

Wandering about... Edition 7 2007/2008

The Newsletter of the Woden Wanderers Cricket Club

The Phantom Speaks

Greetings fellow Wanderers,

A huge tome this week, thanks very much to all the reporters, I think we're nearly all caught up now. Congratulations to Dubya for the 4th Grade match report in which I think he might have broken Pablo's record from Round 1 for the "Most References to myself (1st *or* 3rd person) during a match report". I really thought that record would stand the test of time...but the bar has been raised!

Pleased to hear of Bailey's return to the Wanderers, I wish I could have been there to see it, but Rabbsie (the town crier) was there to provide all the gossip.

Good luck to all this weekend.

Cheers,

The Phantom

From the Prez

It's great to see so many people back at the club after the games! The BBQ is here to stay with First grade hosting the BBQ this weekend. For those of you who haven't been back lately Sausage and steak Sangers are on offer for the very reasonable cost of \$1 and \$2 respectively. I'd like to thank both 4th and 6th grade for the great job they both did. Just a reminder to all when it is your grade's turn pitch in and lend a hand and this includes the cleaning up afterwards.

Also badge draws are now in full swing with a Meat tray (supplied by Kingston Butchery) the prize to the lucky winner! Note you do need to be present to win and you will need to have your badge with you! If anyone has paid up and is yet to get their badge please see Marcus back at the club.

Movember

With the month of Movember now in full swing its great to see many shady looking characters sporting various quality Mo's round the Club. Remember it is a fundraiser for prostate cancer and depression so hit up your friends/ work colleagues for a donation and dig deep yourself.

An order for Movember Stubby holders (pictured) will be placed on Monday next week.

Cost will be \$6.00 which covers the cost (\$5) and postage – any additional monies raised will be donated straight to Movember.

Could those interested in ordering a stubby holder please advise via the Prez's email address or back at the club on Saturday.



Although the wins have been a bit thin on the ground over the past few weeks it's been great to still see some great personal performances. Special note must go to Ben Stark and Sundar Jayaraman both taking their maiden 5 wicket hauls on the weekend, and Matthew Morrison for a fantastic 77* in his first game in first grade.

Go you Wanderers..... Go you Good Things!!

The Prez.

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Club News

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.

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

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.

The Wanderers on Facebook

For those of you in the world of Facebook, there is a Wanderers presence there, with a Group dedicated to the club. Here's the link, but a search on *Woden Wanderers* will also get you there pretty quickly.

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=6708148139>

The screenshot shows the Facebook interface for the 'Woden Wanderers Cricket Club' group. The page includes a search bar, a navigation menu with options like 'Profile', 'Friends', and 'Inbox', and a sidebar with 'Applications' such as Photos, Groups, Events, Marketplace, and Poke Pro. The main content area features the group's name, a 'Global' location tag, and an 'Information' section with details: Name (Woden Wanderers Cricket Club), Type (Sports & Recreation - Recreational Sports), and Description (The club was established in 2000 by IT professionals in Canberra). Contact information includes an email (peterbowman@hotmail.com), website (http://www.wodenwandererscc.com), and street address (Kent Street). A 'Photos' section displays four images, and a 'Videos' section states that no videos have been uploaded. A 'Posted Items' section shows one item. On the right, there are options to 'Invite People to Join', 'Leave Group', and 'Share', along with a 'Related Groups' list including 'When I was your age, Pluto was a planet.', 'Common Interest - Science', 'IF Bruce McAvaney asks one more question I'm going to smash the TV!', 'Sports & Recreation - Outdoor Sports', 'Tuggeranong Hawks Football Club', 'Sports & Recreation - Professional Sports', 'I HATE JAMIE LYON!!', 'Sports & Recreation - Professional Sports', 'The NOTT Appreciation Society', and 'Common Interest - Beauty'.

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Match Reports

Round 3 – 1st Grade

Bye (does that count as a report Phanto???)

(***Phantom's Note:*** yes, I think it does...which begs the question, why did it take so long to submit??)

Round 4 – 1st Grade

WWCC vs Barton

Fresh off the first grade bye week first grade were keen to add to their great start to the season with a win against last years premiers, the ever popular Baaarrton. Seb lost the toss and we were promptly sent out to field.

