



Edinburgh Cricket Club

2011-2012

Annual Report

Premiers

Men's 2nd XI
U13 Maroon

Runners Up

One Day XI
Veterans XI Yellow

Semi Finalists

Men's 1st XI
Women's XI
Men's 3rd XI

Semi Finalists

Men's 4th XI Yellow
U15 Yellow

Values

Community Oriented

Seek to engage the local community in the club at all levels.

Inclusive

Provide access to cricket for everyone interested. Encourage diversity across the club.

Open

Be transparent, provide forums for questions to be asked and seek feedback from members and key stakeholders.

United

All areas of the club are involved, respected and represented. Share and celebrate successes. Challenge and encourage each other.

Development Focussed

Maximise the potential of the club. Focus on individual development needs. Select competitive teams for those with high performance focus.



The Burra Plan

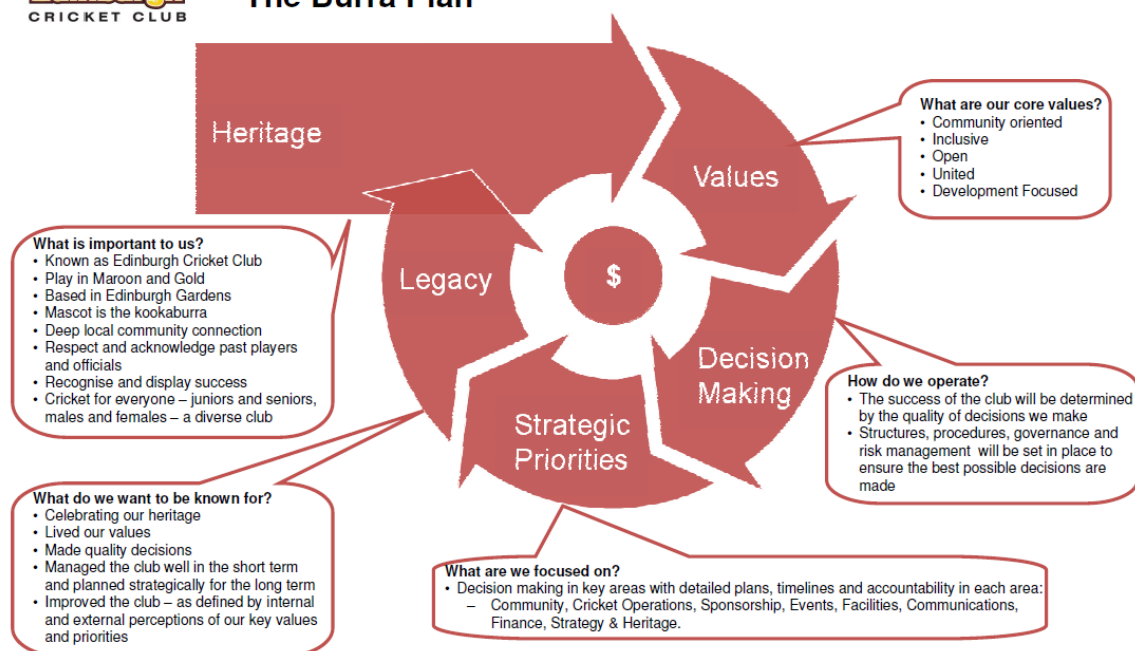


Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE	3
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	3
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.....	5
AFFILIATIONS	5
LIFE MEMBERS.....	5
DUKE OF EDINBURGH	5
SECRET AGENT TEAM OF THE YEAR	5
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS.....	6
ATHERTON GARDENS.....	6
CRICKET OPERATIONS.....	8
DIRECTOR OF CRICKET REPORT.....	8
SENIOR MENS	10
COACH'S REPORT	10
FIRST XI	11
SECOND XI	14
THIRD XI	17
FOURTH XI MAROON.....	20
FOURTH XI GOLD	22
ONE-DAY XI	24
VETERANS YELLOW XI	24
VETERANS MAROON XI	25
WOMEN'S	27
WOMEN'S XI	27
JUNIORS.....	28
JUNIOR COORDINATOR'S REPORT	28
OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS	30
UNDER 15 MAROON.....	31
UNDER 15 YELLOW.....	33
UNDER 13 MAROON.....	35
UNDER 13 YELLOW.....	37
UNDER 11 YELLOW.....	40
UNDER 11 MAROON.....	41
UNDER 11 WHITE	43
FINANCE.....	45
FINANCIAL SUMMARY.....	45
FINANCE REPORTS	47
COTERIE GROUPS	48
CLUB 78	48
DUCHESSSES OF EDINBURGH.....	48
SPONSORS.....	49
MAJOR SPONSORS	49
GOLD SPONSORS	50
MAROON SPONSORS.....	51
RICHMOND.....	51

Executive

President's Report

2011-12 has certainly been a challenging year both off & on the field, with the playing landscape forever changing and a tough economic climate to operate within. It is with great pleasure that the current Executive present the Annual Report & Strategy Paper.

I would like to formally thank the entire Executive team for the dedication, effort and persistence in effectively continuing to run, shape & lay the future foundations for the Edinburgh CC. I would also like to thank, you as a supporter, parent, player and sponsor of this great club, for all your work, passion and energy through 2011-12. It takes an effort from everybody to make the vibrant, progressive, successful club & enjoyable environment we have.

All community organisations cannot operate without the support of valued partners. I would formally like to thank Lion Nathan, Fitzroy Victoria Bowling Club, Secret Agent buyer's advocates, Commercial Club Hotel, North-Fitzroy-Clifton Hill Bendigo Bank, Paton's Place Jewellers, Fox Hotel, House of Golf (Flinders Street), Menz Club and Blonde Robot for their ongoing financial support.

The City of Yarra through Jonathan Coyne, Stuart Grant & Peter Mitten, and Parks Victoria through Tristan Factor again provide us with our fantastic facilities, grounds & support where needed and I look forward to working hand in hand with them again in 2012-13.

Financially we continue to operate efficiently & profitably to ensure we are able to meet any financial challenges that occur day to day & in the future. A part of the current financial goal is to build a 'future fund', that will enable us to invest in cricket operations through the upgrading of training facilities, equipment & coaching structures in order to offer the best facilities & program possible to all members.

Again we have been a leader & voice in our local community. Stan White (Vice President & Junior Coordinator) again facilitated the Atherton Gardens cricket program with the aid of Victoria Police and the City of Yarra, which resulted in some 30 children from the Atherton Garden complex being given the opportunity to experience cricket. Pleasingly 4-5 youngsters progressed into our U/11 squads. In conjunction with the City of Yarra, in particular Peter Mitten, we introduced an All Abilities program for children with disabilities, offering a modified cricket program on Saturday morning. Julie Allan (Women's Coordinator) played a vital role in the formulation of this and I look forward to the program developing in 2012-13.

Our communication to the entire membership was identified as a weakness from the 2010-11 member survey. Through the effort of Bob Neilson (Communications Director) a new communication strategy & streams, including Email, Twitter & Facebook, were formulated improving this immediately. We are in the process of upgrading the club website & I look forward to the re-launch in the new season, bringing together all the current communication streams and continuing to develop our communication with you.

The formation of two Coterie Groups – Club 78 & the Duchesses of Edinburgh were a highlight for me, as we continued to strive to ensure our environment is family & partner friendly, and reconnect with past players & supporters. I would like to formally thank Daniel Watson and Sarah Brake/ Sarah Lorkin for their efforts in formulating both groups & I look forward to the development & future functions of both in 2012-13.

We continue to actively participate, support and donate funds through Pink Stumps Day. A day facilitated by the McGrath Foundation & in aid of breast cancer support & research. Unfortunately this disease has struck close to home, with 4 parents and partners being diagnosed with breast cancer in 2011-12. All our support goes to those suffering & their families. As a club it strengthens the resolve to ensure we support this charity yearly. Thank you to Julie Allan for organising & facilitating the day.

The club this year went through the rigorous process of updating its Strategic Plan and I am genuinely excited about the five core values: - United, Community Orientated, Open, Inclusive and Development Focussed that we as club have developed out of this process. Our vision to be a values driven organisation is something that I am extremely passionate about & I ask you to ensure that all future executive & club decisions are in line with this ideology. We as a group were extremely lucky to have the expertise and guidance of Matthew Green (Strategic & Planning Executive) through this process & I thank him for it.

I would like to formally thank Chris Horsley-Wyatt (Event Manager) who successfully facilitated the Annual Dinner, Reverse Raffle/Casino Night, Trivia, & Boxing Day Test functions, as well as club bowling & movie nights. The Annual Dinner was certainly the highlight & marquee function of the year - I look forward to what Chris has in store for members in 2012-13.

I would like to congratulate David Moulden & Stuart Whiley on jointly winning the Duke of Edinburgh Award for 2011-12. David's work in setting up our facilities & ensuring members enjoyed their social experience was second to none. Stuart's ability to effectively run, oversee & structure our cricket program to the high level it is, also needs to be acknowledged.

In each club there is a quiet achiever who without them, the club simply would not operate. I would formally like to thank Ted Sussex for his role as Club Secretary and Grants Manager. As a formal liaison between Edinburgh CC and all our key stakeholders, Ted manages the process efficiently, effectively & without fanfare. Ted has also once again overseen a substantial increase in Grants.

The Cricket program lead by Stuart Whiley (Director of Cricket), supported by Stan White (Vice President & Junior Co-ordinator), Sally Marsden (Junior Administrator), Conrad French (Senior Men's Co-ordinator), Julie Allan (Senior Women's Co-ordinator), Senior Men's Coach Chris Branigan and Senior Women's Coach Danny Gleeson was again a success. In any given week the Edinburgh CC facilitated 8 senior men's teams, 1 senior women's team, 8 junior teams and a Saturday morning Milo program, which on average is 250 members representing the club on any given Saturday.

I would like to formally congratulate the U/13 and the Senior Men's 2nd XI on 2011-12 premierships.

For the first time, the senior men captured the HDCA Pilkington Shield – a shield awarded by the HDCA to the most successful club on the field in 11-12. Well done to all.

I would like to personally congratulate

- Stuart Brown for winning the Shadbolt & Warner/Kelly medals.
- Brooke McKinley on winning the Chancellor/Allan medal.
- Tracey Gleeson on winning the Bullock medal and the VWCA Batting award.
- Stuart Brown, Chris Branigan & Nick Abbott for selection in the HDCA team of the year
- Josh Robinson for winning the U/13 HDCA bowling award

As a club we are in a better position to manage & tackle the challenges of 2012-13. The two largest I see being what competition the Senior Men & Juniors we will play in, due to the unfortunate dissolution of the HDCA, and the continual development & recruitment of female cricketers at both a senior & junior level.

In 2012-13 the club will continue to strive to improve: communication channels with the membership, the cricket program for all levels of participation, club events, a family friendly social environment & continue to be a leader in our community. I look forward to your support in the process.

In the end, my main hope is that you all enjoy your involvement & participation at the Mighty Burra.

Brad Shadbolt

Executive Committee

President: Brad Shadbolt
Vice President: Stan White
Secretary: Ted Sussex
Treasurer: Gayle Locke
Director of Cricket: Stuart Whiley
Events: Chris Horsley-Wyatt

Men's Coordinator: Conrad French
Women's Coordinator: Julie Allan
Communications Manager: Bob Neilson
Facilities Manager: David Moulden
Junior's Member: Michael Symons
Strategy & Planing: Matt Green

Affiliations

Heidelberg District Cricket Association Victorian Womens Cricket Association

Life Members

2010-2011 Julian Delahunt	1996-1997 Craig Cook
2009-2010 Todd Delahunt	1988-1989 Peter Shadbolt
2008-2009 Irene Bullock	1987-1988 Robert Greenaway
2004-2005 Barry Calnon	1985-1986 Ron Kelly
1999-2000 Rob Simpson	1981-1982 Wayne Warner

Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke/Duchess of Edinburgh was introduced to recognise an individual who has demonstrated outstanding commitment, dedication, effort and input to the club throughout the season.

2011-2012: Stuart Whiley and David Moulden (joint winners)

Previous Winners

2010-2011: Sally Marsden	2003-2004 Barry Calnon
2009-2010: Naresh Pereira	2002-2003 Barry Calnon
2008-2009: Stan White	2001-2002 Barry Calnon
2007-2008: Andy Olsen	2000-2001 Peter Hille
2006-2007 Barry Calnon	1999-2000 Peter Hille
2005-2006 Irene Bullock	1998-1999 Julian Delahunt
2004-2005 Todd Delahunt	

Secret Agent Team of the Year

Tracey Gleeson	Tegan French (C) (WK)
Brooke McKinley	Nick White
Stuart Brown	Paddy Dwyer
Ted Sussex	Conrad French
Nick Abbott	Chris Horsley-Wyatt
Marcus Lorkin	

Community Programs

Atherton Gardens

This year the Cricket Programme at Atherton Gardens again consisted of two parts-

- a) The FASTA programme at Atherton Gardens.
- b) The introduction of Atherton youngsters to club cricket at the Edinburgh Cricket Club.

The Programme at Atherton Gardens

This was the third year of the programme which is run as a part of the FASTA after school sporting activities for mid to late primary school aged children organised by the Yarra Youth Resource Officers at Fitzroy Police in partnership with ECC and Community Cricket at Cricket Victoria.

Cricket was familiar to the majority of youngsters as many had been on the previous programmes. This made for easier operation. The active involvement of CV staff (Stephanie Newton and Waddy Mwayenda, Community Cricket and David Bourke (CV regional manager for Inner South East, our region) allowed a wider programme of activities/drills. The aim was to provide a programme format with activities/drills that were appealing, gave maximum active involvement for the youngsters and were within their capabilities. That is, they have to be age specific (younger-older divisions) but not gender specific. Another important point learnt from past programmes was the need for a low ratio of coaches/assistants to youngsters (ca 1:2 or 3) as against ca 1:6 for similarly aged youngsters in a club environment. We were again helped by students from the ACU and by senior and junior players from ECC (namely Stan White, Julie Allen, Jack Viola, Murray and Nick White).

The programme consisted of weekly sessions of one hour to one and half hours ran over the winter semester from mid July to mid September. Little time was lost through weather. Again the big plus was that the end of the programme in mid- September corresponded to the commencement of the club training at Edinburgh CC for the new season. This enabled further progress to be made in incorporating the youngsters from Atherton Gardens into club cricket.

The number of youngsters attending Atherton Gardens FASTA cricket was again set at ca 20 with a maximum of 25; the number which could be spatially and physically supported to give a good programme. Overall, session attendance was high; basically 100% throughout the programme indicating that the programme was again well received. The feedback from the youngsters was positive and confirmed that they had enjoyed their cricket programme.

During the FASTA sessions the youngsters were divided into two groups; a younger (split into two sub-groups) and an older. The drills/activities for the former group basically corresponded to MILO in2 Cricket and those for the latter to MILO Have a Game. Sessions started with activities/ drills which involved all and concluded with a group wrap-up to ensure a sense of group cohesion.

A further positive feature this past year was the increase in the number of girls participating in the programme. Previously the number had been about 25 %. At any one session this past season, there were ca 50% girls. The presence of female coaches and female assistants created a girl friendly environment during the programme. Experience gained over the past 3 years is that their presence has a positive effect on the overall behaviour of the youngsters.

The introduction of Atherton youngsters to club cricket at the Edinburgh Cricket Club.

This aspect of the programme, initiated in season 2010/11, is aimed at introducing Atherton youngsters to junior cricket in a club environment and to a wider community environment. The lack of Atherton parental involvement was a problem encountered in 2010/ 11 and worked on in 2011/12.

The youngsters, depending on age, joined the ECC U11 group training on Saturday morning and playing matches on Wednesday evening or the MILO programme on Saturday morning. Again, there

was an initial lack of parental involvement to get the youngsters up to and from the Brunswick St (Fitzroy) Oval. Parents of youngsters who had shown an interest in 2010-11 were no longer living in Atherton Gardens. A grant from Cricket Victoria enabled us to have a female student from the ACU as a carer to bring the Atherton youngsters up and from ECC for training and matches.

Nine Atherton youngsters, seven boys and two girls, initially signed up but the two girls and one boy dropped out for cultural/religious reasons at the start of the programme and one boy dropped out early because of a clash with soccer. The remaining five all played U11 cricket, two occasionally and three consistently.

After consultation with the coaches, the boys were spread between two teams to prevent the possibility of a sub-group forming if all were placed in the same team. They were initially uncertain about playing in a team environment. However they settled into teams quickly and were accepted by team mates as a part of the team. They were helped with their cricket by team mates and the parents of team mates. Parents of team mates transported the boys to and from away games. The boys came to be fully accepted by team mates *as a part of their team*. They were clapped or given high fives by team mates for good cricket and invited to share personal equipment as it was considered better than that provided by the Club. They also took their turn as team captain.

The Atherton youngsters noticeably developed their cricketing skills. They also developed as 'youngsters'. They were nervous and uncertain at the start. At the end of the season they were more relaxed and more confident, had adjusted to a new social environment and had made new friendships which have been extended to Fitzroy High School. Their behaviour was good. But care had to be taken that intergroup tensions at Atherton Gardens did not surface when all were training together. No tensions surfaced in a match environment.

