



# Scoresheet

Newsletter of the  
**Australian Cricket Society Inc**  
[www.australiancricketsociety.com](http://www.australiancricketsociety.com)

Patron: Ricky Ponting AO

Volume 35, Number 1

Summer 2014

## OUR ANNUAL FOOTY LAUNCH LUNCHEON FEATURING DANNY FRAWLEY



### DETAILS OF THIS FANTASTIC EVENT

DATE: Friday, 28 March, 2014  
TIME: 12 noon for a 12.30pm start.  
VENUE: The Kelvin Club, Melbourne Place, CBD.  
COST: \$75 for members; \$85 for non-members  
\$750 for a table of ten.

**BOOKINGS :** Bookings & moneys need to be in the hands of ACS Secretary Wayne Ross at P.O.Box 4528 Langwarrin, Vic 3910 by no later than Mon 25 March, 2014. Cheques should be made payable to the ACS. Wayne's phone number is 0416 983 888 or email him at [acs@asn.cricketvictoria.com.au](mailto:acs@asn.cricketvictoria.com.au)

### OUR GUEST OF HONOUR

Continuing the array of big names as our special guests at our wonderful Kelvin Club Luncheons comes our annual footy launch luncheon, this year featuring St. Kilda icon Danny Frawley.

St.Kilda captain in 177 of his 240 AFL games, Danny was an All-Australian in 1988. He was one of the great defenders in the competition for a decade or more in the '80s and early '90s. Later he coached Richmond into September. He is now President of the AFL Coaches Association and is a lively presenter on Fox Footy who is well known for his love of one percenters – the spoils, the knock-ons, and his own classic Golden Fist Award.

A close mate of Tony Lockett, Nicky Winmar, and Trevor Barker, Danny will be entertaining with a capital E. This event is truly unmissable. Our gold sponsor and one-eyed St.Kilda man Michael Lefebvre will host Danny and a table of any other of our ACS Saint supporters. First in, best dressed.

### OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS



Editor: Doug Manning Telephone: (03) 9876 3909

Email: [scoresheet@australiancricketsociety.com](mailto:scoresheet@australiancricketsociety.com) Mail: PO Box 89, Ringwood, Vic 3134

## FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

**An Evening with the Queenslanders Wednesday, 12 March, 2014 – Hans Ebeling Room, Melbourne Cricket Ground.**

**The details of this ACS event: DATE: Wednesday, 12 March, 2014**

**TIME: 6.30pm for a 7.00 pm start.**

**VENUE: The Hans Ebeling Room at the MCG. Enter through Gate A off Brunton Avenue and then take Lift 2 to Level 2 at the MCG**

**COST: No charge. Members & friends of the Society are welcome.**

**CARNIVAL TIME. The ACS has entered teams in the following cricket carnivals:**

**The Vintage Cricket Over 60s Championships in Auckland, NZ Sun 30 March – Sat. 5 April, 2014.**

**The 16th Golden Oldies Cricket Festival at Cape Town, South Africa 22 – 29 March, 2015.**

**Any members thinking of attending should contact David McNamara on 0412 105 100 or email him at [bigmac1457@bigpond.com](mailto:bigmac1457@bigpond.com)**

## THE PRESIDENT'S PIESSE

Champion-to-be Neil Harvey had only just turned 13 when he scored a century in each innings for Fitzroy thirds at Old Scotch in the Metropolitan Cricket League's grand final on the last two Saturdays of March in 1941-42. He'd borrowed his brother's bike and ridden the two miles from the family's rented house in Argyle St., Fitzroy past the MCG and onto Old Scotch.



Neil Harvey, now 85,  
with ACS president Ken Piesse

Harvey was thrilled even to be playing. He'd made 77 in the final home-and-away game but felt older, more experienced players would be included for the final.

A schoolmaster at Falconer Street Central allowed him to borrow one of the school's Harrow-sized bats, complete with Edgar Mayne's signature on the face.

With his bat and gear in a Gladstone Bag all perched on the handlebars, it was a wobbly ride there but a triumphant one back as he'd made 101. By stumps Fitzroy already had a first innings lead.

