



Bath Cricket Club

1859 - 2009

*150 Years of
Playing Cricket*

THE ANNIVERSARY HANDBOOK



Contents of the 150th Anniversary Handbook

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A message from the President



Pat Colbourne - President

Dear Member, cricket follower, visitor,

We have been especially looking forward to this 2009 season for many months, when we recognise our 150th Anniversary, and now that it is here, I expect it will simply rush by.

Throughout this celebratory year we will be welcoming many friends and past players who were with us during their early years as youth players and who have now moved on to university or new careers. We will also be meeting up once more with past players since retired and those from overseas, who joined us during warm summer seasons long past. We are delighted to welcome you back to the fold, back to our World Heritage City. Bath has changed a little, new buildings are rising, traffic congestion is increasing but the standard of our senior cricket, both men's and women's, and the enjoyment of watching the younger ones developing, remain as high as ever.

This Handbook reflects much of what Bath Cricket Club has been about over the years and we are most humbled and grateful to those members, present and past, who have worked so diligently to make it come to fruition. We owe them all a great debt of gratitude and we are benefiting from their wisdom and commitment. We are now a Community Sports Club and have a duty to promote the game to everyone who wishes to learn. 'We are living off the shoulders of our ancestors' so that we can now truly say that we have one of the finest cricket clubs in the land.

Please enjoy the amenity of our Club.

Pat Colbourne – President



A message from the Chairman



Mike Roe - Chairman

Some things in life are enduring, compelling and forever a central part of our lives. For many people cricket is such a phenomenon and like me, Bath Cricket Club has been a defining part of what we are about. The combination of a great team sport, a social network and a location as beautiful as our Georgian City makes Bath Cricket Club a unique and inspiring institution. It is of little surprise that the club has reached its 150th anniversary, continues to thrive and develop and, climate change apart, is likely to be celebrating in a further 150 years.

This handbook seeks to represent the history and journey of our club and, as our President has mentioned in his piece, pays tribute to so many people whose unflinching support, passion and commitment have made the club what it is today.

Bath Cricket Club celebrates this moment in its history at a time of considerable challenge for the world - the economic recession, the environmental threat, religious and cultural intolerance.

Now, more than ever, cricket at a local level has a role to play in engaging with and supporting communities, valuing difference and shaping people's lives. Our legacy will be to ensure that the club continues to play its part.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved in making this a very special year.

Mike Roe, Chairman



Extra Events & Fixtures for 2009

Throughout the season the regular League teams who play on Saturday and Sunday will continue their fixtures as in a normal season. The youth teams will also be playing their regular matches according to their League programmes. If in doubt about what's on please check on our website - www.bathcricket.com

MARCH

W 4th Reception with The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Bath at the Guildhall

APRIL

S 4th 150th Anniversary Ball at The Pavilion, North Parade Road, Bath

MAY

Th 7th v Bath Venturers (Bath Uni Staff) – away – 6.15pm
 S 13th v Timsbury C.C. – away – 6.15pm
 W 20th v Hampset C.C. – away – 6.15pm
 W 27th v 2nd Royal Tank Regiment – away Tidworth – 2.00pm

JUNE

W 3rd v Southstoke – away – 6.15pm
 W 10th v Premier League & Football League, Football Referees at NP – 11.30am
 W 24th v The 89ers at NP – 11.30am
 W 26th Youth Parents Quiz Night – Clubhouse – 8.00pm

JULY

T 7th v 2nd Royal Tank Regiment at NP – 11.30am
 T 14th v The Australian Cricket Society at NP – 11.00am
 W 15th v Edinburgh University Old Boys at NP – 11.30am
 W 22nd v The City of Sydney (Australia) ex-1st Grade XI at NP – 11.00am
 F 24th The Cider Festival
 S 25th 1st XI v Downend
 S 25th Anniversary Dinner – Marquee at NP after 1st XI match v Downend
 Speakers inc: Mike Cowan (Doncaster CC) and David Trick
 Sun 26th The Wanderers v Gunnersbury
 M 27th v Old Edwardians at NP – 2.30pm
 T 28th v YMCA XI - A Victorian Game game of Cricket at NP – 2.30pm
 W 29th v Gloucester Gypsies at NP – 11.00am
 Th 30th v MCC at NP – time 11.30am.
 F 31st The Wanderers v MCC Womens XI at NP – 11.30am

AUGUST

S 2nd Pro-Celeb Match at NP – Bath XI v Steve Griffiths XI
 W 5th v Stretford CC at NP – 2.00pm
 F 7th v Manly (Sydney) at NP – 2.00pm
 W 12th v XL Club at NP – 2.00pm
 W 19th v Bradford on Avon at NP – 2.00pm + Raffle Draw & 150 Club Draw
 23rd – 26th The Club Tour to Liverpool (4 days)
 F 28th v Womens World Cup Winners of '93 at NP

SEPTEMBER

W 30th v Cross Arrows at The Nursery Ground, Lord's – 10.45am



1859 *The Birth of Bath Cricket Club*

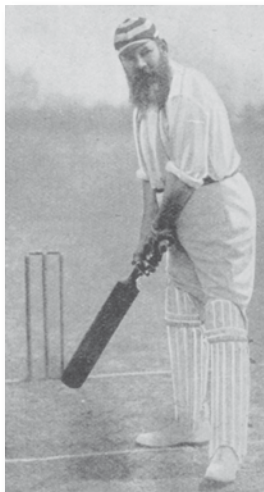
Much written evidence of the Club's early history was destroyed during the bombing raids over Bath during the Second World War. However, from the painstaking research undertaken by our late President, John Ruddick, much of which has been recorded in his book "Players on Parade, A History of Bath Cricket Club", we can give you a brief illustration of the Club's history within the pages of this Handbook.

The father of the game, W.G. Grace, lived only a stone's throw away - in Downend, Bristol. In 1859, he was just 11 years old and unknown to the cricketing world, when a small group of members from Bath's Young Men's Christian Association (the YMCA) decided that they wished to play this relatively new sport more seriously. So they formed a new club and played for a few years in a field on top of Claverton Down on the southern outskirts of the City. Not long afterwards, they acquired ownership, from the 4th Duke of Cleveland, of a new ground closer to the City centre, known locally as the Watermeadows. This became our very own North Parade ground and it cost them the princely sum of £200. The Duke was invited to become their first President and he duly agreed.

The group had originally called themselves the Bath Association Cricket Club but it was not until 1872 that the title officially became Bath Cricket Club. Since then, much water has flowed under the bridge (and flooded over the cricket ground too). The first known Pavilion, a simple wooden structure, was erected close to where the present pavilion stands; it was propped against the white wall in the Southern corner. Part of the ground, just below the railway line, was annually used for the grazing of animals and occasionally, in the summer months, for fêtes, fairs and fun days.

Throughout most of the summer of 1859 and especially during the month of July, the City of Bath was involved in a major Pageant, occupying most of its inhabitants, depicting and celebrating the History of Britain. The demand on people's time must have been considerable throughout that year and it is likely that a new cricket club forming in the City was not front page news.

Reported in the Chronicle on 13th August 1795 was ***'a match of cricket was yesterday played on Claverton Down for eleven guineas by eleven men against eleven youths of this City which was won by the former in one innings. The novelty of this manly exercise, in a regular match, drew together a great number of spectators'***. Certainly a cricket club called The Bath Club playing at Sydenham Field, was in existence before 1800 and until 1824. However, no further mention of it in the local newspapers was found after that date. So, until any further evidence is found, it seems unlikely that the present Bath Cricket Club and the old Bath Club are one and the same.



W.G. GRACE

On 17th May 1880 a game was played between the Bath Association and Lansdown on the new North Parade ground. Bath were dismissed for 163 by lunchtime while Lansdown could only achieve 85 and, following on, were all out for 49. J. Clark, the Association's opening bowler taking 9 for 16. In the return match at Lansdown the home team had both E.M. Grace and W.G. Grace playing for them (that season they opened the innings for England against Australia in the first Test match played on English soil).

The Water meadows in the 1850's before it became the Bath Cricket Club ground. It was under water for much of the winter



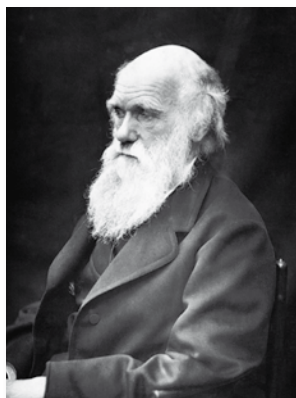


Important Events Going On Elsewhere in 1859

1. Queen Victoria was on the throne and her Prime Minister was Edward Smith-Stanley (Conservative), 14th Earl of Derby until the 12th June elections, when Henry Temple (Liberal), The 3rd Viscount Palmerston took over.
2. The clock of the Clock Tower at the Palace of Westminster becomes operational and the bell acquires the name "Big Ben" by association with Benjamin Hall, 1st Baron Llanover.
3. The National Portrait Gallery opens, so does the Cornwall Railway, linking for the first time, Devon and Cornwall.
4. Charles Darwin publishes the *Origin of Species*, a book which argues that species gradually evolve through natural selection. (It immediately sold out its initial print run and was promptly banned by Trinity College, Cambridge).
5. Charles Dickens publishes 'A Tale of Two Cities'.
6. Astronomer Richard Carrington makes the first observation of a solar flare.
7. The steamship *Royal Charter* is wrecked off the coast of Anglesey with the loss of 454 souls.
8. The 'Royal Charter Storm' of October 1859 was considered to be the most severe storm to hit the British Isles in the 19th century, with a total death toll estimated at over 800. There was extensive structural damage along the coasts of Devon and Cornwall. The storm drifted northwards, hitting Anglesey and reaching maximum force at the River Mersey at midday on the 26th October, It then continued northwards to affect Scotland. The winds reached force 12 on the Beaufort scale and were well over 100 mph.



Big Ben



9. The Meteorological Office, under Captain Robert Fitzroy, brought in the first gale warning service to prevent similar tragedies.
10. In the colonies Queensland, in Australia, was created by devolving part of New South Wales.
11. The ground was broken for the building of the Suez Canal.
12. BIRTHS - Jerome K. Jerome, author; Arthur Conan Doyle, author
DEATHS - Isambard Kingdom Brunel, engineer; Robert Stephenson, engineer

Charles Darwin



The History of Cricket

Cricket can be traced back to the 16th century but it may have originated much earlier than that. The most common theory of origin is that it was invented by children of the farming and metalworking communities in the Weald between Kent and Sussex during the medieval period. Written evidence exists of a game known as *creag* being played by Prince Edward, the son of Edward I (Longshanks), at Newenden, Kent, in 1300 and there has been speculation, but no evidence, that this was a form of cricket. In 1598, a court case referred to a sport called *creckett* being played at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, around 1550. This is the earliest definite mention.

