

COLOURED TROUSERS No 23



BUCKS COUNTY CRICKET CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Bill Scholes

A very belated , but nonetheless, Happy New Year to you all, and trust that you are still keeping all those New Year resolutions that you undoubtedly made. Despite the miserable and soggy weather (thank you Trevor) we experienced in 2023, the year was one that Bucks CCC could look back on with pride as we claimed our first Championship Trophy since 2009. However, the past , it is said, is another country and we must not rest on our laurels but rather work towards doing it all over again. We have a very talented playing squad and a highly experienced and committed management team, so lets do it.

The weather at the start of 2024 has not been the best - I think the forecasters will soon run out of names for all the storms we seem to have had – but hopefully better weather is ahead and we won't suffer all the early pre-season warm matches postponements that we did last year. In order to ensure some out door practice, One of our National County sides has already arranged a 4 day pre season trip to La Manga in mid March ! I have also just heard that Bucks Over 60's will be playing in an inter county tournament in Malta in March. !!

The first couple of months are usually full of expectation and anticipation – searching for the fixtures, particularly for their own counties but often the net is spread wider. Discovering a new out ground was always a treat, and working out how that could fit in with other commitments. And of course , waiting patiently by the letter box, or these days probably more the Amazon delivery driver, for the new Wisden Almanac, the Playfair Cricket Annual and the The Cricketers's Who's Who.

BUCKS CRICKET FIXTURES 2024

We can now turn our attention back to playing or watching Bucks cricket in the forthcoming season and the news that we have all been eagerly waiting , and that is the publication of the 2024 fixtures. The NCCA announced their fixtures at the end of November and our indefatigable Secretary Kevin Beaumont has been kept busy

matching dates and venues for the summer. All have now been confirmed. The format for the 50 Over K.O.Trophy and the Championship will remain the same.

NCCA T20 COMPETITION (2 matches per day)

This season the NCCA have tweaked the way the T20 Cup will be played. This undoubtedly follows some grumblings about the way the four counties making it through to Finals day were determined. In previous years, there have been four groups of five, with just the winners of each section progressing to Finals day. However, this has now been altered for the 2024 campaign.

There will now be five groups of four, with the group winners, group runners-up and two best third-placed finishers advancing to a new Super 12s stage.

Those 12 teams will be split into four groups of three, all playing each other on a scheduled day. (keep up at the back!) Obviously venues for these matches will not be known until all of the qualifiers have been decided.

The table-toppers in those sections will then make up the four counties who will contest Finals day, which has now been moved to Chester Boughton Hall.

Date	Opposition	Venue
April 28	BEDFORDSHIRE	HIGH WYCOMBE
May 5	Berkshire	Falkland
May 6 (BH)	HERTFORDSHIRE	BEACONSFIELD
May 19	T20 Super 12's	????

T20 Finals Day 26/27 May Chester Boughton Hall, Cheshire

NCCA 50 OVERS KNOCKOUT TROPHY

The format remains the same but we will have four new opponents this season. Home games against holders Berkshire and Devon, a visit to near neighbours Oxfordshire and a slightly longer journey down to Redruth in Cornwall !

Date	Opposition	Venue
May 12	Oxfordshire	Wormsley
June 9	DEVON	HIGH WYCOMBE
June 16	Cornwall	Redruth
June 23	BERKSHIRE	CHESHAM
June 30	Quarter Finals	
Aug 4	Semi Finals	

Final Aug 25/26 Wormsley

NCCA CHAMPIONSHIP - EASTERN DIVISION ONE

Sadly no trip up to Norwich this season for their Festival of cricket as Norfolk were relegated last season. They have been replaced by Div Two champions Bedfordshire, with the match being played at Flitwick. Our other away game will see us journey to Sleaford in the middle of Lincolnshire, which makes a change from our usual destination of Grantham.

