NORTH BLACKBURN METHODIST CRIC. T CLUB

# OFFICE BEARERS PRESIDENT

Ken Meadows

VICE PRESIDENT: Michael Hill SECRETARY: Richard Stone

Kevin Miller

COMMITTEE: Greg Stone, Stuart Hall, Steven Smith SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Stuart Hall, David Oswin

Tike to congratulate the Club's players on providing NBMCC with yet another first - 5 teams in the finals. The fact that only the Under 14s managed to actually take out the premiership is a little disappointing, however after an enjoyable season's cricket, just to participate in a finals series comes as a welcome bonus.

The Under 14s in particular had another great seasonfor the second successive year they came through undef-

eated Champions.

Our 3rd.XI experiment provided some teething problems this season, but things eventually settled down and the fact that the boys were only narrowly defeated in the Grand Final says a lot for everyone who participated in their achievement.

This year, thankfully, the Club is on much firmer footing financially than it has been for some time. Thanks should go to the Social Committee, our generous supporters (particularly in regard to the Under 14s), and of course the players for supporting our various social functions and for tolerating our increases in subscriptions.

Over the past season the Club has grown and developed considerably, and at present we have the necessary prerequisites for many more years of successful cricket.

Richard Stone

'A' GRADE REPOIT Season 1977/78 saw our club again field a team in the 'A'Grade of the ESCCA - this being our third year. Again, like last season, we reached the Semi-Finals, only to be beaten by a few runs. On reflection, perhaps every player should try to improve his approach to each game next season, and also to practice sessions.

Two new regular faces made the tean this year; Chris Byrne and Carey Meadows. Both of these players contributed to the overall strength of the team, and it is confidently predicted that this will increase in future seasons. It is worth noting that both these boys have 'graduated' from

the lower grades.

Now about the individuals:

Chris Byrne - Whilst being a little innacurate at times, (perhaps this contributed to the surprise element) Chris obtained not only the most wickets, but also topped the bowling averages. Although Chris' forté was bowling, his contribution to several last wicket batting partnerships will be long remembered. Also, Chris was the only member of the team not to take a catch this season.

Carey Readows - After several very good hands in the 2nd.XI, Carey found his way into the 'A'Grade team, and although initially he found the bowling quite a bit more accurate, he steadily developed his natural batting ability and finished the year with a magnificent contribution of 43 in the great Semi-Final recovery. If Carey continues to develop, (he is only 18) he is sure to enjoy many big scores in the future.

Tony Chanter - Tony was our regular opening batsman and bowler and contributed well in both roles. Unfortunately, Tony did not have the support of another regular opening batsman, and this of course put extra pressure on him. (Perhaps Ron Blake might help next season.) Tony's best innings was his 90x against Hartwell, when he battled all the elements for more than 70 overs. Tony is a great trier and team man, and is an example to others.

John Tamblyn - John's figures clearly show his value as an allrounder this season. Eight individual scores between 20 and 77 gave him a total of 307 runs, whilst his 108 overs netted him 26 wickets. John always looks good, but seldom goes on with it - still, they say that the first 20 runs are always the hardest to get.

Trevor Baxter - After a hesitant start to the season, is he pleving or isn't he? - Trevor contributed a useful 86 runs. His keeness in the field probably saved as many more.

Steven Smith - A valuable, if inconsistent, middleorder batsman. Steven left it until the last match of
the season to show us his <u>true</u> form(when he concentrates)
by scoring 111x - one of two centuries scored for our
team this season. Steven also took some very fine slip
catches (who said he was slow). In fact he took a total
of 18 catches; by far the most by any fieldsman apart
from the keeper. Stevens bowling? Great potential, but
the goods aren't being produced.

Stuart Hall - Our wicket keeper, and a very good one too. 25 catches is in itself a very worthwhile effort. With Stuart behind the stumps, only 47 byes were recorded. (19 in the first match). Also, Stuart's 149 runs were a valuable contribution, many of which came in unforgettable

last wicket stands - will Fergy ever forget?

Ted Walsh - Another 'gutsy' player who reveals his best when the chips are down. In the Semi-final Ted went in with the score at 5 for 20. He left (for a wedding) when it was 8 for 204, having contributed a magnificent 103. Most of Ted's wickets were taken when we really needed them too. His excellent cover fielding must have saved over a hundred runs during the season.

Philip Chapman - Phil gave the team by far his best season yet; while Phil was at the crease you were sure of getting runs. He proved a very hard batsman for bowlers because he can carve and place the ball wherever he wishes. Six scores between 27 and 47 is a measure of

his consistency.

David Oswin - (known as Ossie) He played the first 7 games with us but unfortunately was never able to show his true worth with the bat. Ossie is a great clubman, and it is hoped that he stays with us for many seasons.

Trevor Tombs - We all know what Trevor can do when he is batting - but we only saw him do it once during the season, with a powerful 85 against Koonung. Trevor also bowled the most overs for 21 wickets (and many close shaves) He was a valued member of the team and a great assistant as Vice Captain.

Michael Walsh and Neil Johnston deserve thanks for helping the team out when we most needed them.

Russell Davison

(Captain)

'C1' REPORT For the third year in succession, the 2nd.XI reached the finals. The lack of consistency in the batting order seemed to be the only thing that prevented NBMCC from taking the Premiership again. A strong bowlin attack, so often without support from the batsmen, carried the the team to victory on many occasions. When the fielding was good, it was very good, but when it was bad..... In one innings, six catches went down; needless to say, that particular game went the other way.

Vice-captain Edward Irons completed yet another outstanding seasor with the ball, capturing 46 wickets, to easilt take out the team championship. Ed's enthusiasm, tirelessness and dedication provided a continual example to the team throughout the season, and his absence in future years will be sorely felt. Opening bowlers of Ed's calibre are not easy to find. On three occasions before Christmas Ed six or more wickets in an innings, including 7/21 against Canterbury Mont Albert. A fearless short leg fieldsman, Ed's batting could be best described as consistent.

Michael will put his head down and scored over 400 runs to win the Batting Award this year. The highlight of Michael's season was his 103 against Blackburn Baps, an innings that included several sixers off the famous Geoff Lester. In the last round Michael collected 91 runs to guide the team to victory. In the field, Mike could always be depended on to make some fine saves in the gully region. His boyling was again kept in reserve.

