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**Andrew John Hintz (8 December 1963 – 7 February 2016)**

For Andrew Hintz, more often known as Hintzy, cricket was a major interest from an early age. Encouraged by his father Reg, who played in the Presidents grade for the Burnside West Christchurch University club, he was often a spectator at those games, occasionally taking part when the team was short. At Christchurch Boys High School the interest continued and after leaving school Andrew maintained his association with the Burnside club. He made his senior grade debut in the 1982 season and over the next 12 years with his fast bowling he was one of the mainstays of the attack consistently taking over 25 wickets every year. His best seasons were in 1985/86 with 38 wickets at 19 and 1986/87 with 35 at 17. When his first grade career finished in 1994, Andrew had played 93 matches and in 89 innings had scored 871 runs at 15.6 average with a highest score of 50. He bowled 8,518 balls and took 232 wickets at 19.7 with nine times taking five wickets in an innings and on one occasion ten wickets in the match. In 65 one day matches Andrew scored 619 runs at 18 average with two fifties and he bowled 2,794 balls to take 95 wickets at 16. His best performance was 6 for 17 and he had the very good economy rate of 3.34 runs per over.

Following an excellent club season, Andrew made his first class debut for Canterbury against Otago at Carisbrook in the last match of the 1985/86 season. Canterbury declared at 401 for eight and when Otago had reached their target with the loss of five wickets they had won the Shell Trophy. Andrew had an excellent debut with the best bowling figures of two for 75 off 21 overs. The following season he was selected for the first match against Auckland and after making 11 and 20 not out and removing Jeremy Coney caught behind for 47 a back injury prevented him from playing in any further matches that season. The 1987/88 season began well for Andrew when he took five wickets against Auckland in the first game and after recovering from injury he returned two weeks later to make 62 and put on 75 for the ninth wicket with Bill Lawrence. In an analysis on the season the Press cricket reporter John Coffey praised Andrew with the comment that “Hintz was sharp of pace and not reluctant to bend his back on unresponsive pitches”.

However stress fractures were an ongoing concern and Andrew retired from first class cricket having made six appearances for Canterbury taking 11 wickets at an average of 33.18. With the bat he scored 108 runs, with a highest score of 62.

In the Shell Cup 50 over competition Andrew was a regular member of the Canterbury team over two seasons with the best performances of four for 23 in 1986/87 and four for 24 the following season, both against Auckland. In all he took 17 wickets at an average of 21.11 with an economy rate of four runs per over.

One strong cricket memory for Andrew was the 50 over game against the visiting Queensland side in December 1987. He came on to bowl when they had lost one wicket for 37 but two quick wickets by Andrew had them struggling at three for 46 having had both Test cricketers Robbie Kerr and Greg Ritchie caught in the slips. Canterbury struggled in their chase for 180 and when he came to the wicket they had lost eight wickets for 85. Two excellent partnerships with Lee Germon and Bill Lawrence raised the final total to 149 with Andrew 32 not out. Sadly the scorebook does not record the number of balls he faced but to those watching it was an exciting counter attack of the highest class.

Andrew toured Northern New South Wales with the Canterbury Kiwis in January 1985 and was outstanding in the “Test match” at Gosford. He took four wickets for 58 and scored 25 not out and his aggressive 60 in the second innings almost brought the team victory.

Although back problems had reduced his pace he still remained competitive with his ability to move the ball and turning to coaching young cricketers became another outlet for his love of the sport. In 1991 Andrew spent the winter coaching in Holland and on his return he was appointed coach of the Canterbury under18 team that played in the National Tournament in Napier. Four years later in 1995 Andrew was coach of the Under 23 Canterbury Kiwis team as they made their bi- annual tour of Northern New South Wales, a tour that was notable that year for heavy rain washing out four of the games.

In later years Andrew continued to enjoy his cricket in the Presidents grade and Masters tournaments where his good humour and easy going nature made him the most popular of team mates. At the age of 52 he lost his battle with cancer and to wife Tracey and children Georgia and Jonty we offer our sincere condolences.