



**Western Suburbs  
District Cricket Club**

**Life  
Member**

## Katherine Raymont

**KATHERINE GAYLE RAYMONT**, Born 31st October 1959 (Laidley, Qld) Right-hand bat and wicketkeeper.

Katherine (Farmer) grew up in the country and was unaware of women's cricket until she moved to Brisbane in 1979 to take up a position in the Government Chemical Laboratories.

Katherine joined the Pine Rivers Women's Cricket club, later playing for the University. After returning to Toowoomba she formed a cricket club there in 1988/89. She played for Queensland from 1980/81 to 1993/94, captaining the state side from 1985/86. An opening batter, she scored 85 against NSW in her final season. Farmer was chosen in the Australian team to tour NZ in 1989/1990, the first Queensland women to be selected for Australia in 30 years. The tour included three tests and a One Day International. She scored 47 in one of the Tests. Farmer has been a Queensland delegate to the AWCC (later WCA) since 1991 and a state selector since retirement. Katherine is a senior laboratory technician at Gatton College.

### **First Class 1980/81 to 1993/94**

#### **Batting**

Matches	Innings	NO	HS	Runs	Average	100s	50s
68	86	8	85	1294	16.59		4

Test Debut New Zealand Women v Australia Women at Auckland, Jan 18-21 1990.

Last Test New Zealand Women v Australia Women at Christchurch, Feb 1-4, 1990

Only ODI New Zealand Women v Australia Women at Lower Hutt, Feb 11, 1990

#### **Batting and Fielding**

	Matches	Innings	NO	Runs	HS	Average	100s	50s	Caught
Tests	3	5	0	142	47	28.40	0	0	2
ODIs	1	1	0	2	2	2.00	0	0	0

### **1989/90 to New Zealand (Tests & ODIs)**

LARSEN, Lynette (c)

MOFFAT, Sally



**Western Suburbs  
District Cricket Club**

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BROWN, Karen (vc)	PAPWORTH, Melissa
ANNETTS (ANDERSON), Denise	RAYMONT, Katherine
BROADBENT, Joanne	ROWELL, Ailsa
GOSS, Zoe	WILSON, Debbie
GRIFFITHS, Sally	BAKKER, Peter (Coach)
HAGGETT (ROBERTSON), Belinda	McCAULEY, Andrea
BRIERLEY, Christine (Manager)	MATTHEWS (nee WHITE), Christina
McINTYRE, Meg (Physio)	SAINSBURY, Erica (Statistician)

	Matches	Innings	NOs	Runs	HS	Average	C/S	100s	50s
1980/81	2	4	4	16	12*				
1981/82	8	8	1	42	17	6.00	1		
1982/83	4	5	0	46	17	9.20	4		
1983/84	4	6	0	77	39	12.83	6		
1985/86	6	10	0	111	33	11.10	8/8		
1986/87	5	7	0	93	25	13.29	6/4		
1987/88	12	12	0	211	63	17.58	9/2		2
1989/90	5	9	1	164	49	20.50	9/3		
1990/91	4	4	0	69	46	17.25	2/1		
1991/92	7	7	0	75	35	10.71	2		
1992/93	7	8	1	137	54	19.57	5/4		1
1993/94	7	7	1	188	85	31.33	1/1		1
1996/97	2	1	0	13	13	13.00	1		

**Jon Dooley (President Western Suburbs DCC)**

Life membership is the highest recognition we can bestow on any member of our club -in my 25 years associated with the club only five (5) people have been awarded life membership. It is really restricted to people who have made a significant contribution to the club over a long period of time, people who over the years have been so involved with Wests they really become part of the fabric of Wests.

