

Cricket at Cublington



Exciting news for all members, young and old.

End of season Newsletter 2019



Cricketing Overview:

By any standards this has been a strong season for Cublington CC.

Our move from the Cherwell League to the FCCL has resulted in much shorter travel times and 80 over rather than 100 over cricket and the result has been much improved availability (we have selected from c25-26 players every Tuesday evening, rather than from c16-18 as happened last year) and we have started to win games again. The first team won 13 out of 15 games played, with one (dodgy) tie and secured promotion well before the end of the season. The second team won six games, lost others very narrowly and finished respectably mid-table. We had three players, Cale Volitakis, Kit Gordon Stuart and Owen Venables in the top 10 of the batting stats in Div Six (Cale was top of the league) and Jonathan Marsh topped the batting in Div Seven. Nick Rowe (2nd) and Matthew Sparke both featured in the top ten for bowling in Div Six.



Four Counties Cricket League

We have been well supported by Cale, our excellent overseas coach, although if he has one plea it is that more players should come to training. We all need to work on our games, and Tuesday and Thursday training is by no means a first team activity. Certainly the second team fielding left a lot to be desired. It is hard to win games when we drop ten catches.

Our younger players have all stepped up to the mark this year. Ryan Bullock, Harry Gadsby, Matthew Sparke, Gus Macleod, Harvey Knights, Dan Bailey and Jack Gotzheim have all contributed to the success of the first team while Adam Bosompen, Cameron Bullock, Harry Gotzheim, Ben Webb and Oscar Middleton had all been key figures in the second team. It is good to know that the future of the club is assured with this level of talent coming through.

Overall it feels that the club has been a much happier place to be this year. Saturday evenings after games have been convivial with everyone getting together to talk cricket and no-one has been in a hurry to leave.

Long may it continue.

Tom Gadsby
Head of Cricket



| Div | Leading Batsman | Leading Bowler | Best All-Rounder | Runners-Up | League Winners |
|-----|---|---|--|------------------|--------------------|
| 7 | Johnathan Marsh Cublington CC 575 runs | Aftab Ahmed Harlington CC 29 Wickets | Ghaf Shabir Harlington CC 847 Points | Harlington CC | MK Warriors CC |
| 6 | Cale Volitakis Cublington CC 746 Runs DR | Dhanraj Thakkar MK Superkings CC 26 Wickets | Cale Volitakis Cublington CC 926 Points | Cublington CC | MK Superkings CC |
| 5 | Stephen Gordon Great Brickhill CC 647 Runs | Nadeem Ahmed Lidlington CC 34 Wickets | Nadeem Hamed Lidlington CC 1103 Points | MK Stallions CC | Great Brickhill CC |
| 4 | Anup Ghosh Milton Keynes CC 668 Runs | Terry Dickens Drayton Parslow CC 47 Wickets DR | Terry Dickens Drayton Parslow CC 1058 Points DR | Elstow CC | Drayton Parslow CC |
| 3 | Nabil Moughal Milton Bryan CC 690 Runs | Neale Shearn Milton Bryan CC 43 Wickets DR | Nabil Moughal Milton Bryan CC 1090 Points | Old Bradwell CC | MK Warriors CC |
| 2 | Ben Savage Aspley Guise CC 658 Runs | Purus Puran Printers CC 39 Wickets | Dhritiman Sharma Cranfield Univ. CC 1209 Points | Great Horwood CC | Soulbury VCC |
| 1 | Chris Timms New Bradwell CC 670 Runs | Stuart Keeping Olney Town CC 39 Wickets | Stuart Keeping Olney Town CC 974 Points | North Crawley CC | Elstow CC |

DR - DIVISIONAL RECORD

CCC Ladies Cricket 2019

We were looking forward this season to join the Home Counties Women's League cricket which involved Super 8(20/20) fixtures and a few 30 over matches

We started brightly winning a majority of our super 8 matches and came second in the division. We played a couple of 30 over fixtures and had to concede a couple.

Our core of ladies and girls have a great team spirit.

Onwards and upwards for next season and we can hopefully boost our numbers.



Thank you to all our lovely ladies and girls in particular Sophie O'Toole who has been a great behind the scenes help. Steve Bullock has been a great coach and we thank you very much Steve for being there for us and to Phil Carter for his help throughout the season with coaching assistance and umpiring.

Catherine Rodnight

The Social Year at Cublington Cricket Club



Cublington CC enjoyed a successful 2019 both on and off the pitch. Two good Saturday finishes and a packed Sunday calendar were interspersed with some fun social events.

