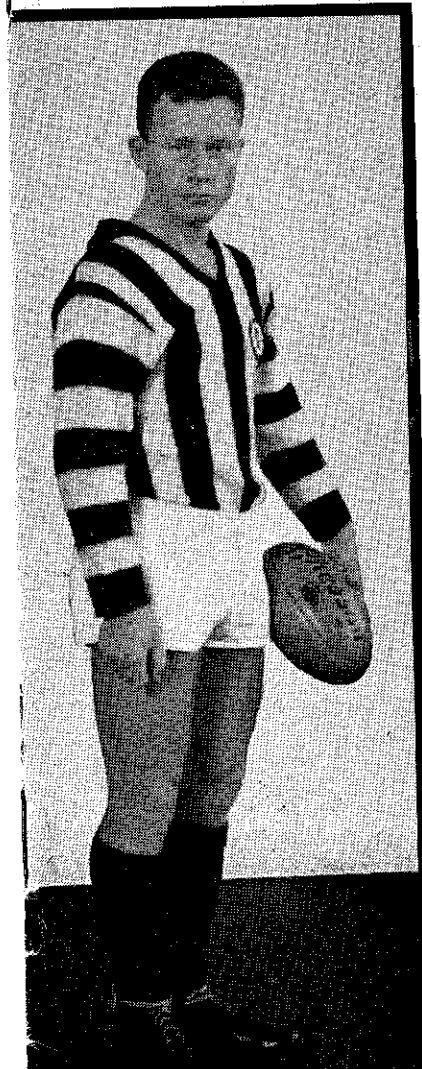


*Swan Districts National*  
*Football Club (Inc.)*  
Premiers 1961, 1962, 1963



30th  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

Presented at

*Annual Meeting*

**MONDAY**

**9th DECEMBER**

**1963**

**McDONALD STAND  
BASSENDEAN OVAL**

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☆ HAYDN BUNTON  
SWAN MEDAL, LEAGUE AWARD FAIREST AND  
BEST 1962

SWAN DISTRICTS NATIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB (INC.)  
W.A.N.F.L.

**OFFICE-BEARERS 1963**

**Joint Patrons:**

E. P. Byrne; R. A. McDonald, J.P.; R. A. Newbey; A. J. Calnon.

**President:**

P. J. Bright.

**Vice-Presidents:**

E. Holdsworth and D. Anderson

**Delegates to W.A.N.F.L.:**

A. T. Moiler and E. Holdsworth.

**Proxy Delegates:**

P. J. Bright and P. Mountain.

**Players' Representatives:**

M. Drennan

**Coach:**

Haydn Bunton

**Seconds Coach:**

K. Slater

**Thirds Coach:**

A. Nesbit

**Thirds Manager:**

K. Mountam.

**Trophy Committee:**

Chairman C. Murtha

**Auditor:**

E. Mellar.

**Solicitors:**

R. S. Haines & C.

**Hon. Trustee,**

Mr. G. Goodridge.

**Hon. Timekeepers:**

L. Turner (League) and A. Robins (Seconds)

**Hon. Secretary:**

A. T. Moiler.

**Hon. Treasurer:**

P. Lynch.

**Hon. Assistant Secretary:**

P. Scott

**Committee:**

E. Barker, C. Murtha, P. Mountain, O. Devitt, D. Drake-Brockman  
and F. A. Sweetapple

**Hon. Medical Officers:**

Drs. R. Seman and B. Buttsworth

**Returning Officer:**

R. Hamilton.



☆ **KEN BAGLEY**

GRAND FINAL SIMPSON MEDAL WINNER 1963

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

Another successful year has ended, bringing with it the reward and joy of winning the third consecutive premiership and proof of the quality of the player in your side.

It is now history that the record book had to be rewritten when, after twenty-seven years, a team engaging in the first semi-final went on to win the premiership. The standard of the games played against East Perth in the semi and East Fremantle in the grand final indicate what a really great side your club has. Whilst the mid-season form was a little puzzling to our onlookers, it was only because of injuries and resultant positional experiments.