Date	Opposition	Venue
July 7-9	Lincolnshire	Sleaford
July 14-16	SUFFOLK	TRING PARK
Aug 11-13	Bedfordshire	Flitwick
Aug 18-20	STAFFORDSHIRE	HIGH WYCOMBE

Championship Final Sept 1-4 West Bromwich Dartmouth

OTHER ADDITIONAL FIXTURES

April 7	Intra Squad match	2 x T20	Wormsley
April 14	Oxfordshire Nurton-York Trophy	2 xT20	High Wycombe
July21/22 ?	LEICESTERSHIRE Showcase Match	50 overs	TBA
Sept 8	Milton Keynes Showcase Day 10.30 Bucks Women The 100		Cambell Park
	2.30 Bucks 1st XI The100		Campbell Park

BUCKS SECOND XI FIXTURES

Date	Opposition		Venue
28-30 May	Suffolk	3 Day	Sudbury
31 May	Berkshire	50 overs	Marlow
1 July	Wiltshire	50 overs	Away
2 July	Berkshire	50 overs	Away
17 July	Northamptonshire	50 overs	Campbell Park
22 July	Oxfordshire	50 overs	Away
6-8 Aug	Suffolk	3 Day	Chesham

Unsung Heroes – Scorers

Continuing the series that started a couple of years ago of the Bucks unsung heroes that the game cannot do without - they are of course the scorers. Sometimes they very hot, sometimes freezing, BUT they are always there, and this time the spotlight is on

Name: Andy Swayne



- 1. Fact no one will know about you: I am of part Madagascan heritage and have holidayed there in the past. It's very different to the movie.**
- 2. How many years have you been scoring for Bucks CCC? I scored my maiden 1st team match in 2021**
- 3. Have you also scored for Bucks Cricket? If so, which teams ? Generally Seniors Cricket but made my debut in the youth setup last year**
- 4. And which other Clubs do you currently score for: Amersham**
- 5. When did you first start scoring, and how did you first get into scoring ? 2017. Just fancied getting into cricket and scoring suited my skillsets. Useless as a player so this was the perfect solution.**
- 6. Which is your favourite Bucks ground to score at The one and only Shardeloes, home of Amersham CC. (Not biased, much)**
- 7. And which Bucks club has the best scoreboard facilities Chesham (better whisper that one quietly)**

8. And which has the worst No, don't answer that!

9. And which is your favourite club ground: **Not a club ground per se but Wormsley**

10. What are your proudest scoring moments so far ? **Making my Bucks 1st team debut at Gerrards Cross, and scoring next to/advising a certain Blowers at Shardeloes**

11. Do you have a ground where you would like to score but haven't yet and why? **Lords and the MCG. Maybe one day!**

12. Outside of cricket, do you have any other interests – sporting or otherwise? **Football mainly, again rubbish as a player. Arsenal my first love but much more likely to be found these days at Wycombe or Hayes & Yeading.**

13. Finally, what actions , if any, would you like to see a club make to improve the life of a scorer ? **Make the scoreboard as comfortable a place as possible. Liaise with your scorers to understand what that looks like.**

NATIONAL COUNTIES CRICKET ASSOCIATION (NCCA) Best Moments

The NCCA have been running a Best Moments series on social media , and in the last couple of weeks have featured a couple of our recent Bucks Final heroes – see below



Buckinghamshire's Ross Richardson reaches 50 on his way to a score of 166 in the Durant Cricket National Counties Championship final against Devon at West Bromwich Dartmouth Cricket Club on September 4th, 2023. - Photo Credit: Roger Byrne



Alexei Kervezee and A J Woodland during their 126 run partnership in Buckinghamshire's first innings on the second day of the Durant Cricket National Counties Championship match against Norfolk at Tring Park Cricket Club on July 10th, 2023. - **Photo Credit: Roger Byrne**



Buckinghamshire's Aadi Sharma hits a six out of the ground during the morning session of the second day of the Durant Cricket National Counties Championship final against Devon at West Bromwich Dartmouth Cricket Club on September 4th, 2023. **Photo Credit: Roger Byrne**

From the Memory Banks

Long time Bucks member Trevor Taylor and Chesham CC stalwart reports in his excellent column for the Chesham and Amersham press that a Bucks Over 60s Senior squad will be taking part in an inter county tournament in Malta during March.

