



### **VALE Dennis Ferns.**

A very sad day for the Sporting Club when one of our longest serving members passes from us. Dennis "Keg" Ferns became involved in the club in it's very early days in the early 1990's with his family; Julie, Nicholas and Elise. He was one of the group who did everything from Team Manager to team supporter and club helper in any role that needed to be done.

At one time he looked after the club newsletters which he and Julie put together by hand each week to pass out to club juniors. He represented the football club at League meetings, was the players advocate when they needed to appear before the Tribunal and kept others on the straight and narrow when they needed to be. He helped where and when he could and when he was needed.

He had a rapport with all the young guys in the Football Club, especially as they graduated from junior to senior football, being involved as he was in many jobs associated with senior football.

Dennis was heavily involved in the background in assisting his great mate and work colleague Glenn Potter, who coached our first U18's flag. This was the Football Club's first Grand Final win in a senior side for the Club. I am sure he is working out a plan with Pottsy now to get our first senior flag on the other-side.

Dennis was a President of the Football Club and served as Secretary of the Football Club for 9 years in addition to other years as a committee member.

Over recent years he has assisted with other cricket club members to manage and maintain the cricket pitch, putting in the yards which has seen our cricket club receive awards for the best pitch in the competition and keeping it in amongst the best for several years to date. Not only did he prepare wickets at the home ground, he undertook to prepare wickets elsewhere for our senior and junior cricketers. In addition, he encouraged a number of senior players to assist and learn about wicket preparation and maintaining those wickets. His input will be missed.

For the football season this year he was the Umpires Escort for the senior side, something he did each week until he became ill soon after the last home game of the season. He was a volunteer who set the bar for others to follow.

Dennis was what could be described as passionate, stalwart, loyal, and the list could go on for no one word can capture what he put in for the club and his community.

Dennis was a Life Member of the Sporting Club and one of the first Life Members of the Football Club.

Thank you Dennis.