Pipes (3/18 off 7) and The Chad (1/24 off 7) opened the attack and promptly had the Barton top order in disarray with Pipes bagging both openers and The Chad chipping in and removing the number 3 - Barton 3/8. Barton then managed to steady the ship; unfortunately after a rare lapse from Dougie behind the stumps. They took their score from 3/8 on to 4/74 at drinks note the Batsmen dropped had added 56* of the 66 run partnership when his mate was dismissed for 10. Jarrod (1/20 off 8) took up the attack after drinks and promptly removed the danger man having him caught in the gully for his first Wanderers wicket. Some great bowling by Jase Ellis (2/21 off 6.3) well supported by Paulie Smith (2/49 off 8) and we had restricted the dangerous Barton batting line up to 9/166 after their 40 overs. Another good performance in the field and we had left ourselves with a very get able target to chase.

Seb and Jarrod opened the innings with Jarrod failing to trouble the scorers Wanderers were 1/4. This brought together Sparkles and Seb to build on their record breaking partnership from round 1, and build they did taking us through to 1/72 at drinks. 9 wickets in hand less than 5 an over needed for the last 20 we were definitely in a strong position. Unfortunately from here it all seemed to go right for Barton both Sparkles (31) and Seb (56) were dismissed shortly after drinks. From here some excellent tight bowling from Barton and the regular loss of wickets saw us needing 40 off the last 3 overs with only 3 wickets in hand, and we ended up being dismissed for 140 of the last ball of the 40th over.

A very disappointing result in a game that we had the better of for much of the contest, but a few periods in the field were we failed to put them to the sword and some excellent bowling by Barton in the middle overs proved to be the difference.

Round 5 – 1st Grade

WWCC vs Workers

Light Rain was falling on the drive out to Kaleen and thoughts of an afternoon sinking piss at the Bowlo definitely sprung to mind. Although once we arrived at the ground apart from a few brief showers, rain played no part in the afternoon's preceding.

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A new skipper for this week with second gamer Damien Whitelum stepping up to take control. Armed with pages of notes and tactics from Seb Damo was in good hands.

Damo returned from the toss to announce we're fielding (don't know if he won or lost), and once again Wanderers had First use of conditions with the ball. Ah and what conditions they were to quote a slightly pissed off Russian tennis player 'it was like playing on a potato field' although I don't think potato fields have burn outs down the centre wicket. Let's just say any attempt at ground fielding was to prove dicey at best, and with the potholes and slippery conditions moving quickly in the field proved nigh on impossible.

Pipes (1/37) and Paulie Smith (1/17) opened up and after a few trademark pull shots from the workers opener he tried one too many off Paulie and a skied a well held catch to Tex at backward square. Pipes then removed their number 3 (in between his doses of angry pills), and Workers were 2/21. The Chad (2/35) came on and chipped in with 2 wickets before drinks (and should have stopped there) coupled with some excellent trademark tight bowling by Jarrod (0/30 of 8) and we had them 4/70 odd at the break. The Workers boys managed to put on 43 for the first wicket before an unfortunate injury to Jonty in the over before he was due to bowl saw the skipper take to the bowling crease. Amid catcalls of 'that's the way skipper way to get yourself a bowl' Damo ambled to the crease. THWACKI! The first ball cannons into Dougies gloves and all the sledging quickly disappears. Damo proceeded to Bowl 5 overs 2/8 in what only he would describe as a rusty display! (if that's rusty I for one can't wait to see more)

Giving the Dilemma of losing Jonty the skipper shrewdly threw the ball to Knuckles (who was dragged by Seb after his last bowl after a lengthy 1 over spell). Knuckles repaid his skippers faith bowling his 8 overs straight taking 1/36 and bowling through to the end of the innings. Knuckles was painfully unlucky with 3 catches going down in the 45 over and numerous others flying just over or just short of the fieldsmen. At the close Workers 8/173 of their allotted 45, note with the state of the ground workers only managed 3 boundaries in their entire innings.

