

BELCONNEN FOOTBALL CLUB 

**1978
ANNUAL REPORT**



A WORD FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT....

In July, when I accepted the Board of Directors appointment as Football Vice-President I believed that the club was at a crucial stage of development. As a result of extensive pre-season recruiting several new players had joined the club and the challenge to improve our 1977 position was still present.

I was very pleased with the manner in which all players responded to the mid-season appointment of Neil Conlan as Senior Coach. New confidence and spirit soon developed and our steady approach towards our objective of making the Finals was highlighted by our historic first win against Manuka on 4 June. Our progress was jolted by a bad loss to Eastlake on 9 July and temporarily halted by the sudden death of Neil Conlan on 22 July. During Neil's short time with the club his great contribution was to convince our players that they had the ability to beat any team in the competition.

To succeed a coach like Neil Conlan is not an easy task, but Max Gibbs accepted the challenge and gradually players adjusted to their third coach for the season and rejoined the Finals race. Unfortunately we did not make the Grand Final but concluded the season losing to Eastlake in the Preliminary Final, after defeating all teams in the competition and defeating Queanbeyan in the Minor Semi-Final. The first, 1st Grade final series win in the history of the club.

On your behalf I thank players and coaches, for their performances during this, the most disrupted season in our brief history.

While we were not able to enjoy the thrills and excitement of the 1978 1st Grade Grand Final we can look forward to 1979 with loads of confidence. I trust that in 1979 a fit Robert White, selected recruits and the experience of two 1978 finals will strengthen our team, lead us to a 1st Grade premiership and ensure that we can continue our efforts to establish the Club as a power in ACTAFL.

1978 was a tremendous year for the 2nds and the efforts of many were rewarded with our first 2nd Grade premiership. To those involved, the ultimate success makes all the work and effort worthwhile. I formally record my thanks and congratulations to those involved and I hope the taste of success spreads throughout the Club.

In conclusion I thank the Football Committee and our Secretary/Administrator who have assisted me so much in the busy job of Football Vice-President; the Board of Directors who have helped tremendously; and you the Club supporters who without your loyalty, encouragement and support our development as a football force would not be possible.

Barry J. Wight
Vice President - Football

OFFICE BEARERS - 1978

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

Vice President : B. Johnston (to 17.5.78)
B. J. Wight (from 22.5.78)

Committee : B. G. Stirling
T. E. Allison (from 24.5.78)
R. E. Brown (from 24.5.78)
R. E. Baguley (from 24.5.78)
M. A. Gibbs (24.5.78 to
24.7.78)

Secretary - Administrator : R. E. Byrne

ACTAFL Delegate : F. C. Goddard (to 14.6.78)
B. J. Wight (from 14.6.78)

SUB COMMITTEES

Fund raising:

B. E. Baguley
R. E. Byrne

Recruiting:

M. A. Gibbs
B. Johnston
R. O. Brown

Match:

B. Johnston (to 17.5.78)
B. G. Stirling (to 17.5.78)
D. C. Hills (from 22.5.78)
Senior Coach
Team Coach
Team Captain

A WORD FROM THE COACH....

It was with a certain amount of apprehension that, in July of this year, I undertook the duties of Senior Coach of Belconnen in most unfortunate circumstances. For players to be faced with the prospect of a third coach within one year would have been a traumatic experience in any circumstances.

To continue the progress that had been started by past coaches and to ensure that the team was given every opportunity to succeed on the field to the best of its ability was the main task confronting me at the time. However, aware that I had the support of the Football Committee and faced with the need to do my best for the team and the Club, the task presented a great personal challenge.

Although not successful in our ambition to win a First Grade premiership I feel that the season ended on a high note and the foundation is there for a more successful season next year. The performance of the side in many games showed that the ability and spirit is there. We have taken the first step towards establishing ourselves as a top ACTAFL club. It must be the aim of this club to finish in one of the top two positions at the end of the home and away games next season. Players and Administrators must learn the lessons from this year; that the season does not start with the first game but, for successful clubs, many months before that with off-season training, a successful recruiting campaign and a well planned pre-season build up.

I would like to offer my personal thanks to all these people who showed their faith in myself and the team by working so hard in supporting roles. I refer to Team Managers, Trainers, Selectors, Runners, Football Committee Members and the many supporters who gave me encouragement during the latter part of the season. With the assistance of people of this type the club must go on to bigger and better things in the near future.

Max Gibbs - 1978

THE SEASON



The concentrated build up for the 1978 season was aimed at establishing Belconnen as a force in ACTAFL. Pre-season recruiting was extensive and early hard pre-season conditioning was intended to ensure that we picked up a number of early season wins which eluded us the previous year.

After a number of trial games, where many new recruits displayed their abilities we went into the first game full of confidence - the outcome, a 10 goal defeat by Queanbeyan came as a tremendous shock, however a great deal of confidence and self esteem was restored the following week by a magnificent win against Ainslie.

The following five weeks were reminiscent of the old Belconnen with wins over ANU and West Canberra and losses to Manuka, Eastlake and Queanbeyan. These losses led to a series of player and committee meetings to critically assess the team's performances and a number of changes resulted - a new Vice President-Football, Coach, Match Committee, Captain, Vice Captain and Football Committee.

The Club's first game after the changes resulted in a close loss to Ainslie 15.7 to 13.14 and over the next few weeks the team made steady improvement, recording an historic first win against Manuka on June 4 (by 9 goals after leading by 13 goals at three-quarter time). At this time players and supporters were talking about 'finals' with a confidence not previously seen at Belconnen. To everyone's surprise on 9 July we were jolted 'back to earth' by an 8 goal defeat at the hands of Eastlake. However we recovered brilliantly and the following week defeated Queanbeyan by 15 goals, with Chris Bowman kicking a new Club goal kicking record of 10 goals 6 points. Then came the death of Neil Conlan on 22 July.

