



ROUND TWO

23.04.2022 · MANGO OVAL

ANZAC CLASH

MCUE GOANNAS VS WAGGA TIGERS

FARMERS

— HOME —
HOTEL



PURCHASE BALL TICKETS HERE



THE MCUE SOCIAL COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE
TO INVITE YOU TO THE

Mangoplah Country Ball

7:00PM

BURRANDANA HALL
BAR · COCKTAIL FOOD · WOBBLY BOOT

28.05.2022

BUS DEPARTS FARMERS HOME AT 6:30PM
PICK UP ALSO AT MANGOPLAH PUB 7:00PM
RETURN BUS TO FARMERS HOME AT 12:00AM
BALL TICKETS \$70 · BUS TICKETS \$25
PAY VIA MCUE WEBSITE BY MONDAY 23/05/2022

2022

PLAYER LIST

02	Shannan RUSSELL	26	Hannah KEELY	57	Eliza PARKER
04	Katie CALLER	29	Steph DEW	58	Kaylah UPFIELD
05	Tracy SCHULZ-COLE	31	Georgie YATES	60	Ellie CLARKE
07	Ash REYNOLDSON	35	Bree O'REILLY	61	Ruby GILLARD
08	Rachel MULLANE	36	Ruby MARHIONI	63	Ella SMALL
09	Phoebe WALLACE	37	Amity WOOD	64	Ivy WINTER
11	Kate WALLACE	39	Alicia JOHNSON	67	Ava MOLLER
12	Mikaela COLE	41	Hannah ANDERSON	68	Ella HALE
13	Sharni SALAU	44	Emily JOHNSON	70	Mia WILLIS
16	Sarah MEYERS	45	Samara DAVIS	71	Ruby DOHERTY
17	Claudia LAWRENCE	46	Eliza SMITH	72	Olivia HUNT
18	Jemma YATES	47	Isabel EDMUNDS	73	Evie MCINTYRE
20	Sarah ANDERSON	49	Caitlin WHEELER	74	Georgia JOHNSON
21	Sara LANGFIELD	51	Sophie EDMUNDS	75	Amber GAYLER
24	Lakin HANIGAN	52	Maddie MCINTYRE	76	Georgie POWELL

01	Harry Collins	33	Riley Green	65	Beau Edmonds
02	Padric Griffin	34	Wes Clark	66	Heath Hosie
03	Jake Hindmarsh	35	Nick Collins	68	Cruise Chambers
04	Brayden Ambler	37	Trent Cohalan	70	Sam Moller
05	Matt Collins	38	Christian Palombi	71	Izaak Jones
06	Ryan Price	39	Max Hanrahan	72	Jack Woodhouse
07	Ryan Turnbull	40	Douglas Arthur	73	Tex Chambers
08	Patrick Killalea	41	Zac Wiencke	74	Harvey Brown
09	Nicholas McCormack	42	Flynn Collins	75	Tom Smith
10	Jack Collins	43	Jarrod Thorweston	76	Ryan Wales
11	Harrison Whitley	44	Joe Melton	77	Mitch Bloomfield
12	Jesse Cunningham	45	Zac Hanarahan	79	Charlie Mohr
13	Ethan Schiller	46	Matt Pollack	80	Ned Sainsbury
14	Johnno Male	47	Henry Collie	81	Will Seymour
15	Tom Keogh	48	Nick McAuliffe	82	Bayley Moller
16	Tim Smith	49	Xavier McDevitt	83	Lewis Pulver
17	Isaac Damme	50	Luke Lawrence	84	Julien Learmont
18	Alex McCormack	51	Lachlan Bradley	85	Ash Smith
19	Trent Castles	52	Lachlan Bender	86	Xavier Moller
20	James Scott	53	Jeremy Rowe	87	Charlie Spackman
21	Adam Stubenrauch	54	Saxon Hodges	88	Charlton King
22	Mitch Sykes	56	Connor Qaude	89	Ben Male
23	Ben Halse	57	Harry Wheeler	90	Cody Reynoldson
24	Dom Bunyan	58	Harry Dew	91	Jai Brooks
25	Connor Griffin	60	Cody Jarick	92	James Godde
27	Justin Dore	61	Riley Cole	93	Charlie Hounsell
28	Jake Whitley	62	Max Nieberding	94	Mark Walker
30	Charlie Chambers	63	Isaac Molloy	95	Murray Beer
32	Bailey Jones	64	Tyson Gentle	96	Keenan Wood

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9:00AM U17 & C GRADE NETBALL

