C&S ROUND 1 v YARALLA AT GODDARD OVAL, CONCORDE ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 11 2015 REPORT BY REAGAN SMITH

The new season has finally arrived and after having a couple of net sessions and a very successful annual weekend away to Mudgee, our first side picked for Round 1 descended upon Goddard Park with the same enthusiasm as a bunch of school girls who had just been told Justin Bieber was having a sing off with 1D outside! The sun was out, the birds were singing, last year's close victory was in the back of our minds, and our whole team was on the ground before the opposing teams first player had even arrived -surely the first time ever!

The excitement soon started to dwindle though as we were met by a green pitch and new outfield that was as thick as a cows' paddock and the news that half the opposition's team were out.....Thank Christ our skipper Ian Allmey won the toss and chose to bat.

Our excitement picked up again with the news Ian Allmey and Tom Robertson were opening the batting, and they got us off to a flyer, Ian smashing boundaries and Tommy nudging a few singles.

Tom was out first, caught trying to pull one of the open bowlers for 12 and in came Regan Smith. A wonderful partnership started to grow with Ian reaching his 50 off 32 balls and Regan off 43 balls. They put on 76 together before Ian holed out for an excellent 71, and in came Paul Nash. This partnership was worth 84 with Paul reaching his 50 off 48 balls, and then in a true sportsmen like gesture, the captain Ian retired both Regan (67*) and Paul (56*) with 8 overs to go.

Sam Miller and Scott Wells both came in to lift the tempo, Sam playing on for 4 and new recruit Michael Cassano taking us to the end and setting the opposition a mammoth 264 to chase in 35 overs. Scott was unbeaten on 28" and Michael 20*.

With that total and our bowlers, we knew that we just had to bowl line and length and keep it simple to win this game, but didn't quite expect things to go our way so easily. Fielding was tight, and with the opening pair of Ed Smith and Shane Peterson running in, wickets fell quite regularly. In the end our total was just too much for the opposition and all our bowlers chipped in or made a difference. Regan took a great catch behind the stumps to end the day and Yaralla were dismissed for a terribly low total of 111 and with only a leg bye, wide, and no ball on the sundries list.

So game one over and next match is vs St George Veterans in the Jack Pace Shield opener.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 71 ; Tom Robertson12 ; Regan Smith (w) 67 ret*, Paul Nash 56 ret *, Sam Miller 4, Scott Wells 28*, Michael Cassano 20, Euan Robertson dnb, Michael Knott dnb, Ed Smith dnb and Shane Peterson dnb

The Result was: --

C.C.N.S.W.: - 4 - 263 (I. Allmey - 71, R. Smith- 67*, P. Nash- 56*) (35 overs)

Defeated

Yaralla CC: - 10-111 (34 overs)

By 152 runs

F.o.W.: - no details given

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 6-1-28-1; S. Peterson 7-2-18-3; S. Miller 3-1-6-0; M. Knott 6-1-15-1; M. Cassano 3-0-13-0; S. Wells 3-1-8-2; E. Robertson 4-1-9-1 ; T. Robertson 2-0-3-2

The Fielding was: - One catch to each of I. Allmey, T. Robertson and R. Smith

John Russell Player Points: - No details given

CITY & SUBURBAN JACK PACE ROUND 1 v ST GEORGE VETERANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 18, 2015: REPORT BY TOM ROBERTSON

First game at Camperdown for 2015-16 and the outfield looked wafer thin. Full value for shots all over the park.

Ian Allmey remained undefeated at the toss and elected to bat. Ian and Tom Robertson opened and C.C.N.S.W. got off to their usual start of boundaries and very few singles. Ian farmed the strike with Tommy being left a very nervous spectator (anyone who has batted with Ian knows how fast that ball comes back). Enter Regan Smith after Tom was bowled for 16. Regan was all business and he looked like he wanted a big score. Defence was tight and he put away anything loose. Ian kept on his merry way and accelerated until he was caught after making his half century.

Paul Nash was the next man in and his form from Yaralla was still with him. Nash has a very short back lift but hits the ball very clean and hard. Regan Smith was lucky to survive after being given out caught by Tommy. There was some confusion but in the eyes of the author it had gone straight to the man in front of square leg. Regan was on his way off until the square leg umpire (Tom's son, Ian Robertson) then pulled him back saying it was a bumped ball. Great shame upon Tommy!

Nash and Regan then continued on their merry way hitting some big 6s and clean 4s. Nash eventually fell being caught by a youngster one handed above the fence stopping a certain 6. Regan then kept the innings going and made a great hundred.

A wonderful afternoon tea from Greg Brooks then saw us defend 4-275.

We opened with Ed Smith and 14 year old Ian Robertson. They bowled well but the runs were ticking over. It was a big moment for Ian playing his first game for the Club and he stood up well. Ed took the first wicket and we felt in control.

Then the tide turned and the St. George Veterans starting pouring on the runs. Thankfully Regan Smith caught the danger man in the deep off David Byrnes and there was a great sigh of relief. After a few dropped catches (something we definitely need to fix) we took regular wickets with Brooks doing what he does best and taking 3 wickets. We didn't bowl the Veterans out but kept them to well below our total after 35 overs.

Matt Knott looks a real find and if he and Adrian Hawkes were bowling at the same time you couldn't tell the difference (except for a few years).

Great to turn around last year's loss of our first Jack Pace game.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 53, Tom Robertson 16, Regan Smith 114*, Paul Nash 69, Dave Byrnes 2, Matt Rennick 2*, Greg Brooks dnb, Ed Smith dnb, Matt Gale (w) dnb, Matt Knott dnb, and Ian Robertson dnb

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - 4-275 (35 overs) (R. Smith 114*; P. Nash 69; I. Allmey 53)

Defeated

St George Veterans: - 7- 205 (35 overs) (G. Brooks 3-35)

By 70 runs

FoW: - No details given

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 5-0-24-1, I. Robertson 6-0-37-0, M. Knott 7-1-40-1, D. Byrnes 7-0-37-1, G. Brooks 7-1-35-3, T. Robertson 2-0-11-0, R. Smith 1-0-15-0

The Fielding was: -: one catch to R. Smith but no details given of the other four in the match

"John Russell" player points: - No details given

CITY & SUBURBAN ROUND 3 v OLD CRANBROOKIANS AT DANGAR OVAL, ROSE BAY ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 2015: REPORT BY GREG BROOKS

There is a certain déjà vu with this report from the corresponding match last year. C.C.N.S.W. in good form entering the match and with every reason to think that will continue. However as we know cricket has a way of bringing you back to earth rather quickly!

