

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
CRICKET CLUB



1864

SUCC Hall of Fame Inductees:

(announced at the Blue & Gold Cricket Lunch on
18th November 2016)

Tom Garrett (2015)

Ian Fisher (2015)

Michael O'Sullivan (2015)

Joseph Coates (2016)

John Grimble (2016)

John Saint (2016)

Johnny Taylor (2020)

John Kinloch (2021)

Dr HO Rock (2021)

Ed Cowan (2021)

Greg Mail (2021)

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SUCC Team Of The 1960's

Jon Erby

John Everett

Bert Alderson (c)

Graham Dawson

Malcom Ives

Rick Lee

Alan Crompton

Peter James

Mike Pawley

Bill Armstrong

Trevor Osborne

David Fox

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SUCC Team Of The 1970's

Greg Wilson
Tom Jenkins
Jim L'Estrange
Ian Fisher (c)
Mark Perry
Rick Lee
Alan Crompton
Peter James
Chris Elder
Mick O'Sullivan
Geoff Pike
Mark Burgess

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SUCC Team Of The 1980's

John Dyson

Tom Jenkins

David Smith

Craig Tomko

Geoffrey Lovell

Damien Grattan-Smith

Imran Khan

John Grimble

Chris Elder

Mick O'Sullivan (c)

Evan Gordon

Andrew Shaw

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SUCC Team Of The 1990's

Rodney Davidson

Rowan Brewster

Andrew Ridley

Phil Stanbridge

Tom Watkins

Adam Elbourne

Jamie Stewart (c)

John Grimble

John Saint

Darby Quoye

Brendan Hill

Richard Bennison

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SUCC Team Of The 21st Century So Far

Mark Cameron

Stuart Clark

Ed Cowan

Scott Henry

Stuart MacGill

Greg Mail (c)

Greg Matthews

Ian Moran

Matthew Phelps

Kevin Pietersen

Shane Stanton (wk)

Andrew Staunton

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SUCC Living Legends

(announced 6th February 2015)

Bert Alderson

Stuart Clark

Ed Cowan

Scott Henry

Peter James

Stuart MacGill

Greg Mail

Greg Matthews

Ian Moran

Michael Pawley

Matthew Phelps

Shane Stanton (wk)

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1864

SUCC Luminaries

(in attendance 6th February 2015)

Jon Erby

Mark Faraday

Andrew Ridley

Ian Fisher (c)

Adam Theobald

Rick Lee

Eric Stockdale

Alan Crompton (wk)

Tom Kierath

Chris Elder

Geoff Pike

Chris McRae

Manager: Ken Alderson

Umpire: Graham Reed)



1864

Hall of Fame Article

John Kinloch 1832-1897

Kinloch was born in Dublin, son of John (born in Scotland) and Helen nee Hurlston who emigrated to Australia in 1838.

John junior was educated at the 'Pitt Street Seminary' run by Dr James Fullerton, a Presbyterian Minister, (It is tempting to speculate: Is Tom Fullerton, Club Captain in 2020-21 a descendant?) and played cricket from at least 1847 for the strong Union Club.

When the University of Sydney opened its doors for the first time in October 1852, Kinloch was one of the first students to attend lectures and immediately threw himself into his studies and into organizing various extra-curricular activities. On 1 April 1854, Sydney University played its first recorded match against The Garrison on The Garrison Ground (now the site of the SCG) and won narrowly, Kinloch bowling unchanged through both of The Garrison's innings and taking eight wickets. His bowling was "fast underarm" with a spin from the leg. A contemporary described him :

'...takes but a short run, and delivers the ball sharply with a very rapid pace, very straight along the ground".

In the second game that University played a few weeks later, also against The Garrison, Kinloch took at least 11 wickets. He continued to be a prolific wicket-taker for the Club. In 18 games for which records survive, Kinloch took an extraordinary 133 wickets for Sydney University. Three games for NSW against Victoria brought him another 12 wickets.

Kinloch may be known as the 'father' of the Sydney University Cricket Club. He was the Club's first Secretary; he chaired the first meeting of the NSWCA in 1859 and was its first Secretary. When Kinloch retired, however, the Club seemed to evaporate and the original Club did not survive the departure of Kinloch, its founder, and was only resurrected in 1864-65, the date the Club now takes as its first year of existence.

After graduation, Kinloch found employment as a schoolmaster and established a school of his own, Hurlstone College, named after his mother's maiden name, on the site now occupied by Trinity Grammar School.

