

Chapter 60

2005 Season

President-J.B.Shackleton

Chairman-A.Coles

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

Captain 1st X1-Keith Newell/Andrew Jones

Captain 2nd X1-M.Winstaley

Captain 3rd X1-John Lamont

Captain 4th X1-Richard Bradley

Early season friendlies against Hoovers, Cefn Fforest, Pentwyn and Chepstow were cancelled.

The first league game, Usk away saw a poor result Usk making 185-6 wickets for Heritage the two Newell's and M.Beacham in reply Abergavenny all out for 139. A.Dewfield (40) J.Newell (35)

At St Fagans early in the season Abergavenny were all out for 97 with only Andrew Jones (44) and Steve Brown(10) making double figures. St Fagans reached the target for the loss of 4 wickets. 2 wickets for Gavin Heritage and one for M.Beacham.

Home to Tondu resulted in a draw. Abergavenny 181- 4 A.Jones (55) M.Beacham(30) Keith Newell (48*) Tondu 152-6 G.Heritage 3-35 and 1 wicket each for Schofield and Beacham.



Pictured above Alex Denning bowling at Pentyrch for the 2nd X1
Taking 3-50 off his 10 overs

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Sudbrook away saw another drawn game. Sudbrook 269-5 G.Heritage 3-55 and a wicket each for J.Newell and J.Schofield. Abergavenny 200-5 A.Fury (24) J.Newell (47)C.Barnsley (33) A.Dewfield (46*)J.Schofield (24*)

St Fagans at Avenue Road easily defeated Abergavenny. Abergavenny 166-8 Keith Newell (56*)C.Barnsley (35) St Fagans 167-2 winning by 8 wickets.

Abergavenny 1stXI V Sully

Last Years League Champions,Sully came to Abergavenny determined to avenge their defeat at Avenue Road last year.The home side already without opening batsman A. Fury and spinner James Didcot through injuries were further weakened due to the unavailability of off spinner Jon Newell due to work commitments.An added interest to the game was the inclusion, one per side,of two Glamorgan players who had played the previous evening against Hampshire.

Sully won the toss batted and Ryan Sylvester playing his first official league game of the season due to suspension immediately showed why he scored over 1000 runs in the league last season by scoring ten runs in Gavin Heritages first over.The opening partnership continued to prosper until the introduction of Kyle Holmes who made full use of the overcast conditions and was rewarded when Glamorgan keeper Mark Wallace made a smart legside stumping off a wide ball to remove Sylvester for 44.His brother ,Sully Captain Jamie was well caught at backward square leg by John Phillips off Holmes who also claimed another scalp when Heritage caught O'Shea.Keith Newell proved as miserly as Holmes but when their allocation ended the absence of the two main spinners meant that Abergavenny were unable to control the game and the next partnership added 128 only being broken with the final ball of the innings.

Set to score 237 to win Abergavenny quickly lost Steve Brown beaten by the speed of Glamorgan opening bowler Andrew Davies but Phillips and Wallace added 50 runs and were looking comfortable when Wallace was beaten by a ball which nipped back and Phillips was caught at extra cover two balls later.The middle order stagnated and only James Schofield seemed secure.Abergavenny lost their final two wickets in the 50th over and lost by 84 runs.

In a shock move with the season barely underway, Abergavenny coach Keith Newell (Pictured below)the former Sussex and Glamorgan player has stood down as captain.



Keith joined Abergavenny in 2003 following their relegation from top flight cricket in 2002. His impact was immediate as Abergavenny took all before them and won the 1st Division by a street losing only one game all season. He was also instrumental in bringing Jon Newell his brother to the club and Jon had an outstanding season winning the Player of the Year accolade in his first season.

This success was followed up in the Premiership in 2004 as Abergavenny proved once again that they were the premier club in Gwent. Interestingly they defeated all of the top three

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teams in the premiership, with the victory over the invincible Sully the highlight of the season

His first Class career stretched from 1995 to 2001, he scored just under 3,000 runs and took 24 wickets. In the 1 day format he scored 2,500 plus runs and took 42 wickets. Winning the gold award in 2000 versus Kent in the Nat West.

Penarth away were beaten quite well. Abergavenny 175 all out A. Jones (82) C. Barnsley (21) K. Newell (17) Penarth 86 all out with Gavin Heritage taking 4-5, K. Hlmes 4-27 and Mike Beacham 2-8.

