

**Olinda
Ferny
Creek**



**Football
Netball
Club**

-
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 - Rhianne Fraser or The Weapon ?
 - Percy Hyett, Bon Sullivan, Sofia Mickulcic and Aden Bates rock the All Star voting
 - welcome back Rhi and Richie !
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We are all home this weekend v Mt Evelyn - let's celebrate a very special Saturday.

**10.45 U/18s v Mt Evelyn
11.25 D Grade
12.30 Reserves
12.25 C Grade
1.30 A Grade
2.20 Seniors
2.50 B Grade
4.45. Women v Healesville**

A BIG 24 Hours

Round Nine kicked off with the women's match against Belgrave on Friday night. It was a game chocablock full of highlights (Sacha has written a mega article this week- don't miss it !). The final curtain on the action packed 24 hours didn't come down until late on Saturday as the Senior footballers send a tremor through the Wandin crowd with a last quarter rally that threatened to turn the game on it's head.

But our highlight this week ? Hands down it was the U/18 victory at Woori Yallock.

SMELLS LIKE TEEN SPIRIT



Get around them- Under 18s celebrate their big upset at Woori

While the club headed to Wandin on Saturday the kids found themselves up the road at Woori Yallock, facing a team which pummelled them by 10 goals in their last encounter Up

Top.

Because the Woori and Wandin grounds are so close a few of us went the extra mile to watch the U/18s and boy we were sure rewarded.

The Bloods stood their ground in the first quarter, outscoring Woori by two goals, and yep you could smell the teen spirit among the boys but you also got the first whiff of an upset.

OFC kicked downhill in the first quarter so when we took just a one point lead into the last quarter, with the Tigers heading to the scoring end, it was going to take a massive effort to hold them out.

Well not only did we hold them out- we overwhelmed them with some fast and accurate footy that resulted in three goals.



Taking it to the max- big leaping Max Monkhurst wins another tap out

Here's some thoughts from coach Scotty Tonkin-

Coming up against the top of the table undefeated Woori on their home turf the boys put in their best four quarter performance so far to come away with a fabulous 17 point win. The boys are really starting to understand their roles in the team.

With a solid defensive unit, plenty of grunt in the middle and the continued development of our forward line there's still plenty of improvement in the team. It was fantastic to see the return of Mattias Sleeth playing his first game of the season and giving plenty of drive and speed on the ball.

Aden Bates continued his good form which has already seen him play senior football this season. In a nutshell it was "whole team performance" where every player fulfilled his role.

Woori Yallock 4.8.32 OFC 7.7.49

Best Players- Bon Sullivan, Aden Bates, Mattias Sleeth, Etienne Griersmith-Rowe,

Lennix Barry, Campbell Hutchin
Goal Kickers- Zach Seal 3, Todd McKay 2, Aden Bates 1, Rylan Kay 1



Scott welcomed back Mattias Sleeth (pictured) this week- Mattias began with our U/10s way back in 2015 and has already played 80 games of footy. This guy can sure know how to find the pill !!

Milestone Weekend

So we're all now across Davey Noorda's 300th this Saturday but there are a couple of other serious milestone we need to acknowledge.

Inspirational women's skipper Claire Hyett became our first woman to play 50 games last weekend , Sacha has written a brilliant tribute to Claire in his women's footy roundup- don't miss.



Claire Hyett- the skipper has chalked up 50 games. If you haven't seen Claire in action treat yourself to something special and watch her against Healesville this week.

This Saturday another one of our foundation players ,Casey Seymour , also chalks up 50.

Besides being a member of our inaugural team Casey Seymour played a serious role in putting the side together. Doubtlessly her decision to give up netball so she could have a kick of the footy, and her consequent move to Belgrave in 2019, focused a few minds about the need to get something happening with a women's team.

(So if you check Casey's record online you'll find she's already played 55 games,

but six of them were in the dreaded black and white stripes)
Casey, like her brother Patrick, has emerged as an important parts of the Club fabric, on and off the field.



Casey Seymour- team leader and Club leader.

Meantime - the inspirational Dana Millwood played her 147th game for us against Wandin- and is set to bring up the 150 against Emerald in a couple of weeks.



