

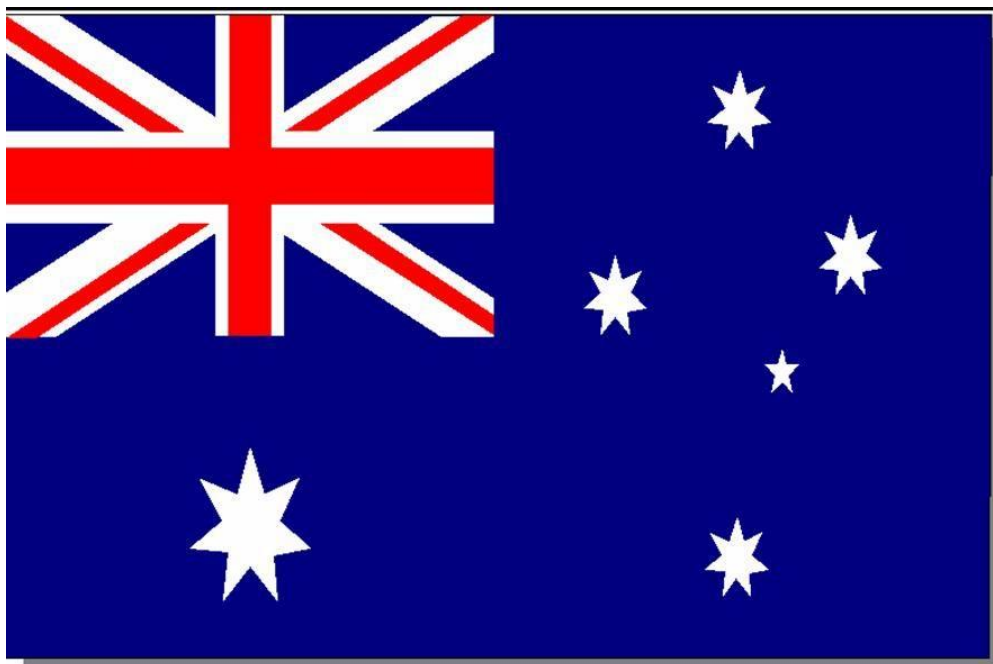


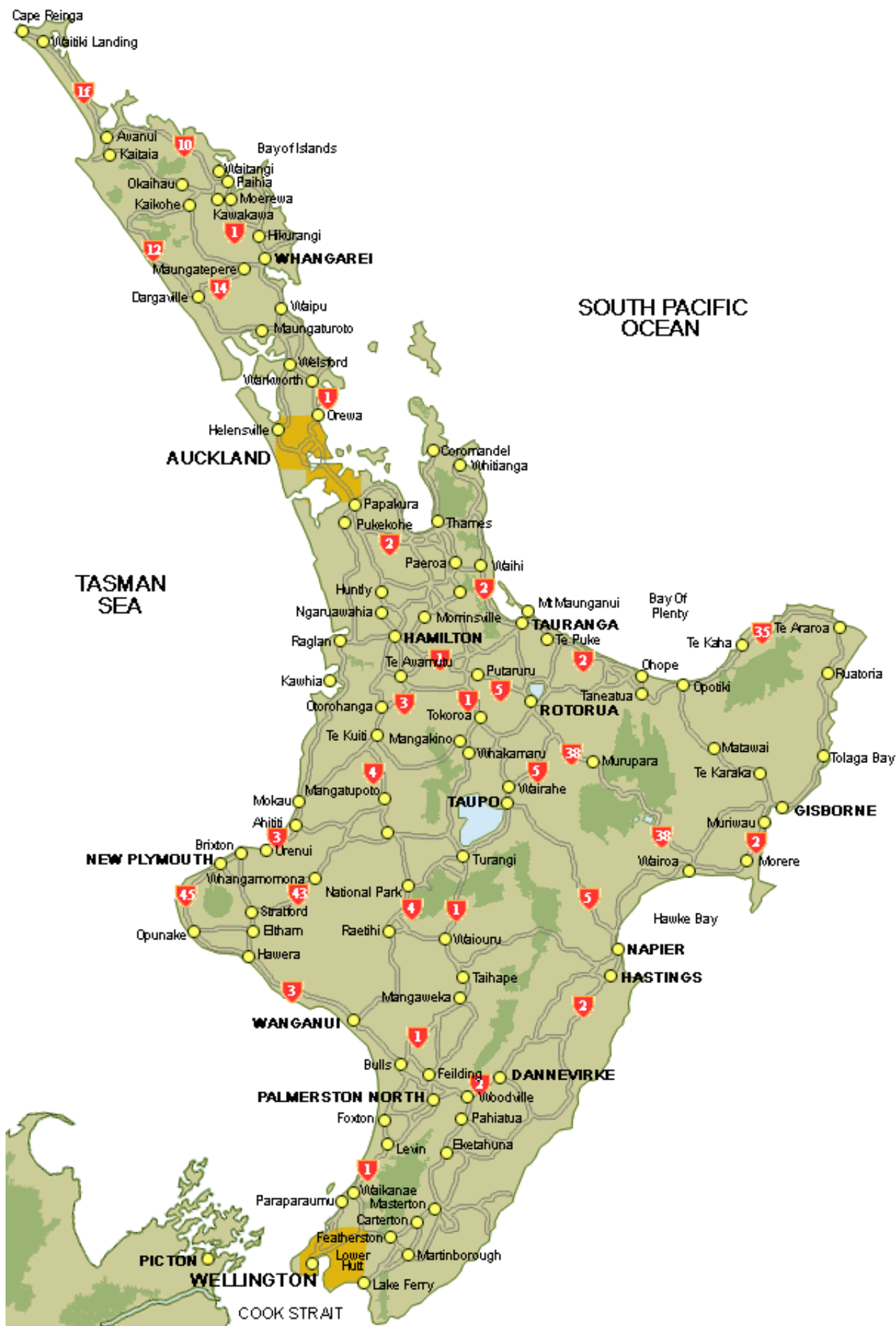
SYDNEY U/16 CRICKET TEAM

NEW ZEALAND TOUR

6 – 15 APRIL 2007

SUMMARY REPORT





ITINERARY – Sydney U/16 NZ Cricket Tour – April 2007

Friday (Easter long weekend)	6/4	Day 1	Depart SYD on Air New Zealand Flight NZ102 @ 9.30 am; arrive Auckland 2.30pm local time. Collect two minibuses and drive to Auckland Grammar School for 3 nights accommodation in their hostel (boarding house), organised through John Bonneywell (AGS). 4.30pm – Cricket practice in nets at AGS. 7.00pm – welcome dinner at Sky Tower restaurant .
Saturday	7/4	Day 2	Match 1 v. Auckland Grammar School (followed by BBQ). Accommodation – AGS hostel (boarding house).
Sunday	8/4	Day 3	Match 2 v. St Kentigern College, Auckland. Accommodation – AGS hostel (Tibbs House).
Monday	9/4	Day 4	Pack bags & cricket kits and leave in locked minibus trailer. AM – Auckland Bridge Climb . Drive minibuses to Rotorua . Overnight accommodation at Union Victoria Motor Lodge.
Tuesday	10/4	Day 5	Sight-seeing around Rotorua and Lake Taupo district. Drive minibuses to Masterton , via Palmerston North. Accommodation (2 nights) at the Brendon Bracewell Cricket Academy at Rathkeale College, Masterton.
Wednesday	11/4	Day 6	Match 3 v. Wairarapa District Schools team at Queen Elizabeth 2 oval, Masterton. Dinner with both teams at the Wairarapa team Manager's place (Paul & Suzie Adamson). Accommodation at Rathkeale College, Masterton.
Thursday	12/4	Day 7	Drive minibuses from Masterton to Upper Hutt (north of Wellington). Match 4 v. Upper Hutt Colleges Invitational team at Barton Oval, Trentham Memorial Park, Upper Hutt. Accommodation (3 nights) at St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Upper Hutt (organised by Dave Ritchie, SPC)
Friday	13/4	Day 8	Match 5 v. Wellington U/16 Rep. team at Barton Oval, Trentham Memorial Park, Upper Hutt. Train to Westpac Stadium in Wellington – Super 14 Rugby match – Wellington Hurricanes v. Cheetahs (South Africa). Accommodation at St Patrick's College, Silverstream.
Saturday	14/4	Day 9	Official team photos (venue – main oval at St Pats College). Shopping at Lower Hutt (NZ souvenirs, etc.) Go-carting at Daytona Indoor Raceway at Wingate. 'Tag' paint-balling at Wingate. Farewell Dinner at Silverspoon Restaurant in Silverstream. Accommodation at St Patrick's College, Silverstream.
Sunday	15/4	Day 10	AM – Sleep in, then packing. Drive from Upper Hutt to Wellington Airport. Return hire vehicles. Depart WELLINGTON on Air New Zealand Flight NZ743 @ 3:40pm, Arrive in SYDNEY at 5:30pm (local time).

THE SYDNEY U/16 INVITATIONAL CRICKET TEAM



Bruce Wood (Coach) is a highly experienced and respected cricket coach, having coached 24 teams in the past 10 years, including taking 5 representative teams on end-of-season tours to participate in NSW regional cricket carnivals or overseas trips. He coached an HK&HDCA U/15 rep. cricket team on a memorable 7-match tour of India in April 2006.

He is a Level 2 accredited coach with Cricket Australia and has coached his current Hornsby, Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Association (Hornsby) rep. team for the past 7 years since they were in the Under 10's (Foster Shield) in 2000-01. He coached the Hornsby U/16 Watson Shield team in 2006-07.

Bruce's HK&HDCA U/15 Weblin Shield rep. team had a magnificent season in 2005-06, going through the competition undefeated and winning the NSW Districts Cricket Association U/15 championship (effectively the State title).

His Normanhurst club teams have also won 3 undefeated Premierships since 2001.

Although he has guided many elite cricketers over the years, he also focuses on the 'grass roots' level, coaching developing players in the fundamentals of cricket in order to increase their skills, confidence and enjoyment of the game.

