

C.C.N.S.W. C&S MATCH REPORTS

2014-2015

CITY & SUBURBAN ROUND 1 v YARALLA AT GODDARD PARK, CONCORDE ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 11, 2014: REPORT BY IAN ALLMEY

A glorious sunny day welcomed the teams to the traditional season opener against Yaralla at Goddard Park. The outfield was cut close and the wicket was an Ed Smith nightmare (a road) and a batting paradise.

Taking over the reins this year Ian Allmey welcomed the players to the season and handed out the new coloured shirts and we were ready to go.

C.C.N.S.W. won the toss and to this day Ian still has not told David Ross (Yaralla skipper) what he wants to do. Ian and David wandered back to the dressing and C.C.N.S.W. led by Ian and Tom Robertson came out to bat.

The opening pair were off to a quick start, scoring regular boundaries of the first couple of overs. The bowling then tightened up and runs slowed up, Tommy being the first to go with the score on 56.

In came the first of the new recruits Regan Smith who after a cautious start unleashed hell on the Yaralla bowlers, compiling an impressive 110* on debut. Allmey was out for an unusually slow 48 off 60 balls which brought in Scott Wells who after a promising start was out caught for 13. Matt Abeysekera got the early season jitters and was caught without troubling the scorer but we all know Matt will come back strong from that. Euan Robertson looked solid before being bowled for 4 and Ed Smith who was escalated up the order finished with a very handed 13*. The batting day belonged to Regan Smith and again a big congrats for a great achievement for the club. C.C.N.S.W. finished with 5-222 off 35 overs

Out we came to bowl with a couple of the usual suspects in Ed Smith and Peter Crooks. The Yaralla batsmen also took advantage of the flat track and were off to a solid start before Ed Smith struck with a cracking delivery destroying the bail and Yaralla 1-21 off 3 overs. The bowlers had to work hard and Yaralla were taking it to our bowlers and at the drinks break they were on track at 1-105.

Then the game changer, Scotty Wells was brought into the attack after drinks and bamboozled the Yaralla batsman, breaking the dangerous partnership by removing both of their batsmen Ross and Telper for 41 and 75 respectively. Scotty finished his spell with 3-17 off 5 overs.

Yaralla finished their 35 overs at 9-200. Overall a solid performance from all the bowlers and I'm sure they were all a little tender come Sunday morning and probably worse today. Also I need to mention our other debutant James Clark whom also proved himself to be another very handy addition to the club who will be very hard to handle with the newer pill.

In the end a good win for the boys and a beer was shared after the game by both teams

The Team (with batting) was: - Ian Allmey (c) 48, Tom Robertson 24, Regan Smith 110*, Scott Wells 13, Matt Abeysekera 0, Euan Robertson Ed Smith 13*, James Clarke (dnb), Matt Gale (w) dnb Shane Peterson (dnb) and Peter Crooks (dnb)

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - 5 - 222 (R. Smith 110*, I. Allmey 48, T. Robertson 24) (35 overs)

Defeated

Yaralla C.C.: - 5-200 (S. Wells 3-17, E. Smith 1-32)

By 22 runs.

The Bowling was: - E smith 6-2-32-1; P. Crooks 9-1-54-1; S. Peterson 5-0-33-0; J Clarke 7-0-49-0; S. Wells 5-1-17-3 and T. Robertson 3-0-13-0

The Fielding was: - No details given

Player Points: - No details given

CITY & SUBURBAN ROUND 2 v ST GEORGE VETERANS AT SUTHERLAND OVAL, GUNNAMATTA BAY ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 19, 2014: REPORT BY TOM ROBERTSON

With C.C.N.S.W. being the reigning Jack Pace champions, hopes were high we should kick off with a win against St George Vets on the beautiful Gunnamatta Bay

We lost the toss and being two bowlers short we were in a position which forced us to open with Tom Robertson. The crowd were excited but those who know the game knew things weren't quite right. Peter Crooks started us off and was faced with a very aggressive youngster who hit over the top early. Tom then came on and bowled said youngster first ball. Sadly it was a no ball. From then on nothing was even close to the stumps. Pete and Tom bowled without success until a double change in the late arrival Smith and Shane "*where are my driving pants*" Peterson.

Ed got both openers and Shane started to bowl a good line and length after a couple of warm up overs. Greg Brooks and Scott Wells then took over proceedings but were both unable to penetrate and get us on the front foot. The wicket did provide support for the bowlers if they put it on the spot. Ed was the man to do that today and he ended up with a well-deserved 5fer.

Brett favell and Ian Allmey went out and got us off to a flyer. Brett had to go early to play the triangle at '*The King and I*' at 4:30 so he had to retire. We were cruising at 10 an over and with an in form Regan Smith joining Ian we were quite relaxed on the sideline.

From then on it was then an episode on *How to get yourself out*. Ian stumped. Tom Robertson caught on the boundary trying to hit the ball in the bay. Poor Wells choose poorly on a late cut. Peter Crooks, bowled. Euan Robertson, stumped. Greg Brooks holed out in the deep and Matt Gale was bowled round his leg in an attempt to sweep everything. ShanePeterson then looked like he had to be elsewhere and quickly got out. Ed smith, the standout, being the only man not out.

Twas a day to forget for C.C.N.S.W., a real lack of intensity, passion and focus. We may need a good old fashioned Tommy Raudonikis slapping session to get everyone focused on giving 100% and winning for the Club.

On a brighter note, it is always a pleasure playing St George Vets. They put on a great arvo tea and a few beers after the game. A good bunch of blokes and they sure know their bird life. I thought the bird below was a Cockatiel and lost \$5 over it



A prime example of losing focus!!

