

## John Taylor

John William Taylor (1913-1946) was one of two son's of William John Taylor (1883-1952) and Esther Taylor (1881-1953) who lived at 3 Boyce Street Glebe. Esther was the first female Life-Member of the Glebe District Hockey Club. Esther and William married in 1912.

John was involved with setting up the Saint James Sports' Club in 1928, which was a Club formed by the teenage ex-students of the Patrician Brother's School Forest Lodge during the depression years. The Saint James Sports Club ran dances, socials of all sorts and organised cricket teams, rugby league teams, tennis teams and in 1931 organised its first hockey team. John was on the executive committee of the Saint James Sports Club in 1928 and was its Secretary for some years.

One of John's maternal uncles died while playing rugby union for Glebe and his mother Ester was keen that her two sons avoid the rugby codes. Another of his uncle's Tommy Dickenson was a bantamweight-boxing champion of Australia in the early 1900's.

John played in the Foundation Saint James' Sports Club Hockey team of 1931 and played for the Club every year until his death on 12 November 1946 at the age of 33 years. He played 173 games for the Club. John was known to have heart disease and although his early death was tragic, it was not unexpected.

The Saint James Sports Club Hockey Teams first played as the Glebe District Hockey Club in the 1933 season.

After John's death in 1946, the Management Committee of the Glebe District Hockey Club decided that his memory should be perpetuated. A decision was taken by the Committee to donate a trophy in John's honour to the Metropolitan Hockey Association. The trophy first presented in 1947, and awarded every year since this time. It is awarded to the third grade premiership winners.

John was Treasurer of the Glebe District Hockey Club when it was formed in December 1932. He serviced the Club as Treasurer from 1932-1934 and again from 1943-1945. He was Secretary of the Club from 1935-1938 and again in 1942 and 1946, which is the year in which he died.

John was a dedicated, hard working official of the Club, who contributed greatly to the running of the Club in its early years. He was a good player but not a great one. John was instrumental in persuading my father Harry and my uncle Ken to join the Glebe District Hockey Club. He spoke to them after the 1946 hockey season had finished and he died shortly after this. Harry and Ken's first season with Glebe was in 1947. Until this time they had played for the Balmain Police Boy's Club, which did not have a first grade team.

I do not think John William Taylor married and as far as I am aware has no direct descendents. He had a brother Tom who was a great son of the Glebe District Hockey Club, a NSW State player, who played 231 games for Glebe from 1932-1948. Tom who died in 1993, I think had four children. I do not know the where-abouts of Tom's children but could probably find out if I put my mind to it. Jim Oman has intermittent contact with Tom's eldest son who lives and works in Alaska, having married an American woman.

John's father William John Taylor was an enthusiastic supporter of the Club, although he was a non-player. He was Patron of the Club from 1941 until his death in 1952, a period of 13 years. William John Taylor was heavily involved in Club affairs from 1931 until his death in 1952.

In summary the Sydney Hockey Association's Trophy was given to perpetuate the memory of J W Taylor. The Glebe District Hockey Club Trophy, the W J Taylor Trophy was given to the Club by William John Taylor after he became Patron of the Club in 1941. W J Taylor was J W Taylor's father. Neither W J Taylor or J W Taylor are related to Bob Taylor, our current President or to another prominent Glebe Club Member of yore J C Taylor.