As with last year we won the toss and elected to bat on a green hard wicket with a large outfield that was equally well grassed. Tommy missed the ferry so batted down the order leaving Matt Knott to open with Ian Allmey.

A fifty run opening partnership against a steady attack was the platform for a good score with Ian using his power to great effect making 43. Matt was more subdued but did his job scoring 21. At the halfway mark we were 2-77 and ready to launch. However despite most of the middle order getting a start, no-one kicked on to make the 60 or 70 we needed to post a good score. A combination of tight bowling and loose strokes saw us lose 6-72 off the final 18 overs when really we should have added a 100 or more. Damian Langley did a good job scoring 24* and we finished at 8-149.

Every chance and half chance would have to be taken to defend our score and things didn't work out. Terrific opening spells from Shane Peterson and Damian saw edges fly past the slips and through gully and even the occasional "leg slip drive" eluded the stumps!

The most telling moment was when yours truly shelled a regulation chance at second slip from the hard working Damian. The opening bat made the most of this and posted 71*...ouch! While we toiled away and had our moments we were up against it and our friends from Cranbrook passed us in the 31st over. Certainly we did not help ourselves bowling 9 wides and 5 no-balls.

In the same match last year we had dropped catches and saw an opener bat through riding his luck. Take nothing away from Old Cranbrookians; they deserved the win but we are capable of a much better performance than this. We need to bounce back against Scots Old Boys next week at Jubilee Oval, Glebe.

The Team in batting order : Ian Allmey (c) 43, Matt Knott 21, Regan Smith (w)19, Paul Nash 14, Euan Robertson 7, Damien Langley 24*,Tom Robertson 10, Greg Brooks 1,Chris Owen 4, Mike Beergah 1*, Shane Peterson dnb.

The Result was:

C.C.N.S.W: - 8 for 149 (off 35 overs) (I. Allmey 43, D. Langley 24*)

Lost to

Old Cranbrookians: - 4 for 151 (off 30.2 overs)

by 6 wickets.

The Bowling was: D. Langley 8.2-0-31-0; S. Peterson 6-0-35-1 G. Brooks 9-0-36-2 T. Robertson 4-0-35-0. M. Knott 3-0-13-1.

FoW: - No details given

The Fielding was: No catches taken

"John Russell" Player Points : No detail given

JACK PACE ROUND 2 v SCOTS OLD BOYS AT JUBILEE OVAL, GLEBE ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2015: REPORT BY TOM ROBERTSON

A low bouncing pitch greeted us at Jubilee Oval. An oval that is a public transport users' delight with the light rail stop 15m from the dressing sheds. We lost the toss and went out to field. Ed Smith and Shane Peterson had things under control until their #3 and #4 came out and started slapping us around a little.

We remained focussed and with the Scots premier batsmen in the sheds the runs dried right up. The pitch stayed low and slow and anyone pitching short was punished. Ed finished strongly with 4 wickets.

Matt Abeysekera opened the batting with Ian Allmey and we got off to a flier as the weather looked ominous. Matty lost a ball by hitting it over the tram line! One of the biggest hits I've ever seen! The run rate was flying and so were the wickets. The level heads of Sam Millar and Tom Robertson saw us home with the hail coming after 20 overs and we won by the Duckworth Lewis system on a faster run rate

A few well earned beers in the pavilion rounded off a good Jack Pace win.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 30; Matt Abeysekera 38; Regan Smith 23; Paul Nash 0; Sam Millar 18*; Tom Robertson 14*; Matt Rennick (w) dnb; Euan Robertson dnb ; Ed Smith dnb and Shane Peterson dnb

The Result was:-

Scots Old Boys 10-171 (35 overs) (E. Smith 4-23)

Lost to

C.C.N.S.W.: - 4-135 (20 overs) **Rain**

FoW: - 1-65; 2-81; 3-82; 4-101

On run rate

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 7-0-23-4; S. Peterson 7-1-28-2; G. Brooks 7-0-43-0; S. Millar 6-0-31-2; T. Robertson 6-0-20-2; R. Smith 2-0-13-0

The Fielding was: - No details given

"John Russell" Player Points: No detail given

JACK PACE ROUND 3 v RANGERS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2015

Game cancelled by rain

C&S ROUND 4 v COLLEAGUES AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2015: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

A partly overcast day* and a pitch with green tinge* greeted the Cricketers' Club at Camperdown Oval. Skipper Ian Allmey won the toss* and batted, with the team confident of a good total on a very fast (albeit ugly) outfield.

Having plundered big runs against C&S teams for more than a decade, a chink was finally found in the Allmey armour: a dead straight full toss hits the very top of off stump first ball of the match. The skipper is bowled!

Regan Smith timed the ball beautifully before falling to a terrific catch at deep square leg. David Byrnes and Matt Rennick fell in quick succession to leave the team 4 for 40* and in danger of failing to set the total the pitch and outfield deserved.

Sam Millar and Euan Robertson (carrying the physical and emotional burden of being both the real, and the only, Robertson in the team) rebuilt and dragged the team past 100 with a solid partnership. Colleagues had settled on a strategy of bowling pies from the Parramatta Road end** while their second change bowler from the Sydney Airport end** bowled some quality stuff (and rapid). Robertson fell for 37 and Millar was out just short of a deserved half century.

Wickets fell regularly to dopey shots. Newcomer Alton van Straalen (more about him later) swung some lusty blows to score 24 and tail enders Matt Knott and Shane Peterson dragged the total to the 200 mark. While the run rate remained high, the Cricketers' Club failed to bat out their 35 overs.

Despite some quality opening overs from Nathan Reay, Colleagues made a positive start chasing what was no more than a reasonable total. Reay took an early wicket* but by drinks our bowlers had struggled to penetrate and in a disturbing trend a number of catches and half chances were shelled. Colleagues were 1-115 at the halfway mark*.

Enter Dave Byrnes. Proudly wearing his BULC SRERTEKCIRC shirt and his baggy blue from around the time of Bradman's Invincibles tour, Byrnes introduced some probing offies from the Parramatta Road end.

Looking to force the pace, the Colleagues' opener launched a huge hit into the skies off Byrnes. Alton van Straalen circled under it at mid on. To the left; to the right; backwards, and just when it appeared he was no chance, hurled himself to the left and pulled off an incredible grab. It was not only one of the best catches I've ever seen, it was the second best goalkeeper's save and the fourth best AFL mark.

