



Editor:  
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# AT THE CREASE

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Carnegie South Cricket Club Newsletter

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## THE SIZZLING SEVENTIES

**At this time of numerous reflections on the past decade, At The Crease takes a look at the seventies and what they meant to Carnegie South.**

On the field, the club finished the sixties on a high note, as Runners-Up for the second year in succession. However, as the seventies arrived, we were really at the crossroads with serious doubts as to whether we would continue as a club. We didn't even have enough players for one team and the early years of the decade were lean and dismal as far as success and progress were concerned. Only the perseverance of a dedicated few enabled the building of our great club.

There is now no doubt that the 1970's has been the most important and successful period in our 56-year history.

Let's take a look at some of the highlights of the past ten years.

We didn't see the new decade in too well when Glenvern (later renamed Menzies after Sir Robert) scored 8/300 dec. on January 24th, 1970. The first wicket of the decade went to Jim O'Meara, the first catch to Bomber McSwain and the first run to Alan Johanson, who also scored the first 50 of the 70's. Others still with us who played in that game are Daryl Pitman, Noel Dettman and David Holt. Garry Semmens didn't play that game but was with the club.

We were in CDCA A-Grade and won only two games for the season. At no stage did we ever practice during the season. In more ways than one, 1970 was the beginning of an era — Brian Lyons played his first game in October 1970, and early in 1971, Alan Johanson won the first of six bowling average awards while 'Penguin' Dettman won the first of three successive batting averages.

Season 1971-72 saw us still struggling for players and funds, which isn't surprising considering our annual subs were a mere \$3. This fee has since risen 800% in seven years but is still one of the lowest in Melbourne for a

club our size. Once again we won only two games, finishing sixth out of eight teams. That year also saw our first tie, against Caulfield Socials. More interest was evident as mid-week practice was given a try and the Ward Medal was struck, Noel Dettman being the inaugural winner.

Relegated to B Grade in 1972-73, we finished fourth after winning six games. The hero of the season was an underweight Bomber McSwain, who was recovering from illness. Bomber won the Ward Medal and the MCCA (Mercantile-Caulfield Cricket Association) B-Grade wicket aggregate with 65 wickets, a fact previously overlooked in club records. Bomber took 21 of his wickets in only two games — 6/39 and 7/27 against South Camberwell and 8/28 against Coles. Once again we were involved in a tie — this time against Tooronga, on a day when the majority of games were called off because of the heat — yes, that's right — HEAT. It was 108°F in the shade! Another innovation that season was a new scoreboard, complete with all players' names. There was strong talk of forming a second team and our fees — still \$3.

As season 1973-74 unfolded, club administrative activities were increasing as was our dissatisfaction with the MCCA administration. The highlight was the debut of our second eleven and although they did it the hard way, lugging mats to Albert Park for their home games, they have never looked back. Their first-ever game, which they lost by 29 runs, was against a team going by the uninspiring name of Bill's Bookshop.

We were under petticoat rule that year with Marg McSwain as Secretary and Nancy Pitman as Treasurer. 1973-74 could well be called the year of the

century after a long drought. Daryl Pitman's 125 n.o. against C.I.G. came 14 years and 3 days after the club's last century, 104 n.o. by T. Dixon in November, 1959. There were three more centuries that year, another by Daryl and two by Alan Johanson. Quite a few records were created this season, including the club's record partnership of 171 for the eighth wicket, once again against C.I.G. The first eleven finished clearly on top of the ladder but went down by 17 runs in the semi-final to — yes, C.I.G.! We batted one short in that final when actor Rod Mullinar (remember Ryan), our opening bat, failed to show up on the second day.

The club was now going places with the forming of a social committee who organised our first Christmas Picnic and Dinner Dance. In March, 1974, we made preliminary enquiries about having our wicket changed over to turf, but this was hit on the head. In August of that year, it was unanimously decided to seek affiliation with the CMCA and with that move our fortunes blossomed.

Season 1974-75 brought another milestone when we moved into our new clubrooms. Club caps were worn for the first time and we took part in the Twilight Series. The committee was really moving now and even increased the fees to \$5.

As the 1975-76 season approached, a special meeting decided to launch a junior team and such team was duly entered. It never played a game! Sufficient numbers could not be raised and after two walkovers, we were forced to abandon the idea. With the sudden boom in the popularity of cricket, due to the successful Australian team, we were virtually forced to form a Third eleven to accommodate the ever-increasing number of recruits. Another major

breakthrough for the club came when we secured Lord's Reserve for all three teams. We played in our first CMCA finals series after finishing on top of the C-Grade ladder. Noel Dettman and Harvey Smith both scored centuries in our record-breaking semi-final score of 383 against Moorabbin Park. Ironically, both players were out for a duck in the Grand Final, won by East Cheltenham. Other highlights in a great season were Peter Clarke's C-Grade CMCA Bowling Average win and Bomber McSwain's 100th game.

