



Anything The Football Can Do...



(The Official Newsletter of the Old Wilsonians' Cricket Club)

Editor: Mike Pike
68a Knighton Park Rd
Sydenham SE26 5RL
Tel: 020 8659-6443

Email: owmikepike@yahoo.co.uk

Issue No: 166 (June 2018)

www.oldwilsonians.com

Club: Old Wilsonians
Hayes Hill
Hayes, Bromley,
Kent
Telephone: 0208 462 2600

Time to go that extra yard if you cannot make the mile

The season is still in its embryonic stage and it is far too early to make any long term predictions but one thing we can all do is to go that extra yard - there are many who put in the extra mile, so a yard is not asking too much! - to ensure that the OWCC maintains its steady progress and continues to be a club that everyone looks up to

And that does not simply mean being successful on the field of play but also helping your committee run this progressive club. Some of the ways you can do so are very straightforward and, to be honest, common sense - e.g. putting the equipment away after a game, making sure that the covers are put on the Sunday strip after the Saturday fixture, not leaving the boundary rope in a mess and loading the dish-washer with your dirty crockery - all of these essentials have already been ignored this season

We have a new double sight-screen at Hayes - has anyone any ideas as to how we can transport the old ones to Hawes Down - and will soon have a new roller, which is costing us over £16,000 and will be paid for from the generous legacy left to us by John and Janet Brittain

The screens cost nearly £7,000 - an expensive outlay - and must be looked after; this is not an amount of money that the Club can afford to fork out on a regular basis

The good news is that some people have already stepped up to the mark and volunteered to help with match managing for the colts sides, Callum Steel has kindly agreed to co-ordinate colts coaching, some current coaches are having their qualifications up-dated and a number of new coaches will soon be available once they have completed their courses and team leaders are coming forward - thanks to each and every one of you who are helping in this way and doing your bit

Stephen Millward has agreed to take on the role of our Club Mark Officer - not sure how he is going to fit this in with all of the other work he does for the Cricket Club and the Association per se - but he is the epitome of the maxim, 'if you want something done ask someone who is busy' - thanks Stephen; you are an example to us all

Sad to report the death of Peter Hubert, one of our Vice Presidents and a former 1st XI captain who played at Hayes when we first moved to the ground in 1959 and, indeed, in our years at Dulwich in our previous incarnation. A tribute to him appears later in this newsletter whilst some of his playing contemporaries may wish to add their own tributes in future editions

Many thanks to the 5th XI, who have answered my request for match reports for games. Any other sides want to follow this fine example? They do not have to be long and the main purpose of this newsletter is to inform club members of how are sides are performing, which is the purpose of reports, whilst everyone likes to see their name in print and their good performances recognised

We seem to have dealt with the GDPR issue satisfactorily, thanks to Doug Forbes, who is also addressing this issue on behalf of the Association as well as the cricket club

An interesting feature of our early Sunday games has been the number of fathers and sons who have turned out for the team. We have always prided ourselves on being a good family club and this is yet another example which proves it, and it got me wondering how many fathers and sons, or daughters, or mums, we could actually field. I make it 17, and I've probably forgotten some, or do not know of others. I'm sure there must be a game we could organise to celebrate this fact

The cricket season is all too short but there is still a lot to look forward to, and it will be even more enjoyable if we all ***put just a little more back into our out-standing Club***

Who to contact and how

Acting Chairman	Jeff Mascarenhas Email: jeffmascarenhas@ntlworld.com	07967 484634 (Mobile)
Colts Chairperson:	Barrie Frampton Email: barrie.frampton@gmail.com	
Club Captain:	Alex Forbes Email: Alexforbes46@hotmail.co.uk	07855 273218 (Mobile)
Secretary:	Mike Pike Email: owmikepike@yahoo.co.uk	020 8659 6443 (H)
Welfare Officer	Jane Kempthorn Email: jane.owccmembership@hotmail.co.uk	07886 412166 (Mobile)
Treasurer:	Andy Spedding Email: andy.spedding@hotmail.co.uk	07973 847469 (Mobile)
Fixtures Secretary:	Laurence Allen Email: Loz_Allen@hotmail.com	07946 635020 (Mobile)

Website Administrator and

Communications Officer	Laurence Allen Email: loz_allen@hotmail.com	07946 635020 (Mobile)
-------------------------------	---	-----------------------