Bruce has played a key role in the rapid advancement of his rep. players over the years, many of whom now form part of Cricket NSW Emerging Blues squads, District Green Shield (U/16), Poidevin-Gray Shield (U/21), Sydney Grade cricket teams, School 1st XI's, and HK&HDCA club 'A' Grade teams.

Bruce is also a good role model who plays a key role in the development of his players as young men in society, instilling values of good sportsmanship, respect for the opposition and officials, and the need to accept responsibility for their actions. He ensures that his players play within the *spirit of cricket*.

He holds a Cricket NSW umpire's badge and also performs numerous administrative and executive tasks on behalf of his cricket Association.

Bruce and his team are really looking forward to the New Zealand tour and the chance to experience different cricket conditions and also form new friendships through the great game of cricket.



Calypso Aldersley (Tour Manager) migrated to Australia from the United Kingdom, via Denmark and United States of America, where she worked as an Interpreter for the Danish Export Council, some 26 years ago.

Calypso has had 13 years involvement in the cricketing community, through her sons' participation at St Ives and Normanhurst CC, and HK&HDCA rep. teams. Her involvement has largely been as an organiser on the social side of the cricket, assisting the Sydney University Green Shield team for the past two seasons. She has also assisted in scoring at club, representative and Grade level.

Aside from cricket, Calypso is involved in the community through St Leo's College, assisting with examination supervision of the special needs group, private tutoring, and more recently has joined the House with No Steps, while completing her Diploma in Social Services, specialising in Youth Outreach work.



Paul O'Neill (Tour Assistant) has had many years involvement in cricket as a player, coach, manager and administrator. He has coached his sons' club teams for the past 4 years and his Terrigal / Matcham U/16 team won the Central Coast Junior Competition U/16 Premiership in 2006-07.

Paul has also given tremendous service at rep. level, having been the Manager of the Central Coast Shield team for the past 5 years since the U/12 Cawsey Shield season in 2002-03. His Central Coast U/16 rep. team (coached by Greig Buscombe) won the NSW DCA Watson Shield championship, and the U/16 Bradman Cup in 2006-07, which was a fantastic achievement.

Paul's assistance on this NZ tour will be invaluable to the Coach, Manager and players.

SYDNEY U/16 CRICKET TOURING TEAM – NEW ZEALAND – APRIL 2007



1. Tom GURKA (Captain)

D of B – 5 July 1991

RHB (top / middle order); RAB (medium pace or leg-spin)

Main rep. teams:

Parramatta 4th Grade 2006-07

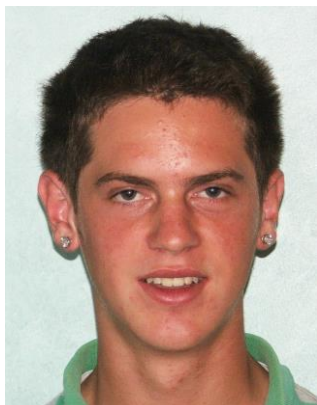
Parramatta U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07 (*Captain*)

Parramatta U/16 Green Shield 2006-07 (*Captain*)

Oakhill College 1st XI 2006-07 (*Northern District Cup champions*)

HK&HDCA U/15 Indian Tour 2006 (*Player of Tour*)

Former Cricket NSW Emerging Blues rep. (U/13)



2. Kristian MITCHELL (Vice-Captain)

D of B – 10 October 1990

RHB (top / middle order); Wicket-keeper

Main rep. teams:

Central Coast U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07 (*Captain*) – *Premiers*

Central Coast U/16 Bradman Cup 2006-07 (*Captain*) – *Premiers*

NSW State U/16 Challenge 2006-07 (*Captain*) – *Runner up*

Cricket NSW Emerging Blues rep. (U/13, U/14 & U/16)

Lisarow High School 1st XI 2006-07



3. Chris ALDERSLEY

D of B – 2 September 1990

RHB (top / middle order); RAB (fast-medium pace / swing)

Main rep. teams:

HK&HDCA (Hornsby) U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07

Sydney Uni. Grade & U/16 Green Shield 2006-07

St Leo's College 1st XI 2006-07 (*Vice-Captain*)

