



DRUMMOYNE DISTRICT RUGBY
FOOTBALL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT
2001

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OFFICE BEARERS 2001

PRESIDENT/TREASURER	Danny Rawlings	
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Ian Chapman	
SECRETARY/TREASURER	Ken Stevenson	
TRAINER	Craig Clarke	
CLUB CAPTAIN	Mark O Brien	
SCOREBOARD	Richie Bell / Anthony Swanson	
STATISTIAN/ REGISTRATIONS	Ken Stevenson	
LIFE MEMBERS	E Coram	A Tierney
	W G Firth	J G Mulford
	D Dyer	
VICE PRESIDENTS	B Johnstone	H Millar
	E C Paton	D L Firth
	Dr J Nield	Dr D Keller
	Dr J Moulton O.A.M	M O Wilson

COACHES / MANAGERS 2001

	COACH	MANAGER
Club Coach	Fred Andrews	
1st Grade	David Warne / David Newall	Frank "JJ" Tait
2nd Grade	Neil "ET" McDonald / Fred Andrews	
3rd Grade	Peter Gavrilis	Paul Anshultz
4th Grade	Ross Edwards	
5th Grade	Bruce Bailey	Geoff Porter
Colts	David Cross	Mick Palmer
Women	Anthony Swanson	John Gilbert / Tom Herihly

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2001

This year saw our club retain our high level of competitiveness right throughout our grades – from the women to the colts through to 1st grade. This culminated with us finishing a very creditable 3rd in the club championship, with our 3rd grade winning the grand final – the last 3rd grade premiership team was over 50 years ago!

In a difficult year off the field, we unfortunately had our License Club close its doors towards the end of the season. As per the previous year the License Club stretched the Football Club's human resources to the limit and a positive to come out of its closure will be the freeing up of necessary people to run the Rugby Club efficiently.

On a brighter note the juniors, organized by Michael Stephenson, continues to thrive which is a great sign for the future of our club. In the past decade the club has been very transient with a player turnover of around 30-40% each year. This has given us a rich culture of overseas players (from the UK, Ireland and the Pacific islands) and a great social atmosphere to play rugby however ultimately we will need to rely on a base of local players coming through our ranks to give our club a base

My special thanks to John Mulford who has provided me and the committee with his undying support and words of wisdom. Both John and the late David Dye released their much awaited publication depicting the history of the Dirty Reds "Men in Scarlet". This was released at our Annual Veterans Day and proved to be a roaring success. Well done John and David.

Many thanks to all our sponsors and helpers who make our club perform each year. A special thanks once again to Ken Stevenson and Geoff Granger. Also to my fellow committee Colin Fleming, Tom Herlihy, Ross Edwards and Kerry Gemmell who have given untold support.

Once again a special note of thanks to our coaching staff Warnie and Fred, Bears and Gav – for not only getting them on the paddock but making them play good rugby!

Yours in rugby,
Danny Rawlings
President

With another successful season behind us, it is important to look back at the highs and lows of the year and hopefully I can cover them all with the obvious highs outweighing the lows.

With 2 Premierships, (3rd grade and the under 12's) 2 runner up titles and 3rd in the club championship, 2001 will go down as one of our most successful seasons in recent times.

The Highs - The season started well when we were the runners up to an invitation Fijian team in the NSW 7's competition defeating Randwick, Sydney Uni, Warringah and West Harbour along the way.

During the pre-season we hosted the Mariano Moreno and Regattas Bella Vista clubs from Argentina, which gave us the opportunity to look at our new colts that had arrived from overseas and locally following a strong recruiting campaign. We also hosted Radford College from England who used our facilities on starting their Australian tour in July.

Everyone was looking forward too and enjoyed using the new facilities that included the much improved change rooms, canteen, storage, viewing and entertainment areas, all of which contributed to larger crowds watching our games, it was particularly pleasing to see so many ex players revisiting Drummoyne Oval. Looking to the future we need to ensure better management of this facility to entertain our supporters and players.

