

## **COLOURED TROUSERS No 29**



### **BUCKS COUNTY CRICKET CLUB NEWSLETTER**

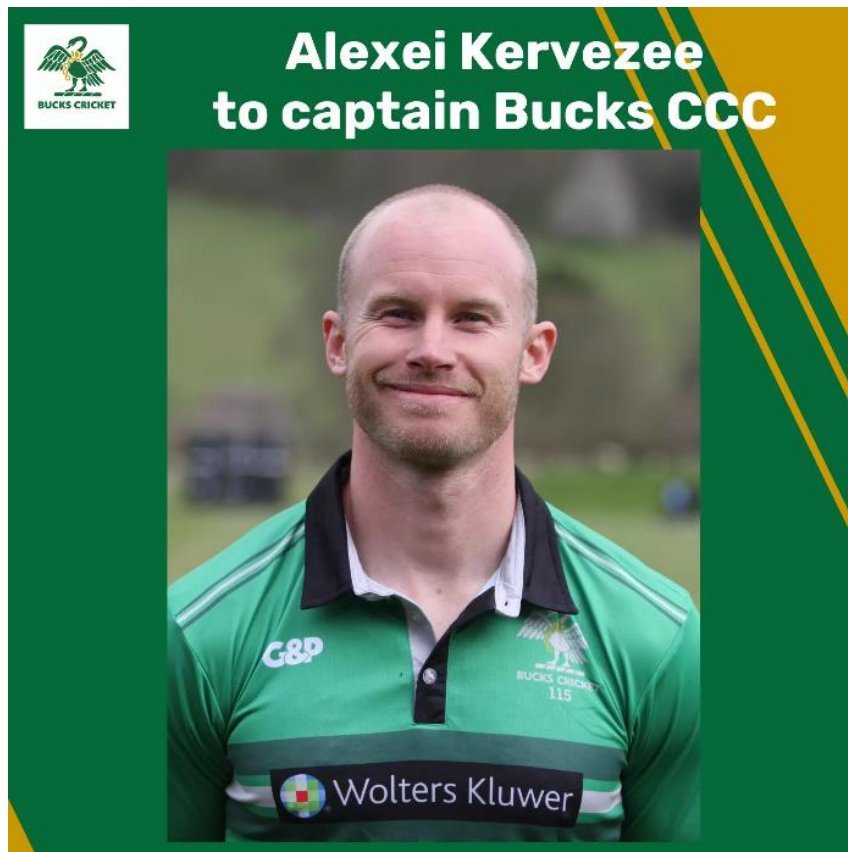
**Editor: Bill Scholes**

**Well, I wish it could be Christmas everyday  
When the kids start singing and the band begins to play  
Oh, I wish it could be Christmas everyday  
So let the bells ring out for Christmas**

Here we are again rapidly heading towards the end of another year – surely it's not 12 months since the last Christmas edition was penned. It has been a fairly quiet year, compared to 2023, although there has been quite a lot happening, both on and off the field. Off the field, the merger between the Bucks County Cricket Club and the Bucks Cricket Board has now been completed, The two have now come together ( sounds like a Beatles song ! ) to form a new charitable organization, Bucks Cricket CIO, which has responsibility for all cricket played in Buckinghamshire. On the field, it was a bit like after the Lord Mayor's show, but following the highly successful season of last year was always going to be difficult. We are still of course in Division One of the County championship and therefore we will be in a position to once again challenge for a place in the National Final. At the end of the season Tom Hampton stood down as Bucks

captain, but will go into the honours list together with Jason Harrison, as being the only two Bucks captains to hold aloft the Minor/National Counties Championship Trophy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.....so far.

In the wake of Tom's resignation, we are delighted to announce that Alexei Kervezee has agreed to take over from Tom for the 2025 season and we look forward to celebrating further success on the field under his captaincy.



Alexei Kervezee has played for Bucks CCC as our professional since 2019 including playing a significant role in our winning the National Counties Championship. He previously played for Worcestershire between 2008 and 2017 and played 40 T20 and ODI international games for The Netherlands

Alexei was born in Malvis Bay, South West Namibia and made his first-class debut for Netherlands at just 15. A year later he was playing ODI cricket and a year after that he played in the 2007 World Cup as a 17-year-old, one of only five players to have appeared in the tournament at such a young age. Two years later in 2009 he was in the Netherlands side that reached the Twenty20 World Cup Finals and was in the team that caused an upset by beating England at Lords!



Alexei retired from international cricket in 2013 with a view to concentrating on his county form with Worcestershire - a decision described as "extremely disappointing" by Netherlands officials - and enjoyed an excellent 2014 season when he was the county's second highest run-scorer in a Championship campaign that helped them gain promotion. He was released by Worcestershire at the end of the 2017 season aged 28. He signed to play and captain Halesowen in the Birmingham League. After playing for Shropshire for 2 years, he joined Bucks as their professional in 2019.

### **SPORTS SHOTS INTERVIEW WITH THE NEW BUCKS SKIPPER**

Sports Shots Andy Bone caught up with Alexei recently to talk about his recent appointment as The Men's 1st XI Captain Of Bucks Cricket.