HK&HDCA U/15 Weblin Shield 2005-06 – *Premiers*

HK&HDCA U/15 Indian Tour 2006 (*Vice-Captain*)

NSW Combined Catholic Colleges U/15 2005-06



4. Jonathan BRAYSHAW

D of B – 24 February 1991

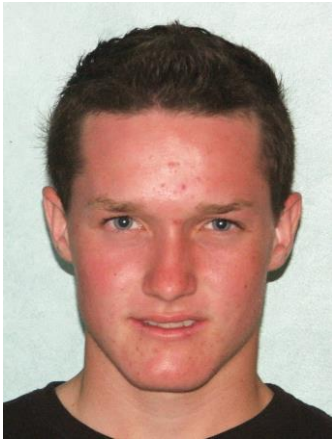
LAB (medium pace); LHB

Main rep. teams:

Parramatta U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07

Sydney Uni. U/16 Green Shield 2006-07

Model Farms High School 1st XI 2006-07



5. Pat BUSCOMBE

D of B – 14 February 1991

LHB (top order); RAB (medium pace)

Main rep. teams:

Central Coast U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07 – *Premiers*

Central Coast U/16 Bradman Cup 2006-07 – *Premiers*

NSW State U/16 Challenge 2006-07 – *Runner up*



6. Charith MAYADUNNE

D of B – 8 August 1991

RAB (fast); RHB (middle-order)

Main rep. teams:

HK&HDCA (Hornsby) U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07

Northern District U/16 Green Shield 2006-07

Northern District 4th Grade 2006-07

Normanhurst HS 1st XI 2006-07

HK&HDCA U/15 Weblin Shield 2005-06 – *Premiers*

Former Cricket NSW Emerging Blues rep. (U/13 & U/14)



7. James McNAMARA

D of B – 27 October 1990

RAB (fast); RHB

Main rep. teams:

Central Coast U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07 – *Premiers*

Central Coast U/16 Bradman Cup 2006-07 – *Premiers*

NSW State U/16 Challenge 2006-07 – *Runner up*

Terrigal High School 1st XI 2006-07



8. Alex MIHALYKA

D of B – 20 February 1991

LHB (top-order); RAB (medium-pace)

Main rep. teams:

Parramatta U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07

Sydney Uni. U/16 Green Shield 2006-07

Model Farms High School 1st XI 2006-07

HK&HDCA U/15 Indian Tour 2006



9. Billy O'NEILL

D of B – 22 March 1991

RHB (middle-order); RAB (off-spin)

Main rep. teams:

Central Coast U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07 – *Premiers*

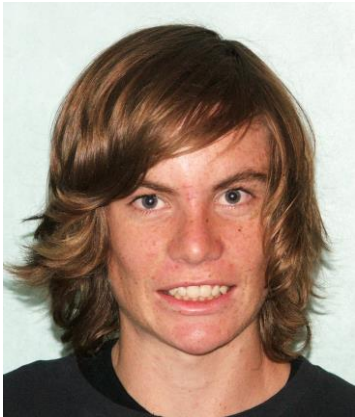
Central Coast U/16 Bradman Cup 2006-07 – *Premiers*

NSW State U/16 Challenge 2006-07 – *Runner up*

St. Edwards College 1st XI, East Gosford 2006-07

Cricket NSW Emerging Blues rep. (U/13, U/14 & U/15)

NSW Combined Catholic Colleges U/15 2005-06



10. Dylan ROBERTSON

D of B – 18 November 1990

LAB (spin); LHB (middle-order)

Main rep. teams:

HK&HDCA (Hornsby) U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07

Northern District U/16 Green Shield 2006-07

Northern District 4th Grade 2006-07

HK&HDCA U/15 Weblin Shield 2005-06 – *Premiers*

Cricket NSW Emerging Blues rep. (U/15 & U/16)



11. Dougal ROBINSON

D of B – 6 June 1990

Wicket-keeper; RHB (top / middle order)

Main rep. teams:

Sydney Grammar School 1st XI 2005-06, 2006-07

GPS 1st XI 2006-07 (*Wicket-keeper*)

Sydney Uni. U/16 Green Shield 2005-06

HK&HDCA U/15 Indian Tour 2006 (*18 w-k dismissals*)



12. Matt MUIR

D of B – 22 October 1990

RAB (fast); RHB

Main rep. teams:

Central Coast U/16 Watson Shield 2006-07 – *Premiers*

Central Coast U/16 Bradman Cup 2006-07 – *Premiers*

NSW State U/16 Challenge 2006-07 – *Runner up*

Former Cricket NSW Emerging Blues rep. (U/13)

COACH'S REPORT – SYDNEY U/16 NEW ZEALAND TOUR

A Sydney invitational U/16 rep. team went on a development tour to New Zealand from 6 – 15 April 2007. Our touring team comprised players from across the Sydney region from clubs such as Parramatta, Central Coast, Hornsby and Sydney University. It included 5 players from the Central Coast U/16 rep. team which won the NSW DCA Watson Shield competition and (Country) Bradman Cup in 2006-07; 3 players from the Hornsby U/15 rep. team that won the NSW DCA Weblin Shield in 2005-06; and 4 players who went on our U/15 Indian Tour last year.

The 12 players on the tour were:

Tom Gurka (C), Kristian Mitchell (v-c), Chris Aldersley, Jono Brayshaw, Pat Buscombe, Charith Mayadunne, James McNamara, Alex Mihalyka, Billy O'Neill, Dylan Robertson, Dougal Robinson (w-k), Matt Muir.

Coach – Bruce Wood

Manager – Calypso Aldersley

Tour Assistant – Paul O'Neill

Parents Don Mayadunne, Louise Herron & Clark Butler also joined the team for part of the tour. Clark's friends, Pam & Graham Stormont, also provided support to the team in Auckland, including helping out at a team BBQ.

Day 1 – The team arrived in Auckland on Friday 6th April and stayed at the Auckland Grammar School's Hostel (Tibbs boarding house). We had a short training session in the afternoon, followed by a terrific welcome dinner at the Auckland Sky Tower, which included a viewing from the observation deck (220 metres above the city streets). Auckland Grammar School is an historic institution, being over 160 years old, with some amazing architecture. It is also a highly sought after school for parents wishing to have their son(s) educated at such a prestigious school.

Day 2 – We played our first match on tour against **Auckland Grammar School's** 1st XI development team on their beautiful main oval. After being sent into bat on a soft, well grassed wicket that had been covered for 3 days



since school broke up for the Easter holidays, we slumped to 5/57, with only Alex (pictured) managing to handle the difficult batting conditions. Billy came in at No. 6 and played a very skilful innings – his half-century helped us post a competitive total. Dylan played aggressively at the end to steer our team to 9/179 off our maximum 45 overs. In reply, AGS struggled against some well directed pace bowling, with Charith removing their champion batsman and captain, Ryan Turner, who represents Auckland at U/19 level, with a bouncer. Dylan completed a fine match, taking 3/19, and the other wickets were shared by Matt, Charith, James and Chris. Dougal (w-k) held 2 catches and completed 2 run outs by Jono and Kristian. Our Sydney side was very sharp in the field and won the match by 75 runs. This

decisive win over a competitive AGS team coached by Jacob Oram's brother, Daniel, was a great start to the tour. Our thanks are extended to **John Bonneywell**, Director of Cricket, AGS, for his excellent organisation of this match, and to the AGS parents, led by Mr & Mrs Turner, for their wonderful hospitality.