Drummoyne Rugby hosted the Australian Rugby Unions initiative "Try Rugby" which attracted 150, four to thirteen year old boys and girls and the parents to Drummoyne Oval for eight consecutive Friday nights. This was a wonderful program designed to introduce children to Rugby. Friday evening became a social gathering for the parents where they tested the new facility and our sponsor's product.

With the British and Irish Lions touring, we attracted more players from overseas than usual and the large numbers of new local players, the only problem was finding a position for everyone to get a run during the trial matches, when St Ives withdrew from the last trial at short notice, many of players started the season underdone. This did not stop us fielding 6 grade teams, Colts, Women's and 5 juniors' teams in round one.

Four senior players achieved representative honours for the NSW SRU, Matt Thomas as captain, John Hannon, Jason Allen and Davina Craft who represented NSW Women's.

Our 1st grade prop Samuela (Polo) Asi was again selected to play for Western Samoa and was contracted to New Zealand team Counties to play in the NPC championship just prior to the semi finals.

As the season progressed many were saying that we were not as strong overall as the previous season this proved to be true.

Besides winning the premierships, Veterans day was another highlight and a huge success when former Australian and Drummoyne captain John Freedman officially launched the

book "Men In Scarlet" which detailed the history of our club and Rugby in the district, the author of the book is former president and player John Mulford.

On the same day the family of David Dyer donated a shield bearing his name to commemorate David's commitment to the club over many years following his passing. David's family asked that the shield be awarded to the Players Player.

The Lows - The obvious low of the season was the refusal of Hunters Hill RC to play at Drummoyne when their ground became unavailable due to wet weather. Their ability to get around the written rules astounded but did not surprise the management of this club and most clubs in the competition.

Sadly 2001 saw the closure of the licence club that has been our home and a major factor allowing us to attract new players from near and far, the current committee is working hard at time of print in securing a new home for the Dirty Reds.

The Future - History has shown that the two clubs that were promoted to this division prior to Drummoyne one has found themselves being demoted and the other just fought off relegation this year. Whilst I cannot see that happening we need to ensure that we do not become complacent, the first area that needs improvement is the behind the scenes management, this can only happen by having more people prepared to do the work required to be a successful Rugby club.

Those that have read "Men In Scarlet" will recall that over many years this club has been at its strongest when the committee has been strong. A working committee is needed and things need to improve dramatically in this area.

You are appreciated - Special thanks must go to following people, Ronnie Wicks who ran the canteen all year with help from Karen and Kelly Dixon, Dianne, and Tony (beep beep) Vacearella, our physio Shona Sundaraj, and her helpers Margaret Michael and Katia Sneesby who kept the guys on the field, and Craig (Knobby) Clarke who got them fit enough to get there.

Many thanks to stalwart John Scott for his efforts securing the Try Rugby program and his work during the 8 weeks it ran.

Michael Stephenson for his work ensuring the juniors continue to expand.

Budweiser was again our major sponsor again although they withdrew half way through the season leaving I Case International, Astor Base Metals, Advance Couriers, Brunnings Garden Products, Rostone Print, ANZDL, Lynette Brown Accounting, and the Women's sponsors HPA

Integrated Interiors, Slumberpedic, Jackson Sails and AON Risk Services.

New sponsors to come on board were I.C Resources, Arrowfield Wines, Chiswick Cellars and Georges Electronics and Aerolineas Argintinas

Ken Stevenson
Secretary

SPONSOR APPRECIATION 2001

The Club greatly appreciates the following sponsors.

