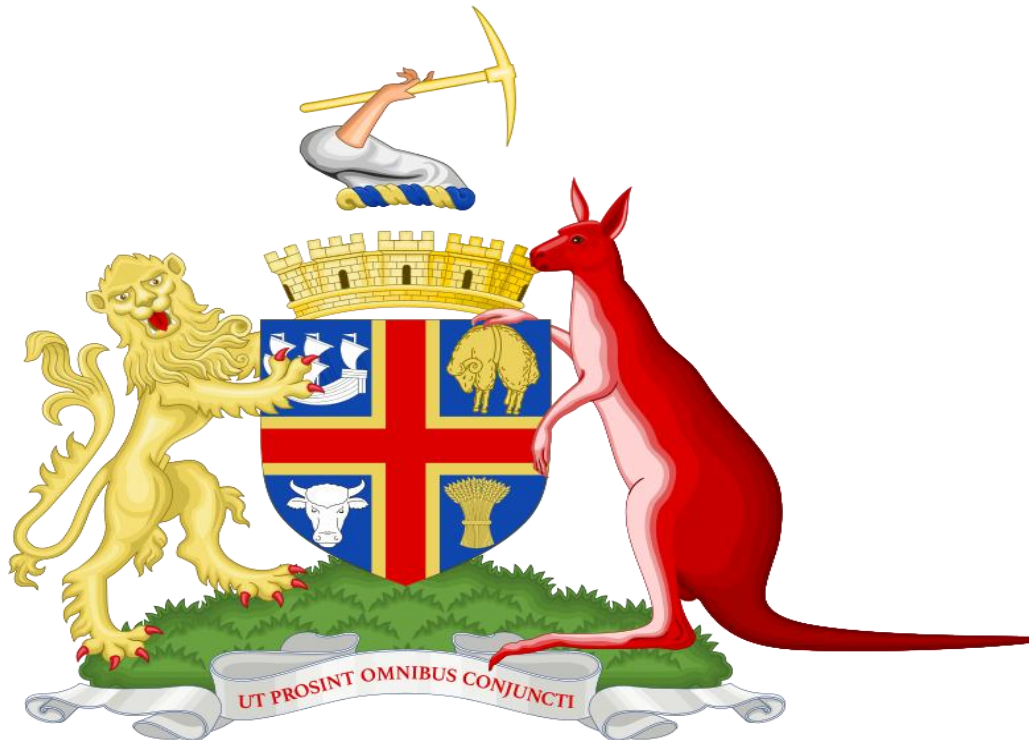


THE CRICKETERS' CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES ADELAIDE TOUR JANUARY 2024



ASSOCIATED CLUBS – AUSTRALIA

New South Wales Sports Club
10-14 Hunter Street
Sydney N.S.W. 2000
Ph: (02) 9233 3899
www.nswsportsclub.com.au

The Canberra Club
45 West Row Street
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Ph: (02) 6248-9000
www.canberraclub.com.au

Queensland Cricketers Club
411 Vulture Street
EAST BRISBANE QLD 4169
Ph: (07) 3896 4533
www.qldcricketersclub.com.au

The Victorian Club
Level 41, Rialto Building
525 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, 3000
(613) 9614 2127
www.vicclub.com.au

SOUTH AMERICA

National Club of Sao Paulo
Rua Angatuba 703
SAO PAULO BRAZIL

CANADA

Toronto Cricket Skating & Curling Club
141 Wilson Avenue
TORONTO ONTARIO M5M 3A3
(416) 487 4581
www.torcricketclub.org

ZIMBABWE

Harare Sports Club
PO Box 1104
10th Avenue
HARARE ZIMBABWE
Ph: 791151

Ainslie Football & Social Club Inc.
52 Wakefield Avenue
PO Box 183
DICKSON ACT 2600
Ph: (02) 6248 8422
www.ainsliefc.com
Carlton Cricket, Football & Social Club
(Princess Park)
PO Box 83
CARLTON NORTH VIC 3054
Ph: (03) 9387-1400
www.carltonfc.com.au

Sandringham Club
92 Beach Street
SANDRINGHAM VIC 3191
Ph: (03) 9598-1322

WEST INDIES

Pickwick Cricket Club
Kensington Oval
BRIDGETOWN BARBADOS
Ph: 426-3151

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Aviat Social and Sporting Club
Aviat Street (P. O. Box 91, Konedobu 125)
KONEDOBU
Ph: 675 321-4261
www.pngbd.com

Vancouver Rowing Club
PO Box 5206
Stanley Park
BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA V6B 4B3
Ph: (604) 687-3400
www.vancouverrowingclub.com

SOUTH AFRICA

The Wanderers Club
21 North Street, Illovo
PO Box 55019
Northlands 2116
JOHANNESBURG
www.wanderersclub.co.za

Associated Overseas Clubs continued inside Back Cover

THE CRICKETERS' CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES
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The Club is currently contactable c/o the Secretary, Adrian Hawkes, 31 Killarney Drive, Killarney Heights, NSW 2087 (Tel: (612) 9451 7436 (H) or hawkesam@bigpond.com ; see web site at www.ccnsw.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As President of the Cricketers' Club of NSW it is with real pleasure that I write these words of encouragement and goodwill to my fellow C.C.N.S.W. tourists. Indeed we are most fortunate to be able to participate in such a tour. This is our first tour to South Australia and I am most grateful for the considerable assistance of Andrew Telfer of "The Spirit of Cricket" in helping to organise the fixtures –see article later in this brochure. Let us extend to each and every one of our hosts the typical C.C.N.S.W. characteristics of fair play and healthy respect for this wonderful game of cricket.