He continued his association with the University, firstly as Registrar, and, from 1866 until his death in 1897, as the Esquire Bedell, a largely ceremonial post.

In any list of Sydney University cricketers, Kinloch deserves the special place that he now occupies among those in the Hall of Fame.

If you want to read the comprehensive story of Kinloch's life, you could do no better than to consult Max Bonnell's magisterial *Swift Underhand. John Kinloch and The Invention of Australian Cricket* (Roger Page Books. 2014)



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Thomas William Garrett 1858-1943

Since 1999, the Club's Best and Fairest Trophy has been named for Tom Garrett who was one of the early 'fathers' of the Club. No cricketer has ever made a greater impact on the Club than Tom Garrett.

When he first played for the University at the age of 15, there was no formal cricket competition and eligibility rules were fluid at best. Matches were arranged between clubs on an ad hoc basis.

It seems that Garrett studied at the University but for only a few terms having been educated at Newington College from the age of nine. Because of his having once been a student at the University he kept his eligibility for 25 years.

In the 1870s, Garrett was one of the youngest representative players who have ever played for University. In the 1880s, Garrett was a key member of the dominant 1st Grade side that on some days fielded eight 1st class players. In 1893-94, the Sydney Electoral competition commenced and Garrett was the 1st Grade captain as well as captain of NSW, until the Club withdrew from the competition for one season. Then Garrett played 1st Grade for Burwood until he was aged 42.

He made his debut for NSW in 1876-77, the first of his 160 games in 1st class cricket, as a thoughtful medium pacer, a lithe fieldsman and a hard-hitting batsman. During that season, on 27 January 1877, for University against Singleton on the University Oval, he took what are still the Club's best figures throughout its long history.

His 10 wickets for 11 runs included six batsmen out bowled and reduced Singleton to 28 all out. A few weeks later, he received an invitation to play against Lillywhite's English side in what came to be known as the First Test Match of all. At 18 years, 232 days on the first day of this historic match, he remains the youngest to appear in a Test between England and Australia. His 18 not out and 2 for 22 seem to be minor contributions until we realise that Garrett's 18 was second highest score to Charles Bannerman's monumental 165 and that his vital wickets were useful in Australia's victory by only 45 runs. He was to play 19 Tests, for 339 runs and 36 wickets.

In 1st class cricket, he scored 3673 runs and took 446 wickets.

For University, he scored 5017 runs and took 622 wickets. His extraordinary 274 against the Albert Club in 1888-89 was part of a Club record opening stand of 348 with Herbert Lee.

He cannot, however, be reduced to a series of statistics. His influence on the Club was abiding and continually generous. He presided over some of the Club's greatest triumphs.

He worked as a Clerk in the Department of Lands and later the Supreme Court and qualified as a solicitor. He was the Registrar in Probate in the Supreme Court and then public Trustee before he retired after 50 years in the public service.

He was never idle and as the years went by, he rejoiced in the knowledge that he became the last survivor of that first Test Match in Melbourne. He was "the last keeper of a great tradition" of Test cricket when he died in Sydney's northern suburbs, aged 85.

By any measure, Tom Garrett sits easily among those few distinguished members of the Club's Hall of Fame.



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Joseph Coates 1844-1896

Of the eleven who have been inducted to SUCC's Hall of Fame, so far, Joseph Coates is the earliest to have played for the Club (1866-1885) and, probably, the one who is least well known. But he should be. His name should be revered.

Headmaster of two prominent Sydney schools still in existence.

Captain of the NSW cricket team.

Captain of University Premiership sides.

Captain of the first Sydney University side to play the Intersarsity game against Melbourne University in March 1870.

A much respected and highly regarded coach of schoolboy cricketers.

As well as the 2366 runs he scored for SUCC in 1st Grade, on pitches of doubtful quality and consistency, he took an extraordinary 501 wickets at 8.29 with his left arm spinners bowled at medium pace. In fact, he may have taken more wickets than that. The records are scattered. In addition, he took 76 wickets at 11.67 for NSW.

He should have played Test cricket. At the time of the First Test of all in Melbourne in 1877, he was the NSW captain and he was in irresistible form having taken 20 wickets at less than 7 and having averaged 36 with the bat for NSW. But he was taking an extended vacation in England (where he had been born 32 years before and where he had been educated) and he was unavailable.

He had trained as a school master at the Huddersfield Teachers' College, specializing in Mathematics, and in 1863, he migrated to Australia and soon took up a position at Newington College, a Methodist school established in 1865. There he coached the Newington teams and had such success that two of his proteges, Tom Garrett and Edwin Evans, progressed to Test cricket.