10:00AM B GRADE NETBALL

10:30AM U17.5 FOOTBALL

11:15AM A RESERVE NETBALL

12:10PM RESERVE GRADE FOOTBALL

12:30PM A GRADE NETBALL

2:00PM THE ODE, LAST POST, & MINUTE SILENCE

2:10PM FRIST GRADE FOOTBALL

5:30PM GAME DAY AWARDS

6:00PM MUG SPONSORS & CALCUTTA AUCTION

6:30PM SNSW WOMEN'S FOOTBALL AWARDS

7:00PM MUSIC

10:00PM BUS DEPARTS FOR TOWN

SOCIAL MEDIA

FOLLOW & TAG US @MCUEGOANNAS



RESULTS AND AWARDS

ROUND 1: GRIFFITH vs MCUE

Under 17.5s Lost 8.16 (64) - 9.4 (58)

Players Player – Lewis Pulver

Farmers Home – Tom Smith

Intersport – Xavier McDevitt

Wagga Meat Supply – Keenan Wood

Reserves Grade Won 7.5 (47) - 9.12 (66)

Farmers Home - Riley Green

Intersport - Cruise Chambers

Wagga Meat Supply - Jacob Whitley

First Grade Won 5.8 (38) - 10.7 (67)

Farmers Home – Trent Cohalan

Intersport – Ryan Turnbull

Wagga Meat Supply – Jono Male

Under 17's Won 23 - 34

Farmers Home - Olivia Hunt

Wagga Meat Supply - Ruby Marchioni

C Grade Won 19 - 37

Farmers Home - Emily Johnson

Wagga Meat Supply - Samara Davis

B Grade Won 23 - 36

Farmers Home - Claudia Lawrence

Wagga Meat Supply - Hannah Keely

A Reserve Won 34 - 38

Farmers Home - Alicia Johnson

Wagga Meat Supply - Caitlin Wheeler

A Grade Won 33 - 47

Farmers Home - Ruby Gillard & Kaylah Upfield

Wagga Meat Supply - Katie Caller

FARMERS

— HOME —
HOTEL



 **INTERSPORT**



Pictured Above:

A Grade BOG Kaylah & Ruby and our
First Grade BOG Trent

Our fallen ANZACs

BY MICHAEL McCORMACK

Long before Mangoplah and Cookardinia football clubs united – 40 years in fact – men from the neighbouring districts were rivals on the sporting field but soon after very much as one on the battlefields of World War I.

The service and sacrifice of those mighty men will again be honoured when Mangoplah-Cookardinia United-Eastlakes Football and Netball Club's teams wear special ANZAC Day jumpers and tops and a minute's silence is observed before the 23 April first grade home game against Wagga Tigers.

It is a small yet significant way of saying: We remember.

The Great War of 1914-18 began just three days after Cookardinia had been beaten by Henty by 20 points – 4.12 (36) to 2.4 (16) – in the Yerong Creek Association grand final at Henty on 1 August 1914. Cookardinia qualified, having beaten Mangoplah by 50 points – 9.20 (74) to 3.6 (24) – at home the previous Saturday. In both games Les McPhillamy was listed as Cookardinia's best. His brothers John and Ronald both served with the Australian Imperial

Force (AIF). The 1915 season was held with the Ted Harper-led Mangoplah defeating Yerong Creek by 19 points – 6.8 (44) to 3.7 (25) – in the decider at Mangoplah and then the competition went into recess for the next two years.

With Diggers falling with grim regularity at the Dardanelles and newspaper columns across the country being taken up with local casualties, football was not a priority.

Every able-bodied man was required and they volunteered in droves to fight in Europe, eager to “do their duty for God, King and Country”.

When the next global conflict occurred in 1939, locals again enlisted enthusiastically.

As communities and families, we are indebted to all of our forebears who donned a uniform – Air Force, Army, Navy or nursing – and joined that long line of khaki stretching back to Gallipoli and beyond.



MONUMENT: Mangoplah's cenotaph at night.



Diggers from Mangoplah, Cookardina and Eastlakes do us proud

FARMER: From the USA to Australia to France, Private Jesse Creasy is remembered amongst Mangoplah's fallen heroes.

This feature highlights the extraordinary efforts of those from these parts who went to WWI but never returned.

Those who made the supreme sacrifice include a soldier who used an alias upon enlistment and who died at Gallipoli, an American-born farmer and an author.

Their names are amongst those etched in gold on the granite memorial at Mangoplah. The impressive monument is dedicated to the 14 courageous locals – four from The Great War and 10 from World War II – who died on active service.

That was a significant loss from this tiny farming district.

First to fall was a drover living at Walgett who signed on as James Taylor (Service No. 550) at Liverpool on 4 November 1914.

He was listed as being 28 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches tall (175 centimetres) with brown hair, blue eyes and his initials MJ tattooed on his left forearm ... for he was, in fact, 34-year-old Michael Jones whose mother Sarah lived at "Green Ridge", Albury Road, Wagga Wagga.

