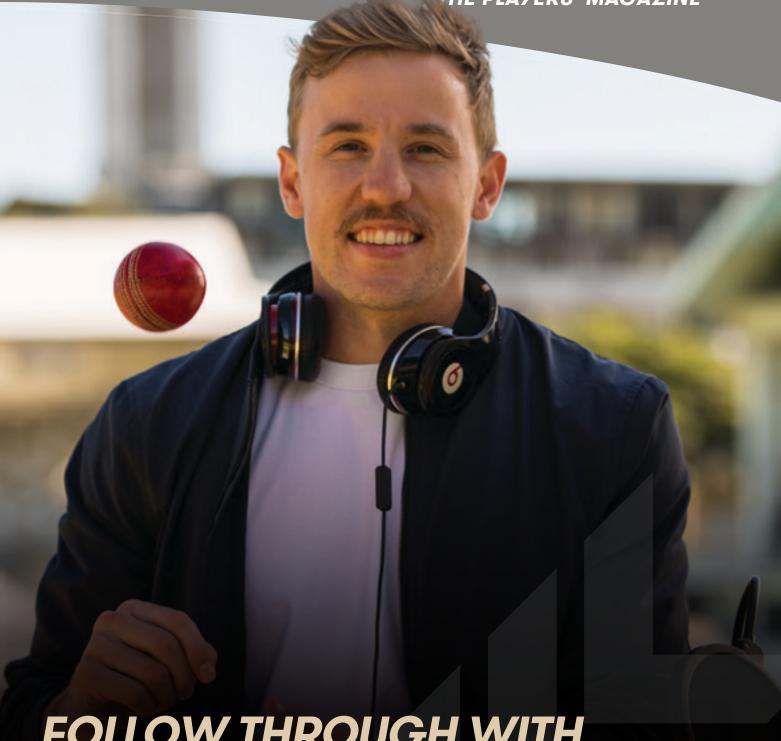




THE PLAYERS' MAGAZINE



FOLLOW THROUGH WITH LOGAN VAN BEEK



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Tēnā Koutou, welcome to the summer edition of Outright magazine.

The summer of Cricket has been exciting amid an ongoing backdrop of Covid-19, and all our members rejoiced in the achievement of the Blackcaps qualifying for the World Test Championship at Lords.

A break in the international schedule saw Blackcaps and White Ferns players turning out for their domestic teams in a very well contested Super Smash. It is fantastic to see all our members contributing so positively to the game and congratulations to Wellington and Canterbury for making a memorable finals double at the Basin Reserve, and to the Firebirds and Magicians for taking out the title.

Special mention can be made to Ross Taylor who became the most capped New Zealand player over the holiday period. His 438th appearance (all formats) in the first Test against Pakistan surpassing fellow NZCPA Board member Daniel Vettori.

2021 has also started on a sad note as we learned of the passing of Bruce Taylor. A world class allrounder, he remains the only player to achieve the rare feat of scoring a century and taking a five-wicket bag on test debut (v India 1965). Bruce was also a NZCPA Life member and was both a recipient and strong supporter of the work of The Cricketer's Trust, he will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with Annie, friends, and family.

Inside this issue we profile new Personal Development Manager, Paul Hobbs, who joins the PD team following Tim Weston's departure to move back to New Plymouth.

Better known for his involvement with rugby Sir Graham Henry reminisces on the days he played first class cricket in Canterbury and we catch up with Logan van Beek and learn about his off field activities.

A highlight this edition is our chat with Trevor Auger who penned 'The Warm Sun on My Face' - the history of women in New Zealand Cricket, which chronicles some of the incredible stories he unearthed over the past three years on this remarkable project,

We hope you enjoy this edition of Outright and wish all our members the best over the remainder of the season.

Ngā mihi nui

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MANY OF US WOULD BE CONTENT IF AS A SPORTSPERSON OUR BIO READ REPRESENTED NEW ZEALAND IN NZ-19 BASKETBALL 2009, NZ-19 **CRICKET 2010, THE NETHERLANDS** IN 2014 (AT THE T20 WORLD CUP), **NOT TO MENTION OVER 200** MATCHES AT THE ELITE LEVEL. HOWEVER, THIS ISN'T THE CASE FOR LOGAN VAN BEEK.

"I would sit down with friends over a coffee and talk about their sporting journey, the ups, downs, success and obstacles they faced and after we talked, I'd think man I wish I had recorded that; this could help so many people." This was the catalyst and purpose behind van Beek's latest project Follow Through with

LVB, a podcast to help individuals with their wellbeing and 'follow through' on their aspirations.

As a result, he went out purchased some microphones, thoroughly researched the internet and during the 2020 summer van Beek had recorded episodes with Telusa Veainu, Jimmy Neesham and Tom Walsh.

