



**Presentation of Chief Justice's Cup: barristers/solicitors
cricket match
Friday 2 April 2004
Level 10, Inns of Court**

Chief Justice's observations

The match having been described in vibrant detail, and completely dispassionately, from the aspects of both teams, it remains for me to say something of the history of this Cup which stands in the name of my office.

The Chief Justice's Cup dates from the annual cricket match between the Bar Association Queensland and Queensland Law Society played in 1965. There had been matches played for some years before that, but the cup itself dates apparently from that particular occasion. My informant is Mr Roger Traves SC, who has consulted widely, and his account I accept without hesitation. I am indeed so confident of its accuracy that I propose, rather unusually, to deliver it word for word. Traves notes that at that time, the Honourable Alan James Mansfield KCMG was Chief Justice of Queensland. Traves believes that Chief Justice had no particular interest in cricket, which I interpolate is an extremely unusual situation. Traves continues:

The trophy was sponsored by the Law Book Company. The Hon Sir Roslyn Philip KBE, who passed away that year, was Senior Puisne Judge and the Bench included their Honours Gibbs, Wanstall and Lucas. Justice James Douglas' father, the Hon James Archibald Douglas was appointed a judge of the court in that year.

The match was played at the Gabba. There was quite a good crowd of solicitors and barristers, and life must not then have been quite so hectic, because the crowd attended the match on a weekday.



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The barristers' team was:

V M Nicholson (C)
E G Broad
B W Ambrose
G R Bell
J G Crowley
A G Demack
G E Fitzgerald
J E Gallagher
C E K Hampson
M R Moriarty
C F McLoughlin
G N Williams

I note that Jim Crowley, John Gallagher and Justice Glen Williams are present here this evening.

Traves continues:

This was obviously a star-studded line up, if not in cricket terms, then certainly in legal terms. Many of them served in the war. Judge Broad, as he was to become, was awarded a DFC for continuing on his bombing mission in Germany although one engine had failed, and Judge Nicholson after serving in the Pacific sadly spent four years in Changi Prison. Times were different then. With the exception of the captain, the players are named on the trophy alphabetically, and the twelfth man is not identified. Of the twelve, however, nine were subsequently appointed to the bench, or have acted as temporary appointees. Of the original team, Hampson QC, Crowley QC and Gallagher QC are still at the Bar.



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The solicitors' team is not apparent from the trophy, although two judges, Justice Callinan and Justice Shepherdson played for the solicitors, the latter as a fast bowler. Crowley remembers hitting Justice Shepherdson for six. Justice Shepherdson, no doubt alluding to the speed of his bowling, described the shot as a top edge. Crowley described the hook shot as "a big hit for a little fella". Crowley scored fifty. Incidentally, Gallagher QC recalls Crowley hitting two sixes, but that is unlikely to be correct, because Crowley would surely have recalled if he did. Crowley must have been in high spirits because he announced his engagement that day. As an aside, the cost to each player for hire of the ground, and lunch, and so on, was thirty shillings.

The match was won by the barristers.

The solicitors won the match in the following year. Their team was:

M Crouch
T Frisby
K Atthow
J Biggs
J Harris
T Shepherdson
T Wardrobe
B Cooke
D Given
E Lambert
P Stevens
D Taylor

In 1966 Justice Shepherdson became a barrister, and he played in the winning barristers' team the following year in 1967. That was also the year Justice Callinan made his debut in the barristers' team. From the 1965 barristers' team, Ambrose, Bell Fitzgerald, Hampton, Moriarty and McLoughlin



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had been put aside (Traves hesitates to say "dropped"), replaced by Callinan, Dunn, Geraghty, Killen, Shepherdson and Thomas.

A number of the old rivalries at the Bar may have had their genesis about then.

Since 1965 the game has been played on twenty-two occasions and the solicitors have won it fourteen times, and the barristers eight times.

Well, there you are! I thank Roger Traves: even I, with my somewhat limited attachment to the game, found that a fascinating account. I conclude with this observation. No practitioner has, I am sure, ever participated in this exercise for anything but a sporting reason, and I include in that barristers anxious for work. The annual event provides yet another example of the desirable and beneficial collegiality of the Queensland legal profession.