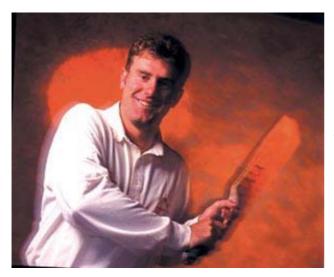# Wagga Cricket Legends

Lots of us love playing or watching cricket in summer. You may not know, but the Museum of the Riverina Botanic Gardens site includes the Wagga Wagga Sporting Hall of Fame, which recognises many of the famous sportspeople who have come from here.

Mark Taylor

- Mark was born in Leeton and moved to Wagga in 1972. In 1975 he started playing cricket at South Wagga Public School before joining Lake Albert Cricket Club where he continued to play through high school.
- He was an excellent soccer player at school, before discovering he was even better at cricket!
- He made his international debut in 1988-9 against the West Indies, and was appointed Captain of Australia in 1994, keeping that job until he retired in 1999. He is considered one of Australia's most successful Test players and captains.
- In 1998 Mark equalled the great Sir Donald Bradman's Australian Test batting record of 334 runs (not out) against Pakistan.

Geoff Lawson

- Geoff was born in Wagga in 1957 and played his first cricket match for Wagga Public School when he was eight. He also attended Mount Austin High School.
- At school he played all three codes of football as well as cricket, golf, tennis, squash and ten-pin bowls.
- He made his international Test debut in 1980-1, competing in 46 Tests and 80 One-Day Internationals for Australia. In 1990 he was awarded an Order of Australia medal for service to cricket.
- He is best known as a right arm fast bowler, his career highlight was taking 8/112 (Australia vs West Indies) in Adelaide in 1984-85

Michael Slater

- Michael was born in Wagga in 1970 and played junior cricket with Lake Albert in 1981 and then joined Wagga RSL Club.
- Michael made his debut for NSW in 1991-2 and his Test debut on the England Tour for the Ashes in 1993, where he scored a century in his second Test at Lords.
- Michael partnered fellow Wagga cricketer Mark Taylor to form one of Australia's most successful opening pairs in recent history.

Did you know?
Geoff Lawson's nickname is Henry, after the famous Australia poet Henry Lawson. Geoff also wrote poetry when he was at school in Wagga.