

History of Nunawading Cricket Club

Nunawading, What's in a name

To get a wider understanding of how the Club started and, in fact, how the BHRDCA started it is worth spending a while discussing the history of the Nunawading and Box Hill districts. There is a strong correlation between the 'parishes' of Nunawading, in particular, and Box Hill and the longer serving BHRDCA teams, Nunawading included. Over the next few paragraphs, I will provide a brief history of how Nunawading, formerly Tunstall, came to be and it's progress from a rural bushland into the busy middle class suburb it has been since the war.

The First people of Nunawading

When white men first arrived in Victoria, in 1835 the indigenous Aboriginal community was displaced and had to move from traditional grounds, being occupied by Europeans, to displaced locations. When this displacement occurred to the aborigines in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, or perhaps to continue the old, traditional ways, Melbourne's aborigines, who formed tribes all over the countryside, met in community places and would declare the fundamentals of the unity that existed between them. Following this show of unity more business like matters like common interests and disputes were discussed.

One of these meeting places was in Melbourne's East in a place thought to have been called *Numpha-wading* by the local aborigines and called Nunawading by the new European settlers, keen to preserve the indigenous names. The popular translation for this word is 'ceremonial ground'. The boundaries of the native Nunawading were unclear, even to the aborigines and the parish of Nunawading was hilly and heavily timbered and covered a large area. This geography presented many challenges to both settlers and travellers over the next century, especially in the area of road construction, availability of arable land and provision of basic services such as water and heat.

In 1836, many squatters were moving south from Sydney searching for new grass for their sheep and to put distance between themselves and the restrictions imposed by Governor Phillip in Sydney. At this time, Victoria was one of 9 pastoral districts, called the Port Phillip District. One of these squatters was Jack Gardiner who settled in what is now Scotch College grounds and whose sheep run extended through Ringwood to Croydon. Gardiners Creek is named after Jack and he was the first of many 'overlanders' who travelled south from Sydney.

Over the next few years, the overlanders worked out routes to Port Phillip lands which provided them with shelter and water. Watering places for sheep and cattle on the last stages of their journey to Melbourne were found in the districts now known as Bayswater, Vermont and Ringwood. The stock routes from these watering places were to become our three major Eastern highways today, Burwood Highway, Canterbury Road and Maroondah Highway.

Canterbury Road was first named Delaneys Road, due to the presence of Delaney's Hotel, one of the great watering holes of yesteryear. However, the main link to Melbourne was The Great Three Chain Road, now called White Horse Road or Maroondah Highway, which was built three-chains (66 yards) wide to accommodate men moving in both directions.

Nunawading was a parish covering the areas from Surrey Hills to Mitcham (east of the Dandenong and Mullum Mullum Creeks) and from Doncaster (south of the Koonung Creek) to Burwood East (north of present day Highbury Road).

Land settlement in Australia, after the period of the squatter, where individuals on their own undertaking settle on land, live off it and proclaim it their own, moved to the period of Crown Grants. A method called a Special Survey was introduced in the late 1830's to accommodate allocation of land to immigrants who had come to Australia under planned and subsidised immigration programs. The principle behind a Special Survey was that if a man was prepared to pay a good price for a large freehold, he would expect a return for his investment which would be best provided by establishing a large sheep or cattle run. However, all a man receiving these large allotments had to do to make a profit was to subdivide and this land was then owned by smaller freeholders. Henry Elgar was one man who did this and he secured most of the land now called Mont Albert and Surrey Hills. The land to the east of this was cheaper due to its terrain of heavily timbered undulations. Elgar and others like him bought land in the Eastern suburbs to sell to pioneers looking for land on which to settle their families.

Despite the harsh conditions which included remoteness, strange climate, difficult soil conditions and the terrain, settlement took place during the 1840's and 1850's and the two villages of Box Hill and Balyshanassy appeared and there was a veil of settlement over the entire Nunawading parish.

A third land ownership scheme now appeared, called settlement programs. Land was sold to selectors who proposed to live on and from the land they obtained. This proved difficult in many areas as squatters had settled on large tracts of land and were an obstacle to planned settlement. In order to try and wrest the land from squatter control the Grant Act of 1865 provided that selectors could gradually purchase blocks if they showed they were putting the land to good use. A famous BHRDCA name, Toogood, was one of, if not the, first families to settle in Nunawading when they acquired a holding in what is now Box Hill North. In 1860 Forest Hill, named for the splendour and abundance of its timber, was described as a small settlement of woodcutters, charcoal burners and orchardists. In 1862 Abraham Rooks purchased 79 acres of land for 80 pounds. Other early settlers who share surnames with former and current Nunawading players were Job Hone, James Kent and John McLelland.

The area was not particularly suitable for farming aspects such as dairy or vegetable but was able to be used for orchards, flower growing and clay potting. The brick industry, commencing as a cottage industry, eventually blossomed and many potteries and brickworks appeared over the district. A close look whilst driving around will still reveal the occasional example of the district's first real commodity.

Local Government

In 1857 the first form of local government appeared by way of the Central Roads Board and the Nunawading Roads Board was one of a number of local District Roads Boards. It is probably from the creation of the Nunawading Roads Board that a community spirit in the Nunawading parish evolved. These formative years of community-mindedness produced frequent name changes for the townships occupying the Parish. Springfield was formed in the

area later known as Tunstall and Vermont was first named Norwich. Forest Hill was called Mount Pleasant and Balyshanassy gave way to Burwood. In 1865, 4,000 people lived in the Nunawading parish, which was also a Roads Board District and an electoral division. Box Hill was merely a postal village under the control of the Roads Board and Ringwood and Mitcham had hardly appeared.

Community Mindedness

The Nunawading District Roads Board had six elected local citizens who were charged with the duties of levying a rate for the building and maintenance of roads, the installation of the infamous toll gates across the intersection of Springvale Road and White Horse Rd (which didn't last long due to public outcry). The Roads Board established a precedent of the community working together and was the foundation of groups such as Progress Associations which are still evident today.

Box Hill was, at this time, just a district of the parish of Nunawading and did not have an identity of its own until it was proclaimed in 1860 after a group of locals, unable to agree on a name, drew the name Box Hill, after Box Hill in Surrey, from a hat. Copying from English names continued and Balyshanassy became Burwood after being called Norwood for a while.

Box Hill progressed to the point where its administrators claimed that Box Hill Town Hall was the lineal successor to the Road Board which had itself progressed from managing roads only to many aspects of local community life.

The State Member for Nunawading from 1929-1934 was Robert Menzies who has the unenviable task in 1931 of introducing a new ticket system of sustenance for the depression unemployed.

Tunstall appears

In 1888 a railway station called Tunstall was opened between Mitcham and Blackburn. Tunstall, station and district, was a comparative 'no-mans land' between the comparative fertile areas on Mitcham and Blackburn. Shortly after a mail drop off point appeared but the area itself was not proclaimed Tunstall until 1907, after an English town which had clay of similar colour and texture.

By 1925 there was an imbalance in the shire of Nunawading with the eastern settlements of Box Hill, Burwood and Surrey Hills growing much faster than the rural communities of Blackburn and Mitcham. A very respectable attitude in the western end led to the imposition of an alcohol free Box Hill which remained until recently and the eastern end was developing as an orchard and pottery district. With Box Hill being closer to Melbourne, development into a true suburb was evolving and it became a solid, conservative area, diametrically opposed to the farming community developing further east. Locals in Box Hill wanted it declared a city and the Nunawading Council was divided by having to provide more attention to the more densely populated Eastern end. The Blackburn end of the Shire was keen to break away from Box Hill. Eventually a new Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham was created in 1925 as a separate shire to the Shire of Nunawading. Soon after the name Nunawading disappeared and was replaced by the Borough of Box Hill.

At the eastern end, rivalry also existed between Blackburn and Mitcham and their shire's civic centre was located in the open spaces of Tunstall. The two towns did not want to be governed jointly but neither seemed to be able to 'go it alone' and the State Government was opposed to the idea. This bickering continued until the war during which their issues were relegated to being behind issues of national significance but were re-introduced in 1944 when Council elections were won by the party favouring severance between Mitcham and Blackburn. The new councillors proclaimed the City of Nunawading as a new, greater city was preferred to two small shires. The area for the new city has to be determined so the modest small village of Tunstall, acting as a buffer between Blackburn and Mitcham agreed that it was practically unknown as a town and a name change to Nunawading would help move it from obscurity to prominence. Soon after, in June 1945, the City of Nunawading was proclaimed. Differences still existed however in the rural area of orchards and potteries with two large villages in the middle.

To offset the fears of the two ends of the city, the old name of Nunawading was revived and Tunstall no longer used so that Nunawading would have a territorial value of its own. Today's Nunawading is a small piece of what was once a much larger district, essentially now the City of Whitehorse.

After the War the floodgates opened. In the 1930's Box Hill was the edge of suburbia and anywhere past there going east was countryside. The train and highway marched through open paddocks and a chain of small villages along the way: Blackburn, then farms and orchards, Tunstall, mainly paddocks and Mitcham, more farms and orchards. Between 1945 and 1955, Melbourne burst at the seams. Men came home from the war and settled in new homes with their families and immigration from Europe was at it's highest peak. Building developers bought the orchards and farms and new suburbs or red brick homes were being born.

To their credit, years later, they had the foresight to remove the name Tunstall and reinstate the name of Nunawading, to ensure the continuity of the name first seen on Robert Hoddle's first charts of the City of Melbourne. Tunstall Railway Station became Nunawading as did the Post Office and the Cricket Club.

The new Nunawading city was described in the Australian Blue Book, 1949, as:

There are several settlements in the area of the City. The Municipal Chambers are situated at Tunstall, which is 12½ miles from Melbourne by rail. It is a small settlement in a fruit-growing district, but there is also a pottery, a wood-turning factory and a brick-works. The larger settlement of Blackburn has a population of about 2300 and is about 10 miles from Melbourne by rail. It is the centre of a fruit and vegetable growing area and the residents are well catered for with electric light, water supply and also sewerage. Industries are a brick and tile works, case factory, cool stores and an equipment factory. Mitcham is well elevated, being 500 feet above the sea, and has a population of about 1800. Fruit-growing is carried on, and many flowers are cultivated for the Metropolitan market. Electricity and water supply are available and there is an hotel and adequate educational facilities. Vermont is a well-known flower-growing settlement, and Burwood East is the centre of a fruit and vegetable-growing district. Throughout this large City area electricity and water supply are available to the residents and adequate sporting facilities are available at most centres.

The growth of postwar housing in Nunawading followed that in Box Hill and Blackburn. An early project was the Eastbridge migrant hostel in Rooks Road (1950-1987), which was particularly isolated for its first ten years. The isolation was intensified by the separate primary school (1952-58). The change to an urban setting coincided with the opening of a new civic centre in Whitehorse Road in 1968. Twenty years later Nunawading's urban maturity was marked by the opening of the arts centre adjacent to the civic centre.

A primary school was opened in the Nunawading (Tunstall) township in 1923. Another at Nunawading South was opened in 1958 (replacing the school at the Migrant Centre), three years after a high school was opened. The Seventh Day Adventist Church has a camping ground in Nunawading, and a primary and high school adjoins it.

Nunawading has a community shopping centre near the railway station, and Whitehorse Road is the location of metropolitan Melbourne's biggest bulky-goods retail strip - furniture, whitegoods, motor vehicles, hardware and electrical goods.

Statistically Nunawading municipality was very nearly an average Melbourne suburban in the 1990s. Median house prices were a shade higher than those of metropolitan Melbourne in the 1980s; in the 1990s they were a shade under. The proportions of employees in industry occupations have more or less matched the

pattern for metropolitan Melbourne, but with manufacturing declining slightly. Modes of journeying to work similarly mirrored the metropolitan pattern.

The census population of Blackburn and Mitcham shire and Nunawading city were 7,131 (1933), 23,855 (1954), 53,246 (1961), 90,702 (1971) and 91,468 (1991).

On 15 December, 1994, Nunawading and Box Hill cities were re-united to form *Whitehorse* city.

Nunawading started to develop after the war with post-war housing and settlement increasing dramatically. These new settlers still form a major proportion of today's population.

The development of the Nunawading parish, ending with the creation of new cities of Nunawading and Box Hill, the rivalries between the two and, indeed, the rivalries within the shires are somewhat mirrored in reverse order in the development of the BHRDCA.

The City of Nunawading now has a declining population as the children of the post war settlers have moved away. The age structure has changed as the community ages but there has always been a strong presence of young families.

Think about the rivalries discussed above and you can see similarities on the cricket field with a combination of rivalries between the clubs in the east and west of the old shire and within each of the shires. Blackburn and Mitcham's civil rivalry is duplicated on the cricket field and added to by the presence of Nunawading, East Burwood and Vermont and similar rivalries exists within the clubs at the western end of the district

BHRDCA

The BHRDCA started with most clubs around the Box Hill area and later expanding to include clubs from the western end of the district, the area known as the City of Nunawading (comprising of villages Mitcham, Vermont, Vermont South, Forest Hill, East Burwood, Blackburn South, Blackburn, Blackburn North and Nunawading), until the shires were rejoined in 1992.

The Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association, named after the Box Hill Reporter newspaper that was published from 1889-1964, was founded in 1894 with five clubs each fielding one side. In the early days the Association struggled and it almost perished during the depression of the 1890's. Traditionally, member clubs came from Box Hill, Nunawading, Doncaster and Templestowe areas with a few clubs from the Camberwell area and, more recently, from the Waverley area.

Blackburn and Mitcham appear to be the only teams who were a part of the first season to still be member clubs, although neither of these clubs has had continuous membership.

In 1894 the Reporter District was a rural area with a collection of villages along the railway line that had been extended from Hawthorn to Lilydale in 1882. Nunawading Shire, which covered the present day Nunawading and Box Hill had a population of 1573 in 1881 and 4449 in 1891. Travel was difficult, except by train, and most sporting grounds were close to railway stations. Tunstall Cricket Club's ground was no exception, being directly across the road from Tunstall Railway Station. The main industries were orchards, vegetable farming, poultry

farming and brickworks (owing to the heavily clayed soil in the area). The farmers were the most enthusiastic cricketers, clubs soon formed (Doncaster Heights in 1881) and the need to form an Association to organise matches and settle disputes soon arose.

Clubs competed for the Eastern Standard trophy, named after another local newspaper, in 1888-89 and in 1890-91 for the Reporter Trophy. The next ten or so years saw many clubs come and go, due to the economic conditions at the time, and going into the new century the Association consisted of only 8 teams. Matches were played on coconut matting over 3 consecutive Saturdays from 3.00 till 6.00 pm. By 1909-10 there were 16 teams and 20 clubs by the outbreak of the Great War. In 1913 there were 3 grades, A, B and C and Clubs included Templestowe, Doncaster, East Burwood, Vermont, Mitcham and Blackburn. Other Clubs in the BHRDCA at this time included Canterbury Methodists, Box Hill, Surrey Hills, Wonga Park, Ringwood and three other Doncaster clubs.

During the War, the Association members fell back to 16 teams until 1916 when, due to the war effort, cricket took the form of a social competition however pennants were still awarded. Competition for the Reporter Shield resumed in 1919-20 with 8 teams fielded. Ray McIntosh, who the McIntosh Shield is named after, first served the Association as Donaster Juniors' delegate in 1920-21.

In 1920-21 a Nunawading Returned Soldiers team competed and a Nunawading Diggers team was compiled for seasons 1921-22 to 1924-25.

Tunstall Cricket Club

When Fred Thatcher called the first meeting of the Tunstall Cricket Club, Tunstall was a very small community. The 1933 census population was 728, a third of the size of neighbouring Blackburn and Mitcham.

Tunstall's first secretary was Mr M Hayes, who was one of three brothers who helped form the Club, and delegate Mr. T. Sharp, it fielded B and C grade teams. The C grade team won the premiership in 1928-29 defeating Balwyn in the Grand Final. Tunstall continued with two teams, including B grade Runners Up in 1931-32 until the end of the 1931-32 season.

Tunstall struggled in 1930-31 and hardly won a game, finishing second bottom. The following players represented the club in season 30-31. Fred Thatcher (snr), Clarrie Bird, R McRobert, G Smith, W Vail, J Pepperall, G Sullivan, W Kennett, W Phillips, D McRobert, G Bell and B Lathlaen. Clarrie Bird ran the bus service from East Burwood to Tunstall station. It is thought that Clarrie donated £25 to help start the Club. This was a sizeable amount in those days. The Association must have had some major sponsorship with the Box Hill Reporter newspaper as the competition was named after the paper as were other local comps including tennis. It is interesting to note that front page news in 'The Reporter' were results from the Eastern District Egg Laying competitions which were held weekly.

In season 1931-32, Tunstall won games outright with what are by today's standards very low scores. On 2 or 3 occasions Tunstall scored 150 or less which was enough for outright points. In those days the competition was for the Box Hill Reporter Shield and two points were given for a win.

Interestingly, Blackburn CC offered to put down a turf wicket in 1930 if other clubs did but support was not forthcoming.

There were no teams entered in 1932-33 and 1933-34 however the Club re-entered the BHRDCA in 1934-35 with B and C grade teams again. In 1934-35 Bill Davis won the Association Batting Averages in B grade with an average of 35.1.

In 1935-36 the Club debuted in A grade and also had a C grade team who were Runners Up that year. Fred Thatcher (junior) and Bill Davis were the dominant cricketers of the Tunstall years. Fred was regularly the team's top scorer and, if Fred wasn't Bill Davis was. Bill also captured many wickets. Fred made the first ever century at the Club.

Fred Thatcher (senior) and the Thatcher Family

Fred and his wife moved to Tunstall from Bacchus Marsh in 1927. Fred was 47 at the time and he had already played a full career of cricket. In his earlier years he played in a country league with Bill Woodfull. The family moved into the gatehouse adjoining the Tunstall Railway Station where Fred worked on the line and his wife operated the gates, opening and shutting them as the trains rolled through.

Fred called the inaugural meeting of Tunstall Cricket Club in 1927 and Tunstall first played in season 1927-28.

Fred played in the first ever premiership team, the C Grade team of 1928-29. It was about this time that Fred Thatcher junior made his debut at Nunawading. Fred junior, whose pastimes included playing the squeezebox, was described by Ted Aumann as the best batsman he had seen after Don Bradman and he made the first ever Tunstall/Nunawading century, which was made on the Silver Grove ground. Fred scored 101 for Tunstall in B Grade against Eastern Dairies on November 4, 1934. Gary Walker says that his father, Life Member Arthur, offered that Fred Junior was the best batsman he had ever seen. He opened the batting for the Club as well as for the Association in representative games and won the Association A Grade batting average in 1936. He was the Club's wicketkeeper as well.

The Club used Woodfull bats and the distributors offered players who made a century a new Woodfull bat which Fred was duly awarded. He was also an excellent wicket-keeper, standing up to fast bowlers. At the insistence of his wife, young Fred concentrated on tennis soon after and, although he did play for Nunawading after the war, he had lost his pre-war passion for the game.

Later that season Tunstall scored 2 dec for 267 against Box Hill South. Fred scored 78, Bill Davis 114 n.o. and Clarrie Bird 88. Bill Davis captured 4/41 as Tunstall got Box Hill South out for 108 and 136. Tunstall made the finals to be beaten by Blackburn in the Semi with Davis taking 4/41.

Fred Junior moved to East Burwood for a time where incentives were offered by Jim Tainton (who was from one of the district's pioneering families) offered players 5 shillings if they made 50 runs. This was a considerable sum and Fred made five 50's in a row. Fred was a powerful batsman who would sometimes be seen square cutting the ball over the boundary for 6. He also played a game at Melbourne with Bill Ponsford and was once awarded a bat in recognition of his scoring that was signed by Don Bradman and Bill Woodfull.

Fred Senior had two more sons, Bob who captained the 53-54 D grade premiership team and George who first played for Tunstall in 1936. Bob and George played in a game against Box Hill Footballers. Footballers need to win outright to make the finals and Nunawading only had 8 players. We were dismissed for 60 and Footballers made over 200 on Day 1. Nuna had to bat out day two to avoid the outright. George batted all day for 22 n.o. denying the outright and a spot in the finals to the Footballers. Joe Kiker, who went on to play many games for Nunawading, was playing for the Footballers and, as an opening bowler, threatened to throw the ball at George in order to get him out.

Fred Senior played his last game for Tunstall in 36-37 at age 55 and only stopped playing because his legs gave him trouble. He made a 50 in this game. Fred died in 1966 at the age of 86.

George was awarded Life Membership in 1956 and Fred Senior in 1957. George was presented his medallion in his home by President Ted Aumann and Junior Vice President Tom Reeves.

Ted Aumann

In the pioneering days on the 1850's and 1860's when the population of the Nunawading Parish started to accumulate, many German families moved to Australia to escape the hard times in Europe and settled in the Doncaster and Templestowe areas. From there some moved into Nunawading. The Aumann family were very prominent in both the Doncaster and Nunawading areas and into a family of orchardists, Ted Aumann was born in Doncaster in 1897. He grew up speaking German at home before starting school and quickly learning English where, as he said in a local paper he 'learnt the swear words first'. Ted was called up for national service just after the First World War and joined the Light Horse Regiment. Whilst in the regiment he held the Victorian Pole Vault title and was an accomplished footballer. Ted played for Richmond before a knee injury inflicted early retirement and into coaching where he coached Doncaster, Tunstall, Vermont and Ringwood to premierships. He married Dorothea in 1922 and settled down to be an orchardist in Junction Road Nunawading where home was also. Ted and Dorothea had 4 sons and 2 daughters who were all keen on their sport, so much so that Ted built a 9 hole golf course behind the house. During the Second World War Ted was the A.R. P warden for Tunstall where one of his jobs was to go around checking that all the blinds were down to eliminate the inside light being visible from the outside.

Ted's involvement at Tunstall prior to the war is not known other than his being awarded Life Membership. In 1936-37 Tunstall entered a team in the Ringwood Association. Ted Aumann was made Nunawading's first Life Member in this season. Our earliest records of Ted at Nuna were of him winning the D Grade (2nds) batting averages in 1950-51 and 51-52 with a highest score of 87. Ted was Nunawading's first President and served with distinction until illness forced him to resign after ten seasons in the helm. Ted was voted President at the 1947-48 Annual General Meeting and Club delegates included Tom Reeves, M O'Brien, Norm Vaux and A. Tanner. He continued as Club President until 1956-57

Ted passed away on August 18, 1982 and is buried in Box Hill cemetery and Dorothea passed away in 1987. All four of Ted's sons played at Nunawading, Jim who played in the A grade side as a batsman and served on the committee and Geoff who played C grade, including in

the 51-52 premiership team and was Club Secretary for a period. Doug and Harold also represented the Club. Jim is known for his work in helping to establish the Forest Hill Cricket Club in the mid 50's. More on that later.

Tom Reeves

Tom arrived in Victoria from Barrington, Tasmania, which is quite close to Nowhere Else, Tasmania (true, look it up), in 1935, and initially lived and played in Kinglake. There he played in a "rep" side against a WOMEN'S "rep" side (!) which was the first Australian Women's Team sent to play in England.

Betty and Tom were married in 1940, came to live in Tunstall, and Tom joined that Club in it's "last" year (as Tunstall), 1940/41, but only after spending part of the 39/40 season with Mitcham. Other players from these early years include Ken Fitzgerald, Jack Wilde and Bob Street.

Imagine the "heartbreak streets" of that period, and picture Tom biking it around the district to tell those who'd left training before the teams were finalised where (if?) they were playing the following Saturday. Tom also recalls accosting a teenage Brian Dixon and his Mum near the railway station late on a Saturday morning and asking the lad if he'd like a game of cricket 90 minutes 'from now'. The lad accepted and sprinted home to get his stuff.

In the early 50s, the by now named "Nunawading" club found itself short of adequate funds to meet Association annual fees. Tom recalls leading a squad of blokes to approach the local feed-and-grain merchant to "cadge" the required £ 25 to keep our Club afloat. It worked, of course.

Tom, having begun with "us" in 1940/41 (just married, no children), finished his career in 1962/63 (8 children!). He'd actually begun to retire a couple of years earlier as younger fellows began to emerge, but stayed on to help staff the "twos". A total of 22 seasons as a player, 250+ games.

There are some on-field highlights of course: a 9+5= 14 wickets in ONE match against Vermont, and yet another 14 wicket haul in another season against the SAME club!! One season yielded 71 WICKETS, which is a 5-year half-career for some!!

There was a memorable TWO-DAY Final against East Burwood at Blackburn. The first day was mostly washed out, day 2 saw East Burwood 5/161 at Tea but all-out 173 with Tommy taking 5 for 9 after tea! 114 minutes left in the match, NCC 3/174 after 104 minutes. Flag time !

In a 1954 Final at Blackburn against Mitcham, Captain Reeves and Artie Walker opened the batting as night-watchmen for a 40-minute watch and rattled up 57. Tom ran himself out on day two for 97, probably to give the batsmen a go at it! NCC won. Flag time once more. There were plenty of other "bags" and events but we'll keep some for another day.

Tom Reeves served Nunawading as player, committeeman and President, and also became Association President for a number of years. When all that was dealt with he went back and served as President of the Nunawading City Cricket&Soccer Club for 4 years. Like all of our other multi-servers, it wasn't because there was nothing else to do. It just needed doing !

Tom was made a Life Member of Nunawading in 1955 and served as President from 1957-58 to 1961-62 and 1966-67 to 1967-68. He was BHRDCA Vice President from 1958-59 to 1960-61 and President from 1961-62 to 1966-67 and 1971-72 to 1975-76, a total of ten years as Association President. Tom is the first Nunawading representative to be made a Life Member of the Association when he was presented his medallion at the AGM of 1964.

Tom was the first Nunawading player to take 100 wickets for the Club. In one season, Tom took 27 wickets in two games, against Vermont and Doncaster.

T. A Reeves Trophy

In November 1965 an anonymous donour donated a trophy to be called the Tom Reeves Perpetual Trophy. The committee accepted the offer and asked Tom what he would like the trophy to be awarded for. Tom indicated that he wished the trophy to be awarded to the Club Champion arrived at by a points system awarded by the Captain and Vice Captain of each team, on a 4,3,2,1, basis for each of the club's 4 teams. This motion was put to a committee meeting by Ken Rout and George Thatcher but lost. There was much discussion at committee level about how the award would be decided and they eventually agreed that a sub-committee of 5 players, George Dolan, Mick McLachlan, Doug Bosworth, Tom Reeves and Alex Culvenor would select the winner, to be from A Grade players only. Bob Saker won the inaugural award, followed by Ian Davies, Danny Pomeroy, Ian Davies again, Bob Saker again, Ian Rowe and Ian Davies again. The voting sub-committee in 1967-68 decided that the paid coach was ineligible to receive votes. This was to cause a stir 30 years later !

T. A Reeves Trophy Winners

1965-66	Bob Saker
1966-67	Ian Davies
1967-68	Danny Pomeroy
1968-69	Ian Davies
1969-70	Bob Saker
1970-71	Ian Rowe
1971-72	Ian Davies
1972-73	John O'Sullivan
1973-74	Trevor Hutchins
1974-75	Barry Hahn and Grant McDonald
1975-76	Doug Bosworth
1976-77	Trevor Hutchins
1977-78	John O'Sullivan and Keith Joyce
1978-79	Wayne Stokes
1979-80	Keith Joyce
1980-81	Trevor Hutchins
1981-82	Trevor Hutchins
1982-83	Trevor Hutchins

This trophy is still the most prestigious of all Nunawading Cricket Club trophies. There is no need to explain why !

After the War

During the war years cricket took a back seat with the BHRDCA going from 24 teams in 1938-39 to 8 teams in 1943-44 including Tunstall CC. In 1942-43 the season comprised on one day games only and no finals. In 1940-41 the Association considered winding up due to the war however it was decided to continue playing cricket. Tunstall CC continued playing throughout the war, including season 1945-46.

On March 10, 1946, Tunstall was officially proclaimed the City of Nunawading and included the towns of Mitcham and Blackburn. At a General Meeting on September 11, 1946, Tunstall Cricket Club was re-named Nunawading Cricket Club and fielded two teams, B and C grades with the home ground being Nunawading Oval in Silver Grove, near the railway lines at Nunawading. The C grade team was premiers in this season, the First Nunawading Cricket Club premiership, beating St Andrews Combine in the Grand Final. Ted Aumann scored 35 and Geoff Aumann 22 out of Nunawading's 96. St Andrews only managed 77 and 73 with Jerry Oakley taking 5/31 and Norm Brash 2/12. Other pre-war players to return include Clarrie Bird, George Thatcher, Fred Thatcher, Tom Reeves and G. Smith.

In this season there were 26 teams in the BHRDCA, 10 in A grade, and 8 in B and C grades.

In 1947-48 Nunawading fielded two senior teams who were Runners Up in B and C grades, one of the highlights of the season was a J McLachlan (not Mick) scoring 106 in Round 10 versus Doncaster East. The introduction of Saturday morning cricket was made possible by the reduction in working hours from 44 to 40, leading to a 5 day week for many people who previously had to work on Saturday mornings. This made umpires and coaches and transport available. Nunawading fielded an Under 16 team for the first time. Ken Arnold and Norm Brash were perhaps our most dominant post war fast bowlers. In one game Ken took 7/10 against Templestowe and in another Norm took 6/8 including a hat-trick against East Burwood.

