



THE LOLLY WRAPPER

A Publication of Wagga City Rugby Club Inc. Est 1951



1st XV Coach – James Curgenvan

New Coach brings excitement factor.

The Lollipops

James Curgenvan brought with him an excitement surrounding the club this year returning from the dark side, after a stint with Gundagai in the Group9 Rugby League.

As one of Wagga City’s favourite sons, he was keen to turn around the club’s fortunes in 2019 with early results proving very successful.

With great support from assistants John Blackmore, Adrian Quilty & Jarrod Shaw, it was exciting to see what the playing group were capable of throughout the season.

A job well done by all. Thank you.



Wagga City Rugby – Jesus Loves The Boiled Lollies.

City stun defending premiers

Summary from “The Old Farts” on the hill.

Round 1 v The Arch Enemy

After being unceremoniously walloped twice by the boys in their “Natty” blue jumpers last season, we were hoping for a change in fortune.

The new look City side came out of the blocks firing with enthusiasm and sheer will, stunning the opposition.

At 20-12 we held our breath. Could we dream of an upset? Then it happened, they scored, 20-19.

Oh well, here we go, it was good while it lasted, but our boys rallied piling on 17 glorious unanswered points to shut the old foe out with the final score 37-19.

J.C had the boys firing, and with the names Lagaali, Wrafter, Curgenvan and the new Will Boneham getting on the scoreboard, memories of the season 2018 were quickly erased.

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Thank you to our valued sponsors

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President’s Report 2019

Dan Ribot – President

I think it is reasonable to describe this year as a roller coaster. We had some extraordinary highs and some bitter lows.

Following a tough but enjoyable preseason which included an exciting trip to Canberra, which gave both our men and women a great opportunity to gel, we came out of the blocks flying with a solid win over the old enemy Tahs 37-19. This win was somewhat of an ambush, but I do not wish to take anything away from the players and coaches. The fact is we simply prepared better and out enthused the Tahs on the night.

Some ignorant critics questioned our celebrations that night following the Round One win but as someone who was there for the heartbreaking loss in the 2016 GF and for the 2018 season, I say we deserved to “pop the champagne” that night. I make no apologies for wholeheartedly encouraging the celebrations and again thank the players and all involved for their efforts. It is worth noting that we went on to be one of only two teams that defeated the Tahs this year and one of only two teams that managed to be only narrowly defeated by the Tahs by 10 points or less. We as a club, as much as any club, highlighted this year the fact that no team in this competition is above reproach.

So, from the high of winning that opening match to narrowly missing a spot in the finals we reflect on a year that showed glimpses of brilliance and promise, but also some frustrating truths. We managed to defeat all but one of the sides this year and soundly defeated the top three sides. Five of our eight losses were by 10 points or less and we even managed a draw. Two of our wins came from games where we received not only yellow cards but red cards. If nothing else this underscores our resolve and determination as a club. When everyone and everything was against us, we managed to find a way to not only survive but to emerge victorious. This siege mentality we seemed to adopt saw us play our best rugby and it was brilliant to watch. We found a way despite the odds to turn pressure into points.

To finish the season in first grade with a solid win in Tumut was a poignant way to cap off the year. First time coaches JB and JC may not have necessarily accomplished all their goals for the season, but I think they did a tremendous job and cannot thank them both enough. All coaches across the grades need to be praised and recognized for their commitment and efforts throughout the year. Special mention must go to Adam Parker who too often found himself wearing two hats. That of the coach and the referee. Despite this he managed to play both roles without fuss and with great distinction. Thank you, Adam, for being there when called on.

I would also like to single out Tom Martin the women’s coach who was also a first-time coach that managed, with the help of some experienced girls, to recruit and develop a fantastic group of women ...continued page 3



President: Dan Ribot



Koorungal Hotel sign on as Major Sponsor for the 2019 season.

		P	W	D	L	-/+	PTS
1	Wagga Waratahs 1st XV	16	14	0	2	393	71
2	WAC 1st XV	16	12	0	4	358	59
3	Griffith Rugby Club 1st XV	16	9	0	7	144	52
4	Steamers 1st XV	16	8	1	7	45	45
5	Wagga City 1st Grade	16	7	2	7	32	45
6	Leeton Phantoms First Grade	16	7	0	9	-34	41
7	Tumut Bulls 1st Grade	16	5	1	10	-151	30
8	Reddies Men's 1st Grade	16	0	0	16	-787	0

End of season results
Total Ag Solutions – Kubota 1st Grade

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First Grade Coach’s Report

James Curgenvan (J.C)

What a difference one season can make for this fine club.

With a little encouragement from some of my friends (Morgan, Eddie and Dan) I decided that I would put my hand up and give back to the club that brought me over in 2014.

There were many great applicants for the job, and I was lucky enough to be selected by the committee to lead the club in 2019.

To the committee I would thank you for giving me the great opportunity to lead the club and for all the support through the year. I couldn’t have done the job I did without the likes of Dan Ribot, Dave Shaw and Paul Wallace for coming down when I needed them to assist me.

From there I was able to get a great support network of John Blackmore, Lance Power, Adrian Quilty to help with 1st grade. Scotty L’Estrange, Adam Parker, Jarrod Shaw looked after 2nd grade. Centennial and Clayton Shaw who stood up and looked after 3rd grade. Tom Martin and Andrew Lymbery who looked after the Ladies 10 a side team.

We started pre-season in high hopes to achieve great things through the year, with my goal of reaching finals. We had a fantastic turnout from the guys and girls for all of pre-season and everyone put in a massive effort. We worked on a lot of areas but focused on fitness and balls skills that we needed so that we could play an expansive, flowing game plan and be fit enough to beat the opposition in the last 20 minutes of the game. I believe that we achieved that goal.