With their tails up and President Greg Brooks muttering encouragement from the sidelines, Cricketers' Club began to exert pressure and take regular wickets. Luke Duggan bowled some quality quick medium and took 2 deserved wickets. Byrnes continued to chip away, with van Straalen taking another catch under the high ball (this time in more conventional circumstances).

As Colleagues closed on the total, Nathan Reay was re-introduced and took the crucial penultimate wicket. Byrnes took the last wicket (his fifth) with an LBW (and fair play to the Colleagues umpire for giving it – not an easy thing to do).

Cricketers' Club win by nine runs in a great game. Some familiar flaws appeared: horrible catching and careless batting. But there were more than a few positives: runs from outside the Ian Allmey/ Regan Smith duopoly, some good performances from newcomers van Straalen and Duggan and the usual Cricketers' Club spirit which saw us home in the end.

*These details are to the best of my memory after several weeks, but seem like important elements of the narrative. Some are more accurate than others.

** Do the ends at Camperdown have names? They do now.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 0; David Byrnes 14 ; Regan Smith 18; Sam Millar 49 ; Matt Rennick 6; Euan Robertson 37 , Alton Van Straalen 24 , Luke Duggan 0 ; Nathan Reay 1; Matt Knott 13* and Shane Peterson 9. (Extras 34)

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - 10 - 200 (30.3 overs) (S Millar 49)

Defeated

Colleagues: - 10 - 191 (32.1 overs)

By 9 runs

FoW: - No details given

The Bowling was: - N. Reay 7-0-31-2; S. Peterson 4-1-35-0; M. Knott 2-0-8-0: L. Duggan 9-0-61-2 and D. Byrnes 10.1-0-57-5

The Fielding was: - 2 catches to A. Van Straalen; One to T. Robertson

John Russell points: - No details given

C&S ROUND 5 v REG BARTLEY C.C. AT JUBILEE OVAL, GLEBE ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2015: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

A glorious day and a worn, cracking pitch greeted the Cricketers Club at Jubilee Oval in Glebe. In customary fashion, vice-captain Ed Smith (standing in for regular skipper Ian Allmey) lost the toss and the Reg Bartley XI batted.

Damien Langley and Nathan Reay opened the bowling with some quality stuff from both ends. Despite the pitch's Mumbai-esque appearance, both achieved good carry through to keeper Matt Gale. Damien bowled well without luck, at least one chance going down in the slips. However assisted by Langley's pressure, Reay was a revelation, frequently finding the edge of the bat with wily slips Brooks and Byrnes taking some good catches.

Ed Smith clearly had somewhere to be, setting attacking fields and somehow finding more and more fielders to stack the slip cordon. Nathan Reay took five wickets, in true fast bowler's fashion either bowled, lbw or caught behind the stumps.

The skipper turned to youthful spin twins Dave Byrnes and Craig Kitson. Ed circled the bat with close catchers as Reg Bartley fiddled and nurdled their way past 50. For a bloke who hasn't turned his arm over in some time, Kitson bowled some probing lines. But Byrnes was again a star, taking his second five-for of the season. For those of us with OCD tendencies,

the scorecard had a pleasing symmetry with Reay taking the top five and Byrnes the bottom five.

Reg Bartley set a barely acceptable total of 95.

A fast turnaround offered the prospect of Nathan Reay getting home to his Tinder date early. Regan Smith and Euan Robertson (the real, and again, the only) opened the batting. Robertson learned a harsh lesson about not playing back on this pitch, inside edging a nothing ball onto the stumps.

However, Regan Smith and Paul Nash cruised to the target with some quality shots and some chunky fours. Nash passed 50 with ease - his third or fourth major contribution this season and he looked a reassuring presence in the top order.

A comfortable nine wicket win followed. In truth, the opposition were decidedly average. However unlike some previous efforts it was pleasing to see the Cricketers' Club brutally pursue the win and never relieve pressure.

In a rarity, club legends Ed Smith and Greg Brooks were barely called upon, although they learnt some interesting facts about former Sydney Lord Mayor Reg Bartley, which will keep their wives entertained for literally seconds.

(Editor's note so you all can entertain your partners: - Reg Bartley was Lord Mayor of Sydney in 1943–1944 and 1946–1948. In March 1946 Bartley was instrumental in moving to demolish the Sydney Mint and the Hyde Park Barracks, stating that they should "make way for modern structures"- a proposal fortunately never implemented. Bartley's service to the City of Sydney is commemorated by the naming of Reg Bartley Oval at Rushcutters Bay and Bartley Street, Chippendale. The City of Sydney Florence Bartley Library was named in honour of Bartley's wife and Lady Mayoress Florence)

Reay and Langley bowled superbly and suggested Ed's weary body may need to carry less of the fast bowling burden in the future. Byrnes' ten wickets in two games must push him up the list of wicket takers for the season; our other bowlers would be advised to give the end of season awards a miss if he tops the list.

A critical game against Sydney Uni Vets in the Jack Pace Shield awaits

The Team was:- Regan Smith 44*; Euan Robertson 1; Paul Nash 54*; Sam Millar (dnb); Craig Kitson (dnb); Damien Langley (dnb); Nathan Reay (dnb); Matt Gale (w) (dnb); Ed Smith (c) (dnb) and Greg Brooks (dnb).

The Result was: -

Reg Bartley XI: - 10-95 (D, Byrnes 5-17; N. Reay 5-27 (32 overs)

Lost to

C.C.N.S.W.: - **1-101** (P. Nash 54*; R. Smith 44*) (15.2 overs)

By 9 wickets.

FoW: - 1-1

The Bowling was: - D. Langley 7-1-19-0; N. Reay 9-0-27-5; D. Byrnes 9.1-1-17-5; C. Kitson 7-0-25-0

The Fielding was: - 2 catches D. Byrnes; 1 catch Greg Brooks

"John Russell" player points: - No details given

C&S JACK PACE ROUND 5 v SYDNEY UNIVERSITY VETERANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 13, 2015: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

The Cricketers' Club faced off against long term rivals Sydney University Veterans in a crucial Jack Pace Shield match at Camperdown. Skipper ian Allmey won the toss and with attacking intent sent the opposition in on a dry and dusty track. Our aim: to knock the opposition over and chase the runs in less than 21 overs to gain a vital bonus point*.

Ed Smith and Shane Peterson opened the bowling with some tidy stuff. Ed bowled straight through his seven overs and while he deserved a wicket, 0-22 off his spell illustrates the sort of pressure he was able to build. Peterson benefitted at the other end, taking two good wickets including a ripper of a catch by wicketkeeper Matt Gale diving (or falling depending on your perspective) to his right.

