

SPRING 2022 | No. 051



OUTRIGHT

THE PLAYERS' MAGAZINE



A CHANGE OF PACE FOR
GARY BARTLETT

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OPENING THOUGHTS



Tēnā Koutou, and welcome to the spring edition of Outright.

Daylight savings, the warmer weather and the buzz of lawn mowers across all the cricket grounds nation-wide can mean only one thing - cricket is back for the summer. From the community level where many a keen parent volunteers (or possibly avoids) to score their child's match on the weekend, to the professional level where there is a buzz in the air amongst those involved in the game.

For our men and women members another comprehensive calendar is underway on both the domestic and international front. The Blackcaps programme has built toward the recent ICC Men's T20 World Cup in Australia, where they once again made it through to the final stages of the tournament, but unfortunately running into an inspired performance by Pakistan in the semi-final. The Blackcaps now return home to face India in three T20 matches and three ODIs, before heading to Pakistan just before the New Year. February sees them back home for two tests against England, and they round off summer at

home with a solitary test and three match ODI and T20 series versus Sri Lanka. The White Ferns on the other hand will meet Bangladesh at home in December for a T20 and ODI series, before heading to South Africa to compete in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup.

If all these international fixtures aren't enough to whet your appetite, the Dream11 Super Smash, Ford Trophy, Plunket Shield and Hallyburton Johnstone Shield are all being contested across the country in the domestic game. Of course, all this cricket is taking place under the newly minted Master Agreement between NZC, NZCPA and the six Major Associations. Commencing on 1 August, this landmark agreement lifts the professional game for all our members, including significant advances in the women's game with the adoption of Yolanda Beattie's gender equity principles. The agreed 29.75% share of revenue will see \$103 million dollars applied to the Player Payment Pool over five years which provides the foundation for equal match payments for men and women, and uplifts total payments across all playing groups.

Additional investment into the Personal Development Programme will also allow the NZCPA to expand the level of support for current and past players.

In this edition of Outright Dean Foxcroft shares his incredible story of leaving New Zealand in 2020 to visit family and friends in South Africa just before the borders were closed, and what unveiled in the ensuing months. Central Hinds bowler Monique Rees reveals her plan for life after cricket as she studies for her Masters in Architecture. Regarded by some as the fastest bowler New Zealand has ever produced, our Past Player feature takes us to Blenheim to catch up with Gary Bartlett. Aces Captain Robbie O'Donnell plots a new path towards recruitment and we meet our new Personal Development Manager Ginny Fail.

We hope you enjoy this edition of Outright and wish you all a safe and happy summer.

Ngā mihi nui

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Players better together

AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY

BY MARGOT BUTCHER

WITH A 50-PLUS ONE-DAY AVERAGE, VOLTS ALLROUNDER DEAN FOXCROFT NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD BE STUCK IN THE CRICKETING WILDERNESS FOR TWO YEARS. BUT STRANGER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED. LIKE A GLOBAL PANDEMIC. HOW DID HE COPE WITH BEING CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF IT, HIS CRICKET CAREER AND PLANS SUDDENLY IN DISARRAY?



It was like one of those movies where you're stuck in an airport terminal. At 22, Dean Foxcroft left New Zealand on a short trip home to South Africa to see family and friends, and sit some exams. He'd just helped the Otago Volts beat his old team, the Central Stags, in Dunedin at the end of 2019/20. Little did he know that it would be the last first-class cricket he would play for 30 months.

A polished allrounder and ex-South Africa Under 19 rep, Foxcroft had been quite the score for Hawke's Bay, and then the Central Stags when he first got a visa to pursue the pathway in New Zealand. The youngster with the thick Pretorian accent and easy smile impressed, and when he was offered his first professional contract by the Otago Volts, it was a coup for the southerners.

He had a big picture in life — with a focus on representing the Blackcaps one day. His first summer with the Volts had been a big success. But by the end of it, COVID-19 was also starting to turn the world upside down. New Zealand's

borders would close and, having been on a conditional visa rather than a permanent resident, Foxcroft would find himself locked out of the country.

Now cut to the scene where the big metal bird is floating down lower in the sky, and you start to see the first inky peeps of Aotearoa through the clouds below. The emotions for Foxcroft, now 24, and his wife, Reandi, welled up. He's back, now, and already scoring runs for the Volts. But are there any scars? Is he nervous about ever leaving the country again?

"Oh 100 per cent!" says Foxcroft.

"A lot of the boys have asked me already, 'What's your winter plans?' and I don't hesitate to say there's no way I'm leaving the country! I can't control what's happening around the world and the main thing is I never want to find myself in that situation again. So for now, Reandi and I aren't going on any more overseas holidays!

WHEN DID IT SINK IN THAT YOU WERE GOING TO MISS THE 2020/21 SEASON... AND THEN THE 2021/22 SEASON, AS WELL?

"Probably it sank in around December 2020. We applied for an exemption, and had four different immigration specialists all consulting to see where there was an opportunity to get back into the country. All four told me that there was no gap whatsoever. That was hard to take and I realised quite quickly then that I might be stuck for another couple of months, maybe a year... and I couldn't do anything about it.

"We tried again in May 2021, for an exemption. It was a huge effort from many people, a mass of paperwork, support from NZC, the NZCPA, Otago, everything possible. But again it was declined. That was quite niggly for me because by that time there were other overseas sportspeople coming into the country in rugby, basketball, netball. But they drew a line, and I was on the other side of it. You can't help but take it hard, and I was very frustrated.



A two-month holiday ended up being a 28-month holiday.