A number of words are thought to be possible sources for the term “cricket”. The name may derive from a term for the cricket bat: old French *criquet* (meaning a kind of club) or Flemish *krick(e)* (meaning a stick) or in Old English *crycc* (meaning a crutch or staff). (The latter is problematic, since Old English ‘cc’ was palatal in pronunciation in the South and the West Midlands, roughly ch, which is how *crycc* leads to *crych* and thence *crutch*; the ‘k’ sound would be possible in northern dialects, however). Alternatively, the French *criquet* apparently derives from the Flemish word *krickstoel*, which is a long low stool on which one kneels in church and which resembles the long low wicket with two stumps used in early cricket.

During the 17th century, numerous references indicate the growth of cricket in the south-east of England. By the end of the century, it had become an organised activity being played for high stakes and it is likely that the first professionals appeared in that period. We know that “a great cricket match” with eleven players a side was played for high stakes in Sussex in 1697 and this is the earliest reference we have to a cricket match of such importance. The game underwent major development in the 18th century and had become the national sport of England by the end of the century.

Some early incidents reflecting the game of the age:

- 1744 - First recorded Laws of the Game
- 1755 - Frederick, Prince of Wales, dies after being hit by the ball while playing cricket.
- 1771 - Thomas White of Reigate comes to the crease with a bat as wide as the wicket. A law, limiting the size of bats, is soon added.
- 1775 - Leading bowler, Edward ‘Lumpy’ Stevens, sends the ball between the stumps on three occasions. Following this, a third stump is added for the first time.
- 1776 - Hambledon of Hampshire defeat an All-England XI by an innings and 168 runs.
- 1789 - The Duke of Dorset’s cricket tour of France is called off at the last minute when news of the French Revolution is heard.
- 1815 - A match between Hambledon and Farlington ends in farce when the ball is hit into a refreshment booth.

Betting played a major part in that development with rich patrons forming their own “Select XIs”. Cricket was prominent in London as early as 1707 and large crowds flocked to matches on the Artillery Ground in Finsbury. The Hambledon Club was founded in the 1760s but the Hambledon parish team was already playing first-class matches in 1756. For the next 20 years until the formation of MCC and the opening of Lord’s in 1787, Hambledon was the game’s greatest club and its focal point. MCC quickly became the sport’s premier club and the custodian of the Laws of Cricket.



The 19th century saw underarm replaced by first roundarm and then overarm bowling. Both developments were controversial. Organisation of the game at county level led to the creation of the county clubs, starting with Sussex CCC in 1839, which ultimately formed the official County Championship in 1890.

The first Australian cricket team to tour England was made of indigenous Australian players (1867), a significant event in the history of indigenous Australians as well as in that of cricket. In 1844, the first ever international cricket match took place between the United States and Canada (although neither has ever been ranked as a Test-playing nation). Fifteen years later, in the actual year our Club was formed, in 1859, a team of England players went on the first overseas tour (to North America) and 18 years after that another England team took part in the first-ever Test match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground against Australia. The legendary W G Grace started his long career in 1865. It can fairly be said that he revolutionised the sport and did much to ensure its massive popularity.



The 1st XI of 1894 – Mr C. Barley (Umpire), G. Short, H.M. Davis, E. Grant, Bacon, Mr. E. Wood, H. Wood, F.S. White, A.H. Fortt, A.J. Hill, E.C. Faithful, E.A. Twining, M.S. Bigwood

The last two decades before the First World War have been called the “Golden Age of Cricket”. It is a nostalgic name prompted by the collective sense of loss resulting from the war, but the period did produce some great players and memorable matches, especially as organised competition at County and Test level developed. The inter-war years were dominated by one player: Don Bradman, statistically the greatest batsman of all time. It was the determination of the England team to overcome his skill that brought about the infamous Bodyline series in 1932/33.

Cricket entered a new era in 1963, when English counties introduced a variant form of cricket match that would be sure to produce a result: games with a restricted number of overs per side. This gained widespread popularity and resulted in the birth of One Day International (ODI) matches in 1971. The governing International Cricket Council quickly adopted the new form and held the first ODI Cricket World Cup in 1975. Since then, ODI matches have gained a large following.

As of the early 2000s, however, the longer form of cricket is experiencing a growing resurgence in popularity but a new limited overs phenomenon, Twenty20, has made an immediate impact.



The First Ever Overseas Cricket Tour

THE ENGLISH CRICKET TEAM IN NORTH AMERICA IN 1859

The idea for the tour came from WP Pickering (1819-1905), who had been captain of cricket at Eton College in 1837 and 1838. He had emigrated to Canada in 1852 and played for Canada against the United States the following year. He originally opened discussions for a possible tour in 1856 but financial problems meant that it was three years before the money could be raised. The English team required a guarantee of £750, which Pickering obtained through the Montreal Club.

The English team comprised six members of the All-England Eleven and six of the United All-England Eleven. With George Parr as captain, the twelve players were effectively the cream of professional talent in **the 1859 English cricket season** that had just ended:

George Parr (Nottinghamshire) (captain), James Grundy (Nottinghamshire), John Jackson (Nottinghamshire); Robert Carpenter (Cambridgeshire), Alfred Diver (Cambridgeshire), Thomas Hayward (Cambridgeshire); Julius Caesar (Surrey), William Caffyn (Surrey), Tom Lockyer (Surrey), H H Stephenson (Surrey), John Lillywhite (Sussex), John Wisden (Sussex)

Five matches were played, all against XXIIIs, so none had first-class status. Three exhibition games were also played in which the 12 England players divided and added five North Americans to each team to make up eleven-a-side matches. Including travelling time, the trip lasted two months and each English player (all professionals) cleared about £90, a sizeable sum at the time.

The team's opponents were:

- XXII of Lower Canada - Won by 8 wickets at Montreal, Quebec.
- XXII of the United States - Won by an innings and 64 runs at Hoboken, New Jersey.
- XXII of the United States - Won by 7 wickets at Philadelphia.
- XXII of Lower Canada - Won by 10 wickets at Hamilton, Ontario.
- XXII of the United States - Won by an innings and 68 runs at Rochester, New York.

The English side was of course exceedingly strong and would probably have beaten any XXII in England. There were excellent crowds for the first three matches but the weather in mid-October turned very cold and reduced the attendances at the last two. The fielders wore gloves and overcoats in the last match. A product of the tour was a book by Fred Lillywhite, who travelled as scorer, entitled "The English Cricketers' Trip to Canada and the United States" and published in 1860.

For the general growth of cricket in the United States, it was most unfortunate that this pioneering tour occurred only 18 months before the US Civil War began. If the war had not broken out, it is highly likely that two or three follow-up tours might have been arranged in the early 1860s, thus building on the interest created by the initial trip. As it was, the enthusiasm for cricket faded in the war years and the troops on both sides adopted the embryonic game of baseball. When English teams resumed tours to America in 1868, not only did they have to try to rekindle the enthusiasm, but in baseball they had a serious rival.

Since that time Britain was able to take the game around the world to all its colonies and there it has grown into the world sport we see now.



Bill Hyman's astonishing innings - surely this must still be a record?

You may visit the pavilion and gaze at some of the photos on the wall. You will eventually come across a score sheet of Bill Hyman's innings of over a century ago.

In the summer of 1902, Bill Hyman, playing for Bath Cricket Club against Thornbury Cricket Club, set the most astonishing cricketing record that has probably never been surpassed in the history of club cricket. The details can be found in John Ruddick's book "Players on Parade, A History of Bath Cricket Club." The following account is drawn directly from the book.

'We come now to the year 1902 when, on the 12th July at Alveston, Billy Hyman created a record in club cricket which, to this day, has never been surpassed. In the second innings of the match against Thornbury – whose team included not only E.M.Grace but also Sellick, Spry and Paish, all Gloucestershire bowlers who provided a very strong attack for a club side – he scored 359 not out in 100 minutes! For this match the Bath team had journeyed to Alveston with a few friends, by coach and four and a trumpeter. They batted first and scored 124, to which Thornbury replied with 85. The Bath second innings began at 4.35pm and when stumps were drawn at 6.25pm



1902 Team Photo with Bill Hyman sitting left



One of the earliest surviving team photos 1896

the score was 461 for 6 wickets, a scoring rate of something like 4 runs per minute. Of this phenomenal total Hyman's contribution was 359 not out.

Dr E.M.Grace bowled throughout this period and in two successive overs Hyman scored 32 runs (4 sixes and 2 fours). In all he hit 32 sixes, 30 fours, 5 threes, 6 twos, and 20 singles, in what must have been one hundred minutes of sheer ecstasy to those who were fortunate enough to be watching. All it needed was Jessop on the other side to reply in like vein! Hyman certainly relished the Thornbury bowling, for when the two sides met at Bath some weeks previously he had scored 130.

A report on the match states that the ground was about the same size as North Parade and that the tremendous score was only possible because E.M.Grace used six balls which were continuously recycled. No sooner was one ball in the air going over the boundary than another followed, then another and another. After Hyman had reached his first hundred the Doctor is said to have remarked, 'I'll bowl him out or break my knees'. He did neither. After the second hundred had been passed someone asked him to change the bowling. 'No fear' he answered, 'He's just beginning to nibble.' When the team returned to Bath and told the great news, it was considered so fantastic that it was not believed. The final comment came at the end of the scoresheet with the laconic statement that no bowling analysis was kept of the second innings.

***The score sheet reads - 6 4 3 4 6 1 1 1 1 1 6 6 6 4 4 6 6 6 6 4 4 4 1 2 1 3
2 4 4 4 6 1 6 1 6 4 4 6 2 6 6 4 3 4 1 1 1 1 4 6 4 6 4 4 6 4 2 6 6 6 1 4 6 4 4 1
4 6 4 4 4 6 3 1 1 6 6 1 2 4 6 4 1 2 4 3 6 6 6 1 6 4 6 - 359 not out***



The North Parade Ground Through the Years

After the Birth of the Club, the history books give us a rather sketchy illustration of life at North Parade. The original pavilion, seen in the photos on page ten was a wooden structure built against the white wall which had itself been built from the stone rubble of the houses knocked down in Ferry Lane. This original pavilion lasted nearly 30 years before being demolished for a more permanent and specific structure erected in the opposite corner of the ground.

We know that the present 'Old' pavilion, a Grade II Listed structure which still stands in the north-west corner of the ground, was built in 1904, thirty-two years after the Club settled at North Parade and it cost the club £180. It was designed by A.J. Taylor who later became the City Architect. He was also elected Club Chairman from 1919 to 1938.

Twenty years on, alterations were carried out to provide the home side with a decent dressing room on the ground floor also a tea room for the players. The ground machinery was moved to a shed to the rear of the pavilion. In the shed you would have found just five or six items of equipment plus a large bucket and spade and four large leather shoes - for the horse, of course. Now the horse would draw the mower and then the roller and the shoes would make sure it didn't leave large imprints in the soft turf after a shower of rain. The bucket and spade? Use your imagination. The task of cutting and rolling would take a whole day - sometimes longer.

