

Old timers agreed that the 1895 Victory Social and Presentation of medals held late in February was a night to remember.

A group of ladies spent hours in decorating the local hall with the club colours of blue and white. Over 300 crowded into the hall when the Mayor of Adamstown and Vice President of the club, J. Jennings made generous reference in the growth of the club and its success in 1895 season.

These achievements were:

- SENIOR GRADE: "Rosebuds" won gold medals.
1st JUNIORS: "Rosebuds" won silver medals.
2nd JUNIORS: "Rosebuds" won silver medals.

The Patron of the club, Mr. W.B. Talbot said that the club was an asset to the suburb and all citizens should take interest in its activities. He praised the club's effort in 1895 in fielding junior teams to give local lads healthy recreation.

The 1896 annual meeting saw Mr. W. Denton elected as President, E. Maltman as Treasurer and G. Nichols as secretary.

The balance was 18/3½.

Soon the ominous clouds of a depression in the coal industry appeared across the early months. This was made worse by a lengthy dispute over Miners' wages - before long many of the mines were closed with strikes.

Before the first match, the club farewelled 3 of its star players - P. Lynch (Vice Captain), W. Waugh (Captain) and G. Nicholls (Secretary) who left for Kalgoorlie in search of employment. However, sooner or later they returned.

The Badge matches were limited to 4 games and Adamstown being unbeaten were awarded the medals.

In the Ellis Cup, Adamstown were beaten by Minmi Rangers by 2 to 1 in the Semi-final.

History was made during the season as the first Adamstown XI visited Balgownie. The team which travelled South included Clayton, Waugh, T. Harrison, J. D. Hamilton, C. Harrison, W. Wilson, Keegan, Bartley, Martin, Gillard, Galloway.

Another attempt was made in the Gardiner Cup when it travelled to Sydney to suffer defeat at the hands of the Balmain XI by 3 to nil.

The Rosebud team was Clayton, J. Waugh, T. Harrison, C. Harrison, J.D. Hamilton, W. Wilson, Bartley, George, Gillard, Prideau, Martin.

It was noticed that during this season that two names of great importance appeared on the playing staff. Firstly Dinny Hamilton who later became a leading club administrator for over 20 years.

The other was 'Brolgy' Elgy, one of the most famous goalies in the long history of the game.

Elgy was promoted into the senior ranks when Clayton was injured and proved himself a tough, capable custodian - ever ready to mix it with the onrushing forwards whose aim was to get both the ball and the goalie into the net.

Near the end of the season, a former committeeman, Mr. Frank Bush wrote from Southern Cross (Western Australia) telling about the development of the game there.

there between Adamstown and West Wallsend - ending in a 2 all draw.

The 1897 season saw members elect President W. Denton, Treasurer J. Bone and Secretary, G. Nichols, who had returned from Western Australia. From the club's point of view the season was uninspiring as results proved.

In the Badge series, Adamstown won 2 of 4 games and finished in 3rd place and missed the final.

In the Ellis Cup, Adamstown was knocked out by the Minmi Rangers by 2 to 1 in the Semi-final.

In the Gardiner Cup series, Adamstown lost to Newcastle West by 3 to 1 after a 1 all draw. The Newcastle West XI comprised mainly of former Wallsend players.

The club's youthful goalie, Elgy won his 1st interdistrict cup for the North V South in Sydney. Two club mates F. & E. Bartley were also in the team. The Sydney press hailed Elgy as "A marvellous keeper".

The Dudley Colliery Disaster affected soccer early in 1898.

All Northern Clubs formed together to help the relief work for the victims of this industrial tragedy.

A big Soccer day was staged at Wallsend on 17th April, when in a major 5 a side competition was won by Adamstown which beat Newcastle West by 1 to nil in the final.

Adamstown fielded 3 teams in the district titles but without success.

In the Ellis Cup Semi-Final, Adamstown went down by 1 to nil to Newcastle West while the first juniors lost to Merewether after a 2 all draw in the Semi-final. Four of the club's players Elgy, F. Bartley, E. Bartley and R. Martin were included in the North XI, which beat South Coast by 2 to nil.

Dinny Hamilton was the chosen reserve having developed as a very speedy and elusive left winger.

Adamstown's 1899 Annual Meeting was held in Dodd's Wine Shop. The Secretary, Joe Gillard resigned as he had joined the Police Force and was transferred to Bathurst.

Following officials were elected:

PRESIDENT: A. Fidden M.P.
TREASURER: R. Talbot.
SECRETARY: J. Harrison.

The balance sheet showed a credit of £4.10.9.

The season's activities were restricted due to trade.

However, Adamstown lost the Denton Cup trial to West Wallsend by 1 to nil. The "Rosebuds XI", on that occasion was - Elgy, Harris, F. Bartley, Wilson, E. Talbot, R. Talbot, T. Harrison, J. Maxwell, J. Maltman, W. Chapman, J. Harrison.

Adamstown fielded the same team against West Wallsend in the Ellis Cup final which was also won by West Wallsend by 1 to nil. T. Harrison being Adamstown's sole

In the 1900 Annual Report, Adamstown's Secretary, R. Matthews stated that the code was languishing in this area as well as other Northern Centres.

Adamstown's problem lay in:

1. Lack of local support.
2. Loss of finance because of wet days.
3. Injury to senior players.

The season opened with opposition for the use of Adamstown Park from another local club.

Both applicants were called before open council and after a keen debate Adamstown Rosebuds won the right to use the park.

The badge competition was not very successful as only 3 senior teams entered.

Adamstown did not enter the Gardiner Cup due to finance. Again Adamstown lost the Ellis Cup final to West Wallsend by 5 to 1.

The only success that the club had was the final of the Eight Hours Knock out Cup when it beat Hamilton by 2 to 1 in the final at the Showground.

The depression in the code began to lift with the advent of the 1901 season.

The Rosebuds entered a senior team, 2 in first juniors 1 in second juniors but without success.

The formation of clubs at Broadmeadow and Hamilton affected local enthusiasm.

Rosebud's first grade line up in 1901 was Elgy, J. Watt, D. Harris, E. Spark, R. Talbot, G. Nix, C. George, E. Rouse, J. Adams, C. Harrison, Roach.