OTAGO WAS COMMITTED TO RETAINING YOU THROUGHOUT, AND YOU WERE ABLE TO TRAIN WITH FORMER STAGS CAPTAIN KRUGER VAN WYK IN SOUTH AFRICA, BUT HOW DID IT AFFECT YOUR MINDSET, YOUR CRICKET, SIMPLY NOT BEING ABLE TO PLAY?

"It had quite a big effect, and a mixed one. In some ways, it was quite a good thing because to get time away from the game and focus on family and friends, that is a luxury for cricketers. That is the time I get my headspace quite clear. But at the same time, you're scared that you're losing all your cricket abilities. Am I going to be good enough again to get back on the scene and play this high level of the game? That's still going through my mind now. I've had a bit more stress about it than I normally would.

"The upside is it was good to feel that love and hunger to play cricket again. For me, that was a hunger to get back into the country so I could play again — which I am loving now. I have always loved cricket, but you know that in cricket, you can quite quickly get over that feeling, as well!

AN UNEXPECTED BONUS WAS THAT YOU GOT TO DEBUT IN THE PAKISTAN SUPER LEAGUE FOR THE LAHORE QALANDERS.

"That was a nice deal, and I'll be honest, it came just at the right time, financially. I ended up playing only one game, and I didn't bat and didn't bowl! But it was really nice to get back into that professional environment and train with a quality group that had Rashid Khan, Shaheen Afridi, Ben Dunk, Harry Brook, and learn what I can from them. I had done as much training as I could back in Pretoria, and played a bit of club cricket as an overseas cricketer to ensure I didn't mess up my eligibility for New Zealand. I want to play for New Zealand one day."

HOW DID YOU STAY AFLOAT?

"With Reandi my partner able to work as a kindergarten teacher in South Africa, it was quite helpful on that front. My family and her family were also very helpful in supporting us wherever they could. They looked out for me. But as you can imagine, 28 months unable to work is quite difficult psychologically as well as financially. Massive credit goes to Otago Cricket for standing behind me the whole way, staying in touch with me, and it was very emotional to see my colleagues here again. Some staff and players have obviously moved on from Otago Cricket in the time that I was away, but I include them. Also the NZCPA were fantastic in the all support they offered me during that time."

COULD YOU BEAR TO FOLLOW THE BOYS' MATCHES ON THE LIVESTREAMS?

"The time zones made it quite tough to watch most of the Plunket Shield and Ford Trophy games but I did, during the evenings. Super Smash was also live in South Africa, and I watched that. I wanted to follow the boys, but at the same time, I didn't want to watch too much because the frustration would get to me, the frustration, and then I would go through the negative emotions."

THE PRETORIAN ACCENT HAS COME BACK THICK AND STRONG.

"Yeah I know! And the boys keep reminding me about it, haha. I've got some work-ons to get my Kiwi English accent back again!"

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO BE WALKING THROUGH CUSTOMS AT LAST AND SEEING THE FAMILIAR FACES?

"Very happy. Very emotional. I'd been waiting so long for this day. But also, leaving my parents behind, saying goodbye to all the family and friends, that was also very emotional. But a happy emotional. I could do what I want to do again. I could play cricket. Reandi is finding her feet in Otago. We've got a place 500 metres from The Esplanade at St Clair and we love it. It's so lovely to be back, and to be back with the boys. I just want to say thank you to NZC, too, for staying by my side to helping me through the 28 months and process. It's just great to be back!"



MONIQUE REES STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE

BY MARGOT BUTCHER

Three hours stuck in Taupo's tiny airport on Labour Weekend might not sound like a luxury to most people — but it's not that often that Monique Rees has this much downtime on her hands.

The flying pace bowler likes to stay busy, and leads a frenetic double life. She plays cricket with the Nelson Nyxons and Central Hinds over summer, then studies full-time to become a professional architect by winter — a faculty where you just don't cut corners.

The two halves of her life dovetail fairly well together but, on the shoulder of the season as camps and preseason kick in, there can still be some serious days that are pretty tough mentally. At camp, she'll be the one sitting in the lounge head down with her laptop, headphones on when everyone else has gone out for a meal, or gone to bed.

Just turned 22, Rees is already well on the road to becoming a practising professional architect.

Earlier this year she got to put on the black gown and celebrate graduating with her Bachelor's degree from the School of Architecture at Victoria

University of Wellington, and now she's tearing into a Master's thesis that takes two years on top of that — as Te Kāhui Whaihanga | the New Zealand Institute of Architects strongly recommends having a Master's as well in order to gain registration and find employment in the competitive New Zealand industry.

It's a heavyweight course to be tackling whilst playing cricket, but therein lies the upside, for Rees, of the women's Domestic game being still secondary employment, rather than full-noise contracts. She can still take up internships over the long university summer holidays and supplement her professional knowledge as well as her earnings.

"For me, going to university has just been like going to work every day, and I'm probably pretty tough on myself as well. I do have busy days, but I just fit my training in at 7am or 5pm, 6pm. Preseason takes the most organisation wise, and I have an understanding Master's supervisor and can get extensions on my assignments when I need, but it's up to me to be responsible and just get it all done."

Back when she was at New Plymouth Girls' High, Rees had thought seriously about becoming a physiotherapist, taking the science route and PE through school with that in mind, with art on the side. She describes herself as not that great with words and numbers, but she's evidently a good student as well as strong on creativity, visual and practical skills.

"It hit me that I would probably get more enjoyment from a career where I could be more creative, and play around with more options, so that's when I decided on architecture instead. It's been a big shift for the last few years, but I'm really glad that I've done it."

In cricket, the young right-armer has already played more than 50 games for the Hinds across the two formats, with a career standout being her Hallyburton Johnstone Shield 5-14 against the Blaze in 2018/19, the summer the Hinds won the title.