'No-one was more surprised than me,' said Harvey, a Bradman Invincible and our guest of honor at our January ACS tribute luncheon.

His father, a caretaker at the local Lifesavers factory, had promised his boys 10 shillings if they ever made a 100 and Neil was to double it up the following weekend. When the game was called off early, he was 141 not out.

Following the game Fitzroy's captain Bill Vautin asked Melbourne's captain Arthur Dickens if he'd like to meet young Harvey... 'I think he's going places Artie.'

'Meet him?' said Dickens. 'Don't you think I've seen enough of that little so-and-so out there (in the middle)?'

It was our pleasure to host Neil and his lovely wife Barbara, along with

a real Harvey clan which included his son Bruce, wife Deb and nephews Graham and Jeff, who like Neil were long-time Fitzroy first XI cricketers.

The day after our event, Harvey, 85, had a bronze statue unveiled in his honor at the MCG, joining a pantheon of greats including Don Bradman, Bill Ponsford, Keith Miller, Dennis Lillee and Shane Warne.

Our congratulations to Neil and our thanks to him and Barbara for coming down early to be with us. It was a special day, highlighted at the start by Australia's best known operatic tenor David Hobson, who sang four songs from his new album *Endless Days*, accompanied by his MD and master piano player David Cameron.

It was another great ACS event, one of the very best in memory, Ken Woolfe called it the best since Don Bradman in 1973. Praise indeed. Thanks everyone for your support.



Neil with fellow guests  
David Cameron and David Hobson



The new Harvey statue at the MCG.  
Pic courtesy MCC/SDP Media

**Ken Piesse – President**

**N.B.:** The editor's account of the record-breaking Kelvin Club Luncheon which the Society held on Thursday, 30 January, 2014 in honour of Neil Harvey will appear in the Autumn, 2014 edition of "Scoresheet" due for publication during May.

## RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### AN ACS – MCC ASHES FILM NIGHT – JIM STYNES ROOM, MCG - MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER, 2013

Members of the Cricket Society combined with members from the Friends of the MCC Library Group to constitute a well informed and enthusiastic group of cricket lovers who gathered in the Jim Stynes Room at the MCG on the night of Monday, 13th October last to view a first-class documentary film based on the 1954 – 55 Ashes series. The film was drawn from the comprehensive cricket film library in the possession of Glenn Gibson, a good friend of both the ACS and the MCC group. We were fortunate that Glenn was on hand to comment on the action from time to time, although the film also had its own team of expert commentators who followed the action as the English team under the leadership of Len Hutton travelled around the country winning friends for cricket wherever it went.

The England team of 1954-55, it will be recalled, was a particularly strong side. In addition to Hutton who led the side cautiously but sensibly, the team boasted Compton, Edrich, Evans, May, Cowdrey, and most significantly a strong bowling contingent led by Bedser, Tyson, Statham and Appleyard. The Australian side which did battle against this formidable England line-up was led by Ian Johnson and featured such fine players as Morris, Burke, Miller, Lindwall, Ron Archer, McDonald, Hole and Benaud.

The older members of the audience who lived through and could recall this memorable series of Ashes contests, of whom your Editor was one, sat enthralled as the documentary took us through the various Test matches as well as many of the state and up-country games. The film traced the fortunes of the two sides as this historic Ashes series unfolded before our very eyes. Particularly vivid in this observer's memory was the footage on the Melbourne Test match which featured the maiden Test century of Colin Cowdrey and the electric bowling of Keith Miller on Day 1, and the decisive fast bowling of Frank Tyson and Brian Statham on Day 5. Tyson and Statham brought home a dramatic victory to Hutton's side which proved decisive in this 1954 – 55 battle for the Ashes.

We were all grateful to Glenn Gibson for bringing along this excellent documentary film and showing it to us on the night.

### AN EVENING WITH RICKY PONTING – THE YARRA ROOM, MCG – WEDNESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 2013.