Sailing out of Sydney with the 7th Light Horse Regiment on the HMAT *Ajana* A31, Trooper Taylor as he was known was sent to Gallipoli and lost his life during the epic August Offensive, the last major attempt by Allied forces to end the stalemate which had dogged the ANZACs since the 25 April 1915 landings.

Army Chaplain Father Michael Bergin officiated at the burial service; Michael Jones being laid to rest in Shell Green Cemetery No. 1, about 1150 yards south of ANZAC Cove.

Creasy is a long-standing and respected family name in the Mangoplah district yet Jesse Maxwell Creasy, son of James, was born in Virginia in the United States.

Like so many other Riverina farmers, Jesse Creasy (2028) enlisted with the AIF at Cootamundra on 23 March 1916.

Sadly, he would be dead within a year, sustaining a gunshot wound to the abdomen in action at Dernancourt in France and dying of wounds three agonising days later.

He was just 26.

Mangoplah's close-knit community also mourned the loss of Private John Stanley Hawkins (6074), who died on 8 October 1917 from shrapnel wounds to his spine and left thigh sustained in action with the 23rd Battalion five days earlier at Ypres, Belgium.

He was only 23.

English-born Merlin Kinneir Tarte was a short story writer whose works were published in Australia.

A student at the Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm, Pte Tarte was accepted into the AIF in 1917 on his second attempt, having been discharged as medically unfit two years earlier.

Shot in his right shoulder during action in France at the start of March 1918, Pte Tarte (3704) recovered in England and when he was fit again for duty joined the 2nd Machine Gun Battalion.

He took a severe shrapnel wound in his back, penetrating his chest, whilst serving on the Hindenburg Line near Peronne, France, and died the next day, aged 27.

Cookardinia Memorial Hall, built in 1925, has a wooden scroll acknowledging 34 men "For duty nobly done". Regrettably, seven have an asterisk beside their name, indicating they died whilst on WWI service.



MEETING PLACE: Cookardinia's Memorial Hall was built in 1925 by a community grateful for the sacrifices made by local men who went to war.

The seven remembered on the Cookardinia honour board are William John Carrucan (Service No. 5317), John Patrick Goodwin (5342), Charles Patrick MacDonnell (6915), John Ernest Patterson (6079), Allan Scott (5898), John Edmund Smith (6625) and David Tonks (2001).

HMAT *Wiltshire* A18 was one of the steamships requisitioned by the Australian Government for use as a troop transport.

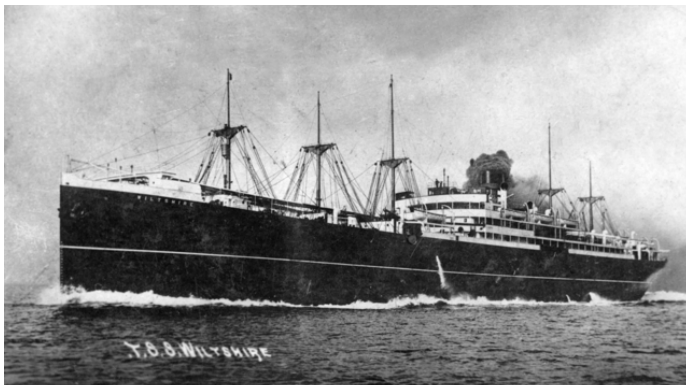
It was this troopship which carried four of Cookardinia's seven fallen to The Great War.

Weighing 10,390 tons and with an average cruise speed of 13.5 knots or 25 kilometres an hour, *Wiltshire* was one of the ships of the first convoy which assembled in King George's Sound, Albany, Western Australia, in October 1914 to carry Australian and New Zealand forces to Europe. *Wiltshire* continued such duties, completing nine voyages from Australia, until released by the Australian Government on 2 October 1917.

Three of Cookardinia's ill-fated heroes who left Sydney aboard *Wiltshire* all did so on the same day – 22 August 1916. Ptes Carrucan and Goodwin were on *Wiltshire* with the 5th Infantry Brigade 20th Infantry Battalion 14th Reinforcements, a 152-strong unit boasting many Riverina boys including Mangain's Chauncy brothers Oliver and Alfred, the latter of whom was killed in action in Belgium in 1917. Pte Patterson sailed on *Wiltshire* with 3rd Infantry Battalion 19th Reinforcements, of 142 men, including Lockhart's Military Medallist Percy Day, killed in action in Belgium in the same October week as poor Alf Chauncy.



REMEMBERED: The 34 Cookardinia locals who served in WWI are immortalised on the village's honour board. Picture: Bec Trethowan



TROOPSHIP:
HMAT *Wiltshire* A18 which carried Australian soldiers to the First World War, including four Cookardinia Diggers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Applying to enlist in the AIF at Holbrook on 29 January 1916, William Carrucan gave his address as "Woodlands" near Holbrook.

