

## **Peter Howe: A Biography (9 August 1943 - 14 March 2019)**

Peter's parents, Jim and Molly Howe, came to Glebe in 1947 from Barellan in the Riverina area of NSW. Jim worked for the PMG (Post-Master General's Department), later called Telecom and then Telstra. The Howe Family lived first in Arundel Street and then Pyrmont Bridge Road. Peter was one of 18 children, one of whom died in the first weeks of life. Peter had a non-identical twin brother Gavin, and they were equal second eldest of the Howe children. There were 12 boys and 5 girls that survived infancy, with Brian Howe being the eldest.

Peter started primary school at St James' School Forest Lodge in the late 1940s aged 5 years. He was educated initially by the Good Samaritan Sisters, and then the Patrician Brothers. Interestingly, Irishman Reverend Brother Macarten Keegan taught at St James' School and founded the Glebe Hockey Club in 1931, 16 years before Peter started there. St James' School Forest Lodge has always had a close association with the GDHC, and it is not surprising that all the Howe boys found their way into the ranks of the Club.



Peter's elder brother Brian started playing hockey in 1955 with the Saint James' School team, having been recruited to the sport by the Hockey Club's Junior Convenor, Vernon Turner. Peter followed in Brian's footsteps in 1956. In 1956 Peter's St James' team played Glebe Police Boys' Club in the Under 14 Zone Championships Final, which was held at Saint Paul's Oval, Sydney University. The game was won by St James.

In his report published in the 1956 GDHC Annual Report Vernon Turner had this to say about Peter Howe: "the player selected to receive this award for the most outstanding player was Peter Howe. In winning the Under 14 Championships the St James team owes much to the ability of this player. Should he continue to take an interest in the game and practice whenever possible, the Glebe Club has another future Australian representative." In 1957 Vernon wrote about Peter "This boy will play for Australia one day and will achieve this honour by ability alone." As a junior Peter showed exceptional potential.

In his later school years and in his adolescence Peter had many irons in the fire. He loved the camaraderie of playing hockey with his friends on a Saturday afternoon, but was definitely not a dedicated trainer due to work, social, domestic, study, and family commitments. His outstanding playing potential as a hockey player was never fully realised, but he had forty years of good times and great fun with the GDHC, mostly in the lower grades.

In 1958 Peter played in the St James team that won the Sydney wide under 16 competition, which was a first for a Glebe Team, after ten years of trying. Players in Peter's 1958 team were Reg Homer, Ron Melville, Tony

Thomas, McGregor, Gavin Howe, Vic Owens, Brian Whitt, Harry Bell, Brian Howe, and Neville Gardiner. In 1959, Peter was selected in the NSW School Boys' team.



*The Glebe third grade team of 1965: This photo was taken at Sydney University Number Two Oval.  
**Back Row:** L-R Peter Howe, Marvin Heaston, Kevin Doyle, Brian Howe, Paul Rogers, Paul Cuneen.  
**Front Row:** L-R Fred Letts, Kevin Weeks, Jim Kenny (goal-keeper), Peter Krepp.*

Peter started his senior career in 1960, and played 21 games this season, mainly in the Club's third grade team. Players in this team were David Lisk, Frank Holliday, Harry Harris, Keith Doherty, Pat Dalton, Daryl Fishenden, Harry Butler, Kevin Weekes, Ron Callaghan, and Allan Halls.

By the end of the 1966 season Peter had played 119 Club games. In the 60s, teams in which Peter played won two third grade premierships and three second grade premierships in Sydney Hockey Association Competitions. Peter was an excellent centre-half, and had an effective hit and push. He was lethal taking the team's penalty strokes. He rarely missed.

A comment in the second grade report, in the 1970 Annual Report commenting about Peter reads thus: "A first class player who with more devotion to the game would be in first grade." Peter had a full and busy life and

devotion to training was not his number one priority. Peter's second grade teams of 1972, 73 and 74 won the SHA Competition. The second grade team of 1973 comprised Victor Westacott (captain), Denis Brown (vice-captain), Wayne Sullivan, Kevin Haigh, Hilary McDonald, Garry Morison, Royce Jenkins, Glynn Pulling, Robert "Charlie" Brown, Robert Wark, John McDonald, Denis Lisk, Colin Brown, and Bob McLachlan.