This second upheaval in the Club in a few weeks was more than most players and Clubs would experience in a lifetime, and it was not surprising that a 5 goal loss to Ainslie and a 10 goal loss to Manuka followed. The 'regrouping' for the third time was difficult to say the least, however after trailing West Canberra by 3 goals at half-time on 5 August we turned 'the corner' and finished with a 9 goal win - our first win for the season at Phillip Oval. From there we went from strength to strength and concluded the minor round with a strong 2 goal win over top team Eastlake.

The preparation for the finals was first class and the boys played magnificently to win the 1st Semi - Final against Queanbeyan by 27 points (17.14 to 13.11). The Club's first success in a Major Round.

The enthusiasm and dedicated effort continued over the next two weeks in preparation for the Clubs first Preliminary Final.

The first quarter of the Preliminary Final was exciting stuff; our boys played well and led by 2 goals at the first change - a lead they retained until the time-on period of the 2nd quarter when four quick goals gave Eastlake a 3 goal lead at the long break.

Inaccurate kicking in the 3rd quarter (5.5 to 4.1) meant that we started the last quarter trailing by 10 points. A determined effort early in the last quarter took us to within 2 points, however a costly miss from close in proved crucial and while we briefly gave ourselves a chance Eastlake steadied their game and played a very strong last quarter to run out winners by 7 goals.

Our failure to reach the Grand Final was a disappointment, however it is pleasing to record the Clubs most successful season was achieved under extremely difficult circumstances.

1978 PRELIMINARY FINAL TEAM

P.TAYLOR	D.BENNETT	C.BOWMAN
J.DESS	J.MANSON	R.STRONGMAN
M.PRICE	S.WIDERA	N.O'NEILL
C.MILBURN	M.MANSON	R.DAWSON
M.JOHNSTON	W.QUADE	S.TAYLOR
<u>RUCKS</u>		<u>INTERCHANGE</u>
R.RANDALL		T.O'RILEY
L.MOLONEY		D.TOMPSETT
A.BOWDEN		

THE PLAYERS

1978 was Belconnen's first serious attempt to obtain recruits to supplement players already with the Club. After finishing 4th in 1977 very few senior players left the Club. Those who did included Ken Duryea (Southern Districts NSW - after 42 games), Graham Moss (ANU, after 30 games), John O'Dea (ANU, after 67 games), Peter Falconer (West Perth, WA, after 12 games), Greg Burgess and Mark Wigley.

During 1978, 41 different players took their places in a Belconnen 1st Grade side. Players who did so for the first time included:

- . Laurie Moloney, the former Essendon backman who spent 1977 with Mayne, Qld played serviceably for the Club in a number of positions.
- . Bob Randall, from Oakleigh and Fitzroy, Vic, quickly became an important cog in our team and achieved ACTAFL selection.
- . Max Johnston, from University High School Old Boys, Vic, fitted well into the team with his strong marking, intelligent ruckwork and handball.
- . Andrew Bowden, a former Glenelg 2nds Captain and coach of Brighton High Old Scholars, SA, proved a valuable acquisition to the club as a rover or centreman.
- . Trevor O'Riley from South Australia, was unfortunately limited by persistent leg injuries to a few games, but showed his great ability in the final series.
- . Chris Bowman, a top forward from ANU, finished the season as our top goal kicker and established a Club goal kicking record against Queanbeyan (10.6).
- . Joey Box, a young ruckman from Griffith, NSW, took a while to settle into the Club and much bigger things are expected of Joey in 1979.
- . Mal Crawford, from Melbourne and Tongala, Vic, was limited by injuries to 14 games, but showed strength and determination which should see him play many more games in 1979.
- . Colin Milburn, a forward from Flinders Park, SA, took some time to settle in but made the most of his opportunities on a half-forward flank.

- . Brian McCann, a backman from Albury, NSW, was just settling into the club when he was transferred in his employment.
- . Barry Slade, a backman from Whyalla, SA, fitted well into the club and played an important part in winning the 2nd Grade premiership.

Some of our younger brigade were given their first taste of 1st Grade football and all showed great promise. These included John Dess, Dave Tompsett, Andrew Brown and Tony Hills. These young fellows will each help to mould the Belconnen of the future.

Players who returned to the Club after an absence with other Clubs included Mick Chinnick (Surfers Paradise, Qld), Robert White (Wycheproofe, Vic) and Kim Birch (Ipswich, Qld). Unfortunately Mick and Robert received severe injuries which limited their number of games. Mick's consistent injuries robbed him of Captaincy and resulted in his retirement. Robert's injury, sustained whilst playing for the ACT, robbed us of our top rover and his presence was sadly missed in the final series. Hopefully, exercise or an operation will strengthen Robert's knee and he will be back again as good as ever in 1979.

A number of our regular players achieved a great deal in 1978, these include:

- . Stan Widera's clear cut win in our Best and Fairest, his selection in the ACTAFL sides and his typical strong game in the 1st Semi-Final.
- . John and Mal Manson played many brilliant games and both achieved ACTAFL selection.
- . Peter Taylor followed his 1977 win of the T.A. Wharton Trophy for 3rd Grade, with Runner-Up in the Club Best and Fairest. A great performance in his second year of 1st Grade Football.
- . Noel O'Neill, for his best season since joining us from Ainslie.
- . Bob Randall, for his selection in the ACTAFL representative side.
- . Tom Allison, for his contribution to the Club since he came from North Melbourne in 1971. Tom, coached and captained Belconnen (and ACTAFL) during our early years, won our Best and Fairest in 1971 and 1976 and has coached junior sides over the past three years, for three premierships. Injuries and work finally caught up with Tom and he retired as a player during 1978. Thanks Tom for your tremendous service to the Club as a player and coach. It is hoped that Tom's administrative experience is available to the Club for many years to come.

