


## WEST WALLSEND BLUEBELL'S LEGENDS

	<b>Name</b>	COOLAHAN, WILLIAM 'BILL THE LION HEARTED'
	<b>Member of the Newcastle Sporting Hall of Fame</b>	Yes
	<b>Biography</b>	<p>One of West Wallsend's most admired soccer 'sons'. He first played for the Bluebell's in the 1927 season. When the Bluebell's were denied entry to the breakaway State League in 1929 he joined the mighty Adamstown Rosebud Soccer Club, after Northern Soccer was split a year earlier when the powerful Coalfields Clubs joined a new State League.</p> <p>The halfback, regarded as one of the best and toughest the game has produced was with Adamstown when the club clinched the 1930 State and Robinson Cups.</p> <p>He rejoined West Wallsend in 1931, was with Speers Point in 1932, and again with West Wallsend in 1933-34. He returned to Adamstown for an eight season stint in 1935, for a stay to bring ongoing international recognition.</p> <p>During this period, he captained Australia against four overseas touring sides in the space of five seasons.</p> <p>On the international front he earned 11 Australian caps, firstly in 1937 as captain against the England amateurs, and later against India, Palestine and China.</p> <p>He retired after the 1943 season after 16 years of senior football, rounding off his career with Lake Macquarie in 1943.</p> <p>He scored 101 goals in an era when scoring opportunities for half backs were limited.</p>
<b>Achievements</b>	<p>LOCAL:</p> <p>1930: Adamstown Rosebud Soccer Club winner State and Robinson Cups.</p> <p>1931: West Wallsend, winner State Cup</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL:</p> <p>Australian Captain-</p> <p>1937: 2-1 series win over England</p> <p>1938: India</p> <p>1939: Palestine</p> <p>1941: China</p> <p>101 goals</p>	