First year player, Robby Walsh proved himself a valuable accuisition to the Club as a natural allrounder. Rob's left arm seamers often slowed the scoring rate, and his ability to spot a batsman's weakness earned him 17 wkts. His accuracy throughout a long spell in the Semi Final was typical of Rob's form with the ball. Rob top scored in the first two matches, but from then on was not always in a position to show his true potential with the bat, nevertheless, he was the team's third highest rungetter.

Michael Lalsh completed a few good innings this season, but failed to regain his excellent form of 76/77. His 54 against Camterwell SA provided a glimpse of the style we know he is capable of. Michael's bowling however, was excellent. Although not always given the new ball, Wal bowled tightly, and moved the ball around enough to take 19 wickets. (Including 6/9 against Summerhill Rd.)

Poor fielding let Wal down many times, forcing him to take his own catches, such as the amazing one hander from a Shanahan rocket. It had to be seen to be believed.

Richard Stone, by his own standards had a fairly lean season, scoring 322 runs. Dick was at his best against Blackburn Nth. Baps (53), Barnys (42) and All Saints (44) but failed to score consistently throughout the season. As a Captain, Dick was conscientious, and open to suggestions from the team (sometimes). And who will ever forget his match winning over against BlackyBaps? Dick's bowling picked up as matches went by, and he bowled his second best over ever, during the SemiFinal.

Edwin Earl came to the Club this season with the reputation of being an allrounder, (he said he had once made a century), but established himself as a bowler of rather violent character. Although often displaying more ferocity than accuracy, Ed managed to dismiss 17 opposition batsmon. Particularly memorable were his debut against Deepdene, (4 41) and his inspired spell in the SemiFinal. There need be no mention of Peter Shanahan. Ed failed to find consistent form with the bat, but he promises to make a lot more runs in 78/79.

Rob Hands has developed a reputation of performing only when the pressure is on. His 44 against his old team, and his determined innings against Wyclif were typical of his sensible approach to batting. Again, with the ball, Rob got us out of some tight spots this season. His 5/32 on a rain affected wicket against Blacky Baps and a further 5 wickets against St. Barnabas stand out particularly. Rob's ability to vary his pace and direction when required gained him 16 wickets for the season. Other points in his favour are his more than capable fielding, and his strong team spirit.

Neil Johnston joined the Club from Blackburn CC half way through the season, and in his first five games displayed varying talents as a batsman, fieldsman, wicketkeeper and 8th change bowler. Neil's timely innings of 43 (it might have been 143 had all those cut shots made contact) vs. Hartwell was only overshadowed by his 3/10 against the free scoring All Saints. As a keeper, Neil proved the most consistent of the five tried this season.

Greg Bowman made yet another comeback, and began the season well with a couple of steady innings as wickets tumbled around him. Unfortunately, Greg was unable to complete a full season due to various off field committments.

He did however, play in the SemiFinal where he was sent in to bat late on the first day as a night watchman, and saw out the opening overs in the fading light as the regular opener took it easy. A good fieldsman (except for a few blind spots), a good team men, and until he went into the business world, a regular at practice sessions.

David Oswin only played four games with the seconds, but made a name for himself as a hard hitting batsman and fairly excitable member of the team. Ossie took great delight in disorganising the bowling ranks of the Salvation Army - 47 against Box Hill and 69 against Camberwell. The latter innings included a sixer off Kingsley Webb that landed in Iris Crt. During the same match, Ossie took a catch, Another good team man - and thanks for the drinks Os.

Rod Clarle holds the distinction of being the only left handed batsman on our Senior list. Once again, Rod looked as though he could put together a good, hard hit innings, but his whirlwind 29 against a frustrated Blacky Baps attack was the closest he got. Rod's enthusiasm in the field was an example to the team - and how about that day against Box Hill Salvos when hod followed up a fine running overhead catch by soon after scattering the stumps from side-on to effect a run out.

Paul Bowden once again started the season as wicketkeeper, and in that role took several excellent catches - frequently frightening the bowler by appearing to move the opposite way to the ball. Later, as a close to the wicket fieldsman, Paul showed a fearless temperament which few in the team could match His batting remains promising.

We were indeed sorry to lose Carey Meadows after only three matches, but were pleased at his success in the firsts. Carey's 79 against Black: Baps must surely rank as one of the best 2nd. XI innings, the Club's history. Pretty good for a Sub.

Mark Droscher Played three matches as our wicketkeeper and put in a fine effort. He was also a courageous nightwatcman. Frank Caldwell took two great catches and provided the team

with a valuable, sensible innings against Blacky Nth. Baps. Glen Weatherley, Ross Boucher, David Payne, Trevor Baxter and Stephen Chapman also made guest appearances. Special thanks must go to Robby Walsh for scoring his guts out.

Greg Stone.

About the author: Greg Stone, an 'A' Grade reject, had a fairly quiet season as a frustrated allrounder. As an opening batsman he saved his best innings for the SemiFin 1, which

with skilful placement and smart running between wickets, he caused Barry Caithness much concern. Greg's short spells as an off-spinner almost always resulted in at least one wicket. As a slip fieldsman, the big question still remains Can Greg only catch with one hand?

'D2' REPORT Five players from the Club's 1976/77 Under 16 team formed the nucleus of this year's 3rdXI, the remainder comprising an assortment of friends, accomplices and Juniors. They began the year in great form with an outright victory over Summerhill Rd., who could only manage 34 (16 Extras) and 74. The good form continued almost throughout the season and the boys were only defeated twice with one tie. If there had been the usual 3 day GrandFinal this year, there seems little doubt that we would have pulled off the flag.

After some experimentation, it was decided to appoint Mark Barrett as a permanent Captain; and although Mark didn't always have the easiest job in the Club, he acquitted himself well. His overall performance with the bat did not reveal his true potential, but in a couple of timely innings he produced some good form. Mark made the transition from wicket keeper to gully fieldsman with ease.

The batting was usually opened by Pin and Humpty. Sorry. Weatherley and Brodtmann. These two produced some fine performances, both together and individually. Glenn scored his maiden century in only his second Senior game. After that his batting was not always consistent, but in both matches against St. Marks he scored well - perhaps having his favourite French teacher behind the stumps gave him extra incentive. Glenn's bowling was steady rather than aggressive, but in the wake of the new ball bowlers, his different pace confused the batsman 24 times.

