

TRENTHAM  
FOOTBALL CLUB

100 YEARS

1892 - 1992

by: Vin Cowell



In Memory of my Father CHARLIE COWELL

Who gave great service to the Trentham Football Club  
from the early 1930's to the late 1950's

"His courage in the face of adversity and  
pain was an inspiration to all".

V A Cowell

This booklet contains a record of Trentham Football Clubs past One Hundred Years, it is by no means a complete history because in many instances I was unable to find the complete details of games played in a season, or who held what positions on the committee.

In some years there were no records except those meagre details provided to the paper at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

I apologise to any person who has not been included in this book for one reason or another, in particular I must apologise to those people who were involved with the club during its period in the Clunes League, during this time there were few reports sent to any of the local papers and some of the information was gleaned from the Ballarat Courier, however Max Bruton proved to be of immense help with his own knowledge and the fact that he was prepared to spend a lot of his own time in chasing up details from various people and with his help I have been able to provide at least a reasonable record of the Club during this period.

My thanks go to all of those people, too numerous to mention, who have helped me in the collection of data, but I would be remiss if I did not mention in particular Frank Brady and Bill O Connell, both of whose knowledge of the club is extra-ordinary, also a big thanks to Jenny Cameron for typing this record. Thanks too to Justine Noy and the staff of Kyneton Guardian who went out of their way to help in the search for records and data.

Finally thanks to my wife Rosemary who has been at my side, an able assistant through many hours of tedious research.

VinCowell.



April over much of Australia sees the rise of football fever as the temperature drops summer sports -surfing, water-skiing, tennis, rowing all end in a flurry of championship finals. And suddenly a cheerful madness seizes many Australians. The Football season begins.

Football in Victoria means Australian Rules - any other code is designated by its correct name, enunciated in an indifferent tone. But "footy", well its something else! This lively game was intelligently planned to give the utmost in spectator sport. A grand final, be it played on the Melbourne Cricket Ground or Trentham's Sports Reserve is a thing of joy, anguish and roaring hysteria.

Australian Rules football is historically interesting. Those who see in this code a resemblance of Gaelic Football are probably correct, as a primitive form of rules was played in the Sydney Barracks in the 1820's, and on the goldfields in the 1850's. In both places Irishmen were abundant.

The game existed as a loosely organised sport, until 1858 when Tom Wills and H.C.A.Harrison, two English educated Victorians, began slowly to evolve a set of rules. The oval field came from the founding fathers devotion to cricket: The oval ball from their public school training in rugby.

Troops moving from one garrison to another enthusiastically took the new game with them-even as far north as Darwin - the hardness of the ground in winter did not deter them - they played the game in summer in "The wet" and still continue to do so. The earliest records of the game being played in Trentham, appears to be in the early 1880's, however there was no properly formed club until 1892.

Trentham Football Clubs history of football dates back to the 1880's, a time when the town and surrounding districts had a much larger population than today. When gold was discovered in Blackwood in 1854, and in Trentham in the 1860's, the rush swelled the number of inhabitants by many thousand.

Until the gold rush, there was only a small number of timber cutters in the forest and a few pioneering pastoralists, with the gold rush and the many hopeful diggers, there came a desperate need for timber, which was used for buildings firewood and to shore up tunnels, to harvest the timber more men were needed.

The sudden influx of men resulted in many changes to what had been a largely untouched area. The railway to Kyneton was opened in 1862 and Kyneton became the railhead for Blackwood, where the population had soared to over one thousand people, the traffic on the road to the Blackwood diggings was constant enough to allow the establishment of several hotels and inns, of these the most prominent was Forest Hotel which stood where the East Trentham Road takes off from the Trentham-Kyneton road, it was closed down in 1913 and was shifted into Trentham where its rooms made up two cottages which are still occupied today and even now some of the locals still refer to that corner as "The Forest Hotel Corner".

The first land sale in the district was held in April 1857 and when gold was found in the vicinity of Trentham in the 1860's another mini rush occurred which once again brought many more settlers to the area.

On the 1st March 1880 the railway line to Daylesford was opened and Trentham became the new railhead for the miners of Blackwood, it also gave timber workers and farmers easier access to markets and generally boosted the area.

Trentham was officially proclaimed a town on April 27th 1886, a census survey that was taken in 1857 showed that Blackwood had a population of 1102 people and Tylden had 407, a later census taken in 1897 showed Blackwood's population at 1099 while the relatively new town of Trentham had a population of 654. With this many people in the area it is no wonder that eventually there would be a challenge issued by one centre to another's to try their hand at the fledgling sport of Aussie Rules.



In early 1892, the Trentham Football Club was formed with the President being Mr P Garry. Vice Presidents were Newton, Norton, Ainsworth and Murdoch Secretary was Mr J Flowers and Treasurer was Mr T Jones. The clubs colours were to be blue and white and they were to be captained by J Burland, club membership was set at two shillings and sixpence.

The teams first match was at Trentham on 14th of May 1892 against Garlicks (Now Newbury) it resulted in a draw. Some of the players who represented Trentham included J Burland, M Jones, N Newton, J Ring, J Connelly, J Thorn, J Flower, P Garry, Ratten, Chamberlain, Huston, Kelly, Mitchell, Mulcahy, McFadden, Pearson, Richards, Robinson, Stokes and White.

On 21st May 1892 Trentham played Tylden at Tylden, Trentham won scoring two goals one point to Tyldens one goal one point. Trenthams goalkicker was P Carty.

Trentham then lost to Blue Mount, Lyonville, Tylden and Lyonville again before registering their next win, when they defeated Blackwood at Trentham. A loss by a goal 3.3 to 2.3 to Blue Mount was followed by a draw with East Trentham, then losses to Blackwood, Musk Creek and East Trentham concluded a not too conspicuous first season.

1893 was a year of general discontent in the Trentham district, as people became unhappy with their lot as far as being members of the Kyneton Shire. It was believed that the town was not being treated fairly and there was a move to leave the Kyneton Shire and form the Trentham Shire. After several months of argument the move was finally rescinded.



On the football scene Trentham had a new committee with W K Barry being President and H Siddall, Secretary. The club played a series of games against Blue Mount, Lyonville, Tylden, Blackwood and East Trentham. Vincent was captain and some players who represented the side were J Connelly, Siddall, Ring and Uttar. Trentham won three games and lost five.

During 1893, Trentham were challenged to play East Trentham and the manner in which the challenge was issued appeared in the local paper:

"Der ser ef the felos of yur club wants to play us a frenly game rite an tell me so over the coming Saturday yee can hav it as rufe as yee like an has a better chans of been struck with litnin than beeting us If yer game rite or send word by Jim.

In 1894, the proprietor of the Clare Morris Hotel at East Trentham, a Mr Queally, offered a trophy valued at ten guineas, as a prize for the winners of the local football competition, which was known as the East Trentham Football Association and included teams within a nine mile radius of the hotel. These were East Trentham, Blackwood, Blue Mount, Trentham and Lyonville.

Trenthams President was D Gleeson, treasurer was H Ainsworth and secretary was F W Midgley. Mark Siddall was appointed captain and vice captain was E C Knox, membership was set at two shillings.

Unfortunately it wasn't a good year for the Blue and Whites, as they played eight games, lost seven and drew one. East Trentham were Premiers. At the end of the season, a trophy for Trentham's best all round player went to D Brooks and C Gillis won the trophy for the highest goal kicker. The club finished the season £1.13.6 in debt.

1895 saw the club competing for the Weimer Trophy with Coliban, Lyonville, Bullarto, Blackwood and Blue Mount. Trentham's President was Maurice Richards and P McLean was Secretary/ Treasurer, Maurice Richards was also Captain. The only results that could be found showed Coliban 3.4 defeating Trentham 0.8, and in the replay Coliban zero, to Trentham 1.3.

In 1896, the only records of Trentham playing, show a victory over Barry's Reef by 4 points, and then a loss to Barry's Reef by over 5 goals.

Maurice Richards was again captain in 1897 with Jas Guest President, Will Twoomey Secretary and Geo Gilsenan Treasurer, the club competed in the Trentham District Football Association and ultimate trophy for the premiers was a clock donated by Mr W Norton. Competing teams were Barry's Reef, East Trentham, Lyonville and Trentham.

East Trentham were premiers and the clock which was presented to captain P Brodie is still in existence in a residence in East Trentham.

The only record of football for 1898 is a game against Tylden which Trentham won 3.5 to Tylden 2.5.

In 1899, Trentham once again played under the captaincy of Maurice Richards in the Trentham District Football Association. H Ainsworth was President, Geo Gilsenan Secretary and Will McPherson, Treasurer.



Teams competing in this year included Coliban, East Trentham, Tylden, Trentham and Daylesford Trades. Trentham played 10 matches for five wins, two losses, a draw, and two games for which no result was able to be found. When Trentham played Coliban for the third time that season a side wager of twenty pounds was the prize. Trentham won 3 goals 4 to 2.

There are no records of Trentham competing in 1900 and this was probably due to the fact that a Typhoid epidemic was sweeping through the district at this time. In 1901, Trenthams President was R J McCormack with Sam Rowe as Secretary and R P McLean, Treasurer. Maurice Richards was captain again, there are only records of two games played that year.

The first game was against a team of miners from the district goldfields which Trentham won 6.4 to 4 points. The other match was a combined, Trentham, East Trentham team against a combined Coliban, Lyonville team. The Trentham combination won two goals eight points to one goal one point.

1902 saw Trentham, once more under the captaincy of Maurice Richards, play a series of games against Tylden, Blackwood and Kyneton Juniors.

In 1903 Trentham competed in the Loddon Valley Football League which comprised, Trentham Tylden, Nth Blackwood, Lyonville, Bullarto, East Trentham and Fern Hill.

Trenthams President was D Gleeson, he was also Secretary., Arthur Grant was Treasurer and Joe McMaster was Captain. Trentham played at least seven games, winning four. During July, a team from Blackwood played Lyonville at Lyonville, and after the match the Blackwood team headed home in two parties through the bush, one group made the trip safely, but the other group became lost in the thick scrub and had to spend a miserable night in the bush, not making it home until mid morning next day.

In 1904 there was the East Trentham Football Association with Trentham, Lyonville, Blackwood, Tylden, Fern Hill, Barry's Reef, North Blackwood all competing. There are only records of two results for the season with Trentham beating North Blackwood by two goals and Blackwood beating North Blackwood by 13 points.

Trentham had two teams in 1905, one known simply as Trentham, played in the Kyneton District Football Association which comprised Barfold, Kyneton, Trentham, Collegians, Malmsbury, Woodend and Rainbow. Trenthams president was James A Nation. B H McPherson was Secretary Treasurer and Roger Dillon was Captain. Membership was set at two shillings and sixpence and the clubs colours were red, white and blue. Trentham played eight games and won three.

Woodend pulled out of the competition after winning three of their six games, they were not happy with the standard of umpiring in a game against Collegians and Rainbow withdrew half way through the season without winning a game. Malmsbury were premiers from Kyneton, Collegians, Trentham and Barfold. A gold medal for Trenthams best all round and unselfish player was presented to Harry McCashney.



The other Trentham team played in the Wednesday Afternoon Football Association which was for players under twenty years of age. It comprised South Stars, Kyneton, Half Holidays, Kyneton Junior Rovers and Trentham Junior Rovers, who wore Blue and gold guernseys. Their president was W Norton with Secretary Treasurer being John T Hogan, Joe McMaster was Captain and the team played nine games winning four and losing five.

1906 was to be the beginning of a golden era of football for Trentham which was to see the towns Footballers bring the Premiership home on four occasions in eight years, and be runners up on two other occasions.

Trentham once again had two teams with one side playing in the K.D.F.A. against Collegians, Kyneton, and Malmsbury. Roger Dillon was Captain again and the team played twelve games winning three, losing nine, and finishing third behind Kyneton then Collegians.

In the Wednesday Half Holiday Association Trentham Rovers competed against Kyneton Half Holidays, South Stars and Kyneton Rovers. Trentham's membership was two shillings.

It was a very successful year for Trentham who were premiers and only lost one game for the season. Trentham's side in this Premiership season include: President Roger Dillon, Secretary/Treasurer D Gleeson. Unfortunately, it has only been possible to find out surnames of most players. Captain was Sam Rowe, Vic Captain Arthur Grant, Ed Chamberlain, Charlie Hammond, Harry Lynch, Phil Lynch, Tom McCashney, Frank McCashney, Ted Alcorn, Andy Hart, E A (son) Byrne, Dwyer, Clowes, Donnelly, Colvin, West, Gleeson, Pearson, Carter, Watson, Dettman, Bird, Pat Brodie, Grass, Jas Smythe, Siddall, Eaton, Connell, O'Neil, Considine, Hinchcliffe, Hodson, Ryan, Wolf, Cavanagh, McGregor and Davies.

1907 was to prove to be one of Trentham's most successful years, there were once again two sides, Trentham Juniors finished third in the Wednesday Half Holiday competition which included teams from Kyneton Rovers, Half Holidays, Woodend C.Y.M.S. and Trentham Rovers.

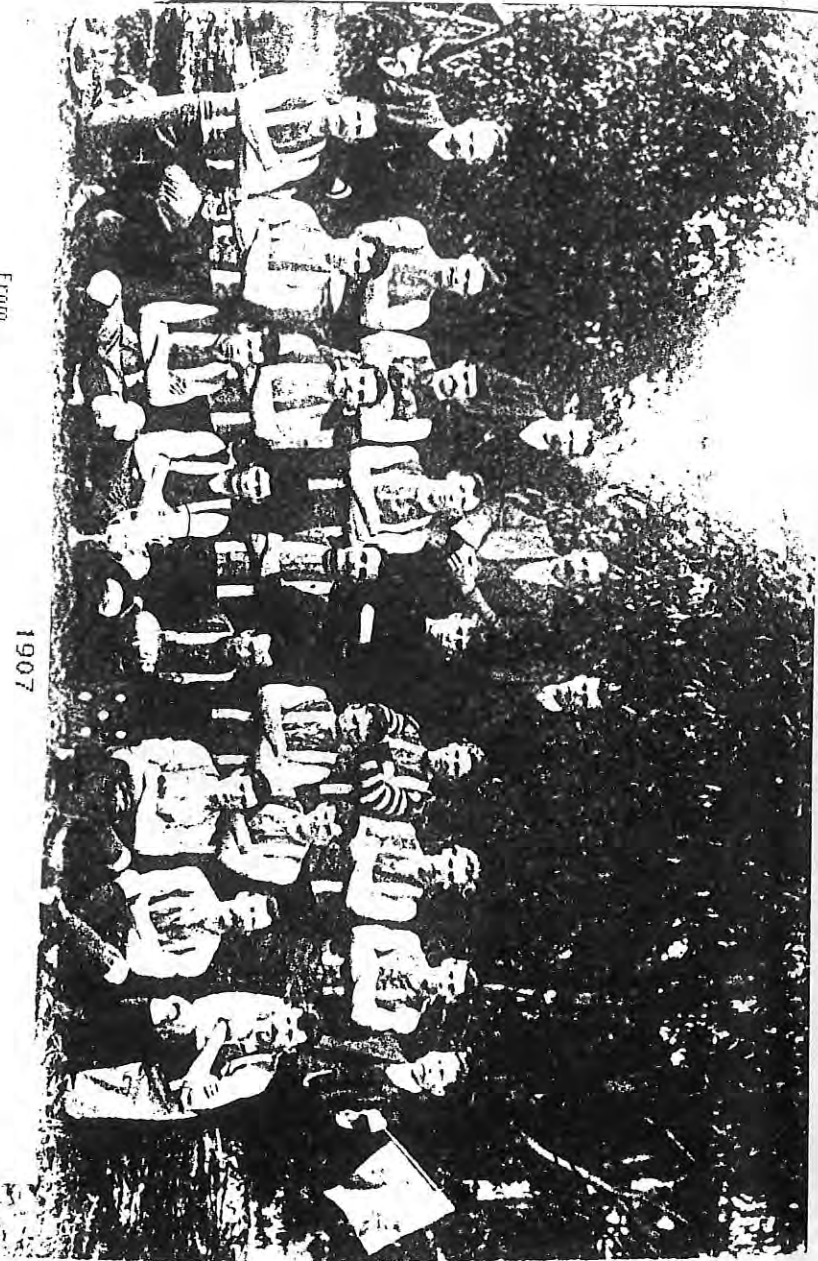
Rovers President was P Dillon and Ed Chamberlain was Secretary/Treasurer and Captain. Trentham trophy winners were: Best Player Harry Lynch, second Best Player, Ed J Chamberlain. Most Improved was Phil Lynch.

