



MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

CRICKET CLUB



ANNUAL REPORT

2002-03 SEASON

SEMI-FINAL PERFORMANCES

1 st Grade		2 nd Grade		3 rd Grade		4 th Grade	
1974-75	4 th	1977-78	4 th	1970-71	4 th	1989-90	2 nd
1977-78	4 th	1978-79	Premiers	1971-72	Premiers	1993-94	Premiers
1990-91	4 th	1979-80	4 th	1972-73	Premiers*	1997-98	4 th
1991-92	4 th	1990-91	3 rd	1975-76	2 nd		
1994-95	4 th	1992-93	Premiers	1977-78	3 rd		
1995-96	Premiers	1997-98	2 nd	1978-79	Premiers		
2000-01	6 th			1985-86	3 rd		
				1987-88	2 nd		
				1990-91	4 th		
				1991-92	3 rd		
				1993-94	2 nd		
				1994-95	Premiers		
				2002-03	4 th		

- Second team finished 2nd

Metropolitan Cup		GDJCA		Masters	
2000-01	4 th	1993-94 (C)	3 rd	2001-02	2 nd
		1997-98 (C)	2 nd	2002-03	3 rd
		2001-02 (C)	3 rd		
		2002-03 (C)	Premiers		

Sydney Shires Club Champions	1991-92
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Women's	4 th Grade		5 th Grade	
	1994-95	Premiers	1992-93	4 th
	1998-99	4 th	1993-94	Premiers
	1999-00	3 rd		

FINISHING POSITION IN COMPETITIONS: PAST 3 SEASONS

Team	Position 2000-01	Points	Position 2001-02	Points	Position 2002-03	Points
1 st Grade	6 th	40	7 th	34	8 th	30
2 nd Grade	13 th	6	7 th	40	10 th	24
3 rd Grade	10 th	22	8 th	36	4 th	62
4 th Grade	11 th	24	9 th	34	10 th	34
Under 24s	7 th	12	8 th	18	11 th	12
Club Championship	11 th	478	7 th	722	9 th	698
Metropolitan Shield	4 th	45	6 th	24	9 th	33
GDJCA C Grade	4 th	56	3 rd	81	Premiers	90
Masters	N.A.	N.A.	2 nd	326	3 rd	319

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT 2002-03

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CLUB RECORDS	130
CURRENT PLAYERS	139

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB

PRESIDENT

Craig Edwards

HONORARY SECRETARY

David Smith

HONORARY TREASURER

Chris Savage

COMMITTEE

Paul Chapman	Brett Kent
Phil Erskine	Adrian Lulka
Steve Gasser	Wayne Travers

S.C.A. DELEGATE

Simon Burchett

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES

The Committee met on 9 occasions throughout the year. Attendances were as follows:

Craig Edwards	9
Dave Smith	8
Chris Savage	8
Brett Kent	8
Paul Chapman	8
Steve Gasser	8
Phil Erskine	7
Adrian Lulka	7
Wayne Travers	7

PAST OFFICE-BEARERS

PRESIDENT

1967-69	R. Vagg	1989-92	A. Davies
1969-79	M.R. Gwilliam	1992-94	B. Hort
1979-80	R. Vagg	1994-95	D. Budge
1980-83	J. Wickham	1995-98	D. Folkard
1983-89	W. Folkard	1998-	C. Edwards

HONORARY SECRETARY

1967-69	P. Saunders	1980-81	P. Garty
1969	P. Barclay	1981-90	A. Mahoney
1969-72	J. Slack	1990-91	S. Jurd
1972-73	K. Henry	1991-93	R. Mather
1973-74	D. Rutledge	1993-94	M. Ramsland
1974-75	A. Faulks	1994-95	D. Deller
1975-76	P. Barclay	1995-98	J. Breden
1976-79	J. Wickham	1998-99	G. McFadden
1979-80	B. Jones	1999-	D. Smith

HONORARY TREASURER

1967-69	P. Barclay	1993-94	I. Blyth
1969-72	P. Korbel	1994-95	M. Hughes
1972-74	M. Hoban	1995-96	D. Budge
1974-75	D. Rutledge	1996-98	D. Webb
1975-77	P. Korbel	1998-00	A. Slattery
1977-78	G. Leary	2000-02	M. Payne
1978-90	C. Welsby	2002-	C. Savage
1990-93	S. O'Reilly		

LIFE MEMBERS

L. Ager	M.J. Denlow	M. Hughes
C. Anderson	K. Dixon	B. Jones
P. Barclay	C. Edwards	A. Mahoney
A. Barnes	D. Folkard	P. Miller
G. Bleus	W. Folkard	S. O'Reilly
I. Blyth*	P. Garty	R. Vagg
J. Breden	J. Giuffre	D. Webb
D. Budge	C. Gold	C. Welsby
S. Burchett	M .R. Gwilliam*	S. Wiblin
A. Davies	B. Hort	J. Wickham

*Deceased

M.R. GWILLIAM SHIELD

The **M.R. Gwilliam Shield**, a gift from the President of the Club who served from 1969 to 1979, is awarded annually to the most outstanding cricketer in the Club.

Previous Winners are:

1974-75	G. Frankish	1975-76	G. Frankish
1976-77	L. Ager, M. Denlow	1977-78	P. Bourke
1978-79	J. Giuffre	1979-80	L. Ager
1980-81	L. Ager	1981-82	P. Dignan
1982-83	A. Monaghan	1983-84	A. Lindsay
1984-85	G. Craighead	1985-86	S. O'Reilly
1986-87	I. Blyth	1987-88	K. Dixon
1988-89	G. Brown	1989-90	I. Jessup
1990-91	P. Notaras	1991-92	T. Ritchie
1992-93	D. Webb	1993-94	D. Webb
1994-95	D. Webb	1995-96	D. Webb
1996-97	G. Brown	1997-98	P. Notaras
1998-99	P. Notaras	1999-00	D. Webb
2000-01	D. Webb	2001-02	P. Procopis
2002-03	B. Rounds		

CLUB AWARDS 2002-03

M.R. Gwilliam Shield	Brendan Rounds	
Most Improved	Andrew Slimmon	
G. Gavin Fielding Award	Seamus Ross	
Ivan Blyth Memorial Clubman of the Year	David Smith	
Life Membership	Mark Hughes	
Hard Luck Award	Craig Edwards	Wayne Travers
200 Games	Craig Edwards	
100 Games	Ben Bradley Wayne Travers	Pete Saliba
Most Valuable Players	<i>Second Grade</i> <i>Third Grade</i> <i>Fourth Grade</i> <i>Metropolitan Shield</i> <i>Frank Gray Shield</i> <i>G.D.J.C.A</i>	Anthony Hale Paul Clift Graeme Scott Paul Nelson Chris Ying Tom Millet
Pewters	Mashood Bajwa Tony Barnes Ben Bradley Dave Gracie Anthony Hale	Adrian Lulka Steve Moran Paul Nelson Seamus Ross Chris Ying
Mounted Ball	Paul Nelson	Hat Trick v Auburn

CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARD

McDonalds Macquarie Centre initiated the "Club of the Year" award in 1989 with a Shield and a cheque for \$500 to the most worthy Sporting Club.

The 1990 *Club of the Year* winner was the Cricket Club.

SPORTS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

In 1984 the Sports Association instituted the award of Sports Administrator of the Year. The award is presented to a leading Club Administrator for service over and above that normally expected. The Cricket Club members to receive this award are:

1985	Allan Mahoney
1996	David Webb
1997	David Folkard

M.U.S.A. BRIAN SPENCER AWARD

This award is given in recognition of outstanding service to a club and/or to the Sports Association by an individual on or off the field.

2001	Allan Mahoney
2003	Warrick Folkard

M.U.S.A. ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Rookie of the Year acknowledges the efforts of a student in their first year of involvement in a sporting club.

In 2002 Peter Procopis became the first member of the Cricket Club to win this award.

UNIVERSITY BLUES

Blues are awarded by the University to sportsmen and women for outstanding sporting achievements. Performance standards are set by the Clubs and approved by the University Blues Committee. For Cricket, a **Full Blue** requires *State representation* whilst a **Half Blue** requires either *500 runs or 50 wickets* in the *Club's highest team*. *Current student* status is also necessary.

Previous Awardees are:

Full Blue

1971 Kerry Mackay

Half Blue

1970 Mick Redden
1971 Frank Alley
1972 John Guiffre
1972 Peter Miller
1977 Laurie Ager
1978 Paul Bourke
1985 Chris Welsby
1988 Ivan Blyth

UNIVERSITY CLUB COLOUR AWARDS

In 1980 the University instituted the award of *Club Colour* to be presented to men and women who have made an outstanding contribution to Macquarie University Sport, through their respective clubs, from an administrative or organisational viewpoint. Cricket Club members who have received this award are:

1980 Peter Barclay
 Grahame Blues
 Ross Gwilliam
 Peter Miller
 Robert Vagg
1981 Andrew Faulks
 Keith Henry
1983 Graham Hargreaves
 Brian Jones
1984 Chris Welsby
 John Wickham
1987 Allan Mahoney
1990 Al Davies
 Warrick Folkard

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Season 2002-03 began full of optimism. Eleven of us had just returned from a successful UK tour and my hopes were high that the club would build on the ground made the previous season. However, we had a couple of setbacks at the start, which placed us on the back foot. The loss of Peter Procopis, last year's First Grade captain, to Manly, and the end of the Eastwood Hotel financial sponsorship meant that we were to be poorer both on the field and in the bank account. A number of players did not return and numbers were down at pre-season training. This led to fielding one less side and on paper less talent throughout the grades.

Peter Saliba put up his hand to captain First Grade and performed admirably in his first year as senior captain. First Grade finished out of the finals and recruitment of at least two quality players is imperative for next year. Congratulations to Brendan Rounds on being awarded the Ross Gwilliam Shield for the most outstanding cricketer in the club, an award Brendan richly deserved. Well done to Budgie for taking over thirty wickets and qualifying for the cash under our First Grade incentive scheme.

Tunza, fresh from his exploits in the UK and the Paigle (*Paris' red light district*), once again took on the Second Grade duties. It was a tough year for Second Grade who suffered most from the player loss at the start of the season and the good form of the Third Grade side, which prevented promotion of players to seconds from thirds as they made a charge for the Third Grade premiership. Congratulations to Tunza who scored over 400 runs for the season.

Schaafs, laden with a plethora of new nicknames from the UK tour and a spell in southern France learning the vagaries of the French language, found time to take on the Third Grade captaincy. I will not elaborate in too much detail about Third Grade's performance, I'm sure Schaafs will have it documented in his report. Suffice to say thirds had an excellent season and were only twelve runs away from a place in the Grand Final.

Wayne Travers battled hard as Fourth Grade skipper particularly as he is yet to discover email and mobile phones. Remarkably he still managed to put together a side every Saturday that was competitive.

Paul Chapman ran the Metro Cup team under difficult circumstances particularly due to the number of Sunday games. Paul managed the side professionally and handled himself well against more experienced captains in several delicate situations.

We entered a side in the Gordon District competition for another year, a side known to the club simply as Sixth Grade. Ben Sewell once again captained a team which is largely made up of his mates and anonymous to the majority of the club. However, this team proved to be our most successful and won the premiership in their grade. Congratulations to Ben and particularly to club Life Member Tony Barnes on their achievement.

The former 'stars' of the club participated in the Masters Competition (over 40s) and were successful in the majority of their matches in a competition where no semi-finals are played. Unfortunately, due to the ageing nature of the club, the talent pool for Masters is very deep for future years. Al Mahoney was last seen at the Third Grade semi-final talent scouting and checking birth dates of several players.

Disappointingly, our social functions were not as well patronised as previous years. Social functions serve two purposes firstly, player bonding and secondly, fundraising. If people do not attend neither occurs and this has a detrimental effect both on and off the field.

The club held its first 'brainstorming' day at the end of the season. Thank you to those who attended. Many excellent ideas were brought to the table and implementation of these can only assist in future seasons. I need to pass on my thanks to several people for their contributions. Firstly, Peter Dernovokic, our first year coach. Peter did a marvellous job and was always available, including running additional Sunday morning training for the third graders prior to their semi-finals. Secondly, David Smith who continued to put in the hours as club Secretary and was justly recognised for his efforts by receiving Clubman of the Year award. Thirdly, Chris Savage in his first year as club Treasurer did a good job in keeping the books in order. Lastly, to all the committee thanks for your efforts, particularly Steve Gasser for looking after the equipment.

Finally, congratulations to all the award winners and I look forward to seeing everybody again come September 2003.

Craig Edwards

Honorary President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

From the playing fields of Teddington, South London, to the near miss at Alan Davidson Oval, South Sydney, season 2002-03 was one of the longest, yet most enjoyable, that I have experienced with Macquarie University Cricket Club. I'll leave it to the President and respective Captains to work through the on-field results, except to congratulate 6th Grade for their tremendous premiership win.

Off the field, it was terrific to see membership numbers swell to be close to 100. However, as we grow, it is becoming increasingly important that all club members begin to play a more active role in contributing to the overall well being of the club. This can take the form of simply attending a couple of social events, or helping out with packing up after training, through to taking on a committee position. Gone are the days where this club's success on and off the field can be left in the hands of a few.

The challenge for the new season's committee will lay in its ability to make meaningful changes to the club. Numerous ideas came up at our recent Club Workshop. These now need to be prioritised and implemented. The success of the next 12 months at Macquarie University Cricket Club will not simply be measured through on-field performances, but through the changes the new committee are able to make in terms of off-field initiatives and activities.

Again, it seems the same names are coming up for special thanks for the contributions they have made to the well being of Macquarie University Cricket Club over the past season. The following have all played a large part in making my life easier over the past 12 months:

- Simon Burchett for again fulfilling the club's sometimes arduous SCA obligations
- Warrick Folkard and Mark Hughes for their work on this Annual Report and club statistics. It is through their effort that the annual report appears as early as it does. The blame for any delay lies with the lax approach adopted by some of the captains in meeting their timely obligations.
- Craig Edwards for another outstanding performance at the helm of the S.S. *MUCC*... and for the adventures across the UK, Paris, and Prague.
- Steve 'Castro' Gasser, who has finally picked up a meaningful nickname, and for his strong off-field contributions across a number of areas.
- Chris 'Winkle' Savage, for also picking up a proper nickname, and for his great start as club Treasurer. I'm sure Winkle will develop into one of the best moneymen this club has had.
- Ross McIntyre, in his first season with the club, whose assistance with organising training was outstanding.
- Phil Erskine, who again quietly went on keeping us well stocked with supplies, as well as working hard with locating auction items.
- Danny McVey, without whom, the UK tour would never have happened, and who also keeps me on my toes with some great questions and ideas.
- David Webb, who is always a great sounding board and ideas man.

David Smith
Honorary Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial statements of our club, MUCC, for the year ended 31 December 2002 are presented on the following pages with our audit report. The financial statements are summarised in the commentary below.

Our club's 2002 financial statements bear evidence of an increase in income and expenditure items relevant for a 'touring' year, while the cash position decreased.

MUCC accounts on a cash basis for all transactions. The closing cash balance for the year ended 31 December 2002 was \$26,502.06, representing a decrease of \$4,382.13 in our cash reserves as detailed below:

	31 Dec 02	31 Dec 01
Cash at bank	17,958.50	17,799.72
Term deposit	8,543.56	13,084.47

Income

During the year we received \$33,523 of funding, represented as:

Description	Amount
MUSA Project Fund (2 years' funding)	\$10,000
MUSA Budget	\$19,608
Sydney Cricket Association	\$3,915

In addition, many thanks are extended to all who supported the fundraising activities undertaken during the year. We raised \$26,052 from our annual presentation evening, black tie ball, and member subscriptions.

Our yearly membership costs continued to be very competitive. Our annual presentation evening and the auction continued to provide MUCC with a source of funds, while the attendance at our black tie ball was disappointingly down from the previous year.

These contributions help towards the ongoing financial stability of the club and the club spirit.

Expenditure

Our major expenditure for the financial year included:

Description	Cost
Equipment and uniforms	\$27,889
Accommodation and travel expenses (UK tour)	\$19,102 ¹
Functions (Presentation dinner and Black tie ball)	\$8,001

¹ Our tour of the UK was made possible by utilising \$10,000 granted by MUSA, \$10,000 matched by MUCC, and the contributions made by the tourists.

Other expenses included dues and subscriptions, trophies and awards, clubhouse supplies, player incentive scheme and coaching fees.

Based on the financial results, MUCC continues to have a steady monetary position. Thanks again, to all the club members who have contributed. Special thanks to Craig Edwards, David Smith and Steve Gasser who have helped me enormously during my first year as bean-counter.

The club is placing emphasis on participation in our fundraising activities. It would be great to see everyone involved.

Chris Savage

Honorary Treasurer

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB

Profit & Loss Statement 01/01/02 through 31/12/02

Income

Subscriptions	\$9,602.00
Club takings	\$6,465.00
Fundraising	\$9,985.00
NSWCA Grant	\$3,915.00
MUSA Budget	\$29,608.69
Clothing	\$3,195.89
Interest received	\$462.18
Sundry Income	\$2,810.23

Total Income \$66,043.99

Cost of Sales

Gross Profit \$66,043.99

Expenses

Accommodation	\$12,884.69
Bank charges	\$380.06
Clubhouse Supplies	\$2,127.93
Clothing	\$5,479.35
Coaching	\$960.00
Cricket equipment	\$22,409.26
Dues &	\$6,730.00
Subscriptions	\$8,001.20
Fundraising	\$900.00
Player Incentives	\$1,580.76
Sundry expenses	\$148.00
Telephone	\$6,217.22
Travel and entertainment	\$2,607.61
Trophies	

Total Expenses \$70,426.13

Operating Profit -\$4,382.14

Other Income

Other Expenses -\$4,832.14

Net Profit / (Loss)

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB

Balance Sheet

December 2002

Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash on Hand			
Cheque Account	\$13,486.83		
U.K. Account	\$4,271.67		
Cash Drawer	<u>\$200.00</u>		
Total Cash on Hand		\$17,958.50	
Savings Funds			
NRMA Deposit		<u>\$8,543.56</u>	
Total Savings Funds			\$8,543.56
Total Current Assets			<u>\$26,502.06</u>
Total Assets			\$26,502.06
Liabilities			
Net Assets			<u>\$26,502.06</u>
Equity			
Retained Earnings		\$30,884.20	
Current Year Earnings		<u>-\$4,382.14</u>	
Total Equity			<u>\$26,502.06</u>

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB**

SCOPE

I have audited the financial statements of the Macquarie University Cricket Club for the year ended 31 December 2002. The Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. The club predominately trades on a cash basis, which is the normal trading basis for clubs of this kind. Therefore the audit is restricted to actual cash banked and recorded. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material aspects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards so as to prevent a view of the association which is consistent with my understanding of its financial position, the results of its operations and cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion, the financial statements do present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, the financial position of the Macquarie University Cricket Club as at December 2002.

Yours faithfully,

**ELLIOTT HOUSE PARTNERS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**



Andrew Slattery

JULY 2002 UNITED KINGDOM TOUR REPORT

It is every Aussie cricketer's dream to go on an 'Ashes' United Kingdom tour. This dream became a reality for eleven Macquarie University cricketers, who embarked on a three-week tour in July 2002. The tour, which was the club's first since 1990, was two years in the planning with much of the credit for this going to Danny McVey for doing a fantastic job organising games, accommodation, and transport. Unfortunately, the weather played a significant role on tour, with four of the eleven games washed out. One of these was the match against Ramsbottom, which was a big disappointment for us, as Michael Clarke, who has since gone on to represent Australia, and Mark Higgs (Australia A), were due to play for the opposition. Despite this, we had seven competitive games, where everyone contributed at various stages.

The washouts gave us an opportunity to explore what the UK had to offer. Over the three weeks, we covered much territory and saw quite a lot. Some of the highlights included the sights and sounds of London, a day spent in a Bath pub watching Lleyton Hewitt win Wimbledon, and spending time in Edinburgh. There was also a tour to Lords, where we had a team photo on the famous balcony, an indoor net session in the afternoon, followed by a cider drinking session at the Lord Taverners.

The accommodation we stayed in was quite varied. Wood Green was an eye opener - in fact you had to keep one eye on your things at all times. Manchester provided the highlight with the accommodation overlooking the famous Old Trafford cricket ground. Overall, we were very lucky when it came to accommodation. Most of the time we stayed in single rooms, but the opportunity to room with someone certainly provided the tour with authenticity and plenty of sleepless nights for some.

The hospitality we received was first class. Teams went out of their way to make us feel welcome, with many of them living up to the English tradition of a tremendous afternoon tea, with a couple of sides putting on a BBQ after the game.

Socially we mixed well with the opposition after the games. We played stumps and more often than not, we returned to the tour bus well after midnight. The lads from Ramsbottom took us out on the town, as did Radders in Sheffield. Our host in Leicester took us out for traditional fish and chips and who can forget the night at Teddington, when Tunza was hoisted. The green Macquarie Uni shirts that we brought with us, proved very popular with the opposition. But, of course, 'what happens on tour stays on tour, and nothing happened on tour...'

As mentioned we were competitive in all our games and a number of players got the opportunity to captain the side. The one game that sticks in our minds is the game against a touring West Indian side, which gave us a taste of what the Aussies confronted in the 1980s. Word was that Ridley Jacobs was shortly joining the tour, and Curtly Ambrose had pulled out just before the start. There was even a crowd of around 50 West Indians cheering their side on. Socially, we spent a lot of time together and we got to know a little bit more about each other as the tour progressed. Some of the social highlights included the nightclub in Edinburgh, Saturday night in "Hens Night Heaven" (Leicester), and did I mention Teddington? The tour was a fantastic experience and one that the club should try to organise once every four or five years. Start saving those pennies.

The touring party was: Brett Kent; David Smith; Danny McVey; Craig Edwards; Mark Schaafsma; Terry Dorrell; Anthony Hale; Steve Gasser; Jason Ford; Chris Savage and Derek Couper.

Jason Ford a.k.a. *The Penguin*

MATCH REPORTS

v Hampstead Cricket Club

The first of four washouts.

v Old Actonians

No play due to rain.

v Warwick University 156 lost to Warwick University 8 for 159

A break in the weather! After a week, we finally got a match underway. Skipper for the day McVey won the toss, and Dorrell and Savage had the honour of walking out to take on the new ball. On a typical low and slow pitch, we got off to a solid start of 52 before Sav (30) was dismissed. Tunza (20) went soon after. From 0-52, we were soon in trouble at 5-72 before Gasser (50) and McVey (24) consolidated well. We finished with a reasonable 156. We started well with the ball, with Coups (2/31) picking up a couple of early wickets thanks to two spectacular catches from Smith. Kent (2/17) bowled a great line, and Gasser (2/25) and Smith (2/28) both picked up valuable wickets. Warwick finally passed our score with 4 balls and 2 wickets remaining. A game we should have won, but at least the cobwebs were now out of the system

v Teddington Cricket Club 8 for 194 lost to Teddington Cricket Club 9 for 200

This was a near thing against a quality opponent. Played against the 'toffs' from the south of London, we won the toss and batted. A few early wickets brought Kent (71 not out) to the crease and saw him play one of the best innings on tour. Inston (28), Smith (22) and Edwards (21) supported him well, and we felt reasonably confident with 194 on the board. Teddington came out blazing hitting 52 off the first 10 overs before Smith (2/33) broke back with a couple of wickets. Edo (2/28) bowled a very good spell of left armers picking up two good wickets. The Teddington batsmen were seemingly in control, but a few late wickets and a run-out gave us a sniff. Unfortunately, some late hitting saw us go down by one wicket. Against a high standard opposition, we were reasonably pleased with our effort and victory in the post-match "*Stumps*" and the infamous "*hoisting*" meant we were definitely the moral victors on the day.

v St Paul's Cricket Club 8 for 198 lost to St Paul's Cricket Club 5 for 202

The touring party had now migrated north to Leicester for the first of 3 consecutive days of cricket. Expecting to play against a team of *local* West Indians, we were instead pitted against a team of *former first-class* cricketers from Antigua. In an atmosphere only a crowd of 50+ West Indians can provide, Gasser (26) and Schaafsma (30) got us off to a terrific start, while Savage (24) and Smith (32 not out) both hit the ball long and hard. At the end of 45 overs, we had 198 on the board and reasonably confident of causing an upset. How wrong we were. It was extremely uncanny how these Antiguans looked like the West Indians of old. One guy had a headband and helmet, looking like Desmond Haynes. Another guy was a dead ringer for Ritchie Richardson. This was Calypso cricket at its best, with the highlight being a six hit off Inston that hit the sightscreen and almost bounced back to the bowler in the middle. Hale (2/27) was the pick of the bowlers, while Couper (2/32) chimed in, but in the end they got there with 8 overs to spare and 5 wickets down. While a top quality team outclassed us, this match will certainly remain in the memory of all who played for a long time, and was definitely one of the tour highlights.

v Leicester University 5 for 195 defeated Leicester University 5 for 194

Finally, a *victory*! Fielding first, all of the bowlers kept a tight line and length throughout the Leicester University innings, restricting them to 5/194 off 45 overs on a terrific batting pitch. However, their score should have been a lot lower as a number of catches were put down in a somewhat tired and jaded fielding performance. Hale (2/24) continued his great recent form, while Smith, Ford and McVey all chimed it with a wicket each. Our chase got off to a steady start, but the loss of a couple of quick wickets bought the newly promoted Couper (40) to the crease at number four, where he play his best innings for the club, punctuated with some classy drives and pulls. A typical Macquarie mini collapse saw us in a little trouble, but McVey (30 not out) and Savage (53 not out) put on a fantastic unbroken 80 run partnership to see us home with 4 overs to spare. Our first win on tour was celebrated long into the night, as weary bodies prepared themselves for our third match in three days the following day.

v Mumbai U-19s 184 lost to Mumbai U-19s 6 for 295

Our *worst* performance on tour. One or two pints too many the night before, some sore and injured bodies, along with playing against a young and enthusiastic team selected from one of the largest cities in the world meant things were never going to be easy. The Indians came out swinging from the first ball on a small ground. Only Smith (5/34) made any impression on the opposition line-up, with a great spell of bowling. The rest of the bowlers all took a hammering as we were left with a target of 296 at close to six and a half runs per over to chase. In reply, the Indians employed some very negative and disappointing tactics in defending their huge total. Once any of our batsmen looked like playing a few shots, they immediately pushed the field back to the fence. This, along with a couple of their spin bowlers who should have been re-classed as 'spin-pitchers' given their bent elbows, meant over-hauling the target was always going to be difficult. Savage (35) and Schaafsma (34) both played some great shots, while Edwards (26) hit the ball well. Ford (20) played his best innings on tour, but in the end, we were dismissed for a disappointing 184 off 34 overs.

v Stretford Cricket Club 236 lost to Stretford Cricket 6 for 241

Moving on from Leicester, we kept heading north to the city of Manchester. On a pretty field, with one of the smallest boundaries we had every seen, we were keen to improve on our last performance. Against a top quality opposition that would certainly have finished near the top of the Shires First Grade competition, we played some tremendous cricket but unfortunately went down with only 2 balls to spare. Batting first, Edwards (68) cashed in, smashing the ball to all parts of the ground and beyond, in an innings that saw him belt 23 runs off one over. Kent (40) batted well, with his score including a cut shot of their professional, which went over the point boundary for 6. Smith (36) and Schaafsma (35) also contributed with valuable knocks. Set 236 off 45 overs, Hale and Gasser both bowled a terrific first spell. Gasser (1/38) struck the first blow and after 10 overs we were on top, having them 1-31. Stretford began to accelerate, but the bowling was still good and wickets fell at regular intervals. McVey (1/13) and Edwards (1/18) kept things tight, while picking up a valuable wicket each. It was then down to the last over where they needed 7 to win. Unfortunately, they then needed 1 run off 5 balls, which they achieved. Despite the loss, we played extremely well against a top team and certainly, the boys should be proud of their effort. While we might have lost the cricket, we won the post-match drinking battle, with victory in both *Stumps* and the *Boat Race*!

v Ramsbottom Cricket Club

No play due to rain. There can be little doubt that *Michael Clarke* (The Aussie Ramsbottom professional) owes his place in the current Australian squad to this washout. Selected (along with Mark Higgs) to play in this match, his confidence would certainly have been shattered after coming up against the might of MUCC!!

v Kiveton Park Colliery Cricket Club 6 for 235 defeated Kiveton Park Colliery 205

Leaving Manchester, we headed to Yorkshire and the North of England to play against former MUCC import, James (Radders) Radfield's team. On a damp English 'sticky' wicket, we were sent into bat. In the innings of the tour, Savage (148 not out) then proceeded to smash the bowling to all sections of park. With cries of 'battered Sav' echoing through the moors, Sav brought up his hundred and then proceeded to pile on more runs, finishing with 22 boundaries in a totally dominant display. Edwards (29), Schaafsma (20), and McVey (15) offered great support, but the day certainly belonged to Sav. With the pitch drying out, we knew we had to bowl well to walk away with our second victory on tour. Couper (2/44) and Hale once again bowled well, with Haley unlucky not to get a bag-full of wickets. Schaafsma (1/22) was bought on first change- perhaps because he had dazzled ladies on this tour, we expected him to dazzle the batsmen. He did dazzle with three of his balls being hit on to the distant train track, but he did pick up a valuable wicket. All of the bowlers kept it tight, with David "Terry Alderman" Smith (4/18) again being the pick. Edwards (1/9) and Ford (1/20) bowled well as we worked towards wrapping up a victory. Gasser (1/27), finished things off nicely when Schaafs took a skier to win the match. Our second victory in what turned out to be our final match was a fantastic way to end an unforgettable tour.

v Watsonian Cricket Club

No play due to rain. In the beautiful city of Edinburgh, our tour ended as it started, with a wash out. The players bade each other farewell as we went our own way to spread the gospel of MUCC across Europe, the United States and other far-flung places, before making our way back home to Australia.