Trevor goes on to write*This has brought back happy memories for me of two tours that I made with Incogniti CC to this fascinating island in the 1960s when we still had a strong military presence. We were guests of the Royal Navy and stayed at HMS St Angelo, an old fortress, from which the ancient Knights of St John fired the heads of prisoners across the harbour at the Ottoman army stationed on Fort St Elmo during the Great Siege. Gruesome! My culinary advice to the squad is to sample and enjoy the delicious traditional rabbit dishes but probably avoid the Lampuki Pie.*

Sadly, Trevor also says '*Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn*', wrote the solemn war poet Laurence Binyon. As I have discovered in my 90th year, he was wrong. As a result, after twelve years of compiling this monthly article, my wearied brain has decided for me that this will be the final offering. It has been a mainly enjoyable exercise, but increasingly time consuming due to a frustrating lack of feedback or input from clubs. I hope, however, to continue to report on the activities of the Chesham and Amersham clubs.

Thanks Trevor, on behalf of all your readers and our members in your part of the world. I'm sure they will be only too pleased to buy you a glass of your favourite tippie at our home match at Chesham.

News from the Home Counties Premier League

AJ Woodland named as new High Wycombe captain for 2024

by Sports Shots Andy Bone

Bucks CCC opener AJ Woodland has been named as the new captain of the High Wycombe 1st XI for the 2024 season. The London Road-based outfit announced the news following the club's recent Annual General Meeting. Woodland replaces the outgoing captain, Dan Marles, who stands down after a very successful spell in charge of Wycombe, but will stay on at the club as a player.



The new skipper was named the 2017 Wisden School Cricketer of the Year when he made 1,207 runs for St Edwards during the campaign. His first-class debut followed when he played for Cardiff MCCU against Gloucestershire at Bristol on 1st April 2018. He was then appointed as Cardiff MCCU captain for the 2019 season. In the last five years Woodland has established himself in the Bucks side, and was of course part of the 2023 NCCA Championship title winning side.

Labour of Love

This latest blog from Yahoo Over Cow Corner arrived half way through January and will surely strike a few chords with numerous fixture secretaries around the County. I'm sure many of you will recognise one of the two individuals interviewed – Ian (Smithy) Smith, chairman of Bedfordshire CCC – and normally to be spied walking around the boundary with a pint in his hand selling scorecards and raffle tickets.

Cricket is a sport of volunteers, particularly at club level. Without the input of such individuals over many an hour the recreational game would likely collapse. Some efforts are a little more obvious and receive the deserved recognition. Others perhaps drift by unnoticed with little thought regarding the time, effort and endeavour that are required to complete what seems very much a labour of love.

Early January often witnesses the production of many a cricket league's fixtures for the forthcoming season. The end product rarely highlights or provides insight into the work and effort provided for something that can easily take for granted though. Nevertheless, in the three to four month period from the close of the season to the start of the following campaign there are a litany of fixtures secretaries up and down the country devoting their resources to producing the foundations for each season.

Two such individuals are Mark Heritage and Ian Smith who undertake the mammoth job for the Hampshire Cricket League and Bedfordshire Cricket League respectively. The former experienced the task for the first time this winter, taking over from the previous secretary who had generated the

fixtures for over forty years. Post a couple of weeks to get his head round the whole task, Heritage began the process by continuing to use the same tools created by his predecessor. Nevertheless, with over 360 teams included in the league across twenty-odd divisions, there are a number of complications and factors to take into account. Including the fact that the Hampshire League is the only league in England that contains 18-team divisions.

