

# UQCC OLD BOYS CRICKET NEWS

Cnr Upland Rd & Sir William Macgregor Dr, St Lucia, Qld

Edition 31 – December 2024



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
CRICKET CLUB

## IMPORTANT DATES 2025

13 March – Finals Lunch – Regatta Hotel

Welcome to the 31st edition of the UQCC Old Boys newsletter.

In this edition we:

1. get an update from Scott Henry, UQCC Operations Manager
2. report on the UQCC tour to India
3. have match reports for two Old Boys games plus photos from the end of season dinner
4. have Old Boys news and feedback.

## UQCC Operations Manager Scott Henry gives us an update on the club

UQ Cricket Club has started the 2024–25 season with extraordinary performances and a growing list of accomplishments across all levels. Strong early season form sees the club sitting top of the Club Championships. Here's a recap of what our players and teams have achieved so far:

### Team success:



Women's 1st Grade – T20  
champions third year in a row and  
T20 Max (pre-season) Champions  
2024–25



Men's 2nd Grade – T20  
Champions 2024–25



Men's 1st Grade – One-Day  
Champions 2024–25

Our **Women's First 1st Grade** made history, claiming their third consecutive T20 premiership in a dominant grand final performance. Restricting Sunshine Coast to 8/94 in 20 overs, UQ's bowlers shone, with **Jess Daldy** delivering a match-winning spell of 3/16 from four overs. Her incredible effort earned her the **Melissa Bulow Medal** as Player of the Final. The chase was a formality as UQ's batters cruised to 1/97 in just 13.3 overs, cementing their place as one of the greatest teams in competition history. This "Three-Peat" is a remarkable achievement, showcasing the team's consistency, skill, and hunger for success.

Not to be outdone, our **1st Grade men** ended an eight-year drought to claim the **One Day Premiership** for the first time since 2016–17. Batting first in the grand final against Wests, UQ posted an imposing 6/312, thanks to a sensational century from Angus **Lovell (131)** and a composed 76 from **Max Clayton**.

The bowlers then took charge, with **Don Whyte (3/25)** and **Matt Willans (2/29)** leading the way to dismiss Wests for 240, sealing a dominant 72-run victory and the coveted title.

These premierships are a testament to the hard work, talent and unity within the UQ Cricket Club. Congratulations to all the players, coaches and supporters who made these incredible achievements possible.

### **Player representative honours:**

Several of our standout players have also achieved individual representative honours:

- QLD Bulls: Jack Clayton, Bryce Street and Angus Lovell
- Australia A: Charli Knott and Nic Hancock
- Brisbane Heat: Laura Harris, Charli Knott and Nic Hancock

### **Off the field:**

The club has been working hard on providing our members and the community the best experience possible.

Highlights include:

- Lighting upgrades – WEP Harris Oval net lights will be upgraded to LED early in the new year
- Events – 23rd Test Breakfast was held on 21 November at the Royal on the Park, with guest speaker Johan Botha. The Finals Lunch will be held on 13 March at the Regatta

### **How can you support:**

At UQ Cricket Club, we're fortunate to have a dedicated and talented group of current and former players who contribute to our continued success and vibrant club culture. This season, we invite you to join us in supporting the growth and future of cricket at UQ.

- Become a sponsor – we're excited to explore partnership opportunities with businesses in 2025. Sponsoring UQ Cricket Club means aligning with a tradition of excellence and supporting young athletes as they reach for new goals. Whether you're looking to enhance brand visibility or connect with the local community, partnering with UQCC offers valuable exposure and impact. Let's connect and discuss how we can work together!
- Donate to the UQCC Foundation – since its founding in 1998, the UQCC Foundation has been instrumental in advancing cricket at The University of Queensland. Donations to the Foundation are vital to our landmark projects and strategic initiatives, which directly support the club's mission. Currently, we're focusing on upgrading the **WEP Harris Oval Pavilion** to enhance our players' experience and expand our facilities for community engagement. Your contributions, big or small, make a difference and help us provide the best for our players and supporters.

Please reach out directly if you'd like to support the Club, [operations@uqcricket.com.au](mailto:operations@uqcricket.com.au)

We look forward to seeing everyone around the grounds and catching up throughout the season. Thank you for being part of our journey and helping us continue to make UQCC the leading club in Brisbane.

## **Old Boys India tour 2024**

The club's first international tour in 30 years was a milestone event that blended competitive cricket, cultural immersion and the forging of new bonds across borders. A group of 16 UQ students and alumni, accompanied by five seasoned 'old boys', embarked on a 10-day journey through India, where they faced formidable local teams in six matches, achieving a balanced record of three wins and three losses. This tour wasn't just about cricket; it was an exploration of one of the world's most diverse cultures, marked by moments that will be cherished for years. See Attachment A for a full tour report.

## **UQCC Old Boys end of season dinner**

The annual end of season Old Boys dinner was held in the Library of the Royal Queensland Golf Club on 17 October. A great night of laughs and memories.



*Geoff Rosbrook, Ian Elks, Peter Herring, Mark Clayton and Sean Remedios at the end of season dinner*

## Match reports

### **UQCCOB Vs Norths Old Boys – Sunday 19 May 2024**

See Attachment B

### **UQCCOB Vs Wynnum – Sunday 2 June 2024**

See Attachment C

## Old Boys news and feedback

Professor Arthur Bruce Abernethy, Executive Dean of the UQ Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences, was awarded an Order of Australia (AM) in the 2024 Honours List for significant service to education in the field of health and behavioural science.

