
MANLY-WARRINGAH DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

Founded 1878



96th ANNUAL REPORT

AND

BALANCE SHEET

SEASON 1973-1974



An Association of almost 75 years with the Club was brought to a close with the death of our Patron, Mr. G. W. A. Lowe, on 31st May last.

Elected as a member in 1903, Mr. Lowe had already served some two or three years as scorer, and it was not long before his outstanding talents as a player were recognised. He became a regular member of the First XI by the time he was nineteen and, indeed, after finishing second in the batting averages in his initial season (1909), he was to head the averages in four of the following five years; his last three scores before enlisting in World War I being 122, 72 not out, and 122 not out.

Gravely wounded, he was invalided home, with all prospects of a bright future in First Class Cricket an unattainable dream. While this may well have em-

bittered a lesser man, George Lowe shrugged off his disability, played whenever his health permitted, and devoted the remainder of his life to cricket administration and coaching. Remarkably, since he could not run in the conventional sense, he established in the 1930-31 season our present record aggregate, and highest individual score for Third Grade, and the figures of 937 and 210 not out stand to this day as the highest aggregate and highest score for any grade in the Club.

He was elected to the committee in 1920 and from there proceeded to become Hon. Assistant-Secretary in 1930, and successively became Hon. Secretary, Delegate to the N.S.W. Cricket Association, President, and at the time of his death our honoured Co-Patron.

In 1933 he was instrumental in establishing, in co-operation with the late Les Gwynne and James Randall, a Saturday morning coaching class for boys, and he continued as an active coach in spite of all handicaps for the next 30 years.

For more than 20 years Mr. Lowe undertook the coaching of country boys who are brought to Sydney each year by the Association. It was this activity, helping as it did, the development of so many State and Test players, that brought him Australia-wide acknowledgment for his coaching ability.

Recognition of a lifetime of his help to others came in 1969 when he was awarded the M.B.E. by the Queen "for services to sport, particularly cricket" — an award of which he was quietly proud, and which was a source of deepest satisfaction to all his friends.

Formidable though the list of his achievements may be, the continuing thread that ran through his whole career, and that which we will most remember was the courage and kindness of the man himself. In spite of pain and discomfort, he never gave other than a cheerful answer to an enquiry about his health and, indeed, was determined that his disabilities would not cause others to be inconvenienced. He spoke ill of no one, but rather, with gentle humour, sought their co-operation. He gave generously not only of his time but of his purse, and many a young cricketer has found himself the richer by a bat for some outstanding performance.

His achievements and his record of service will stand proudly while ever the Club exists, but sadly, with the passing of time, memories of the man must fade. If, then, some future member of the Club stops to wonder how George Lowe — the man who gave so much — stood in the eyes of his contemporaries, perhaps we should simply say of him, as Hamlet said of his father:

"He was a man — take him for all in all, I shall not look upon his

MANLY-WARRINGAH DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

NOTICE is hereby given that the NINETY-SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MANLY-WARRINGAH DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB will be held in the MANLY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ASSEMBLY HALL, BELGRAVE STREET, MANLY, on WEDNESDAY, 10th JULY, 1974, at 7.45 p.m.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

BUSINESS:

1. To receive the Ninety-Sixth Annual Report of the General Committee and the Honorary Treasurer's Balance Sheet.
2. To present Caps and Photographs to the players of the First Grade Premiership team.
3. To elect Office-Bearers and General Committee for the ensuing year.
4. To transact any other business that may be brought forward in conformity with the Club's Constitution.

ALEX ANDERSON, Honorary Secretary.
78 Woodland Street, Balgowlah 2093.

Please be kind enough to bring this report with you to the Annual Meeting. Only Financial Members will be eligible to vote.

MANLY-WARRINGAH DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

OFFICE BEARERS, 1973-74

Patrons:

The Mayor of Manly; President of Warringah Shire; G. W. Lowe, M.B.E.

President: J. F. Hodgson.

Senior Vice-Presidents:

L. P. Carter; M. Howell; S. G. Sismey; J. G. Stephenson; R. Woodfield.

Vice-Presidents:

The Aldermen of Manly Municipal Council; Councillors of Warringah Shire Council; Sir Robert Askin, M.L.A.; and Messrs. D. Allum; A. Anderson; L. Barnes; R. Beard; J. Blades; T. F. Brooks; L. A. Cameron; B. C. Cook; B. H. Couston; E. D. Darby, M.L.A.; D. Dessaix; T. S. Felton; H. Frazer; Dr. J. Garner; K. C. Gulliver; C. Harris; R. Harvey; C. K. Hayman; C. M. Hayman; H. F. Hayman; R. O. Healey, M.L.A.; W. Hoy; R. H. Kinsey; A. Lee; D. Macdonald; M. Miles; N. E. Morton; M. Murfin; M. Murray; F. Over; J. Packer; A. J. Peck; C. R. Philpott; D. Piper; E. Robinson; A. Rogers; D. S. Sainsbery; C. Searle; W. Simpson; N. Travers; P. A. Trim; A. W. Turner; J. Vallance; J. R. Veitch; A. E. A. Viney, M.L.A.; W. Weight.

Honorary Secretary: Alex Anderson

Honorary Treasurer: Peter H. Harvey

Hon. Assistant Secretary: Ken Nichol

Publicity Officer: Maurice Murray

Honorary Auditor: J. G. W. Vallance

Delegates to N.S.W.C.A.	J. F. Hodgson, Alex Anderson
Delegates to M.W.S.U.	K. Nichol, P. Stephenson
Delegates to M.W.C.A.	R. Holmes, M. Pawley
Delegates to C. & S. Assoc.	H. Frazer, N. Bouveng

General Committee:

R. Beard, K. Fitzpatrick, R. Holmes, I. Howell, B. Kinsey, M. Pawley,
T. P. Spencer, P. G. Stephenson, F. Turner.

Honorary Life Members:

T. F. Brooks; B. C. Cook; C. K. Hayman; C. M. Hayman; J. F. Hodgson;
W. Hoy; G. W. Lowe, M.B.E.; P. I. Philpott; C. Searle; L. A. Soman.

Deceased Honorary Life Members:

B. S. Adrian, C. B. Cochrane, G. M. Dunlop, L. W. Gwynne; C. M. Hayes, C. A. Lawrence, W. S. Mitchell, R. A. Oxlade, R. Pitt, J. A. Randall.

MANLY-WARRINGAH DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT — 1973-74

Gentlemen,

In presenting our 96th Annual Report and Balance Sheet, perhaps we may be forgiven for dwelling heavily on the "Belvedere Cup", being some seventeen years since we last had any such opportunity. We may also well ask if there has ever been such a tense, action-packed final as that provided this year by Manly-Warringah and Northern Districts. At one stage it appeared to be heading towards the shortest final ever, with Manly-Warringah reeling at 4 for 17, then 5 for 32 against the skilled onslaught of Bernard and Clews.

Fortunately for us, however, the hour found the man, and he whom fortune had deserted for much of the season — Ian Howell — found at last all the skill and tenacity that is his trademark, and with Peter Harvey blazing away in his usual cavalier fashion, the situation at lunch was so restored as to foster hopes for a score of 200 or more. However, the adjournment, as it was fated to do so in this epic, proved the batsmen's undoing, and apart from some spirited flashes from Mick Pawley and Paul Stephenson, the tail failed to wag, so that all Northern District needed on a plumb wicket was a mere 149 runs.

Such, however, was the determination of the home bowlers, and such the brilliance of the fielding that Northern District could only inch their way forward, and at that, against a steady loss of wickets. As hopes ebbed and flowed, David Sincock came close to turning the tide once again towards the Districts, but fell to the ever astonishing uncertainty of cricket, when he was hopelessly run-out — almost certainly due to the pressure of extreme tension.

Not the least cause of this tension was the tantalizing Mick Pawley, who for 31 overs alternately tempted and tested the beleaguered Northern District batsmen, so much so, that the last man in faced what must have seemed to him an enormous task — 23 runs more. They achieved a desperate six before Mick's deadly "arm ball" drove the last nail home.

On almost the last nail — for with some hours to play, and nothing to lose — Bernard and Clews once again unleashed a fierce and purposeful attack upon the home side. Force was met with force, however, by Phil Allum, Terry Lee and Graeme Beard, and the Northern District's memorable fight at last ran out of time.

It was in all respects a great final — enthralling the not-so-knowledgeable, and leaving stunned and weak all who have experienced the traumas that go hand in hand with a close finish to any match, let alone a final.

Of those who participated, Terry Lee, Barry Rothwell and Umpire Tom Brooks were members of the last victorious Manly-Warringah side seventeen years before — and in passing, what a tribute to cricket umpires that the appointment of Tom, an ex-player and a Life Member of the home club, should be both unquestioned and, indeed, expected.

In all modesty, Mick Pawley's own report on First Grade overlooks his enormous contribution to success. Bowling apart, his leadership (as much off the field as on it) lifted the team to a peak of physical fitness and dedication early in the season, and maintained it to the 31st of March. Apart from team get-togethers, practices were often held three days a week, and if rain intervened, then there was always the gym at the Harbord Diggers Club.

None aided and supported Mick more ably or loyally than last year's captain, Terry Lee. Consistent runs illuded him in the first part of the season, but bowlers in the latter part would never have thought so, and his control of the area behind the 'keeper, on either side of the wicket, and even sometimes on both, is unsurpassed in any class of cricket anywhere.

The spirit in which the final was played was the equal of the game itself, and Barry Rothwell and his Northern District team, who came so close to final victory, proved the quality of their sportsmanship in generous acceptance of defeat, and in fact both game and spirit was summed up very aptly by Barry in his speech after the game when he said, "The events of the last two days is what cricket is all about."

We were delighted at the measure of support we received throughout the district — from both of the Councils, other sporting bodies and, by no means least, by our loyal supporters who followed the matches.

The value of community spirit should never be underated, one of its by-products being the feeling that in representing Manly-Warringah we are representing people and not merely a Club with a name.

Following our victory we were honoured by a Civic reception held jointly by the Manly and Warringah Councils, and also by a celebration dinner tendered us by the Manly-Warringah Rugby League Club Ltd. These were a wonderful tribute to the Club and gave us the opportunity to mix in a happy, relaxed and informal atmosphere with many people that most of us had known previously, mostly by name. Both functions were thoroughly enjoyed and greatly appreciated.