An important development during the 2011/12 season was the involvement of an Atherton parent in the programme to the point that after Christmas he brought the Atherton youngsters up to ECC for their training and matches and to the Presentation Evening and season wind up for all of the club's juniors.

Acknowledgements

The Edinburgh Cricket Club thanks Cricket Victoria, the City of Yarra and Bendigo Bank for support which has enabled the Club to link the FASTA Programme developed by the Yarra Youth Resource Officers (Chris McGeachan and Tony Brewin) at Fitzroy Police into its Junior Programme at Brunswick Street Oval.

-Stan White

Cricket Operations

Director of Cricket Report

I believe that 2011/12 will go down as a significant one in the future history of the Edinburgh Cricket Club. From the proposed HDCA/NMCA/DVCA merger and its failure to the HDCA becoming no longer viable and the AGM's vote on which competition Edinburgh should play in, it has definitely been a big and challenging year in cricket. Besides a quick summary, I will leave the detailed on-field reports to the skippers and I will focus on a few thank-yous and outlining what in my opinion are the major challenges facing the club's cricket operations.

2011/12 PERFORMANCE

According to our survey and anecdotal feedback, the on-field and training experiences provided to our players and members improved again on last year and generally were extremely positive. We have further work to do, but ultimately our player and member satisfaction is critical to our ongoing success and viability as a club.

Pleasingly, the club has performed very well on-field again, winning two premierships (1 senior, 1 junior) and having our senior women, all bar one of our senior mens and one of our veterans teams all play finals. Most notably, the club won the Pilkington Shield as the best club in the HDCA for the first time. The award is based on the results of the first 3 grades and with ours ones, twos and threes all finishing top 2, the shield was a great recognition of the continuing improvement of the overall on-field competitiveness that the club.

RECOGNITION

Our junior program continues to go from strength to strength. From our focused winter development program, through to our coaching and our improving integration of our juniors into our senior training and sides, we again offered a very solid junior program this season. In no small part this is due to the enormous efforts of Stan White, Sally Marsden and Mick Symons. The club is indebted to each of you for the power of work you continue to do. Thanks also to all of our junior coaches, team managers and parents.

On behalf of the club, I would like to thank Danny Gleeson who at the end of the season finished 3 on-field successful year's as our Senior Women's coach. We have played finals every year under Danny, with one premiership and a runner's up finish testament to the on-field success. We are moving in to a new phase of our senior women's program, with a significant focus on player development. Best wishes to Danny with his new coaching endeavours.

I would also like to thank Chris Branigan for his continuing efforts as our senior men's coach. Chris has added significantly to our on-field and training leadership and been a key pillar in the club's continued improvement over the last few years. Chris also took on the first grade skipper role this season and performed very well.

To our other senior skippers – Tegan French, Will Horsley-Wyatt, Kevin Long, Ron Pennefather, Dominic Britton, Andy Olsen and Mick Symons – thanks for your enormous efforts. It is a tough but rewarding job and each of you made significant contributions to the club with your efforts. After 3 years trying, it was fantastic to finally fill the coaching structure identified in the club's previous strategy with Stuart Brown and Chris Lomas joining the club as Assistant Coaches. In my opinion, both added a significant amount to the club in their own respective ways and it is very pleasing to announce that both have committed to returning to the Burra for next season. With returning coaches who know the club and whom we know, I believe both will add even further value next season. Filling the roles has also allowed us to evaluate the structure from the previous plan and identify its strengths and weaknesses in delivering value to our members. I will elaborate on some of our learnings later. Enormous thanks to Stu and Lomo for their contributions to the club in 2011/12.

Finally, I need to mention our senior women and senior men coordinators. Julie Allan put significant efforts into our Milo program and trying to build our junior girls' position. I am looking forward to this part of the club continuing to grow. Conrad French was a fantastic asset to us and he is largely responsible for us getting all our teams on the park every week.

CHALLENGES

The most significant challenges we face in delivering our vision of providing cricket for everyone is balancing the different expectations of what is a very broad membership base.. It is a balance that is probably impossible to get 100% right, but in my opinion we have made and continue to make significant progress in improving the balance over the last few years.

1. Future of Women's side(s)

One of the fundamental strengths of Edinburgh is our senior women's program, but we need to do some significant work to shore up the program's sustainability. Since our numbers dictated 3 years ago that we reduced from 2 teams to 1, we have faced enormous problems with conflicts between those wanting to play competitive, pushing to win cricket and those who would prefer a greater focus on development and broader participation. Despite on-field success, player satisfaction has been too low and our playing numbers have declined to a critical point. A further challenge is the absence of a funnel of new players into the group.

To address the player dissatisfaction, we will be appointing next season a new coach with a mandate to focus on skill development, training variety and general enjoyment.. As a club, we need to work on our recruitment of females. This will be a significant focus for the new exec and will include continuing and growing efforts to integrate junior girls into cricket and exploring new recruitment avenues.

2. Integrating into new competition

With the HDCA no longer viable, our juniors, senior men and veterans will all be in a new competition next year. This is a significant change for a cricket club and one that the club executive has not taken lightly. I will not rehash the information provided to the membership, but in short, a n executive sub-committee did a comprehensive evaluation of the competitions within metropolitan Melbourne, with two suitable competitions identified (NMCA and ECA) and ECA clearly seen as the best fit for the club.

The ECA poses a number of opportunities for Edinburgh, but as with any change there will no doubt be teething problems through year 1. Maintaining our strong programmes and growing them in a new competition will be a key focus for next season.

3. Balancing junior player development/enjoyment

Our junior program is a major club asset. We do though operate in an environment where junior cricket numbers are declining and there is a general drop off in numbers at the higher age groups. This resulted in us not having an U17 team last year. One of the strengths of our program has been our participative focus which has redressed previous imbalances where programmes were overly-focused on winning. Getting this balance right is critical and we have reached a point, where for older age groups we need to review our positions. This is not to suggest we need to change, but we may be able to improve player enjoyment and the development of all of juniors by making slight adjustments to the balance. Evaluating this will be another key focus of the new exec.

4. Junior/Senior Development

The club has made significant progress in integrating our juniors into our senior program. Most weeks last season there would be 12-15 juniors not just playing senior cricket, but being active in key roles within teams across all grades. Focusing on this area has delivered some strong benefits to Edinburgh (increased depth of players, greater player retention, increased sides,

improved club culture/atmosphere), but it is vital that we maintain the services we are offering all our members whilst delivering these benefits. Maintaining a balance here can be extremely challenging and this will continue to be a focus of the club exec.

5. *Balancing needs of all senior men*

Last but by no means least, our senior men's program is very large and our numbers would be the envy of most cricket clubs in Australia. There are significant challenges with resources (nets, space, coaches etc) and delivering a strong, valued service across the broad range of the group. Filling the previous strategy's structure with two assistants added to our ability to service here. Previously, the lack of assistants was perceived as the major issue. I believe splitting the group at times has lessened the resource strain and allowed for more focused service delivery based on the splits.

There are two key challenges highlighted by having the additional coaches and the splitting of the group. By nature of the men's coach and assistants all playing first grade when the groups split all 3 would be with one group. Often this was more to do with their own training, rather than coaching, but it does highlight that within this structure we have a gap related to who coaches/leads the other groups. Addressing this is vital to meeting the needs of all our players and is something we will look to do next season.

We also need to balance splitting the group with the general cohesiveness which is important to our members and one of our great strengths. This necessitates that we focus as much on integration and building the club cohesiveness as the advantages from splitting. This is a delicate balance and I look forward to ongoing feedback from all of you on this next season.

Thanks to everyone for their efforts in representing Edinburgh. If anyone wants to discuss any of the above or has concerns on anything else, please contact me. I want to hear from you all. It is only through continuing to work together that we can continue to grow, develop and prosper.

-Stuart Whiley

Senior Mens

Coach's Report

As with previous seasons, Edinburgh Cricket Club continued to enjoy enthusiastic and reliable patronage from its playing group at both training and match days. In addition the club was able to welcome many new members to the club, who were no doubt attracted to the club for many varied reasons but ultimately all stay because we have a great club. One of those welcomed to the club was our English import, Chris Lomas, who made a significant input to the club both on field and off field and we look forward to having him back 2012/2013. There were several other changes to the leadership of our club XI's from the previous season:

- Will Horsley-Wyatt was named captain of the 3rd XI, relieving Daniel Watson after two seasons of great leadership.
- Kevin Long replaced the Canada bound Todd Delahunt as captain of the 4th XI and did an admirable job filling the significant legacy left behind by Todd.
- I took on the role of 1st XI Captain in the absence of life member Julian Delahunt.

Each of these appointments contributed, as well as the existing appointments, an enormous amount of their own time and energy for the benefit of the Cricket Club. It is my strong belief that it was the selfless attitude of these men which continues to advance the change in culture at the Edinburgh Cricket Club. A culture, where having pride in the way the club is represented in all facets is important to all our members, as the viral spread of "where would you rather be" clearly suggests!

The pre-season began in mid August just as the chill was beginning to leave the air and winter gave rise to spring. Like the previous season we trained at the Northcote Indoor Cricket Centre and once football had concluded at BSO we trained there also. Like in previous seasons training was keenly

attended and strong training numbers throughout the pre-season saw the club in the enviable position of again fielding 6 Men's XI's.

Throughout the season training was keenly attended by up to 50 club members on occasion and consistently more than 30. The large numbers at training placed considerable strain upon the training facilities at the Cricket Club from time to time; however, the inclusion of fielding drills and centre wicket training to the sessions allowed the coaching staff, to more fully engage all members of the training group. That said, improvements need, have been and will continue to be made to how we handle our large training numbers in the future. These imminent changes will only better serve to engage the members of our Cricket Club, so that all members depart training feeling that their time and energies have been well spent.

The greater level of professionalism and involvement within our Cricket Club's coaching structure clearly rubbed off upon the playing group. All but one of our 6 Mens' XIs' played finals cricket. Of the 5 teams to play finals, the 2nd XI progressed to the grand final, where they enjoyed another victory over North Heidelberg. The One Day XI made their grand final but unfortunately were triumphed on the day by a better team. Whilst it was a terrific achievement for the club to win a premiership, it was pleasing to witness the level of disappointment of members of the other XI's that they hadn't been able to earn their own premiership medallion. I hope that this type of reaction to defeat will see us return as an even stronger Cricket Club next season and strives to enjoy the same level of across grade competitiveness in the ECA as we have in the HDCA.

From an individual's perspective I would like to thank all members of the club both old, new and in between for their efforts this season. Hopefully, the off season provides all of us with the time to appreciate our performances and achievements in the past season and that the distance from the game allows us to identify those aspects that we did well, those aspects we didn't do so well and what it is that we can do to improve our performance. I also hope that the off-season provides you with ample time to build up Brownie Points with those close to you!

Finally, I personally look forward to continuing my participation within the Edinburgh Cricket Club and I hope that all other members are equally as excited by the success that awaits us if we are prepared to show the necessary commitment, effort and attitude. The Edinburgh Cricket Club is a fantastic place to play cricket, both socially and physically. As a consequence we should feel honoured and downright lucky to be part of Brunswick Street and all that it entails. It also means that as a collective we should be desperate to ensure that through our actions, both on and off field, that all members of our community and our new competition offer us the respect that we crave. Thanks for reading and I hope to see you ready and raring for what promises to be another engaging and rewarding season.

- Chris Branigan

First XI

In preparation for season 2011-2012 the Edinburgh 1st enjoyed a solid preparation and had the added benefit of welcoming back former 1st XI captain Nick Abbott after a season on the sidelines due to injury. Club President and another former 1st XI captain also hit the ground running about 10% lighter than previous years. In addition to Brad and Nick the club was also lucky enough to sign Chris Lomas from the UK and his presence further strengthened the batting line up.

The first game of the season saw the side travel out to Banyule to face a weakened side compared to previous years. Winning the toss and batting the Edinburgh side were keen to set Banyule a huge total...losing three wickets before 20 runs were on the board was the result. Fortunately Chris Lomas and Brad Shadbolt, and once Chris was dismissed, Nick Abbott put together great innings to push our score to 170. With the ball Edinburgh took regular wickets from a variety of avenues to bowl Banyule out for 120. A solid win was had and this was a fantastic way to start the season.

Round 2 and the Burra were playing against Viewbank in a two day game. Viewbank batted first and despite a disciplined bowling effort they were able to post a very competitive score of 160. All the

bowlers bowled good lines but just like the week before, no one was able to get themselves a 'bag' of wickets. With the bat, the Burra top order was again shaky and at one stage were 4/50. At this stage Nick Abbott joined the established Stuart Brown and they were able to reel off the remaining 110 runs minutes before the rain began to fall. In the process both men scored the first of what would be several half centuries.

A wet Brunswick St. Oval welcomed the Edinburgh and Heidelberg teams. The conditions saw the game delayed and a 30 over a side game ensued. Edinburgh again made a hash of their top order batting and quickly found themselves 3 wickets down, with very few runs on the scoreboard. The middle order battled hard against a strong Heidelberg attack and were able to post a final score of 95. With the bat, the Heidelberg team showed us how it should be done, despite the attack again bowling tight and disciplined lines. In the end Heidelberg passed us for the fall of only 3 wickets with a couple of overs still to be bowled.

For the third game in a row Brunswick was the stage and the Edinburgh boys the players, this time in a two day game against the reigning premiers, Rosanna. Electing to bowl first, Edinburgh were well and truly concerned as Rosanna progressed to 0/40 with relative ease. A great period of bowling by Murray White and Rosanna found themselves 4/50. Regular, fighting partnerships saw Rosanna battle their way to a respectable 160. In reply, Edinburgh again found themselves in top order trouble, losing two wickets before 10 runs were tallied. Great partnerships between Stuart Brown and Chris Lomas, then Stuart with Brad Shadbolt and finally Brad with Nick Abbott saw the Burra over the line with many overs to spare.

The inclement weather meant the Round 5 game between Edinburgh and West Heidelberg was cancelled. Given that we beat them outright, later in the year, it most likely meant that we were denied another win.

Round 6 and the Burra were again at Brunswick St. this time against East Ivanhoe. The Saints batted first and were able to post a competitive total of 120 from their 40 overs despite some great bowling from Brad Low and Sam Branigan. Fresh from a terrific 8 overs, Brad Low was given the opportunity to top the order in an effort to stem the sides top order woes. Not only did the opening partnership make it to double figures for the first time for the season but it actually progressed all the way to beyond 50 before Jay Garoni was dismissed. In the end Brad fell for a well-made 65 which when combined with Stuart Brown's 30 not out the Burra achieved an easy victory.

A journey to the northern wilds of metropolitan Melbourne and a match against Nth Brunswick/Rosebank was on the agenda for Edinburgh in round 7. The previous times the side had been to Cotchin Reserve they were well and truly underwhelmed by the conditions but well and truly overwhelmed by the competition. It is safe to say that the opposite occurred this time around because this time the Burra stepped out on a fantastic playing surface which would host the A grade grand final later in the year. The combine batted first and the Edinburgh attack were able to break through in the initial overs and have three members of the top order back in the pavilion, including their dangerous captain/coach David Plumpton, before 30 runs were on the board. Regular wickets continued to fall but ultimately it was the disciplined lines which were the victor as Nth Brunswick/Rosebank were forced to close their innings at 120 after their allotted 40 overs. Brad Low again opened the batting and again saw the Burra off to a flying start before he was dismissed for 37. Stuart Brown again made a half century and was again undefeated as he saw the team through to the score required with 7 wickets in hand and more than 8 overs to spare!

The last game before the Christmas break saw the Burra back at home for their second game of the season against Banyule. A bowling and fielding performance well below par saw the Banyule side post an admirable score of 150 from their allotted 80 overs. The Edinburgh batting performance was equally poor and the loss of regular wickets saw the side eventually bowled out for 120, a very disappointing loss to a side that would eventually finish a long way outside the top 4.

Post Christmas and the Burra were again playing against the Combine but this time at Brunswick St. It was the Combine who batted first and they eventually posted a very competitive score of 160 but

at times it looked like it would have the potential to much, much more. Again though, it was disciplined bowling from the attack which won the day rather than one bowler taking a bag. With the bat, the score was very quickly whittled away, again by the thrashing machine, Brad Low. Some towering shots were the highlight of his 44 which put the Burra on track. A middle order collapse saw some nervous moments with the score at 6/115 with 10 overs to play; however, a terrific innings from Bob Neilson saw the Burra over the line with more than 2 overs to spare and not another wicket lost.

A 'beach' cricket ground was provided by Rosanna for the round 10 fixture and the match was duly cancelled by the umpires!

Round 11 saw many of the 1st XI return to the home of their football triumphs, Chelsworth Park, for the return match against East Ivanhoe. An early wicket had the Burra in a little bit of bother but from that point forward it was one way traffic as first Stuart Brown and then Chris Lomas struck magnificent centuries which paved the way to an excellent Burra score in excess of 300 runs. Nick Abbott was also able to chime in with a fast paced 60 late in the day. The following week the Burra bowlers toiled in the heat and were able to dismiss East for 120 with no fewer than 4 wickets falling to full tosses. In an attempt to gain 4 more valuable points East were sent in for a second time but little headway was made and the game was called off at 5.30 with East only 1 wicket down for 47.