Bruce is a first-class Honours graduate and university medallist from the University of Queensland, a PhD graduate from the University of Otago, an International Fellow of the American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education, a Fellow of the Australian Sports Medicine Federation and a Fellow of Exercise and Sport Science Australia. Bruce is a previous Deputy Executive Dean and Associate Dean (Research) within the Faculty of Health

Sciences, Head of the School of Human Movement Studies (from 1991–2003), was the Director and inaugural Chair Professor of the Institute of Human Performance at the University of Hong Kong from 2004 to mid-2011 and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences since its establishment in 2014. He is now the Executive Director of the Office of 2032 Games Engagement.

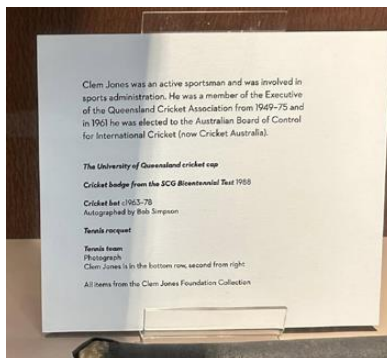
His research interest is in the control and acquisition of skilled movement, with a particular focus upon understanding the processes underpinning the expert perception and production of patterns of human movement. The work is interdisciplinary and spans human movement and sport science, experimental psychology, neuroscience and medical and health sciences. Bruce's research work has been supported by a range of agencies including those funding basic science, such as the Australian Research Council and the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong, as well as those supporting more applied research, such as the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Football League, the Australian Cricket Board, Worksafe Australia and the Motor Accident Insurance Commission.

**Bruce ABERNETHY** was a right-hand batsman and right medium bowler. He was born on 28 May 1958 at Toowoomba, son of Dorothy May (nee McCLEVERTY) and Arthur Archibald ABERNETHY. He was educated at Spring Creek Upper Primary School, Allora State Secondary Department and Clifton State High School. He obtained a Bachelor of Human Movements (Ed) in 1979, and obtained his Honours in 1980, both at the University of Queensland. He obtained a UQ academic medal in 1981 and a PhD from the University of Otago in 1986. He commenced his cricket in Warwick and also played in Toowoomba, representing Queensland Under 17, Eastern Downs, South Queensland Colts, Queensland Country Colts and Queensland Junior Cricket Union before coming to Brisbane. In Brisbane, he played for University, appearing in their First Grade team from 1978–79 to 1980–81, and again in 1983–84 after returning from New Zealand. He played for Grange-Old Boys in Dunedin and represented Otago in 13 first class matches in the seasons of 1981–82 and 1982–83, scoring 256 runs at 16.00 and capturing 17 wickets at 36.82. His highest first class score was 57\* v Central Districts at Napier in 1981–82, while his best bowling was 4-85 v Auckland at Dunedin in 1981–82. Seasons: 1978, 1979, 1980, 1983.

**From: Dylan D'Roza**  
**To: UQCC Senior Players**

Great start to the season lads! I know it's been a while since you've had to experience my social media dribble but just wanted to share some UQCC memorabilia which I stumbled across lining the walls of Brisbane City Hall today. Proudly worn by the longest serving Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Clem Jones, it's awesome to see the club recognised alongside some of the other state/national roles he held.

There's a great story about Clem Jones from back in the day too where during his time as Lord Mayor he used to foot the difference in the Club night bills – otherwise the club wouldn't break even. Much to be said about the club's recent administrators who've put the place well in the green.



*Clem Jones cricket memorabilia at City Hall, including his 1967–68 UQCC premiership cap and cricket bat autographed by Bob Simpson*

## Vale



### **ROBERT WILLIAM MIHELL**

(No 330)

Born 8 January 1937 at Lismore

Died 5 February 2024 at Brisbane

Bob Mihell was a right hand batsman and occasional leg break bowler. He was educated at Kyogle State High School and later at the University of Queensland, where he graduated

Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical) Hons in 1958 and Bachelor of Commerce in 1974. Bob represented Queensland Colts in the Sydney Gregory Cup match of 1957–8. Bob played in the UQCC Firsts from 1955 till 1966, with a break in 1961 for study overseas. He scored 4333 club First Grade runs at 39.8, while bowling he took 6 wickets at 48.5. His career for our club included 11 centuries.

Our club owes a lot to Bob, who captained the Firsts for 9 seasons, bringing a tenacity and flair that resulted in the winning of two

premierships in contrast to the previous 43 years, during which only one was won. Bob appeared for Queensland in 11 First Class matches from 1955–6 to 1960–1, scoring 281 runs at 15.61, with his highest score 45. In 1958–9, he was a member of the combined Australian Universities team to play the first international match against New Zealand Universities, rained out in Melbourne; he later captained the Australian Universities team in Canberra against the West Indies team of 1960–1, a match in which he scored 116. At the end of his career for Queensland University, Bob moved to Melbourne where he continued with First Grade club appearances, first with the Melbourne Club, and lastly with Hawthorne-East Melbourne. Bob worked as an electrical engineer and coal marketing manager for Mt Isa Mines Ltd. In Bob's retirement, he and John Biggs prepared and digitised the club's First Grade stats for its century from 1912 to 2012. For his services to the club, he was appointed a Life Member in 2008.

