25 (199)	1957
Rocherlea	33.14 (212)	1955
Rosevears	25.20 (170)	1971
St. Leonards	16.17 (113)	1959

The highest score kicked against Lilydale is 39.10 (244) by George Town. Their full-forward H. Rezek kicked 19 goals in the match.²⁶

The lowest score by Lilydale was set to in 1977 when we only could manage 0.3 (3 behinds) against Karoola.

The lowest against set by Lilydale was set by Hillwood- Karoola in the 1971 season when they kicked 0.2 (2).

TOP GOALKICKERS

1946	C. Von Schill	25	1959	G. Bott	59	1971	T. Coghlan	40
1947	W. Chick	25	1960	E. Hodgson	28	1972	T. Coghlan	53
1948	D. Dolby	22	1961	P. Vincent	21	1973	A. Arnold	11
1949	C. Von Schill	35	1962	G. East	24	1974	P. Hawes	22
1950	A. E. Barrenger	41	1963	G. Talbot	25	1975	J. East	18
1951	D. Dolbey	21	1964	M. Arnold	26	1976	D. Tuthill	37
1952	A. E. Barrenger	32	1965	M. Arnold	43	1977	A. Bygraves	12
1953	D. Smith	40	1966	M.Nankervis	18	1978	D. Tuthill	34
1954	E. Hodgson	38	1967	M. Nankervis	38	1979	D. Tuthill	48
1955	J. Hawksley	57		T. Coghlan	38	1980	P. Patterson	64
1956	A. Sulzberger	61	1968	T. Coghlan	59	1981	R. Rattray	24
1957	A. Sulzberger	44	1969	W. Blazely	67	1982	D. Walsh	41
1958	D. Murray	27	1970	T. Coghlan	47			

MOST GOALS IN A MATCH

GOALS	INDIVIDUAL PLAYER	YEAR	GOALS	INDIVIDUAL PLAYER	YEAR
24	P. Patterson v Hillwood	1980	9	A. F. Barrenger v G. Town	1952
14	T. Coghlan v Hillwood	1968		E. Hodgson v G. Town	1953
13	D. Murray v Karoola	1957		A. Sulzberger v Lebrina	1956
12	A. F. Barrenger v R'1ea	1955		R. Turner v Karoola	1957
11	j. Hawksley v Hillwood	1955		A. Sulzberger v Newstead	1957
10	A. F. Barrenger v Lefroy	1950		G. Bott v Lebrina	1959
	W. Harris v Hillwood	1981		T. Coghlan v G. Town	1967
				T. Coghlan v Hillwood	1967
				W. Blazely v G. Town	1969
				D. Tuthill v Exeter	1979

Eight goals have been kicked by:

D. Smith — twice
E. Hodgson — twice
T.Coghlan twice

And Once each by:

A. Sulzberger
G. Sulzberger
G. Bott
J.Warrington
L. Arnold
D Tuthill
P. Hawes
D- Walsh

MOST GOALS IN CAREER WITH LILYDALE

T. Coghlan	298	G. East	115
W. Chick	223	A. Arnold	108
D. Dolbey	215	W. Blazely	104
A. F. Barrenger	212	J. Hawksley	94
E. Hodgson	206	G. Woods	92
P. Hawes	166	P. Patterson	90
A. Sulzberger	139	R. Turner	77
J. N. East	132	T. Whiting	77
D. Tuthill	125		



Tamar Reserves Premiers 1978 – Lilydale 15.4 to George Town 9.10

BACK (l. to r.) R. Hodgetts, L. Turner, W. Foster, M. Ferguson, D. Bird, J. Dolbey, C. Williams, B. Hawes, D. Stacey, P. Bardenhagen, B. Kelp, G. Mitchell.
 FRONT: M. Roberts, N. Butler, Ricky Hawes, P. Cole, P. Williams, W. Henderson (Capt-Coach), Robert Hawes, B. Chick.