A bar was installed into the tea rooms soon after the Second World War. This arrangement served the club well until 1963 when funds were raised through a Charity cricket match which included the likes of Sir Garfield Sobers and Richie Benaud and a new pavilion was built. The old pavilion then slowly fell into disrepair and became used as a store for furniture, cricket equipment and outdoor nets, chairs and tables and other items needed for occasional use in the newly built pavilion. The basement was converted once more as a groundsman's equipment store which is still functioning today.

The current pavilion has had two further improvements. The first included a major alteration to the interior as well as an extended and fully glazed front window (reinforced



The North Parade ground during an early drainage installation programme



of course). The second involved a further alteration to the interior, and an extra section added onto the north-east side. This was a two storey building which included a main entrance, members lounge and players changing rooms with balcony. A sitting platform followed in front of the building for the convenience of spectators. This is what you see today.

The scorer has been moved from pillar to post over the years. Initially, scoring was done with a pen knife cutting notches on a stick. The scorer's responsibility was later made more formal and more important. A table and chair positioned anywhere on the ground was his first domain. Then a small box was erected in the north-east corner of the ground. But it was not until the 'old' pavilion went out of service in the 1960's that a proper scoreboard was incorporated on its balcony. Now, an electronically controlled scoreboard has been built, in the north-west corner of the ground, with state of the art LED lighting, for all to view instantly. The scorer can sit comfortably in the pavilion or elsewhere and still be in control of things.

The Groundsman continues to use the area under the old pavilion to house much of his equipment and materials. There is no need for horse and roller anymore, everything is motorised and tasks can be completed in a fraction of the time it took years ago. Some of the equipment spills over into a further store which is securely fenced off under one of the arches below the North Parade Bridge road.

Three permanent, artificial nets were installed adjacent to the old pavilion and are used mainly by the youth section of the Club and for warm ups prior to matches. The most recent development is the establishment of a series of grass nets, greatly improved over the years from the old outfield netting with posts and pegs that many older cricketers will remember. Now, flexible boxed nets are used. These are able to be extended or retracted and moved to wherever they are needed. Much has changed over the years.



The 'Old' Pavilion, built in 1904



The 'New' pavilion at the start of its second alteration



Members provide self-help to part of the old pavilion in the late 50's



Stanley Amor (sitting centre) on a Club Tour to Devon



The Golden Years Team of the 1920's with Stanley Amor on the far right



STANLEY LONG AMOR

known as 'Skipper' - the Godfather of Bath Cricket Club

Stanley Amor was captain of Bath Cricket Club for 36 years, from 1914 to 1950. He first became a member in 1904 and died, in office, as its President in 1964, a member for 60 years.

In the written words of John Ruddick's book, "Players on Parade, a History of Bath Cricket Club", Stanley Amor was a colourful personality who stood out above all the others. He became a sort of Godfather to the Club and its saviour during and between both World Wars. He was primarily a very fine cricketer, a batsman/wicket-keeper who continued playing well into his 60's. His last game for the Club was for the 1st XI against the MCC in the Centenary year (1959, aged, wait for it ... 71). He played First Class cricket, for Somerset between 1908 and 1930 as well as festival cricket for MCC, also for South of England v North and for the Royal Flying Corps v The Rest of England. He moved with distinction between the likes of Strudwick, Dolphin 'Tiger' Smith, Hobbs and Rhodes, to mention just a few. He was, undoubtedly, one of the most famous cricketers in the West of England where he had no superior as a wicket-keeper - 'nearly the best in the country', according to Herbert Strudwick.



He became Club Chairman after his playing days were over, and later, President, and was recognised for his dedication with an Honorary Life Membership. He became Mr Bath Cricket Club and often quietly put his hand in his pocket to help a young talent own a bat or pair of batting gloves. Unseen by most, he would provide a new ball for the bowlers for each match and help finance a new score board. He was a great servant to Bath Cricket Club and kept it ticking over during those many difficult war years.

Although cricket was his first love, he was good enough to play Hockey for Somerset and became President of Bath Rugby Club from 1945 to 1950. He developed other interests too. He was President of Bath and District First Aiders Association and the Cage Bird Society and briefly Chairman of the Canine Society. He became a Freeman and Livery Man of the City of London being a member of the Worshipful Company of Masons. For his war service he received the DFC.

It was well recognised, during the 1920's that Bath Cricket Club had a team second to none. County cricket in those days was comprised of cricketers known either as Players or Gentlemen. Ten of the eleven players representing the Club played for Somerset or Gloucestershire or Wiltshire, as gentlemen, not as professional 'Players'. It was a most formidable team captained by Stanley Long Amor. This era was given the title - 'The Golden Years'.

Throughout the Club's history, just two members have held all the following Honorary positions in the Club: Captain, Chairman, President and Honorary Life Member, Stanley Amor and the current President, Pat Colbourne.



THE CHARTER TRUSTEES OF THE CITY OF BATH

*The Right Worshipful the
Mayor of Bath*



May 2009

Dear Members of Bath Cricket Club,

I know that a Century-and-a-Half is a very impressive score.

Bath Cricket Club has passed the test of time and moved with the times. The Club deserves particular recognition for its leading role in encouraging more ladies to play the game. I bowled my maiden over when I married The Mayoress, Councillor Sharon Ball, and we have five children and five grandchildren to prove it.

We are full of admiration for the Club's work encouraging children of all abilities to become 'good sports' in the widest sense. I compliment you for meeting the theme set by the English Cricket Board – to develop cricket 'From Playground to Test Arena'.

My Mayoral theme this year is 'Charity Begins at Home' and your Club is a shining example of a home-grown charity working to benefit the local community.

It is certainly time to declare my congratulations on your 150th Anniversary, to wish you success in the future and to thank you on behalf of the City of Bath.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Tim Ball
MAYOR OF BATH



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA



I am delighted to add my congratulations to Bath Cricket Club on its magnificent 150 years.

During the years I have been MP, I have been thrilled to see the Cricket Club taking tremendous steps in improving sporting facilities in Bath, and getting people active in the City.

Perhaps most significantly of recent years, was the Club's decision to change from being a private members' club to a charity. It has been tremendous to see the fruits of this decision, particularly evident through the club's engagement with young people through the CRICKETBath scheme.

I have been thrilled to witness the triumphs of the Club in recent years, as it has repeatedly risen to the top of the West of England Premier League and produced cricketers of an exceptional level.

Once again, my congratulations on this momentous occasion, and here's to the next 150 years.

Don Foster MP



Officers of Bath Cricket Club

The Presidents

1872 to 1891	-	The 4th Duke of Cleveland
1892 to 1942	-	Captain W.F. Forester
1943 to 1958	-	Maj G.E. Longrigg
1957 to 1964	-	S.L. Amor
1965 to 1972	-	D.A. Gilmer
1973 only	-	L.A. Sansbury
1974 to 1981	-	L. StV. Powell
1982 to 1995	-	J. Ruddick
1996 to 2000	-	K.W. S. Leask
2001 to 2003	-	P.F. Shervington OBE
2003 to present	-	P.J. Colbourne



Keith Leask

Club Chairmen

1895 – 1918	-	A.H.Fortt
1919 – 1938	-	A.J.Taylor
1939 – 1954	-	Major G.E.Longrigg
1955 – 1964	-	S.L.Amor
1963 – 1964	-	D.A.Gilmer
1965 – 1967	-	K.W.Somers
1968 – 1970	-	V.I.Ferguson
1971 – 1972	-	K.W.S.Leask
1973 – 1977	-	B.J.Howell
1978 – 1981	-	J.Ruddick
1982 – 1985	-	R.L.Sansbury
1986 – 1987	-	V.I.Ferguson
1988 – 1993	-	K.W.S.Leask
1994 – 1996	-	P.J.Colbourne
1997 – 2003	-	D.O.Hilton
2004 to present	-	M.J.Roe



Barry Howell

The Hon. Secretaries *(from surviving records)*

1934 to 1935	-	J.T. Piper & C.H.C. Taylor (jointly)
1936 to 1939	-	J.T. Piper & O. Sylvester (jointly)
1940 to 1944	-	J.T. Piper & E.W. Harding (jointly)
1945	-	F. March & E.W. Harding (jointly)
1946 to 1947	-	O. Sylvester with F. March (as assistant)
1948 to 1962	-	F. March
1963	-	R.L. Sansbury
1964 to 1965	-	W.I. Gunter with M. Davies (as assistant)
1966	-	I. Gunter with A. Strong (as assistant)
1967	-	A.C. Strong with L.D. Lang-Jones (as assistant)



1968	-	A.C. Strong with J. Ruddick (as assistant)
1969	-	J. Ruddick with P. Webster (as assistant)
1970 to 1971	-	J. Ruddick
1972 to 1975	-	J. Ruddick with O. Tasker (as assistant)
1976 to 1977	-	J. Ruddick with D. Clements (as assistant)
1978	-	A.C. Strong with R. Simpson (as assistant)
1979 to 1980	-	Miss J. Cox with Mr N. Cox (as assistant)
1981	-	Mrs E. Molyneux-Angell with R. Ireland (as assistant)
1982 to 1984	-	Miss H. Moore with R. Ireland (as assistant)
1985	-	Mrs H. Stubbs with R. Ireland (as assistant)
1986	-	C.P. Styles with Mrs H. Stubbs (as assistant)
1993 to 1994	-	F. Edwards with Mrs H. Stubbs (as assistant)
1995 to 1997	-	Mrs E. Cromwell
1998 to present	-	M. Jones

The Hon Treasurers *(from surviving records)*

1934 - 1949	-	C.T. Brown & H. Wood (jointly)
1950 to 1952	-	C.T. Brown
1953 to 1954	-	R.M. Ealand
1956 to 1959	-	A.F. Foster
1960	-	H.I. Chamberlain
1961	-	H.I. Chamberlain with E.G. Burrows (as assistant)
1962 to 1967	-	G.E. Harden with E.G. Burrows (as assistant)
1969 to 1969	-	R.L. Sansbury with E.G. Burrows (as assistant)
1970 to 1971	-	D. Prentice with E.G. Burrows (as assistant)
1972 to 1975	-	J. Spooner-Lillingston with E.G. Burrows (as assistant)
1976 to 1980	-	A. Chapman with E.G. Burrows (as assistant)
1981 to 1985	-	A. Chapman with N. Cox (as assistant)
1986 to 1997	-	A. Chapman with V. Parker (as assistant)
1998 to present	-	V. Parker

The Trustees of 2009

M.Roe (Chair), P. Colbourne (President), A.Chapman, V.Parker,
I.Shrubsole, J.Godman, L.Thomson

Honorary Life Members

(Awarded for enduring voluntary service to the Club for 20 years or more)

Past HLM's	-	S.L. Amor, J.E. George, E. Grant, K.W.S. Leask, Major G.E.Longrigg, M.J. Roch, J. Ruddick, R.L. Sansbury, A.J. Taylor, H. Wood
Present HLM's	-	A.A. Chapman, P.J. Colbourne, V.I. Ferguson, D.O. Hilton, M.J. Roe

HLM's of the Somerset Wanderers Ladies Cricket Club -

Mrs J. Bowker-Praed, Mrs C. Bradley, Miss M.A. Frost,
Miss J. Goodwin, Miss L.L. Hamblin, Miss M. Smith,
Mrs N. Tranter, P.B. Wight



1st XI Captains of the club

The names of Club captains during the very early years in the life of the Club have unfortunately been lost. However we have a record since 1892.