He was 22 years young, 172cm tall (5'8"), weighing 76kg (12st), with fair hair and blue eyes.

Disembarking at Plymouth in south west England, Pte Carrucan then proceeded to France via *Princess Henrietta*, arriving on 13 December 1916.

To underline how regimented a soldier's life was and the discipline required, Pte Carrucan had to forfeit three days of pay for "neglect of duty" on 22 January 1917 ... his offence: appearing at parade unshaven!

His war was brief. He was killed in action in the Somme on 2 March 1917 and buried in an isolated grave ½ mile south east of Le Sars, 3½ miles south west of Bapaume.

His body was later exhumed and reinterred at Warlencourt British Cemetery.

Pte Goodwin, a farmer, was killed in action aged only 23 on 6 February 1917 at Albert, a commune in the Somme department in Hauts-de-France in northern France, located about halfway between Amiens and Bapaume.

His effects were sent to his uncle and aunt, Anthony and Margaret Buswell of "Rock Point" Cookardina. The package, which arrived on 25 July 1917, contained two identity discs, rosary beads, crucifix, letters, photographs, cards, a prayer book, two religious medallions, a pocket notebook and wallet.

His aunt wrote to authorities requesting permission to have the following inscription on his grave in the Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension:

"A beautiful memory left behind
Of the loving ones so true and kind.
We have lost, but Heaven has gained
One of the best this world contained."

However, this exceeded the 66 letters (less the spaces between words, each space counting as a letter) allowed.

Mrs Buswell wrote back on 21 March 1922, requesting the epitaph simply read:

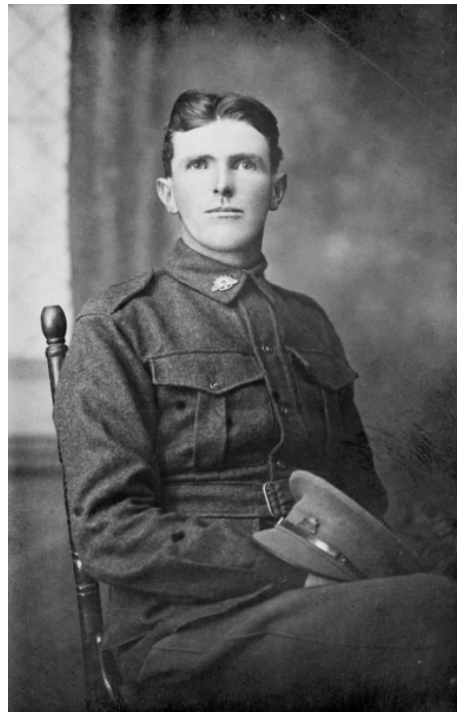
"He died as he lived a man."

Sadly, Mrs Buswell died later that year.

The Buswells' own son, Allan Anthony, served in the 56th Battalion but was invalided home in late 1917, a gunshot wound fracturing his right leg.

Pte John Ernest Patterson, a 31-year-old blacksmith, enlisted at Cootamundra on 17 February 1916 and was shot in a shoulder and right thigh at Bullecourt, dying of his wounds at the 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station in France on 7 May 1917. His Roll of Honour circular indicated his cousin, Lighthorseman Hubert Roulstone Clifford Currie of Wangaratta, had been killed in action at Lone Pine, Gallipoli, in 1915.

Such was the deadly toll war wreaked upon families.



HERO: Private John Ernest Patterson, 3rd Battalion, was a blacksmith before his WWI service via Mangoplah.

John Smith's tale was particularly tragic.

The mine host of Cookardinia's famous old Squatters' Arms Hotel, he lost his young wife Ada (née Chapman) just days after she gave birth to their son, Edward.

As Cheryl Crighton writes in her book about Cookardinia's WWI enlisted men, *A Dead Man's Penny*: "It must have been with a heavy heart that John made the decision to enlist. His brother, Edward, was already at the front. John entrusted his infant son to his late wife's parents (Joseph and Mary) to be cared for."

John also departed the land he loved on *Wiltshire*, leaving Sydney with 19th Infantry Battalion 19th Reinforcements on 7 February 1917.

Eight months later he was dead ... killed in action aged 31 in Belgium.

Young Edward was awarded a fortnightly war pension of £1 from 13 January 1918.

In the darkest days of WWII, that orphaned lad would sign on to the cause, serving with the Australian Army from 1942-46 as a signalman.

Cookardinia farm labourer Allan Scott left Sydney aged just 23 on 7 October 1916 with 5th Infantry Brigade 20 Infantry Battalion 16th Reinforcements aboard HMAT *Ceramic A40* ... sadly never to return.

