

# Wandering about... Edition 3 2007/2008

## The Newsletter of the Woden Wanderers Cricket Club

### *The Phantom Speaks*

Greetings fellow Wanderers,

A monster edition of Wandering About to start the season proper. Match reports (long ones too) from all sides in the one week...a new club record in its own right. Keep it up lads!

Congrats to everyone on the start to the season...if anyone is keen to submit reports (truth optional) on the Grand Final festivities at the Bowlo, and the season launch, please send them in.

Good luck to everyone this weekend.

Cheers,

The Phantom

### *From the Prez*

WOW – what a fabulous start to the season! It appears from the performances put in by Wanderers across the grade that everyone was raring to go in round 1.

While it was pleasing to get 3 wins on the board, what stood out for me were the performances by guys making their debut's for the Wanderers and also seeing so many of these new faces back at the Bowlo after their matches. The good performances are too many to mention but some do deserve to be highlighted as they have become new Wanderers records.

New Record Partnerships :

Sab Ellis & Tom McGaw - 189 - Record WWCC 2nd wicket partnership

Shawn McNamara & Brendan Bates - 103 - Record WWCC 8th wicket partnership

Ben Murphy & Trevor Stubbs -(both making their Wanderers Debuts) – 93\* - Record WWCC 10th wicket partnership.

It is also worth noting that Sab's 122 is the highest score made by a Wanderer in first grade (eclipsing his own mark)

Both Trevor Stubbs and Adam Stewart made their inaugural 50 for the Wanderers (well done lads)

+ someone known cryptically on the scorecard as Chad Gareth may have returned the best figures for a Wanderer in first grade (7/17).

Of course every partnership in 6<sup>th</sup>'s was a new Wanderers 6<sup>th</sup> grade record!!!! ( I hope only the tenth wicket mark stays a record for long).

A big thank you goes out to Texas for his work with the skippers making sure we had sides on the park, and also to the guys who ended up playing on short notice.

Go you Wanderers.....

The Prez

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### *Club News*

#### *First Grade Shirts*

*We are still missing a number of first grade playing shirts from last year. If you do have one can you please return it URGENTLY to any of your friendly committee or call me on 0411 016 949 if you are not going to be around the club before the weekend and I will arrange to pick it up.*

#### *PM'S XI Tickets*

Tickets are now for sale please see Caitlin or Marcus back at the Bowlo on Saturdays. Tickets are \$32.00 each. More details of the days' activities closer to the event.

#### *CCSCA Rep Team. Call for Nominations.*

Anyone interested in Nominating for the association Rep side to play in the Konica cup competition, please email the Prez @ [president@wodenwandererscc.com](mailto:president@wodenwandererscc.com) by this Sunday at the latest. First training session is scheduled for Wednesday the 18th October at the Manuka Oval Nets  
Note - you don't need to be playing first grade to be eligible for this team.

As a club we need to provide at least 2 Nominations to the Association by this Monday.

#### *Membership Fees*

A gentle reminder that membership fees are now due.  
These can be paid to your skippers or see Marcus back at the club on Saturdays.

#### *Selections- Call for Player Availability*

This season to make life a little easier for the Skippers we have set up a central email address for you to keep us updated with changes in your availability. [selections@wodenwandererscc.com](mailto:selections@wodenwandererscc.com)

At this stage we are asking for you to advise us of your availability for the first 4 weeks of the season. If you are unsure of any week that's OK just put that down in your email and advise closer to the date.

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### *Match Reports*

#### *Round 1 – 1st Grade*

*WWCC vs Tuggeranong @ Garran*

Sab won the toss and put the pads on, along with Jarrod Hupfield who was making his Wanderer's debut. We had no idea what to expect from the newly promoted Tuggeranong side, and were looking forward to getting into the action with a few new faces joining the 1st grade side in Jarrod, Adam Body, the return of the much-loved (and rated?) Ben Pipes as well as keeper Joel Koppman who was also making his first outing in the red and gold.