TEAM OFFICIALS

MATCH:

1st Grade Coaches	K. Hasset (to 22/5/78) N. Conlan (to 24/7/78) M. Gibbs
Team Manager	R. E. Brown
Asst. Team Manager	M. Kargas
Property Manager (Club)	J. Hourigan
Timekeeper (Club)	R. Proctor
Runner	B. Stirling
2nd Grade Coach	B. Sheridan
Captain	P. Sheedy
Vice Captain	S. Whennan
Team Manager	B. Harry
Runner	D. Macilwain
3rd Grade Coach	D. Macilwain
Captain	D. Tompsett
Vice Captain	R. Goddard
Team Manager	M. Duggan
Runner	R. Dorey

TRAINERS:

A. Anderson
W. Bolton
G. Schmidt
M. Kargas

TEAM LEADERS:

Unfortunately a string of serious injuries limited the playing opportunities of our Captain, Mick Chinnick and Vice Captin, Jim Calvert and the club was fortunate to have the services of three players, Mike Price, Andrew Bowden and Laurie Moloney who led the side until early June. During June the Committee decided, due to the consistent injuries to Mick and Jim, to appoint Laurie Moloney (Capt) and Mal Manson (Vice Capt) for the remainder of the season. Thanks to all players who led our side in 1978.

Pat Sheedy was Captain of 2nd Grade for the second year in succession. Pat, led the Club into its first Grand Final, its first premiership and played his 100th second grade game on 23.7.78. Well done Pat.

Dave Tompsett our 3rds Captain led the team to some good victories and capped a good season with the 3rds Best and Fairest and 8 first grade games. Congratulations Dave.

CLUB COACHES

During 1978 Belconnen's senior players were exposed to the coaching style and techniques of three different coaches.

The first, Kevin Hasset worked long and hard to prepare players for the season and we were all happy to share Kevin's greatest success - the great win over Ainslie in Round 2. To Kevin's credit, he gave his all to the Club until his services were terminated after Round 8.

The response of players to the coaching of Neil Conlan was quite remarkable; his strong discipline, tremendous knowledge and experience soon had players and supporters excited about our prospects for the remainder of the season. The sudden death of Neil dealt a severe blow to our finals chances and many felt we were 'gone'.

The despondence in the Club made the task of Max Gibbs extremely difficult, however Max's efforts were rewarded by our win over Eastlake, the 1st Semi-Final win over Queanbeyan and our performance in the Preliminary Final.

THE FOOTBALL COMMITTEE RECORD THEIR THANKS TO THESE THREE COACHES WHO EACH CONTRIBUTED THEIR BEST IN THE INTERESTS OF THE BELCONNEN FOOTBALL CLUB.

Bryan Sherioan our 2nd Grade Coach, proved a very popular and successful coach. His efforts were rewarded with the ultimate success - a premiership. The spirit which developed in the 2nds team was unique for a team with such high turnover of players and a great credit to the Coach. Congratulations, and thanks Bryan, for a top performance in 1978.

Dave Macilwain's efforts as Coach of the 3rd Grade Team did not result in a final series appearance. The number of boys promoted to senior football made things difficult for Dave and his team, however I'm sure the Club will reap the benefits of these promotions in future years. Thanks Dave, for the dedication and enthusiasm maintained throughout a difficult season.

RUNNERS

To Brian Stirling, Dave Macilwain and Rod Dorey we extend our thanks for performing the difficult task of team runners each week.

TIMEKEEPER

Time keeping for three senior teams is obviously very demanding and time consuming. The Club records its appreciation for the efforts of Reg Procter in 1978. Thank you, Reg.

TRAINERS

Andy Anderson was again on hand to attend to players' injuries and we are indebted for his service. Andy has given tremendous service over the years and the ACTAFL were pleased to appoint him for this year's representative games.

The Club also extends its sincere thanks to Wayne Bolton, Gary Schmidt and Manny Kargas for their services as trainers. Their conscientious efforts ensured that players injuries were attended as quickly as possible.

TEAM MANAGERS

The Team Managers in today's football are vital cogs in the general organisation of the players and are of tremendous assistance to the coaches.

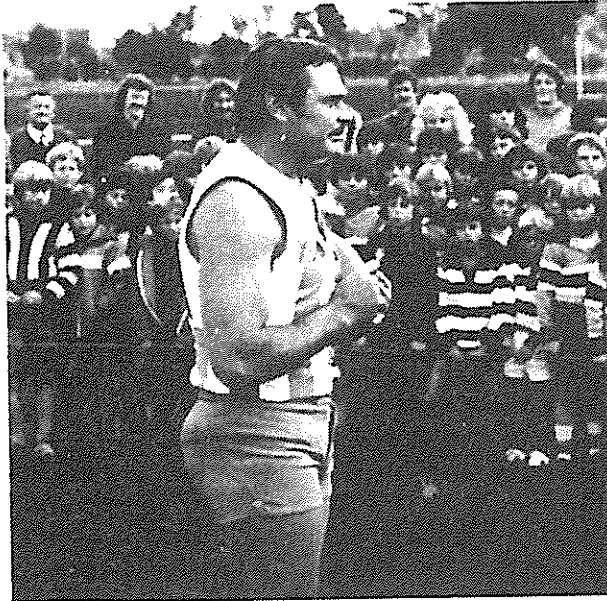
Mr Bob Brown was this years 1st Grade Team Manager and to Bob we extend our gratitude. We also thank Manny Kargas for responding to a mid-season call for help, for his services as Assistant 1st Grade Team Manager. Thanks also to Brain Harry for his efforts as 2nd Grade Team Manager (and interchange official) and to Mick Duggan who capably managed our 3rds team.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- . Eastlake on winning the 1st Premierhsip
- . Ainslie for winning the 3rds premierhsip
- . Ainslie for winning the Club Championship
- . Ainslie, Eastlake and Queanbeyan on reaching the Finals
- . Greg Eaves (West Canberra) on winning the Mulrooney Medal
- . Bruce Cowell (Eastlake) on winning the CTC Best Player Award
- . Bernie Mickelson (Eastlake) on being the ACTAFL top goal kicker.

JUNIORS

Belconnen Junior Football has progressed tremendously over the last few years, and 1978 was yet another great year. Under President, Les Scotland and Secretary, Jim Watt a strong band of workers were able to field teams in all grades from Under 7 to Colts (under 17) with two teams in several grades.



