

Chapter 16

1961 Season

President- S.H.Stock
Chairman- C.F.R.Price
Hon Sec- M.J.Stock
Treasurer- D.R.M. Jenkins
1st X1 Capt- Brian Shackleton
2nd X1 Capt- Mel Pritchard

An extraordinary General Meeting was called regarding Subs. The Club had not introduced an increase in subs for 20 years, and this controversial measure divided the members.

Cardiff HSOB 67 all out Lew White 4-9, Abergavenny 52 all out Brian Shackleton (24)

NINE wickets in an innings for Bill McPherson

Abergavenny 94 all out with Eric Hughes scoring (40) and Tony Paton also making double figures. In reply Brecon were routed for 25 runs with Bill McPherson having figures of: 10 Overs, 8 Maidens, 4 runs, 9 wickets. Bob Jennings taking the 10th wicket.

Pontymister 161-6 declared with Bob Jennings taking 3-43 and Bill McPherson and Tony Paton taking 1 wicket each. Abergavenny 141-5 secured a draw Colin Hanbury (31), L.White (46), E.Hughes (22*) and Brian Shackleton (27)

Cardiff 199-7 declared, Tony Paton taking 4 wickets, beat Abergavenny who were 113 all out. Brian Shackleton (28), G.Richardson (35), E.Hughes (15*) W.Mcpherson (14)

Tony Paton was again among the wickets against St Fagan's who were bowled out for 126, however Abergavenny were all out for 115.

Abergavenny then bowled Lydney out for 160 with 6 wickets for L.Holder and 3 wickets for W.McPherson only to be bowled out themselves for 133.

Abergavenny 139-6 declared, Brian Shackleton (46) Lew White (65*) defeated BNS who were 62 all out. Three wickets for L.Holder and W. McPherson and two for Lew White.

BNS 2nd X1 were no match for Abergavenny 2nd's being bowled out for a mere 28 with 4 wickets for E.Wiggett, 4 wickets for J.Evans and two for O.Saunders. This was in reply to 95-8 by Abergavenny with G.Jones (33*) and R.Collett (33)
The Seconds then lost to British Rail after scoring 100 all out with Cliff Cox (59), E.Wiggett (18) British Rail reaching the target 101-8 O.Saunders taking 5 wickets and P.Saunders 2 wickets. P.G.Joignant a King Henry V111 Grammar School boy was showing some good form for the School.

Half Century for Bob Jennings

Another victory followed against Old Illtydians who were bowled out for 64 with 5 wickets for L.Holder and 2 wickets for W.McPherson. Abergavenny had scored 170-9 declared with Brian Shackleton (40) Colin Hanbury (24) and Bob Jennings (50*)

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Abertillery 196-6 declared. Three wickets for Bob Jennings, two for W.McPherson and one for Colin Nash. Abergavenny losing the game as they were all out for 84. B.Shackleton (10), C.Nash (12), L.White (22)

The Seconds decisively beat Abertillery 2nd's who were all out for 49, 4 wickets for Wiggett and 3 for O.Saunders. Abergavenny 2nd's 50-3 with E.Wiggett (29*)

Abergavenny were really struggling for runs and were again bowled out cheaply for 63 with only Brian Shackleton (20) making any runs, by Ross who passed their target for the loss of 2 wickets. The Seconds defeated Ross 2nd's. Abergavenny 124. O.Saunders (22), E.Sandford (22), E.Wiggett (17) and Ron Collett (15). Ross 2nd's 105. Wiggett taking 5 wickets and two wickets each for R.Collett and O.Saunders

A draw followed with Usk who made 126-6 declared with 4 wickets for L.Holder. Abergavenny 98-2, Colin Hanbury (42) and G.Richardson (29*)

A poor show followed against Hereford 87-1 who easily knocked off their score of 83 all out. Mike Stock (13) G.Richardson (15) E.Wiggett (13) and C.Hanbury (12)