The red, white and blue colours abounded in the town at the end of 1907 K.D.F.A. season in which Trentham went through undefeated and won the Grand Final against Collegians, 7 goals 10 points to 3 goals 6 points, Kyneton finished third and Lauriston fourth. Trentham's Will Schmidt left before the end of the season to play with Richmond.

The Premier teams office bearers were: President James A Nation, Secretary/Treasurer J Brooks Jnr. Trophy Winners were Bruce Godfrey Most consistent, Will Schmidt, second most consistent, E S Moloney Best Forward, and Jas Smythe Best Backman.

Those who represented Trentham throughout this season included Will McCashney (Captain) Will Schmidt (Vice Captain) Harry McCashney Jnr, Frank McCashney, Bruce Godfrey, Charlie Hammond, Ben Elliott, Rube Elliott, W J Buckley, Ted Alcorn, Jas Smythe, Pat Brodie, E Moloney, George Carter, Syd Cowell, Tom Dwyer, Dan Fahey, P Dillon, O'Brien, Schurer, M Moloney, B Carter and George Colvin.





1907

From  
 President: James A Nation  
 Secretary/Treasurer: J Brooks Junior  
 Will McCashney (Capt), Harry McCashney, Frank McCashney, Will Schmidt,  
 Bruce Godfrey, Charlie Hammond, Ben Elliott, Rube Elliott, Syd Cowell, Eddie  
 Alcorn, W.J. Buckley, Jas Smythe, P. Brodie, George Carter, Tom Dwyer, Dan  
 Fahy, P. Dillon, George Colvin, B.Carter, M. Proloney, O'Brien, Schurer,

Kyneton District Football Association included teams from Kyneton, Lauriston, Collegians and Trentham in 1908. Trentham played twelve games, won nine and were runners up after a sensational finals series.

Three weeks prior to the Grand Final Trentham had written to the league asking that a certain umpire not officiated in any finals in which Trentham was involved, but this request was ignored and on Grand Final Day against Kyneton, this umpire had charge. At half time, Trentham 4 goals 4 points leading Kyneton 3 goals seven points, there was no change in the score until about the last seven minutes in the third quarter.

After a disputed umpiring decision, the Trentham team left the field, the umpire bounced the ball and Kyneton took the ball to their forward line and kicked a goal to take the lead, the game was then called off.

Trentham protested to the league and a rematch was organised, for a couple of weeks later, but by that time some of Trentham's key players had left the area. On the day of the game Kyneton proved too good winning 3 goals 6 points to Trentham's 2 goals 5 points.

Trentham's President in 1908 was Harry McCashney Snr, Secretary was P.M. Kenny, and Captain was Will McCashney.,

Kyneton District Football Association had six teams in 1909, these were Kyneton, Malmsbury, Collegians, Trentham, Macedon and Lauriston. Harry McCashney senior was Trentham's President. R T Patton was Secretary and Ern Wall was Treasurer. Of sixteen games Trentham won 9, drew 1 and lost 5. Ed Alcorn left the team after 5 games to play with St Kilda. Trentham played Minor Premiers Collegians in the first Semi winning 8-9 to 3-9. In the second Semi-final, Kyneton, 5 goals 7 points defeated Trentham 4 goals 9 points. This meant that Collegians who as minor Premiers had the right to challenge, were to play Kyneton in the Grand Final. Collegians won easily and so were Premiers for 1909.

In 1910, Trentham shifted their playing ground from the property of C Murphy where they had played for many seasons, to a new ground beside the Railway Station. They also changed their colours to Maroon guernseys and white knicks.

Trentham won 11 games, drew 2 and lost 2, finishing minor Premiers. They won the first semi against Kyneton by 7 goals 6 points to 4 goals 9 points., then went on to win the Grand Final defeating Macedon, 5 goals 8 points to 4 goals 10 points. Gate takings for the final was twenty two pounds sixteen shillings and ninepence, of which 25% was taken by the Kyneton Shire.

President for 1910 season was Dr D A Norris Wilkinson, Secretary was R T Patton, Treasurer was Ern Wall and Harry McCashney jnr was Captain. A medal presented for Trentham's most consistent and unselfish player was won by R T Patton.



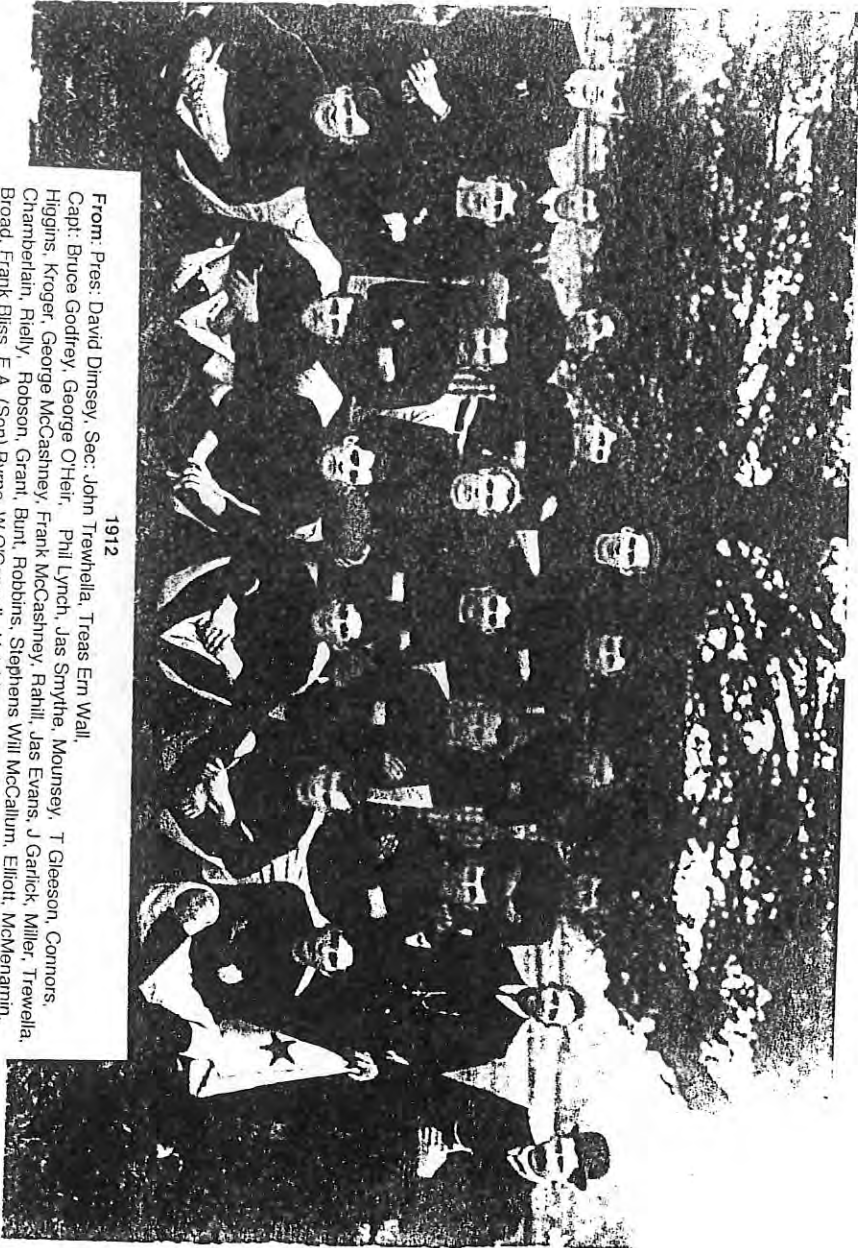
1910  
 From - Pres: Dr D A Norris-Wilkinson Sec R T Patton,  
 Capt. Will McCashney, Harry McCashney, Tom McCashney, Eddie Alcorn, Stevens, Jas Evans, Ed  
 Evans, Bruce Godfrey, Phil Lynch, Dan Lynch, Arthur Grant, Jas Snythe, Will McCallum, George  
 O'Hehir, Ed Chamberlain, T Gleeson, George Pearson, Bert Swanwick, W Eddy, Skinner, M  
 O'Connell, Jack Trewhella, McCarty, Meagher, Miller, Syd Cowell, Ryan, Hughes, Rathill, Allen, Smith,  
 John Grass, Tom Grass.



In 1911, Trentham played in the Woodend Football Association against Daylesford, Kyneton and Collegians, Trentham won seven of their ten games and finished minor premiers. In the first semi they were defeated by Kyneton 3.2 to 2.5. Trentham protested to the league about Kyneton playing ineligible players and was awarded the match. The second semi final, Daylesford, 5 goals 7 defeated Trentham 4 goals 7 points. Trentham, as minor Premiers had the right to challenge, and lost the Grand Final by one point. Daylesford 1 goal 16 points defeated Trentham 2 goals 9 points. Harry McCashney Snr was President, J W Surman was Secretary, Ern Wall Treasurer and Phil Lynch Captain.

Woodend Football Association consisted of Kyneton, Daylesford, Collegians, Trentham, Woodend and Macedon in 1912. Trentham finished third winning ten of their 15 games. They were eliminated from the finals when Collegians beat them 2.3 to 0.3. Collegians went on to beat Daylesford in the Grand Final. David Dimsey was Trentham's President, John T Trehwella, Secretary, Ernie Wall Treasurer and Captain was Bruce Godfrey.

Trentham won their fourth Premiership in eight years when they won the 1913 Woodend and District Football Association title, they had a very powerful team under the captaincy of Harry McCashney Junior, and only lost one of their twelve home and away games. In the Grand Final, Trentham came from behind at half time to beat Daylesford scoring 4 goals 2 behinds to 3 goals 4. Geo A Daniels was President, David Dimsey, Secretary, and Ern Wall Treasurer.



1912  
 From: Pres: David Dimsey, Sec: John Trehwella, Treas Ern Wall,  
 Capt: Bruce Godfrey, George O'Heir, Phil Lynch, Jas Smythe, Mounsey, T Gleeson, Connors,  
 Higgins, Kroger, George McCashney, Frank McCashney, Rahill, Jas Evans, J Garlick, Miller, Trehwella,  
 Chamberlain, Rielly, Robson, Grant, Bunt, Robbins, Stephens Will McCallum, Elliott, McMenamin,  
 Broad, Frank Bliss, E A (Son) Byrne, W O'Connell, Hutchinson, Anderson, Connell, F Castles (Goal  
 Umpire)

The Woodend Football Association disbanded in 1914 with Woodend going to the Riddell League. Trentham applied to join the Castlemaine League but were voted against by Maldon, Kyneton and Foundry, with nowhere to go, Trentham formed their own competition, including Trentham, Old Buffers, Blue Mount and Trentham Juniors. Trentham's President was C A Hammond, Secretary was J T Trewhella and Ern Wall was once again Treasurer. There are no details or results of the season.

The coming of the First World War had a severe impact on football in 1915, with so many young men away, most teams found it hard to field competitive sides and Trentham was no exception, however under Geo A Daniels Presidency, they were accepted into the Castlemaine Football League, which comprised Castlemaine, Maldon, Kyneton, Foundry and Trentham. Of their ten games Trentham had only one win and finished last. In the Grand Final Castlemaine 3 goals 3 defeated Maldon 1 goal 12 points.

Trentham did not field a side for the remaining war years as many of their numbers were away on active service. It was 1919 before they played again, this time in the reformed Kyneton District Football Association against Collegian's, Malmsbury, Daylesford and Kyneton. The only record of office bearers show that Ern Wall continued on as Treasurer and that the Captain was Tom McCashney. Trentham won 3 drew 1 and lost 4, of the games played. They played Collegians in a semi final and were beaten 8.10 to 2.4, Collegians went on to beat Malmsbury in the Grand Final 8.8 to 3.8.

Trentham played in the K.D.F.A. in 1920 against Kyneton, Woodend, St Mary's and Malmsbury. Tom McCashney was Captain, and Ern Wall Treasurer. Trentham won 7 of their 11 games, finishing third behind Malmsbury and Kyneton. In the first semi Trentham 6.6 defeated Woodend 6.5. And in the second semi Malmsbury who were minor premiers defeated Kyneton 6.8 to 6.5. Malmsbury was too good from Trentham in the Grand Final winning 5.16 to Trenthams 3.6.

Daylesford and Malmsbury pulled out of the K.D.F.A. in 1921 causing the league to fold. Malmsbury, Kyneton and Trentham applied to join the Castlemaine League but only Kyneton was admitted on the assumption that they would take the best players of the other two clubs and so be more competitive in the stronger league.

The loss of several top players restricted Trenthams chances of entering another league, so it was decided to form a local competition which consisted of sides from East Trentham, Lyonville, Settlement, Foundry and Trentham. Foundry and Lyonville proved to be the best teams in the competition and accordingly played off for the premiership, with the boys from Trewhella's Foundry winning convincingly scoring six goals three to Lyonville's two goals two.

In 1922 Trentham joined the Woodend Football League which consisted of sides from Daylesford, Woodend, Malmsbury and Kyneton, who had returned from the Castlemaine League. Trentham was once again captained by Tom McCashney and Ern Wall was Treasurer. Their colours were red white and blue

Of their 12 games Trentham won 5 drew 1 and lost 6 finishing third behind Daylesford and Woodend. Kyneton defeated Woodend in the first semi and Daylesford defeated Trentham 7.7 to 6.6 in the second semi final. In the Grand Final Daylesford 9.10 defeated Kyneton 9.6.





1921  
 Back Row—Norm Robson, Harold Robson, Jim Dunn, Stan Beach, Bill Guthrie, Phil Gamble, Jack Dobell  
 Middle Row—Ern Bunt, Horrie McCormack, Alex Drummond, Rube Elliott, Ted Dunn, Jim Giles  
 Jack Frewella  
 Front Row—Hedley Fisherson, Frank Coates, Frank Elliott, Harry Bunt, Tom Elliott

During this season, the Trentham Sports committee decided that they would try to purchase land suitable for a multi-use sports area and as the land beside the Railway Line, W J Anderson's paddock on which Trentham had played for several seasons was not suited, it was decided to approach several land holders with the view to buying some land. Eventually Mr Tom McCashney offered them his property which was located on the Daylesford road between the railway crossing and the slaughter house for a token sum, this is the ground that the Football Club currently use.

The Woodend Football League was forced to disband just prior to the commencement of the 1923 session when Daylesford and Kyneton pulled out to join the Castlemaine League, Trentham and Malmsbury applied to join but we were rejected.

It was decided to form a Trentham Football League with Woodend, Malmsbury, Macedon, and Trentham competing. No details of matches could be found. Trentham's office bearers for 1923 were President Bill Donnan, in his first year of his 25 year reign, Secretary was W.Smith, and Treasurer Ern Wall.

1924 saw Trentham finally gain admittance to the Castlemaine Football League competing against Collegians, Maldon, C & C United, Foundry, Daylesford and Kyneton. Bill Donnan was President with J Marshall Secretary and Ern Wall Treasurer.

Trentham played their first game on their present ground against Kyneton and it attracted a crowd of over one thousand people. Kyneton 8.9 defeated Trentham 7.2.

Trenthams Captain was George Boyson, and of the twelve games played that season, Trentham won 3 drew 1 and lost 8, finishing sixth, to their credit the Trentham Team lost six of their games by a goal or less.

Foundry defeated Kyneton in the Grand Final, scoring 6.12 to 6.6 with Daylesford finishing third.