Day 3 – Our second match on tour was against **St Kentigern College**, the Auckland one-day (50 over



competition) champions for 2006-07. We lost the toss again and St Kents chose to bat first on a firm, grassy wicket. The home side contained eight 1st XI players and 4 of the leading players from their 2nd XI. Charith and Jono opened the bowling and had them 5/24, which was an amazing start as we were advised that most of their top-order batsmen had scored 1st XI centuries this season. Matt bowled an inspired spell of genuine pace bowling, which unsettled their middle-order batsmen. Dougal was again outstanding behind the stumps, taking 3 w-k catches and a run out. Tom and Matt effected brilliant run outs to highlight a superb fielding display, which was complimented by the St Kents' Coach and parents. We dismissed St Kents for only 91 runs in the 28th over and passed their score for the loss of 5 wickets. The highlight of our batting was a 55 run, 3rd wicket partnership between Alex & Tom.

I would like to extend my thanks to **David Wadams**, Teacher in Charge of Cricket at St Kentigern College, for organising this memorable match on the school's superb main oval, which boasts magnificent water views (see photo). Thanks also to the host parents who did such a great job with the catering for lunch.

Day 4 – On Monday, 9th April, we packed up and left Auckland Grammar School. The entire touring party of 12 players and 3 adults went on the **Auckland Bridge Climb**, which was an enjoyable experience. It was



interesting to see the Japanese engineering behind the concrete 'Nippon clip on' lanes on each side, which doubled the capacity from 4 to 8 lanes. Billy conquered his demons on this bridge climb, as he has a genuine fear of heights.

At lunch-time, we commenced our drive to **Rotorua**, a scenic 4 hour journey, stopping several times to check out the natural bubbling ponds along the route. When we arrived at the Union Victoria Motor Lodge at Rotorua, the boys had a swim in the heated pool and mineral water baths, which was most relaxing, if not a little smelly due to the sulphur. That night we ate out at the local Hells Pizza Restaurant and had an enjoyable evening. We booked 4 large units for the accommodation at the Motor Lodge, each having 4 or 5 beds. The captain, Tom Gurka, was asked to allocate 4 boys to each of 3 rooms, with the 3 adults in the other unit. This arrangement gave the boys

some independence, which they appreciated and handled very responsibly.

Day 5 – On the Tuesday, we went to the mountain range opposite the lake and the team went up a gondola ride to do 5 **luge rides** down the steep hill side. This



Skyline complex is a popular tourist attraction in Rotorua and the boys thoroughly enjoyed racing each other on the fast tracks. The Coach led home the final run down the Advanced track, much to the dismay of his young charges.

After lunch we inspected some geo-thermal parklands and passed Lake Taupo during our long, 6 hour trek down to Masterton. We saw some scenic mountain ranges, however road works and bad weather hampered the journey, resulting in us not reaching Brendon Bracewell's cricket academy at Rathkeale College until approximately 10.00pm. Brendon and his wife Jenny were gracious hosts, waiting up for us and having supper ready for our arrival.

Day 6 – We got the boys up early and after breakfast, we all went to **Brendon Bracewell's cricket academy**



within Rathkeale College where the boys undertook a rigorous warm up routine, followed by some batting and bowling in the indoor nets, including facing the bowling machine. This early practice got the boys ready for their important match against the **Wairarapa District Schools** team at the beautiful Queen Elizabeth 2 Oval in Masterton. Tom won the toss and we decided to bat first on a nice flat wicket, which was well grassed, offering some assistance to the bowlers. Runs were difficult to come by early on, as the Wairarapa opening bowlers were fast and skilful. Charith batted at No. 3 and kept the scoreboard moving, with some assistance from Dylan (12), Tom (13) and Pat (11). Dougal joined Charith and the pair put on an enterprising partnership of 68 runs,

enabling Sydney to reach 7/217 at the conclusion of our maximum 45 overs.

Charith (pictured below) batted superbly and brought up his maiden **century** (100no) off the second last ball of the innings. His innings featured many powerful off-drives and pull shots, as well as effective rotation of the strike.



The Wairarapa Schools team struggled with the bat, being dismissed for 108 in 30 overs, giving our team a 109 run victory and a 3-0 win/loss record so far on tour. Our chief destroyers were James and Chris, who both took 3 wickets in their best bowling spells on tour. They were well backed up by Matt and Billy, who took 2 wickets each. Kristian put in a brilliant display of wicket-keeping, taking 5 catches. Our thanks are extended to **Brendon Bracewell** for organising this match and to his brother **Doug** for coaching the Wairarapa District Schools team. Special thanks also go to the local team's Manager, **Paul Adamson** & his wife **Suzie**, for hosting both teams for dinner at their house after the match. The boys played touch footy and

back-yard cricket and got on well and the adults mixed easily in a relaxing atmosphere. Our touring party greatly appreciated the hospitality provided by our Kiwi hosts.

Day 7 – On Thursday, 12 April, we checked out of Brendon Bracewell's cricket academy at Rathkeale College and drove for about 1 ½ hours to Barton Oval, Trentham Memorial Park, the venue for our 4th match against the **Upper Hutt Colleges** team. This strong team mainly comprised 17 & 18 year olds from the various school 1st XI teams



in this district, which is in the northern metropolitan area of Wellington, NZ. There was a delayed start to the match due to heavy overnight rain, so it became a 40 over per side match. We batted first and found the conditions difficult as the ball seamed around a lot. The Upper Hutt pace men bowled very well but our boys didn't help the situation by playing some poor shots under pressure, resulting in the Sydney team being all out for only 91 runs in 30 overs. Kristian was our best batsman with 18 runs that were worth about 40 on a dry outfield. The only other batsmen to reach double figures were Tom (15 – pictured) and Chris (10).

In reply, the Upper Hutt Colleges team passed our total for the loss of 4 wickets – one each to James, Dylan, Billy & Jono. Dougal was again outstanding behind the stumps, featuring in 3 of the 4 dismissals (2 stumpings & 1 catch). Dylan was the pick of our bowlers with 1/21. We were well beaten in this match and learnt a lesson from our more experienced local opponents about how to play on these soft, grassy NZ wickets in the damper Autumn months.

Our thanks are extended to a range of people who assisting in staging our 4th & 5th matches at the magnificent Barton Oval, Trentham Memorial Park, Upper Hutt (a first-class oval), including **Keith Bitchener**, **Russell Kean**, **Wayne & Karina Stewart**, and **Peter Darracott** (Club Secretary). Thanks also to all the cricketers who were recalled from their NZ school holidays to play against our visiting Sydney U/16 team.

