

## John Jones



Born in Birmingham UK in 1950, I soon developed a love for football. I started my football career as a goalkeeper at primary school. I then went to a rugby union secondary school and became a football fan supporting my local team Birmingham City. After leaving school I played in a local Works League on Saturdays and Sundays with friends in a Sunday League mainly in defence. However in one season I did play in every position for the

team. Unfortunately an injury to my ankle at the age of 28 meant I had to stop playing. I returned to playing 5 a side in my fifties with one of my sons and also a 5 a side team of teachers for a couple of years. I then in 2017 discovered Walking Football and played in Redditch UK for 6 months before emigrating to Australia. My wife and I emigrated as 2 of our 3 sons had already emigrated to Australia, one of them having a very successful career in the Victoria NPL. I enquired about Walking Football when I arrived in Woodend Victoria but was meet with blank faces. I was pleased when in mid 2023 I found out that Kyneton U3A had started a Walking Football group in Woodend which my wife and I joined. In 2024 I trialled for the Walkeroos and was overjoyed to be selected at 74 to start a new career with a team drawn from all over Australia.

I still play in defence, still competitive, still have no pace but hopefully can read the game (without my glasses).