1892-1895	A.H.FORTT
1896-1913	H.WOOD
1914-1950	S.L.AMOR
1951-1953	F.CASTLE
1954	J.A.WHEELER
1955-1957	H.D.BURROUGH
1958-1959	G.LLOYD-WILLIAMS
1960	H.D.BURROUGH
1961-1962	M.J.ROCH
1963-1964	D.PRENTICE
1965	J.M.DOWNEY
1966-1967	M.J.DOWDING
1968	D.PRENTICE
1969-1970	M.B.DAVIES
1971	C.TOONE
1972-1973	D.INGRAM
1974-1975	P.J.COLBOURNE
1976-1977	B.C.COLLARD
1978-1979	R.G.SUMMERS
1980	B.TAYLOR
1981-1982	N.D.BOTTON
1983	R.G.SUMMERS
1984-1985	A.C.ASHFORD
1986-1987	A.R.HOOD
1988-1989	J.M.DOWNEY
1990-1992	J.H.DIXON
1993-1994	A.R.HOOD
1995-1999	M.J.ROE
2000-2001	S.M.PRISCOTT
2002-2003	G.BROWN
2004-2005	B.R.F.STAUNTON
2006	J.BROWN
2007-2009	M.THORBURN



1909 - H. WOOD



1959 - G. LLOYD-WILLIAMS



2009 - M. THORBURN



2009 - J.L. HAWKER

Wanderers 1st XI Captain

2004 – 2009	J.L.HAWKER
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Giles Clarke DL
Chairman

5 March 2009

Pat Colbourne, President and
Mike Roe, Chairman
Bath Cricket Club
North Parade Bridge Road
BATH
BA2 4EX

Dear Pat and Mike,

On behalf of the England and Wales Cricket Board I congratulate the Trustees and Members of the Club on your 150th Anniversary. Bath is a City with a long, proud cricket history and Bath Cricket Club has always been the embodiment of outstanding players, with your magnificent ground and excellent cricket wicket, as all of us lucky enough to have played there remember, and the game always being played in the true spirit of cricket.

Our congratulations on your first 150 years and best wishes for the next 150.

*Yours ever
Giles Clarke*

Giles Clarke

England and Wales Cricket Board



The Anniversary Year Teams



The 50th Anniversary of 1909

The Bath 1st XI celebrated an unbeaten season



The Centenary Anniversary of 1959

The Bath 1st XI



The 150th Anniversary of 2009

The Bath 1st XI at the start of their 150th Anniversary year



A Message from Frank Braithwaite in Canada

I came to England in April 1961 at the age of seventeen years and joined the Club a few weeks later in May. Having played a lot of cricket in the Barbados Cricket Association League, my standard was at a good level when I arrived.

When I told my Dad that I had been accepted by Bath Cricket Club, he did not believe me, because he had never seen a black player playing at the Club. I remember telling him that I was going to be the first one! I must say that I never had any problem with fellow players whatsoever.



Frank Braithwaite

I played all over the Western part of England with the Club. One of my fondest memories is a match against Bournemouth at King George's Park. The late Mike Dowding was fielding at mid wicket. I opened the bowling as I always did. My first delivery resulted in a dropped catch in the slips. The second ball saw the batsman take a step away from the line of fire. Mike then ran over to me and said "Frankie add two more revs and I want you to bowl at him". So I bowled directly at the batsman and he ran to square leg. I'll never forget that. The wicket was the fastest I have ever played on and the majority of the Bournemouth batsmen were actually chickening out of facing up to me. They were getting edges and the ball was flying through slips and gully.

Another fond memory was in a second eleven game, where I got all ten wickets by hitting the stumps ten times - and I also broke a bail! I enjoyed my time at Bath and got along well with all the players but my favourite chums were the late Mike Dowding, Mike Davies (Drake), Tommy Tomkins and George Weaver, who was my new ball partner.

It has been a pleasure to recall some of the good times I spent at Bath Cricket Club and I wish them well in their Anniversary year.

Frank's father, Lincoln Braithwaite, seen here (standing left) in 1958





Water, water everywhere but ...

In 2001 the UK Meteorological Department declared that the year had been the wettest since 1766. Thankfully the rain did not all fall during the summer months. We did get some cricket in. However, our Groundsman, John Smith and his deputy, David Perryman, were certainly inundated with the tough task of preparing pitches throughout the season.



1900. The river bursts its banks again. With the old North Parade Road iron bridge in the background and the Ferry Lane cottages (soon to be demolished and the stone used for our white wall) in the foreground. No chance of cricket today

In 1859 when the Watermeadows (North Parade cricket ground) was being eyed up as a possible permanent base for the new club that was being formed, the members did not realise the considerable difficulties that would ensue for the Club over the next 150 years.

It is true that the decade of 1850 was very dry where the whole of England experienced a drought of some considerable severity with water shortages everywhere. Then in the summer and throughout the 12 months of 1860 there was constant rain and the City of Bath together with many cities and towns across the land suffered overwhelming flooding. One hundred years on to the day - in the summer of 1960. - (was it an omen?) - the heavens opened and the River Avon overflowed its banks once again. The whole City, in places to several feet in depth, as well as North Parade Cricket Ground, were flooded. Small rowing boats were seen in Henry Street, Southgate and Pulteney Road helping people through the flood waters. Much damage was done to the old pavilion and the tea house was swept away and destroyed.

Another monsoon-type thunderstorm struck the city on the evening of July 10th 1968. Some seven inches of rain fell in just over twelve hours. The cricket ground was, once again, under water and the present groundsman's storage room was filled to the ceiling. It took over ten days for these waters to subside. However, a thick layer of mud and oil, inches deep, had been deposited. It had also left dead remains of thousands of worms, leather jackets and scores of frogs, together with a foul smell. Cricket, for the rest of the season, was quite out of the question. Due to the efforts of Vic Ferguson, Chairman of the Ground Committee, the playing area was ready for use at the start of the 1969 season.



Flooding once more with St John's Church Spire piercing the clouds

Not surprisingly the Bath City Council decided to build a Flood Prevention Scheme along the length of the river which was quite but not totally effective. A two meter high wall was erected and river banking outside of the ground helped dramatically to reduce the incidence of further flooding. Since then our ground has experienced fewer underwater moments.

We are now entering the unpredictable period of Global Warming so we must never assume that we are clear of the problem.



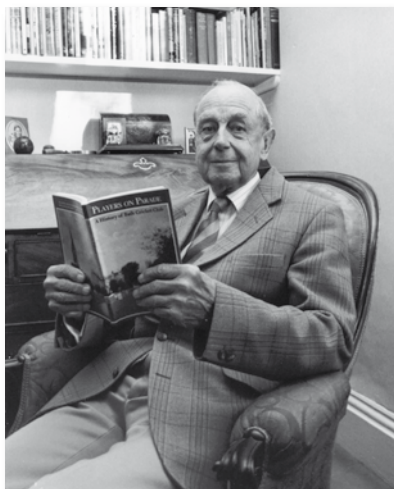
Floods in 1960 with the Tea house on the pitch



2001 - John Smith & Dave Perryman standing in water. Reportedly the wettest year since records began in 1766



John Ruddick
80 years a Club Member



John Ruddick, a Bathonian to the core, had two unfulfilled ambitions by the end of his 91 years. One, to walk down the Long Room steps at Lord's to face the Australians. The other, to address a full house in the pulpit of Bath Abbey. Even though these two desires were never achieved, he reached a mighty milestone which would seldom, if ever, be matched these days. John had been a member of our Club for a full 80 years.

John never claimed to be an outstanding cricketer like his illustrious predecessor, Stanley Amor, yet he could boast at having played for every team in the Club. He was a left arm, accurate swing bowler of slowish pace where the ball drifted into the right-handed batsman. After his playing days he naturally took to umpiring. John loved the game to a fault and, throughout those eighty years, his proficient administration led him to hold the post of secretary and/or chairman of every committee in the Club including the vital posts of Club Secretary, Club Chairman and President. He was rewarded for his dedication with the Club's highest honour, Honorary Life Membership.

He was a member of MCC, Somerset County Cricket Club, The Forty Club and the Primary Club. He was a Founder Secretary and Chairman of the West of England branch of the Cricket Society and Western Region committee of the Lord's Taverners. He was President of the Western League and the Bath and District Youth Cricket League and benefactor of the Bath Schools Cricket Foundation. Some years earlier, in 1949, he became a founder member of the Bath Buccaneers who played midweek cricket, for fun, but first and last was his beloved Bath Cricket Club.

He would be so proud now to know firstly of the strong amalgamation that has been achieved and the collective and individual success made by the Wanderers Women's team: Secondly, the progress and great success that the youth teams have made at Regional and National level over the past six years. It is due to the dedication of those that have gone before, of people like John Ruddick, together with the faithful support of his wife, Betty, that a Club like ours has continued to progress and thrive.



John Ruddick captaining the 2nd XI in 1948



John and Betty in their favourite position watching cricket at North Parade



International Male Cricketers

who have played at North Parade

For those of you who have watched cricket in Bath for many years, you may remember some of the cricketers listed below. These are players who have all reached the very pinnacle of their sport and we are so fortunate to have seen them gracing our very own green sward here at North Parade.

We would be grateful for any further information or evidence which may correct or add to this list, so please contact us. Most players listed below played in Charity matches or representative teams such as The Lord's Taverners XI. A few arrived in the West Country prior to the start of their career and played for a season in our League and later went on to greater deeds.

