



# The Carlton Lockdown Newsletter

*Issue 1*

Till the gates of Grange Loan are open again!



With no cricket for the foreseeable future at Grange Loan or anywhere else, Carlton wants to keep the game and the club in everyone's minds.

But hope springs eternal - ESCA have issued revised fixtures for a curtailed season commencing on Saturday 6 June.

So until then this regular newsletter will contain lots to entertain and amuse - we can still think cricket though we can't play

In this edition

- Fraggle's brush with greatness
- Spike lists the best he played with
- A Great Match is remembered
- Keeping Fit for Cricket

## Stevie's Challenges

Coach Stevie Gilmour has kept the fun going and the heart rate up by issuing regular skills challenges.

A controversial winner emerged from Stevie's challenge of tossing a ball as high as possible, counting the claps of your hands in front and behind while waiting to catch it again. Fraser Burnett presented video evidence that he also had a cuppa as the ball descended.

As a reward Fraser has set up the latest challenge – it's a tough one. Find out about it and the efforts to meet it on the Carlton Players WhatsApp Group. If you're not on it, ask Fraggie or Ali to put you on.

## Carlton Social Isolation Quiz

Carlton's die-hard quizzers joined together in a virtual quiz last Friday



They were joined by special guest Corne Dry, all the way from locked down South Africa.

Keith Murray ended up a runaway winner.

A repeat is promised soon. Stay tuned to get the details.

## Fraggle's Brush with Greatness



Carlton legend and all time style-guru Fraggie tells us that the best player he ever played with was Indian Test Star Rahul Dravid who played a season in Scotland. But as Fraggie's tale tells, it is maybe as well that he was a great batsman.

Fraggie says, 'The Wall was a super player and a super person. His driving and his golf were less super. I took him golfing up at the Braids when he was over here (the great Rahul Dravid playing on a council course you may scoff!). He drove us in his massive Jaguar that I assume has been gifted to him by a local dealer. I don't think he was used to driving (I assume he had a driver back in India) but he gave it his best shot. We came to the mini roundabout at the junction on needing to turn right.

It was clear that he had never seen a mini round about before and didn't understand that you could just drive over it. So he stopped at the junction with a puzzled look on his face and then proceeded to try and manoeuvre around the small white hump in the middle of the roundabout, like it was a pond full of crocodiles ready to eat us all. After about 5 minutes of careful forward, reverse, forward, reverse (think Austin Powers) and a few bemused peeps of other cars waiting at the roundabout we were on our way to golf. Gregor Maiden and I sitting in the back not really sure If we were allowed to take the mick out of this living legend's driving skills....

We got to golf and it would be fair to say that Rahul's driving off the tee wasn't much better than his driving in the car.... tee shots were very measured with Rahul checking every element of his technique, setting up perfectly to execute a perfect stroke. This was generally followed by the swish of the club, the ball sailing high and right into a waiting gorse bush and a bemused Dravid saying nothing more than 'oohhhh'. It was a long round but great fun all the same! Swish, oohhhh!

## That Great Match

All Carlton players carry memories of great matches - here is one.

Not a cup final, or a thumping of Grange by the First XI, but a 4th XI match in which 2 youngsters made up for the inadequacies of their elders - as happens again and again in the club's lower teams.

We take you back to 5 May 2012 at Peffermill. Holy Cross 3 have scored 118-8. Carlton have stumbled to 98-8. The match reporter takes up the story:

Sam<sup>1</sup> (13 years old) and Ruairidh<sup>2</sup> (11 years old) are now at the crease. This is the stuff that heroes are made of. 5 overs left, 2 wickets in hand, 21 to win. Or put another way 21 to win, 5 overs left, 2 wickets in hand. Either way you put it, it looks like an uphill climb. What do our young heroes do? Do they panic? No. Do they swing wildly? Certainly not. They get forward. They watch the ball. They play straight and hit the looser ball. They call clearly. They run hard. They are made for the moment.