He captained the premiership winning second grade team in 1976 and by the end of this season had played 311 senior games. In 1976 and 1977 Peter played some games in first grade on an injury replacement basis. Peter was fast, agile, lanky, had a long reach, read the game well, and was hard for the opposition to get past. He was one of the lynchpins of the second grade team for over ten years.



*This photo was taken of some revelers, at the 1966 Glebe Fancy Presentation Night at the Drummoyne Sailing Club.*

**Back Row L-R** Lindsay Weate, Martin Howe, Sam Singh, Brian Howe, Tony Morley, Peter Howe, Harry Wark, Bob Fox, Digger Taylor, Graham Kirkland. **Front Row L-R** John (Mouse) Cameron, Colin Brown, Denis (Walt Disney) Brown, Bill Stubbs, Paul Rogers.

Peter was always ready with a witty quip, saw the humorous side of even desperate situations and was popular and well-liked by his team mates. His repartee and banter enlivened every Saturday afternoon for his team mates, who were uplifted by his cheerfulness and optimistic attitude to life.

In the 1980s as old father time was catching up with him, and he had a few niggling injuries Peter dropped back through the grades. In 1981 he played in the Club's premiership winning fourth grade team which included Col Brown in goals, Pat Campbell, Jamie Howe, Arthur Moir, Ian Edgar, Paul Puckeridge, Paul Abate, Barry Howe, Kerri Wise, Steve Casey, Alan Chu and Victor Ferrari, with Noel Anderson, Michael Galluzzo, Scott Brown and John Teplitzky being injury substitutions at various times throughout the season. The fourth grade team, which he captained, won the premiership again in 1985. Players in this team included: Mick Bougoukas, Martin Howe, Billy Jardine, Tony Cowan, Greg Howe, Ian Edgar, Arthur Moir, Butch McDonald, Lex McPhee, Steve Casey, Bevan Ineson, Kerri Boyd, Alan Howe and Eugene Beame.

In the 1986 Annual Report Peter wrote in the fourth grade Report "I intend to retire from Club Hockey this year due to my debilitated condition and will be concentrating on the Veterans competition, where even when you're 'old' you can still be 'young' and I whole-heartedly thank all the players for their support and friendship given me during my stint as Captain." At the end of the 1986 season Peter had played 508 competition senior games for Glebe.

Peter commenced playing Veterans when the competition was established in 1982. This competition was played on weeknights at the Homebush Hockey Complex, Homebush.

In 1987 the Club entered a seventh grade team in the competition and Peter agreed to captain this team that contained 10 players from the Club's Veteran's Team. This Saturday game provided the veterans with a training run for their mid-week Veterans' competition game. This team won the competition. Players in the team were John White (goal-keeper), Bob Fox, Garry Reid, Victor Westacott, Bob Taylor, Bruce Fuller, Eugene Beame, Kevin Lowe, Robin Crowhurst, Bennett Dunn, Englishman Mick Lincoln, Bill Stubbs, and Eric Wade.

Commenting on the 1988 Seventh Grade Team Robert Wark in his President's Report for the Club's 1988 Annual Report had this to say about the team: "These blokes play hard---on and off the field." Peter's comments in his end of season report on the 1988 team were "A great group of blokes- A really enjoyable season." There was great camaraderie within the team.

The Club fielded one less team in 1989 than it did in 1988, so the savage sevens moved up a grade. This team, captained by Peter, won the competition, which was a fine effort considering the team moved up a grade. Peter commented thus on the team in his end of year report: "The finest hockey talent in the Sydney Metropolitan Area was brought together in this exclusive Super Team of 1989." This tongue in cheek comment by Peter exemplified his quirky sense of humour. Players in this team included: Paul Henry, and Ollie Ploskodniak goal-keepers, Bob Fox, "araldite" Arthur Moir, Eric Wade, Bill Stubbs, Vic Westacott (Mr. Magic), Mick Lincoln, Mark Edwards, Robin Crowhurst, Bob Taylor, Bruce Fuller and Eugene Beame.