Dana Millwood moves to 148 games this week- equal with Molly Rogers and 4th on our all time list- husband Tommy is seventh on the all time footy list with 217, Can't see "Future" moving off that tally any time soon.

AND INCREDIBLY A NETBALL RECORD WAS BROKEN LAST WEEKEND- WHAT WAS IT AND WHO BROKE IT ? CHECK OUT OUR NETBALL WRAP BELOW.

Rhianne Fraser or "Liv the Weapon " ?

Youngster Rhianne Fraser threw 23 of the 24 goals we scored in C Grade on Saturday to take her season's tally to 198.

Olivia "The Weapon" Edwards also had another huge match kicking four goals against Belgrave.and Liv now has 21 goals to her credit.

Rhianne and Liv are the two most prolific goal scorers in the Club , in terms of where they sit on the goal shooting ladders. Both are in second place.

We are going to check in with them regularly in the back half of the season.

Senior Footy- Some Subtle Changes Taking Place ?

Pooch, The Shaggy Bull and Lachie Taylor have been among our best four or five players in the "B and F" count over the last two seasons.

So heading to Wandin to challenge the reigning premiers without any of those guys was a potential recipe for a blow out. But something very important took place. Not only were The Bloods highly competitive it looked for a moment in the last quarter that we were going to steal the match.

So what happened ?

We'll check the Best Player list- young midfielders Percy Hyett, Frank Seal and Brody-stone Edwards were right there among them.

Another 20 year old, Noah Desta, kicked three goals and took a Mark of the Year contender .

Around the flanks we had a couple of U/18 guys playing some remarkable football... in just his second senior game Blair Wilson showed the poise and faultless delivery of a 50 game player while Ned Ford immediately had an impact on his return from a serious knee injury.

Ned and Noah lit-up the match in the last quarter.



"Frankly Noah you can leave this one to me" - youngsters Noah Desta and Frank Seal are beginning to assume the roles of "go to" players.

Lets hear from the Coach- "I was really happy with our effort across four quarters- it was perhaps the most complete game we've played.

In the end Wandin were just a little bit more efficient with the ball than us. Still there are strong signs that our group is growing in confidence and cohesion".

Wandin 12.12.84 OFC 10.12.72

Best Players- Matthew Scharenberg, Francis Seal, Percy Hyett, Brody-stone Edwards, Josh Wallis, James Box

Goal Scorers- Noah Desta 3, Frank Seal 3, Daniel Toma 2, Matt Rosier 1, Ned Ford 1

Some quickies- you can't fit everyone on the Best Player list but as Wandin acknowledged post match Botchy Greenall had a ripper game.

- Nick Marapas played his first senior game for us and his bigger frame may come in very handy as the grounds become wetter. Nick is a graduate of the Vermont junior program.**
- Percy Hyett layed possibly the "tackle of the year " in the last quarter. Players from both teams stopped for a split second waiting for the whistle. It never came.**
- Daniel Toma quietly went about his business "up forward". Most of Toma's 63 games for us have been in defence but since heading up to the other end of the ground he's averaging almost two goals a game.**



Barefoot In The (almost) Dark- a long day comes to an end for Benny Watson who played in the Twos and was then asked to help out the Ones after a late, late withdrawal.

Netball- A New Club Record

Surely one of the stories of the day was the re-appearance of OFC "great" Rhi Pendleton who helped out in C Grade.

**This is a pretty big deal because it was Rhi's 205th game for the club, putting her one ahead of Mary Taylor . She now sits clearly atop our Netball Games Played list.
Luv ya Rhi !**

Unfortunately it wasn't enough to get C Grade over the line.



***Who's that playing in Wing Defence in C Grade , wearing her opponent like a glove?
It's Rhi Pendleton- five times B Grade MVP (Helen Wositzky Medal) and A grade premiership player.***

C Grade- Wandin 51 OFC 24

Best Players- Charli Merrett, Rianne Fraser, Mia Westmore

Goal Scorers- Rhianne Fraser 23, Aleisha McKay 1

It's almost worth the price of admission just to watch the highly experienced Jess

Day go about her business in D Grade.

