

SEASON 2014/2015



**The 51st Annual Report of Charlestown
District Cricket Club Inc.**

13 July 2015

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It gives me great pleasure to present the
51st Annual Report of the Charlestown
District Cricket Club Inc.

Steven Threadgold
Secretary
CDCC Inc.

CHARLESTOWN DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB INC. 2014/2015 SEASON

ADMINISTRATION

PATRONS

Mrs Jill Stuart, Mrs Pauline Trisley, Mr Barry Johnston, Mr Michael Hill,

OFFICIAL SPONSORS

Charlestown Bowling Club
Newcastle Weighing Services
Martin Trisley Solicitors
Greg Buxton Excavations
Markey Insurance

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

President: Chris Oliver
Vice President: Stephen Mace
Secretary: Steven Threadgold
Assistant Secretary: Kathleen Pink
Treasurer: Stephen Wallace
Assistant Treasurer: Andrew Standing
Ordinary Members: Steve Magann, Craig Mitchell, Greg Arms, Brett Winchester

Statistician and Recorder: Kath Pink

LIFE MEMBERS

Bruce Moore, Gordon Heddles, Phil Burke, Don Cross, Warren Sharkey, Michael Hill, Noel Howard, Keith Curry, Paul Harris, Noel Lennox, Darrell Morris, Neville March, Mark Hall, Paul Trisley, Ray Hogan, Helen Harvie, Tom Hoppe, Les Powell, Kathleen Pink, Stephen Zok, Stephen Mace, Geoff Stephenson.

DELEGATES TO THE NDCA INC.

Primary: Kath Pink
Secondary: Steven Threadgold
Tertiary: Chris Oliver

CHARLESTOWN DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB 2014/2015 SEASON

CONTINUATION OF CLUB HISTORY

SEASON No. 51

OFFICE BEARERS

President: Chris Oliver

Vice President: Stephen Mace

Secretary: Steven Threadgold

Assistant Secretary: Kathleen Pink

Treasurer: Stephen Wallace

Assistant Treasurer: Andrew Standing

TEAM CAPTAINS

1st Grade: Dane Macourt

2nd Grade: Daniel Frew

3rd Grade: Lee Davies

4th Grade: Jack Sharpe/Rod Mace

Under 21s: Daniel Arms

Denis Broad Cup:

5th Grade in C&S: Rob McQueen/Michael Scholes

Registered players

NDCA: 59

C&S/NDCA dual rego 20

C&S Total: 40

C&S only: 20

NDCA U/15: 16

Club Total: 95

Club Championship: 2nd

1st Grade: 6th

2nd Grade: 1st, lost final

3rd Grade: 5th

4th Grade: 5th

5th Grade C&S: 5th

Tom Locker Cup: 3rd in Pool

SCG Cup: Out in Round One

Dennis Broad Cup: 2nd in Pool

U/21s: 2nd in Pool

U/15: 2nd in Pool

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As a result of an active off season the club started the season in very good shape: Michael Hill was appointed as coach of the 1st Grade Squad; we had negotiated for Callum Jackson to return and play the entire season; Roscoe Thattil, another Sri Lankan with 1st Class experience, had agreed to terms; and, we had nominated a 5th Grade team in the C&S competition as our player numbers had continued to grow.

Then a couple of the wheels fell off so to say. Two weeks before the season kicked off I received a letter from our long term major sponsor, Central Leagues Club, to inform us they would no longer be sponsoring the club. Not a reduction in sponsorship but a complete withdrawal which spelled financial disaster for a small club like ours. After two days of self-pity and denial we decided we needed to get moving and find a sponsor. A simple enquiry at CBC bore fruit and within two weeks we had a deal worth three times what we were getting from Central. Next we received news that Callum had been refused entry to Australia as a result of visa issues and despite weeks of negotiation and pleading with bureaucracies we were forced to accept that he wouldn't be playing this season.

The next major innovation for the club was the installation of the retractable net system at Kahibah Oval. Thanks to the hard work of Rod Mace, the support of the Cavaliers and financial assistance from Cricket NSW we now have a net system that is the envy of all clubs in the district. While we have had some teething problems incorporated in the installation it is a sought after facility.

