

13th ANNUAL REPORT
SEASON 2006/2007

“The Willows”
CRICKET CLUB

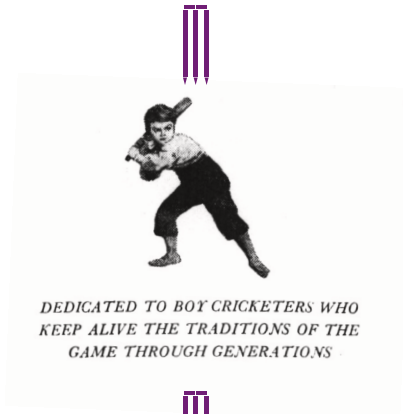
LOBURN, NORTH CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND



FOUNDED 1st MAY, 1994

Our Motto

“Floreant Salices”
 (“May the Willows Flourish”)



Our Objectives

- To encourage players in secondary school first elevens to play with and against experienced players, many of whom are present or past first-class cricketers.
- To offer quality cricket to cricket lovers in a country atmosphere, where families may come to watch and picnic.

Why was The Willows formed?

To act as a catalyst, whereby cricketers, and cricket supporters, past and present, who appreciate the traditions and ethos of the game, are able to contribute and impart their experience and talents to the development of youth involved in secondary schools cricket.



LOBURN, NORTH CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND

PATRON in PERPETUITY
W.A.Hadlee, CBE, OBE (1915–2006)

PRESIDENT
The Hon. Mr Justice Hansen

Immediate Past President
W.J.Mitchell (1994-2003)

Life Members

R.J.Cowles
V.B.Cusack
P.C.Devlin
W.J.Mitchell
D.O.Neely, MBE

Founders

C.K.Baker
R.C.Bromley
H.D.E.Brooke, QSM
C.L.Bull
R.J.Cowles
B.L.Dormer
M.E.Dormer
P.E.Dormer
R.J.R.Fairbairn
W.R.T.Fairbairn
B.G.Hadlee
P.D.Harris

Committee

Founders plus:
D.C.Burrell
S.D.Gibson
P.E.McEwan
P.J.Nancarrow

Hon. Secretary

A.R.McRae
(P.O.Box 22 633,
Christchurch)

Hon. Treasurer

D.B.Bruce, B.Com

Team Selection

C.K.Baker
P.D.Harris
P.E.McEwan
W.J.Mitchell

Match Secretary

M.E.Dormer

Membership Secretaries

Mrs I.McRae
Mrs J.Whittington

Hon. Photographers

C.K.Baker
R.D.Hayward

Hon. Statisticians

P.D.Harris
W.J.Mitchell

Annual Report

R.J.Cowles
M.J.Ellis

Hon. Chaplain

Rev Fr B.G.Cummings, SM

Square Supervisor

V.B.Cusack

Groundsman

P.C.Devlin

Hon. Gardener

Mrs E.M.Edgar

MEMBERSHIP

The members roll at 31 March 2007 stood as follows:

Playing	235
Associate	220
Overseas	73
Junior	1
Honorary	44
<hr/>	
Total Membership	573

Playing Members

(Year of entry precedes name)

03 Abbott, R.E.	95 Cornelius, W.A.	98 Fulton, G.H.
06 Agnew, W.T.	94 Cowles, R.J.	95 Fulton, P.G.
05 Allen, R.S.	06 Cowlshaw, A.J.	98 Gallaway, G.N.
97 Allott, G.I.	98 Crean, G.T.	94 Gardner, J.
03 Ambler, K.R.	03 Cunis, S.J.	06 Garry, J.R.
05 Astle, A.M.	98 Cunliffe, J.J.	94 Gibson, S.D.
04 Astle, T.D.	94 Cusack, D. R.	03 Goldstein, M.P.
05 Barry, Mr V.E.	03 d'Auvergne, N.R.	96 Grocott, D.J.
05 Bartholomeusz, C.G.	98 d'Auvergne, P.G.	06 Hall, C.J.
05 Bayliss, R.T.	94 Davidson, A.F.	00 Hamel, M.J.
94 Bennett, J.	98 Davidson, J.A.F.	04 Hansen, T.
00 Bennetto, C.R.M.	94 Davis, S.J.	94 Hansen, J.W.
95 Bisman, C.W.	05 Deans, S.J.M.	The Hon. Mr. Justice
03 Blaikie, Dr D.J.O.	94 Devlin, P.C.	99 Hantz, J.L.
00 Blakely, J.E.	00 Diamanti, B. J.	00 Harding, S.C.
98 Bond, D.W.	06 Doig, L.J.	94 Harris, B.Z.
02 Bond, S.E.	95 Doody, B.J.K.	94 Harris, C.Z.
00 Boock, S.L.	00 Doody, H.A.	94 Harris, P.D.
97 Bremner, M.C.	00 Doody, T.J.	00 Hastilow, A.J.
03 Brook, B.P.	94 Dormer, P.E.	95 Hastings, M.B.
94 Bull, C.L.	05 Dowds, D.	01 Hawes, F.C.
94 Bull, J.C.	06 Duncan, P.M.	02 Hayward, R.E.
94 Burrell, A.E.	01 Dunnett, S.C.	05 Healy, N.
94 Burrell, D.C.	01 Eddington, W.L.	94 Hight, C.M.
94 Burrell, W.M.	01 Ellis, A.M.	00 Hiimi, B.C.
00 Burrows, D.L.	99 Ellis, A.M.	06 Hills, G.
94 Burson, R.D.	97 Ellis, M.J.	06 Horrell, A.H.
01 Burttt, L.McG.	05 Enoka, B.L.	06 Humphris, L.A.
01 Cameron, B.S.	0/ Fahey, B.J.	02 Hutchison, P.J.
00 Cameron, B.W.J.	03 Farrant, D.G.	94 Inglis, G.D.
03 Chambers, A.S.T.	06 Feary, T.W.	94 Innes, J.T.
99 Chisholm, D.H.	04 Fielding, M.D.	95 Irvine, B.S.
06 Clark, C.R.	06 Fisher, H.M.L.	97 James, C.D.
02 Clark, H.G.	99 Fisher, T.D.L.	05 Johns, A.M.
06 Coffey, S.T.	98 Flanagan, C.W.	01 Johnston, M.T.
99 Coll, J.P.	94 Flanagan, S.P.	06 Johnston, N.M.
03 Colvin, G.G.	02 Forde, L.J.	01 Johnstone, A.F.
94 Coop, T.A.	04 Fullerton-Smith, A.D.	06 Kain, M.O.
97 Cornelius, C.J.	00 Fulton, D.H.	03 Kench, J.B.

05 Koorey, R.K.	94 Mills, D.L.T.	02 Sawers, A.J.
97 Landon-Lane, M.E.	05 Moore, G.R.	06 Sawers, Mr S.J.
04 Langrope, S.L.	06 Morgan, R.	95 Scott, D.W.G.
94 Latham, R.T.	05 Muir, T.M.	05 Seabourn, C.R.
04 Lawson, W.G.	00 Nathu, A.	00 Shaw, H.J.
95 Leary, R.J.	03 Newell, M.L.M.	05 Shaw, M.
01 Leggat, J.E.	03 Newton, B.I.P.	05 Sheard, A.J.
01 Loe, H.F.	06 Nicholson, A.J.	06 Smit, M.
04 Lonsdale, W.M.	98 Nielsen, T.S.	99 Sowden, C.J.S.
01 Lucas, B.J.	03 Noster, F.R.	94 Sparks, L.C.
94 MacDonald, M.B.	94 Nuttall, A.J.	06 Spear, B.G.
01 MacLeod, A.L.L.	05 Nuttall, H.A.	94 Stead, D.W.
06 Malcolm, H.G.	06 O'Gorman, J.P.D.	94 Stevens, S. D.
03 Marsh, J.D.	04 O'Sullivan, R.P.	05 Stevenson, J.W.
94 Masefield, R.V.	00 Oughton, J.A.	05 Stone, B.W.
99 Masefield, T.J.	94 Owens, M.B.	01 Stone, C.J.
02 Maw, D.J.	98 Parr, M.J.	01 Stone, M.B.
98 Maw, P.A.C.	94 Pavey, H.T.	01 Stretch, G.B.
02 McCarthy, G.P.	94 Pawson, J.D.	04 Teulon, N.H.
99 McCarthy, H.R.M.	94 Pawson, S.J.	94 Thiele, C.H.
95 McCarthy, P.B.	02 Peacock, M.D.	99 Thompson, K.G.
05 McClean, M.J.	05 Pender, T.C.	94 Thomson, G.L.
05 McClean, T.M.	04 Pettet, C.M.	99 Thorn, L.D.A.
02 McCombie, A.	95 Pitcher, A.C.	00 Thornton, T.F.
05 McCone, R.J.	05 Pitcher, S.M.	99 Townrow, W.B.
05 McCord, B.E.W.	06 Polson, A.H.	04 Turner, T.J.H.
94 McEwan, P.E.	97 Priest, M.W.	03 Walker, R.L.
06 McFarlane, B.S.	06 Pullar, G.P.	06 Walsh, W.P.J.
95 McFedries, A.G.	00 Reardon, P.H.	95 Ward, J.
98 McFedries, S.E.M.	96 Reid, J.F.	94 Weeds, M.G.
02 McGoldrick, C.P.	02 Reid, R.B.	06 Wellington, B.
95 McGregor, J.R.	03 Rennell, C.P.	01 Wolt, J.R.K.
98 McGuire, R.D.	95 Roberts, S.J.	04 Wood, P.
04 McIntyre, B.S.M.	04 Robertson, C.D.	99 Wright, H.G.
94 McKenzie, M.N.	00 Robertson, I.A.	95 Wright, Dr M.J.W.
00 McMillan, D.H.A.	95 Rugg, P.J.	05 Wright, N.H.
95 McRae, A.R.	95 Rutledge, P.D.	94 Yardley, K.J.
02 McRae, J.A.	06 Ryan, P.D.	00 Yock, B.A.
95 Miller, G.A.	99 Satterthwaite, M.F.	06 Younghusband, P.F.
97 Miller, R.M.	94 Savill, C.M.	

Associate Members

06 Abbott, R.T.	94 Blair, K.R.	00 Cameron, D.J.
94 Aberhart, D.C.	95 Blake Fr P., SM	00 Cameron, H.C.
94 Adams, B.C.	94 Boyle, J.G.	97 Cameron, R.
06 Alabaster, G.D.	94 Bromley, G.R.	94 Cameron, F.J., MBE
94 Aldridge, B.L.	94 Bromley, R.C.	95 Campbell, A.I.
01 Allington, D.J.	94 Brooke, H.D.E., QSM	94 Campbell, Dr A.J.M.
94 Anderson, C.J.	95 Brooks, G.N.	04 Carter, R.
95 Anderson, C.W.	95 Brownlee, E.T., QSM	98 Cederman, R.W.
94 Austin, G.K.	95 Bruce, D.B.	06 Chatfield, E.J., MBE
94 Baker, C.K.	04 Buckenham, M.H.	00 Chisholm, L.
06 Bannan, G.J.	06 Bull, A.J.	The Hon Justice
03 Barnett, D.W.	96 Bunt, L.R.H.	94 Clark, L.A.
94 Bateman, S.N.	03 Burrett, W.G.	94 Clark, N.G.
03 Beer, G.D.	05 Burrows, Professor J., QC	01 Coates, N.F.
02 Billcliff, J.S.	99 Calder, B.	98 Compton, M.R.

99	Coney, J.V.	94	Guthrey, P.C.	01	Murray, B.A.
98	Cook, P.S.	94	Hadlee, B.G.	99	Nancarrow, P.J.
06	Cooper, M.L.S. The Hon Justice	94	Hadlee, D.R.	99	Nevin, J.H.
94	Cooper, R.T.	94	Hadlee, M.J.	98	Nixon, B.M.
04	Cosgrove, C.J.	95	Hamilton, B.G.	03	O'Donnell, P.M.
94	Cotton, B.J.	06	Harman, A.B.	95	Page, R.J.
94	Cottrell, H.C.	95	Harrison, R.J.	96	Parker, K.J.
95	Crocker, L.M.	94	Hastilow, J.W.	94	Parker, N.M.
94	Cunliffe, S.M.	94	Hastings, B.F.	94	Paton, G.C.J.
95	Cunneen, C.M.	04	Hayward, R.D.	99	Payton, D.H.
95	Cunneen, O.A.	99	Heslop, J.H.	98	Pearse, R.A.
97	Currie, D.S.	03	Hilgendorf, D.C.	06	Penlington, P.
04	Curtain, G.	94	Holderness, D.J.R His Honour Judge	94	Phillips, M.K.
97	Curtis, W.M.	02	Hooper, W.P.	95	Qested, D.M.
94	Cusack, V.B.	98	Howell, J.H.	99	Raphael, S.H.E.
95	Dalley, R.G.	95	Hudson, H.J.	01	Rattray, P.J.
94	Davidson, N.R.W., QC	95	Hudson, M.G.	04	Reid, D.W.
99	Deans, R.M.	95	Hughes-Johnson, A.C., QC	98	Robinson, L.M.C.
00	Dick, A.E.	94	Ikram, , Professor H.	00	Rodgers, P.J.
04	Dickey, G.E.	94	Innes, R.T.J.	03	Rowberry, J.M.
01	Dickson, I.B.	99	Irving, J.D.	94	Runacres, A.M.
94	Doig, J.R.	01	James, P.M.	01	Rust, K.N.
95	Doig, C.K., OBE	06	Jordan, P.H.	97	Scott, A.D.L.
94	Dolan, P.J.	94	Joyce, Professor P.R.	01	Shackleton, D.A.
94	Dowling, Br W.H.	98	Judson, R.E.	94	Shadbolt, C.H.
94	Dowling, G.T., OBE	99	Kerr, L.H.	95	Sharp, D.C.
94	Duncan, W. McK.	94	Keys, K.F.	95	Sharpe, M.F.
98	Durning, J.W.	01	Kroening, N.J.	00	Shiple, A.J.B.
05	Eaton, J.H.M.	94	Lancaster, M.J.	00	Shrimpton, M.
94	Ebert, R.J.	94	Lancaster, T.E.	95	Skipper, H.L.
01	Elley, J.C.	05	Langrope, Mr B.J.	95	Smith, G.B.
05	Evans, G.R.	03	Larkins, W.N.	94	Smith, M.J.
01	Eveleigh, R.S.	01	Lawson, R.A.	94	Smith, P.R.
04	Evennett, D.C.	95	Lennon G.P., ONZM	02	Snedden, M.C.
94	Fairbairn, C.J.R.	99	Lischner, J.A.	99	Sowden, R.J.S.
94	Fairbairn, R.J.R.	94	Loe, J.G.	94	Stead, G.R.
94	Fairbairn, W.R.T.	04	Macdonald, R.G.	95	Strack, D.J.
04	Felton, G.E.	94	MacDonald, Mrs D.	99	Taylor, B.J.
98	Fenton, W.R.	01	Malloch, B.E.	94	Ussher, C.P.
97	Fenwick, C.R.	06	Marriner, G.R.	94	Ussher, Dr J.E.
94	Fisher, M.A.	01	Martin, S.D.	01	Wadeson, C.
04	Fogarty, J.G. The Hon Justice	00	Martin, S.G.D.	94	Wait, E.P.
06	Fowler, H.M.	94	McCallum , Dr A.B.	00	Wake, R.W.
94	Fox, D.O.	03	McClean, L.R.	94	Wallace, P.E.
98	Frahm, R.J.F.	94	McCourtie , Mrs R.	01	Ward, K.A.
94	French-Wright, L.R.	94	McDonnell, K.M., JP	95	Watson, M.
97	Fuller, M.J.	05	McEwen, V.C.	95	Wells, G.R.
06	Gargiulo, F.J.	95	McFedries, B.G.	94	Whittington, Mrs J.A.
02	Garland, S.P.	06	McGoldrick, Mrs L.	97	Wiffen, A.G.C.
94	Germon, L. K.	95	McHarg, R.L.	94	Williams, P.R.
06	Goodall, F.R., ONZM, ED	94	McKechnie, B.J.	01	Wilson, W.R.
06	Goodman, J.H.	99	McKendry, D.J.	01	Wilson-Pyne, R.N.
01	Gourdie, A.J.	98	McKinlay, S.	95	Winnicott, A.G.
94	Graves, A.C.	98	McLisky, T.H.	06	Wraight, S.J.
06	Gray, E.	03	Miller, G.M.	97	Wright, J.G.
04	Grigor, I.M.	94	Mitchell, W.J.	02	Wright, M.J.E.
96	Grocott, J.W.	96	Morrison, B.D.	95	Wright, Sir Allan, KBE
00	Guillen, S.C.	99	Munn, R.W.	99	Wyllie, D.I.
		97	Murray, A.J.	03	Young, A.K.

Overseas Members

AUSTRALIA

02 Aitken, R.
05 Barrat, R.
06 Bouly, P.C.
95 Boyle, D.J.
98 Darke, M.
95 Davidson, A.K., AM, MBE
94 Douglass, W.B., ASM
94 Eastment, B.A.
05 Eddington, Sir Rod
94 Eldershaw, J.M.
02 Fairbairn, N.J.G
01 Fotheringham, B.
05 Harrison, A.
06 Havercroft, G.
00 Hensman, J.
06 Hodgson, T.L.P.
02 Holt, D.W.
06 Horsell, R.E.
97 Jones, B.S.
94 Macarthur Stanham, R.Q.
02 McQueen, D.
03 Mackrell, G.L.
02 Marshall, A.J.
02 McQueen, D.
01 Neaves, T.C.
01 Richards, S.
96 Rixon, S.J.

01 Rose, G.L.
94 Ryan, M.L.
03 Salmon, K.
98 Silver, M.J.
95 Smith, R.
06 Walls, K.A.
06 Wardwell, E.A.
94 Wiles, E.G.
02 Zavos, S.B.

ENGLAND

95 Bazalgette, C.
06 Betteridge, J.
98 Brierley, R.H.
03 Buckton, S.J.
98 Cumbes, J.
98 Dodds, V.
94 Dormer, B.L.
06 Goulding, M.
03 Hart, R.
94 Hatley, B.
94 Hutton, B.L.
94 Hutton, R.A.
94 Hutton, O.R.
03 Hyde, A.R.
06 Lander, C.
98 Logan, A.A.G.
98 Lorimer, A.A.

98 Marsden, W.
06 Mollitt, R.
94 Munn, R.G.
94 Openshaw, C.F.
06 Reid, H.
94 Roebuck, P.M.
96 Wardwell, E.A.
06 Wiles, E.G.
06 Smail, D.
06 Vallance, J.A.F.
05 Wheeler, N.

HONG KONG

01 Chandler, J.
06 Eanes, M.
06 Jones, Dr D.A.
03 McGrath, D.E.T.
00 Miles, R.
98 Stearns, N.
01 Walsh, M.

INDIA

01 Apte, A.

SOUTH AFRICA

04 Fox, P.J.

Junior Member

04 Sam McMillan

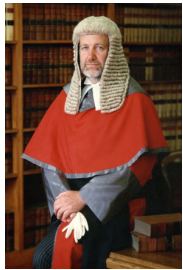
Honorary Members

94	Barber, R.T.	94	Hadlee, Sir Richard, MBE	06	Murray, Archdeacon W.R.C.
03	Blackett, Sir Hugh	96	Hadlee, The Venerable Archdeacon M.J.	01	Murray, B.A.G., QSO
99	Brierley, Sir Ronald	94	Hayes, J.A.	94	Neely, D.O., MBE
95	Burdon, Hon. Philip	98	Henderson, Mrs E.M.	02	O'Neill, J.A., AO
98	The Lord Butler of Brockwell, KG, GCB, CVO	04	Hunt, Rt Hon. Jonathan, ONZ	93	Pope, R.C.
04	Conway, R.W.	04	Johnson, Professor B.F.S.	99	Reid, J.R., OBE
06	Coward, M.J.	99	Johnston, P.	03	Rice, Sir Tim
94	Cummings, Rev Fr B.G., SM	99	Kerr, J.L., OM	03	Roberts, Major A.C., Salvation Army
94	Dormer, Mrs D.W.	03	Knight, R.D.V.	96	Rosser, Dr M.J.
94	Edgar, Mrs E.M.	03	Larsen, G.R.	03	Seay, A.
05	Evans, D.J.E.	95	Macfarlane, R.M.	03	Stoop, Dr G.C.
04	Farr-Jones, N.C., AM	06	Mauger, W.J.	05	Tyson, F.H.
03	Fry, C.A.	06	Millar, Major R.B., Salvation Army	98	Wallace, W.M., ONZM
95	Gallaway, Miss A.S.G.	04	Moses, R.J.	04	Wright, A.G.L.
94	Gallaway, I.W., QSO, MBE				
99	Graham, D.J., CBE				

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



“Willowers All,”



In the last season the club suffered its most significant loss in its short history. I refer, of course, to the passing of our Patron in Perpetuity Walter Hadlee. Elsewhere in this report there are appropriate tributes to Walter, but can I add my own. It was his approach to the spirit and

traditions of the game that inspired the original small founders group to realise the dream at Loburn. Walter was involved from the beginning, and gave freely of his time to support the club in all its endeavours. My favourite story is of Walter giving two young boys from Southland Boys' High School a ride home after a St Bedes' Dinner. Following a discussion in the car he proceeded to demonstrate batting technique to them on the footpath, no doubt enriching their cricketing and life knowledge. The club will not be the same for his passing.

On a happier note, I am delighted to welcome as a new honorary member our Governor-General, His Excellency the Honourable Anand Satyanand. The club is privileged that the Governor-General accepted our invitation. We hope that in the coming season we will be able to institute a game

between the Governor-General's Youth XI and The Willows XI comprising past New Zealand representatives.

Can I also pay tribute, and extend greetings, to our burgeoning overseas membership, including two directors of the Australian Cricket Board.

On the playing field the club won 13 and lost 13. I suspect that may be our worst season ever, and scrutiny on the score cards would suggest on many occasions our top order failed to fire. We will, of course, look to improvement in the coming season.

As always, the club was dependent on the voluntary hard work of many individuals to enable it to function so successfully. I am particularly grateful for the enormous amount of work done by Vincent Cusack and Peter Devlin on the square. But many others contribute, including the umpires, the scorers, our caterer and our resident barbequers. Many other club members have contributed time to toil under the directions of our founder in further improving our facilities. Although there are too many to name personally, they can rest assured that their efforts do not pass unnoticed. However, it would be remiss of me not to mention one member by name. On almost every Sunday during the season Peter Nancarrow can be found at the ground as match manager. He carries out that task with a wonderful attention to detail, and with constant good humour. His conduct of the after match functions is exemplary. Finally, I

am extremely grateful for the almost excessive labours of our founder and the assistance that I have received from all of the members of your very able committee.

We move towards the next season without the guiding hand of Walter, but buoyed with a number of new and significant members. The club remains as strong as ever, and the dedication to the true traditions and values of the game we love continue to flourish at our beautiful ground.

The club remains in good heart, and I know you are all ready and willing to face the challenges that the next cricket season will bring.

Hon Justice John Hansen
President

The Willows Foundation Trust

The Willows Foundation Trust has been formed and all assets of the club are vested in it. The intention is to create a fund to be managed and invested by the trust, with the purpose of securing sufficient returns to meet the annual running costs of the club in perpetuity. This will ensure that The Willows continues to do what it was founded to do.

Trustees are: Cran Bull, Solicitor and former Canterbury Captain; Barry Hadlee, Accountant and former Canterbury and New Zealand representative; Graham Dowling OBE, former Chief Executive of New Zealand Cricket and former Captain of Canterbury and New Zealand.

Contributions may be forwarded to the trustees:

The Willows Club
PO Box 22633
Christchurch



In Memoriam

Willowers who passed to the great pavilion in the sky this year:

Rt. Hon. Lord Robin Cooke of Thorndon,
ONZ, KBE, PC, QC, Wellington

Walter Hadlee, CBE OBE, Christchurch

Charles Luney, QSO, Christchurch

Married



Ryan and Sarah Burson on their Wedding Day, 5th January 2007.

