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Parnell Cricket
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May 2009

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 7 No. 6

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From our sponsor

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**To all Parnell Cricket Club members including parents of Junior members
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May 2009

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INDOOR FACILITY

Progress after so many years – We have now been granted a Resource Consent so the building fund raising program is now all go!

HIGHLIGHT OF 2008/9 SEASON?

Your Editor votes for Tim McIntosh's selection for the Blackcaps and his 136 in the Second Test – New Zealand vs. West Indies. Tim in action, courtesy of Photo sport:



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Saskia Bullen



Vic Lind

Photos courtesy of Andrew Cornaga, Photosport

OUR LATEST INTERNATIONALS! WHITE FERNS' SASKIA BULLEN AND VIC LIND:

Perseverance has finally paid off for Saskia and Vic with their selection to the White Ferns team to contest the Womens' Twenty20 World Cup in England next month. Both have played over 50 games for Auckland – Saskia, an orthodox left arm spinner, taking 39 wickets at 34.12 and Vic has scored 922 runs at 21.44 with a highest score of 91. Behind the sticks Vic has taken 13 catches and 4 stumpings.

For Parnell (now as part of North East) both made their Premier debuts in 1999/2000 and over the 10 seasons have been major achievers for the Club. They are our leading all time Women players – this season Vic hit 523 runs and became the first ever to score 4000 runs. Saskia took 23 wickets at 17.61 this season and dominated the attack along with Megan Murphy. Of note, too, is Vic's prowess as a 'keeper – this season, added to her 21 catches, she snared 9 stumpings – an amazing ratio! And just look at her career record below:

For Parnell since 1999/2000:

Vic Lind	Batting:	4008 runs at 36.77	161 highest score	Fielding:	92 catches	51 stumpings
Saskia Bullen	Bowling:	177 wickets at 18.37				

Congratulations again and we wish Saskia and Vic every success at this Twenty20 World Cup! The Team plays 3 games vs. Australia and then travels to England on 4 June. It will be based at Taunton where all matches, other than the semi-finals and final, will be played. The White Ferns play warm-up games against England and India on 8 and 9 June. The tournament starts on 11 June, with NZ's first game the following day against Australia.

INDOOR NETS? We had them in 1959!

Auckland Cricket arranged for nets to be set up at the Showgrounds that winter. Here is Bill Playle demonstrating his off drive with, from left, Alf Postles (Chairman, ACA), John Collinge, Peter McGregor, Geoff Caisley, Des Magee and Bryan Haggitt looking on:



OBITUARY – Brian Joseph SORENSON 13.11.1929 to 7.5.2009

Brian Sorenson was a stalwart of the Hobson Park days and, perhaps, the best wicket keeper the Club has ever had. Brian joined Parnell just as the District scheme began and it was for Eastern Districts that he made his name and then succeeded Eric Petrie as the Auckland 'keeper.

Brian had a club foot but it didn't affect his keeping ability and he was truly amazing behind the stumps. With Geoff Rabone (off breaks) and Frank Hemmingson (orthodox left arm) aiding and abetting, he made the very most of every stumping opportunity. Remember, those were days when batsmen sold their wickets dearly, Len Hutton, Trevor Bailey and their ilk were setting the scene – occupation of the crease was all and there was nothing cavalier about batting in those days! For Brian, in his career with Parnell, to snare 40 stumpings in addition to his 67 catches speaks volumes for his skill and remarkably soft hands.

Later in his playing days, necessity saw Brian opening the batting for Parnell. A left hand bat, he always displayed a professional approach, sold his wicket dearly, and played some invaluable innings for the Club.

In 1955/56 he won the Payne Trophy – awarded by the Club for Best Fielder and, the same season from the ACA, the Riddolls Cup for Most Improved Player.

A good, keen golfer Brian had twice won the Ray Woolley Cup for Best Gross – in 1973 and 1977, both at the Huapai Golf Club. Early on, Brian served on the Club's Management Committee and, in much more recent times, he regularly helped Peter Badley organise the Golf Day when they were held, first at Huapai, and then at Redwood Park. With Peter and Don Percival, Brian had the job of card checking – they made a great team!

A great Club man, an Honorary Vice President for many years, Brian will be sorely missed and our very sincere condolences go to his widow, Margaret, and the family.

Parnell:	1950/51 - 59/60	89 inn	11no	57 hs	1149 runs	14.73 ave	67 catches	40 stumpings
Auckland:	1956/57 - 57/58	20 inn	3no	48 hs	221 runs	13.00 ave	10 catches	6 stumpings

ACA AWARDS

At Auckland Cricket's Prizegiving last month, the following Parnell players were honoured:

Victoria Lind	Elsie Daniels Trophy – Most catches in Women's Premier Grade and RT Cup – Player of the Year
Gareth Hopkins	Don Coleman Cup – Most Meritorious Batting Performance at All Levels in 2008/9
David Houppa	Short Memorial Trophy - Most Positive Premier Player (as determined by ACUA)
Chas Keogh	Ken Deas Memorial Trophy – Best First Year Premier Grade Player 2008/9

As were these winning Junior teams:

Parnell Nash	Year 6B Minor Championship 2008/9
Parnell Howarth	Year 7A Minor Championship 2008/9
Parnell Junior Hearts	Under 12 Grade (Soft Ball) 2008/9
Parnell Maroon	Under 14 Premier Grade B – 2 Day Championship
Parnell	Under 15A – 2 Day Minor Championship

And Senior team:

Parnell	Twenty20 League – Blue Section
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Congratulations - marvellous achievements all!

