

Eugene Beame

Eugene Beame played for Glebe from 1979-2000 and played 118 senior games for the Club.

Eugene came to Glebe in 1979. He was Indian by birth and in his youth he had played hockey at a high level in India. My impression was that Eugene played first grade hockey in India and some representative hockey at a city level.

By the time he started with Glebe, Eugene was aged in his mid-to-late 30's and his speed had dropped a touch and his agility was reduced a bit, but he still had excellent stick and ball skills and read the game well. He was a gregarious chap who spoke fast; his English had a typical Indian accent.

He loved to talk about hockey, about tactics for the game we were about to play, and after the game, he always had a thoughtful analysis of why the game had played out the way it did. Eugene always had clear ideas about how the team could improve for its next match and things to work on in training, although Eugene was never much of a trainer in his time with Glebe.

He was keen to watch other Glebe teams play their games after his own game had finished and he revelled in the atmosphere in the Glebe Clubhouse under the Railway Arch at jubilee Oval Glebe. Eugene was well liked by his Club mates and enjoyed nothing better than to discuss the day's games over a cool can of beer.

Eugene worked for Qantas as an engineer and his job involved a lot of shift work. He played for Glebe for 21 years, however in this time he only played 118 Club games. Work commitments prevented him from playing more frequently. He did play veterans hockey with Glebe for some years. These games are not recorded in the Club's Annual Reports and the exact number of Veterans games he played is unknown.

On page 85 of the GDHC history published in 1994, *Under the Arches* written by Max Solling and Harry Wark, it says, referring to the 1987 season:

"The sevenths captained by Peter Howe, defeated the University of USW 2-0 in the Grand-Final. Members of the team were John White, Gary Reid, Bruce Fuller, Eugene Beame, Kevin Lowe, Robin Crowhurst, Mick Lincoln, Eric Wade, together with veterans Bill Stubbs, Bennett Dunn, Bob Taylor, Vic Westacott and Bob Fox."

Page 86 of *Under the Arches* relates that during the mid to late 1980s and the early '90s:

"The fourth, fifth and sixth grades had a core of old stagers: Martin Howe, Gary Wark, Harry J Wark, Steve Casey, Bevan Ineson, Bobby Taylor, Peter Howe, Mick Galluzzo, Victor Westacott, Bob "Charlie" Brown, Colin Brown, Peter Mitchell, Robert Wark, Vernon Howe, Adrian Howe, Eugene Beame, Robin Crowhurst, Eric Fraser, Arthur Moir, Peter Cremin, Paul Culshaw, and younger players from the juniors and the country."

Page 91 of *Under the Arches* has the following to say about the Glebe sixth grade team of 1992:

"Sixth grade finished equal fourth on points but were eliminated from the semi-finals on goal difference—one goal making the difference! The side (dad's army, with a sprinkling of players under 35 who could run) comprised Oleh Ploskodniak, Peter Howe, Gavin and Victor Westacott, Chris Smith (a recruit from Canberra), Lex McPhee, Ti Tran, Bob Taylor, Robin Crowhurst, and Eugene Beame.

Sixth grade got on very well together and provided each other with group therapy after the game on Saturdays. The average age of the side was well over 40, but they ran around like “spring chickens.”

Eugene enjoyed his hockey and the camaraderie of his team mates and other Club Members.

Harry Wark
Glebe District Hockey Club
Life Member