

The Bugle



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Newsletter by Bledlow Village Cricket Club | July 2017

Bounce-back-ability

This month has had its lows but these have been quickly followed by a number of superb victories and performances. The big news is that we have successfully made it through to the last 16 of the National Village Cup for the first time in a generation with 2 wins in the competition during June. The Saturday cricket has seen both teams pick up plenty of points, with the 1st XI currently sitting top of Division 2 and the 2nd XI climbing up to 4th in Division 7. Our squads continue to get stronger as the summer goes on so there is plenty of optimism for the coming month.

We've been hearing some murmurings on the club veranda about a 1st XI bias in this Newsletter. Our journalism however certainly holds the centre ground between 1st and 2nd XI cricket. The fact we only have reports from the 1st XI highlights the need for someone within the 2nd XI to put pen to paper and give us an amusing (we'll take mildly..) account of the matches. Come on lads...only takes 5 mins! Many thanks to Olly Woodward and Richard Regler for their excellent match report contributions again this month.

Match Reports

Sat 3rd June 1st XI vs Sanford St Martin

Bledlow ventured over towards the Cotswolds for the 2nd time in a month. Tom called incorrectly yet again at the toss and Sandford elected to bat first. The much feared opening bowling partnership of the Pearce brothers wasted little time in getting stuck in to a weak Sandford batting lineup. Dave picked up the first 3 wickets in quick succession and made sure that each batsmen knew the way to the changing rooms on their way off. There was no let up from the change bowlers as Sandford continued to crawl along at little over 2 runs per over and Bledlow's fielding improved as Will threw the stumps down to increase Sandford's misery. Matt Pearce then returned to pick up two deserved wickets before Mouldy polished off the innings with a couple of late wickets, meaning Sandford were all out for a tortuous 97 from 48.5 overs.

Olly and Harry were dismissed early in the run chase as Bledlow looked to get the match finished off quickly. Adam and Will saw Bledlow home, helped by Sandford following in Bledlow's footsteps and managing to drop Will an incredible 5 times on his way to 37 not out, with Mouldy ending unbeaten on 43.

Sat 3rd June 2nd XI vs Westbury

Lost by 35 runs (A Reclik 4-26, R Regler 41)

Sun 4th June Friendly XI vs Fleet St Strollers

Lost by 2 wkts (T Moore 50*, M Goodchild 30)

Sat 10th June 1st XI vs Didcot

Tom lost his eighth toss in a row meaning Bledlow were fielding first. Opening bowlers Matt and Dave Pearce were unable to get early wickets, as they have been so accustomed to doing in recent seasons. Waseem then removed the top 3 batsmen in quick succession to get Bledlow back into the game at 70-3. Tom and the fellow bowlers did a good job of keeping the scoring under control through the middle overs, but were only able to take 2 wickets as the game was in the balance with Didcot 163-5 after 40 overs. The Didcot batsmen then put their feet on the accelerator, achieving 103 runs off the final 10 overs to post 266-9.

Bledlow began confidently until Olly was caught for 10 in the third over. Harry and Adam then put on 43 before Harry dragged a ball back on to his stumps for 24. Bledlow then lost two wickets in two balls and were then never able to build up any momentum in their inning. An entertaining 10th wicket partnership of 36 between Waseem and Lomas slightly brightened the mood but the innings finished with the score on 197, meaning Bledlow fell to their first defeat of the season.

Sat 10th June 2nd XI @ Cublington

Won by 8 wkts (B Moore 5-47, M Goodchild 3-23, J Basu 53*, R Regler 42)

Sat 17th June 1st XI @ Buckingham Town

Tom won the toss (shock!) and elected to bat first on the dry Buckingham pitch. Bolts and Olly got off to a good start, scoring 36 off the first 7 overs before Olly was out LBW for 18. Will, batting at 3 because Bartlett was still asking the residents of Buckingham for directions to the ground, was out for just 5. An excellent couple of partnerships then put Bledlow in control as first Bolts and Downes put on 72, and then Downes and Bartlett added a quick fire 62 to leave Bledlow 175-4 when Downes was bowled for 66. The innings then stagnated slightly as Bartlett (44), Mudie (1) and Hawkes (0) were all dismissed in quick succession. It was left to Tom and Pearcey, to steer Bledlow to a competitive score of 263 with Tom finishing on 58 not out.

Buckingham reached 75-0 quickly but once the spin of Bolts was introduced things began to happen, with both opening batsmen succumbing in the same over. Bolts then picked up his third wicket to put Bledlow on top in the late afternoon heat. The introduction of Will into the bowling attack proved a masterstroke as he struck early in his spell. Hawkesy then removed Buckingham's number 6, but it was the no. 4 batsman at the other end that was going to be the key. The big wicket came with the score on 176 as the no. 4 skied a slog off Will's bowling and Hawkesy claimed the catch to the delight of the Bledlow team. Will then picked up two further wickets in quick succession as Buckingham tried to keep up with the rate. Despite a good 9th wicket partnership, Bledlow went on to win by 10 runs.