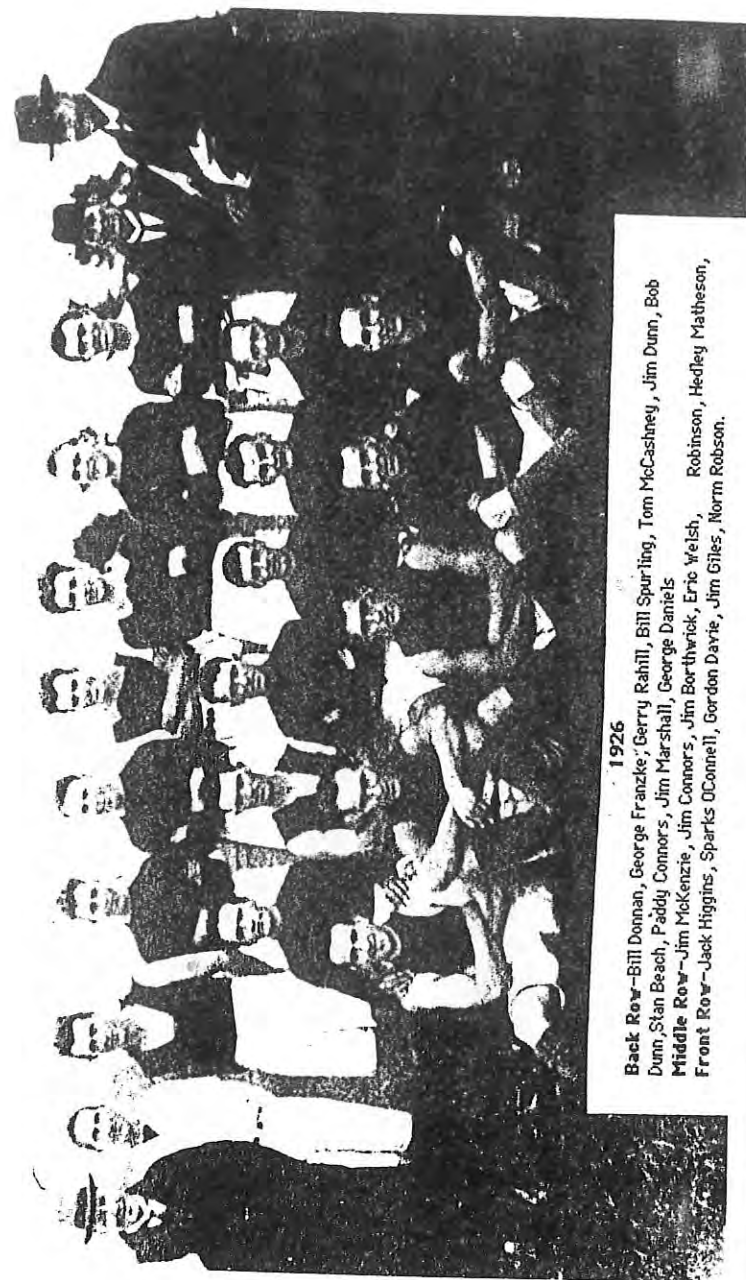
A much improved Trentham Team tackled the 1925 Castlemaine League season, they had recruited strongly with ex Footscray player Jim Borthwick taking over as Captain/Coach. Office bearers were the same as 1924.

Trentham won 10 of their 12 home and away games finishing second behind Collegians. In the first semi final Collegians 11.9 defeated Daylesford 6.13, then in a sensational incident Maldon didn't turn up to play in the second semi-final which was to be played at Barkly Square, after the Showgrounds were too boggy to play on. At Barkly Square the umpire bounced the ball and Trentham took possession, kicked a goal and claimed victory.

Castlemaine League held a special meeting and it was decided that the second semi-final would have to be re played and on this occasion Trentham 11.13 defeated Maldon 9.6. This was to be Trentham's first appearance in a Castlemaine League Grand Final. Unfortunately Collegians were far too strong winning 15.14 to 5.11.

In 1926 the Castlemaine League became the Kyneton District Football League, with competing teams being Daylesford, Collegians, Woodend, Trentham, Kyneton and Maldon. Bill Donnan was Trenthams President, Ern Wall Treasurer and the new Secretary was M Considine.

Trentham's Captain was T O'Halloran and they finished the season with eight wins and seven losses from their 15 games. Daylesford 5.10 defeated Woodend 2.9 in the first semi and minor premiers Collegians defeated Trentham in the second semi scoring 10.6 to 6.4. In the grand final Collegians 11.9 defeated Daylesford 7.15.



1926

Back Row - Bill Donnan, George Franke, Gerry Rahill, Bill Spurling, Tom McCashney, Jim Dunn, Bob Dunn, Stan Beach, Paddy Connors, Jim Marshall, George Daniels  
Middle Row - Jim McKenzie, Jim Connors, Jim Borthwick, Eric Welsh, Robinson, Hedley Matheson,  
Front Row - Jack Higgins, Sparks O'Connell, Gordon Davie, Jim Giles, Norm Robson.



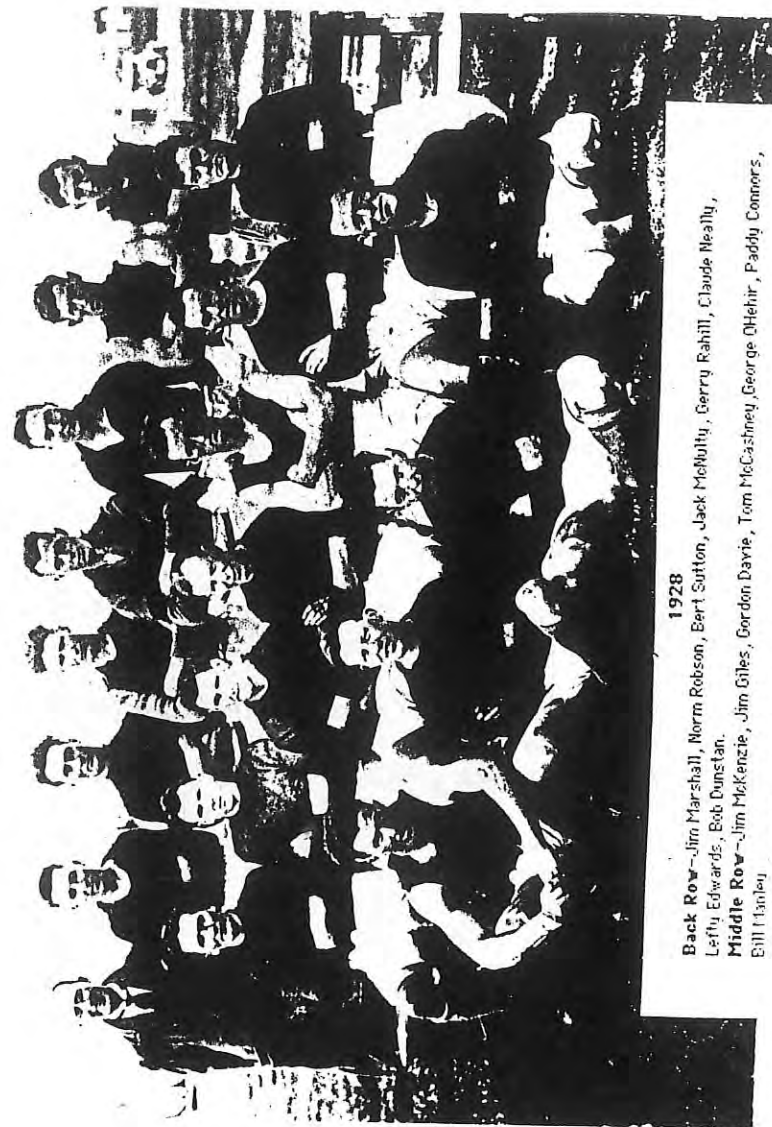
Kyneton District Football League consisted of Woodend, Kyneton, Daylesford, Foundry, Collegians, and Trentham in 1927. Tom McCashney was Trentham's Captain and they won 10 and lost 9 of their games for the season with one game being abandoned.

Trentham finished fourth being eliminated by Collegians in the first semi final with the scores being 11.10 to 8.18. Daylesford 12.6 defeated Woodend 7.15 in the second semi final. And in the Grand Final Daylesford 4.8 defeated Collegians 4.4.

1928 saw Trentham competing in the K.D.F.L. again and of their 18 games they won 8 and lost 10, finishing fourth. In the first semi Trentham 5.9 defeated Daylesford 3.9. Kyneton defeated minor premiers Collegians 12.13 to 10.6 in the second semi final.

In the next final Kyneton defeated Trentham scoring 14.16 to 3.8. Collegians as minor premiers exercised their right of challenge and in the grand final, were defeated by Kyneton who scored 4.9 to 4.4.

Trentham was captained by Tom McCashney and Bill Donnan continued as President, with Ern Wall Treasurer and E Smith Secretary during this season.



1928

Back Row—Jim Marshall, Norm Robson, Bert Sutton, Jack McNulty, Gerry Rahill, Claude Neally,  
Lefty Edwards, Bob Dunstan.  
Middle Row—Jim McKenzie, Jim Giles, Gordon Davie, Tom McCashney, George O'Hehir, Paddy Connors,  
Bill Hanley.  
Front Row—Joe Hart, Jim Elliott, George Colvin, Eric Manley.

Daylesford pulled out of the K.D.F.L. in 1929 to join the Ballarat League, East Trentham applied to take their place and were admitted, despite the protests of Trentham who had lost ten of their previous years players who had either retired or left the district and they would lose more players to East Trentham.

The East Trentham side was admitted and it was stated that their ground was satisfactory and that they would erect dressing sheds if they were deemed necessary.

Gordon Davie was Trentham Captain, and Bill Donnan was President as they won 9 of their 20 games finishing third. Kyneton 14.10 defeated Malmsbury 6.7 in the first semi and Collegians who were minor premiers defeated Trentham by a goal in the second semi, with the scores being 6.9 to 5.9.

Collegians avenged their defeat in the previous years grand final when they won the 1929 flag defeating Kyneton 8.11 to 5.14. During the Grand final police rushed onto the ground on three different occasions to break up fights, but the umpire said after the game that at no stage had he considered reporting any player.

Ern Wall, Trentham's long serving Treasurer retired after giving 16 years of grand service to the Trentham Football Club his type of commitment was a great example of what football was all about.

1930 saw Malmsbury, Kyneton, Collegians and Trentham competing in the Kyneton District Football League. Bill Donnan was Trenthams President O Shilton Secretary, W Smith Treasurer and Gordon Davie was Captain. The clubs colours were Maroon and Blue.



1929

BACK ROW: Jim Elliott, Ted Dunn, Bert Cann, Jim Dunn, Arthur Mounsey, Norm Robson, Goldie Heath, George Webb, Tom Oglvie, George Colvin, Tom Higgins.  
MIDDLE ROW: Bill Donnan, Bill Bremner, Ernie Cowell, Arthur Plant, Bill Manley, Gordon Davie, Jim McKenzie, Ron Justice, Charlie Dight, Tom Hickey, Jack Higgins, Albert Higgins (child)  
FRONT ROW: Ben Plant, Arthur Plant, Jack Cann, Arthur Beattie, Bill Smith, Jim Giles, Syrt Cowell (snr) Duncan Maitcheson

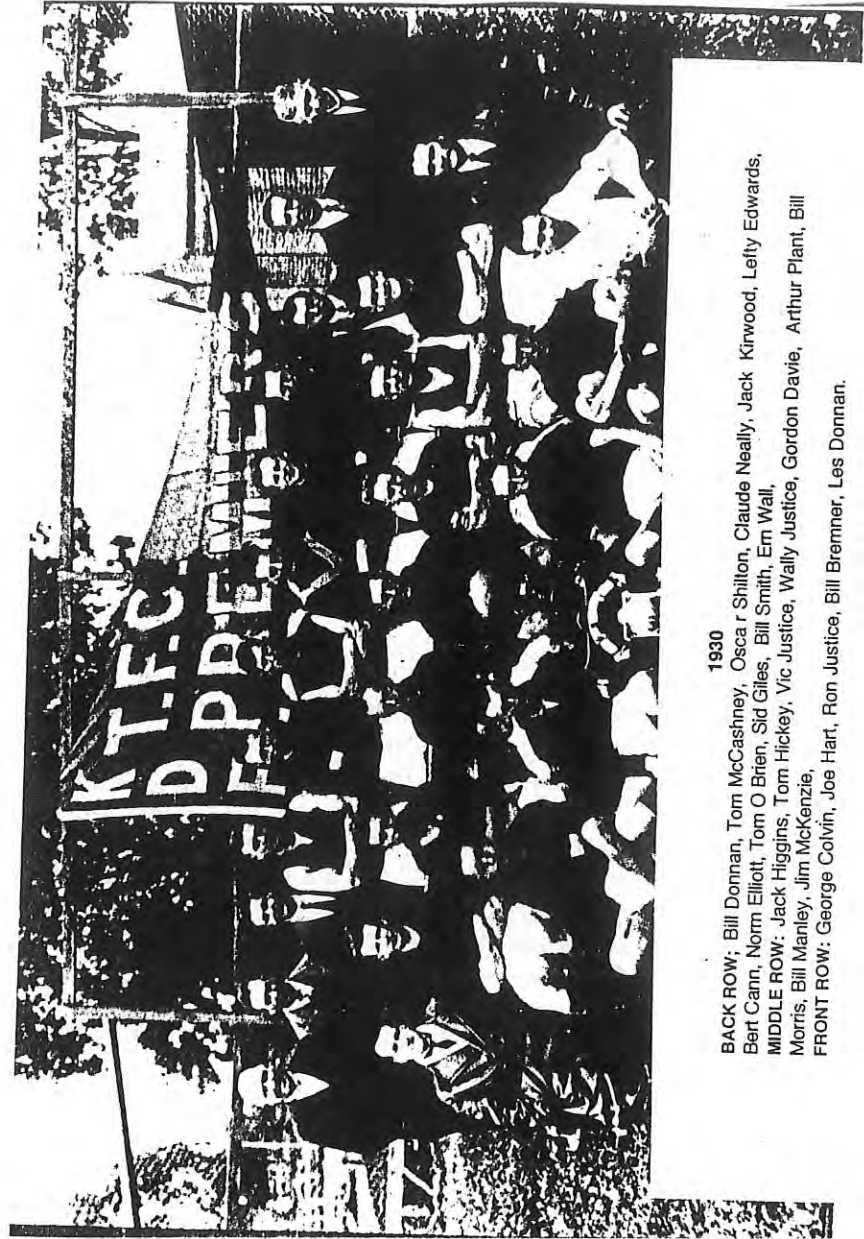


Of the twelve games played Trentham won eight lost three and drew one and finished the home and away series as Minor Premiers. In the first semi final Malmsbury beat Collegians and in the second semi final Trentham 10.15 defeated Kyneton 10.4.

In the final Malmsbury, who had not won any of their four encounters with Trentham through the season caused an upset when they were victorious scoring 10.10 to 9.10. Trentham as minor premiers exercised their right of challenge and so met Malmsbury in a replay for premiership honours.

The Grand Final was a hard fought affair with Trentham leading all day to eventually win five goals nine to Malmsbury five goals four. Players who represented Trentham in their premiership year included: G.Davie, E.Dunn, J Dunn, W Justice, R Justice, N Elliott, T Hickey, J Hart, L Ricardi, C Neally, J Fisher, T O'Brien, E Cowell, W Manley, W Morris, A Plant, B Cann, B Plant, W Bremner, J McKenzie, A Neally, D O'Brien, D McMenamin, H Loughnane, G O'Connell, G O'Conner, G Colvin, L Edwards, J Mounsey, A Dunn and J Kirwood.

Tom McCashney was awarded Life Membership at the end of year celebrations in recognition of his more than twenty years service to the Club.



1930

BACK ROW: Bill Donnan, Tom McCashney, Oscar Shilton, Claude Neally, Jack Kirwood, Lefty Edwards, Bert Cann, Norm Elliott, Tom O'Brien, Sid Giles, Bill Smith, Ern Wall,  
MIDDLE ROW: Jack Higgins, Tom Hickey, Vic Justice, Wally Justice, Gordon Davie, Arthur Plant, Bill Morris, Bill Manley, Jim McKenzie,  
FRONT ROW: George Colvin, Joe Hart, Ron Justice, Bill Bremner, Les Donnan.

Castlemaine and Foundry joined Kyneton, Collegians, Malmsbury and Trentham in what was to become the Midland Football League. 1931 was to prove to be a difficult year for Trentham as they found it hard to cover the loss of many players and of their twenty games for the season they could only win six and lost fourteen, missing the finals for the first time in six years. Kyneton eliminated Castlemaine in the first semi, then Foundry defeated Collegians in the second semi. Kyneton continued their good finals form beating Collegians 10.4 to 7.3 in the preliminary final. The Grand final went to Kyneton who easily defeated Foundry scoring 10.11 to 6.14.

In 1932 the Midlands Football League comprised teams from Trentham, Daylesford, Malmsbury and Kyneton C.Y.M.S. Trenthams captain for this season was Jim McKenzie, he was also Club Treasurer with Bill Donnan President and E Manley Secretary.

