



Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Inc

PO Box 3727, Marsfield NSW 2122

Newsletter March 2004 (Final)

Alone at the Plate

**He pulls on a helmet, picks up the bat,
And walks to the plate,
"gotta hit and that's that,"**

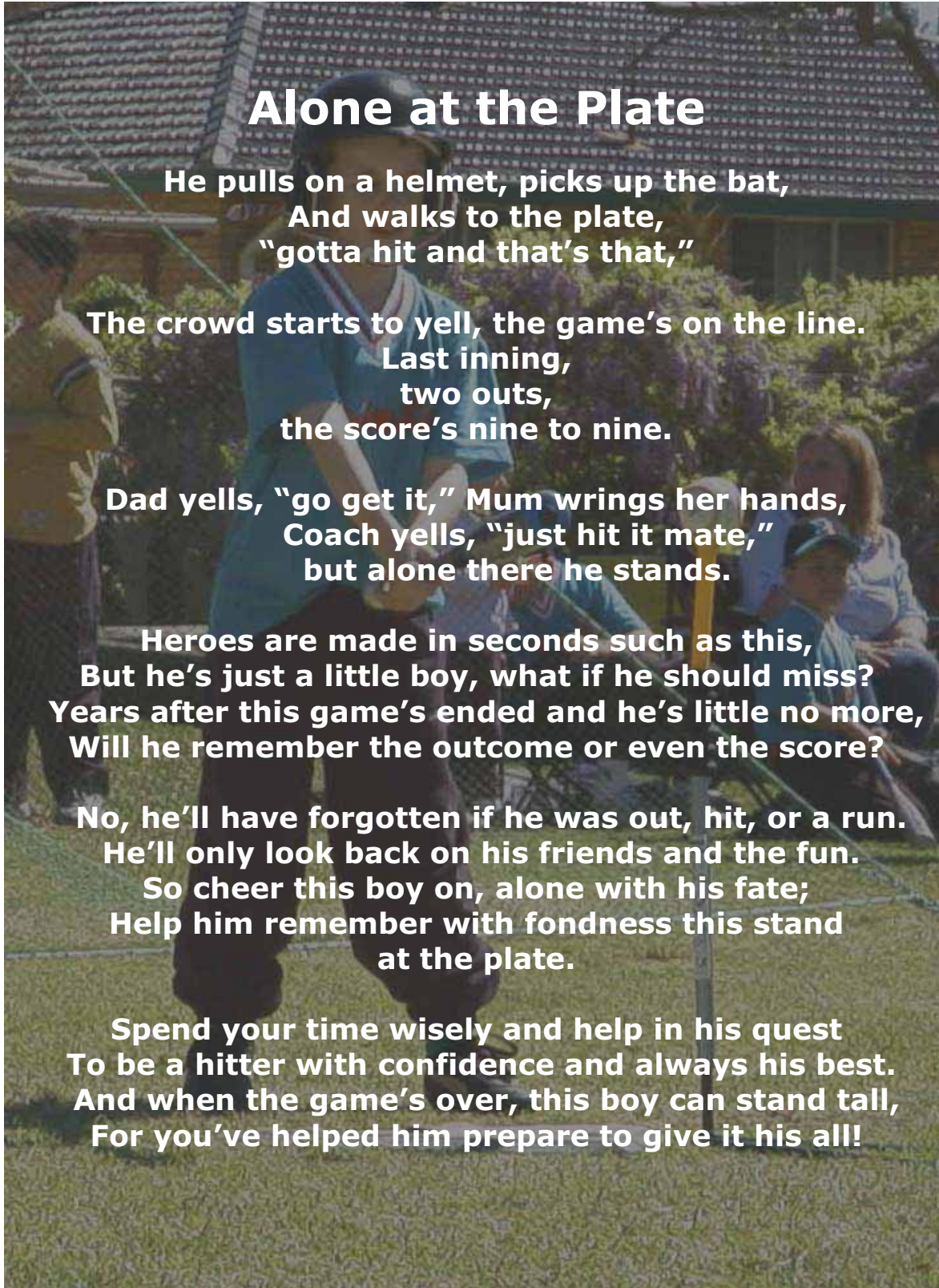
**The crowd starts to yell, the game's on the line.
Last inning,
two outs,
the score's nine to nine.**

**Dad yells, "go get it," Mum wrings her hands,
Coach yells, "just hit it mate,"
but alone there he stands.**

**Heroes are made in seconds such as this,
But he's just a little boy, what if he should miss?
Years after this game's ended and he's little no more,
Will he remember the outcome or even the score?**

**No, he'll have forgotten if he was out, hit, or a run.
He'll only look back on his friends and the fun.
So cheer this boy on, alone with his fate;
Help him remember with fondness this stand
at the plate.**

**Spend your time wisely and help in his quest
To be a hitter with confidence and always his best.
And when the game's over, this boy can stand tall,
For you've helped him prepare to give it his all!**





President's Report 2003/04 Summer Season

Well, what a year it has been for the Saints. Again we had a record number of junior teams (28) participate in the RHBL and we had 7 senior teams play in the PCBL competition, with D2-Elliot & B1-Moss progressing to finals series. Congratulations to Jamie Moss and his B1 team on winning their Grand Final.

The club registered 76 senior players and over 370 juniors this year, with our successful 'Trybaseball' program again contributing to our U7 'in-house' competition between 6 teams. Our U7 survey results show that this was fondly received by nearly everyone involved, so we will endeavor to do the same next year. We have penciled in the following dates for 'Trybaseball' and **registration** for the season 2004/05, they are:

Saturday the 24th of July and **Saturday the 31st of July.**

A-grade trials for U10A, U11A, U12A, U14A & U16A will be held on Saturday the 7th August.

Only registered Macquarie Saints players are eligible to trial.

This year, we've had a record 15 junior teams participate in finals series, 9 of which made it through to Grand Finals. Congratulations to:
Under 9 Div 1 McCrohan and U12A Sims and U14B LaRocca on reaching there respective Grand Finals last Saturday.

Good luck to the following teams for this Saturday's Grand Finals:

Under 8 (Fischer) Div 1
Under 10A(Evans) Div 2
Under 11A(Sorbello)

Under 10 (Luczynski) Div 2
Under 11B(Wells)
Under 14C(Corrigan)

Sponsorship

Once again we had a number of local and not so local businesses support our club through sponsorship which enabled us to continue with our weekly player awards, provide prizes for the Parents T-ball Gala Day and of course our major fundraiser, The Abba/Seventies Night. I would like to thank Cathy Young, our fundraising co-ordinator, and her team of helpers for all their efforts in putting together an event which proved to be the most successful in the club's history, raising over \$10,000.00. I would like to acknowledge the following businesses:

Greater Union Macquarie Megaplex
Schibello Caffe
McDonaugh's Meats
Gourmet Express
Mediterranean Gourmet Pizza
Linfield Sports Store
J&J Wholesalers-Haberfield
Five Star Gourmet- Crows Nest





Grounds

Behind the scenes, members of the Macquarie Saints Executive have worked tirelessly on projects such as:

- Improving the fencing at the southern end of Pioneer Park (reflected in the club's financial statement attached)
- Addressing Ryde Council and it's present Mayor (Edna Wilde) with a favourable outcome to repair the ground subsidence at the northern end (diamonds 2 & 3) of Pioneer Park- work to commence around August 2004.
- Applying for a grant of nearly \$7000.00 to the Dept of Sport and Recreation for the erection of new fencing with dug-outs at Waterloo Park.