Haydn Bunton again proved his worth as a coach, a footballer and, above all, a clubman. Only the doctors, head trainer and myself know the terrific difficulties, caused by injuries, under which he took the field in many matches. His courage and tenacity are things to marvel at and the fortitude which he displays in standing up to the buffeting (frequently unfair) received in games makes one wonder to what limits his endurance will take him. Despite his difficulties, he continued to coach, not only his league side, but all others associated with us.

I sincerely thank you, Haydn, for your personal co-operation with me at all times, your untiring devotion and dedication to the game in our club, your service as a player, and again your much-appreciated public relations work. I congratulate you on your best and fairest award in the club, the high polling in the Sandover Medal award and your successes in the newspaper, radio and TV awards.

Congratulations to Ken Bagley on his Simpson Medal award after such a fine performance in the grand final.

To all players, I thank them for their loyalty, the manner in which they individually and as a team dug themselves out of the doldrums at times, their dedication to the game and their club and their comradeship in our association.

I am very appreciative of the assistance and co-operation of the vice-presidents and members of the committee. The usual colossal number of hours were devoted to the administration of your club.

Your selectors had a hard year and at times had to stand up to the usual barrage of criticism. It is to their credit that the end result justified the long hours of thought and planning. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service.

Your league delegates, Messrs. Ted Holdsworth and Tom Moiler, ably represented your club and are thanked for the task that they did over a busy period. Ted again ably filled the position of State selector and I congratulate him on the honour.

All members of the staff are thanked for their loyal and enthusiastic contribution to a successful year.

Drs. Ben Buttsworth and Ron Seman, in conjunction with the wizard of the "horror room," Phil Stephenson, were tireless in their administering medical aid and advice in a year when injuries were numerous and complex. They are sincerely thanked for their work and long hours devoted to the care of our players.

Your social committee, with Frank Metherall at the helm, ably assisted by George Ripp, were again very active and I express sincere thanks for their untiring efforts.

Once more I thank the large list of donors who contributed to the players' fund (a record amount) and also those who made it possible to finance the final round incentive payments.

To Keith Slater and the boys of the reserve side, I say congratulations on your wonderful season and thank you for your loyalty. It was a great feat to make the grand final and it was only lack of experience that prevented you taking the flag.

Tony Nesbit completed the treble of final four competitors with his thirds.

Thank you for a job well done, Tony, not only with your own side but also when we have called upon your services in other directions. Congratulations to the players on the season's performance.

I am appreciative of the support given by our Old Players and Officials' Association, particularly in the matter of voting for the various awards of the club. Thank you, gentlemen, for the excellent show organised for the entertainment of our league players and 1934 veterans. The expressions of appreciation from all present must have been gratifying to your president, Stan Moses, and committee.

I am appreciative of the work done by the Members' Club committee.

I am at a loss to find words to voice my sincere appreciation of the excellent work of your secretary, Tom Moiler. No club has a more loyal, honest and conscientious worker than Tom. Thank you for your co-operation, loyalty and service, Tom!

Junior Council was again in very capable hands and I thank all those who have worked so hard in the interests of our juniors in the district.

One would think that, after such wonderful success on the playing field, there would not be any discordant note in the club, but it disturbs me to say that there is. I have no objection to the use of literature to keep people informed, providing it tells the true story, with both sides of the question, and does not rely on innuendos to get the message across.

Recently a screed known as a "Newsletter" came into my possession in my right as a member of our Members' Club in which my committee was taken to task because of alleged demands on the committee of that club.

Contrary to what the literature says the football club has never made demands on its Members' Club. Whilst it is not autominous in its power, the the committee of the Football Club is the controlling body of football and its supporting functions in our area. After lengthy deliberations it is considered that the conduct of all affairs of the club, including its Members' Club, should be vested in the one administration. Space does not permit of detailing the economic saving in time, money and efficiency which such a move would create. There must not be any view that there are two separate clubs! This viewpoint has been brought to the notice of our Members' Club committee in a conciliatory manner with requests for a conference. The administration of football is a costly business and if we are to retain the best in personnel we must be prepared to pay high incentives. There is no such thing as a guaranteed income so far as the club is concerned. Dividends from League are a gamble, and whilst they have risen, together with the cost spiral, over the past few years, waning public interest and weather conditions could play havoc with receipts.

