

Presents

'LEARNING FROM LEGENDS'

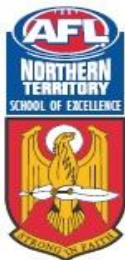
STORIES BEHIND THE GLORY

by: **DR. SEAN GORMAN**

Introduction by: **Jess Webster**
Sports Media Personality

Special Guest Appearances
from NT's own living 'Legends'

Hosted by



St John's
Catholic College

Featuring:
STARWIN SHOPFRONT STALL
with Brothaboy Clothing &
'Legends' books for sale

&

Sports Memorabilia Raffle
-Proceeds to St John's AFL School of
Excellence-

TICKETS AVAILABLE
from



Shop 2 @ DoubleTree by Hilton
Darwin Esplanade
Ph: 0402303867
karina@starwin.com.au

Wednesday 25 September
7-9pm

A light hearted evening & entertaining insight into the stories of the 'Brotherboys' & 'Legends' books, which featured some of NT's biggest stars; Michael Long, Michael Graham, Maurice Rioli, Peter Burgoyne, Darryl White, Andrew McLeod and Michael McLean.

Tickets: \$20
(includes light supper)

Thursday 26 September
7-9pm

An informative and insightful evening on 'Expectations, Experiences & Reflections of Indigenous Footballers: transitioning in & out of the AFL'.

For those who want to grow their understanding of what social, cultural, historical and economic factors feed into the experiences of those players and what does it tell us about the broader societal influences regarding those expectations, experiences and reflections.

Tickets: \$30
(includes light supper)





DR. SEAN GORMAN

Curtin University - Senior Research Fellow - School of Media, Culture & Creative Arts - Faculty of Humanities

Sean Gorman has studied and worked in the Indigenous Studies field for 20 years. In that time he has tutored, lectured and researched in the Indigenous studies programs at Murdoch University, Edith Cowan University and the University of Melbourne.

Gorman's PhD, based on the life of the Krakouer brothers, was published as a biography in 2005. *Brotherboys: The Story of Jim and Phillip Krakouer* was adapted for theatre in 2009 and in 2011 *Krakouer!* commenced a national tour. His latest book *Legends: The AFL Indigenous Team of the Century* is a collection of life stories of the Indigenous players chosen by an expert AFL panel spanning the years from 1904-2004.

Gorman's work draws on social justice issues, Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations, social history, sports history, and local history and gives insight and voice to contemporary Indigenous society and people. He is the lead CI on an ARC Linkage grant entitled: *Assessing the Australian Football League's Racial and Religious Vilification Laws to Promote Community Harmony, Multiculturalism and Reconciliation*. The partners for the project are the AFL, AFL Players Association and the Victorian Multicultural Commission. The project aligns itself with the national research priority of Promoting and Maintaining Good Health and Strengthening Australia's social and economic fabric.

“Expectations, Experiences and Reflections of Indigenous Footballers: Transitioning in and out of the AFL.”

The code of Australian Football has a unique place in Australian society. For Indigenous Australians football is very important. Regardless of remote, rural or urban settings Indigenous involvement in football is a central part of many Indigenous peoples lives and wellbeing. As the Indigenous population in Australia is approximately 2% at the elite AFL level the Indigenous participation rates are 11%. Given the importance of the AFL to Indigenous Australians and their status at the elite level it invites the questions: what are the motivating factors that see young Indigenous men want to aspire to and play AFL at the elite level? What are their experiences at the elite level? How do they cope at the elite level? What are the issues they confront once they have transitioned out of the AFL?

Despite the fact there are now several biographical accounts about Indigenous involvement at various historical stages in the AFL there still remains a gap in the understanding of the transitioning in and out of the AFL by Indigenous players. To date there is little national research on this issue.

The aims of this project, funded as part of Curtin's Early Career Fellowship, were to understand why it is that Indigenous men aspire to play AFL at the elite level in Australia. By interviewing players from several clubs at different competitive levels the research provides a better understanding of the experiences of Indigenous men playing football and striving to participate at the elite level.

Hence the main objective of this project were to understand what social, cultural, historical and economic factors feed into the experiences of those players and what does it tell us about the broader societal influences regarding those expectations, experiences and reflections.