A poor defeat came next against Panteg who made 184-7 declared, Bob Jennings taking 3 wickets. Abergavenny routed for 41 with only Lew White (13) Mike Farr of Panteg taking 6 Abergavenny wickets. The Seconds lost heavily to Panteg 2nd's who made 195-4 declared. Abergavenny 127 all out, S.Hall (28) C.Price (28) and A.Brown (29)

A draw with Barry 167-7 declared, Bob Jennings 4 wickets, Tny Paton 2 wickets. Abergavenny 110-5 at the close. Brian Shackleton (35) Eric Hughes (40*) Cliff Cox (12)

Abergavenny 2nd's 107-8, Peter Jones (55) drew with Radyr who had scored 163-6

Abergavenny secured another draw against Newport Fugitives who made 166. L.Holder taking 5 wickets and Bill McPherson 3 wickets. In Abergavenny's score of 114-7, Brian Shackleton (12) E.Hughes (13) and P.Jones (48*)

The Second X1 beat Newport Fugitive 2nd's who scored 100 all out with 5 wickets for Colin Nash. Abergavenny 103-4 Colin Nash (25) and Cliff Cox (52*)

The return fixture with Lydney brought another defeat. Having bowled out Lydney for 144, 5 wickets for Colin Nash and 3 wickets for Bill McPherson. Abergavenny were all out for 119. Pete James doing the damage with 8 wickets. The Lydney team at the time was: J.Wilshire, G.Blake, W.Tomkins, N.Nelmes, J.Hampton, J.Taylor, A.Box, P.James, C.Jarrett, R.Trowen, J.Harrison

A good victory came against Abercarn 121 all out. The wickets were shared among the bowlers. Abergavenny 122-9 with runs for Brian Shackleton (29) G.Richardson (26) and R.Jennings (27*) The 2nd X1 beat Abercarn 2nd's who were bowled out for 63, O.Saunders taking 5 wickets. This after Abergavenny had scored 131. H.Davies (54) and E.Townsend (28)

A draw was achieved next against the Innswingers 179 all out. Abergavenny 133-7, G.Richardson (25) R.Jennings (57*) Brian Shackleton (13*)

Abergavenny found their batting form and amassed 201-1 G.Richardson (72*) L.White (68) and Cliff Cox (52*) against Penarth who were bowled out for 110, James, White, Price and McPherson with the wickets.

Another victory followed against BNS who were bowled out for 59, Holder, Price and McPherson doing the damage. Abergavenny 99 with Brian Shackleton (35). The 2nd's also heavily defeated BNS 2nd's. Abergavenny 178-5, S.Hall (40) O.Saunders (36), H.Davies (39) and A.Brown (34). BNS 53 with O.Saunders taking 6 wickets.

A low point of the season was a heavy defeat to Panteg. Abergavenny 51 all out with only Cliff Cox (19) getting runs. Panteg 53-0. The Panteg 2nd's 164 made it a 'double' as they also comprehensively beat Abergavenny 2nd's who were 66 all out, Ron Collett (14).

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Things got worse as Dowlais 179-8 declared with wickets for Price, Paton and McPherson beat Abergavenny 78 all out with runs from J.Price (27) and Colin Nash (17)

Abergavenny 151 all out. Young Grammar School boy Colin Rees scoring (40*) and J.Price (22) Pontypridd 156-3 winning comfortably. Pontypridd 2nd's made a huge 203-4 declared but Abergavenny secured an honourable draw at 177-6, with a great (94) from Stan Hall and (40) from Mike Stock.

Abergavenny 83 all out, J.Price (33) and A.Paton (18) lost to Crusaders 120, Nash, Price and McPherson with the wickets.