"I love the Hinds because we're a really close-knit team. We're all genuinely good friends. We come from all over so there's bit involved to play together, but



we enjoy it so much when we do get together and that's a big part of what drives us and our team culture."

Meanwhile, some of her good Uni mates are seemingly unaware that she's a pocket rocket with the white ball coming to a Spark Sport livestream near you this summer.

"One mate that I'm really good friends with at Uni and sat next to practically every day knew that I played cricket, but he thought that I just played casually, or for Nelson or something. Then he caught a glimpse of what I had coming up with the Hinds schedule and he said, "Wait, what, so are the Central Hinds like the female version of the Stags?"

and I said yeah. 'So you're like — a serious professional cricket player?' It was so funny.

"But to be fair, cricket isn't my whole life, or even the main focus for me — as much as I love playing, and playing for the Hinds. I don't necessarily have a goal to play for New Zealand or anything like that. If it happens, that would be cool but I'm pretty focused on my architecture career right now."

With the Hinds clocking up plenty of road miles and airpoints just to get together and train (let alone assemble for games — even 'home games' can be on the opposite coast or even another island for the players), it helps that it



doesn't make much difference to Rees where she is based, so long as it's near an airport.

Last season she was living in Christchurch for an architecture internship over the holidays, and she's returning this summer after scoring a new internship with Architectus.

"They're a large practice that does some really cool projects right across New Zealand, the biggest firm that I will have worked in yet so I'm really looking forward to that."

The boyfriend is also in Christchurch so it works out well for a bit of balance in life — but before you ask, she's firm that there's "no chance" of her making a switch to red and black.

And as for a dream project, she doesn't have to look further than her original home ground in Taranaki.

"Designing the new Pukekura Park pavilion for us — oh my God, how awesome would that be!"

Who know, one day soon it may even be a reality.



ROBBIE O'DONNELL ACING RECRUITMENT

BY AIDEN McLAUGHLIN



After an incredibly successful 2021-22 campaign, Robbie O'Donnell has had a busy off season away from the game, while also managing to represent New Zealand A for the first time.

As well as leading the Auckland Aces to Plunket Shield and Ford Trophy success, O'Donnell was one of the joint winners of the Men's Domestic Player of the Year Award (along with Central Stags batsman Tom Bruce).

But when the season ended, it was time to turn his attention to his job away from cricket. For the last two winters, O'Donnell has been working as the Business Development Manager for Infinitas Talent, a recruitment specialist agency located in Auckland.

O'Donnell, 28, was awarded his first cricket contract as a fresh faced 19-year-old. From early on, he tapped into the guidance the NZCPA could provide.

"I worked a lot with Sanj Silva who was our Personal Development Manager back then, just to see what study looked like for me," says O'Donnell.

"That was something that Mum pushed pretty hard for; the best case is that you can play cricket for 20 odd years, then you've got 30 odd years after that, so what's next?"

O'Donnell ended up studying for a Bachelor of Business Studies degree from Massey University and majored in Human Resource Management. That path was finalised after regular catchups with his Personal Development Manager at the NZCPA and talking to a few career transition managers.

"The biggest thing was that I've been around people and teams for most of my life and I guess that all the different divisions within Human Resources struck a chord and it was something I enjoyed studying. It took me six years; I did it part-time and finished up two years ago" says O'Donnell.

With his studies complete, current National PD Manager Lesley Elvidge suggested he meet Jason Beith at Infinitas Talent.

"Lesley thought it would be a great opportunity for me to talk to him and get a role through them. I went for an initial 45 minute catch-up and stayed for about two hours," O'Donnell says.

"I met everybody in the office and a couple of days later Jason asked me back in and offered me a job working for him in the full-time recruitment space. He said they were more than happy to work around cricket as they thought I could bring some things to the party. I didn't hesitate much and took him up on the offer and I've never looked back," he says.

When he joined Infinitas Talent, initially it was all about learning; but operating in a relatively small team, O'Donnell was exposed to anything and everything within the business.

"In the second winter I didn't hesitate to get back in and there were some new faces in the team, so the biggest change was trying to find my niche and my role to help the business as much as possible," O'Donnell says.

"I took on a few different responsibilities around trying to get out and network and see what opportunities were out there that we could bring in, and when the opportunities did come in, helping the newer teammates get up and running and understand the systems through and through," he says.

Coincidentally, O'Donnell's long-standing teammate at Auckland, Ben Horne, is also in recruitment and was able to offer lots of support to him as he was getting to grips with his new role.

"When this opportunity came up I definitely used Ben as a sounding board. He's been great at helping me out and working with me over the last six or seven years within the Aces group but for that to then spill outside of cricket, it's been great because we share such a good relationship," says O'Donnell.

As he has settled into recruitment, O'Donnell has discovered that there is indeed a synergy with the experiences he has from his cricket career.

"The biggest thing I personally found is that you don't actually know what

the interchangeable skills are until you dive into the deep end and see what you're good at and what you potentially struggle at. Working with people came naturally to me and holding my own within that space and then just having enough confidence to know the business and what we stand for and what our values are," he says.

"Another thing is bringing a culture into the office and making it an enjoyable place to work and I thoroughly enjoy it. I try and pop in regularly throughout the season as well and touch base with everyone. I've created new relationships and friendships that I wouldn't have otherwise had."

Towards the end of winter, cricket came calling again, as O'Donnell was named as co-captain (with Tom Bruce) for the New Zealand A tour of India. It was the first New Zealand A tour to India since 2017, and meant just over a month overseas for O'Donnell and the rest of the squad, with a schedule made up of three four-day matches and three one-day matches.