Sat 17th June 2nd XI vs Aston Rowant

Drawn (G Keens 44, M Goodchild 57, M Bloomfield 39, M Lomas 3-29)

Sat 24th June 1st XI vs Leighton Buzzard

Tom lost the toss and Bledlow were asked to bat first. Matt and Olly got off to an excellent start, reaching 82 off just 11 overs before Olly was bowled for a quick fire 58. Things went downhill from there as 3 more quick wickets fell to leave Bledlow 94-4. A partnership between Charlie and Mouldy looked like getting the team back on track until Charlie chipped the ball to mid off for 24 with the score on 134. From then it was only captain Tom who offered any resistance with 40 not out before the innings finished on 204.

Bledlow knew that they must take early wickets to get back into the match but they never materialised. Buzzard got off to a fast start and Bledlow were never able to recover, with most of the bowlers being smashed to the boundary at regular intervals. The sole wicket fell with the score on 157 but it wasn't much longer before the match was over. Buzzard reached the total from just 29.3 overs to complete a comprehensive win and knock Bledlow off the top of the league table.

Sat 24th June 2nd XI @ Minster Lovell

Lost by 6 runs (J Spooner 3-38, M Goodchild 43, M Lomas 43)

National Village Cup (Bucks Final) vs Stoke Green CC

Bledlow Village Cricket Club advanced in The National Village Cup, winning the Buckinghamshire Final by 41 runs. Cheered on by a vocal home crowd, Bledlow Village posted 243 for 7 before bowling out Stoke Green for 202. Electing to bat first, Bledlow made the most of their flat wicket with Charlie Downes hitting a thunderous 42 and ably supporting Harry Bartlett's sublime 105no. Striking the ball with the minimum of fuss, Bartlett peppered the boundary, following the drinks break, accelerating the innings and powering Bledlow into a strong position at tea.



Harry Bartlett acknowledges his superb 105* in style

After an uncertain start, including a wicket from a controversial no ball, Bledlow's bowlers made breakthroughs with some excellent catching in the deep before off spinner Marcus Goodchild bowled the team to victory with a match winning 5 for 25 from 5.1 overs.

National Village Cup (Last 32) @ Ifield

We continued our march to Lords on Sunday, handsomely beating Ifield by 57 runs in The National Village Cup. Winning the toss, Bledlow posted 211 for 8. Opener, Matt Bolton, made a classy 72, deftly manoeuvring the ball with graceful flicks and elegant drives, supported by Will Woodwood (28) and Charlie Downes (42), Bledlow's batsmen took control of the tie with a competitive total on a difficult surface. Bledlow's opening bowlers reduced Ifield to 27 for 3. Dave Pearce's pace and Matt Pearce's swing accounted for Ifield's top order, both bowlers taking 2 wickets. Mark King used his experience, collecting 2 for 33. Then, Bledlow's captain, Tommy Moore, removed Ifield's stubborn opening batsman and skittled the tail with spell of spearing deliveries from two paces,



Bledlow celebrate taking the match winning wicket

often hurrying the batsmen and finishing with 4 for 29 from 6.2 overs.

Player of the Month

This season we've called upon the Statman to give us a view of players performances over the month compared to all-time records:

June Batting Averages			
Name	2017	Name	All-time
Tommy Moore	129	Harry Bartlett	63
Adam Mould	59	Adam Mould	50
Charlie Downes	45	Tommy Moore	30
Marcus Goodchild	39	Charlie Downes	29
James Basu	38	Matt Bolton	27

June Bowling Averages			
Name	2017	Name	All-time
Matt Lomas	11	Dave Pearce	15
Will Woodwood	13	Matt Bolton	16
Adam Mould	14	Matt Lomas	16
Andy Reclik	14	Andy Reclik	19
Ben Moore	14	Jim Spooner	19

Keep an eye out for more BVCC stats and trivia on Twitter #BVCCtrivia

Dates for your diary

Sunday 9th July	NVC Last 16 @ BVCC Cricket, BBQ, Bar	1pm
Saturday 22nd July	John Reclik Race Night @ BVCC	8pm - late
Saturday 29th July	Summer Fun Night Live bands	8pm - late
Saturday Sep 9th	BLEDFEST	1pm - late

Light on a Legend: The Old Codgers!, by Angela Downes

This is the coming together of four old friends who played cricket for BVCC 1st XI in the 1980s. It struck me how times have changed as when I mentioned net practice, training and warm ups Steve Williams and Dave Rutt obviously didn't understand the concept! They swore that the way to prepare for a match was a couple of pints and a few Benson & Hedges whilst getting changed. You will notice from the photo that all we have on the table now is a crutch and a pint of orange juice!