*L-R Peter Howe, Bob Taylor and Greg Howe: This photo was taken at Little Bay, the UNSW Synthetic Turf Pitch in the early 1990s, after a torrid sixth grade game. The post-game debriefing, rest and resuscitation process had begun.*

Players to join the sixth grade team in the 1990s were Gavin Westacott, Chris Smith, Robert Brown, Graeme Brown, Colin Sargent, Amrat Parbhu, Eric Green, Mick Galluzzo, Richard Onslow, Noel Anderson, Brian Van Der Plaat, Greg Howe, Narian Singh, David Jones, Martin Howe, Jason Rowswell, “lightening” Geoff Roberts, Peter Mitchell, Bevan Ineson and Lex McPhee. The 1995 sixth grade team, which was Peter’s last season playing hockey for Glebe, lost a “flick-off” to Ryde in the Grand-Final, after the game finished 3-3 after ordinary and extra-time.

Peter’s time at the Club in both juniors and seniors spanned 40 years and he played 641 senior games. He retired after the 1995 season, after moving house from Baulkham Hills to the Central Coast.

On the administrative side Peter made a significant contribution to the smooth running of the Club. He was President in 1985, Treasurer in 1986, 87, 88, and Assistant Treasurer in 1992. In 1992 the Club’s finances were in substantial disarray and Peter helped his good friend, teammate, and Club Treasurer Bob Taylor sort out this

dire situation. Peter was on the Club's Management Committee from 1985-1988, and again from 1993-1994, and was the Equipment Officer in 1994.

Peter married his wife Ros in 1970 and they had two children together Jemima and Ben. Jemima and Ben started playing for the Glebe Junior Teams in 1983. Jemima played junior hockey until 1989 and then for the Glebe Women's teams in 93-94, 97-98, 06-07, when she could fit the sport into her study, work, domestic and social commitments. Ben played junior hockey until 1994, a period of 11 years in the Glebe Junior Teams, and Senior Hockey from 1993-1995 (29 senior games).

Peter coached Glebe's junior teams from 1985, and was on the Club's Junior Committee for 11 years from 1984 till 1994, and he made a major contribution to ensuring the continued viability of the Club's Junior Teams.

Jemima and Ben started playing hockey in 1983, and their coaches in those years were Jamie Howe and Phil Dennis. Peter's niece, Helen Howe, played in this team and Helen's mother, the late Margaret Howe was the Team Manager. Both Margaret and Helen are Life Members of the Club. Saturdays in winter were busy for the Howe Household; Peter coached in the morning and played his game in the afternoon.

Players in the last team that Peter coached with Arthur Moir in 1994, the Under 17 Team were Andrew Davis (goal-keeper), Lee Casey, Adrian "A J" White, Steve Sherwood, Adam Campano, Christian Campano, Jason Bowden, James Dean McDonald, Adrian McDonald, Simeon Booth, Graham Burnell-ones, Ben Howe and Timothy Colquhoun.

All 12 Howe male siblings played for Glebe. Their individual senior games played tally are listed as follows: Adrian - 467 games, Alan - 204 games, Barry - 364 games, Bobby - 83 games, Brian - 330 games, Gavin - 20 games, Greg - 326 games, Jamie - 249 games, John - 137 games, Martin - 712 games, Vernon - 639. Peter and his siblings played 4,172 senior games for the GDHC, spanning a period from 1957-2004. This is an impressive record for a single family.

Peter's nieces Helen, Colleen, Rebecca, Jessica, and Jasmine, sister-in-law Christine Howe, nephews Ben Pellegrini, Richard McKeough, Dylan and Jackson Howe, great nephew Ryan, and great nieces Alanna and Tegan have all played for hockey for Glebe. Some of these family members still play in 2019.

Peter was one of Glebe's great sons, a contributor, a doer and a teacher, who gave of his time, energies and abilities freely for the benefit of others. For his outstanding contributions to the betterment of his fellow persons here on earth, I am confident that the Lord above will look after Peter in Highest Heaven. Rest in Peace, Peter, your job is done, and it has been done well.

