



# MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

## ANZAC DAY

### AFL 2021 ROUND 6 COLLINGWOOD V ESSENDON

### LIBRARY FACT SHEET APRIL 25, 2021

#### JOE PEARCE - ONE OF "THE FALLEN"

Of particular significance on ANZAC Day is the book *Fallen – The Ultimate Heroes: Footballers who never returned from war*, by David Allen and Jim Main (2002). One of those whose story is told is Arthur "Joe" Pearce who played with Melbourne between 1904 and 1913. The authors describe Pearce as follows:

"An exciting young football talent who played with the South Bendigo club, Pearce joined the Melbourne Football Club and made his VFL debut against Collingwood in Round 2, 1904. A full back noted for his 'great dashes', Pearce was an instant success with the Redlegs and was regarded as the linch-pin of the Melbourne defence. He was a fine mark, a magnificent long kick and a great reader of the play who could turn defence into attack in an instant. Pearce's sporting talents were legion as he was also a top cricketer with the Coburg Sub-District club and played lacrosse and tennis.

Pearce, who stood close to six feet (182cm) and wore the number 19 guernsey with Melbourne, played strictly as an amateur and even refused to accept out of pocket expenses. In all, Pearce played 152 games... He represented Victoria with distinction at the 1908 Carnival in Melbourne and was undoubtedly in the upper echelons of VFL stars just before Britain declared war on Germany in 1914."



Pearce was killed during the initial landings at Gallipoli, his death being reported as follows: "While making for Fisherman's Hut in a boat, together with witness and under command of Lt Scanlon to take part in the landing on 25th April, Pearce was killed by machine gun or rifle fire. He was buried with 30 or 40 others on the beach. Informant saw him killed." An obituary in the *Bendigo Advertiser* read in part: "He was one of the most popular players in the metropolis. Being of genial disposition, he was esteemed by his own team and his opponents alike. He was a man in every sense of the word, and both in Bendigo and Melbourne he had a wide circle of friends..."

#### OVER TO YOU

Fill the gaps in the Collingwood and Essendon teams which played a draw in the first of their ANZAC Day clashes in 1995. The missing players' numbers are in brackets.

#### Collingwood

B	Hassall	A Richardson	{28}
H-B	{17}	{23}	Watson
C	Buckley	{26}	Wright
H-F	Williams	{3}	Walker
F	Kerrison	{36}	Curran
R	{1}	{34}	B James
I'C	J Wild	A James	{21}

#### Essendon

B	{4}	Fletcher	{7}
H-B	Symons	{1}	Cransberg
C	{13}	{10}	{47}
H-F	Mercuri	{27}	Hird
F	Young	Darcy	{9}
R	{19}	Misiti	Denham
I'C	Grenvold	{30}	O'Connor

