

# The Bugle

Newsletter by Bledlow Village Cricket Club | May 2016



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## Steady start

So we are through the first full month of the cricket season and it has been a story of ups and downs across the teams. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI are currently top of Division 3 thanks to two wins, a draw and an abandonment against the furthest flung team in the entire league! They have a big game this weekend away against 2<sup>nd</sup> placed Didcot at their brand new ground. Notable performances have been from Harry Bartlett who scored the clubs first league hundred of the season last weekend in a valiant chase against our old foe Cublington. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI have had a tougher start and, after a single win in the rain against Hurley and three loses, they lie 8<sup>th</sup> in Division 6. Graham Keens and Martin Bloomfield both missed great opportunities to score centuries, getting out in the 90's in the games at home. Steady performances with the ball from evergreen Jim Spooner and club returnee Matt Lomas have kept them in contention in many games, so we're sensing a string of better results just around the corner. Thanks to all those who have turned up on Saturdays to support both teams; we look forward to it continuing in hopefully slightly warmer weather.

We are happy to report that we have progressed to the regional final of the National Village Cup after beating Cublington last Sunday thanks to an excellent 74\* from Marcus Goodchild. The final is against Dinton at home on 12<sup>th</sup> June starting at 1pm. Please do come down and support if you have a spare hour or two!

## Senior Match Reports

### Sat 7<sup>th</sup> May: 1<sup>st</sup> XI win @ Tiddington 2<sup>nd</sup> XI

Tom won the toss and elected to bat first on a very hot Saturday afternoon. Olly and Tom got off to a fairly decent start, looking untroubled until Olly was bowled with the score on 25. Matt Bolton looked in fine touch at 3 before he was harshly adjudged out LBW for 27. A number of poor dismissals followed as the Tiddington spinners were gifted regular wickets. When Harry Bartlett was out with the score 153-7 and 20 overs left to bat, Bledlow looked in danger of not batting their allotted overs. However, Sam Mudie and James Basu were able to dig us out of a hole by batting up until the 51st over and taking the score to 220.

The opening bowling partnership of Matt and Dave Pearce quickly set about dismantling the Tiddington top order with Matt picking up two wickets in two balls. Dave also got in on the act, removing the remaining opener. Further wickets fell leaving Tiddington reeling at 50-5. Two good partnerships took the score to 151-6 and the momentum was shifting before a leg-side stumping from Harry Bartlett off Kingy's led to a quick collapse and a victory.

### Sat 7<sup>th</sup> May: 2<sup>nd</sup> XI lose vs Cropredy 2<sup>nd</sup> XI

Marcus captaining until Ben Moore is fit for return won the toss and elected to bat. Keeno and Dan opening up looked good as they put away plenty of looseners in the first over. Dan then chased a full wide one giving backward point a simple catch. Marcus came in looking in great form until hitting a full toss straight back to the bowler! Bloomers came and went for 4, before James Bacon built a 77 run partnership with Keeno. Streaks was bowled after looking comfortable and Wag in at 6 didn't trouble the scorers going for 0. Toombs came in playing the spinners aggressively and a good knock from him and a few others helped Bledlow to a respectable total. Keenos fantastic knock ended, sadly just short of a hundred, on 92 with Bledlow ending on 207. Reckers and Jim using the new ball. started tightly to their opening right/left hand combination. Thankfully after many dropped catches, Toombs finally hung onto two catches off his own bowling. A few more wickets followed, however it was too late and Cropredy got home comfortably.

### Sat 14<sup>th</sup> May: 1<sup>st</sup> XI win vs Banbury 3<sup>rd</sup> XI

Tom Moore won the toss and elected to field. Pearce brothers opened up and both managed to find their line and length immediately, restricting the Banbury top order to a meagre 16-3 from the first 15 overs. It didn't get much easier for the batsmen as the Pearce's continued to pick up wickets and restrict the scoring. Sixes were flying after the drinks break before Matt Pearce and Matt Bolton picked up wickets in successive balls to end Banbury's hopes of posting a competitive score with them falling to 134 all out. Openers Tom Moore and Olly Woodward didn't hang about in chasing down the score after the restart, with Tom hitting 3 fours from the first over. Some more buffet bowling meant that Olly didn't take long catching up to and overtaking Tom, chalking up a 50 in the process. We only lost one wicket in the chase taking Bledlow to a comfortable victory inside 27 overs.

### Sat 14<sup>th</sup> May: 2<sup>nd</sup> XI lose @ Aston Rowant 3rds

After stand in captain Andy Reclik won the toss and elected to bowl Bledlow had Rowant 20 for 4 off 11 overs. Some smart cricket and rebuilding from No.5 & 6 frustrated the team and we had to wait until the 36<sup>th</sup> over for the breakthrough. Some further good come back overs from Reckers, Jim and Lomo meant they were all out for 202 off 50.3 overs. Openers Keeno and Dan unable to get much of a platform for the team as were any batsman with only two making it into double figures. A mixture of some poor batting and deliveries that had your name on it meant we could only muster 72 all out!

