



Blundell's

Old Blundellian Cricket Club



OBCC TOUR OF SURREY

Newsletter September 2022



With the season almost at a close we were delighted to see SCCC secure their place in CC1 with an emphatic victory against Northants. Captain Tom Abell achieved a century in each innings which was a feat achieved by former housemaster of OH, Nick Folland in 1993 v Sussex! Congratulations and we will keep a close eye on the proceedings re the Strauss report over the winter months.

Anniversary lunch.



A 25 year anniversary lunch was held in the box in July after a two year postponement due to COVID. The lunch was attended by many OBs who have been involved with the box since its inception in 1997. Gordon Hollins, the Somerset Chief Executive, was guest speaker and started his talk with an amusing anecdote from his time when working with Hugh Morris at the ECB. He gave an interesting speech, highlighting the problems facing first class cricket, especially following the pandemic. He continued to say that the power of TV had effected the finances of cricket throughout and that the introduction of new formats had impacted on players loyalties and availability. The influence of the IPL was also massive and was adversely driving many of the financial decisions throughout the World. Gordon then fielded a number of searching questions before our chairman, Nigel Preston extended our thanks.

Visitors



We were pleased to welcome former Kent and England bowler Richard Ellison to the box recently. Richard was also master ic cricket at Millfield for many years and would have had much input to various Somerset players over the years. He visited to see James Hildreth when he retired and James made an emotional departure with his wife and family to a standing ovation . Also pictured is current master Charles Gabbitass.



It was also good to see Will Silk pop in to visit with his son Charles. Will was a master at Blundell's for many years before moving to Perrot Hill prep school where he is currently the Deputy Headmaster. Will's wife Lucy(nee Densham) is also an OB- GH 1988-90

OBCC Tour of Surrey 2022

The first OBCC Tour for many years was successful and well supported. Jon Day did great work raising teams and we had 12 or 13 players on each day. The weather was extraordinarily hot. We are most grateful to Alastair Horton for umpiring all three games.

We were fortunate to secure an invitation to play Guildford CC in their Cricket Week at their excellent ground at Woodbridge Road. The OB's made 280-9 dec., with a century from Liam Lewis and solid support from Simon Sobczak and Andrew Chambers. We then found ourselves a couple of bowlers short and the home side eased to a four-wicket win.



It was good to see a good number of OB's coming to watch the match, including Andy Giles (who played on Thursday), Tom Hillman, Chris Harding, Anthony Jacques and Peter Price.

We then had an evening T20 against Holmbury St Mary at their beautiful village cricket ground, up on the North Downs. The OB's bowling restricted Holmbury to 139-5, with Benedict Barton and John Hill rolling back the years. Tim Chambers nipped in with two quick wickets at the end. Our batting was too strong, with a classy half-century from Will Bucknell and Guy Bucknell hitting the winning runs.

In the final game we proved to be too strong for the home side. The OB's made 259-5 in our 40 overs, with runs from Will Hall-Tompkin, Ed Carter and Will Gingell. We then bowled Normandy out for 158, with three wickets each for Tom Murphy and Hall-Tompkin. Jon Day starred in the field, with two catches and a run out. The consensus was that the OB's would like to return to Surrey next year.

9th August at Guildford

OBCC 280-9 dec.

L. Lewis 105*, S. Sobczak 50, A. Chambers 49, W.Hall-Tomkin 20

Guildford CC 284-6

W. Jenner 54, Sobczak 3-64

Guildford CC won by 4 wickets

10th August at Holmbury St Mary, Dorking

Holmbury St Mary CC 139-5 (20 Overs)

N. Menzies 51, T. Chambers 2-27

OBCC 140-3 16.5 overs)

W. Bucknell 50, S. Sobczak 26, W. Gingell 22

Old Blundellians won by 7 wickets

11th August at Normandy, Guildford

OBCC 259-5 (40 Overs)

W. Hall-Tompkin 53, E. Carter 51, W. Gingell 36

Normandy CC 158 all out (38.4 overs)

W. Hall-Tompkin 3-9, T. Murphy 3-24

Old Blundellians won by 101 runs

A huge thank you to Chad and Jonathan for all the organisation and to all the players and officials.

Lynton and Lynmouth

The match proceeded despite the death of Queen Elizabeth II three days earlier. The teams wore black arm bands and observed two minutes' silence at the start.



OBCC prevailed in an exciting close finish. With a dominant undefeated century from Liam Lewis, we totalled 186-7 in our 35 overs. All credit to Lynton, who chased gamely and finished just 10 runs short. Richard Pugsley was the pick of the OB bowlers with four wickets.

OBCC 187-7 (35 overs, innings closed)

L. Lewis 118*, H. Weekes 35

Lynton & Lynmouth CC 176-7 (35 overs, innings closed)

L. Constable 65, C. Constable 33, R. Pugsley 4-32

Old Blundellians won by 10 runs.

Pictured Richard Pugsley receiving the Glenthorne cup.

Congratulations.



We would like to extend our congratulations to the new Mr and Mrs Dobb who got married in France in August. Sam is the son of David Dobb, our Box booking coordinator and match day steward. The two day wedding took place in the beautiful town of Grasse in the south of France, the home of Sam's new french wife. The couple will be living and working in London.

Christmas Lunch.

We are hoping to start the Christmas lunch again and propose to hold this on 21st December in the 1875 room. We hope to have a guest speaker from the cricketing world and the cost will be £33p/p or £30 if you are a member of Somerset CCC. If you would like to attend please let David Dobb know preferably by email at tedcroweroom@gmail.com by 21st November at the latest. The menu is on the left and you are welcome to bring guests.