Firebird's team-mate Michael Bracewell was the final catalyst to launching the podcast for public consumption, with van Beek recalling the moment. "Michael said to me - you've been talking about this podcast for months; I'll give you 5 days

from now to actually do it." Not one to back down from a challenge especially from Bracewell, van Beek gracefully accepted and released his first episode within the time frame.





van Beek has completed 20 episodes in the first 'season' of podcasts, covering a wide range of athletes from sports including cricket, basketball, netball, cross-fit, rugby, football, and Ski Cross. Each episode starts with a common question, "tell me about your upbringing?"

When asked if there is a common theme amongst his interviewees van Beek replies "support, and someone backing them early on in their career whether it be coach, supporter or manager. For me it was my parents who backed me, Dad

Each episode is a well-planned exercise, with around 9-10 hours of research and production nestled in around cricketing commitments. Van Beek aspires to portray every guest in the best light possible, so 'winging it' is not really an option. A positive experience and a high standard finished product are a prerequisite for the Dutch international. "Broadcaster Jason Pine gave me some great advice about researching and knowing your subject matter really well. It puts them at ease that you've done your homework and you're asking genuine questions of them."



with support and my mum was great with resilience, if I had a crappy game and I didn't want to go back the next day she would say you are going back tomorrow, and you will try your best."

Clearly evident on each recording is his natural rapport, connection, and willingness to deep dive into his guest's career path, not to mention share many a good varn. With former Tall Black Dillon Boucher both revealed the highly embarrassing moment they forgot their boots for a basketball match. In van Beek's case for his Auckland Stars debut he had to go across to the opposition dressing room and ask the then Tall Blacks Captain Paul Henare for a spare pair of size twelves.

When it comes to the future van Beek is just concentrating on his cricket this summer and continuing his goal of trying to represent his country at the senior level. Judging from his acrobatic feats such as his diving catch for the Firebirds to dismiss Brett Hampton from the Knights, he may well be grabbing the attention of the national selectors.

A second season of Follow Through with LVB is a possibility, however, depending on international travel restrictions this winter, the 30-year-old is weighing up his different options including the journey of creative types and how that may help us with our aspirations and personal journey of wellbeing.















Duco Events have done an amazing job in achieving a sellout crowd under the newly minted lights of Hagley Oval.

The previous two encounters between Team Rugby and Team Cricket were also extremely popular but this year's match trumped them both and in doing so achieved the amazing feat of being the most watched sporting event of the year, attracting a record television audience of 1,057, 000 kiwis who tuned in to see the match.

The appeal some die hard cricket fans may ask? Black Clash is an entertainment event that pits some of the best rugby players against their cricketing contemporaries. The fans love watching the likes of Will Jordan, Jordie Barrett, and Kaylum Boshier (all who could have chosen the 11-man code over the 15 man one) taking on some of New Zealand's greatest cricket players.

It's a fun filled and action-packed day out with the rugby mad Cantabrian crowd ensuring this was another must attend event in the garden city.

As it has done over the past 12 months Covid -19 impacted the match, in particular for the Sir Graham Henry lead Team Rugby, who could not call on international wildcards this time around. Last year Henry recruited cricketing legends Mahela Jayawardene and Muttiah Muralitharan, who were in their element rubbing shoulders with the likes of All Blacks Richie McCaw, Israel Dagg, and the Barrett brothers.

Team Rugby did manage to pull off one coup however, recruiting Mat Sinclair to the red of Team Rugby after his stellar performance in Napier last summer.

The stand-out performers for the evening with the bat were local legend and now Canterbury Coach Peter Fulton, hitting an eye-catching 80 from 51 balls including 5 consecutive sixes in one over. Rising All Blacks star Will Jordan showed off his Christchurch Boys High 1st XI pedigree, blazing 49 off 29 balls including six fours and a couple of sixes.

Daniel Vettori still looked a class act, securing 3 crucial wickets and only

conceding a miserly 11 runs, while Andy Ellis (the rugby version) netted 3 wickets for Team Rugby.

As it has in previous years the game went down to wire with All Black Jordie Barrett on the brink of sending the crowd into euphoric celebration and a momentous Team Rugby victory, but a slightly mistimed pull shot was caught just inside the mid-wicket boundary.

Steven Fleming threw Daniel Vettori the ball, who delivered as he did throughout his career, to claim Barrett's wicket along with a couple more in the final over to guide Team Cricket to win the match by two runs and claiming the Lomu trophy for a second time.

Once again, the game will go down in the record books as a successful, highly entertaining event with cricket emblazoned in the consciousness of New Zealanders for another magnificent day.

Take a bow Team Cricket and Team Rugby. Kiwi's loved it!







