

## **University of NSW Cricket Club Life Member Profiles.**

## **Tom Boyce**



2003 Life Member presentation

#### **Roles and Honours**

UNSW First Grade Scorer	1977-78, 1984 – 1985 to 1988 – 1989 then 1989 – 1994 shared with David Lemon.				
First Class Representative	1984-85 Scorer – one Sheffield Shield game against Queensland				

## **Individual Profile**

Where were you born and where did you grow up?

Sydney (Randwick) and Sydney (Centennial Park)

Where did you play your junior/local cricket or become interested in cricket? **Played schoolboy cricket at Waverley College.** 

I became interested from watching cricket on television. First game I ever remember seeing on television, I think at our neighbour's house, was a Test match between Australia and England in 1962 – 1963.

First Test cricket I remember seeing live was the 1965 – 1966 Sydney Test against England. Saw Geoff Boycott and Bob Barber bat for about four hours, then we went home. Barber scored twice as many runs as Boycott in the same time despite Boycott hogging the strike by taking lots of singles on about the seventh ball of the over (eight ball overs then).

As I lived so close to the SCG I started going to watch Sheffield Shield games in about 1967. Also Second XI games played at the SCG and the SCG Number 2. I did that as relaxation from University study.

One memory was seeing a Second XI game in about 1974 in which Allan Border played. In those days he was a very aggressive slogger. In this game Border scored 70 odd and then threw his wicket away. Geoff Boycott was playing for Waverley in that season and was watching the game. As soon as Border was dismissed Boycott went into the dressing room and roared him out, telling him he was wasting his talent. The team had another aggressive left-handed slogger named Geoff Wright (I think) who looked just as good but I don't know what happened to him. I think he played for Balmain.

When and why did you become involved with UNSWCC?

I wanted to join in my first year at University (1973) to continue my interest in cricket, even though I've never been much good at it.

The first time I went to a Club function was the 1973 AGM. Pretty boring, like most AGMs. The second reason for going to the AGM was to observe crowd dynamics as part of a sociology assignment. My main memory of that was Prof Stan Livingstone (who played City and Suburban) having a lot to say.

What did you like about UNSW Cricket?

The camaraderie, the sense of fun and the knowledge you can slip back into the Club after a long absence and very quickly feel like you're part of the furniture again. E.g. the 1976/1977 reunion earlier this year.

My wife, Rosalyn, commented on how everyone immediately spoke to each other like it was only yesterday since they had last spoken although it was many years between drinks for some of those there.

What is your Club nickname (Explain who gave it to you and why – if not obvious Slogger. I think Steve Campbell gave me the nickname.

I was batting in the nets and Steve was either bowling or watching me bat. I was scratching around missing more than I hit. Eventually I got frustrated and took a wild swipe at a ball which I hit off the middle of the bat and it went like a rocket in the direction of the Physics Building.

Immediately Steve called me 'Slogger'. (This explanation is subject to correction by S Campbell)

Second nickname was Keith, bestowed by Chris Chapman, presumably after the West Indian cricketer.

The Table above outlines some of your Club achievements, roles, and honours. Can you give us an insight into how you saw your contribution to UNSW Cricket, which do you consider the most important?

I was on the committee of the Club for about three years as an undergraduate representative when I was studying Law. At the time the Constitution of the club required some undergraduate committee members. This would have been about 1975 – 1978.

My main achievement was organising our tour to the North Island of New Zealand at the beginning of 1978 – Auckland, Rotorua, New Plymouth and Wellington. This was the famous parking meter tour, stories of which were recycled earlier this year in honour of the late Jimmy O'Brien.

What did it mean to you to be awarded life membership?

A very great honour and an unexpected one, to tell the truth.

It was also a celebration of my time in and around the Club.

Most importantly I think the best thing is that I have had a lot of fun and made a lot of friendships with good people out of my time with UNSWCC.

What is your greatest memory or memories of UNSW Cricket?

Greatest memory was being present at the 1976 – 1977 first grade final at Petersham Oval and seeing the Petersham number 11 slog a ball down Chappo's throat at mid-wicket.

Others include the weekly Saturday lunch at the McDonald's near Shalom College, back in the days of doing the first grade scoring (always a chicken burger and a vanilla shake).

As well as the New Zealand tour I mentioned above another memory was travelling to Melbourne for a combined Northern Universities versus Southern Universities IV match at, I think, Monash University. I was the scorer. One of the players in the Northern team was John Buchanan who later became famous/infamous as the Australian cricket coach. I think Henry and Jungle may have played in that game.

Those are on top of all the great memories playing in the lowest grade cricket team (see my playing record) the club had from time to time at David Phillips South, back in the day. So many great people in those teams.

In what profession or area of work are/were you mainly involved? What are your main interests outside cricket?

Practising law – I am still a partner in a city law firm.

Other interests – cinema, rugby, travel (anywhere).

Where are you now?

Partner in Thomson Geer, based at Martin Place.

Living in Castlecrag on the Lower North Shore.

Anything else you would like to add

Being a member of the Club has been, and still is, one of the great pleasures of my life.

# **Playing Record**

Tom Boyce											
Years Played			Grade Shires			1973-1983 N/A					
										BATTING	
Grade	Games	Inn.	NO	Total	Ave.	Highest	Caught	50's	100':		
4	5	6	3	11	3.7	3	1				
5	19	24	7	119	7.0	22					
6	1	1	1	18		18					
City & Suburban	16	16	0	88	5.5	19					
Totals	41	47	11	236	6.6	22	1				
BOWLING											
Grade	Games	Overs	Maidens	Wickets	Runs	Average	5WI	Best			
4	5	1		0	5						
5	19	2		1	10	10.0		1 for 10			
City & Suburban	16	2		2	8	4.0		2 for 8			
Totals		5		3	23	7.7					



1988 Team Photo

Back: Duncan Coots, Adrian White, Al McCallum, Andrew Shaw, Tom Boyce, Michael Back

Front: Jim Dixon, James Baker, Tony Pratt, Greg Livingstone ©, Matt Boyer, Jim Robson