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THE GROWL

A SPECIAL NCC SENIOR PRESENTATION NIGHT EDITION!

THE OFFICIAL NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB NEWSLETTER
9th Edition 2010 – Friday, 1 October 2010



“LET IT FLOW!”

MORE TESTIMONIALS!

“Another one bites the Dust!”

J.Fryar

“We are the Champions (sorry bout that!)”

S.Gibson

“I want to break free!”

Alexander the Tate

“The Show must go on!”

J.Smith

“Fat bottomed girls...have a salad!”

Leon de Marinis

THE PREZ SAYS...

It was the best of NCC GF weekends, it was the worst of NCC GF weekends...

After an historic but bittersweet Grand Final weekend, the Tigers sipped from the Premiership chalice in the A-Grade and in the D-Grade, but despite gallant efforts and great seasons, the B-52s and the C-Majors fell short. All players played (and partied) hard and performed admirably.

All Nightcliff players, including our two E-Grade sides and those players who trained on into the Finals, can be proud of their efforts in 2010 in what I believe has been one of if not the most successful on-field season in the history of the Nightcliff Cricket Club.

Apparently I was told that D-Grade also fared well with the bat on Sunday after a sterling 100-run partnership between my role model **Brad-man Hatton** and batting Maestro **Chris "the pen" Parker** steadied our ship from 6-106. After being evicted from the PINT Club I had to go back & field in the D-Grade and my boys did the job with the ball to put *that* baby to bed!

I really want to thank the following people who through their vital volunteer work in 2010 have really made the Nightcliff Cricket Club work – **the entire NCC Committee**, **John Tate** (for your work maintaining the Shed and coordinating our junior sides), **Alex Tate** for all your work at training & selections each week **Hugh Auckram** (for tireless work with juniors and *In2cricket*), **Sonia Piccoli** (keeping junior register & assisting with Seniors as well and keeping Hugh grounded and relatively sane), **Jill Cummings** (A-Grade scorer), **Nigel Couzens** (Senior Coach who really instilled a sense of purpose and organization in the Senior Club and it's approach to cricket), **Ben Mitchell** (for coordinating probably the best cricket Website in the known universe and putting together much promotional material and the Senior Presentation), **all junior coaches** and **all of you who volunteer your valuable time for the Club**.

I love you all **sniff** and I miss you already and will think of you often whilst I am yelling myself hoarse at the MCG or scouring the Poker tables at Crown Casino until 5am! Eye of the Tiger beautiful people, Eye of the Tiger!

Alex Krepapas
NCC President



WHAT? An A-Grade Premiership team photo without me in it? Photoshop here I come!

PRES-E NIGHT

(to the tune of Jimmy Cliff's "Reggae Night" reprised from our 2008 version)

*Pres-e Night,
We'll come together,
When the Beer tab's right.
Pres-e Night,
We'll have the party,
Despite Kiwi flights!*

*You will find it happens only once a year,
Trophies, tall stories and festive cheer,
Winners, grinners, losers and boozers too,
At Tigerland you will find them all right here!*