As a component of the sponsorship deal CBC required us to assist and encourage local juniors and as part of that request we continued to foster a relationship with CJCC. Three 20/20 games were hosted after play on Saturdays and as usual they were a great success and are a terrific PR opportunity for the club. Steven Wallace organised a two day clinic with Lyon Cricket at Kahibah Oval over the Christmas break. It was well attended and received positive parent reviews. The 1st Grade players made themselves available to assist with coaching for the U/16 junior teams and they were encouraged to join in with senior training sessions. The CDCC Encouragement award was again presented at the Junior Presentation and Jarryd Whyte the recipient finished the season as an integral member of the 2nd Grade XI. Josh Sutton the winner of the previous year's award finished this season as a member of the 1st grade XI. The club also entered and supported a U/15 team in the NDCA 20/20 competition.

Performance wise the club had a good year running 2nd in the Club Championship, 2nd Grade playing in the final, and all other teams missing the semis by close margins. Probably the most disappointed side being the 5ths who had beaten the eventual premiers in C3 Grade both times they met this season. Despite the non-appearance of Callum Jackson, 1st Grade finished with more points than they had the previous season when they made the semi-final. They suffered no outright losses unlike teams above them on the points table and once again suffered from the vagaries of the weather and the draw. Due to the good numbers of registered players the club was able to maintain a performance based selection policy which has been an objective of the executive for some time now. Training attendance was above expectation particularly prior to Christmas when we were averaging 42 players at each session. This fell away after the break and needs to be addressed next season.

While we didn't secure as many NDCA Awards as we did last season there were still some fantastic individual performances especially from Chris Connors, Sam Mostyn, Grant Dunn, Rod Mace, Lee Davies and Dave Moore.

Financially we are in the strongest position we have been for a long time but we still need to be aware that sponsorship is a tenuous form of funding and as we learnt this season can dry up instantly. Thanks must go again to Steve Wallace and Andrew Standing for their diligent and sensible financial management. The game in Newcastle is becomingly increasingly costly, most recruitment discussions these days have a financial bias even if it is only a free registration and two of those cost the club a thousand dollars. Coaches cost money too and we are fortunate that Michael's fee consists of two beers each Saturday.

To improve the surface at Kahibah to enable more runs to be scored we need a mower. Cost: anywhere between \$8K and \$20K. Covers: \$3K-\$5K. Playing Shirts: \$2K-\$3K. So to maintain our current level of operation we need to ensure that all current funding is optimised. To achieve this we need playing fees paid up on time, sponsors supported and fund raising activities approached with enthusiasm.

Our sponsors have been great. Without the support of CBC this year we could have been in serious financial trouble but they have been more than happy with our response. Thanks must go to Stephen Mace again for his Season Launch organisation which not only raises money for the club but also supports the major sponsor each year. To Craig Mitchell for his organisation of the Bowls Day which was a great success and to Thready for all his work on Steve's testimonial. The Cricket NSW raffle continues to be a great fundraiser but has the potential to be very successful if everyone would work harder to sell tickets. We still have books being returned without one ticket sold!!

As for the minor sponsors they continue to support us each year despite the fact that they don't get much in return. The committee would like to appoint a Sponsorship/Media Manager at this year's AGM to get our PR messages out there in a positive way. Choice Flooring, Elk Design, Trisely Solicitors, Newcastle Weighing Service, Markeys Insurance, and Ray White Real Estate are these sponsors and we thank them with much appreciation for their contributions.

Once again a big thank you to all members of the committee who really did put in this year and contributed positively to the club going ahead. Thanks also to those non committee people who contributed like Andrew Wilson who put in hours and hours on the roller. CDCC is now in a position to be an influential member of the Association and I personally would like to see us take an active role in taking the NDCA forward particularly in areas like player behaviour and women's cricket.

