

Chapter 62

2007 Season

President-J.B.Shackleton

Chairman-A.Coles

Hon Sec-Mrs T.Pike, Treasurer-J.B.Shackleton

Captain 1st X1-J.Phillips

Captain 2nd X1-S.Brown

This season Abergavenny took a unique decision to make an official merge with Crickhowell Cricket Club. For many years they had enjoyed rivalry on the field, but friendship off the field, with many of Abergavenny's greatest players making the 6 mile journey down the A40 to play at Avenue Road. This year to mutual benefit Crickhowell in effect became Abergavenny's 3rd and 4th X1's. With players from both clubs eligible for all 4 teams.

Pictured below John Phillips - 1st X1 Captain 2007



The First X1 who had been relegated from the Premier League in 2006 are now playing in Division 1 and the 2nd X1 are playing in the Premier League for 2nd X1's. The 3rd's and 4th's are playing in the Marches League Division 5

Early season friendlies in April against Cowbridge and Pentych ended with a defeat and a victory with Cowbridge scoring 192-7 with wickets for Skelton, Fury and Cornock (1each) and 2-38 for Andy Timpson. However Pentyrch were beaten Abergavenny 229-6 R.Wallace (33) G.Fury (30) I.Lilley (40) J.Phillips (85*) Pentyrch 202-6 J.Denning 3-31, M.Morgan 2-47, A.Fury 1-18. Next was Malpas . Abergavenny 261-5 with early season runs for A.Jones (30) A.Fury (73) S.Brown (50) C.Barnsley (25*) M.Evans (34*) G.Fury (20) Malpas were 94 all out. A.Timpson 5-22, Joseph Hrstelj 2-17, J.Denning 2-11 and A.Fury 1-15.

A ton from Captain John Phillips (103) out of 215 all out was the highlight of the game with Usk . Ben Morgan also scored (54) Usk winning by 6 wickets at 216-4 M.Evans 2-38. Lisvane were also beaten, with a returning Gavin White scoring (58) O.Bradley taking 3-34 with his leg spin.

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The first League match was against Hoovers, Abergavenny issued an early warning to the rest of the League when they defeated Hoovers by 7 wickets at Avenue Road with 17 overs to spare.

Sixteen year old swing bowler, Jon Denning claimed two early wickets for the home side but 80 runs were added before Wayne Davies was caught in the covers by Mark Wallace for 38. The introduction of the two off spinners, James Schofield and Alistair Fury applied a brake to the scoring

The latter aided by his wicket keeping brother Greg Fury with a stumping and a catch, finished his 10 over stint with figures of 10 overs 4 maidens 23runs 3 wickets. Ben Morgan with two quick wickets finished off the tail and Hoovers were all out in the final over for 185.

Andrew Jones and Alistair Fury opened the batting for Abergavenny and had reached 58 at a rate of a run a ball when Fury was deceived and bowled. Glamorgan C.C.C who lost by an innings the previous day had requested that eight of their players turn out for their assigned clubs to obtain additional match practice and so Mark Wallace batted at number three for the home club. Jones was batting beautifully with near perfect placement and Wallace was batting soundly and together with their excellent judgement of the single they advanced the score to 149 before Jones was caught by the Hoover's gloveman for a well earned 70. Captain John Phillips who had scored a century six days earlier at Usk played on to his fourth ball and it was left to Schofield to join Wallace and take the team to a seven wicket win with Wallace being undefeated with 51.

Between May 7th and May 19th rain prevented any games.

Newport Fugitives 168-9 Abergavenny 103 all out

Newport Fugitives were next and a horrific first over in which 3 Abergavenny batsmen were dismissed for the sum of 1 run was a major set back in their quest to score 169 for victory in this away match. The decline continued with Ben Morgan and Marc Evans both out with the score on 5. Greg Fury was then dropped in the covers at the same score but he scored 16 before he was caught at silly mid on by former Abergavenny player James Diccote.

New comer Jack Horton who opened the innings was still there and together with Neil Skelton kept the Fugitive bowlers at bay for an hour before he was caught trying to force the pace. Skelton took advantage of any loose bowling but after he was out for 55, which included 3 sixes, the remaining batsmen quickly succumbed.

