

West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club Inc.,
(Established 1930)



1930/31 to 2023/24
(War years gap 1942 to 1945)

93 Not out
and still batting.....

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Foreword

As our great Club finishes its 86th season, this provides an opportunity to reflect, for a moment, on our rich History that has been a key part of the history of the West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook district.

Our Club was formed when the Great Depression was just starting. We saw World War 2 when the Association suspended competition between 1942 and 1945 due to the number of players involved in the War. Those with long-term memories recall the orchards and chook farms along New Line Road and when West Pennant Hills was seen as being so far away from Hornsby that the Association ran a bus service to get people from distant areas such as St Ives to games.

This History successfully brings together the unique culture of our Club that has been built over so many years. The statistical history in our Club Wisden is equal to the best of any Cricket Club. What this History achieves though is the capturing of the stories over the generations. The anecdotes and photos bring life to our past. It also gives direction to our future as it is difficult to know where you are going without first knowing where you have come from.

The one common theme that comes out as you read this History is that it is built on the efforts of our volunteers. Every person who has in some way contributed has volunteered their time. It is worth keeping in mind that Noah's Ark was built by volunteers and the Titanic by professionals.

We would like to call out the magnificent contribution of our Volunteers over the years – our Team Managers, Coaches, Team Scorers, Umpires, Seniors Team Captains, those who run the BBQ's, enter the scores each week and the parents, Grand Parents and partners who come along to support the boys, girls, and men who play – approximately 21,000 players since we started.

The people on our Leadership Teams across all Divisions: Kanga / In2Cricket, Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Seniors are exceptional and have been for many years. This also comes out as you read through the history and can almost touch and feel the characters, what they have achieved and the times that they were operating in.

This History is an amazing work that ranks up there with the best Club sporting histories we have seen. The work started just on 30 years ago. Ross Anderson, our Club Director of Operations, has spent between 3,000 to 5,000 hours in producing the content of this History. David Carey, supported by Ross, spent just on 10 years sourcing every Seniors Scorebook / 'D Sheet' Team statistical season summary to build our Club Wisden. Since 1946 there are just a handful of seasons that are not recorded making our statistical history the envy of any Club. James Makin has taken this to the next level by building a database that allows the information to be managed and now feeds into PlayHQ with systems based updates.

As you read our History reflect for a moment on the privilege we all have of being involved in this great Club and the opportunity we have to make a contribution to our as yet unwritten history – our future.

Andrew Miedler (President)

Barry McDonald (Chairman)



Oakhill Drive Public School, 18 March 2017
May 2017 (*refreshed May 2024*)

Our History – a few thoughts

In the words of Terry Pratchett, renowned British author and satirist: *“If you do not know where you come from, then you don't know where you are, and if you don't know where you are, then you don't know where you're going. And if you don't know where you're going, you're probably going wrong.”*

While statistics are an important part of cricket, this History of our Club is more a story than a detailed historical document. It gives us insights into where we have come from – the characters, the stories and achievements and tries to put this into a context so that you can get a feel for what it was like at the time.

West Penno has a great history and this document only reflects where we are at a point in time. It is documented so that those folk who follow us understand where we have come from so that our future can be shaped with this knowledge.

Many people have been involved in bringing this document together. Whenever individuals are called out some people are always missed so with this in mind I would like to mention those folk who have made significant contributions to this work. David Carey spent over 10 years and countless hours in sourcing and recording the playing statistics in a database of every Senior player since 1946. We have all but a handful of years of statistical data – an amazing achievement. James Makin has taken this to the next level with a sophisticated data model that feeds into MyCricket / Play. The work that James has done to identify the unique A1 Grade Player Number has also been valuable.

Our history can't be complete without mentioning those people who have contributed through their leadership over many years. Barry McDonald, Jim Fuggle and Keith Robinson provided great leadership for over 50 years and especially in developing the platform for our unique culture.

Arthur Souter was the visionary who started and then drove Kanga and Girls cricket. John Coulthard further developed Kanga into a rich source of our future players and volunteers. Graham Chivers has taken Girls cricket to a new level after the hard work during set-up by John Porter and Edwina Chappell. Geoff Newman, our Juniors Director who introduced the Participation over Results Policy and then developed by Julian Bish, has been a key to our successful growth in the Juniors.

Add to this our long-term players who have also added so much as both players and administrators – Andrew Fiedler, Bill Peterkin, Steve Quanborough to name but a few. Add to this our current Club Executive, led by Andrew Miedler and Barry who are driving the next level of change. Our website has also been fundamental to bringing our Club together and for this we thank Peter W Lees who developed and administered the website between 2002 and 2016.

Many details are based on fact, some are rumours but may well be fact and there are still many stories to be told. Our history is a living document at a point in time with more stories and characters involving people yet to even be born awaiting us. This is the result of the work of many people – please enjoy.

Ross Anderson



Photo – Andrew Miedler, Ross Anderson and Barry McDonald

WEST PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK CRICKET CLUB

1930/31 to 1940/41

(1942/1945 War Years – no competition)

and

1946/47 to 2023/24

Club History



WPHCCC acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we play our sport, and acknowledges and pays respect to Elders, past, present and emerging.

Ancient origins

The land we play, meet and live on is Dharug Ngurra (Country). This place is home to the Bidjigal people, one of the many clans that make up the Dharug mob who cared for this land.

Origins

Cricket has been played in this District as early as the 1850s – about 20 years after settlement. Cricketers of last century had many difficulties caused mainly by rough roads and grounds. In 1897 Kenthurst played at Rouse Hill and at the end of the game they found that the horses “*had tired of waiting and made for home of their own account*”. In 1895, in a match between Glenhaven and Glenorie at Glenorie Park, a fieldsman, James Stubbs, chased a ball into the outfield where he found a large black snake with a “spherical bulge half way along its length”. After calling, ‘lost ball’ the batsman “*smote the serpent on the head and the ball was recovered with a knife*”. (Source: Alfred James: Golden Jubilee History 1976).

In the early days, family teams were common. The South Colah Cricket Club had 18 sons of Patrick and John Duffy of Thornleigh, Dural CC was sustained by the seven sons of Thomas Best, Pennant Hills CC by the 10 sons of Arthur Thompson and Castle Hill CC by the eleven sons of John James (source: Claire Schofield: The Shaping of Hornsby Shire 1988 p86).

The Fuggle family has a long and distinguished history in the local area. Along with the Hunt, Roughley, Best and Sippe families, the Fuggle family sustained the Dural Cricket Club throughout the 1890s. Dural Park (off Quarry Road and first used on 23 March 1889) was the home ground of the Dural Club.

An extract from the ‘Cumberland Mercury’ records details of a game on Australia Day (then Anniversary Day) in 1878:

“On Anniversary Day, a cricket match was played between South Colah and Peat’s Ferry Clubs on Mr. Boulder’s ground at Peat’s Bight. The gentlemen of the former club laboured under some difficulty having ridden 20 miles the morning of the match. On their arrival at the Ferry they met with a hospitable welcome from Mr. Lloyd, one of their opponents.”

When the game commenced, there must have been over 200 onlookers present including a large number of the fair sex. The Peat's Ferry gentlemen won the toss at once went to the wickets and were all put out for 82 runs.