Abergavenny 180-5 A.Paton (28) L.White (49) J.Price (54) and Colin Rees (17) defeated Pontnewynydd 177-7 declared, with wickets for Nash and Price. The seconds however were beaten Pontnewynydd 2nd's 135 with wickets for Saunders and Wiggett. Abergavenny 2nd's 52 all out, S.Hall (16)

Hereford 209-4 Eric Jenkins (104*) drew with Abergavenny 144-7 L.White (26) G.Richardson (48) and M.Nash (20) The 2nd X1's also drew Hereford 2nd's 200-8 declared, Abergavenny 2nd's 110-9 with E.Wiggett (38) and Cliff Cox (23)
Pontymister 121 all out 3 wickets for McPherson, 2 for Jennings and 2 for Malcolm Nash, drew with Abergavenny 107-8 Brian Shackleton (28) L.White (29) and G.Richardson (14) Abergavenny falling 14runs short. The Seconds drew away at Pontymister, Abergavenny 2nd's 126, Pontymister 2nd's 117-9.

Abergavenny 64 all out G.Richardson (13) and M.Nash (12) lost to Bridgend 113 all out by 49 runs. Malcolm Nash with 4 wickets and J.Price with 5 wickets.

On the August Monday at Lydney, Abergavenny scored 218-3 declared, G.Richardson (53) J.Price (77*) Colin Nash(23) and Colin Reece (34). Lydney grimly holding on at the close at 93-9. 3 wickets for veteran L.White and 2 wickets for the youngster Malcolm Nash. The Seconds lost by 92 runs to Lydney 2nd's who made 196-7 declared. In reply Abergavenny 2nd's were all out for 84. A.Paton (34) J.Powell (11)

A New style 8 a side KO Cup started this season with seven different bowlers bowling 2 overs each. 3 runs for a maiden over to the fielding side and for every team that fields a player who normally plays for a First X1 Club Side the opposing side will be awarded 3 runs. Any over that yields over 21 runs gets a bonus of 3 extra runs.

Usk Cockerels 4 times winners of Abergavenny's 8 a side Knock Out Tournament will meet Semtex in this years Final.

Abergavenny were bowled out for 94 G.Richardson (47) C.Nash (12) J.Price (10) by Crickhowell who had totalled 125 themselves with 5 wickets for Price and 4 for Jennings. Crickhowell winning by 31 runs. The seconds however fared better making 226 all out H.Davies (66), A.Brown (40), E.Sandford (53) and Dai Matthews (24). Crickhowell were then 64 all out E.Wiggett with 4 wickets.

Abergavenny 151-7 M.Nash (62*) and Brian Shackleton (22*) drew with Whitchurch Heath 177-9 declared, 4 wickets for W.McPherson.

A good win followed against Pontypridd who scored 180-7 declared, McPherson and Price taking the wickets. Abergavenny 182-8, G.Richardson (50) B.Shackleton (24) L.White (67*) and J.Price (31). The Seconds drew, Abergavenny 126 all out. D.Matthews (39) J.Powell (21*) Pontypridd 104-9 with J.Evans taking 6 wickets.

A defeat followed to Bill Edwards X1 166-6 Paton and Price 2 wickets each. Abergavenny 165-9 declared, G.Richardson (27), J.Price (34) C.Nash (26) and E.Hughes (22*)

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Newport Fugitives 74 all out 6 wickets for McPherson and 4 wickets for M.Nash lost to Abergavenny 76-0 G.Richardson (40*) and Brian Shackleton (33*) The Seconds also won easily bowling Fugitives 2nd's out for 61 and knocking them off without losing a wicket. M.Stock (30*) and A.Brown (23*)

Neath 174-5 declared drew with Abergavenny 120-9 L.White (33) Colin Nash (26) and Bob Jennings (26*)

Chepstow 142 v Abergavenny

Hythe were beaten by 7 wickets. They were bowled out by Jennings, Paton and McPherson. Abergavenny 118-3. C.Nash (52*) and Bob Jennings (26*)

They then lost to Ross who passed Abergavenny's 132 with P.Jones (43) and E.Wiggett (22) with one wicket in hand. Bob Jennings took 4 wickets. Ross 2nd's ensured the double was achieved bowling Abergavenny 2nd's out for 114 with H.Davies scoring (77) of this total, after scoring 157.