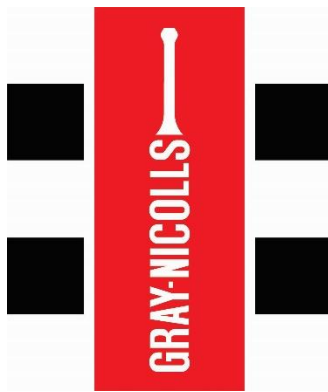


*Bob chats to Wally Grout (left) and Richie Benaud (centre) during a centenary match in Brisbane, 1958*

Club partners



AIR CONDITIONING



# Attachment A – UQCC India tour 2024



## Day 1: 29 March

Late in the evening of 30 March 2024, UQCCs touring party of 21 members arrived in Delhi where an unforgettable journey would commence. On arrival at the Eros Hotel, we received a traditional Indian welcome with a tilak (red dot) on our foreheads. We went on to enjoy our first Indian meal, a buffet at the hotel, which included 10+ different types of curry, roti, naan and biryani, and headed to bed shortly after.

## Day 2: 30 March

Today we were up early in tourist mode as we were headed to the city of Agra (around 3 hours south of Delhi) to see the Taj Mahal. We got in a quick traditional breakfast from the hotel, which again included several different types of curry, roti, naan, yoghurt and sweets, among other items.

On arrival at the Taj Mahal, we were met by our tour guide Vikram Singh, a true character and passionate guide of the Taj Mahal for tourists. The Taj Mahal attracts between 30,000 and 40,000 visitors on average per day, so it was packed with eager tourists everywhere. Vikram explained the history and significance of the Taj Mahal – it represents a memorial where Shah Jahan, the Mughal emperor of India who reigned from 1628–58, and his favourite wife Mumtaz Mahal are buried. Additionally, Vikram

explained how the site became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 and explained that the Taj Mahal has maintained its beauty and structural integrity due to the quality of Indian marble.

After enjoying this breathtaking experience, we travelled to a nearby hotel for a buffet lunch – buffet being the key word. The food did not stop coming for about 2 hours. Mixed in with a few Kingfishers and exhaustion from our international flight the previous day, it's safe to say that the entire touring party was exhausted. Consequently, we departed Agra shortly after lunch and embarked on our 3-hour bus ride home. That night we enjoyed a simple dinner at the hotel and a few beers at the Irish pub down the street, where we watched the IPL. It was lights out early that evening prior to our first match the next day.



*UQCC touring party  
at the Taj Mahal*

### Day 3: 31 March

That morning we woke up with a spring in our step, ready for our first match of the tour against the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi team. IIT Delhi has the reputation as the most prestigious university in India, offering courses only in science, engineering and technology. The current CEO of Google, Sundar Pichai, attended IIT Delhi from 1971 to 1976.

The match was scheduled to be a 50-over one-day game, but was later rescheduled to 2 T20 matches.

Match 1 – UQ 3/120 (16.3) def IIT Delhi 10/119 (20) – Callum Henderson 2/5 (2), Mayank Ahalani 2/8 (2), Max Clayton 41\* (18) and Tom Kelaart 39\* (35).

Match 2 – UQ 7/152 (20) def IIT Delhi 10/140 (19) – James Grady 90\* (58) and Tirth Shah 2/25 (4).

Straight after the game we headed back to our hotel for a quick shower before heading back out to St Stephens College, where we were invited to have dinner. St Stephens College is a prestigious private institution in Delhi, and was our opponent in a T20 match the following day. We were treated to a tour of the campus grounds, insightful speeches from staff at the college, including the captain of their cricket team, and a generous traditional dinner. While the meal and company of the St Stephens students and staff were excellent, there was a strong sense of competition in the air ahead of the match the following day.

### Day 4: 1 April

Gameday. With two wins on the board and some real intent shown by the St Stephens team at dinner the previous evening, the UQCC team was fired up and ready for the match. We were delighted to be able to play the match at a Ranji Trophy ground among noisy, bustling streets – this was a truly authentic experience.

The match got off to the perfect start for St Stephens, who were sent into bowl and took a wicket on their first ball. The tension was high. Fortunately for UQCC, captain James Grady entered the crease, and he and Max Clayton put on a match-winning 140 run partnership.

St Stephens College got off to a reasonable and seemed to enjoy the battle of taking on some

Australian pacers. Unfortunately for St Stephens, and surprising to UQCC, it was the spin offered by UQCC, delivered through Mayank Ahalani, that was their undoing. Mayank took 4 wickets and the power out of St Stephens batting. Overall, St Stephens managed a final score of 136 and UQCC was now 3 from 3.

Match summary – UQ 6/198 (20) def St Stephens College 8/136 (20) – James Grady 78 (39), Max Clayton 64 (47) and Mayank Ahalani 4/19 (4).

Following the game, representatives from Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade joined the post-match ceremony, marking the significance of the relationships formed between the two parties. Players for UQCC and St Stephens traded jerseys at the end of the match, further solidifying those relationships.

Next, UQCC was due to head for a tour of an Islamic slum, but due to the nature of the busy streets, the bus that was transporting the team was delayed. On the bus driver's arrival, a parking ticket inspector was physically hanging off the side window of the bus, seeking to fine the bus driver. After a 20-minute disagreement between the parties, eventually we were able to get back on the bus, feeling rather frazzled. This was a unique and authentic experience.