His eligibility to play for Sydney University was dubious. His English qualifications may have been the equivalent of eligibility for matriculation. Nevertheless, he was indispensable. In 1871-72, he took an extraordinary 105 wickets at 6.18, and led the team to victory in the Challenge Cup, the premier competition in Sydney at the time.

"The fact that University had developed such imposing strength by the early 1880s was due, to a very great extent, to Coates' leadership, example and enduring skill."

In 1877, he was appointed Headmaster of Newington and, when Sydney Boys' High School began in 1883, he was its first Headmaster.

In 1896 he was only 51 years old when he was paralysed by a stroke and he died the same year.

Acknowledgements;
Bonnell and Rodgers, Summertime Blues, 2006



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Henry Montague (Monty) Faithfull 1847-1908

Monty Faithfull was a distinguished figure in the Club from his first appearance in the 1st XI as an undergraduate in 1865. One of nine children of William Pitt Faithfull, he had a disciplined education at The King's School from 1860 until 1864 when he was one of 21 matriculants to the University in its fourteenth intake of students, resident at St Paul's College.

He established himself in the University first teams in both cricket and rugby and also represented NSW in rowing and rifle shooting. He bowled fast right-arm round-arm deliveries which broke from the leg. His 619 wickets at an extraordinary average of just 9 remain the third highest ever recorded for the Club's 1st XI. His 82 wickets in 1871-72 included 14 for 27 (7-11 and 7-16) against Warwick.

He was surprisingly selected only twice, five years apart, for NSW in 1st class cricket scoring 32 runs and taking just 4 wickets. He also played in the NSW XVIII that defeated WG Grace's touring English team in January 1874.

He remained a dominant player until his late thirties and was a vital member of the 1884-85 University side that included four Australian Test players (Sam Jones, Tom Garrett, Roland Pope and Reginald Allen) as well as four others who played for NSW (Joseph Coates, Theo Powell, John Wood and Faithfull).

Faithfull remained loyal to the Club long after his graduation (BA 1869 and MA 1871) and his qualification as a solicitor (with the firm of Icton and Maddock). He was a widely respected President of the Club from 1891 until his death in 1908 and a Vice President of the NSWCA.



1864

Hall of Fame Article

John Morris Taylor 1895-1971

This man died 50 years ago this May.
He was Don Bradman's acknowledged boyhood cricket hero.

The first of only two who have played Tests for Australia in cricket and rugby.

Played for his school 1 st XI for six years.

Hit **226** for NSW 2nd XI against Victoria 2 nd XI while still at school aged 16.

Scored **83** on debut for NSW while still at school aged 18.

Served and was wounded in the 1 st AIF in the Great War.

Is one of the few dentists to have represented Australia at cricket.

The Sports Centre at Newington College was named in his honour in 2013.

Donald Bradman was taken by his father to see his first 1 st class match in February 1921 when he was 12. It was the 5 th Test Australia v England at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Years later, in 1976, Sir Donald Bradman wrote a letter to me: "No doubt all small boys who aspire to success in sport have their legendary heroes. I was no exception. I was fortunate to have set up my boyhood hero one who remained greatly loyal and respected by everyone."

In describing his hero, Sir Donald used expressions like: "modest demeanour", "gentlemanly behaviour", "set an example of all that was best in life and sport", "transparent modesty".

Who inspired such feelings even fifty-five years later? The hero had scored only 32 in Australia's emphatic victory at the SCG; he had caught England's enigmatic Charlie Parkin.

The man was John Morris (Johnny) Taylor (1895-1971), Newington College, 1st AIF, 20 cricket Tests, two rugby Tests, B.D.Sc Sydney University, hero of the boy from Bowral.

What was it about Taylor that entranced young Donald Bradman? His personality and character and charm were endearing qualities much admired by teammates and opponents. The 12-year-old could not have known those qualities. Only later, playing with or against him or playing with those who knew him, did Bradman come to appreciate Taylor the person.

The young Donald may have been able to appreciate Taylor's style as a cricketer. Taylor had a small, slight, wiry physique. Max Bonnell observes that he had "that innate timing and suppleness that characterizes so many great batsmen".

(Summertime Blues: 150 Years of Sydney University Cricketers, 2006, page 108)

Ray Robinson saw him and observed wristy strokes.

Johnny Moyes played with him and regarded him as a most attractive player.

In the field, athleticism caught the eye; he threw swiftly and accurately.