Scholarship



Hamish Malcolm of Nelson College (pictured above with Sir Richard Hadlee) is currently on a cricketing scholarship in the UK supported by The Willows.



▲ Shirley Boys' High School 1st XI.



▲ Peninsula Craze XI.



▲ Timaru Boys' High School 1st XI.



▲ Christ's College 1st XI.



▲ Nelson College 1st XI.



▲ Wellington College 1st XI.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

There are many sports in which New Zealanders participate and there is also cricket. In my view cricket transcends all other team and individual sports in that it has features which do not exist to the same extent in any other sports. Cricket is both an individual and a team sport. Individual performances are of vital importance to the success of the game as is the team spirit and comradeship engendered within sides.

Friendships are created and developed within clubs and representative sides and also between those players who are opposed to each other on the field but develop a warmth of feeling through their mutual love of the game. While gamesmanship (and sledging) exists, the atmosphere in a cricket match is one of mutual respect and recognition of the skills of one's fellows and one's opponents. Congratulations to one's opponents on a good performance are much more prevalent than exists in any other sport.

Now The Willows. I first met Michael Dorner as a young man in 1954 out of Nelson College when he returned to his home town of Wellington and joined the Wellington College Old Boys' Cricket Club of which I was at the time Club Captain. The ranks of Wellington College Old Boys' have always been open to old boys of Nelson College, Wanganui Collegiate and Christ's College because of the long established sporting associations. Furthermore, Michael's father was an old boy of Wellington College and a strong supporter of the old boys' sports clubs. Michael and I played club cricket together over a period of time until he moved out of Wellington when our sporting contacts ceased. However, the personal friendship lasted. Some eight or nine years ago when visiting Christchurch, I spent an evening with Michael at the home of another mutual friend (and Willows cricketer) Trevor Barber, who was my contemporary at Wellington College. During that evening Michael told me of The Willows Club, how it had been formed and

its objectives. I was impressed immediately and joined the Club as an Associate Member on the spot.

Though not a frequent visitor to Christchurch, I always seem to manage a couple of visits each year which coincide either with a cricket match or some other function being run by the Club. A number of members of the Club have been known to me over many years, either through cricket or through other associations and I find the warmth and companionship to be just what I would expect from a group of such devoted people.

It has also been my privilege to provide some financial assistance to Club projects and to provide support for the Wellington College 1st XI in their periodic visits to play cricket or attend other functions.

Cricket is the king of sports and The Willows Cricket Club is a perfect embodiment of all that is great about the game.

Bob Pope
Old Boy of Wellington College



▲ The 'Walter Hadlee Entrance' to the ground.

Walter Hadlee

4 June 1915 ~ 29 September 2006

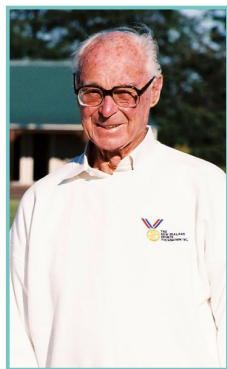
Our Patron in Perpetuity

As a twelve year old in 1949, Lord Robin Butler, former UK Cabinet Secretary, serving Margaret Thatcher, John Major and Tony Blair, wrote to Walter requesting his autograph, as a result of which he was invited to The Oval Test where he obtained the autographs of all the 49ers and was given a coaching lesson in the dressing room into the bargain. Some fifty years later Walter, after being reminded of this incident, wrote to Lord Butler who replied, "Dear Mr Hadlee, it was a great pleasure hearing from you and I shall always remember the courtesies which you extended to me as a young boy during your '49 tour..."

Christmas 1954, a Wellington colts side, under the captaincy of New Zealand Cricket President Don Neely, ventured south to play in the Brabin Tournament at Hagley Oval. Very hot nor'westers on six successive days did not deter Walter from visiting the oval to wander amongst the four teams – Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury and Otago – to provide advice and guidance in his quiet, unassuming manner whenever he thought appropriate.

In October 2005, 156 secondary school cricketers were at an evening function to hear the great English fast bowler Frank "Typhoon" Tyson speak.

After the function Barry Hadlee and his father gave two Southland Boys' High School cricketers a lift back to their billet at 10.30pm. When Barry stopped the car the boys got out and then Walter followed them.



And there, on the grass verge, under a street light, the former New Zealand captain, aged 90, gave an impromptu coaching lesson to these youngsters who, to their credit, subsequently wrote to Walter thanking him for the courtesies extended.

The above illustrates the intense passion which Walter displayed for the development of youth and youth cricket. Walter's passion, high standards, faith, etiquette, humility and respect for the traditions of the game of cricket were the corner stone on which The Willows was founded in 1994.

Walter was an elegant and graceful cricketer who captained his country and went on to become a selector of national teams. He was an extremely efficient and highly influential administrator who earned respect throughout the cricket playing world. Walter was always so eager to assist and inspire those under him that he became the doyen of New Zealand cricket.

Walter was a very successful accountant and company director in Christchurch for many years. He regularly proclaimed Jesus as being his mentor and inspiration throughout his lifetime, was kindly and generous in nature and was an active and committed member of the Methodist Church, The Salvation Army and the Christchurch Boys' High School Old Boys' Association.

The Willows acknowledges the huge contribution made to the Club by Walter and gives thanks to Lilla, Walter's wife and the five boys for allowing the Club to share Walter's life with them.

M.E.D.

Obituary

Walter Arnold Hadlee, CBE, OBE



Walter Hadlee achieved a wide experience of the practicalities of the game of cricket in the course of his remarkable career. Few men have held so many different cricket appointments. As a player and administrator, he saw at first hand, every aspect of the game. The only people with a comparable similar record in world cricket would be Sir George (Gubby) Allen, England and Sir Donald Bradman, Australia. His sphere of action extended to the widest boundaries of the cricket-playing world. During his career New Zealand cricket emerged from adolescence to maturity.

Walter was on the Cricket Council's Management Committee, (later, the Board of Control) for 34 years. He was Chairman of the Board of Control, 1973–78, President of New Zealand Cricket, 1981–83, a New Zealand selector for eight seasons and Manager of the New Zealand touring side in 1965.

From his earliest days, Walter was keen on sport, and his finest recollections of being taken to his 'home away from home', Lancaster Park, was when he was eight and he rode on the bar of his father's bicycle to see a club rugby match. The first time he played on the ground was when Waltham Primary School played the curtain raiser to the 1926 Ranfurly Shield match between Canterbury and Hawke's Bay.

New Zealand cricket was indebted for the first time to young Hadlee. Two months short of his 15th birthday he took his scorebook to the park and in his neat, meticulous handwriting, scored every ball of New Zealand's first test match, against England in 1930. Two weeks later, he repeated the effort at the Basin Reserve. As the

official score books have disappeared over the years, Walter's is the only record of these historic occasions.

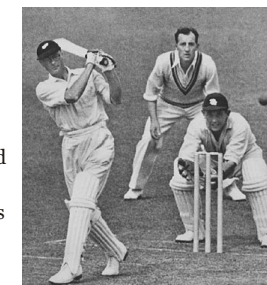
He played the first of his 43 first-class games for Canterbury at Lancaster Park at Christmas, 1933. Aged 18 he was superbly fit, had an elegant style and played shots all round the wicket. He was very nimble on his feet and was not afraid to advance well down the wicket to attack slow bowlers. Spectators commented about his speed between the wickets, and his splendid returns from the deep field.

He was eager to gain selection for the New Zealand team to tour England in 1937. After failing against Auckland he was surprisingly asked to open the batting against Wellington on New Year's Day, 1937. In four hours he scored 192 not out to ensure his selection. It was the turning point in his life as he met his future wife, Lilla on board the ship taking the team to England.

The tour of England was a dream come true for a young man, who was well versed in England cricket history, having had access to the private library of Arthur Donnelly, from

1932. At the start of the tour he was overly defensive, but by the second test at Manchester he had rediscovered his attacking instincts, and with his side perilously positioned at 119 for 5 he rose to the occasion, and, attacking the bowling, scored 93 out of 137 in 135 minutes. It was a skilful and courageous performance.

In 1938 Walter played at centre for Canterbury in a Ranfurly Shield game against Otago. Owing to World War II, little sport was played in the next six years. A growing family and a position as





◀ **Walter at the NZ Cricket Council 75th Anniversary Dinner, 1969.**

branch secretary for a large retail company DIC in Dunedin, saw Walter playing for Otago when peace was restored. In March 1946 he scored 198 in Otago's second innings of 347 against Australia, whose attack included the pace and ferocity of Ray Lindwall, and the quick leg spinners of Bill O'Reilly. The following season, as captain of New Zealand he and Bert Sutcliffe put on 133 for the first wicket against England and Walter completed his only test century in 130 minutes. Seven months later he accepted a partnership in the accountancy firm of Pickles and Perkins and returned to Christchurch, where he lived for the rest of his life.

Every so often a sports team emerges, sometimes totally unexpected, that by their deeds in their sport, achieve success that captivates a country and elevates the team into the hearts of the nation. Such a team was the fourth New Zealand team to tour England in 1949, led by Walter Hadlee and yet it did not win a test. They drew the four tests, and only lost one of the 32 first-class games. They played cricket with the highest standards of sportsmanship and good humour. They captured all the elements of cricket; style, grace, elegance, stamina, courage and kinship. They established, the international credibility and acceptance of New Zealand Cricket, just as the 1905 All Blacks had done for rugby.

Leading English cricket writer R.C. Robertson Glasgow wrote, "Hadlee must rank among the great captains. He has proved himself a tactician, not inferior to the illustrious Bradman and New Zealand cricket has drawn strength from his leadership. Character is his rich gift; but also his brain."

Walter led an extremely active life outside of cricket. As a Chartered Accountant he served as a director of at least 10 businesses based in Christchurch. He delighted in his garden, roses around the house and a never-ending array of vegetables. Lawn bowls captivated him. His circle of friends was considerable and his number of acquaintances, vast. Everyone enjoyed his quirky sense of humour, and all delighted in receiving his handwritten correspondence.

He maintained an interest in the young, which saw him serve as a Trustee of the National Youth Choir, a member of the Salvation Army Christchurch Advisory Board and be the Patron in Perpetuity of the Willows Cricket Club, whose objectives are to encourage secondary schools cricket.

Shortly after his 80th birthday in 1995 a new grandstand was opened at the northern end of Lancaster Park, named the Hadlee Stand.

A man of strong Christian beliefs, Walter Hadlee was most proud of his wife, their five sons and their families. Throughout his life he had the ability to transcend class and status and treat every woman, man and child with dignity and respect.

D.O. Neely

President, New Zealand Cricket

"Life is simply a cricket match, with temptation as the bowler."

— Anon

Eulogy

Eulogy delivered by Martin Hadlee at the memorial service held in the Christchurch Boys' High School assembly for Walter Hadlee.

Hi there,

I'm Martin, son Number 2.

Dad and I used to quip a lot that Dad was getting more like me every day!

In fact, if there were only so many peas in the pod in terms of inherited genes, I not only got the full pod, I got the whole crop!

There are many many stories I could recount of how Dad imparted lessons in life, but my favourite is the situation I found myself in, well over 50 years ago when Dad thought that son No. 2's education could be considerably improved by sending me to the YMCA youth camp over at Wainui for a week during the school holidays. So, on the Saturday, as an 8 year old, off I went armed with sleeping bag, a case of spare clothes, sun hat, Bible and 5 shillings (compromising two shiny half crowns) for spending money, loitering in my pocket.

On arrival, after a long bus trip over the hill, it became quite clear that, apart from finding a hut to sleep in, the tuck shop would be a key provider of sweets and supplies for midnight feasts. So it was, by Tuesday, my five shillings had been spent and I was in hock to my young colleagues in the hut to the extent of many large bags of sweets! This was very embarrassing but, on the Wednesday, I was allowed one toll call home and in my best pleading and a somewhat quaking voice, I asked Dad for another 5 shillings to be urgently sent (by bus) to cover the situation for the remainder of the week.

He quietly ignored all of my pleas and asked repeatedly "if I had read my Bible?" I couldn't

see what this had to do with the situation at all! The five shillings obviously wasn't coming and I was very upset for the remainder of the week as I suffered a sugar deficiency and I had to do extra duties for my hut sharers to pay off my debt.

I arrived home on the Saturday night and Dad queried whether I had had a good time and whether I had learned "anything". I said I had learned a "bit", but the extra pocket money hadn't arrived and would have helped no end. He said that I obviously hadn't been reading my Bible, as instructed. I could hardly argue as he then opened my Bible and between the Old and New Testament revealed a folded 10 shilling note (new, but unused!).

This provided several lessons for me:

- That, I guess, a 39 year old father probably knows more than an 8 year old, and parents can often possess some wisdom in simple situations!
- Dad's philosophy was always to be prepared, to understand and anticipate potential situations with impeccable reasoning and craftiness.
- It often pays to have reserves, and back up of twice what you think you need, and
- That reading your Bible sometimes brings rewards!

So, it is great to reflect at this time on how Dad (often with the small things), had such an impact on our lives and mine in particular, and it is a privilege to be the second pea in the pod.

"I cannot for the life of me see why the umpires, the only two people on a cricket field who are not going to get grass stains on their knees, are the only two people allowed to wear dark trousers."

— Katharine Whitehorn

My Introduction to Walter Hadlee



From the Editor's Diary

Southern Highlands Newsletter
New South Wales, Australia

By Rodney Cavalier

When the teams came onto Eden Park representing the best of New Zealand and the West Indies last month, they were celebrating a famous victory by New Zealand on this same ground 50 years earlier. Cricketers from both countries had gathered for the celebration. The NZ Cricket Board made the anniversary cause for reunion for everyone who had worn NZ's colours between 1929 and 1972. A barbecue at a private home was informal. Knowing next to no one and mightily concerned about how the Canterbury Crusaders were faring, your Editor tuned into Fox. A small number watched the television with me. Many were on the older side. Your Editor was helping these men onto and off the low-slung lounges throughout the game, not because I am especially noble, I was there and no else could do it. The oldest expressed his thanks each time for my thoughtfulness. Which spoke more of his graciousness.

The night following we gathered at a swish habourside restaurant. I went to an unoccupied table at the rear. The grateful old man of the night previous elected to sit next to me, if that was all right. Conversation developed, his mind was first class, so was his diction. Soon I was hearing a tale of this man watching the first Test in which New Zealand played. Back in 1929. He was a 14-year-old so intense in his pleasure that he kept score in an official scorebook. That book is now housed in the NZ Cricket Museum. A man opposite, who has played Tests for both NZ and the Windies, asked if I love cricket. I do. You more than like it? I do. That's very important says he, and proceeds to send down a sharply

rising delivery designed to test if this is hot air. The question is: the game is two deliveries old, both deliveries were legitimate, the score is 8, both batsmen are 4; how come? When I supply the answer by way of a deducing from a knowledge of the Laws of Cricket, I am in.

As is my wont, I circulated the menu for the signatures of everyone at the table. The old man was rather taken with this gambit, asked me to sign his and move it along. The surname intrigued him, he asked for a spelling, then wrote it himself. The menu passed to the right. The old man was the last to sign. Signed with great deliberation and a curl beneath. I looked at that last signature, I looked again. It was one of those moments which, you know of the instant, you have entered a time and place you thought was fantasy. Can these letters mean what they say? Ever so discreetly, I asked the man on my right: is that Walter Hadlee on my left? He checks (unnecessarily) oh yes. Walter Hadlee is a legendary figure in NZ cricket. Age 91, Walter captained his country, was chairman of selectors, a board member for 34 years including a stint as chairman. This man sired five sons, two played Test cricket for New Zealand, a third played in the World Cup. As a boy he stood on his bike's handlebars to see over the fence into games, he was there at the first ever NZ Test, he was reading what he could on the game. At a bookshop where he bought a stock of cricket books, his interest came to the attention of Sir Arthur Donnelly, a leading barrister and chairman of NZ Cricket Council. Donnelly left a note for the boy to call on him. The boy did. Donnelly invited him to make use of his cricket library.

Here was a lad with a rare passion for the greatest of games. To learn its history, he set about copying the scorecards of all of the Tests ever played until then, 177 of them, innings by innings, bowling analysis, umpires, results. The boy was learning his core facts on the history of Test cricket by a means of learning then in vogue

still in vogue at Fort Street pre-Wyndham in the 1960s of harnessing the physical exertion involved in pushing a pen. Its virtue is its laboriousness the out of the ordinary will leap at the penman, his mind will go down byways and highways that otherwise required presence or involvement.

Such tales of passion for a game usually end differently to this one. The lad blessed with a deep reverence is not gifted, not to the extent that will earn him his country's colours. He will witness lads of uncommon talent, undisturbed by reverence for the game or its traditions, go onto the highest honours and not even care. That

was not the fate of Walter Hadlee. He was good enough to play for his club and his province, to play for his country and to lead it. And he was blessed many times over through his children. His fourth boy, Richard, had the skills to take 500 Test wickets, to be remembered as one of the greatest cricketers of all time. Did you teach the boys? How to do things, Walter replied, the right grip that sort of thing. Was it obvious Richard was talented? You know he broke 32 panes of glass over the years but we coped. I walked Walter back to his hotel, through a sea of youth and buskers and noise. He declined a taxi. This was a long and wonderful evening.

Memorial Service for Walter Hadlee at The Willows – Sunday, 8 October 2006



▲ Rev Fr Brian Cummings addressing the gathering.



▲ Cran Bull, former head prefect of Christchurch Boys' High School, giving the eulogy.



▲ Major Bob Millar, Salvation Army, reading the lesson.



Biennial Dinner at the Showgate Lounge

An entertaining evening was held on the 18th August in the Showgate Lounge at Riccarton Racecourse to celebrate 12 seasons of youth cricket at Loburn.

Malcolm Ellis, the Executive Director of the Canterbury Law Society and Sports Radio Host, presided as Master of Ceremonies ably supported by Thomas Fisher, former Christ's College 1st XI, Grace: Shaun Coffey, St Andrew's College, Loyal Toast: Henry Nuttall, Christchurch Boys' High School, Introduction of Guest Speaker: Christopher Bartholomeusz, St Bede's College, Vote of Thanks: and Sam Deans, Christ's College, Toast to Cricket.

Two hundred and five guests arrived to the bright music provided by the Burnside High School Big Band.

A three course meal was followed by a very entertaining address by Mike Coward, a senior freelance journalist and one of Australia's most experienced and travelled cricket writers and commentators, having covered the game of cricket throughout the world for leading newspapers and magazines since 1972. Mike's message during the evening, combined with some impersonation of John Arlott, was acknowledged as being one of the finest presentations the Club has been privileged to hear.

During the course of the evening guests were able to mingle, to meet old friends and to reminisce over times gone by.

Prior to the conclusion of the evening, several speakers acknowledged the quality of the grounds at Loburn and in order to mark the occasion, the President Hon. Mr Justice Hansen, presented a silver tray to the assistant groundsman.

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Introduced by Henry Nuttall
Christchurch Boys' High School 1st XI

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, it is my privilege to introduce you all tonight to Mr Mike Coward.

Mr Mike Coward is a senior freelance journalist and one of Australia's most experienced and travelled cricket writers and commentators having covered the game throughout the world for leading newspapers and magazines since 1972. Formerly the chief cricket writer for The Sydney Morning Herald, The Advertiser, Adelaide and a senior sports writer with The Age, Melbourne he has also broadcast the game for radio and television. He is an experienced public speaker and compère who has written, ghosted or edited nine books on cricket and Australian football.

Two of his books, Cricket Beyond the Bazaar and Australia versus the New South Africa won the Australian Cricket Society Literary award. His latest book Rookies, Rebels, Renaissance accompanied a television documentary of the same name examining Australian cricket in the 1980s. This was a follow-up to earlier documentaries including the Chappell Years, The Invincibles and Calypso Summer. In recent months he has worked on three more documentaries which will go to air in the coming weeks a celebration of Australian cricket in the 1950s and 1960s and the first in-depth examination of the phenomenal tied Test between Australia and India in Chennai in 1986. A regular contributor to newspapers and magazines throughout the cricket world, Mike has been the cricket commentator for The Australian newspaper since 1992.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr Mike Coward.

Toast to Cricket

Sam Deans
Christ's College 1st XI

I would like to propose a toast to the game of cricket. As young cricketers we are grateful to those players who have played before us and we respect and appreciate the traditions they have put in place for us.

It is because of these men that the young cricketers of today have been inspired to continue and enjoy the great traditions of the game of cricket.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please charge your glasses and stand to give a toast to cricket.

TO CRICKET!



▲ The judiciary hedging their bets with the clergy: Judge Penlington, Judge Chisolm, Judge Hansen, Archdeacon Mike Hawke, Major Campbell Roberts (Salvation Army), Mike Coward, Rev Fr Cummings and Judge Cooper.



▲ Malcolm Ellis, the very competent MC.



▲ Barry Hadlee in full flight during the evening.



▲ Elsa Edgar, honorary gardener to The Willows.



▲ Mike Coward, our most interesting guest speaker.

Spirituality imitating cricket?

By Rev Fr Brian Cummings, SM
Hon Chaplain to The Willows

A few years ago I spent 10 months in Canada studying spirituality. A central part of the course was taking part in a 30 day, silent retreat and then learning how to take others through the process.

The programme might not appear to have a great deal of relevance to my role as Chaplain of The Willows but there were a number of cricketing links (unlikely as it may seem). The person who ran the course was a Jesuit priest whose father was a former West Indian fast bowler and another of my fellow participants was a member at the MCG (decidedly handy for a visitor to Melbourne!). And, it could be argued, a 30 day retreat is the spiritual equivalent of a Test match.

So, was it a case of spirituality imitating cricket or vice versa?

You could argue either way but the point is that there is something in cricket (more, I'd suggest, than in other sports) that goes beyond the actual game. And drawing that out and making the connection between cricket and life is one of the challenges that The Willows faces.

The Willows doesn't exist simply to make school 1st XI members better players. It does indeed achieve that for many by virtue of their exposure to playing against top quality cricketers. But important as that is, there's more to the club than that.

The Willows aims to make 1st XI members better cricketers players who are not only technically good but who understand and appreciate the values of the game. Values such as courage, perseverance, integrity, team spirit, loyalty and humility.



The challenge for The Willows is to constantly seek ways in which 1st XI members can be encouraged to use in their lives what they have learnt about values. In other words, to be not only people who "play cricket" but who are "cricketers" in the sense that they live by and show these values in their daily lives and not only when they actually play the game.

The Willows has made a huge contribution to cricket in its relatively brief history. It also has established a basis upon which to take the next step and actively encourage 1st XI members not only to be better players but to be better people within and for the good of society.

Just how we as a club do that is the challenge. The answer is probably not to send everyone on a 30 day silent retreat but it does lie in finding ways of helping 1st XI members see that the way they play the game is intimately linked to the way they will approach life.

What's in it for the bowler?

As I write the World Cup's going on. No one's sure whether Bob Woolmer died or was killed, whether the Pakistanis lost their game against Ireland or threw it, or whether England will lose to Australia embarrassingly or very embarrassingly. The only certainty is that the whole tournament has been and will continue to be rigged in favour of the batsman.

The ICC regards the cricketing public in the same way as Hollywood regards the viewing public. They see them as cretins. Hollywood thinks its audience wants an endless succession of bigger bangs, more spectacular car chases and unlimited special effects. The ICC thinks cricket lovers want to see only sixes. Anything short of a smashalong will not draw the crowds.

Hence the huge bats, the plumb tracks and grounds the size of matchboxes. The intention is to make 50-over cricket resemble 20/20. But 20/20 is barely cricket. It is plain dull. And it is plain dull because the bowler doesn't matter any more.

The only rule that has been adapted to favour bowlers is the chucking rule. And that does not favour bowlers. It favours chuckers. Any cricketer can spot a chucker from the boundary. Murali is a chucker. If he wasn't he couldn't bowl the doosra. The 15% flexion rule is just a licence to let the cheats cheat. If I was just starting in the game I'd teach myself to chuck.