I look forward to hearing about the good times and favourable results both on and off the playing arena with you all.

Best Wishes

Greg Brooks President C.C.N.S.W.

HISTORY OF THE CRICKETERS' CLUB of NSW www.ccnsw.com **(Based on an article by award-winning cricket writer Jack Pollard)**

The idea of forming a club for Sydney cricketers was first raised in 1894 when it was suggested that the New South Wales Cricket Association combine with the controlling bodies in cycling, swimming, rugby and athletics to form a sports club. Nothing came of the notion but in 1896 the NSWCA set up a sub-committee to inquire into the possibility of acquiring clubrooms for the Association. This committee's recommendation that the Association make an arrangement with the Commercial Travellers' Club in Pitt Street to use their premises was rejected.

The Cricketers' Club idea lapsed until 1927 when it was again discussed at a NSWCA meeting, but it was not until 1936 that the Association decided to build a club in its new building in George Street.

The prominent solicitor Sydney Webb, who had handled the purchase of the six-storey building in George Street for £54,803, drafted a constitution for the Cricketers' Club in August 1938, and the club was registered as a company on 14 November, 1939, two months after the outbreak of World War II, and opened for business on 1 July 1940.

From the start the Cricketers' Club membership strongly supported the development of cricket. Two cricket nets were set up on the roof of Cricket House for members to practice during lunch hours and these nets remained in operation until 1953. Discussions among his fellow members made the Randwick batsman Jack Chegwyn aware of big possibilities for country tours by teams of leading players from the State's representative sides. Chegwyn, who scored 375 runs at an average of 46.87 with one century in

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his five matches for NSW between 1940 and 1942, became a sporting legend for the pioneering work he did in the bush with teams selected at the Cricketers' Club.

By 1942 the Cricketers' Club had made such dramatic progress that most Sydney grade cricketers were members and at the end of that year the Club made a 1000 pound loan to the NSWCA to help the Association continue operating at a time when it had no income from Test or Sheffield Shield cricket.

Annual games at the SCG v the NSWCA commenced in 1965. In 1971, seven club members were in Don Bradman's nomination for the best eleven Australian cricketers of the past 50 years. The Cricketers' Club entered a side in the City & Suburban competition in 1971 and has continued to play regularly in that competition.

Over the years many Test players have appeared for the Club, including (in alphabetical order) Richie Benaud, Trevor Chappell, Richard Collinge (New Zealand), Alan Davidson, Nilakshi de Silva (Sri Lanka women), Phil Emery, Dave Gilbert, Alex Hales (England), Greg Matthews, Keith Miller, Arthur Morris, Geoff Lawson, 'Mani' Subramanya (India), Allan Turner, Bill Watson, and Mike Whitney.

Under the presidency of Ron Holmes the Club introduced a rule automatically granting membership to Australian Test players. The England and Australian teams in the 1988 Bicentenary match in Sydney played for a trophy donated by the Cricketers' Club.

In 1981 the Club moved to Barracks Street where it remained until the liquidation of the old Club in 2001

Cricketers' Club teams have been a dominating force in the Sydney City and Suburban competition for over 50 years. The Club has hosted numerous touring teams from countries such as England, Canada, Malaysia, India, the West Indies, New Zealand and the USA. Overseas tours have become common.

With the liquidation of the registered club and the loss of its Barrack Street premises in 2001, the cricket and golf players retained the name and logo and continued to play, as a new incorporated association, still called "The Cricketers' Club of New South Wales", which was registered on 14 July 2003.

Editor's note: Jack Pollard (1926-2002) was the author of over 80 sports related books, and numerous outstanding cricket books including an authoritative five volume history of Australian cricket. He also wrote the most popular of all Australian cricket encyclopaedias, entitled "The Game and the Players".

**THE CRICKETERS' CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES
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PART TWO UPDATE

The Sri Lanka Tour at Easter 2019 was the Club's 35th overseas tour in the past thirty five years (plus seven other separate domestic tours to Cairns, Darwin, Lord Howe, Norfolk Island, Perth, and Tasmania (twice): and after this week in Adelaide, is planning a three week trip to the West Indies over Easter.