The openers started solidly. Sab didn't take long to find the middle of the bat, or the boundary, and before long Jarrod started to hit his straps too. He was looking really good until he was run out going for a third run (remember, first match as a Wanderer..) and departed for 20. Sparkles McGaw strode out to the crease at number 3 and spent the next few overs blowing away some of the pre-season cobwebs while Sab cruised along scoring mainly in boundaries and bringing up his 50 with relative ease. Tommy then found his eye and both guys really took it to the bowling after drinks, smashing it to all parts and causing some interesting field placements (eg. 5 guys in a ring around the boundary from mid-wicket to long off). The run rate ticked along at well over 6 runs an over, Sparkles bringing up his 50 and Sab fast approaching a century. These two just kept on going... a punishing lofted cover drive from Sab was particularly memorable, and one over where Tommy repeatedly picked the gaps in the fieldsmen set around the boundary was also a highlight. Sab brought up another big ton and went on to reach 122 before being out caught in the 35th over. This not only brought to an end a spectacular innings by the captain, but he and Tom had put on a massive 189 runs for the 2nd wicket, which Tex tells me is the highest 2nd wicket partnership for any grade in Wanderer's history! (surpassing the 173 set by Knuckles and Spencey in 4th grade back in 1914).

Taka, Crazy, Adam and Pipes then came and went having a swing with Tommy approaching his maiden Wanderers century at the other end, but alas we couldn't get him home. Sparkles finished with 92\* (to go with the 90+ not out he made last season) and the Wanderers finished their 40 overs with a very impressive total of 271.

We took to the field and the opening pill was given to the fiery Paul Smith. He proceeded to terrorise the batsmen from one end, while The Chad took the ball at the other end. He had a wicket with his first delivery (great catch by Jonty in close), followed by a second wicket 2 balls later, to open his spell with a double wicket maiden! Paulie found a wicket in his next over, and Tuggeranong looked in all sorts of trouble at 3/5. These two continued with the double act, and while the batsmen were occasionally lucky with a wild swing that reached the boundary The Chad just continued to put on the clamps hitting the stumps in his 4th over, followed by another wicket 2 balls later. With the 5fa come and gone, the club records started looking shaky when he again hit the stumps in just the 10th over and Tuggeranong were

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now 7/49. The prez took his 7th wicket with the first ball of his 6th over and finished up with the amazing figures of 7 overs, 2 maidens, 7/17. These figures are the best by a Wanderer in a 1st grade match, and will go down as the 4<sup>th</sup> best bowling figures in the club's history. Fantastic effort from "Chad Gareth"! :)

The last few wickets took a few overs longer than we'd hoped, but we had them all out in the 17th for 92 runs. So a big win first up for the boys and a great kickoff to the 2007/08 season.

Man Of The Match: Gareth "The Chad" McAlister, 7 overs - 7/17

### ***Round 1 – 3rd Grade***

#### *WWCC vs Harman*

Having won the toss and batted, nervous skipper and new opener Dom strode to the crease with ostensible confidence. Until we saw Harman's opening bowler - youthful, athletic and fit-looking left armer mark out a run of 15 metres or so. I managed to get off strike quickly (good call Dom!) and realised the way to play this guy was from the non-striker's end. Dom looked very serious: took guard, surveyed the field, and padded up confidently to his first ball. Which swung down the line late: would have hit middle stump half way up. First time I've seen a batsman out LBW walk off saying to the umpire "that must have been plumb". In came Zak. He scratched around for a while before unleashing an impeccable French cut for 4. Can't set a field for that sort of strokeplay. Meanwhile I followed my usual process of checking if slips, gully and point were awake. Fortunately they weren't: three dropped chances. Better still, I was hitting with the wind, so shots which would dribble for one possibly two most weeks managed to cross the boundary. And when the keeper dropped me off a sitter as well, I knew my luck was really in and celebrated by hitting the bowler for four fours the next over. Fact was, I was determined it was twos or fours I needed - no way was I getting down to the danger end to face their good bowler! (I actually faced only 4 balls in his five over spell - now that's how to play good bowling...)

