

UNDER : 17 PREMIERSHIP TEAM

1966

THE IMPORTANCE OF JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT AT DROMANA

(Ref: 2018/9)



BACK ROW: Graham Rowler, Paul Hendrix, Joe Fruscoviak, Royden Webb, Keith Allen, Malcolm Constable, Phillip Marriot, Stephen Jolley, Glen Osborne, Ray Chestnut, George Gourlay, John Stockdale, Howard Constable

FRONT ROW: Robert Work, Hans Van Roy, Robert Pittock, Paul Fraser, Brian McCormick (Coach) Ray Bright, Ray Fyson, Bill Brindley.

NOTES REGARDING THE 1966 PREMIERSHIP TEAM:

1. On that day in 1966, **Dromana Under: 17's** defeated **Rosebud** in an exciting and closely fought **Grand Final**. The final scores were: **Dromana 5.13. (43)** defeated **Rosebud 6.5. (41)**.
2. The coach of the Dromana team was **Brian McCormick** who also played 148 games with Dromana from 1963-72. Brian was a highly skilled and dependable player; and he was selected in the '**Team of the Post War Era' 1945-2015**.
3. Players, in the above photograph, who went on to play Senior XVIII football with Dromana included: **Royden Webb** (24 games), **Malcolm Constable** (3 games), **Phillip Marriot** (72 games), **Stephen Jolley** (93 games), **Glenn Osborne** (19 games), **George (aka Graeme) Gourlay** (60 games), **Robert Work** (78 games), **Ray Bright** (107 games), **Ray Fyson** (

208 games) and **Bill Brindley** played 157 games with Dromana Senior XVIII.

4. **Bill Brindley** (157 games) had an older brother named **Ray** who played 136 games with Dromana. Ray was an exceptional backman for the club and won the **Best and Fairest** award in **1961** and also **1962**.

5. **Glenn Osborne** is the son of former DFNC champion **Norm Osborne**. Norm played 181 games for DFNC in the period 1940-1958 and also **coached** the club in 1953 and again in 1956.

6. George Gourlay, Phillip Marriot, Stephen Jolley, Robert Work, Ray Fyson and Bill Brindley (and his brother Ray) were chosen in the club's **'Team of the Decade' (1966-75)**.

7. In 1966, the **Senior** team was coached by **Bill Martin**. Bill, a well-known personality in local football and cricket, had an imposing career at DFNC; and was a 'pillar of strength' in the junior development program during that period of the club's history.

Following his arrival at the club in 1961, Bill took charge of the **Third XVIII** and, over the next three seasons, built the team into a highly competitive and successful combination. In **1964**, the team made club history when it went through the season **undefeated** to claim the premiership.

8. The outstanding football careers of **Ray Fyson** and **Stephen Jolley** are discussed below.

RAY FYSON

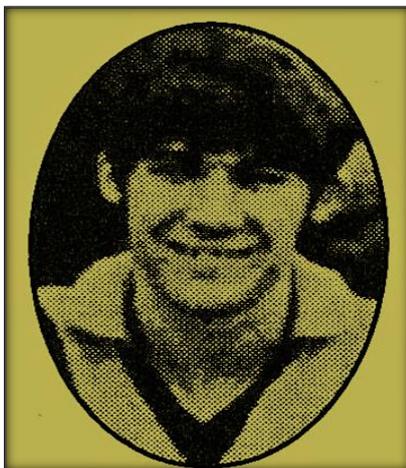
Since the end of World War: II, Dromana has been blessed to have had the services of three of the finest rovers in the history of MPNFL football: **Bob Moorehead** (251 games), **Paul Minchington** (154 games) and **Ray Fyson** (208 games). These three rovers represented Dromana Senior XVIII in a total of **613 games**.

