

2007 BEIGE BRIGADE CRICKET AWARD WINNERS

As decided live on Episode 31 of *The BYC* this week, direct to the ears of Kiwi cricket fans around the world from the top of Cuba Street in Wellington.



The "Ali Williams" Responsible Drinking Award

- ***WINNER*** The crowd at the Cricket World Cup final, Kensington Oval, Barbados: The plan to deliver endless amounts of rum to punters' throats so they don't notice what a farce the final was worked a treat, and was backed up by complimentary KFC for all at lunchtime
- Andrew Flintoff: For his sensational pedalo-related antics in St Lucia



The "Julian Clary" Fairy Cup

- ***WINNER*** Nathan Bracken: for trying to look like his sister/wife/mother with that horrible hairband

Spectator Fielding Effort of the Year

- Paul Houeix, the firefighter who went from random punter at the MCG to cult sporting hero when he casually caught a six in one hand while holding his mobile phone during a tri-series match
- ***WINNER*** Jason Gerken, a 120kg ginger-maned possum hunter from Winton who represented NZ in the Gabba half-time entertainment wearing a Superman suit and took a series of sensational snares



The "Sister Sledge" Shield for Best Abuse in International Cricket

- Shane Warne to Ian Bell: "Oi Sherminator!.<long pause>...you don't like that do you?"
- Shane Warne to Paul Collingwood: "You got an MBE, right? For scoring seven at the Oval? It's an embarrassment."
- Australia renaming Kevin Pietersen "Fig Jam" for the Ashes series
- ***WINNER*** Dean Jones to the world: "The terrorist has got another wicket"
- Lou Vincent to Australia: "I personally think that they think they're bigger than the game."

"The Gremlins" Makeover of the Year

- Scott Styris: that hair dye, that beard, that batting in the West Indies
- ***WINNER*** Craig McMillan: for his Amish beard at the Cricket World Cup
- John Bracewell: for his continued metamorphosis from a belligerent spin-bowler into a psycho-babbling international coach in the John Mitchell mould

Banner of the Year

- "I Want to Have Your Piglets": a Scott Styris fan speaks from the heart in the Waikato
- "Keep Flag Guy Off TV": a Hamilton sharemilker puts the boot into NZ cricket's most embarrassing cricket supporter
- "Sri Lanka Must Stop Killing Tamils": a political banner misses the mark as the Sri Lankan team kill the NZ side at Eden Park
- ***WINNER*** "Shane, I Think I'm Pregnant": fat Pommy bloke at the Ashes Test in Adelaide



The "Event Staff" Dumb Rule of the Year

- Jamaica: Turn shirts with rival sponsors' logos on them inside-out. Effect is that punters end up hating the sponsors with a passion, a massive backfire for their sponsorship investment.
- ***WINNER*** New Zealand: Three months' jail for running on the pitch. Will see credibility of streakers with the balls to run on the pitch soar through the roof as they are now risking jail for having a few too many beers and getting

bored. Focus on making the game exciting and the environment interesting and then streaking won't even be considered.

- Australia: No musical instruments. Banned Barmy Army bugler Billy Cooper from the Gabba, another act of stupidity by the officials and security which turned Cooper into a hero and shone the spotlight on the heavy-handedness of the fun police.



The "Anne Geddes" Memorable Cricket Image of the Year

- ***WINNER*** Stephen Fleming in the LJ Hooker advertisement, snuggled up to a teddy bear.
- NZ team psychologist Gary Hermansson chipping away at Michael Mason on the boundary during one-day internationals.
- Ross Taylor in hysterics as he played and missed repeatedly against Lasith Malinga in the World Cup semi-final
- Lou Vincent in the Borat suit on Sky TV's *The Cricket Company*
- Mike Hussey watching his Australian captaincy aspirations get flushed down the toilet by Tait and Bracken in the Hadlee-Chappell Series whiteash

Media Effort of the Year

- Andrew Mulligan, *Crowd Goes Wild*: reintroduced brown blazers as a fashion emblem and treats cricket as just a game, which it is
- Dylan Cleaver, *Herald On Sunday*: consistently pulling together the best coverage of cricket every Sunday, page after page of it
- Chris Barclay, *NZPA*: sparked the furore over Jacob Oram amputating a finger
- Jonathan Millmow, *Dominion Post*: attended the Cricket World Cup without 'assistance' from NZ Cricket
- Ian David Stockley Smith, *Sky TV*: rarely sits on the fence, and we are always proud to see him throwing his weight around in commentary booths the world over
- ***WINNER*** TV3, *Sports Tonight*: The montage video accompanying the Beige Brigade's *Black Caps Supporter* smash hit single was a piece of rare editing and cricketing gold



Special Award for Mediocre ODI Players Masquerading as Expert ODI Commentators

- ***WINNER*** Cricket World Cup: Laxman Sivaramakrishnan, Michael Atherton and Mark Richardson



Off-field Cock-Up of the Year (or Decade)

- Jeff Crowe, Billy Bowden: for their role in the shambles that saw the Cricket World Cup final end like a sequel to the *Blair Witch Project*.
- Shane Bond: for shattering Lou Vincent's hand and World Cup aspirations in the nets in the West Indies
- ***WINNER*** Cricket World Cup Scheduling: Making guesswork and luck major factors in working out which semi-final to attend to see your team play, and making it physically impossible to attend both.
- The International Cricket Council: Zimbabwe

On-Field Sensation of the Year

- ***WINNER*** Monty Panesar: thin, bearded, gutsy, turbaned – and English. Cricket needs all the cult heros it can get and he is the new Phil Tufnell.
- Craig McMillan: the swashbuckling knocks against the Aussies in Auckland and Hamilton were reminders of what the man can do when he finds his cricketing mojo
- Ross Taylor: Centuries against Australia and Sri Lanka, and a rock-solid 84 in Hobart marked Lower Hutt's favourite son as the next big thing for Kiwi cricket



Beige Brigade HQ
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