These projects, will form an essential part of our strategy, to cater for the continued growth of Macquarie Saints Baseball Club, already the largest within our association and one of the largest in Australia..

Web-site

This season, thanks to Bruce Piper and **Keep in Touch**, saw us launch the Macquarie Saints web-site. An essential tool in this modern era, as it enables the club to keep our members up to speed with special events and news items, such as ground closures etc.

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Keep in Touch

Volunteers

As most of you are aware, a community club cannot function without the dedication and hard work of many people. The time and effort that these people put in, is critical to the success and viability of our club. On behalf of Macquarie Saints, I would like to thank the following people for their contribution throughout this season:

- All parents that coached, managed, umpired and scored, and anyone else that gave up some of their valuable time for the sake of their teams.

- Members of the **Executive** for 2003/2004

President	Tony Sorbello	Junior Vice President	Mark Harris
RHBL Delegate		RHBL Delegate	
PCBL Delegate		PCBL Delegate	
Treasurer	Gary Peck	Senior Vice President	Robert Taylor
Secretary	Sue Nicoll	RHBL Delegate	
Public Officer	Frank Young	PCBL Delegate	



•Members of the **Committee** for 2003/2004

Club Coach	Steve Sims	Equipment Officer	Tony Sorbello
Uniforms	Anne Sorbello	Canteen	Jacqui Forbes
BBQ	Geoff Geniale	Photos & Trophies	Jacquie Williams
	Fundraising Co-ordinator		Cathy Young
	Umpires Co-ordinator		Wendy LaRocca
	Scorers Co-ordinator		Jacquie Williams
	Web-site Co-ordinator		Bruce Piper
	Child Protection Officer		John Collins
	Newsletter		Janelle Moore / Robert Taylor

A special thank you to Geoff Geniale our 'Bar-B-Q King', who unselfishly gives up most of his Saturday each week to cook the food that is the envy of many of our visiting clubs.

Thanks also to Jacqui Forbes and all parents that serve in the canteen. We hear nothing but positive comments from visiting teams, relating to the wide variety we have to offer and the friendly and pleasant manner in which they are served.

I would also like to thank out-going executive members, Sue Nicoll and Robert Taylor. When members express their satisfaction to me as to how efficient the club runs, it is these two people that have put in many hours of their precious time (past and present) to set up systems, such as email communication and coaches' hand books that make the running of the club so much easier.

I look forward to seeing you all at the **Trophy Presentation this Saturday the 27th at Pioneer Park at 3.00pm** and again in the new season 2004/05.

Tony Sorbello
President



Proposed Backnet & Dugouts for Waterloo

Juniors Summer 03/04

This summer, Macquarie Saints fielded 28 junior teams. This in itself is no small achievement. What is truly extraordinary is the fact that each of these teams is supported by a coach, a manager, a scorer and an umpire. All of these officials are volunteers. This is this staggering level of commitment which underpins the Saints as a community-based sporting club.

The following table highlights our achievements.

Age	No. teams	Finalists	Grand Finalists
Under 7	6		
Under 8	4	U8 Fischer U8 Piper U8 Latham	U8 Fischer
Under 9	3	U9 Chrysanthos U9 McCrohan	U9 McCrohan **
Under 10	3	U10 Braiding U10 Luczynski U10A Evans	U10 Luczynski U10A Evans
Under 11	3	U11C Hollings U11B Wells U11A Sorbello	U11B Wells U11A Sorbello
Under 12	3	U12A Minard U12A Sims	U12 Sims **
Under 14	4	U14C Corrigan U14B La Rocca	U14C Corrigan U14B La Rocca
Under 16	2		

There are a few areas which warrant special mention.

1. The Under 9 Chrysanthos team was made up of rookies – both the players and the coaching staff. They managed to reach the Division 2 final.
2. The Under 9 McCrohan team was undefeated.
3. The two Under 12A teams finished in 1st and 3rd places.
4. The Under 14C Corrigan team remains undefeated pending the Grand Final today.
5. The Under 14B made it through to the Grand final with the support of the other Under 12 & 14 teams when they were short of players.

It was the camaraderie which originally attracted me to Macquarie Saints. This is evidenced by:

- the willingness of umpires to officiate at games in addition to those in which their children play;
- teams playing “friendly” games amongst themselves when they had byes;
- the tremendous spirit amongst players as a whole;
- the level of support which made the ABBA night so successful;
- the willingness of most people to take their turn on canteen duty; and

- the comments of opposing teams regarding the sportsman-like way the Saints teams and officials conduct themselves.

I thank you all for a very successful 2003-04 season and I hope to see again for an even better 2004-05.

Mark Harris
Vice President Juniors

Seniors Summer 03/04

This season the club entered 7 teams in the Pacific Coast Baseball League (PCBL) competition. We had 1 B Grade team and 2 teams in each of D, E and F grades. After 21 rounds most of our teams finished there season in the middle of the standings, with both our B2's coached by Jamie Moss and D2's coached by Bill Elliott progressing to the playoffs. Unfortunately the D graders were defeated in there Final by Greenway, however the B graders took out there Grand Final against Stealers with a 12 – 8 win. MVP was awarded to Tim Peters (pitcher) who is the assistant coach of our 16A's.

Most importantly all teams had a lot of fun across the season, it was good to see some more parents taking up senior's baseball and we look forward to more mums and dads joining us in seasons to come. We still have positions available for this winters season (15 rounds); registration forms are available on the Saints website.

Robert Taylor
Vice President Seniors



B2's Summer 03/04



Strikerz – U11B's

Five Dock vs Strikerz Round 12 – 13/12/03 Loss – 13/9

We struggled to find our groove after a month off due to the two rain outs, a bye, and no practice. It certainly shows when you haven't been together in a while. On the mound this week was Robert Wells, Bill Furness, and a debut by Jason Condon. A spectacular catch of a pop fly at home plate by Robbie Williams, a great put out at second by Jade Cantori, whom I'm told was on the watch by scouts from the UK. Also making a show was Dominic So for a put out at second too. Another great home run by Jack Rungie. Had it not been for a couple of spectacular plays by the pitcher from Five Dock, the score would have been much different. A tough job, but well done.

Stealers vs Strikerz Round 13– 20-12-03 Loss – 18/6

A terrific first two digs to hold them at a 6 all draw. We lost our batting in the third and fourth digs, which made the difference. Again we have had only one practice in over a month due to the weather. The 17 walks made the difference against the home team hitting of 17 hits vs 2. Fantastic pitching by Kento who made 14 pitches, 10 of them strikes. Great fielding limited the opposition's offense, especially as we only had 8 players this week. Well done on the day, it was always going to be a tough match. Everyone can be very proud of their efforts this week. Players of the match went to Kento Kamiaraiso and Nicholas Coaldrake.