## MATCHES AT THE MCG ON ANZAC DAY – APRIL 25

Anzac Day April 25	MCG Match	Home Team		Opponent		Att.
1925 Saturday	Practice match	Melbourne Old Players	18.10 (118)	Melbourne New Players	7.9 (51)	n/a
1961 Tuesday	VFA Rd 2	Sandringham	11.8 (74)	Moorabbin	12.14 (86)	13,842
1962 Wednesday		Victoria (1961 Carnival team)	10.17 (77)	"The Rest" (VFL)	13.7 (85)	17,068
1963 Thursday	VFL Rd 2	Melbourne	14.16 (100)	Hawthorn	13.18 (96)	55,293
1966 Monday	VFL Rd 2	Melbourne	17.7 (109)	St. Kilda	4.9 (33)	64,934
1967 Tuesday		Victoria (1966 Carnival team)	18.13 (121)	"The Rest" (VFL)	9.13 (67)	15,613
1968 Thursday	VFL Rd 3	Richmond	10.15 (75)	Geelong	17.21 (123)	52,115
1969 Friday	VFL Rd 4	Melbourne	10.19 (79)	Essendon	13.19 (97)	38,358
1970 Saturday	VFL Rd 4	Melbourne	17.19 (121)	Fitzroy	13.13 (91)	22,909
1972 Tuesday	VFL Rd 5	Richmond	13.11 (89)	Melbourne	12.12 (84)	38,154
1973 Wednesday	VFL Rd 4	Richmond	11.18 (84)	North Melbourne	14.20 (104)	48,923
1975 Friday	VFL Rd 4	Melbourne	18.25 (133)	St Kilda	12.8 (80)	35,328
1977 Monday	VFL Rd 4	Richmond	14.16 (100)	Collingwood	17.24 (126)	92,436
1978 Tuesday	VFL Rd 5	Richmond	19.16 (130)	Melbourne	8. 11 (59)	34,212
1979 Wednesday	VFL Rd 4	Melbourne	16.23 (119)	Richmond	15.19 (109)	44,708
1980 Friday	VFL Rd 5	Richmond	29.25 (199)	Fitzroy	11.15 (81)	44,401
1981 Saturday	VFL Rd 5	Richmond	15.22 (112)	Geelong	11.18 (84)	46,230
1983 Monday	VFL Rd 5	Richmond	17.12 (114)	Footscray	18.8 (116)	51,561
1984 Wednesday	VFL Rd 5	Richmond	12.14 (86)	Essendon	20.15 (135)	55,141
1985 Thursday	VFL Rd 5	Melbourne	18.13 (121)	Carlton	13.14 (92)	53,065
1986 Friday	VFL Rd 5 (double header)	Melbourne	14.17 (101)	Sydney	16.14 (110)	40,117
		North Melbourne	24.10 (154)	Geelong	14.8 (92)	
1987 Saturday	VFL Rd 5	Richmond	19.12 (126)	Sydney	21.20 (146)	22,154
1988 Monday	VFL Rd 4	Richmond	11.16 (82)	Geelong	24.17 (161)	27,417
1990 Wednesday	AFL Rd 5	Richmond	21.17 (143)	Fitzroy	9.10 (64)	23,078
1991 Thursday	AFL Rd 6	North Melbourne	27.26 (188)	Sydney	21.8 (134)	15,664
1992 Saturday	AFL Rd 6	Essendon	18.16 (124)	Melbourne	19.9 (123)	41,405
1993 Sunday	AFL Rd 5	Melbourne	10.17 (77)	Adelaide	9.14 (68)	17,011
1995 Tuesday	AFL Rd 4	Collingwood	17.9 (111)	Essendon	16.15 (111)	94,825
1996 Thursday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	16.9 (105)	Collingwood	17.15 (117)	87,549
1997 Friday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	10.10 (70)	Collingwood	14.15 (99)	83,271
1998 Saturday	AFL Rd 5	Collingwood	15.18 (108)	Essendon	12.16 (88)	81,542
1999 Sunday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	15.18 (108)	Collingwood	15.10 (100)	73,118
2000 Tuesday	AFL Rd 7	Collingwood	15.10 (100)	Essendon	21.14 (140)	88,390
2001 Wednesday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	15.13 (103)	Collingwood	14.11 (95)	83,905
2002 Thursday	AFL Rd 5	Collingwood	9.12 (66)	Essendon	4.9 (33)	84,894
2003 Friday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	23.9 (147)	Collingwood	12.9 (81)	62,589
2004 Sunday	AFL Rd 5	Collingwood	11.13 (79)	Essendon	17.10 (112)	57,294
2005 Monday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	11.17 (83)	Collingwood	10.9 (69)	70,033
2006 Tuesday	AFL Rd 4	Collingwood	15.16 (106)	Essendon	12.17 (89)	91,234
2007 Wednesday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	11.13 (79)	Collingwood	12.23 (95)	90,508
2008 Friday	AFL Rd 6	Collingwood	23.16 (154)	Essendon	12.9 (81)	88,999
2009 Saturday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	13.15 (93)	Collingwood	12.16 (88)	84,829
2010 Sunday	AFL Rd 5	Collingwood	18.12 (120)	Essendon	8.7 (55)	90,070
2011 Monday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	11.11 (77)	Collingwood	16.11 (107)	89,626
2012 Wednesday	AFL Rd 5	Collingwood	11.14 (80)	Essendon	11.13 (79)	86,932
2013 Thursday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	18.13 (121)	Collingwood	10.15 (75)	93,373
2014 Friday	AFL Rd 6	Collingwood	12.11 (83)	Essendon	8.12 (60)	91,731
2015 Saturday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	6.13 (49)	Collingwood	9.15 (69)	88,395
2016 Monday	AFL Rd 5	Collingwood	22.10 (142)	Essendon	11.7 (73)	85,082
2017 Tuesday	AFL Rd 5	Essendon	15.10 (100)	Collingwood	11.18 (84)	87,685
2018 Wednesday	AFL Rd 5	Collingwood	14.7 (101)	Essendon	7.10 (52)	91,440
2019 Thursday	AFL Rd 6	Essendon	10.9 (69)	Collingwood	10.13 (73)	92,241

**FACT SHEETS ON THE MCC WEBSITE**  
 The MCC Library's matchday fact sheets can be accessed through the MCC website at:  
<http://tinyurl.com/mcclcatalogue>