On Seb's orders Damo (3) and Taka's (9) went out to open unfortunately they both fell early leaving us on 2/13 and 2/20 after the first ten. Knuckles and Sparkles took the score along to 48 when Sparkles (15) gently played one back to the bowler. This brought Jarrod (8) to the crease and he was dismissed just before Drinks when the score was 4/69. Just like the previous week we needed around 5 an over after drinks to come home with the win. Newly promoted Tex (5) strode to the wicket and after smashing one over cover (really!) for 4 gently guided the next ball straight to gully's waiting hands 5/77 (well at least it was 2 offside shots in a row!!!). Dougie joined Knuckles and unfortunately of the last ball of the opening bowlers second spell (and just when the boys were resting back control of the match) Knuckles was out for a very well made 54. (6/107). Things still looked positive with Pipes and Dougie(20) (adding another 20 runs but with the required run rate climbing and wickets falling at 128 and 131 we eventually bowled out for 140 (again!!!) in the 43rd over.

Once again a disappointing loss as we had not allowed the strong workers batting lineup to dominate (no individual score over 35), and again we had let ourselves get bogged down in the middle overs – albeit in the face of some good workers bowling.

Man of the Match Peter 'Knuckles' Bowman.

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Round 6 – 1st Grade

WWCC vs NSL @ Southwell Park

The Chad, filling in as this week's captain, had some luck with the toss and elected to bat first. The first grade side this week was missing a few regulars which gave the chance to some guys from the lower grades to come up. We had 4 first grade debutants in Matthew Morrison, David Zakharoff, Scott Burrows, and Fred Nortje, who had all come up from 3rd or 4th grade for the match. After starting the season with 2 wins, we had lost our way somewhat in the last couple of matches and were coming off a couple of losses. An area we really needed to improve was the batting, particularly in the middle order, so we were hoping maybe some fresh blood might give us a boost here and give us a long overdue win over the Northside Lightning.

Jarod and Matt Morrison opened up the batting and starting grinding out the runs... going from 0/4 after 4 overs to 10 after 5, 18 after 6, and 28 runs after 7 overs. Monners was looking really solid while Jarod was doing his usual thing of having a look at a few and then smashing it over the infield. We didn't lose our first wicket until the 14th over when Jarod was fired LBW for the second time this season, after making a good start of 24. Taka came in at number 3 and he batted with Monners for the next 10 overs. Both guys looked very comfortable with Matty pushing it around for easy runs and Taka worked on getting his eye in with a couple of effortless sixes over square leg. Troy departed in the 24th over when he skied an easy catch to mid-off. Wanderers 2/78, a solid start which we could certainly build on with the guys to come. Unfortunately it didn't quite work out that way... Zak came in next and hung around with Monners for another 6 overs, but he was bowled for 5 and then Crazy came and went (1), followed by Jonty who only lasted a couple of balls (0) also. Suddenly we had gone from 3/100 to 5/101 in 2 overs. New man Scotty Burrows went to the crease at no.7 and hung around with Matty for 8 overs, making 10 runs and assisting Monners to his maiden half century in 1st grade for the Wanderers. A fantastic innings first up in the top grade, especially considering he was asked to open up the innings and didn't receive a whole lot of support from our regular, middle-order batsmen. When Scott eventually departed going the swing, it was the 41st over and we were 6/132. Pipey came and went (2) and Paul Smith (9*) joined Matty to push for as many final over runs as we could get. Monners finished up with 77*... an awesome effort with the main highlight being a sweetly timed six over the square leg boundary. We got our total to a less than satisfying 158 but as was the case last season, our bowling was a strength so there was plenty of confidence that if we could pick up some early wickets and keep bowling tight through the innings, then Northside would have to play pretty well to get to our target.

We opened up with Paul Smith and The Chad bowling in tandem. Things looked great with the batsmen unable to get bat on ball and while we didn't take a wicket until the 15th over, they were hardly scoring at all, being 0/7 after 5 and then 0/26 after 10. Paul (0/16 from 5) and Chad (0/16 from 6) both bowled really well without luck, but it took a bowling change to pick up our first wicket when Chad brought on Scott Burrows (1/18 from 5) at first change and his 2nd over produced a catch. Northside 1/44 after 16. Chad brought on another new man in Fred (0/16 from 5) at the other end and both these guys continued to bowl tightly until just before drinks when the next changes were made in the pursuit of a breakthrough. After the break Jonty (0/28 from 4) and Crazy continued the attack and after a shaky first over (10 runs!) Crazy picked up the other opener who was slogging recklessly, with a skied mishit taken beautifully by Taka running backwards with the flight of it at a deepish cover. Northside 2/113 in the 28th over. Some damage had been done by the big opener and they now had

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plenty of overs to play with and 8 wickets up their sleeve. The pressure was really on and unfortunately we couldn't continue to take wickets. Jarod came on and bowled really well without luck for figures of 0/17 from 5. Crazy (2/29 from 6) took the next, and last, wicket of the day when they were on 115, before the Gladwin brothers then took their score along to our target with little difficulty in the end.

