

## GLANCING BACK – No 6 – By Noel Pullen

100 plus years ago -1900-25

**THE ARGUS NEWSPAPER dated 21 SEPTEMBER 1923 reported**

*Cricketers Social*

*The hon. Secretary of Brighton Union Cricket Club (Mr N. V. Usher) has been notified that Messrs. J. Ryder, E.R. Mayne, E.G. Roberts, and E.E. Bean will be present at the smoke social to be given on Tuesday.*

### **Norm Usher – Elected Life Member**

It is not known which year Norm was elected a Life Member of the Club but it is known that he was a member for many years and a prominent Brighton resident. Norm was definitely Secretary in 1922-23 and 1924-25 and it is believed that he held the position for quite some time. Norm was also Secretary of the Hurlingham Park Progress Committee (established 1926 and dissolved in 1936) in charge of park improvements, as well as being a Life Member of the Brighton District Cricket Association. He died aged 100.

**BRIGHTON SOUTHERN CROSS NEWSPAPER dated 12 JANUARY, 1924 reported**

### **BRIGHTON DISTRICT ASSOCIATION**

#### **PREMIERSHIP LIST**

##### **FIRST GRADE.**

	<b>Pts.</b>
<i>Brighton Union "A"</i>	26
<i>Hampton</i>	23
<i>Black Rock</i>	14
<i>Elsternwick A.N.A.</i>	14
<i>South St. Kilda</i>	10
<i>Sandringham</i>	6
<i>Brighton Union "B"</i>	5
<i>Elsternwick Trades</i>	4
<i>Brighton Club XI</i>	0

##### **SECOND GRADE.**

<i>Hurlingham</i>	23
<i>Brighton Methodist</i>	22
<i>Elsternwick Juniors</i>	20
<i>Hampton</i>	20
<i>Sandringham</i>	17
<i>St. Peter's</i>	15
<i>Brighton Central</i>	14
<i>Brighton Baptist</i>	12
<i>Sandringham Baptist</i>	9
<i>Holy Trinity</i>	5
<i>Brighton Union "C"</i>	4
<i>Sandringham Methodist</i>	0

The sixth round of matches was concluded on Saturday last. Most of the matches were of one day's duration owing to the wet weather of Dec. 15.

The following are the results:

### **FIRST GRADE**

Sandringham v. Brighton Union "A"

Sandringham - 96, Whybrow 20, Corbett 19, G. Fox 14; Madsen 6 for 42, Whitby 3 for 24.

Brighton Union "A" - 7 wickets for 183; Whitby 86, Madsen 23, Giles 16, Atkins 14 n.o.; Catlin 2 for 25.

Brighton Union won by 3 wickets and 86 runs on first innings.

### **75 plus years ago - 1925-50**

The second X1 crushed the opposition in the Grand Final of 1944-45 with Edlin 52, Hartley 40, and Neil 28 the top scorers in Union's 186 in reply to Benteleigh ANA's 89.

ANA could manage only 100 in its second dig with Hartley snaring 5/22. Union scored the 5 runs necessary for an outright win to give the club its first ever dual premierships.

The first and seconds won many matches outright during the season and in a match in December 1944 R. Neil playing in the seconds achieved what most probably is an unbeaten record when he smashed up a brilliant 131 not out and then took a hat trick. He was subsequently awarded a cricket bat by Mr Krygger of the Association.

Union had flexed its muscles, but the giant had not yet fully awakened. Following the premiership in 1944-45 the club won four first X1 premierships in the next ten years and were runners-up three times and missing the finals on only two occasion

### **SECOND ELEVEN PREMIERSHIP TEAM**



**The first X1 Footballers in 1945-46 and the seconds finished in fourth spot.**

## **Fifty plus years ago – 1950-75**

### **FIVE IN A ROW**

**Union continued to dominate the BDCA winning its fourth consecutive premiership in season 1958 -59 defeating Brighton Central.**

**Graham Hamilton won the BDCA best all rounder Under Eighteen player once again.**

### **FIRST ELEVEN PREMIERSHIP TEAM 1958 – 59**



**Back Row: Les Woods, Graeme Bindt, Bill Gillard, Graham Hamilton, Jack Forde, Ernie Kettle,  
Front Row: Frank Plant, Les Polson, George Polson (Captain) Les Adams, Brian Jones, John Polson**

**Then followed another Premiership in 1959-60 when we defeated Brighton Church of Christ. The team that year was Les Polson (Captain), Brian Jones (Vice Captain) George Polson, John Polson, Les Woods, Bill Gillard, Graeme Bindt, Graham Hamilton, Howard Leigh Watkin, Peter Smith, Jack Forde and John Egan.**