Tonight I propose that Katherine Raymont (or Farmer to the majority of you) be awarded life membership to Western Suburbs District Cricket Club. Farmer was obviously a fine cricketer in her own right -Katherine's rise to international honours followed years of dedication and kilometres of travel. Katherine did not take up competitive cricket until 1979 when at the age of 19, she moved to Brisbane to study and work. Her ability quickly became evident and Katherine was selected in the Queensland team for the first time in the 1980-81 season. Katherine became vice captain of the state team for the 1983-84 season and subsequently was appointed captain the following season. On four (4) occasions Katherine won the state batting aggregate award and three (3) times was named Queensland player of the year. In



**Western Suburbs  
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**Life  
Member**

1990 Katherine became the first Queensland women's cricketer in 34 years to represent Australia at test level and the 1st Queenslander to play one-day internationals. In the 1998-99 season, Katherine was the driving force behind the establishment of the Wests Women's teams.

Since that time Katherine has had a huge influence on the development of Women's cricket at our club. Without doubt Wests most successful team over the last 14 years would have been coached by Katherine. The thousands of kilometres travelled and hours spent at Graceville Memorial Park by Katherine has resulted in the development of many international stars but more importantly the introduction of many young women to our great game.

I would now like to ask three of those women Jodie Fields, Mel Bulow and Kirby Short forward to second my nomination of Farmer to be awarded life membership of Western Suburbs District Cricket Club.

#### **Melissa Bulow (Queensland and Australia Representative)**

The measure of Farmer's influence on myself, Jodie and Kirby is not simply confined to our success on the cricketing field but in our daily conduct as people. To truly capture this influence, we thought it only right to each share our personal story of Farmer's contribution to our journey.

I was 13 when I received my first phone call from Farmer - well my Mum did -to see if I could fill in for her club side Toowoomba in the Brisbane Women's first grade competition. Farmer - before cementing herself as the heart and soul of Wests Women's cricket - held that very same title in Toowoomba -and thought she'd try her luck on this young girl playing cricket in the Ipswich boy's competition. Living in Ipswich at the time, Mum drove me out to the BP service station on the Warrego Highway where it was agreed I'd meet this lady Farmer on her way through from Gatton. So Farmer pulled up in her white ute complete with aluminium tray (oh and what I'm sure is the same blue esky that has been the source of many a fight in years past) and it all became clear in my 13 year old mind how a lady named Katherine could also be named Farmer.

Dressed in my little white culottes - the best forgotten phase of the early 90's - I threw my \$49 Gray Nicolls Megapower into the tray, settled into the front passenger seat and so began a relationship (and affinity for 4BC radio) that would continue to span 18 years (and many Sunday's) later.

From that landmark day -including my well-compiled 3rd ball duck - Farmer, outside my own family, has singularly had the greatest impact on my cricketing career and the highs and lows that have escorted it. I would do anything for her - legal or illegal (well the exception being the covers after a manicure) for the fear of disappointing or letting her down is too great a burden for one's conscience to bear.

Farmer, I am so glad you made that first phone call all those years back. You have been one



**Western Suburbs  
District Cricket Club**

**Life  
Member**

of my greatest advocates but also balanced with the honesty of criticism that only those closest to you can provide. You have seen me play for both Queensland and Australia, have good years and bad years, oh and complete years off...but you and your esky have always been a constant.

When I took my place in the front seat of your ute I would never have envisaged where that ticket would take me -certainly not having a part-share in a racehorse or marvelling at your ability to embrace text messaging and email. There is absolutely no doubting I wouldn't have enjoyed such longevity in the game if it weren't for one Katherine Raymond.

Farmer, I am so proud to have you in my corner and couldn't think of a more fitting tribute than life membership of this great cricket club.

### **Jodie Fields (Queensland and Australia Representative)**

Farmer has been a big part of my playing career since I was about 13 years of age. In virtually the same circumstances as Mel, I can remember driving with my parents, the 50 minutes from Toowoomba to Gatton to meet Farmer on the side of the Warrego Highway, to drive to Brisbane for the weekly club round of Brisbane Women's grade cricket. I would bat around number 10 or 11, bowl a few balls, run around in the field, and drive all the way back to Gatton, where my parents would meet us to take me home on a Sunday night. In those years, I was a medium bowler, bowling outswingers into the gloves of Melissa Bulow, and occasionally Farmer. How things have changed! Farmer has been like a second mother to me for many ways, right from my early teenage years until now as a senior member of the Western Suburbs team.