More than 100 signed Ricky Ponting books sold on the night

A large crowd of about 250 members and friends of the Society gathered in the Yarra Room at the MCG on the evening of Wednesday 13th November last to welcome Ricky Ponting to his first ACS function as our official Patron. Our President, Ken Piesse said in getting proceedings underway, it was a real privilege to have Australia's greatest ever run scorer in Test cricket and one day internationals associated with the Society as our Patron. Not only was Ponting our greatest run scorer in Test cricket with

a tally of 41 Test hundreds to his name. He was also the two time winner of the ICC Player of the Year Award, the four time winner of the Allan Border Medal, and the Cricinfo Player of the Decade award.

Our President Ken Piesse had much pleasure in presenting a cheque for \$5,000 to Mr. Trevor O'Hoy, the CEO of the Ponting Foundation as a token of the Society's support for the sterling work which the Foundation is doing to help relieve the suffering among children who have been diagnosed with cancer and their families. On the night we were able to sell over 100 copies of Ricky's book "Ponting At The Close of Play", each of which was autographed by Ricky as he stayed to sign copies after the conclusion of the formal part of the meeting.



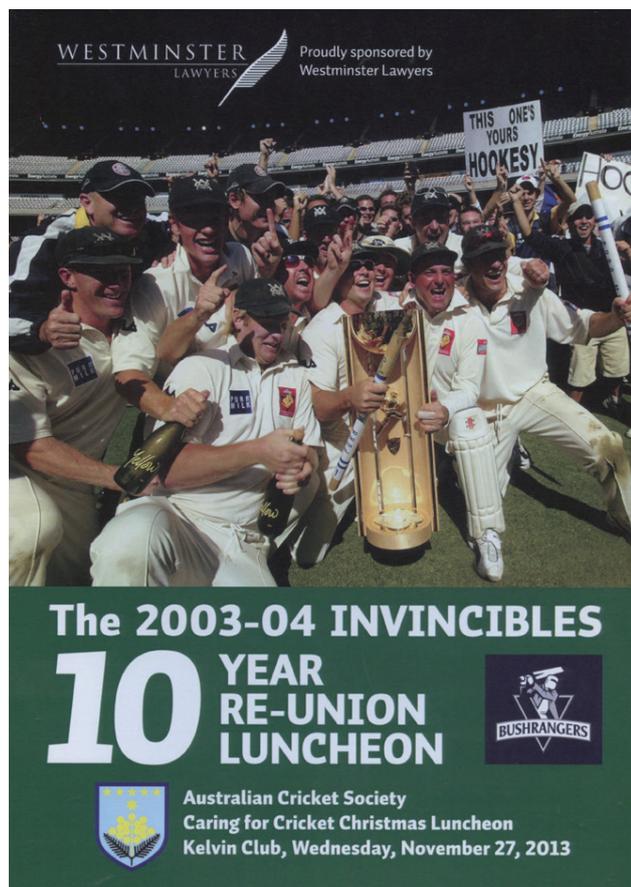
Ken Piesse presents a cheque for \$5000 to the Ponting Foundation

Ricky told us that at that time he was engaged in a round-Australia tour promoting the sale of his autobiography "The Close of Play". The book was indeed a magnum opus. It consisted of 295,000 words, some 699 pages and many photographs of Ricky with his family and Ricky in action at the crease. It was an honest warts-and-all account of his life and relationships on and off the cricket field over the nearly 20 years of his career, Ricky said. He recalled two of the most stressful times in his career were the occasion when as a young and inexperienced captain just before the commencement of the World Cup in South Africa he had to deal with the impact on his team of the sudden loss of his main bowler, Shane Warne, who was sent home before a ball was bowled on suspicion of having taken a performance-enhancing drug.

The second most difficult time, Ricky recalled concerned the infamous "monkeygate" affair when the Indian off-spin bowler Harbhajan Singh was charged with calling Andrew Symons "a monkey" during the Sydney Test match of 2008. Ricky recalled being aghast when Harbahajan got off comparatively lightly after the Indian team had threatened to call off the tour and go home if Harbhajan was suspended.