Strikerz vs Greenway Round 14 - 31-1-04 Win - 8/3

Practice is the key to our continuity. This week we had a terrific win against Greenway to move into clear first place.

Hitting was the key to our success with 11 hits including a spectacular home run by Jack Rungie. Also striking a strong bat were Jason Condon, Josh Brown, Jade Cantori, Nicholas Coaldrake, and Jesse Knowles. Our fielding is improving, reducing our errors to four. Great taken in the field at first by Bill Furness, players of the match, held Greenway to only 4 hits. On the mound this week were Kento Kamairaiso and Mario Restelli who combined struck out 4 batters and chucked a third of the pitches in the zone. A well deserved win on our way to finding our groove again.

Concord vs Strikerz Round 16 - 14-2-04 Win - 13/9

This game was much closer than the result indicated. The scorebook was filled with red, which shows that a week or so off just ruins our continuity. A great batting performance however by Robert Wells, Callum Rolls, Jason Condon, Jesse Knowles, and Nicholas Coaldrake, A fantastic slide at home for the go ahead run by Jack Rungie.

Strikerz vs Stealers Round 18 - 28-2-04 Loss - 9/8

A tough but good game on a very hot day. Too many walks to secure a win on the day coupled with errors. An excellent performance however by all.

Greenway vs Strikerz Round 19 - 06-03-04 Win - 12/10

What a great end to the season as Minor Premiers. A fantastic game with lots of team spirit on both sides and pressure down to the wire. Great hitting and pitching by both

teams but a game turning home run by Callum Rolls clinched the title in the last dig. On the mound this week was Robert Wells and Kento Kamairaiso. Fantastic plays in the field by Jack Rungie taking a ripper of a line drive at first base, Jade Cantori at second, Robert Wells, and Mario Restelli. Cracking the bat today were Mario Restelli, Dominic So, Robbie Williams, Jason Condon and Robert Wells. Players of the match were Callum Rolls, Bill Furness, Jade Cantori, and Mario Restelli.

Badgirls U14's - Sam Collins Coach

Badgirls re-formed this season with some new players. The Bad Girls gave us some cliff hangers and provided a supportive bunch of parents with some exciting moments! Belinda and Kate increased their strike rate progressively and led with exciting pitching. On occasions Becky and Rhea took over with some fast and accurate work. Catcher Yasmin encouraged her Pitchers and backed up consistently. Some fabulous fielding around the bases by players such as Alyssa, Suzie, Becky, Rhea, Pia, Alice and Jess. So many great double plays, homers and slides that the newsletter is not long enough to include them! As the season moved on, the team developed a 'following' with former school friends rocking up to support. It was great to see Team members become more supportive and encouraging. The girls were led by a great coach who was always there for training and matches, whilst Anthony backed up with his enthusiasm for scoring!

Thanks girls for your efforts this season!

Under 7's Atlanta Braves (Sky)

Well the 2003/2004 baseball season is over. The Atlanta Braves Sky had a very successful and enjoyable season. The season began with some players having played and watched the game; on the other hand we had players who had never seen a glove or a ball. But as the season wrapped up all players were seasoned veterans. In the team we had our consistent big hitters in the likes of Sarah and Michael, however, as the season progressed other players began to shine in their batting abilities Nathan, Ben and Amie. As well over the year we saw vast improvements in both fielding and batting by Rachel, Rebecca, Natalia and Max. However, it was sad to see Joseph having to leave the team in mid year as his family moved overseas. On the last training session of the year, all families got together for the end of season BBQ which ended with a kids and parent's game, fun was had by all. In closing, I hope to see all these kids again next season as I am sure there are some rising stars in the ranks.

Under 8: Central (1) "Piper's Monsters".

Another season draws to a close. As this is being written, the team is preparing to play against the other Macquarie Saints side to win a place in the grand final.

The year has seen many highs and all the kids should be congratulated on the way they played and presented themselves.

Big improvements were seen in first time players Georgia White and Sam Giulieri. Big hitters William Blomfield and Sam Lloyd saw many runners brought home to great cheers from the crowd. Anna Piper wowed all with her catcher demonstrations and Dean McCrohan made the short stop position his own with many spectacular saves.



The Espresso Taste of Life

The crowd swears that Jack Ferrari had super glue on his glove with some impossible catches in the right outfield. Brianna Martin displayed consistently all season and impressed all with her third base performances. Chris Bonnett and Sebastian Giulieri provided essential backup in the outfield that set up many outs and Sarah Ivers proved to be Ms Versatility slotting into any position when needed.

Well done Monsters – we hope you enjoyed playing this season as much as the parents enjoyed watching.

U9 Central Champions

What a great year!! The boys went undefeated and beat North Ryde in the G/F 10-0!! So much improvement in the boys this year and so much improvement in the years to come. Zack McAlistair was Man of the match with a great catch. And Johnny Boyle set the table for Sean McCrohan who smashed a huge double in the first to clear the bases and set the tempo for the rest of the game. All the boys had great games and their infamous defense did not let a runner past second. See you in the A's next year!!!



Kevin McCrohan's triumphant Under 9's display their trophies

Under 14c Taylor

Not the best season standings wise however the boys all had a great time, there were some great individual efforts across the season with huge hits and fantastic work in the field. Unfortunately the boys seemed to struggle with our (mostly) early starts and while they saved us from the heat of the day it seems that 8.30am is not a good time for the average under 14 player. A huge thank you to Cassandra Donald (assistant coach) and Annette Ingelton (manager & scorer) for their efforts and commitment to the team over the season. Hope to see everyone again next season.

ACTUAL AUSTRALIAN COURT DOCKET 12659---CASE OF THE PREGNANT LADY

A lady about 8 months pregnant got on a bus.

She noticed the man opposite her was smiling at her. She immediately moved to another seat.

This time the smile turned into a grin, so she moved again. The man seemed more amused.



When on the fourth move, the man burst out laughing, she complained to the driver and he had the man arrested.

The case came up in court. The judge asked the man (about 20 years old) what he had to say for himself.

The man replied, "Well your Honor, it was like this: When the lady got on the bus, I couldn't help but notice her condition. She sat under a sweets sign that said, "The Double Mint Twins are Coming" and I grinned.

Then she moved and sat under a sign that said, "Logan's Liniment will reduce the swelling", and I had to smile.

Then she placed herself under a deodorant sign that said, "William's Big Stick Did the Trick", and I could hardly contain myself.

BUT, your Honor, when she moved the fourth time and sat under a sign that said, "Goodyear Rubber could have prevented this Accident"...I just lost it."

CASE DISMISSED!!!"

MacquarieU12c v's Rangers Round 17 – 21 February Win 10-9

In the incredibly oppressive heat, we managed our second win of the year. But it was an extremely close affair. Rangers managed 5 in their 1st innings which included Andrew Harris' 2 strike-outs. In our innings, our 'three Andrews' (Luczynski, Harris and Walkerden) plus Anthony Rossi all managed to steal home base. With 4 home, and the heat threatening a shortened game, we were keen to get a lead on the first innings. So, with bases loaded, Tana Rattananikom, as is so often the case, managed a powerful hit, which safely got 3 home, and we finished the innings ahead [6-5]. In the 2nd innings, Andrew Luczynski delivered his most accurate pitching this season, restricting a normally free-running Rangers to 4 home [6-9]. Our final innings started well with the 'three Andrews' again managing to steal home to level the scores 9-9 with none out. But then we found ourselves two out and on 2 strikes. It was then that Anthony Rossi, seizing an opportunity, managed a tight steal home to make it 10-9. Although Tana received player-of-the match, it was all of the players (the above plus Kate N, Jacquelyn O, Michael B and Nick W) who deserved an award for sticking to their task in difficult circumstances.