Jess's superb judgement and great skills are a treat to observe, particularly her ball work inside the circle to Sam Mikulandra.

Still it wasn't enough to help The Divas win , we went in a couple of players short so there's a big thank you to those girls who helped us out !

D Grade- Wandin 31 OFC 19

Best Players- Samantha Mikulandra, Emmy van Duuren, Jasmin Donner

Goals Scorers- Sam Mikulandra 14, Matilda Brewster 4, Ness Bateman 1.



Jess Day- finding another target in D Grade

We were short of numbers in all grades on Saturday and some girls had to double up and play a couple of games. It was always going to come back and bite us, which is precisely what happened in B Grade where there was a heap of one way traffic. We weren't helped by the fact that Wandin's GA has been averaging over 40 goals a game this season !!! Cate Anderson was probably our best as she bravely tried to stop the deluge.

B Grade Wandin 82 OFC 20
Best Players- Cate Anderson, Sofia Mikulcic, Melanie Thomas
Goal Scorers- Melanie Thomas 12, Caitlin Portarianos 8



B Grade's defence was really stretched at the weekend- Cate Anderson was among our best.

It was a similar story in A Grade- and this is the bottom line- some of the players who helped us to the C Grade grand final last year are filling gaps in A Grade this season. This is great for the younger players who have taken the "step up" in their stride, but it's tough for Dana and Mel. We recognise this and are very grateful to them.

Having said that- can you believe Mel still shot 9 goals and was among our best !

A Grade- Wandin 62 OFC 34

Best Players- Jess McCall, Melanie Thomas, Madison Wollaston

Goal Scorers- Molly Argoon 13, Melanie Thomas 9, Harper Scott 8, Mera Pringle 4.



Molly Argoon shooting one of her 13 goals. Despite her limited opportunities this season she's still nudging a 20 goal average.

Reserves "Find Another One".

In the ongoing campaign to find more soldiers (to replace players who are being pushed into the Ones to cover injuries) the Zed Man is continuing to work the phones and uncover exciting prospects for us.

We wrote above how Nick Marapas got his chance in the Ones against Wandin and now another former Vermont junior has caught our eye.

Watching the Twos playing against the Doggies we noticed that #63 kept getting the pill, and seemed to know what to do with it when it was in his possession.

Who was this guy ?

We'll let us introduce Hayden Reidy. Hayden last played three years ago in the Ammos. Prior to that he played 10 seasons of junior footy with Wantirna South and Vermont.

Welcome aboard Hayden !!

Meantime others were remarking how similar #14 looked to Richie Mannix. Richie last played a couple of Twos games way back in 2017- before that he was a regular fixture in the Ones.

Widely respected by everyone at OFC it was simply a delight to have him on the paddock again.



What's going through this guy's mind ? Probably " I don't remember the Wandin ground being THIS big !". it's the very popular Richie Mannix helping out the Twos seven years after playing his last game in the red and white.

Some more take aways- Brendan "BC" Cooling was among our best and we hope he keeps running out for us.

- we just love the way Ollie Clarke's game has grown from "making up the numbers" as he came out of Unders to being one of our most reliable players week in and week out. Great pace and really good judgement. If he keeps improving this guy is going to play Ones.

- the Shaggy Bull got through the match after returning from a hamstring. That's a huge plus.

Some advice to the leadership group, Jack, Chris and Darcy-we are not too far off the mark. When we regain a couple of players we'll really take it up to some of these

teams.

Wandin 8.18 66 OFC 6.1.37

Best Players-Ben Watson, Oliver Clarke, Jack Lucas, Caleb Johnson, Hayden Reidy,
Brendan Cooling

Goal Scorers- Ben Watson 2, Jack Lucas 1, Peter Lucas 1, David Noorda 1, Ayden
Boorda 1.

Women's Footy- Girls Light Up

Here's Sacha's report-

Olinda Women's team celebrated a wonderful occasion in fine style, honouring
Captain Claire Hyett's 50 game milestone game with a 4 goal win over a tough
Belgrave side.