*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!*



“THEY SAID IT” - QUOTABLE QUOTES

<p><i>“This is not comfortable!”</i></p>	<p>Jason Hatton, after bedding down in a downstairs room at the Snell Mansion Sunday night on Grand Final weekend, went for a bizarre sleepwalk and was discovered next morning curled up and sleeping in the back of Snell’s Rav-4 parked in the driveway. Well, we <i>told</i> you it was going to be big!</p>
<p><i>“It’s more of an art than a science really”</i></p>	<p>Turf Wizard Robert Saunders discussing off season Nightcliff wicket care and end-of-year preparation including chemical treatments.</p>
<p><i>“I’ll put five bucks on Krepapas!”</i></p>	<p>Es Gold skipper Colin Ralph at the DDCA Presentation night after reading the <i>Growth’s</i> 2011 NCC President odds and doubting our fearless President will be able to stay too far away from Darwin and her many beauties.</p>
<p><i>“Okay then!”</i></p>	<p>Snell in reply, thinking the Krepapas family will do just fine and enjoy beautiful Melbourne immensely!</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Alex Krepapas...we know <i>someone</i> who will be happy to see him!</p>
<p><i>“Because it’s a cab, man!”</i></p>	<p>A late night Robert De Niro taxi driver to Nathan Jury in the back of a cab late on Mad Monday, after the Jury had inquired as to the urine-like aroma in the back seat. Yep.</p>
<p><i>“I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day.”</i></p>	<p>No not Sammy Gibson late, late (mad) Monday night after a Herculean 36 hours on the special sauce, but brat-packer and party animal Frank Sinatra.</p>
<p><i>“Sorry bout that!”</i></p>	<p>Well Sammy Gibson went pretty Kevin Rudd about it all on Sunday and Monday after the A-Grade Grand Final win against Darwin and was quite apologetic about the Tigers winning a sneaky Flag or three (including U13s Blue) in 2010!</p>
<p><i>“Good riddance!”</i></p>	<p>This from the now hearing impaired population of South Africa, after New Delhi has imported thousands upon thousands of these blaring horns for the Commonwealth Games. Geez, can anything <i>else</i> go wrong with these wretched Games?</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Vuvuzelas...they’re off <i>en masse</i> to Delhi for the Games now!</p>

NIGHTCLIFF TIGERS GRAND FINAL REPORTS!

A-GRADE

After wiping away the tears upon hearing the news that the Titanic season of **TV Dinners** had firmly struck the **Darwin** iceberg, the Tigers steeled themselves for the ultimate GF clash against the Eagles.

The Tigers were sent into the field and after toiling hard, had Darwin at about 5-160 at Tea on day one, with the match relatively evenly poised, after some very tight bowling, especially by swing man **Robbie Wheatley** (2-22). Enter **Sean Kenny** (3-19) and **Marky-Mark Hatton** (3-29 off 23.1 overs) in his swansong match and the rest of the innings was not only wrapped up, it was dead-set mummified as Darwin was disposed of like a Mafia trial witness for a paltry 166.

The Tigers began nervously amidst a sustained and hostile spell of bowling by Darwin's Troy Ryan (never trust a man with two first names) and were about 3-35 overnight, before the '*Incredible Calk*' **Marc Calkin** (81 not out) and **Michael 'Les' Cranmer** initially steadied the ship with a small but crucial partnership, before the Tigers' own *Lazarus* **Jono Devine** (45 not out) joined Calkin and roughed up the Darwin bowling before escorting their premiersip aspirations right off the premises. And there was *great rejoicing!*



Left - Run-machine **Marc Calkin** combined some deft touches with some blazing batting to score a match-winning 81no.
Right - **Jono Devine** hitting a delivery so far out of Marrara that it actually brought a halt to a *hockey* final down the road!

B-GRADE

Well **Josh Smith's** gallant **B-52s** did not benefit at all from losing the toss on the Saturday, despite then restricting TV Dinners to **9-261** on a batting friendly Woodroffe Oval. Unfortunately for our heroes, the heavens opened on Saturday night (to really cap off the **worst Dry Season Darwin has had since 1483**), producing a sticky-date pudding of a wicket, which TV Dinners to their credit exacted the best out of, to roll the Tigers for 96 and convincingly win the B-Grade Pennant.

At one stage it appeared the game might be called off (this would have gifted the B-52s the Flag), but just as **Matt Cavenagh** had called for the Death Star to be flown over to Palmerston to dry the wicket using lasers, the Umpires deemed that the wicket had dried sufficiently to play a few hour's cricket upon it as the Tigers needed to ensure they were not dismissed if 80 overs were not able to be bowled.

Shannon ‘Funky’ Miller (2/35), **Benjamin ‘The Webmaster’ Mitchell** (2/39), **Glenn Pollard** in his seam bowling return (2/42) and future A-Grade spinning hope **Pawan Iser** (2/51) shared the wickets, whilst **Benjamin Mitchell** backed up like a Ewe at **Nathan Jury’s** Bucks’ Party with a gutsy 35, well supported by **Matthew “Smooth Operator” Neave** with 27 runs. And so after a fabulous season by the B-52s, they did not get the chocolates this time, but they *know* where they are being kept in the fridge and will be thoroughly enriched by the finals experience they have had.