In contrast, Ian Smith has been looking after the fixtures for the Bedfordshire League, a competition that includes seven divisions and sixty-three teams and is played on Sundays, for a quarter of a century, providing time to hone the process and become accustomed to the annual issues that are part and parcel of the process. Both provided a little bit of insight into what is required to produce the fixture lists for their respective leagues:

When do you start planning for the following season?

MH: Planning for the following season begins in August of each year, even before the current season has concluded, although nothing concrete can be confirmed until October when all teams have confirmed entry for the following season and the geographical lay out of the lower divisions has been finalised.

IS: At the league AGM in November I ask for blank dates. (dates when clubs don't play due to each division containing nine teams) I can't really start until all of these are in. Once they are, I then start and I always do the fixtures between Christmas and New Year.

Do you have a general method for plotting the fixtures?

MH: I have a divisional matrix on a spreadsheet, from the Southern Premier League on the far left to the Hampshire Women's Division 3 South on the far right, 29 divisions in total. Understandably, the Southern Premier League fixtures are given priority. First off, I need to know which two teams share a pitch before I can begin. From this, I can work out what position a particular team can go into the matrix to generate home and away fixtures, depending on any special requests. There is a special formula in the spreadsheet so that two teams from the same club will not clash, i.e. they won't both be at home at the same time. This needs to be done for all teams that share a pitch, although the two teams may not necessarily be from the same club. (*A scenario experienced by this blogger last season for a piece on New Forest cricket where teams from Cadnam and Paultons share a pitch in the village of Minstead*)

IS: Most Saturday Leagues insist you play every Saturday. For instance, the fixtures you play in week one are reversed in week ten. I do the fixtures for the Bedfordshire League, which is a Sunday League. So we have 7 Divisions and have to get the blank date requests. These are noted (I maybe speak to some clubs to move theirs as only one team per division can be blank; the other 8 have to play) and then I form the pairings. After that, I generate the fixtures with the trusted grid. I make 9 blocks of fixtures and reverse them to form the full season.

Are there special requests from clubs?

MH: This year we've had a situation involving Bournemouth Cricket Club who are unable to use their Chapel Gate home grounds on 25th May. So that's five teams across the Southern Premier League and Hampshire League that need to be away on that weekend. In these sorts of scenarios the single club teams in the league are a saving grace. There are 35 across the Hampshire League that can be moved around in their appropriate division(s) to resolve any number of issues. I managed to accommodate 4 out of the 5 Bournemouth teams by swapping fixtures but their Second XI had to find another pitch. Similarly, St

Mary Bourne have a Flower Show and Village Fete at the end of July so they have to play away on that date.

IS: Some clubs need blank dates because they will be hosting Bedfordshire National County games. These have to be taken into account early on in the process. Other clubs will host a fete at some point, or I have to make a ground available for a women's games. Also, some clubs go on tour or host a fundraiser.

On a similar vein, are there any unique or interesting scenarios?

MH: First of all, there are the five teams that share pitches with clubs from neighbouring leagues such as the Berkshire or Surrey League. This requires specific plotting and communication with the equivalent secretaries from other leagues to avoid clashes.

Another is that Portsmouth, as a city, is short of grounds with hardly any spare grounds. One club play games at the Portsmouth Rugby Camp but the local football season starts in mid-August so the Rugby Camp is out of action for last two Saturdays of the season. Thus, one team has to find alternative venues. It's also challenging for the 3 teams that have to travel across to the Isle of Wight on the Saturday of Isle of Wight festival weekend due to the high demand for ferries. Indeed, divisions with the Isle of Wight clubs present unique challenges, for logistical reasons. One division this season has two Isle of Wight teams and the original fixtures included three teams going to Isle of Wight twice in a season; two teams going twice in a month. So I had to position the two Isle of Wight teams in particular positions in the matrix to avoid multiple trips to the island for three mainland clubs.

IS: Aside from those previously mentioned, we have two clubs, Kempston Hammers and Lutonian III's, that share a ground.

Is it as simple as reversing the fixtures from last season for much of a division?