Grasshoppers

At Seddon Park, for the 1st Test, your Editor ran into, or looked up, a number of old Parnell identities. Roger Paul and Doug Hemi both sent their regards to the Club as did Brian Holley. Brian has been persuaded to provide the following notes on the "Grasshoppers", the Sunday side started by his father, Ted:

"After a stint of rugby refereeing and tennis umpiring, Ted Holley took up umpiring cricket. After a few first eleven games, he became concerned at the standard of cricket, the easy wins by the strongest team, and the lack of cricket, good competitive cricket, available to the obviously talented in each top team. The germ of an idea, grew to fruition whereby a secondary school "representative" side came into being. This would have been about 1957 when the first games, on a Sunday, were played against the top "district" sides. It enabled the better schoolboys to play against seasoned first class and test players each week. It also enabled the district sides to promote their own promising and up and coming players. Ted managed to get the backing of most of the school cricket masters and thus the "Grasshoppers", as they came to be called, were formed. George Howarth lent his support and Bill Playle and Colin Sneddon gave up their Sundays to captain the side and provide guidance. The funding of the team is unknown., perhaps the district sides paid ground fees. Gear, perhaps a bat from one school, pads from another, wicket keeping gloves from another. Cricket balls ? who knows. A handsome playing cap, a green baggy, with a grasshopper rampant emblem appeared circa 1960. It is pleasing to note that many of those schoolboys went on to provincial and national honours; and they are still quick to recognise the value of that competition and extra grounding which proved such a boost to their careers. Ted carried on until about 1962/3 when he turned the reins over to one of the St Pauls or Sacred Heart coaches."

Brian, thanks for this contribution – your father played a most important part in developing that very strong group of players that came through in the early 1960s. Grasshopper regulars included Mark Burgess, Terry Jarvis, John Carson, Hedley Howarth, Ross Dykes, Stuart Speed, John Milliner, Seb Kohlhasse, John McIntyre and many more. Ted Holley had great foresight! Sad to learn, though, that your brother, Robin, is not well – our very best wishes go to him. And we hope to see you both at Shore Road sometime next season – please keep in touch.

RETENTION OF PLAYERS

With Tim McIntosh coming up through Junior ranks to achieve Test honours, a review of other such cricketers over the past 15 years has proved most interesting. Last season the following players enrolled for the Club having previously been EDCA U14 or Age Group Reps:

Doug and Brad Winger, Cam Rope, James Walsh, Mark Turner, Will Shearman, Mike Burgess, Angus McLean, Johnny Noakes, Will Brittain, James Nicol, Chris Pasma, Kirk Bunting, Justin Rosenberg, Ryan Turner, David Goddard, David Bygrave Alex Newland and Victoria Lind

To our knowledge, others still playing competitively, but for other clubs, are

Simon Badger, PJ Cairns and Ant. Bullick - all in Dunedin and, in Auckland, Jimmy Neesham (Suburbs New Lynn), Lachie Ferguson (Cornwall), Ros Kember and Maddie Green (Cornwall).

We treasure the home grown players that “make good”. Ant., who has played for Otago, remains as a Supporter Member and Jimmy and Lachie have just been included in the NZ U19 Squad – we wish them every success and hope that they remember their Parnell roots. They will always be welcome back at Shore Road even if in opposition!



FROM THE PAST – Ellis CLAPHAM

Gary Clapham has contacted us via **ACA and Jim Allnatt**:

“On the 14th of April 1934 my father bowled a hat trick and recorded 5 for 12 in a match of some importance in Auckland. I have in my possession the ball from the occasion mounted as a trophy with a silver plaque which says “Hat Trick, 5 for 12, E. Clapham, 14.4.34.” I have admired this trophy since I was a little boy, but have never known the story behind it. Can you suggest a way I could find out if this was a feat recorded somewhere in the archives. My father's full name was Ellis (Ellison) Thornton Clapham. I don't know what club he played for.”

Jim Allnatt replied: *“Your father played for the Parnell Cricket Club and my understanding is that he played in the first and second XIs as an opening bowler. He took this hat trick against University in a second grade game. He took 4 wickets in 5 balls in that match. If you contact Craig Speakman “*

Extracts from Craig's response: *“Parnell Cricket Club has always mounted hat trick balls back to at least the 1890's. First reference to Ellis was in 1931/2 when colt Ellis Clapham won praise for his fast right arm bowling*

*claiming 26 wickets at 8.2 each. In 1933/4 Parnell had to beat University outright in the last game to claim the maximum 6 points. University batted first and made 148 and Parnell was well placed at stumps at 99 for 5 wickets. A magnificent and quick partnership of 86 by Archer (81) and the left handed Siddle (34) meant the Parnell innings closed at 207. University were then bowled out for 65. The collapse was largely due to Clapham's sixth over in which he **took four wickets in five balls including a hat trick**. He finished with 5/12 off 9 overs. McGeehan took 3/19. Requiring seven to win Clapham scored a single off the first ball and McGeehan lifted the third ball for a spectacular six to secure the premiership. The skipper, “Doc Aitken”, also took a hat trick that season and the Team was unbeaten. Ellis' best season was for the Seniors in 1941/2 when he took 43 wickets at 15 per wicket and proved to be the most hostile bowler. His best performances were 8/41 versus North Shore and 6/71 versus Eden. Back in the Seconds for his final season, 1946/7 he took 48 wickets at 11.79 and was the strongest bowler in the side. Sadly Ellis was transferred to Gisborne at the end of the season. For our Seniors, 1933-42, his bowling record was **782overs 127mdns 2426runs 109wkts 22.26ave**.*

WHAT WAS YOUR DAD OR GRANDDAD'S RECORD AT PARNELL?

Just contact Craig Speakman – craig@mdt.co.nz or the Editor – bchecho@xtra.co.nz

THE LAST WORD - CRICKET WISDOM

The first testicular guard was used in cricket in **1874** and the first helmet was used in **1974**. It took 100 years for men to realize that the brain is also important!