

# Maxwell the modern master



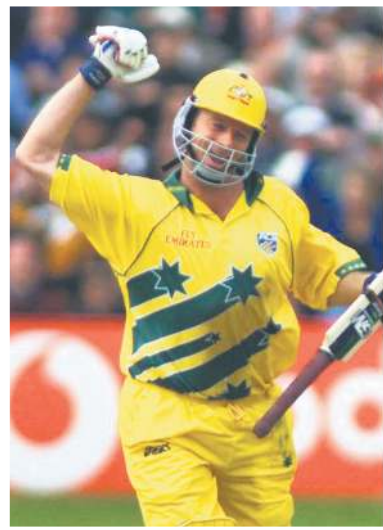
Glenn Maxwell could not believe it – 201 not out and an exalted place in cricket history.



**T**here is footage doing the rounds of social media of a young Pakistani boy replicating Glenn Maxwell's epic World Cup double century. Waving his bat like a flyswatter, the boy takes various nonchalant poses as he sends the ball flying in all directions. He starts in orthodox fashion, just as Maxwell did in his 201 not out against Afghanistan, then becomes funkier as his innings proceeds. It finishes with the boy lying on the ground for an audacious

consequence of not being able to leave his crease, and worked it into parts of the field where the fielders weren't. It was a brilliant example of the craft of batting, the combination of tactical, technical and temperamental factors used to distribute the ball to the batsman's greatest benefit. The pain and restriction forced by the cramp, the reduced benefit of running singles and the need to maintain most of the strike, even with a capable tailender in Pat Cummins at the other end, allowed Maxwell to rise to a level never reached in ODI history.

It was a phenomenal innings, perhaps the greatest ever, and one that will surely become Maxwell's outstanding cricket legacy. The question many people have pondered in the wake of the performance is where it ranks in the history of one-day innings. I can't answer that definitively but I will provide a list of the 10 innings I have witnessed – five live and five on television – that I consider the best in my experience. Let's start with the live ones. **1 VIV RICHARDS 189\* v England, Old Trafford 1984.** A youthful year in Europe coincided with the West Indies tour of England and I abandoned Manchester's Curry Mile long enough to watch the first of the



Steve Waugh's unbeaten 120 took Australia to a famous win in the 1999 World Cup.

three ODIs that preceded the famous 5-0 "Blackwash" Test series. The master blaster was as masterful as any stage of his extraordinary career, blasting 21 fours and five sixes in the best ODI innings I have ever seen live. He was in at 2-11, saw the score slump to 7-102 before Michael Holding's arrival at 9-166 prompted one of the most blistering onslaughts in the game's history – without a single reverse sweep or lap shot in sight. Like Cummins, Holding remained 12 not out as the silent partner in a match-winning and unbeaten century stand. **2 RICKY PONTING 140\* v India, Wanderers 2003.** The Australian captain monstered India in the World Cup final. After a lively start, he sent a message to his team-mates to "strap themselves in" for what was about to come. That was acceleration that produced G-forces previously unrecorded in the game.

**3 STEVE WAUGH 120\* v South Africa, Headingley 1999.** The innings in which Herschelle Gibbs dropped the World Cup. Supposedly, Waugh's sledge might be apocryphal but there was nothing fabricated about his ice-cool batting. In at 3-48 in the chase for 272 on a tough pitch against a high-class attack, Waugh was dropped at 56 but kept his nerve to get his team home with two balls to spare. The result was critical a few days later when Australia tied with the same team in the semifinal but went through to the final based on the Leeds win.

**4 SANATH JAYASURIYA 82 v England, Faisalabad 1996.** It was only the 40th highest score of the Sri Lankan's career but memorable nonetheless, not just because it was my first trip to Pakistan. In an era when opening batsmen did not attempt to plaster every delivery into the crowd, Jayasuriya's two-runs-a-ball fireworks discombobulated the England bowlers and heralded the arrival of modern batting. **5 MICHAEL BEVAN 74\* v England, Port Elizabeth 2003.**

Probably the greatest finisher in ODI ranks, at least until run chases changed to a couple of sixes an over delivered with giant bats on small outfields. Australia were in deep trouble until Bevan found a capable ally in Andy Bichel who was buoyed by his 7-20 earlier in the day. "There is always more time than you think," Bevan said after the most measured of his 196 ODI innings guided Australia to 208 with a couple of balls to spare.