Another loss leaves us at 2 wins and 3 losses, and precariously placed in 5th place with Queanbeyan/Teachers to come next weekend. Congratulations to all of the new guys who played on the weekend - they all made good contributions and hopefully next time we can cap off their efforts with a win.

Man of the match: Matthew Morrison, 77*

Round 5 – 3rd Grade

WWCC v Lanka Lions @ The Mint

We arrived at a very wet Mint ground with conditions looking dicey. Our opponents, who'd also won 4/4 weren't keen to play, but after some haggling we agreed to play a 40 over game, and only stop if it pissed down (technical term). Upon winning the toss I (as always) said "We'll bat". More on that decision later.

Ground was soggy. Very slow outfield, and the Lankans bowled with discipline. Not much to say about the batting really other than we all got out cheaply. Three of us scored 6, four scored 7, one scored 4, and only Westy and Monners made it into double figures - for 12 and 13 respectively. Starky showed great consistency to record another duck. Third top score was sundries. End result: all out for 83. Not an easy total to defend. They were difficult batting conditions, and credit to the Lankans - they bowled, fielded and caught well.

Unfortunately, by the time their innings started the weather had changed and conditions were much better. Monners bowled with fire, Macca came back into bowling form grabbing 2/13 off his 6 overs. Scotty Burrows, making his WWCC debut, showed he will be a very useful player for us: 5 overs 0/12. Blake also bowled well - after 5 overs having 0/14. But the ball kept flying wide of fieldsman: with a bit of luck we could easily have taken 4 or 5 more wickets. (Their left handed opener led a charmed life in particular, and showed he doesn't believe in walking. He remained at the crease claiming "I think it was forearm, I'm not sure" to one which ballooned off his glove to the keeper - and a batsman always knows when it hits the forearm! Should have been Scotty's first WWCC wicket, but never mind...)

In the end they passed our meagre total with 14 overs to spare and only 2 wickets down. Ah well, we can't win them all. In retrospect I blame our captain's decision to bat - certainly the way the weather panned out we had the worst of the conditions. Some positives: two batsmen fired LBW both left immediately without dissent - as should always happen - and both agreed they were probably plumb. Bowling was strong again. But we won't defend 83 successfully very often. So a loss. The Lankans played well and deserved their win.

Round 6 – 3rd Grade

WWCC v Workers

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Another away game - and we realised that this was our fifth away game this season. We lost our only home game - so we were hoping our away form would stay good. Workers, like us, had won 4 out of 5 going in to the game. They finished above us last year, only for us to knock them out in a first semi final thriller when we passed their total 9 wickets down off the final ball. Unfortunately a number of regulars couldn't play: Zak, Monners and Scotty Burrows to 1sts; Tex, Mojo and Dom unavailable. But we were bolstered by the return of Greg Condon for his first game of the season, Hotpants was back after two weeks away, and CC, after originally ruling himself unfit, dragged himself to the game when we were short - on the condition the toilets were open. And Scott Bailey agreed to play at late notice when we found ourselves short. (Well done to the editor of Wandering About - may his golf form continue and persuade Scotty better to play cricket than that silly golf rubbish...) (*Phantom's Note:* As it happens none of us have played a round of golf yet since the trauma of the Club Champs). So we managed to put a decent team on the park.

Won the toss again - and batted as always. Blake came out to open with me. And very quickly we realised we were in for a hard slog. The outfield was a lush sheep paddock: hitting a 4 along the ground was all but impossible. Workers' bowlers were steady, and their fielding sound. (Though they did the right thing by dropping my usual offering to gully fairly early on....) After two maidens to start things off, the highlight of the next over was some classic Wanderers running. I hit it straight to short mid wicket. Blake yells Yes. (?!?) I'm a bit slow to say No - but finally do and turn round to go back to the keeper's end. By which stage Blake has joined me. Mid wicket throws it to the bowler - except he wasn't there. And mid-off missed it backing up. So as Blake gets back to the bowlers end I shout Yes, and back he comes. End result Blake runs three, I run one - and we are off the mark with a single!