At Spytty Park Newport posted 276-2 A. Coles 1-62 Abergavenny in reply managed to get to 267-8 only narrowly failing to win. Keith Newell (136) J. Phillips (45) A. Dewfield (33)

Cardiff away Cardiff 276-5 Abergavenny 176-9

A much weakened side was selected for Sunday June 19th Welsh Cup, defeat to Panteg. Panteg 273-5 L. Fury 3-62 Abergavenny 171-7 G. Heritage (71) L. Fury (45)

Pontypridd were beaten at home, Abergavenny 204-8 S. Brown (83) C. Barnsley (41) J. Schofield (34*) Pontypridd all out 90. K. Holmes 5-13, G. Heritage 3-23 and M. Beacham 2-13.

In their next match Abergavenny avoided the rain which wiped out most of the cricket in South Wales to win their vital clash against Panteg at Avenue Road.

Kyle Holmes acting Captain won the toss and asked Panteg to bat and they scored 187-4 in difficult conditions. Adam Harrison went early for 9 but Barney Worrall was top scorer with a fine 70, Ian Bird made 33 and Blain Harris was not out 31 at the close. Andrew Coles took 2-41 and Kyle Holmes 1-28 off 10 overs.

Abergavenny started their innings disastrously. John Phillips for 1 Steve Brown for 4, Glamorgan's Mark Wallace going for 2 and Keith Newell for 4 as they slumped to 16-4. Another Glamorgan product from Abergavenny, Mike Powell steadied the ship with a fine 45 and Craig Barnsley and Gavin Heritage got 36 and 30 respectively. It was 86-6 when Powell was out and it looked all over for the home side but their ninth wicket pair Mike Beacham (23 n.o.) and Holmes added 55 to win the game on 188-8 in the 49th over.

A match against Chepstow brought another defeat. Chepstow 224 -8 L. Fury 3-28 O. Bradley 2-47. Abergavenny 189-8 G. Fury (22) J. Viveash (34) L/Fury (29) R. Wallace (31) O. Bradley (21)

Next there was yet another Nail Biter at Avenue Road

Spectators at Avenue Road were treated to another enthralling finish when the home team were neatened off the fourth ball of the last over by one wicket. The game seemed all wrapped up with Sudbrook 179-4 requiring 42 from 10 overs but tight bowling and good catching almost brought the home side victory.

Abergavenny won the toss and Captain Andrew Jones lead from the front and had notched up 98 when he hit a full toss into deep mid wickets hands. Steve Brown, John Phillips and Craig Barnsley had all been involved in useful partnerships with Jones but all were guilty of too many dot balls. Gavin Heritage supplied the much needed aggression with a quick fire 41 and the Beavers finished with 200-6.

Heritage got Abergavenny off to a fine start when he had Mike Knight, a century scorer the previous Sunday at the same ground, superbly caught by a diving Keith Newell in the gully. Runs came quickly however until changes were made and Coles and Holmes put the brakes on and were each rewarded with a wicket. Mike Beacham has Ross Lewis LBW for 62 and Heritage had the dangerous O'Leary caught by Jones for 47. Newell returned and

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enticed a catch to Heritage and the same combination struck again when Forder was well held off a steeper. Two more wickets fell as Heritage and Newell each clean bowled their victims and Abergavenny thought they had won when the last man was struck on the back foot but it was not to be and Sudbrook eased through to win a great game of cricket by one wicket.

Abergavenny 166-8. St Fagans 167-2

There was a tantalising end to the Tondu trip

Another hot day, another close match, another possible victory so near and yet so far.

Tondu winning the toss had no hesitation in batting and Steve Pope quickly got into an aggressive mode being particularly severe on an unusually out of sorts Gavin Heritage who was experiencing run up difficulties. Mike Beacham claimed the 1st wicket catching Pope off his own bowling and this brought the home captain Wayne Butler to the crease who then embarked on a stand of 106 with Matt. Morgan. The latter treated James Schofield with great respect but Butler took full advantage of his short length and took 32 of his 52 runs off him. Enter Kyle Holmes. He clean bowled Morgan and Butler and had Rowe caught behind by Lilly. Andrew Coles chipped in by bowling Williamson for a duck and Tondu had lost 4 wickets for 9 runs. Only one more wicket was taken and that was off the last ball of the innings by Holmes and Tondu had scored 239-6.

Andrew Jones, last years leading batsman failed, out for 3 and John Phillips was bowled for 1, out bowled for the fourth consecutive innings. Steve Brown and Keith Newell slowly rebuilt the innings and the total was 79 when Bussey removed them both in a space of 5 balls, each for 29. Gavin Heritage tried to inject some urgency into the game but fell to a catch on the square leg boundary for 12. James Schofield joined Craig Barnsley and they batted very sensibly pushing along the score at 6 per over and Tondu began to get concerned and then tragedy in the form of a misfield which led to a run out. Beacham and Lilly were quickly out but Holmes proved a useful partner to Barnsley who by now was forcing players back onto the boundary in an attempt to cut off his powerful stroke play and then another misunderstanding led to the run out of Holmes. Barnsley continued to try and win the match and a further 22 had been added when he was finally caught off a strong shot to deep extra cover for an excellent 85 and Abergavenny had lost to Tondu by 19 runs.