So team A plays team B at home in one season, therefore Team B will play Team A at home the following season?

MH: No, unfortunately it's not that simple. There are too many things to take into account such as teams moving divisions geographically etc.

Once the fixtures are loaded into play cricket is that the job complete? Or will there be tweaks and amendments?

MH: I published the fixtures at the end of December (it took 22 hours to load into Play Cricket!) and I am already receiving calls regarding errors / amendments that are required. I am relying on clubs contacting me for any errors that have been missed though. It's not a perfect system but it is largely accurate and it works.

IS: Once the fixtures are done I have to try & correct any runs of home & away fixtures. This can take time, as correcting one's clubs problem may mess up another club's fixtures. Once these have been amended, I put them onto an excel spreadsheet & send the fixtures out to the clubs. Hopefully the clubs are happy; if they are I then put the fixtures on play cricket. The process took about 4 days.

Club cricket and volunteerism enjoy a sinuous relationship. The former would struggle to exist without the latter. Some aspects of cricket volunteering are a little more obvious and tangible, others require effort and work that goes unseen and, at times, under appreciated. Producing a

set of fixtures would seem a fairly straightforward task, particularly in the internet driven era when one could plug in particular information and have the fixtures generated within a few minutes. But the process for leagues with many a division with multiple complexities, requirements and nuances proves a much more multifaceted and intricate procedure, demanding various balancing acts, compromises and, one imagines, a more than healthy dose of patience. As is usually the case with such matters, tasks that appear simple are usually made to look so by those who complete them with great skill and deftness. Just as with umpires and scorers, so the fixtures secretaries are part of the unsung heroes of club cricket.

ROLL UP, ROLL UP, ROLL UP

	<h1>CELEBRATION & AWARDS DINNER</h1>	
<p>FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024 AT HOLIDAY INN, ASTON CLINTON RD, AYLESBURY HP22 5QT</p>		
<p>BUCKS CCC WON THE 2023 NATIONAL COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP</p>	<p>BUCKS UNDER 18S WON THEIR 2023 ECB 3-DAY CHAMPIONSHIP</p>	<p>ALL BUCKS CRICKET IS NOW UNDER ONE CHARITABLE UMBRELLA</p>
		 <p>CIO</p>
<p>TIMINGS 6:15pm Drinks 7:15pm: Dinner 9:00pm Awards</p>	<p>TICKET PRICES Players: £20pp Non-Players: £45pp</p>	<p>Discounted accommodation (inc. breakfast) at £95 per standard King room (inc. of VAT) is also available, please book directly.</p>



ETDC Digital Media have sat down with new Henley signing Ross Richardson to discuss his recent move. Henley Cricket Club have signed the Buckinghamshire player ahead of the 2024 season. Richardson, a key player for Durham University and Buckinghamshire, has ventured over from Blackheath Cricket Club in the Kent Cricket League to be closer to home.

"The decision to move stemmed from wanting to be closer to home and county, seeking a new challenge within the Home Counties," Richardson said.

Henley, who have won the competition eight times since 2000, invited Richardson to training late last year. With a mix of emerging players and talent, the right-handed wicketkeeper believed it was the best place for his next challenge.

"My choice was solidified after visiting Henley late last year for training. I was immediately impressed by the team's dynamic and the overall atmosphere within the club. The mix of experienced players and emerging talents stood out, and I'm eager to contribute my experience while learning from others."

Unlike Henley years prior, the club came in 6th place last year after a disappointing season. But some of their key players, like Michael Roberts retiring alongside Matt Rowe playing his last game for the club, have paved the way for Henley to make some new changes to the mix of their side.

On speaking with Richardson, he told ETDC Digital Media that *"my primary goal is to secure as many victories as possible with and for Henley."*

"I believe in the capabilities of our side, and now it's about translating that potential into tangible results. I aim to build upon my achievements from the previous season and continue winning games for both the club and county."