The party finally arrived at the Islamic slum and was welcomed by volunteers of Asha Charity. Meaning 'hope' in Hindi, Asha has been helping the slum dwellers of Delhi since 1988, when Dr Kiran Martin started treating cholera victims who were too poor or culturally constrained to seek help elsewhere. The group was overwhelmed by the confronting living conditions of families, with some families of 4–6 living in a single room. However, the infectious laughing and smiling of the children during a quick game of backyard cricket lifted the mood before departing.



*Visiting the Asha Charity slum*





### Day 5: 2 April

Day 5 was a far simpler day – we transited from Delhi to Bangalore via plane. Arriving mid-afternoon in Bangalore, we had a short period of time to freshen up and recharge before heading to Chinnaswamy stadium to watch Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) take on the Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in the IPL. Both teams had star-studded line ups, including Virat Kohli, Glenn Maxwell, Quinton De Cock and Cameron Green. This was an experience like no other. Apart from the quality of the match and players, the atmosphere and love for cricket, as well as how UQCC touring members were treated by other spectators, were unforgettable. The fans screamed their lungs out for every boundary – it was like a nightclub in a stadium. When we headed indoors away from our seats, other spectators approached the us as if we were celebrities. Their love for the UQCC touring players comes from their love of cricket – for them, seeing a group of Australians travel to Bangalore and dress in blazers in respect of the game of cricket warmed their heart. Following the match, many of the touring party enjoyed the streets of Bangalore and headed out to partake in the nightlife of Bangalore following a home IPL fixture.

### Day 6: 3 April

Heads were heavy on day 6. After an unforgettable night at the IPL, hangovers were kicking in that morning, but the players had to snap out of it quickly as the day ahead involved a 50-over match against Rahul Dravid's 'Six' academy side. At this point of the tour, many of the playing members were also battling elements of gastroenteritis – it was going to be a challenging day ahead in the 30+

### UQCC at the IPL

degree heat of Bangalore. With these factors clearly not front of mind, stand-in captain for the day Max Clayton won the toss and elected to bowl ...

In the field, UQCC did not have its best day. Against the strongest opposition of the tour so far, by the end of our bowling innings, we were set a target of 350+.

With the bat, UQCC showed excellent resilience, and James Guy scored the first and only century of the tour.

Match summary: UQ 8/280 (40) def by Six Academy 5/369 (40) – Ferg Comrie 2/57 (8), Tirth Shah 2/59 (8), James Guy 102 (85), Max Clayton 68 (59) and Lachlan Burke 38\* (26).

At the end of the day, the boys were exhausted and were due for an early bed-time.

### Day 7: 4 April

That day was one the most anticipated of the tour – a 50-over match against the Karnataka State Academy side. To the understanding of the UQCC touring party, the opposition could be likened to a second XI state team in Australia within India – with the understand that cricketing talent in India is less concentrated than in Australia. UQCC put their best XI together to take the field.

Winning the toss, UQCC elected to bat – UQ 8/181 (40) def by KSCA Academy 6/182 (27).

Following the match, the boys headed back to the hotel knowing the hardest match of the tour was behind them and the good times could follow.

### Day 8: 5 April

Day 8 offered the UQCC touring party an opportunity to do a bit of sightseeing and experience traditional culture. The morning involved a tour of Chinnaswamy Stadium, where we were lucky enough to see the memorabilia halls, walk up next to the boundary rope and even get a picture with legendary Indian batsman VVS Laxman. Next we were off to enjoy a traditional 'Sadya' lunch, where food is eaten with your hands straight off a banana leaf. The meal included traditionally seasoned chicken, dahl curry, rice, gunpowder as a spice among other traditional items. Eating with hands was a new experience for virtually all of us, making the experience uniquely confronting.

After lunch, we enjoyed a traditional coffee from a street café across the road before heading back to



the hotel. The afternoon offered the opportunity for players to go back to the Karnataka State Cricket Academy grounds and train for the afternoon. On return, we engaged in a fun trivia night involving topics including music, movies, general knowledge and sport. This proved to be a great bonding experience and an opportunity to remember home, as everyone was required to wear a jersey of their home (favourite) sporting team. Following trivia, we made our third consecutive appearance at the rooftop bar at Mirage, a very popular establishment overlooking the city.

**Day 9: 6 April**

That day, we were set to play our final game of the tour, a T20 match against The Sports School First XI team. By this point of the tour, the stamina of the playing group was at a low due to the dry heat, numerous episodes of gastroenteritis, exhaustion and Kingfishers. Nevertheless, the team turned up and put in a strong performance. Non-playing members of the tour – UQCC alumni Peter Leslie and David Biggs, who are both in their mid to late 50s – took the field for the first over of the fielding innings, providing fierce chatter and dynamic movement at first and second slip.

Match summary: UQ 6/169 (20) def by The Sports School 4/170 (19) – Tom Lord 2/32 (4) and 22 (12), James Guy 40 (36), Matt Holmes 50 (46).

That night we enjoyed a very sentimental closing ceremony, where all touring party members were given a medal and prizes were distributed to the best batsman, bowler, fielder and players' player

*Biggs and Leslie assisting in the field against The Sports School*

*Meeting VVS Laxman*

of the tour. This was mixed with a fabulous pub dinner and many Kingfishers. After that, the touring party made their 4th appearance at Mirage and reminisced on a brilliant trip.

