He’s known as Mr Speaker, or Watto or just Pete and all will miss him greatly, when he vacates the seat.

He’s held his seat of Albany, for nigh on twenty years and when he takes his shingle down there’ll be so many tears.

Running’s been a constant theme, defining all he’s done, it began with running telegrams, and they say he was a gun

Athletics was to beckon him, captaining the state, he then ran for Australia in 1968

Returning to the mighty West, the state he loved the most, he built upon his first career, at Australia Post

But perhaps his finest moment, was 2001, when he ran for Parliament surprising many when he won

A passionate local member in the house on either side, in opposition or in government he took it in his stride

As the finish line draws nearer and his marathon’s complete, we thank the Honourable Speaker, Watto or just Pete

And it’s not a case of win or lose, it’s how you run the race and our MLA from Albany has done this with such grace.

I should end this with a compliment, its befitting that I should, but how can such a decent man barrack for Collingwood?

He is humble and is honest and a heart just like a whale, but to barrack for the magpies is beyond the bloody pale.

We will miss your calls for order and your warnings from the chair

Your self-deprecating humour and commitment to be fair

But one thing still confounds us about this Honourable Member

How this one eyed magpie fan, can still smile in September.