MacquarieU12c v's Kissing Point Angels Round 18 – 28 February Win 9-4

Our innings started well with Andrew Luczynski slamming his very first ball to make 2nd base. Then followed a mixture of walks and outs, in which we managed to steal home base on 3 occasions. The last steal involved a great slide home from Tana Rattananikom. Angels opened with some cautions and sensible batting which saw them take the lead 3-4 with none out. Michael Bullock and Kate Nightingale made safe ground pickups in this stanza. But when Andrew Luczynski took over the pitching, the game took a dramatic change. With bases loaded, he struck out 2 players and catcher Anthony Rossi (catcher) then fielded a high ball and tagged-out a forced runner at

home base [3-4]. Our 2nd innings began badly with our first 2 batters struck out, due to some accurate pitching. But then our players responded, starting with a strong hit from Andrew Harris, and we made maximum 6 [9-4]. Remembering that the last time we played Angels away, all innings were maximum 6, our players knew that they still needed to concentrate on their game. Jacquelyn Osborne took up as catcher again (after a long lay-off) and reminded us how well she handles that position. But it was our pitcher Andrew Luczynski who continued his 1st innings efforts by striking-out 3 of Angels' next 6 batters, in a stunning player-of-the-match performance. Our confident running from 3rd base-to-home was a great feature of the game.

Macquarie U12C v's North Ryde Round 19 – 6 March Loss 3-12

While we were beaten by a better side, we did have our chances in this game. In the 1st innings, North Ryde made 6 home. Things looked good for us with bases loaded, 2 home and none out. But then our next 3 batters were struck out. [2-6]. In the 2nd innings, North Ryde had 2 out with none home. Then came another turning point - with a player caught between 3rd and home, and the end of the innings in sight, there was an overthrow and they got 2 home. Two more overthrows saw North Ryde going on to get maximum 6 again. Our 2nd innings started badly with two struck out - then, the highlight of the game. Player-of-the-match Andrew Luczynski hit our first home run of the season!!! - a powerful stroke just out of reach of 1st base. Andrew stumbled about 5 metres from home plate, giving us all heart-palpitations, but he had enough time to get to his feet and make it home as the ball arrived.

Macquarie U12C v's Balmain Boomers Round 20 – 13 March Loss 3-14

Our final match was our most 'spectacular' of the season, and continued the tradition of enjoyable games against Balmain. It was also a match of 'firsts' - the first time that a game went to a 4th innings and the first time that we had two - yes, TWO!!! - double-plays. Our highlights were: 1st innings: Accurate pitching from Andrew Harris forced the Balmain players to go for the ball [1-4]. 2nd innings: Jacquelyn Osborne managed a bold steal home, forcing the ball from the catcher's glove when it seemed she would be short. Our first double-play - Andrew Walkerden tagging at 1st base, throwing to catcher Andrew Harris to prevent a home, who then threw to Anthony Rossi at 3rd for an out. Nick White fielded a huge hit, threw to Tana Rattananikom who put in a perfect throw from outfield to the catcher, to prevent second run home. Finally, Damien La Rocca took a great high, in-field catch. [2-8]. 3rd innings: Andrew Harris managed 2nd base on one hit, and eventually managed our only home. Then, in our best fielding display ever, we managed to keep competition-leaders Balmain scoreless - not something that many teams have done this year. [3-8]. 4th innings: This is where the score got away from us, being 0-6. But it had highlights. Nick White managed his first clean hit into the in-field. And it had our second double-play of the match - Andrew Walkerden again at 1st base catching out and throwing accurately to 3rd for a tag. Jacquelyn Osborne's catching and Andrew Luczynski's pitching were to the usual high standard. But it was player-of-the-match Kate Nightingale, who put in her best performance of the season with a good hit, and three strong throws from the outfield which drew comments from the Balmain supporters. Despite the score, this was one of our best performances of the year, and a fitting way to end our season.

Ken Bullock Manager

Some of last years "Darwin Awards"

A young Canadian man, searching for a cheap way to get drunk, because he was short of money to buy alcohol, mixed gasoline with milk. Not surprisingly, upon ingesting this concoction it made him ill, and he immediately vomited into an open fireplace in his house, which had a small wood fire burning in it. The resulting explosion burned his house down, killing both him and his sister.

Three Brazilian men were flying in a light aircraft at low altitude when another plane approached. It appears that they decided to "moon" the occupants of the other plane, but they lost control of their own aircraft and crashed. They were all found dead in the wreckage with their pants around their ankles.

A 22-year-old, Glade Drive, Reston, VA, man was found dead after he tried to use octopus straps to bungee jump off a 70-foot railroad trestle. Fairfax County police said Eric Barcia, a fast-food worker, taped a bunch of these straps together, wrapped one end around one foot, anchored the other end to the trestle at Lake Accotink Park, jumped and hit the pavement. Warren Carmichael, a police spokesman, said investigators believe Barcia was alone, because his car was found nearby. "The length of the cord that he had assembled was appreciably greater than the distance between the trestle and the ground." Police say the apparent cause of death was as a result of "Major trauma."

A man in Alabama died from a rattlesnake bite. It seems that he and a friend were playing a game of catch, using the rattlesnake as a ball. The friend, no doubt a future Darwin Awards candidate, was also hospitalized, but recovered.

Employees in a medium-sized warehouse in west Texas noticed the smell of natural gas. Sensibly, the management promptly evacuated the building, extinguishing all potential sources of ignition; lights, power, etc. After the building had been evacuated, 2 technicians from the gas company were dispatched. Upon entering the building, they found that they were having difficulty navigating in the dark. To their frustration, none of the lights worked. Witnesses, from a building overlooking the 2 technicians, later described that they had seen one of the technicians reaching into his pocket to retrieve an object which resembled a cigarette lighter. Upon operation of the lighter-like object, the gas in the warehouse exploded, sending pieces of the building up to a mile away. Nothing was found of the technicians. The lighter was found virtually untouched by the explosion. The technician suspected of causing the blast was described as 'not too bright' by his peers.

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Keep in Touch

Under 11C (Hollings) Saints Vs Concord Rnd 18 28th Feb, 2004 Win 14:1

After a delayed start due to an injured umpire, the team had a terrific win today. Stuart got a fabulous home run and was a great pitcher. Due to misfielding, Martin and Taylor both got home unexpectedly which was very exciting. Jos and Geoffrey batted really well and got home. Andrew took a great catch. Kara and Jake made excellent hits. Jack and Rhiannon were invaluable on the field and batting. Hugo was a great catcher as well as batting well and getting home. It was a fast paced, exciting game. Well done everyone! MOM was Sarah for being batgirl and Taylor for playing so well even after being hit on the foot.