The Club extends to Peter's family our sincere condolences in this time of sorrow and loss; our thoughts and our prayers are with you all.

Harry Wark

**GDHC Historian**



A photo taken at the Homebush State Sports Centre, of the 1994 Under 17 Team. **Back Row L-R:** Peter Howe (coach/manager), Steve Sherwood, Adam Howe, Simeon Booth, Adrian McDonald, Tim Colquhoun, Lee Casey, Arthur Moir (coach). **Front Row L-R:** Ben Howe, James-Dean McDonald, Adrian "A J" White, Jason Bowden, Christian Campano, Graham Burnell-Jones.

A Glebe team comprised of Howes and Glen Puckeridge at the 1975 Easter Saint George Carnival at Gardiner's Park Banksia: **Back Row L-R** Jim Howe (civvies), Gavin goalkeeper, Barry, Greg, Peter, Glen Puckeridge, Martin, Vernon, Jamie obscured, and Bobby. **Front Row L-R:** Brian, Adrian, Johnny. Alan Howe was still a junior in 1975, and is not in this photo.



**Eulogy given by Bob Taylor at the funeral service for Peter Howe, held Monday 25 March 2019 at the Greenway Chapel, 460 Avoca Drive, Green Point.**



Pete and I were great mates through the Glebe Hockey Club. I hope I can add something to the other things said so beautifully by other members of the family here today. I'm grateful to Harry Wark for providing some of this information about Pete's early hockey life.

Pete started his playing career in 1956 in the Under 14 team coached by Vernon Turner. The Club had first entered a team in 1954 and I think Brian played in that team. In the same year that he started playing Pete won the trophy for the *Most Outstanding Player* and his coach, Vernon Turner, was predicting that he would play for Australia. In 1959 he played for NSW School Boys.

He started playing grade hockey in 1956, which was pretty young for grade hockey, and he played until 1995 – 641 games but probably more like 800. He played in various grades over the years and won quite a number of finals, some as captain, but the most notable were in the years 1987-1988 when he played in the 'Savage Sevens' with all the old blokes. We played against Uni of NSW in one of those finals and before the game there was this young bloke sizing us all up. He was overhead to make some comment about what an easy game it would be against all those old fellas. Well we won that game 9-1 and that young bloke didn't look so smart at the end of it.

Pete was very involved in juniors for many years and was President of the Club in 1985. During this time he also had an extensive Vets career. In 1982 he played in the first Australian National Vets Championship in Perth. With several other Over 40 players from Glebe in the team, they took the title against the odds.

On the social side we enjoyed many family get-togethers as both families lived at Baulkham Hills. Over the years we had many BBQs at Pete and Ros' place with Marty and Marg, Vic and Noelle and sometimes Col and Sandy Smith. Pete and I would cook the steaks – Ben would do his best to burn the neighbour's fence. After dinner the conversation – booze-induced – would gravitate to some contentious topic. Before one of the nights, Pete said to me, "Bob, for Christsake, don't stir Ros up tonight." When I asked why he replied, "It takes me a week to quieten her down!"

Over the years as families we had some great moments – holidays to Fraser Island, trips to the farm at Barellan and lots of birthdays. We had a Glebe boys only trip to Fraser Island in the early 2000s. Ten of us went – Pete, Marty, Bobby Grey, and if I remember rightly, Ben and Bobby's son. Before leaving Brisbane, we had to get all our provisions. I was in charge of the food, Pete in charge of the grog. We left Brisbane with 36 cartons of beer for the week! Not a fish was caught the entire week. I wonder why??!!

A few weeks after we returned Pete advised me that he was never going to drink canned beer again and when I asked him why, he said that he got aluminium poisoning on Fraser Island!