15 year old David Brodtmann was the real success story with the bat this year. David is a solid batsman (in more ways than one) whose innings were characterised by an effective blend of defense and aggression. In spite of his red hair, David showed an excellent temparament at the crease (coming away from the crease was a different natter) and this enabled him to score consistently enough to finish with over 500 runs, including a fine 97 against Deepdene.

The opening combination gave the team some excellent starts this year, twice reaching a century partnership.

This year's team champion was Brad Liddle; a title he clearly deserved. Beginning the season essentially as a bowler, Brad gradually moved into gear with the bat, and by the end of the season had developed into a true allrounder. His last five hands included scores of 77,62,90 and 67. The 90 in the Semi was a particularly timely innings. Brad wasn't one to waste time at the crease - his 3 sixers in 4 balls against St. Marks is evidence of that. Most of Brad's 47 wickets came prior to Christmas and included performances of 5/9 and 5/13. His fielding wasn't too bad either.

Mark Droscher was the team's keeper for most of the season, and displayed a lot of talent in picking up nearly 20 catches. Mark's greatest attribute as a keeper is his willingness to throw himself at the ball, and some of his saves to wide balls were a match for any of Packer's backstops. Mark's batting reached a peak during the SemiFinal, when he scored an excellent 40 under great pressure, in a 115 run partnership with Brad.

The last of the group of 76/77 U/16s to graduate into the 3rds was Stephen Down. As a batsman, Steve never really got going, but in the Semi had loo produced a valuable innings when it was most needed. As a bowler, Steve showed he has much potential, and with more experience his bowling will prove a headache for many batsman. By hanging around the mideon mideoff area this year Steve picked up a bundle of catches.

Craig Rowbotham, though still under 16, emerged as the teams most effective bowler alongside Brad. Throughout the season his bowling was accurate and awkward (not a bad combination) and Jraig finished the year with 34 wickets. His performance during the Grand Final can only be described as amazing. 18 overs unchanged in the first innings for 7/57. 13 overs in the 2nd innings for 5/15. Craig's batting is best forgotten except for the last round against Summerhill, when he and Fod Towers added 26 runs for the last wicket. Unfortunately, Craig got himself out when the scores were tied. What a clown!

Of the new planers this season, perhaps the most impressive was Tix (alias Richard Ludekens). It was Richard's first season of cricket and between October and March he seemed to learn a lot about the game. His batting developed into a subtle blend of swisho and block which netted him a career best of 28 and 33 against Deepdene, where he delighted in performing his favourite shot - high over the bowler's head. Tix fielding was one of the highlights of the season. His overhead catch off Camberwell's skipper in the GrandFinal was little short of miraculous.

Owing to the pressure of his career, Barry Hodges was forced to come and go before Christmas, howver, Barry stayed around long enough to reveal a developing talent with the bat. His 17x in the first match was the highlight of Barry's season.

Stephen Buth also had an interrupted season, but in only 5 games managed to collect 15 wickets. His pace off the pitch proved quite a problem for opposition batsmen, and once Steve gains in confidence, he will be a very valuable bowler.

Of the U/16s who joined the 3rds temporarily during the season, David Payne stands out. Despite his size, (or lack of it) and his age (15) Dave stood up well to some of D2s maddest bowling and against St. Krks scored fine 69.

Camera-shy Rod Towers proved a useful addition to the team towards the end of the season. Not exactly the best dressed cricketer in the ESCCA, Rods talents lay elsewhere. His preference for the lofted hoik came in very handy during the second innings of the GrandFinal.

Frank Caldwell also proved a valuable asset to the team, in between race meetings, and he was certainly one of our best bets with the bat. Fortunately, the Final crical didn't interfere with Frank's Autumn Carnival committments, and he provided 3 excellent hands for us including a very useful 32 in the Semi.

Of the other U/16s to contribute to the thirds, Bob Miller stood out as a more than useful batsman. His defiant batting in the face of some mental fast bowling at Frog hollow was especially impressive.

Gary Rutherford came and went early in the season, but not without leaving a trail of bruises, broken stumps and Coke cans. He really earnt his preseason reputation as a destructive cricketer.

The catching was either crash-hot or downright sloppy this year, but most opposition batsmen who survived the first time, were generous enough to give our boys another chance soon after. There cannot be many teams in the association however, with such a strong array of throwing arms. Certainly not in D2.

There were many cameo roles in the 3rds this year, including David Oswin who ducked in for one match, Greg Bowman who took 3 catches in one day, Mark Pryn who has the rare distinction of being the only 12th man in the history of the Club to actually bowl during a match, Ross Boucher, Rod Clarke, Jamie Cooper, and even Paul Bowden.

All in all, the 3rds had a very successful year, and the fact that their average age was about 16 makes the boys' achievement even greater. Although our name won't go down in the record books as Premiers, the GrandFinal was undoubtedly a moral victory for us.

Richard Stone (in collaboration with Mark Barrett) UNDER 16 REFORT The Under 16s had yet another successful year, but for the third time in succession, having reached the Finals they failed to pull off the Premiership.

After eradicating a couple of problems early in the season, the team settled into a keen, co-operative combination. It would be fair to say that we were beaten by a better side in the Final, and all credit must go to our boys for dismissing a strong batting side relatively cheaply. In the Final, as throughout the season, our bowling and fielding could hardly be faulted. It was with the bat that we fell down. Concentration and application failed too many batsmen when it was most needed.

After experimenting with a few Captains, the selectors unanimously settled on Frank Caldwell as permanent leader. Frank was a popular choice, and did all that was asked of him. His coolness during the critical concluding stages of the SemiFinal was particularly admirable. Actually, Frank was under more pressure from his vice-captain Mark Pryn, than he ever was from opposition teams.

As in all great teams, our opening batting combination was built around two players of contrasting style and temperament. In fact, all that our two openers had in common were their scoop bats and their first names. Watching them walk to the wicket one couldn't help but think of famous combinations - Lawry and Stackpole, Morris and Barnes, Laurel and Hardy....

David Payne consistently revealed a tight defence in the face of great adversity. His 11 runs in the SemiFinal, in about 100 minutes did not exactly overflow with brilliant strokes, but it did reveal a Boycott like concentration.

David Brodtmann failed to reveal his true potential with the bat in the U/16s this year, preferring to save his big scores for the afternoon. He tells us however, that he really is better than his figures suggest.