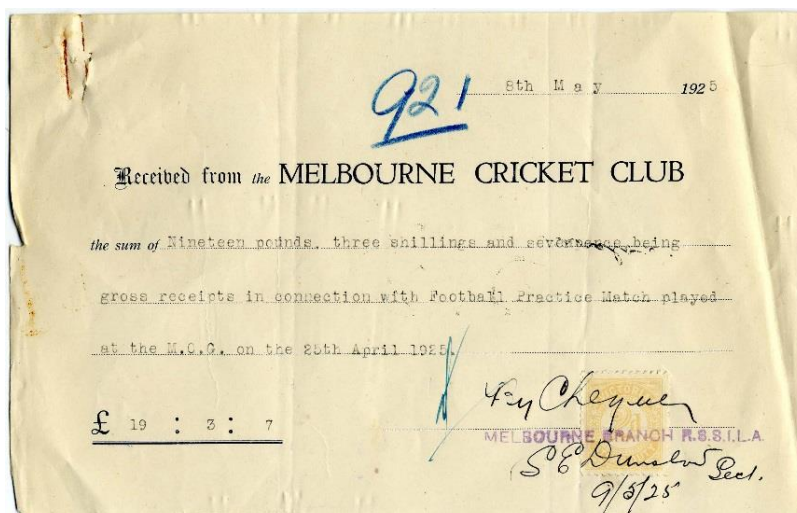
Fact sheets are prepared by MCC Library volunteers David Allen, Eric Panther, Quentin Miller, Dennis Carroll, Ian Wilkinson, and Gaye Fitzpatrick with MCC deputy librarian – research Trevor Ruddell and the assistance of Col Hutchinson of the AFL.

## ANZAC DAY FOOTBALL AND THE MCG

- 1914:** VFL/AFL premiership matches were played on April 25 for the first time. University 6.8 [44] lost to South Melbourne 14.14 [98] before 7,578 spectators at the MCG in one of five opening round matches. Exactly one year later the first ANZACs landed at Gallipoli.
- 1925:** A Melbourne intra-club practice match was played on the MCG. The proceeds from the match of £19/3/7 went to the Melbourne branch of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia (later the RSL).
- 1960:** The first VFL (now AFL) premiership matches on ANZAC Day were played in 1960 between Fitzroy and Carlton at Brunswick Street, and St Kilda and Melbourne at the Junction Oval.
- 1961:** VFA clubs Sandringham and Moorabbin played at the MCG on ANZAC Day before 13,842 fans.
- 1963:** The first VFL/AFL premiership match on ANZAC Day at the MCG was between Melbourne and Hawthorn. An attendance of 55,293 saw Melbourne win 14.16 [100] to 13.18 [96].
- 1966:** St Kilda's 4.9 [33] against Melbourne is the lowest score kicked at the MCG on ANZAC Day. Essendon shares this ignominious record after kicking 4.9 [33] against Collingwood in 2002.
- 1977:** A crowd of 92,436 attended the Richmond v Collingwood match on ANZAC Day at the MCG. It was the biggest Anzac Day crowd until 1995.
- 1980:** Richmond's score of 29.25 [199] is the highest on ANZAC Day and its 118-point victory over Fitzroy, 11.15 [81], is the biggest ANZAC Day winning margin on the MCG.
- 1986:** The first (and only) ANZAC Day double-header at the MCG was played when Melbourne met Sydney in the afternoon and North Melbourne played Geelong in the first night match on ANZAC Day.
- 1988:** Geelong's Gary Ablett Sr was the first (and so far the only) player to kick 10 goals on ANZAC Day at the MCG. The Cats defeated Richmond by 79 points.
- 1992:** Essendon defeated Melbourne by one point, 18.16 [124] to 19.9 [123].
- 1995:** Essendon 16.15 [111] and Collingwood 17.9 [111] played the first drawn ANZAC Day match on the MCG. A record ANZAC Day crowd of 94,825 saw Collingwood's Saverio Rocca kick nine goals.
- 2000:** A perpetual ANZAC Day Trophy was provided by the Returned & Services League (RSL) for the AFL match scheduled at the MCG on Anzac Day. An ANZAC Day Medal was also struck and presented to the best player afield. The first winner was James Hird.
- 2009:** Essendon snatched a dramatic five-point win after Collingwood led by 14 points with about five minutes remaining.
- 2012:** Collingwood defeated Essendon by one point, 11.14 [80] to 11.13 [79]. Essendon players came off a four day break.
- 2019:** Collingwood defeated Essendon by four points in a cliff hanger. Scott Pendlebury was booed by Essendon supporters when collecting the ANZAC Day Medal.
- 2020:** COVID-19 pandemic forced a national lock down preventing the ANZAC Day match occurring. Instead a lone bugler played the last post on the MCG