The Result was: -

St George Veterans: - 9-184 (35 overs) (E. Smith 5-37)

Defeated

C.C.N.S.W.: - 10-120 (23 overs) (I. Allmey 39)

By 64 runs

The Team (with batting) was: Ian Allmey (c) 39 (27), Brett Favell 17 (8), Regan Smith 26 (25), Tom Robertson 15 (13), Scott Wells 0 (3), Euan Robertson 5 (22), Peter Crooks 0 (2), Greg Brooks 10 (18), Matt Gale (w) 2 (4), Ed Smith 0*, and Shane Peterson 1 (3)

The Bowling was: Peter Crooks 3-0-18-0, Tom Robertson 3-0-14-0, Ed Smith 9-1-37-5, Shane Peterson 8-2-35-2, Greg Brooks 6-0-34-1, and Scott Wells 6-0-50-0

The Fielding was: - No details given

Player Points: - No details given

CITY & SUBURBAN ROUND 3 v OLD CRANBROOKIANS AT DANGAR OVAL, ROSE BAY ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 26, 2014: REPORT BY TOM ROBERTSON

A weakened side matched up against a determined Cranbrook side on a windy Sunday. Ian Allmey won the toss and elected to bat.

The pitch had a few demons in it and proved hard to score off. There were a few lusty misses that would have changed weather patterns in far away lands. Tom Robertson and Ian Allmey struggled to score freely as the bowling was either unpredictable or cunning. A combination that proved hard to hit boundaries. Ian did eventually hit a few and started to look like he'd get on with it after being dropped earlier. Ian was bowled after playing on and the very next ball Tom did the same except the bails didn't fall off! Someone up there likes the Ranga! Two balls later he hit the ball straight down deep square legs throat.

Connor Benfield and Regan Smith at the crease has us in good hands. Again the scoring was a little tough with a few swings and misses. Regan was unlucky not to score a lot more after creaming the ball straight to cover on a few occasions. Connor hit a few nice sixes but then

was bowled from some very slow bowling. Debutant Nick Wappett suffered the same fate and was gone for 0. 'El Presidente' Greg Brooks then made his way to the middle and played sensible early as he always does. Sadly there was only to be an early part to the innings and he was caught behind for 1. Meanwhile Regan was cruising along. He really is a find and is adding great stability to our batting.

Ed Smith and Regan took our score to something competitive with Regan hitting another half century until being given out LBW for 53. 7-175 was something I thought we could defend on this wicket and with the southerly that was blowing.

Thanks to Bronwyn Virtue and Prez Brooks for bringing arvo tea. The Brooks do give and give and give to this club. Go the Prez!

Ed Smith opened downwind and proved very hard to get away being 1-3 off 5 overs. Shane Peterson opened against the wind and struggled with a back injury and had to pull out after one over. That bought Paul Brown on and he proved a good line and length bowler against the southerly that was very distracting to bowl into. Victory felt like only one wicket away with their opening left handed bat being a standout. He played one of the best C&S innings I have seen picking gaps with ease.

Nick Wappett came on and bowled a good line and length with the wind. Sadly he was not rewarded for a few caught behinds. Dropping the left handed opener proved costly. Greg Brooks then took on the southerly and bowled the great lines that he does. He was rewarded with 3 wickets from his eight overs.

Connor Benfield then came on with the wind and bowled at a good pace. However the scoreboard kept ticking over and without getting the opener out, we were always going to struggle to contain them. Without the break through Cranbrook got home and I felt they were truly looking forward to this victory over C.C.N.S.W.

I'd have to say that playing on Sunday is proving quite unsuccessful for the C.C.N.S.W. C&S side. I'm hoping when we get back to regular routine on Saturdays we get back to our winning ways.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 44, Tom Robertson 16, Regan Smith 53, Connor Benfield 28, Nick Wappett 0, Greg Brooks 1, Ed Smith 17, Paul Brown 1*, Matt Gale (w) 3*, Shane Peterson dnb and Peter Crooks dnb

The Result was:-

C.C.N.S.W.: - 7-175 (35 overs) (R. Smith 53, I. Allmey 44)

Lost to

Old Cranbrookians C.C.: - 6-179 (33 overs) (G. Brooks 3-39)

By 4 wickets

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 8-3-30-1; S. Peterson 1-0-6-0; P. Brown 6-0-31-1; R. Wappett 3-0-18-0; G. Brooks 8-0-39-3; C Benfield 7-0-52-1

The Fielding was: - No details given

Russell Player Points: - No details given

FOW: 71 (T Robertson) 71 (I. Allmey) 102 (C. Benfield) 110 (N. Wappett) 113 (G. Brooks) 159 (E. Smith) 172 (R. Smith)

C&S - JACK PACE ROUND 2 v SYDNEY WINDIES C.C. AT MARRICKVILLE OVAL, MARRICKVILLE ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2014: REPORT BY

JPS Game 2 and we wanted to make amends for a sloppy game 1. It was a first for your author at Marrickville Oval, a ground that once was home for CCNSW.

Ian Allmey went out and lost the toss twice. We then felt compelled to do what they wanted and it was to bat. Debutant Matt Rennick was today's keeper (thanks to a gracious Matt Gale) and he proved very effective.

Ed Smith opened against the wind and bowled a marvellous line and length. He was soon rewarded with the help of Greg Brooks with a presidential catch at 2nd slip. The danger man had been removed. A new revitalised Shane Peterson was bowling a tidy spell with the wind. We really want Shane to hit his straps; we know what he can do. Happily today he did hit those straps and bowled a very economical 6 overs for 18.

Sydney Windies were contained but they had wickets in hand. A most unorthodox No.3 came out and wanted to hit everything over square leg. He proved hard to budge until he did a Inzamam ul haq impersonation and gave up during a run out. He may well have made it if not for heart strings snapping all over the place. Greg Brooks and Nick Wappitt replaced the openers. Nick steaming in at one end and Brooksy, wily as ever from the other. There was a bit of variable bounce in this track. Length was the key.

Poor Nick playing his second game for C.C.N.S.W. has had 5 catches dropped off his bowling (2 in this game). A most character building two games.. Nick did however (finally) work out that to take wickets he should do it without assistance. He did just that with a LBW and two bowleds. Congrats Nick on your first wickets for the Club.