He had been a schoolboy prodigy at Newington College, a Methodist school in Stanmore, Sydney, located near the Taylor family home in Middleton Street along the western boundary of the school. Johnny was a student at Newington from the age of ten in 1906 until 1915.

His father was Reverend JG Morris Taylor, a Methodist minister who was on the Council of Newington College, later appointed President of the Methodist Conference. Johnny's mother was his father's second wife, Lucy (née Moffitt).

He scored fifteen centuries for the Newington 1st XI including three double centuries. His last innings for the school was a triumphant 293. He played in the 1st XV for five years, represented the Athletics team for five years and shot in the rifle team for four years. He was awarded "triple colours" five times, a unique feat in Newington's history. In a 1915 school photo, the left side of his blazer is festooned with colours, badges, honour pockets.

Selected for the NSW Colts' XI in December 1913 on the strength of his school feats, but yet to play Grade cricket, he announced himself with a sublime 226 before he was run out as NSW amassed 548 against the Victorian Colts' XI. In February 1914, before resuming at Newington after the summer holidays, and yet to debut with the Petersham Club, he was chosen for NSW for their game against Tasmania at the SCG. Coming to the crease at 2-131, he scored freely until bowled for 83. Back at Newington, he swapped his NSW cap for his Newington cap and continued to dissect schoolboy bowling.

On the other hand, his academic record at Newington was modest. When stirring news of the Anzacs at the Dardanelles dominated news throughout 1915, Johnny, having no intention to sit matriculation exams for Sydney University, joined the public service as a clerk in the Water and Sewerage Board, having made his debut with the Petersham Club in 1914. There he scored consistently during two seasons before making the decision that would affect the rest of his life.

On 8 October 1916, two days short of his twenty-first birthday, he enlisted in the 1st AIF after presenting written permission from his parents. Regimental number 33013. Gunner, 1st Field Artillery. In February 1917, he left Sydney on the Oesterley and trained at Larkhill in England before being sent to the Western Front in November. He served in the front line near Amiens helping to distribute ammunition at AIF headquarters. He was shot in the right knee, evacuated to hospital in London, and not released until June 1918.

He was fit enough to play his first game of cricket for two years when he was chosen for the Dominions' XI against an England XI in a one-day game at Lord's. After the Armistice, Johnny was selected in the 1st AIF side that played in England, South Africa and Australia. He had suffered from dysentery in France and was hospitalised again in South Africa. His wounds and the effects of dysentery were to follow him for many years and probably affected his Test career.

His 20 Tests produced 997 runs at 36.5. His record in England rarely did justice to his talent. In 1926, his health failed and he did not score a 1st class century. The last three Tests of his career produced only 13 runs.

Max Bonnell observes in *Summertime Blues*: "Wristy elegance was no counter to the ball that seamed from damp wickets or swung away under overcast skies." In September 1920, he had resumed his 1st Grade career with the Gordon Club and was selected for NSW. On the strength of his AIF XI performances and his batting average of 84.3 for NSW in 1920-21, he made his Test debut against England in Sydney in December 1920. He made 34 and 51 and kept his place for all five Tests. The series resulted in five victories for Australia, the first ever 5-0 series result.

Returned soldiers were permitted to enrol at Sydney University without matriculating. In 1922, after touring England with Warwick Armstrong's victorious Australian side, Johnny became one of the first students in the Dentistry Faculty. He resided at St Andrew's College within the University, threw himself into his studies and into the sports offered by his College and by the University. He was awarded Blues for Cricket and Rugby in 1922.

His two Rugby Tests were in 1922 against the New Zealand Maoris, games not recognised as full Test Matches until 1985. JM Taylor is properly acknowledged as a dual international, an honour he did not live to enjoy. Taylor is in the chronicles as Wallaby no.178 and Test cricketer no.112. These numbers mean so much to players.

In his two games, playing at five-eighth and centre, Taylor scored tries in both games. The first was played at the Sydney Showground where he had enlisted less than six years before.


On one memorable morning in November 1923, he swam for his College in various races, changed, had lunch and walked down to the University Oval where he put the pads on after winning the toss against Waverley. When the first wicket fell early, Johnny observed to his team-mates that he was "a bit tired - I think I'll have to get them quickly."