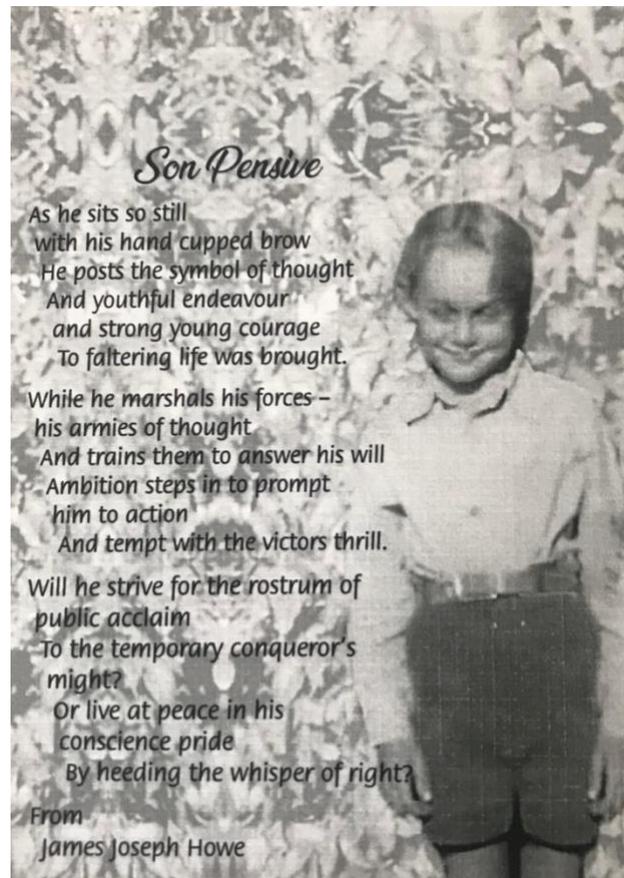
There was one major event I was reminded of during the research and that was the ANYHOWE Team of 1975. The team played at a St George carnival and it was made up of 10 Howe brothers and 'Puck'. Bill Stubbs worked

for Rothmans then, and they combined to kit out the team in the Winfield colours. Do you remember their ad slogan made famous by Paul Hogan? It was *Anyhow, have a Winfield*. Well the ANYHOWE team got through to the final where they were narrowly beaten by the Number 1 Glebe team. St George weren't too happy that day with two Glebe teams in the final.

I got to wondering why the event never made it into the Guinness Book of Records. Surely ten brothers in a team of eleven would come close to a record. If Alan had been a bit older the team would have been complete.