BUDWEISER
Brunnings Garden Products
ICASE International
Rostone Print
Lynette Brown Accounting
Advance Couriers
Astor Base Metals
ANZDL
IC Resources
Chiswick Cellars
Georges Electronics
Arrowfield Wines
Argintine Airlines
HPA

CLUB AWARDS 2001

Club Service / Club person (Keith Ellis) plaque	Ken Stevenson
Presidents player (Ian Gordon Memorial)	Owen Parry
Player's Player Year (David Dyer Award)	Craig Barnett
Rookie of the year	Nick Tindall
Most Successful Team	3 rd Grade
Highest Point Scorer	Andrew Phillips
Most offside forward (toilet seat)	Nathan Gardner
Roger Ramjet	Bruce Bailey
1st Grade - Best & Fairest	Brian O Conner
1st Grade - Most Consistent	Orisi Kunaleca
2nd Grade - Best & Fairest	Nathan Wicks
2nd Grade - Most Consistent	Nick Tindall
3rd^t Grade - Best & Fairest	Stephen Greaves
3rd Grade - Most Consistent	Nathan Gardiner
4th Grade - Best & Fairest	Geoff Granger
4th Grade - Most Consistent	Bill Elliott
5th Grade - Best & Fairest	Owen Parry
5th Grade - Most Consistent	Eddie Bush
Colts - Best & Fairest	Nathan Landrey
Colts - Most Consistent	John Beswick
Women's - Best & Fairest	Kerry Gemmel
Women's - Most Improved	Renee Craft
100 First Grade Games	Ray Taylor
100 Games	Andy Baldwin
	Scott Baldwin
	Craig Douglas
	Andrew Phillips
	Dave Stewart
	Murphy Maiava

1ST GRADE 2001

Kentwell Cup Grand Final St Ives 34 Drummoyne 20



3rd Row: Ben Pennington, Brian O'Connor, Meli Tui.

2nd Row: James L'Alesi, Orsi Kunaleca, Ronny Tabua, Alfred Batimala, Inoki Turuva, Wise Gavid, Frank Tait (Manager).

1st Row: David Warne (Coach), James Burns, John Hannon, Matt Rance, Matt Thomas (C), Polo Arsi, Paul Deady, Andrew Phillips, David Newel (Coach)

1st Grade - Finalists - 2001

1st Grade Report 2001

2001 saw a change in the coaching team marked the start of this years Kentwell Cup defence with Fred Andrews taking a very vague Club coaching role, which allowed him to spend more time surfing on one of his North Coast developments !

The job of first grade backs Coach was taken over by David (Bearshead) Newell.

All the players from 2000 successful season fronted up again as one would expect, apart from the late arrival of Ray Taylor who had been over playing in Ireland.

This season was marked by a series of injuries to key players at crucial points of the season resulting in a couple more losses than the previous year, and without the same depth in 2nds it made the year a bit of a struggle at times.

The loss of International prop Polo Asi to the NPC competition in New Zealand did not help the job at hand.

Never the less the local rivalry with Hunters Hill continued and the same result was achieved by beating them in the final, which allowed us to progress once again to the Grand Final.

The less said about this game the better. We unfortunately lost this game in what would have been a very fair contest had it not been for some very dubious refereeing decisions, but ultimately it was the fact that the boys who played in that game were carrying injuries and as a team we fell short of the mark at the last hurdle.

Regards
David Warne
Coach

2ND GRADE 2001



3rd Row: Adam Bott, Andy Turner, Paddy Cooney, Boris Trinajstic, Jimmy Fiji, Misikei Matautia.
2nd Row: Fred Andrews (Coach), Junior Vaili, Mark O'Brien, Matias Sosa, Phil Kidd, Tim Meli, Ray Taylo
1st Row: Poasa Toomatai, Alex Phillis, Nathan Wicks, Andrew Baldwin (C), Tim Harley, Nick Tindall, Oli

ow (Manager)

Reserve Grade 2001

Burke Cup Grand Final Old Ignatians 34 vs St Patricks 10

3RD GRADE 2001

PREMIERS Whiddon Cup Grand Final Drummoyne 26 St Patricks 13



3rd Row: Nick Turnbull, Sepi Tupulo.

2nd Row: Stephen Greaves, Gareth Fanning, Sam Lemusu, Craig Douglas, Rob Cooper, Peter Chart, Nathan Gardner, Peter Gavrilis (Coach).