Overshadowed by these events was the great effort of Third Grade to also play off its final, but they lost the toss on the Merrylands track, and that was that. Nevertheless it was a great triumph for Graham Howlett, in his first season with the Club after a lifetime with Petersham-Marrickville, to fight his team (as fight he did) through to Runners-up, and we can only hope that his fighting spirit and enthusiasm proves to be highly infectious.

In Second Grade, Jim Burke pulled every trick he knew and drove himself to the limit of his physical capabilities to make the final four, and even when he just missed that, fought on for the Club Championship. Jim had to score runs every match if the team was to win — it was as simple as that, and his retirement so long after his departure from the International scene is the end of an era of Australian cricket. He is one of the few who has put back into cricket more than he ever got out of it, and as he remarked in his farewell speech, he hoped that the "bouncer" would go out with him.

Dick Woodfield, leading the Fourths, found that two successive premierships are virtually unobtainable, sadly lacking the batting strength to give his very young side reasonable starts.

As usual we had many behind-the-scene workers, with Ray Beard being a glutton for punishment. Ray not only manages the practices, but maintains the gear and also maintains and arranges our "Rogues Gallery" in the Room at the Top. He is always on hand to do his share in all the minor chores associated with our Club.

To the many others, and in particular to the wives, girl friends and sisters who helped in so many ways, thank you. We hope that you were rewarded by being part of a very happy and successful season, and hope that next year will prove even more so.

CLUB AWARDS

Your Committee decided, as an experiment, to inaugurate two awards last season, one for the "Club Player of the Year", and the other for the "Fielder of the Year". The hopes that these awards would generate interest among Club members were more than fulfilled, and we congratulate the eventual winners, Mick Pawley as "Player of the Year" and Jeff Logan the "Fielder of the Year".

The awards were based on a points system, for the "Player" competition. Players received three points each time they scored 20 runs in an innings, plus an additional point for each further 10 runs. Bowlers received one point for one wicket, three points for two wickets, five points for three wickets, six for four, and seven for five and so on. Catches, stumpings and un-assisted run-outs were worth two points, and "keepers" received bonus points for not conceding byes. The "Fielding" points were awarded by the captains each match on a 3-2-1 basis.

The leading pointscorers were as follows:

Player of the Year		Fielder of the Year	
Mick Pawley	125 points	Jeff Logan	32 points
Phil Allum	121 points	Keith Fitzpatrick	24 points
Des Hartmann	113 points	Eddie Meth	22 points

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

After the Second Grade round, our Captain, Mike Pawley, was selected in the N.S.W. Sheffield Shield team, making way for a three-pronged pace attack following the third Shield match.

Graeme Beard, Frank Turner, Phil Allum and Paul Stephenson were all included in the N.S.W. Colts Practice Squads, with Phil Allum finally being selected to play for N.S.W. against Queensland. Frank and Phil both gained selection in the Metropolitan team to play Combined Country, whilst Jeff Macpherson was an invitation bowler at the S.C.G. State Practice Sessions, and these five all represented the N.S.W.C.A. in its minor fixtures. The success of our First XI suggests that these young and talented cricketers will be very much in the forefront on the State Selectors' thoughts over the next season.

Green Shield player Greg Campbell gained selection in the Combined A. W. Green First XI, whilst Mark Byers was made captain of the Seconds. Both performed with distinction and we congratulate these two very young lads on their success.

J. W. 'JIM' BURKE

Accountants and other figure addicts need only refer to the figures below to be convinced that Jim was a very fine player indeed. As often happens, however, they tell only part of the story, and nothing whatever of the man who compiled the figures.

You could range the world before you found a fellow with a better batting technique than Jim, and probably travel just as far to find someone more dedicated to the game — even at the height of his Test career, when cricket was almost a full-time occupation, Jim, in an ordinary Grade game, after a rainy morning, would be the first man out in the centre mopping up the pitch with bags so that the game could start. Reference below will also show that Jim sent down 8,000 overs.

Runs and wickets aside, Jim has been a great Club man, playing the game as hard as any one in the centre, but always in the spirit it was meant to be played.

His First Class career ended, he continued in Grade cricket and did not hesitate to step down from Firsts whilst still at least the equal of any batsman in the competition, his purpose being to use his great ability and knowledge to help younger players.

Now he has decided to retire from a game which, however good it was to him, he has returned that good in kind. We will miss him sadly as a player on the field and as a comrade off it — thank you Jim and the best of luck with your golf.

Jim Burke in Cricket

BATTING										BOWLING				
			Ins.	N.O.	Runs	H.S.	100	50	Ave.	Ov.	Mdn.	Runs	Wts.	Ave.
For	Manly	1943-1974	227	58	7,404	165*	14	42	43.8	5,937	74	2,201	137	16.10
For	Northern District		100	24	4,386									
	1953-1963	94	25	3,923	160*	11	22	56.8	1,304	262	4,089	285	14.34
First	Class	Matches	205	36	7,585	220	21	48	44.8	1,084	271	2,933	97	30.24
Test	Matches		44	7	1,280	189	3	8	34.6	111	41	230	8	28.75

Holds M.W.D.C.C. Aggregate Record for First Grade — 899 Runs;
and Second Grade — 624 Runs.

FIRST GRADE REPORT

(By MICK PAWLEY)

“Manly-Warringah emerged as worthy Grade Premiers for the season and did so with a side that brought a really professional outlook to an amateur sport. The most impressive facet of the Manly team was their enthusiasm and mutual enjoyment of a team-mate’s success.” In a nutshell the “Manly Daily” had summed up the season that Keith Brady’s pen had so diligently recorded.

Games played, 19; outright wins, 4; first innings wins, 8; draws, 4; losses, 2. In each of the outrights we took 20 wickets and after the first five rounds we had only 10 competition points.

It is usual to reserve the last paragraph to give a passing mention to the one who is neither batsman nor bowler. In this special year a change in batting order and who better to open with than the king of the sweep.

Mal Elliot’s wicket-keeping is of such a class that, as a bowler, one is almost unaware of his presence behind the stumps. He is a 100 per cent player, at all time lifting his own game and inspiring greater effort from bowler and fieldsman alike. His talent, unrecognised in higher circles, puts him in the top bracket of Australian wicket-keepers. Add to this his infectious enthusiasm and here is a grade ‘keeper without peer. It has been a most rewarding experience to have shared the centre wicket confrontation of bat and ball with the magic of Mal. And what of the batsman, 75 of his 76 runs came from the sweep, including a personal best of 31 against Sutherland — one more than his previous season’s aggregate.

Our opening combinations played vital roles. Phil Allum and Ian Howell put on 50 for the first wicket on six occasions, each batted for more than 30 hours, Phil facing 1,698 balls and Ian 1,159. That Phil amassed 758 without a century is testimony to his fighting spirit and consistency. His 18 against a fiery Bankstown speed attack when several body blows did not deter him from his task was characteristic of his grit. His copy-book square-cut pierced the field on numerous occasions and was featured in his innings against Randwick (64), North Sydney (68) and Waverley (94). Seventeen catches to his name included a 40-metre dash from leg slip to catch Thomson in the Gordon match. This was a real gem. The sharp positions occupied by Allum, Lee and Elliot formed as

remained a catching unit as the first grade competition had to enter and collectively held 58 chances. For Phil this first year of his married life had certainly been a triumphant one.

On several occasions Ian Howell was forced to throw his dig in the cause of fast scoring. Nevertheless, his 99 against Cumberland was the team's highest score and "Raker's" class and temperament stood out in the final when his 45 (8th out) cemented the innings and saved the day. As the season progressed Ian established himself as an excellent short-leg fieldsman. His "Richie Benaud" catch against Gordon when the force of the stroke "hurled him to the ground" was a beauty.

They say batsmen save matches and bowlers win them. Jeff McPherson and Paul Stephenson did just that. They were a formidable combination, the one moving the ball to leg, the other to off and each demonstrated his ability to bowl in long spells — the results were a just reward for their efforts.

After being graded in Seconds, Jeff gave notice of his form when he had North Sydney reeling at 4-3, and finally had a personal analysis of 7-37. The standard of this performance was typical of his efforts in all games. His nine catches reflected greater concentration and enthusiasm when away from the bowling crease, while his 17 runs assured his five-star willow would last at least another decade.

When Jeff did not succeed, Paul did. Against Gordon his 7-23 off 14 overs was a fine spell of sustained and controlled outswing bowling. At all times Paul gave all he had, whether batting or bowling or fielding. On several occasions valuable contributions with the bat when we were in difficulties were fighting efforts, whilst he and his team will long remember the elation when he scrambled in the turf to scoop up Iredale's back-cut in the final.

That the pace attack so frequently made the initial break and regularly plundered deep into the opponents' batting line-up had no small bearing on my own analysis, for instance, the part that reads: B. Rothwell, caught Elliot to Pawley 27 in the final — that wicket valued above all others. With three bowlers penetrating so consistently, Tom Spencer finally made way for a seventh batsman to bolster our sometimes suspect batting line-up. The Balmain match aside (they scored 7-418) Tom's figures were good enough to justify his inclusion in any first grade team.

Terry Lee became the first Manly player in the history of the Club to represent three successful first grade finalists. During the season he passed the 7,000 mark and whilst '73-'74 was for him a moderately successful year, he left no doubt about his supreme qualities as a cricketer in several innings after Christmas. His first eight yielded 130, his last three 176. It was a matter of great pleasure to his team-mates that Terry displayed his wonderful talents in the final at a time when the pressure was really on. Against Gordon he gave his finest innings, slamming 46 runs in 42 minutes with control and majesty. His ability in the field has not been dulled by 17 years of First Grade cricket — 15 slips catches, including an unforgettable snare from Rixon against Waverley; even Terry rated this catch.

Graeme Beard and Frank Turner shared the first wicket down spot.

Frantic Frank lived up to his name with thundering drives, towering sixes and regulation outs — bowled middle peg or caught at mid-off; and fearless fielding at a very silly point which yielded a reflex run-out of Pym against Mosman. Frank's attitude to the game symbolised the spirit that made Manly the success story that it was. He is a wonderful team-man.

Graeme Beard broke a finger before Christmas and his batting record does not do justice to his true ability. His technique is good enough to make him a success at first class level and yet the past two seasons have netted him less than 400 each. The answer may require the same determined vigorous and confident approach demonstrated in Graeme's bowling in the second half of the competition when he played the roll of dominator rather than dominated. Graeme's catching was faultless, his safe hands snaring chances with equal ease close to the wicket and in the deep.

