



## October 2017 Communication

Dear MRUFC members and extended Rams family,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and commitment to all grades and the Club during the 2017 season. I look forward to your continued involvement in 2018.

### **The new 2018 Committee**

We recently held our AGM (Annual General Meeting) on Wednesday 27th September and I am pleased to announce the following Committee members who were elected at the meeting:

Rhys Jones (President)  
Graeme Foote (Vice-President)  
Sunia Kilgour (Treasurer)  
Lynda Taylor (Secretary)  
Ron Caterson (Club Patron)  
Ian Nathan (Webmaster)  
James King (Director of Rugby)  
Peter Altona  
Gerry Thiedeman  
Joanne Tomasi  
Arjun David  
John Eden  
Ryan Patternott

Each of the Committee members brings important skills, experience, commitment and drive across many disciplines to ensure we grow and prosper in 2018.

There are many areas the Committee is focusing on for the Club over the next 12 months; below is a summary of the main items:

1. Player and Coach development.
2. Player recruitment and retention for all grades.
3. Introduction of Junior & Senior Sub-Committees.
4. Communication and member activations.
5. Club funding and income streams with focus on sponsorship, business engagement & fund-raising opportunities.

### **Member Support**

As the saying goes, many hands make light work. I therefore would like to take this opportunity to encourage you all to join in with The Rams, as we look forward to the 2018 season.

If you're keen to contribute to your Club as a volunteer, or willing offer support in any of the Club functions from general administration, sponsorship, team management, canteen/bar, merchandise, marketing, events, etc. essentially you name it we need it, then please contact myself on the following email:

[president@moorabbinrams.com](mailto:president@moorabbinrams.com).

### **Keys Road Reserve renaming application**

You may have also noted in local media that the Committee along with life member Ian Ray have applied to City of Kingston Council to have Keys Road Reserve renamed to the Harold Caterson Reserve.

Harold Caterson was a member of Moorabbin Rugby Union Football Club's first committee, he was at the initial meeting in December 1964 that agreed to create a rugby club in Moorabbin to commence in season 1965. He



was a long-term committee member (in various positions) and club member in the 60s, 70s and 80s and he was key in establishing a home for Moorabbin at Keys Road. Additionally, he was involved on the Management Committee of the Victorian Rugby Union over many years.

In the history of the club Harold Caterson and Jack McDavitt stand out as the two most influential club members who founded, developed and built Moorabbin Rugby Club from scratch. Jack has, appropriately, had the clubrooms named in his honour for his contribution to the club and we deemed that it would be appropriate for the reserve to be renamed in honour of Harold's contribution to the club.

I will update you on the progress of the application in due course.

## A new life member

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ron Caterson on becoming a life member of MRUFC at the recent AGM.



Ron has been a long-term contributor to the running of the rugby club fulfilling many different critical roles during his time at the club.

Ron's father, Harold Caterson is one of the founding fathers of the Moorabbin Rams along with Jack McDavitt (as noted above). His first rugby engagement was back in 1967 when he played in the U16s team. This is his 50th year of being part of the club.

Ron has played a big part in the development and progress of the Club throughout his 50 years of involvement and is a respected member of MRUFC and is someone who can always be relied on to go the extra mile in any situation, a stalwart within our club and his commitment is undeniable.

## Field updates

The fields have steadily improved over 2017 since the Council installed drainage and irrigation in early 2016. We have been in constant contact with City of Kingston Council to improve the condition of our fields over the summer in readiness for the 2018 season. A summary of the works is below and has already commenced.

### Field 1

- Spray out weeds and winter grass
- Top dress and level
- Repair worn areas with Santa Ana Couch sods
- Fertilise and irrigate

### Field 2

- Spray out weeds and winter grass
- Top dress and level
- Sow Kikuyu sprigs
- Fertilise and irrigate

Consequently, Field 1 will be unavailable for use until February 2018 and Field 2 until the end of March 2018. We therefore encourage that any use of Keys Road reserve over the summer is kept to the areas off the two fields.

So, with fingers crossed for a hot summer to promote grass growth, we hope to see a significant improvement in field condition next year.

The Committee and I look forward to serving you over the next 12 months.

Rhys Jones  
President MRUFC  
**Go Rams!**