We had some great additions to the club this year with old boys coming back and then some new players joining our club. The old boys who came back included Hamish Wrafter, Eddie Lagaali and Rory Sheard, while Will Boneham, Christian Smith and Trevor Williams joining us.

With all these additions to the club we had a great squad to choose from and that led us to getting so close to getting into the finals.

The season itself was like a roller-coaster, with the highs of first grade beating our rivals Waratahs who were undefeated in 2 seasons in round 1 and being the only team to beat both the teams in the grand final, to the lows of losing to 2 of the bottom 3 teams in the competition and missing out on finals football on points difference.

To the players, I want to thank you all for putting a massive effort in this year. Without all your hard work we wouldn’t have had the year we did. I really appreciate the hard work of the leadership group of Adam Mokotupu, Tom Jennings and Joshua Crockett for accepting the extra responsibility of being the leadership team which I asked them to do for me.

This club is and always will be my family, you brought me over, looked after me and gave me the opportunity to lead the club. Even when I went to another code (for reasons outside of rugby) I still had the support from all of you which I will always be indebted to those people.

Turning up to my first rugby league game in Wagga and seeing 10 players / coaches from Wagga City supporting me from the sideline shows the caliber of the people who play football for this great club!!

I wish Wagga City all the best for the 2020 season, I will be back to support this fine club like the club has done for me for the past 5 years!!

JC



Presidents Report 2019, continued...

.... that seem to have a esprit de corps that all grades should aspire to develop.

Like first grade and third grade for that matter the women narrowly missed out on playing finals. They seemed to improve and build on their performances each week and as mentioned above seemed to become a strong and united playing group that through it all just wanted to enjoy their rugby and improve as they went. Like the men the women had several new faces and rookies and it was fantastic to see the coaches and senior players supporting and encouraging those girls with their rugby.

Reserve grade for the third year running made finals and managed a great win against Griffith in week one. Week two saw us face off against Aggies and despite being severely hamstrung by injuries and player availability we still managed to narrow the gap compared to previous engagements with Aggies and the squad should be proud of their efforts. Another notable feature from this year regarding reserve grade would be the number of players enthusiastically backing up to support and play first grade.

We saw a great number of new faces and rookies in the club this year and it was fantastic to see these players develop and play up the grades. I need to mention especially Caleb, Ronnie and Alex. It is fantastic to see these young men enjoying their rugby, succeeding on the field and enjoying their time at the club.

I would like to thank all the coaches, mangers and committee from this year. Your time and dedication are greatly appreciated by all. Without your support we simply do not have a club, and this cannot be downplayed.

I would like to give a special mention to both Chris Bryant and my loving wife for both uncomplainingly allowing me to spend so much family and work time focused on rugby club matters.

Wagga City RUFC is a wonderful club to be involved in and it is a privilege to be a small part of this club. We say we are a family friendly club and while that is very true, I think personally we are more simply a family. Important to point out however that as president I am not the patriarch of the Wagga City Family. This title is not an elected or nominated position. It is bestowed on those individuals and groups, that we all know and see around, that have self-effacingly supported the club through thick and thin. To those people, our valued sponsors, players, committee members, members and all our families, thank you, thank you very much for being a part of this club and making it what it is.

Sincerely

Dan Ribot

President WCRUFC



“TRUFFLES”

“The Pig – The Legend.”

Remembering it all.

Even though the details are a little sketchy, and probably shouldn’t be published, it all started at a Friday night game.

The events that unfolded and subsequent name “Truffles”, spread like ‘wildfire”, and well, the rest is history.

In the interest of the old saying “what happens on tour, stays on tour”, the events that have made Truffles so Legendary must remain untold. Heinous to do otherwise.

It has also been a tough year for Truffles after going down and requiring major surgery and a makeover.

Big thanks to our resident surgeon Morgs and the staff @ Range Orthopaedics for coming to his aid.

This pig does play hard.....



400 Club

Retirement looms as Cooke plays 400th Game

Lollipops

Wagga City stalwart and legend, Peter “Cookie” Cooke celebrated a milestone this year in achieving 400 Games for the club.

Cookie has been around as a mentor for many players over the years and it was a fitting tribute to be able to celebrate the occasion in perfect weather in Tumut with a game of Golden Oldies.

Huge congratulations Cookie from the whole Wagga City Family with achieving this feat, and no doubt we will be seeing you shuffle your way around the club for many years to come.

Enjoy retirement bud ☺



Wagga City Rugby Union Club Inc 2019 Committee

President – Dan Ribot De Brassic

Vice President – Paul Wallace

Secretary – Scott Callaghan

Treasurer – David Shaw

Social Coordinator – Talia Davenport

Sponsorship – Joel Murphy

Merchandise & Apparel – Karl Moore

Registrar – Dan Holder & Corrine Tsang

Recruitment – Adrian Quilty

Canteen – Graeme Hackett & Emma Smith





Half time City 1st xv

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More from the “Old Farts” on the hill

Continued from page 1

Round 4 v Reddies

City flew out of the blocks and led 39-0 at the break only to splutter a bit in the second half, to come out eventual winners 57-10. How nice was it to ease off and still win the half 18-10.

J.C sent the scoreboard into overdrive, crossing for five tries. T.J also got across with sheard and Martin crossing the paint respectively.

Round 5 v Aggies

One of the most entertaining games of country rugby you will see as both teams threw caution to the wind and played free flowing rugby.

City couldn't get the ball for the 1stChapter and then scored from over halfway with our first crack at the footy

The game ebbed and flowed, going try for try, but we just couldn't get across the line one more time.

Another one of those that got away. 41-36.

Round 7 v Albury

The match that started Albury's run to the finals. City were again slow out of the blocks and could never really reel the steamers in. In saying that, we played some great rugby and looked as good as

anyone in the comp. A vast improvement on last season and a very exciting springboard for next season. Albury winners 31-24.