Shot in the right shoulder in France on 7 April 1918, Pte Scott lingered until 2 May when he finally succumbed after his lung haemorrhaged.

He was buried in plot 4, row 18, grave 18 of the Abbeville Communal Cemetery Extension in the Somme region of France – one of the graveyard's 774 Commonwealth burials of WWI.

Dublin-born Cookardinia schoolteacher Thomas MacDonnell and his wife Jane Ann (née Comerford) produced three sons who went to The Great War.

The boys' parents had both passed on before their boys enlisted; Thomas dying in 1890 at the age of 54 and Jane in 1908 aged about 61.

Their son, Charles Patrick, was born at Gundagai, served in the Second Boer War of 1899-1902 and was a fortnight shy of his 44th birthday when killed in action at Villers-Bretonneux on 3 April 1918, an important defensive effort by the Australians against the Germans in the Somme. He has no known grave.

Another son, John "Jack" Michael, served with the 56th Battalion in Egypt and France, notably at Fleurbaix (Fromelles) and Flers; was seriously wounded, invalided home and was a cripple at Randwick Hospital at the time of Charles's death. He died in 1930, aged 53.

A third boy, Albert Donald, served with the 1st Lighthouse in Palestine, returning home at war's end after contracting malaria. He was discharged medically unfit and died in the Prince of Wales Military Hospital, Randwick, in 1935.



STILL STANDING:

The Squatters' Arms Hotel which dates from the 1860s and the 1916-17 publican of which, John Edmund Smith, served and died in WWI. The inn closed its doors in 1925 but reopened briefly for the 1976 filming of *Mad Dog Morgan* with an all-star cast including Dennis Hopper, Jack Thompson AM, David Gulpilil AM and Frank Thring.

Brave heroes all

David Tonks was destined to be a soldier ... and a good one at that!

He was born at Cookardina in 1896 on a date set to become famous – 25 April – to English migrants Samuel and Eliza who had taken on share farming at “Wyanawah Station”. Enlisting at Cootamundra with his parents’

consent aged just 19 years and 10 months on 29 February 1916, Pte Tonks was amongst a number of Riverina boys in the 56th Infantry Battalion.

He was wounded in action and later hospitalised after being gassed in 1917.

The following year he earned a Military Medal and later a Bar to his award for conspicuous gallantry as a Sergeant in Warneton (south of Ypres and east of Messines) and south of the Somme respectively. But Sgt Tonks’s courageous service ended in the French Accroche Wood on 28 August 1918 when he was

killed in action. He was the last of the Mangoplah and Cookardina WWI warriors to fall and the most decorated.

As related in Laurence Binyon’s stirring 1914 poem *For the Fallen*:

"They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;
They fell with their faces to the foe.
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."

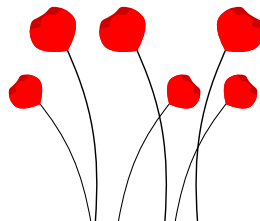
And we can and should be eternally grateful for and proud of them. Ordinary men from Mangoplah and Cookardina who did extraordinary things.

Just like Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey (1884-1951) – born at Lake Albert (Eastlakes) – who was present at the 25 April 1915 Gallipoli landings, fought in the Battles of Pozières, Hamel, Amiens and St Quentin Canal in WWI and who proved one of Australia’s greatest military leaders in WWII.

Brave heroes all ... and from the districts which form our historic sporting club.



GALLANT: Private David Tonks who would be awarded a Military Medal and Bar, with his mother Eliza.