Having missed out on playing West Heidelberg earlier in the season combined with the fact that the 1st XI had fallen to 3rd on the ladder after Rosanna's outright victory the week before the 1st XI were delighted to be greeted with perfect weather at Brunswick St. After winning the toss, West Heidelberg were sent into the bat, as the Burra were keen to give themselves an opportunity to achieve an outright result. With the ball the bowlers again maintained the tight and disciplined lines that they had bowled all year and eventually bowled West Heidelberg out for 100 in the 48th over. With 32 overs to play in the day the Burra were keen to achieve the 1st innings victory before stumps. It was not to be however; as again, the top order failed and at stumps Edinburgh were 5/70 but Nick Abbott was still at the crease. Week 2 rolled around and the West Heidelberg were only able to turn out 9 players! The final 30 runs came comparatively quickly when compared to the first 70 and after 10 overs the Burra had declared with Nick Abbott getting another half century. Jack Viola had to replace the injured Murray White, who had damaged a groin during his first innings efforts. What a replacement he was finishing with 6 wickets for the match as West Heidelberg were bowled out for 70 in the second innings and the chase of 65 was completed by the Burra with 7 wickets and 8 overs to spare. A great outright win that put the Burra to 2nd on the ladder with only percentage denying them the top spot.

The final round was a two day game and Melbourne presented all competitors with most varied weather that it could offer. Day 1 was a blustery, hot day in the mid to high 30's while the 2nd week saw continuous rain which prevented a ball from being bowled and the Burra from attaining a probable victory. Despite the game being a draw it would be remiss not to commend Stuart Brown on his excellent century in what were incredibly difficult conditions and as a 'knock' it was testament to his technique and concentration.

After 14 rounds of cricket the Edinburgh 1st XI finished 2nd and had earned themselves a home final at Brunswick St. Throughout the season they were only defeated twice and had beaten their semi final opponent, Rosanna, the one time that they had played them. Coincidentally, that game had also been a two day game at Brunswick St. All those statistic suggested that the final would be a positive experience but it was anything but. After winning the toss the Edinburgh top order struggled against an excellent bowling and fielding performance from Rosanna and at one stage were 8/55. In the end the tail wagged and carried the Edinburgh 1st XI to a score of 104, a score that had the potential to be competitive should the bowling and fielding be faultless. Despite some great efforts with the ball and in the field too many errors were made and Rosanna won on the day by 7 wickets to prematurely end the Edinburgh season.

As captain I would like to thank all the men who represented the 1st XI: Nick Abbott, Sam Branigan, Stuart Brown, Nick Callanan, Jay Garoni, Luke Lambert, Chris Lomas, Marcus Lorkin, Brad Low,

Nathan Hudson, Bob Neilson, Ted Sussex, Brad Shadbolt, Jack Viola, Tom Witherdon and Murray White. Each of them represented the 'flagship' of the club in the way that it should be represented.

Although it was a disappointing conclusion to the season, it was season that drew many positive:

- The two centuries made by Stuart Brown and the century made by Chris Lomas.
- The outstanding return from injury made by Nick Abbott.
- The emergence of Murray White as a genuine 1st XI cricketer.
- The continued development of positive culture throughout the club, led by the actions of the members of the 1st XI.

Now we look forward to the challenges that will welcome us when we commence as a playing member of the Eastern Cricket Association in 2012/2013.

- Chris Branigan

Second XI

2011/12 was another big season for the twos, going back to back and starting to build more consistency in performance. We lost the last of only 3 games for the year first up after Christmas and the performances continued to build from there on through to winning the GF.

Bowling first to kick off the season, the Burra restricted Banyule to 6/105 off their 40 overs with Mick Younger and Marcus Lorkin (Mooks) were at their miserly best bowling 8 overs each for 1/9 and 0/11 respectively. Will Keating (2/27) and Chris Horsley-Wyatt (CH) (2/30) shared the wickets. Flying in reply, Bob Neilsen (21) and Ted Sussex (22) got us to 0/55. This quickly became 4/58 then 5/75, before Jack Viola (20*) and Stuart Whiley (17*) steadied and got us home with overs to spare.

With a win under the belt we came up against North Heidelberg who had a point to prove following our semi-final win over them and everything else that followed last year. They were though without their skipper and we took full advantage. Bowling first, we rolled them for 129 with Jack Viola 4-22 and Bob Neilsen 3-48 the chief destroyers. Bob (52) and Nathan Hudson (58) then compiled a 111 run opening partnership before a quick fire 49 from Nick (Junior) Callanan and 29 from Jack Viola got us to 7/215 where we declared. With North only bringing 6 players for week 2, we made light work of them and bowled them out for 57 for an innings and 29 run win. CH took 2 and pleasingly Tom Watkin took his first 2nd grade wicket to finish the game.

In round 3, on a slow Heidelberg ground, we made 6/135 of our 40 overs. Harry Down top scored with 33 and Stevie Johnston made a quick-fire 23. Defending the score, Micky Y (1/12 off 8) and Mooks (3/20 off 8) were again tight and Mick Fogarty joined the party conceding only 18 from his 8 to restrict the Bergers to 6/73 from 32 overs. Unfortunately, one of Heidelberg's A graders made a blistering 51 not out to single-handedly win the game.

Round 4 took us to Rosanna for a 2 dayer. Bowling first, we kept Rosanna to 143, despite Darren Crawford compiling a well-made 72. Ted got amongst the wickets with 3/21 and was well supported by seemingly repeat offenders Mooks (3/28) and Mick Y (2/33). 50s from Harry Down (54), Ted (55) and Mooks (51), with an incredibly quick 26 from Junior got us to 6/230 and left 40 overs for an unlikely outright. Ted (2/4) and Mooks (3/14) got us some quick poles to have Rosanna 6/65 before they put the shots away and held on to finish 6/94.

A wash-out in Rd5, left just the Sunday game against Old Ivanhoe in the super weekend of cricket. With new shoes for the game, Jack Viola bowled a blistering spell of 7 overs 1/14, bowling Old Ivanhoe's opening bat as he was leaving the first ball of the game. More expensive than normal, Micky Y got amongst the wickets with 4/30 and was well supported by the again unscorable from Mooks with 2/11. Continuing the trend of the last 3 games, it was just one bloke that got away from us with Old's captain Gianfagna making 63 to get his team to all out 142. Very disappointing with the stick, we were all out 105. Darv Moulden (23) and Jack Viola (13) did have us in the game at 2/63 but we were then 9/85 and out of the game.

In a rematch of last season's grand final against Rosebank, Jono Coyne (65) and Ted Sussex (35) showed their class to get us to a very good 7/160 off our 40 overs. The game ebbed and flowed in both teams' directions during Rosebank's chase. Becoming a theme, but Mooks was again unhittable with 2/14 off 8 and Jack Viola also grabbed 2 poles. It was Mick Fogarty though that stepped up after being hit around the over before to grab the key Rosebank wicket. From there on we restricted the runs and won the game with Rosebank only getting 8/154.

The game finished in unfortunate circumstances as Rosebank President Ric Tenuta suffered a massive heart attack. Thankfully, Sarah Grant and Will Horsley-Wyatt were on the scene and together administered CPR and got Ric through till the Ambulance arrive, essentially saving his life.

Rd 9 took us out to Banyule. Not having our best day with the ball, Banyule built a very good 9/235. It most likely would have been more if not for big Ted's miserly bowling - 15 overs for 1-20 - and Mooks grabbing 5-63. In reply though, we had one of the Burra's great second grade days with the bat. Nathan Hudson (123) and Harry Down (110*) both made hundreds in a second wicket partnership of 204. We passed the score 2 down and finished 3/266 in a very memorable day to finish up pre-Christmas.

Returning after Christmas against Rosebank, we were still on holiday day mode, being rolled for 110. Jono put up a fight early with 20 but we only got to 110 because the promoted Conrad French (31*) and Stevie J (21) put on 40 for the last wicket. We had a couple of moments in the field, mostly from Mooks who again only conceded 1/7 from his 8 overs, but ultimately we were 30 runs short and Rosebank got the runs with 4 overs to go.

Another just day with the stick in Rd 11, where Jono (37) and Ted (28) did just enough, with everyone else failing, to get us to 113. We were though far too good for Rosanna with the ball, bowling them out for 67. CH grabbed 3/6 to finish the innings off after, Micky Y (3/26) and Conrad (2/22) had done most of the early damage.

Batting first against Old Ivanhoe in rd 11, Nathan Hudson grabbed another 58 to set the innings up. Unfortunately, no-one else really got going and we were all out for 155. A disappointing day 1 saw Old finish at 1/40. A deep and meaningful that evening saw the boys decide that from here on we would find some consistency and improve our performance every time we took the field. This stated well with Like Lambert grabbing his second pole in the first over of day 2. Ted also grabbed 2 wickets (2/31), but it was surprise bowling option Nathan Hudson that grabbed 2 of the top 6 including the key wicket of the Old captain, before CH grabbed 4/20 to finish Old Ivanhoe off for 116. With time left, we turned the order around and it did not start well at 4/24 before Tom Witherden (51*) and Luke Lambert (54*) put on 103 undefeated for us to finish at 4/127.

A very hostile North Heidelberg came to BSO in Rd 12. Batting first they made a good 8/141. Best with the ball for us was again CH with 3/16 and Luke Lambert also grabbed 3. In reply, it was the Tom Witherden show, with Tom master-blasting a quick-fire 74. Ted Sussex then grabbed 30, as we got the runs 7 down with 9 balls to spare.

Most of the batters got starts against West Ivanhoe in rd 13, but no-one really went on. Ted (41), Geoff McShane (32) and Conrad (25) were the highest scores as we got to 191. Ted was then on fire with the ball, grabbing career best 4-22 off 14. Conrad wrapped the tail with 3/4 to have West out for 103. Making West follow-on, Conrad continued his spell with a new ball, grabbing another 3/9. CH then grabbed 3/20, as we rolled West for 75 and won by an innings and 13 runs.

With the game evenly balanced against Heidelberg in rd 14, day 2 was completely rained out. Heidelberg had made 9/182 in 38 degree heat. Micky Y grabbed 3/18 whilst Ted (2/20) and Mooks (2/34) grabbed 2 each.

With rd14 washed out, we had finished clear on top and faced Heidelberg again in the semi-final. Micky Y got us off to a ripping start, grabbing 3/23 as we had Heidelberg 4/30. Heidelberg then

worked very hard and seized the momentum, getting to 4/95, before Mooks fighting a significant side-strain (5/33 off 22) and CH (2/10 off 15) bowled in typical Burra style to dry the run rate right up. They then grabbed the key wickets and wrapped the tail up for 132. With 24 overs left in the day, it was a tricky time to bat. Nathan Hudson(Huddo) and Stu Whiley though took advantage of the situation; first getting to stumps at 0/99, then moving the score on to 112 before Huddo was first man out for 54. Stu (60*) then got the last few runs with Harry (12*) to get us through to 1/141 when Heidelberg conceded in what was a very comprehensive SF win.

After a pretty big build-up, we entered the 3rd straight grand final and came up against North Heidelberg. After winning the toss and surprisingly choosing to bowl first, we managed to take regular wickets to bowl North out for 141. Whilst a few threatened, no-one really got going for North as Mooks, the self-annointed Mr March, backed up his semi taking a masterful 4-40. The highlight was his screaming caught and bowled catch to remove North skipper and top scorer John Green for 39. Jack Viola (2/20) and CH (2/22) were amongst the wickets, despite Jack's two official warnings for waist high fullies.



With bowling clearly North's strength, 141 was a reasonable score. Striding to the crease with death threats and insinuated violence flying around, the Burra again got a good start to get to 0/44 before Stu (18) got hit in the wrist, then missed a straight one and Huddo (28) got a rough one to spark a collapse pre-stumps day 1, leaving us 5/95 overnight. Jack was out early day 2, bringing Mooks to the crease with Junior. Junior compiled a neat (28) in a 44 run partnership with Mooks (34), with Junior only being dismissed when we were 2 runs short of the target. Conrad joined Mooks and hit the winning runs before North conceded upon Mook's dismissal to leave the Burra as back-to-back second grade premiers.

With 4 poles and a neat 34, Mook's was very deserving in going back-to-back as man of the grand final.

Pleasingly, this group was the most consistent of the last 3 years, finishing on top of the table and with everyone in the team playing key roles throughout. The group that played through the 2's during the season are a wonderful lot who make every Saturday incredibly enjoyable. Thanks to all of the boys for their continued support, for buying in and for another season and summer of wonderful memories that I will bore my children with.

Where would you rather be?

- Stuart Whiley



Third XI

The 3rds was led this year by debutant Captain Will Horsley-Wyatt and Vice Captain Tim Chalke.

Based on last year's performance and the strength of the upper grades the scene was set for a bumper year and maybe even a real shot at the finals. A total of 36 different players got a game with the 3's proving its worth as a development team. While our season came to a premature end in a heavy semi final defeat our cricket was played with strength and honour.

Despite an initial wobble in the form of consecutive losses to Heidelberg and Viewbank at Alfred and Viewbank respectively, the top order showed some good early form. 5 wins and a washout followed during which Edinburgh played some really great cricket and everyone (perhaps with the exception of Captain Connipion Chalkie) had a ripping time. In a team that was constantly dealing with unavailability, injury and player movement between grades, not all cylinders fired all the time. It was apparent, however, that there were going to be 4 teams in the end; Edinburgh 3's were a young and competitive team, Bellfield 1st grade had a strong bowling team that was competitive with the bat, Viewbank 2nds batted and bowled strongly and the experience of Rosebank /Nth Brunswick 3rds held them in good stead.

At Alfred in the first round, the Burra fielded what looked like, and in reality was, a very strong 1 day team on paper. The batting reflected this confidence with Adz Nicholls capitalising on the bouncy home deck with a peerless 116, young gun Tommy Watkin creaming the ball with a solid 41 and Liam Alexander chipping in with a delightful cameo of 27 resulting in a total of 4/223. Heidelberg, however, batted maturely, exemplified by a run-a-ball opening partnership of 62 which set the platform for captain and veteran thirds player Raj Singh (46), providing the platform for the big cow-corner-hitting John Clark (70) to notch the winning runs in the 39th over. Edinburgh's bowling attack was a little underdone with Mark Browns the best figures of 8-0-3-57.

In the second round, Viewbank 2nds fielded an experienced team, in what was a low scoring two day affair. Unavailability gave some new players (and some older ones) a chance to have a run, with Jim Stevens and Justin Armor enjoying the grade above, and the return of Kenny Freame and Jazz Zeimer. Batting first Edinburgh only had 3 players make double figures, with Adz Nicholls 13, James Bradley 22 and Sunny Munn 19. Edinburgh posted 81 which was efficiently chased down. The only figures of note were a Tim Freame return to form and figures of 14-5-3-18.

It was round 3 against arch rivals and reigning premiers Nth Brunswick/Rosebank where the wobble stopped. It may have been the return of Daniel Watson, last year's captain, or memories of a feisty engagement last season, that galvanised the team. Either way the batting performances in the top 6 were solid with everyone reaching double figures. Everyone's favourite History and Philosophy of Science lecturer and aggressive opener James Bradley posted a positive 28, while a typically staid and unflustered 33 from Tim Freame and a flamboyant and at times mesmeric 50 from Sunny Munn helped ECC post 8/192. Upon return Watson anchored the innings at 6 with a picket fence to add 70 in partnerships with the tail. He walked off with 9 but the 61 made at the other end was invaluable. Bowling was dominated by Skipper WHW 6.4-3-4-8 and Conrad French 8-2-3-18. While the opposition proved a little stubborn at times the Burra finally wrapped them up for 136.

The momentum picked up when ECC came across what proved to be an under strength Bellfield, runners up last season. Bellfield won the toss on a very warm one and, on the day on which the term was coined (pun very much intended), did a "Wongy," inexplicably electing to bowl. James Bradley converted early season promise into a cracker, belting 95 and carrying his bat till the 9th wicket. He was supported again by a solid Watto, and later, consecutively by WHW and Chalkie. JB's demise left Brenton Henry and ring-in Matt Barry to wag the tail. All out 193. Bellfield's openers capitulated, the middle order managed to reinstate some respect, but a great bowling performance from everyone and sharp fielding reduced them to 6/98 at the end of day one. After some initial resistance in the early overs the next week, the match was brought to an abrupt end in just 13 overs. Probably a missed outright, but we didn't want to show them too much. Conrad was the workhorse for Edinburgh, with final figures of 17.1-4-4-63; other contributors WHW (12-9-2-10) and Matt Barry (4-1-2-21).