Season 1976-77 began well with our first Sportsman's Night. We forwarded proposals to the Park Trust for practice nets, a concrete walk around the pavilion and the relaying or repair of our wickets. Two of these proposals have been carried out in the past twelve months. A letter was also sent to our local member protesting about the current clampdown on raffles and the difficulties of financing a cricket club. A reply was duly received assuring us the situation was to be remedied "at an early date". We're still waiting!

There were some fine bowling performances — Alan Johanson took 7-38 and 6-12 in the 1sts, Peter Clarke 7-14 in the 2nds and Max Liddicoat 6-17 in the 3rds, while with the bat Alan Johanson was caught on the boundary for 99 against Mackie. Noel Dettman scored the first ever century for the 2nds in his only innings for them and batted once for the 3rds for 90 not out. Dave Mills captured a record 46 wickets for the 3rds and Daryl Pitman played his 100th game.

At the Annual Meeting before the 1977-78 season, Cappy Ward was elected as our President for the 40th year in succession, and to celebrate the occasion, a testimonial dinner was held at the Beaumaris Hotel and was a great success.

We began our Fourth eleven whose home ground was once again Albert Park. The 2nds finished on top of the F-Grade ladder but were defeated by Southside in the semi-final. Mark Meredith won the F-Grade bowling average while John and Brian Lawler both scored centuries. The Team Champion Award was given for the first time. Bryan McDonald and Alan Johanson excelled with the ball with 8/35 and 7/10 respectively. Bomber took 12/36 (8/17 and 4/19) against Chelsea Heights while Rick Comber captured 5/5 in the 2nds against West Benthleigh. The Packer-ACB war was on in full earnest.

Season 1978-79 was a most eventful one. Our 2nd XI were runners-up after a great effort. Garry Semmens, Alan Johanson and Noel Dettman each played his 100th game and Daryl Pitman scored a record 3000th run. John Earle hit up a magnificent 123 n.o. in the semi-final and a record 346-run aggregate whilst Bryan McDonald snared 9/48 against eventual premiers Washington. Over \$1000 was made on our

Sportsman's Night and At The Crease celebrated ten years. Our fourths secured Murrumbidgee as their home ground, Dave Atkinson took a record 43 wickets for the 2nds, players insurance was taken out for the first time and we took part in the first indoor competition at Knox, finishing fifth. Steve Large continued our run of CMCA awards by winning the I-Grade bowling average, while Mark Meredith took out the A-Grade Indoor bowling trophy. The season finished with Alan Johanson winning his third Ward Medal in record style.

As we neared the end of the 70's, season 1979-80 saw the first game played by a Carnegie South junior eleven and their first win, an outright, just last week. Over \$1300 was returned from our Sportsman's Night, thanks to the hard work of the Earles, and we saw our new honour boards start to appear.

Yes, a lot has happened in the 70's. Hat-tricks were scarce, with Bomber McSwain being our only successful exponent. There were sad times too, like the time a friend of player Harvey Smith collapsed and died at practice while keeping wickets. There has been a spate of injuries over the past two seasons but few before that. We've had plenty of action, but mainly, we've had good times.

Let's keep it that way in the eighties, with everyone working for the good of the club. Don't you think it's worth it?

*There have been some very nasty rumours circulating about a certain canteen manageress. Seems she was a little late home recently after attending a farewell for a girlfriend. She complained that the focus on the TV was playing up and wants to know if anyone else got a Herald printed upside down that night.*

*There's hope for ush yet fellash!*

## OFFER BY BOMBER

Prior to last game's selections, Bomber McSwain informed the selectors that he would like to play the remainder of the season with the fourths. This decision followed a players' meeting a few days earlier where a point was raised about the lack of bowling depth in that side.

Bomber's offer is typical. He has always had the best interests of the club at heart, particularly if it means helping out some of the younger players. There is no doubt that he could hold a place in a higher side. His skill is unquestionable, as our own top batsmen, who have faced him for years and still get beaten, could testify. This, combined with his experience and knowledge of the game, will be a tremendous asset to the improving fourths, and it is a sure bet that before long there will be a whole new batch of "my boys" around the club.

—Dave Atkinson

## SHE'LL BE RIGHT MATE!

by John Hirth

How often have we heard this familiar saying? If you walk around the club-rooms, you will probably notice 15 or more of the 1sts and 2nds players with this attitude.