1989	Fiji	2008	Hawaii
1991	S. E. Asia	2009	India
1992	Christchurch, New Zealand	2009	Paris-Ireland-England-Malta
1993	Christchurch, New Zealand	2010	Tasmania (not overseas)
1993	Canada and West Coast USA	2010	Italy
1994	Malaysia and Singapore	2011	West Indies – Barbados- Trinidad - Guyana - Tobago
1995	Auckland, New Zealand	2012	South America – Argentina Chile - Peru
1996	West Indies - Barbados/Trinidad	2013	Amsterdam-England-Malta
1997	England	2014	South East Asia China-Malaysia-Thailand-Singapore
1998	Norfolk Island (not overseas)	2015	Wellington New Zealand
1999	Lord Howe (not overseas)	2015	Canada & East Coast USA
1999	South Africa	2016	Queenstown, New Zealand
2000	Vanuatu	2017	Nelson, New Zealand
2001	Bali	2017	Scotland and England
2002	Kenya	2018	Christchurch New Zealand.
2003	Sri Lanka	2019	Auckland New Zealand.
2004	Cook Islands (Easter)	2019	Sri Lanka-Easter
2004	Cairns (July not overseas)	2020	Perth (not overseas)
2005	England	2022	Darwin (not overseas)
2006	Samoa	2023	Tasmania (not overseas)
2007	New Zealand, North Island	2024	Adelaide (not overseas)
2007	South Africa	2024	(Planned) Barbados/St Lucia

THE CRICKETERS' CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES ADELAIDE TOUR JANUARY 2024

The Cricketers' Club currently has approximately 100 active cricketers. The Club also has a golf section. Of those 100 cricketers, approximately 30 play for the Club on Saturdays, and another 70 on Sundays and in mid-week games.

In the City and Suburban competition on Saturday and some Sunday afternoons, the Club arranges about 20 fixtures a season. These are usually 35 overs a side, although by agreement, they are sometimes extended to 40 overs. The C&S "competition" does not have a formal league table and not all clubs in the competition play each other. Nevertheless cricket is played in a competitive manner, and at its best, would probably equate to the standard of Sydney 3rd-4th Grade Cricket, although considerably shortened. In addition there is a two part Jack Pace Cup competition; part 1 is a league structure for points before Christmas; the top eight teams go into a knock out stage after New Year; C.C.N.S.W. has won the Cup four times. The Club celebrated its 50th season in the C&S in 2020 and has never lost more games in a season than it has won.

On Sundays, the Club plays eleven fixtures in a competitive over 40s "Masters" league, in which the Club's position has varied from league winners to bottom. These are 40 over a side games. Six bowlers must be used, and batters must retire on scoring 40 runs. The Club also plays an eleven round over 50s "Classics" competition with similar rules and in 2016 won the Premiership. A Vintages over 60s competition commenced in 2017 with similar rules and CCNSW were Premiers in 2022-23. Outside leagues, the Club generally plays about 10 other competitive but "social" fixtures each year, on grounds which have varied from major national grounds such as the MCG, SCG, the Gabba, Telstra (Olympic) Stadium, Manuka Oval. Canberra and Bradman Oval, Bowral, to small country grounds such as Mandalong, and Mudgee. Opposition includes teams such as the Bradman Foundation, the Melbourne Cricket Club, Molonglo (Canberra), the Primary Club, the Queensland Cricketers' Club, the Sydney Cricket Club, and often one or two overseas touring sides. These are generally full day games of about 45-50 overs a side. Since 2018 the Club has also entered a side in a summer midweek evening T20 Eight a side competition run by "The Last Man Stands" with 14 evening rounds on artificial wickets in Moore Park and plays a similar winter Sunday morning competition.

In February 2004, the Club was invited by the S.C.G. Trust and Cricket NSW to represent the Civilian population of the State in a match against the Military to celebrate 150 years of cricket at the S.C.G. A special plaque to commemorate this is permanently displayed on the exterior wall of the home dressing room at the SCG and the ball used in the match is on display in the Museum.

In the 2022-2023 season, the Club played a total of 76 games: comprising 55 eleven-a-side fixtures, 12 summer LMS and 9 winter LMS 8-a-side T20s, and used over 100 players. The Club is currently contactable c/o the Secretary, Adrian Hawkes, 31 Killarney Drive, Killarney Heights, NSW 2087 (Tel: (612) 9451 7436 (H) or hawkesam@bigpond.com ; see also www.ccnsw.com [08.01.24]

**THE CRICKETERS' CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES
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ACCOMMODATION

Lake Resort Hotel at 141 Brebner Drive, West Lakes SA 5021 for 7 nights (Saturday 20 January-Saturday 27 January See www.lakesresorthotel.com.au/ .

FIXTURES AND SOCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

[NB Adelaide Test previous week v West Indies Wednesday 17-Sunday 21 January]

January	Time	Item	Location
Sun 21	12.30	Kensington C.C. (40 overs)	Col. Waite Oval, Kensington Gardens
Mon 22	-	Free Day	
Tues 23	12.30	Barossa and Light C.A. XI (40 overs)	Chateau Tanunda, Barossa
Weds 24	12.30	Grange C.C. (40 overs)	Grange- ground t b c
Thurs 25	-	Free Day	
Fri 26	12.30	T20 Spirit of Cricket XI	Chateau Tanunda, Barossa
Sat 27	Morning	Depart Adelaide	

Tour Contact

Tour Manager: SOREN HUGHES: 0432 835 106 (Mob); sooz@ccnsw.com

CCNSW PLAYER PROFILES

NB Ages are as at commencement of tour in January 2024

JOHN FINUCANE *Aged 62*

Retired

Wicketkeeper and right hand batter in any position he can get. Played in first ever cricket premiership winning team with CCNSW o60 in 2022-23, proving that good things come to those who wait...and wait..... and wait. Country boy from Bradman territory, (not Bowral but Cootamundra). Hit his first ever 6 on Bradman Oval but hasn't been many since. Missed cricket for many years before finding Veterans cricket and playing over 50s at Mandalong for quite a few seasons. Now retired and able to enjoy a few tours, a few beers, a few more wines and the company of others who are like minded. First tour with the Cricketers' Club