Chris Oliver

ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S REPORT

Season 2014/2015 was a season of consolidation for the club. We again finished second in the Club Championship; First Grade finished sixth; in Tom Locker Cup we were third in our pool; we were knocked out in Round 1 of the SCG Cup; Second Grade were minor premiers and lost the final; Third Grade narrowly missed the semis, finishing fifth; Fourth Grade finished fifth; Fifth Grade (C & S) finished fifth; while we were second in our pools in the Denis Broad Cup, U/21s and U/15s. A big thankyou to all our captains – Dane Macourt, Daniel Frew, Lee Davies, Jack Sharpe, Rod Mace, Micheal Scholes and Daniel Arms; all players; as well as committee members, curators and supporters who contributed to Season 2014/15.

A positive for the Club this season was the recruitment of an overseas player in Roscoe Thattil from Sri Lanka. Roscoe was a great addition to our club, especially in the field with spectacular run-outs and catches, as well as off the park where he helped with junior players. A huge thankyou to Lisa and Duncan Bench and family for their hosting of Roscoe for the whole summer and to all club members for the way they welcomed and supported Roscoe. It was unfortunate that Callum Jackson was unable to rejoin us due to visa issues but we are hopeful that he may be able to return in future seasons.

A highlight of our season was the Steve Mace Testimonial Day on Sunday 25th January 2015. The day acknowledged the enormous efforts of Steve who retired from first grade after almost 30 seasons in March 2014. His contributions to Charlestown DCC since 1982 are unmatched – both on and off the field. The presence of so many former and current Charlestown players, life members and supporters as well as fellow former Newcastle and NSW Country rep team mates and Newcastle Grade players was a testament to Steve's outstanding career. Among the highlights –the roast in the dressing room after midnight, Steve on the field with his sons Zac and Logan, as well as his brothers Rod and Chris, Anthony Stuart (Scoob) bouncing Robert Faraday, Tony Gilbertson's and Mark Curry's bowling, Martin Trisley's catch, the blow-up pool supporters lounge on the boundary, the food and drink sales (how many times did the fridge have to be re-stocked!), the presentations after the match, the list goes on. An enormous thankyou to all who helped to make it such a fantastic day – to Steve Threadgold for organising the teams, to the players, families and supporters, cooks, canteen workers, etc, etc, etc – well done!

Our Club was again successful in having players chosen in various rep teams-both junior and senior. Congratulations to all those players - you represented our club with distinction. Chris Connors was rewarded with selection in the Newcastle Senior team for the Country Championships. There were five Charlestown juniors (Josh Claridge, Samuel Winpenny, Liam Bench, Glenn Winsor and Michael Richardson) in the Newcastle U/14 Kookaburra Cup team that played in the NSW Country Kookaburra Cup held in Newcastle in January with Josh selected in the NSW Country and State U/14 Merit squads at the end of the January, while Kain Anderson was selected in the NSW Under 13 merit squad. A number of our players have also been chosen in the NSW Academy Winter Training Squad with Josh, Glenn and Kain joined by Isaac Wallace. We look forward to following their progress in future seasons.

At our Presentation Night, the following trophies were awarded: the Kevin Oliver Trophy for Player of the Season – Chris Connors; the major bowling trophies- Frank

Simpson (Aggregate) – Chris Connors; John Stuart (Average) and Steve Woolmer (Aggregate) – both Sam Mostyn; the major batting trophies - Mark Curry (Aggregate) and Mattara Hotel (Average) – both Rod Mace; the Hogan/Lancaster wicket keeping award – Dane Macourt; the Paul Trisley Trophy for the best Under 21 cricketer – Daniel Arms; the Mark Hall Trophy for the best U/17 cricketer – Duncan Brown; the Black and White Workers award – Andrew Wilson; while the Tim Towers Medal for Clubman of the season was not awarded; along with our various grade awards. Congratulations to all award winners. Our Club also won NDCA awards with Dane Macourt the First Grade Wicket keeping Award and Chris Mace the Second Grade wicket keeping Award; while Second Grade won the Minor Premiership. Congratulations on your achievements!