After joining the National Counties outfit at the end of the 2019 season from Shropshire, the former Netherlands and Worcestershire player steps up to replace the outgoing Tom Hampton.

Alexei spoke highly of the skipper he is replacing but he is also excited to get started with the role.

***"I'm delighted, excited and can't wait for the season to get started. I'm really looking forward to getting stuck in. I'm incredibly fortunate to take over from Tom with Buckinghamshire in a really good place. I would like to say thank you to Tom Hampton and the massive part he played in getting me to Buckinghamshire in the first place. What he has done for Buckinghamshire cricket, both on and off the field, as a cricketer and captain, is something he should be immensely proud of."***

Once Hampton stood down, it was Kervezee who believed it was a challenge worth undertaking.

***"After Tom announced his decision to resign, I had a couple of casual conversations with Jason Harrison and Tom about what their thoughts, feelings and ideas were around who should do it. Once I approached Jason with the feeling that it's something I would like to do, things moved quite quickly from there."***

There is no doubt that Kervezee is highly respected within the squad and management group and is the ideal choice.

He has set the standards both on and off the field, something which his hard work has deservedly earned. His appointment will benefit the pathway for Bucks Cricket.

The new captain already has aims as he looks ahead to getting started in his new role.

***"I'd love us to make big steps forward in white ball cricket. To showcase how good and talented this Buckinghamshire team is, and will become in white ball cricket. We've got a great core group of players and immensely talented young cricketers coming through, waiting for their opportunity, which I'm sure they'll get. To maintain the very high standards and goals we've set ourselves in red ball cricket, and to continue to improve and grow upon that."***

Kervezee revealed what is in store ahead of the 2025 campaign.

***"The plan is too have a few outdoor training sessions, coupled with a couple of games for pre season in April, leading into the 50-over competition. Winter nets start on Sundays in January and finish at the end of March, leading into hopefully our outdoor part of the build up for pre season."***

The new captain also revealed some early news within the playing squad.

***"Unfortunately AJ Woodland (work commitments) and Billy Mead will not be around during the summer or their availability extremely limited."***

Sports Shots and Coloured Trousers would like to thank Alexei for his time, and wish him well within his new role.

#### **Alexei Kervezee - Bucks Cricket in statistics**

##### **Championship**

18 Matches, 28 Innings, 1,379 Runs, Highest Score 180, Average 51.07  
4 Hundreds, 7 Fifties.

##### **Trophy**

16 Matches, 15 Innings, 395 Runs, Highest Score 115, Average 28.21  
1 Hundred, 2 Fifties

##### **T20**

16 Matches, 16 Innings, 469 Runs, Highest Score 80, Average 31.26  
3 Fift

## BUCKS FIXTURES 2025

The eagle eyed amongst you will notice that the NCCA have switched the order in which the three competitions are to be played. The new season will now kick off with the early rounds of the 50 over KO competition, which will then be followed by the T20 matches. A important reason for the change relates to the better weather that is usually to be found mid-season - (i) the pitches favour the batters more, which is even more important for the T20 format than 50-over and (ii) 1-2 hours rain is usually enough to completely write off one of the two matches, whereas with the Trophy, you can get still get the one game in, which means a reduction in shared points from abandoned matches and, consequently, less chance of the group having to be decided on run-rate or, worse, the toss of a coin.

### NCCA 50 OVERS KNOCKOUT

Date	Opposition	Venue
<b>April 27</b>	<b>Devon</b>	<b>Instow</b>
<b>May 4</b>	<b>CORNWALL</b>	<b>TRING PARK</b>
<b>May 11</b>	<b>Berkshire</b>	<b>Away</b>
<b>May 18</b>	<b>OXFORDSHIRE</b>	<b>TRING PARK</b>
<b>Quarter Finals 1st June</b>		
<b>Semi Finals 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b>		
<b>Final 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>		

### NCCA T20 COMPETITION ( 2 matches per day )

The T20 reverts back to four groups of five, Bucks are again matched with Berkshire , with Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire, and Wales NC completing the group. The 'Super 12s' will follow - the top 12 clubs playing in four round robins around the country to determine the four finalists.

Date	Opposition	Venue
<b>June 8</b>	<b>BEDFORDSHIRE</b>	<b>CHESHAM</b>
June	Oxfordshire	Away
<b>June 29</b>	<b>BERKSHIRE</b>	<b>CHESHAM</b>
July 6	Wales NC	Ebbw Vale
Super 12's	3 August	
Finals Day	24 August	

### NCCA COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Date	Opposition	Venue
July 20-22	Suffolk	Bury St Edmunds
<b>Aug 10-12</b>	<b>CAMBRIDGESHIRE</b>	<b>CHESHAM</b>
Aug 17-19	Staffordshire	Stafford
<b>Aug 31- 2 Sep</b>	<b>LINCOLNSHIRE</b>	<b>HIGH WYCOMBE</b>

## BUCKS YOUNG STAR JOINS HIGH WYCOMBE C.C.



Aadi Sharma has joined High Wycombe from Great Brickhill just a few weeks after signing a two-year contract with Northamptonshire County Cricket Club.

Aadi has been in the Northamptonshire Emerging Player Programme since 2019, with his contract award coming as a result of his development.. At the end of the 2022 season, Sharma played in an England Young Lions trial game at the ECB Performance Centre, based at Loughborough, where he scored 94.