Frank Caldwell looked quite at home coming in at number three, and except for a momentary lapse during the Semi, he regularly provided a Captain's example with his solid batting. Perhaps the best innings of the U/16 season was Frank's well compiled 58 against Trinity when he handled

the quicks and the spinners with equal assurance.

This year's surprise packet was undoubtedly Scott Rutherford. A few friendly words of advice early in the season seemed to work wonders with his batting. Always willing to get on with the game, Scott was often as destructive on the field as he was off it. His preference for the lofted drive did cause one or two problems however.

Mark Pryn continually proved the coaching manuals wrong. completely discounting Frank Tyson's theory that certain shots should be played with discretion, Prynny showed that the sweep shot can be played equally well to bouncers, yorkers, outswingers, leg-cutters, full tosses and even wides outside the off stump. Steven Smith predicts a great future for this boy.

Ross Boucher's form was rather disappointing this season. Promoted to opener for the first match on the strength of last season's performance, he didn't exactly confirm the selector's faith with a pair. After this howver, Ross didn't look back. He came to know the sound of shattered stumps so well that he didn't need to. Seriously though, Ross's concentration let him down too often this year, and next season can only be better.

In his first year with the U/16s, Bob Miller provided an encouraging performance showing a straight bat and a stead--iness which will come in handy next year if the APS will let him go. Bob's leg spinners remain a secret weapon.

Another candidate for recruit of the year was Rod Towers. Originally a no-holds-barred swish artist, Rod developed a mature attitude to batting which generally involved leaving the balls wide of the stumps and laying into the straight ones. This plan seemed to work well until spinners were brought on. Nevertheless, Rod provided some entertaining displays of power hitting.

David Hands employed a shrewd piece of PR work this season. Having clearly announced and demonstrated his suit--ability for the number 11 slot at preseason practice sessions, David then proceeded to bat in the matches with skill and assurance that caused everyone to remark on his

amazing improvement. Nice trick Dave.

Without a doubt, our most consistent batsman this year was Craig Rowbotham. With scores of 0,0,10,0,0,0 and 0, and a mighty average of nearly 12, Craig must join the immortals in the NBMCC Hall of Fame. His name can now be spoken with tho same assurance that one speaks with when referring to Col Kingham, Robby Redman and Eddy Fasola.

tophen Buth was another batsman who demonstrated an unorthodox technique, falling to his knee to execute not only the sweep shot. but also the coverdrive, square cut. leg glance, hook and even the backward defensive. The FrandFinal could have been Buthy's day, but he ran out of partners.

Last but not least was Phillip Shaw. Phil's talent as a nockey player showed through in his batting, but unfortun--ately he was never given a chance to make a dash up the

left wing and reveal his true potential.

The bowling this season was dominated by Craig Rowbotham. Betting the ball up off a good length or whipping in an awkward yorker, Craig caught many batsmen unawares. Along with his 5/3 against Blacky Rd., perhaps the best aspect of raig's boyling was the fact that the longer he bowled, the better he lowled. He is probably the first person to win the U/16 championship who could not by any stretch of the imagination, be called an allrounder.

Rod Towers and David Hands regularly provided support for Craig, with Stephen Buth providing extra firepower when he was available. Rods best was 5/11 against Blacky Baps, and Hendsy's highlight was undoubtedly his bowling of Trollope. Steve's 4/40 in the GrandFinal was a fine effort.

The spin department this year was in the safe hands of the skipper, and although Frank didn't need to bowl a great deal. he was always an effective variation.

In the field, the boys saved their most impressive displays until the finals. A running catch by Frank in the Semi, and a diving slips catch by Ross Boucher were highlights. The throwing and groundfielding was generally good, and behind the stumps, Broddy effected some very snappy stumpings from a distance of twenty feet. Unusual perhaps, but he did keep the batsmen on their toes.

This year has produced what should be the nucleus of a strong thirdai next season, as well as establishing the basis for a champion Under 16 team in 1978/79.

Richard Stone (Manager)

UNDER 14 REPORT The players, parents and friends of the "All Stars" are proud to announce that for the second successive year the Premiership was won after being undef--eated throughout the season in B Zone. Victory was richly deserved in the Grand Final, as that was the 23rd in which the boys were involved since October 1st 1977. Other games played were Interzone, InterAssociation and with Balwyn CC in the RM Hatch shield. A long and arduous season indeed, but in the GrandFinal the team displayed keeness and endeavour which impressed everyone, including the umpire, Ray Dyer, who stated that they were the best Junior team that he had ever seen.

David Medwin, Greg Clark and James Cooper gave consistent exhibitions of batting in the early games, and their efforts always paved the way for the hitters, Robert and Peter Burke, Martin Crist and Alan Kosky to pile on quick runs. With 9 bowlers available, the attack never flagged in pace or accuracy, and against Glen Iris, James Cooper's leg breaks mesmerised even the scorers, to record 6/3.

Round 6 vs. Blacky Sth. (Then leaders) on a heavy Koonung Park. First Day our boys made 6/130 (P. Burke 31x) Second Day, track fast - and thats all the visitors remembered, except the path back to the equipment bag. BSB allout 21. (P. Burke 8/9) and 40 (G. Van Vught 3/6). The next day, Sunday 18/12/77 on turf at Gordon Barnard, against a Balwyn team of hand picked players from everywhere. The "All Stars" reached their highest pinnacle. In a 30 over match batting first they made 108 (DMedwin 33, P. Burke 22). Balwyn in reply were held to 7/88 (P. Burke 3/9) A superb effort by every player.

Following good performances in earlier games 7 players were selected for the squad to represent Balwyn in the RM Hatch matches played on turf during January. A fine tribute by the Balwyn Club, highlighted by the presentation of trophies to Greg Clark (booling) and Joss (keeping)

February 78. With a washout against a top side in "AZone" and Kerrimuirs 'dead' performance in a one dayer, only determined efforts at practice rejuvenated the players for their preparation for the Finals. The Semi, against Wyclif,

(who provided the matting apparently on loan from the Walhalia Museum) provided many highlights. Robert Burke, 4/14 off 8 overs provided a brilliant attack to dampen the opposition's total to a lowly 80 runs on the Frog Hollow Steppe. In reply, an opening stand of 37 against tight bowling was handy, but at 3/54 trouble loomed. Solid stone wall batting by Greg (32) and Joss (51 ret) settled the issue, followed by Peter's 47 (5 fours and a six). Thence to a team total of 188.