GRAHAM

synonymous with Rugby, he coached Wales and The British and Irish Lions in

the late nineties being nicknamed The Great Redeemer after The Welsh won eleven consecutive matches in 1999. In 2011 he won the IRB World Cup with the All Blacks, and Henry has been named IRB Coach of the year on five occasions.

With all that said, many cricket fans would be forgiven for not knowing that Ted (as he is affectionately known) also played first class cricket for Canterbury in 1965-66 and Otago in 1968.

"I was just like every other kid growing up, playing cricket in the summer and rugby in the winter. You would see me chasing players with my autograph books just like all the other kids, I just loved it." Recalls The former Auckland Grammar and Kelston Boys' High School Principal.

Henry continued to play cricket through high school making the First XI at Christchurch Boys High and then joined the Old Boys Club. As he puts it "I got involved with some pretty good cricketers, guys like Alan Hounsell,

David Trist, Dayle Hadlee and Robert Anderson." Hadlee and Anderson going onto to represent New Zealand. Names such as Charles Baker a left arm spinner who batted, John Christensen who was in the Gold medal Olympic Hockey team in Montreal, and John Ward roll off his tongue.

It was Ward who indirectly gave him his first opportunity at first class cricket. "John broke his thumb and Robert Anderson's dad Mac was the coach of Canterbury. He had seen me wicket keep at school when watching Robert, so he gave me a go. I was first year out of school and quite fortunate really, I loved it - we had Dick Motz, Bruce Taylor, Gary Bartlett, John McIntyre, and Brian Hastings was the Captain."

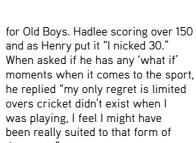
Ted played for a year in Canterbury and then moved down to Otago to attend university, where he got to play just a couple of matches, "one was against Fiji believe it or not" Henry recollects. Upon his return to Canterbury the Former Blues coach couldn't make the team, "When I thought I was much better at the keeping game I just couldn't get in, that's the way it was back then, Ken Wadsworth was the New Zealand Keeper. Then when I moved to Auckland for a job at Auckland

Grammar School under John Graham, Ross Dykes was the keeper." Henry played for Suburbs and Cornwall until the rugby coaching started to get serious and as a result something had to go.

He kept an interest in cricket and coached the First XI as well as the First XV at Auckland Grammar. Henry jokes "probably managed the first XI is a better way to describe it, I had Mark Greatbatch and Jeff and Martin Crowe in the team and the Crowe boys were of course very well coached by father Dave."

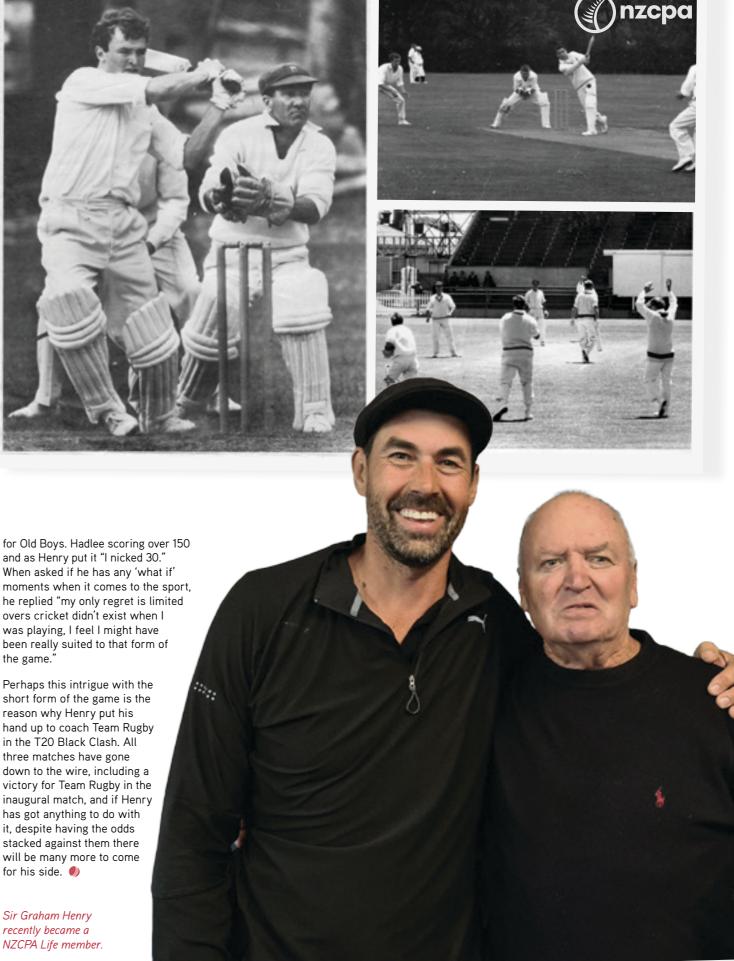
Henry continued to share stories of his playing days in the quick-witted delivery style we have become accustomed to after watching him in many media appearances over the years. In one such yarn Henry tells the anecdote of coming into to bat at eleven with David Gallop who was sitting on 90 runs. "We had a 70-run partnership for the last wicket, Davie got to 144 against Auckland and I think I got 2 or 3 not out. They hit me more than they hit the bat, it was a well compiled two, a gutsy effort!"

