

# The RidgeBear

The monthly newsletter from BRCC



6. July 2023

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From The Chair      Dave Wells

Wow what a wonderful June in terms of conditions for Cricket and all things social at The Ridge!

Reflecting on the great month at the Club a massive highlight was the 6-a-Side tournament which was simply an amazing day ... massive kudos to John Rolfe, Tags and the whole team of volunteers!!!

Later in June we saw the 1's secure a phenomenal win where they smashed 438 from 53 overs ... a Club record and the third highest total ever achieved in the Cherwell League ... by anyone.

Then on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, I had the privilege to watch Charlie Carter (50\*) and Tilly Fellows (38\*) mount a counter punch to carry the 2's to a well earned draw ... True spirit of the Ridge Bears

It is great to see the senior Juniors availability post exams and healthy competition for places which bodes well for a July & August push in the Cherwell Leagues.





## Dates for the diary

Every Wednesday 6pm

Every Friday

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>

Outdoor nets at the club

Social cricket (see below)

Cup semi-final (Horley away)

## Around the Club

Now that junior cricket is finished on a Friday night, the pitch is free for some proper 'hit and giggle' cricket and we have arranged a series of Friday night T20 fun matches against some old friends and regular visitors to The Ridge.

If you've ever sat in the bar watching a game and thought "I could do that", now's your chance to don some whites, borrow a bat and get out there and show everyone how it's done.

The games are open to anyone who would like a go and the friendly nature of them means there's no pressure to be the next Ben Stokes .... until you're out in the middle.

If you would like to give it a try, just make contact with Rolfie (he won't be hard to find, he virtually lives at the place), and let him know and we'll sort you out. If you need a bit of practice, come up to the Wednesday evening nets and have a hit.

The bar and the BBQ will be open every week, so even if watching is still your preferred reality, The Ridge is the place to be on a Friday night until we officially declare Autumn.

**BRCC & The Bledlow Ridge Village.**  
**FRIDAY SOCIALS**  
and 'Big Bash' fun cricket.  
All welcome.

- ✓ Matches start at 6pm
- ✓ Bar is open from 6pm
- ✓ The famous "Ridge Bear BBQ" is open

Thank you to our sponsors

**21 JULY**  
BRCC XI vs Great Hampden XI  
20:20 Blast!

**28 JULY**  
BRCC XI vs Chinnor RFC XI  
20:20 Blast!

**04 AUGUST**  
BRCC XI vs Risborough RFC XI  
for the Tommy Beattie trophy  
20:20 Blast!

**11 AUGUST**  
BRCC Combined U10/11/12  
Juniors vs Parents

**18 AUGUST**  
BRCC XI vs The Boot XI  
20:20 Blast!

**25 AUGUST**  
BRCC Combined U13/14/15  
Juniors vs Parents

**01 SEPTEMBER**  
Yoga Bear - yoga open night  
7pm with Ian Leeper

**08 SEPTEMBER**  
BRCC Junior awards night

the ridge cricket club





## Captain's Corner Sam Rolfe 1<sup>st</sup> XI Captain

June started with disappointing defeats to Westcott and Oxenford after an important first win in May. An incredible performance then followed against Bletchley with Alex and Mike both making big centuries, Oscar 98\* and taking 5 wickets. A total of 438-5 was over 100 runs more than the nearest score in the entire Cherwell League that week and led to a 223-run victory. A close defeat to Wolverton (where Oscar then made his debut 100 for the club) leaves us in the mix of a relegation battle but strong availability in weeks ahead gives us good confidence to fight our way to safety.



1st team debuts were handed to young Bears: Freddie Grimmett and Aiden Medford.

The 2s welcomed back club hero Charlie Carter who took 5 wickets and scored 50\* in separate games. The Bears also made club history by deploying two Bucks Women's players in our 2nd XI (Molly Carter, Tilly Fellows) who both had impressive games.

As we approach the half-way point of the season there are a lot of positives - we've recruited well, had good performances and just need to pick up a some more wins to achieve each team's objectives of 1s survival and 2s promotion.