Photo: R. H. Smith



1979

The Lilydale Reserves have just won their second Tamar flag in a row by defeating George Town 2.11 to 2.8. The six members of the team shown above are (from the left): R. East, P. Bardenhagen, C. Fox, S. Viney, W. Foster and N. Butler.
Photo: Mrs R. H. Smith

RESERVES COACHES

1962	L. Peerce	1974	J. Bailey
1963	R. Castles		P. Arnold
1964	R. Castles	1975	P. Arnold
1965	G. Venn	1976	A. Jones
1966	I. Smith	1977	H. Hawes
1967	G. Venn	1978	W. Henderson
1968	F. Nott	1979	G. Woods
1969	F. Nott	1980	M. Casboul
1970	W. Henderson	1981	M. Casboul
1971	W. Henderson	1982	M. Morice
1972	G. East	1983	F. McLean
1973	P. Arnold		

RESERVES BEST & FAIREST

1962	H. Ebbelaar	1973	L. Pollard
1963	V. Stone	1974	L. Pollard
1964	A. Anderson	1975	M. Jensen
1965	T. Coglan	1976	M. Jensen
1966	D. Wells	1977	Ricky Hawes
1967	P. Hawes	1978	D. Bird
1968	A. Van Ash	1979	A. Arnold
1969	G. Hawes	1980	J. Ludby
1970	G. Hawes	1981	A. Arnold
1971	C. Foon	1982	R. Duncan
1972	R. McDonald		

RESERVES PREMIERSHIPS

1963	Defeated Rocherlea
1965	Defeated George Town
1966	Defeated Karoola
1978	Defeated George Town
1979	Defeated George Town

LONG SERVICE PLAYERS

MOST SENIOR GAMES

D. Flynn	247
G. Johnson	240*
P. Arnold	221
D. Dolbey	220*
T. Whiting	210*
A. Arnold	196
j.ArnOld	185*
E. Hodgson	182*
J. N. East	176
Barry Chick	168
Bill Chick	165*
L. Flynn	163
R. Webb	160*
L. Pollard	156
R. East	155
H. Hawes	153
K. Coghlan	150*
G. East	149
A. F. Barrenger	148*
Bob Hawes	148
R. Harding	145
A. Rawnsley	120*
P. Hawes	118
K. Hawes	115
G. Hawes	110
T. Coghlan	110
T. Whiting	107

MOST CLUB GAMES (Inc. Reserves)

L. Pollard	289
R. East	285
P. Arnold	278
A. Arnold	261
D. Flynn	247
G. Johnson	240*
N. East	229
D. Dolbey	220*
Barry Chick	214
T. Whiting	210*
A. Ebbelaar	188
J. Arnold	185*
R. Harding	181
H. Hawes	166
Bill Chick	165*
Bob Hawes	164
L. Flynn	163
R. Webb	160*
David Chick	153
T. Whiting	152
G. Hawes	152
P. Hawes	151
T.Coghlan	150*
G. East	150

Please note that players who have a * next to their total may have played a handful more games during their career. Complete team lists for some matches during the 1946-49 period are not available.

LILYDALE'S RECORD AGAINST OTHER CLUBS

Versus	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
George Town	128	61	62	5
Hillwood	97	56	39	2
Karoola	92	49	42	1
Rocherlea	53	37	16	0
Bridgenorth	36	22	14	0
Beauty Point	34	12	21	1
Exeter	34	12	22	0
Beaconsfield	33	13	20	0
Lefroy	28	11	17	0
Lebrina	24	22	2	0
Newstead	15	14	1	0
St. Leonards	15	12	3	0
Hillwood-Karoola	5	5	0	0
Rosevears	4	4	0	0
	598	330	259	9

LILYDALE'S RECORD IN THE FINALS

Versus	Played	Won	Lost	Draw
Hillwood	16	9	6	1
George Town	14	2	11	1
Karoola	6	4	2	0
Beaconsfield	4	1	3	0
Lefroy	4	2	2	0
Beauty Point	3	1	2	0
Bridgenorth	3	2	1	0
Rocherlea	3	1	2	0
Exeter	2	0	2	0
Lebrina	1	1	0	0
Newstead	1	1	0	0
57	24	31	2	