As Melissa said, there are many highs and lows that you experience in a sporting career and Farmer has certainly been around to see many of my highs and many of my lows. I have been privileged to play for Wests, Queensland Fire, and Australia, and Farmer has shared many of those wonderful moments.

She also quietly helped me deal with one of the most turbulent times in my cricket career which was suffering two career threatening injuries. It was during this time when many people wrote off my career, but there were some people who helped me through this and Farmer certainly was one of those people that believed in me and helped me through those doubtful times.

The thing that astounds me all the time, is where Farmer gets all of her energy from! From the moment I met her, she has woken up with her cows before dawn, worked tirelessly for the University of Queensland Gatton Campus in a full time role, worked tirelessly on her family farm in Gatton after work, somehow coached two Western Suburbs women's grade sides, coached the Ipswich Grammar girls team, been a member of the Grade Committee, looked after her mother, and the lists goes on. It just makes me tired thinking about it.

Of a Sunday, Farmer is the workhorse running the Western Suburbs women's show. Often her day consists of running the farm, driving to Brisbane, being a taxi service for a couple of



**Western Suburbs  
District Cricket Club**

**Life  
Member**

players, mastering the covers troops, running the canteen, being the drinks lady, helping score, super sopping the field after rain, helping seconds while firsts are playing, taxi driving a few players home again, then more work on the farm.

There are many roles which I have forgotten but she is always the rock of Wests Women's cricket. Her selfless attitude towards cricket and particularly Western Suburbs women's cricket is a wonderful attribute that she possesses and we are all very proud of what she has done for the game.

### **Kirby Short (Queensland Representative)**

While I have not reached the lofty heights of Mel and Jodie's careers, Farmer's influence on me has been no less significant. In cricket years, I am considerably younger than the two very impressive women who have spoken tonight, and came to cricket almost by accident. In order to compete as part of the U17 QLD team, I needed to be playing club cricket. A woman by the name of Katherine Raymont and her Western Suburbs club came highly recommended. While oblivious at the time, it spoke volumes that there was, and remains, a truly diverse group of highly respected cricketers that held this woman in such high regard -it seemed a wise choice to accept their advice.

While my first 'Katherine Raymont' encounter does not have the clarity of a white ute on a highway, her impact on me has certainly been a lasting one. Although I must say, a clear memory I do have -and an early lesson a female player at Wests must learn -while Katherine Raymont may be the name on the First Grade Women's shield, -Farmer is the heart and soul of the club, a coach, a mentor, an icon. Not to mention scorer, groundskeeper, scoreboard attendant and umpire when necessary!

Like Mel, I can safely say that outside of my family, Farmer has had the most significant impact on my development as a complete cricketer. That influence has evolved from feedback on my cover drive and my imperfect execution of her beloved cut shot, to lessons that extend outside the realms of cricket. At the end of a day at work that probably started around 6.30 or 7am, when I am feeling exhausted by the thought of driving to Graceville to train, before I even begin to entertain the thought of missing training, my first thought is of Farmer. Her Wednesday started at 5am, or perhaps earlier and will end after a drive from Gatton to Brisbane and back...not to mention a quick feed of the pigs before bed! The thought of disappointing someone who is so selfless and committed for no other reason than to develop the youth of the game, is not something my conscience could bear.

At the Grade Dinner last week, Ian Healy spoke of valuing and supporting our stalwarts. I could not think of a person more deserving than you Farms. Proud is a word that Mel used, and it seems the most appropriate choice for the feeling of not only knowing Farmer, but being afforded the chance to be part of tonight.

While I know Farmer would have made a lifelong contribution without a membership, tonight is a fitting reward for a wonderful person and cricketer. Congratulations!