

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>Page</u>
Life Members	2
Club Administration	3
President's Report	4
Senior Administration Report (Men)	6
Senior Administration Report (Women)	7
Junior Administration Report	8
Finance & Development Report	9
Social Report	10
Veterans Report	11
Senior Awards 1999	13
Junior Awards 1999	14
Games Played Awards 1999	15
The Top Squad (1B & 2B)	16
Metro 1A	25
Metro 2A	27
Metro 2B	29
Metro 3D	31
Metro 5A Scrubbers	33
Over 40 Div 1	36
Over 40 Div 3	38
Over 40 Div 5	40
Over 50 Div 2	42
1B Ladies	44
2B Ladies	47
1C Ladies	49
Metro 2 Ladies	52
Ladies Veterans	53
Under 17C	54
Under 17A Girls	57
Under 15B	61
Under 15C South	63
Under 15 South Regional	65
Under 15B Girls	66
Under 13B	69
Under 13 South West	72
Under 11A	75
Under 11 South West	77

MELVILLE CITY HOCKEY CLUB (INC)

LIFE MEMBERS

V. DALTON	(1959)
D. SPITTELER	(1969)
P. NOAD	(1971)
R. HALLIDAY	(1972)
B. SPITTELER	(1975)
M. CURRELL	(1978)
W. MEACOCK	(1979)
K. TIMMEL	(1980)
W. FORWARD	(1982)
J. COLE	(1984)
M. REYNOLDS	(1985)
B. HANCOCK	(1987)
I. DEVESON	(1988)
J. PICKERING	(1991)
N. KIDD	(1992)
W. ATKINSON	(1993)
G. NAPIER	(1994)
C. WILLIS	(1994)
K. JACKAMAN	(1997)

MELVILLE CITY HOCKEY CLUB (INC)**CLUB ADMINISTRATION 1999**

Patron: MS. K. MAIR (MAYOR, CITY OF MELVILLE)

Vice Patrons: MERV BENNETTS
MAX REYNOLDS (Life Member)
WALLY MEACOCK (Life Member)
COLIN WEST
DARRYL WILLIAMS MHR
NORM KIDD (Life Member)

President: MICHAEL JENSEN

Vice Presidents: MAL FARMER (Senior Administration - Mens)
NICOLA OGDEN (Senior Administration - Women)
SCOTT MARTYN (Junior Administration)
STEVE DURIE (Finance & Development)

Treasurer: PAT VON MOLLENDORF

Secretary: ROD WAKE

Veterans Coordinator: JOHNSON ORR

Social Convenor: MAL FARMER (Seniors)
SCOTT MARTYN (Juniors)

Equipment Officers: MIKE SHANNON
ROB WALKER

Uniform Officer: LESLIE WALKER

Bulletin Editor: KYLIE BEECHEN

Games Records: ROB WALKER

**Windelya Sports Assoc.
Representative:** SCOTT MARTYN

Auditor: WAYNE ATKINSON

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The season has come and gone and it is again time to put away those sticks and hang up the boots for another year. Of course the diehards will continue on with 7's or mixed hockey but the rest of us will take a well earned break.

Melville Hockey Club has had a very successful year in 1999.

We had one of the biggest turnouts at minkey ever with almost a 50% increase in numbers this year.

We again were very competitive in the junior grades with all teams performing admirably, but one of the greatest rewards to me was the comment from a mother, whose son and daughter were playing hockey for the first time, that "Melville Hockey club was by far better organised than the soccer club they had played at the previous season and the children were enjoying it more." Congratulations to all those involved in the junior program.

A special mention must go to the newly formed junior committee and their fund raising efforts this year, which well and truly exceeded all expectations. Well done.

The men's and women's senior teams and veterans overall had a good season with many of the teams competing in the finals.

As you are probably all aware of by now, our top men's team has gained promotion to classic league after an 8 year absence. This is a fitting culmination to the building program put in place by our club coach, Colin Brandis, 4 years ago and a reflection of the dedication and hard work put in by the players in the top squad. The challenge now is to maintain our classic league status next year.

During the off season your committee will be working hard planning for a bigger and better season next year. So if we come knocking seeking your assistance in some way remember it's your club as well as ours and it will only be as good you make it. Don't leave it to the same few each year.

Well that's all from me now, I'm off to rest my weary body. Bye until next year.

The Prez.

Michael Jensen
President

MELVILLE CITY HOCKEY CLUB (INC)

MAPLE LEAF CUP**CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR****Presented by Kip Hladky 1982**

1982	PAUL MEACOCK
1983	GEOFF MORRIS
1984	ALAN MEACOCK
1985	KEITH JACKAMAN
1986	ROSS READ
1987	WAYNE ATKINSON
1988	HAROLD FARMER
1989	KEITH HARPER
1990	GRAHAM NAPIER
1991	WAYNE ATKINSON
1992	COLIN WILLIS
1993	BRUCE READ
1994	ROB WALKER
1995	LES & ROB WALKER
1996	COLIN WILLIS
1997	JOHNSON ORR
1998	PAT von MOLLENDORF

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION REPORT (MEN)

Another season has passed us with a number of great achievements along the way. First of all I must congratulate the committee on a job well done and thank them for the support they have given me over the last few years. Thanks for everything guys! At the start of the season we amalgamated with Murdoch Hockey club, so I thought it would be a good idea to nominate an extra team going by the numbers we had on the books. As it turned out we went back to the same amount of teams as last year. Those were State 1B, & 2B, and Metro 1A, 2A, 2B, 3D and 5A.

To the "Top Squad" State 1Bs and 2Bs (not to be confused with the "Mod Squad" at the 70s and 80s night), who achieved the ultimate in 1B and 2B hockey so far. The first being the winning of the Challenge Cup for both teams which is the first for some time for the 2Bs. The second being the achievement of Classic League and 2A status in finishing on top of the ladder (by quite a lot too), which now means "You Bloody Beauty". Outstanding effort guys and I wish you all the best for the finals. I know you'll do well because you've been far and away the best team in the grade. A special thanks to Colin Brandis for coaching and Johnson Orr for managing the teams and best of luck for the challenges that lie ahead.

The Metro 1A had a good season in finishing fourth in the normal home and away season and winning their semi final against Raiders on their home ground which is a great feat in itself. A greeeeat many thanks to Andy Starling for stepping up and coaching the guys. He took on the job with great enthusiasm and we all owe you a big "Thanks, Mate!".

On to the Metro 2As who had a bit of a slow start to the season but finished well in 6th place and scored half of their goals in the last five games (The Crownies tasted great J.D.). The Metro 2Bs had a season with not too many wins but concentrated mainly on fines rather than hockey. I hope you all had a great time and look forward to seeing you next year.

The Metro 3Ds was an experience for most of the team, seeing they haven't played much senior hockey. Well done guys. I hope you all enjoyed yourselves and thanks to Rob Knyn for his experienced contribution.

Then we come to the pride of the club, the flagship, the pinnacle, the absolute scrubbers. The Metro 5As had a pretty up and down season finishing in about the middle of the ladder. With this band of expert social hockey players, I'm sure they managed to have a great time.

I would especially like to thank the people that do all the behind the scenes work, ie, coaches, captains, team managers, supporters and of course the great people who support the bar. Without this group of people the club would not be what it is today.

In finishing, I would like to send a special thanks to Clint, Ted and Ian for running the bar and also a big thanks to Rob Walker for all his help during the season. I hope you all enjoyed the season as much as I did and I'm sure we'll see you all next year.

Mal Farmer

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION REPORT (WOMEN)

With the addition of another team to cope with the numbers of players coming to us from Murdoch University and a juggling act going on between the coaches (did you know two into three doesn't go evenly?) we certainly have had a lively time. I can see in my mind's eye the first training session of the year for the women with about sixty seniors and a dozen or so juniors running laps at Buzacott, and I can still hear the voice of the fella who came to me and asked "Where did they all come from?" Still, despite the hiccups, with coaches wanting to be in two places at the one time, we've managed to put together a pretty good year.

The 1B side made it to the top four and the semi finals. Norm has driven the ladies to achieve higher standards of personal fitness and better skills than they realised they had. He has always asked for commitment from the players and put in 110% of his own time and effort to ensure the best for the ladies. Our next challenge is to get the team into Classic League to keep our Top Squad men company - a task that is not beyond our reach over the next year or two.

Our 2B's just missed out on a final four berth; some brilliant play in the final round saw us just pipped for fifth position on the ladder. It did take a while for the team to settle down and realise its considerable potential, but the bonding of the team has been excellent and we're looking forward to a more successful season next year. Ray has done a sterling job with us - especially as for most of the year he was stretched between the 2B's and 1C's, and even the 1B's, during Norm's absence.

The 1C's had the hardest task of all and relied a lot on themselves for the greater part of the year. Without a permanent coaching figure at most games, they relied on the efforts of Ray, Brad Pike and a score of transient helpers to see them through the majority of the season. Despite that, or perhaps because of it, the team became very closely bonded and pulled off the coup of having the most players attend any social functions. Several of the junior players were also "blooded" into senior ranks through this team and proved themselves to be a welcome source of potential talent.

The "Old Buzzards" as they affectionately call themselves consist of a network of social rope-ins who play hockey for the sheer joy of it. With an ever-changing team list, the ladies came together under the organisation of Jan Davis and acquitted themselves well in the Metro 2 comp.

And the Vets - what can I say? (apart from "I'm too young to play Vets") Our Ladies Vets team has sent six players off to the State Championships in Brisbane in October. And as this goes to press, the ladies are on the eve of their finals and are looking at culminating a very successful season.

To the players, coaches and supporters of all the ladies teams, I owe a huge thank you. Your time and effort has been much appreciated. It is your dedication that gives us the basis on which we can develop and grow as a club. And I look forward to doing it all again with you next year.

JUNIOR ADMINISTRATION REPORT

The Club managed to maintain solid development of junior hockey this year. Junior players contributed significantly on the field and socially. The year also saw juniors starting to take a role in club administration.

Junior player numbers remained level since the previous year. This was at a time when many clubs had experienced a downturn in the number of junior players. Two teams were entered in the girls competition for the second year in a row. The club continued to support a successful minkey program sponsored by local business.

Pre-season preparations for junior administration were neglected in 1999. This was due to a vacant Vice-President position until my appointment in March. The contribution and support from the coaches and team managers was indispensable in maintaining stability during the start of the season. They were an important asset during the year.

Strong team and individual performances were displayed:

- U/13B South won the Guth Ardagh pennant.
- All U/15 teams (4) reached the finals series.
- U/17C and U/13B teams also played finals.
- U/15B(girls), U15C, U/13B played in Grand Finals.
- U/15B(boys), U15C, U/13B played in Challenge Cup matches.
- 8 players were selected to play in regional teams.

The inception of the Junior Players' Committee allowed junior players to take an active role in the leadership of the club. The committee contributed towards the operating of the club in several ways. Their most significant contribution was towards fundraising. A junior players tea and a junior disco were also organised by the committee.

Several new developments planned for 2000 were proposed. A junior coaching program allowing junior players to assist coaches in younger age groups should improve the club's development of coaching expertise. Further fostering of the Junior Players' Committee should allow junior players to become more involved with the club.

The junior players have continued to demonstrate that they are an important aspect of the club. Continued development of these players should promise the club a successful future in hockey.

Scott Martyn

FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT REPORT

On behalf of the Committee and Players our first thanks should always go to the Club Sponsors and the Life Members who have made the cost of putting a great club on the fields again achievable by their sponsor dollars and donations.

Hopefully all club members have made our job easier next year by supporting the Club Sponsors throughout the year. We must remember without their generous support club registration fees would have to rise.

Secondly thanks to the players for enjoying Season 99, win, lose or draw the main object is to enjoy your hockey and going by the number of members putting on the red and white this year, we have a great club.

As my report is usually fourth or fifth our promotion to the Classic League will by now be obvious, so I can only give my congratulations to Colin and the lads and wish them the best for the next century.

Also my personal thanks to President Mike and the Committee that are as dedicated group to the Hockey club you could have.

Yours in Hockey

Steve Durie.

SOCIAL REPORT

We started off the year with a bang. A rowdy pub crawl through the streets of Freo with around 70 people turning quiet pubs into raging bars and taking over rooms (Rosie O'Grady's) and teaching the other clientele renditions of our club song - or what we thought it should be. It seems all had a good night, especially those who kicked on afterwards.

Next we headed to Leederville and the Hip-E Club to let our hair down and feet go wild. One club member was even seen showing off his break-dancing moves. The night took a while to get going but after some fine amber liquid, all were primed for an enjoyable, and for some a rather long, night.

Then there was Disco Nights. Billed to be a huge affair but once again our fancy dress night failed to draw a crowd. It is disappointing that club members did not support a night such as this, as it is good opportunity for everyone to get together back at the club and give a little back to those people who work so hard to organise functions like these.

I would like to thank Todd Barrett, Mal Farmer, Grant Watton, Mike Shannon and Scott Martyn and all those others who assisted for all their efforts this year. These guys put a lot of work into organising these functions so please support any events we have next year.

I'd also like to thank all those who came along and enjoyed themselves. I'm sure you all thought it was worthwhile.

Thanks and see you next year.

Mark Watton

VETERAN'S REPORT

Season 99 I think will be remembered for the introduction of our Over 50's side in the competition. With only the bare numbers in all 5 teams (1 ladies and 4 men's) this year the concern was that these really old men would struggle through the season after all they are over 50. How wrong we were, they excelled themselves.

We were allowed to play 2 underage players to make up the numbers in the team, but that only happened on a couple of occasions. As I write this it looks like they will be put in the Div 1 Over 50's next year. We should be proud of these old men - they managed to score lots of goals and let very few in and that's the name of the game.

Goal keepers this year must get a special mention as we have a few who have come to play with us:

John Tegler (Over 50's) has been with us before and this year was able to play on Saturday afternoons without work commitments interfering;

Brian Pickering (Vets 1's) played a couple of games in the 50's and Div 5's, came from Armadale and played 2 games on a few occasions during the season;

Chris Potter (Div 5) also from Armadale played Div 1's and 50's, and for the first part of the season did not see Buzzacott. Most of the games Chris played were away from home.

Wayne Hudson (Old Faithful) Vets Div 3 has been with us for years and years and filled in for other grades as well, and like the other goalies played 2 games some Saturdays as well.

I would like to thank the managers of each team for their help during the season. It has been hectic at times trying to fill teams, especially with the Div 1's, as they had a lot of injuries at the start and that was a problem for Dave Porter during the season on a week to week basis getting numbers for the Div 1's.

Ladies Vets.

The old CHOOK (Marris Margetts) was the manager, coach, captain and chief bottle washer for this team. Who every time I asked Maris how they were going she told me "We're simply the best!" What else is there to say about these wonderful *young* women, they play every Wednesday night and most of them play at the weekend as well.

Vets O50. Manager, Bruce Cadd

Nice things have been said already, they have done extremely well in the first year in this grade. We hope that next year we will be able to recruit a few more players to give them a base of 15 to allow interchange during the game, after all the legs aren't what they used to be when you get to 50.

Vets Div1. Manager, Dave Porter.

Although there have been nightmares for Dave getting a team together during the season, he got players to fill in at great expense to the players budget. In a latter game even Div 5 players were seen filling in, they must have been desperate. After all these minor difficulties they made the four.

VETERAN'S REPORT

Vets Div3. Manager, John Smith.

We tried as much as possible not to disturb this team, with the aim to get them up to Div 2. They encountered the abuse of the new rule by the opposition, where Vets players were able to play 2 games in the weekend, this was eventually sorted out but we could have finished higher up the table but for that game and the outcome thereof.

Vets Div 5. Manager, Denis Bawden

Hey this is the up and down side! Explain how one week we were thrashed by the bottom side, the next two games we won against the top two sides? Any answers return on a post card to..... Well done!

I would like to thank all the wives of Vet players, especially the people who are involved with the club, Coaches, Managers, Committee members etc. Without them allowing us to make them virtual widows for the hockey season, where would we be?

Finally for this club to function, we need your support, please get involved, there are many jobs to be done, especially this coming year with our top squad being promoted to the Classic League and 2A divisions.

Thanks
Johnno Orr.



MELVILLE CITY HOCKEY CLUB (INC)

SENIOR AWARDS 1999**FAIREST & BEST****1B (Founder's Shield)****1B Ladies****2B Men****2B Ladies****1C Ladies****Metro 1A****Metro 2A****Metro 2B****Metro 2 Ladies****Metro 3D****Metro 5A****O/40 Div 1****O/40 Div 3****O/40 Div 4****O/50 Div 2****Michael Deveson****Narelle Coulson****Richard Williams****Melissa Meyer-Mortimore****Alana Wake****Paul Lambert****John Dalton****Mark Davies****Audrey Emmett****Jo Mitsopoulos****Mark Carson****Lindsay Borthwick****Keith Harper****Norm Hoskin****Rod Wake****Terry Parker****Wiffen Trophy**(Most improved younger player - women)**Catherine Bayens Trophy**(Player displaying most commitment to club - women)**Jane Finlay****Carolyn Jones****Ladies Coaches Awards****1B****2B****1C****Metro 2****Maris Margetts****Rhiannon Sedgwick****Kylie Freeman****Lesley Wintle**

MELVILLE CITY HOCKEY CLUB (INC)

JUNIOR AWARDS 1999

<u>Team</u>	<u>Fairest & Best</u>	<u>Coaches Award</u>
17A Girls	Tegan Martyn	Lisa Gangemi
17C	Ryan Backhouse	Daniel Ivey
15B	Anthony Ricciardone	Mark Hackett
	James Welton	
15 B Girls	Nadia Lehmann	Renae Stirling
15C South	Michael Pugliese	Brad Channer
15 South Regional	Matthew Geer	Ben Read
13B	Alex Wallis	Geoff Hansen
13 South West #1	Peter Gell	Kieran Drew
13 South West #2	Troy Hyatt	Paige Rose
Mount Waverley Hockey Club Trophy (Most talented U17 progressing to Seniors)		Ryan Backhouse
Life Members Trophy (Most Improved Junior)		Daniel Ivey
David Porter Trophy (Most Improved Goalkeeper)		James Welten
Ian Halliday Trophy (Highest Junior Goal Scorer)		Jamie Drew

MELVILLE CITY HOCKEY CLUB (INC)

GAMES PLAYED AWARDS - 1999**400 GAMES**

Bruce Cadd
 Maris Margetts
 Dave Porter
 Colin Willis

300 GAMES

Andrew Ford

200 GAMES

John Cooke
 James Pickering
 Mark Watton
 Stefan Willett

100 GAMES

Daniel Ivey
 Ryan Kelly
 Tim McEntee
 Daniel McEntee
 Robert Porter
 Craig Orr
 Ben Rushton
 Graham Walsh
 Clint Dymond
 Chris Inglis
 Adam Margetts
 Steve Criddle
 Jeff Gangell
 Mark Myers
 Kelvin Woodward

50 GAMES

Kendal Crake
 Sophie Hancock
 Ryan Mahney
 Michael Pugliese
 Simon Zbyko
 Nadia Backhouse
 Tara Bowater
 Claire Hadley
 Sandra Miller
 Russel Davies
 Geoff Hansen
 Reece Sloan
 Alex Wallis
 Reece Crake
 Dylan Hadley
 Paige Rose
 Stephen King
 Darryl Knapp
 Norm Morrison
 Natalie Adams

THE TOP SQUAD 1B & 2B

Melville City underwent some significant changes this year with an influx of players from the University, and injuries to key players - match winners you might say, very important people upon which the future and culture of the club depend. Good looking and incredibly intelligent young men cut down in their prime - serious injuries to their left ankle for example (read Nathan Rowden below). Anyway, if they started out bad, things quickly got worse as both teams began to dominate their respective competitions, and now face the task of having to play above themselves rather than within themselves. I'm tired already.