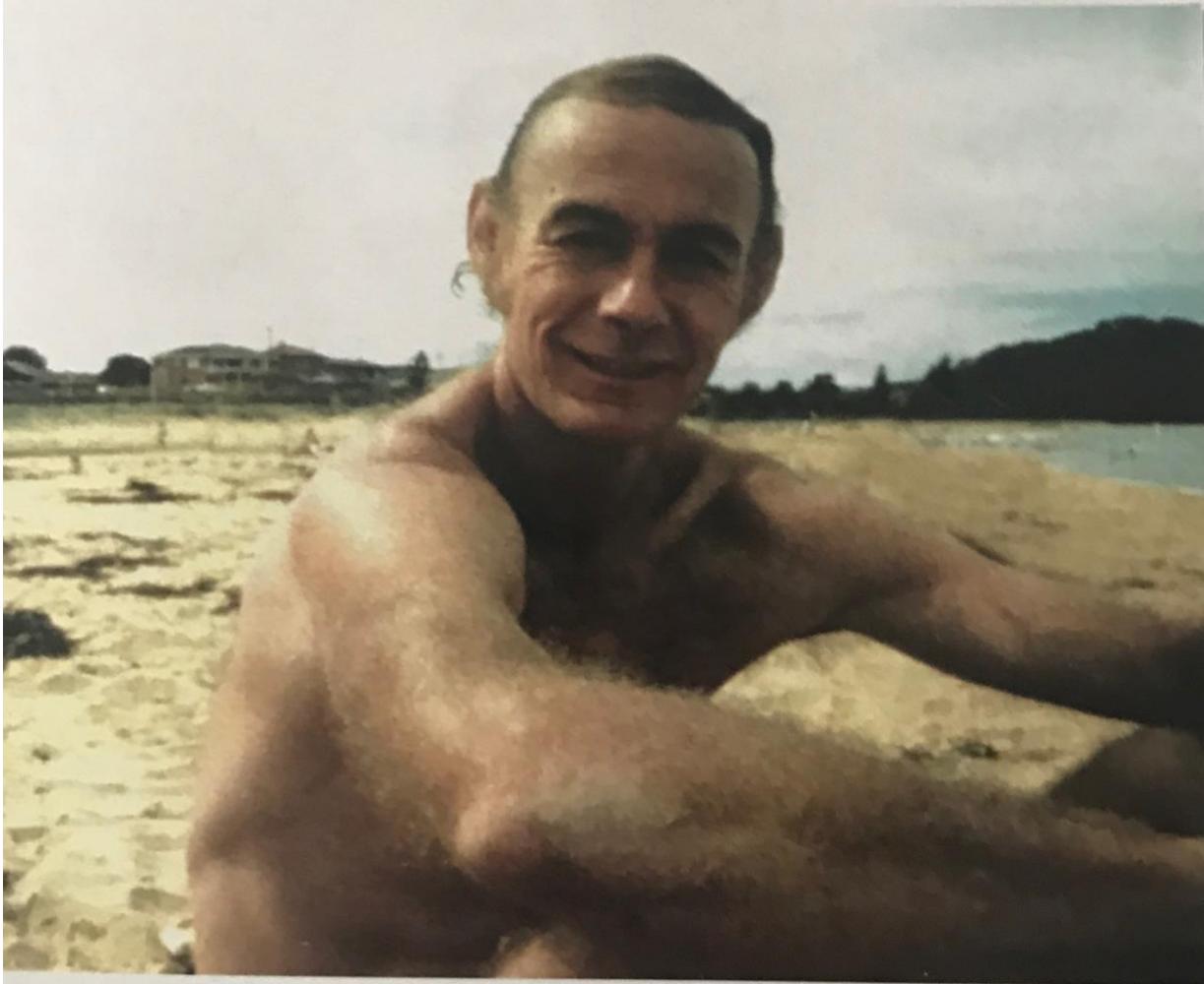
The last event I would like to share is the night Pete lost his comb-over. It was about 2001 or 2002. We were invited to a birthday party at Dot and Bill's from up the hill. I didn't know how to get there so Pete decided he would wait at home for me. By the time I arrived he was already in the party mood. Pete insisted we have a beer (or two!) before departing and somehow the conversation got around to his hair style. He asked me, "what do you think of the comb-over, Bob? Should I keep it?" I told him "No, mate. You should cut it off. It looks terrible." So we went into the bathroom and got the scissors, and he said to me, "Go on, just cut it off." So I got the scissors and just snipped it all off, right down the side. It was all sticking up where I'd cut it. He's saying, "Is it all right? Is it all right?" "Yeah, of course it is." I said but it wasn't really. We headed up to the party, saying g'day to everyone as we walked in, until Ros saw him..... "WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO YOUR HAIR?????" It took a while to get over that one.

Pete was a great mate. I'm going to miss him terribly.



IN LOVING MEMORY

# Peter Michael Patrick Howe



9th August, 1943 ~ 14th March, 2019

Monday, 25th March 2019  
Greenway Chapel  
460 Avoca Drive, Green Point  
Celebrant: Ron Bevis

