



# THE HANDYMAN'S EYE AND THE FLAMING CRICKET BALLS: A BEETLE'S REDEMPTION"

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# THE KIDS' CANCER PROJECT WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY

## Parameters Form

### Team Details

STATE: VIC  
DIVISION: Middle School  
SCHOOL/GROUP: St Francis Catholic College (MELTON)  
TEAM NAME: SFCC Cobblebank 2  
TEAM ID: 1296

### Parameters and random words

#### Parameters

Primary character 1 Handyman  
Primary character 2 Optometrist  
Non-human character Beetle  
Setting Music festival  
Issue Bushfire

#### Random words

swept  
dazzling  
faded  
wrinkled  
quirky

### Instructions

- Start no earlier than **8am**
- Write an original story:
  - based on all **five parameters** (above)
  - including all **five random words** (above) as written, and in bold type
  - with some identifiable **Australian content** (in theme or setting or characters, etc)
  - keeping within the allowed word count (remember every word on every page counts!)
  - include this parameters form in your book **immediately after the front cover**
- Remember: **Every** word on **every** page counts. This includes your front cover, back cover, blurb, acknowledgements and copyright form.
- **Be sure to give yourself enough time to submit your book and complete the following checklist before 9pm**

Log on to the Team Coordinator Portal to:

- Check the spelling of your team name and team members' names (how these are spelt on submission will be how they are displayed on certificates)
- Complete the Declaration
- Submit your finished book in **both** PDF and plain text format by 9pm

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## CHAPTER 1- OPTOMETRIST

The sun was beginning to rise over the city. Dale the handyman was getting ready for the day. While he was freshening up, Dale had an uncomfortable feeling in his right eye, his eye was bloodshot red, and a keen feeling hit his eye. Dale was suffering from this pain in his eye. Dale needed to seek medical attention. Dale picked up his phone trying to call the optometrist, Dr. Vernon Filander.

“Hey, do you have time so I can come in?” Dale asked.

“Yeah, what happened?” Dr. Vernon asked.

“I have this sharp pain in my eye and it's red, I need you to check it out,” Replied Dale.

“That's no fun, sure come in whenever you like.”

Dale grabbed his car keys and bolted to his car. He drove to the office and sat down in the waiting room.

“Can Dale Stein please come into my office” said Dr. Vernon.

Dale walked behind Dr. Vernon to his office and sat down on the chair.

“Doc, please tell me what's happening to my eye,” Dale said to the doctor.

“It is nothing to worry about. This happens when the tiny blood vessels on the surface of the whites of your eyes expand, turning the whites of one or both eyes a pink or reddish tint. I will give you a prescription and it will be gone in a few days,” explained Philander.

“Thanks, you really saved me, I thought I was going to lose my eye or something.”

“Haha, it's all good, I like to help people.”

“You really are a true superhero Dr. Vernon.”

Dr Vernon handed a prescription to Dale; Dale thanked the doctor and made his way out, but before he left Dr. Vernon said something to say.

“Wait, Dale, I wanted to ask you something before you leave.”



## CHAPTER 2- CONVINCING

“What is it doctor?” asked Dale

“Follow me.” replied Dr. Vernon

Dale Stein and Vernon Filander started walking, they were walking for ages until they reached at a cricket ground. Vernon had been acting very suspicious as they were walking.

When they got to the ground Vernon said, "Dale, I need to tell you something important, and it's going to sound a bit weird and confusing. What you are about to hear is top secret, and I trust you will not say anything to anyone.”

"Okay, Vernon, what’s this about?" Dale replied.

"You see, I’m not just an optometrist, I'm part of a secret group, a team of superheroes. Our mission is to use cricket balls as our weapons to defeat villains and protect the world from threats and attacks." Vernon replied sounding relieved as soon as he said it.

"Cricket balls? I do not understand. How does that even work?" Asked Dale confused.

“Let me show you,” said Vernon slyly.