As lessee of the club premises the Football Club is committed to heavy loan repayments and it is only reasonable to assume that it requires this and additional income by way of rent. What is the choice to be? A palatial club building and an impoverished football team that can offer no incentive to its players; or a happy united club family that has one objective — that of enjoying companionship on a modest scale and retaining its rightful place at the top of the football tree?

I am sorry to finish on the note that I have, but we must all realise that in unity is our strength. The more successful a club is on the playing field the more vulnerable it becomes if its ranks are not closed and a united front presented to our opponents. 1964 is going to be another hard year and I urge all supporters to get right behind the club and so make this another premiership year.

P. J. BRIGHT, President.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure and satisfaction that I compile this, the 30th annual report. Full credit must go to our coaches, Haydn Bunton, Keith Slater and Tony Nesbit, for their efforts throughout the season, and to all our players for their wonderful performances over the past season.

Congratulations to Haydn Bunton on winning the major trophy award once again. The £200 award for the captain of the premiership team which Haydn

received he donated to the players' fund. Congratulations to our Second team (to be named Reserve team in future) on playing off the grand final. It was unfortunate we did not win a double. Congratulations to our Third team on playing in the first semi-final.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Ern Riley (president) and Ron Preedy (hon. secretary) and all officers of the Junior Council for the manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Council in, I think, their most successful year. I wish to thank them sincerely for the assistance rendered to the parent club.

Congratulations to our great player, Ken Bagley, on winning the Simpson Medal for his great effort in the grand final. Congratulations to Ray Sorrell on winning the Sandover Medal. Ray deserved this honour.

Our 1963 premiership pennant will be unfurled on the occasion of our opening game on the Bassendean Oval on 11th April, next season.

I wish to thank Pat Mountain and Norm Baty, selectors, for the manner in which they have carried out their duties at all times and for the co-operation extended to our coaches.

To president Percy Bright, who is in his fourth year as our leader, I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation for the assistance and co-operation extended to me as honorary secretary at all times. I also wish to thank all the executive officers and committeemen for the manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the club and the way in which they have assisted me in my duties.

I wish to congratulate Mick Cooper Jnr., and Norm Baty, who were presented with Long Service Award Certificates this season.

A. T. MOILER, Hon. Secretary.

## COACH'S REPORT

Members,

For the third successive year it gives me pleasure to present to you my report with a league premiership to support it. Once again the dedication of the players and officials of the club, and the many sacrifices they have made for it throughout the year, have earned Swan Districts another premiership.

To set a target of "three-in-a-row" is expecting a great deal from any team. But then our team is not just any team. During my three seasons with the club I have come to regard the players as a close and loyal family of brothers.

You have only to observe how they repeatedly consider their team-mates before themselves, off the field as well as on it, to feel this.

Much of their style of play is based on covering up for each other's mistakes, and this they have learned to do automatically, unselfishly with a willingness that makes playing in their company and associating with them socially, a great honour. There are no arguments and jealousies between the players, and that in itself, considering human nature, is one of the terrific aspects of the team.

Early in the season the league side's form was a little spasmodic and there was a tendency towards complacency, particularly in the opening stages of some games. The team seemed to relax and break concentration for a quarter. But the players should not be condemned too harshly for this. To begin with, the seven other clubs, when they met us, gave that extra effort in their desire to beat the 1961-62 premiers. Then it must be considered that the players place so much reliance on their team-mates that it only takes one player to ease up to influence the whole side. Add to this the particularly hard early-season training schedule the players undertake, and the strenuous manner in which they throw themselves into normal practise sessions, and it should be realised why the pressure on them has to be occasionally lowered slightly.

I must take most of the blame for the fright Perth gave us in the preliminary final. Granted, Perth played some of their best football for the year in the second half of that match. But I worked our team particularly hard the fortnight before that game to allow them the necessary ease-up at training the following week in preparation for the grand final. As a result, Swans tired a little earlier than I anticipated in the preliminary final and Perth kept the pressure

on all the way.

Anyway, that is water under the bridge now and the team was able to take the field for the grand final at the exact balance of physical fitness to see them through to a third successive comfortable premiership.