UK TOUR PHOTO'S



UK TOUR STATISTICS JULY 2002

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
C. Savage	7	7	2	148x	299	59.80	5
C. Edwards	7	6	-	68	158	26.33	-
D. Smith	7	6	2	36	104	26.00	8
B. Kent	7	7	1	71x	144	24.00	-
S. Inston	2	2	-	28	44	22.00	1
M. Schaafsma	7	6	-	35	126	21.00	4
D. McVey	5	5	1	30x	76	19.00	3
S. Gasser	7	6	1	50	87	17.40	2
J. Ford	7	5	2	20	48	16.00	4
D. Couper	7	5	1	40	49	12.25	1
A. Hale	7	6	1	17	59	11.80	7
T. Dorrell	7	6	-	20	62	10.33	-

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best Bowling
D. Smith	55	203	15	13.53	5/34
S. Gasser	21	107	4	26.75	2/25
D. Couper	54	224	8	28.00	2/31
A. Hale	50	165	5	33.00	2/24
B. Kent	25	102	3	34.00	2/17
M. Schaafsma	3	36	1	36.00	1/22
C. Edwards	36	146	4	36.50	2/28
D. McVey	13	73	2	36.50	1/13
J. Ford	30	157	4	39.25	1/4
S. Inston	6	51	1	51.00	1/37
C. Savage	7	42	-	****	0/19
T. Dorrell	10	49	-	****	0/22

UK TOUR JULY 2002

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	C. Savage	59.80
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	C. Savage	299
<i>Highest Score</i>	C. Savage	148x vs Kiveton Park Colliery
<i>Bowling Average</i>	D. Smith	13.53
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	D. Smith	15
<i>Most Wickets in a Innings</i>	D. Smith	5/34 v Mumbai U-19's
<i>Most Catches</i>	D. Smith	8
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	236 v Stretford	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	156 v Warwick University	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	11
<i>Won 1st Innings</i>	2
<i>Lost 1st Innings</i>	5
<i>Washed-out</i>	4

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	1398	1494
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	57	49
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	24.52	30.49

HIGHEST UK TOUR PARTNERSHIPS JULY 2002

Wicket	Batsmen				Runs	Opponent
1	C. Savage	30	T. Dorrell	20	52	Warwick Uni.
2	M. Schaafsma	30	C. Edwards	10	33	St.Paul's
3	M. Schaafsma	20	C. Savage	148x	71	Kiveton Park
4	C. Edwards	29	C. Savage	148x	94	Kiveton Park
5	B. Kent	40	C. Edwards	68	76	Stretford
6	D. McVey	30x	C. Savage	53x	83x	Leicester Uni.
7	D. Smith	22	B. Kent	71x	30	Teddington
8	A. Hale	9	B. Kent	71x	28	Teddington
	S. Gasser	19	J. Ford	20	28	Mumbai U-19's
9	D. Smith	36	A. Hale	17	32	Stretford
10	A. Hale	17	J. Ford	6x	19	Stretford

CAPTAIN'S REPORT – 1ST GRADE SHIRES

The 2002-03 season was a mixture of great highs and real lows. For now, let's dwell on the highs, both individual and team. The major high of the year was the gritty determined second innings outright win against our old foe, Lindfield. The first innings saw Lindfield put on a middle of the road 163 with the best figures for Club Mac coming from its wind up clock, Greg Brown, bowling with his usual prowess by claiming 4-57 off 21. Unfortunately that was the extent of our first innings' success, the batsmen then being bundled out for a miserable 82. Things were, to say the least, grim. However some spirited talk in the shed led by none other than the aptly named David Budge, who, when I first joined the Club, thought was called Budgie because he talked so much on the field, saw Macquarie run onto the ground with a new determination and a bit of fire in the belly.

With David Webb and Tim Hopkins opening the bowling we got off to a flyer having the opposition 6-20 with Webb and Hopkins taking 3 apiece, a slight come back saw Lindfield recover to 7-64 until Greg Brown chimed in and took two quick wickets. Lindfield were comprehensively rolled for 66 with both Webb and Hopkins taking 4 each. It was now up to the batsmen to show a bit of grit and put together 149 to win. Things got off to a good start with David Knock and Seamus Ross showing the determination needed by providing a 30 run opening partnership. A great partnership between Seamus and Tim Clough saw Club Mac onto 85 with the two showing their potential and class. Things got slightly shaky in the mid section of the innings but as usual David Webb put his hand up and helped steer the team to victory with a fine (23). The remaining runs were left up to Dave Budge and Tim Hopkins, who hit the winning runs with a lovely 4. Overall, this was a gutsy team effort that showed that when we actually applied ourselves to the task we could knock over any team in the competition.

Over the season there were some great individual performances. None better than the deserving Gwilliam Shield winner Brendan Rounds who showed throughout the season that he was a class batsman who can play some fantastic innings, culminating in his (69) versus the eventual competition winners, Strathfield. As usual Dave Webb showed the boys how the game should be played, producing some great fast bowling and, when needed, some great batting. Special congratulations to Dave on his 400th wicket for the Club, most, if not all, have been taken in 1st Grade. Two of the younger members of the team Tim Clough and Tim Hopkins also put their hands up with some excellent performances during the season. Hopper showed that when he wants he can produce some genuine and accurate pace and I'm sure we are all looking forward to seeing him knock over as many batsmen as possible next season. Tim Clough showed that he is a class act in some tremendous innings for the Club especially his (70) versus South Sydney and his (43) against Lindfield. Unfortunately, work called Tim away half way through the season and stopped him amassing more runs. Hopefully we will see him back next season. Ben Suthanther, whilst not playing the whole season, proved that his batting is also up to standard with some fine displays throughout the season. The Club would also love to see him really fire as our First Grade spinner.

Seamus Ross proved that he is the class fieldsman of the entire club and I think deserves the nickname of 'Freak'. He also showed that when his patience is on song he is probably the best bat in the Club. Steve Moran, while not able to play for most of the season due to work commitments, is a potential match-winner in the opening spot, and produced the team's only century of the season versus Epping at home, with some powerful stroke play. Dave Budge, as usual, toiled away and accumulated the most

wickets taken for the team. His talking, both on and off the field, except for the occasional outburst, was inspirational. As mentioned earlier Greg Brown is the Club's wind up clock, just wind him up point him at the cease and he'll bowl all day, and if your not careful you'll need a crowbar to get the ball out of his hands.

It was also good to see some of the younger members of the Club have a go in First Grade with Chris Ying, Matt Greenwood and Andrew Gissing making their First Grade debuts and showing the enthusiasm needed to play First Grade. Thanks to all those who played in First Grade including Dave Knock, Anthony Hale, Clyne Fernandes, Brett McNee and Chris Savage. To anyone I've left out my apologies.

Overall it was a disappointing season, however there were enough good signs to show that the 2003-04 season should be much much better.

Peter Saliba

1st Grade Captain

MATCH REPORTS

v Warringah 88 and 8 for 175 lost to Warringah 6 for 187

The first innings was not much to talk about except for a fighting (30) from the front by Dave Knock. Warringah moved past us easily and piled on 6-187 sending us back in for a second bout. The second innings produced an improved performance with determined batting by Brendan Rounds (32) coming in a No.3 and a great hand (18 not out) by Matt Greenwood. The highlight of our second innings was Brett Kent's (58) who produced some excellent attacking shots.

v Pennant Hills 146 and 7 for 155 lost to Pennant Hills 208 and 4 for 171

Pennant Hills started off with 2-125 after 33 overs and things were looking pretty dire. Some great bowling and fielding brought the team back into contention, Pennant Hills all out for 208. Bowling highlights were Dave Budge (5-22), the old bugger still has it in him, and Tim Hopkins (3-54). We started behind the 8 ball as usual and ended up all out for 146. Highlights of the innings were Brett McNee (29), Ben Suthanther (40) and Matt Greenwood (38). Pennant Hills then batted again and made 4-171. We replied with 7-155, Ali Farhan (48), Seamus Ross (30), and Ben Suthanther (29 not out).

v Lane Cove 6 for 255 defeated Lane Cove 246

Lane Cove were sent into bat and amassed 246. Bowling highlights were Dave Webb (3-69 off 22), Brendan Rounds (3-46 off 20), and Dave Budge who parachuted in for (3-21 off 14). We started well with our best opening partnership of the year of 39. Some solid partnerships, which *if* the team was to be a contender this season, would need to be produced on a regular basis, saw us pass the score 6 down. Highlights were Ross, an exciting (64), and Suthanther (58 not out), made in true sub-continental fashion.

v Auburn 165 and 111 and lost to Auburn 9 for 357

Apart from a 93 run 8th wicket partnership between Webb (55) and Clough (36) in our first innings, nothing worth talking about.

v Roseville 7 for 224 defeated Roseville 219

We started like a house on fire, Roseville 3-19 after 7 overs. A bit of a fight-back in the lower-order then saw Roseville reach 219. Our best bowling was Budge (3-41) and Ross (3-42). We were off to a shaky start, 2-34 off 10. Ross (44) and Saliba (55) then steadied the ship putting on 80 for the 3rd wicket. Some great little cameos from Tim Clough (27), Suthanther (20), and Webb (46), who proved he hasn't "lost it", saw us pass the score with 7 overs to spare.

v Southern Districts 249 defeated Southern Districts 127

We were sent in to bat, started off well with 3-70 from 20 overs. Then came the partnership of the season thus far of 124 between McNee (75) and Rounds (70). We were 5-210 then the usual collapse and all out for 249, off 59 overs. We started well with 1-0 and then 2-10, a slight fight back 7-49 off 22 and a final mop up of the tail saw Southern Districts all out for 127. The bowling was led by Webb (4-41 off 16), Greg Brown was wound up for (4-35 off 13) and Budge took (2-9 off 7).

v South Sydney 254 lost to South Sydney 7 for 312

Lost the toss on an absolute road. Souths got off to a reasonable start and declared at 7/312 from 75 overs. To the bowlers' credit they all worked hard in the very hot conditions. Hopkins, Brown and Budge all picked up 2 wickets each. Our chase got off to a terrific start with Knocky (36) and Steve Moran (62), having a 107 opening partnership, the first hundred opening partnership in First Grade for *many, many years*. Tim Clough was the pick of the batsman with (70) and with 20 overs left, we had 6 wickets in hand and about 80 runs to win. Unfortunately, as the book would say, *Macquarie! Macquarie! Macquarie!* All out for 254. Some would say a collapse; others would say "that's Macquarie!"

v Lindfield 82 and 8 for 149 defeated Lindfield 8 for 163 and 66

We started off well with Lindfield 4-57 off 25. A steady flow of wickets saw Lindfield declare at 9-163. The best bowling came from Brown (4-57 off 21), Budge and Rounds both collecting 2. Our batting started off as usual with 4-44 off 13. A steady flow of wickets saw us collapse for 82 with Lindfield sitting pretty, or so they thought. Enter, stage left, David Webb (4-12) and Tim Hopkins (4-14) and Lindfield collapsed all out for 66. Some great bowling and fielding saw Uni right back in it. Ross (35) and Clough (43) were doing the job and we looked good, a slight stutter, but we pulled in at 8-143.

v Holroyd-Hills 86 lost to Holroyd-Hills 4 for 87

What can I say? Ross (22) in our innings and Webb (2/13 from 7). That was about it.

v *Strathfield* 172 lost to *Strathfield* 256

We won the toss and things were looking good with *Strathfield* 3-50 after 20 overs. However a rather large partnership saw the next wicket fall at 220 in the 59th over. At this stage the captain left with a dislocated finger and things started to look up with a great fight back in the field that saw *Strathfield* all out for 256. The best of our bowling was Hopkins (4-84 off 23), Brown (3-28 off 7.3 overs) and Budge (2-37 off 13). As usual we started well with 5-36 after 20 overs. A slight fight back by Rounds (69) and Saliba (32) saw Mac Uni to 120 back but in the end the then to be premiers were too good as we could only manage 172. Highlights of the match were Hopkins' bowling and Rounds (69) in a great show of attacking batting.

v *Epping* 182 drew with *Epping* 2 for 39

We again won the toss and decided to bat. Things were looking good with the score at 4-158 after 47 overs. However an English-style collapse (or should I say a Macquarie-style collapse) saw the team all out for 182 with Moran the hero of the hour scoring (118) runs out of the total. He was well supported in the early stages of the game by Chris Ying (19) who showed some guts and determination (more of the same Yinger!!). Unfortunately the next week was washed out.

v *Georges River* 4 for 181 defeated *Georges River* 176

We won the toss and sent the opposition in on a greenish Macquarie wicket. Hopkins (5 for 38 off 17) and Webb (3 for 36 off 23) were the pick of the bowlers with Budge picking up the other 2 wickets. Great fielding saw us take all 7 chances given. Good solid batting from the top-order saw us get the runs in the 56th over. Moran (61), Ross (27), Suthanther (32) with Ying (18) and Rounds (29), brought home the 6 points.

v *Burwood* 185 lost to *Burwood* 8-280

The toss was won by *Burwood* who elected to bat. Unfortunately, we couldn't elect to bowl. *Burwood* reached 232 for the loss of only 3 wickets by the 42nd over. A few quick wickets saw *Burwood* reach 8-280 off their allotted 50 overs. Best bowling came from Budge (4-48 off 10). We started well with a hard-hitting partnership between Ross (59) and Moran (37). 77 runs came from the opening 16 overs. Unfortunately, that was the end of our fight for victory with some poor shot selection leading to the usual collapse, which left the team all out for 195. The highlight of the game was Steve Moran's forehand smash, which sent the ball and the fielder's thumb to surgery at the local hospital.

1ST GRADE SHIRES STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
S. Moran	5	5	-	118	290	58.00	-
B. Suthanther	6	7	2	58x	217	43.40	2
B.Rounds	13	17	3	70	375	26.79	9
S. Ross	11	14	-	64	357	25.50	18
T. Clough	7	10	1	70	203	22.56	4
P. Saliba	11	15	-	53	240	16.00	4
D. Webb	11	12	-	53	187	15.58	4
B. McNee	9	13	-	75	202	15.54	5
D Knock	10	14	-	36	136	9.71	3

ALSO BATTED (Less than 100 Runs)

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
A. Farhan	1	2	-	48	49	24.50	-
M. Greenwood	4	7	3	38	83	20.75	1
B. Kent	2	4	-	58	60	15.00	1
C. Ying	4	4	1	19	42	14.00	2
D. Budge	12	11	5	22	53	8.83	4
A. Hale	3	2	1	6	8	8.00	1
D. Smith	1	2	1	6x	8	8.00	-
G. Brown	6	7	2	11x	30	6.00	-
A. Gissing	4	3	1	12	12	6.00	-
C. Fernandes	6	6	-	15	27	4.50	9
J. Breden	4	5	-	12	19	3.80	2
C. Savage	1	2	-	5	5	2.50	-
T. Hopkins	10	9	3	4x	11	1.83	3
J. Pender	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	-

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Mat.	5 in Inn.	Average
D. Budge	139.2	27	504	31		1	16.26
D. Webb	165	41	437	26	-	-	16.81
G. Brown	75.3	12	271	16	-	-	16.94
T. Hopkins	129	28	484	21	-	1	23.05
B. Rounds	119.4	27	420	18	-	-	23.33

ALSO BOWLED (Less than 10 Wickets)

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Mat.	5 in Inn.	Average
D. Smith	9	3	32	1	-	-	32.00
S. Ross	29	4	150	4	-	-	37.50
M. Greenwood	17	1	82	1	-	-	82.00
A. Hale	27	6	94	1	-	-	94.00
B. Suthanther	59	7	235	1	-	-	235.00
A. Farhan	2	-	14	-	-	-	*****
A. Gissing	12	-	84	-	-	-	*****

1ST GRADE SHIRES 2002-03

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	S. Moran	58.00
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	B. Rounds	375
<i>Highest Score</i>	S. Moran	118 v Epping
<i>Bowling Average</i>	D. Budge	16.26
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	D. Budge	31
<i>Most Wickets in a Innings</i>	D. Budge	5/22 v Pennant Hills
	T. Hopkins	5/38 v Georges River
<i>Most Wickets in a Match</i>	D. Budge	7/80 v Pennant Hills
<i>Wicket Keeping</i>	S. Ross	18 catches
<i>Centuries</i>	S. Moran	118 v Epping
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	6/255 v Lane Cove	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	82 v Lindfield	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	13
<i>Won Outright</i>	1 * Lost on 1 st Innings
<i>Won 1st Innings</i>	4
<i>Drawn</i>	1
<i>Lost 1st Innings</i>	6
<i>Lost Outright</i>	1
<i>Position in Competition</i>	9th

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	2859	2894
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	150	118
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	19.06	24.52

HIGHEST "1ST GRADE" SHIRES PARTNERSHIPS 2002-03

Wicket	Batsmen				Runs	Opponent
1	S.Moran	62	D. Knock	36	107	South Sydney
2	S. Moran	118	C. Ying	19	74	Epping
3	S. Ross	44	P. Saliba	53	53	Roseville
4	S. Moran	118	B. Suthanther	17	48	Epping
5	B. Rounds	70	B. McNee	75	124	Southern Districts
6	B. Suthanther	58x	D. Webb	29	67	Lane Cove
7	B. Kent	58	M. Greenwood	18x	30	Warringah
8	D. Webb	53	T. Clough	36	93	Auburn
9	D. Webb	27	P. Saliba	13	23	Auburn
10	M. Greenwood	13	D. Smith	6x	9	Warringah

CAPTAIN'S REPORT – 2ND GRADE SHIRES

It was a tough year where there were individuals who proved themselves worthy in each game. However, we could only seem to manage to get one person to fire on each occasion. This was enough to win us a couple of games, but to be in contention at the pointy end of the season as a team you need three or four to perform each game.

I feel that everyone who played throughout the season showed that they weren't out of their depth. And looking forward to next season, we need to strive for a consistent team performance. As the Captain, I felt that there was a good vibe amongst the team, we had fun and made our Saturday afternoons enjoyable. A few more wins would only add to that enjoyment.

Some of the game commentaries that follow are a bit long, but when you have three and four innings a match there's a lot to write about. I hope to see all the guys back next year. Cheers.

Terry Dorrell

2nd Grade Captain

MATCH REPORTS

v Warringah 179 and 8 for 156 lost to Warringah 5 for 182 and 2 for 69

It was quite unusual to see the first game of the season, or for that matter any season, not rain-affected. We lost the toss and were asked to bat. Wickets fell at a steady pace throughout the innings, with only two partnerships of any stature, a 4th wicket stand to newcomer Kris Myneni and Terry Dorrell of 61 and the last wicket stand of 48 to another newcomer Bruce Taylor and Anthony Hale, which gave some substance to the batting effort. Several players got starts in the twenties but skipper Tunza was the only one who went on to post the first half-century of the season. We were all out 179. Dorrell (54), Taylor (25) and Hale (24 not out). Bowling into a howling gale which had slowly increased throughout the day, was always going to be difficult. At the end of day one the opposition were 3 for 105. Several dropped catches in the slips by the skipper didn't help. Without any rain throughout the week the pitch was only better day two. Warringah passed our score 5 down with good performances from Anthony Hale (3 for 42) and Gracie who bowled up hill into the teeth of the wind, (1 for 34). We went in determined to set the beach boys a gettable target. Everyone attempted to score quickly with Steve Rose ending up with an entertaining (62). Just under 8 runs per over was required for 19 overs, however they never even looked like having a go and the game finished with Warringah 2 for 69 with 4 overs to spare. Not enough runs and loose bowling were our downfall, as is often the case.

v Pennant Hills 206 and 3 for 125 lost to Pennant Hills 340

We won the toss and opted for the only sensible choice on a rock hard, barren strip that looked like a tolled section of the M2. The team looked different due to First Grade unavailability. A steady start by the openers Rose and Pender went to waste losing 5 wickets in the space of 60 runs. A solid partnership between Chris Ying and Kris Myneni of 96, put us back on track, 6 for 172. But in the true Macquarie tradition we spoiled the chance of a big score, all out for 206 with Hale and Taylor putting on 25 for the last wicket. We had about two thirds of the runs we needed on the flat Pennant Hills' wicket. The Penno openers carved up our medium-pacers and shattered the new ball. Spin was employed for the last 6 overs of the day with immediate results, Andrew Gissing taking 2 wickets in his three overs. Pennant Hills 2 for 102 at the end of the day. The Pennant Hills batsmen were reaching into their pockets and queuing to get out to the middle, but we were always looking down the barrel. We were about 150 runs short of what we needed and the opposition had knocked off half those we did have before the close last week. They passed us 4 down. They continued on and the Second Grade lads ground it out. All put in a hard day at the office. We kept our heads up and best of all continued to have fun. They were all out at tea for 340. I could bore you with all the details and take you through each individual wicket. However, I shall restrain myself and give you the bare essentials. Dorrell (5 for 92 off 21), Gissing (3 for 51 off 13), Hale (2 for 75 off 18), Taylor (0 for 59 off 14), Pender (0 for 15 off 3) and Breden (0 for 26 off 8). We were sent in with a deficit of 134 with 33 overs to face. We lost 3 wickets getting to 125 in 26 overs when the game was called to a halt. Rose (16) Savage (5) Pender (30) and not outs were Breden (24) and Dorrell (42). Hopefully we would learn from this loss, putting a higher price on our wickets and our bowlers developing patience, realising that wickets come from bowling a tighter line, letting the batsmen make the mistakes.

v Lane Cove 33 and 207 lost to Lane Cove 219 and 1 for 22

The toss was lost and the opposition skipper had no hesitation sending us in, on what could only be described as a green top. Admittedly, I think we talked ourselves into believing the wicket was worse than what it was. All out for 33 sums it up. The worst routing I have ever been involved in. We started off poorly, Hale bowled a tight line but the pressure wasn't applied at the other end. Despite the wayward bowling we managed to dismiss the first 5 for 50. But from there on the gods were on the side of the opposition's 6 & 7. They played and missed at balls that we managed to snick through to the slips cordon. Balls shaved the stumps and catches went over our heads or just fell short. They displayed a considerable lack of natural ability but both remained not out at the end of the day, despite all of our frustrating attempts to oust them. At the end of day one they were 5 for 173, a lead of 140. Week 2 they continued and added an extra 46 runs for the loss of 5 wickets in 8 overs. They threw the bat at everything, but our bowling was equal to the task on this occasion. The last wicket fell with a lead of 186. A solid opening partnership saw the first wicket fall at 37. Unfortunately we continued to lose wickets in quick succession. The highlight of the innings was Chris Savage's (85) under tough conditions. A mini collapse around 110 saw the fall of 4 wickets and another at 187 saw the last 4 wickets fall with only the addition of 20 runs. This left an equation of 21 runs in 6 overs. Hale started on the right track with a wicket maiden to give us some hope of restoring some pride. However after the next over the game was all but over with the Lane Cove No.3 scoring 21 off it.

v Auburn 68 and 192 lost to Auburn 297

Auburn won the toss and elected to bat. Another wayward start from the bowlers saw Auburn get off to a flyer, losing their first wicket at 94. A great spell of line and length bowling from Smith (5 for 78) and Dorrell (the latter off the long run with his peppy fast/mediums for the first time in his life) pegged the scoring back, and got us back into the game at 6 for 171. However, we let it slip with the last 4 wickets providing 126 runs. The introduction of Andrew Gissing (3 for 57) mopped up the tail. Auburn all out for 297. With only 14 overs to face before the end of the day's play a reduction of 30 runs with the loss of no wickets would have got us back into the box seat. However, that was not to be. At the end of the day we had lost 5 wickets with the addition of only 23 runs. Auburn were well and truly on top. Smith and Kent put up a solid start doubling the score, but patience on the opposition's behalf paid off with the rest of the tail wrapped up with only 68 runs on the board. We were sent in again and the year's pattern continued as we lost wickets in quick succession. Six of the top 8 got starts but no one scored over 40 runs. Kris Myneni nursed the tail for the last 18 overs only to see all his best efforts disintegrate only 8 balls short of the end of play.