At the other end Brooksy took the wicket of the other opener, well caught at 2nd slip by an ever alert Tom Robertson. Connor Benfield and Ed Smith then replaced Nick Wappitt and Greg Brooks hoping to keep the Windies down below 150. They achieved this and we thought 150 was very achievable on what is a small ground when the boundary chalk is used instead of the fence.

With Tom Robertson not firing recently Ian decided to open with our in-form batsman Regan Smith. We got off to a flyer and the crowd thought that no other batsman would be required. Matt (Alphabet)Abeysekera even took out his phone and showed us the "Hot-Crazy Matrix". Was definitely food for thought.

Ian Allmey and Regan were both clearing the boundary with some nice clean hitting. Ian snapped what remained of his knees and was reduced to hitting fours and sixes. It was the ninth over when Regan was bowled by the leggy. Tom Robertson then proceeded to the crease still digesting the "Hot-Crazy Matrix". What followed was a middle wobble with Ian Allmey and Connor Benfield leaving in quick succession. Matt Abeysekera then came out and hit the ball with intent until he got a skidder and was lbw. Nick Wappitt came out and played sensibly until he could take no more and tried to hit a ball on middle into Dulwich Hill. That left us in a precarious 5-114. Tom started to play a bit more sensibly with Matt Rennick; the pair were intent on taking it home for the club. Matt Rennick played the innings we needed, holding up an end and taking the ones and twos.

With 10 runs to go concentration ran out for 'the Ranga' and Tom Robertson was bowled for 49. If only he could finish off a game! President Brooks then took over but was bowled for a golden. Trouble! Thankfully the cool heads of Ed Smith and Matt Rennick prevailed. A good victory that did show some weakness in the middle order. We can't let the loss of one wicket turn into two. Something we'll sure discuss and no doubt fix.

FOW: - 65 (R. Smith); 67 (I. Allmey); 70 (C. Benfield); 95 (M Abeysekera); 114 (N. Wappitt); 140 (T. Robertson); and 140 (G. Brooks)

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 38 (31), Regan Smith 23 (20), Tom Robertson 49 (42), Connor Benfield 3 (3), Matt Abeysekera 6 (20), Mick Wappett 1 (9), Matt Rennick (w) 5* (12), Greg Brooks 0 (1), Ed Smith 7* (5), Matt Gale dnb and Shane Peterson dnb

The Result was: -

Sydney Windies C.C.: - 9-150 (35 overs) (N. Wappett 3-22)

Was defeated by

C.C.N.S.W.: - 7-151 (26.3 overs) (T. Robertson 49' I. Allmey 38)

By 3 wickets

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 9-0-39-1, S. Peterson 6-0-18-0, G. Brooks 9-0-34-1, N. Wappett 7-0-22-3, and C. Benfield 4-0-28-2

The Fielding was: - No details given

Player Points: - No details given

**C&S ROUND v ST GEORGE VETERANS C.C. AT ST LUKE'S No 2 OVAL,
CONCORDE ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15 2014: REPORT BY GREG
BROOKS**

With the game transferred to St. Luke's No. 2 as Camperdown was not ready, we arrived to find a well grassed and firm wicket. Unfortunately the outfield had many sandy patches and bumpy areas.

We won the toss and batted first. Regan Smith and Matt Abeysekera opened up with 17 on the board before Matt spooned one to cover. Scott Wells came and went quickly for 4 while Regan built an excellent innings combining good placement and powerful drives. Mick McCormick was an excellent partner as the two pushed the score to 135 off 25 overs. Regan (77 off 69) continued his fine form and we were grateful he had delayed his flight to the Gold Coast for the T20 competition on the Sunday. Enter Connor Benfield to join Mick and he was quickly in to stride smashing the bowlers all over the park with several lusty blows easily clearing the boundary.

Connor played his best innings for the C&S team finishing on 70* from a mere 36 deliveries. Mick's 41 was a more sedate affair but his effort was the anchor we needed in both partnerships. Euan Robertson added a quick 10 including a clean 6 straight down the ground and we finished with 5-229 off the 35 overs.

After a quick turnaround for tea we opened the bowling with Peter Crooks and Ed Smith who combined well, restricting St. George Veterans to just 43 runs from the first 13 overs. James Clarke and Paul Brown kept it tight and benefited from the scoreboard pressure to pick up 4 wickets in the next 13 overs to place the Veterans in a real bind.

Scott Wells then broke the resistance of the opener with a beautiful leg spinner and produced a quality spell. The "old bloke" at the other end then cleaned up the tail to see St. George Veterans finish at 9-128 in the evening gloom.

A very solid team performance with all contributing to the win in this important Jack Pace Shield qualifying round.

We will back at St. Luke's again next week against Colleagues.

The Team (with batting) was: - Matt Abeysekera (w) 10, Regan Smith 77, Scott Wells 4, Mick McCormick 41, Connor Benfield 70*, Ewan Robertson 10, Ed Smith (c) 1*, Greg Brooks dnb, James Clarke dnb, Paul Brown dnb and Peter Crooks dnb.

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - 5-229 (R. Smith 77, C. Benfield 70*, M. McCormick 41)

Defeated

St. George C.C. Veterans: - 9-128 (G. Brooks 3-10, S. Wells 2-12)

By 101 runs.

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 7-2-25-0; P. Crooks 6-1-18-0; J. Clarke 7-0-21-2; P. Brown 6-1-21-2; G. Brooks 3-1-10-3; 4-1-12-2; and E. Robertson 2-0-14-0.

The Fielding was:- 1 stumping Matt Abeysekera

“John Russell” Player Points: - No details given

C&S ROUND v COLLEAGUES C.C. AT ST LUKE’S No 2 OVAL, CONCORDE ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22 2014: REPORT BY GREG BROOKS

An uneasy feeling descended upon all those that arrived at St Luke’s No.2 to play Colleagues. No one was sure what it was until it was revealed Tom Robertson was captain. A few tried to leave and Peter Crooks feigned sickness throughout the game. After digesting the new replacement captain we then got a call from Colleagues who were nowhere in sight. Had they heard of the captaincy change? They were at Camperdown so the game was to start a bit late. Overs were reduced to 30.