Parents, Managers, Coaches and the many helpers are thanked and congratulated for their time and effort. A strong junior club is important to the ongoing success of the Club and good tuition is a major factor in a boy realising his full potential. Ron Barassi's message to junior coaches is worth repeating "... coaches have a tremendous responsibility to develop skills and eliminate faults in junior players - a boys ability to realise his full potential in senior football may be crucial to his future life and livelihood".

The cooperation of many senior players with coaching juniors was appreciated and the organisers of the Ron Barassi coaching clinic are thanked.

Congratulations to all boys who played football for Belconnen Juniors in 1978, and particularly to those members of our Under 10, 12 and 13 premiership teams.

2nd GRADE

There were a number of reasons why there was a great deal of confidence amongst 2nds players early in 1978; we had finished Minor Premiers in 1977 (although unsuccessful in both finals appearances), and many recruits and juniors had strengthened our side.

The highlights of a good first round included a 10 goal win over Manuka (who defeated us in the 1977 finals), 20 goal wins over ANU and West Canberra and an 8 goal loss to Ainslie. The second round was not as successful and included a 6 goal loss to Ainslie, a 23 goal win over West Canberra, an unexpected loss to Manuka and and atrocious goal kicking effort against ANU - 3.19 to 4.1.

Following our third defeat by Ainslie early in the final round we proceeded to play some of our best football. The type of game developed was a credit to all and greatly assisted the preparation of players for 1st grade.

Our 2nd position on the ladder at the end of the minor round was a fair reflection of the season, but good late season form meant that there was an air of confidence in preparation for the Major Semi-Final. The record shows that our confidence was not misplaced, and after trailing by 8 goals early in the game a strong second half resulted in Ainslie's first defeat for the season and Belconnen moving straight into the Grand Final - the Club's first.

The Grand Final will live long in the memory of every player, the coach and every supporter who watched the game. The first quarter (7.1 to 2.3) included some magnificent football and was a tremendous start toward our first premiership.

The second quarter was even in terms of goals, but Ainslie successfully curbed our brilliance and trailed by 26 pts at the long break. Ainslie's good work continued through the 3rd quarter and although we made many changes our lead had been reduced to 7 pts at 'lemons'.

The last quarter was desperate football. Ainslie kicked two early goals which took them into the lead and for the first time we looked in trouble. But then it all happened. The boys accepted the challenge and with a superb team effort piled on the goals. The excitement which developed was tremendous as players and supporters sensed our first premiership. 7 goals in that great last quarter took us to 16.5 against Ainslie's 11.12, and we had achieved the ultimate finale to the season - THE ACTAFL 2ND GRADE PREMIERSHIP.

Congratulations and thanks is conveyed to all who helped in any way to make the 2nd Grade premiership possible; to our ACTAFL representatives Pat Sheedy and Peter Stubbs; and to all trophy winners, particularly Paul Butterworth for his Best and Fairest win.

ACTAFL 2nd GRADE PREMIERS



GRAND FINAL TEAM

S. WHENNEN	D. O'MALLEY	R. BAGULEY
F. SOUTHWELL	B. SLADE	S. LEWIS
M. SUIDGEEST	P. BUTTERWORTH	R. GODDARD
A. HILLS	T. GRANT	T. O'RILEY
R. SAWA		L. CALVERT
	R. DANNOCK	

RUCKS

P. STUBBS
D. MURPHY
G. COGGINS

INTERCHANGE

M. BURGESS
P. SHEEDY

Bryson (COACH)
Pat Stubb
Bob Coggins
Les Covert
Kay Burgess
Rob Goddard
Pete Sheedy
Mike Hills (SELECTOR)

Tommy Hills
Paul Hannay (MANAGER)

John Grant
Steve Whoman
Paul Butterworth
Benny Slade
Steven James
Greg O'Reilly

D. O'Malley
R. Dannock

SCOREBOARD			
	G	B	PTS
BELCONNEN	16	5	101
AINSLIE	11	12	78

3rd GRADE (UNDER 19)

The performance of the Third Grade team during 1978 was disappointing. We played 15 games, winning 5 and drawing one (1), narrowly missing fourth place by two premier-ship points. Our effort in the latter part of the season was encouraging, particularly our defeat of Eastlake in the last game of the minor round.

If Third Grade players are to successfully move into senior ranks there must be more attention to training, a desire to overcome weaknesses and more dedication to play to the best of their ability.

During 1978 a number of Colts (under 17) were promoted to 3rd Grade, and it is hoped that this experience will serve the boys well in future years. Thanks to these boys and to their coach, Geoff Girvan for their assistance.

Congratulations to Dave Tompsett and Danny Erickson for their selection in the ACTAFL Under 19 team that played New South Wales; to Andrew Brown for his selection in the ACTAFL Teal Cup squad; to Dave Tompsett, John Dess and Andrew Brown for achieving 1st Grade selection during 1978; and to all trophy winners, particularly Dave Tompsett for winning the 3rd Grade Best & Fairest.

OBITUARY

The Club wish to record our deepest sympathy at the sudden death of Neil Conlan on 22 July 1978. In his few short weeks with the Belconnen Football Club, Neil gained the confidence and respect of players, supporters and officials and set the Club on the road to its first premiership. Our historic first win against Manuka, Neil's previous Club will be long remembered.

To Mrs Conlan and family we express our deep regret at the sad loss of Neil.

CLUB APPRECIATION



REGAL HOMES SUPPORT BELCONNEN

The Club is pleased to announce that it recently finalised negotiations with Regal Homes for sponsorship for the next two seasons, with an option for a further period.

We sincerely thank Mr Boris Stoka of Regal Homes for the contribution from his company and trust that this new partnership will produce our first 1st Grade premiership.