"It was an incredible experience. We went over there to try and make a bit of history and be a team that could look back and say we'd won a series in India," says O'Donnell.

"We got really close in the four-day games but they're so good in their own conditions and never seemed to be panicked or flustered. There's room for improvement, but I'd much rather do it in the hardest conditions in the world and try and learn from that," he says.

Shortly after his return from India, it was back to pre-season preparation with Auckland and just over a fortnight later, the start of Plunket Shield. But after the 2022-23 season ends, he'll be back with Infinitas Talent.

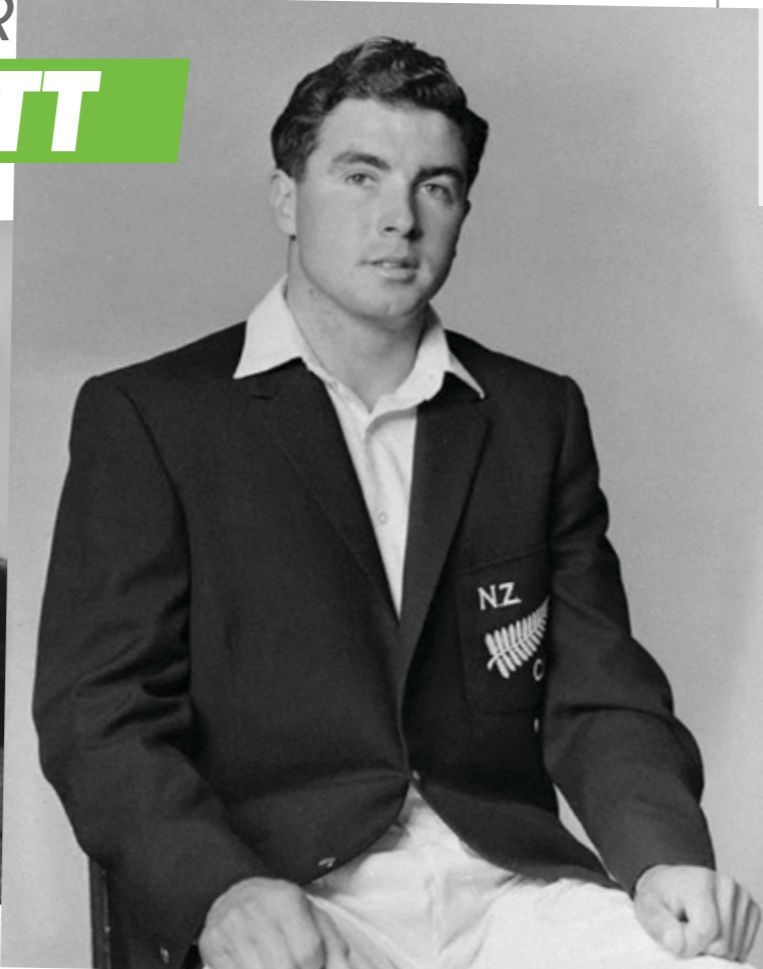
"I've found that having a bit more balance in life and experiencing working has helped my ability and my curiosity around what is it that people do," he says.

"Something that the NZCPA works so hard with is that they do see so much value in the learnings you take from cricket and working with so many different people and personalities and the likes of dealing with adversity and everything that goes with it."

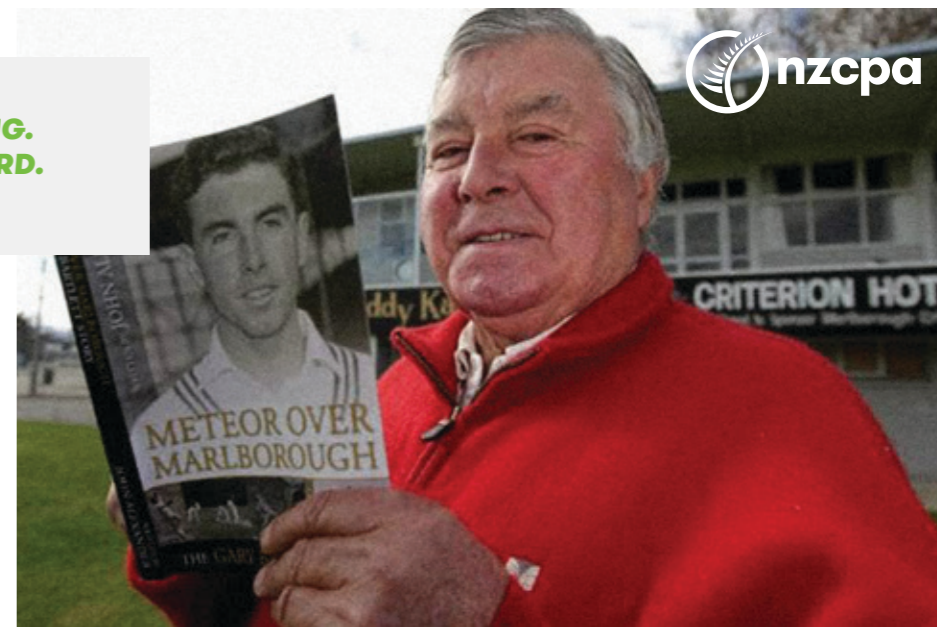


A CHANGE OF PACE FOR **GARY BARTLETT**

BY MARGOT BUTCHER



“I DON'T LIKE TO CALL IT COACHING. I THINK HELPING IS A BETTER WORD. I JUST HELP PEOPLE.”



nzcpa

THERE'S NO PLACARD TO MARK IT, BUT EVERYBODY KNOWS GARY BARTLETT'S SPOT AT HORTON PARK. WATCHING THE BOWLER'S ARM FROM THE ROUGH WOODEN SEAT BEHIND LONG ON - WHERE ELSE.

