

Chapter 30

Season 1975

President- E.G. Nash
Chairman- P.F. Jones
Hon Sec- R. Jennings
Treasurer- G.H. Lewis
Captain 1st X1- Brian Shackleton
Captain 2nd X1- A.K. Mead

Subscription were to be increased by 150% Lew White the Chairman announced after an EGM the subs would go from £2.20 to £5.50 for Playing members.

Pictured below Abergavenny First X1, Three Counties League (TCL)
Champions; Runners up Monmouthshire Knock Out



Back Row

L-R E. Hughes (Umpire) D. Jones, D. Harries, B. Williams, L. Wilcock, S. Lennox, K. Watkins.

Front Row L-R

D. Griffin, M. Powell, B. Shackleton (Capt) J. Powell, R. Brown.

This was Abergavenny Cricket Club's best season for more than 20 years. It was an overwhelming success for both teams. The 1st X1 took the Three Counties League Shield and the Gwent Premier League Trophy and were runners up in the Monmouthshire Knock Out. The 1st X1 forged ahead from the word go. They suffered a blow when top batsman Mike Powell broke a wrist when umpiring an August heat of the Abergavenny Superstar competition, but still managed to clinch the title before his return for the end of the

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season match against Colwall. Retiring captain Brian Shackleton put their success down to both the bowlers and consistent batting.

The four leading bowlers were, David Jones with 76 wickets, Keith Watkins 74, Stuart Lennox 68, and Dennis Harries 57. Stuart Lennox was also top of the batting averages with 558 runs at an average of 46.5. Top run scorer was David Jones with 904 runs at 23.79. supported by Len Wilcock scoring 790 at 22.0, David Griffin 717 at 23.13 and Mike Powell 708 at 25.28.

The traditional opening friendlies against Mumbles and Cardiff Choristers were called off for rain. The same applied the following week to matches with Whiteheads and Crickhowell. Thornbury were beaten by 96 runs at Thornbury. Abergavenny scoring 173-5 M.Powell (71) Thornbury 77 all out K,Watkins taking 4-13 and D.Jones 4-24.

Briton Ferry secured a draw with Abergavenny 140 all out.

A good win came against Stinchcombe Stragglers who were bowled out for 114 S.Lennox taking 4-29. Abergavenny making 115-6 in reply to win by 4 wickets. M.Powell, R.Brown & S.Lennox all batted well.

Abergavenny were 'slade' in the next game as Worcester bowled them out for 87 with Doug Slade taking 8 wickets which included 11 consecutive maidens. In reply Worcester reached their target for the loss of 4 wickets D.Slade following his bowling, making (29*).

Maiden First X1 Century for Powell

The next game saw Mike Powell record his first 1st X1 century

Alan Hartfield took 9-32 for the 2nd X1 against Malpas 2nds including a hat trick

It came against Malpas, this was the first century by an Abergavenny player at first team level since Peter Jones achieved the feat against Chepstow in 1970. Abergavenny 172-5 M.Powell (100) D.Jones (58) Malpas in reply finishing on 135-7 secured a draw. An overwhelming victory over Bill Edwards Swansea X1 came next with Bill Edwards X1 132 all out. D.Jones taking 7-48, Abergavenny 133-2 with M.Powell (74) top scoring.

In the Monmouthshire KO Cup Abergavenny 111-6 beat Abercarn 64-9 in the next round Abergavenny were drawn against Cardiff YMCA at St Mellions.

Newbridge 111-9 K.Watkins 3-26, D.Jones 3-34 beat Abergavenny who were all out for 108 despite the efforts of L.Wilcock (28) and S.Lennox (45).

An honourable draw against Cheltenham who were bowled out for 140. In reply Abergavenny managed 120-8 with Peter Thomas top scoring with (35). A revenge victory over Worcester came next who in chasing Abergavenny's total of 146-7 L.Wilcock (44) and S.Lennox (47) were bowled out for 125 D.Jones 3-35 and D.Harries 3-10 doing the damage.

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Back Row L-R L.Wilcock,D.Griffin,P.Butterfield,B.Williams,S.Lennox, K.Watkins
Front Row L-R D.Jones,M.Powell, B.Shackleton, J.Powell, R.Brown

Three Counties League table

Following their recent run of success in the Three Counties League Abergavenny First XI have moved to the top of the League. They have won five of their eight games so far, lost two and managed a winning draw in the other match. They have taken six batting points and 22 bowling points in their total of 84 which is two more than their nearest rivals, Winget, and have an average of 10.5 per cent. Abergavenny Second XI are not doing so well in their division but they have won four out of their nine games.