Throughout the season the competition was fairly even with Daylesford finishing as minor premiers, but in a sensation Daylesford pulled out of the competition before the finals started after a dispute arising from the fact that it was decided not to play any finals at Daylesford.

Trentham had won six and drawn one of their twelve games for the season and were confident of their finals chances. The first semi final was won by C.Y.M.S. when they easily accounted for Malmsbury. Because of the Daylesford withdrawal Trentham had a walkover in the second semi and were to play C.Y.M.S. in the grand final. The dispute with Daylesford had caused a delay in starting the finals and then the walk over meant that Trentham did not play a match for four weeks.

The Grand Final was a tough workout and the lack of match practice told against Trentham. At half time Trentham had established a handy lead but they ran out of legs towards the finish of the game and at three quarter time C.Y.M.S. had gained a four point break. In the last quarter Trentham kicked one goal two to five goals seven and C.Y.M.S. were premiers scoring 15.9 to 11.10.

Trentham joined the Daylesford Football Association in 1933 and played against Hepburn, Glenlyon, Daylesford United, Blampied-Eganstown and Loddon Valley (Lyonville). Trentham proved to be the best team in the competition and of the twelve games played they won nine drew one and lost two. Bill Donnan continued as President with E Manley Secretary and S Noall Treasurer. Des O Flaherty was Trenthams Captain and the team under his leadership seemed destined for great things.

The final series got under way with Daylesford beating Glenlyon in the first semi final, then Trentham 8 goals 3 defeated Loddon Valley 5 goals 7 in the second semi.

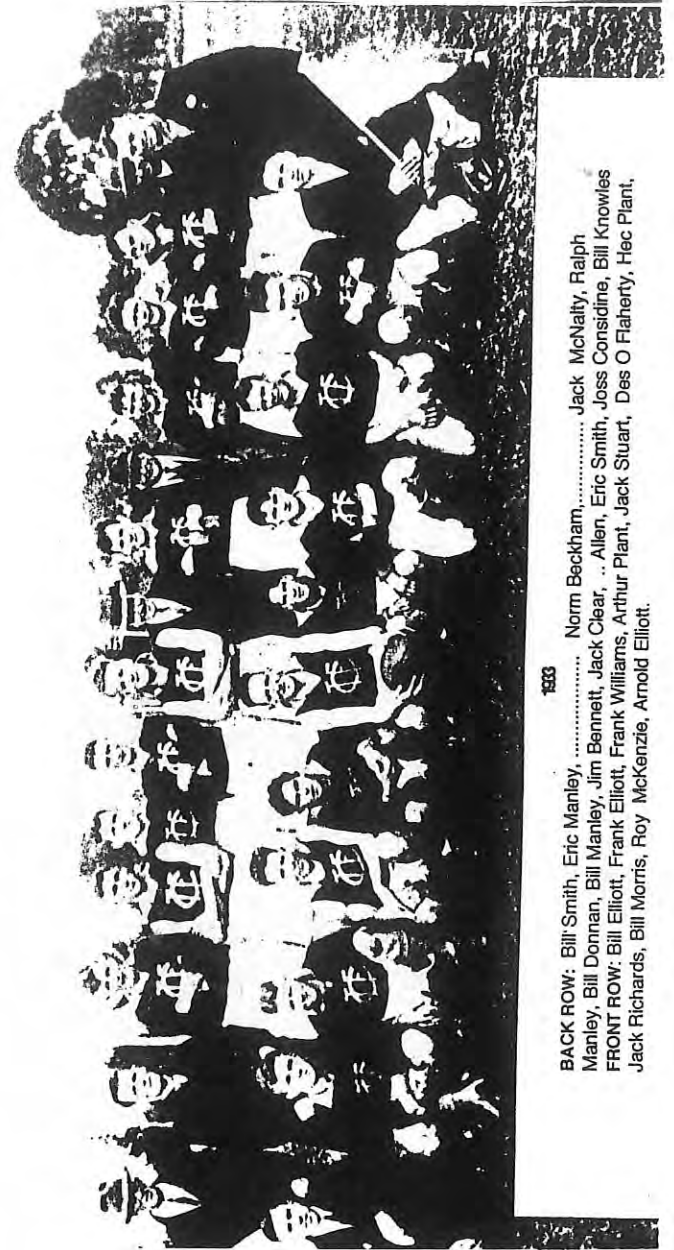
Loddon Valley then defeated Daylesford to earn the right to play Trentham for the premiership. Grand Final Day dawned cold and wet, the Daylesford ground was slippery and the ball hard to handle. Loddon Valley got away to a good start and at quarter time after kicking with the wind they led Trentham 2 goals 2 points to 1 point. Trentham had the best of the next quarter, kicking 2.2 and holding the Valley scoreless. At halftime Trentham 2 goals 3 led Loddon Valley 2.2.



During the third quarter the rain began to bucket down and with the rain so went Loddon Valleys premiership hopes as they failed to score with the wind while Trentham added two goals one against it. At three quarter time Trentham with four goals four led Loddon Valley two goals two. The last quarter was all Trentham as they powered away kicking five goals three to no score and with the rain still pouring down Loddon Valley decided their task was impossible and with ten minutes still to play they left the ground conceding the 1933 Premiership to Trentham.

The League Best and Fairest count held ended in a tie between Trentham Vice Captain Arthur Plant and Loddon Valley Rover Ron Justice, so it was decided that whoever played the best in the second semi would be adjudged League Best and Fairest. Ron Justice played the best and was consequently awarded the trophy.

Players who represented Trentham in their Premiership year included D O Flaherty, A Plant, D Plant, H Plant, F Elliot, W Elliott, J Richards, E Smith, R Manley, W Manley, C Cowell, E Cowell, S Cowell, G Colvin, W Morris, E Coutts, F Williams, J Stuart, E Sheldon, C Dight, R Davie, N Beckham, J Williams, D McFadden, J McKinnon, W Noall, J Clear, E McAnulty and R McKenzie.



1933  
 BACK ROW: Bill Smith, Eric Manley, ..... Norm Beckham, ..... Jack McNally, Ralph Manley, Bill Donnan, Bill Manley, Jim Bennett, Jack Clear, .. Allen, Eric Smith, Joss Considine, Bill Knowles  
 FRONT ROW: Bill Elliott, Frank Elliott, Frank Williams, Arthur Plant, Jack Stuart, Des O Flaherty, Hec Plant, Jack Richards, Bill Morris, Roy McKenzie, Arnold Elliott.

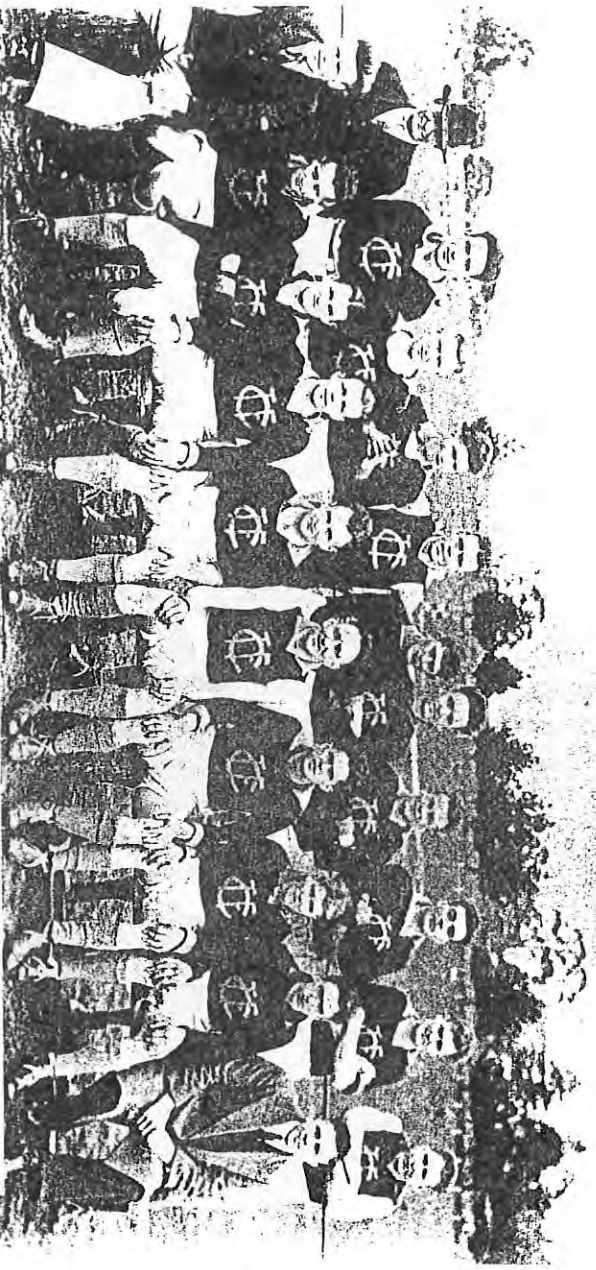
1934 saw Trentham once again competing in the Daylesford District League against Loddon Valley, Daylesford United, Hepburn and Glenlyon. Bill Donnan was Trentham President with Les Newton Secretary, Treasurer was a Mr Mowatt and Des O Flaherty Captain/Coach.

After the home and away rounds Trentham had won five and lost five of their ten game. Jack Richards of Trentham was voted Daylesford District League Best and Fairest Player for season 1934.

Trentham played Daylesford United in the first semi final winning nine goals eight to Daylesford eight goals five. Loddon Valley thrashed Hepburn 13.8 to 3.12 in the second semi and then Hepburn 10.15 easily accounted for Trentham who kicked 7.9 in the preliminary final.

The grand final was a sensational affair, first having to be postponed twice because of wet weather but this suited the league who had taken out insurance to cover just such an eventuality and on both occasions they collected the sum of thirty pounds.

After the delays the Grand Final finally got underway and in a very rough match both Loddon Valley and Hepburn players became involved in many fights, late in the last quarter a huge fight erupted involving both teams and many of the spectators who invaded the ground stopping play, however the umpire didn't blow time off and when the siren rang Hepburn had won 6,6 to Loddon Valley 6.5.



1934  
 BACK ROW: Paddy O Keefe, Henry Matheson, Jack Clear, Charlie Cowell, Frank Pye, Syd Cowell, George Colvin, Eric Smith, Sam Beloff, Bill Manley, Arthur Plant  
 FRONT ROW: Ben Plant, Ern Cowell, Jack Richards, Brian Robinson, Charlie Dight, Des O'Flaherty, Jack Stuart, Ken Plant, Vic Colvin, Bill Elliott.



Loddon Valley appealed to the League saying that the game had not been allowed to run its full course. The appeal, was upheld and a rematch was organised for the next week and this too ended in controversy when with Loddon Valley leading Hepburn 6.12 to 4.11 someone sneaked up and hit the bell with a rock ending play forty five seconds early.

Hepburn protested to the Ballarat League about having to replay the first game, this was upheld and Hepburn was awarded the Premiership.

Trentham lost several players and as a result could only field a very young side in the 1935 Daylesford District League. Des O Flaherty was Captain/Coach with the office bearers being Bill Donnan President, Les Newton, Secretary and Jack Higgins Treasurer.

Trentham won only 2 of their 14 games and drew one other finishing last. The only bright aspect of the season came when Ted Holmes tied with L Tanetti of Hepburn for the League Best and Fairest Award.

Hepburn defeated Springmount in the first semi and Daylesford United defeated Loddon Valley in the second semi. The Preliminary Final saw Hepburn eliminate Loddon Valley. In the Grand Final Daylesford United kicked 7 goals 10 to Hepburns 4 goals 12 to become Premiers.

Bill Donnan was president in 1936 with Vic Bennett Secretary and Jack Higgins Treasurer, this committee were to be in charge until the outbreak of the Second World War. Syd Cowell was Captain/Coach and Trentham had a better season winning seven and losing seven of their fourteen games. Bob Davie and Bill Manley tied for the Trentham Club, Best and Fairest Award.

Loddon Valley eliminated Daylesford United in the first semi then Glenlyon beat Hepburn in the second semi. Hepburn accounted for Loddon Valley in the Preliminary Final only to be easily beaten by Glenlyon in the Grand Final with the scores being Glenlyon 12 goals 16 to Hepburn 5 goals 6 points.

Trentham left the Daylesford District League to join the Castlemaine League which in 1937 consisted of Castlemaine, Chewton, Campbells Creek, Harcourt, Maldon, Malmsbury and C.Y.M.S.

Syd Cowell was Captain Coach and the club colours were Brown and Gold Guernseys with Black knicks. The competition was much stronger in this league, but to their credit Trentham proved equal to the task and won six of their fourteen games. Harcourt were Premiers defeating Chewton in the Grand Final.

1938 was a difficult year for Trentham and they could only manage four wins and a draw from thirteen games. It would appear that the highlight of most weekends was the get together after the games and no matter how tough the match all was forgotten on the dance floor at the after game function when players mingled with their opponents from just a few hours previous. Of special interest is the fact that teams travelled to and from away games by bus and there are many stories of the riotous fun enjoyed on these trips.

Bob Davie, Trenthams brilliant young rover/centreman was awarded the League Best and Fairest Award for 1938, Chewton were Premiers from Harcourt, Malmsbury and C.Y.M.S.

1939 was a dismal year for the brown and golds as they battled to field a competitive side and they failed to win one of their twelve games. Maldon won the Grand Final, against Castlemaine and Chewton finishing third and Harcourt fourth.

At the end of season wind-up Trentham presented Gordon Davie who had played 300 games for the club with a Life Membership.

Andy Hammond was appointed coach of Trentham in 1940 but with the War coming closer and the loss of many players who enlisted, Trentham faced an uphill battle to field a side and after losing their first six games it was decided to put the club into recess until the end of the War.

With the war drawing to a close and many servicemen returning home Trentham decided to field a side in the Daylesford Football Association in 1945.

There were five teams Daylesford, Korweinguboorra, Textiles, Hepburn and Trentham. Bill Donnan was Trenthams President, J Walsh Secretary and Jack Higgins Treasurer. Arthur Burns was coach and Bob Davie Captain.

Trentham whose colours were now navy blue and white had a very successful season winning all of their home and away games with the closest result being three goals, however come finals time things began to go drastically wrong. Daylesford eliminated Hepburn in the first semi, then Trentham went down to Korweinguboorra in the Second Semi 7.11 to 6.5.

The Preliminary Final, was a rout Trentham annihilating Daylesford scoring 12.12 to 1.11. In the grand final Korweinguboorra were too good for Trentham kicking 11.9 to 4.8.

At the end of season celebrations, Bill Donnan was awarded Life Membership for his outstanding service to the Club and Charlie Cowell was given a trophy recognising his long service to the Club, he went on to play well over three hundred games.



1937

BACK ROW: Syd Cowell (Snr), Lindsay Millar, Don Betteridge, Frank Dwyer, Joe Solomon, Joe Dwyer, Jack Hammond, Jack Gillis, Frank Elliott, Bob Atkinson,.....Ken Plant, Bill Considine, Bill Manley, Vic Colvin,  
MIDDLE ROW: Les Byrne, Charlie Cowell, Ted Shaldon, Bill Drummond, Vic Bennett,  
FRONT ROW: Bernie Goodrick, Harry Stanyer, Bob Davie, Syd Cowell, Ben Plant, Ern Cowell, Les Colvin, Ron Wigney.



Roland Crosbie was Trenthams Coach in the Castlemaine League in 1946. The League consisted of Castlemaine, Harcourt, Maldon Newstead, Kyneton, Woodend, Campbells Creek, Chewton, Daylesford and Trentham. Trentham's President was Bill Donnan, L Gleeson and L Donnelly were joint Secretaries and A Polletti was Treasurer, the team won four of their eighteen games and finished eighth.

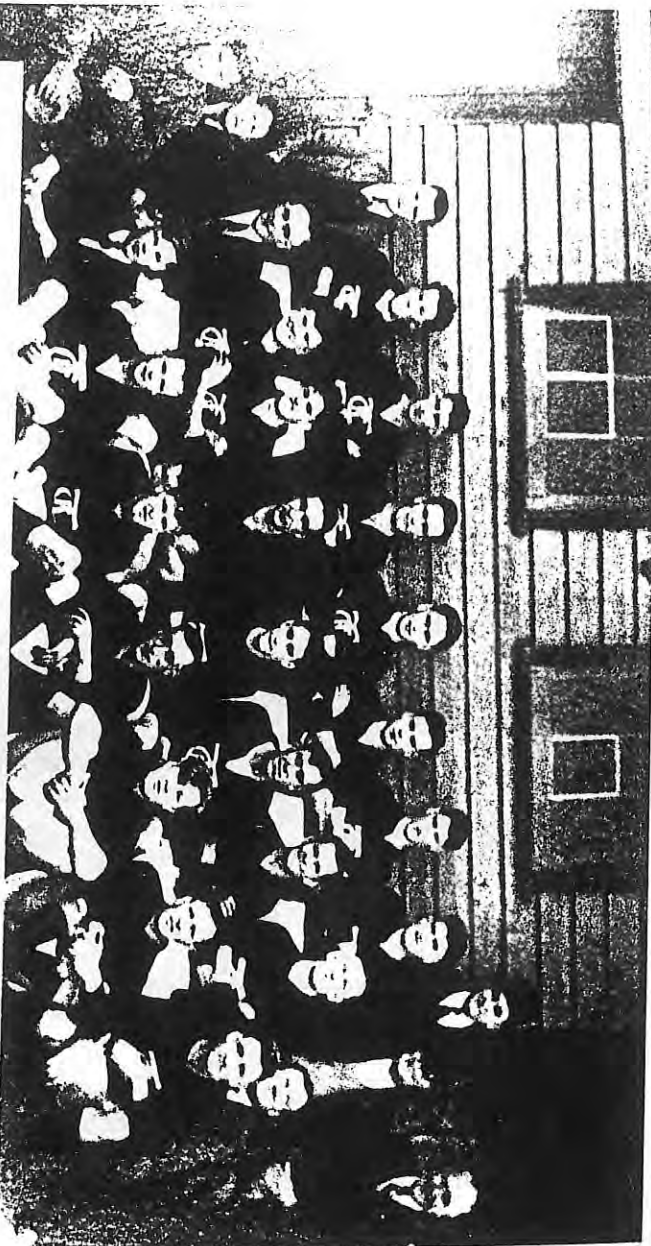
Chewton beat Campbells Creek in the first semi, Kyneton were eight point victors over Castlemaine in the Second Semi and Castlemaine defeated Chewton by five points in the Preliminary Final. In the Grand Final Castlemaine 13.24 were too good for Kyneton who kicked 12.11.

1947 saw the same teams competing in the Castlemaine League as the previous season with the exception of Kyneton and Malmsbury. Jim Brown was Coach with Bill Donnan President, Jim Fairless and Frank Scala joint Secretaries and B Polletti Treasurer.

Trentham won 7 of their 18 home and away games finishing sixth on the ladder. 1947 was the first year that Trentham fielded a reserve side

The final series was very even with the First Semi going to Maldon who beat Chewton by eight points. In the second semi, Castlemaine scraped in by two points over Daylesford and in the Preliminary final Daylesford was victorious over Maldon by sixteen points. The Grand Final was more one sided with Castlemaine kicking 14.15 to Daylesford 9.13

Trentham changed their colours to green and white when they competed in the Castlemaine League in 1948. Bill Donnan was President, Les Newton, Secretary and B Polletti Treasurer.



1945

BACK ROW: Ted Dunn, Pat Donnelly, Charlie Cowell, Dan Dwyer, Brian Dwyer, Allan Gillis, Alec Robertson, Jack Donnelly, Norm Robson, Syd Cowell (Sm) Bill Donnan,  
MIDDLE ROW: Kevin Kelly, Len Smith, Leo Donnelly, Laurie Scala, Arthur Burns, Bob Davie, Bill Spurling, Vic Bennett, Jim Walsh, Les Newton,  
FRONT ROW: Harry Kingdom, Alan Wylie, Jim Walsh, Ken Dunn, Norm Davie, Bill McCashney, Frank Dwyer, Ted Cole

Joe Briody was Coach and under his guidance Tentham had a much better year winning nine of their eighteen games and finishing sixth.

Joe Briody was runner up in the League Best and Fairest while Danny Burns won Trentham's Best and Fairest with Frank Brady being voted Best Clubman.

Chewton won the Grand Final over Castlemaine with Campbells Creek finishing third and Daylesford fourth.

1949 was a year of milestones for Trentham Football Club, Bill Donnan resigned as President after giving twenty-five years great service, he was replaced by Len Little with Bill Mayne Secretary and Les Newton Treasurer. New Dressing Sheds were erected to replace the old tin shed, but Trenthams on field performances were disappointing when under coach, Keith Elliott they could only win four of their sixteen games finishing seventh. The highlight of the season came when Keith Elliott polled 26 votes to win the Leagues Best and Fairest. Maldon were Premiers from Chewton, Campbells Creek and Woodend.

1950 was a disappointing year for Trentham as they finished 7th winning only 4 of their eighteen games, with one other resulting in a draw. Jack Dehne was Trentham's President and Les Newton was Secretary, with Alec Robertson as Coach. Ken Dunn Trentham's ace forward won the League Goal Kicking Award.

Maldon defeated Campbells Creek in the Grand Final with Daylesford and Chewton finishing third and fourth respectively.



1947

BACK ROW: Danny Burns, Harry Cann, Les Newton, Pat Donnelly, Alex Robertson, Ray Stanyer, Jim Brown, Charlie Cowell, Maurice Hourigan, Blaney Allen, Bertie O'Flaherty,  
MIDDLE ROW: Ron Justice, Jim Walsh, Alan Gillis, Bob Davie, Jim Fairless, Norm Davie, Ken Dunn,  
FRONT ROW: Wally Morris, Wally Flanley, Moncey Scala.



Trentham's coach in 1951 was Tom Roulent with Jack Dehne President, L Newton Secretary and B Allen Treasurer, the Club had a fairly successful season winning twelve of their eighteen home and away games finishing fourth on the ladder.

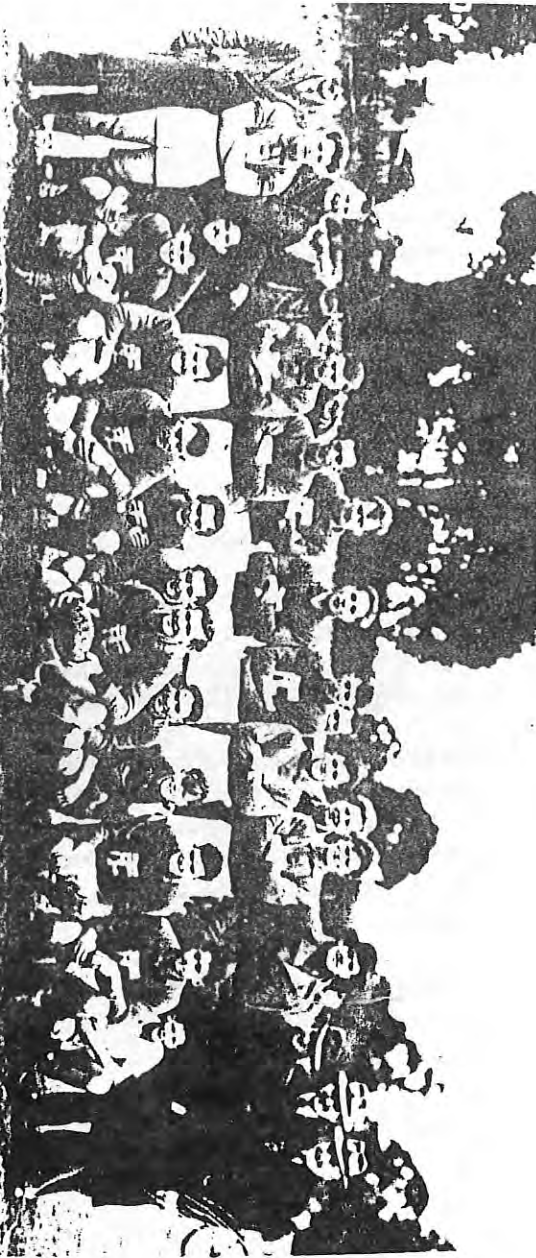
Trentham were eliminated in the first semi final by Campbells Creek with the scores being 18.12-120 to 15.14-104, Maldon beat Daylesford in the second semi and Campbells Creek beat Daylesford in the Preliminary Final, the Grand Final was very close, Maldon kicking 6.10-46 to Campbells Creek 6.8-44.

Tom Roulent won the Castlemaine Football League Best and Fairest Award and Ken Dunn took out the goal kicking trophy.

The Castlemaine League only consisted of four teams in 1952. Woodend, Chewton, Malmsbury and Trentham with each team playing the other four times. Trentham won seven and lost five of their twelve games under Coach Jim McKnight.

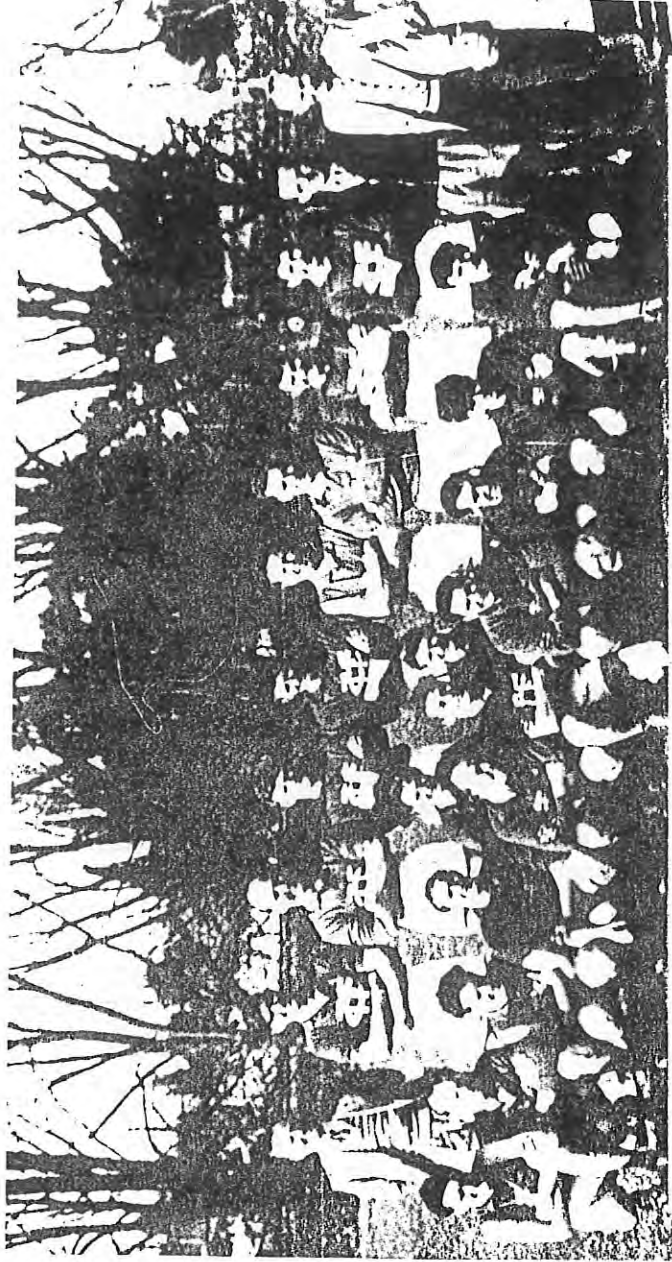
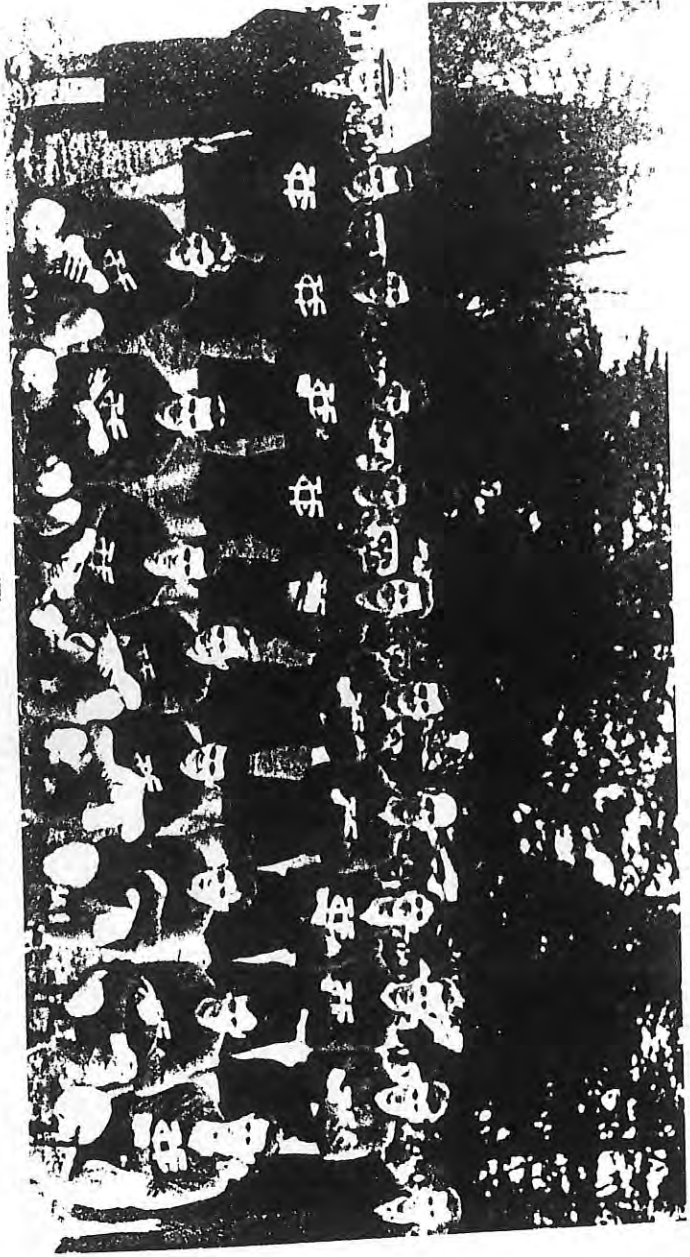
It was to prove to be a sensational final series. In the first semi-final Malmsbury, who did not win a game in the home and away round, defeated Chewton by nine goals. The Second Semi Final was very close with Woodend narrowly defeating Trentham.

Malmsbury continued their winning form when they won the Preliminary Final over Trentham kicking 13.17 to 11.7 and in the Grand Final their fairy tale came true when they defeated Woodend by three points with the scores being Malmsbury 11.7-73 to Woodend 10.10-70.



BACK ROW: Bill Mayne, Kevin Kelly, Len Little, Tom Lillis, Ken Dunn, George Webb, Norm Davie, Frank Brady, Maurie Hourigan, Charlie Cowell, Ted Dunn, Bert Mayne, Bill McCashney, Bluey Allen, Wally Morris, Les Donnan, Les Newton, Bill Donnan.  
 FRONT ROW: Laurie Scala, Maurie Scala, Leo Donnelly, Ron Justice, Alec Matheson, Wally Fenley, Joe Brody, Hec Plant, John McCashney, Leo Ryan, Bob Davie, Kevin Davie.

151  
 BACK ROW: Les Newton, Bob Shearman, Keith Farthing, Charlie Cowell, Alec Robertson, Bill McCashney, Tom Rouletti, Andy Hammond, Laurie Scala, Maurie Hourigan, Ken Dunn, Albert Close,  
 FRONT ROW: Kevin Cole, Jim McKnight, Des Flanley, Lindsay Cole, Maurie Scala, Gerald McCashney,  
 Norm Davie, Bob Davie.



152  
 BACK ROW: Les Newton, Kevin Webb, Andy Hammond, Bluey Allen, Charlie Cowell, Bill McCashney, Maurie Hourigan, Leo Donnelly, Kevin Muir, Alec Woods, Bill Swindells,  
 FRONT ROW: Leo Ryan, Des Black, Kevin Kelly, Ted Patton, Lindsay Cole, Mick Black, Max Rodoni, Kevin Cole, Jim McKnight, Norm Davie, Phil Hunt, Alec Matheson.

1953 was to prove to be the start of another golden era for Trentham, the team shifted from the defunct Castlemaine League and joined the Riddell District Football League and although not setting the world on fire in their initial season they played well enough to finish fifth winning ten and drawing one of their eighteen games, Sunbury beat Romsey in the Grand Final with Lancefield finishing third and Kilmore fourth.

Trentham's Kevin Cole finished equal 4th in the R.D.F.L. Best and Fairest count, just two votes behind the winner.