## Order of Service

### Welcome & Introduction

Ron Bevis

### Music

In my Life  
Bette Midler

### Family Tribute

Adrian Howe  
Elaine Wilke

### A Man Called Peter

Richard McKeough

### Visual Tribute

Accompanying Music  
Those were the Days  
Mary Hopkin

### Tribute

Bob Taylor

### Verse

Splendor in the Grass  
William Wordsworth  
Read by Elaine Wilke

### Prayer

### Committal

### Farewell Music:

Everybody's Talkin  
Harry Nilsson



*Splendor In The Grass*

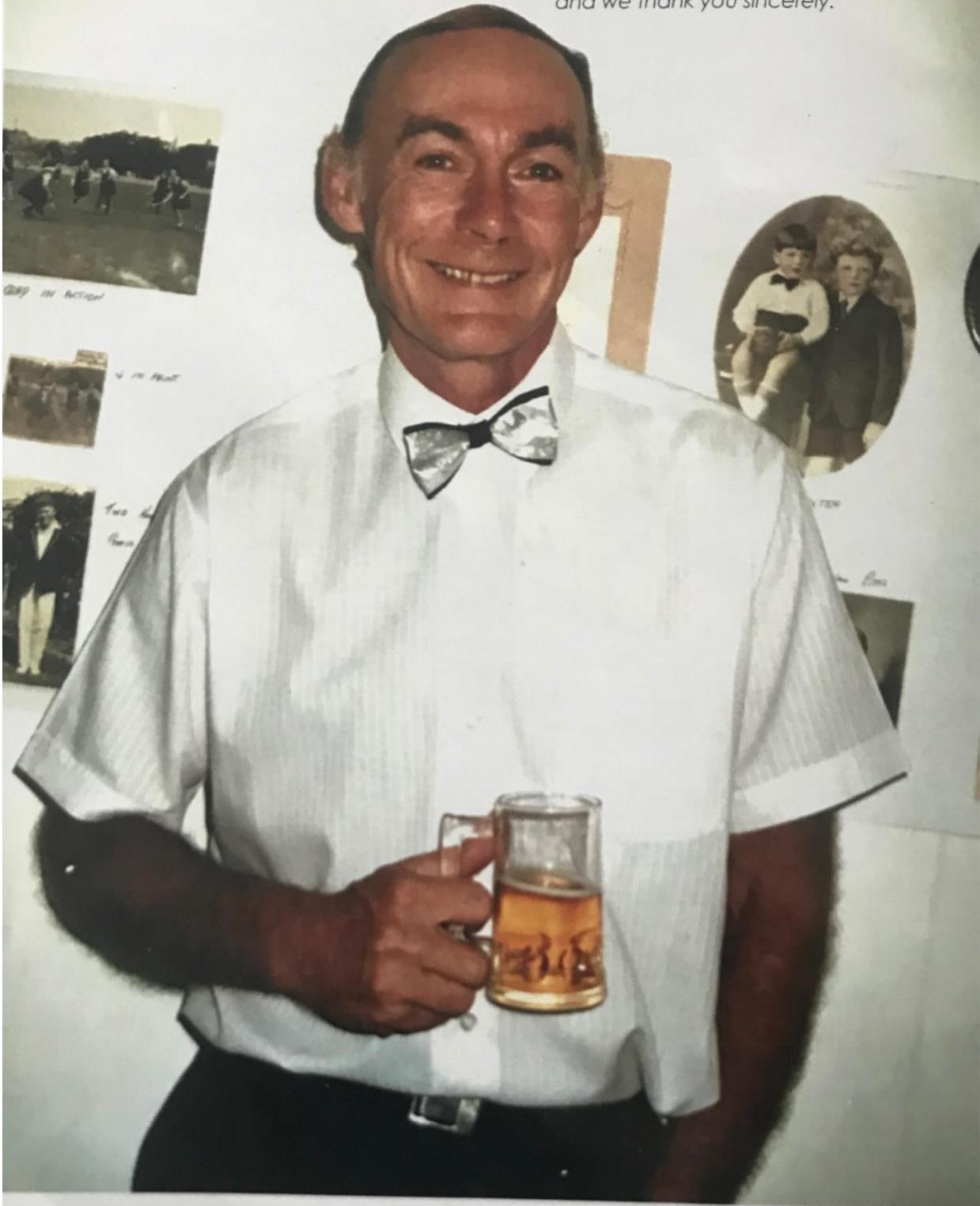
What though the radiance which was once so bright  
Be now for ever taken from my sight,  
Though nothing can bring back the hour  
Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower  
We will grieve not, rather find  
Strength in what remains behind,  
In the primal sympathy  
Which having been must ever be,  
In the soothing thoughts that spring  
Out of human suffering;  
In the faith that looks through death,  
In years that bring the philosophic mind.

William Wordsworth



The family would like to invite relatives and friends  
to join them for light refreshments in the  
**Greenway Tea Rooms**  
following the service.

We express our heartfelt thanks to you  
for being part of this celebration of Peter's life.  
In our time of sadness  
we have been touched by your love and kindness  
and we thank you sincerely.



Newcastle 4925 6199    Bryan J Reid Funeral Services    Thornleigh 9980 1300    Central Coast 4341 5000