One statistic worth mentioning is that both Graeme and Terry failed to make double figures on 10 occasions each. That this is most unlikely to occur again suggests we have great reason to be optimistic about next season.

The middle order batting gave the vital thrust that consolidated good starts and made miraculous recoveries from apparent disaster.

Alan Frazer, as dedicated and enthusiastic as can be expected of any First Grader, will long recall his courageous innings against the fiery Bankstown attack when batting with a broken finger on a treacherous wicket and going in at 4-53, Al contributed 34. One particular Jeff Thomson fireball was dispatched from his nose onto the tennis courts. Against Gordon 46 in 42 minutes, including 92 in partnership with Terry Lee, produced the finest batting of the season. Alan's fielding was always outstanding.

And if all others had failed, Peter Harvey at No. 7 — talented and successful beyond anyone's expectations. Rarely seen in track trials, Pete always secured good odds from the bookies, and the Thomases watched in disbelief. Flashing back foot drives through the covers and behind point, lofted straight drives and a developing hook shot, all culminating in the memory of a lifetime — a magnificently controlled 43 in the final. Rarely did Pete fail to meet the challenge when an early collapse had the Manly camp in despair.

For myself a special treat in putting on 73 with Rolls against Sutherland. Insurance policies against bumper injury with eight different companies. Could result in a very profitable 1974-75 summer.

The abilities of Ken Nichol, Dave Packer and Paul Stabback, who all represented First Grade, gave the side the necessary depth to keep all players on their mettle.

THE FINAL

For Phil Allum, opening the batting with Ian Howell after we had won the toss, 32 hours in the centre during the season had no answer to the first ball he received — a Steve Bernard Thunderbolt. Mark Clews cartwheeled Graeme Beard's off stump and Turner, Lee and Fraser had returned to the Pavilion with only 35 on the board. Howell, who fell at the eighth wicket for 46, held his end through this pace onslaught and with Harvey put on 76 runs in 77 minutes at a time when complete gloom had almost settled into the Manly dressing room. Harvey's innings was typical — crunching drives through covers, flourishing cuts backward of point and some excellent running that picked up many short singles to help us to the final score of 148 — enough to at least make a token contest of the game.

All batsmen had been either bowled (4) or caught behind (6).

As in all sessions of this game the first over after a break produced a wicket. This time Neil Marks, glancing at a McPherson outswinger that caught the outside edge, Adamson to King, had to be content with a

Stephenson, and the balance had been quickly restored. However, by tea on the first day Rothwell — for so long Manly's achilles heel — and Mackay, were well and truly in control, with the score 2-50.

The prize for this break was Rothwell; incredibly caught by Elliot standing up at the stumps from an edge between bat and pad. Those enjoying afternoon tea were suddenly aware that the result was no longer a foregone conclusion; a nerve-tingling quiet descended on Manly Oval.

Mackay, taking the initiative, found the cover boundary on several occasions, then a slashing drive off the back foot — a certain four — was miraculously intercepted by a horizontal projectile named Turner. Here was the inspiration for an outstanding fielding effort that took control of the remainder of the game. Mackay, frustrated, slashed at Stephenson, only to see Lee hold the chance.

With Northern Districts 4-87 overnight the omens were favourable.

The atmosphere that pervaded Manly Oval on Sunday morning was more akin to a Test match than a grand final. Howarth, leaning forward in the first over, edged to Lee at slip. 148 runs were looking big until Sincok's entrance heralded a towering six off Pawley and 5-110 came up — ever so slowly but a relentless pursuit of a modest target. Then out of the blue — Sincok run out following cool fielding by Allum; the concern in the N. D. camp was obvious; Manly supporters in the crowd of 1,000 were now hopeful and as each wicket fell the warmth of victory filled the Manly camp.

It took 71 overs in 328 minutes, three Elliot catches, three by Lee, 5-37 off 31 overs by Pawley, excellent controlled support from Stephenson, McPherson and Beard and a wonderful display of fielding to clinch ultimate victory. The euphoria it produced in players and supporters alike will long be remembered.

In spite of its length this report will have overlooked many things. The final sentiment is one of appreciation from all playing members of the Club for the work done by two first class administrators in John Hodgson and Alex Anderson. They have rounded off the rough edges of the season and represented our interests on the N.S.W.C.A., as two most respected delegates. The year would not be complete without them.

FIRST GRADE STATISTICS 73/74

	BATTING					BOWLING						
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.	
P. Allum	23	3	94	758	37.90	—	—	—	—	—	17	
P. Harvey	17	6	76	350	31.82	—	—	—	—	—	1	
M. Pawley	11	2	73	263	29.22	214	49	62	540	8.71	6	
T. Lee	21	5	83	415	25.94	108	23	18	307	17.06	15	
I. Howell	23	2	99	477	22.71	—	—	—	—	—	10	
G. Beard	16	3	70	276	21.24	87	21	19	214	11.26	10	
F. Turner	23	3	48	407	20.35	—	—	—	—	—	6	
A. Frazer	18	2	46*	319	19.94	—	—	—	—	—	6	
P. Stephenson	11	4	31	119	17.00	215	26	40	798	19.95	7	
M. Elliot	10	5	31	76	15.20	—	—	—	—	—	26	
T. Spencer	6	1	25	46	9.20	81	16	7	310	44.29	6	
J. Macpherson	8	2	6	17	2.83	202	31	50	705	14.10	9	

BEST BATTING PERFORMANCES: P. Allum 94, 68, 64*, 52; P. Harvey 76; M. Pawley 73; T. Lee 83, 76; I. Howell 99, 59; G. Beard 70, 67*. BEST BOWLING PERFORMANCES: M. Pawley 6-63, 5-30, 7-29, 8-59, 5-6, 5-37, 4-30, 4-3; J. Macpherson 3-37, 6-50, 5-48, 4-33; P. Stephenson 7-23, 4-35, 5-48; G. Beard 6-15.

ALSO BATTED: D. Packer 1-16; P. Stabback 2-14; K. Nichol 1-0. ALSO BOWLED: P. Stabback 1-15; D. Packer 1-67; F. Turner 0-5.

On behalf of the Second Grade side may I congratulate Mick Pawley and his players on winning the '73-74 First Grade Premiership in a final which will be remembered at Manly Oval for many a long year. May I also congratulate Graham Howlett and his players on reaching the final of the Third Grade competition, and the four Club sides on coming second in the Club Championship, our best performance in the Club's history.

The Second side performed extremely well throughout the season, and we went very close to winning a position in the semi-finals, in fact at one stage in the latter part of the season we were running third in the competition. However, that perennial thing called "bad catching" probably lost us a semi-final berth.

Our attack right through the season was excellent, and would compare with most First Grade attacks. Whilst the batting was a bit brittle, we did witness some excellent innings, probably the best of which was Don Felton's century against Western Suburbs during which he, partnered by Jim Stewart, won the match for Manly from almost a hopeless position. A great knock, Don, your natural aggressive approach will most certainly create havoc amongst Grade bowlers in the future. Jim Stewart's 65 not out in that fine partnership with Don, Paul Stabback's brilliant 84 not out against North Sydney at the S.C.G. No. 2, Ken Turner's first two innings of the season, 52 and 73, Greg Anderson's 47 versus St. George, Sam Mesite's 50 against Sutherland, and also Paul Stabback's 83 against Bankstown, all stand out as very fine performances.

As I mentioned earlier, the bowling was top-class. An excellent pace attack during the season of Nichol, Packer, Kinsey and Stabback, backed up by some very good spin bowling from Meth and Spencer. Here again we saw some excellent individual performances, such as David Packer, 5 for 25 against Balmain and 7 for 36 versus Nepean; Brian Kinsey, 4 for 16 versus Cumberland; Paul Stabback, 5 for 49 against Sutherland and 7 for 21 versus Waverley; Ken Nichol, 6 for 11 against Mosman, 4 for 59 and 4 for 26 versus Uni. of N.S.W.

We witnessed some very good spin bowling from Tom Spencer and Eddie Meth. Eddie has developed very well, he has very supple fingers, and a natural wrist, and at times, on some of the softer wickets was almost unplayable. Eddie also was our best fieldsman, trying his utmost 100 per cent of the time we were on the field.

Of the other youngsters in the side, we have some very promising players of the future, players like Sam Mesite, Rod McNeill, Don Felton, Dave Packer and Tom Purcell. We also have the experience of Jim Stewart, Ken Turner, Paul Stabback, Ken Nichol, Tom Spencer and Greg Anderson, and I feel sure the side will acquit itself very well in the seasons ahead.

This has been my last year with the Manly Club, and in fact my last year as a cricketer. I retire with a certain amount of sadness, not only by not playing this wonderful game, but also the companionship of the very many fine fellows I have played with and against that I will not be able to enjoy. However, the Club is strong, with many fine players, it is strong in administration and it is strong in team spirit, so I leave with the satisfaction of knowing that I have helped in a small way in developing the Club to this stage. Good luck Manly.

SECOND GRADE STATISTICS

	BATTING					BOWLING						
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.	
J. Burke	17	6	100*	624	56.72	22	4	9	70	7.77	—	
D. Felton	9	1	101*	248	31.00	—	—	—	—	—	8	
J. Stewart	10	3	65*	213	30.42	—	—	—	—	—	7	
D. Packer	12	4	40	202	25.25	158	25	36	602	16.72	8	
P. Stabback	15	1	84*	333	23.78	74	7	23	247	10.73	14	
K. Turner	9	—	73	198	22.00	—	—	—	—	—	9	
G. Anderson	13	3	54*	219	21.90	—	—	—	—	—	10	
S. Mesite	14	—	50	258	18.42	—	—	—	—	—	14	
T. Purcell	12	1	31	168	15.00	—	—	—	—	—	11	
B. Brown	8	2	33*	77	12.83	—	—	—	—	—	6	
K. Nichol	8	4	23*	33	8.25	153	24	31	558	18.00	—	
T. Spencer	7	2	11	39	7.80	103	19	22	327	14.86	—	
R. Meth	7	3	11	28	7.00	153	17	27	549	20.33	4	

BEST BATTING PERFORMANCES: J. Burke 100*, 64, 56*, 56*, 55*; D. Felton 101*, 66; P. Stabback 84*, 83, 54; K. Turner 73, 52; J. Stewart 65*; P. Harvey 56; G. Anderson 54*; S. Mesite 50.