After adjournment for luncheon, the South Colah players were put out for 59 runs after a long and tedious game and the Peat's Ferry players in their second innings scored only 20 so that South Colah needed 44 to win.

Amid tremendous excitement, they were put out for 43 and the match ended in a tie. As the game progressed, the wind became more boisterous so that it was impossible to pitch the ball with anything like precision and, owing to the rough crease and fast bowling, several of the players sustained injuries upon which the young lady visitors were most assiduous in their attention.

At the end of the match, the players adjourned to a large marquee where an excellent dinner was provided. After the dinner, dancing was indulged in right good earnest till midnight and on breaking up preparatory to starting for home, Mr. Osborn, in a very neat speech, thanked the Peat's Ferry gentlemen for the kind manner in which they had been treated."

Source: Alf James, HKCA Jubilee History 1926/27 - 1975/76 page 1.

Early cricket in West Pennant Hills

A newspaper report from the Sydney Mail, 6th November 1875 reported, "A match was played on Saturday last between the Hornsby C.C. and the Pennant Hills C.C. which resulted in an easy victory for the former by one innings and three runs to spare. E.Buckman batted well and so did J.Stanton on the other side. The Hornsby scored 101; the Pennant Hills 20 and 78."

What makes this interesting is that the game was most likely based around Thompson's Corner, which was "Pennant Hills" before the railway arrived and is now part of West Pennant Hills.

The Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Cricket Association (HKCA)

The HKCA was formed on 11 March 1926 after a meeting at the Hornsby Masonic Hall. This is now the site of the Meriton building (the high rise development on the Pacific Highway – just before Government Road). The first Clubs were; Hornsby United, Hornsby Railways, P A James Pty Ltd, St. Ives, Galston, North Hornsby, Pennant Hills, Normanhurst, IOOF, Cheltenham and Evening Continuation School. The first century was scored by John Copes of Cheltenham A (Source: Alfred James: Golden Jubilee History 1976 p 9). The HKCA was renamed The Hornsby Ku-ring-gai and Hills District Cricket Association (HK&HDCA) in 1988/89 following a proposal put to the Association AGM by our own Jim Fuggle.

Our local history – a snapshot

West Pennant Hills

In 1799, the earliest settlers started settlement in the West Pennant Hills Valley. Among the first beneficiaries of land grants was William Bellamy, who cleared the forests of blue gums, blackbutt, forest oak and cedar.

Bellamy had been transported to Australia in 1791 for stealing 6 pairs of shoes. In 1797 he married fellow convict Ann Bellamy and by 1804 he was granted 100 acres of land in the Pennant Hills District. Bellamy Farm followed 2-years later by another 30 acres in the Field of Mars. He established orchards, grew wheat, maize and potatoes and raised cattle, sheep & pigs.

Bellamy's first born son, James Zadok Bellamy, was granted 60 acres of land to the west of Cumberland State Forest in 1818, adding another 60 acre holding in 1824. James established an orchard and farm on the land upon which the Mirvac 'High Forest' is being developed.

He built a timber home and later, as his family expanded, a stone house on an allotment identified today as 99 Castle Hill Road, West Pennant Hills the corner of Coonara Ave & Edward Bennett Drive.

West Pennant Hills draws on its affinity with Pennant Hills – the name given at settlement to the range of hills stretching north from Parramatta.

A preferred explanation of the name is offered by well-known local historian, Ralph Hawkins. He maintains that the hills were named after Sir Thomas Pennant, an English scientist and friend of Sir Thomas Banks. The flagpole on the highest point was a form of early communication between the government in Parramatta and the Governor's outer Sydney residence. It was used to signal to Parramatta when the Governor was returning.

Pennant Hills West was first referred to in 1925 when 'West' was added the name of the original school (Pennant Hills West) that was built in 1850 on the ridge between at the intersection of Pennant Hills and Castle Hill Roads.

The area around Thompson's corner gradually became known as West Pennant Hills. The large flag pole at Thompson's Corner is a reminder of these days past when it was raised to alert the soldiers so that they could 'sober up' before the Governor arrived home. On a clear day it can still be seen from Parramatta.



Photo: Pennant Hills West Public School circa 1870.

Cherrybrook

The name Cherrybrook came from a property granted originally to Mary Russell during the 1820s. In 1839 it was passed to Joseph Harrison and Mary Ann Harrison who named the cottage "Cherrybrook Cottage" after the cherry trees growing along the creek. This was an orchard area that grew plums, nectarines, Emperor Mandarins, apples, Valencia and Navel oranges, persimmons, peaches, apricots, pears and cherries for the Sydney market. Throughout the years the name Cherrybrook stuck.

Many years later the property was bought by Eric Vaux, who established a dairy and kept the name Cherrybrook.

Photo: Aerial photo of West Pennant Hills in 1951. Pennant Hills Golf Course is shown on the bottom right. The fork in the road is Thomson's Corner. At the top of the photo, the orchards along New Line Road can be seen.



In February 1959 the first Project home village in Sydney was built on land sub-divided on this location. Larger scale land releases and development started in West Pennant Hills in 1968 and accelerated to include Cherrybrook throughout the 1970s and early 1980s.



Photo: Sydney Daily Telegraph from Saturday, 14 September 1968 (page 32) referring to “...one of the most remarkable land releases ever seen in the metropolitan area”.

Note the cost of \$4,500 for ¼ acre blocks with \$20 for a full deposit!



Photo: Oratava Avenue and the West Pennant Hills Valley from Pennant Hills Rd, 1962.

**West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club
Parramatta District Junior Cricket Association (PDJCA)**

1930-31 – our first season as a Club when we played C Grade (comprising 26 teams in 3 Divisions) against Westmead. The game was most likely played at Parramatta Park. Our first Team was:

W Bowerman, F Shields, J Blissett, W Ross, G Blissett, L Blissett, William Allum, M Shields, Warwick Franks, G Booth, H Booth.
 Source: Cumberland Argus 6/10/1931

1931-32 – played C Grade and shared North Rocks Park (cnr. North Rocks Road and Farnell Ave, North Rocks) with Carlingford A Grade

1932-33 – played C Grade with 29 teams in 4 Divisions

1933-34 – again played C Grade with 33 teams in 4 Divisions.

Our earliest scorecard – 23rd October 1933

West Pennant Hills Vs Rydalmere		
West Pennant Hills – First innings		
W O'Brien	bowled W Balfour	16
W Pownall	caught J Marks bowled W Balfour	13
E Mobbs	bowled W Balfour	0
William Allum*	bowled W Balfour	1
J O'Brien	caught F Olliffe bowled W Balfour	78
L Baker	bowled K Munro	0
M Potts	c & b W Balfour	0
W Ross	bowled F Murphy	43
Warwick Franks*	run out	3
P Bellamy*	caught N Moss b W Balfour	2
C Grant	not out	2
Sundries		<u>19</u>
Total		<u>176</u>

*Likely to have played in the 1946/47 side.