He also shared tales of practising in the nets out the back of the Hadlee residence. or the time he played with a then fiftyyear-old Walter Hadlee as a teenager



short form of the game is the reason why Henry put his hand up to coach Team Rugby in the T20 Black Clash. All three matches have gone down to the wire, including a victory for Team Rugby in the inaugural match, and if Henry has got anything to do with it, despite having the odds stacked against them there will be many more to come for his side.

Sir Graham Henry recently became a NZCPA Life member.







THE WARM SUN ON MY FACE

"THE RAIN WAS POURING DOWN IN RANGIORA AT THE 2017 FORD TROPHY FINAL BETWEEN CANTERBURY AND WELLINGTON, SO WHILE WE WAITED FOR THE RAIN TO STOP SALLY MORRISON AND I STARTED CHATTING. I EXPRESSED TO HER HOW I WANTED TO WRITE A BOOK ABOUT CRICKET, AND SHE TOLD ME THEY WERE LOOKING FOR AN AUTHOR TO DOCUMENT THE HISTORY OF WOMEN'S CRICKET."











That conversation was the catalyst for author Trevor Auger to start his three-year journey to pen 'The Warm Sun on my Face' a comprehensive history of New Zealand Women in Cricket. "I told my daughter about the conversation with Sally and she said to me if I don't call her to tell her I'd do it (write the book), she would!" recalls Auger.

The book was established using records held by the New Zealand Cricket Museum from an earlier attempt to write the history. Those records, including extensive player interviews, were a passion project for Adrienne Simpson, an established author, researcher, and Cricket Museum Board member who sadly passed way before it could be realised. It was the goal of the project team and NZ Cricket Museum to fulfil Simpson's dream.

Featured in the 2018 Autumn edition of Outright, Trevor and the project team made up of Trish McKelvey (CNZM MBE),

Penny Kinsella, Elizabeth Scurr, and Sally Morrison encouraged past players to contact them with their stories, memorabilia, and photos to help them tell the tale of our great game. However, it was a chance encounter that produced one of the most remarkable stories for the team, when Auger decided to attend a Dave Dobbyn concert last November. "I'd never heard of them before, but I was standing in the crowd enjoying the opening act Milly Tabak and the Miltones, then Milly introduced a song 'Hey Sister' she wrote for her two aunts who were both nurses."

Tabak went on to explain "One, Aunt Bee, was a chain smoker and the other, Aunty Grace, opened the bowling for the New Zealand cricket team in the 1940s". It was at this point Auger sat opened mouthed as he realised Milly was talking about Grace Gooder. Apart from opening the bowling in her sole test against England in 1949 and taking 6 wickets for 42

runs (still one of the top three bowling performances in a test for New Zealand women) little was known about Gooder.

"I contacted Milly through Facebook and explained I had written a comprehensive history on women's cricket and would love to give the family a copy of the book and learn more about her Aunt Grace", recounts Auger who subsequently met with the family and learned Gooder was a matron at Mt Eden Prison with the in-mates singing Amazing Grace in her honour when she passed away suddenly at age 59. Tabak performed 'Hey Sister' at the book's Launch at Eden Park, 72 years after Gooder represented New Zealand at the same venue.

At 300,000 words, 676 pages and 2.8 kilos, The Warm Sun on My Face is a not a book filled with statistic and scorecards - it is the stories of those women who played our game. Cricketers such as Joyce Clothier, who lived in Matamata in south Waikato and

caught the bus to play in the Auckland Competition for seven years before her dad helped her buy her first car.

When asked how the title for the book came about, Auger reminisces that the project group kept asking "what are we going to call it?" To which Auger replied, "I'll know it when I know." It was when he read this quote by Betty Ingram (double-international Jeff Wilson's great aunt), who was part of the first New Zealand women's team that toured Australia in 1938 that Auger found his title.

Ingram said "I could still feel the warm sun on my face and the sheer joy of playing this great game with so many fine companions. Such memories are priceless." For Auger it summed up the beauty of why we all play and love this great game. The Warm Sun on My Face will be a resource that all players, and those involved in the game, will be able to use, refer to, and enjoy for generations to come.











