

Woodham Mortimer Cricket Club Newsletter

May 2018 Edition



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Committee Information

President	Francis Wolton
Chairman	Ian Ball
Groundsman	Nathan Hayman
Clubhouse Manager	Nick Goode
Fixtures Secretary	Mark Beames
Treasurer	Nigel Richardson
Child Welfare Officer	James Mickley
First XI Captain	Kevin Wright
Second XI Captain	Andrew Brown
Sunday XI Captain	George Verlander
T20 XI Captain	Toby Pateman

Message from the Chairman

After a slow start to the season with poor weather and availability problems, the WMCC family is now back together and showing promising signs of good times ahead.

Already we have seen victories, 100s, 50s and notable bowling performances but more importantly smiles, fun and friendship.

Make sure you confirm your availability...it's time to make some memories.

Up the Woodies!

Ian Ball

Chairman

Woodham Mortimer Cricket Club



Shots of History

The club would like to extend their sincere thanks to the family of John Guiver who recently contacted WMCC with some priceless memorabilia of the club's history, never seen before. The Guiver family attended the recent memorial game for Donald Carver and Robert Harness, bringing with them two photographs of WMCC's first ever recorded cricketers, alongside trophies that had been awarded to John Guiver himself.

The Guiver family have kindly donated these to the club to treasure, so that we may look back and be proud of the history that for a long while has gone unknown. From the photographs that have been donated it shows a WMCC XI that were playing cricket in the 1930's, just a few years before war broke out across Europe for the second time.

Little is known about these figures, with our ancient records scattered and sparse, often clouding our heritage in mystery. Yet these fantastic additions to the clubhouse clearly show a side of men that thoroughly enjoyed their cricket, and played it within the true spirit of the game, values that we all at the club attempt to uphold to this day.

We hope that these young men made it home from the war safely, and keep in our thoughts the ones that were not so fortunate to do so. Thank you once again to the Guiver family for providing the club with these valuable pieces of WMCC history.



The Season So Far

First XI

The first month in Division 2 of the T-Rippon League has proven a challenge to the WMCC 1st XI. After coming runner's up in Division 3 the year previously both team spirit and confidence were high in response to the new challenge ahead. This feeling came to fruition in the opening game against the old adversary Terling CC, as the hosts were bowled out by WMCC for 69. WMCC soon tasted victory, chasing the total down in the 29th over to secure their first victory in the new league. However, the sweetness of victory did not linger long, as three consecutive defeats followed at the hands of East Bergholt in the National Village Cup, and both Rayleigh Fairview and Havering Atte Bower in the league. The less said about those performances, the better. Yet, although hounded with availability issues the 1st XI were back to winning ways against Burnham Sports in a game which saw the hosts restricted to 142-9. With notable knocks from T Pateman (43) and D Smith (61) the away side gradually steered home a victory which was thoroughly deserved. However, history was soon repeating itself this season when a defeat to South Weald followed a week later in what can only be described as an abysmal batting performance by WMCC. The 1st XI currently reside in 7th place in division 2. Up next the 1's are on the road again to High Roding CC, who at the moment rest two points clear above. Let us hope this batting nightmare is finally put to bed.



Second XI

Similar to the 1st XI the 2nd XI have also begun the 2018 outdoor campaign in what can only be described as mixed to say the least. With the first game of the season against Rayleigh Fairview cancelled due to poor weather conditions the 2nd XI next followed this up with a defeat at the hands of Galleywood CC. WMCC bowled Galleywood out for 105. However, despite such a small total, the chase proved too difficult and WMCC found themselves all out for 73 in a game that supplied 4 ducks. What is it with WMCC and severe batting collapses? Yet, despite this crushing blow the 2's has been reborn in recent fixtures that spurred them on to win their last three games against Havering Atte Bower, Rayleigh 4's and even top-of the table OSSCC. Perhaps Captain Brown and his merry men could teach the 1's line-up a thing or two about setting totals and chasing targets. Next up for the 2nd XI sees WMCC host Rainham CC in a game which always proves to be an entertaining battle. On a side note the club would like to extend their gratitude to the most recent addition to the pheasant ranks in the form of Joshua Love. Joshua, who was brought to the club through our very own Peter Harness, had been on the verge of joining for some time now. However, when WMCC found itself in its most desperate hour Joshua answered the call, and agreed to turn out for the 2's against Galleywood in a game that saw him stranded on 0 not out. Protect that average my boy. Welcome to WMCC. We are all glad to have you here.