Bowling

S Brooker	0-38
W Balfour	7-39
K Munro	1-23
J Maples	0-36
F Murphy	1-21

Rydalmere – First innings		
W Balfour	Not out	33
L Nankivell	bowled W Ross	17
F Olliffe	Not out	8
Sundries		<u>8</u>
Total		<u>1/66</u>

Bowling

W O'Brien	0-21
W Ross	1-37

Source: *The Parramatta Argus*, 23/10/1933:

1934-35 – C Grade, Division 1 containing 33 teams

1935-36 – no team was entered but there was a team called Carlingford Wanderers in B1. It is not known if this was an offshoot.

1936-37 – no team entered

1938-39 – we were back playing B1, Division 1 with 22 teams. Season info follows:

- Graded players were: V Clifton, E Collins, I Smith, F Bowerman
- E Collins – 8 innings, 296 runs @ 37 (high score 78).

1939-40 – played B1 Grade, Division 2 with 24 teams. Information from this season:

- Graded players included: L Smith, L Pogson, S Franks, F Bowerman
- S Franks had the bowling figures with 38 wickets @ 14.9 (101 overs for 557 runs).

1940-41 – played B1 Division 1 with 18 teams. Information from this season:

- Graded players included: S Franks, D Smith, L Smith, I Williams, William (Bill) Allum
- S Franks had the batting figures with 19 innings 519 runs @ 28.8 (high score 80).

The War years

During WW11 (1942 to 1945), no competition was played.

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Cricket Association (HKCA)

The Post-War Years

In 1946/47 the WPHCC re-formed but this time in the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Cricket Association (HKCA), later becoming the HK&HDCA. Joining us in entering the Competition was Mt Colah, RSL, Waitara Catholic, Thornleigh Waratahs and Northern Districts.

Notable events in the same year were:

Famous people

- Ben Chifley is Australia's Prime Minister
- Henry Ford dies
- Queen Elizabeth 11 and Prince Phillip marry
- Al Capone dies.

Sport

- Bradman Captains Australia to a 3-0 win over England
- Melbourne Cup won by Russia and ridden by Darby Munro
- Manly and Parramatta Rugby League Clubs are formed.

History

- W.W.II had finished only 12 months before
- The Roswell UFO incident
- The Cold War started and lasted for 4 decades
- Dead Sea scrolls found
- 2nd Brooklyn Bridge built
- Commonwealth Savings Bank established
- The 40-hour week was introduced
- Australian Govt assumes control of Qantas
- India and Pakistan gain independence from Great Britain.

We were privileged to catch-up with Wally Childs (4th May 2008) and he confirmed the following:

- The WPH Sports Club (the non-Licensed Club), formed in early 1969, consisted of Cricket (2 Junior Teams) and about 13 Soccer teams. Basketball and Netball followed. The Founding Fathers of the Sports Club were:

Keith Robinson, Wally Howard, Wally Childs, Less Lees, Bill Maher, Jim Fuggle, Don Rowston and Kevin Smith.

The first President was Wally Howard; Kevin Smith was Secretary and Keith Robinson the Treasurer. The first Constitution was drawn up by Wally Howard's brother, former Prime Minister, John Howard.

- The decision to form the Sports Club was made at a meeting held at Wally Child's house in New Farm Rd West Pennant Hills. A number of players (including Wally Howard, Les Lee, Bill Allum and Wally Childs) letterbox dropped the neighbourhood to get children and adults to play / be involved with cricket and netball.
- The driver to create the Sports Club came from the parents of our cricketers. WPH was a growing suburb and the founding fathers felt it appropriate that we had our own identity rather than playing for Pennant Hills and Beecroft. For this reason it was setup secretly so that playing options for the children who were planning to leave were left open if the new Club didn't get off the ground.
- Around this time the WPH Bowling Club (now the Licensed Sports Club) approached the Cricket Club to support them in gaining Council approval to build a Bowling Club. The land at that time was used for orchards and poultry farming.
- The West Pennant Hills Sports Club evolved further in 1969. The Club was expanded to include, Little Athletics and Soccer. Total Club membership peaked at 720 in 1981. The Club eventually folded in 1991.

Our Founding Fathers

The founding fathers of the Cricket Club are Charles Booth, Wally Childs, Wally Howard, Bob Bellamy, W Franks, William (Bill) Allum and George Smith.

Once the war finished they decided restart the Club and join the HKCA as the teams were generally closer to where our players lived.



Photo: Wally Childs taken at 75 Annangrove Rd Annangrove on 15/2/2009. Wally died on Tuesday 17th June 2014.

Club Colours – red, white, blue and....green

Our colours were chosen at a meeting at Wally Childs place at 75 Annangrove Rd Annangrove in 1946. The HKCA gave us a range of colours to choose from that had not been taken by other Clubs and the Red, White and Blue was chosen. As a result of this decision, all sporting Clubs in the area now use Red, White and Blue as their ‘strip’.

When our Club badge changed in 1990/91 to include the Waratah, the colour Green was added to our colours.

Grounds

The main grounds used at that time were Campbell Park, Thornleigh Oval, Normanhurst Oval, Oakleigh, Headen Park, Rofe Park, Bannockburn Oval and Galston Oval.

In the early days, transport was not always as easy as getting into a car and getting to the game. Wally Childs recalled that they often walked to grounds or car pooled with one player known to have made the trek by foot to Mobbs Lane at Epping for a game.

In the early years, WPH and other Hills teams were considered far enough away to justify the Association running a bus to grounds – a practice that continued into the 1950s.

Campbell Park

Our ‘spiritual’ ground – it also has a fascinating history.

The land was owned by a Mr Campbell whose land extended from New Farm Road to what is now Campbell Park. Mr Campbell was friends with Les Methven through the Mason Club. Mr Campbell gave what was a sloping parcel of land to Hornsby Council for use by the Cricket Club. Our job was to make it into an oval. We worked through the HKCA and Hornsby Council who provided a bulldozer(s) to level the land. The hill was gouged out and the rubble pushed to the low side to eventually level the ground. Construction started in 1952/53 after our Club guaranteed that we would build the malthoid pitch, do the plumbing and provide enough chain wire to fence off the banked-up section of the ground. It was first used in 1954/55.

So while we play on many different grounds now, Campbell Park will always be special and would not have happened had it not been for the Cricket Club and the Mason relationship between Les Methven and Mr. Campbell.

Rivalry

Kenthurst were the main rivals in the early years. Our boys used to call them ‘orange chuckers’. We have no idea what we were called but it was likely to have something to do with chooks and hopefully didn’t rhyme with chuckers.

Early meetings

Early meetings were held at the houses of our Executive. Don Donaldson was one of our Executive and he used to entertain guests by playing the piano – he was a professional performer.

Tough beginnings

During the 1950’s the Association battled for numbers in Junior cricket. Indeed the 1950/51 season was abandoned not through lack of player interest, but the absence of administrators. In 1952/53 an U16 competition was formed in D Grade that played on Saturday afternoon.

