

# **INSIDE THE**





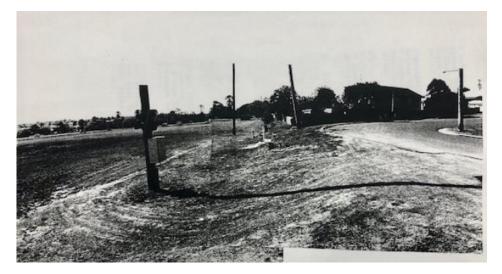


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WALLSEND TOUCH NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021

# OUR CLUBHOUSE.

### TO LOOK AT IT NOW YOU WOULD NOT BELIEVE WHERE WE STARTED.



The road to fields and an idea of what we started playing on. Oh the good old days. The dedicated commitment of the players.

The original competition was run from the now referees area. It was used as administration area, canteen and for referees. Next to it were the toilets and that was all there was.



















In 1990 an application was made to the council to put up lights at Wallsend fields at Upper Reserve. This was approved and the first competition under lights was held in Winter 1991.

In 1994 a small dedicated group led by Brian Russell and Ron Andrews had plans to build a purpose built clubhouse. This was completed for Summer 1995 Grand Final Day. The players could also enjoy a cold beverage as a liquor license had also been obtained.





In honour of all his work – The clubhouse was named after Ron Andrews.

















# NATALIE LITTLE

What did you have for dinner last night? Spaghetti Bolognese What are you afraid of? Heights Last Touch Event? Junior State Cup Last movie seen? Gone Girl Favourite NRL team?

**NEW WALLSEND PRESIDENT** 

What did you do last weekend Worked Scariest thing you have done? Becoming a Mum / best thing too Favourite movie? Harry Potter If you were to star in a movie, Who would you be? Harry Potter Who would you be? Harry Potter Who would you take if stranded On a desert Island? My Husband. Favourite TV show Greys Anatomy

#### Favourite song? In the arms of an Angel What did you want to be when you grew up? Professional Squash Player

How did you get started in Touch – played social mixed in my early 20's and got involved in the committee / coaching when my son, Lincoln started playing junior rep.

Lets get to know her.

# **REFEREE NEWS**



#### LOVE THEM OR LOATHE THEM, WITHOUT THEM WE DO NOT HAVE A GAME!!

Wallsend Touch is extremely proud of, and grateful to our referees, without referees we don't have a club. Wallsend Touch has a proud history of great referees, with our founding President, Puddy (Harold) Miller, being the first Wallsend Touch referee to achieve a Level 4 State Grading and Dawn Redman to achieve the first female Level 4 State Grading. Since that time 19 other Wallsend referees have gone on to achieve State Grading.

It is an exciting time for me as Referee Director, at the Club at the moment, with a new crop of good young referees having come through the ranks in the last 12 months, ensuring we continue to produce quality referees for years to come. Also, in the last 12 months, we have had 2 of our referees achieve State Grading, 1 achieve their Level 3, and another receive their Level 2 upgrade, all promising signs that the Club's referee fraternity is heading in the right direction. Blake Brown – Director of Referees.











**Favourite food** 



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# Robin Hill is Wallsend Touch longest serving Referee.

We asked Robin some questions??

#### Favourite Restaurant.

Baked beans / sausages / eggs & Chips What are you afraid of? Getting old and not being able to participate in sport Favourite Music? Anything 60's Favourite Band Billy Thorpe / Beatles

How did you become involved in refereeing at Wallsend.

Like to rotate around clubs or Wife cooking Favourite TV show WWE Favourite movie? Rio Bravo Favourite NRL team? Manly

Playing Touch and our team needed a referee–Puddy Miller talked me into taking that spot, and I am still here. We used to get paid a schooner of lemon squash per game.

#### Funniest moment in Touch?

Refereeing my wife and had to continually penalise her for being offside. Later that evening when retiring for the night I rolled over for a cuddle – she reached over to night stand and grabbed the whistle and told me I was off side. (this has been neither confirmed or denied by either party).

Most admired person in touch?

Ron Andrews. Greatest moment in Touch? Being able to referee my wife and Grand Children. What did you want to be when you grew up? A Chef.



Montgomery Homes have been a valued Major Sponsor of Wallsend Touch for 10+ years, supporting our junior park competition, and providing our clubhouse roof signage. In 2019, Montgomery Homes became the Major Sponsor of the club's junior representative program, further enhancing the great relationship between Wallsend Touch and Montgomery Homes. Wallsend Touch is proud to be associated with Montgomery Homes, and thanks them for their continued support.

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#### TEAM OF THE MONTH WEDNESDAY NIGHT. FATHER AND SON.

Longest running (or walking for some players) team at Wallsend Touch. Started playing 1982 at Crystal Palace fields. Players still remember running into the handrails around the field when scoring a touchdown.

Parents would play and kids would watch, so the next year kids started playing. Originally parents would do all the work in the middle and kids would stay out wide. Now days this is reversed.

Worst team we have played against – Brody Lighthouse. A team full of referees, so we could never beat them.

**MVP ever for team**. – no stand outs, the whole team is valuable.

Who is the greatest player you have ever played against – Dean McManus.

**Best team you have ever played against** – Bakes Boys. Still is! But miss the big man's stories after games.

**Funniest player in team** – Cameron Maxwell, such dry humour, can insult you but not insult you. Touch is a big part of our teams life. Life long friends made and beers enjoyed.



#### TEAM OF THE MONTH MONDAY NIGHT. TEMPORARY CANARIES.

We have been playing in E grade now for a few years. We picked Wallsend because it was quite friendly compared to other comps.

Hardest team to play against – Most of the teams we play.

Most Valuable player – Tayla, our little pocket rocket of energy.

**Funniest team member** – Josh, always first in and always calling for the wrap around.

Most annoying player - James - Throw a ball at someone in IT and they are certain to drop it.

**Best memory** – From James, the point after 3 years when I was finally fit enough to be more focused on the game rather than not dying on the field.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY EASTER.