Under 11C (Hollings) Saints Vs Epping Eastwood Final 20th March Loss 6:3

Although disappointed by today's result, the team should feel very proud of the way they played not; just today but over the whole season. Stuart and Andrew were terrific pitchers and Geoffrey and Hugo did a great job as catchers. We saw some skillful fielding from Martin, Kara, Rhiannon, Jack and Taylor. There were some excellent hits from Andrew, Jos, Stuart and Jake. Even though Sarah's injury prevented her from playing today, we were all so glad she was there today, feeling everything the other players were feeling, still very much a part of the team. Unfortunately however, Epping Eastwood played a very good game today and managed to win the game. This season has seen each and every player improve in their skills, knowledge and attitude to the game. The team spirit amongst the players is to be admired and they work so well together as a team. Next season will be even better. Congratulations Under 11c's- you have had a GREAT season.

A huge thankyou to Win and Matt for their dedication and coaching this season. The players have learned so much from you both. A big thankyou also to Craig and Jack for learning how to umpire. We know it is not an easy job but you both did so well. A big thankyou to George for scoring every week, sometimes in the blazing sun with no shade. Thankyou to Nigel and Peter for keeping the players, the bats and helmets organised. Finally, thankyou to all those who helped in the canteen. Without the help and support from all the parents, the children would not have had such an enjoyable and rewarding season.



Under 10 South (3) Saints vs Concord Rnd 17 – 21st Feb Win 5 - 4

Concord (undefeated) started this game with a huge hit into right field and a home run for sure but it was smoothly picked up by Nicholas, relayed into Tyrone and the batter tagged out at home by Craig! A great beginning to a very close game. Fantastic fielding by Saints kept Concord's runs at bay with lots of outs at first and a tricky fly near 1st caught cleanly by Sam. Well played, Saints!

Saints vs Concord Round Robin – 28th Feb Loss 3 – 14 (Ouch!)

Our team fielded brilliantly for the first three innings – even picking off one of Concord's steals. Great "minds-on" playing at 3rd by Tyrone in co-operation with Nicola as catcher. Erol did some great pick-ups at short-stop, playing well to Craig on 1st. Good play on 2nd by Brian.

Saints vs Gladesville Round Robin – 6th March Win 5 – 3

Wet balls causing Zooka irregularities made batting challenging this game for both teams and the score low. Great fielding by Joshua, Michael and Jake in the outfield and a beaut fly-catch by Tom at 2nd.

Saints vs Five Dock Round Robin – 13th March Loss 11 – 13

Great batting and fielding by Saints under difficult circumstances with machine failure, a late start and an underarm pitcher for the game. Both Nicholas and Nicola maintained strong focus throughout the game as catcher, with a great tag and double-play by Nicola. Joshua did a great job on 2nd and Tom caught another of his famous flies. Sam made several good plays, while Erol enjoyed taking some risky steals. Bad luck, Saints, we nearly took it!

Saints vs Concord Final – 20th March Loss (not telling!)

Concord were just too strong for us this time with their pitcher making several amazing catches during the game, stopping us dead in our tracks! Luckily we had Nicholas, Joshua, Jake, Brian and Michael in outfield positions who put a quick stop to Concord's huge hits and got the ball in with strong, accurate throws. Great backing up by Michael and Erol and good base-running by all the team. This game was the end of the season for us, bringing us third in the top four. Beaut playing and thanks for a great season!

U8's Peck

Saints vs. Kuring-gai Stealers Rnd 16, 14 Feb Loss 21:26

The opposition got a lucky break in the first innings by getting a catch coupled with some confusion in the Saints team that resulted getting a side way for only one run. The team then played gallantly to make up the lost ground. In the next 3 innings Macquarie scored more runs each innings than the Stealers but unfortunately it wasn't enough to bridge the gap. Zoe played well at catcher and Josh at pitcher. Alex batted well and coupled with some fine running got 3 runs. This earned him Player of the week. The game ball went to James O for great fielding, including at tag at 1st base. Josh, Bianca, Jarrod, Nathan also scored 3 runs each. Damien, James S and Bianca fielded well, with Bianca making several tags.



Saints vs. Rangers Thunderbolts Rnd 17, 21 Feb Loss 16:21

It was a stinking hot day today – water bottles certainly got a workout! The team batted well, particularly James S, James O, Damien, Bianca and Jarrod. Jarrod was the week's big hitter earning him the game ball. Josh was awarded the Player of the Week for his fine running between bases. Nathan fielded well making several tags and Alex had a very good pick up and throw home in the first innings, whilst Zoe had a good all round game. Everyone was glad to finish the game and seek respite from the heat!

Saints vs. Thornleigh Rnd 18, 28 Feb Loss 16:21

The final round of the competition – the team played well, but with Nathan and Jarrod, a couple of key players, missing it was always going to be a challenge. Everyone batted well, but good fielding the opposition limited our runs. Zoe and Damien shared the Player of the Week; Damien for some very good fielding and running. Zoe played well as the 9th batter in getting her team mates home. After the game Coach Peck rewarded us all with sweet bags, which we all enjoyed.

Saints vs. Kissing Point Angels Pennant Round 1, 6 March Loss 24:25

Another close game – we had so many during the competition, so it's a continuation of our record. Zoe played so well this week at catcher – easily her best game of the season. Her ball handling was excellent and she made 8 tags. Zoe also scored 3 runs and thoroughly deserved the Player of the Week Award. Bianca also got a couple of tags at 2nd base and also fielded and batted well, earning her the game ball. Nathan and James S were our star runners, with 4 runs apiece, whilst James O and Jarrod each scored 3 runs. Alex, Josh and Damien all fielded well, Damien getting a tag at 1st base and doing a fine job as 9th batter to bring his the team home.

Saints vs. Greenway Tides Pennant Round 2, 13 March Loss 11:27

It wasn't our day today. Our opposition were exceptionally good fielders, particularly their pitcher and 1st base combination (they could catch!). This resulted in our team frequently getting tagged at first base. However, we had our highlights. Nathan scored a home run, which given the great fielding by Greenway made the run even more special. This earned him the game ball. Bianca and Zoe got more than half the team's runs scoring 3 runs each. Josh was awarded Player of the Week for his fielding, including a couple of tags at 1st base. James S also got a tag at 3rd base. Alex, James O and Jarrod all demonstrated good all round play. Even though we were out played, we played with spirit and determination and fine sportsmanship.

Saints vs. Kuring-gai Cougars Pennant Round 3, 20 March Win 28:20

This was the sweetest game of all – finishing the season with a long awaited win! The team all played so well, both as a team and individually. Damien had a blinder playing at 2nd base – 4 tags! He also had a couple of great bats and scored 4 runs. For this exceptional effort he was awarded the Player of the Week. James S also had a great game making a catch and then a tag in the same play resulting in a very early side away in the 3rd innings. James S earned a movie ticket for his contributions. There were runs aplenty with Josh, Alex, James S and Zoe scoring 4 runs each. Nathan played 9th batter with plenty of grunt and big hits bringing his team mates home so well. Bianca made a couple of tags at 1st base and also fielded well. James O fielded well as pitcher making a good combination with both Bianca and Damien at 1st and 2nd




base respectively. Jarrod whacked the balls out of the diamond and did very well with 3 runs. We also had a presentation for Coach Peck thanking him for his fine coaching and dedication to the team. Coach Peck got a shirt with all our names on, so he can remember what a fine team we were! We also thanked Jenny and Neil for acting as team scorer and umpire respectively. They performed these roles with skill and impartiality as well as being great team supporters. Thank you U8's North – you were a great team and did the club proud. Good luck for next season.