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2023**  
**Mike Winson (136)**  
**passes 1,000 runs for**  
**BRCC in 27 innings**

**20<sup>th</sup> May 2023**  
**Jov Sahota(146) passes**  
**1,000 runs for BRCC in**  
**65 innings**



The 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 saw the welcome return of the Sid Bird Memorial Six a Side competition for the first time since the pandemic and despite the best (or worst) efforts of the weather, SBM4 was another resounding success.

We welcomed friends old and new to the tournament, including the hastily assembled Emergency Services who stepped up after a late drop out and despite an abject lack of cricketing experience, went on to win the 'Plate' competition.

From a club point of view, one of the highlights was the success of the Torr-minators, a side made up entirely of BRCC juniors, some of whom had featured in the very first SBM as ball boys. They pushed eventual winners Bird Dogs all the way in the semi-final, eventually going down by just 3 runs.

Bowl and Bear, a vehicle specifically designed to try and buy Dan Watkins a run, crushed previous winners Silverdoor by 47 runs in the other semi, but in the final, a 6 ball 21 by Gorgeous George and a remarkable catch by Jovan, saw the Bird Dogs franchise home for their second tournament win.



The day was captured on film by the incomparable Charlie Carter. To see the full amazing photo diary, go to <https://www.charliecarterphotography.com/portfolio-5/brcc-sid-bird-6-a-side-memorial->





Despite being cleaned up first ball of the final by Mal, Von Schreider gets a guard of honour on his return to the hutch. The Bird Dogs chased down 56 with 5 balls to spare to become the first team to win the tournament twice.

## The Details

**Winners: Bird Dogs. Runners Up: Bowl & Bear**

**Plate Winners: Emergency Services. Runners Up: Oli's Army**

**Player of the Tournament: Gorgeous George**

**Young Gun: Tilly Fellows**

**Player most likely to: Chang**

The club would like to sincerely thank all the volunteers who helped to make such a great day.



Former winner, Simon 'Fats' Martin, fresh off a big win in the 200 Club, was dispensing his own brand of justice from the umpire's position.



## Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club 2023 Wall of Fame



### June

Oscar Heath  
Shaun Dryden

3-57 vs Westcott (1<sup>st</sup> XI, 3/6)  
68 vs Long Marston (2<sup>nd</sup> XI, 3/6)

Josh Brooks  
Farhan Mahmood

3-34 vs Oxenford (1<sup>st</sup> XI, 10/6)  
82 vs Bletchley Town (2<sup>nd</sup> XI, 10/6)

Mike Winson  
Alex Perry  
Oscar Heath

136 vs Bletchley Town (1<sup>st</sup> XI, 17/6)  
124 vs Bletchley Town (1<sup>st</sup> XI, 17/6)  
98\* & 5-53 vs Bletchley Town (1<sup>st</sup> XI, 17/6)

Oscar Heath  
Taj Angell  
Charlie Carter  
Ben Hilary

134 vs Wolverton Town (1<sup>st</sup> XI, 24/6)  
3-45 vs Wolverton Town (1<sup>st</sup> XI, 24/6)  
5-25 vs Thame (2<sup>nd</sup> XI, 24/6)  
3-12 vs Thame (2<sup>nd</sup> XI, 24/6)

**Player of the Month**    Oscar Heath

### Most senior appearances this year

Jovan Sahota (7) John Rolfe (7) Malekei Shard (6) Mark Dakin (6) Phil Brooks (6) Paul Cheshire (6) Farhan Mahmood (5) Shaun Dryden (5) Josh Brooks (5) Sam Rolfe (5) Oscar Heath (5) Muhammed Amin (5) Freddie Grimmett (4) Steve Bird (4) Alex Perry (4) Mike Winson (4) Ben Barrett (4) Matt Brightwell (4) Simon Bird (4) David Maunder (4) Graham Keens (4) Ben Hillary (4) Aiden Medford (4) Stu Podmore (4) Dan Watkins (4) Jon Gardiner (3) Taj Angell (3) M Middleton (3) C King (3) G Grose (3)





## Bear Cubs

Oli White

Report from the Under 10s Head Coach Matt Blakeman

It's been a really successful season for the U10s winning the majority of their matches and finishing in the top 2 of the league (currently 1st). All of the players need to be credited for their hard work in training and during the games but most importantly for creating a culture that is supportive, positive and fun. With such a big squad we have had multiple changes to the weekly team, but this didn't affect their support for one another. They have been fantastic.