Tom Reeves was appointed to the Executive of the Club in 1948-49. Also in this year the C grade team, captained by Joe Carter, were Premiers. It is about this time that Nunawading were seriously struggling financially and it was only a donation of £ 25 from Bill Milligan, who owned the Hay and Corn Feed Store on the corner of Springvale and Whitehorse Roads (next to the current fire station) that that kept the Club from going broke. Such generosity !

The pitch at Silver Grove was initially laid East-West possibly due to the narrow straight boundaries for a North-South pitch. Obviously this caused problems to batsmen and bowlers and the pitch was eventually relaid. Due to the short boundaries, high scores often prevailed.

In these early post-war years, travelling to venues to play other clubs was always a problem as there were very few cars. Young people could not afford the cost of a vehicle and only 2 or 3 Nuna members had cars, Ted Aumann being one. He had to transport gear as well as players. The rest of the team travelling used public transport or push bikes. For home games, the wives, with many young children in tow, and girlfriends would be at the Nuna ground in time to provide the afternoon tea for the team and visitors. It was a social occasion for members and the ladies catered very adequately.

In 1949-50 Nunawading's B and C grade teams were premiers. The C grade team defeated a team called Doncaster Triangle in the Grand Final. In 1950-51 Nunawading fielded 3 teams, in A, B and C grades and a D grade team were premiers in 1953-54. This team was also Runners up the following year. In 1956-57 the C Grade side were premiers.

Selection

Selection was a very topical issue in these post war years. Captains were not allowed to be selectors and positions as selectors were eagerly contested. There were even roles as Assistant Selectors. In 1953-54 Tom Reeves moved a motion that captains be appointed selectors with two other senior members and a special General Meeting was called to debate the motion. Players unable to attend the meeting were able to submit a written vote. At this meeting, on October 20, 1954, the President, Ted Aumann, stated that the rules of debate shall apply to the discussion and that, once a player had spoken for or against the motion, they could not speak again. Debate ran hot, Tom suggesting that the captains had a mandate to select teams based on the fact that they had been appointed captains and that the players would have faith in their selections. Opposition from Jack McLelland was forthcoming, he stated that "a complete lack of bias is impossible in a captain, a necessary item". Further, he stated that "...the captain does not have to face criticism when an independent selection committee is on the job"

Voting was held by a show of hands, Frank Kitchen and Joe Carter were scrutineers and postal votes were counted. The voting resulted in 60.5% being in favour of the motion and the motion, therefore, won the day. For season 54-55 the selection committee comprised of captains Jim McLelland, Tom Reeves and Eric Best and selectors Joe Carter and Ken Rout.

Practice

The A Grade team, for a period, trained on Wednesday nights as an alternative to either Tuesday or Thursday. This was revoked in 54-55 in order to encourage better player attendance on the Tuesday and Thursday nights. Practice captains were appointed. Senior A grade players and other players in responsible positions acted as practice captains and were in charge of batting and bowling changes and fielding placement. Each captain had to solicit from his players reasons for any non-attendance at practice.

A note of interest is that over a prolonged period in 1952 mats were purchased from His Majesty's Prison Pentridge. The exact nature of this acquisition is not known but this author is unaware of a business 'inside' selling cricket mats !

Joe Carter

At the Annual General Meeting of season 1953-54, Joe Carter was nominated by Tom Reeves and seconded by Jim Aumann, and unanimously awarded, Life Membership of the Club. There is no other record of this event taking place but it is recorded in the minutes of the AGM. Joe has not been recognised subsequent to this and the club, in season 2001-2002 will rectify this matter. Joe was an Englishman who played county cricket with Nottinghamshire before the war and was known as one of nature's gentlemen. He arrived in Australia in 1947 as a 47 year old and settled in Mitcham, playing cricket for Nunawading in his first summer in Australia.

Joe flew to Australia in a 'Flying Boat', a trip taking 7 days only to return to England the following week to collect his family as he had secured employment with a hosiery company which provided the privilege of bringing out his family as C Class passengers. Joe returned with his wife Irene and two daughters, one of whom married Nunawading player Laurie Foster and played until the mid 1950's, well into his 50's himself. Joe and family moved around after he retired, settling in Bendigo where Joe died in 1987, aged 87. At his request, Joe's ashes were scattered over the MCG.

In 1953-54, Nunawading held two social events that, today, seem quite unusual. An outing was arranged to visit General Motors and a bus picked up members and guests in Springvale Road Nunawading for the trip to Dandenong. Later that year a 'Variety on Parade' show was held. After a committee meeting at Eric Ponting's home the minute book notes 'Kodachromes on Northern Queensland were projected by the Secretary (Rod Tonkin). They were enjoyed by all and, when completed, a delightful supper provided by Eric Ponting and his charming wife really wound up a splendid evening. The President expressed his thanks to Eric and Mrs Ponting for the use of their home which was great gift for the evening. The friendly atmosphere was sincerely appreciated'. Must have been a top night !

Afternoon Tea was adopted in this season as play now commenced at 1.30 pm rather than 2.00 pm. Tom Reeves secured a one gallon urn donated by Braemar.

Dominant Nunawading players in these early post war years were fast bowlers Bob Street and Ken Arnold, Noel Wilson and wicketkeeper Joe Carter.

Nunawading CC Barbeque Carnival, March 1955

Nunawading was struggling financially and by the end of each season were either in debt or just in the black. In February 1955, Joe Carter had an idea to pull Nunawading out of it's financial predicament by holding a 'Barbeque Carnival'. Joe was Senior Vice President at the time and outlined the idea of running several stalls (cake, sweets and ice-cream, drinks and plants), a spinning wheel, BBQ, lucky envelopes, skittles, pennies on squares, gymnastic and wrestling displays, blocks, darts, a march past by the Youth Club, and a monster raffle, first prize a Sunbeam Mixmaster, to be organised with the assistance of the Nunawading Youth Club. The carnival was opened by Mr Gray, the local parliamentary representative. Various senior members of the Club were assigned responsibility for organising each element and a member of the local constabulary, Constable Lucas, was a supporter. All players were ask to sell raffle tickets and the event was advertised locally. The Youth Club became involved in selling tickets as well and the Senior Girls were asked to sell the lucky envelopes. The event was taken very seriously, so much so that insurance was taken out against 10 points of rain falling between 6 and 8 pm on the evening of March 25 1955.

The carnival was an outstanding success. The Club made over £168 profit and approximately 30 cricketers were involved in running the stalls etc. These funds were eventually used to purchase mats and equipment over the next couple of seasons. In possibly the first and only time this has happened, player subscriptions were reduced by 50% to £ 1.1.0.

At the end of the 54-55 season, the Club had over £ 140 in the bank, a major turnaround.

By season 56-57, the Club had moved into a new pavilion in Silver Grove. Until this time we had been tenants at the Football Club's pavilion and were not afforded any luxuries such as mounting photos etc. New mats and material were purchased, a new site board erected, a new constitution was published and an Under 16 team was playing for the Club. Meetings were treated very seriously in these days. A motion was carried that "members failing to attend General or Annual Meetings without a reasonable excuse in writing shall be fined an amount of 5/ (5 shillings), such amount to be paid before selection can be considered for the next game or games to be played after the said meeting." The committee was tough, a B Miller requested a clearance to play under 16's with Mitcham but it was refused and offered to review the situation next season if he still required a clearance.

Until 1957, committee meetings were held in member's homes and, often at local hotels, often the Reserve Hotel in Mitcham. In March 1957, the first meeting was held in the new pavilion. The C grade team won the Premiership this season

Some of the better individual performances in the post war period include:

Jim Aumann 126 v NYC in 1952-53

Len Bull 7/12 v Templestowe in 1952-53 and 32 wickets in 7 games

Jim McLelland took 7/37 against Doncaster triangle in 52-53

Eric Thornton took 47 wickets and Tommy Reeves 32 in 57-58

Alex Culvenor made a 157 retired v St Peters in 60-61 and a 180 in 62-63

Ian Rowe took 50 wickets at 8.56 in 60-61

In 61-62 Nuna were dismissed for 40 against Bulleen after making 3/282 the previous week

Les Gray made 508 runs at 50.8 in 62-63 including a 130

Bob Saker made 191 out of 413 in the winning A Grade Grand Final in 65-66

Danny Pomeroy made a 206 in 67-68

Graeme Harris made a 197 in 67-68

In about 1955, Jim Aumann (son of Ted) and Jim McLelland bought blocks of land in Forest Hill. Travelling to Tunstall Square was too far to go without a car so they, with Norm Vaux, got together with a few others and started the Forest Hill Cricket Club by convincing the Nunawading Council to make an oval out of a bush paddock. Nunawading lost several more players to Forest Hill soon after and donated £ 10, 10/ to help get the new club started.

In 1956-57 Nuna fielded again fielded a junior team, an Under 16 side which played clubs including Vermont, East Burwood, Tech School, High School and St Peters. Match results were published in the Sporting Globe via Mr Burgess on phone number MF 0811.

The First Era of Nunawading Domination

In 1957-58, Nunawading won it's first A grade premiership. Captained by Alex Culvenor, the team consisted of Culvenor himself, vice captain Bob Saker, George Dolan, Doug Bosworth, Eric Thornton, Ken Rout, D. Stephens, Les Jones, Bert Murphy, Tommy Reeves and Eddie Ham.

A local paper, The Eastern Times, had the following to say about Nunawading's premiership:

" NUNAWADING PREMIERS"

This is the first A Grade premiership for the Club, in fact the first A Grade final in which they have played. On the first Saturday (March 15, 1958) Blackburn batted first and made 140, R. Street 56 n.o, Tom Reeves 5/15. Nunawading then commenced their first innings, and at stumps were 2/165, compiled in 110 minutes. The innings resumed on the second Saturday (March 22, 1958) and Nunawading only managed to add 52 runs for the remaining 8 wickets. Bob Saker (57) and Alex Culvenor (46), vice captain and captain respectively, were associated in a third wicket partnership of 98. D. Meehan took 7/51.

Nunawading were 77 runs ahead when Blackburn commenced their second innings and were 6/187 at drawing of stumps on the second day. Resuming on the third and last day (March 29, 1958), Blackburn declared at 9/279, D Meehan 90, C Frank (Captain) 64 n.o. at approximately 2.15 pm leaving Nunawading 202 to make to draw and 203 to win, in approximately even batting time. Nunawading scored 204 for the loss of eight to win by two runs. George Dolan scored 104, Doug Bosworth 36 n.o. while R Street took 3/45 and D Meehan 3/56. They had 25 minutes to spare.

The President of the Association stated, at the Club's presentation dance held last Saturday at the pavillion that this is the best final match he had seen in 20 years. The following A Grade trophies were presented at the dance: Batting: George Dolan average 36.6, Bowling: Eric Thornton average 11.3, Fielding: Keith Fitzmaurice." The Blackburn First XI players who competed in this Grand Final attended our Presentation Night.

This season, 1957-58 saw Tom Reeves in the President's chair and Eric Thornton secretary for the first time. Eric issued a 'Newsheet' in September 1957 advising that "Teamwork is as much a part of our game as a ball and a bat, teamwork must exist in all sport, even at our place of employment and in our home, so therefore....may I request the co-operations of the members during the season". He was also trying to offload 8 remaining 56-57 C grade premiership photos for 10 pence each and noted that the committee, at it's next meeting will be discussing the ground rental of £25 for the season. Arthur Walker and Eric Best were awarded Life Membership in August 1957.

This team followed up the next season (1958-59) with another premiership, only two changes from the previous seasons premiers with Keith Fitzmaurice and George Hicks replacing Doug Stephens and Eddie Ham. The B grade team narrowly missed the finals when they lost the last game by 3 runs. Alex Culvenor was awarded Life Membership at the AGM on August 26, 1958. Ground reconstruction saw the A grade side playing at Mitcham's Halliday Park and B grade on the oval behind the Blackburn Hotel (now a carpark)

A new pavilion was available to the Club for season 1958-59 and the oval was reconstructed in 1959-60. Also in 59-60 Bob Saker was invited to practice at district cricket club Footscray. The players trip away was held this year and the boys went to Rochester where activities included a game against the local association side. In the Presentation Night that year, the Mayor of Nunawading Cr CS Ross presented the A grade average winner with trophies (Bob Saker won both) and the Association President, Mr F Clarke, presented the B Grade trophies. There were 35 registered players at Nuna this year.

In 1960-61 Nunawading again won the A Grade Premiership with Messrs Saker, Dolan, Culvenor, Bosworth, Thornton, Jones and Murphy playing in their third A Grade premierships. Club legends Mick McLachlan and Alan Haag also played in this team.

Alex Culvenor notes, in his contribution to this document, that “.....three players who were to make a significant impact on the batting line-up of other teams for several years were Eric Thornton and Ian Rowe as bowlers and Bob Saker in the slips, one of the best combinations I have seen.

Trophies were eliminated in favour of an Honour Board which was constructed by Mick McLachlan in 1961. This change was only carried at the AGM after President Reeves struck his casting vote to resolve a 9 all vote deadlock. We entered a Third XI for the first time in 1960-61.

The problem of players not paying subs was evident back in 60-61 as a committee meeting noted that “payment of subs would be taken into consideration in the selection of sides”. We couldn’t have been travelling that badly however as Arty Walker purchased quoits and a hookey board for the club. Each alternate Thursday after practice, evenings were held in the pavilion and members were invited to make fuller use of the facilities provided.

Nunawading again entered a junior team in 1960-61, an Under 16 side. This was followed by two Under 16 sides the following year and an Under 14 side in 64-65. Players to represent Nunawading at junior level in this period included:

Gary Walker, Ray Culvenor, Peter Davies, Kevin Cresp, Peter Kiker, Peter Turnley, Graham Reid and Danny Pomeroy

Eric Thornton was awarded Life Membership of the Club at a General Meeting in March 1961. Eric’s service to the Club included services to the Association. There were 48 senior registered players along with 26 Under 16 registered players in 60-61.

The Club conducted some interesting fund raisers in season 1960-61. Two tables of ‘Penny in the Square’ and darts and skittles competitions were run in Nunawading Council’s Community Chest on April 7, 1961. The proceeds went to the players trip away.

Ken Rout

Ken started at Nunawading in 1953, his first memory at the Club was playing a game against Forest Hill who were using the old Nunawading pavilion which was transported to their ground when the new one at Silver Grove was built. Ken put his foot through the floorboards as soon as he walked in the door.

Ken is most remembered for the many years of committee service in which he was one of a group, who were to become Life Members, who served for 14 continuous years in committee positions. These long term servants of the Club were Ken, Tom Reeves, Bob Saker, Ian Rowe, Mick McLachlan and Doug Bosworth.

The highest score of Ken’s career was 148 n.o out of 9/399 against Blackburn North in C2 in 1967-68 but his career highlights were playing in successive First XI premierships in 1957-58 and 58-59. In the 1956 Grand Final, Ken, who had a season’s average of over 44 was given

out by LBW Fred Watson for 0 in both innings. I can just imagine Fred telling Ken he was out ! Ken retired in 1970-71 and continued his sporting love by bowling for Mitcham. This year, 2001-2002 will be the first time in 60 years that Ken is not playing sport, due to ill-health but he hopes to be back in the creams at Mitcham next year !

Alex Culvenor

Alex and Joan Culvenor moved to Nunawading in August 1948. Alex started at Nuna the following season remembering that he introduced himself to Ted Aumann on September 17, 1949 at the Nunawading Ground in Silver Grove. Alex was posted overseas a couple of times in his time at Nuna, with the last posting in November 1966 resulting in his eventual return to Sydney in 1970.

His transfer to the USA with his company obviously meant he had to resign as Club President. Alex was a Life Member, 4 year Club President and member of 18 years standing. A farewell evening was held for him at George Thatcher's home in December 1966 and Alex and Joan were presented with gifts from the club in recognition of their services.

In 1980 Alex and Joan retired to Newstead, where they still live and Alex coached the local Under 16's for several years. Alex tells a wonderful story albeit starting unfortunately when their home was burgled in 1995. Weeks later a lady living in Cambells Creek rang Alex and asked him if he ever played cricket for Nunawading Cricket Club. Of course Alex had and the lady advised him that her four year old son had picked up his Life Membership Badge in the local creek where the thieves had dumped the things they didn't want over the bridge rail. The boy was very keen on cricket and the badge appealed to him. The lady noted the name on the back of the badge and tracked Alex down as she thought, rightly, that the owner would place great value on the badge. Alex suitably rewarded the youngster with suitable cricketing material.

Alex's favourite cricket memory at Nuna is in a final when "the opposing (champion) batsman objected strongly to Keith Fitzgerald's bowling. Keith was tall and quick and was accused of bowling bouncers to the point that we [Nuna] were threatened with the reporting on Keith to the umpire (Fred Watson). I [as captain] replied that I would not give them the satisfaction and replaced Keith; where-upon the vocal offender was bowled first ball by the reliever".

Season 1961-62 saw Tom Reeves appointed as President of the BHRDCA, resulting in him relinquishing his position as Nunawading president at the end of this season. At the end of the season the Honour Board was unveiled by Tom. Alex Culvenor replaced Tom as President.

Graham Best was married in November 1961 and the Club bought a silver sponge tray for the newlyweds. In December 1961, a committee meeting could not be opened until the wrapping of Christmas presents for the childrens' Christmas Party was completed.

Alex Culvenor was keen for the Club to install a turf wicket and investigated this option during 1962. Ongoing expenditure and the Associations ambivalence seemed to thwart the idea.

The Committee Meeting in December 1962 records an unusual anecdote. " The President and Vice presidents kindly agreed to donate £ 1 each toward a beer up for the alcoholic members of the club. There was no opposition to this gesture". Surprise Surprise !

The Fourth XI were first entered in 1962-63 and made the semi finals.

Amazingly George Dolan, Bob Saker and Doug Bosworth also played in First XI premierships teams in 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1968-69. Doug Bosworth played in his 7th First XI Premiership when he captained the 1973-74 team to the Flag.

In one of these premierships years in the second innings of a game, Ian Rowe opened the bowling in the opposition second innings with an old ball and captured a hat-trick in the first over.

The First XI played in finals in 19 consecutive years from 1955-56, were premiers 6 times and Runners Up 4 times. Further, we won 5 more First XI premierships between 1973-74 and 1983-84.

In all, along with Doug Bosworth's 7 First XI premierships the record reads:

6 First XI Premierships: Bob Saker, George Dolan and John O'Sullivan

5 First XI Premierships: Eric Thornton, and Ian Rowe

4 First XI Premierships: Trevor Hutchins, Keith Joyce

3 First XI Premierships: Bert Murphy, Les Jones, Alex Culvenor, Alan Haag, , Colin James, Danny Pomeroy, Grant McDonald, Ian Davies, Trevor Saker, Clive Mullett and Alan Gale.

Nunawading Cricket Club were the dominant club in the BHRDCA for many years. The record speaks for itself. In the 40 years from 1955 to 1995, Nunawading First XI, made the finals in the competition's premier grade no less than 35 times, winning 11 premierships and making 5 other Grand Finals. The Second XI were similar, in the 30 years from 1963, our Second XI played in 23 finals series, however were Runners Up 10 times and Premiers only three times.

The Eastern Times covered the 1958-59 Presentation Night by saying that ".....the good spirit and harmony prevailing throughout Nunawading Cricket Club was evident last Saturday night, when presentation night was conducted at the Nunawading Pavilion in the presence of about 150 men, women and children." It went on to say that " a gay evening with plenty of dancing, was enjoyed by all, and the happy crowd was treated to an excellent supper, supplied by wives and friends of the members." On a nostalgic note, the article continued by saying "...a pleasant surprise was had by Mr and Mrs Doug Bosworth, who were married early in the season, by receiving a lovely radiator as a wedding gift from members of the Club. Another pleasant surprise was given the eight wives and one sweetheart who attended the

grand final match and supplied afternoon tea by being assured they would be given a night out in the city as a reward for their support." It is interesting to note that present at this presentation night were "the captain and members of the Doncaster Footballers XI who were defeated by Nunawading for the premiership as well as other prominent cricketers and office bearers of the association." The Local Advertiser reported on Wednesday April 8, 1959, that "...Trophies awarded included the A Grade batting average awarded by Mr. F Clarke (Association President) to Les Jones (36.6). This trophy was donated by Fred Thatcher. Tom Reeves won the Bowling averages (12.06) and a trophy donated by E.A. Feiglin and Son and Bob Saker won the fielding trophy donated by W Sadler. Mr Ray McIntosh (Association Secretary) presented the B grade trophies, the batting average was won by Bob Wakefield (31.5), and a trophy donated by Mr J Forbes. Les Jones won this bowling average as well (5.8) and a trophy donated by Clive Fairbairn. Mr C.A. Parker donated the fielding award won by Alf Hender. Two special trophies were given by anonymous donor to Doug Bosworth and Bert Murphy for their excellent batting performances in the semi-final when East Burwood were defeated by sheer aggression. George Dolan, who scored 557 runs for the season and was runner-up in the batting average, was the recipient of a special trophy by Mr. Jack Wiles. Prolonged acclamation greeted the presentation of Life Membership to the A grade captain Alex Culvenor by Mr. E Aumann. The crowd thoroughly enjoyed an amusing interlude in which Eric Thornton solemnly handed a small wager to Tom Reeves for securing the most 'not-outs' for the season. This was a result of a bet between these two earlier in the year." Finally, all trophies were displayed in the window of Mr J Forbes newsagency for one week after being presented.

Controversy at Nuna

Late in the 1961-62 season controversy rocked Nunawading CC when the council requested a 'please explain' from the Club and issued statements in the local press on the following points:

1. damage to the piano in the Nunawading pavilion
2. reported consumption of liquor on the premises
3. complaints made by council representatives

The council also informed the Club that it must pay the piano repair costs.

The Club acknowledged this issue in committee meeting minutes but added that we were accused of inferring 'indignities to the caretaker' and that an explanation was required within 14 days.

In response to these allegations the Club requested a deputation with the council at the Club's next committee meeting. Further two senior Nunawading representatives, Eddie Ham and Eric Thornton wrote to the Eastern Times in March 1963 protesting against these actions. Treasurer Eddie Ham wrote "...this club sponsors an Under 16 team in the BHRDCA and has always had a good name in the community, assisting in many charity appeals, notably Box Hill and District hospital, Nunawading Youth Club, the Children's Hospital, the memorial swimming pool and the Nunawading Council in raising funds to assist in furnishing the Nunawading pavilion. Further it is particularly galling when the good name of the club is besmirched by a report of allegations which are completely unfounded and before the club had even been notified of such allegations, and given the chance to defend itself. This is surely a travesty of British justice." In his letter to the paper Eric Thornton also referred to the

Under 16's saying "...the parents of these lads on reading your report will certainly be asking questions as to the type of club they belong to"

Those involved in this incident may suggest it was a 'once-off' or 'out of character' but another story adds weight to the fact that the Nuna Boys enjoyed a beer, even in the earlier days. In the 1960's the Club held Wine Bottlings in Arty Walker's garage in his home in Springfield Road, Nunawading (the scene of many a Nuna CC social event). Mildara wine was shipped down in 44 gallon drums and empty bottles were 'obtained from a local restaurant. These bottling afternoons were always popular and the job of 'corker' even more so. The 'corker' was obviously responsible for putting the cork into each wine bottle. Three gentlemen, Bert Murphy, George Dolan and Frank Kitt, excelled in this role but somehow the 'bottlers' managed to put too much wine in every bottle resulting in the 'corkers' to have to take a swig out of every bottle. As you can imagine, bottling became less important as the afternoons wore on and the 'corkers' had to be rolled out of Arty's driveway much like the barrel was rolled in.

One of the characters of the Club in the 1960's was Tom Tunne. Tom was a funny bloke and was wicketkeeper in the 2nds and 3rds. He was often the brunt of practical jokes played by his team mates. Tom used to ride his bike to cricket and , one day, he lost it only to be told much later that the Davies brothers had hid it up a tree. At 'drinks' one night, according to his mates, Tom had a couple too many drinks. They went ice-skating and the boys picked Tom up and deposited him in the middle of the ice-rink waiting to see his attempts to get off the rink, in skates, after too many beers. To the boys' disgust, Tom was a champion ice-skater and suitably gestured his mates as he skated past them.

Eric Thornton was voted as Life Member at a General Meeting in March 1961 and his services to the BHRDCA were recognised along with his services to the Club. An on-field highlight during 60-61 was the unbroken 221 run partnership between Graeme Best (100 n.o.) and A. Matthews (121 n.o.). There were to be no other major on field highlights until Colin James batted the entire day to score 82 n.o. in C1 versus Mitcham in 63-64. It seems that Col protected his wicket with utmost care even in his younger days ! In season 61-62, Ian Sach won the Association A grade batting average with 375 runs at 61.8, Paul Kiker the C grade bowling with 31 wickets at 8.8 and Danny Pomeroy the Under 16 batting with 591 runs at 74.

Eric Thornton

Eric and his wife June moved into their new home in Nunawading in September 1955. The home was on land that was part of an old orchard and several months were spent working on the block before Eric got the urge to play cricket again. It was only short walk over Whitehorse Rd to Silver grove for Eric and his career at Nuna started in the second half of season 55-56. Eric and June's experience was typical of many newlywed couples who moved to the area in the mid 50's, such as the Sakers, Dolans and Rowes. It was this influx of new players that lead to the later success of the Club. Whn Eric joined, Ted Aumann was President, Ken Rout, Secretary and Jim Shilton, Treasurer.

Eric was the Club's Secretary in season 57-58, the season of the Club's first A Grade premiership. More importantly, Eric won the Association and Club bowling averages that year (11.3 average). Eric was Secretary for 3 of the next 4 years and also played in the 58-59, 60-61, 66-67 and 68-69 First XI premiership teams. With Ian Rowe and Mick McLachlan, Eric formed part of a very formidable First XI attack that helped win these premierships. Eric

took 6-39 in 61-62 vs Forest Hill and 6-49 in 66-67 vs Mitcham, 7-29 in 62-63 vs Mitcham, 7-60 and 7-57 in consecutive games against Blackburn and St Peters in 67-68 as examples of his bowling prowess. In total, Eric played 80 First XI games over 12 seasons and took 253 wickets at 14.42, a fantastic return ! In November 1966 Eric caused play to be held up in a game against Vermont when, a bail sailed over the fence into long grass, a distance of 160 feet, and was lost. This was reported in 'The Herald' newspaper as was Eric's return of 6-24 that day.

Eric was Master of Ceremonies at many Nunawading and BHRDCA Presentation Nights but the highlight of his career was his nomination and awarding of Life Membership in 1961.

Eric and June moved to Preston in 1960 but Eric travelled to the eastern suburbs to play for Nuna for a further 12 seasons. He fondly remembers two significant Nunawading icons. Firstly, the players wives, especially in the late 50's and the 60's. who not only attended games but also supplied afternoon tea at home games and, secondly, The Loggers.

Ian Rowe

Before he was married Ian played local cricket in Brighton but after Wendy and he moved to Nunawading in January 1957 setting up a new home delayed his return to cricket until 1958/59 where he was encouraged to join Nunawading by near neighbours Tom Tunne and Ken Rout. His first game was in the seconds (we only had 2 teams in those days) against Warrandyte with Arthur Walker as captain.

Following a reasonable year he was promoted to the firsts the next season and our first game was against Nunawading's old rivals Doncaster Footballers. This almost proved to be "Roweys" last game as Les Reid promptly despatched him far and wide to the neighbouring gum trees to the extent of 0/33 off 3 eight ball overs. He survived demotion but it was a couple of games before he bowled again, fortunately with better results.

In one grand final against Templestowe at the Vermont ground, Bob Saker asked Ian to open the bowling in the second innings with the old ball (new ball was optional at the time). He took a hat trick in the first over and they were all out for about 35 and Nunawading had another premiership. By his own admission, Ian's batting was a different kettle of fish as when it was his turn to bat at No. 11 our wicketkeeper would start putting on the pads as he knew it would not be long before we would be fielding.

However, Ian's fondest memory does not relate to figures or good performances but to the enormous support that he got from all team members and in particular his 'bowling partner in crime at the other end, Mick McLachlan.'

Ian also noted the outstanding performances of Bob Saker who in his opinion was the most complete cricketer that he ever played with or against.

Ian believes he was very fortunate to have played in a very strong and successful side under excellent captains and after several years went back to the seconds for a few seasons to eventually retire in the late 1970's. It was perhaps ironical that his last match was also against Doncaster Footballers and who should he bowl against but the same Les Reid but he is pleased to say it was "my turn this time".

Ian served as Treasurer for 8 years and remembers many of the social functions we used to have up at the hall in Silver Grove. To Ian, playing for Nunawading was not just about cricket as it was a real family affair and many lasting friendships were formed. After cricket, he joined the Mitcham bowling club where sporting acquaintances were renewed with several cricket club members, George Dolan, Ken Rout, Jack Kelly, and Bruce Robertson to name a few.