Significant dates and achievements

Some of the significant dates in our history are:

Date	Event
1930/31	Our <u>first game</u> as a Club was in 1930/31 as part of the Parramatta District Junior Cricket Association
1941	We <u>stopped playing</u> during the War along with all competition games
1946/47	<u>Re-formed</u> as part of the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Cricket Association (HKCA)
1968/69	<u>West Pennant Hills Sports Club</u> was formed with the Cricket Club being formally disbanded in order to become the Cricket section of the newly Constituted WPH Sports Club comprising Cricket, Soccer and Basketball (Netball).
1968/69	On Monday 5 July 1993 the Club’s <u>name was changed</u> from West Pennant Hills CC to <i>West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook CC</i> .
1991	The Sports Club eventually <u>folded</u> with individual entities going their own way
1993	<u>Incorporation</u> was approved on Monday 22 November 1993. It was effective on 20/12/93.
1992	17 th October 1992 – <u>Kanga Cricket</u> was introduced with tremendous success.
1995/96	The introduction of a separate <u>Girl’s competition</u> within the Association. WPHCCC provided 44 of the initial 75 Association registrations. Arthur Souter was a driving force behind the competition.
1998	In November 1998, we launched <u>our Club website</u> (www.jamark.com.au/wphccc) that was developed by Mark Harrison, the son of Peter Harrison, a long-term West Penno player. In 2002, Peter W Lees then redeveloped and maintained the site (www.wphccc.org) to a new level until a new site was launched in December 2016. It is estimated that the site had over 650,000 hits during this time.
1999	<u>Participation Over Results</u> as a Club policy for Juniors was introduced on the 6 th July 1999 initiated by Geoff Newman – our Junior Convenor at the time.
2001/02	We acknowledged players who achieved <u>10 year’s service</u> with a medallion.
2000/01	David Carey developed our <u>Club Wisden</u> – the result of years of research by David Carey and Ross Anderson – an amazing piece of work that few Clubs can match.
2010	James Makin (A1 Captain and Actuary) developed our <u>Club Wisden</u> into a user friendly Access data base that linked into the core cricket data bases (MyCricket and later, PlayHQ).

2011	<u>A1 Grade Player numbers</u> were developed by James from this statistical database. This is another record that few Clubs have available.
2016	On Tuesday 13 December 2016 our <u>new website</u> became www.wphccc.com.au and embraced social media along with Facebook, Instagram and X (formerly Twitter).
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 29th June 2017 – Community Cricket Club of the Year o SportNSW Community Club of the Year (Runner-up).
2018	October 2018 – <u>Blowfly cricket</u> introduced.
2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o SportNSW Community Club of the Year (Finalist) o NSW Community Club of the Year (CNSW nomination) – Runner-up o ‘A Sport for All’ – CNSW nominee for Club of the Year (National award) – Runner-up o 20th November 2019 – new Constitution, written by Barry McDonald, was approved at an SGM.
2022	25 th May 2022 new Indigenous playing shirts (Players) and Training shirts (Volunteers) approved for the Girls and Women of our Club only.

‘Participation over Results’

One of the most significant decisions made by our Club was on the 6th July 1999 when we formally adopted a ‘Participation over Results’ policy – initiated by Geoff Newman in his term as Juniors Convenor. Our policy, refreshed in this Vision statement given by [Julian Bish](#) (Juniors Director December 2014) is:

It is about providing opportunities for ALL players to participate and contribute in matches, as well as providing a positive and encouraging environment for all. This makes for a healthy ‘team culture’ and helps us to retain players year to year, a record our club is very proud of. This policy does not necessarily require coaches to evenly allocate overs to all bowlers nor to systematically rotate the batting order in every match, although this is an option that has been used successfully in past seasons.

It is acknowledged that every team is unique. Every player has their own unique skill level, abilities, confidence level and their own personal goals. Therefore the coach needs to use their judgement and knowledge of the players and parents to provide opportunities for all players to participate, and to develop their skills over the course of the season.

Many factors need to be considered, including player safety, player ability, confidence levels, the abilities of the opposition, player availability, ambitions and goals of players and parents. Of course our Club wants to be competitive and to celebrate personal and team achievements – but not at the expense of providing an inclusive and supportive environment for all of our players. We judge success by the number of children who want to back-up the next season.



Photo – [Julian Bish](#) (centre) with Andrew Miedler (President) and Barry McDonald (Chairman – right) – Juniors Presentation @ Oakhill Drive Public School – Saturday 18 March 2017. In 2016, Julian was also awarded the prestigious Association Integrity Cup.

The longer term results of this are stunning:

- Junior team numbers have grown to the extent where we have registered consistent record numbers of teams at both Club and Association level – despite the area being in a ageing demographic change since the late 1990s

- Kanga draws big numbers but most important each year we get upwards of 40/50 ‘graduates’ moving into U8s/U9s. In 2007/08, 2013/14 and again in 2015/16 we had a record 7 x U9 Teams. In 2015/16 there were also 5 x U8s – a total of 12 Teams in these two Age groups
- In the Seniors, there is a natural flow through to the extent that, our A1 side regularly have in excess of 8 graduates from Kanga. In 2016/17 – 10 players were Juniors
- The message is that through this policy, parents and children are attracted to our Club and tend to stay.



Photo – our U11 Reds with Coach Simon Reynolds after winning the Premiership with an approach that lived our Participation over Results policy @ Greenway Park 12 March 2012. In May 2016 Simon went to be awarded the prestigious Association ‘Spirit of Cricket’ Award for Sportmanship and fair play.

Volunteer contribution recognition – what is their history?

Life Membership

Life Membership is the most significant award that can be bestowed by our Club. In 90 years there have been just 23 Life Members inducted. The following criteria is used to assess eligibility:

- **Exceptional** service
- **Exemplary** service
- Should exceptional and exemplary service be achieved it needs then to have been carried out over a **lengthy period**.

Recognition of Life Membership is for exceptional work as a Volunteer for our Club. It also includes exceptional, exemplary contributions over a lengthy period to the HK&HDCA & DCA.

As a guide, ‘Lengthy’ service is defined as volunteer effort > 10 years. Every nomination for Life Membership is considered case by case where there may be exceptions.



Photo: Life Members at the Induction of James Makin & Bill Peterkin

From left to right: - Simon Smyth (Life Member number 19), Bill Peterkin (22), James Makin (21), Ross Anderson (11), John Coulthard (17), Andrew Fiedler (20) and Barry McDonald (12) - Seniors Presentation Night at Dural Country Club - 5 May 2017.

Significant Achievement Award

The Presidents Trophy (Jim Fuggle Trophy) recognises outstanding annual recognition of volunteer contribution.

Over the years, we have had a number of our members who have provided lengthy and outstanding service, receive no recognition and potentially miss out on the President's Award as this is an annual recognition. We have an opportunity to fill this gap by instituting an Award that develops its own traditions and not become some form of 'half-way' house for Life Membership.

As a guiding principle rather than a rule, this means that someone who receives the Significant Achievement Award can be eligible for future Life Membership, but this should be by exception rather than the rule.

Eligibility criteria

The following criteria should be used to assess eligibility:

Exceptional & exemplary service to our Club through coaching, administration and leadership roles on Club Committees and representing our Club at the Association.

The defining difference between Life Membership and the Special Achievement Award is both the length of time and volunteer effort that transcends Divisions – Junior (Girls & Boys) / Senior Divisions. For example, a person would be eligible for a Special Service Award for their exceptional & exemplary contribution to Juniors while their children are playing and then have limited / no further contribution. A Life Member would continue this level service into a Club or Association based Leadership role.

President's Award (The Jim Fuggle Trophy)

David Steer (President 1983/85) started our President's Award in 1983/84. The Award recognises a significant off-the field contribution for the Season.

