

Life just isn't the same without a Saturday at Waverley. The blinding morning sun, Howard Warner's sunburnt face convincing me that it's ok to have a VB at 1pm, Bob Wilson trying desperately to control Dodger, Tucks snoozing on the terrace, Bruce updating Sheffield Shield scores from 1948, the eternal disgruntlement of the lower graders, the timing of one movements to avoid packing up the sponsors signs, the salad rolls and of course the cricket. I can't wait for the 2006/7 season to begin. I love being preoccupied and slightly drunk for 10 hours every Sat and what better place to do that than the home of grade cricket, Waverley oval.

There is change at Waverley oval and the sandpit is the place you will hear it second. The administration may be the soul of the club, the players and supporters the heart, well the Sandpit is the shins.

I Steve Abbott, the artist formally known as The Sandman, am in a privileged position. I'm not a player but I feel like one. I'm as fit as some of our current players. Although I do have to pick up my undies with my toes. I'm not on the committee, but I feel like I am, so I have access to all areas of this club, it's good bits, it's bad bits and of course the wonder that is Kirk Rimmer. The sandpit will be keeping you updated on Kirks stats and comments about all matters throughout the year. Who can forget Kirk Rimmer interrupting post 3rd grand final drinks in the sheds at Hurstville to present Robbie Wilson with a copy the Randwick Petersham team song. One of last seasons highlights for mine.

Here's the mail so far for 2006/7. There will be changes at the pointy end of the East's juggernaut and of course some familiar faces from the playing roster are gone too, Tim Cutler. I will never forget a second grade game at Hurstville Oval, East's pressing for outright victory when Cuts plucked one out of the air at mid on and sprinted towards deep mid on in celebration, holding his prize up towards the sky, then as he neared the boundary he turned around only to realise not one of his team mates was following him. Cuts will be missed. Tim Kensall, gone? Mick Rees may be staying in England, at least more people will be able to get a word in, Tucks, will he won't he? Richard Wiles, gone. Joey Price will he or won't he? Boozer will he bowl? Who cares there's another season on its way and new faces to try out all our old gags on. New faces like Nathan Catalano ex St George now a Dolphin. Chook and I had a nice little lunch drink with him at the Bellevue and I'm happy to say I was able to help him a little

with some footwork problems I detected when East's played St George last season, although he didn't seem that interested in my suggestion that we are looking for a fourth Grade captain.

Socially it will be a big year. We will be introducing roulette to the back room and there is the luncheon where we raise money to buy Vespers for Graham Quinn and Chook. Naturally there will be the promise of a bingo trivia night that will be cancelled and the annual roosters Dolphins cricket match. And to accommodate the numbers Presentation Night this season will be held in Luke Bowers flat and have a close look at the new logo, the dolphin is angry.

Good luck to all who sail in our vessel this year and remember Dolphins disappointment is a wonderful fertiliser.

The end