It started early in the season with the annual 'Posh vs Tosh' match, where Cublington's social elite kindly agreed to take on the 'ordinary man' at a game of cricket. This year, despite Tom Gadsby taking to the crease surrounded by an entourage that even Liberace would've found excessive, Adam Farr's junior laden Tosh XI ran out winners and deservedly won the Niall Mackay Cup, in memory of our late chairman.

In a similar vein, August Bank Holiday Monday saw the annual Vice Presidents dinner, where the club hosts a lunch to thank several club members and contributors for all they do. We began with a glorious lunch, generously provided by members of the club. We quickly learned that 'I'm bringing wine' actually means 'I'm bringing an enormous box of wine' - no bad thing! The VPs XI included the like of Jonathan Marsh, Andy Peck and both Gregory brothers who ran out victorious against a Cublington XI, despite drinking their body weight in wine beforehand and spending most of the day sledging Cale Volitakis from Australia, our overseas coach/player. A fantastic day out, in lovely weather, was topped by a memorable, if slightly slurred, speech from Marshy, before he departed to Bermuda.

The end of season dinner was great fun and our thanks go to Aylesbury Vale Golf Club for their hospitality and great service. Mr Gadsby rolled out the technology to award Gary Hadsby (aka Harry Gadsby) his award over Facetime and a mix of juniors and seniors gathered to collect awards and watch Ryan Bullock fall over on a 9ft wide projector. Through all the fun and cricket themed games, it was the perfect, light hearted celebration of everything the club stands for.

These gatherings serve as a superb opportunity to thank everyone involved for all the hard work they put in and to embrace the more comical side of cricket.

Ollie Fairhurst and Kit Gordon-Stuart





The 1st team captain assesses the season.

It has been a very successful season for the 1st XI who achieved promotion from Division 6, only losing 1 game in the process. Despite the success that came it was not always straight forward early on in the season as we scraped past Eaton Bray by 1 wicket in the first match thanks to Tim George's champagne moment to hit the winning runs chasing only 100. Our only defeat came at North Crawley which proved to be the kick we needed and we did not really look back from then on. We had two excellent games against the eventual champions, MK Superkings. First of all at home we snatched victory from the jaws of defeat with Nick Rowe hitting 13 from 3 balls in the final over. The return fixture ended in a hard fought tie, which showed the spirit and determination of the team.

Throughout the season there have been some excellent personal performances. Cale Volitakis ended as the top run scorer in the league with 804 runs (over 100 more than the second best), not bad for a bowler! On the bowling front Nick Rowe was the leading wicket taker with 25 and Matthew Sparke also taking 19. Most pleasing was the fact that 13 different bowlers took wickets throughout the season. What set us above every team this year was most definitely the quality of our fielding, highlighted by the fact that both Harvey Knights and Nick Rowe both got 4 run outs.

A successful season does not happen by accident, so a huge thank you to all those who have played this season making it extremely enjoyable as well as successful. Thanks also to the grounds team for producing some excellent wickets and to those who have supported the club by helping with teas.

I hope that we can replicate this success both on and off the field next season, so look forward to seeing as many as possible when we start nets during the winter.

Owen Venables

A message from our Club Welfare Officer - Helen Mackie

I have held a number of roles for different sports clubs over the years, but this is the first time I have taken on the privilege of a Club Welfare Officer role. It's an important role for all sports clubs, one that shouldn't be regarded lightly. Every sports club must appoint someone to this role if they wish to be accredited with their governing body so it was very reassuring to learn that this appointment is more than a tick box exercise for CCC. It has to be a positive that the knowledge and resources I gained from attending 2 training courses have not been called upon. It'll be a while before the club comes together again now the cricket season has ended, but if you do have concerns, questions or ideas myself and the other committee members are always available.

Helen

Steve Mackie - an Umpire's view of the 2019 season

I've been a member of the club now for 8 years and although that is not a long time in respect when compared with some club members I have seen the club go through many changes both positive and negative. The most positive change has been the change of leagues which I feel has brought about renewed energy, enthusiasm and team spirit. Although my availability for umpiring has been limited this season I feel coming out of the Cherwell league has enabled me to support the club more directly than previously.

I have always found the club to be friendly, family-oriented, open to all ages and which more recently has welcomed the addition of girls and ladies teams.

Many thanks to all at CCC

www.cublingtoncc.org

The Pitchero website platform has proved a useful hub once again for the club. In particular this year the increase in the use of the website for managing availability for selection has helped the our teams selected both more easily and earlier. Many thanks to Chris Scott who has been managing the membership databases on the back end to help with this. We look forward to further improving the news and events sections as we go into the new year.