Earlier Newport Fugitives had got off to a very solid start and had reached 92 for 1 when the introduction of 3rd change bowler Jack Horton halted them in their tracks. Taking full advantage of the drying wicket he captured 3 wickets in his second over and another in the next. Andrew Coles was bowling extremely economically at the other end and only allowed 18 runs to be scored off his 10 overs but he was unable to take a wicket and a stubborn stand of 64 lifted the Fugitives to 157 The next 4 wickets fell for 11runs and Horton finished with the best Abergavenny bowling statistics for several years 10 overs 3 maidens 7-26.

On a pitch where 10 ducks were recorded it was difficult initially to adjust to the pitch but it was a game that Abergavenny could have won with greater batting discipline.

Panteg then beat Abergavenny in the S.Wales League Cup. Panteg 175-6 with two wickets each for Kirkham, Skelton and L.Fury. Abergavenny 132 all out G.Fury (43) J.Horton (26) and J.Phillips (21)

The Penarth game was abandoned.

Abergavenny suffered their second defeat in the League this season when they were beaten at Bridgend by 6 wickets. The home side won the toss and put Abergavenny into bat on a slow damp pitch. Cornock and Jones started well but the former lifted his head and was bowled for 18 and this set the tone for several of the batsmen to get themselves out with careless shots after appearing to be well set. Captain John Phillips

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was a notable exception and occupied the crease for 88 balls but found it difficult to penetrate the defensive field and was eventually caught behind for 24. Abergavenny were dismissed for 169 in the 45th over. Ben Morgan gained a wicket in his first over but the next wicket did not fall until Jack Horton caught Grant Humphries off his own bowling but now the score was 102. Dalton carried on unperturbed by the loss of his partner and with the wicket easing reached 68 before being bowled off his pads by Lee Fury for 68. The wicket of Towell quickly followed but that was Abergavenny's last success and the home side passed their target with 6 wickets and 12 overs to spare.



Arial View of Newbridge Fields Bridgend's home ground

Rogerstone were beaten despite Andrew Harris scoring a century. J.Horton 3-43, B.Morgan 2-55 N.Byrne and N.Skelton 1 wicket each. Abergavenny won by 7 wickets with 217-3 Paul Cornock (98) J.Horton (52) J.Schofield (24)

A defeat at home to Pontypridd followed. Abergavenny 163-9 J.Schofield (46) G.Fury (31) A.Fury (20) Pontypridd 165-4 J.Horton 2-32 N.Byrne and Andrew Coles 1 wicket each.

A young Hoovers side were swept aside by a much stronger Abergavenny team in the round robin stage of the League Cup. A century opening partnership between Ben Morgan and Jack Horton ended with Morgan being bowled for 46 by former Abergavenny Thursday manager Ron Walton, who also quickly accounted for Greg Fury and James Schofield. Another century partnership followed between acting captain Alistair Fury, who carried his bat for 84 and Marc Evans, eventually run out for 59. Abergavenny reached 290 -5 off their 40 overs.

The home side quickly made inroads into the Hoover batting with newcomer Dave Windross claiming 2 early wickets and with Ben Morgan decimating the middle order with a 4-14 spell the away side lurched to a final total of 74. Although the opposition were weaker than usual the opportunity to bat and bowl on the square should benefit the side in their next league game, away to Barry

August and Abergavenny started only their 6th league game of the season at home to Bridgend and the rustiness showed as they lost their first three wickets for only 17 runs. First team captain John Phillips and second team captain Steve Brown dropped anchor and kept the three swing bowlers at bay but at the half way stage the score was only on 66. Gradually the scoring rate increased and the partnership was worth 93 when Brown was a fraction early on the shot and was caught at long on Greg Fury perished in a similar fashion and then Phillips who was struggling with a tweaked hamstring was bowled in the 38th over for 62. Phil Cornock marshalled the tail and was not out for a hard hit 36 when the allotted overs were completed and the score had reached 182-8.

