

1952

Once again there are very few match reports in the "Examiner" but from the fixture card (see below) we note that the club had a full list with 40 matches. Unfortunately there are no averages to be found and only two match reports.

1952 Fixtures

SATURDAYS				SUNDAYS			
Date	Opponents	Ground	Result	Date	Opponents	Ground	Result
April 26	Practise Match	Home		April 27	Coleshill	Away	
May 3	Col. Whitfield's XI	Home		May 4	Knotty Green	Home	
10	Chalfont Colony	Home		11	Chalfont St. Giles	Home	
17				18	St. Johns	Home	
24	Chalfont St Giles	Home		25	P. M. Hospital	Away	
31	St. Leonards	Home		June 1	G. Williams	Home	
June 7	Ballinger	Away		8	Holden	Home	
14	Old Challoners	Away		15	P. White's XI	Home	
21	Hivac	Home		22	Little Missenden	Home	
28	The Lee	Home		29	Fencibles	Away	
July 5	Gold Hill	Home		July 6	Rickmansworth	Home	
12	Hivac	Away		13	G. Williams	Home	
19	F. R. Gullett's XI	Home		20	J. S. S. C.	Home	
26	Chalfont Colony	Away		27			
Aug 2	Old Challoners	Home		Aug 3	Rickmansworth	Home	
9	The Lee	Away		10	Knotty Green	Away	
16				17	P. M. Hospital	Home	
23	Chalfont St. Giles	Away		24	Fencibles	Home	
30	Gold Hill	Away		31	Holden	Home	
Sept 6	Ballinger	Home		Sept 7	Little Missenden	Away	
13	J. S. S. C.	Home		14	St. Johns	Home	
				21	D. Slade's XI	Home	
				28	J. Hearn's XI	Home	
Totals Won	Lost	Can:		Totals Won	Lost	Can:	

Home matches played on Chesham Bois Common by permission of The Lord of The Manor W. G. Garrett - Pegg, Esq.

All Home Matches start at 2-45 p. m.

31 May Chesham Bois C.C. v St. Leonards & Buckland Common C.C. at Bois Common

87 for 7 dec.

19 (R. Fox 6 for 8)

Chesham Bois won by 68 runs

14 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Old Challoners C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

53

54 for 2

Old Challoners won by 8 wickets.

It appears from the names of members on the fixture card (below) that membership, with one or two additions, is very similar to previous years.

CHESHAM BOIS CRICKET CLUB

President:
THE RT. HON. THE LORD TERRINGTON

Vice - Presidents:
Dr R.H.W. Britton A.H. Jones, Esq
E.C.T. Carden, Esq L.M. Jopling, Esq
G.V. Dean, Esq E.J. Lowe, Esq
J.W. Harvey-Ellis, Esq W.F. Lowndes, Esq
F.C. Denny, Esq J.D. Newth, Esq
P.L. Forwood, Esq J.R. Pegley, Esq
Sir Bernard Gilbert E.G. Spater, Esq
W.J. Gomm, Esq J.L.S. Steel, Esq
C.T. Mellicar, Esq W.F. Hutson, Esq

Lt-Col. E.H. Whitfield

Chairman:
Lt-Col. E.H. Whitfield.

Committee:
Messrs: T. Clitherow, R. Fox, A. Gurney, A.H. Jones;
R.J.L. King, J.D. Newth, P. Platt, G. Sills, D.C. Slade;
F. Willis.

Captain: Saturday Sunday
P. Platt R. Fox
Vice-Captain: F. Willis G. Sills.

Hon. Treasurer:
R.J.L. King, Rose Cottage, Chestnut Lane, Amersham.

Hon. Match Secretary:
D.C. Slade, 6 Waterworks Cottages
London Road, Amersham, Bucks.

Selection Committee:
Messrs: T. Clitherow, R. Fox, P. Platt and F. Willis.

CHESHAM BOIS
CRICKET CLUB



Fixture Card 1952

MEMORIES

BY MR. GEORGE FINCH, I S M
PLAYER EARLY 1950's - 1963

WRITTEN 1996



George Finch
Pictured in 1962

As a newcomer to the lovely countryside of Buckinghamshire, due to my marriage during the war to a local girl, I transferred from the London Post Office to Amersham. It was during these early years at Amersham P.O. that I met Peter Platt, when we played in local competitions against the various Post Offices, and he suggested that I might like to join the cricket club of which he was a member. From that meeting I became one of the players at Chesham Bois.

During my playing career at Chesham Bois I held various positions and enjoyed every moment, also my cricket was thoroughly enjoyable with particular satisfaction coming from my one and only century, against United Counties C.C., my 9 for 51 against Winchmore Hill and also my couple of hat tricks, the latter no doubt, with help from my colleagues.