The poor Prez Greg Brooks had tried to bring lime cordial to the game but instead it ended up all over the boot of his Audi. More giving until it hurts from the Prez.

Tom easily won the toss and decided to bat. We opened with Regan Smith and the nonsense Christian “Patto” Patterson. Patto started where he left off from Coogee oval with a few lusty blows over cover. Regan also looked in sparkling form hitting his first ball for 6 over mid on. Regan was hampered by his groin which he strained in the Gold Coast. Whatever happens up there stays up there except pulled groins.

Regan was under duress and was soon dismissed. The captain then threw Shane Peterson (regular No.10 or No.11) into bat. It was a stroke of genius as Shane quickly got on with the job hitting some clean boundaries. As what will be the theme of the day Patterson smashed one straight to deep mid off. Matt Abeysekera then joined Shane and looked like 100 would be in store. Shane was bowled by one of the better balls of the day bringing Tom Robertson to the crease.

Tom looked all at sea and was soon caught at cover; meanwhile Matty was flying until he suffered a similar fate. So far batsman were getting starts and proceeding to throw it away. Nathan Reay came out and kept that run rate going and was unluckily bowled off a skidder. C.C.N.S.W. in a bit of bother with 6 down after 18 but runs well under control with 152. Enter Euan Robertson! (No relation to Tom)!Euan has been a C&S stalwart for the last 2 seasons and today was his day to shine. He and Mick Weaver from our CCNSW Masters then saw out the last 12 overs and put on 106. Euan has been holding back almost all of his stroke play until today. I'd say he would have never cracked 20 until today's 62 * which included some very chunky 6s. Mick provided wonderful support and 256 off 30 overs was the end result.

With only a 5 minute break we were under way in defending 256. Surely it would be easy. If Tom had time for a speech it would have gone along those lines. Nathan Reay and Peter Crooks opened the bowling. Nathan bowled a good line but strayed what seemed to be once per over and was put away each time. Peter was too unwell to play under the new captain and his bowling reflected that. He could muster three overs until the mercy rule insisted he be replaced. The two openers were on course for victory until Joe Scarcella caught one at deep mid on off Nathan Reay. It seemed from then on we were then into the tail. The other opener was all that stood between us and victory.

The nail in the MOM voting was slammed in when Euan took a cracking low catch at slips. His face said it all, *"I'm as surprised as you all are!"* Hope this is the start of a slips fieldsman being a more than a run saving position.

Greg Brooks and Joe Scarcella then kept things tight with The Prez showing that hitting the seam at a good length could make life difficult for batting. Scoring slowed greatly and there was less panic in the captaincy.

Christian Paterson then bowled a few left arm uphill and showed he's no slouch with the ball. A few wickets fell and the thirty overs were finished by Mick Weaver. All in all a good victory for C.C.N.S.W. but one that lacked a bit of intensity. Next game is a Jack Pace shield game and we'll need to put on our game faces.

The Team was: - Christian Patterson 20, Regan Smith 7, Shane Peterson 18, Matt Abeysekera (w) 50, Tom Robertson (c) 16, Nathan Reay 27, Euan Robertson 62*, Mick Weaver 41*, Greg Brooks dnb, Joe Scarcella dnb, and Peter Crooks dnb.

The Result was:-

C.C.N.S.W.: - 6-256 (30 overs) (E. Robertson 62*; M. Weaver 41*)

Defeated

Colleagues C.C.: - 6-169 (30 Overs)

By 87 runs

The Bowling was: - N. Reay 7-0-37-2, P. Crooks 3-0-32-0, J. Scarcella 8-1-32-2, G. Brooks 8-0-38-1, C. Patterson 4-0-19-0

The Fielding was: - No details given

"John Russell" player points: no details given

JACK PACE ROUND 4 v KINGS OLD BOYS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2014

While C.C.N.S.W. would have preferred to play with a minute's silence for Phillip Hughes, Kings Old Boys preferred not to play so the game was cancelled. The ramifications of this for the Jack Pace have yet to be worked out by the C&S Association.

C&S ROUND 5 v HUNTERS HILL AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 6, 2014

Game cancelled because of rain during the week that had made ground unplayable.

JACK PACE ROUND 4 v SYDNEY UNIVERSITY VETERANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 13, 2014: REPORT BY CONNOR BENFIELD AND REGAN SMITH

Having lost the toss, replacement captain Tom Robertson informed the troops we had been sent in on a pitch that looked to have plenty in it for the bowlers. Matt Gale, who has been relieved of wicket keeping duties in recent weeks by new-guy, Matt Rennick, found himself at the top of the order alongside the in-form Regan Smith.

The going was tough for our lads, but they both showed bravery and resolve typical of a C.C.N.S.W. opening pair, before Gale was dismissed for 3 after his leading edge was gobbled up by the gully fieldsmen. Gale was replaced by the new, youngest member of the club in Max Hudson. Max showed promise in his 19 ball innings, but was dismissed for just 5 by the potent and highly effective 1st change bowler, Croft.

Wickets fell quickly, with batsmen 4 (Tom Robertson), 5 (Connor Benfield) and 6 (Matt Abeysekera) contributing just 2 runs between them. Euan Robertson, who looks better with every innings, helped steady the ship with a well crafted 24, while Regan Smith delivered lusty blow after lusty blow at the other end. Regan has been in dynamite form this season, and continued his purple patch with a vital 68 from 60 balls. He batted with the zest of a young Andy Flower, and is a mid-season favourite for the 2014-15 batting award.

A handy 19 from 'El Presidente', Greg Brooks at the end of our dig took the total to 134, which was probably worth 170 considering conditions.

