


WEST WALLSEND BLUEBELL'S LEGENDS

	Name	HUGHES, JACK 'BULLY'
	Member of the Newcastle Sporting Hall of Fame	Yes
	Member of the FFA Hall of Fame	Hall of Fame Category : Medal of Excellence Year Inducted: 2004
	Biography	<p>Jack Hughes learnt his soccer the hard way. After a long days work, the local miners would play a rough and tumble game of soccer, still wearing their hob - nailed boots. Jack, who loved the game, joined them, playing barefoot. He was just 11years old. This harsh form of training instilled in young Jack many things, not just the capacity to handle the knocks; he became very adept at evading other players, beating them with his ability to dribble masterfully, or using a great bodyswerve to get past them. When Jack took these skills back to the school teams he played in, they earned him the nickname " Bully ", even though he was only slightly built. Jack joined the famous West Wallsend Juniors, where, at age 14, he created a record that has stood for many years. Playing for the Under 16's, he scored 8 goals in a game, then, after full time in that game, went straight back out on the field to play for the Under 18's, where he rattled in another 8 goals! When Jack was 16 he was watching Westy's First Grade team train for their biggest game of the year, the local derby against Wallsend. The great William " Podge " Maunder, the Australian centre forward, had been forced to pull out of the game, and talk centered on a possible replacement. Clarrie Coutts, the Australian (and Westy's) Captain, saw the barefoot Bully running around, and asked ' What about the kid ? '. 'Too small and too young', the others replied. (Jack only weighed 7& 1/2 stone) 'If he's good enough, he's big enough', said Coutts, whose opinion was well respected. Jack was picked in the team, replacing Australia's best player as the leader of the forward line in the most famous soccer team in State League history ! This sudden elevation to the First's caused a problem, however. Jack played barefoot for a reason ; he had no football boots. He had a great supporter in his school teacher, Sid Grant, who went out and bought him a pair. Young Bully wasted no time breaking the new boots in, scoring twice in the first 15 minutes and adding another in the second half to help Westy to a 5 - 2 win.</p> <p>This was the start of a brilliant career that saw Jack play 362 senior games for Westy, the Metters and Canterbury - Bankstown clubs in Sydney, scoring 817 goals. He went on to play many times for NSW and represented Australia in 20 Tests against England, India, Palestine, China and New Zealand. The name Jack "Bully " Hughes is always mentioned when talk turns to the greats who wore the blue shirt of the mighty West Wallsend Bluebells.</p>
Achievements	<p>NSW v South Australia and New Zealand, 1932 v Queensland and New Zealand, 1933 v Victoria and the Australian team, 1936 v The Rest, 1937 v Queensland and India, 1938 v Queensland twice (as captain) and Palenstine, 1939 v Victoria and China, 1941 also played for Metropolitan against Australia, 1936, and The Rest against NSW, 1941</p> <p>AUSTRALIA v New Zealand (in N Z) , one Test, 1933 v New Zealand, one Test, 1933 v The English Amateurs, three Tests, 1937 v India, five Tests, 1938 v Palenstine, five Tests, 1939 v China, five Tests, 1941 also played for Australia against The Rest in 1936, and in an Australian XI against the English Amateurs, 1937</p>	