Round 5 was again at Alfred with Rosanna visiting. 'Sanna won the toss and had a bat. A beautiful day in North Fitzroy clearly had the visitors distracted, as Chalkie put his stamp on the game taking 5 catches and joining forces with Murray Middleton to get a run out as well. W Keating rolled up the top order, and CHW joined the 3's to take 8-0-3-25 and wrap up the middle. Post-run out, and clearly with the sniff of scalps about the nostril, Murray Middleton wanted in on the action and cleaned up the tail with some unplayable off spin and final figures 7-4-2-13, the maidens in that equation testament to his un-playability. Edinburgh walked off at the break having restricted Rosanna to 120. The chase was brief; Simon Jackson had joined the team from the vets and he and JB got Edinburgh half way to the total by over 14. Luke Lambert and Will Keating teamed up for the 4th wicket and saw us over the line in over 24, putting on 31 not out and 20 not out as we passed their score only 3 down.

The last round before Xmas had us against our vanquishers of round 1, Heidelberg. In a two day game WHW won the toss and elected to bat. All that can be said from there is, RUNS! A stellar opening partnership between Adam Nicholls and James Bradley had the total on 135 before JB fell for 61. Sammy Wilcox, Will Keating and Daniel Watson provided Adz with some variety in his partners before he was finally given LBW on 155. By this time however the score was 314. Geoff "Wiggle" McShane in what could variously be described as a "belligerent" "frightful" and "interesting" innings, fashioned a 52 in no time at all. With some low-teen scores in the tail the total rounded out at 9/391 at the forced close of innings. Day two promised to be a long day in the field either way with a genuine chance at an outright. It turned out, however, to be the Conrad French show. While Heidelberg clearly had no intention of trying to win (despite constantly being reminded that this was, in fact, still limited overs cricket) The Riddler ripped through the first five batsmen relinquishing only 27 and grabbed a 6th without a score against his bowling in a second spell. A paltry 109 was all they could muster in 37 overs. Having enforced the follow-on in genuinely hot (as opposed to hot-according-to-Puddles) conditions, and despite some genuine and gritty toil from the boys from North

Fitzroy, Heidelberg avoided giving up the 10 points after the skipper Raj and a young bloke Will Knight played very good conservative cricket, the latter scratching out a 107. Highlights of the second innings were Chalkie's smart stumping off Murray Middleton and CHW's 9-0-2-50 on a very flat track in hot conditions.

The Nicholls show continued in 2012 during another bout with Rosanna, this time at Chelsworth. Rosanna won the toss again and again elected to bat. In a great display of bowling in partnerships Will Keating and, in a welcome return from injury, Sammy Lister tied up the first 5 wickets for just 52; Puddles (5-1-2-22) and Hopper (8-1-3-27). Your correspondent even witnessed a catch at slip of the bowling of Lister. Max Wilson toiled unluckily for a few overs before WHW and Tim Freame worked their way through a long tail dismissing Rosanna for 129 in the 26th over. Kenny's tight bowling was unlucky not to have brought more reward with final figures 4.2-0-1-20 giving 'Bur the glory of 5-0-4-28. Watto opened up with Adz, but it was the Nicholls/Wembridge combination that stole the spotlight. Nicholls charged out and made 70 before being dismissed just 7 runs short of the target. Wembridge, no slouch with the bat, hit one of the largest 6's seen on that oval, launching a square shot over the creek, into the car park, and nearly onto The Boulevard. He finished on 35 when the target was reached. Subsequently, it was decreed by the leadership cadre that reverse sweeps would never be spoken of again.

Captain WHW suffered a calf tear (going for a quick single, if you can believe that) and was unavailable for the next game, a two day undertaking against fellow finals aspirant Bellfield. Chalkie, taking the reins of an under-strength team *sans* Bradley, Nicholls, WHW and French (respectively the top and second top run scorers and wicket takers in the competition to that point). Things didn't get off to a great start. Renowned for winning matches through tight bowling, Bellfield rolled Edinburgh for a paltry 86. Solid contributions came from Wiggle and Hopper, 31 and 23 respectively, were not enough to post a competitive total. It would take some ferocious bowling to get back into a winning position. The bowlers didn't disappoint. Sam Lister and Charlie Keating were slinging down some beauties, and at 3/26 had Bellfield reeling. Will Keating and Max Wilson took over to have them 7/73 and falling to pieces. Unfortunately the tail, which looked a lot like their top order from previous encounters, rallied to limp past Edinburgh's score.

The next round saw Edinburgh take a trip away against Heidelberg West. Keen to get the season back on track with another win, Chalkie lost the toss and got to have a bowl. Things started out as good as could be hoped with Will Keating taking the first three wickets (14-4-3-31), with strong (and characteristically luckless) support from Sam Lister, startling Heidelberg West at 3/16. After a 40 run partnership, Max Wilson (9- 1-3-40) claimed a couple of poles and Puddles' luck turned and he finished with 16-4-3-29, wrapping up a stubborn lower/middle order in the process. Paddy Dwyer (4-1-1-12) also claimed one to close out the Heidelberg innings at 141. With the bat it looked like a challenge if the scoresheet is to be believed, but in reality probably just some jitters. Starts to Watto and Kenny saw the first wicket drop at 32. 10 runs later, however, the batting looked in real strife at 6/42 (losing 4 for 0 in the process). Max Wilson at 7, however, ably supported by Paddy and Chalkie saw the score to 139 before he was dismissed on 56. Puddles, having "guided" the winning runs through second slip, and Dave Herbert moved the score to 153 when Chalkie, smelling blood, declared the innings closed and decided to let Heidelberg West have another bat with two players short.

In what can only be described as a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious display, Will Keating took 7 wickets in row leaving his bowling partners Sam Lister (4-0-0-5) and Dave Herbert (3-0-1-11) bedazzled. Who knows what the batsmen thought. Very little it would seem. The figures stand for themselves and require no embellishment. Heidelberg West dismissed for 35. W Keating, 2nd innings figures of 7-2-7-19 and a game haul of 21-6-10-50 becoming only the 5th player since the prehistoric age to haul ten wickets in a match for Edinburgh. Oh, and the only non-Keating wicket in the second innings was taken by D Herbert, the batsman falling back onto his stumps having been hit amidships.

Freame and Watson chased down the deficit in only 4 overs, giving ECC the full 10 points for outright victory, Hopper a place in ECC history and WHW wondering if Chalkie would give him his job back when he was fit again.

With Two rounds to go in the fixture and second spot on the ladder still a real possibility, Edinburgh took on Banyule at Alfred on a wonderful summer day. With another loss of the toss, Edinburgh had a bowl. This time it was Sam Lister who dominated with the ball returning figures of 22.1-9-6-43, including a number of those wickets taken courtesy of catches at slip, to have Banyule at one stage struggling at 5/18. Also a highlight was 4th grade star Nick White's 9- 3-2-31, having come up a grade on some great form. Charlie Keating kept it really tight (10- 4-1-17) and Andy Wembridge was also slippery (7- 1-1-21). Will Keating, Dave Herbert and Justin Armor kept the run rate well below par on Alfred restricting the Banyule team to 164. The chase was led by Murray Middleton 41 and Nick White 36 while Andy Wembridge and Charlie Keating both made 23. It was all over by lunch on day 2, Edinburgh notching a comprehensive 7/192 in the absence of some of the stars.

In the last round against West Ivanhoe, a scorcher of a day was predicted. WHW made a return from injury, and Chalkie kindly (some might say eagerly) handed back the mantle. However the team was very different. In particular Nick's big brother Muz dropped down from the 1's to rest a sore hip and have a bit of a bat. Some great scores in temperatures over 35 boded well for finals. After Kenny opened with a start of 30, and in what was probably a doomsday scenario for some, Nick and his brother joined forces for the first time. No doubt much to Stan's relief, a 50+ partnership ensued. When Nick finally departed for 36, and a couple of wickets were lost in quick succession, WHW promoted himself. Working with Murray, who was both batting superbly, 'Bur decided to push the run rate a little, and got his first 50 for Edinburgh. Murray carried his bat making 60 not out. The total was 7/220 on a hard ground to score on. Unfortunately, the second day was a washout across the competition (despite the misguided efforts of some from West), the good news being Edinburgh claimed second spot on the ladder and a home final.

The Semi-Final was to be at home against Viewbank, the only team in the competition that we had not beaten at least once. Quietly cursed by the 3's these bloke were actually really nice to play against. Winning the toss and electing to bat, Edinburgh faced a stiff task against a bowling line up that was disciplined and a fielding display that was a step up in class. Some of the catches held by Viewbank were sharp to say the least, and some of the decisions made by umpires were so close, referrals, challenges and all the technology in first class cricket may have saved Edinburgh, but the umpires backed their own judgement, and after just 62 overs the 3's had been dismissed, all out for a disappointing 102.

Evo Woolnough and Ben Wilson put a first innings result beyond doubt, smashing our bowlers around the park. Lister dropped Ben at third man before getting the wicket of the same batsmen then getting heckled at third man by him. By end of play day one, Viewbank were only a couple short of our total. Day two was all about showing a bit of ticker for the Burra boys. Evo posted 132 on his own and the 3's, playing on to see if an outright result was possible, mixed around the bowlers in a desperate effort to get wickets and earn some respect. Unfortunately season 2011/2012 was not the 3rds year, captains agreeing to quit the game at lunch on day two ECC still needing 2 wickets, and having Viewbank 170 runs in front – the outright out of reach and with it the Grand Final.

- Will Horsley-Wyatt & Tim Chalke

Fourth XI Maroon

The season started off quite well with a resounding win against Bellfield at Cox. We won the toss and had a bowl and proceeded to rip them out for 22 the highlight of this was Ash 3/1 including a hat-trick. We then made short work of their total and headed back to B.S.O. for an early beer with a win and a massive percentage.

Round 2 after many phone calls we travelled to Old Ivanhoe with only 9 players which included an old mate of mine who came up from Grantville and Stan. We won the toss and we batted and finished the day at 7/143 cc with a good knock from Nick White 41, a stoic effort from Draff 51 off 70 overs and Stan holding on at the end to ensure we did not have to bowl and get the ball wet.

Chasing our meagre and much scoffed at total of 143 Old Ivanhoe fell about 20 runs short thanks largely to Brenton Henry taking 6/28. We went back in and scrambled to 103 with Mooks getting 57 of those. Rain then put their hopes of outright run chase to bed. 2 and 0.

Round 3 we faced Ronnie's Yellows in the derby. We won the toss and sent them in they made 6/146 cc. Jack Bradley grabbed his 1st senior wicket for the club. In reply with an over inflated belief in our ability we were put to the sword by the yellow bowling attack keeping us to 9/85cc well done to Ronnie's team proving the better side.

Round 4 pitted us against Heidelberg at Cox, I won the toss and decided to bowl on a day that clearly suited batting. Thinking we would have a dash at an outright, those ideas were quickly put to bed. They lost their 1st wicket at 100 after only about 20 overs. We fought back well to dismiss them for 206 thanks to Draff 3/15(1st wickets for the club) Blackie chiming in with 3 cheap ones and Nick White bowling unchanged for 23 overs, mostly to a 6/3 field or 7/2 field, a very disciplined performance earning the well deserved figures of 2/58. Ben McGregor took his 1st wicket for the club. Batting fell into a pattern that would go on to become the common thread for the season, an early collapse and then a fight for respectability. Only Max Wilson can hold his head high with 30 out of 97. In our 2nd innings we proved that we could bat albeit too late with 2/164 Max 44 Blackie 45 not out and Kit 59 retired.

Round 5 Vs Viewbank was a washout match drawn.

Round 7 V Banyule at Cox. We fielded 1st and they made 4/155 with Nick taking 2/12 off 8. Unfortunately the batting was disappointing. After getting off to a steady start through Blackie 31 and Kit 19 no one else got more than 3. All out for 72.

Round 8 v Bellfield at Bellfield. We won the toss and batted, getting off to a terrible start at 5 for 30 odd. We then staged a great fight back led by Tim Freame 82, Women's captain Tegan French 38 and Junior Jack Taylor 28 to end up with a sizeable total of 234 from 70 overs. We then had 10 overs at them over night taking a couple of quick wickets. Max ended up with 5 wickets in a great bowling display helping us to bowl them out for 140. We sent Bellfield back in and got them out for 109. This left us needing 18 runs from 12 balls. We did it with just two balls to spare. OUTRIGHT and maybe our season would get back on track.

Round 9 Banyule at Banyule. I won the toss and sent them in. Wickets were shared about and Banyule ended up with 7/ 183. In reply we made 8/124 with Draff cutting loose and making a whirlwind 37 and Nick White making a well compiled 41. Despite their efforts we unfortunately fell well short.

Round 10 Heidelberg at Chelsworth. Heidelberg batted 1st and as a result of a good all around bowling performance led by Justin Amor with 3/31 we kept them to 9/140cc. Unfortunately we once again let ourselves down when batting. Despite the efforts of Kit 31 and Nick White 19 we fell short. All out for 121.

Round 11 V Heidelberg Black at Chelsworth. Heidelberg batter first and made a rapid fire 308. Justin Amor once again led the way with 5/91 and Will gloved 3 behind the stumps. There was still plenty of time to bat on day one and we had made 85 by the end of the days play. Nick White was 51 not out. Happily Nick was able to continue on the next week and batted extraordinarily well on a rather hot day. He ended up with a brilliant 150 before losing his wicket. A few other cameos from myself 28 Brenton Henry 32, W Symons 17 and Jack Taylor 20 guided us to 7/312 and a terrific win.

Round 12 V Old Ivanhoe at Cox. Old Ivanhoe batted 1st and made 9/208. Tim Freame was the pick of the bowlers taking 3/22. Unfortunately our batting coming off the high of the previous week was not good enough and we were out for a disappointing 101 with 20's from Draff, Ben McGregor and Justin Amor.

Round 13 v Rosanna at Cox. Rosanna batted first and scored 171. A good all around bowling effort was led by myself with 4/40 off 20. In reply we could only manage 147.

Round 14 v East Ivanhoe at Chelsworth. Showing up on a very hot day and only 7 People at the ground at the time of the coin toss is always a difficult proposition, luckily for us the coin turned the right way and I did a little jig while informing the opposition skipper that we'd have a bat. Just before tea we were in serious trouble at 6/140 odd. Sammy Mac held on just long enough for Mick and Will Symons to make the dash from watching the second XI at BSO after receiving an urgent phone call. Mick arrived and had to pad up on the ground as Sammy Mac fell. Brenton Henry held on just a little longer which left Mick & Will at the crease only to put on an unbroken 10th wicket partnership of 180. Mick making 138 not out and Will bringing up his maiden half century 51 not out, with earlier cameos from myself 37 Adrian Blackburn 38 and Brenton Henry with another well made innings of 34 we ended up 9/374 cc. Week 2 was unfortunately washed out, Match drawn.

So in conclusion this season in the maroons fell victim to the usual pitfalls of lower grade sides, often left short with multiple changes on match morning. This obviously makes planning the days play a little more than difficult. My recommendation for the club is to continue with the development squad mentality but it will be essential for there to be at least 4 adults with cars. Upside of this season was watching young fellows cricket improve. Will Symons will be a fine keeper bat, Nick White undoubtedly has bundles of talent and will be a very good cricketer, and lastly Ben McGregor will make a fine opening bat.

- Kevin (Wongy) Long

Fourth XI Gold

The Forth Gold team had another great season culminating in what was a disappointing loss to Banyule in the semi final after having the match seemingly in our grasp at tea on the first day. During the year we had 31 players play for the team including seven players who played their first senior game for Edinburgh and ranged in age from 14 to forty something! During the year a total of nine juniors played a total of 50 games for the team. Pleasingly the team also boasted three father son combinations at various stages during the season.

The season got off to a disappointing start with a loss to Rosanna by 5 wickets. Batting first we managed only 131 after not seeing out our forty overs, Murray Middleton 31 and Sean Pennefather 20 the only players to get a start. While keeping it tight with the ball we lacked penetration and Rosanna passed us with 3 overs to spare. Justin Amor on debut had the pick of the figures with 2 for 18 off 8 overs.

Round 2 saw us at home to Heidelberg who of recent times have had the wood over us. After debuting in round 1 Dean Campbell was joined by son Chris on debut in the seniors. After winning the toss Heidelberg batted and were quickly off to a flier almost reaching 100 before we secured the first wicket. Another good partnership for the third wicket saw them reach 4 for 209 before a quick flurry of wickets brought the innings to a close at 265. Andy Kemp the pick of the bowlers with 3 for 52 and Chris Campbell snagged his first senior wicket to return 1 for 49 off 11. The run chase was dominated by a superb 98 from Andy Kemp who within sight of a century attempting a second run was run out! Unfortunately no other batsman got past 20 to support Andy and we were bowled out for 201.

With two losses to start the season we travelled to Cox for the most important match of the season the Derby! In an unusual decision the Maroons captain won the toss and sent us in. A 93 run opening partnership between Paddy Dwyer 39 and Andy Kemp 61 saw us reach 6 for 146 off our 40 overs. A brilliant run out by Chris Campbell got the wickets flowing and with regular wickets we had the Maroons measure to restrict them to 9 for 85 after 40 overs. Jack Taylor claimed his first senior wicket to finish with figures of 1 for 1.