Round 9 v Tumut

This again proved a nuisance game as the Bulls as always dug deep and managed to cling on for a draw. Another display of good country rugby between these two great rivals. Final siren 26 all.

Round 10 City v Griffith

City came up against a Griffith side just starting to flex its muscles and wow did they jump out of the blocks and keep going. To our credit, we never gave up and kept the blacks that were having an “on” day to 48-18.

Round 12 v Aggies

A magnificent, hard fought win against the Aggies. When “Gee” scored a magnificent solo try from an ill directed kick, the crowd went wild.

This showed we can match it with anyone on and off the field, as our old boys engaged in a supporter's battle with the College old boys.

Thinking they had us on the scoreboard and in the stands, an old college boy called out “c'mon college, we've got them” to which our very own “Nugget” replied, “You're not a college team, you're the Waratahs feeder club”. Now. If Nugget wasn't already a life member, he would have been made one there and then.

Gee then crossed and it was game set and match with City winners 16-8.

Round 15 v Tahs

Playing for our lives, we just couldn't overcome the Tahs juggernaut, but came away not disgraced. Going down to the eventual Premiers 39-29.

From “The Old Farts” on the hill, it was great to see a mix of old and new faces as well as our original 17's coming through and making up a decent percentage of the 1st Grade side.

Congratulations to the committee, coaching staff, sponsors, supporters and of course, the players.

Jesus does love the Boiled Lollies and so do we Mmmmmmmmm.



Lollipops “Unwrapped”



Wagga City Old Boys (Lollipops)

Scott “Moona” Callaghan

The Lollipops were very quiet this year and only had one hit out against Kiama and Tumut. It was played on Saturday the 10th August which just happened to coincide with one of the best snow falls seen in Tumut for 17 years.

This didn’t deter the “Pops” and neither did the 11am start. As with all games, the pre match warmup consisted of introductions to new players - the ones who hadn’t been to training at the Koorungal in the weeks prior - and a shot of the sensational local Tumut port just before kickoff.

Lollipops first XX11 2019

- Andrew McPherson
- Brendon Maxwell
- Chris Maxwell
- Adrian “Bubba” Quilty
- Geoff Holgate
- Glenn Henderson
- Chris Bryant
- Jeremy Greentree
- Josh Dorahy
- Justin Hodge
- Luke Bowen
- Karl Moore
- Nat Shaw
- Greg Nugent
- Paul Wallace
- Peter Cooke
- Richard Livermore
- Scott L’Estrange
- Dave Shaw
- Steve Trood
- Trevor Gyles
- Michael Kanck

- Coach – Scott “Moona” Callaghan
- Manager – Graeme Hackett
- Assistant – Darren Rudd
- Trainer – Jarrod Shaw

Once the laws were laid out by the ref (who incidentally is one of Wagga City’s best supporters.....not), it was time to kickoff. As with all games, the laws that the referee stated prior to the whistle were thrown out the window once the game got underway. In what could only be described as a very fast and physical first half, the boys played with great passion and with plenty of talk and support went into half time with a 5-0 lead.

A very short half time (didn’t want the old bones getting cold) and another shot or two of port, it was time to get the second half underway.

If the first half had passion and pace then the second half took it up a level.

Despite some barnstorming runs from Bubba Quilty and Dave Shaw, and some beautiful hands from Nat Shaw and Luke Bowen, the Pops were unable to score and Tumut eventually replied with a try of their own. As with many a game of “Oldies”, the score ended up in a five all draw.

After such a torrid and physical game, you would have thought that the boys would have had enough. Not these warriors. After another shot of port, they then backed up to have the next game against a combined Barbarians side from Tumut and Kiama.

You would have thought that the bar could not have been raised any higher after the first game and you were right. Combined with the lack of heat in the air “(f***ing freezing) and the age of some of the muscles out there, this game was a dire struggle played mainly in the forwards and to everyone’s surprise also ended in a five all draw.

Some notable mentions for the day are:

Peter Cooke for playing his 400th game. A huge effort for such a fit man.

Jeremy Greentree for his ability in being the first casualty of the day with a torn calf.

Chris Maxwell for showing his son Brendon how to play footy and score tries.

Luke Bowen who having not played for a number of years, decided that one game wasn’t enough and ran on in Third Grade as well. Amazing the courage a few ports can do to the mind...

There were two other winners on the day with the Tumut port a close second place.

The absolute winner though was the ability for us to use rolling substitutions which the boys took great advantage of as there were more interchanges in our 20 minutes than Geelong make in a game of AFL.

It is hoped that we can start getting “The Old Boys” more involved with the Club in the coming years. We are looking at starting that in 2020 with two more games of footy and a number of social events throughout the year.



Beautiful sunny day in Tumut.



Wagga City Rugby



Lolly Pops

“We support two teams....Wagga City and Whoever is playing against Waratahs.”



2019 Wagga City Rugby - Women's Report

Coach – Tom Martin

2019 saw some big changes to the women's competition within SIRU consisting of transitioning from 7-a-side to 10-a-side comp.

Instead of having 14-minutes of playing time, the women's fitness was greatly increased to deal with the 40 minutes of physicality introduced. Also having to deal with the 6 additional players on the field was a big difference to a lot of players, but the women did incredibly throughout the year.

Preseason started with some strong, consistent players returning and bringing with them several exciting prospective players both new to the club and rugby union. With a staggering 24 different women taking the field for Wagga City, we had the pleasure and difficulty of the most registered players in the women's comp!

The pleasure obviously being the chance to develop several players and having plenty of options in every position against the difficulty of picking the run on team every week.

The team went through plenty of highs and lows, wins and losses, but through it all they stuck together. They worked hard at pre-season, training sessions were often finished sore and exhausted, but they showed up to work hard and on every single game day they gave everything they had.

We as a coaching staff couldn't be happier with how the team performed throughout the year and can't wait to build into 2020.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Andrew and Kate for all their assistance throughout the year, as well as Jarrod and Bubba for assisting where required.