CRAIG FLETCHER *Aged 52*

Technical writer

Left arm medium pace swing bowler. Captained one day "Warehouse" cricket team in Queensland for eleven of the fifteen years that they entered the competition for three premierships. Took 236 wickets during this time at an average of just under 15, with twelve five wicket hauls and best figures of 6 wickets for 4 runs. Played for C.C.N.S.W. in the over 40s Masters and occasionally for Sydney University Veterans in the City and Suburban competition before moving to Western Australia and now back in Brisbane Also a member of the Q.C.C.. Handy lower middle order batter, with a high score of 68 and an average closely resembling that of his bowling. Has been known to drink as many beers after a game as overs bowled during it. Fourth cricket tour with the Club after Christchurch, New Zealand in 2018, Sri Lanka in 2019 and Tasmania in 2023; coming with his wife Alsace.

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EZEKIEL HUGHES *Aged 17*

Student

Son of Soren Hughes. Right hand batter and both wrist and finger spinner who has played for St George and Sutherland in representative cricket and played for Gordon Cricket Club's Metro Cup team in NSW. He and his brother Roman recently won the U19s National Schoolboys Championship in Fiji. With his school. Ezekiel is also a talented athlete, reaching the top three for javelin at the Fiji National School Athletics Games. Ezekiel occasionally plays for the C.C.N.S.W City and Suburban Team. This will be his third tour with the Club after Sri Lanka in 2019, where he and his father shared a 50 partnership at the international Test ground, the P. Sara Oval in Colombo, and Perth in 2020.

ROMAN HUGHES *Aged 16*

Student

Son of Soren Hughes. Right hand opening batter and medium, pace/off spin bowler who took five wickets for CCNSW on debut as a 13 year old. In NSW Roman has played reps for St George and later won the U15s Presidents Cup with Sutherland and in Fiji reached acclaim in the local papers by bowling a wicket maiden in the final over of the U19s National Schoolboys Championships to win the game for his school by two runs. Roman has joined CCNSW short tours to Christchurch New Zealand (2018) and Perth, Australia (2020), but this is his first playing tour with CCNSW. Roman is also unbeatable at chess and welcomes any opportunity for him to prove to you that this assertion is entirely correct.

SOREN HUGHES *Aged 44*

Solicitor

Right hand batter and medium pace bowler. An all-rounder who is still enjoying cricket and found most weekends playing for the CCNSW C&S side. Originally from North West and Mid Coast NSW, Soren learned most of his cricket from his father- both indoor and outdoor cricket - if not from 10 years at University studying jazz drums, finance and law. Former umpire in NSW Premier Cricket. This is his eighth cricket tour with the Club after three short tours to New Zealand (Nelson in 2017, Christchurch in 2018 and Auckland in 2019), a long memorable tour to Sri Lanka in 2019 and three domestic tours to Perth in 2020, Darwin in 2022 and Tasmania in 2023.

SAM KNIGHT *Aged 42*

Commercial Lawyer

Right hand top order batter and a real lover of cricket. Grew up in Adelaide watching and playing cricket. He is particularly keen on the traditional test match. Sam has had spent much of his adult life as a retired cricketer. A confident batter in his early years, he's since focused his efforts on legal study, building a successful career in commercial law spanning close to 20 years and raising his two sons together with his wife. Sam is looking forward to making his debut for C.C.N.S.W on his home turf after being invited through association with Jamie Murtha.

PAUL MULLENS *Aged 67*

NSW/ACT State Manager Suncorp

Left hand opening or first change bowler who mainly bowls cutters; currently recovering from a painful broken right elbow which has required c.12 months physio. Used to bat a bit but currently restricted by elbow which hopefully will have fully healed by next January

In his youth played lower grades at Penrith; first year when Penrith entered Sydney Grade Competition - 1973-74 - Opened the bowling in 4th Grade and batted middle order went back to District Cricket in Parramatta Comp for many years - end of career played some bush cricket at Holbrook NSW as a top order batter. Returned to cricket via Golden Oldies around 2000 played and travelled the world on tour with the Hawkesbury Old Cricketers (HOC's) and have been playing continuously ever since up to last season (elbow). Played in a number of NSW Over 60's State Championships with Northern Spirit twice in Tamworth and once in Maitland but injured himself. Played a few games in the Sydney o60s Vintage competition with Northern Spirit as needed – best figures 4-10 in 2021. Will be retired by January next year and looking forward to the Adelaide trip. This will be his first tour with the Club.

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JAMIE MURTHA

Aged 32

Cyber Security Consultant

Right hand top order batter and medium pace bowler; all rounder and current captain of our C&S side. Born in Wellington, NZ and started playing club cricket in his later high school years. Moved to Sydney in 2012; quickly realised that missing cricket due to bad weather was a thing of the past and has not missed a summer since. The early part of his career was spent as an opening swing bowler, but now prefers to spend his time facing the new ball as a top order batter. Key achievements include, taking two hat-tricks with best figures of 8-57 in a semi-final, and a HS of 105*. This will be Jamie's first tour with the Cricketers' Club of NSW.