On a real green mamba that was hissing and spitting like it had just been let out its cage, we knew that 134 on the board was a respectable score if we bowled and fielded well. Maybe because we hadn't played cricket for a couple of weeks, or the fact we had beers and a lamb waiting for us on the barbie at Matt Gales' afterwards, we strode out onto the battle field with our chests puffed out hoping to knock these wickets over quickly. Like a pack of wild dogs surrounding their next feed, we got straight into the task at hand with Connor "McGrath" Benfield bowling sharp, perfect line and length balls that whizzed past the bat more times than I had seen since we won the Ashes 5-0, and James "Faulkner" Clark being the perfect sidekick with his venomous in swingers. These two kept the run rate to under 2 an over, constricting the life out of the poor Sydney University Veterans side and leaving them stunned like a rabbit in headlights on about 4-60 after 25 overs. The very experienced duo of Greg Brooks and Joe Scarcella then came on and continued the carnage left behind and chipped away at the wickets like a couple of woodpeckers.

Our fielding too must get a mention as everyone put in 120% and kept the tempo high, while fully supporting all the bowlers. Not sure what James Clarke and Regan Smith were on, but they were pouncing on anything that moved in their direction, like rabid cats and whipping the ball back to the stumps!

Great win and great to be back at Camperdown.

The Team (with batting) was: - Matt Gale 3, Regan Smith 68, Max Hudson 5, Tom Robertson (c) 1, Connor Benfield 0, Matt Abeysekera 1, Euan Robertson 24, Matt Rennick (w) 0, Greg Brooks 19, James Clark 1, and Joe Scarcella 1*

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W. 10 for 134 (32.2 overs) (R. Smith 68)

Defeated

Sydney University Veterans 9 for 110 (35 overs) (J. Scarcella 3-33)

By 24 runs

The Bowling was: - J. Clarke 9-3-22-2; C. Benfield 8-3-17-2; J. Scarcella 9-1-33-3, G. Brooks 9-0-38-1

The Fielding was: - No details given

Player Points: - No details given

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 14 v BARKER OLD BOYS AT BARKER COLLEGE, HORNSBY ON SUNDAY JANUARY 11, 2015:

Match cancelled by rain

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 15 v SYDNEY UNIVERSITY VETERANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY JANUARY 17, 2015:

No Match Report has yet been submitted for what appears to be a quite extraordinary batting collapse and a loss (yet again!) To Sydney University Veterans.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 79; Tom Robertson 6; Regan Smith 20; Max Hudson 0; Euan Robertson 4; Damien Langley 7; Greg Brooks 5; Matt Gale (w) 3; James Clarke 5*; Peter Crooks 0; and Shane Peterson ret. hurt1*

The Result was: -

Sydney University Veterans: - 8-163 (35 overs)

Defeated

C.C.N.S.W.: all out 137 - (I. Allmey 79) (27 overs)

By 26 runs.

The Bowling was: - D. Langley 9-1-28-2; P. Crooks 5-0-25-0; J. Clarke 5-0-23-0; S. Peterson 6-0-12-0; T. Robertson 4-0-19-0; G. Brooks 6-0-42-2.

The Fielding was: - 1 run out to each of T. Robertson and G. Brooks

John Russell Player Points: - no details given

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 17 v I ZINGARI (AUSTRALIA) AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY JANUARY 31, 2015: REPORT BY TOM ROBERTSON

The beautiful outfield of Camperdown greeted us on another great day for cricket. Ian Allmey went out and lost the toss but surprisingly I Zingari (Australia) sent us in for a bat.

Ian Allmey opened with Regan Smith, an opening pair that is working well and did again today cracking the 50 partnership. Things were cruising along nicely until Regan missed a straight one and was adjudged lbw for 24. Christian Patterson joined Ian but the love-hate relationship 'Patto' is having with cricket is currently at hate levels as he pulled one straight down the throat of the man at deep square leg for 6. Tom Robertson walked out and got out the same way as his last innings in Wellington, trying to dab at one outside off. This disappointed his son greatly as he had high hopes to bat with his Dad in his first C&S game.

Matt Abeysekera came out and settled things down with a nice partnership with Ian Allmey until Ian was stumped for 60. Not as nimble as he once was. Matty A was hitting some clean ball with a beautiful pull shot 6 from a ball that was hardly short. As cricket does, it mixes the highs with the lows and Matt was out next ball caught behind for an innings stabilising 28. Nick Wappett came out and hit a few fours but his lack of form continued and he was dismissed for 9. I'm sure it's just round the corner, Nick!

Edward Robertson (*Editor's note- son of Tom- not to be confused with Euan Robertson- no relation*) then joined Damien Langley to calm things down. Ed hit a few very stylish shots straight to fieldsman until he found out that wicket keepers can stump you round your legs even to medium pace bowlers! 7-158 off 25 and we are hoping for 200. Matt Gale strode to the crease with his new glasses and boy did they make a difference. That sweep shot was being hit clean and even a few drives over cover. A great partnership with Damien who hit some of the longest straight sixes I've seen at Camperdown.

With only a few overs left, we were at 7-228. I was hoping James Clarke could go out for his last hit for the Club (for the next 3 years anyway). Luckily he did get that chance as Damien was caught for a well made 41. James got himself 3 before being bowled but it was great to get him out there. Poor Joe Scarcella was then run out but 235 was a total we were very happy with.

Ham rolls and lamingtons were then consumed and luckily Bronwyn Virtue wasn't at arvo tea as she would have fallen over as Matt Gale said no to rolls. Was it my rolls? Is Matty ok??

Back out on the field and we wanted to give James "Boggles" Clarke a good send off. Damien Langley opened the bowling and was hard to get away. It seemed some of the "Wellington wobbles" had followed us to Camperdown as again we dropped a few straight forward chances. This game would have been over by 6pm if we took them but instead we finished nearer 7:30.

Ok, on with the game. Joe Scarcella opened at the other end, hoping for some swing. Both bowlers kept it tight but no breakthroughs were forthcoming (0-46 off 11). It was then time to bring on James Clarke. You could see he didn't hold anything back in his swan song game. Nick Wappett cranked it up at the other end and was successful in his first over.