A vastly improved Kerrimuir contested the GrandFinal. Although a little shaky at 3/31, the first day closed with the score 5/219. D. Medwin 54, Joss 50 and the Burkes 51 and

38 unconquered in a partnership of 85 in 22 minutes. Brilliant fielding by Steven Powell, Rob Burke and James Cooper assisted all bowlers to finish off Kerrimuir for 121 (Geoff Van Vught 4/17)

Some statistics are listed below, but only consistent team efforts produced such an amazing contribution to the Junior section of the LSCCA for 1977/78. New team members Ross McDonald, Alex Petrovic, Geoff Van Vught and Michael Wagner added depth to the batting and good variation to an already established attack, led by Peter Burke who consistently bowled with great pace. All boys again showed their skills in their chosen fielding positions. James Cooper at point took at least a dozen brilliant catches; Steven Powell at mid off saved a score of runs, whilst Martin Crist's long throws from fine leg were breathcatching. Robert Burke, from his usual square leg to the gully for the Finals proved his brilliance again. Joss the keeper, finished up with 30 dismissals.

In conclusion, you are requested to note one vital factor responsible for the success of this team - unity. From the start; and now at present; and this will continue into the future. Nothing will change this.

Kevin Miller (Manager)

TWILIGHT REPORT The Twilight team ended a professional year only second (on percentage) after a disgraceful loss to a Secker-rate team. The loss was mainly due to a pseudo-Packer walkout of half the team, after Packer had organised a basketball match to clash with the official Twilight game. This left us with most of the other team as the fielding side, while a few of us stayers bowled. This game was also interrupted by ε stray neighbour who was sure the cricket was meant to finish at 8.00pm so everyone could take their dogs for walks on the sacred turf.

There were mary highlights despite this disappointing loss, and it is hard to imagine how the first losing Captain in two years must have felt after such a defeat. (For further informationaddress all correspondence to Mr. Michael Valsh, 5 Birkby St. Box Hill Nth.) However, the Captain on this night wished to remain anonymous MxWalsh.

The first match was hardly a contest. We bowled first and routed the opposition for 80 and had little trouble in making the total. Mc. Kenzie behind the stumps provided a beautiful display and showed what an amazing difference his giving up smoking hasmade to his health - he has put on another two stone. Ric and Sub painted their names on the

scoreboard with some handy runs.

The second match was billed as the Match of the Year; against Barnies. They batted and mainly due to some fine boling by the author they were all out for 95. We batted convincingly with the R. Stone - Hall opening stands beginning to establish. Johnny Suicide made a guest appearance, and looked almost fluent for 19 runs.

The next game saw the Big Oz making his debut as a Meths Captain. He played a marvellous innings and despite being hit on the head went out next ball. Brew got rid of Dick for 8 and then found himself retiring before his time. We piled on a mammoth 120 - Tamblyn again getting the runs. We all bowled within ourselves except for Smithy who really let them how it for 22 off 3 overs. Despite Slug's effort they only managed 104.

The next game was over before it begun. At 6/15 Trinity were not looking good and it wasn't long before they were all out for 51. Bowling honours were shared by R. Walsh, M. Walsh and C. Barnden. The Captain, 'Brains' Byrne batted well, as did Dick and the rest of the team. Unfortunately, the scores were a little blurry at the end, because the scorers had left halfway through our innings. One thing is for sure, Smith shifted his weight for two ever so feminine sixers.

The next game saw Baxter playing for the first time since going professional, and also the little master, Ed. Valsh making his debut. It was only a matter of time before this youngster was to be picked for the big time Twilight Gomp. They made 11 runs between them, but it wasn't the runs, it was just their presence in the team that helped us through. Special thanks must go to Byrney, who braved their fiery 8th. change bowler with a Packer-supplied crash helmet. He didn't get to the striking end, but it saved his wonderful hairstyle from being ruined.

In the second last game, the stage was set. W had to win to have a chance at the flag. We didn't make many; however, the Welsh International (Chanter) made a few before unselfishly running himself out after the bowler had dislodged his bails. (Ouch.) We fielded tightly and Tombs bowled amazingly in his debut with an all but new, old ball Ponguin (G. Stone) dispelled the rumours that these awkward birds can't fly with the greatest slips catch ever taken at deep cover. The last over was Byrney's, that ever popular puppet. With 9 runs to win he really let them have it. With one ball to go they needed 4 runs. Byrney bowled it down

the leg siuc; it was deflected to fine leg where Stan Magro threw himself on the ball and returned it widely. We had won by one run!

The last game proved to be the biggest farce in cricket history. First of all the opposing captain had thought Daylight Saving had finished, and had put his watch back an hour. Subsequently, the match was played out in darkness. Our Captain, Sub, had already started football training, when we told him he had to toss. He quickly changed into Twilight attire, and led the team onto the ground. They only had 3 players, so we let them bat. After Macca threatened to lead a mutiny, Carey let him open the bowling and the pattern was set for a rather lax night in the field. They made 111 and we went into bat in already fading light. Ric and Brew led the batting honours, but Penguin was the star. Even when all the cars had their high-beams on, the light was still very appealable against. Penguin and Wal guided us through only to find the Premiership wasn't ours, and their efforts were in vain.

We had a very enjoyable season and we were unlucky to miss the flag. Special thanks must go to Fergy for not playing us this season, and also to Rob Walsh, who was of great assistance to me when bowling from the other end.

Stuart Hall (Player)

Editor's Note The winner of this years coverted Twilight Trophy is none other than young Stuart'Lion Brew Bags'Hall.

#### SUMMARY OF SEASON 1977/78

'A' GRADE Points: 49 Position: 4 Won: 7 Lost: 4 Drawn: 1
'C1' GRADE Points: 46 Position: 4 Won: 6 Lost: 6
'D2' GRADE Points: 62 Position: 2 Won: 9 Lost: 3
'U/16' GRADE loints; 50 Position: 2 Won: 8 Lost: 2
'U/14' GRADE loints: 58 Position: 1 Won: 9 Lost: TWILIGHT loints: 43 Position: 2 Won: 7 Lost: 1

#### ASSOCIATION GALES

Once again, NBICC contributed heavily to the various ESCCA association games this season. Most notable was Brew's Captaincy of the Under 21 team. Backing Brew up were Chris Byrne, Steven Smith, Tony Chanter, John Tamblyn, David Oswin, Carey Meadows etc. We provided many players for the U/16s interassociation games including Craig Rowbotham, Frank Caldwell, David Brodtmann & Dick who was manager.

