

GLANCING BACK – No 11 – By Noel Pullen

100 plus years ago -1900-25

BRIGHTON SOUTHERN CROSS NEWSPAPER dated 19 AUGUST, 1916 reported

HURLINGHAM PARK

INNUENDOES AGAINST CRS. STONE AND ALFORD.

Mr. J. W. Satchwell addressed a meeting of East Ward ratepayers on Tuesday evening, and in the course of his address said -

There is one little thing I am compelled to mention. You have a Park called Hurlingham Park, and I think you will agree with me in saying it should have been called Bent Park, in honour of that grand old man, Sir Thomas Bent, who previously owned the property, whilst his daughter, Mrs. Bleazby, instead of making money out of it by subdividing, had allowed it to become a public park.

Recently some ratepayers had been engaged in erecting a fence, which should have been done by the council, but they couldn't afford it.

A Voice: - They gave all the money to the engineer. (Laughter).

Mr. Satchwell : - I have got a copy of the "Southern Cross" of June 17, in which there is a municipal notice from the Brighton Council offers for the purchase of old fencing material around Hurlingham Park.

That is the notice calling for public tenders for the fence, and you all had a chance of going in for it. You do not hear any more until a later date, when in a report of a council meeting it is stated in the "Southern Cross" that the matter of the disposal of the fence was referred to the town clerk. What has happened to the fence? I had a very unpleasant duty in trying to extract the information I required. I did not get any reply for days, and I did not get a complete answer until today. When I penned those words I knew they were absolutely dangerous. After a lot of trouble I got an answer that two tenders were received. I will read the letter.

"Town of Brighton, 15th. August, 1916.

I am instructed by the town clerk per telephone, to inform you in reply to your letter, that the two tenders which you have referred to were submitted by Crs. Stone and Alford."

A Voice - You are putting the show away.

Mr. Satchwell - You have come here to hear what I have to say, and what I say, I say unreservedly. Here is a copy of the tenders certified to by the town clerk: -

*"'Milliara', Union street, Brighton, June 23, - Tenders for old fence, Hurlingham Park -
The whole of the fence fronting Nepean road, my price is £2/15/-*

G. H. Alford." (Loud laughter).

*Mr. Satchwell : "Hawthorn road, Brighton,
2nd. June, 1916 – To the town clerk, Brighton -*

*I hereby offer £2/16/9 for the Hurlingham Park fence – ”
Renewed laughter.*

A Voice : How do they make it up?

Mr. Satchwell - It is signed A. R. Stone.

As you see, these two persons are tenderers.

A Voice : Which one was accepted?

Mr. Satchwell : - None. They saw the danger they were in.

A Voice - Was it not illegal for a councillor to tender?

Mr. Satchwell - They did not call for fresh applications, but the council men were sent to take it to the council yard, and some of it is there now. (Laughter). In the "Age" on July 15th. a councillor was fined £50, with £2/6/- costs, for being interested in a contract between a council and a timber company for the supply of timber. What was the result?

That councillor could not sit one minute longer at the council table.

This is almost identically the same thing. I question why they are not both liable at the present moment. I do not say that they are both liable, and I will not say that they are not. It might be seen. Some people might take the trouble to ascertain. I don't want to throw any mud. I am very sorry Cr. Stone is not here. I invited him, as I did not want to say one word behind his back.

I see some of his supporters, and I hope they will convey to him what I have said. I am sorry he did not come to the meeting.

During the 1919-20 season Brighton Council resolved to provide three clay pitches on Hurlingham Park for six teams and the club entered two sides in the Brighton District Cricket Association.

50 plus years ago – 1950 – 75

AN AMAZING RUN STARTS

Union took the first eleven premiership in 1953-54 from Bayside and some of the trophy winners for the season were Club Champion and Club bowling – Geoff Smith, Club batting – John Gooding, Most valuable first X1 player – Les Polson, second X1 player – Ray Smith, third eleven – Geoff Smith, Best Under 18 player – Peter Smith and Best Clubman – Bill Ould.

