

Salute to “Col” – Col Curry - by Slim Hunter

(Col Curry – 119 games – 1951 to 1964)

The snow on the thatch doesn't mean a thing
But the heart that you put into your play will bring..
*..The crowd to its feet in no small way
To applaud this robust forwards play
He has the ability to run so hard with the ball
When half fit players can't answer the call..
..Of the Captain when the game gets tough
At the end of 80 you need more than bluff
And so of Col, let's make it known
That in every phase of the game he has shown
If you're going to be in it, then give of your best
And we're proud to enjoy what he gave to West*

Slim Hunter 19 Nov 1969



Mr “Peter Pan” – Barry Martin – by Slim Hunter

(Barry Martin – 210 games – 1959 to 1972)

Hats off to a fair dinkum sportsman
*Who never once shirked his task
Who always was willing and able
To play football when e'er he's asked
When you hear that he's played over 200 games
It seems a remarkable feat
Add 400 nights that he trained with West
It's certainly something to beat
Each year he's there like “Peter Pan”
When the football season's startin'
It's always good to look around
And see the face of Barry Martin
He hails from Dorrigo so I'm told
And then to Lambton with father Harry
And while we say that “West is Best”
There's very few better than Barry!*

Slim Hunter 12 Aug 1969



The “Tag” Story – Geoff “Tag” Spruce – by Slim Hunter

(Geoff “Tag” Spruce – 239 games – 1964 to 1973)

If the actions kinda slow
And it seems there’s something missing
Just idly mention one word, “Tag”
Then stand around and listen

*“He’s colossal”, “What a beauty”
“He’s the master”, “He’s just great”
To West - he’s Mr Football
And he weighs just 10 stone eight*

Adjectives flow thick and fast
And no one is dismayed
As they listen to the stories
Of the games that “Tag” has played

*They said “He couldn’t last”
Those know-alls on the hill
And “Tag” made them eat those very words
He played on, and on, with skill*

Mr Indestructible
Is the name that suits him best
He’s missed one game through injury
In his senior games with West

*His manner’s unassuming
He passes any test
So don’t forget to mention “Tag” Spruce
When considering West’s best*

The master of the fullback craft
His defence passed any test
And for 80 minutes in every game
He always gives his best

*The Spruce name stands in glory
On the Western Suburbs roll
And to keep the West flag flying high
Has been “Tag’s” over riding goal!*

Slim Hunter 17 Jul 1969



“The Utility Man” – Greg Cook – by Slim Hunter

(Greg Cook - – 105 games – 1971 to 1974)

Some blokes have abilities they never seem to know
Like the player who came to West, and asked to have a go
*So West played him as hooker – he proved he knew the spot
‘til he was picked in second row – and he played so really hot*
Then another bright idea – “Let’s play him as a lock”
And the way he handled that move gave everyone a shock
*But there must have been somewhere he couldn’t really play
So they played him at centre, and it was really his big day*
At last in desperation they put him on the wing
Speed he had a plenty, and his tackle had a sting
*So they came to this conclusion – “There’s no further we should look”
“If we need to have a standby, it needs to be Greg Cook”*
It matters not who leaves the field, there is no need to frown
West only need to send Greg Cook out, he’ll never let you down.
Slim Hunter 16 Mar 1973



Salute to 3 West stalwarts – by Slim Hunter

(Jack Bell – Treasurer 1950 to 1992, Harry Harding – President 1958 to 1975, Glen Maloney Secretary 1953 to 1975)

Let’s sing a song of the might men
Harry Harding, Jackie Bell and Glen
Who have stood by West through thick and thin
It’s a song of mighty men.
*Year by year, they’ve stood the test
Knowing only how to give their best
And the reason as you may have guessed
Just to prove that “West is Best”*
So let us cheer these Western men
Let me tell you who they are again
Harry Harding, Jackie Bell and Glen
Let us cheer three might men
Slim Hunter 31 Jul 1974 on the occasion of their testimonial dinner (Tune – Happy Days are here again)



Left to right: Jack Bell, Glen Maloney and Harry Harding.