Allmey shuffled the deck with the canny experience of Greg Brooks, David Byrnes and Craig Kitson. All bowled with consistency and tested the Sydney Uni batsmen on a crumbling pitch. Against all odds Tom Robertson held onto a steepler off Kitson at deep mid wicket as the pressure built.

Greg Brooks bowled Sydney University Veteran's number five batsman having a heave who then boldly claimed to be slogging a free hit after a no ball. A creative and ultimately unsuccessful attempt at making up the rules as we go. Back to the pavilion old boy.

At this point, Uni's star batman Stoop was still in and timing the ball well. However with his first ball David Byrnes had him plumb lbw to continue his sequence of golden arm contributions.

Bowlers continued to bowl tight lines and despite some slogs from the opposing number six who was entirely unable to hit the ball on the off side, we restricted Sydney University Veterans to 128 off their 35. A great team effort with good fielding and no dropped catches**.

Two wickets each for Peterson, Brooks, Kitson and Byrnes. One very sore Achilles for Ed Smith who will explore the healing properties of Christmas pudding over the break.

A run rate of just over six was required to capture the bonus point and Allmey showed his intent taking fourteen off the first over.

However opposing skipper Paul Moorhouse bowled Tom Robertson having an ugly slog (sorry Tommy) and a ball popped on Allmey who holed out to cover. Two for fourteen and we looked shaky.

Regan Smith and Sam Millar steadied the ship before Sam was lbw for 13, bamboozled by the whirlwind of arms and legs of the Uni first change bowler. Dave Byrnes has been a star with the ball in recent weeks, but this time he showed his quality with the bat, stroking some impressive fours and keeping us ahead of the required run rate.

After some curiously timed drinks, C.C.N.S.W. needed 10 off 17 balls to win the bonus point. Byrnes duly put the first ball into the grandstand and smashed the second for four to bring up his fifty and take the bonus point with more than two overs up our sleeves. If this is the sort of form a backward logo on your shirt creates then we should all get one.

Spare a thought for Regan Smith, stranded in the forties for the second time in two weeks. But his quality shone through and there is no one better able to steer the team through some early wobbles.

A great and important win with many good contributions across the team and one of our better fielding performances this season. We will refresh over the break and come back ready to reclaim that Shield. Merry Christmas everyone.

*Only Ed and Allmey appear to have any idea how points work in the JPS. The rest of us just go along with what they tell us.
** I'm not counting the rocket I only got a finger tip to at mid on.

The Team was: - Ian Allmey (c) 14, Tom Robertson 0, Regan Smith 49*, Sam Millar 13, Dave Byrnes 52*, Euan Robertson dnb , Craig Kitson dnb , Ed Smith dnb , Greg Brooks dnb, Matt Gale (w) dnb and Shane Peterson dnb.

The Result was: -

Sydney University Veterans: - 9-128 (35 overs)

Lost to

C.C.N.S.W.: - 3-129 (D. Byrnes 52*; R. Smith 49*) (18.2 overs)

By 7 wickets with 16.4 overs remaining

FoW: - 1-14 (T. Robertson); 2-14 (Allmey); 3-59 (Millar)

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 7-1-22-0; S. Peterson 7-0-31-2; C. Kitson 7-0-27-2; G. Brooks 7-1-26-2; D. Byrnes 7-0-19-2

The Fielding was: - 1 catch to M. Gale, T. Robertson and C. Kitson

"John Russell" player points: - No details given

C&S ROUND 6 v BARKER OLD BOYS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY JANUARY 9, 2016: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

THE ROBERTSON REPORT

133 runs, three wickets and two catches from Robertsons secured a thumping victory against our recent nemesis Barker Old Boys.

Opening the batting, Tommy Robertson slashed and carved 78 from 56 balls, his most significant contribution of the season so far.

Joined by son Ed, the Robertsons put together a solid partnership of 33. Ed played beautifully, using his feet to the spinner and keeping the run rate ticking over.

Tommy was dismissed in comical circumstances (of course), hitting a straight drive into the stumps at the bowlers end and then taking off for a suicidal single. Fortunately Ed is the mature one in the family and was having none of it, sending his father back to be run out by half of the pitch.

Tommy walked off grumbling about locking his son in the basement for a week, but we're sure he was only joking. Isn't that right Ed? … *Ed?*

Ed was unlucky to miss out on a half century, caught behind going for quick runs in the penultimate over.

Ian Robertson opened the bowling and moved the ball consistently off the seam to bowl two of Barker's most capable batsmen. Ian's contribution is all the more significant once it is understood that his father was coaching him from mid-off which presumably cost him at least one more wicket, if not more.

Tommy unusually contributed in the field, pulling off a great catch at second slip.

Euan Robertson (still the real Robertson, but the least effective Robertson) snared a catch for the ninth wicket and took the final wicket to fall, the batsman stumped while playing for a generous (but non-existent) amount of spin.

The Team was:- Tom Robertson 78, Ed Robertson 46, Euan Robertson 9*, Ian Robertson DNB

The Result was: -

Robertson XI: 2-133

defeated

Barker Old Boys: - **78 all out**

By 55 runs

The Bowling was: - I. Robertson 5-1-26-2; Euan Robertson 1.1-1-0-1

The Fielding was: - 1 catch – T. Robertson, 1 catch – Euan Robertson

THE REST

While most of the heavy lifting was borne by Tommy's family, there were some other notable contributions.

Regan Smith steadied the ship after the early loss of Ian Allmey, scoring 57 and putting on a hundred partnership with Tommy. It was a quality performance as always from Regan and he was only dismissed unselfishly pushing for quick runs after drinks.

Newcomer Laurence Mead retired after scoring a classy half century with some very chunky hitting. First delivery faced he lets the ball go through to the keeper. Says Ed Smith on the sidelines: "that was quite a confident leave". Second ball Laurence is down on one knee, ball disappears deep into the trees at deep mid-wicket. Ed: "hmmm. Quite confident".

Needless to say, 258 was a very good score on a green deck against a decent team.

Our bowling and fielding were of an equally high standard. Ed Smith bowled beautifully to take five wickets for just 17 runs. Ed consistently put the ball on a good length and found the edge with regularity.

Keeper Billy Bruce, making his C&S debut, took three catches and a neat stumping. Matty Gale consequently drops another spot in the keeper rankings.

President Greg Brooks tightened the screws, picking up two lower order wickets and keeping a cool head as always while the Barker lower order swung hard.

A memorable win. Some top performances from old and new players. And Tommy is under instructions to let us know about any other offspring that he hasn't yet brought to our attention.