Henley will look to improve on their final placing from last year, and with the experience of Ross Richardson with the bat and gloves, will look well-placed to compete in 2024.

Website: <https://www.etdcdigitalmedia.com/>

Instagram: [@etdc_digital_media](https://www.instagram.com/etdc_digital_media)

Twitter: [etdc_media](https://twitter.com/etdc_media)

Facebook: [ETDC Digital Media](https://www.facebook.com/ETDCDigitalMedia)

WOMENS CRICKET – THE FUTURE

Women’s cricket is now facing it’s third major structural reorganization in 8 years. The current women’s domestic set- up consists of 8 regions: South East Stars, Sunrisers, North West Thunder, Central Sparks, Western Storm, The Blaze, Northern Diamonds and Southern Vipers, all currently owned and funded by the ECB. However, in 2025, these teams will be no more, and they will be replaced by County sides.

The 18 first-class counties plus MCC have been given until March 10 to submit bids to own, govern and operate one of eight Tier One professional teams who will play in T20 and 50 over competitions. Underneath them will sit Tiers Two and Three , also connected to counties or National Counties, which will be amateur. There will be no promotion or relegation from any of the tiers until at least 2029.

BUCKS WOMEN – 2024 FIXTURES

Programme	Date	Format	Home Team	Away Team	Venue
Friendly Fixture - External	14/04/24	50 Overs	Oxfordshire	Bucks Womens	
Fixture - League	21/04/24	50 Overs	Berkshire	Bucks Womens	
Fixture - League	06/05/24	50 Overs	Bucks Womens	Hertfordshire	Dinton CC
Fixture - League	26/05/24	X2 T20s	Sussex & Berkshire	Bucks Womens	
Fixture - League	16/06/24	X2 T20s	Bucks Womens	Hertfordshire & Suffolk	High Wycombe CC
Fixture - League	30/06/24	50 Overs	Bucks Womens	Suffolk	Holmer Green CC
Fixture - League	14/07/24	50 Overs	Norfolk	Bucks Womens	
Fixture - League	28/07/24	X2 T20s	Kent & Middlesex	Bucks Womens	
Fixture - League	11/08/24	X2 T20s	Essex & Surrey	Bucks Womens	
Friendly Fixture - External	21/08/24	40 Overs	Bucks Womens	MCC Women	Chesham CC

THE EUROPEAN CRICKET T10 CHAMPIONSHIPS – WOMEN



NCCA Women became the first winners of the European Women's T10 Championship with a 17 runs victory over Netherlands in the final at the Cartama Oval near Malaga. The win meant that the side, playing as England XI, emulated National Counties men's team who won their own European title at the same ground in October.

Although the England side only came together just before the competition they gelled quickly as a team and were worthy winners having lost only once – in a group match against Italy – in a busy schedule of nine matches in six days. The success in the final was also England's third against Netherlands following a double in the group stage and was based around another outstanding team performance with bat, ball and in the field. England secured qualification for the final by topping the five-team group while Netherlands had to beat Italy by 26 runs in a qualifier to progress.

England XI 122-5 (Meg Austin 42, Bethan Gammon 26 not out), Netherlands 105-4 (Robine Rijke 69 not out, Daisy Gibb 2-10). England XI won by 17 runs.

BUCKS C.C. C. PLAYER SPONSORSHIP 2023 / 2024

Sponsor a Bucks squad member - for just £ 50. Firstly a great big thank you to all those members/ supporters or companies who sponsored a player over the past seasonand indeed seasons before that. I am pleased to report that we will be continuing with the sponsorship initiative for the new season. A couple of sponsors came late to the party last year and their sponsorship will be carried over to the new season. It is possible that there will be a few comings and goings to the squad for the new season, but an updated list will be issued as soon as it is known. If you wish you to continue last season's sponsorship, or for more information