Unfortunately Blake went soon afterwards for 6 (another LBW - we really do give a lot of them!), and out came CC to the crease. Finally they dropped a couple short, and I managed to get my snicks through slips working. Unfortunately getting it to the boundary was virtually impossible, so CC and I ended up running a lot of twos. Just what he needed, with his bad back and being crook anyway. But CC stuck it out, defending the good balls and despatching the bad ones. I got that unplayable straight full toss and skied it to the bowler. 2/37. Greg came in at number four and was starting to look solid when he fell - again LBW. (And again he remarked "that must have been plumb".) Bates and Bailey kept the Wanderers middle order tradition going by entering and exiting very quickly, for 2 and 1 respectively. So in came Dalts to join CC - at that stage the score, off about 24 overs was 5/74. Which was a bit precarious, even given the ridiculously slow outfield. The two of them put on 42 in pretty quick time, until CC finally succumbed to his illness and the heat, and was out for a very well made 62. 6/126 soon became 7/142 when Dalts skied one. He'd batted really well for a good 30. I felt 150 would be a good score, and with 10 overs left - but only three wickets in hand - it was still evenly poised. Macca had other ideas. He and Clint put on a partnership of 61 in quick time. (Clint 5 not out.) Macca hit 4 huge sixes, 4 fours, and ended up with 60 off about 40 balls. And showed he's a team player by continuing to hit out with only 4 balls left in the innings. Had he remained not out, his season average would have been up to 160+. As it was, his 60 dragged it down to only 80.5!

Which left Starkey 3 balls to avoid a head shave. And he proceeded to block the last 3 balls of the innings. (He claimed later he thought there was another over to go - Yeah, sure Starkey :-)) Still, 8/203 was a good score - probably worth 250 on a normal field.

So we took the field in good spirits to defend our total. Hotpants and Macca took the new ball. With the breeze seeming to change direction every second ball, Hotpants bowled a few inswingers to go with his

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normal outswingers, and troubled both batsman. After a few flew just wide of fieldsman he managed to get a dangerous looking opener to drag one on: 1/16. Then Macca joined in with one of his two wicket overs. The first, amazingly, a slips catch! And we all thought the skipper was just standing there coz he's a lazy bastard. Followed by an LBW next ball - and in we all came. Three slips, gully, two short legs, silly mid off - and as usual no shot required from the batsman. Oh well. By now they were 3/17 so we were feeling pretty confident. Hotpants finished with 1/17 off 6, Macca 2/17 off six.

On came the first change bowlers: Scotty and Starkey. Scotty was pretty rusty - his first bowl for a couple of seasons - and was clearly very relieved when the first ball hit the pitch. Meanwhile Starkey found the groove, and bowled good line and length, occasionally moving the ball away in the air, and his sparing use of the short ball meant it worked well. Finally a partnership of 29 was broken by some excellent fielding. The pressure had been building as both bowlers kept it tight, and everyone fielded well, so the run rate required was growing. A push to point: Bailey moves round quickly from gully and throws it to the bowler. But his radar wasn't quite right - yet somehow Starkey managed to drag it in and get it to the stumps brilliantly and the batsman was out by a metre. A really good wicket.

All that remained was to finish them off - and when their number 6 hit Scott over long on for a huge six, we might still have had a fight on our hands. But again we just stuck at it. Catches taken by Starkey (off his own bowling), Dalts (simple one at point), and Brendan (sharpish catch at mid off) and Clint (regulation keepers catch), plus an LBW to Starkey - and suddenly they were 9 down, and Starkey had the well deserved figures of 5/15 from 7 overs. But could Bailey get a wicket? Finally he gets the batsman to sky one straight up. Bowler looks at keeper who shouts "I can't see it". In rushes bowler - and cover and mid wicket (and everyone else on the field except me actually - no way I go for those!) (*Phantom's Note:* Rightly so too Major, I've seen you try to catch). Bowler shouts loudest - and holds it.