v Roseville 4 for 82 defeated Roseville 81

One could be forgiven for assuming that there may have been some form of Curators' conference up on the Gold Coast coinciding with "Schoolies Week", which would explain the unpreparedness of the Roseville decks. Either that or it was annual holidays or greenkeepers' picnic day, because both the second and first grade decks had seen very little preparation throughout the week. Luckily we won the toss and asked the opposition to bat. We had what I would consider our strongest side of the year, both in bowling and batting. I wasn't going to let the old Warhorse (G. Brown-Brownie) to go under bowled. It has been brought to my attention that he's called the young fella or nipper in the Masters' circles he's been hanging with. The track, as it turned out, was difficult to bat on, but not impossible. The shoe was on the other foot for a change and the Roseville batters seemed to read more into the pitch than there was. A solid start saw the score at 2 for 43 after 12 overs, with Brown, bowling with the ball on a string and Hale finding the edges regularly. The game was turned on its head with the introduction of James Jordan into the attack. He took a wicket in each of his first five overs. This combining with Brown (3 for 24) and Smith (1 for 19) at the other end, ripped the heart out of the Roseville order. A scratchy 17 run last wicket stand took the score to 81 before Jordan took his 6th wicket caught and bowled to finish with the outstanding figures of (9 overs, 4 maidens, 1 wide, 2 no-balls, 6 for 11). We started off in the usual Macquarie fashion losing Rose and Savage with only 9 runs on the board. Dorrell started very shakily and Kent at the other end, just tried to stay around to see the new ball off. With the increasing time out in the middle the batting became steadier and the runs started to mount. Kent (10) fell with the score on 29 and Moran (9) showed some glimpses of what he's capable of. But at 4 for 46 there was still some work to do. Chris Ying took the brunt of the nasty deliveries while Dorrell remained up the other end happy in the belief that no risky singles would be taken in such a tight game. In the meantime Ying ducked and weaved, taking the occasional blow for the team. We passed them 4 down in the 29th over Dorrell (39 not out) and Ying (8 not out) bruised and battered. Win one for the season and all were very very happy.

v *Southern Districts* 141 and 9 for 125 defeated *Southern Districts* 104 and 8 for 222

Dave Smith took on the responsibilities of leading the side this game, with yours truly having a wedding to attend. Smithy won the toss and asked the opposition to bat. A good opening spell from Smith and Hale saw the opposition top-order back in the pavilion for only 30 runs. The next 5 wickets proved a little hard to secure than the first five. Enter James Jordan who combined with Martin Payne to wrap up the remaining batsmen. Jordan (4 for 20), Hale (3 for 21), Smith (2 for 26) and Payne (1 for 2). With the job only half done the Macquarie boys started the task of securing first innings points. True to form we struggled all the way and at 5 wickets down for 37 runs we were only marginally in front. Partnerships between Smith and Myneni, Smith and Payne and Payne and Hale took us past the target. The last 3 wickets gave us a first innings lead of 37. Rolling the opposition was not going to be as easy the second time around particularly when we dropped catches at regular intervals. At 8 for 222 the opposition declared with a lead of 186 with 34 overs remaining. Again we struggled and the further the day went on the more it looked like that we might not manage to survive. Anthony Hale went in a No.3, and was the only one to offer any resistance and was the 8th wicket down for a well compiled (50). Jordan and Payne survived the last 5 overs until the last ball when Jordan was out caught behind. We scraped in by the skin of our teeth, Smithy all too keen to let me know about his one-from-one effort.

v *South Sydney* 9 for 183 lost to *South Sydney* 218

Another win with the coin and Souths were sent in to bat. Early success from Hale and Gracie saw the opposition 5 for 56 after 15 overs. Smith went down with a broken hand within the first 10 overs, while Jordan was also crook and struggled most of the first session. Two left-handers came together in the middle-order and they went about carving us up. They didn't play a false shot, and they ran brilliantly and the score mounted. In 26 overs they put on 141 runs. Gracie stepped up to the plate and after tea we changed things around. We wrapped up the last 5 wickets in 7 overs, South Sydney all out for 216 in 49 overs, with Dave Gracie bagging (6 for 57). But by this time we were two players down, Smith with his chalky hand and Jordan with a dose of gastro. We started in a solid manner but every time we looked like getting on top we lost a wicket. At the end of the day we finished at 5 for 88, Anthony Hale and Brett Kent still at the crease. Kent fell in the second over which gave Souths the upper hand. Gracie and Hale put on 45 but just as things were getting back on track we lost another wicket. Hale continued his good form frustrating the opposition bowlers continually adding to his total. The pressure was mounting for Smithy to don the whites for an effort of which legends are made. However that wasn't to be with the fall of Hale for (47) our 9th wicket fell two overs later, 37 short of the target.

v *Lindfield* 260 defeated *Lindfield* 141 and 2 for 63

Another toss won and we sent Lindfield in. Early success again from Hale and Gracie saw the opposition at 6 for 69. The 6th wicket partnership saw the addition of 53 runs. We managed to wrap the tail up after tea the last four wickets producing only 9 runs. Lindfield all out 141, Gracie (4 for 39), Hale (3 for 42) and Dorrell (2 for 19). A shaky start saw us lose 3 quick wickets, Ying and Dorrell steadied things with a 54 run partnership. We ended the day at 5 for 94. The start of the second week saw record temperatures and we were glad that we were batting. Each of the remaining five batters got away to starts and we added 148 runs. Anthony Hale with another solid

(45) and David Binns a hard-hitting (31). This gave us a lead of 119 with 46 overs remaining. Despite the heat, we would have been foolish not to try for the outright. We took two quick wickets but that was all that we could manage under the conditions. The game was called off.

v Holroyd-Hills 133 lost to Holroyd-Hills 235

We arrived at the ground in dribs and drabs and therefore had very little preparation before we started. The toss, and to no surprise they elected to bat. Hale and Gracie got us off to a great start, Gracie picking up two quick wickets to have Holroyd at 2 for 10 after 6. They consolidated from here and didn't lose another wicket until myself and Bruce Taylor took over the bowling duties from the openers. This had immediate success and shortly after this, Taylor took No 4 after copping a few Monty "specials" over the canal into the Wenty Leagues' carpark. A 100 run partnership helped rebuild the Holroyd innings, with expensive last overs from yours truly and Taylor. Gissing and Pender bowled tightly going for about 5 runs an over and eventually took a wicket each. Hale and Gracie were brought back for happy hour and wrapped up the tail for what appeared to be a modest 232 on Monty Bennett. Gracie (4 for 32 off 9.5), Hale (1 for 32 off 9), Dorrell (1 for 26 off 7), Gissing (1 for 43 off 9), Pender (1 for 50 off 9) and Taylor (1 for 41 off 5). A run-rate of just over 4.5 an over. Tight bowling from the Holroyd opening pair saw us bogged down, we lost Rose in the 5th over with only 3 runs posted. Pender fell in the 14th with the score on 26. At this stage, we were only 6 runs behind on comparison, however chasing an ever-increasing equation is considerably harder. A steady fall of wickets made our task next to impossible. Not one of us got into the 20s and a 20 run partnership was about the most we could manage. Macquarie all out 133, 100 runs short of our target. This was a disappointing end to a game where the result should have been much closer.

v Strathfield 125 and 73 lost to Strathfield 205

Coming up against the competition leaders with an under-strength side was not going to be easy. But we got off to possibly the best start we could ask for under the conditions. Strathfield won the toss and sent us in. A patient start from Steve Rose and James Pender saw our first wicket fall with the score on 25, this soaked up 14 overs and showed us the first and second change bowlers. There wasn't anyone with any genuine pace in the Strathfield attack but they compensated for this with lots of movement off the wicket. The outfield was extremely slow and with a ring field, difficult to penetrate. We struggled to put together productive partnerships and lost wickets at regular intervals, usually just as it seemed that we were getting the upper hand. At tea we were 3 for 82 and you would think after 46 overs we were still on an even footing. This was turned around in the first over after tea, which saw the fall of Myneni and Fernandes, and from there on in it only got *ugly*. Only a 36 run partnership between Hale and Dorrell saved us from a score below 100. Hale was out for (17) with the score on 119. We could only manage 6 runs for the last 3 wickets. Tunza finished on (41) even though he was out there for 45 overs. This gives some indication as to how tight the bowling was. Macquarie were all out 125 after 71 overs. We had 12 overs at the opposition top order and Hale bowled beautifully taking (1 for 3) off his 6. Taylor and Dorrell supported him well but were unable to catch the edge. Strathfield ended up at 1 for 12 with a lot of work to be done next week. You could imagine the sinking feeling in my heart as I wandered down to put the covers on, on Friday night. The grass cut, pitch shaved and the colour of straw, the only thing that was missing from my days in the under 10s was the boundaries weren't in an extra 20 yards. However, you learn to play with the deck we're dealt and about 30 minutes before the start of play along rocks an Umpire. This

bought a smile to all those wearing a green and gold cap. Hale took a wicket from the 4th ball of the day and that put a little spring into our step. But that was the only joy we were to have for some time. The opposition batters put their heads down and on a great pitch that was all you had to do. Spin was introduced and achieved immediate results. Bruce Taylor fired up and between the two they took care of the middle order and the tail. Strathfield were all out 205 a lead of 80 runs with still 48 overs remaining in the day. A simple task, you would think, of achieving the 80 runs or batting out the 48 overs. But that was not to be. James Pender copped the harshest decision of the day, given out off his pads caught behind. A sorry procession of wickets from there on saw us give the opposition an extra 4 points they didn't really deserve, the umpiring only contributing to the first and last wickets. Fernandes was *unlucky* to be out LBW to a ball, that to *everybody* watching, was clearly too high. We could only manage to compile 73 runs off 46.1 overs. A very disappointing total against a bowling attack that was steady, tight and cunning, rather than fast and fiery.

v Epping 285 drew with Epping 0 for 14

If one had a look at the team sheet, they could be forgiven for thinking that they were back in the mid 80s, with the likes of Hort, Mahoney and McVey, such was the side that took the field against our Epping neighbours. I won the toss and elected to bat on an absolute "belter". A solid start of 58 between Rose and Pender then 4 quick wickets saw us behind the eight ball at 4 for 83. Good steady partnerships throughout the afternoon added to our mounting tally. Dave Gracie took his angry pills at the tea interval and came out of the stalls blazing, finishing up just 11 runs short of his first ton. The old-timers all contributed and we posted a quite respectable 285. We had three overs at the opposition without any success. Week two was washed out.

v Georges River 6 for 134 and 9 for 104 defeated Georges River 102 and 226

By the time we were about to take the field we had a full team, not the ideal preparation but at this stage of the year I was happy to have the full complement including several guys up from 4s. I lost the toss and to no surprise they elected to bat on what looked like the pitch of the year. Brown and Taylor opened the bowling and after one over from each it was obvious that they were bowling from the wrong end. We needed a stopgap to facilitate the change of ends. Never being one to shy away from a challenge I volunteered myself for the task, it is noted here that I didn't really ask for a show of hands. The rest, so they say, is history. Three wickets in the one over broke the back of the opposition top-order. Taylor chipped in at the other end and it was a while before Brownie got his hands on the ball. When he did, he made the most of his opportunity. Georges River all out for 102, Brown 4, Dorrell 4 and Taylor 2. A shaky start saw us lose two wicket wickets, and then a nasty couple of overs took us in to tea. After tea a good partnership between Keiran Mahony and myself erased much of the deficit. We took the score through to the end of the day with a lead of 30 with 4 wickets still in hand. A declaration at the start of play and Georges River were back in. We weren't going to roll them as easy the second time around and at tea they declared 7 for 226 which left us with a target of 195 off 43 overs. We lost an early wicket at 15 but then a great partnership between Rose and Mahony got us back on track at 2 for 71 off 17. It just got *ugly* from there and in the end we were looking down the barrel of any outright defeat. Phil Erskine up from 4s stood up to be counted. He came in at the fall of the 5th wicket 23 overs remaining. He only made (12) but was under constant pressure and a barrage of verbal abuse from the opposition. He was joined by McVey at the fall of the 9th still with 11 overs

remaining. To say things where a little *tense* would be a gross understatement. McVey was out on the second last ball of the match leaving Taylor to face one of the most important and possibly the shortest innings of his life. He survived and we skulked away with the six points.

v *Burwood* 87 lost to Burwood 3 for 89

We lost the toss and were sent into bat on a heavy dew-laden morning. We struggled to penetrate the ring field. Tight bowling also restricted our opportunities. It took us 48 overs before we were put out of our misery. Sundries were the highest score, and the highest score off the bat was 12. Only four players reached double figures. They were a classy bowling outfit that showed in our score. It took them only 26 overs to put us to the sword, showing that they were also a top batting outfit and fit to be in second position on the ladder at that stage of the competition.

2ND GRADE SHIRES STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
A. Hale	9	12	4	50	252	31.50	6
T. Dorrell	12	18	2	54	411	25.69	12
D Gracie	8	11	1	89	213	21.30	5
S Rose	12	19	-	62	365	19.21	4
K Myneni	8	12	1	67	178	16.18	-
C. Ying	7	10	1	29	128	14.22	11+1stp.
C. Savage	6	10	-	85	134	13.40	2
J. Pender	6	12	-	30	113	9.42	1

ALSO BATTED (Less than 100 Runs)

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
D. Binns	1	1	-	31	31	31.00	1
M. Payne	1	2	1	17	27	27.00	1
J. Breden	2	3	1	24x	46	23.00	2
B. Hort	1	1	-	18	18	18.00	-
A. Mahoney	1	1	-	15	15	15.00	-
S. Moran	2	3	-	33	44	14.67	4
P. Clift	2	2	-	18	28	14.00	-
D. McVey	3	5	2	19x	39	13.00	-
M. Fairlie	1	1	-	12	12	12.00	-
K. Mahony	4	6	-	35	70	11.67	2
B. Taylor	8	11	5	25	66	11.00	2
W. Folkard	1	1	-	11	11	11.00	-
B. Kent	6	9	-	34	93	10.33	3
D. Smith	4	4	-	23	40	10.00	2
R. McIntyre	4	6	2	18	40	10.00	-
C. Edwards	1	2	-	14	18	9.00	-
P. Erskine	2	3	1	12x	18	9.00	-
J. Jordan	4	5	2	11x	26	8.67	3
A. Gissing	5	7	1	23x	47	7.83	2
C. Fernandes	5	6	-	23	45	7.50	9+1stp.
A. Chandler	2	3	-	15	20	6.67	1
D. Knock	3	4	-	7	24	6.00	-
M. Greenwood	3	5	-	12	22	4.40	1
G. Scott	2	3	-	2	4	1.33	4+1stp.
P. McInnes	2	3	1	1	1	0.50	1
R. Cann	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	-
G. Brown	2	1	-	0	0	0.00	2

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Mat.	5 in Inn.	Average
D. Gracie	62.3	18	170	16	-	1	10.63
J. Jordan	44	11	159	12	-	1	13.25
G. Brown	44.3	5	153	11	-	-	13.91
A. Hale	157	31	470	31	-	1	15.16
T. Dorrell	109.2	13	430	16	-	1	26.88

ALSO BOWLED (Less than 10 Wickets)

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Mat.	5 in Inn.	Average
W. Folkard	2.3	-	12	1	-	-	12.00
D. Binns	2	-	14	1	-	-	14.00
D. Smith	31	2	141	9	-	1	15.67
R. McIntyre	15	-	107	5	-	1	21.40
M. Payne	9	2	28	1	-	-	28.00
A. Gissing	43	1	178	6	-	-	29.67
J. Pender	26.3	4	119	4	-	-	29.75
P. Clift	9	1	45	1	-	-	45.00
B. Taylor	93	12	407	9	-	-	45.22
P. McInnes	14	1	56	1	-	-	56.00
M. Greenwood	23	4	121	2	-	-	60.50
C. Edwards	1	-	8		-	-	*****
B. Kent	4	-	17		-	-	*****
M. Fairlie	14	7	20		-	-	*****
D. McVey	2	1	20		-	-	*****
R. Cann	6	1	26	-	-	-	*****

2ND GRADE SHIRES 2002-03

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	A. Hale	31.50
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	T. Dorrell	411
<i>Highest Score</i>	D. Gracie	89 v Epping
<i>Bowling Average</i>	D. Gracie	10.63
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	A. Hale	31
<i>Most Wickets in an Innings</i>	J. Jordan	6/11 v Roseville
	A. Hale	6/53 v Lane Cove
	D. Gracie	6/57 v South Sydney
<i>Most Wickets in a Match</i>	A. Hale	7/54 v Lane Cove
<i>Wicket Keeping</i>	C. Ying	11 catches + 1 stp.
<i>Centuries</i>	-	
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	285 v Epping	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	33 v Lane Cove	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	13
<i>Won Outright</i>	-
<i>Won 1st Innings</i>	4
<i>Drawn</i>	1
<i>Lost 1st Innings</i>	6
<i>Lost Outright</i>	2
<i>Position in Competition</i>	10th

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	2787	2748
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	175	127
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	15.92	21.63

HIGHEST "2ND GRADE" SHIRES PARTNERSHIPS 2002-03

Wicket	Batsmen			Runs	Opponent	
1	J. Pender	10	S. Rose	49	58	Epping
2	S. Rose	40	K. Mahony	24	56	Georges River
3	T. Dorrell	40	K. Mahony	35	66	Georges River
4	T. Dorrell	54	K. Myneni	15	61	Warringah
5	B. Kent	34	S. Moran	33	59	Auburn
6	D. Gracie	89	B. Hort	18	87	Epping
7	C. Savage	85	C. Ying	29	68	Lane Cove
8	A. Hale	45	D. Binns	31	57	Lindfield
9	A. Hale	10x	B. Taylor	10x	20x	Warringah
10	A. Hale	24x	B. Taylor	25	48	Warringah

CAPTAIN'S REPORT – 3RD GRADE SHIRES

The 2002-2003 season was a very successful and enjoyable one for the Third Grade team. We finished second in the minor premiership, ending the regular season very strongly, with five wins and a draw in the last six rounds, and only losing two games throughout the season. However, in exciting and tight games, we lost both the qualifying final and the semi-final, to be knocked out of premiership contention. At the time, this was bitterly disappointing, but now that a few months have passed, it is easier to reflect on how successful and enjoyable our season really was. Indeed, in 23 seasons of senior cricket, it was one of the most enjoyable I've ever been involved in, and I know, the rest of the team felt the same way. Not only was it great to be part of a winning outfit, but also our camaraderie and mateship, perhaps one of the most important aspects of our cricketing lives, was second to none!

As to specific details about the season, there are several aspects that are worthy of note. The lower grades of the club traditionally struggle with a lack of stability as players move up and down grades due to unavailability, injury and form. This year was no exception, and in fact, the consensus among the selectors was that it was even worse than normal. Thus on quite a number of occasions, particularly early in the season, 3rd Grade took the field with what would be considered under strength sides relative to the player resources available to the club. Therefore it was tremendous to see players such as Andrew Slimmon, Ross McIntyre, Bruce Taylor, Paul McInnes, Wayne Dean, Ashley Robinson and Daniel Chandler "stepping up", and along with experienced Danny McVey, contribute to successful team performances, and certainly play a significant role in helping Third Grade reach the finals.

From a club point of view, the culture and trend of unavailabilities, particularly in the higher grades, needs to be reversed if the goal of "being one of the strongest clubs in the competition that regularly competes in finals cricket in all grades" is to be realised. To emphasise this point, it should also be noted that both Second and Fourth Grade were very adversely affected late in the season due to unavailabilities (with the Third Grade side remaining stable in preparation for the finals' series), which possibly contributed to Fourth Grade missing a finals' spot, and to Second Grade suffering some morale-sapping losses.

Focusing once again on the Third Grade season, the team hardly had an easy game, and there was rarely a dull moment! Games against Warringah, Auburn, Southern Districts, South Sydney, Lindfield, Strathfield and Burwood all contained memorable events and outcomes, which can be read about in the match summaries. Likewise, the qualifying final against Lindfield and the semi final against South Sydney, were indeed tense, hard fought and memorable games, and are fully described in the match summaries. I'm sure the number of "quality" games that were played, and the fact that we came out on top on most occasions, was a significant factor in the high level of enjoyment derived from the season. And despite losing in the finals, playing in them was a great experience, and one I'm sure all players are keen to experience again soon. What definitely added value to our enjoyment, was the way we played our cricket throughout the season. We played good cricket, and in the right spirit! Generally we focused on doing the little things well, getting the basics right, and the bigger picture started to fall into place. We strove to maintain our composure, to maintain pressure on the opposition, and to fight out each match to the end. Ultimately, we increased our belief in each other and ourselves as cricketers, and we certainly developed the winning habit.

What was also pleasing indeed, was to see several players significantly improve their games throughout the season. Undoubtedly, our MVP, Paul Clift, improved his leg spin bowling with better flight, line, length, patience and field settings. He has a

positive, even aggressive approach to his cricket, which will definitely assist him. This reflects not only in his bowling, but also in his batting, which includes the capacity for clean hitting. With the right mentoring and application, Paul is certainly on the way up. Another making big strides forward was Marty Payne. Marty's cricket matured significantly, displaying far more discipline with his conduct, and his line and length when bowling. Marty also played some focused, positive and smart innings in difficult circumstances. Consistently good performances should be Marty's primary goal now.

It could be said we had a talented side, and indeed we did, although for some, not so youthful anymore. We were fortunate enough to have Steve O'Reilly return to the side mid-season after quite a few years working overseas. Steve displayed his class and consistency with the bat, and contributed significantly. He also picked up some nice takes in the slips cordon. We were also fortunate to have Steve Gasser, who missed a large part of the season for personal reasons. Steve is a naturally gifted player, whether it is with the bat, ball, or in the field, and with regular availability, he will play in the higher grades. Another "talent" was the old fox, Warrick Folkard, who continued to maintain his enthusiasm and youthful exuberance, and his bowling, particularly late in the season, was first rate and a big weapon for us. Another of our big guns was "President" Craig Edwards, who time and again chipped in with important wickets, "hot snares", and game changing innings. His innings in the semi-final against South Sydney was a magnificent effort that all but got us over the line.

There was certainly plenty of other talent in the side. Mark Fairlie, in his first season for the club, opened the bowling for us and generally bowled tight line and length, and possibly had the best economy rate in the club. However, the wickets didn't come and his figures don't do his bowling justice. Nevertheless, he is definitely a young player on the way up. Adam Chandler was also in his first season for the club, and he showed a very impressive temperament and sound technique opening the batting. He also displayed athletic and high quality fielding skills. Unfortunately, Adam became sick in the second half of the season and was not able to continue playing. With a "vacancy" opening the batting, Chris Savage returned to Third Grade, from Second Grade, to take on the job. Chris certainly has a lot of natural ability and determination, and although he prefers to bat high in the order, it's probably not his ideal spot. Chris had some good innings, most notably in the qualifying final against Lindfield, but would be a little disappointed with his consistency. Some more attention to technique and shot selection will, I'm sure, bring increased returns. Chris' fielding was a huge asset for the side.

One of the most important roles for any side is that of wicket keeper, and over the last couple of seasons this has been a problem throughout the club. Fortunately for Third Grade this season, we had two good quality keepers competing for the role, and although Ben Bradley ended up as the ultimate incumbent, Graeme Scott pushed him all the way, and in the process won the 4th Grade MVP. All season it was a difficult call for the selectors, with each keeper having different attributes and at times outstanding performances. Ben certainly did some very good things, pulling off some great catches, keeping well to the spinners, and generally being very reliable. He also contributed some important innings, not to mention his classic wit and sense of humour, which lifted the whole side through out the season. On the couple of occasions he was below his best, and a change was imminent, he came up with some very good performances, and retained his place in the side. Nevertheless, Scottie's performances and improvement may warrant a change in the "hierarchy" going into the new season. Other significant members of the side were David Smith and Matt Greenwood. Dave spent most of the season struggling with injury, and made limited appearances. Injuries included his back, hand and groin. When he did play, his effectiveness was often limited by his condition, although he was able to make big impacts in several games with both bat and ball. After Christmas, Dave put

a big effort into getting fit and ready to play in the finals. Unfortunately, it didn't come together, with the final straw being a torn groin in the semi final pre-game warm up. Matt on the other hand spent most of the season in Second Grade, after being Third Grade's MVP the previous season. Unfortunately, Matt never really got into any good form with either the bat or ball, and this continued during his time in Third Grade. However, we are well aware he is a quality cricketer, as evidenced by his match-winning partnership with Marty Payne against Burwood.

I would have to say, that not winning the Third Grade premiership was a substantial missed opportunity. When reviewing the side we had, and comparing and contrasting our side with the other contenders, it was certainly well within our capabilities. During the finals' series, we played well below our capability against Lindfield, and slightly below our capability against Souths, and we didn't have too much luck either. However, losing the semi final by 12 runs to South Sydney, the eventual premiers, evidences how close we came. Yet a new season beckons, and so it's time to look forward, taking all the good learning experiences from this season with us.

Now for some appreciation, starting with a big thank you and congratulations to all players who played 3rd Grade this season. The side stuck together on the field and off, everyone was happy to assist before and after games with covers, afternoon teas, etc, and everyone made an effort to get to training, improve their game and bond as a team and as a club. Overall, Third Grade was a pleasure to captain! A big thank you too, to the committee and other captains for all the work that goes in to running our club. It's no small task, I can assure you! And a thank you too, to our coach Peter. We greatly appreciated having Peter around, and the extra time he spent with Third Grade at the end of the season.

I would like to finish with a final thought for everyone. There is no doubt Shires Cricket is on "the improve", the standard is getting better, and other clubs are raising the bar. In particular, I am talking about Burwood, South Sydney, Strathfield, Auburn and Warringah. In fact, a division is emerging between these clubs and the rest. It is imperative for our own enjoyment of the game, that we as a club, "step up". There is no question, success brings enjoyment! Conversely, continually losing breeds discontent. Thus all players, and in particular, the higher-grade players, need to review their commitment to their cricket and to the club. Unless we improve our availability for games, our pre-season preparation, and our overall commitment to our cricket and our club, we will continue to lag behind the leading clubs, and our enjoyment of this great game may suffer.