The Team was:- Ian Allmey (c) 0, Tom Robertson 78, Regan Smith 57, Edward Robertson 45; Laurence Mead 53* (ret) Euan Robertson 9*; Alton van Straalen 3*; William Bruce (w) (dnb); Edward Smith (dnb), Gregory Brooks (dnb), Ian Robertson (dnb)

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - **4-258** (T. Robertson 78, R. Smith 57, L. Mead 53* (ret), Ed Robertson 45 (35 overs)

FoW: - 1-0, 2-112, 3-145, 4-248

Defeated

Barker Old Boys: - **78 all out** (E. Smith 5-17, G. Brooks 2-24. I. Robertson 2-26) (20.1 overs)

By 180 runs.

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 7-1-17-5; I. Robertson 5-1-26-2; G. Brooks 5-1-24-2; L. Mead 2-1-8-0; Euan Robertson 1.1-1-0-1

The Fielding was: - 3 catches and 1 stumping W. Bruce; 1 catch T. Robertson, 1 catch Euan Robertson

"John Russell" player points: - No details given

CCNSW C&S SIDE v KINGS OLD BOYS CC (INVITATION XI) AT REG BARTLEY OVAL RUSHCUTTERS BAY ON SUNDAY JANUARY 17, 2016: REPORT BY ED SMITH

In the middle of the week prior to the game, Kings Old Boys apologetically notified us that, due to a club wedding and school holidays, the Kings team could only put 5 players on the beautiful Reg Bartley Oval in Rushcutters for Sunday's game. Ever the optimist, your author responded: *"So if C.C.N.S.W. can find 17 more players, we've got a game!"* Kings kindly accepted our offer and, by Thursday night, we had 17 C.C.N.S.W. players ready for a game on Sunday.

As luck would have it, it turned out to be a beautiful day on a beautiful ground with many of the Queenstown touring party in the team ready for a knock before our Australia Day long weekend tour.

As it turned out, only 3 Kings players turned up so we lent the Kings team 7 players: the two brilliant Robertson boys Edward and Ian, the big hitting David Sirr, the ever-accurate Matt Knott, the slashing keeper batsman, Billy Bruce, the watchful Alton Van Straalen and club favourite, Matt Abeysekera for a ten on ten game.

We won the toss and chose to bat. In a season highlight, Tom Robertson got to open the batting against the opening bowling duo of his sons, Ed and Ian! Paul Nash and Tommy played out two maidens off the first 12 balls but then slowly started accelerating. Both Robertson boys seemed to have Tommy's number until, by his 21st delivery, Tommy finally hit his 14 year old son for a boundary (a 6 over mid-on). Next ball, however, Ian had Tommy dropped at point – thereby adding another yarn to the dinner table stories of the Robertsons.

Paul and Tommy ended up surviving the double barrelled Robertson attack well as they put on 42 runs off the first 10 overs. It wasn't until David Sirr was introduced in to attack that the first wicket fell, that of Paul Nash, caught at point for 19 (off 40 balls) with the team's score on 54.

Enter Regan Smith, who with Tommy, accelerated the pace and put on 39 runs in 32 balls until Tommy retired with his score on 55* off 51 balls. Sam Miller then joined Regan and the two of them firstly dispatched Matt Knott, then Kings' boys Kunel and Raks for 59 runs off 60 balls. By now we were 1 for 152 off 28 overs and ready to launch into the final 7 overs.

Billy Bruce got rid of the gloves and tried his hand at bowling with instant success, bowling Regan (46 off 44 balls) with his first ball. He followed this up with a waist high no-ball to Scott Wells and then a pearler of a delivery that bowled Scotty for a duck! Damien Langley joined Sam Millar and the two of them piled on 46 runs in double time until Damien (24 off 23 balls)

was well caught by Ed Robertson at long-on off Billy Bruce (3 for 35 off 4 overs for Kings!). Matt Rennick finished off our innings with 3 runs off 3 balls leaving Sam Miller stranded on 48* off just 43 balls including a string of 6 threes in a row (it was a very slow outfield and Sam hadn't had his wheatabix that morning)!

After our 35 overs, we ended up on 4 for 204 which we knew was going to be tough to chase down on the soft wicket and slow and lush outfield of Reg Bartley Oval. Lunch was prepared and served for both teams by Ed Smith as we all ate and laughed together at Matt Abeysekera's 3 dropped catches for another team. At least he has got rid of his allocation of dropped catches for the season now.

The Kings captain, Tom Hosegood, opened the batting with fellow Kingsman, Gupta, against our pair of seamers, Ed Smith (captain for the day in Ian Allmey's absence) and Damien Langley. Ed (2 for 11 off 5 overs) drew first blood bowling their captain for a duck through the gate with a late swinger. Matt Abeysekera, then came to the crease in the third over and put on a watchful 21 runs with Gupta until Ed bowled the other opener with the King's score on only 2 for 23 off 11 overs.

Raks, the third Kingsman, then joined Matt until Matt (18 off 19 balls) was bowled by Damien Langley (1 for 18 off 6 overs) going for a pre-meditated cross-bat swipe to a pitched up ball. By now Kings were in trouble at 3 for 29 off 12 overs so we took our openers off and tried a bit of spin (Craig Kitson) and guile (Greg Brooks).

Raks went first, caught and bowled by Kitson, then Alton Van Straalen, who played watchfully off the back foot for 5 runs off 24 balls, was eventually bowled by a huge turner from Kitson (2 for 9 off 5 overs). David Sirr, who had previously impressed with the ball, then impressed mightily with the bat, un-diplomatically swatting President Brooks (0 for 20 off 6 overs) over mid-wicket and into the creek for a lost-ball 6. David Sirr and Billy Bruce put on 21 runs together and their partnership was only broken by a well-positioned deep mid-wicket catch by Regan Smith (who knew exactly where his mate, David Sirr (21 off 19 balls) likes to hit them) off Tom Robertson's first ball. Kings were now 6 for 70 off 24.1 overs.

Another game highlight popped up as Ed Robertson strode to the pitch to face the fierce pace of his father. Ed calmly dispatched Tommy for a series of twos and singles through the off-side but, in a Darth Vader moment, Tommy (2 for 4 off 2 overs) bowled a shocking short wide delivery that only Ed could have got a bat on – and sadly, he only got the edge of his bat on it – caught behind by Matt Rennick for 6 off 10 balls. Round one goes to dad.

Ian Robertson came and went, well stumped by Matt Rennick for a duck second ball off Scott Wells (1 for 23 off 4). Kings were now 8 for 83 off 27.4.