So Bailey gets his wicket, and we've rolled them for 75. A huge win. Big thanks to Scott for filling in for us, and to CC for playing when he wasn't feeling too good - but still managing to bat very sensibly in hot conditions. Another excellent performance from Macca, with both bat and ball. And Starkey showed just how well he can bowl - superb effort to pick up 5 for. Again our effort on the field was very solid, and our catching continues to improve. 5 wins out of 6 now - just gotta hope our "home" form improves.

Round 5 - 4th Grade

Hello world, this is Dubyah filling in for Troy. My batting is still bloody awful, so my penance is to write the match report. Very badly.

Well it was an awful, drizzly, cold Saturday as the fearless players from 4ths packed our lunches and made the trek to outback Nicholls. After overcoming the problem of the enclosed oval being locked, we made our way into the ground and thought to ourselves "surely this game will be called off, and we can go hit the piss". In the meantime, Troy remained undefeated in the tossing stakes, and due to the awful conditions decided to have a bowl. (YOU WHAT?? You feeling alright Skipper).

Anyway, the drizzle had stopped and we took up the field, which had been nicely aerated to give us a challenge. Keep your eye on the bounce or lose some teeth. Nice.

Fiery Fred the Short Pitched Machine had the batsmen worried, and had a very tidy spell. He ended up with a very tidy 1/10. The Hermannator opened up at the other end, and in the wet conditions had a bit

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of trouble with his feet slipping. Will replaced him after a few tidy overs, and struck with his first ball, dispatching the opener with a caught behind to Rockets, the score 1 for 18 after 9 overs. In his third over will bowled the Workers number 3 and things were looking good, 2 for 24. Will was the pick of the bowlers with 3/14 off 8. and giving Dubyah a sharp catch in the covers.

The Hermannator switched ends and the batsmen sent a dolly of a catch to Dubyah, 3 for 31. Very nice bowling to end up with 1 for 18. Will also gave Dubyah a sharp catch in the covers to have Workers at 4fer not much. Bettsy rolled the arm over for a couple of overs that he'd probably rather forget, 0 for 24. Adam had an over before drinks which he'd also rather forget. So at drinks the score was approximately 4 for 52.

Will and Fiery Fred finished out their overs after drinks, and Troy brought on Adam to keep the batters scoreless, and Dubyah cos shit gets wickets. And it did. The batsman was travelling well, and was on 33 when he skied the ball a million miles in the air. Dubyah staring at it mid pitch expecting the man in gloves to come and catch it, until Rocket yells out "Dubyah's!" Oh crap.....however Dubyah took the C & B. A sharp catch at point from Fiery Fred gave Dubyah a tidy 2 for 10 (thanks to Will for the misfield to ruin my 2 for 9 figures) off 4 overs.

Adam bowled well for his 1 for 36 off 8 overs. Dubwah was a bit buggered, so can't remember much of this.

Troy in a hurry to get our overs bowled decided to take the third last and last over with what can only be described as left arm fruit. Being tied up by Dubyah at the other end, the opposition Captain decided to go the tonk and it went something like this: 1.4111 661.61 to give Troy the very untidy figures of 1 for 28 off 2 overs. So Workers batter out their overs, and didn't give us the embarrassing situation of a 12 year old girl coming in and getting more runs than half of our team will probably get. 143 off 40 overs.

Now what can we say about our batting. Conditions had turned great. No rain, nice sunshine, no wind, not too hot..... We had it won...

Gonna keep this short, as it is very painful. Rocket dotted it up for 1. Chris Harpley had a very nicely crafted 36 before getting out to a guy bowling complete pies. Herschelle dotted it up for a 9 ball quacker. Jeremy followed suit with a 5 ball quacker (that's 2 in a row isn't it Jezza?). Adam "Mr Cricket" Stewart came in to stem the flow of wickets but uncharacteristicly poked it around for 5 before getting fired for LBW. Bettsy and Troy had a fine partnership, with Bettsy ticking the runs over and Troy dotting it up and generally stinking up the place, but he was staying in there. Bettsy took it to the batters and played some fine shots before holing out on 46. Troy watched on as Dubyah came and went for 2 with only 40 runs required to win the match. Troy holed out 9 runs later, caught for a painstaking 18 runs. Fiery Fred was left at one end as he watched the Hermannator caught for 1 and Will out for a golden quacker. All out for 125.

