

There was a storm of discontent after the 1927 season. When the N.D.B.F.A. reported a loss of £140.0.0 - club and players began to query matters, especially finance. There was certainly a degree of mismanagement.

The State League was formed in 1928 and an invitation was extended to Adamstown to join. Club Secretary, Mr. Stan Bush attended the early conferences on the coalfields and was impressed with the new idea. At first, Adamstown favoured a change but a strong conservative element among officials rejected the proposal and decided to remain loyal to the N.S.W. Association.

Players became uneasy about their future as attractive offers were being made to Adamstown stars. One, "Messa" Russell signed tentative forms for Gladesville-Ryde. Other players forced a meeting where Russell made his intentions plain, "I'll play for Adamstown in State League - or with Gladesville-Ryde if the 'Buds' don't move over".

By a 4 to 2 majority, the players decided to reject the State League offer.

Adamstown played in the Northern premierships along with West Wallsend, Cardiff, Holmesville, New Lambton and a weakened Wallsend team.

The series were a flop - gates poor and organization weaker.

In the final, Adamstown went down by 1 to nil v New Lambton. The "Buds" XI on that occasion comprised - Williams, Watt, Iceton, Barker, Lambert, Bailey, Dunne, Hodge, Butterworth, Cameron and Jobling.

Playing in a weakened Gardiner Cup series, Adamstown beat Canterbury by 2 to 1 to go down to Pyrmont by 1 to nil in the second round. At the end of 1927 the "loyalist" group collapsed in all parts of the state and strong clubs that remained loyal were now stranded.

The club made application to join an enlarged State League. At the vital meeting in Sydney, Coalfield Clubs gave Adamstown strong support and it was elected along with Canterbury. Many felt that New Lambton should have gone in with it but a Southern vote checked that course as there would have been 7 Northern Clubs.

West Wallsend officials were caught on the hop and were left out. There was a wild rush to sign the "Bluebell" stars and Adamstown showed speed and enterprise by securing a trio of tried champions - the "C's" - F. Coolahan, C. Coult and Bill Coolahan. Added to this, that great goal scorer, 'Messa' Russell returned to his mother club.

The league programme in 1929 was a solid one and the team soon became accustomed to quasi-professionalism. In the league, the "Buds" record was:

P	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts.
13	9	2	2	49	28	20
13	3	6	4	31	43	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>30</b>

With great opposition from Kurri and Cessnock, the "Buds" home record let it down as the season developed.

In the State Cup, the "Buds" had a very good run. Its 5 to 3 win over Kurri, after a 3 all draw at the Drill hall, was the sign of a real revival.



Then a 1 all draw out struggle with Wallsend in the Semi-final. At Wallsend, a 2 all draw was followed by another 2 all draw at Hobart Park.

In the 2nd replay on a neutral ground at the Showground, Wallsend won by 2 to 1 on a very heavy and treacherous turf. As a consolation Adamstown beat Cessnock by 5 to 3 in the final of the Stevenson Cup. The 'Buds' eleven on that occasion was S. Back, A. Harris, C. Watt, V. Turnbull, C. Coutts, W. Coolahan, J. Bush, H. Parker, G. Russell, A. Cameron, A. Dunne.

In the season Russell netted 32 goals which was a new club record and a very praiseworthy effort against strong opposition.

With Bill Morgan fully recovered, the club was full of confidence and challenged for the 1930 campaign. The premiership proved a very tough affair and the title was not won till the 26th round.

The dropping of 7 away points from 4 games caused a slight slump in otherwise a wonderful record, one which may never be equalled. Skill and endurance were deciding factors.

In the 26 match programme the record read:

	P.	W.	L.	D.	GF.	GA.	PTS.
HOME	13	12	1	0	57	10	24
AWAY	13	7	4	2	54	30	16
TOTAL	26	19	5	2	111	40	40

The home record is worthy of comment, of the 13 games, only one loss was sustained - on 8 occasions the visitors failed to score.

Newcomer H. Robertson, a capture from Sydney added drive and skill to the left wing position - for he scored in 12 matches - a rare feat for a flankman.

The league achievement was good but the State Cup triumph gave the team a great double.