Vernon ran to a wooden shed that was falling apart. When he came out, he was holding a duffel bag that looked like you could fit a body in it.

“Here, this is what I mean.”

Vernon grabbed one of the cricket balls and he bowled a yorker. The ball went flying and it reached the stumps. When the cricket ball reached the end of the pitch, it exploded and lit on fire.

“Woah, that is so cool, could I try?” asked Dale eagerly.

“This is why I brought you here Dale. I was here to ask you if you would like to join me and my team to help save the world. Before you decide, I wanted to let you know that I picked you because you are the greatest modern bowler of our generation. No one else came close to you in your prime. So, what do you think?”

“Thank you so much for the offer, of course, I will do it!” Said Dale.

“You're a natural, listen I want to tell you that we are going to a music festival to um... do something. Do you want to come with us?” Asked Vernon. “Of course,” replied Dale eagerly.

## CHAPTER 3- CRICKETERS

Vernon and Dale are discussing their favourite, different superhero bowlers and sharing stories about their abilities. Curtly Ambrose with a bowling average of 20.99 and his best bowling being 8/45 also had in total he has 405 Test wickets and 225 ODI wickets. Brett Lee with 16,531 balls bowled and 30.81 bowling average 310 Test wickets and 380 ODI wickets, he was widely feared in his times. Also, there is Morne Morkel with 16,498 balls bowled and a 27.66 bowling average, he was known as a very aggressive bowler nicknamed the Gentle Giant, he had 309 Test wickets and 188 ODI wickets and Henry Olinga has 4,502 balls bowled and 38.52 bowling average said he took 68 test wickets in 30 test matches for a small nation Zimbabwe. Oh yeah, and there is also Mitchell Johnson with 16,001 balls bowled and a 28.40 bowling average, a very aggressive bowler. Muralitharan with 44,039 balls bowled and a bowling average of 22.72 and 8000 wickets. Harbhajan Singh is also amazing with 28,580 balls bowled and a bowling average of 32.46, he was remembered for his fiery battles with his opponents. Nathan Lyon with 32,761 balls bowled and 30.28 bowling average and Coulter Nile with 1,678 balls bowled and 29.90 bowling average said Vernon yeah and there is also Trent Boult 17,417 balls bowled



and a 27.49 bowling average one of the greatest bowlers after Dale. Vernon reveals that all these people are part of the agency.

## CHAPTER 4- BREAKDOWN

On their way to the music festival Dale cranks up the speed to 180 miles per hour on his Holden Commodore SSV redline but then the Australian car comes to a complete stop when the engine lights start blinking on and off. They quickly turn right hitting a nearby tradie's pickup truck. The truck shifts to the nearest car, turning it into a border in the highway, Dale and Vernon go out to check the hood to find the engine burning, the radiator was broken, and the turbo and the cooler are right across the other side of the highway. The highway was quiet no car was heard. Dale takes the special cricket ball and throws it at the car. Suddenly. The car turns into a **dazzling** motorbike, Dale and Vernon run to the bike and escape from the accident on the highway. Dale looks back to see a bushfire from the car accident. The smoke was darker than the darkness, the fire flooded the highway burning the nearby bush. Inhaling the smoke takes space up through the hero's lungs, he coughed and could not see because the smoke was so thick, but he eventually made it out of the fire. Dale and Vernon continued to the music festival being cautious of their speed because they did not want to start another fire.

## CHAPTER 5 – ARRIVAL OF THE HEROS

Vernon and Dale were nearly reaching the Music festival, and you could tell they were excited to go to the Music festival so they could go get the special balls they had been wanting. They had been waiting for over 6 months for this plan and slowly it was starting to come together. When they saw the bag with the special balls, a man with dark scruffy hair and a beard grabbed it before they could. Dale asked the man for the bag, but he said it was his and would not give it to them. The man tried to run but he tripped over his own feet. Then Dale caught up to the man and offered the man some money for it, and the man hesitantly agreed. They took the bag to a safe place, and opened it, to make sure it was the special balls, and it wasn't anything else. After inspecting the special balls, they packed them back into the bag and loaded them in their car ready to go.