Any thoughts, drop me a line or feel free to make changes yourselves.

Alec



Sunday XI - a great social and sporting team

Another great season of social cricket with many players enjoying great performances.

Special mention for the Gotzheim brothers who have shown real quality with bat and ball. Stand out player though is Oscar Middleton for his bowling, improved batting and overall commitment to the Sunday team. His figures - 13 appearances (CCC won 7 matches and lost 5 of these 13) - 10 wickets off 47.3 overs for 233 runs. His best - 5 wickets for 11. Our great Aussie coach, Cale Volitakis took some serious honours though for the Sunday side - 14 appearances, a batting average of 60.5 and a highest score of 162. Adam Farr, Kit Gordon Stuart, John Munday, Ollie Fairhurst and Tom Gadsby continue to be a spine of the Sunday team and the young Jonathan Marsh (both for Saturday league and on Sunday has shown he can see the ball other than when playing the Vice Presidents match (he was wearing wine goggles!). The VP match was a great social event and a great match with the VP selection being beaten by a CCC selection by just 2 runs. So a great season for the Sunday side and everyone is welcome to join the Club and participate at whatever level you wish!



Oscar Middleton,
Sunday Player of the Season



Cameron Bullock,
Young Player of the Season



Harvey Knights,
Fielder of the Season



Tim George, Champagne
Moment of the Season



Ryan Bullock,
Innings of the Season



Nick Rowe,
Bowler of the Season



Cale Volitakis,
Player of the Season



Michael Reilly with a representative from Barratt and Wilson Homes
on their donation to CCC for the refurbishment of the scoreboard



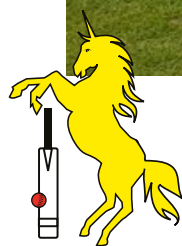
Jonathan Marsh,
2nd Team Player and Batsman of the
Season



First XI clinch promotion (in front of refurbished scoreboard)



Kiwi Legend, Suzie Bates, with some of our Girls at the club in May



YOUTH CRICKET REPORT 2019

Junior Cricket

2019 proved to be another very busy season for our Junior Cricketers.

Our boys competed in the ADL leagues from U9 to U15s and in the Bucks Cup at U11, U13 & U15 level. Success on the field was mixed with many outstanding performances, however at times results suffered due to a lack of consistency and player availability. The lads are a credit to the club and always performed with tremendous commitment and sportsmanship. There were many highlights during the season including one of our young lads, who for obvious reasons shall remain nameless, cleared the pavilion with huge shots damaging cars at both the Cublington and Stewkley grounds.

A major highlight however for the season was the number of Juniors players playing Senior league cricket on Saturdays. More than 10 of our U13-15s represented the Club in league cricket over the season. On occasions half of the 2nd XI comprising of young players. Those who put themselves forward for Senior cricket undoubtable improved in both confidence and capability over the season. Notably Matthew Sparke was a fixture and key player in the 1st XI for the 3rd successive season whilst Cameron Bullock and Ethan Viljoen were major players for the 2nd XI. In addition, two lads who came through to senior cricket for the first time this season and made a real contribution were Adam Bosompem and Dan Bailey.

The Girls teams again successfully competed at both U13 and U15 level in the Aylesbury District League this season. The strength of Cublington Girls cricket was highlighted by the club being one of only three clubs across the County to take part in the Nat West National Cup. Stand out moments were Emily Latham batting the full 20 overs for the U13 Cheetahs Girls against a very strong Falkland Thunder team from Maidenhead in the National Cup and Tash Carter's Diamond Hat-trick for the U15 Cougars Girls against Aston Clinton. A highlight of the season was also welcoming Kiwi Captain, Suzie Bates, to the club in May when she ran a training session for our Girls.

Huge thanks again to our team of Coaches and Managers who give up their time to make Junior cricket possible at the Club.



All Stars Cricket

Cublington were again a host centre for the ECB All Stars Cricket initiative this season. We had over 30 boys and girls, 5- 8 years old, coming along on Friday evenings. With All Stars now in it's third year, for the first time we saw several players from this group progressing into our U9s league side. Well done to both Cale Volitakis and James Gregory for running the All Stars ably supported by a couple of our junior players, Sparkey and Webby.

Gordon Sparke Head of Youth Cricket



Membership for next year...

pay online only...update your details

We are delighted to report that membership subscriptions will remain the same for 2020

Some small tweaks but substantially no increase in subs for next year and the introduction of a few more membership categories to reflect the changing requirements of our members.