There are not many around Nuna who don't think that Ian was the finest spin bowler to ever wear the purple and gold and his statistics bear witness to this fact. Ian took 476 First XI wickets at 10.2 with 5 or more wickets on 32 occasions and a career best 9/44.

George Dolan

George joined Nunawading in 1956 and immediately played in our First XI where he played until 1971-72. Nuna made the finals in every year of his time in the Firsts for 6 premierships and 3 Runners-up. He played over 320 games in 28 seasons of cricket.

His memorable moments at the Club include:

Making a century in his second game

Captaining a First XI premiership side (in 1968-69). He made a 2nd innings century in a score of 203 to win with 8 wickets down.

Making a 50 on his 50th birthday

Making a double century (203) at the age of 44

Captaining the Shield 3rds to a flag in his last game at the age of 53. George scored 58 with a broken finger and hit the winning runs, again with 8 wickets down (and only Greg Voutier to come..sorry Bertie)

Being Junior Section Manager in 83-84 and 84-85 during which time each of the seven junior sides won premierships.

George notes that Bob Saker was the best slips fieldsman he'd seen outside of test cricket and that the two greatest innings in his time were Bob Saker's 191 in a A Grade Grand Final against Doncaster Footballers in 1965-66 and Trevor Hutchins 238 n.o. in the 1976-77 Grand Final. Trevor's score is still the club record.

In summary, George sees the main factor about Nunawading Cricket Club is the fact that he is proud to call everyone associated with the Club during almost 30 years his friend and thinks that this Club quality makes our Club one of the greatest sporting club's of all time ! Well said George !

The Loggers

Eric recalls that The Loggers came about in a rather strange way. In 58-59, the Council regraded the Nunawading Oval and built a brick pavilion (the old tin shed moving to the

Forest Hill ground) and the Club relocated to Halliday Park. Upon our return to Silver Grove, the Council placed some old electric light poles outside the northern boundary of the ground, which became the 'grandstand' for retired players to sit (directly behind the wicket) and watch games. Soon after, The Loggers decided to present an award to the best performed finals player. Eric won the Loggers Award in 1970-71 when playing for the 2nd XI. In the semi final, Eric's father passed away on the Sunday following the first day of the game but decided to continue the game as he thought his father would want him to do so. Eric took 7 wickets and was presented a marble perpetual desk calendar, a gift he cherishes dearly and still uses to this day !

The B grade team won the premiership in 1964-65. Doug Bosworth captained this team, making 145 in the Grand Final (one wonders what he was doing in B Grade !) making it 8 premierships at Nunawading. Other players in this team were: John Davies, Ray Andrew, Graeme Harris, Colin James, Gary Walker (V-C), Arty Walker, Nicki Cox, Danny Pomeroy, Graham Best, Ian McLeod and John McDonnell.

A controversy in an A Grade semi final between Doncaster Footballers and Bulleen in which a Bulleen player was reported for misconduct and suspended for 5 years. A further motion to disqualify Bulleen from the Association was defeated causing the resignation of Association President Tom Reeves and Secretary Ray McIntosh, perhaps the two greatest servants of the BHRDCA. Tom soon reconsidered his resignation and re-occupied the President's chair however Ray McIntosh's resignation stood.

The practice area at Silver Grove underwent a facelift in 64-65 with a loan of £70 required on top of club funds of £109 to fund the erection of cyclone wire netting around them. The Club approached the Council for a turf wicket in May 1964, again falling on deaf ears, this time the council said they were funding new ovals as a priority.

The BHRDCA formed an Under 14 competition and Nunawading fielded a side. Juniors who were to play seniors at Nunawading later included Mick Burnham, Noel Thatcher and Glen Smith. Later this season Tom Reeves was awarded with BHRDCA Life Membership at the 1964 Association AGM. At the start of the 64-65 season, a new honorary member was named in ground caretaker, Ivan Moore. Is this Tim's Dad ? Ask Tim ! The two C grade sides played at Nunawading High School on a malthoid wicket. Due to it's poor state, the committee resolved to find a new ground for the next season.

Season 1965-66 again saw 4 senior and 2 junior sides take the field. The C1 and C2 sides played at Blooms Reserve and Mitcham High School respectively after 3 seasons at Nunawading High School on a ground that was not at the required standard. George Dolan captained the A grade side to a premiership, losing only one match along the way. Bob Saker won the Association batting average, helped by his 191 in the Grand Final. Bob hit 621 runs for the year at an average of over 60. A fantastic effort ! Also fantastic were the seasons of bowlers Ian Rowe (41 wickets at 7.8), Mick McLachlan (32 wickets at 9.6) and Ian Davies (43 wickets at 14.6). Under Ken Rout's leadership the B grade side made the semi finals only to lose to Adelphians by 16 runs. Danny Pomeroy topped the batting with 341 runs at 34 and Bob Jenkin made almost 300 runs as well as winning the bowling average with 33 wickets at 10.6. Eric Thornton took 41 wickets at 13.1 and Paul Kiker 35 wickets at 13.4. Clearly the team's strength was with the ball. In C1, captain Arty Walker fell to injury during the season being replaced by Nicki Cox and George Thatcher's C2 side just missed the finals.

Mick McLachlan was king of the kids in his usual role as Junior Section Manager and the AGM noted that “.....the Club is very fortunate that it has a member who is prepared to give so much of his time to this duty as Mick does”.

Socially, in 65-66 a card night at the RSL Hall was a big success and barbeques were held at the homes of Tom Reeves and Ken Rout. A club picnic was held, featuring a match between the over 40's and under 40's. Women present participated in a thrilling rolling pin throwing contest.

At the AGM prior to the start of the 65-66 season, Ken Rout and Bert Murphy were awarded Life Membership.

The Era of Professional Players

Season 1966-67 commenced a new era of cricket in the BHRDCA when a motion was passed at the Association AGM allowing each club to employ a professional coach. Nunawading was strongly in favour of this move and appointed Jack Kirby, a former Footscray District Cricketer, as our first professional coach. We paid Jack \$180 for the role, \$30 of which he donated back to the Club to purchase a fridge for the clubhouse. Jack stayed on for a second year and requested no payment. Jack instituted a rule whereby players were to wear cricket attire to practice.

Jack carried out his duties in a very capable manner but due to poor attendances at practice not every player benefited from his knowledge of the game. Jack also proved himself a first class captain, by winning the A grade premiership in his first year. This premiership was found the hard way as most players struggled to find form for most of the season. This premiership, in some circles, was largely won on the astuteness of Jack's captaincy.

Jack coached for two seasons but didn't apply for the job in season 67-68. There was some controversy surrounding this as it appears that Jack may have been dissatisfied with having to re-apply for the position which was advertised. The Club eventually met with Jack and apologised for causing Jack concern and offering him the role for the coming season. However Jack refused to accept the Club's apology and declined the offer to coach the Club.

In 1966-67 saw the C Grade teams on the move again, this time to Halliday Park in Mitcham. This was a far superior ground to the ones we'd been allocated in past years, especially when the council eventually opened the change rooms and toilets for players use. Both teams showed a marked improvement once relocated to Halliday Park.

The A Grade premiership of 1966-67 was the 2nd in a row and the 5th of the past 11 successive years of which the team was in the final four. Three members of the team played in all 5. More on that later. George Dolan won the batting averages with 451 runs at 37.6 and Ian Rowe the bowling with 55 wickets at 10.4, and the Davies brothers, Ian and John capturing 54 wickets between them. 9 players had batting averages of 20 or more The B grade team, under the leadership of Bob Jenkin, surprised most cricket followers by finishing second to Donvale, as they comprised mainly of young inexperienced players. Bob won the bowling

with 36 wickets at 10.8, and was just pipped by Ken Cresp for the batting averages. (by the way, Bob won the Association B Grade batting in 63-64). Ken Rout captained the C1 side to the finals with only one loss but lost a close semi final against Adelphians. Ken won the Association and Club batting averages with 458 runs at 76.3. N. McGrath took 39 wickets at 11.3 to win the bowling averages. A very young John O'Sullivan scored 123 vs East Burwood but it was his second ton having scored 119 no the previous season versus Blackburn. Lou Gray captained the C2 side who fought hard throughout the season only to be displaced from the four after losing the last game. Lou won the association batting average in C2 with 476 runs at 52.8 including a 118 n.o. Other highlights were Graham Harris's 104 n.o. in C1 against Bulleen and Les Gray's 110 no. in C2 versus East Burwood.

In what has become legendary to some of us, the Nunawading Cricketers football team continued it's unbeaten run to beat Forest Hill by 5 goals. In the 80's several more games were held and the NunaBoys are still undefeated.

In a minor controversy in 1966, Graeme Best was refused a clearance to Vermont after requesting one due to differences with C1 captain Ken Rout. Clearances weren't the formalities they are to-day and this wasn't the first time the Club had refused one. Graeme, of course, went on to become a committee member and Life Member. In another interesting development, the committee decided in late 1967 to notify players promoted or demoted of their change in selection status by post. I wonder how often the mail arrived before the game began ?

I'm sure Fred didn't laugh at the time, but I sure did when I read it, but Fred, in his seeming eternal years standing as an umpire, was butted by a goat and received a donation from the Association towards his medical expenses. In other news this year, Gary Walker enlisted in the Army and a gift of a toilet bag was purchased for him by the Club. Ken Rout was Social Secretary this season and raised over £ 500 which was a fantastic effort. If you compare that with today's figures, Ken raised 3 times the amount the Club paid to our coach. Ken was involved in a committee drama this season as he steadfastly argued that the Secretary , Doug Bosworth, be paid an honorarium. Doug, just as steadfast, refused saying that he enjoyed doing the work for the love of the game and that paying an honorariums could set a dangerous precedent for a junior cricket club. Eventually Ken won out and, after a round of applause following his stating of his position, the members voted to pay the Secretary and honorarium.

In season 1967-68, Nuna didn't win the A grade flag, we were beaten by East Burwood in the Grand Final. ! Jack Kirby had a great year with the bat scoring 535 runs at 48.6, Danny Pomeroy scored 496 runs, including 206 versus Doncaster Footballers in the Semi-Final. Our bowlers also dominated with Ian Rowe taking 46 wickets at 9.3, Eric Thornton 43 wickets at 15.8 and Ian Davies 46 wickets at 16. Our C1 and C2 sides both did win the premiership however. C1 captain Graeme Best made 533 runs at 33 including a century (he and Ian Mcleod who scored 137 no. had a 185 run partnership) and, in C2, Graham Harris's magnificent 197 versus Doncaster Church of Christ in the Semi Final set up the Premiership. Ken Rout must have been unavailable for part of the season as he didn't qualify for the averages, only batting 7 times, but these 7 innings included two centuries, 148 n.o. versus Blackburn North and 102 against Blackburn. In all he scored 447 runs at almost 90. What a year !

Season 1968-69 saw the entry of 10 new teams into the BHRDCA, including 6 from the disbanded Burwood District Cricket Association. The BHRDCA was now the fourth largest

body in Victorian Junior Cricket with 66 senior and 40 junior teams. New clubs Hartwell Baseballers and Yaralleen won premierships in their first season. St Peters became Box Hill North, Reporter became Bennetswood and Parkview became Heatherdale.

Our First XI again won the premiership, making it three premierships from four consecutive Grand Finals. George Dolan won the batting average narrowly from Bob Saker and Ian Rowe again won the bowling average, this time with 50 wickets at 9.8. Former Nunawading junior cricketer, Paul Neville, was selected for his first game at Collingwood in October 1968.

Senior subs this season were \$8.50 plus 50 cents per week. Bob Saker commenced the first of his three seasons as Club President. Our four teams were in the top four grades of the Association. Doug Bosworth, George Dolan, John Kay and Ray Skinner all made First XI centuries and Mick McLachlan and C Carter took First XI hat-tricks. The Secretary's Report from this season notes something that we still see today, that attendance at social functions was disappointing in that it the Club was reliant on the same faces continually attending to make the functions successful. A Cabaret Ball was held for the second time and again attracted over 100 people, the Trip Away was to Warragul, after many years at Shepparton and Moroopna, and other events included carpet bowls at Ian Rowe's and film nights (featuring Carry on Cleo with Sid James and Kenneth Williams) at Bob and Marg Saker's. The Sakers were famous for their film nights ! The Club placed an ad in the Sporting Globe at the end of the season for a coach for 69-70. There were no applicants and Secretary John McDonell noted that "...the Club will again rely on it's own resources to keep it at the top"

Doug Bosworth was awarded Life Membership in 1968 which was to be his sixth in a row and last as Club Secretary. The Club wrote to Doug and his wife Marj, stating that "...the reason the Club is held so highly in the Association is due to...the image and example you have impressed upon people outside the club both on and off the field". Tom Reeves also stepped down as President, after 7 years in two spells. The Club also wrote to Tom stating "...the many hours of willing generosity and work you have given the Club cannot pass unnoticed. The unsparing use of your home and the organisation of fund-raising efforts have been of prime importance in keeping the Club on its high level of tradition. May you continue to have many years of happy relationships with the Nunawading Cricket Club". Thirty Four years later, Tom still has happy relationships with the Club, and has been involved with the Club for 63 years !

The 60's ended with Nuna's top three sides playing in finals in the top three grades (of only 7) of the competition in 1969-70. A1 and A2 lost their Grand Finals, both to Blackburn and the B1 side lost their semi final to East Burwood Methodists. A small offset to these disappointments was the winning Under 16 premiership team, the first Nunawading junior premiership. Players in this team included Tim Moore, Steve McNamara and Neil Pagey.

Bob Saker had a great year with the bat, scoring 640 runs, including two centuries, at 64.00, to comfortably win the Association and Club A1 Batting Averages. John Davies, who won the club's A1 bowling average with 31 wickets at 12.03 was a surprise second in the batting averages with an 276 runs at 46, including a 97. Alan Haag scored over 500 runs to win the A2 batting average and Russell Baird took a hat-trick in A1.

In the Under 16's we made a late entry into the Final Four but swept all before them in the finals to win our first Junior Premiership. In the semi final, after making only 128, Nunawading dismissed Box Hill North for 31 due to the fine bowling of Graeme Davies and

Neil Pagey. These two were the main reason we dismissed Blackburn for 126 in the Grand Final but we only just won, being dismissed for 136. Graeme Davies was nominated as Vice Captain of the Association Under 16 side, not surprisingly as he won our batting and bowling averages with 285 runs at 40.7 and 42 wickets at 7.3. Neil Pagey took 21 wickets at 9.3. Our Under 14 side in 69-70, managed by Mick McLachlan, included Trevor (captain) and Bill Saker (he must have been 8 years old !), Keith Rout and Richard West (who must have been about 10).

Socially, the Club held several functions including carpet bowls and Crazy Whist nights and the committee sent a telegram to Colin and Judy James congratulating them on their marriage and Frank Kitt again filled his regular role as Father Christmas at the Children's Christmas party.

Finally, the next generation of Nunawading success was, unbeknown at the time, established with the appointment, for season 1970-71, of Trevor Hutchins as captain-coach of the Club. Trevor joined the Club after a stint with district club Richmond. Trevor's father Ern was a stalwart of the Association and was President for many years, ending in 1970-71.

The 70's started with Bob Saker in his third and last year as President. In 70-71 the firsts finished 4th and the Secretary, Grant McDonald, noted in his annual report the failure of the senior Club to win a premiership ! Ian Rowe won the Association and Club A1 bowling averages with 37 wickets at 10.05. John O'Sullivan and George Dolan scored A Grade centuries, Col James won the A2 batting and young Neil Pagey the C1 bowling with 26 wickets at 16.8. In 71-72, Tom Reeves became Association President and Bob Saker, Deputy President. The First XI were undefeated until being beaten by Forest Hill in the Semi Final after a dramatic batting collapse but, as a consolation, Ian Davies won the Club and Association Bowling averages and Russell Baird tried out at Collingwood, and Frank Ryan took 40 dismissals behind the stumps, a club record. One major highlight this year was our B1 side, the 4th XI, dismissing Bullen for 10, one man scored 7, there were 3 sundries and there were 8 ducks and a 0 n.o. Bowlers Ian Parkinson (5 for 1) and Chris Barton (5/6) were the destroyers.

1972-73 was a poor year on the field for all sides, not reflected in the fact that we had Trevor Hutchins and Ian Rowe represent the Association in a game against the Ferntree Gully Association. Trevor got 74 and Ian 8-54 in a winning side. The First XI missed the finals for the first time in 17 years.

Bob Jenkin, in his first of ten years as President, was very critical in his annual report suggesting player complacency as the reason for the club's comparatively poor on-field success. Honours were bestowed upon some of the key players to join Nunawading years previously when Ian Rowe received his Life Membership in 1970, George Dolan and Bob Saker in 1971 and Mick McLachlan in 1972. Mick was particularly recognised for his outstanding work with junior teams over many years. At the 72-73 Annual Meeting, Mick's nomination was 'carried with acclamation from all present'. The Club was in an amazing position administratively. Despite fielding only four teams, season 72-73 saw no less than 18 players represent the club in an administrative capacity, with several more players being unsuccessfully nominated for roles.

Ian Davies

Ian was a fantastic opening bowler. He played for Nunawading for 10 seasons, all of them in A Grade where he played 118 games and took 406 wickets at 15.43. He won the Club and Association bowling average in his last season at Nuna, 71-72 and won the TA Reeves trophy in 66-67, 68-69 and 71-72. With Ian Rowe and Eric Thornton, Ian was part of the most formidable bowling attack in the competition. He took 7 wickets in an innings 3 times with best figures of 7-12 in 66-67 versus St Peters. Surprisingly Ian left the club at the start of the 72-73 season to coach Box Hill South.

Season 1973-74 saw the introduction of Shield Grade and the Premiership to Nunawading in the top 2 grades (Shield and A1) in a competition with 104 teams. George Dolan scored a fine 203 in A1. An under 12 side, consisting mainly of students from Blackburn Lake State School, was entered. In the Shield Grand Final, Nunawading won it's 9th First XI Premiership on the back of a blistering 8-42 by Russell Baird as we dismissed Doncaster Footballers for 108. In reply we were in early trouble before John Kay's 60 and Keith Rout's 34 n.o. saw us get to 179. In the 2nd dig, Bairdy took another 6 wickets and Trevor Hutchins 3 as we rolled them again, this time for 164. We struggled again to 8-94 but it was enough to win the flag. In A1, another low scoring game saw Nuna make 181 and 8/94 to Templestowe Footballers 145, Mick McLachlan 3-12, Rod Vernon 3-40 and Ray McBlane taking 4-28. In their 2nd innings Rod and Ray again were responsible for dismissing Templestowe for 145.

In 1973-74, Association Deputy President Bob Saker, wrote a critical annual report criticising 'ratbags' who would be 'better off playing some other sport rather than disrupting the pleasures of men playing a game they love' and parents when he suggested 'clubs need to do a lot more to get the selfish parents interested in their son's sport'.

N&N Raffle

Nunawading and Blackburn Cricket Club's combined resources in 1970 to launch the 'B&N Special Effort'. The concept was to sell 250 tickets at \$10 each with each club, after payments, netting \$650. The major prize was \$1500 with several lesser amounts and a weekly prize being awarded. The idea worked and the raffle, to become the N&N Raffle when the Nunawading Football Club replaced Blackburn as raffle partners, then we eventually ran the raffle ourselves, became the Club's major fundraiser for over 20 years.

The Nunawading Poet

There have been a few odes over the years but this one, from 1974-75 and probably penned by one of our more famous wordsmiths, Kevin Steele. It's pretty corny, but perhaps a sign of the times.

To the tune of 'On top of Old Smoky'

On top of the ladder, we
once used to be
Cos we're Nuna-wading,
the finest you'd see
The coach is called
Hutchy, and he keeps so
fit

He was a school teacher
when strikes would
permit
And Sully's his sidekick,
a school teacher too
So he gets down to
practice at a quarter past
two

And then there is Bossie,
our captain last year
His first love is cricket,
followed closely by beer
At little athletics, you'd
see how he struts
But when he puts pads on,
he can't run for nuts

And our old mate Stuey,
 he just loves to hook
 Then winds up at Box
 Hill, in the casualty book
 A lovely boy Bairdy, who
 makes the ball ping
 If he knocks out the
 batsmen, we don't feel a
 thing
 Returning to Gouldy, he
 keeps all the dough
 But any more touring, and
 he'll hafta go
 Now let's give Mick
 Burnham a place in our
 song
 We purve on all the ladies
 who Mick brings along
 Tom Reeves is flogger,
 he's at CDL
 We've got our new fridge
 now, but we gave him hell
 Good old Gary Walker,
 the toast of the Pub
 He's such a good team
 man, his wife's 'in the
 club'
 Then Jerka's our
 Chairman, and like
 Chairman Mao

For swimming the
 Yangtse, he's too bloody
 old now
 Anne Beatty's the scorer,
 looks after B2
 When 'darling John's
 batting', she adds on a
 few
 Our Sambos a dark horse,
 and batting's his task
 When they move the
 sightboard, it's the bowler
 who asks
 Poor Sambo got sunburnt,
 asleep on the grass
 Now looks like a reffo,
 from up the Kyber Pass
 Then Fremmo the
 Gremmo's our secre-tary
 But most of his stuff
 sounds like bulldust to me
 There are all the ladies
 who served up the tea
 We're not game to tell
 them, it tastes just like pee
 Our Satdy night ritual ,
 we call it the drinks
 But some of the spouses,
 they reckon it stinks
 We reckon it's bonzer so
 we take a chance

Some go home at
 midnight, to face the war
 dance
 But soon they're forgiven,
 least that's what they say
 But why don't they turn
 up the next Saturday ?
 Old Routy's an Umpy, of
 undoubted class
 But he gives all the
 batsmen a pain in the arse
 John Kay comes a long
 way, in hail or in rain
 He went to the railways
 and purchased a train
 Rod Vernon's a Life man,
 and if you're in strife
 He'll write a proposal on
 your darling wife
 Bob Saker's promoted,
 Inspector he'll be
 Free rides on the trams
 now, for you and for me !
 On top of the ladder, we
 once used to be
 But now we're not firing,
 and well down are we
 Let's pull out our fingers,
 get on with the job
 And keep Nunawading,
 the top of the mob !

Eric and Graham Best

Father Eric and son Graeme are our only father and son Life Member combination. Graham began with Nuna in 1952, as a result of an invitation from a tennis-friend who lived a couple of doors from the Silver Grove ground. After a wet October training night he was chosen for his first game but missed the first 2 through Chicken Pox. He started in Round 3, in C grade, at age 15, batted at #10, and never after forgot to wear a Protector, after learning about one (the hardest possible way!) in his first innings in that match!!

Father Eric (he of the transistor and racing guide) joined a year later, in the "ones", then was appointed Captain of the D grade team, and the pair played together that season and won the Premiership. Eric had of course been Graham's backyard coach, and GB had been "banned" from bowling fast there, possibly due to Eric's hooking ability and the high cost of glass at the time. So now we know. Although Eric, after an 8-year "spell", was close to his mid-40s when he began (with NCC), he continued for more than 10 years, chiefly as a left-arm medium-pacer allowing no "free hits". He was a favourite of many of the mature players in his later "supporter" role, especially with his unerringly accurate question, usually asked of

the already-dismissed top-order batsmen: "when do you go in?...oh, you're out already are you?"

Graham's first (of many) stints as captain occurred in the 60s, and immediately produced a premiership. It required a Captain's knock when chasing 213, GB providing 64 at the crunch when coming from a long way back in the FINAL. The team was promoted but still managed Runners-up the following year.

He tells us he took 28 years to reach, or return to, the First X1, in the early 1980s. In the "unbeaten champions" season, GB batted with Graeme Torbitt from 9/120 to 9/213 (Torbitt 87x), and the 2nd day was washed out. That was that First X1s only non-win during that season.

Whilst compiling a quiet 100 one day he hit two consecutive 6s, the second of which was not noticed by the scorers. In a last-home-and-home match he played a significant role, but an overlooked permit caused a loss of the points PLUS a "doubling" penalty, so, from first on the table the team finished fifth (but won the subsequent teeth-grinding-championship!!).

Graham records bags of 8/30 and 8/35 vs St Davids, and a 7/27 vs Blackburn among his "personal Bests. A leggie, mind you. Also 3 centuries (yes, with the bat).

He served the Club as Secretary, Asst Secretary, and Committeeman, was many times a Captain, twice a BHRDCA representative player, and once kept wickets all season bar the finals.

He recalls with delight two events featuring Ian Donaldson; 1. GB sponsoring the young man to replace him as Asst Secretary, and 2. bowling the "lad" for a full post-tea session (as an about-to-graduate U16-er) as a training exercise. Donno thrived on it. Graham rates the transfer to Mahoneys Reserve, the growth it generated, and the Social Club's arrival, as significant events during his time. He finished after season 1984/85, playing 33 seasons and 350+ games.

Eric was made a Life Member in 1957 and Graham in 1977. Eric passed away in 2000.

The Move to Mahoneys Road

The idea to relocate was first discussed at a Committee Meeting in March 1971, as was the idea of forming an Eastern Sporting Club. The Club were interested in securing a turf wicket and made approaches to the Council to this effect. Further correspondence between the Council and the Club continued until the end of the 73-74 season including the council showing an apathetic response to our request for a turf wicket and exclusive use of the facility. The Council had allocated the Silver Grove site for the construction of a Recreation Centre (the new facility started as a Womens Sporting Complex and as the home of Mitcham Womens Cricket Club). Nunawading Cricket Club applied to the State Government and Local Council for a grant to erect practice wickets at the new complex, having already funded the construction of such wickets at Silver Grove, but were only able to secure an interest free loan to erect netting facilities and had to fund the concreting ourselves. The Club moved to Mahoneys Reserve on Saturday September 21, 1974. Gratifyingly, the Club, which had a history of most players living near the Silver Grove ground, did not lose any players in the

move. Practice wickets were not erected until season 75-76. Unfortunately the second ground was very small but this was extended, also for the 75-76 season.

Soon after the move to Mahoneys Rd, Nuna grew to be one of if not the biggest cricket club in Victoria boasting 8 senior and 7 junior sides which we maintained for 8 years.

Bob Saker won the Association Shield Reserve batting average in 74-75 and Paul Breen the Association Under 12 bowling average.

Trevor Hutchins coached the Club from 1970-71 till 1977-78 (with a non coaching year in 73-74) and again in 86-87. He was offered three year contract in May 1974 and, in responding and accepting the offer, Trevor recommended that John O'Sullivan be appointed as P.T. instructor to lift the level of fitness and that training commence in June for the coming season.

Season 75-76 was highlighted by a premiership to the 4th XI in C1, captained by Alan Haag. Doug Bosworth won the Shield Grade batting (279 runs at 40) and Trevor Hutchins the bowling average with 426 runs (including a 118) and 28 wickets at 16.53. Ian Sach and Alan Haag made centuries. The on field highlight for this season, however, must surely go to Under 12, Mark Breen, who took an unprecedented 10 for 12 against Box Hill North on January 24, 1976 including the last three wickets with consecutive deliveries. On the same day, Andrew McFarland took 7 for 26 in the Under 16's. The 3rd ground at Mahoneys Reserve was available from 76-77 and the entering of a 5th XI canvassed culminating in Alan Haag captaining a D2 side for the first time in 77-78. David Longstaff captained the Under 14 side to the Premiership, his contributions including a 103 in the Semi-Final, the first under 14 century for many years. From this team. David Longstaff, Steven O'Keefe, Brian Kruger and Rick MaruMary made the Box Hill RM Hatch team. Finally, David Saker scored 35 out of Nuna's 66 and took 6/38 in a losing Under 12 Grand Final. David won the Association Bowling average with 35 wickets in 7 games at 3.6 and Simon Hore the Under 14 (2) Association Bowling average with the unbelievable average of 2.70, with 58 wickets. In an Under 16 game against Heatherdale, Andrew McFarland took a hat-trick and Derek Clark, 5-30, for *Heatherdale*.

A Mass of Juniors

In the late 70's and early 80's Nunwading Cricket Club grew almost beyond the limits of our ability to manage. In season 77-78 there were 31 Under 16's, 26 Under 14's and 24 Under 12's, a total of 81 players and this number grew to 90 odd by 81-82. 16 Under 16's from 76-77 moved to Senior cricket, hence the need for a 5th XI in 77-78. A Sixth XI followed the next year, then a 7th XI and an 8th XI. We also had 8 junior teams competing and had to overflow into Highbury Reserve for a few seasons and juniors played games at Nunawading High School. There were so many Under 12's at one point that a team was entered into a schoolboy's competition. The situation got so 'serious' that, in a club with 8 senior and 7 junior teams, many players missed selection and were options such as social matches every fortnight and a subs rebate were suggested in order to deal with this issue. It was somewhat exacerbated by the fact that some talented juniors were occasionally selected above their less talented senior colleagues ! It was even suggested that Club President Ian Sach and Trevor Hutchins speak selected players advising them that 'they are welcome to stay members but it is unlikely that they will get a game'.