## CHAPTER 6 - STARTING OF REDEMPTION

While Dale goes scavenging for more balls, he hears a scratching noise behind one of the setups. He slowly walks behind and sees a humongous beetle scratching itself. He runs back and finds Vernon and tells him about what he saw. He did not believe it but still followed him. He was shocked to hear screeching coming from the back of the setup. Vernon peeked behind the stage and his jaw dropped. He Scrambled back and looked like he had seen a ghost.

Vernon picks up a baseball bat, sneaks up behind the beetle, and wacks it on the head. The baseball bat snaps in half, and the beetle turns around and starts rubbing its head. The beetle

starts running off and breaks everything in its path. It bumped into a guy lighting a cigarette. The lighter fell into a bush and started a bushfire. It was a giant bushfire. Everyone was worried, people were getting hurt left and right. It was pure chaos. The beetle was still running through everything, but the bush fire was the main of their concerns.

## CHAPTER 7 BUSHFIRE

The bushfire **swept** over the area at rapid speeds. Dale and Vernon ran and told people to run! They tried to find a person to call the fire brigade. They got a few people to call them and tried to get everyone to safety. The fire spread across the trees and lit some of the stage area. After a few minutes, most of the place was lit, but then luckily a lot of people had already left the music festival. Then suddenly, the giant beetle pulled back up, picked up a car, and threw it towards Dale and Vernon. Dale and Vernon got out of the way and saw a metal bar. Vernon distracted the beetle, and Dale ran for the bar. Dale got the bar and crept up behind the beetle. He jumped up and used all his strength to hit the beetle. The beetle fell to the ground and sounded like it was screaming. Dale poked the beetle, and it seemed It fainted. Dale took a sigh of relief and so did Vernon, everyone started cheering for Dale. Dale and Vernon stayed close to the beetle as they called the police. After a while, the beetle woke up.

## CHAPTER 8 – SAD STORY

Beetle begins to shed tears. Confused they ask his reason for crying. The beetle reveals that he has been trapped in this body. Out of fear he agreed to become a villain. The villain said that if he failed him then his family would be killed. He revealed that an evil scientist had turned him into a beetle. Dale and Vernon find a giant rope and tie up the beetle. The beetle's name was David. David Warner. He revealed that he was a former cricket player. He had been attacked by giant robots that kidnapped his family. He had to listen to what the evil scientist said, or he would be killed. The Evil scientist had minions everywhere. He was about to file a missing person report but then a newspaper landed in his face. It read "David Warner murdered." That day his bin was burnt down; a note was left saying not to tell the police. The next day he was kidnapped in the morning. He was blindfolded as an evil voice spoke to him. It told him that for the rest of its life it would be his slave. No one can save you he was told.

The scientist started experimenting on him. Slowly he was going from human to beetle. Every day his body parts were replaced. His screams were never heard. Soon he would begin to forget his family and thought of escaping. Then he was shown that his family was alive and living. They had returned to their normal lives. But they had been brainwashed and forgotten about David. Soon the Evil scientist would send him out to pick up mysterious objects in shady places. Sometimes the bowlers would attack, but his batting prowess proved to be powerful. Bowlers such as Nathan-Colter-Nile and Graeme Swan would try and attack him most of the time. Soon there was nothing human about David but his batting skills.