### Key Dates

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August

- Combined U10/U11/U12 take on the parents in a T20 spectacular

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August

- Combined U13/U14/U15 embark on the ultimate "Whatever" grudge match against mum and dad

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept

- Awards night for all U10s to U15s at the club from 5.30pm Bar and BBQ will be open with special Hog Roast on offer



**£5 a month by standing order (or £60 annually)**  
**Monthly prizes of (up to) £200, £100 and 2 x £50**  
**NB. Bank details for the 200 Club are not the same as subs. See website for details**



The second draw of the BRCC 200 Club (June 9<sup>th</sup>), saw the prizes jump by 25%!!

This month's winners were:

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> prize (£136)   | Caty Murrell (42)                         |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> prize (£68.00) | Simon Martin (134)                        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> prizes (£38)   | Harry Black (81) and<br>Matthew Ward (19) |

To sign up: [www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/200](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/200)

## The Clubhouse Café

Happy July! For those of you with school age-ers it feels like we are in the home stretch to the summer holidays, which is both wonderful (no morning stress over getting the kids out the door ...) but also can be exhausting as there is more kiddy entertainment to be organised and approximately a billion times more food needs to be bought!



If you need it, here is your reminder to do parenting the way that works for YOU and to ignore the picture-perfect posts that will be flooding our timelines.

The good news is that the baby and toddler group will be running for most Wednesdays with the exception of the 26th July and 2 Aug. My recent training in First Aid for Mental Health really drove home how important community and connection is for our well-being, and being a parent can be lonely and hard... so please do drop in - we are a very welcoming and laid back group!

Watch this space (or follow us on Social media or head over to our website [www.theclubhousecafebledlowridge.com](http://www.theclubhousecafebledlowridge.com) and sign up for our newsletter) for changes in opening times over the summer!





## Introducing some of our Key Partners

The All Aboard programme has been launched this year to engage the club with friends and businesses who are passionate about supporting our goals of making cricket accessible to all, and making it the best experience it can be, regardless of who you are or where you come from.

This month it's wealth management and property.

### Evelyn Partners.

Evelyn Partners is the UK's leading integrated wealth management and professional services group, with £54.4 billion of assets under management. It ranks as the second largest UK wealth manager.



Evelyn Partners' purpose is to *'place the power of good advice into more hands'*, and it is uniquely well-placed to support clients with both their personal financial affairs and their business interests. Evelyn Partner's personal wealth management services include financial planning, investment management and advice, personal tax advice and, through Bestinvest, an award-winning online investment service for self-directed investors.

For further information please contact Oli Robson, Director, Evelyn Partners, Bledlow Ridge, [oliver.robson@evelyn.com](mailto:oliver.robson@evelyn.com)

### Bonnors and Babbington

Bonnors & Babingtons are an exciting and forward-thinking property company specialising in high quality homes throughout Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. As property specialists, we



pride ourselves on delivering a first-class Sales and Lettings service with a wealth of local knowledge, excellent customer care and a refreshingly modern proactive approach.

We fully embrace our role as the local agent in each of the communities we operate, and that is why each of our branches has its own identity. Our staff all live locally, so are able to provide our clients with professional expert advice on a truly local level.



We never turn down a volunteer and we are particularly looking for people to help in the following areas:

- Bar rota helpers
- 1<sup>st</sup> team scorers
- Umpires

If you think you might be able to help in any of these areas, talk to Wellsy or Taggart, or mail on [imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk](mailto:imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk)

Next issue, June 2023 but for real time updates on everything from fixtures to who's who, go to [www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk)

Something you would like to see in the next issue? Fancy yourself as a bit of a journo? All feedback and contributions are welcome. Mail to [imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk](mailto:imurdoch@isrconsulting.co.uk)

**Raise free funds for us every time you shop online** Find out more >

Don't forget, you can raise money for the club every time you shop online with easyfundraising. If you haven't registered yet, go to;

[www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/ef](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk/ef)

We have raised almost £1,000 already at no cost to anyone so sign up and start earning money for the club.