C-GRADE

The C-Majors played in the biggest C-Grade game since **Jesus** participated in *Milo* cricket, however it almost turned into the most controversial as well, after umpires considered abandoning the game at Tea Day one due to the dangerous state of the pitch and at one stage a Tigers’ batsman was given out caught behind on evidence given by the square leg umpire as to whether a batsman had hit a ball or not!

But at the end of the day, the University bowlers, led by warhorse **Matty Phillips** and **Leon ‘Henry’ Ford**, applied sustained pressure to the Tigers batsmen on Day one. However the Tigers, led by **Sukhvinder Singh** (43), and supported by **John ‘D-Grade’s for pussies!’ Tate** (28), **Kurt ‘Daddy Cool’ Edwards** (26) and **Naveen Subbiah** (20), fought gustily on to register an eminently defensible 178 on a troublesome, pock-marked pitch. Unfortunately the Students were up to the challenge on Day 2, and after being about 2/17 overnight, as they went on to win the game by 6 wickets, to take the *Granny* and **the ‘Ashes’** in one foul swoop! Like the B-52s, **Taties’ Troopers** can also take great pride from an excellent season, which brought them to the precipice of *Glory* and made them very much a part of the greatest weekend in Nightcliff’s cricketing history.



Marrara #2...nah, the pitch should be alright, keep playing!

D-GRADE

The D-Mob rocked up to the **Death Star** and had decided that they would still have a bat despite some overnight rain leaving the deck a little moister than it otherwise would have been. The decision to bat was made for them however as they were sent in. After a bright opening partnership of just under 50 in the first 10 overs by **Alexandros “I’m leavin’ on a jet plane” Krepapas** and **Jason “I was not out LBW!” Hatton** (27), wickets then began to fall rapidly (including **John Fryar** for a breezy 24).

Not that ‘Runaway Bride’ **Alexandros Krepapas** would have been aware, but the D-Generates were in some semblance of strife at 6-106 and with **Brad Hatton** in real danger of being timed out by the Umpires. But once he was dragged out of the palatial air-conditioned change rooms, Brad-man and batting Maestro **Chris “the Pen” Parker** (69 not out) put on a wonderful unbeaten 109-run partnership to lift the Tigers’ score to 6-215 off their allotted overs, with Brad-man striding off the Ground (and straight back into the rooms) with 51 not out.

With their tails up, the Tigers then put the serious brakes on the rickety shopping trolley that was the *Palmy* innings, with MOTM **Brad-man Hatton** (2/16) & **Anthony “Warnie” Snell** reducing them to 3/30-ish off the first 12 overs. **Andy “007” Moore** (2/26), **Adam “the real Warnie!” Glover** (3/28) and **Nathan “So You Think You can Dance?” Jury** (2/30) then came on to join the party and euthanize the balmy *Palmy’s* Grand Final effort for 149 and once again...there was *great rejoicing!*

HATS OFF TO MARK!

“Our Mark Hatton, well we ask you is he’s any good?!”



Pensive Mark...contemplating the 20,000 runs and wickets he’ll now take in C and D-Grade!

After many stellar seasons playing A-Grade for Nightcliff CC (well, apart from that season he played Ds or Es when he was, like, 5 years old!) Nightcliff Gladiator **Mark Hatton** has pulled up stumps on his A-Grade career.

Taking over 400 wickets (and more importantly to some...him...surpassing Brad Hatton’s NCC wicket haul) is such a colossal effort young Mark and the Nightcliff Cricket Club and indeed the superb of Nightcliff (and indeed the **WORLD OF CRICKET!**) would like to take this opportunity to thank you and to salute you, upon a truly wonderful (exceptional really, even phenomenal) career and wish you all the very best for the future!

Well done fellah!



Left - The photo that *didn’t* make the NT News...perhaps because it looks like Marky-Mark has wet himself!

Right – Hey. Now *we* had a photo **Grey Matter** could have used instead!

AFL GRAND FINAL - GROUNDHOG DAY!