After our match, we checked into the nearby St Patrick's College, Silverstream, boarding house, which has very good facilities and is adjacent to the local shops, restaurants and railway station. The boys were accommodated in two large dormitories – 6 boys in each one. The weather had turned quite cold so our Manager, Calypso Aldersley, had to order extra blankets for the cold nights. **Dave Ritchie**, head of the boarding house at St Patrick's College, was a great help to our team during our 3 day stay at the school.

We ate out at a local Chinese restaurant that night and had an enjoyable evening with the team.

Day 8 – We woke on the Friday morning to heavy rain, which made any further cricket on tour unlikely. This was confirmed when we arrived at the ground, however there were covers on the turf pitch. The 2 official umpires abandoned play for the day at about 11.00am, so the players moved into the large Indoor Centre which forms part of the superb on-site facilities at Trentham Memorial Park. The Sydney and Wellington U/16 boys played indoor soccer (we won 7-5) and also had a spirited indoor cricket nets session, displaying plenty of trans-Tasman rivalry.

The weather cleared after lunch and the respective coaches agreed to play a friendly 24 over-a-side game on the outdoor turf wicket. The rules were modified to ensure maximum participation, ie. each player bowled 2 overs; each pair of batsmen batted for just 4 overs; and each wicket lost cost the batsman (and his team) 5 runs. All the boys (see photo below) thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to have a final hit and bowl at the end of the tour.



For the record, the Sydney side batted first and scored 15 / 232 (net 157 runs). Matt top scored with 26, Billy 22, Alex 20 & Tom 18. In reply, the Wellington U/15-16 rep. team lost 23 wickets in scoring 154 off its 24 overs, for a net score of 39. Our bowlers enjoyed the conditions, with Jono taking 4/7 and Alex, Tom, Billy, Chris, Kristian & James taking 2 wickets each. Thanks to the Wellington coach, **Clinton Butler**, for agreeing to play this social match in the afternoon of our last playing date. Due to the nature of this game, the boys' statistics didn't count towards our Tour Awards.

After the match (& showers / dinner), our touring party took a half-hour train trip to the Westpac Stadium in Wellington to attend a Super 14 Rugby match between the Wellington Hurricanes and the Cheetahs from South Africa. The atmosphere in the stadium was great and the home side won 37-15, so everyone went home happy.

Day 9 – Our last full day in NZ was Saturday, 14 April and we had a busy round of activities planned. After a late breakfast, we had a series of official team photos taken in our various tour uniforms. The venue for the photos was the main oval at St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Upper Hutt. At this point, we had to bid farewell to our Tour Assistant, Paul O'Neill, who had to get an earlier flight home to Sydney. Paul was a great help and company on tour, driving the van, helping organize the boys, match day duties, etc.

After some shopping for NZ souvenirs in Lower Hutt, we took the boys to the Daytona Indoor Raceway at Wingate for some go-cart racing. With their helmets on, the 12 players and Coach set off on the windy track at tremendous speeds, completing over 100 laps in the 25 minute session. Pat recorded the fastest lap time of 25.998 seconds, closely followed by Billy and Matt. Many of our boys stacked their cars trying to negotiate the sharp, hair-pin turns, especially Dylan, who drove like a maniac. It's hard to believe that these guys will be getting their **P** licences soon!

After the go-carting, the boys had a go at 'Tag' paint-balling, firing hundreds of small rubber 'bullets' at each other. After about 40 minutes action, it got down to a shoot-off between Dougal and Chris to determine the winner. The final was clear-cut as Dougal finished victorious, peppering Chris with a volley of shots which gave him some war wounds to show his mates.

On the Saturday evening, we attended the lovely Silverspoon Restaurant in Silverstream, where we had our Farewell / Celebration Dinner. Our special guests were **Keith & Linda Bitchener** and **Russell & Beryl Kean**, who had been instrumental in organizing our two days cricket in Upper Hutt. Everyone enjoyed a great meal and at the end, **Bruce Wood**, Coach of the Sydney U/16 team, made a speech, noting some of the highlights of the tour. Bruce presented plaques to our official guests and to the 12 Sydney players. He also handed out the 3 Tour Awards, as shown below. This was a memorable night and a good way to end the tour.

Day 10 – We packed up on the morning of Sunday, 15 April and checked out of St Patrick's College, Silverstream. We took the scenic route to Wellington Airport, taking in views of Cook Strait, which separates the North and South Islands of NZ. When we reached the airport, we dropped off our 2 hire vehicles and trailer which had served us so well since arriving in Auckland 10 days earlier. Our Air New Zealand Flight (NZ 743) departed on time and we arrived back at Sydney International Airport at around 5.45pm to be greeted by our families.

Summary of the results / scores from our 5 matches:

Match 1 – Sydney 9/179 [45 overs] (Billy O'Neill 50, Alex Mihalyka 26, Dylan Robertson 29no) **def. Auckland Grammar School 9/104** [45 overs] (Dylan Robertson 3/19, Dougal Robinson 2 w-k catches & 2 run outs)

Match 2 – Sydney 5/94 [36 overs] (Alex Mihalyka 34, Tom Gurka 28, Billy O'Neill 10no) **def. St Kentigern College 91** [27.4 overs] (Charith Mayadunne 3/3, Jono Brayshaw 2/21, Dougal Robinson 3 w-k catches and 1 run out)

Match 3 – Sydney 7/217 [45 overs] ([Charith Mayadunne 100no](#), Dougal Robinson 27) **def. Wairarapa District Schools 11/108** [29.5 overs] (James McNamara 3/14, Chris Aldersley 3/32, Matt Muir 2/7, Billy O'Neill 2/13, Kristian Mitchell 5 w-k catches)

Match 4 – Sydney 91 [29.2 overs] (Kristian Mitchell 18, Tom Gurka 15) **lost to Upper Hutt Colleges 4/93** [30.4 overs] (Cameron Bitchener 48no, Dougal Robinson 2 stumpings & 1 w-k catch).

Match 5 – [24 overs each team 'friendly' game; minus 5 runs for each wicket lost; 2 overs maximum for each bowler]
Sydney 15/232 [net 157] (Matt Muir 26, Billy O'Neill 22, Alex Mihalyka 20, Tom Gurka 18) **def. Wellington U/16 23/154 [net 39]** (Jono Brayshaw 4/7, Alex Mihalyka 2/8, James McNamara 2/10, Kristian Mitchell 2/11, Tom Gurka 2/11, Chris Aldersley 2/11, Billy O'Neill 2/12)

Individual statistics from the tour (excluding the 24-over 'friendly' match played on Friday, 13 April):

Our leading batsmen on tour were **Charith Mayadunne** with **115 runs @ 57.5 average (HS 100no)**, Alex Mihalyka 74 @ 18.5, Tom Gurka 65 runs @ 16.3, Billy O'Neill 61 runs @ 20.3, & Dylan Robertson 45 runs @ 22.5.