Skippers:

1st XI	Michael Mitchell Email: michaelgmitchell@live.co.uk	07721 628117 (M)
2nd XI:	Sanath Dandeniya Email: sanath.dandeniya@google.com	07723 095988 (M)
3rd XI:	Howard Abbett Email: Howard.Abbett@ntlworld.com	
4th XI	Jeff Mascarenhas jeffmascarenhas@ntlworld.com	07967 484634 (M)
5th XI	Alex Forbes alexforbes46@hotmail.co.uk	07855 273218 (M)
Sunday Development:	Chris Scott Email: chris.scott928@gmail.com	07917 033946 (M)
Sunday Friendly	Tony Sherlock Email: tony@cobraconcrete.co.uk	07881 277283 (M)

Websites

Kent Cricket League Website: www.kcl.uk.net

Kent Feeder League website <http://krcl.play-cricket.com>

Sunday Development League website <http://kentsdl.play-cricket.com>

Old Wilsonians: www.oldwilsonians.play-cricket.com

North Kent Junior League: <http://nkentjunior.play-cricket.com>

Old Wilsonians' Association website www.OldWilsonians.com

Discovery of the month

Our 1st XI skipper recently passed his driving test – congratulations 'Mitch -' and kindly gave me a lift to the game at Upchurch – thanks 'Mitch'

On the way back it was noticeable that, when going through a tunnel, his Sat Nav continued to work but his radio did not. Cannot help but conclude that, when travelling to away fixtures, we need a lot more tunnels to travel through!

April/May Results

Bromley Common	301 for 5	1 st XI	292 for 7	Lost by 9 runs
Bromley Common 2 nd XI	180	2 nd XI	181 for 5	Won by 5 wickets
1 st XI	201	Nonnington	98	Won by 103 runs
Bickley Park 2 nd XI	205 for 7	2 nd XI	209 for 6	Won by 4 wickets
Bexley 5 th XI	101 for 7	3 rd XI	102 for 9	Won by 1 wicket
4 th XI	83	Bexley 6 th XI	84 for 5	Lost by 5 wickets
Dulwich 6 th XI v OW 5 th XI - Dulwich conceded				
Bromley under 15a	200 for 2	Under 15a	106 for 7	Lost by 94 runs
Bromley Common	116 for 3	Under 13a	94 for 7	Lost by 22 runs
Old Suttonians	164 for 8	Sunday League XI	124	Lost by 40 runs
1 st XI	144	Upchurch	145 for 5	Lost by 5 wickets
2 nd XI	45 for 1	Old Colfeians		Match abandoned
3 rd XI		Bromley Common 3 rd XI		No play possible
4 th XI	96 for 9	Blue Star	30 for 0	Match abandoned
5 th XI	142 for 7	New Ash Green	144 for 6	Lost by 4 wickets
Under 15a		Bexley		No play possible
Sunday XI	231 for 4	Catford & Cyphers	156 for 7	Won by 75 runs
Under 11	98 for 3	Hayes	101 for 3	Lost by 7 wickets
OW T20 XI	99 for 8	Hayes	102 for 6	Lost by 4 wickets
Beckenham Under 13	141 for 1	Under 13	21	Lost by 120 runs
Under 17		Bromley Bulldogs		Bromley Bulldogs conceded
Chestfield	181 for 7	1 st XI XI	182 for 6	Won by 4 wickets
2 nd XI	230 for 8	Sidcup	233 for 8	Lost by 2 wickets
Bromley 4 th XI	144 for 7	3 rd XI	146 for 2	Won by 8 wickets
5 th XI	183 for 4	Streatham & Marlborough	120	Won by 60 runs

Statics	214 for 9	Sunday XI	215 for 9	Won by 1 wicket
Under 15b		HSBC		Old Wilsonians conceded
Blackheath	129	Under 15a	114	Lost by 15 runs
Hayes	186 for 3	Under 13a	56 for 9	Lost by 130 runs
Under 17		Chislehurst & West Kent		No play possible
1 st XI	216 for 8	Hayes	202 for 8	Won by 14 runs
St Lawrence & Highland Court	118	2 nd XI	114	Lost by 4 runs
Swanscombe & Greenhithe	189 for 6	3 rd XI	101	Lost by 88 runs
4 th XI	131 for 6	Holmesdale 3 rd XI	73	Won by 58 runs
Bexleyheath	179 for 8	5 th XI	82	Lost by 97 runs
Sunday XI	209 for 9	Oakhill Taverners	91	Won by 118 runs
Under 15b		Bromley		No play possible

