



### **Following Is the Eulogy that was read at Keith Hillman's Funeral**

In 1975 Keith became a Manager/Coach when Dean wanted to play soccer. That started a relationship with the Thornlegh Sports and Recreation Club Inc. - Soccer Division that has lasted for over 20 years.

During each of these 20 years Keith continued to be either a Manager or a Coach of teams within the Club. He also held many positions serving on the Executive committees of the Soccer Division and also of the Sports Club.

His service history with the Soccer Division was:

1975- 1995 Coach and or Manager  
1977 Elected Assistant Secretary Soccer Division  
1978 -1983 Elected Secretary Soccer Division  
1984 Elected President Soccer Division  
1985 -1992 Elected Secretary of the Soccer Division and for a many years was the delegate for Gladesville Hornsby Football Association.  
1993 -1995 Elected President Soccer Division  
In 1983 Keith was made a life Member of Thornleigh Sports and Recreation Club in recognition of his work for and on behalf of the Soccer Division.

Whilst all this was taking place with the Soccer Division Keith was also working on the committee for the Sports Club.

In 1987 Keith was elected Snr Vice President of the Sports Club.  
1988 -1993 Keith was President of the Sports Club.  
1994 -1995 Keith was Snr Vice-President of the Sports Club.

If all this was not enough, in 1992 Keith was elected Secretary of the Gladesville Hornsby Football Association and remained in that position serving the members of the Association with the same quiet efficiency that he has always served our Club.

Keith's love of soccer (he was after all a Pom) and all sport is well known by all of you. Keith felt that if a young person could be taught the skills and team work associated with soccer it would set the groundwork for adulthood where they would have to cope with the game of life with its rules, restrictions, compromises and day to day challenges.

In an annual report written by Keith in 1986 he stated "There is nothing in the world to compare with sun, the great outdoors, and the world-wide game of soccer! The skills, the thrills. the highs and the lows, the joys and the heartaches, the jubilation of victory, the

despair of defeat - all wrapped up in an area bordered by four lines and six posts that have a bit of net hanging off them!! Surely soccer is God's gift to the sporting world.”

Keith took an interest in all the sporting codes played within our Club. He was just as pleased to hear about the success of a child at Little Athletics or a win for a cricket, baseball or netball team.

However Keith's major interest was the soccer division and he took an interest in all teams from the littlies in the mini competition through to the All Age teams but his special team was the Premier League team. As he so often called them, they were his boys and Keith was fighting to the end to recover and return to his boys to help them through the season.

Keith always stated that the aim of Thornleigh was to provide those who wished to participate in soccer the opportunity to do so, to have fun and enjoy it and any trophies that came along were a bonus. But deep down Keith had a wish that he did not think would ever be fulfilled but in 1994 his wish was granted when Thornleigh was named GHFA Club Champions for 1994, a first in the Clubs 41 year history. Keith was so proud of the players, managers and coaches who had worked so hard and showed that consistent effort week after week does pay off, but really the trophy belonged to Keith who showed us by example that dedication and hard work is its own reward.