

40 Year Reunion A Huge Success!!

As we were all very confident it would be, the 40 year reunion held in Dubbo on the weekend 19th to 21st June 2009 was an outstanding success!! As the crowd started to assemble at the Vatican on the Friday night you could sense the excitement and anticipation within the hotel and it was obvious this was going to be a huge weekend.

Team mates were here from far and wide and by 7.30pm the party was in full swing with the reminiscing (already exaggerated) had begun. We had a rollup of around 70 Players and officials with some travelling long distances to be here with their old mates.

Special mention must go to Terry & Lynne Bryant for their huge effort in attending all the way from Perth for the reunion. Other notable efforts were Tom Jordon (Gold Coast), Ray Adams (North Coast), Chris Kelly & Peter Marks (Central Coast) Ross Patten & Kerry Murray (Sydney) Edwin Powter (Wollongong) and of course their lovely wives (except Edwin, Marksie & Slapper) and of course all the locals who helped make it a real success. The real bonus for the weekend was the attendance of the very first President of DUBBO CYMS, Paul Ford who had been out of touch with the club for many years. As the evening evolved the stories became somewhat exaggerated and very graphic, once again it was Edwin who stole the show with his version of that great try in 1969. The evening finished at around 1am with all but Kerry Murray heading home, story goes that Kerry headed off to the Amaroo for just one last drink!!

Saturday afternoon saw a number of somewhat tired ex players head off to Dubbo City Bowling Club to roll a few ends. This is where Dick Hasler really showed the benefit of his years of experience by easily winning the Old Cymys Players trophy for the flashest equipment. Best tactic of the day went to Peter Marks when he decided the game should finish. Saturday evening it was back to the Castlereagh where Jock & Mrs. Kennedy put on a delicious meal and the formal part of the reunion got underway. Current Dubbo Cymys President Kevin Walkom did a marvellous job as MC for the evening and it really went off without a hitch. Players from both the first grade and reserve grade teams were introduced, as was our first President Paul Ford. Paul told of the difficulties he and his committee had back in 1958 when they attempted to separate from the Dubbo team and to go it alone with a new club which would be strictly for Catholics, opposition to this idea came from everywhere and he was told in no uncertain terms not to go ahead with it, that it would fail and he would be sorry he got involved. Paul said that this just made him more determined to go ahead with it and duly accepted the role of President. The evening was enjoyed by all until the early hours until these old rugby league stars called it a night.

Now it was Sunday, the last day of this fabulous 3 day reunion and they were all saying it has all gone to quickly, we don't want it to end!!

Sunday around 11am and the old Cymys warriors are gathering at the clubhouse at No.1 Oval Victoria Park in readiness for the replay of the Grand Final in 1969, Dubbo Cymys verses Parkes, against all odds we belted them on their home ground in 1969 to win our first ever First Grade premiership in Group X1, and to rub it in our Reserve Grade team won as well!! The warm up began to the hiss of cold stubbies being opened and the smell of liniment was once again in the air as the Cymys Juniors turned in a great performance to start our day off with a win. We were on our way!! Next came the Reserve Grade game, with Cymys again leading the way and making it two from two so far & things were really heating up. The 1969 players were so engrossed in the football their minds kept drifting back to the good old days, when they were playing and their advice to the players today was given with enthusiasm. Next was the big one, First Grade, we had to win this!!

With the 1969 players barracking from the clubhouse Cymys got on the scoreboard early and much to our pleasure really went on with the job to run out easy victors. It really had been a great day with Cymys winning all three games. As the day and the weekend was coming to an end the old boys joined with today's players to enjoy a few more drinks and listen to the Cymys Club do their presentations and announce the best and fairest points for the day.

A great weekend had now come to an end and everyone vowed they would not leave it for another 40 years until they would return to Dubbo Cymys to once again enjoy the fun and friendship of their 1969 team mates. DUBBO CYMS FOREVER!!