Peter Hubert

Sad to report that Peter Hubert, one of our Vice Presidents, a former 1st XI captain, who was equally at home with both a bat and a ball in his hand and an excellent fielder, died on May 27th at the age of 83. He had been ill for some time and our thoughts go out to his wife, Mame, his two daughters, Susannah and Virginia, and the rest of the Hubert family

Peter was a tall, elegant man, assets which he used to full advantage when playing cricket, and a true gentleman. When I called him, far less frequently than I should have done, he was always full of enthusiasm for the OWCC and apologetic that his failing health did not enable him to visit the club as often as he would have liked

He was an integral part of the 1st XI when the Club moved to Hayes in 1959 and when we played at Dulwich in our previous incarnation, and I first encountered him sitting in a ditch – me, that is, not Peter – in Dulwich Common when Bob Moy, who was the school's 1st XI scorer at the time, gave me my first lessons in scoring as the Old Wilsonians played a game

We called the bowlers 'X', 'Y', 'Z' and Hubert - Peter was the only one whom Bob knew, as Peter had demonstrated how to bowl in a House assembly and Bob, who was a junior member of the same House at the time, remembered him doing so

But it was at Hayes that Peter really made his mark, being part of that out-standing Old Wilsonian side of the 1960s and 70s. He was a middle order batsman and such was the strength of our batting that he was lucky to make it to the crease but, one year, he needed 30 or so runs from the last game of the season to complete 1,000 runs.

The game was played at Old Dunstonians and they batted first and were dismissed for less than 50 - Peter no doubt made a huge contribution to this demolition job. A dilemma now raised its head in that we had a middle order batsman needing a little less than the total we required to win the game in order to complete his 1,000 runs, so it was agreed that he should open, and his opening partner would give him as much of the bowling as possible – the plan worked, Peter got the runs he needed and we won the game

When he stopped playing Peter umpired many games for us, the perfect example of someone putting something back into the club he had served with such distinction both on and off the field of

play, and he invariably came to Linden Park when the OWs played there to support the side – he lived at nearby Pembury

When she was six his eldest daughter, Susannah, wrote to me on behalf of herself and her four year old sister Virginia, asking me to stop arranging cricket fixtures - I was the fixtures secretary at the time - as I was “taking their Daddy away from them on a Saturday afternoon” (This was not quite as confrontational as it might at first seem as the letter ended, delightfully, ‘We like you, really’)

Not long after, I met the two sisters at the annual Donkey Derby, an experience which I hope has not scarred them too deeply

Peter enjoyed reading this newsletter and was one of only three members who received it through the post. He had ventured down the road of technology but, and as he put it, “I like sitting in a chair to read it rather than in front of a computer screen’

He was a great fan of ‘Countdown’ - he even applied to become a participant – and also enjoyed doing crosswords, and he continued to watch the programme, and complete crosswords, right up until the end

Most people would include Peter in an all-time best Old Wilsonian side – I certainly did – and we will all miss him, but it is only right that Susannah should have the final words:

“ We are all knocked sideways. He has been the most splendid Dad, notwithstanding those bloomin’ cricket weekends in the 70s!”

WINNING START FOR 1st XI 1st XI 201 Nonnington 98

In the end this was a comfortable win for the 1st XI as they started their 2018 league campaign with a 103 run victory over Nonnington.

Our visitors won the toss and elected to field and were buoyed by an early wicket before Jonathan Rodda and Malinda Thotiwilage put on 59 runs before the latter was bowled for 41, which followed his 44 on debut in the friendly fixture against Bromley Common two weeks earlier, a consistency that will do nicely if it continues for the rest of the season

Matthew Abbett and Jonathan then took the score to 124 before the former hit a full toss straight back at the bowler only for his partner to fall the very next ball for 29. This had not been one of Jonathan’s most fluent of innings but he had dug in well and made an important contribution for his side and, at 124 for 4 in the 28th over, a score of 250 plus was well on the cards

Chris Scott, last year’s 2nd XI skipper, and Michael Mitchell, last and this year’s 1st XI skipper, added a further 63 before Chris was bowled for 16. He had started nervously but grew in confidence and will surely become a regular fixture in the side. We all know he has a safe pair of hands – which he demonstrated yet again after tea – and will no doubt contribute regular catches as well as regular runs

‘Mitch’ followed shortly afterwards – what is it they say about one brings two – for 38, after which the innings fell away as their opening bowler came back to take 4 for 13 in his second spell and we were all out for 201.