Round four saw us travel to Ford Park to take on Bellfield. After losing the toss we had them in trouble at 4 for 50. An inspired second spell from Dave Meiklejohn claimed 3 quick wickets to finish with figures of 4 for 5 off 9 overs. Kempy and Shadders chimed in with 2 wickets a piece to have Bellfield all out for 58 in the 39th over. After three games being "protected" down the order Dean Campbell opened the batting and produced a solid 29 against a very tight Bellfield attack, with Kempy also scoring 29 we crept past Bellfield total to be all out for 90 at the end of the first day.

The second day progressed in a similar vein to first, tight bowling from Dave Meiklejohn 2/14, Chris Campbell 2/21 and Kempy 3/14 had Bellfield dismissed for 63. With 34 to make and a new bowling attack to face Paddy and Dean got us off to a solid start we lost a couple of quick wickets before Paddy (19) guided us home for an outright win.

Our next game found us back at Ford Park against Viewbank. Winning the toss and batting saw us progress to 4/56 before a 75 run partnership between the Campbell father and son combination settled the ship. Dean celebrating his retention at the top of the order with a dashing 82 well supported by Chris, who kept the strike turning over for a well compiled 10. After 40 overs we had made a competitive 162.

With Dave Herbert (1/29) and Chris Campbell (2/16) opening the attack Viewbank were on the back foot from the start at 2 for 7. With wickets falling regularly we dismissed Viewbank for 99, with Shadders the pick of the bowlers with 3 for 31.

The last game before the Christmas break saw us at home to Rosanna. Winning the toss we sent Rosanna in and Chris Campbell and Dave Herbert had them in trouble early at 2 for 17. Dave bowled really well without luck enabling Chris to take his season best 3 for 30. Wickets were shared around and we had Rosanna all out for 146 after 36 overs.

Half centuries to Andy Wembridge (63) and Jimmy Stephens (54) and runs to John Wooles (37) who breathed a huge sigh of relief after being in world record form with three golden ducks in a row saw us pass Rosanna comfortably.

The first game after the break saw us take on Viewbank at Alfred with John Wooles at the helm. Damien Dwyer joined son Paddy for his first game of the season. After missing many of Paddy's runs during the year Damien had a front row seat as Paddy and Barry Calnon (57) put on 120 for the first wicket with Paddy going on to score a season high 95. A cameo 48 by Paul Holden saw us reach 267 at the end of our forty overs.

First gamer Dave Hovey (0/17) and Minh Vo opened the bowling and we were quickly on top with Minh claiming season best figures of 3/22. Paddy backed up his runs with a man of the match 4/21 and we had Viewbank all out for 89 in the 23 over.

Round 10 found us at home to Bellfield after winning the toss they sent us in. The top order all managed starts with everyone reaching double figures but no one able to get past 20. Murray top scored with 20 and we only managed a disappointing 108. A tight spell from Steve Andrews (2/9) had them in trouble early but we failed to capitalise and were passed in the 31st over for a disappointing loss.

The next round saw many of the summer holiday makers return to the team. Taking on a young East Ivanhoe team we batted first the top order fired with half centuries to the youngest and oldest members of the senior teams Jack Bradley compiling a brilliant 79 and Peter Shadbolt 55 at the top of the order. With many batsman getting a start we ended the day at 9 for 311. In reply East Ivanhoe was never in the hunt with Dave Hovey the pick of the bowlers taking 5 for 29 as we dismissed East Ivanhoe for 140.

With our position in the finals secure we took on fourth placed Heidelberg to determine final ladder positions for the finals. Despite taking wickets at regular intervals we were unable to restrict Heidelberg batting first from scoring a competitive 215. Chasing we lost early wickets and any Andy Wembridge 58 showed any fight as we were dismissed for a disappointing 131.

The last game for points saw us take on the undefeated Banyule in what was to be a game that was to very closely mirror the semi final three weeks later. With some inspired bowling from Dave Hovey

and debutant Adrian Blackburn we had Banyule in trouble at 6 for 113. A 7th wicket partnership of 106 saw Banyule reach 234 just before stumps. In reply a determined 23no from Dave Meiklejohn and 27 from Adrian Blackburn were the only batsman to show any fight against a disciplined bowling attack and we could only managed 94 in reply.

The last round was washed out with the highlight a well compiled and patient 59 from Paddy Dwyer as we managed only 178 against Heidelberg Black who were 1/44 in reply when day 2 was washed out.

The semi final saw us take on Banyule in almost a replay of our match three weeks earlier. Unfortunately we were unable to fit everyone into the side and both Peter Shadbolt and John Wooles in true Edinburgh spirit both offered to stand aside to enable a number of the younger players to play. Dave Hovey strained a calf at training during the week also did the right thing and put his hand up as unavailable not confident he would get through the game.

With Banyule winning the toss and batting the often heard phrase catches win matches rang true as we dropped a couple of chances and after having Banyule at 7/95 at tea their 8th wicket put on over 100 runs which in the end enabled Banyule to post an imposing 9/251. Andy Wembridge the pick of the bowlers, bowled with great heart to return 4 for 78 from 26 overs.

We were confident of being able to chase the runs down but in the end we lost wickets regularly we fell well short. Murray Middleton (29) and player of the match Andy Wembridge (22) both applied themselves but the top order failed to fire. A season best 25 from Chris Campbell showed some lower order fight but the total was too much and we were dismissed for 154.

- Ron Pennefather

One-Day XI

At the time of printing the One Day XI Report was not available. The report will be updated once it becomes available.

Veterans Yellow XI

With interest in the veteran's concept soaring, Edinburgh increased its participation to two teams this season, splitting vaguely along the lines of junior parents and past players. The Yellows had an enjoyable season, with the added bonus of a top of the ladder finish and ultimately a runners-up pennant.

Disappointingly starting with a forfeit win over West Ivanhoe, we unveiled the new look line up against Viewbank. Debutant Troy Heenan announced his arrival with a blistering 40, while "old timers" Simon "Master Class" Jackson (28) and Baz Calnon (29) revisited their opening partnership from days gone by. 8/186 from 35 overs appeared too much but when club legend Rob Simpson was smashed for 4 sixes in his first two overs, it looked less likely. He responded by taking 3 wickets in his third over and ending with an entertaining 4-39 from 5. Jase Sutton chimed in with 2-8 from 3 to restrict last year's premiers to 156.

After a bye, we faced Banyule in a bizarre contest. With Calnon (28) and Woolsey (27) seemingly in control at 1/58, we were seemingly less in control soon afterwards at 7/65. Picnic Holden (22) provided some lower order resistance but it wasn't until Tony Zappia joined carefully chosen ring in Richard Blanch at the crease that the real entertainment kicked off. Richard compiled a stylish 37 full of glorious shots. Zaps slogged the crap out of the ball, despatching the red to all parts. His 39 not out helped us to 165 with 4 overs still to spare. Zaps continued his Man of the Match performance with the first 2 wickets (2/14 from 5) and a classic catch. Another ring in, Paul Broderick bowled miserly with 1/9 from 5 with support from Richard Blanch. An incredible win.

The much anticipated Derby was a highlight of the fixture. Despite a typical 40 from Mick Symons and a handy 32 from Anthony Somers, Stevie A (2/6 from 5), Troy Heenan (2/27), Rosco (1/16) and Shadders Snr (1/4) combined to keep the Maroons to 141. Master Class Jackson (42*) and Rosco (25) started solidly with the bat and the match evenly poised at drinks. Enter Deano Crawford. He spanked 33 in a couple of overs and by the time he was stumped, the match had tilted in our favour. A good first up Derby with Stevie A taking out the BOG medal for his bowling exploits.

Round 6 was washed out with the game in the balance. Rosco and Troy starred with bat and ball, with Jase and Timmy "Iron Gloves" Black supporting with the ball. We finished the season on a high with a last round victory against North Alphington. Baz (36) and the Bolt (30) were supported by James Bradley (21) and Troy (15) as we piled on 168. Despite a swashbuckling start by ex-Burra Denis Gyomber, debutants Shane Taylor (2/16) and Wongy (1/24) put the brakes on, with Jase (3/14) and Deano (3/8) finishing them off.

A top of the ladder finish ensured a Grand Final at BSO against Banyule. The traditional ticker-tape parade was replaced with a nude cycling exhibition, which seemed to excite and distract the crowd and players in equal parts. At one stage, the game was paused for five minutes as the nudists ringed (pardon the pun) the oval. It was definitely a distraction to our top order – 3/7 became 4/18 and we found ourselves playing catch up from the start. We crawled to 7/117 from our 35 overs with some lower order resistance from Jase, Rosco and Deano. An equally poor start in the field – 3 dropped catches from 3 consecutive balls – took away a great chance to put pressure on the Banyule bats. Some tight bowling from Jase (1/4 from 5), Blacky (2/22) and Steve (2/18) with support from Rob, Zaps and Deano, kept us in the game until the second last over.

Thank you to all the old men who represented the Veterans this season. 22 players represented the Yellows with notable "debutants" from club stalwarts Barry Calnon, Con Carta (after many years away from the Burra) & Simon Jackson; current legends Brendan Bolton, James Bradley, Tim Black & Craig James; the Fonterra connection of Troy Heenan & Dean Crawford; and the cameos from Brad O'Hara, Shane Taylor and Brad "Sausage Fingers" Fishlock. Many thanks also to all the return offenders – the loose canon Tony "Lenny Pascoe" Zappia, the ever reliable Rosco McIlveen, Jase "Bowling Machine" Sutton, the first pick of four keepers John Wooles, Stevie "Edinburgh Captain" Andrews, all time club wicket taker Rob Simpson and the better of the Shadbolts. The fill-ins – Blanch, Holden, Broderick – were also important and appreciated.

I thoroughly enjoyed the season and it is easy to captain a team that has the right attitude and plays in the right spirit. Hopefully I will see you all next season as the Burra enters a new veteran's frontier and joins the Box Hill comp.

-Andy Olsen

Veterans Maroon XI

The success of the inaugural Veterans season in 2010-11 led to the creation of two teams for 2011-12. Although there was some crossover between the two teams, the Maroons consisted primarily of junior players' fathers and friends.

Across the six matches 21 players represented the Maroons, playing with great spirit and camaraderie. We had a competitive season starting incredibly with two ties in succession, a loss off the second last ball, and then for the remaining three games either not making quite enough runs to defend or falling short in a run chase.

In our first game against North Alphington we fielded first and John Wilson continued where he left off from last season taking a wicket in his first over. The NACCers swung lustily throughout their innings reaching 8 for 149 off 35 overs. The other wickets were shared amongst several ECC Vets debutants, Craig Ross (1 for 10 off 3), Dean Robinson (1 for 12 off 5), Anthony Somers (1 for 24 off 5), Paul Broderick (1 for 10 off 5), Damian Dwyer (1 for 17 off 5) but the figures went to wily Ben McKenna with his tricky change of pace – 2 for 11.

The run chase started well but another ECC Vets debutant John Fitzgerald (13) swung too early with a hook shot and sustained a tripartite fracture of his cheekbone – later the bruising went through the full range of impressive blues, purples and yellows. Wickets and runs flowed steadily with good partnerships between Mick Symons (38), Jason Sutton (8) – not yet sure if he was a Maroon or a Yellow, Paul Broderick (15), Andy Olsen (35) – captain of the Yellows making a guest appearance - and Damian Dwyer (8) which left the hobbling Dean Robinson (7 no) already suffering from a torn quad having to return to the crease. Two runs to win, one ball left. Dean pushed the ball to cover. His instinctive attempt to run just meant falling flat on the pitch but the runner's (Paul Broderick) quick take-off thwarted the throw to the bowler's end and John Wilson (4 no) got home at the other. A tie!

Game two was against Heidelberg back on the picturesque Brunswick Street oval. With injuries and defections back to the Yellows there were 7 changes to the team. At the top of the order Andrew Ingleton batted effortlessly for a well compiled 30 but a clatter of wickets took us to 8 for 62 with 13 overs still to go. Would the game be over by tea? But then came the partnership of the season. Quietly and gradually Richard Blanch (37 no) and Craig Ross (23 no) worked the ball for single after single and the occasional two. Eventually a respectable score of 8 for 120 was posted, including an unbroken partnership of 58 for the ninth wicket.

Early wickets to each of our left armed opening attack of Richard Blanch (1 for 6 off 5) and John Wilson (2 for 7 off 5) had the Bergers at 2 for 1. But three consistent partnerships got them to 112 - leaving 9 to win off 19 balls with 6 wickets in hand. Another wicket to John and then a couple of catches off Anthony Somers' leggings followed by a maiden over from John left 5 runs to win off the last over with batters 9 and 10 at the crease. A dot and a leg bye, then 3 more dots. With four to win off the last ball fielders were dispatched to the boundary. Finally a big hit from the number 9 with a swish to square leg. Miraculously it was stopped on the boundary by a diving Richard Blanch but when the ball was returned to the keeper they had already run 3. Another tie!

Game three took us to Banyule. Brilliant strokeplay by Ben McKenna (41 retired) and Jason Sutton (40 retired) – still flirting with the darker hue colour - followed by handy cameos from Ross McIlveen (11), Ulrik John (7), and Richard Blanch (11 no) got us to a respectable 4 for 137. Another early wicket to John Wilson and tight bowling by Tim O'Meara (0 for 19 off 4), Bruce Cameron (0 for 14 off 5), Anthony Somers (2 for 14 off 5) and Jason Sutton (1 for 14 off 4) kept the screws on. With 58 needed off 8 we were a good chance. A couple of big overs took the pressure off Banyule and steady runs left 8 needed from the last over. A few scrambled runs and a dot ball – three runs to get, two balls left. Could this be a third tie in a row? As I watched from mid-on their batter had other ideas. Charging down the pitch he sent a powerful on drive high over the deep mid-on fence. Game over!

After the Christmas break it was time for the classic derby encounter between the Maroons and Yellows. We batted first and even contributions from John Fitzgerald (10), Mick Symons (42), Ben McKenna (9), Bruce Cameron (12), and Paul Broderick (8) supported Anthony Somers' (32 no) patient and persistent innings to get us to 7 for 141. Was it enough? An early wicket again to John Wilson and a remarkable run-out by Andrew Ingleton from first slip kept us in the game but eventually strong Yellows batting at the top of the order and too many wickets in hand gave them a comfortable win with 5 overs to spare. Congratulations to Stevie Andrews for his man of the match performance taking 2 for 6 off 5 overs.

Next came the sloggers from Viewbank who lived up to their reputation. The game started in severe sticky heat and extraordinarily strong winds which sent most of the en-tout-cas from the nearby tennis court onto the cricket ground. Our best opening partnership for the season of 87 set the tone with John Fitzgerald collecting 37 and Mick Symons retiring on 42. Paul Broderick played fluently for 26 combining with Richard Blanch (6), Tim O'Leary (9 no) and Ulrik John (2 no) helping us reach 4 for 131 in difficult conditions. Again, was it enough?

The Viewbank batters must have had a tip from the Bureau of Meteorology or had their phones closely monitoring the rain radar because after 8 overs they were 0 for 59 – a whirlwind to match our batting conditions. A few quick wickets from Craig Ross (1 for 10 off 2) and Dean Robinson (2 for 25 off 4) gave us a sniff, and then the rain came tumbling down. Finally after several heavy showers we

returned to the field for Tim O'Meara (1 for 13 off 3) to clean bowl their captain but the early damage from their heavy hitters helped get them home with 12 overs to spare.

Our final match was against West Ivanhoe. More early wickets to John Wilson (1 for 12 off 4) and Dean Robinson (2 for 19 off 4) set us on the right path but somehow our eye-hand co-ordination was having a day-off with several dropped catches. They looked dangerous at 2 for 85 with 12 overs remaining but the partnership breaker Ben McKenna (1 for 11) delivered. The new found pacy spin of Tim O'Leary (3 for 17 off 4) undid the middle-order and then Richard Blanch (3 for 7 off 4) provided the highlight of the season. An inswinging yorker cleaned up middle stump, then a full length ball angled across the batter took a thick edge straight to the keeper. All in boys. Three slips, a gully, leg slip, short leg, and silly point were all unnecessary as another perfect yorker cannoned into middle stump. Hat-trick! A sharp piece of fielding from Anthony Somers produced a run out to leave West Ivanhoe all out for 136. Game on.

The chase began poorly with two wickets falling early. Ben McKenna (41 retired) batted with authority ably assisted by Anthony Somers (13) and Richard Blanch (22). But after Richard's dismissal wickets fell quickly leaving us all out for 116 – our lowest score of the year - just 21 short of victory. A disappointing end to what was a very enjoyable season of cricket.

Special thanks to the core of 12 players who played in 3 or more games, the guests from the Yellows, and the rest who we will book in for more games next season. It's been a close-knit group which has kept the ice packs and physiotherapy economy soaring as we continue our attempt to defy Old Father Time.

Roll on 2012-13!

-Michael Symons

Women's

Women's XI

Coming off a Grand Final tie/Premiership in the 2010-2011 season, the women's team lost a number of senior players, and declined the invitation from the VWCA to enter the One Day Shield competition, and to remain in the One-Day North West comp. A new captain, a new vice-captain, a number of new players and a focus on rebuilding, the 2011-2012 season got off to a promising start.