GAVIN SCALLY

It's difficult to give a bloke heaps when you know he's going to give it back twice as fast and with more acid than a disused south Australian bank vault. Instead I heap praise. Gav is a successful, happily married man (and what a lovely little wife she is too). And why wouldn't he, cause Gav has three things that no one else has. He has a shoulder, a groin and a knee. Acting alone, these three things are a superb means to an end when the time comes to train. Acting in concert, we have the potential to not only miss running, but the entire training session, minus the short corner practice and the drink at the bar afterwards. Considering he's no longer the spark behind the battery (short corner pun), I think congratulations are in order. Well done Gav, until our bodies pack up on us and our wife doesn't want us hanging around the house any longer, we can but only ogle in quiet awe.

BEN RUSHTON "Wondertwin Powers - a Seagull"

A lot has been said about Ben's awesome ability to swoop on the ball within centimetres of the goal line and claim goals from the more deserving amongst us. Don't get the wrong impression though, streamlined, graceful bird of prey he ain't. On field, this carcass picking, bottom feeding, parasitic flunkey becomes aggressive

when challenged and has often been seen to hunch his shoulders, place his chin on his neck and chase after opposition players and even team mates all the while making throaty high pitched noises in a bid to protect his patch. In the best seagull fashion he then proceeds to crap all over anyone who dare come within cooee. Off field, this carcass picking, bottom feeding, parasitic flunkey changes very little, except he has a habit of standing on one leg giving others the impression he is "less fortunate" and more deserving of sympathy.

RYAN RUSHTON

When two people come together to consummate their love, the end result is often a beautiful bouncing baby, something to be proud of, living proof of one love and something that should create an everlasting bond between all members of what becomes a family. Which brings me to my next point. Has anyone actually ever seen the Rushton's parents? Rumour has it, soon after birth, things became evident these boys weren't right. There was something "different" about them. Infantile even for infants. Ryan it has been said was the only recorded newborn to pass wind and then fall into hysterics as he watched the effect it had on the nurses around him. Breast-feeding took on a whole different meaning to this boy.

THE TOP SQUAD

In short Rhino is the quintessential 2's player, and definitely has the makings of a future captain. Hell, the way Jenno's aging, a future President.

JOHN COOKE

Cookie to his teammates, Cookie to the bloke standing at the bar next to him who he's never met but is holding a beer specifically bought for him, Cookie even to those who burglarise his pharmacy, and who incidentally, also receive a complimentary beer. Sir to anyone lining up against him. Cookie the enigma. I must admit John, I have no idea what position you actually play, if indeed, you have even physically taken the field this year? Unfortunately, you have not traversed the evolutionary ladder quite to the level Gav has, and still insist on training where God has given you the ultimate gift of deteriorating joints, zero-twitch muscle fibres, and everyone's favourite - "the dodgy hammy." Oh by the way John, if you like, you can have my old Easton, it doesn't only chop, but cuts, slices and dices.

STEFAN WILLETT

I once watched Stef perform a half pike with twist all the while bouncing the ball on his stick then throw a date ball over his shoulder, manage to catch and balance the ball on the handle of his stick, stride out and hit the ball in the top right corner of the goals from deep in the right pocket of the D. Rubbish I hear you say - absolutely; Stef is afterall, incapable of striding out. Whereas Dom stumbles uncontrollably, Stef has the most controlled running (shuffling) technique in the game. Able to maintain the exact same pace all the time, Stef is

the epitome of every sports scientist and biomechanical expert. With minimal effort, Stef has been able to achieve minimal results. Imagine what he could do if we stopped tying his shoelaces together prior to each game.

ROB MCKENZIE

Seems that you can take the boy from the bush, but you can't take the bush from the boy. Remembering his first sexual tryst down behind the chook shed, Robbie who by season's end was growing more comfortable with the fact that most guys at Melville are into some pretty weird stuff, decided to do as the Romans, and unfortunately for Robbie, become yet another statistic in the process. Spotting the old "Get a Dog" sticker on some sticks, poor old Robbie took his chance with one hapless mutt, all in the name of acceptance, only to find however, that the dog didn't accept him too well at all. Pigs have less teeth mate.

ANDREW SCANLON

Liberty, David, Lincoln, the Venus de Milo. What do these have to do with Andrew Scanlon? Well nothing really. The above are all famous works of art, whereas Scanners is merely a piece of work. The above are also all immovable, inanimate objects...oh! For the first time in a long time Scanners had an injury free season, which actually means he didn't do something stupid in the off season. This is also largely attributable to the way he plays the game since it is almost physically impossible to sustain any form of injury when you don't actually employ any muscle groups lower than those that work the jaw.

THE TOP SQUAD

MICHAEL JENSEN

After some initial hiccups early in the season following the release of the Starr Report and the subsequent fall out that inevitably follows any oval office scandal, the President began looking tired, old and withdrawn. A body ravaged by time, and a mind trying to come to grips with yet "another" millennium celebration, my only advice Mr President - lay off the cigars.

KIM SCHWARTZ

Kim came to Melville following his recent redundancy from Patricks in last years Waterfront dispute. Training only when he wanted to and demanding from the umpires 2 goals for every 1 he scored, Kim bought a special touch of class (well, his flanis' were ironed anyway).

REGAN McCLURE

Regan mate, this has nothing to do with hockey, and you knew it wouldn't. Regan "Bogucki" McClure trekked into the desert that is the Zanzibar (devoid of intelligent life) to find himself, go a mullet and a good ol' fashioned blue, hey! Instead, our intrepid traveller found the apple of his eye, the girl of his dreams, his sweetheart, his tiger lily. Finding himself in a state of escalating confidence and diminishing awareness Regan did more for interracial harmony than the constitutional preamble ever will. And yes he's been sorry ever since. Oh by the way Regan, would it be old news if I told you that your spear is meant to fit into the woomera.

TODD BARRETT

When I was asked to write this eulogy for Todd following the brutal attack that

ended his hockey life it was apparent that this all-round entertainer would surely be missed. Todd's career has spanned three decades and produced a series of critically acclaimed cultural masterpieces. It all began in the mid seventies when he was born in the Chinese year of the boob. Toddy showed an initial flair for music and it was in the early eighties that he joined the E-street band, which has since been synonymous with Bruce Springsteen's work. It has since been revealed Todd wrote several songs for the Boss, most notably "Born to Boob" and the classic "Dancing in the Boob". Following this early success Todd was wooed to play with Meatloaf and I think we all remember the little gem "I would do anything for Boob (but I won't do that)". Todd leapt to stardom after this number one hit and found himself bombarded with Hollywood movie offers. This lead to a role in the highly successful Boobinator and a follow-up appearance in the high tech sequel Boobinator II. Todd then felt it was time to return to his origins and give something back to the music industry which gave him his start. The experienced Barrett took to producing for promising young pop groups and although he preferred to remain out of the spotlight he still left an indelible mark on several band's careers. Most notably the Spice Girls' album "Boobworld" and the recent release by Custard, "Booborama". It seems cruel that Toddy was taken from us before he received a retrospective "Booby" at the 28th Booby Awards in New York next month for his pioneering work in inventing the SBS Boob search, but as John Lennon once said of Todd, "All you need is boob, boob is all you need."

THE TOP SQUAD

MATT "MAD DOG" REID

After a solid start to the season Matt was struck down by what initially seemed to be glandular fever. We now know this to be a misdiagnosis as it is obvious to all that we have seen this former graceful gentlemen lapse into full-blown white line fever. Seeing Mad Dog Matt (a name which Matt's Mum has been calling him for years) take the field recently is akin to watching one of those rabid, gaunt, salivating albino half dog, half Cambodian dictator beasts that one is accustomed to seeing attached to Rob McKenzie's groin. Listening to Mad Dog's gameday protests of, "Ahhhh... give it to me now," and, "Ohhhhh... why do I bother?" followed by, "You're a disgrace," one realises just how sick this boy is considering these were all part of a request to Johnson (team manager) for a drink bottle. When Matt did prowl onto the field his brilliant skills were often countered by his inability to pass which tended to result in some form of benching procedure. However to his credit Mad Dog was not sidelined for long as it is a very resilient coach that can deny any player who tends to gnaw at your ankles in between blatant attempts to mark ones territory along the dugout.

NATHAN ROWDEN

The measures that this young man will go to, to avoid pre-season training are beginning to take on the form of the ridiculous. Instead of the usual excuses of "I can't be bothered" (Hank), or "I'm old and my body aches" (Scanna's), or even the classic "I've got Alzheimer's" excuse (which is gaining more credibility by the day) used frequently by Jenno, Rowd's spent the whole pre-season and first

round staging an elaborate hoax to the effect that everyone thought he had broken an ankle. Come the money end of the season, Nathan "I've taken you all for a ride" Rowden miraculously recovers from what was looking like partial paralysis to be one step away from getting his scheming little hands on a premiership flag. However the year was not without genuine hardship for Rowds with the passing of his long time companion and soulmate, Just Another Nice Easton (or Jane as Rowds called her). Nathan's new wooden mistress lacks that characteristic devastating finish and is without that familiar violent streak and it is rumoured that after a passionate beginning they are now sleeping in separate beds. Maybe Sinead O'Connor was right when she said that nothing compares to an Easton in her smash hit song of the same name. Hot Tip: It is rumoured that Nathan is going to try his luck as a Scott Cummings groupie next year and unfortunately will be unavailable for pre-season training as well as West Coast game days and especially pool rehabilitation days where speedos are standard issues.

WAYNE ANDERSON

Wayne came to Melville from Harlies on the promise of Classic League action, to be part of the quality that is the Melville experience and more importantly to escape the bookmaker's scandal that has dogged Harlies in recent times. Since this reporter exposed the match fixing episode which occurred in a '98 2B's final where Harlies club president Salim Malik offered the now infamous brown paper bag to an umpire to ensure a favourable result, Wayne has being

THE TOP SQUAD

running scared, forever trying to escape the ghosts of his past. However Wayne has been accepted as one of our own at Melville with even the hard nosed playground sales rep Michael Deveson paying him the greatest of all honours by making Wayne the focus of his disgraceful tackles and general dangerous play. Consequently Wayne has matured during his time at Melville to such an extent that at recent training sessions Wayno pulled out the Penis-Rangers T-shirt from his Uni days to the delight of the lads. It's easy to see why Wayne is regarded as a team leader and I'm sure little Matty Jensen would love to have one of those shirts as he keeps telling me his favourite Ranger is the big tall red one with the funny helmet.

CAM ROBINSON

1999 was a beautiful year for Cameron Robinson as it heralded the coming of his first-born. This child, seemingly the second piece to an as yet unexplained love triangle perpetuated by the Scanlon, Robinson and Scally couples, released a side of Cam that few have seen and from what I've heard it is best kept that way. I'm referring to Cam's naturalist tendencies during post-game addresses in the spiritual confines of the dressing room. I thought goalkeepers realised that all the gear they wear is for our protection and not just theirs. This aside, Cam was again a saviour in the last line of defence apart from one notable injury that occurred mid season. This involved Cam's long time friend Andrew Scanlon who after a last second match-winner was ambushed by the obviously quite ecstatic keeper. As Scanna's was giving the customary up yours to the press box (a-la Steve Waugh) Cam thought it would be a

good idea to chair him off the pitch. Unfortunately for Cam he did not comprehend the two edged nature of Scanna's nickname, "Statue". Andrew's original limbs, useless by the age of 23 due to injury, were actually replaced by iron reinforced concrete prosthetic versions (much like that of a statue) which means that Scanna's weighs over 500kg. Hence Cam's foolish attempt only resulted in a nasty back injury and a timely reminder of the respect that "The Statue" demands.

MICHAEL DEVESON

One must be careful when writing about a man who, if provoked (or even if not provoked), tends to frequently lash out violently, more often than not with a hockey stick in hand, with an eye to causing serious harm. Devo is known as Hannibal around the club due to the obvious pleasure he takes in dealing with incoming strikers. However there is another side to this diminutive figure apart from the calculatingly violent and brutal one I have just mentioned; he is also a cheat. Why Mike has not been black-listed by umpires this season I will never know. During training if Devo is not trying to kill you he is trying to rob you of hard earned goals via means Ray would even think twice about doing. When Roger Waters penned "Run Like Hell" he had just returned from watching Devo conduct one of his impromptu "tackling clinics" on a Thursday night at Buzza and was trying to express the actions of anyone entering Devo's arc of death. It seems strange given all these facts that young Michael Deveson is a favourite son at Melville and loved by all. My guess is that Devo's actions are only natural considering the bunch he plays with.

THE TOP SQUAD

STEVE BEATTY

Beatts joined the mighty Melville gryphons after apparently playing his junior hockey at Stephens Reserve in Freo. Given that the Rushtons also played with Beatts in those days its surprising that he's progressed through life so far without the social inadequacies all too evident in those two boys make-up. Steve started in the 3's but his talent was realised immediately and was promoted to the 1's. Following a good showing he made the huge jump to the 2's (ie. the top team) and has subsequently maintained his spot in the upper echelon of the club. Steve's lightning skills and desire to win is matched only by Cookies desire to settle long running personal vendettas and has been a huge asset to the club this year. Beatts almost proved to be a similar asset to the Dockers this year when he had to be restrained from giving Tony Modra a touch-up at a local bar (or that's what it looks like on the security camera anyway). Since then you've been able to recognise Steve as the guy walking round Fremantle backwards which he contends are for safety reasons only.

ROHIMAL WEDDIKKARA

This young maestro's commitment, dedication and passion for the game have been fundamental to his success in such a demanding arena. Evidence of these attributes are clearly visible whenever Rohie wears the Melville maroon but no more so than during a recent celebration of his 21st birthday. With Kim Hughes and Dean Jones looking on, Roh, in an emotional statement, told his band of admirers

how he may not be able to continue training in following weeks as headaches he was experiencing prevented him from participating in the sport he loved. Whether the moist, salty discharge Rohie experienced that night was due to the sheer emotion of the moment or more likely he couldn't believe how bad Devo's speech was, Roh had emotionally exposed himself to his team-mates. Additionally, Roh had also exposed himself to a lifetime of sledging and it was only the generous bar-tab presented on the night that seems to have dulled (and in Ryan's case completely wiped out) some memories and saved Rohie from from an exile that only Hughes and Jonesy can fathom. Unfortunately for Roh the Phantom never forgets as this masked bandit knows that there is an end of season write up which needs to be filled with some embarrassing commentary.

COLIN BRANDIS

The teams found big Col's frustrated antics on the sidelines so amusing that we left it to the dying seconds to win a number of games. In the lead up to the finals, Colin decided that his inspirational words were not enough and he donned the boots to lead the 3's by example. The 1's and 2's watching from the side lines thought that Colin showed potential but offered the following advice; focus, get the ball off your stick, back tackle, run harder, move it on quickly, don't panic, keep your stick on the ground, run faster, maintain concentration, put the friggin' ball in the back of the net, etc. Thanks for your advice throughout the year Colin.

THE TOP SQUAD

GEORGE WATTS

Let's cut to the chase, George stinks. No, we're not talking about his keeping, in fact George showed continued improvement in the goals this year largely due to his grossly offensive odour distracting opposition players as they ran into the circle. Take a good hard smell of yourself George, wash your goalie gear and get ready for an odour free 2000.

RAY RODRIGUES

Ray was disappointed that some of his sweetly timed shots missed the keeper and scored goals this season. Far from content with injuring opposition goal keepers, Ray frequently proves that the stick is faster than the eye as an opponent or team mate is forced to leave the field to receive stitches after running within 3 feet of the South American wonder. To the naked eye Ray appears to be calmly dribbling. However, super slow motion replay reveals that every two steps Ray madly swing his stick at head height to clear his zone. With people like Ray in the club the smarter players have leant never to tackle from the wrong side at training.

GRAHAM WATTS

If not for his speed and skill Graham could be claimed as Melville's answer to Spider Burton. Playing in a number of roles this year Graham, through practice, nearly always managed to find himself in such an awkward position that he was forced to swing violently at an opposition player in order to maintain balance. Though tuition from John Cook, Graham has learnt to perform this vicious act with an innocent smile and was therefore

rarely carded this season. In late news Graham is in doubt for the semi final with a medical condition know as koccs ucken disease. Although details are still a little sketchy it is understood that the symptoms include bruised knees and swollen cheeks.

BRENDAN JOSS

Brendan has it all, he can run, pass, drag, shoot and tomma, if he can learn to do these things well he will be a much improved and valuable player next season. Brendan like most decent hockey players knows that you may get injured if you tackle from the wrong side at training.

BRETT MARTYN

The Range Rover with P Plates stuck fear into the heart of many opposition players as they arrived at the ground. With silky skills and a tireless work rate Brett created a number of goal scoring opportunities. Unfortunately his tooth pick weight stick meant that Brett's shots merely dribbled towards the goals and it was left up to Brett's team mates to shepherd the ball across the line. This of course meant that Brett was restricted to scoring goals when Ben 'the seagull' Rushton was off the ground and unable to touch the ball as it passed over the line. As Brett is not silly, he takes care in the way he tackles at training.