In 2023, Sharma made 115 in the second innings for Bucks as they lifted the Durant National Counties Cricket Association Championship Trophy at West Bromwich Dartmouth Cricket Club. The knock against Devon helped Tom Hampton's side become the red ball Champions. A week later he is believed to have become the youngest player (17 years & 200 days) to captain a Northamptonshire side when he led the 2nd XI. Ironically against Nottinghamshire at Notts Sports Club (Lady Bay) in Nottingham.

Sharma's move to High Wycombe comes as the club looks to re-build after top order batters Eliot Callis (Cuckney) and Dan Marles (Finchampstead) moved on. The signing will definitely help both parties and ignites the excitement for the 2025 season.

Thanks to Sports Shots Andy Bone for the above article

## BUCKS WOMEN



We have reported in previous issues on the forthcoming changes in the womens domestic game and these have now been confirmed for 2025. After a almost a year of discussions., 2025 finally sees the unveiling of the new Women's Domestic Structure bringing with it a lot of change but also some exciting new challenges. The previous 8 regional teams, ( Southern Vipers etc) with a supporting county structure, have made way for a 3-tiered county-based system. Tier 1 will be comprised of 8 fully professional teams from the Men's First Class structure, Tier 2 is made up of the remaining 10 First Class Counties with Tier 3 being made up of National Counties.

As previously reported, all the National Counties teams have been placed in Tier 3. However, Tier 3 still presents a much improved and better funded programme than the previous County Competitions. Following a consultation process it was agreed between the Tier 3 counties to split Tier 3 into a Division 1 & Division 2 in order to create a competitive, and meaningful matchplay programme. Buckinghamshire are delighted to confirm that we have been designated as a Division 1 side for 2025 for both the 50 over and T20 formats. It is also pleasing to note the outcome of the Tier 3 consultation which will allow promotion and relegation between Div One and Div Two which will create the competitive landscape that our players will want at this level of Cricket.

### **Tier 3 Division 1:**

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Devon, Hertfordshire  
Staffordshire, Wiltshire

Buckinghamshire Women will compete in all 3 of the new competitions in 2025:

#### **1. Metro Bank One Day Cup – Women's League Three (Division 1)**

The Metro Bank One Day Cup – Women's League Three will see all 8 Division 1 teams face off across the summer. The teams that finish 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> will then compete in a final on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September to crown the winner. Further

competition is created with the inclusive of promotion/relegation with the teams finishing 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> being replaced by the winners of Division 2 South & Division 2 North. This sees a considerable increase on 2024 with the number of 50 over game rising from just 3 to 7 (possibly 8) matches in 2025.

## **2. Vitality Blast – Women’s League Three (Division 1 – South)**

The Vitality Blast – Women’s League Three will also see a competition separated into a Division 1 & Division 2. However, Division 1 in this competition will be separated North/South with 4 teams in each Division. Buckinghamshire in the North Division ! where they will face Cambridgeshire, Cheshire & Staffordshire in T20 double headers in the group stage. The winner of the North Division will progress to a finals day on 27<sup>th</sup> July where they will take on the South Division winners.

## **3. Vitality T20 Women’s County Cup**

The introduction of the Vitality T20 Women’s County Cup will see teams from across all 3 tiers compete in what has been coined the FA Cup of cricket. This would mean that Buckinghamshire could have the chance to take on fully professional sides from Tier 1 in a knockout cup. We have managed to avoid a Tier One side but we will travel to Hove to play Tier T2 Sussex on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May in Round 1. The winners off this match will also be on their travels to another Tier T2 side - either Glamorgan or Gloucestershire on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May The competition will take place across May, utilising Bank Holidays at the beginning and end of the month, and will signal the first domestic silverware of 2025. The semi-finals and final of this competition will be played as a three-match Finals Day on Monday May 26 at the Somerset County Ground in Taunton, with the two semi-finals preceding the final.



**BUCKS CRICKET**  
**WOMEN'S OPEN TRIALS**

*Join Bucks Women's 1st XI  
to test your skills in  
ECB Division 1 - Tier 3*

**SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY, 4-6PM**  
**@ MANDEVILLE SCHOOL (AYLESBURY)**

The poster features a green background with two circular yellow brushstrokes. Inside the left circle, a female cricketer in a green shirt and black pants is captured in a bowling action. Inside the right circle, another female cricketer in a green shirt and black pants is in a batting stance, holding a bat. The Bucks Cricket logo, featuring a stylized bird, is in the top left corner.



As you will have seen from the above Bucks Women have been placed in ECB Division 1 of Tier 3 for the upcoming 2025 season, offering a great opportunity for players to test their skills against other Division 1 teams.

If you would like to be part of our Women's 1st Team next season we have an open trial for players aged 18+

Register for free: <https://forms.office.com/e/EUHJ7R5UTJ>

For more information or any questions - please contact the Women's Lead Coach: Ben Ungaretti [ben.ungaretti@bucks cricket](mailto:ben.ungaretti@bucks cricket).