Billy Bruce, meanwhile, was picking up from his previous 50 for the club and was scoring nicely off the bowling of Wells and Regan Smith. He and Matt Knott put on a final 10 runs until Regan (1 for 4 off 1.1) impressed by bowling the in-form Billy for 25 runs off 34 balls, leaving Matt stranded not out on 1 off 7 balls – no doubt on his way to a fifty.

With that, Kings Old Boys (Invitational) XI were all out for 93 in 30.1 overs and the game concluded with club drinks and nibblies (again supplied by Ed) in the picturesque Reg Bartley Pavilion while we watched the next generation of the club (Smiths, Robertsons and Van Straalen juniors) strut their stuff with a size 4 bat and a pink 142 gram Kookaburra.

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: 4 for 204 (35 overs)

Defeated

Kings Old Boys CC: All out (9) for 93 (30.1 overs)

By 111 runs.

FoW: - No details given

The C.C.N.S.W. Team was: - Paul Nash (19 off 40), Tom Robertson (55* retired off 51), Regan Smith (46 off 44), Sam Miller (48* off 43), Scott Wells (0 off 2), Damien Langley (24 off 23), Matt Rennick (w) (3* off 3), Craig Kitson (dnb), Ed Smith (c.) (dnb), Greg Brooks (dnb).

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 6-2-11-2; D. Langley 6-0-18-1; G. Brooks 6-1-20-0; C. Kitson 5-0-9-2; ; S. Wells 4-0-23-1, T. Robertson 2-1-4-2 and R. Smith 1.1-0-4-1.

The Fielding was: - M. Rennick (w) 1 catch, 1 stumping; R. Smith 1 catch, S. Wells 1 catch

CITY AND SUBURBAN ROUND 9 v I ZINGARI (AUSTRALIA) AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY JANUARY 30, 2016

Game cancelled because of rain

CITY AND SUBURBAN JACK PACE QUARTER FINAL v NONDESCRIPTS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2016: REPORT BY IAN ALLMEY

No report has been submitted to date

The Team was: - Matt Abeysekera 57; Ian Allmey (c) 25, Regan Smith 25; David Byrnes 29, Damien Langley 31*; Ed Smith 2*, Greg Brooks dnb, Nathan Reay dnb, Matt Rennick (w) dnb and Shane Peterson dnb.

The Result was:-

Nondescripts: - 8-176 (G. Brooks 3-27) (35 overs)

Lost to

C.C.N.S.W.: - 5-181 (M. Abeysekera 57) (21 overs)

By 5 wickets

FoW: - No details given

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 7-0-23-1; S. Peterson 4-0-28-1; D. Langley 7-0-39-1; N. Reay 4-0-19-1; G. Brooks 7-0-27-3 and D. Byrnes 6-0-33-1

The Fielding was: - one stumping to M. Rennick (w) No details of 4 catches given

Player Points: - No details given

CITY AND SUBURBAN v OLD CRANBROOKIANS C.C. AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2016:

Old Cranbrookians could not raise a side and C.C.N.S.W. won by forfeit

C&S JACK PACE SEMI FINAL v BARKER OLD BOYS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2016: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

It was far from perfect, but we got the job done and we're in the final of the Jack Pace Shield.

Barker Old Boys had knocked us out of the JPS last year but at our home ground (beautifully accessorised by a giant pile of rubble where the grandstand used to be) we were to gain revenge. Barker also struggled to field their strongest team (or even a full XI) on a Saturday with a number of players playing grade cricket.

Skipper Ian Allmey lost the toss and we were sent in. Tom Robertson (11) got us off to our usual rollicking start, however he and Regan Smith (3) both played-on seeking to hit square on the off side. A sign, perhaps, that the pitch was keeping a little low.

Allmey looked in good nick, cruising to 26 and looking to push the run rate by advancing down the wicket. However his dancing feet danced one time too many as he charged the left arm quick and missed. The keeper threw at the stumps, his bat returned into the crease then jarred on the ground causing him to drop the willow and be stranded. If it was anyone but the skipper you'd call it a comical stumping. Because it was Ian, let's say it was ... unfortunate.

Euan Robertson joined Sam Millar at 3-54 and with the game in the balance. They consolidated with a valuable partnership of 103. The *'Real Robertson'* (37) turned the strike over with singles and the occasional four while Millar (88) played beautifully, hitting four extremely chunky sixes into the rubble at mid-wicket.

Euan fell lbw to umpire Regan Smith with the score on 157 and the Cricketers' Club set up to go big with 10 overs remaining. However wickets fell regularly. Damien Langley tried to tickle fine and was caught behind for 4, Millar fell lbw (Regan Smith) for a terrific 88 and David Byrnes was lbw (Regan Smith) for 7. Matt Rennick was caught in the deep for 4, President Greg Brooks run out backing up for 10. It was left to last wicket partnership Luke Duggan (11*) and Nathan Reay (12*) to drag us to 223, including an all run 5.

Damien Langley opened the bowling and generated serious pace, making deep inroads into the Barker batting line up. He took 4-21, two wickets bowled and two caught behind, one a screamer from keeper Rennick. Damien and Nathan Reay from the other end frequently found the edge of the bat with a number of chances in the slips dropped or just falling short.

By the time Luke Duggan came on, Barker were 4-62 and in deep trouble. However opener Burnett was to play a fantastic knock, scoring a hundred with some giant sixes straight down the ground.

While Burnett wreaked havoc, wickets fell at the other end. David Byrnes took a wicket caught by Langley at mid-off. Brooks grabbed an lbw and celebrated in presidential fashion.

Shortly before drinks, Tom Robertson had the opportunity to effectively finish the game as he hovered under a steepler from Burnett at long on from the President's bowling. However he shelled it and the big hitting continued.

First over after drinks Burnett smoked poor David Byrnes for four successive sixes. However once Tommy's drop is considered, Byrnes's figures of 1-54 are really 1-30, with 24 runs deducted from Tommy's contribution to the game, leaving him on net minus 13.

The cool head of Greg Brooks (2-18) took the penultimate wicket, caught at second slip by Millar using a range of body parts to hang onto it.

Nathan Reay (1-38) was brought back to finish it off. He too disappeared for a straight six (Burnett's eighth), but finally had his man caught at long on by Langley for 108. The opener's score was 68.7% of Barkers 157 total (noting that Charles Bannerman holds the test match record on this measure and he only scored 67.3%).

(Editor's note: The highest percentage of runs scored in any completed innings in First Class cricket is 83.43% by **Glenn Turner** who scored 141* out of Worcestershire's 169 against Glamorgan at Swansea in 1977. The remaining batsmen scored 27 and there was one extra)

A win. It will do. But our batting and fielding in particular need to improve in the final.

