

OE Cricket Club

Nigel Wheeler writes:

Three cheers for the Cricketer Cup!

The competition probably saved the OECC from a year of embarrassment as fixtures were scant and general interest in the club low. The cricket 'week' had been reduced in fixtures; only two games were arranged plus the school match and round one of the Cricketer Cup.

That round one match against Whitgift was never played. The South London side could not produce a team and OECC found itself in the second round up against Sherborne Pilgrims on Sunday 25 June. The Memorial/St Cyprians was used as it is a bigger ground for our spin attack, less intrusive to school activities and better for parking and practice (now we need a scoreboard). This game set the pattern of play for Angus Stewart's team in the competition: bat first, score freely, bowl tightly and field like tigers. With a very young and athletic side, the fitness and agility were soon on show.

OECC 236 for 6 (Angus Stewart 61, Brad Evans 44, Max Finzel 42, Ollie Smith 32). Sherborne Pilgrims 192 (Jacob Smith 2-22, Chad Chisholm 2-25, Fred Florry

2-30). Won by 71 runs.

Two magnificent catches by Brad Evans epitomised the quality of the fielding. Runs and wickets were shared. This was an excellent team performance.

Sunday 9 July – off to Winchester and their splendid ground walled away from the public. Two of the 2017 school 1st XI joined the young side: Walter Huchu, the captain and Ben Twine; both useful all-rounders.

OECC 251 for 7 (Jacob Smith 70, Angus Stewart 55). Old Wykehamists 163 (Charlie Hobden 3-28, Fred Florry 2-22).

Again a sound all-round batting performance, accurate bowling, splendid fielding, aggressive, calculated captaincy, fine team work. Chad Chisholm was forced from the field through injury and the local resident and distinguished senior OE cricketer Alex Halliday offered himself as 12th man and even without ball and bat he reminded us of his skills in the field and passion for the game.

Next on the list was the semi-final v Old Bedfordians. Two relative newcomers to the competition; both clubs had but recently been included in the Cricketers Cup; one new 'boy' was bound to go through to the final. Same formula, OEs batted first and dominated in all departments. Effective bowling and fine fielding saw the guests suffer an even bigger deficit in defeat.

OECC 259 for 7 (Angus



A memorable achievement for the club in reaching the 2017 Cricketer Cup final not only in the 50th year of the competition but also in the 150th year of Eastbourne College. Back row: Jack Skinner, Brad Evans, Ben Twine, Fred Florry, Ollie Smith, Jacob Smith, Chad Chisholm; front row: Walter Huchu, Max Finzel, Angus Stewart, Charlie Hobden, Harry Lloyd



Enjoying the atmosphere at the Cricketer Cup final: John Wilmot (School 1954–59), Peter Robinson (Wargrave 1949–53), Ted Lewis (Ascham 1946–50) and Sir Charles Masefield (School 1953–58)



Among the many supporters at Arundel were Richard Garrett (Reeves 1980–85), Chris Garrett (Reeves 1949–52), Ruth Garrett, Sue Davies, Nigel Wheeler, Jenny Lush and, at front, Rosemary, who accompanied Chris Garrett

Stewart 61, Brad Evans 31, Max Finzel 29, Ben Twine 28, Harry Lloyd 27, Walter Huchu 23). Old Bedfordians 144 (Charlie Hobden 4–38, Jacob Smith 2–19). Won by 115 runs.

And so to Arundel Castle for the final. This was the 50th anniversary of the competition, the opponents were the Old Wellingtonians and the setting, the weather, the substantial sized

crowd with cars decked four or five deep called out for a thrilling contest. Rain in recent days had suggested that it would not be a hard wicket ‘pleasure park’ for batsmen and with Wellington choosing to bat first, the OE game plan was shattered but the team displayed discipline and control in holding back Wellington to 182. Chasing such a total in front of such a crowd on such an occasion

and against an impressive Wellingtonian attack was a journey too far for the young OE XI. Never in contention sadly, brave efforts were not enough as wickets fell freely and the Wellington XI earned a worthy win.

Matthew Fleming, ex-Kent and England, MCC President, drove down from Norfolk to present the trophy. He spoke generously of the quality of the talented young OE side and expected to see them back in contention regularly over the years ahead. This surely is the key to success; the players are there, early season preparation and the playing of regular high quality cricket and putting Cricketer Cup dates firmly in the diary will give the club a great chance to stamp further authority on this prestigious event.

Our thanks to Arundel Castle and the Cricketer Cup organisation for staging and hosting the match. A great day, sadly the wrong result.

Old Wellingtonians 182 (Jacob Smith 3–32, Brad Evans 3–16). OECC 102 (Angus Stewart 23). Lost by 80 runs.

The following represented the OECC in the Cricketer Cup in 2017: Chad Chisholm* (Reeves 2000–05), Brad Evans* (Gonville 2014–16), Max Finzel* (Reeves 2006–08), Fred Florry* (Gonville 2004–06), Stuart Garratt (Wargrave 2006–11), Charlie Hobden* (Wargrave 2008–13), Walter Huchu* (Gonville 2015–17), Harry Lloyd* (Wargrave 2011–16), Henry Smith (Powell 2009–13), Jacob Smith* (Craig 2010–15), Ollie Smith* (Craig 2006–11), Angus Stewart* (Craig 2003–08) (captain), Will Ripley (Gonville 1999–2004), Giles Robinson (Craig 2011–16), Jack Skinner* (War-

grave 2008–13), Ben Twine* (Craig 2013–17), Will Wheeler (Wargrave 2004–09).