POT OF GOLD

The outstanding success and popularity of the 1977 Pot of Gold provided the necessary spark for our fund raisers, Mr Ray Baguley and Mr Ross Byrne to present a much more flamboyant version of the Pot of Gold for 1978. As was the case last year at the time of this report going to print the Pot of Gold is still in progress. It will be concluded in early December where a social gathering of ticket holders will witness the drawing of the major prizes.

It is an enormous operation to put together a package such as the Pot of Gold. Apart from the collection of prizes and the preparation of the ticket-booklet, there was the distribution of tickets, the collection of monies, the distribution and publication of prizes and the maintaining of records. The Club takes this opportunity to record its appreciation for the many hours of dedicated work spent on the 1978 Pot of Gold by Ray and Ross. Their efforts were rewarded with another sellout.

The Club would also like to extend its appreciation to those who assisted with the prizes, in particular the following suppliers:

Manuka Travel Centre - K. Penny	Penfolds & Toths - A. Smithies
Air New Zealand - D. Payne	Farmer Brothers -
Ansett Airlines - G. Bull	R. & D. Farmer
Avis Rent-A-Car - R. Monkhouse	Lobby Restaurant - B. Gleeson
4 Seasons Motor Inns (Tas) -	Bill Lilley's Service Centre -
C. Nichols	W. Lilley
Sears Morton - T. Jessup	L'Homme Hairstylist -
Pioneer Coaches - B. Potter	D. Mangeruca
Belco Lighting - L. Wassel	Bells Drycleaning - H. Duffy
Dunlop Tyre Service - T. Grant	Homecrafts - T. Ball
Frank Keane and Bill Kover	Centre Cinema Group -
Lowe's Printer - C. Lowe's	Mr Ambrose

The Club extends its thanks to the many ticket sellers, in particular Messrs Bill Cameron, Geoff Carruthers, Mark Dennis, Neville Gill, Tim Grant, Terry Merrarty, Mike Price, Bob Russell, Doug Eastick, Peter Stubbs, Mike Suidgeest, Ross Byrne and Ray Baguley.

SPORTSMANS DINNER

Our first Sportsmans Dinner was conducted in the Hibiscus room of the Club on the weekend of the ACTAFL representative match against the VFL. This function was an outstanding success and an enjoyable evening was had by many football lovers. It is envisaged that this function will increase in momentum in future years.

Ron Barassi was our guest speaker and he performed with distinction. Other special guests included Alex Jesaulenko (Carlton), Ian Lowe (Footscray), Michael Conlan (Fitzroy), Kevin Delmenico (ACT Coach) and the ACTAFL representative team.

Thanks to Tom Allison, who did a commendable job as compere and to Ray Baguley and Ross Byrne who organised the function.

PRAWN AND CHICKEN MORNINGS

This years fund raising program included three prawn and chicken mornings. It is now well known that Belconnen prawn and chicken mornings represent 'good value' and accordingly these functions are very well attended, and were again important Club money raisers.

Messrs Ray Baguley and Ross Byrne efforts in organising these functions is appreciated, as is the support of the players who assisted them, in particular Noel O'Neill, Colin Milburn, Laurie Moloney, Randall Strongman, Robert Dawson and Bill Cameron.

30th ANNIVERSARY FUNCTION

1978 was the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Turner Football Club, the predecessor of our present Belconnen Club. As such it was considered an event worthy of celebration. To mark the occasion a very successful pre-match chicken and champagne brunch was held prior to the 1st round game against West Canberra and was attended by over 200 past and present supporters of the Clubs.

Thanks to Bob Brown for organising this function. One of the satisfying aspects of this function was the number of people who renewed their links with the Belconnen team - some as supporters and several in more active roles. Thank you.

PLAYER/SPONSOR BOARD

Thanks to the following Club supporters who contributed to our new initiative, the Player/Sponsor Board:

R. Andrews	P. Gourgaud	Marcelino Trattoria
V. Blake	G. Hardy	- P. Clarkson
W. Bolton	H. Hird	Ralph Taylor Real Est
A. Briggs	Doreen Hourigan	- R. Taylor
Bob Brown	Dale Hourigan	P. Ross
Cadwaller & Smith	P. Hourigan	R. Russell
W. Cameron	T. Hourigan	Sears Morton
Canberra Spare Parts	B. Johnston	- T. Jessup
- A. Fitzsimmons	M. Kargas	B. Stirling
L. Dohnt	B. Lane	M. Thomas
Dunlop Tyre Service	R. Law	Trent Motors
- T. Grant	P. Logue	- P. Logue
D. Eastick	R. Maloney	- R. Andrews
B. Falconer	G. McLennan	J. Walding
M. Gibbs	A. Pearce	P. Washington
Giralang Meat Service	R. Procter	K. Whittaker
- M. Hourigan	Regal Homes	B. Wight
F. Goddard	- B. Stoka	Wilson's Floors

THANK YOU

There were many who helped our Club during 1978 in one way or another, and to each and every helper we say, Thank You ..

Ian Guy of Mutual Acceptance Ltd., Reg Procter, Manny Kargas, Trent Motors, Thelma Hourigan, Barry Wight, Bob Brown, Max Gibbs, Brian Stirling, Russell Brown and Belconnen National Football Club for their donations for Club Trophies.

Marcelino Trattoria Restaurant, Boulevard Sandwich Bar, Peter Gourgaud, Reg Procter and Trent Motors for donations towards our weekly Player Awards.

Joan Burgess and the nineteen (19) girls who helped Joan with home-game catering and the provision of sandwiches after home games. (It is hoped that next season the girls will have a new, well equipped caravan for home-game catering.)

Mrs Thelma Hourigan for repairs and maintenance to all senior grade football jumpers.

Mrs Rita Eddison for laundering the jumpers and tracksuits of all senior grade teams.

Chris Brown, Dean Falconer and other junior players for keeping the scoreboard at our home games.

Jim & Laurel Calvert, Robert and Merril Dawson, and Bob and Trina Brown for the use of their homes for our progressive dinner.