## **MORE END OF 2024 SEASON NEWS**

### **NCCA Twenty 20 Finals Day 8<sup>th</sup> September 22024**

Albeit slightly out of date, but just tying up the loose ends. All four finalists were left frustrated on NCCA Twenty20 Cup finals day as the rain was the winner once again. Staffs, Berkshire, Cumbria and Oxfordshire met at Chester Boughton Hall for a re-run following May's abandonment due to the weather but the elements intervened once more on a miserable day in Cheshire.

**The trophy will not be awarded for the 2024 season**

## **HOME COUNTIES PREMIER LEAGUE**

**Thanks to Sports Shots, in partnership with ETDC Digital Media.**

**Division One:** Despite Finchampstead leading the table for majority of the season, they were pipped at the post by Henley who defeated them on the final day to become Division One Champions. Wokingham, having won only one game this season, will be relegated and find themselves in Division Two next year.

**Division Two:** The two sides promoted from Division Two are champions Harefield and runners up Stoke Green. Harefield collected the Division Two Championship trophy before they travelled to face second-placed Slough, who needed a win to ensure their promotion as runners up. However, due to an unfit pitch, the match was abandoned after 3.1 overs. Stoke Green took full advantage of the situation to secure a 118-run win over Amersham to take the second promotion slot. Amersham's defeat saw them, along with Buckingham Town, relegated back to the Cherwell League.

## News from around the NCCA

**Staffordshire** aim to build on 2024 success and are planning for the 2025 season as they bid to make another impact on the NCCA scene. There has been a change in the off-field structure moving forward.

Former Staffordshire captain Nick Archer has been elected as the county's new chairman replacing Phil Oliver who has seen his allotted six-year term come to an end. Archer captained the county between 1985 and 1995 and orchestrated the most successful period in the county's history in the early 90's. Archer had previously served as the county's secretary, but stepped down from the role in 2018 after being appointed as the chairman of Minor Counties/National Counties Cricket Association.

A new cricket committee has been formed, chaired by ex-skipper Richard Harvey, to oversee all cricket matters relating to the county club. Pete Wilshaw, Howard Dytham, Dave Middleton and Chris Milward also sit on the committee which covers representation from across the county and the board.

"One of our first priorities, though, is to reach out to clubs and cricket supporters around the county." My mindset when I was captain was to recognise that the team was representing not just the 11 players on the pitch, but all those cricketers and spectators around the county who have an interest in how the county side gets on.

Communication is vital and being approachable as a cricket committee is key to fostering good public relations.

"We want all cricket supporters in Staffordshire to have a genuine interest in the National County side and a set up that they can relate to and be proud of."

**Devon CCC** announce the appointment of Tim Western as its new performance director.

Tim will leverage his extensive experience and innovative approach to build upon Devon's existing strengths. His mandate includes implementing strategies aimed at fostering sustained growth and achievement across all three formats of the game. This encompasses everything from player identification and development to the appointment of additional resources.

Nigel Mountford, the county club's chief executive said: His leadership of the Devon Lions programme over the past 14 years has been particularly noteworthy, serving as a cornerstone for cultivating the next generation of Devon CCC cricketers.

“Tim is a level-three coach and under his guidance, the programme has become a robust pipeline, giving opportunities to all players in the county and producing skilled players ready to be successful for the county club and beyond.”

Tim, who begins his new role with immediate effect, said: “I am honoured to have been appointed as performance director of the county club, which is the pinnacle of the Devon cricket pathway.”

Western added ‘I will be conducting a comprehensive assessment of the club's current performance structures, identifying areas for potential improvement and working with the players to agree and fulfil our objectives.

“It is important that we remain in the first division of three-day cricket and find a way to be more consistent in the white-ball formats.

“I will be working to expand the number of support staff and quality of the player base, which will include a new professional player.

“For Devon CCC to be successful, and be on the top table of National Counties cricket, it is important that we work with stakeholders like Devon Cricket Foundation, Devon Cricket League and our neighbouring First-Class counties.”

**Oxfordshire** After fourteen years representing Oxfordshire and ten as captain, Jonny Cater has called time on his playing career within Oxfordshire. Jonny led Oxfordshire as captain for eight seasons’ across all three formats within National Counties Cricket Association (NCCA) competitions, before retiring from red ball cricket at the end of the 2022 season and then for a further two years across both white ball formats in 2023 and 2024.

Jonny led Oxfordshire as captain in the white ball cricket competitions for ten seasons, lifting the NCCA Twenty20 for the first time in Oxfordshire history in 2022. Having qualified for the NCCA T20 Finals Day again two years later in 2024, it was unfitting that two washed out attempts to play the finals prevented Jonny one last opportunity to win another title for Oxfordshire. Jonny made over a hundred appearances for Oxfordshire across the Twenty20 and One Day Trophy format, amassing 2,829 runs at an average of 37.07, including three centuries within One Day Trophy. During his final season representing Oxfordshire, Jonny became the first batter in NCCA history to score one thousand runs in the NCCA Twenty20 competitions, an achievement that reinforces both his longevity and continued performance level over many years. Jonny completed 118 dismissals with the gloves in NCCA white ball cricket, including 86 catches and 32 stumpings, alongside 5 run outs.