Our bowling attack contained plenty of depth and the wickets were shared, with 6 bowlers taking 4 or 5 wickets each on the tour. **Charith Mayadunne** finished with the best figures of **5 wickets for 36 runs** conceded (**average 7.2**), followed by Chris Aldersley 5/41 @ 8.2; James McNamara 5/59 @ 11.8; Matt Muir 4/47 @ 11.7; Dylan Robertson 4/59 @ 14.7; Billy O'Neill 4/61 @ 15.2; and Jono Brayshaw 3/63 @ 21.0.

An indication of the strike power of our bowling attack, backed up by our excellent fieldsmen and wicket-keepers, is best illustrated by the fact that we had Auckland Grammar School 5/43, St Kentigern College 6/50, and Wairarapa District Schools 9/51, before going on to record comfortable victories in the first 3 matches on tour.

Dougal Robinson (w-k) had a great tour behind the stumps, snaring 11 dismissals (6 catches, 2 stumpings & 3 run outs) out of the 23 wickets we took in the 3 matches in which he kept. We were fortunate to have 2 outstanding wicket-keepers on tour, as **Kristian Mitchell** snared 5 catches in our 3rd match against the Wairarapa District Schools team at Masterton.

Tom Gurka did a very good job as Captain and was well supported by Kristian Mitchell as V-C. Dougal Robinson and Chris Aldersley also assisted as part of the boys' leadership team on tour.

Tour Awards

<i>Player of Tour</i>	--	Charith Mayadunne
<i>All Rounder Award</i>	--	Billy O'Neill
<i>Outstanding Contribution (including w-k)</i>	--	Dougal Robinson

Summary and Acknowledgements

There are many people I wish to thank for making this tour possible. Firstly to our Manager, **Calypso Aldersley**, who assisted me greatly in the planning for this tour and worked tirelessly while in NZ. She played a major part in the sourcing and ordering of the tour uniforms; organised the extra curricular activities; and arranged the hire of our 2 minivans in NZ. The boys also wish to thank Calypso for washing their cricket clothes after each match!

Secondly to **Paul O'Neill**, our Tour Assistant, who was a great help on tour. Thanks also to **Louise Herron** for her generous assistance behind the scenes, and to **Don Mayadunne**, who traveled with the team for 5 days.

A special thank you to all our NZ hosts (named earlier in this report) who provided such great hospitality and goodwill during our tour. They made an important contribution to the success of our tour and we would be happy to reciprocate such fine hospitality if they bring a junior rep. cricket team to Sydney in the future. It was not easy arranging quality fixtures on top ovals during the April school holidays after the cricket season had effectively ended, so I greatly appreciate the co-operation I received from the various NZ school cricket masters and district representative officials. They provided us with strong opposition teams and magnificent ovals on which to play.

This U/16 tour to New Zealand was a resounding success, both on & off the field. Our team played some excellent cricket, fielded brilliantly, and lost just one match on tour. I am proud to have organised the trip and coached this team in probably my last mission as a cricket coach after 11 years involvement with club & rep. teams. It is an interesting concept to put together an invitational rep. team from across the Sydney region and embark on an overseas tour with a side that has never played or trained together. However, I was careful to select the right type of players who I believed would bond well as a team and also be well behaved off the field.

Our boys played on soft, green, slow pitches (very different to Sydney wickets), which made batting quite difficult, affecting the statistics of several of our leading batsmen, however the experience will be invaluable for their cricket development. They also encountered for the first time NZ umpires who applied the ODI 'wide' rule, ie. any ball bowled down the leg side was called a wide (for both teams), even if it narrowly missed the leg stump. This resulted in an unusually high number of wides being bowled for this standard of cricket. We focused on the team performance and our boys had a great tour – they were fine ambassadors for Australian cricket.

Bruce Wood Coach



Back Row: Paul O'Neill (Tour Assistant), Billy O'Neill, Pat Buscombe, Chris Aldersley, Alex Mihalyka, Jono Brayshaw, Dougal Robinson (w-k), James McNamara

Front Row: Calypso Aldersley (Manager), Charith Mayadunne, Matt Muir, Tom Gurka (Captain), Kristian Mitchell (v-c), Dylan Robertson, Bruce Wood (Coach)

SYDNEY U/16 NEW ZEALAND TOUR – APRIL 2007

COACH'S ASSESSMENT OF PLAYERS

No.	PLAYER	BRIEF COMMENTS
1	Tom Gurka (Capt.)	Did a fine job as Captain, moulding a team which had never played together before. Made a start in every innings but didn't go on to make a big score. Total 65 runs @ 16.3 average. Was involved in two half-century partnerships – 55 runs with Alex v. St Kentigern College, and 52 runs with Charith v. Wairarapa District Schools. He made some very good tactical decisions on the field which helped our team take the advantage. A popular leader.
2	Kristian Mitchell (v-c)	A class act – on & off the field. He had a fantastic season in 2006-07, leading his Central Coast U/16 rep. team to victories in the Watson Shield and Bradman Cup. He didn't have much luck with the bat in NZ but was our best batsman in our toughest match v. Upper Hutt Colleges. He was wicket-keeper for one match v. Wairarapa District Schools at QE 2 Oval and did a terrific job, taking 5 catches. Very level-headed and mature young man.
3	Chris Aldersley	Chris opened the bowling against Wairarapa District Schools and took 3 early wickets. He took 5/41 on tour at the very good average of 8.2. Made a couple of starts with the bat but didn't convert them. Has been a fixture in my rep. teams for the past 7 years, including 6 tours (Lismore, Ballina, Newcastle, Bowral, India & New Zealand). It has been a pleasure being his cricket coach and mentor. He won a Sydney Uni. Green Shield award in 2006-07.
4	Jono Brayshaw	Jono was a pleasure to have in the touring team on his first trip overseas. He bowled consistently and contributed well in the field and when he got a bat. His best performance was when he opened the bowling against St Kentigern College and dismissed 2 top-order batsmen, including taking a wicket first ball. One of the quiet achievers in the team.
5	Pat Buscombe	He had a successful cricket season in NSW, playing a prominent role in his Central Coast U/16 rep. team, which won the Watson Shield and Bradman Cup. He found it a little difficult to adjust to the soft, green NZ pitches, which were generally slow in pace, and wasn't able to capitalise on his starts. Fielded well, taking 3 good catches. He was a popular team man, on & off the field, and will benefit from the experience of playing cricket overseas.
6	Charith Mayadunne	A wonderful all-rounder who was our best player on tour. He scored a brilliant century (100no) against the Wairarapa District Schools team and he also topped the team's bowling stats with 5/36, including a stunning 3/3 v. St Kentigern College. He's also a terrific catcher – a complete cricketer who has a big future in the game. Very polite and respectful – he's been an absolute pleasure to coach for the past 6 years. Good luck in Grade cricket at NDs.
7	James McNamara	Had a successful season of domestic rep. cricket in which he took a couple of 5 wicket hauls for his Central Coast U/16 team, which won the Watson Shield. Started the tour well with 1/12 off 6 overs v. AGS, then had his best day against the Wairarapa District Schools team, taking 3/14 in a fiery spell. Enjoyed the social aspects of the tour, mixing well with the boys.
8	Alex Mihalyka	Was a revelation on this tour, batting superbly in the first two matches in Auckland to pave the way for solid victories. He opened the batting against AGS, scoring 26 in difficult conditions, then backed that up with an excellent 34 runs against St Kentigern College, both match-winning knocks. Has shown massive improvement since the Indian Tour last year and the ability to adapt to different conditions, which augers well for his future in cricket.
9	Billy O'Neill	Another Central Coast player who has had a long and successful season in 2006-07. Stamped himself as a top quality player in our first match against AGS when he rescued our team from 5/57 with a dashing half-century, which set up our winning score. Also bowled his off-spinners well on tour and took 2 brilliant catches. Won the team's All Rounder Award.
10	Dylan Robertson	Had a very good first match on tour when he scored 29no and took 3/19 against AGS. Opened the batting in Match 3 v. Wairarapa District Schools and played solidly. He also bowled very well against the Upper Hutt Colleges team, taking 1/21 off 10 overs, 4 maidens. Was one of the characters of the tour, always giving plenty of cheek. A very fussy eater!
11	Dougal Robinson (w-k)	A very accomplished player who represented GPS this season after starring as a wicket-keeper / batsman for Sydney Grammar School's 1 st XI. Followed up his successful Indian Tour last year by snaring 11 dismissals (6 catches, 2 stumpings & 3 run outs) in 3 matches in NZ. Shared a 68-run partnership with Charith against the Wairarapa District Schools team in Masterton. Mature boy who made a terrific contribution to the tour, both on & off the field.
12	Matt Muir	An aggressive fast bowler who has the right attitude to his work. Played with distinction for his Central Coast U/16 rep. team this season, taking a 6/for in the Final of the Bradman Cup. He was consistently our quickest bowler in NZ and bowled very well in each match, perfecting the art of firing in a yorker after a couple of short balls to unsettle the batsmen. Fielded well with two good catches and an important run out against St Kentigern College.

