

# Around the Boundary

The Official Newsletter of the Jersey Cricket Board

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Issue 9

**Ashes Special!**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2007 FIXTURES HIGHLIGHTS 2

LEVEL 1 COACHES 2

SCORERS COURSE 2

BARMY ARMY BILLY 3

ENGLAND DRESSING ROOM SECRETS 3

DIARY OF AN ASHES TOUR 4

INSIDE EDGE 5

## FANTASY CRICKET IS COMING!!!

If you want to find out your handicap for the 2007 Fantasy Cricket League (or discuss your handicap with the understanding committee!), get yourself along to Grainville on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 6pm** when Mark Saralis will be launching the event. Mark promises it will be a good night. There's even talk of a book signing...

**ALL WELCOME!!**



## ASHES DEFEAT FAILS TO DAMPEN LOCAL SPIRITS



RATHBONES have announced that they will sponsor this year's Spring Term courses for junior cricketers. Over 150 children from ages 7 to 13 have signed up for fun introduction to cricket courses to be run this Term. Each child will also take home a folder from Rathbones containing an ECC cricket poster and MCC Spirit of Cricket postcards. In the NatWest Indoor League, OV's have been renamed Rathbones OV's in recognition of their sponsorship by the firm.

Over 120 young talented players from ages 7 to 18 have also been selected for the Development of Excellence scheme this year. The Scheme aims to develop cricketers to play for Jersey, the Channel Islands and further if appropriate. Under the lead of Jersey Cricket Board Director of Cricket, Chris Minty, players are invited for weekend coaching at Langford or Oakfield sports centres.

The coaches for the scheme are the JCCA's Ward Jenner, Mark Palmer, Steve Blampied, Wayne Gallichan, Lee Meloy, Mick Johnson, Bradley Vautier, Andy Gibbs and Peter Blackburn. Also some older players are involved in the Langford Academy led by Chris Minty, Peter Blackburn, Chris Jones and Ryan Driver.



*Spring coaching at Langford*

## Cable and Wireless CI Sports Personality of the Year 2006

Cricket had two nominations in the above awards, held last Thursday. Guernsey's Tim Ravenscroft was nominated as NatWest Rising Star for his continued outstanding form with bat and ball. 15-year old Tim became the first Guernsey cricketer to play for England at regional level.

And our very own Chris Minty was nominated as Cenkos Coach of the Year by helping to put CI cricket on the map and pushing many players at U15 level into the eye of regional selectors.

Although neither scooped the top awards, Around the Boundary would like to congratulate both Tim and Chris on a successful 2006 and wish them well for 2007!

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## 2007 FIXTURES HIGHLIGHTS

June 2	VCJ v MCC
June 3	U11 and U13 Inter Insulars (tbc)
June 17	U15 and U12 Inter Insulars
June 24	U17 and U14 Inter Insulars
July 16 to 20	CI U14's in Jersey Festival
July 21 to 28	European U19's in Jersey
July 22 to 28	CI U14's to Taunton Festival
July 23 to Aug 03	Cable and Wireless Summer School
Aug 06 to 10	Jersey U11 and U12 Fixtures in Jersey and CI U13's in Guernsey
Aug 14 to 17	European U23's in Guernsey
Aug 19 to 25	CI 11's to Taunton
Aug 24 to 30	European U15's in Spain
Aug 27 to 31	Standard Bank Festival in Jersey

## Level One Cricket Coaches

Fifteen potential cricket coaches undertook their Level One course earlier this month at the Langford Sports Centre. Tutored by Jersey Cricket Development Officer Chris Minty, three travelled from Guernsey to join their Jersey counterparts. Candidates ranged between the ages of 16 and 63 and included 3 females.

Chris Minty said, 'Everyone enjoyed the course, they worked hard and made good progress, even those with little previous cricket experience. I hope they will be successful in their assessments and that they will get involved with coaching in the future.'

On the course were Anthony Kay, Philip Le Cornu, Keith Mackenzie, Stephen McGinness, Chris Rondel, Richard Picot, Sarah Rowe, Ben Ferbrache, Hannah Mechem, Julia White, Paul Connolly, James Cartmell, Declan Cullinan, Peter Osmont and Sam de la Haye.

## Reminder re Scorers Course

Bookings are now being taken for the next JACUS Scorers Course run by Lynne Davis. The course takes place at Langford on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> February from 10am till 4pm. Absolute beginners should attend for both days as Lynne will be starting from scratch on Saturday. The last hour on Sunday will be given over to Duckworth-Lewis for those interested in unravelling the mystery! The course costs £8 for 2 days or £5 for the Sunday only. You'll need to bring a packed lunch but tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided!