All other rules are stacked against the bowler, especially the slow bowler. For example, if an off-spinner turns one sharply from off-stump and it brushes past the batsman's thigh, it's a wide. If he draws a batsman down the pitch, floats it wide of him and beats him, it's a wide. Why? These skills are legitimate parts of the tweaker's armoury. And if a spinner wants to post boundary catchers in the first 20 overs, he may not. Why not? Is a catch on

the boundary less valid a dismissal than a cartwheeled stump?

Worst of all is the limit on the number of overs a bowler may deliver. Batsmen are not required to retire at fifty. Yet bowlers have to stop after ten overs. Why? I see no reason for the rule at all and never have. If you have a bowler capable of delivering 25 overs in a row you should be free to bowl him for 25 overs in a row. The risk that he might be collared would be yours to take. And the more often he bowled 25 consecutive overs the greater the likelihood that he would be collared.

The present rule deprives the crowd of watching great bowlers parade their talents to the full. It also means that the best bowlers can just be seen off by defensive play, rather than the batsman being obliged to take them on. The effect is to partially castrate the sides with the best bowlers. The rule skews the game yet further in favour of the batsman. It is unfair and unnecessary and should be removed, except at the Willows, because otherwise Andrew Nuttall would bowl all day.

Joe Bennett



▲ Twenty20 smashalongs aren't helping bowlers

The Spirit of Cricket

By Mike Coward

Cricket Commentator for *The Australian*

In quieter and gentler times there was no need for the game's governors to prescribe what is meant by the "spirit of cricket". If you were breastfed on the glorious game you knew. It was innate.

For better or worse these are different times and the Spirit of Cricket is now the preamble to the Laws of Cricket. Like most things nowadays it is spelt out. Not so much is spontaneously shared; there's no time, apparently.

These may be more complicated and abrasive times but if you look hard enough you can still find those precious moments which reassure and gladden the heart.

During play on the third day of the final Ashes Test in Sydney in January 2007, England opening batsman Andrew Strauss collapsed under the impact of a fearful blow to his helmet from Brett Lee, one of the world's fastest and most competitive bowlers.

It was one of those moments that make an observer's heart skip a beat. From afar it seemed Strauss was seriously hurt. Instantly, one of those disquieting silences known to all sports and sports followers befell the ground. Those who knew their cricket history gasped and found themselves thinking about, among others, Nari Contractor, Ewen Chatfield, Rick Darling and Rick McCosker distinguished cricketers who had been badly scarred but recovered from dreadful blows to the head in international matches.

As Strauss collapsed the Australians instinctively ran to his assistance. And it was Lee who led the charge. Given the hard-nosed Australians had been so vengeful throughout the series in their quest for a rare and historic whitewash, it was a gesture demanding examination.

Ashes cricket has always been more combative and emotionally-charged than any other contest and although some Trans-Tasman stoushes over the years have come close to matching this intensity. Often relationships between these oldest of adversaries have been strained to breaking point.

But clearly there are limits and for all the combativeness and sledging that characterises modern Ashes cricket, there is mutual regard and respect among the protagonists.

For all his aggression as a bowler and innate competitiveness, Lee is one of the most personable, undemanding, thoughtful and highly principled men in the game.

As it happens Lee and Strauss once played club cricket together at Mosman in Sydney and enjoy a warm friendship. Indeed, earlier in the Ashes summer Strauss spoke eloquently of the mixed emotions of playing against a friend in the rarefied theatre that is Test cricket.

Lee's first thought was to his mate and he was first to reach Strauss who had been knocked senseless by the wicked delivery.

The game's authorities have been at pains in recent years to highlight the importance of the spirit of the game and point to cricket's many traditional values and virtues.

To illustrate their point they may now chose to refer to the photograph of Lee crouching alongside Strauss and signalling to the rooms that his pal needed immediate care.

Perhaps, in time, this image could become as familiar as that wonderful picture of Lee being consoled by the redoubtable England all-rounder and sometime captain Andrew Flintoff after the epic Ashes encounter which saw the home team win by two runs at Edgbaston, Birmingham in 2005. For those who feared that the spirit and conventions of Test cricket had been abandoned to the naked opportunism of the self-absorbed

professional player, this was another reassuring, indeed comforting moment.

The drama surrounding Strauss, who, thankfully, was not seriously injured and was able to resume his innings, especially resonated with his enigmatic team-mate Steve Harmison.

It was fascinating to learn during the summer that Harmison is still troubled by the fact he showed so little demonstrable concern when he drew blood from Australian captain Ricky Ponting during the first Test match at Lord's in 2005.

The photograph of a bleeding Ponting waving to the dressing room for assistance is one of the most telling of that unforgettable series.

While Harmison does not lose sleep over the incident, he has admitted on a number of occasions he regrets his first action was not to go to Ponting. At that time the England coach Duncan Fletcher had directed the England players to keep their distance from the Australians in order to gain some psychological advantage.

Predictably enough Ponting said he did not expect any sympathy from Harmison and was not in the slightest put out that the big fast bowler did not commiserate with him. Ponting is from that tough Mowbray, Launceston school in Tasmania that gives no quarter and asks for none. And that's before he leaves the dressing room!

To this end it was interesting that next to Lee, Ponting was quickest to Strauss' aid.

Of course, the more cynical will point out that sympathy is far more likely to be expressed by a team on the verge of a whitewash than by one endeavouring to make a point at the start of a series.

Be that as it may, in all conscience the Australians could not have turned their back on Strauss and their response provided a fine moment and one that in time may be seen as enhancing the richness of the Ashes tradition and camaraderie.



▲ Justice Hansen getting into shape in the nets.



▲ Andrew Nuttall as always very accurate.



▲ A white Willows – July 2006.



By Nook Ebert, NZCUA Board

An umpire's lot is a pleasant one when we stand at The Willows. It is a wonderful experience to encounter the game of cricket played with all the traditional values and ethics of the way it used to be. We are always warmly welcomed and introduced to all and sundry and feel like an important part of the cricketing family.

The Willows' objective is to encourage players in secondary school first elevens to play with and against experienced players and to offer quality cricket in a country atmosphere, where families come to watch and picnic. We are proud to be included in this endeavour and trust that our participation has added value to The Willows' objective.

The Willows Cricket Club is an outstanding sponsor of Canterbury Umpires and we undertake to provide umpires each Sunday and this is now expanding to include some mid-week matches. We appreciate the opportunity for all of our umpires to contribute to what is always a very good day's cricket in an atmosphere and ground that befits the occasion. We use new umpires, the regular group, visiting umpires and recycle some of the retired group at times. The comments from visiting umpires are a great compliment as they do not encounter this anywhere else.

The game generally has changed and we quite often wonder if we are umpiring a cricket match or standing on a softball diamond. The chatter is intense, especially at the start of an innings, but as the innings progresses, a bit of normality develops.

Our most difficult activity is recruitment to bolster our ranks with the experienced cricketer being the most elusive. Perhaps experience teaches the difficulty of umpiring. Retention is now becoming a problem and there are many reasons for this. Among these is the NZC policy of fast tracking first class and international cricketers into their panels and some people see this as a deterrent to career umpires. The answer really is that if you are good enough you can still progress to the first class panel but the path is more difficult.

Umpires are generally ordinary honest people who are trying to contribute to this wonderful game of cricket. The old adage that we must start off perfect and get better still exists and it is disappointing when our view and decision on one ball in six hundred or so can upset so many people's day. The players can make mistakes all day and that is accepted as part of the game but the umpires do not seem to have that latitude.



"The pitch seems a long way from the pavilion these days."

"The Captain's Lot"

By the summer of 1935-36, the great NSW team of the early '30s was starting to break up. Alan Kippax had retired and Don Bradman had accepted an offer to work in Adelaide with a stockbroker and play cricket for South Australia. It was a deal to put him into the superstar class that is now so much a part of modern sport.

The Australian team had taken off for South Africa with a good section of the NSW team in it, among them Stan McCabe, who in absence of Kippax and Bradman would surely have taken over as NSW captain. With the natural line of succession well and truly broken, the captaincy fell to me, and when McCabe returned, his health under something of a cloud, it stayed with me. It was tremendous honour. I enjoyed captaincy and felt it was something for which I had a reasonable talent. The experiences of my school days and my early Shield cricket in which I was always a boy amongst the men, had sharpened my appreciation of how young men responded. Unfortunately I was never convinced, and nor I suspect were many others, that my form as a batsman and bowler in those years ever kept pace with my bent for captaincy. Still, it was a rich experience, and the ultimate springboard to my career in radio.

An enormous influence in my days as NSW cricket captain again was the wise counsel of the former Australian skipper M A Noble, who had taken such an interest in my school career. I doubt a match ever passed, certainly never one in Sydney, that I did not go to him and seek his ideas. To me he was a cricketing oracle, a fountain of knowledge at which I often slaked an enormous thirst. He helped me in many ways, but easily the most spectacular and most satisfying success we had was in trying to cope with the marvellous talents of Bradman.

Our first encounter with Bradman as a rival, rather than a team-mate, was in Adelaide, and it

finished up very much round one to Bradman. I had injured my back in the piece, and was confined to bed in the hotel, trussed up like a Christmas turkey. The local doctor had strapped me right around the upper body, with both arms tied to my torso so the only movement I had was from the elbows down. The pain in my back did not quite match the pain in my spirit as I listened to the radio and heard our wickets falling. We had managed 300 or so in pursuit of South Australia's 575. It became obvious we were looking at a follow-on, and the boys needed all the help they could get.

I dressed as best I could. I managed to pull on some trousers and shoes, and tossed an overcoat over my pyjama top. The boys at the ground got me into my playing gear and padded me up, and by the time I was required to bat we were only 24 runs short of the total we needed to stave off the follow-on.

It was a weird experience to bat like that, with my arms strapped to my side, but I could still play a straight defensive bat and, hopefully, my partner could pick up the few runs we needed. The straight bat worked alright against the fast-bowler Tim Wall, but the slow man Frank Ward proved more of a problem. I hadn't been there long when Bradman, who had assumed the captaincy of South Australia, walked over to Ward. I had no way of knowing what he said, of course, but Ward came on to bowl immediately and his first ball was a shoulder-high full toss. Unable to get my bat up to it, I had no way of handling that sort of ball. It fell on my stumps and we had to bat again.

Bradman came under some criticism for that delivery. Some looked upon it as a little bit tough to take advantage of my injury in that way.

I didn't see it like that. It was hardly Bradman's fault that I was injured, and he did nothing more than respond as a captain should, trying to get the best result for his team. After the day's play, I felt obliged to tell him so. He was very gracious

about it all, but his switch from NSW to South Australia had obviously sharpened his competitive edge when it came to playing against NSW. It was a bit like those tennis matches of a year or two before, when winning was everything.

'Mac,' he said, with that same determined look in his eye. 'When I get to the Sydney Cricket Ground I'm going to score more runs than I have in any match this season.'

Well, I was well aware he had scored 300-plus in a game earlier that year, and his promise embodied some fairly uncomfortable prospects for us. 'I came up to congratulate you for winning this game,' I retorted, 'but I'll say this. If you're going to score 300 runs on the SCG, you'll be doing a lot of running.'

The exchange certainly inspired in me a new spur for the return game, which I brought up in conversation with Monty Noble. A plan was hatched. Since Bradman's form that season included scores of 117, 233 and 357, we knew it had to be a pretty good plan, to say the least.

Analysing the strengths and weaknesses of cricketers is a captain's job. There is always something to be attacked, some little flaw that offers a glimmer of hope even with the most accomplished players. In Bradman's case, finding a weakness was like finding the lost city of Atlantis. I doubt one really existed.

As Noble and I tried to work out what we might attack, all we could do was analyse his modus operandi, and hope that we could in some way take advantage of a pattern.

The best we could come up with was a feeling that Bradman was an uncertain starter. Uncertain, at least, when compared with the majesty of his batting in full flourish. I believed he always liked to get off the mark with a shot around square leg, or slightly behind it, so reasoned we would feed that shot and try to

tighten it a touch for him. But we knew we had to get him before he was ten, or we were gone.

The NSW team of that year had a fairly useful inswing bowler in Bob Hynes. He was the mainspring of our plan. We put a man at fine leg slip, and I parked myself virtually on Bradman's bat, just a yard or so away at short square leg. I knew I had no hope of catching him there, but our object was to force him to play the shot a little more finely than he normally would, and hope that the ball would do enough to give us a chance of a catch at leg slip. Hynes' first ball was a screamer, which ripped through the Bradman defence that had so thwarted the world's bowlers and caught him on the pads, dead in front.

Up went the appeal. 'Not out' came the response. Hynes was distraught. 'Mac, he was out!' he pleaded as he came back for the next delivery. Inclined as I was to offer enthusiastic agreement, I could do little else but try to keep his mind on the job. 'Remember what we planned' I said. 'Forget the last ball, work on the next.'

Down Hynes came again. Bradman shaped to flick him away as we had thought, the ball kicked on him and flew to the fine leg slip, and the mighty man was gone. It was an eerie feeling. You can make a thousand plans on the cricket field and have none of them work. And here we had Bradman for nought, according to a scenario almost identical to that worked out in Monty Noble's office.

'Well, we can dream about that 300,' I said to Bradman as he headed for the pavilion. It was a fairly cheeky thing to say, and it did me no great credit. The eyes burned back at me. At the right moment those Bradman eyes carried as much power as any of his flourishing cover drives.

Not everybody shared our team's joy at Bradman's dismissal. As I left the field I was accosted by a mountain of a man who grabbed me by the shoulders and hoisted me off the ground as though I were a bag of chaff.

'I came 350 miles to see this man bat,' he complained. 'And he's out for a duck. I'll curse you lot with every turn of the wheel on the way home.'

I could offer little more comfort to him than a feeble 'sorry' and headed for the safety of the dressing room as fast as I could get there.

I felt compelled to go to Bradman and ease my conscience over what I had said to him as he left the field.

'I'm not sorry for getting you out,' I began. 'But I am sorry for what I said out there. It was not very gentlemanly, and uncalled for.' I meant it, and I'm sure Bradman knew I meant it. That little smile that says 'You're in trouble, sonny,' creased his face. 'There's always a second innings, you know' came his retort. I never had any doubt that Bradman would have scored a mountain of runs in the second innings. He believed NSW people considered him washed up, a rather curious judgment when you look at his record over the next twelve years, and he had a passionate desire to succeed spectacularly on the SCG to make his point.

Unfortunately, King George V died that day, the match was abandoned, and we escaped his retribution.

All up, I had four seasons in the NSW team, the last two of them as captain. It was, of course, a rich experience to play with and against many players whose names live on today, such as their greatness. It was also immensely gratifying to have held a position of responsibility as NSW captain at a time in the game when Australian cricket was building to one of its finest peaks.

My greatest regret of those years was that I never really achieved the heights in my own performance which my club career suggested I might, and others obviously thought I could. I always thought of myself as an above average grade cricketer, yet never really in the class of

those with whom I mixed in the first class arena. Maybe there was some sort of subconscious inferiority complex there, holding me back. Or maybe I was right. Maybe I was simply not good enough.

I always thought at the time one of the reasons my career never flourished as I would have liked was the demand forced upon us by the Great Depression. My father had a footwear business which supplied many of Sydney's leading department stores. It was a good business, and one which allowed us a comfortable life. The Depression changed all that. We didn't actually go broke, but we went awfully close, and to deep afloat in the immediate post-Depression years required an enormous amount of my time, as well as my father's. We would work from 6am to about 7pm or 8pm each day, and there was little scope for attending to non-survival matters like cricket practice. In that area, I was left desperately underdone. For a whole summer I laboured, telling myself that everything would come right with ten minutes' practice 'in the centre'. Unfortunately I was not very often allowed that ten minutes in my final season with the NSW team, and my form, such as it was, fell away badly.

The pressures of the family business and then my marriage had led me to a decision at the start of the 1936-37 season that it was perhaps time to concede the inevitable and retire. I mentioned it to the powers of the time. The side as a unit had done reasonably well under my captaincy the previous year, and with a considerable rebuilding underway, the selectors decided they'd like to rock the boat as little as possible. 'Keep it going for another year,' they asked.

Their encouragement, and the fact that it was the year of an England tour of Australia, were spur enough to set aside thought of retirement. Unfortunately, my cricket refused to keep pace with my ambition. The season became more of a disaster for me the further it went. I simply

couldn't get an innings off the ground, and it became perfectly obvious to me, and I suspect to a good many others, that I simply did not deserve my place in the side.

Back I went to the selectors. 'Look,' I offered. 'I'm not getting any runs and it is obvious to me that I really should be dropped. I'm not arguing that, but if you are going to drop me, would you please tell me. I wouldn't like to go out on a bad note, and since you asked me to come back, I'd like the opportunity to retire if you think I should be out of the side.'

'Oh no, Mac,' they responded, with suitably horrified looks on their faces. 'We couldn't do that. We wouldn't want to drop you.'

'Well, I would like to play against England again,' I conceded, and left, fairly comfortable in the security of a season ticket and a chance to play the return match against Gubby Allen's MCC side.

Not very long after that ever-so-friendly chat, I jumped on a tram in Sydney, heading for my home in the eastern suburbs. Peering over the shoulder of the man next to me, I caught the newspaper headline that told the world of changes in the NSW team to play the MCC.

'Who's out for him?' I wondered as the new names struck me. Sure enough, McGilvray had been dropped. I spent the rest of the tram ride to Waverley reflecting on a first class cricket career that had seen me on stage with the greats.

My tilts with Ponsford and Woodfull, the thrill of batting with Bradman, the kindly words of Alan Kippax, the fateful finger of George Hele, the gentle urgings of Monty Noble ... they were all in the past. My first class career, launched just four years before with such high hopes, had come to an abrupt end.



▲ The Hon. Justice Hansen presenting a picture of The Willows to the Hong Kong Cricket Club. From left: Martin Darke, Bill Marsden, President Hansen, Martyn Goulding, Rodney Miles, Paul Fox, Mike Walsh. Front: Nigel Stearns, Andrew Lorimer.

M.A. Noble

AUSTRALIA'S TEST CAPTAIN AND ALL-ROUNDER



Probably the finest captain Australian cricket has known, the late M A Noble was also one of its greatest all-rounders. The initial assertion may be open to argument, but there is no doubting that his ability in every sphere of cricket entitled him

to be placed in the latter category. Noble and George Giffen are the only two Australians ever to have taken over 100 wickets and scored more than 1,000 runs in Test cricket a feat performed by only one other player in the world Englishman Wilfred Rhodes.

As a batsman, Nobel had an easy, graceful style with a variety of skilful strokes on the legside. He was possessed of great patience and self-restraint, and used these qualities many times to get Australia out of tight corners.

An example of his tenacity was his 89 against England at Manchester in 1899. It was one of the most defensive innings ever played, as he batted on a bad, crumbling wicket for 320 minutes, and undoubtedly saved the game for Australia. At one period he did not score for 45 minutes.

Noble's first innings of importance was a classical 152 not out for NSW Colts against the Englishmen in 1893-94, and from then on his career was one long triumph.

He went to England with Australian sides in 1899, 1902, 1905 and 1909, and captained the latter XI. He also led Australia in the 1903-04 and 1907-08 series at home. Noble's figures for his 39 Tests against England were: 115 wickets, at a cost of 24.78 runs each, and 1905, at an

average of 30.72. In all he scored 37 centuries in first-class cricket, for an aggregate of 14,254, and took 654 wickets at a cost of slightly less than 24 runs apiece.

Yet Noble scored only one century against England in a Test 133 at Sydney in 1903-04. His highest score ever was 284 against Sussex in 1902, when he and Warwick Armstrong added 428, a record sixth wicket partnership which still stands for an Australian pair.

He registered seven innings of 200 or over in first-class cricket, and on the 1905 tour of England scored 2,084 runs. As a bowler Noble ranks with the greatest of the medium paced men of all time with his deceptive swerve and quick break back from the off.

He could develop plenty of spin and change pace cleverly; but his main attribute was his ability to make the ball swerve in flight.

In Melbourne in 1901-02 he took 7/17 and 6/60 against England; and in 1899 overwhelmed Leicester when he flew through the side, and finished with 8/15. In 1902 he again routed Leicester with 8/48.

In Sheffield Shield Cricket Noble scored 4,996 runs, at an average of 69.38, while his 158 wickets cost only 22.7 runs each.

For sheer determination he could not be excelled. In a desperate situation he was the complete cricketer, while he could, if he desired, hit with delightful abandon.

One of our shrewdest captains, he understood cricket in all its tactical intricacies.

A dentist by profession, Noble had a wide public as a radio and newspaper critic before his death in June 1940.

Stewie Dempster

Stewie Dempster is among the great New Zealand batsmen. He scored the first test hundred for New Zealand in New Zealand at the Basin Reserve in 1930, and the first test hundred for New Zealand overseas at Lords in 1931.

By R.T. Brittenden

A tour of England presents many opportunities of talking to leading players of earlier days, and this 1969 visit is no exception. Everywhere, there has been keen interest in the New Zealanders, eager talk of previous tours.

Many have asked about Martin Donnelly, Bert Sutcliffe, Curly Page, Tom Lowry, Jack Cowie, Merv Wallace. But most of the queries we have received have been about Stewie Dempster.

It is difficult not to suggest that Dempster can still rank as the best batsman New Zealand has produced. In his day, tests were few, and he played in, I think, only about 10 of them, and he had a test average of 65. Enough to make one think about him.

What do I remember of Dempster? He was playing for Wellington and New Zealand during my earliest days at Lancaster Park, but I suppose I watched him only three or four times in the early 1930's before he disappeared. He was off to England, to play for Sir Julien Cahn's team, and to lead Leicestershire for three years, with outstanding personal success as a batsman. One of my firmest memories of him was his magnificence as a cover field. Short, stocky, with a hint of bow-leggedness, he was terribly swift and sure.

Dempster the batsman was among the greatest of the greats. He was fearless, confident, capable, and much more than these. He had class. All the shots were there, crisply made, and in the very best of company, he looked capable of being the master, and often was.

He began as a youth for Wellington in 1921-22, and had his last season in 1947-48; a long reign, but a glorious one. In his second season, he averaged 30.6 for Wellington, and two years later, 42. He improved on this a little in 1925-26, but when he went to England with the 1927 team, he was still without a century in first-class cricket. That first English tour gave him limited opportunities, for many of the matches were second-class fixtures, yet he contrived to score 1,430 runs at 44.7 to make three centuries and eight half centuries. Dempster was established as a New Zealand player.

From that point he was an automatic choice. At home in 1927-28 he averaged over 50 and in 1929-30, he made 544 runs at 90.7. Then to England with the 1931 team, and a sequence comparable with Wallace's great run in 1949.

His tally that season was 1,778, average 59.3, seven centuries, seven half-centuries, and an abiding place among the finest players. There were two more profitable home seasons before he left New Zealand for England. For four years, he was near the top of the English averages. And after the war, he had two more seasons with Wellington, in 1946-47 when, of mature years, scoring two Plunket Shield centuries. In all, 6,840 runs in New Zealand cricket, thousands more in England.

It might have been possible, perhaps, to score all those runs and remain almost a nonentity. But Dempster had personality. He attracted attention, whatever he was doing on the field. There were times when he looked, in New Zealand teams, to be several classes above the rest of the side. Courage he had, with his skill. He survived a fearful assault from M S Nichols at Wellington in 1930 to go on to his century and that still preserved opening partnership record of 276 with J E Mills. When Dempster came out to bat with his confident tread, he brought with him that air of expectancy only the greatest of players command.

President of New Zealand Cricket: Don Neely, MBE

Don, an Honorary Member of The Willows, was appointed in October to replace J R Reid as New Zealand Cricket President. This is a position which is a climax to Don's cricketing career where he has rendered unstinting and selfless service for over 60 years. Don came through the cricket mill in the classical way from bare feet, kerosene tins and ragged tennis balls in the street (where incidentally he had many tense test matches with his oldest friend Barry Sinclair), to primary school representation, college 1st XI, club, colts tourney representation, club captaincy, Wellington B captaincy, captaincy of a Wellington Plunket Shield winning team and finally representing Auckland for a period of three years.