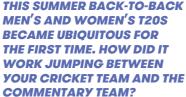


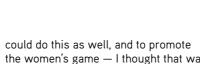
WHEN NZC BEGAN **WORKING WITH SKY SPORT TO INVOLVE MORE WOMEN'S VOICES IN THEIR CRICKET COMMENTARIES A** FEW YEARS AGO, SUMMERS CHANGED QUICKLY FOR **CANTERBURY MAGICIANS CAPTAIN FRANKIE MACKAY** — A NATURAL IN THE **COMMENTARY BOX WHOSE CRAZY-BUSY SCHEDULE HASN'T STOPPED HER** WINNING TROPHIES OR **RECALLS TO THE NATIONAL** SIDE THIS SEASON. HOW **DOES SHE DO IT?**

YOUR MUM SAYS WHEN YOU WERE A GIRL YOU USED TO SAY COMMENTATING CRICKET MUST BE THE BEST JOB IN THE WORLD! DO YOU REMEMBER THAT?

"She swears I used to say it all the time! I can't remember it, but I also think I fell into that category of, 'If you can't see it, you can't be it'. People you heard doing commentary were mostly male and older, coming off esteemed international careers or really wellspoken professional broadcasters. It never seemed like a career path open to me, so when I got the chance it really was a surprise. One I quickly became passionate about. The chance to inspire young cricketers with the idea that they

could do this as well, and to promote the women's game - I thought that was really important."







"It can be hectic. There was the odd occasion I did wish there was a bit more time to sit down and enjoy some of the wins we've had along the way. That's probably the one thing I missed — that quiet moment in the dressing room just reflecting on a good day. For me, it tended to be go-go-go. Get in the ice bath! Get in the shower! Get into my 'Spark' clothing and go.

"This was also the first season that women played after the men a few times and they were the hardest days to navigate - getting changed into my playing kit part-way through the second innings of the men's game, commentating in my playing gear and, as soon as the game finished, running down to grab by kit bag, drag it down to the side of the field to do my warm-ups and of course the toss. But it was something I loved doing. It gives me two opportunities to walk off a cricket field feeling like I've had a good day."



DOES COMMENTATING, TALKING TACTICS SO MUCH, HELP YOUR CLARITY OF THOUGHT AS A CAPTAIN, DO YOU THINK?

"I think that's something I always did a lot of anyway, but where it's made a really big difference to me is that I was in a new environment around a group of men and women who love a cricket debate, it was really energising and supportive. I was able to put opinions out there with no fear of repercussions or causing issues. That feeling that you belong and have something to say.

"When you feel accepted like that and have found your wee place in the world, then it's easy to turn up and catch well and lead well and play good cricket - because you know that even if you don't, you've got other areas where you are performing well in life, and you feel settled. So, I feel like the Spark Sport crew have been added to my support team in that cricket sense. If I'm having a good game, even a bad game, a 'hard luck' or pat on the back from the camera operators or other commentators is a nice feeling."

CANTERBURY HAD A BACK-LOADED SUPER SMASH SCHEDULE THIS YEAR. DID THAT AFFECT **YOUR RECOVERY TIME HURTLING TOWARDS FINALS?**

"The prospect of finals is so exciting that you don't feel the niggles that you have at this stage of the year. We'd had a rare Christmas and New Year's Day at home. then we faced four doubleheaders in a week which was make-or-break for the

season, pressure on, and a few people were pretty knackered as well, but we got through it and ended up with a trophy in the cabinet!

"It was really special as it had been five years since we had won a T20 trophy. I'd captained two losing finalist teams — and it was starting to weigh a little heavily wondering if we'd ever get across that line. But oddly I had really positive vibes all through the week. I was clear in my mind that we were going bowl first if we got the chance. Even when we were five down for not a lot on the board, and everyone was nervous, I said, 'No, I've got positive feelings, it's all going to be ok today!' And they looked at me like I was crazy.

"I was thinking we might end up with a Super Over finish and told Branchy [Amy Satterthwaitel she'd be putting her pads on if it did. She was pretty calm at that stage, but I looked down three balls later when [Satterthwaite's wife] Lea had just hit a six, and Amy looked like she was about to burst into tears, living every ball and so proud of Lea who equalled her career best under pressure. It was a great night and just awesome to see how excited the girls were about it. I went to bed at after great celebrations with the trophy tucked up next to me."

AND ANOTHER WHITE FERNS RECALL TO BOOT. HOW MUCH DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU AT 30. AFTER **SOME FAIRLY HORRENDOUS LUCK PREVIOUSLY ON THAT FRONT?**

"Ha, I had a few messages from people to say please at least make



it through one over this time! I only managed three balls last time before I went down, and that was hard to take after the fairytale of getting my first chance in five years.

"This time there's been a little bit of symmetry in that it was 10 years that I first got the phone call. My international debut was supposed to be on 24 February 2011, but the series was cancelled due to the Christchurch earthquake.