GEOFF COOPER

Geoff returned bigger and better this year. This larger than life character requested to play 3's so that he could use the uneven ground as an excuse for repeated swings at an opposition player's ankle, knee or groin.

THE TOP SQUAD

NATHAN ELLIOT

Strong, fast and at times brilliant the Clive Waterhouse of Melville struggled to recover from a hernia operation and the associated excessive weight gain. However, with the help of Jenny Craig's 10kg in 10 weeks program Elliot achieved his fight weight and forced his way into the 1's for the finals.

BRUCE HANCOCK

A committed pre-season and a strict training routine earned Bruce the promotion to 2's this year. Unconcerned with the result of the game, Bruce took great pleasure in making his opponent look as stupid as possible. It was Bruce's ability to sledge the opposing team (players and spectators) while beating the same player 3 to 4 times in the one passage of play that demoralised opposition and brought Bruce the respect of his team mates. We have a saying at Melville; you know it's finals when Bruce turns up to training.

RICHIE WILLIAMS

Any man with a purple escort is either a passionate supporter of the Dockers or suffering extreme sexual frustration. Richie - strong, skilful and determined is unfortunately not very bright. Stupidly in the lead up to the finals Richie tackled from the wrong side and broke a bone in his hand. However, as Richie has a big heart and a reasonable pain threshold he trained and played on. I think that certain other players should be inspired by that sort of commitment. Well done Richie.

JOSH BROWN

Having almost single-handedly caused the demise of the Murdoch hockey club as a result of commandeering a

Qantas flight during an end of season trip and informing passengers that, "the wings are on fire and we're all stuffed," Captain Josh somehow avoided federal charges and has spent this season biding his time at Melville. Despite possessing an impeccable work ethic, finely tuned skills and a passion for fitness, Josh still managed to fit nicely into a squad with ideas slightly different to these. Having played a majority of games in the 1's Josh has obviously had a fine season barring only one mid-season mishap which saw him sporting a broken hand. This was obviously inflicted by a former Murdoch teammate who for some reason blamed him for the club going under. Incidents like these are what makes sport special as a hatred formed on the field at one time can be held for years after (just ask Hank).

DOM REAY

Nearing the end of the season it's amazing that this soldier is still alive. Starting the season with a torn AC ligament and in desperate need of a knee reconstruction, Dom chose to battle on instead of going under the knife. This was subsequently followed by numerous scares in which it seemed the knee had flared up again but somehow the trusty bit of tape below the knee-cap solved everything. If having a non-functional knee was not enough, Dom's hip began to deteriorate during the season to the point where a replacement is now necessary (again an essential operation which Dom will not be undergoing). Furthermore Dom is apparently suffering from leprosy as the missing chunks from his hand would indicate and unbelievably he suffered a two day bout of pleurisy in the lead up to the finals.

THE TOP SQUAD

Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying Dom's a hypochondriac but it certainly would explain a hell of a lot. It just doesn't seem possible that Dom, aged 20, has almost been able to accumulate the same number of bodily misfortunes that took Gav and Scanners virtually a lifetime. Despite its present condition Dom's body has allowed him to play a commanding season in 2's and recently some promising games in 1's which leaves everyone wondering just how good could this kid be if he was fit. Hopefully we will find out soon because any living thing that starts sprouting the colour hair that is occupying Dom's head at the moment must be just about ready to pack it in.

MARK WATTON

Becoming more and more Michael Tuck like as the years roll on, the Silver Bullet's season started with consistent appearances in the 1's. This was for basically one reason – he had not yet mastered the tomma, which is an essential art for anyone aspiring to play 2's. However Watto's chance did come mid-season where in a game against Willeton he unleashed his much-practised weapon. Coach Brandis obviously recognised the progression Mark had made and immediately pulled him from the field to presumably congratulate him in his execution of the shot and inform him that he was ready to play with the 2's. It seems strange however that such a positive address from the coach had to

be delivered in the stinging tone that was heard from the stand. Since that memorable day Watto has had an outstanding season with the now famous tomma providing several highlights for his devoted band of followers.

JOHNSON ORR (Manager)

With the majority of the top squad being unable to dress themselves adequately or even be trusted to find their way onto the pitch, Johnson has proved to be of invaluable service to the team this year. Johnno's umpiring experience has also been invaluable to Colin as now the level of abuse directed at the men in fluoro yellow has doubled. But what of those special pieces of advice that the Scottish guru dispenses before making the substitutions I hear you ask? Well I have it on good authority that little gems like, "You canna keep a greased Scotsman doon," and "I was wrestling wolves before you were at your mother's teet," are a direct result of Johnno carrying a fully stocked hip flask at all times. And who can blame him with the lot he's had to put up with this season? Thanks heaps Johnno!!

METRO 1A

We started out the year hoping to hold the grade and then have September off so we could watch the football. We then let ourselves down and made it as far as the preliminary final, and therefore missed a good half of the finals action. We did reinstitute the esky tradition though, so the year wasn't a total waste. Here they are, the usual parade of cutpurses, footpads and vagabonds... And thanks to all the special guests, too numerous to mention

DAMON SPARKES

Our goalie for the first half, Damon inspired supercoach to new levels of instructional dynamism, resulting in an earache from which he could not recover. We need guys like him around - he's young, and we have enough old ones, especially in this team.

GRAHAM WALSH

Even younger than Damon, carved out a legend for himself by saving five - yes five - penalty strokes in the first semi final, creating a deluge of flowery praise and understandably resulting in a huge hangover the next day as he didn't buy himself a drink all night. He then proceeded to scare the hell out of everybody by turning up 10 minutes before the start of the prelim final, causing many harsh words - and even harsher thoughts - to be uttered. Chocolates to boiled lollies in one week - welcome to the three's.

JIM PICKERING

The dynasty continues, although it makes a bloke feel old to play in the same team with the son of your first captain in seniors. Jim is occasionally too nice to be a full back, needs to get some of his old man's meanness in him, or spend a year playing next to Scott Forbes or Michael Jensen. If he did nothing else this year, he finally got a decent haircut.

GEOFF RANFORD

Ostensibly picked to add experience to the back line, in reality solely because supercoach wanted someone in the team who is older than himself. Geoff

played much younger than his age - that is, like a 35 year old - and simultaneously injected experience and removed pace from the back line. A job well done.

VAUGHAN MASTERS

Came over in the merger with Murdoch this year - apparently the entire men's club consisted of 6 people - and stepped straight in to the thirds by dint of great stick skills and an large excess of hair. Finally settled in at right half and started hitting people - the true way to supercoach's heart - and by the end of the year was indistinguishable from the rest of us - the poor sod.

SCOTT PITTER

Spent the entire year fixing his truck, which must have broken down 83 times this year, and covering for the lack of pace of the other centre half, so no wonder he looks buggered at the moment. Don't think he scored a goal this year, which is unbelievable given the amount of times I saw him run past me muttering (mostly under his breath) about how slow I was.

GAVIN SCALLY

Showed occasional flashes of competence but suffered from having half of his hamstrings removed over last summer, resulting in comical injuries (his lower legs are only held on by hi-tech industrial strength braces) and slow motion running of a quality not seen since Marcel Marceau's triumphant 'man running against the wind, up the stairs, with his legs cut off'

METRO 1A

performance in Prague in the summer of 1973. Too old, too slow, too stupid.

DANIEL PICKERING

The other half of the continuing dynasty, Daniel is the older, taller, and more dangerous when drunk of the two. Spend much of his time having loud conversations with himself about his shortcomings, much to the amusement of his teammates, who were just happy with the fact that he could run, which was beyond most of them.

NICK BOWATER

In the side for his youth, he hits the ball hard and runs in to people a lot, two vices that should be encouraged in the young. We suspect that the American accent is a ruse designed to help him pull the chicks, and he is finally starting to drink more, so his priorities are starting to fall into line. Needs to try and hit the ball harder.

ROHIMAL WEDDIKKARA

Durks had a bumper year, topped off by drawing the mildest mannered guy I have ever played against in to a fight in the preliminary final and getting him sent off while walking away scott free - brings to mind a young Arjuna Ranatunga. Clearly the most powerful hit in the club, rumours abound that the banning of Easton hockey sticks is a move to curb his powerful finishing.

JOHN DEWING

The archetypal 'run with' hockey player, John spent the year frustrating inside forwards by running with them, getting the ball, and then running away from them. Doesn't say much, but is training as a doctor, so will soon be cutting people open for a living - its always the quiet ones you have too worry about, isn't it! Doesn't drink enough after games either.

ANDREW STARLING

Supercoach. Can run all day but not out of sight, spent the whole year trying to teach a group of guys how to play European hockey systems on grass - a herculean task - culminating in the second game against Wolves, in which we played the most bewildering system ever devised, involving three blokes standing on their heads behind the goal while another practised free form tai chi on top of the D and the rest of us just ran around a lot. He is wasted on us.

GEOFF COOPER

Is almost a surgeon, has the best car, and complains the most about the fines and won't buy the carton when it is his turn. Unbelievable. Wouldn't shout if a shark bit him. Scores lots of goals though, so we have to put up with him, even if moths fly out of his wallet when he opens it.

PAUL LAMBERT

Aaaah, the mighty legend. Still runs fast, which shows that there is probably something in the whole wind resistance thing, as the upstairs just keeps getting smoother. Can't stand up - studies have shown that he spends at least half of each game lying down - and scores goals mainly because he has no respect for human life. Especially his own.

METRO 2A

JOHN DALTON (JD, Psycho)

Well Psycho may have a nickname change after this year as he spent more time on the field than off. He may have been very fit and didn't need a rest or was it the carton of Crownies to be supplied otherwise. John has made the Right Half position his own this year and still enjoys his forays into the 'D' when he reminisces about all those incredible backstick goals he has scored.

ADAM SPARKES (Ribsy)

Adam has spent a lot of time in Bunbury this year resulting in him only managing half the games for the year - it's also a good excuse to get out of umpiring. We are going to work on him during the summer and get his girlfriend to Perth so he can play each week. Also his interesting dress sense has improved as shown at a certain social function this year when he wore his purple suit which is what the hip people are wearing this year.

STEVE WALSH

With Steve playing we could put him at left half, forget about trying to defend that side of the field and try to find some other defenders. He has been his usual solid self in defence all we have to do is teach him to take the player out as well as the ball in a tackle as his clean tackles show how bad the rest of us are.

COREY ATKINSON

This was Corey's first year in seniors and like his older brother is a very fast young forward although he does have more hair. It took a little while to settle into the side and slow his speed down to match the other older, slower players. He has settled well into the side and has a great future ahead of him.

BEN STUBBS (Stubbsy)

He still has the turning circle of a Battleship, doesn't have a real nickname yet and he can't hit straight but apart from these minor difficulties Ben has had an excellent year next to Ribsy or whoever else happened to be fullback for that week. We will get him in the forward line so he can score one of these days.

MAL FARMER

Promoted himself to the 4's early in the season after discovering he would have to run too much in the 3's. Broke his unbreakable stick and was unable to reset the radar for a few weeks although he managed to find the goals when playing with Harps and Co. Hasn't looked back since then.

AKI ETELAHO (Arky)

Came down to play in a quality side and add his experience to the young tyros in the side. After playing in the forward line early in the season injuries slowed him down and he drifted to the backline where he could control play better and not have to run as much.

GRANT WATTON (Number 7)

After missing the start of the season due to his work in Port Hedland he tired of the red dust, heat and flies and trekked back to the bright lights of the city where he proceeded to score the softest goals I have ever witnessed. His appearance in 'those' trousers at the 70's-80's was a sight to behold.

ANDREW FORD (Spike)

Joined us from the Legends team of the last few years after most of the players realised they now qualified for Vets. He came to demonstrate how you should actually play the game and set the standard with some incredible goals during the season.

METRO 2A

ANDREW CRIDDLE (Cridds)

Decided this year that maybe he'll stay around for entire year instead of disappearing halfway through the season. Has to stop wearing white socks with his thongs though - I think that all that beer and red dust has affected him too much.

JAMES HACKETT

One of our 17's from last year has shown a lot of improvement since his first game with us and has impressed in the forward line. As he is young he is too fit and fast for most of the team when he played and has benefited from his seniors experience this year.

RYAN BACKHOUSE

Our 17's recruit who has shown that he will be a very good player for the club in the future. Especially with the coaching from the experienced (old) players in the side. Played very well in the midfield and has the strength to succeed in the senior ranks.

DAMEN SPARKES, MICK SHANNON (Sumo), **DANIEL IVEY, GRAEME WALSH**

Our list of keepers is long and varied and changed just about every week but at least we knew we had someone in the goals who could stop the ball. Daniel who filled in from 17's has a promising future ahead of him. Sumo is now retired but I have heard that before. He's gone to greener pastures and a coaching job next year. Damen was lured out of semi retirement to play once again with his older brother and relive his days as the club's top keeper and Graeme whose study commitments only allowed him a few precious games for the year.

Thanks to the following players and any one else who cruised down for a run in the sun this year: **Geoff Ranford (Ram), John Dewing (Dr J), Ted Neesham, Dom Reay, Charles Otway** and **Christopher Criddle**. Also the two super coaches **Mal Farmer** and our Scottish torturer **Andy Starling** for all the strength work later in the year.

METRO 2B

This season wasn't the best for us battlers down in the Metro 2B's. A consistent change of line-up, shortage of numbers and endless search for a keeper posed a constant challenge. Despite the many challenges faced this season, we still enjoyed ourselves including a cleansing ale and many laughs after each game. Thanks to all the guys who filled in for us and the ones who turned up every Saturday. Many thanks to Andy and Mal for their efforts in coaching and organising the teams this season. Also congratulations to both the 1B's and 2B's on their promotion to higher grades (we finally have Classic League).

CLINT DYMOND

Self appointed captain, coach and surrogate mother to younger team mates, Clint provided a shining example not only for the team, but the club. Despite being in the perfect position up forward, something always managed to thwart Clint's best laid plans. This season Clint assumed an active role around the club, managing the bar – does this look like a man afraid of beer? It is with the support of such people the club continues to run. Hopefully next season will see more players take an active role around Melville. Keep up the good work bloke.

TED NEESHAM

The multicoloured and multi-talented Mr Neesham played nearly every position on the field this season and did it with solid skill and good footwork. He is also useful with the halftime pep talks (so he thinks!)

CHRIS JAMES

Another one of the short hair brigade. Started in the centre but was moved to the wing in the later stages of the season, to fully utilise his blistering pace (not to mention Clint wanted to play centre forward). Chris is gifted with the highest back-swing on a hockey player I have ever seen. Chris

puts in hard every week and we hope to see him stay with the club.

STUART KENNY

Stuey joined the team about half way through the season and provide a solid back line for us to build the team upon. Stuey hits the ball the same way he plays the game – very hard with great gusto. Stuey is a great team player always looking to do his bit for the club both on and off the field. We look forward to seeing more of the big man next year and hopefully he will get a full season under his belt.

WES HOLLINGSWORTH

The big fella with a tendency for getting lost on the way to a game. It has become customary for Wes to arrive appearing somewhat fragile – usually from the night before. When finally arriving, Wes puts his all (or what is left from the night before) into every game. A stand out feature of Wes' game is his uncanny ability to injure at least one player, if not himself, each game.

MARK DAVIES

Mark Davies - aka Mr Reliable. If not found playing full back, you will find him making forays into the attacking circle. A great team man with solid skill that could easily move up the grades next year. Well done Mark.

METRO 2B

NIGEL ELLIS

The man known as "Knuckles" went MIA toward the end of the season – coincidence or casualty of the Avon Descent? Nigel played hard all year and was by far and away the most vocal of the players. Touted to be on the move to Townsville, there is likelihood we will miss his towering presence in defence next season. If the rumour of a move to the East Coast is true we all wish Nigel the best.

THE SILENT PARTNERS

NICK STUBBS

Not the quietest of the three, but none the less softly spoken. Nicko puts in 100% every week and has proven to be a versatile player. Always keen to return and support the club (through the bar), he rarely says two words (until the fines start!)

PETER GRAHAM

Pete is a very quiet person who will always turn up at half back just when you think you are beaten. Pete puts in every week and is willing to make sacrifices for the team – kicking full back against Subs and best player. Pete has shown an unparalleled level of commitment this season, attending training most regularly despite living in upper woop-woop.

JOSH SMALES

The quietest of the trio, Josh is another reliable player who takes up position on the wing and does it well. We hope to see Josh back next for a bigger and better season than this!

Finally I would like to thank the following players for helping us out this season and my apologies to anybody I have not mentioned:

Evan and Nick Bowater, **Sumo** (happy retirement), **Daniel Ivy** (Steffie), **Michael Ashley**, **Grant Watton** (Watto or Old Number7), **Scott Martyn**, **Dieter Von Mollendorf**, **Ryan Rushton** (Roy), **Matt King**, the **Criddle Brothers** and finally the **Sparkes Brothers**.

METRO 3D

Well, after a promising start to the season (we even managed to string two wins together) the wheels fell off the 3D bandwagon. We were plagued by missing players for most of the season. Our team this year was a young one, most of us having just graduated from 17s and for the most part we showed great potential. The good thing about being at the bottom is that the only way on is up!

A special thanks to Corey Atkinson, Evan Bowater, Nick Bowater, Jeff Gangell, James Hackett, Ryan Kelly, Matt King, Scott Martyn, Cam Porter, Josh Smales, Rob Thorn, Dale Tribbick, Rob Walker, Kane Woolams and anyone else that may have filled in for us over the season.

Dean Walker - Manager

MARK CARSON (L Full Back)

The man with the big hit and the big tackle. Mark doesn't know the meaning of the words "give up". Apparently he doesn't know the meaning of the word full back either as he frequently runs the ball into attack like an inner... not that we minded!

BEN DUNSTAN (Centre Forward)

The drive behind our attack. Seems to cover more ground than Robert Bogucki. He was one of our the leading goal scorers for the year. Probably something to do with the fact that he's got a hit like a bullet.

MICHAEL GOODING (Left Halfback)

Michael does what he is told - which is a good quality in a half back. Another player who has a good tackle. Plays better when he's been knocked around a bit.