Don has been President of Wellington Cricket, is a life member of New Zealand Cricket, life member of Wellington Cricket, life member of Kilbirnie Cricket Club and received the Sutcliffe Medal for New Zealand Cricket in 1999.

In addition to many years of administration and selectorial work for Wellington Cricket, Don was a New Zealand selector for 14 years between 1979-1993, several of which he acted as convenor.

Don has written several cricketing books including "The Summer Game" and "Men In White" which are well known publications. He is currently Chairman of the New Zealand Cricket Museum at the Basin Reserve in Wellington.



▲ Umpires ready for play on a green block.



▲ Gardens looking back across the ground.

Don Neely: Tactician & Strategist

From the *New Zealand Cricketer*

By A R Veysey, March 1968

It was a familiar figure who loped on to the Basin Reserve the other day. Medium-height, wiry, athletic and with facial characteristics which immediately solved any mystery there might have been about his nick-name.

The players call him Caesar. In the scorebooks they call him D O Neely. He is Don Neely, captain of Wellington for the last three years and one who in his first year of captaincy and only his second in first-class cricket led a rag, tag and bobtail group to the Plunket Shield.

When he ran on to the Basin the other day, substituting in the test, there was an unusually enthusiastic burst of applause from nearly 10,000 people. It was, they recognised, perhaps the last time they would see Neely on his home territory in a first-class match. It was singularly appropriate, they thought, that it should be in a test match.

The majority of them would not say that Neely should have been a New Zealand player (Neely, least of all, would claim such distinction) but the test meant that a crowd of test size had the opportunity of paying its tribute before his transfer to Auckland.

Neely came through the cricket mill in the classical way from bare feet, kerosene tins and ragged tennis balls in the street (where, incidentally, he had many tense test matches with his oldest friend Barry Sinclair), to primary school representation, college first XI, club captaincy, Wellington B captaincy and, finally, captaincy of a Plunket Shield winning team.

Neely is one of the game's thinkers. He plays chess irregularly and badly and is not too obtuse

to suggest this is one reason he is a good cricket captain. "I play chess badly," he says. "I believe pawns are to be squandered as a development to bigger things.

"I believe that a game of cricket is to be won, and winning is not merely to win it on the first innings.

"If a championship is tight enough I will settle for first innings points, but by and large I want my teams to enjoy the complete satisfaction of maximum points.

"It may well be that it is necessary to contrive a finish and that does not mean to play the game in a ridiculously artificial way.

"The aim would be to win, not to provide so-called brighter cricket."

Neely reacts strongly to "the frivolity of throwing a game away" but rejects any suggestion that attack aimed at winning is in that category. "Even a side beaten in a fine game can look back on that as a great game, one to remember."

"Too many captains fail to use the declaration as a strong weapon aimed at winning the game. If you can make it attractive enough for the other fellow to have a go, he will have a go. All games are played to be won and I cannot see that cricket is any different; the objective is to come out of it with a win.

"Yes, there have been plenty of exciting draws, but they have been exciting because one team just failed to win. There are too many draws in which each side has scored, say, 300 and then one side 250-5 at the close of the play."

So, forthrightly – and he is one who seldom expresses himself otherwise – Neely sets down his philosophy of the game of cricket.

One of Neely's pet hates is the expression of the view that cricket is a dying sport:

"Good heavens, back in 1923 or thereabouts C B Fry said cricket was dying because of the introduction of the charabanc.

"He used to recall how he and 'Ranji' batted together for 25,000 people, not a mere 10,000. Cricket is dying, he said, because the charabanc will take them away from the cricket fields.

"The test of the life which is still in cricket is here today," said Neely, gesturing at 10,000 people in the Basin Reserve sun.

"And I suppose the charabanc brought most of them here."

Neely has found that the Basin Reserve can be the loneliest place in the world when you are fielding all day, the bowling is no good and the fielding bad.

"In previous seasons you could hide behind a hillock, lurk away in the valleys. But now that it's so flat it's a lonely place when things are not going well.

"Captains have bad days in exactly the same way as batsmen or bowlers, but people are not so immediately aware of it. But the captain is dreadfully aware of it. If I have captained a side well and won I have not minded making a duck. The overall picture demolishes the success of failure of one's own contribution with the bat. It's pretty tough when you know you are captaining badly.

"At the start of the day in this summer's match against Otago, I was bad. No doubt I have captained badly before but this was a new experience for me because for the first time I was conscious I was not functioning.

"What do you put it down to? Sinclair in a trot of three ducks. Motz a spell of 0-90. It is, to some extent, the same thing, but people simply do not realise that a captain can have a bad day just as a bowler or batsman."

Neely believes it is easy to captain a great side but that a weak bowling side imposes an impossible handicap even on great captains.

He is as firm in his view that many fieldsmen in New Zealand cricket fail to get into the game, fail to think of anything beyond an area within a yard or two of where they are fielding and the ball which is travelling toward that area.

"There is a responsibility on every player in the field to think about the game as a game, to anticipate but above all to THINK."

Neely is an outspoken advocate of "rolling, rolling, rolling" to produce good wickets.

"Mind you, I suppose our climate will always make it difficult to produce good wickets. The attitude of first-class players is that they want first-class wickets except when they are bowling."

He sees cricket as "a wonderful study."

"To have a working co-operation between bowler and field, to pick a batsman's weak point, to have the bowler to exploit it and the field to take advantage of it these things bring tremendous satisfaction."

There were times when bowlers of recognised quality regarded the arrival of Neely at the wickets with a wolfish licking of the lips. But those times have gone. Yes, he has a highly-favoured area between long-on and midwicket. Yes, he goes across the line to hit the ball there. But he has also great character and courage. And the occasions he has been caught in that great outback at long-on would be few.

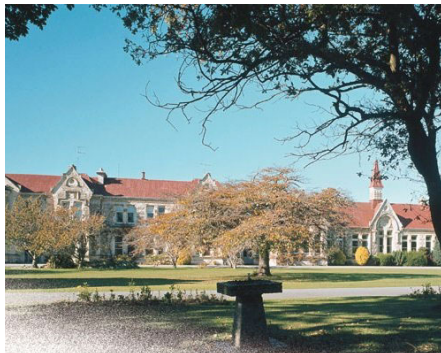
Auckland will like this dapper man who favours a rosebud, a carnation or a sprig of anything out of the garden in his buttonhole, and who carries a furred umbrella, like a musketeer with a rapier. He sees no end to his cricket. "I have no interest in not playing cricket – ever. I don't care what grade it is. I just want to keep playing cricket."



▲ Marlborough College



▲ Mt Hutt College



▲ Waitaki Boys' High School



Marlborough College

Virtutem Doctrina Parat
Learning Prepares for Life

Marlborough College Song

Marlborough men come join the chorus,
Sing of the land and place that bore us,
Sing of the pupils gone before us,
Sing the College praise.

Tell of hard fought games the story,
Tell of victories full of glory,
Tell of lessons; tell the story,
Tell of College days.

CHORUS –

Wave our banner proudly
High above unfolding
Gold and blue it opens true
and bears its motto boldly,
May our hearts to Homeland turning,
Marlborough's glorious victories learning,
Marlborough's fire within us burning,
Make us Marlborough men.

Sons of Marlborough, true and loyal,
Bring we now out tribute royal,
Love and honour praise and toil
Make the College shine.

Home of youth's unsullied pleasure,
Home of friendship's finest measure,
Home of all that memories treasure,
Such is College mine.

CHORUS



Mt Hutt College

Per Ardua ad Astra
Through Hardship to the Stars,
Strive to do Your Best

Mt Hutt College Song

O may we all with hearts so proudly glowing
Lift up our voices, let them proudly ring!
And year by year, our chorus ever growing
Praise to our school, we, one and all shall sing!

CHORUS –

Mount Hutt College Methven,
We'll shout it out in chorus
Mount Hutt College Methven,
The future lies before us
And come what may along the way
We'll head and heart employ
To build a world together
A world of peace and joy!

Let's sing aloud, our vision of tomorrow
Let's tell the world we shall not be denied
Stand by our friends, their love and strength
surround us
Sing to our school, our spirit and our pride.

CHORUS



▲ Mt Hutt College, Methven



Waitaki Boys' High School

Quanti est Sapere
How Precious is Wisdom

Waitaki Boys' High School Song

Songs may be sung of the past and its glory,
Boastful of breeding, of race and of clan,
We shall not envy them, brief though our story,
Greater than these is the heart of the man.
Floreat Waitakia, esto perpetua,
Strong to endure in the task she began.

Then may we strive in our thoughts to
be stronger,
Steeled to fight fair and undaunted to stand,
True to our school that our deeds may not
wrong her,
So shall her praises resound through the land.
Floreat Waitakia, esto perpetua,
Guiding us always in heart and in hand.

Men and their toil are her lasting foundation,
Wide is her aim in the service of all,
Moulding her sons for the hope of a nation,
Brave when the need of the people shall call.
Floreat Waitakia, esto perpetua,
May we have faith that her work shall not fail.

Facing the future with nought to dismay us,
We shall not fear what the years may unfold;
Ever her courage and strength shall array us;
We shall remember the words we were told;
Floreat Waitakia, esto perpetua,
Guarded and held in our hearts as of old.

Australian Teams in New Zealand

Reprinted from the Souvenir Programme
Australia v Canterbury, March 1950

Between 1864 and 1914, twenty-two overseas cricket teams visited New Zealand, of which fifteen came from Australia. Tremendous enthusiasm was evinced in these tours by the general public and the elite of Australia's players travelled across the Tasman, including Victor Trumper, Clem Hill, Warwick Armstrong, F. R. Spofforth, Hugh Trumble, M. A. Noble, and C. G. Macartney, amongst a host of famous players.

In 1878, the Australians made their memorable debut in England but, before their departure for the Homeland, a visit was paid to New Zealand. This visit greatly stimulated public interest in the game, and seven matches were played. In five matches easy victories were recorded against teams all batting with 22 players. An Otago XXII had by no means the worst of an abandoned match, while a Canterbury XV inflicted the first defeat suffered by an Australian XI on tour.

In 1880-1, the second team to visit England, like its predecessor, made a tour of New Zealand first and played 10 matches. Thirteen more tours followed by Australian teams, the last tour before the Great War being the Australian XI in 1913-14. This tour was due to the enthusiasm and enterprise of Mr Arthur Sims (now Sir Arthur), the Canterbury and New Zealand player. A wonderfully strong side came across the Tasman, including five famous Australian players, V. T. Trumper, M. A. Noble, W. W. Armstrong, V. Ransford and F. Laver, together with J. N. Crawford, the famous ex-Surrey and South Australian player. The other players were: H. L. Collins and A. A. Mailey, future Test players, C. E. Dolling, L. A. Cody, C. McKenzie, and W. McGregor, together with A. Sims himself. The team veritably smashed its way through the

Dominion. Fifteen matches were played and only in a few games was there the slightest sign of competition. All sorts of records were smashed the total of 922 against South Canterbury became the highest score recorded in N.Z.; Crawford's 354 was the highest individual score; and Trumper and Sims's 433 was the biggest partnership. It is recognised that Trumper's innings of 293 in Christchurch was the greatest innings ever seen in the Dominion he played vigorous and daring cricket, every stroke being played with perfect timing. It was quite appropriate that Arthur Sims should put up 184 not out against his old province, and although his innings was altogether overshadowed by that of Trumper, yet it was a fitting climax to his cricketing career.



▲ Victor Trumper

The cricket displays by these champions were a real feast to the N.Z. public, but it is doubtful if much benefit accrued from the tour. The N.Z. players were simply overawed in almost every match and all the games were so one-sided that even in the Test matches the real competitive spirit, so necessary in every game, was lacking.

With the war years intervening, seven years were to elapse before another side visited these shores. As Australia was to tour England, and in view of the fact that the N.Z. wickets, being like those of England, made a good testing ground, the Australian Board of Control this time adopted the policy of sending a team of promising colts. Thus in 1920-21 and again in 1927-28, N.Z. saw Australian elevens in the making. New South Wales (1923-24) and Victoria (1925-26) sent strong teams across, and it was hoped that South Australia would follow suit in 1926-27. However, negotiations broke down, but the Melbourne Cricket Club filled up the gap at short notice and sent a team which was quite strong enough for the best N.Z. sides.

The 1920-21 Australian Team's Tour was a great success, for the whole team played delightful cricket before large appreciative crowds. Vernon Ransford, the famous international and captain of the side, was the only member who had visited N.Z. previously. Other players, well-known to the N.Z. public, were H. Ironmonger, V. Y. Richardson, P. Hornibrook, and Alan Kippax. Hornibrook took 81 wickets at an average of 8.9, and Ironmonger 59 wickets at 10.9. Ransford had a batting average of 61, but Richardson and Kippax did not do as well as expected and averaged only 34 runs per innings.

The New South Wales team of 1923-24 included C. G. Macartney, the captain, who was one of Australia's greatest all-rounders; Warren Bardsley, then the best left-hander of the day; Alan Kippax, considered to be a coming Trumper; A. A. Mailey, the googly expert; H. L. Hendry, a good all-rounder; and W. A. Oldfield,

as wicketkeeper. The strength of the batting may be gauged from the fact that only once was the side dismissed for less than 300 runs. Twelve matches were played, eight being won outright and four drawn. The leading batting averages were Bardsley (88), Kippax (84), Hendry (77), and Macartney (76), whilst Mailey took 66 wickets at 15 runs each, and Macartney 34 at 11.

Though not its strongest, the Victorian side of 1924-25 was quite good enough for its opponents. Only one game (to Wellington) was lost out of the 12 matches played. E. R. Mayne, the captain, had visited England in 1912 and 1921. Vernon Ransford was making his fourth visit and A. E. Liddicut his second. W. M. Woodfull attracted with his sound defensive play and was probably the hardest man to dislodge that the N.Z. bowlers had faced he easily topped the averages with 895 runs, seven times not out, and an average of 149.1. Dr Hartkopt, slow bowler, and H. Ebeling (fast) were the most successful bowlers.

In 1926-27, the Melbourne Cricket Club sent a team to play 13 matches, five being won and the rest drawn, and included W. W. Armstrong, H. L. Hendry, V. Ransford and H. Ebeling.

The 1927-28 team, sent by the Board of Control, was a first-class combination of the younger Australian cricketers. V. Y. Richardson (captain), W. M. Woodfull, A. F. Kippax and W. A. Oldfield, all Test players, had visited N.Z. before. Others included C. V. Grimmer, A. Jackson, the colt, W. H. Ponsford, R. K. Oxenham, D. J. Blackie, and K. J. Schneider. Six of the thirteen matches were won, the rest being drawn. The Canterbury public witnessed a brilliant stand by Schneider (138) and Oldfield (137) at Lancaster Park against Canterbury after Australia had lost 6 wickets for 130 runs. In this match, W. E. Merritt took 5 wickets for 105 and R. J. Read 3 for 120. The Canterbury batsmen scoring well were the

English professional, J. A. Newman (98 and 31), I. M. Hamilton (69), and J. Jacobs (24 and 60).

After this tour, endeavours were made for a resumption of tours by Australian teams, but these did not eventuate. After visits from the South Africans, a MCC team, and Sir Julien Cahn's team, negotiations for a tour by an Australian XI were well in hand for the 1939-40 season. With the outbreak of war, both the Australian Board of Control and the N.Z. Cricket Council felt that the war situation rendered such a tour undesirable, even though at that time some of the best known Australian players would have been available.

Immediately after the war, the Australian Board of Control sent a strong Australian team to the Dominion, and this tour proved an outstanding success particularly financially. It was not expected that the provincial sides would extend the full strength of Australia, but the result of the one Test Match played was disappointing. The

Australian Team was W. A. Brown, W. J. O'Reilly, S. G. Barnes, R. R. Lindwall, E. Toshack, A. L. Hassett, I. W. Johnson, K. Meuleman, K. R. Miller, B. Dooland, R. A. Hamence, D. Tallon, and C. V. McCool. In the match at Lancaster Park against Canterbury, the visitors totalled 415 for 8 wickets declared (Brown 137, Meuleman 61, Barnes 48, Hassett 43, Miller 42). Bowling for Canterbury, D. A. McRae took 1 for 76 off 34 overs, T. B. Burt 2 for 108, and R. H. Scott 2 for 86. The Canterbury side, against such bowlers as Lindwall, Toshack, O'Reilly and Co., could only make 141 and 239, with W. McD. Anderson making 61 and R. C. Shand 60. The Test Match played at Wellington was finished in two days, N.Z. making the meagre totals of 42 and 54 against the Australian total of 199 for 8 wickets declared. The redeeming feature for N.Z. was the outstanding bowling performance of J. Cowie, who took 6 for 40 off 21 overs. For Australia, O'Reilly took 5 for 14 and 3 for 19.



Hints on Cricket Coaching

By F T Badcock

Coach – Wellington Cricket Association 1927

“Cricket,” as the late Mr Andrew Lang wrote, “is a liberal education in itself, and demands temper and practice and perseverance. There is more teaching in the playground than in schoolrooms, and very often a lesson better worth learning. For there can be no good or really enjoyable cricket without enthusiasm without sentiment, one might almost say a quality that enriches life and refines it; gives it, what life more and more is apt to lose, zest.”

No game gives a better lesson in the art of self-discipline, and, if the disappointments are numerous and frequent they are more than recompensed by the joys of success. Both for the player and the intelligent onlooker cricket is a life-long delight.

ESSENTIALS IN BATTING

1. As far as possible the swing of the bat should be straight, i.e. more as a pendulum straight up with and down from the wrists. The bat should meet the line that the ball is making and continue along it after impact.
2. The full face of the bat must be shown to every ball that would hit the wickets.
3. The batsman's balance should be perfect.
4. The maximum amount of force is required with a minimum amount of effort.
5. The bat should be firmly held when the stroke is made, but the muscles in the arms and shoulders should be loose to enable the stroke to be completed without losing balance or finish.

6. In forward play the forward foot should be placed as near the line of the ball as possible, and the bat should follow the direction in which the ball is hit. The foot should be placed on the ground at the same time as the stroke is made.
7. The wrists must turn at once, and this be the first part of the movement in forward play.
8. The stroke should be made in one movement.
9. The higher the bat is lifted up, the longer it will take to come down to the ball. It should not, therefore, be lifted higher than is necessary for the stroke.

THE WHY AND THE WHEREFORE

1. The necessity of the straight bat is obvious. If it is crooked a rising ball will probably pass over it, and a low ball inside it. Except with a short ball, when the batsman gets a long sight of it, it is almost impossible to hit a ball as it passes one point in its course. The bat should, accordingly, meet the line the ball is making and follow the ball as far as possible with it.
2. If the full face of the bat is not shown to the ball, the difficulty in playing it is considerably increased. The full face of the bat means the full width of the bat faces the ball at the moment of impact and in full “pendulum” play, so that the bat is not crossing the line of the ball, but following in the same line, though from the opposite direction.
3. The batsman's balance should be perfect. This principle applies to all ball games where the body has to be adjusted quickly to the stroke. In standing to receive the ball, the weight should be rather more on the back leg, as the front leg has to move instantly to the ball in forward play. If too much weight is placed on the forward leg, the balance has to be changed before the foot can be moved.
4. A minimum amount of movement is essential. If the body moves too soon the head must also move and the eyes lose the focus of the ball. The head should, therefore, be kept as steady as possible.

5. If the muscles in the arms and shoulders are rigid, the bat will be dragged by the body and will not finish the stroke properly, balance also being lost. The forward shoulder should move loosely under the chin, especially in “off” play. The forward elbow should bend and point at the bowler when the upward part of the stroke is being made.
6. Broadly speaking, in forward play, the front foot should be placed as near the line of the ball as possible, to enable batsman to get his weight over the ball; the heel of the back foot should be raised slightly for the sake of freedom. In back play, the front foot should be kept as far back as possible so as to enable the batsman to get a long sight of the ball. The back foot should be near the line of the ball so that the eyes are directly over it.
7. If the wrists do not turn at once, and thus be the first movement, the tendency is for the shoulders to drag the arms and for the head to be moved. When the head moves the eyes move.

COMMON FAULTS

The following faults are most prevalent:-

1. Shifting the position before the ball is focussed and its flight determined.
2. Presenting both shoulders to the bowler.
3. Hitting across the line of the ball instead of along it. (This follows on 2.)
4. Checking or stabbing the stroke, i.e. not following through.
5. A swaying of the body back from or with the bat.
6. Stiffness in shoulders and wrists.
7. Moving the right foot away from the wicket.
8. Playing at a straight ball in such a way that the full face of the bat is not presented.

Beyond a Boundary

Extract from “Beyond a Boundary”

By C L R James

The UK Sunday Times stated:

“Great claims have been made for [Beyond a Boundary] since its first appearance in 1963: that it is the greatest sports book ever written; that it brings the outsider a privileged insight into West Indian culture; that it is a severe examination of the colonial condition. All are true.”

“I did not join the Labour Party, I was brought up in it.” And I had been brought up in the public school code.

It came doctrinally from the masters, who for two generations, from the foundation of the school, had been Oxford and Cambridge men. The striking thing was that inside the classrooms the code had little success. Sneaking was taboo, but we lied and cheated without any sense of shame. I know I did. By common understanding the boys sitting for the valuable scholarships did not cheat. Otherwise we submitted, or did not submit, to moral discipline, according to upbringing and temperament.

But as soon as we stepped on to the cricket or football field, more particularly the cricket field, all was changed. We were a motley crew. The children of some white officials and white business men, middle-class blacks and mulattos, Chinese boys, some of whose parents still spoke broken English, Indian boys, some of whose parents could speak no English at all, and some poor black boys who had won exhibitions or whose parents had starved and toiled on plots of agricultural land and were spending their hard-earned money on giving the eldest boy an education. Yet rapidly we learned to obey the umpire's decision without question, however irrational it was. We learned to play with the team, which meant subordinating your personal

inclinations, and even interests, to the good of the whole. We kept a stiff upper lip in that we did not complain about ill-fortune. We did not denounce failures, but ‘Well tried’ or ‘Hard luck’ came easily to our lips. We were generous to opponents and congratulated them on victories, even when we knew they did not deserve it. We lived in two worlds. Inside the classrooms the heterogeneous jumble of Trinidad was battered and jostled and shaken down into some sort of order. On the playing field we did what ought to be done. Every individual did not observe every rule. But the majority of the boys did. The best and most respected boys were precisely the ones who always kept them. When a boy broke them he knew what he had done and, with the cruelty and intolerance of youth, from all sides our denunciations poured in on him. Eton or Harrow had nothing on us.

Sportsmanship

England v Australia – 1st Test

Trent Bridge, 4–9 June 1964

On the morning of the game, the England opener John Edrich was injured with a sprained ankle and Fred Titmus became the makeshift opener with a Test debutant, Geoffrey Boycott. Running for a short single, Titmus was knocked over by Neil Hawke quite by accident. The ball was quickly fielded and returned to ‘keeper Wally Grout. With Titmus far from home, Grout turned his back to the stumps and England were credited with a single.

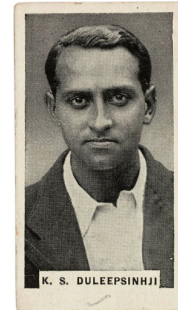
Rain interfered throughout the day and stumps were drawn after 86 minutes with England 52 for one, with Titmus out, caught Redpath, bowled Hawke 16.

The act of sportsmanship shown by Grout and the Australians is a lesson for all young cricketers to absorb.

Duleepsinhji

The image portrayed and upheld by the superb Indian batsman and diplomat Duleepsinhji

By the late Rt Hon. Sir Robert Menzies



Duleepsinhji was, of course, a superb cricketer. His all too brief record shows figures which would delight any cricket statistician. But his real secret was not to be found in his averages, remarkable as they were. Above all, he was an artist, keen of eye, supple of wrist, with the feet of a ballet dancer, and a great hitter of the ball. We would hear less of how to “brighten the game” if we had a few more like him today.