"After a long time out of the team, I'd never had the chance since to play for the White Ferns at my home ground in front of family and friends until this year, and to get the latest phone call - it was a nice surprise because I'd actually been disappointed in the way I had batted through the season, there were little technical things I felt I had not corrected. But you always want more runs, don't you? It was working with the ball, and I felt I was captaining well, just frustrated I was letting my side down with the bat. So, I didn't think I'd be in the frame. Then Bob Carter rang a couple of times to discuss the possibility and I will admit I had to think about it. I'm conscious of not playing on beyond my best. But you're only young once, and I would dearly love to have a chance to be in the frame for a home World Cup next year. Playing for New Zealand is special."

AND ALL THIS AS RICCARTON'S **MOST FAMOUS PART-TIME** LIBRARIAN!

"I started there in 2015 after I first missed out on the White Ferns and was trying to find some life balance outside cricket, with no formal qualifications. I've been very lucky there. My lovely workmates at the library — I think I've turned a lot of them into cricket fans! They're the Magicians' biggest supporters, then bought a Spark Sport subscription and perch up on the bank and bring the grandkids along. They put on morning teas when I get picked and bake cakes when I score a hundred."

















QSCC CHARITY GOLF DAY

BOOST FOR SCHOOLS' CRICKET IN CHRISTCHURCH



Shirley Boys' High and Riccarton High School will be the beneficiaries of the proceeds from another very successful annual QSCC Charity Golf Day. This jointly hosted event benefits the NZCPA PD Programme, and this year QSCC will administer funds directly back into local schools, with a commitment to assist the resurrection of schools cricket in two high schools with a proud history, but limited recent cricketing activity.

A full field were in attendance at the splendid Christchurch Golf Club, which like the weather, was in magnificent condition. The teams ambrose format ensures a fantastic day is had by all, and as always generates a few sideways looks as the scores are announced. Team NZCPA (Matthew Bell, Aaron Gale, Hamish Kember and Glen Sulzberger) had a great day out, but despite a 6 under gross score did not feature in the presentations.

Former Queenstown Masters Weekend regular Kelvin Scott's team took the spoils to take out the team title, pipping last year's victors Team White (led by QSCC's own Chris White) who infamously features regularly at the top of the field in this format.









If you haven't already, jump online at finniephotography.com to see what we're on about. Sleek imagery of Dunedin seascapes, cityscapes, dawns and dusks infused with that clear southern light. One moment he was mucking around at school with an entry level DSLR taking photos of the First XV, next minute he's turned a stunning portfolio of creative photography into an online business.

Finnie Photography grew out of a buzz from exploring new places when he was fresh out of school, heading off on cricketing OE in England. He shared his best images on Instagram and, once home, as a habitual surfer started adding photographs of his favourite spots around the local Otago Peninsula coastline.

"I just enjoyed capturing scenes, then family and friends started saying they wouldn't mind one of those on their wall—then their friends would see them. That's how it started, word of mouth, a little passion that grew. Then I bought my first drone to capture different angles that people possibly hadn't seen before."

It was good timing, drone photography just starting to catch a wave. He picked up some commercial work — before and after images for local roofing companies, for instance, or tracking the progress of the new Port Chalmers bike track as it

was constructed. Meanwhile you'll spot his gorgeous beachscapes in Enterprise Dunedin's campaigns promoting the best of Dunedin life to the world via billboards, social media and dunedings.com.

His own website allows him to retail his art online with minimal fuss and admin, no storefront or staff, working in with framers to deliver the product by mail order. Having built up a portfolio of imagery stock, it doesn't cost him an ocean of time and that's key for a practical, multitasking, sporty creative contracted player whose next move involves shooting a nail gun.

At the end of last season, Finnie made a brave call to concentrate on playing white-ball formats only for Otago, having never taken to the increasingly disparate disciplines of red-ball. He'd also been fortunate to secure his first property, and the two things combined to lead him into thinking about his next move.

"I got hooked on trying to do my own renovations, so I am dabbling in building at the moment. I have an apprenticeship lined up for the winter with Jacob Duffy's brother Ryan, who's now a qualified builder starting up his own business. Ryan played for the Volts as well so he totally understands where I'm at with my need for flexibility, so I've been lucky there, and it's good timing for us both."

And when the mood takes him, he can still grab his surfboard and camera and head to the beach.

"It never feels like a chore and that's how I'd like to keep it — so I can continue to enjoy it creatively, something on the side of my cricket. I can just chip away at it and catch a sunset when I feel the moment.

"It's been cool to see my images out in public. I really enjoy having the opportunity to show off Dunedin through my photos. I think a lot of New Zealanders still don't realise just how much we have to offer, and most of my photography is pretty beachy because I also have a passion for the water and enjoy going out for a paddle. So, I just get a buzz from those images myself, and then enjoy sharing it with other people who feel that connection."