Cricketer

- * **Mohammed AKRAM**
- David ALLEN #**
- * **Praveen AMRE**
- * **Said ANWAR**
- Charlie BARNETT**
- Richie BENAUD**
- Sir Ian BOTHAM**
- L.C.BRAUND**
- Len COLDWELL**
- * **Alistair CAMPBELL**
- Martin CROWE**
- Mike DENNESS**
- Basil D'OLIVEIRA**
- G.M.EMMETT**
- Farouk ENGINEER**
- Jack FLAVELL**
- * **Grant FLOWER**
- Norman GIFFORD**
- Tom GRAVENEY**
- E.M.GRACE**
- W.G.GRACE**
- Harold GIMBLET**
- Sir Richard HADLEE**
- Wally HAMMOND**
- John HAMPSHIRE**
- * **Alvin KALLICCHARIN**
- S.P.KINNEIR**
- T.C.LOWRY**
- J.C.W.MACBRYAN**
- Roy MARSHALL**
- * **Mathew MAYNARD**
- Peter McGLASHAN**
- Colin MILBURN**
- A.M.MILLER**
- Hugh MORRIS@**
- Clive RADLEY**

Teams played for:

(Clifton CC), Surrey & Pakistan
 Gloucestershire CCC & England
 Gloucestershire CCC & India
 (Clifton CC), & Pakistan
 Gloucestershire CCC & England
 New South Wales & Australia
 Somerset, Worc'tershi'e, Durham & England
 Surrey, Somerset & England
 Worcestershire & England
 (Cheltenham CC) & Zimbabwe
 Somerset, Auckland & New Zealand
 Kent, Scotland & England
 Worcestershire, Central Districts & England
 Gloucestershire & England
 Lancashire, Bombay & India
 Worcestershire & England
 (Cheltenham CC) Essex & Zimbabwe
 Worcestershire, Warwickshire & England
 Worcestershire, Gloucestershire & England
 Gloucestershire & England
 Gloucestershire & England
 Somerset & England
 Canterbury, Nottinghamshire, Tasmania & New Zealand
 Gloucestershire & England
 Gloucestershire, Warwickshire & West Indies
 (Gloucester CC), Warwickshire & West Indies
 Warwickshire & England
 Somerset C.U.C.C. & New Zealand
 Somerset & England
 Hampshire, Barbados & West Indies
 (St Fagans CC), Glamorgan & England
 (Bath CC), & New Zealand
 Northamptonshire & England
 Wiltshire & England
 Glamorgan & England
 Middlesex & England



* Chris PRINGLE	(Stroud CC), Auckland & New Zealand
John PRICE	Middlesex & England
Sir Vivian RICHARDS	(Lansdown CC), Somerset, Glamorgan, Leeward Islands, Queensland & West Indies
Tom RICHARDSON	Surrey & England
Jack ROBERTSON	Middlesex & England
Brian ROSE	Somerset & England
Fred RUMSEY	Worcestershire, Somerset & England
Philip SHARPE	Yorkshire & England
Sir Gary SOBERS	Nottinghamshire, Barbados & West Indies
Mickey STEWART	Surrey & England
C.I. Jim SMITH	Middlesex & England
M.J.K. SMITH	Warwickshire & England
Derek UNDERWOOD	Kent & England
* Shane WARNE	(Imperial CC) Victoria & Australia
Arthur WELLARD	Somerset & England
S.M.J. WOODS	Somerset, England & Australia

[52 International Players]

- * *Played in the Western League (prior to the formation (in 1998) of the West of England Premier League).*
- # *David Allen is currently President of Thornbury CC*
- @ *Hugh Morris is currently Managing Director of England Cricket*



Sir Richard Hadlee MBE (centre-right) Canterbury, Nottinghamshire, Tasmania & New Zealand
with **David Hilton (Chairman 1997 - 2003, left)**, **Pat Colbourne (President 2003+, Chairman 1994-06,**
Club Captain 1974-75) and **Patrick Shervington MBE (President 2001-2003, right)**



International Female Cricketers

who have played at North Parade

Chander Kaul	(for Gunnersbury Girls - was Captain of India)
Rahdika Nanalal	India
Enid Bakewell	England
Debbie Stock	England
Beth Morgan	England
Claire Connor	England
Claire Taylor	England
Rosalie Birch	England
Sarah Taylor	England
Caroline Atkins	England
Nicky Shaw	England
Laura Newton	England
Suzanne Redfern	England
Charlotte Edwards	England
Mandy Godliman	England
Holly Colvin	England
Charlotte Russell	England
Isa Guha	England
Lynsey Askew	England
Lydia Greenway	England
Jenny Gunn	England
Laura Marsh	England
Jane Smit	England (down to play, but was injured)
Gill Smith	England (match rained off but she had a net)
Helen Watson	England



*Charlotte Edwards
(England Captain)
World Cup Champions 2009*



*Claire Taylor - First woman
cricketer to be named as
Wisden Player of the Year*

The Netherlands Team of the late 1980's

The New Zealand Team of 2007 (in two Twenty/20 matches v England)

Haidee Tiffen (Capt)	Rachel Candy	Rachel Priest
Suzie Bates	Ros Kember	Amy Satterthwaite
Nicola Browne	Aimee Mason	Sarah Tsukigawa
Sarah Burke	Sara McGlashan	Helen Watson
Selena Charteris	Rowan Milburn	

The India Team of 2008 (in one ODI match v England)

Neetu David	Davika Palshikar	Asha Rawat
Julan Goswami	Snehal Pradhan	Amita Sharma
Karuna Jain	Seema Pujare	Jaya Sharma
Hemalata Kala	Mithali Raj	Gouhar Sultana
Sulakshana Naik	Priyanka Roy	



International 'Wanderers'

(The following players have been members of both Somerset Wanderers and Bath Wanderers and have represented at International level)

Jane Bowker-Praed (nee Gough) founder member of SWLCC. Debut 1973

Janet Godman Debut 1991 - SWLCC & BW

Sarah Collyer Debut 1998 - SWLCC & BW

Katharine Winks Debut 1998 - SWLCC

Hannah Lloyd Debut 1999 - SWLCC & BW

Kathryn Wilkins Debut 1999 - SWLCC

Laura Harper Debut 1999 - SWLCC & BW

Jacqueline Hawker Debut 1999 - SWLCC & BW

Izzy Westbury Debut 2007 for Netherlands - BW

Steph Davies Debut 2008 - BW

Anya Shrubsole Debut 2009 - BW

SIX current Wanderers all of whom have played International Cricket



Jan Godman



Izzy Westbury



Hannah Lloyd



Jacki Hawker



Steph Davies



Anya Shrubsole



Players from Overseas

who have played as members of Bath CC (1984–2009)

(A – Australia, NZ – New Zealand, SA – South Africa, I – Ireland, CR – Czech Republic)

1980's

1984	Graeme Seede NZ	
1985	Graeme Seede NZ	& Alan Lewis I (Ireland cricket captain)
1986	Neil Dalrymple A	
1987	Neil Dalrymple A	& Tony Amalphi A Dean Cross NZ
1988	Roger Carter A	& John Paysley NZ Pat Rogers NZ
1989	Roger Carter A	& Pat Rogers NZ

1990's

1990	Mark Angel SA	
1991	Peter Burkhart A	& Ian Poulter A
1992	Ian Dalrymple A	& John Souter A
1993	Peter Burkhart A	& Nazim White SA
1994	Tom Hastwell A	& Sean Lynch A
1995	Willie Murrie NZ	& Danny Moffitt & Salvatori Castellano A
1996	Willie Murrie NZ	& Peter Burkhart A & Danny Ryan A
		& Steven Brown A
1997	Willie Murrie NZ	& Nigel Hunter A
1998	Willie Murrie NZ	& Rod Wilcox A
1999	Willie Murrie NZ	

2000's

2000	Willie Murrie NZ	
2001	Willie Murrie NZ	
2002	Willie Murrie NZ (also as Groundsman)	& Magdalena Pekludova CR
2003	Willie Murrie NZ (also as Groundsman)	& Magdalena Pekludova CR
2004	Willie Murrie NZ (also as Groundsman)	
2005	Peter McGlashan NZ	& Travis Appleton A & Tamara Gould NZ
2006	Sam Coates A	& Tamara Gould NZ
2007	Brendan McGuinness A	& Elwyn Campbell A
2008	Peter McGlashan NZ	& Elwyn Campbell A
2009	Peter McGlashan NZ	& Elwyn Campbell A



Peter McGlashan who played for New Zealand v India in the ODIs in 2009 and for Bath in 2005, 2008 as well as during the 150th Anniversary Year of 2009



Peter Burkhart who, in 2006, back home in Sydney, broke the aggregate run record in his Club, Western Suburbs, set by the legendary Aussie Captain and Coach, Bobby Simpson



The Lord's Taverners and Charity Matches

Special matches have been played during the last 50 years involving celebrities and past International sportsmen. A few are illustrated here.



- A. Tom Graveney leads out a star-studded team in 1973
- B. Richie Benaud collecting from John & David Ingram
- C. A 1948 Charity match with much boundary support
- D. Lord's Taverners in 1975 with Brian Clough, Barry John, and others
- E. Another Taverners match in the 1980's
- F. Lloyd Scott after 'walking' the London Marathon and visiting Bath CC for his charity CLIC in 2002





Recent Improvements on the North Parade Ground



A&B –The recent resurfacing and levelling of the square

C&E – The deep ring drain being installed in 2004

D – The now disused Indoor School run by Peter Wight since the early 1960's





Brownsword

A SECOND GROUND, WITH WONDERFUL VIEWS,

With a steady increase in playing membership coupled with the development and success of our youth cricket and the amalgamation of the Wanderers Women's team into the Club, more playing space was needed. It was decided to acquire a second ground. After a number of sites were considered the Club made a bid for a school sports ground on the top of Lansdown Hill. The bid was not successful but we were offered the opportunity of taking a long lease on the land. So, from a school hockey and athletics arena to a beautiful but breezy cricket ground, the Brownsword Ground.

The facilities proved to be adequate for our needs with a timber pavilion of sufficient size for two changing rooms and a tea room. It has since been revamped and decorated and a groundsman's



Beckford's Tower



The future picnic area of the Brownsword Ground

store has been erected close by. A row of small and rather unhealthy looking trees have been removed and the playing area enlarged. Boundary fencing has been added and a tall net erected to prevent the six-hit ball from falling onto the roof of the adjoining bungalow. An eight wicket square has been lovingly developed from a grass hockey pitch mainly by the dedicated work of David Perryman, Willie Murrie and Gregg Brown, the assistant Groundsmen over the past 10 years. It is a more than adequate cricket ground.



The Bath Buccaneers

60 YEARS OLD

The Bath Buccaneers Cricket Club has become an escape for so many people over the years. An escape, not just from Bath CC but from many Clubs in the surrounding area. It allows one to get away from the pressures of League cricket and take the field with cricketers you have not normally played with before. The young with the old; the fit and the not so fit; the first class cricketer with the village cricketer.

Founded in 1949, just four years after the end of WWII, 'The Buccs' celebrate their 60th Anniversary this year. The founding members were Messrs G. Fort, J. Ruddick, H. Smith, C. Porter and L. Scott-White. Today, great enjoyment is had by all like-minded Buccs colleagues. Try to imagine what it was like then; certainly it was much tougher. No email, no telephones let alone mobiles and few cars, so transport and communication was a real problem. But reading the journal of the minutes of meetings from 1949 to 1974, one can picture the fun they had.

The base for our home games is played at North Parade and we try to keep to the original rules set in '49. If the game was cancelled back then, one would be expected to play the opposition at darts or skittles well into the evening. With the away games we would certainly have struggled with the modern drink-driving rules. Today, we continue to play in the same spirit as yesteryear and we ensure that all debutants are awarded a Buccs shirt and leave their first ball.

We have kept our promise to JR that the fun in the game is maintained and we will continue to give as many people the opportunity and joy to play cricket in the right spirit. Long may it continue!