A great deal of work for Nunawading and BHRDCA Junior cricketers was performed by Tahu MaruMaru. Tahu was Nunawading's Junior Section Manager for a few seasons and held similar positions with the Association. Tahu was the Association's first Junior Promotions Officer. Tahu was an enigmatic character who was respected throughout the association and he was committed to the development of junior cricket and his son Rick represented Nunawading for a few years. Other major contributors to Nunawading's Junior development in the 70's were John and Anne Beatty who spent several seasons coaching and managing Under 12 teams. Their son Kevin, won both batting and bowling Association averages in 76-77.

Season 77-78 saw them take a 5th successive Under 12 team to the finals. In an Under 16 semi final this season, Rick MaruMaru took 7/16 whilst in the other semi final, Phil McDonald made 40 , *for Blackburn*. In the Grand Final, Nuna beat Blackburn making 7/177 (Rick MaruMaru 44 n.o. Peter James 42) to 173. The Under 12A's also won the flag with Dave Saker taking 1 for 2 off 10 overs in the Grand Final. Bruce Presnall won the Association bowling average. Another great performance and, perhaps a sign of things to come, was David Saker's 6/1 in the Under 12's. David Longstaff took a hatrick in his 5/9 in the under 16's.

Speaking of young players, Nuna entered a 5th XI for the first time in 1977-78 as there were a large number of graduating Under 16's making their debut for Nunawading seniors. Alan Haag, as he had done several times before, was asked to captain the side and provide guidance to the young group, with the assistance of stalwarts Merv Legg, John Fisher and Mick Viljoen. The new Nuna senior players included Peter Jenkin, Peter Donaldson, Jeff Woolley, John Macaulay and David Cowell. The side played well all season, finishing on top mainly due to the efforts of the 'old campaigners' and won the Premiership in a close first innings result against Blackburn. Alan Haag won the Club and Association batting average. It's no surprise as he scored 964 runs for the season including three centuries and an amazing 177 in the Grand Final, to have an average of 74.14. The young members of the team were so grateful to Alan for his guidance and leadership that they obtained permission from the Club to donate the bat he used to make his runs to him with their signatures on it.

Trevor Hutchins also made a 102 in a home and away game to add to his 228 n.o. He made 682 runs for the season at an average of 62. Bob Saker made a ton in Shield 2nds and Alan Haag a 124 in B2 (out of 474 for the season and the batting average). Ian Rowe had moved down to Shield 2nds and promptly won the Association and Club bowling average. Other great performances were Mick McLachlan's 9/96 in B2 and Andrew McFarland's 8/44 in Shield.

Nunawading were involved in a controversy in January 1976 when we convened a meeting in our pavilion amongst teams interested in forming a new association, due to the dissatisfaction at the organisation and administration of the BHRDCA. This didn't amount to anything however !

Nunawading again won the Premiership in 1976-77 after just making the finals (having to win the last game to do so). Undoubtedly, the season highlight was a fantastic 228 not out to Trevor Hutchins in the Grand Final against Blackburn. Ray Gale made 123 not out and John O'Sullivan 86. All 3 were season high scores. Nunawading were 4 for 59 before John, Ray (he retired hurt and resumed upon the fall of John's wicket) and Trevor put on 391 for the 5th wicket. Ray Gale took 3/21 and Trevor Hutchins 2/27 to help remove Blackburn for 125 and

almost dual-handedly win the premiership for Nuna. Ray Gale took 40 wickets at 10.35 to win the bowling average in his first season at Nuna. He also played in an Association Under 21 game scoring 70 retired and taking 2 wickets. Ray McIntosh retired as BHRDCA President in March 1977, the Association naming the Shield for the top grade after him soon after his retirement.

Trevor Hutchins

Trevor Hutchins began playing at Nunawading Cricket Club in the 1969-70 season. Having played his junior cricket at Blackburn, Trevor then played five seasons at Richmond. Trevor was appointed captain/coach, a position he held for 7 of his 20 seasons at the club. For two other seasons he captained the Shield team. During this period the club won four shield grand finals and missed playing in the finals only once. As coach, Trevor was not eligible for the T. Reeves Trophy, Club Champion, but when he was not coaching he won this trophy six times.

Trevor won the batting average seven times and the bowling five. His shield batting average was 38.39, and his bowling average was 15.59. He is the only Nunawading Shield player to take 300 wickets and make 6000 runs in the history of the club. His best batting performance was 238no in a Shield Grand Final and 7/28 was his best return with the ball. . Trev was part of the 391 run record Nunawading partnership for any wicket.

In 1987 Freddy Watson named him as one of the best 11 players he had seen in the competition. In 1986 the Player of the Year Trophy was named for Trevor and in 1990 he was awarded Life Membership of the club for his contribution both as a player and committeeman. Trevor's father Ernie, played cricket for Blackburn and was made a life member of that club. Ernie also served on the Association Executive in a number of capacities including President and was awarded life membership in 1988. Trevor also served on the Association Executive as President, following a number of years as the Nunawading Delegate. He and was awarded life membership of the Association in 1999. Trevor's son David, has also played at Nunawading winning the Player of the Year trophy named in Trevor's honor.

Nunawading Cricketers play Basketball.

The first of three incarnations of a NCC representation at basketball started in 76-77 with 'The Crickets', appropriately playing at the Silver Grove recreation Centre, run by Glen Smith and Russell Baird. The second incarnation started not long later, in 82-83 when a team run by David Cowell, called Nunawading Cricketers, played at Kilsyth. This team won the B Grade Premiership, represented by cricketers including David himself, David Longstaff, Peter and Richard Culvenor and Chris Stevens. Guest appearances were made by Tim Moore and Norm Hutchinson. The team made the A grade finals only to be bundled out when Team Manager Cowell advised the players of a semi-final start time of 9.30 pm when the game was at 8.45 pm. Player Longstaff still reminds the Team Manager of this indiscretion some 20 years later! The third incarnation was at Ringwood in 1999, when the same Team Manager organised a different group of Nunawading Cricketers to play but there has been no success to date.

In October 1976, wicket-keeper John Kay wrote to the committee suggesting that the price charged to the attendees at the after match drinks at players homes for bottled beer of \$1 per bottle was excessive considering a bottle cost the club around \$0.67. John was concerned that the beer drinkers were providing an unnecessarily high proportion of club revenue, especially

when compared to those not attending the functions. Perhaps John failed to understand that it is beer drinkers who keep most cricket clubs financially viable!

In addition to Alan's Association average win in 77-78, Bob Saker won the Shield 2nds (413 runs at 52) and George Dolan the Shield 3rds (327 runs at 41). In Round 5 of this season, centuries were scored by Clive Mullett (100 n.o. in the 2nds), Glen Smith (112 n.o. in the 3rds), Bill Saker (103 in the 4ths) and Alan Haag (104 in the 5ths). Trevor Hutchins scored another ton in Round 7 (111 n.o)

George Cross and Graeme Best were appointed Life Members this year and a social scene highlight was the Mannequin Parade held at Margaret Saker's with 46 ladies present.

New Social Rooms

In September 1977 a study group comprising of members of the Nunawading City Soccer Club and Nunawading Cricket Club investigated the building of upstairs clubrooms at the Mahoneys Road pavilion. A draft constitution was prepared, planning permits obtained and funding sought by way of debentures. The plan was to seek 250 debenture holders to purchase \$300 debentures paid to \$30 each to fund the deposit and guarantee a loan. Doug Bosworth and Kevin Steele and Terry Harris were three of the driving forces from NCC behind this activity and the required number of members were obtained for the project to proceed. After six months investigation a Co-operative Society was formed at a special meeting on May 10, 1978. Nunawading CC members were Doug Bosworth, Kevin Steele and Tahu MaruMaru. Members were conscripted with the 178 required to support a bank loan of \$40,000 obtained by the end of September. During this time building plans and specifications were prepared and approval from the Council and Health Department obtained. A building contract to complete the building to 'lock-up' was let to Reims Pty Ltd for \$43,573. Work commenced on October 20 with practical completion on December 20, 1978. From that time internal fit-out was carried out by the voluntary labour of the co-operative shareholders under Tahu's supervision. All this culminated in the opening of the Clubrooms by Nunawading City Council Mayor, Cr Keith Harding, on March 31, 1979.

The concept flourished for several years with each club receiving a 50/50 split of bar profits and, especially in the first few years, joint functions were held. After a while, however, the true co-operative spirit continually diminished, probably due to the differing cultural backgrounds of the partner clubs. By the early 90's the club's agreed to run the rooms on a six-monthly basis with each club maintaining it's own profits. This has worked reasonably well with the unfortunate bi-product, however, of the rooms not having any capital re-invested into them as the fixtures and fittings reached then passed their 'use-by date'. 2001-2002 sees a dilemma for the cricket club, which heavily utilises these facilities and relies on the bar profits to maintain financial viability, as our keenness to invest in upgrading the facilities for the benefit of members and guests is not shared by the Soccer Club who have other priorities.

The major impacts the social rooms had on the Cricket Club were the end of back yard drinks and summer lounge-room committee meetings as these events were now held in the social rooms. It also saw the Cricket Club provided with the opportunity to raise additional revenue by hiring the rooms for functions and making a profit on bar sales. This worked well for many years, until the facilities in the rooms were not able to compete with similar function rooms in the area.

1978-79, The Year of Centuries

George Dolan again won the Association Batting average in 1978-79, this time in Shield 2nds, including a 118, and a Saker won an Association Batting average but, this time it was Bill whose top score of 143 helped him make 436 for the season at 62 in Shield 3rds. He also made a 137 in Round 11. John Kay made a 166 in the same grade, 528 runs for the season at an average of 59 and Lindsay Horsey 320 runs , including a 124, at 45 but these weren't good enough to win the average in this year ! Doug Bosworth made 126 n.o, Graeme Torbitt made a 111 n.o in Shield 1sts, , including featuring in a last wicket partnership of 84 with Graeme Best for the last wicket.. Russ Archbold made 111 in C1, Stuart Hamilton 102 in C2 (taking 5/27 in the same game), Jamie Mitchell and Geoff McCracken 102 in D2. On the bowling front, in Shield grade, Keith Joyce took 7/16 and 5/19 as we defeated Vermont outright in Round 11. The first three sides made the finals, all losing their semis. The Sixth XI debuted in 1978-79 and promptly won the premiership. In one game they dismissed Park Orchards for 19 with Richard Culvenor taking 6/10.

Association Averages were won this season by George Dolan (Shield 2nds Batting), Bill Saker (Shield 3rds Batting) and Jamie Mitchell (D2 Batting).

Vale, Terry Harris

Terry Harris was a Nunawading stalwart in the 1970's serving the Club in many ways, including as Secretary. Terry, and his friend George Capallo, were caught in a blizzard on Mount Hotham whilst on a skiing holiday and failed to survive it's traumas. They both died within 400 metres of a road leading to the ski village on Thursday September 14, 1978.

Never one to seek the limelight, Terry held several executive positions within the cricket club, taking them when no-one else put their hand up. He offered an individual approach and an unrelenting faith in proper procedure and the right channels of proper communication no matter how laborious it might have seemed at the time. This lesson was brought home to the many Terry had helped in the community who went to him with seemingly unsurmountable problems. Terry's financial expertise was a significant help in securing the funding for the Social Rooms, including writing it's constitution. Considerable criticism was raised over the lack of adequate safety facilities at Mount Hotham following the blizzard disaster and an appeal, called the Mount Hotham Safety Appeal, was set up in Nunawading in Terry and George's memory. The Club created a perpetual trophy in his honour to be awarded to the best first year senior player graduating from Club junior ranks. The award lives on in Terry's memory.

The 70's ended with the move to 6 ball overs and another Nunawading Premiership in the top grade of the competition, taking our third flag in 7 years. Keith Joyce won the Shield Grade Association bowling average and the 5th XI again won a premiership. Trevor Hutchins top scored (again) with 79 out of Nuna's 6/266 which overhauled Templestowe's 265. Kevin Steele scored a magnificent 148 to captain the 5th XI to it's 2nd flag in 3 seasons, this time we scored 379 against Vermont's 156 with Steve Opray taking 5/39. Bill Saker made 106 n.o in Shield 2nds in Round 2. Howard Mullett made a 101 n.o. and took 6/12 against Forest Hill.

Nunawading Juniors excelled in 79-80, with the following report published in the Nunawading Gazette:

“A fine double, including a sensational spell of accurate pace bowling by Paul Watkin helped Nunawading to take out the BHRDCA U/4A grade Grand Final on Saturday. Nunawading, who lead throughout the season, were surprisingly dismissed for 135 by Forest Hill who demonstrated keenness and a will to win. Watkin, batting at number 3, put together a stylish and vital 42. Chris Stevens gave strong support with a fighting innings that included some delightful drives. The tension was electric as Forest Hill calmly closed on Nunawading’s score of 135. But when just 3 runs short, David Saker clean bowled the last batsman. Paul Watkin’s 8/56, 6 clean bowled, came from 30 overs. He was backed up by David Saker who never let up for his 2/32. Nunawading were 1/91 in their second innings with the most promising James Mitchell on 49 n.o and Paul Watkin on 15 n.o. Paul took a total of 44 wickets for the season at an average of 7.79, his personal best of 8-59 came in the Final. He came second in the Association averages as did his brother John, who captained the U16A grade team at Nunawading. John scored 412 runs at an average of 51.50 with a personal best of 81”. David scored 72 and Paul 56 in the semi final as well ! Isn’t it interesting to note that the junior Nunawading stars of this season all went on to play district and, in David’s case, State cricket ! Earlier this season, Tony Peake took a double hat-trick in his 7/16 against Vermont South in the U/14C grade.

George and Muriel Cross

George was a Nunawading stalwart who was awarded a Life Membership in 1977. George never played for Nunawading but was ‘the man behind the scenes’ ensuring that drinks were provided at the nominated player’s residence on summer Saturday evenings. George was a key contributor to the Club’s social activities for many years and was presented with a club blazer in 1970 in recognition. George’s efforts were regularly praised at Committee Meetings and he was a major reason behind the social success of the club. George was also the Club’s honorary auditor for many years, this based on his occupation as a Company Secretary. George and Muriel Cross bought land in Blackburn during the War and built on it after the war where George served in Artillery working ‘the big guns’. He received a back injury which prevented him from participating in strenuous sport, he was an A Grade tennis player, however he did manage a few rounds of golf over the years. Whilst George was serving in the Army, Muriel performed his job at T. Dewez & Co, Wool Merchants. After the war, George and Muriel, through Muriel’s brother, fellow Life Member Burt Murphy, started their association with Nunawading Cricket Club which was maintained for many years. Both were avid cricket supporters. Muriel hosted many a committee meeting and after match drinks in her home as was also regularly thanked by the committee for her efforts. She passed away in 1996, aged 75 and George later that year aged 85. Lovely people !

Jack Kelly

Jack started playing cricket at Nunawading later in his career, having played with Canterbury for 12 seasons before joining Nuna with Mick McLachlan in 1959. Jack remembers not batting much in his days in the first as he was second drop after George Dolan and Bob Saker and was often not required until late in the day. Jack only played for 5 or 6 seasons before retiring from cricket but serving Nuna in a social capacity for many years. Jack was a Father Christmas for many years and was one of the cricket club’s committee members on the newly formed Co-operative with the soccer club. Jack spent most of his playing days at Nuna keeping in the seconds and had a top score of 89.

Alan Haag

Alan started playing cricket at Nunawading in 1959-60 after being talked into filling in for the 2nds by Mick McLachlan. Alan played against Mick in Clifton Hill and Mick new Alan, and Iris, had moved to Ringwood in 1959. Alan also played against George Dolan who played at in Essendon. As soon as Mick new Alan was in the area he got Alan to sign a document saying that he wouldn't play for anyone else except Nunawading. Alan was happy to fill in but, predictably, the Club was short of players for the first game after Christmas and Alan was picked in the First XI. Silver Grove was being re-laid so our home ground this season was Halliday Park in Mitcham. He batted no. 3 but was called to the crease at after the first ball of the match.

After ten years in the firsts, including 3 premierships, Alan had to start a second job to support his young family which resulted in him not being able to train. After a full day's work in the Refrigeration Spare Parts business, Alan would go home for dinner then head off to a cleaning job. This occurred for 14 consecutive years. Alan was prepared to retire but the club insisted that, as long as his form held, he was welcome to play. He had a habit of captaining sides and captained the 2nds, 3rds, 4ths (winning the 1976-77 averages with 474 runs at 36) and the inaugural 5th XI which won the premiership in 1977-78. Alan had a brilliant year that year. Aged in his mid forties, Alan scored 971 runs, including 3 centuries and culminating in 176 n.o to win the Grand Final. Alan kept wickets as well and, even leading up to his retirement, stood up to the young fast bowlers. Many of us will say that Alan hasn't changed a bit over the years and could still play today despite reaching the magical 70 years of age.

The Second Period of Nunawading First XI Domination

Before continuing with matters of general significance, it is worth spending some time discussing a pivotal period in the history of our Club which firmly established Nunawading as the premier club in the BHRDCA. The heights achieved between 1965 and 1983 are unprecedented and are ones to which we are again aspiring to. The Club's First XI missed two finals series between 1956 and 1983, played in 19 Grand Finals and won 11 premierships. Our scribe, John O'Sullivan, now takes us for a walk down First XI memory lane to the true glory days of the Nunawading Cricket Club !

A HISTORY OF THE NUNAWADING FIRST ELEVEN FROM 1965-1980

During the sixties Nunawading made the four every year and in 1965-1966 it won the premiership with George Dolan as captain. The grand final in that year was played at Vermont against Doncaster Footballers. George won the toss and batted. Bob Saker who earlier that season had made a century against East Burwood this time made 191. With the help of Doug Bosworth 64 and George Dolan 59 the score climbed to a massive 413. In reply Doncaster could only amass 186 of which Ian Rowe took 7for 33. Earlier in the year Nunawading had lost it's only match for the season against Doncaster Footballers and this was considered a pretty good payback. Bob Saker had a great year making over 600 runs while George Dolan made over 400. Of the bowlers Ian Davies took 43 wickets, Ian Rowe took 41 while Mick McLachlan took 32 including a match against St Peters where he took 14 wickets for 34.

The following year Nunawading felt it needed a professional player so it employed Jack Kirby as captain coach. Jack had been a virtual run machine playing for North Balwyn on the turf in the Eastern Suburbs and he was also a very fine baseballer. Once again Nunawading had a very successful year and once again it played against Doncaster Footballers in the Grand Final this time at Mitcham. Doncaster was sent in to bat on this occasion but could manage 119. Eric Thornton and Ian Rowe were the main destroyers collecting four wickets each. George Dolan and Colin James then set about the attack and passed the total without losing a wicket. Bob Saker and Jack Kirby then helped push the total to 314, effectively ensuring another premiership for Nunawading.

During the year there were a number of fine performances. Ian Rowe took 55 wickets for the year including six 5 wicket hauls and in the semi final he took 8 for 46 against Forest Hill. He also took a hat trick in a match against Mitcham where he finished up with 6 for 19. Mick McLachlan also had remarkable figures in a match against St Peters. In a spell of five overs he had three maidens and took 6 for 4. On the batting side there was only one century maker during the season and that was Alan Haag who made 116 against St Peters.

Jack Kirby was again appointed captain coach for the 1967-1968 season, and at the end of the home and away season Nunawading was undefeated on top of the ladder. Incredibly in the seven matches before Christmas it had 50 premiership points which included two outright wins and a sensational bowling effort against the powerful Doncaster Footballers batting line up dismissing them for 39. Ian Davies and Eric Thornton were in vintage form and with Bob Saker pouncing on any thing at slip it was a truly superb performance all round. It was just as well Bob was such a great slips fieldsman because Ian Davies was capable of giving anyone who dropped one of his catches a decent payout.

Nunawading was drawn to play Doncaster Footballers again in the semi final. Surprisingly Ian Fromhold the Doncaster captain (and Tom Reeves son-in-law) sent Nunawading into bat and his plan got off to a good start when George Dolan and Colin James were back in the pavilion for 30. Worse was to come for Nuna when Jack Kirby was caught hooking down the leg side. There had been a couple of verbal exchanges between Jack and Rob Howard, the Doncaster opening fast bowler culminating with Jack telling the fast bowler that he didn't have the right grip for his slower ball. The next delivery was a searing bouncer and Jack duly accepted the challenge to hook. Unfortunately he only succeeded in gloving the ball to the keeper. Jack's dismissal signalled euphoric scenes amongst the Doncaster players who let Jack know in no uncertain terms who had the last laugh. At 3 for 46 Bob Saker joined Danny Pomoroy and so began one of the great partnerships in Nunawading history. Danny had been a star junior at Nunawading and had played in finals for Nuna in the early 60's when he was still under 16. He had now built himself up physically and was a very powerful left handed batsman. On this day he was at the peak of his game. He was a magnificent driver of the ball and when the cover field was packed he used the hard Vermont outfield to bounce the ball over cover. He carried the attack to all the bowlers and with Bob Saker steadying him at the other end the score accelerated. On and on the partnership went till well after tea before Bob was run out for 87 in a rather dubious decision. Danny continued on and made 206 and was dismissed with the score at 397.

Doncaster came out with all guns blazing and made a real contest of the match. At one stage they were 3 for 200 but with the advent of the new ball came a couple of vital breakthroughs. Steven Budge, who went on to play many seasons of district cricket with Essendon, was their

most unlucky batsman when he defensed a short ball onto the edge of the concrete and it deflected back onto the stumps. Their final score of 334 left them 60 runs short.

SEMI- FINAL

NUNAWADING vs DONCASTER FOOTBALLERS on 9/11/March 1968

First Innings of Nunawading

G.Dolan	c.Stephens b.Howard	18
C.James	c.Read b.Howard	7
D.Pomoroy	c.Fromhold b.A.Budge	206
J.Kirby	c.Fromhold b.Howard	5
R.Saker	Run Out	87
A.Haag	b.Read	23
D.Bosworth	c.Fromhold b.A.Budge	28
J.O'Sullivan	Not Out	2
I.Davies	c.Fromhold b.Blomfield	1
I.Rowe	b.Blomfield	0
E.Thornton	Not Out	0

Extras 21 **Total** 9/398

Fall of wickets 1/23,2/30,3/44,4/272,5/322
6/386,7/397,8/398,9/398

First Innings of Doncaster Footballers

E.Smith	b.Rowe	69
A.Budge	b.Davies	36
S.Budge	b.Davies	62
K.Read	b.Rowe	39
I.Fromhold	b.Thornton	3
H.Blomfield	b.Davies	72
J.Lindsay	c.Kirby b.Davies	21.
R.Howard	c.Davies b.Thornton	8
L.Stephens	c.Rowe b.Davies	3
J.McCarten	Not Out	16
M.Britt	Not Out	6

Extras 9 **Total** 9/334

1/70,2/123,3/199,4/201,5/203,
6/261,7/282,8/285,9/327

Match Result Nunawading 9/398 defeated Doncaster Footballers 9/334

After being on top all year Nunawading came up against East Burwood in the grand final. This time Nunawading won the toss and asked the opposition to bat. Phil Pritchard, so often a thorn in Nuna's side over the years, formed the backbone of it's innings with a score of 93 out of 263. Unfortunately this time the score was beyond the batsmen and only Colin James with 39 really troubled the scorers. So ended a year when Nunawading had dominated the competition but had missed out in the game that counted. The bowling had been the great strength of the team during the season. Ian Davies and Ian Rowe both collected 46 wickets and Eric Thornton 43. In a match against St Peters Ian Davies collected 6 for 61 in the first innings and 7 for 12 in the second while Eric Thornton had two 7 wicket hauls. While there were no century makers during the home and away season George Dolan and Bob Saker both had scores in the 80's and Jack Kirby made 95 against St Peters.

The start of the 1968-1969 season saw the departure of Jack Kirby and George Dolan once again took over the reins as captain. The home and away rounds were once again very successful with Nunawading finishing on top of the ladder only losing one game and that was to East Burwood. In round four Nunawading had an outright win against Mitcham and Ian Davies showed he had lost none of his ability by taking five wickets in both innings. Ron Thomas, who later went on to play league football with Richmond, was a part of the Mitcham team. In round nine Nunawading played it's old adversary Doncaster Footballers .and in this match an exciting youngster named Kim Albiston made the first of many runs against Nuna.

George Dolan with 60 and Bob Saker 81 helped Nuna to a total of 244 which was sufficient for a victory.

The semi final was played at Vermont and for the fourth time in four years Nuna played against Doncaster Footballers in a finals match. George Dolan won the toss and batted. George himself after hitting the third ball of the match for six retired hurt shortly after and Danny Pomoroy joined Johnny Kay to put on 129 for the first wicket. After their dismissal Bob Saker with 61 and Alan Haag with 37 helped stretch the score to 304. In reply Doncaster were travelling well at 3 for 132 when Keith Read was run out and after that the target was just too great. They fell 70 runs short. Ian Rowe was the pick of the bowlers with 6 for 74 including the wickets of Eddie Smith, Ian Fromhold and Kim Albiston, all when the batsmen were well set..

The grand final was held at Blackburn against Bulleen who had unexpectedly beaten East Burwood in the other semi final. George Dolan won the toss and, as was his custom, decided to bat. This was to be a bowlers' match however and after only forty overs Nunawading was all out for 108. A measure of how much the ball dominated can be seen from the fact that only four fours were struck and one almighty six by Eric Thornton. Ian Davies and Eric Thornton struck back hard on the first evening crashing through the Bulleen top order having them at one stage 6 for 17. Ian Davies in particular really slipped himself. Over night Bulleen had progressed to 6 for 26 but the dangerous Bob Prendergast was still at the crease. Bob was a fine all rounder bowling left arm orthodox donkey drops with telling effect and being an attacking left handed batsman. He had virtually ensured Bulleen's progress to the final by making a century in the semi final.

On the second day the score moved ominously towards the target. At 57 however Ian Rowe got one through Prendergast's defence and he then went on to get the last three wickets. Bulleen was all out for 86 but the match was far from over. Nuna's second innings was only slightly better than its first efforts. Bob Saker made 82 out of 163 and his partnership with John O'Sullivan of 92 for the third wicket ensured some respectability. Still Bulleen only needed 186 runs to win and when they were 1 for 70 things looked grim. That man for the crisis Ian Rowe however rose to the occasion and in a matchwinning performance took 6 for 32 off 14 overs. The fielding was once again excellent. Doug Bosworth took a sensational catch in the gully to get rid of Prendergast and when John O'Sullivan juggled and hung onto a catch close in, the match was over. After the disappointment of the previous year it was a very satisfied group who started their celebrations that evening.

There were two century makers during the season. George Dolan made 102 against Bulleen and Johnny Kay made 100 against Blackburn. George had four scores of fifty or more while Bob Saker had five. The bowlers once again had very good years. Ian Davies and Ian Rowe had a number of 5 wicket hauls and Eric Thornton was just as difficult to play as ever.

GRAND FINAL

NUNAWADING vs BULLEEN played at Blackburn on 15/22/29 March 1969.

First Innings of Nunawading Second Innings

G.Dolan	c.Styles b.Sheedy	18	not out	19
J.Kay	c.Sheedy b G.Burns	12..	c. Jackson b White	16
D.Pomoroy	c.Hammond b M.Burns	5	b.White	4
R.Saker	c.Capper b M.Burns	8	c.M.Burns b.Sheedy	82
J O'Sullivan	c.Capper b Pollard	14	L.B.W. Sheedy	33
A.Haag	L.B.W. Prendergast	3	b.Prendergast	3
D.Bosworth	L.B.W. Pollard	4	b.Sheedy	4
G.McDonald	c.Prendergast b Pollard	12	L.B.W.Prendergast	1
I.Davies	Not Out	8	c.sub bPrendergast	0
E.Thornton	b.Prendergast	6	c.Jackson b.M.Burns	0
I.Rowe	st b.Prendergast	4	Run Out	0
Extras	14	total 108	extras 1	total 163

Fall of wickets 1/26,2/44,3/48,4/61,5/66,6/77,7/80,8/95,9/104,10/108
1/24,2/51,3/143,4/144,5/149,6/151,7/152,8/152,9/157,10/163

Nunawading First Innings Bowling Second Innings

	O	M	W	R	O	M	W	R
I.Davies	15	5	4	37	8	0	1	43
E Thornton	8	3	2	26	13	9	2	27
I.Rowe	11	4	4	19	14	4	6	32
D.Pomoroy					2	0	0	11
G.McDonald					7	0	2	23

Match Result Nunawading 108 and 163 defeated Bulleen 86 and 140

The 1969-1970 did not get off to a great start for the firsts. Nunawading lost two of its first four matches. The loss of Ian Rowe, who had retired (for the first time), meant that there would be more pressure on the other bowlers. By round five however Nunawading was back on the winning list with a seven wicket victory over Vermont and this was followed by two consecutive outright wins over Mitcham and Donvale. After winning all the games after Christmas Nuna was able to get back to its customary position at the top of the ladder by the time the finals rolled around.

The semi final was played at Blackburn against Forest Hill and this time George lost the toss so Nuna found itself in the field. Forest Hill started disastrously and at one stage were 3 for 15 with the dangerous Peter Walliker back in the pavilion. Worse was to come for Forest Hill when shortly after Graeme Sleeth had to retire hurt. Slowly and purposefully Barry Johnstone and Ian (Spanner) Spencer pushed the score on and their partnership of over 150 meant that at the end of the day Forest Hill had posted a quite respectable 8 for 224.