1st Row: John Zelenjak, Grier Campbell, David Ferguson, David Stewart (VC), Darren Lawrence (C), Tristran Pidd, James Carraway, Wayne Shields, Paul Anschutz.

3rd Grade Minor Premiers & Premiers - 2001

4TH GRADE 2001

Judd Cup Grand Final St Patricks 15 Old Ignatians 10



3rd Row: Kevin Johnstone, Andrew Skeet, Rod Tindall, Dereck Souter.

2nd Row: Ross Edwards (Coach), John Wright, Stuart Lang, Eddie Farrell, Alistair Owen, Paul Thomas, Tui Vatu.

1st Row: Daniel Cooke, Brian Jacobs, Scott Baldwin, Dan Jeffries, Geoff Granger (C), Bill Elliott, Mark Beatie, Malefi Salandrau, Colin Baggott, Gui Planes (Coach).

Grade 4 - 2001

5TH GRADE 2001

Sutherland Cup Grand Final - Old Ignatians 8 Drummoyne 3



5th Grade Report 2001

Without holding the Cup above our heads, the season could still be regarded as achieving what we set out to do and more.

With a combination of guys who were on their way to higher grades, fellows who were new blood into the game, and those in their twilight years of rugby (a case of the good, the bad and the very ugly!) we took some time gel together.

The turning point in our training technique was undoubtedly the night we concentrated on singing the club song and at least 5 out of 18 players could sing the words without the song sheet. Mungo Porter, Gus MacDonald and myself smiled as we knew we were on to something here.

We talked about selling the tackling bags and first aid kit and investing in a Junior Karaoke Set as they were discounted from K mart since Xmas 2000, but then the iron fist of Freddy Andrews came down....."ya can't make a life out of singing you guys, ya gotta play the game". So minds back on the job, we sold 2 tackling bags and bought a case of VB !

By mid season we managed to hang on the fringe of the top 4, with a talented backline of northern hemisphere imports Pete....., Billy.... and Brian the Irishman being guided by our Kiwi scrum half Johnny Rook (self proclaimed expert kicker-more later on this).

As we approached the semis, our backs were finely tuned we finally found the best position for our utility back Chris "The Flying Dutchman". Of course it was obvious, get him to take the photos and boy did they improve those backs.

Our forwards were consistent all season (every week-fat, slow and hungover) with the likes of Bushy and Murph the bookends plus Swanno and Justin (the angry biter) sharing the hooking //we weren't going to be pushed back.

Once into the semis we improved by the day more beer, more pies. Dave Davies and Ian Yule wanted everyone to dye their hair red but we didn't want to look like a packet of matches or Saturday night at the Chester Hill Hotel, we battled through the semis from 4th spot and found ourselves facing Old Ignations in the Grand Final at T.G. Milner Oval with Iggies for and against being a surplus of 344 points in their favour we opted for surprise tactics with a mixture of short lineouts and run the ball at all costs, our forwards led the way with the backs following with us all the way.

One debated disallowed try didn't help the cause. But undoubtedly the biggest difference between win or lose was Johnny Rook, in open play he had a blinder, in kicking he missed 5 out of 5, as long as my arse points to the ground I will never let him forget this.

Also to Barney, he left it til well after the game that he can kick as well, thankyou for waiting to tell me this insignificant fact after we lose 8-5.

Regardless of the final result I would like to say thankyou to all the players, supporters (all 2 of you and me mum), Kenny Stevo for attempting to ref and giving me the personal highest penalty count of the year, to Mungo Porter and Gus for putting up with my Alternative attitude to rugby and everyone concerned for participating in the true sense of the words "Social Rugby".

Regards

Captain/Coach
Bruce Bailey

Manager/ My Psychologist - Geoff "Mungo" Porter
Assistant Coach/ Drinking Partner - Gus MacDonald
Drinking Partner/ Player of the Year - Dave Davies

COLT'S 2001

Barbour Cup



3rd Row: Nick Graham, Nick Walker, Ben Knight, Will Temperley, Kyle Kutas.