## LES POLSON RECALLS THE TEAM OF 1959-60

*Not many people will remember that I was Captain of the team that season. I believe this was the strongest batting line up in our Club's history.*

*George Polson and Peter Smith opened followed by Graham Hamilton, then came the greatest trio that has played for Union, John Polson, Bill Gillard and Brian Jones who retired hurt in the Grand Final when he was 180.*

*Then came Les Woods and Graeme Bindt the two players that saved the day in the Semi Final against Cochran, they both made 67. Ralph Banks and Rex Prosser who played for Cochran later joined Union. Leigh Watkin at nine followed by Jack Forde at ten and I batted last.*

*We dismissed Brighton Church of Christ for under 100 and we made over 400.*

## Twenty five years ago plus – 1975 – 2000

### UNION'S MOST FAMOUS SON – JULIEN WIENER

Julien joined the club in late 1967 at the age of 13. It was obvious from the beginning that he was an outstanding all round cricketer.

In that season he played seven Under Fourteen matches and one Under Sixteen match and senior cricket with the second elevens.

Julien played a total of 82 matches with the Club, 50 with the seniors, the majority of these with the firsts as an underage player. He made 758 runs with a highest score of 54 not out and took 26 wickets at an average of 13.8.

He played 39 junior matches and made 1162 runs at an average of 46.4 with a highest score of 148 and took 86 wickets at an average of 7.1

His 148 (run out) was made in the Under 16 grand final win in 1970. Other members of that side included his captain David Blair, Jeff Armstrong and Maurice Jones.

In 1969 Julien snared 8/31 off 19 overs against Washington in the Under 14s, he caught five of his victims himself, and finished with the match figures of 15/51.

Julien was Junior Club Champion in 1968-69 and 1969-70

When Julien completed his first grade career he returned to his home at Union and played in the first eleven premiers side of 1996-97.

Julien's test debut for Australia was against England in Perth in season 1979/80. He played six tests and batted in eleven innings making 281 runs, with a highest score of 93 and an average of 25.54.

He also played seven one day internationals, the first against England in the same season at Melbourne.

Julien made 140 runs at an average of 20.0 in the one day internationals.

Overall he played 64 first class matches from 1977-78 to 1984-85, making 3609 runs, with a highest score of 221 not out and an average of 30.32.



**The great Julien Wiener at training**

### **10 years ago plus 2000 onwards**

***MOORABBIN LEADER NEWSPAPER dated 7 OCTOBER 2006 reported***

#### ***GAYNOR'S TON OF FUN***

*Brighton Union opening bat James "Gloria" Gaynor started the season in fine style. Lashing the Omega attack for a fine 130 on the opening day of the CMCA Longmuir Shield season at Hurlingham Park on Saturday afternoon.*

*Gaynor and opening partner Andrew Vaughan (52) set the tone for Union's day with an opening stand of 103.*

*Omega's attack fought back well late in the day but couldn't dislodge Gaynor until Union had put up an imposing 8/289.*

**BAYSIDE LEADER NEWSPAER dated 14 NOVEMBER 2006 reported  
CMCA Cricket**

**CAPTAIN'S KNOCK HELPS UNION RECLAIM TROPHY**

*Brighton Union put on a stunning display to reclaim the Pitt-Gorozidis Trophy in Saturday's CMCA Longmuir Shield match and both legends after whom the trophy is named had a significant say in proceedings.*

*In a match that was superb throughout, Union got up with just one ball remaining, finishing at 8/251 against East Sandringham 7/249.*

*Andrew Vaughan got Union away to a terrific start, posting his third half century of the season in dashing style and recovering ground after the loss of an early wicket.*

*But when partner Darian Kuzma (23) was dismissed with the score on 77 it triggered a collapse as Union fell to 5/97, including the wicket of Vaughan (61).*

*Stuart Bell (30) joined skipper Con Pothitos to get things back on track and they added 73.*

*Con Gorozidis went to the wicket determined to go one better than respected opponent Kim Pitt, who hit an unbeaten 75 on the first day.*

*While he didn't manage that, he did add 55 with Pothitos before departing for 39 to a pressure outfield catch by Ryan Pearce.*

*At that stage Union required 25 runs with only three wickets remaining. Pothitos eventually won the day, boldly lofting an off-drive for four and finishing 73 not out, completing a truly great captain's knock.*

**MOORABBIN LEADER NEWSPAPER dated 21 FEBRUARY 2007 reported**

*Brighton Union openers Andrew Vaughan and Jimmy "Gloria" Gaynor combined for an unbroken 221 stand as they passed Aspendale Edithvale RSL (163) without requiring any help.*

*Vaughan (113no) finally went on with the job after a remarkably consistent season and Gaynor (100no) notched his second ton for the season.*