Claire has experienced a lot in her first 50 games. Minor Premiership in the side's
1st season in Division 2 (the season was abandoned the week before the grand final
due to COVID), preliminary finalist in the side's 1st year in Division 1, and
Premiership Captain and best & fairest winner in her 3rd. Becoming the first Olinda
Women's player to reach the 50 game milestone is another impressive achievement
in what is becoming a storied career.

Claire is an inspiration to all who cross her path, irrespective of age or gender, and
she attacks everything she does with thoughtfulness and purpose. In her pre-game
speech before the game in front of teammates and support staff, Claire spoke of the
privilege our Women feel in being a part of such a wonderful Club atmosphere,
where 5 years ago no such opportunity existed. She spoke of the team being a
welcoming "safe space" where the Women can come and forget about the stresses
of daily life, be supported, have fun, or simply let off steam. More profoundly, Claire
spoke of the importance of being selfless to better others, whether that be on a
football field, around a club, or in the Community as a whole.

This is the driving ethos for all great leaders.

On the field she is equally powerful and inspirational. There is an old saying "It's
not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog" and this could
not epitomise Claire more. Claire may be compact (let's not call her tiny!) but she is
incredibly fast and strong. Above that, she is ferocious and fearless in the contest,
and it is very common to see her running to the bench with a bloodied face. Claire
commented how appropriate and symbolic it was that she finished the game on the
sidelines mopping up blood on her face (coincidentally joined by co-captain Lily
Carlin doing the same!). Claire's skills have improved exponentially since her early
days, to the point where they are approaching elite. Her inclusion in 2023's Outer

East team of the year will attest to the fact that she is one of the Competition's best midfielders, as does the rare honour of winning the B&F in a premiership season.

Come and watch Claire play football and you will see her run a mini-marathon, at speed(!), throw herself into packs and her opponents, and deliver precisely to her teammates by hand and foot.

Congratulations Claire on this historic achievement, May your next 50 games be as brilliant and inspirational as your first!



For some the Belgrave match was "on the nose". Ball winners Lily Carlin and Claire Hyett with bloodied noses

Apart from Claire and coach Simon's inspiration pre-game addresses, the team was further buoyed by the presence of a kitted-up Emmalee (Bruce) Keegan. Em is not

just a heart and soul foundation member and a happy face in any storm, but a damn fine footballer to boot. Just as uplifting was the presence of Leah (The Lion) Steen, another premiership hero and foundation Blood. Leah didn't put on the red and whites, but look out for her on the field next week.....

The game itself was closer than the scoreboard would suggest, the scoreline of Olinda's 6.1 to Belgrave's 1.7 meaning Belgrave effectively kicked themselves out of contention, and Olinda led all game.

The contest was accentuated by some huge moments, some brilliant, some frightening and some humorous.....

THE BRILLIANT:

Olivia (The Weapon!) Edwards continues to be the biggest drawcard in town, kicking a goal in each quarter, and unlucky not to have 5 after a left foot snap was just touched off the boot. It seems as though Liv's dominance has no end in sight, and she was Olinda's best for the 6th week in a row.

The Edwards sisters Liv and Charlotte continue to have a radar-like connection. Liv's first goal was a set shot from deep in the right pocket up at the golf course end. Webby's first goal was from exactly the same spot minutes later! Captain Courageous Claire (Bear) Hyett seemed like she had 6 clones on the field, so often and in so many spots she was emerging with the footy. Miss Football Lily (Laser) Carlin continued her rich vein of form and was the leading possession winner on the night, each one hard earned and delivered with laser-like precision.

Kyah (The Missile) Barry is relishing the freedom of her move to the wing, and her speed and skills were on full display all night.

Anna Hughson is in her best form of her Olinda career and is impenetrable at half back, and delivers well every time, especially with her rocket handballs which are elite.

The team struggles with the concept of the spoil, fair enough, Aussie Rules is probably the only game in the world where you punch the ball away when it's coming towards you! The Coaches have pleaded, begged the team to spoil to stop opposition players marking, but the number of effective spoils for the season could be counted on one hand. Enter reluctant back Charlie (Chucky) Humphries ("reluctant" will be explained later in the report). Playing deep back, the ball came in and Charlie was caught behind her opponent, but desperately threw her left fist around her opponent to punch the ball away and allow her teammate to scoop up and clear the ball, saving an almost certain goal. Textbook!

