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THE GROWL

THE OFFICIAL NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB NEWSLETTER
3rd edition – 10 MAY 2007



GRR BABY, VERY GRR!

THE TESTIMONIALS JUST KEEP ROLLING IN

"It's pretty damn hot" Joan of Arc

"It's pretty cool" Stuart Diver

"It's an absolute cracker!" Guy Fawkes

"One small step for the Growl, one giant leap for Nightcliff cricket" Neil Armstrong

"G'day, want some cheese?" Peter Russell Clarke

"These pretzels are making me thirsty." Sean Kenny

THE PREZ SAYS...

“Ask not what your Club can do for you, but what you can do for your Club.”

On the field I am impressed with the A-Grade’s return to winning form, as well as the B-Grade’s application and pressure being put on the Firsts side. A few batsmen need to work harder at their craft and in particular building an innings but the mood is pretty buoyant at the moment and our side is really starting to take shape.

Off the field you will see that our groovy new storage facility is now pretty much up and in place. We will need to have a working bee to take stock of our equipment and then pack it into our new shed. This will not take long if a few players put their hand up for about an hour or so of their time this weekend. Help us help you Tigers.

A big welcome to the Club is extended to **Matt Birrell** and also welcome back to **Ryan James** and **Tom Scollay**. Ryan we are almost as pleased to see you as you are! Along with **Hayden Martin** and **Nick Teulon** we now have a good mix of visiting talent and I look forward to you all being a part of the team both on and off the field this year. Get amongst it guys and all Darwin and the Territory have to offer.

Again a big thank you to Leslie Collins and all parents and others who have stepped up to help out on Monday nights and also on our *Milo* Clinic nights (which are continuing each Friday from 5.30pm) on Friday afternoons. It is also fantastic to see A-Grade players like **Sammy Mitchell** and **Josh Smith** stepping out to assist at junior training. It gives the little guys a great buzz to see their A-Grade glamour boys take an interest and active role in their development.

That is what being a community-based sporting club is all about. There is a lot of love out there and it makes me proud to be at Tigerland. You just cannot buy what we have down here at Nightcliff (although at least one other club is looking into various hire-purchase arrangements).

Keep your eyes on the road and your hands upon the wheel people. And keep left.

Brad Hatton
NCC President

UPCOMING DRAW & DATES – APRIL/MAY 2007**A GRADE:**

Saturday, 12 May 2007: vs **DARWIN** at KAHLIN
 Saturday, 19 May 2007: vs **TRACY VILLAGE** at NIGHTCLIFF
 Saturday, 26 May 2007: vs **SOUTHERN DISTRICTS** at FRED'S PASSOUT

B GRADE:

Saturday, 12 May 2007: vs **DARWIN** at NIGHTCLIFF
 Saturday, 12 May 2007: vs **TRACY VILLAGE** at VILLAGE PEOPLE PARK
 Saturday, 26 May 2007: vs **SOUTHERN DISTRICTS** at NIGHTCLIFF

C GRADE:

Saturday, 5 & 12 May 2007: vs **DARWIN** at KORMILDA
 Saturday, 19 & 26 May 2007: vs **T/V GOLDFINGER** at TIWI CARPARK

D GRADE:

Sunday, 13 May 2007: vs **PALMERSTON** at (I GOT THE) POWER PARK
 Sunday, 20 May 2007: vs **PINTS OF BEER** at NIGHTCLIFF
 Sunday, 27 May 2007: vs **DARWIN** at WANGURI AUTOBAHN



1. **Fri 11 May 2007 – MILO CLINIC** from **5.30pm – 6.30pm**. The MILO Clinic will run **each Friday thereafter** (except during School holidays) at the same time at Nightcliff Oval. All welcome, kiosk and bar (for parents) facilities open.
2. **Sat 19 or 26 May 2007** from about **7.00pm** – Social Event – **MAGICAL MYSTERY BUS TOUR!!** Talk to Sean Kenny/Mike Pearson to get aboard!
3. **Friday 1 June 2007** from **5.30pm sharp** – Raffle at the Nightcliff Sports Club. We need three people to be there at this time **sharp** to kick off the Raffle and then a couple others to come in to share the load.

