

ISLIP CRICKET CLUB



At Islip Cricket Club, the month of March is always something of a lull before the storm of the upcoming season, a time for traditionalists to oil their bats (I'm not sure what preparation those who prefer the more modern polyurethane-surfaced versions have to do, beyond perhaps sanding off any tell-tale red marks on the edges), look at the mid-range weather forecast and try to remember whether they washed their whites after the last game of last season. The major event of the month is the club's annual dinner, this year on March 31st at the Abingdon Arms, the first get together of the year for Oliver (Black)'s Army. As you read this article, there is just time to book your seat and come and join us for what is invariably an entertaining evening. After last year's successful season, fuelled perhaps in part by the adoption of the England Test team's Bazball cricket philosophy, hopes for 2023 are high. Please come along if you are free; contact islipcricketclub@gmail.com for further details.

While the senior side prepares for its annual celebration, junior cricket for 7-14 year olds is about to spring back to life with weekly Sunday junior sessions at 2.30pm at Gosford Leisure Centre starting on March 5th. For more information, contact David Goodfellow (davidgoodfell65@hotmail.com). Islip's partnership with Bletchington CC, supported by the Islip Shop Community Fund, has been a great success with alumni William Goodfellow and George Roper appearing regularly in the Islip Sunday side in 2022. We hope that continues in 2023.

The senior side's first game of the new season is at home on April 16th when Kempsford will be the first visitors of the season. Do consider coming to join us as a spectator or, even if only for the occasional game, as a player. For more information go to the website (<https://www.pitchero.com/clubs/islipcricketclub>) which will soon be updated with the full '23 fixtures, or email islipcricketclub@gmail.com.