Mark Schaafsma
Third Grade Captain

MATCH REPORTS

v Warringah 205 and 3 for 101 lost to Warringah 170 and 4 for 138

There were lots of twists and turns in this exciting first up game. The side was somewhat under strength due to the large number of unavailabilities across the club, yet played some very good cricket to come up with first innings points against one of the traditionally strong sides. We won the toss and batted on a very good wicket at Warringah, with Adam Chandler (44) on debut, Mark Schaafsma (39), Ross McIntyre (31) and Ashley Robinson (24 not out) the leading run scorers. We had a good opening partnership of 55 from Adam and Danny McVey (23), but then lost momentum. In the end, our combination of experience and inexperience did reasonably well to get us to 205, although it was definitely a 250 run wicket. We had 15 overs at the end of day one to make an impact, and Steve Gasser (3-11) did this in a big way, with Warringah finishing 4-26 overnight. The following week, we were a bowler short with Paul McInnes succumbing to appendicitis. Yet with 10 men on the field, we consolidated to have Warringah 7-81. They were then able to put a partnership together and at 7-152, things were starting to tighten up. However, we achieved the breakthrough and were then able to wrap up their innings for 170. A great result! Steve Gasser (5-39 off 17) was the stand out bowler, with Paul Clift (2-40 off 10), Warrick Folkard (2-38 off 9) and Ross McIntyre (1-40 off 9) all providing useful contributions. We initially started our second innings with the aim of consolidating our position. Steve Gasser (54) flowed along and Adam Chandler (28 not out) batted solidly. At 3-101, with a lead of a 136, and 16 overs remaining, the captain decided the equation was appropriately balanced to warrant a declaration. Warringah took up the challenge and despite losing 3 wickets relatively quickly, they were able to keep up with the required 8.5 run rate. The bounce of the ball seemed to favour them and they finished us off in style with 44 runs coming in the last 20 balls. So a disappointing outcome, yet we had challenged ourselves and learnt in the process.

v Pennant Hills 169 and 7 for 186 lost to Pennant Hills 3 for 176

This was a home game on the Gwilliam, which batsmen usually relish. On this occasion through, the wicket was on the soft side early, and we were asked to bat first. Difficult but not unplayable, we found ourselves 4-36, and spent the rest of the day trying to get back into the game. David Smith (38) battled hard and patiently, being dismissed just as the wicket was approaching its normal hardness. After tea, Marty Payne (26), Warrick Folkard (29 not out) and Paul Clift (30) played well to get us to 169. With the wicket now a "belter", and despite some good bowling from Mark Fairlie (0-15 off 10) and Warrick Folkard (0-15 off 6), Pennant Hills moved comfortably to 0-77 off 21 overs. Day 2 presented good batting conditions from the start of play. Our bowlers bowled well, and the Pennant Hills' batsmen looked unconvincing. The runs kept coming though and they passed us three down before declaring. Pick of our bowlers were Mark Fairlie (2-34 off 15) and David Smith who was making a return to bowling after injury (1-47 off 11). We batted out the rest of the day with Steve Moran (75) smashing them, and Adam Chandler (30) and Ross McIntyre (33) spending quality time in the middle. At 4-170, we looked to have had a moral victory on the day, but unfortunately, we lost some quick wickets to finish 7-186.

v Lane Cove 8 for 334 defeated Lane Cove 184

On "boutique" Longueville, with the backward point boundary on one side of the ground 35 metres from the pitch, and the opposite boundary 80 metres, we lost the toss and were asked to field. We put in a very solid performance with the ball and backed this up with some brilliant catches by Paul McInnes, Adam Chandler and Graeme Scott. Sustained pressure enabled us to dismiss Lane Cove for 186. Pick of the bowlers was James Jordan (3-38 off 11) and David Smith (2-16 off 11). Injuries were a concern with "Scottie" wearing one in the knee and having to hand over the gloves to Steve Moran, and "old man" Craig Edwards (1-7 off 7) breaking down from the stress of his 8 step run up! We finished the day in good style at 1-48 with David Smith (24 not out) and Adam Chandler (22). The following week we continued the good work with Smithy (56) giving the short boundary a work out, and Steve Moran (53) belting the hapless Lane Cove bowlers in a whirlwind innings. Lane Cove was passed four down with Mark Schaafsma (66) stoically holding up one end. We continued to inflict pain on Lane Cove with James Jordan (25), Paul Clift (49) and Graeme Scott (50 not out) taking us to 8-344. One of the highlights was the Scott v Scott battle, an even contest as Graeme faced his Dad's bowling!

v Auburn 279 defeated Auburn 232

Again unavailabilities across the club left Third Grade under strength for this important game against last year's premiers. Winning the toss and electing to bat on one of the better strips in the competition, we made a solid start to be 2-117. Andrew Slimmon (52) was very solid on debut and was well supported by Mark Schaafsma (37). From here the wheels came off a bit as we moved to 8-203, the more substantial contributions being Ross McIntyre (25) and Warrick Folkard (20). A terrific 9th wicket partnership between Bruce Taylor (34) and Paul Clift (24) helped get us to 279, a very respectable score under the circumstances. Day 2 saw another very good batting wicket and Auburn's top-order took advantage. Our medium pacers battled hard and stuck to the task but Auburn moved to 2-140 about half an hour after tea. The introduction of Paul Clift's leggies had immediate results, and with Warrick Folkard keeping it very tight at the other end, Auburn started to find the going pretty tough. At the top of the last hour, Auburn had 16 overs to score 70 runs with 5 wickets in hand. Constant pressure from the bowlers, backed up by the fielders, including a marvellous catch at full stretch by Marty Payne, saw Auburn fall to 8-228, and with six overs remaining they shut up shop. With the batsman crowded, the pressure continued, resulting in Wick delivering the final two wickets to secure a marvellous victory. Our spin twins, Wick (4-42 off 19.1) and Clifty (3-34 off 15) certainly demonstrated their value to get us home in this game.

v Roseville 9 for 189 defeated Roseville 74

This was a one-day game played on the Sheeran Oval. The ground had been given a two-month layoff and this was reflected in the very green and grassy texture of the pitch. Batsmen from both sides discovered the *joy* of batting on a wicket with excessive bounce and seam, and on a ground with a very slow outfield! We lost the toss and were sent in. At 7-121 from 41 overs, the innings seemed to be in the balance. A fantastic dig from Marty Payne (50), supported by Paul Clift (16), saw us achieve 9-189. Pleasingly, everyone chipped in, the most significant from the top-order being Mark Schaafsma (27) and Craig Edwards (14). Our bowlers enjoyed the conditions and soon had Roseville on the ropes. Steve Gasser (2-28 off 6) made the initial breakthroughs, while Bruce Taylor (3-18 off 10) probably enjoyed his best spell of the season. Craig Edwards (3-14 off 7.4) and Marty Payne (2-11 off 5) wrapped up

the Roseville innings in style. One of the highlights was the good catching with Ben Bradley picking up three quality caught behinds, and Craig Edwards two beauties - one at first slip and one at point.

v Southern Districts 4 for 265 defeated Southern Districts 9 for 260

The first day was washed out so this game became an all day 120 over game. Southern Districts were in their first season of the competition and had been beaten outright a couple of times already. This was also our first game of the season on the Northern oval, and to our surprise, the wicket was bare and hard, very different to the soft underbelly normally on offer. In these circumstances, a game we needed to win outright and to stay in touch with the top teams became an enormous struggle to win on first innings. Southern Districts won the toss and elected to bat. We had a number of chances early but our catching let us down, allowing Southern Districts to build their innings to 1-149 at lunch. We took three quick wickets after lunch, but Southern Districts continued to meander through their innings to be 5-207 from 60. Finally, they showed some urgency and moved to 9-260 off 67 overs before declaring. The stand out bowler for us was Warrick Folkard (4-47 off 15). This left us 53 overs to score the require runs at a rate of 4.9 per over, although the opposition captain disputed the number of overs, believing it to be only 50. We started slowly but solidly, losing our first wicket in the 14th over with the score on 34. From here the pace picked up, with Mark Schaafsma (96) playing aggressively and Adam Chandler (21) supporting. At 3-122 in the 31st over, Craig Edwards (71 not out) joined Schaafs and proceeded to pulverise the Southern Districts' attack, the partnership yielding 125 runs in 17 overs at 7.3 an over. Schaafs was dismissed 4 runs short of 3 figures, bringing Ross McIntyre (14 not out) to the wicket. Ross quickly put matters to rest scoring 14 off 6 deliveries to reach the target of 261 in 48 overs, an excellent run chase in difficult circumstances.

v South Sydney 174 and 1 for 69 lost to South Sydney 7 for 179

Played at Marrickville, we won the toss and elected to bat on what looked to be a good batting deck. However, we lost early wickets to be 6-50 and spent the rest of the first day trying to get into the match. A couple of wickets were attributable to the bowlers, but we certainly aided them with some errors of judgement. Adam Chandler (20) looked good at the top of the order, and Craig Edwards (52) and Ben Bradley (45) did a great rescue job in the middle order with a fine hundred run partnership. At 6-152, Edo and Dover looked to be on top and like they could bat for the rest of the day, however some further errors of judgement saw a mini collapse, leaving us 9-153. Enter Paul McInnes (21), who produced a little four over cameo, including two very cleanly hit sixes. We were all out for 174 in 53 overs, well short of our target of batting the entire day. With 29 overs remaining, we bowled very well, picking up two early wickets to have Souths 2-21. However, Souths battled it out to reach 2-72 overnight. On day two we continued where we left off, bowling beautifully, but unable to attain a breakthrough. Mark Fairlie (1-46 off 22) beat the bat too many times to count, with one catch going down and 4 or 5 edges falling short of the slips. He was well supported by Paul McInnes (2-57 off 20). Our persistence paid off and we managed to prize the door open to have Souths 6-138, with Craig Edwards (2-17 off 9) chipping in, backed up by another brilliant Marty Payne catch, this time at mid-on. Remembering comparatively we were 6-152, we were right in the game, however, the Souths number 7, 8 and 9 displayed the most positive batting of their innings to get them home. It took Souths 71 overs to make the required 175 runs, and at no stage did they look comfortable against our attack. Upon passing us, Souths

declared, leaving us about 40 overs to bat out the day. We moved to 1-69 reasonably comfortably before calling an end to the game. Unfortunately, Souths on-field behaviour in this game warrants comment. It was offensive and blatantly intended to be distracting. It is not in the spirit of the game and certainly creates an unenjoyable and unpleasant atmosphere. While Souths seem to be standout offenders, it does appear to be spreading across the Shires competition. It should be noted that the competition organisers have put procedures in place for the reporting of poor conduct, and I advocate its use. Further, as a step to combat this trend, the competition organisers have also inaugurated a trophy for the team displaying the best sportsmanship.

v Lindfield 194 defeated Lindfield 175

With our position in the top six in the balance, this was a vital match. And although a drought was gripping NSW, we turned up at the Northern Oval on day one to find a green and very grassy wicket. We lost the toss and were duly sent in, and as expected, the wicket bounced and seamed. We then turned up on day two to field in 45 degrees, accompanied by a hot dry wind, and to find a wicket that was actually hard and flat. We were undoubtedly on the worst end of the conditions, and that was before mentioning Lindfield's understanding of the lbw rule! Third Grade put in a remarkable, gutsy, determined and courageous effort to come up with the win; one that I'm sure will be long remembered! Now for the details. At 2-9, we didn't have a good start, however, we battled it out to reach 4-133. Craig Edwards (49) led the way, supported by Mark Schaafsma (23) and Steve O'Reilly (20). Steve, aka "Phantom", was making a very welcome return to cricket after an extended period of work overseas. We then lost some quick wickets, which was further compounded when Ben Bradley (29) was hit in the chin attempting to hook a rising delivery. At 7-147, "Dover" bravely returned to the crease and commenced attacking the Lindfield bowling. He was hit in the head again, but continued on, before finally being dismissed. A champion effort which allowed us to reach 194. On day two our quicks struggled in the heat, with Bruce Taylor (1-29 off 11) and Matt Greenwood (1-34 off 10) battling to get through eight overs each on the day. Marty Payne (1-21 off 9) proved more heat resistant, and along with Craig Edwards (0-25 off 6), was on the short list for a bowling recall at the end of the day. However, it was our spin twins, Paul Clift (4-39 off 18.4) and Warrick Folkard (1-23 off 14) who produced the Herculean effort to get us home. With Lindfield at 3-103, the game was starting to slip, but with Wick bottling up one end, Paul picked up two wickets in quick succession with beautifully bowled deliveries. A further run out and a wicket to Wick saw Lindfield slump to 7-119. The heat had taken its toll, and it was a tremendous struggle to keep going. In fact, Andrew Slimmon had to leave the field after suffering dizziness and being sick. Likewise, Matt Greenwood was battling dizziness. However, everyone persisted, with Paul eventually rewarded with the last two wickets. This was a magnificent effort by the entire team, particularly on the second day, with Wick having to go back to 1982 to remember a similar day of such oppressive and dry heat!

v Holroyd-Hills 5 for 155 defeated Holroyd-Hills 154

This was a one-day 50 over a side game on the Northern oval. It was also Craig Edwards' 200th game for MUCC, the 8th player in the club's history to reach this milestone. We won the toss and sent Holroyd in on what looked to be a reasonable wicket, which should have improved as the day went on. They got off to a flyer, reaching 45 in the 9th over, before Matt Greenwood (1-22 off 6) nipped one back off the seam and made the breakthrough we needed. Marty Payne (2-22 off 6) chipped in with a couple of quick wickets, and the tide started to turn. Edo (3-26 off 10) used

all of his 200 games of experience to bowl a beautiful spell, putting the brakes on, and keeping the turnstile in motion. Paul Clift (4-33 off 7.3) entered the attack, and with his "Abdul Qadir" leggies turning sharply, completed the momentum shift, with Holroyd all out for 154, with 7 overs still available to bat. Pleasingly, our good bowling was backed up with some excellent ground fielding and catching, particularly from Marty Payne, Chris Savage and Paul Clift. We started the run chase in solid fashion with Chris Savage (24) and Steve O'Reilly (63 not out) setting us on course. At 1-66 from 21 overs, we lost 3 wickets in one over to slump to 4-66. This included our bi-centurian Edo, bowled behind his legs first ball, a fate that seems to be developing a pattern, with Wick also picking up a globe in his 300th game the previous season! With the wicket getting harder to play on, rather than easier as was expected, Phantom and Marty Payne (27) put together a match winning partnership to double our score. Marty had some luck early, but remained positive, and batted with purpose. At 5-134, Ben Bradley (10 not out) joined Phantom to steer us home. Phantom's innings, particularly in the context of a low scoring game, was a gem, notable for its discipline and class in tough conditions.

v Strathfield 217 defeated Strathfield 124

Strathfield and us were in equal 4th position on the ladder. A loss could have meant a turn around of three positions, so this was another vital game. We loss the toss and were sent in on a wicket that looked reasonable, but had variable bounce. We didn't get the start we wanted, being 2-19. However, Steve O'Reilly (32) and Steve Gasser (75), aka Castro, batted very well to put us back on course. At 3-84, Craig Edwards (21) joined Castro and they produced a very good partnership, with Castro in particular playing a range of lovely shots. We looked right on top, but then lost Edo and Castro in consecutive balls to be 5-159. We struggled to regain any momentum, being all out for 217. A disappointing finish given we were well placed to make 260 plus. We then bowled 18 overs at Strathfield, and did very well to have them 3-32 overnight. Mark Fairlie (1-12 off 8) spearheaded the attack, with Matt Greenwood picking up a run out and Paul Clift a late wicket. On day 2 we produced a brilliant bowling and fielding effort. The key was the wicket of their captain, who had three hundreds under his belt so far this season. The day started with Castro (1-27 off 13) and Mark Fairlie (2-36 off 20) being on line straight away. It was slow going as the bowlers and batsman fought it out. Then Mark drew the edge for Phantom at 3rd slip to hold on to one around his bootlaces, 4-49. The number 6 joined the captain, who was looking very composed, and they proceeded to put a partnership together. Mark continued to bowl well, particularly at the captain, drawing some false shots and finally catching the edge, but Ben Bradley was unable to hold the difficult chance, having to change direction and go low. Craig Edwards (2-23 off 6) came on and picked up the number 6, with Dover this time picking up a fantastic leg-side catch. However, the big breakthrough came when Paul Clift (3-16 off 7) bowled a corker leg break to the captain, having him caught behind, prodding forward. This was a great team wicket, with Fairlie, Castro and Greenie mounting sustained pressure on their captain, before Clifty delivered the knock out blow. From 6-102, we quickly proceeded to wrap up the tail, with Chris Savage and Marty Payne pulling in top catches. A magnificent victory!

v Epping 8 for 312 drew with Epping 0 for 7

Despite the normal thick and spongy grass cover on the Northern Oval wicket, the deck appeared to be harder than normal. So when Epping won the toss, it surprised no one, and was generally well received, that they sent us in to bat. We made a solid start, reaching 39, before losing our first wicket. Mark Schaafsma (59) and Steve O'Reilly (61) then combined for a workman like 114 run partnership, taking us to 2-

153 shortly after the tea break. Steve Gasser (54) followed up with a brisk and stylish innings. We then lost some quick wickets trying to push on, before Matt Greenwood (30) and Paul Clift (40 not out) took us past 300 in great fashion. Indeed, Clifty took 20 runs off the last over of our innings, including 2 sixes over long on, off the last two balls. Very entertaining! Epping had four overs to bat on the first evening, which they survived. Then unfortunately, with the runs on the board, the second day was a wash out. This meant that both our matches against the two bottom sides had been rain affected, while most of the other top teams in the competition had achieved outright victories against them both!

v Georges River 4 for 140 and 1 for 75 defeated Georges River 75 and 141

Another game on the Northern Oval, with the wicket featuring the soft underbelly we had come to expect as normal. Georges River won the toss and elected to bat, which agreed with our game plan. Georges River showed some early resistance, before David Smith (2-5 off 6) started the turnstile moving. With the wicket difficult to bat on, and the batsman not displaying a high degree of competence, the turnstile soon hit top gear, and Georges River were all out for 75 from 46.3 overs. Pick of our bowlers was Marty Payne (4-9 off 8). In response, David Smith (49) and Chris Savage (62) put together a very good opening partnership of 114, to give us the points on the first day. We tried to push on, which was difficult on this wicket, losing four wickets late in the day to finish at 4-140, but in a very commanding position. We declared at the start of day 2, and Georges River picked up from where they left off in their first innings, with the turnstile going full speed. After eight overs the score was 5-9 and it looked like we were heading for an early finish. Mark Fairly (3-28 off 11) had 3-2 off his first 4 overs, all impressively bowled between bat and pad. David Smith (3-8 off 9) also had one, and Marty Payne had compounded Georges River's woes, with a run out from the boundary. Finally, three of the Georges River batsmen showed some grit and determination, putting on a 52 and then 76 run partnership. Fortunately, we picked up the required wickets before too much damage could be done, leaving us 38 overs to score 75 runs for an outright victory. We did this comfortably, with David "wonder boy" Smith (34 not out) completing a very impressive match, and Steve O'Reilly (23 not out). The outright win cemented us in 3rd position with one minor round to play, which was a great relief.

v Burwood 6 for 201 defeated Burwood 9 for 199

The Third Grade team finished the regular season in great fashion by pulling off a hard fought one day win against Burwood. This moved us past Burwood to finish in 2nd position on the competition ladder. St Luke's presented a very good batting wicket, which after winning the toss; we offered Burwood first use of. We were able to maintain good pressure on them, controlling the run rate and picking up wickets along the way. After 40 overs, Burwood were 5-125, and it looked like we would be able to keep them under 175. However, they fought hard, and we were a little disappointing, they scored at 7.5 in the last 10 overs to reach 9-199. The pick of the bowlers were Steve Gasser (1-20 off 10), Marty Payne (2-25 off 9) and David Smith (1-6 off 6), while Paul Clift (3-55 off 9) picked up wickets but was below his best. Our run chase did not start well, as we lost 3 wickets in the first 10 overs to be 3-19. Steve O'Reilly (51) with Steve Gasser (21), Craig Edwards (10) and Matt Greenwood (43 not out) did a great job to steady the innings and get us to 6-125 from 37 overs, and within striking distance of the Burwood total. Marty Payne (37 not out) joined Greenie, who was 13 at the time, and they set about very positively pursuing the target. Many well-run singles were taken, and when the field closed in, the occasional shot was put through the field. With 10 overs remaining, we required 59 runs. Marty

and Greenie remained calm and focused, and kept the score board ticking, taking 10, 12, 8 and then 9 runs off the 44th, 45th, 46th and 47th overs. With our noses now in front, Marty and Greenie were able to finish off with 3 balls to spare. A superb effort!

v Lindfield 222 lost to Lindfield 8 for 223

Having finished the regular season in second position, we now hosted 5th placed Lindfield on the Sheeran Oval in a Saturday/ Sunday 200 over qualifying final. A loss or draw for Lindfield would put them out of the competition, a win or draw for us would safely see us through to the semi-finals, while a loss would leave us at the mercy of other results. The Macquarie groundsmen put in significant effort to come up with a consistent hard wicket, but despite mowing the outfield three times in the week before the game, it remained very slow. Dave Smith, who was struggling with injury, was omitted from the team. We won the toss and elected to bat. The plan was to play naturally, yet with discipline, occupy the crease, bat into the second day and ultimately build to a big total. The Lindfield bowling was very wide early, with openers Chris Savage (65) and Mark Schaafsma (15) letting a lot of balls go. Slowly the partnership started to build and at lunch we had reached 0-61, a good first session. After lunch, the partnership continued on, with Sav continuing to play shots and Schaafs remaining patient and solid. We lost our first wicket, Schaafs, in the 49th over, 1-92, and unfortunately, Sav followed immediately, 2-93. The very solid start was further undone when Steve O'Reilly (6) was dismissed cheaply, 3-102. Steve Gasser (33) and Craig Edwards (11) steadied the innings and took us to tea at 3-133. After tea, we looked to be getting on top again, but then Edo was dismissed, 4-140. Shortly after, Gass who was looking good and moving along nicely, was judged lbw to a ball that appeared to be sliding down leg side, 5-148. Matt Greenwood came and went immediately, and at 6-148, we had lost the upper hand and had a lot of work to do to bat ourselves back into a strong position. Ben Bradley (35), had a little luck early, and with Marty Payne (11), put on 42 before Marty was out, 7-190. Warrick Folkard joined Dover and we finished the day 7-203. This was not as strong a position as we would have liked, but with the outfield quite slow, three wickets still in hand, and a strong bowling line up, it was quite acceptable. At the start of day 2, we set ourselves to bat through to lunch. However, it pretty much went pear shaped as we lost 3-19 in 12 overs to be all out for 222. Wick (5) copped a pearler, while Doves and Mark Fairlie (4) were caught behind chasing balls, leaving Paul Clift (4 not out) high and dry. This left Lindfield 85 overs to score 223 to win. Although we were disappointed with how our innings turned out, having been 0-92 and ending up all out for 222, we believed we had enough runs to defend, and the bowling and fielding team to defend it. Desiring some tight bowling and early wickets to swing the momentum back our way, things did not go to plan. Mark Fairlie (0-25 off 8) and Matt Greenwood (0-20 off 4) could not really get the ball in the right spot, and Lindfield picked up 39 runs off the first 10 overs before we picked up their first wicket. Marty Payne (1-37 off 15) and Steve Gasser (1-47 off 14) came on and tightened things up considerably with good line and length bowling. However, Lindfield were looking to be aggressive and played some streaky shots to keep the score board moving, and backed this up with some aggressive running, coming back for 2s and 3s that our "older" batsman were not able to do under similar circumstances, and our "older" fieldsman could not prevent. Several telling blows occurred when we missed sharp but catchable chances. Lindfield moved to 1-100 in the 34th over. In the 39th over with the score 1-120, the captain turned to his spinners. Although results were not immediate, the run rate was slowed once again, and then in the 48th over, and after a 101 run partnership, we made the breakthrough we needed so badly, with Warrick Folkard bowling the number 3 batsman. Wick struck again shortly after to have the opener out, 3-149 from 52 overs. With the door opened a little, Warrick Folkard

(4-35 off 22) and Paul Clift (2-45 off 18) bowled beautifully to prise the door right open and have Lindfield 8-197 off 76 overs. This left Lindfield requiring 25 runs from 9 overs to win. To their credit they batted sensibly, and with Paul Clift losing his potency by not being able to maintain his line and length, we were unable to come up with the last two wickets we required. Thus Lindfield passed our score in the second last over. We certainly had enough opportunities to put Lindfield away over the course of the game, but probably suffered from a little bit of stage fright. The loss certainly hurt given how we rated Lindfield, and how the game had panned out. Fortunately, results went our way and we survived to play the minor premiers South Sydney in the semi-final the following weekend. The good thing was we knew we could play a lot better than we had.

v South Sydney 223 lost to South Sydney 235

With South Sydney undefeated throughout the season, we expected to play them in the final series and knew we would have to defeat them to win the competition. Although we had expected to meet them in the final, playing them in a semi-final probably suited us, with the weight of a competition in the balance not so prevalent in our minds. The game was played at Alan Davidson Oval, with the wicket a belter, which was great, as it meant a test of our skill level against theirs. Things did not start ideally on the Saturday morning, when David Smith, who had been working very hard over the last three months to get fit, tore his groin during the warm-up. This was a big loss, but better than it happening early in the game. We went into the game with the same eleven that took the field against Lindfield. We won the toss and sent Souths in to bat knowing we had to dismiss them and set up a target to chase. Things started well with two early wickets, and Souths 2-12. Steve Gasser (1-20 off 10) and Mark Fairlie (2-41 off 14) continued to do the job early, catching the edge of both batsman, but unfortunately we weren't able to hold on to the difficult chances. One of their batsmen was keen to play his shots and miscued several shots into vacant positions. A frustrating period of play, and Souths went to lunch 2-90. Shortly after lunch we broke through picking up the free hitting opener, who had done quite a bit of damage in making 70. We continued to apply pressure with Paul Clift (3-70 off 24) and Warrick Folkard (2-44 off 14) doing most of the bowling during the session. The battle was pretty even and at tea, Souths had moved to 6-196, with Fairlie, Clifty and Wick picking up wickets and Chris Savage a direct hit run out. Immediately after tea, Craig Edwards (1-23 off 9) achieved the second big break through with a hot caught and bowled to dismiss the biggest thorn in our side, the number 4 bat, for 90. So the door was open for us to wrap up their innings in the low 200s. Their skipper strained his leg shortly after commencing his innings and called for a runner. Of course, the quickest bloke came out to run and this certainly helped them pick up some extra runs. With the number 10 and 11 bats having not much idea, the skipper was going for his shots and they were pushing the running. They even set off for a suicide single to Sav at mid-on, who had time to run to the stumps to take the bails off. Clearly out, the umpire was confused with the runner 20 metres to the leg side, and gave the batsman not out, recalling him from the gates as he had apparently accepted his original fate. Finally, Clifty and Wick picked up the number 10 and 11 and Souths were all out for 235. The "not out" run out probably cost 20 runs. However, Souths all out for 235 in 80 overs was a great outcome. The boys had done very well with only 3 of their batsman scoring more than 11 runs! This left us 117 overs to make 236 runs. We had 17 overs to bat on Saturday evening, which unfortunately, did not start well, with Chris Savage out in the first over. Steve O'Reilly (7) and Mark Schaafsma (48) then survived a torrid period with Souths appealing for everything. With Phantom and Schaafs looking solid, an error of judgement and

some good fielding resulted in Phantom being run out in the 12th over. This brought Paul Clift to the wicket as night watchman. Paul looked solid too, but with 2 overs of the day remaining, was caught in the corridor with a tickle through to the keeper. Steve Gasser came to the wicket, and we finished the day 3-26, *and a lot of work to do*. On day 2 we needed to put partnerships together. Steve Gasser (42) and Schaafs were solid early and slowly built their partnership. Gass played some lovely shots and the situation was starting to look healthier as lunch approached. Then 15 minutes before lunch, Steve was out caught and bowled to the spinner, 4-83. We went to lunch at 4-90. After lunch, Matt Greenwood (8) played a couple of nice shots before being judged lbw, leaving us at 5-96. Craig Edwards (58) came to the wicket and again a partnership started building, which progressed reasonably until Schaafs chased a leg cutter, and was out caught at first slip, 6-120. Ben Bradley was next to bat, but was quickly judged lbw, leaving us at 7-120, and not in good shape at all. From this point on, Edo and Marty Payne (33) batted beautifully. Edo was patient with the occasional big shot, while Marty just timed the ball wonderfully and played his shots. At tea we were 7-148 requiring 88 from 33 overs in the last session. Despite Souths taking the new ball after tea, Edo and Marty continued on brilliantly, with the partnership gaining momentum, and Souths definitely feeling the heat. We reached 184 before Marty was out bowled trying to continue his counter-attack on the Souths' attack. It was a classy innings that brought us to within 50 runs of the target. Warrick Folkard (20) joined Edo and another productive partnership ensued, with Wick not only solid, but also producing some lovely shots. Both continued to display level heads as the score worked up past 200, then 210, then 215, and within 20 runs of victory. Souths were well and truly under the hammer! At 219, Wick received a jaffer, a late out-swinging ball that clipped the off stump, leaving us at 9-219, and requiring 17 runs to win. Mark Fairlie (0 not out) then came to the wicket in one of the most difficult cricket situations that can arise. However, he got behind the ball and saw out the remainder of the over. In the next over, Edo stuck a beautiful four, but on the last ball, nicked one to the keeper, trying to run the ball away for a single. So ended a wonderful innings and a brave run chase by our boys. While it was despair and disappointment on one hand, the boys quickly regained composure and displayed wonderful sportsmanship qualities, congratulating Souths, who despite their poor on-field behaviour, batted, bowled and fielded extremely well. Further, the team could be proud of the cricket they played in this game, fighting the game out to the very end, and indeed, reflecting on the whole match, were a bit unlucky not to have won.

