

AFL 2011 ROUND 1 GEELONG V ST KILDA



FRIDAY
MARCH 25, 2011
FACT SHEET

Vale Darrel Baldock (1938 – 2011)

One of the most dynamic footballers to have played the game, Darrel Baldock, St Kilda's 1966 premiership captain, died in Latrobe, Tasmania, on February 2, 2011. In an obituary which appeared in *The Age*, Tim Lane described Baldock as the best footballer Tasmania has produced. Two others who could lay claim to that title are Ian Stewart and Peter Hudson, both of whom are quoted in Lane's article. Stewart observed: "It was slightly embarrassing that I won two Brownlow Medals when I was playing with St Kilda, because Darrel Baldock was far and away the star of our team. There will always be only one Don Bradman, one Walter Lindrum and one Darrel Baldock." Hudson commented: "I know he had a huge influence on me and my ambition to play VFL football. I have no doubt whatsoever that Darrel Baldock is the best footballer to come out of Tasmania." The Tasmanian government remembered Darrel Baldock with a state funeral. He will be sadly missed.

THE EARLY YEARS

By a matter of months, **Geelong** is the second oldest AFL team. The Melbourne Football Club was formally established on May 14, 1859, a sub-committee of the club formulating the first rules of the game on May 17 at the Parade Hotel in East Melbourne. The Geelong Football Club dates from July 18 of that year. The following notice appeared in the *Geelong Advertiser* in July, 1859: "Football admirers of the new game are requested to attend a meeting to be held at the Victoria Hotel at half past seven on Monday evening, 18th July – A.M. Mason, Secretary." After the meeting the paper reported that "twenty or thirty members had been secured, a Secretary was appointed and arrangements were made for the first kick, which will come off on Saturday next near the Corio Oval". In 1864, Geelong won the Caledonian Society Challenge Cup, football's first inter-club competition. In 1877, the club became one of the foundation members of the Victorian Football Association (VFA), dominating the competition in the late 1870s and early 1880s by winning seven premierships (1878-1880, 1882-1884 and 1886), and being runners up four times. In October 1896 Geelong became a foundation member of the breakaway Victorian Football League, along with Carlton, Collingwood, Essendon, Fitzroy, Melbourne, St Kilda and South Melbourne.

The early history of the **St Kilda** Football Club is unclear. It is known, for example, that a team from the area played against Melbourne Grammar in July 1858. There is also evidence that a St Kilda Football Club played from 1859 to 1862. Then in 1873 another club was formed to represent the area, several members of the former South Yarra club, which had disbanded during the previous year, becoming part of that group. St Kilda struggled to remain afloat during the rest of the 1870s, for one season (1875) amalgamating with University, another battling club. The early 1880s were also fruitless years, but by 1885 the tide had begun to turn, a number of fine players having joined the ranks. In 1886 St Kilda was admitted to the Victorian Football Association and allowed to play matches on the St Kilda Cricket Ground for the first time. A merger with Prahran was successfully negotiated in 1888, which added further depth to the playing stocks (a new Prahran Football Club would be formed in 1899). Although only a moderate performer in the VFA, St Kilda was invited to become a founding member of the VFL for the 1897 season.

CHAMPION RUCKMEN

Two of the competition's leading ruckmen in the early part of the 20th century were St Kilda's **Harry "Vic" Cumberland** and Geelong's **Henry "Tracker" Young**.



The tireless and talented Cumberland (left) played 126 games with the Saints and 50 with Melbourne. A well-travelled footballer, he also played in Tasmania, New Zealand and South Australia, winning the 1911 Magarey Medal during a three-year stint with Sturt. At 43, he has the distinction of being the oldest man to have played at League level. He is shown in the St Kilda uniform which was worn between 1897 and 1914. In 1915 yellow replaced white to avoid having the same colours as the German flag, and also to honour the invaded Belgium. The pre-war colours returned in 1923.



Named in Geelong's team of the century, Henry "Tracker" Young (left) played 167 games between 1897 and 1910. A brilliant all-round sportsman, Young also excelled at boxing, cycling and rowing. He is pictured in the navy and white hoops which were adopted by Barwon, a local Geelong club, in 1876. Geelong then chose the same uniform a month later. When Barwon challenged for the Geelong, Ballarat and Western District Challenge Cup, Geelong, as the cup holder, instructed Barwon to add a pink sash.