Turning his attention to the forthcoming Ashes series which at that time was about to commence in Brisbane, Ricky said that the Australian side which was likely to represent the country in the first Test was sufficiently skilled and experienced to be able to give a good account of itself against the current England tourists. He predicted that if the Australians could get on top in Brisbane and win the first Test match they could very well go on to win the forthcoming Ashes series and restore the balance of power to Australia in this oldest of encounters between cricket's two most long-standing rivals. How right he turned out to be!

## RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



### THE ACS'S 10 YEAR REUNION LUNCHEON AT THE KELVIN CLUB FOR THE 2003 – 04 VICTORIAN INVINCIBLES – WEDNESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER, 2013.

There was an excellent gathering of Society members and friends at the Kelvin Club on Wednesday 27 November last to join in the celebrations with the players and officials who had helped Victoria win the Sheffield Shield (or Pura Cup competition as it was then called) during the season of 2003-04. They looked back on this triumphant season and remembered some of the deeds which had led to Victoria achieving the top spot on the Sheffield Shield Table after they had gone through that season undefeated. Among those present were Geoff Tamblin, Tony Dodemaide, and Shaun Graf, all of whom are senior officials at Cricket Victoria. Among the players and officials who were part of the Victorian team during that victorious season were the Senior Coach Greg Shipperd, the Chairman of Selectors Mick O'Sullivan, and a distinguished contingent of players led by the captain Darren Berry and including Mick Lewis, Allan Wise, Bryce McGain, and Jonathan Moss.

After our warm-up man Geoff Poulter had got us all into the right frame of mind to enjoy the luncheon, and we had viewed a video showing some of the highlights of the Vics in action during that season, we were privileged to hear a brief word from each of the players and officials present.

**Greg Shipperd.** Greg Shipperd, the Senior Coach, paid a sincere tribute to his senior colleague David Hookes, who led the team brilliantly throughout the season, and motivated the players individually and as a team to believe in themselves and in the team ethic. Sadly, as we all know, "Hookesy" was accidentally killed outside a St.Kilda pub when the team was on the verge of reaping the ultimate reward for its excellence during January, 2004.

Greg also mentioned the team's great achievement in chasing down a mammoth score of over 400 to defeat a star-studded NSW line-up in Newcastle. He rightly placed the emphasis on the consistent batting throughout the season of Elliott, Hodge, Hussey and Moss, and the magnificent contributions made by the bowlers, particularly by Lewis, Wise and McDonald, who all took over 30 wickets in the season, as prime reasons for the overall success of the team.

#### **Darren Berry.**

Darren Berry, the captain and the wicketkeeper of the side, also paid a fulsome tribute to the work of David Hookes in preparing the Victorian players and constantly being able to extract the very best performances from the players. He recalled that the spirit of the team and its continuing determination to accept nothing but the best from the players played a major part in bringing about their overall success. He honed in on the Final which was played at the MCG during March, 2004, emphasizing the strength of the opposing Queensland side, the splendid way in which the Vics wore down their opponents and in the end recorded a resounding and well deserved victory.

#### **Jonathan Moss.**

Jon Moss, who had travelled down from Sydney for the function, recalled the intensity with which the Final was fought out by the players of both sides. He paid tribute to David Hookes who taught him how to believe in himself and thus enabled him to give a much more positive contribution to the team's success.

#### **Mick Lewis and Allan Wise.**

Both these bowlers recalled how much they enjoyed playing and contributing to the team's success. They too paid tribute to Coach Hookes' ability to encourage them and get the best out of them.

#### **Bryce McGain.**

Bryce McGain who is the Principal of the Elite Cricket Academy which is at the moment training the ACS's young cricket scholar Adam Cosgrove, had been asked specifically by President Ken Piesse to speak about his work in educating and training young lads in the age group 12 – 15 years at his Academy. He mentioned that the youngsters under his charge were involved in a three year program which involved special skill sessions, three day camps where the boys received intensive training, a cricket-playing tour to Darwin, and a cricket playing tour to India where the boys received the benefit of participating in the activities of a large Cricket Academy with which Bryce had established links. He assured us that young Adam Cosgrove, the ACS's first cricket scholar, was blossoming and growing into a mature and excellent young cricketer.

## RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### THE ACS'S CHRISTMAS WITH BLOWERS DINNER AT THE KOOYONG LAWN TENNIS CLUB – FRIDAY, 27 DECEMBER, 2013.

There was a crowd of approaching 160 members and friends of the Society who gathered together on the evening of Friday, 27th December last to hear an address by Henry Bloufeld, the famous cricket commentator and writer. The dinner was held in the dining room of the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club in Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn – a superb location for such a dinner. Many of the guests had come straight from the Melbourne Cricket Ground where Australia was in the process of giving the touring English cricket team a lesson in how to play cricket.

After our President, Ken Piesse, had introduced our guest of honour to his highly expectant audience Henry launched into his talk in no uncertain manner. He told us that, being an Englishman, he was naturally disappointed in the way England was playing, although he wasn't altogether surprised at the comparatively one-sided nature of the cricket being played in this current Ashes series. He looked back to the 1958-59 Ashes Tour to Australia when Peter May's English side arrived on these shores as the overwhelming favourites to defeat



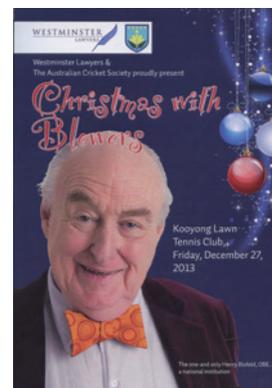
Mrs Bloufeld, Mr Piesse and Mr Bloufeld at the ACS Christmas Dinner

Richie Benaud's much younger and less experienced Australian side. Yet in the final analysis the much better credentialed English side had been soundly defeated by the younger but much better focused Australians. The general consensus of

cricket commentators looking back on that tour was that with the benefit of hindsight, a number of the players in Peter May's squad were well past their best when they toured Australia in 1958-59. The same thing could be said, Blowers, as he is universally known, observed about this present English side which was touring under Alistair Cook's battered and struggling leadership. In fact, Henry, said, there were several English players – although he didn't name any names – who with the benefit of hindsight should never have been selected to come on this tour Downunder. He predicted that the personnel of both sides when they next met in England in 2015 would be very different from the players who were currently representing their countries.

Looking back over his long association with the game, Henry sighed, shrugged his well-clad shoulders and observed matter-of-factly that the game was not the same game that he knew in his boyhood and young manhood. The game was so professional now. There were so many coaches, physios and other support staff hanging around the dressing room they almost outnumbered the size of the playing group. The dominance of India in the affairs of the game was damaging cricket seriously, our guest of honour said. No longer was it sensible to schedule Test matches in England for the month

of May, because at that time so many of the top players were unavailable because they were signed on by one or other of the franchises in the IPL to play T20 cricket. There was far too much short form cricket played between the various countries now, he said. Just recently there had been a two-Test series played between South Africa and India simply because there was no room on the international calendar of matches to schedule in a proper four or five match series of matches between these two leading Test countries. "Have you ever seen anything as frustrating and unsatisfactory as a two-Test series of matches between two opposing countries?" Henry asked rhetorically.



Turning his attention to his long time association with the BBC's Test Match Special (TMS) series of broadcasts, Blowers recalled very fondly two of his most famous and most widely known colleagues – Brian Johnston and John Arlott – now sadly both departed. Brian Johnston was the originator of the now established chocolate cake tradition in the TMS commentary box. This is a tradition that has spread to fruit cakes and all sorts of other cakes which are sent in to the TMS box personnel by little old ladies from all over England whenever there is a Test match being broadcast. He told us that Brian Johnston was one of the funniest men you would ever meet in a long day's march. He could have earned his living as a stand-up comic without any effort.

