



Blundell's

Old Blundellian Cricket Club



Newsletter Autumn 2021



We had hoped to have produced a monthly newsletter as before but the COVID pandemic has meant that the box has not been available for the whole season. We sent an email to the membership to explain the situation but just to reiterate here is what happened.

On May 17th spectators were permitted into the grounds to watch first class cricket but the numbers were restricted. The ECB were permitted to allow matches but the players had to be separated to maintain their 'bubbles' and ultimately allow first class cricket to continue. At SCCC the Ondaatje pavilion was designated as the away changing room and so the box was unavailable. This continued until July when the vaccination programme was well advanced and most restrictions were removed. However, this did not apply to the position in the Box and despite consultations with the SCCC management the restrictions remained in place until the end of the season. SCCC did offer a few complementary tickets for some of the matches in compensation. We are grateful to Nigel Preston, our chairman, and other members of the committee for their attempts to retrieve the box and all we can hope for is a resumption of normal service next year.

Old Blundellian Cricket in 2021



The OBCC played four matches, winning two and losing two. It was pleasing that we have four match managers, each of whom raised good young teams. The best cricketers from the School's 1st XI, Joe Du'Gay and Tom Reynolds, made their debuts.

In June, a strong-looking OB side was thrashed by a very strong School 1st XI, which ended the season unbeaten. Full credit to Liam Lewis, Master in Charge, who has done great work developing some good young cricketers. We then lost comfortably in the traditional all-day match at the end of July to the Sou'westers. Two days

later, Jon Day led the OB's to an impressive victory against the Old Tauntonians at Taunton School.

The season ended with victory in the Glenthorne Cup against Lynton & Lynmouth CC. How good it was to see Lynton back playing cricket, after no matches in 2021. Richard Pugsley assembled a decent team and we saw off the locals.

Many thanks to John Smith and Alistair Horton for umpiring and to Graham Cox, Head Groundsman at Blundell's.

Result details:

24th June at Blundell's

Blundell's School 194-2 (20 overs)

T. Hatton 99*, J du'Gay 74

OBCC 144-9 (20 overs)

W Gingell 26, J. Frankpitt 25, L. Lewis 21, T. Murphy 5-30

The School won by 50 runs.

26th July at Blundell's

Sou'westers 203-9 dec. (50 overs)

J. Flatt 69, W. Bucknell 3-69, W. Gingell 2-21, T. Reynolds 2-28

OBCC 103 (35 overs)

A. Chambers 18, J. Williams 17, H. Parker 5-26

Sou'westers won by 100 wickets

28th July at Taunton School

Old Tauntonians 236-8 (46 overs)

W. Abell 79, J. Dart 342, T. Reynolds 2-40

OBCC 237-5 (51.4 overs)

J. Dart 103*, J. Du'Gay 45, W. Bucknell 27

OBCC won by 5 wickets

12th September at the Valley of the Rocks

OBCC 202-9 (35 overs)

T. Chambers 65, N. White 46, A. Chambers 24, A' Spice 3-30

Lynton & Lynmouth CC 118 (35 overs)

N. Shilling 22, W. Bucknell 3-35, N. White 2-24

We are hoping to expand our programme in 2022. The OBCC has a historic tradition of touring and we are considering a short venture into Surrey next August. More details to follow.

AGM

The AGM was held in the box on 29th October. Here are the main points which arose from the discussions:

- Nigel Preston has made an attempt to meet with the new Chief Executive Gordon Hollins, but he has not been available yet. He will be invited to the next meeting in February 2022.
- Christmas Lunch will not go ahead this year
- Membership to be maintained at £30 per person
- Members who paid for 2020 will receive a free tie
- Members who paid in 2021 will receive a free lunch voucher
- David Dibb will seek quotes for new folding tables which will free up space for busier days.
- Graham Poulton will look into equipping the box with electronic payment machine .
- Grant Dee Shapland will investigate membership cards to be issued to all new members annually
- Subscriptions were down on previous years but obviously this was due to the fact that we didn't have use of the box
- The pictures in the box were reviewed and some were felt to be outdated and should be replaced with more relevant material.

- Charles Palmer suggested that new Trustees were needed to replace Chris Price (deceased) and Mark Portsmouth plus himself in the fullness of time.
- It was agreed that a new, younger (hopefully still practising) solicitor was required to replace CP. Certain possible OB individuals were mentioned and if you know of any please contact David or Nigel.
- The committee members were thanked for all their work behind the scenes.

Election of officers.

The committee agreed to stand again and all were re-elected.

- Chairman: Nigel Preston
- Secretary/ Minutes: David Dibb.
- School & OBCC Chad Murrin
- Treasurer: Graham Poulton
- Reservations, Steward: David Dibb
- Membership Database Grant Dee Shapland & Ali Deighton-Gibson
- Newsletter: Ali Deighton-Gibson
- Legal: Charles Palmer
- Blundell's liaison: Ben Boswell
- Additional members: David Clements; Michael Powell; Hugh Duder; Debbie Hosking

100 Club

The next 100 club draw for fully paid up members will take place at the next committee meeting in February 2022.

Finally we hope that you and your families have all managed to come through these difficult times unscathed. We are very grateful for those members who have continued to support us over that last two years and we wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and a more positive new year.