## CHAPTER 9 WHO IS THIS GUY

He said he got experimented on a lot by the mad scientist Jamie Vardy, Jamie Vardy is an evil, brutal, and mad scientist who likes experimenting on animals. He tortured David Warner and turned him into a strong giant beetle. David Warner tells Dale how the mad scientist Jamie Vardy made him do really bad stuff and crimes, like how he made him get some illegal stuff and deliver it to places, and one time he made him rob a bank and how he was once caught by the police and then he escaped. After that, he made David do more bad stuff. How he has done so much research and experiments on animals in the past. David Warner said to Dale that when he was depressed in life because life was hard Mad scientist Jamie Vardy threatened to harm his family

## CHAPTER 10- JAMIE

Dale asked him about the whereabouts of the Mad scientist Jamie Va, to save his life talking to Dale Vernon used special cricket balls to put out parts of the fire. Beetle tells Vernon that the mad scientist Jamie Va told him to start a bushfire, and he turned him into a bad person. He said he got experimented a lot by the mad scientist Jamie Va when he did not listen Va threatened to hurt his family. Jamie Va is an evil, brutal, and mad scientist who likes creating mutant animals. He tortured David Warner and turned him into a strong giant beetle. How he has done so much research and experiments on animals in the past. Dale started feeling bad for David Warner even though he started the bushfire.



## CHAPTER 11 PRACTICE

The duo then went to the cricket nets. Here they would begin to practice. Vernon revealed that different balls equalled different power. Kookaburra balls are flame balls and gasoline balls. They usually need more speed to work. Then there are Dukes which Give out ice and water. Then there are the SG balls which are wildcards. They last longer and summon lightning and shake the earth. Vernon passed a ball to Dale. Dale did some run ups before picking a Kookaburra ball and bowling suddenly the bowl mid-air started getting small flames before larger flames arrived and then when finally, the ball burnt the stumps. Then he used a Duke which froze the ball then he chucked an SG ball at the stumps obliterating the stumps. Then he bowled a good length ball with a duke's lightning bowl, then when the bowl reached the stumps, it struck the area where the ball landed with lightning. Then he bowled a yorker with the duke bowl. Which created an earthquake. Dale asked how the stumps kept coming back, Vernon revealed that special stumps would come up from the ground and replace the existing stumps. The pitch is a made of special space grass that can survive nuclear bombs. The pitch smelled like freshly cut grass. Dale started practicing with the Kookaburra balls as he had some great pace. Dale was able to generate great swing. Vernon said that he Dale always had more swing than him

## CHAPTER 12 HEADFIRST

After feeling confident enough Dale said that he felt prepared to face Jamie. Then they got on their motorbike and departed for their destination, they saw a massive building forming in front of Melbourne it had a massive lab for Jamie. Jamie had a **wrinkled** face, but something told him that he was not as old as he seemed. For a second, he imagined Jamie as a **quirky faded and wrinkled** figure. Jamie's minions were working for him to build a reactor which could blow the whole of Australia however they couldn't find an energy source to power the reactor so they sent it across to their backup lab as they sensed danger was happening to the building as Vernan and Dale were throwing magic flaming balls at the building shrinking the base of the building making it fall which revealed the minions so they attacked the minions and threw flaming balls to weaken them and finish them off with their fists and feet by punching and kicking them.

Eventually Jamies main assistant was revealed who had dangerous gadgets however the acrobatic skills of Vernan and Dale gave them confidence to run around him and dodge everything while kicking and punching them weakening them and eventually dropping him however he was able to escape and use his gadgets against them to cut their wrist with little blades however the cut is really minor and doesn't affect them so they keep fighting him and eventually make him forfeit and take the magic gun to power up the magic balls to get ready to fight Jamie.

## CHAPTER 13 VIOLENCE, VIOLENCE AND MORE VIOLENCE

After Jamie destroyed Cobar, Vernon and Dale used their agility to climb the robot and reach the head and after they got brushed off, they plummeted to the ground and fell on their back. Their back hurt a lot, but they pushed through it and decided to fight to save the city. They were determined to cure him, so they locked in and combined forces to fight him so they got 300 cricket balls and set them on fire to get them ready while they drowned a bird in gasoline and the bird flew over the robot dripping the gasoline on it then they get their balls and throw them at mad speed setting the whole robot on fire and making it crumble down eventually breaking revealing Jamie. He used his mini robotic arms to shot laser beams at Vernon and Dale however they dodge every beam making the beams useless and eventually he summons the rest of the beetle army. They all have weapons they get rid of most of the beetles until one beetle comes out of nowhere and bite Vernan nothing seems to happen first, so they get rid of all the beetles until they are all gone, until eventually Vernon starts turning green and falls onto the ground unconscious, Dale is concerned and is shaking him to wake him up.