Recalling the famous John Arlott, Blowers produced a passable imitation of Arlott's deep gravelly voice. Blowers went on to describe Arlott's well known love of wine, and how after a typical luncheon break tittle involving the consumption of a couple of bottles of claret, Arlott would return to the commentary box in the post-prandial session suitably mellow. But he would still be well in command of his faculties and still as liable as ever to drop one or more of his divine descriptive phrases relating to play out in the middle. He recalled that on one occasion when a streaker invaded the sacred precincts of Lord's, Arlott told his enthralled radio audience that "the freaker" was only clad in his shoes and socks, that he was masculine, and that sadly, he had seen the last of the play which he would be able to watch for the day, as the security staff captured him and hauled him from the arena.

After several more recollections gleaned from the many hours that he has spent describing cricket in the company of such distinguished cricket people as Geoff Boycott and Jonathan Agnew, our guest of honour concluded his talk by thanking his audience for listening so attentively to his "prattle" and sat down amidst deafening applause.

In thanking Blowers for entertaining his audience so delightfully, the Society's Vice President, Ian Hammet, presented him with an audio-tape of the speech which Sir Donald Bradman gave to the ACS at the 1973 annual dinner of the Society.

## RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### SCORES AND BEST ACS PERFORMANCES IN MATCHES PLAYED BY THE ACS'S WANDERING XI DURING THE FIRST PART OF CRICKET SEASON 2013 – 14.

**20 October, 2013 – The ACS v. the VBCA.** ACS 4/132 – Hyde 20 ret., Pinder 18 ret., Croker 16 ret., Penaluna 13 ret., Craddock 11 v. the VBCA 8/123 – Pimm 2/5, Clarkson 1/8, Pinder – 1/9. Match Won.

**30 October, 2013 – The ACS v. an MCC XXIXners XI.** ACS 9/147 – Janz 40 ret., Scotland 25, Gibson 17 v. an MCC XXIXners XI 1/150 Scotland 1/25. Match Lost.

**3 November, 2013 – The ACS v. the Ringwood Possums.** ACS 6/149 – Pimm 35\*, Kish 31, Stockdale 20 v. the Ringwood Possums 8/146 – Hyde 2/10, Smith 1/8, Pimm 1/11, Chaperon 1/17, Caramalis 1/21. Match Won.

**17 November, 2013 – The ACS v. a VCA Umpires' XI** ACS 9/160 – Robertson 35 ret., Duncan 25, Nadj 25 v. a VCA Umpires XI 2/161 – Stumbles 1/19, Duncan 1/24. Match Lost.



A win at Suma Park for our Wandering XI boys in February, despite their recruiting of our No.1 player Les Pimm. Les still insisted on being in our team picture and as a four-time Box-Grainger award winner, we had no argument. Ian Hammet hit the winning runs, a cracking square drive to the steps of the Pavilion before being engulfed by jubilant teammates.

**1 December, 2013 – The ACS v. a Camperdown XI.** ACS 9/146 – Robertson 36 ret., Pinder 34\* v. a Camperdown XI – 10/160 Crocker 2/27, Robertson 2/17, Penaluna 1/5, Pimm 1/16, Lloyd 1/29, Chaperon 1/32. Match Lost.

**12 January, 2014 – The ACS v. a Ballarat XI** ACS 8/101 – I. Gibson 25 ret., Duncan 17 v. a Ballarat XI 7/123 – Price 2/7,

Hyde 2/12, Stumbles 2/24 . Match Lost.

**26 January, 2014 – The ACS v. a Primary Club/Lords Taverners XI.** ACS 4/164 – Pimm 36 ret., Hammet 35 ret., Chaperon 33, Toet 29 v. a Primary Club/Lords Taverners XI 7/157 – Pimm 2/12, Lloyd 1/19, Dunn 1/28, McNamara 1/28. Match Won.

**Scores and Best ACS Performances in Matches Played by the ACS's Over 60s Teams During the Early Part of the 2013 – 14 Cricket Season.**

**13 October, 2013 – The ACS v. Gippsland.** Gippsland 3/183 – McNamara 2/38, Hopkins 1/11. Match Drawn. Game Abandoned.

**27 October, 2013 – The ACS v. Warrandyte.** ACS 8/171 – I. Gibson 32, D. Gibson 28, Hille 25, Hammet 22 v. Warrandyte 5/173 – Hopkins 1/15, Hansen 1/17, Flack 1/27, McNamara 1/32. Match Lost.

