

The First Graders

Jon Lewis



Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 30

Full Name: **Jonathan Lewis**

Date and Place of Birth: **26 August 1975, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, UK**

Secondary School: **Churchfields School and Swindon College, UK.**

Occupation: **Professional Cricketer**

Playing role: **Right hand fast medium bowler / right hand bat**

| BATTING | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| Season | Mtch | Inns | N.O. | Best | Runs | Ave. | 100 | 50 | Ct. |
| 2003-04 | 19 | 13 | 2 | 57 | 231 | 21.00 | | 1 | 9 |
| BOWLING | | | | | | | | | |
| Season | Overs | Mdn | Wkts | Runs | Ave. | Best | 5w | 10w | |
| 2003-04 | 356 | 93 | 52 | 795 | 15.29 | 7-35 | 3 | | |



The success enjoyed by Randwick Petersham in making the Sydney 1st Grade Grand Final in season 2003-04 was the direct result of an outstanding contribution throughout the summer by English fast bowler Jon Lewis.

Jon joined Randwick Petersham from the English County Cricket Club, Gloucestershire, after a successful 2003 county season where he took 77 wickets. He brought that form to Sydney finishing the season with an outstanding record of 52 wickets at the impressive average of just 15.28 runs per wicket, a new 1st Grade bowling average record for the club and the third highest aggregate in Sydney for the season. His economy rate of 2.34 runs per over was the best by any 1st Grade bowler in Sydney.

A right hander who bowled with pace and accuracy, Jon's ability to sustain line and length for long periods made him a player to be reckoned with. From the moment he took a wicket in his first over for his new team against St George, Jon Lewis looked like he was going to be a great acquisition for the club. And so it proved to be.

Jon recorded many fine performances throughout the season, none better than his 7-35 to demolish Mosman in a match Randwick Petersham seemed destined to lose. That performance was also a new mark for the club in 1st Grade. He also took 6-41 against defending premiers Sydney University and 5-37 against Fairfield Liverpool, a team which went on to win the premiership in each of the following two years. The fact he took a wicket in all but one of the 20 innings in which he bowled emphasised his value to the club and to his team.

An added bonus was the skill Jon displayed with his batting and he top scored on two occasions. His 57 against eventual premiers Eastern Suburbs, going in when we were 6-80, enabled a competitive total of 155 to be posted which proved enough to win a vital match. His 40 against St George was equally as impressive as part of his overall tally of 231 runs for the season.

His all-round performances ensured he would take out the club's coveted Player of the Season Award, which he won by a record margin of 166 points. Jon fitted into the team and the club as if he had been a Randwick Petersham cricketer for many years and quickly became a popular figure. His work as Club Development Officer added to his value as did his coaching at club net sessions.

Sydney Grade Cricket has not been kind to many overseas players and the fact they have struggled to perform adds weight to the argument that it is the strongest club competition in the world. That Jon Lewis dominated in the 1st Grade competition spoke volumes for his ability, his dedication and his enthusiasm and it was no surprise to anyone in the club that he should represent England within 15 months of his time with Randwick Petersham going on to play Twenty20, One Day International and Test Cricket for his country. He was appointed captain of Gloucestershire in 2006. In a 16 years career with Gloucestershire Jon Lewis took 771 wickets.