Well knock me down with a Magpie feather, *what* an astounding AFL Grand Final!



And remarkably, Collingwood have *still* not won an AFL/VFL Grand Final played in September since 1958, having now played in an **even dozen** of them! Their one success in 1990 was another Grand Final played in October 1990, after the finals series was put back a week due to a draw in a Qualifying Final (with no rules for extra time in any finals back then).

Well, with this week's GF being played on 2 October 2010, the Pies must *surely* be certainties!?

Two questions immediately leap to mind though...*why* do they not have 'extra time' for the Grand Final to at least sort it out on the same day? And *how* did **Brendon Goddard** not win the Norm Smith Medal for the game? His game and particularly his last quarter playing on the ball for almost the whole quarter was **James Hird**-esque and whilst **Alexander the Tate**'s favourite footballer **Lenny Hayes** toiled heroically all day and was one of the best out there, it was the omnipresent Goddard who ignited the Saints and really lifted them back into the game.

Parole Officers all around Collingwood will be inundated with additional requests this week for Collingwood Members to attend the game, with an additional 16,000 tickets being made available to Club members.

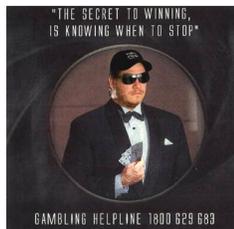
Well Collingwood was involved in the last drawn GF against North Melbourne in 1977, when they blew a 4-goal three quarter lead to end up with a Draw, before tightening up in the larynx to lose to North by 27 points in the replay. This year the *Collywobbles* resurfaced, as the Pies coughed up a 24-point half time lead. Interestingly the 1977 GF Replay saw much higher scoring, as a more free-flowing and less physical shoot-out ensued. So this weekend could provide us with *anything*, in what has been a remarkable end to the AFL season. Nah we've changed our mind, we don't want extra time after all, make them play to the death, the pure theatre from last weekend was just fabulous!



Pies fans at the 'G'...will Parole Officers be kind enough to let them come out for the day again *this* Saturday?

THE NCC COMMITTEE FINANCIAL TIP OF THE WEEK

Never fall asleep in a moving taxi or whilst talking on the phone with your lawyer...



ON THE REX HUNT

*"I Punt therefore I Am"**

(*Conditions apply and **GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY** kids! If you have to sell other people's stuff to place a bet, then find another hobby!)



\$50.00 on Collingwood to win by 1-39 points (\$2.30) = \$115.00

GROWL 2010 PROFIT/LOSS TO DATE:

+\$356.00

Well bring me some face paints and colour me happy, the Growl punting wagon just keeps rolling on and on! After some further successful soothsaying in predicting the **AFL Grand Finalists** as well as strapping our wallets to **So You Think** as he cantered past them at will in the Underwood Stakes, we now cast our eagle eye over the 2010 AFL re-decider.

The Sainters threw absolutely everything at the Pies last weekend after being down by a few 'sausage rolls' at half time and they were probably unlucky not to even pinch the Cup, after the oval ball cruelly rolled away from the rat-like mitts of **Steven Milne** about 20 centre-meters out from goal with a minute on the clock.

The dreaded *Colliwobbles* did surface on the last Saturday in September, after the Pies looked to have stolen a winning march on the tough but injury-riddled Saints, who to their credit brought themselves back up like bad Chinese take-away to place themselves right back into the contest. But the usual smooth operators like **Dane Swan**, **Scott Pendlebury** (our tip for the **Norm**) and even **Alan Didak**, whilst serviceable, did not reach their usual output last week and we just think that once a few of these cogs click back into place as they inevitably will, the Pies will march to their destined Grand Final win. We feel positively *ill* at the thought of this prospect!

This game might even open up like **Garry Stevens'** batting and the Pies might generate more answers than questions, however we are counting on the gutsy **Saints** not to get too badly stalked and bashed, hence the winning margin selected. However we fear this will be a comfortable Pies win and there will be thereafter great rejoicing by them...and *looting!* And lock up your daughters this weekend just in case!