**Day 10: 7 April**

The final day of our tour. In the morning, we woke up with heavy heads, but shook them off quickly as we were due to play golf at Bangalore Golf Club – the second oldest golf course in the world outside of the UK. Teams were split into groups of 4 and we played Ambrose style (best ball). The touring party was lucky enough to be accompanied by caddies, who would go and find the ball and help with club selection. All the caddies had been working at the golf course for at least 15 years, and enjoyed the Australian banter on the golf course.

*Tom Lord*



## Attachment B – UQCCOB Vs Norths Old Boys – Sunday 19 May 2024

UQCCOB, on top of the Over 40's table after game one, woke to a crisp Sunday morning for our second match of the season. We were playing at the freshly minted, Shaw Park, home of Norths Cricket Club. Attentive readers of these reports will have detected three things already.

1. Valleys, running scared from much the much-vaunted UQCC, forfeited the first game. How are we then on top of the table you may ask? All the other games were washed out – suck shit.
2. It's crisp and fresh, not hot and humid – welcome to winter cricket at 8.30 in the morning! The UQCC sweater, less a few moth eaten yarns, makes its first appearance since a damp Melbourne IV of a decade ago.
3. Yes, Shaw Park is a far cry from the old Norths home ground of Windsor Park (or commonly referred to as Weasel Park as every second ball was misfielded, seemingly deflected by an invisible weasel. Think the cricket version of Caddyshack).

The Shaw Park ovals named Ian Healy, Alan Pettigrew and our ground for the day, Geoff Dymock are 'village' in the best possible way and a privilege to play on. They are three laser levelled fields, surrounding an impressive cricket pavilion named after Rob Kerr, James Hopes etc, they have them all covered. I'm glad some of Cricket Australia's funds are making their way down to grassroots cricket.



The wicket was mint – well grassed and firm, as good a pitch as you will see in Old Boys cricket. After an agreed toss between UQCC skipper Geoff Foley and Norths skipper Greg Maher (brother of Jimmy, whom I'm sure no longer exists, Greg ate him), Uni was batting. For some reason unknown to the author, Old Boys cricket is now played in coloured clothing. Our Valet de Chambre (google it) was Andrew 'Shades of' Gray. Every Uni old boy was allocated a maroon/navy shirt and trousers and believe it or not, they fit. Myxa and the dim-witted assistant would have given you very good odds for that. However, I fear Shades has made a rod for his own back, as clothes were handed back at stumps for the CEO to take care of laundry duties.



Of course, there is always at least one clothing issue and today it was the skipper, contemplating batting in his Vans as the spikes had been omitted.

Shades and Mick Watter strode to the crease to open the batting. The Norths fielding unit had the Uni boys covered on the Body Mass Index. I know we were playing the Northies, but led by their fearless leader, there were a number who had sampled too many Great Northerns over the Easter period and beyond.

In a somewhat ironic contradiction, the opening bowler was a strapping young chap, with a lovely action in the mould of Freddy Flintoff – his birth certificate was authenticated post play. He even had the temerity to bowl a couple of bouncers which kept our reliable opening pair on the back foot.

The cautious opening saw us 0 for 16 after six overs with wides contributing exactly half our score. After the Skipper's edict to the openers of 'we bat deep, don't hold back', theories were put forth on the opening six overs. Was it the bowling? Was it the stress of Shades having to outfit a cricket team? Was it jet lag from Watter's recent return from an extraordinary Italian extravaganza where he visited Venice, Rome, Florence, Lake Como, Cinque Terre, The Dolomites – had he won the lotto and not told anyone? Such largesse had not been experienced since Doug Rae's escape to the NT in the late nineties.

The watchful opening bore fruit as Gray, 50 not off 51 balls and Watter, caught for 48 off 52 balls, set the perfect platform for the remaining batting lineup, and a line up it was. You are all familiar with the three Ws (if not – the West Indian Weekes, Worrell and Walcott). The Uni equivalent are the 3 Ls. 3, 4 and 5 in the order are all Capital L, left handers. Most mollydookers should be shot at birth, but at the risk of sounding biased, I'd have to say the 3 Ls are exceptions. Geoff Foley^^, 50 off 26 balls, Sam Curtis 18 of 16 balls (run out at the non-strikers end for the second time in two matches by the same batsman? What odds BP? He was cruising and I have no doubt would have retired at 50 off very few had this not occurred) and Cam Boyd 50 off 33 balls. Some audacious stroke play by all three, including numerous Dorothies, downwind between mid-on and cow (note to opposition Captains reading this trash – check the 3 L wagon wheels).

The innings was left to Elks (scratching around like his namesake, 15 off 22) and McGurk (6 off 9) to finish off. 3 for 272 off 35 overs, a formidable total, possibly a record for UQCCOB (Irving Shades Rosenwater, can you confirm)?

After a cash only canteen caused some delay and consternation at lunch, Uni took to the field for the second innings.

