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THE GROWL

THE OFFICIAL NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB NEWSLETTER
9th edition (2008) – 4 October 2008
NCC SENIOR PRESENTATION NIGHT SPECIAL EDITION!



“TIGERS RIDING HIGH!”

MORE TESTIMONIALS

“Unbeatable” **Weekend Hussler**

“Untouchable” **M.Pearson**

“Totally fat” **A.Vanstone**

“No seriously dudes I’m a family man now, ARE WE THERE YET?” **Leon Bayetto**

THE PREZ SAYS...

No seriously, I love you all, you are all “**Bruce MacAvaney**” Special!

“*I have a Dream*” for Nightcliff cricket – but it involves more people actually getting involved with the Club and doing their little bit around the place, so the work involved in running a community-based sporting Club is not left to only a few.

Safe to say that as far as the Tigers went on-field in 2008, we as a Club are disappointed that none of our Senior sides won a Grand Final, but the participation rates in all grades was highly encouraging and there is a bright future for all 5 Grades looking ahead to 2009.

Our junior ranks were again our leading lights in 2008, as evidenced by the 300+ people who turned up to the Junior Presentation Night. Super efforts by **Donna Hatton**, **John Tate**, **Sonia Piccoli** my **good self** and all others involved in making the night such a raging success!

And congratulations to **Murray Fuller**’s Under 15 side (Red) on **winning the Grand Final in 2008**. As with the A-Grade’s Twenty-20 Grand Final victory these mini-Tigers drank freely from the Chalice of Success. Well done to all of you, as well as to the bumper Nightcliff crowd that rocked Wanguri Oval on Grand Final weekend.

Hope you enjoy the Senior Presentation Night my loyal subjects. We will be having a **Working Bee within the next two weeks** as we will need to “sign off” on the Donga and the Change rooms for football, fix up the nets and deposit some dirt on the run-ups for the rain to settle into the Earth for us.

Remember to keep left - and if you are going to do it at all, do it like a Tiger!

Alex Krepapas
NCC President



Nightcliff A-Grade – torched the Evildoers like a Bentley parked on Tambling Terrace to take out the **Twenty-20 Grand Final** with Man-of-the-Match **Michael Pearson** indicating how many Post Codes the Evildoers fielders had to cross to retrieve the ball after one of his mammoth homers.

PRES-E NIGHT

(to the tune of Jimmy Cliff's "Reggae Night")

*Pres-e Night,
We'll come together,
When the Beer tab's right.
Pres-e Night,
We'll give out trophies,
Talk sh*t for half the night...*

Mad Dog just called,
That Falcon's now in flight,
Down to that track winding back,
Before we hit the city lights!

*Pres-e Night,
We'll come together,
When the Beer tab's right.
Pres-e Night,
We'll give out trophies,
Play till morning light.
Oooh-oo!*





NIGHT CLIFF CC'S OWN...

2020 VISION!



Well inspired by **Australia's 2020 Summit** held earlier in 2008, a number of Nightcliff cricket's greatest thinkers were cobbled together at the Bar for a bit of a think-tank on the future direction of Nightcliff cricket. Luckily no-one drowned...

Here are a few of the suggestions that emerged:

1. **Lights at the Nightcliff Training nets.** Sounds so simple and it may be. Future NCC Committees should approach the Darwin City Council (who are looking to relocate a number of local Street lights, or speak to Palmerston's ageless **Anthony Dent**, who has apparently made investigations already out in balmy Palmy in a similar vein.
2. **Tap beer at the Donga.** Need we say more? May also need to convert the back area into accommodation. Oh, and invest in a couple of Dobermen.
3. **Kicking off Nightcliff's own "Man-Hatton Project"** – with the idea to produce as many **Hattons** as quickly as possible. We suggest engaging **Steve Hatton** for future breeding purposes, who has been a bit like the **Zabeel** or **Danehill**, the super-Sire of Nightcliff Cricket, but getting the younger Hatton boys right onto the job as soon as possible is also a commendable idea. Mark has had two spins of the bottle for one boy, Brad-Man has recently sired **James Campbell Hatton**, but Jason may need more practice! There might be time to also hook up **John Tate** for a season or two, but we may have to give away every second or third one, or donate it to science fiction!!



Nightcliff's Man-Hatton Project – Now Brad-man's getting right into the swing of it!!