3RD GRADE SHIRES STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
D. Smith	5	6	2	56	193	48.25	1
S. O'Reilly	8	9	2	63x	265	37.86	4
S. Gasser	8	9	1	75	299	37.78	3
S. Moran	3	4	-	75	144	36.00	3
A. Chandler	6	9	2	44	213	30.43	4
M. Schaafsma	15	18	1	96	485	28.53	5
C. Edwards	13	13	2	71x	301	27.36	11
C. Savage	8	8	-	65	183	22.88	5
P. Clift	13	10	2	49	182	22.75	6
M. Payne	12	12	1	50	232	21.09	7
R. McIntyre	5	6	1	33	105	21.00	1
M. Greenwood	7	7	1	43x	111	18.50	-
W. Folkard	14	11	4	29x	124	17.71	2
B. Bradley	11	9	1	45	130	16.25	22 + 3stp.

ALSO BATTED (Less than 100 Runs)

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
P. McInnes	3	2	1	21x	33	33.00	1
J. Jordan	1	1	-	25	25	25.00	-
B. Taylor	4	3	1	34	40	20.00	2
A. Slimmon	4	5	-	52	77	15.40	-
W. Dean	1	1	-	15	15	15.00	-
A. Robinson	2	3	1	24x	29	14.50	1 +2 stp.
D. McVey	5	6	-	23	72	12.00	1
K. Myeni	1	1	-	11	11	11.00	-
J. Pender	1	1	-	8	8	8.00	-
M. Fairlie	11	5	2	8	15	5.00	2
R. Amerasinghe	1	2	-	0	0	0.00	-
G. Scott	2	1	1	50x	50	*****	4+1 stp.
D. Chandler	1	1	1	11x	11	*****	-

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
W. Folkard	118.3	24	298	20	-	-	14.90
C. Edwards	84.4	23	239	14	-	-	17.07
P. Clift	137.3	26	490	28	-	-	17.50
S. Gasser	96	22	277	13	-	1	21.31
M. Payne	90	16	276	12	-	-	23.00
M. Fairlie	153	44	408	13	-	-	31.28

ALSO BOWLED (Less than 10 Wickets)

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
D. Smith	47	15	99	9	-	-	11.00
J. Jordan	11	2	38	3	-	-	12.67
D. McVey	13	3	28	3	-	-	14.00
P. McInnes	34	8	88	4	-	-	22.00
B. Taylor	46	9	142	5	-	-	28.40
R. McIntyre	21	4	82	2	-	-	41.00
M. Greenwood	37	7	137	3	-	-	45.67
D. Chandler	8	1	15	-	-	-	*****

3RD GRADE SHIRES 2002-03

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	D. Smith	48.25
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	M. Schaafsma	485
<i>Highest Score</i>	M. Schaafsma	96 v Southern Districts
<i>Bowling Average</i>	W. Folkard	14.90
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	P. Clift	28
<i>Most Wickets in an Innings</i>	S. Gasser	5/39 v Warringah
<i>Most Wickets in a Match</i>	S. Gasser	6/104 v Warringah
<i>Wicket Keeping</i>	B. Bradley	22 catches+2 stps.
<i>Centuries</i>	-	
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	8/344 v Lane Cove	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	9/189 v Lindfield	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	15
<i>Won Outright</i>	1
<i>Won 1st Innings</i>	8
<i>Drawn</i>	1
<i>Lost 1st Innings</i>	4
<i>Lost Outright</i>	1 * Match led on 1 st Innings
<i>Position in Competition</i>	3 rd

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	3729	2,772
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	136	140
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	27.41	19.40

HIGHEST "3RD GRADE" SHIRES PARTNERSHIPS 2002-03

Wicket	Batsmen				Runs	Opponent
1	C. Savage	62	D. Smith	49	114	Georges River
2	M. Schaafsma	59	S. O'Reilly	61	114	Epping
3	S.Gasser	54	A. Chandler	28x	85	Warringah
4	M. Schaafsma	96	C. Edwards	71x	125	Southern Districts
5	S. O'Reilly	63x	M. Payne	27	68	Holroyd Hills
6	S. O'Reilly	51	C. Edwards	10	40	Burwood
7	C. Edwards	52	B. Bradley	45	102	South Sydney
8	G. Scott	50x	P. Clift	49	102	Lane Cove
9	B. Taylor	34	P. Clift	24	58	Auburn
10	W. Folkard	29x	M. Fairlie	8	25	Pennant Hills

CAPTAIN'S REPORT – 4TH GRADE SHIRES

After a promising season last year, where we were unlucky not to make the semi-finals, it was disappointing to not improve on our position this year. We got off to a bad start losing three of our first four matches, and although we recovered, we could not maintain our momentum. Player unavailability throughout the club played a big part at the start and end of the season. If we are to improve next year it is vital to get off to a solid start. Despite missing the finals, we enjoyed our cricket, had good team spirit and played in the right manner.

Although we sometimes struggled, I believe our batting improved this year. Phil Erskine and Andrew Slimmon formed a reliable opening partnership, often getting us off to a good start. Phil was our leading run-scorer and Andrew was not far behind. Keiran Mahony and Paul Chew were also solid at the top of the order. Shane O'Connor improved this year playing some important innings, while Paul McInnes consistently tore the opposition apart. Although Ash Robinson and Mark Hughes did not have their best seasons both produced some crucial digs. Graeme Scott was probably the standout this year. He was consistent and he often got us out of trouble.

While bowling was our strength last year, we probably struggled a bit this year. This was more to do with the balance of the side than the bowlers who played. All year we were short a spinner and probably a paceman also. On the few occasions that either Ross McIntyre or Paul Chapman played, they bowled well. It would have been nice to have one or both for the full season. Paul McInnes is also in the unfortunate position of bouncing between grades, but when he played for us he always led the attack. Daniel Chandler was a wicket taker who was often relied upon to break partnerships. Shane O'Connor established himself as a genuine all-rounder while Paul Nelson showed at the end of the season that he is ready to step up. Adrian Lulka was our leading wicket taker, again bowling consistently well and with a lot of heart.

We let ourselves down a little in the field this year, although there were some good performers. Graeme Scott was sound behind the stumps, and probably set a record for the amount of diving leg-side saves. Ash Robinson always performed well, with the gloves or in the field. Keiran Mahony, Shane O'Connor and Paul McInnes were outstanding while Paul Chew was solid in gully taking a few great catches and letting nothing pass. Andrew Slimmon took some solid catches and was always humorous, often unintentionally, while Mark Hughes was always good for an obscure statistical sledge. In future seasons we need to develop slip fielders who catch consistently well. Matches are won and lost here, and it is where we struggled.

There were many people who made it easier for me to run Fourth Grade this year. Thanks to Paul Chapman who rarely complained when I took players off him and who even captained a match, and to Mark Schaafsma. Adrian Lulka did a great job in difficult circumstances as captain in the first few matches, and helped me throughout the year. Mark Hughes was always helpful, both on and off the field, and did a great job with the stats. Thanks to the committee but especially to Edo and Smithy for another great year in charge. Congratulations to Third Grade for making the semis, and to Sixth Grade on a victory on the final day of the year. Congratulations to Graeme Scott who richly deserved the Fourth Grade player of the year.

Wayne Travers

Fourth Grade Captain

MATCH REPORTS

v *Warringah* 145 and 118 lost to *Warringah* 9 for 229 and 1 for 38

Unfortunately, the club was under strength for the first two rounds, and as a result we did not get off to a great start. The absentees included the incoming captain of this grade, and thanks go to Adrian Lulka who did a sterling job under trying conditions. We lost the toss and were sent in by a very young Warringah team. Phil Erskine (25) and Andrew Slimmon (23) started the season well with a 40 run partnership. Unfortunately wickets fell regularly and Lulka (30) was the only other batsman to get a decent score. At the end of day one we had taken 4-58 and were well in the hunt. Warringah eventually passed us 7 down, but batted on to establish a lead. Andrew Gleeson (2-54), Ash Singh (3-38) and Adrian Lulka (2-55) bowled well but did not have enough runs to defend. It was disappointing that we could not bat out 45 overs. Phil (21) and Stefan Eccersley (22) got starts while Ben Bradley batted well for (42). An outright loss a little too easily surrendered.

v *Pennant Hills* 174 and 8 for 143 lost to *Pennant Hills* 7 for 189

Lost the toss and sent in on a damp, testing wicket. Slimmon (15) and Ersko (27) again started brightly putting on 44. Wayne Dean (24) and Ralph Amerasinghe (39) took the score to 3-120 before a collapse saw us bowled out for 174. Mark McIntyre (25) also scored runs. At 4-79 overnight the match was in the balance, but Pennant Hills passed us 7 down. A score of over 200 in this round and the last round may well have seen us with two victories. Both weeks we had the opportunity to score over 200 yet we did not take it. We again bowled well with Singh (1-43) and Ralph (2-29) the pick of the bunch. We batted out the day with Mark Hughes (20 not out) and Adam Rush (14 not out) safely guiding us. Brinley Walters (20) also contributed strongly. A disappointing result against a team that we should have beaten.

v *Lane Cove* 2 for 176 defeated *Lane Cove* 96 and 8 for 301

The captain began his season with a much-strengthened team and high hopes. Winning the toss and sending the opposition in on a damp track helped immensely. Marty Payne (3/30) and new boy Daniel Chandler (3/11) reduced Lane Cove to 6 for 41 with accurate bowling. Adrian Lulka (3/6) and Ross McIntyre (1/18) finished them off after Travers helped them to a reasonable total by being belted around the park. First innings points were gained on the first day with a good batting performance. Andrew Slimmon (55 not out) laid a solid foundation while Marty Payne (76) put in a good all round performance. Ross McIntyre (32 not out) showed he could hit the ball very hard. Danny McVey (1-18) took a vital late wicket on day one, and was perhaps underused on day two, as Lane Cove batted out the day.

v *Auburn* 165 and 6 for 169 lost to *Auburn* 253

Again, a depleted team took the park after higher-grade call-ups and an ankle injury to the captain. Paul Chapman stepped up to captain the side this week. We batted and got off to a great start with Keiran Mahony (52) and Ersko (47) putting on 90 for the first wicket. Phil had something to prove after being harshly dropped by the captain the previous round. After Keiran was caught on the boundary, we again collapsed wasting another opportunity to post a good total. Auburn ended up 2-110 at the end of the day after some wayward bowling and atrocious fielding. At the start of play on day two, we were down two opening bowlers, with Gleeson at an obviously hastily arranged bucks day, and Paul Nelson late due to work commitments. The captain hobbled into first slip (where he took a catch) and another player was commissioned from seconds. Phil

Erskine (1-27) and Nick Dorney (0-44) stepped in and bowled superbly, neither getting the figures they deserved. Paul Chapman (5-53) bowled very well and it was unfortunate I could not call on him more this season. A much better display in the field was not enough to prevent defeat. We again batted out the day with Phil compiling a superb (64), one of many great knocks from him throughout the year. Keiran (22) and John Sutton (28) played well while Paul Chew (15 not out) batted sensibly.

v Roseville 9 for 209 defeated Roseville 207

This was a match we had to win to stay in touch. It was achieved in dramatic circumstances. Adrian Lulka led the side while the captain made his comeback in 5th grade. Roseville compiled 207 after an erratic display in the field. The bowling was wayward to begin with, allowing the opposition to get off to a good start. The score was kept down by a couple of bursts where we took 4 wickets in the middle and 3 at the end of the innings. Mark Fairlie was the pick with 2-24 off 9 overs. We started slowly and were in trouble at 4 for 64 after 28 overs. Phil Erskine made (23). Paul McInnes was sent in up the order to kick start the innings. He did not disappoint and with his departure for (31) off 17 balls, we were 105 off 33. Meanwhile Paul Chew (52) was acting as the backbone of the innings, and with Graeme Scott (40) moved the total to 157 off 42, before he was run out. This left us needing 51 off 48 balls. Graeme and Mark Hughes (20 not out) took the total to 191 in the 47th over before Graeme was also run out. Daniel Chandler went the same way in the 49th over leaving us needing 9 runs off the last over with only Hughesy and Mark Fairlie left. Hughesy took a single off the first ball to bring Mark Fairlie on strike. He casually let the next ball go through to the 'keeper, obviously part of some grand plan. Singles were taken off the next two balls before Fairlie hit 3 off a well struck (I think) shot. We needed two to tie and three to win off the last ball with Mark Hughes on strike. It is history, that Hughesy stroked the winning four off the outside edge of his bat, and for dramatic purposes, just inches away from the outstretched hand of the fielder at third man. Bevo could not have done better. A good day for Macquarie Uni cricket.

v Southern Districts 8 for 301 defeated Southern Districts 71 and 83

This became a 120 over match on day two after the first week was rained out. A little nerve-wracking considering everyone was picking up ten points against these guys. And little wonder either. This was the least competitive match I have ever played for Macquarie Uni in any grade. Aside from a good performance by their 15-year-old spinner, Dunn, they offered little resistance. Phil Erskine (85), Mark Hughes (52), Shane O'Connor (30), Paul McInnes (30) and Graeme Scott (43 not out) batted well. The bowling honours were shared by McInnes (5/30 and 3/14), Daniel Chandler (3/25) and Adrian Lulka (2/2 and 3/13).

v South Sydney 211 lost to South Sydney 5 for 236

This was a good effort against the eventual premiers (sorry Hughsie). At first we seemed a little overwhelmed by some accurate bowling to be 6 for 49. We were saved by an incredibly patient and mature partnership by Scotty (30) and super sub Luke Martin (20). They only put on 45 runs but they occupied the crease for twenty overs to set up a decent score. Travers (78 not out) and Lulka (26) took advantage of a tiring attack and could have put on a club record last wicket partnership if Adrian hadn't run himself out. We tried hard the next week but they were too good. Daniel Chandler (2-31) bowled well and Martin (1/49) beat the bat all day but credit must go to Souths for seeing him off.

v Lindfield 7 for 268 defeated Lindfield 262

This was a game we had to win to stay in touch with the top six. In past seasons various teams I have played for have had rotten luck with variables such as the weather or the toss. Not so in this game. Everything went our way. Fortunately we batted well and got away with the win. On a wet Friday night before the match, I was staying near the ground and decided to inspect the wicket. This was at about 7.00 pm. There were no covers on the pitch. A frantic call to Smithy revealed that the groundsman had changed the locks on the storage shed but makeshift covers were on the way. These barely covered the already damp wicket. The next morning the sun broke through at about 9.30 and the opposition captain and I sopped up an entire night's rain from the sodden pitch. The sun and wind dried it out and via a miracle we started on time. This was a great effort by their captain, probably only matched by his six wickets against Third Grade in the semi-final. We won the toss and sent them in thinking we would knock them over fairly quickly. To do this you have to bowl well and only Lulka (3/52) and McInnes (2/55) did this from the beginning. They batted sensibly and ended up with 262, a very good score considering the state of the pitch at the start of play. Daniel Chandler (3/38) came back well. Ash Robinson took a freakish catch and celebrated, as only he knows how. The whole team was also entertained by an unusual display of stretching by an elderly gentleman on the periphery of the ground. Next week we were confronted by forty-degree heat and about eighty per cent humidity. Fortunately we weren't fielding. We batted well and eventually wore the opposition out. The highlight of the innings was a great partnership by Graeme Scott (67) and Shane O'Connor (44). Keiran Mahoney (29) and Chewy (20) started well and Ross McIntyre (30) and Ash (29) both scored runs. At 6/213 I sent Paul McInnes in and he scored (35 not out) off not many balls. Lindfield, who thought they had a sniff, watched the ball disappear to all parts of the ground.

v Holroyd-Hills 7 for 345 defeated Holroyd-Hills 213

We were sent in on a pitch that was a little two-paced to begin with. Slimmo (69) and Phil (48) batted with a lot of confidence to put on 103 in 19 overs. This set us up for a huge score. Keiran (28) and Shane (49) continued their good form and kept the score ticking over nicely. Paul McInnes strode out, hatless, and clobbered the attack all over the park. When he is in the mood he is one of the most destructive batsmen I have ever seen. He scored (72) off just 37 balls. Mark Hughes has made a habit of counting the balls he faces in every innings because he generally has a strike rate of about 200. It was, however, a great team effort. We made sure that Holroyd were never in the hunt, with some good bowling. McInnes (2-19) backed up his effort with the bat as did Shane O'Connor (2-35), who is one of the smartest bowlers in this grade. Ross McIntyre induced many false shots to end up with (3-25). This was a good day and put us in the hunt for a semi-final spot.

v Strathfield 139 and 5 for 93 lost to Strathfield 5 for 181

This was a crucial match for us, as a win would have put us in the top six. Another underdone Northern Oval wicket again elevated the importance of the toss. Unfortunately we lost it and were sent in to bat. The usually reliable opening pair of Slimmon and Erskine were both sent packing immediately with very generous lbw decisions. We seem to excel in this every year but it is rarely reciprocated. Paul Chew (46) steadied the innings with a patient knock. He was joined by Mark Hughes (16) who batted well until deciding to give first slip some catching practice, who used this to great effect when accepting a catch from Travers (0), in his 100th match, later in the innings. Ash Robinson (45) played an entertaining innings but lost his wicket just before tea. There was little fight from this point. Strathfield passed our total comfortably, but Paul

Nelson (3-54) and Shane O'Connor (1-38) bowled very well. We batted out the day with Mark Hughes (13), Slimmo (18 not out) and Chewie (16 not out) batting sensibly. We lost all momentum with this loss.

v Epping drew with Epping 6 for 309

The less said about this match the better. We walked onto the field, against the team coming second last; with a good bowling attack, believing we would be quickly back in the pavilion. Never under-estimate the opposition. With the exception of David Smith (4-29 off 19 overs) we were pedestrian. Despite this we had them 6 for 166. Credit must go to the two not out batsmen and to Dan Chandler, who bowled a fine second spell, without luck, after the rain fell. Fortunately it rained the second week.

v Georges River 155 and 8 for 189 lost to Georges River 9 for 297

We had another poor first day and lost the match, but came back well the following week. This match was notable for the disgraceful behaviour of *one* of the opposition players. It is beyond my understanding why these types of people play the game and why we put up with it. To be fair, the rest of the opposition were reasonable, but it should fall to them to weed idiots like that out of their club. Our first innings was characterized by our inability to mount partnerships. John Sutton (39) batted well at the top, while Wayne (30) and Adrian (22 not out) helped us to a barely reasonable total. We were passed fairly easily on day one, before Adrian Lulka wrapped up the innings with a well deserved (7 for 81) on day two. We batted well in the second innings with good contributions from Chewie (26), Sutton (21) and Ash (20). Graeme Scott (98) deserved a century to cap off a great season, but may have been mistakenly rushed by his captain. I'm sure he will get more opportunities in the future.

v Burwood 118 lost to Burwood 5 for 119

We were beaten by a very good Burwood side that played the game in good spirit. However, we were far from being disgraced. Sent in on another dodgy Northern Oval wicket we fought back well from 6 for 38. It was very difficult to ascertain if the ball was going to keep low or pop dangerously. O'Connor (29 not out) was brave and was supported by Travers (27). In the circumstances, we did well to pass 100. When Luke Martin (2-39) sent the opener's stumps flying in all directions, I believe we had them worried. But the pitch was starting to play better and 118 were hard to defend. Our bowling was brilliant and it was not until the 36th over that our score was passed. Paul Nelson (0-12 off 6 overs) bowled his best spell in fourth grade, constantly beating the bat. Adrian Lulka (0-21), Dan Chandler (2-20) and Shane O'Connor (1-19) also kept up the pressure. Despite this loss, we played good cricket to finish the year.

4TH GRADE STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
G. Scott	8	8	2	98	293	48.83	8
W. Travers	9	8	4	78x	166	41.50	8
P. McInnes	6	6	1	72	186	37.20	3
S. O'Connor	5	6	1	49	162	32.40	3
P. Erskine	9	12	-	85	356	29.67	2
J. Sutton	2	4	-	39	101	25.25	2
A. Slimmon	9	12	2	69	251	25.10	7
P. Chew	9	11	2	52	216	24.00	2
K. Mahony	7	8	-	52	162	20.25	3
M. Hughes	10	11	2	52	132	14.67	1
A. Lulka	11	13	1	30	131	10.92	1

ALSO BATTED (Less than 100 Runs)

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
M. Payne	1	1	-	76	76	76.00	1
B. Bradley	1	2	-	42	61	30.50	1
R. McIntyre	4	4	1	32x	83	27.67	4
R. Amerasinghe	3	4	-	39	85	21.25	1
A. Rush	1	2	1	14x	17	17.00	-
L. Martin	3	2	-	20	26	13.00	-
B. Walters	2	4	1	20	38	12.67	-
A. Robinson	7	7	-	45	86	12.29	4+1stp.
W. Dean	1	2	-	24	24	12.00	1
P. Chapman	2	3	-	18	33	11.00	1
S. Eccesley	1	2	-	22	22	11.00	-
M. McIntyre	3	5	-	25	35	7.00	1
A. Singh	2	3	2	5x	7	7.00	-
B. Hort	1	2	-	11	11	5.50	-
D. Chandler	9	5	2	8	16	5.33	-
J. Ford	3	4	1	10x	15	5.00	2
N. Dorney	1	2	-	6	8	4.00	-
D. McVey	3	2	-	6	6	3.00	1
P. Nelson	4	4	1	4	4	1.33	1
A. Gleeson	2	3	-	3	3	1.00	-
C. Hook	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	-
M. Fairlie	1	1	1	5x	5	*****	1
D. Smith	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
P. McInnes	92	20	277	16	-	1	17.31
A. Lulka	133.5	31	464	26	-	1	17.85
D. Chandler	94	20	339	17	-	-	19.94

ALSO BOWLED (Less than 10 Wickets)

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
K. Mahony	1	-	1	1	-	-	1.00
B. Walters	3	-	7	1	-	-	7.00
D. Smith	19	11	29	4	-	-	7.25
M. Fairlie	9	1	24	2	-	-	12.00
P. Chapman	23.5	6	84	5	-	1	16.80
A. Rush	3	-	21	1	-	-	21.00
R. McIntyre	24.5	-	127	6	-	-	21.17
A. Singh	33.5	6	88	4	-	-	22.00
S. O'Connor	48	8	148	6	-	-	24.67
L. Martin	42	10	135	5	-	-	27.00
A. Gleeson	31	7	83	3	-	-	27.67
S. Eccesley	4	-	28	1	-	-	28.00
P. Nelson	48	9	180	6	-	-	30.00
R. Amerasinghe	10	1	60	2	-	-	30.00
J. Ford	15	3	61	2	-	-	30.50
M. Payne	32	8	92	3	-	-	30.67
D. McVey	17	2	64	2	-	-	32.00
P. Erskine	22	3	102	2	-	-	51.00
A. Slimmon	8	-	51	1	-	-	51.00
W. Travers	66	8	282	4	-	-	70.50
J. Sutton	2	-	14	-	-	-	****
N. Dorney	12	2	44	-	-	-	****
A. Robinson	10	-	69	-	-	-	****

4TH GRADE SHIRES 2002-03

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	G. Scott	48.83
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	P. Erskine	356
<i>Highest Score</i>	G. Scott	98 v Georges River
<i>Bowling Average</i>	P. McInnes	17.31
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	A. Lulka	26
<i>Most Wickets in an Innings</i>	A. Lulka	7/81 v Georges River
<i>Most Wickets in a Match</i>	P. McInnes	8/44 v Southern Districts
<i>Wicket Keeping</i>	G. Scott	8 catches
<i>Centuries</i>	-	
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	8/345 v Holroyd Hills	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	118 v Burwood	
	118 v Warringah	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	13
<i>Won Outright</i>	1
<i>Won 1st Innings</i>	4
<i>Drawn</i>	1
<i>Lost 1st Innings</i>	6
<i>Lost Outright</i>	1
<i>Position in Competition</i>	10th

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	3129	3082
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	140	125
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	22.35	24.65

HIGHEST "4TH GRADE" SHIRES PARTNERSHIPS 2002-03

Wicket	Batsmen				Runs	Opponent
1	P. Erskine	48	A. Slimmon	69	103	Holroyd Hills
2	M. Payne	76	A. Slimmon	55x	107	Lane Cove
3	P. Erskine	85	M. Hughes	52	151	Southern Districts
4	G. Scott	98	A. Robinson	20	67	Georges River
5	P. McInnes	72	S. O'Connor	49	116	Holyroyd Hills
6	G. Scott	67	S. O'Connor	44	76	Lindfield
7	S. O'Connor	29x	A. Lulka	27	59	Burwood
8	G. Scott	43x	P. McInnes	30	44	Southern Districts
9	W. Travers	78x	D. Chandler	3	19	South Sydney
10	W. Travers	78x	A. Lulka	26	58	South Sydney

CAPTAIN'S REPORT – METROPOLITAN SHIELD

This was always going to be a challenging year for the Metropolitan Shield side. The leading wicket-taker from last season left the club, a number of other key players made only occasional appearances and still others cemented their positions in higher grades, which is always pleasing to see. This was my first time captaining a side at senior level. We also faced a number of external challenges, which I will mention later.