Each tie was a real test. Adamstown beat Weston by 3 to 2 - a 1 to nil win over rivals, Wallsend.

In the semi-final Adamstown rose to great heights to curb Westons by 2 to nil. Only the powerful Cessnock XI stood between Adamstown and its double. At Weston on 27th September, under perfect weather conditions Adamstown won by 2 to nil after a titanic struggle - goals by Cameron and Robertson did the trick.

The defence of Coutts, Coulahan brothers and Harris during the last 20 minutes could be termed 'an epic performance'.

Adamstown XI was:

W. Morgan, C. Watts, A. Harris, F. Coulahan, C. Coutts, F. Coulahan, V. Turnbull, A. Cameron, G. Russell, J. Bush and H. Robertson.

In a blaze of glory, the "Buds" took out the treble by beating Spear's Point in the Robinson Cup Final by 9 to 2. Russell had a field day by scoring 5 - a record for that cup. Appearances were:- H. Robertson 32, C. Watt 32, A. Harris 31, W. Coulahan 31, C. Coutts 30, F. Coulahan 30, A. Cameron 30, W. Morgan 29, V. Turnbull 27, J. Bush 24, G. Russell 21, A. Dunne 15, V. Garaty 8, N. Connelly 5, V. Turnbull 4, S. Back 2, H. Parker 1, J. Lawrence 1.

Goalscorers for the season were -

G. Russell 28, A. Cameron 25, H. Robertson 24, J. Bush 15, N. Connelly 5, V. Turnbull 4, S. Back 2, H. Parker 1, J. Lawrence 1.



will always argue that it was the greatest club side ever. Surely its proud record is a passport to greatness for this Rosebud team of stars.

The 1931 season saw a return to divisional premiership - due to trade recession. Coutts and the Coulahan brothers returned to their beloved West Wallsend after 2 seasons of greatness with Adamstown. But the selectors secured Jim Beddow (Kurri), C. O'Connor (Sydney) L. Baird (Hamilton) and an up and coming youth Bill Leddon whose feats in the junior circles created much interest. In a 14 match series, Adamstown won 8 lost 5 drew 1.

In the State Cup, it beat Canterbury (1 to nil) but surprisingly went down to Woonoona - B. by 3 to 2.

It regained prestige by winning the Robinson Cup again by beating West Wallsend by 4 to 3. The "Buds" XI was W. Morgan, A. Harris, C. Watt, C. O'Connor, A. Cameron, V. Turnbull, D. Bush. W. Leddon, G. Russell, L. Baird, H. Robertson. Goal scorers for the season were G. Russell 14, H. Robertson 9, D. Bush 7, A. Cameron 5, W. Leddon 5, L. Baird 3, J. Williams 1, W. Myers 1.

The 1932 season saw changes and an influx of new players. Stewart A. Harris retired because of a business appointment.

Newcomers were A. Mascord, W. Edwards (Granville) Jack Sneddon and T. Woollett. After a few matches, G. Russell secured a transfer to West Wallsend. The season's results were disappointing. In 7 home games only 15 goals were scored, while only 2 away games brought victories. In the State Cup there was a revival for Cessnock (2 to 1) Metters (2 to nil) after a 2 all draw at Arlington were beaten and this augured well for Cup success. A great semi-final win over West Wallsend by 4 to 1 lifted Adamstown into the Cup final V. Weston.

This final turned out to be a tragic blow to the club's proud record. Weston ran riot and won by 8 to 1 after leading at the interval by 4 to nil.

The Bud's eleven was W. Morgan, C. Watt, A. Mascord, C. O'Connor, T. Woollett, H. Parker, L. Turnbull, W. Edwards, J. Sneddon, W. Leddon, R. Braye. In the Robinson Cup, the eleven went down to Spear's Point by 2 to 1.

During the closed seasons, honest attempts were made to strengthen the team.

E. Hodge (Cessnock). A. Henwood (Aberdare). W. Ayliffe (Cardiff) W. Walker (Wallsend) A. Agland (Juniors) were signed on while Russell's injured leg improved but he later left the club for Aberdare. Of the 14 matches played 7 were won, 3 lost, 4 draws.