4. **Cloning.** Forget the ethical question, if we could afford it, we would be doing it! **James Tate** and **James Dix** immediately spring to mind!! A few more **Hugh Auckrams**, **Sonia Piccoli's** and **John Tate's** might not go astray either, their work with the Juniors in 2008 has been first-rate.

5. **Turf wickets for training.** Yep, the land behind the nets might need to be compulsorily acquired and lighting is a first priority. Will also need to secure the services of a few good (curating) men as these babies would require maintenance.
6. **Cryogenically freezing Benny Mitchell just before he passes on.** Forget **Walt Disney**, from a health perspective he was trying to push the sh*t back into the horse when this idea finally dawned upon him, but Benny has been an absolute Wonder kid for the Club with developing and regularly maintaining and updating what is probably the best website in the known cricketing universe! If we can preserve what he knows and what he does, then this will go along, long, long way to securing Nightcliff's future! Let your fingers do the walking!

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7. **Securing a long-term curator or two.** Training can involve an afternoon with **Alex Krepapas** watching re-runs of “**Caddyshack**” but to secure someone with the time and the skills to maintain the organic creature that is Nightcliff's Turf wicket must be seen as a short-term priority.



Curating can present all types of challenges *and* rewards!

8. **Bring back the Fines Club!** A great team-bonding exercise, makes us more accountable for our cricketing stuff-ups and the compulsory acquisition of funds for an end-of-season uber-party can never be a bad thing. Unless it takes place on a bus.
9. **Look to develop the seating around the oval and upgrade facilities** (with DCC and the Football Club), preserving the existing change rooms and natural surrounds of the area. Easier said than done, an architectural challenge for someone! Maybe if we get a **real live Tiger** to bring out on match days this may also add to the “*thrill of the fight*”.



Grrrr babies!

“THEY SAID IT” - QUOTABLE QUOTES

<p><i>“You little beauties!”</i></p>	<p>The collective call from the parochial Nightcliff crowd on hand at Wanguri Oval a few weeks’ back after Murray Fuller’s Under 15s (Red) side snared the Premiership Flag over the mini-Darwinites.</p>
<p><i>“The Ralph Wiese Medal has just become Family Feud!”</i></p>	<p>Some midnight toker at the NT Cricket Presentation as the Tigers’ Brad-Man and Marky-Mark Hatton conducted their own two-horse war up the straight in the Ralph Wiese Medal count.</p>
<p><i>“Hi Graham, have you met my good pal Brad Hatton?”</i></p>	<p>Snell to (NT Strike Selector) House - a fast rising delivery into the ribcage after Brad-Man Hatton’s last gasp win to nab “the Ralph” at the NT Cricket Awards.</p>
<p><i>“Et Tu Cav!”</i></p>	<p>TV Evildoers ex-Prez Scott “Sticks” Kernahan, who was rolled like a joint at a Jamaican Tea Party at the Evildoers’ AGM held recently at the Death Star, crunched like Geordie’s lunch by his former Club Secretary and now brand new President Matt Cavenagh.</p>



Scott Kernahan & Matt Cavenagh battling it out for the TV Evildoers 2009 Club Presidency.



No real reason to have left the above in this issue from last month’s *Growl*... except that **Matty Tallents** looks pretty darn funny impersonating a batsman and **Stephanie “Why Don’t you go eat some” Rice** looks pretty darn hot in that uniform!

ODD SOCKS

THE NCC COMMITTEE FINANCIAL TIP OF THE WEEK

Never go into a business partnership with a person with more than six Aliases or Driver's Licenses.

THE GROWL WORD OF THE MONTH

<i>Tunnelling</i>	<p>First hear this expression only this year and had no idea what it meant. Then we read the 'junkyard dog' Dean Laidley saying – “<i>Last time we played the Swans, I thought our key forwards were tunnelled, I thought their arms were taken.</i>”...and thought it all sounded pretty bloo*dy serious after hearing <i>that!!</i></p> <p>But we were relieved it was not that serious, but it is the practice of bumping an AFL opponent whilst they are in the air, with the intention being to knock them off balance. Knock them out cold, more like it! No place in the game - it is just not good manners, no.</p>
<i>Tun-ell-ing</i>	



Tunnelling – a dangerous practice at the best of times!

LAURA ATTEMPTS TO DETHRONE 'OUR JEN'.