With three teams in the top five of their grades, only five or six out of 22 were at training last Tuesday. The rest of the players must be pretty confident of retaining their place. (May I point out some may have had legitimate excuses for not turning up. Did they let anyone know?)

With a club that has grown as much, and as strong, as ours has over the last four years, it is a pretty appalling effort. How much do you value your place in the side. Do you think "Oh, no worries, I'll be in the 1sts or the 2nds. If I get dropped, bad luck"?

Remember, the Club is bigger than the individual. Also remember, no-one is indispensable. Just try putting your hand in a bucket of water, then take it out. There may be a few ripples, but the space where your hand was has been replaced by the water. There are plenty of players who would jump at the opportunity to take your place. Go and ask some of the thirds.

It is about time we all had a good look at ourselves, and instead of thinking of ourselves, think of the club, and make it even stronger. Isn't it funny, these guys are also the first to whinge when they want something done. Do they get up off their backside and do something about it? No, it is always left to the same few.

When did we last win a flag?

## ODE TO A WINNING JUNIOR SIDE

*Isaac's pounding down like a machine,  
Largie's taking divots from the seam,  
Knight's retiring hurt,  
Comes back to bite the dirt,  
And Mazzio's taking catches like a dream.  
C'mon Negies, C'mon, C'mon,  
C'mon Negies, C'mon.*

*Batsman's got to have a go,  
Souter's clean bowled, what a blow!  
Howard fields at point,  
John Earle rolls himself a joint,  
And Haley thinks the ump's a so-and-so,  
C'mon Negies, C'mon, C'mon,  
C'mon Negies, C'mon.*

*Nigel leads his team on like a star,  
Steve Earle's making faces at his pa,  
Bacon throws quite long,  
We take more wickets for a song,  
And when we've won it's free drinks at the bar,  
C'mon Negies, C'mon, C'mon,  
C'mon Negies, C'mon.*

*We've got our first win, Bewdy Newk,  
All agree it's not a fluke,  
We'll go on winning more  
And knock on the finals door,  
Nigel's dad is still calling 'have a bloody look'  
C'mon Negies, C'mon, C'mon,  
C'mon Negies, C'mon.*

— BYSTANDER

## 1st XI REPORT

### Round 3 Chelt. C of C v C.S.

Everything went wrong for us in this game. We got a bad start in both batting and bowling departments. Only a sturdy partnership between Rob David and Warren Meredith, followed by a whirlwind 50 from Laurie Hevey saved us from complete humiliation. However, in fairness to ourselves, quite a few umpiring decisions at vital stages could have changed the complexion of the game.

Cheltenham C. of C. 216 (L.Hevey 3/31) def. Carnegie South 192 (L.Hevey 50 n.o R.David 37, W.Meredith 28).

### Round 4 C.S. v Cluden

It was good to be back on the winning list against Cluden. After a strong start by the opposition (2/107 at one stage) we dismissed them for a reasonable score through the agency of Alan Johanson. We began badly again with the bat but Daryl Pitman, John Earle, Warren Meredith and Laurie Hevey consolidated and we moved on to a valuable win.

Carnegie South 177 (D.Pitman 43, L.Hevey 35, W.Meredith 20) def. Cluden 159 (A.Johanson 7/62).

## 2nd XI REPORT

### Round 3 C.S. v Cheltenham C of C

On the first day, everyone fielded well under very hot conditions to restrict the scoring of Cheltenham C of C to only 122 in 3½ hours. Steve Large was again in devastating form and was well supported by the other bowlers.

Warren Finnis and Martin Balsarini showed great determination by grafting their way to what should have been a winning start for the side. Unfortunately, Mark Meredith was the only other batsman to show any application, and the efforts of these players was completely wasted.

This is the second time this season where individual performances have kept us in the game and it is time the entire side contributed.

Cheltenham C of C 122 (S.Large 5/22) def. Carn Sth. 106 (M.Meredith 30, M.Balsarini 19, W.Finnis 18).

### Round 4 Bentleigh Uniting v C.S.

For the first time this season we had a complete team effort throughout the match and this resulted in a very comfortable first innings win. All the batsmen showed concentration, with particularly good innings from Martin Balsarini, Peter Hess and, yet again, Mark Meredith.

After a couple of early wickets, Bentleigh Uniting settled down and at tea looked dangerous at 4/105. However, Russ Whyte led the breakthrough with Peter Hess and Tony Barry holding some excellent catches to dismiss the last six batsmen for only 13 runs.

Carnegie South 8/184 def. Bentleigh Uniting 118.