This season our Club fielded 5 Grade sides of a Saturday afternoon with a team entered in the C&S competition for the first time in a number of years. A big thankyou to Rob Macqueen for his efforts in organising and getting the C & S team up and running. It provided an opportunity for many of our young junior players to experience senior cricket and saw many of the players promoted to higher grades during the season. Again a big thank you to many of the fathers and senior players who filled in to help get the team on the park. We also competed in the Tom Locker Cup and 20/20 matches, which were part of the first grade competition; SCG Country Cup, U/21s, Denis Broad Cup Lower Grade and the U/15 20/20 competition. The weather was quite favourable this season with not many cricket days missed. Again, as in 2013/14, this season was one of our better years in terms of player availability, with better commitment shown by most players. It is essential that this increased commitment is maintained next season, to ensure that there is competition for selection in each grade and that our on-field performances reflect this effort and commitment.

Thanks again to our curator Tom Anderson for his efforts at Kahibah Oval this season. Kahibah was used for the NDCA Second Grade semi and final while Newcastle Junior Cricket competition matches, including finals, were also played at the Oval along with a number of school games. Kahibah Oval also hosted matches in the NSW Country Cricket U/14 Kookaburra Cup carnival in January. The facilities at the ground are constantly being improved and we look forward to the quality of the centre wicket, practice wickets and outfield being maintained at a high standard. The construction of the permanent practice net system commenced and was put in place this season – these are a great asset for our club and have already been used by representative teams and coaching clinics. A huge thankyou to Rod Mace for his role in developing and installing the nets. The efforts of Andrew Wilson need to be acknowledged as well, as he spent many hours rolling the centre and practice wickets, while Greg Arms spent much time on the ride-on mower trying to improve the outfield.

Again a positive for the club this season was our second home ground at Charlestown Oval. It became a great venue for lower grade cricket with good facilities. Charlestown Juniors played competition and finals matches there, with very positive comments from the visiting players and supporters. School matches were also hosted at the Oval. Thanks to curator Tom for his efforts here as well.

The Club again benefited from the support of sponsors - especially Charlestown Bowling Club who came on board after Central Charlestown Leagues Club were unfortunately unable to continue their long-time support of the club. The attendance at the Bowling Club for our monthly Sponsors' Nights as well as after the Shed on the other Saturdays was fantastic. The Bowling Club were very happy with our patronage and it is to be hoped that this support can be continued. Other sponsors included Newcastle Weighing Services, Trisleys, Markey Insurance, Ray White Real Estate, Carpet Choices and Elk Design. We also held various functions throughout the year such as our Season Launch, Bowls Day at Charlestown Bowling Club (thanks to Craig Mitchell for his organisation), Christmas Party combined with our 20/20 Day v Wests on Sunday 21st December, Steve Mace Testimonial Day (as mentioned), End of Season Function, hosting of the Second Grade Semi and Final and Presentation Night. These were great social occasions that were quite well attended. It was also great to see a number of our Old Boys attending many of these functions – let's hope there are even more in the future. Over 80 people at the Presentation Night was our best attendance in years! Unfortunately our 20/20 Day against Waratah was completely washed out, and hopefully the weather is kind to us next season and we can make these days bigger and better. This season saw the continuation of dinners back at the Shed – a step up from the normal barbecues – with meals such as chili con carne, lasagna, curry, hamburgers, pizza, and tacos amongst the offerings. A big thank you to Heather Arms and all the parents who supported this idea, as well as cooking, cleaning up, etc. These nights were reasonably well supported and I encourage everyone to come along and support them. It is a great time to catch up on how each grade has performed and to build club spirit (before heading to the Bowlo!) We also provided barbecue lunches for both teams, umpires and supporters at our U/21 games at Kahibah as well as a barbecue after the second grade final. During the Kookaburra Cup Carnival we ran the canteen at Kahibah which proved a profitable venture – the visiting teams were extremely grateful for our hospitality as well. The Raffles at the Mattara Hotel on a Thursday and Friday night are still continuing – they are our only income source in the off season and income is improving. Get along from 6pm to 7pm and support the club - you might even win a meat tray. It was great to see some of the young players have a turn at selling the tickets - let's hope this support continues.