THE FRIGHTENING (with a bit of brilliance):

Maddy (MadDog) had a great game, and was very influential winning contested ball, strong marking and long kicking. Mads' moment though came in the last quarter well after the match had been decided. Caught out of position in a long opposition kick, Mads never took her eye off the ball as she backed into a pack of 6 descending players. Those who have played or followed the game of footy would know how much courage it takes to do this, and how catastrophic the result could be. All on the bench held their breath as the pack crashed into Mads at full speed, but there's only one MadDog, and she simply dusted herself off and chased after the ball. Illyah (Chopper) Reid has been a revelation this year and her attack on the ball has been equally as ferocious and reckless as Claire or Maddy. Illyah was introduced to the possible result of such fierce play twice on Friday night. In the third quarter she chased a loose ball at breakneck speed with little regard of what was in front of her. Unfortunately, what was in front of her was a wall of 3 Belgrave players, each twice her size. The sound as Chopper crashed head first into that wall was sickening, and all who saw it were seriously concerned for her wellbeing. The clash itself knocked every last breath of air out of her but she inexplicably got up and attempted to follow the play, eventually succumbing and coming to the bench a minute later. Having collected herself, Chopper was raring to go in the last quarter, but after winning a contested ball she was crunched again by Belgrave's leviathan ruck, who cannoned into her after she had disposed of the ball. The sight of Chopper on her hands and knees struggling to draw breath was distressing, but again, she composed herself and chased after the next loose ball. After the game she was her usual bubbly, smiling self. Not sure what Illyah is made of, but it's definitely stronger than most of the rest of us!

THE HUMOROUS (also with a bit of brilliance!):

Lily (Laser) Carlin has many weapons in her arsenal, but her run and carry followed by a wormburning pass is her stock in trade. Lil has added the "Don't argue" to her arsenal, and has used it to devastating effect as noted in a previous match report. Lil had the ball tucked under her arm for one of her blistering runs in the last quarter, but a player was in her way so her left arm went out for a "don't argue". Just happens that that player was teammate Maisy (Nightlife) Higgins! Oops!! Martha ("X") Box has bemoaned being stuck in the Siberia that can be Olinda's deep forward line while Charlie (Chucky) Humphries has asserted that she's a true forward not a back. At $\frac{3}{4}$ time the coaches said ok, you 2 swap, but the deal is you have to play well. The Footy Gods were smiling because "X" was taking intercept marks at will and racking up clearances in the backline while "Chucky" kicked her first goal for the

side, scooping up a loose ball in the goal square.

The celebrations continue next week as the team and the Club celebrates the 50th game of stalwart and original Blood Casey Seymour. The game is at home at 4.45 vs nemesis Healesville, an occasion not to be missed!

OFC 6.1. 37 Belgrave 1.7. 13

Best Players- Olivia Edwards, Anna Hughson, Claire Hyett, Lily Carlin, Madeleine Collins, Kyah Barry

Goal Scorers- Liv Edwards 4, Charlotte Edwards 1, Charlotte Humphries 1

Olinda Precinct Update



Local MP Danielle De Martino (blue scarf) and Councillor Andrew Fullagher (brown jacket) cut the ribbon to officially open the new Olinda netball court and cricket practice area.

Yep we know we've been using the new netball and cricket facilities for some months now but last week was the first opportunity we've had to bring everyone together for the official opening.

In our (very subjective) opinion these are the best facilities in the whole competition with the netball "feature court" only five metres from the footy ground.

What a wonderful match day atmosphere.

Meantime- we caught up with Parks Victoria at the launch and asked about plans for the Olinda Green precinct.

Remembering that the top car park is to be rebuilt, the old cafe is to be replaced and a shelter/picnic facility is to be build alongside the oval.

So the costs for this phase of the development haven't been completed which means Parks Victoria may NOT be able to afford everything that's on the menu.