NICK HOLLETT (Various)

Unfortunately Nick was sidelined for most of the season by injury. By sidelined I mean playing in positions along the sidelines ie. wing, inner etc. He always has a good, or bad, word for everyone else. Got a mean back stick too.

CHRIS INGLIS (Centre Half)

Voted in at the beginning of the season as captain. Chris plays the tackling style of centre half which is a shame because we could really use him in defence. He is another good tackler in the team.

ADAM IVEY (Left Wing)

Like Michael, Adam does what he is told - also like Michael, he plays better when knocked around. In fact, I can't remember seeing Adam and Michael in the same room... But unlike Michael, Adam's role is to run like hell down the wing.

STEVE KING (Right Half)

One of the few players who seemed concerned about organising the defence. A tenacious player who doesn't like anything getting past him. Steve was also one of the few players who said anything during the half time break.

ROB KNYN (Left Inner)

The old man of the team and therefore has more experience than the rest of us. He tried to impart this experience onto us but it didn't have much of an effect. Another of our leading goal scorers for the year.

METRO 3D

SCOTT LEHMANN (Right Wing)

Joined us later in the season and proved a valuable addition to the forward line. His scorching runs down the wing thrilled us all. Too bad he could never capitalise on these. Showed us what Senior Hockey is about by dusting up with the opposition.

DARREN MARONEY (Forward)

Darren joined us late in the season and only played a few games. Shows a lot of promise of being a very good forward. Looking forward to seeing him next year.

ADAM MARGETTS (Right Full Back)

The other half of our formidable full back line (at least we think of it as formidable). Had the unfortunate tendency to give up after being beaten. Always had constructive advice for those who needed it ie. everybody.

PHIL MINCHIN (Right Inner)

An eager player who showed up each week, sometimes before the game started. His unique style of play translated indoor skills to outdoor with varied success.

DAVID SMITH (Various)

Also joined us late in the season and promptly learnt everyone's name. Was always ready with a compliment when something happened on the field. Shows a lot of promise and we look forward to seeing him next year.

DEAN WALKER (Goalkeeper)

The defence has put a lot of pressure on Dean this year and has given him an opportunity to pull off some great saves. Needs to work on scoring more than one goal though! Had the right qualifications to be Manager ie. he was the only one willing to do it.

METRO 5A SCRUBBERS

The beginning of April each year sees the gathering of this elite group of fitness fanatics who have spent the entire summer on a strict diet of performance reducing drugs. Due to the departure of a few regulars and the unwillingness of players to compete at this level of sport we struggled for numbers at the beginning of the season. A successful takeover bid was completed with the team above us in an effort to make us the powerforce of the competition. Remarkably the theory did not improve our ability to win the required number of games to secure a finals berth.

Lack of skill and fitness have been blamed for our downfall, however the instability of numbers fronting each week also caused us to struggle. It would appear that this team would possibly be the most nomadic group of individuals ever assembled. Destinations achieved this year included England, Scotland, Germany, Holland, China, New Zealand, Sydney, Melbourne and various locations throughout WA. With this level of travelling activity - some weeks we had numbers of a beach volleyball side, while other times we could have fielded an AFL side.(possibly with more skills than the Dockers).

All information in the following report is purely fictional and any reference to skills, fitness or ability is grossly misleading.

CHRIS AVENT

This year saw grandpa part company with his favourite stick as the National Trust finally won the court battle. Much of his time and energy has since been devoted to finding a supplier of gopher wood and a stick maker who still makes the two ends the same length. Grandpa is a rare find for the scrubbers as most of the people in this world who are older have found it difficult to play hockey because they are totally covered in bandages. A big tip for next year gramps... wash the Brylcream off your hands before the game.

NOEL BACKHOUSE

Through lack of employment Noel managed to play the majority of our games this year. Noel has never been one to follow trends and this year was no exception with him managing to dispel the theory that "practice makes perfect". A hamstring injury late in the season was blamed for a slump in

performance that could otherwise be attributed to his liver.

LINDSAY BORTHWICK

And we'd heard that big was best. A solid season from the man who brought the shirt front back into the game. Lindsay always looks a little like King Kong towering over the midfield fracas that accompanies a scrubbers game. It's a sad day when Lindsay is not only the earliest one at a game but the most reliable.

GRAEME COLEMAN

Another Mod Squad refugee leaves the scrubbers. Last seen on his way to vets as carbon dating has finally established he was in fact older than grandpa. One thing you can say about Graeme, not many people can run in flares. Graeme packed up his relics with four weeks to go and left, almost immediately raising the goal scoring average as well as the IQ of the team; strangely both of these numbers are minus about the same value.

SCRUBBERS

STEVE CRIDDLE

Pluggger thought at first his nickname came from the AFL Pluggger, he later found it was because of the effect he has on the goal mouth. Pluggger has been a useful addition to the forward line by his ability to keep the opposition goal keeper company. He has scored several great goals and has often made the difference between losing and losing by a lot. We have made an application to WAHA on his behalf, to reschedule early games as they interfere with his sleeping habits.

JEFF GANGELL

Jeff has been a stand-out individual of the team this season. He has skills in some areas which are not usually found at this level of competition. He should seriously consider playing in a higher grade next year.

MIKE JOLLIFFE

Mike has once again this year relied heavily on all forms of modern technology to arrive at the right ground, on time, on most occasions. One week however, we did have to resort to hiring a group of American trackers with blood hounds and a Channel 9 News helicopter in order to substantiate his whereabouts and escort him to the ground. There has been a number of theories on how he managed to break his thumb, although he insists it was somehow sports related.

MATT KING

Matt has slotted into the team well in his first year. He has managed to adapt to the team philosophy of a complete lack of preparation before games by arriving at the ground with just enough time to put on his gear and finish his smoke just before the starting whistle is blown.

AL MARSHALL

A quiet year for Al this year as Toyota have taken out a court injunction to stop him doing the leap, he has however been heard saying "aahhh bugger" on a few occasions, usually in front of the goals on the goal line. Started the season with the usual goal scoring competition with Graeme Coleman but ended up in a dead heat with Mike Jolliffe. People of this calibre are rare in hockey because they don't fit into the guns properly.

MARK MYERS

Mark started out with the scrubbers as Mr Cleancut, always trying to improve and move up in the world (there are plenty of places to go from scrubbers). This year it looks like Mark has not only finally got the point, he has excelled in it, scrubbers isn't about playing hockey... He could at least make an attempt though!

CRAIG TATE

Another one of the lost boys that has found his way back to the fold, after he stopped catching the ball and mumbling about something about bullies, Craig settled down to a solid season at full back and has become a regular. It was a shame that he kept having to fake that strain of the so he could keep going back to the physio.

MARK TATE

The only thing new about this guy's style is his shorts, if not his laundry. Despite his healthy lifestyle and the smoke break at half time Mark looked the part, however realising that any skill that he had was wasted at this level he booked the next available flight to anywhere.

SCRUBBERS

ROB THORN

Another new addition to the team this season. Rob has possessed the ability to be the goal sneak on several occasions, but possibly his greatest asset to the team has been in increasing the bar statistics after the game.

DALE TRIBBICK

Dale has dramatically increased the average hair length in the team this year. He has found no difficulty in fitting into the casual atmosphere of the team, in fact he has become the team leader in the field. Pre-match warm up has taken on a new meaning, according to Dale, who thinks this means warming up your tyres almost to melting point in opposition car parks.

KANE WOOLLAMS

Kane has been one of the young additions to the team. His hitting ability has been a useful addition to enable us to clear the ball from defence. The only problem with his hitting skills is that by the time he finishes his wind up, the game has finished and the goals have been put away. An area for improvement next year, could be fixture book reading and learning to tell the time.

OVER 40 DIV 1

A great blend of “old” experience and “young” experience with legs. The best team in the grade when all turned up – which happened just enough times to make the finals.

THE FIRST TEAM

NORM MORRISON

Gnomes relationship with the ladies kept him extremely fit but sometimes unavoidably absent from games. He played a highly effective mid field role for the team and scored the odd brilliant goal when working high in support of the strikers. His fitness and work rate made a difference in some of our earlier games.

RON CHESNEY

4 hammies, 1 medial ligament, 1 Achilles, 1 quad – not a memorable season for Chez who played one more game than James Hird. Look forward to having you back on the field next year Chez.

KEITH HARPER

The driving force in attack as well as defence. Great skill in close and a dead eye for traps. Just kept on going and scoring.

DAVID PORTER

Our team manager who's kept us together all year. Very competitive halfback who has had the measure of most wingers this year. Seems to only get better with age.

DAVID TIMMEL

Demonstrated true leadership by thwarting many a forward with rock solid defence. Linked in the centre to create the opportunity for forwards to score, but could not resist scoring the sizzling goal of the season. We'd like to see that again next year. Great

versatility shown by a top team member.

SHANE KNAPP

A tower of strength in the backline who we can always rely on to cut off those breaks. His natural leadership skills let everyone know where they should be, even if it includes the umpires. Well done Shane for a great season.

BRIAN PICKERING

Still not old enough to know better than to play goalie, but old enough to have the experience needed to be in the right place at the right time. Brian has enjoyed a great season. The most polite goalie in the entire grade.

ALAN MEACOCK

Whether he's in the centre or relaxing on the wing, Alan always causes enough trouble to get or create a couple of goals each match. Deceptive skills and speed are a highlight of this extraordinary player. Unselfish and determined, he has plenty of good years left in him

BRUCE JOHNSON

Our intrepid right wing who has the keenest trap. Extremely efficient at all times. Scored some decisive goals this year – many on the goal post or goal line. A real asset to our team.

PAT MATTHEWS

A vintage year from the ever-green. Pat was in a class above the rest for most of the year and scored many fine goals.

OVER 40 DIV 1

BRIAN MATTHEWS

The majority of the team waited for Bazooka to turn the ripe old age of forty and it was worth it. Another solid year by the Rock of Gibraltar. Late season injury slowed his pace out of defence, however if a forward went past him he certainly earned it. Well done Brian.

RUSSEL SCANLON

Another vintage year from the overlapping half back. A sure avenue to turn defence into attack. This year he had Harps to help with the running, much to the chagrin of his opposition winger.

THE SECOND TEAM

We could not have struggled with out the support from the "rest" (a longer list than the first:

Rod Wake, Mal Farmer, Johnson Orr, Bruce Porter, Rob Lister, Ian Halliday, David Halliday, Paul Meacock, Wayne Hudson, Darryl Knapp, Daryl Dedman, Graham Coleman, Peter Kazakoff, Terry Parker, Mike Jolliffe and Colin Brandis. Apologies to any I've missed.

OVER 40 DIV 3

STEVE MCENTEE

Steve is an exciting player to watch as he dashes down the wing juggling the ball on the end of his stick with one hand and the opposition in pursuit. Otherwise Steve is loitering at the goal post to stun the opposition by deftly deflecting a cross into the back of the net. After each goal, his enthusiasm is inspiring - as though it is his first goal. Steve's skill in front of goals complements the teams abilities and has contributed to our success. Steve is a consummate team member. Thanks for the season Steve, it has been great to be on the team with you.

NORM HOSKINS

Well what can we say about "Stormin' Normin". If he was built like a brick **** house we would call him "Freight Train". What an asset to have him in the back line. If the opposition think they have got past him, they have to think again because he is back nipping at their heels, never giving them any peace. Thanks for the season Norm and hope to see ya next season

CHRIS HACKETT

Stirred but never shaken aptly describes the way Chris approaches the game. His solid effort in defence combined with an uncanny knack of turning defence into offence has seen him contribute greatly to the team this season. Though faced with some minor injuries, he has continued to provide great support for the forwards.

JOHN SMITH

The half back who reckons he is a forward. He took the opportunity while Captain Syd was away to move himself to left wing. A goal in five successive matches made it hard for Syd to send him back where he belongs. Still, two of those goals were in 1-nil wins so were pretty handy.

SYD WILSON

Thanks to our fearless leader and reliable defender who will undoubtedly lead us into the new millennium with his booming voice of encouragement. Phew!!!! For subbing, hey Syd.

GARY BOWATER

A tenacious and hard working hockey player. Providing he has enough fingers to hold a hockey stick you won't keep Gary from the field! Playing at left inner he is a skilful and important link to moving the ball from defence into attack. Gary is cool under pressure and a fine team player, a great contributor.

PETER DAWKINS

Left half who can and has also played in the forward line with distinction. He traps and disposes of the ball with aplomb. He is a destroyer of opposition attacks and turns defence into attack. He loves to overlap (visions of grandeur being a forward). Peter is Mr Affable - a great team man.

IAN BRUCE

Was recruited from Vets 1 and quickly settled into the team and has proved to be real asset. He has played the bulk of his games in the forward line (would make a good front rower) but occasionally fancies himself as a centre half. Heard Ian say he is still seeking that elusive premiership and at the time of writing the team's prospects are as promising as any other team in the comp. Another pleasing feature about Ian is his willingness to umpire other games without hesitation. Keep up the good work.

OVER 40 DIV 3

JOHN MAHER

Is our hard running right inner who has had to cover more ground than anyone else in the team week after week. At the end of each game is usually nearly out with exhaustion and desperate for his first beer. John continues to battle on and whilst not among the goals this year has been instrumental in setting up a number of scoring opportunities.

GRAHAM COLEMAN

A very late recruit to Vets from the Scrubbers team. Graham is a young Vet and has given a timely boost to the forward line as he can play an inside forward or as a winger. This gives the team more flexibility with interchange players and allows the forward line to exert pressure on opposing back lines. Welcome to Vets young man.

WAYNE HUDSON

The hero of last year's Grand Final win with some absolutely brilliant saves in the tie breaker, lined up in goals again this year. Has not missed a game all season, which is a good thing as there's never any volunteers to put the pads on. Wayne has had another great year. Many of his fearless saves drew congratulations from the opposition and gratitude from his team mates. Keep your chin up Wayne.

KEITH JACKAMAN

Keith is the gentle giant in the side except when around the opposition. Not many players are able to get past Skinta. The pace has gone from his legs but the deft touch is still there. Keith was one of 14 or so which made a successful team.

IAN HALLIDAY

Hals is the teams main striker and when he is absent our goal scoring potential is blunted. Hals does not cover much territory these days but when he sees a scoring opportunity he pounces like a cat. No opponent can give him any latitude and most know him so they play him tight.

BRUCE PORTER

Bruce was a valuable addition to our side this year. Unfortunately the Vets 1 side needed him on a number of occasions. He preferred to play with us of course and provided a lot of dash from half back or inner, tempered with some mild "Porter" aggression. Always excitement when Bruce plays; well done Bruce.

GARY THOMAS

Gary is the consummate team player. He always puts the team first and at right half plays his wing tight and hard. Not many left wings have scored this year against Gary. He has also had some quick runs in the forward line trying to emulate that other half back who has fluked some goals this year. Another good year, well done Gary.

We had a team of 15 players this year and all contributed to a solid team performance where we were able to match it with all sides in the competition. We have been in the final four all season but our place in the finals depends on the last game.

OVER 40 DIV 5

NEIL ASHLEY

Neil has been targeted as our emergency reserve all season. Unfortunately due to other club commitments he has not spent much time on the field playing. A regular attendee at the Vet's Thursday night training has proven its worth with him passing on much of his experience and skills of the game to the rest of us hackers. A great club man.

DENIS BAWDEN

A timely broken finger enabled Denis to take on the role of team manager this year. He performed the duties so well that even when it mended he had no challengers for the position. Denis played on the wing or as an inner and could always be relied on to be in the right place at the right time. Always a strong team member. Hope to see you again next year.

STEVE DURIE

Solid as a rock in all the positions he has had to play. It was stated by one team member that he was too nice & does not want to hurt the ball. He did however manage to send the ball to the back of the net for some great goals. Thanks Steve for supplying the team with caps - they brought us luck on a number of occasions.

HANS GEER

Hans who? We could have done with his on-field abilities a little more this year. Hans should know by now that injuries are no excuse for missing a game in this age group! On those rare occasions when he did grace us with his presence he showed enough form for us to invite him back for another go next season. Looking forward to seeing you fit and well next year.

ROSS HANNAGAN

Ross is always there trying to encourage and lift the standard of play. Sickness has kept him out of the side for a great part of the season. Let's hope Ross recovers fully to be with us next year so he can keep up that unique ability to get into a great position alone near the goals where he calls loud and clear for the ball to either set up a shot or send the ball in.

JOHNSON ORR

Johnno the third umpire for our games. This season has seen him spend the odd five minutes behind the oppositions goals for trying to coach the umpires. We all sympathize with him as we have seen some poor displays by the men blowing the whistles this year. A hard worker on & off the field Johnno is a great asset to the club and a true gentleman.

CHRIS POTTER

Thanks Chris for a great season in goals - your saves have been great. The final scores would have been very different without you there. Thanks for supplying the refreshments at the end of each match (we must owe you a few ales). We would love to see you in front of goals for us next season.

JOE STOCCO

Joe is a great team man. He attends training regularly and is always there for the team. Joe is always looking for ways we can improve our game (there have been plenty of those lately) and is always willing to approach Johnno with suggestions. Joe encourages us all before the game, during the game, especially half time. ("We can still win this!" 3 nil down at half time) and after the game. His enthusiasm for the game and his preparedness to talk to team mates is an inspiration to us all.

OVER 40 DIV 5

GEOFF TRAINER

Geoff has had a great season. He has had to play in a number of positions and he has taken on the task without fuss and proved to be a strong asset to the side. He can read the play well and does not mind letting the opposition and umpires know where they have been at fault.

BARRY WAKE

Solid in defence all season. That great long reach of his has managed to beat the opposition to the ball on many occasions. This and his mobility helped propel the ball along the right hand side of the field to the waiting forwards. Barry can always be relied up to perform well when required.

ROD WAKE

Another great season for Rod. Consistency in his game and a cool head in a crisis has been great for the team. His skills and confidence keep on improving each year. Rod is a quiet achiever and hard worker on the field and off the field and a real asset to the club.

KYM WILSON

The team's great forward that still has speed and never stops running. Kym has the ability to take a shot from any where in the circle and score a goal. He does not miss many and I don't think he is happy with himself unless he has scored three or more goals per game. You can be pleased with your effort this year Kym.