The one major innovation is that ALL membership fees must be submitted via our Club website (<http://www.cublingtoncc.org>). When doing this please take the opportunity to update all your contact details. We plan to use the web and its social media tools in all our communication from next season, so unless we have up-to-date information, we will not be able to tell you which team you are in, when the annual dinner is, whether you were man of the match... *Thanks*

| Category | 2019 |
|---|----------------|
| * Senior (full playing member) | 90 |
| Non-playing | 25 |
| * Youth (NB Now 16-23) | 70 |
| * Junior (9-15) | 90 |
| All Stars** (5-8) | 40 |
| Ladies | 50 |
| Family membership fees combination of juniors and adults | |
| * 2 family members | 145 |
| * 3 family members | 155 |
| * 4 family members | 190 |
| * 5 family members | 225 |
| Life membership | on application |

NOTES

** All Stars fee goes to ECB/CCC and is separate and in addition to Family membership fees

*£12 for each category of membership marked * goes to Orchard Ground 100 Club



Introduce a new member - 50% off your fees

Can you invite/cajole/persuade a friend, a relative, a neighbour to come along and get involved at the club? The Club needs more senior playing members, scorers and umpires and as an incentive to our members, we are offering a 50% reduction in your membership fee if you can introduce a new member (playing or non-playing umpires/scorers) who pays the full appropriate fee.

Dates for your diary 2020

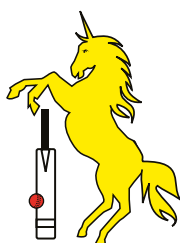
CCC Annual General Meeting Thursday 16th January at the Unicorn Public House

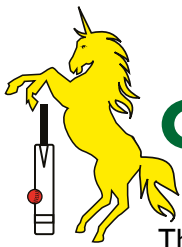
Orchard Ground "Groundforce day" - preparing the facilities for the new season - **Saturday 4th April**

CCC Annual Golf Day (all welcome) **Bank Holiday Friday 8th May (tbc)**

CCC Vice Presidents Day - Saturday 29th August

CCC Annual Dinner and Awards - Saturday 19th September





Cublington CC Finances – 2019

The Club is in a very positive financial position after a successful playing season.

Thanks must go to our generous sponsors, Jonathan Marsh and Malvern Garden Buildings, the various team captains for their effective collection of match fees and Gordon Sparke for ensuring payment of the Junior section membership subscriptions. The few overdue Senior subscriptions have been identified and will be collected shortly.

The Chairman deserves a special mention for his innovative organisation of ground preparation and maintenance, utilising Club members alongside contractors. This has resulted in an important saving this year. The quality of the ground continues to attract Bucks County fixtures, which are a useful source of income, but these need review to ensure that the effort involved is reflected in the payment received.

Allowing for known obligations and expected income in the rest of the year, the bank balance will be in excess of £8,250 at the year end. This implies a surplus of more than £3,000 generated during the year. Sponsorship and grants form the bulk of this surplus, but it is important to note that membership, match fees and social events have combined to effectively cover the running expenses of the Club this year. Ensuring this continues will be a priority for next season as it allows the Club to build its capital balances to fund future equipment purchase, machinery replacement and facilities upgrades.

As part of our community activity we are delighted to donate in 2019 £300 to the Cublington Parochial Council acknowledging the great work done by the tea rota team. For 2020 we will also continue to incorporate a 100 club ticket for each Club member as part of their annual subscription. This along with the fees paid to the Orchard Ground for each match played makes CCC the largest financial contributor to the Orchard Ground Association/Committee - and we are very proud of this!

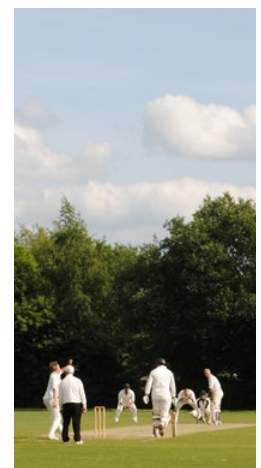
Finally, we would like to thank Vanessa Verity and Jason Taylor and wish them well for their wedding in January. They have kindly asked that in lieu of gifts, donations be made to either Cublington Cricket Club (in honour of Vanessa's father, a cricket legend in Yorkshire) and the Arsenal Foundation (in honour of Jason's father). Many thanks to both.

Chris Scott - Treasurer
30 September 2019

Cublington - Orchard Ground report

Cublington Cricket Club maintains not just the cricket square at the Orchard Ground but we ensure the football pitch and the whole ground up to the allotments is cut regularly and well maintained. We use our own equipment and also external contractors – so a sizable part of the CCC budget is on ground maintenance and preparation. The Cricket Club does not charge the Orchard Ground Association for the wider grass mowing and hedge cutting.

