

The Bugle

Newsletter by Bledlow Village Cricket Club | April 2016



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Off and Running

Finally the 2016 season has started and Bledlow teams are already conquering all those put before them. April saw three friendly matches across the last two weekends of the month. A draw in the first match was followed by two wins over the bank holiday weekend. Performances of note came from Will Woodward, James Hawkes and Olly Woodward. Marcus Goodchild deserves an individual mention however for already scoring the first century of the season.

This weekend sees the start of competitive Saturday cricket in the Cherwell League. The 1st XI travel away to Tiddington, known for its excellent teas, whilst the 2nd XI are at home to Cropredy. Both games started at 1pm so please get along and support your club!

Junior and Senior training sessions are now in full swing and have been getting superb turn-outs. With the weather looking up for the next week or so we hope to see these attendances continue to grow!

Senior Match Reports

Sun 24th April: Sunday XI draw @ Hurley

Tom Moore, captaining today, won the toss and let our batsman have a go first. Olly Woodward and Dan Walker wasted little time scoring 12 off the first over. Dan after playing some nice shots for 11 miss timed a drive and was caught easily in the covers. Tom Moore's innings was a similar story before being caught behind flicking of his legs. The destructive Will Woodward in next didn't disappoint scoring an impressive 85 off 41 clearing the ropes plenty of times. With a few more contributions down the order, Tom called them in with 267 on the board in 36 overs!

A good tea and back out into the cold the team went. Mark King and Megan Woodward getting the use of the new ball started tightly once Megan had her 4 'looseners'. All the bowlers were given a chance with 6 of them sharing the wickets. The game ended in an anti climax with the opposition happy to bat out for a draw.

Sat 30th April: 1st XI bt Rowant by 9 wickets

Newly appointed captain Tommy Moore won the toss and elected to field on a green early season wicket at Bledlow. Matt Bolton opening the bowling with James Hawkes - both bowling well and picking up early wickets. James was the pick of our bowlers with good pace and accuracy returning figures of 3-10. Harry Bartlett with the gloves took a spectacular stumping on his return to the Bledlow Oval. Sam Mudie and Matt Lomas came into the attack bowling well at times and showing lots of promise for the season ahead.

James Basu marked his debut with a cracking run-out to top an excellent display off, bowling Aston Rowant out for just 128.

After tea Olly Woodward and Tommy Moore headed out to bat and started very quickly. Olly showing his quirky class, hitting boundaries for fun whilst Moore played a more reserved -some may say- scratchy innings. With an opening stand of 108 Woodward went after one too many and was caught on 69. Moore finished the game off with Bolton as the rain started to fall.

Sun 1st May: Sunday XI bt IBM by 25 runs

A team full of youth with 7 players under the age of 18 stepping up against IBM. Another toss won and again batting first the two openers, Marcus Goodchild and Dan Walker scored 29 from the first 4. After losing Dan and Sunday debutant James Basu both after making solid starts, the middle order batsmen did a great job of keeping up the run rate to over 6 an over for the remainder of the innings. A few notable scores of 44 from Martin Bloomfield and another debutant Josh Stocker scoring 41. All were in a supporting role however to Marcus who amassed an unbeaten 103 from the 40 overs (after being dropped on 0 for a dolly!) Bledlow managed a very healthy 259 for 5. The IBM openers were ready to hit us about a bit before Mark King found number 2's weakness as he hit it straight up in the air for Marcus to take. Two more successive wickets came a couple of overs later before two of their batsman settled in and scored 50s apiece. However, after drinks wickets fell in successive overs courtesy of good bowling from Megan Woodward and Sam Mudie which set Oscar Frost up to get 3 quick wickets. IBM finished on 234 for 8 meaning a comfortable 25 run win.

Junior Cricket

We have been hindered early season by poor weather but training is now on every Friday. Jenny is back on the BBQ! Subscriptions are now due, players need to be signed on to get into the teams to play matches.

The matches are all starting this week - U9, U11 and U13, fixtures can be found [on the website](#)

Over 40 children signed up already, others welcome. Coaches Bill, Corky, Andy, Dan and Sam would love to see you.

Bledlow of Ages - 2008 Bucks VKO Winners



These fine fellows (many of which you may recognise) were the last Bledlow team to make it through to the regional stages of the national village cup. Under the leadership of Andie Witney, they defeated our then major cup rivals Winchmore Hill with just a ball to spare. Matt Bolton and the skipper seeing us home. The scorecard for the match can be found [here](#).

