

A GRAND VENUE FOR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

THE recently refurbished Grand Ballroom at Crown Perth will be the venue for this year's Football Hall of Fame WA Induction Night on November 26.

It will be a fitting scene for the 20th Anniversary celebrations of the Football Hall of Fame, which was founded in 1996.

The lavishly-decorated Grand Ballroom, with ornate chandeliers, can hold over 500 and exudes elegance and sophistication, and an impressive new marble foyer. It is hoped to attract a bumper crowd to what promises to be a night to remember.

As befitting the occasion, the Committee of the Football Hall of Fame is working tirelessly to ensure that it will be the best induction ceremony yet.

A special call has gone out to many of the over 150 players, coaches, referees and administrators who are already members of the elite Football Hall of Fame to attend and make it a celebration extraordinaire.

There has already been encouraging support from sponsors, including the commitment by Perth-based company TMM (Traction Mining and Motor repairs) as the major backer of the event.

The centre-piece of the evening will be inductions into the Hall of Champions, the Hall of Merit for Players, the Hall of Recognition and into the Hall of Legends.

There will be several Special Guest Speakers (including Les Murray); a special salute to some of the great WA State teams of the past; a photo opportunity with a World Cup replica; a chance to purchase some special memorabilia; and an auction of several items, including a Socceroos shirt signed by the current World Cup squad and coach Ange Postecoglou.

And there will be a strong emphasis on the celebration of 120 years of football in WA. The game was officially founded with the establishment of a State league in 1896.

Plus there will be a salute to Perth Glory, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. There will be entertainment galore and a three-course meal with all drinks included. Tickets cost \$180 (table of ten for \$1,800) and they can be reserved by contacting the following email address: admin@footballhalloffamewa.com.au Sponsorship packages are also still available. Interested parties should contact Hall of Fame Committee member John O'Connell on 0413 973 846 for details.



A CHANCE TO SNARE SOME MEMORABILIA



THERE will be memorabilia galore on show at the Football Hall of Fame WA 20th Anniversary dinner at Crown Perth on November 26. And much of it will be available for purchase. There will be a Major Auction of several prized items, including a Socceroos jersey signed by all the current World Cup qualification squad members and coach Ange Postecoglou.

Plus there will be a Silent Auction of many items of international and WA historical interest, including framed autographed programmes by former England greats Bobby Charlton, Geoff Hurst and Trevor Brooking.

There will be a display of framed posters that record the history of the WA State men's team involvement in international challenge matches.

These games include high-profile contests against the likes of Glasgow Rangers (one of WA's most stunning victories in 1975), Manchester United, Manchester City, AS Roma, AC Milan, Chelsea, Tottenham, Sunderland, West Ham and Werder Bremen, a stirring contest that was another WA victory.

Orders for copies of the posters can be placed at the Gala Dinner.

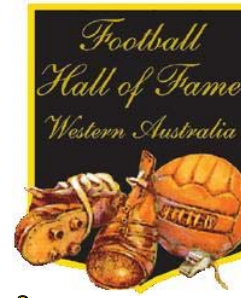
These can also be personalised with photos of individual players who have taken part in certain matches. Bottles of wine with collectable 20th Anniversary labels will also be available for purchase, as will Football Hall of Fame memorabilia key rings/cum bottle openers.



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

A FLYER was recently inserted in various Community Newspapers around the Metropolitan area to promote the Football Hall of Fame WA's 20th Anniversary Gala Dinner/Induction Night. The aim was to make the public aware of this prestigious event and, so far, there has been good feedback. Many sponsors came to our aid to support this venture. We thank them all:

Scoop Property; Imported Cermacis; TMM Repairs; Football West; Pride Plumbing and Gas; Prospero Civil and Cadd Designs; New York Style Bagels; Kingswells Pty Ltd; Nexia Australia; Bali Beach Imports; Festive Australia Pty Ltd; ECU Joondalup Football Clinics; TLS Distributors; Adrian's Balcatta Car Care Centre; Express Fresh; Joondalup Resort; Fineline Plastering; Online Logistics Solutions; and Westarc Welders. Fineline printing for their assistance



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LES MURRAY JOINS OUR CELEBRATIONS

AUSTRALIAN football broadcasting icon Les Murray will be a Special Guest Speaker at the Football Hall of Fame WA's 20th Anniversary Gala Dinner/Induction Night at Crown Perth on November 26.

