

WHERE ARE THEY NOW!

COLIN WEST

Where were you born?

I was born in Subiaco but grew up in East Bullsbrook near Pearce RAAF BASE

Where did you play your junior footy?

I played for Midland JFC

What was your playing number as South Bunbury?

9

Regarding football in general - who were the most influential people for you?

Harry Outridge - reserves coach at Swan Districts in 1975

Terry House - at Boyanup Capel Dardanup in 1978/79

John Depiazzi at SBFC

Gerry McNeill at SBFC and then as my GM at the WA football commission

Ross Luckman as GM of the Football Development Trust at the WAFC.

How did you get to South Bunbury?

After 3 challenging years at Swans & 2 enjoyable but unsuccessful years at BCD I

Sought a clearance to South in 1980. Best move I ever made as we then won 4

Premierships in 6 years.

At South Bunbury who were the most influential people for you?

There were many but mainly John Depiazzi, Gerry McNeill, Barney McNally, Bob

Hannah, Colin Buswell, Peter Old, Wayne Watterson, Bruce Crabb.

What are some of your Football Highlights outside of your time with South?

Reserves premiership with Swan Districts, 1st WAFL game in 1975 v East Perth, 3

Sandover Medal votes v Claremont, playing Escort Cup National night series against

Richmond and Glenelg, playing in Legacy games in Bunbury for Swans.

What are some of your Football Highlights at South Bunbury?

Premierships in 1980/81/84/85 and playing with a team of great players, many who

did play in the WAFL or could have & been champions in the WAFL like Pinga Upson.

What is your greatest achievement at South Bunbury?

Playing over 100 games for the Tigers in very successful teams

The infamous 1985 SWFL Grand Final – what are your memories?

They are mixed, on the positive side it was a great victory but on the negative side it was the most violent game I played in over 14 years of senior footy. The actions of the Collie “trainers” were disgraceful, especially against our brilliant wingman Keith Wynne. I was lucky not to be seriously injured when a “trainer” struck me from behind in an incident that went all around Australia on the TV news. I retired after the game.

Any funny stories you can share?

The infamous Nanga brook pre season camp training run on the first morning where me and quite a few others missed the turn and got hopelessly lost but we were luckily rescued by a passing motorist.

The “near drowning” of Mick Grasso after he fell out of a canoe at the camp.

The rowdy & raucous bus trips home from Margaret River with Oldy running up and down the isle with a rolled up Sunday Times bashing us over the head!!

Who is the best player you played with at South Bunbury & why?

Tough decision as there were many great players but Peter Old - strong, durable, skilful and great leader.

Who was your toughest opponent in the SWFL?

Again a very tough decision but probably Ross “Bull” Stephens from Carey Park

How many games did you play for South Bunbury?

About 110 I think

Where are you now?

We've been living in Richmond Victoria since September 2016. Moved here to be with our 2 daughters, son in law and two grandsons.

What do you do now?

I work part time for The Fathering Project a charity that helps fathers and father

Figures be the best they can be.

Do you have an interest in footy at the moment?

After 25 years working in football development, my only involvement currently is supporting my 3 favorite footy clubs - Swan Districts, South Bunbury & Collingwood.

Who will win the 2020 AFL Premiership?

I hope the Pies but think Geelong might win it.

Do you like how football is played today?

No because it's not as spectacular and exciting as the 70s & 80s. Watch any State of Origin game from that period and tell me that's not the best footy you've ever seen and enjoyed.

Any other things you'd like to share with South Bunbury members?

I am very lucky to be involved in one of Australia's greatest football clubs. The strong traditions, long history, great players, hard working volunteers and passionate supporters means it is something all Tigers should be very proud of and feel privileged to be connected to.