Oxfordshire Cricket would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Jonny on a tremendous playing career and to recognise both his dedication to the County as captain over a ten year period and his contribution to Oxfordshire throughout his career. Oxfordshire wish Jonny all the very best for the future and hope that he will

now enjoy some extended time with his young family after all the years with the Oxfordshire shirt on.

Cater, having stood down as the captain of Oxfordshire, will take on a new role as the new 1<sup>st</sup> XI skipper at Great Brickhill. He said it is an honour to take over the captaincy and a role which delivers a huge responsibility; most importantly to continue the excellent work of Garth Davson's leadership and to progress even further. I am excited to work with both young and experienced players to deliver the best possible results on the pitch. On a personal note, leaving the captaincy role of Oxfordshire will give me the energy and drive this role deserves. Cater undertakes the role from a successful period under departing captain Garth Davson. Brickhill has seen promotion from the Cherwell League to the Home Counties, division 2, stability for a season, then another promotion to the league's top division, followed by stability in 2024. This sees the club now arrive at a new challenge.

**Another interesting article from Yahoo over Cow Corner and one which I believe will bring back memories, particularly to our older readers when the subject matter was a more frequent happening.**

### **FRIVOLOUS OBSERVATIONS - THE RUNNER**

Four overs into Derbyshire's reply to hosts' Hampshire's total of 295 in the Metro Bank One Day Cup match, proceedings temporarily come to a halt. The reason for such an intermission is not immediately obvious. Two Derbyshire substitutes emerge with drinks, Hampshire's wicket-keeper and slip cordon assume their positions whilst the umpires engage in a brief conversation with the home skipper Nick Gubbins. Two or three minutes pass with little indication as to the nature of the stoppage when the familiar clank-clank of studs on metallic steps reverberates around the Rose Bowl and the previously dismissed batter, Luis Reece, emerges back onto the field of play. Hence, one of cricket's more intriguing developments is about to unfold: that of the runner.

Runners used to be a common sight in times past but have become a rare occurrence in recent years. Perhaps their scarce nature is partly because of being outlawed in international cricket since 2011 but have remained part of the MCC defined laws of the game and domestic cricket as a consequence. One's personal memories of watching limited overs games on the beeb featuring runners almost always seemed to involve comical moments of confusion, particularly when the batter hors de combat failed to remember his obligation to remain in his crease. Although one's memories are likely to be jaundiced by nostalgia which

almost always forgets the mundane and remembers merely the remarkable.

Nevertheless, as with the increase in athleticism over the decades in professional cricket, so the equivalent increase in adapting to the presence of a runner. In this instance, the standing umpire very demonstrably, and authoritatively, highlights to Reece where he must stand whilst Lamb is facing and the whole scenario seems to discombobulate Brooke Guest and runner Luis Reece, almost resulting in a run out even though the injured Lamb was at square leg. Such difficulties are understandable as instantly one must change one's natural lines of sight as Lamb's first delivery post the break is a dab into a gap on the off side to which he correctly stands still. One must quickly adjust to watching Reece at square leg rather than Lamb at the batting crease. Soon one is able to make the necessary ocular adjustment but at least four or five deliveries are required to resist one's natural watching inclinations. Quite how the umpires adjust so quickly is remarkable. The two batters quickly adapt to the change of circumstances and Guest and Lamb's problems are with the quality of bowling from Kyle Abbott and Mohammed Abbas rather than the novel scenario in which they find themselves. Under leaden skies the international duo concede just nineteen runs in the eight overs that they bowl in tandem. Abbott exits after just four overs and the visitors attempt to accelerate. Visibly hobbling between each delivery, Lamb stands and delivers for a glorious cover slap off of Abbas but top edges the next delivery to offer a simple catch for Ben Brown and the runner frivolity ends after just half a dozen overs. It was fun whilst it lasted though. In a modern game full of aspects that adhere to the old maxim of familiarity breeding contempt, the sight of a runner certainly proves the opposite and something of a frivolous novelty.

BUCKS BOWLING HONOURS BOARD 2024 SEASON			BUCKS BATTING HONOURS BOARD 2024 SEASON				
1	Kesava Konarki	Brookland's Blasters CC	9-5	1	Andy Overton	New Bradwell CC	221
2	Rohan Parke	Aylesbury Town CC	8-8	2	M Ghayas	Westcroft CC	215
3	Anish Katechia	Stony Stratford CC	8-13	3	Mrunal Sawant	Holmer Green CC	203
4	Sohail Ali	Wolverton Town CC	8-14	4	Michael Wells	Stony Stratford CC	197
5	Jonathan Harman	Great Brickhill CC	8-24	5	Ali Humzah	Monks Risborough CC	194
6	Rohan Parke	Aylesbury Town CC	8-25	6	Stefan Saleem	Chenies & Latimer CC	193
7	Farhaan Khan	Burnham CC	8-38	7	Alec Howe	Cublington CC	183
8	Richard Pengelly	Buckingham Town CC	7-2	8	Adnan Ahmed	Cadmore End CC	183
9	Emily Keeping	Olney Town CC	7-3	9	Alexei Kervezee	Bucks Cricket	180
10	Vipin Kumar	Kings Strikers CC	7-7	10	H Aravinthan	D Tamil United CC	174
11	Amiya Rout	Wing CC	7-9	11	Graham Simpson	Stony Stratford CC	172
12	Zahid Aslam	Stokenchurch CC	7-11	12	Syed Ali Raza	Aylesbury Pakistanis CC	172
13	Manzar Hussain	United Sultans CC	7-16	13	Donald Mcdonald	Burnham CC	169
14	Magnus Bull	Olney Town CC	7-17	14	Michael Winson	Bledlow Ridge CC	169
15	Aamir Butt	Westcroft CC	7-20	15	Umar ishtiaq	Cadmore End CC	168
16	Joseph Rance	Amersham CC	7-20	16	Michael Wells	Stony Stratford CC	167
17	Zahid Aslam	Stokenchurch CC	7-20	17	Syed Hussain	Whitelarch CC	165
18	George Holmes	Cublington CC	7-21	18	Alexei Kervezee	Bucks Cricket	165
19	Qadeer Hussain	Aylesbury Pakistanis CC	7-22	19	Matt Bacon	Olney Town CC	164
20	Raghav Pyaraka	MK Air CC	7-23	20	Saad Anjum	MK Warriors	164