MICHAEL POWER

Aged 66

Retired school teacher

Right arm medium pace bowler and right hand middle to lower order batter. Late starter playing (early thirties) the great game. Played ten seasons in Parramatta competition (B1 - B3 grade). Stopped playing for a number of years. Restarted again in 2007 with Hawkesbury Old Cricketers. Travelled the world with the HOCs in the 'Golden Oldies' competition. Keen to get started touring again. Have a new set of knees and can now run. Enjoy the social side of game as well as playing. First tour with the Cricketers' Club.

TOM ROBERTSON

Aged 51

Computer programmer

Aggressive and hard hitting left hand opening batter and occasional right hand medium-fast bowler who often likes to bowl round the wicket. Tom used to play for his local side Peakhurst in a hard wicket competition where his skills made him a formidable player. Has played regularly for the Cricketers' Club's C&S side since 2009. Toured with the Cricketers' Club since a teenager to New Zealand in 1993, Malaysia in 1994 and Lord Howe in 1998 with his father Rodger who was a very accomplished first grader, and also to Samoa in 2006, England (twice) in 2013 and 2017, North America in 2015, Sri Lanka 2019 and New Zealand 6 times - Christchurch in 1993 and 2018. Wellington 2015, Queenstown 2016, Nelson 2017 and Auckland in 2019 and domestically to Perth in 2020, Darwin in 2022 and Tasmania in 2023. This will be his eighteenth tour with the Club

SCOTT WELLS *Aged 54*

Civil Engineer

Right hand batter, wicket keeper and occasional leg spin bowler. Formerly played with the Wenty Waratahs in the Parramatta District until moving to the Blue Mountains in 2002 where he still plays occasionally with Springwood CC. Joined C.C.N.S.W. in 2009 playing C&S helping them win three JPS finals. Currently captains the CCNSW o50 Classics and also plays o40s Masters. Current State representative in the o50s. Ninth tour for the Cricketers' Club after England in 2009 and 2017, Tasmania in 2010, West Indies in 2011 and Queenstown, New Zealand in 2016, Sri Lanka in 2019, Perth in 2020 and Tasmania in 2023; Coming with his wife Ingrid.

LEN VOLKOV *Aged 41*

Doctor

Right hand, gritty and dependable batter with a solid defence who puts a lot of value on his wicket and who will bat with the same determination seeing off the new ball, grinding out tough middle overs, stopping the rot after a collapse or ensuring the tale wags. Born from an egg on a mountain top he grew up in Melbourne playing over one hundred games for his club side Southside East Caulfield CC before moving to Sydney and a ten year hiatus from the game. Rediscovering his love for cricket, he has played in the C&S side for CCNSW since 2020 and also for East Sydney Shakeys since 2021 in the SMCA recently taking home a premiership. This will be his first tour for the Cricketers' Club.

HISTORY OF CRICKET IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA by Bernard Whimpress

This sport, which has long claimed to reflect civilised values, has always had broad social appeal in South Australia, with clubs formed around workplaces, hotels, schools, churches and lodges as well as district and town localities. The pilgrimage to Adelaide Oval on the Australia Day long weekend for either a Test match or limited-over international matches still appeals to cricket lovers from all over the state.

Early days

While cricket was first played in South Australia in 1839, for 30 years matches were irregular. The South Australian Cricket Association was formed in 1871 and club games were arranged from 1874–75. Norwood won 16 premierships before the establishment of district-based cricket in 1897–98. International and intercolonial cricket began in the 1870s and 1880s. WG Grace, who led the third English team to Australia in 1873–74, played twice against teams comprising 22 players. In 1874 a South Australian Eighteen played Victoria in the first intercolonial cricket match, while the first Test match at Adelaide Oval was against England in 1884.

South Australia contested the Sheffield Shield in its inaugural season in 1892–93 with New South Wales and Victoria and won the competition in its second year. All-rounder George Giffen was a dominant performer and became the first South Australian player to become Australian captain in 1894, to be succeeded by Joe Darling in 1899 and Clem Hill in 1910. Hill represented South Australia for 31 years, captaining the state to its second and third Shield wins in 1909–10 and 1912–13.

Some of the stars

District cricket began in Adelaide in 1897–98, and Norwood, recast as East Torrens, won 12 out of 14 premierships either side of the First World War. In the 1920s the most important figure to emerge was South Australia's famous all-round sportsman Victor Richardson. Richardson led the state to its fourth Sheffield Shield in 1926–27 with leg-spinner Clarrie Grimmett crucial to the success. He became the fourth South Australian to captain Australia when he took the 1935–36 team to South Africa.

After the Bodyline controversy of 1932–33 Don Bradman moved to Adelaide in 1934. He led the state to a Sheffield Shield win in his first season in 1935–36, when he made the highest individual score on Adelaide Oval of 369 against Tasmania, a record that still stands. Bradman also captained South Australia to another Shield win in 1938–39, but given his batting and Grimmett's penetrative bowling it is surprising the State did not have greater success. In club cricket West Torrens won five premierships.