A comfortable win over Burnley kicked the season off, with VC Brooke McKinley taking 5 wickets, the first bag of many for her over the course of the season. The second game produced an exciting last-ball tie thanks to a great innings from McKinley and a game-saving 4 from Maddie French. What followed was what emerged to be the pattern for much of the season; Moonee Valley forfeited, Dennis forfeited a couple of T20 games and then another bye. By Christmas, the team was sitting on top of the T20 ladder and second on the one-day ladder, an excellent effort given the relative inexperience of many of the players. Tracey Gleeson and Brooke McKinley were the standouts in both the bowling and the batting, a trend that continued throughout the season. Due to forfeits and one washout, by Round 12, the team had only played 6 matches.

After Christmas, the season began to unravel. Losing players through injury, travel and retirement saw the team frequently calling on fill-ins to be able to field a side. Losing to Coburg in the first T20 match after Christmas saw the team lose its place in the final, though the team bounced back with consecutive wins in the one-day competition against Burnley and Box Hill. The game against Box Hill saw the celebration of a significant milestone, namely the 150th game for ECC by Irene Bullock. Not only did she take a ripping catch, she went on to take 3/13 from 6 overs, a brilliant effort.

Another bye and forfeit, a third win against Burnley for the season set up the team for a tough final 3 rounds. The team lost narrowly to Coburg (by 10 runs) before being resoundingly beaten by

Brunswick Park, who bowled the team out for only 64 runs. The final round against Coburg was again washed out, the team finishing 3rd on the ladder behind Coburg and Brunswick Park. The final was another routing by Brunswick Park, who this time bowled Edinburgh out for a meagre 87 runs. Julie Allan starred in her return game with 38 not out, but the opposition were able to make the runs only 3 wickets down. A disappointing end to a very frustrating season, that saw Edinburgh play only 13 of a possible 22 games due to forfeits and washouts.

Standout performances for the year were Tracey Gleeson's 142* against Burnley and Brooke McKinley's 5/4 in Round 1.

-Tegan French

Juniors

Junior Coordinator's Report

From my personal viewpoint the season 2011-12 is memorable for off-field difficulties arising from HDCA and leading to the frequently asked questions from junior coaches, managers, parents and players within the Club and from several fellow junior co-ordinators "What are HDCA up to by combining Green and Gold divisions in U13s and U15s? Are there going to be Green finals and Gold finals? Why are teams nominated by clubs as Gold teams playing in Green finals and vice versa?" It is difficult to reconcile small Green players struggling against older and bigger Gold players with the Spirit of Cricket.

The Club's aim is that the junior players develop their cricketing skills and play their games in an enjoyable and safe environment with the emphasis on inclusion; the juniors motto being 'Cricket is fun'. It was not always 'fun' for some of our players this past season because of the above and this will be considered as the Club plans for next season.

The Club has continued its policy that there must be a clear pathway through juniors and, as they get older, through to seniors. That is, there is a progressive and planned development of personal and team skills that enable juniors to transit smoothly through each successive junior level and, from there, to senior cricket. This did not run as smoothly as planned this season, and efforts will be made to rectify shortcomings in the coming year. Nevertheless, seventeen registered juniors played in senior teams during the season. They were spread over all grades from firsts to fourths and all teams. Four juniors played in the same team as their father or vice versa.

The MILO program, which is the start of the pathway, retained its Saturday morning time slot. A twelve week program was offered. There was a marked increase in numbers to 65, reflecting the Club's increasing commitment to the development of junior cricket in our local community. The MILO Programme was coordinated and led by James Bradley, a parent and senior player, and by Julie Allen, a senior player. They were helped by MILO parents and by players from the Women's senior team.

The number of junior teams competing in the HDCA competition remained at seven. The Club fielded three teams in the Under 11 Development (Kookaburra) competition, two teams in Under 13 and 15 competitions; one team in Green division, one in Gold. For the first time in a number of years, the Club was unable to field a team at U17 level due to flow on effects from ca 2006/7. All players eligible to play U17s were incorporated into senior teams.

Of the three U11 teams, most of the Yellow and some of the Maroon players had played in the previous season; whereas the White team was formed from new and generally younger players. Results reflected the difference in age and experience of the players. The Yellow team were undefeated and topped the U11 ladder. Congratulations.

At the start of the last game, all Under 13 and 15 teams were in a position to make it into the semi-finals; unfortunately the U15 Gold team missed out due to the heat. The U15 and U13 Green teams

faced Gold teams in the Green division semi-finals and were unable to overcome their physically bigger and more experienced Gold opponents. The U13 Gold team won their semi-final and went on to beat Heidelberg Gold in the Gold final and take out the Club's first junior premiership for a number of years. They also went through the season undefeated. Well done team and congratulations to Josh Robertson whose batting earned him the Player of the Finals award and whose bowling won him the HDCA U13 bowling award. Individual performances, achievements and awards are highlighted in the team reports that follow.

The Club continued to increase its numbers playing representative cricket, this season nine junior players were members of representative teams and are listed in the season report.

Coaching continued to be conducted by a pool of accredited coaches (both senior players and parents). The coaches were supported by parental team managers. The club policy of coaching in age groups on set nights allows the junior players access to a greater range of coaches and thus, skills, as well as building greater connections between the different teams. Arrangements were made with the Club's senior coaching group to give the Under 15 players the opportunity to train with seniors if they wished. Attention continued to be given to the end of the pathway, namely the transition of juniors into seniors. It began with the Winter Development Program, which enables older juniors and younger men and women senior players to receive specialist coaching at Shaun Browns Cricket Academy. This season, the overall program again consisted of twenty seven one hour sessions spread over fourteen Saturday afternoons. The number of juniors participating in the Winter Program increased from thirteen to twenty one, mainly from the previous season's U17, U15 and U13 age groups. Of these, 15 went onto play senior cricket this season. The Club will consolidate its Winter Development Program, giving more effort to follow-up coaching and mentoring in order to maximise the benefits of the Winter Program.

This season also saw the Club continuing to provide the opportunity for children who have little exposure to cricket to be introduced to the game. This was done through a City of Yarra Community Grant and support from Bendigo Bank which enabled the Club to run a successful 12-week cricket program over winter for children from the Atherton Gardens high rises. The number of girls participating increased over the previous season. At most sessions there were an equal number of boys and girls participating.

A grant from Cricket Victoria again enabled us to bring six Atherton youngsters up to BSO to join MILO/Under 11 training on Saturday mornings. Four played in our U11 teams, with two playing in all matches. The Club had assistance from Cricket Victoria, the Yarra Youth Resource Officers at Fitzroy Police, students from the Catholic University and parents/grandparents of the Atherton youngsters.

Off the field, the Junior Working Group held three meetings over the season. The purpose of these meetings is to give junior management, coaches, team-managers and parents the opportunity to meet to review, discuss and advise the Club executive on the junior program. The last of these for this season reviewed our junior cricket operations over the past season and looked at measures that the club could take to ensure that problems sourced from HDCA are not repeated in the 2012-13 season. The preparations for next season have begun.

In looking back at the season, thanks are due to the Club's Director of Cricket, Stuart Whiley, for his constant help behind the scenes and for always being there to help out on-field at the last minute when required. The support that the captains of our senior teams gave to juniors playing senior cricket is much appreciated.

On behalf of the Club, I thank the following – Ben McKenna for his work on the junior section of the website, the staff at Cricket Victoria, especially John Watkin, David Bourke and Stephanie Newton for their interest, advice and help throughout the season; particularly with the Atherton Gardens Project. The Yarra Resource Officers, Tony Brewin and Chris McGeaghan, the students from the CU and senior players Jack Viola, Murray White, junior player Nicholas White, especially senior women's player Julie Allan and CU student Lynden Caldwell and Atherton parent Mick Addison for getting the youngsters up to and back from BSO; their input and assistance has made the Club's Atherton Gardens Project so

successful. James Bradley and Julie Allan are thanked for organising and coaching, along with many parents, our MILO program and Maureen Vincent and Andrew Creasey for organising the weekly MILO sausage sizzle. A big thank you to all of the parents and senior players, listed in individual team reports, for coaching and managing our junior teams during the past season and to those parents who, throughout the season, provided on and off field help, transport to and sustenance at matches. A special thanks to Arthur Watkin for the time and effort he put into coaching our champion Under 13 Gold team.

Thank you to Bendigo Bank, our junior sponsor, for their help in promoting grass roots cricket in the North Fitzroy area and to the City of Yarra and Cricket Victoria for their support of the Atherton Gardens Project. Finally, thank you to the Club President, Brad Shadbolt, to all on the Club Executive and Committee and to the Head Coach, Chris Branigan, and his assistants, Chris Lomas and Stuart Brown, for the support they have given junior cricket over the past season.

The above help and assistance, on-field and off-field, has provided a strong foundation for success in the season 2012-2013.

- Stan White

Outstanding Individual Achievements

50 Runs in an innings

Joshua Robinson	52 n.o. GF
Jon Graham-Perez	51 n.o. Rd 7
Nicholas Nodin	51 n.o. Rd 7
Joshua Robinson	51 n.o. Rd 5
Jack Bradley	50 n.o. Rd 4
Giovanni Colarossi	50 n.o. Rd 4
Joshua Robinson	50 n.o. SF

50 Matches E.C.C. (Junior & Senior)

Christopher Campbell

HDCA Trophy Winner

Joshua Robinson Under 13 Gold Bowling

Selected in Representative Teams

Christopher Campbell	Northern Falcons U14
Nick White	Preston Hatch
Jack Bradley	HDCA U14
Tom Hall	HDCA U14
Harry Hopkins	HDCA U14
Joshua Robinson	HDCA U14
Jack Taylor	HDCA U14
Jon Graham-Perez	HDCA U12
Nicholas Nodin	HDCA U12

Under 15 Maroon

Introduction

Our group of 14 became 13 with four departures from last year, the arrival of two new players and the return of a previous player to the team. We bid farewell to Lachy Angus, James Butler, Max Gust and Bardo Imber-Dixon, and welcomed new players Ollie Dyson and Nick Visser, and the return of Noah Darby.

The team won one match, had a draw from a winning position, had four losses, and a bye which saw the very enjoyable and keenly fought parents and sons T20 match on the Brunswick Street Oval.

Players

Noah Darby batted aggressively when at the crease. His highest score was an impressive 26 not out against Heidelberg followed by 14 not out in the win against North Alphington. Noah narrowly missed a batting trophy (by one run). He bowled with good pace picking up two wickets, and also played his first senior match with the fourths.

Ollie Dyson bowled a tight line with his left arm pace, often without luck, frequently swinging the ball into opposing batters. He picked up one wicket against the top side Rosanna. From few opportunities with the bat he looked very sound, and made an impressive 22 not out in the last game when batting up the order.

David Fogarty made his career high score of 36 when opening the batting against North Alphington, and like Noah just missed out on a batting trophy (by two runs). He picked up 4 wickets over the season, and against North Alphington had the remarkable figures of 2 for 0 off 3 maiden overs.

Aki Hatz had a productive season finishing off with an innings of 15 well made runs as part of a 32 run partnership with Jesse for the eighth wicket in the derby match. With five wickets he took the most for the team, including his career best figures of 2 for 7 against eventual premiers, Banyule Blue.

Harry Hopkins often batted in the top order but without good fortune. He has a good array of shots and I am sure will make more runs next year. Harry bowled accurately taking three wickets for the season, including best figures of 2 for 15 against eventual runner-up, Heidelberg.

David Jaques continued to apply himself to his batting, developing his range of shots, and made his career high score of 8 against East Ivanhoe, and also grabbed career best bowling figures of 2 for 17 against one of the stronger teams, Banyule Blue.

Lucien John was one of our reliable batters, often appearing in the upper order facing the opposition's better bowlers. He made double figures four times including the team's highest individual score of the season (and Lucien's career top score) – 43 not out. Lucien's bowling was very tight and consistent, regularly beating the bat.

Ben Le Mesurier continues to develop as a bowler, capable of generating good pace with noticeable swing. He worked hard on his batting this year, which culminated in his career high score against East Ivanhoe when he top scored with 20 including four boundaries. Ben took one wicket for the season.

Will Symons batted with great assurance in the derby game making his career high score of 30 not out and featured in two crucial partnerships with Ollie and Lucien to rescue us from a perilous 3 for 21. He took 4 catches, kept wickets securely allowing very few byes, and took one wicket with his spinners. Will also played three senior games making his maiden 50 in the last game.

Matt Thomas bowled with great accuracy and pace, regularly beating the bat, but despite those efforts, unluckily took just the one wicket for the season. With batting he reached double figures twice including a top score for the season of 12 against Heidelberg. Matt was one of our regular keepers, always encouraging his teammates.

Nick Visser kindly volunteered to help us out in between basketball matches. He made 9 opening the batting against Heidelberg, and took 2 for 18 against North Alphington as well as a direct hit run out.

Nick White was by far our most consistent batsman, always opening the innings, scoring 118 runs (his highest season tally) and reaching double figures on four occasions. His highest score was 32 against the impressive bowlers from Rosanna. He took 3 wickets with his big turning leg spinners. Nick also played a full season of senior cricket and made a momentous 150 against Heidelberg as the fourths chased down 300 to win.

Jesse Wilson missed the first part of the season with a wrist injury, but in just three stints at the bowling crease picked up 4 wickets including 3 for 26 against eventual premiers, Banyule. His top score for the season was an impressive 18 in the derby game. We look forward to seeing Jesse open the bowling for a full season next year.

Summary

The boys showed a growing maturity in their increased capacity for focusing on their teammates in the middle. Ultimately, when batting, they do need to generate more frequent longer partnerships to build good team totals. However, several boys have successfully made the move to playing senior cricket, and there is good scope for others to follow suit next season.

I have really enjoyed coaching the boys this season and look forward to building on their strong team spirit which will prepare them well for 2012-13. Thanks to all the parents who provided generous support to the lads and negotiated Melbourne's Friday night traffic, and just occasional rain interruptions this year.

I would like to acknowledge the brilliant work of the manager, Carolyn Wilson, who kept us informed of game locations and the catering roster, and who offered us tasty treats during the half-time breaks.

Finally, special thanks to Stan White and Sally Marsden who, as ever, continue to quietly and effectively keep the junior club engine humming along.

- Mick Symons, Coach

U15 Maroon Coach: Mick Symons

U15 Maroon Manager: Carolyn Wilson

U15 MAROON AWARDS

All Round Contribution to the Team Awards:

Ollie Dyson
Harry Hopkins
David Jaques
Ben Le Mesurier
Nicholas Visser

Batting:

1. Nick White
2. Lucien John
3. Will Symons

Bowling:

1. Aki Hatz
2. Jesse Wilson
2. David Fogarty

Fielding Award:

Noah Darby

Coach's Award:

Matt Thomas

Under 15 Yellow

This is my first season coaching a junior cricket team, and at the start of every sporting season the first thing you do is to look at the fixtures, after doing so I say to myself is Stevie Wonder organising the fixtures for the under 15 yellow this season? We started off the season with a very hard game v Rosanna Gold, we won the toss and elected to field, Jack Taylor and Chris Campbell took 2 early wickets which arguably bought their 2 best players to the crease; they both scored 50 and retired. Even after they scored 50 we showed a never say die attitude, Angus Ponsford took 2 wickets in 2 balls and narrowly missed out on a hat trick, with Ben Cuthbertson wheeling away at the other end also taking 2 wickets. Patrick Quay came onto bowl and took the final wicket. The two retired batsmen came back in after Rosanna lost 5 wickets for 40 runs and they took the score to 231 from their allotted overs. We then batted for 38 overs and even tho we only scored 75 runs we showed real promise with the bat in that we only lost one wicket with Jack Taylor and Mustafa Kaka top scoring with 13 apiece.

This took us out to Banyule for the second game of the season where the heavens opened and the Banyule innings was cut short at 8/145 from their 28 overs. The wickets were shared around with Tom Catoggio taking his first wicket of the season, which also saw Liam Batty taking his 2 wickets from 2 overs. Daniel Johns then came onto bowl taking 3 wickets from his 2 overs and Debutant Jackson Frenkel taking his first wicket for the club. On return the following week, we stumbled to 48 from our allotted overs with Chris Campbell and Patrick Quay topping the scoring, but even though we only scored 48, we had plenty of positives to take forward as for a second week running we didn't get bowled out.

After making the long trip out to Banyule we had the delights of W.T. Peterson Oval, we won the toss again and elected to field, Chris Campbell opened the bowling with very economical figures in only going for 9 runs off his 4 overs. East Ivanhoe batted very well in only losing 4 wickets for 154 the wickets were again shared around, there was one wicket apiece for Tom Shute, Jack Taylor and Tom Catoggio. Tom was very economical with his bowling figures, as his 5 overs only conceded 9 runs, which included one wicket. In the next week when it came to our batting the grey or should I say black clouds formed, with plenty of thunder and lightning in the distance. After losing an early wicket Jack Bradley and Chris Campbell took the score to 1 – 30 before Chris was adjudged leg before wicket in which was quite possibly the worst decision I have ever seen. After the disappointment of Chris being given out l.b.w, Tom Catoggio came to crease with Bradley and took the score to 2 – 40 before the heavens opened. After picking up the cones then replacing them, calling off the game, picking them up again we played through the rain, Tom Catoggio and Jack Bradley were then batting with intent both looking very solid before Jack fell for 28 and Tom was caught for 21, this then coincided with us losing a flurry of wickets and were eventually all out for 87.