BEST BOWLING PERFORMANCES: D. Packer 7-36, 5-25, 4-36; P. Stabback 7-21, 5-49; J. Burke 4-9; B. Kinsey 4-16; E. Meth 4-35; T. Spencer 4-49.

ALSO BATTED: P. Harvey 1-56; G. Beard 1-34; J. Macpherson 1-23; K. Fitzpatrick 4-64; R. McNeill 5-47; R. Holmes 2-14; B. Kinsey 2-4 P. Davidson 3-6; G. Robinson 6-73; M. Stedman 6-43. ALSO BOWLED: B. Kinsey 14-244; J. Macpherson 5-87; G. Beard 1-37; B. Brown 0-5; G. Robinson 0-7.

THIRD GRADE REPORT

(By GRAHAM HOWLETT, Captain)

As a newcomer to the Club, I was fortunate to be appointed captain of a solid Manly Third Grade side.

Spearheaded by the strongest bowling side in the competition, we played aggressive cricket throughout the season and were rewarded by four outright wins. These wins helped us to accumulate 82 points, and we finished in second place to Cumberland, who we played in the final.

Unfortunately, the final proved an anti-climax to the season, as Cumberland won the toss and batted until lunch on the second day. Their strong batting side took full advantage of some loose bowling on the heart-breaking Merrylands wicket and they virtually won the game in the first session of play when they scored over 100 runs without losing a wicket. They continued to be 4-378 at stumps, and as minor premiers had only to draw the game to win the premiership. The wicket deteriorated on the second day when 15 wickets fell for 228 runs, and only a late stand enabled us to hold out for a draw, with our score 9-141 against Cumberland's 465. Congratulations to Cumberland, who led the competition throughout.

A disturbing feature of the latter part of the season was the incidence of "gift outrights". In one such game, lowly-placed North Sydney forfeited its second innings, leaving the semi-finalists, St. George, 60 runs to score to win outright — which they did with little trouble. St. George had hoped to clinch second place with this victory, but did not do so. They were duly rewarded the following week when rain washed out their semi-final and they were eliminated.

Manly's attack hinged around opening bowlers Des Hartman and Brian Kinsey, and spinners Reg Hunt and Ian MacDonald. There was not a better foursome in the competition, and few batsmen collared this attack during the season.

Des was the leading wicket-taker with 60 wickets. His best figures were 6-27 against Wests and 6-67 against Northern Districts, but his best bowling was the 4-16 against the strong Gordon side.

Brian came into the side midway through the season and bowled accurately. His most aggressive performance was his 5-43 against Waverley on a perfect batting strip at Graham's Reserve.

Reg (37 wickets) and Ian (42 wickets) both bowled well. I'm sure that no other side could boast a spin pair with 79 wickets between them as spin bowlers in lower grades generally play second-fiddle to the opening bowlers.

Unfortunately for Reg, on most occasions he bowled too well. He beat the bat with regularity and very few batsmen could pick his "wrong-un". He bowled with accuracy as is shown by his 2.8 runs per over average and his final figures were not really a true indication of his good performances.

Ian added more variety to his bowling and improved as the season progressed. His 5-110 from 40 overs in the final was an effort to be proud of. He should have even more success next year.

Youngsters Steve Green and Gary Robinson both bowled well in their few appearances. The strength of the Club in fast bowling made it difficult to break into the higher grade sides but Steve showed a promising aggression in the games he played.

The team had a long batting line-up due to the number of all-rounders in the side, and most batsmen contributed to a win at some stage of the season. On many occasions, however, it was left to the tail-enders to score winning runs. This was due to the lack of dedication and concentration by the batsmen in the side. Heat, wicket or umpires were all blamed for dismissal when only the batsman was really to blame. Youngster Rod McNeill could be excluded from this group.

Whilst lacking a little in technique, he showed a level of appliance which was uncommon to the side. He was rewarded with a batting average of 33.2 and made the top score of the season with his 94 against Gordon.

Keith Fitzpatrick scored the most runs and showed his usual aggression in the field. Jim Stewart, Don Felton, Sam Mesite, Tom Purcell and Gary Robinson were all promoted to Second Grade after batting well, and to their credit they all scored runs in the higher grade.

Youngster Greg Hill and Barry Brown strengthened the batting late in the season, and all-rounders Des Hartman, Reg Hunt and Ian MacDonald chimed in with some good innings.

Two performances by youngster Peter Davidson were outstanding. He collared the Cumberland attack early in the season to score 91 in just over even time, and against Nepean his 5-17 ensured an outright win. It was unfortunate that he could not maintain this form, but with this ability his turn will come.

The fielding of the side was generally good, although more practice would have turned some near-chances into outs. Rod McNeill, Ian MacDonald and Brian Kinsey all took brilliant catches.

In Tom Purcell and Ron Holmes the side had two of the best 'keepers in the Grade. Tom's good batting saw him promoted to Second Grade midway through the season.

I would like to thank the members of the side for the efforts and co-operation which helped make the season such a successful one.

To Mr. Kinsey and my wife, Rhonda, go my thanks for their assistance with scoring and afternoon teas.

THIRD GRADE STATISTICS

	BATTING					BOWLING					
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.
R. McNeill	11	2	94	299	33.22	—	—	—	—	—	7
J. Stewart	9	1	57	230	28.75	—	—	—	—	—	7
B. Brown	9	1	52*	183	22.87	—	—	—	—	—	5
G. Robinson	6	—	40	135	22.50	30	5	8	85	10.62	2
S. Mesite	7	2	36	113	22.60	—	—	—	—	—	2
K. Fitzpatrick	17	3	42	310	22.14	—	—	—	—	—	10
R. Hunt	16	6	58*	200	20.00	206	40	37	583	15.75	6
D. Felton	9	—	34	180	20.00	—	—	—	—	—	4
P. Davidson	6	—	91	110	18.33	13	2	6	31	5.16	2
G. Howlett	22	5	35	274	16.11	71	19	20	188	9.40	10
D. Hartmann	12	3	33	142	15.77	230	43	60	676	11.26	7
I. Macdonald	12	5	20*	101	14.42	187	46	42	495	11.78	10
M. Stedman	8	—	18	60	7.50	—	—	—	—	—	—
R. Holmes	6	1	19	27	5.40	—	—	—	—	—	15
B. Kinsey	7	3	4	6	1.50	112	27	23	288	12.52	—

BEST BATTING PERFORMANCES: J. Stewart 57, 57; R. McNeill 94, 52; P. Davidson 91; R. Hunt 58*; P. Stabback 87; B. Brown 52*. BEST BOWLING PERFORMANCES: D. Hartmann 6-27, 6-67, 4-18, 4-18, 4-20, 4-28, 4-16; I. Macdonald 6-20, 5-110; R. Hunt 5-13, 5-32; S. Green 4-16; G. Howlett 6-6, 4-10; B. Kinsey 5-28, 5-43, 4-11; P. Davidson 5-17.

ALSO BATTED: B. Kinsey 4-6; P. Stabback 1-87; A. Ward 3-39; J. Logan 1-11; G. Hill 5-42; K. Turner 3-23; T. Purcell 5-80; Barratt 2-12; R. Asser 1-5; S. Green 3-14; M. Byers 1-3; G. Anderson 2-0. ALSO BOWLED: S. Green 13-170; I. Felton 4-51; P. Stabback 1-33; J. Barratt 2-83.

FOURTH GRADE REPORT

(By R. WOODFIELD, Captain)

After First Grade's magnificent performance and all that has been said and written about it by now, there seems little point in making any report on the performance of Fourth Grade side, which much be regarded as disappointing, particularly after last year's success.

However, it should be noted that even when we had no chance of making the semi-final, the team kept on trying to assist with the Club Championship and managed to win the last two games outright. Even this effort proved to be futile in the face of Cumberland's devastating victories in Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade. The Fourth Grade competition this year seemed to be fairly sharply divided between the four top teams and the rest. The top four gave us a hiding but, although we did not finish fifth, for most of the season we were probably the next best side.

It was unfortunate that some of the last season's star players were not fully fit and the stabilising influence of someone like Jim Toovey was not there. Early in the season Ian Felton was the mainstay of the attack but business commitments and promotion seemed to blunt the edge towards the middle of the season. Bob Green very capably took over this role during the latter part of the season. Greg Simpson once again performed creditably and his batting showed signs of maturity towards the end.

After a very poor start, Greg Hill justified the confidence which the Club has had in him for some time now and finished with a batting average of 35, which is only just below Terry Lee's long standing Club record. Tony Ward once again showed his real ability with a brilliant century against Petersham and comfortably won the aggregate. Despite torn hamstring muscles, strained back muscles, sprained ankles, etc., Jeff Barratt managed to score a creditable number of runs and snared 14 catches, most of them from close to the wicket.

