



# NEWSLETTER

Friday 28 February 2020

The 2020 Toyota AFL Premiership Season will officially kick-off in three weeks' time, with plenty of events in store over the next month for past players and officials.

The dates for our annual Brisbane Lions reunion functions have also been set - so be sure to get in touch with us should you wish to attend.

For any other past player-related queries or questions, please email us at [pastplayers@lions.com.au](mailto:pastplayers@lions.com.au)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mon 9 MAR:** VIC Family Fun Day  
9:30am - 12:30pm @ State Netball Centre

**Sun 15 MAR:** AFL CPPOA Bowls Day  
9:30am @ Altona Bowling Club

**Sun 22 MAR:** VIC Reunion  
2pm @ MCG (RD 1 Lions v Hawks)

**Fri 19 APR:** AFL CPPOA Golf Day  
From 8:15am @ Settlers Run Golf Club



## Starcevich's Scare

Senior Coach of the Brisbane Lions AFLW side (and past Bears player) **Craig Starcevich** was admitted to hospital last Friday with a heart arrhythmia.

Starcevich was forced to miss the Lions' QClash draw against the Gold Coast last Saturday, but is back on track and will resume his place at the helm for this week's match.

The Lions remain undefeated after the first three rounds of the 2020 AFLW competition.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full story

## Victoria vs All Stars

The 'Big V' will return to the field tonight when Victoria faces an All Star side in a special State of Origin Bushfire Relief match hosted at Marvel Stadium.

**Stefan Martin** will represent the 'Big V' while his Lions teammates **Lachie Neale**, **Charlie Cameron** and **Harris Andrews** will all feature as part of the All Stars line-up.

All proceeds from tickets sales will go towards supporting those affected by the bushfire crisis.

[CLICK HERE](#) for details surrounding the game



AFL Players' Alumni members get access to a range of benefits, services and support surrounding:

• Health and Wellbeing • Financial Prosperity • Continued Education • Social Connections

Find out how you can join by contacting AFLPA Alumni Manager **Brad Fisher**:

**T:** 03 8651 4300 **E:** [bfisher@aflplayers.com.au](mailto:bfisher@aflplayers.com.au) **W:** [www.aflplayers.com.au/alumni](http://www.aflplayers.com.au/alumni)



## Past Player Reunions

Official invites will be distributed next week for all past players and officials to attend the Club's official reunion functions in Melbourne and Brisbane.

The *Melbourne* reunion will be held on **Sunday 22 March** surrounding the Lions' Round 1 clash with Hawthorn at the MCG, while the *Brisbane* reunion will be held on **Saturday 23 May** surrounding the Lions' Round 10 clash with Gold Coast at the Gabba.

These events are **FREE** for members of the Brisbane Lions Past Players & Officials Association.



## Elmsy Turns 85

Much-loved Fitzroy and Brisbane Lions trainer and Club Life Member **Kevin Elms** was surprised on his 85th birthday with a party at the North Heidelberg Football Club featuring a host of ex-Fitzroy and Lions players.

Elms, who hasn't been in the greatest health of late, was thrilled to celebrate the occasion with the likes of **Jonathan and Brian Brown, Luke Power, Martin Pike, 'Doc' Wheildon, Simon Hawking, Scott Clayton, Ross Thornton**, and many more.

Happy birthday Elmsy!

## New Members on Board

The Brisbane Lions Past Players & Officials Association are thrilled to welcome a host of new members that have signed-up recently, including:

- 2020 Lions Club Champion **Michael Rischitelli**
- Former Bear-turned-Lion **Trent Bartlett**
- 1989 Reserves premiership player **John Ironmonger**

...and many others. Membership is still just \$20 and offers a number of great benefits.

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up today!





## Father/Daughter Rule

Did you know that daughters of any Fitzroy/Bears/Lions player who played at least **one senior match** are eligible to be taken by the Club under AFLW rules?

If you have a young daughter/s who is even remotely interested in following a pathway towards the AFLW, the Club would love to hear from you.

We would be happy to arrange an opportunity for them to meet the current AFLW team at a training session.

Simply email us at [pastplayers@lions.com.au](mailto:pastplayers@lions.com.au)



## Carrara to the Gabba

One of the most significant moments in our Club's Queensland history happened in 1991 when discussions started surrounding the potential move of the then Bears from Carrara on the Gold Coast to Brisbane.

Lions.com.au recently published the often untold story of how the Gabba came to be the Club's new home base in 1992, and they key individuals who helped drive the move.

It proved a landmark decision for the Club's future.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full story

## Bowls Day

Past players and officials from across the VFL/AFL will battle it out for the Ken McKaige Shield on **Sunday 15 March** when the AFL Combined Past Players Association hosts it's annual Bowls Day in Altona.

The event includes a great day of bowling, two-course lunch, a bar tab and prizes - all for just \$30 per person.

We'd love to have a team of four represent the Club!

For further information, please contact **Ted Carroll** on 0418 381 200 or email [tedmfc37@bigpond.com](mailto:tedmfc37@bigpond.com)



Become a member of the  
Brisbane Lions Past Players & Officials  
(incorporating Fitzroy & Bears)  
for just \$20 annually  
[lions.com.au/pastplayers](http://lions.com.au/pastplayers)





## 'Orphanage' Revisited

Former Bears player **Joe Wilson** recently paid visit to 'the orphanage' - a house the Bears owned on the Gold Coast that used to house many of the Club's young recruits.

**Jon Solomon, David Wearne, Lachlan Sim, Tony Paynter, Shaun Hart, Ray Windsor, Chris Guerts, and Peter Worsfold** were among the players that lived there during his short stay, while **David Bain** and **Mark Zanotti** used to clean their pool!

He was fortunate to be given a tour by the current owners, and thought he would share the photos.



## From Spoils to Sales

Former Brisbane Lions full-back **Daniel Merrett** is back working at the Club full-time as Corporate Sales Executive.

'Rog' is responsible for much of the corporate hospitality options at the Gabba, and is always more than happy to assist his fellow past players with discounted rates (where possible) on facilities.

You can contact Dan directly by phoning **07 3335 1722** or emailing [dmerrett@lions.com.au](mailto:dmerrett@lions.com.au)

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the corporate options at the Gabba

## Family Fun Day

The Brisbane Lions will host their annual Family Fun Day in Victoria on **Monday 9 March** (Labour Day Public Holiday) from 9:30am till 12pm at the State Netball & Hockey Centre in Parkville - and all past players and officials are invited to come and meet the current team!

It's always a terrific day, hosted by **Craig Huggins** and featuring Club Legend **Kevin Murray** - who is still the most popular attraction among Lions fans.

The event is **FREE** with plenty of activities for the family.



### CONTACTS

#### Brisbane Lions

c/- Melbourne Office

740 Bourke St, Docklands VIC 3008

**P:** 03 8850 5602

**E:** [pastplayers@lions.com.au](mailto:pastplayers@lions.com.au)

#### AFL Players Association

Brad Fisher

**P:** 03 8651 4366

**E:** [bfisher@aflplayers.com.au](mailto:bfisher@aflplayers.com.au)