The duck tally has grown again, and surely Will and Jeremy have joined myself and Gaz on 2 ducks apiece. Dropped catches to Rocket, the Hermannator and Adam also ensured kitty stays well fed.

3 catches to Dubyah, 1 each to Harpley, Fiery and Rocket.

So a game we should have won, where we snatched defeat from the jaws of victory. Someone send tissues to Troy please (the real reason I'm writing this alleged report).

Cheers and beers,

Dubyah!!

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Round 6 – 4th Grade

WWCC v Gungahlin @ Garran

Garran was the setting as the 4ths took on Gungahlin. Troy somehow managed to lose his first toss for the season and the opposition chose to bat first. Before we get into the train wreck lets start with a good news announcement, young Adam Stewart got engaged this week to his longterm girlfriend. Obviously the 'mo' made him feel confident enough to finally ask, although it is a bit hard to tell if the 'mo' is still visible.... OK back to the show, opening up with Sundar & the Herminator and wickets fell early, Sundar grabbed 2, Herminator 1, all were clean bowled which was to turn out to be a sensible decision by the bowlers. At 3 for 13 we were looking good to dismiss the side for a gettable* score * denotes somewhere under 50 just quietly Will Long and Albatross Ellis took up duties and bowled very well with the big fella eventually spelled with 0-23 off 4. However we were unable to make further inroads and went to drinks having them 3 for 74. Adam bowled some spin next and finished with a tidy 0-17 off 4, finally it was Gazza who made the break through with a catch high and long to Bettsy. Gazz finished with 1-18 off six excellent overs and kept the batsmen and Rocket guessing at all times which ball was going to be fired well down legside. Rosie chimed in next with a very tight 5 overs 0-13 and was unlucky with a couple of chances going begging. The Herminator returned to shake things up and claimed another 2 scalps to finish with 3-25 before Sundar swooped again to bowl the next 3 blokes to pick up 5-16, his first 5 wicket haul for the club. All wickets were clean bowled in a clinical display. Will Long also shut them down late from the other end to finish with 1-28. All out 144 in the final over.

Dropped catches reared their ugly heads for the first time this year, lets talk our way through the culprits... Troy grassed a full length one handed diving effort (with reverse pike). Gazza dropped a difficult low catch which had some heat on it. Herminator dropped a diving effort off his own bowling (no excuse off your own bowling!) Peter Rose dropped 2 in his 4th grade debut. (OK to be fair they were both very difficult) Rocket dropped 2.....both catchable I am afraid... Bettsy dropped 1 after having taken a harder one! Jeremy didnt get a hand on a skier but honestly it would have been a blinder so he is off the hook. That makes it 8 for the day by my count.....on the plus side the Albatross took 2 good catches to shame the rest of us.

OK time to bat, Gaz & Troy strolled to the crease and held them out for 6 overs before Gaz swung and missed and was gone for 7. Adam was next in and looked good again before being bowled for 10. Bettsy was next plump LBW to a pie chucker for 2 to leave us 3 for 31 (Phantom's Note: Must have been plump because of the pies). The good news was Jeremy Friend was now in to take care of business in the middle. Of course Jeremy was on a head shave following 2 ducks, just 2 more and he has the Audi emblem, or if he manages 5 he has the whole Olympic rings insignia.... anyway after surviving a big appeal for LBW he eventually went for..... yeah a duck. (hello headshave!!) Troy was next to go trying to up the run rate (the what??) for 17 , closely followed by Rocket for a duck to leave the side reeling at 6 for 39 at drinks. After drinks the tail (although some would suggest we are all tail) dug in a bit before the Herminator fell plumb LBW for 11. Rosie went next to an unlucky dismissal down legside for 7. Sundar went first ball, Will looked a very competent number 11 to be not out 2 while Albatross was last man out LBW for a fine 17. All out 74. Lessons to be learned, our best partnership was only 13 runs against pretty gentle bowling.....

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Round 5 – 6th Grade

WWCC v Lakeside

The new trusty 50c coin that I've now decided to use landed the right way up and we decided to bat. It had been drizzling all morning and it was still drizzling when we made a start. Wet but, not "get the squeegee" kind of wet.