PRESIDENT - GEOFF SEYMOUR

Hello and a big welcome to our Players, Members, Sponsors and The Wagga Tigers to our first home game (our ANZAC weekend clash) of 2022. Gee we are excited to be here after an abrupt end to the 2021 season. There is a big feeling around our club that we have unfinished business. While we were awarded Club Championships for both Netball and Football in 2021 it was considered a second fiddle consolation prize to what we knew we were possible of last year. We have made no secret of our intentions this year across all grades as we move to remedy the missed opportunities of last year. It is 29 years since we tasted first grade football success. Head Football coach Jeremy Rowe has accumulated a strong list with some very familiar faces welcomed back to the fold. Adding these returning players to our existing Canberra locals and a league winning goal kicker, should set us up for a strong season. Not content with this we have also utilised the marquee player rule to also welcome former NEAFL player Ben Halse to our club. I cannot wait to see our first grade at full strength and playing the fast flowing football Rowley is instilling into them as second nature. Welcome to existing and new coaches. I specifically make mention of our new A Grade Netball coach – Mikaela (Sid) Cole, big shoes to fill Sid but we know you are the one to continue our Netball dynasty. For Second Grade Football we welcome Mitch Sykes and anyone who has been around football for the past 40 years knows this family name well. Mitch has some real interest in developing his coaching knowledge and we thank him for taking this on. B Grade Netball we welcome Lisa Reynoldson & Tracey Shultz-Cole and Leanne Frow for 17's Netball. The start of the season has seen some new initiatives. We thank Aussie for the Kent McRae Members Draw with the aim of increasing memberships and post game attendance by members, get your membership online at our new website mcuegoannas.com.au and stick around after the home games to win \$100 cash, jackpotting each home game if it is not claimed. A big thank you to Sharon and Steph Dew for putting their hands up for the management of the canteen - this is a huge undertaking and we greatly appreciate you both. Goanna Lotto has also kicked off with weekly draws of \$250 along with some special big \$1000 draws on sponsors day, 300 club and at Presentation night. \$400 per ticket with excess funds going to our new building and infrastructure fund. Tickets still available so get one today if you haven't already. You will notice the improvements to our visitors changerooms are all but completed. We await our new lighting towers and lights which will place our ground as one of the best lit grounds in Wagga once these are installed. Don't forget the MCU Ball on the 28th May at the Barrandana Hall, we would love to see the surrounding community support this so come along for a great night. Finally volunteers make great clubs and we have some terrific contributors, it cannot be stated enough that we need more helpers! Put your hand up, get in and do your bit, don't wait to be asked or be rostered. Be a contributor not a taker. Have a great day and be wary of the Goanna.

FIRST GRADE - JEREMY ROWE

To The MCUE Faithful, Footy was back and we couldn't have been happier to see the boys run around in the Blue and Gold again. The trip to Griffith isn't the best but it's a terrific facility and on a terrific day of footy, I reckon we would have been excited no matter where we played. We welcome back several former MCUE players in Jack Collins, Isaac Damme, Tim Smith and Nick McCormack whilst Mitch Sykes played his first Senior game since Rd1 in 2020. With many faces returning, the group felt reunited, refreshed and ready to rock. Training during the week had been tremendous and the pre-game feel was electric and it seemed that we were ready to make a Rd1 statement. We burst out of the blocks in a sense that we were dominating around the ground however despite the artillery we had forward of the ball, we lacked the killer instinct in front of goal, crumbed poorly and at times we were pushed around by the Griffith backline in aerial contests. 7 scoring shots only yielded a total of 12 and when the game could have been put to bed it was still in the balance going in to the first break. Things looked on track early in the second before some poor discipline changed the momentum of the game. It would start an ongoing arm wrestle where both teams would have good moments without getting off the chain completely. Despite us feeling in control for most of the contest, Griffith threatened on a large scale in the 3rd quarter, briefly heading us by a point. They were winning the big contests and the home crowd sensed a boil over. We were second to the footy, we turned the ball over due to poor kicking preparation, we had lost our composure and our game plan was not being followed in any way. Knowing that we were going against the breeze in the last it was clear that a gutsy effort would be required to get us out of jail for the day. Thankfully, that is exactly what we got. We started to win the important contests, we fed it back under pressure and started to play with system and with our backline standing up, our midfield lifted and provided the forward 6 with enough opportunities to pull away and win by 19 points – it wasn't the performance we wanted, it was not a performance that will win big games but it was a Win and winning is a habit. We take the 4 points and move on desperate to improve and improve quickly. Max Hanrahan's second half was huge, and his desperation helped get us over the line. Tom Keogh returned to form with a terrific start at CHB and a strong finish on the wing. Tim Smith anchored our backline and was composed and steady when many weren't while Ethan Schiller was busy around the contest and had 3 caught with the balls to reward his manic pressure. 3rd best was Jono Male with 3 goals and many moments where he stood up when it most mattered. Ryan Turnbull knocked up getting touches, allowed us to play through the corridor and used the footy well for 2nd best which left the battle-hardened Trent Cohalan as our BOG for the day. TC won plenty of footy at the stoppage, was clean with ball in hand and was strong offensively, entering the forward 50 on many occasions. It was great to be back at the footy and we remain excited and supremely confident in what lies ahead. That being said, we are now 4 games in and have not seen anything near our best footy and we have many performing under their best. 'Urgency' is the buzz word at the moment, and we must all show urgency to improve as we prepare ourselves for a step up after Easter followed by a huge fortnight after that. I can't wait for what's next! See you at Mango, Regards, Jeremy

RESERVES - MITCH SYKES

Congratulations to all teams it was a tough trip to Griffith for a round 1 fixture and week before the Easter break. It was a great start to the season for the 2nd grade. Griffith in the past have been a strong side so to get a win was a fantastic effort. We were in control for most of the game. We got challenged early in the last quarter and to the boys credit we fought of the challenge and ran away for a very good win to kick the season of. Although everyone played their role for the team out awards went to Riley Green who was fantastic down back, Jacob Whitley who rucked well all day and chipped in down forward, and Cruise Chambers down at full Forward who provided a target with some strong mark and hit the scoreboard as well. Overall a fantastic start to the season and looking forward to playing Wagga Tigers after the Easter break. Thanks Mitch.