Run by run the scoreboard ticks on. 'We got the 4 we need in that over,' says Ruairidh to Sam at the end of the over. Ruairidh then eases the pressure by smashing a 4 off Nevin. Din bowls a tight over - only 1 run off it. 2 overs left, 6 to win. A single for Sam, then Ruairidh drives between mid-off and extra and they scamper 3 in the time it would have taken FB to get 1. Last over - 2 to win. Who is your money on? []

Who is your money on? 6 balls, 2 to win. The bowler is twice as old and more than the 2 batsmen. Din bowls. Dot. Din bowls. A forcing shot from Ruairidh but straight to the fielder. Dot. Din bowls. Ruairidh drives. A fumble. 'Yes, run'. Sam charges. The ball comes to the keeper who has the bails off. 'Howzat?'. FB at square leg can't pretend that he didn't see Sam fail to ground his bat. His finger goes up. A collective sigh on the boundary. In comes DC. his age is undisclosed and the subject of a super-injunction. Last man, 3 balls, 2 to win. Who is your money on now?

Din bowls. DC swings leg side. Misses by a country mile. 2 balls. 2 to win. Din bowls. A flurry of everything and Ruairidh yells 'Yes'. DC is startled into moving faster than he has moved for 20 years. Home. Scores level. 1 ball one to win. Din bowls. Leg side. A pad? A bat? Who knows what it shaves, but it is enough for the keeper to lose sight of the ball. No one knows where it is. Tourists on the top of Arthurs Seat are mystified by the sudden below of 'Yes!' that comes to their ears from they know not where. DC is at full volume and full speed - he arrives at the crease before his call. Ruairidh sprints to the other end. A run! Carlton win.

Carlton have squeezed home to win by 1 wicket off the last ball.

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<sup>1</sup> Sam Marchbank - no longer playing cricket

<sup>2</sup> Ruairidh Main - making only his second appearance in senior cricket



## Keep Fit for Cricket

**W**anting to keep fit for when the season eventually starts but had enough of Joe Wicks.



Here is a work out Abbi Aitken-Drummond recommends.

All you need is a bat and tennis ball.

Do each of these moves for 30secs before moving on to the next move

- \* Russian twists with cricket bat.
- \* Ghost pull shots.
- \* Lunges.
- \* Squats.
- \* Bowl/throw/bounce to wall.
- \* Squat holds wall throws.

Then see how many rounds you can complete!!

You can see Abbi putting herself through it on this link.

<https://twitter.com/AbbiAitken/status/1243605595330093056>

## Simply the Best

**W**ho are the best players you have played with?

Former Carlton spin legend Alan McLeod, aka Spike, now sadly exiled to the Sussex wastelands put his thoughts out on Facebook



Best player ever played with: **ROBIN SINGH** (Carlton)  
Best Captain: **RICHARD SWAN** (Carlton)  
Seam Bowler: **DOUGIE BROWN** (Royal Bank of Scotland)  
Swing Bowler: **ASIM BUTT** (Edinburgh district)  
Spinner: **IAN BEVEN** (Edinburgh district)  
Best batter: **FRASER WATTS** (Carlton)  
Best innings: **JIM LOVE** (various effortless innings against Carlton and for Edinburgh during his time in Scotland) or **CEDRIC ENGLISH** (Carlton)  
Best WK: **JAMIE KERR** (Carlton) / **KEVIN WHITAKER** (Carlton) / **ALEC DAVIES** (Edinburgh district)  
The Big Hitter: **ANDREW JACKMAN** (Carlton)  
The Blocker: **ALISTAIR STORIE** (Carlton)  
Best Catcher: **PHIL WICKAR** (Burgess Hill)  
Best Arm: **SCOTTIE BAKER** (Carlton)  
Top Fielder: **GEORGE SALMON** (Carlton)  
Best Number 11: **RICHARD BANNERMAN** (Carlton) - ie worst ever batsman.  
Angriest Player: **JIMMY GOVAN** (Carlton) Gavin Lowrey (Carlton) or **RYAN BOX** (Burgess Hill)