He's 62 in July, you know who I'm talking about. The miserly Dr Dirt opened the bowling for the 800<sup>th</sup> time in UQCCOB cricket. There is still life in the old dog as, puzzlingly, he chose to run into the wind? For once in a very long time, the Dr did not make the breakthrough. It could be argued he should have, twice. Once when the Norths skipper was overheard to say to his batting partner that the ball would have hit halfway up middle for a Rosbrook LBW shout. And a skied ball, which the Doctor immediately refused to acknowledge and eventually landed between mid-on and the bowler. It was like two bald men fighting over a comb. This was the first of the day to, let's say, not go to hand (more on this later – refer Appendix 1, UQCCOB High Ball Decision Making Tree).

The breakthrough came from T Reddacliff at the other end. The slower ball, followed by a slower, slower ball, ended up landing on the very top off the bale of the Norths Captain who was swinging like a pub door at 10 o'clock. 1 for 30.

1 for 30 became 2 for 39 when a slight tickle was pouched by keeper Davies off Reddacliff. The Norths batsman was adamant he did not hit it (immediately at the crease, throughout the rest of the batting innings and indeed, post-match during pleasantries, although it seems such lobbying had little effect on the scorebook) but consensus and his body language, suggested he smashed it. Reddacliff finished with a tidy 2 for 16 off 5, but he would have been more pleased about his decision to wear a box while fielding (refer again to Appendix 1, UQCCOB High Ball Decision Making Tree). For those of you that may not know, Tom had a fielding accident a few years back. Put simply, it would prevent him from producing a Shades/Boyd reproduction equivalent in the future. He would have to be as unlucky as Ron Wayne to be hit there again while fielding. Do you remember Ron? He was a cofounder of Apple but sold his 10% share to Steve Jobs and Ron Wozniak for US\$800 because he thought it too risky a venture. You can't help bad luck – at Apple's market cap of US\$2.95 trillion, that 10% is worth US\$295 billion today. I digress.

The opening pair was replaced by the relatively new recruit Andy Phillips and the old dog, Al McNee – a contrasting pair. Phillips is well-constructed, with a strong action. In the looks stakes, he reminded me of the blond out of Starsky and Hutch (was that S or H?). For the Old, Old Boys, he is a doppelganger of Larry Casey in Rat Patrol.

While fielding in the covers, Sam told me that Andy is a beekeeper. On reflection, I'm pretty sure he was trying to distract my attention from the series of high ball dropped catches (refer Appendix 1, UQCCOB High Ball Decision Making Tree).



Al, well Al is not like this. A nicer guy, you would not meet, but his bowling action reminds me of a cross between Doug Walters and BP.

He ambles in, permanent smile on his face, and rolls the arm over. The batsmen is thinking, you're kidding me, will I go on the front foot and despatch him over his head or will I go on the backfoot and despatch him over his head? Yes, here it comes, yes front foot, no back foot, oh ... fark, I'm out, how did that happen? Thanks for coming, 1 for not many. Actually, Al's one wicket did come from a smart stumping by the stay-at-home Dad, John Davies (his wife is an anaesthetist, smart boy). Did I mention that it had flavours of the Bairstow stumping? Just stay in your crease!



In all seriousness, Andy and Al bowled well, Hutch taking 1 for 25 off 6 (at one stage his inswingers hitting the pads 5 out of a 6 ball over – surprisingly the Uni choir not in support) and the Womble, 1 for 28 off 5.

The remainder of the innings from the Northern end was bowled by the straight breaks of McGurk and Foley – Gordon (2 for 38)/Foles (0 for 16) and Arthur downwind from the southern end (0 for 26). I must admit, I am having trouble recalling the Norths wickets to fall among the Uni catches that were dropped (you know, refer Appendix 1). Al took a lovely snare at deep square leg off Gordon, never looked like missing it. This was unlike the caught and bowled which he politely declined to take on, leaving Mr Curtis to make a last-minute lunge – similar result, (refer the Decision Tree).

But I must comment on Sam Curtis's outfield catch. This is the first match I have seen Sam in action, and I must say, for a Kiwi, he is very impressive. He brings a great enthusiasm to the team. Apart from bruising a few fielding hands in the throwdowns pre bat, he has displaced Arthur in the covers. That is no mean feat, as we all know Arthur has a good set of hands (refer – tree). Sam took a catch on the boundary off the Scotsman which was exceptional. I'd put it up there with Dib Morgan's catch in cover, Greg Hayne's catch at silly mid-off and Greigy's one handed slips catch off Heals as the best catches I've seen in OB cricket. The ball was launched to cow corner in a swirling wind (fortunately not into the sun – refer tree), he took it centimetres from the rope, but his momentum was taking him over the boundary. He calmly tossed the ball back into the field of play, regathered his balance and completed the catch – straight out of the IPL/Big Bash – well done. Of course, this was in contrast to the high ball he grassed earlier when covering for the Womble, but, refer the tree.

OK, let's talk about the UQCCOB High Ball Decision Making Tree (refer Appendix 1 for further information). This is to be discussed in the context of: Any catch in Over 40s is a good one and any in the cordon is an absolute bonus. It's also to be discussed in the context of us dropping, I think at last count, eight high balls in this match. Despite the best of intent and effort, we've all played in teams where a dropped catch becomes contagious. Last Sunday left Avian Influenza for dead. Take Cam "Arthur" Boyd, I have played and trained with Arthur for 28 years. I think during that whole time, I have not seen him drop 4 catches. Arthur dropped 4 on Sunday^. I have sent a quick note to his wife Mel suggesting that she sticks close to him when he is handling the 5<sup>th</sup> baby. Seriously, by the fourth up and under, Arthur was shaking like a pregnant nun. Just remember for the next game Arthur, its 90% mental and the other 10% is in your head.