Please continue to support our Sponsors and any function that the Club holds. They are there to benefit all Club Members and without them the Club would struggle to survive. There are already plans in place for numerous social functions for next season but if anyone knows of any potential sponsors or ideas about fund-raising please contact the committee.

At a Junior Development level, a huge positive for the Club has been the continuation of the close links between Charlestown DCC and Charlestown Juniors. At the end of the season CDCC awarded its third annual scholarship to a Charlestown Junior player who has not already played grade – Daniel Chillingworth was the winner, with Josh Sutton and Jarrod Whyte the previous winners. This season saw many of the Junior teams utilise both the turf and synthetic wicket practice facilities at Kahibah; with the new practice nets and the bowling machine further improving the quality of facilities offered for all players. We were again able to host some 20/20 matches involving the juniors after grade cricket on a Saturday. These ventures help the juniors familiarise themselves with our club's facilities and provide a pathway from junior to senior cricket with Charlestown. The NDCA Under 15 20/20 competition which ran in

conjunction with the First Grade and Denis Broad Cup 20/20 matches was a great success. We hope to see these players move into the senior ranks in the future, with many already playing. It was also pleasing to see a number of our Under 21 players assisting at junior training sessions. During January Kahibah also hosted two days of coaching clinics with Lyon Cricket. They also provided a coaching session with our younger players.

In 2014/15 we were fortunate to have Michael Hill on board as a coach with our first grade side as well as the Under 21 side. He proved a valuable addition to our club and I'm sure that his knowledge and assistance has helped many of our players. Michael has agreed to remain involved with us for next season and is already putting our winter training squad, a combination of 1st and 2nd grade players as well as many of our juniors, through its paces. We are also very fortunate to have secured the services of Gary Pinches to oversee training days on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as working individually with every player. This is great news and it is extremely important that all players take the opportunity to improve their cricket through attendance at training and participation in all training activities.

A big thank you to all on the Committee, superbly led by Ollie, for their efforts throughout the season – they are greatly appreciated. The improved on and off field performances have only come through hard work and we must continue to maintain high levels of performance both on and off the field. Once again a huge thank you to all who have contributed to this season - players, members, sponsors, life members, patrons, supporters and families. It is important that everyone involved in our Club continues to support the Club - if you don't, the Club won't continue to be successful. There are many areas in which you can contribute, apart from playing the game-practice nets, training, covers, afternoon tea, raffles, coming back to the Shed after each day's play, cooking the barbecue, assisting in providing dinners, attending the Bowlo after matches, canteen, cleaning, mowing, rolling, attending functions, collecting monies, scoring, finding sponsors, organising fund-raisers, assisting with juniors- the list is endless.

We look forward to the upcoming season, where we celebrate our 52nd Season in the NDCA Competition, and to seeing the Black and Whites successful again on and off the field.

Yours in cricket,

Kathleen Pink

1st Grade Captain's Report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee in installing their faith in me to lead Charlestown post 'Steve Mace era'. Filling the shoes of a legend and the fact that we had made the semi-finals last year was very daunting thought in taking over the leadership. The 2013 -14 season was major steps in establishing Charlestown as a title contender.

After the loss of Steve Mace (retired), Callum Jackson (England) and Dilan (Sri Lanka). These three cricketers were our leading run scorers and probably our best performers for the season. The evergreen Steve Mace – always leading from the front

and still scoring runs before retirement. Callum Jackson a quality young wicket keeper batsmen from England who plays the game more mature than his age of 19 (Callum missed the start and the end of the season, but won the Herald player of the year) and Dilan who showed his true class at times.

There was good news in the fact that we had secured the services of Michael Hill, another legend of the club. His role was to oversee the young first grade squad and work with us in developing the mental side of cricket and the way we think about the game. I being the oldest at 30 (by the end of the season) meant there was a lot of youth and inexperience in the team. Through-out the season this shown through with players riding the ups and downs and doubting their ability at times.

We ended the season in fifth position and many pointed out that we had in fact ended up on more points than the previous year when we finished fourth. There seems to be a greater gap developing in the competition with the amount of outrights concerning, it could change the way we play if you need to chase outrights to make the semi-finals!

