

2 MINUTES WITH Amelia Kerr

Melie Kerr is in her last year at Tawa College, yet made her international debut for the New Zealand women's cricket team, the White Ferns, against Pakistan in November 2016.

She is probably the only current school student in Tawa with an entry in Wikipedia! This is some of that wording: "On 13 June 2018 Melie Kerr made the highest individual score in a Women's One Day International cricket match, and became the youngest cricketer, male or female, to score a double century in ODI cricket, when she scored 232 not out – a very appropriate Tawa number – against Ireland. The double century was also the third-highest individual score, male or female, in an ODI. Later in the same match she also took 5 wickets for 17 runs, her first five-wicket haul in WODIs."

Melie is very proud to be from Tawa. By the same token, Tawa is very proud to call Melie one of our own.



Where were you born? Wellington Hospital

Where did you grow up? In Tawa. I have lived here 17 years and think that it is an amazing place and has a great community.

Where were you educated?

Redwood primary, Tawa intermediate and I'm in my last year at Tawa College.

What subjects are you doing this year at college?

This year I'm taking physical education, psychology, English, foods and society and health.

What are you hoping to do when you leave school?

I will keep playing cricket but I am thinking about doing part-time uni in Wellington. I have always wanted to be a teacher so I will probably study education. I would also love to help kids out who have had tough upbringings and be a mentor for them.



What about family?

I have very strong family values and my family are the most important thing in the world to me. My Poppa Bruce Murray played for the Black Caps, and both my parents Robbie Kerr and Jo Murray played cricket for Wellington. My sister Jess also plays cricket for Wellington. I have a lot of cousins that all very sporty or musical [most on the Murray side of the family live in Tawa – Ed.] and we all get along great and I love spending time with them.

What are your interests and hobbies?

I love every sport. When I'm not playing cricket I enjoy a bit of social basketball. I'm very social and love spending time with my friends. I also really enjoy music and would love to learn an instrument when I have more time.

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Favourite sports team [silly question really!] and/or sports person?

My favourite sports team has to be the White Ferns. I have always looked up to Bethany Hamilton, the surfer whose arm got bitten off by a shark.

Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?

My favourite singer is probably Ne-Yo [Wikipedia: an American singer, songwriter, record producer, actor and dancer – Ed.] and my favourite group is ABBA.

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

I love Queenstown and all the adventure and adrenalin activities down there.

What accomplishments/achievements in your life (to date) give you the most satisfaction/pride?

I guess the game I got 232 was pretty special and an amazing day. Every time I play for New Zealand is something I am very grateful for. I don't really look back at my performances now but when I'm retired that's when I will probably recognise what I have done more. I love playing cricket and want to perform well but at the end of my career I would rather be remembered for being a good person and a great team player than that time I scored some runs.

What goal or goals do you have for the years ahead?

A World Cup is the pinnacle event for the White Ferns, so my goal would be to win a World Cup. I want to become a genuine all rounder for New Zealand and I would love to captain the side one day.



(Compiled October 2018)