KELVIN WOODWARD

Kelvin plays full back and is a stalwart in defence. He has the ability to control the ball, get past his opponents and then belt the ball to the forwards. Regularly amongst the best players. Unfortunately he saw far too much of the ball in the second half of the season.

STUART MEREDITH

What a blessing it has been to have Stuart play for us when he has been able. He has both speed and skills which are rare combinations at this level and much needed in the team. Thanks for your efforts Stuart and we hope we can call upon you next year to either play the full season or help out when you can.

OVER 50 DIV 2

KEN WOOLLAMS (Right Wing)

Ken gave his 100% at all times with some fantastic cross passing and some good goals during the year. Sometimes found himself not able to play due to work and whether in Albany or the likes but made up for it when he did play. Needs lessons on how to sort out the opposition from us experts. Good season Ken.

TONY ILLMAN (Right Inner)

The team's right inner that is always right in it. They say that age has no barriers and Tony shows that. Our opposition can't understand how a 50 year old keeps running and running, whether it is in attack or falling back to harry an opposition forward. Much to everyone's amazement, Tony plays left or right handed and scored a ripper of a back stick goal in one of the games. Mind you, he missed a few and if we had a fines system tonight's liquor bill would be paid by him alone.

IAN KNIGHT (Full back)

Ian is the quiet achiever. He has been one of our most consistent and reliable full backs this year. His tenacity and sheer determination in fending off opposition attacking forwards has without doubt saved us numerous goals and heartaches for John our goalie. His powerful clearing hits, sometimes raised have often penetrated the opposition wall to be received by one of our forwards. His only failing of course is his lack of punctuality. Often team mates would be waiting in despair wondering if he was going to arrive in time for the start of the game or whether we would be playing with one short. Without time to warm up it's amazing that he never pulled a hammy!

KINGSLEY MCGUIRE (Full back)

Rock solid defiant dependable. Leads from the front and dazzles with stick work. All this despite his dodgy knees.

JOHN TEGLER (Goalkeeper)

John is the "Damon Diletti" of the 50's grade. His commitment and courage at times is above and beyond the call of duty. John is always talking and encouraging other players and is a valued and appreciated member of the team. I'm sure we are all looking forward to playing with you again next season. Thanks John.

KARTHIGASN NAIR (Half back)

Kaishu has played most of the season at left or right half. He has been very solid in defence and a good reliable member of the team.

NEIL MCPHAIL (Centre Half)

For a guy who was only going to fill in now and then, Neil became one of our best play makers all season. Thanks Neil; a summer physio session and we'll see you next year.

COLIN WILLIS (Left Wing)

Our top goal scorer for the season, in the right positions (most of them) and always a consistent performer. Always trying to do something, has been known to have light refreshments at half time from his best supporter on the sideline to boost his performance. Thanks for a great season Colin.

BRUCE CADD (Forward)

Never misses a game, never misses a chance to "correct" the umpire, even if it means a visit behind the goals. A steady consistent season for Bruce.

OVER 50 DIV 2

BRIAN SPITTELER (Utility Player)

Welcome back Brian. At the end of the 1993 season Brian thought that golf would be a better sport to undertake in his coming twilight years story has it he never really got there. Now late in 1999 he has seen the light and resumed playing hockey. Brian has not lost his skills and quickly settled into the team even scoring a couple of well earned goals. Unfortunately the aging process caught up to him and he missed a couple of games with hamstring problems but has recovered from injury to conquer the finals and 2000. Glad to have you Spitz, keeping company with a bunch of silly old blokes who don't know when to stop.

ROB WALKER.

Rob covered many roles during the year, both on and off the field, and was always there when needed. On the field, a hard hitting half back that many forwards found hard to get around. Although he lacked pace (like most of us), he made up for it with his enthusiasm. The only distraction during the year has been his army commitment. All in all a good team man - well done Rob.

INVITATION PLAYERS

Neil Ashley, Gary Thomas, Rod Wake, Keith Jackaman, Jeremy Allen, Johnson Orr, Ross Hanigan. All of the above and some that I may have missed - my apologies - played for us on various occasions and helped us to get into the finals. Our thanks for their performances - a necessary task for a team of old blokes.

1B LADIES

This year we had a huge increase in the number of players joining the club, which gave greater depth to all of our teams. There were six new players in the 1B team, so it took us a while to settle down and adjust to the new faces. Our fitness this year was a lot better due to the commitment of the girls and our performance showed that we could play some really great hockey. Keep up the commitment and we'll do even better next year - classic league is just around the corner!

NATALIE ADAMS

Young Nat played the centre back position in Norm's systems play. This meant she marked out the opposition centre forward, distributed the ball to strikers and midfielders, provided depth for "outlet" or "round the back" passes, changed the focus of attack, assisted with free hits in defence... Nat shows that she's been playing in the first team for a while and the experience and confidence is displayed. Well done Nat!

ELLEN BLOXSOME

Well done for making it into the "ones". Your ability to adapt to all positions that you are placed into is a credit, as not every player is as flexible as yourself. Have a great break and look forward to seeing you back next year.

RACHEL BUTLER

Rach is lean, Rach is fast, Rach did gymnastics in the past. She is hungry, she is keen, she strives to be a scoring machine. Rach is quick, Rach is swift, Rach is looking for a lift. She attacks the ball, she's in the air, she's on the ground and in despair. Sometimes Rach I have to say, the easy option is the way. To save your knuckles and your knees, and score a goal to surely please!

SUE CLARKE

Sue has only played a handful of games this season due to the birth of her son Benjamin earlier this year. Congratulations on the new addition and many thanks for returning to the team in our times of need. Thanks Sue!

TRACY COLLINS

Tracy joined the crew a couple of weeks into the season and quickly scaled her way to the top. Her flexibility on the field was well exploited by Norm, giving Trace a good understanding of all positions on the turf. From scoring in the forward line to tagging in defence, Tracy has been an irreplaceable part of the team.

NARELLE COULSON The gazelle!

Narelle plays on the forward line, where she's matured like fine old wine; but that's not to say she's lost any pace - in fact she's the one to lead the chase. She never gives in or loses heart, when play looks bleak or times are dark; she turns it on and makes a run, to back tackle players 'til the ball is won.

PENNY DOW

She's vocal and loyal, been slapped around; but a dominant force on and off the ground. Training is a task, when you can't see the ball; started strong - ended with a crawl. Rampage girl, on a mission; strong in the midfield who eventually held her position. Overall she was an asset to the team; even if her drink flask was full of "Beam"!

GAYE GLASKIN

Gaye is one of the hardest workers on the team. She can play in any position and is solid in defence as well as hard working in attack. Gaye has also made the State Veterans Team this year - well done Gaysey!

1B LADIES

LAURA HARDEFELT

The 18 year old "Victorian import" and another one of those vet students, joined the "ones" this year as a handy left midfielder. A player with a vast amount of skills and speed, she has been a vital midfield link, putting her body on the line in defence (with the hospital bill to prove it!) and flicking the ball into the net in attack. An avid umpire too, she loves to blow her whistle, but it's playing that she loves best!

LEANNE JARVIS

Lee started the season with us but other commitments took her away for most of the season. It was great to have you come back when we were short of players (no holidays from April-September next year girls!) Lee has also filled in for most of the ladies teams in the club when needed this season - a great, all-round versatile player! Thanks for your efforts.

CAROLYN JONES (alias Jonesy).

Always gives 100% on the field and has been a steady influence in the back line. Congratulations on selection for the State Veterans Championships in Brisbane in October 1999. Carolyn also was the winner of the lingerie voucher - still waiting to see the photos!

MARIS MARGETTS

One of the smartest players on the field, "the old chook" may have lost a little speed but makes up for it with her skills and ability to read the game. Maris is also pretty well known in the bar at the stadium on a Thursday night after training.... And another shining light in the State Veterans Team (did any other clubs send anyone?).

ATHLENE MARSHALL

A welcomed addition to the 1B team this season. Very dependable forward line player with the ability to adapt over the field. Dedicated and committed team player (only missed two training sessions and played every game!) not only on the field but off the field as well by providing "thirst quenchers" (flagons of wine, also supplied by Maris and Gaye) with nibbles! No doubt next season we will see an amazing tomahawk goal from Athlene - better have a few carafes on hand that day!

SALLY PETERS

Sally started the season fired up and ready to roll, but work and other pressures saw us lose her in the second half of the season. Hopefully next year will be a better one!

WENDY QUINT

Her coordinated tracksuit was missed this year, but her form stayed around. As team captain she was the vocal driving force on and off the field, not only with team members. Once convincing Norm of her preferred position, she used her skills well to direct the team. *"Settle, focus, drive"*.

ASTRID von MOLLENDORF

Astrid has been a bit quieter than usual this season - maybe the extra pressures of starting Uni. Some great magic moments and fantastic footwork as she worked hard to keep the goals at bay. Keep up the great work!

1B LADIES

NORM MORRISON (Coach)

His catchcry all season has been "fitness" and don't we all know it! Those killer runs around Curtin Uni before turf training should qualify any of us to provide scenic tours of the campus to tourists. Sprints, dashes, jogs, running, bursts.... and the infamous "beep" test - we've done them all! Sure it's not just because he likes to see us all hot and sweaty? Or is it that he just likes chasing the girls? We'll never know... He has always put in the commitment he demands from us: he's at training 4 nights a week, helping out with the juniors on Saturday mornings, coming to our games and even squeezing in the odd one for himself! No wonder he's not got himself a partner yet (mind you - we still have to check out any of his "finds" and make sure she meets our standards!) He'll be back again next year, aiming to take us to classic league, so we'd better be ready!

2B LADIES

A huge influx of players this year saw us take a while to settle down and consolidate as a team, but when it happened - WOW! We always had the potential, just took us a while to realise it. A few sticky patches with players on inter-semester break and a few players taking off on holidays, but we managed in the end. A few runs of some great games during the season - once we'd worked out what the goals at the other end of the field were for we just kept plugging them in! Next year will see us in the top four for sure.

ELLEN BLOXSOME

Ellen played out most of the season with the 1Bs but stopped in to help with our grand finale. Ever active on the field, a strong presence especially on the left side, Ellen always gives her all. Glad to have you on board!

ASHLEY COOMBS

Ashley must be ambidextrous - she plays well on either side of the field, with a preference for right wing. Ashley has been one of our quiet achievers - always in the right place waiting for the play, and contributing some pretty good goals throughout the season. Excellent effort!

TRACY COLLINS

Started the season with us, but then we lost her to the 1B's. Great in the centre half position, strong over the ball and a great director of traffic. Anytime you want to stop by, Trace, you're welcome!

KATE FENNESSY

Another of the quiet achievers, Kate in the centre forward position helped carry us to some of our early successes. Kate scored our first goal for the season - and never looked back! Good skills over the ball and a terrific hit on goal.

BEV GARDINER

The "Bev Bum" should go down in the books as one of the most effective tackles of all time - to be followed, of course, by the innocent look and "what for, ump?" Bev's strengths in the fullback line were greatly appreciated

and she put in some great coverage of the field. A budding talent for umpiring here too folks - watch this space!

SARAH GROVES

Sarah started the season in the centre forward position but a run of injuries saw her having to take time out to recover. Sarah came back to help out the 1C and Metro 2 teams and will be looking forward to a full season next year. Hang in there!

CASSANAH HEAL

Quite the meanest player on the field; strong, aggressive - we're glad she's on our side! Cass forgot that she was supposed to be a half back and scored a few goals on occasion, but we don't hold that against her. Her strong tackling skills didn't earn her any friends on the opposition but sure made her popular with us!

MELANIE JOHNSTON

One of the "can run all day" breed - Mel did great work on the forward line, mostly as inner. Great fitness and stamina with a strong hit on goal - scored a few there!

FIONA LUMSDEN

Fi has been one of our most versatile players - full back, half back, forward - about the only position she hasn't played is goalie! Fi has a massive hit - has helped set up some terrific plays and shots on goal and well as taking them in herself. Top effort!

2B LADIES

MELISSA MEYER-MORTIMORE

Rivals Nic for the loudest voice on the field, is eager and covers a hell of a lot of ground. Plays a roving game - with a big hit and good eye for the goal. Learnt to mark her player this season - well, eventually! Had a few runs with the "ones" to whet her appetite for next year.

JAIME MILLS

Jaimo gets around on the field quite a bit - and is versatile in the positions she plays. Good strength over the ball and some bursts of speed that surprise the opposition.

PIP MILLS

Mega goalie from Tasmania (and the scar doesn't show under all that gear!). We really missed Pip when she sloped off home mid-season (the joys of being an interstate student!) A great effort all season, although by the end of it, she was getting a bit bored with the lack of action in her "D" - not that Pip complained at all!

JANE MINCHIN

The tenacious terrier! "Little" Jane is ultra speedy, has excellent skills and good vision for marking out her player. Carries the ball well and contributes 100% effort all the time. Has been responsible for some of the great passages of play along the left field. Another who managed a few bursts with the "ones" - one of our best!

NICOLA OGDEN

Nic spends most of her time as full back yelling at people - and hasn't she got the voice for it! Has dabbled in coaching a bit this year, and does a fair bit of behind the scenes stuff as well. She usually makes it to training (committee meetings and tardy husband permitting!) and hassles the

rest of us into being there. Her kids make useful fill-ins at training too!

MEAGAN PARRY

Terrific on the forward line, usually as inner, Meagan has set up and put away quite a few of the team's goals this season. Great skills over the ball and a good instinct for scoring. Brings her own cheer squad - onya mum!

RHIANNON SEDGWICK

We spent the first few weeks of the season wondering who this "Rhiannon" was that Mel M kept yelling at - only to find out it was our "Sedge"! Sedge has come along in leaps and bounds this season, putting in heaps of effort and even tried out things in the game that we learnt at training "Hey, Ray was right - it *does* work!" Top effort all year - well done Sedge!

RAY von MOLLENDORF

Spread between three teams, but concentrating on us, made coaching a tough job for Ray this year. However he pulled us together and taught us quite a few new tricks - as Sedge proved them very useful! Certainly taught us to score this year!

PAT von MOLLENDORF

Never the same without our "Mum" around! Always at training (excellent ball girl!), there when you need her, hounding us for fees... Makes a pretty good 70's outfit too! Couldn't do it without you - thanks Mum!

Our thanks to the other players who filled in from time to time throughout the season, such as **Kylie Beechen, Helen Constable, Lee Jarvis, Sally Peters, Renae Pullan, Jen Reilly, Kirrily Ryan, Nina Snowden and Ali Woods**. Thank you all for your efforts; they were greatly appreciated!

1C LADIES

A new team in 1999, the 1C's have had an enjoyable season for 1999, with marked improvements in all players on the team. Starting the season with a few wins, the scoreboard does not accurately reflect the performance and achievements of the team throughout the season. These are best observed in the enthusiasm and positive attitudes to each game, great social nights, and the tremendous team spirit built up over the season, both on the field and in the bar! Thanks to Norm, Ray and Nic for their continued support and coaching over the 1999 season.

KYLIE BEECHEN

How hockey can compare to getting engaged in Paris, we will never know! Kylie has an outstanding ability to read the play, and anticipate the shot, and has been invaluable to the team this season. Hampered by a recurring knee injury, Kylie started the first half of the season without telling her fiancée, who was overseas at the time! Busy with wedding plans, Kylie has continued to exceed our "wonder goalie" expectations. Good luck for the future Kylie!

DEMELZA DRAVNIKS

One of our youngest team members, Dee has been somewhat of a magnet to injury this season. This hasn't affected her determination for the ball however, which continues to frustrate the opposition. Her skills in defense and her remarkable ability to mark players out of the game have made her an outstanding asset to the team. A terrific season Dee!

JANE FINLAY

As one of our hard-hitting fullbacks, Jane has continuously demonstrated her ability for forward thinking in game strategy and strong defense work this season. Jane's long hits have kept us on our toes, not only in the game, but also lots of ball chasing at training! With her sense of humour, and giggles, Jane has proved to be a valuable member of the team. Jane has also perfected the mad dash between fields as, being another youngster, she's played many back-to-

back Under 17's and 1C games. Well done Jane!

KYLIE FREEMAN

"Abalone girl", or should we call you "Beads"! Kylie started the season never having played hockey and hasn't looked back. With the help of her supportive 'caddie', Kylie has improved in leaps and bounds. Whatever she lacks in skill, she makes up for in enthusiasm and fitness! Like an ever-ready battery - she keeps going, and going and going ...! Great work Kylie!

DEEPA NAIR

A versatile player, strong in both forward and back positions, Deepa has had a great season this year. With her sense of humour, constant smile and witty comments, Deepa has kept us laughing throughout the season. Her skills and flexibility in all positions across the field, and consistent performance in both marking and tackling skills, have made Deepa an esteemed member of the 1C team.

SANDRA ORR

This was Sandra's second year with the club, after poaching her from the indoor competition last season. A talented fullback player, with resourceful skills in the forward line, Sandra was sorely missed during the second half of the season. We wish you all the best with WAWHA umpiring

1C LADIES

and uni commitments, and hope to see you back next year Sandra!

ROBYN PEASE

Robyn joined us half-way through the season, and we wonder how we ever managed without her! Strong at both wing and centre-half positions, Robyn is a flexible player with an outstanding ability to anticipate the play. Her old style hockey stick does not detract in any way from her game, and she is much admired for her fitness and skills on the field. We look forward to playing with you next season Robyn!

BRAD PIKE

Part-time coach and full-time supporter, Brad's contributions have been invaluable to the 1C's team this season. Brad focused on our strengths and our approach to the game as a whole. His encouragement and helpful advice towards positioning and strategic play, has shown marked improvements in our overall game. Many thanks for your time Brad!

MANDY PIKE

Filling the roles of Captain, part-time coach and player, Mandy has worked overtime to ensure the success of the 1C's 1999 season. With her wonderful sense of humour and hearty laugh, players and spectators alike cannot miss her resounding comments both on and off the field. Some colourful words directed at the umpire however, were not too well-received, resulting in a green card! Affectionately known as "Pikie", Mandy holds the record for the only member of our team to score a 10 on the burp scale!

RENAE PULLAN

Affectionately known as "The Terror", Renae is another new comer to the Melville club this season. Renae continues to impress with her great

determination for the ball, and for her versatility in both forward and defense positions. Another goal scorer of the season, Renae has been an asset to the 1C team this year. And if you lose your gear – check with Mandy!