The Team was:- Ian Allmey (c) 26, Tom Robertson 11, Regan Smith 3, Sam Millar 88, Euan Robertson 37; Damien Langley 4; Dave Byrnes 7; Matt Rennick (w) 4, Greg Brooks 10, Luke Duggan 11*, and Nathan Reay 12*

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - **9-223** (S. Millar 88, E. Robertson 37, I. Allmey 26) (35 overs)

FoW: - 1-12 (T. Robertson), 2-20 (R. Smith), 3-54 (I. Allmey), 4-157 (Euan Robertson, 5-176 (D. Langley), 6-178 (S. Millar), 7-186 (D. Byrnes), 8-198 (M. Rennick), 9-201 (G. Brooks)

Defeated

Barker Old Boys: - **157 all out** (D. Langley 4-21, G. Brooks 2-18) (22.4 overs)

By 66 runs.

The Bowling was: - D. Langley 5-0-21-4; N .Reay 4.4-0-38-1; L. Duggan 2-0-22-0; D. Byrnes 6-1-54-1; G. Brooks 5-0-18-2

The Fielding was: - 2 catches M. Rennick; 2 catches D. Langley; 1 catch S. Millar

"John Russell" player points: - No details given

C&S ROUND 15 v HUNTERS HILL C.C. AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2016: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

A sedate and comfortable win over Hunters Hill acted as preparation of sorts for the Jack Pace Final next week.

Bereft of C&S legends Greg Brooks, Ian Allmey, Ed Smith and David Byrnes (also missing some bloke called Tom Robertson), we cruised to an easy eight wicket win over the eight man Hunters Hill side, despite letting their best two batsmen bat twice.

Truth be told, there will be little remembered from the game, so some brief highlights:

- Craig Kitson bowled well, taking two wickets, one a ripper quicker ball which smashed the stumps. Craig also took a catch in the field and one as replacement wicketkeeper.
- Craig's catch behind the stumps had to be seen to be believed, a thick edge off a very wide delivery from Buck which came so slowly off the bat; Craig somehow grabbed it to the right of a bemused second slip.
- It was a day for strange catches. Regan Smith took two, both of them juggled several times. Matt Rennick took one as keeper standing alongside the batsmen after he launched a straight drive vertically in the air. Rennick took a second catch at gully, also juggled. And Euan Robertson from first slip took a catch at leg slip after the ball came off the back of the bat during a pull shot.
- Alton van Straalen fielded very well and took a great non-catch at mid-wicket when he sportingly called the batsman back for a bump ball even though everyone else thought it was out. Hopefully that might stem the deluge of emails about bad behaviour we've received of late.

- Hunters Hill all out for 97. Nathan Reay took' *two fer'*, Joe Scarcella one, Graham Buck two, Craig Kitson two and Luke Duggan two. Of the bowlers only Regan Smith missed out on a scalp after Nathan Reay caught nothing but a dose of the dropsies at deep mid-wicket.
- We chased the runs with some ease. C&S debutant John Munden hit some chunky fours in a well-made 41. Rennick opened the batting and compiled a classy 29. Regan Smith (18*) and Euan Robertson (3*) ("*The Real Robertson")* managed to finish the game without dozing off.

It says much about the game that the more memorable elements were: (a) air conditioned dressing sheds, truly the style that the Cricketers' Club deserves (b) one of the Hunters Hill openers batted 15 overs and scored four. This astonishing performance led one unnamed slip fieldsman to ask him how he thought the pitch would play on day four and five of the test (c) the Van Straalen and Duggan households admirably stepped up to the plate in providing sandwiches and fruit for both sides. They're no Bronwyn Virtue, but good work guys (d) beers at the Camperdown Hotel after an early finish.

I'm sure the Australian team's preparation for the World Cup final was similarly low key.

The Team was:- John Munden 41, Matt Rennick (w) 29, Regan Smith (c) 18*, Euan Robertson 3*, Nathan Reay dnb, Paul Nash dnb, Alton van Straalen dnb, Luke Duggan dnb, Craig Kitson (w) dnb, Graham Buck dnb and Joe Scarcella dnb

The Result was: -

Hunters Hill: - 97 all out (L. Duggan 2-5, C. Kitson 2-18, G. Buck 2-18, N. Reay 2-21) (26.5 overs)

Lost to

C.C.N.S.W.: - 2**-98** (J. Munden 41, M. Rennick 29) (14.2 overs)

By 8 wickets

FoW: - 1-76 (M Rennick), 2-91 (J Munden)

The Bowling was: - N .Reay 7-1-21-2; J. Scarcella 5-0-17-1; G. Buck 6-1-18-2; C. Kitson 4-1-18-2; R. Smith 2-0-16-0; L. Duggan 2-0-5-2.

The Fielding was: - 2 catches to each of C. Kitson, M. Rennick and R. Smith; 1 catch to E. Robertson

"John Russell" player points: - No details given

JACK PACE FINAL v KNOX OLD BOYS C.C. AT GODDARD OVAL, CONCORD ON SUNDAY MARCH 6, 2016: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

Back row: - Euan Robertson (12th man), Ed Smith, Paul Nash, Ian Allmey (c), Nathan Reay, David Byrnes, Damien Langley, Sam Millar
Front Row: - Regan Smith, Matt Abeysekera, Matt Rennick (w), Tom Robertson

This isn't the match report that was meant to be written.

That match report has fours and sixes, and fifties. And maybe a hundred. And wickets for our bowlers, and diving catches. And at the end of it a shield and enough beer to drown a small village.

But that match report is for another year.

We lost the Jack Pace grand final by five wickets to Knox Old Boys who thoroughly deserved their win and showed they are the standard that we must match to claim the shield next year.

Allmey won the toss on a clear, warm day and chose to bat. The pitch was curious: basically dry and flat but with three or four strips of grass running lengthways. This meant that it was hard to anticipate bounce and most batsmen struggled to find themselves 'in' at any point.

We started poorly. Ian Allmey bowled off his pads for a duck second ball (Ed remains convinced that Ian committed some egregious sin against Jack Pace in a former life!). Matt Abeysekera who has been in mighty form was caught behind (perhaps unluckily) also for a duck.

Regan Smith looked in decent nick but was caught by the keeper for 21 trying to work the ball behind square. Sam Millar was out to a ripper catch at mid-on for 8.

Knox opening bowler Tom Bangs finished his spell with a very fine 4 for 25 and the Cricketers' Club was a precarious 4 for 31.