Hall of Fame Chairman Louis Prospero said it was a considerable coup to have Murray attend what promises to be a night to remember. "Les was the best-known face of the game for many years and he is respected and admired throughout Australia. We are delighted that he has agreed to grace what is a milestone event in our efforts to preserve the history of the game in WA," said Prospero.

Murray said: "It is with great honour that I attend the 2016 Football Hall of Fame Western Australia celebrations. From afar I have long watched with admiration the great work being done by the football community of Western Australia.

"Much has been achieved ever since the Western Australian Soccer Football Association was formed in 1896. Many of our greatest Socceroos came out of the West. The creation of Perth Glory in 1995 was one of the benchmark, pioneering events in our country's football history. "I look forward very much to catching up with my many friends in the West."

Known throughout Australia as Mr Football, Murray has been the face and voice of the game for several decades in his role as host of The World Game, and many other footballing events, on SBS. After 34 years with the Sydney-based TV channel, he retired from full-time duties in 2014 but still makes occasional appearances to voice his expertise on football matters.



HOW TO BEAT THE TICKET RUSH

DO YOU want to beat the rush to claim your ticket for the TMM-sponsored Football Hall of Fame WA's 20th Anniversary at Crown Perth on November 26? Well, get cracking now!

There has already been an encouraging response for tickets, so don't leave it too late.



TRACTION AND MINING
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The event will be the biggest-ever gathering of the State's greatest players, coaches, referees and administrators - plus another chapter will be written in WA's rich football history with inductions on the night into the Hall of Champions, the Hall of Merit for Players, the Hall of Recognition and the Hall of Legends.

The Special Guest Speakers, including Australian football icon Les Murray, are guaranteed to keep the gathering enthralled with their intriguing tales; there will be entertainment galore; a photo opportunity with a World Cup replica; and a three-course dinner with all drinks included.

All for the cost of \$180 per ticket - or \$1,800 for a table of ten. To book your ticket please email admin@footballhalloffamewa.com.au

TURN TO THE BACK PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS OF THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

Title Memories For Willie



McNally (left) with Adelaide City team-mates in 1986

FORMER State team goalkeeper Willie McNally has two significant anniversaries to celebrate in 2016. It's 30 years since Northern Ireland-born McNally played a crucial role in Adelaide City's first of three National Soccer League championships. And it's 15 years since he helped Sorrento claim their first major

championship crown in the WA State league. McNally was part of a formidable Adelaide line-up in 1986. The team included such Australian international stalwarts as Alex Tobin, Aurelio Vidmar, Sergio Melta, Steve Maxwell and Joe Mullen, and was coached by the legendary Zoran Matic. Willie was one of only two non Australian-born players in the side. The other was defender Neville Flounders. City had made an uninspiring start to the NSL season in 1986, being winless after nine games. But the side put together an astonishing burst and made it through to the Grand Final, which was a two-leg affair in those days. City lost 1-0 at home to Sydney Olympic, but triumphed 2-0 in a stunning turnaround in Sydney. Willie, who had won the WA league crown with Perth Azzurri in 1981 before heading East, had seven seasons with Adelaide but returned to the West in 1988 to re-join Kingsway Olympic before moving on for stints with Stirling Macedonia, Floreat Athena and then Sorrento. Although in the veteran stage by 2001, Willie was a key figure as Sorrento won their first championship, finishing one point in front of hot favourites Perth SC. He continued playing at a high level until he was nearly 50. Willie, who played 19 times for the State team and famously captained the side that beat European Cup Winners Cup champions Werder Bremen in 1992, was inducted into the Hall of Champions in 2012.