A Veteran team of Buccaneers



*The young bucks
Buccaneers team*



The Bath Schools Cricket Foundation

In 1987 the idea of forming an organisation to promote cricket in schools in and around Bath was hatched. Peter Downey was the instigator and driving force and he soon collected a team of enthusiastic people to join him; some teachers, some from the business world as well as players, past players and coaches.

The idea was to promote the game and stimulate young people to play. The game of cricket seemed to be slowly dying in many schools so there was a great need for rejuvenation. With strong publicity an overseas tour was arranged – to Australia of all places. Invitations were sent to schools for them to submit young cricketing prospects. Then a series of coaching sessions by well qualified coaches was followed by the selection of a touring party. The first BSCF Tour took place in the Spring of 1988.

The next challenge was to encourage the schools to promote the game and improve their own facilities and equipment. This promotion and encouragement was done directly to all schools as well as indirectly by bringing many parents on board. They put pressure on the schools to invest more in the sport, in facilities and in personnel. Finally, the appointment of an independent Cricket Coach for Bath was made. His duties were to go around visiting the schools and clubs and



The BSCF Trustees (L to R : John Lewis, Pat Colbourne, Peter Downey, Max Jeffery, Peter Sibley, Ivan Bray, absent – Eric Russell)

encouraging, promoting, coaching and developing. Bath Cricket Club became a base for much of this work during the time the Foundation sought to become a Charity.

Further tours abroad were organised (to Australia again 1989, Kenya & Zimbabwe 1989, Denmark 1990, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia 1991, South Africa 1992, Canada 1994, Argentina & Peru 1995, one on top of another. During these years a rapid surge of interest was created around the region. Clubs were becoming involved, schools were being awoken from their slumber and cricket was once more on top of the priority list; parents were clamouring for their children to become involved with extra coaching; schools were inviting the BSCF Coach to come in and coach their expanding cricket groups. Clubs were being inundated with new recruits.

Two events took place in Bath, in 1990 and 1994. The BSCF Trustees, with the assistance of most of the local schools and clubs, organised two International Youth Cricket Festivals. Youth teams came from far and wide – (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Argentina and Europe). Both events were based at North Parade and were outstanding successes and they received great acclaim from many quarters.

It's sad to report that, after much diplomacy and effort to promote the wonderful Blueprint for Tours and Festivals, the idea was not adopted by MCC or the NCA. Lacking the necessary official support from the two prime governing bodies of the time, the BSCF was wound down in 1997, ten years after its birth.



The Twenty/20 Internationals of 2007

ENGLAND WOMEN v NEW ZEALAND WOMEN



Isa Guha bowling fast for England



Spectators in the sun

It was a great honour for Bath CC to be awarded a Women's International Twenty/20 fixture on the North Parade ground in 2007 against the highly rated New Zealand team. Two matches were played with England winning both.

Two splendid days were enjoyed and this included a workshop for girls to be coached by some of the England team.

The England Physical Disabilities XI v England Learning Difficulties XI cricketers also played on the same day and it was a real joy and surprise to see disabled cricketers giving their all in the field, throwing away crutches as they dived to stop the ball reaching the boundary.



The Captains – Haidee Tiffin (NZ) and Charlotte Edwards (E)



The impressive disabled cricketing teams



Flags of the Nations



The TV cameras at work at North Parade



Great fielding



Astonishing mobility on one leg



Catches win matches



More runs to the score



The One Day International of 2008

ENGLAND WOMEN v INDIA WOMEN

An ODIs was played on the North Parade ground between the England Women and India Women's teams. This was a proud preparation and a prelude to the forthcoming Women's World Cup which was to be competed for in Australia six months later. As we know now, the England Women's team became World Champions in February 2009.



England 'sweeping' to victory over India



About to claim another wicket



India in the field



Leg glance for four



Great catch



India take their stance



England take the field



The effective 'reverse sweep'



Paintings Within The Club

by Martin Fisher

Martin Fisher, an architect by trade as well as a wonderful artist spent many years watching all forms of cricket at North Parade while sitting in his artists cloth seat with his wife, Joan, by his side. Martin painted some 20 canvases some serious, depicting past Presidents, and some more humorous, reflecting cricketing incidents and players. We are indebted to him for his contribution to the Club, for his skill, patience and generosity, for capturing on canvas a period of time in the history of our club. Here are three examples:



Louis Powell



Denis Gilmer



Peter Burkhart

IN MEMORY OF PAST MEMBERS

Memorials to past members can be found scattered around the Club and Ground. These are placed to commemorate the dedicated work of players and non-players alike who have given great service to the Club:

1. The Stanley Amor Enclosure
2. The John Ruddick Pavilion
3. The Keith Leask Scoreboard
4. The John Richards Weather Vane
5. Memorial Gates in memory of Mr Vernon Hazel and Mr H J M Beazer both died in 1989
6. The Barry Howell Trophy Cabinet
7. The Louis Powell Display Cabinet
8. The Pavilion Stand
9. Various Benches around the ground in memory of:- Frank March, Ossie Tasker, Terry Maule, Peter Carr, Irene and Jack Hood, Peter Roe. Also Gill Gibbins, Derrick Allen & Dave Fardell (Wanderers).
10. Performance trophies (named after past players) are awarded to senior and youth players annually



The Stanley Amor Enclosure



The Memorial Gates

It is hoped that further commemoration of past members will be made by family and friends by the donation of a bench or plaque.



The Best Team

– through the ages

Would Don Bradman get into your 'World Best Team' today? Would Jack Hobbs, Brian Lara, Sachin Tendulkar, Dennis Lillee, Shane Warne, Ian Botham be included?

We can only surmise which players would be selected to play for a 'Bath Best Team' through 150 years of selection if they were all still with us today. We'll never know but it is an interesting yet frivolous exercise. Let us try.

THE LATE JOHN RUDDICK, member for 80 years, watched much cricket and saw many cricketers come and go in our Club from around 1923 onwards. Before he died, he selected his best cricket squad with eleven batsmen, eleven bowlers, plus his best all-rounders, fielders, wicketkeepers and captains. He concluded his selection up to the point when League Cricket started in 1973. We have no space to include the reasons for his selection but if you go to the Parade in Print Issue No.20, December 2002, you will find them.

Batsmen:-	J.C.W.MacBryan, A.T.Young, H.D.Burroughs, R.P.Northway, Dr I.Lumsden, H.H.Humphries, S.G.U.Considine, F.Castle, G.Lloyd-Williams, E.F.Longrigg, N.Hobbs
Bowlers -	E.Grant, J.Thomas, W.S.Whiting, E.P.Collings, H.D.F.Buse, W.Caesar, M.Jefford, G.Weaver, L.StV.Powell, A.J.Wheeler, P.J.Colbourne,
All-Rounders -	F.Castle, L.StV.Powell, T.Wheeler, W.Whiting, M.Roch
Fielders -	S.G.U.Considine, F.Castle, T.Grant
Wicket-keepers -	S.Amor, B.Collard
Captains -	S.Amor, W.Whiting



Mick Roch, a genuine all-rounder

MIKE HOWARTH was a player at our Club from 1973 to 2003 (and was voted Best Player in the Western League in 1996). He gave the Parade in Print (Issue No 20, December 2002) his more up to date version of the Best Team - his best cricketers during the era of League cricket, since 1973.

Batsmen -	R.Summers, M.Taylor, G.Swinney, L.Smith, W.Murrie, S.Priscott, B.Staunton, P.Burkhart, D.Ingram, J.Dixon, A.Holmes.
Bowlers -	S.Barnes, P.Colbourne, R.Carter, I.Shrubsole, M.Sage, O.Parkin, J.Ingram, G.Swinney, S.Priscott, M.Angel, T.Stayt
All-Rounders -	G.Joyce, J.Dixon, G.Swinney, S.Priscott, J.Ingram
Fielders -	P.Burkhart, K.Allen, G.Swinney
Wicket-keepers -	S.Griffiths, G.Joyce, B.Collard
Captains -	M.Roe, J.Downey, P.Colbourne, J.Dixon



Gordon Swinney

Players who represented our Club during the first fifty years of its existence, before John Ruddick could witness their calibre, are not included in our lists. However, one or two were clearly exceptional (see County Players, page 51). We leave you to choose your own Best Team from the last six years of cricket at North Parade, from 2003-2009.



The Last Decade

A PHENOMENAL SUCCESS STORY

Without doubt the dramatic progress made by Bath Cricket Club over the past decade or more was stimulated by the formation of the England and Wales Cricket Board as it took control of all aspects of our game in 1997. New initiatives kept coming through from Lord's and this inspired our Club in a vigorous way to follow the dynamic leadership given by Lord Ian McLaurin (first ECB Chairman) and his young team.

At our Club we set out a Five Year Plan, then developed a strong Club Management system and with inspired leadership we moved forward. The appointment of a Club Coach was made and the players responded in a most impressive way to set high standards which have been maintained to this day.

Most, if not all, sports clubs will be judged on their performances. Results matter but they are not the only criteria by which organisations should be judged. The following list of successes is impressive. However, once you have achieved success, it is always far more difficult to repeat that success year on year and continue the progress. Judge for yourselves.

<i>Western League (with 20 teams up to 1998)</i>			<i>Western League to 1998</i>	
<i>*West of England Premier League (10 teams)</i>			<i>Then North Somerset League</i>	
			<i>Div 1</i>	<i>Div 5, 3 & 2</i>
Season	1st XI	2nd XI	3rd XI	4th XI
1989	9th	9th	–	
1990	11th	5th	2nd	
1991	2nd	10th	1st	
1992	5th	9th	5th	
1993	3rd	5th	4th	
1994	1st	7th	2nd	
1995	4th	7th	3rd	
1996	2nd	1st	3rd	
1997	3rd	1st	3rd	
1998	1st #	4th	1st	
1999	1st *	1st *	4th D3	
2000	1st *	1st *	2nd D3	
2001	3rd #	1st	4th D2	
2002	2nd *	1st *	1st D2	
2003	1st *#	1st *	5th D1	6th D5
2004	2nd *	2nd *	2nd D1	1st D5
2005	1st *	1st *	2nd D1	4th D3
2006	1st *	1st *	1st D1	4th D3
2007	4th *	1st *	6th D1	5th D2
2008	1st *	1st *	2nd D1	9th D2

The three occasions on which the 1st XI reached the National KO Cup Final and played at Lord's



Women's Cricket - The Wanderers

Bath Wanderers 1st XI have been playing in the National Premier League (South) before and since their amalgamation with Bath CC. This is the highest standard competition for women in the country. In 2007 they were Southern Champions and were awarded the National Runners-up position. Their results are shown:

2002	-	3rd	Played as Somerset Wanderers
2003	-	5th	Played as Somerset Wanderers (merged October 03)
2004	-	5th	Changed their name to Bath Wanderers
2005	-	4th	National Premier League (South)
2006	-	3rd	National Premier League (South)
2007	-	1st	NPL (South) Champions & National Runners-up
2008	-	3rd	NPL (South)

Bath Wanderers 2nd XI have only recently been formed due to the great demand from new recruits into the Club. They play now in the new South West Women's Regional League.