Next came a much needed home Victory for Abergavenny against Pentyrch

Andrew Jones and Stephen Brown started off in such a positive way that a left arm spinner was introduced in the 7th over and this not only calmed things down but shortly afterwards Brown was clean balled by his namesake. John Phillips was really bogged down and it took 26 balls before he scored his first run but then he moved rapidly up through the gears driving straight and through the covers to hit 8 fours and a six to reach his 50 just after Jones had passed the same milestone. Unfortunately going for a second run Phillips just failed to make his ground and was run out. The remaining batsman all tried to up the tempo in the last 10 overs but tight bowling, canny field placings and the extra bounce in the wicket proved too much for them and 6 wickets went for the addition of only 38 runs and the score totalled 188-9 after 50 overs.

Gavin Heritage bowled quick and we had the rare sight of the keeper standing 20 yards back and the ball smacking into his gloves. The first wicket fell with an outstanding catch by Jones at first slip off Heritage and then the accurate Keith Newell claimed the next 2 wickets. Michael Beacham who had scored a century for the clubs Under 17's earlier in the week bowled the oppositions captain with his second ball and followed that up by having the dangerous Smith well caught by a diving keeper, loan Lilly. Andrew Coles bowled an exemplary 10 overs for only 14 runs and taking two wickets in the process. John Llewellyn decided to hit his side out of trouble with an agricultural approach and scored 57 before he was last man out and Holmes 3rd victim. leaving Abergavenny winners by 49 runs. A welcome victory after the narrow defeats of the previous two games.

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Abergavenny 202-6 S.Brown (34) K.Newell (47) C.Barnsley (55)M.Beacham (22*) Penarth 194 all out N.Skelton 4-28 C.Barnsley 2-25.

A determined and resolute Abergavenny fought back after losing early wickets to defeat Cardiff by 22 runs at Avenue Rd.

Captain Andrew Jones watched at the non strikers end as Brown, Phillips, Hrastelj & Barnsley all departed for a collective total of 10 runs. Seventeen year old Greg Fury making his 1st team debut railed in his normal aggressive batting to add 61 for the fifth wicket and then Gavin Heritage helped Jones to continue the recovery in a stand of 69. Jones, batting majestically, repeatedly pierced the field and had hit 3 sixes and seventeen fours before mis-hitting to square leg for a scintillating 124 enabling Abergavenny to reach 213 for 9.

Cardiff got off to a rapid start and continued to score at a rate of 5 per over but an LBW decision to Heritage and the introduction of Craig Barnsley stemmed the flow of runs. Barnsley's accurate cutters proved too much for the early order batting and he was rewarded with three wickets for 24 off his 10 overs. Iwan Lilley stumped the obstinate Bridgeman off Holmes and this excellent dismissal was eclipsed two overs later when he stumped his opposite number Buttigieg off a legside wide. The accurate bowling and fielding of the home side proved conclusive and transformed the game from a canter to a catastrophe for Cardiff as they failed to reach the Abergavenny total by 22 runs.

Abergavenny continued their unbeaten run at the pleasant Ynysangharad Park (Pictured Below) when the home side failed by 10 runs to reach their total.



Mid morning rain caused the start to be delayed and Abergavenny were put into bat. Batting conditions were difficult with the ball seaming and lifting from the weather effected pitch but John Phillips took full advantage of any over pitched balls and continued in this vein when the spinners were introduced peppering the sight screen area with 4's & 6's until he miscued and was caught for 64. The remaining batsmen all contributed and Abergavenny reached 192-6 off their allotted 39 overs.

Abergavenny suffered an early set back when opening bowler Neil Skelton pulled up after 3 balls with a calf problem, he stayed on the pitch but the away side were virtually down to 10 men. Mike Beacham bowling as replacement made a double break through in the 10th over but this led to the introduction of Wintle who hit a rapid 41 before being bowled by debutant 17 year old Alex Denning. As the pitch eased and lost its devilment Pontypridd sensed victory and with the away Aber captain having to juggle his bowlers he was delighted when rarely used Steve Brown had Bishop well caught at deep square leg by Denning and the obdurate Price removed by Heritage. The captain then chipped in with an extra cover catch and a direct throw run out and with the final 2 overs only producing 3 runs Abergavenny had triumphed in yet another close game.