Having lost no fewer than four opening bowlers over the past couple of years - Jordan Thomas, Fahim Jan, Connor Hammond and Suminda Balage Don – the new ball was entrusted to Joanthan and Guy Hannah, but it was Malinda who made the breakthrough with the score on 29 only for Guy to trap his opening partner lbw on the same score; one becomes two!

After that Nonnington found runs difficult to come by as all of our bowlers did themselves proud. Guy completed his 10 over spell at a cost of just 20 runs, whilst Malinda added a second wicket to his initial breakthrough to finish with 2 for 19 from eight overs, which is the epitome of steadiness. He bowls a particularly good yorker, which will test most batsmen

But the skipper was the star and when he took wickets in consecutive balls in only his second over, Nonnington were 68 for 5, and it seemed only a matter of time before an OW victory was completed.

And so it proved as, 12 overs later, Nonnington had been dismissed for 98. ‘Mitch’ finished with 5 for 19 and Dave Ellicott-White 2 for 13 in a game where all of the bowlers had played their part.

Indeed, it was a game in which **the entire team** had played their part and the performance augers well for the rest of the season. Last year the side just missed out on promotion by finishing

third – does this mean they are the favourites for 2018? With all due respect to Nonnington, there are sterner tests ahead, but this was a good, positive and encouraging start
(Velsen) Devarajulu Rodda.J Thotiwilage Abbett.M Scott Mitchell Pryor Lawrence Ellicott-White Roots Hannah
Man of the match: Michael Mitchell - 38 runs and five wickets speaks for itself

CRICKET THE WINNER AS GAME GOES AHEAD 1st XI 144 Upchurch 145 for 5

There have been a number of changes in the laws of cricket – nothing drastic and all of which we are coming to terms with – but there seems to be an unwritten law which has been in existence for as long as anyone can remember that says it will start to rain shortly before a game is due to begin.

The umpires, somewhat prematurely, offered the two skippers the opportunity to shake hands and call it a day, which they, rightly, declined, and the traditional customs were observed in such circumstances, e.g. tea was taken before the game started, and play eventually started at 2-30, the game being reduced to 25 overs a side

Upchurch won the toss and asked us to bat and we lost two early wickets, never the best way to start, but with the game reduced in length to such an extent, even more regrettable. However, the team did not panic – always an invaluable response – and Malinda and Jonathan put on 37 before the former and the skipper added a further 46 until the latter departed for 27 in the 15th over.

The final ten overs yielded a further 46 runs, Chris Scott (11), Louise Pryor (12) and Cameron Jones (11) all playing cameo innings, whilst Malinda top scored with 42, his third score in the 40s in his three innings, proof of his consistency, which is always a good sign, although three scores in the 80s would be far more preferable!

Upchurch's reply was positive and they raced to 48 from 7 overs before Doug Forbes bowled one of their openers and came very close to dismissing their dangerous number three with his very next ball, a sharp caught and bowled chance that he would have snaffled 30 years ago.

Doug then struck again to have their other opener caught behind and when he finished his allotted five overs, cut in half because of the reduction in the duration of the game, he had conceded just 16 runs as well as taking those two wickets – if four other bowlers had done the same we would have bowled Upchurch out for 84 - they also secured four fielding extras -and we would have recorded an important victory, as our hosts will undoubtedly be one of the challengers for promotion this year

As it was 'Mitch' also bowled tidily to take 2 for 26, as did Dave Ellicott-White, to finish with 1 for 22, but the other three bowlers conceded 77 between them in 9.3 overs without taking a wicket. The scores were level at the end of the 24th over and Upchurch were looking a little nervous. 'Mitch' had accounted for both of their most prolific batsmen and although there was still some petrol in the tank, Upchurch may well have had some flash-backs to the corresponding game last season when they lost four wickets from the last four balls trying, unsuccessfully, to get themselves over the line

The best we could hope for this time was a tie, which would probably have been a just result, but it was not to be and Upchurch claimed victory with three balls remaining to record their second victory of the season

The 1st XI have lost four new ball bowlers over the last couple of seasons - see the Nonnington report for full details - and with Guy Hannah away at a wedding for this fixture, our options were limited. Doug did not take the new ball, although he did bowl the fourth over and proved, yet again, what a fine craftsman he is.

