

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 2023

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Committee, it is my pleasure to present the 68th Annual Report of the Valley of Peace Cricket Club for the year ending 30th June 2023.

Deaths:

It is with deep regret that we acknowledge the passing of Gavin Royfee, a longtime member and contributor on and off the ground; Patti Hutchison, wife of Orm who was one of the Club's founding members and a member in her own right; and Penny Leighs, wife of Tom Leighs who will forever be remembered as leader of all things social and musical by the club members who travelled to away games in the 1970s and 1980s. These three all had close connections to the Club. We would like to pass on our condolences to their families.

Committee:

I would sincerely like to thank the 2022-23 committee for their outstanding contribution to the running of the Club throughout the season and beyond.

The grounds and surrounds were once again immaculately presented and maintained by Polson, Olsen, Banks and Tritchler (not the name of a dodgy law firm but a group of admirable men who spend hundreds of combined hours at the ground throughout the season so members can enjoy the first-class facilities). The club owes all these gentlemen a huge debt of gratitude and thanks for their tireless efforts in producing a ground that is the envy of many clubs.

To Ant Polson and Geoff Olsen, thank you for leading the preparation of the pitch and grounds to such a high standard. Geoff's association with the grounds staff at Hagley Oval and Ant's wide circle of connections have certainly benefited the Club.

The Club is very fortunate to have the services of Ollie Dugdale (Treasurer) and Jono Corfe (Secretary) for their contribution to the season. Ollie's improved system to move subs and financials online is working very well. It appears seamless, but I suspect more goes on behind the scenes that I am aware of. Jono continues to perform his duties admirably from afar with efficiency and humour. We thank both these gentlemen for the professionalism and enthusiasm.

The Rev Cameron Pickering continues to make sure the kitchen and bar areas are always well stocked and presented. It is one of the Valley's most appreciated aspects by members and visitors alike.

Phil Smith, with the help of Scott Banks who is based in Australia, has made our club communications more accessible and user friendly. The website continues to offer more information and is regularly updated, particularly with match reports.

Since Frazer Offwood joined the committee, his services have been significant. Primarily as our Health and Safety Officer, his practical thinking, ideas and skills have also greatly enhanced the maintenance programme. His voice of reason is often appreciated by myself and the committee. His organisation of the firewood project this season has been a great success and has certainly improved the Club's financial position.

Brent Bailey continues to contribute in so many ways, often unnoticed. All things horticultural are Brent's strength as is his total commitment to and unquestionable passion for the Valley.

To our departing Club captain, Jesse Tritschler, thank you for your tireless efforts over the past four seasons. Jesse has had the unenviable task of collating player availability, selecting the Valley teams, liaising with our captains and the opposition teams to ensure match days run seemingly effortlessly. His passion for the Valley, enthusiasm and communication skills are second to none as he has made sure that everyone enjoys their day at the Valley. His hours of professional and practical contribution to the club in other areas have also been outstanding. Unfortunately, due to work commitments, Jesse has resigned from this role but I'm sure he will continue to contribute to the Club in the future.

We welcome Simon Irving into the Club Captain's role. He has already embraced the position with enthusiasm and we are looking forward to a full and competitive season. Members will have already received communications from Simon concerning game selections. Please introduce yourself to him if you haven't already met.

Fixtures:

The club's playing record for the 2022/2023 season was similar to the previous season. The games were generally competitive and played in the true spirit of cricket.

The results were as follows:

2022/2023 GAMES	RESULT	PERFORMERS
vs Honest Trundlers	Loss by 1 wicket	
STAC v CBHS	CBHS win by 42 runs	
vs Hawkswood Wanderers	Win by 6 wickets	P McCarthy 50 W Millar 5-23
vs Millbrook	Loss by 80 runs	J Durning 3-18
vs Christchurch Golf Club	Drawn	Thankfully for the Valley rain stopped play
vs Police	Loss by 138 runs	
vs Team Boon	Loss by 4 wickets	
vs Swannanoa	Win by 99 runs	
CC v Old Boys Collegians	Win by OBC	
vs Honest Trundlers	Win by 8 wickets	P Harris 41 H Cochran 40
vs NSW Veterans	Loss by 32 runs	T Penny 37
vs World XI	Loss by 7 wickets	
vs NZ Army	Win by 170 runs	T Pettit 43
vs Canterbury Club	Win by 39 runs	J Davidson 69 S McLeod 45
vs Deans XI	Win	
Captains vs Presidents	Presidents again!	

The games against Luggate Ornaments, Sydenham Cardinals, NSW Over 60's and the Goatherders were rained out.

Amongst some very meritorious performances this season, the recipient of the H. Waters Cup was Jonathan Davidson, for his 69 against the Canterbury Club. The Creighton Cup for the best bowling performance was won by Wade Millar for his five for 23 against the Hawkswood Wanderers. The Keeper's Cup was awarded to John Durning for his three for 18 in the Millbrook game. The tankard is presented annually for the best performance against Millbrook.

It was testament to the quality of the pitch that three centuries were scored during the season (James Pearson CGC 152no, Glenn Collins Police 112 and Dylan Hunter OCB 106). Unfortunately they were playing for the opposition..

The Committee extends its thanks to those who captained Valley teams throughout the season. It is never as easy as it seems. Whatever the result, your match reports were outstanding and appreciated by all the members (especially the non-playing members).

Subscriptions:

The Committee have decided that there will be a small increase of membership subs for the 2023/24 season. The subs have been set at \$85 (if paid by 31 Nov). A \$15 late payment fee will be added for subs paid after that date. Members are strongly urged to pay their subs as soon as possible.

General Business:

The club is indebted to and wishes to thank the many people who have helped with the running of the club during the season. They often undertake duties that are largely unnoticed but are equally appreciated - captaining teams, hosting, helping at working bees, splitting wood

A special thanks to Barry Frost, John Kerrison, Dave Eathorne and David Hearn, who offer their time to host on a regular basis, and Barry who continues to be the club's master chef.

To our caterers, Kate Brand, Anna Apes and Tina Cartwright, who prepare the lunches for each game.

To Jim Smith maintains the pavilion on a weekly basis.

To Phil Smith and Ant Polson who organised the Easter Family Picnic in place of the rained-out Christmas Picnic.

I would also like to record the Club's thanks and appreciation to our Valley neighbours, Tania, Bert and Jack McGrath, who provide us with a huge amount of practical help in all manner of ways. Their ongoing association with the Valley is invaluable.

I also want to acknowledge and thank the wives, partners and families of the committee (and members) for their understanding and forbearance. We truly appreciate all the hours spent at the ground or undertaking various roles for the Valley by their husbands, partners and fathers.

As mentioned in most Annual Reports, if members can contribute in any way, whether it is in an area of expertise, practically or financially, please don't hesitate to contact a committee member.

We congratulate all the Valley members, either as players or management, who have been part of Canterbury and New Zealand representative sides in the past year. The continued growth of veteran's cricket is one of the many reasons cricket is flourishing at the Valley of Peace.

The 2023/24 season is shaping up to be a full season with twenty games. We welcome the Wellington Wanderers and the United Country and Vineyards Cricket Club from Marlborough for the first time this season.

In conclusion, I urge you all to involve yourselves in the club's activities. To the non-playing members, please make an effort to find your way out to the Valley at some stage this season to enjoy the cricket and conviviality. If this isn't possible, you can always follow us on our website - www.valleyofpeace.co.nz

Scott Cartwright
President