And now to the TV specials. **1 GLENN MAXWELL 201\* v Afghanistan, Wankhede 2023.** The best of the lot. **2 ADAM GILCHRIST 149 v Sri Lanka, Bridgetown 2007.** Half-centuries in the previous two World Cup finals had set Australia on the path to victory; this knock delivered the hat-trick almost single-handedly. Possessed of immense power and timing, Gilchrist also had a sense of occasion second to none. A squash ball in his glove aided his grip as 13 fours and eight sixes flowed from his bat. The game finished in the dark but Sri Lanka had been overshadowed well before then. **3 HERSCHELLE GIBBS 175 v Australia, Wanderers 2006.** When 438 beats 434 on the last ball of the scheduled 100 overs, you know it has been some sort of match. Australia's world record score lasted about three hours before Gibbs, batting at No.3, got some sort of revenge for his Waugh flout all those years earlier. Inspired by Jacques Kallis's quip that Australia were 15 runs short of par, Gibbs flayed the bowling to all corners of the famous Johannesburg ground.

**4 ANDREW SYMONDS 143\* v Pakistan, Wanderers 2003.** Only in the World Cup team because Shane Warne had been sent home after a positive drug test, Symonds finally realised his potential after five years of fits and starts. His bruising and balanced contribution ignited a World Cup winning streak that extended across two complete tournaments. **5 CLIVE LLOYD 102 v Australia, Lord's 1975.** The first World Cup final was one of the first televised matches into Australia. Memorable for Roy Fredericks standing on his wicket while hitting a first over six, Viv Richards' three direct hit run-outs, and Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson trying in vain to run 17 off the last ball as the crowd flooded Lord's, the West Indies captain illuminated the contest with his brutal batting in the first innings.



## Jacket straight from longboard past

### SURFING

By CAMERON BEDFORD-BROWN

After another successful season of club comps and activities the Cottesloe Longboard Club held its end of year AGM and presentations at the Cottesloe Beach Hotel last Sunday.

Martin Richardson was re-elected club president and said it was a great privilege to lead the club during its 25th anniversary year with some exciting projects planned for 2024.

"Cottesloe is the largest longboard club in WA and capped its member numbers to 107 for 2023," he said.

"Jordan Morris again took out the triple crown in master class performances in the men's events winning the Open, Logger and Old Mal divisions.

"Embroidered jackets were awarded to the first, second and third places in the Old Mal pre 1967 division as prizes in memory of times gone by."

Jordan said he was honoured to be club champion and win the triple crown.

"I want to thank all the club members who have supported me over the last year," he said. "The competition was hotter this year and the club has some outstanding young talent coming through the ranks."

The Open Women's logger title went to past multiple club, state and national champion Georgia Young while Georgia Hansen took out the Open Women's.

Swanbourne's Bronwyn Fricke was the highest ranked surfer in the Open Wahine for the sixth time.

Neil Peterson took out the Dukes Logger and contin-



Georgia Young was presented with a club jacket by her father Richard after competing with the men in the Old Mal pre 1967.

ues his domination of the Waterman division which is for higher ranked surfers generally over 50.

In the Surf Rats division Dominic Mitchell took out his first win which was met with very noisy hoots from the 100 in attendance.

Club membership representative Bill Bailey out-gunned his opponents in the legends division while Jake Smith and Matt Cocking were first and second respectively in their last year in the juniors.

Martin said 2024 membership will be offered to existing members first and a registration day will be held in the new year.

"Our largest membership gain has been the number of women getting into the sport and we also had record sponsorship from the local business community," he said. "Congratulations to Bryce

Murray who won the prestigious best club member award. "We are looking forward to 2024 with a new committee ready to get cracking."

- Final club placing for 2023.**  
**Open Men:** 1 Jordan Morris, 2 Dave Smith, 3 Maxi Scott.  
**Open Women:** 1 Georgia Hansen, 2 Aya Smith, 3 Selina Sterker.  
**Open Logger:** 1 Jordan Morris, 2 Maxi Scott, 3 Warren Salomone.  
**Old Mal pre 1967 Boards:** 1 Jordan Morris, 2 Maxi Scott, 3 Neil Petersen.  
**Junior:** 1 Jake Smith, 2 Matt Cocking.  
**Dukes Logger:** 1 Neil Peterson, 2 Glen Solomon, 3 James McGee.  
**Women's Logger:** 1 Georgia Young, 2 Gabby Pusey, 3 Ari Schipf.  
**Wahines:** 1 Bronwyn Fricke, 2 Ari Schipf, 3 Hiro Smith.  
**Waterman:** 1 Neil Peterson, 2 Glen Solomon, 3 Paul Borbas.  
**Legends:** 1 Bill Bailey, 2 Warren Salomone, 3 Jeff Hughes.  
**Surf Rats:** 1 Dominic Mitchell, 2 Ken Hall, 3 Sam Stik.  
**Rippers:** 1 Terry Harney, 2 Bret Tomlinson, 3 Dane Pasqualini.



The best ... Viv Richards hammers Derek Pringle during his 189 not out at Old Trafford in 1984.