## 1st XI (A GRADE) STATISTICS

	M / I /NO/HS/AGG/AVE	0 / M / R / W/AVE /C /RO	PTS
TAMBLYN, J.	12 /14/2 /77/307/25.58 1	08.6/11/474/26/18.23/2 / -	115
TOMBS, T.	12/15/1 /85/262/18.71	132/14/487/21/23.19/4/ -	98
SMITH, S.	12/14/2 /111x/344/28.67	50/3 /225/3 /75.00/18/1	93
CHANTER, A.	11/11/1 /90/227/22.70	95/12/400/17/23.53/4 /-	83
WALSH, E.	10/11/1 /103/300/30.00	61.6/10/193/10/19.30/3/ -	83
BYRNE, C.	12/10/4 /31 x/80/13.33	99.3/13/363/30/12.10/-/ 1	77
HALL, S.	12/10/2 /41/149/18.62	-/- / - /- / - /25/3	66
CHAPMAN, P.	11/14/1 /47x/294/22.62	6/1 /16 /- / - /5 /2	65
MEADOWS, C.	9/11/- /60 /205/18.64	6/- /27 /2 /13.50/8 /1	54
DAVISON, R.	12/11/2 /31 /106/11.78	10.1/1 /53 /3 /17.67/3/ -	30
OSWIN, D.	7/9 /4 /38x/92/18.40	6/- /47 /3 /15.67/1/ -	25
BAXTER, T.	8/9 /2 /49/86/12.29	3/- /16 /- / - /3/ -	20
WALSH, M.	2/1/-/0/0/ -	14/1 /55 /1 /55.00/-/ -	2
JOHNSTON, N.	2/1 /- /3/ 3 /3.00	2/- /14 /- / - /1/ -	1
110,000			

AWARDS John Tombs Memorial Trophy (Team Champion) JOHN TAMBLYN Most Determined Effort: E. WALSH Wicketkeeping: S. HALL

2nd. XI (C1)	STATISTICS.		
	M / I /NO/HS/AGG/AVE	0 / M / R / W/.VE / 70 /20	PΤ;
IRONS, E.	12/10/6 /12x/45/11.25		05
HILL, M.	12/14/2 /103/408/29.14	-/- /-/-/-	85
WALSH, R.	12/14/4 /56 /234/23.40	88.1/6 /3:3/17/19.29/5/-	85
WALSH, M.	9/12/3 /54 /197/21.88	112.3/24/396/19/20.85/6/-	83
STONE, R.	12/14/1 /58x/322/26.83	22.6/1 /156/6/26.00/6/-	76
HANDS, R.	10/10/-/44 /127/12.70	44/5 /183/16/11.43/4/1	62
STONE, G.	10/11/-/46 /183/16.63	27/- /188/8 /23.50/8/2	62
EARL, E.	7/8 /2/24 /70 /11.66	81.2/7 /352/17/20.70/3/-	51
MEADOWS, C.	3 /4 /-/79 /134/33.50	7/- /17 /1 /17.00/3/-	31
OSWIN, D.	4/4 /-/69 /146/36.50	3/- /20/ -/ - /1 /-	30
JOHNSTON, N.	6/5 /1/43 /63 /17.00	4/- /20 /3 /6.66/2/1	22
BOWMAN, G.	8/8 /3/22x/63 /12.60	4/1 /5 /1 /5.00 /1 /-	15
CLARKE, R.	6/6 /-/29 /35 /5.83	1/- /3 /- / - /5./1	13
BOWDEN, P.	8/7 /1/13 /23 /3.83	-/- /- /- / - /6 /-	10
CHAPMAN, S.	1/1 /-/17 /17 /17.00	-/- /- /- / - /2/2	7
BAXTER, T.	2/2 -/32 /34 /17.00	-/-/-/- /- /-/-	6
CALDWELL, F.	2/2 /-/20 /20 /10.00	-/-/-/ /2/-	6
DROSCHER, M.	3/3 /-/5 /5 /1.66	-/-/-/-/-/2/-	3
WEATHERLEY, G.	2/2 /-/1 /1 / .50	1/- /1 /-/ - /1 /-	1
BOUCHER, R.	1/1 /-/0 / 0/ -	-/- /- /- / - /- /-	_
PAYNE, D.	1/1 /-/0 / 0 / -	-/-/-/-/-/-	_

AWARDS Batting: M. HILL Bowling: E. IRONS Most Consistent: R. Walsh

## 3rd XI (D2) STATISTICS

	M / I /NO/HS/AGG/AVE	O / M / R / W/AVE / C/RO	PTS
LIDDLE, B.	12/17/- /90/486 /28.58	182.1/45/604/47/12.85/11/ -	202
WEATHERLEY, G.	10/15/1/100x/335/23.92	69.3/16/292/24/12.16/3 / 2	120
BRODTMANN, D.	11/15/1/97 /512/34.13	3/- /25 /1 /25.00 /6/2st.	112
ROWBOTHAM, C.	9/8 /3/16 /17 /3.40	117.4/26/423/34/12.44/1/ 1	73
BARRETT, M.	11/14/-/67/200/14.28	36/10/140/7/20.00/5/ 2	61
DOWN, S.	12/13/2/24/88 /8.00	47.5/8 /195/14/13.92/15/-	53
DROSCHER, M.	9/14/-/46/171/12.21	9/- /43 /1 /43.00/19/3	58
BUTH, S.	5/6 /1/7 /26 /5.20	34.1/5 /179/15/11.93/3 /1	39
LUDEKENS, R.	10/11/1/33/133/13.30	6/- /40 /1 /40.00/5 /-	33
PAYNE, D.	6/6 /3/69/141/47.00	1/-/10/-/ - /4/-	32
RUTHERFORD, G.	3/5 /-/20/ 33/6.60	28/3/ 71 /9 /7.88 /1 /-	25
CALDWELL, F.	5/7 /2/32/77 /15.40	4/2 /13 / 1 /13.00/5 /1	23
MILLER, R.	4/5 /4/30x/69/69.00	-/- /- /- / - /3 /-	16
TOWERS, R.	6/8 /2/22x/54 /9.00	4/1 /26 /- / - /4 /-	14
BOUCHER, R.	3/3 /-/18 /31 /10.33	1/- /9 /- / - /2 /1	9
HODGES, B.	4/4 /2/17x/43/ 21.50 3/3 /=/12 /15/ 5.00	6/1 /32/ 2 /16.00/3 /-	8 10
BO MAN, G.	1/-/-/-/-	-/-/ - / - / - /3 /-	3
CLERAL, R.	2/3 /-/2 /2 / 0.66	1/-/ 2 / 1 /2.00 /- /-	2

AWARDS Team Champion: B. LIDDLE Batting: D. BRODTMANN

Special Bowling Award: C. ROWBOTHAM (12 wkts. in Final)

Also played: D. OSVIN, J. COOPER.