Summary of Averages:

Sydney (NZ Tour)

Season: 2006-2007

Grade: U/16

D

BATTING									
BATSMAN	catch/stump	R/L	SCORES OF 50 AND OVER	HIGHEST SCORE	INNINGS			TOTAL RUNS	AVE
					Tot	N	O	Out	
Gurka, Tom	1	R		28	4			4	65
Mitchell, Kristian	5	R		18	4			4	25
Aldersley, Chris		R		11	3			3	26
Brayshaw, Jono	1	L		6	2		1	1	9
Buscombe, Pat	3	L		11	4			4	21
Mayadunne, Charith		R	100no	100	4		2	2	115
Mcnamara, James	1	R		3	1			1	3
Mihalyka, Alex		L		34	4			4	74
O'Neill, Billy	2	R	50	50	4		1	3	61
Robertson, Dylan		L		29	3		1	2	45
Robinson, Dougal	8	R		27	3			3	37
Muir, Matt	2	R		1	3		2	1	2

BOWLING						
BOWLER	R/L	OVERS	MAIDENS	WICKETS	RUNS	AVERAGE
Gurka, Tom	R					
Mitchell, Kristian	R	1	1		1	
Aldersley, Chris	R	10	2	5	41	8.20
Brayshaw, Jono	L	16	1	3	63	21.00
Buscombe, Pat	R	1			3	
Mayadunne, Charith	R	22	8	5	36	7.20
Mcnamara, James	R	19	1	5	59	11.80
Mihalyka, Alex	R	1			1	
O'Neill, Billy	R	20	4	4	61	15.25
Robertson, Dylan	L	25	6	4	59	14.75
Robinson, Dougal	R					
Muir, Matt	R	19	2	4	47	11.75

HONOURS		FIGURES	
NAME			
Charith Mayadunne		57.50	
Charith Mayadunne		100 no	
Charith Mayadunne		115.00	
Charith Mayadunne		7.20	
Charith, Chris, James		5.00	
Charith, Chris, James, Dylan		3.00	
Nil			
Dougal Robinson (w-k)		6 ct. / 2 st.	

MATCH 1

SYDNEY U/16 v. AUCKLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Played at Auckland Grammar School on Saturday, 7 April 2007

Toss: AGS who bowled

(Maximum 45 overs)

SYDNEY U/16

Alex Mihalyka	stumped Jones, b. Youdale	26
Pat Buscombe	caught, b. Halpin	3
Dougal Robinson (w-k)	caught, b. Halpin	7
Tom Gurka (C)	caught, b. Anthony	9
Kristian Mitchell (v-c)	bowled Anthony	0
Billy O'Neill	caught, b. Anthony	50
Charith Mayadunne	caught, b. Davies	13
Chris Aldersley	caught, b. Davies	11
Dylan Robertson	not out	29
Jono Brayshaw	caught, b. Halpin	6
Matt Muir	not out	1
James McNamara	DNB	
Extras	b 2, lb 4, w 14, nb 4	24
TOTAL	45 overs 9 wickets for	179
FoW	10, 22, 48, 48, 57, 107, 130, 141, 166	

	O	M	R	W
Harry Halpin	8	0	34	3
Lloyd Brooks	9	1	35	0
Corian Youdale	9	1	36	1
Josh Anthony	9	2	16	3
Jamie Hayes	4	0	19	0
Matt Davies	6	0	32	2

AUCKLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Jonathan Stuchery	ct. Robinson (w-k), b. Muir	0
Ryan Turner (C)	ct. McNamara, b. Mayadunne	3
Matt Davies	ct. Buscombe, b. Robertson	7
Jamie Hayes	run out (Mitchell / Robinson)	2
Nikitha Kariyawasam	ct. O'Neill, b. Robertson	6
Oliver Pringle	not out	25
Raam Gangisetty	bowled Aldersley	16
Richard Jones (w-k)	ct. Robinson (w-k), b. McNamara	6
Josh Anthony	run out (Brayshaw / Robinson)	4
Harry Halpin	ct. Muir, b. Robertson	0
Lloyd Brooks	not out	0
Corian Youdale	DNB	
Extras	lb 5, w 28, nb 3	36
TOTAL	45 overs 9 wickets for	104
FoW	13, 13, 31, 32, 43, 67, 85, 100, 100	

	O	M	R	W
Matt Muir	7	1	23	1
Charith Mayadunne	7	3	7	1
Jono Brayshaw	7	1	20	0
James McNamara	6	1	12	1
Dylan Robertson	8	1	19	3
Billy O'Neill	5	0	9	0
Chris Aldersley	3	2	4	1
Pat Buscombe	1	0	3	0
Kristian Mitchell	1	0	1	0

Sydney U/16 team won by 75 runs

MATCH 2

SYDNEY U/16 v. ST KENTIGERN COLLEGE

Played at St Kentigern College, Auckland, on Sunday, 8 April 2007

Toss: St Kentigern who batted (Maximum 50 overs)