1954 was a big year for Trentham when they swept all before them winning fourteen of their eighteen games finishing two games clear on top of the ladder.

Jack Hiscock Trentham's Coach was a run-a-way winner of the R.D.F.L. Bowen Medal, scoring thirty votes, nine more than his nearest opponent and Trentham's Full-forward Ken Dunn won the League Goal Kicking with seventy six goals.

Jack Groves was Trentham's President and Les Newton Secretary as they entered the final series full of optimism. The first semi-final saw Woodend defeat Sunbury and then in the second semi-final Trentham were much too strong for Lancefield, Woodend earned the right to play off for the Premiership by beating Lancefield in the Preliminary Final.

In an upset result Woodend proved to strong for Trentham winning the Grand Final 10.12-72 to 6.5-41. Trentham's best players in the final were Jim McKnight, Jack Hiscock and Frank Brady, while two Woodend players who would prove to be a thorn in Trenthams side in years to come were outstanding, they were Jim Godden and Peter Barker.



1954

BACK ROW: Jack Groves, Bill McCashney, Kevin Cole, Laurie Turner, Neil Robson, Jack Hiscock, Pat Brennan, Laurie Scala, Frank Brady, (Obscured) Andy Hammond, Les Newton, Albert Close.  
FRONT ROW: Jim McKnight, Ken Dunn, Peter Matthews, Maurie Scala, Gerald McCashney, Bert Davie, Leo Ryan, Des Flenley, Gil Vaughan.  
MASCOTS: Bill McKnight, Bert Dunn, Peter Madden, Ken Davie.



At the end of year celebrations Jim McKnight was awarded Trentham's Best and Fairest Award while Laurie Scala was voted Best Clubman for 1954.

After such a good season the previous year 1955 was some what of a disappointment for Trentham who finished sixth winning nine and drawing one of their eighteen games. Trentham's President was Jack Groves and Les Newton was Secretary.

In the voting for the League Best and Fairest, Trentham's Coach Ken Dunn scored seventeen votes and Laurie Scala polled sixteen votes finishing fifth and sixth respectively.

An exciting final series saw Woodend eliminate Romsey in the first semi final, while the second Semi Final between Sunbury and Lancefield resulted in a draw. The replay was won by Sunbury, Lancefield defeated Woodend in the Preliminary Final by three goals and Sunbury were too good for Lancefield in the Grand Final winning by fifteen points.

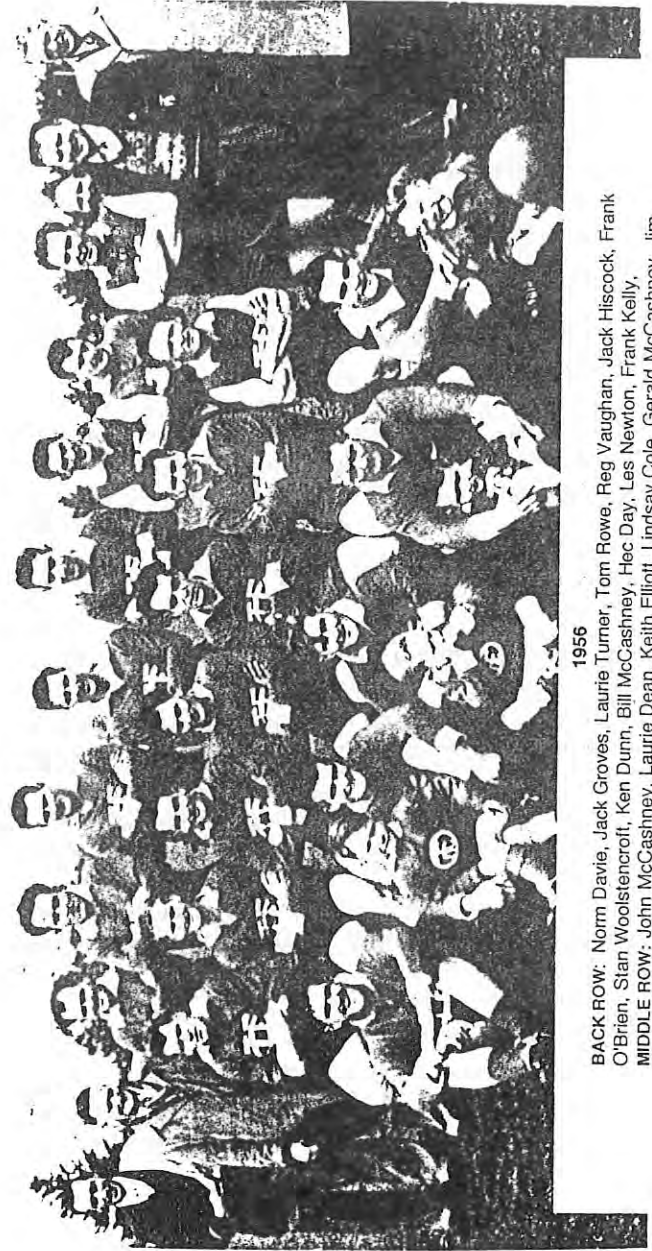
Trentham were far and away the best team in 1956, when under Captain Coach Jack Hiscock, they won seventeen of their eighteen games finishing on top of the ladder, their only loss for the season being at the hands of Lancefield.

The First Semi Final was won by Sunbury who defeated Woodend by five points, the second Semi Final was all Trentham as they annihilated Lancefield by seventy five points with full forward Ken Dunn kicking an incredible fourteen goals.

## TRENTHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

PREMIERS

1956



1956

BACK ROW: Norm Davie, Jack Groves, Laurie Turner, Tom Rowe, Reg Vaughan, Jack Hiscock, Frank O'Brien, Stan Woolstencroft, Ken Dunn, Bill McCashney, Hec Day, Les Newton, Frank Kelly,  
MIDDLE ROW: John McCashney, Laurie Dean, Keith Elliott, Lindsay Cole, Gerald McCashney, Jim McKnight, Bob Holmes,  
FRONT ROW: Laurie Scala, Leo Ryan, Eli Brown, Des Kelly, Norm McKenzie,  
MASCOTS: Bill McKnight, Des O'Brien, Peter Madden, Neil Holmes.

Sunbury were too good for Lancefield in the Preliminary Final and so won the right to play Trentham in the Grand Final, however they were not able to contain the rampaging Grasshoppers who went on to win by fifty points with the final scores reading Trentham 15.10-100 to Sunbury 6.14-50, best players for Trentham were Bob Holmes, Jack Hiscock and John McCashney.

Bob Holmes finished sixth and Jack Hiscock ninth in the Bowen Medal voting.

Trentham's players in this Premiership year consisted of L Ryan, G McCashney, T Rowe, S Woolstencroft, L Scala, E Brown, L Dehne, J Hiscock, D Kelly, D Flenley, M Scala, A Hammond, B Glenane, L Vaughan, K Elliott, N McKenzie, B Holmes, J McKnight, K Dunn, F O'Brien, L Cole, R Vaughan, J McCashney, L Turner and W McCashney.

1957 was a disappointing year for the Trentham after their success of the previous season, they had lost several of their players from their premiership team and could only win seven of their eighteen games, finishing sixth.

Captain/Coach, Jack Hiscock just missed out on winning his second Bowen Medal when he was runner up by just one vote.

Sunbury who were the top team all year won the Premiership from Woodend, with Romsey finishing third and Lancefield fourth.

Jim McKnight was coach in 1958 with Jack Groves President and Les Newton Secretary. In this season Trentham played at a ground behind the "Pig and Whistle Hotel" in East Trentham while their ground was being reshaped and resurfaced.

Trentham had a much better season this year and even though they finished sixth winning eight of their eighteen games they could easily have finished in the four, because they lost six games by less than a goal.

Romsey beat Woodend in the first Semi Final and the Second Semi between Sunbury and Lancefield resulted in a draw the second time this happened in three years, which must be some sort of record. This time Lancefield were victorious in the replay by just two points. Sunbury beat Romsey in the Preliminary Final but failed against Lancefield by eleven points in the Grand Final.

Jack Hiscock won Trentham's 1958 Best and Fairest and Goal Kicking awards with Harry Cowell Best Utility and Max Scala Best Clubman.

In 1959 Trentham returned to their own ground which had been re-surfaced and with the goals now running North and South the surface of the ground was now as good as any in the competition and credit has to go to the towns people who had offered their voluntary labour with special mention to Doug Gillis whose expertise in levelling the ground was invaluable, they also organised all of the machinery required to achieve the fine end result also, to Fred Rothe who paid for all the diesel for the machinery.

This was also the first season in which Trentham wore their present colours of Red White and Black. Jack Hiscock was Coach and the Saints under his guidance won thirteen games finishing second on percentage behind Sunbury.

Romsey beat Woodend in the First Semi-Final and Trentham were too good for Sunbury winning the Second Semi 11.10-76 to 9.12-66. Romsey caused an upset when they beat Sunbury in the Preliminary final and in the Grand Final they put up a great fight but were not able to overcome the determined Trentham who won the Premiership kicking 6.12-48 to Romsey 5.13-43, Trentham's best players were J Dehne, J Hiscock and K Dunn.

Jack Hiscock was beaten on a countback in the Bowen Medal scoring nineteen votes.

Trentham's Premiership season players included Jack Hiscock, Kevin Muir, Harry Cowell, Brian Smith, Don Gill, Greg Robson, Merv Hunt, Gordon Johannson, Ian Gill, Stan Woolstencroft, Gerald McCashney, Jim Peucker, Reg Vaughan, Ken Dunn, Don Turner, Rex McCashney, John Dehne, Brian Glenane, Eli Brown, Bill McCashney, Vin Flenley, Des Flenley.

Incredibly after winning the Premiership the previous season at the Annual General Meeting in 1960 only two people turned up so it had to be reconvened to another date, however only seven people turned up and it appeared doubtful if the club would be reformed, yet another meeting was called and this time over forty people attended and a new committee was formed with Jack Groves, President, Jack Hiscock Treasurer and Des Kelly Secretary. Les Newton retired as Secretary after fourteen years service.

Not surprisingly Trentham's on field performances suffered after such a lethargic start and they could only manage to win five games finishing eighth their worst effort since joining the Riddell League.

Lancefield beat Kilmore in the First Semi Final and Heskett were victorious over Gisborne in the Second Semi, Lancefield were too good for Gisborne in the Preliminary Final, but were no match for Heskett in the Grand Final.

Jack Hiscock capped off an incredible run in the Bowen Medal when he won his second medal by nine votes. Jack's Bowen Medal history is; winner 1954, eleventh 1955, ninth 1956, second 1957 third 1958 beaten on a countback 1959, winner 1960.

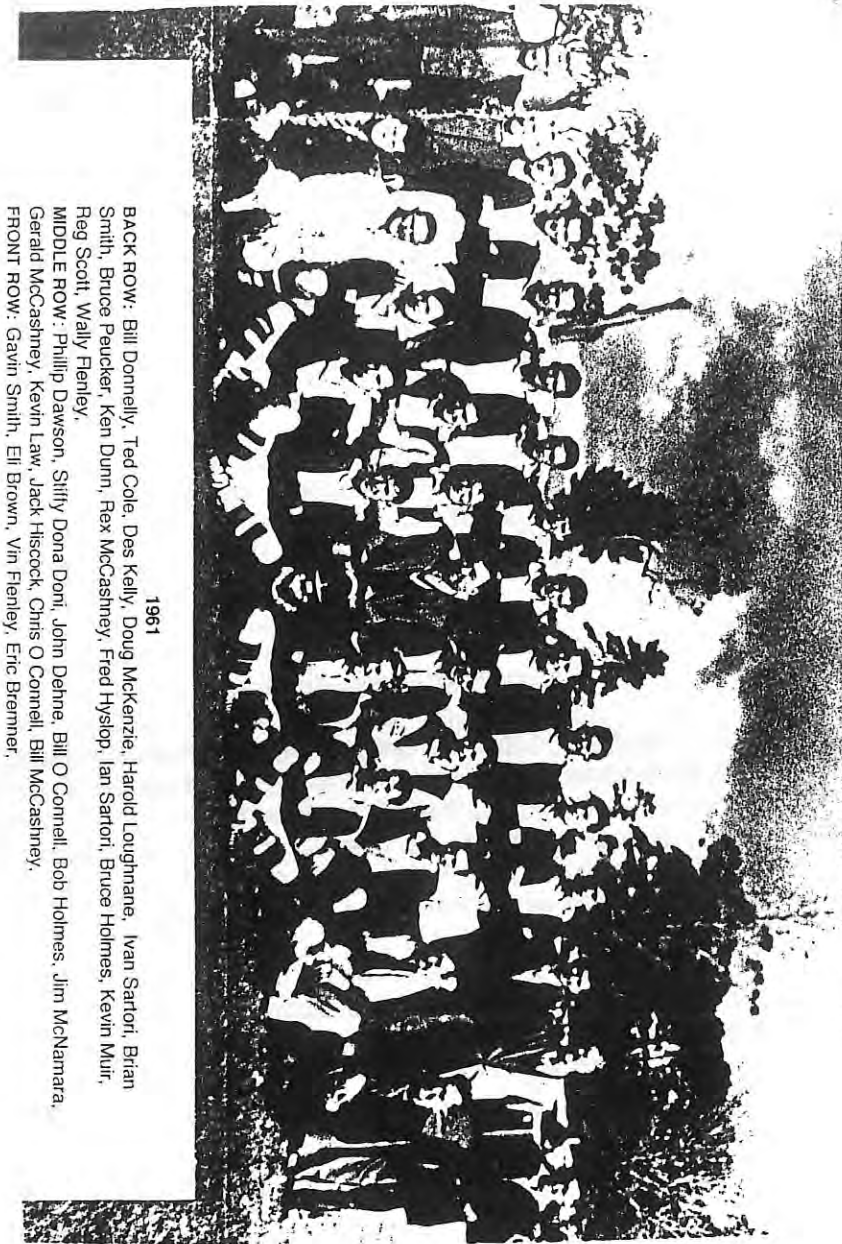
1961 will go-down as one of the best years in the history of the Trentham Football Club when under the leadership of Coach Bob Holmes the team went through the season undefeated, the first time this feat was achieved in the R.D.F.L's one hundred years history.

Jim McNamara was Trentham's President with Des Kelly Secretary and Bob Holmes, Coach.

Trentham stamped their authority on the competition when in the first three games of the season they accounted for Heskett and Lancefield who had finished Premiers and Runners up in the previous season. When the home and away series finished Trentham were on top of the ladder two games clear of Gisborne with Lancefield a further two games behind in third place.

An exciting finals series saw Lancefield defeat Heskett in the first Semi and Trentham account for Gisborne in the Second Semi. Lancefield were too good for Gisborne winning the Preliminary Final scoring 10.7-67 to 7.10-52.





1961

BACK ROW: Bill Donnelly, Ted Cole, Des Kelly, Doug McKenzie, Harold Loughnane, Ivan Sartori, Brian Smith, Bruce Peucker, Ken Dunn, Rex McCashney, Fred Hyslop, Ian Sartori, Bruce Holmes, Kevin Muir, Reg Scott, Wally Flenley.  
 MIDDLE ROW: Phillip Dawson, Sillyy Dona Doni, John Dehne, Bill O'Connell, Bob Holmes, Jim McNamara, Gerald McCashney, Kevin Law, Jack Hiscock, Chris O'Connell, Bill McCashney,  
 FRONT ROW: Gavin Smith, Eli Brown, Vin Flenley, Eric Bremner.

A dramatic low scoring Grand Final saw hot favourites Trentham who were held scoreless in the first quarter and still three goals down at three quarter time, show tremendous fighting spirit to storm home and win by eight points with the final scores being Trentham 8.9-57 defeating Lancefield 7.7-49. Trentham's best players in the Grand Final were Bob Holmes, Fred Hyslop and Bill O'Connell.

To top off a tremendous season Bruce Holmes won the Gardiner Medal for the Best and Fairest in the R.D.F.L. Junior competition and in the voting for the Bowen Medal, Bob Holmes finished fourth with Bruce Holmes just one vote away finishing equal fifth.

Fred Hyslop, Trentham's big ruckman was awarded his teams Best & Fairest Trophy for this Premiership season.

Trentham's Premiers and Championship team of 1961 was John Dehne, Ian Sartori, Bruce Holmes, Harold Loughnane, Gerald McCashney, Eli Brown, Bruce Peucker, Bill O'Connell, Brian Smith, Ivan Sartori, Jack Hiscock, Gavin Smith, Eric Bremner, Ken Dunn, Rex McCashney, Fred Hyslop, Norm McKenzie, Bob Holmes, Vin Flenley and Kevin Law.

