

Vale Wayne Sullivan

Died April 2018

Wayne played junior hockey for the Club from 1967 to 1971 and seniors from 1970-1983. His playing association with the GDHC spanned 16 years and he was a supporter of the Club most of his life.

In his youth Wayne lived with his parents at 4 Victoria Road Glebe, 20 metres from the entrance to Jubilee Oval, the GDHC's traditional home ground in Glebe. During the 1960s and '70s a 60 metre stretch of Victoria Road, Glebe was home to the Sullivan, the Gilmour, the Atterton, the Cowan and the Casey families. Members of these families have played thousands of games for the GDHC over many decades.

Wayne played in the Glebe Under 12 team of 1967 with Paul Puckeridge, Greg Horan, T Bradley, D Donaldson, P Johaou, Wayne Tilley, Phil Weatherly, Les Wark (Club President in 2018), Michael McMahon, Tony Graham and Gary Wark. Robert "Charlie" Brown was the coach of the team. The team won the Zone competition and the Sydney wide knockout competition, with Les Wark, Paul Puckeridge and Wayne Sullivan being selected in the Sydney Representative Team. Wayne won the Most Improved Forward Award for the 1967 Under-12 team.

In 1968 Wayne played in the Under 14 team coached by Colin Brown. In his end-of-season report Colin commented about him: "Most improved player in the team. Will go on to bigger and better things."

Played seniors from 1970-1983, and played 281 senior games during this time.

The W.A. Oldfield Cup was awarded to Wayne at the end of the 1972 season. This cup was first awarded in 1941. It was presented to the Club by the late W.A. (Bert) Oldfield, the former Australian wicket keeper. The trophy is awarded to the "Colt under 21" who is adjudged "The Most Improved and Best Behaved Junior during the season".

In 1968 and 1970 he won the V. J. Turner Cup for the "Most improved junior under the age of 17 years." In the words of the late Mr. John Atterton, who was junior convenor in 1970, Wayne was "the outstanding player" in the 1970 Under-16 team.

Wayne's last year in the juniors was in 1971 and the players in his Under 16 team included Michael McDonald, Les Wark, Gary Wark, Adrian Howe, Steve Casey, Phil Joannou, Phil Graham, Phil Weatherly and Michael McMahon.

In 1970 he was in the Club's fifth grade team, and in 1972 he played in the Premiership-winning Third Grade Glebe team. Others in the side over the course of the season were: Fred Letts, Ernie O' Connor, Ken Wark snr, Adrian Howe, John McDonald, Gary Wark, Bob Godbold, Bill Stubbs (Captain), Hilary McDonald, Steve Casey, Peter Walker, Greg Corben, Kevin Haigh, Harry Wark snr, Paul Rogers, Graham Kirkland, Colin Smith, Mick Weatherly, Tony Martin, Les Wark, Garry Manou, Garry Morison, Steve Nance, Garry Scanlon and Lenny "Shock" Needham.

In 1974 Wayne played in the Glebe Premiership-winning Second Grade team. In the end of year report his captain Robert Brown, his Under 12 coach of 1967, wrote about him: "The quiet man of

the Club sleeps a bit on the right wing at times but when aroused is dynamite. His centres from the wing resulted in many goals." By the end of the 1974 season Wayne had played 113 senior club games for Glebe.

In the 1975 Annual Report, the second grade team captain, Victor Westacott, commented: "On the forward line, "young Wayne Sullivan, right wing, was just too much for any opposition—a real power house performer."

Wayne played in the 1976 Premiership-winning second grade side of Colin Brown, Gary Wark, Peter Howe, Graham Lisk, Victor Westacott, Harry Wark jnr., Tony Cowan, Royce Jenkins, Robert Wark, Vernon Howe and Robert "Charlie" Brown (captain). The team captain commented about Wayne in that year's Annual Report: "When the big games were on he showed his class, right or left he handled it 'Easy'".

With natural ability, and innate talent to burn, Wayne liked playing but was not much of a trainer. By his late teenage years he had many diverse interests in life and hockey training was not one of them. He consequently he never realized his full potential in the sport.

Wayne was a regular fixture in the Club's second and third grade teams of the years 1977, '78, '79, '80. By the end of the 1980 season he had played 241 games for the GDHC.

In 1981, '82, '83 Wayne played in the fourth and fifth grade teams and was a key player in all teams in which he played. The Fifth Grade team of 1981 won the competition after a penalty stroke off. The game was drawn after extra-time. Players in this team were: Noel Anderson, Ian Harvey, Tony Martin, Colin Smith, Craig Spence, Lyell Ebert, Michael Galluzzo, Sean Brown, Peter Holmes, Gill Puckering, Billy Jardine, Craig Kirkland and Harry Wark snr. The Annual report of 1981 says this about Wayne: "Strong in both attack and defence".

Wayne retired at the end of the 1983 season. He got on well with people and he was a well-liked member of all the sides in which he played. He had played in premiership winning teams in second, third, and fifth grades. He made a number of great friends at the GDHC, many of whom he kept in contact with all his life and he was always keen to hear how the Club was getting along.

For most of his life Wayne worked in the Garbage Collection Services Section at Leichhardt Municipal Council along with Greg Howe and Eric Fraser, both GDHC stalwarts.

May the Lord be kind to Wayne and grant him Eternal Life in Heaven above.

The GDHC extends its deepest and heartfelt sympathy to Wayne's family and friends.

Harry Wark

CLUB HISTORIAN