## **Yes, it's time for another Christmas Music Quiz**

1. In which song is there a snowman named Parson Brown?
2. Who sang 'Last Christmas'?
3. Who wished it could be Christmas everyday?
4. 'Stay Another Day' was a Christmas number one for which boyband?
5. Which song was the Christmas number one in 1975 and again in 1991?
6. What is the worldwide best-selling Christmas song of all time?
7. 'Do They Know It's Christmas?' was a charity song to raise money for which African country?
8. What were the boys of the NYPD choir singing in 'Fairytale of New York'?
9. Which member of The Beatles wrote 'Wonderful Christmastime'?
10. Who wrote 'Do They Know It's Christmas'?
11. 'Driving Home for Christmas' was written by Chris Rea on a drive back to which UK city?
12. In what year was 'Mr. Blobby' the UK Christmas number one?
13. Girls Aloud had the 2002 Christmas number one with which hit single?
14. Which artist is the only one to have 4 consecutive UK Christmas number one singles?
15. 'Bob the Builder's 'Can We Fix It?' was a Christmas number one. True or false?

## **SPONSOR A BUCKS SQUAD PLAYER - for just £50**

Firstly a great big thank you to all those members/ supporters or companies who sponsored a player over the past season .....and or previous seasons. We are planning to continue with the sponsorship initiative for the next season... If you wish to continue last season's sponsorship or sponsor one of the new additions to the Squad, or for more information ....

Please contact Bill Scholes Tel: 01420 560290 or [billscholes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:billscholes@hotmail.co.uk)

### **BUCKS C.C. C. PLAYER SPONSORSHIP 2024**

<b>PLAYER</b>	<b>SPONSOR (S)</b>
Tom Hampton	<b>Sports Shots</b>
Alexei Kervesee	<b>Jonathan Lilley</b>
Michael Payne	<b>Alan Rowland</b>
AJ Woodland	
George Harvey	<b>Breffni Walsh</b>
Cameron Parsons	<b>AW Sales Agencies</b>
Conner Haddow	<b>J.Haskell&amp;G.Shelvey</b>
Ed Bragg	<b>Bill Scholes</b>
Ross Richardson	<b>Mike Knox</b>
Tom Weymes	<b>Arthur Evans &amp; Graham Parker</b>
Billy Mead	<b>John Phillips</b>
Chris Marrow	<b>Frank Russell</b>
Max Uttley	<b>Steve Peart</b>
Teddy Fleming	<b>Ian Hodgson</b>
Hashan Ramanadpulle	<b>Finnbar O'Conner</b>
Cameron Hemp	
Molly Carter	<b>Su Klyne</b>

## Dream11 European Cricket Championship 2024



National Counties XI won the Dream 11 European T10 Championship for England for the third time in four years when they retained their title with a clinical 14 runs victory over Netherlands in the final at the Cartama Oval near Malaga in October. All 13 members of the National Counties XI have played for the NCCA Challengers side this season either in the three-day contest against Emerging Zimbabwe or the white ball matches against first-class opposition. Bucks opener Cameron Hemp was a member of the championship winning team.

## European Cricket Women's T10 Championship

The **European Cricket Women's Championship**, now in its second edition and bigger than ever, returned to Malaga, Spain, from **December 9th to 20th, 2024**. The number of teams competing has doubled from 5 in to **ten in 2024**, and promises to be the largest and most exciting European Cricket Women's Championship to date. **Defending champions England XI** lead the pack, looking to retain their title. #