MATCH RESULTS

A-GRADE

Nightcliff 176 (P.Donoghue 62, M.Tippett 45) d
Palmerston 104 (N.Teulon 3/29, B.Hatton 2/22)

“Back in the saddle again...”

The Tigers ventured down the (Ricky) Stuart Highway to take on last year's Premiers in a re-match of the 2007 Granny. This time it was Palmerston who was buried like Tutankhamen under the sheer weight of local expectation and continuous Nightcliff poise and pressure. **Paul Donoghue** and **Maximillian Tippett** got amongst the runs to lift the Tigers to a respectable 176. The Tigers were concerned about defending their score on a dry outfield many fans had accidentally parked their cars on at various stages, but the Kiwi connection of **Nick Teulon** and **Hayden Martin** and skipper **Brad Hatton** stepped up to ensure Palmerston remained under more pressure than Queen Latifah's high heels throughout the innings as the Tigers brought home the Kevin Bacon.

Nightcliff 139 (T.Scollay 50, R.James 36) def
Waratahs 100 (M.Hatton 3/26, R.James 3/24)

With the injection of quality bats **Tom Scollay** and **Matt Birrell** from WA and spinning wizard **Ryan “Sideshow Bob” James** returning to Tigerland, the Tigers smashed an ailing Tahs like plates at a Greek wedding. But not without a few heart palpitations as the misfiring Nightcliff bats failed to rally around Scollay, save for some quality late order resistance from the James boy, who taught a few top and middle order bats how to spend quality time at the wicket. However with a spirited all-round bowling and fielding effort and a wicket taking so much spin that at one stage **Mark Hatton** had to take evasive action to avoid being hit by one of his own balls, the Tigers rolled Tahs for an even ton.

B-GRADE

Nightcliff 88 (T.Foley 30, J.Bremner SC 20) def by Palmerston 3/90

One may have been forgiven for thinking they had mistakenly picked up the C-Grade scorebook from the week before. Same venue, same teams, same score for the Tigers and unfortunately the same result. Spooky. **“Axel” Foley** added some entertainment value to the day with two 6s but in the end a Bingo number score was never going to be enough for the Tigers, who were even outscored by the Richmond Tigers the same weekend!

Nightcliff 7/148 (Kenny 53, Partridge 32) d Tahs 147 (Partridge 3/38, Whitworth 3/25).

The Tigers registered their first win for the season after leaving Waratahs in more ruin than a tuxedo after an underwater wedding. The lads put this baby to bed in fine style on the back of a solid all-round bowling effort led by the Skipper **Wayne Partridge** and a handy knock from **Sean “Who Killed” Kenny** (with the Skipper buttering up for a few runs in a fine partnership with Kenny Everitt), keeping the pressure on the A-Grade selectors.

C-GRADE

Nightcliff 129 (A.Griffin 21, N.Jury 21no) def by
Southern & Coke 8/131 (A.Griffin 3/20, D.Warner 2/26)

The C-Sections headed down to Districts town for their clash against the Southerners. Once weapons had been checked in and the lads were warmed up a tight battle ensued with a reportedly much improved batting effort, however no batsman really built on numerous good starts. The Tigers showed more endeavor than Captain Cook in the field however Districts were able to scramble home with just a little change to spare.

In week two **Nightcliff** commenced a two-day game against **Darwin** at Kormilda. On the turn the Tigers have dismissed Darwin for 165 with **T.Lahy (5/27)** and **D.Warner (Bros)(3/45)** the wreckers. Go boys, bring this one home this week – take a good look at **J.Bremner Supercoach** tips further on in this publication!

D-GRADE

Nightcliff 128 (Rob “Roy” Wheatley 47, G. “Shakin” Stevens 26) def by
Tracy Village Beige 157 (C.Ralph 4/6, Snell 3/17)

The Tigers managed to contain the Village People to a reasonable score on a very dry “Little Mumbai” wicket and outfield. The lads were ahead of the pace in their Skase chase but many of the lads did not sufficiently value their wickets and thus they eventually fell (Martin) short in their quest. Back to the drawing board for the lads as they reflect upon one that got away.

The Tigers D-Generation then had the May Day (May Day!) weekend off to contemplate their navels and look to work themselves into a bit of form in the nets and around the Donga for the remainder of the 2007 season.