Being a Londoner, it is sometimes difficult to come to terms with local people but I found at Chesham Bois C.C. a wonderful acceptance of me, not as a stranger, but as a friend and this comradeship carried on through my playing days at the common.

My first thoughts of the club must be of the ladies, because in the early days there was no pavilion whereby our stalwart ladies could make teas, so these were done at home and brought to the ground. I am sure all the elder statesmen of the club will agree with me that "Didn't they do well". Certain names come to mind, firstly of course my dear wife, who, although having a young son gave me, as a player, the back up of her help when refreshments were needed. Joy Gomm, Ian's sister, again another volunteer, Jean King and Mrs. Hammond, of course there were other ladies but unfortunately my mind cannot recall all their names. There were two other stalwarts of whom I wish to say just a few words, one being Tom Gomm who umpired most of our games. I can see him now sitting on his shooting stick at the bowlers end, or at square leg. Then we had Bill Washington, never failed to amaze me, a leg missing from the First World War, but there he was every weekend with his pen out ready to score. At the end of the season he would prepare all the averages etc. of the team ready for presentation at the A.G.M. You will, I am sure, never meet two more faithful club members than Tom and Bill.

Spectators around the ground were few and far between, however, we did have in the main three. They were Harry Aris, sister Kitty and another sister whose name fails me. They were not only ardent supporters but extremely helpful in many, many other ways. One player I would like to mention is, to me "Mr. Chesham Bois C.C.", Ian Gomm. What can one say about Ian? He is, as I say, Chesham Bois C.C. He has done everything and, at the time of writing, still has a hand in the club, even though his playing days are over. I look back to the days he and I were bowling at opposite ends and I often wondered when I first saw him bowl, how is it that he doesn't fall over at the point of delivery, because I had never seen an action like his before, but he didn't. He just seemed to "Mow" the opposition down. It was a pleasure, in those days, to bowl along side Ian and over the years we became good friends and now in 1996 we still are.

Another player I must mention is another of my playing friends, the late Len Hammond. Len was a bit of a rough diamond but a Chesham Bois cricketer through and through. Nothing was too much for Len to do, he was as strong as an ox and when it came to digging for the pavilion Len did not hesitate. I am certain if he was still here today he would still be a good asset for the club. I'll always remember Len on the field, full of enthusiasm, especially if he could have a bowl at the opposition. Just to look at him coming in to bowl would frighten anyone in those days, and if he didn't get them out he would be muttering to himself as to why he hadn't. If he did get an appeal turned down he was a very cross man because, in Len's mind, if the ball hit the pad he was out. My one remaining thought of Len was in the 1950's, when we were playing The Lee on the common. He came in to join me after a fall of wicket and we were going along steadily. I was facing, I hit the ball and, before I knew what was happening, Len called for a quick single, charged down the wicket eyes fixed firmly on the ball and crashed straight into me, knocking me flat. As I got up I saw the bowler with a wonderful smile on his face taking the bails off and saying to me, as I passed, "Sorry

old chap". I can assure you that I was not very happy, but one soon forgot such incidents.

There where, of course, many other players during my time at the club, Peter Platt, Peter Nash, Colin Ware, Fred Willis, Len Barker, Ron Vince, Michael Hoar, Martin Cooper, Alan Bruton, Dave Hearn, Nigel Bunce, Derek and Michael Taylor, Keith and Fred Parsons and, of course, my own son, Gordon.

Regrettably, after nearly fifty years, the brain, unfortunately, does not retain all those smashing times we had on the common.

The final player I must mention is Reg King, if only I could have batted like Reg I would have had some wonderful times. Reg was, at times, like a breath of fresh air to watch. As a bowler he was, to me, a fine spinner. If a partnership was developing for your opponents, and you're regular bowlers could not break through, you brought on Reg. He would trundle up, always wearing his cap, send his "tweakers" down and nine times out of ten he broke the partnership. Then you would take him off, why I don't know, but it seemed the recognised thing to do. I have always wondered what Reg thought when the skipper took him off once he had made the breakthrough!

Having read reports from other players three names mentioned were Ivor Gough, George Wilkins and John Lemon, all of whom joined The Fencibles C.C. and had much success there. Unfortunately John Lemon passed away at the young age of 34 and was much missed by all at Fencibles C.C., because he was a beautiful fast bowler. Ivor Gough and George Wilkins are still around today, 1996, Ivor living in Harefield, George still in Amersham and we often meet and talk cricket.

I mentioned earlier my one century and two hat tricks for Chesham Bois, feats I unfortunately never managed again, although I played cricket up to 1975 in the Norfolk area, when, due to work pressures, found I had no time to play. But now I'm back in Bucks I'll try to watch some cricket.