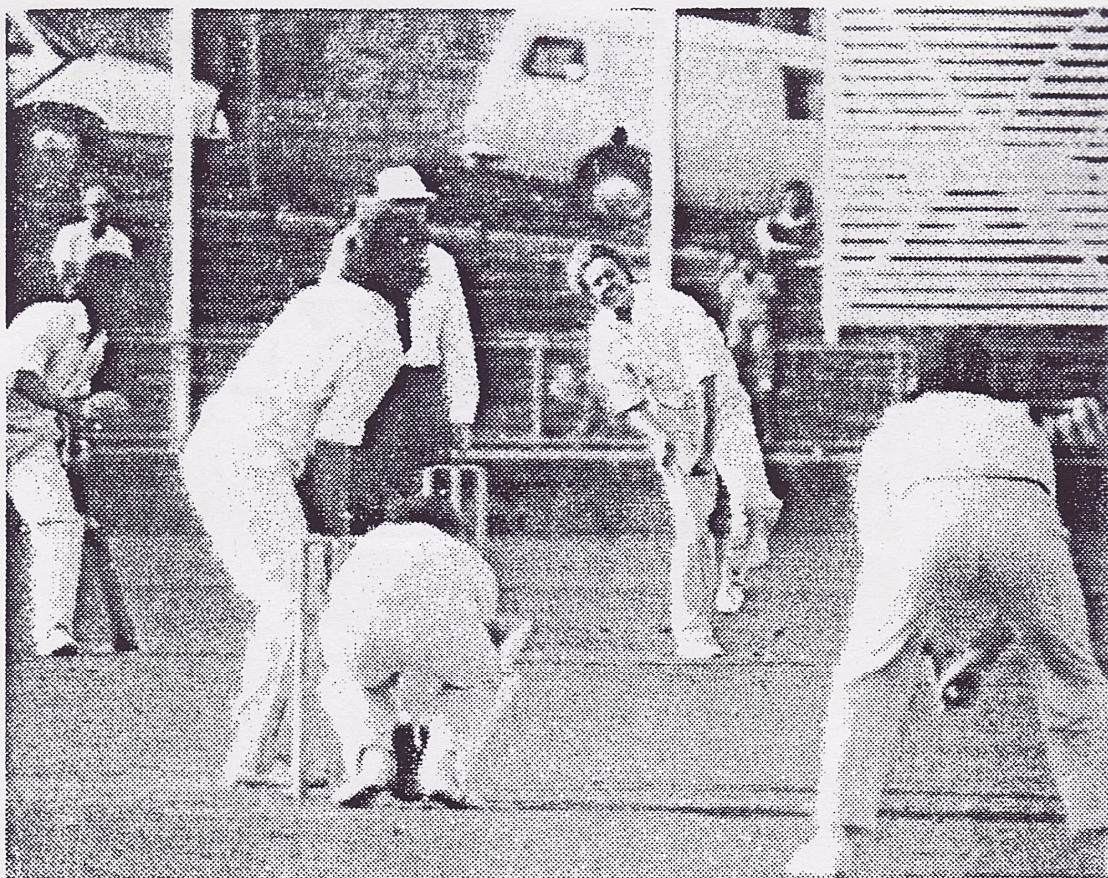
N.S.W.C.A. 1st GRADE PREMIERS — 1973-74

Back Row:
 J. F. Hodgson (President)
 J. Macpherson
 P. Stephenson
 T. Spencer
 P. Stabback
 T. Lee
 G. Beard
 D. Packer
 A. Anderson (Honorary Secretary)

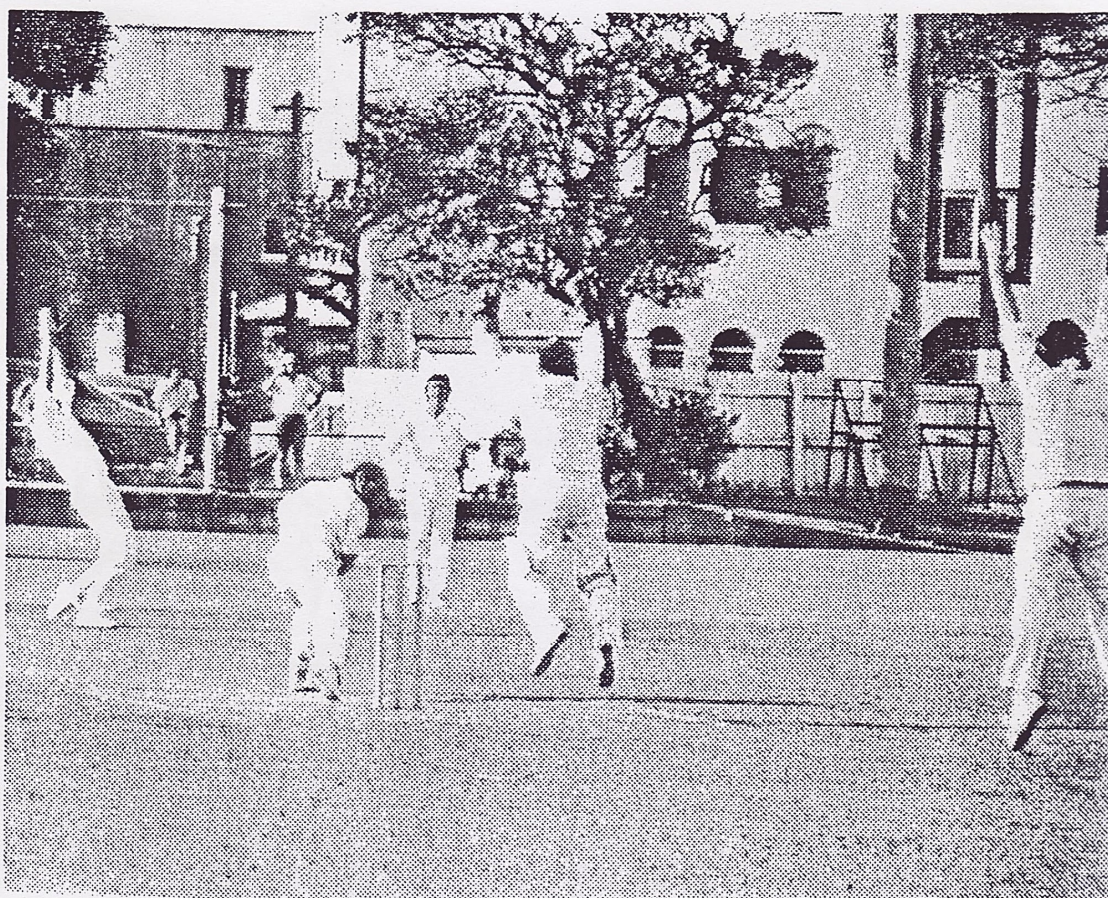
Second Row:
 P. Allum
 M. Elliot
 M. Pawley (Captain)
 P. Harvey
 K. Brady (Scorer)

Front:
 A. Frazer
 F. Turner
 I. Howell
 K. Nichol





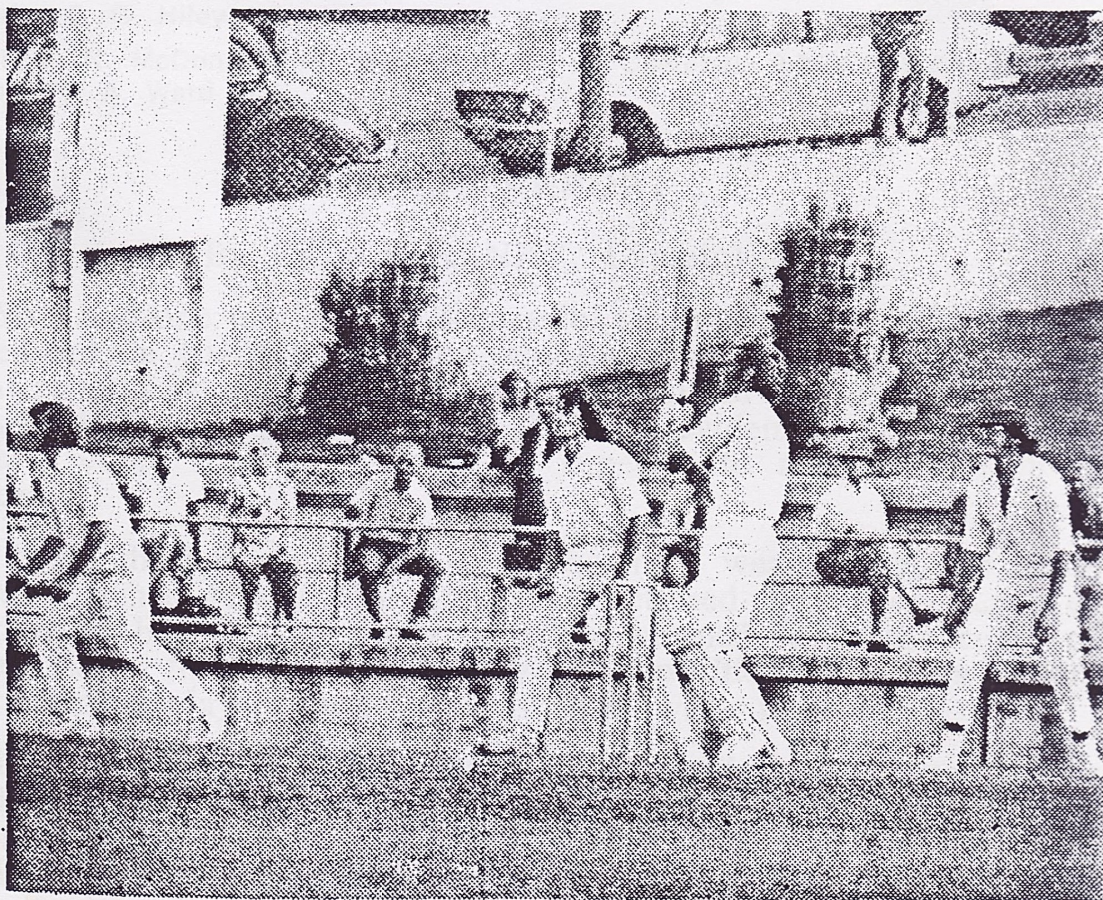
'Mick' sends down a curly one



The one that didn't get away — Rothwell ct. Elliot b. Pawley



Ian Howell square cuts according to the book



Four ! to 'Frantic' — typical pull to leg

I did not intend to mention many individual performances but a few words of encouragement would be well spent on some of the younger players, particularly Nigel Rose, Mark Byers, Greg Horton, Brad Neal and Greg Campbell.

I am greatly indebted to Tom Spencer for the statistics, especially for the miscellaneous information at the end of the normal batting and bowling figures.

FOURTH GRADE STATISTICS

	BATTING					BOWLING					
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.
G. Hill	14	5	71*	315	35.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
A. Ward	14	0	114	367	26.21	—	—	—	—	—	—
N. Rose	15	3	47	294	24.50	—	—	—	—	—	—
J. Barratt	18	0	68	348	19.33	45	8	134	5	26.80	14
P. Davidson	15	1	65	242	17.28	13	0	43	3	14.33	3
G. Horton	16	4	49	191	15.91	159	23	511	28	18.25	1
G. Simpson	26	3	51*	341	14.82	106	3	511	34	15.02	5
J. Logan	13	2	30*	103	9.36	—	—	—	—	—	4
I. Felton	9	0	42	81	9.00	145	29	425	35	12.14	4
R. Woodfield	22	3	42	161	8.94	107	19	337	18	18.72	2
M. Byers	19	4	22*	106	7.12	—	—	—	—	—	11
S. Green	7	1	19	39	6.50	87	19	216	18	12.00	—
R. Green	8	3	3*	9	1.50	97	10	291	29	10.03	3

BEST BATTING PERFORMANCES: P. Davidson 53, 65; G. Hill 64*, 61*, 71*; D. Felton 75; A. Ward 58, 114; J. Starr 66; G. Simpson 51*, 48; G. Horton 49, 43; J. Barratt 68, 49; N. Rose 47.

BEST BOWLING PERFORMANCES: S. Green 4-11; R. Woodfield 4-26; I. Felton 6-39, 5-37, 8-42, 4-18; G. Simpson 4-23, 6-44; R. Green 5-36, 5-26.