Zak took the heat well, and saw him off. But then they brought on the big lobby "leg spinner" (well, that's what he was trying to do). I dutifully got out to him, demonstrating my deep underlying respect for that particular art form, no matter how badly performed. 1/1 had become 2/72 from 16 overs - a good start. Blake joined Zak and took us to 3/93 at drinks, Zak (28) having also decided we needed to lose wickets to the leggie to keep him bowling. A real team player: the leggie ended up going for 57 off 6 overs for his two wickets. Would have gone for more if the stupid square leg umpire hadn't stopped a certain four from Blake by getting in the way (but I do have an impressive bruise to show for it). After drinks came the moment we'd all been waiting for - would everyone's Friend, Jeremy, get off the mark and avoid the mandatory headshave. Answer: No. Jeremy, we look forward to viewing your bald head. Blake departed for a convincing 24, leaving Batesy and Dalts to take them on. When Dalts smashed his second ball on the up between the bowler and mid off it was looking good. He thought so too, and

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showed how comfortably he could hit the ball on the full to long on. Out for 14. I'd put Starkey up the order with a license to swing. And swing he did - unfortunately nowhere near the ball: clean bowled for a golden duck. The third duck of the innings, and the second golden. Which left us 7/146 in the 27th over: dicey. Macca joined Batesy, who by now was starting to time them nicely. In fact, he can bat - and bat properly, not the cow corner crap, but square drives, cover drives - yeah Ok and the odd six over cow, four in all. Macca played as only Macca can. Dot dot six dot six - don't the bowlers just love bowling to him. The two put on 103 in nine overs (!) a record 8th wicket partnership for WWCC. (Or is that just thirds WWCC: not sure...) Who cares, it changed the game. Batesy departed for a superb 71, and Macca and Hotpants added a further 23, Macca ending up 72 not out. Final total 8/272, not too shabby off 40 overs.

Our first 20 overs in the field were excellent. Macca took two wickets in his first over (that's the standard now - if any first over from him is less productive he's dragged immediately.). One a sharp catch to keeper Hersh (establishing a pattern for his keeping performance which was first rate - honestly), the other a pearler to Starkey at square leg. (And we all know last year's square leg wouldn't have even got close.) Hotpants bowled 9 straight from the other end, finishing with 1/36, bowling well but without luck. Macca had enough after four, so on came Starkey. Showed us all how to bowl half pitch crap - and get away with it :-). He'll bowl much better for worse results - ended up with 1/27 off seven. So off we went at drinks at 20 overs with them 4/70 and the game 90% won.

Oh dear, that must have been what we thought. After drinks Dom bowled well - most of the time, and on came our spinner, Blake, who the skipper insisted bowl from his unpreferred end. "But they'll smack me over midwicket for sixes" he said. He was right. But only after all of us showed how to catch like the skipper: ie don't catch. If we'd held our chances we'd have bowled them out for 130 - they ended up making 211. We were never going to lose. Macca finished off with his usual panache: no wickets but they couldn't get him away, and Blake kept giving us catching practice. But, most sadly of all, less than 100 were needed off the final over, so I couldn't risk my first ever over for the Wanderers. (Left that to Blake - he 'restricted' them to 1/18 from 4 balls.)

Never mind - a good win to start the season. Only three from our Grand Final team of last year were available, but those called upon did the job. When players return from injury and other commitments, we'll only get stronger. Go you Happy Thirds!

#### ***Round 1 - 4th Grade***

##### *WWCC vs Academics @ Deakin*

With a new look line up that may have suggested that we don't rate batting that highly, the 4th's took on defending Premiers Academics at Deakin. The skipper won the toss (and after winning all 4 during the recent sixes tournament that makes him 5 from 5!) and had no hesitation in batting first.