Exceptional & exemplary service for the Season through coaching, administration and leadership roles including representing our Club at the Association.



Photo: David Steer in Moscow with his family (Olga, Daniel 9 and Sasha) in 2014. David took 134 wickets plus a best of 8 wickets in an innings as a slow bowler.

In 2002, the Trophy's naming acknowledged Jim Fuggle, one of the finest administrators our Club and arguably, Association has seen. Jim died in April 2002. He started playing for WPH in the 1960's and had been tirelessly involved in the major administrative roles (in Club, Association and District levels) since that time. This contribution was acknowledged in 2001 when he won the inaugural Hornsby Shire Council Award for contribution to Sport in the Shire.

Junior Volunteer of the Year

Started in 2016/17, this award is typically presented to a Junior Team Coach / Manager who upholds our Club's Coaches Code of Conduct, in particular our Participation over Results ethos, and who has as a consequence, retained players year to year. In the inaugural year (2016/17) 3 x Trophies were awarded: U8 to U11 Age Divisions; U12 to U16 and Girls.



Photo: Alicia Evans, winner of the U12 to U16 Juniors Volunteer of the Year with Rob Hanich (left) and Andrew Miedler) at the Junior Boys Presentation Day - Oakhill Drive Public School, 30 March 2019



Photo: Lyndal Harrison and Dave Weeden with Andrew Miedler after winning the Volunteer of the Year Award for the U8s to U11s - Junior Boys Presentation at Oakhill Drive Public School - 30 March 2019.

Playing performances

Player of the Year (Seniors)

Started in 1983/84, this Award is for our best performed Senior player. It is a prestigious award that has been won by players who rate among the best in the Association. An important requirement is that the player also shows high standards of sportsmanship.



Photo: Andrew Miedler with Tom Hando at Castle Hill RSL 7th May 2021.

Outstanding Prospect – West Pennant Hills Bowling Club Award

Started 1992/93 this Trophy is awarded to a player Under 21 years of age, playing in Seniors and with the potential to play A1 Grade as a minimum and potentially, higher levels of cricket – 1st Grade Premier Cricket, BBL, NSW or Australia. The Award acknowledges the emerging elite young player each season based on performance in Senior cricket.



Photo: Alastair Fullerton (2019-20), Andrew Miedler and Nikhil Ninan (2020-21) – 7th May 2021

Junior Player of the Year (Boys) – The John Coulthard Trophy

Started in 1992/93, the John Coulthard Trophy acknowledges our elite Junior Cricketer who also represents our core Club values – respect for the Opposition, umpires and selflessness. The selected player should have the potential to play and perform well in at least A1 standard and potentially 1st Grade or higher and represent the Club as a role model. Winners in previous years, with few exceptions, have all excelled in either A1 Grade as a minimum, played 1st Grade and with 2 players having played for NSW at U19 level. All winners have been excellent ambassadors for our Club.

Selection criteria

To win this prestigious Trophy, the player must play the season for WPHC Juniors in the HK&HDCA Junior Competition. Performances will rank this player as the best performed player for the year. High standards of citizenship and sportsmanship are also a pre-requisite.

If, after this filter, more than one player remains in contention then performances for Representative Teams (DCA and Green Shield) is taken into account. The final filter to apply, if players cannot be separated, is performances for WPHC Seniors.



Photo: Junior Player of the Year (The John Coulthard Trophy) - Ranga Edwirikrama with Dominic Thornley and John Coulthard. In the background is Simon Smyth. Campbell Park 9th April 2006.

Photo – Riley Miedler (left), Sam Baidya (2002/03 winner) and Ranga Ediriwickrama (2005/06 winner) examining the John Coulthard Trophy (Junior Player of the Year) at the A1 Semi Final Vs Berowra @ Berowra Oval 15 March 2014. Showing interest in the background is Karina Veling, Matt Jobson and Sol Tomlinson.



Other considerations

- Nominations are typically sought from the U15 and U16 Age groups, given the more generous bowling and batting restrictions. However, players from all Ages are considered where performances are exceptional and not achieved at the expense of our Participation over Results policy.
- A player may only win this trophy once. For example a player playing-up to U16s who wins it and then plays U16s for a second season is not eligible.
- Only one nomination per team should be submitted. If a team has more than one candidate for the Trophy they should prioritise a single nominee based on the criteria stated here.

Senior Girls Player of the Year – Lisa Sthalekar Trophy

Started in 2001/02, the selection criteria is similar as the John Coulthard Trophy.

Selection criteria

The player must play the season for WPHC Juniors (Boys or Girls) in a sanctioned competition. Performances will rank this player as the best performed player for the year. Demonstrated high standards of citizenship and sportsmanship are also a pre-requisite.

If, after this filter, more than one player remains in contention then performances for Representative Teams (Grade and Brewer Shield) are taken into account.



Photo: Lisa Sthalekar with the World Cup trophy, Australia v West Indies, Final, Women's World Cup 2013, Mumbai, February 18, 2013

Junior Girls Player of the Year – Tina MacPherson Trophy

Started 2001/02 this trophy is awarded to the outstanding Girls player (U13 years of age). It has similar criteria to the 'Rising Star' award (U11 Boys), for a player who performs well and upholds our Club values including respect for team mates, umpires, officials and opposition.

This person is committed to the Team as a whole, and exhibits the highest level of sportsmanship and commitment to the Spirit of Cricket.



Photo: Tina MacPherson – Tina played for Australia and has the honour of bowling the first ever ball in a Women's 1-Day International Vs England 23 June 1973. Tina, lived in West Pennant Hills and presented the first Girls Awards in March 2002.

Charles Booth Memorial Award (U13s)

This is our longest standing award – started in 1969/70 after Charles Booth who managed the U13s after many years involved with our Juniors.

It is awarded on the criteria always emphasised by Charles: the player must show the highest standards of sportsmanship, fair play and commitment to the team. The player does not have to be the best player but this is not a condition. Indeed, many of the winners are among our most outstanding junior and later senior players.

In 2012, the criteria changed to reflect the changing dynamic of our Club. It was decided to extend eligibility to include an U13 player who plays in any Age division (not just the U13 Competition). It also includes U13 Girls who play in the separate Girls Competition.



Photo: the 1967/68 U10 side coached by Charles Booth that later became the U13s when Charles Booth died.

Arthur Souter Shield

The inaugural Arthur Souter Award was presented at the end of the 2003/04 season. It was named after our Life Member Arthur Souter who established the Club's Kanga program 1992/93. Arthur also set up the Girls competition in 1996/97. His involvement in both sections was so significant that he was also a key person to set up these competitions throughout the Association.

Initially, it was awarded to a player who had graduated from U16s and who started in Kanga. Like the Charles Booth Memorial Award, the criteria required the player to show the highest standards of sportsmanship, fair play and commitment to the team.

In 2003/04, the criteria for the Arthur Souter Shield was changed to be more inclusive. It is now an award that is presented to all U16 Junior Blasters / Kanga graduates who have played for our Club since they joined our Junior Blasters (Kanga) Program.



Photo: The Arthur Souter Shield recipient with Dominic Thornely, Arthur Souter and Hornsby Mayor Nick Berman. A recipient of this Award for 2005-06 was Mark Bennett (pictured).