With firmer wickets in the months to come, he may no longer have the pace to disturb the better batsmen in this league, although he certainly did so on this occasion, and playing him in the 1st XI, in view of the dearth of seam bowlers already referred to, may be a positive step; at the very least our new ball bowlers should listen to his wealth of experience and learn from his wise words

Early days, of course, but the 1st XI have played probably one of the weakest sides in this division and one of the strongest and, on the evidence so far, should see the final league table showing them having competed more with the latter than the former

Finally congratulation to James Sims on his 1st XI debut. He batted sensibly at the death of our innings and took a neat catch in theirs

(Velsen)Devarajulu Abbett,M Thotiwilage Rodda.J Mitchell Scott Pryor Jones Ellicott-White Sims Forbes,D

Man of the match: Michael Mitchell – Valuable runs and wickets, the latter economically achieved

SEASON STARTS IN THE RAIN 5th XI 142 for 7, New Ash Green 2nd XI 144 for 6

The 5th XI played their first game of the season in the rain at Ex Blues, our home ground, and lost with a couple of overs to spare in what was a pretty close match that could have gone either way until yours truly swung the match, to New Ash Green, with a poor over 4 from the end.

On the positive sides we had a lot of youngsters, who will take my place, and it was good to play with Nick Poulson, whom I went to school with and who made his debut. Alex Forbes Forbes.S Beckett.A Senthikumaran Tahir Baxendine Mohatta Merchant Poulson Forbes.A Mehra Seston (Derek)

GREAT TEAM PERFORMANCE BRINGS VICTORY 5th XI 183 for 4 Streatham & Marlborough 120

Playing at the picturesque 'The Griffin' ground in the middle of Dulwich Village, the 5's turned up with a mixture of youth and experience. I lost the toss for the second game running and we were inserted for the second game running. We batted well, with Neil Treacher and Brian Pomeroy both playing controlled innings, and they put on 69 in 21 overs before Brian was caught down the leg-side by the 'keeper for 32.

Bhavin Patel then strode to the wicket for one of his 3/4 games of the season and accelerated the inning whilst Neil rotated the strike, and these two put on 92 in 15 overs before Bhavin holed out for 44. Thereafter Teddy Tahir smacked a quick 10 and Neil ended on 60 not out, A score of 183 on that ground was worth 220 on a normal ground, due to the slow outfield.

We had a young bowling attack with Alex McCrossen, back after a season out, and Andrew Pomeroy opening the attack. Both got early wickets and, thereafter, Bhavin Patel and Rohan Mehra came on and strangled the game, with Bhavin conceding just five runs from his five overs and also taking a wicket, whilst Rohan finished with an analysis of 10-3-21-2

Fraser Baxendine then picked up 3 wickets, including a marvellous caught and bowled, before our opening bowlers came back to take a wicket each and close out the game. Apart from dropping a couple of catches everyone did well in the field, especially Teddy Tahir, keeping wicket, and Brian Pomeroy claimed 3 catches in various positions around the field.

Well done to everyone on a great team performance

Alex Forbes

Team : N.Treacher, B.Pomeroy, B.Patel, T.Tahir, F.Baxendine, A.Pomeroy, S,Forbes, A. McCrossen A Forbes, R.Mehra, Derek Seston

CHESTFIELD BEATEN AT LAST Chestfield 181 for 7. 1st XI 182 for 6

After last week's defeat at Upchurch – games that are reduced to such an extent are always very much of a lottery, the 1st XI were hoping to get back onto the winning track against Chestfield, a team who invariably get the better of us; last season they ended our seven games in a row winning streak

They won the toss, elected to bat and made a solid but unspectacular start and, after 14 overs were 40 for 0, at which point honours were probably about even, only for Doug to strike the first blow, for us, after which their run rate became even slower to the extent that, after 32 overs they had reached 88 for 4, two wickets from Jonathan and a run-out executed by Matthew being added to Doug's original breakthrough

A partnership of 64 for the sixth wicket held us up again but when it ended our visitors only had just over five overs left with only 152 on the board. At this point their opening bat was 95 not out – an opener is almost certain of a century if he bats for the entire 50 overs as he only has to score at two runs an over to achieve this, but, from his team's point of view, it needs to be a 'Big' hundred

To be fair to him he seemed to be conscious of the fact that the rest of his side's batting was somewhat brittle and, without his contribution, they may have struggled to get 100, but it did play into

our hands a little, although he did attack a little more after reaching three figures, and Chestfield finished on 181 for 7 from their 50 overs; we would probably have settled for that.