His favourite shot? A sunrise out on the point by the St Clair Hot Salt Water Pool. It was a still, pristine morning with not a cloud in the sky.

"I got my drone up looking back long over the city, all the way to Lawyer's Head. To be totally honest, sunsets are my hours, but that was one I was really glad I got up early for!"























IT SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE LED A PRETTY BUSY LIFE TO DATE. WHAT **ARE YOUR PASSIONS OUTSIDE** OF WORK?

I still stay pretty fit. As mentioned above, I still try to nudge the ball off the square each Saturday. I'm a big fan of the NBA and college basketball. The days of shooting hoops to any great extent ended when my left knee gave up the ghost (5 operations later). I love movies, travel and hanging out with friends and family.

IN YOUR CAREER. IS THERE ANY PARTICULAR ROLE THAT YOU **ENJOYED MOST?**

The thing that was most rewarding was giving a voice to the underdog, the "little guy", the person who has been wronged and helping them to have their say and prevail against the odds.

YOU WERE DIAGNOSED WITH TYPE 1 **DIABETES. HOW DID YOU FIND OUT? HOW HAS IT IMPACTED YOU?**

I was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes nearly 18 years ago. I realised something wasn't right when I was filming in Mexico

with an amazing young man who was battling cancer. I take two forms of insulin and am going about my life with very few changes. Yes it can be frustrating at times but I control it well, eat pretty well (still love burgers and chips though) and exercise. It didn't stop me going to far flung places like Afghanistan and Gaza and reporting on other big breaking stories around the place. I know there are many cricketers and other sportspeople who still succeed at the very top of their game with type 1 diabetes so it's just about being organised and being determined not to let it rule me. I do carry a "man bag" with me containing jellybeans and a testing kit. It's the height of fashion for diabetics I'm told.

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

What I hope I'll bring is someone with empathy; someone who is a good listener and trustworthy; someone who is positive and can bring about solutions to problems. What my last job taught me was that everyone is different and its about charting a course together that works best for each person. And of course, I'm hoping we can have some laughs!

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT **GETTING STARTED WITH THE NZCPA** AS OUR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER FOR PAST PLAYERS AND **AUCKLAND MEN'S PLAYERS?**

I have been thinking about working in a role like this for the past couple of years. I'm really looking forward to drawing on my many life experiences and skills to help enhance the development and lives of the current and past players I'll be working with. My priority is to listen and build a trusting relationship where we can together tackle any issues they might face. When you are in a team, there's nothing better than watching others in that team succeed.

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING **CAREER WISE UP TO THIS POINT** AND WHAT INTERESTS YOU MOST **ABOUT BECOMING A PERSONAL** DEVELOPMENT MANAGER?

For the past 20 odd years I have been working as a reporter for Television New Zealand. I've been fortunate to have travelled the world covering major events from Olympic Games to royal weddings to natural disasters and terror attacks. It's exposed me to some of the most difficult situations of human

suffering and loss as well as the giddy highs of sporting success and human triumphs. I have learned so much from the people I've met in those settings their courage, resilience, determination and commitment. It's made me realise that life serves up some unexpected curve balls and as I mentioned earlier. I hope I can help past and present players to work their way through any challenges, those highs and lows to achieve a successful and satisfying life.

YOU CLEARLY HAVE A PASSION FOR **WORKING WITH PEOPLE. APART FROM WORKING IN BROADCASTING. WHAT ELSE HAVE YOU DONE AND HOW** DIFFERENT WAS THAT EXPERIENCE?

My life before broadcasting revolved around playing and coaching basketball. I probably never reached my potential as a player in both fields, I've developed lifelong friendships and an understanding of the rich rewards of being part of a team. I went to university later in life after being a Customs Officer and a recreation instructor. I quickly realised that the 7th form prize in Economics did not translate to a love of Economics at University. I failed that course but discovered the study of psychology much more to my liking and obtained an honours degree in that. It's

been a bit of a trend - being drawn to people and learning how we all navigate our way through life.

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

That's a really tricky question because I feel I've had a heap of "pinch yourself moments". After dreaming of travelling the world as a boy from Christchurch, the first time I saw the Mediterranean Sea blew me away. Years later it was a really emotional moment being at a dawn service at Gallipoli – looking up at the cliffs above the beach and realising how many young kiwi men lost their lives before they even got out of the blocks. So tragic and yet a defining event in our country's history! Not everyone's cup of tea, but it's pretty special to be the only Kiwi journalist to be allowed to sit in the pews of Westminster Abbey for the royal wedding of William and Catherine. I have been shot at on a sand dune in the Gaza strip so that was a life preserving moment having to dive off the top to safety. And I'm forever grateful to have met my partner of 27 years, Lisa, who is always encouraging, has my back and still lets me play Presidents grade cricket each Saturday.