Ray Fyson, who had started his senior football career with Dromana in **1967**, went on to play with the club until 1985. Ray won his first senior **Best and Fairest** at the age of eighteen in **1967**; and won the award again in 1970. As an indication of his durability, physical fitness and 'sense of survival', Ray then won the **Best and Fairest** eleven years later (in **1981**) - which is an incredible achievement at any level of football.

Ray was a member of the **1971 premiership team** which defeated Rye; and he was granted **Life Membership** of the DFNC in 1982. As is well known in club circles, in 2016, Ray was selected in **two Teams of the Decade (1966-75 and also the period 1976-1984)**. Along with Bob Moorehead and Paul Minchington, Ray was also chosen in the DFNC **Team of the Era (1946-2015)**.

Note: 1. Ray's brother, **Glenn**, won the **Best and Fairest** in **1971** and was selected in the **DFNC Team of the Decade (1966-1975)**.

Note: 2 **Dick Fyson** (Ray's father) was awarded **Life Membership** in 1981.



Source: DFNC History archives

RAY FYSON – WINNER OF THREE CLUB BEST & FAIREST AWARDS

STEPHEN JOLLEY

Stephen Jolley (shown below) was one of the most skillful players to have worn the club's colours; and it came as no surprise, to his team mates and officials, that he played at the top level of Australian football in 1970. Stephen played two games with **Hawthorn** that year; and he can be deemed to be 'unlucky' not to have played more senior games with the Hawks.

Stephen was 20 years of age when he made VFL debut for Hawthorn against **Melbourne** in **Round: 13 in 1970**. The game was played at the **Glenferrie Oval** in front of a crowd 13,196 fans. Hawthorn defeated Melbourne by 39 points. Stephen played a serviceable game and collected five kicks, took one mark and gave off two effective hand passes; and HFC's coach **John Kennedy** could not have been displeased.

On that day, Stephen's team mates included: **Bob Keddie**, **Alan Martello**, **Leigh Matthews** (ex-Chelsea), **David Parkin** and the Hawks' illustrious, full forward, **Peter Hudson**. The Demons' line-up included such champions as: **Barry Bourke**, **Greg Wells**, **Ross Dillon** and a **MPNFL** star, from Edithvale-Aspendale, **Stan Alves**.

Stephen was selected for the following match against Collingwood but that was to be his last senior game at VFL senior level.

As, is well-known, Stephen was not only a gifted footballer but a highly respected and popular member of the club. His listing at Hawthorn FC was a fair reward for his dedicated attitude to the game and his service to DFNC. His selection for Hawthorn was warmly received by township and the club was extremely proud of Stephen.

Stephen played **93 games** for Dromana and won two club **Best and Fairest awards** in **1968 and 1969**. 1969 was stellar season for the 'young

gun' as he also won the **George Osborne Medal** for the **Best and Fairest** player in the **Nepean Football League**

Stephen was selected at centre half forward in the **Team of the Decade (1966-75)**; and additionally, along with his former teammate Ray Fyson, was selected in the **Team of the Era (1946-2015)**



Source: MPNFL History File.

1970- STEPHEN JOLLEY AT HAWTHORN

THE IMPORTANCE OF JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT AT DFNC.

The above photograph of the Under: 17 team again underlines the importance of the development of junior footballers in the life of any club. The Dromana Junior Football and Netball Club plays an imperative role in sport and community life; and since its formation in in **1972**, the DJFNC has been the 'gateway' for hundreds and hundreds of children to participate in Australian Rules football.

Dromana FNC has much of which to be proud and should be thankful for the on-going work done by the committee, coaches, support staff, volunteers and parents of the club in fostering under-age teams.

THANK YOU

Appreciation is expressed to DFNC Life Member **Pam Rowler** for forwarding the above photograph of the 1966 Under: 17 team to be posted on the DFNC website History Page.

REFERENCE & RESEARCH INFORMATION

- DFNC archives –Personal files & DFNC publications.
- AFL tables and statistics.
- MPNFL archives and website. .
- Researched and written for DFNC by: Roger Spaul –April-2018.
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