Jonathan Rodda claimed his first two wickets of the season and benefited from not taking the new ball – with all due respect to him he is not an opening bowler but circumstances, see the report of the Upchurch game, have more or less forced him into this

Guy Hannah is a new ball bowler and his ten overs, bowled in one stint, were equally divided into a poor first five and an excellent second spell, in which he deserved a wicket – but we seldom get what we deserve!

What we always get with Doug is a bowler who knows his trade, will always be difficult to get away and rarely bowls a bad ball, although these days, and when he does so, it is liable to be punished more than it was 30 years ago. Today he followed his tidy spell at Upchurch by conceding 23 runs from his eight overs; he even managed to do this in two spells without seizing up!

Our reply was typical of what we have seen all season – we took everything in our stride, did not panic when we lost a wicket and achieved victory with plenty of overs to spare.

There are a lot of runs in this side and, on today's batting order, a lot of big scores likely from the top eight – sorry, Guy, Doug and Dave!

Velsen needs a big score – it will come – Jonathan is always difficult to remove, he was again lbw and we have all nagged him about playing back, we all know the worth of Malinda, Matthew and the skipper, and Chris just needs to believe a little more in himself and he, like Velsen will get a big score – wouldn't it be nice if they both did so in the same game? New boy Cameron Jones looked comfortable and was there at the end

So that's two wins out of three – things are looking good

Man of the match: Matthew Abbett – his first 50 of the season and executed a run out, but there were others who ran him close in a true team performance

(Velsen) Devarajulu Rodda. J Thotilwilage Abbett. M Scott Mitchell Jones Seston (Dan) Hannah Forbes. D Ellicott-White

THERE IS NOTHING LIKE A SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT HAYES Statics 214, Sunday XI 215 for 9

This game illustrated perfectly the good and bad side of cricket, although even the bad side is good – sounds like a song by The Tremeloes – as it epitomises the ethos of Old Wilsonian cricket, namely our proud claim that we will get you a game, whatever your ability

This game saw two fathers and sons and an uncle playing in the same team, an over which, but for the liberal interpretation of the laws on wides and no balls by the umpire would have not finished until after dark, and a six over the pavilion that won us the game off the penultimate ball

Static are new visitors to Hayes and were a joy to play, although I have to admit that my criteria for judging a visiting side is the way in which they treat the home scorer!

They batted first and, if their first five batsmen were anything to go by, they, too, subscribe to the philosophy that if someone puts themselves out to play then they can join their club and, at 85 for 5, they were struggling somewhat. However, a solid innings of 68 from their number 6 and some hard hitting from their numbers 10 and 11, the latter in particular defied his position in the order, they managed to finish on a respectable 214 for 9 – “It was a joy to bat on that wicket”, one of them was heard to observe.

Andrew Steel finished with 3 for 37 and we used eight bowlers in all – another feature of Sunday cricket

Father and son Harry and Tom Cornish – hope I've got them in the right order – opened the batting, before Tom was bowled for 16 and Harry and Sean Beckett, son of Adrian and nephew of Steve, then took the score to 52 before Sean holed out for 29

There then followed a partnership of 98 between the ever stubborn Harry and James Sims, who had made his 1st XI debut the week before and, on this evidence, he could well be presented with his cap come the end of the season dinner

He certainly knows where the middle of the bat is and how to dispatch a no ball, something the 1st XI have yet to come to terms with, and his 74 contained ten boundaries and took just 76 minutes, and it was Harry who fell just short of the 100 partnership, trapped lbw for 33.