In 1962 Trentham who were now commonly referred to as "McNamara's Band" in reference to their President, Jim McNamara were once again coached by Bob Holmes. The Saints had lost several players from their Premiership team and started the season slowly losing two of their first three games and then winning ten in a 'row' before losing to Woodend by five points, a further two wins and a loss to Lancefield saw Trentham finish the season in third position after winning thirteen of their seventeen games.

Woodend won their last five games of the season to scrape into the four and in the first Semi Final they proved that it was no fluke when they defeated Trentham 7.10-52 to 5.7-37.

Lancefield defeated Gisborne by eight points in the Second Semi and then Gisborne over ran Woodend by twenty points in the Preliminary Final. In a tense Grand Final Gisborne turned the tables on Lancefield winning by six points 7.12-54 to 7.6-48.

Trentham Juniors finished third and defeated Sunbury in the first Semi Final but lost by five points to Woodend in the Preliminary Final who in turn were beaten by Lancefield in the Grand Final.

The R.D.F.L. Bowen medal was won by Trentham Coach, Bob Holmes with Bill O'Connell finishing a creditable tenth. Centreman Bill O Connell was Trentham's Best and Fairest for 1962.

Former St Kilda footballer Bill Kupsch was Trentham's Captain Coach in 1963 in what was to prove to be one of the most evenly contested seasons in R.D.F.L. history. Trentham won thirteen of their eighteen games but their five losses were by 25,4,5,19 and seven points so they were unlucky to only finish third at the end of the home and away rounds.

Trenthams misfortunes continued in to the finals when they lost the First Semi Final to Gisborne by just seven points 8.9-57 to 7.8-50. Romsey beat Lancefield by fourteen points in the Second Semi and Lancefield defeated Gisborne in the Preliminary Final by fourteen points. The stage was set for an exciting Grand Final and what a beauty it was with Romsey 11.8-74 drawing with Lancefield 10.14-74. The Replay Grand Final was just as exciting with Romsey victorious by one single point 9.10-64 to 9.9-63.

Bill Kupsch finished third in the Bowen Medal and Ian Groves and Barry Bremner finished sixth and tenth respectively in the Gardiner Medal for the second eighteen. Trentham's Best and Fairest Award was won by the dynamic Bob Holmes.

Trentham's President in 1964 was Jack Bourke with Kevin Muir Secretary and Rex McCashney Treasurer. Kevin Ellis an ex Fitzroy player was Captain Coach, but the Saints were to find it hard to match with most of their opponents, the loss of several of their more experienced players meant that younger players were asked to step up to Senior level earlier than expected but to their credit the team managed to win seven and draw one of their eighteen games finishing seventh on the ladder.

The most encouraging part of the season was the effort of the second eighteen who finished the season in fourth position and went on to win the First Semi and Preliminary Finals but were beaten for the Premiership by Sunbury.

Woodend were Senior Premiers defeating Romsey in the Grand Final with Lancefield and Gisborne finishing third and fourth. At Trentham's wind up social Fred Lehne was presented with the Clubs Best and Fairest trophy with Bill O Connell getting the Runners Up trophy, Best Clubman went to Vin Flenley while Ted Beattie was the Best and Fairest winner for the second eighteen.

1965 was to be Trentham's worst to date in the R D F L the team had lost many of their stalwarts and with the other teams in the competition having more drawing power and accessibility to players from Melbourne. Trentham found that they were unable to match it with this stronger opposition and were able to win only four of their seventeen games finishing tenth on the ladder ahead of only one other team.

Bill O Connell won Trentham's Best and Fairest and scored a creditable eight votes in the Bowen Medal.

Trentham's third eighteen was the best team in their competition in this season and won the second semi final over Sunbury easily, but Sunbury protested about Trentham playing ineligible players and Trentham was disqualified. Sunbury went on to win the flag.

After a disastrous 1965 season it was decided that Trentham would be better suited in the Clunes League which consisted of Springbank, Creswick, Newlyn, Hepburn, Clunes, Bungaree, Learmonth and Korwienguboora.

Jack Bourke was Trentham's President, Bill Best Secretary and Vin Flenley was Treasurer in 1966. Peter Heywood was appointed coach and Trentham who had changed their guernseys to the red and black colours of Essendon entered the competition full of hope but it was to prove to be a huge task to break into the upper order of the Clunes League their first season was a real struggle and the side battled to win a game. At the end of the season Trentham had won only one game and finished on the bottom of the ladder. Coach Peter Heywood won Trentham's Best and Fairest award.

Jack Bourke was President in 1967 with Frank Brady Secretary and Vin Flenley Treasurer. Under coach Barry Vear the team got off to a slow start losing their first five games, but improved to finish the season with eight wins and a draw from their sixteen games, just missing out on the finals.

Barry Vear won Trentham's Best and Fairest award with Jeff Ross being runner up. Barry Vear also finished third on the Clunes League goal kicking list.

Springbank went on to win the flag from Newlyn, with Clunes finishing third and Creswick fourth.

Garry Hunt was Trentham's coach for the first half of 1968 before being replaced by the legendary Bob Holmes and after a slow start to the season the team began to find some form under Bobs guidance, but did not have the personnel required to match it with the upper echelon of the Clunes League and once again found themselves in the middle order of the ladder.

Trentham won eight and lost eight of their sixteen games just missing out on the finals which were once again dominated by Springbank, who went on to win their fifth consecutive premiership, with Creswick Newlyn and Clunes filling the other final positions John Roach was voted Trentham's Best & Fairest for 1968.

Alec Robertson was Trentham's President in 1969 with Vin Flenley Secretary, Max Lord Treasurer and Barry Phelan Coach. Trentham battled hard but found that too often their opponents were much bigger and stronger than themselves and as a result they could only manage to win two of their fourteen games, finishing in second last position. Robin Baker won Trentham's Best and Fairest Award.

The start of 1970 was far from perfect for Trentham as the first Annual General Meeting was so poorly attended that it had to be postponed, but the same thing happened again and it seemed that the towns people had lost interest in the football club, however it was decided to have a try for another meeting and this time they were successful in forming a committee, which was made up of President, Alec Robertson, Secretary Vin Flenley and Treasurer Jeff Ross.



Barry Phelan was re appointed coach, and Trentham appeared to be more competitive than they had been in previous seasons and although they only won three games for the season they were definitely not a side to be taken lightly, however the team once again occupied a position near the bottom of the ladder.

Peter Gordon won Trentham's Best and Fairest Awarded on a count back from Warren Scott, Max Bruton won the most consistent and Vin Flenley won the Best Club Man Award.

In 1971 Phil Greenham was elected President with Vin Flenley Secretary and Jack Rickhuss Treasurer. Trentham's Coach for this season was Max Jackson and it was to prove to be the sides worst year in the Clunes League. Not only did they not win a game, they were unable to get close to some of the top sides. This despite the fact that the Trentham team had its fair share of very good footballers.

Warren Scott was voted Trentham's Best and Fairest player for the season with Ken Hourigan runner up.

Vin Flenley was coach in 1972 and once again Trentham battled to match it with their opponents, however the side did win two games in this season and many of their players began to realise their full potential, already teams from stronger competitions had eyes on some of Trentham's best players.

In an exciting vote count, Ken Hourigan was voted Trentham's Best and Fairest, just ahead of John Beattie, who had finished a very creditable eighth in the Clunes League Best and Fairest Award. These two fine players epitomize the talents required in all good footballers, courage, strength and dedication to the team with a real never say die attitude.

1973 Started in spectacular fashion, when under coach Jack Groves Trentham won the first game of the season by over 11 goals and the second game by six goals, however then the rot set in and they lost their next five games before recovering to win another two games, but after that they really struggled and were unable to register any further wins for the season and once more finished at the tail end of the ladder.

Ken Hourigan won Trentham's Best and Fairest award while Ken Bruton and John Beattie had impressed the umpires enough to register 14 and 9 votes respectively to finish high up in the League Best and Fairest count.

In 1974 George Palmer was President with Max Bruton Secretary and Des Collins from Daylesford was coach and once again Trentham promised much by winning the first game but were unable to carry on with the good form and only managed to win three more games for the season finishing near the bottom of the ladder.

Warren Scott won his second Best and Fairest trophy for Trentham while coach Des Collins scored 11 votes in the League Best and Fairest award.

1975 saw Trentham return to the Riddell District League Second Division with George Palmer continuing as President, Max Bruton Secretary and Micheal Moss Treasurer. Bob Lloyd was appointed captain coach but had the misfortune to break his leg in a practice match and miss the first eight games of the season.

It was to be another difficult year for Trentham, who had reverted to their red white and black colours of the Saints, they were to find the going tough especially early in the season. John Beattie was outstanding in this period and his tenacious play was an inspiration to his team. Trentham rallied to win four of their remaining games and finish in second last position. The reserves won five games also finishing second last while the under seventeens won seven of their eleven games to finish in third position, they won the First Semi by an incredible twenty nine goals, the Preliminary Final by two goals but went down in the Grand Final to Romsey by twenty two points.

John Beattie finished fourth in the league best and fairest count, Reserves coach Hank Goldie finished third in the League reserves Best and Fairest and Ian Reeves was fourth in the third eighteen voting. Trentham's Best and Fairest trophy was won by the reliable John Beattie.

Bob Lloyd was coach again in 1976 and also President in what was to be another frustrating season for Trentham as their quality players were more than a match for their opponents but unfortunately the rest of the team were unable to attain the necessary level for them to be competitive and the side finished last winning two of their sixteen games, the reserves won five of their games and finished second last.

The Under 17's, under coach Gerald "Pod" McCashney continued on with their good form of the previous season winning nine and losing three of their twelve games finishing second on the ladder. They won the Second Semi final and then the Grand Final defeating Craigieburn both times.

Apart from the Under 17's triumph the other highlight was in the League Best and Fairest voting where John Beattie scored 15 votes to finish third behind the winner who polled 19 votes. John would have romped the medal in but he left the Saints 6 games before the end of the season to join Kyneton in the Bendigo League so his was a truly metorious effort.

The popular Max Bruton capped off a fine career when he was voted Best and Fairest for the Riddell District Second Eighteens. In the voting for League Best and Fairest in the Under 17's Trentham's Len Aylward was the winner scoring twelve votes with Tony Kelly finishing fourth with seven votes. In the voting for Trentham's Best and Fairest Award Les Speechley was a clear winner.

1977 was a difficult year for the Saints as the Club once again found it hard to fill positions on the committee and once again it took two meetings to form a proper committee. Des Flenley was President, Maurice Giammarco Secretary, and Mick Batchelor Treasurer. 1976 Best and Fairest winner Les Speechley was appointed Senior Coach and Greg Falkiner Reserves Coach.

Trentham once again competed in the Riddell League Second Division against Broadford, Lancefield, Craigieburn, Kilmore, Heskett, Sunbury Two and Wallan all of whom with the exception of Heskett had far greater areas from which to draw players than the Saints and as a result Trentham were faced with an uphill battle before the season even commenced.

The Saints were still able to demonstrate a reasonable standard of play because they had amongst their number some very talented footballers, however they were too often faced with a much bigger and better opposition and for the season could only manage to win two of their eighteen games, finishing last on the ladder.

The reserves won two and lost twelve of their fourteen games to finish second last, while the Under 17's continued their good form winning five and losing seven of their games to finish fourth they were eliminated in the First Semi Final by Broadford who scored 9-6-60 to Trentham's 6-7-43 which was a very commendable effort when you consider that the young Saints could only manage to field sixteen players.

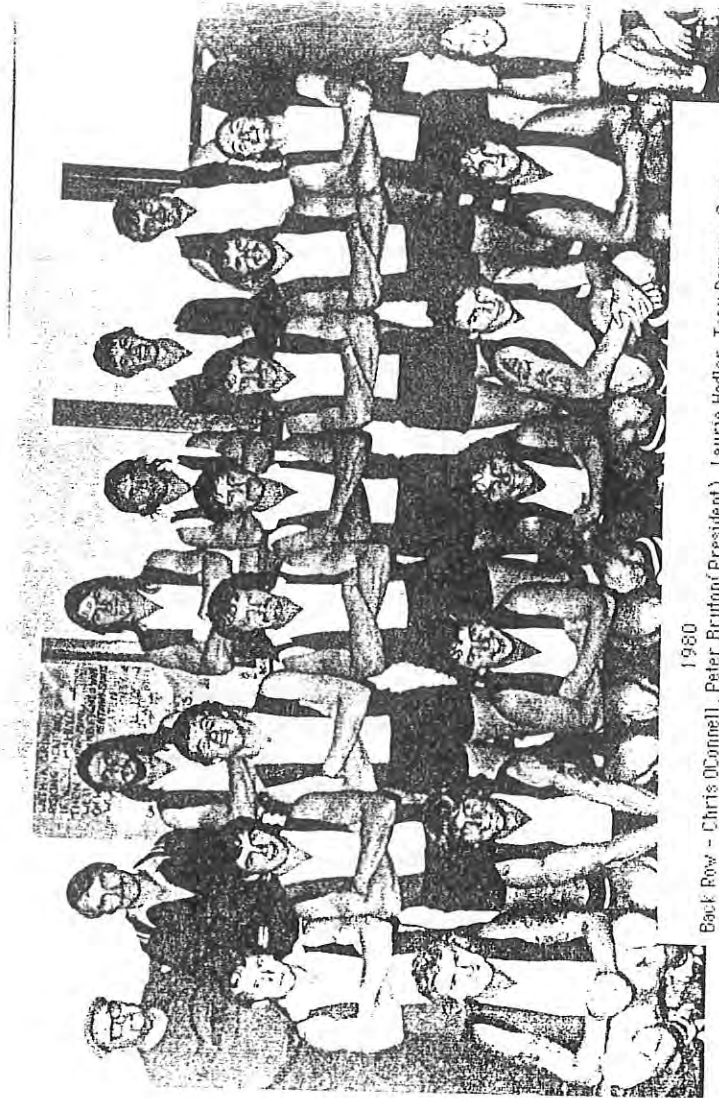
Robert Hobbs won Trenthams Best and Fairest Award with Les Speechley being Runner Up. Robert Hobbs finished a commendable sixth in the League Best & Fairest count.

When the start of the 1978 season came around Trentham faced the problem of trying to form a committee and after a couple of goes to hold an Annual General Meeting at which it was found that there was not enough interest it was decided that the Club would have to go into recess.

After a couple of seasons without a team it was decided to reform the Club in 1980 with Peter Bruton as President, Vin Cowell Secretary and Kevin Gleeson Treasurer. Ken Hourigan Trenthams stalwart of many seasons was appointed Captain Coach.

Unfortunately the Club was not fully supported by the town's people and as a result struggled both financially and on the field.

Trentham still had several good players in their ranks but each week the team would be short of numbers and some players were required to play in both the reserves and seniors on many occasions.



1980  
 Back Row - Chris O'Connell, Peter Bruton (President), Laurie Hadler, Tony Darwen, Owen Hetheson, Tim Walsh, Bernie Dwyer,  
 Middle Row - Rick Grambeau, Robert Hobbs, Craig Rudolph, Ken Hourigan (Coach), Vin Cowell, Alan Ockerson, John Evans, Sam Milligan.  
 Front Row - Wayne Swanwick, Stephen Boyer, Len Aylward, Terry Boyer, Peter Slanlake, Neil Hinds, Brendan McCashney.



The highlight of the 1980 season came when the Saints beat Kilmore at Trentham on a typical cold and wet Trentham winters day, to many of the team it felt as if they had won a premiership unfortunately this was to prove to be the Saints only victory of the fourteen games played that season. The reserves faired even worse losing all fourteen games both teams finished on the bottom of the ladder.

Trentham's courageous ruckman John Evans won the Clubs Best and Fairest with Len Hourigan being voted Runner Up and Vin Cowell Most Consistent.

1981 was a disastrous year for the Saints when once more at the Annual General Meeting it was impossible to find people to go on the committee and for the second season in succession players were forced to fill committee positions.

Ken Hourigan was elected President with Margaret Kent Secretary and Bernie Dwyer Treasurer. Robert Hobbs was appointed coach but he resigned half way through the season and was replaced by Ken Hourigan.

