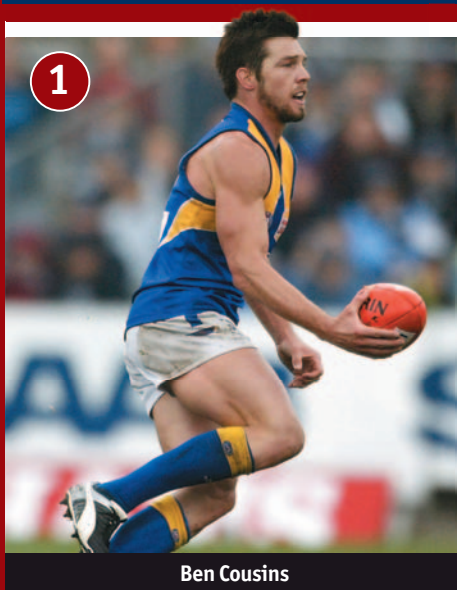


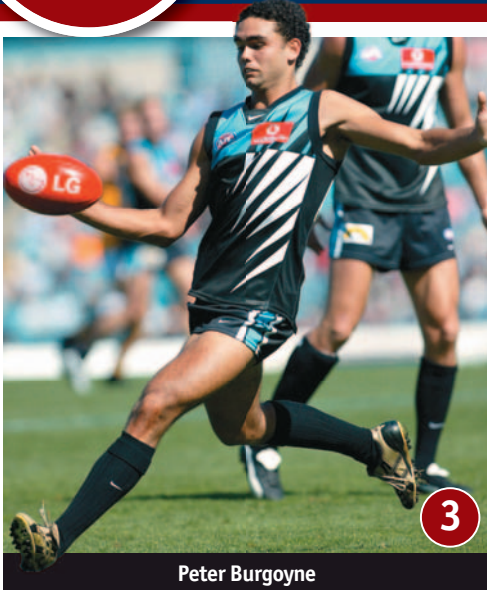
THE TOP 10

GRASSROOTS CLUBS

AFL statistician Col Hutchinson looks at some of the clubs that have produced more than their fair share of present-day AFL talent.



Ben Cousins



Peter Burgoyne



Wayne Campbell

1 BULLCREEK LEEMING (WA)

Located in the southern suburbs of Perth, the thriving amateur league club has produced a Brownlow Medallist (**Simon Black** of the Brisbane Lions), a club captain (Eagle **Ben Cousins**) and one of the competition's top defenders (Hawthorn's **Jonathan Hay**).

2 MALLEE PARK (SA)

The tiny club in the fishing town of Port Lincoln has produced a long line of indigenous stars, including **Peter** and **Shaun Burgoyne**, **Byron Pickett** (all of Port Adelaide), **Graeme Johncock** (Adelaide), Roo **Daniel Wells** and his cousin, Hawk newcomer **Harry Miller**.

3 ST MARYS (NT)

The famous Darwin club, home to the **Long** and **Rioli** dynasties, has produced a stack of AFL talent, including St Kilda brothers **Raphael** and **Xavier Clarke** and **Ronnie Burns** of the Crows. The Power's **Peter Burgoyne** also played there.

4 PENNANT HILLS (NSW)

The club in the leafy suburb in Sydney's north-west is home to four current AFL players: the **McVeigh** brothers (**Mark** at Essendon, **Jarrad** at Sydney), Swans rising star **Paul Bevan** and St Kilda skipper **Lenny Hayes**.

5 COROWA-RUTHERGLEN (NSW)

Just over the Murray River in NSW, the home town of the **Houlihan** brothers (**Ryan** at Carlton, **Adam** at Richmond and **Josh** at St Kilda) has been a fertile breeding ground for AFL players, also producing Bomber **Aaron Henneman** and Swans hardman **Ben Mathews**.

6 SOUTH WARRNAMBOOL (VIC)

The Hampden League's Roosters can boast three current AFL players – Brisbane Lion **Jonathan Brown** and Geelong duo **James Rahilly** and **Brent Moloney**. Saint **Matt Maguire** was also on the books there, but never pulled on the red and white.

7 KARRINYUP (WA)

The Saints, based in Perth's northern suburbs, have been one of WA's most productive feeder clubs, producing Freo pair **Des Headland** and **Shane Parker**, West Coast's **Chad Fletcher** and the Crows' **Tyson Stenglein**.

8 GOLDEN SQUARE (VIC)

A Carlton stronghold in years past, the Bendigo-based club was home to Richmond skipper **Wayne Campbell**, his new teammate **Nathan Brown**, Hawk **Rick Ladson** (both via the Bendigo Pioneers) and Sydney's **Rowan Warfe**.

9 HEYFIELD (VIC)

The Kangaroos of the north Gippsland league have produced a 'joey' of their own – utility **Leigh Brown** – and three other current-day AFL players: Hawk **Adrian Cox**, Crows forward **Mark Stevens** and Geelong's **David Wojcinski**.

10 NARRE WARREN (VIC)

Situated on the south-east fringe of Melbourne, the club has been prolific over the years and has fed players such as **Steven Salopek** (Port Adelaide), **Trent Croad** (Hawthorn), Matthew Boyd (Bulldogs) and **Adam McPhee** (Essendon) through the Dandenong Stingrays' system.

– Sean Callander