THREE COUNTIES LEAGUE (July 1, 1975)

	P	W	D	LD	L	Batt	Bowl	Pts	Aver
Division I									
Abergavenny.....	8	5	1	0	2	6	22	84	10.5
Winget.....	8	4	2	0	2	26	18	82	10.2
Worcester.....	8	4	0	3	1	11	28	81	10.1
Hereford.....	7	3	1	1	2	12	16	69	9.8
Panteg.....	9	2	2	2	3	7	28	31	9
Stonchombe Stragglers.....	8	3	1	1	3	12	20	58	8.6
Tewkesbury.....	8	1	3	1	3	13	22	65	8.1
Cirencester.....	7	2	0	1	4	8	15	47	6.7
Calwall.....	7	0	3	3	1	8	15	47	6.7
Lydney.....	9	2	1	2	4	14	17	69	6.6
Ross.....	7	1	0	3	3	7	14	27	3.2
Division II									
Panteg.....	7	3	3	1	0	16	20	86	12.2
Tewkesbury.....	7	4	2	0	1	13	21	86	12.2
Hereford.....	7	3	0	1	1	13	19	84	12
Calwall.....	9	3	2	2	2	15	17	79	8.8
Winget.....	9	3	1	2	1	9	28	75	8.3
Abergavenny.....	9	4	1	2	1	5	25	22	8
Stonchombe Stragglers.....	8	1	0	0	3	4	17	67	8.3
Worcester.....	7	2	2	0	3	9	12	49	7
Lydney.....	8	3	1	3	1	11	18	49	6.1
Cirencester.....	8	1	1	1	5	5	15	38	4.7
Ross.....	8	0	0	0	8	8	13	13	1.6

After 8 Fixtures the optimism was growing that this year may be special. Abergavenny were riding high at the top of the TCL.

They went on to win the League for the first and only time. The 2nd X1 under the captaincy of Tony Mead won the Gwent League to make it one of the most successful seasons in modern times

A winning draw against Ross Abergavenny totalled 141-6 with D.Jones (60) Ross struggled to 82-9 with D.Harries taking 4-15 was complimented with a win over Lydney who scored 152-6. Abergavenny winning by 5 wickets at 153-5 M.Powell (49) D.Griffin (62*)
The next match saw a last ball boundary from Keith Watkins beat Hereford. Hereford 161-6. Abergavenny 164-8 D.Jones (44) L.Wilcock (36).
The reverse of that came as Usk won in the last over in the Gwent Premier League. Abergavenny 140 all out with L.Wilcock, D.Griffin,M.Powell and S.Lennox all getting a start. Usk however prevailed at 143-6 with K.Watkins taking 3-61.

Panteg inflicted another defeat having scored 136-8, with K.Watkins taking 4-39 Abergavenny were all out for 119 with only Dick Brown (41) making any runs. A high scoring draw against Neath who amassed over 300 at 306-4 with John Bevan (88) with Abergavenny making a creditable 200-7 thanks to D.Jones (58) R.Brown (43) and K.Williams (34*)

The 2nd X1 fielded three schoolboys' products of the Colts Nick Moore, Mike Jones and Kyle Holmes against Machen 2nds

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Abergavenny got through to the quarter final of the Monmouthshire Knock Out Cup defeating Panteg who made 120-6. Abergavenny through D.Jones (34*) and S.Lennox (34*) won by 6 wickets.

A poor defeat to Monmouth followed as Abergavenny were all out for 124 D.Griffin (35) J.Powell (22) by 7 wickets.

The game against Cirencester was abandoned for rain.

A Colts X1 beat Garndiffaith Colts the Team included- N.Moore, A.Laking, A.Lang, R.Rossiter, K.Holmes, N.Davies, P.Barrett, M.Samuel, P.Bowen, N.Martin, A.Pothecary

Two wins followed for the 1st X1 against Pontnewynydd who were 87 all out with D.Jones taking 5-30 Abergavenny got home by 5 wickets at 88-5 D.Jones (30) and B.Shackleton (25*) were the main run getters. The second victory was against Winget who were 155 all out with B.Williams 5-38 and D.Harries 5-44 sharing the wickets. Abergavenny won by 3 wickets making 156-7 with M.Powell (50) and L.Wilcock (43) scoring the runs

The 2nd X1 meanwhile moved to the top of the Gwent League.

In a good weekend for the First X1 Monmouth were beaten in the quarter final of the Mon KO Cup, Newport Fugitives were beaten to improve their standing in the Gwent Premier and Panteg were beaten to consolidate their lead in the TCL.