Thank you.



Second Grade Coach’s report

Coach – Scott L’Estrange

Wagga City Second Grade 2019 had a successful year on the paddock.

Although we got knocked out early in the finals, (second week), we were able to uncover some new talent and were able to put a more competitive team on the field each and every week.

Special thanks must got to Adam Parker – assistant coach, Jarrod Shaw – manager, John Blackmore, J.C and the rest of the coaching staff who were always there with advice and endless encouragement to push forward during the season.

Our very deserving award winners were as follows:

- Best & Fairest -Dylon Jennings
- Best Forward – Rob Cleland
- Best Back – Allan Tsang
- Coach’s Award – Rambo Laagali

It was a true pleasure to coach this season and I thoroughly enjoyed it, so thanks for the opportunity to do so.

One last special thanks must go on my behalf to Nathan Riach, for his endless help, sometimes at a second’s notice on training nights and game day. Thanks mate. Very much appreciated.

Remember always
Jesus Loves The Boiled Lollies.



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A message from our Sponsor coordinator

Joel Murphy

This amazing club runs on volunteers, spirit and sponsors valuable support. We would like to thank our amazing sponsors who allow us to be not only financial but support our amazing community.

Koorungal Hotel has proven to be a remarkable organization to partner with as a major sponsor. They have supported Wagga City with so much more than just financially. The Koorungal is truly the place where the club's memories are made, and mate ships are being developed for years to remember. The introduction of a reward system was also a great move, and wow we either eat a lot of dinner or drink a lot of beer... Wagga City has certainly found a fantastic partner in the Koorungal Hotel and we all thank them dearly.

Range Orthopedics has not only been extremely generous with their sponsorship but have also been heavily involved with the club. On and off the field with Dan Ribot and Chris Bryant are involved with every facet of the club, including a first-grade appearance for the retired Herbie. Wagga City cannot thank Range enough for this rock-solid support. It is far beyond a financial partnership.

To returning sponsors, Sureway Employment and Training, Hogs Breath Wagga, Koorungal Dry Cleaners and Wired to Go Electrical, we thank you dearly for your support and involvement with Wagga City.

South City Pharmacy has come on board in 2019 with a Gold Sponsorship and has really proven to be a great business, supporting our community with full commitment. Thank you to South City for the ample supply of high-quality strapping equipment and braces.

We truly appreciate your financial support.

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KOORINGAL HOTEL

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Update

2019 AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to all 2019 award winners.

Boiled Lolly “Club Person of the Year” -
Talia Davenport

Life Member inductee – Michael Kanck

Bryant Family Dedicated Players Award-
Adam Mokotupu & Jess Callaghan

Special thankyou –
Graeme Hackett & Emma Smith

Wagga City highest points scorer –
Apryll Green (115 points)

Colt of the year Men’s – Robert Ropeti

Colt of the year Women’s – Sarah Deaner

Lead try scorer Men’s –
James Curgenvan (11 tries)

Lead try scorer Women’s –
Apryll Green (23 tries)

Men’s Rookie of the year – Alex Watt

Women’s rookie of the year – Jessica Simpson

1st Grade

Coach - James Curgenvan
Manager – Adrian Quilty
Best Forward – Rory Sheard
Best Back – Jayden Stanton
Most Improved – Drew Martin
Coach’s Award – Adam Mokotupu
Best & Fairest – Jacob Neilson

2nd Grade

Coach – Scott LeStrange
Assistant Coach – Adam Parker
Manager – Jarrod Shaw
Best Forward – Rob Cleland
Best Back – Allan Tsang
Most Improved – David Taylor
Coach’s Award – Rambo Lagaali
Best & Fairest – Dylon Jennings

Women 10 a-side

Coach – Tom Martin
Managers – Andrew Lymbery & Kate Turrell
Best Forward – Jess Burgess
Best Back – April Sharp
Most Improved – Syl Lim
Coach’s Award – Amy Boylan
Best & Fairest – Apryll Green

3rd Grade

Coach – Centennial
Manager – Daniel Ribot / Clayton Shaw / Karl Moore
Best Forward – Earl Ayers
Best Back – Caleb Atkinson
Most Improved – Brett Riach
Coach’s Award – Kevin Baker
Best & Fairest – Mitch Andrews



Boiled Lolly of the year
Talia Davenport



BRYANT FAMILY AWARD WINNERS
Adam Mokotupu & Jess Callaghan



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Life Member
inductee

By Adrian Quilty

Michael Kanck (Kancky)

The life membership of Wagga City is an honor that is not bestowed lightly on our people. Life membership is usually presented on the basis of an overwhelming commitment to our club over a lengthy period of time. As such, only a very exclusive group of people have received that honor within our club.

The latest life membership was presented to Michael Kanck in September this year. It was an apt and perhaps belated recognition of a man who has done so much for the club in so many capacities for a long time.

Michael had represented the Wagga City 1st XV in good times as well as bad- often playing 3 grades in a day in the tougher times. A tough, unrelenting player on the field, he was as hardworking on the club committee simultaneously. Keeping a club going in tough times is an all involving job. Those hard times had led to a period that sees Wagga City firmly well administered and with strong numbers. That can be put down to people like Kanck.

Kanck’s playing days saw him evolve into an extremely hard working, thoughtful and analytical coach. Although a topflight premiership eluded him, his hard work and structures remain firmly in place to this day. Even when Kanck stepped back, he continued to provide video footage and analysis to coaches. His ongoing support to Wagga City is always appreciated.

The appointment of Kancky to the Life Member membership of Wagga City has been roundly applauded by all and sundry. A boiled lolly for life and now it’s confirmed.

Jesus Loves the Boiled Lollies



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Social Report

Talia Davenport – Social Coordinator

2019 brought with it another year of social events for Wagga City Rugby Club. We started off the year with a very successful season launch at the Koorungal Hotel, showcasing our Wagga City talent with a jersey auction for first grade and women’s players. It was a great opportunity to bring the whole club together to celebrate the beginning of the rugby season.

