

1944-2020

When competition resumed after the war in 1944 St Helens would dominate.

They would win five of the next six championships with Internationals Lex Gibb(captain)Gordon(Bunny)Nunn, Alan(Oscar) Pitcairn and Dan Roderick in the teams.

The 1947 and 1948 team would win all trophies including the Tristram and Hilton Shields

Gordon Nunn will be inducted in to the Hall of Fame in 1999 one of five Ipswich players to receive this honour.

Dan Roderick would finish his career with eleven premierships

In a surprise in 1950 Dinmore Bush Rats having emerged again as a senior team in 1947 and winning promotion in 1948 would stop the St Helens run and win the Premiership their first in twenty five years

In 1953 another champion Blackstone Rovers team emerged. They won all four trophies and included Internationals, Ron Hughes Col Kitching, Don Leo and Alwyn Warren with future International Duncan McKenna in reserve grade

The team which included Kitching's, Hughes and Woolley's was one of many from these families that would play soccer in Ipswich

Bush Rats would win again in 1954 with future International Les McCrea and Brian(Chooky)Vogler emerging Brian previously played Rugby League for Ipswich.

This would be Bush Rats last first division Premiership and ushered in the great Bundamba Rangers/ St Helens rivalry

St Helens would win in 1956 undefeated Rangers were runners up also undefeated and along with the 1955 and 1957 Bundamba Rangers Premiership teams are arguably the best club sides produced in Queensland

Internationals, Col and Spencer Kitching, Norm Rule, Graham Kathage, Les McCrea, Lex Gibb, Alan Pitcairn, Gordon Nunn Robert Lawrie and future Hall of Fame member Cliff Sander were in these teams

The Hellenic team of the sixties would have a claim but the side was full of players poached from Ipswich teams(see slides (64-66)

This movement in players would see a decline in Ipswich soccer fortunes and it would not be until 1985 before Ipswich United would win the Premiership.

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Blackstone Rovers merged in 1964 to form Coalstars and Bush Rats and St Helens in

Coalstars would win the Ampol Cup in 1965 Future Internationals Ross Kelly and Ian Johnstone were in the team
Kim Wishart future International played Junior for Coalstars in this period and played for St Helens in Senior before moving to
Brisbane City

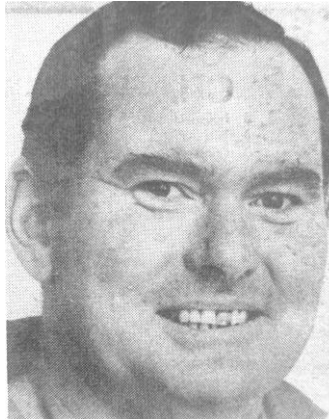
St Helens won the Ampol Cup in 1967 after the return of Col Kitching and Duncan McKenna from Hellenic
After a gap of 12 years and Ipswich team would win another trophy with Ipswich United winning the Ampol Cup in 1979.
A successful period followed with Ipswich United winning the Premiership in 1985
Coalstars won the Ampol Cup in 1986,1987.The 1986 side would also win the Grand Final.

Coalstars and St Helens merged to form Ipswich Knights in 1998

A new club Western Pride would win the National premier League in 2017,thirty one years after the
last trophy win for an Ipswich Club



Arthur Bevan



John Roderick



David Lems

(Queensland Times Soccer reporters)