Next up for the Yellows was another hard game in Heidelberg where we were looking to make it our first win of the season. Heidelberg batted first and scored a decent total of 167, the wickets were once shared around again with one each for Liam Batty, Jackson Frenkel, Tom Catoggio, Jack Taylor, Chris Campbell, and Ben Cuthbertson who took 3 wickets in his 5 overs. Chris Campbell opened the batting with Patrick Quay where they started off the early overs well before Quay eventually fell for 6. This bought Jack Bradley to the crease who batted with Chris and watching them bat together was a joy to behold, Chris unfortunately fell for 35 but Jack showed his class scoring the first 50 of the season. Tom Catoggio and Jack Taylor came to the crease with Tom carrying on his fine form from the previous week with the bat scoring another 18 but we finished 22 runs short but put in a sterling effort with the bat and the ball.

In the game leading up to Christmas we played West Ivanhoe United, which we saw as a game that we could win, and we did with great confidence. We lost the toss and they elected to bat, this backfired on Ivanhoe with the boys bowling them out for 44 in 17 overs, there were two wickets apiece for Chris Campbell and Jack Bradley. Jack Taylor took the other four wickets in which were his best bowling figures of the season 4 for 8 from 4.4 overs. The Yellows then batted and after losing a few early wickets Chris Campbell excelled with the bat in scoring 47 along with Jack Taylor's 27 took the score to 127 all out. In West Ivanhoe's second innings they finished the second week on 4/68 with the wickets coming from Jackson Frenkel, Patrick Quay with 2 and Jackson Georgi taking his first

wicket of the season.

After winning our first game of the season we were looking to make it 2 from 2 leading up to the grudge match v Edinburgh Maroon. North Alphington won the toss and elected to bat, we started off bowling very tight and the early wickets arrived with Chris Campbell carrying on his fine bowling effort and taking 2 wickets from his first 4 overs. Jack Taylor was equally as good, opening the bowling from the other end taking 3 wickets from his first 4 overs. The change of bowling made no difference as the wickets continued to tumble Jack Bradley took 1 wicket along with Daniel Johns and Ben Cuthbertson bowled very economically in only conceding 4 runs in his 4 overs with 2 wickets. This sterling bowling effort restricted North Alphington to 97. In the run chase we started off very well with Jack Bradley and Mustafa Kaka taking the score past the 50 mark before Mustafa was unfortunately caught after scoring a string of boundaries. After the loss of another quick wicket and Jack Bradley retiring for a superb 37, Chris Campbell and Tom Catoggio took the score past North Alphington's 97 and they respectively retired on 16 and 20. Jack Taylor then came to crease and batted right through to the end scoring a fine 27 not out taking the score to 9/156; this was another victory for the Yellows.

The grudge match we had all been looking forward to arrived at the W.T Peterson oval, Edinburgh Maroon v Edinburgh Yellow. After losing the toss we were in the field, Chris Campbell opened the bowling and bowled his best spell of the season in getting rid of the dangerous Nick White, Harry Hopkins and Matt Thomas. Wickets were then hard to come by, where they batted sensibly, batted in good partnerships and restricted us to very few chances. Tom Shute was given the ball and came on to get a wicket along with Daniel Johns and after some kamikaze running Edinburgh Maroon scored 9/178. The next week was obviously too hot at 38 degrees which meant that through the draw and the 3 points we made it through to the semi-final at the expense of Edinburgh Maroon.

Chelsworth Park was the location for the semi-final versus East Ivanhoe Black. We started the game off well when Chris Campbell took the early wicket when the score was on 26, on a small ground with a fast running outfield, the runs were coming thick and fast, but we hung in there and Jack Bradley took 2 quick wickets, Jack finished with very economical figures for the day which was 6 overs 3 maidens 2/5. East Ivanhoe Black was then 3/72 and then 4/89 after Angus Ponsford had taken the wicket of the wicket keeper Powell. After a small partnership of 40, Tom Shute got the ball in his hand and did what he has done all season, taking a wicket to break a partnership and he did that again, taking the wicket of the captain. Tom's second wicket was not just a great piece of bowling but Liam Batty took catch of the season at slip. East Ivanhoe Black pushed the score along over the 200, mark but with the boys never say die attitude they went right to the end and Liam Batty taking a wicket after his magnificent catch. Jackson Frenkel then took 2 wickets in 3 balls where the innings came to a close at 219. In the run chase we lost a wicket early but Jack Bradley and Chris Campbell took the score to 29 before Jack was caught for 18. Chris was then quick to follow for 12. Jack Taylor and Mustafa Kaka came together at the crease and scored 13 and 12 respectively. But we lost a flurry of wickets and were eventually bowled out for 81. It was a disappointing way to end the season but there are plenty of positives to take from the season with every single player improving over the 5 months.

A special thanks this season goes to Deborah and her help in getting the teams ready, making my job a lot easier. Also to the parents who scored throughout the year and brought your children to games/training. Without you we wouldn't be playing this wonderful game. I hope you all have a wonderful off-season and before you know it the cricket season will be on us again.

- Chris Lomas, Coach

U15 Yellow Coach: Chris Lomas

U15 Yellow Manager: Deb Keir & Howard Johns

U15 YELLOW AWARDS

All Round Contribution to the Team Awards:

Liam Batty
Jackson Frenkel
Jackson Georgi
Daniel Johns
Mustafa Kaka
Angus Ponsford
Patrick Quay

Batting:

1. Jack Bradley
2. Christopher Campbell
3. Jack Taylor

Bowling:

1. Christopher Campbell
2. Jack Taylor
3. Ben Cuthbertson

Fielding Award:

Tom Catoggio

Coach's Award:

Tom Shute

Under 13 Maroon

The boys had a great season. They won every game, the season a continuum culminating in what was the sweetest victory of all in the Grand Final.

Our major goals for the season were:

- To develop an overriding team ethos. The team would come first and all players would be contributing.
- To improve the all round game of each member of the team.
- To enjoy the game and have fun.

A Premiership was not one of the major goals, but an underlying belief built throughout the season that if we worked at our game and supported each other the results would come. The season was a process.

14 boys made up this team. The boys trained well and they played well. They played as a team and were quite formidable.

Against the normal flow of things they showed a distinct lack of arrogance. The respect shown towards each other and their opponents and a willingness to ensure all players had the opportunity to have an impact were important characteristics of this team.

The ability to think about their game and the developing prized attribute of being able to 'handle the pressure', grew and became more evident as the season progressed.

All players surprised me many times during the season with their talents and personalities. They are a fine bunch.

The Grand Final was played against Heidelberg. We won the toss and elected to bowl. I am sure Sir Donald Bradman upstairs would have been frowning upon this call. We would be chasing, but it was what we had done for most of the year and we were backing ourselves.

The Heidelberg boys batted with great determination, our boys bowled line and length, and at the end of the allocated 45 overs had reached a respectable 122. The next morning, after losing an early wicket, we settled and began to accumulate a score. The ones and twos with the occasional boundary came. The 'running between the wickets' was a highlight and helped to keep the fielding side under pressure. We passed their score 6 wickets down with 4 overs to spare.

Needless to say it was a great result. Congratulations boys. Every player willed it and every player made their mark.



Many thanks to the parents, siblings and others who were always there supporting the team. Special thanks to Dean Robinson who should write the manual on managing a junior team.

To Stan White and Sally Marsden for their continuing efforts which have seen Edinburgh C.C. Junior Cricket go from a mess to a vibrant, progressive environment. I am in awe.

I will not single out one player. Here is the list of players who brought the flag home. We should all be very proud of their achievements and the way they went about it.

Josh Robinson G.F Captain
Ed Bond
Sean Brickhill
Josh Broderick
Patrick Chapman
Giovanni Colarossi
Finley Crameri
Harry Fear
Lucien Finch

Max Gray
Tom Hall
Declan Smith
Sarathak Jain (played up til xmas. Moved to Mumbai)
James Dulfer (played 2 games)

For me it has been a privilege to be involved with this group. A fantastic team. I had a lot of fun.
- Arthur Watkin, Coach

U13 Maroon Coach: Arthur Watkin

U13 Maroon Manager: Dean Robinson

U13 MAROON AWARDS

All Round Contribution to the Team Awards:

James Dulfer
Max Gray
Tom Hall
Sarathak Jain

Batting:

1. Joshua Robinson
2. Giovanni Colarossi
3. Joshua Broderick

Bowling:

1. Declan Smith
2. Joshua Robinson
3. Edward Bond
3. Lucien Finch
3. Harry Fear

Fielding Awards:

Sean Brickhill
Patrick Chapman

Coach's Award:

Finley Crameri

Under 13 Yellow

Thanks for a great season everyone – one the kids can be proud of! It started with a flush of success – comfortably winning our first two games – was followed by some crushing defeats before Christmas and finished with a couple of great performances – our highest ever score and a solid, convincing and mature performance against a much older team in the U13 Green semi-final.

The kids were of course the highlight but a few adults need mentioning. David Foster made a massive contribution with scoring, organizing batting and bowling lists and with training. Steve and Matt were also prominent in the scoring department. Randall was terrific as manager and co-coach. Marcia, Justeen, Warwick, Cath, Marina and Wayne were ever present and supportive. The cooking trophy goes hands down to Uyen for some truly stunning performances.

To the boys. In no particular order ...

Sebastian 'Sebbie' Wilson was an absolute delight to coach and made huge improvements in his bowling, batting and unfortunately catching (the little rat caught me out in the parent-kids game at the end of the season). He has developed an excellent bowling run up and is now getting good pace and has learnt an excellent hook shot.

William 'Will' Clarke is a natural sportsman who made my harping about proper batting technique look misplaced with his natural stroke-play and easy run getting. Will has a beautiful upright bowling action and easily seams the ball. His accuracy and out-swing troubled all of our opponents regardless of experience. Oh yes, probably our best catcher as well.

Mark 'Macka' Foster is also rich with talent and displays very correct batting technique. His bowling was very good to excellent and team-play excellent. As he grows and gains in confidence over the next two years expect to be impressed.

Liam Laidlaw is one of the characters who glue the team together with his infectious nature. Liam is much better at sport than he thinks. He has by far the best throwing arm in the team and achieves good pace with his bowling. Liam's batting is effected by a bottom hand dominance which gets him out more often than he should. He will easily get on top of this in coming years and then realise to his surprise that he starts scoring lots of runs.

Tyler McGregor is a pocket dynamo of a kid with a whippy fast bowling action which sometimes gets out of hand but mostly succeeds in troubling the bat. His batting is powerful for his size and he has a terrific eye and excellent technique. Tyler could easily become an opening bat if he keeps it up. He listens very well to instruction and is a quick intelligent fielder.

Nicholas 'Nick' Nodin exudes talent with the bat and ball. He was our most accomplished batsman, co-captained the HDCA district U12 team over the summer holidays and naturally dominated play in the field. A fast swinging left arm bowler, he consistently troubled the opposition regardless of their skill or age. He and Jon played the best opening partnership of the year in our second last match, setting a beautiful tempo worthy of much older and more experienced batsman. He will go on to captain teams and perform at a high level if he remains as committed as he currently is.

Finbar 'Finn' Jenkins was our premier wicket-keeper and a very solid batsman. He has a natural cut shot which is lovely to watch and defends well with a competent straight bat. Finn has an easy friendly personality and is much liked by his teammates.

Oliver 'Ollie' Blanch was new to the team this year and fitted in well immediately. As the coaches son I am not allowed to carry on too much about this lovely young fellow but he played really well this year although missing out on some of the success that may have come his way with better luck. He has a beautiful batting style and is a committed bowler and fielder and a great team player.

Jock Green is an absolute delight who had a rotten year with the bat. He showed his potential against a 'Gold' team that intimidated all of the others. Jock hit them for fours. He was the highest scorer last year, I understand, and should rapidly return to former glory with a few adjustments to his technique. Jock bowled beautifully and fielded even better with some amazing out-fielding throughout the season.

Barnabas 'Barney' Ritman had a great year showing massive improvement in his batting and bowling. He developed from a tentative style to a run getting approach which made his coach proud. His bowling became much more confident well paced and accurate as the year progressed.

Cooper 'Coops' Forssman discovered that he was a born wrist spinner this year. There is nothing more exciting to a cricket coach than seeing a kid take up this dazzlingly difficult task. Coops did a wonderful job looping the ball up beautifully and even throwing in a wrongun or two. His batting followed in Jock's footsteps but like him Coops will discover his good eye and strength come into play as he irons out some technique issues in coming seasons.

Benjamin 'Ben' Gunthorpe like Oliver, joined the team for the first time this year and like him fitted in really well. He was successful with his quirkily accurate bowling and developed a great pull shot as the season progressed. Ben is quick and alert in the field, a great team player and will develop significantly in coming years.

Angus Murphy oozes energy and passion. He loves to be in the action, will without hesitation put his body on the line and did some awesome out-fielding this year. He made a spectacular diving save of four that was probably the best single act of fielding I have seen in junior cricket. His batting is usually lacking in consistency but he showed great concentration saving the team from outright defeat with a long defensive stronghold of an innings midway through the season.

Euan 'Euey' Jenkins is an absolute delight of a boy with great strength and a crushing batting style which gave him great success this year. Euan paid careful attention to coaching instructions and made improvement in technique with the bat and ball throughout the season. Euan delighted the rest of the team when hitting sixes. He has an easy style which makes him a great team member.

Jon Graham-Perez had a fabulous year with the bat and ball. He made the HDCA U12 district team and has probably the most correct batting technique of the team. He hits shots on both sides of the pitch, even the princely cover-drive. Jon bowls beautifully and has the potential to go on to be an all rounder at high levels of the game.

So, thanks again for a great season kids. Come back next year and keep having as much fun as you had this year!

-Richard Blanch, Coach

U13 Yellow Coach: Richard Blanch

U13 Yellow Manager: Randall Nodin

U13 YELLOW AWARDS

All Round Contribution to the Team Awards:

Oliver Blanch
Mark Foster
Benjamin Gunthorpe
Finbar Jenkins
Tyler McGregor
Barnabas Ritman
Sebastien Wilson

Batting:

1. Nicholas Nodin
2. Jon Graham-Perez
3. Euan Jenkins

Bowling:

1. Angus Murphy
2. Liam Laidlaw
3. Cooper Forssman

Fielding Award:

William Clark

Coach's Award:

Jock Green

Under 11 Yellow

Playing in a team is not about winning, the runs you scored or wickets you took. Playing in a team is much more. It is about supporting your team mates, developing them and establishing a culture that contributes in a positive way toward your team and your opponents. It makes competing fun regardless of the outcome.

I'd like to remind you of some of the moments in the season that made us so very proud of you.

At our first training session, Ned O'Leary our newest player who'd come straight from Milo cricket was facing James Fear, who is very fast bowler. As Ned walked out to bat, pads up to his hips and helmet down to his shoulders, I asked James not to bowl too quickly. James bowled the slowest ball he could and Ned hit it for 2 runs. James immediately started clapping and called out "great shot Ned". His cheers were followed by all the team. Wow, I knew we were in for a great season.

In our second match for the season we were joined by two more new players, Ella Baxter and Charlie Bradley. Neither had played at this level before, with a hard ball, pads, helmets and a million new rules. As we started to organise ourselves I asked who wants to bat with Ella or Charlie. Straight away Doug Warren and Matthew O'Meara said they would. Doug and Ella made 25 runs that day which was our highest partnership, with Ella 7 not out and Doug 18 not out. Matthew and Charlie made 21 runs, our second highest partnership, with Matthew 7 not out and Charlie making 5. We will never forget the cheers from our team when Ella and Charlie scored their first runs.

Round 3 was always going to be a big win for us and tough going for our much younger opponents. However when it got really tough on their batsmen I saw some fabulous sporting gestures. Finn Blackman as wicket keeper was coaching the batsmen. James Norden, Gus Galloway and Thomas Henry on several occasions were encouraging the batsmen and congratulating them on any good shots, including off their own bowling. When we batted, Josh Bradley was run out after facing only one ball. Immediately Josh put that behind him and set about getting Max McKenna as much of the strike as he could. Max made 26 runs due to great batting and fabulous support from Josh.

Round 4 was against North Alphington Girls. As I watched Charlie, Ella and Ned field beautifully I realised that the support they get from their team mates means they are prepared to try their hardest, since if they make a mistake they will be supported by all in their team. Next week we helped North Alphington in the field as they were short of players. Ned was at mid-on, picked up the ball and threw the stumps down from side on. Darcy Greig was disappointed to be run out, but the first thing he said was "great fielding Ned"!