Bradman played only three Sheffield Shield matches after the Second World War. Phil Ridings led a well-balanced side to Shield success in 1952–53 before Les Favell became a creative captain in the late 1950s and 1960s with further Shield wins in 1963–64 and 1968–69. South Australia benefited from the services of the gifted West Indian all-rounder Gary Sobers early in the decade and other quality cricketers, including Richardson's grandsons Ian and Greg Chappell. South African opening batsman Barry Richards's 1538 run season in 1970–71 paved the way for a Shield win. For Ian Chappell it was a memorable year in which he led his state and country for the first time. He captained South Australia to another Shield win in 1975–76 when David Hookes made his first appearance. The first Adelaide Oval limited-over match, against the West Indies, was played the same season. Hookes assumed the South Australian captaincy in 1981–82 and gained Sheffield Shield success immediately. He later exhibited the flair and imagination of his predecessors Favell and Chappell. His batting was exhilarating, especially when he made a century in 34 balls against Victoria at Adelaide Oval in October 1982. South Australia's spasmodic success has been partly due to the failure to produce outstanding fast bowlers on hard and true oval wickets. Jason Gillespie's brilliant second season in 1995–96, combined with a powerful batting line-up and versatile bowling, brought the state its most recent Shield success.

The broader scene

The aesthetic appeal of Adelaide Oval may give a green and pleasant feel to South Australian cricket, but much of the culture of the game derives from the rough backblocks and burning concrete strips on which many country cricketers spend their Saturday afternoons. District cricket has also been important and was keenly contested after the Second World War until Prospect took control in the 1960s with seven premierships. Since the 1970s the most remarkable feature has been the Salisbury club's nine premierships.

By Bernard Whimpress

This entry was first published in *The Wakefield companion to South Australian history* edited by Wilfrid Prest, Kerrie Round and Carol Fort (Adelaide: Wakefield Press, 2001). Edited and revised lightly and references updated. Updated 28 April 2014.

Bernard Whimpress has written nearly 50 books, half of them on cricket. His book, The Official MCC Story of the Ashes went through five editions from 2009 to 2017.

See also:

Bernard Whimpress, 'Cricket', SA History Hub, History Trust of South Australia, <https://sahistoryhub.history.sa.gov.au/subjects/cricket>, accessed 31 July 2023.

ADELAIDE OVAL IS KNOWN FOR ITS HERITAGE SCOREBOARD AND A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR TRANSFORMATION INTO A MODERN STADIUM.



In 1874 a side representing England led by W.G. Grace defeated a South Australian side by 7 wickets in what was the first international cricket match at the ground

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Born 153 years ago in 1871, the Adelaide Oval was born after the formation of the South Australian Cricket Association. In 1884, it played host to its first Test cricket match, between Australia and England (unfortunately, we lost!)

THE CRICKETERS' CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES ADELAIDE TOUR JANUARY 2024

Not long after, the first Australian Rules football match was played between Adelaide and St Kilda in an inter-colonial club match. Since then, an impressive 16 sports have been played at the Oval including baseball, cycling, gridiron, hockey, lacrosse, tennis and archery.

But Adelaide Oval isn't all about sports. Throughout its life, it's hosted major concerts from artists such as Madonna, Michael Jackson, Elton John and Paul McCartney. It was the first venue in the Southern Hemisphere at which David Bowie performed.

Much loved at the Oval are the leafy Moreton Bay fig trees, some of which were planted as far back as the 1890s. And the heritage-listed wooden scoreboard. Built in an Edwardian style, the scoreboard was first used in 1911 and the clock was added a year later. Today, even after a modernisation of the stadium, the scoreboard stands proud at the northern end of the ground.

THE MODERN MAKEOVER

In 2014, a huge project to upgrade the Adelaide Oval was completed. The Oval had always been a South Australian icon, but its upgrade transformed it into one of the most advanced, state-of-the-art outdoor venues in Australia. The revamped Adelaide Oval has a seating capacity of 53,500, with over 2100 square metres of grass, and almost 900 square metres of viewing platforms.

To ensure sports fans don't miss any of the on-field action, three giant replay screens and an exceptional quality audio system was added to the oval, along with 23 purpose-built function rooms, corporate suites, BBQ terraces, the Audi Stadium Club and of course, the exceptional Hill of Grace Restaurant. Seeking a bit more excitement? Take on the icon with the **Commonwealth Bank Roof Climb Adelaide Oval** and see the stadium from an entirely different perspective.



Adelaide Oval in 1884, with the original stand visible

TAKE A TOUR

If you want to learn more about the Adelaide Oval, you can join a behind-the-scenes tour or explore their fantastic museum. Embark on a journey into the inner sanctum of the Adelaide Oval, led by expert volunteer guides. Go behind closed doors as you are told captivating stories, shown hidden secrets and relive celebrated moments. Stand inside the historic century-old scoreboard and enjoy a birds-eye view of the impressive Adelaide city landscape.

Guided walking tours of the oval are approximately 90 minutes in length and cover up to two and a half kilometres in distance. Adelaide Oval stadium tours operate Monday to Saturday on non-event days.

Welcome to the Spirit of Cricket



Very early on in life cricket became a passion. Founder Anthony Telfer introduces the Spirit of Cricket

Spirit of Cricket

Founded by Anthony Telfer

Very early on in life cricket became a passion. Nothing else was important, except winning. Born & bred in the Mallee – Mildura, Victoria, Australia, every minute of my life has been devoted to cricket, from the oiling of my first bat, a Gray Nichols scoop, to the mowing & rolling of the “turf pitch” in the front yard – all so the neighbours could come and play every day after school until the sunset.