But I would like to say something about Duleepsinhji as a diplomat as High Commissioner for India in Australia. It is easy to forget what a Prince, of high family and ample means, must have felt when a new Republic was established and many hereditary titles and estates abolished or reduced. Some men, in Duleepsinhji's place, might have been unhappy or even bitter. But Duleepsinhji was two things a great gentleman and a great patriot. In Australia, I was his close friend, and he was not unwilling to open his heart to me. I can therefore, say that his sense of duty to India overcame all else. He believed in his country and its future. He was proud and willing to serve it in any capacity. So, far from having any bitterness, he was all sweetness and light.

As a famous cricketer, he needed no introduction to my cricket loving country. He was immensely popular in Governmental, parliamentary and diplomatic circles. He found himself entirely at home, and, as a welcome guest, presented an image of India which did much to further true and friendly relations between his country and mine.

Cricketing Etiquette

On one of his regular visits from the UK to Christchurch, Derek Smail in the course of conversation related the story about his grandfather Dan Reese, as told to him by the late Walter Hadlee.

Dan Reese was a former captain of New Zealand Cricket and was a Canterbury cricketing legend who played in England with W G Grace.

Derek recalled a visit to Lancaster Park, where he was introduced to Walter Hadlee who told him of playing in a cricket match between Canterbury and Auckland and fielding at extra cover. Walter apparently had saved five fours in the afternoon session, three going for three runs and two for two. On climbing up the Pavilion steps for what Walter believed was a well-earned cup of tea, Dan Reese beckoned him over.

By then Reese was a selector for both Canterbury and New Zealand, so Walter who had not yet been selected for New Zealand, bounded over expecting to be congratulated on his fine fielding. To his great surprise Reese simply remarked “Mr Hadlee, it is inappropriate during a passage of play to be seen talking across the boundary fence to spectators. Please desist. Please desist!”

Recounting the story, Walter confirmed he strongly shared the same view, and had subsequently kept all his attention on the field.

I.Z.'s Milestone

W B Douglass, the Patron of I. Zingari Cricket Club in Australia became a member of I.Z.'s in 1946. He batted 788 times with 83 not outs. His highest score was 123 and total runs accumulated were 15,857 at an average of 22.49.

Bill has been a big contributor to the I.Z. Club in Australia and celebrated his 80th birthday last October.

Cricket & Calypsos

By S C Guillen – 1967

If you choose to talk cricket to a West Indian, you will have to be an interested listener: you may get a word in just now and then, when he has to pause for breath.

I think the most enjoyable cricket played anywhere is in the West Indies' sunny isles. The West Indian plays cricket as he lives he is full of smiles and humour, win or lose. In first-class and test matches in other parts of the world there may be a smattering of polite applause as the umpires take the field. In the West Indies, there is a tremendous roar from the spectators as the umpires come out, and every step they take to the middle is accompanied by a witty remark from the crowd. During the game, there is plenty of applause, but there are frequent bursts of laughter from sections of the crowd. Even a fieldsman on the boundary is often caught up in it all and can be seen convulsed with laughter.

Cricket in the West Indies is played everywhere in back yards, in quiet streets, on the beaches. When a window is broken, the retreating forces do not load themselves with their equipment, because it is easy enough to replace the box which was the wicket, the piece of wood or coconut palm, which was the bat. The only thing to lose is the ball, which is in a neighbour's lounge or kitchen – and ten to one he was in the game.

Some of the scoring would seem strange to New Zealanders. I recall one Sunday when the late Cyril Merry took a team of well known players to the country to play a side consisting of field labourers and the like. As the game was about to start Cyril produced his scorebook. The other scorer had no book, no pencil and no apologies. When asked to produce his book, he simply took a cutlass and cut a branch from a tree nearby. He then took his hat off, and as a run was scored, he put a leaf from the tree into it.



▲ Sir Frank Worrell – master batsman.

Cyril, quite puzzled, asked how he could tell who won the match.

“It’s easy, boss,” the country scorer said. “When my side bats I take the leaves from the hat.” And he clearly regarded Cyril as a simpleton for not grasping the method straight away.

In a similar game I was batting and hitting the red off the ball when the umpire shouted to his mate in Patois (broken French) something which I did not understand. I took no notice, until my batting partner told me what had been said. It was something like this: “That fella batting plenty well, we must do something quick.”

Not long after, I tried to drive one outside my off stump, missed, and as the ball struck the wicket-keeper on his pads I was given out lbw. I felt I should say something to the ‘keeper about it. The mister who gave me out is boss, he said. And so, of course, he was. In such games it is good tactics for a visiting side to make sure they lose, if they are to be fully entertained by their hosts. After the

game the teams are invited to someone’s home. There the guitars are in full swing with calypsos. The tables are laid out in the open, with drinks mostly rum and lots of curried chicken and wild meat. But before the meal, there is a brief speech of welcome, and the distribution of prizes. This is true calypso cricket, and many a first-class player has been found through these games.

The umpires enjoy the game as much as the players. My father, who played first-class cricket and later umpired, told me about a batsman who had been dismissed, and did not seem very happy about it. “How did you give me out?” he demanded.

My father replied: “By raising my right index finger.” Even the batsman laughed, and went his way.

The dressing room of a West Indian team has the atmosphere of one inhabited by magicians and comedians. There are jugglers and vocalists and dancers, performing against a background of wisecracks.

A West Indian player simply has to have a sense of humour, to arm him against the bombardment of his team mates and spectators if he misses a catch or makes a duck. I think this enables a player to relax, which is good, for it does not give him time to ponder over his mistakes.

Dropping a catch or making a duck is easily forgiven. But there are certain things a West Indian won’t forgive like the number eleven batsman who has to play out the last over and gets out trying to hit a 6 from the last ball.

During the fourth test in Australia in 1951 (the vital match of that series) when every West Indian had his ears glued to a radio back home, and the tension in the dressing room was at its highest, the late Sir Frank Worrell had time to hang over the dressing room door a hangman’s noose and a razor blade. And with them the words, “Make your choice.” It caused hilarious laughter and once again we were a happy-go-lucky side.

Worrell first played for Barbados as a left arm slow bowler and he batted number 10. But in his second season of first-class cricket, playing against Trinidad in Trinidad, Barbados had lost three wickets for 37 when Worrell joined Walcott. From then on the Trinidadians were leather hunting. The only man who could stop the onslaught was John Goddard, when he declared the innings closed at 600 odd for three. Walcott had made more than 300, Worrell more than 200.

An unforgettable, and typically West Indian remark was made during this great partnership. It came from a Barbadian, and it was heard throughout the stadium. He told the Trinidadians they should go home and give thanks to the Almighty for making night as well as day.

Quite often I have been asked what makes the West Indian such an attractive player. I said earlier that he plays as he lives. He is not conservative, like the English player, who waits for the bad ball.

If the West Indian can’t get a bad ball soon, he makes the good ones bad and in so doing plays aggressive strokes. It is true that he takes chances, but if he does that to the good balls bowled, it is obvious what happens to the bad ones.

The ball is made to be hit and he does just that. The harder he hits it, the better he feels.

It annoys me whenever I read the report of cricket writers, stating that the bowling was negative or dry or short of a length, etc, and actually blaming the bowlers for a day of slow scoring. What more could a spectator ask for, or what is more enjoyable than to see the short length ball back-driven or hit overhead for 6, and the wide ones hit square of the wicket for 4. This should be the case when a batsman takes his guard; more so if he is a test player, because he should have the ability to do it.

Simpson “Sam” Guillen represented both the West Indies and New Zealand. He was a member of the New Zealand team which defeated the West Indies for New Zealand’s first ever Test victory in 1956.

“Funny cricket”

A collection of cricket stories.

SNOOKERED

Former Australian batsman Doug Walters is quite a wag. He loves a beer and a smoke, he loves to play cards and, above all, he loves a good joke. He had the last laugh on Ashley Mallett during a game in South Africa when the Australian off-spinner was bowling to the big-hitting Mike Procter. The first delivery of a Mallett over was hit by Procter straight to Walters, who dropped a fairly easy chance. Mallett was not greatly impressed, but he was far less impressed when Procter sent his next delivery sailing back over his head and into the grandstand for six. Then the South African smote the following ball so hard that it went clean out of the ground and into the street.

The remaining three deliveries of Mallett’s over were also sixes, one of which also cleared the wall surrounding the ground and bounced off down the street. Mallett snatched his cap from the umpire and stormed off, thinking grimly of what might have been had Walters only done his bit. Dougie, also a keen snooker player, quipped to the shattered Mallett as the players changed positions: ‘Never mind, Rowd, you got rid of the red balls that over next over we can get stuck into the coloureds.’

DON’T STOP NOW

Umpires have traditionally come under fire from the Press for the nature of their decisions. Usually the journalists at Test matches satisfy themselves with publishing their own opinions on the more controversial decisions, but during the third Test of the 1974-5 Ashes series in Australia one of them took the bit between his teeth and asked umpire Robin Bailhache to comment on a few decisions he had made.

Beautifully retaining the umpire’s dignity, Bailhache replied: ‘You’ve been making your own decisions so far – you might as well keep going.’

HIT AND MISS

An ardent young bowler was toiling away when he struck the batsman on the pad pretty close to the stumps. ‘Howzat?’ he screamed confidently. ‘Not out,’ came the stern reply from the umpire. ‘Why not?’ queried the obviously disappointed trundler. ‘Because it was missing leg.’ The bowler thought for a second. ‘I’ll say it was,’ he retorted. ‘It was missing leg and hitting middle!’

WRONG END

An Australian spectator at a Yorkshire ground left his hat on the bench to keep his seat. On his return he found his hat removed and his seat occupied by a Yorkshireman. ‘Hey,’ he said, ‘I left my hat to keep that seat for me.’ Replied the Yorky: ‘Nay, lad, oop here it’s booms as keeps seats, not ‘ats.’

ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT

In the 1950s Western Australia were playing a Sheffield Shield game in Perth against a New South Wales side with a particularly fearsome pace attack that included Tom Brooks, Alan Davidson, Pat Crawford and Alan Walker. There just wasn’t a moment’s respite for the W.A. batsmen, and you could almost feel the relief in the home-team camp when at last the N.S.W. captain threw the ball to off-spinner Jim Burke. At the end of Burke’s relatively innocuous first over, the two W.A. batsmen met for a middle-of-the-wicket conference. ‘Hey, I reckon Burkey’s chucking ‘em,’ said one. ‘Shut up, for goodness sake,’ said the other with a horrified look. ‘If they hear you saying that they might take him off.’

The Game’s the Thing

An extract from ‘The Game’s The Thing’

By M A Noble (first published 1926)



“Nothing that ever came out of England has had such an influence on character and nation-building as this wonderful game of ours. Nothing that happens in any British community in normal times possesses the same quality of bringing out

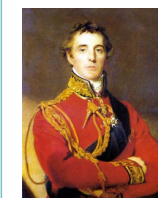
enthusiasm, national partisanship and downright interest as a Test Match. The cricket instinct seems to be born in the flesh and bred in the bone of every one of us. In Australia it is as virile as ever it was in England. There is no game that brings men so close together on a high level as cricket, no game that is quite so conducive to the initiation of healthy discussion, the free exchange of opinions, and the declaration of candid views.

Each and every one who plays or watches cricket becomes a self-constituted authority. Most of us know quite a lot about the game; no one is absolutely ignorant of it. There is no thrill in anything else like that which manifests itself when an apparently beaten team fights its way to victory through all kinds of adversity, and always by clean methods; and nothing that I know of touches the finer feelings of humanity more than the unobtrusive demonstration of true sportsmanship on the field, the observance of that unwritten law under which a player refuses to profit by an umpire’s mistake or a fielder’s misfortune. Both for the player and the onlooker there is an exhilarating joy in success and a compensating education in defeat. Cricket teaches us never to use our mental or physical powers in an unworthy way. It teaches honesty, appreciation, persistency, loyalty, enthusiasm, fair-play, fighting spirit, self-control, unselfishness, and, above all, how to accept success and defeat. That is what we call “playing the game”.

Tips for success in life

- Most people live in the shadows cast by their dreams but successful people are those who are rare individuals who have the courage to step out into the light.
- Can you imagine Sir Edmund Hillary being asked how he climbed Mount Everest, and answering, “Well, my wife and I just went out for a walk one afternoon, and before we knew it, there we were on top of the mountain”? You know better! First, he studied the mountain. Then, he developed a plan to climb it. Then, he developed a budget. Then, he recruited expert guides. Then, he set a schedule for each day. Then, he made sure he had adequate supplies. And, above all, he understood that it would take perseverance to get to the top.
- “Persistence Prevails When All Else Fails,” “Attitude is Everything,” and more menacingly, “Whatever it Takes.”

What Lord Wellington said



“It is said that Wellington, on witnessing a cricket match at Eton, remarked that it was on such fields our future heroes were trained, and battles won. But if the training of mind and body which cricket calls forth, and

the spirit of rivalry and emulation it engenders, bears it fruit in after years in the more serious business of life, and helps to fit man for the more responsible positions he may be called on to fill, there is, assuredly, one quality, and that a very useful one, and one for which the Anglo-Saxon race is celebrated through the wide world, is calculated to bring to light, that is, pluck downright bulldog pluck.”

New Zealand's test victory at Nagpur, 1969

From the *New Zealand Cricketer*

The astonishing thing about New Zealand's test victory at Nagpur was not so much the defeat of India as the margin by which the match was won: to have India out for 109 on the fifth morning, and win by 167 runs, was triumph indeed for a team which, as its captain Dowling said, had always looked capable of better things at test level. It had a long wait: three tests in England, one in India, a tour to then lasting nearly three and a half months, before this great and most heartening reward.

The match was a particular triumph for Dowling himself. He has been a most able tour leader, but in this match he surpassed himself. He seemed to have the Indian batsmen well catalogued, and his field placings were made accordingly, and very successfully. He showed a flair for making a bowling change which would bring a wicket; and he batted with particular distinction.

New Zealand has few test successes, and the country's cricketers have especial reason to be proud of this one. Apart from the obvious difficulties of playing in temperatures around 100, and umpiring of shockingly low calibre which cost, among other things, the vital wicket of Dowling in the second innings, it was a victory won by spirit as much as by skill.

All the evidence of the Bombay test pointed to the fact that New Zealand was good enough to beat India if and when one reflects on New Zealand's test history, it was a very big if indeed the batsmen of the side could break free from the stranglehold of Indian spin. It was obvious they would have to be attacked, that risks would have to be taken. For that reason, I was a little disappointed that Turner was kept in the team, but events proved I was wrong. He made a most important contribution. So did Dowling, when he won the toss.

This pitch at Nagpur, used for a test for the first time, took turn from the first day. It never really spun as much as Bombay, but it was always there, and there always seemed the likelihood of it becoming quicker turn. And there was no doubt that the pitch had a little extra in it, from some source or another, in the last 90 minutes, after tea. Wickets fell readily and cheaply then, among the top batsmen of both sides, on each of the first four days. One of the hazards of this pitch was a very small but dangerous worn patch, perhaps no bigger than a saucer, and short of a length. It was hit only a few times, and from it the ball got up most alarmingly. Surti had made just a few in the first innings when he rushed down the pitch at Pollard, and missed. He would have been stumped by yards, had the ball not hit this dusty little area and gone almost head-high to Wadsworth. The ball landed on it only occasionally but it was certainly a mental hazard, and no doubt helped Pataudi to say, at a civic function on the third evening, that the Nagpur pitch was not good enough for a five-day test.

But back to the facts of the match. Although Dowling and Murray could score only two runs an over to lunch, they stayed together and Dowling, in particular, took every opportunity of letting the Indian spinners know he meant business. He sometimes had to wait for the right ball for several overs, but at a hint of a chance, he used his feet and hit strong, lofted on-drives. Later Congdon and Burgess were to take the battle further forward, with some daring shots, but Dowling began a process which brought a rich harvest of runs and which had Pataudi's close fields dispersed in whole or in part to an extent never imagined in Bombay. And the more pressure the batsmen applied, the more often the bad ball came along. This is not to suggest that the Indians packed up; far from it. They bowled cleverly, but only as well as the New Zealanders

would let them, and that was how this game was won.

By tea, New Zealand was 185 for two and Congdon and Burgess added 84 in 75 minutes before they were separated. Dowling and Congdon played great innings, and their success allowed Burgess the free rein he needs if he is to produce his very best. This he did; a beautiful innings which gave him 66 by stumps, although by then he had lost Congdon, Turner and Pollard.

On the second morning there was a further flow of beautiful strokes for Burgess, who has a wider range than anyone else in this team, but his innings was cut short, at 89 by a wretched lbw decision, and three wickets fell, in all, in 10 minutes. But Hadlee was bold and assertive again, adding a 6 to the two struck by Congdon and adding 28 with Cunis who was clearly the father figure in the frequent family conferences.

A total of 319 was disappointing, considering the tea score on the first day and it was whittled down steadily by India's top batsmen until Burgess, with a weird mixture of stuff, took two wickets in the last over to make the stumps score 143 for four, and put New Zealand back in business. Abid Ali played a typically dashing innings, marked particularly by the strength and timing of his on-drives.

Surti was bowled through the gap first thing on the third morning, Pataudi was out cutting, and Mankad again fell victim to a magnificent caught and bowled by Howarth, as he had done at Bombay. This time the dive was forward down the pitch, and it was a wonderful effort. But Engineer bustled about and young Roy, in his first test, batted beautifully. A slim, quite tall left-hander, he drove like a champion. They added 74 very briskly, but Engineer chose to rush down the pitch to the first ball after lunch and Roy, last out, was bowled round his legs by Pollard. Howarth bowled superbly well, and Pollard turned the ball quite enough to look

dangerous; it was one of his best spells of bowling for some time. So New Zealand had won a lead of 62 and it did not seem quite enough, especially when four wickets were lost for 81 by close of play. Dowling was playing, to perfection, his first innings role of waiting then attacking, a sort of block, block, bang routine when he was given out caught behind, the worst decision of a match which had some bad ones, not all by any means against New Zealand.

The match was in the balance on the fourth morning. Turner, with Pollard, responded at this vital time with a stand of 65. He had made 30 the previous afternoon, and he continued to keep the bowlers out, with occasional forays after runs. He had two lives, both of them easy catches, but his ability to hang on he batted over four hours was worth much. Pollard was not always convincing, but he hit some very hard, good drives and a straight one, beautifully struck, gave him 6 off Prasanna. At 144 for four, the lead was 206, and all seemed set fair. By lunch it was 171 for nine persistent spin bowling, some bad shots, and the catches being held, although India's catching over the whole of the match was poor.

The early afternoon partnership between Hadlee and Howarth won the match: or at least it served to make it almost certain, for they added 43, and stretched India's objective to much nearer 300. Howarth was safe and sensible, defending mostly, hitting some firm shots he had three boundaries and Hadlee, after hitting another 6, found the Indian fieldsmen mainly in distant outposts. He kept his head, took his singles, farmed the bowling, and played an innings which was utterly admirable in its maturity as well as in its fine strokes.

By tea, India was 44 for one, and a tense struggle looked likely to develop. When Howarth beat Wadekar in the air and had him caught and bowled, it started an utter rout. Howarth and Pollard spun the ball, bowled with meticulous accuracy, and snipped the batsmen off one after

the other. Howarth had three of them in 14 balls and at one stage the score was 84 for seven. The New Zealanders bowled magnificently and fielded like men possessed. Roy fell to the finest of Howarth's three astonishing caught-and-bowleds in these first two tests. He pulled one hard and it hit Dowling's right hand as he darted across from forward short leg. From there it deflected on a line parallel with the pitch and although it was travelling quite fast, Howarth dived over to his left and held the ball in three fingers.

How refreshing it was to see a New Zealand team seize and hold the initiative in such an unrelenting fashion. It looked like a winning side from the moment Wadekar went, and its feeling must have been firmly impressed on its opponents.

So to the last morning a few defiant blows from Engineer, who had injured a foot in a fall down a stairway, but only 40 minutes in all, to take the final three wickets. A sixth test victory, the first overseas for seven years, the first in India.

Dowling was garlanded by admirers as he left the field. There should have been one for each one of them, these young men who have striven so hard for months to fit themselves for test match victory. It restored faith in the justice of things, for they have not been a lucky side, by any means. Their dedication to the touring task, coupled with the bold resolve to attack, had brought a wonderful reward, and vast encouragement to New Zealand cricket.



▲ The Trevor Campbell Pavilion, officially opened by Walter Hadlee in 1994.



▲ B Wheeler (Marlborough) is stumped by David Bond off his pads.



▲ A Marlborough College batsman on the drive.

History of cricket in India

As Published in the Official Magazine
Australia v All-India
1947/48 Tests in Australia

Cricket in India is more than a century and a half old. The game was first played in Bombay by the troops stationed in that city. These facts are Parsee youth, who learnt the game from English recorded by Dr G M Pavri, one of the greatest cricketers produced by India, in his interesting book that tells the story of the development of the game in India from its very inception to the days when Ranjitsinhji revolutionised cricket by the wizardry of his batting. There is a record showing that the game was played in India as far back as 1751, the players being Army men. The Calcutta Club exclusively European was founded in 1792 and there is a record of the first match played at Bombay between the Military and the Island in 1797. Five years later "Etonians" met "Calcutta".

The Oriental Cricket Club, which was founded in 1848, helped to develop the skill of the young Parsee cricketers, and in 1872 the better known Elphinstone School Cricket Club was founded and helped to produce a large crop of Indian cricketers.

It was the Parsee community that sent the first Indian cricket team to England in the early '80's. The name of J M Framjee Patel is famous in the annals of the game in India for the great service he rendered cricket.

It was many years later that the Hindus began to take an interest in cricket and produce players as good as the Parsees. To Lord Harris, Governor of Bombay, cricket in India owes a great deal, for it was he who encouraged the game among all communities and helped to produce some of the clever players of the '90's and the next decade.

The Lord Harris Shield, offered for competition, aroused more interest among the Indian cricketers, mainly in Bombay, and soon afterwards the Europeans met the Parsees in an annual match, while a few years later the Hindus came into the arena to initiate a Triangular Tournament, which some years later developed into the Quadrangular Tournament when the Moslems joined in the fray.

The visits to India of Mr G F Vernon's, Lord Hawke's and Sir K J Key's teams were responsible for creating the further interest in the game. When the Parsees at Bombay beat Lord Hawke's XI, which included several first-class county cricketers, one of whom was Sir Stanley Jackson, later a captain of England, a sensation was created both in England and in India.

But this result did not induce even the most optimistic Indian to hope that some day in the distant future an Indian team would be challenging the full strength of England in Test cricket. But slow though the process of evolution was in the development of Indian cricket from mediocrity to first-class rank, the stage has now been reached when India can get together a team of players capable of holding their own with the pick of Australia and England.

A country that could produce a Ranji, a Duleep, a C K Nayudu, a Pataudi, and a V M Merchant was not to be regarded lightly by the older cricket nations. Cricket has become so popular all over India that today it is rightly regarded as a national game.

India has sent four representative teams to England since 1911, while the compliment has been returned by the M.C.C., who have sent to India two official teams since 1926, in addition to Lord Tennyson's unofficial team.

Australia has also sent two unofficial teams to India, the first being Frank Tarrant's team, captained by Jack Ryder, which toured India in

1935-36; while the second, a Services team, led by Lindsay Hassett, aroused keener interest in the game all over India by touring that country in 1945-46.

Now, for the first time in the history of international cricket, India has sent an official team to Australia to break new ground and set up new traditions. Indian hockey and soccer teams have already gained renown in Australia and New Zealand. Those who have followed Indian cricket very closely in the past quarter century expect the Indian cricket team led by L Amarnath to uphold worthily in Australia the best traditions of Indian cricket.

Already the names of Ranjitsinhji, Duleepsinhji and Pataudi are household words in Australia. These three famous Indians have blazed a brilliant trail that Amarnath's men will keep well

alight in the coming months. Given fine, bright weather like that of their homeland, and with an equal share of luck, the Indians may be expected to extend Don Bradman and his Australian team in the Tests.

