

# Glebe District Hockey Club

## Biography

### Jack Sutherland



Glebe District Hockey Club Member

Born 1922

Glebe Player from 1948 to 1958 (187 Club Games)

Jack was born in Brisbane and grew up there. He learnt to play hockey with the Coorparoo Hockey Club in inner city Brisbane.

He was keen on his hockey, and in 1938 at age 16 years he was promoted to the Coorparoo first grade team. Coorparoo Hockey Club was formed in 1930 and its home ground was at Boongall Rd Reserve Coorparoo. In the 1950s the Coorparoo Hockey Club changed its name to the Easts Hockey Club, and it is still a vibrant hockey club in 2010.

At the Club's 80th Anniversary Dinner at the Hurlstone Park RSL Club Jack told me he would go to the Boongall Rd Reserve at midday, umpire the 3rds and 2nds and play in the Coorparoo first grade team.

In the early forties Jack joined the Australian Army, in which he spent four years fighting for Australia during the second World War. After the war ended in 1945 Jack returned to civilian life.

By this time his parents had moved to Sydney and Jack joined them in Sydney.

In 1948 Jack was living close to Glebe and thought to himself that he should get himself fit and take up hockey again. He contacted the Glebe President of the day Mr Jack Worley who encouraged him to join the Glebe Club, but informed him that he would have to start in third grade and work his way up and that it was unlikely that he would make first grade in his first year.



1948 First Grade Premiership winning team, which was taken behind the old grandstand at Harold Park.

Back row L-R: Jack Taylor, Vince Halls, Kelvin Dickey, Tom Taylor, Jack Worley

Front row L-R: Ken Wark, Jack Sutherland, William (Billy) Ryan, Ron Lord (Goal-keeper), Frank Murray, Les Waight, Harry Wark

Jack duly started playing for Glebe. He had two games in third grade, a similar number in second grade and was then promoted to first grade, where he displaced the Glebe great Kelvin Dickey. Jack was a fast, dangerous centre-forward, who could sniff-out a goal scoring opportunity from a long way out. Pat Nilan is of the view that Jack was one of the best goal scorers he has ever seen play for the Club. This is praise indeed as the Club has had many excellent sharp shooters over the years.

He played in most of the first grade winning teams of 1947-1953, when Glebe won the first grade premiership for seven years on the trot. No other Club has won seven Sydney Hockey Association first grade premierships on the trot. In 1952 at the age of 30 Jack was replaced in the Glebe first grade team by the late Ray Thorpe. Jack played second grade for Glebe until 1958, when a niggling knee injury forced him into retirement.

When he first came to Sydney Jack worked for Pet Pool Oil on Rozelle Bay. Pet Pool was eventually taken over by Golden Fleece Oil Company. Jack married Dorothy in the late 40s and they were married for close to 65 years. They had no children. Jack and Dorothy spent most of their married life living in Ashfield. In 2008 they moved from their long-term home, into the

Cardinal Freeman Retirement Village in Ashfield/Summer Hill. They were very happy living in the Retirement Village.