We'll discover more as the project unfolds . It's likely works will be completed towards the end of next year (unless something unforeseen comes up).

All Stars- Round 9- Percy's Perfect Score

Massive round for Lily's Legends, highest vote scoring round of the season so far.

Best on grounds to Percy Hyett and Bon Sullivan, with big vote getting games to Lily Carlin, Aden Bates, and Sofia Mickulcic.



OLINDA ALL-STARS
PLAYER AUCTION 2024
WEEKLY WINNERS – ROUND 9
(Based on Play HQ Best Players)

1st – LILY'S LEGENDS
Owners : Luke Hill, Peter Gough, Dylan Wilson \$950

2nd – FRANK'S FIGHTERS
Owners : Chris Lucas, Jack Lucas, Peter Lucas \$750

3rd – THE MISSILE FACTORY
Owners : Lily Carlin, V.Bateman, M.Box, L.Clarke, R.Gilson, C.Hyett, A.Kostich-Angerson, M.McCheynne, C.Seymour \$350

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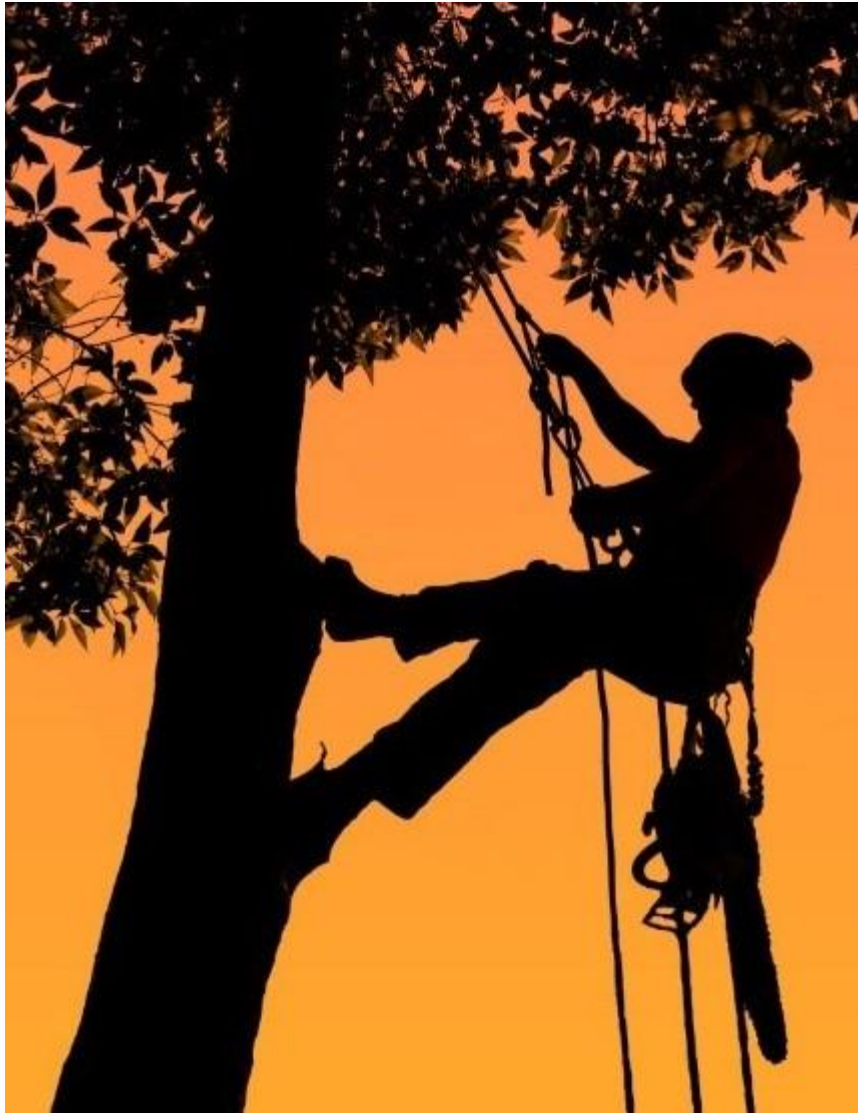
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