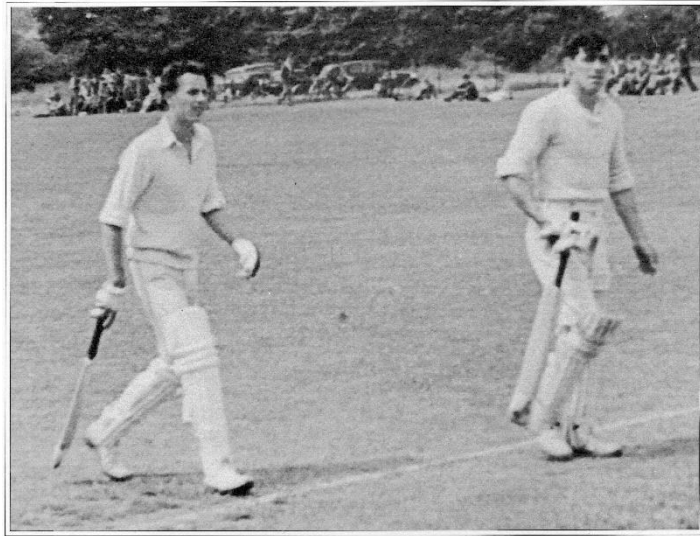


## ISLIP CRICKET CLUB



Islip Cricket Club's winter maintenance activities have been sadly interrupted by news of the death of Chris Busby. Chris did so much as player, official, supporter and recruiter for Islip Cricket Club and without him, it would not exist today. On the walls of Islip's changing room, there are five photos of Chris spanning several decades. In the most recent, from 1983, he is in the team photo as the cricket club's umpire while three photos from the mid-seventies have him as Team Manager of Islip FC cup-winning sides. The oldest of these photos from the mid-sixties shows Chris, surrounded by youngsters, including Dicky Carter, as captain of the club.



Chris Busby    Doug Maunder (Late 50s/Early 60s)

Steve Petty, my predecessor as cricket club secretary, had this to say on hearing of Chris's death:

"He was a lovely man and made me feel so welcome in the village when I first moved in to Tompkins Terrace, both as a new member of the cricket team and as a shopper. With regard to his cricket umpiring, he was always very kind when things went wrong for me. There were times when he was the only person on the pitch somehow keeping a straight face when one of my infamous wayward deliveries gently sailed out of my hand and went way over the wicket-keeper's head. "That's a wide" is all he would say, though you could tell he was chuckling away within.

In the shop he was always really friendly and in many ways a brilliant salesman. On one occasion, when I went in there to buy a paper, he was the only shopkeeper I know who, having run out of all of today's editions, has ever managed to make it sound sensible to buy one of the previous day's editions instead, which he still had in a bundle!

Whenever I drive through Islip I always think of him when I pass the shop. Happy, humorous and respectful memories of one of the first and finest people I got to meet in Islip."

Thank you Chris for all that you did for the cricket club, for Islip village sport and for the village as a whole.

*With thanks to Tony Coggins for the photo of Chris from 60 years ago*