Please contact Chris Minty on 449759 if you wish to reserve a place.



*Last year's scorers course*

## THE BARMY ARMY'S BILLY by Nikki Holmes

Having failed in my attempts to interview England cricketers during the recent Ashes series, I did the next best thing and managed to collar 'Billy from the Barmy Army' who became a cult hero both in the UK and Australia when overzealous security guards threw him out of the Gabba for blowing his own trumpet, literally. Here's what the Big Man had to say:

Q: What's your name?

A: Billy Cooper.

Q: Where are you from?

A: The beautiful oasis in paradise called Sidcup in Kent.

Q: What is your job in the Barmy Army?

A: I play the trumpet.

Q: How long have you been playing the trumpet?

A: In the Barmy Army, or forever?

Q: Forever.

A: Twenty years.

Q: When did you start?

A: When I was seven.

Q: How long have you been playing for the Barmy Army?

A: Nearly three years now.

Q: What's your favourite tune?

A: I like *(pause...)* Christmas tunes and 80's classics. *(proceeds to play The Final Countdown by 80's icons Europe to rapturous applause from the Barmy Army)*

Q: What did you feel when you weren't allowed in at Brisbane and Adelaide?

A: I felt rather impotent. I was there, in with the Army, but unable to fulfil myself. The boys were around me wanting to be roused and I couldn't help. We had to go back to manual.

Q: Do you ever keep anything in your trumpet bag other than your trumpet? Have you ever thought of smuggling a Subway sandwich in there? *(Smuggling in Subway*

*sandwiches seems to be popular amongst the Army)*

A: I tend to eat less at the cricket because *(another fan passes over a Subway sandwich)* I tend to feel a bit ill. I tend to live more on liquid as it were.

Q: What's your job back home in Sidcup?

A: I play the trumpet.

Q: So you're a professional trumpet player?!

A: Yes, wouldn't you know?!

Q: Are you looking forward to Sydney?

A: Yeah, it'll be nice. I like I here but the weather was s\*\*\* yesterday. And it's all a bit artificial. This isn't a real cricket ground to me.

Q: Predictions for this match?

A: Well don't listen to me, I've been putting lots of money on England each game and I keep losing but I'm ever the optimist.

*And we all know what happened after that...*



Billy 'The Trumpet' Cooper

## England Dressing Room Secrets!

No, not the bowling plans, but what's it REALLY like in the England Dressing Room at the MCG? And, more importantly, how does it compare to Grainville????! Around the Boundary reveals all...



Main Dressing Room



Showers



Toilets



Ice Baths

## Diary of an Ashes Tour by Charlotte Jones (Thirtysomething Singleton)

### Monday 25 December

10st 5 (all pre-Xmas chocs at work), alcohol units 12.

Hurrah! Have arrived in Melbourne on my 3<sup>rd</sup> Ashes Tour. This tour have decided to stay away from: i) Anyone under 21; ii) Australians; iii) Tight Northerners; iv) Anyone with hygiene issues; and concentrate instead on finding: a) Cricket-loving male between 21 and 60, preferably with own hair/teeth; b) Paul Collingwood.

Melbourne records worst Xmas weather on record with SNOW in suburbs. Cook prawns under kitchen grill instead of braving outdoor BBQ. Confidently bet Aussie male that England will win 1 of next 2 matches. Spend afternoon thrashing Lizzie at Shane Warne's Interactive DVD game. Agree that, given opportunity, we would exempt him from Point ii above.

### Boxing Day Test

10st 7 (why? Thought prawns had negligible calories), alcohol units 8 (all post-match due to day being akin to Twickenham in Feb), celebrities spotted 22 (all indistinguishable as approx 4mm high)

Cold is affecting Freddie's brain as we win toss and elect to bat. From lofty seats, can just see Warney's 700<sup>th</sup> wicket. Couldn't see ball, just fat white blob being chased by 9 smaller blobs and 1 very small blob while another blob in blue helmet made its way off pitch. Spend evening at Barmy Army HQ with 5 Monty Panesars, 1 Chewbacca and 1 Yoda who looks even more like Yoda when mask removed.

### Wednesday 27 December

10st 8 (am about to explode?), alcohol units 10 (but includes 6 of weak beer), celebs 22 (am sitting 4 rows from front so all now recognisable). Get to ground early with instructions to save 16 seats with Barmy Army. Everyone turns up late. Spot potential man behind me with twinkly eyes and cheeky smile who later asks me out to dinner Friday! Remember appropriate reaction from depths of memory and accept graciously. Tonight have dinner with several touring cricketers and find myself surrounded by gorgeous men – not a toyboy or tightwad in sight. In fact, one looks suspiciously like Matthew McConaughey. Despite England's dismal performance, this tour is looking up.