## 3rd XI REPORT

### Round 3 C.S. v Nth. Caul./G'huntly

Let's face it, in this game (their 50th), the Third eleven crushed their mediocre opposition with consummate ease. Some may say that we were carried to victory by several players who should be playing in higher grades, but the facts do not bear witness to this. After all, Glenn Corke only played one day, Dave Mills could only bowl one over due to injury, Russ Whyte failed to take a wicket in the second innings and so on. Rather, it was the improved performances of the other members of the team that allowed us to exert sustained pressure on our opponents. Eleven players contributed and that's why our success was so deserving, and so satisfying.

Carn. Sth. 212 (G.Corke 71, D.Mills 38, G.Callanan 25) def. North Caulfield-Glenhuntly 45 (R.Whyte 7/22) and 5/117 (G.Callanan 3/20).

### Round 4 St.Peters v C.S.

The third eleven proved themselves under pressure in this game and their first outright victory in more than two seasons catapulted them into the top four. Our strength obviously lies in our bowling and fielding but our batting *must* improve if we are to continue on our winning way. Importantly, it seems that the composition of the team is now more settled and this will no doubt enable us to combine effectively and cement our place on the ladder.

Carnegie South 8/141 dec. (R.Hess 48 n.o., A.Burridge 20 n.o., G.Semmens 19) and 4/38 (J.Hirth 17 n.o.) def. St. Peters 99 (A.Burridge 4/23, J.Hirth 4/28) and 76 (J.Hirth 6/29, A.Burridge 3/16).

Has 'Cuddles' Callanan told you of his four snappy catches for the Thirds in round 3? If he hasn't, then Russ Whyte surely will, because all four dismissals were off his bowling!

On the way to his highest score for the club, 71 in Round 3, Glenn Corke gave only one chance, but it was a difficult one. He slashed at the ball so hard it flew to first slip with bullet-like speed — and broke the nose of the poor unfortunate who tried to catch it!

## 4th XI REPORT

### Round 3 Nth.Caul.G'huntly v C.S.

We bowled first and bundled North Caulfield/Glenhuntly out for 84, with the wickets going to Peter Moait (3/25), Gary Schwab (3/33) and David White (1/8). We also saw some very good bowling by Under 14 captain Nigel Schreenan, who bowled five overs for two maidens and only three runs. The fielding was the best we've seen all season with catches to Bruce Nilsson (3), Ian McIntosh (2), Peter Langdon and Bill Bacon, 1 each.

After a good start from Peter Moait and John Foster, the first wicket falling at 36, we went on to make 113. Bill Bacon, with 19, and Nigel Schreenan, 12, also batted well. The new players, Bill Bacon, Bruce Nilsson and Nigel Schreenan all put in very good games. Nigel got his first senior wicket in the second innings.

## Junior Report

You beauty! In only their fourth ever game, the boys scored an outright win over Highett West last week. Well done fellas, keep up the good work. Congratulations to Ron Fauvel and his helpers — the junior committee, parents and senior players.

### Round 3 Highett v C.S.

Highett 126 (N.Schreenan 5/51, B.Large 3/10) def. Carnegie South 98 (J.Hale 41, D.Isaacs 18).

### Round 4 C.S. V Highett West

Carnegie South 9/69 dec. (B.Large 27) and 5/31 def. Highett West 62 (N.Schreenan 6/16, D.Isaacs 4/33) and 37 (N.Schreenan 4/15, D.Isaacs 5/12).

Congratulations are in order for Sally Allsop and Garry Semmens, who announced their engagement on November 10. We wish them all the very best for the future.

Following a recent players' meeting, the suggestion of appointing a club recruiting officer has been looked into and an announcement is expected soon. The subjects of helmets, coaching panel, and practice wickets are also being examined and we should know more after Christmas.

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The committee would like to wish all members and supporters a very merry Christmas and a happy, successful New Year. And please drive sensibly over the holiday period.

by Rob Hess

## IF THE CAP FITS — WEAR IT

By Daryl Pitman

*They say you should never write when you're angry as you may regret it later.*

*Well, it's now Tuesday night and I'm seething, and whether I'll ever regret it, which I doubt, I think something should be said.*

*Knowing the hard work, sweat and frustrations that have gone into the building of this club, for the sake of the hard-working few, I've never felt so insulted, deflated and angry as I do at this moment.*

*For the first time this season, I had in my car the Thirds gear which could have been used for practice on Tuesday night. However, also for the first time this season, I was held up at work and didn't arrive until after 6 p.m., only to be informed that quite a few members had gone home or to the pub because there was no gear for them. Unfortunately, this also happened on the 3rds and 4ths pitch the week before, but they showed some initiative and used the opportunity to practice their fielding and didn't carry on like spoilt little boys. It's a pity that the players who were whinging about "the club going to the pack" didn't get off their behind and do something about it."*

