



THE COUNTRY TEAM (1952)

BACK ROW (L TO R):
V. Ross, D.N. Walkington,
B.B Newman,
J.L McMurray, R. Fleet,
M. Wakefield.

MIDDLE ROW (L TO R):
L. Curtis, R. Ramsey,
G. Sauerbier, T. Gore,
D. Timperon, P. Cane,
W.B. Kelly.

FRONT ROW (L TO R):
N. Horne, G. Barton,
Mr. L.P.A Lawrence
(PAOCA President),
K. Scott (Capt.),
Mr J.A. Dunning
(Headmaster),
D. Prest, C.W. Pitcher.

In 1922, the first football match occurred between country and city-based Old Reds and was a popular fixture of Old Boys' Week for the next fifty years. Players came to the first match from Penola, Ardrossan, Cadell, Strathalbyn, Roseworthy, Gawler, Port Vincent, Riverton, Price and Owen. The school magazine remarked 'city members reckoned they had an easy task to show their country cousins how to play football, but most of these "Hayseeds" are tough propositions, and they returned to their farms with a smile at the expense of the city members'. The country lads won 10:13 to 7:10 (imagine the scores if they'd kicked straight!). It is nearly fifty years since the last Country versus City match was played, but the memories live on and three Old Reds shared their recollections.

MAURICE WAKEFIELD

PAC 1946-47

Ardrossan

I played in the 1952 game alongside Bruce Newman and we appear together in the Country Team photo above. The match took place on the Front Oval and us country lads were allocated the change rooms in the College's grandstand at the Capper Street end. The stand was old and rickety and the facilities dog boxes.

Ossie Buttery (PAC 1929-32) umpired the games and he would also travel to Yorke Peninsula to umpire country league fixtures. I remember him umpiring at Port Victoria when the local league was much bigger than it is now.

The match formed part of a longer visit to Adelaide for Old Boys' Week with school friends and with partners we would stay for several days at the Grosvenor. As well as the match, we attended the annual Church Service and the annual Ball, which in 1952 was held at the Palais on North Terrace and attended by 1300 guests.

BRUCE NEWMAN

PAC 1944-1949

Mt Barker

I was a boarder from Mt Barker as was my great-grandfather who commenced in 1871 when the College had only been open two years.

It is now nearly seventy years since I played in my first City versus Country match on the Front Oval and I played in a number of these. As I approach 90 years of age I remember very little about the games.

However, in my office/cellar I proudly display three Country team photos from the early 1950s. As a part of the preparation for this article I was able to name the vast majority of the players in these photos. I put this down to the players being all boarders you lived with for long periods, and it is easier to remember those in front of you than those who came behind. Naming these photos has added to their value and place in the College's history.

DAVID DAVIES

PAC 1966-70

Urania

While at school I would watch the old blokes play City versus Country old scholars game on the Front Oval and support the country boys. As an Old Red I played in these games with my brother Rick Davies and the likes of Peter Darley, Graham Mitchell and many more.

They were friendly games but could get willing. Always in the back of your mind was the opportunity to give the city boy who had given you the pips during your days at school a flogging! More importantly, the games were a great way of catching up with old friends, for enjoying a few beers and old stories, and to be back playing at the school was great.

Life moves on and lives change, time becomes short, and most of us can't remember what we did yesterday. These matches are now a distant memory. Whilst some of my friends don't recall playing in these games, I know they did! I look forward to catching up at PAOCA functions when we can.



College Tour

Join us for a campus tour

Wednesday, 25 August at 9.30am

Register at: pac.edu.au