# UNDER 16 STATISTICS

	I / NO/HS/AGG/AVE	0 / M / R / W/AVE /C /RO	PTS
ROWBOTHAM, C.	8/7 /-/ 10/ 10/ 1.42	86.5 /20/296/28/10.57/3/1	62
BRODTMANN, D.	8/10/-/48 /201/20.1	-/-/- /-/ - /6/2/2st.	53
CALDWELL, F.	8/10/-/58 /175/17.50	11.3/2 /43 /4 /10.75/4/ -	47
TOWERS, R.	7/8 /3/23 /70 /14.00	35/4 /142/11/12.90/3/ 1	40
RUTHERFORD, S.	7/9 /1/45 /183/22.87	-/-/- /-/ - /2/1	39
PAYNE, D.	8/10/2/27 /161/20.12	-/-/- /- /- /1/1	34
FARRELL, G.	3/4 /2/43 /92 /46.00	12/2 /62 /5 /12.40/1/ -	29
HANDS, D.	4/5 /4/16x/25 /25.00	33.2/6 /104/11/9.45 /1/ 1	28
BUTH, S.	4/5 /2/7 /22 /7.33	22/6 /78 /8 /9.75 /3/ -	23
PRYN, M.	8/10/1/35 /89 /9.88	-/-/- /-/ - /4/ -	21
DUGDALE, D.	3/3 /-/ 19/24 /8.00	21/5 /49 /6 /8.16 /1/ -	17
MILLER, R.	8/8 /2/12 /48 /8.00	-/-/-/-/-/2/-	11
BOUCHER, R.	8/10/-/12 /46 /4.60	2/1 /6 /2 /3.00 /2/ -	11
SHAW, P.	3/3 /1/1x / 1 / .50	-/-/- /-/ - /-/ -	- 0

AWARDS Team Champion: C.ROWBOTHAM Most Improved: S.RUTHERFORD
Best Team Man: F.CALDWELL

Bill Cuddon Shield: C. ROWBOTHAM

## UNDER 14 STATISTICS

	BATTING INN/NO/RUNS/AVE		BOWLING O'T/ RUT / RT/AVE
MEDWIN, D. MILLER, J. BURKE, P. COOPER, J. BURKE, R. VAN VUGHT, G. CLARK, G.	9/ 3 /318/53.0 9/ 6 /151/50.3 9/ 3 /156/26.0 9/ 1 /181/22.6 9/ 2 /151/21.6 8/ - /151/18.9 9/ 1 /133/16.6	VAN VUGHT, G. BURKE, P. COOPER, J. CLARK, G. BURKE, R.	40 / 66/15 /4.4 47.2 /109/21 /5.2 27 /57 /11 /5.2 52 /127/19 /6.7 42.3 /94 /10 /9.4 Pick: G.CLARK 3/12/77 P. BURKE 5/11/77

AWARDS: Team Champion: David Medwin - John Adlam Shield

Phil Chapman Award: Greg Clark (second time)

CINET THE THE TENENT TO STREET TO ST	rk (second time)
SEMI FINAL VS WYCLIF	
NBMCC 188 Defeated WYCLIF by 108	runs WYCLIF 80 & 1/20
Medwin 29 Clark 32 Cooper 5 Burke, R 1 Miller 51	Burke, P 1/16 Crist 1/3
Van Vught O Burke, P 47 Crist 5 Kosky O Powell O	Clark 2/20 Van Vught 1/19
Wagner Ox Extras 18	Burke, R 4/14 Cooper 0/3
GRAND FINAL vs KERRIMUIR Won by 98 runs	
NBMCC 5/219	KERRIMUIR 121
Medwin 54 Clark 9 Cooper 6 VanVught 2 Miller 50	Burke, P 2/25 Clark 0/34
Burke, R 51x Burke, P 38x Extras 9	VanVught 4/17 Burke, R 0/7
	Crist 1/12 Wagner 0/2
	Cooper 0/12

ST. SILAS 5/256 NBMCC 9/239 Chanter 0/33 Smith 0/27 Smith 21 Chanter 1 Davison 31 Tombs 1/28 Meadows 1/4 Tor.bs O Hall 8x Tamblyn 2 Walsh 103 Byrne 1/40 Baxt.r. 0/6 Byrne 9x Chapman 6 Tamblyn 1/67 Walsh 1/29 Baxter 0 Meadows 43 Extras 15 SEMI FINAL vs. CANTERBURY/MT. ALBERT Lost by 137 C1 GRADE CANT/M. A. 253 & 0/75 NBMCC 116 Irons 4/33 Hands 2/11 Stone, G 34 Walsh, M O Walsh.R 12 Walsh. M 1/60 Stone . R 1/28 Earl 2 Oswin 17 Bowman 1 Earl 0/49 Hill 19 Irons Ox Fands 12 Johnston 8 Extras 11 Walsh, R 2/52 Stone.R O D2 GRADE SEMI FINAL VS. KERRIMUIR Won by 98 runs KERRIMUIR 157 NBMCC 255 Liddle 4/45 Barrett 3 Brodtmann 8 Down 24 Weatherley 0 Payne 36 Rowbotham 5/42 Towers O Ludekens 6 Towers 0/5 Barrett 0/12 Liddle 90 Rowbotham Ox Jalawell 32 Weatherley 0/27 Extras 17 Droscher 40 GRAND I INAL VS. C'WELL UTG. Lost by27 runs NBMCC 83 & 7/153 dec. Brodtmann 8 Ludekens 10 Brodtmann 12 Payne 11x Caldwell 14x Weatherley 20 Caldwell 16 Weatherley / Towers 9 Liddle 1 Down 1 Liddle 67 Tot ers 4 Droscher 8 Droscher O Extras 22 Barrett 1 Roybotham 1x Barrett 8 Payne 0 Extras 13 Ludekens 3 CAMBERWELL LTJ. 110 Liddle 2/37 Liddle 1/15 Caldwell 0/1 Rowbotham 5/15 Down 0/1 Rowbotham 7/57 Barrett 0/1 Weatherley 1/4 Down 0/2 BLACKBURN BAPS. Under 16 SELI FINAL Won by 12 runs VS. NBMCC 152 & 1/36 BLACKY BAPS 140 Rowbotham 3/53 Payne 11 Pryn 17 Hands 7x Boucher 8 Brodtmann 38 Boucher 2 Shaw 0 Hands 16x Hands 4/37 Caldwell 4 Miller O Rowbotham O Miller 10x Towers 1/29 Rutherford 39 Towers 23 Extras 11 Extras 2 Caldwell 1/5 GRAND FINAL vs. BLACKY STP B'WOOD Lost by 32 NBLCC 106
Brodtmann 14 Payne 8 Caldwell 12 Rutherford 7 Hands 1/30 2 Pryn 12 Boucher & Miller 9 Towers 7 Hands 1 Towers 2/21 Rowbotham C Buth 6 Extras 22 Caldwell 0/8

