

Dear Members,

It's hard to believe we're at the half waypoint of the season. Players and families have settled into teams, divisions and the weekly footy routine of training, playing and watching with friends – some new and some old. We've hit the wintry months and Ashy scarves and beanies have been out in force over the past few Sundays – brrrrrr.

We're thrilled to announce we have 657 players wearing our Ashy colours each week. That's 32 teams and 4 players short of our highest ever membership. Our 32nd team is the Colts Black, who ran out on the field in Round 6. Thanks to everyone that has helped to make this happen – it's been a huge team effort.

Another highlight in May was welcoming Luke Hodge to our Club Night to present the Rising Star Awards and Milestone Game Achievements. There was a wave of hysteria across Ashburton as over 300 fans of all ages came along to watch a real star in action!

And of course the biggest social event in our calendar to date this season was our 2016 Ashy Ball held last Saturday night. We hosted a theme of 'dress to impress by wearing a splash of red, green, black or white' and everyone looked the part – a table even came with tattoos of redback spiders #bestdressed! For more photos and highlights, see page 7.

Thanks to the members that completed our online survey last month. We've listened to your feedback and you will start to see your ideas come to life over the weeks ahead. One of the changes the majority of respondents requested was to change Club Nights from Sunday to Friday – starting this Friday 3rd of June! More survey insights can be found on page 8.

The "Redbacks Review" found under our <http://www.ashyredbacks.org.au/ashy-blog/> has been a huge hit. It is our 2nd highest page visited on our website each week and we are sure this is because we have some very talented writers in our Club that capture all the excitement on game day.

Before we sign off, we must pass on a **HUGE CONGRATULATIONS** to the players that have been selected for the Yarra Metro Championship team: **Mitch Bowman, Connor McKee, Harrison Shugg** (injured – wishing you a speedy recovery Harry), **Alicia McKertish, Georgia Wyett and Indya Sandhu**. Superb effort by you all and we hope a lot of Redbackers can cheer you on when you take to the field on the Queen's Birthday long weekend.

Ashy Committee



270 guests attended our #2016 Ashy Ball last Saturday – what a night!



A legend to many, including us @Ashy – thanks Hodgey #15



Mother's Day 2016 @AshyRedbacks



Player of the Month Awards are a hit – A worthy winner here, well done Kit!

DIARY DATES

For more information on Club Events, go to <http://www.ashyredbacks.org.au/new-events/> or pick up your free 2016 fridge magnet in the club rooms.

3 Jun

Friday Night Club Night

5:30pm – 10:30pm
Burwood Reserve
Player of the Month (May) and Milestone Games Awards
Richmond v North Melbourne on TV

7 Jun

Richmond Tigers Visit the Ashy Redbacks

4:30pm – 6:00pm
Burwood Reserve

Come along from 4:30pm – 5:15pm for a chat, jumper signing, photo and a kick.

19 Jun

Club Photos

Burwood Reserve

Schedule TBA



24 Jun

Friday Night Club Night

5:30pm – 10:30pm
Burwood Reserve
Player of the Month (Jun) and Milestone Games Awards
Collingwood v Freo on TV

26 Jun

Club Photos

Burwood Reserve

Schedule TBA



17 Jul

Lagastes Family Club Night

5:30pm – 8pm
Burwood Reserve

Milestone Games Awards
Brisbane Lions v Giants on TV

Enjoy a sleep in on Sunday, 12th of June – there's no footy, thanks to the Queen.

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKLY REDBACKS REVIEW FOR ALL MATCH HIGHLIGHTS



If you've missed any of the back editions, go to our Ashy Blog
<http://www.ashyredbacks.org.au/ashy-blog/>

Each week our dedicated coaching teams submit a match report on the highlights of the day. Boy, do we have some talented writers within our Club! The Review is great entertainment and with 32 teams, it's a fantastic way to read up on the results throughout the season.

"With a cracking start, our boys looked like they were about as primed as many of the parents had been the night before at the club's equivalent of the Logies, the Ashy Ball at Lincoln on the Green in Toorak. Not surprisingly, it was the 'Big Show', Jim McCarthy who led from the opening, celebrating his captaincy with a booming first quarter. The Big Show was well supported by the Saint, Harvey Moore - finally throwing off the shackles of injury and now able to play with the sort of agility one would normally attribute to his hero Le Bron James....." – Excerpt from R7 Review, U12 Green by Mark Branagan

Coach's Spotlight : Simon Miller

This month we're placing **Simon Miller, Ashy Redbacks Coach for U9 Black and AusKick** under the spotlight.

What do you love about coaching?

Being an active member of the community, also simply just watching the kids enjoy their footy while improving their skills.

Who has been the most inspiring coach you have had and why?

Probably my junior footy coach - because he gave out cash for best players. I also had a few seasons of basketball under Lindsay Gaze – his passion and knowledge was very inspiring.

What has been the best advice a coach has ever given you?

You get out what you put in.

Which AFL coach do you most admire?

The Scott brothers – imagine trying to look them in the eye if you didn't try your best.

What qualities do you think a successful coach needs to have?

Lead by example, work hard, be organized, communicate effectively, and provide a good culture and stable environment.

What's the funniest thing that has ever happened to you as a Coach?

The 4 year old brother of one of our players walked up to me while I was coaching on the field, he looked up at me and said, "Why do you want my brother to win? The funny part was that I did not have an answer for him.



Belting out the Ashy Club Song

Nickname

I usually get Sime, however my kids call me Simmo, and my team mates at Vets footy call me Roo.

Playing Experience?

Junior footy in regional Victoria, Interschool footy. Since 2012 to date I play veterans footy for De La Dino's – my body is only just holding together.

Coaching Experience?

I am now in my 8th season of Auskick and 4th season of Ashy Redbacks

Your AFL club

Carlton



AusKick Coach of the Year 2015

Team Manager Talk

This month we talk to Jo Plowman, about her role as Team Manager for U13 Red Here's Jo, pictured on the right, with Player of the Day, Angus (U13) and daughter Bridget. Also mum to Harris (taking a break and would be U15) and Tess who plays with friends in a Youth team at Prahran (we know, we know, Girls Footy at Ashy is even better – maybe next year!)

This is Jo's third year as a Team Manager and she had a sabbatical from Team Manager to run around the field as a Trainer (some break, we say!).

She loves being able to watch the boys play each week and to see them improve each year.

This year, Jo is the Team Manager for U13 Red, which she finds really enjoyable. As it is the year of grading, there's a new mix of players and parents to get to know. Jo's team recently held a drinks night, which was a great way for everyone to get to know each other.

Here's something you may not know about Jo....

Jo trained at the Australian Ballet School and has toured as a soloist in Swan Lake. She now teaches ballet at Glen Iris School of Dance. Her talent doesn't stop there though, oh no. Jo completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in Physical Education and a Masters in Nutrition and Dietetics. For many years, Jo was the dietician for the VFL umpires for 20 years. Now that's impressive.



Jo, Angus and Bridget



Gotta love girls footy



Is the next Daisy Pearce in this photo?



What a win by the Yarra Girls Team on Wednesday night – Score: 103 v 7

GIRLS FOOTY

We hear from Kim Ledger on how our three girls teams are going:

The girls' season has started very well, with some very big wins and honourable losses. The Youth Girls have been promoted to Division 1, a reflection of the depth and ability of Andrew's girls.

The U15's continue to build, where initially both the Reds and Greens were both struggling to field a full team, with some new registrations, and girls returning from injury and school trips, we are looking forward to a competitive season.

A big congratulations to our Rising stars, Victoria Wilson-Wall, Steph Hunt and Isabella Taylor, who were presented with their certificate at the most recent club night.

Under 15 Reds, Alicia McKertish, Georgia Wyatt and Indya Sandhu, will be representing Yarra League in the upcoming Queen's Birthday carnival. We are all so proud of them!

#GoAshyGirls

MEET UNDER 11 BLACK

Ashy U11 Black had a very interesting start to the season at Surrey Park where we didn't have any sheds, change rooms or toilets to kick off our 2016 campaign. It was a windy day and our boys were a bit sleepy. We were 7 goals down at the halftime break. After some motivational speaking from the coaches, the boys finally woke up from their deep cricketing slumber and kicked 5 goals to 0 in the 3rd Quarter. U11 Black had arrived to the 2016 Season.

We've had some great wins and some great losses. I say great losses as our boys have really given everything they've had against fierce competition. They never lay down, give it their absolute "all" in every game, for the whole game.

We are very team focused and at the start of every game you can hear our war cry of "Tackle Tackle Tackle", "Pressure Pressure Pressure", "**Team Team Team**" sung at a fever pitched volume captivating and motivating everyone and anyone within earshot.

The boys are currently sitting in equal 3rd position in a close competition where 5 teams on the same points are only separated by percentage. We concentrate really hard on taking into the game the things we learn at training. Handballing off to a running player, applying pressure, tackling, taking on the game and fostering great camaraderie that goes with great teams.

We've had some proud milestone achievements with Preston, Harry, Finn and Owen reaching their 50th games and some **outstanding achievements and awards along the way.**

Looking forward to the rest of the season and hitting the finals campaign in full flight. Well done boys, keep the love of the game in first place on your "Must Do" list and everything else will fall into place. - **Matt Burns, Coach**

Never forget our motto:

*"Good teams
find a way
and good players
find a team mate"*

Player Nicknames (By Matt Burns)

The **GTRAIN** – Liam Garrett (full steam ahead)

BRUZER – Lach MacNeil (Came to the game with a black eye one week and it has stuck)

CAPPA (real name is Preston Burns – long story)

SHARK – Bryon Kerr (Bryon bay sharks)

MASTER BLASTER – Fin Grogan (no idea why – two tackle master)

SMILING ASSASSIN – Tom Bellamy (Have a look at that constant "Killer" smile)

THUNDER – Angus Kenny as in (Thunderstruck – ACDC, Angus Young)

THE BULLET – Corbin Howes (he just goes at a pack like a bullet)

THE HYFEN – Harry Cummin-Simm (What else could he be?)

STICKS – Owen Cox (The Drummer)

WHITEY – Oscar White (tried for something a little different but he just has to be a Whitey)

AMAZING – Alex Axaris (I don't know why, when he gets the ball he's just amazing)

THE TOWER – Will Purple (serious, you need explaining?)

WINGS – Ronan (Fly's through a pack like an eagle) **SPIDER** – Josh Webb (oh come on, that's a beauty)

Thanks Alicia Smith for the collage of great moments captured this season



PLAYER PROFILE: Matthew West, Colts Red

Nick Name?

Westy

Player stats - Height? Weight? Games Played?

168cm, 55kg and 103 games

What's a footy skill you're proud of developing in your game?

Tackling

What other sports do you play?

Futsal and tennis

Which AFL side do you support?

Melbourne

Who is your favourite AFL player?

Max Gawn

What are your parents always reminding you to do?

Do my homework!

Share your pre-game superstitions with us

Eat a banana and have a glass of milk.

Favourite food

Chocolate

What actor/actress would you like to star alongside in a movie?

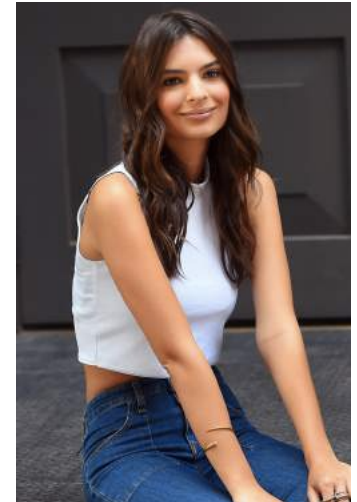
Emily Ratajowski

What have you loved about playing footy with Ashy?

Playing in a team



Matthew West
Colts - Red



Emily Ratajowski



Nicola All rugged up and ready to cheer

MERCHANDISE

Don't be caught out when winter hits.

We are fully stocked with Ashy beanies, scarves, caps and our great umbrellas. Stay warm and dry in our much loved club hoodies and spray jackets.

Click and Collect

Visit the merchandise section of the website www.ashyredbacks.org.au/merchandise and place your order now .

Orders are packed weekly and can be collected each Sunday through our friendly Ashy Canteen.

Lost Property

Our lost property box is overflowing with items including a Myki to shoes!

Come in and see if you can find what you're missing.

Also, if you took home a pair of reading glasses from the Ashy Ball, please contact communications@ashyredbacks.org.au



485 likes on Facebook
315 followers on Instagram
39 followers on Twitter

It's great to be connected @AshyRedbacks



There's been an overturn at the top of the leader board! The top four tipsters after Round 10 are:

- Dale : 67 points (Coach)
- Sandro : 67 points (Coach)
- Raven : 66 points (AusKick)
- Jibber Jabber : 66 points (U10)

SPONSORSHIP

Noel Jones Glen Iris, thank you for being our Platinum Sponsor for two years running

This month, we spoke with Owen Day, Director of Noel Jones Glen Iris about his long association and support of the Ashy Redbacks. Noel Jones has a rich history in Glen Iris and surrounding suburbs and the team have been proud supporters of our Club for many years.

Did you know?

The Noel Jones Glen Iris office was the first opened by Mr Noel Jones 40 years ago, and it is now part of an 8 office network. Owen Day has been the Director of Noel Jones Glen Iris since January 2015 and offered Platinum sponsorship to the Ashy Redbacks in the same year. The team of 10 includes a large rental department and a sales division, with Owen also specialising in advocacy work and Owners Corporation set up and management. The approach of Noel Jones Glen Iris is very personal and hands on with every property they service.

Owen, how long has Noel Jones been associated with Ashy Redbacks?

Christine Arazi, Noel Jones Glen Iris Sales Manager, who you all know, has had an active involvement with Ashy Redbacks since 1996 and as the Director of Noel Jones, I have been affiliated with the Club since 2006.