* Played in the final at Arundel

College 1st XI v The OEs

The College 1st XI entertained the OEs on College Field in the traditional Speech Day game, now an afternoon T20 affair. Director of Cricket Rob Ferley suggested that the previous year’s captain, in this case Giles Robinson, should run the OE XI and include recent OEs. A lively match ensued.

Eastbourne College 168 for 4 (Ben Twine 49, Walter Huchu 31, Ben McIntosh 28; Tom Crathern 2–5, Oli Carter 2–11). OEs 150 (Brad Evans 32, Dan Narracott 25, Harvey Ferrari 2–28). Lost by 18 runs.

Eastbourne College 1st XI: Ollie Ashdown (wk) (Craig), Oli Carter (Craig), Jack Casebourne (Reeves), Tom Crathern (Powell), Walter Huchu (captain) (Gonville), Ben McIntosh (Wargrave), Arthur Pickard (Powell), Joe Pocklington (Craig), George Skinner (Wargrave), Ben Twine (Craig), Marcus Winston (Gonville).

OE XI: Felix Arnold (Powell 2009–14), Brad Evans, Harvey Ferrari (Powell 2009–14), George Grave (Wargrave 2009–14), Jamie Mackwood (Craig 2010–15), Hugo Millns (Pennell 2011–16), Dan Narracott (Reeves 2011–16), Ryan Packham (Powell 2011–16), Henry Porpora (Craig 2011–16), Giles Robinson (captain), Rafe Sulke (Reeves 2010–15).

These two strong sides possess a number of players who would enjoy OE cricket and contribute considerably. Do come and play.

The 2018 OE cricket season

Plans for the 2018 season are rather more positive on the fixture front. We won’t attract new players to the club unless we have matches to play. Not only are we hosting the Oundle Rovers in the 1st round of the Cricketer Cup on Sunday 17 June but we are also including the same club in our cricket week. One rather expects that a keen MCC member and former head of both schools will want a grandstand seat for these matches.

Date	Event
Sunday 17 June	Round 1 v Old Oundelians (H)
Saturday 30 June	OEs v School (H)
Tuesday 10 July	OEs v Old Malvernians (H)
Wednesday 11 July	OEs v Oundle Rovers (H)
Thursday 12 July	OEs v Uppingham Rovers (H)
Friday 13 July	A possible three-sided T20 day for OEs Also OEs golf will be played this week at The Royal Eastbourne GC

Club officials

President: Mike Barford	Treasurer: Peter Morgan
Chairman: Nigel Wheeler	Committee: Will Ripley, Ed Miller,
Cricketer Cup Captain: Angus Stewart	Charlie Hobden, George Burrough, Rob Ferley

The Cricket Week

'The Week' is known for its supposed duration. The double day fixtures with the Old Malvernians and Uppingham Rovers plus games in the past v the Repton Pilgrims and occasional wandering sides were the key events in the calendar. Times change. Wandering cricket has declined; all old boys sides have struggled with team numbers and late withdrawals. Weddings, stag weekends, family responsibilities and expectations have resulted in fewer school cricketers continuing the game and supporting their old boys clubs. The Old Malvernians pulled out of the Tuesday game so all that was left was one fixture v Uppingham Rovers on Thursday 13 July. The OEs, riding on Cricketer Cup performance and with a slightly older side, managed expertly by George Borrough, secured a convincing win for the Thwaites/ Ashworth Trophy.

Uppingham Rovers 125 (Sam Tomkins 4-21, Toby Marriott 2-19, Jacob Smith 2-31). OEs 126 for 4 (Giles Robinson 53 not out).

OE XI: George Borrough (captain) (Wargrave 2001-06), Brad Evans, Alex Halliday (School 1985-90), Charlie Hobden, Toby Marriott (Pennell 2008-13), Ben McIntosh, Giles Robinson, Henry Smith, Jacob Smith, Sam Tomkinson (Gonville 2008-10), Angus Stewart.

The 2017 cricket dinner



Nigel Wheeler, Tim Mynott (Powell 1968-73), who recently played in the England Over-60 cricket squad, Les Lenham and Andy Waller, the College's cricket professional

Former Sussex and England cricketer Les Lenham was the guest of honour at the cricket dinner held on Thursday 29 June in the College dining hall. The dinner followed the 1st XI match against the MCC earlier in the day, and was preceded by a drinks reception in the Long Room and balcony of the new pavilion, which opened this year as part of the Project 150 development.

Les took part in a Q&A session with Nigel Wheeler, the former master i/c cricket. Les played for Sussex from 1956 to 1970 and appeared in 300 first-class matches as a right-handed batsman who bowled off breaks. He scored 12,796 runs, including seven centuries, and had a highest score of 191 not out.

The Ted James School of Cricket *Nigel Wheeler writes:*



Ted James

The new Ted James School of Cricket is to be part of the sports hall in the second phase of Project 150. Ted served the College magnificently as the cricket professional and many of us have happy memories of his good humour, impressive personality and excellent coaching. To make the school of cricket a special place, modern equipment is needed: quality nets, floor surfaces, bowling machines with automatic feeders, camera-spotting technique monitors, pitch vision technology, the PV One cricket training system, and the BOLA TrueMan or the Merlyn Simulator for pace or spin. Such

new developments are coming more common in counties and some schools and clubs. Eastbourne wants to be at the forefront. Ted's own career plus photos and a 'scorebook' with names of the cricketers, his sides from 1962-90, other former pupils who remember him with affection and appreciation, and those who make a donation will also be included.

Do please consider supporting this new school facility. If you would like to sign in and join Ted's Team please contact David Stewart at the Foundation Office for further details: das@eastbourne-college.co.uk or 01323 452308.