Ladies day 2019 brought with it some new sponsors, enabling a bigger event to be held at Connolly Park. Thank you to Scarlett Mangelsdorf for creating an amazing table and Sonia Greentree for her delicious sweets for the day! All monies raised on the day, to be donated to The Amie St Clair Melanoma Trust.

Wagga City Rugby held their first Cocktail Night at the Oak Room Kitchen and Bar. The event partnered with Sponsors Day at the footy. The night consisted of specialty cocktails and the most delicious food, while the dance floor was rarely empty with Gordon from DJ PlusOne providing entertainment for the night! This event will be one to add to the calendar for next year!

Another great season was wrapped up at our 2019 Presentation Night held at the Rules Club Wagga. A huge thankyou to the committee of workers that helped in the lead up to the event as well as on the night. I couldn’t have done it without you all!

Thank you.





After 16 Rounds

CLUB STATS FOR THE 2019 SEASON

By: Karl Moore

1st grade
37 players have started for 1st grade

53 players have played in a game whether starting or benching
13 players have started in 9 games or more
6 players have benched for 6 games or more
4 benched for 9 games or more, DJ, Dodds, Rambo, Zach,
1 benched for 12 games, DJ
Gleeson (started 7) and Ali benched for 7 and 6 games respectively
Adam Mokotupu, only guy to start in all 16, Jacob Neilson started in 14 and benched for the other 2.

2nd grade
51 people have started a game in 2nd grade
70 players have played in a game whether starting or benching
8 players started in more than 8 games (Allan, Dobbo, DJ, Rambo, Morgan, Hayden, Rob Cleland, Gleeson)
10 players started in 6-7 games
1 player (Earl) benched for 12 games but only started in 1 game
7 players have benched in 6 - 8 games (Marc Cooke, Joel, Spud, Hayden L'Estrange, Kev Baker, Tom Martin)

3rd grade
66 people have played or benched for 3rds
6 people have played 7 games or more
3 people have played and/or benched for 10 games in total (Earl, Spud, Tom Martin)
Earl has Started 10, Spud 9, Tom Martin and Ali 8
8 people have started or benched in 5-6 of the 10 games

Womens 10's

24 Players had a game for Wagga City Women's Team
Jess Callaghan started in all 16 games
Jess Burgess and Jess Callaghan were the only girls to play in all 16 rounds
Callaghan, Boylan, Sharp and Allcorn started in 15 games
Boylan, Green, Sharp and Allcorn played 15 games
Holgate and Deaner 14 games
Simpson 12 games, Lim 11 games
O'Laughlin and Dunn played 10 games.



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3rd Grade - Try time @ Hay

2019 Wagga City- Thirsty Thirds

By “The Bishop”

What a season that we had. To say it was a rollercoaster would be an understatement!

We had some good wins (especially against Aggies), some really close losses and a couple of draws.

This year 3rd Grade saw a real step up in the quality of opposition as I swear, I saw a few 1st Graders and Rep players from last year running against us.

For us to be able to give it straight back to them, put up a consistent fight and a can-do-it attitude with a team with so many new players going up / coming down, makes you feel proud to be a Boiled Lolly.

I would like to thank our coach Centennial. You are a credit to our club and to your family. Thank you for stepping up to coach us this year, motivating us, organising us, being there for us and even strapping on the boots when needed.

Special thanks to Dan Ribot for always helping, especially on game day with the team app and to all the other coaches and assistants with helping us out whether it be at training or on game day.

To the boys who played in Thirsty Thirds, I hope you all had a season to remember. It was an absolute pleasure and honor playing with you this year.

For me it was awesome to see a lot of new players come through and play their hearts out and then some to force their way up into 2nds and 1st's.

I hope all of you stick around next season as I know that there is something special brewing and I know we can go all the way to that big day and skol some bevvies out of that cup!!!

I would also like to say sorry for that kick in Tumut, the sea gulling and the occasional offside penalty for that quick shoot up. But not for that perfect grubber for Caleb on the wing, that dirty intercept against Tah's and for seeing forwards playing in the backline i.e. Mitch, Ali, Aaron, Dave, Alex, Karl, Dan, Centennial, Junior, Kev and me.

Yours Truly

Earl “The Bishop” Ayers



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Congratulations Adam!

The Boiled Lollies very own, Adam Parker, made it all the way through to the top 3, in the 'HSBC Volunteer of the year' competition.

Adam has been very generous with his time all year, whether it has been coaching, reffing, or managing, and this recognition is well deserved.

Next time you see Adam, ensure you thank him, and congratulate him, for this outstanding achievement.



#JLTBL

what year am I ?

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What year am I?

Major events that happened in Australia and around the world during this particular year:

- Seoul falls to Communist forces (Jan 4), then to US-Led troops (Mar 14). Despite peace talks in July & October, the Korean War continues.
- Japanese peace treaty signed in San Francisco by 49 nations (Sep 8).
- Libya gains independence from Italy (Dec 24).
- Cost of a first-class stamp \$0.03.
- Melbourne Cup winner was Delta.
- Yul Brynner makes his first appearance as the King of Siam in Rodgers and Hammerstein’s, The King and I.
- Color television introduced in the US.
- Movies, The African Queen, A streetcar Named Desire, An American in Paris and A place in the Sun were released.
- J.D Salinger wrote The Catcher in the Rye.
- The Chicko Roll was Launched at the Wagga Wagga Agricultural Society Show.

The year was 1951.

Despite all that went on in the world during that year, by far the most important event anywhere in the world, was the establishment of the Wagga City Rugby Club.

2021 marks 70 years, so let’s get ready to celebrate in style.....