“Our Dennis” – Dennis “Mouse” Rowston – by Slim Hunter

(Dennis Rowston – 183 games – 1964 to 1972)

An optometrist should surely tell us
What’s up with “Mousie’s” eyes
*All he says of the opponent
Is from the ankle to the thighs*
He has no class distinction
Between the forwards and the backs
*They’re all the same to “Mousie”
As he stops them in his tracks*
Here’s “Mousie’s” words of wisdom
When he sees them in attack
*“The only place for the man and ball
Is flat upon their back”*
For no one makes an omelet
If he hasn’t any eggs
*And it’s impossible to score a try
If he hasn’t any legs*
I’ve heard the claims of other guys
But you can have all the rest
*Just give me “Mousie” Rowston
And I know I’ve got the best*
Besides his flair for tackling
In attack he’s just as keen
*And he always brings great credit
To the mighty “RED and GREEN”!*



Slim Hunter 16 Aug 1969



Wayne “Bomber” Hore – by Slim Hunter

(Wayne Hore – 181 games – 1965 to 1975)

He is so very interesting
And perhaps the most arresting
Of those who’ve played in the mighty red and green
And there has never been hesitation
From his schoolboys dedication
That he’d surely one day make the rep side scene

Every player’s one ambition
Is to play in top condition
And each player has a goal for which he aims
There’s such a lot of things to do
For those who join the chosen few
Who play for West a hundred games

We know that “Bomber” reached this mighty goal
And all his fans need not be told
That they will have the chance to see him play again
So disregard those many fears
He’ll play on for several years
And join the band of truly “Western Men”!

Slim Hunter 16 Aug 1969

“Bomber” Hore – 181 games – President 1990 to 2012+ - Has anyone made a bigger all round contribution to the WSRLFC than Wayne “Bomber” Hore?



“Tracey Ann” Hore – by Slim Hunter

Adam and Eve had a ball, they say
It’s how the story began
But the biggest event that we’ve ever heard of
Is the birth of Wayne’s “Tracey Ann”
We’re sure that both proud mum and proud dad
Are swelling with pride and with joy
And all we hope, when the next one arrives
That West will be blessed with a boy!

Slim Hunter 3 Nov 1969

(Alas, there were no boys!!)

Peter Cootes – “Man of Action” – by Slim Hunter

(Peter Cootes – 75 games – 1972 to 1975)

The man on the hill gets great satisfaction
In watching the game, and the players in action
*He builds up his tension, when the play's round the scrum
And the harder it gets, the greater the fun*

All the facets of football, he knows them so well
He'll have a go at the ref, and then lineman as well
*But his greatest enjoyment, when you sum up the facts
Is when the ball has been won, and “it's out to the backs”*

He'll follow the ball as it crosses the ground
On the way to the winger, then his heart starts to pound
*When the winger's positioned, and he speeds on his way
He is right there beside him, and helping him play*

It's the game's greatest moment, it's what he came for
To see a good flying winger, and see him go into score
*So here's to the winger, Peter's one of the GREATS
And out on the hill Pete, you've got hundreds of mates*

Slim Hunter 3 February 1974



“Mother” – by Slim Hunter

Who was it put us to sleep with a song
Who was the one that taught us right from wrong
And watches over us the whole day long.....OUR MOTHER

*Hers was the hand that guided our ways
Taught us to read what the good book “says”
Who was it that told us what in life to expect
What to accept and what to reject
To treasure all God's creatures with all our respect.....OUR MOTHER*

We've lived through the years, we've got kids of our own
We're proud of the way that our young ones have grown
And all of the credit belongs to their own.....MOTHER

*So treasure this gift, while you ever can
Making her happy as part of your plan
Give her love, as only you can
TO YOUR MOTHER*

Slim Hunter 7 May 1970 (written for Mothers Day 1970)