1981 will probably go down as one of Trentham Football Clubs worst in it's history, the team was under manned and without the towns support they found it nearly impossible to raise the money required to entice any extra players to the club and as a result in most games there were two or three players playing in the senior game who had already played reserves and even though the team tried valiantly they found it impossible to compete with their better equipped opponents suffering some very demoralising defeats with both seniors and reserves finishing last.

In even this trying season the Saints still had many good players who gave their heart and soul for the club. None more so than the Lion hearted Ken Hourigan who won his third Best & Fairest Award for Trentham, talented rover Len Aylward was voted second Best and Fairest and the reserves Best & Fairest was won by Brendan McCashney.

After the disappointing 1981 season it was impossible for the Club to reform because interest and support was at a disappointing low and no one was prepared to go on the committee and it took another six years before the town shook off its apathy and got behind the newly reformed club in late 1987.

For the first time in years the Annual General Meeting was well attended and Martin Patterson who was one of the main instigators behind the club reforming was the unanimous choice for President, Wal Parsons was Secretary for the first part of the season till he resigned and was replaced by Bill Patterson. Treasurer was Clem Mooney.

In a landmark decision it was decided after much lobbying to join the Maryborough Castlemaine District Football League in its 1988 season. Teams that played in this competition included Maldon, Carisbrook, Chewton, Campbells Creek, Harcourt, Newstead, Talbot, Maryborough Rovers, Royal Park and Primrose.

Keith Ennis was appointed coach of the seniors and Dale Field was reserves coach, however Dale resigned before the first game and was replaced by Vin Cowell.

Trentham who had retained their red white and black colours were set a huge task in their first game when they were drawn to play M.C.D.F.L 1987 premiers Maldon at Maldon and even though the Saints were beaten they showed enough ability to prove that they would be very competitive in this new competition. There was great excitement in the town the next week when in their first game at their home ground in over six years the Saints were triumphant over Maryborough Rovers.

A loss to Harcourt was followed by a spectacular run of six wins. As the season drew to a close the Saints had a real chance to finish in the finals, but lost the last game to Newstead by sixteen points and just missed out on a finals appearance by one game. Still this was a very satisfying result for all concerned in our first season back.

Keith Ennis Trentham's dynamic coach was a worthy winner of the M.C.D.F.L. Best and Fairest Award. Keith also won Trentham's Best and Fairest trophy with Mark Boyer Runner Up and Graeme Podbury being voted most consistent. Wayne Kent won the reserves Best and Fairest Award.

Martin Patterson was President again in 1989 with Bill Patterson Secretary and Dick Burke Treasurer. Keith Ennis was re appointed Senior Coach and David Lee was Reserves Coach.

Trentham had a very successful season in both the seniors and reserves and at the end of the year the Saints found themselves in the finals for the first time in quarter of a century.



1988

1st Eighteen

Back Row - Richie Durham, Stewart Day, Sean Wolfe, Graeme Podbury, Jim Flynn, Stuart Robson, Ian Greetham, Darren Schooling, John Simmonds, David Lee  
 Second Row - Janet Kinnane, Mandy Gibson, Brian Kinnane, Danny O'Connell, Paul McCarthy, Mark Boyer, Mark Henderson, Glen Robson, Micheal White, Keith Ennis (Coach), Craig Dowdston, Craig Green, Jamie Evans, David Wheelodon, Eli Brown.  
 Front Row - Mascots Naomi Kinnane, Glen Jennings, Julie Parsons.



1988 - 2nd EIGHTEEN

BACK ROW: Gordon Norgate, Rob McCulloch, Jamie McDonald,  
 SECOND ROW: Bill Patterson (Secretary) Reg Williams, Dave Bertram, Vin Cowell, (Coach) Paul  
 Reeves, Lindsay Parsons,  
 THIRD ROW: Naomi Kinnane, Janet Kinnane, Kevin Robinson, Robert Lee, Graeme Jennings, Greg  
 Pierce, Brian Moloney, Rob Evans,  
 FRONT ROW: Wayne Kent, Barry Boyer, Glen Jennings, (Mascol) Ken Byrne, Brendan White,

In the elimination final Trentham faced Carisbrook and the Saints had to fight hard but eventually triumphed scoring 11.20 to Carisbrook's 11.14. The First Semi Final against Maldon was also an exciting game but unfortunately Trentham were just unable to take the points scoring 9.10-64 to Maldon 10.12-72.

Keith Ennis won his second M.C.D.F.L. Best and Fairest Award when he scored 25 votes, Mark Boyer also scored well scoring 15 votes.

Trentham's Best and Fairest was won by Mark James with Keith Ennis being runner up and Mark Boyer finishing third. In the Reserves Best and Fairest, Kevin Reeves was the winner from Doug Holden and Craig Brown.

1990 was to prove to be the Saints best in years when they went within an ace of making the grand final. The Committee was the same as for the previous season.

Glen Marendaz a former Trentham Junior Footballer was appointed Senior Coach, but he had to resign due to family commitments after 5 games and was replaced by Keith Ennis. Peter Kerr was coach of the Reserves.

The Saints won 15 of their 20 games to finish in fourth place on the ladder, during the season the team created history when they defeated Chewton at Trentham scoring 54.22-346 to 8.7-55 which was the highest score ever kicked and the largest winning margin by any Trentham team.

All three Trentham sides made the finals with the reserves winning the qualifying final but losing the First Semi. The under 17 team defeated Campbells Creek in the Elimination Final and in the First Semi they defeated Talbot but lost the Preliminary Final to Maldon.



The Seniors won their Elimination Final against Campbells Creek kicking 13.9 to 10.7 then they easily accounted for Royal Park in the First Semi scoring 17.13 to 12.16. The Saints gave away an eight goal break to Maryborough Rovers in the Preliminary Final and fought back hard but went down by 31 points.

Peter Stevens won Trentham's Best and Fairest Trophy for 1990 with Bernard Mulcahy being awarded Best Club Man. John Manning was awarded Life Membership of the Club in recognition of his many years of dedicated service.

1991 was a disappointing year for the Saints after their previous season. Martin Patterson continued as President, with Bill Patterson as Secretary and Tom Sperring Treasurer. Steve Denko was appointed Senior Coach and Greg Ryan was Reserves Coach.

Trentham was unable to field an under 17's side and both the Reserves and Seniors battled to put together a sequence of wins but were unable to gain enough victories to make the finals. The Seniors won nine and lost nine of their eighteen games finishing the season in sixth position.

Bill Moloney was awarded Life Membership of the Club at the end of Season Presentation Night. Trentham's Best and Fairest went to Brett Adams with Mark James being runner up and John Kelly Most Consistent and Doug Holden Most Improved. The Reserves Best and Fairest was Andrew Mulcahy with Adrian Ogden Runner-up, Michael White Most Consistent and Roy Brooks Most Improved. Joanne McCashney was Trentham's Best Club Person in 1991.

Trentham Football Club's centenary season sees Vin Cowell as President, Elizabeth McInerney Secretary and Tom Sperring Treasurer. Former Trentham Junior Footballer Wayne Purtell is Senior Coach and Lindsay Olver is Reserves Coach.



## THOUGHTS OF A PAST PLAYER BILL O'CONNELL

Firstly let me pay a tribute to Vin Cowell for grasping the "nettle" in doing the painstaking research over many hours to bring this historical record of the Trentham Football Club to fruition. He has been able to put together much of the proud history of the Trentham Football Club. This book will no doubt document many highlights, but there would be just as many highlights that have faded into oblivion, carried to the graves of the many great players and committee men who have represented the club over the years.

Vin has asked me to provide a few thoughts and recollections of the period of that the club was in the R.D.F.L. 1953-1965, a period which many people believe to be one of the most successful eras in the history of the club.

Trentham joined the Riddell League and were immediately very competitive. In the second year, 1954, they were odds on to win the Grand Final, but sadly they were to lower their colours to their great neighbour and rival Woodend.

After an indifferent year in 1955 they again made a charge to the final in 1956, gathering what was to be perhaps Trentham's most powerful side ever, although in earlier times there were some magnificent players who represented the club, a number going on to play in the V.F.L.

In 1956 Trentham's Captain Coach was Jack Hiscock, who was judged by many as Trentham's greatest player, since the Second World War. Trentham only lost one game for the year and powered away from Sunbury in the Grand Final scoring 15 goals to 6 goals 14.

Trentham had many excellent players alongside Hiscock, and they included some of Trentham's finest - Bob Holmes, Gerald McCashney, Ken Dunn, Jim McKnight, John McCashney, Laurie Scala and the brilliant youngster Norm McKenzie.

Sunbury also had a good side which included John Hoiles and Noel Long who both went on to play for Footscray and Barry Palmer who went onto play for the V.F.A..

1957 saw a great number of new faces in the side with the retirement of many of the Premiership players, they began the season with a very young side which was again coached by Jack Hiscock. In that year Trentham was to finish in the middle order.

In 1958 the club relocated to alongside the "Pig and Whistle" at East Trentham while the Trentham ground was realigned and resurfaced making it one of the best wet weather grounds in the State.

Former South Melbourne player and Trentham's star Jim McKnight was non playing coach, but throughout the season the side was hampered by a number of serious injuries to key players and again finished in the middle of the ladder.

Jack Hiscock took over as Coach again in 1959 with the club returning to the Trentham Ground and playing in new uniforms, the colours being red, white and black and with the subsequent improvement of many of the younger players and the hard core of experienced players, Trentham surprised many of the judges in beating Romsey 26-12 to 5-13 at Lancefield to win the Premiership.

1960 saw the legendary Jack Hiscock coach Trentham for the last time and although some of the players made further improvement, Trentham did not make the four. The seasons major highlight was Jack Hiscock again winning the Bowen Medal, Jack also won in 1954 and was runner-up in 1957 and 1959.

Trentham recruited well in 1961 and with the lively Jim McNamara as President and the brilliant Bob Holmes returning after a four year stint with Daylesford, as coach bringing with him star full back Ian Sartori and his brother Ivan Sartori added to these was Fred Hyslop and Kevin Law from Kyneton.

Trentham was again a force to be reckoned with and managed to achieve what no other R.D.F.L. side had done by going through the season undefeated becoming Premiers and Champions when although they struggled early in the Grand Final they gradually wore down a determined Lancefield to win the Premiership 8-9 to 7-7.

In 1962 Trentham again had a very good side, but was at bow out to Woodend in the First Semi. The highlight of the season came when Bob Holmes won the R.D.F.L. Best and Fairest Bowen Medal.

Former St Kilda player Bill Kupsch was coach in 1963 and although Trentham had an extremely strong side and beat the eventual Premiers Romsey by 14 goals in the last home and away game, they were eliminated from the finals when after gaining a seven goal break in the first quarter they were over run to be narrowly beaten by Gisborne. It was a year that Trentham should have flown another Premiership flag.

1964 saw Trentham on the decline and although they were competitive they were unable to advance from the middle order, however they were fortunate to have an exciting young coach in Kevin Ellis 20 years of age whose skill and strength were invaluable. In the previous year he had played a number of games with Fitzroy.

Trentham further declined in 1965 and finished near the bottom of the ladder winning only four games and after a dispute involving junior officials they left the R.D.F.L. to join the Clunes League in 1966 a decision which was hotly contested at the time.

Trentham found some excellent footballers while in the Clunes League where at the time the top sides were comparable to the best in the Riddell League.

In my opinion the best players to represent Trentham for three years or longer over the period 1953 to 1965 were Jack Hiscock a tremendous all round player whose contribution was outstanding. Bob Holmes "a packet of dynamite," strong, skilled and a fierce competitor. Ken Dunn was a very skilled player whose marking, kicking and clever ground play made him a valuable contributor over many seasons.

Gerald (Pod) McCashney - skilled and determined a strong mark and a flawless kick, very good defensive skills, he begrudged even the wind getting through on the backline. Jim McKnight another polished performer who was skilled and determined and wouldn't give in when the chips were down. John McCashney was another player of class who represented Hawthorn in the V.F.L. and Laurie Scala on his day was a classy left footer.



Fred Hyslop from Kyneton also contributed many fine games in his short stay with Trentham. Norm McKenzie was undoubtedly one of the finest young players to play for the club, he could weave magic and his outstanding kicking ability allied with his sound marking made him a player to be sought after and he quickly advanced to the V.F.L. playing a number of games with South Melbourne.

There were many good players down through the years and these are just a few, no doubt there are many others with equal claim, but space does not permit me to go on and on. four coaches who only played for a year, Bill Kupsch and Kevin Ellis in the R.D.F.L. and early in the Clunes League, Barry Vear and Peter Haywood had more than average ability.

A highlight worth going a long way to see and now a forgotten art was Ian Sartori's magnificent drop kicks which from the ten yard square would invariably land the ball beyond the centre circle.

Probably the best player to play against Trentham is this time was Gisborne's Graham Kays whose marking and mobility bordered on the unbelievable, he rejected numerous offers from V.F.L. Club and continued to give Gisborne great service over many years.

I have reported mainly about the players of the time but we should not forget the many hard working committee persons who gave many hours of their leisure time to make it all happen.

Presidents and Secretaries who worked hard during this era included Les Newton long time Secretary and energetic President Jack Groves. Then Jim McNamara President and Des Kelly Secretary who were highly successful for a few years and they handed over to the legendary. Jack Bourke President and Kevin Muir Secretary and later on Frank Brady Secretary who continued on to the end of the Riddell League era and on into the Clunes League era.

While I am loathe to individualize, I recall many fine committee men and Bill Donnelly and John Manning spring to mind as having served long periods.

Over the years the Trentham Football Club has created much history, much of it probably forgotten, but it has been one of the few organisations that has provided an avenue of healthy exercise and competition amongst the local youth where lasting friendships were established, both with team mates and rivals and despite the clubs continued input into the community and the great number of people involved, football clubs have often been neglected when Government money is being allotted and it is particularly gratifying to see a significant contribution from the Federal Government for the new Sports Complex that is a recent addition to the environs of the Trentham Sports Oval.

Contributed by Bill O Connell

Trentham Football Club has had among its ranks several players who have played football at its highest level V.F.L. some of these include:

Ted Alcorn,  
Norm Beckham,  
Jim Borthwick,  
Jim Brown,  
Gordon Davie,  
Sid Dockendoff,  
Kevin Ellis,  
Bob Gleeson,  
Bruce Godfrey,  
Tom Godfrey,  
Jack Hiscock,  
Tony Kelly,  
Bill Kupsch,  
Frank McCashney,  
Jim McCashney,  
John McCashney,  
Norm McKenzie,  
Jim McKnight,  
Tom Roulent,  
Will Schmidt,  
Eric Smith,  
Bill Spurling,  
Barry Vear,

Several players have given long and untiring service to the Trentham Football Club, playing their hearts out over many years. These players are on record as playing the most games for Trentham.

Charlie Cowell,  
Ken Dunn,  
Gordon Davie,  
Vin Flenley,  
Bill McCashney

Committee men who have given great service include:

Bill Donnan,  
Les Newton,  
Ern Wall,  
Jack Groves,  
Frank Brady,  
Jack Bourke,  
Vin Flenley,  
Tom McCashney,  
Frank Kelly,

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Tom Roulent,  
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Bill Spurling,  
Barry Vear,

#### TRENTHAM FOOTBALL CLUB - LEAGUE BEST & FAIREST WINNERS

1934	Jack Richards	Daylesford District Football Association
1935	Ted Holmes	Daylesford District Football Association
1938	Bob Davie	Castlemaine Football League
1949	Keith Elliott	Castlemaine Football League
1951	Tom Roulent	Castlemaine Football League
1954	Jack Hiscock	Riddell District Football League
1960	Jack Hiscock	Riddell District Football League
1962	Bob Holmes	Riddell District Football League
1988	Keith Ennis	Maryborough Castlemaine District League
1989	Keith Ennis	Maryborough Castlemaine District League



### TRENTHAM FOOTBALL CLUB PREMIERS

1906	Wednesday Half Holiday Association
1907	Kyneton District Football Association
1910	Kyneton District Football Association
1913	Woodend District Football Association
1930	Kyneton District Football League
1933	Daylesford District Football Association
1956	Riddell District Football League
1959	Riddell District Football League
1961	Riddell District Football League

### TRENTHAM FOOTBALL CLUB RUNNERS-UP

1908	Kyneton District Football Association
1911	Woodend Football Association
1920	Kyneton District Football Association
1926	Castlemaine Football League
1932	Midlands Football League
1945	Daylesford Football Association
1954	Riddell District Football League