Abergavenny 131-2 M.Powell (63) D.Griffin (41*) Monmouth 117-7

Newport Fugitives 80 all out D.Harries 6-27 S.Lennox 4-36 Abergavenny 83-2 D.Jones (40*) M.Drake (16*)

Panteg 108-7 D.Jones and S.Lennox taking 3 wickets each, Abergavenny 109-6 D.Griffin (52) B.Shackleton (23)

David James the 2nd X1 vice captain scored his maiden century against Newport fugitives 2nd X1. Gwent Under 18 caps were awarded to Kyle Holmes and Richard Rossiter with Adam Pothecary 12th man the side was to be captained by Eddie Butler

The Denis Amis benefit game was a huge success, then it was back to league action against Chepstow who were soundly beaten. Abergavenny 203-3 P.F.Jones (40) D.Jones (42) J.Powell (75) Chepstow 101-8 K.Watkins 4-8.

The Final of the Mon KO Cup beckoned after beating the village side Llanarth in the Semi-final. Abergavenny 105-6 Llanarth outclassed were 46 all out. Abergavenny then beat Abertillery with Abergavenny 183-7 D.Jones (86) Abertillery 98 all out K.Watkins bowling superb to take 7-27. A winning draw against Winget kept the momentum going Abergavenny 163-9 D.Griffin (48) J.Powell (30) Winget 75-9 D.Harries doing the damage. Abergavenny would have had 5 more points if they could have taken the last wicket.

A further win against Cirencester who scored 114-7. Len Wilcock with (37) ensured a 6 wicket victory. A losing draw with Hereford was a setback Hereford making 162-6 and Abergavenny 120-6.

Hythe were beaten at Avenue Road with young a K,Holmes scoring (51) Abergavenny 167-6 Hythe 138 all out D.Jones 3-24. It was at this point in the season that Mike Powell broke his wrist.

Abergavenny lost the Final of the Mon KO Cup to Ebbw Vale who made 131 in their 20 overs. Abergavenny could only manage a disappointing 90-6.

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A bad defeat against Caerleon with Abergavenny scoring 127 all out, with runs from B.Shackleton (38) and R.Rossiter (30) Caerleon passed the total with little trouble.

Abergavenny beat Colwall who were 120-9 with S.Lennox,D.Harries and K.Watkins sharing the wickets. Len Wilcock (47) and B.Shackleton (27) were the main run scorers.

Whiteheads were no match for Abergavenny. Whiteheads who scored 130-6 lost with Abergavenny scoring 131-6 with K.Holmes (57*)

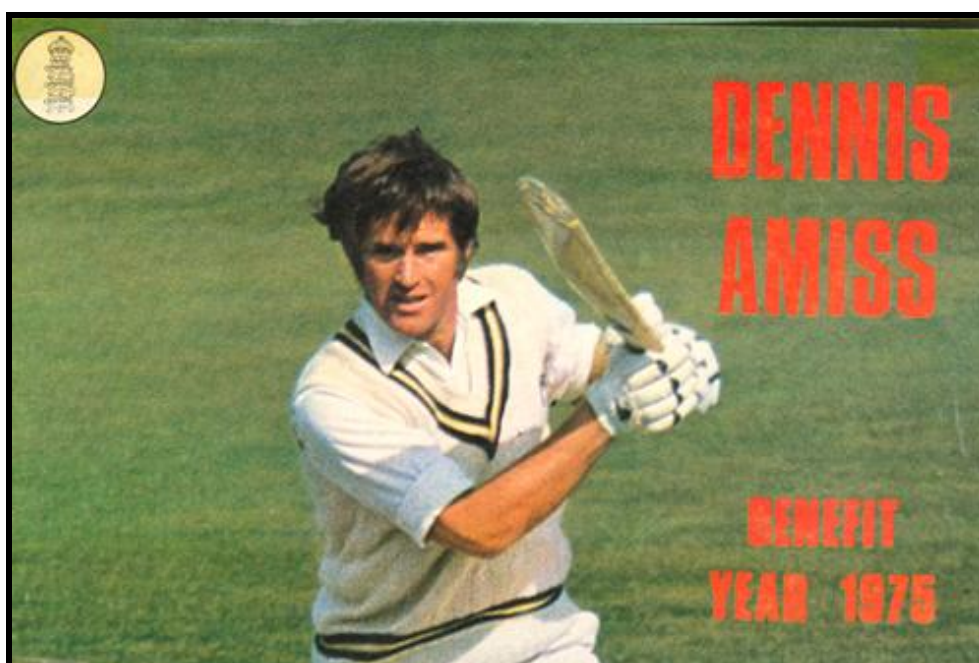
A losing draw followed against Tewkesbury who scored 202-4 with Abergavenny 178-9 in reply with a half century from D.Jones scoring (53)

Annual Tour to Kent- Abergavenny 127-10 Sandwich 112-9, Hythe 149-6 Abergavenny 143-6, Abergavenny 198-5 Tenterden 202-7, Milstead 210-5 Abergavenny 138-9, The Rogues 158-7 Abergavenny 153-7. Five games 4 Draws, 1 defeat R.Wallace played for Abergavenny and scored (60) in a huge partnership with Len Wilcock against The Rogues but Abergavenny could only draw.