Welcome on Board George



GEORGE Papaliaris is the new Secretary of the Football Hall of Fame WA Committee. He succeeds Barry Rogers, who has resigned from the position. Papaliaris is a former player with Floreat Athena and also coached juniors with the club. He later became coach to the WA State women's team and was also coach with the WA State men's amateur team. He is also a former President of the WA Women's Association

and regularly reports on the local game on Greek radio. Football Hall of Fame chairman Louis Prospero JP said: "We are delighted to have George on the Committee. His experience and knowledge of many facets of WA football will be invaluable." The other members of the Committee are: Roger Males (treasurer), John O'Connell (sponsorship), Richard Kreider (football historian), Keith Brier (special projects) and Mel Moffat (The Fame Game and website editor). Julian Burt JP is the Patron and Eddie Lennie JP OAM represents Football West.

Eddie's Olympic Buzz

THE 1996 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro will bring back fond memories for Eddie Lennie. It is 20 years since he became the first WA referee to officiate at the Olympics when he took charge of three games in Atlanta in 1996, including a blockbuster between the USA and Portugal in front of a sell-out crowd at JFK Stadium.



Two years later the spotlight was even bigger when he refereed two contests in the 1998 World Cup finals in France - Italy v Cameroon and Romania v Tunisia. "Those were great days and taking part in both the Olympics and World Cup was a wonderful experience," said Lennie. "I had just been awarded my FIFA Badge in 1996 and it was a great honour to be elevated to such a major event as the Olympics, so I was somewhat nervous, particularly in the US game with such a big crowd. But it was a great buzz. "The pool of referees at the Olympics included most of the top referees from around the world, including the likes of Pierluigi Collina, who was instantly recognisable to footballers and fans and was FIFA's top official for many years. He's now the Head of Referees for UEFA and we still keep in touch. "It was a very professional bunch in Atlanta and I think it was the starting point for a new breed of referees. And FIFA also realised that the standard had to be taken to another level. That was particularly so two years later in the World Cup. I think about six of the referees from Atlanta were picked for the World Cup, and I was lucky to be one of them. "The next step was full-time referees and there are now very many full-timers around the world. We've got three in Australia who work very hard in the A-League and also take charge of FIFA games around the Asian region." Lennie had to retire from international duties in 2004 having reached the then FIFA age limit of 45. "There's no age limit now for FIFA or in the A-League," says Lennie. "If referees are good enough and fit enough they can continue to be involved." In all, Scottish-born Lennie officiated in 27 FIFA 'A' matches and 22 other FIFA games. He was Australia's highest-ranked referee for many years and his achievements were recognised when he was inducted into the Football Hall of Fame WA in 2005 and the Football Australia Hall of Fame in 2007. Lennie is still deeply involved in the refereeing side of the game - but now it is from the sidelines. FIFA is continuing to make good use of his talent and expertise in his role as an Elite Referees Assessor in the Asian region. He also fills a similar position for the Asian Football Confederation. His skills haven't been lost to WA, for he is also the Referee Development Manager for State ruling body Football West.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO 120 YEARS OF FOOTBALL



FOOTBALL WEST marked the 120th anniversary of the official foundation of the game in WA on the weekend of May 28/29 by taking out a full page advert in The West Australian newspaper to thank all the players, coaches, officials, volunteers and fans who had contributed so much over the years. The fixtures of all NPL, Women's State Cup and Amateur State Cup on the anniversary weekend were deemed to be played under the collective banner of the "Round of 120 Years of Football." The captains of the NPL clubs exchanged pennants prior to the kick-off of their league contests. It was almost 120 years to the day since the game was officially born when the first league fixtures were held in central Perth on May 30, 1896. What was described in The West Australian as "good sized crowds" turned out to watch Crusaders meet Fremantle Wanderers at