After that it was very much a case of Adrian Beckett v Static. At the start of his innings Adrian looked as if he could not hit the skin off a rice pudding – his first seven runs were all singles – but as time progressed, and he lost batting partners at an alarming rate, including two from the first two balls of the last over, his strike rate increased

New boy Dave Wager scrambled a single from the first ball he received to put Adrian on strike and we needed six from the last three balls and our hero played a dot ball “He could hit a six”, suggested the fielder at mid-wicket, and that’s exactly what happened, as he struck the ball so sweetly that it went soaring over the pavilion and hit Mick Pilgrim, sun-bathing in his back garden

What a finish! What a game. Brian Morley would have loved it, and the endearing words on his bench seemed to gleam in the evening sunshine
Cornish.T Cornish.H (Sean)Beckett Sims (Andrew)Steel Beckett.A Beckett (Steve)
(Lawrence.S)Tahir.A Jenkins Sherlock.A Wager

WE ARE THE LOCAL, NUMBER ONE 1st XI 216 for 8, Hayes 202 for 8

This was the first time the 1st XI have played Hayes in league cricket – they were never in the North Kent League – and only the second time, when we played them in a pre-season game on a cold April afternoon, ever

Surprising, really, as their ground is within walking distance of our own – I did, in fact, originally plan to walk there – and it would have been an ideal ‘local’ fixture in the games when league cricket was not even contemplated, but somehow it never happened

Hayes were relegated from the First Division last year – hence this fixture, and they won the first round of this game, which saw us at 21 for 4. However, they failed to press home their advantage and thanks, initially, to a fifth wicket partnership of 54 between Malinda and ‘Mitch’ and then one of 101 between Malinda and Cameron for the sixth, we recovered to such an extent that we finished with 216 on the board, a fact that tells you a lot about the mind-set of the two sides

Had Hayes batted first and found themselves on 21 for 4 I have no doubt that the 1st XI would have been buzzing, each and every member of the side would have turned up the heat a little more, encouragement would have reached a new level, the bowlers would have found something extra and the fielding would have gone up a notch and it would have taken a super-human effort from our opponents to reach 150, let alone over 200

As it was there seemed to be no extra bounce from the fielding side in celebration of their initial success, partly due, of course, to the efforts of those three Old Wilsonians already mentioned, who did us proud, and by the end of our innings Hayes were looking decidedly ragged as we scored 90 runs from our last ten overs

Malinda hit a deserved century – 113 to be precise – and ‘Mitch’ a gritty 19, perfect in the circumstances and illustrating that he is a man for all seasons. Cameron is a new recruit to the 1st XI and his 47 deserved a 50 at the very least. His 100 partnership with Mali took just 17 overs and the two of them built on the solid foundations that Mali and the skipper had established

Hayes needed to score at a little over four runs an over to secure victory but were never up with the run rate and scored at 3.67 runs an over for the first 31. Even so, they still had eight wickets and 19 overs left and all that was required was one innings of initiative and the game would have been theirs

As it was only their No.8 seemed to have the inclination needed and, in the end, their only concern seemed to be to secure their third batting point, which they did from the last ball of the game

The 1st XI won this game because they simply do not know how to lose. They dug themselves out of a difficult hole with the bat, did not panic when Hayes got themselves into what should have been a winning position, held their catches when they were offered and, on this evidence, will be the top side in Hayes come the end of the season

The skipper was moved to post the following on his Facebook page after the game



Michael George

[May 27 at](#)

[10:40am](#)

1s beat Hayes. They constantly tell us there's only 1 team in Hayes. They're right , but it's not Hayes CC ☐
#hi!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We sing in the rain and we sing in the sun
We are the local number one
We take all the wickets and score all the runs
And that's just the start as we've only just begun
Hayes thought they were better
But their days are done
We claim the crown and have all the fun

With apologies to a chant heard regularly at Selhurst Park, from which the above is adapted

Man of the match: Malinda – a commanding innings and had he become part of the initial carnage rather than observing it, we would have been well beaten
(Velsen) Devarajulu Rodda.J Thotilwilage Abbett.M Scott Mitchell Jones Lawrence.Seston(Dan) Ellicott-White Forbes.D

LOTS OF POSITIVES DESPITE DEFEAT Bexleyheath 179 for 8, 5th XI 82

Unfortunately we were unable to get 11 players out this week , mainly due to unavailability on a Bank holiday weekend, so thanks to 'Dave' and Stuart Forbes for turning up at the last minute and getting us up to 10. The positives were that we had five colts, all of whom contributed.