In the State Cup, the 'Buds' beat Canterbury by 5 to 2 in 1st round, but lost to St. George by 2 to 1 - the occasion when the Adamstown Park was reopened for soccer activities - 22nd August, 1933 - The season at Hobart Park had ended.

The 1934 season looked more promising for Jim Harden came from Weston, "Winkie" Cooper from Dudley while juniors Stan Clarke and Dai Williams, Bull Myers were decided acquisitions.

The return to inter-city competition caused an upsurge in club interest. Bob Gardner commenced a successful career as Club President.

The team remained unbeaten till the 19th of a 30 match premiership. Myers became a capable leader and a prolific goalscorer.



The details are:-

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	PTS.
HOME	14	12	1	1	52	16	25
AWAY	15	10	3	2	54	36	22

\*Home game V Granville cancelled.

In the State Cup, the team pulled through to the final.

It's first round 4 to 3 win over Leichhardt A was full of promise but its stocks rose when it beat Woonona B by 7 to 2.

After a 1 all draw with West Wallsend in the semi-final, the 'Buds' tackled the "Georgies" in the final but on the day found their masters went down by 5 to 1.

Adamstown's final team was W. Morgan, E. Hodge, A. Henwood, C. O'Connor, J. Harden, Dai Williams, R. Cooper, A. Cameron, A. Myers, E. Clarke and A. Mascord.

The goal scoring in the premierships and State Cup ties were - Myers 48, Cameron 31, Clarke 21, Cooper 12, Mascord 5, Henwood 2, A. Nelson 1.

The 1935 season saw the return of Bill and Jack Sneddon, and Bill Coulahan whose presence in the defence played a major role in making the team one of the most popular in the state. Myers had created a club record.

It won 10 of its 11 home games - playing a 2 all draw with Gladsville R in the other game and won 7 aways lost 3 and drew one, scoring 71 goals against 31 in the campaign.

In the State cup Adamstown hit the highlights when it beat Weston by 2 to 1 after a 1 all draw but a serious lapse in defence saw it go out to Goodyear by 5 to 1.

But glory was regained in the Premiership when it beat Waratah by 5 to nil and went on to beat the strong Metters in the Final at Stuart Park by 4 to nil - made possible by a clever hat-trick by Bill Heddon.

Adamstown XI on that occasion comprised W. Morgan, E. Hodge, A. Henwood, W. Coulahan, A. Mascord, Dai Williams, H. Cooper, A. Cameron, W. Heddon, L. Baird, J. Heddon.

For the 1936 season, Vic Barnett, Stan Robertson, K. Nix, and C. Watts were signed to strengthen an already powerful team.

The team's home record was excellent suffering only one draw (all) V Weston.

The full record was:

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	PTS.
HOME	11	10	0	1	60	14	21
AWAY	11	7	3	1	41	24	15
TOTAL	22	17	3	2	101	48	36

In the premierships final, Adamstown disappointed with a 5 to Goodyear.



In the State Cup Adamstown beat Wallsend by 5 to 2, Leichhardt A by 7 to 3, to qualify for the semifinal.

Pitted against Weston, the 'Buds' were outed by 1 to nil.

Goal scorers in the season were W. Leddon 26, W. Cooper 17, L. Baird 17, S. Robertson 14, A. Cameron 11, V. Barnett 8, W. Coulahan 4, C. Watt 4, K. Nix 3, D. Williams 2, A. Mascord 1.

New players in 1937 were E. Screen, W. Giles, while Stan Clarke returned after a period in Sydney, D. Hodgins and W. Gregory.

Of the 22 Premiership games, 17 were won, 4 lost and 1 drawn.

The home and away lost V Wallsend indicated a weakness in face of powerful opposition.

The team's run in the State cup was short as Weston beat them 4 to 2 in first round. International A. Cameron was off from injuries from accident, however, the club supporters gained great satisfaction in the club's skipper, Bill Coulahan was chosen to skipper Australia in the first two tests V English Amateurs. Goalie, Bill Morgan also won test honours.

Goalscorers during the season were:-

A. Henwood, 19, S. Robertson 15, S. Clarke 15, V. Barrett 11, E. Screen 8, W. Giles 7, W. Coulahan 4, E. Hodge 3, W. Gregory 2, C. Watt 2, D. Hodgins 1, D. Williams 1.