Macquarie U10 Luczynski vs Balmain R/Robin – 6 March Win 12-7

In a game of high tension in the drizzle at Waterloo the Saints shone through. In many ways the game was a good summary of the season. There have been some mixed results but the boys, and girl, always behaved as a team and were good sports. Eu-Jin, Eu-Kin and Sam had great hits. Adam, Linden, Katrina and Daniel improved every game. Austin was speedy between the bases after great batting and Doug tried hard. There has been a steady improvement in the fielding, especially Linden, through out the year. Eu-Kin, Sam and Daniel have been great catchers. Katrina must have been close to a record with eight fouls. Their efforts were only surpassed by Ian's enthusiasm and guidance.

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10A Evans

The 10As came back from the summer mid-season break with a big bang. Sam found his batting strength and pounded Thornleigh for 2 huge hits. This triggered a batting bonanza from others. Remember Latham's smashing rip to centre field and Kathleen's hit over right field the following week. Brendan's fielding at short stop and Kieran at 2nd base was acrobatic to say the least.



10A's Warming Up



Michael was often in the wars with bruises from batting and fielding – who says size matters? There were a couple of great catches by Karl and Kathleen in the field. Our pitchers sometimes found the strike zone a little small but they have started their live pitch careers well this season – well done to Jaydon, Sam, Ivan, Karl, Michael & Brendan. A couple of hot days put us off our game and we missed out on the top 4 finish.

Ivan's batting brought home 2 runners for a win against Gladesville in our 1st game of the final series. There was more good fielding by Kieran and backing up by Matthew in the outfield.

Our win against Five Dock in the 2nd finals games was a close fought effort. Solid play all round saw us go straight into the Grand Final. We are all looking forward to the final game of the season this coming Saturday.

U/14B La Rocca season wrap-up.

Being a team of first year U/14s, and having only 9 on the squad, I wasn't sure what to expect this season, but right from the very first game, the team has shown outstanding skill, confidence, courage and pride in their game. I knew we'd be playing some more experienced sides, but though our guys were smaller in stature, they were high on skill. We kept winning game after game, surprising and delighting us all.

Nearly all of our games were extremely competitive with some close scores, but the boys could always dig deep and come out on top. Our grand final day was a bit different. We had some bad luck in the field, and as soon as the boys felt the tide turning against them, they lost that edge, causing a few errors. Concord played the best game and came out on top, deservedly.

Grand final nerves got to both our pitchers, but I have to give them credit for trying in the face of adversity. The best players of the day were James Armstrong, Jake Stuart, Cameron Mitchell, and Jono Lane. Between the latter two, there was a great double play from 1st to 3rd, Jono picking up a screamer of a throw from Cameron, to tag the runner, who was unfortunately for us, called safe. Regardless of the call, it was a fantastic play, and the best play of the whole game.

Our team consisted of the following talented players:-

Jake Stuart - multi-talented, excellent pitcher, cool on and off the mound, outstanding batting record this season.

Tim Klujn - a fantastic catcher, a position which he excels at and loves to play (even on those really hot days), good batter and valuable member of the team.

James Armstrong - played 1st base most of the season, a real delight on the field, keeps the team focused and the coaches amused. Also a very consistent lead-off batter.

Daniel La Rocca - plays a consistent second base, or outfield, his batting has improved immensely this season.

Lucas Johnson-Fischer - a great all-rounder, played third, second and left-field, always knows where the next play is, excellent fielder and batter.

Matt Hollings - has proved himself to be an excellent short-stop this season, nothing gets past him, and his throws to 1st base are always spot-on - great backing-up and

keeping the infield tight. Also a very good pitcher, keeping his cool when it matters most. His batting has also improved immensely this season.

Domenic Savignano - his fielding has improved immensely, played right field, initiated two double plays to first base and home. His batting and base-running has also improved.



After losing two players, we had two new team members join us in the New Year -

Cameron Mitchell - an absolutely astounding batter/base runner, most at-bats scoring a home run, also an excellent fielder, throws with bullet-like speed, has a lot of fun with the game. Very confident.

Jono Lane - another very skilled, very confident player, played third base with absolute precision, always getting the out when it counts, another big hitter, and also an outstanding pitcher.

If it wasn't for **Cameron and Jono** our season would have ended in January, so a huge thankyou to both, you were a huge asset to our team, the boys loved playing and training with you guys, and you made the rest of the season so much more fun!



Also a very special thank you to Assistant Coaches **Matt and Tom Rickard**, you guys did all the hard work, and your help and experience had a huge impact on the boys! They all respected and looked up to you both, and had a very rewarding season mostly because of you. *Thank you.*

Under 8 Fischer

Well, the season hasn't finished for us yet, - talk about "*sliding*" into the Grand Finals! Well that's what U8 Fischer did on Sat 20/3! We were up against one of the only 2 teams we'd lost to all season - our fellow Saints team U8 Piper. After drawing 21 all, we went on to win in extra time 24-23. This means that we play against the North Ryde Rams (the only other team we've lost to all season!) in the Grand Finals.

Well done to all the U8 Fischer players! You have all have shown many improvements both in teamwork and individual performance. Thank you to all the parents for cheering the team on, bringing your children to training and the games on time and always being happy to help when required, especially when we've been rostered on canteen duty. Behind every great team is a team of dedicated parents!

A very special thank you to our exceptional coach, Tom Fischer. Tom's patience, knowledge of the game and gentle encouragement attitude has made the 2003-2004 T-Ball season an enjoyable one for the players and parents.

Our umpire (Paul Jackson) and scorer (Wendy O'Brien) also deserve special mention - thank you Paul & Wendy for committing to these positions and carrying out your roles so well. In addition, the team would like to extend a big thank you to Ryan & Rhys , the 2 Macquarie juniors who have assisted during training and at all our games.

Under 11A Report

11A's V Thornleigh Round 18- 28th February 12-8 Win

A great win against Thornleigh, with Jack Young, Jack Forbes, Ben Cambourne and James Vlazny all having great games. James' effort as closing pitcher was a stand out, as he struck two batters out. Ben had a great game as catcher while Jack Young pounced on any hits in the outfield to limit Thornleigh's runners from advancing bases. Jack Forbes smacked a three bagger to centre field late in the game for 2 RBI's. Jake Wilkins had a good game, while Jordan Sorbello batted well for his 2 RBI's.

11A's V Concord Round 19- 6th March 7-6 Win

Chris Nicoll was our Player of the Match with a great all round performance. He fielded superbly and pitched a great couple of innings. He struck out one batter and put out another two in the 1st innings, combining with 'safe-hands' Louisa at 1st Base. Jack Young hit a two bagger to centre field, and also caught well, while Lizzy Symons batted soundly for her two digs.