I should point out it wasn't through a lack of desire or concentration that these catches went down. I give the example of the high ball which again went to cow corner, equidistant between Hutch (or the Beekeeper, I can't decide) and the Dr.

Both advanced quickly, neither saw the other with focus purely on the prize. We could see exactly what was about to happen. A collision ensued, think Waugh/Gillespie, Thommo/Turner, Remedial/Gabba Light Tower, Bowers/ Wardy's nose. We were all thinking the worst, the dildo of consequences, rarely comes lubed. Speaking of sex toys, we almost had to bring two interested spectators on as replacements, the recently retired pair of Red and Pink Herring (Shades I'm sure they are still available if you need them – remember “You don't stop playing because you get old, you get old because you stop playing”). Alas, after much consternation there was bruising but no permanent, Reddacliff like, injuries. But it did highlight that it wasn't the team's commitment that was lacking.

After all that, Norths were 7 for 189 at the completion of 35 overs. All in all, a very solid win by the Uni Boys.

^Arthur did effect a very good, direct hit runout – net negative three dismissals ...

^^ Foles I've blown smoke up your arse re batting etc but two things I did notice were missing on Sunday

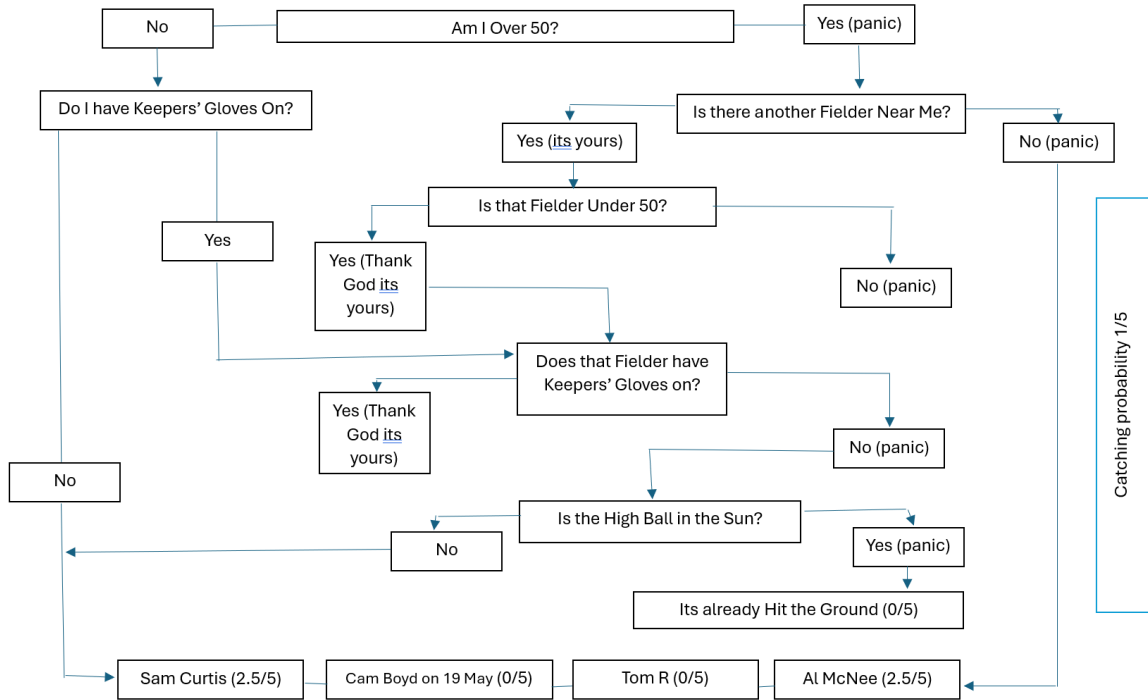
- i. A very early exit and Captain normally shouts after first game (technically I know it was the second game).
- ii. You may argue we don't have any home Uni games in this upside down season, but it took a long time to get the team-catering up and running and won't take much to let it slip back to every man for himself.

I must say, I've been concerned about the future of Old Boys cricket for some time. Several Clubs unable to field Over 40 teams, a dearth of cricket fields and Qld Cricket's choice to move the season directly opposing Veterans cricket, potentially were all obstacles the competition had to overcome. On top of that, the Uni Old Boys team that many of us have been a part of for decades was certainly not getting any younger, rejuvenation was required. Recruit some flat bellies or go the way of the way of other Clubs. The Club has done this and credit must go to Shades and the other team members who have recruited some good players, but more importantly, some decent guys.

It pleases me to report, to paraphrase Oscar Wilde, the “Reports of the death of Old Boys cricket have been greatly exaggerated.”

Appendix 1

UQCC OLD BOYS HIGH BALL CATCHING DECISION TREE





**Attachment C**



~~A request~~ An order has been made that all old boys match reports should now be compiled using the old man Elks scorecard. The background here is that since playing cricket for UQ since the late 1880s, Mr Elks has amassed 17,223 runs, 569 catches, 99 stumpings, written 112 newsletters, skippered 7 different teams, organised 19 UQ tours, hosted 34 dinners, put on 87 cricket teas and had 4 dummy spits. Mr Elks has also come to expect certain formalities and standards to be upheld when playing for UQ. (Hence the need for the new match report structure.) Any feedback about the new match report format should be addressed to the UQ old boys committee.

