



## **PAUL STEPTO**

### **Class of 1984**

Paul Stepto was a NSW cricketer, who completed Year 12 in 1984 and went on to complete an Associate Diploma of Sports Science (University of Wollongong), a Bachelor of Applied Science-Occupational Therapy (University of Sydney) and a Bachelor of Applied Science-Physiotherapy (University of Sydney), becoming a rural and remote area health professional.

Whilst a student at Tech, Paul started to show the promise that would springboard him to higher honours, being selected in Year 12 in the Combined High Schools First XI side. The following year after completion of his HSC, he went all the way, representing NSW Schoolboys and NSW U/19s in the 1984-1985 Australian Championships, taking 16 wickets for the championships including 6-28 against Tasmania, to gain selection in the Australian Youth U/19 Cricket team, which played against India and Sri Lanka on the subcontinent. The following year Paul gained selection in the Australian Youth side which played New Zealand U/20s, then India U/19s (in Australia), earning a Man of the Match, after taking 12 wickets for the match.

Paul represented St George and Petersham-Marrickville District Cricket Clubs, in a lengthy first grade and representative career. In 1986-1987 he opened the bowling for NSW against Tasmania in a Sheffield Shield match at the Newcastle Showground. At a time when the NSW Sheffield Shield team was particularly strong, to be a member of the squad was a fine accomplishment. Later he had a senior role in representing the NSW Country Blues, winning and being undefeated in the Australian Country Championships in Albany 2000, and aided Riverina to achieve a Country Cup win after 25 previously unsuccessful years.

After his formative years in first grade with St George, Paul moved to the Petersham-Marrickville DCC (now Randwick-Petersham CC), where he became a long-serving Captain. In his 28-year cricketing career, it wasn't only playing cricket, but serving his clubs as well, that ultimately earned Paul a Life Membership with Petersham-Marrickville. This kind of acknowledgement remains prized.