Nuna's start to its innings was rather tentative and at 4 for 61 things were not looking too flash. Bob Saker was joined by Doug Bosworth and immediately the tide started to turn. After adding 90 for the fifth wicket Bob was very disappointed to fall to the part time bowler Spencer. In came John Davies and he and Doug safely saw Nuna home. Johnny was a very powerful hitter and in the course of his innings he hit one of the mightiest sixes ever seen in the association. He charged down the wicket from the railway end and hit the ball inside out over cover. The ball cleared the trees surrounding Moreton Park and landed in Central Road on the full. Long time Nunawading stalwart Tom Reeves was one of many who agreed it was the biggest sixes they had seen. Doug Bosworth continued on after Johnny's dismissal and finished with 91 once again highlighting what a great finals player he was.

The grand final was against Blackburn at Mitcham. George lost the toss again and Blackburn batted well reaching 253. Terry Dynes and Bob Croft were their top scorers and Graeme Best was the pick of the bowlers with three wickets. Nunawading once again got off to a shaky start and when George Dolan was dismissed for 31 the score was 5 for 48. Doug Bosworth was still there however and he attempted to guide the team home. He received strong support from John Davies (15), Grant McDonald (30) and Graeme Best (40) but the task this time was too great. When he was dismissed for 54 it was the beginning of the end and Nuna was dismissed for 218.

There were many outstanding performances during the season. Bob Saker made 540 runs during the year and he scored two centuries, 127 against East Burwood and 121 not out against Bulleen. John Davies was unfortunately run out for 97 in a game against Bulleen and George Dolan and Doug Bosworth both scored more than 350 runs. The outstanding bowling performance over the year was by John Davies who took 8 for 27 in a match against Vermont. Ian Davies was the biggest wicket taker with 41 wickets.

1970 1971 saw the start of the Trevor Hutchins era at Nunawading. Trevor had played his junior cricket at Blackburn and had played a season or two with Blackburn firsts in the sixties

before he headed off to play a couple of seasons with Richmond. He had in fact top scored against Nunawading in a match in 1966. Ian Rowe had been coaxed out of retirement but Eric Thornton was to play only one more match in the firsts. Frank Ryan took over the keeping duties from Johnny Kay and his athleticism behind the stumps and his hard hitting batting were to be a real bonus over the next few years.

Nunawading only had two losses during the home and away season, an outright loss to East Burwood and a surprise loss to Vermont, where a young fast bowler called Jim Fleming collected 9 for 39 in Nuna's first innings. The batting highlight of the season occurred in round three against Bulleen when George Dolan and John O'Sullivan both made centuries in a partnership of 207.

Nunawading reached the finals again and as luck would have it East Burwood was its opponent. The Vermont ground was a picture as East Burwood won the toss and batted. Progress was steady but after being 1 for 62 wickets fell at regular intervals. Four ducks towards the end of the innings left the team with 151. Phil Pritchard who had so often scored heavily against Nuna in the past top scored with 49 while Ian Rowe was the best of the bowlers with 4 for 40 off 16 overs.

Nunawading had an hour to bat but had soon lost Stuart Goold at 19 and George Dolan at 33, but worse was to follow with the dismissal of Trevor Hutchins L.B.W. off the second ball he faced. Doug Bosworth joined John O'Sullivan and tried to survive till stumps. The ball was thrown to Willcox for the last over of the day and the change of tempo to spin bowling was too much for O'Sullivan who after scoring a four through mid wicket the previous ball tried to repeat the shot and was caught. This left Nunawading at 4 for 51 over night with still much to do on day two.

Doug Bosworth and Bob Saker pushed on at the start of day two but Bob Walliker broke through to dismiss Saker and John Davies in one over. Despite some measured defence from Grant McDonald the game revolved around Doug Bosworth who batted magnificently. He eventually ran out of partners and remained 59 not out with Nunawading finishing 17 runs short.

So it was a disappointing end to the year which had started with so much promise Ian Davies with 33 wickets and Ian Rowe with 32 were the most successful bowlers for the year while with the bat George Dolan with 502 runs and John O'Sullivan 359 were the main contributors. Trevor Hutchins in his first year at the club made 240 runs and collected 26 wickets.

The 1971-1972 season started with Trevor Hutchins again in charge. George Dolan took over the captaincy of the seconds. Trevor decided that the whole club could do with a fitness program so he approached a physical education teacher who devised a series of exercises along the old 5BX model. The exercises were quite strenuous and they had to be completed before training began. A number of the players found them quite difficult and at least one player decided that if this was what cricket was coming to then it was time to retire. The most enthusiastic person however was Mick McLachlan. He thrived on this form of physical challenge and he provided a real example for those who were not so keen. The program lasted till about Christmas but Mick conscientiously continued for the whole season.

Whether it was the result of this added fitness or not is hypothetical but the firsts did not lose a match in the home and away rounds and the only match that they didn't win was against East Burwood where rain intervened with the opposition 6 for 108 chasing Nunawading's 223. Two outright victories were achieved before Christmas. In one of these matches against Bulleen Ian Davies had the remarkable figures of 7/25 in the first innings and 7/26 in the second. Ian was the most successful bowler for the season taking 43 wickets in what was to be his last season at the club. In the following year he went to Box Hill South in a neighbouring competition as captain coach and continued to take many wickets. Trevor Hutchins made his first century for the club in a match against Vermont and Ian Rowe showed he had lost none of his guile when he took 7/37 in a match against Yarralean .

Nunawading won the toss in the semi final against Forest Hill. George Dolan had been brought back into the side for his first match of the season. After being 1 for 6 George and Doug Bosworth put on 100 for the second wicket but after that the innings fell away and the final result of 169 was very disappointing. Doug Bosworth made 88 and was the second last man out. After being 1 for 8 over night Forest Hill eventually passed Nuna's total but not before they had lost 8 wickets. All of the bowlers applied pressure but a number of dropped catches didn't help their cause. Peter Davies (who was no relation to Ian and John) returned the best bowling figures with 4 for 23. Ian Spencer once again top scored for Forest Hill while Ron Hedley had the dubious honour of being one of the two wickets that Doug Bosworth took in his twenty years in the firsts.

The 1972-1973 season started with Trevor Hutchins again at the helm. With Ian Davies gone the fast bowling duties fell to Johnny Davies, Trevor Hutchins and a young Russell Baird. While there were a number of very good individual performances throughout the year it was very disappointing that, for the first time in over twenty years, the side missed out on playing in the finals. It was a novel experience for the more senior members of the team who just assumed that the Labour Day weekend in March would be required for cricket.

The match against Yarralean provided the highest score of the year when Nuna reached 5 for 355 with John Kay making 112 and sharing in a partnership with Trevor Hutchins of 139. In a match against Bulleen John O'Sullivan made 78 not out and uncharacteristically hit five sixes. The best individual bowling performances were by Ian Rowe who took 5 for 51 against Mitcham and Trevor Hutchins who took 5 for 47 against Vermont. An item of interest occurred in round three when Doug Bosworth was dismissed for 9. This brought to an end Doug's sequence of twenty consecutive double figure scores stretching back to round five in 1970. The club was fortunate to have the services of two very fine keepers in the one team namely Frank Ryan and John Kay. Frank kept for most of the season and he maintained a very high standard as well as often being called upon to act as a pinch hitter to make quick runs..

The 1973-1974 season started with Trevor Hutchins standing down as captain and Doug Bosworth taking over. Doug was a completely different style of captain. He seemed very casual but he had a shrewd cricket brain. As well as being heavily involved in the administration of the cricket club he was also a district organiser of the little athletics association. His Saturday mornings therefore were completely taken up and this meant that he was nearly always the last to arrive and he was rarely there for the toss of the coin. On a couple of occasions the game had actually started before Doug had arrived.

After the disappointment of the previous year Nuna flew out of the blocks and won the first five matches. During this period Russell Baird collected 23 wickets and bowled with genuine pace. For the second half of the home and away season Nuna lost games against Vermont and narrowly to Doncaster Footballers but they had important wins over East Burwood and Forest Hill so they approached their semi final match against East Burwood with confidence. In the side were a number of new names. Of these Keith Rout (the son of club legend Ken Rout) was a true all rounder batting at number three and bowling first change. Terry Harris after a number of years at the club was finding his niche opening the batting while Paul Robinson, who was still eligible for the under sixteens, was a stylish left hander who batted in the middle order The semi final team welcomed the return of Johnny Kay who played as a batsman but unfortunately the side's leading run getter for the season Doug Bissett was unavailable for the finals. Also missing from the team were those two stalwarts from previous finals' campaigns Bob Saker and George Dolan.

East Burwood won the toss and batted but never really got going. Trevor Hutchins with five wickets and Russel Baird with three restricted the score to 144. After being 2 for 29 a partnership between Trevor Hutchins and Keith Rout turned things around for Nunawading and subsequent knocks from Doug Bosworth and Russell Baird, who made his highest score in the firsts of 21, secured victory. This meant that Nuna was once again playing in a grand final and their opponents turned out to be Doncaster Footballers.

Nunawading lost the toss and fielded. Right from the start Russell Baird was on top, He bowled with great pace and the fieldsmen backed him up with brilliant catching. In a career best bowling performance he took 8 for 42 off 14 overs. The strong Doncaster batting lineup collapsed to be 9 for 67 at one stage before a 41 run last wicket partnership brought the score to 108. Nunawading also lost wickets at regular intervals but John Kay with 60, Trevor Hutchins 21 and Keith Rout 34 not out ensured first innings points. The score of 179 however meant that Doncaster still had the opportunity to get into the match.

Doncaster made a much better start to their second innings.and at one stage were 2 for 90. Russell Baird and Trevor Hutchins bowled unchanged and they were able to restrict the final score to 164 Russell took a further six wickets in this innings to have an incredible fourteen wickets for the match. The target for Nunawading to win the match was only 94 but wickets fell regularly and the tension really increased when the score was 7 for 72. An eighth wicket partnership of 21 ended with the scores level. It was left to Frank Ryan to hit the winning run. John Kay was the top scorer once again in the second innings.

GRAND FINAL

NUNAWADING vs DONCASTER FOOTBALLERS played at Mitcham on 16/23/30 March 1974

First innings of Doncaster Footballers

E.Smith	caught	b Baird	1
J.Lindsay	caught	b Baird	14
A.Budge	caught	b Baird	5
W.Gehling	caught	b Baird	2

Second Innings

bowled	Baird	43
c.Ryan	b Baird	12
c.Robinson	b Baird	15
run out		38

K.Albiston	caught b	Hutchins	14	L.B.W.	Baird	10
I.Fromhold	bowled	Rout	20	c Ryan b	Baird	12
	caught b	Baird	4	bowled	Hutchins	4
R.Read	caught b	Baird	2	c.Ryan b	Hutchins	7
G.Britt	bowled	Baird	2	bowled	Baird	5
G.Nicholas	caught b	Baird	32	c.Bosworth b	Hutchins	14
M.Britt	not out		7	not out		2
Extras	5	Total	108	Extras	2	Total 164

Fall of wickets **First innings** 1/11,2/16,3/18,4/38,5/40,6/50,7/64,8/66,9/67
Second Innings1/26,2/67,3/90,4/112,5/132,6/132,7/142,8/145,9/156

Nunawading First Innings Bowling Second Innings

	O	M	W	R		O	M	W	R
R.Baird	13	1	8	42		18	1	6	100
T.Hutchins	10	1	1	42		17	1	3	64
K.Rout	3	0	1	8					
I.Rowe	6	0	1	13					
G.McDonald	2	1	0	1					

The two most successful bowlers during the year were Russell Baird with 44 wickets and Trevor Hutchins with 39. Doug Bissett scored the most runs with 370. There were no centuries made during the season although the closest was Doug Bosworth who made 87 against Mitcham. In round three a young Trevor Saker, playing as a batsman in those days, made his debut for the club making 12 not out and 10 not out.

Nunawading welcomed Barry Hahn to the side at the start of the 1974-1975 season. Barry had made many runs with a Wattle Park team in the lower grades of the association in previous years and in his first year with the club he scored 355 runs at an average of almost 36. Barry scored the two highest individual scores for the season with a 91 against Doncaster Footballers and a 71 against Heatherdale. Of the bowlers Ian Rowe had retired and Trevor Hutchins and Grant McDonald were the leading wicket takers. Russell Baird tried his luck at Richmond for a few games before returning to the club. He was still able to claim 26 wickets however. In his absence John O'Sullivan opened the bowling for two matches and in one innings he took 3 for 40 off 14 overs. .

The season itself was not as successful as the previous one. Nuna lost two matches before Christmas including an outright loss to Mitcham The other loss was to Doncaster Footballers. In this match the captain Trevor Hutchins was ill and Bob Saker was recalled to the side for one match and in the first innings he top scored with 55. After Christmas Nuna found form and won four of the five matches. The win against Heatherdale was perhaps it's most impressive where it won by seven wickets with Bissett, Hutchins and Hahn all scoring 50's. In this match Mick McLachlin made his last appearance in the firsts taking 3 for 18. The last

match for the season was against East Burwood who really got on top of the Nunawading attack scoring 328 . Nuna could only manage 142 in reply and consequently it slipped to fourth position on the ladder.

The semi final was also against East Burwood and Nuna was determined to regroup after the pounding it had taken the previous match. Nuna won the toss and batted and made steady progress. Doug Bosworth and John O'Sullivan both made 45 and Barry Hahn made a patient 33 but the final score of 203 was disappointing especially after being 3 for 120. East Burwood batted on the Monday of the Labour Day weekend and the weather conditions were not very promising. The Nuna attack was focused from the start and Russell Baird in particular was fired up. East Burwood struggled and with the dismissals of Pritchard, Lindsay and Sacristani it slumped to be 7 for 135. Unfortunately however the rain intervened and the match was drawn. As Nunawading finished lower on the ladder it meant East Burwood would progress to the grand final and Nuna was out. Russell Baird had taken four of the seven wickets to fall.

The 1975-1976 season started poorly for Nuna. Of the first four matches there were two narrow losses and two rain effected draws. In the third match of the year Keith Joyce played his first game in the side. He had the figures of 4overs and no wicket for 9. He had to wait for the next match against East Burwood Methodists to get the first of his 609 victims in the top grade. The unfortunate batsman was G.Wilkinson who was caught by Steve McFarlane off Keith for 28. This match was Nunawading's first win for the season and when East Burwood was defeated in the next match by 163 runs it seemed that Nuna's year was back on course. Unfortunately however the side only won two more matches for the season and it's final tally of 28 points meant it missed the four for the second time in the seventies. It was a disappointing result because on paper the team looked very strong.

During the season there were a number of fine performances. Trevor Hutchins was considered by most to be the top cricketer in the association. He made 426 runs for the season including an innings of 118 against Heatherdale which was the first century by a Nunawading Batsman for three years. Trevor was also the best of the bowlers with 28 wickets. The other batsman to perform very well was Doug Bosworth who made 92 against Doncaster Footballers and had a season's average of 40. Bill Saker made his debut for the side in round 10 against Heatherdale when he batted at number eleven and made 3 not out in a partnership of 16 with Russell Baird. In the last round of the year George Dolan was brought back to play his last game in the firsts. He batted at number seven and made 28.

The last time Nunawading had not made the four it rebounded the next year to win the flag. It was hoped that this was an omen for 1976-1977. Trevor Hutchins was captain again buy he wasn't coaching. Ray Gale, who knew the Saker family well, joined the club from Forest Hill. That club was not keen to clear Ray so he had to wait till the second game before his clearance came through. Keith Joyce was now a regular firsts player but he bowled at first change. Russell Baird and Trevor Hutchins once again formed the opening attack.

The early matches of the season included two outright victories against Box Hill North and Blackburn Church of Christ. The Box Hill match included a 92 by Trevor Hutchins and a powerful 91 not out by Frank Ryan, an innings where he hit four sixes. In round five Nuna was narrowly defeated by Doncaster Footballers and this time Trevor Hutchins made 102. In the second half of the year Nunawading only lost two of its matches against Forest Hill and Blackburn. The situation before the last match of the season was that Nunawading was fourth on the ladder and Mitcham its opponent was fifth. A draw was all that was required to make

the four but a win to Mitcham meant that Nuna missed out. The situation was therefore very tense. Mitcham had a number of well known players. Brian Hodgkins was their trump card. He had played a number of seasons with Melbourne in district cricket and he had captained the Reporter District representative side. Ex Melbourne footballer Graeme Jacobs and up and coming batsman Anthony Stewart were also in the side. They also had a quick left arm bowler called John Newham who was considered quite a handful. Before the match the Mitcham side engaged in a rigorous warm up session running laps of Walker Park and doing all sorts of physical exercises. This was considered unusual in those days and was viewed by the Nuna boys as a psychological ploy.

Mitcham was sent into bat and lost early wickets, However after being 2 for 18 their batsmen formed useful partnerships and progressed to be all out for 208 shortly before stumps. Trevor Hutchins took five wickets and Keith Joyce took three. Nunawading had to face two overs before stumps and unfortunately lost Doug Bissett. Worse was to follow when Trevor Saker and Barry Hahn were dismissed early on day two with the total at 20. Ray Gale and Grant McDonald batted well and added 60 but they were both out in quick succession leaving Nuna at 5 for 82. Trevor Hutchins and John O'Sullivan then came together and set out to save the match. They batted on throughout the afternoon against a Mitcham side which threw everything at them. Eventually when stumps were called they had added 124 and the team had reached 5 for 206. The result was therefore a draw but it meant that Nuna had made the four. Trevor Hutchins had made 66 not out and John O'Sullivan 50 not out.

Russell Baird had not played in the match against Mitcham but he returned to open the bowling against Forest Hill in the semi final. He took 5 for 26 in 10 overs as Forest Hill collapsed to be all out for 111. Nunawading started badly and were 3 for 9 before Grant McDonald (36) and Trevor Hutchins (50) put on almost 90 for the fourth wicket. Trevor Saker added a well compiled 52 and Frank Ryan added a typically hard hitting 66 not out to give Nunawading a final score of 255, a quite emphatic victory.

And so it was on to the grand final, this time against Blackburn at Walker Park. Peter Walliker the Blackburn captain won the toss and batted. After being 1 for 30 it lost wickets at regular intervals and finished at a moderate 125 despite the efforts of its captain who made 38. All the bowlers got wickets and Ray Gale had the best figures with 3 for 21. Russell Baird had an incredible first over. As well as his allotted eight legal deliveries he bowled seven no balls and it was a huge relief when the over finally ended. He settled down after this and his next over was a maiden. Blackburn's Neil Price was continually flicking the ball over slips and Trevor placed Clive Mullett at fly slip. Russell produced the inevitable bouncer and Neil obliged by flicking the ball straight to where Clive had been placed. Keith Joyce took two vital wickets when he removed Bob Croft and Brad Allen in the space of six balls.

Nunawading batted on the first afternoon and Grant McDonald and Barry Hahn got the side away to a flying start but then three wickets fell at 50. Trevor Saker was dismissed with the score at 59 early on the second day and when Ray Gale joined Trevor Hutchins the match was still in the balance. These two batsmen started carefully but gradually they started to get on top of the bowling. They both batted magnificently and shortly before tea they both reached their centuries. The second new ball was taken when Ray Gale was exactly 100 and almost immediately he misjudged the ball when trying to hook. He was hit in the face and had to retire hurt with the score at 216. John O'Sullivan joined Trevor and they continued to bat for the rest of the day. At stumps on the second day the score was 4 for 393.

The batting continued on the third day until the score reached 450. The third new ball had been taken and O'Sullivan edged a ball to the keeper and was out for 86. The fifth wicket partnership had therefore been broken and the three batsmen involved had added 391 runs. Meanwhile Trevor had reached 180 when Doug Bissett joined him. The pair added another 50 runs before Doug departed but not before Trevor had achieved his double century. The run spree continued when Ray Gale returned to the crease The pair added another 59 runs before mercifully at tea Nunawading declared. Trevor remained 238 not out and Ray 123 not out and the final score was 6 for 558.

Both sides thought the match was over but umpire Fred Watson decided that Blackburn could not declare its second innings until a ball was bowled. So Mick Long and Neil Price went out to face that one ball which was bowled by Doug Bissett. The match then ended with Nunawading winning by an innings and 431 runs.

Trevor Hutchins had a great season with bat and ball. He made 682 runs at an average of 62 and he took 33 wickets. The next best batsman was John O'Sullivan who made 364 runs at an average of 46. Ray Gale was the highest wicket taker with 40 wickets including a match against East Burwood Methodists where he took 5 for 32 in the first innings and 6 for 37 in the second. He also made 288 runs at an average of 32. A very young Ian Donaldson played his first match in the senior side against Vermont early in the season.

GRAND-FINAL

NUNAWADING vs BLACKBURN

14/19/26 March 1977

First innings of Blackburn

M.Long	c and b Gale	23
R Puntton	bowled Hutchins	8
R.Croft	c Ryan b Joyce	0
B.Allen	c Hutchins b Joyce	4
N.Price	c Mullett b Baird	17
K.Parry	bowled Baird	0
P.Walliker	st Ryan b Gale	38
D Johnstone	c Mullett b McDonald	2
W.Main	st Ryan b Gale	1
C.Price	L.B.W. Hutchins	10
K.Taylor	Not Out	0

First innings of Nunawading

B. Hahn	caught b Croft	25
G.McDonald	caught b .N.Price	21
T.Saker	stumped b Croft	0
C,Mullett	caught b Croft	0
R.Gale	Not Out	123
T Hutchins	Not Out	238
JO'Sullivan	caught b Taylor	86
D.Bissett	caught b Taylor	18
F Ryan		
K.Joyce		
R.Baird		

Extras 22 Total 125
dec.

Extras 47 Total 6 for 558

Fall of wickets Nunawading 1/30,2/31,3/37,4/65,5/70

Blackburn 1/50,2/50,3/50,4/59,5/450,6/4996/70,7/87,8/88,9/125

Nunawading First Innings Bowling

	O	M	W	R
R.Baird	7	2	2	29
T.Hutchins	11	3	2	27
K.Joyce	7	1	2	22
R.Gale	13	3	3	21
G.McDonald	6	2	1	21

Match Result Nunawading 6/558 defeated Blackburn 125 and 0/2 dec

The 1977-1978 season started with Trevor Hutchins again as captain. Barry Hahn and Doug Bissett had departed over the winter and a number of new faces appeared in the team over the season. Names like Chris Fozard, Richard West, Graham Torbitt, Paul Kennedy and Gary Payne all made their debuts during the season and they joined the returning veteran Ian Sach. The year started with a return match against Blackburn who extracted some form of revenge for the previous year's grand final by beating Nuna by 46 runs. After this Nunawading only lost one more match for the home and away rounds against Forest Hill and when the finals came around Nuna was safely entrenched in the four. Three batsmen T.Hutchins, J.O'Sullivan and R.Gale all had aggregates of over 300 runs and Trevor was also the leading wicket taker with 33 wickets.

The semi final against Forest Hill was played at Blackburn. Nunawading was sent into bat and started off very well. Colin James and Graham Torbitt opened the innings and they added 125 for the first wicket. Colin made 76 and Graham made 46. Both batsmen were completely on top of the bowling but after their dismissal the rest of the team could only add another 88 runs leaving the total at 213. Forest Hill also started confidently and was 3 for 150 but when their top scorer Townley was dismissed for 87 the tension mounted. While wickets continued to fall the score however mounted steadily and Forest Hill was able to reach its target with eight down. So after making such a great start to the game Nunawading now found itself out of the finals race for 1977-1978.

Trevor Hutchins was the only century maker during the season when he made 111 against East Burwood Uniting. Ray Gale came close when he just missed out in a match against Vermont when he made 93. The best individual bowling performance was by Keith Joyce who took 6 for 49 in a match against Forest Hill earlier in the season.

The 1978-1979 season started with the news that two of the top players in the team would not be available for the season. Trevor Hutchins was going overseas for the year and Ray Gale

had accepted the captain coach's job at Mitcham. John O'Sullivan was appointed captain and Frank Ryan vice captain.

Bob Saker was brought back into the firsts for the opening match and he showed that he had lost none of his class. The first match of the year was against Mitcham and there was plenty of enthusiasm at the prospect of playing against Ray Gale first up. Things started disastrously however for Nuna when they were 2 for 1 with the new captain back in the pavilion run out for a duck. The rest of the innings then became a real battle with Bob and Trevor Saker being the top scorers in a very modest total of 111. Mitcham passed this total without too many alarms and Ray Gale top scored. So it was an inauspicious start to the season. Things gradually improved in the matches before Christmas and Nunawading only lost one more match for the season in the home and away rounds and that incidentally was a match in which there were no umpires.

In round four Nunawading welcomed into the team Wayne Stokes. Wayne only played with the club for two years but he showed himself to be one of the most determined batsmen to wear the purple and gold. He had been encouraged to the club by Bob Saker after scoring many runs in the Eastern Suburbs competition. He averaged 50 with the bat in his time at Nunawading. Also in that game Graeme Best returned to the senior side. Graeme had originally played with the firsts in the fifties but in recent years he had been playing down the grades. He was a good right arm leg spin bowler and for the rest of the season he provided a genuine spin option for the team. In a match against St Davids he took 8 for 24 off 14 overs.

One of the most eventful matches of the year occurred against Forest Hill in a match after Christmas. Forest Hill had beaten Nuna in the previous year's semi final so Nuna was particularly keen to do well. Forest Hill was captained by Ron Medland a successful district cricketer who was known as a very competitive player. He won the toss and asked Nuna to bat and also asked for a sub. Although this was considered poor form Nuna agreed knowing that its captain had to go a wedding later in the day. Right from the start there was considerable aggro and not just on the field. Nunawading during this period had a quite vocal supporter Eric Best, Graeme's father. Eric was a life member of the club and had followed the firsts for a number of years. He was Nunawading through and through and would often make his thoughts known about what he thought of the opposition players. His comments usually passed harmlessly but not this day.

Nunawading collapsed dramatically to be 5 for 26 and as each wicket fell the fielding side certainly let Eric know about it. Graeme Torbitt was still there and together with Bob Saker, Keith Joyce and Frank Ryan the score edged up to 9 for 121. Graeme Torbitt was 53 at the fall of the ninth wicket and he was joined by Graeme Best. These two batsmen started out playing for survival but as Graeme Best's confidence grew the score mounted. Graeme Best defended while Graeme Torbitt attacked and at the end of the day they were still there having added 84 runs in an unfinished partnership. Graeme Torbitt remained 111 not out and Graeme Best 17 not out which included 15 singles. The final score of 9 for 205 was considered a great fight back. Unfortunately the next week was washed out and a match which had so much promise petered out to a draw.

Keith Joyce had a particularly good season taking 43 wickets for the year. In a match against Vermont, which Nunawading won outright, Keith took 7 for 16 in the first innings and 5 for 19 in the second. He had also taken 7 for 69 in a match against Blackburn North. Wayne Stokes was the top run scorer for the year with 350 runs at an average of 44.

Nunawading made the four and played against Mitcham in the semi final. Mitcham batted first and made 202. The best of the bowlers was Keith Joyce who took 5 for 76 off 25 overs. Nunawading started poorly and were 2 for 5. Wayne Stokes however was in good form and he formed the backbone of the innings with a determined 98. He had significant partnerships with John O'Sullivan, Bob Saker and later Keith Joyce but when he was dismissed eighth man out for 181 Nuna was still 21 runs short. Gary Payne, Keith Joyce and Graeme Best pushed the score onward but they fell short by just 4 runs and Nunawading for the second year in a row lost the semi final and were out of the finals race.

Trevor Hutchins returned to the club in the 1979-1980 season but only as a player. John O'Sullivan remained as captain but Frank Ryan had decided to retire and take up golf. Clive Mullett had replaced him behind the stumps. Keith Joyce was now opening the bowling with Trevor Hutchins and Trevor Saker was coming on at first change. Andrew Sach, Bill Saker and Alan Gale all joined the team during the season. Nunawading won the first game of the year outright against St Andrews and this set the tone for the season. In round seven Nunawading reversed its previous year's semi final result when it defeated Mitcham by 163 runs. In a real run spree Nuna reached 7 for 311 with John O'Sullivan making 100, Bill Saker 75 and Wayne Stokes 51. The team went through the home and away rounds undefeated and went into the final series as red hot favourites.

The semi final was played at Vermont against East Burwood on the mats. East Burwood won the toss and batted but very few of their batsmen got going. Their final score of 149 was due mainly to the efforts of Keith Joyce who had the figures of 28 overs 11 maidens 7 wickets for 50. At the end of the first day Nuna in reply was 0 for 15. The start of the second day contained some very competitive cricket. East Burwood was captained by Graham Kelaart who made sure that every run was hard to get. Nunawading was 6 wickets down before the target was reached and for this they had to thank Wayne Stokes (53), Trevor Hutchins (31) and a brilliant cameo innings of 76 not out from Clive Mullett.