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Drady faced up and opted for the traditional Wanderers play and miss first up before turning the strike over to Bettsy. Bettsy then departed for a golden followed next by Kerry 'bloody' Wilson for a silver (both bowled) to leave the tail now exposed in the first over. The skipper then managed to also get bowled first ball in the first over but crucially the bail stayed on and he then set about stinking up the place by blocking out the opening bowlers as he set about repairing the innings after being 3 for 2.

Troy eventually fell cheaply for 6 leaving plenty of work to be done by his young chargers, Rocket came out, liked what he saw and couldn't help swinging away at wides until being caught behind to one ending his innings on 4. Nick Millar then came in to try and give support to Adam Stewart who after taking 19 balls to get off the mark was now punishing the tight bowling. A couple of unique shots from Nick saw him to 11 before he was dismissed, this left us now 6 for 72, these were important partnerships by Rocket & "Miller time" in supporting Adam in the middle. There was almost a hint of 'sensible batting' on display.....

Of course that all went out the window with the entrance of Brentan 'the Scurge' Skurowksi, who took middle and then stood about 6 metres outside leg and began swinging from the hip. With his bat weighing more than your average Japanese car boundaries were dispatched regularly (in amongst almighty swings and misses) , while all the time young Adam was putting together a masterpiece of an innings under pressure down the other end. Brentan finally fell for 32 after an excellent partnership of 54 with Adam, Will Long then came and went for a globe. In strode Soonda who quickly got off the mark with a single, the grin on his face suggested this was his highest score for some time. Not long after Adam was finally dismissed for a brilliant 61 which brought Ian Butt to the crease. After a couple of overs of wild swinging and missing Ian was bowled for 2, this left Soonda stranded 49 short of a half century. All out 134.

It was clear we needed to bowl them out and we opened with Soonda & Brenton and it wasn't long before the Scurge broke through with a simple catch to Adam. Brenton then enticed their opposition skipper and he was caught well by Ian Butt (hands the size of baseball mitts), Soonda then chimed in with a wicket of his own to have them 3 for 26. Soonda would finish the match with 2 for 28 in an impressive display after some initial radar problems while the Scurge took 2 for 15 and has that 'wicket taking machine' look about him.

The skipper then wrung the changes with Ian Butt coming on and looking every inch a Wanderers bowler by continuing the trend of giving Rocket a workout behind the stumps with the odd one down legside. He then made a great break through with another easy catch to Adam, score 4 for 35. Ian Butt ended with 1 for 19 in a pretty good display. Will Long came on next, clearly we will only be able to bowl him on the larger grounds so as to accommodate his run up which started somewhere in Tuggeranong. He took a wicket after Kerry came through and elbowed him out the way so he could take the simple catch, then took a crucial wicket right on drinks to have them 6 for 89, suddenly the little engine that could had a sniff of victory about them. Will finished with eight overs 2 for 33 which was terrific since the skipper was happy to give him NO protection at all on the on side as we searched for wickets.

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Looking to move Adam the spinner to the other end the skipper looked around for a wicket taking option, you guessed it, it was Miller time!! Nick Millers first ball was the traditional rank half tracker on leg that was dispatched high to fine leg where it was caught magnificently by Will Long. We are not sure whether Will was actually fielding on the boundary at fine leg, or just re-marking his run up. Nick continued to bowl a terrific spell after that including a missed catch to finish with 1 for 10 off four overs.

Adam came on from the other end and after tormenting their number 10 who you could tell was DYING to slog, he eventually got one through the non-existent defence to bowl him, Adam finishing with 1 for 25. In the end the Academics limped to victory nine wickets down. Although we did not get the lollies the side showed a terrific fighting temperament after a disastrous start, but a few blokes knuckled down and put on some partnerships, we bowled well, fielded well, and will no doubt put other sides on notice.