Old Man Elks Scorecard – AKA “The Chicken Rules”  
 Match: UQ 040’s v Wynnum Sea Eagles Blue  
 Date: 2 June 2024  
 Venue: Carmichael Park / Bill Albury Oval / ie Wynnum #1



Item	Chicken Rules	Outcome	Score
Weather	Should be hot, bloody hot. We are men playing cricket wearing creams in an Australian summer. Heat also helps with warming the arthritic joints.	23 degrees, gentle breeze, bright sunshine and not a cramp from dehydration in sight. The Wynnum Wolves football club were playing nearby games of winter sport all day long which ruined the ambiance and summer “feel” for our game of cricket. Further demerit points for the wearing of coloured pyjamas instead of traditional creams.	2/10
Match time	Match should start at 12pm on the dot to allow for a pre match lie in, 9–18 holes of golf or a romp with the Mrs if you’re really lucky	Start time 930am	1/10

Item	Chicken Rules	Outcome	Score
Facilities	Minimum benchmarks: -outfield as good as the 3 <sup>rd</sup> hole at RQ -pitch; Bindi can bowl a bouncer and BP comes through at least knee height -ground should be within 20km of the highest point in Ascot	Wynnum #1 is a quality venue. Carpet like outfield, fast flat track with a good grass coverage keeping our pink Kookaburra nice and shiny (yes Chicken we played with a “pink” ball) Wynnum cricket club is 10.3km from Bartley’s Hill Reserve	8/10
Food	Spread good enough for the Queen should be provided by the home team	No spread of any description supplied. Players were treated like lepers playing golf at a public golf course and forced to supply their own food or purchase burgers from the football club 50m away	1/10
Shout	Skipper shouts a round per what happened in Arthur Andersen Board room, St Andrews members bar and Dog’s shout of XXXX bitter in the WEP sheds in the late 80s	No shout from Foles as he was late for a gig with his 6 piece band in the back streets of the Valley	1/10
Catches	Any catch in O40s is a good one Any slips catch in O40s is exceptional	Good catches: 4/4 (NO DROPS!!!!!!) Good catches from Ben Kmita x 2 (including a sharp one in the gully), John Davies (keeper) and outfield skier to Cameron Boyd (post catch celebration included a guttural “suck on that chicken” much to the amusement of Ian, last games umpire) Exceptional slips catches: 1/2 Foles caught a high one hander and dropped a genuine edge to the bread basket. 50%, we will take that any day of the week	8/10
Team Mates	No dic#head policy Bonus points if they like to mingle over a nice Barossa shiraz like Parto, Dougie, Wriggles, Hanko, Holty, Carty, Bill, Pink, Red, Shirls, Remedios, BP, Greigy, Clayto, Brownny, etc + make sure you pay your match fees and tour fees on time!	Anti dic#head policy was in fine form this match with: Dr Rosbrook turning up as 13 <sup>th</sup> man (after injuring a hand the day before) in case we needed him and proceeding to score half the match, Newcomer Jay McDonald was a fantastic new addition to the UQ040s team with a laid back cricket tragic aura and a very handy bat, bowler and fielder Sam playing through a tummy bug Batting order changes that worked to devastating effect (see below)	9/10

Item	Chicken Rules	Outcome	Score
Post Game	Drink after game compulsory. With opposition if they are "decent bunch" without if they are a bunch of dic#heads	Very enjoyable beer/soft drink after the game with the Wynnum boys on the second floor bar of their fantastic club house looking over the field	8/10
Game Result	University win	Uni 3/247 (35) beat Wynnum 10/120 (31)	9/10

Batters once again laid the platform for a dominant Uni display. Sam Curtis 53 (54), Richard McInnes 51 (29) and John Davies 50 (43) all excelled at different parts of the innings. Opener Curtis combined brute force with resolute defence. McInnes (#4) was unstoppable once he had his eye in and nearly knocked over the brand new Wynnum clubhouse with a few lofted drives. Davies (#5) sparkled after sending ball 1 through the covers for 4 and then proceeded to add exquisite cuts and pulls to all parts of the ground. These 3 were aptly supported by an aggressive opener Bindi 21 (23), trapped in front Foley 26 (22), team knock from talented newcomer Jay 22 (25) and red inks for Shades 4\*(7) and Boyd 15\*(8). 3/247 on a slow outfield was even more dominant than last games 270 odd.

The Uni bowling performance was led out by a solid opening spell by the returning Mick Moy (1/19 off 5) and Boyd (2/15 off 5). Wickets continued with Ben Kmita (1/28 off 5) bowling with pace rarely seen in O40s and Mr Professional Tom Reddcliff (2/17 off 5) getting an LBW with his first delivery. A very tidy 6 overs of medium/spin (1/22) was executed by Jay McDonald. The bowling performance of the day was delivered by the wily Paul Jelfs (3/15 off 5) who combined spin, arm balls, accuracy and flight to outfox the middle and lower order Wynnum batters.

Overall Old Man Elks Scorecard: 47/90 (52%)

As this is the first scorecard used we are not sure if this a good or bad score. However we are sure old man Elks will tell us.

