

# The First Graders

## Matt Frith



### Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap no. : 66

Full Name: **Matthew Thomas Price Frith**

Date and Place of Birth: **8 March 1987, Deniliquin, NSW**

Secondary School: **Newcastle Grammar School, University of Newcastle**

Occupation: **Chemist**

Playing role: **Left hand opening bat / right arm medium pace bowler**

BATTING									
Season	Mtch	Inns	N.O.	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2009-10	13	13	0	128	395	30.38	2	1	4
2010-11	8	8	0	85	252	31.50		2	2
2011-12	23	21	5	60	441	27.60		3	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>1,088</b>	<b>29.41</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>
BOWLING									
Season	Overs	Mdn	Wkts	Runs	Ave.	Best	5w	10w	
2009-10	52.1	6	13	175	13.46	5-36	1		
2010-11	10	2	1	29	29	1-17			
2011-12	20.5	4	1	69	69	1-29			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>18.20</b>	<b>5-36</b>	<b>1</b>		



Matthew Frith was one of Newcastle's best batsmen when he decided to develop his game further in Sydney joining Randwick Petersham prior to the start of the 2009-10 season. He was selected in the 1st Grade team for round one against Uni. of NSW at Village Green which was also the debut match for Scott Coyte and Nathan Price. An opening batsman, Matt and Coyte faced a very good Uni. attack and unfortunately for Frith his third ball from the experienced Tim Lang got the edge and he was snapped up behind without scoring.

The disappointment of that start to his Sydney Grade Cricket career was short lived however, as just four matches later he scored 120 with 18 fours and a six against North Sydney at Coogee Oval to ensure an easy win for his side. He put on 114 for the first wicket with Usman Khawaja (41) that day and the next match against Sydney again at Coogee he was involved in a 129 runs opening stand with Eddie Otto (42). Matt's share that day was 73 made from just 86 balls with 11 boundaries.

Frith showed his liking for Coogee Oval just three matches later when he and Usman Khawaja set a new club second wicket partnership record belting 250 against Blacktown. Matt ended up with 128 off 113 balls with 17 fours and a six in a massive score of 5-328 in a 50 overs match and help produce a win by 114 runs. And to show how unpredictable the game of cricket can be Frith recorded three ducks in his final four games including a pair against Manly at Manly Oval.

Matt and Eddie Otto recorded another century opening stand when they put on 110 against Eastern Suburbs in the first round of the 2010-11 season at Kensington Oval where a 1st Grade match had not been played for almost 40 years. Frith scored 85 with 13 fours in that match which ended up a high-scoring draw.

A player whose straight drives delighted many keen judges, Frith showed his versatility with the ball chipping in with a handy 13 wickets at the excellent average of 13.46. At Manly Oval he had the sea-siders all at sea with his mediums wrapping up the final five wickets for 36 off 14.1 overs. He showed that performance was no fluke taking 3-41 against Hawkesbury next match.

Matt had a dream start to his second season top-scoring with 85 against Easts in the first match then the next day in a limited overs match against Sydney again heading the batting with 83 off 84 balls. That elation was short-lived however, as the promising all-rounder was forced to temporarily give cricket away after eight matches to concentrate on important final pharmacy exams. The break proved costly in more ways than one as Matt missed out playing in a Belvidere Cup Grand Final.

Frith began the summer of 2011-12 in good fashion hitting a couple of 30's in the first two games. However, apart from a 60 against Hawkesbury, 56 versus St George and another 56 against the Sharks at Glenn McGrath Oval, Matt couldn't quite recapture the form that he displayed in his first season. However, he was a member of the club's first and second 1st Grade premierships-winning teams playing in both the Limited Overs and Twenty 20 Cup Grand Finals. His 441 runs for the season was the ninth highest in the club and the most he scored in his three seasons. His inconsistency at the top of the order however, saw him disappointingly left out of the side which played the Belvidere Cup Grand Final for the second successive year.

Confident in his ability to play first-class cricket Matt soon after left Sydney for Victoria where he played a season with St Kilda.