University's second wicket fell at 126. Taylor announced to his new partner, Jim Garner, that a nail in his boot was cutting into his foot and hampering his running. He decided to negate the need for running between wickets by searching out boundaries. The result included two Club records that still stand. Taylor and Garner put on 291 for the 3rd wicket. Taylor's majestic innings of 253 in 233 minutes included 158 in boundaries, still the Club's highest score in any grade since the Grade Competition began in 1893 (but equalled by Ed Cowan in 2006-07). Taylor's 253 was part of the 961 runs he scored in 1st Grade that season including four successive innings that produced 552 runs.

As his studies progressed to graduation (with a prize for Orthodontics in 1926) and onto dental practice, he played irregularly and without the dominance of earlier years. A first ball duck for NSW in 1927 signalled his final 1st class innings. During 1927 and 1928 he set up practice in Singleton until he returned to Sydney, where he was employed as a dentist with the Sydney City Council.

Club cricket boundaries changed. Johnny married a widow, Barbara Liddle Reid, in July 1930. He moved residence and resumed his career with Gordon, then Balmain, finally with Northern District in 1933-34 when, aged 38, his six innings produced only 132 runs. He did manage one more stylishly nostalgic innings of 77 against one of his former clubs, Sydney University.

From then he became increasingly known as a kindly North Shore dentist, moving from Ryde to Roseville, then Turramurra. He and his wife produced one son, Hugh Reid Morris Taylor, who became a TV director and producer. Memories of Johnny's cricket career gradually faded and his natural modesty meant that he spoke very little about it. He died in May 1971 and his obituary in the Sydney University Cricket Club's Annual Report of 1971 was written by Dr HO Rock, an old team mate with Sydney University and the NSW state side. Rock first met Johnny during a game in 1912 when Rock was playing for The King's School and Taylor for Newington. Rock recalled: "We all felt very privileged to have a Test player in our side. Always polite, unassuming, and modest to a degree".



Modern-day players look uncomprehendingly when his name is mentioned. Anniversaries and modern achievement resurrected his prodigious feats and impeccable character.

In 1956, he shared a testimonial game at the SCG with Arthur Mailey, Test spinner of renown and gifted illustrator. In 1924 Taylor and Mailey combined in a last wicket stand of 127 against England, the Australian Test record that stood for 89 years until Phillip Hughes and Ashton Agar put on 163 at Edgbaston.

The Sydney University Cricket Club's award for the most runs in a season was named after JM Taylor in 2005. The Club added him to its the Club's exclusive Hall of Fame in 2016. At Newington College, the Sports Centre, opened in 2013, is now quite correctly named in his honour.

And, throughout his long life, Sir Donald Bradman consistently named Johnny Taylor as his boyhood cricket hero.



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Doctor Harry Owen Rock 1896-1978

Three curious facts about Dr Rock:

1. He was christened Harry Owen but rarely called Harry. More often he was known as 'Owen', particularly among members of his family, or 'Juja', a childhood nickname.
2. In Sheffield Shield cricket, Rock had a higher average (112) than Don Bradman.
3. He had suffered crippling injuries (severe cartilage damage to his knee) on the Western Front during The Great War before he played for Sydney University. So he remodelled his technique, pointing his left foot down the wicket in his stance and holding his bat high above his head like a baseballer. He aimed to hit two fours every over and to hobble singles to save the knee which was often swathed in cotton bandages.

In 1919, having been repatriated to Australia, he began his deferred medical studies and appeared in 1st Grade to resume a glittering cricket career that had been formed by outstanding coaching at The King's School (where his father was an Assistant Master) and by his own prodigious ability. His father, Claude Rock, had played 1st class cricket, mainly in England. In 31 games, he scored 809 runs and took 142 wickets.

HO Rock broke into the strong NSW team in December 1924, despite the selectors' doubts about his unorthodox batting and cumbersome fielding. But his form for Sydney University had been irresistible as he continued to average close to 50 every season. Opening the batting for NSW against South Australia in Adelaide, he immediately announced himself with a sparkling innings of 127 against an attack including three Australian Test bowlers.

In his second game, in January 1925, Rock played a different kind of innings against a Victorian attack at full strength. His 235 took six and a half hours and included only 15 fours. Then at the start of the next season, 1925-26, Rock pulverized the visiting Western Australia team with a furious innings of 151 all scored in two hours between lunch and tea. But by the end of that season, he had graduated and had accepted a position at Newcastle Hospital and he played no more serious cricket. He eventually retired to Manly, outlived most of his cricket teammates, and continued to enjoy the occasional 1st Grade game at the University Oval where he had dominated 1st Grade attacks fifty years before.