C.C.N.S.W. felt in control at this stage but you never know what I Zingari (Australia) have up their sleeve. Wickets were hard to come by until Jimmy struck in his fifth over and from then on he had them under his spell. Nick Wappett ended his spell and Ian Allmey was a little confused as to whom he should bowl next. I go with the squeaky wheel principle and it paid off. With two down we needed a breakthrough and Tom Robertson delivered with two wickets off his first over (many thanks to Damien Langley for catching both). Obviously that was not enough as that was declared a spell by the captain. What does a guy need to do?? ☺

Edward Robertson then had his first over for C&S and immediately looked more effective than his Dad! A good controlled line and length (apparently this gets you another over). Jimmy at the other end was now getting a wicket every over and was closing in on 5 wickets in an innings for the club. The late inswing was causing great confusion for the I Zingari batsman and Jimmy got a well deserved "Michelle Pfeiffer".

A good win and a fantastic send off for Jimmy. Anyone wanting a hit in Broome look Jimmy up.

The Team (with batting) was: - Ian Allmey 60, Regan Smith 24, Christian Patterson 6, Tom Robertson 6, Matt Abeysekera 28, Nick Wappett 9, Damien Langley 41, Edward Robertson 1, Matt Gale 38*, James Clarke 3 and Joe Scarcella 1

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - All out 235 (34 overs)

Defeated

I Zingari (Australia):- 9 for 169 (34 overs)

By 66 runs

The Bowling was:- Damien Langley 5-0-16-0, Joe Scarcella 5-0-28-0, James Clarke 11-2-33-5, Nick Wappett 6-0-46-1, Tom Robertson 2-0-8-2, Ed Robertson 4-0-24-0, Regan Smith 0.3-0-5-1

The Fielding was: - No details given

John Russell player points: - No details given

JACK PACE QUARTER FINAL v BARKER COLLEGE OLD BOYS AT BARKER COLLEGE No. 1, BARKER COLLEGE, HORNSBY ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2015: REPORT BY TOM ROBERTSON

C.C.N.S.W. just scraped into the final eight of the Jack Pace Shield and we were hungry to move forward. The beautiful main field of Barker College was looking a treat.

Ian Allmey won the toss and batted but was bowled first ball of the game by a ball that moved in from outside off. That left Craig Somers and Regan Smith to consolidate. That they did. Craig showed his class with some lovely on drives while Regan was doing what he does best hitting anything loose to the boundary. These two got us to the twenty seventh over with the score on 153, a good launching pad.

In and out went Tom Robertson (8), Connor Benfield (3), Nick Wappett (3) and Ed Smith (1) leaving Damien Langley to get us to 8-191. A total I thought would be enough.

Happily this week our catches were held as there was only one and it was taken. The rest of the afternoon saw us chasing balls hit by an opening batsman who knew what he was doing. I'd say that his one wicket was the difference between winning and losing and we didn't take it.

All bowlers tried gallantly but we were somewhat outclassed. Ed Smith was the highlight of the bowlers getting two bowled in two balls (welcome back Ed).

Sadly C.C.N.S.W. were knocked out in the quarter finals, not something we are used to but we are in a rebuilding stage that hopefully will show dividends next year.

The Result was:

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 0, Craig Somers 70, Regan Smith 81, Tom Robertson 8, Connor Benfield 3, Damien Langley 20*, Nick Wappett 3, Ed Smith 1, Matt Gale (w) 1, Greg Brooks dnb and Peter Crooks dnb

The Result was:-

C.C.N.S.W.: - 8-191 (35 overs) (R. Smith 81; C. Somers 70)

Lost to

Barker Old Boys: - 5-193 (27 overs)

By 5 wickets

The Bowling was: - D. Langley 5-1-40-1; P. Crooks 4-0-23-1 E. Smith 6-1-35-2; C. Benfield 6-1-40-1 G. Brooks 3-0-26-0 and N. Wappett 3-0-25-0

The Fielding was: - no details given

Player Points: - no details given

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 13 v OLD CRANBROOKIANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2015: REPORT BY TOM ROBERTSON

No report has been received.

The Team was: - Tom Robertson (c) 43, Matt Rennick 9, Regan Smith 11, Scott Wells 31, Matt Abeysekera 55, Craig Kitson 0, Dave Benson 0 , Euan Robertson 7*, Shane Peterson 13, Greg Brooks dnb and Ed Smith dnb

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - 7-175 (35 overs)

Lost to

Old Cranbrookians: - 7-176 (33 overs)

By 3 wickets

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 11-0-51-3; G. Brooks 9-1-53-2; C. Kitson 4-0-27-0; E. Robertson 2-0-14-0; T. Robertson 4-1-15-1; M. Abeysekera 3-1-16-1

The Fielding was: - no details given

Player Points: - no details given

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 14 v YARALLA AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2015:

This was intended to be the game between two of the losers in the Jack Pace Quarter final although it had not been decided where to play - Camperdown or Goddard Park? It became academic when Yaralla forfeited the game.

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 15 v HUNTERS HILL PIRATES AT BORONIA PARK, HUNTERS HILL ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2015: REPORT BY ED SMITH

Turning up to Hunters Hill's Boronia Park we were surprised to find a very, very furry wicket with an extremely thick outfield. It was clear that this was not going to be a batsman's game. It was also clear that, despite making a thousand phone calls that week, we were only going

into battle this Saturday with a ten man side – injuries and travel having decimated the ranks over the last few months.

Captain Allmey won the toss and chose to bat with the knowledge that the wicket would not get any less grassy and he started well with a cracking cover drive that, to our astonishment, pulled up inside the boundary. A sign of things to come. Unfortunately, Ian then played one on in the second oval for 5 runs off 8 balls to leave us 1 for 6.

Regan Smith joined Matt Abeysekera and the two of them put on another 19 runs until Regan politely walked on a little knick down leg side with his score on 14 (off 18 balls). With the wicket playing unpredictably, fortune would favor those who went hard at the ball and rode their luck – i.e. the batting style of Tom Robertson for over 40 years.