Tom Robertson slashed his first ball for four but he and Paul Nash became stuck in a rut, resulting in a risky single and Nash run out for one. The Knox fielding was athletic throughout and put us under real pressure.

Robertson was caught at cover in a truly *'Robertsonesque'* manner for 14. David Byrnes was caught behind for 3.

Only Damien Langley really got on top of the bowlers, building a patient innings which culminated in two huge sixes. He received support from Matt Rennick (8), Ed Smith (2) and Nathan Reay (9).

Our final score of 119 was barely respectable, but even that score looked beyond us at half way and we were grateful for Damien's 40* to get there.

We had a batting line up with quality, power and depth. It is a credit to Knox (who seemed like a decent group of guys) that they were able to restrict us to such a score, even on a strange pitch.

We needed to bowl at our absolute best (with probably an ounce of luck) to push Knox close.

Ed Smith got us off a terrific start, snaring a Knox opener lbw for 0 third ball (three of the four openers in the match failed to score).

We put everything into our fielding effort. Dave Byrnes at second slip threw himself to the right but couldn't hang onto what would have been a screamer. A further chance was dropped.

Ed continued to chip away, the other opener bowled for 13. Then Damien Langley struck with his first delivery, having the Knox number 4 lbw for a duck.

Ed (3 for 20) reached the last of his seven overs with his Achilles turning to concrete. And with his third last delivery (possibly of the season?) he struck again, Knox captain Hamish McGilvray caught by Matt Alphabet for a classy 24. A huge wicket and at 4 for 49 we were in the game.

The Knox number five scratched and nurdled and somehow lasted an hour against some good stuff from Langley (1 for 38) and some probing spin from Dave Byrnes (0 for 21). He was finally put out of his misery, edging Nathan Reay (1 for 40) behind.

But Daniel Donaldson at number six was a class above, starting slowly and accelerating the scoring. He extinguished our hopes with some class play and finished the game with a six to bring up his fifty.

So a sad end to our Jack Pace hopes. We didn't deliver the performance that we hoped but despite being below our best we scrapped with heart and were still in it midway through the Knox innings.

Everyone in a blue cap should be very proud of themselves.

NB: for those who want to relive the agony, live updates can be seen on the Twitter account @CCNSW. If you're on Twitter please follow the account and retweet/ like posts. Thanks to Greg Brooks, Ken Yardy, Ian Neil and Alton van Straalen for getting involved on Twitter (from as far afield as Chicago and Singapore).

The Team was:- Ian Allmey (c) 0, Matt Abeysekera 0, Regan Smith 21, Sam Millar 8, Paul Nash 1, Tom Robertson 14, Damien Langley 40*, David Byrnes 3, Matt Rennick (w) 8, Ed Smith 2, Nathan Reay 9

The Result was: -

C.C.N.S.W.: - **all out 119** (D. Langley 40*) (34.3 overs)

FoW: - 1-0 (I. Allmey), 2-5 (M. Abeysekera), 3-30 (R. Smith), 4-31 (S. Millar), 5-41 (P. Nash), 6-56 (T. Robertson), 7-63 (D. Byrnes), 8-75 (M. Rennick), 9-105 (E. Smith), 10-119 (N. Reay)

Lost to

Knox Old Boys: - **5-122** (E. Smith 3-20) (25.1 overs)

By 5 wickets.

The Bowling was: - E. Smith 7-0-20-3; N .Reay 7-0-40-1; D. Langley 5.1-0-38-1-; D. Byrnes 6-0-21-0

The Fielding was: - 1 catch to both M. Rennick (w), and M. Abeysekera

"John Russell" player points: - No details given

C & S S ROUND 16 v OLD ALOYSIANS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN ON SATURDAY MARCH 12, 2016: REPORT BY EUAN ROBERTSON

It wasn't pretty so the report won't be long.

If everyone put in the same commitment as Greg Brooks we'd have won this. Sadly, we didn't and instead we got hammered.

Old Aloysians had a couple of decent players but nothing out of the ordinary. They batted first and scored 229 for 8. None of them got fifty (at least one of them barely knew what he was doing).

President Brooks was the only bowler to consistently look threatening, bowling 11 quality overs and taking the first four wickets. In typical Brooksian fashion, two were lbw, one was bowled, the other caught by Euan Robertson at first slip. All were decent batsmen.

Sam Millar cleaned up two late wickets.

The only other thing of note concerned an Old Aloysian batsman run out off the penultimate ball. Since he didn't have to face the bowling, and to save some time, the dismissed batsman stayed at the non-striker's end as a runner for the last ball. He was then promptly run out again.

Our batting was similarly unimpressive against decent but not amazing bowling. Tom Robertson smashed a four and got out. Regan Smith got eight, Sam Millar two, Alton van Straalen three. Paul Nash and Euan Robertson each hung around a bit and scored 19 and 11 respectively.

At 6 for 54 we were stuffed with no way back.

The President (again) showed considerable ticker and top scored with 47. Matt Knott played some decent shots and ended on 44*.

Matt Gale may or may not have got some bat on two probable leg byes, but if he did then he was 2*.

It's tough to back up after a final but this was awful.

No one in this Club should be ashamed of getting a duck or dropping a catch. But if you're not prepared to turn up on time, support your bowlers, focus on every ball, dive for everything in

the field, put a price on your wicket, do your best and never give up, then you're letting everyone down as well as yourself.

Let's smash those Masters next week.

The Team was:- Paul Nash 19, Tom Robertson (c) 4, Regan Smith 9, Sam Millar 2, Euan Robertson 11, Alton van Straalen 3, Matt Knott 44*, Greg Brooks 47, Matt Gale (w) 2*, Shane Petersen dnb, Joe Scarcella dnb

The Result was: -

Old Aloysians: - 8-229 (G. Brooks 4-64) (35 overs)

Defeated

C.C.N.S.W.: - **7 for 148** (G. Brooks 47; M. Knott 44*) (35 overs)

By 81 runs

FoW: - 1-10 (T. Robertson), 2-31 (P. Nash), 3-35 (R. Smith); 4-35 (S. Millar), 5-45 (E. Robertson); 6-54 (A. Van Straalen); 7-141 (G. Brooks).

The Bowling was: - J. Scarcella 5-0-30-0, M. Knott 6-1-41-0, G. Brooks 11-0-64-4, S. Petersen 8-0-56-0, E. Robertson 2-0-20-0, S. Millar 2-0-10-2, T. Robertson 1-0-4-0

The Fielding was: - 1 catch to E. Robertson and J. Scarcella

"John Russell" player points: - No details given