Introduced to Willowfest in 1978, a cricket competition where the cricket in Mildura was played in the right spirit between Xmas & New Year culminating with a New Year’s Eve rock concert celebration. During the weeklong competition, cricket was always first – played hard, furious & fair, but always ended up with the social element at the fore. The motto of the championships was “The chain of friendship”. My junior cricket was played in Red cliffs & the Mildura West Cricket Club until leaving for university in 1984.

In 1998 I returned to Mildura after stints at the Bendigo Cricket Club, Collingwood Cricket Club, Essendon Cricket Club, Clifton Hill Cricket Club & UTS North Sydney District Cricket Clubs.

Now back home in Mildura, I played with Mildura Settlers Cricket Club taking on coaching roles, joined the committee and supported the curators with pitch preparation on a weekly basis.

I took on the Presidents role of the Willowfest from 1998 – 2020. This was where the true reality of what cricket was about was established. Cricket was more than a contest, it was about friendship, fitness, mates & mental wellbeing. It was seeing the players from both sides sharing a drink with the umpires & officials discussing the game, making new friends and always with smiles on their faces.

In the early years as President, I found some bails in a box. These bails belonged to Charlie Haeusler, one of the originals who established Willowfest back in 1977. There was only one thing I could do with

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these bails – yes, I burned them and created the Willowfest Ashes – they still exist in an Ashes replica red gum hand carved urn. The wood was sourced from the Mallee.

In 2018 I was introduced to veterans' cricket in Adelaide and travelled to play every second Sunday with the Hills Fleurieu Veterans Cricket Club – a round trip of approximately 800kms. At the end of the days play there was the awarding of the “Spirit of Cricket” award – a bottle of red to the opposition player who played the game with the “Spirit of Cricket” – a most sought-after award by all players.



Anthony Telfer

Now living in Adelaide I am also playing with The Kensington District Cricket Club, a club steeped in history and the club where Sir Don Bradman played. Playing in the LOA's in the Adelaide Turf Cricket Association - ATCA the cricket is played to the “Spirit of Cricket”

With an obsession with cricket since early on in life I knew the spirit was alive and well, but I wanted to ensure there was an element of the “Spirit of Cricket” in every game across every cricket club around the world.

How could someone as insignificant as me achieve this?

The logo was designed, the Facebook page and this group developed, the “Spirit of Cricket” preamble was adopted, along with the construction of the website www.spiritofcricket.com.au

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We have also just released our “Spirit of Cricket” original gin. Every bottle of gin has a printed label to remind us of what the “Spirit of Cricket” is. This message will be distributed to every corner of the world where cricket is played.

Originally published in “Stump to Stump” April 2022

SPIRIT OF CRICKET NEW ZEALAND TOUR 8-21 MARCH 2024

The CCNSW Adelaide Tour acknowledges the considerable assistance of the SOC in arranging its 4 games in Adelaide.

For those who wish to travel on an SOC Tour they have organised 14 days in New Zealand to encompass both the second Australia New Zealand Test Match in Christchurch and four Club games over the South Island. In the words of the SOC

“Join the "Spirit of Cricket" Tour to New Zealand - March 2024. If you are aged 45 - 65 years of age, then join us for the ultimate cricket adventure and discover the "Spirit of Cricket" in New Zealand like never before.”

“Embark on a memorable cricket journey to New Zealand with our specially curated "Spirit of Cricket" Tour. Join us, along with our esteemed Tour Ambassador, Rodney Hogg, former Australian fast bowler and cricket icon, for an experience that transcends the typical cricket tour. This is your chance to be a part of cricketing history, immerse in the game's spirit, and explore the stunning landscapes of New Zealand.”

For more details or to book your place, go to www.spiritofcricket.com.au/tours



Kensington Cricket Club

One of the most successful clubs in the Adelaide Premier Cricket Competition. Famous for on field success as well as representatives at a higher level including the Adelaide home club of Sir Donald Bradman. The Kensington District Cricket Club ("The Browns") is a semi-professional cricket club in Adelaide, South Australia. It competes in the South Australian Grade Cricket League, which is administered by the South Australian Cricket Association (SACA).

The Kensington Oval Cricket Club was formed at a meeting in St. Matthews Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington on 16th August 1920. Even before the First World War there had been suggestions that the East Torrens district could support two clubs, and for redeveloping the neglected Kensington Oval for cricket. The new club was admitted to the SACA B grade competition for four matches in 1920-21. Because of the desirability of retaining an even number of teams in the competition, promotion to A Grade was contingent upon a similar promotion of a Hawthorn team. This was delayed two seasons because little progress was made with the development of the Hawthorn Oval and was overcome in 1923 when a Colts team was formed. Promotion was conditional on the club changing its name to 'Kensington Cricket Club', and the club's minutes recorded that 'it was moved that we agree to any name the association likes to call us'. The district was defined as that portion of the East Torrens area lying east of a line drawn down Portrush Road, Kensington Terrace and Wellington Road. The result was that the offshoot club became more successful than the parent and, with Don Bradman and Clarrie Grimmett, acquired the two leading South Australian cricketers of the century. In post-war years premierships have been won on a regular basis, Kensington are known as 'the Browns' because of their chocolate caps.

