

The First Graders

John Moffatt



Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 13

Full name: **John William Moffatt**

Date and Place of Birth: **25 May 1970**

Playing role: **Batsman**

BATTING									
Season	Mtch	Inns	N.O.	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2001-02	18	19	7	90	377	31.42	0	1	7



Scoring 116 on the first day of the first 2nd Grade match of Randwick Petersham's history was history making itself as John Moffatt became the new club's first century maker. His performance proved the deciding influence in the round being the only team to win its match amid losses in the other four grades. It was a defining initiation and one which selectors couldn't ignore. Within two matches he was in 1st Grade wearing the club's "lucky" no. 13 baggy green.

A real dasher with the bat Moffatt played his first match in a one-dayer against St George coming to the crease in the final over. And while he didn't get any opportunity on that occasion to show his wares it was a different outcome from a similar scenario in the club's next limited overs match. Against Eastern Suburbs at Petersham Oval, John again came to the crease in the final over just in time to slash the last ball of the day for a boundary to snare victory for his side. He was a one-over hero!

The son of champion Petersham-Marrickville all-rounder Billy Moffatt who played during the late 60's early 70's, John had inherited plenty of his father's competitive spirit and attacking flair. Among many hard-hitting knocks his moment-in-the-sun came in the 1st Grade match against Manly at Manly Oval. The first day's play was washed out and it was still a bit sticky a week later on day two. Losing the toss and being sent in to bat on a real "sporty" surface the side was shaky at 4-41 with the ball seaming and jumping about. Marching to the crease with a hostile attack waiting to greet him, Moffatt decided that a counter-attack was the only option if any sort of a competitive total was to be set. In the next hour or so John Moffatt thrashed the bowling to all parts of Manly Oval and on many occasions out of it. When the final wicket fell the score was a respectable 195 and John was left high-and-dry on 90 not out.

With the pendulum swinging against Manly, the Randwick Petersham bowlers of Adam Warren and Scott Obey quickly had them in tatters. They were reduced to 4-16, 5-24, 6-24, 7-29 and 8-39 before a tail-end rally came to an end with the score 104. It was an unexpected and hollow victory clearly due to the outstanding batting of John Moffatt. He was classed as a player who could turn a match and this is one he certainly did!

While Moffatt was unable to reproduce that batting effort in later matches he remained an important cog in the Randwick Petersham batting machine for the rest of the season. His 43 against Gordon, 44 against Wests, 38 against Parramatta and 25 against Sutherland with the team struggling were important innings. His 377 runs at 31.42 was an important contribution to the first season of Randwick Petersham.

A change in circumstance and a desire to move down the coast meant that John Moffatt did not line-up for another season. In many respects this was a disappointing conclusion to a cricket career which was filled with expectation and anticipation as it was short and exciting.