



SWANSMEN

ON THE BALL !

THE NEWSLETTER OF SWANSMEN INC.

A COTERIE GROUP OF THE SWAN DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB INC.



SWANSMEN

2023 **ISSUE 2** - April

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The Excitement is Brewing

After a long pre-season and with the start of scratch matches, the excitement is brewing for the start of the 2023 WAFL season. The boys are looking fitter and stronger and are biting at the bit to get out on the park. Here's hoping that all the hard work is not in vain. The first men's game of the year is away on Good Friday 7th April against East Perth at Leederville Oval. The first men's home game is on Saturday 15th April against East Fremantle. Get down and support the players in their first home game of the season and drop into the Swansmen Lounge and renew acquaintances over a cold drink.

On the Women's front, the girls were home to Subiaco in Round 2. The Rogers Cup girls had a good start kicking two goals to one in the first but were kept goalless in the second while Subiaco added three. That was the match winning quarter for Subiaco with the second half been an even tussle. It was a day to forget for the League, only managing one goal for the day they went down by 47 points. Round 3 was a bye for the Rogers Cup girls while the League took on Claremont at Steel Blue. The girls had a good start kicking two goals to one in the first but were kept goalless for the rest of the match and eventually went down by 24 points. The girls travelled to Fremantle in Round 4 to take on South's. In an even contest the young Swan's Rogers Cup girls managed to kick two goals to zip in the last to win by six points. The Leagues woes continued been outscored in every quarter to go down by 53 points. It's not the start that Adam would have been looking for but the season is still young. After Round 4 the League are still second last with the Rogers Cup girls sitting to fifth with only percentage separating third and sixth.

Mike Richardson – Ball Legend 2023

Mike Richardson has had his stellar career honoured, by being awarded the WAFL Ball Legend for Swans for 2023. Mike played 144 games for Swans kicking 220 goals, playing in the 1982 premiership and leading goalkicker that year, Swans Team of the Century and received Life Membership in 2000. He went on to play 156 VFL games with Collingwood, Essendon and Brisbane. He played 10 State Games for WA, 2 Australian International games and was an All-Australian in 1983. A magnificent career of 307 games and 400 goals. Congratulations Mike, and we look forward to hearing from him as our guest speaker at the June dinner.



Swansmen welcome RetraVision Auction support

We have received a great start to the 2023 Auction with local company RetraVision agreeing to be naming rights sponsor for this year's major fundraiser. National Business Development Manager Carl Sanders was delighted to be able to partner with the Swansmen and link up with the Swan Districts Football Club through a commercial arrangement. The auction will be held during the month of August and with the support of RetraVision we hope to have up to 250 items this year through the Galabid on-line portal. Almost \$60,000 was raised last year.



With Kim Doust now chairing a vibrant committee, we look forward to an even bigger result later in the year.

Trevor Hoy (President)



APRIL DINNER MEETING

Tuesday 18th APRIL 2023 6:30pm
Past Players & Officials Room Upstairs

GUEST SPEAKER



Dr Kevin Smythe – PhD in Qantas and United States Catalina Aircraft

Kevin is a former Air Force Senior Officer with a 23-year career in Air Force Operations including overseas operational experience. After many years working overseas he returned to Australia in 2016 and took up doctoral studies at Curtin University. He completed a Doctorate in Qantas and United States Catalina Aircraft which flew from Perth between 1942 and 1945. Kevin is also the Director of the International Commission of Military History Australia. Some of his local projects include the Catalina Trail in Nedlands and the Submarine Net project on the South Mole in Fremantle.

Numbers must be confirmed before Tuesday 11th April by one of the following methods:

RSVP via the online link at [RSVP](#) or phone Trevor Hoy on 0405 453 042

Please note, that if you RSVP 'Yes' to a dinner and do not attend the Swansmen still have to pay for your meal.

Invite a Guest

We ask all members to RSVP to the dinners early and we ask that you endeavour to bring along a guest so that we get good numbers and increase our profile.

Membership Drive

A reminder for those who have not renewed their membership to please do so. An email will be sent out. Subscriptions are only \$35 and can be paid by any of the following methods:

- Pay at the Club Office (together with your Club Membership) and add the Swansmen membership
- Pay online via the Club webpage
- Pay at the first Dinner Meeting
- Pay direct to the Swansmen bank account, BSB: 036-080 A/C: 276254, include your name.

March Dinner Meeting

- League coach Andrew Pruyn took time out from team training to give a run down on where the league squad was at and his expectations for the year. He explained that pre-Xmas pre-season was demanding under new Fitness Coach Andrew Budge, with emphasis not only on strength and fitness but mental health as well. Apparently a 16kg steel bar became their best friend. Training was four times a week with beach and SAS workouts. There was also a trip to Bluff Knoll but it was no holiday with the players ascending and descending three times. Post Xmas was back into a normal three day a week regime concentrating on match simulations and skills. The new recruits are doing well and he was encouraged by the number of past players wanting to come down and lend a hand. These include Mark Piani, Travis Edmonds, Scott Cummings and the Doc Nathan Blakely.