Liam Jurrah...wishes to take this moment to personally thank **Sam Gibson & Jason Bremner** for the 93,500 SMSs they sent between them to vote for his 2010 AFL *Mark of the Year*.

A PICTURE PAINTS A 1,000 WORDS...

SOME 'TOP SHOTS' FROM THE NIGHTCLIFF 2010 SEASON

Pictures taken by Alexander the Tate.



Left - Retiring Nightcliff Great **Mark Hatton** sending another hand grenade down...under the watchful eye of Australian selectors with **the Ashes** but a few months away!

Right – **Sam (I Am) Gardiner** sending another one down on target for the new Nightcliff (VB) Gold side, this time in the NCC Derby, 'clean ripping' **Rick Vaughan!**



Left - Father of the Year nominee **Kurt Edwards** copping a *brute* of a delivery in the Es!

Right – D-Grade pocket rocket **Manish Bhatnagar** getting a good aerobic workout behind the stumps during the D-Grade Semi Final against Tah-Tahs Red at that beloved patch of Earth, M#2.



Michael “Hot lips” Darmody from ‘Team Gibson’ who graced E-Grade with their presence for a weekend in 2010!



Left – Nightcliff Gold nugget **Hugh Auckram** opening a can of ‘woop-ass’ in 2010!

Right – Outgoing NCC President and D-Grade opening bat showed a lot of guts in 2010, clocking up 400+ runs for the season!

'WHAT'S COOKING' AT THE DEN

Whilst our Senior cricketers have been *smoking* them on-field, our supreme athletes can also come up with the (Adam) goods in the kitchen during the off season as well, where you are limited only by time and your own imagination!

So with that extra money you pocket from that absolutely crazy Ashes bet you make with **Dane Miglerina**, or from backing **So You Think** to romp home in the **2010 Cox Plate**, put some cash aside to buy ingredients to stock that pantry for some good old fashioned home cooking. And hey, a good home cooked meal is right up there with ways to bring home the (Kevin) bacon on the home front!

TOP-5 REASONS WHY COOKING AT HOME IS THE WAY TO GO!

1. Cooking at home is a fantastic ability to express yourself – it's like finger painting with food, you are the artist and the dinner plate is your blank canvass.
2. It makes great economic sense – and any leftovers can be properly stored away, including frozen in portions so you can relive that majestic culinary masterpiece once again.
3. Cooking is quite therapeutic and relaxing – from the aromas of those natural ingredients wafting through your house to the sensual pleasure of creating a meal, whether it is a gourmet five-course meal or a BBQ spread that you have nailed, it will give you a tremendously fulfilling sense of pleasure and pride.
4. If you cop food poisoning, there's not too far to go before you can lie down in the sanctuary of your own bed. Or the toilet floor.
5. If you get lucky on a dinner-date....well hey, **see 4/ above**. Except for maybe the toilet part...well, up to you really, we're not here to tell you how to live your life.

LAMB SHANKS

Ingredients + Method

Serves 4

8 lamb shanks

(go to Nightcliff Premium Meats for the juiciest ones!)

2 large onions [chopped]

4 cloves garlic [crushed][or 4 teaspoons minced garlic]

2 celery stalks

2 cups red wine

2 sprigs rosemary

1 medium can tomatoes

1 1/2 cups of beef stock

2 tablespoons plain flour

2 tablespoons olive oil

Medium cracked black pepper

METHOD

Preheat oven to 160 degrees celcius. Dust shanks lightly with flour and remove excess flour. Heat oil in a large frying pan and cook shanks for 4 minutes, turning, until browned.

(Chef's note – you can mix in with the flour before dusting some or all of the following ingredients – a tablespoon of rosemary and basil and as a further option a teaspoon or two of chilli flakes as well, and add liberal doses of salt and pepper).

Remove shanks and then sauté onion and garlic in the pan for 2-3 minutes. *(Chef's note - sauté at half of the celery and some chopped red capsicum (half of one) as well when you are doing the onions, in a large deep pot).*

Transfer shanks, onion (as well as the sautéed celery and capsicum) and garlic to a casserole dish. Add celery, red wine, tomatoes, beef stock, black pepper and rosemary.