Do you have any connection to players at Ashy?

Shai Arazi finished colts in 2014, Jordan Arazi and Curtis Day both play Colts now. My nephew, Thomas Wilson, is currently playing Under 12 Blacks and Christine's nephew, Will Smith, is also playing at the club in Under 13's.

How has your business benefitted from being a sponsor of the Ashy Redbacks?

The benefit to our business is the knowledge that we are supporting a very worthwhile community sporting association.

What services can you and your team at Noel Jones offer that may be of interest to our members?

We offer an additional club donation of \$500 for any club member referral of a leased or sold property through our agency.



Owen Day
Director

Noel Jones Glen Iris
T 03 9885 2444
F 03 9886 9555
M 0488 987 598
E owen.day@noeljones.com.au
58 High Street GLEN IRIS, 3146



Noel Jones

noeljones.com.au

Take advantage of Owen's property expertise and deep knowledge of real estate in Glen Iris and surrounding suburbs, by contacting him on 9885 2444.

Owen, on behalf of the Ashy Redbacks community, we thank you for continuing to support us as a Platinum Sponsor.



CLUB EVENTS

2016 Ashy Ball

Thank you to everyone that joined us for the 2016 Ashy Ball.

As the major social event of the calendar, the Ball was a fantastic night for parents to relax and enjoy the glamour of the red carpet as opposed to the sidelines of the footy field! We have many people to extend gratitude to and we must start with our stellar Ball organising team, **Barb Zvirbulis, Cecilia and Craig Harris and Ashley Fernee**. Also huge thanks to **Andrew Mackintosh** – our expert auctioneer and **Adam Yze, David Francis, Nick Grogan and Jason McLean** for all donating incredible items to auction and raffle.

The vibe throughout the night was so positive – **friendship, fun and laughter** – thanks for being a part of it.



#2016AshyBall – the room looked amazing and we even had Redbacks sneak in!



Milestone Games are something to be proud of at Ashy



Rising Star Awards presented by Luke Hodge – what a crowd at Club Night!

NOTICE BOARD

Let me entertain you

Help Ashy Redbacks raise money for new training equipment and buy a copy of the 2016/2017 Entertainment Book

Jason McLean, parent from Ashy Redbacks U13 Black and his team at the Entertainment Book have pre-packaged the 2016/2017 Entertainment book for all players to take home and look through over the coming weeks. Many books have already been given out and we say a huge thanks to all the families that are supporting this great fundraising initiative.

If you would like to buy the book (\$65), there will be easy instructions on how to do so. If you don't want the book or can't think of anyone else to buy it for (these are great gift ideas) then simply return it to box signed on the Club Room side of the Canteen on Sunday (all day), Monday (5-6pm) or Wednesday (5-6pm). Each purchase of the Entertainment Book (or Digital Membership of the Book on your Smartphone) enables 20% (i.e. \$13) to be donated back to the Ashy Redbacks.

For the team that sells the most books, Jason has offered to host a **FREE** pizza night – whoo hoo! So far, the team to beat is **U10 White** as they have bought 4 books.

Member survey feedback

Thanks for taking the time to tell us how you think we're tracking in season 2016.

76 members completed our survey in May and we learnt:

- registrations could be made easier if children were linked via one email address;
- some members want pre-season training earlier, some think it is too early;
- Registration Days could be simpler for new members;
- Live music was enjoyed at the Season Launch but food quality, games and activities ranked as more essential to members;
- More player involvement and activities at Club Nights are most important; attractions for older players are key;
- Club Nights are best held on Fridays;
- T-shirts, PJs, Jackets and Chairs are ideas for new merchandise.

So now that we have your feedback and ideas, we can start to put them into action. If you ever have something else to say, just drop us a line via **Contact Us** on our website.

Limited seats are available – be quick Dads – this one will be a sell out!



Venue : Royal Melbourne Hotel
629 Bourke St, Melbourne
(Upstairs in The Gov's Lounge)

Date : Friday, 12 August 2016

Dress Code : Neat Casual

Cost : \$110.00
(includes Lunch, Beer, Wine and Softdrinks 'til 5pm)

Time : 1pm Start

RSVP by : Friday, 5 August 2016

Bookings : <https://www.trybooking.com/Embed.aspx?eid=197642>
: www.trybooking.com.au (search for dooods or dad)

Guest Speaker
Frank Costa
Entrepreneur & Philanthropist



FRANK COSTA
Family, Faith and Risky
2007 AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL BOSS
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FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA

**Dad's Out of Office Day
2016
(DOOD's)**

Doood's – The Day When Work Takes A Back Seat!

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