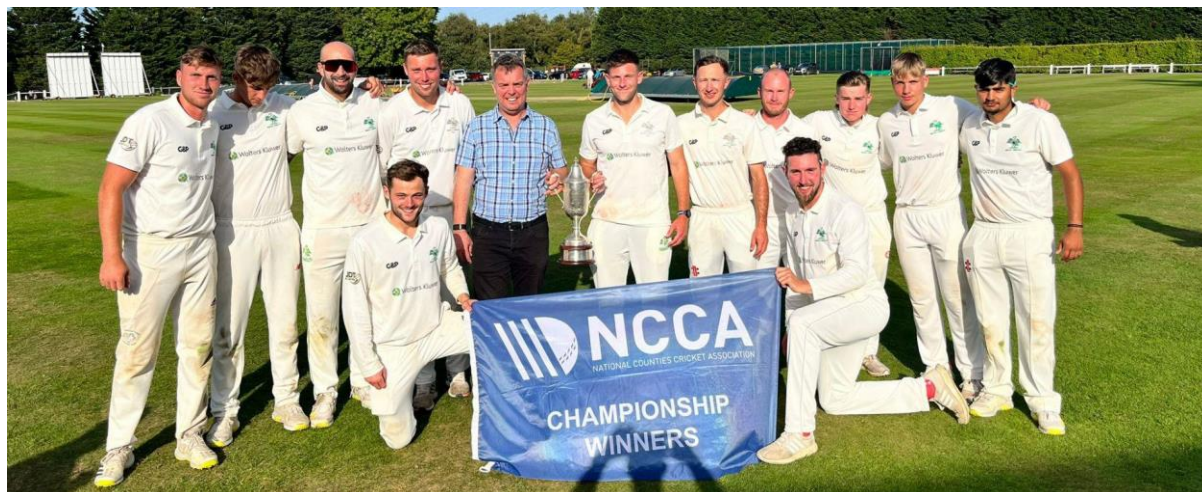
The teams will be split into two divisions, as below

1. **Challenger Division** (December 9 - 14): Teams from **Spain, Austria, Germany, Jersey, and Czechia** will compete for the Challenger Division title.

2. **Premier Division** (December 15 - 20): Featuring **England XI, Ireland XI, Scotland XI, Netherlands XI, and Italy**, the Premier Division will see Europe's top cricket talent in action.



# SUPPORT BUCKS CRICKET



## By joining Bucks County Cricket Club

The County Club and Bucks Cricket are working actively to promote and develop cricket at all levels and ages throughout the county at a home match. You can support these efforts by joining the Bucks County Cricket Club.

As a Member of Bucks Cricket you will receive:

- A Free Bucks Cricket Annual Handbook
- Free entry to all Bucks home matches including the Showcase game
- A regular bi monthly on line newsletter with up to date results/fixtures/information re our representative cricket.
- Entry into Free draw for Hospitality for 2 at a Home Bucks match

The Annual Subscription is :-

£25 for individuals

£35 for partners living at the same address

£10 for juniors (aged under 18)

£15 for students in full time education ( (aged under 24 )

Life membership is also available

Membership forms are available from John Phillips .

Email: [johnphillips@bucksccc.org.uk](mailto:johnphillips@bucksccc.org.uk) Tel: 01494 721244

## **CAN'T GET TO A GAME**

### **KEEP UP TO DATE WITH BUCKS C.C.C. ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

**Do not despair, help is at hand. Don't miss a moment**

Please note the new social media addresses below as the old ones have been disabled and merged with these.

Website: [buckscricket.co.uk](http://buckscricket.co.uk)

Twitter : @BucksCricket

Facebook: [https:// www. facebook.com/BucksCricket](https://www.facebook.com/BucksCricket)

Instagram: [buckscricket.official](https://www.instagram.com/buckscricket.official)

<b>All of Bucks 1st XI games will be streamed live on our YouTube channel</b>
---

## **RON HEDLEY'S SPONSORED CHARITY WALKS**

**The article below appeared in the recent Your Amersham monthly magazine**

### **The Remarkable Mr Hedley**

Ron Hedley is the Chairman and manager of the Bucks Over 60s and Over 70s numerous league teams, a daunting task involving persuading clubs to host games, sometimes at short notice, and checking health and fitness of available players. The O60s , for example, usually turn out four sides all on the same day. Think about it.

In recent years, having himself undergone treatment for Prostate Cancer , Ron has become involved with the Bob Willis Prostate Cancer Fund. It was his idea to approach counties that field Over 60 teams with a view to organising a series of sponsored walks, to raise cash in support of the Willis Fund, based around club grounds within their county. This project has been so successful that approx. £50000 has been raise to date. current programme culminated in September, when, on the day of the village cup final at Lords, Ron, with his family and accompanying walkers, had his day in the sun and his name emblazoned on the big screen at the home of cricket. A lovely moment for all concerned. Further walks took place in October and will continue in 2025. For full details of the project or to make a donation to the fund contact Ron on [rjhatters@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rjhatters@yahoo.co.uk)

### Amersham & Chesham Cricket

In the circles of cricket club and league administration the Wheels of Progress grind exceeding slow. Thus, unsurprisingly, there is little to report on the local scene. Maybe no news is good news, if rather boring. The Thames Valley League format still appears to be in a state of flux following apparent disagreement by some members of the Mid Bucks League, lowest level of the BCMB League, who had previously reached agreement to be absorbed by the TVL but now seem likely to break away. Watch this space for further developments and, hopefully, a satisfactory resolution.

No news has been received regarding any developments at Amersham CC but Chesham have confirmed the appointment of Johnathan Burden as Home Counties League 1st X1 captain for 2025, Matt Rance having stood down after six seasons of excellent service. Theo Weatherall continues as 2nd X1 captain, Vish Vaidyanatha the 3rds and George Udell the 4th X1, champions of Div10b.