The effort of volunteers is essential to maintain a quality cricket ground. We undoubtedly have one of the best playing surfaces in the county – hence why Bucks Cricket Board choose Cublington to host junior inter county matches! Special mention must go to Tim Taylor for putting in a huge effort in maintaining the ground this season, supported by Cale Volitakis, Mick Farr and many others. I would also like to thank Dennis Allen and Jason Taylor who have given their time and engineering skills to keep our old equipment running. It is always good to get nice feedback, and I was told that a member of Wing Antiquarians who used to play cricket at a high level commented that Cublington's cricket pitch and wicket was excellent – “as good as you would find at a County cricket ground” (thanks to Liz Smith for providing this feedback). It was also satisfying that the report from the Best Kept Village judges highlighted the well maintained Orchard Ground in their adjudication! Each year we open the ground with a community Groundforce day – you will find the date in the Newsletter. So hope to see you there!



Chairman's View

Welcome to Cublington Cricket Club's 2019 end of season newsletter. The end of another season with some success and many challenges!

The main success has been the promotion of the 1st team and the continued strength of the Junior section, the increased interest in girls/women's cricket and a well attended All Stars programme with over 30 boys and girls. The junior talent that Cublington has is incredible and I look forward to seeing many more junior players break into the senior sides during 2020. Well done to Catherine Rodnight, Debbie Knights, James Gregory (All Stars), Gordon Sparke and all the superb junior coaches and team managers! Girls & Ladies cricket continues to flourish and Cublington CC has by far the best set up and participation in the area but we would love to see more participation from girls and women!

However, the 2018 senior season in the Cherwell League saw both our 1st and 2nd team relegated - dropping down to Division 4 and Division 9 respectively. The main challenge for our senior sides during 2018 was player availability. We knew a lot of our members struggled with the requirements of the Cherwell League - early departures, 100 over formats, some hefty miles to travel and late back to home. Some have no issues with this, but speaking to players, many did as their leisure/work and home priorities change. But even with Sunday sides we have seen an increase in cancelled fixtures.

So CCC opened up discussions with the Four Counties Cricket League. We wanted to field two teams, and most of all we wanted our players to have less travel and have fun playing cricket. For the 2019 season, CCC was elected to the FCCL and we were allocated positions in Division 6 and Division 7. This means playing teams like Eaton Bray, Milton Bray, Apsley Guise, Harlingdon, Ivinghoe and Pitstone - local, short distances and 40 over format. We can now have a 2nd team that is genuinely a development squad and we have a pathway for those players into the 1st team that is achievable. Sometimes a sports club has to re-set, take a step back to make a leap forward. That is what 2019 represented and I believe competing and winning is no better tonic for a club going forward!



Cricket nationally is responding to a decline in participation - we have seen the popularity of T20, 100 ball cricket and indeed Last Man Standing - exciting formats, full of action and crucially quick to conclude. A World Cup victory for England - and the Ben Stokes effect - has seen some new young players join the club and we can only hope the momentum is carried forward.

The CCC vision is simple - enjoyable sport for all, inclusive, greater participation and value for money! Our priority is long term sustainability of the cricket club - we have superb members, superb coaches, great juniors and a great ground.

Let's work for a great 2020 season as we ensure the long term success for the sport we love and the long term sustainability of the Cublington Cricket Club.

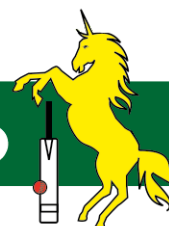
What are the priorities for 2020? We must continue to be leaders in junior and girls cricket; we must have fun and reach a new level with social activities; we must enhance our coaching - and on that point I must express thanks to Cale Volitakis from Melbourne who made a great contribution to the club this season. We have also been successful in renewing our ECB Clubmark Accreditation following an audit of our policies, processes and coaching teams. This literally marks CCC out as a club of excellence.

Finally, my sincere thanks to all members - especially the Coordinating Action Group, the captains, the coaches, the team managers, the tea rota, the umpires, the scorers and all other volunteers - not least those working on the ground. A club such as ours has many moving parts - we cannot thrive without you! I would like also to thank all our sponsors including Barratt and David Wilson Homes who generously sponsored the refurbishment of the Score Box.

Michael Reilly
Chairman
Cublington Cricket Club



Cublington Cricket Club



Established 1863

www.cublingtoncc.org

Orchard Ground, Stewkley Road, Cublington, LU7 0LR