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As Phillips was unable to field, Brown took charge and was encouraged when Byrne snared opener Max Brown with his second ball. Fellow opener Grant Humphries was untroubled and found the boundary 7 times in his first ten scoring shots but his team mates found the going more difficult and tight bowling by Morgan, Skelton and Brown was rewarded with wickets. Humphries eventually succumbed to Brown for 81 and the game was on a knife edge but Bridgend reached their target with four balls to spare and Abergavenny had just lost a very enjoyable game,

SWCA Cup semi final against Newport was the next game. Newport 188-9 3 wickets each for Ben Morgan and Nathan Byrne. D. Windross 2-52 and Adam Fury 1-29. Abergavenny 157 all out J. Schofield (38) Ben Morgan (28) and Adam Fury (19)

Abergavenny gained their second win of the season over Rogerstone on Saturday when they held their nerve in a low scoring game and eased home by a 3 wicket margin. Phil Cornock who had struck a devastating 98 in the home fixture saw the Beavers to victory with a solid and mature innings and ensured the tail held firm.

Rogerstone had started aggressively with Andrew Harris quickly finding the short boundary but he mistimed a waist high full toss from Skelton and was caught at mid off by vice captain Andrew Coles. Byrne quickly removed the new batsman but left hander Gary Williams was batting well and was undeterred by Ben Morgans 2 wickets and a useful stand of 47 developed, before Morgan struck again. Byrne returned and bowled Williams who was 2 runs short of fifty. The remaining four wickets were soon claimed and Rogerstone were all out for 119.

Andrew Jones, who had scored 60 for Wales earlier in the week was soon lb.w. to Harris and captain John Phillips lasted four balls before he suffered the same fate. James Schofield, and for the second week in succession, Steve Brown, buckled down and the score had reached 55 when Brown didn't go through with his shot and was caught. Jack Horton hit a quick 15 before he was brilliantly caught by John Berry. Greg Fury and opener Schofield followed immediately and Abergavenny were wobbling at 79-6. Ben Morgan decided to take the initiative and hit a quick fire 18 before being bowled by leg spinner Iqbal. Skelton joined Cornock and together they ushered their side to victory in the 33rd over.

Late in August next opponents were Cefn Fforest who were 222 all out (G Bisp 88 N Byrne 5-41 L Fury 2-30) Abergavenny 237-9 (A Jones 98 n.o L Fury 48 n.o) winning by 15 runs;

In the 2nd X1

Abergavenny 218-7 (D Windross 55 M Evans 40 M DeVoy 36 L Tuckfield 2-40) beat Usk (W) J Osborne 28 A Fury 3-8 H Wright 2-10 D Windross 2-12) by 109 runs

St Fagans (W) 204-9 (M Provis 88 n.o M Williams 31 S Brown 3-36 D Windross 2-20) lost to Abergavenny 205-3 (S Brown 112 n.o) by seven wickets

Abergavenny (W) 356-6 (R Wallace 78 n.o M Evans 69 M Taylor 63 W Passey 2-48 R Evans 2-64) beat Tondur 100 all out (S Grabham 29 n.o L Kirkham 6-27 J Thomas 2-18) by 256 runs

Sudbrook (W) 204-9 (G Voke 72 P Adams 65 M Kinchin 43 O Bradley 5-52) drew with Abergavenny 326-5 (S Brown 113 M Evans 112 A Fury 82 P Adams 2-55 G Voke 2-57);

19th Aug Abergavenny (W) (44 overs game) 165 all out (J Viveash 58 S Brown 50 A Leering 4-39 A Brohi 2-38) lost to St Fagans 199-9 (M Lewis 51 N Allen 37 L Kirkham 2-31 L Fury 2-34) by 34 runs

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DIVISION ONE FIRST X1.

	P	w	l	c	a	BatP	BowlP	Pen	Ave	Pts
Penarth CC	18	9	2	5	2	42	46	0	16.18	178
Bridgend Town CC	18	8	3	7	0	45	46	0	15.55	171
Barry CC	18	8	4	6	0	41	45	0	13.83	166
Pontypridd CC	18	6	4	8	0	35	35	0	13.00	130
Rogerstone Welfare CC	18	7	5	6	0	34	47	0	12.58	151
Abergavenny CC	18	4	4	7	3	23	31	0	11.75	94
Brecon CC	18	6	5	6	1	33	34	0	11.55	127
Newport Fugitives CC	18	6	6	6	0	34	39	0	11.08	133
Hoover Sports CC	18	1	11	6	0	21	26	0	4.75	57
Cefn Fforest CC	18	0	11	7	0	16	31	0	4.27	47