Bexleyheath scored 179 for 8 from their 40 overs, with Martin Jonker scoring 60, and if we had caught him first ball this match would have been a totally different game. Fraser Baxendine and Josh Merchant opened and closed the bowling and both bowled their best spells of the season.

Adrian Beckett continues to bowl with no luck and, on another day, he would have picked up five wickets. Well done to debutant Nathan Carpenter, who went for 20 in his maiden over and then came back well by taking 3 wickets. Matt Carruthers also bowled tidily and we did well to restrict Bexleyheath to 179 for 8

Our batting at the moment is reliant on Adrian Beckett scoring a reasonable score, so when we lost him for 0, it was good to see everyone dig in. Whilst 82 is not a great score, Teddy Tahir batted well for 23. Jonker came on for the opposition and took 4 wickets and blasted our middle order out. Each team will have a 'Jonker' and if we play this person out, we will win the majority of our games.

Well done to all for their efforts and I can only see good things going forward
Forbes.S Beckett.A Carpenter Tahir Jenkins Baxendine Merchant Forbes.A Carruthers Beckett (Steve)

NEVER CHANGE A WINNING FROMAT Sunday XI 209 for 9, Oakhill Taverners 91

Never change a winning team they say, always difficult for the Sunday side, but if this is not possible then 'never change a winning format' is a good substitution, whilst improving it is even better, and the father and son method of team selection was again in evidence

No Harry and Tom Cornish this time but Adrian and Sean Beckett again turned out for us, although, sadly, no uncle Steve, as did Tony and Syd Sherlock and Tony and Tom Orlandini – wasn't he a singer?

We batted first this time and after losing two early wickets, Dan Seston and James Sims then put on over 100 for the third wicket. They both struggled at first, the overnight rain making the wicket slow, and Dan should have been caught with only three to his name, whilst James played across the line rather a lot – you cannot blame the wicket for that, James –but they both went on to play in the

manner we know they are capable of, and when James reached 50 skipper Tony Sherlock retired him and joined Dan, only to be trapped lbw first ball attempting a reverse sweep – your correspondent's views on playing the reverse sweep are well-known but, in a nutshell, it should not be attempted until the batsmen involved has at least 150 to his name

Two balls later Dan reached his 50 and was also retired so it was left to Dave Jukes to hold the rest of the innings together, which he did magnificently – 71 runs were scored when he was at the crease and although he made only 13 of them, he performed his role to perfection

A late flurry from Nos 10 and 11, Syd Sherlock and Howard Abbett, neither of whom are specialists in these positions!, saw us over the 200 mark, Syd finishing on 43 not out

Oakhill Taverners took 27 balls to score their first run and four balls later lost their first wicket, but worse was to follow as they slumped to 19 for 5, and although things did improve, as their numbers five and nine both hit 27, the damage had been done and they were dismissed for 91.

Both Tom Orlandini, 2 for 2 in four overs, and Syd Sherlock, 1 for 4 in five, bowled economically but it was left to Tony Orlandini to take the last three wickets, which he did in 10 balls for 11 runs

Seston (Dan) Nichols Beckett.A Sims Sherlock.A Jukes.D Orlandini (Tom) Beckett (Sean) Orlandini (Tom) Sherlock (Syd) (Phillips) Abbett.H

NB: Just remembered the name of that singer; it was Tony Orlando, who had a big hit with 'Bless You' in 1961 and recorded the original version of 'Halfway to Paradise', which Billy Fury covered with great success

Terms & Conditions for hire of facilities

To all Sports Club Hirers:

The cost to hire the club facilities	£200.00
We require a breakages/cleaning deposit	£50.00
We require a kitchen use deposit	£50.00
If an extension after midnight is requested	£100.00 per extra hour
Corkage will be charged per bottle	@£8.00

All moneys are to be received by the OWA at least 1 month before event. We politely request there be no decorations on the honours boards. No use of party poppers, spray string, table confetti or similar. If the club-house-bar and/or kitchen are left in need of cleaning, the appropriate deposit will be forfeited.

NB: The Association relies heavily on hiring out the Clubhouse to increase its revenue from which we all benefit. The above outlines our terms and conditions, so please pass on to anyone your think may be interested or, indeed, yourself – many Old Wilsonians have already held functions in our Clubhouse. For more details, please contact **Anton Snowsill**: antonsnowsill@hotmail.com

COPY DATE FOR NEXT EDITION - June 30th