Horton Park and Bartlett are inextricably linked. He literally grew up across the road, ran around here as a nipper. By the time he'd grown into a fully-fledged fast bowler, he was up in the dark curating the pitch here, rolling in the natural dew — no irrigation in the 1950s. A deck that dries too early will stress out the grass cover, and you don't want that as a fast bowler.

Horton Park used to be renowned as the quickest pitch in New Zealand, but there hasn't been a Central Stags match in Blenheim since 2002. The advent of venue warrants of fitness changed the game. It's been a particular shame for Bartlett, now 81, who doesn't get to watch live first-class cricket, and particularly first-class bowlers, anymore. So, he's watching the four

local men's club flagship sides take each other on, and tomorrow he'll be back to watch the Marlborough versus Nelson's women's match.

Former Canterbury coach & player Garry McDonald rings up Bartlett regularly. So does former Blackcap and Stag Tony Blain, from England. Carl Bulfin still lives in Blenheim, and catches up with Bartlett — the pair share a unique bond as Marlborough men once considered the quickest in the country, with the grumbling bodies to show for it.

McDonald too was once a young player making his way from the sleepy corner of Blenheim. He is 15 years younger than Bartlett who debuted for Central in 1958/59, terrorised opponents in the Hawke Cup for Marlborough, and played 10 Tests in the 1960s. Bartlett's impact on the 1961/62 five-Test series in South Africa (his debut series) had cemented his reputation as a fearsome quick, and McDonald looked up to him as a hero.

“He was everyone's hero in Marlborough,” says McDonald, still working in cricket in Nelson. “Then he became my mentor in coaching, and he

still is. Everyone needs a mentor, even at my age. He's helped me immensely. If I ever have something I can't pinpoint about a bowler, I ring Gary.”

McDonald still takes players over to Blenheim to see him. Josh Clarkson was one, back when he was a young lad at Nelson College. Netherlands international Paul van Meekeren found himself running around Horton Park in front of the Tohunga as well. Andrew Penn — any CD bowler who could dig it in a bit, would be sent to see him.

“It's a shame cricket hasn't used Gary's talents more over the years but the one thing he is not is mainstream,” says McDonald.

“Barters can be stinging in his analysis, but he will be right. He has got the best cricket brain I have ever come across — not just for pace bowling, but especially for pace bowling because he resonates very strongly with them. He understands the pain they go through, pain that you don't know unless you are a fast bowler.

“He doesn't have pay TV or the internet so all he sees these days sometimes is

the snippets of a player on the news, which might be a matter of seconds. He'll ring me up and say, 'Did you see so-and-so on the news? He needs to get his back leg through.' It never ceases to astound me that he can look at a player for such a very short period of time and understand what is going on with him — and he's always spot on.”

“I don't like to call it coaching,” says Bartlett, sitting on the sidelines in the Saturday morning sun. “I think helping is a better word. I just help people.”

He has 'helped' a lot of people, players and coaches. Former Auckland coach Tony Sail says he learned more from rooming with Bartlett than he ever did elsewhere on the coaching courses they attended together, back in the day. Pretty much everyone has a Gary Bartlett story like that — if you won his trust and let you in.

Cricket can be a cruel obsession. Bartlett's own playing career left its mark; people are still talking about it five decades later. If you haven't heard the stories, you've been under a rock.

On his impressive debut tour in South Africa he was said to be hitting 160kph — and also bowled a hell of a lot of overs on the tour. It wrecked his body and he came down with shingles from the stress. It was never the same after that, even though he took 6-38 against India in Christchurch in 1967/68, at the time New Zealand's best Test haul. It was New Zealand's first win against India.

“I should have stopped after South Africa,” says Bartlett, “but I had things I want to prove to myself.”

McDonald: “If you saw him run, when he was younger — they talk about Michael Holding and whispering death. Well, Barters was absolutely poetry, then he would rock back and unleash these missiles. When he was out of rhythm, he would spray it, but on his day, he was truly magnificent.”

Recently Bartlett broke his ribs, and his constant friend now is on a solid-looking walking stick. A spiritual man, he says

the tough, beautiful piece of manuka was blessed for him. He was always very strong. It wasn't unknown for him carry a boar on his shoulders down from the hills after a spot of pig-hunting and then head off to play cricket.

What we call Strength and Conditioning (S&C) these days was a do-it-yourself school. He points out a tree on a ridgeline halfway up an otherwise bare, steep hill that frames the town “That tree was just up to my knee when I used to run up there.”

He worked a lot of things out for himself, as you had to in those days. He understood that good rhythm and balance in his run-up was central to his bowling action, so he took an active interest in how athletes like Peter Snell ran. He talked to Snell about running. Decades later, when Chris Donaldson was still chasing Olympic sprinting dreams rather than training Blackcaps as an S&C coach, Bartlett was following Donaldson's running career with interest, too.

“You can't bowl fast if you can't run,” he states. “I was all about rhythm and timing. Without that, what have you got?”

Strong and wiry, his natural strength also allowed him to sustain the slinging action that started almost from his ankle. He also has an arm that doesn't naturally straighten and, as the injuries kicked in and his action got a bit more front-on at an earlier point in his delivery stride, that no doubt exacerbated the chat about him throwing that led to an infamous protest by that Indian Test squad in 1968 that pretty much ended his career.

