

**MM16/23 PASSING OF BRIAN TABER - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis
Yedelian OAM****File Number:** MYR/07/10/20 - BP23/436

Over the weekend, I received advice, that Hedley “Brian” Taber, a former Alderman of City of Ryde and Test cricket player for Australia, had passed away aged 83.

Brian, who died on 21st July 2023, was a Central Ward Alderman on Ryde City Council from 1977-1980 and was also the first Chairman of the Ryde Sports Foundation.

He was also an outstanding member of the Australian cricket team, and played in 16 Test matches, as a wicket-keeper, from 1966 to 1970. He played 129 first-class matches with a career batting average of 18.01, a highest test score of 48 and a highest first class score of 109.

Rob Wilkinson, the Chairman of the Ryde Sports Foundation, has acknowledged the great contribution that Brian Taber, Harry Anderson and John Shearer made to the RSF in its early days and that they provided the springboard for the 43 years of sporting success in Ryde that the Foundation is celebrating.

Ian Chappell – a former Australian Cricket captain, noted that in his prime, Brian was a fine Australian wicket keeper and extremely popular.

Brian’s first Test was in South Africa in 1966-67. In December 1968 as New South Wales captain, he equalled a then world record of 12 dismissals in a game against South Australia.

Following his retirement in 1974, Brian became a top coach and retained the high esteem in which he was held.

Cricket was not the only sport where Brian excelled and he was a keen and proficient golfer.

He also had an incredibly quick sense of humour and was a good manager who brought out the best in newcomers like Shane Warne.

As noted by Ian Chappell, “Tabsy” was a good cricketer, understood the game and knew how to handle people. Importantly he was a good bloke.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the passing of former Alderman Hedley Brian Taber be noted.
- (b) That a letter of condolence be sent on behalf of the Mayor and Council to Brian’s wife, Fran and family.

Council, submitted on 25 July 2023.

MM16/23 (continued)

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM
Mayor