2006	-	2nd	in Gloucestershire League
2007	-	Unbeaten	in South West & Gloucestershire Leagues
2008	-	South West & Gloucestershire League Champions	- an unbeaten season

An example of the recent progress of Bath Women's cricket is that in 2008 they had one international player, three selected for the England 'A' squad, five picked for the super '4's squad and 17 representing their county (Somerset, Gloucestershire or Wiltshire).

Youth Cricket

In 1972, the late John Richards and the current Club President Pat Colbourne, formed a Junior section, initially with just one age group. This gradually expanded, with the help from Paul Collard and Terry Harper to Under 13, Under 15 and Under 17 with coaching for all ages. David Hilton later took over the administration together with help from a number of well qualified coaches, namely Tom Baker, Grant Sheppard and Stuart Barnes. Steady progress each season gradually built the reputation of our youth section. More recently, Rob Maggs and Mark Thorburn, under the direction of Ian Shrubsole, have continued the progress and outstanding success story of Youth cricket at the Club.

For much of the past 37 years the Youth teams have competed in the well organised Bath and District Youth League. The age groups have changed and are now organised at U15, U13, and U11 with introductory groups at younger ages down to U8. It has been considered that players at U17 age group develop more rapidly by being thrown in the deep end and playing senior cricket and we encourage those to play in the Saturday and Sunday senior leagues.

The U15-1s are the flagship side of the Youth set-up. They compete in the Bath and District Youth League, but the priority for this side is progress in the National Club Championship - a nationwide competition attracting an entry of over 1,600 clubs, which Bath won in 2004. In 2003, our U13 Girls team won their National title while in 2007 our U13 Boys team also gained national honours by winning the MCC Spirit of Cricket National Club Championship title. Bath CC currently run twelve youth teams, giving young cricketers of all abilities opportunities to learn the game in an enjoyable and competitive environment.

A TOP programme is funded for youth players with talent. They are selected by using a number of criteria: performance, attitude, desire, commitment and leadership. The Club aims, therefore, to help those who have proven attributes to get the most out of their opportunity. We do expect the TOP players to have the ambition to play at the very highest level possible for Bath CC and then beyond. We want them to be leaders - not just in their performances, but also in the way they play and train and inspire those around them.



Scoring must have been easier 150 years ago

and I hasten to say that I'm referring to recording the score - not batting!

In those early days the scorer probably carved notches or used quills or pencils to record the score and had a simple scoreboard with numbers on hooks to show the proceedings. If a number fell off or an error was displayed or an umpire changed his mind it was very straightforward to change, the correction being carried out by volunteers or the fielding side, as directed by the scorers.

The legendary Bill Frindall was renowned for his beautifully coloured scorebooks (as is our very own Ken Patterson and his band of scorers), meticulous in accuracy and detail. However whilst Frindall had assistance with the all-singing, all-dancing scoreboards from ground staff, scoreboard operators, here at North Parade our scorers operate the scoreboard themselves (as well as scoring) – and not always with assistance. These electronic scoreboards are cleverly designed - but they can be difficult to reverse!

A classic example of this occurred early in the 2008 season with our brand new electronic scoreboard here at North Parade - and I was there. It was a Second XI game and the opposition had not provided a scorer. As usual Dennis (Meakin) was scoring and I volunteered to assist with operating the scoreboard. The wicket was pitched near the club-house (a long way from the scoreboard), thus we could not hear what was happening and it was not that easy to identify players, particularly in their helmets. Bath were batting and, as well as no scorer, the opposition had not provided a team sheet, so we were constantly shouting "name of bowler"?, a situation not helped by them having two sets of fathers and sons in their team. (We had one such pair, but we all know the Roes!). Trying to keep accurate bowling figures was difficult, to say the least.



The John Ruddick Memorial Pavilion also used as a score box with modern digital technology



The KWS Leask scoreboard with new low energy LED light technology

The game was progressing, with our batsman, Farris, going well. He reached 90, hoisted a ball high towards the pavilion and was caught on the boundary, dropped his bat and walked off dejectedly. We recorded him OUT. From a group of players on the pavilion boundary (remember, a long way from scoreboard), an unknown batsman appeared, took guard and the game proceeded. Some minutes later, a spectator came into the scoreboard and told us that Farris was actually NOT OUT. It had been a NO BALL, and thus Farris (the 'unknown' batsman) had resumed batting and was now nearing his century.

This gave us a problem! Whilst Dennis sorted out alterations to his scorebook, I wrestled with the electronic scoreboard, particularly wanting to mark the 100 that everyone knew Farris was approaching. Trying to reverse the various readings from 'Last Man' back to 'Batsman Number' proved impossible to me - and here I lost my presence of mind! (N.B. Ken explained later how it could be done). By pressing various buttons his 100 eventually went up (the spectators seemed to know this already by their earlier applause), although by then I had managed to completely alter the team score. The total of 296 was amended to 303 during the tea interval by agreement with the opposition and umpires. You really couldn't write a better script!

After tea, we insisted that the opposition provide someone to assist in the scoreboard for their innings, as I was now on my own. This they did and we proceeded without a hitch - with me doing the book *and* pushing the buttons!

The moral of this story is that two scorers are better than one and, if there really is only one scorer available, operate the electronic board from the main pavilion where plenty of observers can help and keep the scorer informed as to what is happening - IT REALLY HELPS!

(Arthur Chapman, short-sighted but willing helper)



Women Cricketers who have played for Bath (or Somerset Wanderers) and for their County

The Women's game is amateur and the structure is quite different from the men's professional game. Names in red are the cricketers currently playing for the Bath Wanderers.

Lucy Allison	- Lancs & Cheshire and Somerset
Vicky Ball	- Gloucestershire & Somerset
Pauline Black	- Western Counties
Jane Bowker-Praed	- Western Counties
Christine Bradley	- Western Counties
Vicky Burt	- Wiltshire
Elwyn Campbell	- Somerset & Western Australia
Sarah Collyer	- Lancs & Cheshire and Somerset
Moiria Comfort	- Somerset & Wales
Steph Davies	- Somerset
Sarah Dunne	- Somerset
Sharon Evers	- Western Counties & Hants
Judith Fardell	-
Margaret Frost	- Western Counties
Gill Gibbons (McDonald)	- Western Counties & Victoria (Aus)
Jan Godman (Siderfin)	- Thames Valley, Western Counties, Somerset & England
Julia Goodwin	- Western Counties
Tamara Gould	- Somerset & Canterbury(NZ)
Emma Hadfield	- Lancs & Cheshire and Berkshire
Laura Harper	- Somerset & Cornwall
Jackie Hawker	- Western Counties & Somerset
Beth Howe	- Somerset
Jenny Humphries	- Western Counties
Hannah Knight (Lloyd)	- Western Counties & Somerset
Sophie Le Marchand	- Worcestershire & Somerset
Lisa Pagett	- Somerset
Suzanne Powell	- Wiltshire
Margaret Roberts	- Western Counties
Sue Robinson	- Western Counties & Surrey
Gill Richards	- Staffs, West Midlands & Somerset
Anya Shrubsole	- Somerset & England
Lesley Smith	- Western Counties, Somerset & Devon
Nikki Tranter	- Western Counties & Somerset
Izzy Westbury	- Somerset & Holland
Kathryn Wilkins	- Western Counties & Somerset
Judith Wilmot (Garbett)	- Yorkshire, Western Counties & Somerset
Fran Wilson	- Somerset
Katharine Winks	- Western Counties & Somerset
Becky Williams	- Somerset & Wales



Nikki Tranter



Jan Godman



Bath C.C. & County Players

Members who have played 1st Class County Cricket

The following 46 Bath Players have, at one time or another, played County Cricket (First Class). New competitions today involve the 20 Minor Counties, so names have been included if a player has represented a Minor County against a First Class county.

S.AMOR
V.BANERJEE
A.H.BEZER
M.BISSEX
N.D.BOTTON
L.C.BRAUND
H.T.BUSE
H.D.BURROUGH
W.CAESAR
F.CASTLE
E.P.COLLINGS
S.G.U.CONSIDINE
J.H.DIXON

R.W.DRAPER
C.DUFFELL
P.H.FUSSELL
R.A.GERRARD
E.GRANT
S.GRIFFITHS
M.HANNA
M.HARDINGES
E.J.HEWITT-HART
H.H.HUMPHRIES
N.F.C.HOBBS
W.HYMAN
F.S.LEE
R.LETT
E.F.LONGRIGG
I.LUMSDEN
J.C.W.MacBRYAN
N.J.D.MOFFATT
R.P.NORTHWAY
O.PARKIN
L.St V.POWELL
I.I.POYNTZ
S.PRISCOTT
T.RICHARDSON
L.K.SMITH
T.STAYT
L.SUTTON
J.THOMAS
M.THORBURN
W.S.WHITING
G..L.LOYD-WILLIAMS
H.WOOD
A.YOUNG

Somerset C.C.C.
Cambridge University & Gloucestershire C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Gloucestershire C.C.C.
Oxford University C.C.
Surrey, Somerset & England
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Oxford University & Gloucestershire C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Oxford U.C.C.E.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Derbyshire C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Gloucestershire C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Canada & Somerset C.C.C.
Gloucestershire C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset & Oxford U.C.C.E. (C)
Somerset C.C.C.
Scotland
Somerset & England
Middlesex C.C.C.
Somerset & Northamptonshire C.C.C.
Glamorgan C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Devon C.C.C.
Surrey, Somerset & England
Worcestershire C.C.C.
Gloucestershire C.C.C.
Somerset, Derbyshire (C) & Lancashire C.C.C. (C)
Somerset C.C.C.
Durham University & Hampshire C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.
Somerset C.C.C.