#JLTBL

Canteen Legends

By Scott Callaghan

To say the Wagga City Canteen is one of the best in SIRU is an understatement. “These are the best steak sandwiches in the comp” is a common phrase heard around the back of the grandstand on game day, and if you’ve had the pleasure of tasting one, you’d certainly agree.

The success of the canteen comes down to our tireless couple, Emma Smith & Graeme Hackett. You would be hard placed to find more generous and committed people, particularly with their time.

When they were first asked to take charge of the canteen five years ago, I don’t think either of them knew what they were in for. Five years later and our canteen is certainly the envy of other clubs. There is probably more work that goes in “off” game day than on game day.


Emma and Graeme continually look for specials at all the major supermarkets so that the club can maximize it’s profits. Add to this, picking up the grog, meat and other food and drinks, cutting up onions and putting together lolly bags, and the hours start to add up.

Then on game day Graeme and Emma are there from about 9am and are usually the last to leave well after 5pm. Then they often turn around and come back on Sunday to clean the canteen. It is therefore disappointing that at times, they struggle to get assistance in the canteen in particular as it is one of, if not the Clubs, main money maker for the year. One hour on a Saturday so that they can have a break is surely not too much to ask. Very rarely is there anything left over, which is a testament to the skill they both have in judging how much to order each week.

On behalf of Graeme and Emma, I would like to thank those who have assisted in the canteen in any way on game day, be it setting up, cooking, serving or cleaning up.

On behalf of the club, I once again thank Emma and Graeme for their tireless efforts in ensuring our canteen remains the best in SIRU and look forward to seeing them continue over the coming years.

In appreciation.

Thank you. 



Player Profiles

The beat up

- Nick Gleeson-** The walking shag rug was in good form again this year, leading from the front and always getting in to do the hard work. Is far too good at kicking for a bloke in the tight five wouldn’t be surprised if some AFL scouts know his name.
- Adam Mokotupu-** Club Captain, 1st Grade Captain and Coach’s Award for his full first season with the club. Not a bad effort that. Pretty sure he was also in the 2019 Guinness World Records for most jugs of Canadian Club put away in one sitting. Wanted everyone to know that he has won more games than lost as captain, unlike Seymour.
- Michael Tuilau-** Tried to get a word from him, but he was unavailable. A big mobile prop who is getting more dangerous every year, imagine what he’d be capable of if he wasn’t hungover every game. Received the Biggest Pest Dozzy Award for his off-field antics.
- Jacob Nielson-** When he isn’t treating his cute life-partner Stealth to some dinner dates at Shnitz, he’s busy being one of the most consistent players in the club. Got rewarded for his hard work and constant effort with 1st Grade Best & Fairest.
- Will Boneham-** Had work duties for the better portion of the season (what good will being a doctor do anyway), but when he turned up his presence was always noticed. Versatile all over the field in the forward pack, and even didn’t look too out of place chucking on a 13 jersey.
- Christian Smith-** My life is on a bloody loop. Another English import living in the great Casa De Bubba. Like those who came before him, he’s a great bloke who fits in well at the club. Unfortunately did his shoulder in his first game but will be great to see what he can do with a full season under his belt.
- Rory Sheard-** Can’t be human. Have never seen him out of breath, or even sweat for that matter. Returned to the club this season and brought with him his huge work rate and his uncanny ability to receive yellow cards. Winner of 1st Grade Best Forward.