The grand final was played at Blackburn against Templestowe. The association had allowed various clubs to use synthetic surfaces and Blackburn had one of these surfaces known as 'carpet'. It was a batsman friendly surface completely different to the mats which both sides were used to. Nunawading had a practice at Blackburn North during the week to try to get used to it. The toss was won by Templestowe who not surprisingly elected to bat. Their plan from the start appeared to be to just occupy the crease and grind the bowling down. There was no compulsory closure in grand finals in those days so this appeared to be a good tactic. At the end of the first day they had crawled to 3 for 138 off 80 overs. Things continued in the same vein on the second day. The innings finally ended at 265 off 164 overs. Templestowe's top scorer Neil Forbes made 86 and batted from twenty past one on day one till quarter to three on day two. His knock contained 54 singles, 13 twos, 2 threes and no fours. The Templestowe innings contained only 3 fours altogether. The Nunawading bowlers put in marathon spells. Keith Joyce took 3 for 76 off 67 overs, Trevor Hutchins took 1 for 58 off 41 overs, Alan Gale took 3 for 36 off 29 overs and Grahame Best took 1 for 59 off 26 overs.

Nunawading lost an early wicket at the end of day two and Keith Joyce came in as nightwatchman. Keith often volunteered for this job and on this occasion he batted for a considerable amount of time on the third day. The match ground on through the third day and Nuna progressed to 4 for 161. Wayne Stokes was dismissed for 69 just before stumps. On the fourth day Trevor Hutchins went for 79 and John O'Sullivan made 53 before Grahame Torbitt

and Bill Saker reached the target. It had been a hard fought victory but it was a fitting end to a very successful year. Nunawading had gone through the whole season without being defeated, a feat which has rarely happened in the association.

During the season there were some brilliant individual performances. Keith Joyce took 50 wickets for the year at an average of 10. His best haul was against Doncaster Footballers where he took 7 for 41. In the batting Wayne Stokes was the top run getter with 501 runs including an innings of 99 against Forest Hill. Trevor Hutchins also scored well amassing 420 runs, which included a 92 against Burwood District. Also among the runs was John O'Sullivan who made 365 runs at an average of 46. Clive Mullett had the top average of the year with 68.

GRAND FINAL

NUNAWADING vs TEMPLESTOWE played at Blackburn on 15/16/22/23 March 1980

First Innings of Templestowe

E.Smith	st Mullett b Best	22
J.Oliver	c Saker b Gale	4
N.Forbes	bowled Joyce	86
B.Bond	c Stokes b Joyce	40
J.Whitechurch	c Joyce b Hutchins	38
K.Stevens	Run Out	8
P.Dyson	c and bowled Gale	22
G.Forbes	bowled Gale	5
R.Bond	Run Out	4
F.Allen	bowled Joyce	0
P.Walton	Not Out	1

Extras 35 Total 265

Fall of wickets 1/15,2/48,3/126,4/197,5/225

. 6/237,7/254,8/260,9/264

First Innings of Nunawading

C.James	caught b G.Forbes	7
A.Sach	caught b G.Forbes	9
K.Joyce	caught b N.Forbes	6
W.Stokes	caught b G.Forbes	69
T.Hutchins	bowled B.Bond	79
J O'Sullivan	caught b F,Allen	53
W.Saker	Not Out	20
G.Torbitt	Not Out	12
C.Mullett		
A.Gale		
G.Best		

Extras 15 Total 6/270

1/12,2/26,3/38,4/159,5/212,6/254

Match Result Nunawading 6 for 270 defeated Templestowe 265

The Personalities of the 1980's

The Nunawading Cricket Club brought more rewards in the form of 6 premierships. The Association mandated the use of synthetic pitches on all Shield and A Grade Club grounds which saw the installation of a rubber pitch on the main ground at Mahoneys Reserve.

The 1st Eleven in 81/82 and 83/84, the 2nd in 83/84, 3rds in 80/81 and 87/88 and the 4ths in 82/83 but it is the personalities of the Club during these years which provide a better story. Firstly a look at on the field before concentrating off the field.

Of particular note was the continued rivalry between Nunawading and Heatherdale Clubs. This was evidenced by the number of times these two clubs met in Grand Finals and where the result was often very close. Ie 81/82, 3 run win to Nunawading, 83/84, 10 run win to Nunawading and 85/86 that was an epic battle where the result was a win to Heatherdale by 1 run.

The Club saw Bob Saker leave the area and move to Narooma (1987) and his son Bill take the role of Captain/coach in 1985, while the youngest of the Sakers (David) progressed through the ranks to join his eldest brother Trevor in the 1st eleven in the 83/84 season. This family affair typifies what Nunawading was and still is.

The Nunawading Club started the decade fielding 8 senior teams and 6 junior teams, with a registered player list numbering in excess of 170 members. As numbers dwindled we ended the 80's with 6 senior and 4 junior teams and a healthy list of registrants numbering over 130 members. Still one of the largest and most successful clubs in the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association with a proud history of achievement as a club and with the individual honours attained by many of the players.

Our Life member's number only 30 since the club was formed in the 1920s' with 5 of those being awarded life member status in the 80s', namely Graeme Harris, Ian Sach, Colin James, Jack Kelly, John O'Sullivan and Kevin Steele.

One personality of the Club who, unfortunately, passed away in 1981 was Frank Kitt. Frank was a social icon at Nunawading and was, in the George Cross mould, always helping out socially, especially with fund raisers and after match drinks. He was on the committee for a couple of years and perhaps best known for his long tenure as the Club's resident Father Christmas.

The statistics over this decade are truly remarkable.

To highlight some in terms of results per season rather than averages will provide a brief on consistent contributors and up and comers.

Take the batting:

Andrew Sach played in all 10 seasons and provided on average 347 runs per season with 18 fifties and 4 hundreds. Andy was a stylish left opening batsman who was the thorn in the side for many opposition bowlers. They knew that if they didn't get Andy out cheaply that he would build an innings that would set the Nunawading side up for a very competitive and generally a winning score.

There were three others that contributed over 300 runs per season but not over the complete 10-year span, namely:

Peter Phillips average 410 (1 year, 2 fifties and 1 hundred)

Ron Seedy average 324 (2 years, 1 fifty)

Bill Saker average 341 ((6 years, 12 fifties and 5 hundreds)

Others with significant contributions were:

Chris Harris average 29.9 (7 years, 12 fifties and 4 hundreds)

John O'Sullivan average 22.9 (9 years, 7 fifties and 1 hundred)

Trevor Hutchins average 25.0 (8 years, 8 fifties and 2 hundreds)

Mal West average 21.1 (5 years, 5 fifties and 1 hundred)

Raf DeSensi average 23.3 (3 years, 2 fifties and 3 hundreds)

From a bowling point of view Keith Joyce contributed 39 wickets per season (9 years) having obtained 5 wickets on 21 occasions. These stats are for the 80's only.

Significant contributions were, as follows:

Ian Donaldson 19 wickets per season (9 years, having obtained 5 wickets on 5 occasions)

Trevor Saker 16 wickets per season (7 years with 3 five wicket hauls)

John Paull 14 wickets per season (5 years with 2 five wicket hauls)

Trevor Hutchins 13 wickets per season (8 years with 4 five wicket hauls)

In 1980-81, 6 of our 7 senior sides made the finals, however only the thirds were premiers. It was in this season that the Club congratulated Bob Jenkin on his 10th (and last) consecutive year as Club President. Keith Joyce (43 wickets at 11.35) and Bill Saker (461 runs at 51.22) won the Association Shield Grade bowling and batting averages. Major milestones were celebrated by Bob Saker and George Dolan who both celebrated their 25th season as players and Graeme Best his 30th season. In Shield 3rds Ian Sach (123) and Rob Merriel (112) put on 239 in a game against Forest Hill made famous for those who played in it when Bob Saker, after a very strong personal attack from the Forest Hill players, made them stay in the blazing sun at Halliday Park whilst we continued to bat , and bat, and bat ! George Dolan was captain of the B2 side (4ths) and made 141 in one round and Scott Gale made 139 in a score of 6/406 in the 3rds.

Bob Jenkin

Bob's initial contact with Nunawading Cricket Club members was made at a car trial in 1960 which ended at the Rout residence. Ken Rout and Bob grew up together and played turf cricket at East Malvern where Bob is also a life member. When he moved to Balwyn, he persuaded Bob to join Nunawading which he did in January 1962.

His first game, at Blackburn (in the seconds) is remembered for several things - batting with Danny Pomeroy, watching John Davies run himself out and being given not out by Fred Watson after a catch by the wicketkeeper.

Bob was soon involved in the administration of club affairs and, as club delegate to the BHRDCA, I was appointed Assistant Secretary (of the Association) to Ray McIntosh.

When Bob Saker was unable to continue as club president because of his police responsibilities, he became President, a position he held for ten continuous years.

The Club winning the Centenary Premiership and Shield, celebrating the Centenary of Test Cricket in 1976-77 and end of season trips are Bob's highlights with Terry Harris's sad loss another well remembered significant Club event. . Bob was awarded Life Membership in 1975.

Ian Sach

Ian's association with the club came in two instalments. Ian started playing at Nunawading in 1960 and dropped out for a couple of years in the mid to late 1960s to return to university to do a PhD. He says that he would probably not have returned to cricket had he not, by chance, met Bob Jenkin on the beach at Cowes. He persuaded me to return and he played on for many more seasons.

Ian served on the Club Committee in both periods of his membership, being at various stages Treasurer and President and took part in the move from Silver Grove to Mahoney's Oval. Although playing as a member of some powerful side in the early years, Ian was a member of a premiership side on only one occasion. On one memorable occasion he won the Association batting average in the top grade. Ian only made a couple of centuries at the Club, one being a great tom at Halliday Park referred to elsewhere in this document. Ian preferred to assess his innings by time at the crease and the looks of frustration on the faces of furious bowlers driven witless.

He captained our second side at one stage during his later years and remembers having the luxury of Ian Rowe in the side to bowl his slow-medium left arm spinners. This meant Ian only ever had to bother about bowling changes at one end. Once wound up he would peg away tirelessly at one end, virtually closing it down. On one occasion Ian took four catches for Rowey at first slip in one innings.

Some of the players (and there are many more who could and should be mentioned) with whom he had the privilege of playing were the Sakers, George Dolan, John O'Sullivan, Ian Rowe, Alan Haag, Keith Joyce, the Davies brothers, Mick McLachlan, Bob Jenkin, Kevin Steele, Trevor Hutchins, Allan Jackson, Doug Bosworth, Graham Harris, Graham Best, Ian Donaldson, Alan Gale and Eric Thornton.

A favourite off field memory of Ian's is the time Stewie Gould and Ian thought they were last to leave the Silver Grove premises one Saturday evening and locked the door by slamming it. They did not have keys. Stewie's wife, somewhat distraught, then informed them that one of their children was still inside! This required a break-in from the second level at the back of the hall. The police were not called by neighbours but as Stewie was a policeman it did not matter!

Ian bought Ian Donaldson's father's 1969 VW beetle many years ago (probably in the 1970s) and still has it! The after match drinks in members' garages was an enjoyable and friendly club feature in the early days before club bars and lounges.

After Ian retired from cricket he played bowls at Heatherdale for three years before moving to Essendon where he still plays for Strathmore and is now their Club Secretary.

Kevin "STAINLESS" Steele

Kevin arrived in 1970 aged 30, from a little club, Richmond Central, which had absorbed his original North Richmond Methodists. It later became known that he played one game batting at Number 3 in the twos (got 36, against Blackburn, was berated by Kenny Rout for "batting 90 minutes and not playing one shot outside the 'V') then got homesick and returned to his old club.

Stainless spent the following year umpiring thinking he was too old to play in this competition, then re-started at Nuna in '72/73, as a bowler-who-batted, then as a batter-who-bowled. A 3rds captain was promoted or just departed, Kevin was appointed in his place (it's called "finding the correct level at which to function"). The following year Ray McBlane arrived from Richmond Central (bowled the very first ball of the new season in the twos at Silver Grove and had it hit over the square-leg fence by a Read) and in the next season Allan Jackson (same source) came.

After the move to Mahoney's Reserve (Ian Donaldson the first batsman to be dismissed there, as an U16) the pace seemed to quicken for the Club. Kids all around the area, open parklands wanting to be put to good use. Suddenly we had 6 Senior teams!!!!

Stainless spent most of the next few years playing alongside Besty, Harry, Glen Smith, Ross and Graeme Archbold, Bob and Peter Jenkin, often making the semis, rarely the final.

He was often Social Secretary (and the founder of the modern format of the N&N RaffleDoug Bisset's Reverse Raffle, in which last-out wins. It was downstairs at Mahoneys, and there were some "musical items" as well.) Kevin later served the Club as our representative on Mahoneys Reserve Committee of Management.

During the early 80s the Club had grown to 8 senior and 8 junior teams. Kev wondered where in the world could there be a larger Cricket Club in terms of teams fielded? It was partly a consequence of the time and of the location, but few clubs the world over might have bothered to commit the time, fund-raising grunt, and week-by-week effort to match the demand. It is to the eternal credit of the families of those 70's/80's that the Club achieved it's size, and then maintained it for so long. And all those "extras" who helped establish an environment that kept people interested and involved should also take a bow.

His highlights include:

The "unbeaten champions" first eleven premiership of 78-79 with Captain O'Sullivan, President Jenkin snr and Secretary Steele. The Fifts won it in the same year, Kev was captain, got his only ton ever in the Final itself. (176 n.o.)

There was a stream of Richmond Central players which came to play, so many, and so well performed, from such a little club, McBlanes, Jacksons, Mitchells, Torbitt, Kennedy. All of them played in (created) premiership teams for Nunawading, and were proud of having done so. Many of their sons followed.

The 1sts and 2nds double flag, at the topmost level in 83-84. The seconds finished at about 6pm on a Sunday (cliffhanger), and the Annual Dinner Dance began at 7pm. The room was "high" in more ways than one!

Finally, the ATTITUDE: Nunawading Cricket Club...it doesn't belong to US. We belong to IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Kev was made a Life Member in 1986.

In the two year period of 1983-84 to 1984-85, under George Dolan's tutelage, each of Nuna's U/16A & C, U/14A, B & C and U/12 A & C won a premiership, three in one year and four the next. These two seasons were two of the happiest and most rewarding for George who retired at the end of 1984-85 to play bowls at Mitcham.

Season 1985-86 saw club favourites, Bill Saker, appointed as Captain-Coach and Peter Jenkin as President, a new generation of Nunawading Cricket Club leadership.

In 1986-87, Glenn Turner captured all 3 of his senior cricket wickets in one Shield 3rds game, taking 3/8 including a wicket with a ball that bounced twice whilst Jason Dunn took 7/8 in an Under 14 game in the same round. We had 7 out of 8 senior teams make the finals but only the 2nds and 7ths made the Grand Final, both losing.

Nunawading's Eighth XI won their way through to the first ever Grand Final in 1986 / 1987 by winning a semi that will still be talked about in many years to come. Led by Max Wilson, Nunawading on a cold, wet weekend headed to Bulleen Templestowe to play. Nunawading batting first and with the help of 5 LBW decisions (including Ralph Brown 'you've got to have bloody 6 foot legs to get forward enough not to be given out by this ????) was dismissed for just 56. With the semi basically all over, a disappointed team hit the field only to be rejuvenated by early wickets. When the last wicket was taken with just 49 on the board, Nuna had pulled off an amazing win. However it was only Saturday evening and the game still had to be won on Sunday. The boys only had to bat the day to secure a grand final berth but again were dismissed for only 64. Dejavu all over again. When Rod Jones took a magnificent outfield catch, the opposition were dismissed for just 56 in their second innings. A grand final secured and a huge night back at the club. Significant contributions to the win came from Andy Taylor (10 wickets), Billy Brennan (5 wickets) and Leigh Callender (3 wickets). Unfortunately, the eighth's fairytale run couldn't continue in the Grand Final and Nuna was easily defeated by St Davids.

Merv Legg

Merv and Lillian moved into a new home in Vermont in 1961. Merv saw an ad in the local paper for players, went to the AGM, and the rest is history. This is how it reads.

He first played in season 1961/62, and finished after the 1994/95 season at age 57, a total of 33 years service! Merv played over 300 games and played in all grades except the 1sts, taking 100s of wickets along the way and witnessing 100s of chances not taken (can only recall those missed off his own bowling!)

He played at 8 different Home Grounds: Halliday Park..Nuna High School..3xMahoneys Reserve..Highbury Park(Red Rooster)..Narmara Primary School..and "the one behind the Blackburn Pub". Surprisingly, Merv never played a match on Silver Grove. Merv played in three premierships, won one batting average and a number of bowling averages AND, took three hat-tricks in those 33 seasons! He played lots of enjoyable cricket with up-and-coming players, many of them still going around in all grades, including the current Captain-Coach. Merv won the last Single-Wicket Competition the Club held, at a Yarra Junction picnic day, beating Ian Davies by one run. This is a story worthy of further enquiry (and embellishment of course). He had the great pleasure of playing in the same team as his sons

Steven and Robert, and being observed and encouraged (perhaps occasionally "advised"?) in just about all of his 300-plus games by his number one Fan Club member.....Lillian, who was also a frequent sandwich-cutter, tea-maker and Christmas party shopper for the Club. One on field highlight was batting with "Harry" (Graham Harris) in a semi-final last-wicket partnership of 96 (Harry only contributed 60-odd). Merv gave Harry the strike and 5 balls to get his double-ton, but Harry's lofted slog landed a bit short of the boundary, in long-on's hands, out for 197). Merv was honoured with Life Membership in 1992. He finished a strong candidate for the "longest-serving-PLAYER" title.

Alan Gale

Alan, better known as Butch, first played at Nunawading in 1978-79 after playing a couple of seasons with his employer, ANZ Bank's tuf side. After his first training session at Nuna he remembers going back to the Sakers and someone asked him how he went, before he could open his mouth Bob Saker said 'he wouldn't be taking Joyce's spot'. Butch was amazed at the knowledge and experience in the club such with names such as McLachlan, (his first captain and still regarded as one of his best), Saker, Dolan, Rowe, Bissett, Hutchins, O'Sullivan and Joyce. As a player of 22, to Alan, it certainly was a tremendous advantage to be learning and playing alongside some of the best players you could have.

Butch played in three First XI Premierships and perhaps best remembered for taking thee winning catch in a 10 run victory against Heatherdale in 82-83 when he taped the ball to his hand during the entire evening's celebrations. A highlight to Alan, was to have played in a Premiership with each of the Saker boys but also played with Bob in the one game only for him to be dropped for Bill in the next. One thing that he looks back on at Nuna with a great deal of pride was the way the club was run at Committee level right through to the Junior Co-Ordinator level. The junior coaching side of things which is taken for granted at Nuna is really unique.

Butch remembers getting back to the clubrooms after a day out where he took 9/42 and Bob Saker asked why Butch didn't get the last one. Butch explained he had a chance but missed and Joyce got the last. As Bob walked off he simply said "Weak as Piss".

Bob Saker and the Saker family

Bob Saker was Nunawading Cricket Club. The following text is a summary from Trevor Saker of the Saker family's association with the Nunawading Cricket Club.

Mum and Dad came to live in Nunawading in 1955. Dad was originally from Leeton, NSW, where he had played rep cricket as a teenager. He joined the Rural Bank after leaving school in about 1947/48. He worked with the bank in Dubbo, where he won association batting averages and played rep cricket. He joined the Vic police force in 1952, and played cricket for Port Melbourne until 1956, when he joined Nuna. At about the same time he was asked to play for Footscray in district cricket, but he turned down the offer because he was newly married with a young child (Trevor) and busy at work and it was too far to travel.

Nunawading in 1956 was a new suburb of Melbourne and growing fast. Nuna was fortunate to attract a number of good cricketers to the club. I believe the club had strong administration with the likes of Tom Reeves and Alec Culvenor, who were also handy players. Apart from dad, other players such as Doug Bosworth, Eric Thornton and George Dolan arrived at the

club about the same time. These four players along with later arrivals in Ian Rowe and Ian Davies provided the nucleus of premierships sides throughout the 60's. (4 premierships, 3 runner's up.)

My first memories of cricket at Nuna were at the old Silver Grove Ground. Mum used to take Ros and I to the cricket before tea, as Mum had to help with preparing tea. The first thing I did when I got to the ground was go to the scorer's and ask them how many dad was. (if he was batting.) When I was a bit older (8 or 9), Dad used to take me to cricket. We went in the old green mini minor, and we would always pick up a young John O'Sullivan (who lived in Shady Grove) on our way to the ground. I was probably allowed to, start scoring when I was about 10 or 11. When Nuna batted, Ian Rowe would always score. He batted no. 11, and wasn't very good with the bat. He had a pair of his own batting gloves, which he had for many years without them wearing out. When we were fielding I scored with the opposition and sometimes they were not very complimentary of Dad. As I grew older and played cricket with Dad, I then understood why those comments were made.

Nunawading was the first club in the competition to have a professional coach when Jack Kirby coached the club in 65-66 and 66-67. Nuna created quite a stir by being the first club to pay a player. As can be seen now, they were way ahead of their time. Also about the same time I remember talk of building a sporting club with the possibility of poker machines if they became legal in Victoria. This provoked a storm of criticism in the area (remember, there were no hotels in the city of Box Hill in those days, it was a dry area from Nunawading to Hawthorn.) As can be seen, pokies are the norm in large sporting clubs these days, and Nuna has its own sporting club. The foresight of Nuna's administrators (to name two, Reeves and Saker) is one reason Nuna has been such a successful club over the years.

I first started playing as a 10 y.o in the under 14's in 1966. Mick McLachlan was the junior manager. I was not a very successful junior cricketer. I got a 40 n.o. in my first or second year against Blackburn Sth High School (they were the gun side then), then dropped an easy catch the week later that probably cost us the game. I captained the under 14's in 1970, with Keith Rout my deputy. Graeme Harris was our manager. I won the batting with an average of about 12. Keith Rout won the bowling, and would have won the batting except you couldn't win two trophies. Nunawading's under 16 side won the premierships this year. Graeme Davies (brother of Peter Davies) was captain, Mick McLachlan was their manager. Other players included Bruce Lang, Gary Hansen, Leigh Vale and Steve McFarland.

I was made keeper during my under 16 days. During this time Trevor Hutchins came to the club as coach. He was a big influence on my cricket career. I was asked by the local paper at Benalla a few years ago who was the greatest influence on my cricket career and I named Hutch. I was a handy keeper, but threw the gloves away when I began senior cricket. Once again I didn't have a very eventful under 16 career. I did not play any senior cricket until I was out of under 16's. There are two reasons for this. One is Dad played 1sts or 2nds during this time, and I followed him to these games. Second is that the club only had four senior sides, and there was no shortage of players. The only junior I can remember playing seniors at this time was Keith Rout, whose dad Ken captained the 4ths. If they were short on the day Keith would fill in.

I started my senior career ingloriously. I played 3rds at Halliday Park. In my first innings, I was run out for a duck. I guided (snicked) the ball to slips, looked at the non striker (the late Terry Harris) to get me off the mark, we hesitated and I was run out. Terry immediately came

up to me, he was nearly crying, apologising for running me out. I was not too fazed about it, I thought I was as much at fault as Terry. I also thought I would get amongst the runs next time I batted. Little did I no. In the 2nd innings I got another duck, a pair in my first senior match. I retained my place in the 3rds for the game against Templestowe at Templestowe. A leg spinner by the name of Greg Forbes played for them (this was Templestowe's 1sts), and he got me for a duck in both innings. My senior career started with two pairs. I haven't got a pair since. I was dropped to Gary Walker's 4ths next game against Nuna C.of C. I didn't know where or when I'd score my next run. We were in a bit of trouble when I got in, I remember batting with Merv Legg. My first scoring shot was a guide (snick) through slips. I was so relieved. I ended up getting 20 odd in a good partnership with Merv. I played the rest of the season in 4ths, and probably would have won the batting average had I not been promoted to the 3rds for the last game.

The following year, 1973/74, I started in the 2nds under dad as captain. I remember in an early game at Warrandyte sitting under a high catch off dad's bowling, and shitting myself hoping I didn't drop it. I caught it. About third or fourth game the 2nds were about to leave Silver Grove for an away game, and someone had become unavailable for the firsts. Dad told me to stay. It was against Blackburn. I think I got 15 or 20 batting no. 8, Bob Croft was one of the opposition bowlers. When we fielded, I was put in the 3rd slip. I caught one early, off the glove that sort of ballooned to me. The bowler was Russell Baird. He was pretty slippery, especially on the mats. Not long after my catch, another snick came my way. The ball was flying and I hadn't moved a muscle, I reckon the ball would have hit me between the eyes. Then a great pair of hands came across and caught the ball. Trevor Hutchins fielding in 2nd slip had moved across and caught the ball without batting an eyeball. I don't think I fielded much in slips after that.

At Christmas that year (1973) I began a year on a farm at Coleambally. Nuna won the 1sts and 2nds that year, so I missed out. I didn't play cricket until the last game before Christmas in 1974. It was in the 3rds on the top oval at Mahoneys Road. I was out for 99, caught in the covers. I batted for a long time with Graeme Harris. I remember a mid wicket conference between overs after Graeme had hit a few fours during the over, Graeme said, "If God had meant us to run he wouldn't have invented 4's and 6's." I played the rest of the season in the seconds under dad as captain. We played the semi against Blackburn at Mitcham. Dad batted four, me five. Dad got bowled first ball by Neil Price. I went in thinking, "You bastard Pricey, you just bowled my old man for a duck, your not going to get me out." I got about 20, and we lost the game.

The following season I started in the 1sts, and was only dropped twice in the next 12 seasons. In 1976/77 we had to win our last three games to make the finals, which we did. One was against Mitcham, and we were in heaps of trouble, but Sully got us home. We played the GF against Blackburn at Mitcham. We bowled first. Neil Price opened the batting for Blackburn, Russell Baird opened the bowling. It was 8 ball overs in those years, and I reckon Bairdie bowled at least 14 balls for the first over. Overstepping, wides, hitting the centre of the matting, Bairdie bowled them all. When he did bowl a legal delivery, Pricey stood back and hit him over slips for four. The score was probably 0/25 after one over. I thought to myself, how much are we going to get beaten by? Next over off Bairdie, Hutch put a man down to third man, (Clive Mullet playing as a batsman). Pricey duly obliged and hit one straight to Clive. Blackburn collapsed to be all out 130 odd. We batted late in the day, and I went in as night watchman. (I usually batted 7 or 8) I was 0 not out overnight. Early the next day I was out for a duck to Bob Croft. I was just doing the right thing though, Trevor Hutchins was the

incoming batsman. He scored 238 not out, and we won easy. Ray Gale got a hundred, Sully and Doug Bissett were others who cashed in. I think we declared at about 500, Blackburn batted for one over in the 2nd innings, and declared. They wanted to get to the pub.

The following years saw me become a bowler. I was always bowling at training, but because I was in the 1sts, and we had plenty of good bowlers, I was never tried. When Bairdie stopped playing 1sts, I was given my opportunity. I was also given the chance to bat no. 3. As a bowler I reckon I made a good opening partner with Keith Joyce. I reckon I helped him take half his wickets (joke). I certainly wasn't in the best 4 or 5 bats in the side, but I was a bit of a buffer between the openers and the good bats. I used to take a bit of shine off the ball, a bit of puff out of the opening bowlers. Hutchy used to bat 4, and some of the bowlers just itched to get at him. I remember playing Heatherdale one day at Heatherdale. (on the mats) We lost an early wicket and John Box was fired up, wanting to get at Hutch. I took a few on the body, but I saw Box off.

In 1978/79, Dad was playing 1sts. He used to field in 1st slip, and give it to me when I was bowling if I strayed down leg side, or bowled too short. I'd give him a bit if he dropped a catch off me, but that was a rarity. We made the finals again (I think Nuna only missed the finals once from 1956/57 through to 1986/87, my last year). We played Mitcham at Blackburn. Ray Gale was now opposition. We were chasing a few runs, Wayne Stokes had batted three and was still in when dad came in. He batted about 7 or 8. We still needed a few runs in limited overs, so quick runs were the order. The ground was very slow, and boundaries were hard to come by. Dad was 48 years old, but still a good bat. Unfortunately he wasn't real fit, and the running between wickets took its toll, and he ran out of puff, only a few runs short. We couldn't get over the line with the tail enders. The following year dad started in the ones, but during the year Bill replaced him. I went on a pre season rugby tour with Box Hill come finals time, so my spot went to Alan Gale. Nuna duly won the game, so I missed out on another one.

Bill was fortunate enough to win the association batting average the next year. His first century in the ones was against Box Hill North at Elgar Road. I was batting with him as he neared the three figures. He wasn't far off when he had to take a break for a chuck. I think I was as happy as Bill was when he got the ton. I remember telling Bill as we were driving back to Nuna that when someone shook his hand back at the club he should look them in the eye and thank them. It was about his 5th or 6th ton, so I was worried he might think it was no big deal. Bill went to Hawthorn-East Melbourne the following year, and managed about 20 1st XI games before he went elsewhere.