Dr Rock left the tantalizing question of how good a cricketer he might have become had not The Great War robbed him of four years of his cricket career and two good legs. From 1919 until 1926, Dr Rock scored 3899 runs in 1st Grade, and in six 1st class games, 758 runs at 94.75. He is undoubtedly worthy of being named among the legendary figures of the Club in The Hall of Fame.

And if you want to read more, consult Max Bonnell and James Rodgers, *Golden Blues*, Darlington Press, 2014, pp 137-141.



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Alan Barons Crompton

Many people cannot think of the Club without thinking of Alan Crompton.

He has been one of the giants of the Club, often holding positions of deeply symbolic significance and often representing the Club in much wider fields. He has been able to mirror the Club to itself; to give expression to its soul; to bring all his considerable influence to benefit all who have been associated with the Club.

By the time he was elected President of the Club in 1978, he had already served in various positions for 17 years, as a player, Social Secretary, Honorary Secretary, a Vice President and a widely respected delegate to the NSWCA. For the next 22 years (and beyond, when he served another 20 years as Patron before typically standing down to allow another to succeed him), Alan was to help shape and guide the Club to its current position of pre-eminence in Sydney Grade (Premier) cricket.

He rose to great personal heights: Chairman of the NSW Cricket Board, Chairman of the Australian Cricket Board, Manager of three Australian touring teams (to New Zealand, India and Pakistan), Patron of the Sydney University Cricket Club. He was awarded cricket's higher honours: the Australian Sports Medal, The Order of Australia, Life Membership of Cricket NSW, Life Membership of the Sydney University Cricket Club, Blues in both cricket and baseball.

Twice, he turned down offers to manage sides to Pakistan in 1988 and England in 1993 when he preferred to stay in Australia to look after NSW and Australian interests here. He drove the NSW Board to act on various proposals for the benefit of cricket while he never used his position to favour his own club.

Through all this, Alan stood for the highest ideals and traditions of the game. He has embodied generosity, graciousness, integrity, idealism, steadfastness and indefatigable effort. On the field, he was the inspiration and unifying force in 1st Grade for almost 20 seasons. His 6102 runs in all grades was the Club record for some time and his 314 wicket keeping dismissals remains the Club record.

Yet with enduring modesty, he often stood aside when another keeper of 1st Grade standard joined the Club and he played as a batsman who batted where he was needed from opener to number eight in deference to a succession of keepers, Scott Harbison, Mac Chambers, John Madgwick, Kerry Thompson, Mick Hewett and Ian Wilson.

He played in two University 2nd Grade Premierships sixteen years apart, one with the dominant sides of the early 1960s and the second when, aged 39, he once again stood down so that Ian Wilson could keep in 1st Grade. He was deservedly rewarded with the 1979-80 Premiership and the tears of joy that he shed when the last dramatic moments of that Final were concluded were a lasting memory and inspiration for his younger team mates who recognized how much this achievement meant to him.

Anyone who has ever met this gentleman of the game knows how much Sydney University cricket will always mean to him.



Hall of Fame Article

Ian Ellis Fisher

Ian Fisher is the supreme example of a player who was initially and strangely rejected and unwanted by the Club and yet who returned to bolster the 1st Grade's fragile batting, to captain 1st Grade to positions of strength, to inevitably top the aggregates, to inspire his younger charges with tactical awareness and belligerent left hand batting.

In 1970-71, for example, the side relied almost exclusively on Fisher who scored 851 runs. The next in aggregate was Ian Foulsham with 298. When Ian scored 120 against the strong St George side in 1972, the other ten batsmen dribbled out 94 runs. Against Randwick in 1973, on a soft and grassy pitch, his 119 not out included 97 after lunch in even time. In his 100 not out in 1974 against a Northern District side that contained three NSW bowlers, his second 50 was plundered from only 17 balls of destructive mayhem.

Yet, mystifyingly, the NSW selectors never called on him despite the fact that these were lean years for NSW cricket, despite his batting, despite his uncanny fielding. It was ironic that for five seasons after his retirement from Grade cricket, he served as a selector for NSW during a time of prosperity.

It was not the only time that he proved people wrong. As an Engineering undergraduate in 1957, he had turned up to pre-season practice at University armed with an imposing record in junior cricket in Grafton and abundant natural ability. He was not graded. And was apparently unwanted.

His answer was to play 1st Grade attacks mainly with his two Clubs, Glebe and Sydney, for the next ten years. He captained Sydney 1st Grade for three seasons before a considerable swallowing of pride preceded University's offer to him to join the Club as 1st Grade graduate captain. He became (for a time) the Club's greatest run-scorer in 1st Grade. For his three Clubs, he scored 6849 runs* including 13 centuries in 1st Grade. In all grades, he scored 8608 runs*.