SEMI LINAL VS. ST. SILAS

A GRADE

Lost by 17 runs

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT Firstly I would like to thank all who participated and helped to make this season's social activities a success.

This season saw a progressive dinner, two special efforts a car trial, the Parkmore Cake Shop night, and the introduction of soft drink selling at the Senior games. Special thanks must go to the Blackburn North Bowling Club who made it possible to raise funds for the Club while in turn contributing to their effort.

The Cakeshop night, despite the weather, was successful in bringing both Seniors and Juniors together; something which doesn't happen often enough. Hopefully, we will be able to organize comething eight

able to organise something similar next year.

Special thanks to Trevor and Diane Tombs for the use of their backyard for the post-cartrial Barbeque. The car trial saw the Club's funds increase by about \$45. The day was fine, the trial simple, and those who participated enjoyed it.

We look forward to an even more successful season in 1978/79; the first events for which have already been organised -

TRASH & TREASURE STALL at Croydon Market in late July.
Any saleable items, e.g. clothing, books, toys, appliances
etc. can be deposited with Stuart Hall 114 Springfield Rd.
NORTH BLACKBURN UNITING CHURCH FETE in September. We will
be manning the drinks, hot dogs and hamburger stand.

David Oswin.

THANKYOU DEPT. Thanks must go to everybody who supported the Club during 1977/78, but special thanks must be given to Mrs. Brodtmann for her scoring, during fair weather and foul; her drinks for the U/16s and D grade during the final and the use of her home. Thanks to Mr. Burke and other parents for helping with transport and general organisation of the U/14s. Thanks to Mr. S. Smith and Mr. C. Byrne for assisting with the U/16s, Mrs. Barrett and others who provided transport for the 3rds and Mrs. Lapthorne for printing our newsheet.

This years trophies were provided by Rite Signs & Lettering of Mitcham. Hoaths was our main source of equipment.

1977/78 CAN WE EVER FORGET .... Byrneys stock wicket taker the fiery full toss....the Village Green atmosphere of Black State ... . the Big O's big O in D grade ... . Michael Walsh's Marlon Brando T-shirt.... Penguin's coverdrive for 6 off Lester ... . Barry Hodges impersonating Richard Ludekens ... . Tony's thrilling 90 n.o. in 6 hours....Dick's attempted coverdrives ... . Brew's run out first ball against Burwood .. .. Greg Clark's all bowled hattrick vs Trinity ... Carey's essay after the A Grade team night ... . Ross Boucher's debut as Captain.... Ashburton U/16s sub - running out his team's best bat with a brilliant throw.... Smithy's handling of Bishen Eaker ... . Mike Hill's snappy gully catches ... . Chimp ... . (thanks Robby)....Peter Burke's 8/9 vs. Blacky Sth..... Glen Weatherley's ton.... Carey's monster sixer off Lester it was still going up when it came down ... Psycho Earl sucking Litchen right in.... Barry Hodges' full tosses.... Broddy's special effort at the Cake shop night .... tsk tsk .. .. Len F's encouragement in the Twilight games ... Grecian's stomach upset....Ossie generously allowing Gary Parker to score a ton....Downy's four catches vs Summerhill .... David 'supercat' Oswin.... Ed Iron's 6 over square leg vs Deepdene (having already made up his mind to block that ball The smallest legspinner in the world (Tailby) dismissing the biggest (Slug).... Norm 'the mouth' Hansen.... Broddy's painful blow at Frog Hollow ... . Wally's shout after the Barney's game.... Byrney's blue socks.... the Walsh's mate Creeky....Frank's superb running catch in the U/16 Semi.... Dave Makrides' sricket pants....Eu Irons' impossible catch off Mick Rimmer.... (without glasses)....Lester's ton in both innings - 116 & 0/108....Carey's footwork to give Wogg his first catch.... Peter Burke's hattrick vs. Doncaster - 3/0.... Geoff Van Vughts 3/0....Blacky Rds U/16 batting - A.O. 16....Craig's 5/3.... James Dean's cooperation in the field ... Brad Liddle's 4/1 against St. Marks.... D grades batting vs StMarks -3/214.... the accountants partnership vs Hartwell .... Col Curtis' umpiring ... . Peter Shanahan ... . Dick's catching ... . Rob Hands twisting his ankle.... Stan Magro's golden ducks.... Ed Irons' 6/10 vs Summerhill .... Wal's 6/9 vs. Summerhill .... Broddy's 113x in the first practice match... Byrney smoking at first slip....Jamie Cooper's 6/3 vs Glen Iris....Lester's abbreviated innings (thanks Brew) ... . poor old Fergy ... . Wal's popularity in the pool at Tombsies ... . Ed Earls hypnosis competition ... Chanter messing up the scorebook .... Johnno's superb bowling ... . C grades footy in the rain .... Burke Bros. batting in U/14 Final....Weatherley's blind spot in the Twilight .... the Captaincy that lost the Twilight ....