A rain interrupted match with Tewkesbury followed, which finished in the dark with D.Griffin (55*) as Abergavenny got the 190 required to win. Abergavenny 144-10 St Fagans 78-8 in a friendly.

Lydney were 'smashed' making 116 all out with S.Lennox 5-46 Abergavenny 117-3 L.Wilcock (60) R.Brown (28*) The key game of the season came next against title challengers Stinchcombe who made 165-7 but in reply Abergavenny could only manage 128-7 with a solid S.Lennox making (46) this losing draw meant sweating it out as Stinchcombe the nearest rivals had 3 games left and Abergavenny just the one. A friendly against Ross was duly won. Ross 120 all out K.Watkins 4-42 and S.Lennox 4-39 Abergavenny 121-9.

The following week whilst Abergavenny played two more friendlies against Flaxbourton and Whitchurch, Worcester defeated Stinchcombe by 7 wickets. So with their one fixture against Colwall to come Abergavenny were crowned Champions without playing as Stinchcombe had missed their opportunity. Thornbury were beaten by 9 wickets D.Jones (49) P.F.Jones (43*) and Abergavenny finished off the season in style beating Colwall with Mike Powell scoring 45 on his return from injury.



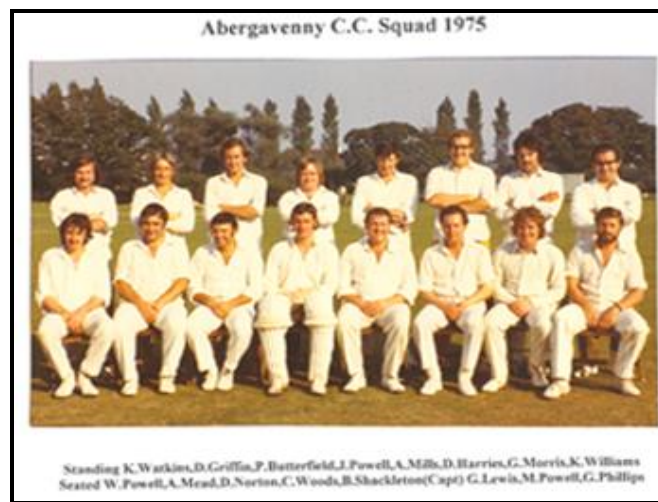
*Massive crowd enjoys
carnival cricket in
Dennis Amiss Benefit*

A MASSIVE crowd, good weather and some carnival cricket helped make Dennis Amiss' benefit match against Abergavenny at Avenue Road on Sunday a memorable occasion. The match was also a success financially with Dennis receiving a cheque for £500 towards his benefit after the game.



Kyle Holmes receives the Young Player of the Year award from Malcolm Nash.

Chairman Peter Jones in the background





Dennis Amiss Benefit 1975 Abergavenny v Warwickshire

Back Row L-R

J.Morgan,K.Watkins,E.Hemmings,P.F.Jones,R.Brown,L.Wilcock,
K.Holmes,D.Jones,D.Brown,B.Williams,
C.Coggins,D.Murray,D.Evans,A.N.Other,D.Griffin,E.Hughes,D.Harries,S.Perryman,B.Bour
ne,S.Lennox.

Front Row L-R A.Kallicharran, M.Powell, J.Jameson, B.Shackleton, D.Amiss, R.Kanhai,
J.Powell, P.Barrett(Scorer)

World Events

Margaret Thatcher becomes the first woman leader of the British Tory Party, Aristotle Onassis dies, Reds storm Phnom Penh, capture Cambodia, Baader-Meinhof gang trial begins in Germany, Apollo and Soyuz dock in space, Shostakovich dies, Ali beats Frazier to retain his boxing title, Franco dies, Jack Nicholson stars in One flew over the Cuckoos Nest, Stepford Wives is released, Junko Tabei becomes the first woman to conquer Mount Everest. The West Indies defeat Australia by 17 runs in the final of the first cricket World Cup, held at Lord's. John Walker of New Zealand becomes the first man to run a mile in under 3 minutes 50 seconds, in Gothenburg, Sweden.