New Miss Australia and Miss Universe top-tenner **Laura Dundovic** is hoping to dethrone our Jennifer Hawkins as the Darling of Australian TV, Media and product endorsement. And she has started in style after winning a contract with “Charlie Brown” – the top fashion label, not the Peanuts comic strip character, that is. Nice pick-up Laura, but one sandwich does not make a picnic. Then again, it possibly does if you are a supermodel...



Laura Dundovic –apparently “*blown away*” by her top-ten Miss Universe finish. Well that can happen when you tip the scales at 13 kilograms!!

RECIPE FOR A TIGER ON THE GO – “CHIPS & GRAVY”

Ingredients	Hot chips, freshly fried up. A commercial quantity of gravy. Mmmmm, gravy, I would bathe in the stuff if this was socially acceptable!
Method	<p>Find a car park at Casuarina Shopping Centre and make your way into Busy Bee Café. Get your carcass in there early to beat the lunch crowd!</p> <p>Rumour has it that the indoor cricket outfit with the same name could well be looking at a re-introduction into the fierce cauldron of competition – six a side stuff on Tuesday nights (18 over innings, 3 overs bowling + 6 overs batting at same cost as standard game, highest scoring pair wins a six-pack of beer for team each week). Season might start up again in about 6 weeks for those interested. As Jerry Maguire said...”Who’s comin’ with me??”</p>

GEORDIE’S CURSE

D-Grade Grand Final. You are batting second on an absolute crater of a pitch at Kahlin – the last animal to water it was a German Shepherd on Friday night out for a run. You have rolled the opposition for 82 and are coasting like a Mystery Bus at **2-56**. The Club Song sheet is being handed around, eskies checked to ensure full supplies, you’re calling the folks to say you might be late home for dinner – *tomorrow night!*

But then along came **Geordie Ferguson**, who arrived at the game at this point. And Laura, but we’re going to pin this on Geordie! 2-56, 27 measly runs to win. Surely a D-Grade side can mis-hit their way to victory from there! 3-59, wicket falls. Check that esky again, should be right. **BANG!! 4 wickets in an over including a hattie** from a bowler who is probably still celebrating this game today! 7-59, corduroy pants, all out for 65, say Goodnight to the folks, Gracie!

This was the epic D-Grade Grand Final at Kahlin Oval, Palmerston managed to defend a Bingo score of 82 runs on a piece of land more resembling the surface of an asteroid than a cricket pitch to down PINTS, who crumbled like a twelve year old slice of bread after being in a seemingly match-winning position of 2-59. Wow! Had to see it to believe it!!



A picture of the Kahlin centre wicket taken moments after the 2008 D-Grade Final.
The Palmerston Cheeses outlasted PINTS of Beer in a Titanic clash which left the *batsmen* with the sinking feeling as both sides notched up Bingo scores in a war of attrition.

BOLLYWOOD CLOSED AS WORKERS STRIKE

October 2, 2008 - 8:01AM

Source: ABC

More than 100,000 Bollywood and television workers began an indefinite strike on Wednesday (local time), protesting against irregular pay and the hiring of non-union members.

Movie stars, including **Shah Rukh Khan** and **Amitabh Bachchan**, as well as dancers, writers and technicians heeded a call for an indefinite "non-cooperation" protest in Mumbai, where Bollywood - home to India's prolific movie industry - is located.

"All shoots are off. The producers have not stuck to the terms of the agreement they signed with us one-and-a-half years back," said **Dinesh Chaturvedi**, general secretary of the Federation of Western India Cine Employees - the umbrella union for Bollywood employees. *"Payments have been delayed by three months, six months, a year. And producers are hiring non-members to save costs. We are not happy to call for this non-cooperation, but we are helpless."*

This was the first time in the 50 years of the federation's existence that such a protest had been staged, Mr Chaturvedi said, adding that he was hopeful of an early resolution. More than 100,000 workers from 22 smaller associations representing everyone from actors to spot boys are involved, said **Suprant Sen**, secretary general of the Film Producers Guild.

"Talks are going on, but for now all studios are closed."



Manesh Bhatnager 'still doing it for the fans' – may yet defy Bollywood "picket line" to honour existing Movie contracts.

JUST FOR FUN – SOME HAIKU POEMS

MILK

Liquid silk,
Creamy healthiness to strengthen our bones.
Bovine happiness.

BRION FOLEY

Great year all-round.
There 'aint no Second Prize,
Traacherously unlucky.