A mainstay of the first eleven that year was George Polson, a player who was to become one of the top administrators and players the club has seen.

Vern Gladman was captain of Union's illustrious first eleven and his report on the grand final mentioned the excellent batting of John Gooding 54 and 59 not out, ably supported by the big hitting Lenny McAliece who scored 26 and 33 in quick time.

George Polson captured 6/63 and 4/48 with his deceptive spin but it was left to Peter Smith to swing the games Union's way by bowling two opponents out, running out another as four wickets fell in two overs.

At the 47th annual meeting held in the Higinbotham hall in Bay Street Brighton on 13 August 1954 saw Len Holford elected President and he gathered around him men who would lead Union to a record breaking six premierships in a row. George Polson continued as Club secretary and Les Polson as treasurer and Ken Williams as assistant secretary.

Other committee members included John Polson, Vern Gladman, Charlie Beal, W. "Dick" Beal, Arnold Palmer, Rex Baker and Basil Kennedy. The first X1 was the only side to make the finals however they were unsuccessful in the semi. This was Vern Gladman's final match and he took up umpiring in the BDCA the following season.

Club champion was Frank Edlin, Len McAliece won the club batting, Les Polson the club bowling and the most improved player award was won by John Egan who was later to become club President.

Four of Union's members were elected to positions on the Brighton District Cricket Association executive, Ken Williams (Secretary), George Polson (Assistant Secretary), John Polson (Registration Secretary) and Les Polson (Treasurer).

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CMCA by RUSSELL MOORE



Russell Moore

Continued from Glancing Back No.10

2000's

Each decade throws up its own unique challenges. In the 2000's the CMCA had to deal with the re-structure of community cricket, effectively dividing our Association between two regions South East Metro and South Metro, based on existing boundaries drawn along local government lines. An unsatisfactory situation only recently rectified with the CMCA now being fully integrated in the South East region. The introduction of the My Cricket Website with fixtures, results scores and ladders at the press of a button has been a great step forward.

In 2003 Russell Moore was elected President. His contribution to our Association is recognised with the U12C grade shield named in his honour. Current President Phil Cox was elected in 2006. On a sad note, in May 2001 we saw the passing of Harry Morgan aged 103, December 2006 the passing of Lloyd Champion aged 85 and in December 2008 the passing of John Quiney aged 68.

This period has also been our most successful decade for winning Victorian Metropolitan Cricket Union competitions, with seven U12 Mitchell Shields. In the 2013 VMCU Centenary year, the CMCA won four of six

shields on offer including the prestige's U21 Neil Wright shield, U14 Russell Allen shield, U12 Mitchell shield and U12 Josh Browne Plate. Credit for our success goes to Phillip Arnold our junior chairman since 2005.

President Phil Cox and Secretary John Adamson have worked tirelessly to forge a closer bond with Councils and we are now playing on many grounds that have had major upgrades. Overall our Clubs are playing on the best grounds in our Associations history.



Phil Cox (CMCA President) presents Brighton Union's Andrew Vaughan with his award for being selected in the CMCA Team of the Season at a CMCA Presentation Evening.



Members enjoying themselves at a CMCA Knight Sports Award evening – Standing (left) Ivan Delac, Phil Arnold, Noel Pullen, Rob Robinson, Phil Hope.

Sitting (left) Julius Waras Carstensen, Aaron Gregory, Michael Cove

On the playing field the most successful Club in our Associations history has emerged with the East Sandringham Boys club now having won 16 A grade/Longmuir Shields including nine from 2001-2012. In the 2012-2013 season the baton was passed to the Bentleigh Uniting club having now won two of the last three Longmuir Shields.