Grange Cricket Club

"From Saltbush to Turf"



The Grange Cricket Club formed on 14 August 1885 hosts the largest junior program in the Western Suburbs from "Junior Blasters" to U/17's (incl. a women's and over 50's, 60's and 70's veteran's teams). The club is proud of its standing as a leading community cricket provider in the Western Suburbs. Our Vision: To provide an inclusive, diverse, respectful and safe community environment for cricket players of all abilities that promotes participation, competing and good sportsmanship

THE CRICKETERS' CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES

THE COLOURS AND EMBLEM

“True to the Blue”

New South Wales-Why the name?

Originally part of “New Holland”, It became known as “New South Wales” in 1770 after Cook’s exploration of the East Coast of what is now called “Australia”. Whether Cook personally at the time called it New South Wales, and if so, why, is still a subject of doubt and scholarly speculation. Possibly Cook originally called it “New Wales”, by analogy with the islands of “New Britain”, which had originally been part of New Guinea. What is certain is that the name emerged later after he had dispatched his Journal to the Admiralty. Why “Wales” and why “South Wales” will probably never be known.

Royal Blue –why the colour?

When intercolonial cricket commenced in the 1850s, the Victorians wore dark blue trousers and white shirts. NSW wore white trousers and light blue shirts. They became known as the “Light Blues”. In 1904-5, the colour changed to Royal Blue. The colour remains Royal Blue and the NSW team still remains known by its traditional name as “the Blues”

Comparison to “the Green and Gold”

“The Blues” can trace their origin approximately 40 years before the adoption of the traditional Australian “Green and Gold”, which were not adopted as national colours till the Australian tour to England in 1899 nor for home Tests until after Federation in 1902. Prior to that time it had been customary in home Tests to wear the colours of the State in which the match was played-i.e.-dark blue in Victoria and light blue in NSW.

The first Australian touring team to England in 1878 wore black and white; the 1880 team –faded magenta and black; the 1882 team wore the colours of the 96th regiment-red, black and yellow. That then changed to the red white and blue of the Melbourne Cricket Club, although once, the light blue caps of the East Melbourne Club were used. By 1890, the team had adopted dark blue blazers and caps, with gold trim with, for the first time, the Australian Coat of Arms. It was the 1899 team to England that first adopted the Green and Gold, but it was not until 1902 at the MCG that the Green and Gold were worn in a home Test. Thus the Royal Blue colours adopted by The Cricketers’ Club of New South Wales arguably have an older provenance, dating back to the 1850s, than the national colours which only date to the turn of the century.

The Emblem - Why the Cross of St George in New South Wales?

The emblem is taken from the Coat of Arms of the Colony, originally designed in 1875-6, and subsequently formally granted by King Edward VII in 1906 and described as:- “*Azure, a Cross Argent, voided Gules a lion passant guardant and on each member with a Mullet of eight points Or*” [i.e.- a red cross with a golden lion at the centre and stars at each point]

The gold crossed bats need no explanation. The cross of St George is English as is the lion, and not Welsh. The design comes from the British Royal Navy White Ensign, with whom its co-designer Captain Hixson, President of the Marine Board was closely connected.

The connection is with England or perhaps Britain as the home country, not with Wales. It remains the official Coat of Arms of New South Wales.

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ASSOCIATED CLUBS OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA (continued from frontisheet)

Hong Kong Cricket Club
137 Wong Nei Chung Gap Road
HONG KONG
Ph: (852) 574 6266
www.hkcc.org

Calcutta Cricket & Football Club
19/2 Gurusaday Road
BALLYGUNGE
CALCULLTA 19 INDIA 700019
Ph: 388951/201
www.calcuttaweb.com/clubs.htm

BCA Garware Club House
Wankhede Stadium
'D' Road
Churchgate
MUMBAI INDIA 400 020
Ph: 285 4444

Royal Selangor Club
PO Box 10137
Kuala Lumpur, 50704
MALAYSIA
Ph: (063) 292 7166
www.rscweb.org.my

The British Club (Thailand)
189 Surawong Road, Bangrak,
BANGKOK THAILAND 10500
Ph: (662) 234 0247
www.britishclubbangkok.org

Johore Cultural & Sports Club
623 Jalan Kolonel Wilson
80100 Johore Bahru
Johore WEST MALAYSIA
07 241 899
07 224 2222
jcsc@my.jaring.net

MIDDLE EAST

Doha Club
PO Box 3666
Doha Qatar, Arabian Gulf
MIDDLE EAST
Ph: (974) 418822
www.british-in-qatar.com/dclub.htm

The Cricket Club of India
J.N. Tata Pavilion
Brabourne Stadium
Dinshaw Vachha Road
MUMBAI INDIA 400 020
Ph: 9122 2876 051

Madras Cricket Club
1 Babu Jagjivan Ram Road
Chennai
MADRAS INDIA 600 005
Ph: 841-797
www.madrascricketclub.com

Colombo Swimming Club
Storm Lodge, PO Box 863
148 Galle Road
COLUMBO SRI LANKA
Ph: 00 941 421 645
csc@srilanka.net

Bali International Cricket Club
Jalan Danan Poso 63
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0361 286 490
www.balicricket.com

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Auckland, Clubrooms, Eden Park
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