KIRRILY RYAN

Another player renown for her fitness ability, Kirra played predominantly at centre half, and is credited with a goal for the season. Kirra is famous for downing tequilas at her Mexican farewell party, or perhaps it was for her hockey performance the next day, playing hung over, in 30 degree heat! Kirra has missed the final games of the season, preferring instead to enjoy the delights of Europe! Her enthusiasm and humour were a great contribution to the team. Hope to see you back next year Kirra!

RUDY

Assistant coach to Brad, and team mascot, Rudy has become a familiar face at 1C hockey games. His faith and support in our performance never wavered throughout the season. Ruff!

SAM SCANLIN

Vice Captain of the 1C's. Goal scorer – on the wing. As unofficial team manager, Sam has helped out with heaps of organising and behind the scenes stuff. Her role as player changed to leader of the 1Cs cheer squad for the second half of the season due to a knee injury. Hurry up and get it better for next season!

1C LADIES

CAROLYN SOUNNESS

A recurring hamstring injury has not managed to stop Carolyn's performance on the field. In between visits and phone calls to Mt Barker, Carolyn has managed to find time to play hockey, showing her strengths in the forward line, as centre forward. Not shy in her comments on the opposition and umpires, Carolyn is more famous for scoring a goal while suffering from food poisoning, and receiving a green card in the last game! A great season Carolyn!

ALANA WAKE

Amazingly, Alana has developed a reputation for being a "bully" on the field this season. How this happened, we will never know, but who are we to disagree with the umpire! Alana displays exceptional talent as a half back, with great defense skills and great runs up the wing. Seemed to have a little trouble staying off the ground in the last couple of games! An excellent season Alana – great work!

CHRIS WARDELL-JOHNSON

Chris' first season with the Melville club. A strong full back with a consistent, long hit, Chris has been a steady defender for the 1C's this season. Adopting a "never give up" attitude to the game, Chris has gone from strength to strength as the season progressed. Known for her achievements both on and off the field, Chris has been an inspirational player to the 1C's this season. An outstanding feat Chris!

SANDY WHITE

Another newcomer this season, Sandy has been our quiet achiever on the wing, her youth and fitness providing numerous opportunities for the forward line. Her forward thinking and great positioning on the post paid off with a well-deserved goal this season. Well done Sandy!

ALI WOODS

A versatile player, strong in full back, centre forward and centre half positions, Ali has a commanding control over the game. Her strength, stamina and marked determination for the ball have made our future veterinarian a valuable player to the team. These talents were not appreciated during one particular game against Freo however, with heated discussions with the opposition almost leading to blows! A great season Ali!

A special thanks to the juniors: **Beth Gouldthorp, Tegan Martyn, Breony Allen, Shiyanka Wickramaratne and Nicole Dievert**, whose speed and skills were an enormous contribution to our team, and to all the other players who have filled in for us during the 1999 season.

METRO 2 LADIES

Thanks to all who played this year, some at a moments notice. Considering that we struggled to fill a side some weeks I think we did extremely well to miss the four by one game. Maybe next year... I thank all who played foreign positions for the sake of the team and hope to see you all again next year.

General Jan - Team Manager Extraordinaire.

JO MITSOPOULOS (Mitsy)

Never short of a word or two to the umpires. Determined and tenacious performer with the knack to crunch, munch and dispose of opposing forwards.

AUDREY EMMETT (or is it Lesley?)

A skilled left half, Audrey is super reliable and unrelenting in pursuit of the ball.

SUE WILSON (Suzie)

Slow start to the season due to illness. Always hungry for the ball, never shy of mouth, very competitive and takes the game seriously.

ROSA DAVIS

Antique resurfaces and proves she is still worthy of a goal or two.

SUE CLARKE

Post natal release. Welcome talent and goal scoring skills. Joined us towards the end of the season. Thanks Sue.

LESLEY WINTLE

Uncomplaining versatile player who always gave us her best.

DENISE JONES

Consistent performer who played several roles. Hockey helps fill the time while awaiting the return of her man!

SARAH GROVES

Welcome to the "Old Buzzards"! Fill-in member who was a solid performer.

KIM McMULLAN

New recruit, unfortunate to be assigned to the Old Buzzards. Uncanny goal scoring ability.

LEANNE O'NEIL

Interrupted season - left us early. Good luck with impending parenthood!

HELEN CONSTABLE

Versatile, reliable relief who once again became a permanent player. Thanks Helen - great banana goal!

JENEANE BECU

Consistently late, this perennial shows a solid, controlled and cool manner in the back line although she always wants to play goal sneak. I'd like to see that!

ANNELIES BECU

A big thank you for joining us. We were blessed with your ability and young legs.

CATHERINE TIMMEL

We missed her at the beginning when study kept her away from us. Goal keeping revisited.

VISITORS

Thanks to all who visited us for the season, your contribution was very much appreciated. Especially those pulled from the sidelines. Thanks to **Sue Ford, Kelcey Ross, Leanne Jarvis, Leanne and Sally, Bree, Kathryn A. and Shiyanka.**

LADIES VETERANS

The Melville Women's Veteran Hockey team is unique in that it comprises players from other clubs and most of its players also perform in other grades. So rather than a personal profile on each team member, here is a quick run down of our progress this year.

We had a slow start to the year, considering that in the past we rarely lost a game. The second round was better and we made it to the grand final. At the time of going to print, our chances look pretty good.

Six of our players have been selected to attend the State Veterans Championships to be held in Brisbane in October. Our congratulations to **Lindy Coss, Vicki Silich, Gaye Glaskin, Gail Anderson, Maris Margetts and Janese McDougall.**

UNDER 17C

The Under 17's have had an excellent season under the coaching expertise of Todd Barrett. Disappointed at being relegated to C division, the boys fought back and determined to prove their worth. Every game has been played with tenacity and courage and above all, good humour. It is often said that Melville Juniors are sometimes "too nice" for their own good – but as ambassadors of the Club at a junior level, this ensures that the reputation of Melville City Hockey Club as a "family club" is proudly retained. The team won through to the finals and we shall have to wait for the outcome. Several members of the 17C's will be joining senior ranks next year and we wish Ryan Backhouse, Michael Ashley, Nigel Burgess, Ryan Kelly, Cameron Porter, Andrew Hollett and Tim McEntee many great games in the future.

KAVI ACHARI

This is truly Kavi's first season playing hockey, and with an opening tally of 3 goals from as many games he had very early developed a reputation among his team mates. With a couple of seasons under his belt, Kavi has the natural ability to play competitive hockey in the future. I will look forward in following his development over the years.

MICHAEL ASHLEY

Michael's ability to reach further than others, saw him execute many fine tackles in the heat of play. At the end of the year Michael was pushed into the forward line to create a focal point up front. He relished the opportunity and set up many shots on goal. With the respect he has gained over the year, he looks forward to a promising future.

RYAN BACKHOUSE

Ryan has been a most consistent and reliable member of the team. He doesn't know the meaning of defeat and will always give 100%. Ryan is a skilful player with the versatility to play all positions. He has played regularly in seniors and clearly shown the enjoyment of the challenge. Great club man.

EVAN BOWATER

Evan has developed into a versatile player and a strong centre forward, offering the team strength and creativity up front. His commitment to the team has been second

to none, however he needs to focus on strengthening his game, mentally and physically. With his desire to succeed and to play hockey at a top grade, Evan has a long future at Melville City.

NIGEL BURGESS

Transferring to Melville at the start of the year, Nigel has developed into a solid full back. With great poise and positioning Nigel manages, without concern, to hold off some of the strongest attacks. He has been a great acquisition to the team and it will be exciting to watch his development over the years.

BRYN DODSON

Bryn has developed into an extremely reliable, hard working halfback. He is a good team man with good skills, who works his opponents hard. His tackling over the year has developed strongly and he has been a pleasure to coach. Bryn is a credit to any team.

ANDREW HOLLETT

Over the year Andrew has grown in confidence and has shown a solid ability to play a good positional game. With his desire to get in amongst the game, Andrew quite often emerges with the ball, or successfully executes the quick pass to his forwards. Andrew is a quiet achiever who is always prepared to work hard and play his part in the team.

UNDER 17C

DANIEL IVEY

Daniel's hard work over the year resulted in many fine saves, earning him the respect of his peers. With his enthusiasm to play the game and to protect the goals, he will be an asset to the senior club in several years. Daniel has been exciting to watch and a stabilising force to our defensive team.

BRENTON JACKSON

Brenton is a player with a lot of skill and potential. His poise together with his silky stick work assisted with many forward attacks and exciting goals. It has been a pleasure coaching Brenton and he has been a valuable member to the team. All the best for the future.

RYAN KELLY

Ryan played several positional roles throughout the year and did so with ease. His natural ability and hockey mind will see him succeed in the future at Melville. His on ball skills carved up many a defence and if not scoring himself he would set up his team mates. Ryan is a good team member who can be relied upon.

JOEL LE BRETON)

Over the year Joel has developed strongly, proving himself to be a very capable goalkeeper. He has been a great team member and has been fun to coach. Joel's energy to protect the goals has resulted in some great saves and safe clearances. Good luck for the years ahead.

TIM MCENTEE

Tim has grown in confidence through the year and with the team playing several difficult games, Tim lifted to the occasion. His work ethic is second to none and he has developed some very good skills. He will be an asset to any team.

CHRISTIAN PAPINEAU

Christian has been another new acquisition to the club. He is a determined player whose skill level has increased each week. Always willing to give his best, Christian has the potential to develop into an exciting wing. Good luck for the years ahead.

CAMERON PORTER

By the end of the year Cameron found solid form, playing a strong positional role at left half back. His focus in defence won him many battles against his opponents and his confidence saw him deliver the ball well into offence. Cameron is a hard worker and will succeed in seniors at Melville.

ANDREW TAYLOR

With Andrew's ability to get himself into a shooting position, he has become a vital key in our forward line. His skill and hockey mind will only strengthen over the years and he has the potential to play an exciting game of hockey. He will be a top asset to the club next year.

JUSTIN WAKE

Justin has been a very reliable player this year. He plays a strong defensive role and when a solid tackle is needed he is always there. Justin has a very good attitude and works always at 100% on the track and in the game.

UNDER 17C

TODD BARRETT (Coach)

A new approach to coaching this year and a member of the senior squad was asked to coach the 17's. Todd Barrett from the 1B's turned out to be a fantastic coach for the boys. He turned up with a smile on his face every Thursday night and every weekend, even after injuring his hand. He encouraged, he praised, he spent time with every member of the squad, ensuring that everyone enjoyed their hockey and improved their skills. Thanks Todd for a great season and good luck in England next year.

UNDER 17A GIRLS

Another challenging year for the girls. We were greeted at the start of the year with the news that we had been placed in Under 17A's. A bit of a shock for a group of girls who had gone without a win in Under 17B's the previous year. Nevertheless, they attacked the season with enthusiasm, taking some heart from the fact that they would be playing on artificial turf. We went through the season without a win, but the girls did play some good games in which they were competitive.

Many of the girls are eligible to play Under 17's again next year, and they shouldn't lose heart. All of them did improve this year, but they may not realise it until next year when they play against girls their own age and younger.

Once again I have enjoyed working with the girls. They are all terrific people with whom I have had many fun times. All the parents have every reason to be proud of how the girls fought on this year, and of what good kids they are.

BETH GOULDTHORP (Captain)

Started the season while still recovering from glandular fever, and took a few weeks to find her feet again. Once this was done she provided tremendous drive to the team, using her excellent skills, speed, determination and hockey sense to great advantage, and led the team by example. Over the summer she had worked on her hitting-on-the run skills, and this year she was the complete player, even getting in a few shots at the goal (quite an achievement for a team that spent so much time defending). Beth should distinguish herself in seniors next year.

BREONY ALLEN

Joined the team after a few games due to a period in Italy. She initially found the speed and skills of many of the opposition a bit intimidating but improved once she regained her fitness and had some game practice. Consequently, she did not regain her confidence and determination until later in the season when she put in some excellent performances. She also played in the seniors where she won in both forward and defensive positions. A small improvement in skills will see her playing excellent hockey next year, if she retains the

confidence in her ability that she was showing late in the season.

KATHRYN ATKINSON

First year with the team and proved to be a valuable asset, spending most of the year toiling in deep defence with Jane. Tended to become involved with the hockey immediately around her, meaning that she was drawn towards the ball and out of position, and sometimes tried to do more than was required. She also played for the Under 15B's, and sometimes found it tricky to adjust to the different levels of skill and speed in the two grades. Kathryn was a strong tackler and did provide a lot of drive out of the back line. However, one of her best performances for the year was in the final game when she was used in the forward line. This performance was sufficiently impressive to indicate that whoever coaches the team next year should consider using her in this role.

KENDALL CRAKE

Kendall had really improved her skills over the summer, particularly her hitting. Unfortunately she was up against much faster and more skilful opposition this year, and did struggle. But she is a determined girl, always giving 100%, and not letting any opposition player have an easy game.

UNDER 17A GIRLS

She made a tremendous contribution to the team at one night game when she agreed to stand in as goalie, saving 2 goals on the goal line. As a half back, falling back into the D to defend, Kendall was a ferocious tackler, always trying to stop the forwards from getting a shot away. I appreciated Kendall's frank comments on certain situations.

NICOLE DIEVERT

Joined us this year from Canada, and we were grateful for her presence. An enthusiastic trainer who always gave good verbal support to her team mates. Nicole has good skills and understanding of the game, but had to adjust to the different speed and style of hockey here in WA. By the last few games of the year we saw Nicole showing her true potential with some excellent hockey. She played a game with the seniors which seemed to give her extra confidence to take into our final games. Nicole took over as Captain for the last two weeks when Beth went overseas. The whole team enjoyed Nicole's cheerful nature and we all wish her the best in the future.

JANE FINLAY

Continued on from last year as the rock on which our defence was based, and the launching platform for our thrusts into attack. Played seniors as well this year, and the extra training resulted in her being fitter and faster. Completely unruffled in pressure situations, and was always reliable. I think Jane has the potential to realise a great future in hockey. She is strong in all aspects of the game, but places too much emphasis on hitting ability. Next year she should use her skills and strength to break clear of packs and then set up forward moves with a variation of pushes and controlled hits,

as well as blasting the ball up front. This variation in styles will see her increase her effectiveness as a player.

LISA GANGEMI

Joined us for the first time this year from Santa Maria. Lisa came to the team with the objective to improve her game, which she has achieved. While she had a lot of fun at training and in the games, she also listened to what she was told and always attempted to do what was asked of her. Her improvement in the second half of the year was extremely gratifying for a coach, and she ended the year as the most reliable left half in the team. This is a considerable achievement because this position covers the most dangerous route into attack for the opposition. She was never intimidated by the opposition and used her speed and determination to frustrate some extremely classy right wings. If Lisa can work on her hitting over the summer she will be an even more formidable opponent next year.

SOPHIE HANCOCK

Sophie didn't start building on her considerable improvement in 1998 until a few games into the season. This could have been because it took time for her to adjust to the increased pace of the game. It could have been because it wasn't until then that we insisted that she pin her skirt down. Whatever the reason, by the end of the year she was again showing the speed and determination we became accustomed to in 1998. Hopefully the confidence she obtained in these latter games can be carried forward to next year. Still has that sweet smile that can lull the opposition into a false sense of confidence.

UNDER 17A GIRLS

ALIN JENSEN

Started the year with a great game on the Hale turf, but was unable to repeat her form until the last game of the year, due to a number of bouts of the flu which seemed to really sap her energy. She heroically played one game when we were down in numbers, when she clearly should have been in bed. Great dedication to the team. We heard very little squealing from Alin this year, and while we received a few of her philosophical pearls of wisdom, there were not as many as last year. I put this down to periods of flu, or increased thinking about other matters (boys?), or the stresses of Year 12.

CORRINE JOHNSEN

Corrine plays hockey for fun, and really loves to play. She came back to hockey this year after a year off with an injury, and her return was well timed. The team needed another inner to run with Beth, and Corrine did this well. She could run all day, is a far better hockey player than she thinks, is not afraid to use her strength, has good skills and can really hit a ball. Always happy, and found humour in most situations. If Corrine got serious about her hockey she could have a very successful career in the seniors. However, I'm not sure whether hockey will ever receive the same attention she gives to boys.

TEGAN MARTYN

There are three positions in a hockey team that are hard to fill with the appropriate people. Two are the inners, and the third position is the pivotal centre half. We were very lucky that Tegan was able to step up to this challenge and master this very important position. She has had her best year of hockey that I can remember (and I have known her since before under 11's). Her stamina,

skills, hockey sense and determination all went up a level this year, and she matched the best that other teams could throw at her. Tegan obviously has a desire to succeed in hockey, and she certainly has the potential to do so. A valuable target she could strive for over the summer would be to improve her speed. Some sprint training should help develop the short bursts of speed that are very valuable in top level competitive hockey.

SHIYANKA WICKRAMARATNE

In playing with this team Shiyanka was provided with the ultimate opportunity to develop as a goal keeper, and she grabbed it with both hands. Very few of our opponents would have believed Shiyanka was in her first full year as a goalie. She has had an extremely successful year in the goals, figuring among the best players on a number of occasions, and receiving well deserved accolades from opposition coaches. No other goalie in the competition would have come close to stopping half the number of goals that Shiyanka did. Her efforts were certainly appreciated by the whole team, and I look forward to seeing her improve further in the future. Things to work on include developing her charge and her voice to take control of the D. Don't lose your happy nature.

UNDER 17A GIRLS

BROOKE WILLIS

Brooke has displayed considerable potential in the forward line. However, it was obvious that she under-rated her own skills and ability. This resulted in her often passing the ball rather than taking on the opposition on and creating a better advantage for the team. As she spends more time in attack she will develop the confidence to do this. It was pleasing to see her accept the challenge to move from the wing into the centre, where she showed good sense in where to lead to. Her intense discussions with Kathryn about any boys in sight was sometimes a bit of a distraction.

RENAE STIRLING

Played three games with us and had no problem adapting to the speed and skills of the higher grade. Played two ripper games at full back.

DEMELZA DRAVNIIEKS

Played two games with us and provided a lot of physical strength, run, and hockey sense. It was a pity that we could not include Demelza in the team on a permanent basis. Our loss was the senior's gain.