### Thursday 28 December

10st 7, alcohol units 17 (mainly vodka so calorie-efficient), celebs 0 Lizzie returned today and so does sun. Another scorching performance from Barmy Army and we sit behind 'An Aussie Goes Barmy' crew meaning we are later spotted several times on national television. Unfortunately also a scorching performance from Aussies and their 12<sup>th</sup> man Rudi Koertzen as we lose another Test. 5-0 whitewash looms ominously. Gleefully look forward to BA karaoke comp (have agreed to duet with Mr Cheeky) and a refund on Day 4 tickets. Karaoke goes well. Seriously consider entering X-Factor 2007.

### Friday 29 December

10st 7, alcohol units 6 (am on date so trying to project image of sophistication), celebs 1 (Ali Cook having romantic champagne picnic under shady tree in Botanic Gardens with blonde) Lovely dinner with Mr Cheeky who refuses all attempts to split the bill. Have 2<sup>nd</sup> date in Sydney – hurrah! Cunning guise of sophistication obviously worked.

### Saturday 30 December

Celebs 0 (thinking of counting Jimmy One Song, Billy Trumpeter & Richard Goneforastroll as celebs to up figures). Last night Barmy Army party surprisingly quiet. Most foresaw England's defeat and have already left for Sydney's warmer climes. Given up weighing myself for fear will break scales. As weight and alcohol units go up, voice is disappearing.

### New Year's Eve

Untold alcohol units but 1 round of drinks sets me back \$65.

MCC v MCC at MCG. MCC start well scoring 165 runs. Worryingly, no-one gets past 41 (scored by Hicks at No 5). When Melbourne CC bat, I take photo of their 'worm' which looks like north face of Eiger compared to MCC's which is more like gentle rolling hills of South Downs. Due to well-placed contacts, Lizzie and I enter Holy Grail of England Dressing Room. Eyes pop out at thought of Collingwood in showers/ice baths while Lizzie is lost in her own KP thoughts. See in NYE in dodgy St Kilda pub.

### Monday 1 January

Celebs: Barry Humphries, Mum texts – Sir Cliff Richard is on her flight! Barmy Army party in Coogee Palace Hotel with Jersey contingents. Lizzie ignores Point b above and 'does a Demi' with her own Ashton whilst Mr Cheeky continues to bowl maiden over.

### Tuesday 2 January

Alcohol units 8 (post-match in Kings Cross). Celebs: Richard Branson!! Sit far too close to Aussie Fanatics led by Captain Caveman – man with terribly hairy back and sweaty thighs (he is wearing caveman outfit leaving little to imagination). Aussie songs mainly consist of shouting 'All Pommies are w.....'. Where is tune? Where is wit? Where are clever lyrics? Apparently Aussies have paid songwriters this year – I would demand refund. Spend evening in Kings Cross with 2 Andy's and 1 Lou who we met in Perth 2002 dressed as Steve Irwin. Obviously needed a re-think this tour.

### Wednesday 3 Jan

Alcohol units 0 (officially). 9 unofficially. Celebs: 2 Borats (subsequently evicted from SCG due to lack of cultural appreciation of 'Borat Thong') Refused service for beer at SCG due to absence of ID (don't know whether to feel very angry at thought of dry afternoon or deliriously happy at thought I look 17. Decide on latter). Subsequently threatened with eviction from ground when man behind me buys 2 beers for me and Mr Cheeky (Yes! He is still on scene!) and I attempt to take them off his tray. Indian meal at Darling Harbour with MCC boys. Waiter laughs at our Pommie attempts to order 56 poppadums, 8 chicken tikka masalas, 2 chicken kormas, 5 onion bhajis and 10 Cobra beers. Apparently this is posh Indian serving lamb shanks and expensive wine.

### Thursday 4 Jan

Alcohol units 12. Food consumed: 1 grilled chicken sandwich, 1 meat pie, 1 portion pesto pasta, 1 mixed Thai starter, 1 red chicken curry, ½ portion Jasmine rice, ½ portion spicy noodles. Vegetables: 0 Fruit: 0 (no wonder am turning into human Four and Twenty Pie) Another depressing England performance means McGrath prediction of 5-0 is on cards so prepare to pay forfeit to gloating Aussie male. Barmy Army respond by singing 'We won the toss 3-2'. Billy wins Battle of Trumpeters as Aussie trumpeter brought in for occasion keeps hitting bum notes and has repertoire even more limited that Barmy Army Jimmy.