Lowest Total in an Innings

- 21 Mohammedans v Europeans, 1915
- 23 Sind v South Punjab, 1938-39

Six Centuries in an Innings

For Holkar v Mysore in 1945-46:

- Bhandaikar 142
- C T Sarwate 101
- M Jagdale 164
- C K Nayudu 101
- B B Nimbalkar 172
- R P Singh 100

This is also a world record.



▲ Before the season's first match begins, the Christchurch Boys' High and Willows sides observe a minute's silence in remembrance of Walter Hadlee's contribution to cricket.



▲ All smiles in the Preston Scorebox during the Otago Boys' High School match.



▲ Vince Cusack has things well under control.

Report from Matfen

By Ben McCord

The trip to Northumberland was an amazing experience for Mitchell Shaw and myself and I thank The Willows for allowing us to travel across the world to play cricket. We have made many friends in England who we will keep in contact with and we hope the Matfen boys will be able to plan successfully for their trip to New Zealand in 2008.

During our stay Mitchell worked for the duration of his time in an impressive bar/restaurant environment and mixed well with the people. On the other hand, I worked on the estate and learned a lot of skills from my boss, Nigel Paterson.

The Matfen team had a very successful season winning the 20/20 competition and for the first time in 32 years, finished second in the league competition. Performances by Mitchell and myself were well recognised by the Club who made us very welcome from the day we arrived.

At the conclusion of the season prize giving was held at which Mitchell gave an excellent speech and thanked our hosts accordingly.

The Club is indebted to the generosity and continued goodwill extended by Sir Hugh and Lady Anna Blackett to our New Zealand cricketers and we trust the life experiences gained will guide and strengthen all of us who have had the good fortune to sample their hospitality.

Other Willowers who have experienced the privilege of a six month stint at Matfen are:

- Josh Coll
- Fraser Hawes
- Paul ODonnell
- Nick d'Auvergne
- Willie Lawson
- Michael Peacock

“Hotel earns two more accolades”

Northumberland, United Kingdom

Matfen Hall is where two Willows' scholars attend for a six month period to develop their life skills and to play a considerable amount of cricket, not only for Matfen but also for other local teams.

Matfen Hall Hotel has added two national tourism Oscars to its trophy cabinet. It has just won gold in the best large hotel in England category in the 2006 Enjoy England Awards for Excellence. And it also took the silver award in the business tourism category. Matfen Hall was the only establishment to win two accolades.

It is also the only hotel in the 14 year history of these tourism awards to have ever won both the large and small hotel categories.

In 2002 it won best small hotel of the year and then, following a 5 million pound expansion in 2004, grew up to become best large hotel.

Matfen Hall had already been chosen the UK's most considerate independent hotel, Conde Nast Johansen's most excellent venue hotel, and regional winner of the best large hotel and business tourism awards.

For the Enjoy England Awards for Excellence, staff had to demonstrate their standards in customer care, accommodation, service, care for the environment, staff development and training.

The judges said: “Matfen Hall meets every expectation of an outstanding large hotel while managing to retain great attention to detail.”

The hotel's owner, Sir Hugh Blackett, said: “It is a fantastic recognition for the staff and management many have been with us since the hotel began.”

v CHRISTCHURCH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

8th October 2007

Report by Cran Bull

Well, were we given the "mother of all hidings"? A rather rusty and injured effected Willows team came up against a fit and enthusiastic CBHS 1st XI. The school team had just returned from a short tour of Australia. It had been particularly successful and it wasn't difficult to see why.

I won the toss and against the strong advice of Andrew Nuttall inserted the opposition. Hopefully there would have been a bit of life in the pitch on an overcast morning. If there was we couldn't find it. In addition, we were rather too generous with wides and no balls 47 in total or the equivalent of about 8 extra overs! In the end result the school team went through to 257/9 at the end of 50 overs. At one stage we were going for 9 an over so at least we managed to pull back a score which at an early stage looked 300 plus.

School's batsmen played particularly well. They have a number of players who have real style, sound technique and, more importantly, good temperament and just plain good cricket sense. Their captain B McFarlane went through to a very fine 82 he received good support from S Noster, C Belliss and T Bleyendaal. Our bowlers toiled hard but one or two of them were carrying



▲ Sam Davis in action against his old school.

injuries from the previous day's club cricket while others were lacking a bit of rhythm at such an early stage of the season.

The less said about our batting the better. We needed a sound and steady start, with a gradual build up in momentum to get us up to the 5 runs an over we needed. We didn't even come close! We were 16 for 4 after 7 overs with two current Canterbury 1st XI players among the victims. We managed to improve but only slightly and were finally dismissed for 122 in 38.5 overs. If my maths are right, we didn't even get halfway. Only Sam Davis with 43 not out came through with any credit. The rest of us failed to come up to the mark. All the school bowlers were accurate and persistent.

Quite frankly, we were totally outplayed. The stigma of being dropped from the active players list, as opposed to voluntarily withdrawing, is a real possibility for one or two of us.

Willows lost by 135 runs

Christchurch Boys' High School 257/9

B. McFarlane 82, S. Noster 36, C. Belliss 33, T. Bleyendaal 22, B. Newton 2/27, A. Nuttall 2/39

Willows 122

S. Davis 43*, M. Smith 3/20, H. Nuttall 3/32, C. Belliss 2/20

Umpires

E. Brownlee and T. McLisky



▲ Brendan McFarlane, the victorious captain.

v MARLBOROUGH BOYS' COLLEGE 1ST XI

15th October 2006

Report by Geoff Allott

Having tasted victory last year, the Marlborough Boys' side were again focused on performing admirably at The Willows ground. Getting up at 5am Sunday morning to arrive in time to play was evidence of the side's determination, and it would be this attribute that would prove crucial in determining the outcome of the game.

Conditions at The Willows were superb. The Willows side was well balanced, and boasted two current Canterbury squad members in Iain Robertson and Wade Cornelius.

Electing to bat first, our intention was to take advantage of a good wicket through our experienced batting line up and produce a total that would put Marlborough under pressure. Unfortunately, we didn't fulfil our potential and ended up committing the cardinal sin of being bowled out with overs still to spare.

For The Willows, Greg Stretch (still playing senior cricket in Blenheim) looked extremely comfortable and thoroughly deserved his 55. Willows stalwarts David Bond and Darin Cusack batted well for their 29 and 36 respectively, but on their departure The Willows lost direction and were ultimately bowled out for just 163.

Chasing a modest total of 164 to win, the Marlborough BHS side opening batsmen provided a strong beginning, and withstood the onslaught of Canterbury pace bowler Wade Cornelius. Despite a committed fielding display from The Willows team (including a run out from the boundary involving Phil d'Auvergne and Robertson) the Marlborough BHS side chipped away at the total and showed good resolve as Robertson, also produced a fine display of off spin bowling. An equally impressive 10 over spell from Ryan Bishell continued to build the pressure on the school



▲ Nick d'Auvergne testing the College batsmen with his spinners.

side, but a very capable 40 not out from Josh Poole ensured Marlborough was within striking distance with one over to go.

With 4 runs required from the last over, Poole displayed a strong nerve to guide the visitors to victory; one which was thoroughly deserved.

Despite the loss, the game was thoroughly enjoyable. The Marlborough Boys' team played well. Thanks to Phil d'Auvergne and Gus Bishell (management of the Marlborough BHS team) for their commitment to this promising school side.

The Willows look forward to recapturing the trophy next season.

Willows lost by 4 wickets

Willows 163

G. Stretch 55, D. Cusack 36, B. Wheeler 4/23

Marlborough Boys' College 164/6

J. Poole 40

Umpires

J. Elley and B. Malloch

v WELLINGTON COLLEGE 1ST XI

22nd October 2006
Report by David Grocott

Cool overcast conditions with a hint of moisture in the air, coupled with a greenish pitch, left The Willows with little choice but to bat first upon winning the toss.

While the older Willow players sat warm and dry in the Pavilion, young Liam Bartholomeusz set about compiling a well constructed 85 not out against some lively Wellington College bowling. After two stoppages for rain it was decided to declare The Willows innings closed after only 41 overs (in what seemed a sensible decision at the time!) to give Wellington College a chance to bat.

Upon the resumption of play the Wellington College batsmen dominated with a 50 opening partnership paving the way for a seven wicket victory. Some rather rusty Willows fielding helped their cause. Young Matt McEwan was the best of The Willows' bowlers.

Unfortunately the rain did not return to save The Willows from their third consecutive defeat!

Willows lost by 7 wickets

The Willows 156/5 (41 overs)
 L. Bartholomeusz 85*, H. Maude 2/32

Wellington College 157/3 (37 overs)
 V. Ward 50, R. Cargill 46

Umpires
 J. Elley and R. Kerr (Wellington Coach)



▲ All hands to the fore in removing the covers prior to play.



▲ Two Wellington College Old Boys, Brian Hastings (former NZ test player) and Bob Pope (former Club Captain of Wellington College Old Boys).



▲ A Wellington College batsman on the drive.

v OTAGO BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

29th October 2006
Report by Darin Cusack

The annual fixture between The Willows and Otago Boys' High commenced under cloudy skies with an unsettled forecast. Fortunately the weather held throughout the day.

The Willows batted first on a great pitch, which provided assistance to the bowlers. The home team were able to make a brisk and solid start with Ben Orton and Michael Johns opening up in positive fashion, the pair rattled on an opening partnership of 72, with Johns falling for a well compiled 31. Orton continued on his way but saw two quick wickets fall at the other end. Richard Morgan in his first game for The Willows joined Orton to steady the ship against



▲ Ben Orton hitting through mid-wicket.

some demanding Otago Boys' bowling ably lead by captain Cameron Rutherford who finished with figures 2 for 48. Morgan completed a fine 32 with the batting highlight being 102 retired by Orton in a Willows total of 253/9. The pick of the bowlers was Paranjpe with 3 for 30 off 10 overs.

The Willows' opening bowlers made early inroads dismissing the top order cheaply with Matthew McEwan and Richard McGuire picking up early wickets. Jason Pawson continued the pressure with some demanding seam bowling, but the bowling of the day belonged to Chris Clark with 4/19 and Braydon Hill who bowled 10 overs on the trot to finish with 3/39. The Otago Boys' innings never gained momentum with 3 batsmen getting starts but were unable to push on. The visitors being finally dismissed for 116 in 30 overs.

Our thanks to the umpires Les and Jim, Tony for scoring and the support crew for catering and great playing facilities.

Willows won by 137 runs

Willows 253/9
 B. Orton 102 retired, M. Johns 31, R. Morgan 32, S. Paranjpe 3/30

Otago Boys' High School 116
 C Clark 4/19, B Hill 3/39, C Rutherford 17

Umpires
 L Elliott and J Henderson



▲ Tich McGuire in full flight.



▲ The Otago Boys' High School 1st XI.

V THE PENINSULA CRAZ XI

5th November 2006

Report by Colin Hight

The Willows won the toss and batted first. Ben Yock dominating the opening partnership scoring 68 in the opening stand of 93. After a strong start The Willows' batting fell away apart from a solid innings of 47 not out from Tim Muir. The Willows finished their 50 overs at 188 for 8. Best of the Peninsula bowlers was M Stronach 2 for 24.

The Peninsula batting proved to be more consistent than The Willows. At one stage the

Peninsula Craz were cruising at 120 for 2. The Willows' bowlers then picked up 5 quick wickets to have the Craz at 147 for 7. However victory was achieved for Peninsula finishing at 189 for 8 in the 50th over. T Stronach top scored with 48 for Peninsula and Colin Hight returned the best bowling figures 3 for 14.

Willows lost by 2 wickets

Willows 188/8

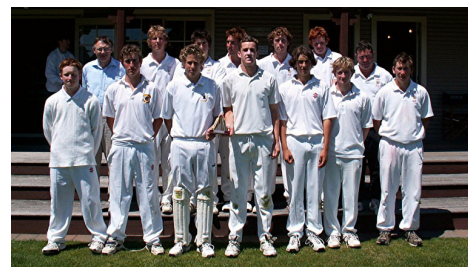
B. Yock 68, T. Muir 47*, C. Hight 3/14

Peninsula Craz XI 189/8

T. Stronach 48, H. Fraser 35, J. Masefield 34*, D. Bulman 29

Umpires

G. Evans and D. Pulley



▲ The Mid-Canterbury Youth XI.



▲ Another Willows calamity.



▲ Chris Seabourn, top scorer for The Willows.



▲ Colin Hight as ever very accurate.



▲ Well tried, Ben Yock, down the leg side.



▲ James O'Gorman, a member of the Christ's College 1st XI bowling to Mike Johnston.



▲ Lindsay Forde, the losing Willows captain, hands over the trophy to Sam Sawers, captain of the Mid-Canterbury Youth XI.

V MID-CANTERBURY YOUTH XI

12th November 2006

Report by Lindsay Forde

The inaugural game against the Mid Canterbury Youth XI began with the toss being won by The Willows, who decided to bat. An ominous sign was the obvious glee expressed by the Mid Canterbury bowlers, when informed they were bowling.

The safe and sedate start belied the carnage that was to take place in the next few overs. From 21 for none, suddenly The Willows slumped to 56 for 6, due to some excellent outswing bowling by Ryan Stoddart and some very safe catching behind the wicket. A mini partnership between Chris Seabourn and Ben Brook took The Willows to lunch, with some hope, but the innings ended shortly afterwards at 123 off only 39 overs. Sam Hurley picked up 3 quick wickets with his spin bowling. Top scorer was wides, at 28.

Early wickets were required and at 13 for 2, The Willows sensed they may have been back in the game. However, Sam Sawers (58 not out) and Riki Burgess ensured there were no more wickets lost until well in sight of victory. The target was comfortably reached in the 35th over, for the loss of only 4 wickets. The Willows did, however, win the wides contest, bowling 33!

Mid Canterbury can be more than proud of winning the Bruce Dickson Trophy, especially given that two of their players were unavailable due to senior rep duties.

Willows lost by 6 wickets

Willows 123

R. Stoddart 4/38

Mid Canterbury Youth XI 124/4

S. Sawers 58*

Umpires

R. Armour and R. Kandala

V COMBINED SCHOOLS XI

26th November 2006

Report by Barry Townrow

A little knowledge is a good thing, too much knowledge can be even worse. Such was the dilemma that faced The Willows' captain on winning the toss for this game. The normal course of events is to bat first, enjoy lunch, then restrict the opposition. "No, bowl", said Mr Nuttall. "Rain and hail are forecast for later in the day. (It actually turned out very hot). "Bowl first", said match manager Peter Nancarrow, "as the batting has been terrible in the last five games". (It continued to be so in this match). "Don't make it five losses from six games", said a strangely dressed looking Hobbit like creature who seemed to belong to the ground and answered to the name of Michael.



▲ Wicketkeeper Paul Rutledge watches a near miss.



▲ Sir Tim Wallis, who flew in for the afternoon reading last season's Annual Report.

The Willows bowled first, and bowled and fielded well, restricting a talented Combined team to 97, a very gettable total.

The Willows batted badly (again) against an impressive bowling attack, and could only muster a dismal 79. The end result another Willows' captain has been added to the burning pile in the back paddock for taking notice of his elders.

Willows lost by 18 runs

Combined Secondary Schools XI 97

A. Nuttall 4/9

The Willows 79

M. Parr 32, T. Agnew 3/9, T. Johnston 3/10, M. McEwan 3/22

Umpires

S. Hurndell and R. Larsen (Central Districts)



▲ Michael Peacock at full stretch.

V BURNSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

3rd December 2006

Report by Rod Latham

The Willows' captain for the day came into this match with Burnside High School 1st XI under immense pressure given that previous matches hadn't gone to the Club's well laid plans.

The Willows won the toss and given we didn't have too many younger players, decided it was appropriate to bat first. The innings got away to a good start with a solid opening stand but the highlight of the innings was the partnership between opener Tom Latham and middle order batsman Sam Sayers. This partnership realised 110 runs and was the foundation of The Willows' innings of 240 for 6. Tom Latham contributed 80 from 105 balls and young Sam Sayers, a superb 94 from 109 balls.

Burnside High School had their turn to bat after another superb lunch and struggled somewhat under the pressure of some very good bowling from Duggie McMillan (1 for 16), James Stevenson and dark horse Wade Burrell (2 for 11). Burnside finally managed 171 for 6 and thus The Willows were back on track for the season. Needless to say Mike Dormer was a happy man and was able to rest easily for the following week.

My thanks to the two umpires for the day whose job is a thankless one.

Willows won by 69 runs

The Willows 240/6

T. Latham 80, S. Sayers 94

Burnside High School 171/6

T. Barringer 38, A. Croxson 60*, W. Burrell 2/11, R. Latham 2/18

Umpires

H Cave and M George



▲ Tom Latham (80) and Sam Sayers (94) return to the pavilion for the lunch break.



▲ Tom Latham, waiting expectantly behind the stumps, watching an elegant drive by a Burnside batsman.



▲ A very good wicketkeeping position demonstrated by the Burnside 'keeper, Henry Fuller.

v CLARRIE ANDERSON'S XI

6th December 2006

Report by Arthur Pitcher

It seemed a somewhat strange decision to give the captain's job to an Englishman the day after England's shambles on the last day of the Ashes Test in Adelaide. Was I supposed to lose or had I been chosen for turning up first?

It started well, I won the toss, the wicket looked good so batting seemed to be the thing to do. Not knowing all my team I then searched for a couple of openers only to find that I had plenty of number sevens but was somewhat short on openers.

We started slowly and runs just kept ahead of overs for the first ten, from thence wickets fell. Batsmen got a start but with tight bowling and amazing catching, progress was painful. A gutsy 22 from Geoff Miller and a fighting 30 from Bert Walker were the only scores worth a mention. Eight catches were taken and the standard of fielding for a Masters Fixture should probably have resulted in some dope testing as these not so young fielders swooped on anything in the air. I did share in a partnership of over 20 with Bert (he got just about all the runs) and we just got to three figures before Bert departed and that was pretty well that.



▲ Where did it go? Only the sheep are interested in keeping their heads down.



▲ Hamish Wright takes another great catch.

Our bowling resources were not plentiful but our opening attack worked hard to contain some spirited hitting. A one handed slip catch by Wal Scott was the highlight of our fielding effort. Hamish Wright did some amazing Ashley Giles' impressions in the field before finally taking a very difficult swirling catch that everyone else was happy not to be under. Peter Devlin was our most successful bowler at first change with 2 for 14.

Halfway through the innings there was brief hope as hundreds of sheep arrived in the next field and a gate was open to the cricket field. An abandoned game looked a possibility had the sheep spotted the open gate. As it turned out, unfortunately the Umpire noticed the gate before the sheep and our last hope was gone.

With glorious bright sunshine, great surroundings and entertaining cricketers, an excellent day was enjoyed by all.

Willows lost by 6 wickets

Willows 102

B. Walker 30, A. Sheard 3/36

Clarrie Anderson's XI 103/4

D. Bull 51, T. McConnell 33

Umpires

G. Evans and M. Dormer

v HAWKSWOOD WANDERERS XI

10th December 2006

Report by Ben Harris

The Hawkswood Wanderers have long been the bogey team of The Willows, with the Wanderers winning the previous three encounters in succession. With Mike Dormer being required to rush off to the outer corners of the world on business, he did however leave strict instructions that anything but a win would not be tolerated.

The Hawkswood Wanderers won the toss and decided to bat on a flat and even paced wicket (a Vince Cusack special). A magnificent second wicket partnership between Moorhead and Kelly gave the Wanderers a more than solid foundation from which to unleash in the final 15 overs. The above named Kelly is the ex Central District opening batsman David Kelly, who is now farming in North Canterbury.

The Willows' bowlers and fielders stuck to their guns and to their credit didn't wilt in the post lunch session. Stu Roberts, the evergreen ex Canterbury fast bowler, bowled a sustained spell and was unlucky not to take a wicket but he only conceded 23 runs from 8 overs. Eventually Moorhead was dismissed for 78 with Kelly finishing on 87 not out. At the conclusion of the 50 overs the Wanderers had posted an imposing 247 for 4.

Ben Yock was responsible for The Willows getting off to a great start and shared in two excellent partnerships. He put on 73 for the first wicket with Orton and a quick fire 54 for the fifth wicket with McIntyre. After Yock was dismissed for a well compiled 75, the Wanderers' bowlers and fielders put the pressure on and strangled the life out of The Willows' chase. Once McIntyre was dismissed for 42, The Willows' innings stuttered and eventually they were dismissed for 221.

The end result, a well deserved 26 run win to the Wanderers, and the winning streak continues.

Overall, a wonderful day with the organisation of match manager, Peter Nancarrow, also a feature.

Sorry Mike, I know news of the result was wired to you immediately. I hope we didn't ruin your business trip.

Willows lost by 26 runs

Hawkswood Wanderers XI 247/4

D. Kelly 87*, S. Moorhead 78, J. Marsh 2/57

Willows 221

B. Yock 75, M. McIntyre 42, E. Norgate 2/13, C. Belliss 2/29

Umpires

J. Elley and B. Malloch



▲ Ben Harris doing his best to dislodge a Hawkswood batsman.



▲ The young donkey bolts, chased by Mike McIntyre.



▲ The King's High School 1st XI with their Headmaster Colin Donald on the left and Coach Dennis Haigh on the right.

v KING'S HIGH SCHOOL (DUNEDIN)

17th December 2006
Report by Joe Bennett

It all looked so good. The Willows' selectors had assembled a mixture of grizzled experience that would lurch well and youthful exuberance that would play well. The outfield looked unusually green and so did the opposition. The only clouds on the horizon were the clouds on the horizon.

King's High won the toss and impertinently chose to bat. The innings began amid showers that were rarely strong enough to force us from the field but were often strong enough to evoke comments from Paul Rutledge, presumably worried that his Jonty-Rhodesian brilliance at cover point would be compromised by the damp.

At lunch KHS were 101 for 5, their scoring having been restricted by ten wily overs on the trot from grizzled Vince Barry. Over ham off the bone, The Willows' captain was heard to remark that he hoped KHS would score enough runs to make a game of it.

They already had enough runs to make a game of it. But after lunch they chose to add another



▲ Well driven young fellow, well watched by Joe Bennett from behind the stumps.

hundred, helped by a wet ball, bad bowling and vigorous hitting from S Jones.

Nevertheless The Willows oozed confidence that verged on arrogance. Openers Matt Fielding and Michael Johns encouraged that confidence by striking the ball repeatedly and with vigour straight to fielders. It seemed only a matter of time before the runs flowed. As it turned out it was only a matter of time before wickets fell. KHS bowled well and fielded with the cruel liteness of youth. Grizzled Willowers and exuberant Willowers alike offered little more resistance to the attack than blades of grass to Vince Cusack's lawnmower. Paul Rutledge was the last man to fall, claiming that he succumbed only because he could smell in the air that the sausages were in danger of overcooking.

The Willows, to put the matter simply, were thrashed in every facet of the game except lunch.

Willows lost by 94 runs

King's High School 202/9

S. Jones 45, B. Rodden 32, G. Scott 32, V. Barry 3/27

Willows 108

M. Johns 33, D. Ford 3/25

Umpires

T. McLisky and R. Shankar

v CHRIST'S COLLEGE 1ST XI

14th January 2007
Report by Garth Galloway

The Willows won the imaginary toss and told Christ's College that they would bat. In trouble at 93/5 in the face of demanding bowling from Ryan, Rattray and Deans Junior, Deans Senior took to attack with some success. Eyeing his century he was dismissed for a fine 87; Galloway chipped in with 31 and The Willows stuttered to 252 all out. Sam Deans took 3/54 but Dunne was memorably accurate, finishing with just 26 runs from his 10 overs.

Things looked miserably as opening bowler for The Willows, Stevens, raced in for the first delivery and promptly pulled his hamstring. Coupled with just 7 runs with the bat, this was an inauspicious contribution and the selectors will be watching carefully for next year's fixture! Christ's College, aided by 52 from Harrison and 46 from captain Ryan, made 225 in another close encounter. The wickets were shared by a lifeless but accurate Willows attack.

A satisfying outing for The Willows which left the selectors purring to captain Galloway that, after consecutive victories, the captaincy for this fixture is his in perpetuity!

Willows won by 27 runs

Willows 252

R. Deans 87, G. Galloway 31, H. Clark 25, S. Deans 3/54

Christ's College 225/9

M. Harrison 52, P. Ryan 46

Umpires

T. McLisky and G. Evans



▲ Alex Reese, a promising leggie, bowling for Christ's College.



▲ Stuart Stevens, who travelled from Wellington on the drive against his old school.



▲ Paul Rutledge gets airborne taking a wide delivery down the legside.

v SUBURBAN XI

21st January 2007

Report by Wade Burrell

Mat Harrington won the toss for Suburban and duly decided to bat on a well prepared pitch which indicated many runs would be forthcoming. Regretfully, Mr Harrington (4) and Mr Johnston (0) soon returned to the pavilion being undone by The Willows' quickie Tony Doody. Efficient innings from Messrs Kendricks, Billingsley, O'Connell and McFarlane resulted in a Suburban total of 190/7 after 50 overs. This latter total was somewhat restricted due to the excellent 'keeping of Joe Bennett who entertained both sides throughout the day with his instant humour.

The Willows innings started, for the first time in the season, at a rapid rate with excellent batting prowess displayed by Jonathan Davidson, Matthew Fielding, Greg Pullar and the skipper, Wade Burrell, with the Suburban total being reached for the loss of only three wickets.

Willows won by 7 wickets

Suburban XI 190/7

Billingsley 39, O'Connell 41

Willows 194/3

J. Davidson 39, M. Fielding 42, G. Pullar 46*

Umpires

P. Proctor and N. Ebert



▲ Derek Burrell, a former Suburban player, now contemplating moving to the retirement village on the hill?

v KING'S COLLEGE 1ST XI (AUCKLAND)



▲ The King's College 1st XI.

24th January 2007

Report by Richard Reid

The Willows XI batted first and complemented by an outstanding century by Sean Coffey (100 retired) got through to 209 off their allotted 40 overs.

Geoff Miller turned the clock back with an excellent 36 and Bob Masefield, belying his No 10 status, engaged in some lusty blows ending 15 not out.

Kings started well but the early introduction of spin into the attack saw them a tad confused. Marty Kain went for 12 runs off his 8 overs and Bob Masefield, Henry Fisher and Andrew Nuttall all went for less than 30 off their allotment. T Stevens batted well being the top scorer.

Trevor Thornton chimed in at the end with his one over and Joe Bennett contributed to his growing status as a latter day Godfrey Evans with 3 stumpings.

Willows won by 56 runs

Willows 209/9

S. Coffey 100 retired, G. Miller 36, P. Baker 2/47, A. Pandey 2/31

Kings College 153

T. Stevens 56, H. Beckett 19, M. Kain 2/12, R. Masefield 2/29, A. Nuttall 2/28

Umpires

J. Elley and B. Malloch

v ST BEDE'S COLLEGE 1ST XI

28th January 2007

Report by Stephen Boock

The Willows were comprehensively outplayed in this match after winning the toss and bowling on an encouraging wicket for seamers. After nine overs, the Bedeans were 3/27. Following St Bede's slow start, The Willows didn't have the firepower to break through the middle order, with the St Bede's total of 233 formed around a mature innings of 78 by Mitchell Kerr. The Willows, with a batting order adequately represented in proportion by a tadpole (mostly tail), never fired with the bat and stumbled to a sorry 118 in 40 overs. Unsurprisingly, the Bedean bowlers shared the wickets and took the trophy to the Rector's desk once again.

Willows lost by 105 runs

St Bede's College 223

M. Kerr 78, M. Teale 40, K. Henry 30, M. Laffey 30

Willows 118

A. Nuttall 33

Umpires

T. McLisky and L. Elliott



▲ Cleighton Cornelius came all the way from Blenheim to lose his bails!



▲ Stephen Boock, Andrew Nuttall and Michael Owens, all former first class players, giving a coaching lesson to the boys at the end of play.



▲ Matthew Teale, who bowled impressively for St Bede's.



▲ More runs for the boys.

v TIMARU BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

4th February 2007

Report by Andrew Ellis

Once again, it was a warm and inviting day that greeted The Willows for the match against the Timaru Boys' High School 1st XI. The first act of the day was a possible indicator for how the day was to end; this being the toss, which was won by Timaru Boys' High and who had no hesitation in batting first.

This may have looked like a regrettable decision as they were soon struggling on a lively wicket at 77/3 off 29 overs thanks to demanding opening spells from Hamish Loe (2/37 and Matt Fielding. However, valuable contributions from M Patel (37), A McKenzie (56) and S Ward (30) saw Timaru Boys' High post a competitive score of 187/5 off their 50 overs.

The Willows were in early strife at 14/3 until a partnership between Andrew Ellis and Nick Johnston brought the victory back into sight. However, once this partnership was broken the bowlers took hold of the match and ended The Willows run chase at 151. R Ford and K Whiteley being the pick of the bowlers.

The win to Timaru Boys' High was a fair outcome on the day, as they totally outplayed the opposition.

Willows lost by 36 runs

Timaru Boys' High School 187/5
M. Patel 37, A. McKenzie 56, S. Ward 30, Extras 31!

Willows 151

A. Ellis 62, N. Johnston 49, R. Ford 4/22

Umpires

T McLisky and J Elley



▲ The Timaru Boys' High School 1st XI.



▲ Another great stumping, this time down the leg side by Nick Johnson.



▲ Kane Whiteley bowling for the Timaru XI.

v ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY COLLEGE 1ST XI

7th February 2007

Report by Keith Yardley

The Willows won the toss and chose to bat. Stand in opener Alex Rowe was the only Willows batsman who took advantage of his promotion and the excellent conditions and scored a well compiled 57, but when he was the fifth Willows batsman to fall, the total was only 99. The tail did not wag and The Willows were dismissed for a paltry and inadequate 139.

The College side's fielding supported their bowlers well. A couple of very smart catches were taken in front of and behind the wicket. Their energy and enthusiasm on the field was in sharp contrast to a lacklustre batting display.

The Willows made an early breakthrough and looked to have a chance of an unlikely victory

until captain Veitch and wicket keeper Alexander Finch combined for a 64 run partnership with sensible risk free batting that saw St Thomas close to victory.

When the partnership was broken, Karl Belcher who had earlier taken 4/21 of his eight overs arrived at the crease. He saw off the best of The Willows' bowlers, the parsimonious Mike Hawke, and then struck a succession of boundaries that saw the College side through to a comfortable five wicket victory and deserved possession of the Brother Bill Dowling Trophy for the first time.

Willows lost by 5 wickets

Willows 139

A. Rowe 57, M. Smit 20*, K. Belcher 4/21

St Thomas of Canterbury College 141/5

T. Veitch 29, A. Finch 29

Umpires

T. McLisky and G. Evans



▲ Archdeacon Mike Hawke praying for a wicket.



▲ Young Tom Agnew showing a lot of promise.

v NELSON COLLEGE 1ST XI

11th February 2007
Report by Richard Hayward

PHaving been inserted on a slow damp pitch, Nelson College found scoring hard against a steady attack. Peter Young-Husband was the outstanding batsman, well supported by Jamie Skeggs. Extras contributed a healthy 36! The total of 162 proved to be short of a challenging target with Fraser Hawes and Bruce Cameron bowling a tight line.

In reply, The Willows were never troubled to reach the target, winning with 10 overs to spare.

The experienced opening pair of Lindsay Thorn and Paul McEwan put on 69 with shots all around the wicket. Cameo innings from Liam Bartholomeusz (24) and Richard Morgan (23 not out) completed a comfortable victory for The Willows.b.

Willows won by 6 wickets

Willows 166/4

L. Thorn, 42, P. McEwan 39

Nelson College 162

P. Young-Husband 41

Umpires

H. Cave and A. Gillespie



▲ Peter Young-Husband gliding one down to fine leg.



▲ Lindsay Thorn in the unusual position of playing defensively!



▲ The Nelson College 1st XI.



▲ Matthew Laffey of the St Bede's College 1st XI bowling for The Willows.

v SOUTHLAND BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

18th February 2007
Report by Geoff Allott

It is interesting how your perspective of a game changes as a result of a couple of extra runs here and there.

Standing proudly beside The Match Manager at the presentations at the end of the day (it's a different story if you have just lost), I was preparing for a short victory speech which acknowledged a courageous effort by Southland, but focused on the professional and patient effort by The Willows to grab victory by just two runs.

How things can apparently change! Halfway through the speeches, an embarrassed scorer (who will remain nameless due to our appreciation of his giving up time) came running from his station in the corner of the ground waving the score sheet. Whispering to me, he announced that there had been an adding error earlier in Southland's innings and it appeared that they had in fact got the runs that were required to win the game.

Prompting an immediate change in mindset, I gave greater thought to the match and the performance of the Southland team in particular. Yes, we had bowled and fielded well to defend our score of 198, but perhaps more appropriately (and deserving of victory), was the effort of the Southland team that started for some that day at 5.30am.

In classic dedication to playing at The Willows, they made a sterling effort to fly on the morning of the match from Invercargill, play our game, and then return to Invercargill that evening to prepare for an inter-school game against Shirley Boys' High School the following morning. On top of this was a couple of stand out performances, namely from Finn and Dawson with the bat, and Robinson with the ball.



▲ Julian Marsh – all expectation.

Earlier in the day we had set a reasonable total, with good contributions coming from Cowlshaw, Johnstone and O'Gorman, but an impressive display of pace bowling from Robinson curtailed any effort to achieve a more respectable score of over 200.

The Willows' bowling and fielding was solid, and we thought we had done enough for victory. This proved not to be the case, and it was Southland's mature approach to opening the batting that proved the difference. Their first two wickets earned them 150 runs, with Finn, Dawson and Low all playing a part.

So, despite walking proudly from the field thinking we had defended The Willows' honour; perhaps the efforts, dedication and devotion to playing at The Willows displayed by the Southland Boys' team was more deserving on the day.

Willows lost by 2 wickets

Willows 198

A. Johnstone 43, A. Cowlshaw 41, Robinson 5/26

Southland Boys' High School 200/8

Finn 82, Dawson 50, Wolt 3/43

Umpires

H. Fowler and G. Evans

V VALLEY OF PEACE XI

18th February 2007
Report by Joe Bennett

A rare trip for The Willows to the far end of an obscure lane somewhere near Halswell and the famous pocket handkerchief ground beside a herd of curious alpacas. The cicadas strummed, the leaves rustled in the summer breeze, the sun shone. Valley of Peace won the toss and batted and the runs came readily once the shadow of the giant walnut tree had left the pitch.

Almost everyone bowled and almost everyone got carted for 4s and 2s, which are the Valley's version of 6s and 4s. Many a ball-fetching visit was paid to the paddock of alpacas whose curiosity waned in the heat and who eventually lay down to snooze. Lunch was excellent and the bar was open all day.

Opening for The Willows, Matt Henderson and Geoff Barclay woke the alpacas by heavy bombardment. Barclay was particularly savage. But once both men had contrived to get themselves stumped by just over half a pitch, matters settled down. Then J Kerrison bowled a spell of remarkably slow off-breaks, or perhaps leg breaks, or maybe googlies, off a remarkably long run and wickets fell like cicada shells. He took 5/29. But all was well in the end and The Willows won by one wicket with a few overs to spare and then leant cheerfully against the bar to watch the sun come down on the end of a summer's day that would be hard to fault.

Willows won by 1 wicket

Valley of Peace 231/9
 M. Wells 62, G. Craig 2/17

Willows 233/9
 G. Barclay 58, M. Henderson 43,
 J. Kerrison 5/29



▲ A number of umpires and their wives attended a luncheon during the St Andrew's match.



▲ Mitch MacDonald bowling against his old school.



▲ A scene of some of the spectators.

V ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE 1ST XI

25th February 2007
Report by Mitchell MacDonald

On another good looking Willows deck, The Willows won the toss and elected to bat to try and claim back the John MacDonald Trophy.

With an early injury retirement from Paul McEwan, it took Andrew McRae to come and steady the innings with a sturdy 36, after his 99 last year.

The STAC attack looked more promising from previous years and at one stage The Willows were 5 for 92. Scrumpy Johnston lead The Willows' comeback with an unbeaten 32 not out with the same big hitting which chimed in from the tail. The Willows made it through to a defendable 195 for 9.

Mention needs to be made of D Munro who showed some outstanding line and length bowling.

With a bowling attack sprinkled with young and old, Scrumpy Johnston and Tim Johnston (not related) spearheaded the attack with Tim, a very promising off-spin bowler from Shirley Boys' High School, taking five wickets.

J Winchester top scored for STAC with 30 but it was never going to be enough. STAC were all out for 144, so a rewarding victory for The Willows.

Willows won by 51 runs

Willows 195/9
 A. McRae 36, M. Johnston 32*, D. Munro 5/47

St Andrew's College 144
 J. Winchester 30, M. Johnston 2/17,
 T. Johnston 5/26

Umpires
 C. Fenwick and B. Hamilton



▲ Mike Johnston driving beautifully through the covers.



▲ Tim Johnston, a member of the Shirley Boys' High School 1st XI playing for The Willows and bowling from the duck pond end.



▲ The St Andrew's College 1st XI.

v SHIRLEY BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

4th March 2007

Report by David Grocott

Yet another beautiful day saw a relatively youthful Willows side, featuring eight Old Boys of Shirley, electing to bat first in front of a large contingent of Shirley Boys' parents (who thoroughly enjoyed their day at The Willows).

The Willows' batting was solid with a number of useful partnerships. Despite only scoring 42 runs off the last 10 overs, 189 was a competitive score. Michael Peacock and Matt Fielding were the pick of The Willows' batsmen. The best bowling came from Shirley Boys' captain Josh Reeves, who conceded only 14 runs from 9.1 overs, including two wickets. Tawera Waru also bowled well.

One feature of the game was the stunning boundary catch by Shirley Boys' all rounder, James Grice, whose tumbling dive plucked the ball out of air as it was headed for six.

Shirley's openers made a promising start but the introduction of Colin Hight and Peter Young-Husband to the bowling crease ripped the heart out of the Shirley batting and they finished well short.

Willows won by 86 runs

Willows 189

M. Peacock 36, M. Fielding 31

Shirley Boys' High School 103/10

C. Hight 3/13, P. Young-Husband 3/22

Umpires

J. Elley and T. McLisky



▲ Another shattered innings!



▲ Well stumped, Tim Johnston.



▲ David Grocott, coach of the Shirley Boys' High School 1st XI, bowling against his side.



▲ The ever jovial Anthony Polson after being stumped!



▲ Matthew Fielding playing through midwicket against Shirley Boys' High School.

v ARTHUR PITCHER'S XI

7th March 2007

Report by Archdeacon Mike Hawke

Mr Pitcher won the toss, elected to bat but alas soon saw the wheels fall off his XI due to some excellent Willows bowling from Franklin, Sparks, Astle, Sheard, Scott and Archdeacon Hawke.

94 was not a realistic target and in spite of Harry Simons' eagerness to repeat last year's hat trick, the total was soon achieved as a result of a fine innings from Ben Orton who scored 51 before retiring.

The trophy, thankfully, was reinstated in The Willows' pavilion with Mr Pitcher threatening a more competitive game in 2008.

Willows won by 7 wickets

Arthur Pitcher's XI 94

A. Sheard 3/20

Willows 96/3

B. Orton 51 retired

Umpires

J. Elley and T. McLisky



▲ Lyn Sparks back in action after a brief spell on the sideline.



▲ Arthur Pitcher on the defensive, Harry Simons not to repeat his hat trick from the previous year!



▲ Another good shot from Ben Orton.



▲ Wayne Miller sizzles the sausages after the Timaru Boys' High match.



▲ Roger Knight, former Secretary of MCC, with his ex-Cambridge University colleague Richard Bromley, a founding member of The Willows.



▲ The Deans contingent, young and old.



▲ Donkeys were back at the ground during the Hawkswood fixture.



▲ John Masefield from Akaroa driving beautifully through the covers.



▲ Representatives of the Combined Schools XI in their respective school uniforms.



▲ Sunset approaching on another perfect Sunday.



▲ A wonderful leg side stumping by Logan van Beek.



▲ On this occasion, it's the the caption-writer who is stumped.



▲ Andrew Ellis, a current member of the Canterbury team, speaking to Timaru Boys' High School players at the end of the play.



▲ James Hantz bowling from the sight screen end.



▲ A view behind the pavilion towards the entrance.

v CANTERBURY COUNTRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS XI

11th March 2007

Report by Graham Moore

The son won the toss but the father won the match. A first for The Willows saw father and son, Graham and Lee Moore, captain rival teams. Asked to bat first, a strong looking Willows batting line up was soon struggling at 51/4 as opening bowlers Andrew Rodgers and Richard Johnston shared the early spoils for the Country XI.

Mike Satterthwaite then steadied the ship with a polished half century and received good support from Tim Coop in a partnership of 69 for the 5th wicket. Greg McCarthy and Richard Abbott produced valuable runs late in the innings to see The Willows through to 190. Rodgers picked up two more wickets in his second spell to finish with impressive figures, while young off-spinner, Jed Robertson, also bowled well. Adam Baker held two smart slip catches for the boys.

The Country openers Micah Campbell and Lee Moore began the chase for the target with real aggression. However, when Moore departed in the 6th over, caught by his father, with the team score at 28, Tony Doody produced a lethal three over spell in which he captured five wickets for just six runs. At 34/6 the Country tail enders faced too big a challenge and the team were eventually dismissed for 69.

Willows won by 121 runs

Willows 190

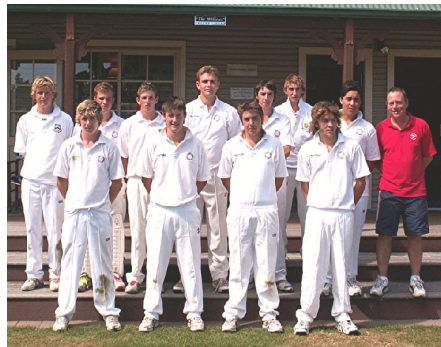
M. Satterthwaite 51, A. Rodgers 4/38

Combined Country Sec Schools 69

A. Doody 5/17

Umpire

R. Abbott



▲ The Country Secondary Schools XI.



▲ The captain of The Willows, Graham Moore, catches his son, captain of the Schools XI.



▲ The Willows' speedster Tony Doody after claiming five wickets.

v LONDON NEW ZEALAND CC XI

25th March 2007

Report by Jacob Wolt

A magnificent day and two evenly matched teams. The Willows, a mix of youth (average age of youngest eight players a tad under 20), plus three geriatrics (Messrs Barry, Wolt and Thornton average age 51) set about to achieve something no Willows side had managed since 1995. To defeat LNZCC.

Electing to bat, The Willows scored relatively freely throughout its innings with the foundation being laid by Logan van Beek with a well compiled, chanceless century.

The variation in The Willows bowling attack with 10 bowlers being used, contained the opposition to 200 all out. Of note is that Trevor Thornton managed to get his annual wicket.

A fine win by The Willows and a superb day out to finish the season.

Willows won by 38 runs

Willows 238/9

L. van Beek 101 retired,

A. Fullerton-Smith 38, J. Lester 3/22

London New Zealand 200

J. Wolt 3/30

Umpires

J. Elley and J. Porter



▲ Vince Barry saving a certain boundary.



▲ Logan van Beek, a member of the St Andrew's 1st XI, acknowledging applause for his well compiled 100.



▲ M Parker hitting through square leg.



▲ Trevor Thornton plays carefully.



▲ A glorious shot from a Christchurch Boys' High School batsman.



▲ Richard Morgan on the drive against Otago Boys' High School.



▲ Frank Cameron, former NZ representative, reading Don Neely's book on coaching.



▲ His Excellency, The Governor-General of New Zealand, The Honorable Anand Satyanand and Her Excellency Susan Satyanand, together with Elsa Edgar, the honorary Willows gardener.



▲ His Excellency with The Willows XI.



▲ His Excellency enjoying an excellent lunch with Willowers.



▲ Gordon Fulton looking as though he's just been coached by his son Peter, the current NZ Black Cap.



▲ Frank Noster having a go at the 'Honest Trundlers'.

v HONEST TRUNDLERS XI (AUST)

28th March 2007

Report by Joe Bennett

The Honest Trundlers comprised three players from the Bradman Foundation who visited last year and an assortment of eager types drawn from all over Australia plus one from Holland. They wore a tie that rivalled The Willows' tie for tastelessness.

Having won the toss on a mild day, The Willows chose to bat and made merry despite a greenish track and an emerald outfield. David Bond hit lustily through the leg side and was troubled only by Mike Hawke's enthusiasm for running threes. After twenty overs, The Willows' captain was making throat-slitting gestures from the pavilion to both batsmen. Neither could find a way of getting himself out however, and both retired with half centuries. In came Phil Harris who did the same. In 40 overs, The Willows knocked up 217 for 5 which was actually for 2.

The Trundlers' captain confided that after number five they didn't have an awful lot of batting. The Willows' response was to take a series of catches of unexampled brilliance. Jacob Wolt clasped a stringer at mid-off with

his thighs, David Bond held one at point by flinging himself horizontally to his left like a Chinese acrobat, and Michael Hawke made a fierce slip catch look like taking communion. Shortly afterwards, a monstrous skier soared. Because The Willows had posted the sort of field that the West Indies favoured in the eighties, only Alistair Sheard was in front of the wicket on the leg side. Good luck, called the 'keeper. Bets were laid. Alistair ran twenty yards and pouched the ball in both hands without the least suggestion of ever dropping it. In consequence the Trundlers' batting was all gone inside fifteen overs and after that it was just a case of playing the game out. The only man to score any runs for the visitors had recently had a laser operation on his eyes and claimed to be seeing double.

Willows won by 73 runs

Willows 217/5

D. Bond 54 retired, M. Hawke 64 retired, P. Harris 51 retired

The Honest Trundlers 144/8

L. Tegg 41

Umpires

T. McLisky and J. Elley

RAINED OFF

v South Canterbury XI

1 October

v Waitaki Boys'/St Kevin's XI

18 March

CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

(Minimum of 5 innings / 10 overs)

	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	O	M	Runs	Wkt	Avge
Abbott, R.E.	6	1	73	14.6	88	15	359	10	35.9
Aberhart, D.C.	6	3	92	30.7	40	5	163	5	32.6
Allott, G.I.	9	3	89	14.8	99	23	319	23	13.9
Anderson, C.J.	13	1	389	32.4	118	30	319	11	29.0
Astle, T.D.	2	-	34	17.0	17	4	37	9	4.1
Baker, C.K.	11	2	179	19.9	47	3	227	7	32.4
Barry, V.E.	9	3	38	6.3	72	9	252	8	31.5
Bateman, S.N.	7	2	106	21.2	60	6	249	9	27.7
Bayliss, R.T.	6	-	78	13.0	-	-	-	-	-
Bennett, J.	29	11	323	17.9	9	1	53	3	17.7
Bisman, C.W.	8	2	318	53.0	81	12	246	19	12.9
Bisman, J.C.	6	1	117	23.4	57	6	218	6	36.3
Blakely, J.E.	7	1	201	33.5	57	7	159	6	26.5
Bond, D.W.	33	6	1231	45.6	25	1	207	1	207.0
Boock, S.L.	5	2	19	6.3	84	16	252	14	18.0
Boyle, J.G.	6	1	196	39.2	12	-	46	-	-
Bromley, G.R.	11	1	267	26.7	34	2	136	6	22.7
Bromley, R.C.	7	1	56	9.3	8	3	34	2	17.0
Brook, B.P.	5	-	104	20.8	25	-	137	4	34.3
Brooks, G.N.B.	12	2	486	48.6	29	2	111	4	27.8
Bull, C.L.	16	1	200	13.3	22	2	103	2	51.5
Burrell, A.E.	13	1	296	24.7	14	1	46	2	23.0
Burrell, D.C.	28	11	834	49.1	112	10	514	15	34.3
Burrell, W.M.	25	5	576	28.8	116	20	443	23	19.3
Burson, R.D.B.	6	2	148	37.0	65	7	171	15	11.4
Cameron, B.S.	5	2	26	8.7	11	-	49	2	24.5
Cameron, B.W.J.	6	1	59	11.8	54	6	195	8	24.4
Campbell, A.J.M.	2	1	4	4.0	38	9	157	7	22.4
Chisholm, D.H.	15	2	133	10.2	-	-	-	-	-
Clark, C.R.	3	-	47	15.7	17	2	61	6	10.2
Coll, J.P.	15	4	373	33.9	218	21	480	26	18.5
Colvin, G.G.	6	2	124	31.0	67	9	220	12	18.3
Coop, T.A.	9	1	207	25.9	7	-	42	-	-
Cornelius, C.J.	12	1	258	23.5	70	12	248	13	19.1
Cornelius, W.A.	18	4	146	10.4	178	34	516	37	13.9
Cowles, R.J.	13	2	118	10.7	7	1	28	3	9.3
Cunliffe, J.J.	6	-	90	15.0	1	1	-	1	-
Cunneen, C.M.M.	6	-	133	22.2	31	4	118	5	23.6
Cunneen, O.A.	5	-	15	3.0	7	-	31	1	31.0
Cusack, D.R.	35	7	1084	38.7	2	-	20	-	-
d'Auvergne, N.R.	3	-	51	17.0	30	7	71	6	11.8
d'Auvergne, P.G.	7	1	61	10.2	30	3	98	7	14.0
Davidson, A.F.	7	-	62	8.9	47	6	248	7	35.4
Davidson, J.A.F.	8	2	211	35.2	4	-	14	-	-
Davis, S.J.	16	4	235	19.6	132	22	495	22	22.5
Devine, H.St.A.	3	3	14	-	30	4	103	5	20.6
Devlin, P.C.	23	6	569	33.5	27	2	120	5	24.0
Diamanti, B.J.	3	1	155	77.5	36	5	117	6	19.5
Doody, B.J.K.	4	1	127	42.3	18	1	78	8	9.8
Doody, H.A.	5	-	18	3.6	33	3	161	7	23.0
Doody, T.J.	8	4	23	5.8	115	5	445	24	18.5
Dormer, B.L.	9	1	201	25.1	2	-	12	-	-
Dormer, P.E.	7	1	22	3.7	20	-	84	3	28.0
Ellis, A.M. (ex-Burnside)	11	4	285	40.7	66	8	251	11	22.8
Ellis, A.M. (ex-SBHS)	12	4	366	45.8	58	20	146	8	18.3
Ellis, M.J.	8	4	12	3.0	56	1	301	8	37.6

	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	O	M	Runs	Wkt	Avge
Fairbairn, W.R.T.	13	4	166	18.4	66	12	254	6	42.3
Fielding, M.D.	18	2	525	32.8	86	13	316	15	21.1
Fisher, M.A.	8	1	101	14.4	3	-	9	-	-
Fisher, T.D.L.	4	3	304	304.0	5	1	27	2	13.5
Flanagan, C.W.	4	1	119	39.7	47	11	167	5	33.4
Flanagan, S.P.	15	2	352	27.1	120	15	421	19	22.2
Fox, D.O.	13	5	89	11.1	74	2	372	8	46.5
Fullerton-Smith, A.D.	13	1	451	37.6	5	-	28	-	-
Fulton, G.H.	11	3	141	17.6	5	1	15	1	15.0
Fulton, P.G.	9	-	362	40.2	34	2	163	3	54.3
Gardner, J.	11	2	120	13.3	6	-	29	2	14.5
Germon, L.K.	8	3	313	62.6	5	-	50	1	50.0
Gibson, S.D.	28	1	500	18.5	140	17	545	13	41.9
Goudie, A.J.	5	2	43	14.3	38	3	174	13	13.4
Grocott, D.J.	7	4	109	36.3	92	23	222	18	12.3
Grocott, J.W.	9	2	48	6.9	5	-	34	1	34.0
Hadlee, D.R.	9	4	256	51.2	70	19	196	12	16.3
Hadlee, M.J.	6	1	224	44.8	34	10	111	5	22.2
Hamel, M.J.	12	1	316	28.7	60	7	283	9	31.4
Hansen, J.W.	6	2	21	5.3	36	4	126	-	-
Hantz, J.L.	9	-	261	29.0	14	1	72	4	18.0
Harding, S.C.	2	-	33	16.5	28	9	93	8	11.6
Harris, B.Z.	8	1	201	28.7	67	7	225	10	22.5
Harris, P.D.	48	13	1301	37.2	263	33	1060	46	23.0
Hastilow, A.J.	9	2	99	14.1	80	13	335	15	22.3
Hastings, B.F.	10	3	235	33.6	9	2	23	1	23.0
Hastings, M.B.	26	2	238	9.9	226	38	870	42	20.7
Hawes, F.C.	6	2	72	18.0	93	17	300	19	15.8
Hawke, M.J.	12	4	265	33.1	74	13	271	10	27.1
Hayward, R.E.	5	1	106	26.5	37	4	164	4	41.0
Hight, C.M.	14	6	240	30.0	97	24	253	21	12.0
Hiini, B.C.	9	2	216	30.9	65	15	208	11	18.9
Hudson, H.J.	12	2	187	18.7	20	2	80	1	80.0
Hudson, M.G.	7	-	114	16.3	57	5	238	10	23.8
Hutton, O.R.	6	1	239	47.8	36	9	140	7	20.0
Ikram, H.	5	2	56	18.7	83	5	374	14	26.7
Inglis, G.D.	37	8	935	32.2	116	12	493	20	24.7
Innes, J.T.	15	2	475	36.5	71	11	246	15	16.4
Irvine, B.S.	11	4	107	15.3	104	11	444	7	63.4
James, C.D.	17	-	434	25.5	6	-	28	2	14.0
Johns, A.M.	6	1	278	55.6	17	2	61	4	15.3
Johnston, M.T.	9	3	163	27.2	36	5	121	8	15.1
Johnston, T.	2	-	23	11.5	16	1	82	7	11.7
Johnstone, A.F.	10	1	162	18.0	3	-	23	1	23.0
Joyce, P.R.	11	-	151	13.7	2	1	6	1	6.0
Lancaster, M.J.	11	-	163	14.8	9	1	39	-	-
Lancaster, T.E.	7	1	187	31.2	39	8	101	8	12.6
Landon-Lane, M.E.	13	4	313	34.8	33	3	121	3	40.3
Langrope, S.L.	5	1	122	30.5	-	-	-	-	-
Latham, R.T.	10	2	183	22.9	53	9	175	10	17.5
Leggat, J.E.	5	-	50	10.0	10	1	36	2	18.0
Loe, H.F.	4	2	26	13.0	50	6	173	7	24.7
McCarthy, G.P.	17	1	220	13.8	36	1	191	12	15.9
McCarthy, P.B.	12	2	463	46.3	36	5	136	8	17.0
McCone, R.J.	4	1	23	7.7	30	7	71	7	10.1
McFedries, A.G.	23	2	641	30.5	199	24	786	29	27.1
McGuire, R.D.	20	10	365	36.5	183	19	710	29	24.5
McIntyre, B.S.M.	8	-	199	24.9	66	10	217	14	15.5
McKenzie, M.N.	11	2	387	43.0	88	10	374	12	31.2
MacLeod, A.L.L.	5	1	69	17.3	38	5	157	11	14.3
McMillan, D.H.A.	12	4	211	26.4	126	30	419	22	19.0

	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	O	M	Runs	Wkt	Avge
Mcrae, A.R.	19	4	452	30.1	85	9	343	12	28.6
Mcrae, J.A.	5	-	30	6.0	2	-	11	1	11.0
Marsh, J.D.	5	-	123	24.6	39	5	140	5	28.0
Martin, S.G.D.	4	-	48	12.0	33	1	82	11	7.5
Masefield, R.V.	9	3	85	14.2	70	10	248	14	17.7
Masefield, T.J.	7	1	125	20.8	12	-	25	3	8.3
Maw, P.A.C.	6	-	195	32.5	19	3	76	1	76.0
Maw, D.J.M.	7	1	103	17.2	9	-	38	1	38.0
Miller, G.A.	20	2	333	18.5	1	-	14	1	14.0
Miller, R.M.	10	3	386	55.1	52	8	174	8	21.8
Mills, D.L.T.	12	1	182	16.5	20	1	117	1	117.0
Mitchell, W.J.	25	3	439	20.0	50	8	156	9	17.3
Nathu, A.	13	1	356	29.7	10	-	58	1	58.0
Newton, B.I.P.	8	2	147	24.5	41	6	167	6	27.8
Nielsen, T.N.	17	4	225	17.3	145	24	521	32	16.3
Nuttall, A.J.	41	17	543	22.6	513	134	1249	121	10.3
Owens, M.B.	5	4	36	36.0	37	7	143	5	28.6
Page, R.J.	5	-	119	23.8	3	-	13	-	-
Parr, M.J.	7	1	123	20.5	56	7	182	9	20.2
Pavey, H.T.	5	3	60	30.0	37	3	171	6	28.5
Pawson, J.D.	21	5	443	27.7	155	28	460	24	19.2
Pawson, S.J.	6	-	166	27.7	16	5	54	3	18.0
Peacock, M.D.P.	13	5	161	20.1	141	40	371	23	16.1
Pettet, C.M.	10	2	185	23.1	-	-	-	-	-
Pitcher, A.C.	6	1	12	2.4	15	1	99	2	49.5
Priest, M.W.	5	2	143	47.7	78	19	258	10	25.8
Reid, J.F.	6	2	205	51.3	16	-	65	1	65.0
Reid, R.B.	5	-	64	12.8	9	-	52	3	17.3
Rennell, C.P.	5	-	52	10.4	-	-	-	-	-
Robertson, I.A.	11	3	498	62.3	91	17	273	8	34.1
Rutledge, P.D.	32	4	316	11.3	10	-	82	1	82.0
Satterthwaite, M.F.	14	-	277	19.8	5	-	30	-	-
Savill, C.M.	33	8	412	16.5	34	-	216	10	21.6
Sawers, A.J.	6	2	175	43.8	-	-	-	-	-
Scott, D.W.G.	10	4	77	12.8	26	1	141	8	17.6
Seabourn, C.R.	2	-	24	12.0	23	3	75	5	15.0
Shaw, M.	5	1	104	26.0	32	9	88	7	12.6
Smith, G.B.	14	2	174	14.5	1	-	6	-	-
Sowden, C.J.S.	5	-	96	19.2	30	8	83	7	11.9
Sparks, L.C.	16	6	152	15.2	178	37	597	34	17.6
Stead, D.W.	5	-	71	14.2	45	4	211	6	35.2
Stevens, S.D.	11	5	75	12.5	144	14	684	22	31.1
Stone, C.S.	7	-	222	31.7	14	2	38	4	9.5
Stone, M.B.	9	-	120	13.3	62	7	291	7	41.6
Thiele, C.H.	10	2	57	7.1	108	14	413	13	31.8
Thomson, G.L.	28	4	860	35.8	14	-	81	1	81.0
Thorn, L.D.A.	13	2	229	20.8	7	-	55	1	55.0
Thornton, T.F.	7	-	98	14.0	7	-	23	3	7.7
Townrow, W.B.	7	2	48	9.6	77	9	268	13	20.6
Wallace, P.E.	9	3	86	14.3	-	-	-	-	-
Ward, J.	11	3	224	28.0	52	3	265	11	24.1
Weeds, M.G.	8	2	182	30.3	4	-	16	-	-
Wolt, J.R.K.	9	4	22	4.4	161	23	649	28	23.2
Wood, P.	5	1	48	12.0	20	3	81	2	40.5
Wright, H.G.	5	-	15	3.0	26	3	99	4	24.8
Wright, M.J.E.	5	-	48	9.6	-	-	-	-	-
Wright, M.J.W.	13	4	455	50.6	17	-	72	5	14.4
Yardley, K.J.	12	7	19	3.8	179	21	727	33	22.0
Yock, B.A.	10	2	448	56.0	11	-	72	1	72.0
Young, A.K.	1	-	5	5.0	18	1	82	6	13.7

RECORDS

Summary of Results

	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	Drawn
1994/95	13	12	1	-	-
1995/96	17	12	4	-	1
1996/97	17	10	6	-	1
1997/98	21	14	6	1	-
1998/99	18	10	7	-	1
1999/00	19	9	10	-	-
2000/01	23	17	6	-	-
2001/02	21	15	4	2	-
2002/03	21	16	5	-	-
2003/04	22	15	7	-	-
2004/05	22	13	8	-	1
2005/06	26	14	12	-	-
2006/07	26	13	13	-	-
Total	266	170	89	3	4

Aggregate Innings Totals

(For home games by Willows teams)

	Inns	Runs	Wkts	Avge/ Wkt	Avge Total
1994/95	13	2,702	105	25.7	207
1995/96	15	2,930	100	29.3	195
1996/97	16	3,007	106	28.3	187
1997/98	19	4,306	128	33.6	226
1998/99	17	3,584	134	26.7	210
1999/00	18	3,128	145	21.5	173
2000/01	22	5,149	162	31.8	234
2001/02	21	4,053	152	26.7	193
2002/03	21	4,304	134	32.1	204
2003/04	22	4,757	170	28.0	216
2004/05	22	4,525	162	27.9	206
2005/06	26	5,506	210	26.2	211
2006/07	25	4,410	210	21.0	176
Total	257	52,361	1,918	27.2	204

Highest Team Scores (50 overs)

For	330/6	v Woodbank Wanderers	22.03.98
	324/5	v Christ's College	08.01.06
	318/6	v Dunedin Cavaliers	01.02.98
Against	309/7	by Millbrook XI	25.01.98
	302/6	by Flaxton Wanderers	26.11.00
	299/7	by Nelson College	26.02.01

Lowest Team Scores

For	69	v Christ's College	27.10.96
	79	v Clarrie Anderson's XI	09.01.00
	79	v Combined Secondary Schools XI	26.11.06
Against	51	by Christ's College	14.10.01
	60	by Combined Secondary Schools XI	20.11.05
	71	by St Bede's College	03.02.02

Honours – Batting

(All retired)

K.A.Amblor	100	v Shirley Boys' High School	27.02.05
C.J.Anderson	100	v Marlborough Boys' College	20.10.02
C.G.Bartholomeusz	101	v St Bede's College	29.01.06
C.W.Bisman	100	v Nth Canty Secondary Schools	21.02.99
D.W.Bond	102	v Crusaders XI	17.03.01
D.W.Bond	100	v Nelson College	16.02.03
A.E.Burrell	100	v St Andrew's College	18.02.96
D.C.Burrell	102	v Ohoka Swamphears	28.01.96
D.C.Burrell	100	v Dunedin Cavaliers	02.02.97
D.C.Burrell	100	v Mt Hutt College	14.01.01
W.M.Burrell	100	v Nth Canty Secondary Schools	05.03.00
S.T.Coffey	100	v King's College (Auckland)	24.01.07
D.R.Cusack	100	v Burnside High School	30.11.03
P.C.Devlin	102	v Nth Canty Secondary Schools	11.03.01
B.J.Diamanti	100	v Marlborough Boys' College	20.10.02
B.J.K.Doody	100	v Christ's College	14.10.01
T.D.L.Fisher	102	v Christ's College	08.01.06
A.D.Fullerton-Smith	104	v Medbury Headmaster's XI	20.03.05
D.R.Hadlee	100	v Clarrie Anderson's XI	30.11.97
M.J.Hadlee	100	v Woodbank Wanderers	26.03.98
P.D.Harris	100	v Woodbank Wanderers	26.03.95
P.D.Harris	102	v Millbrook XI	25.01.98
P.D.Harris	104	v Woodbank Wanderers	25.03.01
O.R.Hutton	100	v Southland Boys' High School	06.03.05
G.D.Inglis	100	v Timary Boys' High School	25.01.04
R.T.Latham	100	v St Andrew's College	26.02.95
P.B.McCarthy	102	v St Bede's College	09.02.97
P.E.McEwan	104	v Flaxton Wanderers	20.11.94
P.E.McEwan	109	v Montana Wine XI	23.01.00
M.N.M.McKenzie	100	v Millbrook XI	25.01.98
R.M.Miller	100	v Dunedin Cavaliers	01.02.98
B.Orton	102	v Otago Boys' High School	29.10.06
J.D.Pawson	100	v Peninsula Craz	10.11.02
I.A.Robertson	100	v Wellington College	27.10.02
I.A.Robertson	100	v South Canterbury XI	03.10.04
G.L.Thomson	100	v Medbury Headmaster's XI	16.03.97
G.L.Thomson	100	v Christchurch BHS	05.12.99
G.L.Thomson	100	v Shirley BHS	04.03.01
L.van Beek	101	v London NZ CC	25.03.07
M.J.W.Wright	100	v Woodbank Wanderers	24.03.02
M.J.W.Wright	102	v Woodbank Wanderers	23.03.03
B.A.Yock	106	v Woodbank Wanderers	26.11.00

Honours – Bowling

(Maximum 10 overs)

G.I.Allott	6-23	v Christchurch BHS	01.12.02
J.P.Coll	6-32	v Peninsula Craz	10.11.02
A.J.Gourdie	6-50	v St Andrew's College	24.02.02
R.V.Masefield	5-5	v North Canterbury Secondary Schools	07.03.04
A.J.Nuttall	5-8	v St Andrew's College	15.02.98
M.Shaw	5-8	v Shirley Boys' High School	05.03.06
T.D.Astle	5-10	v St Thomas College	09.02.05
J.T.Innes	5-13	v Mobil Oil XI	14.11.99
F.C.Hawes	5-15	v Combined Secondary Schools	23.11.03
A.C.Maw	5-17	v North Canterbury Secondary Schools	07.03.04
T.J.Doody	5-17	v Canterbury Country Sec Schools	11.03.07
L.C.Sparks	5-19	v Ben Harris XI	19.02.95
T.Johnston	5-26	v St Andrew's College	25.02.07
M.D.P.Peacock	5-25	v Wanganui Collegiate	23.10.05
T.E.Lancaster	5-26	v London NZ CC	26.11.95
W.A.Cornelius	5-27	v London NZ CC	19.12.99
A.G.McFedries	5-29	v Flaxton Wanderers	26.02.97
M.B.S.McIntyre	5-30	v Otago Boys' High School	02.11.03
W.A.Cornelius	5-32	v Medbury Headmaster's XI	12.03.00
R.Abbott	5-32	v Nelson College	16.02.03

Batsmen – 1000 runs milestone

Season

2004/05	P.D.Harris
2005/06	D.W.Bond
2005/06	D.R.Cusack
2006/07	P.E.McEwan

Bowlers – 100 wickets milestone

Season

2005/06	A.J.Nuttall
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Shadbolt Trophy

(Awarded each year for Best Performance by a Junior Willower.)

1994/95	S.J.Davis	3-19	v Ben Harris XI
1995/96	N.Perkins	68	v Motueka Wekas
1996/97	P.B.McCarthy	102	v St Bede's College
1997/98	R.M.Miller	100	v Dunedin Cavaliers
1998/99	C.W.Bisman	100	v Nth Canty Sec Schools
1999/00	J.P.Coll	4-30	v Hawkswood Wanderers
2000/01	A.Johnstone (wk)	104	v Woodbank Wanderers
2001/02	A.J.Gourdie	6-50	v St Andrew's College
2002/03	R.Abbott	5-32	v Nelson College
2003/04	M.Fielding	86	v Combined Schools XI
2004/05	K.A.Amblor	100	v Shirley Boys' High School
2005/06	C.G.Bartholomeusz	101	v Wanganui Collegiate
2006/07	S.T.Coffey	101	v London NZ CC XI

49ers Cup

(Awarded each year for Most Meritorious Performance by a Secondary School XI.)

1998/99	North Canterbury Secondary Schools XI
1999/00	St Bede's College
2000/01	Marlborough Boys' College
2001/02	Wanganui Collegiate School
2002/03	Shirley Boys' High School
2003/04	Timaru Boys' High School
2004/05	Wellington College
2005/06	Nelson College
2006/07	Christchurch Boys' High School

Visitor Honours 2006/07 Season

5-26	R.Robinson
5-47	D.Munro
4-21	K.Belcher
4-22	R.Ford
4-23	B.Wheeler
4-38	R.Stoddart
4-38	A.Rogers

RESULTS

W = win L= loss D = draw T = tie

Home Games

	94-5	95-6	96-7	97-8	98-9	99-0	00-1	01-2	02-3	03-4	04-5	05-6	06-7
Christ's College	W	L	L	W	L	W	-	W	-	W	-	W	W
Christchurch BHS	W	W	W	W	D	W	W	W	W	-	-	W	L
Hawkswood Wanderers	W	L	L	L	L	L	L	W	L	L	L	L	L
Flaxton Wanderers	W	W	W	L	L	-	W	L	-	L	-	-	-
London NZ CC	W	W	-	L	L	L	-	-	-	L	-	L	W
Ohoka Swampkens	W	W	W	W	L	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Bede's College	W	W	W	L	W	L	L	W	W	-	L	W	L
Ben Harris XI	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Andrew's College	W	W	W	W	L	W	W	L	W	W	W	W	W
Clarrie Anderson's XI	W	W	W	W	W	L	L	-	-	W	L	-	L
Medbury Headmaster's XI	L	W	W	-	-	L	W	W	L	L	W	L	-
Woodbank Wanderers	W	W	-	W	L	L	W	W	W	W	-	-	-
Canterbury U-17 XI	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peninsula Craz	-	D	L	W	W	W	W	L	W	W	L	L	L
Dunedin Cavaliers	-	L	W	W	-	W	W	-	L	W	L	L	-
Nth Canty Sec Schools	-	W	D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	-
Motueka Wekas	-	W	-	L	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canterbury Emerging XI	-	-	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mobil Oil XI	-	-	L	W	W	W	W	W	-	-	-	-	-
Wellington President's XI	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Te Awamutu College	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wanganui Collegiate	-	-	-	W	-	W	-	L	-	L	-	W	-
NZ Police XI (Christchurch)	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Millbrook XI	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suburban XI	-	-	-	W	L	L	W	-	L	L	-	W	W
South Canterbury XI	-	-	-	-	W	-	L	W	W	-	W	W	-
Marlborough Boys' College	-	-	-	-	W	-	W	-	W	W	D	L	L
King's College (Auckland)	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W
Montana Wine XI	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Combined Schools XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	W	W	W	L
Otago BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	W	W	L	-	W
Waitaki BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	L	W	W	W	-	-
Mt Hutt College	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shirley BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Timaru BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	L	W	W	L	L
Nelson College	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	-	W	L	W	W
Wellington College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	-	L	L
Burnside High School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	W	W
Former NZ Rep XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	L	-	-
St Thomas of Canterbury College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	L	L
Southland BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	W	L	L
Arthur Pitcher's XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	L	W	W
Albion CC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	-	-
Mid-Canterbury Youth XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	L
Kings High School (Dunedin)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	L
Canterbury Country Sec Schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W

Away Games

Flaxton Wanderers	-	L	L	T	L	-	L	-	D	-	W	-	-
Valley of Peace	-	-	-	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W
Hawkswood Wanderers	-	-	-	-	-	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

International Games

XL40 Club (UK)	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-
Primary Club (Aust)	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crusaders (Aust)	-	-	-	-	-	-	W/L	W	W	-	-	-	-
Gunnedah Youth XI (Aust)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	T	-	-	-	L	-
MCC Club XI (UK)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	T	-	-	-	-	-
Craigengow CC (Hong Kong)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-
Bradman Foundation XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	-
Honest Trundlers XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W



ANTHONY RUNACRES & ASSOC.
INSURANCE BROKERS
CHRISTCHURCH



photo & video
INTERNATIONAL
MERIVALE

BACK COVER

Top: Shadbolt Trophy winner, Shaun Coffey, driving beautifully on his way to a well-compiled 100 against King's College.
Below: Gathering for the Service in Remembrance of Walter Hadlee on 8th October.