Merril Dawson, Trina Brown, Eddie Stubbs, Jim Hourigan, Wayne Bolton, Rosemary Gibbs, Doreen Hourigan, Laura Hammond and Manny Kargas for making streamers, run throughs and banners for all 1st and 2nd grade final games.

Frank Jones for his assistance with film projectors and photographs.

Bob Russell for general assistance to team managers.

Michael Conlan for training with the senior teams prior to the finals.

John Allen, Club Secretary/Manager for his co-operation and support since taking up his position.

Robyn Taafe for the preparation of posters for Club Functions.

Lillian Price for the typing of Football and Fund Raising Committee correspondence.

Pauline Wight (cover) and Jill Revell (typing) for their assistance with the preparation of this Report.

To those helpers whose contribution has not been given specific recognition the Club apologises, and says sincerely Thank You.....

BELCONNEN CLUB SONG *→ Centre*

WE'RE A HAPPY TEAM BELCONNEN
WE'RE THE MIGHTY FIGHTING BLUES,
WE LOVE OUR CLUB; AND WE PLAY TO WIN
RIDING THE BUMPS WITH A GRIN - BELCONNEN.
UNDER PRESSURE WE'LL BE STRIVING
FOR TEAMWORK IS THE THING THAT COUNTS,
ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE
IS THE WAY WE PLAY - BELCONNEN
WE ARE THE MIGHTY FIGHTING BLUES.

CLUB RECORDS



1978 TROPHY WINNERS

First Grade:

Best and Fairest (Cleve Weatherill Memorial Perpetual Trophy)	S. WIDERA
Runner-up Best and Fairest	P. TAYLOR
Most Improved	N. O'NEILL
Most Consistent	D. BENNETT
Coach's Trophy (Trent Motors Trophy)	M. JOHNSTON
Most Determined (L. Kerr Trophy)	R. STRONGMAN
Best First Year Player (Neil Conlan Memorial Perpetual Trophy - donated by Mutual Acceptance Ltd.)	J. DESS

Second Grade:

Best and Fairest (Oscar Washington Perpetual Trophy)	P. BUTTERWORTH
Runner-up Best and Fairest	D. O'MALLEY
Most Improved	F. SOUTHWELL
Most Consistent	S. WHENNAN
Coach's Trophy (Trent Motors Trophy)	T. GRANT

Third Grade:

Best and Fairest (Reg Procter Perpetual Trophy)	D. TOMPSETT
Runner-up Best and Fairest	W. AGNEW
Most Improved	W. GRIGOR
Most Consistent	J. DESS
Coach's Trophy (Trent Motors Trophy)	T. DRISCOLL

All Teams:

Best Clubman (Clair Jones Perpetual Trophy)	R.E. BROWN
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Juniors:

Under 10 Premiership Coach	T. ALLISON
Under 11 Premiership Coach	P. STUBBS
Under 13 Premiership Coach	L. SCOTLAND

1978 ACTAFL BEST AND FAIREST VOTING

1st Grade (Mulrooney Medal)

D. BENNETT	7	L. MOLONEY	1
A. BOWDEN	6	N. O'NEILL	4
C. BOWMAN	2	M. PRICE	2
A. BROWN	1	W. QUADE	1
J. CALVERT	3	R. RANDALL	8
R. DAWSON	1	R. STRONGMAN	7
M. JOHNSTON	4	P. TAYLOR	5
J. MANSON	7	R. WHITE	5
M. MANSON	10	S. WIDERA	29

2nd Grade (McNamara Trophy)

T. ALLISON	5	T. GRANT	9
J. BOX	3	A. HILLS	9
P. BUTTERWORTH	4	M. JOHNSTON	4
M. BURGESS	7	S. LEWIS	1
L. CALVERT	2	D. MURPHY	18
M. CHINNICK	11	N. O'NEILL	9
G. COGGINS	9	W. QUADE	1
M. CRAWFORD	2	B. SLADE	6
R. DANNOCK	1	R. STRONGMAN	3
B. DUREAU	14	P. STUBBS	9
N. GILL	8	M. SUIDGEEST	9
ROB GODDARD	2	S. WHENNAN	17

3rd Grade (T.A. Wharton Trophy)

W. AGNEW	2	D. ERICKSON	2
C. ALTHAUS	1	ROSS GODDARD	2
D. AUSTIN	3	T. HARRINGTON	2
A. BROWN	3	T. JOVANOVIC	4
T. BURGESS	2	B. O'LOUGHLIN	2
B. DARLEY	1	C. SELMAN	2
T. DRISCOLL	3	D. TOMPSETT	10

1978 BELCONNEN CLUB BEST AND FAIREST VOTING

1st Grade:

S. WIDERA	60	W. QUADE	10
P. TAYLOR	32	N. O'NEILL	10
J. MANSON	27	R. WHITE	7
R. RANDALL	27	C. MILBURN	5
M. JOHNSTON	25	R. DANNOCK	5
A. BOWDEN	22	M. PRICE	5
D. BENNETT	20	R. STRONGMAN	3
M. MANSON	19	M. CRAWFORD	3
R. DAWSON	14	J. BOX	2
C. BOWMAN	13	T. O'RILEY	2
L. MOLONEY	11	S. TAYLOR	1
		A. BROWN	1

1978 MILESTONES AND NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES

2nd Grade Premiership Coach: Bryan Sheridan

100 - 2nd Grade Matches: Bob Burgess
Pat Sheedy

50 - 1st Grade Matches: David Bennett
John Manson
Michael Price
Bill Quade
Randall Strongman
Stan Widera

50 - 2nd Grade Matches: Paul Butterworth
Les Calvert
Mike Suidgeest
Roger Watson

ACTAFL 1st Grade representatives : John Manson
Mal Manson
Robert Randall
Robert White
Stan Widera

ACTAFL 2nd Grade representatives: Peter Stubbs
Pat Sheedy

ACTAFL 3rd Grade representatives: Dave Tompsett
Danny Erickson

1st Grade goal kicking record (10.6): Chris Bowman

Equal 2nd Grade goal kicking record : Brian Dureau (11 goals)

