

Lady Bradman Cup Cricket



Malcolm Holmes QC hit the winning runs in the inaugural Lady Bradman Cup cricket match between Edmund Barton Chambers and Eleven Wentworth 20 years ago. As fate would have it, Holmes was still at the crease on 17 April 2010 on a brilliant Bowral day, slightly less lean than in 1990 but still brimming with enthusiasm. He repeated the feat with an educated edge in the direction of the spritely Mater. Not a bad achievement for the former Sydney University Rugby Blue and Robertson potato farmer.

Edmund Barton had amassed 172 from 35 overs including a fine 30 (retired) from the Queensland Bar's Greg Egan who had no difficulty dealing with the Lancaster bomber, whose radar was clearly affected by Icelandic ash, and with Geoffrey Pike's increasingly slow swing.

With Holmes at the crease as Eleven

Wentworth passed the Edmund Barton total was the talented all rounder, Chris Botsman, new to the Sydney Bar after 10 years in New York and specialising in corporations and securities matters. He may well have the best arm at the NSW Bar – his return from the boundary during the Edmund Barton innings was certainly too hot for Ian Pike to handle as he used his lower abdominal region to ricochet the ball onto the stumps after Botsman's blistering return. Pike's 10 ball final over was redeemed by an entertaining, even classical, opening cameo in support of the elegant strokeplay of the former Macquarie University first grader, Christian Bova (30 retired). That was backed up by a trio of 30s from Bell SC, Durack the Younger and Durack the Elder. David Alexander's medium pace held up the flow, all the more impressive given his rowing victory on the Hawkesbury that morning.

Earlier in the day, Durack SC's leggies had completely bamboozled the timeless Hodgson and MSM White but not Ireland QC whose three stumpings, including two from the off-spin of revenue guru and Lady Bradman debutant, Richmond SC, represented a new record at Bradman Oval. Poulos QC, equipped with new hip but old form and even older jokes, bowled a tidy over at the end of the innings, cleverly taking absolutely all pace off the ball. Sullivan QC, in his new role as non-playing captain and on field action photographer (as a consequence of the total absence of any remaining knee cartilage), delivered a generous acceptance speech on behalf of the winning side, suggesting that 'cricket was the winner on the day' (as indeed it was).