ALSO BATTED: J. Starr 4-86; G. Flowers 5-57; N. McDonald 5-39; M. Maguire 4-7; D. Felton 2-80; G. Robinson 1-37; T. Russell 2-22; R. Smith 2-37; B. Neal 2-33; G. Hamilton 3-17; S. Byers 2-6; M. Banks 2-6; P. Harris 1-3; M. Stedman 2-0; G. Campbell 1-0; G. Hiley 1-5.

ALSO BOWLED: N. McDonald 1-5; B. Neal 1-25; G. Campbell 0-24; J. Starr 0-18; G. Flowers 0-16; A. Ward 0-3.

5A GRADE REPORT

(By BRUCE HENRY, Captain)

The 5A's had one of the most successful seasons ever in 1973-74, and only missed out on qualifying for the semi-finals when beaten by Balmain in the final round. There was considerable enthusiasm and a much greater desire to win than in previous seasons. This was evident in fielding, where the standard would have been equal or superior to any other team in Fifth Grade.

Once again the batting proved to be the main weakness of the team, although we reached 150 several times and bettered 200 twice. Lack of concentration by batsmen on many occasions seemed to be the cause of their failure, rather than good bowling by the opposition. This was evident in the variation in players' performances from week to week.

Opening bowlers Steve Byers bowled exceptionally well throughout the season, taking 41 wickets at an average of 10.31. If he persists with his bowling and with the Club he should certainly feature a great deal in higher grades in the future. His partner in opening the bowling, Mick McGuire, also improved greatly as the season progressed. Greg Campbell showed promise as a leg-break bowler, while John Vallance and Brad Neal were consistent as medium-pacers.

Peter Harris proved very useful as an opening batsman, as well as providing good service as a wicket-keeper. Ross Smith and Mick McGuire battled aggressively on occasions but, as with most of the batsmen, were not able to maintain consistency. One of the more consistent batsmen would have been Tim Russell, who joined the Club in January from England. He should prove an asset in higher grades in future years. Of the younger players, Brad Neal and Greg Campbell showed considerable promise. Steve Byers and Mick McGuire were useful all-rounders, with Steve having the uncanny habit of remaining the not-out batsman.

Overall it was a very successful season and showed promise for the Club in future years, provided a greater degree of concentration prevails.

FIFTH "A" GRADE STATISTICS

	BATTING					BOWLING						
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.	
S. Byers	12	7	44*	109	21.80	148	23	41	423	10.31	4	
T. Russell	7	—	54	131	18.71	12	3	3	43	14.33	3	
P. Harris	15	—	55	223	14.86	—	—	—	—	—	10	
N. Rose	6	—	37	82	13.66	6	—	1	30	30.00	1	
M. McGuire	11	1	44	136	13.60	79	3	17	297	17.47	—	
R. Smith	17	—	56	210	12.35	33	4	8	82	10.25	1	
J. Logan	9	—	48	104	11.55	—	—	—	—	—	4	
B. Henry	17	—	54	192	11.29	39	8	10	119	11.90	4	
B. Neal	7	—	31	79	11.28	42	10	10	108	10.80	2	
G. Ashton	11	—	33	108	9.81	—	—	—	—	—	—	
G. Campbell	6	1	13	40	8.00	42	3	8	157	19.62	2	
C. Harper	10	—	20	53	5.30	—	—	—	—	—	2	
P. Thrush	14	2	21*	58	4.83	9	—	1	18	18.00	2	
J. Vallance	14	—	8	38	2.71	64	6	13	192	14.76	1	

BEST BATTING: P. Harris 55; R. Smith 56; B. Henry 54; T. Russell 54; R. De Silva 52*.

BEST BOWLING: M. McGuire 5-24, 5-40; S. Byers 6-41, 5-14, 4-25, 4-32, 4-44, 4-47; J. Vallance 4-23; G. Horton 6-19; B. Henry 4-49; G. Hough 5-49.

FIFTH "B" GRADE REPORT

This side, which during the season saw some 30 players pass through its ranks together with at least three, if not four, different captains, presents somewhat of a problem when it comes to who should present the report. Suffice it so say that the team performed its function as a stepping stone for the youngsters in the park on their way to the Grade ranks, and in doing so did, in fact, produce a number of players who will, if they line up next season, be grateful to the opportunity playing in the team gave them.

Obviously, a team that changes each game, has the best taken away to higher fields, cannot be expected to set the world on fire, or even perform with any degree of success, but the boys all did their best, enjoyed their cricket and, above all, played the game.

FIFTH "B" GRADE STATISTICS

	BATTING					BOWLING						
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.	
G. Campbell	7	—	44	132	18.86	30	5	14	127	9.07	—	
G. Flowers	10	1	46	169	18.77	40	11	5	119	23.80	2	
D. Flint	11	3	17	96	12.00	74	4	7	276	39.43	4	
I. Travers	15	1	61	150	10.71	—	—	—	—	—	4	
M. Banks	9	0	49	87	9.66	—	—	—	—	—	2	
G. Ashton	3	—	17	26	8.66	24	9	5	32	6.40	—	
S. Marshall	7	1	22*	51	8.50	—	—	—	—	—	1	
R. Asser	10	2	20	48	6.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	
S. Sekulich	14	1	12	59	5.50	34	5	11	120	10.82	—	
I. Macdonald	14	1	12	59	4.54	11	2	—	40	—	1	

BEST BATTING PERFORMANCES: I. Travers 49, 61; G. Campbell 42, 44; G. Flowers 34, 46; B. Neal 54; M. Banks 49.

BEST BOWLING PERFORMANCES: G. Flowers 3-40; G. Campbell 5-49, 3-11; R. Asser 3-20, 3-39; B. Neal 3-16, 3-16, 3-18; K. Sekulich 3-14, 3-34.

ALSO BATTED: N. Rose 1-28; G. Trengrove 6-62; R. Smith 2-23; P. Thrush 4-17; G. Ashton 3-26; A. Goddard 4-32; S. Grosvenor 3-19; S. Hutchison 3-18; J. Vallance 3-8; T. Purcell 2-11; C. Raymond 3-13; C. Harper 3-16; M. Massey 2-3; A. Finlay 1-1; A. Bateson 1-0; J. Haysom 2-34; G. Walters 1-0; G. Frost 2-6.

ALSO BOWLED: G. Trengrove 2-41; R. Smith 0-32; P. Thrush 2-81; A. Goddard 3-65; J. Vallance 1-76; J. Haysom 2-26.

POIDEVIN-GRAY REPORT

(By JOHN PACKER, Manager)

Any team that loses five First Grade players of the calibre of Kev Davidson, Bob Jefferys, Frank Turner and Phil Allum can only hope to start again and rebuild with the younger players coming up.

Captained by David Packer, the team comprised Sam Mesite, Mark Stedman, Peter Davidson, Don Felton, Tony Ward, Greg Horton, Greg Simpson, Steve Green, Tom Purcell and Jeff Logan, with replacements Greg Hill, Mark Byers and Ross Smith. It acquitted itself reasonably well, winning two of the five games played, beating Nepean and Balmain, losing to Western Suburbs and Cumberland, both very strong teams, then narrowly going down to Bankstown in a very exciting match in which we came within one wicket of gaining an outright.

Players to put in outstanding efforts were Sam Mesite, who never let us down with the bat, 104 not out against Wests, and Steve Green, whose bowling was always accurate, no batsman was able to collar him, and he turned in some remarkable figures.

Some other good performances were Don Felton's 66 not out of 111 in our innings against Bankstown; Mark Stedman's 40's, Greg Horton's 20 overs and five wickets versus Wests; Greg Simpson's 3 for 19 against Nepean.

A young player worth a special mention is Mark Byers. Brought into the team as a wicket-keeper against Western Suburbs due to the loss of three of our key players to the New Zealand Tour, young Mark conceded only one bye and scored 24 valuable runs against a team containing six First Grade players.

In summing up, I would like to suggest to the Selectors that the team be selected much earlier next season so that practice games can be arranged, preferably against Second and Third Grade players. The competition is getting of much higher standard, most teams having at least three First Grade players in their ranks.

My thanks for the assistance of our usual number of supporters, the Mesite family in particular, without whose help some of our players would never have reached the playing fields.

The above report, naturally, omits reference to the excellent captaincy of young Dave Packer. His field placements and bowling changes throughout the series, showed maturity and judgment beyond his years, something his father probably recognised, but hesitated to report.

POIDEVIN-GRAY SHIELD STATISTICS

	BATTING					BOWLING					
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.
S. Mesite	6	1	102*	224	44.80	—	—	—	—	—	1
M. Stedman	6	—	46	153	25.50	—	—	—	—	—	1
D. Felton	6	1	66*	97	19.40	19	5	5	91	18.20	—
P. Davidson	6	—	45	91	15.16	19	2	1	92	92.00	1
T. Purcell	4	—	36*	48	12.00	—	—	—	—	—	5
D. Packer	5	1	12	41	10.25	46	4	10	206	20.60	4
S. Green	4	2	9*	16	8.00	45	14	12	109	9.08	—
A. Ward	6	—	19	32	5.33	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Simpson	5	1	9	18	4.50	15	1	4	82	20.50	—
E. Meth	3	1	8	8	4.00	38	10	2	79	39.50	—
G. Horton	4	—	8	14	3.50	40	7	7	171	24.42	—

BEST BATTING PERFORMANCES: S. Mesite 102*, 62; M. Stedman 46, 44; P. Davidson 45.

BEST BOWLING PERFORMANCES: S. Green 6-36, 4-19; G. Horton 5-94; D. Packer 4-39; G. Simpson 3-19.

ALSO BATTED: M. Byers 1-24; J. Logan 1-9; G. Hill 1-5.

A. W. GREEN SHIELD REPORT

(By T. BOURKE, Manager)

Some 40 lads attended the several practice trials at L. M. Graham's Reserve, and were the subject of Mick Pawley's critical eye before he selected the final 12. These were Mark Byers, Mark Bourke, Greg Campbell, Grant Mairs, Ken Pitcher, Brad Neal, Michael Suttor, Jon Vallance, Greg Hayes, Grahame Wilkes, Ian Travers and Geoff Lange.

Many of the boys had played together in junior representative teams, and those that hadn't were tried and true cricketers. Mark Byers was elected Captain, with Mark Bourke as Vice. This combination had had experience in other representative series, and proved a very successful one, Mark doing an excellent job throughout the competition.