1978 BELCONNEN CLUB BEST AND FAIREST VOTING

2nd Grade:

P. BUTTERWORTH	27	S. LEWIS	8
D. O'MALLEY	26	A. HILLS	8
S. WHENNAN	23	W. QUADE	7
M. SUIDGEEST	19	R. BAGULEY	7
F. SOUTHWELL	18	G. COGGINS	6
B. DUREAU	17	N. GILL	4
P. STUBBS	17	L. CALVERT	4
M. BURGESS	12	N. O'NEILL	3
T. GRANT	11	P. SHEEDY	3
D. MURPHY	9	R. WATSON	2
M. CHINNICK	8	T. ALLISON	1
M. CRAWFORD	8	R. STRONGMAN	1
R. DANNOCK	8	T. O'RILEY	1

SUMMARY STATISTICS

Over 100 Club (1sts)

R. Baguley	115
Rob Goddard	108
T. Allison	106

Over 100 Club (2nds)

P. Sheedy	107
R. Burgess	102

Over 100 Club (Senior Games)

R. Baguley	139	(115-1sts + 24-2nds)
P. Stubbs	127	(80 + 47)
Rob Goddard	125	(108 + 17)
P. Sheedy	124	(17 + 107)
M. Burgess	120	(75 + 45)
M. Suidgeest	112	(56 + 56)
T. Allison	109	(106 + 3)
R. Burgess	102	(0 + 102)
T. Grant	100	(74 + 26)

Years of senior service

<u>8 years</u>	<u>7 years</u>	<u>6 years</u>	<u>5 years</u>
T. Allison	M. Burgess	R. Burgess	M. Chinnick
R. Baguley	P. Sheedy	R. Byrne	B. Devenish
R. Goddard	P. Stubbs	J. Calvert	S. Lewis
	M. Suidgeest	T. Grant	J. Manson
		M. Manson	M. Read
		J. O'Dea	R. Watson
		J. Talikka	
		S. Taylor	

Premierships

1972	Under 17 (Champions)
1973	Under 17
1974	Under 19
1974	Under 17 (Division II)
1978	2nd Grade

A.C.T. Representatives

T. Allison	1971, 1973, 1974	M. Manson	1976, 1977, 1978
M. Chinnick	1972, 1974, 1975	W. Quade	1976
P. Johnston	1975	R. Randall	1978
R. Koehne	1971, 1972	R. White	1975, 1978
J. Manson	1978	S. Widera	1976, 1977, 1978

A.C.T. Representative Coach

T. Allison 1973, 1974

Club Best and Fairest (Winners and Runners-up)

<u>1st Grade</u>			<u>2nd Grade</u>	
1971	T. Allison	B. Jones	B. Devenish	J. Hourigan
1972	M. Chinnick	R. Koehne	A. Richards	J. Hourigan
1973	P. Bateman	B. Prendergast	L. Pickering	G. Moss
1974	R. White	M. Lawn	Rob Baguley	P. Sheedy
1975	R. White	S. Widera	J. Talikka	M. Wigley
1976	T. Allison	R. Koehne	P. Sheedy	S. Whennan
1977	J. Manson	D. Dennett	P. Stubbs	G. Burgess
1978	S. Widera	P. Taylor	P. Butterworth	D. O'Malley

3rd Grade

1975	P. Taylor	T. Hughes
1976	F. Southwell	P. Falconer
1977	Ross Goddard	F. Southwell
1978	D. Tompsett	W. Agnew

1st Grade - Top Goalkicker

1971	M. Read	52 goals
1972	M. Read	40
1973	M. Read	20
1974	M. Manson	49
1975	W. Quade	61
1976	M. Manson	53
1977	M. Manson	41
1978	C. Bowman	46

Mulrooney Medalists (1st Grade)

As Turner Football Club:

1948	H. Madigan
1952	J. Gleeson
1964	K. Mitchell

As Belconnen Football Club:

1975	R. White
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McNamara Trophy (2nd Grade)

As Turner Football Club:

1970	L. Pickering (tie)
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T.A. Wharton Trophy (3rds)

1975	D. Bennett
1977	P. Taylor (tie)

ACTAFL Under Age Trophy

1973	Under 17	J. Manson
1974	Under 19	M. Manson
1974	Under 17 (Div II)	D. Bennett

1978 SENIOR PLAYERS - GAMES PLAYED

PLAYER	TOTAL			1978			Pre 1978			Age	First Year
	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd		
AGNEW W.		4	23			14		4	9	18	1977
ALLISON	106	3		4	3		102			34	1971
ALTHAUS C.	4	1	23			11	4	1	12	18	1976
AUSTIN D.			13			13				18	1978
BAGULEY R.	115	24			16		115	8		29	1971
BENNETT D.	53	11	13	20			33	11	13	21	1975
BENNETTS S.			2			2				17	1978
BIRCH K.					1	1				23	1976
BOWDEN A.	14	1		14	1					26	1978
BOWMAN C.	18			18						29	1978
BOX J.	13	6		13	6					20	1978
BROWN A.	3		11	3		11				19	1978
BROOKS S.			1			1				17	1978
BURGESS D.			33			11			22	19	1976
BURGESS M.	75	45		2	19		73	26		28	1972
BURGESS R.		102			13			89		26	1972
BURGESS T.		1	25		13	13		1	12	18	1976
BUTTERWORTH P.	4	56		1	21		3	35		21	1976
BUTTERWORTH S.		3	3		3	3				19	1978
CALVERT J.	83	5		5	3		78	2		28	1972
CARNE B.			2			2				17	1978
CHINNICK M.	60	9		2	8		58	1		31	1971
COGGINS G.	1	12		1	12					22	1978
COLEMAN P.			8			8				19	1978
CONLAN J.			6			6				19	1978
CRAWFORD M.	14	4		14	4					28	1978
CROKER G.			2			1			1	18	1977
CULNANE P.	10	46			6		10	40		22	1973
DANNOCK R.	21	24		5	10		16	14		26	1976
DARLEY B.			4			4				19	1978
DAWSON R.	48	1		20			28	1		27	1976
DESS J.	6		4	6		4				19	1978
DRISCOLL T.			11			11				17	1978
DUREAU B.	2	8		2	8					22	1978
ERICKSON D.			11			11				18	1978
EWING S.			11			11				18	1978
FALCONER R.			1			1				17	1978
FOSTER N.			25			6			19	19	1976
GARDNER N.		1			1					25	1978
GODDARD ROB	108	17		3	11		105	6		26	1971
GODDARD ROSS		4	32			4		4	28	18	1975
GRANT T.	74	26			20		74	6		26	1971
GREGORY W.	18	31			2		18	29		34	1974
GRIGOR W.			28			14			14	19	1976
HILLS A.	3	18	1	3	18				1	18	1977
JOHNSTON M.	17	3		17	3					30	1978

