

The First Graders

Matt Cassar



Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 17

Full Name: **Matthew Edward Cassar**

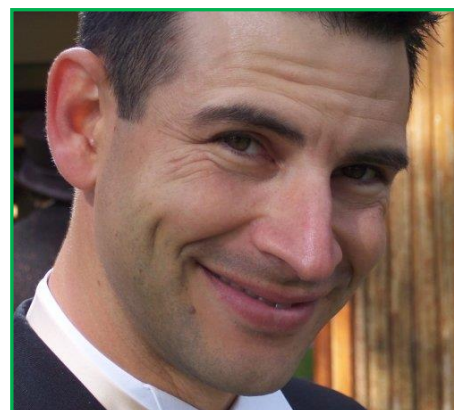
Date and Place of Birth: **16 October 1972, Sydney**

Secondary School: **Sir Joseph Banks High, Revesby**

Occupation: **Financial Services Manager**

Playing role: **All-rounder. Right hand bat/ right arm fast medium bowler**

BATTING									
Season	Mtch	Inns	N.O.	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2002-03	20	20	1	123	530	27.89	1	1	3
BOWLING									
Season	Overs	Mdn	Wkts	Runs	Ave.	Best	5w	10w	
2002-03	182.17	38	31	657	21.19	3-8			



At just 18 years of age Matt Cassar showed outstanding promise hitting 152 in 4th Grade against Bankstown for Petersham-Marrickville. It was 1990-91 and later that summer he made his 1st Grade debut. Within a couple of years Matt was one of the team's leading all-rounders. In 1994 he ventured to England where he played the first of seven seasons with Derbyshire as a professional cricketer before joining Northamptonshire in 2001.

While he had returned to Sydney Grade Cricket with the Pete's from time to time over that period he ventured home again in 2002-03 after recording his best English County season hitting a century and returning figures of 6-36 for Northants. That move proved a great boost for Randwick Petersham as he ended up the Club's Player of the Season.

He took on the 1st Grade all-rounder's role finishing the season with the impressive figures of 530 runs and 31 wickets. He was a little slow to get into top gear but by season's end Cassar was opening the batting and bowling as well as he did at any time in his career. A fine 61 at the top of the innings against Penrith and some regular returns with the ball such as 3-8 and 3-39 showed he was a major force in the team. But he saved his best effort 'til the last round hitting his best score—123 against Blacktown opening the batting in a one-dayer.

He was a consistent scorer with the bat and while he tendered to bowl a little too short before Christmas he took some great wickets with movement off the pitch as the summer wore on. He also contributed to the club's administration by taking on the Junior Development Officer's role which he handled in a most professional manner. Matt scored 895 points in the Player of the Season Competition to be the winner by a clear margin of 77 points.