11A's V Stealers Round 20- 13th March 12-3 Win

A solid performance all round as no errors were recorded against us all game. Ryan McLachlan was our player of the match with some great batting and pitching. Jordan Sorbello's 2 base hit to centre field earned him 3 of the 4 RBI's he had for the day, while Ben Cambourn hit a great two bagger to right field. Lizzy also hit a two bagger late in the game and Louisa Scott took two nice catches while fielding at second base. James Vlazny and Jack Forbes had very good games at bat, getting on base every dig.



Credits

The success of a team is not always measured by the results on the field alone. It is based on many factors including the dedication of not only the players, but the parents as well. Thank you to our Assistant Coach, Mitchell Morrisby, who still managed to help me coach this team, even though he had a heavy representative schedule this year.

Our manager, Jacqui Forbes (mother hen), assumed duties well outside her role description, and has been the back-bone of our team. Thank you.

Umpire- Frank Young & Wendy Symons

Scorers- Cathy Young and Narelle Cambourn

Pitch counters- Suzie Wilkins, Lee McLachlan, Sue Nicoll

Base coaches- Adam Vlazny and Bernie Nicoll

Pitching coaches- Stirling Baker, Matt Minard, Steve Sims, Sam Collins

Grounds- David Scott

Thank you to all!

Tony Sorbello

U12A (1) Minard

Firstly I must apologize to our Team, parents & supporters. Unfortunately my PC suffered a major crash last weekend. To-date I have not been able to recover a lot of my Files including the Match Reports since our last Newsletter. As there is insufficient time to rewrite the Reports I will finish the 2003-04 Season with a summary instead.

Well, what a season we have had. A mixture of fun, excitement, frustration, drama & more. During all this we managed to play baseball & a lot of times very good baseball at that. A Grade competition is tough, as it should be, with every week seeming like a Grand Final as teams strive to stay near the top of the competition ladder.

Our players, all of them, can feel very proud of their efforts, collectively & individually, throughout the season. Every player contributed to the team and all players improved on their skills & knowledge of baseball. This, in the main, was due to our two great Coaches being father & son Jim Minard & Matt Minard. Thank you both very much for your time, effort & patience throughout the season. Every player & parent of our team appreciates the effort you have both put in to our team. You are the best !

During the season proper we played 12 games, winning 7, drawing 1 and losing 4 and finished in 4th position. A very good effort considering the high standard of opposition. The difference between 1st place and us was only 2 wins and a draw. The teams making the rest of the top 4, being Five Dock, Greenway (7) & Macquarie Saints (6) were all very strong teams and all teams deserved to play off in the Round Robin. Wasn't it great to see both Macquarie Saints teams in the top 4 ! In the Round Robin we beat Greenway (7) convincingly 12 - 4 (what a great team effort) and were beaten by Five Dock & Mac Saints but in each game by only 1 run.

These results put us in the Final & we faced Mac Saints (6). Again, both Mac Saints teams in the top 3. Once again this vindicated the Clubs decision to field 2 A Grade teams. Thank you Tony Sorbello and to the Committee. What a game the Final was ! A great game of baseball, great skills by both teams and most important it was played in

the very best of spirit. Sims' team was too good on the day and was deserved winners 6 -2. This game also produced the catch of the season to Eric Vlahos.

Our team can be very proud of their efforts throughout the Season. Well done Sravan, Ollie, Dean, Chris, Ryan, Alex, Dan, Nathan, Adam, Lachlan and Eric. We are all very proud of all of you and hope to see you back next season.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to the many people associated with our mighty team.

Big thanks to our two fabulous Coaches, Jim & Matt. A great effort !
Thanks also to the many people it takes to make a baseball team run smoothly. Thank you Lyn Falconer, our scorer, who went quietly about her business match after match, and to Di Marsh & Robyn Minard who assisted when Lyn was unavailable. Thank you Stuart McLean, our Umpire, who was there game after game doing one of the hardest jobs around. A sterling effort. Thank you Wayne Falconer who helped us in so many ways deputizing when someone wasn't available & had a hand at Coach, Manager, Umpire, helped at training so often & was always available for advice. Much appreciated.

Thanks you to our Grounds Person, Raffaele Civitella who got diamond setting up to a fine art. Thanks also to Keith who was always there assisting at training & games doing whatever was required. Thank you very much to all the parents for your assistance with canteen duty, for getting our players to training & games throughout the season and for all your vocal support for the team during games. We couldn't do it without you !

Great Effort Macquarie Saints (1) !!!
Chris Lumb Manager



Macquarie Saints 'Abba' Dinner Dance

This night was held on 21st February 2004 at North Ryde School of Arts Community Centre, and was to be the Club's major fundraising event for 2003-2004 season. The night kicked off at 7.30pm with the last dance at 1.00am!! (and still they wanted more!).

Special thanks to the many coaches and managers of teams who worked so hard to coordinate the selling of raffle tickets, as well as promoting the 'Abba' night throughout their teams. We do appreciate how this can be a 'tough' job to do, and your support was greatly appreciated. To those who couldn't attend: well,....you missed a great night!

Planning for the Dinner Dance started in September 2003 and (despite only having 50 tickets sold 7 days before the event!!) on the night we had 153 people attend. Many entered into the 'spirit' of Abba, with some MS members barely recognizable in their Abba gear!! How frightening that so many people had ready access to such costumes from their own wardrobes!! The Dinner Dance itself, including the Trivia Quiz, the Coin Toss and the True/False game made a profit of approximately \$1700.



Most people took the opportunity to dance the night away, and there was some very competitive bidding for the silent auction items on the night! Thanks to all those who participated in the bidding, whether successfully or unsuccessfully. The profits below clearly indicate that your support has provided great dividends for the Club!

Silent Auction

For the Silent Auction items, and an extraordinary amount of spot prizes on the night, special thanks must go to:

- Matthew Briggs (player from the E2 team, and now a proud first-time Dad of baby Clara Elloise, born the day after the 'Abba' night!);
- Jenny Burnett-Blue: for the design of the invitations and the donation of the beautifully hand-beaded and embroidered Pashmina;
- Anne Chrysanthos for hair and fashion accessories;
- Chris Berentz for the donation of the signed Balmain Tigers ball;
- Tony Costa for the donation of a signed bat (prize); and to
- Robert Taylor for organising the signing of another bat for the silent auction.

The 12 items from the Silent Auction, including 8 beautifully framed Baseball prints, netted a profit of \$3965 for the Club. Sincere thanks to all who supported the auction, either by donation or bidding.

The Raffle

The Major Guessing Competition was also run in conjunction with the Dinner Dance, and was drawn on the night! As all would already know, there was one major prize: a Group 1 espresso/cappuccino machine, generously donated by **Schibello Caffè**. This was a most desirable prize, with many individuals vying for the winning ticket! We were delighted to have both Sam Dimartino - General Manager of **Schibello Caffè**, and Tony Sorbello - Director, both there to draw the winning ticket. The winner was Ann Patterson from Midway's *Spinnin' Chickens*. Ann, along with her husband Steve from *McDonagh's Meats* at Midway, have been long time supporters of Macquarie Saints Baseball - enjoyed by many at our MS BBQ at Pioneer each week.