With Hilly on board we went about organising a preseason which was meet with a lot of enthusiasm. It became apparent a few weeks out from the first round that there would be a few debutants. We had quite a number of regular first graders unavailable due to various reasons for the first round against Uni. Josh Edwards who had been strong in 2nd Grade the previous year made his debut, he opened the bowling and returned respectable figures of 1 for 10 of seven overs. Another debutant was Jackson Mace who would win the most improved award for the season. From that first game to the last game against Hamilton Wickham he came on a long way both in the field and with the bat (it didn't help that he was run out 7 times for the season!).

Our connection with Sri Lanka beared fruit again with Roscoe Thattil coming out to play for the season. A big thank you to the Bench family for putting Roscoe up for the season. He would go on to win our first grade player of the year and without question be THE best fielder in Newcastle. His fielding alone turned games on its head! He would be the first to say that he didn't play to his potential but at times showed his talent especially with a gritty 68 no against a fired up Merewether attack searching for outright points.

Another young talented cricketer came on board in Liam Guest who made his debut for the club against Wallsend in Round 3. Work commitments had stopped Liam attending training as much as he would of liked but had worked hard on his game and found little niggly ways of being dismissed. Some other home grown talent made debuts later on in the year in Geordie Oliver who made contributions with bat and ball and Josh Sutton who athleticism could be displayed in the field and running between wickets, both would say they struggled for consistency at times but are good enough that if they train hard they will become regular first graders.

One cricketer showed what many had been waiting for was Chris Connors. After injuries forced him out of the one day final and was restricted to batting in the semi-final he came back eager to make amends for the prior year. Many would be surprised at Chris' season but he is a talented cricketer who in Round 2 took 11 for 51 to have Charlestown's best bowling figures. He would play an integral part of our team to be

our leading wicket taker by a streak. Chris finished runner up in the Herald player of the season. Like all of our team he struggled with form at times and I feel if he can iron out these minor issues in his game he would be one of the best all round cricketers in Newcastle, not only is his bowling potent when the 'Nor – Easter' is blowing across his shoulder at Kahibah Oval his batting showed maturity and poise to just bat time and be at the crease for long periods.

Our bowling unit once again proved that a swinging ball takes wickets, led by Connors, Parth Shah and Aaron Payne. Not only did they produce with the ball but Shah and Payne made valuable contributions with the bat throughout the season and would like to call themselves batting all-rounders! Young Isaac Wallace played his second year of first grade and will be better for the experience coming into the coming season – it's not easy bowling leg spin and it takes a lot of belief confidence.

One of the major changes I noticed in this young team was that since I've been at Charlestown we have always been susceptible to collapses, notably 5 -6 wicket collapses. We limited our collapses this season, the worst was when we were 4-1 chasing 91. Chris Connors and Roscoe Thattil leading us to victory 5 down! We also batted our 90 overs in consecutive weeks against Wests and then against Uni, who at the time would have had the best bowling unit in the competition. Racking up 260 which was led by Daniel Arms and Chris Connors, both reaching 56. Daniel Arms who after a mediocre first half of the season went about working hard on his game (he even had Heather over the Christmas break feeding the bowling machine) and went onto average 30 after Christmas, I think that we will start to see Daniel flourish in the coming season as he matures and now knows how hard he has to work at his game if wants to succeed.

Overall I feel the season was a success, even though we missed out on semi-final cricket, we pushed our chances til the very last game. The Cardiff loss which put a massive dent in our semi-final aspirations shows that you have to turn up to play every week, nothing is a given. We showed that we can beat the other 9 teams in the competition and we know that we have to work hard if we want to compete with the top two, who we didn't beat all season. After the Merewether loss we sat around after the game and spoke about where we happy and what did we want to achieve, I couldn't be more proud of the way the guys responded.