However I suppose the fondest memory of all is and always will be of playing my early cricket at a beautifully situated ground with some great chaps.

Finally, in my 73rd year, I have been asked by Nigel Bunce to become one of your Vice Presidents, which I have, with great pleasure, accepted, and I hope to come and see some

play at the common.

1953

Again there are few match reports in the Bucks Examiner. Those found are listed below.

16 May Chesham Bois C.C. v Old Challoners C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common

83

84 for 4

Old Challoners won by 6 wkts.

Chesham Bois 83, Old Challoners 84 for 4.—In spite of the morning rain the pitch at Chesham Bois was sufficiently dried out for play to commence at 3 p.m. when the Old Challoners were the visitors on Saturday. Challoners won the toss and sent Chesham Bois in to bat. None of the Old Boys' bowlers could produce their form of the two previous weeks but due mainly to inept batting, with the exception of P. Platt (27) (who the writer believes is himself a product of the Grammar School), the home side were all out for 83 runs. These runs took over 2 hours to be made. Hartis (4 for 25) and Bath (3 for 19), were again the most successful bowlers.

B. Wright once more proved himself a sound number one batsman when Challoners' turn to bat arrived, making 29 good runs before being dismissed by a very good catch close to the wicket. Incidentally this was by far the best bit of fielding which was generally of a low standard throughout the game. Batchelor (13), Harris (25 not out), and Bath (12) went on to make an easy win for the Old Challoners by six wickets.

Bucks Examiner Friday 22nd May 1953

6 June Chesham Bois C.C. v Gold Hill C.C. played at Chesham Bois Common
 76 62 (K. Mauud 5 for 33)
 Chesham Bois won by 14 run

4 July Chesham Bois C.C. v Chesham Town Social Club C.C. at Chesham Bois Common

94 106 (R. Vince 6 for 37)
 Chesham Social Club won by 12 runs

Chesham Bois 94, Chesham Town Social Club 106.—Visiting Chesham Bois on Saturday, in a very even and sporting game, Chesham Town Social Club won by 12 runs. Winning the toss the home captain elected to put the visitors in on what turned out to be a batsman's wicket. The Social Club, sensing this, soon set about the bowling and had scored 52 for the loss of two wickets, mainly due to W. Wright, who was playing well and hitting hard all round the wicket, eventually being out for a splendid 45, including seven 4s. After his dismissal there were other useful scores by Eric Wilkins (12), Ray Wright (10), Eric Miller (8), Reg Sear (8), and D. Gomm (6); the club eventually being all out for 106. For Chesham Bois, R. Vince took 6 wickets for 37, and L. Hammond 4 for 25.

Facing this total the Chesham Bois opening pair, P. Platt and T. Knowles, put up a very stubborn resistance against the opening bowling of S. Ringsell and D. Gomm, but eventually Eric Miller broke through this defence by clean bowling Platt for a chanceless 14, the score then being 24 for 1. In came R. Vince, who caused a lot of trouble for some time, but after some hefty hitting was splendidly caught on boundary by C. Rogers for 32, after which L. Hammond caused further trouble, but left the last batsman to face a hive of fielders. He was caught by W. Wright, leaving L. Hammond with a score of 27 not out, and the Chesham Town Social Club victors by 12 runs just on time. For the Social Club Eric Miller took 7 for 24. It was very interesting to note that the Chesham Social Club gave a trial to a very promising youngster from Germain -street School Yorrie Rance; who displayed great promise for the future. "FIZZ."

Bucks Examiner Friday 10th July 1953

8 Aug. Chesham Town Social Club C.C. v Chesham Bois C.C. at Chesham Top Park.

109 43
 Chesham Social Club won by 66 runs

Chesham Town Social Club 109, Chesham Bois 43.—The above game was played at Chesham Top Park on Saturday, resulting in a win for the Chesham Social Club by five wickets. Chesham Bois batting first, made a bad start losing their first three wickets for 1 run and only F. Willis (13) and L. Hammond (18) could do anything against the bowling of S. Ringsell who took 7 wickets for 11 runs, D. Gomm 2 for 11, and R. Sear 1 for 10, and were all out for 43. Facing this total the Chesham Social club passed this score at the fall of the fifth wicket when the total had reached 84, and eventually they were all out for 109. Of this total S. Ringsell made 35, E. Miller, 27, and Reg. Sear 13. For Chesham Bois, L. Hammond took 4 wickets for 22 runs, R. Vince 4 for 26, P. Woodcock 1 for 3, and F. Strong, 1 for 10, thus ending an enjoyable game with victory to the Chesham Social Club, and a personal triumph for S. Ringsell.

Bucks Examiner Friday 14th August 1953

There are no averages or fixture cards available for this season.