Sunday XI

After such a great start last year the WMCC Sunday XI saw their first seven fixtures cancelled due to a combination of poor weather conditions and even poorer membership availability. It was deep into May when the first fixture finally was played, with the Sunday XI travelling to picturesque Barkingside to take on Leyton Orient CC. WMCC elected to bat first on the east-end road and took to hammering the bowling attack to all areas. D Smith retired on 101 and was soon joined by J Shipton, who secured his maiden century for the club. WMCC settling on 244-4 off 40 overs. However, after tea the bowling attack was just as sharp, as WMCC soon bowled their hosts out for 170, with Joshua Love taking his first Sunday wicket with a great caught and bowled. Two weeks after the WMCC Sunday XI hosted Great Waltham in their first ever Warsop Sunday League Division 1 fixture. With Great Waltham opting to bat first along with them saw a quality line-up broke to pieces by the superb bowling spells of T Pateman, G Verlander, O Glasson and J Woodrow, restricting the away team to 155 all out. The run chase was soon underway, and with a shaky start to the 2nd innings WMCC inched ever closer to victory, with fabulous knocks from O Glasson, D Smith, P Harness and the in-form J Shipton, who steered WMCC home to their first ever win in division 1 of the WSL. WMCC host The Journeymen next weekend at home in the season's favourite fixture.



Donald Carver & Robert Harness Memorial Game

After the Donald Carver Memorial fixture was cancelled due to unplayable conditions the club decided to merge together the previous fixture with the Robert Harness Memorial game, so that the club could come together to remember their beloved Don, whilst raising money for Pancreatic Cancer UK. With availability in abundance for the fixture two sides were drafted up, with George Verlander taking the armband for Donald Carver's team, whilst Peter Harness skippered his side in memory of his late father.

After winning the toss the Carver XI decided to bat first on the Woodham swamp that only a year previously had been solid by late April. Things did not go to plan for the batting side as Nick Goode (6) was caught by T Pateman off the bowling of J Older. His partner J Preston soon departed after for the first duck of the game off the bowling of A Beames, who opened with the ball with a brilliant first spell in his debut adult game for WMCC. This youngster has played for the Essex Under 9, 10 and 11 sides, and is definitely one to watch for the future. Yet, the conditions did not stop the Carver XI from their runs, with great innings provided by G Cook (51), J Shipton (51) and D Smith (51). The shot of the day coming in the form of D Smith's reverse sweep over the boundary rope off a disgruntled O Glasson (sorry, Oliver). The skipper chipped in with a slow 26 after he was removed by S Collis, leaving open the tail end that soon fell in quick succession. After the 40 overs the Donald Carver XI had posted a respectable 230-6.

With a cracking spread provided by Peter Harness the players were ready for the 2nd innings.

However, it did not start well for the Robert Harness XI. M Tripathi was caught at fine-leg by S Older off the bowling of M Oliver, who's retuned proved to be too much for the top order to handle. M Oliver went onto remove G Carter (2), P Harness (0) and B Smith (0) in one of the worst collapses ever witnessed at pheasant park. However, the game was not yet over and a resurgence in the middle order between T Smith (25) and A Beames (33) glimmered hope into the Robert Harness XI's chase until J Shipton bowled a rank long-hop to T Smith who was caught by R Clark on the boundary.

A Beames batted beautifully and was 33 off 48 balls until he fell to G Verlander's first ball of the game, caught at long off by J Love. S Collis soon departed too for a mere 6 on the board, bowled by Verlander, which brought up the skipper's 300th wicket for WMCC. Confused with the format of the match O Glasson and T Pateman held up their ends at the close in what they thought was a timed game, until O Glasson was bowled by G Cook, concluding the match. Robert Harness XI 143 all out. The Donald Carver XI had won the game by 87 runs.

Alas, on a day such as this cricket was always the winner. The club brought together people to pay tribute to their fallen friends, and to keep the memories of those who have departed firm within our thoughts. WMCC would like to thank everyone who played, to the respective captains, and to anyone who assisted in the raising of funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK.



Donald Carver XI



Robert Harness XI

How Well Do You Know Toby?

How much do you know about the T20 XI Captain?

Personal

1.) Who's your cricketing hero?

Mohammed Salah

2.) What is your favourite WMCC memory?

The 5-man shower at the end of the 2016 cricket season.

3.) What is your worst WMCC memory?

The run of ducks in my 2017 season.

4.) What is your biggest WMCC achievement?

Running the Toby Pateman Cricket Week.

5.) What would be your entrance music?

'Get Shaky' – Ian Carey Project

Teammates

1.) Who's the funniest?

Rowan Clarke – by far. Just look at the size of his head.

2.) Who's the smartest?

Dave Glasson – Crossword King.

3.) Who's the most skillful?

Olly Glasson, he could turn milk sour.

4.) Who makes the worst tea?

Smithy, for his unforgiveable use of crusts!

5.) Who is the worst fielder?

Jeevesy, absolutely useless at slips on a Sunday.



Vacancies

Career opportunities at WMCC are now open. The club are looking for the following vacancies:

- 10 first team players who can hold a bat. Must have an average above 10.
- 1 person to manage the fantasy league (this includes setting suitable player valuations) no experience needed.
- 1 slip fielder to take the place of George Verlander on a Sunday.