Then, when the Club was threatened with demotion from the Grade competition in 1997, Fisher was at his uncompromising best. He led the Club's operations during the resurgence, as Chairman of Selectors, as coach of the Club's inaugural Green Shield side and later as President of the Club.

Since 1979-80, the IE Fisher Trophy has been awarded (often by Ian himself in person at the Club's Annual Dinner) to the Club's most valuable 1st Grader.

In 1999, he was elected as the Club's eleventh Life Member.

Ian's contribution to University cricket has been significant. His unswerving loyalty and continuing energy in the service of the Club is an example to all who have followed him.

**these figures do not include one-day games played in a separate competition which have now been included in 1st Grade statistics. The figures are still being checked.*



1864

Hall of Fame Article

John Michael Saint

If John Saint is remembered for nothing else other than one over in 1st Grade, it would be this: In 1994-95, at Petersham Oval, Saint was facing former NSW off spinner Wayne Mulherin. He hit the first five balls for six before running a single from the final ball. 31 from the over, but only part of an onslaught that Saint launched that afternoon. When he was dismissed for 173, he had hit 140 in boundaries (11 sixes, 21 fours). He was at the peak of his considerable powers. In the same season, he took 11 wickets against a strong North Sydney side. He despatched Greg Matthews (then playing for Waverley) onto the roof of the No1 Oval Grandstand.

He had been awarded the O'Reilly Medal for the most outstanding 1st Grader of all the Clubs in a tight contest in 1993-94 and was again awarded the coveted medal in 1994-95. Not surprisingly, he won the Club's IE Fisher trophy in these same two seasons.

He had played 1st Grade for Penrith aged 19 and had also played Rugby League for Balmain before offering himself to SUCC in 1989. Supremely fit, a natural athlete and a hard-working, thrilling all-rounder, he was highly regarded by all his team-mates. He was to take 141 wickets in 1st Grade for University and to score 2200 runs.

His 1st Grade captain was Craig Tomko:

"I think of him in reverent terms...he epitomizes integrity, the rewards of discipline and practice, the value of confidence and self-belief, and the fairness and virtues of this fantastic sport...he has the view that no one person is more important than the team. He is both humble and tough, a terrific role model."

When NSW selectors failed to summon him, he accepted an offer to move to Tasmania. There he played only four 1st class games with only moderate success. 35 runs, 12 wickets. And he created an unwanted record: 12th man eleven times for Tasmania in 1996-97.

He has never lost his affection for the Club. When he returned to Sydney, he coached the Club's bowlers. John's father, Gary, continued as a popular 1st Grade scorer even when John was in Tasmania.

Max Bonnell has the final word:

"He had the undiluted respect of every member of the Club, every 1st Grader in Sydney."



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Michael O'Sullivan 1950-2013

On the day that Mick died, 3 September 2013, this appreciation was written.

“One of the greats, one of the legends, one of the Club’s most loyal and staunch supporters, one of our fondest friends, is with us no more.

MOS played for our Club from 1968 until 1995 mostly in 1st Grade where his 622 wickets is surely an unassailable record. He captained 1st Grade, won honours in the NSW Sheffield Shield squad and in the Australian Universities’ team and then served the Club with distinction and wisdom as Chairman of Selectors and as Chairman of the Board. The SCA honoured him deservedly with Life Membership as did his own club.

While all the glittering achievements, mighty records and statistics will eventually fade, we won’t ever forget his integrity, his sense of humour, his stories, his pride, his fierce loyalty, his intense love for his family.

Mick trained harder than anyone else. He bowled tirelessly to perfect accuracy and variation. He batted stubbornly. He fielded with determination and he played with a competitiveness and commitment that brought out the best in others.

Mick’s affection for and dedication to the Club remained undiluted throughout 45 years. His enthusiasm was irrepressible. His sense of humour, even on the darkest days, was infectious.

What he has left us is a treasury of fond memories, a legacy of a lifetime spent serving others, friendships over decades that will sustain us all, even on bleak days like this.”



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Ian Anthony Moran

In the history of the 1st grade competition which dates back to 1893, only nine players from all clubs have scored over 9000 runs and taken over 300 wickets. Three of them were Test players. Five others played for NSW. Only Ian Moran did not represent at 1st class level.