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Usk came next. A highscoring local derby was eventually won by Usk with 9 balls left. Abergavenny batting first, lost their first wicket for 29 when Brown was LBW. Phillips & Jones added 64 before the former was bowled. James Hrastelj was given out caught by the wicketkeeper when the appeal was for a stumping. Jones was next out for 69 but this was a prelude to a partnership of 96 between Barnsley & Greg Fury which added 96. Fury cut the ball onto his wicket after scoring 75 runs off 57 balls & Barnsley was run out for 58. Abergavenny reached their highest score of the season 283 for 8.

Usk started off slowly but gradually picked up momentum and 156 runs had been scored before Coles claimed the wicket of Tamplin. Craig Barnsley & youngster Alex Denning could not keep consistent lines & lengths & were easily picked off by Mike Kear but crucially, he was dropped on 98 by wicketkeeper Lilley. Kear reached his first league century for 15 years and when the Abergavenny total was passed in the 49th over he ended with an Usk career best of 157

At the end of the season runs galore against Panteg (Pictured below)most of them for Panteg. Who made 333-3 in reply Abergavenny made a very respectable 247-7 A.Jones (62)C.Barnsley (76) G.Heritage (24) L.Fury (23*)



Pictured above Helen Brown and Jane Bruton Chairman's Award Winners

We Are The Champions



4th X1 -2005

Abergavenny Thirds and Fourths have both finished the season top of their respective leagues and will be promoted.

Glamorgan return to Abergavenny

First class cricket returns to Abergavenny from the 26th-28th July when Glamorgan play Bangladesh 'A'. The Bangladesh side includes several players who played against England & Australia, so we will be looking forward to a keen contest

Toss	Glamorgan won the toss and decided to bat
Result	Match drawn
Umpires	DB Hair, MJ Kitchen

Glamorgan first innings		Runs	Balls	Mins	4s	6s
+MA Wallace	c Shahin Hossain b Talha Jubair	51	69	95	6	2
DD Cherry	lbw b Shahadat Hossain	4	3	8	1	-
RE Watkins	c Shahin Hossain b Syed Rasel	13	30	45	3	-
J Hughes	lbw b Syed Rasel	13	55	71	1	-
MJ Powell	c Shahadat Hossain b Talha Jubair	111	145	169	11	4
MP O'Shea	c Mehrab Hossain b Enamul Haque	10	27	28	-	-
AG Wharf	lbw b Shahadat Hossain	77	121	143	9	2
*RDB Croft	b Syed Rasel	40	48	55	5	1
AP Davies	lbw b Enamul Haque	15	38	49	2	-
DA Cosker	not out	11	25	30	2	-
HT Waters	c Shahin Hossain b Syed Rasel	1	2	2	-	-
Extras	(7 lb, 22 nb, 5 pen)	34				
Total	(all out, 90.1 overs)	380				

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Fall of wickets:

1-8 (Cherry), 2-46 (Watkins), 3-90 (Wallace), 4-118 (Hughes), 5-148 (O'Shea), 6-287 (Powell), 7-336 (Wharf), 8-352 (Croft), 9-379 (Davies), 10-380 (Waters)

Bangladesh A bowling	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Wides	No-Balls
Syed Rasel	22.1	1	89	4	-	11
Shahadat Hossain	14	2	65	2	-	5
Talha Jubair	15	0	76	2	-	-
Enamul Haque	23	2	85	2	-	6
Mehrab Hossain	16	1	53	0	-	-

Bangladesh A first innings		Runs	Balls	Mins	4s	6s
*Shahriar Nafees	not out	20	25	43	4	-
Nafees Iqbal	c Wharf b Davies	15	16	19	3	-
Tushar Imran	lbw b Davies	10	11	10	1	-
Alok Kapali	not out	4	12	12	-	-
Nazimuddin	did not bat					
+Shahin Hossain	did not bat					
Mehrab Hossain	did not bat					
Syed Rasel	did not bat					
Shahadat Hossain	did not bat					
Talha Jubair	did not bat					
Enamul Haque	did not bat					
Extras	(1 lb, 3 nb, 1 w)	5				
Total	(2 wickets, 10.1 overs)	54				

Fall of wickets:

1-26 (Nafees Iqbal), 2-44 (Tushar Imran)

Glamorgan bowling	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Wides	No-Balls
Davies	5.1	2	17	2	1	-
Wharf	5	0	36	0	-	3

There was no play on the final day.

MJ Powell (1) 100 in 122 balls, 139 minutes with 10 fours and 4 sixes



Abergavenny's own Michael Powell who finished the season with a century on his home ground against Bangladesh.