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Donald Trump, Brexit and other strange things!

2016 certainly provided more than its fair share of surprise headlines whether it be the Poms getting out of Europe, Hillary getting smashed by The Don or - on the footy field -Bob Henry's beloved Doggies taking home the silverware after a 60 year hiatus.

What you didn't see in the news breaks was Boronia's slow and steady improvement under the tutelage of senior coach, Peter Brown. With a new game plan, new players and some new hope the boys were 2-6 after 8 rounds which was both frustrating and disappointing. However, hope prevailed and the boys won 9 of their next 10 games to make the finals.

Under the radar we may have been in 2016 but with all 3 sides making the finals and with a solid off season, you can expect to see some exciting Hawker headlines in 2017.

Good luck to Browny and the boys as they prepare for Round 1 v Ferntree Gully!

Fixtures

If you're itchin' for the footy to start, you can get an early fix and catch up with a few old mates by coming along to any of our planned practise matches -

19 March - v Mt Evelyn at Silvan **26 March** - Wannie Sth at Wannie Sth **1 April** - v Forest Hill at Tormore Reserve

Numbers at training have been through the roof and a lot of the boys have been spending time with Craig and the team at the local gym and club sponsor, Busybodies. With their young bodies maturing and some targeted recruiting to strengthen our squad, you can expect to see our on field presence go up a notch or two from last year.

The real stuff kicks off on 8 April and we start the season tackling last year's Div 4 Premiers, Ferntree Gully. Coached by past-Hawker captain, Peter Farrell, the Gully boys will be out to get some early notches on their belts so a hot contest is guaranteed. The home & away fixture for the first half of the season is listed below:

SENIORS, RESERVES -

| 8 April | Ferntree Gully | Away |
|--------------|-------------------|------|
| 23 April* | Scoresby | Home |
| 29 April | Chirnside Park | Away |
| 6 May | The Basin | Home |
| 13 May | Park Orchards | Away |
| 20 May | Ringwood | Home |
| 27 May | Heathmont | Away |
| 3 June | South Belgrave | Home |
| 17 June | Warrandyte | Home |

PS. Round 2 special ANZAC DAY game v Scoresby is played on Sunday 23 April

2016 PPSG Awards

As you know, the Past Players and Supporters' Group are very pleased to give out 3 awards each year to young players within the club.

These awards are kindly sponsored by Rebel Sport Knox and we encourage you all to get down and see the crew there for all your sporting needs.

We are very pleased to announce that our 2016 award winners were:

Rising Star (U21) - Jarrod Lake

Player Most Likely (U15/17) -Liam Parkins

Young Gun (U13/14) - Cam Isbel

Congratulations go to all our winners. Watch out for them in the Brown and Gold in the years to come as they are definitely stars of the future.

Are you free?

#1 Saturday 1 April is our season launch in the clubrooms following the Forest Hill practise match, starting at 6.30pm. New player intros, jumper presentations, team selections and a chance to catch up with mates over a meal and/or drink. Be there!

#2 Sunday 23 April is the date for our first home game and ANZAC Day clash against Scoresby. This will be a great day with huge crowds expected. In the words of Molly Meldrum "do yourself a favour" and don't miss this one!

#3 Saturday 6 May (v The Basin) we will be holding our first President's Lunch of 2017. Guest speaker, 2 course lunch and drinks, \$60. Contact Kristan Wood for tickets kristan@allstaterefrigeration.c om.au

....and what about this??

This is the big one!!!

On Saturday 1 July we will be holding a 40 year reunion of our 1977 Premiership Teams (1sts, 2nds and Colts) as well as our annual Past Players' Day.

We will be holding a pre match get together in the rooms before the senior game and then we can make our way to the VIP marquee set up outside right near the bar and bbq where you can settle in, watch the footy and reminisce with some mates!

See attached flyer for details.

False Facts or the Real Deal?

One thing is for sure, you definitely cannot believe everything you read...especially since we now have Facts, Alternative Facts and even False Facts!

But, you can believe that our PPSG membership fees are still only \$10 - fact, false fact or whatever, it is the cheapest deal in town.

Attached with this newsletter, you will find your 2017 membership renewal form don't put it on the "do later" pile. Fill in the details and send it off to Murra today.



We are deeply saddened to hear of the recent passing of two of our good friends, lan Kerr and lan Alexander.

Ian Kerr sadly passed away in November after suffering a short illness, aged 79. Ian's playing days at Boronia go back to the 1950's, from which, he forged lifelong friendships and always retained his love of the Brown & Gold. On a pleasing note, Ian was visited by two of his playing mates, John McLeod and Gordon Lewer, not long before his passing.

Ian Alexander died on 12 March in Perth after a long illness. Ian played in the premiership winning thirds Grand Final in 1959 and played in the seniors for many years after that. Although living interstate, as was mentioned by a close friend, "a good old Boronia Boy now gone".

Our thoughts go out to both families.



Special wishes go out to all PPSG members celebrating a milestone birthday this year. We would like to congratulate them all and hope to see them at the club during the season.

Best birthday wishes to -

| Gordon Lewer | 80 th |
|-------------------|------------------|
| John McLeod | 80 th |
| Gary Van Summeren | 80 th |
| Arthur Bailey | 70 th |
| Darby Belton | 70 th |
| Trevor Fellows | 70 th |
| Paul Atkinson | 60 th |
| Graeme Cinnamond | 60 th |
| Dennis Ewing | 60 th |
| Derick Lee | 60 th |
| David Murrihy | 60 th |
| Dillio Rech | 60 th |
| Tim Edwards | 50 th |
| Adam Hogan | 50 th |
| David Jones | 50 th |
| Cameron Mellis | 50 th |

To any other members out there celebrating big "0" birthdays, Happy Birthday to all of you!

GO HAWKER!