At the start of the season my specific objectives were threefold. First, to be competitive in every game; second, to win a majority of games; and third, to reach the semi-finals. We succeeded on the first objective and indeed the defining characteristic of the team's performance this year was our determination to fight it out to the finish. This is best illustrated by our hard fought win over Roseville-Gordon in January.

Playing a majority of our matches on Sunday proved a major disruption to the team and made it difficult to maintain the same core players from week to week. Ground availability seemed to be the main problem. As usual the Main Oval was out of commission for the best part of half the season. For various other reasons the Gwilliam Oval was unavailable throughout the season. This is not a new problem. Ever since the Fifth Grade side entered the Metropolitan competition four seasons ago, there has been a constant struggle for the side to get access to a home ground on a Saturday. Naturally enough, the Metropolitan Shield team is at the bottom of the MUSA pecking order. But having to play seven of twelve games on Sunday is unfair on the players and the team as a whole, particularly bearing in mind that we undoubtedly have the facilities to accommodate five teams playing on turf. However, I must mention David Smith's tremendous effort in trying to get a fair deal for the Metropolitan Shield side, so far as Saturday cricket is concerned.

The danger from the club's point of view is that player will become disenfranchised. It is very difficult to feel part of the club when you are playing most of your cricket on Sunday and scarcely ever see someone from another grade. In contrast it makes for a great atmosphere when playing at home on Saturday, with other grades playing alongside yours and of course having the opportunity to catch up with club mates over a beer after the day's play. Consequently, I was hardly surprised when only two or three Metropolitan Shield regulars turned up to the club's Annual Dinner. Further, it is simply unfair on the players themselves to expect them to play cricket on Sunday on a regular basis. Players at this level generally set aside one day of the weekend to play cricket and reserve the other for family, work, Church, whatever. But since the majority of weekend cricket is played on Saturday that is the day most people set aside for cricket. It places a great strain on the individual to expect him to be prepared to play on Sunday as well. It speaks of the great commitment to the club of those who made themselves available on a regular basis to play for the Metropolitan Shield side.

Whilst the hallmark of our season was the way we played as a team, there were a number of noteworthy individual performances. Paul Nelson played with typical commitment and aggression, capturing 21 wickets including a hat trick and six-wicket haul. Paul bowled with much greater discipline this year and was well rewarded with a call up to Fourth Grade late in the season. Paul also worked hard on his batting and was involved in a number of important late- order partnerships.

Mark McIntyre, in his first season for the club in the summer version of the game, was our most consistent batsman, scoring 186 at 23.25. He kept wickets very well and was a valuable asset to the team both on and off the field. Mashood Bajwa burst onto the scene late in the season. After displaying his talents at training and somehow escaping the attention of the Fourth Grade captain, Mashood scored 139 and 86 in his only two innings. We would certainly have been a competitive force in this year's competition had Mashood played the entire season in Metropolitan Shield. Ash Singh, playing his first full season on turf, was our most economical bowler. He bowled very well and

would certainly have taken more wickets had he not been subject to bowling restrictions because of his age. Ash should do well next season when these no longer apply.

As a first-time captain, I really appreciated having someone of Doug Latto's experience in the team. His steady temperament helped me to maintain focus when things were going against us and made number of important contributions with both bat and ball. Warren Montford returned to the club after a lengthy sojourn on the New South Wales north coast. He played five games only but bowled with great fire and pace, averaging 15.44 with the ball and 30.5 with the bat. Jason Ford was an integral member of the team. His batting was solid, 114 at 12.67, and always chipped in with a vital wicket when needed. Jason proved very versatile in the field, in one innings affecting a run out in the field and taking a catch and a stumping with the gloves. Peter Sullivan played some fine innings and was sorely missed when called up to Under 24s.

I would briefly like to thank those, there were quite a few so I won't name them all, who filled in at the last minute when I was short of players, in particular Al Mahoney, Mark Hughes and Gordon Slimmon. Al successfully captained the side in my absence on one occasion. I'd also like to congratulate Keiran Mahony and Andrew Slimmon, who have contributed plenty to the Metropolitan Shield side over the past few seasons and who went on to cement their places in higher grades. Finally, my thanks again to David Smith and the rest of the Executive, Craig Edwards and Chris Savage, and to the Committee for all their support in season 2002-03.

Paul Chapman

Metropolitan Shield Captain

MATCH REPORTS

v Maccabi 204 tied with Maccabi 204

That was the official result, thanks to some sloppy scoring on the part of both sides. In what turned out to be the norm, we began the season with a Sunday match. With only 10 players in the field on day 1 we fought hard to dismiss Maccabi for 204, or so it seemed. Subsequent close inspection of the scorebooks revealed Maccabi's score was in fact 203. But, the bowling figures appeared to total 204 and that was sufficient for me. Latto took the bowling honours with (3/27) and a couple of excellent catches. Hew and Chapman also chipped in with 2 wickets each. Batten (26) and Sullivan (27) ticked the scoreboard over early. However, the fall of three quick wickets late on day one saw us in a precarious position at 5/93. On day two, Slimmon (38) and Chapman (55) added 101 for the 6th wicket to have us all but over the line. But following the run out of Slimmon we collapsed to be all out for, apparently, 205. Scorebooks were checked several times and every Maccabi player wanted to put in their two bob's worth. Bowling figures, on their face, added to 205 in each book but batting totals did not add up nor did the wides and no balls. The Maccabi captain refused to yield to common sense and standard practice and the dispute was referred to higher authorities for adjudication. In a mystifying decision, it was ruled the match a tie on the basis that the Maccabi batting

total in our book was 204 and the Macquarie batting total in their book was 204, this being “the only common figure”. What a joke, considering that the bowling figures in both books was found to give a total of at least 205 for our innings! (Even more of a joke was that the match was originally ruled a draw because it was believed that we all just packed up and left before the tea break with the scores level and us 9 wickets down – and this view was supported by the Blacktown First Grade scorer!!).

v *Blacktown(1)* 178 lost to *Blacktown(1)* 6 for 209

Whilst the top four grades enjoyed their first season without Blacktown in the Shires competition, the Metropolitan Shield side made its annual pilgrimage to Whalan for its second Sunday fixture in succession. On a typically slow and dusty Whalan track, Hughes (29) and Warton (45) ground out a 78 run first wicket partnership from 38 overs. Some impatient batting and equally impatient umpiring saw us stumble to 4/97 at tea. Latto (24) and Chapman (17) got us back on track with 40 for the 5th wicket. Ford (27) provided solid resistance down the order and with Nelson negotiated the close. However, our resistance ended in the first over of the second day, all out 178. A disappointing result after being 0/78. With the mercury topping 40 degrees, the bowlers worked hard. Nelson was the pick with (1/20) from 12 overs, including an opening spell of 9 overs, (1/10). We got no assistance from their umpires and their batsmen made the most of their chances. Ford bowled very well, taking (2/34). We made Blacktown earn their win, holding the minor premiers out for 60 overs in conditions to which they were clearly better adapted.

v *Maccabi* 201 defeated *Maccabi* 163

Sweet revenge! Another Sunday game, this time in picturesque Centennial Park – what a contrast to our previous match at Whalan. A disastrous start saw us slump to 3/24 and eventually 7/92 in the 21st over. Al Mahoney (61) and Adam Rush (38) saved the day with a match-winning 89 run partnership for the 8th wicket. Mahoney and Rush simply valued their wickets and looked to bat out the 50 overs, which we almost did in reaching 201. Maccabi got off to a flying start – 0/51 from 10 overs. But when Chandler (2/30 from 8) out-thought the big-hitting opener we were back in the game. McInnes (1/19 from 8.5) bowled an immaculate line, but the batsmen weren't good enough to lay bat on ball. However, this pressure led to wickets at the other end. Nelson, Rush and Chapman chipped in with wickets, whilst Kevin Hew delivered the knockout blow with (2/7) from 2 overs. We dismissed Maccabi for 163 in a much more decisive result than in our previous encounter. No controversy this time and my decision not to hire professional scorers was vindicated.

v *Balmain(2)* 9 for 170 defeated *Balmain(2)* 136

The start of this match was delayed due to SCEGGS girls playing on our pitch in the rain throughout the morning. (One parent was considerate enough to ask, “Are we damaging your pitch?” Yes, but what were we going to do? The match was reduced to 45 overs a side. Winning the toss, I took a gamble and elected to bat on the rain-affected pitch. The gamble looked to go awry at 5/26 in the 12th over. But once again someone put his hand up to rescue the innings. This time it was Robinson (65), ably assisted by O'Connor (31) and Travers (33 not out). Rush also shed blood for the team as we reached 170. For the record, Rush was not out -retired hurt. Nelson (2/16) from 9 and O'Connor bowled outstanding opening spells. Wickets fell consistently throughout the innings as we dismissed Balmain for 136. Chapman (5-24) from 9 was

the chief destroyer. This was a satisfying result against a team that was leading the competition at the time.

v Auburn 117 lost to Auburn 125

This result had major ramifications for our semi-final aspirations. At the time we were in 4th place but with a number of teams less than 6 points behind. One of those was Auburn. We boasted a four-pronged pace attack of McInnes, Nelson, Singh (2/19) and Warren Montford (2/20), making a welcome return to the club, who all bowled exceptionally well in dismissing Auburn for 125 on what the locals described as a 300-plus pitch. We also had to contend with the stifling heat and choking smoke from the bushfires. Nelson led the way with (4/40), including a magnificent hat-trick (lbw, caught, bowled). However, we let Auburn get away from us at the end when we really should have bowled them out for around 100. The chase began disastrously, losing a wicket on the first ball of the innings, and that set the tone for the innings. Chapman (19) got the score moving, but threw his wicket away before he and Latto (10) could build the match-winning partnership. Things were looking desperate at 7/71 before McIntyre (33) and Singh (14) put on 37. The pair began to dominate the bowlers when both fell in quick succession. Soon we were all out for 117. This was a very disappointing and costly result.

v Randwick-Petersham 131 lost to Randwick-Petersham 268

This was a radically different Randwick-Petersham side to the one we defeated in a practice match two months earlier, Randy-Petes obviously taking advantage of the Sunday fixture to stack its side full of new faces. On a flat, hard pitch I had no hesitation in batting first. Chapman (26) and Huang began steadily before the ring-in fast bowler snared two wickets in consecutive balls. That set the pattern for the innings as we built promising partnerships before losing a cluster of two or three wickets. No batsman capitalised on their starts to register a big score. Ford (16) and Walters (13) combined for 30 before both fell to the same leg-side trap. McIntyre (23), assisted by a resolute Nelson (7 not out), gave the bowlers a target to defend, adding 32 for the last wicket. But for this partnership we would have certainly lost the game on day one. When defending a small total, you really need to hold every catch. Instead we put in our worst fielding performance of the season to date, dropping at least ten catches. With 31 overs to bowl on day one, we made four important breakthroughs before Randwick-Petersham reached 94 at stumps. Nelson (2/53) and Chapman (5/61) each snared a wicket early on day two as Randy-Petes stumbled to 6/106 before getting bogged down on 111 for 6 overs thanks to a miserly spell from Singh (1/33). We were offered plenty of chances to win the match but couldn't hold our catches, before Randy-Petes finally reached our score without further loss after 59 overs. For the remainder of the day, Randy-Petes batted and batted (and batted) with no intention of setting up an outright result. Chapman eventually cleaned up the tail with the new ball.

v Roseville-Gordon 9 for 236 defeated Roseville-Gordon 203

This was undoubtedly our finest effort of the season. With bushfires raging and temperatures in the mid-40s, the team showed tremendous courage to defend our score of 236. Roseville won the toss and sent us in on a fairly green pitch. Burchett (53) valued his wicket and was rewarded with a fine half-century. Al Mahoney (21), standing in as captain for this game, provided good support. Unfortunately few others in the top half of the order showed the same respect for their wicket and we were soon

in trouble at 6/115. But once again we refused to lie down as Montford (40), Ford (33) and McIntyre (30) combined in successive partnerships of 48 and 64. At the close of play we had reached 9/236. Our problems on day two were compounded by the loss of our wicket-keeper and leading wicket-taker during the week. I must thank Gordon Slimmon and Glenn Jackson who fielded as substitutes in such terrible conditions on the second day. Without their help we wouldn't have got the points in this game (in fact Jacko took three catches). On day two the players had to endure temperatures in the mid-40s and a searing north wind. With teammates throwing up all over the place, Warton (4/72) was the hero. He bowled 29 overs, including 20 in one spell, without even raising a sweat. Nelson (3/42) and Ford (2/25) were the other main wicket takers. Roseville fought back from 6/114 as the heat took its toll. But with his last ounce of strength, Ford got the final wicket to dismiss Roseville for 203.

v *Balmain*(1) 141 lost to *Balmain*(1) 8 for 142

This was a seesawing match in which dropped catches and inexperienced captaincy proved crucial. Against second-placed Balmain we were looking to build on our inspirational performance against Roseville in the previous round. Winning the toss and batting, we were in desperate trouble at 6/35 in the 22nd over. Yet, in trademark fashion, we refused to surrender. Latto (47), with the support of Ford (19) and Nelson (9 not out), led the recovery mission before succumbing to the sucker punch (a wide long-hop) on the second last ball of the allotted 50 overs. We were always positive about defending 141. Montford (3/42) crashed through the Balmain defenses three times in the space of five balls, and then Nelson (1/29) completed the team hat-trick. Balmain was reeling at 4/35 and an upset was on the cards. Balmain then scored 45 for the 5th wicket before Batten (2/17) and McVey (2/16) turned the match once more for us. Balmain again looked to put the game beyond reach as they progressed to 7/135. Batten was reintroduced, perhaps and over or two too late, and immediately broke through. Then Ford, looking directly into the sun, put down a catch that would, if held, have seen Nelson bowling to the number 11 with six runs up our sleeves. In the end, Balmain got home by two wickets.

v *Lindfield* 252 lost to *Lindfield* 355

On a ground the size of Roseville Park, we could not afford to drop catches as we had in previous matches. Nelson (6/100) and Singh (2/64) began well but were let down by some ordinary fielding. 4/64 soon became 5/155 and 6/219 as catch after catch (and a few pretty plumb lbw appeals) went down. Nelson's second spell was just as good if not better than his first as he single-handedly reeled Lindfield in to 9/258. As rain tumbled down so did the standard of fielding. It was in this period that we played ourselves out of the match and out of finals' contention. McIntyre and Ford had 30 minutes to negotiate before stumps. Ford was the only casualty as we reached 1/36. Positive batting was the order of the second day as we set about achieving a record innings total in this grade. McIntyre (60) and Sullivan (59) dominated the bowling and provided plenty of entertainment for the spectators. Sullivan in particular taunted the athletically challenged outfielders as he displayed deft placement on his aerial shots. Robinson (20) looked threatening before walking on a bat pad catch that was given "not out". Although we lost wickets at regular intervals, we were well in the game at 4/184. But then Walters (13) went and Sullivan ran himself out soon after. Shortly thereafter we crashed to 9/210 and the game was gone. Amerasinghe (22 not out) and Singh (18) resisted for a while until we were eventually dismissed for 252. With some 38 overs left in the day Lindfield generously elected not to enforce the follow on.

Congratulations to Nelly on his first 6 wicket haul for the club. He was by far the best of our bowlers and the most committed in the field.

v South Sydney 0 for 5 drew with South Sydney 289

Mashood, Alex Dunkerley and Keiran Mahony each made their season debuts in Metropolitan Shield. Although this match was washed out on the second day, it was nevertheless a very eventful game. After the controversial conclusion to our last clash with South Sydney, we had some scores to settle. Souths won the toss and batted first. Singh (2/53) swung the ball prodigiously and was rewarded with an early wicket. Ford (1/33) gave them a bit of the old razzle-dazzle to break a dangerous partnership. But it wasn't long before Souths' captain, Fagan, was up to his usual theatrics. Never have I known a batsman to waste so much time. But thanks largely to the golden rule of South Sydney cricket – give the captain out lbw and you don't play next week – Fagan scored 81 before, ironically, being run out courtesy of his runner. Chapman (5/69) again parachuted in to mop up the tail with the new ball pending. The other highlight of the innings was Keiran Mahony's brilliant catch at short mid-wicket. Mahony and McIntyre kept out the spinners for two overs in failing light (thanks to Fagan's time wasting antics) before stumps on day one. Unfortunately the second day was washed out so we had to wait till the following week to unleash our secret weapon.

v Blacktown(2) 192 lost to Blacktown(2) 6 for 196

With only seven players present at 12.20pm I was lucky enough to win the toss and bat first against the eventual premiers. After we lost an early wicket, Mashood Bajwa made his first appearance for the club with the bat. He was dropped early in his innings then preceded to smash 139 runs, including three powerful sixes (one of which landed on the Northern Oval). On any other ground this was worth at least 200. But the long grass caused many balls to pull up short of the boundary. In addition, Mashood battled though severe cramps, which prevented him from taking more than one run at a time during the second half of his innings. Whilst no other batsman gave the scorers much trouble, Amerasinghe, Jackson and Rush (11 not out) hung around long enough for Mashood to inflict his damage. Meanwhile, the Blacktown players behaved disgracefully, disputing every rejected appeal and no-ball call. One senior player persisted in sledging Mashood and Mashood persisted in smashing the ball to all parts. There was nothing clever about any of this sledging – it was purely derisive and at times racist. The captain made token efforts to control his players only when prompted to do so by our umpires. Singh and Rush shared the new ball with Nelson and Montford unavailable. Both bowled very accurately and made scoring difficult. Singh was the best of the bowlers, taking (2/51) from 23 overs. O'Connor (1/21) bowled very fast and was rewarded with the wicket of the batsman who scored 211 in the final, for a duck. Apart from this each Blacktown batsman made a good start as they ground out a tough win. Ford was also in the action – taking (1/28), affecting a run out and getting his first stumping for the club. Blacktown reached our score with 4 wickets in hand and promptly declared.

v Georges River 233 defeated Georges River 21

This is not a typo. Georges River turned up with only six players. But rather than accept the forfeit, we offered them a couple of fielders to help make up the numbers. If only Bruce Whitehouse had shown us a bit of the same generosity we showed his club in this game. Upon winning the toss I decided to make a game of it and bat first. Huang (25) and McIntyre (25) looked very comfortable before McIntyre departed. Huang then combined with Mashood (86) for a 105 run second wicket partnership. Mashood was dropped first ball and then went on to score 86 before being caught by his own teammate. In fact, Singh, Ford, Montford and Rush were the pick of the Georges River fielders. Montford pulled off a McGrath-like catch to dismiss Sullivan (24) just as he was starting to look dangerous. From 4/191 we collapsed to be all out for a somewhat disappointing 233. Montford snared the bulk of the wickets, all bowled. He bowled at such terrifying pace that the young Georges River batsmen were too scared to move. Singh (1/10) and Chapman (1/0) each bagged a wicket as Georges River folded inside 11 overs. The Georges River captain declined the offer of a second dig as he and his players hurried off, probably to find a nice bush to hide under.

METROPOLITAN SHIELD STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
M. Bajura	3	2	-	139	225	112.50	2
M. McIntyre	9	9	1	60	186	23.25	7+ 2stp.
P. Sullivan	5	5	-	59	112	22.40	2
D. Latto	8	8	-	47	127	15.88	4
P. Chapman	12	11	-	55	167	15.18	3
J. Ford	10	9	-	33	114	12.67	3+ 1stp.

ALSO BATTED (Less than 100 Runs)

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
S. Burchett	1	1	-	53	53	53.00	-
A. Slimmon	1	1	-	38	38	38.00	1
W. Montford	5	4	2	40	61	30.50	1
A. Mahoney	3	3	-	61	90	30.00	-
A. Robinson	3	3	-	65	88	29.33	1
M. Hughes	2	2	-	29	36	18.00	1
S. O'Connor	2	2	-	31	35	17.50	1
D. Warton	3	3	-	45	51	17.00	4
P. Batten	2	2	-	26	29	14.50	-
D. Chandler	1	1	-	13	13	13.00	-
A. Rush	8	7	2	38	59	11.80	1
A. Singh	10	8	3	18	46	9.20	-
B. Walters	3	3	-	13	26	8.67	-
J. Huang	5	4	-	25	34	8.50	2
R. Amerasinghe	8	8	1	22x	50	7.14	2
P. McInnes	2	2	-	13	13	6.50	1
S. Moran	1	1	-	6	6	6.00	-
A. Dunkerley	3	2	-	9	11	5.50	-
P. Nelson	9	9	4	9x	27	5.40	3
V. Chung	1	1	-	5	5	5.00	1
M. Zheng	1	1	-	5	5	5.00	-
G. Jackson	4	3	-	7	14	4.67	4
K. Hew	3	3	-	4	4	1.33	-
B. Bradley	1	1	-	1	1	1.00	-
D. McVey	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	
W. Travers	1	1	1	33x	33	****	-
K. Mahony	1	1	1	5x	5	****	1

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
P. Chapman	124.1	24	431	24	-	3	17.96
P. Nelson	114.4	24	392	21	-	1	18.67
A. Singh	105	25	323	10	-	-	32.20

ALSO BOWLED (Less than 10 Wickets)

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
K. Hew	6	-	19	4	-	-	4.75
B. Bradley	2	-	6	1	-	-	6.00
D. McVey	6	-	16	2	-	-	8.00
P. Batten	11	1	40	3	-	-	13.33
D. Chandler	8	1	30	2	-	-	15.00
W. Montford	38	7	139	9	-	-	15.44
D. Latto	17	-	71	4	-	-	17.75
G. Jackson	4	-	21	1	-	-	21.00
D. Warton	36	7	99	4	-	-	24.75
J. Ford	70.2	19	231	9	-	-	25.67
W. Travers	6	1	36	1	-	-	36.00
P. McInnes	21.5	8	43	1	-	-	43.00
S. O'Connor	16	2	48	1	-	-	48.00
R. Amerasinghe	7	1	49	1	-	-	49.00
A. Rush	45	4	163	1	-	-	163.00
K. Mahony	4	-	10	-	-	-	****
B. Walters	2	-	17	-	-	-	****
M. Bajura	12	-	40	-	-	-	****

METROPOLITAN SHIELD 2002-03

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	M. Bajwa	112.50
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	M. Bajwa	225
<i>Highest Score</i>	M. Bajwa	139 v Blacktown (2)
<i>Bowling Average</i>	P. Chapman	17.96
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	P. Chapman	24
<i>Most Wickets in an Innings</i>	P. Nelson	6/100 v Lindfield
<i>Most Wickets in a Match</i>	P. Nelson	6/100 v Lindfield
<i>Hat Tricks</i>	P. Nelson	v Auburn
<i>Wicket Keeping</i>	M. McIntyre	7 catches + 2 Stumpings
<i>Centuries</i>	M. Bajwa	139 v Blacktown (2)
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	252 v Lindfield	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	117 v Auburn	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	12
<i>Won Outright</i>	-
<i>Won 1st Innings</i>	4
<i>Tie</i>	1
<i>Drawn</i>	1
<i>Lost 1st Innings</i>	6
<i>Lost Outright</i>	-
<i>Position in Competition</i>	6th

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	2,060	2,311
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	108	105
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	19.07	22.01

HIGHEST "METROPOLITAN SHIELD" PARTNERSHIPS 2002-03

Wicket	Batsmen			Runs	Opponent	
1	M. Hughes	29	D. Warton	45	78	Blacktown (1)
2	J. Huang	25	M. Bajwa	86	105	Georges River
3	A. Mahoney	21	S. Burchett	53	45	Roseville
4	M. McIntyre	60	P. Sullivan	59	42	Lindfield
5	B. Walters	13	P. Sullivan	59	55	Lindfield
6	A. Slimmon	38	P. Chapman	55	101	Maccabi
7	M. McIntyre	30	J. Ford	33	48	Roseville
8	A. Mahoney	61	A. Rush	38	89	Maccabi
9	W. Travers	33x	A. Rush	2x	15x	Balmain (2)
10	M. Bajura	139	A. Rush	11	44	Blacktown (2)

CAPTAIN'S REPORT – UNDER 24s

The season can best be described as almost 600 overs of cricket, part of which involved recording two victories; four losses and one wash out.

Learning was probably the theme of the season as the team rebuilt after losing five experienced players from season 01-02. New players this season included the young faces of James Pender, Andrew Slimmon, Kieran Mahony, Scott Bratley, Glen Jackson, Peter Sullivan, Michael Lloyd, Kris Myneni, Graeme Scott and James Jordan.

Disappointingly, it took sometime for us to find our feet in the competition, with some rather large losses in the opening rounds against Lane Cove and Auburn. However, against the general rules of psychology, the team grew in confidence throughout the season putting in a solid round three performance against Holroyd-Hills and narrowly losing to Warringah by two wickets in round four. Round six and seven saw the team finally taste victory, winning against South Sydney and Lindfield. If only there were two or three more rounds, as I am certain strong wins would have prevailed.

Much of the improvement throughout the season was brought about by our batsman, who became increasingly consistent. Chris Ying, in particular, who began the season with several poor scores, finished the season with two innings in the 40s and a century in the last game. Kieran Mahony also showed considerable improvement throughout the season, receiving his just rewards with a well-made fifty against Lindfield in the last round.

The lower-order batted exceptionally all season, wagging at every opportunity. Much of this can attributed to the Paul Clift. Paul's batting has improved out of sight since 01-02 and can now be considered a formidable all-rounder at Frank Gray level.

Our bowling, lacked depth throughout the season with Tim Hopkins being our only regular quick. However, the bowling attack did not lack talent, with the likes of Hopkins, Clift, Bratley, Clough, Jordan and Myneni performing well.

Fielding was excellent throughout the season with few opportunities missed. We will all remember those three direct hits in the last over against Auburn, which brought such a look of surprise to Cloughy's face. The wicket keeping of Graeme Scott was elegant to watch and his talk and encouragement from behind the stumps was an asset to the team.

I would like to thank David Smith, Chris Savage, Craig Edwards and Gordon Slimmon for their support throughout the season. Numerous players throughout the season also played with injury or illness, these players deserve a special thank-you for their commitment.

