

1976/77

COROMANDEL CRICKET CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee has much pleasure in presenting the 115th annual report of the Coromandel Cricket Club.

The 1976/77 Season proved to be one of mixed fortunes for the Club, with the 'B' and 'C' sides performing quite creditably in their respective grades, and the 'A's having their poorest season for some years.

The 'A' team, led by Barry Liedham, suffered badly from unavailability of players early in the season and lost the first three games. However improvement was shown in the latter part of the season, with only two further losses, and good performances with the bat and ball were noted.

John Eglinton proved to be a consistent run getter all season, aggregating 435 runs at an average of 36.3 - including two fine centuries against Clapham and Coromandel Ramblers. Bowling honours once again went to Roger Mableson with 25 wickets at an average of 12.0. Bob Hopkins, who was only able to play six games was runner up in both the batting and bowling, making 191 runs and claiming 20 wickets - an excellent double. Mention must be made too of Michael Stutchbury's fine 96 against Salesian, he being desperately unlucky not to score a century.

This year the 'A' side was composed largely of younger players and we can look forward to a strong side for many years to come.

The 'B's, promoted from grade 3 acquitted themselves very well and for much of the season were 1st and 2nd. However losses in the latter half of the season proved costly, with the team finally finishing 5th.

Best performances with the bat came from Graham Gallasch (a fine 111), Bruce Worthington (92) and Russ Hewett (91) against Mitchell Park, and Phillip Kokks 97 against Seaview Downs. Good bowling efforts were turned in by Niel Stratfold with 8/31 against Southern Districts and 7/29 against Hectorville and Chris Purser with 8/37 against Kenilworth.

The batting honours went to Graham Gallasch with 254 runs at an average of 63, closely followed by Russ Hewett with 236 runs at an average of 16.9. Russ Hewett took the bowling honours with 26 wickets at 20.2, followed by Chris Purser (22 wickets at 8.9) and Niel Stratfold (21 wickets at 10.3).

The 'C' team continued its steady improvement in grade 5, having risen in 3 seasons from bottom to 3rd position this year. After having a firm grip on the lead early in the season, the 'C's too slipped back after unexpected losses late in the season. However the improvement shown over the last few years is sure to strengthen the club for the future. Captain Rohan Lloyd handled the side well, with tight bowling and fielding reflected in an average of only 115 being scored by opposition sides.

Ian Yardley with 38 wickets at 9.0 (including 8/25 against PTCC) just edged out Tim Potter with 37 wickets at 5.4 (8/27 vs Salesian) for top bowling honours, whilst Andrew Van Mierlo with 276 runs at 23.0 was again top batsman, followed by Jim Crawford with 257 runs at 18.4.

Other good performances with the bat and ball came from David Lpek, Ray Carpenter, Ron Schultz, Andrew McFarlane and Rohan Lloyd.

For the first time fielding trophies were awarded in each grade and these were won by Michael Stutchbury - A grade, Ron Findlay - B grade and Andrew Van Mierlo - C grade.

Trophies for outstanding performances were also awarded to Bruce Worthington and Tim Potter, both being unlucky to miss out on trophies in their respective grades and a trophy for the most improved, donated by Reg Tannebring, awarded to Bruce Carpenter for his consistent efforts with the bat in the 'B's this year, after playing most of last season in the 'C's.

The Club was perhaps more active socially, this season than in the past and most functions were quite well attended, the most successful being a dinner at the Marion Hotel. Thanks must be extended to Reg Tannebring for organizing this function.

After several years of negotiation with the Mitcham City Council the Blackwood Oval was finally handed over by the Cricket and Tennis Clubs. In return the Cricket Club received \$18,667.00 and the Tennis Club \$9,333.00.

Of the \$18,667 received by the Cricket Club, some \$6,000 was donated to B.F.C. in recognition of the much appreciated support they have given the Club over a number of years, and \$500 was donated to the newly established Blackwood Netball Club. \$10,000 of the remainder was invested in Commonwealth Bonds, earning 10% interest p.a. and the rest being put in an investment account as outlined in the Financial Report.

The oval, now to be known as the "Hewett Sports Ground", in recognition of the long standing service of the Hewett family to the Cricket Club and district over the last 95 years, will be <sup>leased</sup> hired from the Council and all improvements and maintenance carried out by it.

Many thanks are extended to recent committees, and in particular to Mr. J. W. Hewett and Mr. W. Worthington, for their efforts in securing the above arrangement with the Council, and hopefully this will allow for improved club facilities and equipment in the future.

In conclusion then the Committee thanks all players and members for their support during the last season, and we wish the incoming committee every success in 1977/78.