



BALLARAT DEMONS

# THE DEMON

**President**

Hazelie Robinson  
487 Sunraysia Highway  
Avoca VIC 3467  
0439 456 628

**Twitter**

@ballaratdemons

**Facebook**

facebook.com/ballaratedemons

Official publication of the

## **BALLARAT DEMONS**

Supporter Group

**Secretary**

David Berry  
10 Hopetoun Street  
Ballarat East VIC 3350  
04 1111 2121

**Patron**

Steve Moneghetti AM

**Email**

ballaratdemons@yahoo.com.au

## **EDITION 2 – 2018**

Dear **Ballarat Demons** members and supporters,

The AFL season is well underway and it has been a mixture of emotions for the Demons Men's team and supporters but confidence has grown after four successive victories, albeit against the cellar dwellers. **Stop Press:** Make that five wins after thumping Adelaide by 91!

The **Demons Women's** team again finished third in its second season after suffering an agonising two point defeat against the **Western Bulldogs** in the final round. Attention is now firmly on rebuilding the list, especially following it having been raided by competition newcomer **Geelong**.

The **Ballarat Demons** had a very successful **Family Day** in early January where **Cameron Pedersen** was presented with his Most Persistent Player Award – read a report later in this bulletin.

Attention is now centred on the Ballarat Demons next great event – the **Ballarat Demons Greyhound Meeting** on Wednesday 13 June from 6:30 pm, two days after the traditional blockbuster game against Collingwood. Again look further in this bulletin for details.

### **Melbourne AFL Women's Team**

It was another disappointing end to the **Melbourne Women's** team 2018 season. They could have been arguably Premiers in the first two seasons of the competition given the quality of its play at times. However, with only four actual wins from its seven games in 2018, it's a claim that is hard to justify.

The season started well enough with wins over **GWS** and **Adelaide**, however poor kicking against **Fremantle** (4.7 to 6.0) saw their first unexpected loss. This was followed by another against **Collingwood** in Alice Springs where after a great start they fell in a heap. Maybe the week and a half away from Melbourne including women's football promotion in the outback provided a distraction from the concentration and dedication required in a Grand Final only competition. After good wins against **Brisbane** and **Carlton** in Rounds 5

and 6, it came down to the last round at the Western Oval to decide if **Melbourne** would make the Grand Final. In a very windy game, the **Dees women** played gallantly but missed out by such a small margin.

Over the season their goal kicking, as much as anything, decided their fate – they started at 70% in the first match but this declined to 37% over the last five games!

**Geelong**, a new team coming in for 2019, were allowed to pick up to four players from an opposition side's list. They were able to raid vice captain **Mel Hickey**, (relative of the late Reg Hickey) my favourite, **Richelle Cranston**, **Anna Teague** and **Erin Hoare**. Fortunately, **Lily Mithen** rejected overtures and will stay with the Dees. Let's hope the recruiting staff can go a fair way to filling the void left by the exiting players, however this won't be easy given the apparent non-generous compensation picks made available to Melbourne.

Women's captain **Daisy Pearce** had another fine season but is proving a star in the media on both television and radio and a long career beckons there when she finally hangs up the boots. She has weekly spots on **SEN** with Garry Lyon and Tim Watson's breakfast show and with Gerard Whateley of which podcasts are available via the SEN 1116 app. She is often quite funny and related the time when as a 12yo, she took over driving the bus up the Sturt Highway when her father needed a rest!

With a ten team competition in 2019, let's hope the AFLW come to their senses and have semi-finals (1v4 and 2v3) in addition to the Grand Final. This is likely to lead to a more accurate determination of the Premier given the limited game, unequal home advantage ordinary season.

### **Melbourne AFL Men's Team**

Well, what a season it has been so far for **Melbourne**! In the first round against **Geelong** at the 'G', the Demons won three quarters, but owing to a shocking second quarter lost the match by three points after **Max Gawn** missed a sitter in the last minute to win it. After a couple of good wins against **Brisbane** and **North Melbourne** in the next two rounds, optimism rose. However, early hopes took a jolt when after a good first quarter against **Hawthorn**, they only kicked one further goal for the game to the Hawks's fifteen. The Dees stayed with 2017 premiers **Richmond** until early in the last quarter but eventually the margin blew out to 46 points.

At **2** and **3**, Melbourne's start to the season wasn't great and could have arguably been a lot worse, **0** and **5**, given the position in some stages of their two wins. Such a scenario would probably irretrievably have rocked their expectations for the season.