To all my teammates, we certainly showed this season that we could mix it with some of the best teams in the competition. If we continue our improvement and become more consistent and hungry for victory we will be a force to contend with during season 03-04.

Andrew Gissing

Under 24 Captain

MATCH REPORTS

v Lane Cove 87 lost to Lane Cove 3 for 86

Losing the toss was just the start of our worst loss of the season. Being put into bat on a green early morning deck was never going to be easy. The Lane Cove attack quickly destroyed our top-order, leaving Gissing and Hopkins to scratch out a less than respectable total. When it came to Lane Cove's turn little could be done to stem the flow of runs, passing the total within 14 overs. Clift offered some joy though, taking (1/0). A lesson in crisis management was also given to the team by new face Micheal Lloyd. After a drunken night, Michael, wore boxer shorts to the game and was forced to secure his box using electrical tape. He later stated that this method 'offered enhanced security and confidence'.

v Auburn 171 lost to Auburn 231

Auburn batted well, with their no. 3 making 87 in quick time. However, a bright spark in the Macquarie attack in the form of Kris Myneni and some great fielding, including three direct hits restricted Auburn to an achievable total. Our chase did not start well losing two early wickets. However, a partnership between Mahony and Myneni steadied the ship and we looked on track through the middle overs. Some heavy hitting by Dorney kept the run-rate down, but as wickets fell the target looked further and further away. Eventually we were bowled out in the 44th over.

v Holroyd-Hills 230 lost to Holroyd Hills 7 for 326

Holroyd-Hills batted superbly punishing our attack. Hopkins was the only bowler to make any impact taking three wickets. In reply, our top-order collapsed, being 6 for 88 after 20 overs. The lower-order, however, would not swallow the same pill as their top-order counterparts with Gissing, Lulka, Clift, Sullivan and Jackson all making respectable scores. But, the wagging tail was not enough, as we lost our tenth wicket in the 46th over, 96 runs short.

v Warringah 9 for 162 lost to Warringah 8 for 164

A narrow defeat saw the boys take a bit of confidence away from the game. This was a game that probably could have been won if the pub-crawl was not the night before. Batting first, early wickets again fell. Ying (47) and Clift (25) lead us to a fairly competitive total on a slow Mac No.1 outfield. We bowled well and always looked in the hunt, with only one batsman standing between victory and us. Best bowlers were Hopkins (2/24), Pender (2/32) and Jordan (3/55).

v South Sydney 9 for 161 defeated South Sydney 160

Undoubtedly the closest game of the season, with finger nails littering the dressing room floor. Bowling first Clough led an inspired Macquarie attack tacking (5/23) from just seven overs. With the support of Hopkins, Bratley and some excellent fielding, Souths were eating lunch within 38 overs. Our batting again started poorly, scoring 3/34 from the first 15 overs. Ying (43) and Bratley (29) moved us closer before departing, leaving the side 7 for 120. With 41 runs for victory Gissing (31 not out) and Hopkins edged the team ever closer before Hopkins departed for an underserved duck. The score edged to 9/159 before Scott departed, leaving Glen 'Jacko' Jackson to face up against one of the fastest bowlers in the competition. Jacko managed to edge one to fine leg for a single, leaving one run to win. Gissing, next ball tapped one

to cover and called Jackson through for a very quick single. Macquarie won with thirty balls to spare.

v Lindfield 6 for 258 defeated Lindfield 224

Our highest total of the season left us in a very competitive position. Ying was the star with the bat scoring (100), an innings which showed flare and aggression. Ying was supported well by Mahony (53) and Gissing (44 not out). The end of our innings was far from boring with Ying and Gissing combining to score heavily in the last ten overs. After getting off to a good start, Lindfield's run power was soon exhausted, with Bratley (5/44) and Gissing (3/45) destroying any glimpse of a Lindfield victory.

“UNDER 24s” SHIRES STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	50's	Catches
K. Myneni	1	1	-	35	35	35.00	-	-
A. Gissing	6	6	2	44x	139	34.75	-	-
C. Ying	6	6	-	100	196	32.67	-	1
K. Mahony	6	6	-	53	109	18.17	1	1
N. Dorney	1	1	-	29	29	29.00	-	-
P. Clift	6	6	2	37	76	19.00	-	-
G. Jackson	5	4	3	16x	19	19.00	-	-
S. Bratley	2	2	-	29	37	18.50	-	-
A. Lulka	2	2	-	24	32	16.00	-	-
J. Jordan	3	3	1	11x	19	9.50	-	-
G. Scott	4	4	-	17	31	7.75	-	1
P. Sullivan	3	3	-	20	21	7.00	-	-
T. Hopkins	5	4	-	14	27	6.75	-	2
J. Pender	3	3	-	14	18	6.00	-	-
T. Clough	3	3	-	5	13	4.33	-	1
A. Slimmon	6	6	-	12	21	3.50	-	-
B. Suthanther	1	1	-	3	3	3.00	-	-
C. Bova	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	-	-
M. Lloyd	1	1	1	0x	0	****	-	-

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	Best
T. Clough	6.1	-	23	5	4.60	5/23
K. Myneni	8	-	29	3	9.67	3/29
S. Bratley	15.1	1	62	6	10.33	5/44
A. Slimmon	13	1	67	3	22.33	2/40
T. Hopkins	45	7	173	7	24.71	3/44
J. Jordan	21	2	130	4	32.50	3/55
K. Mahony	9	-	72	2	36.00	2/64
J. Pender	13	-	73	2	36.50	2/32
N. Dorney	5	-	38	1	38.00	1/38
A. Gissing	48	5	206	5	41.20	3/45
P. Clift	30	3	179	3	59.67	1/0
G. Jackson	1	-	12	-	****	****
B. Suthanther	3	-	13	-	****	****
A. Lulka	10	-	53	-	****	****

CAPTAIN'S REPORT – G.J.D.C.A.

The Mac Uni G.J.D.C.A. team enjoyed a very successful season to secure their first premiership in the Gordon Competition after fielding many a side over the past 12 years. With a team made up mostly of the struggling Green side of the previous two years, Ben Sewell's side became much more consistent, thanks to steady contributions from most of the regular players. The side played enthusiastic cricket throughout the season, though it would be fair to say that a ruthless streak did emerge on occasions. Despite recording a nine win, five loss, record over the regular season, we went into the semi-final series needing a major form reversal after a flogging from the West Pymble Heathens in Round 16. The return of Benny Sewell proved to be the catalyst and a number of players stepped up for the final two matches against the willing Blues and desperately unlucky Pigs.

On the player front Viv Samdarshi (384 runs) was our batting leader through the year, dominating at the crease and making a superbly gritty (50) on a green top in the semi-final. Kain Walker (280 runs, 25 catches, 3 stumpings) was central to our efforts and made classy 50s against the Dreggs, Kissing Point and Northern Suburbs (the Representative Match). His keeping in the finals was first rate, a stunning stumping off our fast bowler in the Final being a crucial blow. Other fine 50s came from Ben Bradley, Tom Millet, Shane Wilcek and Dougal Michie. Steve Johnson (142 not out) played a remarkable knock against the Small Potatoes when we were on the rack. The most satisfying innings of the year for many though was Dinuke Christie-David's blazing (51) in the semi-final, made in about 25 balls and putting the Winnie Blues under enormous pressure. Elsewhere Mark McCormack, Matt Chambers, Adam Wilcek, Andrew McWhinney, Andrew Gleeson and Brynley Walters added some starch to our efforts, particularly against the new ball. Down the order Simon Clayton, Ben Sewell, Tony Barnes and Darren Bull swung like rusty gates to frequently boost our totals.

Bowling wise the team was well served by a number of players. Tom Millet (26 wickets) led the attack and was later joined by Dayan Jayamanne (20 wickets). Dayan was our player of the finals with (5-32) in both matches. Tony Barnes (31 wickets) provided solid back up including a once in a blue moon performance of (8-47) against the Dreggs. Simmo, our leggie, bowled extremely skilfully to take 14 wickets, including 3 in the semi-final. Unfortunately he missed the final after a much debated training mishap in the lead up to the game. Our bowling also gained an edge from the menacing pace of Benny (22 wickets in 62 overs) and Gleeso (14 wickets) and the cricketing smarts of Viv (17 wickets in 60 overs). Bully (3 wickets) failed to fire with the ball but was easily the best of our out-fielders with several spectacular catches and a rocket-launcher for an arm.

On behalf of Ben and the rest of the team I would like to thank Mac Uni Cricket Club for its continued support. The presentation of Premiership Caps at the Annual Dinner was greatly appreciated and the caps will be worn with pride for many years to come. Thanks must also go to the players from other Mac Uni sides that assisted us in having a full side each week. In particular the team is grateful to Kieren Mahony who answered our last minute SOS to play in the final. The players had a very enjoyable time playing cricket for the club and hopefully this will continue for years to come.

Tony Barnes
Ben Sewell (Captain)

MATCH REPORTS

v Lindfield Dream 8 for 186 defeated Dream 105

Fantastic first game for the 6th Grade team. We took on Lindfield on a cool Sunday afternoon at Koola Park Turf. After being sent in the efforts of Frank Larkin (41), Ben Bradley (54) and Chris (24) ensured we made 186 from our allotted 36 overs. The highlight was Ben Bradley hitting 4 consecutive 4s off the first over from a hapless leg-spinner. We had 4 run-outs though- a couple of players owe their partners beers. We got fired up in the field and their top order was reluctant to play shots. Their top eight batsmen got less than 12 runs each. Kain got the first \$2 fine for a dropped catch but overall our fielding was quite sharp. There was plenty of talk on the field and wickets fell regularly. We had four bowlers; Tony took (2-28) Ben (4-23), Viv (2-21) and Jason Ford (2-38). A good year looked in order for 6th grade, a combination of the Green and Gold teams of the previous year.

v West Pymble Heathens 157 defeated Heathens 148

We played out a hard fought win over a determined Heathens in what was one of the closest games in the team's history. Strong and tight bowling in the end of the innings from Tony (2-28) and Man of the Match Viv (3-32) saw us home by 9 runs. The game began with us winning the toss and deciding to bat. Best performances of the day came from Viv with a swashbuckling (41) off fewer than 30 balls. Top Scorer was Tom Millett (42) who then backed up in the field to open the bowling and take the wickets of both openers. The other notable performance was from Macca who scored a valuable (25) off just as many balls. He held the top order together to avoid a batting collapse. In the field the most notable aspect was the ability of the team to hold onto the majority of catches, with six going to hand. Ben (2-32) also took wickets. We were well placed going into our first 2-day game of the season.

v Kissing Point 177 defeated Kissing Point 69 and 70

The Mac boys dominated this game from the outset. We scored 177 in our only innings with Shane Wilcek (70) leading the way and Kieren Mahony (19), Tom Millett (26) and Adam Wilcek (25) lending support. The bowlers quickly finished off K.P on a hot afternoon for 69 and 70. A great effort by bowlers and fielders alike as we kept the pressure up over the whole day. All the bowlers cashed in, Tony Barnes took (3-20) and (1-15), Jason Ford snared (3-8) and (2-11), Tom Millett had (1-7) in both innings and Ado took (3-18) in the second innings. Man of the match was Shane Wilcek who showed skill, guts and a good eye for the ball to amass (70) in his first bat since playing for school. Could I express the team's thanks to Fordy and Keiran for playing for us over the two weeks.

v Pymble Pigs 127 and 2 for 65 defeated Pigs 107 and 9 for 114

We set up our first innings win on the first day with a starring all round performance from Tom Millett. Tom ripped in on the Koola Park Turf to take (5-38) and was well backed up by Shane Wilcek (2-21) and Ben Sewell (2-5). Tom then tore apart the Pigs attack to rack up (52) and leave us 24 runs short of victory at the close of play. On the second day Viv (10) was striking the ball sweetly until he was caught driving. Dougal (23) showed why he was one of the most consistent batters last season, with countless off drives and one stunning cut shot. Viv and Dougal, along with Matt Chambers (6) were able to knock over the target within 8 overs on the second day. With a 20 run lead we pressed on for an outright victory. The bowlers from Mac were

eager to get into a team, which has become one of our nemeses over the last three years. It started fantastically with Tom Willet (3-23) claiming the top three batters. Tony Barnes (2-14), Viv (3-20) and Ben (1-22) backed up Tom. The Pigs no. 7 and 8 showed fight towards the end of their innings to stymie our push for an outright. Pigs were able to declare late in the day allowing Macca (21 not out) and Viv (44 not out) to play a number of good shots in the last hour. The game was notable for 10 lbs from the two sides, a welcome relief from the uptight cheating usually encountered in Shires.

v *Small Potatoes* 9 for 347 drew with *Small Potatoes* 350

This game was a top of the table clash and certainly played out that way. Our bowling attack was much weakened from the game before and after losing the toss we spent a miserably hot day in the field. We dropped 14 catches, and bowled too short, too full, too wide, too poorly. A team with an aggressive batting line-up punished us. We got some relief at the end of the day, bowling them out for 350 and starting our run chase. We'd lacked concentration and commitment in the field, dropping their top batsman when he was on 30. He then went on to make 132. Tony, Adam Rush, Ben Sewell and Brynley Walters all took two wickets. After a week of reflection with much team input regarding tactics and approach we resumed play. As it turned out the game came down to the last over. With eight runs to get and only 1 wicket in hand there were three possible outcomes; score the 8 runs and earn 7 points for the win; block out the over and earn 4 points for a draw; lose a wicket and lose the game and the top position on the competition table. It turned out that Steve Johnson (142 not out) and Ben Shamgar (2 not out) scored 5 runs off the over and held their wickets. After a marathon of batting we earned a draw and retained top spot on the table. At the beginning of the day with a 350 run target and only 17 runs on the board Kain Walker (33) and Macca (13) showed how an opening pair should wear down bowlers. Brynley Walters (37) came out at first drop and dispatched the short bowling before being caught. Steve Johnson made an astounding century on debut. Batting at 6 he broke the back of our opposition. He was ably supported by Adam Rush (33) and Tony Barnes (25). After a disappointing first day we came back to carve up the Potatoes with many crinkly cuts and crisp chip shots.

v *Dreggs* 154 lost to *Dreggs* 177

The 6ths came into this game on a high after a series of good results capped off by a great performance from a makeshift side in the previous round. Captain Ben Sewell won the toss and we chose to bowl on a coolish day (for once). Ado and Tony Barnes opened the bowling for us and quickly had the batsmen on the backfoot with some lively bowling. An inspired bowling change saw the introduction of Andrew Gleeson (3-25) and he tore through the upper order with a display of fearsome fast bowling. No batsmen looked comfortable against him and once he got warmed up he had most of our team thankful we wouldn't be facing him. A bit of complacency on our part, dropped catches and some freaky slogging brought about some middle-order consolidation for the Dreggs. A man taking his dog for a walk caused an extended delay when the mutt decided to take the ball in its mouth and not let go. Repeated attempts to free the ball failed before Ado intervened with a mighty yank. Ben (4-19) introduced his fast in swinging yorkers to decimate the tail and Symmo (2-46) came back from some early stick. Viv also featured with 2 stumpings. We were chasing a strong but gettable 177 off our 36 overs. Running in for his first delivery their opening bowler tore his calf muscle. It seemed to be a blessing for us as he limped off. Our openers Kain (9) and Gleeson (15) settled in well and began taking their makeshift opening bowlers apart. A bowling change sparked a mini collapse and we lost both our openers in one over to be 2/31 after nine. Viv (29) and Dinuke (9)

then took up the batting and looked solid. Viv's first scoring stroke was a fine six over square leg that had the Uno players in the crowd ducking for cover. They upped the run rate and moved the score on to 73 before another batting collapse. We lost four wickets for 15 runs and suddenly were up against it. We needed another 90 at five an over with only four wickets left. Ben (24) and Symmo (31) were in at this stage and they produced a desperately needed partnership of 45 at quicker than a run a ball. Once again a batting collapse set in and we eventually crumbled to be all out for 154, losing by 23 runs. Most of our batting decline could be put down to injudicious shot making, with numerous catches off attempted slogs, and a couple of big swing-and-misses leading to bowleds. But to be fair to the Dreggs they played well were good in the field, dropping very few catches and always kept it tight. They deserved their victory with a gutsy display.

v Lindfield Winnie Blues 175 defeated Winnie Blues 119

A genuine team effort saw Mac Uni get to 165. Ben Sewell top-scored with a swaggering (39 not out) and four or five batsman scored 16 or 17, including Viv, Symmo, Tom and Tony. In the field we also relied on a team effort against a strong batting line up. Tom, Gleeso and Symmo took two wickets each while Darren Bull, Tony and Ben chipped in with one each. Match highlight was Darren's one handed catch at mid off to intercept a ball that had been hit so hard it would probably have cleared the boundary. A good win.

v Lindfield Dream 198 defeated Lindfield Dream 126

Mac Uni had a hard fought win over a plucky Lindfield side. Some good opening bowling from Crosby (4-41) and great catching saw Mac Uni collapse to 5-44 with Viv, Kain, Gleeso, Dinuke and Simmo back in the pavilion. Dougal survived some early scares with a dropped catch and missed run out which proved costly for Lindfield. Mac Uni didn't panic figuring we could still defend 120 if we kept our heads. The match turned when Benny Sewell (35) joined up with Dougal and continued his rich vein of form. A thumping six over square leg was the batting highlight from Ben. In 12 overs 70 runs were added to get us up to 114 before Ben holed out. The match was still in the balance but with Mark McGoldrick (11) responding well under pressure and Dougal going into overdrive 28 runs were added for the 7th wicket. Another 50 runs were added in the last 6 overs with Dougal racing to (92 not out). By the end we'd reached 8-198 off 36 overs, our best score for a one-day match this year. Lindfield succumbed to the pace of Gleeson (4-16) and the full pitched swing of Ben "Waqar" Sewell (3-31). Matt Palmer (43) attempted to get Lindfield back into the match and had some late support from Solomon (17 not out). The Dream all out 126.

v West Pymble Heathens 4 for 86 defeated Heathens 76

Macquarie Uni's solid form throughout the season continued with our under strength bowling attack single handedly defeating a godless Heathens side. Highlights included the freakish McGoldrick showing he is no mug in the field with sharp throws to affect a brilliant single handed run-out as well combining to affect another runout later on. From the start the opening bowlers Viv (2-34) and Derek (0-12) were consistent without being over emphatic, Derek bowling a solid line and Viv creating chances. Once again the side showed its versatility with generally part-time bowlers being able to effectively open the attack. Ben Sewell (2-21) bowled tightly. Simon Clayton showed why he has gained so much respect from the leg spin bowling fraternity, claiming (4-7) from 8 overs and having the other team chanting "Simmo, Simmo, Simmo". The batting order was shuffled to allow for players down the order to get some match practice. Four quick wickets were lost, Matt Chambers (2) Mark, a

gritty (14), Brynley Walters (5) and Dougal (0). Viv (33 not out) and Simmo (5 not out) steadied the ship without losing any further wickets reaching the total with ease. At the half way point of the season it looked like we had a team that would take some beating as long as we maintained pressure on other sides and kept improving.

v *Kissing Point* 2 for 154 defeated *Kissing Point* 9 for 148

Macquarie retained its spot at the top of the table with our fourth straight win, equalling our best run at the start of the season. We lost the toss and were forced to bowl but with Gleeso (2-21) charging in downhill we were quickly on top with the opening batsman caught at short leg fending off a throat ball and the no.3 getting the sandshoe crusher on middle stump. Tony (3-16) kept the other end tight and the pace continued with Darren "The Bullet" Bull (1-33) close to his best. The key moment of the innings came when a mid-overs revival was snuffed out by a run-out with Viv and Kain combining for the dismissal. The batsman was very unlucky, as his shot had demolished the stumps at the non-strikers end. Simmo (1-30) bowled three maidens but also took some stick late in the innings. Dougal chipped in with safe hands for a skied catch and Kain was in top form behind the stumps with 2 catches and plenty of diving stops. Benny Shamgar (0-19) chimed in with a reasonable spell and some unique fielding after a late call up. Our reply had some of our best batting of the season. After 5 textbook fours from Alex Braid (20), Kain (54 not out) and Viv (59 not out) combined for a bruising partnership to bring up the win in 25 overs. Kain was back to his best with one straight drive endangering non-strikers and umpires alike. Viv finished off the match in a hurry with a big six and plenty of nicely placed lofted shots. The team was also lifted by the return of Macca (3) who fell to a good catch in the gully.

v *Pymble Pigs* 153 lost to *Pigs* 8 for 185

Played at Wellington Road at Lindfield we had a good view of the bush going up in smoke and helicopters ferrying water about. We probably could have appealed against the smoke late in the day when it drifted across the field and reduced visibility. But this was a game that needed to be played out to the finish after everyone had gone through their 40 degree "near death" experience. Doing it toughest were the wicketkeepers - in the game every ball and suffering for it. Well done Kain. It was a terrible toss to lose and the Pig's openers started strongly after an early life. Viv broke the partnership and bowled a particularly canny spell to take (4-32). The side welcomed back Big Tom Millet who reduced his run up and bowled craftily for (3-42). Gleeso also bowled with great heart in his eight over spell of (0-36). Pigs were able to cash in late, having wickets in hand. After spending much energy in the field our batting wavered to 6-74. Our leading light was Mark McGoldrick who took on arguably the best new ball attack in the competition and sent them packing in a score of (37) made up of numerous powerful fours. Following Mark's dismissal, Simmo (15) and Matt (36) combined for a 54 run partnership that put us back on top. Pigs managed to regroup just as they looked shot and wrapped up the match at about seven o'clock. The shot of the day came from Kain whose straight drive down the ground for six was never going to miss Macca's car and left an indelible mark on his petrol cap. A win would have been nice on such a tough day but just to get through it was something of an achievement.

v *Dreggs* 179 tied with *Dreggs* 179

We had the misfortune of playing on Sunday at Koola Park Turf in conditions not dissimilar to the oven bake of the previous Saturday. We had some luck with the toss, batted first but didn't make the most of it. Mark had one of the more memorable

dismissals of the season when he shouldered arms to his first ball. It seemed a reasonable decision until the ball slowly swung about 2 feet to clip the top of his off stump. Dreggs continued to conjure up a series of dismissals in amidst a lot of wides, no balls, long hops and a ponderous over rate that would have embarrassed the West Indian sides of the 1980s. Kain Walker (61) maintained superb concentration and excellent shot selection but without sustained support couldn't get us completely out of trouble. John played some good shots for (14) and Tony (26) and Michael Zheng (0 not out) combined for a 34 run partnership late in the day to get the total up to what we thought might be a defensible score on a greenish pitch. After seven overs of blazing shots the Dreggs put themselves solidly on top at the end of the day and left us with cause for a rethink before the resumption of play the next week. It turned out to be a match of two finishes. The first involved the Dreggs Number 11 driving down the ground for 2 for what seemed a winning total until the scorebooks were checked to reveal the usual half assed scoring. After a bit of discussion it was decided scores were tied so we trooped back out to the field of play whereupon the batsman hit a catch straight to Bully at mid off. There was much to like about our performance. Dreggs were cruising at 1-112 with a very good opening batsman playing commanding cover and straight drives. We began to chip away at the batsmen at the other end despite our bowling stocks being a bit thin. Gleeso badly strained a side muscle early on, Viv was out of action with arm problems and Bully's bowling was a bit all over the shop. Tom Millet was superb through 19 overs for (2-38) tying the batsman down from the end where not much was happening. This allowed Tony Barnes to work some slow medium mojo to take (8-47) from 14.4 overs from the end that was keeping down and seaming about a bit. Darren Bull dug deep after a disappointing spell to chase everything in the field and take 3 crunch catches at mid-off including a nasty skier that had the rest of us thankful we weren't under it. Kain took a caught behind and worked hard as usual.

v *Sons of Thunder* 161 lost to *Sons of Thunder* 7 for 165

This game started in spectacular fashion with Mark bringing up his second golden duck in a row after shouldering arms. Viv (25) and Kain (20) fought hard against a willing attack but we soon slumped to 5-65. This brought together two debutants, Dayan Jayamanne (29 not out) and Aaron Christie David (30) who took us up to a defensible total with some smart play. Dayan turned over the strike while Aaron smote two large sixes into the bush. Matt Chambers (10) swung lustily in the final overs. Sons of Thunder decided that if they were going to win they had to win big and their swing at all costs approach paid off with a number of fours and sixes. This game saw the introduction of what would be Dayan's decisive bowling. Bowling at fast medium Dayan's (2-31) control of line and length suggested significant talent. Mark (2-36) and Aaron (2-36) hustled in to be well rewarded in tough bowling conditions and although we took late wickets Sons deserved their win.

v *Lindfield Winnies Blues* 8-158 lost to *Winnie Blues* 4 for 160

Early runs from Tom (17), Viv (15), Doug Latto (12) and Dinuke (14) couldn't stop us from slumping to 8-92. Dinuke was unlucky to be runout after two big sixes. Brynley (32 not out) and Tony (26 not out) got us to a reasonable total and put on an undefeated 66 for the 9th wicket. Dayan (2-24) took early wickets to leave the Blues at 4-47. Fowler (33 not out) and McGowan (83 not out) then smashed their way to the target in good time.

v Lindfield Dream 6 for 158 defeated Lindfield 150

6th grade got back on track with a hard fought win at William Cowan Oval in St Ives. After winning the toss we benefited from bowling on a wet deck with Tom Millet (3-22 off 18) getting the ball to rear dangerously. Lindfield were soon 4-12. Some poor catching and spirited batting got Lindfield to 5-128 before Dayan (6-32 off 17) switched from seam to off-spin to clean up the tail. We finished the first day at 1-28 with Kain dismissed for (10). These were valuable runs as the lush outfield on the second day made scoring hard work. We managed only 2 fours in our innings and had to chip away with 1s & 2s. Mark McGoldrick (20) played well at the top and Viv (20) also batted well. At 6-97 however we'd definitely lost the advantage before Dayan (30 not out) showcased his batting while Tony (21 not out) hung around at the other end. Positive running between the wickets helped our cause.

v West Pymble Heathens 100 lost to Heathens 202

Needing a first innings win to secure the Minor Premiership we were pretty much steamrolled at William Cowan Oval. Tom Millet (2-45) bowled impressively enough to pick up 6 or 7 wickets but was badly let down by poor catching. Gleeso (1-17), Tony (2-45), Viv (2-14) Kain (1-2) picked up wickets while Simmo and Bully bowled well without luck. West Pymble managed to unearth a new fast bowler for the final game of the season. Funny what you can do when you're a few points out of the four. We didn't handle the late out and inswing all that well while their other good bowler took advantage at the other end with some good seam bowling. In between the onslaught Simmo (23) and Dougal (22) played well, taking advantage of the spinners bowling before tea. Kain also batted well at the top of the order for (17). Badly out of form and with no momentum we went into the semis with nothing to lose. A dramatic turnaround was needed to challenge teams who were at the top of their game.

v Linfield Winnie Blues 211 defeated Winnie Blues 122

6th grade won its semi-final convincingly to fire the boys up for the Grand Final. The game was played over 2 days on an unprepared Koola turf pitch. It was a green top that promised plenty of movement. MUCC lost the toss and the Blues, confident of some quick wickets, sent us in to bat. We were soon 2-8, the bowlers getting plenty of swing, movement and bounce. Lindfield had every right to be confident. An outstanding partnership followed between Viv (54) and Brynley (14) featuring plenty of passion and sure technique. Viv's application and shot making confirmed his standing as the best batsman in the competition. Winnie Blues then fought back to have us 7-133. The match was again in the balance until Dinuke (51) teamed up with Dayan (22). Dinuke proceeded to play the innings of the year blasting ten 4's and a six in about 30 balls. If you've seen the photo of Victor Trumper playing a front foot drive than you'll have some idea of how Dinuke played. Tom (16) and Tony (14) also chipped in to nudge the score over 200. Scoring at over 4 an over allowed us to avoid the tense batting usually associated with semi-finals. The Winnie Blues didn't ever look like they would make the total - at stumps on day one they were 34 for the loss of two wickets. The next day saw the emergence of Dayan as our strike bowler. He bowled an excellent line and length and was rewarded with figures of (5-32). Simmo (3-17) snuffed out a mini comeback from the tail and Tom (1-39) and Gleeso (1-7) deserved their wickets. Our fielding also featured, Kain having a huge impact with 3 catches and a stumping. Viv snared 2 catches at first slip to lend great support to the bowlers. The Blues succumbed to be all out for 122. After the first day when the Blues cranked up the stereo each time they got a wicket, it was satisfying to see the stereo stay on pause during the second day. The team responded to finals'

pressure by playing even more aggressively than we did during the regular season and this approach left us well placed going into the final against the mighty Pigs.

v Pymble Pigs 178 defeated Pigs 85

THE FINAL: And what a match it was.....