Time did not allow any match practices, but several net sessions were held prior to the first match against North Sydney at Manly Oval, to be followed by games against Northern Districts, Balmain, Gordon and Sydney Clubs, all resulting in wins for Manly. Losses were suffered against Nepean following a batting collapse, and Mosman-Middle Harbour through dropped catches.

The standard of cricket throughout was very good and our team performed extremely creditably to finish joint Northern Division Premiers with Mosman. Unfortunately for us, Mosman's quotient eliminated us from the final against Western Suburbs, who ultimately defeated Mosman and earn our congratulations.

Mark Byers and Greg Campbell gained selection in combined Sydney teams, and both performed with distinction.

During January we played host to an Auckland Grammar School touring side, but inclement weather dictated we entertain them in the "Room at the Top" and were unable to show our prowess on the field. An invitation to play in Auckland next season resulted from the visit, and efforts to this end are being made.

A very good series, a splendid team of lads who were at all times excellent ambassadors for Manly, and it is a pleasure to be associated with them.

"A. W. GREEN" SHIELD STATISTICS

	BATTING					BOWLING					
	Ins.	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Ave.	Ovs.	Mds.	Wts.	Runs	Ave.	Cts.
M. Byers	9	—	90	260	28.88	—	—	—	—	—	13
G. Campbell	9	1	35	163	20.37	80	14	18	298	16.55	1
B. Neal	9	1	38	135	16.87	33	6	2	97	48.50	—
I. Travers	8	—	46	123	15.37	2	—	—	7	—	3
M. Bourke	8	—	69	122	15.25	54	13	9	164	18.22	3
G. Mairs	8	—	50	106	13.25	54	9	11	199	18.09	1
M. Suttor	8	1	37	88	12.57	3	—	1	23	23.00	1
G. Hayes	8	2	24	63	10.50	16	5	5	41	8.20	2
J. Vallance	8	3	19*	34	6.80	68	13	12	204	17.00	1
G. Wilkes	5	3	3*	7	3.50	—	—	—	—	—	1
N. Hollings	1	—	11	11	11.00	21	6	7	47	6.71	—

BEST BATTING: M. Byers 90, 75; M. Bourke 69; G. Mairs 50.

BEST BOWLING: G. Campbell 4-27; J. Valance 5-38; N. Hollings 4-19.

ALSO BATTED: A. Lange 0-0.

CITY AND SUBURBAN REPORT

(By N. BOUVENG)

The City and Suburban team had an enjoyable season. The batting let the team down and there was only five scores of 50 and over, they were A. Frazer 96 n.o., H. Frazer 54, D. Elbourn 52, G. Beard 60 n.o., K. Davidson 51. The batting average was taken out by D. Elbourn with 17.8.

It was most pleasing to give G. Beard and A. Frazer a game after their broken hands, both were a credit to the side. The fielding was taken out by D. Elbourn, who held 10 catches in 12 games.

Bowling: Wickets of five or more per innings were H. Frazer 5-8, 6-42, 5-31; P. Hunter 5-51; G. Beard 6-9.

H. Frazer took 53 wickets at an average of 8.97 and was the outstanding bowler in the team this season, good support was given by B. Wiley, P. Hunter and evergreen B. Hoy. G. Marshall kept wickets and gave a good showing, and as I found out after the last game, did so with a broken finger. I thank the team members and committee for their support.

City and Suburban Batting

	H.S.	Innings	N.O.	Runs	Average
D. Elbourn	52	12	2	178	17.8
H. Frazer	54	16	3	19	14.99
P. Newman	37	14	1	170	14.54
P. Hunter	23	7	—	80	11.3
T. Gursanscky	23	9	1	73	8.1
N. Bouveng	24	18	—	137	7.5
W. Hoy	12	15	8	44	6.27
B. Wiley	22	16	1	86	5.6
G. Marshall	14	17	—	87	5.2

Also Batted: A. Frazer 2 in. 2 n.o., 138; G. Beard 1-60; K. Davidson 1-51; S. Seymour 8-56; A. Thorburn 5-42; B. Stevenson 5-32; P. Driver 3-18; L. Roche 5-18; L. Cameron 5-38; E. Cameron 6-12.

City and Suburban Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Wickets	Runs	Average
H. Frazer	122	9	53	472	8.97
W. Hoy	35	—	15	220	14.10
P. Newman	31	1	8	125	15.55
A. Thorburn	29	4	7	115	16.3
E. Cameron	40	3	8	134	16.6
P. Hunter	49	8	11	197	17.10
B. Wiley	87	2	19	541	28.4

Also Bowled: G. Beard 6-91, A. Frazer 2-17, L. Cameron 1-67, B. Stevenson 5-28.

As in previous years the Club entered a team in the Manly-Warringah Cricket Association competition. This side was formed from players failing to make the early Grade teams, and in all some 25 players represented the Club during the season, and when at full strength was far too strong for the Grade.

Due to the later start of the Grade season, the team did not play until Round 3, but it was not until Round 12 that it suffered its first defeat, and this at the hands of the eventual Premiers, Terrey Hills. In the only other meeting between these two our team won outright by an innings.

Steve Grosvenor captained the side till his elevation to Grade, when Steve Atkinson took over. Both did an excellent job under great difficulties, frequently being short of players on the second day of games through players going to Grade, and but for this the side would almost certainly have taken the honours.

The purpose of this team, a nursery for the senior sides, was achieved. The boys enjoyed their cricket and appreciated the need of the Club.

The behaviour of the young lads throughout the season was faultless. They were a credit to the Club.

"C2" Batting

	Innings	N.O.	H.S.	Agg.	Average
R. De Silva	19	5	60*	320	22.85
P. Warning	15	4	36*	176	16.00
G. Wilkes	14	4	29	152	15.20
Ron De Silva	10	1	36	118	13.11
S. Grosvenor	12	1	44	129	11.72
K. Duxbury	8	—	26	88	11.00
S. Atkinson	9	2	16	33	4.71

Also Played: Richard De Silva, Ray De Silva, Roger De Silva, A. Goddard, G. Frost, B. Neal, G. Hayes, S. Hutchinson, P. Thrush, B. Cook, A. Bateson, P. Modge, S. Purcell, J. Hodge, J. Dewson, P. Atkinson.

"C2" Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Wickets	Runs	Average
C. De Frietas	20.4	2	13	59	4.53
B. Neal	30.3	8	19	98	5.15
R. Hough	41.1	10	18	99	5.50
K. Duxbury	76	18	34	211	6.20
G. Hayes	34	4	14	95	6.78
Ron De Silva	10	1	19	132	6.94
P. Warning	80	24	22	180	8.18
S. Atkinson	37	1	9	157	17.44

SUCCESSFUL CLUBS

We have reserved our thanks to the many clubs which conveyed their congratulations on our First Grade success, to this report. We sincerely appreciate the thoughtfulness, and sportsmanship of our opposition.

We have also reserved our bewildered congratulations to Central Cumberland on its magnificent performance in taking out all other grades plus the Club Championship, which is, of course, the prize plum of all. Well done, Cumberland, you will obviously be a force for Manly to contend with next season.

To our neighbour, Mosman-Middle Harbour, our plaudits for a gallant Poidevin-Gray defeat of the redoubtable Cumberland lads, and to Western Suburbs our hearty congratulations on its A. W. Green Shield success.

To the Encouragement Award winners, including our Fourth Grade side, well done!

NEW ZEALAND TOUR REPORT

(By "B.K.")

The trip began with all seventeen tourists flying out of Sydney at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 2nd January, 1974. Our first stop was Wellington, where we had two games scheduled. The first was a 35-over, one-day game against Stokes Valley, a club side situated about 15 miles from Wellington. The local side, batting first, totalled 171 in 33 overs, with Steve Green taking 4 for 13 off his allotted seven overs. The tourists scored the required total with five balls to spare and three wickets in hand, with Tom Purcell 31, Graeme Hamilton 32, and John Weight 34 not out, scoring well.

On the following day we began a two-day fixture against Wellington and College Old Boys at a picturesque ground on the hills of Wellington. The home side, batting first, were dismissed for 117 soon after lunch, with Mick Pawley, 3 for 24, being the principal wicket taker. Manly batted the remainder of the first day, declaring at stumps with the score at five wickets for 252 after Ian Howell had scored a scintillating 114 and Peter Harvey a powerful 70, including 11 fours and three sixes. On the second day the W.C.O.B. batted again and fared much better than on the previous day, reaching 9 dec. for 292, leaving the Manly side to score 157 in a little under two hours. The target was reached with a few minutes to spare, hard hitting for Neil Coltman 56, Peter James 30 and Peter Harvey 24.

The following day the team moved to Blenheim in the South stand after a short but miserable flight across the Cook Strait, where we commenced a two-day fixture against the Marlborough Cricket Association. A fine team effort saw the home side dismissed for 180 on a hard and fast pitch. Steve Green (4), Peter James (3) and Mick Pawley (3) being the wicket-takers. The Manly innings began disastrously, being 4 for 46 after about an hour's batting. However, when Frank Turner was joined by Mick Pawley the home side were given an exhibition of power hitting and fast running between the wickets. Frank finished with 106, 15 fours and a six, while Mick was 68 not out when the innings was closed at the overnight score of 5 for 203. The home side a second time were dismissed for 174, with Steve Green and Mick Pawley taking three wickets each. The most memorable event of the innings was a catch taken by Phil Thrush. Manly, set 152 to win, scored the required runs, with Graeme Hamilton 56, Gary Flowers 28, and Steve Green 28 not out, being the principal scorers.

After a memorable evening, the team departed the next morning by bus on a 75-mile trip to Nelson, where a 35-over game had been arranged against the local Association side.

Before a crowd of about 500, the Manly side fielded first, with the home side scoring 181 for 8 in their allotted batting time. When we batted the Nelson side, with tight bowling, soon had us in trouble, and we struggled to a 9 for 137 in our allotted time, giving the Nelson Association the honour of being the first side to defeat Manly in New Zealand. Next morning we flew to Christchurch and spent most of the day sight-seeing. A game against Canterbury "B" side had been arranged for the following two days. This game was the hardest on the tour and was played on one of the slowest wickets encountered by us in our five games. Manly, batting first, score 7 declared for 151 and at stumps had the Canterbury side 9 for 172, with Eddie Meth 4 and Dick Woodfield 3, the principal wicket-takers. The home side closed at their overnight score and Manly, in their second innings, scored 6 for 195 declared, leaving the home side 175 to get, which they did with the loss of only two wickets.