I had asked for additional batting strength for this game. Troy was gracious enough to lend us Gazza, whom although not prolific with the bat in 4th so far this season, has proven otherwise in the past, and I had reasoned that he was due for a good score. So I sent him in with Brian W. to open proceedings. This pair looked a bit shakey to start with. They had not played together before, and where Gazza could see two runs, Brian could only see one. They sorted it out by the time that Brian got bowled for 10 in the 7th over with the score on 28. Reasonable start. Jerra came in to provide some useful support. The second partnership put on another 37 runs with some lovely sixes from both batsmen interspersed with the odd 4 and they even run the occasional two. The score was 2 for 65 when Gazza departed for 38, with Jerra on 12. Enter Sam the Wolfman H. and subsequently, exit Sam the Wolfman H. LBW for a quacka. Brando came in, and after a few dot balls, exit Brando stage left, LBW for naught. Not happy Jan. Now, those of you who've known me for a while, are alert to the fact that I won't just give people LBW for no apparent reason. So, having given two LBW's in the one day, I'd like a copy of this report to be sent to the Baaarrrrton Capt, whom felt I had officiated poorly when we faced him. I'm sure that he'll be happy to know that when someone is plum, they will be given. No amount of carrying on and crying by the bowler (who happend to be the Capt) will result in an LBW decision when one is not due. Anywhoo, the wheels seemed to have fallen off the wagon, after a very good start by our openers and first drop. We really needed to put on a good score against Eastlake, whom had been scoring prolifically against their opposition, and equally bundling them out for not many. Boxy came into the fray, and managed to put a stop to the continous fall of Wanderers wickets. Between him and Jerra, they moved the score to a more interesting 91, when Boxy fell, wait for it, LBW on 8. Send Baaarrrrton a duplicate of this report. I'd been asked to give Sundar some batting practise so, I put him in at number seven. Jerra and Sundar put another 20 runs on the board, when Jerra was caught on 33, equaling his highest score for the Wanderers. Allegedly. Ben M. came in, and then left with the score on 114. Out bowled for a duck. Two runs later, Sundar was out bowled, having scored 16 runs. Peter Rose was still on a duck when I came in. We moved the score along to 137 before I got run out. Gotta get a longer bat. Our fill-in for the day, Timus H. was out LBW in the 40th over without a change in the score. I think I recall him not offering a shot. Where have I seen that before?

So, there you have it. Eastlake did not bundle us out for less than 100. So far, the Wanderers were on top. We had the runs on the board. Let us see if they can match our performance. By this time the sun had come out, the drizzle had stopped, the clouds were moving away, the birds were singing, that sort of stuff. Let's just say that the Eastlake team had the best batting conditions. The wind was drying the ground nicely. They opened with their Captain, and I opened the bowling with my Vice-Captain. Boxy bowled well conceding only one run. Sundar followed and, unfortunately, they had now got their eye in, as they went on their merry way, scoring six off this over, 14 off the next, four off the one after that, 10 off the 5th, and so on. So, I brought Gazza in to replace Boxy. Gazza didn't fair much better. He got done for 40 off his three overs. Sundar had managed to snare a wicket in his 5th over. I had noticed that the Eastlake Captain had a predilection for smacking the ball over the head of square leg. So, I had positioned Brando and myself at the boundary. I was at deep square leg, Brando was at

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deep fine leg. When the ball got hit off Sundar for what looked like a likely six, I fast pedalled across towards it, jumped in the air, and managed to catch a well hit ball. As I landed, I heard Brando yell "throw it to me", much like in the ads. I was puzzled as to why he would ask this, but when I looked down I realised that I was fairly close to the boundary. I tippy-toed my way along the inside of the boundary, and then run in to celebrate with the rest of the team. Exit one opening batsman with the score on 59. Ha, we had them on the ropes, they thought this was going to be easy. I gave Sundar one more over, adn then switched over to Brando. Brando did very well, conceding only 16 runs off six overs, and he managed to bowl...that's right, bowl the other opening batsman out. Great spell. Ben M and myself finished off the bowling. Eastlake won by eight wickets.

Somebody move them up to Third Grade !!!.=