Tommy and Matt A. put on a 38 run partnership in just 37 balls in very tricky conditions until Matt was bowled by one that kept low for 21 runs off just 21 balls. Matt Rennick then held up an end while Tommy kept swinging like a rusty red gate. Unfortunately, when Matt R took off for a quick single, he left his right hamstring behind yet still made his ground to get us to 87. Unfortunately, he was bowled shortly after for 3 off 19 balls which brought our third Matt (Gale) to the crease for an unpredictably long innings of sweep free beauty.

Predictably, however, what we got from Matt G was two balls of ugly sweeping which resulted in a top edge to square leg and saw us fall from a comfortable 3 for 87 to a nervous 5 for 87 after 21 overs. For probably the first time in C.C.N.S.W. history, we had lost three Matts in a row, and, without any Matts left in the shed, we sent in an Ed to steady the ship.

Apparently oblivious to our perilous position, Tom kept going hard at the ball and added 13 runs off the next 6 balls until he rode his luck too far and was caught for a classic *'Tommy-gun-esque'* 45 runs off just 51 balls. By far the best innings of the day in very trying conditions.

By now we were 6 for 100 with another 14 overs to bat and only 3 wickets left on a dodgy track. Joe Scarcella and Ed Smith agreed that the priority was to see the overs out and to get past 120 – a total that would be tough to chase down in these conditions. Despite his best intentions, however, Joe got a ball that stopped on him which resulted in a leading edge in the 26th over and we were now 7 for 104 with 9 more overs to face.

In walked club debutant, Paul Baker (a dad of one of Ed's under 10s cricket team), who had last played a game of cricket in grade 6, 33 years ago! For the next 9 overs, we watched what has since been described as *"the Miracle of Boronia Park"* as Paul and Ed played out over-after-over of hand grenades on a minefield while slowly accumulating 27 hard fought runs. We managed to get our total past the 120 mark and unleashed in the final over. Ed was eventually run out going for a cheeky second with his score on 17 of 28 balls and our team score now safely on 131 and only 3 balls to go in the innings.

Shane Peterson's (6 off 3 balls) exciting hit-or-miss batting style was then put to good use with a huge 6 off his very first ball (shot of the day) and three byes off the last ball of the innings taking our overall total to a very defendable 8 for 140. Most impressively, Paul Baker was left on 12*, having survived 35 poisonous deliveries – possibly one of the gutsiest debuts for the Club this century.

Following a quick tea break kindly supplied by Hunters Hill CC, we took to the field knowing that all we had to do was to put the ball in the right spots and let the wicket do the rest.

Ed Smith and Shane Peterson opened the bowling and Ed struck in just his second over courtesy of the maturing soft gloves of Matt Gale. 1 for 6 became 2 for 21 when Ed took his second victim lbw and the result of the game was in the balance with the HHCC's first and second drops looking to settle in and then hit out.

At the 10 over mark, the batting pair had taken the score on to a threatening 2 for 38 and their No. 3 bat, Fernando, was seeing them well on 27. The eleventh over of the innings, however,

proved decisive. A short ball followed by a yorker on middle stump undid Fernando (bowled) and an inswinger followed by an outswinger undid the incoming Captain to give Ed a double wicket maiden and leave HHCC on 4 for 38 and Ed with the figures of 4 for 13 off his 6 overs.

Rather controversially, Captain Allmey promptly removed Ed from the attack (in the same way one always retires a batsman in his nineties) to bring on Joe Scarcella. While Regan Smith bowled his bag of mixed fruit from one end, Joe mixed up good line and length with a little bit of bakery product – only to find that the pies got the wickets (including one great diving-second-attempt-grab by the injured Matt Rennick at short cover). Joe ended up with the figures of 3 for 7 off 5 overs and Matt Abeysekera bowled a clever mix of full tosses and rank long hops to finish with 2 for 9 off 2 overs as HHCC crumbled from 4 for 38 to be 9 for 70 off 22 overs.

With only 1 wicket left, Allmey brought Ed back on to try for his '*Pfeiffer*' but the honors were left to our batting hero, Paul Baker, who took a wicket with the last ball of his first over for 33 years.

HHCC were all out in 24 overs for just 78 runs but they still hosted us magnanimously with top and bottom shelf beers from their fridge as the sun set on the furry green monster in the middle of the field.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 5 (8), Matt Abeysekera 21 (21), Regan Smith 14 (18), Tom Robertson 45 (51), Matt Rennick 3 (19), Matt Gale 0 (2) (w), Ed Smith 17 (28), Joe Scarcella 2 (9), Paul Baker 12* (35) and Shane Peterson 6* (3)

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: 8 for 140 (35 overs)

Defeated

Hunters Hill CC: 10 for 78 (24 overs)

By 62 runs.

The Bowling was: - Ed Smith 7-1-16-4; Shane Peterson 5-0-25-0; Regan Smith 4-0-16-0; Joe Scarcella 5-1-7-3; Matt Abeysekera 2-0-9-2; Paul Baker 1-0-4-1.

The Fielding was: - Matt Rennick 1, Matt Gale 1 (wk), Ed Smith 1; Tom Robertson 1; Shane Peterson 1

Player Points: - No details given

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 16 v SYDNEY UNI VETERANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2015: REPORT BY ED ROBERTSON

Another terrific day greeted us at Camperdown Oval with the lush green outfield and a few spectators scattered around the park. The toss was done with a winning outcome and the Syd. Uni Vets were sent in to bat.

The bowling was opened with Ed Smith and Sam Miller who although did not make that early breakthrough only went at about four runs an over and keeping it tight. Ed was pulled off after taking a few hits by one of their openers and could not seem to get their other batsmen on strike. It was until the 14th over when the partnership was broken and by a rank full toss slotted into the safe hands of Dave Sirr.