U 17s

Under 17's were rolled like a twenty-foot snowball at “little Mumbai” for a paltry total not fit for publication, which Palmerston managed to overhaul without too much difficulty and then crush the gallant Tigers like snails under a semi-trailer. The Mrs Palmers' opening bowlers sustained a tight and fast spell however enough of the Tigers had strayed far enough from the **Master Plan™** to prevent a better fist being made of the innings. One week a rooster, the next a feather duster. However the beauty of sport and indeed life is that there is always next week. Onwards and upwards under 17s, welcome to the jungle. Supercoach **Jason Bremner** was in a philosophical mood when he stepped before the media throng shortly after the game.

“The basics of cricket are what I ask my lads to embrace – reliable constants in a kaleidoscopic world of variables. We have nothing to fear but fear itself. The Otter paddles slowly but the river remains patient.”

Next week out, the young Tigers managed to improve on that effort against mini-Tahs, with the Tigers posting 8/100 (**L.deKretser 48**) against the pop-Tahs' 5/155, with **Louis “the V” Cameron** snaring 3-10 and **Ben “Warwick” Capper** taking 2-11.

“THEY SAID IT” - QUOTABLE QUOTES

- “Does my bum look big in these?”
Nightcliff beefcake bat **Michael Pearson** after trying on his brand new schmicko Nightcliff gold one-day longs.
- “I’ve been a fricken evil cricketer for 30 fricken years, OK!!”
Little **Johnny Towell** recalling his early days at Nightcliff and his first skipper, *Steve Hatton*. Apparently they stopped play in his second game when news broke that Kennedy had been assassinated!
- “I would say to the team, as I said to those who have joined this Club: ‘I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears, and sweat.’”
Nuggety D-Grade bat **Steven “Boonie” Hill** after answering the call to step up to embrace the opening role against the **Tracy Village** evil doers.
- “Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.”
A-Grade skipper **Brad Hatton** addressing his charges about working themselves into the 2007 Season after cleaning up the Palmolives at Cold Power Park.
- “I sincerely hope he doesn’t retire, he’s provided me with tremendous amusement for over ten years now.”
Either an ABC Radio commentator talking about the AFL enigma that is **Matthew Richardson** last week, or an onlooker marveling at the welcome pending return of batting gladiator **Jason Hatton** to Tigerland.
- “Show me the money!”
Big man about campus **Alex Krepapas** after his Hawks thumped the Dons last week. Krepapas need not get too ahead himself though as the Hawks may be like a 3-year-old awake at midnight or an umbrella in the Darwin Dry – they may not stay up for very long!

A DITTY

**The Grand Old Duke of Oz,
He had Eleven Men,
He marched them up to the top of the World,
And they never came down again.**

**When they were up, they got up.
And when they were down, they got up!
And when they were only half-way up,
They got up and won the World Cup!**

(Repeat three or more times or until some other cricketing nation can provide a worthy challenge to our mighty Nation at a World Cup!)

PLAYER PROFILE

GLENN “SLIM CURRINGTON & CHRIS NICHOLLS NCC LIFE MEMBERS

Two peas in a pod, the ‘odd couple’, these lads have been pretty much inseparable since they were young tackers tearing around Nightcliff, then as junior and senior Nightcliff cricketers, as a couple of consummate NCC clubmen and committee men and now as well-deserved Life Members of the Nightcliff Cricket Club. So we thought why put them through the stresses of laser surgery to try and separate them now!

*Constants in a crazy world of variables, you can catch the **Slim and Nicholls** show unplugged down at the haven of folly that is the **Nightcliff Sports Club** on any given Friday night enjoying a hearty meal and a cool beverage and reflecting on the week or the year that was. Or on a Saturday. Or a Sunday. Or a Thursday...*