*They could have had fielding practice, cleaned out the rooms and toilets or coached some of the less experienced players or any of a dozen things.*

*But No! Obviously, they're not clubmen. Who do they think does clean out the rooms? How do they think the showers are always clean for them to shower after a game? That's about it — they just don't think! As long as everything is done for them, they're reasonably happy (although they'll always find something to moan about). "She's right mate, I'll let Jo-Blow do all the work and then talk behind his back and complain when everything doesn't suit me". Just like a spoilt brat!*

*I have already mentioned in this newsletter that there is a cleaning roster on the notice board. However, every Saturday night I see Lyn Earle cleaning the rooms out. Why don't you blokes who are so quick to point out deficiencies in the system ever lend a hand? Have you ever given a thought to how many hours John and Lyn Earle put in to run the canteen for your convenience, how many hours the social committee puts in arranging top-class functions half of you don't even bother attending, how many hours Rob Hess spends keeping records and statistics*

*for your interest, how many hours Dave Atkinson puts in going to meetings, making signs and ladders, checking, sorting and repairing equipment, how many hours John Hirth spends keeping the books balanced and our accounts in order, how many hours Ron Fauvel and his junior helpers spend with the boys, or how many hours I spend writing and setting this newsletter half of you don't even read? And you poor neglected souls are upset because the gear wasn't there on time! My heart bleeds profusely for you. Even this article will be wasted on the freeloaders who never give anything in return.*

*It is a sad fact of life that in every organisation, there are always the egotrippers who don't really care a hoot about their group or their "mates". They're in it for themselves. The more plaudits they get, the less they give in return.*

*Last Tuesday I watched the 3rds and 4ths of this club practice enthusiastically, thoroughly enjoying their cricket and their cold beer afterwards. I hope the selfish egotists who left them for dead for the all-important pub, simply because they couldn't improvise for an hour, aren't craving of winning any Best Clubman awards. They wouldn't even know the meaning of the word!*

*It would be interesting to know just how many of last Tuesday's whingers have even paid their subs! I'm very tempted to publish their names and expose them for the hypocrites they are.*

*Personally, I would gladly go back to a club with only two teams of clubmen rather than put up with "bitching" from people who never do a tap. After Tuesday, I, like a few others, have thought very seriously about resigning what responsibility I have in the club and leaving it to the "jaw bones" to make all the improvements they reckon should be made. However, being practical, I realize I'd be waiting a long time to see any action from that lot.*

*We have a great club and I am proud to be involved with a lot of genuine people, and for their sake, it's worth a few kicks. However, too many childish actions like last Tuesday will take their toll and the whingers and knockers will have their way, God forbid.*

*Incidentally, anyone willing to look after a set of gear for practice or become Club Secretary, I'd love to hear from you.*

The season is still young but, as a committeeperson and selector, I believe that the Fourth eleven has already achieved great gains in a number of areas. This year the club has a genuine fourth eleven and not a mere collection of players that somehow form themselves into a team on a Saturday afternoon.

The reasons for this can be stated very clearly. Firstly, the fourths are keen to practice. Attendance figures show that our lower graded teams are always well represented at practice. Secondly, a junior team has given our K Grade side a solid base to work from. Promising youngsters are being given the chance to show their ability in open age cricket and this move will pay off, with the dividends to be seen in later years. Thirdly, after years in limbo, the fourth eleven are beginning to realise that they can perform. Already this season they have batted out a whole day, routed teams for low scores and fielded impressively. Hence, now there are not just one or two players vying for promotion to higher grades, but several cricketers of outstanding ability who can and will strengthen the Third eleven.

The fourths are one side that have responded positively to the coach's methods this season. The leftovers no longer, they will undoubtedly continue to improve. Why? I believe it is because they want to improve and are determined to do so, and isn't this an example that we all would do well to follow?

## WHICH ARE YOU?

*Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed,  
Or are you just contented if your name is on the list?*

*Do you attend each meeting and mingle with the flock,  
Or do you stay apart to criticise and knock?*

*Do you ever take an active part to help and work along,  
Or are you just satisfied to be the kind that just belongs?*

*Do you want this club, your club, to get to number one,  
Or when there's only work to do, do you turn and run?*

*Do you push the cause along and make things really tick,  
Or leave the work to others and talk about the clique?*

*Think it over member — you know right from wrong,  
Are you an active member or do you just belong?*

This question must be answered!  
What did Penguin really do on his cruise?

Is he really forgetful or is he just not saying?