



# NEWSLETTER

Thursday 9 July 2020

Since our last newsletter (in March), the 2020 AFL season has certainly taken on a different look and feel as it navigates through the COVID-19 situation.

Thankfully the season seems back on track for now - albeit with reduced match times, last minute fixture changes, and temporary relocation of teams.

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NB:** All scheduled Past Player & Official events and reunions have been postponed until further notice due to the COVID-19 virus precautions.

Only limited seating has been available so far at our home games at the Gabba, while the prospect of playing matches in Melbourne looks unlikely at this stage.



## Lions Uncaged!

The Brisbane Lions returned from the COVID-enforced break in the season in blistering form - winning four straight games at the Gabba to sit second on the AFL ladder.

What's more, their commanding win against the previously unbeaten Port Adelaide last Saturday has seen the Club instilled as premiership favourites with betting agencies!

It is a very positive start to the season that is certain to have more twists, turns and challenges than usual.

A huge challenge awaits tonight against Geelong at the SCG.

## Headed for NSW

After playing four straight matches at the Gabba, the Brisbane Lions are scheduled to play back-to-back games in Sydney - as part of the AFL's bid to keep the season alive amidst interstate border restrictions.

The Lions will face Geelong at the SCG tonight, followed by an encounter with the GWS Giants in Round 7.

It will be the first time in VFL/AFL history that NO Club has played a match in it's home state, with Victorian teams sent to 'hubs' in NSW and QLD.



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)



## Brown & Black Inducted

Former Brisbane Lions premiership teammates **Jonathan Brown** and **Simon Black** were duly inducted into the Australian Rules Hall of Fame last month.

Unfortunately there was no official Hall of Fame ceremony due to the COVID situation.

Brown and Black become the fourth and fifth members of the Lions' three-peat to be recognised after captain **Michael Voss**, **Jason Akermanis** and **Nigel Lappin**.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full story



## Happy Birthday Bulldog

Club Legend and games record-holder **Kevin 'Bulldog' Murray** celebrated his 82nd birthday last month.

Murray joined the *Roar Deal* Podcast to talk about how much he missed footy during the lay-off and what he thinks makes the current Lions crop so special.

He said the COVID-19 pandemic had not had a major impact on his life because he lived a quiet existence on his rural property outside of Shepparton.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full story

## An Unwanted Record

Speaking of **Kevin 'Bulldog' Murray**, the Lions Legend looks set to 'lose' the competition's most unwanted record.

Murray played in 208 losses during his time at Fitzroy, which has long remained the most by any player throughout VFL/AFL history.

Carlton defender Kade Simpson equalled Murray's feat of 208 losses last week, and will surpass 'Bulldog' should he feature in one more Blues loss.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full story





## In Memoriam

The Brisbane Lions are mourning the loss of former Fitzroy player **Brian Barclay**, who passed away aged 82 in April.

Recruited from Williamstown Rovers, Barclay played 61 senior games with the Roys from 1957-62 (including four Finals) predominantly at centre half-back. He remained a strong supporter of the Past Players Association.

The Club also extends it's deepest condolences to Life Member **Deidre Worn**, whose husband Peter also passed away since our last newsletter.



## Home At Last

Do you remember the Brisbane Bears' first 'official' home game at the Gabba in Round 3, 1993?

It was a see-sawing encounter against Melbourne, which despite conceding 60 straight points in the third term, the Bears won by two points.

**Adrian Fletcher** (pictured) was best afield, **Roger Merrett** booted six goals, **Dion Scott** made his Bears debut, and **Michael Voss** and **Nathan Buckley** were teammates.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read how it unfolded

## Rayner's Half Century

Lions forward **Cameron Rayner** reached the first milestone of his young career in Round 5 against Adelaide at the Gabba, when he lined up for his 50th senior game.

What's more impressive, is that Rayner became just the second Number One Pick in VFL/AFL history to play 50 consecutive senior games from his debut.

He will line up for game number 52 tonight against the Cats, edging closer to Carlton ruckman Matthew Kreuzer who holds the current record (56 games).



### CONTACTS

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## LRF Discount

Ex-Brisbane Lion **Brent Staker** turned National Sales executive at LRF Sport is offering all Past Players & Officials 15% off apparel!

LRF - the custom teamwear specialist - have a range of items available online at [www.lrfsport.com.au](http://www.lrfsport.com.au)

Simply use the code **LRFIons15** at checkout to claim your 15% discount. The code is valid until 31 July.

If you have any other queries surrounding LRF products, drop Stakes an email at [brent@lrfsport.com.au](mailto:brent@lrfsport.com.au)



## Five New Lions

A total of **five** players have represented the Club for the first time since the beginning of the 2020 season.

**Deven Robertson** (Round 1), **Grant Birchall** (Round 2), **Thomas Berry** (Round 2), **Callum Ah Chee** (Round 2), and **Cam Ellis Yolmen** (Round 3) are the latest to join the Lions' alumni.

That takes to total number of players to have represented Fitzroy/Bears/Lions in a senior game throughout the Club's combined 134 years to **1,461**.

## Fitzroy's Last Game

Lions.com.au recently featured an in-depth article surrounding the lead-up to Fitzroy's last ever AFL game.

Before the emotion-charged farewell game in Perth, the 1944 Fitzroy premiership flag, faded and tattered, was unfurled by **Kevin Murray**, **Bernie Quinlan**, Haydn **Bunton Jnr** and **Ron Alexander**. And in the game each Fitzroy player wore a Lion temporarily tattooed on their arm.

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



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