It wasn't long after when '*El Presidente*' Greg Brooks trapped their other opener on the pads and Luke Duggan took a ridiculously good caught and bowled. Their middle order batsmen capitalised and soon they had a respectable total of 185 after losing two quick wickets in the last over including Luke (again) with an awesome throw from the point boundary hitting the stumps and running out a batsmen for a diamond duck. Overall the bowling was kept tight especially by Brooksy and Miller (both conceding at around three an over) and wickets were shared around. All that was left was to sit around and watch my father get a ton (as he tells us every weekend) and bring us comfortably home...

After being filled with watermelon and ham & cheese rolls (courtesy of the Prez), the task of chasing 185 runs in 35 overs was set in front of our clumsy hands (referring to dad fielding for the other team). We knew that they didn't have many star bowlers except Croffie and this was the reason for the loss of our opening batsmen who received the present of middle stump removal.

Regan Smith came in (apparently not going for the slog) and smoked five fours through the off side without blinking twice. It was looking quite smooth until Dave Sirr top edged the ball straight to a confident fielder at square leg. Fortunately for Dave, the fielder was either confident in dropping the ball or just simply terrible at catching. If I said who was that man (earlier mentioned) I wouldn't be sleeping in this house. I think you get the idea. Anyway, the partnership was flourishing until Dave's luck ended with an awkward catch behind the wicket off the spinner.

Croffie at the other end quickly noticed the fresh batsmen and both the number 4 and 5 received his wrath. This left Regan waiting for someone who could hold his wicket. I came out hoping to be that man. Regan took charge and started to lift the run rate while I steadied myself and handed the strike over to the capable and more experienced batsmen. This was of course proved right when I saw a red object whizz over the sight screens. It was the half way mark when Regan ran out of luck and swept a full banger to the short fine leg for a beautifully made 85 off 60.

Sam Millar joined me at the crease and although it took him some time to get in, I was apparently '*hogging the strike*' (quoted from my dad when we drove home) which may have put pressure on Sam (my dad again). Myself and Sam kept the run rate in check until the strike starved Sam was LBW.

Thank you Edward. Tom will now finish this match report.

With 61 still required when Regan was dismissed it would take a few level heads to get us home as Tim Croft was bowling a decent line and length. From a very proud Dad, Edward did what he was told and saw us through with some classic cover drives and cut shots. I must say that he doesn't let an ounce of pressure in unlike his Dad who was LBW for 0. A great day for the club and I was very proud of Edward and couldn't be happier in sharing this moment with the C.C.N.S.W. lads.

Special mention to Brooksy who presented Edward with a C&S "The Hat Trick" hat. A nice touch from the Prez.

The Team was: - Mike Beergah 0, David Sirr 13, Regan Smith 85, Scott Wells 1, Shane Peterson 6, Ed Robertson 66*, Sam Miller 11, Tom Robertson 0 (c), Luke Duggan 1*, Greg Brooks dnb and Ed Smith dnb.

The Result was:-

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY VETERANS : - 6-185 (35 overs)

were defeated by

C.C.N.S.W.: - 7-186 (33 overs) (R. Smith 85 E. Robertson 66*)

By 3 wicket and 8 balls to spare

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 8-0-51-2, S. Miller 8-1-26-0, G. Brooks 7-0-23-1, S. Wells 3-0-14-1, L. Duggan 6-0-44-1, and E. Robertson 3-0-26-0.

The Fielding was: - No details given

Player Points: - No details given

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 17 v OLD ALOYSIANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2015: REPORT BY REGAN SMITH (AND TOM ROBERTSON)

Welcome back skipper Allmey and welcome back the same Camperdown pitch that offered very little to the bowlers last week.....dry and grassy. It was another cracking day for cricket though vs our old foes Aloysians who won the toss and opted to bat first.

Again the pitch had about as much bounce in it as a kids yoyo out of a cracker, but the ever reliable Ed Smith and Joe Scarcella set to work on a very somewhat strange opening pair. Both were back in the hut fairly quickly leaving what turned out to be their only 2 batsmen, a mammoth task of rebuilding. Rebuilding they did though, as these two found boundaries regularly, and kept the score ticking over nicely. The game could have had a whole different spin on it though, if a few decisions had gone our way and we had taken our 3 or 4 dropped sitters.

In the end, Aloysians mustered a decent 178.

We knew this score was well below par and hoped that our opening pair of Ian Allmey and Matt Abeysekera would get us off to a comfortable start. Unfortunately this was not the case, and like our other games of late we lost Allmey early as he came down the pitch and got an in-swinging yorker. A big score is just around the corner.....possibly vs our Masters side! In came the man in form Regan Smith, who does enjoy a challenging run chase. He dispatched the bowlers to all parts of the ground and built a good little partnership with Matt until Matt lost his patience. Tom Robertson came in but was soon taking his pads off again without breaking a sweat, as was Scott Wells. What looked like a likely victory now had a bit of a speed bump in it, but in came new recruit Sam Miller to steady the ship and push for that middle order spot next year. He and Regan continued the run chase and it wasn't long before Regan brought up his well deserved ton and then retired with 6 runs to get and 10 overs left! The form Regan is in right now, Aloysians were probably quite lucky they didn't field first otherwise we could very well have seen the first double ton!

So a good victory once again and a great confidence booster heading into the game of the year vs the Masters.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey 4, Matt Abeysekera 25, Regan Smith 100*, Tom Robertson 9, Scotty Wells 5, Sam Miller 28*, Pete Crooks 1*, Greg Brooks dnb Ed Smith dnb, Shane Peterson dnb , and Joe Scarcella dnb

The Result was:-

OLD ALOYSIANS: - 3-178 (35 overs)

were defeated by

C.C.N.S.W.: - 4-181 (27 overs) (R. Smith 100*)

By 6 wickets

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 8-0-22-2, J. Scarcella 4-0-11-1, S. Miller 10-0-60-0, S. Wells 3-0-23-0, G. Brooks 7-0-43-0, and S. Peterson 3-0-18-0

The Fielding was: - No details given

Player Points: - No details given