On an occasion with such high expectations winning the toss was crucial. The Pigs called correctly and elected to bowl in an effort to steamroll Mac Uni and protect their own "soft underbelly". Boasting an attack led by Matt "Akram" Whittaker, the Pigs pressed fiercely for early scalps. Our nerves weren't helped with the late loss of Dougal and Simmo to injury and our team wasn't settled until we collected Kieran Mahony from a nearby shopping centre. Kain (26) and Mark (5) battled hard to protect our middle order and take the shine off the ball. Stewart managed to slip one through Mark's defence to bring up the first wicket at 22. Whittaker then managed to get an edge from Kain to bring up 50 wickets for the season. Consolidation was the key and Millet (22) and Samdarshi (15) provided with a solid partnership to get to a respectable 4 for 85. Runs were hard to come by on a slow outfield and Pigs were visibly lifted with Viv's dismissal. The innings fell away to 7-109 before last minute ring in Keiran (31) played calmly and decisively, making the most of the shorter on side boundary to hit three 4's and a six. At 9-142 the game was evenly poised and after playing himself in Darren "The Bullet" Bull rose to the occasion. Supported by Tony (14) the number 11 pulverised the attack to all parts of the ground with 2 towering sixes and an equal number of boundaries. Darren (25) lifted the spirits of Mac Uni with a fierce quick-time knock. The Pigs left the field on a downer and we were confident that 178 would prove competitive. No one can write the Pigs off on "any given Sunday" but while Mac Uni stuck tight, the Pigs batting revealed a lot of self-doubt. From the outset they seemed to be playing for a draw and quickly got into trouble. Pigs had the crowd, they had the support and they had the Winnie Blues, but Mac Uni had plenty of resolve. Chasing a highish total in a final was always going to be tough. Our attack, though dented by the absence of quality leggie Simmo had only once failed to take all 10 wickets in an innings. With Tom "The last of the Mohicans" Millet, Dayan "The Don" Jayamanne and slippery Gleeso at first change we were set to wreak havoc. The Pigs openers were gutsy and patient but got bogged down by lack of strike rotation and shots. The fielding and catching was just short of magical. Walker and Samdarshi were in scintillating form with the gloves and hands behind the stumps. If catches win matches then we held them like glue to paper. From the early onslaught of pace by Tommy and the class of Dayan against the floundering line-up, Mac Uni had all the answers. Every wicket had something special in it, from Dayan's (5 for 32) to the last wicket when "The Bullet" scattered the stumps. From here we were popping open champagne, getting team photos and celebrating the season with a long team drink. In the end we won both the semi and the final by 85 runs and you only had to be at there at the end to witness the fine line between the success of winning and the heartache of falling short. But the Pigs have been there before and are sure to bounce back. To the Mac Uni boys, each one enjoyed a fantastic season... it is fair to say that they were deserving champions, especially on "This given Sunday".

G.D.J.C.A. GRADE STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
D. Mitchie	7	6	1	92x	141	28.20	5
V. Samdarshi	16	17	3	59x	384	27.43	9
T. Millet	11	11	-	52	205	18.64	3
T. Barnes	17	15	5	26x	182	18.20	5
K. Walker	17	17	1	61	268	16.75	25+3stp.
B. Sewell	11	10	1	39x	142	15.78	6
S. Clayton	11	10	2	31	114	14.25	3
D. Christie-David	11	10	1	51	111	12.33	4
M. McGoldrick	13	13	-	37	116	8.92	3
S. Johnson	1	1	1	142x	142	****	-

ALSO BATTED (Less than 100 Runs)

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
B. Bradley	1	1	-	54	54	54.00	-
F. Larkin	1	1	-	41	41	41.00	-
D. Bull	10	4	3	25x	39	39.00	5
D. Jayamanne	5	5	2	30x	99	33.00	1
A. Christie-David	1	1	-	30	30	30.00	-
S. Wilcek	3	3	-	70	75	25.00	2
K. Mahony	2	2	-	31	50	25.00	1
A. Wilcek	1	1	-	25	25	25.00	-
C. Braid	1	1	-	24	24	24.00	-
A. Rush	2	2	-	33	44	22.00	-
A. Braid	1	1	-	20	20	20.00	-
B. Walters	6	6	1	37	98	19.60	1
A. McWinney	7	8	1	25	93	13.29	1
M. Chambers	9	8	2	36	73	12.17	3
D. Latto	1	1	-	12	12	12.00	-
J. Hazlem	2	2	-	14	19	9.50	-
A. Gleeson	10	8	1	18	58	8.29	1
F. Quah	2	2	1	4x	7	7.00	1
J. Ford	2	1	-	4	4	4.00	3
K. Hew	1	1	-	4	4	4.00	-
M. Karlekar	2	2	-	6	7	3.50	-
N. Hand	4	3	1	5	5	2.50	-
B. Shamgar	4	2	1	2x	2	2.00	-
D. Cunningham	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	-
M. Zheng	2	1	1	0x	0	****	-
D. Couper	1	-	-	-	-	****	-
C. Baker	1	-	-	-	-	****	-

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
D. Jayamanne	64	17	151	20	-	3	7.55
B. Sewell	68	10	239	23	-	-	10.39
V. Samdarshi	45	2	223	17	-	-	13.12
A. Gleeson	62	7	192	14	-	-	13.71
T. Millet	163	50	372	26	-	1	14.31
T. Barnes	146.4	19	504	30	-	1	16.80
S. Clayton	72.3	15	273	14	-	-	19.50

ALSO BOWLED (Less than 10 Wickets)

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	10 in Match	5 in Inn.	Average
K. Walker	1.1	-	2	1	-	-	2.00
B. Walters	1	-	14	2	-	-	7.00
J. Ford	16.1	4	56	4	-	-	8.00
A. Wilcek	8	-	24	3	-	-	8.00
M. McGoldrick	13	1	107	4	-	-	26.75
S. Wilcek	23	4	101	3	-	-	33.67
A. Christie-David	5	-	36	1	-	-	36.00
A. Rush	16	2	89	2	-	-	45.00
D. Mitchie	9	1	46	1	-	-	46.00
D. Bull	36.3	1	181	3	-	-	60.33
D. Couper	6	-	12	-	-	-	****
B. Shamgar	5	-	30	-	-	-	****
A. McWinney	3	-	35	-	-	-	****
S. Johnson	6	-	43	-	-	-	****

GDJCA 2002-03

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	D. Mitchie	28.20
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	V. Samdarshi	384
<i>Highest Score</i>	S. Johnson	142 not out v Small Potatoes
<i>Bowling Average</i>	D. Jayamanne	7.55
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	T. Barnes	30
<i>Most Wickets in an Innings</i>	T. Barnes	8/47 v Dreggs
<i>Most Wickets in a Match</i>	T. Barnes	8/47 v Dreggs
<i>Wicket Keeping</i>	K. Walker	25 catches + 3 stumpings
<i>Centuries</i>	S. Johnson	142 not out v Small Potatoes
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	9/347 v Small Potatoes	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	100 v West Pymble Heathens	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	16
<i>Won Outright</i>	1
<i>Won 1st Innings</i>	8
<i>Tied</i>	1
<i>Drawn</i>	1
<i>Lost 1st Innings</i>	5
<i>Lost Outright</i>	-
<i>Position in Competition</i>	1st

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	2371	2657
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	154	165
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	15.39	16.10

HIGHEST "GDJCA" PARTNERSHIPS 2002-03

Wicket	Batsmen		Runs		Opponent	
1	K. Walker	9	A. Gleeson	15	29	Dreggs
	F. Larkin	41	N. Hand	5	29	Lindfield Dream
2	A. McWhinney	11	T. Millet	52	69	Pymble Pigs
3	K. Walker	54x	V. Samdarshi	59x	111x	Kissing Point
4	K. Walker	61	S. Clayton	7	39	Dreggs
5	S. Clayton	15	A. Gleeson	15	32	Winnie Blues
6	D. Mitchie	92x	B. Sewell	35	70	Lindfield Dream
7	S. Johnson	142x	A. Rush	33	104	Small Potatoes
8	D. Christie-David	51	D. Jayamanne	22	52	Winnie Blues
9	B. Walters	32x	T. Barnes	26x	66x	Winnie Blues
10	D. Bull	25x	T. Barnes	14	36	Pymble Pigs

MASTERS REPORT

The Masters Team in 2002-3 played 11 games with 7 wins, 3 losses and a draw to finish a very creditable 4th of 18 starters. Individual highlights included McVey topping the competition bowling aggregate with 22 wickets at 11.41. Brown with 279 at 68.50 and Howlett 274 at 55.40 were the leading run getters. The season also saw the welcome return to Macquarie of Kendall, Hobbs and Anderson and the debut of Hall.

My sincere thanks to the Committee for their hard work. Finally, thank you to everyone who played Masters, it is great to enjoy your company and the rich traditions of this wonderful game.

Allan Mahoney

Masters Captain

MATCH REPORTS

v Parramatta 142 lost to Parramatta 9 for 158

We lost the toss but bowled and fielded pretty well to contain the Parra boys to 158. Burchett was the pick of the bowlers with (2/9) off his 3 overs. Brownie, Dixon (3 wickets) and McVey were all very steady and on a fairly fast outfield. We felt we had a big chance to knock off the 159 needed. We were looking pretty safe at 4 for 124 in the 33rd over but collapsed to be all out for 142. There were many good starts but not enough conversions. Brownie (36), Howlett (31) and Mahoney (26) all batted well but failed to go to the magic 40 not out. We lost, but it was still a great day and we enjoyed being back on the paddock together.

v Epping 8 for 227 defeated Epping 9 for 206

A run feast at Macquarie. We were sent in and compiled a formidable 227 off our 40 overs. Howlett with (49 not out) and Brown (54 not out) were the stars. In reply Epping were flying along at 2 for 102 in the 18th over, but we steadily picked up wickets and they were soon behind the required run-rate. The conclusion was a little farcical with Dixon picking up three wickets after the sun had set. Still this was a good win against neighbourhood rivals.

v Barker Old Boys 3 for 158 defeated Barker Old Boys 157

We lost our third toss and were invited to field against an 8 man BOB side. We fielded a side with only two and a half bowlers. Brown (0/22) and Dixon (2/35) both bowled straight, Dixon picking up both his wickets in broad daylight. Howlett (2/35) displayed great variation. The star was Hort with (3/32), all bowled. Mahoney (0/10) also gave himself an over, which makes 4 for the career. The fielding was excellent. BOB's target was passed in the 32nd over with the loss of only 3 wickets. Hort capped a great day with (40 not out), Brown continued good form with another (40 not out) and Mahoney made (35).

v Kenthurst 1 for 142 defeated Kenthurst 141

We lost our 4th consecutive toss and were invited to bowl on a rock hard Gwilliam deck. Brown and Dixon both picked up early wickets, which brought Kenthurst's gun bat to the crease. The first two balls were despatched to the cover boundary. This

seemed to stir the competitive juices of Brown and Dixon who both bowled superbly for extended spells (for Masters). Brown was rested and Payne took over. His first over cost 3, the next 15 from the first 5 balls and then the wicket we needed, caught behind for 39. McVey came on and bowled beautifully taking (4/29 off 8), Howlett (1/16 off 4). Dixon finished with (1/26 off 8), Brown (2/28 off 8) and Payne (1/39 off 7). Kenthurst were all out for only the second time in two years. Hobbs kept well and the ground fielding was superb. We dropped some tough chances from the middle-order hitter who hit the ball as hard as anyone on the Gwilliam in recent years including consecutive sixes off Payne over mid-off and mid-on. The captain bowled himself again and bowled a wicket maiden, fair dinkum! The batsman was the same bloke who hit Marty out of the park. After two dot balls (which he had to play), the third he could have hit anywhere, but having changed his mind three times he hit it straight to Chris Luckman at cover. Career wicket total is now 2. A very polished batting display saw us lose only one wicket, Terry Luckman for (27). Kendall got (42) before retiring, Howlett (33 not out) and Brown (35 not out). A good win over quality opposition.

v Central Coast CC 8 for 183 defeated Central Coast CC 116

Macquarie tours again. Off we went to Doyalson, (near Newcastle, NSW, Australia). Great drive up the F3. Dixon, as the stand-in toss caller, won the toss and elected to bat with six batters available, good decision Ken. On a very slow wicket featuring inconsistent bounce, new boys Central Coast bowled well to have us contained at 5 for 105 off 30, the highlight to that stage being Kendall's (41 not out) from an opening stand of 51. However Brown with another (40 not out), Payne an aggressive (33) and Hobbs with a dashing (18) saw us storm to 183. Brown picked up a wicket second ball and we were on our way with wickets falling consistently and CCCC all out, well short of the target. Hort got the figures, (4 for 20 off 8.1) swinging and cutting the ball dramatically, Brown bowled an interesting mix getting (3 for 41). Dixon had no luck, (0 for 26). We enjoyed a couple of cold beers before the drive home, as a former colleague would have said it was a *four can trip* back.

v Castle Hill 6 for 139 defeated Castle Hill 138

We had a long trip to Kenthurst on a pleasant summer's day and after losing another toss were invited to field. The deck was dry and grassy and at times behaved quite erratically. An early run out by Howlett from fine leg to the bowler's end got us off to good start. Hort with the new cherry picked up 1 wicket and Brown 2 to have the opposition struggling at 4/31. The Castle Hill captain batted well before tiring and getting himself out for 39, 1 short of the retirement score of 40. This proved to be a vital wicket. The spinners Denlow (1/26), McVey (0/22) and Howlett (4/17) all bowled well and Castle Hill were all out for a modest 138. Hobbs sported a nice range of bruises after being hit all over the body whilst keeping. The bounce on a decent length ranged from shoulder high to none at all. Our innings got off to a poor start. In the first over Terry Luckman was run out for a diamond duck taking a third run for Kendall. Kendall was out next over lbw struck on the ankle attempting to pull. Brown and Howlett steadied the ship before Brown was caught and bowled for (30). Howlett batted with great composure for (40 not out). The middle order played a variety of dreadful shots, and we slumped to 6 for 102 and Castle Hill were in with a chance. Fortunately Hobbs (15 not out) and McVey (20 not out) played straight and hit the loose ball hard to see us home with 6 overs to spare.

v Burwood 7 for 77 defeated Burwood 76

This was a tight game dominated by the bowlers. We lost the toss (again) and fielded but with Burwood 5 for 40 it looked like a good toss to lose. Ken Dixon bowled eight overs for (3 for 4) and Danny McVey picked up (3 for 19) off his allotted 10. Neil bowled tightly and picked up a couple. Burchett bowled two good overs for 5, a missed chance

and was hard done by not to get another over or two. Hobbs took us all back to our youth with a masterly performance behind the stumps, including a blinder of a catch taken low in front of second slip and a great stumping (which unfortunately wasn't given). Burwood had been cleaned up for 76 and we were confident when Col and Simon walked out to open the innings. We were even more confident at 0 for 25, but then the trouble started. Col went for (16) and Howlett for a golden, and was heard to mumble as he returned to the pavilion "Not often I get more wickets than runs". The wickets kept tumbling till we were 5/54 and then 7/63, but eventually Danny and Hobbsy steered us to a win.

v Penrith 7 for 190 lost to Penrith 6 for 194

We played at Howell Oval, Penrith's First Grade ground on a hot, humid day. The skipper won his first toss of the season and had no hesitation batting on an absolute road of a wicket and a ground with a vast outfield. Kendall (35) and Burchett (25) both played solidly to give us a good start. Fitness (or lack of it) was tested with many threes being run. Brown (27) and Howlett (43 not out) kept the run rate up. Mahoney (22) had a slog and we finished with a competitive total. When our turn came to bowl we were somewhat short of firepower, unfortunately Brown wrenched a knee whilst batting and hobbled through his 10 overs. Late inclusion Dixon was unable to bowl at all having carried a back strain into the game. But we gave it our best shot. Hort (1/30 off 5), McVey (3/45 off 9), Burchett (1/16 off 3) and Mahoney (1/21) off 5 were the wicket takers. Penrith passed our total with 2.1 overs to go. In the end a dropped catch or two, lack of depth in the bowling and a very ordinary run out decision on their best bat, who retired with a terrific 40, cost us. This was a disappointing result from a very hard fought, but ultimately enjoyable game, at an excellent venue. A couple of other *highlights*; the Red Bull ladies giving away freebies (drinks that is), Chris Luckman still thinks he's 21! Dixon's brave fielding with his shins and resultant massive bruising. Ken left at the end of the day with an orange flavoured ice block tied to his shin with a sock, *what a sight!*

v Warringah 120 lost to Warringah 9 for 121

We batted first on a grassy Macquarie main deck. Only Chris Luckman with a season best of (32) managed to get amongst the runs. The bowlers dominated with the ball doing plenty. Warringah fared little better and fell over the line 9 wickets down in the final over, Dixon and McVey both picked up 3 wickets. This was a very competitive game of cricket played with some feeling.

v Mosman 4 for 73 drew with Mosman 8 for 131

This was a rescheduled game at Macquarie following a pre-Christmas washout. It saddens that the game was not completed when a member of the Mosman team, John McKenzie, suffered a heart attack and died. John was bowling at the time and without warning collapsed. Despite the CPR efforts of a couple of his team-mates and the arrival of two ambulances, efforts to revive John ceased at Ryde Hospital. He had been involved with Mosman cricket for over 30 years. Our condolences and thoughts go to John's family and team-mates. For the record we sent Mosman in, bowling honours went to Danny McVey with a great return of (5 for 30 off 10). In reply we were 4 for 73 of 26.5, with Howlett not out on (27), the game was set up for a good finish, but it was not to be. The events of this day are a stark reminder to all of us to value the things that you treasure.

v Cricketers Club of NSW 8 for 142 defeated Cricketers Club of NSW 6 for 140

Played at Camperdown Oval, this was a great game of cricket. Our hosts went to considerable effort to get the game on after overnight rain. We won the toss and sent the opposition in to bat. Everyone who wanted a spell got a bowl. Highlights included tight openings from Dixon and Hort, Hall's maiden wicket for the club and Dixon, on his return to the crease, being tonked all over the park. In reply to a moderate 6 for 142 we lost Kendall for a golden, which got Howlett in early for a rapid (40 not out). Many overs were used up by the middle-order for little return. With one over left we needed 6 and they needed 2 wickets. Dixon on strike, two off each of the first two balls, nothing off the next two, a single off the penultimate delivery. Scores tied, one to come, McVey gently turns the ball to leg for the win. A great game, at a ground as pretty as any in Sydney, played in excellent spirit with gracious hosts. A nice way to finish the season.

MASTERS STATISTICS 2002-03

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
N. Howlett	10	10	6	49x	274	68.50	6
G. Brown	9	9	4	54x	279	55.40	5
C. Kendall	10	10	2	46x	195	24.38	2
S. Burchett	8	8	-	25	123	15.38	3
A. Mahoney	9	8	-	35	107	13.38	4

ALSO BATTED (Less than 100 Runs)

Batsman	Matches	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average	Catches
M. Payne	3	1	-	33	33	33.00	1
B. Hort	6	6	2	40x	94	23.50	3
G. Hobbs	10	7	3	20	73	18.25	8+6stp.
D. McVey	9	7	4	20x	49	16.33	2
C. Anderson	4	4	1	17	35	11.67	1
C. Luckman	8	6	1	32	54	10.80	5
K. Dixon	10	6	2	21	43	10.75	3
T. Luckman	8	6	-	27	52	8.67	3
M. Denlow	2	1	-	7	7	7.00	2
D. Hall	9	5	1	8	17	4.25	1
G. Slimmon	4	3	1	2x	3	1.50	-
A. Crockart	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	1
A. Slimmon	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

BOWLING AVERAGES

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	5 in Inn.	Average
D. McVey	79	12	251	22	1	11.41
K. Dixon	78.5	14	234	16	-	14.63
N. Howlett	57.3	4	240	16	-	15.00
B. Hort	46.1	4	168	11	-	15.27
G. Brown	86.3	18	273	12	-	22.75

ALSO BOWLED (Less than 10 Wickets)

Bowler	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	5 in Inn.	Average
S. Burchett	13	1	55	4	-	13.75
D. Hall	2	-	15	1	-	15.00
A. Mahoney	11	1	55	2	-	27.50
C. Kendall	6	-	29	1	-	29.00
A. Crockart	7	-	34	1	-	34.00
M. Denlow	8	-	40	1	-	40.00
M. Payne	12	-	74	1	-	74.00
A. Slimmon	3	-	10	-	-	*****
G. Slimmon	2	-	14	-	-	*****

MASTERS GRADE 2002-03

BEST PERFORMANCES

<i>Batting Average</i>	N. Howlett	68.50
<i>Batting Aggregate</i>	G. Brown	279
<i>Highest Score</i>	G. Brown	54x v Epping
<i>Bowling Average</i>	D. McVey	11.41
<i>Bowling Aggregate</i>	D. McVey	22
<i>Most Wickets in an Innings</i>	D. McVey	5/30 v Mosman
<i>Wicket Keeping</i>	G. Hobbs	8 catches + 6 stp.
<i>Centuries</i>	-	
<i>Highest Team Score</i>	8/227 v Epping	
<i>Lowest Team Score</i>	120 v Warringah	

RESULTS

<i>Played</i>	11
<i>Won</i>	7
<i>Tied</i>	-
<i>Drawn</i>	1
<i>Lost</i>	3
<i>Position in Competition</i>	3rd

TEAM STATISTICS

MACQUARIE

OPPONENTS

<i>Runs Scored</i>	1,594	1,578
<i>Wickets Lost</i>	71	894
<i>Average per Wicket</i>	22.45	16.78

HIGHEST "MASTERS" PARTNERSHIPS 2002-03

Wicket	Batsmen				Runs	Opponent
1	C Kendall	42 r	T.Luckman	27	75	Kenthurst
2	C. Kendall	26	N. Howlett	49x	72	Epping
	G. Brown	54x				
3	N. Howlett	43 r	G. Brown	27	83	Penrith
4	N. Howlett	40 r	B. Hort	24	68	Cricketers Club
	C. Luckman	14				
5	N. Howlett	27x	B. Hort	12x	36x	Mosman
6	M. Payne	33	G. Hobbs	18	55	Lake Macquarie
7	C. Luckman	32	C. Anderson	17	44	Warringah
8	T. Luckman	12	D. McVey	8x	21	Cricketers Club
9	N. Howlett	49x	G. Brown	54x	19x	Epping
10	C. Anderson	17	G. Hobbs	0x	1	Warringah

CURRENT PLAYERS - 40 GAMES MINIMUM

	MATCHES	RUNS	AVERAGE	WICKETS	AVERAGE	CATCHES
T. Barnes	177	2,965	18.30	103	20.50	65
P. Batten	46	937	22.85	93	13.94	21
B. Bradley	112	1,916	20.82	4	19.50	88 + 7stp.
J. Breden	173	3,918	25.01	87	23.69	62
G. Brown	190	3,679	25.54	416	17.51	82
D. Budge	160	1,355	15.57	267	19.89	37
S. Burchett	274	6,008	22.01	4	42.50	130 + 2 stp.
R. Cann	76	908	12.10	45	21.73	34 + 1stp.
P. Chapman	74	775	11.74	107	19.71	18
P. Chew	115	2,829	24.38	4	39.25	34
M. Denlow	234	4,745	18.11	44	27.00	58
K. Dixon	195	2,732	21.85	320	17.04	49
T. Dorrell	84	2,235	23.28	38	27.44	62
C. Edwards	206	3,138	20.92	251	24.37	87
P. Erskine	50	1,150	17.69	17	41.11	19
C. Fernandes	69	1,081	17.72	-	-	112 + 7 stp.
W. Folkard	321	3,993	18.57	386	20.91	103
J. Ford	127	663	9.20	132	24.59	50 + 1stp.
S. Gasser	45	771	17.93	55	22.20	29
A. Hale	50	792	21.40	106	17.31	25
G. Hobbs	42	592	20.41	-	-	44 + 17 stp.
C. Hook	167	2,115	14.10	119	25.33	62
B. Hort	136	3,266	26.77	24	21.79	62
N. Howlett	71	1,636	27.72	25	15.44	25
M. Hughes	151	2,848	21.41	2	28.00	54 + 7 stp.
D. Latto	156	2,778	17.58	85	26.58	53
G. Lego	250	6,341	27.93	1	65.00	120
A. Lulka	68	880	15.43	98	22.46	15
A. Mahoney	325	7,321	21.46	3	22.00	166 + 4 stp.
S. O'Reilly	151	4,426	33.27	26	37.57	69
M. Payne	63	1,013	17.46	80	22.92	29
B. Rounds	55	1,331	17.28	118	17.92	39
P. Saliba	101	2,231	20.28	7	29.85	51
C. Savage	60	1,061	16.32	4	61.25	24
M. Schaafsma	145	3,010	19.67	3	35.00	46
A. Slimmon	65	896	14.22	28	22.82	15
D. Smith	89	890	16.79	147	17.55	15
W. Travers	103	1,466	17.66	151	25.09	49
D. Webb	164	3,155	23.72	424	14.85	76