**10 November, 2013 – The ACS v. Casey Iona.** ACS 5/194 – Johnson 42 ret., Hammet 41 ret., Penaluna 36 v. Casey Iona 0/199. Match Lost.

**24 November, 2013 – The ACS v. Glen Waverley.** ACS 4/167 – D. Gibson 43 ret., Hammet 40 ret., Duncan 38 v. Glen Waverley 7/144 -Flack 2/28, Newton 1/5, Smith 1/16, I. Gibson 1/20. Match Won.

**8 December, 2013 – The ACS v. Bayside.** ACS 2/128 – Hammet 40 ret., I. Gibson 33 ret., D. Gibson 21 v. Bayside 10/119 – Hansen 4/11, Rhodes 2/28, D. Gibson 1/3, Newton 1/7, Flack 1/25. Match Won.

**5 January, 2014 – The ACS v. Mt. Evelyn.** ACS 7/154 – Delves 33\*, Hammet 30, Newton 25 v. Mt Evelyn 4/206 – Rhodes 2/30, Smith 1/9, Hopkins 1/31. Match Drawn.

**19 January, 2014 – The ACS v. a VOSCA All Stars XI.** ACS 7/152 – I. Gibson 30 ret., Lloyd 30 ret., Penaluna 28 v. a VOSCA All Stars XI 9/121 – Flack 3/11, Newton 1/6, Hopkins 1/11, Lloyd 1/12, Rhodes 1/17, I. Gibson 1/19, McNamara 1/26. Match Won.

**2 February, 2014 – The ACS v. a Geelong XI.** Match Abandoned – VOSCA Heat Policy.

## GENERAL NEWS

### OUR NEW GOLD PARTNER: THE JEFFERSON AUTOMATIVE GROUP

The Society is pleased to announce that the Jefferson Automotive Group of car dealerships have signed on as a gold sponsor of the Australian Cricket Society for a three year term. Jefferson has car dealerships all around Melbourne and beyond. No matter what car your fancy there is a Jefferson dealership close to you. And they will do a deal for you.

Our Treasurer Russ Newton (Phone 0402 009 982) has agreed to act as the Company's agent in enabling interested members or friends to get in touch with the right people at the Jefferson

group if and when they need to purchase a vehicle. So if any ACS member finds himself or herself in the market for a car, please do make contact with Russ Newton in the first instance. You should get a great deal. Remember, the Jefferson Automotive Group deal in a wide range of both new and used vehicles.

### THE AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS LIST – CRICKET RELATED PEOPLE WHO RECEIVED AN HONOUR THIS YEAR.

Dr Greg. McKie has kindly supplied the Editor with the following list of people honoured in this year's Australia Day Honours: **AM – Member of the Order of Australia:**

**Colin McDonald, Creagh O'Connor, Paul Sheahan. OAM - Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia: Drew Morphett, William Pewtress, Geoff Tamblyn (ACS member.)** We congratulate these men on receiving such a richly deserved honour.

**GIDEON HAIGH WINS ANOTHER LITERARY AWARD.** Gideon Haigh, a good friend of the Society who has won the ACS's Jack Pollard Trophy on a number of occasions, has recently won the \$20,000 Waverley Library Award for Literature. We congratulate Gideon on his recent award.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS & FRIENDS

### ROGER PAGE – THE MAN WHO TURNED A HOBBY INTO A JOB.

*N.B.: This edited article originally appeared in the January, 2014 issue of "Break o' Day", the newsletter of the Australian Cricket Society – Tasmania Inc. The profile appeared under the byline of Allan Leeson, with updates from the Editor of the Tasmanian newsletter, Mike Gandy.*

Noted Australian cricket historian, writer, scorer, collector and book dealer, Roger Page has strong ties with both Victoria and Tasmania. He spent his teen age and early working years in Tasmania after migrating with his parents from London in 1949. Cricket was his passion from an early age. He began collecting books on the subject from the age of 11. At the University of Tasmania he co-founded the University Cricket Club in 1955. He was made the first life member of the Club, but admits that he was never much of a player.