2nd Row: Micheal Corrigan, Adrian Bourke, Tim Oakley, John Beswick, Jonathan Andrews, Atu Saqa.

1st Row: Chad Passlow, Adam Dillon, Nathan Landrey, Tristan Pidd, Nick Field, Mark Gillespie, Jarrod Hughes, John Hannon.

Colts - 2001

Colts Report 2001

The colt's competition this year proved to be a very high standard of rugby. In hindsight we probably lacked in a bit of commitment to training & the resulting level of fitness & cohesion. I recall being right in the game on a number of occasions when we would run out of steam about 10 minutes after the half time break. However the courage & willingness of the guys to "have a go" could never be questioned. Keep in mind that a large percentage of the guys are eligible to pull the colts Guernsey on again next year so stay tuned.

A few words should be said on some of the key members of the team. Nathan Landrey was the best player during the year. Nathan was a very aggressive tackler & a good ball runner & was often to be found in support. Very well deserved for best & fairest. John Beswick was hot on Nathan's heels both on & off the field all year. They are good mates, but I think there might have been a bit of rivalry between these two loose forwards & it was often difficult to separate the pair when handing out the points. John was very deserved of best forward award.

Tristan Pidd was the team captain. Tristan led well & was always in the game. Tristan was high in the points tally at the end of the year. We had to move Tristan from breakaway to the centres during the year where he proved to be a strong ball runner.

Nick Graham & Adam Dillon were the key to our backline throughout the year. Adam played halfback & had a very determined & aggressive approach to the game. I feel that Adam should play up the grades next year. Nick started the year at fullback but due to the lack of a quality number 10 in the squad I asked him to give up his favoured position of No. 15 & move into the hotspot. He handled the position well & a little more time in the position could see him become a good number 10.

Thanks to the rest of the team for your efforts during the year. I had a very enjoyable year, both on & off the field. I must thank Mike Trenell for his assistance throughout the year, a good bloke with a good footy brain. Thanks to the gents that helped manage during the year also, Big Mick, Colin & Sandy.

Just a closing thought. I feel the club could possibly elevate the Colts to the main field on the odd occasion. I know the guys were hooning me all year about it & future teams would relish the opportunity. As I said just a thought.

Regards

**Crossy – David Cross
Coach.**

WOMEN'S 2001

The Drummoyne Women's' team had a successful year in many respects after improving three places on their 2000 result, finishing 4th in the First Division Competition. Playing a total of 16 games, including semis (We were given two forfeits) we won 8, drew 4 and lost 6, bowing out in the semis against a strong Parramatta side who have developed well over three years. Scoring 230 points, we conceded 199 and finished the competition on 44 points.

This was the first year we played trial games, which proved mostly beneficial to the team, both in experience for new players, and team bonding on the bus trips.

The only negative part of the trial games was a horrific injury to new recruit Simone counting her out for the season before it began.

The girls started the season well only losing two games in the first round. It was the draws that were proving the problem for the team. These draws kept us teetering on the brink of competing the second round in second division. But when the test was put to the girls against the vital game Waverley, they came through displaying the kind of determination, grit, and commitment that any coach could wish for, winning that game and carrying the momentum on through several rounds after.

Our team this year saw many new faces, which was encouraging for the future of our team, and this included our new manager John Gilbert, or Gilbo. His selection of fruit was always sumptuous, even if on the odd occasion we had to pick bits of flesh out of it. Of course our regular trusted strapper, Shane kept the girls on the field, and Swanno put up with the usual girlie scraps to see us through to the successful end. He even got a big 40th birthday bash put on for him and nice pressies so that helped. Thanks to the Unit for organising that and running the line for us many times.

Brett Angellini came down to help on one occasion and did not leave. His expertise and knowledge in skills and tactics certainly rubbed off on even our most experienced players. And of course slinker was there to offer his advise and support most of the time. Thanks for the slumberpeadic award too, a very popular and sought after prize. I mean the woman of the match award was the sought after thing slinker!