What was clear from our first outing was that we have no interest in defending a target, we only want to bowl sides out (thus getting back to the club at a reasonable hour).

#### ***Round 1 - 6th Grade***

##### *WWCC vs Tuggeranong*

Being my first game as Captain, I thought that I would turn up early to set an example. Those of you who know me, would not have expected to see me until well after 12:20pm. However, I was at the ground by 12:05. Brian and Dave were already there.

The Tuggers Captain, Allen, came over for a toss of the coin and I decided that since we were the home side, I would call it, while he tossed it. Wanderers won the toss, and without hesitation I elected to bat. I sent out both Wanderers openers and two umpires (one of them being myself) right on time. I obviously had not thought this through since I had put my name down as the number four batsman. This meant that in the event that one of my openers were dismissed, I would have to take off in a hurry and pad up. Things were looking good until the 5th over when Brian gave a lovely little nudge to a jumping jalapeno of a ball and he was caught behind. I looked to my team and I pointed out that I needed a replacement (for myself) and signalled to Boxy to start putting on his pads just in case. Brando had a dab here and there and managed to squeeze out a certain LBW with the toe of his bat. When Brando finally run out of luck and was quickly fired LBW by quick draw Jeremy, I was already on the sidelines putting on my pads but, I asked Boxy to go in for me as I was nowhere near ready yet. What a master stoke. Dave started firing on all cylinders until he too got caught, out for 14. Boxy kept hitting the ball and ended up with a well crafted 20, having spent some 15 overs out in the middle. His last two scores were boundaries before being caught. No other scores were worthy of a mention except for Trevor Stubbs and Ben Murphy. These two blokes came together in the 28th over with the score on 103. Trevor had been taking to the Tuggers bowlers with great gusto, moving the score from the low

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seventies to 102 when Ben turned up. For the next 13 overs, this pair smacked Tuggers all over the park to bring our score to a respectable 195. Trevor managed to pinch a single off the last ball, and finished his run with a pirhouette and two backward somersaults. Never seen anything like it, except at the Rugby and the Women's Olympics Floor Exercises.

Marcus was pretty much extremely pumped up by now. I offered him the ball and we set up for a fight. Tuggers had beaten us in our previous two meetings so, I was keen to get one from them. Marcus bowled well but, without luck. He had at least a couple of good chances to pick up a wicket but, alas the bowling gods were unkind to him.

Tuggers' first 4 wickets fell for a measly 37 runs courtesy of some great catching off the bowling of Adrian Ellis. Brando chipped in with a couple himself, and Boxy and Peter K. failed to grab a wicket with their bowling but, combined well to produce a lovely runout. Ben Murphy and Michael Herrman bowled towards the end, with Michael bagging a good wicket. All along, from the 12th over onwards, one of Tuggers batsmen had decided to put a stop to the rot. While everyone else kept falling around him, he pretty much single handedly managed to push the score along from bellow 50 to a respectable 179. Unfortunately, we closed game at 6pm after having bowled 36 overs to Tuggers. I had earlier discussed and informed tuggers that they had been running late with their bowling and at 3pm had only just managed to bowl 35 overs. When they finished the 40th I'd informed them that they would be facing 35 overs from us, hopefully before it got too dark. I explained that we would attempt to get our 35 overs by 6pm and Brando advised Tuggers captain that the light would be up to his batsmen.

Anyway, the match result is currently in dispute and the Association will at some point make a decision one way or another after we submit our paperwork. As it stands, I am yet to receive an official request to put our side of the story to the Association.

Man of the match, in the absence of Trevor, was awarded to Ben Murphy, whom I may add, failed to share his good fortune (ie two beers) with yours truly. This will be taken into account next time I have to think about awarding MotM...take note.

Cheers,

Pablo C.  
6th Grade Capitan.