U11 Perpetual Trophy (Ross Anderson Trophy)

This is a 'Rising Star' award, given to an U11 player who performs well, shows promise on the field and who upholds our Club values including respect for team mates, umpires, officials and Opposition players alike. This person is committed to the Team as a whole, and exhibit the highest level of sportsmanship and commitment to the Spirit of Cricket. The recipient does not necessarily have to be our best U11 player – but is a player who may go on to receive either the Charles Booth or John Coulthard Trophies in later years.



Photo: Angus Weeden after winning the Junior Rising Star Award (Ross Anderson Trophy) at the Junior Presentation Day – Oakhill Drive Public School, 30 March 2019.

Long Service recognition

On the 15th April 2014 the Seniors Executive agreed to extend the recognition of 10 years playing service to acknowledge those players with 10, 20 and 30 years service. The following acknowledgement was approved:

Jim Fuggle Medallion (10 years service)

[Jim Fuggle](#) was a legendary administrator within WPHC and the Association. Jim played between 1969/70 and 2001/02 before his death. Jim is a Life Member of both our Club and Association. He held many administrative positions. Jim was also an outstanding player who scored 4,020 runs playing C1 to A1 Grades.



Photo – Life Members at the Seniors Presentation Night, Hornsby RSL 1998.

From left – David Carey, [Jim Fuggle](#), Barry McDonald, Ross Anderson and Jon Burns.

Barry McDonald Medallion (20 years service)

Barry McDonald is another legend in WPHC. Having played 1st Grade cricket for Petersham-Marrickville Barry ended his retirement to play B1 in 1978/79 until his final retirement in 1991/92 season. He scored 3,096 runs at 30.1 in A1 and B Grades. Barry is a Life Member of WPHC and the Association. He is also a Life Member of the Association Umpires. When Barry retired as a player he umpired with distinction until 2016 in the highest Grade.

Barry is also a much loved and respected Administrator being Club President / Chair) since 1985.

Under Barry's leadership, WPHC became one of the largest Cricket Clubs in Australia and highly respected with CNSW and used as an example for other Clubs.

In the year 2000, Barry was awarded the prestigious Australian Sports Medal for service to cricket over a long period.

Ross Anderson Medallion (30 years service)

Ross Anderson is also from the generation of long-term administrators. Ross is the highest run scorer in our Club's History scoring these runs in A1 to D1 Grades (8,000 runs). Starting with WPHC in 1974/75 he played continuously to the present day. Ross is a WPHC Club and Association Life Member.

He was also awarded the Australian Sports Medal in 2000 in recognition of his service and contribution to cricket. At Club level, Ross has been a long term Club Secretary having taken on the role in 1985.

Junior Country Carnivals

One of the privileges of playing for West Penno is the chance to play in the Country Carnivals over the New Year. Traditionally this opportunity is reserved for Representative Teams but we are privileged to be invited due to our Club size – the only Club side in NSW to have this opportunity.



Photo – it must be the first week of January. Here the Bish family are ready to pack the car before heading off to Taree and Armidale – 3 January 2016.

The Carnivals are:

- *U14s Tamworth JCU Carnivals*

This was the first of our Carnivals and goes back to 2010/11 when Patrick Chensee organised this opportunity and it has been an ongoing opportunity.



Photo – our U14's at the Golden Guitar - Tamworth Carnival January 2011 Back row l to r - Myles O'Meara, Deane Piek, Nick Duck, Matthew Rashleigh, Aidan Russell, Ben O'Meara, Charlie Bell, Alex Turner, Harrison Miedler, Adan van Saarloos, Trudy Chidgey, Chris van Saarloos, Peter Rashleigh, Geoff Bell Front r to l to r - Kerri-Anne Vasic, Alexander Vasic, Justin Edwards, Michael Gunn, Nathaniel Chidgey, Rick Turner, Trina Thompson, Ryan Gunn Lynn Edwards.

- *U15 Walter Taylor Shield (Armidale)*

Teams that we play include Armidale, Northern District, Lismore, Hunter Valley and Tamworth.

Photo – having fun between games in the Walter Taylor Shield in January 2012: (L to R): Alexander Turner, Travis Loughhead, Cameron McBrien, Michael Gunn, Matthew Rashleigh, Justin Edwards, Nicholas Duck, Deane Piek, Aidan Russell, Ryan Gunn



- *U16 Stan Austin Cup (Taree)*

The accompanying link gives an insight into how Country Associations see our Club. The link is from an NBN News Report in early January 2015:

www.nbnnews.com.au/index.php/2014/12/26/ban-on-bouncers-at-stan-austin-cricket-carnival/

Kanga (Criicket Blast) – the beginnings

On Saturday 17 October 1992 Arthur Souter started Kanga cricket within our Club with a first year registration of 70 children. Arthur was a driving force for its development throughout the Association (along with Jim Barrett from Berowra). At the end of the 2023/24 season we had registered 3,003 children, many of whom have flowed into the Junior and Senior Teams. Kanga has been nothing other than a tremendous success. Arthur recollected in April 2007:

“The program has come a long way since its inception on that wet morning at Pennant Hills Park with our great late Jim Fuggle, Barry McDonald, Ross Anderson, I, young Mark Souter and Brendan Twining. We all knew from that morning where 35 turned up that we were on to something and now look at it throughout the Club and beyond. We even have a number subsequently playing grade with us at Northern District would you believe and they even recall those fun days when they played and remember me, much younger then, doing the stuff which most if not all is still being done now.

I could prattle on for a while here but I shall not bore you all but I will say this those were fun days for all involved and it is great to have been able to put in to the game we all love and to see the next generations of cricketers commence and just maybe, one day we shall see one of them play state /national cricket and would not that be an achievement for everyone the player most of all of course”.



Photo –Arthur Souter (left) and John Coulthard with Blues star and Club Ambassador, Dominic Thornely at Edward Bennett Oval 6th November 2004.



Photo – Kanga kick-off – Saturday 17th October 2009 at Edward Bennett Oval. 120 Kanga's plus dads, mums and grandparents.

Photo – Kanga 2012/13 at Edward Bennett Oval.



Note:

- On the 31st May 2006 the Club Executive approved a move from Kanga to the Milo 'Have-a-go' programme commencing in the 2006/07 season. It was essentially the same game, but branded under the Cricket NSW umbrella
- In 2007 we decided to return to Kanga due to poor organisation and lack of support from Cricket NSW
- As a further evolution, in 2015/16 we moved back to In2Cricket due to the improved administration, access it gave us to the www.PlayCricket.com website and their agreement to us to continue our own identity – Club shirts and caps.
- In 2019/20 we adopted the Cricket Australia endorsed Junior Blasters program which is essentially a re-badged Kanga initiative to conform with the Australia wide endorsed initiative. This was re-branded to Cricket Blast in 2-023/24 and incorporated MasterBlasters (U8 & U19).

Following on from Arthur, our Kanga section was led with distinction by John Coulthard between 2002/11 and with an ongoing mentoring involvement until 2014.

Girl's cricket

Arthur Souter was a visionary. In addition to establishing Kanga in 1992/93 he also started Girls cricket in 1996/97. Our first taste of girls playing cricket was with the great Lisa Sthalekar who played in the boys U10 to U16 competition and went on to play for Australia and be one of the games great players.