This Round in History – Round 1 on the MCG

The MCG has witnessed some big wins in Round 1. The largest was Geelong's 127-point victory against Melbourne in 1996. This bettered Melbourne's 105-point win over South Melbourne in 1971.

The Cats' score of 27.21 (183) in 1996 is also the best Round 1 score on the MCG. The best score in one quarter was by Essendon who kicked 11.3 (69) during the second quarter against Melbourne in 1935.

Drawn games have figured prominently in Round 1 over the years (10 in all) but none has taken place on the MCG.

The highest tally of goals kicked in Round 1 on the MCG was 12 by Essendon's Ted Freyer against Melbourne in 1935.

The top attendance for a Round 1 game at the MCG was 87,119 for the Carlton-Collingwood game in 1995.

Statistics for Geelong v St Kilda

Geelong v St Kilda by venue

	Won by Geelong	Won by St Kilda	Drawn
Corio Oval	33	10	0
Docklands	6	6	0
Junction Oval	24	34	0
Kardinia Park	43	13	0
MCG	3	3	0
Waverley Park	5	8	0
Moorabbin Oval	9	8	0
	123	82	0

Highest Score

Geelong	35.18 (228)	Rd 7	1989	KP
St Kilda	27.15 (177)	Rd 16	1993	Wav

Lowest Score

Geelong	0.18 (18)	Rd 5	1919	Corio
St Kilda	0.1 (1)	Rd 17	1899	Corio

Greatest Winning Margin

Geelong	161 Points	Rd 17	1899	Corio
St Kilda	94 Points	Rd 1	1971	KP

Last Match – 2nd Qualifying Final, 2010, MCG

	St Kilda	Geelong
Quarter time	4.7	3.4
Half time	8.8	5.6
Three-quarter time	11.11	10.6
Full time	12.11 (83)	11.13 (79)

Most Goals in a Match

12	G. Moloney	Geelong	Rd 2	1931	Corio
11	J. McShane	Geelong	Rd 17	1899	Corio
11	L. White	Geelong	Rd 10	1948	KP
10	D. McNamara	St Kilda	Rd 17	1922	JO
10	L. Daily	Geelong	Rd 1	1934	Corio

RECENT YEARS

These clubs met only once in 2007 (Round 10), Geelong winning by 60 points on a Sunday evening at Telstra Dome. Although the scores were close just before half time, the Cats bolted away in the second half, kicking nine goals to St Kilda's two. On his way to winning the Brownlow Medal, Jimmy Bartel polled three votes. Again only one home and away game (Round 4) was played in 2008, but the teams then met in a final. St Kilda started well in the former match, but would pay dearly for inaccurate kicking, Geelong going on win by 42 points. Having lost just one game in 22 rounds that season, Geelong then met the Saints in a qualifying final at the MCG. Only the Cats' poor kicking kept St Kilda in the match to half time, but they then blew the game apart in the third quarter and went on to win by 58 points.

The 2009 season, of course, would be a spectacular one for both clubs. At the time of their first meeting (Round 14) neither team had suffered a loss. In what was a magnificent contest, after trailing all night the Cats levelled the scores with two minutes remaining. Then Michael Gardiner marked close to goal and kicked truly. Twelve weeks later, in the Grand Final, St Kilda again led Geelong late in the final quarter, but then Scarlett, Ablett, Varcoe and Chapman combined brilliantly and the Cats hit the front. Soon after, Harry Taylor took the mark which snuffed out St Kilda's gallant bid for the flag.

The clubs met twice in 2010, initially in Round 13 when St Kilda won a scrappy and spiteful affair by 24 points. The second match, a qualifying final, would be a nail-biter. Geelong appeared to have snatched victory with a late goal to Ling, but it was disallowed because Mooney had landed on his opponent's back.

FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE:

The MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at:

<http://www.mcc.org.au/About%20the%20MCC/Heritage/MCC%20Library/Event%20Day%20Fact%20Sheets.aspx>

Fact sheet prepared by MCC Library volunteers Quentin Miller, David Allen, Eric Panther and Dennis Carroll, with the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL.