



15th
ANNUAL
REPORT
SEASON
2008/2009



LOBURN, NORTH CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND

FOUNDED
1st MAY, 1994

Our Motto

“Floreat 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.



“The Willows”

CRICKET CLUB

LOBURN, NORTH CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND

PATRON in PERPETUITY

W.A.Hadlee, CBE, OBE (1915–2006)

PRESIDENT

The Hon. J.W.Hansen, DCNZM

Immediate Past President

W.J.Mitchell (1994–2003)

Life Members

R.J.Cowles
V.B.Cusack
P.C.Devlin
W.J.Mitchell
P.J.Nancarrow
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

Hon. Secretary

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

Hon. Treasurer

D.B.Bruce

Team Selection

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

Match Secretaries

M.E.Dormer
B.M.Franklin

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

Vicar Provincial 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 2009 stood as follows:

Playing	247
Associate	234
Overseas	93
Honorary	53
<hr/>	
Total Membership	627

Playing Members

(Year of entry precedes name)

03	Abbott, R.E.	99	Coll, J.P.	08	Franklin, B.M.
06	Agnew, W.T.	03	Colvin, G.G.	00	Fulton, D.H.
05	Allen, R.S.	97	Cornelius, C.J.	95	Fulton, P.G.
97	Allott, G.I.	95	Cornelius, W.A.	08	Gajanayaka, C.
03	Ambler, K.R.	06	Cowlshaw, A.J.	98	Gallaway, G.N.
08	Andrews, E.J.	98	Crean, G.T.	94	Gardner, J.
05	Astle, A.M.	08	Cross, N.D.	06	Garry, J.R.
04	Astle, T.D.	03	Cunis, S.J.	94	Germon, L.K.
07	Barringer, T.G.	98	Cunliffe, J.J.	94	Gibson, S.D.
07	Barry, J.V.	94	Cusack, D. R.	03	Goldstein, M.P.
05	Barry, V.E.	03	d'Auvergne, N.R.	96	Grocott, D.J.
05	Bartholomeusz, C.G.	98	d'Auvergne, P.G.	06	Hall, C.J.
07	Bartholomeusz, L.D.	94	Davidson, A.F.	00	Hamel, M.J.
05	Bayliss, R.T.	98	Davidson, J.A.F.	08	Hammond, D.P.W.
08	Bellamy, B.D.	94	Davis, S.J.	94	Hansen, The Hon. J.W.
06	Belliss, C.J.	05	Deans, S.J.M.	99	Hantz, J.L.
94	Bennett, J.	08	Devine, P.B.	00	Harding, S.C.
00	Bennetto, C.R.M.	94	Devlin, P.C.	94	Harris, B.Z.
07	Bishell, R.E.R.	00	Diamanti, B. J.	94	Harris, C.Z.
95	Bisman, C.W.	06	Doig, L.J.	94	Harris, P.D.
00	Blakely, J.E.	95	Doody, B.J.K.	00	Hastilow, A.J.
98	Bond, D.W.	00	Doody, H.A.	95	Hastings, M.B.
02	Bond, S.E.	00	Doody, T.J.	01	Hawes, F.C.
00	Boock, S.L.	05	Dowds, D.P.	02	Hayward, R.E.
97	Bremner, M.C.	06	Duncan, P.M.	05	Healy, N.
94	Bull, C.L.	08	Earl, G.H.	08	Henry, M.J.
94	Bull, J.C.	01	Eddington, W.L.	94	Hight, C.M.
94	Burrell, D.C.	01	Ellis, A.M.	00	Hiini, B.C.
94	Burrell, W.M.	99	Ellis, A.M.	06	Hills, G.
00	Burrows, D.L.	97	Ellis, M.J.	06	Horrell, A.H.
94	Burson, R.D.	05	Enoka, B.L.	95	Hudson, M.G.
01	Cameron, B.S.	07	Fahey, B.J.	06	Humphris, L.A.
00	Cameron, B.W.J.	03	Farrant, D.G.	02	Hutchison, P.J.
08	Cartwright, I.	06	Farrant, M.D.	94	Inglis, G.D.
03	Chambers, A.S.T.	04	Fielding, M.D.	09	Ireland, A.P.
99	Chisholm, D.H.	06	Fisher, H.M.L.	95	Irvine, B.S.
06	Clark, C.R.	99	Fisher, T.D.L.	97	James, C.D.
02	Clark, H.G.	94	Flanagan, S.P.	05	Johns, A.M.
06	Coffey, S.T.	02	Forde, L.J.	08	Johnston, L.H.

01	Johnston, M.T.	94	Mills, D.L.T.	99	Satterthwaite, M.F.
06	Johnston, N.M.	05	Moore, G.R.	02	Sawers, A.J.
01	Johnstone, A.F.	08	Moore, L.R.	06	Sawers, S.J.
06	Kain, M.O.	06	Morgan, R.	95	Scott, D.W.G.
03	Kench, J.B.	05	Muir, T.M.	08	Sethi, P.
05	Koorey, R.K.	00	Nathu, A.	00	Shaw, H.J.
07	Laffey, M.R.	03	Newell, M.L.M.	05	Sheard, A.J.
97	Landon-Lane, M.E.	03	Newton, B.I.P.	09	Singleton, M.J.
04	Langrope, S.L.	08	Nicholls, H.	06	Smit, M.
07	Latham, M.T.	06	Nicholson, A.J.	08	Smith, B.
94	Latham, R.T.	03	Noster, F.R.	99	Sowden, C.J.S.
07	Latham, T.	06	Noster, S.	94	Sparks, L.C.
95	Leary, R.J.	94	Nuttall, A.J.	94	Stevens, S. D.
01	Leggat, J.E.	05	Nuttall, H.A.	05	Stevenson, J.W.
09	Lester, S.	09	O'Connell, C.P.	05	Stone, B.W.
01	Loe, H.F.	06	O'Gorman, J.P.D.	01	Stone, C.J.
04	Lonsdale, W.M.	08	Orton, B.R.	01	Stretch, G.B.
01	Lucas, B.J.	04	O'Sullivan, R.P.	07	Teale, M.D.
94	MacDonald, M.B.	94	Owens, M.B.	94	Thiele, C.H.
06	Malcolm, H.G.	98	Parr, M.J.	99	Thompson, K.G.
03	Marsh, J.D.	06	Patel, M.	94	Thomson, G.L.
94	Masefield, R.V.	94	Pavey, H.T.	99	Thorn, L.D.A.
99	Masefield, T.J.	94	Pawson, J.D.	00	Thornton, T.F.
02	Maw, D.J.	02	Peacock, M.D.	99	Townrow, W.B.
98	Maw, P.A.C.	05	Pender, T.C.	04	Turner, T.J.H.
02	McCarthy, G.P.	04	Pettet, C.M.	07	Vaughan, Dr J.T.C.
99	McCarthy, H.R.M.	95	Pitcher, A.C.	03	Walker, R.L.
95	McCarthy, P.B.	05	Pitcher, S.M.	06	Walsh, W.P.J.
05	McClellan, M.J.	06	Polson, A.H.	95	Ward, J.
05	McClellan, T.M.	09	Poole, J.	94	Weeds, M.G.
05	McCone, R.J.	97	Priest, M.W.	06	Wellington, B.
08	McEwan, M.B.	06	Pullar, G.P.	08	Wheeler, B.M.
94	McEwan, P.E.	00	Reardon, P.H.	08	Winchester, J.S.
06	McFarlane, B.S.	08	Reese, A.	01	Wolt, J.R.K.
95	McFedries, A.G.	02	Reid, R.B.	04	Wood, P.
98	McFedries, S.E.M.	03	Rennell, C.P.	06	Wraight, S.J.
06	McGoldrick, C.P.	95	Roberts, S.J.	99	Wright, H.G.
98	McGuire, R.D.	04	Robertson, C.D.	08	Wright, H.H.A.
03	McIntyre, B.S.M.	00	Robertson, I.A.	08	Wright, H.J.
08	McKeefry, D.J.P.	06	Rowe, A.J.	05	Wright, N.H.
94	McKenzie, M.N.	95	Rugg, P.J.	00	Yock, B.A.
95	McRae, A.R.	08	Rutherford, T.R.	06	Youngusband, P.F.
95	Miller, G.A.	95	Rutledge, P.D.		
97	Miller, R.M.	06	Ryan, P.D.		

Associate Members

06	Abbott, R.T.	94	Baker, C.K.	03	Blaikie, Dr D.J.O.
94	Aberhart, D.C.	09	Ballantyne, R.M.	95	Blake Fr P., <i>SM</i>
94	Adams, B.C.	06	Bannan, G.J.	94	Boyle, J.G.
06	Alabaster, G.D.	03	Barnett, D.W.	94	Bromley, R.C.
94	Aldridge, B.L.	94	Bateman, S.N.	03	Brook, B.P.
01	Allington, D.J.	03	Beer, G.D.	94	Brooke, H.D.E., <i>QSM</i>
94	Anderson, C.J.	07	Biddick, D.W.	95	Brooks, G.N.
95	Anderson, C.W.	02	Billcliff, J.S.	95	Brownlee, E.T., <i>QSM</i>
94	Austin, G.K.	94	Blair, K.R.	95	Bruce, D.B.

04	Buckenham, M.H.	06	Feary, T.W.	03	Larkins, W.N.
08	Buist, G.T.	04	Felton, G.E.	01	Lawson, R.A.
06	Bull, A.J.	98	Fenton, W.R.	04	Lawson, W.G.
96	Bunt, L.R.H.	97	Fenwick, C.R.	95	Lennon G.P., <i>ONZM</i>
94	Burrell, A.E.	94	Fisher, M.A.	99	Lischner, J.A.
03	Burrett, W.G.	98	Flanagan, C.W.	94	Loe, J.G.
05	Burrows, Prof J., <i>QC</i>	08	Fletcher, A.G.	04	Macdonald, R.G.
99	Calder, B.	04	Fogarty, J.G.	94	MacDonald, Mrs D.
00	Cameron, D.J.		The Hon. Justice	01	Malloch, B.E.
94	Cameron, F.J., <i>MBE</i>	06	Fowler, H.M.	01	Martin, S.D.
00	Cameron, H.C.	94	Fox, D.O.	00	Martin, S.G.D.
95	Campbell, A.I.	98	Frahm, R.J.F., <i>QSM</i>	94	McCallum, Dr A.B.
94	Campbell, Dr A.J.M.	94	French-Wright, L.R.	03	McClellan, L.R.
04	Carter, R.	97	Fuller, M.J.	94	McCourtie, Mrs R.
98	Cederman, R.W.	04	Fullerton-Smith, A.D.	94	McDonnell, K.M., <i>JP</i>
06	Chatfield, E.J., <i>MBE</i>	98	Fulton, G.H.	05	McEwen, V.C.
00	Chisholm, L.	06	Gargiulo, F.J.	95	McFedries, B.G.
	The Hon. Justice	02	Garland, S.P.	06	McGoldrick, Mrs L.
94	Clark, L.A.	09	Georgieff, R.	95	McHarg, R.L.
94	Clark, N.G.	06	Goodall, F.R., <i>ONZM, ED</i>	94	McKechnie, B.J.
01	Coates, N.F.	06	Goodman, J.H.	99	McKendry, D.J.
98	Compton, M.R.	01	Gourdie, A.J.	98	McKinlay, S.
98	Cook, P.S.	94	Graves, A.C.	01	MacLeod, A.L.L.
94	Coop, T.A.	06	Gray, E.	00	McMillan, D.H.A.
06	Cooper, M.L.S.	04	Grigor, I.M.	02	McRae, J.A.
	The Hon. Justice	96	Grocott, J.W.	03	Miller, G.M.
94	Cooper, R.T.	00	Guillen, S.C.	99	Munn, R.W.
04	Cosgrove, C.J.	94	Guthrey, P.C.	97	Murray, A.J.
94	Cottrell, H.C.	94	Hadlee, B.G.	99	Nevin, J.H.
94	Cowles, R.J.	94	Hadlee, D.R.	98	Nielsen, T.S.
95	Crocker, L.M.	94	Hadlee, M.J.	98	Nixon, B.M.
94	Cunliffe, S.M.	95	Hamilton, B.G.	03	O'Donnell, P.M.
95	Cunneen, C.M.	04	Hansen, T.	95	Page, R.J.
95	Cunneen, O.A.	06	Harman, A.B.	96	Parker, K.J.
97	Currie, D.S.	95	Harrison, R.J.	94	Parker, N.M.
04	Curtain, G.	94	Hastilow, J.W.	94	Paton, G.C.J.
97	Curtis, W.M.	94	Hastings, B.F.	94	Pawson, S.J.
94	Cusack, V.B.	04	Hayward, R.D.	99	Payton, D.H.
95	Dalley, R.G.	99	Heslop, J.H.	98	Pearse, R.A.
07	Davidson, Prof J.S.	03	Hilgendorf, D.C.	06	Penlington, P.
94	Davidson, N.R.W., <i>QC</i>	94	Holderness, D.J.R		The Hon. Justice
00	Dick, A.E.		His Honour Judge	94	Phillips, M.K.
04	Dickey, G.E.	02	Hooper, W.P.	09	Pulley, D.F.
01	Dickson, I.B.	98	Howell, J.H.	95	Quested, D.M.
94	Doig, J.R.	95	Hudson, H.J.	99	Raphael, S.H.E.
95	Doig, C.K., <i>OBE</i>	95	Hughes-Johnson, A.C., <i>QC</i>	01	Rattray, P.J.
94	Dolan, P.J.	94	Ikram, Professor H.	04	Reid, D.W.
94	Dormer, P.E.	94	Innes, R.T.J.	96	Reid, J.F.
94	Dowling, Br W.H.	99	Irving, J.D.	98	Robinson, L.M.C.
94	Dowling, G.T., <i>OBE</i>	94	James, P.M.	00	Rodgers, P.J.
98	Durning, J.W.	06	Jordan, P.H.	03	Rowberry, J.M.
05	Eaton, J.H.M.	94	Joyce, Professor P.R.	09	Rowe, C.A.
94	Ebert, R.J.	98	Judson, R.E.	94	Runacres, A.M.
05	Evans, G.R.	99	Kerr, L.H.	01	Rust, K.N.
01	Eveleigh, R.S.	94	Keys, K.F.	94	Savill, C.M.
04	Evennett, D.C.	08	Kos, J.S	97	Scott, A.D.L.
94	Fairbairn, C.J.R.	94	Lancaster, M.J.	05	Seabourn, C.R.
94	Fairbairn, R.J.R.	94	Lancaster, T.E.	01	Shackleton, D.A.
94	Fairbairn, W.R.T.	05	Langrope, B.J.	94	Shadbolt, C.H.

95 Sharp, D.C.
95 Sharpe, M.F.
00 Shipley, A.J.B.
00 Shrimpton, M.
07 Sinclair, B.W.
95 Skipper, H.L.
95 Smith, G.B.
94 Smith, M.J.
94 Smith, P.R.
02 Snedden, M.C.
99 Sowden, R.J.S.
06 Spear, B.G.

94 Stead, D.W.
94 Stead, G.R.
01 Stone, M.B.
95 Strack, D.J.
99 Taylor, B.J.
94 Ussher, C.P.
94 Ussher, Dr J.E.
07 Veale, J.H.
01 Wadeson, C.
94 Wait, E.P.
00 Wake, R.W.
94 Wallace, P.E.

01 Ward, K.A.
95 Watson, M.
95 Wells, G.R.
94 Whittington, Mrs J.A.
97 Wiffen, A.G.C.
94 Williams, P.R.
01 Wilson, W.R.
01 Wilson-Pyne, R.N.
95 Winnicott, A.G.
97 Wright, J.G.
02 Wright, M.J.E.

Overseas Members

AUSTRALIA

02 Aitken, R.
05 Barrat, R.
06 Bouilly, P.C.
95 Boyle, D.J.
98 Darke, M.
95 Davidson, A.K., *AM, MBE*
99 Deans, R.M.
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.
94 Innes, J.T.
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.
08 Spalding, S.
06 Walls, K.A.
94 Wiles, E.G.
02 Zavos, S.B.

ENGLAND

95 Bazalgette, C.
06 Betteridge, J. & L.
09 Brearley, M., *OBE*
98 Brierley, R.H.
03 Buckton, S.J.
08 Conyngham, J.
98 Cumbes, J.
98 Dodds, V.
94 Dormer, B.L.
08 Fearnley, C.D.
09 Gatting, M.W.
06 Goulding, M.
03 Hart, R.
94 Hatley, B.
09 Henderson, M.J.
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.
03 McGrath, D.E.T.
98 Marsden, W.
06 Mollitt, R.
94 Munn, R.G.
07 Naidoo, Urvasi
94 Openshaw, C.F.
06 Reid, H.
94 Roebuck, P.M.
06 Sawrey-Cookson, N.
06 Sims, G.
06 Smail, D.J.R.
06 Vallance, J.A.F.
05 Wheeler, N.
09 Wright, P.

GERMANY

08 Werner, Dr H-J

HONG KONG

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

INDIA

01 Apte, A.

SINGAPORE

08 Horner, M.

SOUTH AFRICA

04 Fox, P.J.

SRI LANKA

09 Fernando, M.
09 Fernando, D.

THAILAND

07 de Vries, M.
08 Kader, M.A.
07 Leicester, J.
07 Malbari, F.A.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

08 Archer, M.
94 Bisman, J.C.

UNITED STATES

06 Wardwell, E.A.

Honorary Members

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 94 Barber, R.T. | 94 Gallaway, I.W., <i>QSO, MBE</i> | 02 O'Neill, J.A., <i>AO</i> |
| 07 Becroft, His Honour Judge A.J. | 99 Graham, D.J., <i>CBE</i> | 03 Pope, R.C. |
| 03 Blackett, Sir Hugh | 94 Hadlee, Sir Richard, <i>MBE</i> | 99 Reid, J.R., <i>OBE</i> |
| 99 Brierley, Sir Ronald | 96 Hawke, The Venerable | 03 Rice, Sir Tim |
| 95 Burdon, Hon. Philip | Archdeacon M.J. | 03 Roberts, Major A.C.,
Salvation Army |
| 98 The Lord Butler of Brockwell,
<i>KG, GCB, CVO</i> | 98 Henderson, Mrs E.M. | 96 Rosser, Dr M.J. |
| 09 Catley, D.H. | 04 Hunt, Rt Hon. Jonathan, <i>ONZ</i> | 06 Satyanand, The Hon. Sir
Anand, <i>GNZM, QSO</i> |
| 99 Coney, J.V. | 04 Johnson, Professor B.F.S. | 08 Scott, N. |
| 04 Conway, R.W. | 99 Johnston, P. | 03 Seay, A. |
| 06 Coward, M.J. | 03 Knight, R.D.V. | 07 Smith, Canon R.H. |
| 94 Cummings, Rev Fr B.G., <i>SM</i> | 03 Larsen, G.R. | 03 Stoop, Dr G.C. |
| 94 Dormer, Mrs D.W. | 95 Macfarlane, R.M. | 05 Tyson, F.H. |
| 94 Edgar, Mrs E.M. | 98 McLisky, T.H. | 07 Watt, M. |
| 01 Elley, J.C. | 06 Mauger, W.J. | 08 Weerasekera, S. |
| 05 Evans, D.J.E. | 94 Mitchell, W.J. | 04 Wright, A.G.L. |
| 04 Farr-Jones, N.C., <i>AM</i> | 04 Moses, R.J., <i>ONZM</i> | 95 Wright, Sir Allan, <i>KBE</i> |
| 08 Fernando, Merrill J. | 06 Murray, The Venerable
Canon W.R.C. | |
| 03 Fry, C.A. | 01 Murray, B.A.G., <i>QSO</i> | |
| 95 Gallaway, Miss A.S.G. | 94 Neely, D.O., <i>MBE</i> | |



“Willowers All,”

The Field of Dreams has been bedded down for another winter. It is time to reflect on another highly successful season.

As the season began it appeared that The Willows was heading for its worst season ever. Four games were lost on the trot. But then things were turned around and the club succeeded in winning all our remaining games. A total of 21 victories and four losses was a highly successful haul. Two games were lost to rain, which saved us from the annual ignominy from Hawkeswood Wanderers. A number of games could only take place because of the unstinting effort of the second assistant groundsman, and his many willing volunteers who, against all odds, were able to get the ground into a playable condition. This was particularly so in the game against Wellington College where a helicopter was used to dry the pitch. We are more used to such activities on the international arena!

As always, we are indebted to our sponsors: Dilmah, ASB, Mobil, Vero, and Tony Runacres and Associates. Their continued and generous support has been tremendously helpful to the Club. There was the usual outstanding contribution from Vincent Cusack and Peter Devlin, and our pitch must now rate as one of the best in the South Island. We extend our gratitude to Tony Campbell and all the others who assisted with scoring this season and over the years. Scoring is a thankless task, and those who undertake it, along with the umpires, are the unsung heroes' week-in, week-out, not only at The Willows but in cricket games throughout New Zealand. Our umpires gave the sterling service we have come to expect but should never take for granted.

Sir Hugh and Lady Blackett once more graciously hosted two Willowers at Matfen. This longstanding relationship is of great importance

to the Club, and even moreso to the fortunate recipients of the scholarship.

As I write, an Under 17 team representing The Willows is playing in Sri Lanka. That this tour took place is due to the enormous generosity of Merrill Fernando, his family and his Dilmah business. We have also had support from their New Zealand Manager, Nigel Scott, who represented Auckland in the 1980's. Unfortunately, a number of inbound tours had to be cancelled because of circumstances outside the control of The Willows. This caused considerable frustration to the Club, as in each case enormous preparatory work had been undertaken, including booking of accommodation, arranging special meals and putting in place appropriate fixtures. However, we are confident that next season we will host a tour from Sri Lanka, as part of our biennial



▲ Willows President, John Hansen.

arrangement. (The Emirates have replied they are not coming this year because of costs).

Once again we have been privileged to have the continued support of our Governor General, His Excellency Sir Anand Satyanand. His support of youth in general, cricket and The Willows concept in particular, is highly valued. Over the season we have had considerable input from a number of former players, and I know they will excuse me if I pay particular tribute to the support we have had from John Wright over the last 12 months. We continue to enjoy the support of Justin Vaughan and all at New Zealand Cricket, and the stalwarts at Canterbury Cricket.

Given the aims and principles of The Willows, I wish to recognise once again the outstanding support we received from all the schools that play at the ground, their coaches and their

principals. It is that continued support that makes The Willows the unique place it is.

Finally, to the membership, both playing and non-playing, my personal thanks for your continued support. It can truly be said that without that support we are nothing. But it is given often and unstintingly, and makes us the special Club we are.

The Hon. John Hansen
President

NB. Of the 27 players named in the New Zealand Under-19 squad, to prepare for next year's World Cup, eleven are either Willowers or have toured with the Willows group to India, Oman, Sharjah, Sri Lanka and Singapore over the past two years.



▲ Alex Reese – ready for Covent Garden!

Rt. Hon. Lord Butler of Brockwell
President of the Oxford University Rugby Football Club

Fifty years ago, when I was struggling for selection for the Oxford University rugby XV, I was told a story about that great New Zealand cricketer and rugby player, Martin Donnelly, which has always stuck in my mind.

Donnelly was captain of an Oxford University cricket team which was legendary for its fine fielding. In one match, following an injury to one of the established players, a young freshman was called up to fill his place in the team.

Donnelly said to this young player “The man you’re replacing fields at first slip and he never drops catches. I’m going to put you in his place and I rely on you to match his performance. But if you’re unfortunate enough to drop a catch, don’t get worked up, relax and then you’re more likely to catch the next one. And if you drop a second one, again relax because then it’s more likely to be third time lucky. And if, very unfortunately, you drop a third catch, just relax because you’ll never be playing for us again”.

Heartless, some may think, and not likely to put the young player at his ease. Some might even say that it was not good leadership. But at the time and ever since, I have taken a different view. If Donnelly had spoken in those terms to me, I should have thought that it was fair enough. I used to think about this story when I was trying to get my rugby blue and I have often thought about it since.

The great opportunity which we had at University was the opportunity for single-minded and uncompromising pursuit of excellence. As soon as one of the matches against Cambridge at Twickenham was over, we would devote ourselves to building a team which would win the following year’s match. That was the target for which everything in the meantime was a preparation.

It was not that the intermediate steps were unimportant or lacking in enjoyment. We had the opportunity, whether in cricket or rugby, to play with and against some of the greatest players of the time. There were six internationals from various parts of the world in each of the Oxford XVs I played in—and one All-American football star. Before the next match against



Lord Butler

Cambridge they would represent their countries several times. In the great post-war days, Colin Cowdrey, David Sheppard and Peter May combined playing cricket for Oxford and Cambridge with playing for England. But our object when we were together at University was to iron out every defect in our collective and individual performances with a view to our next trial against Cambridge.

We were hard on ourselves. Every dropped pass, every missed tackle, every poor kick was remembered analysed and agonised over. I can still remember missed tackles of fifty years ago and the conclusions I came to about why I had allowed them to happen.

It was a wonderful feeling, this pursuit of excellence. So I would not have expected Martin Donnelly to say anything different to me from what he said to that young freshman. If I could not cut the bacon, I would not have expected to be given another turn at the slicer.

As I look back on it, this feeling is all the more satisfactory because we were amateurs. Nobody was paying us for the efforts we made. We did it for the fulfilment we achieved from doing as well as possible at something we enjoyed and from the companionship of others who were doing the same thing. And if we were disappointed in our

objective – if we were on the losing side against Cambridge, as I was one year – the consolation was to know that at least we had given it all we had.

As I write this, I have on my desk a flyer for a book about the Cambridge University Rowing Club called “The Last Amateurs: To Hell and Back with the Cambridge Boat Race Crew”. The book is by Professor Mark de Rond, Reader in Strategy and Business Organisation at the Judge Business School, Cambridge and currently at Stanford University in the USA as a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar. Professor de Rond spent 7 months observing the life of the Cambridge University Boat Race Squad, as they were obliged to compete with their friends for a place in the Boat Race Crew and then to develop a crew capable of defeating Oxford.

There are two aspects of this which I find fascinating, though not surprising. One is that a distinguished Professor of Business Organisation should think that this subject provided a model so relevant to business organisation that he devoted seven months to studying it.

The second is that it was an amateur activity which provided the model. It caused me to reflect that commitment to the team has been shown to be a more important factor in achieving success than the brilliance of individuals. There was a famous year in which there were ructions in the Oxford crew described in the film “True Blue.” Olympic prima donnas were dropped from the Oxford crew, because they wouldn’t accept the training schedule. Without them, Oxford went on to win. When I thought of what the individualism and money motivation of some of the “Lords of the Universe” has led to in the current world financial crisis, I could see why de Rond thought that he could draw lessons from the lessons of an amateur rowing crew for business organisation.

Rugby has changed enormously in the fifty years since I was a student, as it has become a professional game at the top. There are now no members of the Oxford and Cambridge teams

who can combine an academic course with representing their countries. The same is true of cricket.

It is understandable and inevitable that people of talent in any walk of life should want to sell their skill for what the market will bear. Yet I believe that something is lost in sport when the motivation for participating becomes money rather than the activity itself.

One of the hardest choices I have seen young talented people having to make is between taking their chance in professional sport and obtaining a university qualification. All too often the choice has to be made because professional sports teams are not prepared to take on part-timers.

In some cases, successful professional players return to academic studies after their professional career comes to an end. At Oxford this year we have had former All-Blacks captain, Anton Oliver, playing for us and Cambridge have Dan Vickerman, the Australian lock. For the previous two years, Oxford had the great Australian, Joe Roff, and before that Brett Robinson. What fine people these are and what a thrill it is for students to have the opportunity of playing alongside them.

I hugely admire people like this, not least because it is hard to return to demanding academic study when they are in their thirties and in some cases have family commitments as well. Only very remarkable people can do it.

Perhaps some of those who read this article will have the talent which requires them to make the hard choice between amateur sport and a University qualification on the one hand and a professional sporting career on the other. The thought I would like them to draw from this article is that the amateur route may not only offer an investment which lasts longer than a professional sporting career but great sporting satisfaction as well.

Baron Butler of Brockwell

Baron Butler of Brockwell, KG, GCB, CVO, PC is a retired British civil servant, who sat in the House of Lords as a life peer.

He had a high profile career in the civil service from 1961 to 1998, serving as Private Secretary to five Prime Ministers. He was Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service from 1988 to 1998.

Butler was educated at Harrow School in London and University College, Oxford, where he took a double first in Mods and Greats and twice gained a Rugby Blue. He joined HM Treasury in 1961, becoming Private Secretary to the Financial

Secretary to the Treasury 1964-66 and Secretary to the Budget Committee 1965-69.

He was Private Secretary to Prime Ministers Edward Heath (1972-74) and Harold Wilson (1974-75), and Principal Private Secretary to Margaret Thatcher (1982-85). He was also Cabinet Secretary during the premierships of Margaret Thatcher, John Major and Tony Blair.

He became the Master of University College, Oxford in 1997, and was made a life peer as Baron Butler of Brockwell, of Herne Hill in the London Borough of Lambeth in the 1998 New Year Honours List.

He became a non-executive Director of HSBC Group from 1998 to 2008. He is also Chairman of the Corporate Sustainability Committee and the HSBC Global Education Trust.

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



▲ Patrick Ryan – good action.

✓ CHRISTCHURCH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

12th October 2008

Report by Andrew Nuttall

The Willows won the toss and elected to bat first on a pitch that proved to be an excellent playing surface. Many thanks once again to Vince Cusack!

The Willows lost an early wicket, however a partnership between Sam Noster and Sean Coffey which produced 112 runs, was finally broken by an excellent catch by Tinus Huyser off the bowling of Theo Van Woerkom. The fall of the wicket did not affect Sam Noster who dominated the bowling on his way to scoring a fine 101 not out off 92 balls.

All the Christchurch Boys' High School bowlers were steady and although not claiming a wicket, Gerard Pottinger completed 10 tidy overs for 30 runs.

In reply Christchurch Boys' High School lost an early wicket with Tom Latham being dismissed by older brother Matthew. A second wicket partnership of 91 between Josh Jones and Gerrit Roux produced a sound foundation for the run chase.

Following the dismissal of Roux, Jones was joined by Cameron Bellis and they added an additional 71 runs in good time.

Tinus Huyser also batted attractively scoring 35 off 33 balls, however, the scoring rate was ultimately slowed by tight bowling spells from Matthew Latham and Sam Davis. Of worthy note was Sam resorting to his long run forgetting his own comfort when his team needed him most!

The Willows ultimately won a match of high quality in terms of skill, fun and team spirit.

Willows won by 6 runs

The Willows 237/6

S. Noster 101*, S. Coffey 39, E. Andrews 27*, E. Nuttall 2/42

Christchurch Boys' High School 231/6

J. Jones 73, G. Roux 47, M. Latham 3/18, S. Davis 2/26

Umpires

E. Brownlee and R. Wyeth



▲ Peter Younghusband bowling against Christchurch Boys' High School.



▲ Andrew Nuttall accepting the Walter Hadlee Trophy from Cameron Bellis, captain of the Christchurch Boys' High School 1st XI.

V MARLBOROUGH BOYS' COLLEGE 1ST XI

19th October 2008

Report by Phil d'Auvergne

Under a perfect sky on a beautifully prepared ground and pitch The Willows batted first and with a talented batting side were confident that they could post a competitive score. In no time they were reeling at 5 for 53 with the "young guns" all out for very little. Only Adam Hastilow showed any real application but an unfortunate mix up saw him run out (the second of the session) just on lunch for 27. Despite the best efforts of the tail, the excellent college bowling backed by smart fielding saw us dismissed for 112 in the 40th over. Gregg Knowles the best of the bowlers with the fine figures of 3 for 21 from 8 overs.

The College reply started well with the first over realising 11 runs. Two 40 run partnerships for the second and third wicket saw the College through to a comfortable 6 wicket victory in the 34th over. Josh Poole the best of the batting with a fine captain's knock of 53 well supported by Gregg Knowles with a quick fire 22. In the field

The Willows tried everything using all 10 bowlers but due to the College's well planned chase, were never able to get into the game.

The Marlborough Boys' College presented extremely well and for the third year in a row won the Arthur Cresswell Trophy. As a young side they promise to be even more difficult next year.

Everyone enjoyed the magnificent day. It was especially nice to have parents from Marlborough at the ground supporting their sons and enjoying The Willows hospitality. Mike was a grand match manager and warned the boys at the after match "you are only as good as your last performance", as they were to play St Bede's the next day in a Gillette semi final. True to his words they had a shocker and lost heavily.

The Willows lost by 6 wickets

The Willows 112

A. Hastilow 27, G. Knowles 3/21, G. Weaver 2/18

Marlborough Boys' College 113/4

J. Poole 53, G. Knowles 22, M. Goldstein 1/3

Umpires

G. Evans and B. Hamilton



▲ The Marlborough Boys' College 1st XI.



▲ Helicopter drying the square.

WELLINGTON COLLEGE 1ST XI

26th October 2008

Report by Michael Satterthwaite

Four seasons in one day!!! With fresh snow on the surrounding hills the prospect of cricket seemed slim. However the covers had kept the pitch dry but the rest of the block was unplayable. The resources of the Club know no bounds as a helicopter was called to help the drying process. After an early lunch a 40 over match commenced.

The Willows lost the toss and were asked to bat. After a promising start by Sam Noster, Tom Latham and Henry Nicholls, the pressure applied by the Wellington bowlers and fielders

took its toll and wickets fell regularly in pursuit of quick runs. After being 132/2 we finished 165/8. Harry Boam and Scott Archer being the chief destroyers.

Mathew Teale and Peter Youngusband were the pick of The Willows bowlers, each claiming a wicket. However Harry Boam along with Vinnie Ward proved too good for us and put together a partnership of 105 to secure a comfortable win.

The Willows lost by 8 wickets

The Willows 165/8

T. Latham 71, S. Archer 4/27, H. Boam 3/27

Wellington College 1st XI 167/2

V. Ward 70*, H. Boam 56*

Umpires

R. Ebert and R. Kandula



▲ Vinnie Ward and Harry Boam who batted so well for Wellington College.



▲ Wellington College 1st XI with Headmaster Roger Moses on the left.



▲ John Wright with son Harry.

v OTAGO BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

2nd November 2008

Report by Paul McEwan

On viewing the line up it was essential The Willows batted first and scored a good total for Otago Boys' to chase as The Willows team was going to rely on a strong spin bowling attack of Peacock, Johnston, and Rowe.

At 10 The Willows lost its first wicket and they found themselves in trouble at 99 for 6 with all batsmen getting a start but no one getting more than 20. Then came a 64 run partnership between Matt Hudson (37) and Paul McEwan (28) but at 187 in the 46th over The Willows were all out.

The opening attack of Ferris and Rutherford put pressure on the Willows batting. Hunter with his leg spin impressed and the enthusiastic fielding was maintained throughout The Willows innings.

With what was thought to be a defendable total Otago Boys' lost an early wicket. McMeeken and Spittle then put on 54 for the second wicket at four an over and when McMeeken went Spittle continued to play aggressively. He was prepared to hit through the line over extra cover and mid off. His fine 74 included eleven 4's. It took a fine leg side stumping by David Bond but by then the damage was done and Otago cruised to the 188 for 6 wickets in the 42nd over. Only Michael Peacock with 2 for 35 off 9.2 overs managed to control the Otago batsmen.

The Willows lost by 4 wickets

Otago Boys' High School 188/6

G. Spittle 74, Edwards 37

The Willows 187

M. Hudson 37

Umpires

E. Brownlee and D. Qusted

v PENINSULA CRAZ XI

9th November 2008

Report by Ben Yock

The Willows XI won the toss and elected to bat on a tremendous Willows wicket.

George Earl, a member of the St Bede's College 1st XI, opened our innings and batted at times with maturity beyond his years, carrying his bat throughout the entire innings for a magnificent unbeaten 82.

That was about as good as it got for The Willows XI and although Hugh Wright played a lovely cameo at the end with 31 not out, we could only muster up a disappointing 210. Not enough on this wicket and with the side comprising three 'keepers, two medium pacers and six spinners (three of whom were unable to bowl), we were in for a battle.

The blistering pace of Colin Hight and Matt Hudson combined well to help knock the top off the Peninsula Craz innings and with George Earl chiming in with 3 good wickets we were into them. Unfortunately for The Willows XI we were haemorrhaging too many runs between the good balls and although the scorecard flattered us somewhat, in the end we were well and truly beaten by the better team on the day.

However, it's a loss that is a bit easier to stomach as you drive home as it's always a pleasure playing the venerable Peninsula Craz XI. It's a splendid fixture, as is their company.

The Willows lost by 3 wickets

Peninsula Craz XI 211/7

B. Langrope 36, T. Stronach 32, S. Langrope 33

The Willows 210/6

G. Earl 82*, H. Wright 31*

Umpires

H. Fowler and D. Pulley

V MID-CANTERBURY YOUTH XI

16th November 2008

Report by Warren Eddington

The day was warm and very windy and Des Kruger the Youth XI captain won the toss and elected to bat. Some good into the wind bowling by Brendon Wellington and Lindsay Forde, plus some aggressive bowling by Patrick Ryan and Mike Smit, kept the Youth batsmen in check. After 24 overs the score was only 60 but with the introduction of spin saw the scoring rate increase and at lunch the Youth XI were 131 for 4.

Leading the charge for the Youth XI was Ben Ward with a compact 65, Ben Mably 27 and Matt Tait 34.

Following lunch the Youth XI completed their innings at 175/9.

The Willows batsmen came out blazing and after 10 overs had scored 56 runs. George Earl batted well, playing an array of shots all around the wicket. He was well supported in a second wicket stand of 58 with Al Bennett who played attractively for his 33. Sam Sawers came to the wicket and batted with caution adding a further 54 with Al who was finally out for 61.

The Youth bowlers toiled hard but bowling conditions were difficult and in the end The Willows secured a good win.

The Willows won by 6 wickets

The Willows 178/4

G. Earl 61, A. Bennett 33, S. Sawers 24*,
J. McDonald 3/33

Mid-Canterbury Youth XI 175/9

B. Ward 65, M. Tait 34, M. Smit 3/35,
W. Eddington 2/13

Umpires

B. Hamilton and J. Elley



▲ Ben Orton hooking against Otago Boys' High.



▲ The Peninsula Craz management team.



▲ Brendon Wellington showing his wares.

V LONDON NEW ZEALAND CC XI

23rd November 2008

Report by Richard McGuire

This year's fixture included not only some sublime cricket but also some of the more ridiculous action that has been seen at The Willows.

Despite facing former first class bowler Aaron Gale and a fine opening spell of bowling from Mike McGoldrick, The Willows openers were more than up to the task. Ben Yock and Brendon Fahey put on a sound opening partnership of 72 with Ben Yock going on to record a chanceless 102 retired off only 113 balls. Fahey scored at a fast pace and it was unexpected to see him dismissed for 43 off 49 balls. The Willows had a great foundation to build on and the scoring rate was accelerated mainly by Tom Fisher who was not out 73 off 78 balls at the conclusion of the innings. The Willows had compiled an impressive 286 for 8 after their 50 overs.

There were seven London New Zealand bowlers used with a particularly impressive spell from Gale who conceded just 32 from his 10 overs. The other highlight of the London New Zealand fielding effort was the wicket keeping of Singleton who did not concede a bye and took 3 catches behind the wicket.

The Willows captain strode to the pitch with a spring in his stride relishing the prospect of defending 286 runs. The opening bowlers must have felt 286 was a healthy total as well and set about evening things up from the outset. Harding's first over went for 7, all of them wides. McIntyre took the ball from the northern end and confidently remarked that things couldn't get worse than that as far as extras were concerned. Approximately 20 minutes later The Willows came off the field for tea, McIntyre having completed his opening over with London New Zealand, having reached 37 without loss off 2 overs. No runs had been scored off the bat. To

say that Mr Dormer was in a heightened state of agitation would be an understatement and the "cock up" award was dusted off for presentation later in the day to the hapless opening bowling duo for The Willows.

After much consideration over afternoon tea it was decided to change bowlers when play resumed and fortunately the experience of Jacob Wolt brought the run haemorrhage under control although the bowlers had to toil hard against a strong London New Zealand batting line up. Darren Broom struck the ball with supreme timing and power to every point of the ground making 100 off only 80 balls. Broom may possibly have scored his runs a little too quickly for other batsmen to build the innings around him. The chase, however, continued to be well and truly on with Jason Kilworth chipping in with a typically hard hitting 43 not out. However, The Willows bowling line up was rotated regularly using 8 different bowlers and the London New Zealand innings faltered at 279 with the final wicket falling to a spectacular run out after an accurate outfield throw from Simon Harding.

The Willows fielding performance was an all round effort with tight bowling from Wolt, Julian Marsh and Tom Fisher with Captain McGuire doing enough to only just retain membership after his initial bowling selections. While we all felt considerable sympathy for Mike and Simon, there is no question that they richly deserved the "cock up" award and enquiries are being made of the Guinness Book of Records and Wisden as to the most runs off an over in extras alone.

The Willows won by 7 runs

The Willows 286/8

B. Yock 102 rtd, B. Fahey 43, T. Fisher 73*

LNZCC 279

D. Broom 100 rtd, J. Kilworth 43*, Wides 55, R. McGuire 4/38

Umpires

R. Kandula and R. Wyeth

v COMBINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS

30th November 2008

Report by Barry Townrow

After suffering defeat at the hands of the Combined Secondary Schools side last year, and losing the Graham Dowling Trophy for the first time, the acid was really on this year's team to perform.

Our selector, coach and manager had the side in camp for a fortnight before the match, and with the promise of a bonus winning game fee, this year's side was as ready as any that has ever graced The Willows ground.

On "winning" the toss The Willows had no hesitation in batting first. Openers Ben Orton and Shaun Coffey made batting look easy.

At 155 Orton retired with his score reaching exactly 100. Coffey also batted well, as he too had to retire on 100, with the team total at 257. Fraser Hawes 28, Michael Goldstein 25, and Troy Scanlon 23, saw The Willows reach a respectable 298/5, with James Boock being the pick of the bowlers.

The Secondary side then began chasing this total. Wickets did fall, but the runs were steadily mounting. Spectator interest was high as it came down to the last of the 50 overs, with 16 runs required and two wickets left. 14 runs came from five balls, and with only 2 runs needed The Willows were sweating. Sam Davis then bowled the unplayable last ball to take a wicket much to the delight of his Willows team mates, with the Secondary Schools scoring 297/9.

Tom Latham batted very well for his side, as had R Duffrey, M Henry and T Rutherford.

All in all, an enthralling day's play, played as cricket should be. Many thanks to umpires Rodger McHarg and Les Elliott, as well as scorer Tony Campbell for their contribution.

The Willows won by 1 run

The Willows 298/5

B. Orton 100*, S. Coffey 100*, J. Boock 3/55

Combined Secondary Schools 297/9

T. Latham 68, R. Duffrey 45, M. Henry 35,
T. Rutherford 30*

Umpires

R. McHarg and L. Elliott



▲ Well flighted Alex Reese.



▲ Wayne with young helpers after the match.

v CLARRIE ANDERSON'S XI

3rd December 2008

Report by Greg Walker

The Willows batted first and posted a competitive 186 for 8 in the allotted 40 overs. After a useful 41 run opening partnership between Pete Devlin and Hugh Wright, a mini collapse saw the home team in trouble at 3 for 43. However an excellent 57 run partnership between the hard hitting Geoff Miller and the Reverend Hawke got things back on track. Alec Astle (39 off 32 balls) and Trevor Thornton (18 not out off 15 balls) accelerated the scoring in the last few overs through some excellent batting. The pick of the bowlers was P Sharp.

The Anderson XI looked very competitive whilst David Bull was batting, but once the wily Wal Scott dismissed him, the game was very much in the balance. In the finish the reluctant hero was Pete Devlin who bowled five overs at the death and took 2 for 20.

The Willows won by 4 runs

The Willows 186/8

G. Miller 41, M. Hawke 31, A. Astle 39,
P. Sharp 4/24

Clarrie Anderson's XI 182/9

D. Bull 51, D. Hearn 31*

Umpires

H. Fowler and B. Guthrie



▲ Alec Astle cuts past point on his way to 39.

v BURNSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

7th December 2009

Report by Darin Cusack

On a sunny and warm day the Willows won the toss and elected to bat first on a fantastic looking pitch. The batting was led by Danny Dowds and Tom Latham who rattled off an opening stand of 148. Both batsmen stroked the ball to all parts of the boundary with Latham completing a polished 76. The Burnside High team bounced back with three quick wickets to Merito supported by some quality ground fielding and catching, but Dowds continued to grow in confidence. He added 72 for the fifth wicket with Matt Latham before retiring for a wonderful 101. After another quick wicket to Taylor, Latham was joined by Dion McCall and the pair added a punishing 87 to see The Willows to 328 for six after their 50 overs with Latham 79 not out and McCall 43 not out.

Burnside High's top order were able to make starts but couldn't push on to a significant total with Boyd top scoring with a well hit 52 supported by Beckinsale and Athale. The bowlers were led by good opening spells by Matt Latham and Dion McCall picking up one wicket each. Some tight and probing bowling came from Dave Farrant who was frugal as ever with 1 for 23 off his ten overs and Mike Hastings who picked up two wickets bowling 10 overs on the trot but the star of the day was Danny Dowds who took four wickets to go with his century.

The Willows won by 114 runs

The Willows 328/6

D. Dowds 101 rtd, T. Latham 76, M. Latham 79*,
D. McCall 43*, J. Merito 3/60

Burnside High School 214

K. Athale 27, G. Boyd 52, N. Beckinsale 29*,
D. Dowds 4/46

Umpires

E. Brownlee and J. Wood



▲ **Danny Dowds on the drive.**



▲ **King's High School 1st XI.**



▲ **Tom Latham airborne!**



▲ **Young bowler in action.**

V KING'S HIGH SCHOOL (DUNEDIN)

14th December 2008

Report by John Garry

Another stunning sunny day in Loburn saw The Willows take on King's High School from Dunedin.

The Willows batted first and compiled a formidable tally of 273/8 on a pretty lively deck.

Notable performances with the bat included a quick fire 39 from Michael Goldstein and lovely innings from Mark Weeds with some very elegant cover drives. Other contributions included Maulik Patel 32, Cameron Rennell 34, and Willie Nicholls 35.

King's struggled to maintain any lasting partnerships and steadily lost wickets throughout their innings. Although they fell well short of the target, you could see some very talented players with a lot of potential.

A great spell of bowling from James Tapper with 5/21 caused most of the damage.

The Willows won by 108 runs

The Willows 273/8

M. Goldstein 39, M. Patel 32, M. Weeds 44, C. Rennell 34, W. Nicholls 35

King's High School 165

J. Tapper 5/21

Umpires

C. Fenwick and T. McLisky

v SUBURBAN YOUTH XI

4th January 2009

Report by Wade Burrell

With all the rain of the previous night, to even get a game of cricket started was an achievement in itself.

The Willows won the toss and had no hesitation in asking the Suburban XI to bat. With wickets falling at regular intervals they were finally dismissed for 130 but not before Dave Pollard hit some lusty blows in 41 very entertaining runs. The Willows were led by young seam bowlers James Tapper, Fraser Hawes and Sam Holt.

In reply, The Willows managed to scramble home with one wicket and eight overs to spare with contributions coming from Mike Smit, Wade Burrell, Grant Stewart and Brendon Wellington.

The Willows won by 1 wicket

The Willows 131/9

W. Burrell 30, D. Seelan 3/30

Suburban Youth XI 130

D. Pollard 41, J. Tapper 3/21, F. Hawes 3/30, S. Holt 2/1

Umpires

J. Elley and C. Fenwick



▲ Attacking field positions v Suburban XI.



▲ Grant Stewart – well trained at Police Academy.



▲ James Tapper, a young quickie from St Andrew's.



▲ Alex Reese of Christ's College plays thru mid-wicket during his innings of 46.

v CHRIST'S COLLEGE 1ST XI

18th January 2009

Report by Hamish Wright

It was a young Willows Team that greeted the Christ's College 1st XI on a fine Loburn morning. Aably lead by the "evergreen" John Masefield, The Willows won the toss and elected to bat. An inspirational choice that The Willows took advantage of. Tom Fisher and Chris McGoldrick paved the way for a middle-order onslaught headed by James O'Gorman who played magnificently, retiring on 101. He combined with a typically belligerent John Masefield. Their 149 run partnership took The Willows to an impressive 300. The bowling honours for College being evenly shared.

The afternoon, weather wise, created a different game completely. Rain interrupted the match so frequently that both sides now have extensive experience in "pitch protection".

At one stage the game was left to the umpires to decide if we would continue.

A little moisture on the wicket was enough to concern all of the College batsmen who found runs hard to get. The College openers of Tim Murgatroyd and Alex Reese faced some very accurate and sharp bowling by The Willows, lead by Willie Lonsdale but built a solid opening stand of 89. With a mounting run rate combined with the dampish wicket, College reached a respectable total of 191 being bowled out in the 47th over.

The Willows won by 109 runs

The Willows 300/6

T. Fisher 54, C. McGoldrick 37, J. Masefield 51, J. O'Gorman 101 rtd

Christ's College 191

T. Murgatroyd 39, A. Reese 46

Umpires

E. Brownlee and B. Davies

V CRUSADERS XI (AUSTRALIA)

22nd January 2009

Report by Michael Goldstein

On a fiercely warm North Canterbury day, The Willows lost the toss and were asked to field. The young Crusaders top order batted with great intent and after only 12 overs the score was 81/2. The Willows side then clawed its way back into the game thanks to some miserly and tactful bowling from Blair Franklin, Neil Cross and Bert Walker.

After the luncheon interval the Crusaders fought to reach 258/9 thanks largely to an excellent 51 not out from Jared Thompson. Bob Masefield proved the most likely Willower, taking two key wickets with consecutive balls.

The Willows started with 72 for the opening wicket thanks to some fine batting from Chris Dockrill and Alex Rowe. At 3/98 it was game on before Neil Cross found form hitting a crisp 87 not out to guide The Willows side home with three overs to spare.

Thanks to the Crusaders touring party—including umpires, scorers and parents—for another memorable Willows fixture.

The Willows won by 5 wickets

The Willows 262/5 (47 overs)

C. Dockrill 36, A. Rowe 31, N. Cross 87*, R. McGuire 32*

Crusaders XI Australia 258/9

J. Craven 49, D. Evans 45, J. Thompson 51*, B. Masefield 3/48, B. Walker 2/31

Umpires

J. Elley and T. McLisky



▲ The Crusaders XI.



▲ Bob Masefield – good flight.



▲ The Christ's College 1st XI.



▲ Richard McGuire in action.



▲ Danny Dowds – on the way to 88 against the Dunedin Cavaliers XI.

v DUNEDIN CAVALIERS XI

25th January 2009

Report by Hugh Wright

On an extremely hot Canterbury summer's day, The Willows captain, much to the disappointment of his players, put the Cavaliers into bat.

Shaun Fitzgibbon and Ben Yock both contributed heavily to the Cavaliers' score of 303. Mathew Hudson for The Willows bowled tightly and along with John Garry kept the Cavaliers honest.

With the heat still in the mid-30's, The Willows began their chase. John Garry and Danny Dowds gave us a great start. Graeme Inglis and Jonathan Davidson both completed half centuries and The Willows reached the required score with four overs to spare.

The Willows won by 4 wickets

Dunedin Cavaliers XI 302/7

S. Fitzgibbon 95, B. Yock 100 rtd, R. Lawson 34, M. Hudson 2/39, J. Garry 2/37

The Willows 303/3

J. Garry 50, D. Dowds 88, G. Inglis 63*, J. Davidson 50, L. Johnston 30*

Umpires

J. Henderson and D. Reid

v ST BEDE'S COLLEGE 1ST XI

1st February 2009

Report by Neil Cross

Having won the toss Elley and Sullivan got St Bede's off to an excellent start assisted by some wide bowling from The Willows opening attack. Elley top scored with a fluent innings of 45. Bede's were pegged back by some excellent bowling by Abbott. Southern and Tucker chipped in with useful runs but Lester mopped up the tail with some good swing bowling.

The Willow's response started well with opener George Earl scoring a brisk 41. Some excellent bowling from young Tucker got Bede's back in the game but then a strong partnership between Nicholson and Cross almost got The Willows home but Schulte had other ideas with 2 quick wickets. It was then left to Teale to see The Willows home with 2 wickets in hand.

The Willows won by 2 wickets

The Willows 203/8

G. Earl 41, A. Nicholson 42, N. Cross 34

St Bede's College 202

J. Elley 45, S. Lester 4/21

Umpires

J. Bromley (Central Districts) and R. Murphy (Central Districts)

V TIMARU BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

8th February 2009

Report by Andrew McRae

On a day where temperatures remained over 30 degrees, The Willows lost the toss and thus had to endure the stifling heat in the field.

The selectors had ensured over rates would not be a problem as the team was made up predominantly of spin. Tim Johnston, Bill Walsh, Maulik Patel and Alex Reese gave the captain great variety to choose from. Runs were hard to come by and the miserly bowling of Tim Johnston was a revelation. He finished with figures of 1-19 off 10 overs.

However, it wasn't the young spinners that did all of the damage, it was the experienced Warren Eddington who destroyed the opposition. With figures of 5/15 off his 8 overs he took wickets at regular intervals on his way to the honours board. Timaru were able to limp through to 150 in 46 overs.

The Willows top order set about the target with great speed which was achieved in just 23 overs with Maulik Patel and Ben Orton being the stand out performers.

In a light hearted moment Bill Walsh (who was batting at three for The Willows) went out to face his younger brother Tom. The tussle resulted in a clear winner. W Walsh bowled T Walsh for zero. Cricket is certainly a leveller as Bill had come off a century the day before.

All in all it was a difficult day for Timaru, however, there are signs of real promise in their top order. As always the pitch and ground conditions were superb and this meant any lack of accuracy was seized upon by some strong batting from The Willows side.

The Willows won by 7 wickets

The Willows 152/3

M. Patel 63*, B. Orton 54

Timaru Boys' High School 150

W. Eddington 5/15

Umpires

J. Elley and G. Evans



▲ Les Humphris – very determined.



▲ Maulik Patel – good finger spin.



▲ OUT – bowled or stumped?

V ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY COLLEGE | ST XI

11th February 2009

Report by **Brendon McFarlane**

St Thomas won the toss and confidently elected to bowl as they looked to continue their good track record in this annual fixture.

Within a few balls it seemed justified with Belcher delivering a gem to remove Paul McCarthy, an old boy of the school and now a current Master. The Willows resurrected its innings courtesy of patient innings from Chris O'Connell, also a Master at St Thomas, and the Archdeacon Mike Hawke, who saw the score through to a total of 185 for the loss of seven wickets.

St Thomas replied with a steady start, retaining wickets and slowly compiling runs but with the introduction of the left arm spinner, Jake Barry, wickets started to fall however with a few threatening cameos, St Thomas appeared to be wrestling the initiative from The Willows. The introduction of Paul McCarthy and Chris O'Connell at the bowling crease ensured the St Thomas innings finished 24 runs short of the required target. All in all, an excellent game that could have gone either way.

The Willows won by 24 runs

The Willows 185/7

C. O'Connell 58, M. Hawke 49, Miller 30*

St Thomas of Canterbury College 161

L. Allan 31, B. Laughton 31, J. Barry 3/48,
C. O'Connell 3/25, P. McCarthy 3/24

Umpires

H. Fowler and G. Evans



▲ Great photography!

V NELSON COLLEGE 1ST XI

15th February 2009

Report by Paul Rutledge

The strong old boys tie up with The Willows always adds a little bit of spice to the Nelson College fixture.

Nelson College got off to a good start by winning the toss and electing to bowl. An early break through by College, with James Watson back in the pavilion with The Willows score at 21, demonstrated that batting conditions may be a little tricky.

Some steady batting and fluent stroke play from The Willows top order wrested the initiative away from the College bowlers, with Ben Cameron prospering to the tune of 70, ably supported by Simon Wraight, Peter Younghusband (both Nelson College Old Boys), before the innings really took off with a well compiled 60 from former Auckland representative Richard Morgan. The Willows innings stumbled a little in the middle to later stages, but reached a respectable 241.

Nelson College stuck to their task in the field with Oscar Barkle capturing 5 dismissals in an outstanding display of wicket keeping.

The run chase proved to be a challenge for the Nelson batsmen, and at no stage did they ever get the scoreboard moving along, with any real purpose. Some lusty blows later in the order from Ellis added some respectability to the score. He proved that by taking the attack to the opposition bowlers it is possible to score freely. These young players must learn to back themselves and their ability.

All in all a wonderful days Cricket played in the right spirit. The Nelson College team, as we have come to expect, were immaculately dressed and a tribute to themselves and their College.

The Willows won by 53 runs

The Willows 241

B. Cameron 70, P. Younghusband 34,
R. Morgan 60, S. Baxendine 4/34, J. Skeggs 3/45

Nelson College 188

J. Ellis 52, P. Younghusband 3/17

Umpires

B. Hamilton and A. Scott



▲ Tom Turner having a day off the golf course.



▲ Peter Younghusband (3/17) – very wristy.

V SOUTHLAND BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

22nd February 2009

Report by Mike Dormer

A positive weather check on the Saturday afternoon enabled the Southland Boys' side to fly to Christchurch on the Sunday morning oozing confidence to retain the Peter Skelt Trophy.

The Willows were sent in and, as appears so often, were soon in trouble at 64 for 4. Cometh the hour, cometh the man—none other than Paul McEwan who after a very streaky four through slips, settled down to bat in a manner reminiscent of his golden years for Canterbury. Paul was ably supported by the youngsters James Boock, Daniel Burrows and Eliot Andrews enabling The Willows to a score of 238 for 7.

The Southland bowlers were accurate with Greg Mulvey capturing three scalps in his nine overs. The Southland fielding was of the highest order.

Chasing 239 to win the Southland batsmen, other than a solid 61 from H O'Brien, were unable to build sufficient worthwhile partnerships as they were put to the test by Eliot Andrews and the spin twins James Boock and Daniel Burrows.

The Willows commends Southland Boys' High School for their commitment to travel to Christchurch for the annual fixture and acknowledges the excellent support from parents. Regretfully for the boys the flight home to Invercargill was minus the trophy!

The Willows won by 53 runs

The Willows 238/7

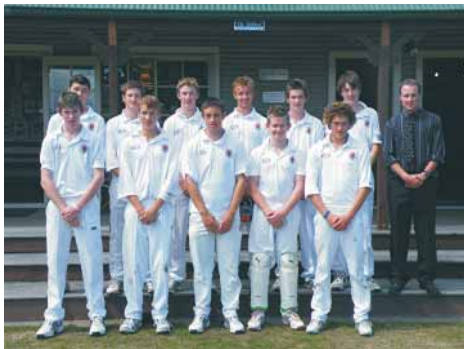
P. McEwan 52, D. Burrows 34*, E. Andrews 35*, G Mulvey 3/30

Southland Boys' High School 185

H. O'Brien 61, E. Andrews 3/22

Umpires

G. Evans and H.Fowler



▲ The Southland Boys' High School 1st XI.



▲ Daniel Burrows wants a wicket.



▲ Smart work young 'keeper.

v ARTHUR PITCHER'S XI

25th February 2009

Report by Malcolm Ellis

When Arthur Pitcher arrived at The Willows on this sultry North Canterbury day he had already prepared his victory speech.

Surrounded by members of his team, which included former New Zealand cricketers Wisneski, Brown and Hartland, he gave the opposing captain a slight Jardinesque nod of the head as The Willows XI, assembled on the verandah open mouthed and without speaking, allowed the Arthur Pitcher XI entry into the changing room.

Willows captain Ellis won the toss and elected to bat. Mr Pitcher hadn't planned on this novel approach. It was the first of many masterful captaincy decisions taken by Ellis on the day.

Outstanding batting by Dockrill, Jenkins, Harrison and Hawke saw The Willows post 254/3 after 40 overs. The game was effectively won for The Willowers at that point.

Notwithstanding the size of the challenge Arthur Pitcher's XI battled to a man. Inspirational leadership by captain Ellis, before he was deposed by Walker (of the Bert variety), ensured the pressure was never relaxed. Hawke (closer to God than thee) bowled with divine guidance and a considerable amount of natural ability to take four wickets off 8 consecutive overs. Wal Scott and Cran Bull fielding better with age although their presence on the field, this cloudless day, could be likened to a sundial.

Arthur Pitcher's XI was bowled out for 170.

The Willows won by 84 runs

The Willows 254/3

M. Hawke 60*, C. Dockrill 56, N. Jenkins 45,
T. Harrison 49*

Arthur Pitcher's XI 170

S. Carter 47, V. Brown 32, M. Hawke 4/29,
W. Scott 2/14

Umpires

G. Evans and J. Rose



▲ The defeated Pitcher's XI.



▲ Harry Simons – no hat-trick today.



▲ Good footwork from one of the St Andrew's batsmen.



▲ Patrick Reardon bowling against his old school.



▲ Good position 'keeper Latham.

V ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE | ST XI

1st March 2009

Report by Shaun Coffey

It was a day of sweet revenge for The Willows side whose performance was far superior to that which resulted in an embarrassing defeat last season.

The Willows side was boasting a pretty talented order which resulted in four out of the top five batsmen scoring 43 or more. New Zealand under 19 and Canterbury A representative Tom Latham, was the top scorer for The Willows with 72 off just 64 balls including a 96 run partnership with Paul Duncan for the second wicket.

St. Andrew's got off to a terrible start in their innings losing a wicket off their first ball, but fought on resolutely thanks largely to B. Butterick and J. Tapper, the latter enjoying a good all round performance by taking four wickets in The Willows innings. Martin Kain was the most successful bowler for The Willows with figures of 3/16 off ten overs.

Overall, a very successful day for the home side.

The Willows won by 94 runs

The Willows 272/8

T. Latham 72, A. McRae 57, S. Coffey 48,
P. Duncan 43, J. Tapper 4/56

St Andrew's College 178

B. Butterick 47, J. Tapper 40, M. Kain 3/16

Umpires

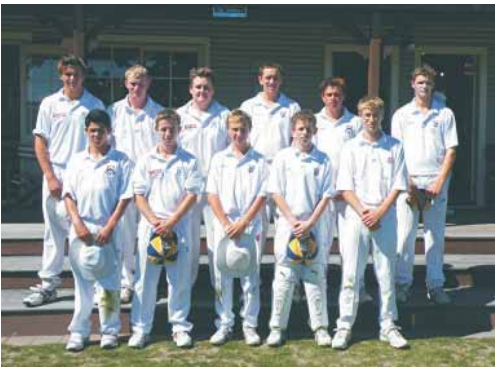
P. Koppes and J. Wood



▲ Matt McEwan against father Paul – no early dismissal this year.



▲ Shaun Coffey drives beautifully during his 48.



▲ The Shirley Boys' High School 1st XI.



▲ The Waitaki BHS/St Kevin's XI.



▲ Coach David Grocott bowling against his pupils.



▲ St Kevin's Old Boy Trevor Thornton loses a bail.

V SHIRLEY BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 1ST XI

8th March 2009

Report by David Grocott

Another beautiful day saw a youthful Willows side, featuring five 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 effort of 191 all out was based around a hard hit 62 from Michael Peacock. He was well supported by Ash Cowlshaw and Tim Johnston who both scored thirties. The best bowling for Shirley Boys' came from seam bowlers Jono Stegerhoek and Matt Ellis. Off spinner Mitchell Tabb also bowled well.

The Shirley team's reply of 189 all out pushed The Willows right to the limit with their last wicket falling in an exciting final over with just three runs to get. The star for Shirley Boys' Ken McClure who scored a magnificent century in his first appearance at The Willows. The turning point of the game was Ken having to retire upon reaching his hundred as he was leading Shirley to victory (a slightly embarrassed and apologetic Mike Dormer ensured this Willows custom was followed!). Michael Peacock got three wickets for The Willows.

The Willows won by 2 runs

The Willows 191

M. Peacock 62, A. Cowlshaw 30, T. Johnston 30

Shirley Boys' High School 189

K. McClure 103 rtd

Umpires

J. Elley and T. McLisky

V WAITAKI BHS / ST KEVIN'S XI

15th March 2009

Report by Ben Harris

Batting first, The Willows posted a defensible but hardly imposing total of 200 for 7. The Waitaki/St Kevin's bowlers and fielders stuck to their task and never allowed The Willows batsmen to build partnerships.

Young Lawry from Westport batted well for his 53 and he was ably backed by a fellow Coaster Troy Scanlon and the Mid Canterbury Cricket CEO, Richard Pithey, who unfortunately had to retire due to a torn calf muscle.

Whilst 200 was a competitive score, it soon began to evaporate when the Waitaki/St Kevin's opening partnership reached 100 in the first 20 overs without loss. S Butler, their English professional, was outstanding and he was extremely well supported by S Conlan who had also opened the bowling for the Schools' side taking one for 40 off eight overs – a good all round performance.

It took an inspirational spell of bowling from Scanlon (battling through the pain barrier) and some well flighted leg spin from young Lawry to even the balance and reduce the School side to 131 for 5, at which time Todd Sutton arrived to completely shut the School team's chances of victory with a magnificent cameo spell of 4 for 9.

Huge thanks to the match manager, Gerald Austin (who attended Waitaki Boys' High in the early 50's), the Waitaki/St Kevin's team, and of course the supporters who travelled for 3 1/2 hours from Oamaru. It would be remiss not to mention the commitment of the Buller contingent consisting of Messrs Townrow, Lawry and Scanlon who travelled from the other side of the island.

The Willows won by 48 runs

The Willows 200/7

B. Lawry 53, T. Scanlon 34

Combined Waitaki/St Kevin's XI 152

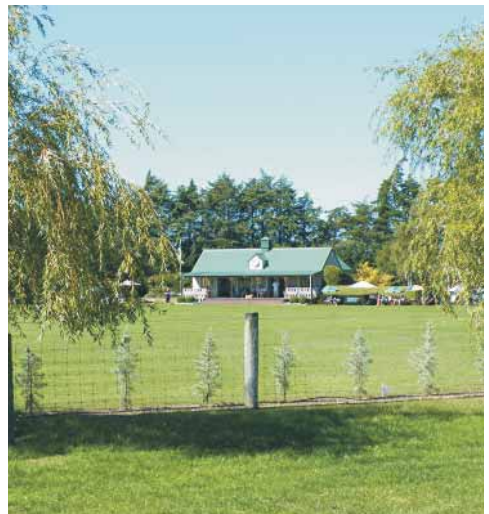
S. Butler 68, S. Conlan 27, T. Sutton 4/9,
T. Scanlon 3/9

Umpires

D. Reid and L. Kerr



▲ South African Richard Pithey solid in defence.



▲ Another idyllic Sunday.

v CANTERBURY COUNTRY SECONDARY SCHOOLS XI

22nd March 2009

Report by Paul Rutledge

Bad weather threatened, but Cricket prevailed, for the last Willows fixture of the season.

The Willows won the toss and elected to bat, were soon into their work with a solid opening stand between Tom Latham and Adam Hastilow, before the former departed with a score of 52. The momentum continued for The Willows with Hastilow and Matthew Rowe gathering a further 108 for the second wicket.

The departure of Hastilow sparked a minor collapse with the Combined side fighting back to have The Willows teetering at 172 for 5, before cameo innings from Philip Maw and Corey James ensured a respectable score of 293 for 8 from 50 overs.

For the Country Combined XI Tim Harrison bowled tidily picking up 3-55 and he was well supported by M Dobbs with 2/42 and M Jones 2/45.

An early break through by The Willows meant that the run chase for the Combined XI would be a tough one. An excellent partnership between Dobbs and Goldstein contributed 51 runs, with Goldstein going on to make a well compiled 61. Tight bowling by The Willows contributed to a steady fall of Combined wickets but in saying that the Combined total of 209 for 9 from their 50 overs was more than respectable. Grant Stewart in particular mustered good pace, and bowled with excellent control supported by Boock, Cortesi, Drayton and Rowe, who all made the captain's job an easy one by demonstrating that line and length will always outdo pace.

As is often the way with School XI's, not enough pressure was placed by the batsmen on the fielding side by building partnerships, or

regularly turning the strike over with well taken singles, or by forcing fielding errors by running the first run hard – all good lessons school boys should understand.

The Combined Country XI were a pleasure to play against as they competed well, demonstrated much promise as Cricketers, and most importantly represented themselves, their families and supporters in an excellent manner.

The Willows won by 84 runs

The Willows 293/9

A. Hastilow 77, P. Maw 48, M. Rowe 48,
T. Latham 32, T. Harrison 3/55

Combined Country School XI 209/9

D. Goldstein 61, M. Jones 31*

Umpires

T. McLisky and J. Rose

RAINED OFF

v South Canterbury XI
v Hawkswood Wanderers

5th October
21st December



▲ Philip Maw – tucked up.



▲ Adam Hastilow in classic style against the Combined Country Schools' XI.



▲ The Combined Country Schools' XI.



▲ Young Matthew Rowe showing promise.





▲ Paul McEwan talks to the Otago Boys' High School team.



▲ Well stumped by Ross Bayliss in the Peninsula Craze match.



▲ Mike McGoldrick well short!



▲ Ben Yock on his way to a century against London New Zealand.



▲ Mike Singleton and Steven Lester resplendent in their LNZ blazers.



▲ Mike McIntyre all concentration.



▲ Michael Newell – determined.



▲ Children enjoy a ride on the donkeys.



▲ Father Christmas asking a question.



▲ Lindsay Forde bowling from the road end.



▲ Bails fly against St Bede's College.



▲ Relaxing with Dilmah.



▲ Umpires' Day at the ground.

A loud appeal

The Venerable Canon Craufurd Murray



I can still remember my first cricket bat. In a rush of enthusiasm my father bought it long before I even had the strength to lift it! Cricket was a game he was keen for me to appreciate. I grew up in a world that valued the place of cricket, seeing it as much more than just a

sport. Cricket was regarded as the epitome of many fine qualities. M.A. Noble wrote how “it teaches honesty, appreciation, persistency, loyalty, enthusiasm, fair play, fighting spirit, self-control, unselfishness, and how to accept success and defeat.” - An impressive list. To be told at any time that something you had done “wasn't cricket”, was a telling reprimand which stung your pride and made you re-evaluate your behaviour, as it implied you had acted dishonourably.

There is no doubt that cricket has slipped off such a pedestal. But should we just accept this as the reflection of an age with different standards? My appeal is to have a more idealistic outlook and to restore the enviable reputation cricket once had.

In buying that huge Len Hutton signed bat when I was still an infant, my father had a vision that I would embrace all the excellent qualities and enjoyment cricket had to offer. 'Vision' is a word often bandied around. With it can come an air of desperation, as people wonder where or how they might locate a vision that will enable them to develop some meaningful purpose or direction. But we don't have to search anxiously for a new goal to appear over the horizon, or wait for an imported expert to reveal it to us. It is far

more likely to be something of which we are already fully aware, but which we have never previously considered in such elevated terms. “Vision,” someone wisely said, “is the ability to see the opportunities within your current circumstances.”

My father's vision, when he bought the bat, wasn't some yet-to-be-defined hope or intention. It was, rather, his way of encouraging me to take advantage of an opportunity already present within my boyhood environment. The unmistakably wholesome spirit of cricket was there for me to own.

And this same vision lies at the foundations of The Willows through its commitment to keep alive the traditions of cricket. In so doing, the club stands for those things that make this sport the “mighty game” and “first of all sports” – to quote James Love's poem of 1744. And the attributes mentioned by M.A. Noble, speaking of many splendid aspects of human character and relationships, are an inevitable outcome.

Desperately Seeking – What?

“Throughout the West undue stress on the individual is fragmenting family life, diminishing our sense of friendship, isolating neighbours from one another, making the workplace increasingly competitive, involving us in court cases, reducing our involvement in civic affairs, diminishing our interest in politics and making religion a private matter”.

– Robert Branks: The Complete Book of Everyday Christianity

You just have to watch him play



I spy Jesse Ryder. I could hardly fail to. He's a big boy.

When Ryder was picked for New Zealand, Adam Parore scoffed. 'You've only got to look at him,' he said. 'He's too fat.'

Wrong, Mr Parore, wrong. You don't have to look at him. You have to watch him play. And to anyone who knows cricket, it is obvious that Jesse Ryder has got the greatest gift that any sportsman can have. It is unfakable. It is beautiful. We know it as time. Ryder's got time.

Since the series against India in which Ryder took a few useful wickets, hung on to some fabulous catches and averaged 90 odd with the bat, we've heard rather less from Mr Parore. But he was voicing the spirit of our age.

For this we have to thank the army of busybodies who ostensibly concern themselves with other people's health. They are the modern puritans, worried, as H.L. Mencken once observed, that someone else may be having more fun than they are. They want to outlaw butter, they squeal about an obesity epidemic, as if obesity were somehow contagious, and they urge us to see fat as a sin.

Such people don't actually care about the health of others. They care about control. They want to make rules. They want the world to conform to their will. They would have made splendid lieutenants in the SS. They are bullies and they are wrong. Ryder proves them wrong.

In the remote sixties, when I was a kid and fat was just fat, a man called Colin Milburn was picked for England. He was shorter and fatter than Jesse Ryder. And in his first test match he played an innings of 80 odd that thrilled the country. I don't remember whether it was against a frightening Australian attack or a terrifying West Indian one, but I do remember that he walloped them into the fence and over it. Forty something years later I retain a mental picture of him hooking. Five years after Parore retired I can't remember a single shot he played.

Milburn played only a handful of tests. A car crash robbed him of an eye and though he tried to make a comeback he was never the same. But he will live in memory as the guy who did a beautiful thing.

I've played cricket with numerous fat people. Some have played poorly, others well. Some have been gloomy, others hilarious. None of these qualities had anything to do with their being fat.

As a young club cricketer I used to love to bat with Ian Thirkell, a man known universally as Magic. It was only many years later that I got the joke in the nickname. At the time I thought it had something to do with the way he batted. For though he wore size 48 flannels he batted like Twinkletoes. He shared with Jesse Ryder the ability to make the game look simple. And when I was standing twenty two yards away and watching him treat good bowling with disdain, I felt not envy but delight. What he did was beautiful to watch. And it was especially beautiful emerging from such an unlikely frame.

And so it is with Ryder. There is an aesthetic joy in watching him play. Which is why, I suspect, and all unconsciously, New Zealand has fallen in love with him. As they never did with the slim and vain and shallow Adam Parore.

Joe Bennett

Dear Editor

What a shame our game was cancelled. We had our 1st XI ready for the annual contest which we all look forward to. We were sorry after all your preparations for our special day. Our 'Mafia' executive held a special meeting and Don Wyllie suggested we claim a win by default but it creates a problem with the Trophy. Do we simply inscribe "Rain" for 2008?

Hawkswood Wanderers wish you and The Willows a very Happy Christmas and New Year while we await our next visit.

Yours sincerely,
Roger Macfarlane

Note: The annual fixture between The Willows and the Hawkswood Wanderers was cancelled due to inclement weather and two inches of rain which despite the pitch being covered, saturated the complete square. For the record, out of 14 fixtures played since the inception of The Willows Cricket Club, The Willows have only won twice!



2009 New Year Greetings

From the Founder of Dilmah Tea

May this New Year create within you awareness of every blessing that you have received – whether success, family, friendship, good health or prosperity. May you continue to enjoy them, whilst remembering those who only hear of them. Let us explore ways and means of sharing a bit of happiness with them—the poor, disabled, sick and the under privileged—whilst recollecting the words of Chief Seattle who proclaimed, “Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.”

You and I can change their lives for the better, and we can impact positively upon our environment, if we always remember that we are all connected and our every action will ultimately impact upon ourselves.

With warm good wishes
Merrill J. Fernando



▲ Winter snow at The Willows.



Peter Nancarrow

Eulogy given at St Mary's Church, Merivale, 23.09.08 by Mike Dormer

1st May 1994 under the watchful eye of Walter Hadlee, the doyen of New Zealand Cricket, a Cricket Club in the country area of Loburn some 35 minutes from Christchurch, was formed with the express purpose of providing an opportunity for secondary school / college 1st XI cricketers to play against and mix with experienced players who comprise The Willows side each Sunday.

The first game was held on the 24th October '94 and as you can readily imagine, being new meant a number of loose ends relating to administration went unattended.

Then by chance, in about 1996/97 a cricket enthusiast arrived at the Ground to watch what I believe was the St Andrew's 1st XI.

Well dressed, well presented with a very pleasant personality, sporting a large cigar belching forth a distinctive odour, was none other than Peter Nancarrow.

Peter soon made his acquaintance with The Willows contingent, who, recognising that Peter was a recent recruit to the South Island, semi-retired and obviously had plenty of spare time on his hands, was within a couple of weeks

seconded, under duress, to assume the newly created position with the prestigious title as Match Manager. Peter accepted graciously, but what he didn't know was just what was involved.

Asking for a Job specification drew a blank so Peter, using his initiative over a three week period, soon compiled a format which has contributed significantly to the success of the Club.

Peter's format created a benchmark as to the manner in which cricketers, supporters, and others who attended the ground were received on arrival, made welcome and were provided with the necessities of the day, tea, coffee, biscuits, lunch, afternoon tea, a sausage and a wine in the evening which would make for a pleasant day.

From the time Peter arrived at 10 o'clock every Sunday morning without fail he would commence his duties.

Morning Tea served at 10.15am; the bell rung at 10.50am; Umpires ushered onto the field with teams behind; drinks served on the hour, with a plate of jellybeans; lunch money collected from the teams and supporters; supervised the catering arrangements so adequately undertaken by John Witty; ensured the plates, knives and forks were returned to the kitchen; rang the bell again at 1.40pm for play to commence, and then disappeared in a cloud of smoke around the ground.

Arrived back into the pavilion at 3:15pm ready for Afternoon Tea, this accomplished, off he went again with another large cigar, finally returning sometime around 5.00pm in order to prepare for a most important sector of the day, that was the Player presentations and getting ready for the sausage sizzle.

At the conclusion of play, teams were assembled in front of the pavilion with their supporters and Peter would very eloquently sum up the day's

play, announce the Player of the Day and arrange for the awards to be made to the boys, and of course, the Player of the Day Award to The Willows player which is, still is and always will be, hopefully, a bottle of Montana wine. Following the speeches by the boys and by The Willows' captain, wine would be served to the ladies present, the sausages consumed, the boys would leave and finally, dear Peter would be left with some Willowers and a flagon of port wine.

Always the gentleman, Peter ensured that all those adult players were well serviced with Port, and of course he would then partake, not only of a glass but also another cigar. And then when the sun was setting on a glorious summer evening, Peter would gather up his brief case and toddle off, either to the farmhouse with Mark Savill or return on his long journey back to Sumner.

Peter not only acted as the Match Manager but was also a member of The Willows Committee and his contribution to the Club has been

immense, so much so that at the commencement of this year, at the direction of the President, the Hon. Justice Hansen, Peter was duly made a Life Member in recognition of what he personally had done to ensure the little country cricket club in 1994 became an internationally recognised club which sends secondary school students on cricket tours to overseas countries each year.

To Gaile and David, John and James, The Willows conveys to you our heartfelt sympathy at this time, and gives thanks to you for allowing us to share so much of Peter's life since he came to the South Island.

To you Peter, we give you our thanks for what you have accomplished and may you now rest in that great pavilion in the sky but please do not be too critical of a dropped catch or a wayward shot which sees the bails removed, and please be gentle on the administrative ground staff who may err from time to time in maintaining the high benchmark which you set for the Club.

In Memoriam

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

Barry Cotton, Christchurch

Bill Duncan, Christchurch

Peter Nancarrow Christchurch



▲ Vinnie Ward of Wellington College defends.



▲ Peter Younghusband bowling.



▲ Tom Gibson bowling.



Bill Duncan

A Tribute by John Grocott

The sudden and unexpected passing of Bill Duncan on 10 August 2008 at the age of 74 came as a shock to the Canterbury cricket community and was a huge loss. Bill was the ultimate cricket enthusiast and made an outstanding contribution to the game in Canterbury. He had a lifetime involvement, playing, coaching, selecting and administering the game. He was a legend to the many young players he coached and mentored over many years and loved to watch their development. He made a major contribution to the CJCA and the East Christchurch Shirley Cricket Club.

Bill was a very competitive cricketer in his playing days. As a teacher he moved around and played some representative games for Northland – now Northern Districts. On returning to Christchurch, he played about 20 seasons for the HSOB senior team, mainly under the captaincy of Walter Hadlee who had a great influence on his approach to and thinking about the game.

He was principally a left arm medium swing bowler but could swing a bat and enjoyed a good measure of success.

He linked up with the East Christchurch Shirley Cricket Club in the early 1980's, saw a need and quickly became involved with junior development. The rest is history! This involvement continued right up to the end and also extended into the senior ranks. Bill was a tireless coach and administrator. He was also an innovator, keen to test new ideas on how the game and individuals could be improved.

A natural progression was the CJCA where he served for 16 years, selecting, coaching and managing countless junior teams. He had an eye for talent and was keen to see it develop.

It is unlikely Bill had any idea of the impact he would make when he began and it is impossible to do justice to his outstanding contribution to cricket in Canterbury. His efforts were recognised by the NZ Cricket Council in 2000 when he was awarded the prestigious Jack Newman Award. The citation read: "To an outstanding contributor to the world of Junior Cricket in NZ". Bill was a worthy recipient.

Bill was an early member of The Willows and an enthusiastic supporter of the Club's main objective to encourage and develop young cricketers, particularly at secondary school level. It was something very dear to his heart. But he also had other interests and was a life member of both the NZ Gymnastics Association and the Canterbury Gymnastics Association, having been President of the latter for a number of years.

Bill had a great love for cricket and cricketers. Sadly, his familiar figure and faded red hat will no longer be seen around the grounds. Nor will we hear that booming voice and hearty laugh. His enthusiasm, energy and passion for the game we all love will be missed but we can give thanks for the challenges he set and the enjoyment we have experienced from his efforts. Our sympathy was conveyed to Sally and family at the time of his passing.



Major Bob Millar

A Tribute by Major Campbell Roberts

National Director, The Salvation Army Social Services Policy & Parliamentary Units

The Willows lost an important friend last year with the death of Major Bob Millar of The Salvation Army. Bob was often amongst the spectators on a Sunday enjoying the atmosphere and friendship of a match against a College XI. With a passion for sport and cricket in particular, Bob found The Willows a welcome sanctuary from his normally active and demanding life working with people in need in Christchurch. He appreciated also its positive influence on the lives of young people.

Bob had served as a Salvation Army Officer in a range of tasks in New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. He was a leader, particularly apparent when there was a critical or difficult task to undertake. When not engaged in working, Bob was a keen hunter, fisherman, cricketer, played representative rugby and after hanging up his rugby boots became active as a rugby referee.

In Christchurch Bob's range of work actively included chaplaincy to the Police and Military and as the founder and manager of The Salvation Army Street Service, a service that provided friendship and support to people working and living on the streets. It was the running of this

street service that Bob became so well known in the community where on Friday and Saturday nights when most good citizens were thinking of a good night's sleep, Bob was commencing work. In a converted ambulance he drove the streets of the city until 3.00am in the morning providing a listening ear, hot drinks and food to people who were living on the streets, prostitutes and others. Bob's presence was often enough to dissuade trouble and stop criminal activity in the city but more importantly he was a person street people could talk to for support and help when life became desperate or at the point they wanted to start changing their lives.

A measure of Bob's influence in Christchurch was seen at his funeral when, at the Salvation Army Citadel, civic and business leaders, senior Police and Military personnel and National Salvation Army leaders joined with street people, criminals and prostitutes to pay tribute to the man who had made such a significant influence on their lives.

When the Sally flag flies at The Willows each Sunday it reminds us of people like Bob who often said that a day at the ground gave him the recreation and distraction that energised him to continue working to improve others' lives. Undoubtedly a day's cricket provides very different benefits for each person who visits the ground and thankfully The Willows was a place that helped Bob give a life of humanitarian care to other people.

*Kindness in words creates confidence
Kindness in thinking creates
profoundness
Kindness in giving creates love
(Laozi, 6th Cent. BC)*



▲ Father and son – Andrew Nuttall and Henry.

Are you the father?

A father passing by his son's bedroom was astonished to see the bed was nicely made, and everything—books, clothes etc had been picked up from the floor and put away.

Then, he saw it—an envelope, propped up prominently against the pillow. It was addressed, 'Dad'. With the worst premonition, he opened the envelope and with trembling hands, read the letter.

It read

Dear Dad,

It is with great regret and sorrow that I'm writing to you. I have had to elope with my new girlfriend Stacy, because I wanted to avoid a scene with you and mum.

I've been finding real passion with Stacy. She is so nice, but I knew you wouldn't approve of her because of all her piercings and tattoos, and because she is so much older than I am.

But it's not only the passion, Dad. She's pregnant. Stacy said that we will be very happy. She owns a trailer in the woods, and has a stack

of firewood—enough for the whole winter. We share a dream of having many more children.

Stacy has opened my eyes to the fact that marijuana doesn't really hurt anyone. We'll be growing it for ourselves, and trading it with the other people in the commune for all the cocaine and ecstasy we want.

In the meantime, we'll pray that science will find a cure for AIDS, so that Stacy can get better. She sure deserves it!!

Don't worry Dad, I'm 15 and I know how to take care of myself.

Someday, I'm sure we'll be back to visit, so you can get to know your grandchildren.

With love, your son,
John.

PS. Dad, none of the above is true. I'm over at Tony's house. I just wanted to remind you that there are worse things in life than the school report that's on my desk.

I love you!

Call when it is safe for me to come home.

Report on the Willows Youth Tour to Sri Lanka and Singapore

By Paul McEwan

March/April 2009

The Willows Cricket Club was not happy to stop with a tour to India, Oman and Sharjah in 2008. It now wanted to spread its wings into Sri Lanka, and thanks to the generosity of Mr Merrill Fernando, the Managing Director of Dilmah Tea, and his sons Dilhan and Malik, an opportunity for 13 young lads to tour Sri Lanka and Singapore came about.

In January I travelled to Napier to watch the National Under-17 Cricket Tournament, but unlike last year, everybody knew why I was there. The pressure from parents who had heard about the Willows tours, all wanting to know how their sons could be considered for such a tour, was immense, but rules are rules and once the final selection was made, we had 8 schools that the Willows play against, represented.

On Thursday the 26th March after many phone calls and emails between Mike, my wife Julie and the various parents, the boys assembled at Christchurch Airport to head off into the unknown. I was ably supported by Richard Hayward (coach) and Andrew Nuttall (assistant coach).

For the next two weeks the itinerary worked like clockwork with the team playing seven games in Colombo, Kandy, Kurunegala and one in Singapore in temperatures into the mid 30's and 100% humidity. We did not have time to sit about and when you have an opportunity like we did, you don't want to miss anything. Our programme consisted of an overnight stay in

Singapore arriving in Sri Lanka at around 2pm. The following day we played St Thomas' College and the next day against Sri Lanka Under-19 at the National Stadium. On the way to Kandy we visited an Elephant Dung Paper processing plant and then the boys, and the not so big boys, such as Andrew Nuttall, went elephant riding in the Elephant Bath. After the Elephant Bath it was off to the Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage. If you think going to the zoo to see an elephant is cool then this was even more special. To stand on the footpath and be passed by 45 elephants going down to the river for a play was something to be seen to be believed. No chains attached to the elephants and at a touchable distance – what an experience!

Our accommodation along the way was also amazing. We thought the Hilton was special but when we arrived at the Earls Regency Hotel, this was something to be seen. It was built on a rock face, high on the hill side in lush well planted grounds with a swimming pool, where the boys could play water polo, a variety of bars for the management and the karaoke bar where the boys could show off their singing skills or lack of for some. What more could the young lads wish for.

After our special day with sightseeing, it was back to what we were there for with a game against a Central Provincial XI at the Asqiriya Stadium, which is the Kandy Stadium where all



▲ At the Hilton in Colombo.



▲ The boys with Hussein, our liaison person at the Dilmah factory.

the international cricket games are played. This ground is also used by Trinity College and it was the Trinity College team we played the next day. Unfortunately the game against the Provincial XI finished early, with us being soundly beaten, and as rugby is very strong in Kandy, there were some teams practising. Like most New Zealanders, throw them a football and it's game on, so for about an hour the boys played touch football with the locals. From a distance, and not that I was counting, but I think the Sri Lankan boys cleaned us up in the touch football as well.

After the Trinity College game we went down town to experience the busy markets and the boys could again test their bartering skills. A lot of fun for an hour and then it was off for some Sri Lanka culture—with some Sri Lankan dancing and fire walking. Needless to say none of the boys took up the challenge to do the same. As we were in town, we arranged for the boys to have yet another curry organised with yet another one of Hussein's (our liaison officer) friends.

The next morning was an early one as we had to travel about two hours to Kurunegala to play another Provincial XI at the Welagedera stadium. This ground was the best ground we played on under the shade of a rock hillside. The amazing thing about this ground was that it had little stands that all looked unfinished but with a little bit of money this ground could look superb. The boys will remember this game not

necessarily for the scores but for the smell in the changing rooms and it was not the smell of yet another curry for lunch!

After the game it was the drive of the tour back to the Hilton in Colombo. When you consider we were in a large tour bus and for two hours in the dark our driver had us in and out of tuk tuks, trucks passing when they shouldn't have, trucks coming at you on the wrong side of the road. What a hell of a drive for two hours. Needless to say we arrived back at the Hilton safely.

By now all the boys were looking for a day off, so it was off for a day shopping and we all boosted the Sri Lankan economy. Cricket gear and clothes were purchased but the highlight of the day was an evening meal at McDonald's and not curry. We also fitted in a little 20/20 cricket watching with the hope that we would see some of the Sri Lanka test players score a few runs.

After our day off, we played another two games against the Sri Lanka Under-17's. We eventually had some success on the field against Royal College, a school of some 9,000 pupils. We had Royal College 58 for 8 at one stage but they finished up with 166. We managed to pass their score 5 down and with overs to spare.

On the day before we left Sri Lanka we were hosted at the Dilmah factory and had lunch with the company directors. After a tour of the factory and a magnificent banquet we were all presented with our own engraved tea boxes with an assortment of Dilmah Tea.



▲ "See you at the World Under-19's."



▲ Tea tasting at Dilmah.

We presented Mr Fernando with a porcelain Easter Egg. We had previously purchased the egg from a fund raising campaign for the Blind. We also presented a book on New Zealand to David Colin-Thome who organized the tour in Sri Lanka. It was a great way to finish off the tour in Sri Lanka.

We all certainly departed Sri Lanka with some long lasting memories.

Our last couple of days were in Singapore and thanks to the generous sponsorship of Mike Horner, a good friend of our President John Hansen, we played against a Singapore XI made up of senior players down to some under 17's. We won this game which made it a great way to finish the tour.

On behalf of the boys I wish to thank the Club firstly, for the foresight and support of such tours. The boys will have become more worldly from the experience of travelling to such a place as Sri Lanka. To our sponsors, and particular Mr Fernando of Dilmah and his sons, we thank you for your tireless efforts to make sure this all happened. Thank you—we will never forget this marvelous opportunity.

The people who travelled were:

Hussein: Our liaison officer who knew all the people we needed to know—plus all their friends as well. Thank you.

Su: The boys are still trying to find a question you don't know the answer to. Thank you.

Richard Hayward (Coach): Hope your girls loved their jewellery.

Andrew Nuttall (Assistant Coach): Always too late to make the playing XI.

Theo Van Woerkom: Our master of spin.

Blair Soper: The quiet assassin—10 overs on the trot easily.

Edward Nuttall: Still trying to get his father to the bus on time.

Tom Gibson: Singlets at breakfast is not the go. Black pants and white belts—must be a Wellington thing.

Tawera Waru: King of the curry. NOT!!!!

Sam Lawson: King of the bartering.

Cole McConchie: He's got a new job—washing elephants.

James Richards: Our dancing Queen.

Hamish Teale: The shopper of the tour. Where are your glasses?

Tim Hampton-Matehe: Where did all the lollies go?

Simon Ward: Dry cleaning sweat bands? Really? Thanks for the cokes.

Matt Winter: The karaoke kid. Practise that haka before the next tour eh Matt?

Mitchell Croft: Still trying to grow the moustache. Great innings, just a pity it didn't count.

Paul McEwan, Manager: What a great tour! Thanks guys.

For the record:
Played 8, won 2, lost 5, with 1 rained off.

Bob Cunis

The New Zealand Cricketer, 1969



One of the most satisfactory features of the 1968-69 season was the success of Bob Cunis, whose career, only a year before, had seemed likely to be nearing its end, because of knee injuries.

In that season, he bowled only 114 overs, about a third of his usual quota, and had taken seven wickets; he had been forced to withdraw from the New Zealand team which made a brief Australian tour early in the summer.

If he was still a candidate for New Zealand test and touring teams when the 1968-69 season began, he was very much an outsider. He had not enjoyed much success in his few national appearances, his fitness was very much in doubt, and there was even speculation whether he would retain his place in the Auckland Plunket Shield side.

It was clear that Cunis was troubled by his injured knee, and sometimes, it seemed, by both of them. From the start of his career in 1960-61, he had always rolled about the field somewhat in the manner of a stage sailor. But he had always shown fighting qualities far above the average.

He made everyone sit up by taking 10 for 93 in Auckland's first match. But, it was said, Northern Districts was not strong, and when Cunis had only two wickets against Otago there was much shaking of heads. Back he bounced, with 6 for 60 in Central's first innings, a match analysis of 9 for 106 against Wellington, and a total for the series of 30, his personal best, and the top in the competition.

So to the inter-island game at New Plymouth. This, it was felt, would be the big test. He had already bowled 148 eight-ball overs and surely now his knee troubles must catch up on him. At Pukekura Park, in high temperature, he bowled 36 overs and took 5 for 93. It was a very convincing answer.

Cunis was an automatic selection for the tests against the West Indies and in them he sent down another 81 overs. Only at Wellington did wickets come his way at all readily – he had five for 112 in the match – and he did not contain the West Indies batsmen to the extent demanded of his particular bowling job. But that would not have been an easy task for the most accomplished bowlers anywhere and Cunis certainly earned his cricketing keep.

Now he has reached 200 first-class wickets in his career, and he led the bowling aggregates for 1968-69 very easily.

It was a remarkable performance for a written-off player. But somehow, typical of Cunis. At 28, he has a good many seasons of cricket still ahead of him, if his knees do not let him down. His heart certainly will not.

Bob Cunis died suddenly in August 2008 at the age of 67. He played 20 tests for New Zealand and coached the national team from 1987-1990.

*“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”
– Winston Churchill*



Timaru Boys' High School

Scientia potestas est
Knowledge is power



▲ Memorial Library.

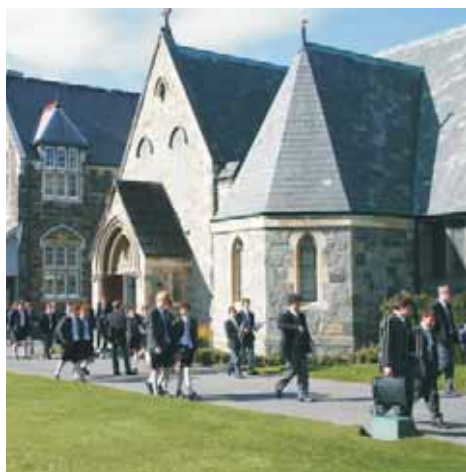


▲ Olympian Jack Lovelock, a TBHS Old Boy.



Christ's College

Bene tradita bene servanda – Good traditions, well maintained



▲ Chapel.



▲ Dining Hall.



Christchurch Boys' High School

Altiora Peto
I seek higher things



▲ War Memorial Shrine.



St Andrew's College

Fides et Patria
My Faith and my Country



▲ Strowan House.



▲ Chapel.

Food for thought

The face of cricket continues to change dramatically in the modern world. Outside of a few playing nations, attendance numbers for the longer versions of the game, including test matches, continue to diminish as the mass appeal (and “instant gratification”) of limited over, Twenty20 and beach cricket takes over.

The topic was bandied about freely in January 2009 with several letters to the editor published by the New Zealand Herald.

We re-print here (with the author’s approval), one such viewpoint. It comes from Roger Brittenden of the Queen Street Cricket Club, Auckland. If you Google QSCC you will see it is the “cricketer” charity of New Zealand and proud sponsor of the Kidney Kids of NZ Support Group Inc. Another of the Club’s aim is to provide a “gathering of Cricketing ECCENTRICS, LADIES, GENTLEMEN & PLAYERS who provide a MENTOR and GUIDE in all matters relating to cricket, with notes on PROPER SPORTING BEHAVIOUR et al”.

Roger’s piece on “Rediscovering Cricket” was published on January 20, 2009:

Rediscovering cricket

I read with interest columnist John Roughan’s reflection on falling out of love with cricket and the follow-up by Paul Thomas.

Roughan, in all likelihood, has been over-exposed to the mutant growth on the game, one-day cricket and, more recently, Twenty20, and has had his senses dulled.

He should do either of two things. First, go to a test for the full five days, preferably one in Australia, where the quality is greater. There, he will rediscover the true meaning of cricket. The spellbinding unfolding of a drama where every

ball becomes a short story and the courage and character of each player are tested and defined. No other game can do this with such clarity.

Or he should take himself off to his local club and watch its premier team, and players who will probably never play at a higher level but play with equal intensity of their betters.

Sadly, young players once had to prove themselves in this school of hard knocks. Today, they are whisked away at school age, institutionalised in academies and never learn what life is like in the real world. And it shows. Which only makes this neglected area of the game more interesting.

Roger Brittenden,
Queen Street Cricket Club

The Politics of Cricket

Beyond the Old Boundaries

The Guardian Weekly, 29.02.08

It simply isn’t cricket, they might have protested in a bygone era. It was certainly not in keeping with the sport’s stereotype. Nearly 80 top players were auctioned off in Mumbai last week in a process both exciting and ruthless. Stars got a (very) rough reckoning of their market value: Mahendra Singh Dhoni, wicket-keeper and heart throb, fetched the most—an eye popping \$1,516,000 for fewer than seven weeks of matches – while others went for rock bottom prices.

The human auction is new to cricket. Indeed, almost everything is new: the eight teams bidding for the players only came into being last month; the tournament they will be competing in, called the Indian Premier League (IPL), has its first fixture in April; even the type of cricket to be played, an abbreviated cartoon called Twenty20, is still in its infancy.

The events of last week confirm another recent development: that India is the new capital of cricket. This shift of power has been going on for at least a decade, but the IPL's creation is the clearest expression of the trend, and will surely hasten it. The cricketing calendar will almost certainly be moved around to accommodate the IPL and allow more international talent to play in the lucrative new tournament.

India generates some 70% of world cricket revenues, so it is surely right that the power within the game is located with the country that is its powerhouse. The structure that required India and Pakistan to share a single vote at the ICC was always indefensible; now it has been buried. And if the IPL means more money for India's tatty stadiums and under-resourced cricketing infrastructure, then it will surely have done some good.

The IPL is modelled on English football's Premier League: a heady cocktail of big talent and big money, both from sponsors and TV channels. If the English experience is anything to go by, that will produce some exciting matches. The worry is that it may also mean an increase in the coarse corporatisation of a game loved for its subtle pleasures.

Mike Curtis honoured

By Joseph Romanos

November 2008

One of the great servants of Karori, Wellington and New Zealand cricket, Mike Curtis, is being honoured this week. Curtis, who is in struggling health, has written *The Art of Wicketkeeping*, which was launched at the Karori Cricket Club on Tuesday.

I have seen literally thousands of cricket books, but never one devoted specifically to the technique of wicketkeeping, which is strange,

considering every cricket team must contain a 'keeper.

Curtis, a stalwart of the Karori club, 'kept for Wellington from 1956-59 and went within a whisker of making John Reid's 1958 New Zealand team to England.

Curtis had a habit of marking the special occasion with a particularly good performance. In 1956, playing for Wellington against Jack Phillipps' XI (really the famous 1949 New Zealand team), he scored 45 not out, caught Merv Wallace and stumped Geoff Rabone.

His final first-class match was against the MCC in 1959 – Tom Graveney, Colin Cowdrey, Ted Dexter, Fred Trueman, Frank Tyson, Tony Lock and company. Curtis rounded out his career by dismissing Raman Subba Row and Graveney.

Apart from his distinguished first-class career, Curtis has contributed as a cricket administrator and coach. I know when I coached Wellington junior representative teams, and even schoolboy club teams, he has always been not just willing but eager to attend practice to help the wicket-keepers.

Like the front row in rugby, wicketkeeping is a bit of a mystery to those who haven't done it regularly, and his specialist advice was always gratefully received.

Curtis has been a long-serving Wellington senior and New Zealand age group selector, and a wicketkeeping coach for New Zealand Cricket.

His book, which has been published through the good graces of The Willows Cricket Club in Christchurch, is an especially attractive effort, full of colour photos and sensible advice, and I can imagine it being in demand throughout the world because of the scarcity of good coaching for wicket-keepers.

The book can be purchased from The Willows for \$22 (including postage).

W.P. Bradburn – A stickler for cricket etiquette

By John Mitchell

Remember, fellow Willowers, back to your selection and first game for your respective high school 1st XI. For many it came in Year 10 (the odd freak player made it in Year 9). Like others before you on debut, you probably arrived early, nervous and in awe of the company. These were, after all, the cream of the senior school you were mixing with. Their school blazers were dripping with colours awards, prefect badges and cricket distinction endorsements compared to your lapel which was decidedly bare.

You slink into a corner in the pavilion, reluctant to park your “coffin” for fear it might be the lucky spot for your drag-stepping fast bowler with those steel-capped boots and the snarl. He enters. You thank God he is indeed in your team today and not the opposition. Ever the tiny-tot you ask him, meekly, if you can park up here. He gives an indifferent nod and your gaze transfers to others in the shed. The assembled eleven looks formidable. You breathe deeply and look down, mindful not to engage any eye contact. These are for sure your idols, heroes and role models from the senior school and this is your first match day in their company.

Actually, I have few memories of my first 1st XI outing but I do remember my first rep game. In fact Mike Dormer was playing that day, in a match between Waikato and Auckland in 1965. He was one ‘keeper and the other was a man greatly admired as a player and gentleman, Eric Petrie (14 tests for New Zealand 1955-1966). Indeed, ‘keepers form their own special bond and they like nothing more than meeting up, playing and comparing technique. At that time New Zealand was blessed with some wonderful

wicket-keepers, men like: Artie Dick, John Ward, Robin Schofield, and a younger Southern man in Barry Milburn, as well as Eric and our MED.

My role model in that first rep game stood beside Eric at first slip, a position he held throughout our playing days. He was our opening batsman and “slipper”, Wynne Bradburn. He was there too when I played in my first 1st XI game (in the opposition) in the Hamilton senior competition in 1962 and he had a kindly word as I arrived out to bat. Years later, on leaving school, it was little surprise that I wanted to play club cricket in the same side as Wynne; so in 1965 I joined the strong Old Technicals Cricket Club in Hamilton. And now, playing Auckland, Wynne was there.

So for my 1st XI, Old Tech, Waikato and later in the Northern Districts Plunket Shield team I learnt a lot from my mentor. Wynne played 2 test matches for New Zealand in the 1963-64 season. He didn't score as many runs as he would have liked for his country but for me that didn't matter. It was the quality of the man that counted for me. Wynne brought impeccable standards and high expectations to our cricket at that time. He was top drawer. Wynne was a “stickler for cricket etiquette” and it is this I want to expand upon.



Wynne's sense of fair-play won the immediate respect of his team mates and the opposition alike. He played hard but I can never recall one instance of dissent, unsportsmanlike conduct or

anything other than utmost respect to others and the rules of the game. Several times over the years, when captain, Wynne would recall players back to the crease when wrongly given out. Wynne was unique. He was traditional in his thinking. He respected cricketers who arrived early at the ground and went through certain preparatory routines. What were they?

- Your first job, before throw-downs, was to extract your boots and pads and apply whitener from the bucket he had refilled the night before. You left them in the sun to dry and then gave your bat a brisk sand-down.
- On the way out to warm-up, you were expected to stop at the umpire room and exchange greetings and pleasantries with the umpires of the day.
- Throw-downs, slip catches, some pick and returns to Eric (quite gentle by comparison to today's drills) preceded the mandatory cup of tea. Match tactics came from the senior "pro's" (there were no motivators, psychologists, video analysts etc to back them). Every side had their convivial team manager (generically called "The 'Ger") who would work with and guide the "young blood".
- Before batting Wynne would check the young charges in a fatherly sort of way. He instructed us on the correct way to fold our creams and to strap the pads over the socks (never to tuck trousers into socks or to have flapping pad straps). This was done to reduce the chance of a noise as the ball brushed by and which could bring an early demise at the hand of an umpire.
- Wynne had a fetish about bat handles, shorts, watches and sunglasses at cricket. Only black-handled bats were permissible and any hint of colour was considered sacrilegious. Shorts, were for beach wear and never at cricket, all watches were off and he veritably twitched at the thought of a cricketer wearing shades in the middle. J.R. Reid (New Zealand's great all-rounder of 58 tests from 1949-1965) did wear sunglasses against us one day at the Basin Reserve and he smashed us all around

the park; sunglasses were alright for a giant in the game but not for country lads from the Waikato. There were also expectations from Wynne regarding the wearing of cricket caps. Floppy hats were a "no-no" and our peaked cricket caps were either to be worn on our heads or left in the shed; never to be folded (no matter how neatly that could be done) and placed in the back pocket of our creams during play.

- For Wynne cricket was always about courtesy. One had to "clap the opposing skipper" into bat, and when taking guard it was prefaced with the word "Sir" (or "Mr Hastie" if Hamilton's test umpire of 7 tests from 1974-1981, was standing) and never "mate".

I was fortunate in my cricket up-bringing to have men like Wynne, Eric, Bert Sutcliffe (42 tests for New Zealand from 1947-1965), Bruce Pairaudeau (13 test for the West Indies from 1953-1957), and other first class players heavily involved in both the club and rep scene. That is not the case today. We didn't need the proliferation of coaches then as those senior players kept us under a "watchful eye" and corrected wayward tendencies.

At The Willows our philosophy is to invite secondary school XI's to play at Loburn against experienced present and ex-first class players. We hope the young schoolboys will learn and appreciate the correct way to play and enjoy the great game. This is the legacy The Willows Cricket Club will bring to the new talent coming through. It is certainly something that would have gained the unconditional endorsement from my role model, W.P. Bradburn.

W.P. Bradburn, suffered a fatal heart attack (on September 25, 2008) hours after the funeral of his wife (Olwyn) of 48-years who died five days earlier. He died with all his extended family present. Wynne was a diabetic since the age of 15 and he had artificial limbs fitted after having both his legs amputated but he continued to walk and help cricketers right up to the time of his death.

England v Australia

Day 5 of the Fourth Test at Adelaide

January 28th to February 3rd 1955

Excerpt from *Picture Post*

This was the day of destiny. This was the day the world ended, not with a whimper, but a bang!

The pattern of the games had been clear-cut. All the shocks were administered before lunch: the middle session generally belonged to the batsmen; the last phase was given over to a war of attrition – waiting for tomorrow (with its early reward of the rattling wickets). Today, the pattern was maintained, added to, twisted into history. Overnight, Bill Johnston had told me that in the last hour of Tuesday's play the wicket had shown slight signs of deterioration, which should slant the game England's way as our batsmen made a much better fist of it under such conditions than the Australians. But what we were to see was no slow deterioration of an insecure Australian position – we were to witness coma, total collapse, sudden death. What is more, our great fast bowlers were to claim the day for themselves.

Stham began the rout with his third ball of the day, a blazing yorker that made a whirligig of McDonald's middle stump. As there had been a feeling of pessimism among the Australian crowd on Tuesday evening, this early blow may be said to have caused all but the most fervent patriots to abandon hope and luxuriate in the delights of cynical despair. Such men had plenty of opportunity to enjoy the mood. The score had been raised by seven runs when Miller was back in the pavilion. He dashed recklessly forth to aim a blow at Stham and a length ball trimmed his stumps.

Then Benaud came and went. He moved like a sleepwalker in front of the wicket to a buzzing beauty from Tyson. Next it was Maddocks' turn.

The champion of a lost cause in the first innings was a cowed prisoner of circumstance in the second. He padded across to cover his stumps like a victim of hypnosis.

Stham's flashing speed and excellent accuracy had set their hall-mark on the day, but Tyson was bowling with flamboyant brilliance, too. It was his turn next, when Archer, with a torn thigh muscle, arrived at the wicket, and played in a dazed fashion for seventeen minutes before he swung with villainous abandon at a ball scurrying away from the off stump, to be caught by Evans, almost genteely. Five Australian wickets had now fallen for 14 runs off 12 overs bowled by Stham and Tyson-as you will remember, the critics had all declared that it was up to Appleyard now.

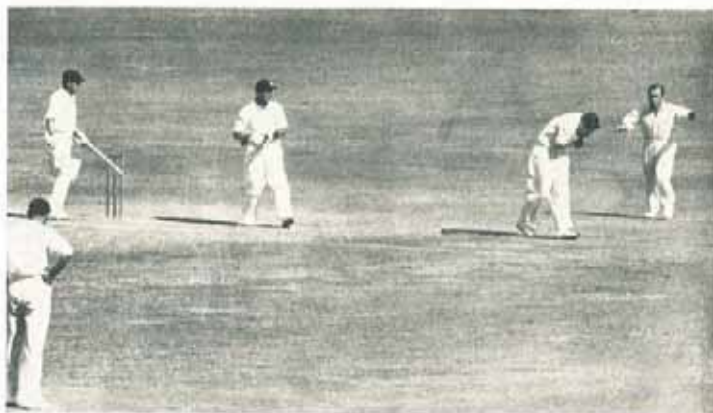
The ninth wicket fell before lunch: you cannot expect Bill Johnston to remain not out for the rest of his star-blessed life. He attempted to hit Tyson over the long-on boundary, and the catch held by Appleyard made Australia 103 for 9.

Appleyard came into action after lunch. He bowled two lethal maidens, and gave place to Wardle, to whose second ball the industrious and excellent Davidson was given out, leg-before-wicket.

The Australian collapse on an honest wicket was a triumph for the English fast bowlers. The Australian downfall was abysmal; abject batting, the effect of pitiful morale in conditions on which (as was expected in the English dressing-room) any good side would score at least two hundred and fifty runs. An English journalist called it "seaside beach standard cricket," which provoked the North Cottesloe Beach Cricket Association of West Australia to protest. True, their form was not imposing, due to a wicket which sloped a yard, was lashed by surf and infested by dead starfish and stray dogs. All the same, they "bitterly resented the suggestion that they played as badly as the Australian Test batsmen."

Continued overleaf

Colin Cowdrey is injured. Arthur Morris cuts the fourth ball of Appleyard's first over hard to the ground, whence it rebounds to strike Cowdrey, fielding in the galley, breaking the bridge of his nose. He puts his hands to his face, falls heavily, and is carried off the field by five pall-bearers, including Evans and Edrich, seen running forward to the fieldsmen's assistance. The score at the time is 24, and the incident clearly upsets Morris's concentration. He hits luck a catch to the bowler in the same over, the last before tea. Appleyard's success follows a good start by Australia in the second innings, for Morris and McDonald score their 24 runs in half an hour against Tyson and Statham without giving the impression that they are in danger. At this stage it seems that the wicket must help the spinners.



Harvey is comprehensively beaten and bowled by Appleyard, bowling from the Cathedral end. Having scored 7 hesitant runs, he brandishes a ferocious hook at a ball which swings across the wicket to hit his off stump. Appleyard has already bowled Burke for 5, and he finishes the day with 3 wickets to his credit, taken for 13 runs off 10 overs, 5 of which are maidens. It is great bowling and suggests that he is the main hope of the English attack on the fifth day, when play is resumed with Australia's score standing at 69 for 3 wickets—51 runs on. The game, in fact, remains exceedingly open, unless Australia's morale cracks as it has in the previous two Tests. There is a general feeling that this may happen, as the batting is basically unsound and lacking in judgment.



After all, it's the fast men to the rescue! During the last day Tyson takes the wickets of Bernard, Archer and Johnston for 25 runs. Statham gets McDonald, Miller and Muddocks for 12 runs on the fifth day. Appleyard bowls only 2 overs, both maidens. The morale of Australia's batsmen once again has foundered.



Appleyard has a great match at Adelaide. He takes 6 wickets for 71 in the game. Here he bowls Burke in the second innings for 5 runs.

But the match was not won yet. Miller was to strike several more desperate and single-handed blows for Australia. In his first over he whipped a ball past the groping Edrich to knock his wicket three ways at once. Four balls later, in his second over, he bemused Hutton into flicking at a ball which Davidson marvellously swooped at and held at second slip. In came Cowdrey, broken nose or not, a Queen's Champion, in the hour of crisis. He, too, was almost at once caught off Miller's leg cutter; and the third English wicket had fallen at 18.

There was still to be a flutter of butterflies' wings in the most cast-iron stomachs. May hit defensive strokes so hard that mid-off and mid-on wrung their hands after they stopped the ball. Then he widened his shoulders, banged an impetuous drive to extra cover where Miller jumped and rolled and claimed a catch which had the crowd in ecstasies, though one or two on the field of play were convinced it had been grounded.

That was 49 for 4: but from that moment the game went England's way. Bailey was firm, with moments of zealous fire. Compton batted in the grand manner, like the Compton of the immediate post-war years. His firm defence and powerful hitting made victory assured, and when Bailey was out l.b.w. to Johnston, only four runs were needed for victory. At 5.20, Evans slashed a long hop from Miller to the mid-wicket boundary; the black memory of Brisbane was obliterated: England had lost the toss at Adelaide and won the Ashes, and Len Hutton had taken a great stride nearer to his knighthood.

“Don't aim for success if you want it; just do what you love and believe in, and it will come naturally.” – David Frost



▲ Enjoying a good cup of Dilmah tea.



▲ Former Canterbury and New Zealand batsmen, Paul McEwan and John Wright.



▲ A watchful Tom Pere of Wellington College.

Report from Matfen

By **Liam Bartholomeusz**

I arrived at Newcastle Airport in early April to very cold weather! Peter Younghusband followed later. Snow was on the side of the road. But then things brightened up with a "typical" English summer. Long days of sunlight, not overly warm temperatures but still there was some sun!! First weekend in the country I was watching the Toon army faithful following the mighty Newcastle United play their derby match against Sunderland at St James' park. Michael Owen heading home a winner. From that moment I was an adopted Geordie!

The cricket was good fun! Matfen Cricket Club plays in the West Tyne League Division One. Captained under the wonderful Simon Buckton and managed by the so kind Cliff Wright. Courtney Walsh played for a team in this league called Hexham leazes when he was 17. Out of all our games we lost 2 but really should have won all. The wickets were predominately green and slow but did get better as the season went on! Big emphasis had to be put on the grounds-men all over the county for preparing grounds that made play possible. The "Bear" also known as Eddie Charlton worked very hard and gave great effort and time to the M.C.C pitch. Both Peter and I played good cricket both with bat and ball. We ended up finishing second by one point which was really disappointing.

We also played Sunday games for a team called the Borderer's which is similar to The Willows and also a few Twenty20 mid week games.

We worked in the Matfen Hotel which is a 4 star classic British hotel. It has 36 holes of golf, spas, gym, 52 luxury rooms, restaurant, wedding facilities and many bars. It's steeped in history and tradition. We worked in the conservatory bar, serving drinks and running food. The staff at Matfen were great people who worked hard. We made friends for life. Special mention must go to

Simon Devlin, Andrew Watson and Joe Stewart who because of their efforts, made our time so much more memorable.

We both travelled many times to London and of course visited Lords. We also went to Durham to watch the only one-dayer that NZ lost but I was lucky enough to be at the Oval when NZ won the game on the last ball of the match due to overthrows.

Overall the experience was one I will never forget and definitely a major success. Seeing a new part of the world, meeting new people, playing cricket in different conditions, learning new working skills and gaining valuable life skills. Everyone in the area made our stay so much more enjoyable with their generosity, helpfulness and accepting us into their world! We have definitely made some great friendships that will last a lifetime! I loved my time in the North East of England and I'm looking to head back there for another season in 2009.

So we must give special thanks to Sir Hugh and Lady Anna Blackett and family for taking us into their lives and providing us with such wonderful opportunities.

From the *Hexham Courant* 30.10.08

"Sadly, one of the main trophy winners was not there to pick up the many accolades he had received. Matfen Hall's Liam Bartholomeusz has returned to his native New Zealand, and was unable to collect the Telfer Cup for the best bowling average in Division One with 20 wickets at 5.6 each, the Manning Cup for the best individual first division bowling performance with his 7-10 against eventual champions Haltwhistle, the Wooding Cup for the best individual batting performance in Division One with his 111 against Wylam – a category in which he was also third with 106 against Stocksfield – and the Waite Cup as best first division all-rounder. Liam's amazing individual trophy haul helped ease the pain for his club Matfen, who were pipped for the title by a single point."

Auckland at last!

By the late Dick Brittenden

Excerpt from *The Cricket Player*, 1978

Maurice Ryan was an efficient captain for Canterbury again, in the season just ended, and nowhere was his ability more marked than at the toss. He won 10 times, out of 11. But he may now be wondering whether he might not have been better off to have lost the call when his team met Auckland in the Shell Trophy final at Lancaster Park.

There were inevitable thoughts that at Lancaster Park there might be sharp spin near the end of a four-day game. Auckland included two left-arm spinners, bringing Hedley Howarth back into the fold. Canterbury went the other way, stacking its batting, presumably in an all-out effort to establish the first innings lead which was certain to be the key to the final.

So Ryan batted, and on the first day, there was just a little in the pitch for the bowlers – very little, but enough for Warren Stott to be moving the ball quite regularly off the seam, even when it was old.

For the rest of the match the pitch remained dead flat, the only variation being late on the last day when Stephen Boock turned a few savagely from some footmarks which seemed rather too close to the line of the stumps. So for a very brief period, Boock made life uncomfortable for Auckland's left-hand batsmen.

In all, it was as comfortable a batting pitch as Lancaster Park has known in a long time.

Canterbury had a grim struggle for runs. It took Barry Hadlee four hours to make 73, as he and Bevan Congdon fought to counter some early Auckland successes. Congdon, three hours over 73, batted with marked efficiency, but

Canterbury was never able to take control, and the total of 270 was clearly not enough for comfort. Stott, taking five wickets in an innings for first time in the series, was always at the batsmen.

Auckland faltered briefly after lunch on the second day, when wickets were lost at 63 and 70; but thereafter, Austin Parsons and Mark Burgess held the firmest control. This was a great partnership in its runs – 175 – and in the quality of the batting.

Parsons was extremely sound, and if he was a long time between 47 and 50, that was understandable; he had not had a half-century all through the series. He drove very strongly, and punished Richard Hadlee severely with his effective pull stroke. His was a fine innings, lasting four and a quarter hours in all, and in normal circumstances it would have been excellent entertainment.

But Parsons wore sober colours compared with Burgess, who was in magnificent form from the time he walked to the wicket. He said later that he "quite enjoyed it, after all that blocking in the test matches". Everyone at Lancaster Park enjoyed it too, for there are not many finer sights than Burgess in full flight.

Cuts, cover drives – magnificent ones – lofted straight hits, hooks and pulls, easy deflections off the pad ... it is a very long time since Canterbury bowlers were mauled as badly as they were on the second day.

David Trist, back in representative cricket after two years, had some very tidy overs. Suddenly one of them cost 20. Stephen Boock had none for 80 at the end of that day, consecutive overs at one stage costing 11, 0, 12 and 15. With the game half over, Auckland had 284 for three.

The only pause in Burgess' brilliant attack came late in the day, when he concentrated on not

getting out and so weakening a position of such strength. But what a display it was. In the hour before tea, 91 were scored from 15 overs and Auckland went from 100 to 150 in 24 incredible minutes.

Canterbury was a little unlucky to have the start of the third day put back three hours by rain. Some of the time was made up on the fourth day, but it did dampen any Canterbury hopes of recovery.

But Canterbury does deserve credit for its spirited attempt to win its third major title of the season. Auckland needed quick runs before its 85 overs were done, and Burgess was soon out – 132 in 224 minutes, with 19 fours and a six. Boock made amends by taking five wickets in a hurry, but Auckland, ahead by 78, had Hadlee out as Canterbury made 70 by the end of the third day.

Canterbury pushed on as best it could on the fourth morning, scoring at almost 4 ½ an over. That was a remarkable rate, considering Graham Vivian's extremely defensive fields. There was not a slip in sight for the seam bowlers, the only ones used.

It took Peter Coman almost three hours to score 58, but he had only 101 balls bowled at him, Auckland getting down to an incredible 9.8 overs an hour.

Paul McEwan and Congdon were the only batsmen to defeat the defensive net. They added 88 in 83 minutes, Congdon picking up his ones and twos steadily, McEwan playing some brilliant strokes as he made 52 not out in 108 minutes from 66 balls.

It was a triumph for young Martin Snedden. To be sure, some of his wickets were a legacy from Canterbury's desperate situation, but he bowled for three hours, unchanged, and had the ball doing a little for him, either way.

Auckland was left 230 minutes to score 164 – not quite as generous as it looked, because there was

no hope of any play in the last 20 minutes because of the sombre shadow from the embankment covering the pitch.

Canterbury shook Auckland severely by taking the first three wickets for 29 but its selection showed that the side was a bowler short. In spite of the placidity of the pitch Richard Hadlee bowled with tremendous fervour. When he was off, there was Boock at one end, and Ryan had to use David Stead at the other. Stead bowled very ably, but he could turn his leg-breaks but slowly. Dayle Hadlee was badly missed.

Burgess hinted at an Auckland victory with another fine innings. After tea he hit three fours in an over from Hadlee, before succumbing to a beauty which took his middle stump. That made it 80 for four and when John Reid went, six runs and 37 minutes later, the chase was certainly over.

Hadlee however bowled with a fine fury in the most depressing conditions, and poor Vivian took a fearful hammering from his short-pitched deliveries. He was hit half a dozen times as he held out for 107 minutes.

His single will show in the score-book as a failure. But this was brave and skilful batting: his innings won the Trophy for Auckland.

Hedley Howarth – who must have been sadly disappointed at the quality of his few overs in this game batted with typical guts for the last 77 minutes of the innings.

Hadlee had five for 29 on a flat pitch. He has seldom put so much into his bowling, or come back for second and third spells with the fires of his antagonism burning quite so brightly.

It was Auckland's first success in a first-class event since 1968-69. It was thoroughly deserved.

At Christchurch, March 17, 18, 19, 20.
Canterbury won the toss.

Match drawn.

Verdun Scott – triumph over adversity

By John Coffey



In April 1937 the Auckland Rugby League Gazette noted the versatility of Verdun Scott, a young North Shore Albions outside back who had dashed off from his club game at Carlaw Park to knock up 22 runs in the

final cricket match of the season at Eden Park. It suggested its readers keep an eye on this enthusiastic and talented sportsman who was showing potential at both his winter and summer codes.

Scott went on to make tours to Britain as a skilled fullback and centre with the 1939 Kiwis and 10 years later as a resolute top-order batsman with the New Zealand cricket team. He remains the only New Zealander to be chosen for his country at cricket and rugby league and, now that both sports are fully professional, he is certain to remain unique among our double internationals. He might also be the only person to have played at Carlaw Park and Eden Park on the same day.

It would have been less surprising had Scott busied himself with water sports. After all, his father, Matt, was a ferry captain for 40 years and excelled as a swimmer (saving two lives), a yachtsman and a rower in whaleboat racing. But Matt did enjoy a game of rugby too, and his three sons were no strangers to the oval ball. Or the round one, for Verdun was also good enough at soccer to represent Auckland B.

Scott's two tours could not have been more contrasting. The 1939 Kiwis spent five weeks sailing to England on the Rangitiki all too aware that ominous war clouds were looming over Europe. They maintained their fitness on board ship as best they could in preparation for three test matches with Great Britain and 24 other fixtures against the professional clubs and counties. There was also the prospect of an historic first tour of France.

Optimism was high that this team would emulate the on-field triumphs of the original All Golds, who won their test series in 1907-08. Scott was one of 17 new caps, the others including former All Blacks Dave Solomon, Hawea Mataira and Harold Milliken. The Kiwis were captained by Rex King, a Cantabrian who had spent four seasons playing for Warrington, and boasted a champion goalkicker in Jack Hemi.

They landed in England on August 29, travelled on to their headquarters at Harrogate, and beat St Helens 19-3 on September 2. But the banner headlines on Monday, September 4, proclaimed that Britain and France were at war with Germany. Their tour in tatters, the Kiwis offered to assist the war effort any way they could. They were issued with gas masks, filled sandbags to protect a nearby hospital, and were placed on a round-the-clock stand-by to embark for home.

But the Rangitiki was being fitted with a naval gun and cloaked in wartime grey paint. On September 9 the Kiwis beat Dewsbury 22-10, the match being allowed to go ahead only because that west Yorkshire town was out of range of German bombers. Gate receipts were donated to patriotic funds and the Kiwis went back to filling sandbags until the Rangitiki was ready to sail on September 19. They were part of the first convoy to leave England during World War II. Team managers and players were rostered to keep submarine watch, two at a time on two-hour shifts in daylight hours. The ship was blacked out at night.

Only one of the 26 players, Auckland centre Arthur McInnarney, returned to Britain with the 1947-48 Kiwis. Another, Laurie Mills, was killed in action in Egypt. Rex King, the Kiwis captain, appropriately rose to the army rank of Captain and earned the Military Medal before being captured in Crete.

Verdun Scott, however, had a second string to his sporting bow. His first-class cricketer career had started with a century for Auckland against Canterbury in 1937-38 but was put on hold for four years while he was on war service in Egypt and Italy. Scott made his test debut against Australia at the Basin Reserve in 1946 when, on a damp and devilish pitch, New Zealand succumbed for just 96 runs in two completed innings. Scott top scored in the first innings with 14 out of a total of 42.

On that same 1945-46 Australian tour, Scott batted at number five for Auckland and scored 41 not out (of a total 138) and 56 not out (of 261) in reply to an Australian innings of 579 which featured centuries to Sid Barnes, Keith Miller and Lindsay Hassett. After bowling to Scott for a long time without reward, frustrated Australian spinner Bill (Tiger) O'Reilly proclaimed that he would throw a party if he could get a ball past the batsman's defences. One wonders what O'Reilly would have said had Scott not run out of partners.

As if to make up for what happened in 1939 – when Scott was unfortunate not to have played against St Helens or Dewsbury because Hemi's kicking prowess meant he was the fullback in both games – Scott went on to appear in 27 of the 32 matches for captain Walter Hadlee's celebrated 1949 cricketers on their tour of England.

This was the team which earned New Zealand respect as a cricketing nation, and Scott's opening stands with prolific left-hander Bert Sutcliffe were the foundations of so many big innings. The New Zealanders lost only once and held their own with the best professional and amateur players England could assemble in four drawn test matches. Scott did not have the flair

of Sutcliffe, Hadlee, Martin Donnelly or a young John R Reid but his contribution was just as valuable.

As R T Brittenden wrote in his book, *New Zealand Cricketers*: 'Sutcliffe's batting was usually so beautiful it looked insubstantial, Hadlee's attacking methods might be stepped up because he found his side 20 runs behind the schedule he had set, but Scott seldom gave the bowlers the slightest hint of encouragement. His bat became an entrenching tool. He threw up his earthworks, got in behind them, and was content for some considerable time thereafter to smother the opposition cannonballs and dump them gently about the region of silly mid-on. But at the end of it all, it would be discovered that the runs had been coming gently, imperceptibly, steadily.'

Sutcliffe and Scott shared test opening partnerships of 122, 89 and 121 on that tour. In all first-class matches Scott scored 1572 runs at an average of 40, including four centuries, six half-centuries and a highest score of 203.

Brittenden detailed two other outstanding test innings by Scott on home soil. He made 60 out of 189 against England at the Basin Reserve in 1951 when he stood tall despite being hampered by a badly pulled muscle. And he registered his highest test score of 84 in a total of 160 with another defiant, and at times uncharacteristically cavalier, hand against the West Indies at Eden Park in 1952. Scott retired soon after that with a lifetime first-class average of 49.73 and a career average for Auckland of 60.10.

It took Verdun Scott a long time to realise his dream of playing for his country. His first attempt, at rugby league, was thwarted by the lunatic Hitler. Undeterred, Scott took himself off to war before returning home to take guard again and get on with his sporting life. His example is a lesson to any young man who might be impatient that success is seemingly not coming quickly enough. Scott died, as he had lived, in Devonport in 1980, two days after his sixty-fourth birthday. His was an innings superbly played.

CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

(Minimum of 5 innings / 10 overs)

	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	O	M	Runs	Wkt	Avge
Abbott, R.E.	9	2	152	21.7	105	17	423	13	32.5
Aberhart, D.C.	6	3	92	30.7	40	5	163	5	32.6
Agnew, T.W.	6	1	43	8.6	69	7	281	8	35.1
Allott, G.I.	10	3	94	13.4	109	27	350	26	13.5
Ambler, K.A.	5	1	235	58.8	-	-	-	-	-
Anderson, C.J.	13	1	389	32.4	118	30	319	11	29.0
Astle, A.M.	3	1	65	32.5	29	10	79	6	13.2
Astle, T.D.	2	0	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.	10	3	46	6.6	75	9	274	8	34.3
Bateman, S.N.	7	2	106	21.2	60	6	249	9	27.7
Bayliss, R.T.	9	0	171	19.0	-	-	-	-	-
Bennett, J.	30	12	324	18.0	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.	38	6	1331	41.6	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	0	46	0	-
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	0	104	20.8	25	0	137	4	34.3
Brooks, G.N.B.	12	2	486	48.6	29	2	111	4	27.8
Bull, C.L.	18	3	206	13.7	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.	28	6	650	29.5	128	22	491	24	20.5
Burrows, D.L.	6	3	110	36.7	59	9	260	6	43.3
Burson, R.D.B.	6	2	148	37.0	65	7	171	15	11.4
Cameron, B.S.	7	3	113	28.3	11	0	49	2	24.5
Cameron, B.W.J.	6	1	59	11.8	74	10	273	14	19.5
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.	5	0	64	12.8	34	6	120	11	10.9
Coffey, S.T.	11	3	437	54.6	9	0	60	2	30.0
Coll, J.P.	17	4	478	36.8	236	22	583	30	19.4
Colvin, G.G.	6	2	124	31.0	67	9	220	12	18.3
Coop, T.A.	9	1	207	25.9	7	0	42	0	-
Cornelius, C.J.	12	1	258	23.5	70	12	248	13	19.1
Cornelius, W.A.	19	4	183	12.2	183	35	540	37	14.6
Cowles, R.J.	13	2	118	10.7	7	1	28	3	9.3
Cowlshaw, A.C.	6	0	94	15.7	4	1	9	1	9.0
Cunliffe, J.J.	6	0	90	15.0	1	1	0	1	-
Cunneen, C.M.C.	6	0	133	22.2	31	4	118	5	23.6
Cunneen, O.A.	5	0	15	3.0	7	0	31	1	31.0
Cusack, D.R.	38	7	1198	38.6	2	0	20	0	-
D'Auvergne, N.R.	3	0	51	17.0	30	7	71	6	11.8
D'Auvergne, P.G.	8	1	67	9.6	32	3	106	7	15.1
Davidson, A.F.	10	0	106	10.6	52	6	300	7	42.9
Davidson, J.A.F.	11	2	339	37.7	4	0	14	0	-
Davis, S.J.	19	6	249	19.2	157	24	604	27	22.4
Devine, H.St.A.	3	3	14	-	30	4	103	5	20.6
Devlin, P.C.	25	6	621	32.7	32	3	140	7	20.0
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	0	18	3.6	33	3	161	7	23.0
Doody, T.J.	8	4	23	5.8	120	5	473	24	19.7
Dormer, B.L.	9	1	201	25.1	2	0	12	0	-
Dormer, P.E.	7	1	22	3.7	20	0	84	3	28.0
Dowds, D.P.	9	2	326	46.6	27	0	164	7	23.4
Duncan, P.M.D.	6	1	179	35.8	19	0	103	2	51.5
Earl, G.H.	5	1	105	26.3	27	5	9	0	-
Earnshaw, K.R.	6	2	109	27.3	27	3	98	5	19.6
Eddington, W.L.	8	1	148	21.1	96	13	366	21	17.4
Ellis, A.M. (Ex-Burnside)	12	4	359	44.9	68	8	258	12	21.5
Ellis, A.M. (Ex-SBHS)	13	4	424	47.1	60	20	168	8	21.0
Ellis, M.J.	8	4	12	3.0	59	1	313	8	39.1
Fairbairn, W.R.T.	13	4	166	18.4	66	12	254	6	42.3
Fielding, M.D.	21	3	618	34.3	106	18	381	22	17.3

	Inn	NO	Runs	Avg	O	M	Runs	Wkt	Avg
Fisher, M.A.	8	1	101	14.4	3	0	9	0	-
Fisher, T.D.L.	6	4	431	215.5	16	2	77	4	19.3
Flanagan, C.W.	4	1	119	39.7	47	11	167	5	33.4
Flanagan, S.P.	16	2	435	31.1	120	15	421	19	22.2
Fox, D.O.	13	5	89	11.1	74	2	372	8	46.5
Fullerton-Smith, A.D.	18	2	681	42.6	13	1	54	0	-
Fulton, G.H.	12	3	145	16.1	7	1	26	1	26.0
Fulton, P.G.	9	0	362	40.2	34	2	163	3	54.3
Galloway, G.N.	6	0	130	21.7	25	1	124	7	17.7
Gardner, J.	13	2	122	11.1	8	0	38	3	12.7
Garry, J.R.	5	0	160	32.0	20	0	123	6	20.5
Germon, L.K.	8	3	313	62.6	5	0	50	1	50.0
Gibson, S.D.	30	1	579	20.0	140	17	545	13	41.9
Goldstein, M.P.	8	0	104	13.0	28	6	107	8	13.4
Goudie, A.J.	5	2	43	14.3	38	3	174	13	13.4
Grocott, D.J.	10	5	126	25.2	107	28	248	19	13.1
Grocott, J.W.	9	2	48	6.9	5	0	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.	13	1	318	26.5	69	8	330	10	33.0
Hammond, D.P.W.	5	0	10	2.0	10	0	59	4	14.8
Hansen, J.W.	6	2	21	5.3	36	4	126	0	-
Hantz, J.L.	9	0	261	29.0	14	1	72	4	18.0
Harding, S.C.	5	0	66	13.2	39	9	160	9	17.8
Harris, B.Z.	11	1	238	23.8	75	8	261	12	21.8
Harris, P.D.	52	14	1432	37.7	279	35	1142	51	22.4
Hastlow, A.J.	13	2	206	18.7	98	13	416	17	24.5
Hastings, B.F.	10	3	235	33.6	9	2	23	1	23.0
Hastings, M.B.	28	4	242	10.1	254	39	987	47	21.0
Hawes, F.C.	11	5	137	22.8	137	26	450	23	19.6
Hawke, M.J.	20	7	604	46.5	116	18	439	20	22.0
Hayward, R.E.	5	1	106	26.5	37	4	164	4	41.0
Hight, C.M.	15	7	242	30.3	113	24	327	21	15.6
Hills, G.K.	5	0	39	7.8	-	-	-	-	-
Hiini, B.C.	11	2	276	30.7	70	15	235	12	19.6
Hudson, H.J.	12	2	187	18.7	20	2	80	1	80.0
Hudson, M.G.	9	0	156	17.3	80	5	349	15	23.3
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.	42	9	1033	31.3	119	12	521	21	24.8
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.	19	0	479	25.2	7	0	46	2	23.0
Johns, A.M.	8	1	286	40.9	17	2	61	4	15.3
Johnston, M.T.	11	4	222	31.7	42	5	142	8	17.8
Johnston, N.M.	6	1	153	30.6	5	1	10	1	10.0
Johnston, T.G.	6	0	102	17.0	69	11	335	14	23.9
Johnstone, A.F.	15	1	252	18.0	3	0	23	1	23.0
Joyce, P.R.	11	0	151	13.7	2	1	6	1	6.0
Kain, M.O.	4	0	22	5.5	31	8	52	8	6.5
Lancaster, M.J.	11	0	163	14.8	9	1	39	0	-
Lancaster, T.E.	7	1	187	31.2	39	8	101	8	12.6
Landon-Lane, M.E.	16	4	361	30.1	35	3	128	3	42.7
Langrope, S.L.	6	2	222	55.5	-	-	-	-	-
Latham, M.T.	5	2	158	52.7	29	3	89	4	22.3
Latham, R.T.	13	3	238	23.8	53	9	175	10	17.5
Latham, T.	7	1	369	61.5	5	0	22	0	-
Leggat, J.E.	6	0	72	12.0	14	3	43	3	14.3
Lester, S.	3	0	33	11.0	17	0	75	5	15.0
Loe, H.F.	5	2	32	10.7	59	6	212	8	26.5
Lonsdale, W.M.	6	2	41	10.3	62	12	194	14	13.9
MacDonald, M.B.	7	2	61	12.2	60	7	230	9	25.6
Marsh, J.D.	7	0	127	18.1	57	8	197	11	17.9
Martin, S.G.D.	4	0	48	12.0	33	1	82	11	7.5
Masefield, R.V.	10	3	102	14.6	88	11	319	18	17.7
Masefield, T.J.	10	3	248	35.4	12	0	25	3	8.3
Maw, P.A.C.	8	0	246	30.8	23	3	94	1	94.0
Maw, D.J.M.	7	1	103	17.2	9	0	38	1	38.0
McCarthy, G.P.	17	1	220	13.8	36	1	191	12	15.9
McCarthy, P.B.	13	2	463	42.1	42	5	160	11	14.5
McCone, R.J.	6	1	28	5.6	36	9	85	9	9.4
McEwan, P.E.	42	5	1165	31.5	220	26	892	51	17.5
McFedries, A.G.	23	2	641	30.5	199	24	786	29	27.1
McGoldrick, C.P.	5	1	112	28.0	7	1	35	1	35.0
McGuire, R.D.	22	11	406	36.9	234	24	914	37	24.7
McIntyre, B.S.M.	9	0	203	22.6	67	10	247	14	17.6

	Inn	NO	Runs	Avg	O	M	Runs	Wkt	Avg
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
McRae, A.R.	21	4	519	30.5	85	9	343	12	28.6
McRae, J.A.	5	0	30	6.0	2	0	11	1	11.0
Miller, G.A.	24	3	440	21.0	1	0	14	1	14.0
Miller, R.M.	10	3	386	55.1	52	8	174	8	21.8
Mills, D.L.T.	13	1	198	16.5	20	1	117	1	117.0
Mitchell, W.J.	25	3	439	20.0	50	8	156	9	17.3
Morgan, R.	9	2	259	37.0	32	9	113	7	16.1
Muir, T.M.	3	1	120	60.0	23	2	117	6	19.5
Nathu, A.	15	1	386	27.6	10	0	58	1	58.0
Newton, B.I.P.	9	3	182	30.3	47	8	181	8	22.6
Nielsen, T.N.	17	4	225	17.3	145	24	521	32	16.3
Nuttall, A.J.	42	17	552	22.1	547	141	1347	129	10.4
O'Gorman, J.P.D.	7	1	138	23.0	31	4	135	3	45.0
Orton, B.	9	5	567	141.8	5	2	15	4	3.8
Owens, M.B.	7	4	47	15.7	50	9	208	5	41.6
Page, R.J.	5	0	119	23.8	3	0	13	0	-
Parr, M.J.	7	1	123	20.5	56	7	182	9	20.2
Patel, M.	4	1	132	44.0	32	8	108	6	18.0
Pavey, H.T.	6	4	66	33.0	42	5	193	7	27.6
Pawson, J.D.	21	5	443	27.7	155	28	460	24	19.2
Pawson, S.J.	6	0	166	27.7	16	5	54	3	18.0
Peacock, M.D.P.	16	5	253	23.0	176	43	522	33	15.8
Pettet, C.M.	11	2	192	21.3	-	-	-	-	-
Pitcher, A.C.	7	1	34	5.7	16	1	111	2	55.5
Priest, M.W.	7	2	176	35.2	108	21	391	13	30.1
Reid, J.F.	6	2	205	51.3	16	0	65	1	65.0
Reid, R.B.	5	0	64	12.8	9	0	52	3	17.3
Rennell, C.P.	7	0	104	14.9	-	-	-	-	-
Robertson, I.A.	11	3	498	62.3	91	17	273	8	34.1
Rutledge, P.D.	35	5	330	11.0	13	0	104	1	104.0
Ryan, P.D.	2	1	35	35.0	29	2	79	5	15.8
Satterthwaite, M.F.	18	0	341	18.9	5	0	30	0	-
Savill, C.M.	33	8	412	16.5	34	0	216	10	21.6
Sawers, A.J.	8	2	269	44.8	-	-	-	-	-
Scott, D.W.G.	11	5	77	12.8	37	1	216	11	19.6
Seabourn, C.R.	2	0	24	12.0	23	3	75	5	15.0
Shaw, M.	5	1	104	26.0	32	9	88	7	12.6
Sheard, A.J.	5	1	12	3.0	38	0	244	4	61.0
Smit, M.N.	6	2	87	21.8	27	3	113	5	22.6
Smith, G.B.	14	2	174	14.5	1	0	6	0	-
Sowden, C.J.S.	5	0	96	19.2	30	8	83	7	11.9
Sparks, L.C.	18	6	156	13.0	201	44	676	36	18.8
Stead, D.W.	5	0	71	14.2	45	4	211	6	35.2
Stevens, S.D.	13	5	75	9.4	152	14	729	23	31.7
Stevenson, J.S.	3	2	12	12.0	36	2	141	7	20.1
Stone, C.S.	7	0	222	31.7	14	2	38	4	9.5
Stone, M.B.	10	0	134	13.4	65	7	320	10	32.0
Tapper, J.	4	2	31	15.5	46	11	161	10	16.1
Teale, M.D.	3	1	19	9.5	27	2	112	5	22.4
Thiele, C.H.	11	3	63	7.9	118	17	438	16	27.4
Thomson, G.L.	29	4	935	37.4	14	0	81	1	81.0
Thorn, L.D.A.	13	2	229	20.8	18	0	106	3	35.3
Thornton, T.F.	15	3	181	15.1	20	0	88	4	22.0
Townrow, W.B.	8	3	54	10.8	82	9	286	13	22.0
Walker, R.L.	3	1	30	15.0	39	10	117	8	14.6
Wallace, P.E.	9	3	86	14.3	-	-	-	-	-
Ward, J.	12	3	268	29.8	52	3	265	11	24.1
Weeds, M.G.	9	2	210	30.0	4	0	16	0	-
Wellington, B.G.	5	1	55	13.8	36	3	182	5	36.4
Wolt, J.R.K.	12	5	43	6.1	199	25	837	32	26.2
Wood, P.	6	2	54	13.5	27	3	118	3	39.3
Wright, H.G.	8	1	26	3.7	50	8	198	6	33.0
Wright, M.J.E.	5	0	48	9.6	-	-	-	-	-
Wright, M.J.W.	13	4	455	50.6	17	0	72	5	14.4
Wright, N.H.	7	1	114	19.0	4	0	16	1	16.0
Yardley, K.J.	13	8	21	4.2	183	21	742	34	21.8
Yock, B.A.	14	3	614	55.8	14	1	79	1	79.0
Young, A.	1	0	5	5.0	18	1	82	6	13.7
Youngusband, P.F.	5	2	53	17.7	38	10	94	12	7.8

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	-	-
2007/08	27	19	7	-	1
2008/09	25	21	4	-	-
Total	318	210	100	3	5

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
2007/08	28	6,218	207	30.0	222
2008/09	25	5,688	180	31.6	228
Total	310	64,267	2,305	27.9	207

Highest Team Scores (50 overs)

For	371/5	v Timaru Boys' High School	03.02.08
	331/5	v Nelson College	10.02.08
	330/6	v Woodbank Wanderers	22.03.98
Against	309/7	by Millbrook XI	25.01.98
	303/8	by Suburban XI	06.01.08
	302/6	by Flaxton Wanderers	26.11.00

Lowest Team Scores

For	69	v Christ's College	27.10.96
	79	v St Andrew's College	23.02.08
	79	v Clarrie Anderson's XI	09.01.00
	79	v Combined Secondary Schools XI	26.11.06
Against	40	by Combined Secondary Schools XI	25.11.07
	51	by Christ's College	14.10.01
	60	by Combined Secondary Schools XI	20.11.05

Honours – Batting

(All retired)

K.A.Amblar	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
L.Bartholomeusz	101	v Timaru Boys' High School	03.02.08
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 Swamphens	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
S.T.Coffey	100	v Combined Secondary Schools	30.11.08
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
D.P.Dowds	101	v Burnside High School	07.12.08
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
A.D.Fullerton-Smith	101	v Combined Secondary Schools	25.11.07
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 Timaru Boys' High School	25.01.04
L.Johnston	100	v Otago Boys' High School	28.10.07
S.L.Langrope	100	v Timaru Boys' High School	03.02.08
R.T.Latham	100	v St Andrew's College	26.02.95
T.Latham	101	v Burnside High School	02.12.07
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
S.Noster	102	v Canterbury Country Sec Schools	16.03.08
S.Noster	101	v Christchurch Boys' High School	12.09.08
J.P.D.O'Gorman	101	v Christ's College	18.01.09
B.Orton	102	v Otago Boys' High School	29.10.06
B.Orton	100	v Nelson College	10.02.08
B.Orton	100	v Combined Secondary Schools	30.11.08
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
B.A.Yock	102	v London NZ CC	23.11.08

Honours – Bowling

(Maximum 10 overs)

M.D.Fielding	6-20	v Wanganui Collegiate	21.10.07
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
W.L.Eddington	5-15	v Timaru Boys' High School	08.02.09
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
J.Tapper	5-21	v King's High School	14.12.08
T.Johnston	5-26	v St Andrew's College	25.02.07

continued >

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.McFriedies	5-29	v Flaxton Wanderers	26.02.97
M.B.S.McIntyre	5-30	v Otago Boys' High School	02.11.03
B.W.J.Cameron	5-32	v South Canterbury XI	30.09.07
W.A.Cornelius	5-32	v Medbury Headmaster's XI	12.03.00
R.Abbott	5-32	v Nelson College	16.02.03

Batsmen – 1,000 runs milestone

Season

2004/05	P.D.Harris
2005/06	D.W.Bond
2005/06	D.R.Cusack
2006/07	P.E.McEwan
2008/09	G.D.Inglis

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.Ambler	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
2007/08	S.Noster	102	v Canterbury Country Sec Schools XI
2008/09	T.Latham	76	v Burnside High School

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
2007/08	St Thomas of Canterbury College
2008/09	Shirley Boys' High School

Visitor Honours 2008/09 Season

100 rtd	D.Broom	4/27	S.Archer
100 rtd	B.Yock	4/24	P.Sharp
103 rtd	K.McClure	4/34	S.Baxendine
		4/56	J.Tapper

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	07-8	08-9
Christ's College	W	L	L	W	L	W	-	W	-	W	-	W	W	W	W
Christchurch BHS	W	W	W	W	D	W	W	W	W	-	-	W	L	-	W
Hawkswood Wanderers	W	L	L	L	L	L	L	W	L	L	L	L	L	L	-
Flaxton Wanderers	W	W	L	L	L	-	W	L	-	L	-	-	-	-	-
London NZ CC	W	W	-	L	L	L	-	-	-	L	-	L	W	W	W
Ohoka Swamphens	W	W	W	W	L	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Bede's College	W	W	W	L	W	L	L	W	W	-	L	W	L	W	W
Ben Harris XI	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Andrew's College	W	W	W	W	W	L	W	W	L	W	W	W	W	L	W
Clarrie Anderson's XI	W	W	W	W	W	L	L	-	-	W	L	-	L	L	W
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	L	W	W	L	L	L	L	W	L
Dunedin Cavaliers	-	L	W	W	-	W	W	-	L	W	L	L	-	W	W
Nth Canty Sec Schools	-	W	D	W	W	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	-	W	-
NZ Police XI (Christchurch)	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Millbrook XI	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suburban XI	-	-	-	W	L	L	W	-	L	L	-	W	W	L	W
South Canterbury XI	-	-	-	-	W	-	L	W	W	-	W	W	-	W	-
Marlborough Boys' College	-	-	-	-	W	-	W	-	W	W	D	L	L	D	L
King's College (Auckland)	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-
Montana Wine XI	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Combined Schools XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	W	W	W	L	W	W
Otago BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	W	W	L	-	W	W	L
Waitaki BHS/St Kevin's XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	L	W	W	W	-	-	-	W
Mt Hutt College	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shirley BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	-	W
Timaru BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	L	W	W	L	W	W
Nelson College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	-	W	L	W	W	W
Wellington College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	-	L	-	-
Burnside High School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	W	W	W	W
Former NZ Rep XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	L	-	W	-
St Thomas of Canterbury College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	W	L	L	W
Southland BHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	W	L	-	W
Arthur Pitcher's XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	L	W	W	W
Albion CC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	-	-	-
Mid-Canterbury Youth XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	W	W
Kings High School (Dunedin)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	W
Canterbury Country Sec Schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-
Auckland Glimmer XI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L	-

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	-	-	-	-	-	L	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	W	-
I Zingari Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W	-