- **Gordon Lagaali**- Machine on the pitch, runs like a winger and hits like a prop. A universal player who can slot in anywhere on the field. Known for palming off red cards to teammates, unlucky Travvy.
- **Hamish Wrafter**- Wagga City’s loosest unit made his return from abroad for us this season. Is a crafty ball player, either at 9 or 10 or even on the wing?
- **Jayden Stanton**- The old slow & go. Is a bloody handy 10 who steered the backs around all season. Wants to move into flanker next season, though I’m pretty sure it’s just so he can shoulder more blokes in the head. What a thug. Took out 1st Grade Best Back.
- **Nathan Smith**- The strong, silent type who hits like a Mack truck. Loves knocking out blokes with his head almost as much as he loves Jacob. Took down more blokes with his dome than George Foreman did with his fists should start calling him George Forehead.
- **Eddie Lagaali**- Dangerous when he’s got the ball in two hands. Brought a lot of good structure to our game this year and was a strong ball carrier. Loudest human on earth and had the most Truffle Pig nominations of any player.
- **Josese Nelson**- A new recruit this season, was lightning quick and strong in defense. Hope to see him next season.
- **Tom Jennings**- Had more drops this season than the entire Groovin the Moo festival. Maybe his nose got in the way. Was promoted to Club Prefect and took home the award of being the worst footy player in the family. Demands a positional change from the wing next season, good luck with that old mate.
- **James Curgenven**- Head Coach for 2019. Had a big task on his shoulders trying to steer us towards a finals berth, only narrowly missing out due to some technicalities. Didn’t shirk away from his playing duties however, taking out the award for Most Men’s Tries. Wish him all the best with his move to Wollongong but will be dead to me if he doesn’t come back for a game or two.
- **Trent Rigg**- Tough prop who doesn’t shy away from some hard-hitting runs. Got on the receiving end of a busted knee/ankle this season hopefully a speedy recovery will see him back in the saddle soon.
- **Mathew Gibbons**- First season with the club slotted into the front row of 2’s and 3’s quite well. Mobile around the field for a bloke in the front 3.
- **Dylon Jennings**- Hard as nails, had more ad-line breaking runs this season than I’ve had hot dinners. Got bored of running over props and poor wingers and decided to try his hand running through goalposts, to no luck. Come into his own this year, taking out 2nd Grade Best & Fairest. Proud of you big dog.
- **Jesse Uhr**- An alcoholic with a rugby problem, goes as hard at the pub as he does on the field. Was voted most likely to drink his own urine on a night out. A real first in last out kind of player, always gives 100% until the final whistle. Word of advice if you play against him, he always steps off his right foot.
- **Nathan Seymour**- Mr. Brumbies, the scrum king, was making Wagga City headlines for some off the field villainy this season. Was given the Unspeakable Act Dozzy Award for the heinous act of dumping club merch, having his footy trip singlet found at Salvos. Also put into the whipped boyfriend hall of fame for the “Dress Your Girlfriend” video.
- **James Maloney**- The Irishman was unfortunately swamped with work this year so couldn’t have too much of a run. Seems like only his fitness was impacted though as he still had all his mongrel and grit when he turned up for some celebrity appearances.
- **Brent Hawe**- An ex-Waratah boy (heinous) who decided he wanted to be around workmates Dodds and TJ even more so joined up with City to see them on weekends too. Blew off his cobwebs pretty quickly, remembering his old skills with every game he played. Promises big things if he can get a full pre-season in, he better live up to it or he’s fired from work.
- **Travis Taylor**- A good example of what you look for in a loose forward. Fit, quick, in every ruck he can get his hands on. Had a quiet second half of the season, hopefully gets back into it in 2020. Caused mass confusion when he brought his twin brother Dave to the club.
- **Rob Cleland**- Jack Goodhue himself is going to have to put himself in a 13-jersey next year to live up to that haircut. A workhorse with a cracker skillset, he leads the boys around headfirst into everything. With a hand from Bubba, is currently putting all the children and grandchildren of the Toohey’s Old owners through uni. Got given Best Forward for 2nd Grade.
- **Ioramo Lagaali**- Uncle Rambo knows only one style of footy: fast and hard. Loves to get in and show all the young boys exactly how it’s done, finding his way through the defensive line more times than you count. Still got plenty years in the tank. Was given Coach’s Award for 2nd Grade.
- **Drew Martin**- His game awareness and control of play is consistently getting better every game. Awarded 1st Grade Most Improved for his work at 9. Had a wild time with the boot too, slotting some unreal ones from the sidelines then following it up with some misses from in front.
- **Jayden Dobson**- I don’t think slowpoke played two games in a row in the same position, showing he’s got some good versatility in the backline. Caught up in his mind a few games, but when he played with confidence was both a dangerous ballplayer and line runner. Lots of potential for next season, looking to be top contender for a fly-half position.
- **Hayden Stirling**- Big boy who could get the legs ticking over. Ran some red-hot lines in the 12 jersey and put on some big hits.
- **Jock Crocket**- Senior Club Captain for 2019. Way too fit for a fella his age, putting even the wingers to shame with his fuel tank. One of those blokes who inspires everyone around him to lift and give that little extra. Announced his retirement this year, doubt that will last very long. Guaranteed to be at pre-season.
- **Damian Dodds**- Wagga City’s own employment agent had at one stage the entire backline on the books. Told everyone he only wanted to play 3rds until he got his first taste of footy for the year and then aimed for the top grade. Can always rely on him calling you out (often aggressively) for being lazy on the field, must be his boss vision.
- **Allan Tsang**- “Speed. I am speed.” is what Allan recites into the mirror every night before bed. And by god it works. A staple winger in 2nd grade, made it look easy every time he got the ball and put the opposition on a treadmill. Recipient of 2nd Grade Best Back.
- **Tyronne Hoerler**- First season with the club, he quickly turned heads and rose up the grades. Has pace, playmaking skills and plenty of natural talent. His ability to listen to talk and react will have him turning into a regular in the top grades very quickly. Is also very handy with a paintbrush.
- **Earl Ayers**- Captain of the thirsty thirds. Doesn’t trust anything to the backs, putting in his own chip and chases and grubber kicks more often than a prop ever should. A classy bloke on and off the field, can always catch him with a glass of red and a cheese platter. Big boy took home 3rd Grade Best Forward.