Steve Griffiths wicket-keeper par excellence.
Still playing for Bath

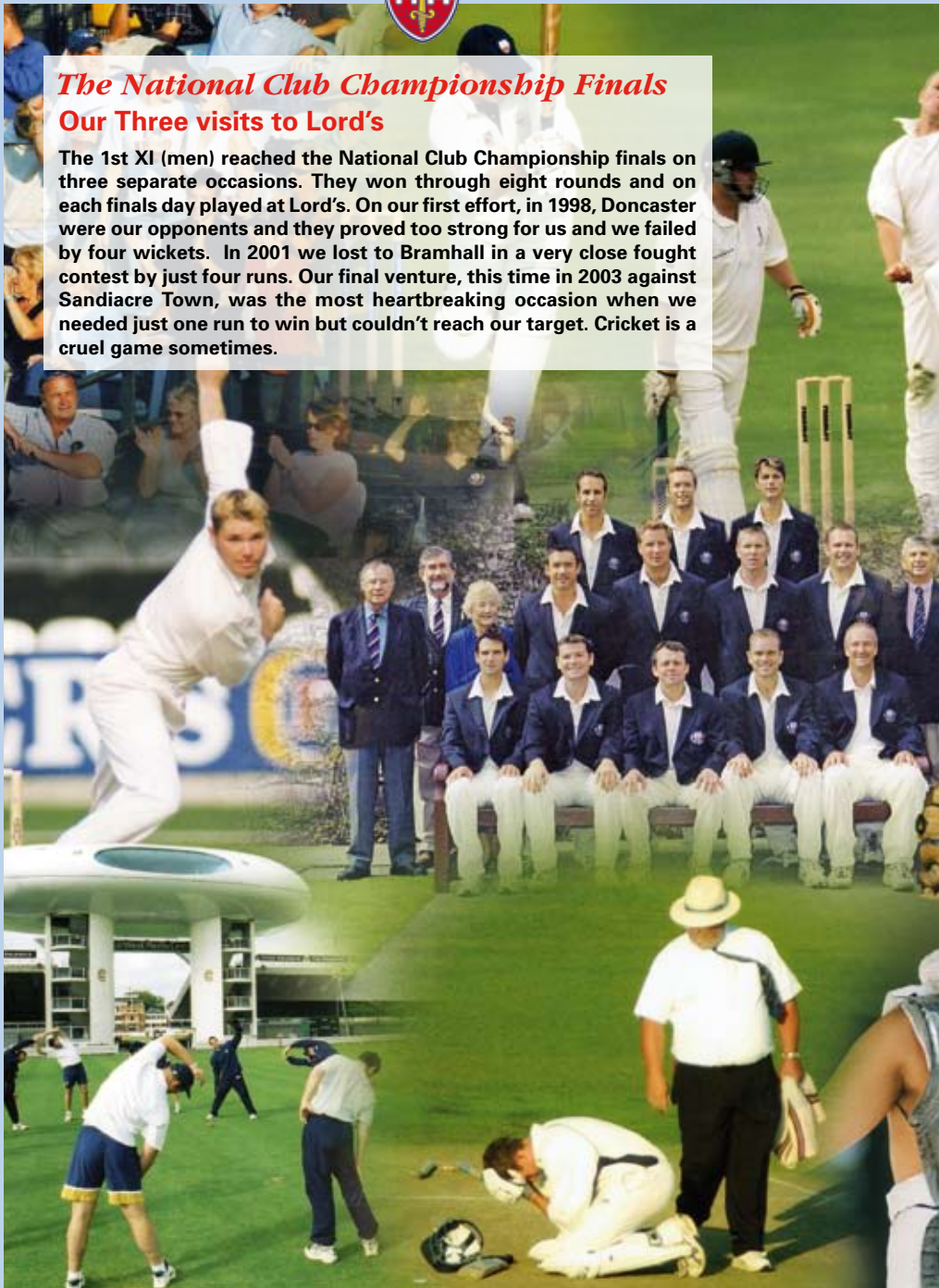
Names in RED – Players who have represented Bath C.C. and their County in the 50 years since our Centenary Year.



The National Club Championship Finals

Our Three visits to Lord's

The 1st XI (men) reached the National Club Championship finals on three separate occasions. They won through eight rounds and on each finals day played at Lord's. On our first effort, in 1998, Doncaster were our opponents and they proved too strong for us and we failed by four wickets. In 2001 we lost to Bramhall in a very close fought contest by just four runs. Our final venture, this time in 2003 against Sandiacre Town, was the most heartbreaking occasion when we needed just one run to win but couldn't reach our target. Cricket is a cruel game sometimes.





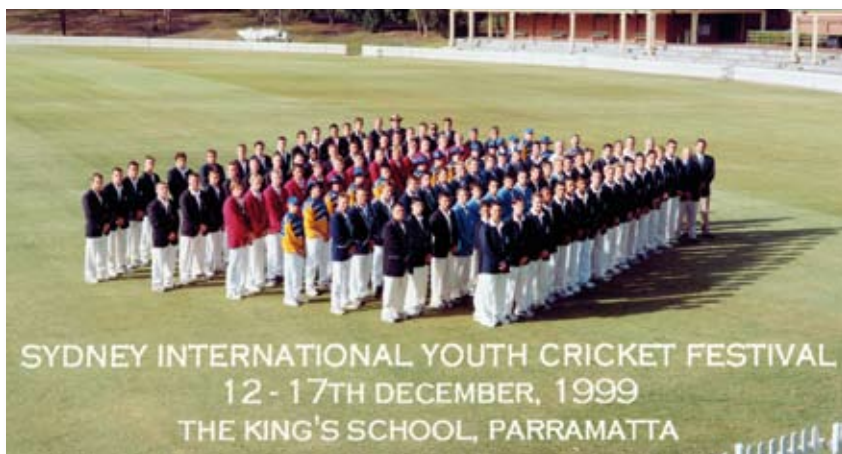


Millennium Youth Tour to Australia

The visit to Australia (Sydney) by our youth (male) squad was a highly successful tour. Eight matches were played and we won six and lost two, and in the process reached the finals of the Parramatta Youth Cricket Festival. This, by any standard, is a major achievement - seldom do teams visit the Antipodes and win at sport. Our young players returned from this experience with confidence and greater purpose and performed magnificently during the following summer. The downside was that, since 2000, most players have moved on into further education and varied careers and they are playing their cricket elsewhere.



Squad photo before departure - (Standing l to r) Tom Baker (coach), Charlie Stow, Andrew Owen, Sam Kelly, Andrew Hulbert, Jack Harvey, Chris Wrigley, Mike Roe (Assistant Coach) (Sitting l to r) Mrs Mandy Roe (Assistant Manager), James Preston, Matthew Burton, Robert Hillman (Captain), Kim Watson (Vice-captain), Matthew Hobbs, Dominic White, Pat Colbourne (Manager)



Squad (back row), at the Parramatta International Cricket Festival in Sydney, with the other teams



Girls U19 Tour to South Africa - 2006

The U19 Girls' Youth section visited South Africa on their inaugural tour. It was a great success. The famous Bishop's School, Cape Town, was the base for the squad and the girls had to play teams from Western Province, South Western Districts, Boland, Hong Kong as well as Warwickshire and Derbyshire, county teams from England.

Tour members:- Steph Davies (Capt), Becky Dudbridge, Laura Gladman, Tamara Gould, Beth Howe, Suzanne Powell, Anya Shrubsole, Becky Stroud, Liz Tilley, Becky Williams, Hannah Williams, Jenny Withers, Lauren Shrubsole, Lucy Allison (Head Coach), Jan Godman & Ian Shrubsole (Asst Coaches), Caroline Gladman & Sam Shrubsole (Management).



Fond memories from a fabulous tour





Our National Champions



*The Under 13 Girls Team – 2003,
with Claire Taylor (Yorkshire &
England)*

*The Under 15 Boys
Team – 2004, with
Ed Cook (captain)
holding the trophy.
Winners of the
Portman National
Club Championship*



*The Under 13
Boys Team – 2007.
Winners of the MCC
Spirit of Cricket
National Club
Championship*



Cricketbath

This is a new initiative, a community outreach activity of Bath Cricket Club. It was launched in 2006 to deliver more and better cricket participation and learning opportunities for children and young people in the local community. This includes partnerships with local schools (particularly state schools) and other cricket clubs. A key aim is to ensure that any interest established with children and young people is linked with exit routes into local clubs (not just Bath Cricket Club) to sustain participation. Activities include school sessions, holiday courses, taster sessions, kwik cricket tournaments, and other events; these are both school and club-based using partnerships with our own and other clubs' qualified coaches.

Long-term objectives include more active participation in state schools and local clubs, balanced participation in cricket clubs of youth from state and private schools, and help support more professional qualified coaches in the community.



Our young players would dearly love to emulate these three International cricketers who were present to witness our U15s winning the National Title at Bournemouth in 2004 (Lt to Rt) – Andrew Strauss, Marcus Trescothick and Geraint Jones



It all starts here 'From Playground to Test Arena'



A Club Record Batting Partnership

On a hot, bright, Sunday afternoon in August 1998, Bath played Cardiff Nomads in a friendly game on North Parade. David Burton and Robert Hillman set a Club record for a batting partnership.



David Burton

These two young men had batted many times together and had come up through the hugely successful ranks of the youth section and were now accomplished cricketers. The day was bright and conditions favoured the batsmen. You could say the fixture was not a tough, competitive first team game but a more relaxed Sunday friendly. Inevitably, on these occasions one seldom takes it too seriously. But young, talented and ambitious cricketers are always keen to be noticed and they usually take every chance to be selected for their Club's top team. This day was no exception. Dave and Rob took full advantage of their opportunity by opening the innings for Bath and batting right through. But who has ever heard of a Welsh team of any sporting persuasion that is a pushover. The Welsh never give an inch to the English. And so it was. Cardiff bowled a tight line and appealed for every half chance.

Rob was the younger of the partnership, a tall, flamboyant batsman who enjoyed playing shots while Dave was stockier and normally rather more circumspect in his approach to batting, in his own words 'Boycottesque'. There was, not unexpectedly, a bit of competition between the two of them.

Both batsmen were competing with each other for the fastest fifty of the season. One hit a six over the white wall into Ferry Lane, then the other copied the shot. Hit for hit, they went after each ball and hardly put a foot wrong. Dave was outscoring Rob and reached his century when Rob was on 60 and Dave continued in this rich vein throughout, even surprising himself. Rob was also scoring well but could not emulate his partner. Rob at last attained his ton and soon after Dave reached a milestone - 200.

On this beautiful sun drenched day, and after 40 overs of fireworks, the innings came to a close. Rob finished on 124 not out and Dave, an astonishing 228 not out - and the record partnership score? - 367 for 0.



Robert Hillman



Our 150th Year of Celebration

We are grateful to each club member, volunteer, helper, enthusiast and supporter who have over the 150 years of our existence, slowly built this club, year by year. It has allowed us now to enjoy the wonderful ambience of this gloriously picturesque ground situated within our beautiful World Heritage City of Bath.



Spectators enjoy the sun and the sound of leather on willow at North Parade

We must particularly thank the dedicated group of Club members who have worked tirelessly over the past two years to organise our 150th year of celebration. Friends from around the World have been contacted and some will be visiting us. We hope they, and past members within the UK, enjoy their stay, once more, in Bath.

Some of our guests may also be here to watch International cricket. England play the old enemy, Australia, competing for the Ashes once more and we all hope that 2009 can be a repeat of 2005 when our team recaptured the urn. The England Women's One Day International team recently won the World Cup in Australia, and they will also be doing battle against Australia once more.

2009 could turn out to be one of the most exciting, we have had in this country for many years, both for the men's and women's teams. The World Twenty/20 series will also be contested and this version of the game delights the young and old alike but never quite replaces the cut and thrust and tough battles of the 'true' game, the Test Match. We hope you enjoy a wonderful and enriching year of cricket in all its forms - and thank you for joining us in our 150th Year of celebration.

The 150th Anniversary Handbook

Editor - Pat Colbourne

Artwork - Les Gates-Mutton Printed by - Ralph Allen Press