### Sat 21<sup>st</sup> May: 2<sup>nd</sup> XI win vs Hurley 2<sup>nd</sup> XI

A wet weekend meant the 1<sup>st</sup> XI game was off. Ben Moore lost the toss and was asked to bat. Streaks & Bloomo opened but the stand wasn't a big one unfortunately with Streaks being beaten by a swinging delivery and Bledlow were 6 for 1. Bloomers only goes on to score a fine 94 from almost the entire 53 overs. He deserved his ton if it wasn't for a rush of blood trying to get the milestone out of the way.

Useful scores from Reckers, Tombsy, Joe and Vineeth helped get a respectable 230.

Lomo and Ben got the use of the new ball, with Lomo getting there No.2 thanks to the first of 4 slip catches from the injured Joey Harman, Jim cleaned up their No.1 before he could do any more damage after scoring a quick 44. Wickets continued to fall thanks to excellent fielding and catching and Jim was able to seal the win for the team getting the final two wickets needed.

### 28<sup>th</sup> May: 1<sup>st</sup> XI Draw vs Cublington 1<sup>st</sup> XI

Tom won yet another toss and elected to bowl. Things started well for Bledlow as James Hawkes picked up an early wicket on his return from university. A combination of sloppy fielding and good shot-making from Cublington's main batsman however took the away side to 284-9 from their 53 overs.

Olly and Tom started off the innings with aggression. However Olly didn't last long as he attempted one shot too many, bringing Harry Bartlett to the crease. He and Tom continued to score quickly until Tom was dismissed chasing a wide one for 33. The Bledlow innings then lost momentum and victory looked a long way off when Sam Mudie came to the crease but his run-a-ball innings of 39 injected some much needed impetus back into the Bledlow chase. Bartlett then took control of the match as he smashed his way to his maiden 1<sup>st</sup> XI century. Unfortunately he was out not long after reaching 100 to leave Bledlow 223-8, still needing an unlikely 62 more runs for the win. However, a quick-fire 43 run partnership between James Hawkes and Matt Pearce got us close with Bledlow just 8 runs short of a famous chase.

### 28<sup>th</sup> May: 2<sup>nd</sup> XI lose @ Twyford

Bledlow 72 all out. Twyford 73-1 in reply.

## Junior Cricket

Friday night junior training sessions continue to be well attended and various enjoyable junior matches have been played against local opposition. As an example, the Under 11 Reds (aka the Butterflies) have played 4 games, chalking up a big win at Cheersley and losing a nail-biter by 7 runs at Wendover. The girls are progressing well, especially with their bowling, and are really enjoying their cricket, which is what it is all about! The parents continue to provide terrific support and the Bledlow Village tea is fast become the talk of the Under 11 league!

## Batting Averages

	Name	M	I	R	Ave
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	Tom Moore	4	4	149	75
	Sam Mudie	4	2	71	71
	Tom Moore	4	2	127	64
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	Graham Keens	2	2	101	51
	Marcus Goodchild	1	1	30	30
	Martin Bloomfield	4	4	98	25
Sun XI	Marcus Goodchild	2	2	145	145
	Will Woodward	1	1	85	85
	Sam Mudie	3	3	140	79

## Bowling Averages (Min 10 overs)

	Name	M	O	R	W	Ave
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	James Hawkes	2	23	72	7	10
	Matt Bolton	3	21	61	4	15
	Dave Pearce	2	23	85	5	17
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	Roger Downes	2	11	33	2	17
	Jim Spooner	4	43	141	8	18
	Matt Lomas	3	32	117	5	23
Sun XI	Oscar Frost	3	19	85	7	12
	Sam Mudie	3	17	80	4	20
	Mark King	2	14	40	3	13

## Players of the Month

The captain and vice-captains have been consulted and this months awards go to:

### 1<sup>st</sup> XI Player of the Month

Harry Bartlett  
*Photographers favourite WK*  
*Prolific run getter*



Harry has long been an enigma for Bledlow. A young man with much talent, poached from the proving grounds of Ballinger, he tended to turn up now and again during his first few seasons. Thankfully this season however he's no longer falling off motor cycles and we're finally seeing the best of him. His wicket keeping is of the calibre that he's willing to do the 'four halves' for every bye he concedes and his aggressive ton last week shows his full all round skills.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Player of the Month

Jim Spooner  
*No-one taught him how to bat*  
*Evergreen bowler*



The Reverend Jim has been a regular and significant contributor to all teams at Bledlow since he joined the club around 20 years ago. A man proud of his performances, rumour has it he has a black notebook with all his career stats in! Sure they'll look better than most thanks to his consistent and nibbly bowling which continues to cause trouble for division 6 batsman. He is probably most famous around the grounds however for his distinctive batting style which often brings useful runs at number 11.

### Sunday Player of the Month

Sam Mudie  
*Dubious bowling action*  
*See-ball hit-ball batsman*



Sam is a young man who joined the club a few years ago without having come through our traditional youth system. Some say he only joined us because of our bowling machine but thankfully many hours on said machine have proved fruitful. This season has been a breakthrough for him, becoming a regular Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> XI player at the age of 17. His Sunday performances have been consistent both with bat and ball putting him close to the top of the average in both.

## Dates for your diary

Jun 4 <sup>th</sup>	Live Band: Junction 6	7pm to late
Jun 11 <sup>th</sup>	ENG v Russia Drinks specials	7pm to late
Jul 9 <sup>th</sup>	Race Night	7pm to late
Sep 16 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Presentation Evening @ PRGC	TBC