To be continued next edition

25 years ago plus – 1975 – 2000

Season 1982-83

Without doubt the Club enjoyed its most successful and enjoyable season for the past twenty years. It was particularly pleasing to win the "A" grade flag in our 75th Anniversary Year.

The side was superbly led by skipper Kevin McNally who never any stage lost faith in the fighting spirit of his players. It was certainly a fitting result for such a loyal Union man. Kevin was strongly supported by his deputy Peter Head and all the players.

While not in any way underestimating the contribution of other players 21 year old Con Gorozidis, who started with the club ten years ago and has always shown natural ability, but the fighting qualities of this man are his finest attribute.

Con made 75 and took 9/144 off 54 overs in the Grand Final and is without doubt the clubs greatest cricketer of the past twenty years, if not its greatest ever.

Con is one of ten players of our premiership twelve that graduated from our under-age teams. These ten players were either captain or vice-captain of junior sides and again proves that in Jack Vollugi we have a magnificent coach.

Whilst the performances of our other senior sides were not as good as they should have been, the great effort of our women's eleven somewhat offset our disappointment. The woman again swept all before them and the overall improvement was remarkable, however they were unfortunately runners-up to a team that included many VWCA pennant players.

The junior teams returned creditable performances with the under fourteens and sixteens being runners up. The fourteens were most unlucky to lose the final as they played a draw. The under twelves whilst not making the finals showed plenty of promise for the future.

However the efforts of all teams were responsible for the Club recapturing the CMCA Club Championship, the fifth occasion we have achieved this since its inception nine years ago.

Over the years the club has held many socials but the seventy fifth year dinner held on 11 November 1982 was our finest yet. Nearly 300 former, present day players, committee, guests, supporters and friends attended this great function. It was particularly pleasing to see so many former players reliving old memories. Special guest was former player and test cricketer Julien Wiener whose address to the gathering was brilliant.

There were many other notable achievements during the season, the trip away to Fiji, winning the Brighton Case Company trophy and the Pyrenees District Knockout Competition.

One of the most important was the extension to the Hurlingham Park pavilion which makes it the best in the CMCA

In a first for the club Sue Jones (later McNally) became the first woman ever to be elected to the committee at Brighton Union and she did a magnificent job. She married Club captain Kevin McNally on 31 May 1983.

10 years ago plus 2000 onwards

2001-02 Season

Botswana Newspaper
MMEGI MONITOR dated 05-11 February 2002

Australian Cricket Club To Visit

By Tshimologo Boitumelo
Staff Writer

The local cricket fraternity is looking forward to a forthcoming visit by an Australian club in April.

According to Sumod Damodar, the Botswana Cricket Association (BCA), the Australians will play four games - one in Jwaneng, two in Gaborone and one in Selibe Phikwe.

Under the auspices of the Brighton Union Cricket Club, based in Melbourne, the Australians play as semi-professionals. And in a country renowned to be a giant in cricket, playing a semi-pro side from Australia would be an experience of huge proportions for Botswana.

Upon deciding to tour Southern Africa, the Australians opted for Botswana, with the recommendation of Botswana students in Melbourne, *Monitor Sport* has learnt.

This is going to be the first-ever tour of Botswana by an Australian team. Players are drawn mainly from Melbourne suburban clubs.

"We are happy and feel honoured at the visit by the Australians. We know Australia to be a powerhouse in cricket. And playing any team from Australia, regardless of their standard would always be a good experience. We are looking forward to hosting our cricket colleagues

build a long lasting relationship,"

Damodar revealed.

Australia has had a strong influence in the development of sport in Botswana. The Botswana National Sports Council has borrowed a lot from the Australian concept of sports development. The Department of Sport and Recreation have launched a Junior Sport Development Programme whose main aim is to impart knowledge and sharpen the skills of young players from a very early age.

Damodar also sees the visit by the Australians as a boost to his association's efforts to develop the game in Botswana. The BCA has since adopted a plan: "Bringing Cricket To The Nation" as a way of popularising the game in Botswana. A number of development initiatives have been undertaken such as training clinics for mainly youngsters as well as coaches particularly those in the primary schools.

