



The First Graders

Darren Wotherspoon

Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 21

Full Name: **Darren Scott Wotherspoon**

Date and Place of Birth: **7 February 1979, Albury, NSW.**

Secondary School: **Kincumber High School**

Playing role: **Right hand batsman**

BATTING									
Season	Mtch	Inns	N.O.	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2002-03	21	24	3	100*	784	37.33	1	2	11
BOWLING									
Season	Overs	Mdn	Wkts	Runs	Ave.	Best	5w	10w	
2002-03	64.4	2	4	272	68.00	1-10			



Darren Wotherspoon was being spoken of in first class representative circles when he joined Randwick Petersham from North Sydney in 2002-03. He was a developing free-scoring batsman who looked like he was going places.

His attacking flair was on display in the match against St George at Petersham Oval. Saints had led on the first innings and set RPC a target of 280 to win outright. When stumps were called RPC were two runs short of an unexpected win following an amazing performance of 84 off 53 balls by Wotherspoon.

In the one-day limited overs Semi-Final at Waverley Oval against Easts, Darren and Simon Katich got together and took RPC into the Grand Final when they steered the side home to a win off the very last ball of the day. That ball brought up a well-earned century for Katich while "Spoons" as he was affectionately known, finished the day a very valuable 63 not out. Interestingly against Easts in the Belvidere Cup competition, Wotherspoon was one of three Randwick Petersham batsmen to make first ball "golden ducks" despite the scoreline of 8-326 declared!

Although he had a few "ups and downs" Wotherspoon had the distinction of hitting his first Sydney 1st Grade century when he rattled up an unconquered 100 against his old club North Sydney at North Sydney Oval. His performance enabled the side to record a much-needed outright win.

In the following match against Gordon at Petersham, Darren dislocated a finger and cut his hand when he missed a sharp chance at second slip. Richard Chee Quee immediately lent a hand by pulling the finger back into place while the local "firies" watching the game during their lunch break from their fire engine quickly produced bandages and strapped up Darren's hand enabling him to complete the game without any real discomfort.

Wotherspoon was also part of Randwick Petersham history when he top scored with 44 out of a poor total of 188 against Fairfield which was still enough to win the match as all other grades had done to complete the club's first clean-sweep with five wins from five games. Wins in all grades were thereafter known throughout the club as a "greenwash".

The last game of the season saw Wotherspoon again display his considerable ability when he smashed 88 against Blacktown at Joe McAleer Oval. The win put the team in line for a finals berth but because other results didn't go RPC's way the side finished the season in seventh place.

Darren Wotherspoon's total of 784 runs with a century and two fifties was second only to Richard Chee Quee (874) for the season.

The following season Darren decided to move on and went to play for Manly-Warringah for a couple of seasons.