## FOOTBALL AT THE MCG ON ANZAC DAY: A TRADITION THAT'S OLDER THAN YOU THINK.

The history books record that the first VFL match at the MCG on ANZAC Day occurred in 1963. The first premiership match of any competition held at the ground on the public holiday was a VFA game in 1961. But neither was strictly the first. In 2011 Peta Phillips, a researcher for the MCC Archives, discovered a file of correspondence from 1925 relating to monies raised from a match held at the MCG on ANZAC Day that year. It was the first ANZAC Day to fall on a Saturday since the Great War and league football teams were preparing for the start of the season the following weekend. Therefore, many clubs played their final practice matches on ANZAC Day, including Melbourne at the MCG. The *Argus* described the match as a "delightful exhibition" with the team representing the club's old players defeating its new players 18.10 [118] to 7.9 [51]. The day prior to the match the *Argus* reported that every club would devote their takings from the day to the "Returned Soldiers' Leagues" (now the RSL) in their respective districts, except Essendon which directed theirs to the construction of a local war memorial. The correspondence in the MCC Archives shows the club raised £19/3/7 for the Melbourne branch of the RSL, the entire gate for the match.



Above: The receipt for £19/3/7 from the MCC to the RSL.

## Statistics for Essendon v Collingwood

### Essendon v Collingwood by venue

	Won by Collingwood	Won by Essendon	Drawn
MCG	35	36	2
Lake Oval	0	1	0
East Melb	16	7	0
Victoria Park	53	23	0
Waverley	4	5	0
Windy Hill	24	32	2
	132	104	4

### Most Goals in a Match

15	Gordon Coventry	Coll	Rd 11	1933	VP
13	Peter McKenna	Coll	Rd 11	1972	VP
12	Peter McKenna	Coll	Rd 20	1970	VP
12	Peter McKenna	Coll	Rd 14	1971	VP
10	John Coleman	Ess	Rd 11	1950	WH
10	Ted Fordham	Ess	Rd 14	1966	VP

### Last Time They Met – Round 5, 2020, MCG

	Essendon	Collingwood
Quarter time	3.0	3.0
Half time	5.0	3.1
Three-quarter time	8.2	3.5
Full time	10.3 (63)	7.6 (48)

### Highest Score

Collingwood	30.20 (200)	Rd 14	1971	VP
Essendon	28.6 (174)	PF	1984	Wav

### Lowest Score

Collingwood	2.4 (16)	Rd 4	1900	EMCG
Collingwood	2.4 (16)	GF	1901	AP
Essendon	3.2 (20)	Rd 7	1898	VP

### Greatest Winning Margin

Collingwood	147 points	Rd 14	1971	VP
Essendon	133 points	PF	1984	Wav

### The ANZAC Day Medallists

2000	James Hird	Essendon
2001	Chris Tarrant	Collingwood
2002	Mark McGough	Collingwood
2003	James Hird	Essendon
2004	James Hird	Essendon
2005	Andrew Lovett	Essendon
2006	Ben Johnson	Collingwood
2007	Heath Shaw	Collingwood
2008	Paul Medhurst	Collingwood
2009	Patrick Ryder	Essendon
2010	Scott Pendlebury	Collingwood
2011	Scott Pendlebury	Collingwood
2012	Dane Swan	Collingwood
2013	David Zaharakis	Essendon
2014	Dane Swan	Collingwood
2015	Paul Seedsman	Collingwood
2016	Steele Sidebottom	Collingwood
2017	Joe Daniher	Essendon
2018	Adam Treloar	Collingwood
2019	Scott Pendlebury	Collingwood

## OVER TO YOU ANSWERS

Collingwood: Croisca (28), Burns (17), Kelly (23), Brown (26), Brereton (3), S Rocca (36), Monkhorst (1), McGuane (34), Christian (21).

Essendon: Wanganeen (4), C Daniher (7), Harvey (1), Long (13), O'Donnell (10), Olarenshaw (47), Alessio (27), Cockatoo-Collins (9), Somerville (19), Fraser (30).

## THE ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY

The first ANZAC Day commemorations took place in Australia, New Zealand, England and Egypt on April 25, 1916, one year after the initial landings at Gallipoli. During 1916, April 25 was officially named "ANZAC Day" by the Australian government, but it was not until after the premiers' conference of 1921 that April 25 was officially gazetted as a holiday throughout Australia. The conference decision was not universally popular, headmasters at a number of schools, for example, publicly declaring that a holiday would undermine the significance of the occasion. Some ignored the directive altogether, keeping students at school and holding their own services as part of a normal day. But by the middle of the 1920s such misgivings had been overwhelmed by the tide of public opinion, huge ANZAC Day marches being held in all capital cities.



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