

# The Hobbs Family

William George (Don) Hobbs, who was born in Broken Hill in 1915, was in 1935 a 20 year old growing up at Glenelg when he was encouraged to play lacrosse at the Holdfast Bay Lacrosse Club. Lacrosse for several years had been played at Glenelg under the name of Holdfast Bay LC, sponsored by the Glenelg Sailing Club. In company with two of his mates Colin Teague (father of retired Senator Baden Teague) & Bill Robinson (father of Steve, premiership goalie for Glenelg LC) they got together, and encouraged by Rev. VJ (Gerry) Meyer helped with the formation of St Peter's Church (Glenelg) Lacrosse Club out of the old Holdfast Bay LC in 1936. They all attended St Peter's Church at Glenelg. They had in 1936 one team only and that team won the premiership in C Grade for the year. They played initially at Camden Motor Drome & later at Wigley Reserve Glenelg, which would become the home of the GLC for many years.



Don Hobbs, Bill Robinson and Colin Teague (1937)



Bill Robinson, Don Hobbs and Colin Teague (1989)

Don went on to play until 1954 although in this period saw service in Balikpapan (Borneo) from 1943-45. Don married Merle Rule whilst home on leave. Merle had an uncle Harold Rule after whom the B Grade Premiership Trophy is named in SA.

Four sons followed Peter, Graham, Warren & Andrew (deceased). Don continued through his life in working in official & unofficial positions with Glenelg, SALA, ALC & ILF as those bodies were known then. Don coached many underage teams for Glenelg. The Glenelg Club

today is very strong but many people say that had it not been for Don's efforts there were times that could have seen Glenelg Club fold. Merle who was affectionately known as MTP (Merle the Pearl) by many lacrosse players acted as host at many lacrosse parties & house mother to many stray, lost or loose lacrosse players.

The boys all played for Glenelg & Graham, Warren and Andrew also went on to play for University LC. All played in SA State teams and in fact there was one year (1977) when all four were in the state senior side together. After completing University, Graham and Warren returned to Glenelg playing many more games and undertaking many more roles. Warren also played in quite a number of World Series. Warren also won a Memorial Medal (SALA B&F) in 1979. Warren was in the Australian team over 4 separate years.

## 4 BROTHERS IN LACROSSE CHALLENGE TO AMERICANS

By ALF LEWIS

**The Hobbs family of West Beach will be well represented in the Australian lacrosse championships to be run in conjunction with international games against a visiting American team, the Lancers, early in July.**

Graham Hobbs played for the Glenelg Club for seven years before going to University.

While with the club he was selected for the State Colts team and in 1968, while a University student, was selected for the State Senior team which went to Melbourne for the Australian championships.

Now in final year as a student Graham has two degrees, in law and economics.

Graham has been a star player for University for the past four years and has been picked to play for the South Australian 1st team against interstate and the American Lancers teams.

Peter Hobbs has been playing for the Glenelg Club for 17 years.

He was also selected for the State Colts team the same year as his brother, Graham.

He is a star player for Glenelg and was last year voted the most outstanding player for the club.

### CHAMPIONSHIPS

Peter has been picked to play for the South Australian 2nd team against the Americans at West Park on July 4.

Warren Hobbs, a first year University student, was with the Glenelg Club for seven years and was in the State junior team which went to Melbourne for the Australian championships in 1968.

Warren, who had his first season of A Grade lacrosse last year, will train with the

South Australian 2nd for the match against the Americans on July 4.

Andrew, the younger of the four brothers, is a member of the State junior

squad from which a team will be picked to represent South Australia in Perth in September.

This is Andrew's sixth year with the Glenelg Club.

The boys' father, Don, has been associated with lacrosse for close on 40 years and is a foundation member of the Glenelg Lacrosse Club, which was first formed in 1936.

He is a life member of the Glenelg Club and the South Australian Lacrosse Association as well as being the recipient of a certificate of merit from the Australian Lacrosse Council.



The Hobbs brothers, from left, Andrew, Warren, Graham and Peter are pictured discussing tactics after a recent match.

Peter coached junior teams and also the Glenelg Men's and the Glenelg Women's League Teams. Peter also undertook official positions with Glenelg, SALA (Chairman and Secretary), ALC (Director) and ILF culminating as President (5 years) of the ILF and was president at the time of the merger with IFWLA to form the FIL, now called World Lacrosse. Peter was also Chairman of the ILF Development Committee for 6 years. Peter's first wife Camille (deceased) was a player & umpire for many years, was Secretary of Glenelg, SAWLA and the AWLC.

Graham has focused on the development of youth lacrosse in the coaching of teams and played a key role in the establishment of a new club being the Wilderness LC (Women's). He continues to be a very strong supporter of lacrosse projects and plans wherever he is able to assist.

Warren not only undertook the coaching of youth teams but has also been very actively involved in coaching of the Glenelg league team. Warren also has undertaken official positions with Glenelg.

Honour rolls at the GLC show Life members including Don, Peter, Graham, Camille and Warren. LSA Life Memberships have been bestowed on Don, Peter, Graham and Camille. Graham is also a Life Member of Wilderness LC and Warren has a University Blue. Don and Peter have been appointed Fellows of Lacrosse Australia. Peter has received the ILDC Development Award.

Peter, Graham and Warren's children (Don and Merle's Grandchildren) have also played lacrosse for Glenelg and have been seen over many years through the various underage to league teams.

One of Graham's daughters, Courtney, has had a stellar lacrosse career. She played for both Wilderness and Glenelg additional to four years in the USA playing college lacrosse at Maryland. She represented Australia in five consecutive World Cups (2001, 2005, 2009, 2013 and 2017). She was co-captain in 2017. Courtney is currently the league coach of the Glenelg Women's Team.





Courtney Hobbs with children Flynn, Winnie and Lily (2017)

The next generation, Peter and Graham's grandchildren (Don and Merle's Great Grandchildren) are now playing in Glenelg's underage teams.