I don't favour individualising, but you will understand if I make an exception in paying tribute to the wonderful performance by our full-forward, Eric Gorman, in the grand final and during the season after overcoming the severe setback when operated on for an abdominal disorder in the first round of matches.

My congratulations to the Seconds and Thirds in gaining positions in the final four. It was disappointing that the Seconds just failed to give our club the premiership double, but their overall performances throughout the season were something they, and the club, can be proud of.

I would like to express my appreciation to your president, secretary and the rest of the general committee. Their devotion to Swan Districts and the work they do for the club, never wanes.

The same goes for our club doctors, Dr. Buttsworth and Dr. Ron Seman, head trainer Phil Stephenson, who is usually first to arrive and last to leave the club rooms on training nights, and his training staff, propertyman Mick Cooper, boot expert Jack Batten, and all the stewards of the club. They make up a great team who gave undaunted service to the club throughout the season.

To my co-selectors, Norm Baty and Pat Mountain, go my special thanks for the co-operation they gave me, and the tolerant and energetic way they went about their duties. As usual with selectors we faced criticism, but they never lost patience and always retained the sense of humour and fairness that is characteristic of both those gentlemen.

Finally I would like to record my appreciation for the loyal assistance I received from Seconds coach Keith Slater, and Thirds coach Tony Nesbit.

To you, Keith, go my best wishes for the future whether it be with Swans or not. You have given Swans great service and I personally have deemed it a great pleasure to have played and associated with you.

With three premierships behind them your league team, members, faces every possibility of a fourth next season. But we must eliminate all complacency within the playing ranks and amidst our supporters. Premierships do not come on silver plates and all the continued support and enthusiasm you have contributed to the club in the past will be needed again.

With the talented players the club has on the verge of promotion from the Seconds and coming up through junior grades, there is no reason why Swan Districts shouldn't remain on top.

I would like to wish you all continued health and prosperity in the coming New Year.

HAYDN BUNTON.

## THIRDS COACH'S REPORT

First and foremost, congratulations to the league side on their third premiership in a row. Also to the second side for reaching the grand final. They were very unlucky not to win it. Also to my boys for making the final four. Experience was not on our side in the first semi. If East Fremantle had not broken away in the first quarter I am confident that we could have beaten them. Well, that's the way it goes.

This year I had under my control a grand bunch of fellows, and to them go my special thanks for a job well done; also for the way they co-operated with me throughout the season. Nothing is more gratifying to a coach than to have his decisions carried out without question.

The majority of games this year were played with only one trainer in attendance, so my special thanks to Gavin Snell for his assistance as a trainer and supporter. It was appreciated by all concerned. Thanks, also, to the manager and propertyman for their untiring efforts.

In closing, good luck to the three teams in 1964, and to all members, the compliments of the season.

A. D. NESBIT, Thirds Coach.

**SWAN DISTRICTS PREMIERSHIP LEAGUE TEAM, 1963**



BACK ROW: R. McVee, J. Turnbull, E. Gorman, K. Slater, C. Litterick, F. Castledine, J. Lawson, M. Kiernan, C. Noble, A. Nesbit.  
 MIDDLE ROW: B. Gray, G. Devitt, F. Copeman, M. Ashworth, K. Bagley, P. Downey, E. Sarich, G. Turlich, A. Sangalli, D. Thompson.  
 FRONT ROW: E. Ghisalberti, M. Drennan, K. Cooper, H. Bunton (Captain and Coach), P. Bright (President), C. Maynard, J. Mack, K. Watt, W. Walker.  
 ABSENT: D. Sidebottom, G. Ward, G. Smith, V. Rakich.

**SWAN DISTRICTS GENERAL COMMITTEE, 1963**



BACK ROW: F. Sweetapple, N. Baty (Selector), T. Moiler (Hon. Secretary), P. Scott (Asst. Secretary), C. Murtha, D. Drake-Brockman, E. Barker.  
 FRONT ROW: M. Drennan (Players' Rep.), P. Mountain, D. Anderson (Vice-President), P. Bright (President), E. Holdsworth (Vice-President), O. Devitt,  
 P. Lynch (Hon. Treasurer).