Cook covered in the slow oven for 2 ½ hours or until meat is tender. Keep the whole thang covered to ensure the shanks do not dry out.

Serve with crusty bread, mashed potato and your favourite garden vegetables.



Mmmmm, home cooked *lamb shanks!*

TO MAKE YOUR OWN BEEF STOCK - OPTIONAL

- 1kg meaty beef bones and 1 veal knuckle
- 1 large onion [quartered]
- 3 carrots [sliced]
- 3 stalks celery

Boil in a large pot with chopped broccoli, spinach and cauliflower stalks that you would not normally eat. Simmer all ingredients for 3 hours, then strain before using.

You can also freeze stock in small containers for future use. Or hey, you could always just toddle along to our good mate **Mr Woolworths** and buy some ready-made liquid stock!

JOKE**NEW RIDDLE!**

You're lost and alone in the middle of a vast forest.
All you have with you is a soggy matchbox with a couple of broken matches left.
You have no food, no shelter and no hope of rescue....

Who do you call?

The Pakistan cricket team!

They fix matches!



Left – the ill-fated Aussie & Pakis test in Sydney in January 2010... “Hey the Aussies are in to 5-1 now...better put another bloke out at deep third man!”

Right – ‘PAKI-SCAM’ has unfortunately now become a new word in our cricketing vernacular!

AN OLDIE...

Messrs **Pearson** and **Ferguson** at the 2008 Player Auction, on a Gala night where Auction fans certainly did get more Nightcliff cricketer for their bucks!

LOOK-ALIKES

Can you spot the difference?
Some of our 2010 favourites!



A pair of fashionable crocodile rockers – NCC talented all-rounder **Mike Cranmer** and **Elton John!**



A-Grade skipper **Sammy Gibson** pretty happy with life after the **Tigers' T-20 Grand Final** win...
imagine what would happen if the **Dees** start winning as well!



NCC rockers **Brion Foley & Brad Hatton** belting out another Jabiru Road Trip classic!

LOOK-ALIKES

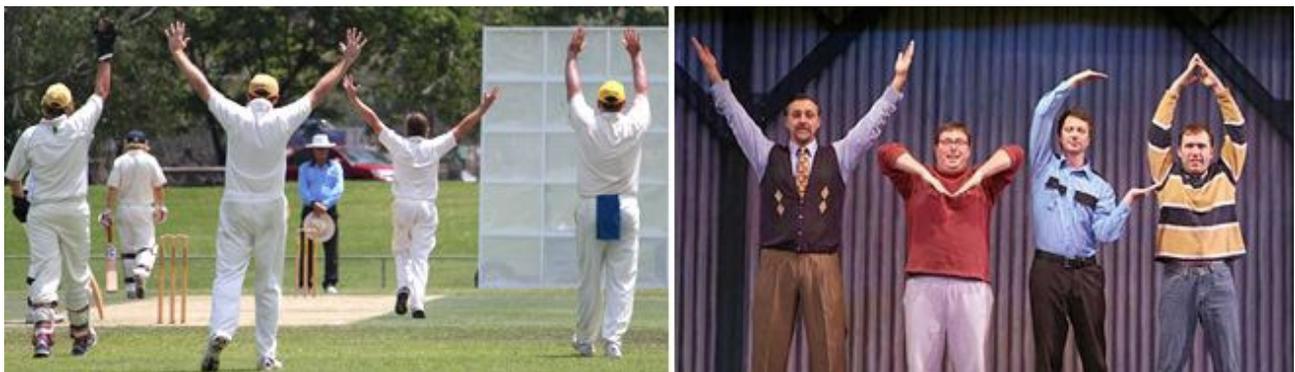
Can you spot the difference?



D-Grade cult hero **Andy "007" Moore** auditioning for Sea World...under the watchful eye of the square leg umpire...



Geordie Ferguson 'using the Force' at the batting crease in 2010!



Nightcliff Tigers As (*Big Village People* fans!) led them on a merry dance during the 2010 Finals series!

THE END. SIX LEGITIMATE DELIVERIES (OVER!).