Bartlett has fond words for players who were good to him, and not so fond of a few whom he felt threw him under a bridge. He carried on walking the hills, professionally shooting thousands, if not millions, of rabbits and other pests to help farmers and vineyards, and was a legendary sports masseur for anyone brave enough to let his big, strong hands sort out their tight calf or quad. Former CD and Blackcaps paceman Lance Hamilton tells a story of once having to be held down by two other Stags players on the table while Bartlett worked on him — but the next morning, his calf was magic.

The original Bartlett family home no longer stands, replaced by a service building, so Bartlett has to drive to Horton Park these days. Age is a bugger, as we all find out sooner or later. He's been grateful for contact and support from the NZCPA. Paul Hobbs visited in person, and helped him sort out some maintenance issues around his flat.

“It's nice that they remember us older players,” he says. “We didn't have all that in our day, you had to fend for yourself. I was quite touched.”

Cricket, for all its cruelty, is a community you come to belong to, with no boundaries or borders, and never a shortage of conversation. If he's not parked up at his spot on the sidelines, he might be off for a beer and a yarn with Bully. Chill Blain might have called. Someone really needs to get the man the internet.

PLAYER INDUCTION FORUM 2022

DOMESTIC MEN



The 10th annual Player Induction Forum was held on the 14th and 15th of September in Auckland at two venues Eden Park and The Remuera Golf Course. With the forum last year being held over zoom due to COVID restrictions, we invited the new player cohort from last season to join the thirteen newly contracted men from across the six Major Associations, taking our total number involved to 23 players. The group engaged in a range of discussions on the professional cricket environment they have now become a part of over the course of the two days.

Entering the professional cricket environment is an exciting time for players but we are also aware that it comes with a much greater range of expectations, responsibilities and commitments. Our objective with the induction forum is to ensure that players are aware of the services offered by, and the role of the NZCPA, that will support them through and beyond their playing career.

Professional sport creates an ecosystem which can be challenging for many players. Providing them with skills to cope, manage and plan their life in and around their cricket career is more important than ever and the Player Induction Forum is the first step on this path. For many, this is the first opportunity for them to meet

and interact with NZCPA staff and this initial interaction has transformed the engagement we have with players early in their career. It is an extremely successful tool in assisting players to transition into the professional cricket environment.

Also, a big thank you to Kyle Jamieson and Ken McClure who attended over the two days to share their experience and insight into life as a professional cricketer and a special thanks also to our amazing partners and service providers Money Empire, InsureYou, Superlife and Instep who added valuable contributions to our Induction Forum.

Topics discussed over the two-day forum were:

- About the NZCPA
- Personal Development Programme
- Player Contracts
- Player Property and Promotions

Plus the following facilitated sessions:

- Life as a professional cricketer – Kyle Jamieson, Ken McClure
- Managing your digital footprint – Richard Boock
- NZC High Performance Programme – Bryan Stronach
- The Cricketers Retirement Fund – Superlife
- Medical, Insurance and ACC - Insureyou

- Prioritising your Well-being - Instep
- Importance of good Financial Management – Money Empire

Initiating a strong relationship with our newly contracted players is an important step in their professional cricketing lives, as it provides them with a foundation of support as they embark on what we hope will be a successful and beneficial time in the game. These new players left secure in the knowledge that the NZCPA is club they are now part of for life.

NEWLY CONTRACTED DOMESTIC MEN

Auckland	Simon Keene Quinn Sunde
Canterbury	Matt Boyle Blake Coburn Zak Foulkes Mitch Hay
Central District	Ma'ara Ave Liam Dudding
Northern District	Tim Pringle
Otago	Jacob Cumming Llew Johnson Ben Lockrose
Wellington	Tim Robinson

PLAYER INDUCTION SERIES

DOMESTIC WOMEN



Following the signing of the Master Agreement earlier this year the landscape has changed significantly for our domestic women players. With the new era of investment into the women's game it meant that all domestic women need to go through our NZCPA induction sessions, but with 72 players in that category it made it impractical to bring everyone to a central location, so we are taking their induction on the road through October and November.

The new contracts domestic players now sign, change the way domestic women players are recognised, valued and will experience their cricket environment. The role of our induction programme is to ensure players know they have support and what services they have access to via the NZCPA.

During the induction meetings NZCPA staff covered a range of topics with the purpose of enhancing our connectivity with players and to build upon the foundation of our support for each

player as they embark through their lives within and outside of cricket.

A tailored induction has been developed for the domestic women players which packages all the key areas into two hours and covers the following area:

- 1 | About the NZCPA
- 2 | Personal Development Programme
- 3 | Player Contracts
- 4 | Player Property and Promotions

In the short term each Personal Development Manager will meet with the players separately to guide them through all the various PD services which are now available to them under the new master agreement.

In future years we will bring newly contracted domestic men and women together for our annual Player Induction Forum in Auckland.

NEWLY CONTRACTED DOMESTIC WOMEN

Auckland	Bree Illing Josie Penfold Prue Catton Amberley Parr Anna Browning Sarah Carnachan
Canterbury	Isobel Sharp
Central District	Ocean Bartlett Cate Pedersen Ashtuti Kumar
Northern District	Carol Agafili Marama Downes Shriya Naidu Holly Topp Emma Baker
Otago	Gemma Adams Olivia Gain Paige Loggenberg Saffron Wilson
Wellington	Kate Chandler Antonia Hamilton Nicole Baird Olivia Boivin





Meet GINNY FAIL

Our New Personal Development Manager

WE EXTEND A VERY WARM WELCOME TO GINNY FAIL WHO RECENTLY JOINED US IN THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT MANAGER. GINNY BRINGS A FANTASTIC SKILLSET AND APPROACH THAT WILL ENSURE SHE ALSO MAKES A TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE PLAYERS AND THE NZCPA. WE MANAGED TO STEAL A QUICK MOMENT WITH GINNY AND TO SEE HOW SHE IS SETTLING IN AND WHAT SHE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO IN THE COMING WEEKS.