LEADING BATSMEN						
		RUNS	H.S.	N.O.	AV.	
L. White	..	10	215	65*	1	23.88
B. Shackleton	..	10	223	46	0	22.3
R. Jennings	..	9	87	50*	4	15.4
C. Hanbury	..	9	132	37	0	14.75

* Not out

LEADING BOWLERS						
	O	M.	RS.	WKTS	AV.	
L. Holder	..	54	13	113	15	7.53
A. Paton	..	38.2	4	135	12	11.25
W. McPherson	..	129.2	38	284	24	11.83
R. Jennings	..	71	13	188	13	14.46

As @ June 1961

In the November of the close season of 1961 Abergavenny lost a stalwart of the Club. John Kennington Ruther passed away aged 61years. J.K.Ruther had been President of the Club from 1948 until 1960. He served with the 3rd Mons Regiment reaching the rank of Captain. In 1936 he was elected to the Town Council as an Independent, he resigned in 1942. He was born in Abergavenny in 1900, educated at Queens School, Taunton. He became Worshipful Master of the St John's Lodge of Freemasons.

Abergavenny's Senior side with one match to play to complete their season crashed to their 17th defeat against Chepstow who scored 105. W.Mcpherson taking 6-50 Abergavenny were 100-8 then lost their last two wickets without adding to the score. The match at Avenue Road against Usk was washed out.

Abergavenny Cricket Club History

Cardiff HSOB 139 inflicted a defeat on Abergavenny 109.

Married 105 v Singles 138, the match produced 3 heroes. Firstly Colin Nash scoring (70) batting at number four. Secondly, Jeremy Price who only scored 15 runs but took 6-57 when bowling to scupper the Married X1. Finally Lew White who scored 52 runs, which was nearly half of the Married X1's total.

Throughout the season Abergavenny played a total of 40 Saturday and Sunday Fixtures. Winning 11, Drawing 11 and losing 18.
The 2nd X1 Played 24 matches, won 9, lost 9 and Drew 6.

LEADING BATSMEN						
	I	RS.	H.S.	N.O.	AV.	
J. Price	14	291	77*	2	24.25	
G. Richardson ..	28	497	72*	2	19.11	
L. White	30	524	68	2	18.71	
B. Shackleton ..	28	445	46	3	17.80	
R. Jennings ..	23	245	57*	6	14.42	
E. Hughes ..	20	186	40*	6	13.28	
C. Hanbury ..	20	227	42	0	11.35	

* Not out

LEADING BOWLERS						
	O.	M.	RS.	W.	AV.	
L. Holder ..	153.3	37	401	30	13.36	
R. Jennings ..	156	22	491	34	14.44	
A. Paton ..	124.2	9	468	28	16.71	
W. McPherson	349	75	829	45	18.42	

Mr Jack Kennington Ruther 1900-1961



Jack Ruther was a well known local sportsman, he was a player, patron and President of Abergavenny Thursdays Football Club he also captained the Thursday's Cricket Team. He played hockey and Rugby for the Town sides as well as a member former captain 1948-49 and vice president of Mommouthshire (Abergavenny) Golf Club.

During the war he served with the 3rd Mons Regiment reaching the rank of Captain. He served in Ireland for a while but was then recalled by the Ministry of Agriculture in order to continue with his farming and business interests in the production of food for the war effort.

In 1936 he was elected as an Independent Town Councillor resigning 1942 after 6 years service.

He was born in Abergavenny, but educated in Queens School, Taunton. Later he became a Worshipful Master of the St John's Lodge of Freemasons.

From 1926 he took over as Managing Director of the family business S.J.Ruther and Son Ltd of Frogmore Street.

He was President of the cricket club from 1948 until his untimely death in 1961.