I was fortunate enough to play in those great Grand finals against Heatherdale during the 80's. In the 81/82 game at Mitcham, I remember thinking at the end of day one we were ratshit. I was managing the under 16's that year, and thought at least I will get one grand final win. We had been bowled out for 133, and they were 1/50 odd overnight. I only got a couple, caught in 1st slip of a big turner from Phil Jackson. The following day, we really dug in. Joycey and Dono kept the pressure on. We kept yapping, I remember diving to stop three of four balls at deep fine leg. I didn't think I bowled on that day. When Scotty Gale threw the ball in for the run out (Phil Jackson) we were ecstatic. Then the fun started. John Mann mankadded Andrew Sach early in the 2nd innings. I batted 1st drop, and got 50. Hutchy batted 4, and was given not out caught behind before he scored. Although he denied hitting the ball, I was in with him and I was sure he nicked it. You can imagine how the Heatherdale carried on. Hutch got a 100, and we batted out the match.

The following we played the Grand Final at Nuna. We were chasing a fair total. I batted three and got 50 odd. I was given not out caught behind three times during the innings. Hutch tried to hit Jackson out of the ground early in his innings, and was stumped. A few others played poor shots, and it was left to Paul Kennedy and Tom Honan to get us home. In the end we were only 10 runs short, with Paul being given out caught behind down legside, the ball having hit his thigh pad. Paul left the ground crying, and we were upset at the umpires decision. But it probably evened up as I was given not out three times during my innings.

The following year we were at Blackburn. I batted three and was out first ball, caught in first slip off Tony Stewart. I walked off extremely disappointed. When it came to bowl, I had numerous catches dropped off my bowling, mostly Chris Box in slips, and he was still in when they were 8 down, 10 to get. The anti Nunawading crowd were in to me, letting me know I had done nothing for the match. Sully threw me the ball. I think the over before, Mal West (a last minute replacement for an injured Clive Mullett) our 16 y.o. keeper, had upset John Box (he asked John if his father had heard of contraception. John was 25 at the time, the oldest of a family of 11). The last ball of the over I've tried a slower ball. For the first time ever it worked. Boxy tried to hit the ball to Central Road, got under it and skied the ball to mid off. Ian Donaldson was under it. I wasn't game to look, I'd had 5 or 6 dropped catches for the day. When the cheer went up from the many Nuna supporters, I was rapped. The batsman had crossed, and Phil Jackson had to face Keith Joyce. He was obviously reminded of the game two years earlier. He managed to play the over out. My nemesis Chris Box was facing my next over. Alan Gale, Sully's vice captain, had been fielding at deep third man. He consulted with Sully, stating he thought he was wasted at third man, he should come to the gully. Sully agreed, so in I came. Chris duly nicked the ball to Butch's left hand, and the rest is history. Galey ran straight to the Nuna crowd who had invaded the ground. Galey never let go of the ball all night. He had it taped to his hand at some stage. It was great night at the club that night. I went within one vote of winning the T.A. Reeves trophy, Hutch beat me. We went hoarse sing Freddy Mercury's We are the Champions. David Saker played in this game, and didn't bowl a ball. He should have been dropped prior to the semi, he had only scored a few runs for the year. I think Galey convinced the selectors to keep him. It was a great decision, as David top scored in the semi with, helping us to 280, when it looked like we were only going to get 220. It was against Mitcham, and they decided to take the new ball after 65 overs. Young Burkey and Billy Main were Mitcham's quick bowlers, and they started bowling short to Dave. Dave kept hitting them over square, and with his egging on of Burkey, they kept dishing up the short ones. Dave also top scored in the GF.

The following year we were cheated out of grand final berth by John Mann. He had gone to Forest Hill, his original club. He was batting near the end, and was bowled by Keith Joyce. The bails had fallen forward of the stumps, so John stood his ground, pointing at the bails, and accusing Clive Mullett of pushing them off. Griffio was at square leg at gave Manny not out. He managed to get Forest Hill over the line. Justice prevailed because Templestowe beat them in the final.

The fourth great GF against Heatherdale was at Blackburn again. We batted first, and were in a great position at the end of day one, we were about 4 or 5 for 200. John Box then bowled a great spell, restricting us to 250, 260 odd. I got an early wicket, but it was a hard slog. On the last day we were struggling. Joyce must have bowled his usual 35 overs, and Heatherdale were cruising. Plenty of overs, 4 or so wickets in hand, not many runs to get.

Dono got a wicket, then maybe another. Runs were hard to come by. It got to the last over, the 120th of the innings. It was dark, but to their credit, Heatherdale decided to bat on, otherwise we would have had to come back another day for one over. Joyce bowled the last over, I think he got a wicket, and the game was all tied up, one ball to go. If it was a tie, we would claim the premiership because we were higher on the ladder. We probably didn't deserve to win the game. But who cares. Jocey bowled the last ball to Tony Grierson, not the worlds greatest bat. I was shitting myself at mid on, hoping like hell the ball wasn't hit to me. It was the usual in swinging yorker, Grierson managed to get an inside edge and the ball squeezed past the stumps and keeper Clive and ran down to fine leg for the winning runs.

The following year, 1986/87, I was honoured to be made captain of the 1st XI. Dave played a few games early in the season, while the VCA sorted out a clearance wrangle between Fitzroy/Doncaster and Richmond. He managed to upset a few people in this time, in particular Ian Simpson and Trevor Hutchins. Hutchy wasn't impressed by a few of Dave's antics against Bulleen Templestowe, as was Simmo. I think Hutchy commented that Dave wouldn't go anywhere in cricket. We had a terrible start to the season, and come Christmas, we needed to win the rest of the games to make the finals. I was going to be only the second captain in 30 years to miss the finals, not a great feat. Fortunately Bill returned for the first game after the break. We played Heatherdale at home, and were in heaps of trouble chasing about 180. Bill came to the rescue and we won the game. We kept winning and played Mitcham in the semi. We were chasing 200 odd, and I thought with the experience of Hutch and Sully, we would romp it in. Wrong, those two along with a few others failed. Bill was hanging in there, not scoring freely, but staying in. I joined him, batting no. 8. We managed to get a partnership going, and Bill decided to go for it. We got to a stage where we were cruising. Mitcham's body language indicated they were beaten. Bill had hit Hansen out of the attack. I needed a runner towards the end of my innings, Chris Harris. We only needed about 25-30 off plenty of overs and the field was out. I was facing Dave Sutton, I hit one to what I thought was deep mid off, and called yes. Chris and Bill took off, but somehow Sutton dived across, scooped the ball up, and threw the stumps down from side on. Alan Berry was the umpire, and went to the wrong side to see Chris running, and couldn't have possibly given a decision, but still gave Chris out. (He probably was) We were unable to get the remaining runs, and so ended my last game with Nunawading.

I have played in the Benalla and District Cricket Association since then and been lucky enough o have played in 7 premierships with St. Joseph's, 6 as captain.

BEST PLAYERS SEEN

In no particular order, George Dolan, Ian Davies, Bob Saker, Bill Saker, Trevor Hutchins, Keith Joyce and Ian Rowe.

BEST I'VE PLAYED WITH

Bill Saker, (still one of the best bats I've seen) Trevor Hutchins, (record speaks for itself, fantastic reflexes) Keith Joyce, (an amazing player, over 50 wickets a season on so many occasions) Wayne Stokes (only had two seasons, but hated going out more than any other person I've ever known, and a great big time player)

SPECIAL MENTIONS

John O'Sullivan (an icon), Tom Reeves (just loves Nuna),

This is a summary of Trevor's own contributions to Nunawading and cricket.

Nunawading Cricket Club

Commenced Under 12's

Left in 1987 aged 31.

Senior player for 15 years including 2 1st eleven Premierships.

Committee member for 12 years and Association Delegate for 5 years

St Josephs Benalla

Life Member. Captain / Coach 5 Premierships.

Committee 12 years.

Numerous Comp Batting, Bowling and best Player Awards.

ACB Order of Merit awarded in 2000.

Bob and Margaret retired to Narooma in 1987 and the Club officially 'sent them off' on June 19 with a function in the Social Rooms. Bob was an icon on the bowls circuit in Narooma and was as large as life on the bowling rink as he was on the cricket field. Bob was the sort of guy you would hear before you would see ! Bob passed away suddenly in 1988 and his funeral was a major event in Narooma with many Nunawading colleagues travelling up from Melbourne as a mark of respect to Bob and his family. We asked Margaret to provide a few memories, here they are:

The 1960-61 Grand Final, Bob captain, finished before tea, Bob forgot to go home to collect Margaret, Trevor and Roslyn. The celebrations were at Alec and Joan Culvenors in Station St. which backed onto a creek, yes Bob fell in. It was a great celebration, Margaret had to stop three times on the drive home of approx. half a mile, Bob was not very well!!!

One season, Nunawading's home ground was Halliday Park in Mitcham Road, there were no fences, so the toddlers were tethered to trees to keep them from running onto Mitcham Road.

Dances and Santa at Silver Grove Hall. Some great BBQ's, drinks and crazy whist nights at member's homes and some terrific club picnics.

Bill aged about four, being very upset at a final (I think) at Mitcham, when the spectators were abusing Bob for sledging.

Christmas parties, with some talented performances from the players at Mahoney's Road hall.

Junior BBQ presentation days at Sakers until the junior section outgrew Saker's backyard. Scoring and keeping the juniors in line! No throwing the bat, swearing etc. with Ann Beattie and Margaret Saker around !!

A final at Blackburn, Bob on field, the umpire stopped the game because Margaret was attempting to break up a drunken altercation, Bob told the umpire to carry on as Margaret was capable of handling the situation. She was.

The sendoff the Club gave to Bob and I before we left Nunawading was a wonderful night and greatly appreciated by us both.

Nunawading Cricket Club was great for the Sakers, friendships made forty five years ago and since, continue today. A heartfelt thankyou to you all.

Son in law Butch Gale also had some vivid memories:

Following another Grand Final win, Greg Voutier was heard to be "interviewing" Bob in the Men's toilets at Nuna upstairs, only to be heard to say now I know why they call your boat "Stumpy" and Bob replied with " ____off Birdie"

Rumour has it that when Bob "recruited" Wayne Stokes from another competition (Wayne worked for Bob in the police force), Bob paid for Stokesy's "mileage money" by manning the downstairs kiosk every Saturday.

Bob was particularly pleased how each of his boys played the game and went on to achieve their own personal goals. Billy, competition average winner and a stint at Hawthorn East Melbourne, Trev, Capt / Coached 4 or maybe 5 Premierships and Dave, well what can I say. Like Bob, each went on to play in 1st eleven premierships.

Margaret also served the Club in many capacities, including hosting many social gatherings including fashion shows, movie and card nights, Junior Presentation BBQ's, Committee Meetings etc. Margaret served the Club as our representative on the Mahoneys Reserve Committee of Management and was the defacto 'behaviour constable' for several years. There was never any misbehaving whilst Margaret was around !

Perhaps the highlight for Bob and Margaret was proudly watching their son, David, representing Victoria in Sheffield Shield and One Day cricket. Bob and Margaret often travelled to Melbourne to watch Dave and Bob was well known amongst the state cricketers and administrators. The naming of our main ground at Mahoneys Reserve to the Bob Saker Oval on Sunday November 25, 2001 is, in a small way, an attempt by the Club to recognise and thank Margaret, Trev, Ros, Alan, Bill and Dave for Bob's and their contribution to our Club both on and off the field for many, many years. Finally, it is worth noting that there have only been two Shield or A Grade Premierships won in the history of Nunawading Cricket Club that do not feature a Saker. Enough said !

Ian Donaldson

Tim Moore introduced Ian to Nunawading Cricket Club in October 1969 after many test matches in the paddock near their homes. In his first season he recalls only playing to Christmas as he believed that was the end of the season.

Like most boys in that era, Ian was under the care of Mick McLachlan and had 4 years in U14's. In 1971-72, he played as vice captain under Graeme Lang and in 72-73 was given the task of captain of U14's, when Nuna lost the grand final at East Burwood. Bill Saker was with Ian in that team as an 11 year old. Ian had the opportunity to play Hatch Shield for Box Hill and the club also sent him to coaching sessions at Rusden College.

Up into U16's in 1973-74 as vice captain and Ian recalls playing against East Burwood's Paul Melville, the gun player of the time who was about to play Shield Cricket. He tragically died soon after of a brain tumor.

In 1974-75, the club moved to Mahoney Reserve and Ian captained the U16 team of that year. We played the first game at home against Box Hill North so as the opening batsman, Ian was the first to hit a four, but also the first to go for four. Perry Parsonage was the bowler.

Ian was given the opportunity to play in senior ranks during my U14 years and more regularly as a 15 – 16 year old. Some of those in the first eleven ! Progressing from juniors he played mainly in the 2nds during the years 1974 – 80. In this time he was fortunate to play, as the 'baby' in the team, with the following legends as their careers were in their twilight: Bob Saker, George Dolan, Mick McLachlan, Ian Rowe, Ian Sach, Doug Bosworth, John Kay. Ian recalls being the one to chase the ball more often and even running a couple of them out, and being "told". It was these years that Ian learnt sportsmanship, skills and the finer points of the game.

Ian managed an U12 team in 1977 which had Malcolm West and Jamie Mitchell playing. Jamie went on to captain an Australian under age team to India and of course Malcolm has had a distinguished career with Nunawading ever since. He joined Ian to later play in a 1st eleven premiership side in 1983-84.

The McIntosh Shield team of 1978-79 which saw Trevor Hutchins hit 238 n.o. had Ian as 12th man, a great thrill which gave him a taste of what was to come.

In 1981-82 Ian became a regular member of the firsts and finally became a contributing player in a premiership. Nuna defeated Heatherdale by 3 runs after only making 134. Ian remembers being so nervous in the last over and praying at deep mid wicket that the ball would not come to him.

Nuna played against Heatherdale in another three McIntosh Shield grand finals to 1985 –86 and, lost by 23 runs; won by 10 runs; and lost by 1 run in the greatest game he has been involved in. We made 342 off 119 overs, they made 343 off the last ball of their 120 overs.

There was another two grand finals, both losses, late '80 to Bennettswood when the late Frank Horne scored 135 and Mitcham in 1991-92. We finished up on top in that year but let ourselves down in the final.

Ian continued to play in the first eleven until 1996 when I began playing at North Ringwood Cricket Club near where he and his family lives, along with my boys who started to play junior cricket.

Over the years Ian won many batting and bowling averages and the esteemed TA Reeves trophy. In 1983-84, Trevor Hutchins sent St. Andrews back in to bat in the last game of the year, I am sure to allow me to get the 30th wicket to qualify and win the Association Bowling Average. Keith Joyce was absent that year!

The season 1991-92 was an exceptional year for Ian's batting and bowling, and with many opportunities, he hit over 400 runs and was runner up to Mitcham's Wayne Graham in the Association Batting Average. The recent passing of his father inspired him to greater efforts.

A score of 103 at Box Hill North was certainly a highlight of his career. Chris Harris had put Ian in as an afternoon tea watchman. It was also a nasty game, with Peter Phillips taken away in an ambulance and threats toward Ian for the same short ball treatment, but we won!

'Dono's' stint in administration started after Graeme Best approached him in 1977 and asked him to take over his 'Assistant Secretary' job. He held this position for many years, a time when the club grew from 4 to 8 senior teams. From then Ian served as Secretary, Vice President and on the General Committee.

Ian saw many skilled cricketers, many poor cricketers but all great characters go through the club and also shared in the sadness at the losses of Terry Harris, Colin James, Graeme Harris, Bob Saker and Mick McLachlan.

Apart from Nunawading members, Ian has also made many life long friends from other clubs and even umpires. He's broken ribs, been knocked out twice, dislocated a finger, damaged a shoulder, got sun damaged skin, will get arthritic fingers, has bled, cried and laughed and loved every minute of his time at Nuna. Thanks Tim.

Ian was awarded Life Membership of the Club in 1995.

Keith Joyce

Keith started work in Box Hill and lived in Croydon, which meant he travelled down Canterbury Road to get home. One of his staff had a husband playing with Nunawading and Keith turned up to train one night. The usual questions prevailed and it was decided that he could bowl a bit, believe it or not, but a bit and a reasonable fieldsman.

The first year or so Keith opened the batting in the twos playing under Mick McLachlan. One game in particular stands out in Keith's mind where Mick was bowling and the field was placed appropriately and wherever Keith was placed, usually in the outfield the ball found me. He took three high balls for Mick that day.

KJ was a fringe ones player and managed to bowl second or third change in those days. The first Grand final he played in for Nunawading was against Blackburn where Hutchy made his record score and Ray Gale got one in the head, retired hurt, and came back to make a ton. Keith did not play a huge role in that win but it was great for him to be part of it.

Something, and he can't explain what, happened to him the next year and he gained an absolute hunger for wickets. From that time on he can only remember one or two seasons where he managed less than 30 wickets.

He used to know that he was in for a good year when each year he would bowl a batsman, but he would not walk, and because the Umpire was either convinced by the opposition, or just did not see the bails fall he stayed in. This occurred in the home and home games against Templestowe, Alan Gale ended with nine and he got the last.

John O'Sullivan was the best Captain Keith played under. This is not just because he gave Keith the new ball one game and let him go for it. His ability to read players and the uncanny knack of making the right decision at the right time still astonishes Keith today. Sully would

say anyone could Captain a side with the players he had. KJ's view is that it takes a good leader to bring the best out of players.

Keith deems it a privilege to have played with the likes of Wayne Stokes, Raf Desensi, all the Sakers, both Gales, Ian Donaldson, Russell Baird, Clive Mullet, Frank Ryan, Col James, Trevor Hutchins and John O'Sullivan.

The next winning grand final was against Templestowe where they had a second drop bat who had such patience that Keith's medium pace deliveries were not getting the required breakthrough. KJ was asked to keep bowling and for the game bowled over 65 overs. What changed the game was the umpire at his end who must have been getting bored with the maiden overs and the style of the batsman. He suggested that Keith slow the delivery. This he did and he got a little more in the air but more importantly a lot more from the pitch. That bat was out shortly after and the rest of the Templestowe side folded.

Then we moved to a time of great rivalry between the two powerhouse sides of the competition Heatherdale and Nunawading. We played off against each other over a number of consecutive years and won two closely fought grand finals. These games were always close and the game was played with true sportsmanship. Both clubs should look to those days as examples of how the game should be played.

For Keith a highlight was one game whilst out injured and finding the 6ths short of players, playing the game. The side had the likes of Brian Reid, Merv Legg, a young Andrew Grubich, and both Matthew and Daniel Joyce. All had a lot of fun and we even managed to win the game.

Keith recalls social highlights including the days of drinks back at someone's house, kids playing in the driveway and George Cross handing out drinks, the efforts to provide manpower when we built the upstairs social rooms.

Keith's is perhaps the most decorated player in the history of Nunawading Cricket Club. Here is a summary of his achievements:

Association Averages:	77-78
Shield Grade:	78-79
	80-81
79/80	83-84
80/81	85-86
81/82	93-94
82/83	
85/86	T Reeves Trophy (I have a thought that there might have been two more???)
90/91	
B2	77/78
2000/2001	79/80
	83/84
Note: Ian Donaldson took of the Shield average 83/84. Ie Nuna 5 years straight.	84/85
	85/86
	89/90
Club Bowling Averages	90/91

Player of the year:

Four First XI Premierships.

1983/1984

2000/2001

Peter Jenkin

Peter's first involvement with the Club was as a young bloke following his father Bob to cricket games at Silver Grove. He first played regularly in season 1977-78 in the Fifth XI premiership team under Alan Haag and continued to play until the early 1990's, captaining the 5th and 6th XI's on several occasions. Peter is widely recognised as an administrator however and served the club with distinction in committee roles for ten consecutive years including two as treasurer and seven as President. Peter was only 28 when first elected President, only 4 seasons after Bob's ten year's as President. Peter also served as a chairman of selectors and managed the firsts after his retirement as a player. Peter also acted as a Junior coach, spending a few seasons coaching the Under 16's.

His earliest memories of Nuna C. C. are as a small boy when each Saturday the family would venture to Silver Grove and other venues to watch Bob play after he joined the club in the very early sixties. His first senior game for Nuna was in his early teens as a fill-in in the fourths with his Dad (on one of which occasions he remembers subbing for Burwood Districts and catching his Dad on the deep mid-off boundary much to Bob's and his shock and horror!).

His first full year in the seniors, after a couple of years at Balwyn Presbyterians while he finished school studies was in 1977/78, playing in the newly formed fifths (the 5ths having been added after quite a fiery AGM as some of the "old guard" were against another team as they didn't think the club would fill it but have to buy new mats, equipment etc.)

History of course records that the team, skippered by Alan Haag, who made over 900 runs for the year, and featuring other club personalities Merv Legg (who missed the finals with a broken wrist), John Fisher, Dave Cowell, Peter Donaldson, Mick Viljoen (who with able support from Pete put on what turned out to be a match winning last wicket partnership) and John Macaulay won the flag before adjourning to Arthur Walker's for a rather large celebration.

Most of Peter's playing career was in the fifths and the sixths. He captained for a number of seasons and fondly remembers many a lengthy selection meeting with Colin James and Graeme Harris. In 1990/91 Peter Donaldson led the sixths to a flag, Peter's only other flag, with a side including Col, the Edwards brothers, Ross Henkel, Robbie Legg and Paul Bradley. We only managed to finish in the four on percentage and in the most exciting game of cricket he remembers defeated Park Orchards firsts, who had not lost all season, at Mahoneys Reserve in front of a large, vocal crowd. They had set us about 260 odd to beat in about 60 overs and we passed them eight down (with "Jerka" a very nervous number eleven to come having batted only twice for the whole season) due to a great second wicket stand of 150 plus between Col and Chris Edwards. In the Grand Final we played our old mates Mitcham at Heatherdale and thanks mainly to some good batting by Col (again), Anthony Edwards and the skipper passed them seven down with Pete again nervously padded up.

Colin James

"There have been very few players at Nuna who have placed as high a price on their wicket as Colin James. Col was a fearless opener more than prepared to wear a few on the body for the team. As well as being a hard man to remove Col set up many a win with his batting prowess. His fearlessness also extended to his close in fielding.

As a captain, Col inspired those who played with him and he was admired and respected (if not always liked) by all of his opponents. Col gave no quarter on the field and asked for none in return but was always the first to invite you in for a beer after the game.

In his later years, Col was happy to play down the grades to pass on his experience and in 1990/91 playing in the sixths after years of outstanding service, finally made his first century after batting nearly all day at Timber Ridge - an emotional moment for Col and those privileged to have been there.

Col was also a great contributor off the field. He served as social secretary with great distinction for a number of years and also chaired the selection committee for a time. A fixture on trips away, Col always loved the off-field activities almost as much as the game itself.

Away from the club, Col was a local personality running his barber shop in Station Street, Nunawading for many years and cutting hair for generations of Nuna and other BHRDCA cricketers and always having time for a laugh. On any Friday in cricket season there would be a steady stream of people catching up on selection as the teams were on display in the window of Col's shop.

In many ways, Col embodied the spirit of Nuna, tough as nails on the field but a great bloke off it and a friend to many. Col's untimely death shocked us all and his passing was mourned by many. As a sign of the esteem in which he was held, the trophy for games between Nuna and Blackburn is the "Colin James Trophy".

Graeme Harris

"Harry" started playing at Nuna in the mid 1960's and was a quiet bloke. Time in the Army during the Vietnam War (a "nasho") changed his outlook somewhat however. He sometimes trained in army fatigues. H used to open the bowling off about 15 paces in the Seconds. Kev Steele recalls in his first game, H and Stainless combined brilliantly to drop 4 catches in 2 overs off Captain Mick McLachlan, at long on in tight game at Silver Grove. Kev first noticed him pushing Glen Smith's sports car, assisted by Mick Skinner, along McCulloch St one day, and joined them at Nuna the following season on the strength of that event!! As a captain, he habitually bowled (certain) aging medium-pace bowlers into the ground, especially in finals matches. That's after he himself had converted to more-leisurely spin bowling!

He'd a love of the Broadway Musical, and excerpts from Cabaret, Applause Applause, A Chorus Line, and others, would often waft between 2nd slip and Kev at gully, much to 1st and 3rd slips' (G Smith & M Burnham) annoyance.

A master of the one-liner. e.g; Beer, Harry? Well, one can't hurt, can it!

Graeme did a stint of system-installation work for his Major Bank employer over many months in Adelaide, driving home each Friday night just to play cricket, then back to Adelaide to clock on on Monday morning.

H was a stylish batsman in his prime and could boast a number of centuries. In his later years, H took up spin bowling with some considerable success. Graeme was happy to play in the lower grades in his forties - his love for the game and the club was considerable.

Graeme never played in a premiership team having been a member of many semi-final teams which always managed to find a new way to lose! That lack of ultimate success never dulled Graeme's enthusiasm for the game.

H served on the committee in a number of capacities and was one of those you could always rely on to get the job done. With his life long mate Colin James, H was a fixture around the club always keen for a laugh and a beer.

His exploits on trips away are legend - a larger than life character!

When Graeme died at a tragically young age, the club lost not only a fine player and a loyal servant but one of the big personalities in its history."

A big, burly, lovely man.

The Dry 1990's

Compared with the previous decades, the decade of the 90's was leaner for the club in terms of success. Both the firsts and seconds won their respective flags in the 1999 / 2000 season in an historic year when the first eleven reclaimed their place in Shield grade after a 2 year absence, however that was the only success achieved in the 90's for these sides.

The third and fourth elevens did not achieve any premiership success during the 90's whilst the fifth eleven in 1995/96 won their first premiership since 1979-80 and then won again on 98-99. The sixth eleven started the club off with a bang in the early 90's with back to back flags in 1990/91 and 1991/92.

At the beginning of the 90's Nunawading Cricket Club had 166 senior and 61 junior registered players. There were eight senior and four junior teams competing in the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association. By the end of the nineties, Nunawading were still fielding six senior sides and four junior teams. An indication of how strong the club still was in the Association.

Life Members.

The following cricket club members were rewarded with Life Membership during the 90's in recognition of years of outstanding service to Nunawading:

John O'Sullivan
Trevor Hutchins
Keith Joyce
Merv Legg
Ian Donaldson
Peter Jenkin
Alan Gale
Tim Moore

End of Season Trip

The end of season trip is a vital part of any sporting club's season. At Nunawading this is certainly no exception. Whilst finals time for some players is exciting in getting ready for the heat of battle, for others not involved in the finals, it is a mad rush of organising accommodation, hats, shirts and most importantly, nicknames for each player for their shirt.

During the early nineties, Corowa was the hot spot. In the middle to late part of the nineties, Nunawading found themselves at Albury. A year off in Bendigo for a change but Albury was the number one hotspot. Of course whatever happens on the trip, 'stays on the trip' meaning no beans can be spilt on any of the events that have occurred on these trips. Sorry!

1990-91

Due to the 1990 AFL Grand Final between Collingwood and Essendon being delayed one week, round 1 of the new decade started on the Sunday after the Grand Final.

Round 1 saw Nunawading start the season off with a magnificent outright victory over Templestowe (49 and 45). Bill Saker destroyed them with 116 no and Keith Joyce had a reasonable game with the ball taking 6 / 18 and 5 / 20. In the seconds, Nunawading easily defeated Blackburn North. Kev Rosemeyer 72 and Sprouley 59 leading the way whilst Andy Taylor snagged 6 / 39 in his seconds debut. In the eight's, Ken Clark (in his first season with the club) took 5 / 42, but along with Greg Rawson's 49 were unable to avert defeat to Burwood Districts.

Round 2 saw a rain affected round with only 3 games getting a result. In the ones Billy Saker took 5 / 38 against Mitcham, his first bag of 5 wickets for Nuna. Damien James hit 91 and Phil McDonald 42 as Nuna 2nd's compiled 228 against Forest Hill in another drawn game. Sault's 42 no played a lone hand as the 3rd's were all out for 106 against Doncaster. In the 4th's, captain Richard West led by example with an even 100 in yet another washout, and finally the 8th's defeated Park Orchards by 25 runs thanks mainly to Nathan "Fine Cotton" Brown who hit 136 no.

Round 4 saw six wins from eight, with only the firsts and sixth's failing to grab the points. Bill's 49 and 3/48 wasn't enough to save the firsts against Bennetswood, but a strong performance in the seconds (Paul Shaw 81, Glen Turner 112 no and Damien James 43) led them to victory against Syndal. The 3rd's defeated East Burwood Uniting thanks to a ton from Andy O'Neil (102) and some fine bowling from Rob McKenzie (5 / 48) and Saults (4 / 32). Cowelly's 50 set up victory for the 4ths against Heatherdale with Matty Tynan's 5 / 57 ensuring a win. In the 5th's Nuna beat East Burwood outright thanks to a magnificent bowling performance from Cameron Burns (6 / 15 and 4 / 22). Danny Martin top scored with 87 in the

6th's as they lost to St. Davids while Rod Jones hit 82 in a comfortable win for the 7th's over Blackburn North.

Round 11 of this season was to be Trevor Hutchin's last game for Nunawading. Trevor was one of the greatest players to ever pull on the Nunawading purple and gold. He scored 6,205 runs at an average of 38.54 (5,824 were scored in the firsts at an average of 39.35). He also collected 387 wickets at an average of 15.03, with a best of 7 / 28. He is the only player in the club's history to make 5,000 runs and take 300 wickets in the firsts and he also holds the club's record partnership for any wicket, which is 391.