### Friday 5 Jan

Losht Ahses, whitewish. Spend envneing drinkkging n commmmiserating withbary marmy . cnt' belevlie spent £2000 n rubbbsh engld pfromrnace. Whenss next engld tourn???? Rolllll on sri lankdaa.a

Alcohol units 386 (poor)

Calories 2,645,221 (estimate)

Weight gained 1 stone (how is that possible in 2 weeks? How????)

Text messages sent + received 482 (next time must buy Aussie SIM card)

Hangover-free days 1

Number of times met Paul Collingwood 0 (gutted)

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## JERSEY CRICKET

Around the  
Boundary, Cricket  
Development  
Office, Fort  
Regent Leisure  
Centre, St Helier,  
Jersey, JE2 4UX

### We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.jersey.cricketeurope.net](http://www.jersey.cricketeurope.net)

Or via the ECC website:

[www.ecc-cricket.com](http://www.ecc-cricket.com)

If you would like to receive copies of this newsletter, send us your email address and we will forward it directly to your Inbox every month!

## JICC AGM

All JICC members are advised that the 2007 AGM will be held at Grainville on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm. Agenda and Notices will be sent out to all members shortly .

## Inside Edge by Mark Saralis

Late November and still the impending Ashes series was failing to ignite too many sparks in even my mundane life. Having taken the rash decision to get rid of Sky in an attempt to encourage the kids to do something more productive than watching Cartoon Network, the prospect of watching highlights at some unearthly hour more than 12 hours after the close of play was not enough to fuel anything resembling enthusiasm I'm afraid.

Never mind a few well placed bets would add a bit of interest, so I thought, but even this pleasure had to be severely modified after a check of the bank balance and I consigned myself to a few weeks of envy. Envious of all those coming in to work with bleary eyes having watched the events unfolding live on TV, envious of those who were either watching it live in Australia or had tickets and the means to get to the matches and envious of anyone who looked as if they were experiencing more pleasure in life that having two teenage sons, a "wonderful" wife and no money can bring you. Never mind, I would just have to immerse myself in my work; at least that would keep the boss happy.

I convinced myself that even if I had Sky I wouldn't be getting up before the milkman (remember them) to watch what experience has taught England fans to expect in Australia... a thrashing.

Come the first day of the First Test however I awoke with a start at 4 am and after the initial confusion and annoyance remembered why I had set my brain for this early call. I silently slipped out of bed, past the dog, and downstairs to the lounge, put the TV on and managed to get digital radio through the now mostly redundant Sky box.

This was to be the pattern of my days during the first two Tests when the cricket was competitive enough to suggest that England may just do the impossible and successfully defend the Ashes. The Second Test was probably the breaking point when England, having declared in the first innings managed to lose the match. The dejection was tangible even through the radio.

The few bets I did have were not going to plan either. I've never had much faith in Strauss, despite his test average, so don't know why I

kept backing him to be top innings scorer. He did manage it eventually of course but by that time I had given up on him. Even Shane Warne who looked a certainty to be top Australian wicket taker was at risk of being upstaged by some blighter named Stuart Clark. As Nicky of Big Brother fame would say "Who the hell is he"?

When Monty Panesar was eventually selected to play and duly took five wickets in the Third Test, much to the embarrassment of the selectors, expectations did rise briefly, but by the Fourth Test, getting out of bed before the paper boy arrived, Evening Post that is, was proving difficult. Efforts to impress the boss by immersing myself in work didn't exactly go to plan either.

Unfortunately he is a cricket fan and insisted on popping in to my office to talk about the previous days play. Typically he kept choosing the exact moments, and there were several, I had decided to have a quick look at the scorecards on the BBC website.

By the time the Final Test arrived, interest levels had flat-lined and I couldn't tell you anything about the match other than Shane Warne didn't take enough wickets to be top wicket taker.

Still it was not all bad. True I lost a few quid and now have a boss who thinks I spend most of my day browsing the internet and have two kids who now spend their lives playing on X-Box's and PlayStations. At least I didn't spend the kids' inheritance and any other money I could have begged, stolen or borrowed on travelling to Australia to watch the debacle like a couple of people I know who should be knighted for their efforts. But as Paul Collingwood found, being royally recognized for somewhat questionable achievements can be a bit of a mill-stone and lead to derision. I personally would welcome the move however, as to date these individuals have offered very few opportunities for mockery. So Sir Kearsley and Sir Gomersall arise and prepare to be royally abused.

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