Dane Macourt

2nd Grade Captains' Report

We had a solid year in second grade with all the bowlers doing exceptionally well. I was spoiled for choice with 6 bowlers taken over 20 wickets each. Sam 32 at 7.31, Max 31 at 9.03 and Josh 23 at 9.43 bowled with great patience and were rewarded. Both Ronan 32 at 11.31 and Geordie 18 at 11.89 bowled well, with some fast spells at times when the wind was right. In what is supposed to be his last season, Todd 26 at 12.42 learnt how to drift and spin the ball (see what happen when you keep practicing) which was a good change up to the quick's.

Runs were hard to come by throughout the year. It seemed to be the year of the thick, slow outfields and our patience was not up to the challenge. There were some good

individual performances at times but we couldn't put it together on a weekly basis or cash in after doing the hard yards.

We finished the season as minor premiers only losing two games in the season. We played City in the semi where they elected to bat only to be destroyed by Moisty getting 7 for 33 from 17.4 over's straight. He had great support from Max and Ronan, dismissing City for 62. We were 3 for 43 at stumps and the rain never let us get back on on Sunday.

We played Merewether in the final and lost yet another toss, with Merewether choosing to bat. All the bowlers bowled very well with minimum luck and we eventually bowled them out for 135 in 72.3 overs with all the bowlers sharing the wickets. We finished the day 2 for not many and started the Sunday no better. Things didn't go our way and we were staring down the barrel at 8 for 58 which brought Monk and Diz to the crease. They made batting look very easy and all of a sudden we were in with a sniff. We lost Monk for 41 of 71 when we were 107 and we were all out of 116.

We introduced 6 great young players to 2's that now I'm sure will go on to do well for the club in the coming seasons. Josh Sutton started well and pushed his way into 1's by the end of the season.

I would like to thank all the wives and parents for their great support with the afternoon teas giving us what I think is the best Avro teas in the comp.

I would especially like to thank Mark Convery for all the hard work that he put in throughout the year with scoring, team sheets and all the other things that he did were great. I would have been under the pump if he wasn't there. Thank you Mark.

Thank you for the fun season. Maybe next year we can go one step further.

Thank you
Daniel Frew

3rd Grade Captain's Report

So close, yet still so far away...

It was another mixed year for 3rd Grade this season as we came within a single point of making the finals. By winning our final game with 2 bonus points we were taken within a whisker of playing in the Semi's this year. In what turned out to be a cruel twist, only 2 rounds earlier we had convincingly defeated eventual premiers Belmont and were playing our best cricket of the season.

Upon review of the season the one thing that is glaringly obvious is a lack of consistent runs being made by the top 6. In the season past only myself scored over 200 runs for the year (285 @ 25.91) with the next best being Andrew Standing (167 @ 23.86). I believe that if a few players spent the entire year in 3rd Grade we would have a couple more over the 200 mark however we appear to be lacking a bit of consistency in the top-middle order and will need to work harder at training to

develop a stronger batting group in order to find greater success next year. The boys did appear to enjoy batting on the flatter decks throughout the season however we tend to struggle to dig in and work harder on the more unpredictable pitches.

On a more positive note we again found that our bowling attack was our greatest asset. Spearheaded by new recruit Michael Kepreotes (21 wickets @ 9.19), support was provided by the likes of Chris Fisher (16 @ 13.81), Adam Winchester (14 @15.71) and Grant Dunn (11 @ 6.36) with Andrew Standing shouldering the responsibilities of getting through lengthy spells with his deceptive left arm orthodox and returning season figures of 24 wickets @ 12.25. The bowling group supported each other throughout the tougher games and won us several matches we were otherwise not entitled to win through sheer determination and a never-say-die attitude.

Once again I feel our team had a balanced mix of a few older heads and some enthusiastic younger players coming through. It was especially pleasing to see each of the younger boys play their part throughout the season and playing some important knocks. After showing patience in previous seasons, Aiden Moore finally got his chance in 2nd Grade along with Duncan Brown and Jarrod Whyte who all spent the majority of the year playing 2's. Adam Winchester, Grant Anderson and Josh Claridge each played some important knocks at various stages throughout the season however will benefit from an off-season of improving patience and concentration in order to become more consistent and progress throughout the grades.