He keeps shaking Vernon until eventually, Vernon wakes up but as a beetle. Vernon is no longer with Dale leaving Dale on his own. Dale is sad and is fighting the urge to cry as Vernon is now a beetle and Dale is forced to throw a magic cricket ball at him.

He throws the ball while he is in tears as his best friend, his optometrist and teammate are no longer with him. Jamie comes back and is glad to see there is only one more left he fires more laser beams at Dale, but Dale just keeps dodging them Dale gets out even more cricket balls and starts rapidly throwing them at Jamie giving him burns and giving him immense pain and making him feel very uncomfortable however this didn't affect him in a bad way as it just made him angrier and rageful.

He kept trying to hit Dale, but Dale was also filled with rage for what happened to Vernon, so he stopped pulling his punches he leapt to Jamie and kept fighting him, he punched his face, he kicked his shins and kept fighting till Jamie fought back however he grabbed his elbow and stuck Jamie's face. Jamie dropped to the floor and kept saying "You Win, You Win, I'm sorry, let me live, please" Dale considered this and let him go.

## CHAPTER 14 AFTERMATH

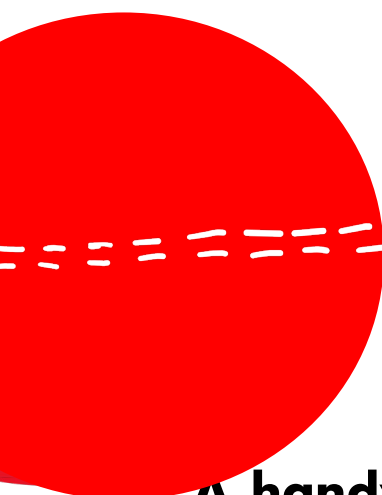
It has been 2 months since Dale lost Vernon and Dale was living by himself with no one, he was severely depressed from the loss of his best friend and regretted giving Jamie a second chance as he knew that Jamie would eventually return even stronger trying to seek revenge. “Ding Dong” There was someone at the door, Dale opened the door to find out that it was Vernon! Dale was finally happy and hugged his best friend. Vernan told him that when Dale threw a magic ball at him, the flames gave him memories and turned him back to normal however he couldn’t find Dale, so he was on his own for 2 months. Dale didn’t care he was just happy that Vernon was back.

However, on the other side., Jamie was making something, something better, something stronger, something... more powerful. He has found out that in Sydney there was an energy source codenamed “The Zero Point” Jamie was hungering it, he needed it to finish the creation that could possibly doom Australia as we know it. “I will make him pay, that Dale, he is not safe, no one is, especially from The Zero Reactor...”.

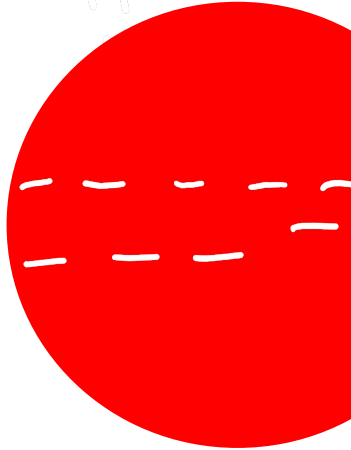
## **REVIEWS**

A thoroughly engaging story with a very fun premise. Great work team! - Miss Bacchin

5/5 stars



**A handyman has something in his eye goes to eye doctor. Then a giant beetle creates a bushfire they transform and use magic cricket ball to defeat the beetle. Beetle reveals how it is mind controlled and its tragic past. They are led to the evil scientist. Flaming cricket balls are used.**



**RECOMMENDED FOR READERS OVER THE AGE OF 9**