Although Melbourne's next four games looked reasonable in prospect, determination, application and consistency were required. They lost the first quarter against **Essendon** and drew the second, however things clicked into gear after that and have won the next 14 quarters straight (now 18 and a club record!) against the likes of **St Kilda**, **Gold Coast** and **Carlton**. It was Melbourne's biggest win (109 points) against Carlton in VFL/AFL history. I enjoyed turning up to my doctor (on Carlton's list in the 70s) on Wednesday proudly wearing my Demons alpine jumper! I doubt I'll need it for the slopes this year.

One can feel the confidence and momentum in the team rising weekly however, they faced a stern test against **Adelaide** at Traeger Park on Sunday. Boom recruit **Jake Lever** was

targeted by the Crows, still smarting over his departure. He came through with flying colours. Jake is finally melding into Melbourne's defensive style after an uncertain beginning. **Oscar McDonald** has come on, leaps and bounds, and the back six are producing consistently, aided and abetted by a relentless, pressuring game style upfield.

**Tom McDonald's** long awaited appearance has proved a godsend for the forward line with his straight kicking (most accurate in the AFL currently). He is able to successfully combine with **Jesse Hogan** who is also providing good coverage and pace in their midfield forays. Both **Bayley Fritsch** (in his first season) and **Jake Melksham** are becoming reliable goal kickers which is honouring the hard, pressuring gameplay by the midfielders and defence.

It's good to see **Jack Viney** back after a long lay-off and his co-captain **Nathan Jones** is improving with every game. **Max Gawn** is peerless in the ruck and insider **Clayton Oliver** continues to rack up possessions and effectively distribute the ball at stoppages.

It's becoming harder to get a spot in the side and you would not want to put in a bad one as you might find yourself playing for **Casey Demons** for an extended period. Casey won last weekend by 106 points, no doubt assisted by the positive culture engendered there where a similar game style is promoted. It makes it easier for players with an impressive body of work there to transition back into the main side.

Let's hope that the boys continue to work hard and gel together so that an elusive finals spot is finally manifested. A top four berth is not out of the question if they can maintain their form, desire and application.

**Melbourne** has just received a nice 'free kick' in taking on 204 cm Category B rookie, **Austin Bradtke**, who after being courted by several clubs, chose Melbourne who he had supported all of his life. Of course his sporting heritage comes from parents, former Melbourne Tigers and Australian basketballer **Brad** and former World number 24 tennis player **Nicole** (Provis). He has a quirky personality, so should get on well with Max Gawn!

### **Ballarat Demons 2018 Family Day**

On Sunday 14 January 2018, the Ballarat Demons held a **Family Day** at Victoria Park. There was such a huge crowd there they had to lock the gates! Barbecued meats were provided and a great day was had by all who attended.

During the Day, our patron **Steve Moneghetti** presented **Cameron Pedersen** with the **2017 Ballarat Demons Most Persistent Player** award which he was overwhelmingly voted for at the 2017 AGM. Cameron gave a great reply speech and his pride in winning the award was reflected in he and his wonderful family coming up the day before and staying in the Ballarat area. He was very generous in kicking the footy with the kids there and talking with everyone.

When originally advised of winning the 2017 Most Persistent Award, Cam was excited, considered it a privilege to have won it and thought that it had provided great recognition for the effort it has taken him to establish himself as a valuable AFL footballer, especially with the Dees. Cam is sponsored by longtime Ballarat Demons members, **Ralph** and **Roberta Laurie**.

Cameron has been starring with Casey – let's hope he is given a senior opportunity soon!

## **Ballarat Demons Greyhound Meeting**

On Wednesday 13 June, starting at 6:30 pm, the **Ballarat Demons**, in conjunction with the **Ballarat Greyhound Racing Club**, are holding an event at the Ballarat Greyhound track at the corner of Rubicon and Sutton Streets in Redan, Ballarat. See attached poster below.

Current players, **Cameron Pedersen** and **Declan Keilty** will be there and the night will be hosted by Master of Ceremonies, former MFC champion, **Russell Robertson**.

Join us for a **fun night** supporting the Ballarat Demons while fundraising for retired Melbourne players.

- Free give always
- Mystery bets
- Spinning wheel
- Punters Club
- Silent Auction

There will be a two course meal provided – Adults: **\$25**, Kids: **\$15**.