Roger followed his father, the late Daniel Page, into the teaching profession. He taught for thirteen years in Tasmania at New Norfolk, Queenstown, Ulverstone, and Parklands High School in Burnie where he was senior English master before deciding to go into the cricket book dealing business full time in Melbourne. Perhaps his most important contribution to cricket occurred during 1958 when he published his "A History Of Tasmanian Cricket". This publication was the first major research endeavour in its subject area in the State.

Roger commenced his cricket book dealing business on a part-time basis as a way of building up his own collection and making contact with fellow collectors in Australia. In 1972 he took a gamble, moved to Melbourne to get closer to the action, made his home in suburban Yallambie, and entered the cricket book dealership business in a full-time capacity. By 1976 the business had become profitable, with hundreds of customers throughout the world, while his own personal library was increasing rapidly. It now runs into thousands of volumes.

In due course Roger was able to indulge his love of scoring when he joined the Fitzroy Cricket Club in October 1976. He recently achieved the milestone of scoring in 600 first eleven matches after 37 continuous years of service with the Club which is now known as the Fitzroy Doncaster Club.

Roger is a foundation member of the Australian Cricket Society based in Melbourne which boasts the largest membership of any cricket society in Australia. After serving as Vice President of the Society during the 1970s, Roger has more recently been created an Hon. Life Member of the Society. For the past twenty years he has acted as the co-ordinator of the ACS's Cricket Literary Award Committee which assesses the authorship of the best cricket book published by an Australian during the preceding twelve months and awards a trophy donated by the late Jack Pollard to the winning author.



## NEW MEMBERS

*Since the last issue of "Scoresheet" was published in November the following new members have joined the Society: Anthony Hall, Ian Gibson, Steve Patton, Renzo Tomasino, Geoff. Tamblyn (Chairman of Cricket Victoria), Daryl McGrath, Graeme Bryce, Bob Rogers (rejoined) Ray Rhodes, Val. Popov, Keith Bollard, Max. Darby (rejoined), John Tremlett, Walter Billie, Giles Croker, Anthony Crocker, John Cantwell, David Mastin, Geoff. Connell, Doug Ackerly (rejoined), Alistair McLennan, Michael O'Sullivan, and Ian Wilson.*

*In addition, the following Junior Members have joined the Society: Charlie Amooore, Jo Brennan, Harry Cameron, Ben & Sam. Castles, Fergus & Jack Cattanach, James Connelly, Thomas Craddock, Harry Crisp, Noah Croes, Shawn D'Souza, Bailey & Corey Dennehy, Angus Dowling, Declan Foley, Aaron Godfrey, Sean Hawking, Jackson Hay, Liam Keller, Brendan, Hannah & Jarrod Layzell, Liam McGain, Marcus McMahon, Joshua Mendonca, Darcy Morgan, Patrick Nickeas, Alex. & Tom Officer, Julian Pope, Sam Rooke, Archit Shukla, Elias & Griffin Sprague, Brodie Symons and Oliver Cooper.*

*We welcome all these new members into the ranks of the Society and express the hope that they will become active members. Any changes in address or email address details should be conveyed to the Society's Membership Officer, Adrian McKenzie at the ACS's mailing address which is P.O. Box 4528, Langwarrin, Victoria, 3910. Adrian's home phone number is (03) 9579 2663. His email address is amckenzie@technologygroup.com.*

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Editor: Doug Manning Telephone: (03) 9876 3909 Email: [scoresheet@australiancricketsociety.com](mailto:scoresheet@australiancricketsociety.com)

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<p>www.eastsidemitsubishi.com.au</p>	<p>www.frankstonhyundai.com.au</p>	<p>www.nunawadingtoyota.com.au</p>
<p>www.morningtonhyundai.com.au</p>	<p>www.frankstonsubar.com.au</p>	

<sup>^</sup>Conditions apply, see in store for details.