



NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2005

Fellow Centurion

Welcome to yet another cricket season! Already the 2005-06 Season is off to a flying start with Melbourne's (usually) fickle weather remaining warm and reliable. What a wonderful change! This Season five games are confirmed – one each month until March 2006. Check the website for details – www.centurions.com.au

Our season starts on November 20th against the strong Mont Albert team and we have scheduled our "traditional" games against Suma Park at Point Lonsdale; the Westgarth Baseballers at Kew and against The Explorers at our "home ground" at Strath Creek. Previous games against Mont Albert have been keenly fought and the local Club's hospitality is terrific. We are all looking forward to another tough contest. Nothing more needs to be said about our traditional *Explorers* and *Baseballers* games – they are always competitive and very enjoyable. Each year the Westgarth Baseballers turns out a strong team of ex-District and Sub-District players. And, as for the *Suma Park* game, it is always the easiest to fill. It has a funny name and it is played on a farm on the Bellarine Peninsula – but what is not known is that the Suma Park team put together by former Balwyn stalwart- Barrie Provan - generally boasts three or four ex-First Class players and **ALWAYS** gives us a fantastic day's cricket in picturesque surroundings. Don't leave it too late to be selected for this game.

In March we have tentatively scheduled our second game against Geelong Grammar School. It is an important part of the Centurions' mentoring role that we use the (considerable) experience we have to teach our up-and-coming cricketers the finer points of the game. Last year we did this - very successfully - when we played down at Corio and it is our intention to do so again. The conditions provided for us by the school are excellent.

Looking the part

Don't forget the importance of "looking the part" on match day. Centurions teams are recognised for their presentation - Centurions polo shirts & cricket gear is available from **Graham "Saint" Templar** on 0412 008 248.

George Tribe

An important part of this Season's *off-field* activity is your Committee's efforts to arrange a suitable function for the cricket fraternity to join and to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of **George Tribe's nomination as one of Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year**. George played **three Tests under Sir Donald Bradman** in 1946/47 and later became one of the greats of English County Cricket where he took the "double" – ie 100 wickets and 1,000 runs - in ten consecutive seasons. George still holds the season's wicket-taking record with Northants at 159 wickets! The stories of George in County (and other English) Cricket are legendary and it is to be hoped that, with the support of Cricket Victoria and the many cricket support groups, we will be able to arrange a suitable function in what is an increasingly crowded cricket/social calendar. We hope to involve the University; North Melbourne and Richmond Cricket Clubs as well as the Yarraville Cricket Club (where George commenced his cricket as a junior) and the North Melbourne Football Club (where George played in the back pocket before heading to England).

Nominate for Your Committee

Each year our Committee does a terrific job but it is now important that it creates a *succession plan*. We are all ageing cricketers – better players we may *think* we are – but we need replacing!! It is time the baton was handed over to the next generation of Centurions. Please give this your careful consideration. Our Committee has the aim of replacing one (or more) of its Members each Season. If you have any queries please ring a Committee member. Welcome to long-term member David Norris who has joined the Committee.

Centurions Membership

Attached to this Newsletter is a Membership Renewal form. It is important that the Membership renewal is completed quickly and returned to our Treasurer – Arthur Pritchard. Don't leave it till "later"!

New Zealand Tour – March 2006

Next year there is a cricket/social Tournament to be held in the beautiful city of Queenstown on New Zealand's famed South Island. The Tour is over ten days with a good balance of social and sporting activities and is to coincide with a Cricket & Netball Tournament in Queenstown. The Tournament will include "cricket tragiocs" from around the world. Already nominations have been received from the UK; New Zealand and India. If you would like to participate please let us know quickly so that the Tournament Organisers can be advised. The Tournament starts on March 5th 2006.

Andrew Mansale

It was great to see Andrew Mansale chosen in the East-Asia Pacific squad for the 2006 Games. Andrew is the youngest member of the EAP Squad and you will recall the Centurions sponsored him in 2003 as a 15 year old. He is a delightful young man with real cricket talent and all Centurions members look forward to his selection and success.

Centurions Golf Day

Be watching for it – our inaugural *Centurions Golf Challenge* at **Metropolitan Golf Club** – one of Melbourne's premier sand belt courses will be held in February/March 2006. However, our first Golf Day for the Season will be held at **Rosanna Golf Club at 1pm on Friday, 25 November 2005**. Details from Ron Brentnall on 0425 752 669.

Ron Tucker

Our best wishes are with inaugural Centurion, former Committeeman & Treasurer - Ron Tucker - and his lovely wife Sue - as Ron undergoes major surgery this week.

Tony Hargreaves President



RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Season 2005/2006

The membership subscription for the 2005/06 season is \$35

Please note :

- Financial members are entitled to priority selection in all fixtured matches.
- Only financial members are entitled to vote at any meeting of the Centurions

Would you kindly complete the slip below; detach it and return it promptly with your payment.

With thanks

Arthur Pritchard

Treasurer

25 Roseberry St Ascot Vale 3032

Ph: 9326 0952 email: artles2@netspace.net.au



NAME AND ADDRESS OF MEMBER

Name: _____

Street: _____

Suburb: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Business) _____

(Mobile) _____ (E-mail) _____

PAYMENT OF \$35 IS ENCLOSED FOR 2005/06 MEMBERSHIP

Please forward your payment to : Treasurer, Mr Arthur Pritchard 25 Roseberry St Ascot Vale 3032

Ph: 9326 0952

email: artles2@netspace.net.au