Captained by Peter Donaldson, the 6th's finished the season fourth, and were scheduled to meet the undefeated top side (Park Orchards), in the semi at Nunawading.

In a rain-affected game, the bowlers (including Matthew Joyce, Leigh Calendar and Peter Jenkin) managed to bowl out the opposition, leaving a run rate of 5 per over for the Nunawading boys to chase to make the Grand Final.

With a mountain of non finals playing Nunawading players (The Eskie XI) watching, Col James played a great innings at the required rate, and was supported early by Rob Legg. Further support came from Rob Munro, The Edwards Brothers and Ross Henkel

The 6th's got over the line with a couple of overs in reserve, in what was a huge upset against what was Park Orchards 1st XI at the time!

Needless to say, the 6th's went on to play Mitcham in the Grand Final at Heatherdale, where they won in a close game. The stand out players in the Grand Final were Peter Jenkin, Peter Donaldson, Col James and Anthony Edwards.

In 1990 / 91 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Bill Saker	Keith Joyce
2 nd Eleven	Alan Gale	Alan Gale
3 rd Eleven	Andrew O'Neil	Trevor Hutchins
4 th Eleven	Rob Clark	Carl Raabe
5 th Eleven	Tim Street	Craig Marsden
6 th Eleven	Col James	Matt Joyce
7 th Eleven	Bill Brennan	Bill Brennan
8 th Eleven	Pat Mitchell	Merv Legg

Hundreds were scored by:	Bill Saker	116*	Andrew O'Neil	103
	Rob Clark	107	Rob Legg	110*
	Chris Harris	113*	Raf Desensi	136
	Peter Phillips	106	Alan Gale	120
	Glen Turner	112	Richard West	100
	James Willis	100	C. James	100*
	Rob Legg	110*	Chris Harris	113*
	Raf Desensi	136	Peter Phillips	106
	Alan Gale	120	Glen Turner	112

Best bowling figures were: Keith Joyce 6 / 18

Andy Taylor	6 / 39
Cameron Burns	6 / 15
Matt Joyce	7 / 34
Chris Middlemast	7 / 41
Dan Caulfield	6 / 24

Captains were:	First's:	Bill Saker
	Seconds:	Alan Gale
	Thirds:	Norm Hutchinson
	Fourths:	Richard West
	Fifths:	Robert Wickham
	Sixths:	Peter Donaldson
	Sevenths:	Ralph Brown
	Eighths:	Greg Rawson

Socially, season 1990 / 91 saw the introduction of Bryan Reid's infamous curry nights. Bryan's famous quote was that 'eating curry is like attending the solarium, the more you have the darker you get'. Tom Reeves also celebrated his 50th year with the club. In recognition of Tom's service, a more formal T.A Reeves night was held. The club went to Corowa for the end of season bash.

1991 / 92

Round 9 saw the 1st's (220) easily accounting for Mitcham (172) with Andy Sach (80) and Popey (4 / 28) leading them to victory. The 2nd's (192) were involved in the flogging of the century when Yarraleen (7 / 588) destroyed the bowling. The 3rd's (9 / 196) were also flogged by Surrey Park (7 / 319). Bulleen-Temp (240) also defeated the 4th's (198), Grant Bruhn (85) top scoring. The unlikely Matt Wensor (4 / 28) took the bowling honours. The 5th's (108) lost to Blackburn (132) in a low scoring match. The 6th's (288) had a win over East Burwood (149), Bryan Reid (80 & 3/ 30) a great all-round match. Rod Jones (99) unlucky. The 7th's (172) kept Surrey Park (116) at bay. Bill Brennan (45) and Dale Mackie (7 / 52) bowling them to victory. The 8th's (192) had a solid win over Yarraleen (86 and 4 / 66), Roger Harrison (5 / 31) dominating.

In 1991 / 92 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Ian Donaldson	John Paull
2 nd Eleven	Alan Gale	Gary Saultry
3 rd Eleven	Steve Dolan	Tony Peake
4 th Eleven	Grant Bruhn	Ian McLachlan
5 th Eleven	Craig Beckman	Derek Clark
6 th Eleven	Joel Dabrera	Chris Dunn
7 th Eleven	Stuart Woolf	Graham Harris
8 th Eleven	Andrew Bourke	Merv Legg

1992 / 93

A disappointing year for the club with only the young Under12's realising their dream of a premiership. The 5th's and 7th's did however make it into the finals but didn't manage to get over the line.

Season 1992 / 93 got off to a great start for the one's on a cold wet Saturday afternoon. Led by Phil McDonald, Darren Garoni and Chris Harris our score of 6 / 172 was easily enough for Blackburn North (118), with Andy Taylor taking 2 / 5. A fine century (112 no) by Bill Saker saw the third's defeat Box Hill North by 80 odd runs. In the eight's, an amazing game saw our boys make only 25 runs in their first innings. This score turned out to be competitive as Yarraleen made only 57. You have to go a long way back to find a match with such a low aggregate score. In this game Mick McLaughlin took 3 / 5.

In 1992 / 93 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting		Bowling
1st Eleven	Raff Desensi	*	Ian Donaldson
2 nd Eleven	John O'Sullivan		Keith Joyce
3 rd Eleven	Steve Dolan		Dave Hutchins
4 th Eleven	Peter Lamond		Carl Raabe
5 th Eleven	Heath James	*	Christian James
6 th Eleven	Rod Jones		Sean Goetz
7 th Eleven	Greg Henkel		Steve Minton *
8 th Eleven	Barnie Mitchell		Ken Clark

* Association Average Winners

Dave Hutchins was Club Champion, Raff Desensi was the T. Reeves Trophy for best player in the firsts whilst Scott Millar was awarded the T. Harris trophy for best first year senior player.

The best individual bowling performances came from:

Ian Donaldson (1 st 's)	6 / 21
Darren Wilson (2 nd 's)	8 / 74

Whilst Raff Desensi scored 118 not out in the firsts.

Nomads Trip

In July 1993, Bryan Reid led a group of 10 Nunawading players on a world wide cricket expedition. In what turned out to be the first of several 'ashes' cricket trips, Barney took his touring party of Gary Saultry, Andy Taylor, Steve McNamara, Robert Legg, Ralph Brown, Pat Mitchell, Dave Mitchell and Paul Callanan to Headingley to watch Australia retain the Ashes. The six-week trip encompassed Sri Lanka, England, Scotland, Los Angeles and Hawaii. The group played several matches in each country and was treated to celebrity status wherever they went. From staying in an Ex-Sri Lankan Prime Minister's house in Kandy to seeing Leggy up on stage in Hawaii, this trip had it all.

The boys watched Australia retain the Ashes at Headingly. Day one was the highlight when David Boon on the stroke of six, secured another century and in doing so as given a standing ovation by 10 Australians with yellow shirts and a huge Aussie flag (stolen off a Mitcham Post Office flag pole). This image was beamed back to millions of Australians back home and subsequently used on TV promo's for later tests.

Other highlights were Sault's ton in Formby England, Pat Mitchell being run out attempting a fifth run (I'd like to see that) in Kandy Sri Lanka, Paul Callanan getting hit on the chest attempting a catch and Steve McNamara getting hit for the biggest six of all time (it was close) in Edinburgh.

Another group repeated the trip by returning to England for the 1997 Ashes trip.

1993 / 94

Bryan Reid reappointed as coach for the season. Keith Joyce appointed captain of the first eleven, whilst Steve Minton was elected President.

In 1993 / 94 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Darren Garoni	Keith Joyce
2 nd Eleven	Mark Wilson	Cameron Bolt
3 rd Eleven	Andy Grubich	Leigh Callender
4 th Eleven	Andrew McLeod	Andrew McLeod
5 th Eleven	G. Evangelidakis	Roger Harrison
6 th Eleven	Christian James	Andrew Kent
7 th Eleven	Pat Mitchell	Ken Clark
8 th Eleven	K. Laxman	Mick McLachlan

Steve Minton was Club Champion whilst Keith Joyce was the T. Reeves Trophy for best player in the firsts.

1994 / 95

The club in season 1994 / 95 was able to field only 6 sides meaning the end for the famous 7th and 8th eleven. The memories are very dear to those who played in these two grades. Heading up to the Rooster on a Saturday afternoon was always a great experience, especially for the juniors who started their senior careers in the eighth eleven. For the trivia buffs, can you name the Nunawading players who have played in all eight grades at Nuna? Answer: Gary Saultry, Darren Wilson, Greg Voutier and Andy Taylor. There may be others that you might come up with.

In round 3 1994 / 95, the firsts comfortably defeated Forest Hill (188 to 129). Bill Saker and Damien James both took 4 wickets, whilst Pete Phillips made a solid 53. A great game with both bat and ball by Gary Saultry (76 no and 2/3) saw the third's get over Bulleen Templestowe.

In round 4, a future star of the game in Andrew Kent showed us his talents with 83 no as the Under 16's (202) were beaten by Burwood District (286). In the seniors, the firsts (162) had a

good win over East Box Hill (129) with solid contributions by all. A magnificent innings of 148 by Bobby Tynan saw the 2nd's reach an imposing 4 / 367 which was too good for East Box Hill (264). All other grades were defeated in this round.

Another lean year for the premiership cabinet, but memorable game against Vermont for the ones when Nuna got up by a run. A last wicket stand of 20 between Tim Moore and Andy Taylor got us over the line against strong opposition led by one ' Graeme Kellart'. Bobby's six onto the pavilion roof in the first over and Billy Saker celebrating in the rooms afterwards were great highlights.

The Captains in 94 / 95 were:	First's:	Bill Saker
	Seconds:	Phil McDonald
	Thirds:	Tim Moore
	Fourths:	David Cowell
	Fifths:	Steve Minton
	Sixths:	Robert Legg

In 1994 / 95 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Darren Garoni	Ian Donaldson
2 nd Eleven	John O'Sullivan	Anthony Peake
3 rd Eleven	Dave Hutchins	Roger Harrison
4 th Eleven	Sturt Hamilton	Shaun Dillon
5 th Eleven	Rod Jones	Ken Clark
6 th Eleven	Rob Legg	Merv Legg

During the year, Darren Garoni made 129 and Pete Phillips 114 no in the ones, whilst Ian Donaldson took the years best bowling figures with 6 / 45.

1995 / 96

In Round 4, John Paull took 5 / 31 to help bowl out Vermont for 105. The firsts won easily. Darren Wilson took 6 / 26 to bowl Vermont out for 98 in the seconds. Unfortunately, Nuna collapsed to be all out for 86. In the thirds, a great bowling performance by Damien James (3 / 13) and Ian McLaughlin (4 / 9) saw Nuna bowl Vermont South out for just 72. In reply Russell Warburton (40) got Nuna to 213.

In the 4th's Nunawading made 186 and then thanks to Christian James (3 / 22) dismissed Forest Hill for only 124.

The fifth eleven (206) defeated Blackburn outright (89 and 57) with Steve Minton taking 9 wickets.

The Captains for season 1995 / 96 were:	First's:	John Paull
	Seconds:	Rob McKenzie
	Thirds:	Tim Sproule
	Fourths:	Glen Mackie
	Fifths:	Ken Clark
	Sixths:	Greg Seymour

In 1995 / 96 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Chris Harris	Jason Dunn
2 nd Eleven	Bobby Tynan	Darren Wilson
3 rd Eleven	Russell Warburton	Cameron Burns
4 th Eleven	Andrew Green	Andrew Green
5 th Eleven	Rod Jones	Steve Minton
6 th Eleven	Rob Wickham	Greg Seymour

Tons for the season were made by: Russ Warburton 120 no (3rd's)
Leigh Callender 104 no (3rd's)
James Willis 100 no (5th's)
Kris Shipham 126 no (6th's)

The Fifth XI, under Ken Clark had a great year and dominated the competition, especially after Christmas, making well over 250 almost every week. There was not a close game from January, including both finals and Nuna scored 279 in the Grand Final, rolling Templestowe for 120. Dave Cowell scored 250 after Christmas after being dropped from the fourths and our first Vietnamese player, Truc Nguyen, in his first and only season with the Club played in a premiership side then disappeared as fast as he appeared. The side boasted stalwarts in Ken Clark, Steve Minton, Rod Jones and Dave Cowell along with up the promising James Morrison, Rob Munro and Matty Joyce.

In other club news, Nunawading farewellled Billy and Melissa Saker who moved to Queensland. A big bash was held in the clubrooms. On Australia Day Nunawading tripped up to the annual Benalla one-day tournament only to come home with the trophy. Those who saw Darren Garoni's innings of 90 odd off 20 odd balls say they witnessed something special that day. Those who saw Danny Martin falling over the fence when the winning runs were hit also say they saw something special. Bryan Reid celebrated his 50th birthday and Tom Reeves his 80th.

During the year, unfortunately Nunawading lost one of its great characters and members in Colin James. Jamesy was a member of the club for over 30 years and a life member.

1996 / 97

Captains were:	First's:	John Paull
	Seconds:	Rob McKenzie
	Thirds:	Tim Sproule
	Fourths:	David Cowell
	Fifths:	Ken Clark
	Sixths:	Greg Seymour

In 1996 / 97 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Pete Phillips	Tim Sproule
2 nd Eleven	John O'Sullivan	Roger Harrison
3 rd Eleven	Alan Gale	Keith Joyce
4 th Eleven	Dave Cowell	Rob Proctor

5 th Eleven	James Morrison	Ken Clark
6 th Eleven	Rob Wickham	Tim White

Highlight's of the year were: Roger Harrison 6 / 27 (2nd's) Alan Gale 126 no (3rd's)
 Mark Smith 6 / 54 (4th's) Jason Botterill 112 (5th's)
 James Morrison 100 no (5th's) Rob Wickham 108 (6th's)
 Barry Liersch 155 (6th's)
 Leigh Callender 129 and David Cowell 100 (4th's), a partnership of 215.

Another major highlight was the nude lap by several members of the club after the last game on the middle oval pitch before this pitch was replaced. Most of the runners exposed a severe lack of fitness as well as a solid summer on the beers.

1997 / 98

In 1997 / 98 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Peter Phillips	Darren Garrett
2 nd Eleven	Danny Martin	Keith Joyce
3 rd Eleven	Kevin Bond	Cameron Burns
4 th Eleven	Grant Moat	Kristin Shipham
5 th Eleven	Rob Legg	Paul Llewellyn
6 th Eleven	Ray Phillips	Chris Castellucci

The 97 / 98 season was one of the lowest points in the club's history when the first eleven finished last and were subsequently relegated to A1 for the first time in the club's history. The club had had a very poor year that year and those associated with the firsts realised the impact on the whole club. However, despite pride being hurt, the club was determined at this point to fight hard to first of all restore pride and secondly return to Shield grade where the club belonged and had belonged since it's inception.

A disappointing season for the club overall with only the 5th's and 6th's making the finals. Both sides lost semi-finals leaving the club without even a grand final appearance. The sixth's only made 92 and were well beaten by East Burwood Bennetswood (281). The fifth's (were beaten by Box Hill C of C (281)

Memorable performances in season 97 / 98 were as follows:

Tons to:

James Willis	146
Ray Phillips	137 & 120*
Scott Witherden	123
Steve Dolan	121 & 100*
Rob Wickham	118
Damien Storan	115
Chris Edwards	102

Outstanding partnerships for the club:

1st Wicket 147 McLachlan / Willis 4th's
2nd Wicket 173 Edwards / Willis 5th's
3rd Wicket 159 Dolan / Liersch 6th's
4th Wicket 214 Ray Phillips / Wickham 6th's

Bowling performances:

Keith Joyce	7 / 44 (2 nd 's)
Keith Joyce	6 / 47 (2 nd 's)
Andrew Bennett	7 / 88 (4 th 's)
Steve Dolan	6 / 16 (6 th 's)
Paul Llewellyn	6 / 23 (5 th 's)
Neil Parker	6 / 30 (2 nd 's)
Matt Joyce	6 / 46 (4 th 's)
Rob McKenzie	6 / 106 (1 st 's)
Rob Proctor	6 / 119(4 th 's)

1998 / 99

Darren 'Harry' Garrett was appointed the Caption / Coach for the next 2 seasons and had immediate results. Harry was not only Nunawading's 'gun' opening bowler and middle order bat, but also a strong authoritative figure who gained immediate respect. Harry held a meeting at the start of the 1998 / 99 season and immediately outlined his plans for full player commitment, but more importantly – 'better afternoon teas'. Harry was convinced that BBQ shapes, donuts and cakes were not ideal dietary supplements for players heading out to battle. The club was certainly changing.

The firsts had a great year in 1998 / 99 under Harry. The playing list was similar to the previous year with the exception of former captain Chris Harris who left Nunawading for a new challenge in turf cricket. Unfortunately the only game the firsts lost that year was the one that counted the most – 'The Grand Final'. It was a very disappointing result and made even more so considering it was to be Keith Joyce's last appearance in the Firsts at Nunawading. It was fitting that KJ bowled the last over of the Grand Final.

The club's list of premierships did grow in 1998 / 99 despite the firsts' unsuccessful attempt, when the fifth eleven won the flag. Details??/

In April 1999, Nunawading paid tribute to one of its finest sons with a surprise Testimonial Dinner for Keith Joyce. Held at the club, the night provided a walk down memory lane for Keith and all who have been involved with him both on and off the field.

In 1998 / 99 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1 st Eleven	Darren Garrett	Darren Garrett
2 nd Eleven	John Paull	Scott Witherden
3 rd Eleven	Tim Sproule	Stu Burke
4 th Eleven	Mario Sollecito	Justin Kenez

5 th Eleven	Glen Mackie	Ken Clark
6 th Eleven	Barry Liersch	Chris Castellucci*

* Chris Castellucci won the Association D2 bowling average with 34 wickets at an average of 14.38.

1999 / 2000

In 1999 / 2000 the club was particularly keen to make amends for the previous year. A new addition to the club in Joe Mahony added youth and enthusiasm to the first eleven and by season end, Joe proved to be an outstanding talent for the club as an opening bowler. The first eleven again had a great year with many even contributions. A couple of losses during the year sharpened up the team for a consecutive final series. A hard fought semi-final win over thanks largely to McKenzie with the ball and West and Grubich (unbeaten ton) with the bat saw Nunawading through to the Grand Final against Doncaster. This year, the club knew it had to win and a comprehensive victory in the final (Nuna 316 defeated Doncaster 143) saw the club celebrating its return to Shield Grade.

The second also achieved a premiership in season 1999 / 2000 under Gary Saultry's leadership. This marked a fantastic year for the club with both the top 2 sides going all the way. This was previously done in 1983 / 84. After two victories against their Grand Final opponent (Nuna Church of Christ) during the year, the seconds were very confident of a premiership. With Tony Peake unluckily getting out on 99, Nunawading scored an impressive 351 in their innings. A future district player in Andy Hone also got amongst the runs with 56. The bowlers did the job and skittled the opposition for 125 securing an 8th premiership for the seconds. The after party back at the club was fantastic highlighted by a game of Nude Cricket between the victorious sides. Some interesting sights graced the field under floodlights at Nunawading that night.

The sixth eleven under Damien Storan's captaincy also made it's way through to the Grand Final in season 1999 / 2000 only to fall at the last hurdle. Playing in a one-day grade, the boys couldn't quite get over Vermont in a best of 3 one-dayers final. A gallant season indeed and plenty of future Nuna stars in the side to look out for in the coming years.

One of our ex-juniors, Andrew Kent, completed a successful season by playing in the Premier cricket First XI Grand Final for district club Melbourne. One of Leigh Callenders' boys, Andrew made only 8 as Richmond pumped Melbourne in the Grand Final. An exciting future lies ahead for Andrew as he attempts to retrace the steps of David Saker and play Shield cricket.

In 1999 / 00 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	Andrew Grubich	Darren Garrett
2 nd Eleven	Tony Peake	Gary Saultry
3 rd Eleven	Tim Sproule	Neil Parker
4 th Eleven	Ian Mclachlan	Glen Mackie
5 th Eleven	Craig Beckman	Chris Castelucci
6 th Eleven	John Macaulay	Matt Wall

Darren Garrett won the Player of the year with 705 points.

Hundreds were scored by: Craig Beckman 185* & 154*
John Paull 130
Andy Siebel 102
Rob Munro 100*

Best bowling figures were: Stu Burke 7 / 46
Christian James 7 / 69
Darren Garrett 6 / 5
Neil Parker 6 / 70.

1999 / 2000

First Eleven (A1) Premiers
Second Eleven Premiers
Third Eleven (A3) 6th
Fourth Eleven (B2) 6th
Fifth Eleven (B3) 4th
Sixth Eleven (D2) 2nd

2000 / 01.

In season 2000 / 01 Nunawading returned to it's rightful position in Shield Grade. It had been 2 long years in A1, but all within the club were determined to let the competition know that Nunawading would be more than competitive. This proved to be the case as the firsts ran some quality sides very close in the first half of the season. Unfortunately, some of those results saw us losing by very small margins. If things had gone our way, the season may have been different. The firsts finally finished sixth on the ladder. A solid year and something to build on for the coming year.

The club went international in season 2000 / 01 when several overseas players were lured to the club. One Sri Lankan (Surath) and 2 Irishmen joined the club and added great value both on and off the field. It is hoped that the club will continue to attract such players in the future.

In 2000 / 01 the club's average winners were as follows:

	Batting	Bowling
1st Eleven	John Paull	Darren Garrett
2 nd Eleven	Gary Saultry	Gary Saultry
3 rd Eleven	Brett Hunter	Matthew Wall
4 th Eleven	Kevin Bond	Keith Joyce
5 th Eleven	Ken Clark	Steve Minton
6 th Eleven	Damien Storan	Pat Mitchell

Keith Joyce won the Player of the year with 802 points.

Hundreds were scored by: David Longstaff 103*
Stuart Hamilton 118*, 100 and 130.

Ben Arnold	103*
Rob Tynan	101
Damien Storan	118
Pat Mitchell	105
Shane Dacey	111
John Terrett	128
Grant Mearthy	113

Best bowling figures were: Rob McKenzie 7 / 53
 Simon Hone 7 / 54
 Keith Joyce 7 / 54
 Ken Clark 7 / 51.

Captains were: First's: Darren Garrett
 Seconds: Gary Saultry
 Thirds: Tim Sproule
 Fourths: David Cowell
 Fifths: Steve Minton
 Sixths: Damien Storan

Tim Moore

Tim played junior cricket with Nunawading in 1969/70 as a 14 year old under the guidance of the late Mick McLachlan down at Silver Grove and returned to play senior cricket in the early 80's at Mahoneys Reserve.

During the past 20 years he has held a number of positions on the committee, but predominantly involved with the juniors originally in a coaching capacity and later as the Junior Section Manager, doing his apprenticeship under Bob Saker. He became the BHRDCA Junior Development Manager in 1990 and in 1991 joined the BHRDCA Executive, along with Trevor Hutchins, as Junior Section Manager but continued in my role as Jnr Development Manager. He remained in these roles until 2000.

Tim has continued to play cricket at Nunawading for the past 20 years and has been a member of 3 premierships sides U16 1969/70, A3 1987/88 and C2 1998/99.

For the past three seasons Tim has been the Assistant Coach and Chairman of Selectors for the past two seasons.

Tim believes cricket has been extremely kind to him as he has been the honoured recipient of the " Joe Plant Award" (Victorian Cricket Coaches Association - Coach of the Year 1994), Australian Sports Medal - Cricket - 2000, Nunawading Cricket Club - Life Member - 2000, and BHRDCA Life Member - 2001.

Tim sees Nunawading as a fantastic club - a "family club" and without doubt it's greatest strength has been, in his time, the emphasis placed on its junior structure and personnel. This is highlighted by the numbers of talented players we have produced who have gone on to bigger and better things, David Saker and Andrew Kent to name a couple and the players we have retained in senior cricket over the years. Nunawading has great pride in its performances both on and off the field and hence the quality of

players and administrators it has produced over the years is second to none.

The friends both on and off the ground I have made is the other major reason why Tim continues to play, the camaraderie plus his competitive nature - and not to forget the conversation he had with John O'Sullivan several years ago, when Sully said "Moorey you are a long time retired ". Mind you Sully retired at the end of that season but kept Tim motivated to pull on the whites.

Apart from his Life Membership and the premiership wins, some of Tim's individual highlights include :

- * Being held responsible for bringing Ian Donaldson to the club
- * His only season in Shield One playing under Bill Saker at the tender age of 38
- * A famous duck in the 3rds Vs Forest Hill after opening the batting for 17 overs and eventually being run out by Jim Kitchen.
- * His first game as wicketkeeper (he was 28 yrs old) under Greame Harris who one day told me to keep, having never done it before, and resulted in the opposition (Surrey Park) needing 1 to tie and 2 to win with one ball remaining. Greg Voutier bowled a bouncer the batsman ran, Tim had a shy at the stumps, missed, they turned for two , we stood around, yelling "its a tie" "its a tie" before realising and running the bloke out.
- * In the same year having GraEme Harris ring Tim on the Friday night before the Semi Final to say he had gout and he was Captain, picking Mick Vilgeon to bowl spin, whose 3 wickets practically won us the game. The responsibility of captaincy must have helped Tim as he got 6 dismissals that day, but he believes the 30 laps of Eley Park he did while we were batting, worrying, was the most contributing factor to our win.
- * The verbal berating he received from 1st XI captain Chris Harris one year whilst playing in the 3rds for not making a 100 Vs Blackburn South when he made 68.
- * That famous victory in the firsts Vs Vermont when Andy (Red) Taylor and Tim, with 9 wickets down, batted for 10 overs to score 12 runs. As we walked off the ground a kiss from Bill Saker was followed by the comment " I was never concerned about either of you going out - just who would hit a four." Tim left that to Red

Finally, Tim says that he wished his cricket had been good enough to play more games with legends like John O'Sullivan; Keith Joyce, Trevor Hutchins and Bill Saker in their prime but have been privileged to play with some great characters and fierce competitors including Gary Saultry, Dean McBlane, David Cowell, David Longstaff Steve Minton and Greg Voutier, to name just a few.

First XI Premiership Teams				
1957-58	1958-59	1960-61	1965-66	1966-67
Alex Culvenor (Capt)	Alex Culvenor (Capt)	Bob Saker (Capt)	George Dolan (Capt)	Jack Kirby (Capt)
Bob Saker (V-C)	Bob Saker (V-C)	George Dolan	Mick McLachlan	George Dolan (V-

		(V-C)	(V-C)	C)
George Dolan	George Dolan	Alex Culvenor	Bob Saker	Bob Saker
Doug Bosworth	Doug Bosworth	Doug Bosworth	Doug Bosworth	Doug Bosworth
Eric. Thornton	Eric Thornton	Eric Thornton	Ian Rowe	Ian Rowe
Ken. Rout	Ken Rout	Les Jones	Ian Davies	Ian Davies
D. Stephens	Kevin Fitzmaurice	Mick McLachlan	John Davies	John Davies
L. Jones	G. Hicks	Alan Haag	Danny Pomeroy	Danny Pomeroy
Bert Murphy	Les Jones	G. Hicks	Colin James	Eric Thornton
Tom Reeves	Bert Murphy	Bert Murphy	Alan Haag	Colin James
E. Ham	Tom Reeves	Ian Rowe	M. Duke	Alan Haag
1968-69	1973-74	1976-77	1979-80	1981-82
George Dolan (Capt)	Doug Bosworth (Capt)	Trevor Hutchins (Capt)	John O'Sullivan (Capt)	Trevor Hutchins (Capt)
Doug Bosworth (V-C)	John O'Sullivan (V-C)	Frank Ryan (V-C)	Keith Joyce (V-C)	Andrew Sach (V-C)
Bob Saker	Trevor Hutchins	Doug Bissett	Trevor Hutchins	Ron Seedy
Eric Thornton	Russell Baird	Ray Gale	Wayne Stokes	Trevor Saker
Ian Rowe	John Kay	Trevor Saker	Colin James	John O'Sullivan
Ian Davies	Keith Rout	Grant McDonald	Andrew Sach	David Longstaff
Danny Pomeroy	P. Robinson	Russell Baird	Bill Saker	Scott Gale
Alan Haag	Grant McDonald	Keith Joyce	Graham Best	Alan Gale
John O'Sullivan	Terry Harris	John O'Sullivan	Clive Mullett	Clive Mullett
Grant McDonald	Frank Ryan	Barry Hahn	Alan Gale	Ian Donaldson
John Kay	Ian Rowe	Clive Mullett	Graeme Torbitt	Keith Joyce
1983-84	1999-2000			
John O'Sullivan (Capt)	Darren Garrett (Capt)			
Keith Joyce	Peter Phillips (V-C)			
Trevor Saker	John Paull			
David Saker	Glenn Turner			
Alan Gale	Mal West			
Ian Donaldson	Joe Mahony			
David Longstaff	Heath James			
Mal West	Andrew Grubich			
Andrew Sach	Rob McKenzie			
John Macualay	Darren Garoni			
Paul Kennedy	Andrew Taylor			