	SLIM	NICHOLLS
Date of birth?	A long time ago...	In a Galaxy far far away...
First cricketing memory?	Back yard cricket in Nightcliff with Nicholls (used to sort him out then too) and a bunch of kids including Ingvar Dyrting.	Playing backyard on a wickedly sloping pitch at my grandma’s. The bowler did well to actually miss the bat in his follow through!
First Game for Nightcliff?	U13s as a 9yo (child prodigy). Went into bat with Rowan Howyer, who said to me, “ <i>Don’t get out or I’ll smash ya</i> ”. I ended up with 0 not out of 16 balls!	Bit patchy on the first actual game but I do remember dancing down the wicket to ‘Kingy’ in one game (former uber-fast Pints bowler David King). Not something I made a habit of!
Favorite food?	Good old Sunday roast. Have they invented the chips & gravy chupa-chup yet? I could really get into that.	Surf and Turf. Steak and prawns, can’t beat it! And gravy – I just can’t get enough of the stuff. I love gravy on pancakes, love it on pizza. I take a little gravy and rub it in my hair each morning – what do you think keeps it so damn curly?
Favorite drink?	I’m a Bundy man.	Carlton draught – off tap.
Megan Gale or Jennifer Hawkins?	Jennifer Hawkins . Makes me happy to be a man.	Who? I’m gonna say Catherine Zeta-Jones instead. Hot (ouch!).
Most admired sportsperson?	I’d say Ingvar Dyrting . A versatile athlete who excelled in so many sports. Still tapped him around in the back-yard though!	My old man Alan – he played rep hockey for NT, awarded an Australian Sporting Medal in 2000, current president of the NT Golfing Association. An inspiration.

Other hobbies & interests?	Beer and mates!	Beer! And mates who bring me beer!
Any tips for the current NCC Administration?	Support your Sports Club.	Just remember that you are representing the Nightcliff cricket club including all its history.
Favorite Spice Girl?	Maybe Ginger spice if pressed (ha ha). Yeah I like Ginger, she'd have a place in my spice rack.	Who are they? Are they on some cable cooking show? I'm gonna say Catherine Zeta-Jones again or Kirsten Dunst from Spiderman, they're both pretty spicy.
Favorite Hatton?	Maybe Steve Hatton , he went alright. Jason went okay too, good bat in his day.	I just love 'em all, but yeah I'd agree with my esteemed colleague on that one.
Most admired Nightcliff cricketer	Anyone who has given to and for the Nightcliff cricket Club over and above their own involvement as a player.	Howard Wilson , a real Club man. He was involved for nearly 30 years and 'carried' the Club a bit when in one of its lowest ebbs and really put in, even out of his own pocket. Ungainly cricketer at times. As a captain he stuck true with his players.
Five people I'd invite to a dinner or cocktail party?	Dolly Parton (what's a party without pillows), Paul McCartney , Wicksy (of the Christopher variety), Nicholls and Kimbo (Kym Crisafulli , Sports Club President).	Did I mention my old man was also a founding member of the PINT sporting association? Still wouldn't invite him to my cocktail party though – Bill Clinton , Steve Waugh , Bill Gates , Slimbo and Wicksy .
Complete this sentence..."I couldn't live without..."	...the Nightcliff Sports Club (blows kiss to bar staff whilst waving empty glass).	...cold beer!



NEWS GRAB

A few people around Tigerland were momentarily worried last week when many leading sports papers carried the headline, "**Waugh to play for Tahs**". Thankfully this was a reference to a pending thugby union game and not the Tiger's clash at "little Mumbai" last week. Not that any of the Waughs could have helped avoid a Tah-ing & feathering!

ON THE REX HUNT

RICHMOND TO WIN THE 2007 WOODEN SPOON = was \$2.25!

**Whew!* At the time of first writing the below, the above odds were available.
That was before Geelong kicked a Chinese Census score against the Tigers.
Before this week they were traveling worse than a clapped-out Ford.
Now they are an absolute Space Shuttle disaster!
Still, their odds will be safer & better than any six-month bank term deposit.*

Well it now looks as if the **Richmond** Paper Tigers and the **Melbourne** Hospital Ward, and perhaps the identity crisis that is or was the North Melbourne Gold Coast Christmas Island **Kangaroos** will settle down to a three-horse war for the dreaded Wooden Spoon.

Tough call, but for mine things will improve for Melbourne before players' wives are forced to take the field and the Roos have a little more ticker and their will to win (or will to not lose as often as Richmond) should see them squeeze ahead of Terry's terrible troupe. Pus in boots. Couldn't get a kick in a prison riot.

The Whisper: **DRAC'S BACK (e/way) – DOOMBEN CUP Sat 19/5 - \$7.00 the win.**

JASON BREMNER SUPERCOACH TIPS OF THE WEEK



1. Play each ball on its merits. Wait patiently for the “bad” or right ball to hit. Value your wicket. Play straight, especially early in your innings.
2. When you are batting, look to build partnerships and spend quality time together at the wicket.
3. When you are bowling, look to bowl on one side of the wicket in the “corridor” outside off stump usually. Bowl to your field.
4. Floss regularly and be good to your mothers.