ST KENTIGERN COLLEGE

Ash Herwels	ct. Robinson (w-k), b. Brayshaw	0
Jono Hickey	bowled Mayadunne	0
Patrick Boyd (C)	ct. Robinson (w-k), b. Mayadunne	2
Rob von Elling	ct. O'Neill, b. Mayadunne	15
Brad Stanfield	bowled Brayshaw	1
Matthew Scarborough	bowled Muir	6
Luke Glen	run out (Muir / Robinson)	32
Richard Skelton (w-k)	ct. Robinson (w-k), b. O'Neill	7
Daniel Plested	run out (Gurka)	2
Thomas Spall	ct. Buscombe, b. Aldersley	6
Guy Rayfield	not out	0
Trent Cooper	DNB	
Extras	lb 2, w 16, nb 2	20
TOTAL	27.4 overs 10 wickets for	91
FoW	1, 5, 21, 22, 24, 50, 77, 82, 86, 91	

	O	M	R	W
Charith Mayadunne	6	4	3	3
Jono Brayshaw	4	0	21	2
Dylan Robertson	3	0	15	0
Matt Muir	5	0	10	1
Billy O'Neill	6	1	19	1
James McNamara	3	0	16	0
Chris Aldersley	0.4	0	5	1

SYDNEY U/16

Pat Buscombe	bowled Spall	0
Alex Mihalyka	ct. Skelton (w-k), b. Hickey	34
Chris Aldersley	bowled Herwels	5
Tom Gurka (C)	caught, b. Hickey	28
Kristian Mitchell (v-c)	ct. Skelton (w-k), b. Cooper	1
Billy O'Neill	not out	10
Charith Mayadunne	not out	0
Dougal Robinson (w-k)	DNB	
Dylan Robertson	DNB	
James McNamara	DNB	
Jono Brayshaw	DNB	
Matt Muir	DNB	
Extras	lb 1, w 14, nb 1	16
TOTAL	36 overs 5 wickets for	94
FoW	1, 19, 74, 81, 83	

	O	M	R	W
Thomas Spall	8	1	26	1
Ash Herwels	8	2	20	1
Jono Hickey	10	0	30	2
Trent Cooper	10	4	15	1

Sydney U/16 team won by 5 wickets

MATCH 3

SYDNEY U/16 V. WAIRARAPA DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Played at Queen Elizabeth 2 oval, Masterton, on Wed. 11 April 2007

Toss: Sydney who batted (Maximum 45 overs)

SYDNEY U/16			
Alex Mihalyka	bowled Macklin		8
Dylan Robertson	bowled T. Adamson		12
Charith Mayadunne	not out		100
Tom Gurka (C)	ct. T. Adamson, b. Anderson		13
Kristian Mitchell (v-c) (w-k)	bowled Anderson		6
Pat Buscombe	ct. Ingham, b. Anderson		11
Billy O'Neill	bowled Jarvis		1
Dougal Robinson	ct. J. Adamson, b. Macklin		27
Matt Muir	not out		1
James McNamara	DNB		
Chris Aldersley	DNB		
Jono Brayshaw	DNB		
Extras	b 2, lb 7, w 26, nb 3		38
TOTAL	45 overs	7 wickets for	217
FoW	13, 51, 103, 111, 138, 145, 213		

	O	M	R	W
Joel Macklin	9	2	55	2
Dean van Deventer	8	1	35	0
Tom Adamson	9	1	38	1
Sean Jarvis	8	0	39	1
Huib van Vliet	5	0	19	0
Robbie Anderson	6	1	22	3

WAIRARAPA DISTRICT SCHOOLS			
Huib van Vliet	ct. Mitchell (w-k), b. Aldersley		0
James Adamson	bowled Muir		0
Joel Macklin	ct. Mitchell (w-k), b. Aldersley		22
Robbie Anderson (C)	ct. Mitchell (w-k), b. Muir		1
Deane van Deventer	ct. Muir, b. Aldersley		5
Blake Lyford	lbw McNamara		0
Alex Treseder (w-k)	ct. Mitchell (w-k), b. Mayadunne		4
Anton Ross	lbw McNamara		2
Daniel Ingham	ct. Mitchell (w-k), b. McNamara		0
Tom Adamson	ct. Brayshaw, b. O'Neill		28
Sean Jarvis	not out		16
Richard French (w-k)	ct. Buscombe, b. O'Neill		0
Extras	lb 8, w 16, nb 2		26
TOTAL	29.5 overs	11 wickets for	108
FoW	0, 1, 19, 31, 36, 42, 46, 46, 51, 106, 108		

	O	M	R	W
Chris Aldersley	6	0	32	3
Matt Muir	4	1	7	2
Charith Mayadunne	4	0	12	1
James McNamara	4	0	14	3
Jono Brayshaw	3	0	17	0
Dylan Robertson	4	1	4	0
Billy O'Neill	3.5	1	13	2
Alex Mihalyka	1	0	1	0

Sydney U/16 team won by 109 runs

MATCH 4

SYDNEY U/16 v. UPPER HUTT COLLEGES

Played at Barton Oval, Trentham Memorial Park, on Thursday, 12 April 2007

Toss: Sydney who batted (Maximum 40 overs)

SYDNEY U/16

Dougal Robinson (w-k)	ct. Wratt, b. Stewart	3
Pat Buscombe	ct. Colson, b. Hitchman	7
Charith Mayadunne	ct. Henderson, b. Hitchman	2
Kristian Mitchell (v-c)	bowled Keating	18
Tom Gurka (C)	bowled Keating	15
Billy O'Neill	bowled Keating	0
Alex Mihalyka	bowled Keating	6
Chris Aldersley	bowled Henderson	10
Matt Muir	bowled Henderson	0
Dylan Robertson	lbw Henderson	4
James McNamara	ct. Pember (w-k), b. Wratt	3
Jono Brayshaw	not out	3
Extras	b 4, lb 3, w 7, nb 5	19
TOTAL	29.2 overs 11 wickets for	91
FoW	9, 15, 21, 53, 53, 69, 70, 71, 83, 86, 91	

	O	M	R	W
Kyle Hitchman	5	0	16	2
Joshua Stewart	5	2	21	1
Mark Keating	8	3	25	4
Tom Pere	5	1	10	0
Daniel Henderson	4.2	0	8	3
Marcel Wratt	2	0	4	1

UPPER HUTT COLLEGES

Cameron Bitchener	not out	48
Chris Mooney	ct. Robinson (w-k), b. McNamara	12
Blake Neve	bowled O'Neill	0
Fraser Colson (C)	st. Robinson (w-k), b. Robertson	12
Joel Stewart	st. Robinson (w-k), b. Brayshaw	3
Tom Pere	not out	2
Mark Keating	DNB	
Kyle Hitchman	DNB	
Daniel Henderson	DNB	
Joshua Stewart	DNB	
Jordan Pember (w-k)	DNB	
Marcel Wratt	DNB	
Extras	b 5, lb 4, w 5, nb 2	16
TOTAL	30.4 overs 4 wickets for	93
FoW	48, 48, 72, 91	

	O	M	R	W
Matt Muir	3	0	7	0
Charith Mayadunne	5	1	14	0
James McNamara	6	0	17	1
Dylan Robertson	10	4	21	1
Billy O'Neill	5	2	20	1
Jono Brayshaw	1.4	0	5	1

Upper Hutt Colleges won by 6 wickets