ALEX KREPAPAS

El Presidente,
Krepapas, not a Hatton.
Forgot a meeting...

Written by Alexander the Tate

PARTRIDGE FAMILY TO BE REMADE

October 2, 2008 - 8:00AM
Source: ABC

The **Partridge Family** is headed for a return to the small screen.

NBC has picked up a contemporary single-camera take on the classic ABC America sitcom. The show's writer, Jeff Rake, is a fan of the 1970s series. He plans to "turn the premise on its head".

"In the original, the kids actually recruited their mum to front the band, which I can't see happening in any family on this planet," he said.

"The new version will reflect what seems to me to be the more realistic family band scenario these days: a struggling, sort of well-meaning mum pimping her kids in order to create a wholesome-slash-sexy cash cow. Managing cricketing cult-hero Wayne in a "PG" forum will be one of the greater creative challenges any of us have ever faced."



Wayne Partridge (left) – Producers feel he was simply *made* for the small screen.

JUST FOR FUN – MORE HAIKU POEMS

KREPAPAS

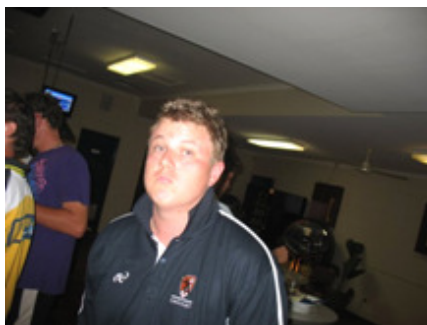
Scotch drinking multi-bet trawler.
The Ump is always right.
BUDDY FRANK-LIN!!!
Tate & Snell

DANE

Spins em like Warnie
An accident prone danger man.
Wife of Big Dave
Tate

DANE

Danger is his middle name.
Turns ‘em on glass.
Red, white and blue, uh-oh!



Dane Miglerina – a prodigious Nightcliff talent, but Insurers now won't touch him!

THE MUPPET SHOW

FORMER *Home & Away* star Bobby Morley may not be flavour of the month with his former co-stars after claiming he was treated as a "meat puppet" on the show. Hey, is that was "Muppet" is an abbreviation of??

Morley said to our *Growl* Entertainment reporter that at the end of his stint on the soap he felt so dejected that he didn't care whether he ever acted again. The *Growl* was unsure he was acting to begin with. "I knew I had to get out. It wasn't a good place to be in. Home & Away is a great place to learn, but it's a machine and it can chew people up and spit them out," he said. "I stepped out not really caring whether I had another job." "I've got a bit of a career going and I don't want to lose it." He said. As we flicked through his portfolio of photos with hot chicks on the set of *Home & Away*, out on the town and at the world-famous "Birdcage" at the Flemington races, one could only be left to feel deeply sorry for the kid.

Yep, that is right, you just can't make this sh*t up people. Apparently he is now working on a show called "**The Strip**". And I am sure there is some more work out there for him if **Warwick Capper** ever gets tired of himself!



Bobby Morley – resented being treated like a 'meat puppet' whilst on set of home & away. No, he's the one on the right. Morley is by no means the first to have faced such extortion in the name of entertainment – see **look-alikes below!**...

WHO AM I?



A: **Butch Cassidy**

NCC – MAD SUNDAY!

The introspective end-of-season Session we had to have, pictures courtesy of facebook!



ON THE REX HUNT

“I Punt therefore I Am”

LAST MONTH WE TOLD YOU...

“... we would just like to take the entire 2008 Growl punting profits (\$117.00) and plonk it on a Hawthorn – Geelong Grand Final Quinella, which at \$1.40 at present would turn that sum into a tidy \$163.80. Like a man covered in his own poo however, nothing else will come close...”

THIS MONTH...THE GROWL's 2008 SPRING RACING PREVIEW!!

Yep. Well with our ‘play money’ accumulated throughout the southern Winter, we can now afford to have a bit of a crack at the Gee-Gees! Well where do we start? **Weekend Hussler**, *whew* what a champion he has become in such a short space of time! He’s proven harder to beat than a frozen egg in the Spring thus far. By the time you have read this the pivotal Spring feature race the **Turnbull Stakes** (2000M) will have been run and won. This race is a “cross roads” for many Cups and Cox Plate hopefuls and usually separates the prospective **Phar Laps** from the **Mr Ed**’s insofar as the Spring features go!