PLAYER	TOTAL			1978			Pre 1978			Age	First Year
	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd		
JOVANOVIC T.			24			12			12	19	1977
LAWRY S.			15			12			3	18	1977
LEWIS S.	40	33			13		40	20		23	1974
MAHL P.			3			3				19	1978
MOLONEY L.	18	1		18	1					29	1978
MANSON J.	67	2		19			48	2		22	1972
MANSON M.	76	5		19			57	5		22	1972
MILBURN C.	14	2		14	2					25	1978
MURPHY D.	15	29			16		15	13		22	1974
O'LOUGHLIN B.			11			11				19	1978
O'MALLEY D.	1	18		1	18					26	1978
O'NEILL N.	34	6		18	2		16	4		22	1977
O'RILEY T.	6	6		6	6					23	1978
PRICE M.	52	1		20			32	1		24	1976
PRYOR S.			1			1				18	1978
QUADE W.	56	4		16	4		40			22	1975
RANDALL R.	19			19						22	1978
RAYNOR M.		5	43			14		5	29	19	1975
SAWA R.	1	10		1	10					22	1978
SCHROETER N.					14					26	1972
SELMAN C.			8			8				19	1978
SHEEDY P.	17	107			23			17	84	29	1972
SIMONS B.			1			1				19	1978
SLADE B.	3	11		3	11					27	1978
SOUTHWELL F.	7	38	33		23		7	15	33	20	1975
STUBBS P.	80	47		2	19		78	28		26	1972
SUIDGEEST M.	56	56			23		56	33		26	1972
SULLIVAN W.			3			3				19	1978
STRONGMAN R.	54	14		15	5		39	9		31	1976
TAYLOR P.	35	1	31	20			15	1	31	20	1975
TAYLOR S.	85	9		17	2		68	7		22	1972
TOMPSETT D.	8	1	18	8		12		1	6	19	1975
TALIKKA J.	30	48			4		30	44		26	1971
WALDING M.			2			2				17	1978
WATSON R.	1	57			14		1	43		28	1972
WHENNAN S.	32	27		1	21		31	6		25	1976
WHITE R.	47	2		7	2		40			24	1974
WIDERA S.	62			19			43			20	1974

COCK OF THE NORTH TROPHY (BELCONNEN AND AINSLIE)

Won by Belconnen on 9th April
 Won by Ainslie on 28th May
 Won by Ainslie on 23rd July

NEIL CONLAN MEMORIAL TROPHY (BELCONNEN AND MANUKA)

Won by Manuka on 30th July

HOW BELCONNEN TEAMS FINISHED

<u>1st Grade:</u>	P	W	L	D	P.C.	PTS
AINSLIE	18	14	4	-	167.24	68
EASTLAKE	18	14	4	-	164.78	68
QUEANBEYAN	18	12	6	-	141.81	60
BELCONNEN	18	10	8	-	115.47	52
MANUKA	18	7	10	1	98.39	42
WEST CANBERRA	18	4	13	1	60.60	30
A.N.U.	18	1	17	-	39.13	16

Each team had three byes.

1st Semi-final: BELCONNEN 17.14 (116) d. Queanbeyan 13.11 (89)
 Prelim Final: Eastlake 21.14 (140) d. BELCONNEN 11.14 (98)

<u>2nd Grade:</u>	P	W	L	D	P.C.	PTS
AINSLIE	21	19	2	-	215.12	76
BELCONNEN	21	16	5	-	195.24	64
SUTHERLAND	21	13	8	-	101.15	52
QUEANBEYAN	21	12	9	-	113.01	48
MANUKA	21	12	9	-	108.14	48
EASTLAKE	21	8	13	-	84.47	32
A.N.U.	21	2	19	-	57.02	8
WEST CANBERRA	21	2	19	-	38.06	8

2nd Semi-final: BELCONNEN 14.20 (104) d. Ainslie 15.8 (98)
 Grand Final: BELCONNEN 16.5 (101) d. Ainslie 11.12 (78)

<u>3rd Grade:</u>	P	W	L	D	PTS
AINSLIE	15	14	1	-	56
EASTLAKE	15	10	5	-	40
WEST CANBERRA	15	8	7	-	32
MANUKA	15	6	9	-	24
BELCONNEN	15	5	9	1	22
SUTHERLAND	15	1	13	1	6

ACTAFL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	1sts	2nds	3rds	TOTAL
AINSLIE	68	76	56	200
EASTLAKE	68	32	40	140
BELCONNEN	52	64	22	138
MANUKA	42	48	24	114
QUEANBEYAN	60	48	-	108
WEST CANBERRA	30	8	32	70
SUTHERLAND	-	52	6	58
A.N.U.	16	8	-	24

Steven Lewis

~~Steve Lewis~~

Kay

No. 1

Roger Amrock
Tom Videra

Laloby Karbell

David Malone

Andy xx

Michael

Pat

John

Baron

Sam Wright

Jack



Andrew

John

REGAL HOMES

Andrew

John

Michael

Andrew

Max

James

Hal

John

Bob

D. Miller

John

James

John

John

John

Paul

Wayne Boston
LeSean

John

Paul

Tony Hills

John