Come with a group or come alone – we will find a table for you. Everyone will be made welcome! Please note that a minimum of six people will be required to reserve a separate table.

This is a evening not to be missed so make sure your diary is free for that night on Wednesday 13 June. It will be a great opportunity to catch up with fellow Ballarat Demons members and MFC supporters and guests generally and hopefully celebrate **Melbourne's** big win over traditional foes **Collingwood** two days earlier in their Queen's Birthday match.

For further information about the Ballarat Demons Greyhound Meeting and to make your booking contact **Neil Brown** on 0418 593 393.



**2 COURSE MEAL**  
Adults: \$25  
Kids: \$15  
Minimum of 6 people per table

**MEET CURRENT & PAST PLAYERS**

- Former Melbourne Football Club champion: Russell Robertson – MC
- Current players Cameron Pedersen and Declan Keilty

**JOIN US FOR A FUN NIGHT SUPPORTING THE BALLARAT DEMONS WHILE FUNDRAISING FOR RETIRED MELBOURNE FOOTBALLERS**

- Free give aways
- Mystery bets
- Spinning wheel
- Punters Club
- Silent Auction

**BALLARAT DEMONS**

**BALLARAT GREYHOUND MEETING**  
WED 13 JUNE  
2018

**BALLARAT GREYHOUND RACING CLUB**  
6:30PM ONWARDS

For more information & bookings, contact Neil on 0418 593 393

## **The Sporting Globe**

As indicated previously, the **Melbourne Football Club** announced a new partnership with **The Sporting Globe** Bar and Grill franchise around Australia. All MFC members, on the presentation of their membership card, are entitled to a **20%** discount on their food and drink purchases if the total amount of their bill is over \$20! This discount is available throughout the week.

Of course, most Ballarat Demon members and supporters will be aware that The Sporting Globe recently opened its Ballarat franchise at the SW corner of Mair and Lydiard Streets.

## **Ballarat Demons Membership 2018**

It is appreciated if MFC supporters on our extensive contact list formally become members of the **Ballarat Demons**. The membership fee remains a very modest \$10 per annum (for those 17 and above) and helps us defray necessary administrative costs. Members will be able to enjoy benefits such as discounts on bus fares and certain functions.

Membership, and any donation, can be facilitated by sending a cheque to the Secretary, paying on a bus trip or depositing (at a **CBA** bank or by internet) into a Ballarat Demons associated **Commonwealth Bank** account, **BSB: 063-502 Account Number: 0091133**

## **Ballarat Demons Gold Bus Trips**

The Ballarat Demons will again be using **Gold Bus** to travel to home games to the MCG. Members are charged a reduced fare and enjoy going to the footy sitting in comfort with other friendly Demon supporters without the hassle of driving and parking. Guests, friends and relatives are very welcome and full buses are necessary for this integral service to be able to continue. The **2018 Gold Bus schedule**, pricing and booking details are available.

## **Ballarat Demons MFC Seats 2018**

The Ballarat Demons have purchased five adult general memberships which allow for non-reserved seating at the MCG, and the possibility of sitting with other Ballarat Demons members. This is seen as a practical way of supporting our beloved football club. On a first in, first come basis, these tickets will be available for purchase for each MFC home game (and designated MFC away games) for your guests or friends you bring along to the footy. Each ticket will only cost the normal adult fee on the day of use. Bookings can be made through **Ken Whittle** on 5339 4686, but you will need to be quick to secure a ticket.

*David Berry*

Secretary

04 1111 2121

ballaratdemons@yahoo.com.au



# BALLARAT DEMONS FAMILY DAY



*Cam kicking footy with kids*



*Cam autographing jumper*



*Kids listening to presentation*



*Ballarat Demons supporters*



*Three likely lads*



*Cam Pedersen support crew*



*Patron Steve Moneghetti*



*Ralph watches developments*



*Cam Pedersen's response*



*Cam with Ballarat Demons Brains Trust*



*Pedersen clan*



*Cam and kids*

# MELBOURNE DEMONS FAMILY DAY



*Max Gawn & Lily Mithen*



*Max, Lily & Russell Robertson*



*MFC Supporters crowd*



*Mick Stinear & Simon Goodwin*



*Mick, Simon & Russell*



*Simon & Russell*



*AFL & AFLW Demons*



*Russell interviews the players*



*AFL & AFLW Demons*



*AFL & AFLW Demons enjoy the occasion*



*Forward - Mid - Back*