Hopefully my best friends would say I'm caring, loyal, determined and funny.















UPCOMING EVENTS

HOOKED ON CRICKET

Porirua

9 MAR

15 MAR Napier

16 MAR

Dunedin and Hamilton

23 MAR

Papatoetoe

24 MAR

Christchurch and Napier

THE PLAYERS' CONFERENCE

APR 2021 Auckland

PAST PLAYER EVENTS

2021

Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin (TBC)

THE PLAYERS' CAP - BLACKCAPS

APR Auckland

CPA PLAYERS' AWARD - WHITE FERNS

10 APR Tauranga

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THE INSIDER

BORN TOO SOON' XI

by Paul Ford

Recently at Beige Brigade headquarters we spotted that a few of the Australian commentators were putting together their T20 'born too soon' teams, just for fun and to provoke endless theories and controversies.

These XIs were focused on players who played the game with a T20 vibe but never had the chance to play T20 internationals. Some of these Australian teams were riddled with inconsistencies, and they allowed for a few international players as well, just to mess with everyone's head.

So we decided to have a crack at it too from a Kiwi perspective. Unlike the blokes across the ditch, we made some rules and then stuck to them, and as true patriots we decided we didn't need Viv Richards, Brian Lara, Shoaib Akhtar or Adam Gilchrist to bolster the ranks. (For the record we think Viv would squeeze into our twelve).

The rules were simple – players had to be selected from those who had retired or faded into the Black Cap background before the first beige-infused, retro spectacular of the first men's T20 international at the Garden of Eden back on 17 February 2005. So you can forget about including guys like Chris Cairns, Craig McMillan, Dan Vettori, Jeff Wilson and Brendon McCullum.

In our brief research we found it extremely tough finding out the strike rates of Test players. Understandable given the historical universe never foresaw the shorter forms of the game existing, let along dominating. And of course having a great test strike rate was often irrelevant (and even seen as irresponsible or showboating), even if it was massively appealing to fans with a pulse.

HERE IS HOW IT LINED UP FOR US >>

G TURNER Lofting it over the infield before Romesh Kaluwitharana was even born and made it cool in the 1990s. Turner makes the team based on his impeccable technique and a worldclass strike rate in his era of 68.

M GREATBATCH The ultimate NZ pinch hitter and his SS Turbo joins Turner at the top of the order. The strike rate of 71 belies his bludgeoning approach pioneered in the 1992 World Cup when as he put the like so Allan Donald and Malcolm Marshall into the terraces.

R TWOSE Not one to be addicted to the bright lights and big egos of the cricket world, Twose's record is outstanding (and arguably second-to-none). He averaged close to 40 at a strike rate of 75 in the late 90s and was Mr Dependable.

M CROWE (c) The sublime batting skills, captaincy nous and innovative thinking that saw Cricket Max emerge from under his curls all point to Crowe being a cricketing rockstar who would have thrived in the rapid-fire environment of T20.

B SUTCLIFFE A powerful onside player, renowned off driver, dynamic fieldsman and spin bowler. Wisden described his batting approach as being punctuated by "shapely, clean-cut dispatches" and "menace to bowlers of all types."

JR REID Colossus.

R HADLEE Leading the attack, raking up wickets and incredibly difficult to get hold of. Throw in a golden arm and some of the meatiest cover drives ever seen, and the knight is a shoo-in.

ISMITH (wk) The master of the cut and pull, Smith's ODI strike rate is still #6 on the all-time Black Cap list (with Luke Ronchi at #1), coming in at a belligerent 99.4.

D NASH Opening the bowling with Hadlee, and providing a bit of fire and brimstone with the new ball, and probably the old ball too. A fit and healthy Nash was a feisty, intensely competitive, aggressive cricketer made for the shortest form.

J BRACEWELL Arguably the most competitive NZ cricketer until the advent of Nash, the gravedigger would have been the spin bowler of choice for our XI using a three-pronged approach of attack, attack and attack.

LCAIRNS Listed at 11, but the lusty hitting of Excalibur would be used as a floating pinch hitting option. Cairns still boasts the 4th highest strike rate in one-day cricket for New Zealand (104.9) and we'd give an arm and a leg to see him in his pomp.

So how did it go down? Predictably our 'Born to soon' XI was immediately criticised – it was on Facebook rather than Twitter so this was good-natured banter rather than septic diatribes.

Cult hero Chris Pringle was one who received decent support and there were calls for more left-field selections like wild child Heath Davis, big-haired Carl Bulfin, loquacious Tony Blain, and our favourite was the nomination for the chunky medicine man, Michael Austen.

Paul Ford is the co-founder of the Beige Brigade and one-seventh of The Alternative Commentary Collective. His strike rate is high, but his average is very very low.



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