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U17.5'S - RICK COLLINS

Today sees our first home game for season 2022 against our long-time rivals Wagga Tigers. Today's games of football and netball hold special significance as we honour ANZAC Day and the men and women who have served our nation. With everything that has happened, both around the world and in Australia in the last couple of years it is timely that we reflect on the sacrifices made by those in the Armed Forces and their families. It is also a day to welcome the Past Players of our mighty football and netball club and show that the renowned Mango spirit is alive and well by coming away with victory today. I look forward to listening to the stories of past victories and spectacular feats. As for last week, the first round of the 2022 season we had the long trip to Griffith, a team that went through last season undefeated and provided us with an almost 100-point loss in the corresponding game last year. We have really strong numbers this year and even though we had 7 players unavailable for differing reasons we took to the field with 19 players, with a number playing their first senior club games after coming through from the Junior Club. We started strongly with the wind behind us, coming in at quarter time leading 19-8. From the second quarter Griffith gained the ascendancy but the Mango boys never gave up managing to forge ahead in the last quarter, even though we were kicking into the wind. In the end Griffith were able to get across the line, winning by 8 points – 8.16-64 to 9.4-58. This was a sterling effort for our first competition game together as a team and a great platform from which to move forward from during the season. I look forward to seeing how far the boys can go this year. Our Awards for this season are the Players Player, Farmers Home Hotel, Intersport and Wagga Meat Supply voucher. I would like to thank each of these businesses for their support, it is much appreciated. Award winners last Saturday were – Lewis Pulver (Players Player) who had a huge game in the forward line kicking 6 goals and almost dragging us across the line with a monster last quarter. Tom Smith (Farmers Home) who has had a massive pre-season, dominated the centre square and clearances around the ground. He constantly got first hands to the ball and provided a steady supply of football to our on-ballers. Schmitty, has taken his football to another level and I feel he is a strong chance to get a first-grade game this season if he continues on his current trajectory. Xav McDevitt (Intersport) continued on from where he left off last season – being an absolute beast around the contest. Not large in stature, putting his body on the line does not faze Xav. The harder the contest, the bigger the smile. The Wagga Meat Supply went to one of the new players to the side, up from our under 15's from last year – Keenan Wood. Keenan's running ability was on full show on the wing at Griffith Sportsground with his second and third efforts at the contest being super impressive. Other good players against Griffith who were unlucky not to be in the Awards were Jack Woodhouse, with his intercept marking across halfback a major reason why Griffith were unable to turn possession dominance into scoreboard dominance, Cody Reynoldson, who is blessed with electric speed, putting this to use around the ground highlighted by his rundown tackle on a Griffith player in our forward 50, leading to his first goal with the senior club and James Godde, who provided us with a target and a touch of class through the middle, as well as snagging a couple of goals while resting forward. Today's challenge is Wagga Tigers. I welcome the Tigers club to Possum Park and wish them luck in all grades of football and netball. Good Luck to our footballers and netballers today. Let's play hard and fair and come away with victory!! Up the Mighty Goannas!! Rick

A GRADE - MIKAELA COLE

What a start to the 2022 season! With all five netball sides securing a win and the footballers securing 2/3 wins it was a very successful first round. Special mention to under 17's girls who won only one game last season and have matched that straight up in their first round. For A Grade Griffith was our toughest competition last year and were the only team to beat us after being undefeated 2020 and the rest of 2021. We knew they would be tough competition so we certainly showed up wanting to play our best netball from the first whistle. Overall our team performance was fairly consistent across the four quarters, setting the standard of netball we want to build on for the rest of the season. The mug went to Ruby Gillard. She played on a very strong shooter, who really forced Ruby to get off the body and use quick footwork to get up and under the ball. This resulted in numerous touches and turnovers and caused the feeders to second guess their passes into the Griffith GS. Kaylah Upfield got the Farmer's voucher. Kaylah has been unable to train with us since her exciting move to Canberra so she was thrown in the deep end a little bit this game. However, this did not phase her as she played a consistent, composed four quarters, sinking goals from all over the circle. The Wagga Meat Supply voucher went to Katie Caller. After two years off netball this was Katie's first game back and you certainly wouldn't be able to tell. She was such a tall target in that goal circle, providing strong holds for us to feed into every time. This weekend is our first home game of the season against Tigers. Although Tigers have lost a few players, they are certainly not a team to underestimate with their strong zone defence. We are looking forward to another competitive match. Our first home game includes our past players day and the ANZAC acknowledgment at half time, allowing us all to show our respect and reflect on our Australian history. After the games are finished Calcutta, mug auctions and the first ever MCUE AFL women's awards will be announced so stick around for what should be a fun night. Goodluck to everyone and lets secure some more wins!
Mikaela