Weld Square in Perth, and Perth FC take on Civil Service at the nearby Hyde Park Estate ground on May 30, 1896. The West Australian's correspondent added: "It was a very fine game indeed. I would like to see it gain a footing in the colony." The game, then referred to in WA as English Association football to distinguish it from Victorian football (Australian Rules), had been played on a social basis for many years in the Perth and regional areas, but never on an organised league level. The establishment in early May 1896 of the game's first ruling body, which was called the British Football Association Western Australia, with WA's first Attorney General Septimus Burt and his five sons as the driving force, was the catalyst for change. Initially there were only four clubs battling for the league title - but within a decade there was such an interest in the flourishing game that three divisions had to be set up. Since then, football has continued to play a big part in WA's sporting culture with the establishment of many influential clubs, several through the initiative of European migrants, success for the state men's and women's teams in capturing many Australian titles, conquering Asia with back-to-back triumphs in the Marah Halim Cup and Perth Kangaroos domination of the Singapore league. More recently, Perth Glory has proved a trailblazer in national competitions. Meanwhile, Football West has a new Chief Executive, James Curtis, who succeeds Peter Hugg. Hugg, who was the CEO for six years, stepped down to take up a new position as Head of Football with Football NSW in Sydney. Mr Curtis, who has been heavily involved in grassroots football, started his new job on July 1 and told the Hall of Fame website: "Preserving the history of the game in WA is very important." He spent the past four years in the WA State Government at the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in various roles including, most recently, Executive Director Community Development.

DOING THE "IMPOSSIBLE"

THEY say that making a major breakthrough is difficult - doing it again 12 months later is nigh near impossible. But the WA State team succeeded in doing the "impossible" during a momentous two-week spell in steamy conditions in Indonesia in May, 1976. After becoming the first Australian team to win a title in Asia when scooping the prestigious Marah Halim Cup in 1975, the part-timers from Western Australia successfully defended the trophy a year later. It was such a stunning, and unexpected, victory that David Andrews, The West Australian's football writer at the time, said: "To see WA beat fantastic odds in a strange land against all expectations was the most thrilling moment of my soccer career." "It far surpassed the success the previous year against Glasgow Rangers, which was our first home victory since 1938." On their way to a Grand Final showdown with South Korea - the team they had beaten in the showdown a year earlier - WA had a thumping 7-2 win over Indonesia side Persiraja Banda Aceh, a 1-0 success against Japan and a 4-0 victory over Burma. The lost 2-1 to South Korea in the group stages, but turned that around with a 2-0 triumph over the same opponents in the grand final, in front of a crowd of 50,000. The goals came from George McMillan and Nick McCallum. The squad was: Tony Witschge,



McCallum, Vest & McMillan

Saverio Madaschi, Sauro Iozzelli, Denis Barstow (capt), David Jones, Peter Johnston, Hugh Miller, Ray Ilott, Gary Marocchi, Stephen Sceats, Gordon McCulloch, John O'Connell, Tony Trinca, George McMillan, Nick McCallum, John Davies, David O'Callaghan. Coach: Alan Vest. So, we salute those heroes on the 40th anniversary of a milestone occasion.

GLORY'S HERITAGE ON SHOW

PERTH Glory will celebrate their 20th anniversary by wearing a Heritage Jersey in their first A League home game for the 2016-17 season, which is against Central Coast Mariners at nib stadium on Saturday, October 8. The jersey will be almost identical - although with a modern twist - to the one that was worn in the club's first National Soccer League game. That was against UTS Olympic on October 13, 1996, when the Sydney team overcame a spirited Glory effort to win 4-1. Alan Mackenzie claimed the honour of being the Perth side's first competitive goalscorer, netting in the final minute. The Glory's inaugural line-up, with substitutes, was: Tommy Maras, Doug Ithier, Craig Naven, Gavin Wilkinson (Dale Wingell 67), Vinko Buljubasic, Gareth Naven, Paul McVittie, Paul Strudwick (Vladimir Beretovac 70), Bobby Despotovski, Alan Mackenzie, Scott Miller. A crowd of 9,639 turned up to provide an exciting and intoxicating atmosphere that was to prevail for the entire first season in the NSL. The club set a record when 17,582 turned up for the home game against Marconi on January 12, 1997. The average home ground crowd was 11,871, much higher than any other NSL side that season. The former Glory stars who have been inducted into the Hall of Champions are: Gareth Naven, Craig Naven, Scott Miller, Bobby Despotovski, Alistair Edwards, Shaun Murphy, Stan Lazaridis, Robbie Zabica, Tommy Maras and Tony Franken.



Paul McVittie in 1996