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT YOUR NEW ROLE WITH THE NZCPA AS A PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER FOR THE WELLINGTON BLAZE, AUCKLAND HEARTS AND OUR FIRST PDM TO LAUNCH THE TRANSITION PROGRAMME FOR PLAYERS IN THE 1-5 YEARS FOLLOWING THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CRICKET?

Using my skills and experience to make a difference to people's day to day lives and to their futures. I'm excited about the opportunity to build one-on-one relationships and being involved in and part of a new community and sector.

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING CAREER-WISE UP TO THIS POINT?

It been a bit of mix. After university I worked at the New Zealand Law Society and at Westhaven Marina (during an America's Cup) and then went to London where I fell into recruitment (and for a part of that worked remotely in Chamonix so I could do more skiing than working). At some point my sister called me and told me it was time to come home, and I did what she said. I returned to Christchurch and joined CERA as part of an in-house recruitment team

post-earthquake, and after that moved into executive recruitment and search in Christchurch and Wellington. There were also stints in there selling cookies and fruit, but the key to all these roles has been building relationships.

WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL GREATEST MOMENT, OR DEFINING PERSONAL EXPERIENCE?

I have a feeling my greatest personal moment is about to happen but two defining personal experiences were: living and working in London for 12 years, and becoming an aunty (the crazy one).

WHAT WOULD YOUR BEST FRIEND SAY IF SOMEONE WERE TO ASK THEM ABOUT YOU?

That I am adventurous, love a laugh, am hardworking and committed to my family ... and I'm sure they would add that I could improve my keep-in-contact frequency.

WHAT ARE YOUR PASSIONS OUTSIDE OF WORK?

Going to new places and meeting people. I have been lucky to have travelled to and (recreationally) skied in some amazing places (my new local favourite being Lake Ōhau). Not now, but before I got too old, I would have also included kite surfing and paddleboarding.

I have an amazing family, boyfriend and dog (Harvey – named after Harvey Spector on Suits) and try and spend as much time with them as I can.

I am also learning about music – my boyfriend is a bass player and apparently, I need training on hearing the bass. I can lose myself for hours in second-hand clothing shops and if you handed me a bag of giant liquorice allsorts I would eat the lot.

YOU HAVE A LONG HISTORY OF WORKING IN RECRUITMENT. THE NETWORK YOU HAVE BUILT MUST BE A GREAT ASSET TO TAP INTO FOR THE CPA'S NEW TRANSITION PROGRAMME?

I do have wide network and it is not just from recruitment – it has



developed through all aspects of my life. Networks are useful, but I think of most use to the programme will be what I have learnt about how people engage with each other and the different ways of conveying someone's personality, skills and experience.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU WILL BRING TO THE ROLE OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER?

Energy and enthusiasm, empathy and an open mind.

I'M EXCITED ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD ONE-ON-ONE RELATIONSHIPS AND BEING INVOLVED IN AND PART OF A NEW COMMUNITY





THE PLAYERS' GOLF DAY

After a forced hiatus over the past couple of years the Players' Golf Day returned with a bang on the 20th of September at Windross Farm. Sandwiched between weather storms the day dawned settled on what was a warm and calm early spring day, which given the challenges over the past few years was a welcome turn of luck.

Windross Farm was a new venue for the event this year which benefits The Cricketers Trust, and it proved a perfect mix of challenge, fun and reward for the full field of assembled partners, groups and their guests. It was also fantastic to welcome NZC and their partners in what is an enhanced involvement with the day this year, demonstrating their mutual commitment toward raising funds for the Cricketers Trust.

The ambrose format provided a good chance for everyone to get alongside

their host Blackcaps and facilitated a wonderful spirit felt across the entire field of players. There was room for both good and bad golf and as is always the case with this format, a few sideways glances as the results and winners are announced.

Taking out the team title this year was BTL hosted by Finn Allen. Glenn Phillips and the Global Elite team were second with Martin Guptill leading team PTTS into third place. The bragging rights for the longest drive among the Blackcaps players resides with Finn Allen in his debut Players' Golf Day appearance.

Overall, the day was a wonderful experience and showed why this day is held in such high regard by those in attendance. We are delighted to have raised in excess of \$15,000 for The Cricketers' Trust this year and thank the Blackcaps players for their commitment

to this event and this charity which is so important to our playing group.

We are grateful to our golf day event partners – especially to Boundary Road Brewery and to NZC for facilitating access to the Blackcaps during their commercial week, and the Windross Farm staff who supported us so well through the day.

We look forward to having everyone back again next year.



THE CRICKETERS' TRUST



PAST PLAYER EVENT

DUNEDIN 7TH OCTOBER

The NZCPA joined forces with Otago Cricket to host a past player event in the Longroom at Dunedin's University Oval on a pleasant Friday evening.

Around 30 people including past players, current Volts and Sparks joined Otago Cricket and NZCPA staff for drinks and nibbles.

It was the first past player event hosted by the NZCPA since COVID locked many of us down.

The event was kicked off with a welcome from past player and current Otago Cricket chairman, Shane Robinson.

The aim of these events is to connect generations of past players and revisit those old exploits both on and off the field. It also enables them to get to know current players and share their experiences after cricket.

We use these events to encourage our past player membership to keep an eye out on the wellbeing of their old mates.