New players this year boosted our ranks and provided a fresh new look to our team.

Injuries or illness plagued many though, which was disappointing and we hope they recover and join us again in years to come. Both Simone and Krusty suffered identical broken ankles. Krusty in her five seconds debut after transferring from UWS. Kim suffered a worrying neck injury and Caroline's car accident was an unfortunate blow.

An ankle strain to Shani left the players player, and best and fairest awards up for grabs as she was a shoo in for both awards by half way in the comp. Illness to Maryanne was unfortunate, and of course the overseas holidays by Hugginkiss and Laite depleted us again. We bounced back though, after struggling for numbers in the middle of the season and were boosted by our overseas guests Emma and Naomi.

The girls played their best football towards the end of the season with a memorable draw against Grand Finalists Warringah, and an inspirational 5 nil loss to premiers West Harbour

on a 'cold, wet and windy day'. The true grit and determination, and improvement in the team in those games put us in good stead for the semis.

Whilst the team improved overall during the year, the most improved players for the season were some of our new recruits. Tara, Kath and Ringo all proved to be quick and determined learners (Thanks to the great coaching and leadership) with Tara scoring her first ever try in the semi final against Parramatta. Kath was instrumental in our draw with Warringah, and Ringo playing many strong games.

New recruit from UWS, Fran proved to be a valuable asset both on and off the field, having a leadership and stabilising effect on the side, not too mention on the Big Red Tractor, our new scrum. And of course Emma and Naomi provided that finishing edge we needed after we nagged them for months to play for us.

This year sees the retirement of Swanno as Coach and Bear as Captain, as a new brigade of personnel take over the reigns. A big thanks to Swanno for throwing a hand out to help over the last two games and doing a great job. A big thanks to myself for keeping statistics, and writing match reports and the chapter for the book and putting this together. At the end of the day for both of us it was a labour of love.



Butter Bean at the Semi... she knew she had the award in the bag and gave the fans a wink!



Renee proves her versatility whilst winning this award.



Farewell to Coach Anthony Peter Swanson.... Swanno.



Written by the Bear.

10 all drawof Course

Well it was great to see the Vintage Reds run (walk) around Drummoyne Oval again and once the rules were confirmed, no hard tackles (especially on the cricket pitch), no kicking – unless your scared, a lot of fun was had by those that dared.

John Scott relinquished his hold on the Authentic Vintage Red jumpers long enough to allow 11 players to don them and the other 11 Veterans played in NSWSRU representative jumpers.

What a game it was with Ashley Perrott showing he still has pace whilst Peter Heels and Ken Stevenson proved that they never had any.

After some discussion Chris Lau donned his boots (steel capped work boots) and he teamed up well with Charlie Psaltis, Hocko and the Axe to drop some fine passes.

Alex Palmer and Nappo were at each other yet again and Alex scored his first try at Drummoyne oval in 26 years and in doing so, came up with some blood on the melon for the after match photo.

Some of the huge crowd were asking whether our resident former Argentine International did actually play for his country after the quality of some of his passes were of the hospital type.

Mel McEwan, Ross Edwards and Mungo all proved that are at the peak of their fitness.

With plenty of aged Dirty Reds in the stands and using a beer in their hand as an excuse, we had to call on some of the current players that are near retirement age or over, like Ian Yule, Bruce Bailey, Angus McDonald, Fergo, Sepe and Geoff (John Cleese) Granger and they all proved that they will slip into the Golden Oldies very well and probably already should be there, hey Bruce?

A great game of walking Rugby was had, no major injuries (always a bonus) was had by all that played.

There were a few Vintage Red virgins out there and they were not aware of the half time protocol of downing some terrible port, some seasoned Veterans complained that the half time port was too good a quality.

Thank you to all that took part, see you next year, and remember that you are only as old as you look.

Ken Stevenson