Please contact Bill Scholes Tel: 01420 560290 or billscholes@hotmail.co.uk

PLAYER	SPONSOR (S)
Tom Hampton	Sports Shots
Alexei Kervesev	Jonathan Lilley
Michael Payne	Alan Rowlands
Ewan Cox	Steve Peart
AJ Woodland	John Phillips
Cameron Parsons	teachtalking.co.uk
Conner Haddow	J.Haskell & G. Shelvey
Ed Bragg	Bill Scholes
Jack Rodnight	David Smith
Ross Richardson	
Chris Marrow	Frank Russell
Stephen Croft	AW Sales Agencies
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Mo Choudry	
Tom Weymes	Arthur Evans &Graham Parker
Jake Tarling	
Teddy Fleming	
Hashan Ramanadpulle	

WEAR YOUR COLOURS WTH PRIDE

Bucks Cricket, together with G&P, our team wear clothing partners, are launching a Casual Clothing range available to supporters/family and for players/officials to wear away from Bucks matches or on festival tours. This range comes with the new modern Bucks Cricket logo that differentiates from the official one worn by players and officials. Click on the link below to view the items on the G&P on line shop.

[Bucks Cricket Supporters/Casual Archives - Gentlemen and Players \(gentlemenplayers.com\)](http://gentlemenplayers.com)

Obituaries

With thanks to Trevor Taylor

It is sad to report the deaths, within a few days of each other during October, of two former Chesham and Bucks legendary opening bowlers, Fred Harris and John Mills. Both will be mourned by their club and county team mates as well as the entire cricketing community. In their contrasting styles they were feared and respected by batsmen wherever they performed. Fred, who began his career with Old Challoners, before joining Chesham in 1955, was a master of seam and swing at a lively pace, taking 323 wickets in ninety appearances for Bucks, twice achieving ten in a match and with fifteen hauls of five, plus an estimated over two thousand plus wickets for Chesham. As a hard hitting batsman he hit 1489 runs for the county and several centuries for Chesham. John, always known as Millie, who earlier played for long defunct clubs Chesham Social and Chesham Vale, was the epitome of an indefatigable fierce fast bowler, who was not averse to causing opposing batsmen a bit of pain, taking 86 wickets for Bucks in twenty three appearances, including six sets of five in a match, with a best of 8 for 22 against Herts. For Chesham he too captured around two thousand victims. However, Millie was merely a gentle giant with the bat, averaging an unimpressive 4 runs per innings. For many years he served his club well as groundsman. Both men were lively characters with whom I enjoyed the pleasure and privilege of being a team mate during the latter years of their distinguished careers. They will be sorely missed.

Sad to report the death of an old team mate at Chesham, Tony Perkins, aged 81. Tony was a fine wicket keeper and useful batsman who played for Chesham from the mid 1960s and throughout the 70s, capturing many victims for bowlers such as Fred Harris, John Mills and Brian Bilbey. He also represented Bucks on 28 occasions with 42 catches and 12 stumpings, also totalling 436 runs with one half century. He was perhaps unfortunate that his career coincided with that of Brian Poll, who too was a fine wicket keeper and also Bucks captain for most of the period.

LATEST UPDATE ON FROM RON HEDLEY ON HIS CHARITY CANCER WALKS 12TH February 2024

England Cricket Seniors, Ron's March, The Bob Willis Fund, Prostate Cancer

I am delighted to let you know of the following arranged walks as part of England Cricket Seniors, Ron's March, Bob Willis Fund for prostate cancer awareness and fund raising.

It will be great if we can get as many as possible to support this Jon Gumbs walk on Sunday 3rd March.

Sunday March 3rd 2024. Afro Caribbean Walk with the Anquilla Community. Slough Town CC. Meet at 11.30 am for a walk at 12 noon. Full details to be confirmed. All will be welcome

Friday 5th April 2024 Kent Seniors Walk.

The Spitfire Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3NZ.

The walk takes place during the first day of the County Championship match v Somerset CCC.

The first 40 people to apply to walk will receive a free ticket to watch the days play.