Starting with 4 Teams we have registered over 1,060 girls (as at 2021/22) and have had a minimum of 1 x Team every season. We reached our peak in 1998/99 with 7 Teams and after maintaining a presence with just the one Team between 2005/06 and 2007/08. From 2015/16 numbers started building again with the introduction of T20 cricket and the influence of Graham Chivers as Girls Director. By 2023/24 we had grown to 6 x Girls Teams (3 x Stage 1; 2 x Stage 2 & 1 x Stage 3 Teams).



Photo – Anthea Johnson celebrating a wicket for the U13s Vs West Ryde Rovers @ James Henty 7 November 2015.

Photo – Arthur Souter (2nd from left) with Dominic Thornely and Hornsby Mayor Nick Berman in 2005/06.



Since Arthur we have been fortunate to have outstanding Leaders in developing Girls cricket – John Porter (2008/13), Edwina Chappell (2013/14 and as a player prior to this date); Graham Chivers (2014 to 2018) and currently Grant & Suz Colburt (2019 to 2023-24) with great support from Kirsty Newbury.



Photo – John Porter presenting a trophy to his daughter, Michaela at Campbell Park, 14th March 2010.

Photo –Edwina Chappell with Elyse Perry @ Drummoyne Oval Ladies Day, 21st November 2010.



Edwina was a player and then took over the Northern Sydney Girl's Cricket Association (NSGCA) as President and set in place a number of initiatives to consolidate the Girls competition that included establishing a foothold with large Private Independent Schools Abbotsleigh, PLC and Ravenswood.

The Girls T20 Blast has been a great initiative and co-incides with the growth of the domestic T20 Big Bash and especially the WBBL. Graham has been instrumental in working with CNSW to grow Girls cricket and in 2015 won the CNSW Volunteer of the Year Award for the NSW Centre for Volunteering.



Photo – Graham Chivers with Jae Boccalatte - winner of the Lisa Sthalekar Trophy as the outstanding Girls player – 21 March 2015 at Oakhill Drive Public School.

Our Girls Leadership Team has won NSW and National recognition for outstanding performance:

Date	Award	Details
2015	NSW Volunteer of the Year	Graham Chivers(Girls Director) – CNSW Volunteer of the Year winner
2016	NSW Volunteer of the Year	Graham Chivers (Girls Director) – CNSW Volunteer of the Year winner
2021	Good Sports Awards	Maddie Jones (Blowfly Coach & Player) – NSW Club Champion & Australian Club Champion (Runner-up)
2021	CNSW Special Achievement	Kirsty Newbury) Child Protection Officer) for her contribution as a Child Protection Officer
2022	Women & Girls Initiative of the Year	CNSW nominee
2022	Women & Girls Initiative of the Year	National winner – Cricket Australia

Playing shirts

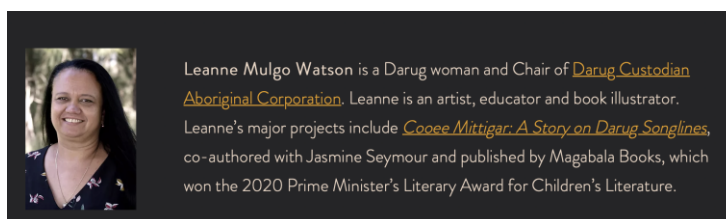
On Wednesday 25 May 2022 our Club Executive Committee approved a radical design change in the playing uniform exclusively for our Women (Volunteers) & Girls (Players).



Launch of the Girls Players (Blue) and Volunreers (Red) outfits – WPH Public School 18 September 2022



The design was approved (3rd May 2022) by the DCAC:



The story of the design, as told by John Rennie from Somers (28 July 2022), follows:

"The artwork is a combination of elements visually representing West Pennant Hill Cherrybrook C.C., its Club colours, the players, the many locations they practice, play, and meet. It also depicts family and friends who watch and support them.

The dots (different shapes and sizes) are reflective of the individual girls who play for the Club.

On the collar and on the back below the collar, there is a symbol for woman as the girls will one day become women. They will mature thanks to the opportunities that they will derive from the sport they play with similar minded girls.

The white concentric circles on the back right shoulder are 2 girls at a meeting place with that meeting place being a cricket pitch.

Concentric circles on the front and lower back are meeting places where the girls train or play.

There are two symbols that represent people seated at a game.

Prepared by me John Rennie (JR) from Sommers Sports.

Design instructions supplied by Miles Lalor, my indigenous mate who tried his best to give me easy to follow instructions. For the record while Miles is indigenous, he is a painter but not an artist. He paints houses but loved putting his indigenous heritage to the Girls cricket apparel. He apologised if anything is not 100% correct, but as he said, it's his design."

Pink Stumps Day

Our Club has had a great relationship with the McGrath Foundation as active supporters of the Pink Stumps Day initiative.

In 2015, Joseph Cooray (U10 Age Convenor) represented us at Government House where we were acknowledged as being one of the biggest fund-raisers in Australia – \$16,500 in 2013 and 2014.

The following link has been used by the McGrath Foundation in its National promotion of Pink Stumps Day – <http://pinkstumpsday2016.gofundraise.com.au/cms/videos>



Photo – our U9 Blue's ready to do "battle" with our U9 Orange at Cherrybrook Public School – McGrath Pink Stumps Day 22nd February 2014.



Photo – Kirrily Rooney, one of the main organisers of our McGrath Foundation Pink Stumps Day, receiving a cheque from our Chairperson (Barry McDonald) – Cherrybrook Public School 22 March 2014. The combined efforts of our U9s raised over \$6,000 for this great cause.

By 2023/24 season, we passed \$65,000 in support to the McGrath Foundation – an achievement that we are very proud. For record we have raised the following amounts since 2010/11:

Date	\$ raised
2010/11	\$1,937
2011/12	\$1,000
2012/13	\$5,068
2013/14	\$6,092
2014/15	\$5,196
2015/16	\$1,510
2016/17	\$7,068 (includes \$2,000 raised at Armidale)
2017/18	\$9,076
2018/19	\$4,464
2019/20	Nil (Covid-19 season) postponed event)
2020/21	\$3,677
2021/22	\$6,571 (\$3,071 from the Girls Festival of Cricket & \$3,500 from Pink Stumps Day)
2022/23	\$6,847.12 (\$4,756.12 plus \$2,091 from Girls Festival of Cricket)
2023/24	\$6,888 \$4,618 (Juniors Mixed) + \$2,270 (Girls)
TOTAL	\$65,394.12

A history of recognition

Since 2015 we have received 15 significant NSW and Australian Awards:

Date	Award	Details
2015	NSW Volunteer of the Year	Graham Chivers – CNSW Volunteer of the Year winner
2016	NSW Volunteer of the Year	Graham Chivers – CNSW Volunteer of the Year winner
2017	NSW Community Sports Awards (SportNSW)	Community Club of the Year – CNSW nominee (Finalist & Runner-up)
2018/19	SportsNSW – Distinguished Long Service Award	Barry McDonald (June 2019)
2019	CNSW – ‘A Sport for All’	CNSW Nominee for ‘Club of the Year’
2019	Cricket Australia – ‘A Sport for All’	National recognition (Finalist)
2021	CNSW & CA – ‘A Sport for All’	Danielle Chivers National ‘Young Community Leader of the Year’
2021	Good Sports Awards	Maddie Jones – NSW Club Champion & Australian Club Champion (Runner-up)
2021	McGrath Foundation ‘Pink Service Award’	One of the top 7 Clubs within Australia for support to the McGrath Foundation
2021	NSW Community Sports Awards (SportNSW)	NSW Community Club of the Year (CNSW nominee)
2021	CNSW Special Achievement	Kirsty Newbury for her contribution as a Child Protection Officer

2022	CNSW – Women & Girls Initiative of the Year	CNSW nominee
2022	Cricket Australia – Women & Girls Initiative of the Year	National Winner (19 May 2022)
2023	CNSW – Inclusion & Diversity Initiative of the Year	NSW winner (5 April 2023)
2023	Cricket Australia – Inclusion & Diversity Initiative of the Year	National winner (16 May 2023)

Phillip Hughes

The 27 November 2014 saw the loss of Phillip Hughes through a tragic accident at the SCG. Across Australia recognition was given to Phillip through many gestures. The following photos capture the moment in our Club.



Kangas spending a moment in memory – 29th November 2014 at Edward Bennett Oval.



A1 bat display at The Glade Oval – 29th November 2014.

West Pennant Hills Sports Club

Our association with the WPH Sports Club (formerly the WPH Bowling and Recreation Club) can be traced back to its early years. In 1968, the Bowling Club purchased 5 acres of land at the current site for \$39,000. Colonel Hall, who owned the land, had his house located on the site of the original Tennis courts (just over the creek line and where the car park as part of the Club extensions are built). The Club originated from the failed Hills Club Limited venture founded in 1964.

Construction of the Clubhouse was completed on 31 December 1970 with the licence granted on 1 March 1971. The Club commenced trading on 8 March 1971 with the official opening on 8 May 1971 performed by the late Max Ruddock, MLA.

Greenway Park Community Centre

On 30th March 2021 the dream became reality when Julian Leiser officially opened the new Community Centre. This is an amazing Community facility that offers:

- Seating for 350 people
- Viewing balcony
- Apart from a main meeting area, there is a bar and fully equipped professional kitchen
- The main wall has 2 giant HD TV screens with the best being a roof mounted super HD video projection unit (worth \$55k) that projects onto the wall. There will also be Trophy cabinets where each Sporting Group will be able to display major awards
- In the Meeting Room there is a large wall where each Club will be able to display Special achievements – Life Members, Highest run scorers and wicket takers and so on.

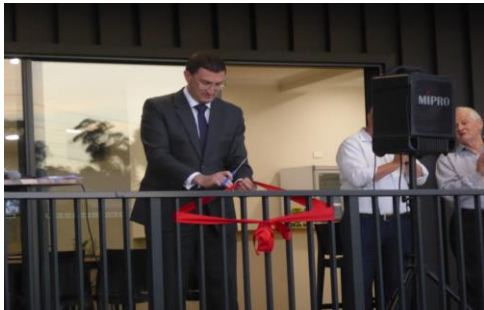
From the 2021/22 season, we started using the Community Centre for major Events such as Presentation Nights. A photographic history of the initiative follows:



With Mathias Cormann 15 March 2018



Construction starts – 13 September 2020



Julian Leaser cutting the ribbon 30 March 2021



Official Opening 30 March 2021

The Future

WPHCCC has a rich history and this history gives an insight into just some of the talented cricketers, characters and amusing incidents. The future will be even more exciting.

Historically, it is reality that in all sports (cricket in this Club has been no exception until early 2000) that the large number of children who start playing in Kanga and graduate to juniors drop off rapidly after U13s. However, since 1996/97 we saw a reversal of this trend with increasingly large numbers of children coming through from Kanga's, and moving through to U16's and then Seniors. The reasons for this are many, and includes; excellent Leadership from our Divisional Committees, a Club Executive that is highly efficient and our 'Participation over Results' policy that gives every child a fair-go. The trends remain solid.

The current challenge has been to maintain momentum. The West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook area has seen rapid population growth since the early 1980's. Now that development has reached maturity and house prices are expensive the area is becoming increasingly more difficult for young people to become established, causing an ageing of the population and the obvious flow on effect to Junior numbers.

The platform for the growth of Girls cricket is also in place with our Club well positioned to use the growing profile through the Women's Big Bash League and also a well overdue change in broad community interest in elite Women's sport.

The game changer in our future is the Sydney Norwest Metro project and the development of rapid transit rail links from Chatswood through Castle Hill to Rouse Hill that opened on 26th May 2019.

This will change the face of the Cherrybrook / Castle Hill area around the rail stations.



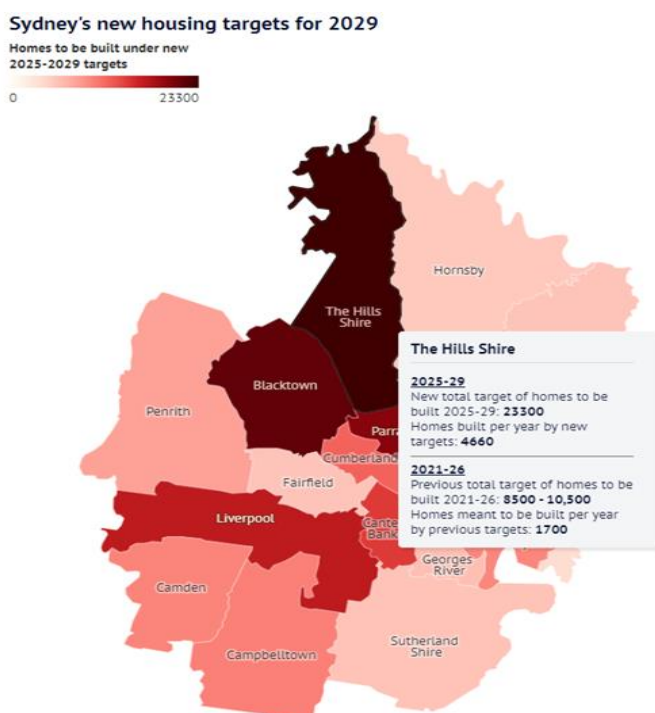
Photo – proposed development around Highs Road and Coonara Avenue.



Photo – proposed Cherrybrook Station opposite the new train station

Source: Daily Telegraph Tuesday 28 February 2017

On 29th May 2024, the NSW Govt released housing targets to address a housing shortage over high immigration. This policy has the impact of having 23,300 dwellings being built between 2025 and 2029.



Source: SMH 29th May 2024

This will create both tremendous opportunities and also risks for our Club.

Our long-term success will depend on how well we anticipate change that includes – potential for new Clubs, new sports, lack of grounds and training facilities. The demographic will also change with culturally diverse backgrounds, many unfamiliar with cricket affecting our traditional base. It also requires changes in the way we are structured.

What we do know though is that we are moving into a new world and need to predict rather than react to change.

This history is a living document. If you think of anything that is worthy of inclusion, let Ross Anderson know.



Photo: a Kookaburra enjoying the game at Asquith Oval – March 2011.