When Sydney University defeated Penrith in the 2002-03 Grand Final, however, Ian took 5 for 57. When University lost three early wickets in the Qualifying Final against Manly in 2011-12, Ian dominated the rest of the innings with an unforgettable 202. In the 2010-11 Grand Final, his 22 overs for only 41 and his taking the final stinging catch ensured that University defeated Randwick-Petersham by 54 runs despite the presence of Test players Usman Khawaja and Simon Katich in the opposition's team.

He won four 1st Grade Premierships with the Club, the most of anyone in the Club's long history. His ability to perform at higher levels of the game should have been indisputable. Ian came to the Club in 2000-01, just before the golden era was to unfold, after four strangely unproductive seasons in Petersham's 1st Grade side (862 runs and 6 wickets) for whom he'd debuted as a 17 year-old.

At University, his tall, lithe athleticism made his emergence as an all-rounder of distinction not too surprising. He bowled lively spells at a brisk pace; he scored runs forcefully at the top of the order and he snapped up catches in slips with graceful ease. On eight occasions he passed 700 runs for the season and in 2005-06, he won the O'Reilly Medal as the leading player in 1st Grade cricket.

Ian was an exciting player to watch. He played, not to accumulate records but to win games. He had a marked influence on his teammates who respected and admired his enviable talent.

He is a worthy member of the Club's Hall of Fame.



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Greg Mail

It is difficult to consider Greg's contribution to cricket without recourse to a bewildering set of statistics.

4085 runs for NSW in 72 games in 1st class cricket.

A 1st Grade career that began with Parramatta when he was 17 in 1995 and that ended with Sydney University with retirement in 2017.

A 1st Grade career with Sydney University from 2004 that produced a record 10,247 runs, 30 centuries and 222 wickets.

The highest number of runs of anyone who has ever played 1st Grade. 43 hundreds, the most centuries in a 1st Grade career.

A fine working career in the bank and a much respected figure now in Cricket NSW.

As a cricketer, he was a "classically orthodox opening batsman, building an innings, wearing down the new ball bowlers, and putting the interests of his team before himself."

Selfless, gracious, relentless, no player has ever made a greater contribution to Sydney University's 1st Grade.

But from 'Golden Blues', this sentence written by Max Bonnell says it all.

"His value to Sydney University has been colossal, measured not only in runs and wickets and catches and Premierships, but also by his mature leadership, dry humour, and impeccable example."

Greg Mail is one of the Club's legends, now fully deserving of induction into the Club's Hall of Fame.



1864

Hall of Fame Article

Ed Cowan

Over **7,000** runs in 1st Grade for the Club
Over **8,000** runs in all grades for the Club.
143 1st class games. **10,097** runs **@41.89**
18 Test Matches for Australia. **1001** runs **@31.28**

Ed's cricket statistics are imposing and impressive. In 2011, he became the first Sydney University player to represent Australia in Test Cricket since Johnny Taylor and Otto Nothling over 80 years previously. He's now the modern day voice of reason and intellect in cricket through his podcasts and his radio work. He's deservedly respected and widely in demand. He's given selfless and utterly loyal service to our Club for over 24 years, even during those years when he lived in Tasmania.

Where did it all begin?

In humble surrounds.

Punchbowl Oval. September 1997. University 5ths vs Bankstown. Ed was a late inclusion as someone had pulled out on the Thursday.

The major players in this drama: Ian Fisher aged 58, the astute Chairman of Selectors and former 1st Grade captain. Ed Cowan aged 15, a student at Cranbrook School. James Rodgers aged 44, returning to full time Grade cricket after six seasons when I played in the school holidays only. Ian rings me on the Friday: "We'll play Ed even though he's not available again until school ends in December. He's pretty good."

I hadn't met him until the morning of the game.

The 'warm up' was desultory, insipid. Ed had to field in slips because he had a "sore back". Aged 44, I patrolled the covers! Catches were put down regularly. Bankstown got 160. We were soon 3 for 10. What was I doing returning to Grade cricket in such circumstances? Ed batted at 3. He became increasingly confident on a crumbling wicket. Crisp front foot shots off his pads; measured back foot shots through the covers. Ed made 50. His father, Richard, was a proud spectator. Paul O'Halloran, soon to play in a 1st Grade Premiership side, also contributed. So did the now long-forgotten wicket keeper, James Kirrane. We won 6 down.

Ed returned to Cranbrook. Then he came back, playing in University's first Green Shield side and in two more 5th Grade games at Fairfield and at Paddington which we won outright. I could keep him no longer. So he went up. He had arrived.
He's never really left.