A RESERVE - TAMARA EDMUNDS

What a fantastic start to the season with our first win on the board 38-34. Awards to Alicia Johnson and Caitlin Wheeler for their impressive start to the season. Our shooters are to be commended for their accuracy and movement in the circle. Both Eliza and Alicia consistently strive for the ball and don't hesitate to shoot in crucial moments in the game. This is going to be a huge strength to our team this year. Sophie, Caitlin and Ruby are smart netballers who can move the ball quickly and efficiently into our attacking end. This combination is going to be hard to beat this year! Special mention needs to go to our defenders, as Tracy's experience was clearly dominant. Her ability to read the play as well as mentor others on the court is a huge strength to our team. A huge thanks to Eliza and Hannah who held their own against the Griffith shooters. Eliza took many intercepts as GK and Hannah was a reliable circle defender who brought the ball down the court with ease. We welcome back Maddie and Kate for the Tigers game and look forward to their experience and domination with Tracy! Good luck to all teams as we celebrate our traditional ANZAC Day game with the Tigers.

B GRADE - LISA REYNOLDSON

What was predicted as a cold and drizzly day, ended up being quite a sunny and warm one for the B Grade girls first game of the season, away in Griffith. The early morning and difficult warm up area might have played an initial toll on our girls... but come half time and we switched it on and were a different team. The girls did well to just keep their nose ahead all game, but with a new team walking onto the court third quarter was when they really started to shine and show us coaches the team we know you are. B Grade started to move the court down the court easier, the 2 Sarah's changing up their style in the shooting circle to a more moving circle to loose their holding loving defenders and the defending end sticking tight on their players and keeping to their areas to bring the ball back down was rewarding as coaches to see the girls switch back into what we have been doing in training and adapt to what was being asked of them during the game. With a target leading into the fourth to be up by 8 goals, we were beyond proud with a 13 goal win. Sitting behind some B Grade players watching the next game I asked the girls their thought on the game. 'I can't remember B Grade ever beating Griffith's B Grade team since I have been with Mango' was the response. Hearing this and seeing their pride was everything and what makes us love what we do. Hannah Keely was a standout for all 4 quarters. Strong in our defensive end, taking many intercepts and working hard in attack. Claudia Lawrence is also to be commended for her switch into the second half. When spoken to at half time and asked to change up her game mentally (which isn't always easy) she came out and changed up her game and helped the game flow.

C GRADE - SARAH MEYERS

The girls did really well for there first game against Griffith, were they came away with the win 37-19. Our girls focus was team work and that did really well working together with little training all together. Some of C grade also went into positions they had never played together and adjusted and adapted very well to these positions. Samara David and Emily Johnson where our award winner for the week both these girls had a fantastic game. Samara jumping out of centre court and jumping into a shooting position and Emily worked well in being able to change positions and adapt quickly to the change. This coming week will be another tough game where C grade fitness playing ability will play a big part in the outcome of the game. Good luck to all mango players both football and netball on our first home game for the season. Sarah

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U17'S - LEANNE FROW

What a great way to start the season for the 17s with a good win! We had a nervous start, but settled well and played good, consistent netball. Our shooters Mia and Aaliyah worked the circle and presented for the ball, and were rewarded with good ball placement from both Ruby and Amber. Our defence combination of Ellie, Amity and Olivia worked hard all game, and resulted in turnovers, intercepts and rebounds galore. Isabel came on for a quarter and helped keep the score ticking over. While we were super happy with the win, there is a lot for us to work on, which is exciting knowing we can keep improving! It was hard trying to pick award winners from such a great team effort, but well done to Olivia and Ruby for getting the goodies.



MCUE MERCHANDISE

MCUE 2022 DRAW





MCUE 2022 SOCIAL CALENDAR

March
19 2022 Season Launch

April
9 Griffith Bus Trip
Theme: Golf Pros & Tennis Hoes

April
23 Past Players Day
ANZAC Clash

May
7 BrAshA-T
Family & Friends Day + Beer Pong Championships

May
21 Sponsors Day

May
28 MCUE Ball

June
18 Junior & Senior Day (Sunday)

June
25 Goods and Services Auction

July
9 Miss Mangoplah 2022

July
23 Mental Health Day

July
31 300 Club

August
6 Riverina Bluebell Cup
Ladies Day + Vote Count

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SOCIAL MEDIA & CONTENT CREATOR - JEMMA YATES