#### Bucks County Cricket

Following the end of Tom Hampton's seven year reign, the new Bucks captain in all three NCCA formats will be the experienced former Dutch international Alexei Kerzevee, who has been a successful performer for the county for the last few years. I am sure that all members will wish him well.

I had hoped to be able to summarise the results and winners of the ever increasing number and different levels of the Bucks Junior Age Group League and Cup competitions but these have become increasingly complicated in the last few years. The results of these and of many other competitions are available on the Bucks Cricket web site.

#### The Remarkable Mr Hedley

Ron Hedley is the Chairman and manager of the Bucks Over 60s and Over 70s numerous league teams, a daunting task involving persuading clubs to host games, sometimes at short notice, and checking health and fitness of available players. The Over 60s, for example, usually turn out four sides all on the same day. Think about it.

In recent years, having himself undergone treatment for Prostate Cancer, Ron has become involved with the



Bob Willis Prostate Cancer Fund. It was his idea to approach counties that field Over 60 teams with a view to organising a series of sponsored walks, to raise cash in support of the Bob Willis Fund, based around club grounds within their county. This project has been so successful that approximately £50,000 has been raised to date. The current programme culminated in September, when, on the day of the village cup final at Lords, Ron, with his family and accompanying walkers, had his day in the sun and his name emblazoned on the big screen at the home of cricket. A lovely moment for all concerned. Further walks took place in October and will continue in 2025. For full details of the project or to make a donation to the fund contact Ron on [rjhatters@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rjhatters@yahoo.co.uk).

**Cricket pages sponsored by Amersham**  
Lovely setting, lovely ground, fully stocked bar.  
Visitors and new members very welcome.

And Ron's amazing feats have also been acknowledged at Lords during the Village Cup Final when Ron and his supporters toured the outfield during the innings break to applause from spectators.



Village Voice December 2024/January 2025

Alex - said the walks had been inspiring and memorable.

After a lunch for Ron - who was celebrating his 75th birthday - and representatives of over-60 and over-70 cricket clubs who have helped organise the walks, Laura Kirby, the Chief Executive Officer for the charity Prostate Cancer UK praised all of the walkers for their efforts. In addition to raising cash, the publicity the walks attracted had encouraged more men to get themselves checked and as a result some had been able to get vital early treatment for a disease they did not realise they had.

The event coincided with the annual Village Cricket Club Cup Final and during the break between innings the crowd applauded Ron and his supporters as they toured the outfield of the home of cricket.

Among the guests were Jeff Thompson, the Australian fast bowler who was a friend and adversary of Bob Willis, and Mick Harford, the former England footballer who, like Ron, is being treated for prostate cancer.

A number of individuals donated prizes for a raffle to raise even more money at the event, including a generous gift pack donated by R H Amar Ltd of High Wycombe.

Word of Ron's Marches continues to spread. After meeting a touring cricket team from the Vatican in the summer Ron and Pat were invited to Rome to publicise the campaign to cricket enthusiasts in Italy, while they have also been invited to a reception at St James Palace hosted by the Duchess of Gloucester.

Ron and Pat are taking a well deserved rest over Christmas but more walks are planned for next year. If you would like to know more, or wish to donate, you can do so online at <https://bobwillisfund.org/ronsmarch>. Peter Brown. To contact Ron: [rhedley2001@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rhedley2001@yahoo.co.uk)

## RON HEDLEY PROSTATE CANCER WALKS

*Ron's Tributes were paid at Lords cricket ground in September to Ron Hedley of Old Kain Road, Tylers Green, and all those who have taken part in Ron's Marches to raise awareness of prostate cancer and to raise funds for the Bob Willis Fund, helping research into the condition.....*

So far Ron's walks have raised over £53,000 and at a thank-you lunch for Ron and organisers of the walks in many parts of the country, Bob Willis's widow Lauren Clark - pictured here on the left with Ron, his wife Pat and daughter



[www.pennandtylersgreen.org.uk](http://www.pennandtylersgreen.org.uk)

## Quiz answers

1.Winter Wonderland 2/Wham! 3.Wizzard 4. East 17 5.Bohemian Rhapsody  
6.Queen 7.White Christmas 8.Ethiopia 9.Galway Bay10.Paul McCartney  
11. Bob Geldof and Midge Ure 12. Middlesbrough 13.1993 Sound of the Underground  
14. Ladbaby 15.True

Once again, many thanks for all your support and to all those who have helped and contributed to Coloured Trousers over the past year, particularly Andy Bone and Sports Shots, Mike Knox, Kevin Beaumont, Ron Hedley, Jonathan Lilley, County Cricket Matters, Yahoo Over Cow Corner, Steve Peart, Paul Dean, Rich Hudson, Rachel Hudson, Trevor Taylor, Tom Hampton and Alexei Kervezee. We are of course obviously very grateful to all our sponsors and to Sports Shots for their excellent media coverage as well as to Charlie Carter for all his excellent photographs. All contributions have been gratefully received of course – why not relieve the boredom of the remaining winter months by writing an article or two and join our happy band of literary contributors.

*Billscholes*

[billscholes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:billscholes@hotmail.co.uk)

Tel: 01420 560290

The views expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Bucks C.C.C.