- The dinner raffle was drawn by Andrew Pruyn with Darryl Crotty taking out the prize.



Left - Andrew Pruyn giving his address



Right - Andy Holmes giving an update on the Club affairs



The meal of the night, silverside with potato bake, vegies and gravy, finished off with apple pie and cream, yuuuummmmm!!!!

Men's Season Launch and Player Auction

The Men's Season Launch was held at the Club on Thursday 30th March. A good attendance of players and supporters saw the boys receive their jumpers and participate in the Player Auction. There were 10 groups up for grabs and they were hotly contested. There was serious bidding again between the major sponsors present with a total of \$42,100 collected. I battled hard for the Swansmen but our \$3,000 was no match for the big guns with the cheapest group selling for \$2600, Group 3, and the dearest going for \$5700, Group 9. Better luck next year.

Thursday Night – Swans Members Night

All Club Members and Supporters are invited to Steel Blue Oval on Thursday nights to watch the team train and then join in the following activities in the main bar:

League Team Announcements – after training, Andrew will announce the senior team.

Chase the Ace – The jackpot as of Thursday 30th March is \$1,730.

Free Members Draw – The jackpot as of Thursday 30th March is \$1,400. The lucky member must be in attendance and claim the prize within 2 minutes – otherwise a jackpot of \$100 is added.

Fundraising for 2023

AFL Grand Final/Cash Bonanza Raffle - Tickets on sale now and selling fast. The winner will be drawn at the June dinner. Price is \$100 each and will be restricted to just 220. Major prize is the choice of a return trip for 2 to the 2023 AFL Grand Final or \$5000 cash. There will also be a second prize of \$500 and third prize of \$250 plus 22 consolation prizes of your money back. See Peter Snow or Committee for tickets.

Sponsor A Picket - This is your chance to share in a unique piece of Western Australian sporting history. The sponsored picket could be a birthday gift, memorial remembrance for a loved one, personal favourite spot, or just a tribute to the great memories over the years at Bassendean Oval. Your choice of location around the ground. **Only \$150.00**

The Auction - Kim Doust has put his hand up to Co-ordinate the Auction this year. I thank Kim for his support. It will be an On-line event only again this year and will run the entirety of August. The Club is on board again to make this the big fundraiser for the season. The Auction site should be up and running mid July. Watch this space, the Club website and your inbox for further details.

Donations from businesses and members will be most welcomed, so if you can supply any goods or services or have any contacts who can, or have a spare dollar or hundred, it would be most appreciated.

Swansmen Lounge Busy Bee

The annual Swansmen Lounge busy bee was held on Sunday 2nd April. This was a low key affair as the windows will be cleaned by the professionals when the Sponsors Lounge windows are cleaned and the

carpets will be vacuumed by the Club work experience youths before the first Men's home game. A big thanks to Ross Leipold for organising this. That only left the odd cobweb to be removed, the rejuvenation of the front window shelves, hanging a few Auction cheques and photos and a general cleanup. The concrete floor from the east end of the can bar to the Swansmen Lounge was high pressure cleaned. The morning ended with the mandatory sausage sizzle and coldie.

A big thanks to Peter Bacon, Jim Benson, George Brock, Peter and Caroline Clements, Kim Doust, Steve Grech, Des Hardiman, Trevor Hoy, Ted Martin, Robin McVee, Tim Outred, John Rowe and Ross Wheldon for their hard work.



CONGRATULATIONS – Darryl Crotty

It was remiss of me not to mention in the March Edition Darryl Crotty' nomination into the Swan Districts Football Club Life Member fraternity. His record was listed at the recent Club AGM in February and endorsed by the members. Darryl has volunteered at the Club for over 20 years. His roles have included being runner, trainer, team manager and Assistant Coach of the Club's WAFL Reserves side. He has also been a committee member of the Swansmen and was awarded the Club's 10 year long service award in 2018 and Best Club Person in 2020. Congratulation Darryl, well deserved.



Coming Events

Date	Event	Time	Venue/ Guest	Guest Speaker
Tuesday 4th April	Committee Meeting	6:00pm	Swansmen Lounge	
Friday 7th April	1 st GAME - SD vs EP	2:10pm	Leederville Oval	
Tuesday 18th April	DINNER MEETING 2	6:30pm	PPOA Room	Dr Kevin Smythe
Saturday 15th April	1 st HOME GAME - SD vs EF	2:10pm	Steel Blue Oval	
Wednesday 17th May	DINNER MEETING 3	6:30pm	Mandoon Estate	Andrew Embley Panel
Tuesday 6th June	Committee Meeting	6:00pm	Swansmen Lounge	
Tuesday 20th June	DINNER MEETING 4	6:30pm	PPOA Room	Mike Richardson
Saturday 1st July	Hall of Fame Night	6:00pm	Presidents Suite	

Committee 2023

President:	Trevor Hoy	0405 453 042	president.swansmen@gmail.com
Vice President:	Tim Outred	0403 337 996	timbo63@live.com.au
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