FEES FEES BUMBLEBEES – Can still be paid by **EFTPOS**. See **Wayne Partridge** and pay your dues. Non-payment can affect your cricket playing ability. That is, you may not get picked. People who pay their fees more often can still use their knees.

ODD SOCKS

THE NIGHTCLIFF COMMITTEE FINANCIAL TIP OF THE WEEK

Never do your grocery shopping on an empty stomach. Ever.

JOKE

Mick Malthouse is in the Coaches' bar at the MCG one day, where **Terry Wallace** is rabbiting on about the intelligence of his Richmond footballers. Wallace proves the point by calling **Matthew Richardson** from training up into the Bar and asking him a question:

*“Who is the child of your father and of your mother,
who is not your brother and is not your sister?”*

“That’s easy” says big **Richo**, “the answer is ME!” Wallace smiles and pats him on the bum and he runs back out to resume goal-kicking practice, tripping over his own legs.

So Malthouse sets off to test the smarts of his own Magpies. He picks his skipper **Nathan Buckley** and poses the puzzler. Bucks is a bit taken aback and asks for some time to consider it. He ducks into the change rooms and **Licuria** and **Rocca** are there – but Licuria just shrugs his shoulders and Rocca rolls himself into the fetal position and pretends not to hear him. So Bucks thinks, “Who is the smartest player I know?” He phones **James Hird**. The Essendon champ listens to the question and replies, “That’s a cinch Bucks, the answer is ME!”

Filled with confidence Bucks jumps on the phone to Malthouse. “Mick, Mick, I’ve got it!” he says. “It’s easy, the answer is James Hird!” Malthouse listens to this answer and rubs his brow in deep, deep frustration.

“No you *idiot*” says the Coach, “the answer is Matthew Richardson!!”



THE NIGHTCLIFF SHOPPING CENTRE WORD OF THE WEEK:

Argot: A specialised and often secret vocabulary and idiom peculiar to a particular group; or

“r-go” A secret language or conventional slang peculiar to thieves, tramps, and vagabonds.

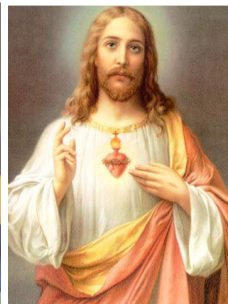
An example of its use might be: *“I am not familiar with this bizarre Southern Districts **argot**, do you know what they are saying? No? Ah well then let’s just roll these risible hacks!”*

LIBERAL DAY

Well the Northern Territory celebrated **Labor Day** with a public holiday on the first Monday in May. The **Howard Government** has announced that all Territorians will now also be able to celebrate **Liberal Day** on the first Monday of *next* month...where all employees will be expected to work a 13-hour day with no break and for less pay!

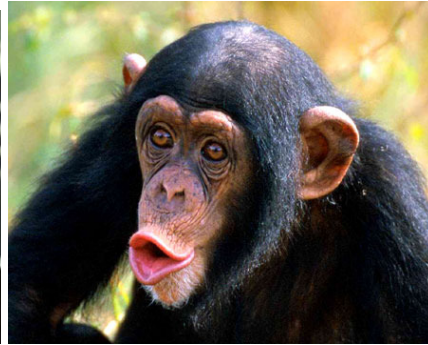
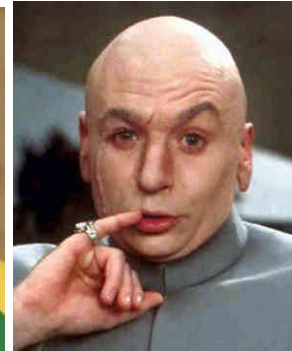
TOUGH CALL

“Hmm decisions decisions...make squillions on Gladiator sequel or answer good pal Treumer’s call to go play for Village. Can’t believe he said I’d be batting #7 and bowling 2nd change though. Wonder who’ve they’ve slotted in at #5 and #6?”



LOOK-ALIKES

Can you spot the difference?



THE END. NO MORE. ALL GONE.