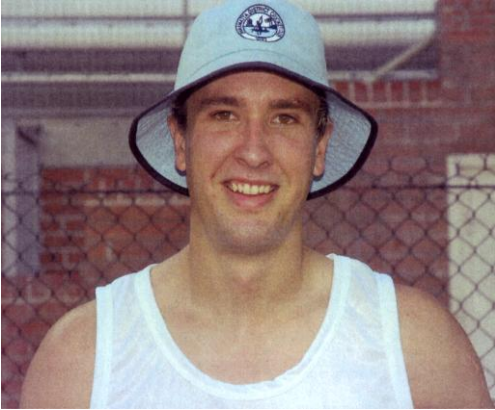


Trent Marsh – The Stroke-maker



The Parramatta District Cricket Club has fielded teams in the renowned A.W. Green Shield (Under 16) competition – the competition namesake was a long-term delegate and former secretary of the Parramatta Club - since **1937/38**.

In that time outstanding cricketers such as Richie and John Benaud, Greg Matthews, Sean Abbott, Gavin Robertson, Nick Bertus, and Usman Khawaja have all represented the two-blues in that competition but to date no batsman has matched the deeds of **Trent Marsh** in the **1997/98** season.

Hailing from the Baulkham Hills junior club, the gifted right-hander could be mercurial at the batting crease, displaying a wide range of stylish attacking strokes that could dismantle an opposition attack '*in the blink of an eye*' and these traits were on full display during that 1997/98 season when Trent demolished opposition bowling attacks to establish a new **record** Parramatta A.W.G. Shield tournament aggregate of **559 runs @ 69.88** (H.S – **145** v. Mosman, **129** v. Hawkesbury, 66 v. Penrith, 55* v. Manly, 55 v. Balmain). As captain he led brilliantly from the front and took his team all the way to the A.W.G. **Premiership**.

As Green Shield champions Parramatta then did battle with the Central Coast – premiers of the country-based Bradman Cup – in the State Cup Challenge played on the illustrious Bradman Oval in Bowral. Once again Trent came to the fore, with Parramatta wobbling at **3-30** he took control of matters and blasted a polished **105** (15 x 4s) to steer his team to an ultimate match-winning total. Trent was awarded '**Man of the Match**.' He also captained the Combined A.W. Green Shield **Northern Division** in two games against the NSW Country Coaching Class in 1997/98.



Front: C Gawdziel, S Karam, T Lambert, T Marsh (Captain), C Simpson, D Harvey
Middle: P Halakas, T Swift, S Mowbray, T McFadden, R Frare, A Langhams,
K Nadesan
Back: J Aitken, H Goodwin, W Gould, R Wright



Trent stepped into NSW Premier Cricket in **1998/99** fresh from his brilliant A.W. Green Shield accomplishments and in a 'finding his feet' type of season he played solidly without dominating but nevertheless progressed from **Fourth** grade through to **Second** grade totaling **362 runs @ 22.63** (H.S. -64) and experienced a taste of Poidevin-Gray Shield as well.

But despite being one of the finest and most gifted young batsmen to join the club for many years, it took Trent quite a while to realise his undoubted potential.

Between **1999/00** and **2001/02** he hovered in Second and Third grade showing glimpses of his genuine batting talent but not producing the consistency required to secure a spot in First grade.

Trent debuted in the top grade in 2002/03 – becoming **Parramatta First Grade Player Number: 534.**

It all clicked into gear for him in 2004/05 when enterprising form in Second grade – **421 runs @ 35.08** highlighted by a confidence building 94 v. Western Suburbs backed by a superb maiden century (**111** v. Mosman) – that propelled him back into **First grade** where he produced a fine 84 against a Nathan Bracken led Balmain attack to demonstrate he belonged in that level of cricket.

With his First grade spot cemented Trent reached his pinnacle in the following two seasons, he morphed into one of the Parramatta team's most potent batsmen and his free flowing, stroke filled batting delivered **655 runs @ 32.75** (H.S. – **115** v. St. George, **106** v. Gordon, 82* v. North Sydney, 80 v. Blacktown, 70 v. Balmain) in **2005/06**. This performance won him Parramatta's **Doug Walters Trophy** (Most runs in the season).

He backed this up in **2006/07** with another weighty bag of runs – **539 @ 28.37** (H.S. – **100*** v. Penrith, 90 v. Gordon).

A slip off in form during **2007/08** saw Trent back in Second grade for five matches, where he knuckled down and pumped out **251 runs @ 50.20** (H.S. – **123** v. Sydney University, 50 v. Hawkesbury) to arrest his slump. Unfortunately, he '*pulled stumps*' on his career at the close of the season and with many potential golden seasons ahead this gifted batsman was lost to the club.

Trent Marsh – Parramatta District Cricket Club Statistics

Grade	Runs	H.S.	Average	Catches	Wickets	Average
A.W.G. Shield	590	145	59.00	4	3	57.00
P.G. Shield	390	84	22.94	11	6	18.67
5th grade	68	33	17.00	2	4	11.00
4th grade	170	64	28.33	1	2	23.00
3rd grade	787	95*	22.49	16	4	22.75
2nd grade	1,260	123	26.81	17	5	33.40
1st grade	1,779	115	24.37	23	0	0
Total Grade	4,064	123	24.63	59	15	25.33
<i>Total Club</i>	<i>5,044</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>26.27</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>27.63</i>

[By Tom Wood – Parramatta District Cricket Club Historian]