Round 7 was a one day match against the undefeated East Ivanhoe Saints. Great leg spin bowling by Max McKenna and superb backing up in the field by Gus Galloway kept them to a low score. This became a feature of Gus' and Thomas Henry's games, they threw themselves around in the field in support of their team mates and were responsible for some superb run-outs and absolutely brilliant catches. Chasing 52 runs, we were really struggling at 4 for 14. Four of our next six bats-persons were our youngest and newest players who were going out to face the best bowling attack for the season and under enormous pressure. Charlie Bradley, Ella Baxter, Ned O'Leary and Matthew Henry denied the bowlers another wicket and set up our win, following a superb last wicket partnership from Finn and James Fear.

Congratulations to everyone for a fabulous season. This was "your season" where you won every game and finished on top of the ladder. Well done to our senior players for the support and encouragement you have given your team mates and to our younger and new players for trying your absolute hardest, you have all made the club, your parents, us and your team mates very proud.

Thank you to the 10 coaches we have had at training this season, you have done a great job. To the people who provided food, scored and helped out, your support has been wonderful.

- Tim O'Meara, Coach & Ben McKenna, Manager

U11 Yellow Coach: Tim O'Meara

U11 Yellow Manager: Ben McKenna

U11 YELLOW AWARDS

Batting

James Fear

Matthew O'Meara

Douglas Warren

Bowling

Finn Blackman

Max McKenna

James Norden

All Rounder

Ella Baxter

Charlie Bradley

Joshua Bradley

Gus Galloway

Darcy Greig

Matthew Henry

Thomas Henry

Ned O'Leary

Under 11 Maroon

Kyle Addison

Kyle was a fantastic addition to the team this year after joining us from the Atherton program. He put a lot of effort into both his batting and bowling. His high score of 17 in the second last game was a fantastic innings by U11 standards. In the field Kyle was always enthusiastic and full of chirp.

Shaun Addison

Just like his brother, Shaun was a great inclusion to the Maroon team from the Atherton program. His improvement over the season was great to see, especially after the New Year's break. His bowling was sharp and often had opposition batsman jumping for cover. His contribution in the field was also very good as he always gave it his all.

Hayden Bant

Hayden's fearless approach to his batting made him a pleasure to coach. Hayden didn't mind getting hit by the ball and didn't even flinch when he did. As a result of this, his batting improved out of sight as he began to hit the ball harder and more consistently. Hayden's endeavour and work rate was great all season and he was a pleasure to coach

Jesse Bant

Jesse's all round improvement this year has been great to watch. His batting this year was solid and his efforts at both training and while playing were excellent. Jesse's bowling was accurate and as a result he picked up plenty of wickets, often taking more than one in an over.

Will Butler

Will showed a great work ethic all season, he was always willing to try his best and improve his cricket. Will picked up wickets regularly and bowled good, tight lines. His effort at training was very good and he transferred that well into the games.

Josh Dulfer

It wasn't until halfway through the season that Josh came up to me and said he wanted to be a keeper. Since then he has worked hard on his keeping and has become a good keeper. His attitude towards cricket is outstanding, both at training and on game day. His bowling was good and had a lot of batters in trouble throughout the season. His batting was also very good.

Jordan Fernando

Jordan was a very handy bowler this season for the Maroons. His line and length were very good. His enthusiasm on game day was infectious, often lifting the spirits of his teammates around him. Jordan's effort in the field was excellent, his endeavour to stop the ball whenever it was hit his way was a prime example of this.

Mitchell Larkin

Mitch tried hard, was vocal in the field and most importantly played hard. He batted consistently all year and I could always count on him making runs when we needed them. His attitude towards training made him very easy to coach, he always asked questions and tried his best.

Aidan McGregor

The speed that Aidan bowled at surprised a lot of batters this season. His size compared to the speed he bowled was a sight to see. Aidan's batting improved immensely as the season progressed and as he continues to develop he will become a good all rounder. Aidan's fielding was great all year; especially his throwing which for someone his age is very good.

Harrison Michael

Harrison was a great batter for us this season. His powerful hitting was always enjoyable to watch. Harrison was a pleasure to coach this season because he always came to the game or training with a smile on his face and a great attitude to play cricket. Harrison was also someone that I knew would bowl a good line and length in a tight situation.

Jake Moorehead

Jake's positive attitude and desire to play cricket made him a pleasure to coach this season. His bowling was always accurate and sharp, which caused problems for a lot of batters over the season. Jake's effort at training and at the games was a great influence on the rest of the team.

Cameron Ross

It was a pleasure to coach Cam again this season. His batting and bowling, once again, proved to be very handy. With his added experience this season, he proved to be a very handy player under pressure. Cameron's effort when he was batting and bowling was great.

Gabriel Simeone

Gabe's trademark Australian headband added a bit of colour to the field and his bowling took the colour out of the opposing batters. His bowling was extraordinary this year. When he returned from the New Year's break he was a lot quicker and a lot more accurate. His attitude and effort was always spot on and made Gabe a pleasure to coach.

Max Watson

Max improved greatly over this season. When I first started coaching Max last season, he was struggling to get the ball to the other end when he bowled but now, through his hard work at training and his excellent attitude, Max is not only getting the ball to the other end but doing it with some pace. Max's 4 with the bat in the last game of the season is the highlight of my coaching life so far.

- Murray White, Coach

U11 Maroon Coach: Murray White

U11 Maroon Manager: Craig Ross

U11 MAROON AWARDS

Batting

Kyle Addison

Hayden Bant

Jesse Bant

Joshua Dulfer

Mitchell Larkin

Harrison Michael

Cameron Ross

Gabriel Simeone

Bowling

Shaun Addison

Will Butler

Jordan Fernando

Aidan McGregor

Jake Moorehead

Max Watson

Under 11 White

Pascal Apostoloff

Pascal has made a very valuable contribution to the team this year. With the ball Pascal's control improved immensely. With the bat Pascal has a good measure of both patience and power but probably Pascal's greatest improvement this year was in his fielding. His attitude to fielding and his willingness to get his body behind the ball became excellent.

Finlay Bennett

Fin is a gifted all-round cricketer. An attacking left-handed batsman in the mould of Dave Warner, Fin has improved in leaps and bounds this year with both bat and ball. His high score of 25 was a clear marker of his batting improvement. And as he works more on control he will find similar results with bowling.

Jakob Chetcuti

A nuggetty little wicket keeper, Jakob is one of the teams toughest members, as was proved in both his batting and his wicket keeping. Jakob's wicket is one that has to be prised out and behind the stumps he takes most with the gloves but when all else fails his body is behind the ball. Such courage is truly an admirable trait and will serve him well in the future.

Thomas Clark

Thomas has made great improvements this year in all aspects of his game. His spinners coming from around the wicket and pushing the ball across the batsman was of great value to the team and he was unlucky not to take more wickets. With the bat he improved remarkably when he started steeping towards the ball finishing with many not outs for the season

James Connelly

James is a bowler gifted with a natural out-swingers action and capable of producing some of the best balls I saw for the season, unfortunately often beating the edge of the bat. James also has a great attitude to training and as he gains strength and size, James' control will improve and he will become a formidable opponent for any batsman.

Noah Crawford

Noah is one of the youngest members of the team and this year Noah has shown great determination

and dogged persistence in improving his bowling action. The fruits of his labours were the incredible best bowling figures of 2/1. If Noah continues to work as hard as he has this year in the future he will grow into a very good cricketer

Felix Franes

Felix was a bowler who showed good control in the early games of the season and a willingness to get his body behind the ball while batting. Unfortunately Felix has not been able to play much cricket after Christmas but his improvements were marked in the time he played.

Miles Fricke

Miles is another gifted young cricketer in this team. The accuracy he displays in his bowling is a great attribute and as he grows stronger his solid action and cool temperament are tools which will win him many, many wickets. Miles also has a good solid defence with the bat and with time his attacking skills will improve. Miles is definitely one to watch for the future.

Aleksandar Gillian

Aleksander has grown greatly as a cricketer throughout this year. As his bowling action developed he began to swing the ball through the air which is a remarkable feat for a young man of his age. With the bat Aleksander also has great potential and as he showed in the last game of the season he can certainly hit the ball when he tries.

Moibah Kanneh

Moibah was a star for us this year. With a great attitude to cricket, pace in his bowling and power in his batting, Moibah is a great natural talent. Unfortunately Moibah missed the second half of the season but I wish him great success in his future for the Burra.

Alec Margetts

Rarely was there a training session without Alec and his enthusiasm and encouragement of others made him a pleasure to coach. Ever attentive, Alec always took advice on board and put it to good use with great improvement though the year in all aspects of cricket.

Zander McMaster

Zander is a natural leader within this team. A sharp bowler and aggressive batsman, Zander was a great contributor throughout the season. Zander's reward for the hard work that he put in at training and in the matches this season was best bowling figures of 1/1. He also finished the year on a great note with a sterling knock against another Edinburgh team when all other wickets had fallen.

Tom Proimos

Tom was an energetic contributor to the team this year. Accepting advice Tom developed good accuracy in his bowling, finishing with best bowling figures of 3/10 and a bowling average of 8.2. Tom was always eager to get into the action and with developing skills, will become a fine cricketer.

- Jack Viola, Coach.

U11 White Coach: Jack Viola

U11 White Managers: Sam Crawford & Meg Marsh

U11 WHITE AWARDS

Batting

Pascal Apostoloff
Alec Margetts

Bowling

James Connelly
Noah Crawford
Felix Franes
Aleksandar Gillian

All Rounder

Finlay Bennett
Thomas Clark
Miles Fricke
Moibah Kanneh
Zander McMaster

Wicket-Keeping

Jakob Chetcuti

Finance

Financial Summary

The club's financial plan focuses on ensuring the sustainability of the club whilst providing sufficient financial support to invest in ongoing cricket coaching and success, the overall Edinburgh experience provided to our members, their families and club supporters and our overall community programs. This season the club deliberately increased coaching and new equipment expenditure and invested in making the clubrooms more inviting and more representative of the club.

By focusing on the key improvement areas highlighted by the previous treasurer, the club has covered this expenditure through:

- greater cash management and reporting on the bar and merchandise (increase in revenue and importantly profitability),
- increased event profitability and
- increased membership revenue (mostly coteries).

The club achieved a surplus of \$13.9K this year, increasing the club's net asset position to \$48K (\$47.3K cash). Whilst this is a very strong result, it is supported by a \$4k saving on balls from last year (had significant leftover stock and are still carrying some stock) and a significant saving on potential coaching incentives that were not paid.

It is also important to note that most of this improvement has been achieved without significantly increasing the basic per member costs. The club is now well-positioned financially and in a position to invest in club facilities in the coming years. Continued focus on cash management and expenses, as well as providing profitable, value for money services to our members is critical, particularly as we enter a new competition and phase as a club.

Key performance indicators

	2012	2011	2010
Income	112,103	80,502	80,043
Expenses	98,194	79,969	76,520
Surplus	13,909	533	3,524
Net Assets	48,088	34,179	33,646

1. Change in reporting from previous years - income & expenditure fully allocated, other than events where profit only is reported as income

Commentary

1. Membership +24%

Pleasingly the increase was a result of broadening our membership base.

- Milo revenue coded here, but completely off-set by milo equipment costs.
- First 2 club coteries commenced, raising money for Pink Stumps donation & profit contribution
- Senior men's subscriptions increased 18% thanks to shift in payment structure for one day players & veterans, plus the additional veterans team.
- Junior subscriptions down 18% due to age group of teams (no u17s)

2. Sponsorships -3%

Significant year for sponsorship, despite the overall slight reduction in income. As mentioned in last year's report, a number of the sponsorships that we have held for a number of years were reducing or ceasing (Lion Nathan, Diageo etc).

This year we were fortunate to have had a number of new sponsors. Pleasingly these new sponsors' services are high quality and attractive to a number of our members. It is critical that our membership continue to utilise our sponsors' services, as the sponsorship is critical income that allows us to keep other costs lower than they would otherwise be and sponsorship is only sustainable if it delivers value to the sponsor.

Many thanks to the Fitzroy Victoria Bowls Club, Bendigo Bank, Secret Agent, the Commercial Club Hotel, Patton's Place Jewellers, Fox Hotel and Lion Nathan for their continued support.

3. Grants & Donations +46%

Very strong year with grants following another strong year last season. This is largely a result of our growing community programs and emphasis on the importance of these initiatives. We were also very fortunate to receive a number of donations this season, which are invaluable to allowing continual investment in junior equipment & infrastructure.

4. Events + 53%

Fantastic season for events. The majority of the increased surplus came from converting the annual dinner from a loss event into a profitable one. This was achieved whilst also lowering prices and responding to feedback on the event/venue.

Did not host the profitable HDCA night last season, but this was off-set by small returns from the Boxing Day Test box, the Thursday night quiz/joker jackpot, the popular movie night and a slight increase in casino night profit.

5. Social rooms income +125% expenses -2%

Social room cash management was a significant focus last year which has resulted in more accurate reporting of income and also a significant surplus improvement. This is despite two unfortunate events where money was taken from the safe. The money spent making the rooms more comfortable and more of a home resulted in more people at the club for longer, increasing sales.

Again this was achieved without significant price increases to our members.

6. Merchandise income +100% expenses – 40%

Another significant focus was inventory control of merchandise, which has led to fewer products being lost without payment. Steps were also made to improve the quality of merchandise and pushing the importance of players through all grades representing the club, which led to higher sales.

7. Coaching & training expenditure +69%

Significant & planned increase in coaching expenditure. The club had unsuccessfully endeavoured to fill more coaching resources for the last few seasons and it was pleasing to fill these positions & increase expenditure here.

These costs could have been higher again as most contracts had coaching incentives which for a combination of reasons were not payable this season.

8. Ground hire -12%

Ground hire costs continued to be low as per last season, due to the City of Yarra reducing rates in recognition of the value provided in the community and us taking primary care for a shared facility (BSO rooms).

9. Afternoon teas +50%

Afternoon teas were provided to more teams last season, hence the increase. Potentially this is still an area where we could provide increased service to our members.

10. Affiliation -33%

Affiliation fees were significantly down on last year; partially due to having no u17 teams and also a result of a significant decrease in fees for the senior women's team on the previous year. There is still some uncertainty as to the reason for the difference in the VWCA affiliation.

It is important to note that affiliation fees, as well as umpire costs, will likely increase for senior men and junior teams in a new competition. Umpires costs are higher per day, but there are also more umpires.

11. Infrastructure + 236% (\$3K total)

Club spent a reasonable sum improving the state of the rooms and making them more club-like. This appears to have resulted in increased social room activity and revenue and is probably an area that needs continued investment in coming seasons.

Key focus areas

1. Cash management & reporting – club needs to continue with initiatives from this season with tighter cash and cost controls to ensure social rooms, merchandise and events do not return to losses.
2. Continue to encourage club members to support sponsors & to sign sponsors where relationships can be mutually beneficial (sponsors & members) to ensure this is a sustainable income.
3. Balance event profitability with delivering quality events that people want to attend.
4. Continue to sustainably re-invest in cricket and other parts of our member's club experience to deliver best possible value to our stakeholders.

Finance Reports

For a copy of the financial results for 2011/12, please request from Club Secretary or Treasurer.

Coterie Groups

Club 78

The Edinburgh Cricket Club was excited to introduce its first ever coterie group- Club 78.

Club 78 was introduced to allow former players, officials, friends and family of Edinburgh CC to continue an involvement with the Club. In Year one, Club 78 was able to attract 15 members, who were communicated with on a monthly basis about the clubs on & off field activities, provided with access to a Club 78 function and thanked with two great bottles of ECC player & wine maker Luke Lamberts finest reds. If you would like to find out more about or join Club 78, please email club78@edinburghcc.asn.au



Duchesses of Edinburgh

The ECC was also proud to announce that it formed a club for partners of Burra cricketers: "The Duchesses of Edinburgh."

This fantastic new group was launched on Saturday 18th February in conjunction with Pink Stumps Day & was able to raise over \$500 for Breast Cancer research. The aim of the group was ensuring the club continues to become more partner/family friendly!

Each year, the 'Duchesses' will run 1-2 functions, supporting ECC charities and fostering a 'family' atmosphere at the Burra.



Sponsors

Major Sponsors

Fitzroy Victoria Bowling and Sports Club

Fitzroy Victoria
Bowling & Sports Club



Our members say bowls is the game for those that like to "keep young", the "cool" and "the adventurous".

There are a number of social and casual bowling options at Fitzroy Victoria from casual rink hire to organised competitions for both new and experienced players.

Fitzroy Victoria is also available for functions and events. For more information you can reach Fitzroy Victoria in any of the following ways.

Phone: (03)9481 3137

Email (General Enquiries): info@barefootbowling.com.au

Email (Catering and Functions): functions@barefootbowling.com.au

www.fvbowls.com.au

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[http://secretagent.com.au/](http://secretagent.com.au)

Bendigo Bank



At Bendigo Bank we realised long ago that to help your community become successful, we first needed to help you become successful

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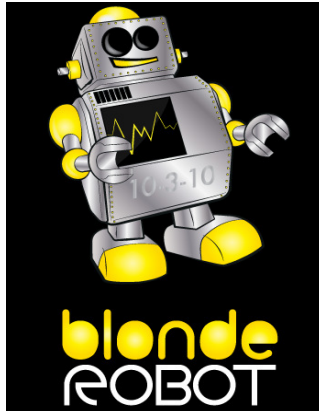


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