

Hi welcome to the third sandpit.

Cricketers start your engines. I don't know about you, but I can't wait to get badly sun burnt at Waverley, drive to Owen Earle open my lunch only to have it covered in flies, spend a Saturday at Old Kings and then because I love the club so much return there on the Sunday for the Pgs, or drink 8 times my own body weight in beer and end up at Barons with Ryan Cross and Brett Finch. I just love it when elite athletes take my pants off in a public place put me on their shoulders and threaten to shove me into an overhead fan.

Congratulations to Luke Bower for setting a club record. That is being selected to represent the club five times in a row at the Raymond terrace trial. Raymond Terrace is a charming place, but four times in a lifetime is enough.

I played my last game of Rugby League at Raymond Terrace oval. However it wasn't quite the finish I was hoping for with Newcastle University Seconds. I pulled a hamstring running onto the field and was replaced directly after the kick off. You've got to listen to your body because it's the one thing that knows when you've had enough.

The social committee is almost up and running. At this stage we have Jimmy Smith, Sean Paul, Leanne Musgrave and myself aboard for that exciting part of the club. Our motto we love to cancel.

Don't forget Nov 15th the annual lunch and fundraiser for the club. One of the great sights is watching drunken middle age men leaving the Tats club at dusk trying to coordinate the face and leg muscles to hail a cab. As you get older the strides get shorter and the facial expressions get bigger. Of course the day is a tribute to Bob Horsell to raise money for Bob Wilson's renovations.

The annual bingo and trivia night is scheduled sometime in December at the PADDINGTON RSL. This will no doubt be cancelled. For all of you who have put aside the time to attend the Christmas party I've got bad news. No Christmas party this year. We can't find a venue big enough to accommodate the interest. The convention centre at darling harbour is booked and the council won't let us block off bondi road, even though powder finger are willing to perform for nothing.

One of the great moments for me last year was being at graham pk and hearing the manly third grade boys cheering their teammates after every solid forward defensive shot. Thanks Manly for encouraging me relook at this exciting part of the game. On the strength of what I learnt I will be running a workshop to celebrate the forward defensive shot. The big stride, head inside the line, toe pointing in the direction you want the ball to travel, short back swing, bat coming through reasonably straight. It's so exciting seeing the ball drop at the batters feet and the silly mid off or point fielder trotting in to pick up the ball. Kirk Powell will be our batting coach for the day. Positions are limited so get in early

Managed to catch a little of the trial at Roseville chase, which we won Good to see a few new faces blending with a few old ones. Welcome back Daniel Mulvenna. Seeing Daniel stuffing up the scoring was so comforting. It was like finding one of nanas old cushions behind the lounge. To be honest the highlights for me were missing the turn off to the Roseville Chase oval twice and the 15 minutes drive to Willoughby to obtain an average toasted sandwich.

Of course Sandpits favourite East's player Kirk Rimmer was there at Roseville Chase. The Kirk Rimmer t-shirts are still happening. There's a limited run of one so get in quick while stocks last

There have also been developments regards the east's super band for presentation night. Cameron Under the grandstand Bruce is in, the best swing bowler east's have known Max Abbott will be play guitar, one of Wollongong City's strike bowlers from the 70's Steve Abbott, the only into the wind new ball bowler pushed back by a nor Easter, may strum a few chords, depending on the song. Australia's most enthusiastic man Wayne Geber has expressed interest in vocals, Kirk Rimmer will play recorder, is there anything this man can't do and we hear Ron Rimmer is a decent vocalist and a fan of Robbie Williams. Imagine a group fronted by Geb's and Ron Rimmer doing Let me Entertain You. that's right up there with catching Steve Leibman naked. We are in need of a drummer, a bass and some brass players.

NB: A secret group of east's officials has been meeting to plan an accidental fire at snape oval dressing rooms. Obviously I cannot divulge the names and plans but I can tell you things are coming along nicely.

Inside sources tell me that when the obvious choice for club captain was announced at the seminar there was some snickering. In particular two first graders, well kind of first graders, snickered a little louder and longer than every body else. One of them I believe has ambitions in the media. My best days in the media may be behind me but I still know people who know people that know people who can kill a career in a few seconds, Josh.

And finally sandpit smells a mutiny regarding the leisure shirts. Look chaps a Caltex dealership in the deep south of America were offloading some old stock and we pounced. What's the problem? I saw Bob Wilson in one at the sheaf and he was surrounded by women. Admittedly they were over 80 but nevertheless they were women. My advice is get Sasha to embroider a 'Roy' or 'Buddy Bob' on the pocket, get a truckers hat, jumbo cords and some desert boots and you will look every bit as stylish as anyone from the Randwick Petersham club and what's more you can probably get a part time job at crystal car wash because you've got the appropriate shirt.