



# The Carlton Lockdown Newsletter

Till the gates of Grange Loan are open again

ISSUE 15



## CHEERS!

The gates of Grange Loan opened a bit further on Friday.

The Carlton Beer Garden was a roaring success.

Well done to Kerry, Caroline and Karen for putting it together. And to the bemasked bar staff who so capably tended to everyone's needs.

Keep watching Twitter and other channels for news of further events.



In this issue - A match to remember, In the slips, DC, News from Freshy.

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**27 August 2019**

***Sam Haggo recalls a special day***



**It's a day that will live in my memory. Carlton women and entourage arrived at sun-soaked New Williamfield in Stirling for the Scottish Cup Finals Day. Scorching hot by Scotland's standards. A convincing 136 run win over the youthful George Watson's College set up an enticing final against West of Scotland CC.**

**Before I go on to why it was so memorable, I do have one bone to pick on behalf of my teammates Abbi Aitken-Drummond and Ruth Willis. Whilst these two were wielding their bats with magnificent skill and striking the ball 360 degrees around the ground, they did not get the attention they deserved. A certain Ben Stokes was doing ridiculous things to save England's Ashes hopes, which radically reduced our spectator figures for the latter half of the innings. There must have been 50+ people squeezed round the TV in that little glass clubhouse!**

**What made this match so memorable was the fact that it was one of the most solid team performances I've been a part of. Abbi and Ruth dominated with the bat, Georgia Henderson and Hannah Rainey delivered feisty bowling spells and Annette Aitken-Drummond tried something new and took the gloves, taking a fantastic catch in the process (cheers Netty!) The youngsters fielded like demons, as did the not-so-youngsters. We lifted the Scottish Cup – and it really felt special because of this stellar team performance.**

**I would love to bottle the team spirit we had that day, although it's evident that we don't need to. That same team camaraderie is there every time we see each other, whether that's at training, in a league match or at one of our famous themed potluck dinners.**

**This is down to those over the past few years who have helped develop our women's section into the team it is; through Helen Blair, to Pete Steindl, to Ruth Willis, who has moved on to pastures new. There have also been some more recent additions to the women's set-up and it would be remiss of me not to mention our coach Caleb Whitefoord, Georgia Henderson, Annette Aitken-Drummond and the amazing ray of sunshine that is Ellie Hird.**

**Ellie took on the captaincy last year (with Ruth unavailable because of Scotland fixtures) as well as dealing with our team communications, organizing fixtures AND being our resident Cric-HIIT coach. Ellie has also moved on (she's now in Devon!) and will be sorely missed. I also can't forget our entourage of parents/scorers and supporters – you are amazing.**

**Whilst COVID-19 has put a bit of a dampener on our plans for this summer, the future is certainly bright.**

**I am so grateful to be a part of this squad, and excited for what the future holds for our diverse, thriving section.**

# SLIPPING AND SLIDING

## *Kevin Whittaker reflects on first slips he has known*



**When I first came to Carlton, Richard Swan\*, Captain of Carlton and Scotland, would slip. Given this was my first season I didn't say much, neither did Richard, focusing all his attention on our bowlers, the game and the opposition. This left me plenty of time to concentrate. Richard would replace himself with George Innes when George was bowling, so George's only movement once he started bowling was his run up! In those days bowlers could bowl all day, and George could talk all day, usually giving me a summary of his previous over. As if I hadn't witnessed it for myself. This left me very little time to concentrate.**

**Then Graham Langley, captain, plenty of chat, language and encouragement. Very reluctant to set a proper field and get himself out of first slip. In friendlies David Ponniah would slip. Poon was very laidback with a healthy dislike for fielding. His chat was never about the game - the events of the day, trying to get his students to pass their exams, his next game of golf or where we could get fed after the game. Great company.**

**Then a couple of pros took the position. It was great listening to Andrew Jackman\* commentate on the game, call the action before it happened, how someone would get out, what we needed to change and why. It was also interesting to see that playing just once a week was a challenge for Andrew, who was used to playing everyday at home.**

**Andrew was followed by Paul Persaud\*. Very different, very young and quiet, but he could catch! Our main conversations were about trying to get Paul to laugh.**

**I then had a cricketing holiday of about 20 years, before returning to Carlton 4th XI. I was pleased to find Bob believed in posting a first slip. Interestingly enough, the same dynamics applied as in the top team - first slip brings encouragement, unusual conversation, life stories and the occasional catch.**

**Due to the ever varying personnel of the 4th XI, there could be a new slip every week - very different to the depth of relationship and familiarity with the top teamers discussed earlier. Many seniors Shaun\*, Martin, Keith, even Bob himself (see photo), were granted the right to remain stationary for the afternoon. The chat ranged far and wide, occasionally touching on the cricket, and the afternoon was better for this. The catching was clearly the difficult part.**

**Sometimes these seniors would be replaced by a younger player, Feds, Zaki, Keshav, who had somehow managed to convince Bob they could catch. They arrived happy they didn't 'have to field' until the inevitable dropped catch and they found themselves back at deep square leg!**

**It wasn't long until I found myself in a role reversal at first slip. What would I be like?**

**It felt like the focus of any of the team chat would be the opposition, not the events of the day, exams, life or social plans. By the time the focus on the opposition had lifted, the field was usually well spread and the chance of a chat gone. Deep square leg beckoned.**

**Best First slips- People that can catch and chat.**

**Worst First slips - Ex-wicketkeepers and people that talk about themselves.**

**\* *players who really could catch, the others couldn't, though occasionally one stuck.***

# DC!

# Tom Freshwater



***Former President  
Dave Carter on  
how Carlton has  
changed in the  
years he has been  
associated with it.***



I came to Edinburgh from London in June 1987, and following a tip from a friend in London, made my way along to Grange Loan. Arriving as a 36 year old middle-aged, medium-paced trundler I was delighted to find that I would be able to continue playing, and settled into a niche with the Second Team.

Looking back over the years since joining Carlton, I can identify a great many changes in our Club, both on and off the field of play. In 1987, there were only two Senior Teams (at times the Second Team struggled to get eleven players), and an embryonic Junior Section, whereas now Carlton are able to field five Senior Teams competing in Leagues, a Women's Team and a raft of Junior Age Group Teams - all supported by Coaches.

In 1987 the Pavilion was nearing the end of its serviceable life, there were no permanent Practice Nets, and no all-weather strip in the Square - all of these facilities have been upgraded or installed and are testimony to the determination, skills and hard work of Club members.

In 2007 I was honoured to be asked to take on the role of President, and during my time in Office I came to appreciate just how much time and effort was put into Club business by the other members of the Committee - this is something which is an unchanging aspect of Carlton.

So, as you enjoy your sport, please think about what makes it possible; and be prepared to help out where and when you can. That has been the Carlton way, and this spirit is what will help the club to come through this awful pandemic and thrive in the future.

*Hi Bob,*

*Thanks for the message! I hope you are well and the club is still going strong!*

*Since leaving sunny Edinburgh, I moved to the Sunshine Coast and played 2 years for the Sunshine Coast scorchers.*

*Unfortunately I had to have a season off due to injuries, before moving to Brisbane where I have been living for the last 3 years. I'm currently working full time as a carpenter and playing cricket for Tewantin-Noosa which is 2.5hrs north of Brisbane.*

*Cheeky and I have planned to catch up in a couple of months while he is visiting Brisbane.*

*Sending my regards to everyone at the club!*

*Thanks Tom.*