Added the BCA official: "For Brighton Union Club to have chosen Botswana as their tour country will have an important mark in our sporting relations with the Australians. Our visitors will enjoy the traditional hospitality of Botswana, the magnificent scenery and wildlife."

The tour is the brainchild of John Hammer, whom the Australians respect for his enamours experience

On field the club made some improvement, with the third eleven reaching the preliminary final before being beaten by eventual premier Shamrock.

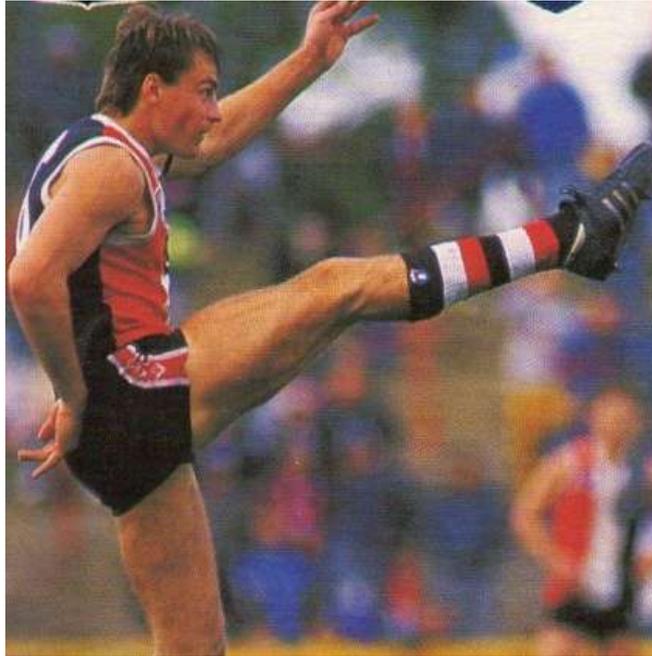
The first eleven were in winning positions in seven matches but only won four as inexperience proved costly in several close finishes.

Increased output from emerging talent such as Michael Cove and James Gaynor gives cause for optimism, while David Grant had a wonderful season winning the Club Champion award.



David Grant won the Kevin McNally Club Champion Award and the First Eleven bowling Award with an average of 13.3 but is also handy with the bat.

David was also a top AFL footballer being recruited by St. Kilda from South Launceston in 1984. He played 191 games for the Saints mainly as a half back and was selected in the 1991 All Australian team. He played a further 7 games with Melbourne and kicked a total of 75 goals in his AFL career.



David Grant

The second eleven battled to win games due to lack of depth, while the fourth eleven suffered from a shortage of players in early rounds.

John Hammer did a marvellous job in his first season as fourth eleven captain, with his emphasis on participation ensuring enjoyment for all players.

The highlight of the junior section was the premiership victory of the under fourteens in the Friday afternoon competition. Most of the boys had no previous finals experience, but after sneaking into fourth spot, surprised more highly fancied sides in the finals to win the flag.

The under sixteens narrowly missed the finals, while the under twelves were composed almost entirely of first year players but performed creditably to win five matches.

Coach Neil Vorbach did everything possible to provide interesting and varied training, but was hamstrung by lack of numbers and frequent absence of key personnel.

Former Club star Nick Jewell was selected in the Victorian State Team after scoring two centuries in the state Second Eleven.

David Wingfield played his 450th game for the Club, a record, and John Hammer organised a trip to Botswana, he certainly is a remarkable gentleman.

Con Pothitos won the Second Eleven batting averages with 61.4 and Corie Derrick picked up the third eleven one with 79.0



A group of members at a social day Kevin McNally, Bernie Vila, Jeff Hayes, Phil Hope, John Layias, Brian Adams, Rob Robinson and Simon Rissell (front)