

# Trevor Vanderputt

**Born 1931 died April 2018**

Trevor Vanderputt was born to Anglo/Dutch/Indian parents in Calcutta, (now known as Kolkata), in Bengal State, eastern India in 1931. He was educated by the Irish Christian Brothers, and it was at school that he first played hockey. Interestingly, one of our present-day Glebe Supporters Terry O'Flynn went to school with Trevor and played in his school hockey teams. Trevor played first division for the Calcutta Rangers Club in the 1950s and served as a Bengal Senior selector.

At the age of 23 he married Jean and they celebrated 50 years of marriage in 2003. They had five sons. Trevor worked for the English Office Equipment Company, Gestetner for over 40 years, becoming self-employed for the last six years of his working life before retiring.

Trevor and his family immigrated to Australia from India in 1964, settling in Sydney. He played for Glebe District Hockey Club in 1964, 1966 and 1967, playing 34 Club games for the Club.

His peak performance hockey playing days were behind him when he joined the Glebe club, but having played hockey since his early school days he had a wealth of knowledge of the game and excellent skills. Some of his speed was lost, but he more than made up for his reduction in speed by taking excellent field position and great anticipation. Trevor read the game like a book.

Trevor worked in a sales job and he was persuasive and a good communicator. He was a good tactician and an upbeat, optimistic chap. He was well liked by his team mates and opposing teams.

In 1964, his first year in Sydney, Trevor played a couple of games with Glebe's Third Grade. The third grade report in the 1964 Annual Report commented on Trevor: "Trevor Vanderputt played only a handful of games but showed he has lots of ability." Players in this third grade team were: Robert Frazer, Harvey Sharp, Cliff Boyd, Peter Krepp, John Nelmes, Peter Newson, Jim Kenny, Fred Letts, Jack Thomson, Brain Howe, Paul Rogers, Kevin Weekes, George Griffiths and Kevin Doyle (captain).

In early 1965 Trevor and his wife Jean bought a house at North Manly. Travelling to Glebe to train and play involved a big time commitment on Trevor's part. He had a young family and with his domestic commitments, he decided to play with the second division Sydney Club Manly in 1965. He won a second grade premiership with Manly that year.

Trevor missed the atmosphere of the Glebe social network and returned to the Club for the 1966 and 1967 seasons, winning second grade premierships in both years.

Players in Trevor's Premiership winning 1966 second grade team included: Russ Nicholls, Bill Stubbs, Harry Wark snr ( captain), Graham Kirkland, Brian Howe, Graham Shirley ( New Zealander), Len Needham, Tony Morley, Robert "Charlie" Brown, Marvin Heaston, Ron Hall and Greg Harris.

He also served on the Club's Management Committee in 1966.

Trevor moved to Perth in 1968. In the west his willingness to be involved saw Trevor coach many Western Australian junior and Under-21 teams, over many years.

In Perth, Trevor played for the Cricketer's Club, which in subsequent years amalgamated with several other Perth clubs and is now known as the Westside Wolves. Westside Wolves is the Club Mark Paterson, a Glebe junior and Australian hockey representative, played with during his time at the Australian Institute for Sport in Perth in 2010-12.

Most of Trevor's life in Australia was spent in Perth, but he did live in Melbourne for two years in 1980 and 1981, and Canberra.

In Melbourne he coached juniors with the Camberwell Hockey Club and coached a Victorian junior state team.

From 1981-1984 Trevor lived in Canberra, where he was the Director of Hockey Coaching for the ACT Hockey Association. During his time there, Trevor enticed GDHC Members Graham Gilmour and Robert "Charlie" Brown to go down to Canberra to conduct coaching sessions with the Territory's promising junior players. Trevor was impressed with Graham and Robert's coaching styles, having observed them closely while playing for Glebe in the mid-60s.

In 2003 Trevor published a 157 page book entitled: *Hockey's Odyssey! From Dhyan Chand to Charlesworth*. It is a biography and chronicle of Trevor's life and times playing, coaching and being associated with hockey in India and Australia. The book was published by Athena Press in London. A chapter in his book is devoted to his time at the GDHC.

Trevor continued to receive the Club's *Red Rag* newsletter after he left Glebe and he retained a keen interest in the Club's progress and in the life and times of his Glebe teammates from 1964, 66 and 67. He flew over to Sydney from Perth to attend the Club's Eightieth Anniversary Dinner at the Hurlstone Park RSL in 2010.

The GDHC would like to extend to Trevor's family and friends its heartfelt sympathy on the occasion of Trevor's death aged 86 years.

May the Lord above look kindly upon Trevor and welcome him into the Eternal Kingdom. May he Rest in Peace.

Harry Wark

**GDHC CLUB HISTORIAN**



This photo was taken in 1965. Trevor Vanderputt is the man with glasses receiving his pennant for winning a Sydney Hockey Association Premiership.

The other man in the photo is J C (Jack) Taylor. Jack played 401 games for Glebe from 1940-62. He moved to Beacon Hill in the mid-sixties and played a few seasons in the lower grades of the Manly Hockey Club.