



Around The World

Collingwood Football Set

Courtesy of **Rob Manser and Jerry Bell**
Australian Match Cover Collectors' Society

- Bone, Micky
- Chapman, Albert
- Erwin, Michael
- Fellowes, Graeme
- Fildes, Robin
- Gabelich, Ray
- Graham, Ian
- Gray, Brain
- Henderson, John
- Hill, Laurie
- Hutchinsonson, Errol
- Johnston, Robert
- Jonsson, Graeme
- Knox, John
- Mahon, John
- Norman, David

- Reeves, Ronald
- Rist, Barry
- Roper, Barry
- Rose, Kevin
- Rose, Ralph
- Rosenbrock, Peter
- Steele, Desmond
- Steer, Trevor
- Tuddenham, Des
- Turner, Ken
- Urquhart, Max
- Waters, Terry
- Watt, Ricky
- Weiderman, Murray
- Withers, Neville

Collingwood is the most famous Australian football team. Australian football is played with an oval ball like American football, and rugby, but has different rules, and is also known as Australian Rules. Collingwood, itself, is a very old club and is also known as the "Magpies." It has a huge supporter base because it represents what was the heartland of Melbourne's industry. The twice-a-season matches between Collingwood (representing blue collar workers) and Carlton (representing white collar workers) regularly attracts over 90,000 spectators.

Collingwood is one of those traditional Cinderella clubs, which certainly exist in the US, which has a huge following but never wins anything—and to be known as a Collingwood supporter is generally an excuse for people to be sorry for you! However, every cloud has a silver lining, and Collingwood, which hadn't won the

Grand Final since 1958, suddenly upped and won it in 1990, out of the blue, and has not looked likely to repeat that feat ever since.

The Collingwood set of 33 (known) matchbooks were issued by Bryant & May, Australia, in 1963. They're very scarce, and similar sets for other Australian football clubs were apparently never produced...only for the famed Collingwood club. Each cover features a B&W photo on white card with black text. A scoreboard matchbook was also issued, allowing space to record the quarter by quarter scores of a game. The Collingwood theme song was also issued on an additional matchbook, but neither the former or the latter are considered to be part of the set.