NADIA LEHMANN

Played two games with us and acquitted herself very well. Is a very versatile player with good skills who will have no trouble playing under 17's in the future.

Awards:

Most use of make-up and other female body adornments - Kathryn, followed by Sophie's fingernails.

Greatest hair colour change - Jane

Most immaculately groomed on the field - Beth, followed by Alin

Most openly interested in boys - Corrine, followed by Kathryn and Brooke

Most tolerant - Breony (had to tolerate me in the car)

Most chatty - almost the whole team

Coach - Jeremy Allen

Assistant coaches - Scott Martyn, Nigel Atkinson

Manager - Peter Gouldthorp

UNDER 15B

The U15B team had a successful year holding first position for most of the year until an end of season slump saw them finish third.

The team was full of enthusiasm and skill and had five players in the Regional representative team.

DANIEL McENTEE (LWing/Vice Capt)

Daniel is a speedy specialist wing who was one of the teams prime avenues of attack. His ability to beat an opponent and lay off set up many goals for the team. Daniel reached the final selection trials for the U15 State Team.

JAMIE DREW (Centre Forward)

Jamie is a dynamic goal scorer from in close with a huge number of goals this season. The continuation of hard work on his attack outside the circle will help balance his game. Jamie was a very positive team member throughout the year.

BEN MEACOCK (Right Inner/ Half)

An extremely enthusiastic and skilful hockey player who just loves the game. An effective mid fielder who was always able to bring players around him into the game. Ben was a member of the Regional U15 hockey team.

MARK HACKETT (Right Wing)

Mark played some very effective games on the wing and learned the value of holding position in the circle by scoring some very valuable goals. Mark learned a lot during the year and will have some great seasons to follow. He displayed great personal and team qualities; his attitude and dedication to the team were a credit to him.

CORY LE BRETON (Left /Right Wing)

Cory is a speedy forward with a high level of skill. His improved overall attitude this year is a credit to him. His

experience in competition this year will help him be a highly effective player next year.

ANTHONY RICCIARDONI (Right Half/Right Inner)

Anthony is a highly talented hockey player who was the architect of much of our attacking play. He produced a strong performance this year through his dedicated and consistently positive attitude. As he achieves balance between his creativity and position holding he will become an even more dangerous player. Anthony was a member of the Regional U15 hockey team.

RYAN MAHNEY (Cente Half)

Ryan played the pivotal role for the team this year with great tenacity. When the team used him to transfer play or work out of defence it played at its best. He was always keen to score a goal and played some effective games at inside forward. He established and maintained a commendable attitude throughout the year. Ryan was a member of the Regional U15 hockey team.

EVAN KELLY (Left Inner)

Evan is a very creative forward able to set up our strikers and effectively close down the opposition. His combination with Ben, Ryan and Anthony created a very strong mid field. His speed and endurance were outstanding and his overall skills enabled him to fill a number of positions in the field. Evan was a member of the Regional U15 hockey team.

UNDER 15B

RORY READ (L Half / Vice Captain)

Rory's skills have developed considerably over the year and he played a very attacking role at left half. He learnt the risks of being an attacking defender and his defensive game has now improved as a result. His strong hitting and improved tackling were a feature. Rory was a member of the Regional U15 hockey team.

ROBERT PORTER (Right Full back)

Robert was a tower of strength in the defence and could always be relied upon for his strong clearing hits. A little bit of a gentle giant when it comes to playing close attention to adventurous opposite forwards. Robert showed a commendable improvement in overall attitude this year; it is this aspect that will benefit his future performance and achievement in hockey.

VAUGHAN TAYLOR (Left Full back/ Captain)

Vaughan played skilful and hard hockey all year and was extremely effective in breaking up opposition attacks. Always keen to push play up in support of the forwards. His tackling skills and leadership qualities were particular features of Vaughan's year. Vaughan had a very positive influence on the team.

JAMES WELTON (Goalkeeper)

James had an outstanding year and worked very hard, both on and off the field, to improve his game. Throughout the season James showed that he was not only a good blocker but a very effective attacking goalkeeper. He was constant in keeping his defence alert. A dedicated team member.

BRAD CHANNER, MICHAEL PUGLESI and WAYNE JONES also played during the year as injuries and accidents took their toll on the regular team members. All are very able players and were influential in helping the team reverse its late season slump. Brad's speed, Michael's close marking and Wayne's pace and teamwork were features of their individual games.

PAUL MEACOCK (Coach)

Paul introduced a level of discipline and understanding that allowed the team to work very effectively at training and display a high level of hockey understanding during the games. His personal attention to each player encouraged confidence and positive attitudes. Thanks very much for your efforts Paul.

DAVID PORTER (Manager)

David made an enormous contribution to this team. His behind the scenes co-ordination in so many ways was significant from pre-season right through to the finals. He assisted with many training sessions, managed the team so effectively and was an outstanding support to Paul at all times. Congratulations and many thanks Dave.

Special thanks to parents for their excellent support throughout the year.

UNDER 15C SOUTH

This year George and Dom had the pleasure of coaching the Under 15C South team. At the beginning of the year we started with a team of good players. Over the course of the season these good players have developed individually into better players and, more importantly, a great team. Thanks guys for a great year. And special thanks go to Carolyn Jones for managing the team and to all the parents who came to support the team and help out.

BRAD WAKE (Goalkeeper)

Brad had a great year in goals, often proving to be a match winner. He has shown improved agility and clearance skills and has a bright future with the club.

DANIEL CHAPMAN (Full back)

Part of our strong defensive wall. Dan has halted many opposition attacks this year. With good tackling and slap-hit skills, Dan has had a good consistent year.

MICHAEL PUGILESE (Full back)

The other part of our wall, "Puggers" has shown tremendous defensive skills and always seems to be in the right spot at the right time. This allowed Michael to experience playing at a higher grade, and he is definitely a player of the future.

CRAIG ORR (Centre Half)

"The Mailman" Craig has a great ability to execute beautiful passes to our strikers, creating many scoring opportunities. With good on ball skills, Craig can look forward to playing a high standard of hockey in the not too distant future.

MATTHEW WILLIS (Half back)

Something about half backs - they always want to score goals. When not camped on the spot, Matt offered great stability to our defence with his speed and tackling, and acted well as an outlet for our full backs. Thanks Matt.

DAVID RYAN (Half back)

Our other half back/striker. We made the fatal mistake of putting Dave at left wing where he scored two goals in five minutes, and since then he's forgotten how to defend! When in defence, however, Dave had a good tackle and strong hit, which created many attacking chances. Thanks Dave. You never know - a future Mark Hagar maybe.

BRAD CHANNER (Inner/half/full back)

Brad, although being the team larrikin, was also a really good player for us this year. Starting as an inner, Brad's defensive game improved hugely this year and allowed him experience in the higher grade. Thanks for a great year Brad, and say "Hi" to your girlfriend for me.

RYAN NEEDHAM (Wing)

The "quiet assassin" who lurks on the wing. Ryan's on-ball skills developed into an integral part of his game this year, giving him the ability to beat his opponent. Always in the right position in the D, Ryan has given us an edge in attack, scoring some crucial goals. Great effort Ryan.

MICHAEL CHRISTENSEN (Inner)

One of the twins - we're lucky they have different sticks or we couldn't tell them apart. Michael has had a good year at inside left, providing an option for our half backs and getting in scoring positions in the D.

UNDER 15C SOUTH

SIMON ZYBRKO (Centre Forward)

Simon plays his position well and with a strong hit, he provided us with a good option up front. Simon proves that even playing umpires don't have a clue. Thanks for a great season mate.

DAVID CHRISTENSEN (Wing)

The other twin, David played a great year out on the left, giving us a path to the D and scoring some valuable goals on the left post with his deadly slap shot. Thanks Dave.

WAYNE JONES (Inside Forward)

Another one of our players given the chance to play a higher grade throughout the year. Wayne has good skills and passing ability, and after a while got the hang of "holding his width". Thanks Wayney-poos.

PETER HEAVENS

(Wing/Inner/Halfback)

Pete played as a utility player this year, often called upon to fill a variety of positions. Possessing good tackling and hitting skills, Pete had a good year with us.

DAVID ORR (Centre Forward)

Dave filled in for us a few times this year and certainly held his own in the higher age group. Dave has good skills and gets into good positions up front. Definitely a future prospect. Thanks Davey.

UNDER 15 SOUTH REGIONAL

GRAEME COLE

First year player, likes playing full back and defends well. Enjoys the chance to have a run up front.

RYAN FULLER

Enjoys playing hockey and likes playing centre forward. His skills have improved greatly over the season.

MATTHEW GEERS

A friendly and helpful team member. Plays centre half, is a good pivot point for the team. Does a lot of running every game and always puts in a big effort.

MICHAEL GELL

Always puts in 100% effort every game. Plays forward position - the teams star left winger. Hockey skills are developing well.

PETER HEAVENS

Our goalie! Always puts in a huge effort in goals, many spectacular saves over the season. Always enjoys a run on the field.

KENDRICK POOL

A natural athlete who can play well in any hockey position although usually plays forward. Covers a lot of ground in every game.

TIM PRIEST

Likes to play forward, although effective in the defence as well. His skills have continued to improve over the season. Does a lot of running every game.

BEN READ

First year playing hockey. He is not afraid to get into the action and tackle, a player that will continue to improve with every game.

MATTHEW SMITH

Usually plays on the wing but has been used in many other positions to great effect.

BRENDON TOOMEY

First year playing hockey - a very fast runner, can carry the ball up the field well. Always puts in a big effort and has improved a lot since his first game.

TRENT VAN BEEM

Has settled into the full back position and always works hard in defence. He will continue to improve his skill level next season, developing a good clearing hit from the back line.

UNDER 15B GIRLS

The team has had a very successful year finishing the regular season in second place. The most pleasing aspect for me as coach was to see the improvement over the year from younger girls coming up from 13's. After a slow start they have fitted into the high standard of hockey the team has achieved. It is a pleasure to be associated with these girls who have given their all during the games this year and if they keep it up, girls and women's hockey will remain strong at this club.

Nigel Atkinson (Coach)

SHIYANKA WICKRAMARATNE (Goalie)

Shiyanka virtually played two games each week for the 15's and 17's. Whilst hardly getting a touch in the morning, she had her work cut out for her in the afternoons. Her considerable natural abilities have enabled Shiyanka to improve her goalkeeping this year and with some further technical coaching I am sure she will make a top flight goalie in the future. Shiyanka has a very colourful imagination. It is a source of enjoyment listening to her excuses for being late. Her poor younger sister gets most of the blame but I'm sure she really loves her. Thanks Shiyanka, you saved the team on many occasions.

KATHRYN ATKINSON (Full Back)

Strong and imposing defender. A most experienced and reliable full back and mainstay of the team. Kathryn remains "cool, calm and collected", even when hitting the cover off the ball. Kat has held up many attacks and gives as good as she gets when contesting the ball. Like all good full backs she thinks she's a forward and goes on many runs up field. Kat has been a great help to the younger girls and has given them encouragement and confidence on the field. Thanks Kat - good luck in 17's.

RENAE STIRLING - Full Back

The "talkative one". With Kathryn and Shiyanka, Renae has formed a very formidable back line. Renae was as

solid as a rock in the last line of defense. Hardly anything would get past and her reading of the play to cover Kat was exceptional. Played a couple of games in the 17's and excelled there as well. Renae is a pleasure to coach and a likeable person who will make the transition to 17's easily. Thanks Renae.

NADIA BACKHOUSE (Half Back)

A solid and attacking defender Nadia gives her all on game days. She set up many attacking moves down the right and was always covering the full backs deep in defense. "Backie" (she hates being called that, but that's why I do it) loves having a chat at training and showing off her latest body piercing accomplishments and always complains about the umpiring by OUR umpire. Thanks "Backie" hope you have a good year next year.

NADIA LEHMAN (Centre Half)

What can you say? Nadia never wanted to train; chatted the whole session, complained about every injury in the book but come game day would run her legs off for the team. Nadia's ability to read the play enabled her to control the mid field and set up most of our attacking play throughout the season. A vital team member. Thanks for another great season Nadia. See you in the 17's next year.

UNDER 15B GIRLS

CLAIRE HADLEY (Utility)

Our "Ms Fixit". Claire plays in any position when asked to by the coach and with great strength and determination. Is always there to fill a gap or to stop an opposing player. It is good to have a team player like Claire in our team. Her skills and positioning are improving and will be of good use in the 17's next year. Thanks for great season Claire and congratulations on your Scholarship.

LAUREN FERGUSON (Half Back)

Our "volunteer" reserve goalie. Lauren is one of our young ones who have shown marked improvement over the season. Her willingness to learn was capped off by her best performance in the last game. Sometimes she's too nice to be a defender but her tackling and timing has developed to an extent that I believe she can become a good player in the years to come. Keep the commitment up Lauren. Don't forget what you've learnt. Good luck next year.

JESSICA BOND (Half Back/ Utility)

Jess, like Lauren came to us with a lot to learn and has shown a marked improvement over the year. Has a lovely strong hit and also like Lauren played her best game on the last day and pleased me with the use of skills learnt at training. Jess, with a bit more commitment and fitness you will hold your own in any team. Don't let it slip next year. Good luck.

MICHELE PETERS (Half Back/Utility)

A new arrival at the club this season, Michele has shown great improvement over the year and is a willing learner Her tackling and close checking has become a feature of her game. A bit of a worry when she gets together with

Nadia at training. I can't believe that two girls that go to the same school and see each other all day can gossip so much. Thanks for a great season Michele.

ANNELEIS BECU –(Right Wing)

Anneleis is a gifted athlete who is lightning fast and runs all day. With a bit more skill on the ball and knowledge of positional play, she will become a very good hockey player. Her runs down the wing blew away opposition backs and set up many of our goals. One night at training recently, the coach asked the girls what they wanted to do next. Anneleis said "Lets do some more running!" This really endeared her to her team mates (NOT!). Good luck next year Anneleis and keep up the hard work. Congratulations on selection in the Under 14 South Metro Regional team.

HELEN TAYLOR (Inner, C Forward)

Helen came out of "retirement" this year to help us out. Helen's idea of fun is to run 5km at school before coming to training. Needless to say Helen was going at the same pace at the end of the game as when she started. It was a real bonus for us to have two racehorses in our forward line with Helen and Anneleis combining well to run down the long balls and scoring goals. Helen's ability to also help out deep in defense was a coach's delight. Helen has developed quite nicely and will be a benefit to the future of girl's hockey at this club. Thanks Helen.

UNDER 15B GIRLS

MARTHA REAY (Inside Forward)

Martha has been an excellent player all year and has developed a strong hit to penetrate the attacking circle. Martha combined well with Anneleis and Helen to give us a strong attacking right side. Has taken on more responsibility deep in attack and has scored some memorable goals to cap off a good season. Martha should be fitter than most of the players judging by the number of 'laps' she has had to run for chatting at training. Congratulations also on selection in the Under 14 South Metro Regional team.

TARA BOWATER – Inside Forward

Tara came to us as an under 13. She found the boys were not giving her enough of a challenge. Tara is the team's youngest player (and shortest, or is she taller than Shiyanka?) and yet one of the most tenacious you will see. She consistently wins tackling duels with older and bigger players and gives a total commitment to the game. Well done Tara, develop those close in stick skills and you will be a very good player. See you next year.

SANDRA MILLAR (L Wing/C Forward)

Sandra has developed her positional play well this season and her sorties down the left flank has complimented our forward line well. Has scored some great goals from close in on the goalie's pads. Sandra's powerful hits from the left has had many a defender leaping for cover and giving our forwards ideal chances on goal. Sandra, you will now have to get serious playing under 17's next year.

BROOKE WILLIS (Forward)

Brooke played 17's all year but helped us out when asked by the coach. Brooke's best trait this year was her ability and maturity to bring the other forwards into the play and then score some great goals as well. A special thanks to you Brooke for sacrificing an "easy" season with the 15's and helping out the 17's in difficult circumstances. Next year will be better I promise.

A special thank you to **Anne Ferguson** for taking on the duties of Manager for the team. Anne did splendid job with all the handouts and the fund raising and kept the coach in line throughout the season. Thanks Anne for the extra effort you put as a parent.

Thanks also to **Noel Backhouse** and the other people who blew the whistle for us during the season. It was a big help to have good umpires so the girls could concentrate only on the game. Finally thanks to all the parents who braved the chills of a Saturday morning to lend their support to the girls. I am sure it was greatly appreciated by all.

UNDER 13 B

Throughout the season Melville's Under 13Bs displayed characteristics which should see it form the basis of a very powerful seniors group in the years to come. All the ideal features were present; speed, ball skills, strength, persistence, courage and tenacity, all combined with good sportsmanship. If there was a criticism, it was a lack of concentration, a feature which can affect all levels of sport, let alone under 13s.

The overall strength of this team was reflected in the comments I received from the parents when they were given the task of selecting our best players. Nearly all of them replied that it was one of the hardest jobs to do. With such a broad spread of talent and even contributions, any of 6 or more players were worthy of votes every week.

Their performances during the season have been very impressive with the only losses to its nemesis, Old Aquinians. Many wins involved high scoring games, whilst others included 'come from behind' efforts that kept the spectators anxious. Regardless of whether the season sees a success in the finals, just watching this team has been a win in itself.

And whilst on the watching theme, it has to be said that the team had great support from their supporters. Each week mothers, fathers, brothers and grandparents turned up to cheer their players, offer advice and sell those Freddo Frogs for fund-raising. Of course, it was also essential that the parents were there to buy their sons and daughters the obligatory drink and bag of chips after the game!

It really has been a pleasure to be associated with this team.

CHRIS LOVERIDGE (Centre Forward)
Chris's principle attribute is his speed. Many times during the year we saw Chris entering the goal circle with only the goalie between him and the goals after a dash covering 60 to 70 metres. This was capped off with a good striking ability, putting fear into the opposition. His polite manner, cooperation with the coach, and willingness to share the ball in play make him an excellent team member.

REECE SLOAN (L/R Inner)
Often giving the impression that he was having a casual hit around with his friends in the back yard, Reece displayed clever skills with the ball. Out of the pack in the goal circle it was invariably Reece who somehow snuck the ball past four or five defenders into the goal with a casual flick of the wrist.

In general field play it was his excellent eye and good positioning that intercepted the ball from opponents and turned the game our way.