PREMIER DIVISION SECOND XI

	P	w12	w12	w10	l	l	l	d11	d10	d9	d8	d4	d3	d2	d1	can	abn	BatP	BowlP	Pen	Ave	Pts
Chepstow CC	22	5	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	7	2	56	58	0	19.00	247
Abergavenny CC	22	1	8	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	69	63	0	15.35	261
Newport C. C.	22	3	4	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	1	59	59	0	15.13	227
St Fagans CC	22	1	7	1	1	1	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	67	59	0	14.24	242
Sully Centurions CC	22	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	2	56	59	0	13.87	208
Cardiff CC	22	1	4	3	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	5	2	54	53	0	13.87	208
Miskin Manor CC	22	1	3	3	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	0	57	51	0	13.71	192
Usk CC	22	3	3	2	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	50	61	0	12.59	214
Penarth CC	22	0	3	3	1	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	6	0	53	56	0	12.06	193
Sudbrook CC	22	0	2	4	0	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	47	46	0	9.94	169
Panteg CC	22	0	1	0	1	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	3	36	40	0	7.42	89
Tondu CC	22	0	1	0	4	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	25	30	0	5.36	68



County Championship cricket returns to Abergavenny Cricket Club this summer, as Glamorgan Cricket will be playing Leicestershire from Wednesday 25th July to Saturday 28th July 2007, at Avenue Road, in the Liverpool Victoria County Championship.

Formed in 1834, Abergavenny C.C. is one of the oldest clubs in Wales, and the Avenue Road ground has hosted county cricket since 1981 when Glamorgan visited the ground for their Sunday League match against Worcestershire.

The last County Championship game to be played in Abergavenny was in 1997 when a Glamorgan team led by Matthew Maynard, beat Northamptonshire by 6 wickets, on their way to winning the title.

"We are naturally delighted county cricket is returning to Abergavenny after an absence of ten years," said Tony Coles, Chairman of Abergavenny C.C. "Although staging this game involves a great deal of hard work involving club officials, the ladies section and a small band of volunteers it does provide the opportunity for members of Glamorgan and the cricketing public to enjoy the atmosphere of one of the prettiest grounds in Wales with panoramic views of the surrounding mountains."

"The game provides the opportunity for two home grown players Mark Wallace and Mike Powell to return to the club and it is with great disappointment that Mike will not be playing following his recent serious illness. All those connected to the club extend their best wishes to Mike for a speedy recovery. We look forward to some fine weather, a good crowd and a Glamorgan win so that we can all reflect on the successful return of county cricket to Abergavenny."

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Unfortunately no play was possible on any of the 4 days



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Jimmy Marr with some of the Abergavenny youngsters

CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

THE COLIN WOODS MEMORIAL TROPHY

1ST TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR

LEWIS WHITE MEMORIAL CUP

2ND TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR

3RD TEAM (CRICKHOWELL) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

4TH TEAM (ABERGAVENNY BEAVERS)

PLAYER OF THE YEAR ROBERT PRICE CUP

YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR

MALCOLM NASH CUP

MOST PROMISING YOUNG PLAYER

ABERGAVENNY FIRE STATION CUP

UNDER17 PLAYER OF THE YEAR MAC TROPHY

Ron Collett

Louis Kirkham

Jack Horton

Steve Brown

Nick Francis

Owain Bradley

Nathan Byrne

Huw Wright

Nathan Holley





The Cricket Club lost one of it's longest serving and most loved members with the passing of Mel Pritchard.

Mel had been connected with the Club since the 1947 Season. So for 60 years he had graced the Cricket Club with his presence.

A fantastic bowler Mel took many wickets over the years for both the First X1 and 2nd X1. The Abergavenny Chronicle regularly featured Mel as the leading wicket taker and the club presented him with a blazer in his prime for being the leading wicket taker.

After he finished playing he became a hard working member of the Ground Committee, in his memory Ray Hamer has built the Mel Pritchard 'Stand'