It's with that in mind that former 1980s NZ Player, Brian Barrett, was invited to speak about his battles with mental health. Brian gave a compelling account of his decline into addiction and despair after failing for some years to properly acknowledge and address his anxiety. Brian's journey is inspirational, telling those present how with the help of the NZCPA and The Cricketers' Trust, he was able to make a plan for his recovery, including detox, residential rehabilitation and community care. Now he is taking an active role in planning his return to work.

Brian's talk was brutally honest and courageous. Those in attendance were rivetted to his story and as someone who helped Brian over the past 18 months, I was incredibly proud of him.

Brian delivered an important message, encouraging past and current players alike to speak openly and honestly about any mental health issues they may have.

It would be so much easier for him to shut up and say nothing about his experiences, but Brian was eager to speak to other past players so as to hopefully open the door for others to seek help.

The evening was thoroughly enjoyable with many tall stories growing even taller.

Cricketers' Trust board member, Ronald Cardwell (who's based in Sydney) sent over some free cricket books for those in attendance to take home.

NZCPA's Chief Executive, Heath Mills joined us at the event as well as our Dunedin based PDM, Greg Dawson.

Plans are underway for events in Nelson and Wellington in January.

I wish you all a great summer.

Paul Hobbs, Past Player PDM



PREMIUM PARTNERS



UPCOMING EVENTS

PAST PLAYER EVENTS

Nelson - Date TBC

Wellington - Date TBC

QSCC GOLF DAY CHRISTCHURCH

March 2023

HOOKED ON CRICKET

Term One 2023

T20 BLACK CLASH

20 January 2023, Hagley Oval, Christchurch

SEDDON CRICKET CLUB v NZCPA MASTERS

2 April 2023, Seddon Park, Hamilton

THE CRICKETERS TRUST

The Cricketers' Trust is a charitable trust established by current professional players and the New Zealand Cricket Players' Association with a view to assisting past cricketers who have fallen on hard times.

It is during these times of need that the trust aims to do what it can to ease the hardship that former players and their families may be experiencing.

As the work of the Trust has become more known there have been more applications for support from past players who for whatever reason have

suffered a crisis in their lives and are struggling financially or with their health and well-being.

The Trust has helped more than 20 Past Players in the past two years and distributed more than \$50,000.

If you would like to contribute to the trust fund, donations can be placed into the Trust account below:

ANZ
Cricketers Trust Account
01-1839-00268808-000



www.thecricketerstrust.co.nz

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THE INSIDER

THE GREYNESS OF MANKADERY

BY PAUL FORD



The latest dramatic and controversial chapter in the 187-year old tome of 'batters being run out at the non-striker's end' was written at in September when England's Charlie Dean was mercilessly cut down by Indian spinner Deepti Sharma in a game-winning, delivery-stride, bail-whipping dismissal at Lord's.

A few of these chapters have involved New Zealanders, including Otago's Bill Hendley doing the deed twice in the 1860s in domestic cricket, Ewen Chatfield 'meanly' carving off Derek Randall in 1978 in a Test at Lancaster Park, Dipak Patel ending a Grant Flower innings after a series of warnings in Zimbabwe in 1992, and Mark Chapman being sawn off by an Omani bowler when he was playing for Hong Kong in 2016.

As they have been for nearly 200 years, the battle lines in each of these incidents are drawn between the two schools of thought on the dismissal: those who think it is perfectly fine because the Laws of Cricket say so, and those in the lofty elevations of the moral high ground where taking wickets in such a way is against the undefined and wobbly line that is the Spirit of the Game.

The rule-makers of cricket, the MCC, are unsurprisingly very supportive of their rules and announced in the post-Dean furore: "The message to non-strikers continues to be to remain in their ground until they have seen the ball leave the bowler's hand. Then dismissals, such as the one seen yesterday, cannot happen. Respectful debate is healthy and should continue, as where one person sees the bowler as breaching the Spirit in such examples, another will point at the non-striker gaining an unfair advantage by leaving their ground early."

Cricket analyst Peter Della Penna calculated that in the match against India, Dean had actually been out of her crease ahead of the ball a staggering 70



times throughout her innings, so it did seem inevitable that there would be a reckoning at some point.

But of course when the wicket was taken, as is tradition, the bowler is painted as the villain even as acknowledgements rain down that this form of dismissal is recognised as legitimate, but just feels a bit yukky.

I think that is what it boils down to: cricket is a game that must be a duel between bat and ball. Whipping the bails off before a ball is delivered detracts from the contest and the whole joy that comes from the contest actually being undertaken. If things degenerate into a distracting sequence of bowlers steaming in to balk at the bowling crease, as batters feign setting off on runs, then we will end up with a lesser game with endless resets and shenanigans before the ball has come into play.

But we must also acknowledge that we can't have non-strikers thundering out of their crease with reckless abandon, seizing an advantage that becomes

more and more tempting the tighter a contest becomes, and without any real deterrent. I don't subscribe to the view that it is some sort of abhorrent cheating to leave your crease early, but rather it is a calculated risk for which there must be consequences.

Indian legend Ravi Shastri is clear that he sees the Mankad dismissal as fair game, and one that will become increasingly acceptable over time. "There is outrage but it's because that law hasn't existed for that long," he said. "I don't believe this where you warn the guy once and then the second time you do it. It's like me telling a fielder you dropped me once, second time you can catch it."

I like the idea that third umpires should check where the non-striker stands at every ball, in the same way they check for no-balls, and penalise the team if the batter has left their crease early. It would result in a 'one short' ruling or the imposition of penalty runs - and would crucially shift the greyness and morality of any decision out of the bowler's hands and into those of the umpires.

Paul Ford is the co-founder of the Beige Brigade and one-seventh of The Alternative Commentary Collective. He has never had the cricket awareness to be a perpetrator or a victim of a Mankad.



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