REECE HYATT (L/R Inner)
Reece has an excellent work ethic, always giving 100%. This makes him an excellent inner, a position that requires a player to cover the full length of the field many times during a game. Whilst he was not always amongst the goal scorers, Reece was the one who worked well back into defence and helped to carry the ball forward to give others the goal scoring opportunity. A pleasure to coach and great to watch those dashing bursts down the field.

UNDER 13 B

ADAM HALLIDAY (L Wing)

Our left winger was someone you could rely on to always put in a solid effort. Adam uses his tenacious attitude and hockey skills to counter his lack of bulk. On many occasions he would take on multiple opponents in a run down *his* wing ending with a shot on goal or a pass to a team mate. The type of player that every coach likes to have in a team.

MICHAEL BENBOW (R Wing)

Michael has developed well during the season, obviously benefiting from playing with this team against quality opposition. He is a hard working hockey player, moving well back into defence to commence an attack and then running hard to offer alternatives near goal. Using his mature attitude, Michael created opportunities for others through intelligent passes or deft deflections of the ball. He also featured in the goal circle to be one of our regular scorers.

DAVID ORR (CH, CF, Inner)

David could be considered the 'play maker' of the team. He was required to fill a number of positions during the year and in each of these he showed great maturity for his age. David's game is built around excellent ball control skills and a knack of reading the play. He combined these with power hitting which generated many goals from his short corner strikes. His apparent casual appearance is typical of those with great natural ability.

RUSSELL DAVIES (R Half)

The quiet, strong type, Russell provided a regular stumbling block to many an opposition forward. With our supporters' heads turning towards the opposition's goal circle in fear of a score, Russell consistently turned the play back by robbing the ball and passing off to one of our own forwards.

If he can build greater self confidence, Russell will be able to exploit his good ball control skills to greater advantage.

GEOFF HANSEN (L Half)

I have watched Geoff play hockey for the past four years and each year has been better and better. All of his skills have improved, his positioning and creative play have blossomed, and he is now a tenacious character on the half back line. He is also developing an attacking flair into his game which will complement his overall contribution to the team.

ALEX WALLIS (Centre Half)

For a person of his size, it is amazing how much Alex can dominate the hockey field. He is an exceptionally hard worker and nearly always comes off dripping wet with perspiration. In fact, it is sometimes for his own well being that he is given a rest during the game. Coupled with this stamina he has great skills that he uses as a defender near the goal, attacking and passing down the field, and crashing in a shot for goal.

TRISTAN DRAVNIKS (HB, Inner)

During the season Tristan was asked to fill a number of roles depending on who was available on the day. The given role mattered little to Tristan. He is one of those sportsmen who have the magic to attract the ball to themselves no matter where they are (or should have been) playing. He is an aggressive, hard running player who splits open the pack. In his most recent game I have memories of him intercepting the ball near the edge of his defensive circle (he was playing full back at the time) and then running the full length of the field to almost shoot on goal. That run captures the way Tristan plays the game.

UNDER 13 B

KIERAN NETTLETON (Full Back)

If you were casting roles to play in a team instead of positions to play, Kieran (Netts) would be the leader. As full back, he was the coordinator of our defence. Always hard at the ball and barking instructions to team mates, a forward would really know when they were up against him. A determined character, Kieran was also able to read the play well to curtail attacking moves by the opposition.

KIERAN DREW (Full Back)

In comparison to "Netts", we rarely heard much from our other Kieran. It was almost odd that they both happened to play most of their games at full back - a sort of "Jekyll and Hyde" combination. In his own way, this Kieran was equally effective. Another of our consistent performers, he could always be relied on to intercept an attacking forward. The quiet achiever that didn't attract a lot of attention but was always there to do his job.

MEGHAN WILLIAMS (Goal Keeper)

As the only female team member, Meghan held her own amongst the boys. That alone was enough to reveal her spirit. There were many games that Meghan did not have much opportunity to show us her abilities, but when she was called on, the opposition knew who was the boss! Often that meant charging down a forward and sending the ball flying towards the sticks of our embarrassed defenders. At other times it was simply good positioning which saw the ball rebound off her pads. Melville ladies can confidently look to the future with the excellent potential that Meghan displays.

CRAIG ORR (Umpire)

Craig Orr was our regular umpire for the season. For those that have seen him in action, I think you would agree that he is very capable in this role. The way he calmly executed decisions, with the confidence to correct an error, led me to respect his ability. It wasn't said much during the year Craig, but I know that we greatly appreciated your efforts.

FRANK WILLIAMS (Assistant coach and Meghan's mentor)

Without an official role, Frank was invariably at both training and game days to volunteer his services. I'm sure that Dave, the coach, valued this input, especially when there were a dozen or more lively 12 year olds doing their own thing on those cold winter training nights. On the odd occasion Dave was unavailable and I was left to give instructions, I know I appreciated his help. Thanks, Frank.

DAVID HALLIDAY (Coach)

A team of individuals has to be moulded. And although many of the team members have played together before, *any* group of under 13s can at times be a handful. You only have to watch and listen to see the enthusiasm and passion that David has for the game of hockey. Each address to the players was a clear and steady oratory emphasising how the game should be played, how to counter the opponents and the words of encouragement to each and every player. I can honestly say that he never uttered a negative sentence throughout the season - although there was a hint of cheekiness several times. It goes without saying that coaching requires a lot of personal time, effort and forethought. Thanks for a great season Dave.

UNDER 13 SOUTH WEST

The squad was exactly that, a squad. We had 22 players only, so often one or other of the teams were short. However players were keen and we usually had enough volunteers willing to play two games on a Saturday morning to get by. Both coaches agree that we have some good future club members amongst this group. It has been a pleasure for all of us to be associated with the group and their parents. Although not always successful the players saw each game as a challenge in which they could play as well as they could. Thanks for a great season, we hope to see all of you back next season.

John Sanders, Rob Walker (Coaches)
Margaret Rose, Barry Wake (Managers)

SIMON BINT

Simon emerged as a senior member of the squad and proved to be a reliable and mature player. Simon played in a number of positions through the course of the season, often in deep defence.

ERIC CHEUNG

Eric showed a lot of improvement in trapping and disposal through the season. He gets low when tackling which with his persistence increases his effectiveness. Possesses a strong push, needs to do more work on hitting when under pressure.

BEN CLAYTON

First year volunteer goalie who showed improvement through the year. Benefited from regular attendance at the special Monday night training sessions for goalkeepers. He also relishes an occasional game in the field.

CHRIS COOPER

Moved to the half back position where he used his energetic play to initiate many forward moves. He runs well off the ball to create an alternative pass. His skills in passing have improved and he is beginning to look at his tackling skills.

REECE CRAKE

Reece has a strong hit and good stickwork, and is at his most dangerous in the circle. Played in the centre forward position where he made several good deep leads, needs to add back tackling to his repertoire.

JOSH GARDINER

Showed improvement all season, worked hard to get results leading to a brilliant goal in the last game. Played mainly on the left side, Josh listened to suggestions and shows the potential to develop good hockey skills.

PETER GELL

Still a 'whirling dervish', played initially at inside right and more recently in the full back position. He tackles well with his stick on the ground, picking up the most likely attempt to get past. He is one of the few players to use the reverse dribble to good effect.

ELIOT GEORGE

A very keen player, one of the smaller brigade, however he doesn't let his size worry him. He likes to play all over the field, however he has played mainly on the left side.

UNDER 13 SOUTH WEST

DYLAN HADLEY

A regular in the full back position where he has done well in difficult times. He has surprised many with his excellent play in clearing out of defence with strong hits. He is growing in confidence with his own ability to control the ball.

SARA HANNIGAN

A keen player in the inside forward position who has also played on the wing. Showed considerable improvement during the season and applied what was taught during training sessions to the game. Played in a variety of positions when required.

TIM HEAVENS

Started well at full back and then had a go in the goalie position where he excelled. He grew in confidence in this position and filled in for other teams when required. He is, however, keen to play in other positions and shows a broad understanding of the game of hockey.

TROY HYATT

Although still qualified for U 11's he held down the important position of centre half in the Maroon side. A vigorous player who is determined to get the ball at all costs. As he develops in hockey he will learn to distribute the ball to his team mates.

DAVID KEEP

A first year player who is very keen. He needs to develop his reverse side play so that he doesn't get 'tangled up'. He moves the ball well down the wing and scored a memorable goal towards the end of the season.

NATALIE MARGACH

Possesses good stick skills and has shown improvement during the season. A regular at practice, Natalie

has moved to a number of positions during the season. Has grown in confidence and responded well to her parent's support.

ALEX OBIRI-BOATENG

A keen and energetic player who is able to move into good position when forward plays are developing. He would benefit from a strong hit at goal when the opportunity arises. He has made a number of good leads and has also demonstrated disciplined team play by staying in his position.

PAIGE ROSE

Moved from forward to full back during the season to become an important part of the defensive unit. Known as 'Miss Reliable' Paige showed the potential to be a strong full back and was willing to train often and hard.

KIERAN SANDERS

Must have played the largest number of games for Melville Under 13, shows a lot of skill and maturity. He directs the play very well and brings others into the game. He has good basic skills and looks ahead for opportunities to attack. Has demonstrated great team play through his play at centre half.

BRENDAN SPARK

An enthusiastic player who shows good skills. Has volunteered to play as goalie but has relished the chance to play at full back. In the latter stages of the season he showed some aptitude for play in the forward line.

OLIVIA STROMBOLINI

Olivia came down to see her friends play and ended up playing in the forward line for Melville Maroon. Olivia showed a lot of interest in her first year and, despite a broken stick, showed potential as a quick wing.

UNDER 13 SOUTH WEST

CHRISTOPHER TATE

The regular centre forward for the Melville Maroon team, quite skilful however needs to bring others into the play with careful passing. Has demonstrated a good eye for hockey, however was thwarted by injury during the season.

DAVID WAKE

In the latter stages of the season started to bring the ball back in to the centre from the right wing. Knows what is needed and with confidence will become a valuable team member.

MATTHEW WAKE

Made the left half position his own and shows that he enjoys playing in that position. Has been one of the first back to defend again if beaten. He thinks about what he wants to achieve with the ball. Has developed his left/reverse side play as the season progressed.

UNDER 11A

After developing so well throughout the 1998 season we really looked forward to some rewards in 1999. Playing in the "A" division placed us in a position where we were simply out of our depth - a bit like the Dockers playing in the A.F.L.

To our great credit as players, coaches or spectators, we retained our sense of humour, remained positive, endeavoured to improve our skills and knowledge of the game and we never ever threw in the towel. We did the club proud! Thanks go to Kelvin Woodward, Gary Bowater and Norm Morrison for umpiring so well for us during the season.

Coach: Keith Harper
Assistant Coaches: Greg Hunt and Kelvin Woodward

MATTHEW BOWATER

As in 1998, Matty played really well when the play came to him - he played his games at fullback where he tackled hard and intelligently fed the ball out wide to the forwards. As he matures, Matty should begin to read the play more for himself and be able to get into the game when playing as a midfielder or forward.

NEIL FERGUSON

Neil developed into a disciplined half back (both left and right) and could be relied upon to stick like glue to his wing. A much improved tackler, he backed that up with a more aggressive approach to his game. He must work on his hitting so that he can deliver the ball even more effectively to his forwards. Played a couple of games as goalie and acquitted himself well.

JOSHUA HARMON

Joshua (at left half) was able to do a very effective job in keeping right wing players out of the game. He came to understand his role in the defensive D and played his zone so well that we relied on him to make many timely saves and deflections. Joshua has a good reverse stick tackle and is beginning to perform basic safety first defensive habits without having to be told. He must work on his hitting so that he can deliver the ball effectively to his forwards.

CARL HARPER

Again, Carl's running ability saw him able to be both an attacker and defender. As such, he played mostly as an inner and did a

terrific job in marking his opponent. His aggressiveness towards the ball improved in the latter half of the season and he developed into a much better tackler and became part of the action much more often. Needs to develop confidence in his own ability so that he takes on opponents by himself rather than passing the ball off every time he gets it.

JORDAN HUNT

Fresh from minkey, Jordan made the transition to hockey without any trouble at all. He played his best hockey on the wing (the left in particular). Loves to attack and does so very well, but also needs to mark his man when the opposition gets the ball. When he has the ball, Jordan shows signs of being able to read the play well and then make an intelligent pass. As he matures and becomes stronger, Jordan should develop into one of our more skilful players.

SCOTT JACKSON

After his stellar 1998 season it was difficult for Scott to accept that this year he would not score every game. His desire was still there and he played his best hockey at centre forward, but the opposition this year was simply too good for us and we couldn't give Scott the opportunities to strut his stuff. Earned the nickname "Iceman" because of his habit of calling for ice to soothe the pain caused by cracks to his knee, thigh, ankle, fingers... have I missed anything? Certainly the opposition didn't! Hang in there Scott, next year should see a return to the top of the goal scorers podium.

UNDER 11A

LARA JONES

Lara's courage has to be admired because she was in the line of fire of some very fine hockey players this year. Lara has continued her good form from 1998 as a half back and could be relied upon to mark out her opposing wing. Her defensive work in front of goals was terrific and was the biggest area of improvement in her game. She played her role as the second runner on short corners and made many very timely tackles. To polish her game as a half back she needs to work on her hitting so that she can feed her forwards more.

JAMES KENNY

What James lacked in stick work he made up for in tenacity and willingness to be in on the action. He did this in the midfield where he would harass opponents off the ball with his aggressive tackling and he did it with his strong kicking when he filled in as goalie on the odd occasion. James still needs to work on his hitting so he can set up his fellow forwards.

CHRIS MORRISON

Chris was the player who improved the most over the season. His hitting has become much stronger, more reliable and the passes he made were more intelligent. His position play in the midfield really matured and he began to show that he could read the play and get into the right position in both attack and defence. Finally, I admired his willingness to push himself to do the hard running off the ball that is crucial to playing good hockey. Chris should look forward to a top season in 2000.

JOEL NEWMAN

Joel was made captain and he certainly led by example. His work rate, tackling and passing were second to none and he maintained the standard from game one through to game fourteen. He was our "go to" player when we were in trouble. He played mostly at fullback but was more than capable of playing in the midfield. Just a wonderful season.

CAITLIN OOSTERBAAN

When Caitlin worked out what "use a strong right hand" meant and put it into practice she became a valuable wing player. She was more tenacious, beat more opponents and, I'm sure, enjoyed her game more. Her position play improved as the season progressed and when our full backs passed to her we looked like a team that knew how to play good hockey.

TRISTAN RYAN

When Tristan played in goals early in the season he found that he had a natural aptitude for the position, so he took over the pads. Unfortunately a broken leg (*don't* play soccer at school!) cost Tristan a fantastic season. While playing he showed good aggression towards the ball, strong kicking and quick reflexes - all assets for a quality goalkeeper.

JONATHAN STEWART-DAWKINS

It took a while for Jonathan to realise that it's OK to be aggressive in this game. Once he started to attack the ball and get into the action he became a valuable defender. His passing out of defence showed good judgement but, like most of the team, he needs to work on hitting.

STUART TAYLOR

It was great to see Stuart run at opposing defences and "have a go". Although he was one of our better forwards, Stuart was asked to play full back on many occasions as we needed his strong tackle and ability to read the play to help us out in deep defence. His position play improved as a result of his defensive stints and he's a better player for it.

KRISTIAN WOODWARD

Played his best hockey at right wing where he held his position well and centred the ball with terrific hits when he got the opportunity. His back-tackling improved this year and he was better at making second and third efforts. Kristian still needs to work on his hitting style so he shortens his backswing.

UNDER 11 SOUTH WEST

As the coach of this team I had great pleasure in watching all of the players develop and improve their skills and game play as for nearly all of them it was their first season of playing hockey. I thank all those who helped and supported us at both training and games. It was a great pleasure to coach you all.

Craig Burgess - Coach

MATHEW BELL

Mathew always tried his hardest and was always very solid in defence. He also showed great ability in being able to read the play. Mathew was a great help in getting the goalies geared up before the games.

ASHLEIGH BRICKHILL

Ashleigh improved greatly in all her skills particularly in tackling and getting the ball.

CALLUM BINT

Callum improved in all his skills and strength when tackling. He also improved his position play which enabled him to prevent the opposition from getting the ball.

DANIEL BURGESS

As the season went on Daniel showed greater self confidence in being able to read the play and position himself accordingly, he also improved his ability to direct the ball when hitting and passing the ball.

GRAYDN DOAK

Graydn was also a great improver who tried his hardest and was always in there trying to get the ball and nearly always succeeded.

JONATHAN GREENACRE

Jonathan also improved his ability to be able to read the play which enabled him to be more involved in both a defence and attacking role. He also improved his skills and in a lot of games tackled hard and moved the ball into attack nearly scoring some goals.

JAIME GREENACRE

Throughout the season Jaime gained more and more confidence which showed in her skill and game play. Jaime was always willing and enthusiastic to tackle and get the ball. She always tried her hardest at both training and games.

JAIMEE HADLEY

Jaimee's skills improved throughout the season and she was always a great trier and very quick on her feet which helped her to get to the ball before anyone else. Jaimee always listened and followed instructions to the letter.

CHRISTOPHER LEES

Probably the most consistent player in the team, always gave his best and certainly improved his hitting when he got his new stick.

STEVE MARTIN

Another very strong player who's skills improved greatly over the season especially his hitting which showed towards the end of the season in being able to clear the ball out of defence.

ERIN NEEDAM

A very pleasant team member who always tried her hardest and certainly improved her hitting and tackling. Erin was always dependable in both defence and attack.

JAMES OLSON

James improved in his understanding of games play and also improved his ability to dispose of the ball to great effect.

UNDER 11 SOUTH WEST

GRANTLEY STYDOM

The smallest and youngest on the team but this didn't stop him from getting in there and trying hard. Showed great improvement throughout the season.

CAITLYN SURMAN

A strong and attacking player who never gave up. Caitlyn showed great skill in turning midfield play into attacking play and was unlucky not to score some great goals. Another player who always followed instruction to the letter.

KARL TULLOCH

The "Terrier" always getting in there and fighting to get the ball and succeeded. Karl scored some great goals because of his ability to keep pushing forward in some tight situations.

LIAM WOODWARD

Liam has great dribbling skills which he was able to use with great effect. He also is a good reader of the play and showed some great work in defence and attack.