- **Brett Riach-** Young fella improving his skills one game at a time. The youngest front rower we have in the club, will only get better with age and experience. Was 3rd Grade Most Improved for 2019.
- **Marc Murdoch-Cooke-** Middle Cookie is a bloke playing well above his weight. Moving into the second row at what I can only imagine is 40kg ringing wet, his tackling technique and willpower make up for it in the game.
- **Joel Murphy-** The Truffle himself. Makes a big impact when he has fresh legs. Always swooping in to take the ball on a hard line, often right in front of other blokes and in between set moves. Rather suitably went home this season with the Golden Truffle award, for his disastrous act of dining with Waratahs.
- **Aaron Meade-** Another young gun to come and stick it with the big lads, was clear to see what some confidence can do to a person. After a few games realized he wasn't all that small and started putting some hits on bigger blokes. Plenty of potential, hope to keep him around.
- **Alex Watt-** Was our Men's Rookie of the Year for 2019, a decision I am sure was unanimous. Tackles, supports, carries the ball, talks and most importantly listens. One of the most coachable players you will come across, he took in all advice and put it straight into practice. Expect to see him in the top grade in the future.
- **Matt Clarke-** Is it possible to get married to a man's pass? God, I hope so. Can and will hit a target on the chest from any position on the field. Good talk on the pitch, always mobile and always where he needs to be.
- **Jonno Lally-** Bubba's first secret lovechild came for a few celebrity appearances on the pitch, showing he is quite a handy player still. Is now known exclusively as Big Papi for reasons I cannot disclose.
- **Caleb Atkinson-** Ever heard of Cheslin Kolbe? Yeah Caleb taught him everything he knows. Jet fighter pilots would have a hard time dealing with the g-force this guy steps with. One of those rare players who came from 3rd Grade and skipped straight to 1st Grade to make his debut game. Winner of 3rd Grade Best Back.
- **Jayden Connors-** A regular in the center pairing of 3rd Grade. Was a solid bloke in attack, bumping off plenty of other players who decided to get in front of him.
- **Jya Little-** A player who started way back in 17's came back for another dig this year. Plenty of wheels on him and a good skillset, was not afraid of some line breaks.
- **Tom Martin-** Couldn't help but put aside his coaching duties and get out on the pitch for a taste of it. Known for being the most unpredictable player on the field can never tell what he is going to do next.
- **Trae Little-** Dragged to the club by his older brother, has shown himself to be a great asset. Has had starts in 1st Grade and 2nd grade all season and did not look out of place in either.
- **Mitch Andrews-** One of those blokes who embodies our club culture, has made a positive impact in and around the club with his first season with us. Was awarded his 3rd Grade Best & Fairest for his work with the ball, either putting blokes through mean holes or slotting it through the uprights. Also got a good step on him.
- **Grant Roben-** Man mountain missed a bit of this season, but you couldn't miss him when he was here and going. Is starting to understand that a man of his stature needs to run straight and hard and caused some carnage when he did.
- **Dylan Lyons-** Another young lad stuck into the front three in the scrums. Held his own in each scrum and tackle he was in.
- **Clayton Shaw** – Plenty of heart on and off the field. Stepped up to manage 3rd Grade after illness forced him off the paddock.
- **Zac Jackson-** Marched straight into 2nd Grade after being spotted making some big hits and big runs at the start of the season. Very mobile over the park for a front rower, which is exactly what we want.
- **Ali Todua-** Returned to the blue and white after a stint of rugby across the Gobba Bridge. The perfect utility player, able to play him anywhere on the field and be happy with the results.
- **Apryll Green** – Club captain, Club's top point scorer (Take that boys!) and always best dressed at any social event. Apryll leads from the front in everything she does.
- **April Sharp** – Described by Prime News as “Bringing the Boom”!! Can't think of a better description! One of our most explosive and exciting players!
- **Jess Callaghan** – Very well deserved most dedicated player award. On the field, Jess was the only player to start all 16 round games, and our main goal kicker. Off the field, lending her professional expertise to lead the club's very successful Sense Rugby program, using rugby skills and drills to help kids with learning difficulties, was just one of her many contributions to the club!
- **Jess Burgess** – Jess' power and skills makes her quite the threat. In partnership with twin Steph, makes for a formidable front row!
- **Jessica Simpson** – Rookie of the year! Jess sprang out of the blocks scoring on debut! Simpson also learnt how to pick up a Yellow Card, the women's only sin bin for the year!
- **Kellie Allcorn** – One of our grittiest! More minutes on field than any other player. A nasty injury wasn't going to stop Kel playing out the season.
- **Chloe Holgate** – Feisty and fast. What a pocket rocket!
- **Amy Boylan** – The voice of experience, Amy directs the forward pack like no other.
- **Sarah Deaner** – Speedy and skillful, Deaner is known to take to the field in stealth mode, zipping across the line for yet another try!
- **Caitlin O'Loughlin** – Lightning quick, there's no catching this one!
- **Caitlin Dunn** – Dynamite Dunny is unstoppable when powering down the field. Expecting big things from Caitlin in 2020!
- **Tahlia Cvitanovic** – The mighty T brings a big heart and plenty of experience from our nation's capital to our front row. Somehow always seems to be wearing someone else's socks, singlet, cap....
- **Syl Lim** – More nicknames than a Drag Queen – “Window; Zombie; What size are your feet?.....” Lured into Rugby for the first time this year, hasn't looked back



WAGGA CITY
RUGBY
EST 1951
the boiled lollies



1951-2021

As the Oldest Rugby Club in the region, we are building with excitement in preparing ourselves on and off the field for our 70th Anniversary. With many a great name such as Bell, McPherson, Chapman and Nugent just to name a few, we look to 2020-21, to make them proud.

Wagga City would like to extend a warm welcome for all to get involved, with a big presence on the hill in 2020..... “Jesus loves the Boiled Lollies”.

Let’s Celebrate in 2021 & show why #JLTBL 

Pre-season 2020 – preparation – Welcome Ben



#JLTBL

A little bit of History – legends



Back Row: Unsure, Unsure, Unsure, Frank Fielding, unsure, Kevin Laffey, David English, Unsure, Peter Bent, Jim Sullivan, Unsure

2nd Row: Dave Leathley, Alan Thompson, Alan Johnston, Bryce Miller, Unsure, Daryl Haberecht, Tom Brown, Don MacPherson, Max Jones, Unsure, Kevin Gray, Jim Blazier, Basil McMullen.

Sitting: Harry Ivimey, Unsure, Unsure, John Dinnell, John Smith, Kevin Tye, Mick Thompson, Ken McMullen, Frank Ray, Terry Hoskinson, Ian Doyle

Unsure: denotes a player who is not ex-Wagga City





An advertisement for the Wagga City Rugby Club. It features a group of players in their blue and white striped kit standing on a grassy field. The background shows trees and a fence. Various sponsor logos are visible, including Middy's, Allpoints, Hogs Breath Cafe, Koorungal Hotel, Optimum, Terry Black Massage, Littlewood, Sureway, S.F. Hand & Saw, Scope Range Orthopaedics, Wired to Go Electrical, O'neills, Harrisons, Bryant Engineering, Ullrich Aluminium, and Junior Medical Centre. The text 'WAGGA CITY RUGBY' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'EST 1951' and 'the boiled lollies' below it. At the bottom, it says 'WAGGA WAGGA, AUSTRALIA'.



Want to play Rugby in Regional NSW, The Riverina, Australia. Enquire now.

A section providing contact information for the Wagga City Rugby Club. It includes the email address 'waggacityrugby@hotmail.com' and the text 'Find us on FACEBOOK - WAGGA CITY RUGBY CLUB Inc'. There is a Facebook 'f' logo. At the bottom, there are logos for Junior Medical Centre, Southcity Pharmacy, autoBarn, and Wagga Physiotherapy Sports Injury Centre.