We are delighted to announce that Rob Key will be joining the walk and SKY T.V Cricket will be filming the walk and interviewing some of the walkers. The film will be broadcast on the SKY T.V Cricket channel during Bob Willis Blue Day at Edgbaston Cricket Ground on Saturday 27th July 2024.

Tuesday 9th April 2024 Gloucestershire Seniors Walk.

Meet near the Old Lodge Public House and Minchinhampton Old Course Golf Club at 10am for a 10.30am walk. Walkers will be able to lunch at The Old Lodge Public House, Cirencester Road, Minchinhampton, Stroud GL6 9AQ. Tel 01453 832047.

Friday 12th April 2024 Edgbaston Cricket Ground

We are delighted to have been invited to walk, again, at Edgbaston Cricket Ground, Edgbaston Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B5 7QU. All walkers will be invited to watch the days play during the County Championships match against Durham CCC. We will be joined by Nick Owen BM, BBC News Anchor for BBC Midlands News.

Saturday 20th April 2024 Devon Seniors Walk

We are walking from South Devon CC to Bovey Tracey CC on Saturday morning, which will include walking through Newton Abbot, along a canal cycle path and an old railway line for just over 5 miles. It is hoped that a local company will supply pasties for lunch. There will be a match on during the afternoon against a Blackheath CC XI. Meet is at 10.30am. Full details to follow.

Monday 22nd April 2024

We have just heard that Surrey Seniors will be hosting a second walk. It will be at Horsley and Send CC, 10.15 am meet for 10.30 am walk, full details to follow.

Friday 17th May 2024 Essex Seniors Walk

Essex Seniors are arranging a second walk in aid of Ron's March we thank them so much.

The walk will be from Central Park Café, Chelmsford CM1 1LQ to the The Cloud County Ground, New Writtle Street, Chelmsford CM2 0PQ on Friday 17th May 2024. Walkers will be given a ticket to attend the days play. Walkers will be invited to walk around the outfield during the lunch interval to publicise our campaign.

We are also talking to Northamptonshire Seniors and Staffordshire Seniors re them organising a walk. We hope more Counties will organise a walk this year. **If your County has not as yet, please get in touch. We know we are making a difference.**

Middlesex CCC Seniors will be walking along the Regents Canal to Lords Cricket Ground on either May 3rd or 24th followed by watching a County Championships match. Details to be confirmed.

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

You can support these efforts by joining the Bucks County Cricket Club

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 Tel: 01494 721244

You can also support Bucks CCC by sponsoring a match



Bucks County Cricket Club

Marketing /Sponsorship Opportunities in 2024

3 DAY MATCH SPONSOR	£600
MATCHDAY PROGRAMME SPONSOR (1 /3 DAY)	£35 / £5
SPONSOR -A- PLAYER	£50
THREE DAY MATCH SPONSORSHIP	at £600 per match

Pre match refreshments, luncheon with wine, and tea for 2 people per day

- 2 County Handbooks.
- 2 Match day programmes per day
- Sponsor status acknowledged on cover of Matchday programme.,
- Sponsor status acknowledged on all social media releases.
- Free Advert in the Annual Club Handbook
- Advertising banner at ground(supplied by sponsor)
- Bucks CCC website coverage and direct link to company website
- .Photo opportunity with the team

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

Can't get to a game – 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: bucks cricket.co.uk

Twitter : @BucksCricket

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

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

All of Bucks 1st XI games will be streamed live on our YouTube channel

Once again, many thanks to all those who have helped and contributed to Coloured Trousers over the past year, particularly Kevin Beaumont, Ron Hedley, Su Klyne, Mike Knox, Rachel Hudson, Jonathan Lilley, County Cricket Matters, Yahoo Over Cow Corner, Steve Peart, Trevor Taylor, Tom Hampton and Andy Bone and Sports Shots. 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 and to Roger Byrne for his photographs from the Final. All contributions gratefully received of course - relieve the boredom of the winter months by writing an article- and join our happy band of literary contributors.

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