The tour, which was the first undertaken by the Club for some years and the first overseas, was a huge success, due mainly to the organising ability of Mick Pawley, as without his effort for the 10 months prior to the departure of the tourists the whole thing would not have got off the ground.

The hospitality of our hosts in all cities we visited was warm and friendly, and to them we offer our thanks in making this tour one of the most memorable events in the sporting lives of the 17 tourists.

The touring party consisted of Dick Woodfield (Manager), Mick Pawley (Captain), Ian Howell, Mal Elliot, Frank Turner, Peter Harvey, Peter James, Neil Coltman, Brian Kinsey, Eddie Meth, Tom Purcell, Phil Thrush, Gary Flowers, Graeme Hamilton, Steve Green, John Weight and Barry Brown.

CALLING ALL CRICKETERS

HERE IS JUST THE CLUB FOR YOU !

**CRICKETERS CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES,
AT 254 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY**

**The Club is now accepting nominations for membership from
applicants in these categories**

The amenities provided are:—

BAR (with table service) — DINING ROOM (a la carte menu) —
SPACIOUS & COMFORTABLE LOUNGE WITH TV — TWO FULL-
SIZED BILLIARDS TABLES — PROGRAMME OF SOCIAL EVENTS —
CLUB CRICKET TEAM — FACILITIES FOR PRIVATE FUNCTIONS.

Did you know that the Cricketers Club of New South Wales gives
substantial financial assistance to cricket?

Since 1965, \$17,000 has been allocated, and the following projects
undertaken:—

- Annual grants to each of the Country Cricket Councils to assist with the cost of installing practice wickets in their areas — \$1,200.
 - Annual grants to Metropolitan juniors — \$600.
 - Annual awards for A. W. Green Shield, Juniors, and Poidevin-Gray players.
-

The Committee also makes a point of entertaining visiting international and interstate cricketers, in fact, the latter invariably make a bee line for the Club as soon as they arrive in Sydney.

So if you are interested to join, please write or telephone for all details
of membership to:—

The Secretary,
Cricketers Club of New South Wales,
254 George Street,
SYDNEY. Telephone: 27-6893.

The Manly Club has pleasure in making this space available to the Cricketers Club and any member wishing a nomination form should contact the Hon. Secretary, Alex Anderson.

SOCIAL REPORT

The playing success of the Club carried over to off-the-field activities, with members enjoying, once again, the facilities of the "Room at the Top" and being thankful to see it still standing after the celebrations of the final.

Most functions were involved with raising funds for the New Zealand tour. A Theatre Party of 110 to "Deliverance", especially enjoyed by Alex Anderson. A Raffle involving 2,500 x \$1.00 tickets of which "B.K." still has enough to cover at least 1,500 tickets sales next year. The Club purchased 70 gallons of "Craigmoor Red" and bottled 60 gallons at "Dick's". The remainder went with the sampling.

John Stephenson very kindly opened his home to the players and friends at a Selection Announcement Evening prior to the first round. The night was an outstanding success financially and socially, and the Club is very grateful to Pat and John for their hospitality.

A game against Newcastle Club, Merewether, captained by Mick Hill, gave valuable pre-season practice on the following Sunday.

To celebrate the First XI's minor premiership and \$500.00 "Herald" award at the end of the Grade draw, a Dinner Dance was held at the Manly Lawn Tennis Clubhouse. This was a most enjoyable evening, with some members jostling for room on the tennis courts at various times. An endless supply of fruit boxes from unknown sources provided fuel for a Barbecue a la B.K. at his best.

It is worth mentioning that the now Lyn Spencer, at great personal expense, took over 500 photos at various games, and two slide evenings given by her were greatly appreciated by the players.

The hire of a bus to transport teams to Penrith for the New Year's Eve match was very successful. Lyn Fraser in particular revelled in the lively return trip, which was a flying start to a Club party at the Kinsey's.

Whilst the Manly "17" was touring New Zealand an Auckland Grammar Schoolboys side was due to play at Manly Oval. Inclement weather caused several postponements, but did not prevent our secretary from helping the tourists to enjoy the sights of the district. A luncheon at the "Room" was supported by the Council in the presence of Deputy Mayor, Bill Nicholas, who welcomed the visitors. A week later the boys enjoyed the experience of playing on Manly Oval. Thanks to Alex, the highest of tributes were given to the Club and our area, and a very warm invitation to tour Auckland with a similar side is likely to be accepted next summer.

In total, the social functions raised some \$600.00 for Club funds, which in part assisted Sam Mesite, whose misfortune resulted in damage to his teeth at the end of the previous season.

The Social Committee looks forward to an even more exciting next season.

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

The success of the Club on the playing field is also reflected in the financial results for the year ended 30th April, 1974. I am pleased to report a very satisfactory financial year.

	1973-74	1972-73	1971-72
Social Activities (profit)	613	594	744
General Activities (profit)	111	(905)	(32)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	724 (profit)	311 (loss)	712 (profit)

This year's results includes in the General Activities Section a \$500 Best and Fairest Award for a First Grade team, kindly sponsored by the Sydney Morning Herald. With this taken into account, the dependance of the Club on profits from our Social Committee's activities is still clearly shown.

At the beginning of the season the Savings Investment Account was closed in order to give the Club the required amount of cash for pre-season expenses. Of this \$400 was placed into Interest Bearing Deposits with the Bank of New South Wales representing the Centenary Fund, and the remainder in the General Account. \$20 of the Centenary Fund is prepaid for next year.

As mentioned last report, the new system of subscriptions was introduced. Instead of paying an annual membership and batting fees each week, a total subscription was levied on each playing member for the year, thus obviating the necessity to collect batting fees — a very difficult and sometimes messy business. The new system proved to be a great success and the team captains, Honorary Secretary and myself thank each player for their co-operation.

Another innovation this year was the elimination of entry fee into Manly Oval. Members of the Club circulated throughout the crowd, who kindly donated moneys toward the Club. An example of the success of this new system is that in the First Grade Final an amount of \$162.66 was collected over the two days, of which half was given to Northern Districts Cricket Club.

Before going to print, the General Committee decided to outlay \$1,000 from the General Account of \$2,079 on new cricket balls for the coming season. It was felt that instead of investing this amount, the Club would be better off financially by buying the next season's stock of balls while they were readily available and funds secure.

As this is my last year in the Treasury I'd like to thank all those who gave assistance, and wish the Club great financial success in the future.

PUBLICITY

It is with deep regret that at the time of preparing this report our staunch supporter and Honorary Publicity Officer, Maurice Murray, is in Manly Hospital with a recurrence of the serious illness from which he suffered last year. Maurice knows, as does his family, that we wish him well, not because of the service he gives the Club, but because of the lovable character he is. He has given us tremendous publicity this season and he no doubt regrets, as do we, that he was not on his feet at the First Grade Final. Even so, the "Daily" upheld its traditional support of the "locals" and gave us of its best.

We are blessed with probably the best local publication in the metropolitan area, if not in Australia. The "Manly Daily" is a free daily newspaper, but its news and sporting coverage is outstanding, and we as a Club benefit greatly by its wholehearted support of local organisations.

We thank the Sporting Editor, as we do brilliant photographers Dave Fullagar and Bob Martin for their contributions to our success throughout the season.

GENERAL COMMITTEE

The Committee chaired by your President, John Hodgson, who by the way, achieved 100 per cent attendance, met on 11 occasions during the season. It was, predominantly, a young committee and this was reflected in the general enthusiasm permeating throughout the Club.

The Manly Rugby Union Club Ltd. again made its very comfortable premises available to the Committee for its monthly meetings, and our sincere gratitude goes to the management and the members for their hospitality.

Attendances at meetings, reported in alphabetical order, are:

A. Anderson 10, R. Beard 9, L. Carter 4, K. Fitzpatrick 8, P. Harvey 7, J. Hodgson 11, R. Holmes 11, I. Howell 6, M. Howell 6, B. Kinsey 6, K. Nichol 6, M. Pawley 7, S. Sismey 7, T. Spencer 7, J. Stephenson 7, P. Stephenson 9, F. Turner (leave of absence whilst overseas) 7, R. Woodfield 6, Bruce Cook, Life Member; Harry Frazer, representing City and Suburban; Maurice Murray, our Publicity Officer; and Frank Gray, the now M.W.C.A. Honorary Secretary, attended various meetings during the season.

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

New South Wales Cricket Association: It is a pleasure to have the opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the very efficient administration emanating from the offices of the Association, especially in view of the great increase in its activities over the past few years.

During this season we were sorry to suffer the resignation of the very popular John Clough. John is now "Mine Host" of the Surveyor-General Inn at Berrima, where his undoubted geniality will be a great asset.

Two new members of the staff in Harry Suhan and John Wood were welcomed when John left, and they very quickly made their presence felt as enthusiastic and kindly co-operative administrators.

We thank Alan Barnes, Bob Radford, and the staff in general for another season's co-operation and assistance, as we do the Executive Committee, the Grades Committee and the various sub-committees for the splendid work achieved.

New South Wales Umpires Association: The importance of these gentlemen in the "centre" cannot be over-emphasised. Our game, to be played in complete enjoyment, depends largely on their presence, and we take this opportunity, as we do each year, to express our grateful appreciation to the Association's President, Officers and members. Thank you for your impartiality and your forbearance in times of stress.

Manly Municipal Council and Warringah Shire Council: That we are extremely proud of our ovals is something for which we are grateful to our Councils and their staffs. The care and attention received is reflected in the splendid condition the wickets and outfielders are prepared for us and our visitors. To the individual groundsmen, Merv Paynter at Manly, Les McMillan at Grahams, and Jim Scott at Weldon, we give our thanks. To Phil Heaton, Supervisor for Warringah Shire, and Stan Seymour, Head Gardener for Manly, thank you for your very efficient supervision throughout the season.

General: This could include many, many names. Suffice it to say that we appreciate all the support we have received from so many people. Our Vice-Presidents, our Associate Members all continue to put their shoulders to the wheel. Our Hon. Auditor, Mr. J. G. W. Vallance, continues to find no fault with our accounts, and so continues to be elected. Thank you, Sir, for your valuable support. Last, but not least, the Ladies. Bless them once again for their afternoon teas, and generously-given services at all our functions.

For and on behalf of the Management Committee.

J. F. HODGSON, President.

ALEX ANDERSON, Hon. Secretary.