Once again we had great aspirations for the 2014/2015 season and we often showed a great amount of promise with the positive brand of cricket we played. In looking ahead to next year I feel that 3rd Grade's success will not be far away with the key to being consistent in victory appearing to be held in having a solid top 6 to give our bowlers a greater target to work with. By applying ourselves in the off-season and further developing our batting I believe we will be able to secure future success within 3rd Grade.

As always a huge thanks to everyone involved with 3rd Grade this year, it has been a pleasure representing Charlestown District Cricket Club once again and I look forward to the season ahead in further enhancing the culture we have developed in 3rd Grade and converting it into finals success.

Lee Davies

4th Grade Captain's Report

Fourth Grade started the season well, winning their first two games comfortably with Rodney Mace scoring two hundreds. We then lost our next four games against very experienced opposition with many of our young junior players making their fourth grade debuts. We also had a change of captancy with Rodney Mace replacing Jack Sharpe.

After Christmas we played some good cricket, bowling out Wests for 16 runs to win outright, Belmont for 32 and Hamwicks in the last round for 27. However, we also lost a couple of close games to miss the semis and finished fifth.

Overall our bowling was far better than our batting, something which needs to be improved if we are to challenge for the title.

Special mention needs to go to many of the junior players who produced some good results: Kayne Bradley who scored one 50 at an average of 45 and took 10 wickets in 5 games; Josh Claridge who scored two 50's and 1 x 40 in 5 bats, Nick Standing with 13 wickets, Andy Walker scoring one 50 and Andrew Saville taking 5/16.

There was also some exceptional performances from our more experienced players with Dave Moore taking 8/1 including a hat-trick and 5/15 while Craig Mitchell took 6/4.

Thanks to all who came and supported the team during the season and all the best for 2015.

Under 21s Captain's Report

We showed up for the game that would decide who would go through to the 21's final at Kahibah. We were asked to have a bowl and bowled them out for a respectable 147. The batting did let us down for the first time in the competition with Guesty and Benchy the only ones to get more than 15. At stages it looked like we were in the hunt but no real partnership was what cost us as we were bowled out for 117. This placed us even with them on 20 points coming into the last round with us versing a reasonably strong Cardiff side and Wallsend playing Newcastle City.

So far there wasn't the usual 21's washout but as usual, it came when it mattered. Another rainy Saturday night and Sunday morning saw us trying our hardest to get on and keeping the Cardiff boys at the ground to 1'oclock when we play was called off after 1 over was bowled. The sun shone brightly for the rest of the day and it turns out we could've got on but what was done, was done as many of the boys went and took part in a "Todd Disney" style training session at CBC to end the 21's season.

Again it was a solid season but just not enough for the 21's side. We lose both Geordie Oliver and Max Magann next season as they both are to old but it gives an opportunity to a few of the younger blokes. I couldn't go through without mentioning the throwing up incident of Jackson Mace at Learmonth, going back to the old school mentality of the "21's hangover". Hopefully next season will be our year with a bit more experience under our belt.

Daniel Arms

CHARLESTOWN DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB				
PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT				
FOR PERIOD YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015				
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INCOME				\$
Registration Fees (1st-4th Grade)				16,010
5th Grade Registration Fees				1,395
Sponsorship				28,700
Season Launch				14,370
Fundraising				16,605
Raffles				13,362
Canteen				11,147
Grant - Cricket NSW				4,940
Ground hire				500
Presentation				1,300
Coaching Clinics				910
Interest				82
TOTAL INCOME				109,321
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EXPENSES				
Clothing				6,558
Cricket Balls & Equipment				8,037
Curating (Kahibah/Charlestown Oval)				12,668
Repairs & Maintenance (Kahibah/Charlestown)				2,817
Cricket Nets				15,589
Season Launch				7,940
Overseas player costs (incl Visa payments)				9,385
5th Grade NCSCA Registration				1,320
Ground Hire				1,348
NDCA				2,280
NDCUA				7,518
Presentation				2,826
Raffles				6,540
Canteen Purchases				8,147
Insurance				2,675
Electricity				1,780
After School Coaching				1,183
Signage				480
Government Fees				53
TOTAL EXPENSES				99,144
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NET INCOME				10,177