The Espresso Taste of Life

Thanks to our Supporters and Sponsors

In wrapping up the Dinner Dance it is important to make special mention of the following organisations for their support. Where possible, please support these organisations for, without the support they gave to the Dinner Dance, it would not have been as successful as what it was.

1. Art Scene at West Ryde - especially Kim who went above and beyond in assisting with the framing of the Baseball prints in order to support us with the fundraiser. Art Scene also loaned the club the easels for the month leading up to and including the night, in order to display the works at their best. We recommend this framing service to all MS members. Be sure to mention Macquarie Saints Baseball Club;
2. Jenny Burnett-Blue of Jenny Blue Design, Eastwood (manager of U9 South - Chrysanthos) - who designed the original invitations and donated the Pashmina;
3. Greater Union at Macquarie - for the generous donation of 10 Gold Class gift vouchers;

4. Grace Merlo from J & J Wholesalers, Haberfield for the donation of 2 dozen bottles of wine;
5. Charlie Annetta – for the donation of quality Microsoft software and mouse
6. Brays Colour Printing: (especially Milton and Natalie) for a great job, done on time, and for a competitive price. It really was a pleasure to do business with them.

It is important and appropriate to offer special thanks to the numerous individuals who assisted prior to and on the night. Whilst it's always tricky to name people, for fear of leaving someone out, we would like to make particular mention of the following Macquarie Saints Club members and friends:

Alison Ryan, Donna McKell, Michelle Purcell, Maria Peck, Craig Evans, Steve Sims, John Cook, Ree Sorbello, Jacqui Forbes, Geoff Geniale, Ken McKell and Lee McLachlan. These people were generous with their time and their support and, pardon the cliché, we couldn't have done it without them!

A special mention also to David Taylor, Chris Lumb and Kate Goode – for the extra yards they put in to secure people to come on the night. If there had been a prize for the hardest working 'Table Organizers' – they would have won it! We were also delighted to have representatives from Concord Baseball Club join us on the night. In fact they supported the night right from the start, and were some of the first to purchase their tickets. They certainly seemed to be enjoying themselves despite being surrounded by some spirited MS members!!

In conclusion, special thanks and recognition must also go to Anne Sorbello for her extraordinary work in assisting with the organisation and planning of the night, from the very first mention of the idea all the way through to dispensing of the last garbage bag on the night. I would like to acknowledge here the 1000's of ways, some known, and many unknown, that Anne contributed to the success of the night!

We are delighted to be able to hand the overall profit of \$10,803 over to Macquarie Saints Baseball Club, and hope that it helps in furthering the great game of Baseball for our children, and their families.

Cathy Young **Fundraising Coordinator 2003-2004 Season**

This makes you think what has society come to these days...???

What a world? (country NSW)... On Thursday, 24 January 2002, Derek Guille broadcast this story on his afternoon program on ABC radio.

In March, 1999, a man living in Kandos (near Mudgee in NSW) received a bill for his as yet unused gas line stating that he owed \$0.00. He ignored it and threw it away.

In April he received another bill and threw that one away too.

The following month the gas company sent him a very nasty note stating they were

going to cancel his gas line if he didn't send them \$0.00 by return mail.

He called them, talked to them, and they said it was a computer error and they would take care of it.

The following month he decided that it was about time that he tried out the troublesome gas line figuring that if there was usage on the account it would put an end to this ridiculous predicament. However, when he went to use the gas, it had been cut off.

He called the gas company who apologised for the computer error once again and said that they would take care of it. The next day he got a bill for \$0.00 stating that payment was now overdue.

Assuming that having spoken to them the previous day the latest bill was yet another mistake, so he ignored it, trusting that the company would be as good as their word and sort the problem out.

The next month he got a bill for \$0.00. This bill also stated that he had 10 days to pay his account or the company would have to take steps to recover the debt.

Finally, giving in, he thought he would beat the company at their own game and mailed them a cheque for \$0.00.

The computer duly processed his account and returned a statement to the effect that he now owed the gas company nothing at all.

A week later, the manager of the Mudgee branch of the Westpac Banking Corporation called our hapless friend and asked him what he was doing writing cheque for \$0.00. After a lengthy explanation the bank manager replied that the \$0.00 cheque had caused their cheque processing software to fail. The bank could therefore not process ANY cheques they had received from ANY of their customers that day because the cheque for \$0.00 had caused the computer to crash.

The following month the man received a letter from the gas company claiming that his cheque has bounced and that he now owed them \$0.00 and unless he sent a cheque by return mail they would take immediate steps to recover the debt. At this point, the man decided to file a debt harassment claim against the gas company.

It took him nearly 2 hours to convince the clerks at the local courthouse that he was not joking. They subsequently assisted him in the drafting of statements which were considered substantive evidence of the aggravation and difficulties he had been forced to endure during this debacle.

The matter was heard in the Magistrate's Court in Mudgee and the outcome was this:

The gas company was ordered to:

[1] Immediately rectify their computerised accounts system or show cause, within 10 days, why he matter should not be referred to a higher court for consideration under Company Law.

[2] Pay the bank dishonour fees incurred by the man.

[3] Pay the bank dishonor fees incurred by all the Westpac clients whose cheques had been bounced on the day our friend's had been.


[4] Pay the claimant's court costs; and

[5] Pay the claimant a total of \$1500 per month for the 5 month period March to July inclusive as compensation for the aggravation they had caused their client to suffer.

And all this over \$0.00.

This story can also be viewed on the ABC website.

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Macquarie Saints Baseball Club Inc.

Income Statement for 01/04/2003 to 21/03/2004

	Opening Balance	\$ 14,761.15
Revenues		
Winter Rego	\$ 8,054.00	
Summer Rego	\$40,006.28	
Canteen	\$11,330.16	
Fundraising	\$17,374.65	
Bank Interest	\$ 38.93	
Uniform Sales	\$ 3,713.00	
Other	\$ 5,348.60	
Total Revenues	\$ 85,865.62	\$ 85,865.62
Expenses		
Main Expenses		
NSWBL	\$ 6,959.00	
PCBL	\$ 4,505.00	
RHBL	\$ 9,568.00	
Ground Hire	\$ 3,089.00	
Uniform Purchases	\$ 5,725.70	
Canteen Purchases	\$ 8,619.38	
	\$38,466.08	
Equipment		
Equipment Purchases	\$ 3,923.23	
Zooka Machines	\$ 1,070.00	
Ground Improvements	\$15,120.00	
Other	\$ 715.80	
	\$20,829.03	
Administration		
Postage, Printing and Stationary	\$ 2,015.57	
Coaches and Managers	\$ 140.00	
Trophies	\$ 3,325.62	
Other	\$ 321.00	
	\$ 5,802.19	
Other		
Bank Fees/Adjustments	\$ 1,405.12	
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,972.50	
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 7,346.01	
	\$11,723.63	
Total Expenses		\$(76,820.93)
Profit for the Period		\$ 9,044.69
Financial Assets as at 21 March 2004		
Cash @ Bank		\$ 5,274.53
Ground Development Fund		\$ 15,361.32
Canteen Account		\$ 3,169.99
Total		\$ 23,805.84

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