And this is a pivotal race for “*the Huss*” as whilst he has been great, there is not yet any clear evidence (apart from a commercial quantity of spruiking from his trainer) that he is a quality *stayer* as well as a super sprinter/miler. Arguably the “Huss” may be bred to run 2400M (his Dam’s Sire **Helessio** sired Derby winner Helenus and Japanese cult hero **Pop Rock**), but all-in-all his breeding is more suggestive that up to 2000M only is his go.



Weekend Hussler – Currently giving his opposition wind burn in races, but is he a genuine stayer? The handicapper is ready and waiting with other methods to bring him back to the field for the Caulfield Cup should he win the Turnbull *too* convincingly...

A win for the Huss in the Turnbull would *begin* to dispel the concern about this horse’s staying ability. But it will not answer it definitively. He would then again meet most of the same rivals a fortnight later at similar weights, but in a clearly different type of race. The Caulfield Cup (CC) historically is a true staying test fought out by match-hardened stayers over a mile & a half (2400M) in a race with a genuine tempo.

ON THE REX HUNT (cont)

We have seen a number of brilliant and highly-fancied “middle distance” horses who have failed to win this event (Exhibits A& B - **El Segundo** and **Sphenophyta**) as they have not been able to stay the extra distance in such a high-pressured staying race. It is for this reason and as the Huss must now also carry 56.5kgs in the CC, that *the Growl* is prepared to “risk” the Huss in CC and is leaning towards 4yo stayer **Littorio**.

Littorio placed in two Derbies in his classic season as a 3YO and has now also placed in the Makybe and Underwood stakes with two slashing runs. The only query with him is that he is becoming a bit of a “professional place-getter” without winning, but he is yet to get up to an appropriate staying distance this campaign – we say *watch out* when he does, particularly with his weight drop. The *Growl*'s second CC pick is **Pompeii Ruler**, who will relish the CC being run at his favourite track and he will also go mighty close to winning it. The **Hussler** may still get himself into the placings on sheer ability alone.

But it is a week later that the *Growl* will *really* leg aboard **Pompeii Ruler**, after he backs up in the weight-for-age feature the **Cox Plate**. He went perilously close to winning the Plate 2 years ago and can clearly handle Moonee Valley, which many horses cannot. The Huss has not raced there, but should handle the track and is still the biggest danger, *provided* he has not had enough this Spring after a gut-busting CC run. This will be the big query with him. **Pompeii** is right back in form after injury and he showed in the 2007 Australia Cup (also 2000M at Weight-for-Age) that he is well up to the task.

As for the **Melbourne Cup** - well we also just love **Efficient**. In 2007 he showed freakish ability to win the Cup after a limited preparation and we just think he will again show he is one of Australia's highest quality stayers back at the wide expanses of his beloved Flemington, even with the greater impost of 58kgs. **Luca Cumani**'s highly rated + lowly weighted **Mad Rush** will provide a worthy challenge. And if it is raining or snowing on the Day then get aboard Irish stayer **Septimus**, who just relishes those conditions!

LUDICROUSLY EARLY SPRING PREDICTIONS:

CAULFIELD CUP:
COX PLATE:
MELBOURNE CUP:

LITTORIO
POMPEII RULER
EFFICIENT



Septimus – Leading European trainer **Aiden O'Brien**'s Irish stayer is aiming to become the first battery-operated horse to win the Melbourne Cup.

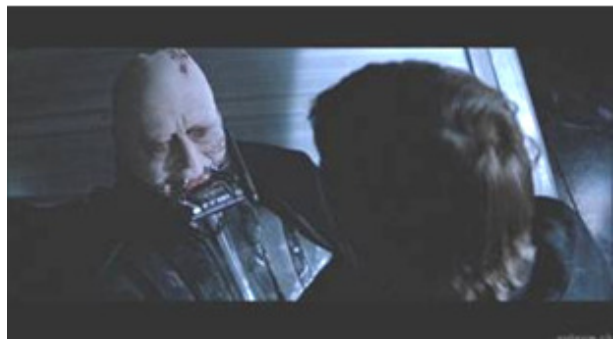
LOOK-ALIKES – SOME OF OUR 2008 FAVOURITES!

Can you spot the difference?



The Pepsi Max – one with the boys and one with the girls!





THE END. SIX LEGITIMATE DELIVERIES (OVER).