Bledlow played Reed of Hertfordshire in the next round with a whole coachload of support making the trip. Sadly we came up against a couple of batsman in top form that day, losing by a rather large amount! Make sure you come and support us in our opening village cup game on Sunday 15th May.

Pavilion Extension

The major extension work has now been halted in preparation for the new season. As will have been seen at the Sign on Night celebrations, the 'new space' has been plaster boarded and is ready for plastering if and when circumstances allow. Work may begin on the new umpire's room and some small installation work may be possible on the kitchen as the season progresses.

We still await favourable conditions to complete the top coating to the roof but this work can be completed without interrupting the season's cricket in any way.

The boiler has been re-plumbed and nearly all the new pipe work is complete. It is regrettable that the hot water will not be back until the end on the month but we are assured that home and away changing rooms will have hot showers from the first game of the season!

The first phase of the electrical plan has now been completed which has allowed us to progress a little further than we had at first envisaged. Work may continue behind the scenes as the season progresses.

We again thank all those which have generously contributed their time, efforts and resources to make this all happen.

In memory of John 'JR' Reclik

By Chairman Roger Downes

John was a huge part of the everyday life of Bledlow Cricket Club. He was one of the movers and shakers who helped make the Club what it was and indeed what it is today. When we all sat down to raise a glass to JR's memory, we all talked about the things that he did, obvious and not, that helped keep the Club going.

On the cricket side he was the first ever captain of our third XI when it was established and handed over an ever improving team to continue his involvement on the pitch as a very accomplished umpire. However, until the last few years, he was always prepared to play if we were short. Away from his participation on the pitch, he turned his energies to getting the game on. He knew how to make or find that particular bolt we needed or the spacer washer for the height of cut on the mowers. He was a dab hand with stubborn mowers and a font of knowledge and information that helped us to keep our sometimes troublesome mechanical equipment going. And if you ever needed a tyre changed, on a sightscreen, he was your man.

Around the field, he would cut and strim anything and everything, or help with the wicket if necessary. He took great pride in the ground looking its best.

Players of the Month

With three games played this month we can finally award a couple of players the honour of being The Bugles first true Players of the Month.

Saturday Player of the Month

James Hawkes
Right arm slinger
T20 specialist batsman



He may have only bowled six overs so far this year, but Hawkesy's opening spell vs Aston Rowant of 3-10 off 6 over may well have set the tone for the season. He bowled with pace and accuracy, clearing out their top order. This backs up figures of 7-43 he took in his last home game at the end of the 2015 league season. James joined Bledlow from Thame a few years back and hasn't looked back. His unusual but effective bowling action is often unplayable for new batsman proven by winning a game for the 2nd XI a few years back with a hat-trick.

Sunday Player of the Month

Marcus Goodchild
Gun-slinging batsman
Backseat Bowler



Marcus may potentially have scored Bledlow's earliest every century, notching up a well crafted 103* in the Sunday fixture vs IBM. From all accounts he rode his luck early on before battering the bowlers in his favoured arc over their heads. A long serving member of Bledlow at the young age of 24, Marcus has managed to take on almost every playing role at the club and is always there to lend a hand when it comes to building work. He came on the scene as an off spinner, and had a very successful season a few years ago in the 1st XI as the main spinner. In more recent years he's let his bowling take a back seat while he concentrates on run scoring at the top of the order for the 2nd XI.

With the new extension work, he led from the front, encouraging participation and, like us all, getting involved where he could.

On top of all this, John worked tirelessly to help us raise funds towards the running of the Club, which was achieved either through his work on the Bledfest committee, administering the Century Club monthly draw or running his Predictors, whether they be football or cricket related. They are firm favourites with Club members, friends and colleagues alike and have provided us with many talking points and opportunities for competitive banter. There would always be a buzz around the Club on a Friday night and on Sunday lunchtimes when the results were coming in. He was a 'driver' who would get things done, and last but not least, He was a man who held the respect of all at Bledlow Cricket Club. John you will be sadly missed by us all.

Dates for your diary

Jun 11 th	ENG v Russia Drinks specials	7pm to late
Jul 9 th	Race Night	7pm to late
Jul 15 th	Junior Presentation Evening @ club	6pm
Sep 16 th	Senior Presentation Evening @ PRGC	TBC